December

VOLUME 128

**Inside This** 

Issue

2018

# The Nightcap Image: Complete information on events please check out 'Events' at www.aasanantonio.org THE CSO BOOOKSTORE IS OPEN UNTIL 6pm on MONDAYS

**To All Members** Holidays in 2 Greetings On Our 10th Christmas December •••••• Information 3 •••••• 1944 Groups 4 Yes, it's in the air! The spirit of Christmas once more warms this poor distraught world. Over the whole globe millions are looking forward to that one day when strife can be forgotten, when it will be remembered that all human beings, even the least are loved by God, when men will Bookstore 5 hope for the coming of the Prince of Peace as they never hoped before. ..... But there is another world which is not poor. Neither is it distraught. It is the world of Alcohol-More ics Anonymous, where thousands dwell happily and secure. Secure because each of us, in his Information 6 own way, knows a greater power who is love, who is just, and who can be trusted. ..... Nor can men and women of AA ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough Weekend 7 Report humility to enter the portals of that New World. How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weak-Archives <u>8</u> ness, that humiliation goes before resurrection, that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth. CSORs 9 Knowing its full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity Information where there was poverty, peace and joy have spring out of the very midst of chaos. ..... CSOR 10 Great indeed, our blessings! Minutes And so, - Merry Christmas to you all-from the Trustees, from Bobbie and from Lois and me. Group 11-12 Contributions Bill Wilson **Technology** in Reprint from the Nightcap Volume 39 Issue 12 AA Calendar <u>13</u> ..... Service 14 **Central Service Office** Closed for Holidays - Dec. 24 & 25 / Dec. 31st & Jan 1st. Hispanic 15 Intergroup The Nightcap is about by and for members of the AA fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics ..... Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply any endorsement by either AA or the Nightcap (Exceptions: 12 Tips <u>16</u> Quotations from AA books, pamphlets, and the 12 Steps and/or 12 Traditions are reprinted with permission of AA World Ser-

vices Inc. The AA Preamble, slogans, etc. are reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, Inc.)

# Holidays in December

#### **Serendipity Group**

Will be open all day on

Christmas Day.

10929 Nacogdoches Rd.

San Antonio, TX 78218

1/2 block from Wurzbach Parkway.

Bring your cookies to share!

#### **Club 12 Holiday Gathering**

102 Thames, San Antonio 78216 December 24th - 30th 7 Days of Christmas Dinners

€

December 31st New Years Eve Dance For event times call: 210-344-8981

#### Winner's Club

5723 Kenwick , San Antonio 78238

210-680-5496

**Open continuously** 

December 24th. 6:30am to 10pm on 25th.

December <u>31st.</u> 6:30am to 10pm on Jan. 1st.



#### Schertz-Cibolo Group

433 Kitty Hawk—Bldg 2 #220 - upstairs Universal City 78148 NEW location

Open Noon to 10pm December 24th. & 25th.

Cookies welcomed

#### **Goliad Group**

537 Avondale, San Antonio 534-3937

Christmas Dinner

December 15<sup>th</sup>

3:00-Santa for Kids

4:30- Dinner

6:15-Speaker- Jere J. 25yrs. Club12



**Donation's Welcome** 

# ACCESSIBILITES

Deaf / Hard of Hearing Meetings are available online See menu for types of meetings
Image: See meeting impairment.

https://aa-intergroup.org

## We are not a glum lot!

Welcome to the *newly* elected Trustee for

**Central Service Office Board 2019** 

Oskar M. - Group 12

Elections again at December CSOR Meeting Two more positions are open

#### **Board of Trustee Qualifications:**

- Any person nominated as a trustee must be a member of a registered A.A. group and must have achieved at least five (5) years of continuous sobriety during the five (5) years prior to nomination.
- Any person serving, or nominated to serve, as a trustee shall not be an employee or member of the governing board of any agency licensed for the treatment of alcoholism or other addictive disorders, or operated for education concerning such disorders. This restriction also applies to members of advisory boards of such agencies.

Any person serving, or nominated to serve, as a trustee shall not be an officer or director of a club where A.A. meetings are regularly held.

**Holiday Humor** A young man named John received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. John tried and tried to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to "clean up" the bird's vocabulary.

