

0777 newsletter

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1

AA HOTLINE 727 847-0777

JANUARY 2012



Step One: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable."

Tradition One: "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity."

Unity Meeting

Amazing Grace Group hosts the monthly **Unity Meeting**, 7 PM Saturday, January 21, at Redeemer Community Church, 7540 Ridge Rd., NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Come and enjoy fellowship, two speakers & dessert while supporting AA work.

February Unity Host: **4th Dimension Group**, Saturday Feb. 18 same time and place.

Will your group sponsor a Unity meeting? Call John C., Unity coordinator, (727) 597-0418.

Many Volunteers are still needed for the first 2012 South Florida Area 15 Quarterly Jan. 13-15 at the St. Pete Hilton. Call Barbara R., District 15 chair, at (727) 992-5175 or email district 15chair@area15aa.org.

We need to provide greeters and registration desk help. Hours are 4-8 pm Friday, Jan. 13, 7-9 am Saturday and 7-9 am Sunday. We get to attend great meetings, too. Our District is co-host with District 1 (Pinellas).

See More D-15 News page 5

Dwindling Donations Intergroup Appeals for More Donations. Intergroup has asked that individuals and groups try to increase donations, following a warning that the Central Office bank balance has gotten too low. Donations have been dwindling since the "Great Recession" began. Rent increases at meeting places also were cited as factors. Intergroup made the plea at its Dec. 17 meeting after being told that its bank balance had dropped to about \$2,000, half the amount of Intergroup's target prudent reserve of two months' Central Office operating expenses. The warning was sounded by Karen R., Intergroup treasurer and member of the New Life Group, in her monthly financial report. She reported a bookkeeping balance of \$2,998.87 for November, with a loss of \$54.76 for the month.

(Continued on pg. 3)

A.A.'s 'Basic Text'

"We of Alcoholics Anonymous," says the foreword to the first edition, "are more than one hundred men and women who have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body. To show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of this book."

"We learned that we had to fully concede to our innermost selves that we were alcoholics. This is the first step in recovery. The illusion that we are like other people, or presently may be, has to be smashed. We alcoholics are men and women who have lost the ability to control our drinking.

"Basic Text" cont. pg. 3

Chapter 3

"More About Alcoholism"

"Most of us have been unwilling to admit we were real alcoholics. No person likes to think he is bodily and mentally different from his fellows. Therefore, it is not surprising that our drinking careers have been characterized by countless vain attempts to prove we could drink like other people. The idea that somehow, someday he will control and enjoy his drinking is the great obsession of every abnormal drinker. The persistence of this illusion is astonishing. Many pursue it into the gates of insanity or death.

"More" cont. on pg. 3

December Central Office

Niteline calls.....82

Office calls..... 115

Walk-ins..... 62

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December Anniversaries

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
3 & 11		HAPPY JOYOUS AND		KISS WOMEN'S		PASCO BIG BOOK	
CAMMIE H.	1	FREE		EILEEN E.	42	GORD H.	43
LINDA C.	3	MARY ELLEN	25	KATHY M.	32	ROBIN MC.	13
AA WAY		JOHN L.	16	DIANE D.	3	RICH A.	13
DAVE F.	25	HOW IMPORTANT IS IT		LIFE GOES ON		DAVID S.	12
KIM R.	22	DOUG G.	24	DOUG G.	24	CARTER H.	9
BACK TO BASICS		STEVE S.	6	LIVING SOBER		DAVID B.	1
LIZ A.	2	HOOT N HOLLER		MARILYN M.	12	TROPICAL ATTITUDES	
JAY D	1	CY K.	2	NOON HIGH		TOM M.	24
COTTEE RIVER		LIZ A.	2	DEBORAH B.	16	DAN C.	4
PATRICK D.	15	JAY D.	1	CAMMIE H.	1	MIKE F.	2
DOUG K.	3			STEVE D.	1	TWO OR MORE	
						BILL K.	4

The Newsletter Committee is soliciting info about any AA Activities; group events, dances, picnics etc. Submit info by 20th of the month prior to publication to: news0777@yahoo.com Or deliver or mail to West Pasco/Tarpon Springs Intergroup 6611 US 19 Suite 505 New Port Richey, Fl. 34652 (727) 847-0777

Donation Addresses West Pasco/Tarpon Springs InterGroup

TREASURER
6611 US 19 Suite 505
New Port Richey, Fl. 34652

District 15 General Service

TREASURER
P.O. Box 692

Elfers, FL 34680-0692

Area 15 General Service

Area 15 Treasurer
PO Box 650699

Vero Beach, FL 32965-0699

AA General Service Office

PO Box 459

Grand Central Station
New York, New York 10163

Volunteers Needed At Central Office!

