



A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future;
to place our common welfare first;
to keep our Fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
and the lives of those to come.



Area 50, Panel 74 Presents...

G.S.R. Resources



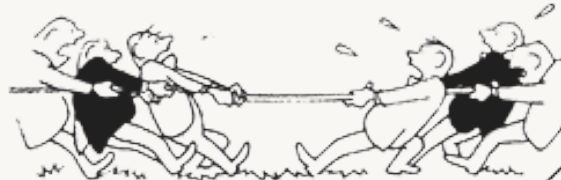
Virtual Coffee Hour



TRADITION 6 – 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.

The Sixth Tradition

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.



We found that there are all kinds of goals, motives and ambitions...

...and the good name of A.A. could be smeared!



A.A. members employed by outside agencies "wear two hats"—but Tradition Six cautions any such members against wearing both at once! On the job, they may be alcoholism counselors; they are *not* "A.A. counselors." At meetings they're just A.A.'s, not alcoholism experts.

There are two major danger areas. But our course has been charted and the hazards clearly marked. If we steer clear of them, we should have smooth sailing...

AFFILIATION
OF A.A. GROUPS
WITH ANYTHING
OUTSIDE
A.A.

ANY
ACTIVITY
THAT WOULD HARM
A.A. AS A WHOLE

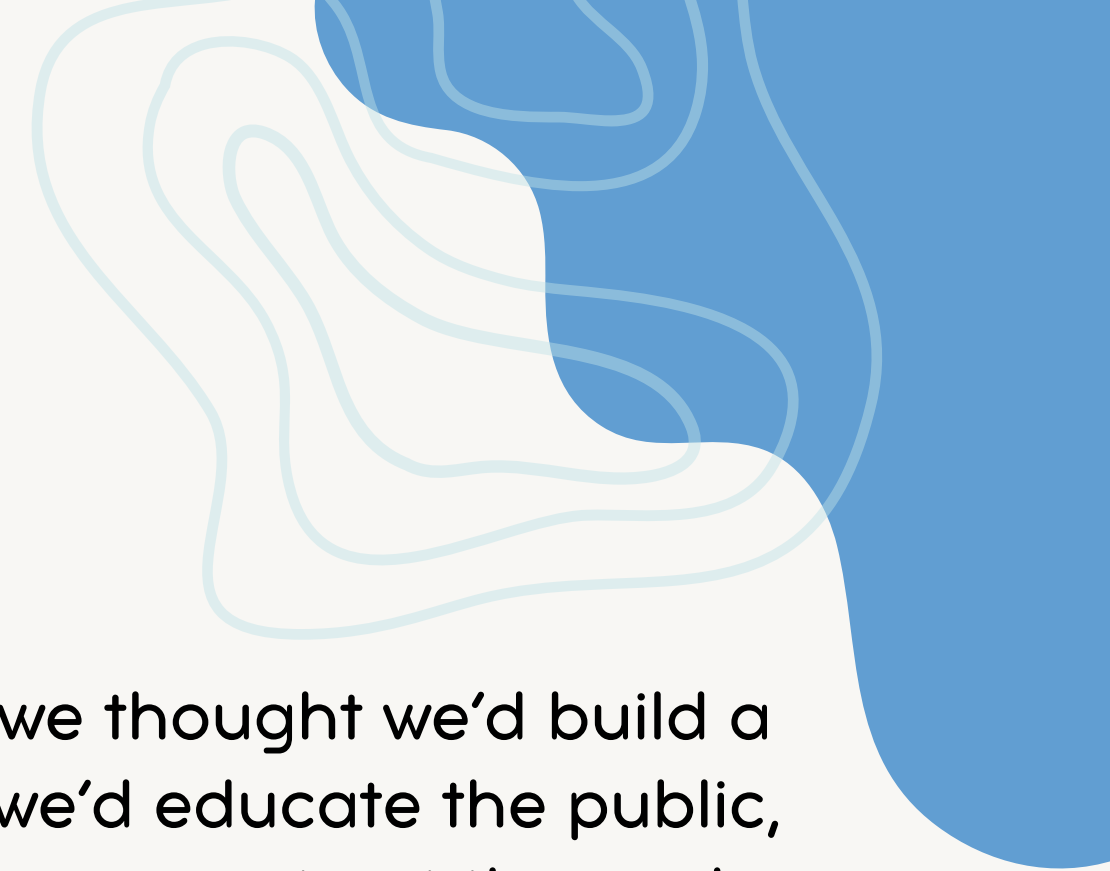
TRADITION OF THE MONTH

**Principle:
Non-Affiliation,
Solidarity**





TRADITION 6 – cont.



“Here are some of the things we dreamed. Hospitals didn’t like alcoholics, so we thought we’d build a hospital chain of our own. People needed to be told what alcoholism was, so we’d educate the public, even rewrite school and medical textbooks. We’d father up derelicts from skid rows, sort out those who could get well, and make it possible for the rest to earn their livelihood in a kind of quarantined confinement. Maybe these places would make large sums of money to carry on our other good works. We seriously thought of rewriting the laws of the land, and having it declared that alcoholics are sick people. No more would they be jailed; judges would parole them in our custody. We’d spill A.A. into the dark regions of dope addiction and criminality. We’d form groups of depressive and paranoid folks; the deeper the neurosis, the better we’d like it....”

–pgs 156–157 of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions



TRADITION 7 – Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

The Seventh Tradition

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

"Passing the basket" at meetings is our way of meeting our responsibility for the work of A.A. Our own contributions support the group, the General Service Office, and all A.A. activities

As active alcoholics we were always looking for a handout – in one way or another...



