



# The Scoop

## Welcome to the Month of Willingness!

Willingness is a term we are introduced to well before we get to Step 8, and it would seem that, in order to get to this point in the program willingness has already been demonstrated, and yet what is to come, demands even more. One of the simplest definitions of willingness is the quality or state of being prepared to do something; readiness. This would definitely describe most of us as we are faced with alcoholic destruction, we were prepared to do **anything!** Willingness is also described as being eagerly compliant. It means doing something out of choice and not because of coercion. When we become willing to do something, it means our minds become more open and receptive. We may consider doing things that in the past may have appeared objectionable, such as acknowledging our wrongs. Willingness means embracing change rather than fighting it.



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500 word limit, please!

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## Calendar of Events

- Aug 5 Roundup committee presents Unity BBQ Rawley Duntley Park
- Aug 12 Dist 7 Delegate Report & Breakfast @ Agua Dulce
- Aug 15 HDBB Anniversary Dinner



## Step 8: Seeking Forgiveness

The Eighth Step is seemingly easy; after all the list was made in Step Four. What more needs to be done? Well, in revisiting our list we find that it demands a new kind of honesty about our interactions with other people. The Eighth Step starts the procedure of forgiving others, forgiving ourselves, and learning how to live in the world. This is accomplished by acknowledging how we have caused harm. Hopefully, if we have been honest and thorough

up to this point, we have become ready to understand rather than to be understood. We can live and let live easier when we know the areas in which we need to make restitutions as well as knowledge of our character assets.

Remember that step 8 is not an exercise in casting guilt or shame on anyone—either yourself or those on your lists. By becoming willing to make amends, we begin the actions that enable us to be set free from the past.

*"Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all."*

### This Month in AA History

1934: Rowland H and Cebra persuade court to parole Ebby T. to them.

1939: Dr. Bob wrote & may have signed article for Faith magazine.

Aug 1: 1943 – Washington Times-Herald (DC) reports on AA clubhouse, to protect anonymity withholds address.

Aug 8: 1879 – Dr. Bob born in St. Johnsbury, VT.

Aug 11: 1938 – Akron & NY members begin writing stories for Big Book.

## What Is the Purpose of This Step?

Step Eight is a social housecleaning, just as Step Four was our personal housecleaning. In Step Eight we're setting out to clean up all the bruised relationships and the pockets of guilt, pain, fear, resentment, and sadness that are stored inside, stuck to our shameful past deeds. For this undealt-with material blocks us from loving other people, ourselves, and God in the present. We identify the wrongs of our past so that we can begin to repair the damage done. Only then can we devise a plan for creating future healthy relationships.

## How Do We Accomplish This?

We have a list of all persons we have harmed and to whom we are willing to make amends. We made it when we took inventory. We subjected ourselves to a drastic self-appraisal. Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. If we haven't the will to do this, we ask until it comes. Remember it was agreed at the beginning *we would go to any lengths for victory over alcohol.* -A.A. *Big Book*, p. 76 It's a good thing we didn't burn that inventory!



*Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers*

## The Eight Tradition

"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we might otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12th Step" work is never to be paid for."

Throughout the world A.A.s are "12th stepping" with thousands of new prospects a month. Between one and two thousand of these stick on our first presentation; past experience shows that most of the remainder will come back to us later on. Almost entirely unorganized, and completely non-professional, this mighty spiritual current is now flowing from alcoholics who are well to those who are sick. One alcoholic talking to another; that's all.

Could this vast and vital face-to-face effort ever be professionalized or even organized? Most emphatically, it could not. The few efforts to professionalize straight "12th Step" work have always failed quickly. Today, no A.A. will tolerate the idea of paid "A.A. Therapists" or "organizers". Nor does any A.A. like to be told just how he must handle that new prospect of his. No, this great life-giving stream can never be dammed up by paid do-gooders or professionals. Alcoholics Anonymous is never going to cut its own life lines. To a man, we are sure of that.

## Tradition Eight Checklist

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward—even if not money—for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
7. Have I paid enough attention to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*? To the pamphlet *AA Tradition—How It Developed*?

