



Trust Funds

A sober accountant gets into General Service and sees how his area spends its money in a totally new light

By: James H. | Corpus Christi, Texas

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

When you begin to know that you don't know, that's when you begin to know." Huh? Say that again, slowly please.

When I came to Alcoholics Anonymous for help, I knew something was going to change. It *had* to change. A number of my old ideas had to go. Three in particular stood out.

The first paradox I faced was the notion of how much power there is in being powerless. The more I fought myself by trying to control when and how much I drank, the more I lost control. Predetermining how much and how often I was going to drink was futile and self-defeating, regardless of logic or intention.

The second paradox was the idea of becoming free from the obsession to drink by relying on something other than obstinate self-reliance. All my life I was trained to use knowledge, hard work and grit to overcome all my problems. I believed admitting I needed help would lead to weakness and dependency.

Thirdly, I was told any sobriety I might enjoy depended squarely upon my giving love, tolerance and time to the still-suffering alcoholic. This idea of giving it away to others in order to keep it for myself ran contrary to all I had ever done. Up to that point in my life, whatever I had gained I guarded. It was mine. The way to keep it was to keep it to myself.

The value system I tried to live by before getting sober was instilled in me by loving parents, learned teachers, successful coaches and well-meaning counselors. Along the way, I added few of my own ideas about life.

Fortunately, I found a sponsor and a home group that helped me apply the aforementioned principles, coupled with AA's Twelve Steps, as the basis of my

Continued 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 2026

Rise & Shine July 6-12

South Shreveport July 13-19

It Is What It Is July 20-26

Winners July 27-Aug 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!

STEP SEVEN: “Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.”

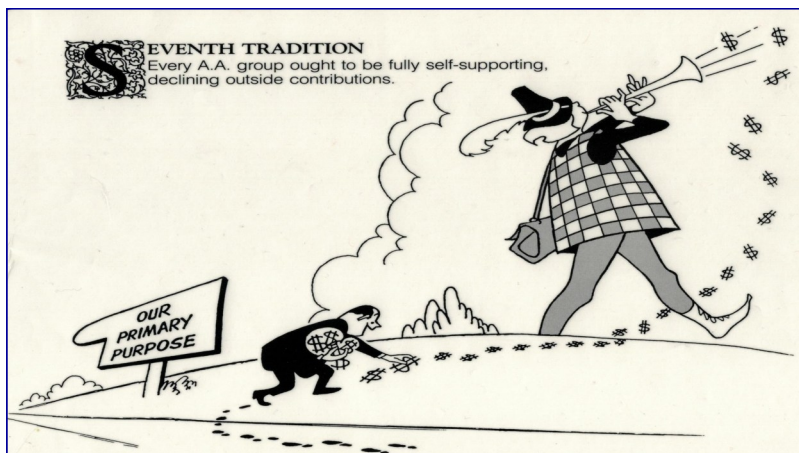
Alcoholics Anonymous Traditions pg. 59

TRADITION SEVEN: “Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 70
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.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 193-194
Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services**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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permission of A.A.
World Services

CONCEPT SEVEN: “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
Reprinted with permission from World Services

sobriety. It took time, prayer and open-mindedness to unlearn certain lessons from my youth that blocked me from being happy, joyous and free.

Explaining just how these once-perceived paradoxes lead to sobriety is difficult. But no one can dispute the results.

The fascinating thing about these principles is discovering their utility in aspects of my life other than staying away from that first drink.

At 10 years sober, I got involved in General Service for the first time, attending district meetings and area assemblies. Included in the gathered printed materials I would take back to my home group was the area's treasurer's report.

As an accountant and business manager, I focused my attention on the details and began asking questions, such as, "How are we doing compared to budget?" and "How much is our prudent reserve?" and "Do we have funds set aside for future major purchases?" The responses were alarming to me: No budget, no prudent reserve, no special funds.

Immediately, I began to think about how to fix this potential financial disaster. Deciding to keep things simple, I put forth a proposal to the area to establish a prudent reserve, setting aside approximately 10 percent of our annual expenditures as a safety net. Proposals for budgets and special funds could wait. Despite my best advocacy, the proposal was soundly defeated.

