

Volume 11, Issue 10

October 2012



# News0777



## NEEDS SUPPORT

**New Beginnings Group**, Tuesday's at 7pm, open speaker format; Spirit of Life MCC, 4133 Thys Rd., NPR

**The District 15 Committee** is asking more groups to send General Service Representatives to its monthly meetings, and has openings for alternate chairpersons for all its committees.

## Unity Meeting

**Miracle Group**, hosts the monthly **Unity Meeting**, 7 PM Saturday, Oct. 20, at Redeemer Community Church, 9230 Ridge Rd., NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Come and enjoy fellowship, two speakers & dessert while supporting AA work. Nov. Unity host will be: **Pasco Big Book**.

Will your group sponsor a Unity meeting? Call Lorraine K., Unity Coor-

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## Step Ten:

***"Continued to take personal inventory and when we wrong promptly admitted it."***

I believe all of the twelve steps were most definitely divinely written. The words in Step Ten succinctly demonstrate this. It doesn't say **IF** we were wrong it says **WHEN** we were wrong. These words tell us that we are going to make mistakes but how are we going to handle them. This step requires perseverance. Page 85 in the Big Book tells us "we are not cured What we have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition". Step Ten helps me to take inventory of my actions on a daily basis to determine where I may have caused harm to others. My spiritual condition depends on how willing I am to admit my wrong. For this alcoholic, one of the hardest things to do was admit I was wrong. My M.O. was always to blame someone or something else! I was the queen of "if only". This behavior just kept me in constant turmoil trying to prove my point when somewhere deep inside my conscious was telling me I was part of the problem.

Early on in my sobriety, when practicing this step, I would admit my wrong then proceed to explain my actions. It was not a very effective way to work Step Ten. As one can imagine, by the end of my explanation I was shifting the blame for my behavior on the very one I had harmed. Needless to say the result was that neither party came away feeling good let alone spiritual. When I told my sponsor that my amends didn't work very well, she had the audacity to point out that it doesn't say anywhere in Step Ten to do anything but **ADMIT** our wrong not **EXPLAIN** it. One of my glaring faults was a "yes but" for every situation. To practice this step effectively, the "yes but" had to go! We always quote "We strive for progress not perfection". Progress only happens when we practice. As the practice of promptly admitting when I was wrong continued, it also became easier to just **ADMIT** and not **EXPLAIN**. The Big Book (pg 85-2) states if we follow directions, His Spirit will flow into us and we will become God-conscious. That God-consciousness will keep my motives good and my

actions to come from love not fear. My initial tries at working this step were pitiful but with continued practice, it works to keep me in the realm of the spirit.

Let me share a few instances of how Step Ten has worked in my journey through sobriety. As an active alcoholic working in R&D for a major consumer products company, giving 200% to prove my worth was how I operated. Because of this effort, promotions were given along with more responsible positions. After working for this company approximately five years prior to coming into alcoholics anonymous, my job became high profile, rather autonomous and recognized by upper management. Wow, my pride was certainly at it's peak! At about three years sober, still in the same position for the same company, a gentleman fresh out of college with a PhD in Sensory Psychology was hired to run the department. What a blow to my ego! With fear as my motive, it became a "tug of war" with me asserting my practical experience versus his book

**Cont. pg. 2**

## Step/Tradition Ten

knowledge. My pride was getting in the way of productivity and negatively influencing my co-workers—not a good situation. It took a few weeks for me to let go of my pride and to admit my bad behavior. It was at a weekly department meeting when the problem was brought to the table for discussion and I had my moment of clarity. When that happened, I needed to work Step Ten now! By admitting my wrong and how my behavior affected him and my co-workers, the paradigm was shifted and God's grace helped the entire department to become a more cohesive group.

As my journey in sobriety continued, practicing Step Ten became a daily routine. Step Ten tells us to "Continue to take personal inventory" which helps me to examine how my actions may have caused harm. When I reflect daily on my fears, resentments, selfishness, and dishonesty, it becomes clear what triggered my behavior. Another trigger is *H. A. L. T.* - allowing myself to become hungry, angry, lonely, or tired. There have been several occasions when speaking to a customer service representative that my temper flared, probably due to some misconception on my end. In all instances, as soon as I apologize it changes the tone of the conversation and both parties are left with a good feeling. When speaking to a stranger on the phone it is certainly

