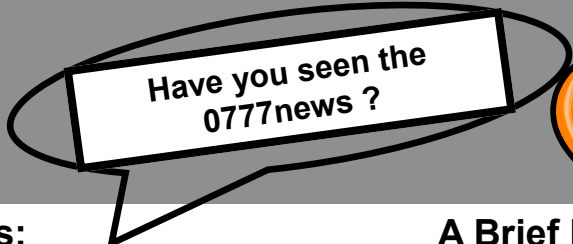


WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS

AA HOTLINE 727-847-0777

ALANON HOTLINE 352-697-0497



October 2013

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 10

Twelve Traditions:

A Brief Historical Glimpse

Forward to the First Edition, pages xiii-xiv: *"We are not an organization in the conventional sense of the word. There are no fees nor dues whatsoever. The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. We are not allied with any particular faith, sect or denomination, nor do we oppose anyone. We simply wish to be helpful to those who are afflicted."*

The above writing is a partial prologue to the Twelve Traditions as we know them today. The long form was written by Bill Wilson and first published in the April, 1946 Grapevine. However, Bill's awareness of the often rebellious alcoholic personality led him to introduce them as **"Twelve Points to Assure Our Future,"** thus avoiding the implication of rules or laws. An editorial was added for each point explaining its origin and why it was necessary. Later, Earl Treat, a co-founder of AA in Chicago, suggested that these 'assurances' would benefit from revision and shortening. Bill agreed and the shorter version was formed; thereafter, they were referred to as the **Twelve Traditions**.

Bill found another opportunity to present the **Twelve Traditions** at our first International Convention at Cleveland during the summer of 1950. He presented them to three-thousand attendees, in a general manner, without actually reading them verbatim. In a standing vote, the 3,000 attendees unanimously pronounced their 'yea' to the **Twelve Traditions**.

At the next International Convention at St. Louis, July 1-3, 1955, Bill presented a resolution to the 3,800 attendees which resolved that the General Service Conference become the Guardian of the Twelve Traditions. The **Twelve Traditions** were then officially ratified. They were finally published, in both long and short form, in the 1955 second edition of the Big Book.

Bill then began a speaking tour of the country in attempt to develop greater interest in the newly-formed Twelve Traditions – albeit with little success. Consequently, he developed another idea: Here follows an excerpt from a letter dated May 20, 1952 from Bill W. to Fr. Ed Dowling: *"A few people think that the Traditions aren't covered with enough dignity -- that posterity may not like them for that reason. However, we feel that we are writing for the information of alcoholics who ordinarily have no time to read anything much except as it concerns their own survival. Our idea is to publish the Twelve Steps and these Twelve Traditions in a small book to appear, I hope, by next fall. If we are able to do a fair job on the Steps, that will be helpful and, published along with the Traditions, they may act as a bait for reading the latter. However, we'll see."*

Bait indeed! So now you know the reason Bill wrote the 1953 book titled, **"Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions,"** which, in my opinion, gives an excellent summation of the AA Traditions.

As a side note, I find it interesting to note that the phrase *"honest desire to stop drinking"* (found on page xiv above) was never included, as is often thought, in either the long or short form of Twelve Traditions. This phrase, however, was at first included in the early Grapevine Preamble, but the word *"honest"* was removed in 1958.

May this snippet of AA history encourage us to delve more deeply into this subject so as to more accurately pass along the interesting history of our **Twelve Traditions**



"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."

Please Support
Your 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
Contact Central Office for
more information.
727-847-0777

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Step Ten—When we approach Step Ten we commence to put our A.A. way of living to practical use, day by day, in fair weather or foul. Then comes the acid test: can we stay sober, keep in emotional balance, and live to good purpose under all conditions?

A continuous look at our assets and liabilities, and a real desire to learn and grow by this means, are necessities for us. The wise have always known that no one can make much of his life until self-searching becomes a regular habit, until he patiently and persistently tries to correct what is wrong.

There is another kind of hangover whether we are drinking or not. That is the emotional hangover, the direct result of yesterday's and sometimes today's excesses of negative emotion—anger, fear, jealousy, and the like. We certainly need to eliminate these hangovers. It requires an admission and correction of errors *now*.