As the collective group conscience of the area assembly emerged, a clear explanation detailed the reason for their decision.

Any effort to predetermine how much and where to spend groups' dollars was futile, regardless of logic or intention. My financial training, experience and determination were of no value in this instance. Budgets might limit when and where standing service committees could respond to the needs of the groups. Relinquishing any power to control dollars freed the assembly from time spent haggling and negotiating, so we could fully focus on supporting the Twelfth Step work of groups and districts.

The area assembly helped me see the idea about "prudent reserve" in a totally new light. My understanding of prudent reserve was two-fold. One, it served as a safety net in case of an unexpected shortfall in income. Two, it provided a benchmark to help groups determine how much money was available to disburse to service entities.

Both views are still valid, however my concept has evolved. I used to see a prudent reserve in terms of a set dollar amount. Today, I know the real prudent reserve is the Fellowship itself. Any time a need arose, we responded. When the area needed a new computer for the registrar, or new audio/video equipment for delegate presentations, or funding for a regional service event, or for the multitude of other needs that came about, an informed group conscience always provided the necessary resources. Contributions always seem to flow in the direction of service activities.

Continued next page

Based on my many years of professional work in business administration, the financial model used by my area defies logic. I am still utterly amazed at how well it works year in and year out.

Explanations are difficult, but here is what I believe: As long as we are trusted servants who are giving love, tolerance and time to provide Twelfth Step services to the still-suffering alcoholic, ample resources will always be available.

Last year our area incurred expenses totaling over \$50,000. Contributions exceeded expenses by \$126 in the same year. No budgets, no pledges, no pleas for contributions were required. The only necessity was trust in each other and in our Higher Power.

Belief means reliance, not defiance. God is the unequivocal provider of all we need to do his work.

Reprinted with Permission, A.A. Grapevine, July 2019

Bill W.'s Corner



“Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility – one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and AA as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1957, “Respecting Money”, The Language of the Heart

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1957, “Respecting Money”, The Language of the Heart

“At the beginning we sacrificed alcohol. We had to, or it would have killed us. But we couldn’t get rid of alcohol unless we made other sacrifices. Big shot-ism and phony thinking had to go. We had to toss self-justification, self-pity, and anger right out the window. We had to quit the crazy contest for personal prestige and big bank balances. We had to take personal responsibility for our sorry state and quit blaming others for it.”

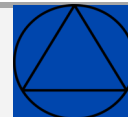
AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1955, “Why Alcoholics Anonymous Is Anonymous”, The Language of the

“Suffering is no longer a menace to be evaded at any cost. When it does come, no matter how grievously, we realize that it too has its purpose. It is our great teacher because it reveals our defects and so pushes us forward into the paths of progress. The pain of drinking did just this for us. And so can any other pain.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., November 1958, Editorial, AA Grapevine



Steering Committee & COI Meeting



Tuesday, July 7, 2026 @ 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 **July 21**

DCM - Jane Rowell

(318) 564-9043

janeerowell1@gmail.com

Tri-State Convention Committee

Second Sunday of Month

Time to be decided

Next Meeting **July 12**

CHAIR: Jennifer Cypher

(318) 286-1107

Treatment & Corrections

Second Tuesday of Month

6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting **TBD**

CHAIR: Melanie Fields

(757) 788-4733

PI/CPC

Second Monday of Month

6:00pm @ Central Office

Next Meeting **July 13**

CHAIR: Neal Lathem

(901) 230-1796

Thanks to all the **Central Office Backers** contributions for the month of **May 2026**. 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 2026...\$88.79

Thanks for all the **Group Contributions...May 2026...\$1,522.00**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| COI...\$13.00 | Saturday Night Live...\$150.00 |
| Benton...\$97.00 | T.I.E....\$40.00 |
| Five Thirty...\$188.00 | Tulane...\$18.00 |
| Keystone...\$170.00 | Twin City...\$10.00 |
| Knock Loudly...\$500.00 | White Dove...\$90.00 |
| No Guarantee...\$75.00 | Other...\$171.00 |

May Intergroup: Winners...\$95.00

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 2026:

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.