# Quotable Quotes

## Willingness

Most people don't have that willingness to break bad habits. They have a lot of excuses and they talk like victims. Carlos Santana

The first step in forgiveness is the willingness to forgive. Marianne Williamson

Entrepreneurs may be brutally honest, but fostering relationships with partners and building enduring communities requires empathy, self-sacrifice and a willingness to help others without expecting anything in return. Ben Parr

Personal responsibility is not only recognizing the errors of our ways. Personal responsibility lies in our willingness and ability to correct those errors individually and collectively. Yehuda Berg

I think that the good and the great are only separated by the willingness to sacrifice. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

There has to be a willingness to constantly accept critical feedback and rapidly iterate to make things better. Sam Yagan

## Concept 8

The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.



## Concept 8 Explained

Concepts VI, VII & VIII have to do with the balance of power and the relationship between the General Service Board, the Corporations, and the Conference. The Trustees are invested with full legal and practical responsibility for the management and oversight of our two Corporate Boards—AAWS and the Grapevine, Inc.--in addition to GSO. In this they are responsible for carrying our message around the world to other countries, for our Public Information activities and for overseeing our budget and operating funds. While the groups have final responsibility and ultimate authority through the conference, they delegate the day-to-day operations and oversight of our World Services to their elected trustees. Bill likens this relationship to a large, publicly-held corporation, in which the Trustees are the directors of a “holding company” (the General Service Board) with the groups acting as “stockholders” and the delegates as “proxy holders” who represent the groups at its annual meeting. Bill purposely chose this corporate model for our entire service structure over an institutional or government model because in his words, “it is a far superior vehicle when it comes to the administration of policy and business.” (Service Manual, pg. 28)

The conference exerts its authority by issuing “directives” to the trustees in the form of committee recommendations. Once passed, these become Advisory Actions, so called because we are advising the trustees to carry out the agreed-upon actions of the conference. The General Service Board, via Concept VIII, has the legal right to “veto” these advisory actions, but in the spiritual objective of unity built into our concepts, has never done so.

Concept VIII, which states that, with respect to our two corporate boards, the trustees have “full stock ownership” and “custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities. This came into full play at the 61st General Service Conference with regards to the trustees’ reduced slate of Grapevine Board Directors.

## NOT a Glum Lot . . .

A few ex-drunks are telling war stories after a meeting ....

"There was this bar in Japan where they bring you warm Saki and massage your shoulders while you drink as much as you want," said the first.

"Oh, that's nothing. I was at a Hotel in Mumbai where you'd buy one whiskey and they'd refill the glass twice more – all while pretty girls danced for you."

"Heck," said the third, "There's this bar in Dublin where as soon as they find out you're a foreigner, they pay for all your drinks and then, after you're tipsy, invite you into the back room where you get naked and have sex all night with the staff."

"No way! Did that actually happen to you?"

"Well... not me. But it happened to my sister."



## Willingness Word Search

S B K F E E R A A C E S S E E  
T P N E P K L Y O R N S W A G  
Y G R Y A A V M R A T E I F A  
I L M I C G P W C D H N F E B  
S B W R G L E U A G U T T H W  
P G I N I H T R E U S E N S R  
R T Q A O E T G N N I E E S E  
Y D N Y N I V L O E A L S E A  
N C Z E V X T J I P S F S N D  
E B S G M A T I P N M S N I I  
S S E N T I O R D A E X G L N  
S Y P R O M P T N E S S Z E E  
S S E N K S I R B H P E S V S  
Y T I R E L E C L G A X D I S  
Q U I C K N E S S L A P E L I

enthusiasm  
eagerness  
readiness  
alacrity  
compliance  
zeal  
acuteness  
adroitness  
briskness  
celerity  
dispatch  
expedition  
fleetness  
liveliness  
promptness  
quickness  
sprightliness  
spryness  
swiftness