Sunday Hotline
Office Staff for:
2 shifts daily Mon.-Fri.
10 AM - 1:30 PM
Or
1:30 PM- 5 PM
1 shift Sat. 10 AM - 1 PM

Finance Committee
Treasurer
Office Coordinator
Call (727) 847-0777

Al-Anon Hotline
352-697-0497

Wonderful Saturday Step

Group 20th annual 4th Step Workshop

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4125 US 19, NPR
Saturday, Feb. 18, 12 Noon-4 PM
Bring your Big Book, a new-comer, sponsee, sponsor, materials provided & BB's will be available for sale.

**Groups Represented at
InterGroup 12/9/2011
New Hope Beginners**

2 for 1 Women's

Noon High

3 & 11 Steps

Life Recovery

Happier Hour

4th Dimension

Keep It Simple Women's

Amazing Grace

Let's Get Better Together

Sober Not Dead

District 15 Opportunities

Alt. Chairs Most Committees.

DCM for Sub-district 1.

Alt. DCM's for all Sub-Districts

**3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM. See
calendar Pg. 4**

Treasurer's Report

December 2011

Beginning Balance.....	\$3,053.63
Income	\$1,071.00
Expenses	\$1,125.76
Ending Balance	\$2,998.87

DWINDLING DONATIONS CONT.

She added however, that the actual bank balance was about \$2,000, which is the cost of one month's Central Office operation. If the office had to find a new location for some reason, such as a fire, it could cost much more than that to do so. Intergroup voted unanimously to ask all groups and individuals to increase their donations to Central Office if they can. Intergroup consists of representatives of individual groups. Intergroup's target prudent reserve is low compared to that of AA World Services in New York, which carries a prudent reserve of up to a year's operating expenses.

A.A.'s 'Basic Text' cont.

"We know that no real alcoholic ever recovers control. All of us felt at times that we were regaining control, but such intervals - usually brief - were inevitably followed by still less control, which led in time to pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization. We are convinced to a man that alcoholics of our type are in the grip of a progressive illness. Over any considerable period we get worse, never better. We are like men who have lost their legs; they never grow new ones. Neither does there appear to be any kind of treatment which will make alcoholics of our kind like other men."

Chapter 3 Continued

"More About Alcoholism"

"In the preceding chapters you have learned something of alcoholism. We hope we have made clear the distinction between the alcoholic and the nonalcoholic. If, when you honestly want to, you find you cannot quit entirely, or if when drinking, you have no control over the amount you take, you are probably alcoholic. If that be the case, you may be suffering from an illness which only a spiritual experience will conquer."

Comments from Experience

So in step one we look at the insanity of alcoholism. The INSANITY of Alcoholism is NOT the goofy behavior that people exhibit when they are drunk. Everyone who ingests enough alcohol will act goofy.

The **INSANITY of ALCOHOLISM** is the alcoholic's persistent return to alcohol in the face of overwhelming evidence that it is destroying his or her life, **over and over again**. Our general discomfort with living has much to do with the way we perceive the effects of alcohol. Our falling short of what is called "well adjusted" is definitely a part of our makeup as an alcoholic. However, that alone does not separate us much from the general population. **It is our physical as well as our mental response to alcohol that is INSANE, and that is what separates the alcoholic from the non-alcoholic.** That, my friends, is the **"INSANITY OF ALCOHOLISM."** It is only relieved and arrested by total abstinence, and as we have found, by the **thorough** application of the 12 Steps of AA in our lives, in all our affairs. to achieve a psychic change, a "spiritual awakening," leading to growth and maturity, and a firm grasp of the reality of life and the world about us. You have asked for help to get and STAY SOBER. You have come to that point in life where **BOOZE** (and maybe other things as well) have whipped you to a fair frazzle, you can't live with booze, and you can't live without it. You have reached the jumping off place. And your constant (and perhaps only) companions are the hideous Four Horsemen of the drunk, Terror, Bewilderment, Frustration and Despair. You have declared that you are willing to go to any length to get over drinking, to do anything at all necessary to get and STAY SOBER. Well, **are you willing to give up booze** (and the other things as well) **for good and for all to get sober and stay that way?** If **Yes**, then we have the way to do it.

January 2012
Mystery Phrase
Puzzle
Step/Tradition One

Directions-

Find all the words listed and use the remaining letters to solve the *mystery phrase*. (Hint- circle individual letters that you find to make it easier to see the leftover letters.)

Mystery Phrase:

„By practice we learn to live by AA principles”

By Rain S., Noon High



2 yrs. sober, 2 yr. term

Nightline Co-ord.

1 yr. sobriety, 1 yr. term-

Treasurer

2 yrs. sober, 2 yr. term

(Call Central Office @

727-847-0777)

Nominations accepted at In-

terGroup Meeting 2nd

Wednesday, 6:30 PM

At Central Office. BE

THERE!