Although all inventories are alike in principle, the time factor does distinguish one from another. The spot check inventory is taken at any time of day, whenever we find ourselves getting tangled up. In the inventory we take at day's end, we credit ourselves with things well done, and chalk up debits where due.

It is a spiritual axiom that every time we are disturbed, no matter what the cause, there is something wrong *with us*. These emotional "dry benders" often led straight to the bottle. A spot-check inventory taken in the midst of such disturbances can be of very great help in quieting stormy emotions. In all these situations we need self-restraint, honest analysis of what is involved, a willingness to admit when the fault is ours, and an equal willingness to forgive when the fault is elsewhere. These disciplines are not easy. We shall look for progress, not for perfection.

Nothing pays off like restraint of tongue and pen. Our first job is to sidestep the traps. When we are tempted by the bait, we should train ourselves to step back and think. The habit of self-restraint must become automatic.

Finally, we begin to see that all people, including ourselves, are to some extent emotionally ill and frequently wrong. Then we approach true tolerance and see what real love for our fellows actually means.

Twelve Steps and

Twelve Traditions

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

Tradition Ten – Never since it began has Alcoholics Anonymous been divided by a major controversial issue. Nor has our Fellowship ever publicly taken sides on any question in an embattled world. As if by some deep instinct, we A.A.'s have known from the very beginning that we must never, no matter what the provocation, publicly take sides in any fight, even a worthy one. All history affords us the spectacle of striving nations and groups finally torn asunder because they were designed for, or tempted into, controversy. Others fell apart because of sheer righteousness.

Individual members of A.A. have their rights as citizens of the world. But when it comes to A.A. as a whole, that's quite a different matter. We do not enter into public controversy because we know that our Society will perish if it does. Since recovery from alcoholism is life itself to us, it is imperative that we preserve in full strength our means of survival.

Maybe this sounds as though the alcoholics in A.A. had suddenly gone peaceable, and become one great big happy family. Of course not. Human beings that we are, we squabble. Before we leveled off a bit, A.A. looked more like one prodigious squabble than anything else, at least on the surface. An individual would appear at an A.A. business meeting and blow his top over an outlay of twenty-five dollars' for needed postage stamps. Disliking the attempt of some to manage a group, half its members might angrily rush off to form another group. Despite their din, our puny rows never did A.A. a particle of harm. They were almost always concerned with ways to make A.A. more effective and do the most good for the most alcoholics.

The Washingtonian Society, a movement started among alcoholics a century ago, almost discovered the answer to alcoholism. The early members foresaw that they should dedicate themselves to the sole aim of alcoholics trying to help one another. Membership passed the hundred thousand mark. Then they let politicians and reformers, both alcoholic and nonalcoholic, draw them into public controversies. Within a few years, the Washingtonians had lost their effectiveness in helping alcoholics.

Early members resolved to keep our Society out of public controversy. Thus was laid the cornerstone of Tradition Ten.

Adapted from
Twelve Steps and
Twelve Traditions

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

2013 Gratitude Dinner

COME SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS AND SHOW YOUR

GRATITUDE BY SUPPORTING DISTRICT 15.

SPEAKER: RUTHIE B. FROM
ST. PETERSBURG

ENJOY FUN, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



WHEN: Nov. 9, 2013

WHERE: St. Thomas Aquinas Church

HOSTED BY: District 15

**VOLUNTEERS WEL-
COMED!**

For
Information contact:

Ethel D. 727-364-1385

Dan L. 727-485-5524



Cleaning House—My dictionary defines the word “moral” as “right and wrong in behavior”, and “teaching a conception or right behavior.” I was always able to define everyone else’s wrong behavior. Not until I walked into the rooms of AA was I aware that I needed to define my own moral behavior. What a revelation! I continued to take everyone’s inventory, with the exception of mine. AA’s Fourth Step helped me. It taught me to realize that in all my dealings with people, I also had a part of every situation. Never did I realize that before. Even if someone else was 99% wrong, I, too was responsible for my 1% in dealing with that situation. What an eye opener.

Until I found out this piece of information, I was usually playing the role of the victim, caretaker or controller. My thinking changed. The life I live now is so much easier.