# August 2017 Office Manager Report

	Jan - Jun '17	Jul '17	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$23,198.69	\$4,412.74	\$27,611.43
Expenses	(\$17,439.77)	(\$5,273.15)	(\$22,712.92)
Cost of Goods	(\$15,425.24)	(\$4,094.53)	(\$19,519.77)
Contributions	\$10,767.34	\$1,819.30	\$12,586.64
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$1,101.02</b>	<b>(\$3,135.64)</b>	<b>(\$2,034.62)</b>



<i>Contributions</i>			
Group	Jan - Jun '17	Jul '17	2017 Total
A Gathering of Women	\$121.29		\$121.29
Alano Club	\$0.00		\$0.00
AM Mod	\$1,814.51	\$839.15	\$2,653.66
Anonymous	\$419.35	\$135.49	\$554.84
Any Lengths Group	\$55.00		\$55.00
Arbor Court	\$30.00		\$30.00
AV Hospital - Rm #CR101	\$0.00		\$0.00
AV Men's Stag	\$730.21		\$730.21
AV Round-Up	\$0.00		\$0.00
AVYPBYOC	\$0.00	\$57.00	\$57.00
Birthday	\$116.00	\$30.00	\$146.00
Cal City Clubhouse	\$674.90	\$143.29	\$818.19
Crown Valley Grp	\$450.00		\$450.00
Fri Night Non-Smoker Mtg	\$220.00	\$48.00	\$268.00
H & I	\$0.00	\$19.55	\$19.55
High Desert BB Grp	\$1,406.63		\$1,406.63
High Desert Hospital	\$0.00		\$0.00
Intergroup Fundraisers	\$1,009.00		\$1,009.00
Into Action	\$150.00	\$153.00	\$303.00
Lake Hughes Men's Stag	\$414.00	\$13.00	\$427.00
Lake Hughes Monday Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Little Red Book	\$0.00		\$0.00
Mid-Day Mod	\$1,128.27		\$1,128.27
New Beginnings	\$0.00	\$15.00	\$15.00
Open Door	\$0.00		\$0.00
Palmdale Grp	\$543.50	\$340.82	\$884.32
Pearlblossom Grp	\$360.00		\$360.00
PM Mod	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rainbow Grp	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rosamond Sun Night	\$0.00		\$0.00
Rule 62 Grp	\$175.00		\$175.00
Sat AM Men's Stag	\$0.00		\$0.00
SCV Sun Night Spkr	\$17.00		\$17.00
Spiritual Sunday - Alano	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Sun Night BBS	\$25.00		\$25.00
We Care Grp	\$50.00		\$50.00
Wed Night BBS @ Grange	\$370.00		\$370.00
Westside Grp	\$40.00		\$40.00
Women in Progress	\$0.00		\$0.00
Women in Recovery	\$32.68		\$32.68
Women Seeking Serenity	\$415.00		\$415.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$10,767.34</b>	<b>\$1,819.30</b>	<b>\$12,586.64</b>

