



DISTRICT 29 NEWSLETTER

www.district29aa.org , July 2018



Alcoholism is known as a three part disease which effects the Mind, Body and Spirit.

Step Seven: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition Seven: Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Concept VII: The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

Promise 7: We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows.

Happenings in District 29

Fellowship in the Pines

Mission planning continues for the 34th Annual Fellowship in the Pines. The first speaker meeting will launch the conference 05 OCT 2018 at 2000hrs. Speakers, fellowship and fun throughout the weekend will help rocket you into the fourth dimension of existence!

Meet the ground control crew at T-1499 hours or 04 AUG 2018 0900hrs in Fisherman's Park, Bastrop! There is still time to volunteer and help ensure a smooth flight. You can also help support the mission by making donations for the raffle (details on the last page) and hospitality as well as sending fund raising ideas to Kim crazyaboutlife2@gmail.com and Brooke brookeginsberg@yahoo.com. Want to be a rocket woman or man? Well then secure your spot now on-line [http://](http://www.fellowshipinthepines.org/index.php?op-)

www.fellowshipinthepines.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=4. A registration form will be available soon if you prefer to register by mail or e-mail! Reserve your camping berth space early by contacting River Bend Park at 512-237-3282 Ext. 2322.

District 29 Picnic

Come out to the District 29th picnic and you will see what the book means when it says "We are not a glum lot"! Bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Family and guest are

invited and welcomed. The fun filled event will start at 4:00 p.m. August 11th and is hosted by the Lost pines Group (1199 Highway 21 East, Paige, TX 78659). Cathy H. will give a presentation and host for AA Family Feud. The District 29 Committee Meeting will be held at the same location starting at 3 p.m. If you have questions about the event or would like to volunteer to be of service contact (Sunnynoah@hotmail.com) who is the Chairperson for the District Picnic/ Alternate District Committee Member or Debbie M (dmcdaniel17@austin.rr.com) our District Committee Member.

Pancake Breakfast July 8th, come hungry or stay home!

Sunday Morning Sidewalk Group will host an all you care to eat pancake breakfast Sunday at noon on July 8th at Mina Lodge 601 Main Street. Suggested donations are \$5 Adults. Proceeds will supply breakfast tacos on Saturday morning at the conference.

Be a part of... Future Newsletters!

If you have events you would like highlighted in or would like to contribute an article to the District 29 Newsletter, contact Theol J. by e-mail at the-ol_jackman@hotmail.com.

Events In and Around District 29 July 7 through July 31, 2018

July 7 - Speaker Meeting at 8pm at On The Colorado (OTC), Smithville

July 8 - Pancake Breakfast Fund-raiser for Fellowship in the Pines at Sunday Morning Sidewalk Group starts at 10:30am

July 8 - District Meeting at 1:30pm at Lost Pines Group

July 8 - Area 68 Grapevine Chair, Jenna C will be doing a workshop on Writing after District Meeting

July 14 - Speaker Meeting at 7pm the Lost Pines Group, Bastrop

July 17 - Service Study Meeting at 7:30pm at Timberline Church, Bastrop

July 20 - Speaker Meeting at Elgin Group, Hot Dogs at 6pm Speaker at 7pm, Elgin

July 20-22 - Area 68 Summer Workshop at Hilton Garden Inn, Victoria, TX

July 25 - Sober Dance at 7pm hosted by Hope Floats Group, Smithville

July 28 - Area Birthday hosted by On The Colorado (OTC), Smithville

July 30 - Speaker Meeting at 7:30 at Hope Floats

July 31 - Speaker Meeting at 7pm at A Way Out Group (AWOG), Bastrop

July 2018 DCM Report

Debbie M, DCM District 29, Panel 68

Well, the summer in District 29 is in full swing. We have already had our Area 68 Delegate come and visit. He shared with us what happened and his experiences at the General Service Conference. It was very informative and inspiring.

I also visited with the Giddings Group. The meeting was well attended. They are going to start to have "Guest Chairperson" to chair their meeting. What a great way to share their meeting with others in District 29.

