



# The Scoop

## The Butterfly by Anonymous

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through that little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further.

So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that, at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

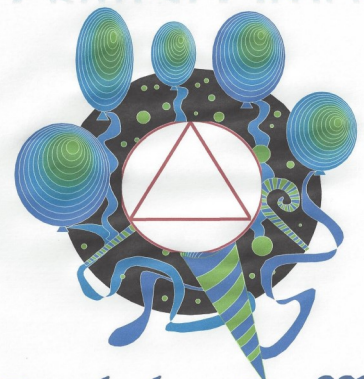
Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If God allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never fly!

## Hope Springs Eternal

What is hope? Quite simply, it is, as a noun, a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen:. As an action word it means to want something to happen or be the case:. Either way,, it is the perfect principle to align with Step Two.

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## Central Office



## Birthday Raffle

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### Calendar of Events

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.



## What is Step Two?

This step gives us hope. We are not alone, and something greater than us can help you conquer alcoholism and despair. The second step is about having an open mind.

This is the beginning of the end, in a way. We have a chance to end our old lives and begin anew one, committed to faith - faith in whatever we choose.

The second step is about having an open mind. As the previous step was about letting go of pride,

this step is about letting go of preconceived notions about what AA is and how it works, and making room for change.

No matter what we believed in, this is the step in which we become open to the idea that faith in a higher power will help you achieve soundness of mind. The Alcoholics Anonymous "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" book states: "Step 2 is the rallying point for us all. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we stand together on this Step."

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*Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.*

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### **Second Step Prayer**

*Heavenly Father, I am having trouble with personal relationships. I can't control my emotional nature. I am prey to misery and depression. I can't make a living. I feel useless. I am full of fear. I am unhappy. I can't seem to be of real help to others. I know in my heart that only you can restore me to sanity if I am just willing to stop doubting your power. I humbly ask that you help me to understand that it is more powerful to believe than not to believe and that you are either everything or nothing.*

## About Step Two

Through believing that a Higher Power can help, a man or a woman formerly eaten up with raging fear, anger, shame, doubt, guilt, and frustration may become calm and begin to grow spiritually by focusing on doing some simple steps, going to meetings, reading the Big Book, and talking to a sponsor. This person is not alone; there are other caring brothers and sisters who really do understand because they are dealing with the same problems the newcomer has. The simple act of believing that a Higher Power can restore us to sanity leads us into a family and into a new life where we can begin to see and experience a little sanity.

A Hunger for Healing, p. 35 —

The Step 2 phrase "came to believe" suggests a process and a progression of faith that evolves over time. A portion of A.A.'s oral tradition defines this as a three-part unfolding: First, we came, that is, we showed up and stumbled in the door. Second, we came to, that is, we sobered up, came to our senses, and began to experience emotional sobriety. Third, we came to believe. We began our real recovery process and our spiritual growth.

Serenity, A Companion for Twelve Step Recovery, p. 29 —



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.

As with the Second Step, the Second Tradition has the capacity to agitate those who see the word “God” and immediately feel that someone is trying to convert them. Fortunately, this is not the case. Tradition Two was most certainly written at a time when AA had a largely religious foundation, yet the Second Tradition is not necessarily meant to imply that everyone within an AA or group should be following the same God.

The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions elaborates on the presence of faith in the group while also addressing the notion that AA leaders do not govern. Much of the chapter relating to Tradition Two consists of a hypothetical situation in which a group of leaders attempts to impose their will on the group. In doing so, they exhibit many character defects such as self-centeredness and stubbornness. They lead more of a dictatorship than a democracy, and are eventually replaced after an election is called at a group consciousness meeting. After a time, the new leaders do their duties without any delusions of power, and it is at this point that the story ends. . .

### Tradition Two Checklist

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

### This Month in AA History

February 1-1918 – Original date set for Bill W.’s marriage to Lois Burnham. The date was moved up because of the war.