Valerie D.	8/1/2016	1	Bob S.	8/16/2005	12
Morgan	8/7/2016	1	Charise P.	8/25/2005	12
Katelyn R.	8/9/2016	1	Ron H.	8/12/2003	14
Sandra V.	8/28/2016	1	Stacy C.	8/25/2003	14
Julie	8/9/2015	2	Chris N.	8/30/2002	15
JoAnne G.	8/21/2015	2	Chris S.	8/17/2002	15
Erick V.	8/28/2015	2	Mvrtle O.	8/29/2002	15
Chris K.	8/17/2012	5	Barbara S.	8/20/2001	16
Dee Dee G.	8/9/2012	5	Cassandra P.	8/14/2001	16
Paul E.	8/1/2012	5	Susie B.	8/31/2001	16
Richard K.	8/23/2012	5	Boyce H.	8/19/2000	17
Robert R.	8/17/2012	5	Joe P.	8/13/2000	17
Wendy W.	8/20/2012	5	Marlene G.	8/16/2000	17
Amy D.	8/8/2011	6	Pamela P.	8/13/2000	17
Jeff M.	8/15/2011	6	Robert G.	8/25/2000	17
Joe S.	8/8/2011	6	Julio C.	8/28/1999	18
Laura	8/30/2011	6	Lisa B.	8/16/1999	18
Molly M.	8/9/2011	6	Joe L.	8/10/1997	20
Terry R.	8/5/2011	6	Carmen L.	8/16/1996	21
Amanda G.	8/15/2010	7	Mary M.	8/11/1996	21
Christine L.	8/29/2010	7	Robert R.	8/12/1996	21
Janet D.	8/10/2010	7	Enna W.	8/20/1994	23
Liz C.	8/17/2010	7	Lamont W.	8/1/1994	23
Michele S.	8/22/2010	7	Richard B.	8/2/1993	24
Tom M.	8/23/2010	7	Steve K.	8/20/1993	24
Wayne S.	8/24/2010	7	Stephanie M.	8/8/1992	25
Alex W.	8/28/2009	8	Alvin F.	8/17/1991	26
Jan P.	8/22/2009	8	Julie P.	8/31/1991	26
Janie G.	8/23/2009	8	Tracy B.	8/2/1991	26
Jason S.	8/22/2009	8	Linda S.	8/16/1990	27
Jim W.	8/8/2009	8	Jerry L.	8/28/1989	28
Judith C.	8/17/2009	8	Ken K.	8/13/1988	29
Micheal T.	8/20/2009	8	Sonny C.	8/10/1988	29
Miguel R.	8/13/2009	8	Lem J.	8/3/1987	30
Rick B.	8/15/2009	8	Ona J.	8/29/1987	30
Daniel M.	8/27/2008	9	Ralph H.	8/24/1987	30
Debra B.	8/7/2008	9	Tom M.	8/7/1985	32
Diane E.	8/15/2008	9	Carolyn C.	8/5/1984	33
Ernie S.	8/9/2008	9	Bill L.	8/24/1983	34
James S.	8/28/2008	9	Clark S.	8/11/1983	34
Johnny M.	8/15/2008	9	Doug M.	8/10/1982	35
Larry L.	8/13/2008	9	Eddie Duffy	8/9/1982	35
Stephanie S.	8/5/2008	9	Mvrtis S.	8/15/1981	36
Deborah A.	8/31/2007	10	Steve N.	8/9/1981	36
Havdan M.	8/8/2007	10	Jim P.	8/25/1980	37
Nicole J.	8/31/2007	10	John F.	8/19/1980	37
Robert M.	8/15/2007	10	John H.	8/19/1980	37
Sandra P.	8/6/2007	10	Maggie P.	8/23/1980	37
Shara B.	8/1/2007	10	Mike S.	8/5/1980	37
Dano	8/16/2006	11	Robert D.	8/17/1980	37
Kristy T.	8/19/2006	11	Roberta G.	8/10/1979	38
Kurt L.	8/3/2006	11	Clara W.	8/1/1976	41
Lisa M.	8/29/2006	11	Pat. L.	8/12/1976	41
Mardy G.	8/17/2006	11	Jay P.	8/5/1974	43
Michaela O.	8/18/2006	11	LaRue A.	8/8/1969	48
Bob S.	8/16/2005	12			
<b>Total Years =</b>		<b>1,864</b>			

## Managers Corner

Thanks to all who contributed to Central Office for Founder's Month! We have been working hard to resolve some issues and find ways to serve our fellowship and still suffering alcoholics. These contributions will help us reach these goals! If you don't see your birthday on our monthly list please have your group pass a roster around and forward it to the office so we can get it straightened out. Our information is only as good as what is provided! **\*\*NOTE: Contributions are down significantly! Our Central Office is only kept open by contributions from the groups. Expenses continue to rise for our groups and our office, but many people's contributions remain at one dollar (or less). Please consider helping us remain self-supporting! \*\***

## Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

1st ~ Larry W. & Cathy O.  
 2nd ~ Darin F. & Alonna T.  
 3rd ~ Stephanie S. & Vacant  
 4th ~ Judie M. & Christine B.  
 5th ~ Christine F. & Wendy W.

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

