

SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA 67 NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2025

THINK THAT'S A BORING NAME??

Submit a better one! Our (un)exciting name has been "Quarterly Newsletter." *Bor-ing.* Be creative—get readers' attention, hint at Third Legacy or service news, trusted servants, etc. *Best submission will receive an A.A. book and the honor of renaming our Newsletter.*



**DEADLINE EXTENDED
JUNE 15, 2025**

Judged by the
Newsletter Editorial
Advisory Board

Annette C.
Christina S.
Don M.
Fernando B.
Allise B., Tie-breaker

Rotating Into a New Position

“THE PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION
flows from Tradition Two: “. . .
Our leaders are but trusted
servants; they do not govern.”

Reprinted from *The A.A. Service Manual, Appendix E, page III*, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.
See also *Concepts IX* and *XI*, pages C-37 & C-45-46.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Rotation principles, experience, literature, suggestions, tips & joy
- International Convention 2025
- Literature Cmte
- GSO's New Podcast
- Grapevine's millionth podcast download

Cooperation with the Professional Community

1st Mondays 7:30pm

Google Meet

Mission & Vision

- *Inform present and future professionals about what AA is, where we are, and what we can & cannot do.*
- *Establish effective communication between AA members & professionals, facilitating cooperation without affiliation. This collaboration helps us reach alcoholics who might otherwise remain unaware of AA's life-changing program.*

continued on page 4

The Spirit of Rotation

A.A. Service Manual

FAQs pages 12, 17, 29 & Appendix E

Q: If no one seems interested in taking over [my position] when my term ends, should I continue on until someone is found or perhaps even serve another two-year term? **A:** It can be difficult when we have worked hard, love this service position and see no one interested in taking over. Nevertheless, the Traditions and the Concepts encourage rotation of service. *When our terms are up, we step aside.* Instead of continuing past the end of your term, consider offering your services for a different position in general service. Your interest and commitment is needed and appreciated.

Panel 73 Delegate

Greetings SETA,

We are approaching the holiday season in an even-numbered year and that means one thing if you are a trusted servant in the Southeast Texas Area of Alcoholics Anonymous: It's rotation time!

As someone who has rotated several times down the triangle and as someone who will soon rotate into what is likely the last position I will rotate into (Past Delegate), perhaps I am able to share a few tips.

continued on page 5

A.A. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Vancouver, BC, Canada July 3-6, 2025



Volunteer Vancouver Welcoming Committee

No need to live there to help people feel welcome

Volunteer

Booth/Kiosk Attendant
Grapevine News Carrier
App Ambassador
Workshop Facilitator
Podcast Participant

WINTER 2025

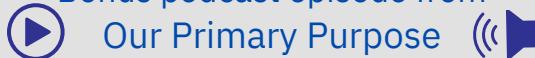
box
459

INTERNATIONAL 2025 UPDATE

- Volunteers Assemble to Welcome Thousands
- A Packed Schedule and Activities Galore
- Bringing Together the Power of the Fellowship
- Convention Housing Still Available

Countdown to Vancouver

Bonus podcast episode from



As the excitement builds for the A.A. 2025 International Convention in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, July 3-5, we take you behind the scenes to chat with A.A. Board members and our convention coordinator about what to expect at this gathering of more than 40,000 A.A. members, families, and friends. Find out what makes this global event so memorable and how you can join the celebration.

More about the podcast, pg. 7

International Convention Preview

AA Grapevine's Podcast
Season 7, Episode 11

Patrick, the GSO Staff member of the International Convention Desk, shares with Don and Olis all about registration, housing and the spiritual feeling of being with near 50,000 AA members from around the world. . . . Patrick also tells listeners how to keep up with the latest information about the convention, and he shares about his journey in AA.



Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur

REGISTER BY
APRIL 15
FOR EARLY-BIRD
PRICING

2025

A.A. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Join your friends in Vancouver,
British Columbia, Canada
July 3-6

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...

- ▶ Thursday night block party
- ▶ Flag Ceremony
- ▶ Stadium meetings
- ▶ Old Timers Meeting

AND MORE...including 250+ meetings,
hospitality suites, and a full slate of
panels and workshops

REGISTER NOW



HOUSING IS
STILL
AVAILABLE!