Finally, John was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. John shook the parrot and the parrot got angrier and even ruder. John, in desperation, threw up his hand, grabbed the bird and put him in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot squawked and kicked and screamed. Then suddenly there was total quiet. Not a peep was heard for over a minute. Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, John quickly opened the door to the freezer. The parrot calmly stepped out onto John's outstretched arms and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my rude and unforgivable behavior." John was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. As he was about to ask the parrot what had made such a dramatic change in his behavior, the bird continued, "May I ask what the turkey did?"



#### What's Happening at Groups

Send your Groups information and let other members know what's happening in San Antonio A.A.



#### **Bookstore & Office**

Central Service Office - 8804 Tradeway, San Antonio, TX 78217 (off Loop 410 & Broadway) 210-821-6325 - Staff: Tomi & Virginia

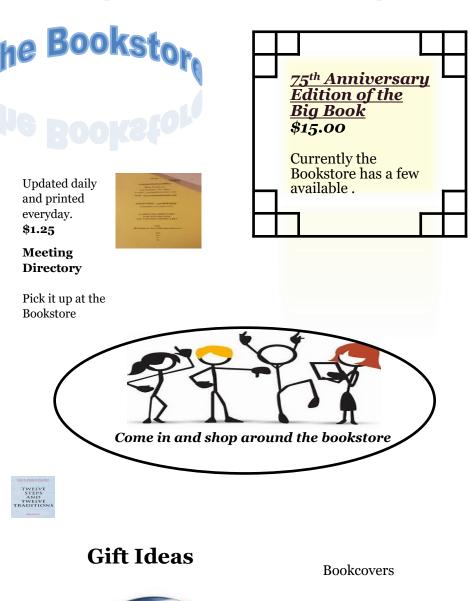
Bookstore Hours: Monday 9am to 6pm–Tuesday through Friday 9am to 5pm





wristbands

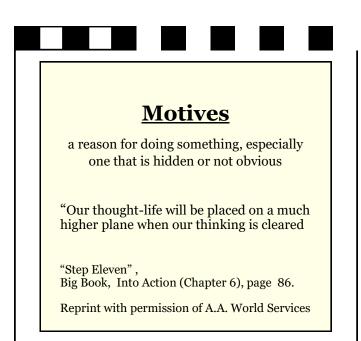






**Specialty Coins** 





<u>"LEARNING TO TRUST":</u> "Our entire AA program rests upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust AA and we trust each other." *Page 310 "As Bill Sees It" reprinted with permission from AA World Services, Inc* 

#### **Twelve Step Volunteer Chairperson**

The Office needs a member who is willing to coordinate the Twelve Step Volunteer Committee

#### What does a 12-Step volunteer do?

12-Step volunteers work hand-in-hand with the San Antonio Helpline and Central Service Office. They do everything from talking to a practicing alcoholic about AA to taking an out-of-town visitor to a meeting. Whereas Helpline volunteers take the initial call and disburse it, 12-Step volunteers do the actual "leg work".

#### What does the Twelve Step Volunteer Chairperson do?

The Chairperson works with the twelve step volunteers

To contact volunteers on a regular basis

To keep volunteers information current with the Central Service Office

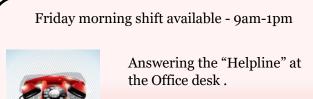
To recruit new volunteers on an ongoing basis.

This is important service work!

<section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><text>

Wednesday is Volunteer Day at the Central Service Office 9am to 4pm





Call: 210-821-6325

#### Tradition Twelve (long form)

And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

Did you know that the long form of the Twelve Traditions is in your Twelve & Twelve on page 189?

#### **REPORT**

A check in the amount of **\$24,078.64** was presented to the Central Service Office by the Weekend in SA Committee this month.

This was the result of the year long events sponsored for and by the Weekend in SA Committee, and other groups who worked with the Weekend Committee to raise funds.

We wish to thank All of the AA members, groups, and the Weekend in SA Committee that participated in the events.

The funds received by the Office go to support the general budget.

> NEXT YEAR A New location

The date is set! November 9th, 2019

New Location

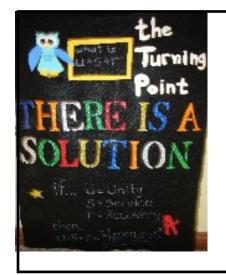
Freeman Coliseum

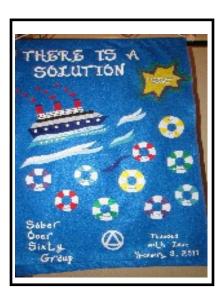
This will be a one day event.

