

0777 newsletter



Volume 8 Issue 8

AA HOTLINE 727-847-0777

August 2009

1st Annual

Noon High

Mon. Sept. 7, 2009

Labor Day Picnic !!!

Starkey Park-Pavilion B

11 AM- 4 PM

- ◆ Bring A Covered dish
- ◆ Speaker/ Disc. Mtg.
- ◆ Games, Prizes!
- ◆ Celebrate Sobriety!

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If you find mistakes in this publication, please consider they are there for a reason. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.

The Al-Anon Hotline
1-(352)-697-0497

tattoos

When I came into the halls of AA, I was broken—mentally, physically, and spiritually. I, too, was full of shame and it was a barrier to connecting with others. I was a teenage run-away at thirteen, and I survived hand-to-mouth for many years, doing whatever it took to survive on the streets. It was a time of hard drinking and drugging. I loved no one and no one loved me. Every day that I was alive was an unanswered death wish. God and religion were some of the reasons I left home. I had parents who preached virtue while they tortured the children. There was no God to save me, although I prayed every night with a rosary pressed into my hand.

My tattoos were badges of honor with the hooligans I hung out with. Whenever we survived a particular event, like a thievery or a street trauma, we were honored with a tattoo. They aren't the pretty little things women have today, but the old jailhouse-ink type, where the needle is wrapped in thread and everything from India ink to mascara is used. I have tattoos up both legs from ankle to thigh, and several on my arms and back.

It was a long road to happy, joyous and free. Because of my visible past, my shame was overwhelming. Women in the halls didn't approach me - I was in-your-face unapproachable. I thought I was having a brilliant rebellion, and these people had no idea where a low-bottom woman drunk could go. If they did, there was judgment (without mercy) that went with that knowledge. But most of that

judgment came from myself. I compared stories and didn't identify. Apparently, women had not been to the places I had been and then come into the halls. I was unique.

I kept going to meetings, even when I didn't understand why. I just knew that I didn't want to drink, and the people in the halls said they weren't drinking. The first time I heard Joe talk about being homeless and in psych wards, I began to identify. It was my first moment of grace. I was not unique. I began to listen to the men, since they were comrades from the streets. Although I didn't get a formal sponsor, I managed to get some advisors around me. Of course they were male, but they shared the same kind of experiences that I'd had, and I was sure that I didn't cross any personal boundaries.

See "BOUNDARIES"

On page 4

Step 8

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

Tradition 8

"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

0777
Newsletter

The Newsletter Committee is soliciting info about any AA Activities- group events, dances, picnics etc.

Submit all info by the 20th of the month preceding publication to:

news0777@yahoo.com

or drop off at :

West Pasco /Tarpon Springs InterGroup

6611 US 19 Suite 505

New Port Richey, Fl. 34652

(727) 847-0777

Donation Addresses

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS INTER-GROUP

TREASURER

6611 US 19, ROOM 505

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL. 34652

DISTRICT 15 GENERAL SERVICE

TREASURER

P.O. BOX 692

ELFERS, FL. 34680-0692

AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE

TREASURER P.O.BOX 561715

MIAMI, FL. 33256-1715

AA GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

P.O. BOX 459

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10063

TREASURER'S REPORT

June 1 Balance ... \$	5683.64
Income	+1880.46
Expenses	-2801.15
Ending Balance ... \$	4762.61

Central Office - June

Niteline calls 122

Office calls 176

Walk-ins 63

Pass the Basket

August 2009

Tropical Attitudes	\$ 60.00
Wonderful Step	150.00
Two Or More	100.00
How Important Is It?	80.00
Sun. Morn. Gratitude	20.00
Living Sober	50.00
InterGroup	9.00
Life Group	5.00
In The Beginning	10.00
Unity Meeting	31.20
Sat. Morning Big Book	20.00
Happier Hour	100.00
As Bill Saw It	20.00
Pasco Big Book	60.00
TOTAL	\$ 716.95

Thank YOU for your Support!

***** UNITY *****

MEETING

*** Every 3rd Saturday! ***

Aug. 15- Tropical Attitudes

Sept. 19- Men Let's Talk

Oct. 17- Noon High

Groups wishing to sponsor a Unity Meeting, should attend a Unity Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month and meet with **Mary Ellen** to set up a date. You'll be glad you did because not only will you be supporting West Pasco/Tarpon Springs InterGroup, but you'll be showcasing your home group at the same time.