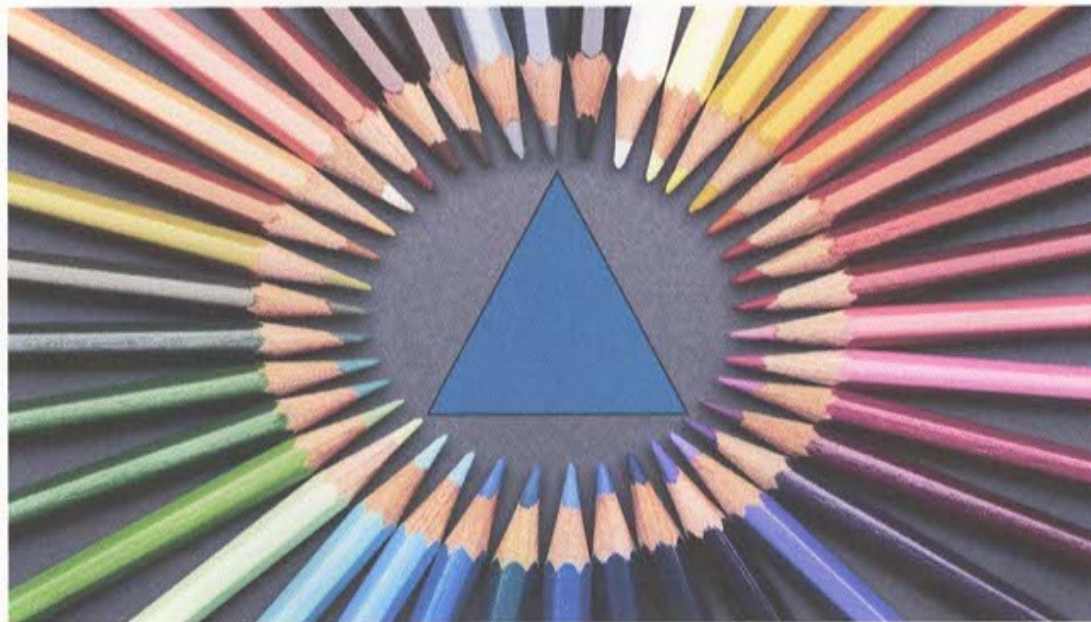
7350 Jefferson Hwy., Suite 485-179
Baton Rouge, LA 70806 (10%)

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.



SHREVEPORT LASCYPAA ★

BID COMMITTEE MEETING SHREVEPORT AREA YPAA

COME HELP BRING LASCYPAA
TO SHREVEPORT!

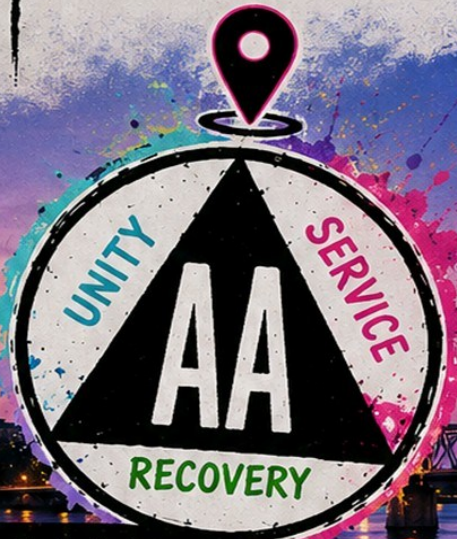
-  FELLOWSHIP
-  SERVICE
-  UNITY
-  RECOVERY

WHEN
 LAST MONDAY
 OF EVERY MONTH
 ★ 6:00 PM ★

WHERE
 CENTRAL OFFICE
 2800 YOUREE DR #362A
 SHREVEPORT, LA 71104

WHAT IS LASCYPAA?

LOUISIANA STATE CONFERENCE OF
 YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
 Help us build a bid, get involved in service,
 make friends, and stay sober
 while having fun.



ALL ARE WELCOME

YOUNG OR OLD • NEWCOMER OR OLD-TIMER
BRING YOUR IDEAS AND YOUR ENERGY

“SERVICE SAVED MY LIFE.”
 GET INVOLVED. GET SOBER. STAY SOBER.



