



# SOBER DAZE

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APRIL – MAY – JUNE 2025

A 12<sup>th</sup> District Publication

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## EDITOR THOUGHTS

I am so excited to bring you the spring/early summer edition of Sober Daze. It has been, to say the least, an interesting winter. I hope that you all have arrived at a place that brings serenity. Mother Nature is a giver of large lessons.

As your new Sober Daze Editor, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know my thoughts for upcoming publications. Let me begin by saying that my sobriety date is November 26, 1986. In these many years, this is the first time I have written anything for publication. It will be a new experience and I will need your help for it to be successful.

I am originally from the Boston Massachusetts area (this becomes apparent after a brief conversation) which is where I got sober. I was told to sit up front, take the cotton out of my ears and put it in my mouth...it was hard-core A.A. and I needed it. My journey in recovery has been amazing and my gratitude is immense. The “hope” I was told about early on is very real and that is what I want to bring to Sober Daze. This publication is for everyone, the new-comer, the old-timer, and the yet unconvinced.

As you see, I’ve added new sections to Sober Daze. Interviews with District 12 service members and stories will, hopefully, inspire more participation from all groups. As Fred I., the former editor, stated “we are a WE program”. I welcome and encourage feedback about content and stories about what it’s like to experience spiritual recovery, to be “happy, joyous, and free”. Let us all work together to share our experience, strength and hope.

**Read Sober Daze anytime:** [http://www.augustaaa.org/sober\\_daze](http://www.augustaaa.org/sober_daze)

**View A.A. Videos at:**

<http://www.augustaaa.org> Click on PSA videos

<https://www.aa.org> Click on Resources

## ARCHIVES

**“Is sobriety all that we are to expect of a spiritual awakening? No, sobriety is only a bare beginning; it is only the first gift of the first awakening. If more gifts are to be received, our awakening has to go on. As it does go on, we find that bit by bit we can discard the old life – the one that did not work – for a new life that can and does work under any conditions whatever.”**

***Bill E, A.A. Co-Founder***

This committee gathers, displays, and stores historical information, which relates to A.A. and our recovering community. Drop in at the District Office to view the current historical collection. We recognize and give thanks to this committee which has worked hard and has amassed a great amount of historical information. Thank you to George C. and his committee of 5.

Contact the Archives Committee to learn more about our District 12 history, how to make contributions, or how to volunteer go to:

[www.augustaaa.org](http://www.augustaaa.org) and click on the committee tab.

**Area 16 (Georgia) Archives:** [www.aageorgia.org/archives](http://www.aageorgia.org/archives)

Like any other A.A. service, the primary purpose of those involved in archival work is to carry the message of Alcoholic Anonymous. Archives service work is more than mere custodial activity; it is the means by which we collect, preserve and share the rich and meaningful heritage of our Fellowship. It is by the collection and sharing of these important historical elements that our collective gratitude for Alcoholics Anonymous is deepened.

**Akron Archives:** [www.akronaa.org/archives](http://www.akronaa.org/archives)

The mission of the Akron Archives:

- To preserve the A.A. message and carry it to other alcoholics.
- To preserve the history of our fellowship to prevent distortion.
- To cooperate with and support other A.A. archives and archivists working within A.A.'s service structure and the 12 Traditions.

**New York (GSO) Archives:** [www.aa.org/gso-archives](http://www.aa.org/gso-archives)

The mission of the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office Archives:

- Document permanently the work of Alcoholics Anonymous
- Make the history of the organization accessible to A.A. members and other researchers
- Provide a context for understanding A.A. progression, principles and traditions.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE 12<sup>TH</sup>

It is my privilege to introduce the District 12 Office Manager, Jimmy Hendrix who is originally from Oakland, California. The US Army brought him to Augusta Georgia after he retired as Command Sergeant Major. Jimmy's sobriety date is September 15, 1988.

