

The MESSAGE July 2025



FEAR NO MORE

Asking his Hight Power to remove the thing that ruled his life for years took some surprising humbling action

When I did my Fifth Step, I brought my Fourth Step inventory to my sponsor. I had written it from top to bottom until each column was completed. Conversely, when I did my Fifth Step, I read each entry from left to right to my sponsor. Each time I arrived at column four, he asked me the same question: "What was your part?"

I was able to look at each entry and see how the person or place I wrote about was controlling my decision-making. In answering my sponsor's question, I was able to see that I did play a role in each resentment. I realized that I could have some control over how I perceived the way people treated me and the overall effect they had on my life.

Next, my sponsor and I discussed why I was harboring these resentments. We basically dissected what had caused the conflict and we identified which of my character defects were to blame. What came out of our discussion was that I had lived my life entirely based on fear. My marriage was all about fear, fear of losing my wife, fear of my marriage failing, or fear that I would be embarrassed or have my heart crushed. I carried that fear not only in my relationship with my wife, but in every other relationship I had. This was eye-opening, to say the least.

I questioned little of what my sponsor told me, as I knew deep down inside he was right. The fear was everywhere. This revelation motivated me. I wanted this to change. I wanted the fear gone immediately. Naturally I asked the man sitting in front of me, my sponsor, what I should do. He said I needed to get the fear to lift, but to do that I was going to have to work on the opposite of it. He told me the opposite of fear was faith. If I believed that God will help me in my life, if I believed that God has a plan for me, if I believed that God is doing for me what I could not do for myself, then that was me practicing faith.

Well, did I believe God would help me in my life? He most certainly had helped me so far, hadn't he? There were many times in my drinking days where things could've gone quite differently, and I wouldn't be alive today. There were many times in my drinking days that I could have been incarcerated for a very, very long time. Someone had definitely been watching over me.

Continued on Page 3

AA Central Office of Shreveport 24 Hr. Hotline (318) 865-2172

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

Office Hours

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

Groups Responsible for

HOTLINE

July 2025

Rise & Shine July 7-13

South Shreveport July 14-20

Bellaire July 21-27

White Dove July 28- Aug 3

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

THE **HOTLINE**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 SEVEN: "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

Alcoholics Anonymous Traditions pg. 59 Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services

TRADITION SEVEN: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 160 Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services

TRADITION SEVEN: (The Long Form)

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

TRADITION SEVEN: Check List

- 1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my Central Office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy that can't afford it yet? How generous was I when I tanked in a barroom?
- 2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
- 3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
- 4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
- 5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
- 6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?





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<u>CONCEPT SEVEN:</u> "The conference recognizes 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 worlds service affairs of Alcohol 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 A.A. purse for its effectiveness."

Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W., Pg.21

Continued from page 1

Did I believe God had a plan for me? The biggest example of this was that I wasn't drinking anymore. How about the fact that I was even thinking about these questions? And what about the fact that I had a sponsor and was working on my Steps to ensure a happy and joyful life? This was not something I had ever been concerned with up to that point. This was not my will; it came from something much bigger than me.

Did I believe God was doing for me what I could not do for myself? You bet your sweet patootie I did. First, I wasn't drinking. If I had had my way, I'd be drinking for sure. I drank to get over my problems. And when drinking became a problem, I drank to get over the problems that drinking was causing. Sober, my life was getting better. I was a better dad, a better husband, a better sibling, a better employee, the list goes on and on. Clearly, God was doing for me what I could not do for myself.

I was now ready to replace my fear with faith. But that readiness wasn't enough. I had to actually do it. I had to prove I was ready to practice faith. This is where Step Seven came into play. It's short on words in the Big Book, but huge on power: "Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings."

The Sixth Step asked me if I was willing to confront my shortcomings and I proved that I was by working with my sponsor to examine how disgusting living with fear had become for me. I was more than ready to ask for help, but I stumbled over that word "humbly." I wanted to be rid of my fear because I wanted to be happier. I wanted to like myself better. I wanted others to like me more too. The problem here is the I, I, I—my focus on I was not what I defined as humble. Then it hit me.