**Come
Join
Ladies
Livin'**

**Thursdays
Starts 7pm
@ St Lukes Church
6012 Youree Drive
Shreveport, LA
71105**

Tulane TUESDAY SPEAKER *Meetings*



July 2026

July 7 *Misty M.*

July 14 *Steven A.*

July 21 *Jennifer F.*

July 28 *David L.*

7:00pm

Highland Club

1700 Tulane Ave.
Shreveport 71103





LUNCH BUNCH PRESENTS

JULY INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH

6:00PM DINNER

SANDWICHES/WRAPPS

CATERED BY RACHEL G.

7:00PM SPEAKER

ADLIA G.

DOS 01/05/2013

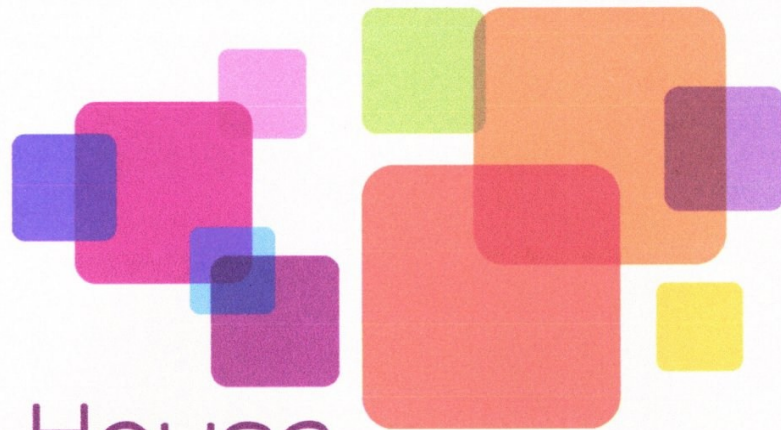
PLEASE BRING DESSERTS

50/50 RAFFLE

KOALA CLUB

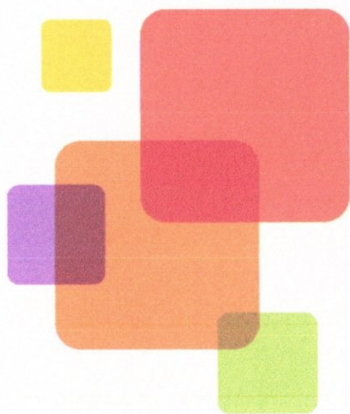
4809 SHED RD., BOSSIER CITY 71111





Bridge House
Speaker Meeting
2nd Saturday of
the Month

426 Stoner Avenue
6:00 pm - Refreshments
7:00 pm - Speaker



July 11, 2026
David C

22 Aniversario

del Distrito 86 — Área 65 —



Shreveport La



Fecha

12 de julio



En la Iglesia

Cristo Rey



3:00 pm



425 McCormick St , Bossier City
Louisiana 71111

Después de la información tendremos
una comida todo es gratuito



JUNTA DE INFORMACIÓN PÚBLICA

Ven y conoce cómo Alcohólicos Anónimos
puede ayudar a nuestra comunidad.

Unidad, Servicio y Recuperación

The Stateline Group
of Waskom

Eating Meeting

Graceanne G. - SD 9/17/1995

Winner's Group

Tuesday, July 21st

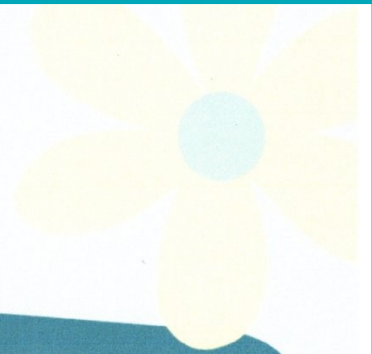
Food @6pm, Speaker@7pm

POTLUCK, BRING A DISH OR DESSERT

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





*Minden Alpha House
Potluck Speaker Meeting*

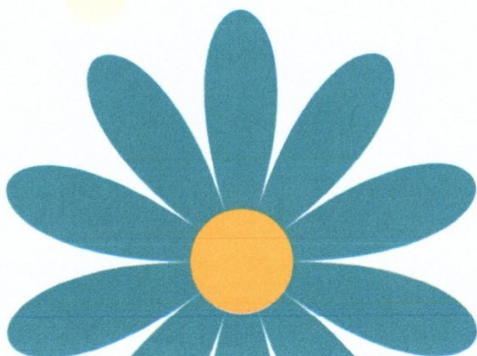
SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

6:00pm: Potluck

7:00pm: Speaker

DAVE N.