LEARN MORE

aa.org/international-convention

2025ic@aa.org

P75 Delegate's Corner

I am so honored and appreciative to y'all for allowing me to serve you as Area 67's Delegate Panel 75.

I have already been busy obtaining experience, strength and hope from past delegates. I am so grateful to be surrounded by those who have had experience that they are readily willing to share with me. Such as things they wished they had known when they became delegate and what they learned from the experience.

I've had the opportunity to discuss The A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service with others. Though I've read it many times before, it seems to be no different than other literature within the Fellowship—new things always show up each time I read it such as something I never saw before or a new perspective from reading with someone else.

I received information about my committee assignment and have enjoyed reading the history of the General Service Conference Committee on Trustees.

Most of all I am looking forward to visiting the districts in the next few months to listen to what you have to say. At the end of the day what the groups have to say is way more important than what I know or think.

Thank you for all you do.


Christina S.
Delegate Panel 75 Area 67 SETA

Grapevine Article on Rotating In

June 1996

The Spirit of Rotation

by Don P.



Because of the number of links in this issue, the majority of the underlining has been removed. If you see text that you believe may have a link, try it—it's probably there!



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Area Chair's Corner

Hello SETA!

As I prepare to Chair my very first Area Assembly, I am filled with such a powerful sense of gratitude. Rotating to this new position is very exciting and anxiety producing! I know I will make mistakes. But I know that Area 67 is a wonderful and supportive Area with so many people that have offered their guidance and support. I laughed when I read Troy's first Newsletter submission as a new Chairperson, and he described a nightmare of all the past Delegates lining up behind the microphone to tell him what he had done wrong. My nightmare is that the past Delegates turn into Zombies and run after me!! Ha! But, in reality, the past Delegates have been so supportive, kind and knowledgeable! Maybe I should not watch Zombie movies!!

In the SETA Job Description, it states that the Area Chairperson should guard the 12 Traditions and follow the 12 Concepts and the AA Service Manual. Also, the Chair ensures the open and honest communications among committee members, Alternates and the Assembly. These words fill my heart with purpose, determination, and hope.

I pray for your guidance, suggestions, and patience.

In loving service,
Patty H, A67 P75 Chair

Cooperation with the Professional Community

continued from page 1

Goals for the Coming Term

- **Enhanced Communication:** Strengthening our connections with healthcare providers, educators, legal professionals, and others who work closely with individuals struggling with alcoholism.
- **Educational Outreach:** Organizing workshops and presentations to provide accurate information about AA's principles and practices.
- **Resource Distribution:** Ensuring that professionals have access to AA literature and resources that can aid them in guiding alcoholics towards recovery.

Call to Action

I encourage all members who are interested in this vital service work to join us. Whether you prefer working behind the scenes or engaging directly with professionals, your contribution is invaluable.

Don Mc., CPC Chair

TIPS

My best tip for any service position is get contact information from others who have served in your position and reach out to them.

My service sponsor has taught me the importance of studying the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts. If you have a good understanding of these principles "We will intuitively know how to handle situations that used to baffle us."

Thank you for your service.

Tony A, Treatment Facilities Committee Chair

JOYS OF ROTATION

My best advice for a

- **New GSR:** It is exciting to serve and inform your group what is happening.
- **New DCM:** Have your alternate DCM help you present workshops to GSRs and AA members.

Deborah D.
P61 A67

Overheard

Q: Why should I rotate? No one has complained about the way I do my job in all the years I've been doing it.

A: That's because we depend on the principle of rotation so that we don't need to complain.

Principles Before Personalities

Tradition Two: For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

The Principle of Rotation

Traditionally, rotation ensures that group tasks, like nearly everything else in A.A., are passed around for all to share. Many groups have alternates to each trusted servant who can step into the service positions if needed.

To step out of an A.A. office you love can be hard. If you have been doing a good job, if you honestly don't see anyone else around willing, qualified, or with the time to do it, and if your friends agree, it's especially tough. But it can be a real step forward in growth - - a step into the humility that is, for some people, the spiritual essence of anonymity.

