

The MESSAGE November 2021



I Do not Understand Thermodynamics

Where is All This Warmth Coming From?

By Rick R.

I came to Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) bankrupt in every department. When I started to take the steps, my first big challenge was to find a power greater than myself that could solve my problems. What an order for a guy who they describe in step two in the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12&12) as the one who “ had tried religion and found it wanting.” I could see the examples of people around me that seemed to have it figured out and I became a nuisance trying to corner them to get them to explain to Me how they do it and they had the same trouble explaining it as I did. One day I confronted my friend, Jim, and asked him to let me in on the secret. Frustrated, He asked, “Do you want to drink right now”? My answer was “NO.” He then asked me, “Did you want to drink a year ago”? And my answer was “YES. I could not go a day without it.” Next, he asked me “What made the difference”? My answer was “I was influenced by the A.A. program” His next question was, “Do you have any Problem calling that God?” WOW! What a concept.

I have never wanted a drink since I entered the program and the only answer, I could produce was the influence of A.A. in my life. For a guy who could not conceive of a day without alcohol, to a guy that has never wanted a drink since, was all I needed to know about God. I wish I could tell you who or what God is, but I cannot. I can, however, tell you what God does for me, but I will get to that later.

The second appendage in the Big Book, (Alcoholics Anonymous), Spiritual Experience, implies that there are many examples of spiritual experiences, and they come in different forms. They can be of the Burning Bush variety or a Psychic Change enough to bring about recovery from Alcoholism. Or, as I like to believe, my spiritual experience came in the form of” A Profound Change of Perception.” When it occurred to me that all my thinking was flawed and that I was finally in an environment where I could, with the help of the group, start to follow simple unselfish guidelines that would restore my self-esteem and put me at peace with myself and others, I started this wonderful journey and I have never had it so good. These universal truths are common in the meaningful Philosophies of life, and I must seek them out if I want to heal.

I pray to God every day, even though I do not know who or what God is. My mind is not evolved enough to understand God and I am not sure that God hears my prayers, but, I HEAR MY PRAYERS and that, I believe, puts me in the best possible attitude I can have about the issue I pray for. My prayers are always the same. I pray for knowledge of his will for me and strength to carry it out. i.e., God, please show me what to do and please give me the strength to do it, I do not do well on my own. I often knew what to do but was not always strong enough to do what was right. Today I am stronger.

Who or what is God? I am not sure anyone can define God. As a friend of mine (Will) explained, “You do not have to understand Thermodynamics to enjoy the warmth of the sun”, I do, however, know what God does. When I ask for guidance, I become a better receiver and I hear the answers that used to pass right over my head when I Thought I had all the answers, and today, I thank God for an open mind.

AA Central Office of Shreveport

24 Hr. Hotline
(318) 865-2172

office@aa-shreveport.org
www.aa-shreveport.org

Office Hours

Mon & Thurs 10am-5pm
Tues, Weds, & Fri 10am-4pm

Groups Responsible for

HOT LINE

November 2021

South Shreveport Nov 1-7
Shreveport Young People
Nov 8-14

On the Way Home Nov 15-21
Margaret Place Nov 22-28

*This is a great service
that you do for the person
that is still suffering.*

THE HOT LINE OUR MISSION:

*“When anyone anywhere reaches out I
want the hand of A.A. to be there. For
that I am responsible.” BW*

If your group is not currently
taking the hot line
at least one week a year, please call us to
add your group!
Call the Central Office
for the schedule!

*We need the help of your group and
individuals to keep the 24 hour
Hotline open for the
still suffering alcoholic!*

We need you!

Step 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 that out..”

