



CBIA, 3833 S. Staples Suite S-212, Corpus Christi, TX 78411 (361) 992- 8911 or Toll Free 1 (866) 672-7029 www.cbias.org

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

Letting Go

(An “Aha” moment compliments of the Dog)

I had a desire to stop drinking on November 6th 1979.

In the beginning of my working the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, I was having a hard time grasping what people were telling me. I was hearing lots of new ideas but couldn't use them. The one idea I heard daily from everyone I talked to was “Let go and let God.”

Since I had big problems in every area of my life, it was important that I figure this out.

One day I opened the door to let my dog in. He was straining desperately at the end of the leash. I realized that I would harm him if I took any action before he relaxed. As soon as he relaxed just a little bit, I set him free.

I had an “Aha” moment as I realized that I did the same thing when I wanted God to take over some problem I was praying about, and that God couldn't help me and set me free until I relaxed just a little bit – just like my dog.

I came to realize that my prayers had nothing to do with surrendering my life to God, but were instead a list of instructions as to how I expected God to resolve my problems. I found that the one-word prayer “Help!” was all I needed, along with another one-word prayer “Thanks!”

Humility and gratitude are two of the most powerful gifts that the AA program has given me. They work in any situation I find myself in.

I finally got the message that my job is just to let go and once I do, God does the job without my help.

- Dianne M. (11.6.1979) New Women's Group, Corpus Christi, Texas

Editor's note: Dianne died in October 2010. This article originally appeared in the BENDER in the July 2006 edition.

Step 12

Service & Community

Step 12: Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

STEP 12 IS ABOUT SERVICE AND COMMUNITY. It brings an end to isolation and gives me a sense of being a contributing member of society. I'm no longer just visiting this planet.

I NEEDED TO GET RID OF MY OLD IDEAS ABOUT SERVICE. I used to serve with an agenda -- to make me look good or to create a debt. "You'll owe me big time for this"; "After all I've done for you the least you could do . . ." Early in recovery, I had an evangelical period where I tried to save people. ("Give me a tambourine and a tent.") I drug a few people to meetings and tried to make them see the light. Trying to help people who didn't want to be helped was like trying to teach a pig to sing. I wasted my time and annoyed the pig. Somebody told me about our tradition of attraction rather than promotion and told me that no matter how many people I brought to the program I would not get a free toaster.

THE SPIRIT OF STEP 12 SERVICE IS "I'M NOT ESSENTIAL AND I MAKE A DIFFERENCE." I can be replaced (e.g., when my commitment is up) and the world is a little better place because of my contribution. (At least we had coffee on Tuesday nights.) **STEP 12 SERVICE HAS NO HIDDEN AGENDA:** "You don't owe me anything. Someday you will be able to help somebody else." An exercise that helped me get this was to do something nice for somebody every day and not get found out. If I got found out, I had to do something else.

HAVING HAD A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AS A RESULT OF THESE STEPS. You cannot give away something you do not have. Albert Schweitzer once said "When it comes to influencing other people, example is not the main thing. Example is the only thing." Until I had worked ALL the steps with a sponsor, I really did not know what is available out of working the program or even how it works. This greatly impaired my ability to carry the message. All of my spiritual awakenings, started out as rude awakenings. The truth will set you free, but first it will piss you off. The steps make it possible to transform my rude awakenings into spiritual awakenings.

WE TRIED TO CARRY THIS MESSAGE TO (ALCOHOLICS). To keep it you have to give it away. Every time I share my recovery I get it again. I remember where I came from. I remember the things that got me sober, which are the same things that will keep me sober, day by day, year after year. I remember the miracles God has performed in my life. Often when I'm speaking about one of the suggestions of the program, I tell myself "Listen up, Robby. You

should be doing that.” Then I scramble to have my actions catch up with my words.

DIRECT SERVICE is sharing my experience, strength and hope with another alcoholic: Speaking at a speaker meeting, sharing at a discussion meeting, talking one-on-one with someone I sponsor; talking with a newcomer after a meeting; etc. More than anything (except for my relationship with God), direct service helps me stay sober. Every time I share my recovery I get it again. I remember where I came from and what happened: how God took me to AA and then how AA took me to God; how the 12 Steps of AA continuously make me available to the Grace of God and make my life worth staying sober for.

