

0777 newsletter



Volume 8 Issue 2

AA HOTLINE 727-847-0777

February 2009

Wonderful Saturday Step Group

17TH ANNUAL

4th Step Workshop

Saturday Feb. 21

Noon-4PM

BRING YOUR BIG BOOK !

Snacks & Beverages
Provided

Westminster
Presbyterian Church
4125US Hwy 19
New Port Richey

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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.
Mark Twain

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

Finding the Very Best Sponsor in AA

When I first got sober a few years ago, old-timers stressed how important it was to get a sponsor, and I created a laundry list of qualities I wanted in the "perfect sponsor." Unfortunately, no one matched that list. I was twenty-one and had quite a few drugs in my story, as well as myriad other idiosyncrasies I thought were unique to me. I decided that my sponsor would have to be young, would have to understand my lingo, and at least would have experimented with drugs.

After a few tries at sobriety, a lot of coffee, quite a few meetings, and one really big cross-country move, all within less than a month of getting sober, I found John. He wasn't someone who met my criteria. My laundry list, like so many other ideas I had then, was quickly overturned. What I did find was the best sponsor in AA. John, a young sixty-eight years old, shook his head and smiled as I scribbled his number down on a piece of cardboard ripped from my pack of cigarettes. The next day we had a cup of coffee together. After a number of rides to meetings in his big old '89 Lincoln-which I ridiculed-I finally worked up the intestinal fortitude to ask him to sponsor me.

During the next few months, I relished the many hours I spent in the front seat of that Lincoln. I hung on to John's every word. Okay, not every word, but most words. For the first time in my life, someone else was able to calm that perfect storm between my ears.

I listened nostalgically to stories of a time in AA I had never known, a time of even bigger cars and smoke-drenched Twelve Step calls under the cover of night. I'm still enthralled by John's stories, no matter how many times I've heard them. Besides, there is always an occasional new one in the mix.

John never had to tell me to call him every day, because I wanted to call him every day. When John wasn't home, his wife Sharon was a superb backup with her thirty-plus years of sobriety. I've never felt as safe as I did sitting in that living room with their years of sobriety surrounding me. I joked to other old-timers about the Christmas lights John "forced" me to lift in order to stay sober. They would laugh and say, "Well, you didn't drink, did you? He must be doing something right."

I now live some distance away from John, but some of my favorite times continue to be at his dining room table. He still doesn't understand my loud rap music, but he knows me.

I do have the best sponsor in AA, but there are thousands of "best sponsors" around us at every meeting. All it takes is some open-mindedness and willingness. Much to my surprise, I didn't have to conduct extensive interviews to find mine; just a cup of coffee and an invitation of friendship were enough.

For me that's what sponsorship truly is: friendship. John was not a name I could use to appease the powers that be, and I was not just someone he could claim as another "pigeon." I was a friend-a best friend with whom he could share the beauty of what he had found in Alcoholics Anonymous.

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Unity Meeting

Has New Location !!!

See Page 2

Step 2 Came that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition 2 For our group purpose there is but on ultimate authority- a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Newsletter Committee

John L. Stephani B.

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
M-F 10AM- 5 PM

**PASS THE BASKET
January 2009**

Tropical Attitudes	\$ 40.00
Not A glum Lot	10.00
Happier Hour	90.00
NPR/KISS	300.00
AA Way	20.00
Happier Hour	45.00
CandleLight	15.00
InterGroup	13.00
Noon High	23.00
TriAngle Group	50.00
Unity Meeting	43.00
Living Sober Group	37.00
Pasco Big Book	40.00
3 and 11 Group	2.00

TOTAL \$ 787.25

CENTRAL OFFICE
THANKS YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!

February: Pickin' up chips

NAME	YEARS	NAME	YEARS
AA WAY		NEW LIFE GROUP	
Fred S.....	32yrs	Maureen S.....	24yrs
BACK TO BASICS		NOON HIGH	
Bill L.....	34yrs	Jeff C.	1 yr
Miller M.....	5yrs	NPR KISS GROUP	
CAME TO BELIEVE		Shelby B.....	6yrs
Art S.....	25yrs	Johann B.....	17yrs
Pat S.....	7yrs	Bob C.....	26yrs
Steve S.....	1yr	Tom F.....	4yrs
CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS		Michael S.....	6yrs
Jim G.....	4yrs	PASCO BIG BOOK	
George Sr.....	21yrs	RECOVERY THROUGH THE STEPS	
Bob C.....	26yrs	SERENITY GROUP	
COTEE RIVER YOUNG PEOPLES		Tim.....	28yrs
Vince P.....	9yrs	TRIANGLE GROUP	
John D.....	4yrs	Dick S.....	25yrs
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?		TROPICAL ATTITUDES	
K.I.S. WOME		Daniella Z.....	3yrs
Karin B.....	8yrs	TWO OR MORE	
Susan S.....	9yrs	Vince P.....	29yrs
Dana F.....	5yrs	Randy S.....	21yrs
Debbie K.....	13yrs	New Hope Beginners Group	
WONDERFUL SAT. STEP		Jim.....	35yrs
Bob C.....	26yrs	Noreen.....	24yrs
SUN. MORN. GRATITUDE		Dennis.....	18yrs
SURRENDER GROUP			
Pat M.....	30yrs		
LIFE GOES ON			
Peter G.....	3yrs		
Robert B.....	7yrs		
Debbie F.....	26yrs		
Lewis S.....	37yrs		
LIVING SOBER			
MEN LET'S TALK			
Bill G.....	9yrs		
David M.....	6yrs		
Miller M.....	5yrs		
Dick B.....	4yrs		