Among other things, anonymity in the Fellowship means that we forgo personal prestige for any A.A. work we do to help alcoholics. And, in the spirit of Tradition Twelve, it ever reminds us "to place principles before personalities."

Many outgoing service position holders find it rewarding to take time to share their experience with the incoming person. Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than any fame. With no A.A. "status" at stake, we needn't compete for titles or praise — we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed.

The A.A. Group pamphlet P-16, page 28

ROTATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Allows us to experience growth,
- keeps our ego in check,
- helps keep us unified,
- makes it so that no individual is "in charge,"
- allows Tradition 2 and the group conscience to manifest,
- permits Tradition 9—being directly responsible to those we serve—to shine through,
- gives members opportunities to grow in a variety of roles,
- lets us watch other people's growth,
- teaches us to "take turns,"
- shows us that it is okay (and healthy) to let go, and
- allows our 12 Concepts and our structure to function effectively in practice.

The sentiment seemed to be: rotation is good for us!

- There is a helpful section on the Principle of Rotation in Appendix E of the A.A. *Service Manual*.

Matt K., P71 A11 Delegate, Chair, A11 Service Manual Workshop on Rotation 12/9/24

ROTATION SUGGESTIONS



Area Chair

When rotating to a new service position, the first thing I need to understand is why the “Spirit of Rotation” is so important. Embracing this principle is vital for fostering humility, unity, and shared responsibility. This principle of rotation is supported by *Tradition One* with its focus of unity and group welfare, *Tradition Nine* with the emphasis on service, and *Tradition Twelve* with its emphasis on humility and anonymity.

Rotation prevents individuals from holding onto positions indefinitely, allowing newcomers to participate and learn. Personal and spiritual growth is the result as members step back from roles they love and thus promote a spirit of service over ego. In preparing for a new position:

1. Understand the Spirit of Rotation.
2. Communicate with predecessors—ask questions, ask questions, ask questions.
3. Review all available guidelines—policies and procedures, job descriptions, etc.
4. Engage with other members of the Area, Districts, or Groups.
5. Talk to my Service Sponsor—if you do not have one, please get one!
6. Accept that I will make mistakes—everyone makes mistakes.
7. If leaving a position, acknowledge how much I learned as I share this with the incoming member. Helping them helps me.
8. Don't worry if I am anxious, we are all anxious!
9. Pray.

In loving service,
Patty H, Area 67 Panel 75 Chair

ROTATION CONSIDERATIONS

- Aim to leave a position better than you found it.
- Consider rotation from the very start of the term (rather than the end), and planning ahead for it (and several rotations into the future).
- Concurrent rotation—having GSRs rotate at the same time as DCMs & Delegate in an Area—gets a nod in the Conference Charter.
- The value of working closely with alternates.
- Staggered Rotation at the General Service Conference among the Area Delegates allows for some mentorship to take place between first year/second year delegates.

Matt K., P71 A11 Delegate
A11 Service Manual Workshop: Rotation
12/9/24

Panel 73 Delegate

continued from page 1

My first suggestion – pray, pray a lot! I don't think this can be overstated. Second, almost any position we can hold in service has informative literature and guidelines available from AAWS. Avail yourself of these tools. Kits, workbooks, and pamphlets are readily available. Read everything you can get your hands on.

If you do not have a service sponsor, get one, preferably a person who has held the position you are rotating into, but this is not a requirement. Also begin to study our Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts, read the Service Manual and discuss these topics with your service sponsor and anyone else you can rope into it.

On a lighter note, don't forget to stay in the moment and have fun. Keep Rule 62 in the front of your psyche. None of us has ever done nor will anyone ever do one of these jobs perfectly. The nature of the spirit of rotation will always ensure that about the time we figure out what we are doing, it is time to rotate. Your time in your position will pass quickly, trust me about this. You are in for one heckuva ride, so enjoy.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service and represent you as your Area 67 Delegate for these last two years. It has been an honor, a privilege, a wonderful opportunity, and most importantly, it has truly been a joy!