BACKROOM SERVICE is the behind the scenes work that keeps the program functioning: setting up the room, making coffee, cleaning up after the meeting, serving on a committee or being a treasurer, a Group Service Representative (GSR), a District Committee Member (DCM), or a Delegate. This kind of service has made me feel a part of and made me feel like I've made some progress at paying back AA for what it has done for me. However, this is no substitute for DIRECT SERVICE when it comes to keeping me sober.

WE TRIED TO PRACTICE THESE PRINCIPLES IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS. It's not enough for me to be the kind of person my dog thinks I am, the person I aspire to be, the person God created me to be ONLY in the context of the program. I have to be that way when I'm driving on South Padre Island Drive during the evening rush hour and someone cuts in front of me without signaling. I have to be true to my best self when I'm visiting a relative. I even have to be that way in the express check-out at HEB (a grocery store. I seem to be less often upset since I stopped counting the items in the cart in front of me).

I am an integral, functional part of the whole, a contributing member of society. I try to

- do my share of the chores;
- be a team I player;
- clean up after myself;
- honor my commitments and keep my word.

This has made me a worker among workers, a friend among friends. After all, whatever I do in AA, I will always just be another recovering alcoholic and just another member of the group and just another member of the fellowship. The highest you can go in AA is sober.

Nothing gets me out of my head and takes me away from my obsession with my stuff -- my problems, my issues, and my little plans and designs, like doing service work. It gives me a more realistic and grateful perspective on my own life and frees me up to do the next right thing and allow God's plan to unfold before me, as if by magic.

MINUTES

CBIA BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING

October 12th 2015

I. OPENING: (6:00PM)

- **Johnie** opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by Serenity Prayer
- **Phyllis** read the CBIA Mission Statement
- **Joe** read the 12 Traditions

II. ATTENDANCE:

- **Johnie S.** (*Chair*), **Joe R.** (*Vice Chair*), **Tom K.** (*Treasurer*), **Ed B.** (*Trustee*), **Ginger S.** (*Trustee*), **Phyllis H.** (*Trustee*) and **Rob M.** (*Office Manager*) were present.
- **Jimmy M.** (*Trustee*) and **Kelly J.** (*Assistant Office Manager*) were not present.

III. MINUTES:

- Minutes of Board Meeting of September 14th were reviewed.
 - **Phyllis** moved to approve the minutes as read. **Joe** seconded. Motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- **Tom** presented the September Financial Report.
- **Balance Sheet:** Total CBIA funds as of September 30th were \$20,101.21; \$50.00 in Petty Cash; \$4,984.17 in Checking; \$12,601.20 in Prudent Reserve and \$2,465.84 in the Jamboree Account.
- **Profit & Loss** for the month:
 - **Group & Individual Contributions** \$819.48
 - **NOTE:** Only 7 / 113 groups contributed this month; only 33 / 113 Groups contributed year-to-date.)
 - **Sales** (*Books, Chips & Medallions*) \$1,735.25 (*less Cost of Goods Sold \$1,251.76*) for a gain of \$1,302.97;
 - **Total Operating Expenses** for the month were \$3,557.03.
 - **Net Loss** for the Month was \$2,254.06.
- **Ginger** moved to approve the Financial Report. **Joe** seconded. Motion carried.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **12th Step:** **Phyllis** is still working on updating the 12-Step List.
- **Archives:** **Johnie** had nothing to report.
- **Bilingual:** **Joe** had nothing to report.
- **Coastal Bender:** **Ed** said the Bender went out on time.
- **Corrections/Treatment Facilities:** **Joe** said all is going well with the two corrections facilities he is supporting (*Avalon (formerly called Reality Ranch) and SATF-CC*).
- **Group Outreach:** **Tom** asked the Trustees to bring their updated Group Outreach worksheets to the next meeting. **Rob** will photocopy them for Tom.
- **Jamboree:** **Jimmy** was not present.