Join the Weekend in SA Committee and enjoy the fellowship as they plan The Event!











Thank you to the Groups that participated. Fun was had by all. The grand winner was... Sober Over Sixty Group Pictures by Susan H.

We look forward to 2019 "Banner Contest"

#### VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### **Group Historian for Archives**

- Responsible for locating AA groups in San Antonio and metropolitan area and AA districts we serve.
- Become familiar with the procedures and suggestions for recording group histories.
   Follows guidelines and procedures established by the Committee.
- The Group History Sub-Committee records and compiles the experience and history of the Group so it is not lost for future.

*The San Antonio Archives Committee has a need for a Group Historian. Is that you? Call 210-821-6325 to sign up.* 

#### Archives Committee Meets Monthly

6pm

1st. Thursday of the month

Bookstore: 8804 Tradeway San Antonio, 78217

#### **Broadway Group**

Established February 4, 1973



Broadway Group Motto:

This is our twelfth suggestion: Carry this message to other alcoholics!

Archives needs a person who can enter data into excel and also into a preset Archives data base.

This person will read a paper and enter Selected data.

Typing skills needed. Speed is not important.

#### The San Antonio Archives Committee

Is comprised of A.A. members who volunteer their time to collect and manage the documents, pictures and historical information of the AA groups and service entities in San Antonio and the surrounding cities.

The committee members have diverse responsibilities within the committee.

- Someone collects "Group Histories"
- Someone collects "Oral Histories" The story of an AA member
- Someone talks with and collects AA service history
- Someone takes pictures of Meeting Places.
- Someone sits at a table display and talks with A.A. members.
- Someone takes committee minutes.
- Someone organizes committee meetings and acts as the Committee Chairperson.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Central Service Office at 6pm.

Just come on over. No notice is required.

# Central Service Office Representatives<br/>Monthly General Membership Meeting (CSOR Meeting)<br/>Meets on Monday, December 16, at 6pmOfficers (July through December 2018 )Chairperson: (July through December 2018 )Chairperson:Susan H. (Serendipity Group)<br/>Co-Chairperson:Co-Chairperson:Justin B. (Golden Ticket Group)<br/>Secretary:Secretary:Karen H. (Ladies 1st. 164 Group)<br/>Alt Secretary:Meil P.(Turning Point Group)<br/>Carlil J. (Siters in Sobriety Group)Board Liaison:Susan H. (Serendipity Group)

On the Agenda

- 1. Board Election
- 2. Central Service Office officer election

Central Service Office Representatives (CSORs) NEW Meeting Location

**The Youth Barracks** 

At The Episcopal Church of Reconciliation

#### 8900 Starcrest, San Antonio, 78217

**Directions:** Take Starcrest Rd. off of Loop 410 East – Go North on Starcrest for two blocks. The church is on the corner of Starcrest and Barrington. The Youth Barracks is to the left of the church building all the way to the rear of the church property. There is parking by the Youth Barracks and there is church parking on the corner of Starcrest and Barrington.

You can park in the parking lot on the corner of Starcrest and Barrington and walk across the back of the church campus through the outside Hallway of Brown Hall, across the playground with swing sets and there is the Youth Barracks. You have arrived !

#### JOIN US AT THE December 16th. MEETING

CSOR and Board of Trustees Workshop - new and old learning to-

Central Service Office Representatives Board of Trustees The CSOR - What are the responsibilities?

The Board of Trustees and their duties

The Committees - Central Service Office

Saturday, January 5th. - 1pm to 3pm - At the Serendipity Meeting House - 10929 Nacogdoches Ste 5

#### Central Service Office Representatives - Meeting Minutes Monday, October 15, 2018

**Opening: Serenity Prayer** 

12 Traditions – Tradition 10 read

Introductions: All CSO reps introduce themselves and share something about their group

Reminder: Check your information is correct on sign-in sheet. Be sure to sign in before or after meeting. New CSOR's pick up Handbook and contact form for new CSORs.

Announcements: Any group information may be given to Tomi or Virginia to include in the What's Happening and The Nightcap. Flyers to share may be picked up here as well.

Minutes of previous meeting in September: Approved unanimously

#### Guest:

San Antonio Interdistrict: Sydney C., DCMC, Committee met on 9-23 and is in need of communication committee Chairperson.

