



news0777

July Activity at Central Office

Nightline calls.....79

Office calls.....120

Walk-ins.....61

Meeting Updates

All are invited to **AA Way Group's** 30th anniversary celebration at 7 pm Wednesday, Aug. 8, at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5326 Charles St., NPR. Cake, coffee & fellowship, followed by the group's open Big Book discussion meeting.

Tropical Attitudes Group now has a **Young Recovery** open discussion meeting at 2 pm Saturdays. The group is located at 5331 Main St., NPR.

New Port Richey Beginners Group will hold its first meeting at 7 pm.

Will your group sponsor a Unity meeting? Call Loraine K., Unity Coordinator, (727)935-5543

Inside this issue:

- Anniversaries 2
- Sex in Sobriety 3
- Help Wanted 4
- Calendar 5
- Contributions 6

Step Eight:

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

When starting my 8th Step, it was helpful to review my 4th Step. My list of resentments clearly indicated that there were many people with whom I needed to set the record straight. Despite the fact that I admitted my wrongs to God, myself and another human being, this is the first time in the program I'm going to acknowledge to another the harm I've done. My immediate family came first. Then people I worked with, some business associates, past girlfriends and male friends. I reviewed the list many times but it didn't seem complete.

Then at a meeting one night, someone asked me "Did you put your name on that list?" In many instances I found that though the harm done others has not been great, the emotional harm I've done to myself has. If I am about to ask forgiveness from others, one and then why shouldn't I forgive myself? Then at another meeting someone asked, "How about putting God on that list?" What a revelation came over me. I hurt myself

not only mentally and physically, but also spiritually. I had been brought up in the tradition of a stern and vengeful God, who was watching every move I made. I could not work up too much love for that type of deity. I had become convinced that God had denied Me the breaks in life. How I blamed God for all the things that went wrong in my life. That was until I learned to believe in a God as we understand Him. With help of the rooms of AA, I have found a loving God who cares for me no matter how wrong I am. Now I felt my 8th Step list was complete, and now I can grow toward the next Step.

Tradition Eight:

"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers. Our literature states "we have discovered that at the point of professionalism, money and spirituality do not mix." An A.A. friend had mentioned that maybe humans could be bought but recovery could not. After hearing this it reminded me of my feeling in early sobriety I was forever waiting to find out what my sponsor wanted from me. Surely she was not doing this for free.

Everyone expected something in return. I just could not understand the concept of freely ye have received, freely give. It took me a long time to understand the paradox that to keep it- you have to give it away. It was at my first Quarterly where began to understand the 8th Tradition and the depth it takes in keeping AA literature available to all. It was necessary to employ full-time workers from secretarial to editors. It was explained to me then (as it states in our Twelve and Twelve) "that every time we have tried to interject Professionalism into our 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, the result has been exactly the same; our single purpose has been defeated. Therefore, the job of these employees was not to do 12 Step work; it was to make 12 Step work possible." Right contacts with the world outside have to be maintained. AA's lifelines have to be tended. So we hire AA staff members. We pay them well, and they earn what they get. They are professional secretaries, but they are not professional AA's.

Anonymous

DO I WANT TO BE RIGHT.....OR HAPPY?

**Reprinted from Grapevine,
February 2012**

We hadn't left the driveway, and we were already arguing. No topic was safe. Disagreement led to defensiveness; critical remarks led to hurt feelings; dismissive body language led to anger. We inevitably began saying things to one another we would later regret.

By the time we arrived at the restaurant, I exited the car and began to walk away in the opposite direction of the restaurant's entrance. "oh, just walk away like you always do," he taunted. I kept walking. "Go ahead, leave," he threatened. So I did. I walked and walked. I

were slower, my breathing less labored. I'd been handed manna from heaven.

I reached a gas station and located the payphone.

"Do I want to be right or do I want to be happy?" I asked myself. "Is it possible to be true to myself. "Is it possible to be true to myself and face the challenges in my relationship?" I suddenly heard my sponsor's voice....."Am I living in the solution?"....Am I looking at my part in it? "Am I willing to do the work?" What are the defects in me that if God were to remove, the resentment would be gone?" Considering these questions, I was reminded of one last thing:

"Resentment is the No. 1

didn't have my wallet, I didn't have my keys, and I didn't have my cell phone. I knew I'd learned enough in the program that a one-way ticket to California was not going to solve the problem. I'd tried geographical cures in the past, and they never worked.

Though my husband of 15 years has (thankfully) only known me sober, it may as well have been my second day in recovery because I was back in a state of FEAR (False Evidence Appearing Real).