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg . 96

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

*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 180
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TRADITION ELEVEN: (The Long Form)

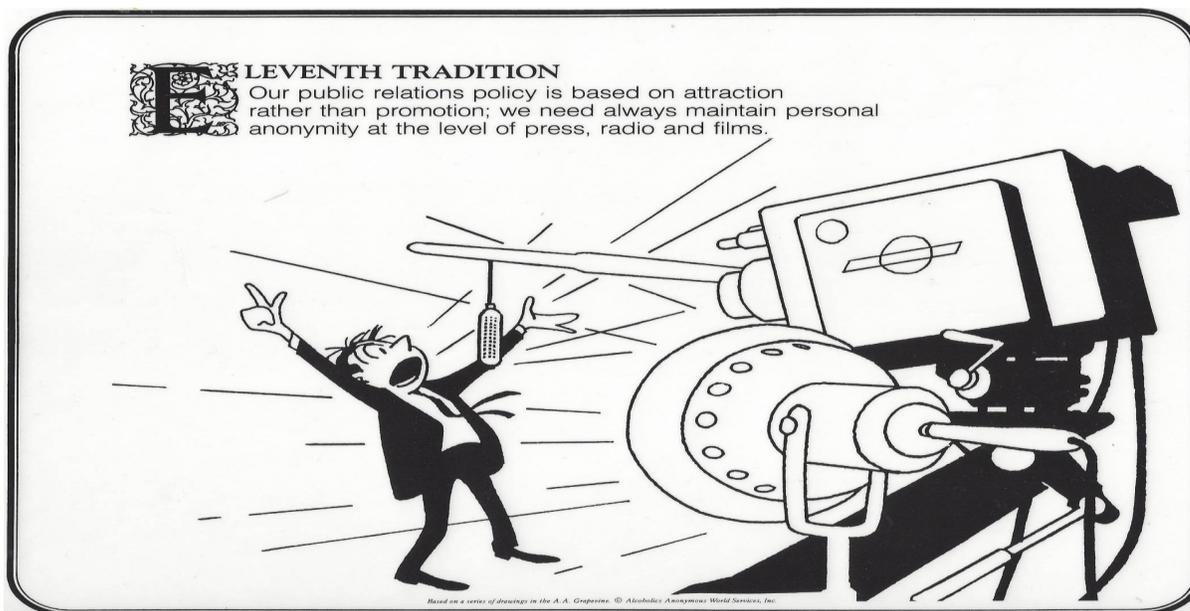
“Our relations with the public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

*The A.A. Group...Where it all Begins Pg. 45-46
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Tradition Eleven:

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.

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around — even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in the Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?