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

Word List

affairs	alcoholics	all	anonymity
anonymous	awakening	before	carry
ever	foundation	had	having
message	our	personalities	place
practice	principles	reminding	result
spiritual	steps	the	these
this	traditions	tried	twelve

Tips For Newcomers For Working Step One

1. Admitting you're powerless over your alcoholism is one of the most powerful actions you can take, even though it doesn't seem that way in the moment.
2. The admission of powerlessness over an alcoholism-addiction is NOT an admission of powerlessness over everything in your life, although sometimes you'll hear people say that.
3. By and large, the unmanageability of your life is because of your alcoholism.

Calendar Events

Jan. 7: Special Needs Committee, District 15 Noon, a club, NPR. Attend and help alcoholics with physical limitations.

Jan. 13-15: South Florida Area 15 Quarterly Meeting, St. Pete Hilton. This year our district co-hosts with District 1. Volunteers needed as greeters and at registration. Details on Pg. 1.

Jan. 14: Hernando Unity Meeting 7:30-9pm, Nativity Lutheran Church, 6363 Commercial Way (US 19), Spring Hill, Doors open at 6:30 pm.

Jan. 14: District 15 Treatment Committee., Noon, A Club, 5650 Missouri, NPR. Join & help carry the message into hospitals, Detox and ACTS. Women members acutely needed.

Jan. 14: WPTSAA Inter Group Meeting, 6:30 PM, Central Office, 6611 US 19, Ste. 505, NPR. Send a representative of your group.

Jan. 17: Unity Meeting, 7 PM at Redeemer Community church, 7540 Ridge Rd. NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Host: Amazing Grace. Speakers, fellowship, snacks.

Jan. 17: District 15 Corrections & Public Info/CPC Committees both meet at noon at A Club, 5650 Missouri, NPR. Attend and volunteer.

Jan. 17: District 15 meeting, 6:30 PM, Community Congregational Church, 6533 Circle Blvd., NPR. Come & learn. Every group should be represented. Meeting open to all AAs.

Jan. 26: Pasco Big Book monthly Eating Meeting at 7 PM, followed by Member Anniversaries Speakers Meeting at 8 PM, Edna Club, 7137 Edna Ave., Hudson. "Bring a dish if you can."

Jan. 27: Archives Committee Meeting, noon, Central Office, 6611 US 19 Rm. 505 NPR.

Jan. 27-28: AA History Workshop, Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL. Featuring Mel B. and Gail La C. Friday doors open at 5 meeting begins at 7, Saturday 9-6 lunch provided. Registration \$20. Information Phone-Jim 727-251-3188 Maria 727-251-2188.

Looking Ahead

Feb. 11: Tri-County Central Office 37th annual dinner. Dinner 6 PM, two speakers 7 PM. Christ the King Church, 821 Dale Mabry Hwy S., Tampa. 250 person limit. Tickets \$10 at Tri-County Central Office or at door.

Feb. 18: 20th Annual 4th Step Workshop Wonderful Saturday Step Group 19th annual 4th Step Workshop Saturday, Feb. 26, 12 Noon-4 PM Bring your Big Book, a newcomer, sponsee, sponsor. Materials provided. Big Books for sale. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4125 US 19, NPR

March 9-12: Annual Housecleaning spiritual retreat for AA & Al-Anon, Yale Lake Baptist Conference Center, Leesburg, FL .

June 8-10: Great Events Will Come To Pass celebrating the 77th Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous presented by Sandy B., Tampa, FL and Bob B., St. Paul, MN. 3 days of history, steps & stories. Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel 111 West Fortune Street, Tampa, FL. Info call Lee Y. at 407-333-4330 or email leescds@gmail.com

August 1-5: 56th Florida State Convention Innisbrook Golf Resort, 36750 U.S. Hwy. 19 North, Palm Harbor, FL visit www.56.flstateconvention.com for more details. **Many volunteers needed.** Call Barbara R., District 15 chair, (727) 992-5175.

What's Happening Around the Globe

Jan. 28-Feb. 4: SoberCruises.com, AA/Al-Anon Caribbean cruise. Key West, Cozumel, Roatan & Montego Bay. More at 1-866-356-8211 or on line: sobercruises.com. Flyers at Central Office.

Apr. 5-9: A DESIGN FOR LIVING Australian National Convention, Melbourne Convention Centre, Registration & Information online: www.melbourne2012.org. Printable flyers available online.

Group Contributions 2011 (Those received too late for a month will be posted the next month.)

