

District 70 Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 3 April 2021

Our Primary Purpose: To Carry The AA Message To The Still Suffering Alcoholic

Our Beloved Big Book, full title Alcoholics Anonymous: The Story of How More Than 100 Men and Women Have Recovered from Alcoholism, is one of the best-selling books of all time with over 30 million copies sold and translations in 71 languages. Bill Wilson was the primary writer. The official author is "Anonymous".



In January 1939 400 mimeographed manuscripts were sent out to the fellowship and members of the medical field and clergy for review and comments. New York member Jim Burwell suggested the phrases "God as we understand Him" and "Power greater than ourselves" be added to the steps and basic text. A New Jersey psychiatrist, "Dr. Howard", suggested toning down the use of "you must" to "we ought"



or "we should". Both Dr. Silkworth and Dr. Harry Tiebout offered similar advice. The book had eight roman and 300 Arabic numbered pages. "The Doctor's Opinion" was page one and the basic text ended at page 179.

4,650 copies were published in April 1939 and it was 2 years before they all sold. At \$3.50 a copy it was a very expensive book for its time and the printer was told to use the thickest paper available so buyers would feel they were getting their money's worth. The large, bulky volume became known as the "Big Book" and the name has stuck ever since.

It took 36 years to sell the first million copies. Today approximately one million copies a year are distributed in the English language alone.

- The most expensive copy was a first edition first printing sold for \$21,250 in October 2014 at Heritage Auction
- 2011 Time Magazine listed the Big Book as one of the most influential books in English
- 2012 Library of Congress placed the Big Book number 10 on its list of 88 Books That Shaped America



District 70 meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm Any AA member may attend and we hope you will join us!

St. Paul's Anglican Church 11456 Space Center Blvd., Houston ZOOM ID 876 982 5767 Password 842598

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO DISTRICT 70 TO: P.O. Box 891383 Houston, TX 77289

Trusted Servant Open Positions Committee Chairs Needed Alt Treasurer **Correctional Facilities** Alt Secretary Finance & Budget Alt Registrar Grapevine

Literature

Treatment Facilities

If you have any questions about District 70 service activities please email our DCM at deborah.t@aa-seta.org

Everyone who attends the District 70 meeting will be entered to win \$40 of literature for their home group. The winner will be drawn at the next month's District 70 meeting. Must be present to win.





April 10-11 SETA Area Assembly - Virtual

April 14 District 70 Meeting – Hybrid

Face to Face and Zoom

St. Paul's Anglican Church

11456 Space Center Blvd., Houston, TX

Guest Speaker: Roland R., Area CFC Committee

June 11-13 Texas State Convention - Fort Worth, TX

https://txaaconvention.org

SETA Assembly July 10-11

> Doubletree Hotel Houston Intercontinental Airport

August 26-29 62nd ICYPAA – New Orleans, LA

www.icypaa.org



Please Share! We are requesting short submissions regarding your experience studying AA Traditions.

How has it influenced your recovery? What benefits did you gain? How has it impacted your involvement in service? Send an email with a Word doc attachment to <u>sara.b@aa-seta.org</u>. Please include your name and contact information in the body

of your email message.

We look forward to hearing from you!