

# *No Booze News*

**Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas**

***SPECIAL EDITION JUNE 2022***

Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas publishes *NO BOOZE NEWS*, the month following the quarterly Intergroup meeting, in February, May, August and November. It is emailed to all Intergroup Representatives and District 8 General Service Representatives as well as posted on the website, <https://aawcar.org/>

**DEADLINE** is the same day as the quarterly Intergroup Meeting, i.e., last Sunday of January, April, July and October. For example the next Intergroup Meeting is July 31 and is also deadline for this quarterly newsletter.

**Please** send articles and information to Mara M., [maranugene86@icloud.com](mailto:maranugene86@icloud.com), or text 501-984-3556. Put *No Booze News* in the subject line so it isn't missed. Thank you!!

**ONLY** first names and last name initials will be used in accord with **Tradition 11**.

***THOUGHTS FROM OUR DELEGATE...With the 72nd General Service Conference now being complete, I am still trying to process all that I saw, heard, and felt during the week.***

***Suffice it to say, my heart is full of gratitude for the experience of being able to serve, and the week was simply amazing.***

I did have the opportunity to go three days early with Laura to brave the City, and we had a great time. There was much more to do during the time we were there together, but we took in the sights, had some great food, and did our best to leave things just like we found them. With me being just a good ole Southern boy, I was ready to see some trees and grass as our time there came to an end!!

As you know, we now live in a new world where COVID seems here to stay, and the Conference did not get a free pass in dealing with this challenge. Midway through the week, several people did test positive and adjustments and measures were put in place to deal with this. Our General Manager did the very best he could to provide all that we needed to make our own choices for health and safety so that we could continue the work of Alcoholics Anonymous and get the Conference completed. Some did have to quarantine at the hotel after the Conference was done, and our GSO and Staff were put in place to see after these members and make sure that they had all that they needed. It was so great to see the excellent job done by all to make this happen.

The true work of the Conference, which takes place in the Committee meetings, and then their respective reports to the

continued, pg. 2

***Intergroup Council of West Central Arkansas is an A.A. service office in partnership with groups in District 8. The website is <https://aawcar.org>. To find a meeting in District 8 go to <https://aawcar.org/meetings/>.***

***Our Bookstore is located at 411 Sellers St., Hot Springs, AR 71901. If you would like to purchase literature, coins, etc. please call John K. at [501-282-9838](tel:501-282-9838) to schedule your visit to the bookstore.***

***ALL District 8 groups are encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative: quarterly meetings are held at 2:00 p.m., the last Sunday of January, April, July and October at 411 Sellers Street in Hot Springs. See MG-02 A.A. Guidelines on Intergroup Office.***

# VOLUNTEER

## IT'S EGO DEFLATION FRIENDLY

### INTERGROUP POSITIONS OPEN

**District 8 Hotline Coordinator:** responsible for coordinating the answering of the AA Hotline for District 8. They may delegate and schedule other volunteers to answer the line as needed. Requirements are 6 months of continuous sobriety, the completion of the 12 steps, and a working cell phone.

Please contact John K. at 501-282-9838 or your local Intergroup representative to apply.

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**WANTED:** A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH GROUP TO INTERGROUP. To apply, at your Home Group's business meeting, ask them to elect you.

members, was a truly incredible experience this year. As you know, we accomplished all this last year all in the virtual space. The work we did last year was by no means inferior, but there is just something special about being in the same space with other Conference members. From working in my own Committee and the sense that was in that room while we met and discussed our Agenda items, and the full Conference hearing the reports and discussing and voting on recommendations, I do not have the words to express to you what that was like to have that experience. But as you all have had this same experience in your very own home group, I think you know exactly what I mean.

There were no Advisory Actions that were inherently controversial this year from my perspective, and I very much look forward to visiting with you all in September to share my report with you. We did spend several hours in discussion on a couple of items, but they were not in and of themselves a matter of controversy. They were simply challenging issues to navigate through to determine what was best for AA as a whole, and it was an honor to be a part of those discussions.

I will have much more to share with you all when I come for a visit in September, and I very much look forward to seeing you all there!!

