

The MESSAGE March 2023

Motives are the Seeds of Action I Think Before I Do By Rick R.

In my early days of sobriety my wife came home from an Alanon meeting all excited about what they had talked about. Apparently, they were discussing their Fourth Step inventories and she explained that when taking step six, it was important that she examine her motives, before making decisions. How interesting and profound that statement was, at the time, and it has come up many, many times since that initial conversation. Since almost everything we do, begins with what we think, that statement has been a big part of what I believe our goals are supposed to be when we are in the process of cleaning up the wreckage of the past. It also implies that we should examine our motives, for what we do, from this day forward, and be sure that they conform to the spirit of the principles that are suggested in the A.A. program. This kind of thinking was foreign to me before John Barleycorn got his grip, but when the alcohol took its toll and I was circling the drain, I was forced to decide what I was going to do with the rest of my life. It became very important to learn and understand what the causes of my failures were, in the past, and what I could do to correct them. Like most of us, we have measured our successes and failures based on things we have accomplishments, by the things we owned, and where we lived. It made little difference how we acquired those things. How different my thinking is today, compared to how it was back then. I no longer base my success on material possessions. As the old country song says, "one rich man in ten with a satisfied mind." This, to me, does not mean that we must take a vowel of poverty. To me, this means that if I am honest with myself and that my motives are pure and unselfish, I can be content at any economic level. My motives make it so.

I was doing a little research to find the definition of the word happiness and discovered that it is often described as "a byproduct of right living and not an end in itself" Happiness is not a goal, but it is the result of living right. A friend once shared at a meeting that, satisfying his wants will never make a person happy. Another person shared that she had read something that described it like this: "happiness is like a butterfly, the more you chase it, the farther away it gets, but when you stand still, it will land on your shoulder". If my motive is to create happiness, it's probably not going to happen. These subtle little gems of wisdom are revealed to me daily and they slowly become a part of my mental make-up.

Examining my motives has made me look deeper at many of the subtle little differences in the words we use and their causes and effects and, for my purposes, I find that my defects of character, *cause* my shortcomings, and when I understand my defect, my shortcoming (faulty behavior) can be corrected. When I understand the problem, the troubles can be corrected. These ideas may be hard to grasp in the beginning but if I hadn't started looking deeper into my motives, I may never have resolved the deeper issues. These days, Unselfish Motives are the seeds that all my thoughts and actions stem from, and that is as simple as it gets.

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 LINEMarch 2023

Personal Recovery March 6-12
Five-Thirty March 13-19
Fairfield March 20-26
No Guarantee
March 27- April 2

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 3: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 34
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TRADITION 3: " The only requirement for A.A. membership is the desire to stop drinking."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 139 Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Ser

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

- 1. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?
- 2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?
- 3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?
- 4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?
- 5. Am I overimpressed by a celebrity, a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
- 6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?





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<u>CONCEPT 3</u>: "As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the conference, the A.A. 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."

Twelve Concepts for World Services, pg.13 Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services

Thanks to all the Central Office Backers contributions for the month of **January 2022.** 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.

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January 2022...\$1,361.62

January 2022...Memorial...\$100.00

Thanks to all the **Group Contributions...January 2022...\$2,819.00**

COI Meeting...\$10.00 South Shreveport...\$107.00 Compound...\$1,300.00 Maverick...\$300.00 *Keystone...*\$22.00 Twin City...\$10.00 Margaret Place...\$150.00 White Dove...\$100.00 Winners...\$498.00 Personal Recovery...\$222.00 Primary Purpose...\$100.00

Intergroups: Minden (November)...\$240.00 and Primary Purpose (January)...\$60.00

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 2022:

Central Office of Shreveport

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

District 1, Area 27P. O. Box 3924, Shreveport, LA 71133 (10%)

Louisiana Area Assembly, Inc.

7350 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 485-179 Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (10%)

General Service Office

P. O. Box 2407, James A. Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407 (30%)

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

Great Service Work Opportunity

Treatment & Corrections Committee

Are you ready, willing and able to carry the message?

Local area treatment centers need 10 minute leads for participation meetings and also those ready to share your story. Those in treatment need sponsors and to keep what we have, we need to give it away.

Please contact *Kathryn Moore*

512-409-0881 via text and include your name, email address and sobriety date. All are welcome at our next committee meeting at Shreveport Central Office on *Tuesday, March 14 @ 6:00pm*

P.S.

Years ago, it was customary to donate a dollar per year of sobriety on AA anniversaries. That donation was given to the Group treasurer for books and pamphlets to be given to newcomers and those in treatment centers and jails.

