

# The DIALog



A PUBLICATION OF THE DALLAS INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION (est. 1947)

Dallas Central Office | 6162 E Mockingbird Ln, Ste 213, Dallas TX 75214 | 214.887.6699 | www.aadallas.org | help@aadallas.org

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

The New Year still finds us needing a lot of help from the groups. We need volunteers!

- We have successfully filled over 250 - 12th Step calls since the end of October 2014 and there is no indication that this need is going to slow down. We have areas that are not well represented on our 12th Step Initiative list including: central Dallas, southern Dallas, Oak Cliff, Denton, and Irving. If your group can gather some names or have members fill out volunteer forms online we would appreciate any help we can get with this. There is no minimum sobriety required. We ask that at least two members go on any 12th Step call and sometimes a newcomer to A.A. relates to new sobriety.
- We have finished updating our regular 12th Step list and there will be many added to the 12th Step Initiative from that list, but it will take a little time to update the list with all the changes. When that is complete, Nightwatch volunteers will be given a new list. Please remember that this list is confidential and not to be given out to anyone or any caller. If you need a 12th Step person, get the number of the caller and give their number to the 12th Step member, and not the reverse. Anyone giving out this information will be removed from the list immediately. All Nightwatch Volunteers should make themselves aware of the 12th Step Initiative and the way we now handle all such calls. You can find a copy on the website under 12 Step Information.
- We have added a Memorial Page for Dallas area members that have died. We will be happy to list memorial information.
- We have a new Special Needs Action described in this issue. It is an excellent opportunity to have your group checked out by a professional to find out what would be needed to make it accessible to disabled members.

AND, we have a date for the 9th Annual DIA Chili Cook-off. Please see the flyer in this issue of the DIALog. Who will win the 9th spot on our permanent plaque at the office? (Cornbread winner will win a trophy as well.) Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be awarded for Chili winners. Please bring the chili ready to eat, in a crockpot or other heat controlled container. Please fill out the forms before the event, so we know how much to buy for the extras such as cheese, onions, peppers, etc.

*Janis R.*



### Visit Us Online!

At [www.aadallas.org](http://www.aadallas.org) you'll find group announcements, an events calendar, a searchable group directory, online bookstore & more.

## STEPS 1 & 2 AND TRADITIONS 1 & 2

**Step 1:** We admitted we were powerless over alcohol -- that our lives had become unmanageable.

**Step 2:** Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

**Tradition 1:** Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on A.A. unity.

**Tradition 2:** For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God as He must express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

## FROM THE EDITOR

The steps keep us from killing ourselves, the saying goes, and the traditions keep us from killing each other. We aren't a glum lot, are we!

This first DIALog issue of 2015 features the first and second steps and traditions, with stories by Jo M. and Kris M. The Twelve Concepts, so vital to Alcoholics Anonymous, yet so often overshadowed by the steps and traditions, are examined by Carrie L.

And the horrors of his last drunk are revealed by J.J. I., in "The Lost Weekend, Hong Kong Style, and Then a Newfound Life."

My last drunk, and all of those preceding it, at long last led me to embrace Step One, and all the steps and traditions, entirely. No longer would I be a half-measures girl, alternately believing that I wasn't powerless over alcohol, but maybe my life had become a touch unmanageable, or that I was powerless over alcohol, perhaps, but my life was manageable, by me. I believed that alcohol was the solution, not the problem.

I believed that when I had aligned all the stars to suit my idea of heaven, then all was well, and would be well, forever after.

I didn't want a D.U.I., so I had my liquor delivered to the house.

I couldn't remember what I'd said on the phone, so I kept paper and a pen handy, to take notes.

I never wanted to be caught so drunk that I would be hauled over to a psych ward, so before I drank I made sure to memorize the day, the date and the current and past two Presidents.

How did that all work out? As another saying goes, the best laid schemes of mice and men...

And now I am grateful those plans went awry. Alcoholics Anonymous, for me and so many millions of us, is the easier, softer way. Happy 2015, everyone!

*Andrea H.*



## THE LOST WEEKEND, HONG KONG STYLE, AND THEN A NEWFOUND LIFE

By J.J. I.

*A Daily Reprieve, Flower Mound*

It's Saturday morning, and I wake up feeling awful. And my head hurts. Really hurts.