Reprinted from the Grapevine
April 2012, issue

REPRESENTED AT INTER-GROUP August 2013

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT

TROPICAL ATTITUDES

NEW LIFE

NPR KISS

NEW HOPE BEGINNERS

HAPPIER HOUR

SUNDAY MORNING GRATITUDE

KISWOMEN’S

SOBER NOT DEAD

CAME TO BELIEVE

Donation Addresses

Please make donation checks payable to: West Pasco Inter-group.

West Pasco/Tarpon Springs
Intergroup

TREASURER

7121 US 19

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 206

Bradenton, FL 34206

AA General Service

Office

PO Box 459

Grand Central Station

New York, New York 10163

Activity at Central Office

Nightline Calls.....60

Office Calls.....119

Walk-Ins.....78

TREASURER’S REPORT

June 2013

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$3,259.96 |
| Income | \$1,558.90 |
| Expenses | \$1,672.18 |
| Ending Balance | \$3,146.68 |

ANNIVERSARIES IN OCTOBER

KEEP IT SIMPLE

WOMENS

KATHY M. 20
 BARBARA L. 40
 SHIRLEY J. 21
 BRENDA E. 9

LIVING SOBER STUDY

BERNIE W. 4

HAPPY JOYOUS

FREE
 JIM W.S. 33

TWO OR MORE

DICK 36
 JOE M. 32
 PATTY D. 2
 ROCKY 3

LIFE GOES ON

TERRI B. 10

MIRACLE GROUP

TOM C 14

HOOT N HOLLER

IVAN L. 33
 KELLY C. 5

PASCO BIG BOOK

Gary Z. 23
 Bruce M. 23
 Mary R. 10
 Janet C. 2

TROPICAL ATTITUDES

JOHN M. 12
 MILTON M. 8
 MARYH. 5
 JENNIFER S. 5

WHY IT WORKS

Todd M.....1
 Bill W.17
 Becky W.....15

3 & 11 Steps Group will celebrate its 40th anniversary with cake, of course, at its weekly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 29. 3 & 11 Steps is one of the oldest groups in West Pasco.

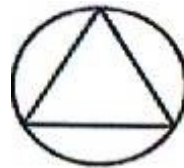
The group meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at King of Kings Lutheran Church, 10337 US 19, Port Richey. The church has been its home since the group's first meeting on Oct. 9, 1973. Ten people attended that meeting.

PLEASE UPATE YOUR GROUP MEMBER LIST AT CENTRAL OFFICE AT 7119 U. S. 19, NPR, FL 34652 OR EMAIL 0777news@gmail.com THANK YOU

BECOME A CARD CARRYING MEMBER

2013 BIRTHDAY CLUB CELEBRANTS

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>HOME GROUP</u> | <u>SOBRIETY DATE</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| DOUG G. | HOW IMPORTANT IS IT | JAN. 29, 1988 |
| TOM C. | MIRACLE GROUP | OCT.16, 1999 |
| DOTTIE I. | HOW IMPORTANT IS IT | MAY 26, 1988 |
| DAN H. | | MAY 24, 2005 |
| MARCY I. | TROPICAL ATTITUDES | OCT. 26, 1983 |
| MARGUERITE L. | AMAZING GRACE | MAY 28, 2013 |
| BARBARA R. | 4TH DIMENSION | JUN 29, 1984 |
| DIANE D. | NEW HOPE BEGINNERS | JUN 30, 1986 |
| BEVERLY S. | NEW HOPE BEGINNERS | NONE GIVEN |



BIRTHDAY CLUB MEMBER PIN
 Mr. _____
 Ms. _____

For A Contribution of \$3.65 or More in Gratitude of Sobriety.

W. PASCO AA
 7121 US 19 - NPR, FL 34652

(727) 847-0777

JOIN THE INTERGROUP BIRTHDAY CLUB!
 Celebrate your years of recovery by giving a little something back!

NAME _____

EMAIL: _____

SOBRIETY DATE: _____

PHONE _____

HOME GROUP: _____

DONATION AMOUNT: _____

Deadline for news submissions for 0777news printing is the 20th of month prior to sobriety month.

Suggested donation \$3.65 or more

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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/phone numbers provided.

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

Oct 1: Corrections & Public Info/-CPC Committees both meet at Central Office, 7121 US 19, NPR. 6:30 pm. Members are needed.

Oct 5: Special Needs Committee, 12:00 pm, 7119 U. S. 19, New Port Richey.