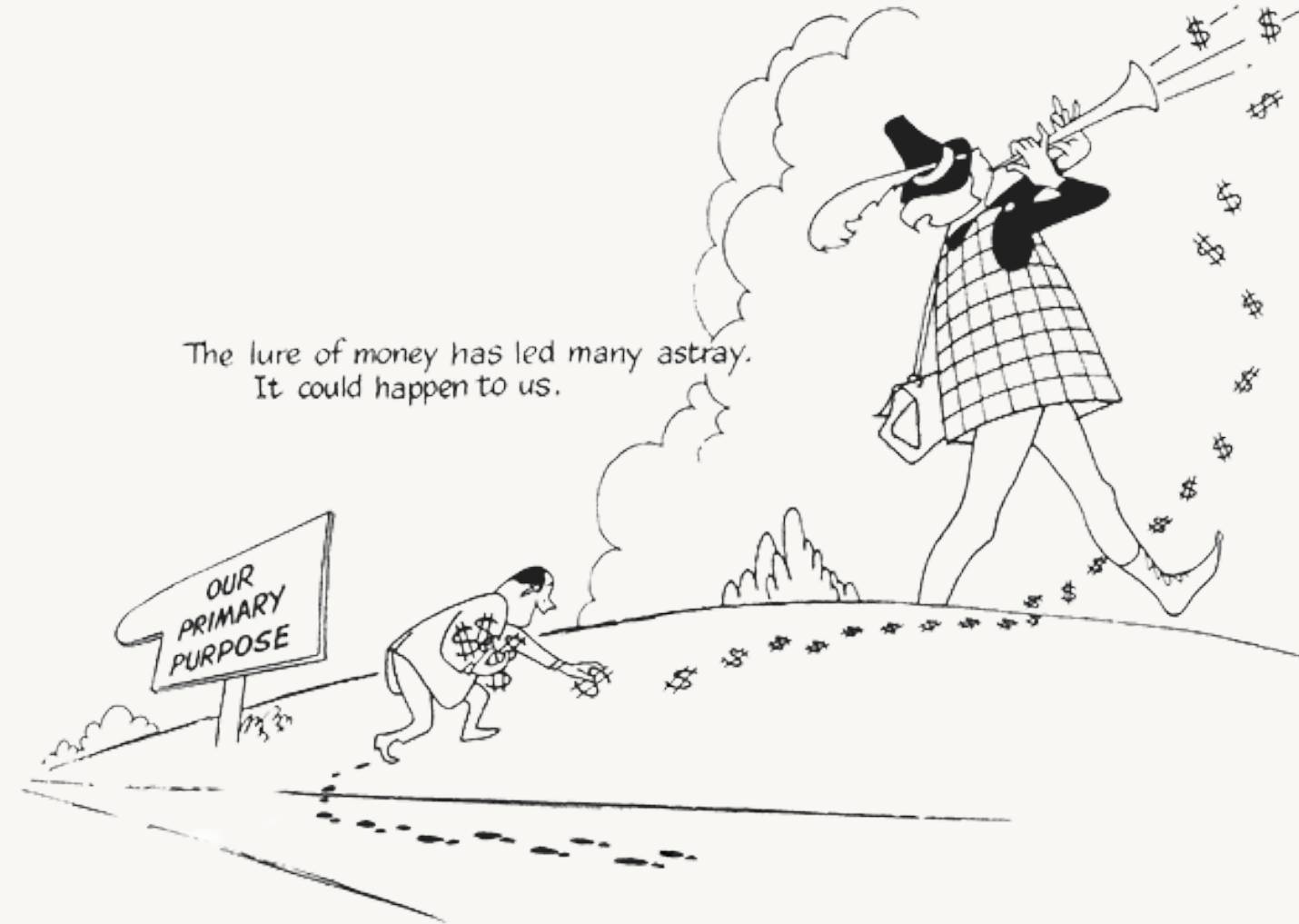
Part of our personal recovery came in making ourselves into responsible human beings



Experience has shown us, also, that A.A. as a whole needs to be self-supporting and independent



The lure of money has led many astray. It could happen to us.



TRADITION OF THE MONTH

Principle: Responsibility



TRADITION 7 – cont.

Despite these misgivings, we have to recognize the fact that A.A. had to function. Meeting places cost something. To save whole areas from turmoil, small offices had to be set up, telephones installed, and a few full-time secretaries hired. Over many protests, these things were accomplished. We saw that if they weren't, the man coming in the door couldn't get a break. These simple services would require small sums of money which we could and would pay ourselves. At last the pendulum stopped swinging and pointed straight at Tradition Seven as it reads today.

pgs. 161-162 Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions





JUNE 2025



Why Do Service?

If not me, who?
If not now, when?





Mindset

Sam Shoemaker was another non-alcoholic who was instrumental in the development of the AA program. In Bill's words, "The early AA got its ideas of self-examination, acknowledgement of character defects, restitution for harm done, and working with others straight from the Oxford group and directly from Sam Shoemaker...and from nowhere else."

**“I Stand at the Door”
- by Sam Shoemaker**

Bill tells us his Vision for AA's future.