In Love & Service,

Mark Brandon, Panel 71, Area 4 Delegate  
[Markbrandon434@gmail.com](mailto:Markbrandon434@gmail.com)  
501-207-1466



Cartoon created by Ann Kroger

## A.A. Trivia: Pigeon

Apparently it started with Dr. Bob. He would refer to the people he did 12th Step work with as **Pigeons**. When asked why, he explained that in wartime (i.e., WWI)



carrier pigeons, or homing pigeons, were used to send vital information back and forth across enemy lines, sometimes at great distances and that information could literally save lives.

I was thinking about that old AA term "pigeon, which

**American Pigeon** most of us were called in Arkansas before the switch to sponsee. Some heard the word pigeon and thought it was demeaning because the term also meant a pigeon will shit on you and fly away.

So the 12th Step work Dr. Bob was doing was like the vital information transmitted by those carrier pigeons of old. *You sent them out, and they returned to you with a message which could potentially save your life.*

I'm not one hundred percent sure of the accuracy of this story. Whether it's fanciful or factual: it's apt.

## YA'LL COME!!

Wondering what is happening in our District?  
Looking for Service work? Something to do  
with your friends or for date night?

Check out our Upcoming Events on page 7!  
And mark your calendar to be present!

## TRADITIONS CHECKLIST From the Grapevine

**These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.**

**TRADITION SIX:** An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

1. Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?
2. Is it good for a group to lease a small building?
3. Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?
4. Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?



5. Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?

The next issue will present the checklist on Traditions 7, 8, and 9.

**Articles on one or more of these Traditions will be greatly appreciated.**

## WHY AN AA ARCHIVES?

Carl Sandburg cogently answered, **“Whenever a society or a civilization perishes, there is always one factor present: they forgot where they came from.”** For Alcoholics Anonymous, we can turn to the Washingtonians as an exemplar of forgetting, especially from their purpose.

Preserving our history is an important way to transmit our understanding of the past to future generations; and connects us to specific times, places and events that were **significant** milestones in our collective past.

Washingtonians at their peak numbered in possibly as high as 600,000. President Lincoln even attended and spoke at one of their revivals. But, in within a few years, they virtually disappeared. Why? because they fragmented in their primary purpose, becoming involved in all manner of controversial social reforms including prohibition, politics and abolitionism. **They forgot where they came from and forgot why they were formed..**

How does the Arkansas Area Archives carry the message of recovery? One A.A. member said, **“When I saw the archives display at the Area Assembly, I had no idea what it was all about. But after looking at the materials, I had a new feeling of ‘what we used to be like.’ I realized that I could help by donating some time at the archives office, and later I taped two old timers who told me a lot about the early days in our area. It has made me read some of the other A.A. books I had missed and has given me a real sense of ‘carrying the message.’”**

**The Arkansas Area Archives is located at Wolfe Street Foundation, 1015 S. Louisiana Street.**

## WHAT DID BILL SAY?

Alcoholics Anonymous has made two major contributions to the programs of psychiatry and religion. These are, it seems to us, the long missing links in the chain of recovery:

1. Our ability, as ex-drinkers, to secure the confidence of the new man – to “build a transmission line into him.”
2. The provision of an understanding society of ex-drinkers in which the newcomer can successfully apply the principles of medicine and religion to himself and others.

So far as we A.A.s are concerned, these principles, now used by us every day, seem to be in surprising agreement. (N.Y. State J. Med., Vol.44, Aug. 15, 1944) ([silkworth.net](http://silkworth.net))

**My brother went to his AA meeting drunk, then he tripped down the stairs. He’s been having lots of trouble with the steps lately.**

*G r o a n*

**After the AA meeting, the ghost finally admitted he has a boos problem.**

**Why did the anvil get sent to AA?  
He was always getting hammered.**

**A scientist interrupts an AA meeting,  
“I’ve just invented a cure for alcoholism! Take one of these pills and you’ll never be a problem drinker again!”**

**An AA asks, “What happens if I take two?”**

# Why is it Important to Study History?

We all live in the present and we plan for the future – but how do we understand where we're going and what progress looks like? To know exactly where you're going, we first need to understand where we have come from. For that we need an appreciation of history.

Here are five benefits why we should know our history in A.A.

## 1. Develop an Understanding of the World

Through history, we learn how past societies, like the Washingtonians and Emmanuel Movement, were built, how they operated, and how they have changed or disappeared. The rich history of the A.A. helps us to paint a detailed picture of where we stand today.