GROUP DONATIONS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
000617577-015	\$37.80									\$2.20			\$40.00
678657								\$50.00					\$50.00
1001 Reasons						\$25.00							\$25.00
2 for 1 Women's Step Study		\$20.00		\$15.00						\$12.76			\$47.76
3 & 11 Group				\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00		\$160.00
4th Dimension							\$100.00			\$101.00			\$201.00
7 & Up Group	\$50.00							\$25.00					\$75.00
A Club 12 & 12													\$0.00
A Club Big Book													\$0.00
A Club Joe & Charlie Tapes													\$0.00
A Club Saturday AM Big Book	\$30.00			\$50.00								\$50.00	\$130.00
A Club Sunday AM Gratitude	\$100.00			\$100.00			\$50.00						\$250.00
AA Way Group													\$0.00
Along Spiritual Lines													\$0.00
Amazing Grace			\$32.50										\$32.50
Anonymous	\$11.65		\$3.90	\$0.50	\$0.50		\$1.15	\$1.40	\$0.80				\$19.90
As Bill Sees It				\$25.00						\$25.00			\$50.00
Back to Basics							\$90.00						\$90.00
Bayou Group													\$0.00
Beach Group							\$37.40						\$37.40
Brown Baggers	\$20.00			\$20.00	\$20.00				\$20.00				\$80.00
Came to Believe	\$25.00			\$25.00									\$50.00
Candlelight Beginners													\$0.00
Cor. Rope, Hope											\$5.00		\$5.00
Cotee River Young People													\$0.00
Discover the Truth													\$0.00
District 15													\$0.00
Dry Dock					\$24.00								\$24.00
Each Day New Beginning			\$20.00					\$25.00					\$45.00
Easier Softer Way													\$0.00
Edna Ave. Club 12 & 12													\$0.00
Edna Ave. Joe & Charlie Tapes													\$0.00
Friday Night Live													\$0.00
Friday Night Serenity													\$0.00
Grapevine													\$0.00
Happier Hour					\$250.00				\$325.00				\$575.00
Happy Joyous & Free													\$0.00
Hoot n Holler Group													\$0.00
How Important Is It	\$48.00			\$48.00			\$56.00			\$80.00			\$232.00
Intergroup	\$22.00		\$20.00	\$18.00	\$15.50	\$13.00	\$15.00	\$16.00		\$16.50	\$12.00	\$13.00	\$161.00
James Gang				\$10.00							\$10.00		\$20.00
KIS Women's Group							\$60.00			\$25.00		\$25.00	\$110.00
Let's Get Better Together				\$102.00		\$103.00							\$205.00
L.I.F.E. Recovery			\$12.00										\$12.00
Life Discussion Group					\$70.00		\$40.00						\$110.00
Living Sober					\$70.00			\$50.00			\$50.00		\$170.00
Living Sober Study Group				\$25.00									\$25.00
Men Only													\$0.00
Men's Lets Talk									\$80.00	\$4.50			\$84.50
Miracle Group									\$50.00				\$50.00
Monday Night Big Book		\$25.00						\$50.00					\$75.00
Morning Inventory													\$0.00
New Hope Beginners	\$25.00		\$25.00		\$25.00			\$25.00		\$0.90			\$100.90
New Life Group													\$0.00
Noon High		\$60.00	\$30.00			\$40.00	\$35.00			\$55.00		\$90.00	\$310.00
Not a Glum Lot	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00		\$10.00	\$20.00		\$20.00				\$10.00	\$90.00
NPR KISS Group		\$10.00	\$20.00	\$10.00		\$10.00	\$10.00		\$20.00		\$20.00		\$100.00
Pasco Big Book	\$40.00			\$60.00			\$60.00						\$160.00
Serenity Group					\$178.00								\$178.00
Grapevine													\$0.00
Sunday Morning Gratitude										\$50.00	\$50.00		\$100.00
Surrender Group													\$0.00
Thursday 12 & 12													\$0.00
Triangle Group													\$0.00
Tropical Attitudes	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00		\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00		\$25.00	\$25.00		\$470.00
Two or More	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$95.00		\$200.00		\$150.00	\$80.00	\$85.00		\$1,010.00
Unity Meeting	\$20.00	\$45.25	\$52.13		\$59.20	\$16.10	\$42.16	\$23.90	\$38.51	\$80.00	\$33.17	\$50.13	\$460.55
Why it Works						\$10.00		\$20.00			\$30.00		\$60.00
Wonderful Step Group									\$50.00			\$96.00	\$146.00
TOTALS	\$599.45	\$330.25	\$385.53	\$688.50	\$837.20	\$317.10	\$876.71	\$386.30	\$767.07	\$565.10	\$340.17	\$334.13	\$6,427.51

Please keep in mind the seventh tradition: Every A. A. group ought to be fully self supporting, declining outside contributions. That means Central Office is supported by your group contributions. Thanks for your support!