DONATION ADDRESSES

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS
INTERGROUP 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 GENERALSERVICE
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

I am responsible

Whenever anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to be there... .

UNITY MEETING

Hosted by
Feb. 21ST ..AClub CAME TO BELIEVE
Mar. 21st .. WOMEN'S 2 FOR 1 STEP
/STUDY
Apr. 17th .. ??? ? ?

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.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE! !

New Location:

*River Ridge Presbyterian Church
7540 Ridge Rd. - East of Little
South Side of Road*

If your group's anniversaries are not listed here please send them to: news0777@yahoo.com or drop them off at Central Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dec. 1 Balance	\$4,637.21
Income Dec.	+ 1,527.45
Expenses Dec.	- 1,484.27
Ending Balance	\$ 4,680.39

Balance should include Prudent Reserve of \$ 2,500.00

Central Office January

Niteline calls 113
Office calls 171
Walk-ins 79

The Intergroup Steering Committee needs 1 member.

The committee oversees the operation of the central office and reviews the actions of the office coordinator.

Term: 18 months
Sobriety: 2 years

Each member must be from a different home group.

The steering committee meets 1 hour before the inter-group meeting. You must attend both of the meetings.

WANT-AD:

YOUR ARTICLES

We need to get the input of our readers into 0777 Newsletter through the "Steps" & "Traditions" (articles on page one). We are asking people within District 15 to write these articles. A.A. members with one (1) or more years of continuous sobriety can reserve a month-date for their "Step" or "Tradition" 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**

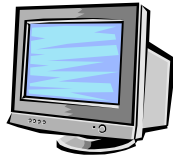
**4TH STEP
WORKSHOP
WONDERFUL SATURDAY
STEP GROUP
COMING FEBRUARY 21, 2009**

UNITY MEETING HAS A NEW HOME!

Starting THIS MONTH on Jan. 17th the Unity Meeting will be held at Riverside Presbyterian Church at 7PM. Located on Ridge Road East of Little Rd. @ 7540 Ridge Rd.
Hosted this month by the New Hope Beginners Group.

See Ya There !!!!

**The Web Site
Now has
current
issues of the**



**Newsletter &
Where & When List**

www.wptsaa.org

WORD SEARCH

STEP 2

WORD LIST

BELIEVE	OURSELVES
CAME	POINT
COULD	POSITIVE
DEFIANCE	POWER
FAITH	PREJUDICE
GOD	RALLYING
GREATER	RELATION
HIGHER	RESTORE
INDIFFER- ENCE	RIGHT
MIND	ROADBLOCK
NEGATIVE	SANITY
OPEN	THAN
	THINKING

Directions-

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

Challenge: Which magazine writer spurred the growth of AA? Last month's challenge answer is Ebby.

By Rich F., NPR KISS Group

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

There are NO Ordinary Moments

Some stuff I think I know. One thing I know is that for me, humility is admitting my faults and vulnerabilities to another human being, or asking another human being for HELP. That's humbling! In early sobriety it was easier for me to ask someone I knew, or knew somewhat, rather than asking someone I didn't know for help.

I try and remember this when I talk to someone new at a meeting. A kind word, or just spending a few minutes talking to a new comer helps break the ice and also helps create that small bridge of trust for when the day comes that every newcomer is going to experience (falling off the pink cloud) and is forced to decide if they're going to drink, or ask for help, whether in a meeting, the meeting after the meeting, or a phone call in the middle of the night.

The other night it was one of those nights I got a phone call from someone I've only met once at a meeting. He needed to talk. Moments before, I felt like being selfish and just turning off the phone so I wouldn't be disturbed while I was putting pen to paper but I didn't. I left the phone on and was able to help a fellow Alcoholic. I don't know if he's stayed sober, I do know that he helped me that night.