- **Nominations:** Jimmy was not present.
- **Public Information/Cooperate with Professional Community:** Johnie said the Area PI/CPC Convention was an amazing success. There were 40 professionals at the luncheon at Water Street. Steve (*Area PI/CPC Chair*) spoke at the luncheon. 67 AA members attended the workshops held at St. John's United Methodist Church. Patrick (*Area 67 Past Delegate*) spoke Friday night.
- **Social:** Ginger asked that Rob give her a check for St. Bart's for \$100 (*deposit on room rental for New Year's Dance*) and a check for Parkway Presbyterian for \$100 (*deposit on room rental for Halloween Dance*). He did so.
- **Web Site:** Tom said he might be able to demo a prototype of the new web site on his iPad at our next meeting. Rob said he learned at the ICO Seminar (*see Office Report below*) that the Hill Country Intergroup in Austin has just rolled out a new web site which has a very slick meeting finder function. Gary (*HCI Manager*) said they would provide us a patch to Word Press for that functionality.

VI. OFFICE REPORT:

- **Office Update** – Rob said the Intergroup/Central Office Managers Seminar was very informative and is helping him network with peers around the country. They all have seen a decline in literature sales, attributed to the availability of e-books. They all struggle with group outreach. One idea that might work for us is the mobile bookstore that the Dallas Central Office has started: once a month they take books to a group in the outlying area and an hour before and an hour after the meeting they sell AA and Grapevine books. (*By prior arrangement is required for a significant number of a single book.*)

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- Phyllis moved to limit CBIA book sales to AA Conference-Approved Literature and AA Grapevine Literature. Tom seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

IX. NEXT BOARD MEETING:

- Next CBIA Board of Trustees meeting Monday November 9th 2015 at 6:00 PM in the CBIA Office.

X. NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING:

- Next CBIA Quarterly Association meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM on Monday October 26th at All Saints Episcopal Church (*3026 S Staples*).

XI. CLOSING:

- Ed moved to adjourn. Tom seconded. Motion carried.
- Johnie closed the meeting with prayer at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob M.

Office Manager

MINUTES

CBIA QUARTERLY MEETING

October 26th 2015

I. OPENING: (6:00PM)

- **Johnie** opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer.
- **Hud** read the CBIA Mission Statement.
- **Laurie** read the 12 Traditions.

II. ATTENDANCE:

- **Johnie S.** (*Chair*), **Joe R.** (*Vice Chair*), **Tom K.** (*Treasurer*), **Ed B.** (*Trustee*), **Ginger S.** (*Trustee*), **Phyllis H.** (*Trustee*), **Hud H.** (*GSR – Beeville Shepherd's Group*), **K.C. H.** (*DCM-8E and GSR: CC-New Life Group*), **Patrick R.** (*IGR: CC-New Phoenix Group*), **Eileen H.** (*IGR: CC-Cullen Mall Group*), **Mario R.** (*DCM-8C and Premont Group*), **Lavoyger D.** (*Falfurrias Group*), **Laurie H.** (*GSR: CC-Flour Bluff Unity Group*), **Laura G.** (*IGR: CC-Weber Nooners Group*), **Rob M.** (*Office Manager*) and **Kelly J.** (*Asst Office Manager*) were present.
- **Jimmy M.** (*Trustee*) was not present.

III. MINUTES:

- Approved minutes of Quarterly Meeting of July 27th were reviewed.
- Minutes of Board Meeting of October 12th were reviewed.
 - **Phyllis** moved to approve the minutes as read. **Ed** seconded. Motion carried.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- **Tom** presented the **approved September** Financial Report.
- **Balance Sheet:** Total CBIA funds as of September 30th were \$20,101.21; \$50.00 in Petty Cash; \$4,984.17 in Checking; \$12,601.20 in Prudent Reserve and \$2,465.84 in the Jamboree Account.

- **Profit & Loss** for the month:

- **Group & Individual Contributions** \$819.48

NOTE: Only 7 / 113 groups contributed this month; only 33 / 113 Groups contributed year-to-date.

- **Sales** (*Books, Chips & Medallions*) \$1,735.25 (*less Cost of Goods Sold \$1,251.76*) for a gain of \$1,302.97;
- **Total Operating Expenses** for the month were \$3,557.03.
- **Net Loss** for the Month was \$2,254.06.