Under painfully bright fluorescent lights nothing looks familiar. I have absolutely no idea what happened or where I am, and there's an old Chinese man in the room who seems very sick, coughing loudly and continuously. I'm still pretty drunk, and I tell a tall man (who walks in wearing what I think must be a doctor's jacket, so he must be a doctor, right?) and someone who might be a nurse that I'm leaving, right away, which seems to upset them. They beg me not to go, but I don't care.

I'm leaving. Now.

I throw on my clothes, and walk, unsteadily, outside. It's a bright morning, which is doing nothing good for my head pain, and the sign outside the place I'm leaving says Princess Margaret Hospital. Aha! That's a clue! This means I'm in Hong Kong.

I wave down a cab, and find that I'm able to remember the name of my hotel. With that shot of confidence, I'm starting to feel I can handle the situation, whatever that turns out to be.

You see, there's a lot to do. I need to sober up so I can operate the airplane later tonight to fly back to Texas. That seems like a perfectly normal thing to do, despite my having what the man wearing what could have been a doctor's jacket told me was a severe concussion. Aside from the concussion, and having been unconscious (I was told) for several hours, I am sporting a fair number of scrapes and cuts, which I don't remember getting, along with an impressive blood alcohol level.

Maybe no one will know.

It turns out, however, that everyone knows.

This is confirmed by several phone calls I receive from an upper-level manager, along with a union rep, who informs me that I am now on sick leave over the weekend and that I must meet with the company medical officer on Monday.

As the booze wears off, the regret begins creeping in so, I do the only thing I know to do. I immediately call room service to bring me an embarrassing amount of wine so I can drown that regret, along with my shame and fear. As I drink, I start to piece together at least some of what happened. On Friday, I began drinking shortly after my morning arrival in Hong Kong. There was what I thought would be social six-pack in the roof lounge. I followed that with a decidedly nonsocial bottle of Scotch and a couple of bottles of wine alone in my room.

I was at a point in my life that when I had a drink or two, it would never stop there. Once I started, I could not stop. Despite my best intentions and resolutions, I would go on to consume enormous amounts of alcohol, and I would drink until something happened, usually something that wasn't good.

I still believed that my life was manageable, however, because I

wasn't drinking every day. And because I hadn't yet found myself in serious trouble. I truly was of the opinion that it was perfectly normal to walk long distances in freezing weather to get to the Fourth Street bars in Anchorage and wait for them to open at 9 a.m. so I could drink, get drunk and still have enough time for the alcohol to leave my bloodstream so that I was legal to fly late that night.

I'd even use my calculator to figure out how much I could drink up to the mandatory 10 or 12 hours bottle-to-throttle limit and metabolize it away before showing up to work. As the alcohol wore off, though, the craving would kick in, hard, and I would simply keep pouring gasoline on the fire. Passing out for a while and awakening by early evening that Friday, I went to the hotel bar to drink martinis. How many I had, I have no idea.

But I drank enough so that a power greater than myself -- and not the bartender -- hit me in the head as hard as I could take it without it killing me. Enough to let me know, really know, in my heart that my life HAD become unmanageable. On my way back up to my room, I fell smack on my face, and somehow wound up in the hospital.

Concerned loved ones and union reps would talk to me (when I wasn't passed out), putting up with my slurred speech through the weekend, isolated in shame in my room and ordering more and more wine.

I remember that shame, and trying desperately to blunt it with floods of alcohol that was no longer even working.

That was six and a half years ago. I took my last, and, I hope, final, drink that Sunday night.

Back in Texas, my father took me to my first meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. I was scared to walk into that room, but I still remember that sincerely warm welcome I received there and the feelings of relief that I no longer had to hide or lie.

I knew to my core that I was now in the right place, with others who not only shared my disease but also had been where I had been, felt what I felt. And I truly believed that together we could help one another stay sober, while I alone had failed so miserably on the occasions I had tried not to drink.

Until then, I had seen alcoholism as a weakness and a lack of will power. I had absolutely no idea how it worked as a disease or how to live without drinking. In the A.A. Big Book, "More About Alcoholism" and "The Doctor's Opinion" described my disease perfectly.

What happened? I did all the things new folks are supposed to do: I got a sponsor, worked the steps, did service, went to meetings. I didn't know why it worked, but it did work, and my cravings and desire for a drink were removed. Over time, I would learn how to live in sobriety and really get the blessings that come with recovery.