I kept walking. My feet hurt. I walked some more. I was hot. I twisted my hair. I was thirsty. I tried swallowing my saliva. Where was I going"

killer of alcoholics." I asked the attendant for change of a dollar, put four quarters in the coin slot, picked up the "very heavy" phone and called for a ride home.

Debbie B., Wyckoff, N.J

COULD CARE LESS?

Otherwise intelligent people do embarrassing or stupid things when they are intoxicated, but what specifically happens in the brain to cause such drunken actions? A new study says that alcohol dulls the brain "signal" that warns people when they are making a mistake.

"When people make mistakes, activity in a part of the brain responsible for monitoring behavior sends an alarm

Fortunately, it was a temperate evening.

I looked up at the clear night sky And said,, "What do I do God? What do I do? Help me." Booze was not an option. It never made any situation better, only a thousand times worse. "What do I do, God? It's you and me; tell me what to do." At once, I reached into my pocket. I pulled out a crumpled dollar bill. Recognition set in. Then I pulled out a crushed pink and white peppermint peeling the wrapper from the sticky candy, I tossed it into my mouth. Walking further, I began to relax. My paces

signal to other parts of the brain indicating that something went wrong." says Bruce Bartholow, at the University of Missouri. "Our study shows that alcohol doesn't reduce your awareness of mistakes—it reduces how much you care about making those mistakes."

The findings also showed that those who had consumed alcohol were less likely to slow down and be more careful following an error.

*Grapevine
February 2012*

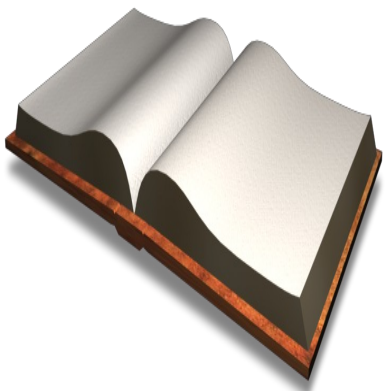
SEX IN SOBRIETY

**Rage made her
leave the car, but
her Higher Power
brought her back.**

Exchanging Love and Service:

"As time passed we found that with the help of AA's Twelve Steps we could lose those fears, no matter what our material prospects were. We could cheerfully perform humble labor without worrying about tomorrow. If our circumstances happened to be good, we no longer dreaded a change for the worse, for we had learned that these troubles could be turned into great values. It did not matter too much what our spiritual condition was but it did matter what our spiritual condition was. Money gradually became our servant and not our master. It became a means of exchanging love and service with those about us.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 121



TIPS ON WORKING STEP EIGHT

FROM *The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* pg. 82

1. We should avoid extreme judgments, both of ourselves and of others involved.
2. We must not exaggerate our defects or theirs.
3. A quiet, objective view will be our steadfast aim.

Twelve steps and twelve traditions pg. 82

"Whenever a civilization or society perishes, there is ALWAYS one condition present. They forgot where they came from."

Carl Sandburg

Please make checks payable to West Pasco Intergroup.

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

If you plant honesty, you will reap trust

If you plant goodness, you will reap friends

If you plant humility, you will reap greatness

If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment

If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective

If you plant hard work, you will reap success

If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation

If you plant faith in God, you will reap a harvest

So, be careful what you plant now; it will determine what you will reap later.

GROUPS REPRESENTED AT INTERGROUP

WONDERFUL SATURDAY STEP

KEEP IT SIMPLE WOMEN'S

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT

TROPICAL ATTITUDES

CAME TO BELIEVE

NOT A GLUM LOT

LIVING SOBER

TWO OR MORE

HAPPIER HOUR

LIFE RECOVERY

NOON HIGH

Central Office

Opportunities

Office Coordinator Trainee

5 yrs. sober, 2 yr. term

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

Nominations accepted at Intergroup Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM at Central Office.

Chair for Founder's Day event is needed

Treasurer's Report

June 2012

Beginning Balance.....\$5,079.81

Income\$1,438.96

Expenses\$1,246.33

Ending Balance\$5,272.44



Falling Through the Cracks:

.....Though three hundred thousand did recover in the last twenty-five years, maybe half a million more have walked into our midst, and then out again. No doubt some were too sick to make even a start. Others couldn't or wouldn't admit their alcoholism. Still others couldn't face up to their underlying personality defects. Numbers departed for other reasons.