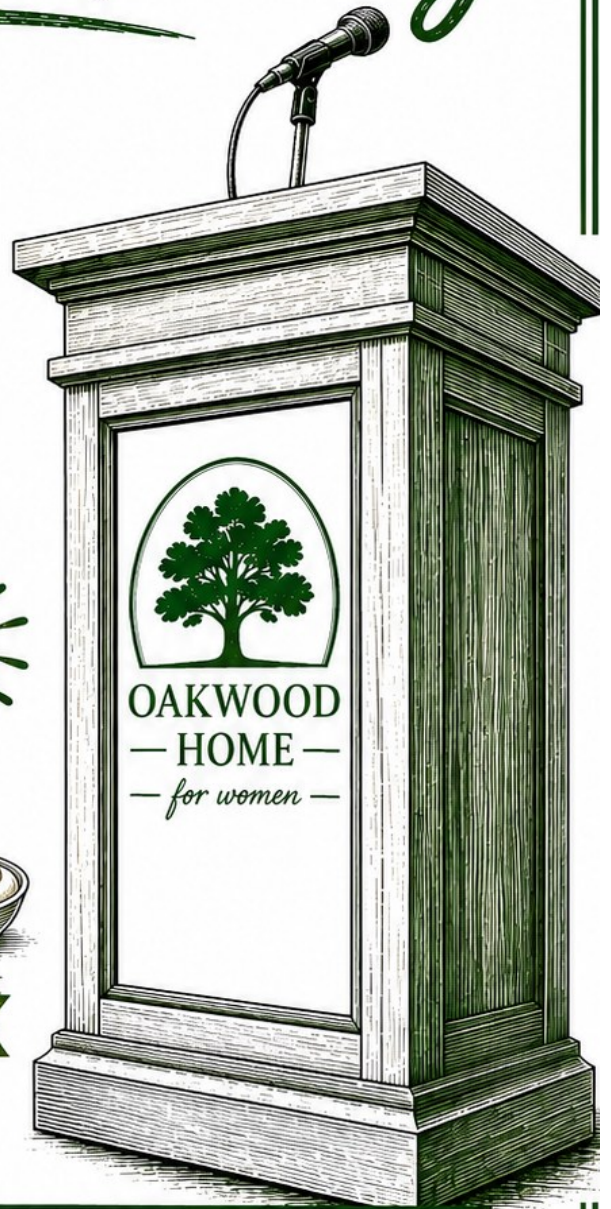
COMPOUND MEMBER



JULY

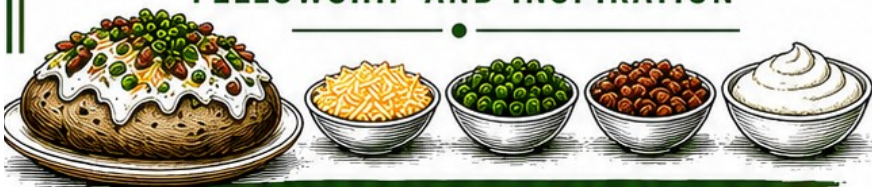
Speaker Meeting

FEATURING
JERRY S.
Of Shreveport



WE WILL BE HAVING A
POTATO BAR

COME FOR FOOD,
FELLOWSHIP AND INSPIRATION



SATURDAY, JULY 25TH

DOORS OPEN
AT **6:00** PM

SPEAKER
AT **7:00** PM

 **1700 HIGHLAND AVE**
SHREVEPORT, LA

ALL ARE WELCOME!

BRING A FRIEND AND JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HOPE AND RECOVERY.



BASIC TRAINING



Speaker Meeting

Sunday, July 26th

Speaker

Tony K.

DOS: 06/20/2025



Fellowship @ 6:30pm

Speaker @ 7:00pm



St. Luke's United Methodist Church

IN THE GYMNASIUM

6012 YOUREE DR., SHREVEPORT 71105



Half Past Five Monthly
Speaker Meeting

SPEAKER

MIKENZIE W.

