

0777 newsletter



Volume 7 Issue 7

AA HOTLINE 727-847-0777

July 2008

21st ANNUAL Sunset Round Up

August 22, 23, 24
2008

Key West! !!

Details at
Central Office !

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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

Step 7: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Raised in a family of good values and integrity, I thought I had it.

Along comes a sponsor to inform me that knowledge about good values and integrity is not the same as living them. We practice life by our own illusions and misperceptions based on self-centeredness.

Not knowing it, I was still relying on self to solve the problems I had from separating from all who loved me. (Trying to come up with good enough excuses.) I figured out that I couldn't figure it out... Oh no ! Not another surrender!

OK! I'll turn my will and my life over to the care of *God as we understood Him*. Of course me sponsor asked me what I thought was the biggest word in the Third Step. How easy is

Tradition 7: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

How does your home group convey that the responsibility of self-support includes giving effort and time in addition to money?

The principle of self-support affects every member of every group. An AA who got sober before the Traditions were officially adopted wrote in the September 1970 Grapevine: "On my first approach ... AA had effectively declared itself independent of all handouts. It was managing, somehow, to pay all it's own way... If it had turned out to be a government financed program or a charitable branch of some church, my feelings about it could now have been so instantly warm and comfortable. The fact that it was just us drunks lessened

ISN'T NOT DRINKING ENOUGH???

that- understood, right? He told me to look up "as" in Webster's. "Equal to one's effort."

Now there are two things I hate- surrender and effort. That conflicted with my ideas, but I began to get results. Without even knowing about the principles of the Seventh Step I was reaping the rewards.

On to the Fourth and Fifth Steps. (more surrender and effort) At the conclusion of the Fifth Step my sponsor told me to go straight home and read the last paragraph on page 75, and the first two paragraphs on page 76 in the *Big Book*. Being obedient (for the first time in my life), I did that.

So far, I'm beginning to notice, every I do something I wouldn't have done, I get a feeling of calm (freedom???). Surrender to win.

I always wanted to feel good, and did whatever it took to fulfill those desires. I never paid much attention to the consequences. Wasn't the event always worth it?

As we seek this new willingness to allow a power greater than us to direct our thinking, We have a stumbling block called self that says "We humbly asked Him to remove our Shortcomings", then dropping the "humbly" part, because it

Continued on pg. 3

Giving of Effort and Time

my shame at having to ask for help." (Best of the Grapevine, Vol.1, p. 114)

Sober members were able to demonstrate that an alcoholic is not always someone who must be helped. One AA reflected: "When I arrived at the doors of AA, I had no job, very little money, and a life that was rapidly turning into a shambles. Even so, I contributed 25 cents at every meeting I attended. This was my first step back to regaining my self-respect and responsibility." The Tradition allowed AA's to become givers, not takers, and went far to build public confidence in the movement. As Bill W. commented on the 12 & 12, "When a society composed entirely of alcoholics says it's going to pay it's bills, that's really news. (p.160)

While no AA group requires

contributions from those who attend it's meetings, the return of self-respect, an awakening sense of responsibility, and gratitude for sobriety spur even the newest members to contribute whatever they can. Some also send birthday contributions to local or national AA offices to celebrate their sobriety each year. Contributions are as important, to the giver as to the recipient, for they allow the giver to participate in carrying the AA message around the world.

Where Money and Spirituality Mix

Yet speaking of money and AA in the same breath makes some members nervous. — AA is a spiritual program, they feel, and should not concern itself with money at all.

Continued on page 2

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Stephani B. - Karen R.

The Newsletter Committee is soliciting any A.A. activities, events, group histories, etc..