Oct 8: Treatment Committee meeting 6:30 pm
7119 U. S. Hwy. 19, New Port Richey.

Oct 9: WPTSAA Intergroup meeting, 6:30 pm, Central Office, 7121 US 19, NPR. **Send a representative of your group.**

Oct 12: Hernando Unity Meeting 7:30-9 pm, Nativity Lutheran Church, 6363 Commercial Way (US 19), Spring Hill. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

Oct 15: District 15 Committee meeting, 6:30 pm, Central Office, 7121 U. S. 19 NPR. Come & learn. Each group should be represented. All AAs welcome.

Oct 21: Unity Meeting, 7 PM Redeemer Community Church, 9230 Ridge Rd. NPR, 1 mile E. of Little Rd., S. side. Host: New Hope Beginners Two speakers, fellowship, snacks. Doors open at 6:30.

Oct 26: Archives Committee meeting, 12:00 pm
7119 U. S. 19, New Port Richey.

Oct 31: 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

Nov 9: 2013 Gratitude Dinner, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 8320 Old County Rd. 54, New Port Richey. Speaker Ruthie B. from St. Petersburg. Further info. Call Dan L. 727-485-5524 or Ethel D. 727-364-1385

Oct. 18-20, 2013: The Big Book Comes Alive, Calvary Episcopal Church, 1615 1st Street, Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785, In The Spirit of Joe and Charlie, presented by Brian H. Southwest Ranches, FL & Pat R. Coral Springs, FL also featuring Ray G., Archives Display. Further info 727-251-2188 or jhoffman1965@tampabay.rr.com



Events Not Affiliated With AA

Oct. 25-27, 2013: Promises in Paradise, Caribbean Convention, Sugar Bay Resort & Spa, St. Thomas USVI. This year's speakers from Florida, Texas and Georgia. Golf, sailing or snorkeling adventure can be set up for you. Information at www.promisesinparadise.com

Nov. 13, 2013: Brilliance of the Seas, Sail to the beautiful Western Caribbean, prices include door to door transportation. Mention the Boyers when booking please. For reservations 727-372-1232 www.CruiseWarehouse.com

The Newsletter Committee always welcomes info about any AA Activities; group events, dances, picnics etc.

Submit info by 25th of the month prior to publication to: 0777news@gmail.com or dantico18@gmail.com
Subject: Newsletter

Or deliver or mail to: Attn: Newsletter Editor
West Pasco/Tarpon Springs Intergroup
7121 US 19, New Port Richey, Fl. 34652

