



From the Editor

The Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous have given my relationships new life. It's as simple as that.

The first time I realized that there was definitely something important located within the Traditions besides the fear of 'getting into the politics of A.A.', there was immense relief to be found in the simple ideas located within.

Before anything else really sunk in, it became clear in my exposure to some business meetings and Group Conscience/Steering Committee meetings that it truly is the greater good of the group over time that matters.

Along with that idea is the simple proof that so far in my journey in sobriety there is a balance to be found. For me it is not balance everyday though, it is the balance of all things over time.

This is something I learned and continue to learn through the Traditions.

My hope is that everyone will, at some point in their recovery, be taught the importance of the Traditions to the survival of Alcoholics Anonymous – which is the only reason that this amazing way of life was still around for my arrival over 50 years after it was founded.

-Alison G.

Twelve Suggested Points of AA Tradition

by Bill W. (Excerpts from Bill W's first General Presentation of Traditions to the Groups – AA Grapevine April 1946)

'Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as Tradition. That process still goes on and we hope it never stops. Should we ever harden too much, the letter might crush the spirit. We could victimize ourselves by petty rules and prohibitions; we could imagine that we had said the last word. We might even be asking alcoholics to accept our rigid ideas or stay away. We never stifle progress like that!'

'Almost any AA can tell you what our group problems are. Fundamentally they have to do with our relations, one with the other, and with the world outside. They involve relations of the AA to the group, the relation of the group to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, and the place of Alcoholics Anonymous in that troubled sea called modern society, where all of humankind must presently shipwreck or find haven. Terribly relevant is the problem of our basic structure and our attitude toward those ever pressing questions of leadership, money, and authority. The future way well depend on how we feel and act about things that are controversial and how we regard our public relations. Our final destiny will surely hang upon what we presently decide to do with these danger-fraught issues!'

'Now comes the crux of our discussion. It is this: Have we yet acquired sufficient experience to state clear-cut policies on these, our chief concerns? Can we now declare general principles which could grow into vital Traditions -- Traditions sustained in the heart of each AA by his own deep conviction and by the common consent of his fellows? That is the question. Though full answers to all our perplexities may never be found, I'm sure we have come at least to a vantage point whence we can discern the main outlines of a body of Tradition; which, God willing, can stand as an effective guard against all the ravages of time and circumstance.'

'Acting upon the persistent urge of old AA friends, (Ed. Note - Particularly Earl T. from Chicago) and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members is now possible, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for an Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future.'



67th Southeastern Regional Conference & North Carolina State Convention

“Language of the Heart”

August 11-14th, 2011

Hilton North Raleigh
3415 Wake Forest Road
(Exit 10 off I-440 Beltline) Raleigh, NC
27609-7316

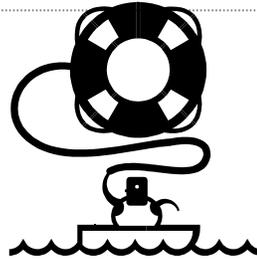
Guest Speakers:

- Polly P, Jacksonville FL
- Danny B, Houston TX
- Rachel M, Spencer NC
- Larcene G, Hawthorne CA*
- Scott D, Utica MI
- Stu B, Severna Park MD

T.C.I.O. meetings are held every 3rd Sunday at 4:00pm, at 4800 Park Circle Drive, North Charleston. All are welcome to attend!



Treatment Center Schedules



PLACE	TIME	Sept 2011	Oct 2011
Dorchester IOP	Alt. Mon 7:00 PM	Carolina Gp	Pre Nooners
Vet Villa	Sunday 7:30 PM	A.B.S.I	A.B.S.I.
Charleston Vet.	Monday 8:00 PM	Heritage	3 Legacies
Charleston Center	Saturday Speaker 7:00 PM	Riv.Terr.	SOS
Charleston Center	Tuesday 7:00 PM	Eustabaffl us	Daily Reprieve
Charleston Center	Friday 7:00 PM	Acceptanc e	Acceptan ce
MUSC	Thursday 7:30 PM	West Ashley	West Ashley
MUSC	Friday 7:30 PM	Crowfield	Oakbrook
MUSC	Saturday 7:30 PM	Trident	Folly
MUSC	Sunday 7:30 PM	St Joes	Seabreez e
Palmetto Center	Sunday 8:00 PM	Big Book Thumpers	Survivors
Palmetto Center	Monday 8:00 PM	Daily Reprieve	Heritage
Palmetto Center	Tuesday 8:00 PM	Serenity	High Noon
Palmetto Center	Friday 8:00 PM	SOS	PreNoone rs
Mag House	Wed7:30	C,H,Sober	Carolina Gp

Heard it in ‘the Rooms’:

"Minds are like parachutes. They only function when they are open. "

Tri- County Intergroup (TCIO) Activities

Committee is looking for help from you to plan parties!

