

The MESSAGE October 2025



Time to check out

"It's progress, not perfection." If you see me "in action" at a grocery store, please, I beg you, don't tell my sponsor how I acted.

By: Definitely Steve

I've done it all. I don't drink. I go to meetings. I call my sponsor. I did the Steps. I gladly do service. And of course, I reach out to help other alcoholics.

But after all of this, there's more? Apply the principles of AA "in all my affairs"? Every day? Forget it. That's simply too much to ask this recovering alcoholic, no matter how many years I have in the program.

Most of the time I do guite well. Remember, "it's progress, not perfection."

At a restaurant, wedding, fancy party or ball game, I'm an AA superstar. But doing the family food shopping? Now that's another story. If you see me "in action" at a grocery store, please, I beg you, don't tell my sponsor how I acted when...

- 1) The shopper in front of me in the "15 items or less" line starts to place 27 items on the conveyer belt.
- 2) The guy in front of me leaves the checkout counter to get the one item he "forgot."
- Someone has an endless conversation with the cashier about her granddaughter's amazing report card.
- 4) "Starving" shoppers reach and grab food from the salad bar, using their hands.
- 5) A driver cuts me off to get the last remaining parking spot.
- 6) I get to the store and it doesn't open its front door one minute early, leaving customers to freeze outside. And...
- 7) An SUV has been parked so close to my car that I can't even open my door to get in.

I'm 76 years old with 28 years in the program. It may be too late for this grouchy old-timer to change no matter how many times I do the Steps.

But thankfully, I can always do another Step 10. I'm an expert at apologies. Though I'd rather be an expert at "doing the next right thing."

Reprinted with Permission, AA Grapevine, October 2020

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

October 2025

No Guarantee Sept 29-Oct 5 Primary Purpose Oct 6-12 Hardy Oct 13-19 **Basic Training Oct 20-26**

Keystone Oct 27-Nov 2

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 TEN: "Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg . 88
Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services

<u>TRADITON TEN:</u> "Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 176
Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services

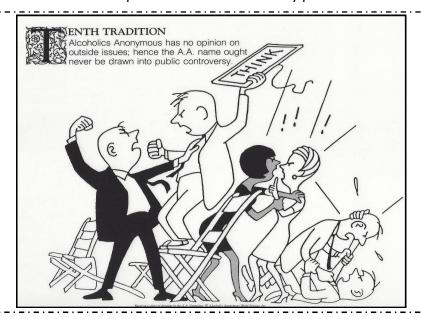
TRADITION TEN: (The Long Form)

"No A.A. group or member should ever, in a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever

The A.A. Group...Where it all Begins Pg. 45-46
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TRADITION TEN: Check List

- 1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquillizers/ Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
- 2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?
- 3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
- 4. Have I has a similar experience in my own AA life?
- 5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
- 6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways??
- 7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?





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<u>CONCEPT TEN:</u> "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 resolutions, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws."

Twelve Concepts for World Service, By Bill W. Page 43 Reprinted with permission from World Services

Defending AA

After a heated debate on the internet, a member learns a lot about putting on her gloves for AA

The importance of both Traditions Ten and Eleven was brought home to me recently in my excessive zeal to protect AA's good name. When they were approved by AA's first General Service Conference in 1950, press, radio and films, what today are known as the mainstream media, were all AA had to consider. But with the evolution of the internet, there has been an explosion in our channels of communication. This presents tremendous opportunities for AA to carry our message of recovery, but these new ways of communication also carry dangers. Today there are many Fellowship websites, as well as a bewildering range of links to other groups, some of which are virulently hostile to AA.

I once made the mistake of challenging one of these groups, in which a writer accused AA of being responsible for the disease concept of alcoholism. He asserted that no one was powerless over alcohol and that addiction was a choice. I pointed out that AA literature, especially the Big Book, is careful not to describe alcoholism as a disease, but uses terms like illness or malady. This resulted in a lengthy correspondence which became more and more heated, though not more illuminating.