Jimmy was drafted into the military at 19 years old. It was in the military that Jimmy started drinking. During his military career he had 3 tours in Vietnam and had one tour in the Persian Gulf. He never had any overt consequences as a result of his drinking. He had no arrests, no reprimands.

While stationed in Nuremberg, Germany he was hospitalized for pancreatitis. He was told that his drinking was likely the cause and because of this, he entered a military treatment program – RTF. He started attending A.A. meetings and for about the first year they didn't make much sense. He didn't have a concept of God and felt that he never needed to. He was self-sufficient and relied on himself to get through whatever he needed to get through. His saving grace was getting a sponsor who happened to be a Catholic priest. His sponsor took him through the steps and taught him about spirituality. He describes God today as his higher power; "someone greater than me...that can do everything for me if I let him". He states he is "still learning about God". In A.A. he learned how to not just hear but to listen to what was said.

He describes himself as someone who had no connections to feelings. He was indifferent to others. Alcohol helped him to overcome his feelings of separation and indifference. Alcohol worked in the early drinking, he felt caring and kind which is who he wanted to be. When not drinking he describes himself as ruthless and demanding. Alcohol worked until it didn't.

He says, "the real me is a kind and gentle person who has a strong faith in God, a God that I never knew until I worked with my first sponsor". "Sobriety is a gift".

His advice? "Don't leave before the miracle happens. It will happen". "It's wonderful to love and care...care about actions. I learned to love in A.A. I fell in love with my wife...we've been married 25 years and it hasn't changed".

Jimmy's service work in A.A. has been extensive. He embodies the spirit of giving back. He is a sponsor, has been a GSR, Alt DCM, DCM, pre-paid Convention chair and co-chair and now the District 12 Office Manager for 8 years.

Thank you, Jimmy, for your commitment and service to A.A. to District 12 and to your country.

## CENTRAL OFFICE

Website: [www.augustaaa.org](http://www.augustaaa.org)

The central office maintains/uploads pertinent information for District 12 to the above web site.

Book Store:

The Plain Language Big Book is currently available for \$11.

We are waiting on the release of the Alcoholics Anonymous 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. There is no current release date. We will make an announcement when it becomes available. Keep you posted...

Camilla Ave History:

The building that houses the Westside Club and the District Office is owned by Westside and is run by a Board of Directors. The District Office pays rent for office space and contributes to 1/3 of the exterior expenses, such as the recent siding to the building. The District Office pay 100% for office improvements, while Westside pays for the interior upgrades to meeting rooms, etc. The Board of Directors, while some may be A.A. Members, are not representing A.A. I found this information interesting as it tells a story of District 12 and its relationship to the Westside Club.

The District Office is working on ideas for upgrades. Not sure yet what they will be but will keep us posted.

## EVENTS

### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Edisto Beach Roundup

“A Vision for You”

April 24-27<sup>th</sup> 2025

Lion’s Club 2907 Myrtle Street, Edisto Beach, SC

For more information contact: Mary Kay P., 843-509-6326 [mkpamzica@bellsouth.net](mailto:mkpamzica@bellsouth.net)

Or visit our website: [www.edistoroundup.com](http://www.edistoroundup.com)

### 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Founder’s Day

**Celebrating the Founding of AA since 1935**

**Guest Speakers Raffle, Kids Activities, Sobriety Countdown**

**Friends & Family of AA/Alanon are Welcome**

When: June 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 11am to 4pm

Where: Martinez Methodist Church – 3614 Washington Rd., Martinez

### East Central Cluster Forum

Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 2025

“Working Together, Increasing Trust.”