On your next AA anniversary please consider donating a dollar for each year you are celebrating sobriety to contribute to carrying the message to facilities and jails which are given books and pamphlets by Central Office through Treatment & Corrections Committee.

Many Thanks, Kathryn Moore

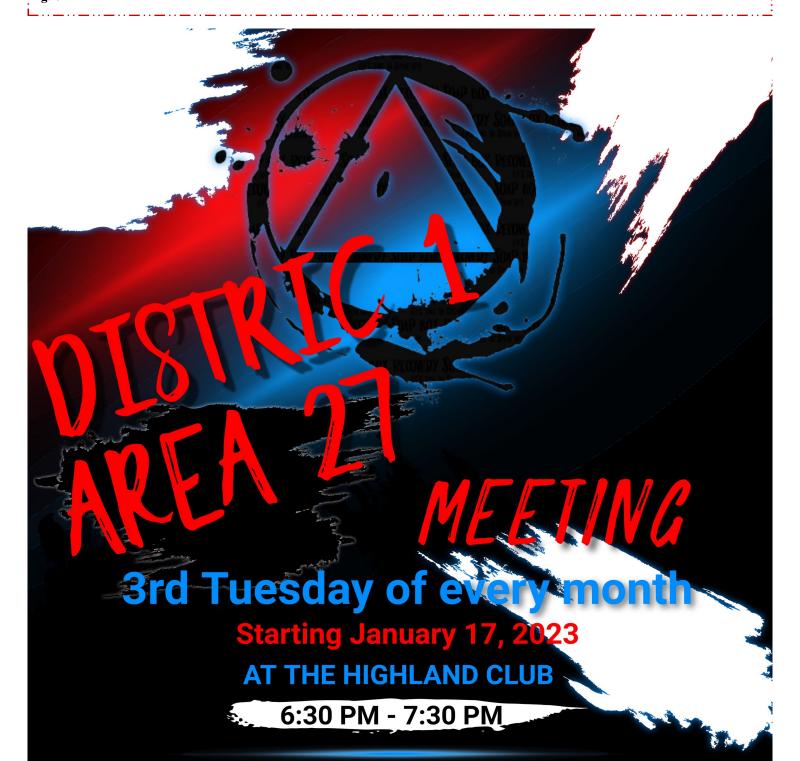
76th Annual Tri-State NOVEMBER 3-5, 2023

76th Annual Tri-State Convention Planning Committee



If you would like to participate please come to the A.A. Central Office on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 2:00 P.M.

WE HAVE SEVERAL CHAIR POSITIONS CURRENTLY NEEDING FILLED.



What is a GSR?

The General Service Representative has the job of linking his or her group with AA as a whole. The GSR represents the group at the district and area levels, bringing the groups' thought, news and problems to the District committee member and to the Delegate, who then passes them on to the conference. In return, the GSR brings back to the group the information and remedies that affect AA-unity, health, and growth. To the extent that a GSR keeps the group informed, then expresses the group conscience, only then can the Conference be assured it is acting for AA as a whole. Ideally, all groups should make every effort possible to have an alternate GSR.

The GSR "...may be the most important job in AA. By choosing its most qualified man or woman as GSR, a group helps secure its own future - and the future of AA as a whole." -Bill W.

Central Office Intergroup First Saturday of month

generally even numbered months at *Highland Club* and odd numbered months at *Koala Club*

COI Steering Committee Meeting AND COI Meeting First Tuesday of month

6:00pm Steering Committee & 6:40pm COIs at Central Office,

Treatment& Corrections AND PI & CPC Committees Meeting

(Public Information & Cooperation and Professional Community) Second Tuesday of month 6:00 pm at Central Office

Tri State Convention Committee Second Sunday of month 2:00pm at Central Office

<u>District 1—Area 27 Committee</u> Third Tuesday of month

6:30pm at The Highland Club DCM Thomas D. (318) 286-9339, blaze71023@gmail.com

Come join us and be a part of service!

Clip and save this information for future reference.

Al Anon Pot Luck Dinner

With panelists Glen R, Cathy Mac, James G
"Learning the Language of Peace"

Saturday, March 18th 6 pm

Jambalaya, Bread, Drinks provided - please bring a salad, dessert, or veggie

Univ. Church of Christ Family Center, 2045 E. 70th St, Shreveport



RSVP by March 12th Debra Merritt 601-807-8470 text or call or email debramerritt09@att.net

Tulane TUESDAY SPEAKER Meetings



March 2023

March 7 Wes G.

March 14 Gabe L.

March 21 Bridget V.