DOS: 06/11/2024

Wednesday July 29th 5:30PM

Koala Club

4809 Shed Rd

Bossier City LA 71111

Koala Club Monthly Speaker Meeting the last
Wednesday of every month at 5:30pm

Arkansas State AA Convention Oldest AA Convention West of the Mississippi **86th "Old Grandad"**

July 31- August 2, 2026
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.

Friday Workshop: **"Putting It All Together with the Steps, Traditions, & Concepts"**
 Friday, July 31, 9am-5pm

Download of all speaker recordings included with registration

The Voice
 Brad M.
 Tontitown, AR

"We have recovered, and been given the power to help others"

Friday	Topic	Location
2:00 pm	Registration Opens	
8:00pm	Amy D.	Louisville, KY
Saturday	Topic	Location
9:00 am	Joe C.	San Diego, CA
11:00 am	Vannoy S. (AFG)	Justin, TX
2:00 pm	June G.	Los Angeles, CA
3:30 pm	AA Open Discussion Meeting (Ballroom)	
7:30 pm	Sheldon F.	Las Vegas, NV
Sunday	Topic	Location
8:00 am	Stacy S. -Meet the Delegate (Hospitality Room)	
8:00 am	Al-Anon Discussion Meeting (Ballroom)	
9:30 am	Peter M.	Boca Raton, FL

Hospitality

Archives

Dancing



Contact us at oldgrandadconvention@gmail.com or call/text (479)531-8492

Register online at www.oldgrandadconvention.com or SCAN →



\$30 Pre-Registration if received BEFORE July 13, 2026 OR \$35 Registration At The Door

First Name & Last Initial on Badge	Home Group	AA	Al-Anon / Alateen	Other	Amount

All Registrations will be held in the name of:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip code _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

Help Another with a Scholarship	
Total Amount Due	

Mail Registrations with check payable to:

CONVENTION TREASURER
 P.O. Box 94032
 North Little Rock, AR 72190



*Road of
happy destiny*



Speakers

AA
JEROME S, LOS ANGELES
STACEY G, SAN ANTONIO
FRAN C, COLUMBIA, LA

AL-ANON
DANNY C, COLUMBIA, LA

MORE TO COME!



REGISTER OR BOOK YOUR HOTEL AT: AA-LASTATECONVENTION.ORG
(REGISTRATION TO ATTEND ON ZOOM IS ALSO AVAILABLE)
CROWNE PLAZA • 4728 CONSTITUTION AVE BR, LA 70808

79TH TRI-STATE CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 6-8, 2026 | BOSSIER CIVIC CENTER
620 BENTON ROAD BOSSIER CITY, LA 71111



\$25 Register before July 1
PRICE INCREASE JULY 1 TO \$35
\$40 AT THE CONVENTION



SPEAKERS:

Martha G. - New Orleans, LA
Jess L. - Tyler, TX
Linda W. (Al-Anon) - Shreveport, LA
Chris. R - Kerrville, TX
Leslie S. - Atlanta, GA

For more information including schedule, events, hotel information and to register online visit our new Tri-State website:
tristateconvention.org

Registration questions? Contact Amy D at (318)464-9821 or email tristate.aaconvention@gmail.com

Register Online!



2026 TRI-STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Name on Badge: _____

Home Group/Location: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you have 20+ years of Sobriety? Yes _____ No _____

Check all that apply: AA _____ Al-Anon _____ Alateen _____

Registration: \$ _____

Scholarship: \$ _____

Donation: \$ _____

Total Amount: \$ _____

MAIL FORM & PAYMENT TO:

2800 Youree Drive Suite 362A
Shreveport, LA 71104

Make check payable to Tri-State Convention

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: _____

THE 46th ANNUAL BAYOULAND JAMBOREE of Alcoholics Anonymous November 13-14, 2026

HOUMA MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM – 880 Verret St. – Houma, LA 70360

WEBSITE:

TheBayoulandJamboree.org

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Courtyard by Marriott Houma
142 Library Drive
Houma, LA 70360
(888) 978-3945