This is A.A. General Service
Conference-approved literature

**A.A.'s
LEGACY
OF SERVICE**

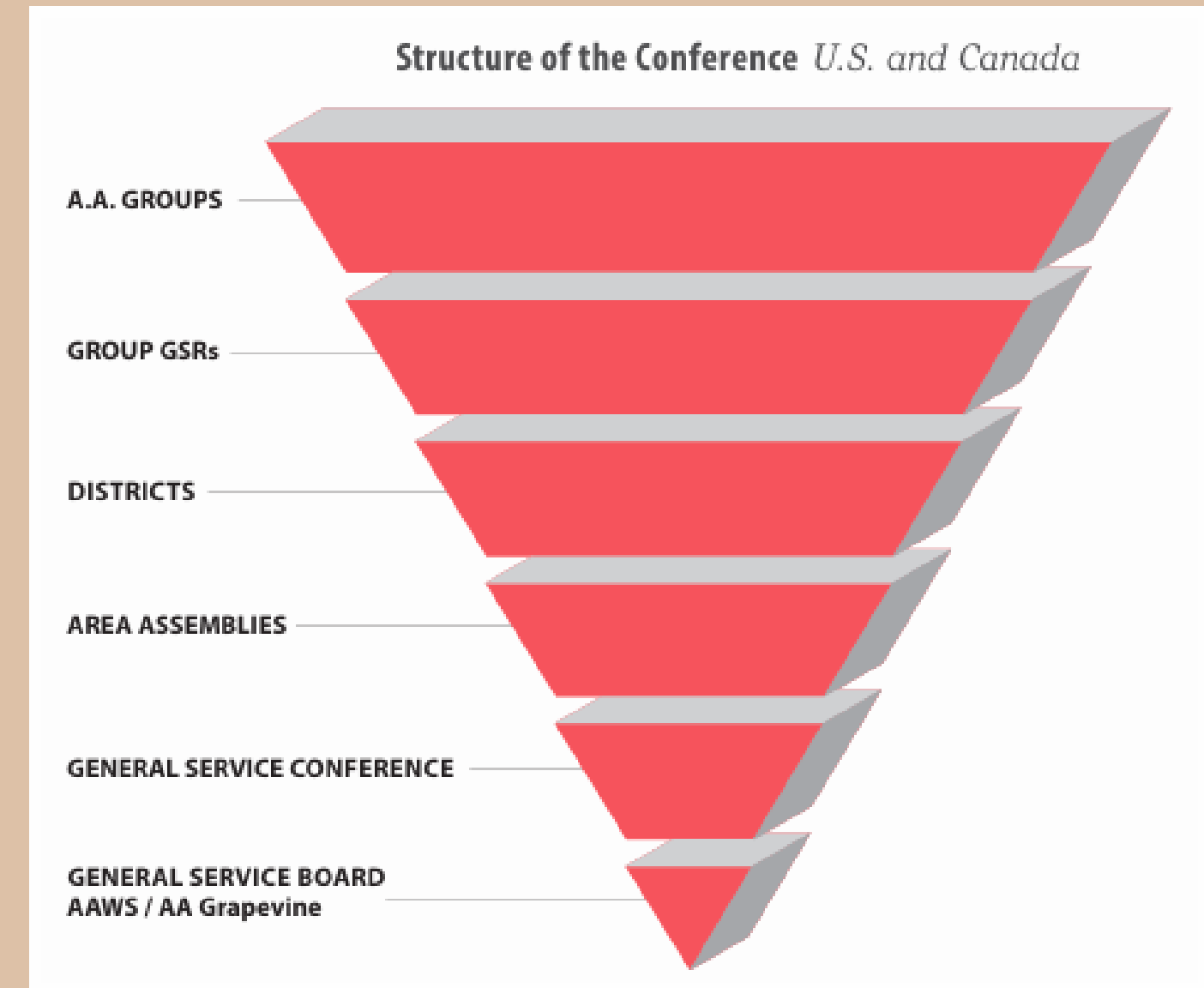
by Bill W.

What is the basic A.A. service?
The Fellowship's responsibility
The pioneers' battle for the Big Book
News stories and sudden A.A. growth

Beginnings of group and world services
Origin of the Twelve Traditions
GSO today
Birth of the General Service Conference

THIS IS A REPRINT FROM
"THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL"

The complete manual, an invaluable
guide in Fellowship activity, is available
from the General Service Office.



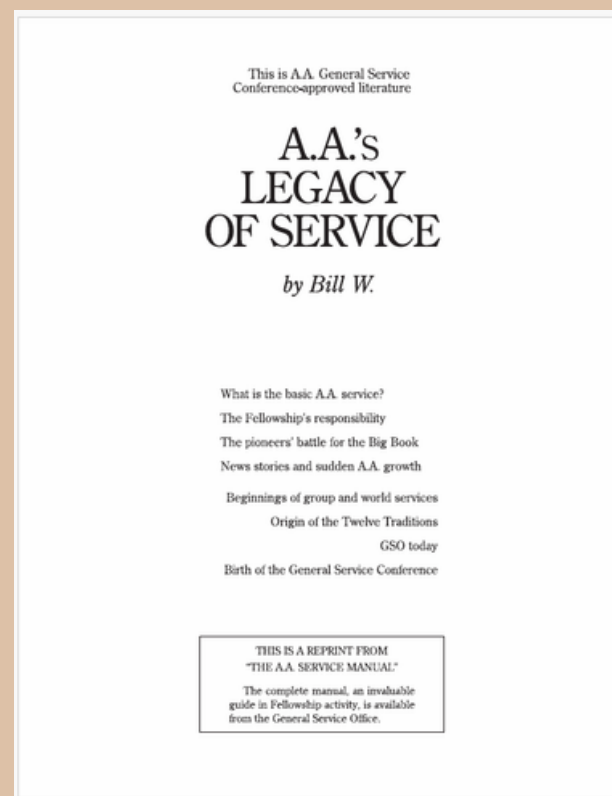
Pamphlet on aa.org
<will be in recap email>

Intro of Pamphlet -by Bill Wilson

Our Twelfth Step — carrying the message — is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence.

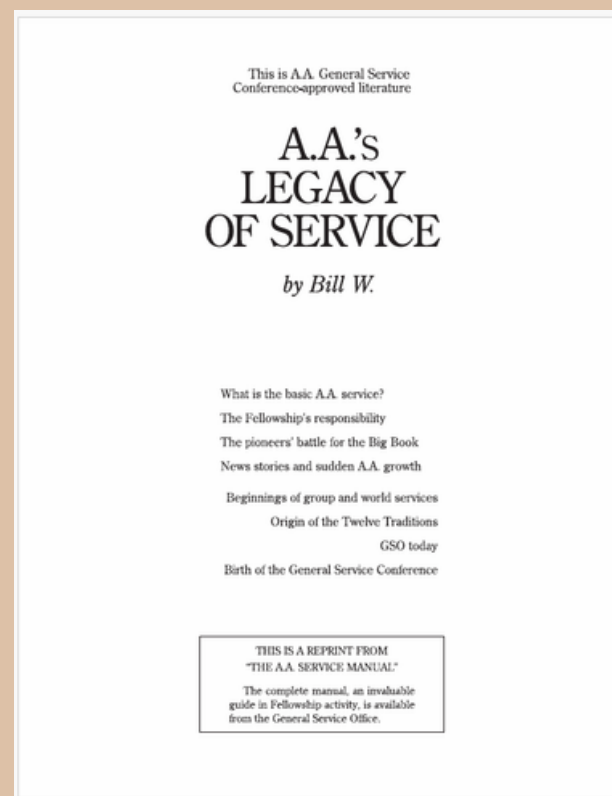
Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die. Hence, an A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer — ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.'s General Service Office for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy of Service.