February 5-1941 – Pittsburgh Telegram ran a story on the first A.A. group’s Friday night meeting of a dozen “former hopeless drunks.”

February 8-1940 – Bill W., Dr. Bob, and six other A.A.s asked 60 rich friends of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for money at the Union Club, N.Y. They got \$2,000.

February 10- 1922: After his recovery from alcoholism, Harold E. Hughes became Governor of Iowa, a United States Senator, and the leading dark horse for the Presidential Democratic nomination in 1972, until he announced he would not run. He authored the legislation which created the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and other legislation to help alcoholics and addicts.

February 12 -1945 – World War II paper shortage forced reduction in size of the Big Book.

February 13- 1937 – Oxford Groups “Alcoholic Squadron” met at the home of Hank P. in New Jersey.

Feb 14-1971 – AA groups worldwide held a memorial service for Bill Wilson.

February 16-1941 – Baltimore Sunday Sun reported city’s first AA group begun in 1940 had grown from 3 to 40 members, with five being women.

February 18-1943 – AA’s were granted the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases, despite gas rationing.

## Quotable Quotes

I find hope in the darkest of days, and focus in the brightest. I do not judge the universe. Dalai Lama

Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence. Helen Keller

Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.

Saint Augustine  
I hope for nothing. I fear nothing. I am free.  
Nikos Kazantzakis  
Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness. Desmond Tutu  
Let your hopes, not your hurts, shape your future. Robert H. Schuller

Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us. Samuel Smiles

## World Concept Two

There are quite a few questions raised in Concept One. The answer lies in Concept II: "The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs." The key principle in this concept is "delegation." The groups delegate their authority to the conference by electing GSR's, District Committee members, and Area Officers, who in turn elect a delegate every two years to attend the annual conference in New York. In this way the voice of the groups is heard through its elected delegate.

There is only one exception to this rule: the Twelve Traditions and the Six Warranties of Article XII cannot be changed without the consent of three-fourths of all registered groups worldwide responding to a written ballot.



*The Third Legacy is SERVICE!*

## Concept Two Concerns

The elected delegate may seem to be in a precarious position.

How can they know the conscience of every AA member in every group they represent?

Are they to serve as mere puppets, doing their area's bidding as instructed, or should they be entirely independent, deciding exactly for themselves what they shall think and how they shall vote?

Stay tuned . . . The answer to this dilemma lies in Concept Three . . .

## Concept Two, In Case You Missed It.

Concept II: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs. What is the general Service Conference (the "Conference")? How often does it meet? What does it do? Why was the conference given the responsibility for maintaining A.A. services? Who is our area delegate? Who is our district committee member (D.C.M.)? What do they do? What is a Conference Advisory Action? Does my home group's general service representative report back to the group on the highlights of the Conference? What is our area assembly, and what is its relationship to the Conference? Does my group contribute to our area?

## Inside Story Headline

A preacher was on program at a district convention to preach for twenty minutes. The other preachers from the district were sitting behind him in the choir section, giving him moral support and throwing in an occasional "Amen" to help the preacher along. The preacher preached his twenty minutes and continued on despite allotted time. He preached for 30 minutes, then forty minutes and then for an hour. He even continued for an hour and ten minutes. Finally, a brother sitting on the front row took a song book and threw it at the preacher that was still going strong in his message. The preacher saw the song book as it was hurled his way and he ducked. The song book hit one of the preachers sitting in the choir section. As the man in the choir section was going down, you could hear him say, "Hit me again, I can still hear him preaching!"