In love and service,
Rick M. Delegate
Panel 73/Area 67

Literature Committee

3rd Tuesdays 7:30pm

Google Meet

For those in new positions for this rotation (almost all of us), the General Service Office offers Committee-specific Kits, Workbooks, special items and discount packages to some committees. For new GSRs, DCMs, and Committee Chairs, please use the QR code to take you to the [AA.org](https://aa.org) page for New Trusted Servants.

**Webpage:
New
Trusted
Servants**



Committee Purpose:

Raise awareness for AA Conference-approved literature, audiovisual, and other special items.

HOW DO I GET LISTED AS THE NEW GSR, DCM, OR COMMITTEE CHAIR?

Our Area Registrar can update GSO's records with your contact information. Another way is to update your information directly with GSO through our Member Services Department.

News: Last spring we hosted a workshop on *How to Handle Our Founders' Original Writings*, which gave our Delegate a more informed group conscience. In the fall, we held the *Conference Connection* that overviewed how our groups are connected to the General Service Conference.

Our NEW Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service updated & revised for 2024-2026

THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL
combined with
TWELVE CONCEPTS
FOR WORLD SERVICE
by Bill W.



2024-2026 Edition
REVISED AND UPDATED

Join or start a New Service Manual Study soon!

It's much more fun and interesting reading with a group!

- Ask your Service Sponsor to lead one; or
- Ask your DCM to invite guest speakers.

It's okay if you have a 2021-2022 Service Manual — part of the fun is finding the differences!

Pamphlet of the Quarter

P-16 The A.A. Group



To step out of an A.A. office you love can be hard. If you have been doing a good job, if you honestly don't see anyone else around willing, qualified, or with the time to do it, and if your friends agree, it's especially tough. But it can be a real step forward in growth — a step into the humility that is, for some people, the spiritual essence of anonymity.

The A.A. Group, page 28 &
The A.A. Service Manual
2024-2026 Exhibit E, page 111

New GSO Podcast!!**Episode 1
Flipping the Triangle****Our
Primary
Purpose**

Official Podcast of the
General Service Office
**Alcoholics
Anonymous®**

Our Primary Purpose is the official podcast from the General Service Office (GSO) of Alcoholics Anonymous for the U.S. and Canada. Through interviews with GSO staff and voices from A.A. history and the Fellowship today, we explore how GSO supports A.A. to carry the message of recovery to those who need it most, which is **Our Primary Purpose**.

Rotation helps to bring us spiritual rewards far more enduring than any fame. With no A.A. "status" at stake, we needn't compete for titles or praise — we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed.

Reprinted from *The A.A. Service Manual*, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc., Appendix E, page 111.



Freepik.com Rotate



**JOB
ROTATION**

empmonitor.com

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE,
STRENGTH & HOPE
on

REMOTE COMMUNITIES

Are you involved in Remote Community service? Do you live far from AA meetings? Are you a loner? Stationed far away? Do you have a language or cultural barrier? Are you homebound? Do you use online meetings? Is it difficult to find AA meetings where you live? Tell us how you stay sober.

Stories due 5/15/25
for October issue

box
459

WINTER 2025

**The Long Road to the
Plain Language Big Book**

The latest General Service Conference-approved book, designed to help readers understand the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, was years in the making, with the participation of hundreds of members and trusted servants across the Fellowship.

**Includes Timeline of the 2016-2024
Path to Conference Approval, description of
the presentation at the 2015 international
Convention & Participant Interviews**

A Tool for Reading
Alcoholics Anonymous

**Second printing now available from your
Intergroup and the AAWS online bookstore**

9th District District 81 District 90 Houston

This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature
Cover used with permission of A.A.W.S., Inc.

over
1 million
served!