V. TRUSTEE ELECTION

- **Johnie** followed the Third Legacy Procedure to elect three new trustees to two-year terms starting in January 2016. There were three people present standing for the three available positions:
 - **Hud H.** (*Beeville Shepherd's Group*),
 - **Laurie H.** (*CC-Flour Bluff Unity Group*), and

- **Lavoyger D.** (*Falfurrias Group*).
- **Joe** moved to elect the three candidates by acclamation. **Patrick** seconded. Motion carried.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **12th Step:** **Phyllis** said she had nothing to report.
- **Archives:** **Johnie** said she has received from the San Antonio Central Service Office an original pamphlet called **The Way Out** which was distributed by the Corpus Christi Group (*the first group in CC*) in the 1940's.
- **Bilingual:** **Joe R.** said he had nothing to report.
- **Coastal Bender:** **Ed B.** said he had nothing to report.
- **Corrections/Treatment Facilities:** **Joe** said there were no problems with the SATF and Avalon (*Reality Ranch*) meetings he supports.
- **Group Outreach:** **Tom** said 33 of 113 groups have contributed to CBIA this year.
- **Jamboree:** **Jimmy** was not present.
- **Nominations:** **Jimmy** was not present.
- **Public Information/Cooperate with Professional Community:** **Johnie** said she had nothing to report.
- **Social:** **Ginger** said the CBIA was sponsoring a Halloween Dance at Parkway Presbyterian Church on Saturday October 31st. Amy from Victoria will speak at 7:00 and the dance will start at 8:00. The cost is \$5 (*children under 12 are free and scholarships are available*). Service opportunities are still available.
- **Web Site:** **Tom** said he planned to demo a prototype of the new web site at the November board meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

- None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- None.

IX. NEXT BOARD MEETING:

- Next CBIA Board of Trustees meeting Monday November 9th 2015 at 6:00 PM in the CBIA Office.

X. NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING:

- Next CBIA Quarterly Association meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM on Monday January 25th at All Saints Episcopal Church (*3026 S Staples*).

XI. CLOSING:

- **Ed** moved to adjourn. **Phyllis** seconded. Motion carried.
- **Johnie** closed the meeting with prayer at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob M.

Office Manager



Bender Bits & Pieces



Holiday Happenings

Cullen Mall Holiday Candlelight Gratitude Meeting (*Wednesday, December 16th in CC*) *

The Cullen Mall Group will host its annual Holiday Candlelight Gratitude Meeting at 8:00 PM on Wednesday, December 16th in the scout hut behind Parkway Presbyterian Church (3707 Santa Fe at Brawner Parkway in Corpus Christi). Arrive early to get a seat at this popular meeting. (*See enclosed flier.*)

Flour Bluff Unity Group Christmas Day (*Friday, December 25th in CC*)

The Flour Bluff Unity Group will have a Christmas Dinner at the Anchor Club (320 Anchor Street in Corpus Christi) on December 25th, after the noon meeting.

Humility Group Christmas Day (*Friday, December 25th in CC*)

The Humility Group will have a Christmas meal after its noon meeting on December 25th at their facility (2777D S. Staples Street at Annapolis in Bel Air Center in Corpus Christi). Bring a side dish or dessert if you wish.

Rockport Fellowship Group Christmas Day (*Friday, December 25th in Rockport*) ? ? ?

The Rockport Fellowship Group will have its annual Christmas Dinner after the noon meeting on Friday, December 25th at 814 Wharf Street in Rockport. Bring a side dish or dessert if you wish.

CBIA Office Closed (*Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st in CC*)

The Coastal Bend Intergroup Office will be closed Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st in observation of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays. The helpline committee will answer the phones while the office is closed. The office will re-open at 7:30 AM on Monday, December 28th and January 4th for normal business hours.

Weber Nooners Holiday Meetings at 10:00 AM (*Friday, Dec. 25th and Friday, Jan. 1st*)

The Weber Road Nooners Group will have 10:00 AM holiday meetings on Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st in addition to the regularly scheduled noon meetings on those days. The Weber Road Nooners Group meets on the second floor of Travis Baptist Church (5802 Weber Road at Schanen).