easier to practice Step Ten. Dealing with a friend or spouse is entirely different. For this alcoholic, the dynamics of these relationships wake up all my fears and insecurities. This is where Step Ten has definitely been a force propelling me to God-consciousness. In 2003, with nineteen years of sobriety, I married for the third time. Let's not go into why my previous marriages didn't last. It will be sufficient to say it took many "children of God" to teach me the lessons God wanted me to learn—primarily that I deserve to be treated with respect. Needless to say I entered into this third marriage with much trepidation. My husband is not in the program but he seems to know how to handle situations that used to baffle me! Of course, my measuring stick for relationships was all twisted and caused me to be on the offensive quite often. In our first few years, making amends for things I said or did were daily occurrences. His patience with me was amazing until one day my verbal spewing landed a visible hurt. Here was the person I loved, who treated me with love and respect looking at me as though I was a stranger. In the past my "I'm sorry" was something that made me feel good, however; it probably did not expunge the hurt I caused him. It was like the hand of God touched me and I could see that what I was doing was dishing out what I had re-

ceived in my previous marriages. He certainly didn't deserve this abuse any more than I did. Only with God's help can we clear the wreckage of our past so we don't drag it into our present. By working to bring God's will into all my actions, it hasn't been necessary to make daily amends to my husband since that day. Page 84-2 of the Big book tells us "This is not an overnight matter it needs to continue for a lifetime" and that "Love and tolerance of others is our code."

Love and Service  
Barb R.

### Tradition Ten:

**"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy".**

The lessons learned from mistakes by "The Washingtonian Society" certainly gave rise to Tradition Ten. In 1944 the growth of A.A. membership had grown to 10,000 and was recognized by the American Medical association as a disease. Bill was working at the office taking care of the many letters and questions from groups when it became obvious that some clear guidelines were needed. In 1945 Bill, on the suggestion of an A.A.,

tested solutions regarding such matters as membership, group autonomy, singleness of purpose, non-endorsement of other enterprises, professionalism, public controversy, and anonymity. In his infinite wisdom, he called them Traditions rather than rules or laws. He knew how adverse we alcoholics were to any type of rule or order. When first published in the April 1946 "Grapevine", he called them "Twelve Points to Assure Our Future" the name "Traditions" came later. One needs to just look at how controversy over religion, race, politics, and a multitude of other subjects can tear people and a nation apart. Most of us have also experienced how any members' misguided effort to be the "boss" or operate on ego and selfish motives can cause infighting within a group. The history of early efforts to form a society that could help alcoholics and the mistakes like those of the Washingtonians need not be repeated. If we can truly practice Tradition Ten, we will remain ever mindful of the better good of A.A. as a whole.

Love and Service  
Barb R.

**GROUPS REPRESENTED  
AT INTER-GROUP  
September 2012**

- NEW HOPE BEGINNERS
- TROPICAL ATTITUDES
- HOW IMPORTANT IS IT
- NPR KISS GROUP
- CAME TO BELIEVE
- KEEP IT SIMPLE
- 3 & 11 STEPS
- 4TH DIMENSION
- HAPPIER HOUR
- LIFE RECOVERY



**Donation Addresses**

*Please make donation checks payable to West Pasco Intergroup.*

**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 Of-  
fice**

**PO Box 459**

**Grand Central Station  
New York, New York**

**Treasurer's Report**

**August 2012**

Beginning Balance...\$4,696.91  
In-  
come.....\$2,034.10  
Expenses.....\$2,377.73  
Ending Balance.....\$4,353.28

**District 15 Gratitude Dinner**

**" Great Events Will Come To Pass"**

**Saturday, November 17, 2012**

*Guest Speaker*

*Dave P. from Jacksonville, FL*

\$10.00 Per Ticket

Door Prize Ticket given away to everyone

Doors Open at 1:00pm, Speaker at 3:00pm & Dinner at 4:00pm

St. Michael's Church

8014 SR 52, Hudson

Bring a dessert to share at your table.

Please have your group donate a basket for the raffle.

For more information call Travis at 727-809-0075

**Central Office**

**Needs Support**

**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**

**Contact Central Office for  
more information.**

**Activity at Central Office**

Nightline calls.....59

Office calls.....25

Walk-ins.....25

**"When any-  
one, anywhere,  
reaches out for  
help I want the  
hand of AA al-  
ways to be  
there. And for  
that I am re-  
sponsible."**

I'd like to hear your experience with the step of the month and put it in the 0777newsletter. Email your experience to me at danti-co18@gmail.com! Please include your name, phone number and email. We reserve the right to edit for content and/or clarity. Entrants must be received by the 20th of the month.