I found myself lying awake at night planning my next email salvo to demolish my ignorant adversary. To gather ammunition I wrote to AA's General Service Office in New York, but with great good humor they gently refused to take my side. This was part of the letter I received from the Public Information assignment staff member:

"There was a recent television program in the United States which was highly critical of the AA program and generated anger and antagonism. The numerous requests for this AA office to react or defend Alcoholics Anonymous were met with a gentle reminder about our Tenth Tradition. We also pointed out Bill W.'s guidance in Concept Twelve, 'Let us suppose that AA does fall under sharp public attack or heavy ridicule; and let us take a particular case where such pronouncements happen to have little or no justification in fact. Almost without exception it can be confidently estimated that our best defense in these situations would be no defense whatever—namely complete silence at the public level' (AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service).

"This public relations policy is one which we at this office heartily endorse. We also believe that it ought to serve as a thoughtful guide to all members of the Fellowship. Though a response to outside criticism may of course be done on a personal level, the mere fact of offering an opinion as an AA member may lead to a public discussion where the line between the personal and the Fellowship's opinion may become blurry in the public's mind.

"Our role as a society of recovered alcoholics helping others does not endow us with any medical or scientific stature. Therefore, the issue of a medical determination of a disease is something on which AA could have no position. Our Traditions are clear in reminding us to not be diverted from our primary purpose as a Fellowship and as members of that Fellowship we should respect the limitations we have. Doctor Silkworth's view of alcoholism is still contained in the basic text Alcoholics Anonymous, though as a separate and distinct Foreword. It may lack a certain medical credence these days, though the ideas still resonate with many AAs and newcomers."

I learned my lesson. I stopped springing to AA's defense when I saw our Fellowship traduced or misrepresented in the media. As the long form of Tradition Eleven says, "There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better that our friends recommend us." Apart from anything else, these sometimes egotistical but often well-meaning interventions were enticing distractions that enfeebled my primary purpose, which is to stay sober, and as far as I can, help other alcoholics to get sobriety.

By: Anonymous/ Maldon, Essex Reprinted with Permission, AA Grapevine



CONDO FOR A WEEK IN GULF SHORES, AL



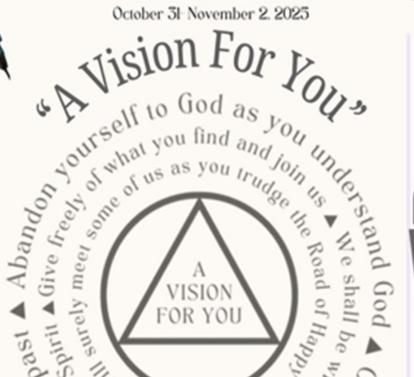
\$1 FOR EACH TICKET DRAWING 11/1 AT THE CONVENTION



FLATSCREEN TV



POWER TOOLS





GIFT BASKETS





WITH A FIRE PIT



SPA TREATMENTS



GIFT CARD

GIFT CARDS

May God bless you and keep you -until then.

Fellow members,

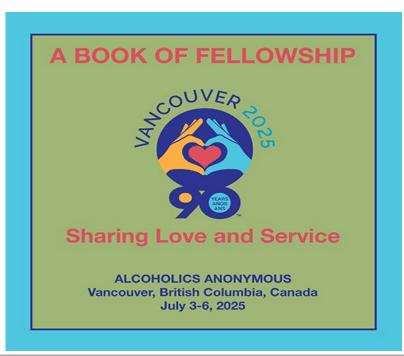
As many of you know, our Central Office exists to serve the fellowship and carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. It provides meeting schedules, literature, phone line support, and a vital connection between groups and the wider AA community.

Recently, group donations have declined. While every contribution helps, consistent group support is what allows the Central Office to keep its doors open and continue this important work. Tradition Seven reminds us that AA is self-supporting through our own contributions. That support begins with each group and extends to the service structures that make AA accessible to all.

If your group has not contributed recently, please consider doing so. Even small amounts, given regularly, make a big difference. Together, we ensure that the hand of AA is always there for anyone who reaches out.

With gratitude, Gina Jenkins, Treasurer On behalf of the Central Office Steering Committee

NOW AVAILABLE AT YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE



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.