AS LONG AS I'M PAINSTAKING in my recovery, for me that means, "Suit Up, Show Up, Face Up and DON'T Give Up", and keep "Spiritually Fit", I'm amazed how I find myself in just the right place at the right time to be of maximum service to others. Today I believe my HIGH POWER works through people and me and that means there are No Ordinary Moments!

Life is simply amazing! My Job? Pay Attention and not mess it up.

Gratefully Sober Today. Thank You
Tarpon Springs

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS INTERGROUP

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS INTERGROUP

Minutes of Meeting January 14, 2009

Dotty I. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.
The Traditions were read.
Those present recited the Responsibility Pledge.
The attendance sheet was passed.
Roll call.

Secretary's report: The minutes from the December 10, 2008 meeting were distributed. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was distributed. Pete M. noted that we finished 2008 with more funds than we started with. Sales tax and IRS reports were filed as required. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Office Coordinator's Report: Central office is fully staffed. Inventory is fully stocked. The O777 newsletter has undergone some changes. In addition, personal stories are being solicited from individuals and groups for inclusion in the O777. A newer computer is being put in Central Office.

Committee Reports

Steering Committee: Dotty I is rotating off the Steering Committee. Ralph O from the Steering Committee will take over leading the Intergroup meetings. Steve S. stood for one of the vacant positions on the Steering Committee and was approved unanimously. The committee still needs one more new member. Reps were asked to bring this back to their groups.

Finance Committee: Pete F. reported that Central Office is saving money using the new ordering system.

District 15 Liaison: Kevin Mc. has assumed the chairmanship of District. Anniversary Dinner will be held Feb. 7, 2009 at St. Vincent de Paul. Tickets are \$15 per person. There are vacant positions available for service at District. The next Treatment Committee meeting will be February 14th at noon at the A Club.

Unity Committee: The Unity Meeting is now meeting at the River Ridge Presbyterian Church, 7540 Ridge Road, East of Little Rd. on the South side of Ridge.

Hot Line: Stephani B. reported that the Hot line is working well.

Newsletter: Phillip T. stood for the Newsletter Committee and was approved unanimously.

Old Business: None.

New Business: An Outreach Committee to go out to all groups in our District to introduce them to what Intergroup and Central Office do was proposed and approved unanimously. Only about 1/3 of the groups in our District are currently involved with Intergroup and Central Office. It is hoped that this outreach effort will improve participation. Diane S. and Jeff C. volunteered to work with Stephani B. on the Outreach Committee.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne T.

Recovery on the Web

Bill W. called the Grapevine,"... the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement." Today you can download and hear all the stories, the Editor's Note, PO Box 1980, & "Ham on Wry" from each current issue. Go to: aagrapevine.org/gv/current

Also, a new publication, "Emotional Sobriety; The Next Frontier" is now being published by the "AA Grapevine" . You can read a selection from the magazine, as well as the articles above, www.aagrapevine.org AND...

For a lot of AA information, online meetings, world wide AA news, other GSC approved resources, as well as downloads & links to various speakers, newsletters, recovery merchandise and literature, downloads (CDs, DVDs, screensavers, wallpaper), on-line meetings and chat rooms, and lots of other neat stuff, much of it

.....**FREE**.....
www.aa.org

AudioGrapevine Subscription Price Reduction

The international monthly journal of Alcoholics Anonymous, also known as "Our Meeting in Print," announces a price reduction for AudioGrapevine subscriptions beginning February 1, 2007.

\$20.00 for (12 issues)

\$3.95 for a monthly subscription

Each month, AudioGrapevine, the audio version, offers two months of the Grapevine magazine to download and listen to anytime, anywhere. From a desktop, MP3 player or CD, you can hear new stories of hope, personal recovery, and spiritual growth from A.A. members.

AudioGrapevine is entirely portable. Members can listen to it on the road, in the gym, or when making a meeting isn't possible. It's also helpful to A.A.'s who have difficulty reading or simply don't have enough time to read. It doesn't cost anything to try it. There is always a free sample from the current issue available to download and hear at

www.aagrapevine.org/gv/current/

GIVE Time Time

DIST. 15 TREATMENT COMMITTEE
Will meet Nov. 8th Noon @ the AClub
(2nd Sat . Ea. Month)

Unity Meeting Sponsors Needed

A group is needed to sponsor the Feb. 21, 2009 Unity Meeting. If your group is interested, contact Mary Ellen @ the Unity Meeting. Or call Central Office at 847-0777

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, they are welcome to attend and place their item on the agenda; they must do so at this meeting.

BRIDGING THE GAP

for Basic 12th Step Work taken to a new dimension in Pasco and Pinellas 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 message for Kathryn @

(727) 847-0777