Roberta D., Publisher and Editor, news0777

**“Spirituality for me is...finding from meditation, from other people, from meetings...the power to do what is good, what is healthy, what brings joy and healing”**

Spirituality for me is not a question of feeling good (though feeling good is a feeling I like a whole lot). Instead, it is a matter of finding from prayer and meditation, from other people, from meetings— in short, from all the “tools of recovery” — the power to do what is good, what is healthy, what brings joy and healing to myself and others. Spirituality is the power to do these things even

though I may be in emotional distress; and one way I have of gauging my spiritual strength is seeing how empowered I am to do God’s will for me. Spiritual growth means to increase such empowerment; and I lose spiritual ground when I lose the empowerment I once had.

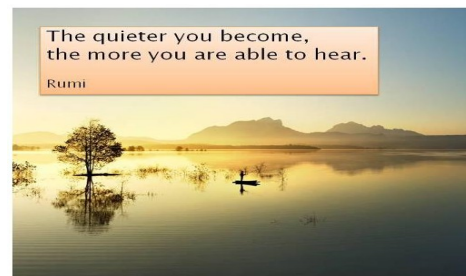
As my sponsor reminded me, I sometimes felt wonderful when I drank. But despite this feeling, my spiritual state was then at its lowest since I did not have the power to stop drinking, or the power to see or stop the harm I was doing to myself and to others. Whatever “power” alcohol gave me, it was not the power I now have in recovery, the power to know God’s will and to carry it out.

Even when I am feeling at my lowest, the empowerment that is the meaning of spirituality makes it possible for me to work for others

and to try to help them. It can give me the courage to take good care of myself — to go to meetings even when I think I don’t need a meeting, to speak up even when my alcoholism wants me to keep my pain to myself, to talk at a gut-honest level to my sponsor and to the people in my group about painful matters I would rather keep hidden. Empowerment makes it possible for me to pray and meditate even when I don’t want to do so, even when I don’t “feel” connected to my Higher Power, even when I don’t feel that any good is coming from these practices.

My spirituality is in good shape when I can do what is healthy and healing. Spirituality is not a state of feelings. It is a state of being, of empowered being.

Grapevine 1991



**PICKIN UP CHIPS**

**WHY IT WORKS**

BILL W.....16	GORDON C.....3
<b>WONDERFUL GROUP</b>	<b>HAPPIER HOUR</b>
KEN F.....36	MICHAEL L.....20
KIM.....20	GORDAN B.....17
BECKY W.....14	DOUG D.....17
MARY K.....4	NANCY M.....14
MICHELLE D.....3	THOMAS K.....12
<b>TWO OR MORE</b>	MARY G.....11
DAVE ?	BARBARA S.....10
DICK K.....35	GEORGE W.....7
JOE M.....31	MICHAEL G.....1
PATTY D.....1	<b>HOW IMPORTANT IS IT</b>
<b>BACK TO BASICS</b>	KEN B.....23
CLARE D.....15	

<b>THE MIRACLE GROUP</b>
TOM C.....13
<b>PASCO BIG BOOK</b>
GARY Z.....22
BRUCE MC.....22
MARY R.....9
JANET C.....1
<b>NOON HIGH</b>
TERRY W.(SEPT.).....1
JEFF C.....2
CINDY J.....1
<b>LIVING SOBER STUDY</b>
BERNIE .....3

**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**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Items and Ideas on Area 15 Gatherings for A.A.s—**

#### **Items and Ideas on Area Gatherings for A.A.s—**

**Oct. 6: Hernando Unity Meeting:** 7:30-9 pm, Nativity Lutheran Church, 6363 Commercial Way (US 19), Weeki Wachee. Doors open at 6:30.

**Oct. 10: WPTSAA Intergroup meeting,** 6:30 pm, Central Office, 6611 US 19, Ste. 505, NPR. **Send a representative of your group.**

**Oct. 13: District 15 Treatment Committee,** noon, A Club. Join & carry the message into hospitals, detox & ACTS. Female members acutely needed.

**Oct. 16: District 15 Committee meeting,** 6:30 pm, Community Congregational Church, 6533 Circle, Blvd., NPR. Come & learn. Each group should be represented. All AAs welcome.

**Oct. 20: District 15 Corrections & Public Info/-CPC Committees** both meet at noon at A Club and need members.

**Oct. 20: Unity Meeting,** 7 PM Redeemer Community church, 9230 Ridge Rd. NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Host: . Two speakers, fellowship, snacks. Doors open at 6:30.

**Oct. 27 Pasco Big Book monthly Eating Meeting** at 7 pm, followed by member anniversaries speakers meeting at 8 pm. Edna Ave. Club, 7137 Edna Ave., Hudson. "Bring a dish if you can."