"Yet we can't well content ourselves with the view that all these recovery failures were entirely the fault of the newcomers themselves. Perhaps a great many didn't receive the kind and amount of sponsorship they so sorely needed. We didn't communicate when we might have done so. So we AA's failed them."

Bill W., the Language of the Heart, p. 252

DEPTH AND WEIGHT! HOPE IS THE MESSAGE WE CARRY

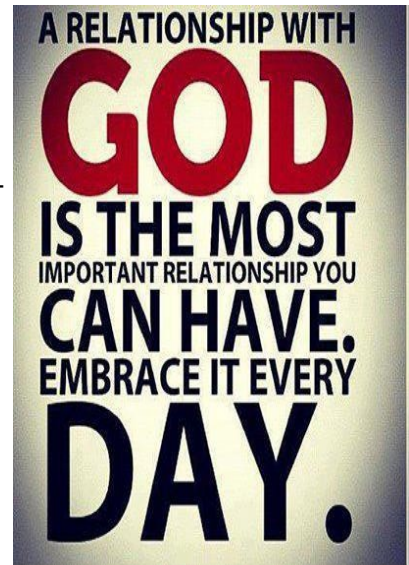
I cannot think of anything that happens in sobriety that is more gratifying, and proof there is a universal power at work, than being at a meeting and out of the blue someone comes up to you and asks "Remember me? I was in the county jail when you and another guy/gal came in and put on a meeting for us and I wanted to thank you for your time" Man...does that make the hair on your arms

"HOPE". That message has depth and weight. This is especially true when talking with inmates. Their backs are against the wall and we may carry the last positive message they hear for some time. I know in my acceptance of powerlessness, I can't get anyone sober, but I pray that the message we carry will plant a seed of hope that an individual can

stand up! Unfortunately it doesn't occur enough, but when it does you just thank your higher power for your sobriety and the gift he gave you! I would love for all AA's to be able to experience that feeling. Anyone involved in 12 step work does get to experience it, be it carrying the message in to a jail or institution or speaking at a meeting. Just ask any volunteer involved in Corrections or

throughout their incarceration they will find the path so when the cell doors open to the outside world, to real freedom in Alcoholics Anonymous. So please come join us and help carry that message into the sick and suffering in jails and institutions. The opportunities are many. Contact the Corrections Treatment chair or the PI/CPC chair for ways that you can make a difference.

Treatment, most of them have a story just like that. Dr Silkworth, in "The Doctor's Opinion", talks of carrying a message that has depth and weight. One that resonates with the suffering alcoholic. My sponsor always told me it was about the message and not the mess. I was constantly reminded it wasn't about me but the new person in the room, and that person needed to hear



**DEAR GOD,
I WANNA TAKE A
MINUTE, NOT TO ASK
FOR ANYTHING FROM
YOU, BUT SIMPLY TO
SAY THANK YOU,
FOR ALL I HAVE.**

PICKIN UP CHIPS (This list is only as good as the data provided by the groups.)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
<u>AA WAY</u>		<u>3 AND 11 STEPS</u>	
TERRY J.	26	LARRY G.	27
PETER K.	7	<u>PASCO BIG BOOK</u>	
<u>BACK TO BASICS</u>		TINA J.	3
ANITA	27	ANNIE	2
MIKE E.	18	DEB C.	1
<u>HOW IMPORTANT IS IT</u>		STEVE L.	1
EDIE W.	23	SUE H.	1
<u>NOON HIGH</u>		<u>LIVING SOBER STUDY</u>	
DOC T.	2	MAUREEN G.	3
TERESA M.	5		

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—

Aug. 7: First meeting of the new open **New Port Richey Beginners Group**, 7 pm, Spirit of Life MCC Church, 4133 Thys Rd., NPR.

Aug. 8: **WPTSAA Intergroup meeting**, 6:30 pm, Central Office, 6611 US 19, Ste. 505, NPR. **Send a representative of your group.**

Aug. 8: 30th anniversary of **AA Way Group** with cake, coffee, fellowship at 7 pm & **OBBD** meeting at 8 pm. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5326 Charles St., NPR.

Aug. 11: **District 15 Treatment Committee**, noon, A Club. Join & carry the message into hospitals, detox & ACTS. Female members acutely needed.

Aug. 11: **Hernando Unity Meeting:** 7:30-9 pm, Nativity Lutheran Church, 6363 Commercial Way (US 19), Weeki Wachee. Doors open at 6:30.

Aug. 18: **District 15 Corrections & Public Info/-CPC Committees** both meet at noon at A Club and need members.