**Time:** Registration 9am **Doors open:** 10am – 2pm **Lunch:** 12:30pm (will be provided)

**Location:** 2230 Walton Way, Augusta GA 30904 Church of the Good Shepherd

For more information contact: Shannon S. @ [augustaclusterforum@gmail.com](mailto:augustaclusterforum@gmail.com)

### International Convention 2025

Vancouver, Canada “Language of the Heart”

**Register by April 15 for Early-bird Pricing**

Make plans to attend the 2025 A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, July 3-6 2025. Taking place every five years, the A.A. International Convention marks the anniversary of Bill W.’s first meeting with Dr. Bob and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935. For more information: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). Over 30K people have made reservations to date.

### 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual 205 Georgia Prepaid Convention

*Working Together, Increasing Trust*

When: October 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup>

Where: Columbus, GA – Convention & Trade Center – 801 Front Ave

Pay in Advance Activities: Saturday morning golf tournament \$25

Saturday night Fellowship Dinner \$35 – The Pearl

For more information: [www.augustaaa.org](http://www.augustaaa.org)

## GROUP BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**Midday Group** – Universal Unitarian Church – 3501 Walton Way Ext, Augusta  
Meets at 12pm Monday through Saturday

Birthdays:      April: Mel 1 year                      Chris E. 3 years                      Matt B. 7 years  
                         May: Pamela S. 17 years                      Sharon 29 years  
                         June: Maggie 1 year                      Mary D. 30 years

**Martinez Group** – Martinez Methodist Church – 3614 Washington Rd – Martinez  
Meets Tuesdays & Fridays at 8 pm

Birthdays:      May: Jeff S. 4 years                      Bob W. 30 years  
                         June: Bill R. 5 years                      Sherri W. L. 35 years

Congratulations to all the celebrants.

If you would like to have your group birthdays and anniversaries published in Sober Daze please send information to: [soberdaze16@gmail.com](mailto:soberdaze16@gmail.com)

## FIND THE “QUOTES”

This is a game! The places you will find these quotes are in the “Big Book” and the 12&12. Each quote will correspond to the steps attached to the months in the quarter. For instance, April, May, and June correspond with steps 4, 5, & 6. When you find the quote, email me the book and page number along with the quote’s meaning. Test your skills and play along...all that respond will receive recognition in the next Sober Daze edition.

[Soberdaze16@gmail.com](mailto:Soberdaze16@gmail.com)

“This short word somehow touches about every aspect of our lives”

“Pride says, ‘You need not pass this way,’ and Fear says, ‘You dare not look!’”

“We can look the world in the eye.”

“We can be alone in perfect peace and ease.”

“As the pain subsides, a healing tranquility takes its place.”

“We have emphasized willingness as being indispensable.”

“No matter how far we have progressed, desires will always be found which oppose the grace of God.”

[Soberdaze16@gmail.com](mailto:Soberdaze16@gmail.com)

## STEPS & PRINCIPLES

### **4<sup>TH</sup> STEP COURAGE**

**Made a searching & fearless moral inventory of ourselves.**

“The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage. All men of faith have courage. They trust God. We never apologize for God. Instead, we let him demonstrate through us what He could do.”

### **5<sup>TH</sup> STEP INTEGRITY**

**Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

“We pocket our pride and go to it, illuminating every twist of character, every dark cranny of the past.” “We look the world in the eye.” “Our fears fall from us.”

### **6<sup>TH</sup> STEP WILLINGNESS**

**Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.**

“My Creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that you now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength as I go out from here, to do your bidding. Amen.”



## MEMBER STORIES

### No Chocolate Cake

I didn't know what an alcoholic was but I recognized I was excessively drinking before I was 20. I had already been in trouble with the law, had automobile accidents, been hospitalized, and was never faithful in any relationship. I started hanging out with "lower companions" and soon even they didn't want to be around me because of my drinking.

I managed to graduate from college with low grades mainly because my parents were paying for it and I didn't want to disappoint them by failing or dropping out. After college I was drafted into the military and ended up with a military career. I had learned to become a chronic alcoholic and only had occasional alcohol related incidents which, for the most part, I was able to avoid serious consequences.