Service is Vital to A.A.'s Growth



Topics within this pamphlet:

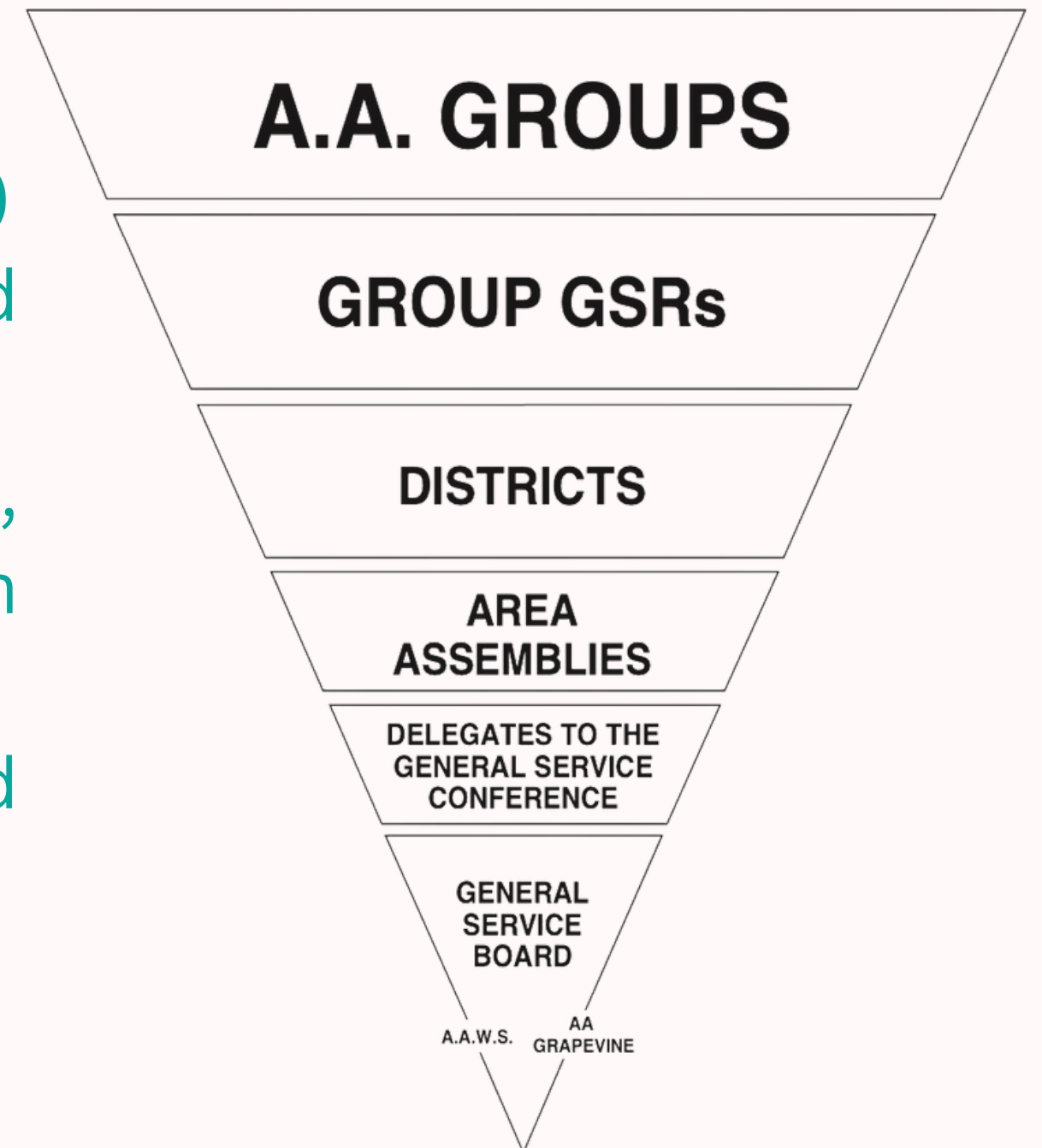
- Fellowship Ready for Responsibility
- Highlights of AA Service History
- AA's Early Money Problems
- AA It's Own Publisher
- AA Makes News
- Beginning of Group Services
- Service to the Whole of AA
- Traditions Took Persuasion
- Medicine Takes and Interest
- A Rash of Anonymity Breaks
- GSO Services Expand
- Birth of the Conference
- Delegates Encouraged to Question



ACTION IN AREA 50...

The Legacy of Service is visible around us.

- Learning about the AA Group Pamphlet (May Coffee Hour)
- District Days of Sharing, connecting with facilities and professionals in our local communities
- Our Delegate developing the group conscience of Area 50, attending the General Service Conference and then reporting back to the Area about Conference activity.
- One of our Class A Trustees sharing their story and experience with the Fellowship





NOW WHAT?

INSPIRED TO DO MY PART...

Is this all there is to being sober?
Bored with meetings and need more?

Get a service position.
What does your home group need?
What does your district need?

Being other's centered keeps us sober.

Getting out of self – what opportunities are available to do that?

Area Elections are coming up in September.
Home Groups and District tend to follow the term/election time of the Area.

Be the change you want to see.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Why is it important for me (as a GSR) to do to my district meeting?