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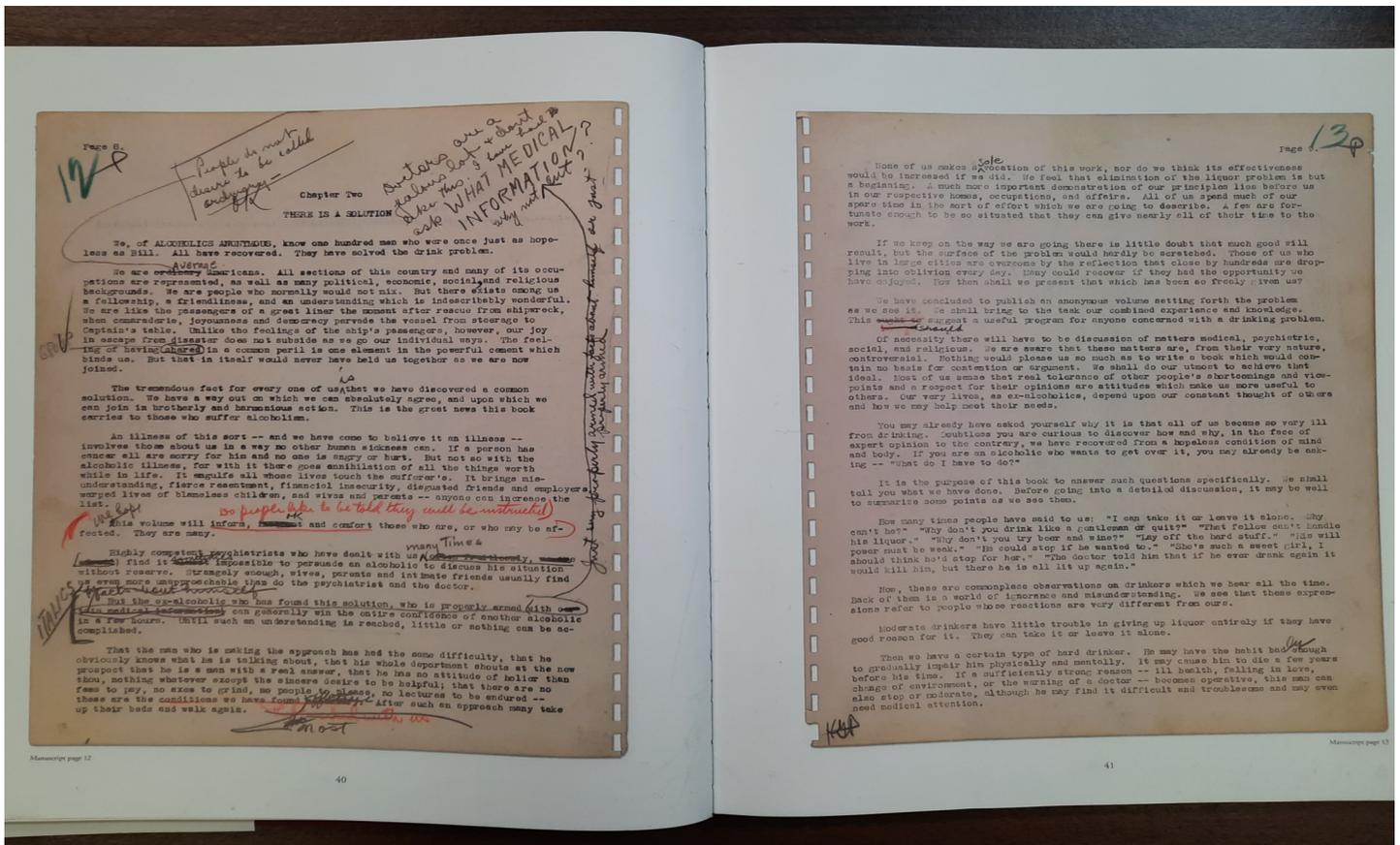
CONCEPT ELEVEN: “While the Trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.’s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore the composition of these underlying committees 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 fore serious care and concern.”

Reprinted with permission from World Services Twelve Concepts for World Service, By Bill W. Page 48

Gratitude Month

In celebration of Gratitude Month, Central Office is raffling a copy of The Book That Started it All. It is a copy of the working manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous. It also contains essays and notes by leading AA historians.

Below is an example of corrections made to Chapter Two.



To enter the raffle just stop by the office and make any purchase in the **Month of November** and we will draw some lucky person's name the first week of December! Central Office is eternally grateful to all the support and Service work from our members!

Central Office Intergroup- *First Saturday* every month; generally the even numbered months
at Highland Club, odd numbered months at Koala Club

COI Steering Committee Meeting- *First Tuesday* of every month, 6pm at *Central Office*

Central Office Intergroup Meeting- *First Tuesday* of every month, 6:40pm at the *Central Office*,
2800 Youree Drive, Suite 362, Bldg A, Shreveport 71104

Treatment& Corrections Committee Meeting- (old H & I Committee) **AND**

PI & CPC (*Public Information & Cooperation w/ Professional Community*)- **Quarterly** (AACO will Email Blast Date)
Tuesday 6:00 PM at *Central Office*

District 1 -- Area 27- 6:30 PM **Third Tuesday** of every month at the *Highland Club*, 1711 Tulane, Shreveport

District Committee Members: Donna M., (318) 229-1474, donnamelancon@ymail.com and
Mary M., (318) 626-5054, MaryM1996@earthlink.net

Come join us and be a part of service!

