



THE BENDER

COASTAL BEND INTERGROUP'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

3833 S. Staples Suite 212, Corpus Christi, Tx 78411

(361) 992-8911 or toll free (866) 672-7029



*Things My Sponsor
Told Me*

Me, "I don't think I need to go to 90 meetings in 90 days."

Sponsor knowing I was a daily drinker, "That's ok, just go as often as you drank!"



I had been sober about six weeks and was very tentative in my approach to AA. I didn't like authority figures, organizations or the "God stuff." I was desperate and hadn't had a drink since my first meeting because I was reassured by the suggestion "I could take what I wanted and leave the rest" and the traditions suggested I could live with this lack of authority, organization and dogma.

I sweated, shook and white knuckled it through the weeks that followed. I refused to acknowledge God or even call myself an alcoholic. I kept coming back because of the welcoming warmth of the fellowship. As I saw their sincerity and recovery and listened to their stories, a small acorn of hope sprung to life that I might recover too.

I refused to ask God to remove the desire to drink, the idea of getting on my knees before anyone or anything repulsed me. I told the man who would later become my sponsor that. He told me I didn't have to believe it, just do it. He said to throw my shoes under the bed at night and while I was down there getting them out in the morning ask God to remove the desire to drink today.

Tired of white knuckling it, I did it. It worked.

About a week later even after I got on my knees every day and the desire to drink was removed, I was still quite skeptical on the whole God thing. I came home from a meeting and told my wife "I wish I had \$4 to buy a big book." I was too ashamed to ask anyone for one, and my drinking had put us in the situation where I had let her dole out money to me as she saw fit.

She said, "I think there's one over there on the shelf that my ex had and never used." I walked over and there was a Third Edition Big Book. I'd lived in that tiny house for two years and never noticed it. I remembered somebody in a meeting talking about GMCs, God Made Coincidences. I almost cried. At the next meeting I went to introduce myself, "I'm John and I'm an alcoholic."



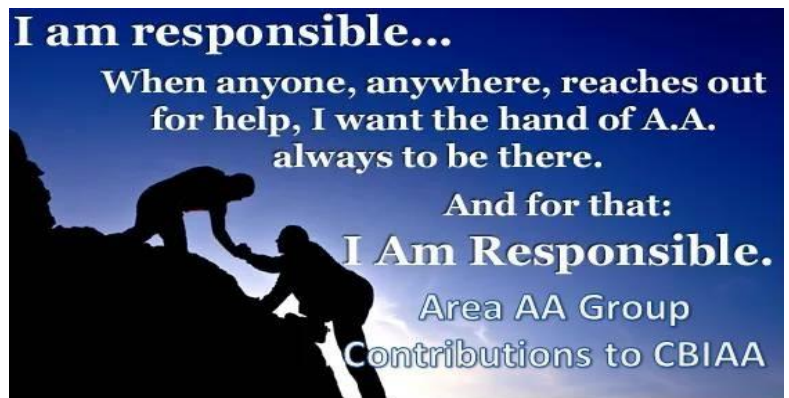
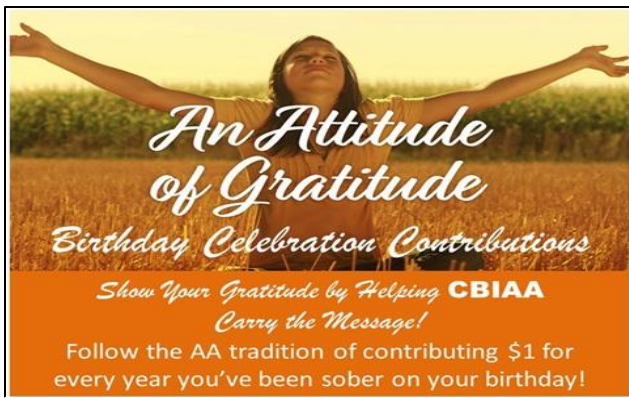
Events & other info
(www.cbiasa.org)

Alanos BBQ & Bingo
Sunday Sept 6th @ 1PM
1633 18th St CC, TX

New Life Group 40th
Anniversary
Most Precious Blood Church
Sept. 24th @ 6PM

41st Heart of TX Conference
Oct. 9th-10th Waco, TX

SWTA 68 Fall Assembly
Oct. 16th-18th Seguin, TX



Celebrant	Sobriety Date	Home Group	Years Sober
Fred B.	9/1/2002	Aransas Pass	24
Hank S.	9/7/1993	Cullen Mall	33
Barb S.	9/9/1985	New Women	41
Valerie B.	9/13/2017	New Phoenix	9
Heather D.	9/23/2009	Rule 62	17

