

# The Central Texas MESSENGER

Published FREE Bi-Monthly by Central Texas Intergroup

June 2016

Vol. 2, 2016, Issue 7

## From the Editor:

When I first got sober, I was a wreck. Every little thing scared me to death, and I was always running to the phone to call my sponsor. There were nights I couldn't sleep and days when I felt so jittery that I didn't want to get out of bed — but I did. The way I got through it was with the help of others.

There were times in the early days where fellowship members took me out for coffee all hours of the night. If I needed someone, they would come over and visit. They gave me rides when I didn't have a car, fed me when I was broke, and took care of my son during meetings so I could focus on getting sober. And, best of all, they taught me service work, which really helped me progress in the program and leave a lot of those fears behind.

I got involved in my home group and started working with others. I went to a meeting every single day for the first year, except once when I was sick. I learned that the more I worked with others, the more my mind seemed to quiet down. I had never done anything in my life for others, really, because I was so wrapped up in me, my problems and my pain and troubles. It was a whole new way of life.

Over the years in AA, I have been to many prison meetings, served on a number of committees, answered the telephone for the AA hotline, sponsored lots of women, chaired plenty of meetings, provided rides to those who needed it, and took lots of people out for coffee to talk things over and keep them occupied. I've loaned my money, time and even couch to those who needed it, and I've never regretted it.

I don't know how many (if anyone) ever stayed sober because of my work in AA. I have no idea if the women in prison ever got sober when they got out. Nor do I want to know. If I knew, it certainly would unleash that dreaded ego that's plagued me all these years, so I am glad I don't.

However, there is one thing I do know: Working with others made me grow like nothing I've ever experienced. It changed me in ways that are hard to describe, and I know for a fact that I am a better person because of it.

Today, I am still involved. I volunteer at the Intergroup Office, write the newsletter and chair meetings occasionally, among other things. I also don't limit my service work to AA. Sometimes I volunteer for things in the community that I believe are good causes, such as



HEY THERE YOU  
SPIRITUAL GIANT,  
SPONSOR BUGGING  
YOU ABOUT SERVICE?

CHECK OUT THE  
HEART OF TEXAS CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE  
MEETING

JUNE 28, 2016 - 7:15 PM -

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

- FREE COOKIES AND STUFF
- HIGH-FIVES ON REQUEST
- INFORMATION
- SERVICE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Meals on Wheels, Paint Your Heart Out, Habitat for Humanity, etc. This is not a great virtue of mine, this volunteering. It's necessary and vital to keep the focus off me and to help others as just one of the ways of restitution for the harm I did when I was drinking.

For those who are new to the program, getting involved is a vital, fun way to take your growth to a higher level. If you're not new, and presently just coasting along, getting back involved can refresh your program and lead to new friendships, renewed growth and a greater sense of peace in the world.

I encourage anyone to take a fresh look at service work and become involved. I guarantee you won't regret it!

## What's Happening

- **81<sup>st</sup> annual Weekend in SA with AA**, Friday and Saturday, June 10-11, San Antonio Shrine Auditorium. Go to [www.aainsa.org](http://www.aainsa.org) to find out more.
- **AA Founders' Day**, June 10-12, Akron Ohio; for registration and information, see <https://foundersdayregistration.akronaa.org>.
- **Founders' Day Celebration**, Saturday, June 11, Tyler. Find out more at [www.tyler-aa.org/events.htm](http://www.tyler-aa.org/events.htm).
- **70<sup>th</sup> annual Texas State AA Convention**, June 24-26, Austin. Information available at [www.txaaconvention.org](http://www.txaaconvention.org).
- **EHS Summer Soriee**, Saturday, July 16, Windmill Hill Clubhouse, 4 to 8 p.m., 4572 Westchester Dr., Waco; swimming, food, fun, prizes and fellowship, ESH will provide hamburgers and all the fixings, Ice tea, coffee and water. Please bring a side dish or dessert to fill out the menu. To RSVP, please call Jerry D at 254-744-5861 for a county of how many are attending.
- **30th annual AAggieland Convention**, Aug. 5-7, Bryan. Visit [aaggieland.com](http://aaggieland.com) for more information.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Capital of Texas Conference**, Aug. 12-14, Austin. For information, go to [capitaloftexasconference.org](http://capitaloftexasconference.org).
- **Trustees of the Central Texas Intergroup meet every second Monday of the month** at 6:30 p.m. in the Intergroup office at 3201 Franklin Ave., Suite 9. Anyone with questions or who wants to find out what's going on is invited to drop by.
- The **monthly meeting of Intergroup representatives is held every third Monday** at 6:30 p.m. in the building across from St. Mary's Catholic Church., 1401 Washington Ave. All are welcomed!
- **District 91 meetings are held** from 3:30 to 5 p.m. **on the second Saturday of the month** upstairs at the Triangle Group. All are welcomed. Find out what's up in your district by calling DCM Ben S. at 254.265.5098.