Bender Bits & Pieces



Holiday Happenings

Hilltoppers No Meetings when Church is Closed (*Friday, Dec. 25th, Monday, Dec. 28th and Friday, Jan. 1st*)

The Hilltoppers Group does not have meetings on days when the church is closed for holidays – Friday, December 25th, Monday December 28th and Friday, January 1st. Hilltoppers meets in First Methodist Church (*900 S. Shoreline, Room 244*).

CBIA New Year's Dance (*Thursday December 31st in CC*)

The Coastal Bend Intergroup Association is hosting a New Year's Eve Dance at 8:00 PM on Thursday December 31st at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church (*822 Airline in Corpus Christi*). Special Speaker will be Gale S. from Austin (*formerly from CC*). Admission will be \$7 (*children under 12 are free*).

The Dance Committee will meet at the Alanos Cottage (1635 18th Street) at 2:00 PM on Saturday December 5th, 12th and 19th. Service opportunities are available. Be a part of creating this fun event.



Bender Bits & Pieces



Special Events

Cullen Mall Holiday Candlelight Gratitude Meeting (*Wednesday, December 16th in CC*) *

The Cullen Mall Group will host its annual Holiday Candlelight Gratitude Meeting at 8:00 PM on Wednesday, December 16th in the scout hut behind Parkway Presbyterian Church (3707 Santa Fe at Brawner Parkway in Corpus Christi). Arrive early to get a seat at this popular meeting. (See enclosed flier.)

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2015 Coastal Bend Jamboree (*January 22nd – 24th 2016 in CC*) *

The 62nd Annual Coastal Bend Jamboree will be held January 22nd – 24th. After a year at the Holiday Inn Marina, the Jamboree will return to the newly-renovated third floor of the Omni Bayfront Hotel. This popular conference is the premier event each year in Coastal Bend Area AA and must not be missed. The hotel is offering a special conference rate of \$115 through January 1st with Group Code 14500812528. (Registration Form attached.)

Some of us who know we will be attending the Jamboree and have the funds are registering now. It would help with the Jamboree's cash flow if you can do that. For the first time, it is now possible to register on-line via Pay Pal at the Jamboree web site (www.cbjamboree.org)

2016 SWTA 68 Winter Workshop (*January 29th – 31st in San Antonio*)

The 2016 Southwest Texas Area 68 Winter Workshop will be held at the [San Antonio Marriot Northwest](#) (3233 NW Loop 410) on January 29th – 31st. The theme will be "SERVICE: A new freedom and a new happiness!" The conference room rate is \$109 per night with code SWTA68.



Bender Bits & Pieces



Service Opportunities

2016 Coastal Bend Jamboree Committee (2nd Saturday of each Month in CC)

The 2016 Jamboree Committee meets at 9:30 AM on the 2nd Saturday of each month from now until the Jamboree (January 22nd – 24th, 2016) at the Alanos Cottage 1635 18th Street in Corpus Christi. Some service positions are still available.

Volunteers Needed to Carry the Message in Corrections Facilities

Volunteers are needed to carry the message to alcoholics in corrections facilities. You must be at least 18 years old and not been in trouble with the law (*arrested, incarcerated, pending, etc.*) for at least 18 months. In these situations, men work with men and women work with women.

SATF – Corpus Christi

- **Attend Meetings** to support separate men's and women's meetings at 8:00 PM on alternate Fridays. (*NA provides meetings every other Friday.*) (*New development: prior clearance is now required to attend meetings at SATF.*)
- **Activity Sponsors** take people to meetings once a week or so. (*Minimum one year sober and prior clearance.*)
- **Step Sponsors** work the steps with people. (*Minimum two years sober and prior clearance.*)

Avalon (Formerly Reality Ranch) – Corpus Christi

- **Attend Meetings** to support a men's meeting at 8:00 PM every Sunday. (*Prior clearance is required.*)

Live Oak County Jail – George West

- **Attend Meetings** to support a men's meeting at 7:00 PM every Wednesdays. (*Prior clearance is required.*)



Bender Bits & Pieces



Service Opportunities (Continued)

Volunteers Needed to Carry the Message in Corrections Facilities (Continued)

If you are interested in any of these service opportunities,

- Women should contact District 8D Corrections Chair Joyce T. (*Calallen Group*).
- Men should call CBIA Corrections Trustee Joe R. (*Alanos Group*) for facilities in Corpus Christi.
- Men should call Dist 8E Corrections Chair Jesse T. (*Choke Canyon Group*) for Live Oak County Jail.