Submit all information by the 20th of the month to: **E-mail NEWS0777@YAHOO.COM**
Or to the newsletter mailbox at:

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS INTERGROUP

6611 US 19 ROOM 505

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL. 34652

The 0777 Newsletter is published monthly. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to

A.A. as a whole and does not imply endorsement by A.A. or the Intergroup office, except where indicated.....**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday-10:AM to 5:PM

Saturday-10:AM to 1:PM

Closed: Sunday & Holidays

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

GENERAL SERVICE AREA 15 TREASURER
% KATHY GUTIERREZ
8240 LINGER LODGE RD.
BRADENTON, FL. 34202-9082

AA GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 459
GRAND CENTRAL STATION
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10063

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 1, '08 Bal. \$ 4972.32
Income + 1772.90
Expenses - 819.16

Ending Balance \$ 5928.06

Balance should include Prudent Reserve of \$2750.00

CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY

Hotline Calls 131
Office Calls 179
Walk Ins 70

HOTLINE & OFFICE PHONE:
727-847-0777

PASS THE BASKET June 2008

New Hope Beginners	\$ 25.00
Life Recovery	5.00
In The Beginning	50.00
Tropical Attitudes	40.00
Pasco Big Book	100.00
Not A Glum Lot	10.00
Intergroup	6.50
TwoOr More...	300.00
Unity Meeting	45.83
Living Sober	50.00

Seventh Step Prayer

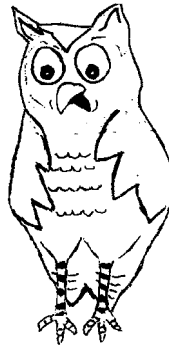
My Creator, I am now willing that You should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that You now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here, to do Your bidding.

OLLIE THE OWL

BE A "PART OF"

GET A HOME GROUP

AND GET ACTIVE



Trad. 7 cont'd from pg. 1

More pragmatic alcoholics contend that without enough money it would be impossible to provide the services essential to carrying the message. Bill W. saw the resolution of this dilemma in "the hat" (group's collection basket), where money and spirituality mix, and the other announcement "We have no dues or fees, but we do have expenses" is an integral part of virtually every AA meeting.

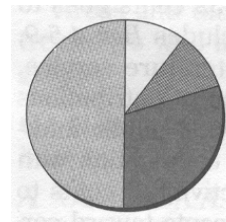
Fulfilling it's financial responsibilities with members contributions alone allows the group to steer clear of influences that might distort the AA message. Occasionally, a generous and well-intended outside organization will seek to help the Fellowship by offering a meeting place at no cost, or perhaps free printing of newsletters or flyers. In such situations, the Tradition suggests that the Group decline with thanks.

July : Pickin' up chips

NAME	YEARS
AA WAY	
Greg McC.	9 yrs
CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS	
Liz O.	5 yrs
Joe G.	6 yrs
Geoff B.	12 yrs
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?	
Gary W.	10 yrs
Ethel D.	4 yrs
Christine D.	3 yrs
K.I.S. WOMEN	
Linda S.	22 yrs
Lorrie W.	32 yrs
Jean S.	3 yrs
Saundra R.	28 yrs
Barbara H.	1 yr
TROPICAL ATTITUDES	
Ed J.	18 yrs
Rick Q.	3 yrs
Mike S.	4 yrs
Chuck T.	1 yr
George V.	27 yrs
Dave Z.	2 yrs
WONDERFUL SAT. STEP	
Web S.	24 yrs
Larry J.	1 yr
Jim B.	21 yrs
Jenna B.	14 yrs
TWO OR MORE	
John A.	4 yrs
Fran G.	26 yrs.
SURRENDER GROUP	
Bruce P.	27 yrs
Gene M.	21 yrs
NOON HIGH	
Jay N.	6/08 1 yr
Maryann	3 yrs
Mark H.	4 yrs

NAME	YEARS
LIFE GOES ON	
Rick	4 yrs
LIVING SOBER	
Wally G.	28 yrs
Tom C.	41 yrs
Ron P.	12 yrs
MEN LET'S TALK	
Tod M.	29 yrs
John S.	6 yrs
Chris F.	4 yrs
Tom M.	4 yrs
Peter M.	3 yrs
Tom F.	3 yrs
Bud W.	3 yrs
MIRACLE GROUP	
Fran G.	26 yrs
Joe G.	6 yrs
NPR KISS GROUP	
Tim F.	2 yrs
Chris F.	4 yrs
Joe G.	6 yrs
Fran G.	26 yrs
Diana P.	9 yrs
Bud W.	6 yrs
NEW HOPE BEGINNERS	
Beverly S.	34 yrs
PASCO BIG BOOK	
Margaret C.	16 yrs
MaryAnn W.	3 yrs
RECOVERY THROUGH THE STEPS	
Mary P.	29 yrs
SERENITY GROUP	
Rebecca	17 yrs
Wally G.	28 yrs
BACK TO BASICS	
Bruce P	30 yrs
NEW LIFE GROUP	
Jon B.	23 yrs
Jim B.	21 yrs
Greg H.	3 yrs