My life has a lot of moving parts and can still be rocky, but the rocks aren't as significant and the parts seem to fall into place where and when they should when one works the program. As I write this, traveling 7,000 miles back home to my family, I am grateful that I do have a family and a sober me to meet them. And that I've received this day of blessings through the grace of God and the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The promises really do come true.



# FROM STEPS 1 AND 2, SURRENDERING TO SANITY

*By Jo M.  
Clean Air North, Addison*

Before I came to A.A. I had not equated the emptiness in my soul to alcohol.

Regardless of the desolate life I was leading, alcohol seemed the solution, not the problem.

Somehow, three broken marriages, two frightened children, a D.W.I. and a job in jeopardy were a result of some dark force I could not overcome.

But then, through a miraculous moment of clarity, I saw the truth, and called the only A.A. person I knew.

He met with me, talked to me and told me where I could go for help the next day.

On May 31, 1982, I went to my first meeting, and that is my sobriety date.

I found a sponsor in the first week, even though I really did not know what one was exactly. And I did as she suggested, without understanding why.

Understanding is not a requirement for Step One. Following directions is.

Step One is the beginning, the process of giving up my way. Today if I choose not to go to a meeting or to skip talking to a sponsor, then I have forgotten that I am powerless over alcohol.

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**Understanding is  
not a requirement.  
Following  
directions is.**

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When I let fear make my decisions for me I have forgotten that my life is unmanageable by me.

Slowly, I became present for life. Then the laughter returned.

God, however, remained distant and the idea of his caring for me was not one I could accept. I had allowed my children to be harmed, for which there could be no forgiveness.

But I did as suggested and asked God to keep me sober in the morning and thanked him at night, even though I did not believe he even cared.

Somewhere around two months in, I realized that I had not had a drink. I also realized that I did not want one.

That miracle was beyond my understanding, my real beginning of Step Two. Alcohol was a power greater than me, and I knew God was the reason I was sober.

Here was a God who restored me to sanity; believing that he would was not a requirement.

Through the years I have found other powers that I allowed to dictate my life, including men, jobs and money. My clue is the lack of sanity characterized by a loss of serenity and peace of mind.

God can restore me when I ask for direction. This step works today as

it did then.

The Big Book notes that we must choose a spiritual life or die an alcoholic death. We have a condition that "only a spiritual experience will conquer."

I believe I was close to that alcoholic death when I came to A.A. Even though I had children, a nice place to live and a job, those were not the measure of my life.

My soul was dying, but through the steps and a loving God it is now alive.

# FROM TRADITIONS 1 AND 2, DIFFERENT ACTIONS AND BETTER REACTIONS

*By Kris M.  
Big Book Group, Dallas*

As a newcomer to A.A., the Twelve Traditions were something I could not comprehend. At the time I was just trying to understand the Twelve Steps and the Big Book.

As I stayed sober, though, I became interested in the traditions and their importance. They were hammered out through trial and error, and I am forever grateful that they were in place when I came to Alcoholics Anonymous.

The traditions have become an important part of my life. Tradition One has helped me to understand that I am one of many and have to give up personal desires for the common welfare of the whole.

My sponsor shared a checklist with me to ponder my actions in relation to A.A. How am I behaving, and am I living by principles?

A good example of me taking different action is that I did not agree with a particular member of my home group and had a resentment. My sponsor directed me to go up and greet that person, and say hello. I did the action because I wanted to stay sober, and eventually the resentment went away. This action not only helped with my sobriety but also with the unity of the group and A.A.

In considering Tradition Two, the question I have to ask myself when participating in the home group is whether I am OK with not getting my way on a certain agenda item presented at the group conscience meeting.

I have found the beauty of this tradition as I have watched the group conscience labor feverishly over several topics that were divisive in nature and that finally came together in agreement. It was an awesome experience to watch the group conscience prevail.

The important thing is that I be a peacemaker, and that I need to be informed about A.A., and support that.

# WITH THE CONCEPTS, 12 BY 12 BY 12

*Carrie L.  
Cornerstone Group, Dallas*

With six and a half years of sobriety, I still very much consider myself a newcomer in the program. This was never more apparent than when I attended my first concepts workshop. (I know what you may be thinking...that the Twelve Concepts are bit stiff and are relevant only to those in service positions.)

This is only partially true; the concepts are important to the service structure because they define what the service structure is and how it works, but that does not limit it solely to service centers and A.A.



entities.