Where clearance is required, provide Joyce or Joe or Jesse your full name, as it appears on your driver's license and your driver's license number and state at least a week prior to service. We cannot publish personal phone numbers or email addresses due to anonymity / media concerns. However, you can call the CBIA office (361) 992-8911 during business hours (*M-F 7:30 – 11:30 AM and 1:30 – 5:30 PM*)

Local Stories Wanted for the BENDER

Consider writing your recovery story or an article on an AA topic for publication in this newsletter. Submit your article to cbia@grandecom.net in a Word document or similar format.

Helpline / 12 Step List

The Helpline is staffed by volunteers who are making sure that the hand of AA is available 24 hours a day in the Coastal Bend area by answering the phones overnight (*5 PM to 8 AM*) and on weekends (*8 AM Saturday to 8 AM Sunday; or 8 AM Sunday to 8 AM Monday*). A minimum of six months sobriety is required to answer the phones. The helpline is pretty well staffed at present.

If someone needs help beyond meeting information, the helpline passes them to someone on the 12-Step List for a longer conversation and maybe a visit to discuss how to get sober and stay sober. A minimum of two years sobriety is required to be on the 12-Step List. We can always use more people on the 12-Step List. We especially need people (*particularly women*) in the surrounding area (*like Beeville and Alice*). If you would like to be on the 12-Step List or on the Helpline, call Rob or Kelly at the CBIA Office (361) 992-8911 or (866) 672-7029.



Bender Bits & Pieces



District Meetings

District 7 (Saturday, December 19th in Victoria)

District 7's next meeting will be on Saturday, December 19th at 9:30 AM. There will be Service Manual Study at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held at Christ the Victor Church (202 Stanly in Victoria). Area Secretary Tony R. will be there.

District 8C Next Meeting (Saturday, January 9th in Kingsville)

District 8C's next meeting will be on Saturday, January 9th at 1:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Serenity Club (819 N. Third Street in Kingsville).

District 8D Next Meeting (Saturday December 19th in CC)

District 8D's next meeting will be at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 19th at New Phoenix (5433 S. Staples, Suite F, in Corpus Christi). Area 68 SW Texas Chair Jonathan S. will facilitate District Inventory.

District 8E (Saturday, December 5th in CC)

District 8E will meet at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 5th at the Anchor Club (320 Anchor St. in Corpus Christi). Trustee-Elect Yolanda F. will facilitate District Inventory.

District 15 Next Meeting (Saturday, November 21st in Port A.)

District 15's next meeting will be at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 19th at Peace Lutheran Church (1302 Market Street in Rockport.)



Bender Bits & Pieces



Save the Dates

*(Future Events - Fliers included for events flagged with an *.)*

Cullen Mall Holiday Candlelight Gratitude Meeting *(Wednesday, Dec. 16th in CC) **

CBIA New Year's Eve Dance *(Thursday, December 31st in CC)*

2016 Coastal Bend Jamboree *(January 22nd - 24th 2016 in CC) **

2016 SW Texas Area 68 Winter Workshop *(January 29th -31st 2016 in SA) **

2016 Texas State AA Convention *(June 24th – 26th 2016 in Austin) **

AA Meeting Schedules for Our Area

Current AA meeting schedules for areas serviced by the Coastal Bend Intergroup are attached:

- **AA Meetings in Corpus Christi ***
- **AA Meetings in CC Surrounding Area ***
- **AA Meetings in Victoria & Surrounding Area ***

Coastal BENDER Mission Statement

Our primary purpose is to carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic. A secondary purpose of The Bender is to keep the CBIA Area of South Texas informed as to the events, meeting changes, Board of Trustee actions / decisions, and other news of interest to AA's in the area. Finally, as a newsletter we provide a forum for the broad spectrum of views held by our members. Publication of any article submitted will be at the discretion of the Bender Editor as advised by the CBIA Board. A controversial subject, as long as it does not concern an outside issue and involves principles and not personalities, will be considered for publication. As a general guideline, any letter or article that is of interest to members of AA and in good taste is worthy of publication. However, an article or letter that advocates ignoring or violating the Traditions, Concepts, or General Service Conference actions will not be considered for publication. All decisions will be made under the direction of God as expressed through our group conscience.