*Alcohol is a perfect solvent: It dissolves marriages, families and careers. You won't drink away the alcoholism.*

## Searching for Hope

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

aspiration  
desire  
wish  
expectation  
ambition  
aim  
goal  
design  
dream  
optimism  
expectation  
confidence  
faith  
trust  
belief  
conviction  
assurance  
promise  
possibility  
belief



# February 2018 Office Manager Report

	Jan '18	YTD Total
Sales of Goods	\$4,323.18	\$4,323.18
Expenses	(\$5,515.47)	(\$5,515.47)
Cost of Goods	(\$3,804.28)	(\$3,804.28)
Contributions	\$1,507.76	\$1,507.76
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$3,488.81)</b>



<i>Contributions</i>			
Group	Jan '18	2018 Total	
A Gathering of Women	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Alano Club		\$0.00	
AM Mod	\$310.20	\$310.20	
Anonymous	\$99.70	\$99.70	
Any Lengths Group		\$0.00	
Arbor Court	\$80.00	\$80.00	
AV Hospital - Rm #CR101		\$0.00	
AV Men's Stag	\$117.04	\$117.04	
AV Round-Up		\$0.00	
AVYPBYOC		\$0.00	
Birthday		\$0.00	
Cal City Clubhouse		\$0.00	
Clubhouse Meeting		\$0.00	
Crown Valley Grp		\$0.00	
Gathering of Women		\$0.00	
H & I		\$0.00	
High Desert BB Grp		\$0.00	
High Desert Hospital		\$0.00	
Intergroup Fundraisers		\$0.00	
Into Action		\$0.00	
Lake Hughes Men's Stag	\$60.00	\$60.00	
Lake Hughes Monday Night		\$0.00	
Little Red Book		\$0.00	
Mid-Day Mod	\$62.05	\$72.05	
New Beginnings		\$0.00	
Open Door		\$0.00	
Palmdale Grp	\$404.48	\$404.48	
Pearlblossom Grp		\$10.00	
PM Mod		\$78.39	
Quartz Hill Unity Grp	\$120.90	\$120.90	
Rainbow Grp		\$0.00	
Rosamond Sun Night		\$78.39	
Rule 62 Grp		\$0.00	
Sat AM Men's Stag		\$0.00	
SCV Sun Night Spkr		\$0.00	
Spiritual Sunday - Alano		\$0.00	
Step Workshop Mtg		\$0.00	
Sun Night BBS	\$15.00	\$15.00	
Thurs Night BBS @ Alano		\$0.00	
We Care Grp		\$0.00	
Wed Night BBS @ Grange		\$0.00	
Westside Grp		\$0.00	
Women in Progress		\$0.00	
Women in Recovery		\$0.00	
Women Seeking Serenity	\$150.00	\$150.00	