I looked at the words in the Seventh Step Prayer. I realized the way to work the Seventh Step is for me to pray to God. Really and truly pray to God. For some reason, I felt the need to get on my knees, so I did. I knelt down and prayed. I said the words in the prayer, and I meant them. "I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows," I said out loud.

On my knees, feeling desperate to have my fear lifted, and saying the words honestly and to my God, I finally felt it. That sense of humility gave me hope. I had found him.

My favorite line in our Big Book says, "It works—it really does." I found God through working the Steps and I no longer live my life based on fear. I don't care how tough things get in my life; I'm not going to let go of the relationship I have with my Higher Power. Ever.

By: Tom S. | Arlington Heights, Illinois, Reprinted with Permission AA Grapevine July 2023

"The way our 'worthy' alcoholics have sometimes tried to judge the 'less worthy' is, as we look back on it, rather comical. Imagine, if you can, one alcoholic judging another!"

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., August 1946, "Who Is a Member of Alcoholics Anonymous?", The Language of the Heart

Keeping This Thing Afloat

For nearly 40 Years, the faith that AA gave her got her through some Impossibly lean times.

Now it's time to give back.

By: Mary O./ Grass Valley, Calif, Reprinted with Permission AA Grapevine July 2020

For years now, I've been trying to find a way to express what it means to me to contribute to AA. I got sober in 1981. Some years have been comfortable, some flush, and some impossibly lean. I once heard a speaker say that she prayed for enough and she always had enough. That really helped me through the hard times. I don't believe in a Santa Claus God who grants my every wish, nor do I believe in a God who does my bidding. But I do believe in a God who has shown me, on the deepest of levels, that I'm always being taken care of.

During lean times, I've made a budget to see where I could cut and realized that I couldn't stretch the money to cover the bare necessities. That's when I went on faith, and somehow I found enough.

Alcoholics Anonymous seems to run on a similar faith. It has never been flush. And from what I gather, it doesn't want the complications of being flush. But somehow the General Service Office has squeaked by. Did you know that the maximum AA will accept from any one person in a given year is \$5,000? At the end of our lives, if we want to contribute to AA, the maximum is \$5,000. Very few of our members ever give the maximum.

I have been in general service for a number of years, so I have some insight into the budget on which the New York office runs. It's absolutely amazing what they've been able to accomplish with so little. The GSO hosts the General Service Conference in New York each spring, so delegates from the U.S. and Canada can come together to discuss and vote on issues relevant to AA. The areas pay what they can to send their delegate to New York, and the General Service Office covers the rest.

Also, the Big Book is translated into many different languages for countries all over the world. Changes and updates are constantly being made to our literature every year. This costs money.

I remember being in a women's meeting many years ago when we were going through the Traditions. When we got to the Seventh Tradition: "Every A.A. group should be self-supporting, declining outside contributions," I was amazed at the discussion that ensued about putting money in the basket. Each person shared about what a privilege it was to be able to express our gratitude for the life AA has given us. It gives me joy to be able to contribute. Even when times are lean, I don't skimp on putting something in the basket. It's an action that manifests my prayer that God gives me enough. In AA, we are never required to contribute. We do it because we are grateful for the life we have been given. If someone doesn't contribute, I have no judgment. It's a personal choice.

I belong to an AA group that unfortunately cannot meet its expenses and contribute to the district, area or GSO, in spite of all the meetings we have. For that reason, and because my heart needs to express my gratitude, I contribute to the GSO through autopay. Even just \$5 a month can help our General Service Office continue to provide important life-saving services to alcoholics around the world. Think about it.



