

Why support the Area?

TRADITION 1 (long form)

*Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. AA must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterwards.**

Always mindful of the ideals expressed in the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts, and the AA Service Manual, Area 68 strives to be the voice and group conscience of AA in the Area, electing a delegate to the General Service Conference held in New York in April each year. The Area meets four times a year to consider area problems and solutions and to hold service workshops to keep AA strong and promote participation in service.

TRADITION 7 (short form)

*Every AA Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.**

Area 68 is supported through 7th tradition donations from groups and individuals. The treasurer maintains records and reports quarterly to the groups. The treasurer disburses funds to pay for the newsletter, for Area travel expenses, and to cover Area expenses as directed by the Area Service Structure and Procedures Manual. The AA pamphlets, *Where Money and Spirituality Meet*, *Memo to a Group Treasurer*, and *AA Guidelines on Finance*, explain AA finance in more detail.

* Reprinted from "The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," pages 189 and 160, with permission of AA World Services, Inc.

Southwest Texas Area 68 was formed in the early 1950s and has had a participating delegate since Panel 2 of the General Service Conference in 1952. Area 68 extends from Del Rio and Ozona on the West to Wharton and Giddings on the East and from Coleman and Brownwood on the North to Brownsville on the South. Area 68 is a service body that protects and respects the autonomy and privilege of dissent of any AA group in the Area.

Area officers and chairpersons are available to speak at workshops, district meetings, group meetings, and any other AA function.

Helpful Information & Literature

AA Service Manual

SWTA Service Structure and Procedures

The AA Group pamphlet

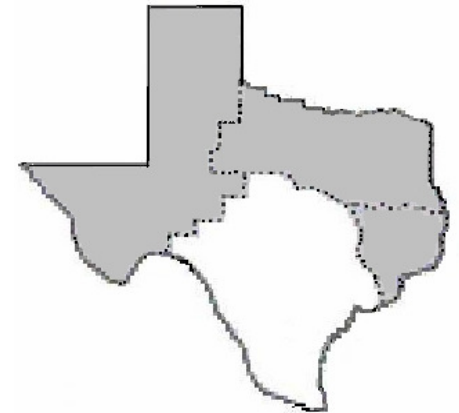
GSR and DCM kits

In addition, lists for area officers, chairpersons, and DCMs, as well as treasurer's reports, minutes and other pertinent information are distributed at each assembly.

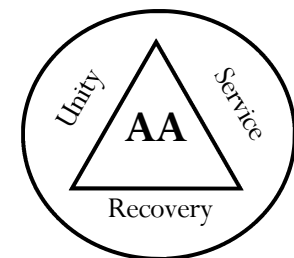
www.aa-swta.org

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SOUTHWEST TEXAS AREA 68



AREA 68 EXISTS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO AREA DISTRICTS AND GROUPS. AREA 68 ENCOURAGES ALL AREA GROUPS TO PARTICIPATE AND SUPPORT THE AREA ASSEMBLY, THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE, AND AA WORLD SERVICES.



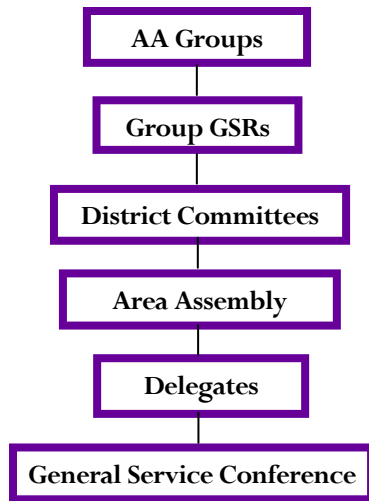


GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SOUTHWEST TEXAS AREA 68



What does the Area do and why?

The **area** holds an important middle position in the AA General Service Conference Structure—through an elected Delegate, it participates in AA worldwide, while through the DCMs and GSRs, it is close to the local scene.*



The **delegate** has a demanding job, not only because a large amount of time and work are involved, but because it is the delegate's responsibility to serve the US/Canada Conference as a whole. As voting members of the Conference, delegates bring to its deliberations the experiences and viewpoints of their own areas. Yet they are not representatives of their areas in the usual political sense; after hearing all points of view and becoming fully informed during Conference discussion, they vote in the best interests of AA as a whole.*

* Reprinted from "The AA General Service Manual" 2006-2007, pages S33 and S45 with permission of AA World Services, Inc.

When does the Area meet?

Area 68 meets quarterly, usually in January, April, July and October. Any Area city wishing to host one of these events may confer with the Area Chairperson, who selects the actual time and place.

What happens at Area Assemblies?

The January and July meetings are held in conjunction with Area Service Workshops. Each of the standing committees hosts a workshop. There are also GSR and DCM workshops. Useful information on how to coordinate twelfth step work and better carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous is available at these workshops. An Area Inventory is held at the summer workshop in odd numbered years.

The April Area Business Meeting is held in conjunction with the Pre-General Service Conference. The Area Delegate covers the agenda for the upcoming General Service Conference held in New York. The voice of local AA is heard through GSRs and DCMs so that the Delegate may carry the informed conscience of the Area to the Conference. Detailed information is provided so that the groups may be part of AA as a whole.

The October Business Meeting is held in conjunction with the Area Conference. Elections, held every two years, are conducted in accordance with the Third Legacy Procedures outlined in the Service Manual.

Who is a voting member?

- GSRs (or their alternates)
- DCMs (or their alternates)
- Area Committee Chairpersons
- Area Committee Officers

What Area officers are elected?

- Delegate and alternate
- Chairperson and alternate

Traditionally, the newly elected Delegate selects the Area Secretary, Registrar, and Treasurer as they have to work closely together. This selection needs to be approved by a majority of the Area Assembly.

The Area Chairperson selects the Chairs for the standing committees as well as an Area Webmaster.

Area Standing Committees

- Archives
- Bilingual/Spanish
- Correctional Facilities
- Grapevine/La Viña
- Newsletter
- Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community
- Treatment Facilities