



DISTRICT 29 NEWSLETTER

www.district29aa.org , January 2018



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

Step 1: *We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.*

Tradition 1: *Our common welfare should come first: personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.*

Concept 1: *Final Responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.*

If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we half way through

Promise 1 : *We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.*

Welcome to District 29, Panel 68 but “What is a Panel?”

DCM Report

What is a "Panel" and what does it mean? We say it all the time in Alcoholics Anonymous. Likely when we are introducing someone in one of service meetings or other meeting; we would say this is so and so; they are the blank from District blank, Area blank, "Panel" such and such. You have a whole a lot of words describing a person or elections. We have heard numerous positions of service. We know what a District is and we also have heard about Area. But what in the world is that "Panel thing" we hear mentioned often. Where better to start investigating what a "Panel" really is but www.AA.org.

So I found on the A.A. Website the ***“AA’s Legacy of Service”*** pamphlet which can also be found in ***“The A.A. Service Manual Combined With The Twelve Concepts for World Service”***, both pieces of literature were written by Bill W. In our literature there is sections called ***Birth of the Conference*** where Bill W. explains the term “Panels”.

It states on page S11 in ***“The A.A. Service Manual”*** 2014-2015 edition, ***“It was one thing to say we ought to have a General Service Conference, but it was quite another to devise a plan which would bring it into successful existence. The cost of holding one was easily dismissed, but how on earth were we going to cut down destructive politics, with all its***

usual struggles for prestige and vainglory? How many delegates would be required and from where should they come? Arrived at New York, how could they be related to the board of trustees? What would be their actual power and duties?

With these several weighty considerations in mind, and with some misgivings. I commenced work on a draft of a plan, much assisted by Helen B., an A.A. staff member.

Though the Conference might be later enlarged to include the whole world, we felt that the first delegates should come from the U.S. and Canada only. Each state and province might be allowed one delegate. Those containing heavy A.A. populations could have additional delegates. To give the Conference continuity, delegates could be divided into panels. An odd-numbered panel (Panel One) elected for two years, would be invited for 1951, the first year. An even-numbered panel (Panel Two), elected for two years, would be seated in 1952. Thereafter, one panel would be elected and one would be retired yearly. This would cause the Conference to rotate, while maintaining some continuity.”

So this describes what a "Panel" in Alcoholics Anonymous is as explained by Bill W. Just like the program...when Dr. Bob advised Bill W. while on his death bed "for God's sake Bill let's Keep this thing Simple - thus the slogan "Keep It Simple" and that is what Bill W. did.

I am very excited to start my journey serving as DCM (District Committee Member) for District 29, Panel 68, Area 68. To be a trusted servant of District 29 and to carry your thoughts and concerns to the Area and bring back information to our District is a true honor.

Attracting more people into service with the fun and laughter that I have experienced is a hope of mine. Also I plan to serve our fellowship in District 29 to the best of my abilities. I look forward to visiting all the groups in our District, listening to their needs and/or wants and letting them know the District Committee is here to serve them.

When I started doing service it was at the Group level as Chairperson, ash-tray washer, and so on. Soon I was doing service with the District as their secretary. The DCM at that time could not hear well and I could not see so we did make a great pair of servants. Watching the two of us was at times very comical. Service has definitely been a great tool that I use in my sobriety. It gets me out of myself and into helping others, which in turn helps me.

Service has been described as a spiritual entity with a little bit of business and of course with sprinkles of fun and laughter (yes I added that to the end.) I have heard that from many people and I have found that to be true. I look forward to working with you all and I am always here to help and listen.

Your trusted and grateful servant,
Debbie M. ,DCM for District 29, Panel 68.

Open District Committee Chair Descriptions

These positions are open as of January 6, 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.

Correctional Facilities

Coordinates Bastrop County Jail meetings, Bastrop County Jail Officials and maintains updated list of volunteers. Coordinates with Federal Prison Officials to take meetings into the federal facility. Schedules regular meetings of the CFC Committee made up of District 29 Group CFC Representatives.

Provides A.A. literature to correctional facilities.

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.

Newsletter

Prepares and edits monthly District 29 Newsletter as outlined in detail in the current District 29 Procedures and Guidelines. Chair should have computer software capable of the compilation of the Newsletter. Coordinates with all District Committees on input and deadlines for the Newsletter.

Hill Country Intergroup Representative

Hill Country Intergroup (HCI) Representative represents District 29 by attendance at monthly HCI meetings. Provides information to the District about local A.A. community events and other events of interest including volunteer opportunities.

A **sponsor** is somebody who sees through you and still sees you through.

Robert E., Blacksburg, VA, March 199
Page 134 "A Rabbit Walks Into A Bar"
Best Jokes and Cartoons from AA Grapevine

A New Year Jingle

By: Francis J

Happy, happy, happy New Year!

We really don't need the wine
and the beer

The old fierce desire will come
back to win

If we drink that bottle of gin
Some will say, "Yes, Yes, Yes!"

But we know it made our lives a
terrible mess.

So, if you're thinking of running
out that door

Sit down and do a thorough step
Four

God and A.A. is the answer

Sober, we can be quite the
dancer!!!

Love and service is the key

It's no longer I – it is a We!

There is One who has all Power!

He helps us make it hour by
hour!

Happy Sober 2018!

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 informa-
tion or flyer to our Webmaster,
Jorde M. please send it to his email
at webmaster@district29aa.org

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

Area Birthday Locations By Month



Jan 13 - Speaker Meeting
Lost Pines Group

Jan 12-14 - SWTA 68 Winter
Workshop
Holiday Inn Marina
Corpus Christi, TX

Jan 16 - Service Study Manual Mtg.
@7:30pm
Timberline Fellowship
Church, Bastrop, TX

Feb 3 - Speaker Meeting
On The Colorado (OTC)

Feb 10 - Speaker Meeting
Lost Pines Group

Feb 11 - District Meeting @ 1:30pm
TBD To Be Determined

Feb 16 - Speaker Meeting
Elgin Group

Feb 16-18 - SWTA 68 CFC
Conference
Brownwood, TX

Feb 20 - Service Study Manual Mtg.
@7:30pm
Timberline Fellowship
Church, Bastrop, TX

Next month, Giddings and Elgin, TX

archives@district29aa.org
newsletter@district29aa.org
literature@district29aa.org
grapevine@district29aa.org
intergroup@district29aa.org
webmaster@district29aa.org