Contributions

GROUP NAME	Aug 2026	YTD 2026
Anonymous/Individual Contributions	277.53	4,645.89
Aransas Pass Group		31.00
CC - A Day of AA In CC		300.00
CC - 5 th Tradition Group		181.00
CC - Alanos Group	500.00	500.00
CC - Bookmarks Group	300.00	300.00
CC - Broken Chains		
CC - Calallen Group		50.00
CC - Cullen Mall Group		100.50
CC - Flour Bluff Unity Group	250.00	263.00
CC- Grupo Nueva Esperanza		
CC- Grupo Serenidad		
CC - Happy Hour Group		
CC - Hilltoppers Group		341.60
CC - Humility Group		
CC- Lucky Ones Group		
CC - New Attitude Group		
CC - New Life Group	100.00	650.00
CC - New Phoenix Group	290.21	1701.03
New Phoenix Prom Night	2880.91	3012.02
CC - New Women's Group		432.95
CC- No Longer Bound AA Group		
CC - Oso Group		
CC - Rule 62 Group		
CC- Saratoga Group		200.00
CC - Sunset 7 Group (N Padre Island)	197.80	197.80
CC -Turning Point Face-2-Face Grp		75.00
CC - Weber Road Nooners Group		444.00
Goliad Open Arms Group	15.00	30.00
Hallettsville Group		158.25
Kingsville AL-K Group		150.00
Mathis Crossroads Group	25.00	200.00
Moulton Group	64.19	64.19
Harboring Hope Group (Port Lavaca)		
Port Aransas Group	.40	.40
Portland Noon Meeting		251.00
Portland Nueces Bay Group		1000.00
Rivera-SASTO Group		402.00
Rockport Happy Hour Group		
Rockport Hope In Recovery Group		500.00
Rockport Fellowship Group		750.00
Hope Group (Schulenberg)		
Three Rivers Choke Canyon Group		
Victoria Back to Basics Group	127.80	323.89
Victoria For Sinners Only Group	75.00	125.00
Victoria Golden Slippers Group		
Victoria High Nooners Group	200.00	200.00
Victoria Main Stream Group		200.00
Victoria Unity Group	17.52	113.90
Victoria Women's Group		
TOTAL	\$2,050.66	\$18,171.95

Intergroup Meetings

CBIA Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting will be held on Monday, Sept 14th, 2026, at 6:00 PM on Zoom.

CBIA Quarterly Association Meeting will be held on Monday, Oct 26th, 2026, at 6:00 PM on Zoom.

Ever think about
contributing
more??





Helpline Volunteers Needed!

- **"CBIA Helpline"**. The Helpline is staffed by volunteers who make sure the hand of AA is available 24 hours a day by answering the intergroup calls when the office is closed weeknights (5 PM to 7:45 AM) and on weekend nights or holidays (8 AM to 8 AM) **This is a once-per-month commitment**. A minimum of 3 months' sobriety is required to answer calls after office hours. **If you are available to do this vital volunteer work, please contact CBIA as soon as possible to add your name.**
- **Calls taken during the month of Aug by volunteers:**
 - 22- Calls for Meeting Information**
 - 02- Twelve Step Calls**
 - 06- Office Referral/Other Calls**
- **12 Step List**

If a caller needs help beyond meeting information, the helpline volunteer passes them to someone on the **12-Step List** for a longer conversation on how to get sober and stay sober. A minimum of two years' sobriety is required to be on the 12 Step List. If interested, please call Terry or Rita at the CBIA office (361) 992-8911 between 8:30-11:30 AM or 2-5 PM Monday through Friday.

- **District 8D Corrections Committee** could use your help to carry the AA message to the incarcerated alcoholic. There are 12 Step opportunities at the Nueces County Jail, McKinzie Jail Annex, SATF, and TDCJ State Prisons. **(Volunteers must pass a background check.)** You can also consider becoming an AA contact for newly released alcoholics; both men and women are needed for that. Please donate your used Grapevines to the collection box located at New Phoenix Group or CBIA. If you don't have any old issues, back issues can be purchased directly from Grapevine or monetary contributions to the Corrections Committee are also helpful! To volunteer or more information contact Keith S. (361) 226-9343 or Karen S. (362) 980-7412
- **Jamboree Committee** will start meeting again in July. Next meeting is Sept 12th at 9:00am at New Phoenix Group.