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 | TOTAL |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 24 Hour Group | | 5.00 | 10.00 | | | | | | | \$ 15.00 |
| 1001 Reasons | | | 20.00 | | | | | | 29.00 | \$ 49.00 |
| 3 & 11 Group | 20.00 | | 30.00 | 30.00 | 20.00 | | 10.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | \$ 150.00 |
| 4th Dimension | | | | 200.00 | | | | | | \$ 200.00 |
| 7 & Up Group | 100.00 | | | | 130.00 | | | | | \$ 230.00 |
| A Club Saturday AM Big Book | | | | 50.00 | | | 40.00 | | | \$ 90.00 |
| A Club Sunday AM Gratitude | 100.00 | | | | | | 100.00 | | | \$ 200.00 |
| Amazing Grace | | | 141.31 | | | | | | | \$ 141.31 |
| Anonymous | | 80.00 | | | 6.00 | | 6.15 | 14.43 | | \$ 106.58 |
| As Bill Saw It | | 25.00 | | | | | | | | \$ 25.00 |
| Birthday Club | | | | 38.00 | 29.00 | 53.65 | 29.00 | | | \$ 149.65 |
| Brown Baggers | | 20.00 | | | | | | | | \$ 20.00 |
| Came to Believe | | | | 40.00 | | | | | 40.00 | \$ 80.00 |
| Committee Meetings | | | | 10.00 | | | | | | \$ 10.00 |
| District 15 | 474.00 | | | | | | | | 240.00 | \$ 714.00 |
| Each Day New Beginning | | | | 30.00 | | | | | | \$ 30.00 |
| Easier Softer Way | | | | | 50.00 | | | | | \$ 50.00 |
| Happier Hour | | | 200.00 | | | | | | 100.00 | \$ 300.00 |
| How Important Is It | 180.00 | | | | | | | | | \$ 180.00 |
| Intergroup | 27.00 | 16.00 | 18.00 | 21.00 | 11.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 8.00 | 24.50 | \$ 153.50 |
| James Gang | | | | | | | | | 10.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| KIS Women's Group | | 70.00 | | | | 50.00 | | | 30.00 | \$ 150.00 |
| Let's Get Better Together | | | 104.00 | | | | | | | \$ 104.00 |
| Life Discussion Group | | | | | | | | 77.00 | | \$ 77.00 |
| Living Sober Group | 80.00 | | | 50.00 | | 20.00 | | | | \$ 150.00 |
| Meeting Room 12 X 12 | | | | 10.00 | 10.00 | | 30.00 | 20.00 | | \$ 70.00 |
| Men's Let's Talk | | | | | | | | | 20.00 | \$ 20.00 |
| Meeting Room Big Book | | | | 7.00 | 20.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 | \$ 167.00 |
| Misc. | | 11.50 | | | 10.00 | | | | | \$ 21.50 |
| New Beginnings | | | 8.00 | | | | | | | \$ 8.00 |
| New Hope Beginners | 35.00 | | | 30.00 | | | | | 20.00 | \$ 85.00 |
| New Life Group | | | 20.00 | | | | | | | \$ 20.00 |
| Noon High | 48.32 | | | | | | | | | \$ 48.32 |
| NPR KISS Group | 10.00 | | 10.00 | | | 40.00 | | | | \$ 60.00 |
| Pasco Big Book | 120.00 | | | | | | | | | \$ 120.00 |
| Serenity Group | | 75.00 | | | | 75.00 | | | | \$ 150.00 |
| Sober Not Dead | | 62.25 | | | | | | | 9.43 | \$ 71.68 |
| Thursday 12 & 12 | | | | | | | | 10.00 | | \$ 10.00 |
| Tropical Attitudes | 60.00 | | 60.00 | 60.00 | | | 60.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 | \$ 360.00 |
| Two or More | 61.00 | 55.00 | 53.00 | 44.00 | 74.00 | 61.00 | 118.40 | 71.00 | 36.00 | \$ 573.40 |
| Unity Meeting | 22.50 | 28.00 | | | | | | | 57.25 | \$ 107.75 |
| Why It Works | | 50.00 | | | | | 35.00 | | | \$ 85.00 |
| Wonderful Step Group | | | 110.00 | | | | | | 67.00 | \$ 177.00 |
| Cent. Office Daily Reflections | 20.00 | 20.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 32.00 | 20.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 | 30.00 | \$ 222.00 |
| " " Tues. Children | 52.00 | 28.00 | 25.00 | 51.00 | 45.00 | 21.00 | 40.00 | 30.00 | 20.00 | \$ 312.00 |
| " " Primary Purpose | 30.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 | 20.00 | 40.00 | 25.00 | 40.00 | \$ 275.00 |
| " " Big Book Study | 13.00 | | 8.00 | | 20.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 20.00 | \$ 161.00 |
| " " Exp. Str. & Hope | | | | | | | 22.00 | 40.00 | 30.00 | \$ 92.00 |
| " " Discover the Truth | | | | | 20.00 | 30.00 | 20.00 | 40.00 | 40.00 | \$ 150.00 |
| " " 12x12 | 30.00 | 16.00 | 30.00 | | 10.00 | 20.00 | | 10.00 | 55.00 | \$ 171.00 |
| " " Sisters in Sobriety | | | | | 31.00 | 20.00 | 30.00 | 40.00 | 46.00 | \$ 167.00 |
| " " Young Sobriety | 20.00 | 22.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 | 17.25 | 28.00 | 15.75 | 2.10 | | \$ 165.10 |
| TOTALS | \$1,382.82 | \$603.75 | \$907.31 | \$751.00 | \$575.25 | \$532.65 | \$710.30 | \$545.43 | \$1,084.18 | \$7,254.79 |

ONLY GROUPS WHO CONTRIBUTED ARE LISTED. IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR GROUP LISTED YOU MAY HAVE MISSED THE CUTOFF DATE (20TH) FOR THE MONTH AND YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL BE LISTED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.