### **Future Events**

**Feb. 22-24, 2013:** Fifth Annual Cayman Islands Roundup Sobriety in the Sun, South Sand Community Center, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands; [cayman-roundup@gmail.com](mailto:cayman-roundup@gmail.com)

**May 24-27, 2013:** Summer Kickoff Classic, St. Petersburg, FL. Speakers, workshops, entertainment, Hilton St. Petersburg Carillon Park. Info & updates [summerkickoff-classic@verizon.net](mailto:summerkickoff-classic@verizon.net)

**March, 2013:** Annual **Sober stock**, three days of meetings, workshops, music and free food in a camping setting, details will be posted on the soberstock.com website, still under construction.

**July 24-28, 2013: 56th Florida State Convention**

*Non AA Events listed here are presented solely as a service to readers, not as an endorsement by the Newsletter Committee or General Service Office. For any additional information, please use the addresses provided.*

### **Elsewhere Around the Globe**



**Oct. 12-14: South Florida Area 15 General Service Quarterly Assembly.** Fort Lauderdale Marriott North. Info at [www.area15aa.org](http://www.area15aa.org).

**Oct. 19-21: Serenity by the Sea,** in Naples, FL a week-end of food, fun & fellowship featuring meetings, workshops, speakers, and a Saturday Night Banquet. For additional info please call Jerry at 239-776-6767, email: [JEddleman@aol.com](mailto:JEddleman@aol.com), or write: Serenity by the Sea, 5625 Cedar Tree Lane, Naples, FL 34116

**Oct. 19-21: Suncoast Roundup 2012** will be held at the Dolphin Beach Resort, St. Pete Beach. Meetings, workshops, speakers, entertainment and fun in the surf and sun will be featured, with four A.A. speakers plus an AI-Anon speaker. Registration is \$30. Rooms start at \$89. A luau banquet is \$35. Info at [suncoastroundup2012.org](http://suncoastroundup2012.org).

**Oct. 26-28:** 26th annual **Caribbean Convention**, Wyndham Sugar Bay Beach Resort & Spa, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Island. Info at [www.promisesinparadise.com](http://www.promisesinparadise.com).

**Nov. 9-11: A.A. Southeast Regional Forum**, Marriott Hotel, Boca Raton, FL gives A.A.s at all levels a chance to share with members of the General Service Board, General Service Office and Grapevine staff. Spanish translators will take part. Attendance is free. Advance registration is encouraged, but not required. Info on line at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). Room discounts through Oct. 27.

**Jan. 18-20: Annapolis, MD, Intergroup Convention**, with AI-Anon participation. Speakers will include Sandy B., of Tampa. [www.annapolisareaintergroup.org](http://www.annapolisareaintergroup.org) for details.

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!