- Every year, A.A.'s group-elected Delegates meet to discuss and vote on changes to A.A. literature and A.A. policy. Without your GSR going to district meetings, the homegroups do not get a chance to be informed about what changes are being discussed, and your unique group perspective is unable to be heard as it goes down the service triangle.

District 1 – 3rd Friday 6:30–7:30 (Hybrid)

District 6 & 7 – 3rd Monday 5:15–6:15 (zoom)

District 3 – 2nd Wednesday 6:00–7:00 (in person)

District 11 – 3rd Monday 6:00–7:00 (in person)

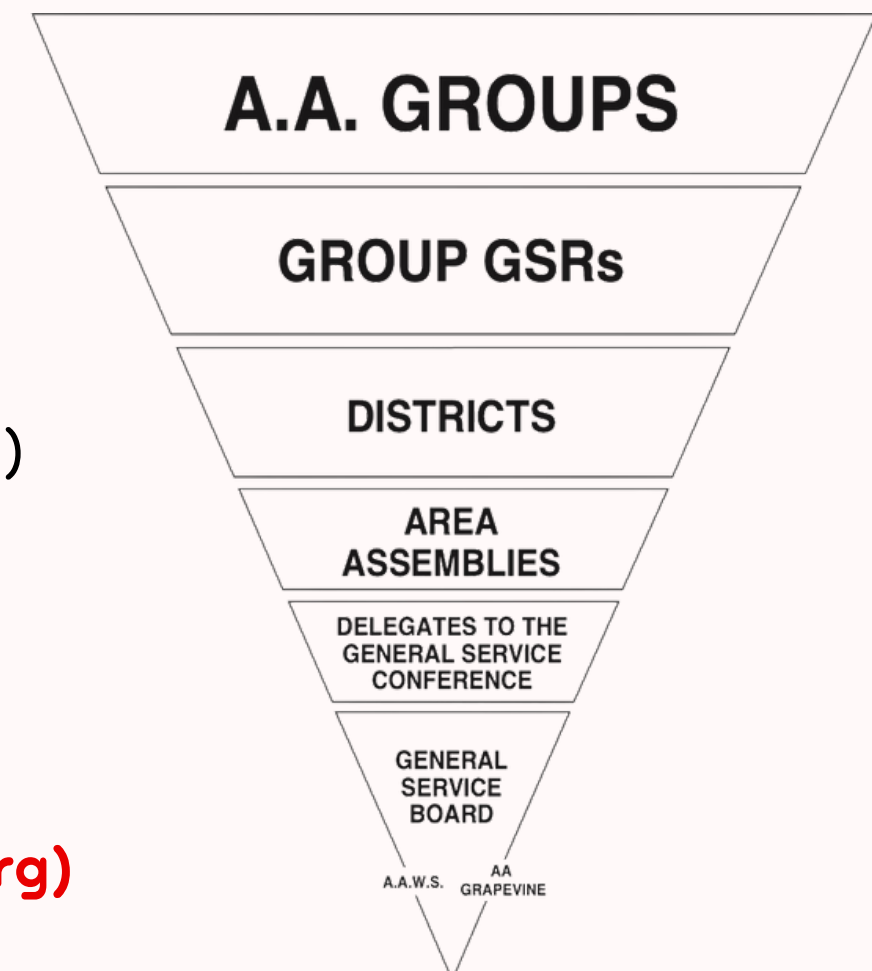
District 4 – 2nd Tuesday 7:00–8:00 (hybrid)

District 16 – Last Wednesday 7:00–8:00 (in person)

District 5 – Last Monday (zoom)

District 17 – 3rd Saturday 11:00–1:00 (in person)

ALL LOCATIONS AND ZOOM ID's CAN BE FOUND ON THE AREA 50 WEBSITE (www.area50wny.org)



GSR vs GSR

GENERAL SERVICE REP

- **Crucial link between home group and the broader AA service structure**
- **Represent their group's voice at District meetings and Area assemblies, ensuring that the group's concerns and opinions are heard.**
- **Brings back information and decisions from these meetings to their group, facilitating informed decision-making and participation in the AA fellowship**

GROUP SERVICE REP

- **Act as the link between a specific A.A. service committee and the wider A.A. service structure.**
- **Keeps the General Service Rep and the Alternate General Service Rep informed of their action in their service role**
- **Utilizes the groups General Service Rep to ask for support with providing resources to the community**

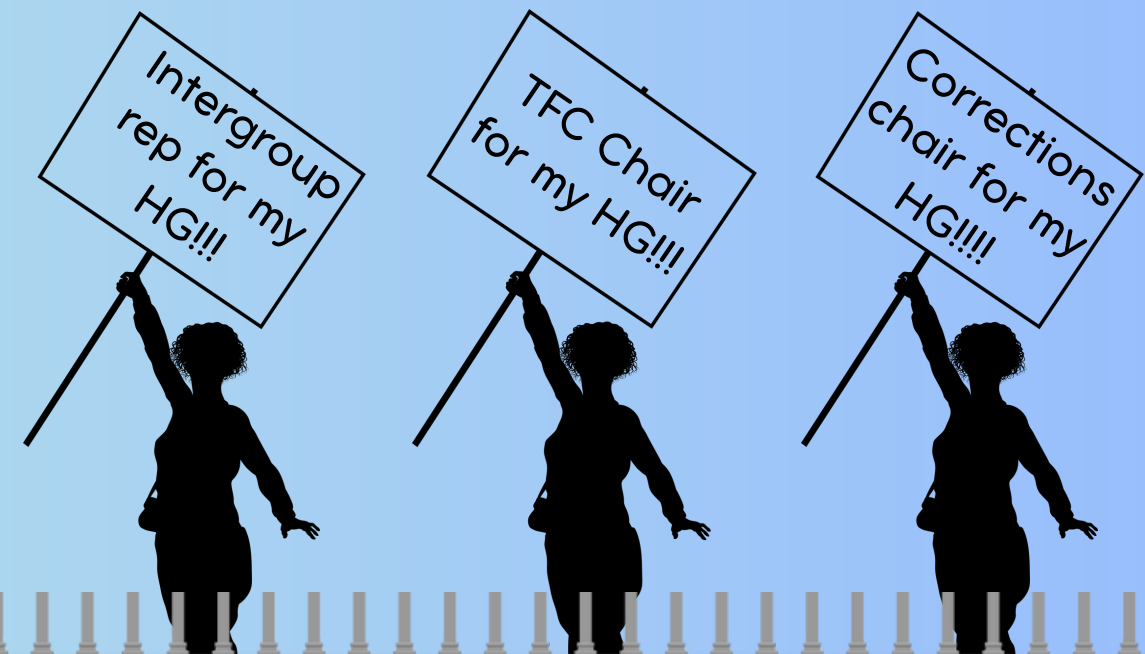
GROUP SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