Jerry D.	2/9/2016	2	Bonnie E.	2/20/2002	16
Alees H.	2/20/2016	2	Barbara	2/20/2001	17
Malissa T.	2/24/2016	2	Kathy R.	2/13/2001	17
Larry W.	2/1/2015	3	Ontaria W.	2/25/2001	17
Dan F.	2/26/2014	4	Pat. T.	2/12/2001	17
Linnea M.	2/1/2014	4	Larry M.	2/29/2000	18
Rachel	2/4/2014	4	Michael G.	2/22/2000	18
Greg B.	2/4/2014	4	Tonie R.	2/18/2000	18
Doug C.	2/20/2014	4	Al Nelson	2/27/1999	19
Matt D.	2/21/2013	5	Lila P.	2/1/1999	19
Alex D.	2/12/2012	6	Carol M.	2/12/1998	20
Amanda O.	2/7/2012	6	John Michael	2/2/1998	20
Sarah W.	2/10/2012	6	Sam S.	2/23/1998	20
Bob H.	2/13/2012	6	Jeanenne M.	2/21/1997	21
Lee F.	2/5/2012	6	Jordan C.	2/7/1997	21
Sarah W.	2/10/2012	6	Kathleen B.	2/1/1997	21
Sharon R.	2/10/2012	6	Marcia J.	2/14/1997	21
Janis B.	2/12/2012	6	Mark F.	2/10/1995	23
Susan M.	2/15/2012	6	Janet R.	2/9/1993	25
Terra B.	2/18/2012	6	Janie H.	2/22/1993	25
Hillary C.	2/7/2011	7	Mark R.	2/24/1993	25
Jenny C.	2/27/2011	7	Nancy N.	2/28/1993	25
Jessica C.	2/18/2011	7	Nury C.	2/10/1993	25
Joe O.	2/12/2011	7	Katie C.	2/11/1992	26
Larry L.	2/2/2011	7	Melissa V.	2/22/1992	26
Melissa P.	2/9/2011	7	Judie M.	2/22/1991	27
Scott C.	2/17/2011	7	Kim	2/5/1991	27
Cindy B.	2/5/2010	8	Gayle M.	2/20/1990	28
Rod W.	2/27/2010	8	Mike H.	2/4/1990	28
George C.	2/27/2010	8	Mike S.	2/20/1990	28
Kat H.	2/18/2010	8	David E.	2/14/1989	29
Kevin S.	2/17/2010	8	Frank H.	2/11/1989	29
Linda H.	2/9/2010	8	Lori W.	2/4/1989	29
Tonie R.	2/18/2009	9	Marilyn M.	2/23/1989	29
Wayne W.	2/9/2009	9	Ron M.	2/10/1989	29
Bob J.	2/19/2008	10	Francis R.	2/14/1988	30
Brad B.	2/15/2008	10	Penny R.	2/10/1988	30
Michael P.	2/18/2008	10	Tom L.	2/22/1988	30
Mike W.	2/13/2008	10	Bud V.	2/23/1987	31
Robert W.	2/4/2008	10	Jeffery T.	2/21/1987	31
Benecia S.	2/14/2007	11	Kim O.	2/4/1986	32
Dave W.	2/12/2007	11	Steve L.	2/5/1986	32
Debbie H.	2/25/2007	11	Pat J.	2/24/1985	33
Betsy C.	2/2/2006	12	Ginney	2/2/1984	34
Carol W.	2/8/2006	12	Laura L.	2/22/1984	34
Jenni J.	2/8/2006	12	Joyce M.	2/2/1982	36
Laura F.	2/8/2006	12	Charlie R.	2/28/1981	37
Merridith E.	2/21/2005	13	Garv F.	2/20/1981	37
Ravmond Mc.	2/10/2005	13	Garv S.	2/18/1981	37
John H.	2/25/2004	14	George W.	2/16/1979	39
Mike F.	2/14/2004	14	Kate W.	7/28/1978	40
Chuck S.	2/15/2003	15	Will L.	2/17/1978	40
Debbie B.	2/13/2003	15	Skip W.	2/23/1977	41
Donna B.-L.	2/1/2003	15	Vic L.	2/5/1977	41
Lennie H.	2/27/2003	15	Beverly L.	2/15/1976	42
Rick C.	2/3/2003	15	Jeanie G.	2/29/1976	42
T. J. S.	2/23/2003	15	Joe F.	2/27/1971	47

**Get your groups birthday list to Central Office . . . That's how they appear here!**

<i>Gratitude Month</i>			
Mid-Day Modification	\$10.00		
PM Mod	\$78.39		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,507.76</b>	<b>\$1,674.54</b>

**Total Years = 2,083**

## Managers Corner

**Congratulations to December's Birthday Raffle winner David A. !!! We have scheduled our 3rd annual Comedy Show for April 7th . . . Tickets sell out fast for this event and there are always some amazing talent for ONLY \$10. Stop by Central Office to get your tickets and support our local AA!**

### Thank You Saturday Volunteers!!

1st ~ Larry W. & Mel L.  
2nd ~ Wendy W. & Cindy B.  
3rd ~ Stephanie S. & Karen  
4th ~ Judie M. & Christine B.  
5th ~ Christine F. & Chris T.

**Thank you for allowing me to be of service!!**

Jeffrey Harlow

Don't forget to visit us on the Web!