**The AA Grapevine Half-Hour Variety
Hour has exceeded 1 million
downloads!**

There is a new episode every week.
www.aagrapevine.org/podcast

HELP WANTED

Links underlined

Don't have a service commitment? Maybe one of these fits you

Public Information
Committee Chair Needed

**Appointed Committee
Members for Trustees'
Literature Committee**

Members familiar with A.A. literature
and with experience in A.A. service
carrying the message to:

**Asian and Asian American
or Transgender alcoholics**

- 5+ years continuous sobriety
- Board wkds & subcommittees
- Details: Box 459 Winter 2025
- literature@aa.org or call GSO 212-870-3019 for application
- **Deadline: April 15th**

Haitian Kreyòl

- 2+ years continuous sobriety
- Fluent in Haitian Kreyòl & English
- Strong connections with Haitian members or communities
- Details or RodriguezR@aa.org

Archives Committee

- Treasurer
- IT Liaison

IT Committee

- Google Workspace admin
- Website mgmt & updates (HTML, CSS, WordPress)
- End-user documentation
- Hardware (e.g., setup, maintenance & troubleshooting)
- Helping end-users

NEWSLETTER NEEDS

- Graphics/Layout (Eng or Sp)
- Typesetting (Eng & Span)
- Calendar Coord. (both)
- Linker (Eng or Span)
- Roving Reporter(s) (both)
- Proofreader (Spanish)
- Distribution (both)

No monthly meetings!

AREA 67 LINKS & CHANGES

AA-SETA.ORG GSRs
SETA P&P GSC 75 DCMs

Archives

New: 3rd Mondays 7pm

Correctional (CFC)

Professional (CPC)

Finance

Grapevine

Information Technology (IT)

La Viña

Literature

Multi-Lingual

Newsletter

Public Information (PI)

New: Last Tuesdays 6pm

SETA Convention

State Convention (SCAP)

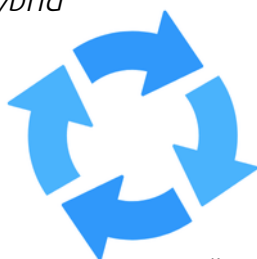
Treatment (TFC)

New: 4th Wednesdays 7pm

*No links are underlined
because all white text &
logos are linked*

AREA EVENTS

- Sat., March 29 – Area Committee Meeting
Online
- Sat., April 5 – Assembly
Hybrid
- Sat., July 12 – Assembly
Hybrid



Lordicon.com

OTHER EVENTS

- Sun.-Sat., April 27-May 3
General Service Conference
75, NY Delegates only
- Thurs.-Sat., July 3-6 A.A. International Convention,
Vancouver, BC, Canada
Hybrid
- Fri.-Sun., Aug. 8-10
44th D90 Convention,
Beaumont *In person*
- Sat., Aug. 15-17 78th Texas State Convention
Houston *In person*
- Fri.-Sun., Nov. 14-16
SW Regional Forum 2025
Albuquerque, NM *In person*

WIDER LINKS

AA.ORG

What's New

Information for New Trusted Servants
Service Committees

AA GRAPEVINE.ORG



Meeting
Guide App

A67 INTERGROUPS

Houston

9th District



ONLINE INTERGROUP
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A.A. ONLINE BOOKSTORE

TRADITION 2 (SHORT FORM)

.... Our leaders are but trusted servants; **they do not govern.**

TRADITION 9 (LONG FORM)

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. **Rotating leadership** is the **best**. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its **rotating committee**

CONCEPT XI (LONG FORM)

.... Therefore the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of **their rotation**, ..., will always be **matters for serious care and concern.**

SETA Newsletter Proposed Policies

- This Newsletter focuses on service-related pieces relevant to SETA and will consider and credit any reputable A.A. source whose piece is published. Uncredited pieces are from the Newsletter Committee.
- The Newsletter Editor reserves the right to edit or decline to publish any submission that is not service-related, otherwise inappropriate, or for editorial needs. The Newsletter's page limit is dictated by the budget so not all submissions can be published. Items may be held for another issue or occasional digital supplements may be published beyond the page limit in case of particularly useful items that cannot fit in the print edition.
- Excerpts from *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, *The A.A. Service Manual* or other Conference-approved literature are printed with permission of A.A.W.S., Inc.
- Excerpts from the *AA Grapevine* and *AA La Viña* are printed with permission of the A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- Suggestions are welcome.