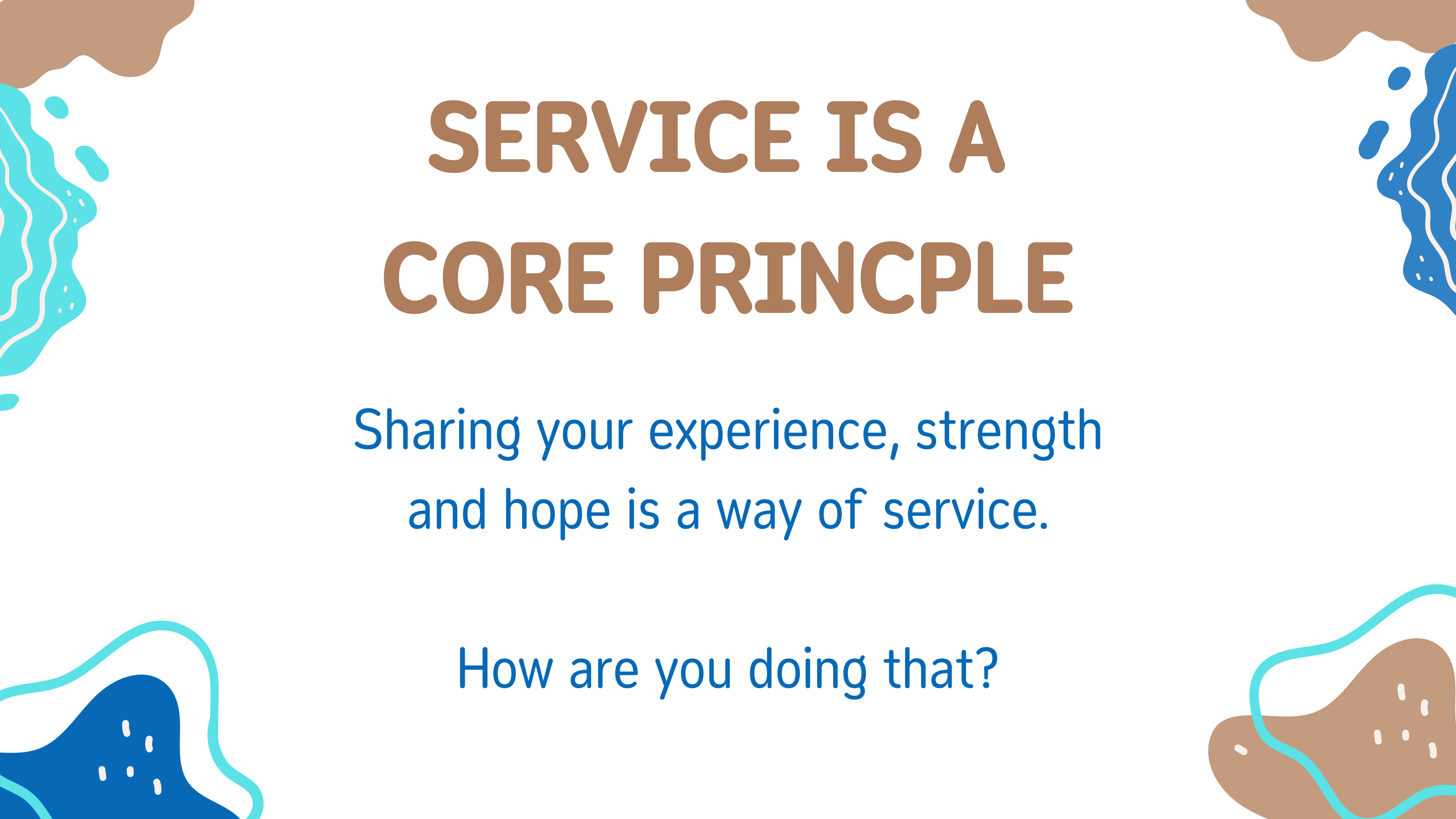
Group service reps are liaisons for Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC), Grapevine/Literature committee, corrections committee, public information committee, central office committee/intergroup, etc.

- They are liaisons in the sense of making sure the General Service Rep knows how to provide updates from the Home Group to the District and Area

GSR

ALT GSR





SERVICE IS A CORE PRINCIPLE

Sharing your experience, strength
and hope is a way of service.

How are you doing that?



What does 'Service' mean to you?