Other Opportunities..... Local Stories Wanted for the Coastal BENDER- Consider writing a short recovery story of an event in your sobriety for publication in this newsletter. Submit your short article to cbia@grandecom.net in a Word document or similar format.

- **Coastal Bend Intergroup Board of Trustees-4 new Trustees will be voted on Oct 26th at the Quarterly Board meeting. If you would like to serve from Jan 2027-Dec 2028, please check out the form on cbiaa.org for qualifications to run for Trustee and fill it out and email it to cbia@grandecom.net.**

New Meetings & Group Announcements

September		
Alanos Group		
Friday Night Speakers	Date	Name
	9/4/2026	Birthday Night
	9/11/2026	
	9/18/2026	
	9/25/2026	

September		
New Phoenix		
Saturday Night Speakers	Date	Name
	9/5/2026	Birthday Night
	9/12/2026	
	9/19/2026	
	9/26/2026	

Aransas Pass Group is starting a Speaker meeting soon. Interested in speaking at their meeting ?
Email: jalapena72097@gmail.com

New Life Group 40th Anniversary
Most Precious Blood Church
Sept 24th @ 6PM



Russ A
Paul B

Turning Point Group
Weber Nooners Group

8/7/2026
8/27/2026

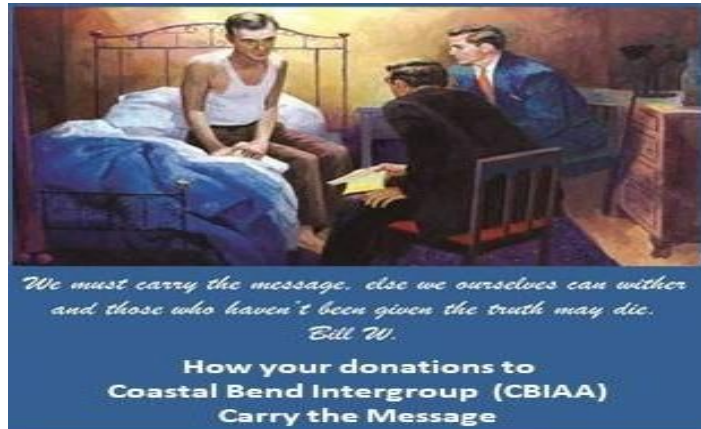
Memorial Donations may be made by any AA member in memory of another AA member who passed away during the current calendar year. Continuous attendance at meetings is not required as long as they died sober. Please indicate their Home Group or City and the date of their death.

Suggested donation of \$1 per year of sobriety like the birthday contributions or a minimum of \$5.

Donations for this or any reason can be made by PayPal or Cash App under the Contribute option on our website (www.cbias.org); or by check to CBIA @ 3833 S Staples Suite S-212 Corpus Christi, TX 78411.

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 helpline; maintain & print meeting schedules; maintain a 12-Step list whereby AA groups and individuals are able to conduct 12-Step calls which are essential to the growth of AA in the Coastal Bend area.



- **CBIA PHONE NUMBER- (361) 992-8911** Calls are answered by staff during business hours Monday-Friday and by helpline volunteers at lunch, after-hours and on weekends and holidays.
- **CBIA OFFICE HOURS (*except on Holidays*)**
- **Monday-Friday**
- **8:30am–11:30am & 2:00pm–5:00pm**
- If you would like, call ahead with your order, we can have it ready for pick up. If we are out of stock, we can let you know at that time.

We will be closed Labor Day Monday September 7th

CBIA HOLIDAYS

CBIA HOLIDAYS			
January	New Year's Day	September	Labor Day
May	Memorial Day	November	Thanksgiving 2 days
July	Independence Day	December	Christmas Day

Update on 5th edition of the Big Book

Alcoholics
Anonymous®
www.aa.org

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

To: GSRs, DCMs, Trustees, Non-trustee Directors, Area Officers & Committee Chairs,
Delegates, Appointed Committee Members, Intergroups and Central Offices, Group
Contacts, GSO and Grapevine Employees

August 26, 2026

Dear A.A. Friends:

We are writing to provide an update regarding the forthcoming publication of the much-anticipated fifth edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. At the July 30 meeting of the A.A. World Services Board, the Publishing Committee recommended, and the full board approved, that the fifth edition hardcover be produced with a removable dust jacket and that a list price of \$20 USD be adopted. We are on track with the production process to publish the hardcover of the fifth edition, updated with 26 new stories of recovery, in February 2027.

We share the Fellowship's excitement about the fifth edition of our beloved Big Book—coming more than 25 years after the publication of the fourth edition. More information about the publication of the fifth edition will follow this fall.

Warmly,