Diana M.	Saratoga Group	12/04/1998	17 Years
Susan W.	District 15	12/04/2010	5 Years
Jimmy G.	District 15	12/04/1988	27 Years
Trent H.	Hilltoppers Group	12/13/2003	12 Years
Jimmy M.	Port Lavaca Group	12/14/1987	28 Years
Gary G.	District 15	12/14/2005	10 Years
Bill S.	Corpus Christi	12/15/2005	10 Years
James H.	Bookmarks Group	12/17/1993	22 Years
Barbara J.	New women's Group	12/17/1988	27 Years
Debbie G.	District 15	12/18/1982	33 Years
Bill J.	Kingsville AL-K Group	12/19/1975	40 Years
Jane D.	New Life Group	12/20/2008	7 Years
Kym J.	Weber Nooners Group	12/21/1998	17 Years
Joe M.	Nueces Bay Group	12/21/1980	35 Years
Norma M.	District 15	12/22/1978	36 Years
Carole H.	Hilltoppers Group	12/23/2006	9 Years
Russ	Just For Today	12/24/1984	31 Years
Rose R.	Rockport Fellowship	12/26/1984	31 Years
Paul B.	Oso Group	12/27/1989	26 Years
Theresa	Just For Today Group	12/30/2007	8 Years
Tony G.	New Phoenix Group	12/30/1991	24 Years
Dan D.	Weber Nooners	12/31/1972	43 Years

Don't see your group's birthdays? For best results e-mail your birthday to CBIA at cbia@grandecom.net.

November 2015

	<u>OFFICE HOURS/Dist. 7</u>		<u>AFTER HOURS</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
12 TH STEP CALLS	5	0	0/0	48/5
INFORMATIONAL CALLS	157	14	<i>After Hours only tracks 12th Step calls.</i>	

Intergroup Meetings

CBIA Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting will be held Monday December 14th at 6:00 PM in the CBIA Office (3833 S. Staples, Suite S-212).

CBIA Quarterly Association Meeting will be held Monday January 25th 2016 at 6:00 PM at All Saints Episcopal Church (3026 S. Staples in CC). Each group gets a vote at this meeting.

District Meetings

See Bits & Pieces section for information on district meetings in the Coastal Bend area:

- District 7** (Victoria Area)
- District 8C** (Kingsville - Alice Area)
- District 8D** (Corpus Christi Area)
- District 8E** (Corpus Christi Area)
- District 15** (Portland, Port A, AP, Rockport Area)

Group Announcements

New Phoenix Group Conscience is held the last Sunday of the month at 2:00PM. **BirthDay Night** is first Saturday of the month at 8:00PM. **Potluck Supper** is second Saturday of the month at 7:00 PM. (5433 S. Staples, Suite F in The Boardwalk.)

Hilltoppers Group Conscience is the 1st Tuesday of the month following the Noon meeting. (First United Methodist Church, 900 S. Shoreline Dr., Room 244)

Weber Road Nooners Group Conscience is held the 1st Saturday of each Quarter (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) following the 10:00AM meeting. **Birthdays** are celebrated the first Monday of each month at noon. (Travis Baptist Church, 5802 Weber Road at Schanen, park in rear, meeting upstairs.)

Calallen Group Conscience is held the 3rd Wednesday of each month following the 6:30PM meeting. **BirthDay Night** is the 1st Saturday of the month. (Potluck at 6:30PM, Meeting at 8:00PM). (Pass it on Club, 11425 Leopard (Hilltop).

Flour Bluff Unity Group Conscience is held the 2nd Sunday of each month at noon. **BirthDay Night** is the 1st Saturday of the month with **Potluck Supper** at 7:00 PM and **BirthDay Meeting** at 8:00PM at The Anchor Club (320 Anchor St. in CC).

Turning Point Group Conscience is held the 1st Wednesday of each month. **BirthDay Meeting** is last Saturday of the month.