Example from a
General Service
Representative

Example from a
Group Service
Representative

Example from
someone serving
on a District
committee

Example from
a home group
member

WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING SERVICE IS TO THEM

- Taking in meetings into facilities
- When one alcoholic is helping another alcoholic
- When one fellow alcoholic picks up others and takes them to meetings
- Anytime an Alcoholic reaches out for help and another Alcoholic reaches back
- When you take another Alcoholic through the steps

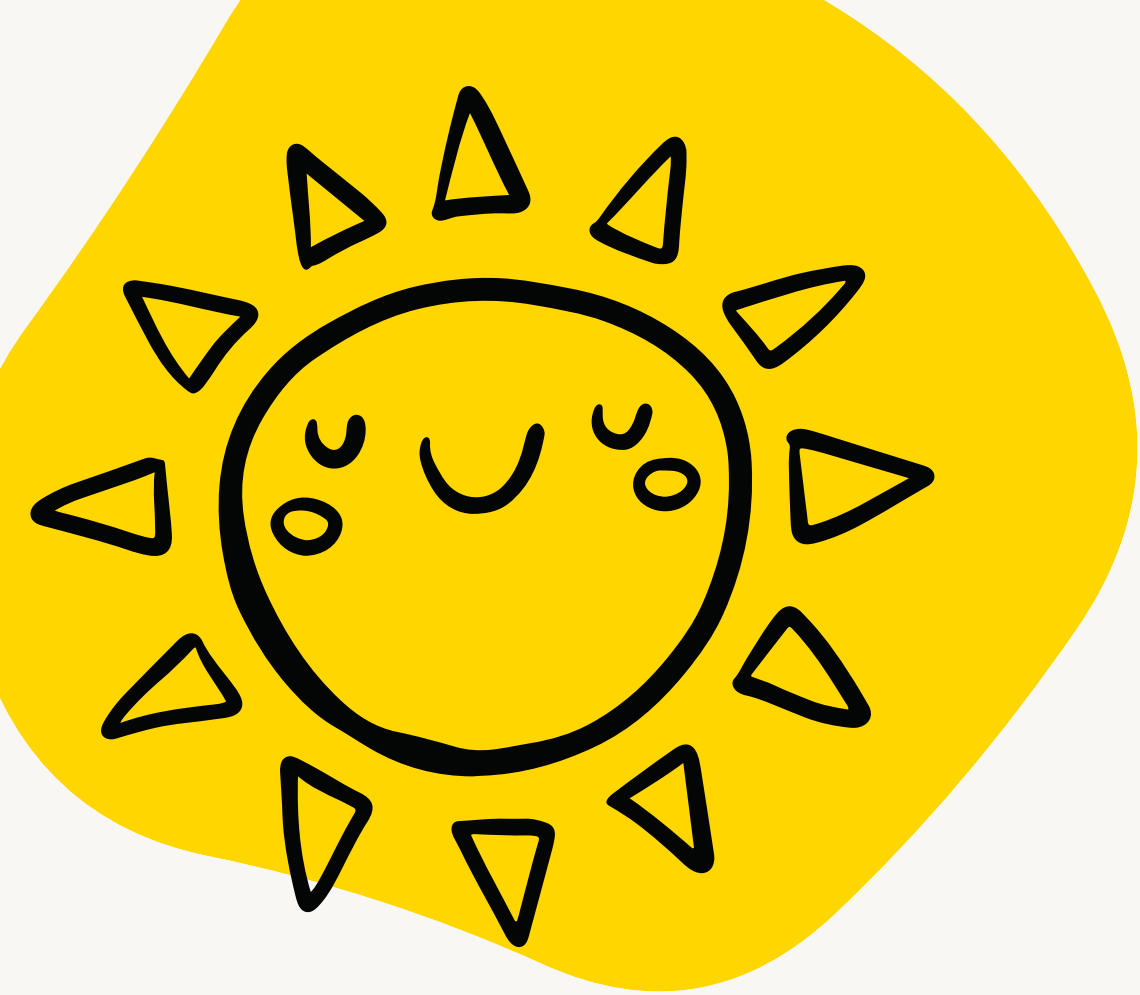


Paradigm Shift

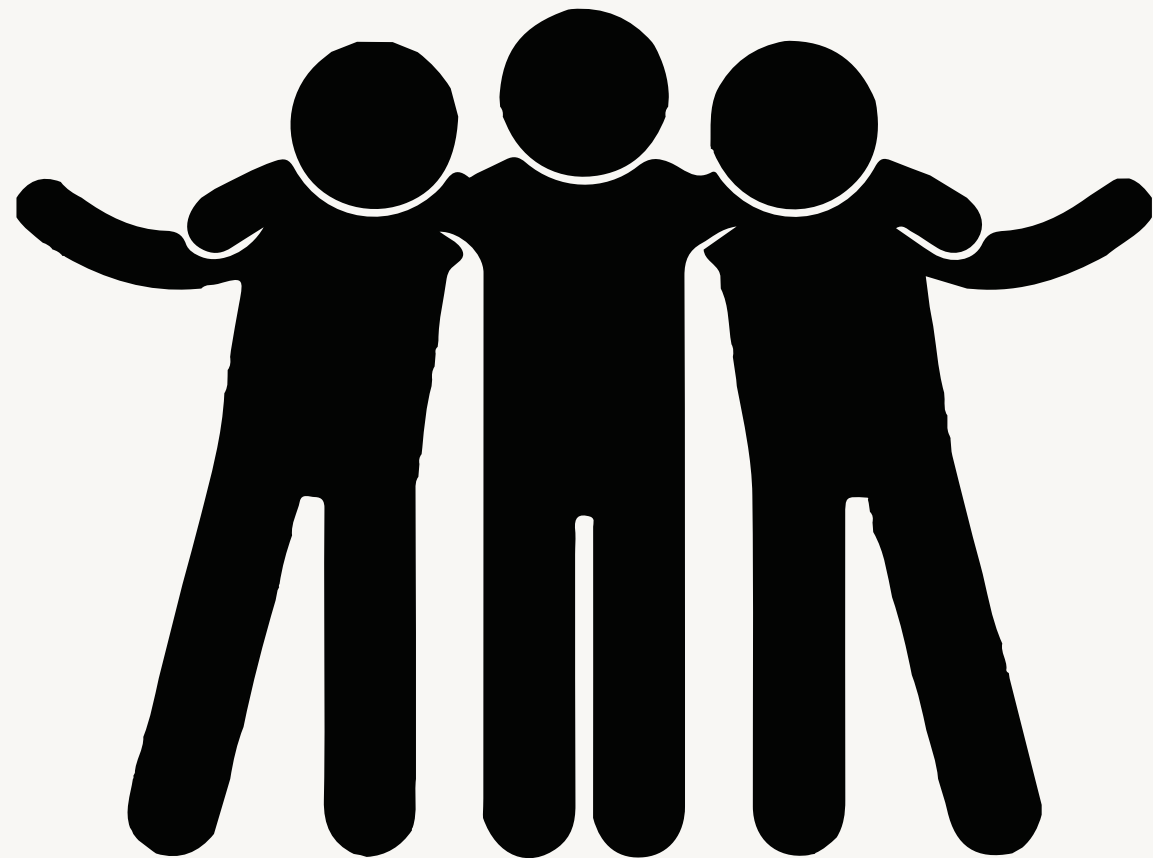


Most important questions to ask yourself...