March 28 Coleman R.

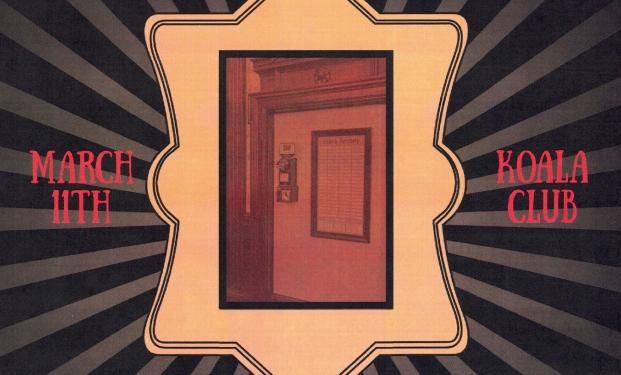


7:30pm Highland Club

1700 Tulane Ave. Shreveport 71103

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.

THE HALF PAST FIVE PRESENTS THE HALF PAST FIVE PRESENTS



SPEAKER AT 8:00 PM

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JULY 29, 1996

DINNER AT 6;30 CHILI & FIXINGS DESSERT AUCTION-50/50 RAFFLE PLEASE BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE AND A DESSERT TO

AUCTION



SATURDAY NIGHT SPEAKER MEETING

SPEAKER: JESSE J

SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH FELLOWSHIP @ 6:00 PM SPEAKER @ 7:00 PM

THE BRIDGE HOUSE
426 STONER AVE
SHREVEPORT, LA 71101
BRIDGEHOUSEHOME.ORG

TRESTATE

PRESENTS

ANNUAL PANCAKE BDEAKE

HIGHLAND CLUB

SERVED AT 8:30

\$10 PER TICKET

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH

SPEAKER AT 10:00AM CECILE H. 9/2/1980

THE STEPS WE TOOK

LASCYPAA XXXVII PRESENTS:

KISS ME, I'M GAJUN! HOMEGROUP GOOKOFF!

THINK YOUR HOMEGROUP MEMBERS MAKE THE BEST FOOD? ON MARCH 18TH, SHOW OFF YOUR COOKING SKILLS AND LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE.

ALL HOMEGROUPS ARE INVITED!

*GREAT FOOD!

*FUN & GAMES!

*PIE-IN-THE-FACE AUCTION!

*PANEL-MARCHING THROUGH THE MADNESS: STRUGGLES AND TRIUMPHS IN EARLY SOBRIETY

> SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH 11A-5P

HIGHLAND CLUB 1711 TULANE AVE. SHREVEPORT, LA 71103

T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!!

<u>LIMITED TIME OFFER!!</u> UNTIL <u>MARCH 16TH</u>, YOU CAN PURCHASE THE OFFICIAL:



Homegroup Cook-Off
T-SHIRT!!

DON'T MISS YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO OWN THIS ONE-OF-A-KIND PIECE OF LASCYPAA

XXXVII MEMORABILIA CELEBRATING OUR UPCOMING HOMEGROUP COOK-OFF!





ALL SIZES ONLY \$20 !!*

*ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS LASCYPAA XXXVII. HAPPENING THIS SUMMER IN SHREVEPORT!!

PAYMENT OPTIONS:





John Jackson

Scan to pay \$theoneandonlyjojack



john.jaxin.87@gmail.com

PLEASE INCLUDE SIZE AND QUANTITY IN PAYMENT DESCRIPTION.

ORDERED SHIRTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE HOMEGROUP COOK-OFF,

MARCH 25TH FROM 11-5 AT THE HIGHLAND CLUB.

1711 TULANE AVE. SHREVEPORT, LA 71103

IF YOU ORDERED A T-SHIRT BUT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, CONTACT:

GRANT W.-(318) 230-4780

JOHN J.-(318) 230-4001



CHAIRING A MEETING BEST PRACTICES

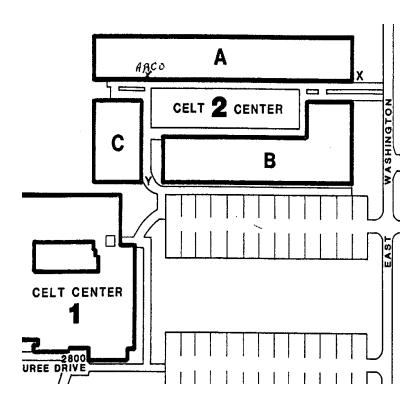
SATURDAY, MARCH 25 4-5PM

LOCATION: KOALA CLUB

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