If the steps and traditions can be applied to the world outside of A.A. meetings, so can the concepts.

Our easily recognized symbol of the triangle within the circle was no accident. It is a direct result of pioneer members who experienced great growing pains in the early years of the fellowship as its needs became apparent. They realized we needed a system of checks and balances or surely the society would implode.

The Twelve Steps serve as a guide to recovery, the Twelve Traditions provide unity for members, groups and A.A. as a whole, and the Twelve Concepts are guidelines for all areas of service.

I realized I did not know nearly as much about A.A. as I thought I did, and I am responsible for learning that which I do not know. If I learn nothing, my program becomes stagnant, and I risk losing it. Today, that is no longer acceptable.

## SUBMISSIONS

The next issue of The DIALog, in April, will feature a story by an A.A. member on getting sober and learning, 45 days later, that she has brain tumors. There will also be articles on Steps Three and Four, as well as Traditions Three and Four. We are accepting stories on those topics, as well as those about your experiences with turning your life over and taking inventory. Deadline is March 7. Please send original articles of 250 to 300 words to [andreaahig@aol.com](mailto:andreaahig@aol.com) or [janis@aadallas.org](mailto:janis@aadallas.org); the subject line should read: The DIALog.

## The Twelve Concepts for World Service

1. The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.
2. When, in 1955, the AA groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference—excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter—the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.
3. As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the AA General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."
4. Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.
5. Throughout our world service structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.
6. On behalf of AA as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognises that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.
7. The Conference recognises that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the AA purse for its final effectiveness.
8. The trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities:
  - (a) With respect to the larger matters of overall policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs.
  - (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.
9. Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of AA must necessarily be assumed by the trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.
10. Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority—the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description, or by appropriate charters and bylaws.
11. While the trustees hold final responsibility for AA's world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.
12. General Warranties of the Conference: In all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the AA Tradition, taking great care that the Conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and, wherever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that, though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.



## The Twelve Steps

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove all our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry it out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

## The Twelve Traditions

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
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.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

## Group Contributions January 2015

A Daily Reprieve	422.78
Allen Group	100.00
Aquarius Group	25.00
Carrollton	200.00
Casa Group	10.00
Chicago	90.00
Clean Air North	2,751.85
Colony Group	40.00
Coppell	375.00
Cornerstone	125.00
Dallas North	562.50
Denton Unity	54.73
Forney Group	50.00
Friendship Group	50.00
Georgetown	360.00
Lake Highlands	20.00
Lakeside Group	980.00
Lewisville	263.86
McKinney Fellowship	10.00
McKinney Miracle Group	232.05
No Hassle	378.41
ODAA	150.00
Ray of Hope - Seven Points	10.00
Ross Avenue Group	10.00
Rowlett	20.00
Shalom Today	80.00
Singleness of Purpose	650.00
Step Up	300.00
The Gift of Sobriety	30.00
Town North	70.00
Traditional	23.00
Whiskey and Milk Group	343.68
White House	50.00
Wylie Group	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>8,857.86</u></b>

## TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE DIALog

Get your DIALog hot off the presses! A yearly subscription is \$12; two years, \$18. Please contact [carrie@aadallas.org](mailto:carrie@aadallas.org) or call the Dallas Intergroup Association at (214) 887-6699.



# WHO WILL WIN? CHILI COOK-OFF 2015

## 9th Annual Dallas Intergroup CHILI COOK-OFF & Cornbread Competition

Saturday March 7th  
Northway Christian Church  
7202 W. Northwest Hwy  
Dallas, TX 75225

All you can eat for \$10  
Contestants eat FREE

5:00PM - Chili & Cornbread Check-In  
5:30PM - Judging Begins  
6:00PM - Dinner  
7:00PM - Awards Announced  
7:30PM - AA Speaker: Frank W.  
- Preston Group



ALL DONATIONS GO TO:  
DALLAS INTERGROUP / DALLAS CENTRAL OFFICE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CALL 214-887-6699 OR VISIT WWW.AADALLAS.ORG



### PAST WINNERS:

- 2007: Georgetown
- 2008: Town North
- 2009: Legacy
- 2010: Little Elm
- 2011: Lewisville
- 2012: Sunday Morning Live
- 2013: Lake Highlands
- 2014: Cornerstone

### HOW TO ENTER:

- Download your entry form online at [aadallas.org](http://aadallas.org) (or use the one to the right).
- Fax to 214-88-0443 or email to [janis@aadallas.org](mailto:janis@aadallas.org)
- Entries must be received by March 4th.