Central Office Steering Committee & COI Meeting



Tuesday, October 7, 2025 @ 6:00pm

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

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

District 1 Area 27

Third Tuesday of Month

6:00pm at@ Highland Club

Next Meeting Oct 21

DCM - Jane Rowell (318) 564-9043

janeerowelll@gmail.com

Treatment & Corrections

Second Tuesday of Month 6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting Oct 14

CHAIR: Melanie Fields (757) 788-4733

Tri-State Convention Committee

Second Sunday of Month 2:00pm

Next Meeting Oct 12

CHAIR: Jennifer Cypher (318) 286-1107

PI/CPC

Second Monday of Month 6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting Oct 13

CHAIR: Neal Lathem (901) 230-1796

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Thanks to all the Central Office Backers contributions for the month of

\$\frac{1}{2}\$\$ \$\frac

August 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.

August 2025...\$88.79

Thanks for all the Group Contributions...August 2025...\$563.47

High Noon...\$100.00 Twin City...\$10.00

Keystone...\$21.00 *White Dove...*\$50.00

State Line...\$171.57 Other...\$104.15

Take It Easy...\$60.00

August Intergroup...Blanchard & Hardy...\$387.00

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."

Thank You 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)

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.

475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115

September 24, 2025

Dear Friends in the AA Fellowship: Grapevine and La Viña need your help — now more than ever. For over eight decades AA Grapevine and La Viña, AA's magazines written by us, for us, convey shared experience, strength, and hope from members across the world. Now, beyond the magazines we carry the AA message in many new forms:

- Apps available worldwide in English and Spanish
- A podcast with more than 1.2 million downloads and 24,000 listens per month
- An Instagram community of 15,000 followers
- A YouTube channel with over 16,000 subscribers and 267,000 views
- ASL Videos for the Deaf on our YouTube Channel Over 40 books of member stories and writings Free content for the incarcerated-on prison tablets
- Free print subscriptions for alcoholics in prisons, hospitals and institutions

Grapevine provides podcasts, YouTube channel, Instagram and the prison tablet content free of charge to help alcoholics. Therein lies the challenge: Grapevine's only source of income is from subscriptions and the sale of books. The magazines do not accept individual or group contributions.

Folks often ask how they can support Grapevine. Today, our financial situation is very difficult. With your increased support, a thriving Grapevine and La Viña will continue providing these vital services to alcoholics everywhere. We will also persist in adapting new technologies to carry the AA message.

Here's how you can help Grapevine help others:

- 1. Subscribe or renew your Grapevine or La Viña subscription today. You can subscribe to the print magazine or online or subscribe through the apps and read and listen to the magazine right on your smartphone.
- 2. Ask your group to start a Grapevine or La Viña subscription or add another.
- 3. Contribute to the Carry the Message program as an individual or as a group to provide subscriptions to those in need
- 4. Tell your friends, home group, district and area that we need subscribers now more than ever.
- 5. Consider gifting a subscription to someone who could benefit from the AA message.
- 6. We need help from Area and District trusted servants to reach groups that don't have Grapevine or La Viña or even know that the magazines exist
- 7. Make Grapevine and La Viña part of your local events with workshops and presentations.

Every subscription helps keep the voice of the Fellowship alive for alcoholics who may not be able to get to a meeting but can still hear the message of recovery through our pages, podcasts, videos, and outreach. With your increased support, a thriving Grapevine and La Viña will continue providing these vital services to alcoholics everywhere and once again contribute to the General Service Board Reserve Fund.