Clip and save this information for future reference.

Greetings,

It is my hope that everyone who receives this letter is doing well and staying safe. This is an invitation to the old-timers (members with 25 or more years of continuous sobriety) to share memories of those who helped shepherd their sobriety. We all have memories of individuals God placed in our lives who through their sharing, enabled us to overcome that moment's dilemmas, or whose words of wisdom encouraged us to trudge the path with a higher level of commitment.

We do not want to lose those memories! Hence, we have five donated voice recorders at the Central Office that can be borrowed and, used to document your sobriety journey while highlighting the influence of those who are no longer with us but, who played a pivotal role in your recovery. These memories will be transcribed and put in booklet form to be shared with the fellowship. Our hope is that members will borrow one of the recorders for about one month, record their memories, and then return the recorder to the Central Office where it will be available for the next participant.

Continuity with, and knowledge of the past, is a hallmark of all strong organizations. Help us to remain strong for future sufferers by remembering our past. Please call the Central Office to reserve one of the recorders.

Forever grateful,
Maurice W., Jr., Chairman

The Message is published to improve communications between local A.A. Groups and encourage the participation of A.A. members in services and activities that promote sobriety. Opinions expressed in letters and articles are those of the authors and do not indicate endorsement by Central Office of Shreveport Intergroup or Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thanks to all the **Central Office Backers** contributions for the month of **September 2021**. If you would like to be a Central Office Backer (COB) just give us a call (318-865-2172) and we will happily email, fax or mail the application to you.

September 2021 \$193.15

September 2021 Personal Donations...\$1,054.21

Thanks to all the **Group Contributions September 2021...\$1,117.60**

<i>COI Meeting...\$30.00</i>	<i>Sobriety 101...\$10.00</i>
<i>Keystone...\$11.00</i>	<i>T.I.E....\$40.00</i>
<i>Knock Loudly...\$500.00</i>	<i>Twin City...\$10.00</i>
<i>On the Way Home...\$386.60</i>	<i>White Dove...\$100.00</i>
<i>Saturday Night Live...\$30.00</i>	

Bill W. said "I am responsible. When anyone reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. to always to be there. And for that I am responsible."

Addresses for Group Contributions for 2021:

Central Office of Shreveport

2800 Youree Dr., #362A, Shreveport, LA 71104 (50%)

District 1, Area 27

P. O. Box 3924, Shreveport, LA 71133 (10%)

Louisiana Area Assembly, Inc.

7350 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 485-179

Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (10%)

The General Service Office

P. O. Box 459, Grand Central Station,
New York, NY 10163-0459 (30%)

*(Percentages are suggested based on support of four service entities)
(Use your group conscience)*

THE TULANE GROUP'S NOVEMBER SPEAKERS

NOV

02

VIRGINIA C.

AMY C.

09

NOV

NOV

16

JOHN T.

ALLEN E.

23

NOV

NOV

30

JANE R.

7:30 PM @ THE HIGHLAND CLUB

**Minden Alpha House & Greenwood/Westwood
PRESENTS**

NOVEMBER INTERGROUP

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13th
@ KOALA Club, Bossier**

**Fried Chicken, Baked Beans,
Potato Salad with Tea & water**

**50/50 Raffle tickets and
DESSERT AUCTION**

**Eating time:6pm
Dessert Auction :7pm
AA Speaker: 7:30 pm
featuring
CHRISTINE Z.**

4th Annual National Corrections Conference: New Orleans, LA

November 12-14, 2021 - In Person & Virtual

Hilton New Orleans Airport 901 Airline Drive Kenner, LA 70062

504-469-5000 - Hotel Rate \$109

Registration \$35
Banquet \$40

Virtual Reg. \$25
(Log-in info to be provided the week of the Conference)