#### Dallas Intergroup Association 9th Annual Chili Cook-Off Entry/Cornbread Contest March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015

GROUP NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILI NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOT SCALE: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10+  
Mild Warm HOT!

- Does it contain any of the following? (Please check):
- Nuts, peanut oil, etc.
  - Artificial coloring, MSG, etc.
  - Fish/seafood of any kind
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

For Committee Use:

Entry Number \_\_\_\_\_



# SPECIAL NEEDS ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE



Thanks to a member willing to offer his professional services, we now have a new Special Needs Action. As you may have noticed we do not have many groups that meet the requirements as outlined in the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS). Fortunately for the Dallas area, we have a member from the Clean Air North Group that is a Registered Accessibility Specialist and he is willing to come to groups and perform, for free, an actual inspection of your location.

We are starting a pilot program for those groups located in District 54. Any group in this District may request an onsite inspection which will include: photographs of any violations, location of violations, and citations according to state standards. (This report will not be turned into the state or anyone else.) If a group elects to correct violations, then there will be a re-inspection to verify compliance can occur. Once a group has been determined to be in compliance, the handicapped symbol can be added to their group listing via the Dallas Intergroup Association. Once we complete the pilot study, and the trial is deemed a success, the program will be expanded.

**There is no cost to the groups for this service and no one is going to be turned in for non-compliance. The inspection reports are for informational purposes only, and will be kept in strict confidentiality.**

Once a group receives its report, they are free to do what they want with the information. The report can be helpful during lease negotiations where the landlord's responsibility to provide accessible facilities would be required. Even if every violation is not corrected, due to cost or other factors, making the physical environment more accessible to our members and guests with disabilities will reinforce our responsibility to ALL alcoholics that still suffer.

Blair B., our member willing to do this project for groups does have a very busy schedule, but he will get to the requests as soon as possible. He has 16 years of experience and is willing to do this service for groups.

If your group, District 54 only for now, is interested in this amazing offer, please contact the Intergroup Office: 214-887-6699, or janis@aadallas.org. I will pass the request on to Blair and he will get back to you about an inspection. This is an incredibly generous offer and a way for us to try to change the atmosphere in our groups to one that is as accessible as we can make it for handicapped members.

## Faithful Fivers: Would you like to be one?

Faithful Fivers are AA members who in gratitude pledge to contribute at least five dollars each month toward the support of Dallas Intergroup Association, DIA.

This contribution gives AA members the opportunity to practice the Seventh Tradition regularly and painlessly by pledging \$5 or more a month to the DIA. We can set up an automatic credit card deduction, or you can send in a check once a month or whenever you choose. Call, 214-887-6699, to set up monthly contributions.

DIA is totally supported by AA groups and individuals. Contributions are limited to \$3,000 per member per year and are tax deductible.

### Yes! Please enroll me as a Faithful Fiver.

Please complete the form below and mail in with your contribution to DIA, 6162 E. Mockinbird Ln., Suite 213, Dallas, TX 75214

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dallas AA Central Office**  
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# NEWS, UPDATES & EVENTS... [more on aadallas.org](http://aadallas.org)

## FEBRUARY

### **DIA REP MEETING**

Feb. 12, 8 to 9 p.m.  
First United Lutheran Church, 6202 E Mockingbird Lane, Dallas  
We meet at the First United Lutheran Church in the detached building behind the church. The Dallas Central Office will be open for 30 minutes after the meeting closes, and we will not be able to fill group orders unless they have been called ahead. We do not have the staff to handle groups and individuals. The idea of this was convenience for groups to pick up orders.

### **53d ANNUAL SOBRIETY ON THE BORDER**

Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. to Feb. 15 at noon  
Radisson Suite Hotel, 1770 Airway Blvd., El Paso, TX 79925  
Registration is \$35 with banquet and \$70 for the golf tournament. Great speakers and more, for details:  
[www.aael Paso.org](http://www.aael Paso.org).