Please come and join the fun Every 3rd Sunday @ park circle @ 3:30pm we meet to plan the next event!

UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE:
GRATITUDE DINNER @ PARK CIRCLE
11/18/11 6:30 PM TO 9:00pm

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION @ PARK CIRCLE
12/31/11 7:00 PM TO 2012

Times and dates may change

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!



Area 62 SC General Service Assembly

Oct.1-2, 2011

Radisson Hotel
2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 731-0300

“...to place our common welfare first...”

‘Acting upon the persistent urge of old AA friends, and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for an Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future.’- Bill W. (Grapevine, April 1946).

In this issue we address Tradition 9 through Tradition 12, which cover the Principles of Simplicity, Unity, and Humility. This to the end that the ‘hand of A.A.’ reach out to anyone who has a desire to stop drinking and keep the fellowship alive for the next man.

Tradition 9: A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

Principle: Simplicity

9. ‘We have, for example, the kind of AA who is for simplicity. Terrified of anything organized, he tells us that AA is getting too complicated. He thinks money only makes trouble, committees only make dissension, elections only make politics, paid workers only make professionals, and clubs only coddle slippers. Says he, let’s get back to coffee and cakes by cozy firesides. If any alcoholics stray our way, let’s look after the. But that’s enough. Simplicity is our answer.’

Tradition 10: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Principle: Unity, Humility

10. ‘Our best defense? This surely lies in the formation of a Tradition respecting serious controversy so powerful that neither the weakness of persons nor the strain and strife of our troubled times can harm Alcoholics Anonymous. We know that AA must continue to live, or else many of us and many of our fellow alcoholics throughout the world will surely

resume the hopeless journey to oblivion. That must never be.’

Tradition 11: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

11. ‘The future poses no greater problem or challenge to AA than how best to preserve a friendly and vital relation to all the world about us. Success will rest heavily upon right principles, a wise vigilance, and the deepest personal responsibility on the part of every one of us. Nothing less will do. Else our brother may again turn his face to the wall because we did not care enough. So the Eleventh Tradition stands sentinel over the lifelines, announcing that there is no need for self-praise, that it is better to let our friends recommend us, and that our whole public relations policy, contrary to usual customs, should be based upon the principle of attraction rather than promotion. Shot-in-the-arm methods are not for us -- no press agents, no promotional devices, no big names. The hazards are too great. Immediate results will always be illusive because easy shortcuts to notoriety can generate permanent and smothering liabilities.’

Tradition 12: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us

to place principles before personalities.

Principle: Humility

12. ‘Tradition Twelve, in its mood of humble anonymity, plainly enough comprehends the preceding eleven. The Twelve Points of Tradition are little else than a specific application of the spirit of the Twelve Steps of recovery to our group life and to our relations with society in general. The recovery steps would make each individual AA whole and one with God; the Twelve Points of Tradition would make us one with each other and whole with the world about us. Unity is our aim.

Our AA Traditions are, we trust, securely anchored in those wise precepts; charity, gratitude, and humility. Nor have we forgotten prudence. May these virtues ever stand clear before us in our meditations; may Alcoholics Anonymous serve God in happy unison for so long as he may need us.’

NOTE:

All excerpts have been taken from the Grapevine Publications regarding the Traditions and their construction. Most of which are located on the Silkworth.net website but I have also taken some from AA approved hard copy literature.

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:
 To place our common welfare first;
 To keep our Fellowship united.
 For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
 And the lives of those to come.



SERVICE

Combined InterDistrict Committee Meetings

Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community

(1st Thursday of odd months 7PM@TCIO)

Corrections Facilities

3rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm (even months only)

Grapevine Representatives

(as announced)

Treatment Facilities

4th Thursday @ 7:00 pm (odd months only)

Tri-County Intergroup Office Committee Meetings

Intergroup Reps meet at the N. Charleston Community Center at Park Circle

4800 Park Circle, N. Charleston, SC. The building is inside the circle.

HOTLINE: You can reach a recovering alcoholic any minute of any day

by calling (843) 723-9633

The Intergroup Office serves the groups in its area. We perform the needed functions common to all groups. We are supported by these groups and are here to aid you in your common primary purpose of carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic. The office is located at 3005 W. Montague Ave., Suite D, North Charleston, SC 29418. It is open 9-5 Monday through Friday and 9-1 Saturday. Phone numbers are Office- 843.554.2998 and Hotline- 843.723.9633. Visit our website at www.TCIO.org.

The views in this publication are strictly those of the editor and those submitting articles and not necessarily the views of the T.C.I.O., or A.A. as a whole.