Later in July, the Southwest Area 68 Summer Workshop will happen in Victoria, TX at the Hilton Garden Inn. I have already made my reservation and I am looking forward to attending. I always enjoy these conferences and assemblies. Seeing and visiting with others from Area 68 is always such fun. We share our experience, strength and hope with each other on what is going on in our Districts, the good and the bad which is so beneficial in the growth of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.

I know the last piece I wrote for the newsletter was a bit long so I am going to keep this one short. We have so many experiences for us to share in the upcoming months. So keep your District 29 calendars of events or District 29 newsletters handy. I look forward to seeing everyone. Until then always remember what Bill W. and Dr. Bob wrote in Chapter 2 There is a Solution from Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book; "We are people who normally would not mix. But there exists among us a fellowship, a friendliness and an understanding which is indescribably wonderful.

With that said, thank you for allowing me to serve. Your grateful servant,

Debbie

Open District Committee Chair Descriptions

These positions are open as of May 25, 2018. Some may be filled at the district meeting, but it is always good to have a description of the District Committee Chairs and what they do. All Committee Chairs attend District 29 monthly meetings and are encouraged to attend SWTA 68 Area Assemblies and other General Service activities to learn what other Service Committee Chairs are doing in their Districts and Groups.

[Archives](#)

Maintains the repository of A.A. related materials primarily relating to the origin and development of A.A. in District 29. Duties include but are not limited to: receives, sorts, indexes and preserves all A.A. related materials pertaining to District 29. Maintains and updates District 29 Group Histories for inclusion in the Archives. Conducts and maintains Oral Interviews of "Old-timers" in District 29.

[Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community \(PI/CPC\)](#)

Distributes A.A. literature/information to the general public and professionals who are in contact with alcoholics. Should be thoroughly familiar with the A.A. program and able to provide consistent and accurate information about the Fellowship. Visits might include schools, local businesses, church and civic groups, clergy, health care providers, lawyers and teachers.

[Treatment](#)

Coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment and outpatient settings, and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the facility to an A.A. group in the individual's community. A Treatment Committee may function within the

Here is what Frances J. has to say!

Getting to know a bit about Frances J. A first ever interview for both Frances and I we met on a Sunday. We went to a park Frances she sometimes goes to pray and meditate. Not wanting to walk far in the humid heat we opted for the first picnic table near the banks of the Colorado River in Bastrop. The insects chirping in the wooded area around us, we started by praying aloud. Both of us giving thanks for that we saw through clear eyes and sober without a hangover. The two of us took turns sharing with God and each other that we were grateful for and asked for peace and strength for those suffering. We then spent a few minutes in silence before getting started. After a few minutes being silly while testing the recorder and a good laugh together we unfolded a bit more about Frances and her sober journey.

Theol J: What attracted you or scared you to AA?

Frances J: I had been here before in and out of the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous for 36 years, I had always thought I was different. The last time on August 29th, 2017 I thought it was all over! I didn't even know God and I cried out the word God. I feel like He brought me back to what I now feel like was my "first" meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Theol J: What is your favorite group (or groups)? What, if any, is your Home Group?

Frances J: Monday and Wednesday Night Legacies. Monday night Legacies has a special place in my heart because it is the "first" meeting that God brought me back to! The place where it all started. I picked up my Desire Chip and been walking in sobriety ever since. I love that I live in central Bastrop because I can always find a meeting to walk to, well every day except Saturday. I like all of the meetings I can – no I get – to go to and Legacies group is my favorite.

Theol J: Which step did you find the most daunting? What helped you through or inspired you to work this step?

Frances J: I believe my most daunting and challenging step... The one I was really balking on, trying to hold on to my old ideas... was my 9th step!

Theol J: What about the 9th step do you feel was holding you back or what was the fear you encountered?