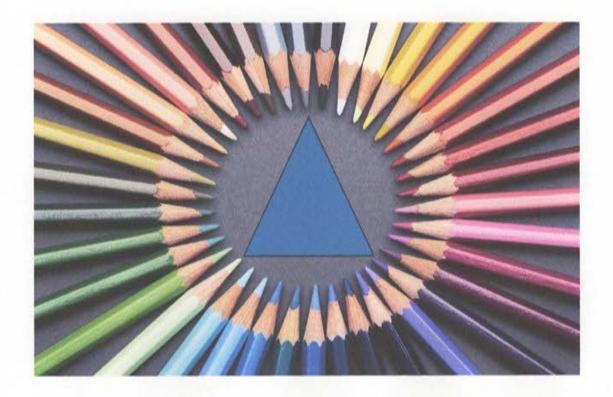
Visit our websites to subscribe to the magazine in print or online, to purchase books, or contribute to the Carry the Message program (see links at end of letter).

On the apps, you can download and subscribe to the magazines through the Apple App Store or Google Play on your smartphone, or use the appropriate QR code for your phone, below. The apps have the portable convenience of being able to listen to the magazine audio or the podcast while you work, exercise or travel.

Thank you for your continued love and support. Together, we can make sure that the AA message keep reaching the next suffering alcoholic—wherever they may be. In service and fellowship,

Chris C. Publisher, AA Grapevine, Inc.

DISTRICT ONE



MONTHLY MEETING

3RD TUESDAY @

THE HIGHLAND CLUB

6:00 pm



Tulane TUESDAY SPEAKER Meetings



October 2025

Oct 7 David C.

Oct 14 Yolanda R.

Oct 21 Drew H.

Oct 28 Renne H.

7:00pm

Highland Club

1700 Tulane Ave. Shreveport 71103





Ectober Interment

October 4th@ The Highland Club **Dinner @ 6 pm**: BBQ Pulled Pork with sides **Speaker @ 7 pm**: Carter H. (Nacogdoches, TX)

Please bring desserts! 50/50 RAFFLE

BRIDGE HOUSE

speaker meeting Every second saturday **426 STONER AVE**

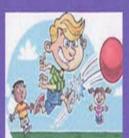
6:00 PM - Finger Foods & Fellowship 7:00 PM – Speaker