All Room Prices: \$139.00 + tax



Smoke Free
Environment!
No e-cigs or vapor

COME
PASS-U-A-GOOD
TIME
HERE IN HOUMA

Sharing the Miracle of "SOBIETY"

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2026 (Hospitality OPENS @ 4 pm - 7:30 pm)

- 2:00 P.M. REGISTRATION OPENS
- 4:00 P.M. OPEN (AA & ALANON) Kick-Off Meeting
- 6:00 P.M. DINNER / FELLOWSHIP
- 8:00 P.M. AA SPEAKER: Aaron G., Ft. Worth, TX
- 9:30 P.M. Night Owl Meeting

Hospitality Room
Sweets & Snacks

50/50
and
Raffle

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026 (Hospitality OPENS @ 8 am – 7:30 pm)

- 10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. WORKSHOP
- NOON LUNCH / FELLOWSHIP
- 2:00 P.M. ALANON SPEAKER: Marilyn L., Kingwood, TX
- 4:00 P.M. AA SPEAKER: Lee Y., Sherwood, AR
- 5:30 P.M. DINNER / FELLOWSHIP
- 8:00 P.M. AA SPEAKER: Katie P., Austin, TX

TAPING BY
PERMISSION OF
COMMITTEE ONLY!

"REGISTRATION BADGES
REQUIRED AT ALL FUNCTIONS
DURING CONVENTION"

PRE-REGISTRATION: AA & ALANON (\$25.00) Postmarked by Nov. 1, 2026

At the Door: AA & ALANON (\$30.00) – ALATEEN (\$5.00)

All registrations postmarked by Nov. 1st are eligible for 1 chance on a complete set of CD's (1 Individual Winner)

RETURN BELOW REGISTRATION TO: BAYOULAND JAMBOREE – P.O. BOX 2251, HOUMA, LA 70361
CONTACT: Tommy S. (225) 456-6710 * Yogi N. (985) 232-6789 * Kenny V. (985) 855-5681 * Trevor B. (985) 498-0602

46th ANNUAL BAYOULAND JAMBOREE – NOVEMBER 13-14, 2026

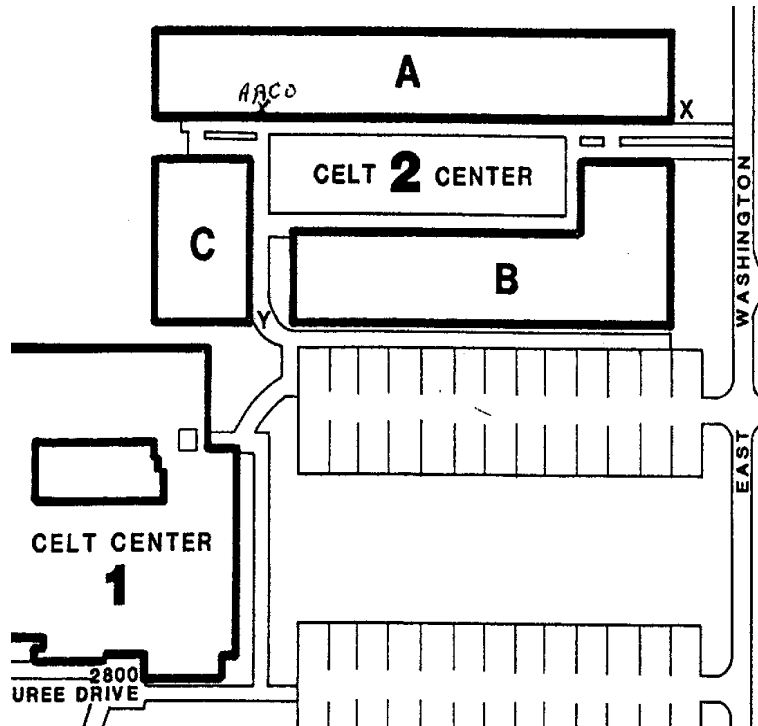
Name: _____ AA
 Address: _____ Al-Anon
 Phone: _____ Alateen
 Email: _____

Pre-Registration.....	\$ 25
Alateen.....	\$ 5
At the Door.....	\$ 30
Amount Enclosed.....	\$ _____

If you wish to be on the Bayouland Jamboree mailing list, please check here _____

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**