*Get information for more events by going to [www.aagrapevine.org/calendar](http://www.aagrapevine.org/calendar) or check out Box 4-5-9 at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). To post an event, contact the Central Texas Intergroup Office at 254.754.3336 or send it to [centexintergroup@grandecom.net](mailto:centexintergroup@grandecom.net).*

## THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE...

**Big Robert**, beloved member of Triangle, passed away Saturday, June 4, 2016 and joined his fellows in God's special meeting. Visitation is Friday, June 10, at the Dorsey-Keatts Funeral Home from 1 to 8 p.m., 1305 Elm St.; funeral services will be at noon on Saturday, June 11, at the Hubbard United Methodist Church. Interment to follow in Hubbard.

**Jeff J.**, another beloved member of Triangle with 32 years of sobriety, passed on to that big meeting in the sky on May 17, 2016.

**Terry M.**, 71, also went to be with his maker on May 1, 2016. Terry attended multiple groups, including Bellmead, Turning Point, Heart of Texas and others. He had 32 years of sobriety.

We will miss our fellow Friends greatly!

## New Meetings, Schedule Changes

- The Turning Point Group has a woman-only Step Study at 1:30 p.m., 3rd floor, 13th & Austin.
- The Al-Anon Meeting at DePaul has closed.
- The Texas Group has a Big Book meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday nights at St. Alban's Church.
- The Second Chance Group is now meeting from 7 to 8 p.m.
- The Triangle Group has made its 8:30 a.m. meeting Monday through Friday permanent.

Have a new meeting or a meeting change? Group closing? Send news to [centexintergroup@grandecom.net](mailto:centexintergroup@grandecom.net).

## Wanted

\*The Central Texas Intergroup sometimes receives requests from inmates in state facilities for AA Big Books. If you can sponsor someone by contributing the cost of a book, call 254.754.3336.

\*A number of positions are available to serve at the district level and trustees are needed for the Central Texas Intergroup. Also, Intergroup representatives are needed to attend the monthly Intergroup meeting. (See What's Happening for meetings information.)

\*Participants for the AA Hotline are always needed. Choose the day you want to take your turn!

## Food for Thought

*"I have found that process of discovering who I really am begins with knowing who I really don't want to be."*

---Personal Stories, Page 456, AA Big Book---

*"We saw we needn't always be bludgeoned and beaten into humility. It could come quite as much from our voluntary reaching for it as it could from unremitting suffering."*



---Step 7, Page 75, Twelve Steps and 12 Traditions---

## It's Your Birthday!

### »Bellmead Group:

**June:** Charles C. has eight years.

### »Experience Strength & Hope Group:

**May:** Kevin H. and Maggie S. celebrated their first anniversaries; David S. celebrated three years; Daniel H., 5 years; and Richard H., has 11 years.

**»Heart of Texas Group:**

**May:** Kevin E. has five years as of May, and Sheryl J. celebrated her 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary in May.

**»Second Chance Group:**

**May:** Jeff has three years of sobriety; Gary M. has five years; Richard K. has 5 years; and Richard H. has 11.

**»Texas Group:**

**June:** Derek G. has two years and Jason L. has 10 years.

**»Triangle Group:**

**June:** Angel S. and James C. are celebrating their first anniversary; Beverly H. marks 11 years; and Omar G. has 15 years.

**»Turning Point Group:**

**June:** Bill S. has five years; Barbara C. has eight years; Omar G. has 15 years; and Jamie M. celebrates 36 years.

**Congratulations to all our recent and upcoming birthday celebrants!**

**FYI**

**Group Contributions**

**As of Feb. 29, 2016 (no quorum at last meeting; report unavailable.)**

Group	Amount
Anonymous	\$160.00
EHS	\$25.00
Take it Easy	\$7.50
Texas Group	\$20.00
Turning Point	\$285.46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$497.96</b>

Need materials? Want to find out what's happening? Want to subscribe to the free newsletter either online or through the mail? Check the Central Texas Intergroup Website at [www.centexintergroup.com](http://www.centexintergroup.com) or call 254.754.3336. Office open weekdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Email: [centexintergroup@grandecom.net](mailto:centexintergroup@grandecom.net).

**TELEPHONE  
ANSWERING SERVICE**



**Get Involved!**