Frances J: Well once I found out – while working with my sponsor on all the other steps – about step nine, was that it was completely different than what I thought or imaged. It was completely different than what I had ever tried to do on my own, because I never could work the steps alone. That's why I needed a sponsor to guide me through the steps. Particularly Step 9! Well first of all, I found out how many amends I really needed to make and that it is an ongoing life process. However, there were two particular amends that I feared imprisonment, jail and some serious consequences. I am reminded of the story, part of the Big Book, I was willing to do "anything but that" [page 155, "A Vision for You"].

Theol J: What helped or inspired you to get past that fear?

Frances J: Well, I found that any unwillingness – holding on to my old ideas – like "How it Works" says until we were willing to let go, absolutely. So, I had agreed to go to any lengths, my sponsor had to remind me several times! I said, "Man, I knew you were going to say that! Nooooo!" I found that I could pray to God for the willingness to be... willing! That is what I started doing – simply praying to be willing! I found when I made my first amends it was not anything like I had feared. In fact it was more amazing than anything I could have imagined!

Theol J: It seems like some of the experiences I have had, when I am open to any outcome it seems God shows me something more amazing than I could have thought would have happened.

Frances J: Yes, kind of like that, exactly!

Theol J: What is an example of how the program has helped you approach a life situation differently now than before?

Frances J: Oh my God! Yes, Theol there have been quite a few, Frances said with a good chuckle! Actually, when I first got here in my first 30-days, maybe two months, I was actually on what they call the pink cloud! I fell off abruptly and I was shocked! I started realizing one day at a time and that I could live as many one days at a time sober as I desired. The big life changer was when I found my roommate after an attempted suicide. I was left with so much pain and suffering with from finding her and knowing her anguish. Then we found out that she would not be coming back. My sponsor kept telling me to read things in the Big Book. One thing that really helped me was something like – I forget the exact words but – pain is the touchstone of spiritual growth. That started happening for me, I started realizing that God could do anything for me. That we can make it through anything sober.

**Here is what Frances J. has to say!
Continued**

Theol J: I had a friend recently mention something like when the struggle is greater than the fear of change.

Frances J: Yeah, it's like those painful and hard times... when I come to them and can go through them without a drink. It is so amazing to me! This and everything I have struggled with in my short sobriety. I have not taken a drink in over 10-months. Even, me who had every excuse and looked everywhere for a reason. "You're Mad", "You're not Mad", "I'm happy" it didn't matter, all I wanted was a drink! And that is what I got! I knew, from others that had gone before me that I can hope and I learned how to pray here. No one told me who God was here but I found one with the freedom to choose my own conception. I started praying like never before. I just kept doing my steps, talking to my sponsor, going to meetings, talking to another alcoholic and somehow, I made it through sober. Now I know I can use all of that – what I thought was tragic and struggle – to help another alcoholic who is just about where I was at. In making it through this sober I know that my misery can help someone else.

Theol J: Which of the ninth step promises is your favorite?

Frances J: Actually I love them all! I am amazed at how many of them have come true for me. I think the biggest promise – the one that meant the most to me – “we will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.” He did that in the last night of my drinking and again at about six or seven months of sobriety as He brought me through my roommates attempted suicide and the changes in my life after. I feel that He has been doing for me what I could not do for myself since. I am truly grateful.

Theol J: Which one or ones did you believe were unobtainable when you started?

Frances J: First of all, I didn't realize those were the 9th step promises. I have learned that there are promises on almost every page of the Big Book. I would read ahead and think they were coming true. As I was working through my 9th step, I had a shift in thinking that helped me to recognize they would continue to come true in bigger ways, with much more ease.

Frances closed with sharing what she thought was the biggest promise of the book. After reading from page xiii in the foreword to the first edition, “We, of Alcoholics Anonymous, are more than one hundred men and women who have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body.”, she cleared her throat a bit and reflected. She continued with much excitement in her voice “Man this is telling me more than one hundred people recovered from this disease!” I believed if they could do it, it could work for me. “Now I know that there are millions, all over the whole world!” I was even more confident I could recover. “But I realized, they did not do it alone and neither could I!” She drew emphasis to the fact that first word in the foreword to the first edition was “We”, not I.