#### **Board Report**

Greg subbing for Regan F., Financial Officer (financial report): Presented the financial reports for September. The proceeds of Weekend AA in SA will be calculated into the budget in the next couple of months.

Melissa W. Board of Trustee CSOR Liaison: The Board voted unanimously to rescind the Board of Trustee Bylaw revision.

#### Office Manager's report: Tomi

Meeting App should be up soon, taking longer than expected due to the meeting website needing to be updated. There is a new Grapevine book available at Bookstore, One Big Tent, on compilations of stories from AA members, agnostics and atheists. Board of Trustee election to be held in November. Three positions need to be filled. Gratitude boxes and packets distributed to take back to our groups for contributions.

#### Committee Reports:

Archives Committee: Tami S., Archivist gave report

Communications Committee: No report

Hispanic Intergroup: Absent No report, Bailey to follow up with Hispanic Intergroup

Nominating Committee: See New Business

San Antonio Helpline: Kris J- Tuesday overnights need to be filled. This can be done by an individual or a group.

#### **Door Prize drawing**

#### Old Business-

The motion to add the following to the Bylaws was rescinded.

VI. Board of Trustees "In addition, an ex office, non-voting member who has completed a full term

As a Board of Trustee and will serve in an advisory position only for historical purposes."

#### New Business-

Nominating Committee Election: Since no nominating committee was selected in January, Tomi suggests we all (CSORs) work as nominating committee and take back to our groups the information on qualifications to serve on the Board of Trustees and sign-up sheets. Motion was made and seconded, vote was unanimous.

#### 7 Tradition Basket Closed with The Lord's Prayer

# **Group contributions**

#### October \$8,043.64

	Amount
Alamo Heights Group	150.00
Beginner's & Newcomers Group	50.00
Big Book Sunday Study Group	150.00
Boerne Hwy Group	120.00
Buda 2nd Chance Group	34.00
District 28	20.00
First Things First Group	1,350.00
Grupo Paz Y Sobriedad	10.00
Guilbeau Group	50.00
Halt @ Tezel Road Group	2,823.98
Hope Group (San Antonio)	15.00
Kirby Group	100.00
Laurel Heights Group	100.00
Love & Laughter Ladies Group	60.00
Marymont Group	25.00
Midtown Noon Group	34.80
New Braunfels Group	44.38
Oasis Group	150.00
Primary Purpose Group (San Antonio)	130.00
Rigorous Honesty Men's Group	200.00
Serendipity Group	42.87
Sisters in Sobriety Group	118.01
Soledad Group	10.00
Starlite Group- Callaghan Rd	100.00
Stay in the Solution Group	619.39
Tuesday Nite Big Book Study Group	120.00
Turning Point Group	1,416.21

\$2,771.60 Birthday Contributions Total since January 1st



The What's

Email: csosa1285@dslextreme.com

# **Technology in A.A.**

#### TIAA

#### **Technology in Alcoholic Anonymous**

**About this forum/website...** This forum is for AA members to share about using technology for accomplishing the primary purpose of AA.

The forum is available by invitation only.

To request an invitation please sign up or email: info@tiaa-forum.org.

You can come here to: share your experience with others about using technology in your program and/or your AA service positions

Share questions about various technology solutions you desire in your program or your AA service efforts

Share your progress (and/or your team's progress) as you explore or develop technology in support of your AA program or service