I began trying to stop drinking in my mid-twenties and continued to try year after year with occasional successful periods "on the wagon" but always returning to alcoholic drinking.

I divorced my wife and married a woman who I thought would help me stop drinking, a "geographical cure" as we say in A.A. She joined AlAnon and I had to agree to attend A.A. meetings. I didn't consciously plan to become a member but found I enjoyed going to the meetings although I was drinking and picked up many white chips.

I was able to stop drinking alcohol after about 10 months of failure. I bought and read several A.A. books and became an overnight A.A. expert. An old-timer took me aside and said, "you might have milk, sugar, flour, and cocoa but you don't have a chocolate cake". What he was telling me is that you can't THINK yourself sober. You have to participate in A.A. meetings, talk with other alcoholics, do 12 step work, and attend different kinds of meetings. You have to work on the character defects which contributed to your alcoholism. I heard him and soon stopped being an expert and became a recovered alcoholic.

Glenn L.  
Gratitude Group, Martinez

## COMMITTEES

A.A. service committees, composed mainly of representatives or liaisons from area groups, shoulder major responsibility for carrying the A.A. message into the community and around the world. Each of these committees may serve as a resource for the community through our Sixth Tradition of cooperation but not affiliation.

**FOUNDER'S DAY:** Founder's Day will be held at the Martinez Methodist Church on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2025 from 11am to 4pm. For more information or to volunteer contact the committee representative: Sherrie with the Martinez Group.

**ARCHIVES:** Visit the Archive Room at the Westside Club.  
For more information or to volunteer, contact: George C.  
[GEORGE CROFT67@YAHOO.COM](mailto:GEORGE CROFT67@YAHOO.COM)

**SOBER DAZE:** A quarterly publication with a mission to carry the A.A. message of *recovery, unity, and service* through various articles and information.  
For more information contact: Marie G. [soberdaze16@gmail.com](mailto:soberdaze16@gmail.com)

**CORRECTIONS:** Corrections representative takes A.A. meetings into prisons and jails to help alcoholics in custody to recover and prepare for sober, fulfilling lives after release.  
For more information or to volunteer contact:

**GRAPEVINE:** For more information or to volunteer contact:  
Stephanie [snobles86@outlook.com](mailto:snobles86@outlook.com)

**PICPC:** Public information dissemination for access to A.A. meetings and information. Community outreach focusing on, without affiliation, professionals in the community. For more information or to volunteer contact:

**TREATMENT:** Members of this committee work to help hospital and treatment center staffs better understand A.A. and to take the A.A. tools of recovery to alcoholics in treatment. For more information or to volunteer contact:  
Carlton N. [kcwn51@yahoo.com](mailto:kcwn51@yahoo.com)

## Faithful Fivers

Thank you for supporting the Central Office!

Denney B.	Kathryn Z.	Linda S.
Jim & Billie B.	Jimmy & Tamara H.	Last Call Group
Cathy C.	David J.	Gene & Judy T.
Rosemary M.	Sara R.	Chris T
Tony B.	Frank W.	Traylor J.
Lisa S.	Al K.	Katy & Fred I.
Dan W.	Margie S.	Neil T.
Gratitude Group	Lumpkin Fellowship Grp	Gaylord J.
Keylor H.	Bruce D.	Pat J.
Rancine R.	.	

### ENROLL IN THE FAITHFUL FIVERS

“Faithful Fivers” are A.A. members who, in gratitude, contribute \$5/month toward supporting the 12<sup>th</sup> District Central Office. With this support, the Central Office pays for the printing of this publication and making it available to the A. A. members and groups. When you enroll as a supporter, each issue will be delivered to your home.

I agree to pledge, and here is my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ months.

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Make Checks payable to: 12<sup>th</sup> District Central Office  
113 Camilla Ave., Martinez GA 30907

(706)860-8331

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

12<sup>th</sup> District Central Office

113 Camilla Ave.

Martinez, Ga. 30907