Central Office Steering Committee & COIs Meet



Tuesday, July 1, 2025 @ 6:00pm

6:00 pm— Steering Committee Meeting 6:40 pm— COIs & Steering Committee

@ Central Office, 2800 Youree Dr., Ste 362A, Shreveport 71104

Central Office Intergroup

First Saturday of Month

(Generally) Even numbered Months: **Highland Club** 1711 Tulane Ave., S'Port 71103& Odd numbered Months: **Koala Club** 4809 Shed Rd., Bossier City 71111

District 1 Area 27

Third Tuesday of Month 6:00pm at@ Highland Club

Next Meeting July 15

DCM - Jane Rowell
(318) 564-9043
janeerowell1@gmail.com

Treatment & Corrections

Second Tuesday of Month 6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting July 8

CHAIR: Melanie Fields (757) 788-4733

Tri-State Convention Committee

Second Sunday of Month 2:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting July 13

CHAIR: Jennifer Cypher (318) 286-1107

PI/CPC

Second Monday of Month 6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting **July 14**

CHAIR: Neal Lathem (901) 230-1796

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Thanks to all the **Central Office Backers** contributions for the month of **May 2025**. If you would like to be a Central Office Backer (COB) just give us a call (318-865-2172) and we will happily email or mail the application to you.

May 2025...\$88.79

Thanks for all the Group Contributions...May 2025...\$489.22

Grateful We're Not Dead...\$100.00

Margaret Place...\$50.00

Rise & Shine...\$200.00

Shreveport Young People...\$50.00

Take It Easy...\$40.00

Tulane...\$30.00

Twin City...\$10.00

Other...\$9.22

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."

Thanks for helping your Central Office be responsible!!!

Addresses for Group Contributions for 2025:

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.

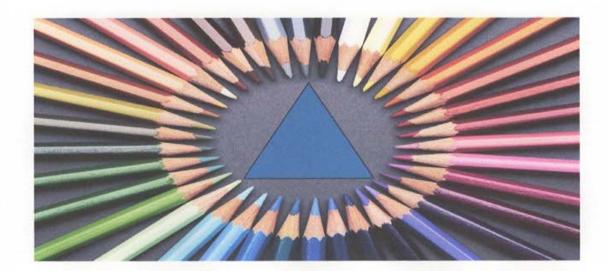
7350 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 485-179 Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (10%)

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)

DISTRICT ONE



MONTHLY MEETING 3RD TUESDAY @ THE HIGHLAND CLUB 6:00 pm

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.







WITHOUT OUR TRADITIONS WE (the AA fellowship)
WOULD NO LONGER EXSIST, AND WITHOUT OUR STEPS
WE AS INDIVIDUALS WOULD NOT RECOVER.
TRADITIONS ARE THE FOUNDATION THAT GIVES US THE
GIFT OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS.

BEGINNING MONDAY JULY 14TH
HIGHLAND CLUB 5:30 MEETING
EDDY C. AND JIM L. WILL LEAD US IN
THE STUDY OF THE CRUCIAL PART OUR
TRADITIONS PLAY IN OUR INDIVIDUAL
RECOVERY



Tulane TUESDAY SPEAKER Meetings



July 2025

July 1 Toni H.

July 8 Wayne Y.

July 15 Donna B.

July 22 Brandon G.

July 29 Virginia C.

7:00pm

Highland Club

1700 Tulane Ave. Shreveport 71103



\$

☆



SATURDAY, JULY 5TH HOSTED BY LUNCH BUNCH

6:30PM DINNER: CATERED BY

A STONE'S THROW CAFE
SANDWICHES & CHIPS

7:30PM SPEAKER:

ROY HOFFMEISTER

DOS: MARCH 1, 1983

Please bring Desserts to Share 50/50 Raffle

Koala Club 4809 Shed Rd., Bossier City 71111



The Bridge House 2nd Saturday Speaker Meeting



426 Stoner Ave., Shreveport 71101

Saturday, July 12, 2025

6:00 pm- Finger Foods & Fellowship

7:00 pm- Maggie M.

THE Stateline Group of Waskom
THESDAY
ENTING MEETING

Taca Bar Beans

HOLLY R. PESSERE

SD - 12/24/2018 SHREVEPORT, LA

JULY 15TH FOOD SIDO PM SPERKER 7:00 PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1305 W. TEXAS AVE.
(HWY 80 EAST)
WASKOM, TX 75692

Follow us on Facebook: The Stateline Group of Alcoholics Anonymous - Waskom, TX



LAST SATURDAY SPEAKER MEETING

JOHN J.