> OCTOBER 11TH -Jason D



7th ANNUAL UNITY FAMILY FUN DAY

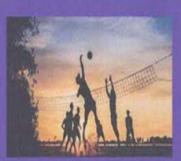
FELLOWSHIP, MUSIC, FOOD, FUN, AND GAMES



Kickball



Corn Hole



Volleyball



Horseshoes



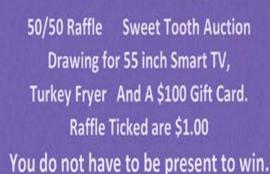
Basketball



Bounce house



Speaker







Free Food

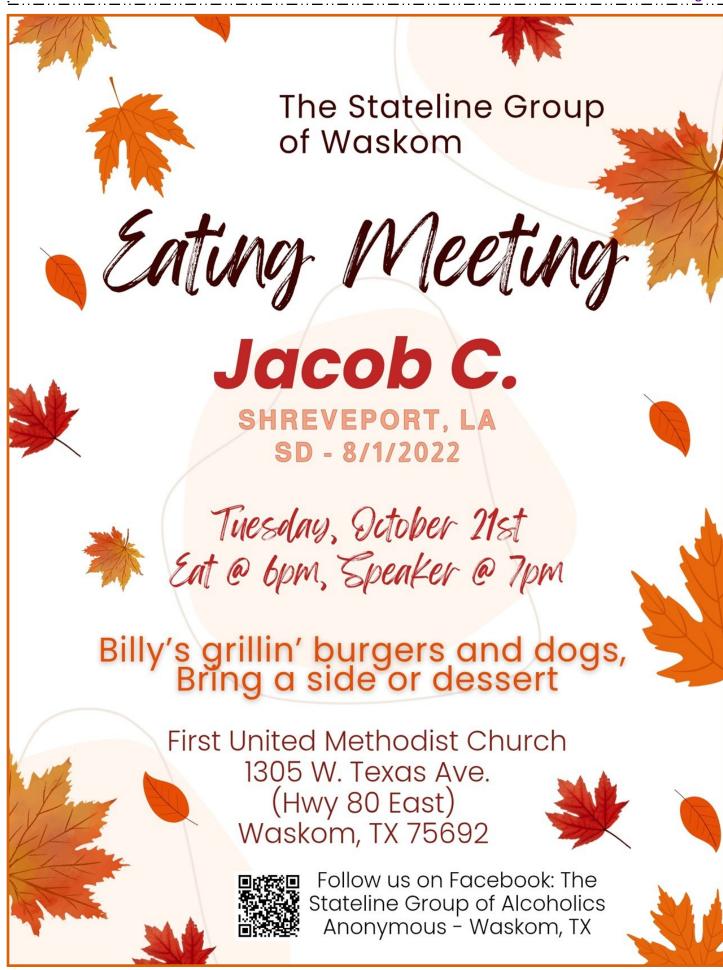
Show off

Pre-Order T-Shirts Contact Yolanda R. @ (318) 572-9372

your Desserts Donate something for the Sweet Tooth Auction.

Event will be at the Serenity Clubhouse, 1506 Abbie Shreveport, La. Saturday, October 18, 2025 from 10am to 7pm The Speaker will be Chuck C. @5pm Sponsors for the event are The Serenity Clubhouse, Compound, CADA, Alpha House (Minden), Highland Club, koala Club, & Tri-State. Contact Bruce at (318) 658-6702 for more information.

Get your teams together for Volleyball Kickball Basketball CornHole











OAKWOOD HOME for women

EAT & MEET

OAKWOOD HOME MONTHLY SPEAKER MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

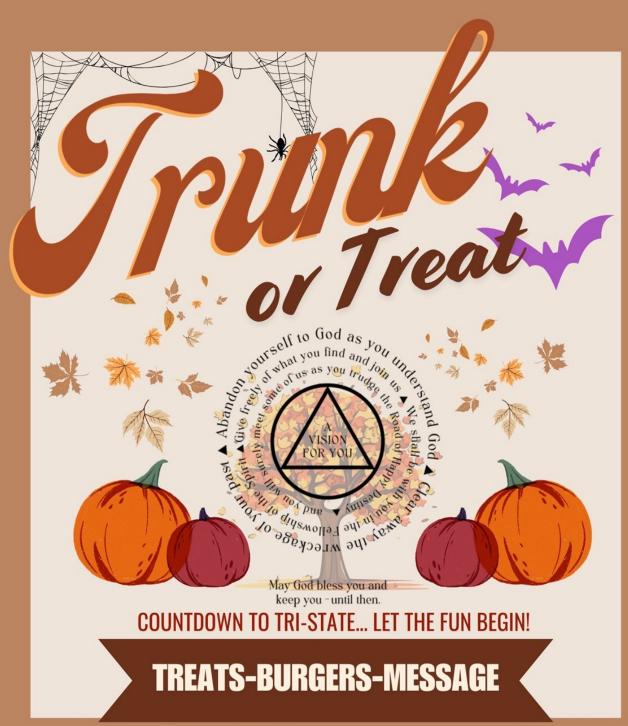
Doors open at 6:00 PM | Speaker at 7:00 PM

Guest Speaker:

HEATH L.

He's living recovery in both life and work.

Heath serves in all areas and is a true example of what giving back looks like. A great guy with a powerful message you won't want to miss.



26 OGT 2025 TRUNK OR TREAT 4PM HAMBURGERS 6PM SPEAKER 6:30 PM

THE PRINT CLUB



October 31 November 2, 2025



BASIC TRAINING HOSTS

Sweets and a Speaker



Speaker

Randy B.

DOS: 10-6-88

Sunday, October 26



6:30pm





Speaker @

7:00pm

St. Luke's United Methodist Church









Speaker-Claire La. 04/14/08

Wednesday October 29th 530PM

Half Past Five Monthly Speaker Meeting at Koala Club. Last Wednesday of every month at 5:30PM



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



WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

May God bless you and keep you -until then.