GROUP DONATIONS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
647471	\$ 35.00												\$ 35.00
678675	\$ -												\$ -
1001 REASONS	\$ -			\$ 25.00									\$ 25.00
2 FOR 1 WOMEN'S GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
3 & 11 STEPS GROUP	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00		\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00				\$ 180.00
4TH DIMENSION	\$185.00			\$ 122.00		\$165.00			\$330.00				\$ 802.00
7 & UP GROUP	\$ -			\$ 25.00				\$ 80.00					\$ 105.00
A CLUB 12 & 12	\$ -												\$ -
A CLUB BIG BOOK	\$ -												\$ -
A CLUB JOE & CHARLIE	\$ -												\$ -
A CLUB SAT AM BIG BOOK	\$ 50.00												\$ 50.00
A CLUB SUN AM GRATITUDE	\$ -												\$ -
AA WAY GROUP	\$ -						\$ 1.00						\$ 1.00
ALONG SPIRITUAL LINES	\$ -												\$ -
AMAZING GRACE	\$ -					\$ 64.16							\$ 64.16
ANONYMOUS	\$ -												\$ -
AS BILL SAW IT	\$ -		\$ 25.00										\$ 25.00
BACK TO BASICS	\$ -								\$ 50.40				\$ -
BAYOU GROUP	\$ 65.00												\$ 65.00
BEACH GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
BROWN BAGGERS	\$ 20.00			\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00			\$ 20.00				\$ 80.00
CAME TO BELIEVE	\$ -					\$ 25.00			\$ 25.00				\$ 50.00
CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS	\$ -												\$ -
COR, ROPE, HOPE	\$ -												\$ -
COTEE RIVER YOUNG PEOPLE	\$ -							\$ 0.75					\$ -
DISCOVER THE TRUTH	\$ -												\$ -
DISTRICT 15	\$ -	\$ 340.00											\$ 340.00
DOUG GRAAT	\$ 24.00												\$ 24.00
DRY DOCK	\$ -	\$ 0.70											\$ 0.70
EACH DAY NEW BEGINNING	\$ -	\$ 15.00			\$ 25.00				\$ 25.00				\$ 65.00
EASIER SOFTER WAY	\$ -	\$ 25.00											\$ 25.00
EDNA AVE JOE & CHARLIE TAPES	\$ -												\$ -
EDNA AVENUE CLUB 12&12	\$ -												\$ -
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE	\$ -												\$ -
FRIDAY NIGHT SERENITY	\$ -												\$ -
GRAPEVINE	\$ -												\$ -
HAPPIER HOUR	\$ -				\$ 300.00								\$ 300.00
HAPPY JOYOUS FREE	\$ 23.50	\$ 24.40	\$ 38.75	\$ 14.45	\$ 13.29								\$ 114.39
HOOT N HOLLER	\$ 0.50			\$ 31.74									\$ 32.24
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT	\$110.00			\$ 80.00		\$128.00							\$ 318.00
IN MEMORY OF RAY	\$ -	\$ 250.00											\$ 250.00
IN THE BEGINNING	\$ 0.40												\$ 0.40
INTERGROUP	\$ 19.00		\$ 17.01	\$ 20.00	\$ 17.00		\$ 22.00		\$ 14.00				\$ 109.01
JAMES GANG	\$ -												\$ -
KIS WOMEN'S GROUP	\$ -			\$ 60.00		\$ 35.00							\$ 95.00
K.I.S.S. GROUP	\$ -	\$ 10.00		\$ 10.00			\$ 20.00						\$ 40.00
L.I.F.E. RECOVERY	\$ -												\$ -
LET'S GET BETTER TOGETHER	\$ -	\$ 90.00					\$ 102.00						\$ 192.00
LIFE DISCUSSION GROUP	\$ -			\$ 50.00									\$ 50.00
LIFE RECOVERY	\$ 5.00												\$ 5.00
LIVING SOBER	\$ -												\$ -
LIVING SOBER STUDY GROUP	\$ -						\$ 70.00						\$ 70.00
MEN ONLY	\$ -												\$ -
MEN'S LETS TALK	\$ -												\$ -
MIRACLE GROUP	\$ -		\$ 50.00										\$ 50.00
MONDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK	\$ -						\$ 75.00						\$ 75.00
MORNING INVENTORY	\$ -												\$ -
NEW HOPE BEGINNERS	\$ -		\$ 27.00	\$ 30.00		\$ 30.00	\$ 11.00						\$ 98.00
NEW LIFE GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
NOON HIGH	\$ -	\$ 228.06					\$ 236.53	\$ 47.72					\$ 512.31
NOT A GLUM LOT	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00		\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00				\$ 100.00
NPR KISS GROUP	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00			\$ 10.00		\$ 10.00				\$ 50.00
PASCO BIG BOOK	\$ 0.85	\$ 60.00					\$ 120.00						\$ 180.85
SATURDAY MORNING BIG BOOK	\$ -			\$ 40.00					\$ 60.00				\$ 100.00
SERENITY GROUP	\$ -	\$ 50.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 50.00							\$ 200.00
SOBER NOT DEAD	\$ -		\$ 13.55	\$ 17.42					\$ 63.61				\$ 94.58
SUNDAY MORNING GRATITUDE	\$ 50.00		\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00			\$ 50.00						\$ 200.00
SURRENDER GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
THURSDAY 12&12	\$ -				\$ 150.00								\$ 150.00
TRIANGLE GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
TROPICAL ATTITUDES	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00		\$ 165.25	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00				\$ 545.25
TWO OR MORE	\$ -	\$ 100.00		\$ 138.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 83.50			\$ 47.00				\$ 463.50
UNITY MEETING	\$ 46.40	\$ 71.25	\$ 33.27	\$ 18.65	\$ 32.00	\$ 17.20	\$ 37.70	\$ 36.75	\$ 39.00				\$ 332.22
WHY IT WORKS	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 52.36		\$ 40.39		\$ 41.27		\$ 0.60				\$ 174.62
WONDERFUL SATURDAY STEP GROU	\$ -			\$ 133.35		\$100.00		\$100.00					\$ 333.35
TOTALS	\$714.65	\$1,384.41	\$406.94	\$1,055.61	\$792.68	\$737.86	\$1,001.75	\$345.22	\$784.61				\$7,172.58