Starts @ 7 PM!

River Ridge Presbyterian Church

7540 Ridge Rd. — East of Little Rd.

August- Pickin' up chips

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
<u>AA WAY</u>		<u>MEN LET'S TALK</u>	
Terry J.	23 yrs	Frank W.	4 yrs
Peter K.	4 yrs	Thom J.	4 yrs
<u>BACK TO BASICS</u>		Chris D. 4 yrs	
Mike E.	15 yrs	<u>MIRACLE GROUP</u>	
<u>CAME TO BELIEVE</u>		Robert W. 33 yrs	
<u>CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS</u>		<u>NEW HOPE BEGINNERS</u>	
Bill O.	3 yrs	<u>NEW LIFE GROUP</u>	
<u>COTEE RIVER YOUNG PEOPLES</u>		Richard L. 14 yrs	
Bill	7 yrs	Bren P 5 yrs	
<u>HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?</u>		<u>NOON HIGH</u>	
Craig T.	26 yrs	Bill R. 2 yrs	
Edie W.	10 yrs	<u>NPR KISS GROUP</u>	
Harry N.	17 yrs	Dick B. 14 yrs	
Roger P.	4 yrs	Debbie C. 17 yrs	
<u>K.I.S. WOMEN</u>		Helen F. 12 yrs	
Kay H.	18 yrs	Bill O. 7 yrs	
Barbara S.	37 yrs	Michael W. 4 yrs	
Barrie S.	31 yrs	Bob W. 28 yrs	
Edie W.	10 yrs	Richard N. 10 yrs	
<u>SUN. MORN. GRATITUDE</u>		Eddie Mc. 14 yrs	
<u>SURRENDER GROUP</u>		<u>PASCO BIG BOOK</u>	
<u>LIFE GOES ON</u>		Mike H. 1 yr	
Eric T.	12 yrs	Charlie M. 15 yrs	
John D.	19 yrs	Dory E. 33 yrs	
Don G.	33 yrs	<u>SERENITY GROUP</u>	
Nancy B.	18 yrs	Norris R. 12 yrs	
<u>LIVING SOBER</u>		Barrie S. 31 yrs	
Walter B.	31 yrs	Anita H. 24 yrs	
<u>WONDERFUL SAT. STEP GROUP</u>		<u>9 & 11 STEP GROUP</u>	
Brenda P.	5 yrs	Eleanor 38 yrs	
Jeff B.	13 yrs	Larry 24 yrs	
Bob C.	2 yrs	<u>TROPICAL ATTITUDES</u>	
<p>If your group anniversaries are not listed here, be sure to have them @ Central Office by the 20th of the month preceding publication.</p>		Anthony C. 1 yr	
		Billy P. 2 yrs	
		Mike H. 1 yr	
		Randolph C. 5 yrs	
		Christina 4 yrs	

District 15

Special Needs Committee

The Special Needs Committee is looking for volunteers to assist with taking meetings to homebound AA members and help any members with special needs. If you have only a couple hours a month, that is enough to help us out. We meet the 1st SATURDAY OF THE MONTH @ 12 Noon at the A Club. Any questions call Donna E. @ 727-375-2489 or Email me @ d15specialneeds@hotmail.com. The AClub is at 5650 W. Missouri Ave., NPR.

**This is
YOUR NEWSLETTER**

We need to get the input of our readers into 0777 Newsletter. We are asking people within District 15 to contribute articles to this newsletter. A.A. members with one (1) or more years of continuous sobriety can reserve a month-date for their article. Please leave us your name, telephone number, or email address (with the month you would like to do your article). Messages can be left for the 0777Newsletter Committee from:

**10 am – 5 PM weekdays at (727) 847-0777
or email us at**

www.news0777@yahoo.com

**AA CD's
TO LEND!!!**

District 15 Archives Committee has placed a number of CD's at Central Office to lend. There are different speakers, Steps, Traditions, Concepts and history cd's to sign out. The only thing asked is that you sign for them so that others will know where they are. Archives Committee meets on the last Sat. of the month @ 12 Noon. All are invited. Questions? Call Nancy A. @ 992-2204