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

HOTEL INFORMATION

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

FOR ROOM RESERVATION CALL: (318) 747-0711 & reference Tri-State for room rate of \$94



PRE-ORDER 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



REGISTER EARLY

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

CONVENTION RECORDING BY G&L TAPES

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 ----

Register online at https://aa-shreveport.org/convention/ or scan OR code

register offilite at https://ac	a sincreport.org/convention/ or scarr	Sur coa		12
*One registration form per person				
Name:	Many rall			
Name on Badge:	ITEM	COST	QTY	
Email:	PRE-REGISTER (by Oct. 17)	\$25	х	= 5

OLD TIMERS (ONLY)

Phone: City/State:

☐ 20+ years of sobriety





Make checks/money orders payable to Tri-State Convention

Mail completed form and payment to:

Tri-State Convention 2800 Youree Drive Suite 362A Shreveport, LA 71104 **SCHOLARSHIPS:** Help those who are unable to pay the registration fee.

Why we have to register: A convention is not a regular AA meeting but a special event that requires a significant amount of money to be successful. The Tri-State Convention is self-supporting and paid for through registration fees plus voluntary contributions from individual members or groups. No baskets are passed at the convention, and attendance is of course voluntary. As responsible AA members we always pay our way.

Registration Use Only: Pmt received by: _	Method of Payment:

ITEM	COST	П	QTY		AMOUNT
• PRE-REGISTER (by Oct. 17)	\$25	х		=	\$
 REGISTER (after Oct. 17) 	\$35	х		=	\$
 SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION 		П		=	\$
 ADDITIONAL DONATION 				=	\$
SHIRT - PRE-ORDERS ONLY		П		Г	
(Pre-order deadline Oct. 17)					
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:					
Purple (S - XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$
Purple (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$35	х		=	\$
Green (S-XL) Size:	\$30	х		=	\$
Green (2XL - 4XL) Size:	\$35	х	1	=	\$



May God bless you and keep you -until then.

GIFT CARDS



WOMEN IN RECOVERY RETREAT

Scottsville Camp - Marshall, TX

Seashells of Serenity Led By Dee Plaisance

Open to women in any recovery program
(AA, Al-Anon, OA, GA, ACA)

Sign-in Begins: Friday, Nov 14th @4:00 pm Retreat Ends: Sunday, Nov 16th @ 10:30 am

Registration Deadline: Oct 24th, 2025

Registration Fees as follows:

Single Room:

\$300 per person

Double Room:

\$200 per person

Triple Room:

\$170 per person

Quad Room:

\$150 per person

**If you would like to share a room with 1 or more persons, you are responsible for finding your roommate(s). If you cannot find a roommate, you will be responsible for paying the Single Room rate.

The full amount is due with your registration and includes a t-shirt.

REGISTRATION INCLUDES 2 NIGHTS LODGING, 5 MEALS, COFFEE & BOTTLED WATER.

Please bring any extra snacks you might want. Linens and towels are provided.

To REGISTER send full amount <u>payable to: WOMEN'S RECOVERY RETREAT</u>,
Mail to: Gina Jenkins 604 Milbank Circle Shreveport, LA 71115.
NO REFUNDS will be given, but you can transfer your registration to someone else.
Notify Gina J. if you want to make a change.

Financial assistance is available. Check here if applying_____.

If applying for a scholarship, return this form with a \$70 deposit.

I would like to donate to the Speaker/Supplies Fund in the amount of \$______.

I would like to donate to the Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$______.

My check is attached.

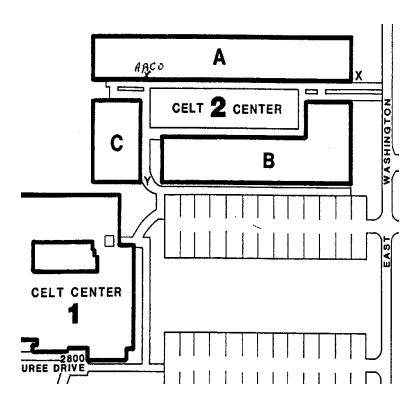
NAMEMy check is attached.			SHIRT SIZE		
PHONE	EMAIL				
Single Sharing Room With	Double	Triple	Quad		

For more info: Gina Jenkins -- gina@jenkins.construction or (cell) 318-518-0139.

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