Aug. 18: **Unity Meeting, Tropical Attitudes hosts at 7 PM Redeemer Community church**, 9230 Ridge Rd. NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Two speakers, fellowship, snacks. Doors open at 6:30. **Keep It Simple Women's Group**, hosts Sept. 15.

Aug. 21: **District 15 Committee meeting**, 6:30 pm, Community Congregational Church, 6533 Circle, Blvd., NPR. Come & learn. Each group should be represented. All AAs welcome.

Aug. 30: **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."

Aug. 31-Sept. 3: **Annual Tampa Bay Fall Roundup**, Embassy Suites-USF. A.A. & Alanon FG meetings & speakers, plus a presentation about the lives of Bill & Lois W. Meeting theme: "God Either Is or He Isn't." Info at www.aatampa-area.org.

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.

WHAT'S

HAPPENING

AROUND

THE

GLOBE



Aug. 10-12: **Sunset Roundup 2012** Double Tree Grand Key Resort, Key West, FL. Info: www.sunsetroundup.com.

Aug. 17-18: annual **Big Book on the Beach, 1500 Pass-a-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach**. In-depth study of first 164 pages. \$30. Scholarships available. Info under "events" at aatampa-area.org.

Aug. 17-19: 17th annual **Woman to Woman Seminar**, oceanfront Marriot Hotel, Delray Beach, FL. Theme: Secrets Women Don't Share. Info: www.sewomantowoman.org.

Sept. 13-16: International Conference of **Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous**, Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, Mo. Early registration \$25. Info: www.icypaahost.org.

Oct. 4-7: 16th annual **National A.A. Archives Workshop**, International Palms Resort & Conference Center, Cocoa Beach, FL. A new documentary on Bill W. will be shown. Its producers & the GSO archivist will be among the speakers. \$35. Info: www.aanationalarchivesworkshop.com.

Oct. 5-7: **Sunlight of the Spirit**, Big Book Study, Jacksonville, FL tele: 904-215-0402 email: jdjwillis@comcast.net

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

Oct. 26-28: 26th annual **Caribbean Convention**, Wyndham Sugar Bay Beach Resort & Spa, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Island. Info: 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. Room discounts through Oct. 27.

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						\$ 140.00
4TH DIMENSION	\$ 185.00			\$ 122.00		\$ 165.00							\$ 472.00
7 & UP GROUP	\$ -			\$ 25.00									\$ 25.00
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	\$ -												\$ -
BAYOU GROUP	\$ 65.00												\$ 65.00
BEACH GROUP	\$ -												\$ -
BROWN BAGGERS	\$ 20.00			\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00							\$ 60.00
CAME TO BELIEVE	\$ -					\$ 25.00							\$ 25.00
CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS	\$ -												\$ -
COR, ROPE, HOPE	\$ -												\$ -
COTEE RIVER YOUNG PEOPLE	\$ -												\$ -
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								\$ 40.00
EASIER SOFTER WAY	\$ -	\$ 25.00											\$ 25.00
EDNA AVE JOE & CHARLIE TAPES	\$ -												\$ -
EDNA AVENUE CLUB 12&12	\$ -												\$ -
FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE	\$ -												\$ -
FRIDAY NIGHT SERENITY	\$ -												\$ -
GRAPEVINE	\$ -												\$ -
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						\$ 95.01
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						\$ 464.59
NOT A GLUM LOT	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00		\$ 20.00		\$ 20.00						\$ 80.00
NPR KISS GROUP	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00			\$ 10.00						\$ 40.00
PASCO BIG BOOK	\$ 0.85	\$ 60.00					\$ 120.00						\$ 180.85
SATURDAY MORNING BIG BOOK				\$ 40.00									\$ 40.00
SERENITY GROUP	\$ -	\$ 50.00		\$ 100.00		\$ 50.00							\$ 200.00
SOBER NOT DEAD			\$ 13.55	\$ 17.42									\$ 30.97
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						\$ 425.25
TWO OR MORE	\$ -	\$ 100.00		\$ 138.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 83.50							\$ 416.50
UNITY MEETING	\$ 46.40	\$ 71.25	\$ 33.27	\$ 18.65	\$ 32.00								\$ 201.57
WHY IT WORKS	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 52.36		\$ 40.39		\$ 41.27						\$ 174.02
WONDERFUL SATURDAY STEP GROUP	\$ -			\$ 133.35		\$ 100.00							\$ 233.35
TOTALS	\$ 714.65	\$ 1,384.41	\$ 406.94	\$ 1,055.61	\$ 792.68	\$ 720.66	\$ 964.05						\$ 6,039.00