Group Contributions		
GROUP NAME	Nov. 2015	YTD 2015
Alice Group		
Anonymous/Individual Contribution		439.08
Aransas Pass Group		76.82
Beeville-Freedom Group		
Beeville-Hope Group		
Beeville-Serenity Group		
Beeville-Shepherd's Group		
CC-Alanos	300.00	300.00
CC-Bookmarks Group	80.00	123.00
CC-Calallen Group		
CC-Clean & Serene Group		
CC-Crosstown Group		
CC-Cullen Mall Group	70.00	490.00
CC-Daily Reprieve Group		100.00
CC-Day of AA		100.00
CC-Early Morning Fellowship		
CC-Fellowship Group at Charlie's Place		
CC-Fifth Tradition Group		409.69
CC-Flour Bluff Unity Group		
CC-Friday Night Speaker Meeting		
CC-Hilltoppers Group		969.45
CC-Humility Group		
CC-Just for Today Group		
CC-Mountain Toppers		100.00
CC-Newcomers Meeting		
CC-New Life Group		85.00
CC-New Phoenix Group	40.00	342.00
CC-New Women's Group	106.20	812.79
CC-Oso Group		840.00
CC-Primary Purpose Group		
CC-Rodd Field Group		239.00
CC-Sunset 7 Group (N Padre Island)		558.55
CC-Turning Point Group		
CC-Weber Road Nooners Group		3,372.00
CC-Wenholz Women's Group		
District7	81.19	893.09
Falfurrias-2nd Chance Group		80.00
Goliad-Open Arms Group		90.00
Ingleside-Living Sober Group		
Karnes City-Mayfield Group		261.25
Kingsville-AL-K Group		
Mathis -Crossroads Group		140.00
Port Aransas -Port A Day Tripper's Group		
Port Aransas Group	100.00	500.00
Port Aransas-Serenity Sisters		10.00
Port Lavaca Group		74.01
Port O'Connor Group		100.00
Portland -Jaywalkers Group		150.00
Portland -Nueces Bay Group		
Riviera-SASTO Group		18.00
Robstown Group		
Rockport-Anything Goes Group		
Rockport-Happy Hour Group	40.00	160.00
Rockport-Fellowship Group		
Sandia Group		19.00
Sinton-Grupo Secunda Chanza		30.00
Skidmore Group		50.00
Three Rivers-Choke Canyon Group		100.00
Victoria-Back to Basics Group		451.00
Victoria-High Nooners Group		100.00
Victoria-Main Stream Group	25.00	225.00
Victoria-Men's Group		75.00
Victoria-Unity Group		75.00
Victoria-Women's Group	15.00	45.00
Yorktown Group		123.60
TOTAL	\$857.39	\$13,127.33

Coastal Bend Intergroup Association

Mission Statement

The mission of the Coastal Bend Intergroup Association is to provide the vital first contact to the alcoholic seeking help. The CBIA office must be maintained for the benefit of those still suffering. Of primary importance to this goal, the CBIA Office is to

- Establish a 24-hour help-line;
- Print meeting schedules; and
- Maintain a 12-Step list

whereby AA groups and individuals are enabled to conduct 12-Step calls which are essential to the growth of AA in the Coastal Bend area.

Coastal Bend Intergroup Association

Services Provided

1. Maintains an office which is open Monday through Friday from 07:30AM to 11:30AM & 1:30PM to 05:30PM.
2. Provides information and referrals for A.A. inquiries.
3. Maintains a 12 Step listing and calls individuals for 12 Step work.
4. Provides an A.A. listing in the Telephone directory.
5. Provides a 24 hour volunteer phone answering during hours when the office is closed.
6. Publishes meeting schedules of all groups in the Coastal Bend Area at no charge.
7. Publishes a monthly newsletter, the "Coastal Bender", to keep A.A. members informed of local A.A. affairs and special events.
8. Purchases and sales "CONFERENCE APPROVED" literature, and non-conference approved Anniversary Medallions, Sobriety Chips.
9. Conducts monthly Trustee meetings. All members of Alcoholics Anonymous are welcome at these meetings and Group Input is essential.
10. Conducts Quarterly Meetings to keep groups apprised of Intergroup activities, and to seek group participation in CBIA affairs.
11. Maintains service committees for service work in the Coastal Bend Area.