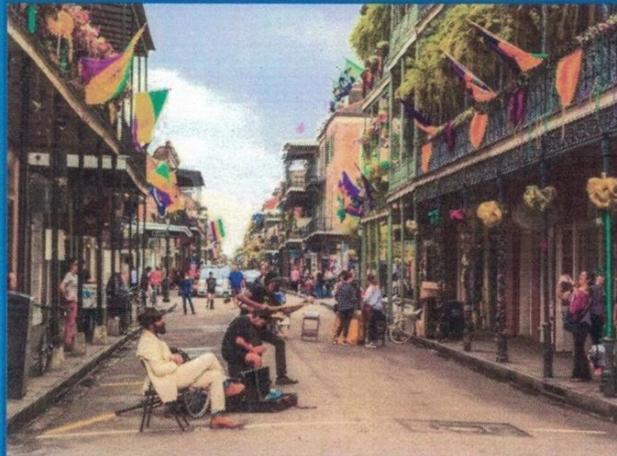


ASL Interpreter and Spanish translation will be available

Nationalcorrectionsconference.org

Friday November 12, 2021 - (Central Time)

4:00pm Registration Opens
4:00-7:00 Hospitality Room Open
7:00 Open National Corrections Conference Meeting
7:30 Speaker Morris R., Nashville, TN
8:30 Roll Call- Who's here?



Sunday, November 14, 2021 - (Central Time)

Hospitality Open 7:00am – 9:00am
9:00 Panel - International Corrections Meeting
10:30 Speaker Rito V., Houston, Texas
Close

Saturday November 13, 2021 - (Central Time)

7:00am Hospitality Suite Opens	3:30 Panel – Inside Sponsorship
8:00am Registration Opens	4:30 Panel – Successful Reentry
9:00 Panel – Professional Panel	5:30 Break / Hospitality Open
10:00 Panel – Freedom on Both Sides of the Wall	6:00-8:00 Banquet
11:30-1:00 Lunch on your own or in hotel	8:00-9:00 Speaker Steve M., Raleigh, NC
11:30-1:00 Hospitality Open	9:00 Ice Cream Social
1:00 Panel – Women in Corrections	9:30-11:00 Hospitality Open
2:00 Speaker – Sherry P, Dallas, Texas	9:30 Presentations and Voting for Host City 2023

Questions?
Contact...

Stacy C. 704-361-2755
Correctionsarea27@gmail.com

Ron Z. 504-343-6157
Ron.zornes@gmail.com

12X12X12.org

76th

2021 TEXARKANA ANNIVERSARY / CONVENTION

BACK TO BASICS

NOV
12

FRIDAY

5:00 PM: REGISTRATION OPENS

6:30 PM: SKITS

8:00 PM: JENNIFER L - DALLAS, TX

NOV

14

SUNDAY

8:00 AM: DONUTS & COFFEE

9:00 AM: GRATITUDE MEETING

10:30 AM: HUNTER A - TXK

11:45 AM: CLEAN UP PARTY!!!

(Will be held at Serenity Club – 2013
S. Ann St, Texarkana, TX 75501)

NOV
13

SATURDAY

8:00 AM: REGISTRATION OPENS

9:00 AM: CALL UP MEETING

10:30 AM: HISTORY OF AA/BAREFOOT BILL

11:30 – 1:00 PM: LUNCH

1:00 PM: RICK W - DALLAS, TX

2:30 PM: AL-ANON - TBA

4:00 PM: WORKSHOP – SPEAKER PANEL

5:00 PM: DINNER

6:45 PM: HISTORY OF TEXARKANA AA

7:15 PM: SOBRIETY COUNTDOWN

8:00 PM: JIMMY D – DALLAS, TX

9:30 PM: RAFFLE / DANCE

**SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER IS
INCLUDED IN REGISTRATON!!**

CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH / CENTRAL MALL – 2400
RICHMOND ROAD SUITE 73 / TEXARKANA, TX 75503 /HOTEL – HAMPTON INN TEXARKANA
/5302 CROSSROADS PARKWAY, TEXARKANA, AR 71854 / ROOM RATES STARTING AT \$79.00
PLUS TAX