Ideally, group contributions would support all AA service entities. In practice, not all groups do participate through contributions to either the General Service Office or their own local entities. So from the earliest days of AA, when survival sometimes depended on the level of Big Book sales, a portion of the profits from the publication and sale of AA literature has made up the difference between expenses and contribution income.



10% to district
10% to area committee
30% to GSO
50% to intergroup /central office

Kevin Mc.

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**

HELP ANSWER THE PHONES

**At the Central Office
Contact: Office Coordinator Bill J.
at (727) 847-0777 & leave your
name and phone number where we
can reach you.**

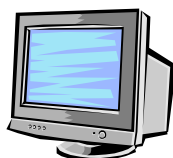
Thank You

12 STEP CONTACT LIST

If you are interested in **12 Step** work and have at least 2 years sobriety, have I got the opportunity for you! **The 12 Step List.** It is a list that is confidential and kept at Central Office. When a person calls seeking help, the volunteer will look at the list and call to get help for that person. It may just be a phone call, it may be to meet the person at a meeting, or you may need to pair up with someone and go to that person. It's a wonderful way to give back what has been so freely given to you. Contact your Intergroup Rep. or Central Office to get on the list. If you have any questions please feel free to call Nancy A. @992-2024.....

Thank you.

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



**Newsletter &
Where & When List**

www.wptsaa.org

WORD SEARCH

Seventh Tradition

WORD LIST

COLLECTIVE DECLINING
EVERY SELF SUBSIST
CONTRIBUTIONS GROUP
SPIRITUAL MATERIAL FEAR
NECESSITY SEPARATING
SUPPORTING RESERVE
POVERTY OUTSIDE
PRUDENT FULLY IDEAL

Find the above words to the right - up, down, diagonal - Forwards or backwards !

By Rich F., NPR KISS Group

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

Step 7 cont'd. from pg 1

art, because it takes effort and surrender. What pressure to be obliged to choose between the pains of trying and the certain penalties of failing to do so.

I wondered how difficult this was going to be with all the character flaws just revealed. Here comes that sponsor again. I wished I hadn't done the steps! He said "The next time you want to do something that might be pleasurable, ask God to help you not do that, and the next time you don't want to do something because you don't see any benefit to you, ask God to help you do it."

After trying this for awhile, I realized that God removes character defects, but He also requires us to make a little effort. We have a choice... God or self.

Doug G.

UNITY MEETING

<u>Hosted by</u>	<u>Date</u>
Cotee River	July
19th	
Tropical Attitudes	Aug.
16th	
Sat AM BBk Aclub	Sept.
20th	
Women's KIS	Oct.
18th	

Groups wishing to sponsor a Unity Meeting, should attend a Unity Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month and meet with **Trish** to set up a date.

24 HOURS

A DAILY REPRIEVE

DISTRICT 15 NEWS - JULY

The monthly District meeting was held on June 17th, 2008 @ 6:30PM at the Community Congregational Church in New Port Richey, District Chairperson, Doug, provided us with a list of the issues to be addressed at the next Agenda meeting, at he will be out of town at the time. Chairperson Elect, Kevin, thanked everyone for coming to the Founder's Day on 6/07. Our next District Anniversary dinner will be held on 2/09/09 @ St Vincent DePaul Church in Holiday. A chairperson is still needed for this event, so volunteer if you can. Our Gratitude Dinner will be held on 11/16/08.