We set for a while more listening to the insects, watching birds and together we were sober for another day.

District Committee

DCM Debbie M
Alt DCM Sunny T
Secretary Kathleen P
Treasurer David M
Webmaster Jorde M
Intergroup Dan C
Newsletter Theol J
Literature Katie H
Grapevine Holly H
CFC Mike G
Treatment Open
PICPC **Open**
Archives **Open**

Grapevine Cartoon Winner July 2017



"He read in the Big Book where alcoholics are brighter than most and he hasn't shut the light off since."—Anonymous

Area Birthday Locations By Month

Jan.-Phelan Road Group
Feb.-LaGrange Gratitude Group
Mar.-Friday Night Group
April-Lost Pines Group
May-Smithville Group
June-Giddings
July-On The Colorado (OTC)
Aug.-LaGrange Colorado Valley
Sept.-Sunday Morning Sidewalk
Oct.-The Elgin Group
Nov.-Smithville Group
Dec. - Legacies Group

Meeting Places in Smithville, TX



On The Colorado (OTC)

591 West Loop 230
Smithville, TX 78957
713-203-7943

Sunday 12:00PM O NS, 8:00PM GV S
Monday 12:00 PM O D
Tuesday 12:00 PM O D, 6:00PM W O, 8:00 PM O S
Wednesday 12:00 PM O D, 8:00 PM ST S,
Thursday 12:00 PM OD
Friday 12:00PM OD NS, 8:00PM O S
Saturday 10:00AM CM S, 12:00PM OD S, 8:00 PM OD,
1st Saturday SP S, 3rd Sat BD S

Smithville Group

First Presbyterian Church
300 Burleson Street
Smithville, TX 78957
512-284-0048

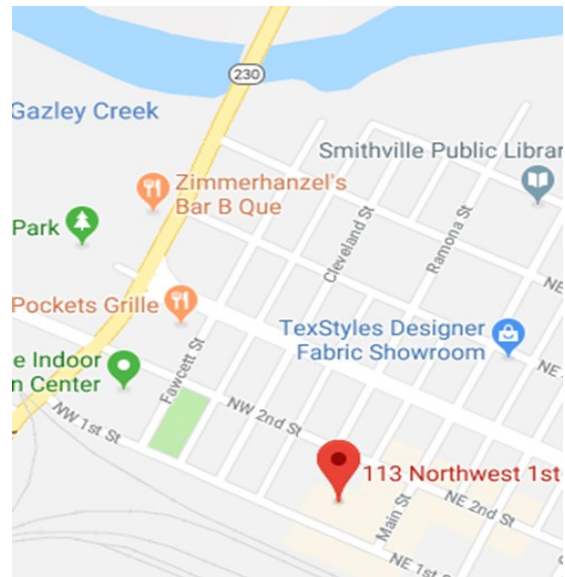


Hope Floats

113 NW 1st Street
Smithville, TX 78957

Monday 7:30 PM

Monday 8:00 PM OD
Thursday 8:00 PM OD



12x12=Step/Trad BB=Big Book BD=Birthday BG=Beginner C=Closed CL=Candlelight D=Discussion ES=Espanol
GLBT=GLBT GV=Grapevine M=Men's O=Open S=Smoking SP=Speaker STEP=Step TRAD=Traditions
W=Women's WA=Wheelchair Accessible

Need to Share a special event or meeting going on at your Home Group?

Never fear your District Website is here!!!

If you have a flyer or event that you would like to add to our District calendar, please send the information or flyer to our Newsletter Chair Theol J. at Theol_Jackman@hotmail.com

Also if you have some spare time check out our District 29 website. It is very user friendly and informative.

Raffle Items Needed!!!

34th Annual Fellowship in the Pines Conference

October 5th-7th, 2018

@ River Bend Park, Smithville

Raffle items can be given to Bess I.

Call, text or email for questions

(512) 497 - 9174

bessirwin1982@gmail.com

<http://www.fellowshipinthepines.org/>