ONLINE BEFORE 10/31

NAME ON BADGE: _____

HOME GROUP: _____

AA / AL-ANON: _____

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TEXARKANA AA CONVENTION

\$25

OR

\$30

AT THE DOOR

SPIRIT OF HOUSTON

Conference on
Recovery

November 12-14, 2021

**pre-register at sohconf.com: \$25
at door: \$30**

**location: Hyatt Regency
Houston West (formerly Omni Westside)**

**Have you a sufficient
substitute?**



**Yes, there is a substitute
and it is vastly more than that.**

*Your Imagination will be fired.
Spirit Of Houston 2021*

THE COMPOUND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2021****

****HIGHLAND CLUB****

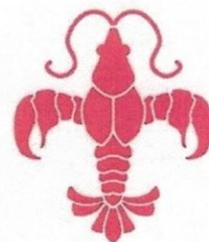
1711 TULANE AVE, SHREVEPORT, 71103

DINNER SERVED at 6pm - prepared by *Lagniappe Catering*
SANTA ARRIVES FOLLOWING DINNER

AA SPEAKER at 7:30 Gary K. 27 years, Sulphur Springs TX.
FOLLOWING SPEAKER - RAFFLE DRAWING !

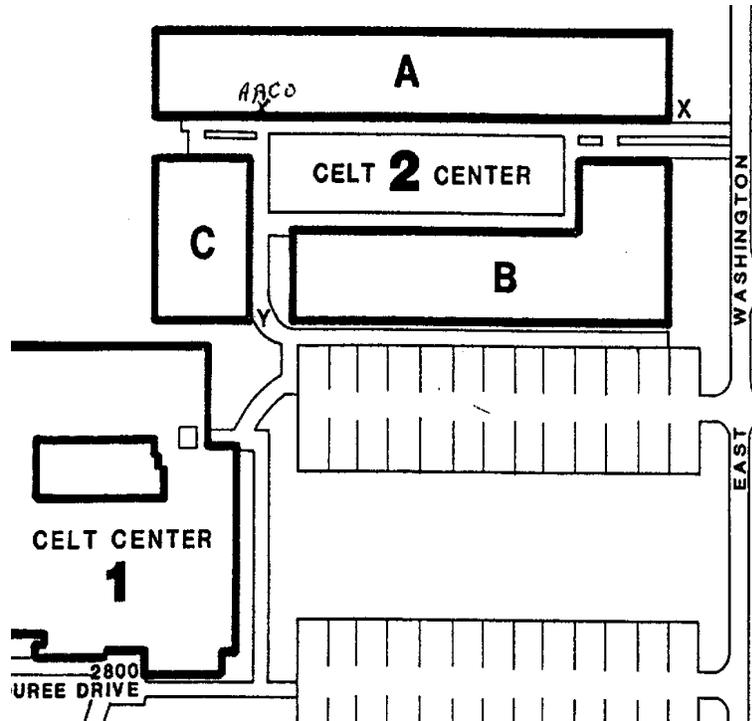
Raffel tickets \$1.00 ea. PayPal :stevej380@yahoo.com

**Santa will be presenting a gift to
all children ages 0-12**



Central Office

Please come by to check out our selection of approved AA World Services Books, Step workbooks, daily meditations, Bill W.'s Autobiography, Al-Anon books and workbooks and more. Colorful tri-plate medallions, recovery jewelry and greeting cards that make *our anniversaries memorable*.
If you don't see what you are looking for we will order it for you upon availability.



The Central Office Intergroup

The Central Office of Shreveport
2800 Youree Dr., Suite #362 Bldg A
Shreveport, LA 71104-3646