Website: https://tiaa-forum.org/

# **Group Contributions**

#### January-October \$ 37,436.19

Soledad Group	33.75	Group Twelve	201.81
Sober Over Sixty Group	293.59	Goliad Group	300.00
Sober In Southtown Group	50.00	Generic Group	335.00
Sisters in Sobriety Group	358.16	Garden Ridge Monday Women's Step Study	208.00
Shook Big Book Group	25.00	Friday Night Fix Group	274.50
Share The Light Group	82.00	Friday Big Book Study Group (Boerne)	100.00
Serendipity Group	752.01	Freedom Group	472.00
Seguin Primary Purpose Group	30.00	First Things First Group	4,650.00
Schertz/Cibolo Group	1,150.00	First One Today Group	121.54
Saturday Night Live Young Peoples Group	164.33	District 28	50.00
Saturday Morning Men's Meeting	20.00	District 12	60.00
Rush Hour Group	300.00	District 01A	250.00
Rule 62-Devine Group	70.00	County Line Group	87.00
Rule 62 Group (San Antonio)	22.75	Cork In The Jug Group (Helotes)	352.00
Road of Happy Destiny Group	200.00	Community Group	200.00
River Group	75.00	Common Solutions Group	25.00
Rigorous Honesty Men's Group	200.00	Colonies North Group	543.36
Primary Purpose Group (San Antonio)	1,380.00	Coffee Pot Group	50.00
Oasis Group	350.00	Castle Hills Group	339.00
Northwood Group	120.00	Canyon Lake Group	300.00
New Vision Group	100.00	Buda Group	38.00
New Hope Group (SA)	366.00	Buda Big Book Group	505.83
New Braunfels Group	342.75	Buda 2nd Chance Group	75.25
Mostly Agnostics Group	130.00	Broadway Group	675.00
Monte Vista Group	125.00	Boerne Womens Group	151.50
Midtown Noon Group	140.40	Boerne Sunday Nite Group	300.00
Marymont Group	375.00	Boerne Noon Group	1,500.00
Lytle Group	68.00	Boerne Hwy Group	360.00
Love & Laughter Ladies Group	240.00	Big Book Sunday Study Group	150.00
Live & Let Live Group (SA)	60.00	Beginner's & Newcomers Group	100.00
Legal Professions Group	200.00	Bandera Group	150.00
LaVernia Group	120.00	Alamo Heights Group	300.00
Laurel Heights Group	415.00	Airport Group (San Antonio)	40.00
Last Call Group	161.78	Acceptance Group	303.52
		Abundance Happy Hour Group	15.00
		Total	37,436.19

**Big Books sold here at your Bookstore since January 2018** 

1,154 Big Books ( hardcover) sold since January 20182,032 Big Books (softcover) sold since January 2018332 Big Books ( pocket) sold since



Email: csosa@dslextreme.com

Flyers are available on the website: www.aasanantonio.org

We would like to have your groups special events on website and in the calendar, and in the handout "What's Happening". Easy to do. Send a word or pdf. Document to cso-sa@dslextreme.com

#### December

Dec 1st	Archives Committee Meeting - 6:15pm -Bookstore
Dec 5th & 19th	Intergrupal Hispana - en español - 7pm - San Antonio (the first & third Wednesday of each month)
Dec 9th	District 28 Meeting - 2nd Sunday at 11am
	District 12 Meeting
	District 1E Meeting
Dec 10th	Service Manual Meeting – Emmanuel Presbyterian Church- 713 Division Ave- 7pm
	District 2 Meeting
Dec 12th & 26th	District 1F Meeting-2nd & last Thursday - 8pm
Dec 13th	Central Service Office Board Meeting - 6pm (Central Service Office)
Dec 16th	San Antonio Inter-District 3:15pm - St Francis Episcopal Church
	District 1A Meeting - 2pm - St Francis Episcopal Church
	District 16 Meeting - 2pm - St Francis Episcopal Church
	District 17 Meeting - 2pm - St Francis Episcopal Church
	District 18 Meeting - 2pm - St Francis Episcopal Church
	Communication Committee Meeting (San Antonio Inter-District) - 1pm
	Correctional Facilities Committee (San Antonio Inter-District) meets at 1pm on even months
	Treatment Facilities Committee (San Antonio Inter-District) - 1pm
	Grapevine & La Vina Committee (San Antonio Inter-District) - 1pm
Dec 17th	Central Service Office Representative (CSOR) Meeting – 6pm
Dec	Club 12 Holiday Events - Call Club - 210-344-8981
Dec	Winners Club Holiday Events - Call Club - 210-680-5496
	2019 San Antonio Future Events
Jan 5th	Central Service Office Representative & Board of Trustees Orientation - San Antonio
Feb 9th	Grapevine Workshop - San Antonio - Location TBA
Feb 16th	District 17 Technology Workshop - San Antonio
Sept 14th	Day In Recovery - San Antonio
Nov 9th	Weekend in SA with AA - !!! NEW LOCATION !!!