## 2. Become a More Rounded Member

History is full of stories. Some are inspiring and uplifting; others are chaotic and immoral. Tap into the vivid realm of our history, and there are many vital lessons we need to learn. We study times of suffering and times of joy, and the lessons we learn can then be applied to our A.A. life experience.

History gives lessons, both good and bad, to be learned from the way our ancestors have interacted with other people, like American Indians and Incarcerated, who have different ways of living. A.A.s inclusivity is embraced no matter our background, but an understanding of how past societies have segregated and integrated is key to A.A. living Tradition 3.

## 3. Understand Identity

A.A. members are made up of a collection of stories and legends. These stories shape the way we think about our groups and our standing within it. History is where we learn about how A.A. built on the Washingtonians and Oxford group, and how they contributed to where we are today.

For many of us, looking back at our founders and the first 100 is a way of establishing our A.A. identity. We learn how A.A. has impacted the world unites us wherever we live or travel.

## 4. Become Inspired

Historical facts and stories can also serve to inspire us to stay in A.A. and carry the message to still suffering alcoholics. We are motivated from learning about the people and events that make up where we as recovered alcoholics are today. It only takes one story from the back of the "Big Book" or conference speaker, to excite us about Sobriety and helping others!

## 5. Learn from Mistakes

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." George Santayana's quote most cited and one that explains perfectly why we need to know our past. The past is filled with warning signs. We must be able to reflect on these events, exactly what happened, learn from mistakes made and resist and question if we see similar patterns emerging.

Written by Nord A., April 2020  
(Not an A.A. Member)

**A drunk goes in a bar and asks for a shot of Jim Beam. The bartender pours it and the drunk pushes it aside and asks for another shot of Jim Beam. The bartender pours it and the drunk drinks it.**

**The bartender says, "I watched what you did and I don't understand why you pushed the first one away and drank the second one!"**

**The drunk stated, "I've been going to those AA Meetings, and they said, "WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T TAKE THAT FIRST DRINK!!!"**

## DOWNSTAIRS BOOKSTORE

### DAILY REFLECTIONS

This is a book of thoughts written by A.A. Members for A.A. Members using A.A. literature. It was first published in 1990 fulfilling a need within the Fellowship for a collection of 366 daily thoughts and ideas divided into 12 months on each Step. Each reflection is a sharing from their personal experiences in sobriety focusing on our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service.

Daily Reflections is structured with an A.A. quotation from conference approved material, including Bill W letters, As Bill Sees It, and The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions.



This is followed by a short passage of member's writings on the chosen literature.

This book has become a popular addition to our daily routine of prayer and meditation. Daily Reflections complements these daily habits and is meant to aid individuals in their daily practices.

*This book and many others are available at the Intergroup bookstores located downstairs at Sellers.*

### Revised: THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL

Is a critical resource for A.A. members involved in service work. It discusses every aspect of our service structure and functions including Districts, Area Assemblies, GSRs, DCMs, delegates, and trustees. Service, A.A. co-founder Bill W. articulates the principles by which A.A.'s world service operates.

## “CONFERENCE-APPROVED” What It Means to You

The term “*Conference-approved*” describes written or audiovisual material approved by the Conference for publication by G.S.O. Conference approval assures us that a piece of literature represents solid A.A. experience. This process assures that everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles. Conference-approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the A.A. Fellowship.

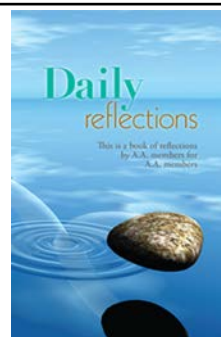
The term has no relation to material not published by G.S.O. It does not imply Conference disapproval of other material about A.A. A great deal of literature helpful to alcoholics is published by others, and A.A. does not try to tell any individual member what he or she may or may not read.

Any Conference-approved booklet or pamphlet goes through a lengthy and painstaking process, during which a variety of A.A.s from all over the United States and Canada read and express opinions at every stage of production.