**WORD SEARCH
STEP 8**

Word List

- AMENDS
- EXTREME
- INSIGHT
- LIST
- OBSTACLES
- PURPOSEFUL
- WRONGS
- AVOIDING
- FORGETTING
- ISOLATION
- MADE
- OTHERS
- RELATIONS
- BECAME
- FORGIVE
- JUDGEMENTS
- MAKE
- PERSONAL
- RELUCTANCE
- EXHAUSTIVE
- HARMED
- KINDS
- OBJECTIVE
- PERSONS
- WILLING

Directions-

Find the above words in the puzzle forwards, backwards, up, down, diagonal.

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

By Rich F., NPR KISS Group

**Check Out
our
Web Site!**

wptsaa.org

* current meeting list

* current 0777



“Tell you what. You join A.A and get sober and we'll attend that convention at Long Beach as 'Before and After.'”

Reprinted with permission from:

the GRAPEVINE- July, 1960

Life Is .. The Coffee !

A group of Alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. The conversation soon turned to complaints about stress in work and life.

Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups- porcelain, plastic, glass, crystal, some plain looking and some exquisite- telling them to help themselves to the coffee.

After all the students had a cup of coffee in their hand, the professor said "If you noticed, all the nice looking cups were taken first- leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress.

"Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases, it's just more expensive, in other cases it even hides what we drink.

"What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best cups.. . And then began comparing your cup with the others. Consider this: Life is the coffee, and the jobs, houses, cars, things, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life, and the type of cup we have does not define nor change the quality of life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to appreciate the wonderful coffee we have been provided with.

"God brews the coffee, not the cups.. . Enjoy your coffee."

*Jack H., an old-timer
from Connecticut*

"Boundaries" from page 1

Today, I am fifty years old and twelve years sober. My tattoos are still a **constant** reminder of where I came from, and they bring me honor in a different way: They are the reason some people immediately feel comfortable around me. They know that I didn't learn all that I know in a book.

I went to college and graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in psychology. I share the message and do Twelfth Step work with homeless people and sex workers who are alcoholic and addicted. When I come back in from the streets, after sharing my experience, strength and hope, I say "There, but for the grace of God, go I."

Today, I love my life and myself. I have thrown myself into the middle of the herd with service work. I know and respect many people in recovery. I sponsor women from the street, and I often tell my story to help lift the shame from others. I found a God of my understanding in my Native American grandmother's story of the Butterfly Nation. I got my last tattoo professionally done. It's a butterfly, of course.

*Cindy C.
Manchester, New Hampshire*

*Reprinted from The Grapevine - August, 2007
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.. . I am responsible
Whenever anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to be there.. .

**Groups Represented
At InterGroup 7/8/09**
*KISS Women's, Noon High,
Back To Basics, New Hope Beginners,
How Important Is It? N.P.R. -KISS
Is your group represented? Become an InterGroup Rep!*

**District 15 Agenda
Meeting**
The first Monday of every month. The Agenda Meeting takes place at the Central Office at 6:30 PM. Any AA member who wants to put an item on the agenda for the District Meeting is welcome to attend and place their item on the agenda; they must do so at this meeting.

Dist. 15 Treatment Committee
will meet **Sat. August 8th @ Noon @ the AClub.**
5650 W. Missouri Ave. NPR

BRIDGING THE GAP
for **Basic Step**
12th Work taken to a **new** dimension in Pasco and Pinnellas Counties.

The hand of A.A. will reach out to the alcoholic newcomer upon their discharge from treatment and correction facilities.

Please announce at all meetings & post on all Clubroom Bulletin Boards.

InterGroup, & General Service Rep's—Please get your group a sign up sheet from your GSR Rep or at the Central Office. For more information leave a message for **Kathryn @**

847-0777

23rd Annual Tampa Bay Fall Roundup
September 4 - 7, 2009

"The Of Language The Heart"
Embassy Suites Hotel ~ USF
3705 Spectrum Blvd. Tampa, FL 33612
Details at Central Office!

**~District 15~
Corrections
Committee**
Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at the AClub @ Noon.
Come and get involved! This month Aug. 15th
AClub is at 5650 W. Missouri Ave., NPR