### **CITYWIDE DALLAS**

Feb. 15, 5 to 9 p.m.  
Lover's Lane United Methodist, 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas  
Guest speaker is Micki B, from Hearne, TX (Clean Air North).  
Potluck dinner, at 5 p.m.; speaker at 7 p.m. Free childcare from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### **METROPOLITAN WOMEN'S MEETING**

Feb. 19, 7 to 9 p.m.  
Unity Church, 6525 Forest Lane, Dallas  
The meeting begins at 7 p.m., with snacks and fellowship at 8 p.m. The A.A. speaker is Hilary R., the Georgetown Group. This month the Chicago Group is the host. New website:  
[metropolitanwomens.wix.com/metropolitan-women](http://metropolitanwomens.wix.com/metropolitan-women) Contact:  
[metropolitanwomensmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:metropolitanwomensmeeting@gmail.com). (Next meetings: June 18 and Oct. 15.)

### **HOW TO CHAIR A MEETING WORKSHOP**

Feb. 21, 2 to 4 p.m.  
Terrell Group, 108 N. Blanche St., Terrel, TX 75214  
Food and fellowship before and after the workshop. The panel includes Janis R., Sunday Morning Live Group; Dave R., Georgetown Group; and Kate B., Cornerstone Group. Everyone is welcome! Does your group have chairing guidelines? Bring a copy! The workshop will include such topics as cross talking, meeting readings and lengthy sharing.

## MARCH

### **SISTER TO SISTER 21ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

March 6, 4 p.m., to March 8 at noon  
Three Mountain Retreat, F.M. 182, Clifton, TX 76643  
The Sister to Sister Waco Women's Retreat registration is \$130, which includes lodging, meals, workshops and trail rides. Virginia S.: 254-709-6682. Speakers to include Judy K., Al-Anon, Fort Worth, and Kyle B., A.A., Spring, and Erin G., A.A., Kerrville.

### **9th ANNUAL DIA CHILI COOK-OFF**

March 7, 5 to 9 p.m.  
Northway Christian Church, 7202 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas  
Bring your best chili! Groups compete, and everyone eats. The A.A. speaker will be Frank W., of the Preston Group, who will share his experience, strength and hope since his sobriety in 1984.

### **CASA GROUP'S 61ST ANNIVERSARY**

March 21, 4 to 9 p.m.,  
9999 Ferguson Rd., Dallas  
Join one of Dallas's oldest groups to celebrate 61 years. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. (side dishes and desserts are welcome; Casa's history and an A.A. speaker, Rick B. of the Principles Group, at 8 p.m. The celebration is in the back courtyard section of St. Mark's Presbyterian Church. (Enter the parking lot behind the church, from Millmar Drive.)

### **CHICAGO GROUP'S 12TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING**

March 28, 6 to 8:30 P.M.  
Northway Christian Church, 7202 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas  
Celebrating with a speaker meeting, featuring Garry P. of Omaha at 6 p.m. and a potluck dinner at 7 p.m.

## MAY

### **32d ANNUAL MAN-TO-MAN CONFERENCE**

May 15, 2 p.m., to May 17, noon  
Lake Brownwood TX  
Speakers include David B., Broken Arrow OK; Bob M., Greenville, SC; David M., Dallas; and an Al-Anon speaker, Arthur S., Arlington. Registration, \$145; [man-to-man.org](http://man-to-man.org)

### **29th ANNUAL GATHERING OF EAGLES**

May 21, 4 p.m. to May 24, 1 p.m.  
Doubletree Hotel, 4099 Valley View Lane, Dallas  
Registration is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Speakers include Sterling H., Omaha; Larcine G., Hawthorne CA; Larry J., Inman SC; and Gail L., the Villages FL. Website:  
[gatheringofeagles.org](http://gatheringofeagles.org).

## OCTOBER

### **NATIONAL A.A. TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP**

Oct. 1, 2 p.m. to Oct. 4, noon  
In St. Louis; [TW2015-Info@NAATW.org](mailto:TW2015-Info@NAATW.org). The workshop will cover such topics as websites, eservices, bulk email and mobile meeting searches.

### **SOUTHWEST REGIONAL FORUM**

Oct. 9, 2 p.m. to Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.  
Sheraton Westport Chalet, 191 Westport Plaza, St. Louis MO  
Eastern Missouri, Area 38: 314-878-150; [sheratonwestport.com](http://sheratonwestport.com), \$119 a night. Fliers will be posted on [aa.org](http://aa.org) in April, 2015.