Email: csosa@dslextreme.com

#### **Events Out Of Town**

#### 2019

Jan 18th	Southwest Texas Area Winter Workshop - Uvalde
Jan 25th	65th Annual Coastal Bend Jamboree - Corpus Christi
Feb 15th	Southwest Texas Area 68 Correctional Facility Conference - Killeen
Apr 5th April 26th June 7th Oct 11th	Southwest Texas Area 68 Pre-General Service Conference- Seguin Girl-A-Palooza Women's Conference - Dallas Texas State Convention - Houston Southwest Regional Forum - Houston

#### SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

## SA Inter-District exists ONLY to support our service committees:

Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) cmte.picpc@gmail.com

Treatment Facilities (TFC) cmte.tfc@gmail.com

Grapevine (GV) cmte.grapevine@gmail.com

Correctional Facilities (CFC) cmte.cfc@gmail.com

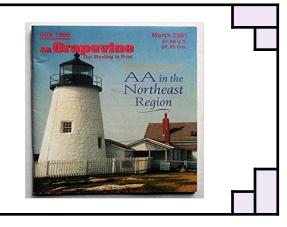
#### Step 12

Having had a spiritual experience as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to others, and practice these principles in all our affairs. 4th Sundays at 3:15pm 4242 Bluemel San Antonio next meeting Deceember 16th



# Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues of The Grapevine

- Letting go of Resentments (due Dec. 10)
- Prison Issue
- Doing AA service with prisoners (due Jan. 10)
- African-American AA members' stories (due Feb. 10)



#### **District 16**

#### San Antonio

Is hosting the Southwest Texas Area 68 Voting Assembly

In 2019.

Date: October 18th - 20th.

All AA members are encouraged to attend.

#### District 17

#### San Antonio

The District is having a "Technology"

Workshop.

Date: February 16, 2019

All AA members are encouraged to attend.

Oficina Intergrupal Hispana 3814 S. Flores St.-Ste A2 San Antonio, TX 78214 210-533-9770

línea de ayuda:210-409-8524

#### **Oficina Intergrupal**

Hispana de Alcoholicos Anonimos De San Antonio 3814 S. Flores Ste #

**Grupo en San Antonio** 

Grupo El Libro Grande Grupo El Mensaje #2

**Grupo Doce Pasos** 

Grupo Esperanza

Grupo Gozo y Paz

Grupo Nuevo Sendero

Grupo Paz y Sobriedad

Grupo Primera Vez Grupo Resurreccion

Grupo Santa Fe

Grupo Libertad

Grupo Volver A Vivir

Grupo Nuevo Leon

Grupo Tres Legados

**ALCOHÓLICOS** 

ANONIMOS

DOCE

PASOS Y

DOCE

TRADICIONES

Grupo Gratitud

La temporada de fiestas y de las reuniones familiares ya está aquí para envolvernos con su manto de paz y alegría. Para los alcohólicos que se recuperan en AA, los últimos meses del año nos recuerdan que hoy ya no estamos solos y que mientras no tomemos ese primer trago, todo estará bien.

http://www.aagrapevine.org/espanol





FRENTE A FRENTE El apadrinamiento de AA en acción \$13.50 each At the Bookstore Central Service Office



#### Buscar en Reflexiones Diares—30 de Noviembre

#### PROTECCIÓN PARA TODOS

A nivel personal, el anonimato les da protección a todos los miembros contra ser identificados como alcohólicos, una salvaguarda a menudo de especial importancia para el recién llegado. A nivel de prensa, TV, radio y cine, el anonimato hace destacar la igualdad

A nivel de prensa, TV, radio y cine, el anonimato hace destacar la igualdad dentro de la Comunidad de todos los miembros, refrenando a las personas que pudieran explotar su afiliación A.A. para ganar fama, poder o provecho personal.

#### - COMPRENDIENDO EL ANONIMATO, p. 3

La atracción es la fuerza principal de la Comunidad de A.A. El milagro de la continua sobriedad de alcohólicos dentro de A.A. confirma este hecho todos los días. Sería perjudicial si la Comunidad se promocionara a sí misma, anunciando por medio de la radio y la televisión la sobriedad de conocidas personalidades públicas que son miembros de A.A. Si estas personalidades tuvieran recaídas, el público de afuera creería que nuestro movimiento no es fuerte y podrían poner en duda la veracidad del milagro del siglo. Alcohólicos Anónimos no es anónimo, pero sus miembros sí deben serlo.

Del libro Reflexiones diarias Copyright © 1991 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

#### THESE ARE GREAT TOPICS FOR HOW TO SURVIVE THE HOLIDAYS SOBER

#### Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.



Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.



Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.



Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations

given by groups in your area, and go. If **9** you're timid, take someone newer than you are.



Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.



If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.



Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.

Worship in your own way.



Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.



Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember— "one day at a time."



Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.



*"Having had a . . ."* No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.

Bar 4-5-9, Winter 2012