Corrections Chair, JD reports that the Walk Free Group at the Little Road facility (Tue. 6 Thur. 6:30 PM) continues to be well attended. During the summer months many people take vacations, and Corrections needs approved and willing members to help out. Contact JD to sign up. You can reach him at the District meeting or through your group's GSR. JD is willing to come speak to your group about Corrections Committee and answer your questions. The next Corrections committee meeting will be announced soon. Treatment Chair, Katherine, reports that the committee decided to hold meetings every month. They will be held on the second Saturday of every month at the A/Club @ 12 Noon. She handed out the new flyer for the Treatment Committee. Which provided a plethora of information. BTG (Bridge The Gap) is going well and it should be noted that 26 bridges have been gapped since Katherine became chair! A volunteer sign-up sheet was handed out for people in volunteering for the BTG program. Look for the sheet at your group's meeting place or contact your GSR, or Katherine, for more details.

Literature Chair, Christine, received a packet of information from GSD (General Service Office). She informed us that GSD offers a complimentary Literature display package upon request. If we need one for District functions (such as the Gratitude Dinner) she will request it. Christine is looking forward to putting together a Literature Committee meeting soon. Stay tuned for details.

Intergroup Liaison, Karen brought updates from the 6/11/08 Intergroup Meeting. It seems they need some volunteers. There are many open positions. Karen has provided the following info: Intergroup needs 3 people to be on the Steering Committee, a Secretary, Treasurer, a Chair for Unity, and an Office Coordinator. We also need Intergroup Rep(s) from *your group* to show up at the meetings. The Officers and reps are the only people who can vote, so we need more than one or two people to vote the group's conscience and to get anything accomplished. Anyone interested should attend the next meeting. They are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month @ Central Office. There was nothing otherwise to report from the Intergroup Meeting. District 15 Treasurer, Diana, provided the Profit and Loss report for May 2008, as well as a spreadsheet of the various group donations. Reports were handed out to all in attendance. This info is available to anyone inter-

ested. Please see your group's GSR or visit a monthly meeting. The District still needs your help!! There are several District chair and alternate chair positions still open: Grapevine Alternate, PI/CPC (Public information and Co-operation with the Professional Community) Alternate, and Archives Alternate. DCM's for Sub-districts 2,3,4, and 6 are needed. The position of District Recording Secretary is also open. Each of these positions has guidelines (years of sobriety). Please visit our next District Meeting if you are interested in this type of service.

This month District 15 has been fortunate to have two new volunteers stand for open positions. Craig stood for the position of Grapevine Chair. He is an AA from Chicago who has been sober since 1983 and his favorite color is purple. Joanne stood for the position of PI/PCP chair. She has been sober since 2003. Joanne also volunteered to chair the Gratitude Dinner! We all accepted their service with gratitude and applause! Thank you Joanne and Craig! In new business: a motion was made to remove one of District Guidelines. Namely, TOPIC VIII (item 31 e.) The Motion passed with none opposed., resulting in this item being removed from the Guidelines. The item states the following: "Designate an Alternate DCM to represent an absent DCM at the Area Quarterly".

We hope to see new faces at the next District Meeting, which takes place on July 15th @ 6:30 PM, at the Community Congregational Church— 6533 Circle Blvd. New Port Richey. Remember, the District Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of *every* month. We hope to see *you* there!

We would like to thank the volunteers for the various Committees in District 15. Our fellowship depends greatly on your reaching out to alcoholics in the service work you provide. Thank you *all* for your service. You are all appreci-

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: www.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/

8th West Coast SPONSORSHIP WEEKEND SARASOTA, FLORIDA AT THE HYATT HOTEL

Details at Central Office!

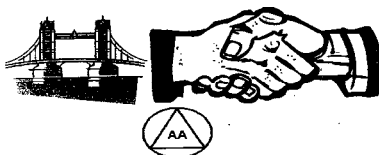
"A CLUB MOVIE NIGHT"

Every 4th Saturday of the month
At 8:00 PM

WE ARE GOING TO KNOW A NEW FREEDOM AND A NEW HAPPINESS

Happy Independence Day

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.

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.