### How To Tell What Is and What Is Not Conference-Approved




Look for this statement on books, pamphlets and audiovisual materials:

***“This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature”***



# UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

## PLEASE ANNOUNCE

- \* **Saturday, June 4, BAKE AT THE LAKE, District 8 Annual Picnic, Arlie Moore Pavilion at Corp of Engineers, Lake DeGray**
-  **Saturday, June 5, DISTRICT 8 COMMITTEE, A.A. Committees meet at 1:30 p.m., Meeting 2:00 p.m., 411 Sellers Street**
- \* **Saturday, June 11, ROCKHOUSE PICNIC, See Flyer**
- \* **Saturday, June 18, FOUNDERS DAY 2022, Arkansas Central Office.**
-  **Saturday & Sunday, July 9-10, AREA ASSEMBLY, Howard Johnson's Motel, Conway, Arkansas**
- \* **July 29-31, 82nd OLD GRANDDAD, Arlington Resort and Spa, Hot Springs Arkansas. Register online [www.oldgranddadconvention.com](http://www.oldgranddadconvention.com)**
-  **Sunday, July 31, 2:00 p.m., INTERGROUP COUNCIL OF WEST CENTRAL ARKANSAS , 411 Sellers, Hot Springs, Arkansas**
- \* **September 22-25, 25th NATIONAL A.A. ARCHIVES WORKSHOP, North Little Rock, Arkansas**
- \* **October 6-9, ARKYPAA, Camp Mitchell, Petit Jean Mountain State Park**

While there are no dues or fees for membership in AA or to attend a regular AA meeting, Conventions and Conferences are considered special events, not AA meetings. There is a charge for the use of conference facilities; reimburse speakers' travel expenses; purchase flyers, badges, and coffee, and much more. The conference committee is responsible for all expenses incurred, and, therefore, registrations are used to pay all expenses

For more complete information, please read pamphlet MG-04, A.A. Guidelines to Conferences, Conventions and Roundups, "HOW A.A.s MAKE THEIR GET-TOGETHERS ENJOYABLE AS WELL AS EFFECTIVE IN CARRYING THE A.A. MESSAGE OF RECOVERY."

# BAKE AT THE LAKE! DISTRICT 8 ANNUAL PICNIC

ARLEY MOORE PAVILION, LAKE DEGRAY STATE PARK  
DIRECTIONS BELOW

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4,  
STARTING AT 12:00 p.m. NOON**

District is providing hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixin's.  
Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share.

1:30 p.m. A.A. SPEAKER & AL-ANON SPEAKER



Fellowship — Great Food — Speakers — Raffle

**DIRECTIONS:**

From Hot Springs: take Hwy 7 South to County Road 254 (Arley Moore Road) Turn Right & drive 2.3 miles. Take the fork to the left and continue for about .5 miles.

From Arkadelphia: take Hwy 7 North to County Road 254 (Arley Moore Road) Turn Right & drive 2.3 mi\* Take the fork to the left and continue for about .5 miles.

Signs will be posted once you enter the State Park!

**PLEASE ANNOUNCE  
THESE EVENTS**

YOUR ARKANSAS CENTRAL OFFICE  
**FOUNDERS DAY**  
2022

**LONGTIMERS  
SPEAKER PANEL**  
PERRY D. · MARGARET B.  
PETE R. · REBECCA M.

THERE WILL BE GAMES,  
A POTLUCK (BRING A DISH!), AND  
A 1<sup>ST</sup> EDITION BIG BOOK RAFFLE!

**SATURDAY, JUNE 18  
12:00 PM UNTIL ???**  
SHERWOOD FOREST  
MARKET PAVILION  
1111 W. MARYLAND AVE  
SHERWOOD, AR 72120

**-ROCK HOUSE-  
PICNIC**  
FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FUN  
& Raffle  
**JUNE 11**  
11:00 AM  
FELLOWSHIP  
12:30 PM  
LUNCH

IRON SPRINGS  
PICNIC AREA  
HWY 7 .5 MILES NORTH  
OF ASSHVILLE IN THE  
QUADRATA NATIONAL FOREST

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
AA, AL-ANON, FRIENDS, & FAMILIES**  
COME OUT AND JOIN US ON FOUNDERS DAY WEEKEND!  
BURGERS & HOT DOGS WILL BE PROVIDED  
BRING YOUR OWN SOFT DRINKS, LAWN CHAIRS & A DISH TO SHARE

**ENTER THE RAFFLE TO WIN THIS CUSTOM FRAMED PHOTO**  
FEATURING THE "MAN ON THE RED" NETWORK, SECURITY PANEL, AND 5 RECOVERY COINS