SATURDAY JULY 26, 2025

Oakwood

1700 Highland Ave Shreveport, LA 71101

Doors open at 6:00 pm Food @ 6/ Speaker @ 7



BASIC TRAINING HOSTS

Sweets and a Speaker



Speaker

Bill M.

DOS: 7/2/21

Sunday, July 27th



6:30pm





Speaker @ 7:00pm

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

IN THE GYMNASIUM 6012 YOUREE DR., SHREVEPORT 71105



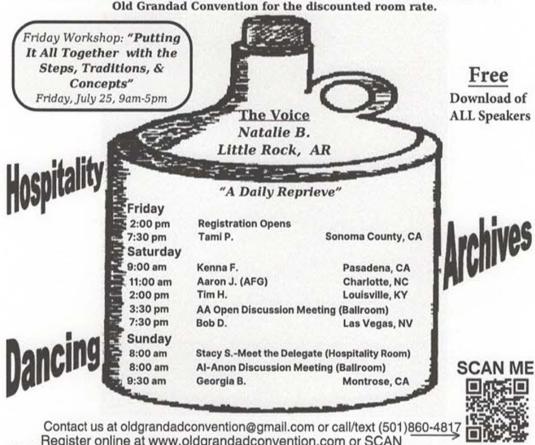


Arkansas State AA Convention

Oldest AA Convention West of the Mississippi 85th "Old Grandad"

July 25-27, 2025 **Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa** Hot Springs, Arkansas

Contact the hotel directly for room reservations: 501-623-7771 Mention the Old Grandad Convention for the discounted room rate.



Register online at www.oldgrandadconvention.com or SCAN ?<u></u>

\$30 Pre-Registration if received BEFORE July 11, 2025 OR \$35 Registration At The Door

First Name & Last Initial on Badge	Home Group	AA	Al-Anon / Alateen	Other	Amount		
1,1-1111							
All Registrations will be held in th	e name of:		Help Another with	a Cabalarabia			
Name			rieip Ariotriei with	a Scholarship			
Address			Total	Amount Due			
City	_State		STORES AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY	North Cold of Cold State	CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACT		
Zip code Phone			Mail Registrations with check payable to:				

Email

CONVENTION TREASURER P.O. Box 1821 Bentonville, AR 72712





SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER AA PRESENTS... 78TH ANNUAL TRI-STATE CONVENTION

"A VISION FOR YOU"



October 31 - November 2, 2025 LeBossier Hotel & Event Center, Bossier City, LA

May God bless you and keep you -until then.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

GUEST SPEAKERS - PANEL DISCUSSIONS - MEETINGS - FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER - AA LITERATURE/GIFTS OLD TIMERS LUNCHEON (20+ YEARS SOBRIETY) - SOCIALS - RAFFLE - SOBRIETY COUNTDOWN

GUEST SPEAKERS

Friday 8:00 PM- AA, Glenda R. / New Braunfels, TX Saturday 11:00 AM - Sammy F. / San Marcos, TX Saturday 2:30 PM - Al-Anon, Deirdre M. / Converse, LA Saturday 8:00 PM - AA, Candice M. Los Angeles, CA Sunday 11:00 AM - AA, Arisa B. / Boston, MA

REGISTER EARLY

Save \$10
Entered in Friday night drawing
for a set of convention tapes or
Tri-State t-shirt and mug

Convention recording by G & L Tapes



SCAN TO REGISTER

HOTEL INFORMATION

LeBossier Hotel & Event Center 4000 Industrial Drive Bossier City, LA 71112

FOR ROOM RESERVATION CALL:

(318) 747-0711

(Reference Tri-State Convention for room rate of \$94)

PRE-ORDER T-SHIRTS

Pre-Order Deadline October 17

Purple or Green Short Sleeve \$25 Long Sleeve \$30 Add \$5 for 2XL - 4XL

*Shirts available for pickup at convention



For more details and online registration: https://aa-shreveport.org/convention/



For additional information please contact:

Convention Chair: Jennifer C. (318) 286-1107

Registration: Amy D. (318) 464-9821 or tristate.aaconvention@gmail.com

— REGISTRATION FORM =

One registration form per perso	n : 4984
Name:	O 13410110.
Name on Badge:	035
Email:	- ENDAIN
Phone:	10041
City/State:	
Check if Old-Timer with 20 Make checks/money orders paya Mail completed form and payme Tri-State Convention 2800 Youree Drive Suite 362A Shreveport, LA 71104	able to <i>Tri-State Convention</i>
SCHOLARSHIPS: Help those who	o are unable to pay the registration fee.
requires a significant amount of money to be supporting and paid for through registration	ot a regular AA meeting but a special event that be successful . The Tri-State Convention is self- in fees plus voluntary contributions from individual at the convention, and attendance is of course always pay our way.
Registration Use Only: Pmt received by:	Method of Payment:

ITEM	COST	COST			AMOUNT	
• PRE-REGISTER (by Oct. 17)	\$25	х		=	\$	
• REGISTER (after Oct. 17)	\$35	х		=	\$	
 SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION 	N	П		=	\$	
 ADDITIONAL DONATION 		П		=	\$	
SHIRT - PRE-ORDERS ONLY						
(Pre-order deadline Oct. 17)		Ш				
SHORT SLEEVE:		Ш				
Purple (S - XL) Size:	\$25	х		=	\$	
Purple (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$	
Green (S-XL) Size:	\$25	х		=	\$	
Green (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$	
LONG SLEEVE:		П				
Purple (S - XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$	
Purple (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$35	х		=	\$	
Green (S-XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$	
Green (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$35	х		=	\$	



Greetings from your 2025 Tri-State Convention Committee!

We are excited to be preparing for the 78th annual Tri-State Convention in which the theme will be "A Vision For You."

We are requesting your help in making this upcoming convention a big success! Two major ways you can help is to pre-register before October 17 and also to consider making an additional donation of any amount to Tri-State. This will help ensure that we can provide for our speakers and help share with Central Office the financial cost of the convention. Also, if you register early by October 17th your name is entered in a drawing to receive a free set of convention media or a Tri-State t-shirt and mug!

Tri-State depends on registrations to cover the cost of the event which includes our speakers' travel expenses including airfare, hotel and meals, LeBossier Hotel facility rental fees, and many other expenses. We are planning for a larger crowd than last year and with that comes increased expenses.

Tri-State is a Central Office backed AA weekend convention designed to help carry the message and encourage fellowship in our AA community. The 78th annual Tri-State Convention will be held October 31 – November 2, 2025 in Bossier City, LA at the LeBossier Hotel & Event Center.

The Tri-State Committee is hard at work preparing to make this weekend fun and memorable! We have secured an amazing lineup of speakers for the weekend, plus there will be panel discussions, a Friday night gumbo dinner, socials, meetings, and a raffle. The Committee has also voted to recognize Old Timers as those having 20 years or more of continuous sobriety. A special lunch will be provided to Old Timers on Saturday, followed by an Old Timers meeting to share their experience, strength and hope on how to achieve long term sobriety.

You can register and donate through the following ways:

- Scan QR code on the attached flyer
- Go to the 78th Tri-State Convention 2025 webpage https://aa-shreveport.org/convention/ on the Central Office website and click on the payment link
- Mail/Drop off form and payment to: AA Central Office of Shreveport, 2800 Youree Drive Ste. 362 A, Shreveport, LA 71104
- Contact AA Central Office of Shreveport at (318) 865-2172 to make a payment over the phone using a debit or credit card



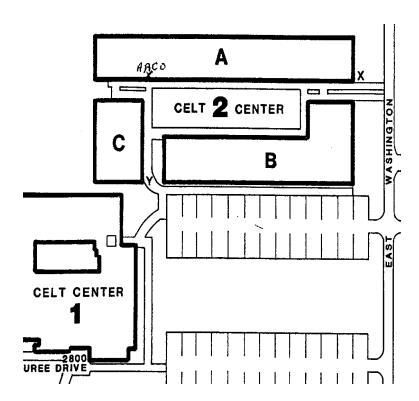
May God bless you and keep you until then.

On behalf of the Tri-State Committee and the Central Office of Shreveport we greatly appreciate your support of this event. We look forward to seeing you at the convention!

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