- 1) What has AA asked of you?
- 2) What has AA provided for you?



Announcements!





Coming Up...!

Lord of the Wings

Info:

BUFFYPAA

AA & Alanon Speakers
Wing Competition

When:

June 22, 2025
12p

Where:

Ellicott Creek Park,
Tonawanda, NY – SHELTER 10





Coming Up...!

AA International Convention

Info:

<https://www.aa.org/international-convention>

When:

July 3-6, 2025

Where:

Vancouver, BC, Canada

Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, July 3-6



Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur

Taking place once every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.'s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. A.A. members and their families and friends from around the globe attend the event. At the International Convention people attend meetings, workshops, dances and events. A highlight is the traditional flag ceremony to celebrate sobriety worldwide.

Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around the world for the 2025 International Convention. This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning of our Fellowship's founding. The International Convention will take place from July 3 - 6, 2025, at the Vancouver Convention Centre and BC Place Stadium.

As the Convention approaches, we will update our website with registration information. Let's celebrate sobriety together in Vancouver in 2025!

* 2025 International Convention logo is an AAWS Service Mark and may

Can't go in person? Register for the Virtual Program track.

Individual Registration

Group Registration



Coming Up...!

AA Trivia

Info:

District 11
Speakers from Treatment, Lunch, Trivia

When:

July 12, 2025
10a - 2p

Where:

2 Nottingham Terrace,
Buffalo, NY 14216





Coming Up...!

Next Virtual Coffee Hour

What:

General Service Reps & Service Members

Topic:

The Election Process

When:

August 7, 2025
7p

Where:

ZOOM

Meeting ID: 893 0573 5161

Passcode: 356695

**NO MEETING
IN JULY**





Coming Up...!

New York State Informational Workshop

Info:

Host: Area 48

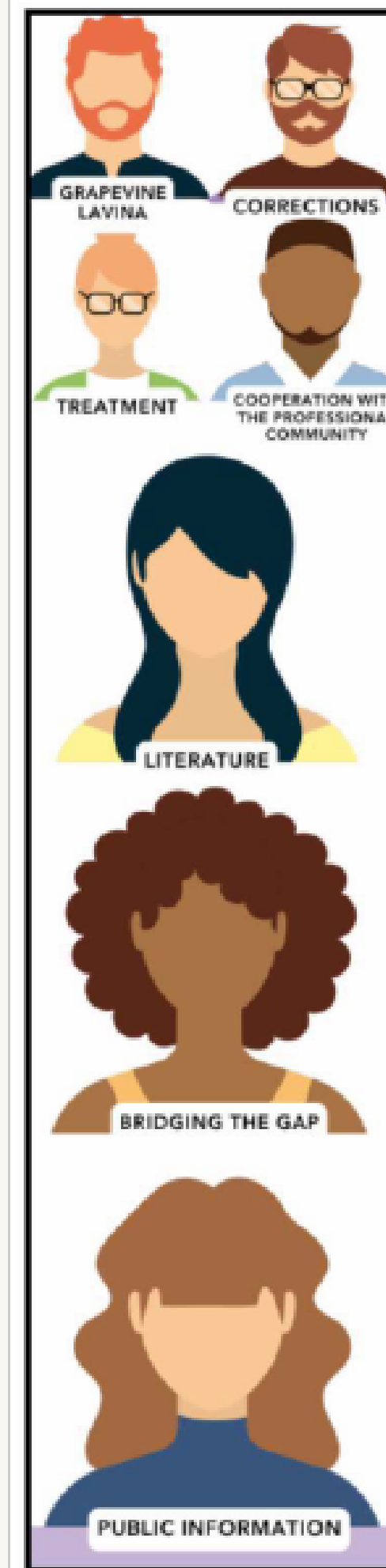
<https://nysiw.org/>

When:

August 8-10

Where:

Mirror Lake Retreat, Milan NY



46th Annual New York State Informational Workshop

August 8-10, 2025

Mirror Lake Retreat, Milan NY

THE NEW YORK STATE
INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP
IS AN EDUCATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CARRYING THE A.A. MESSAGE
THROUGH OUR GENERAL
SERVICE COMMITTEES.

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO
ALL WHO WISH TO LEARN
ABOUT CARRYING THE A.A.
MESSAGE, THROUGH
THEIR HOME GROUPS,
DISTRICTS, AND AREA
GENERAL COMMITTEES.

We meet annually with the four General Service
Areas of New York State , to share our
experiences with the most effective ways to do
our 12th step work.

If you serve on a committee, or would like to, this
event will be of great interest to you.

Questions? Please email nysiwregistration@nenyaa.org

More information at nysiw.org

For online registration, please
follow this QR link. For mail in
registration, please fill out the
form on the back of this flyer.





Coming Up...!

Area 50

General Service Assembly

What:
Area 50 Elections

When:
September 13, 2025
9:30a – 2p

Where:
ISO in person host
& Online





I Am Responsible...

**When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help,
I want the hand of A.A.
always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.**





Thank You!

**Questions? Concerns?
Comments?
Email us!**

p74gsrorientation@area50wny.org

