

0777 newsletter



Volume 8 Issue 9

AA HOTLINE 727-847-0777

September 2009

1st Annual

Noon High

Mon. Sept. 7, 2009

Labor Day

Picnic !!!

Starkey Park-Pavilion B

11 AM- 4 PM

- ◆ Bring A Covered dish
- ◆ Speaker/ Disc. Mtg.
- ◆ Games, Prizes!
- ◆ Celebrate Sobriety!

What's Inside

Anniversaries	2
Donations	2
Word Search Puzzle	3
Announcements	3
InterGroup News	4

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.

The Al-Anon Hotline
1-(352)-697-0497

Home Group: the Key To Belonging

Growing up, I was an angry, lonely, frightened kid. I didn't know how to make friends, and I wasn't sure I wanted to. Recess was the most important part of my day— I'd sit on the outskirts of the playground, sensing that I wasn't welcome to play tag or kickball. I watched the other children, taking in their every move, and wondering if I'd ever figure it out. I started drinking heavily when IU was thirteen. It wasn't to fit in— I rarely drank around other people— but more to ease the misery that was raging inside me.

It was only years later that I arrived in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous. But I wasn't convinced that I wanted what you had. I did know that I didn't want to drink. I had been trying hard to stop, and it was my failed attempts that led me to AA. But five years of alcoholic drinking hadn't taught me how to participate in much of anything. I did show up, going to at least a meeting a day, often more; I got a sponsor (though I had no clue how to talk to her); and I didn't drink, no matter what. I sat and watched, wanting to do AA the same way I had done recess— on the outside looking in.

Ironically, I joined a group only because I wanted to be left alone. Ann seemed to be at most of the meetings I went to, and she'd zoom right in on me. "Have you joined a home group yet? You could join this one!" My sponsor had also suggested I join a group, but I quickly mastered the art of side-stepping her suggestions. Ann, however would drill me about it. "You'll drink again if you don't join a group," she'd say. I'd think 'Yeah, right - I'll show you.' But I figured she'd back off if I told her I'd joined another group, and I picked one neither she nor my sponsor attended. "You're a member if you say you're a member" I'd heard, so it wasn't like I like I had to tell anyone other than Ann, and maybe my sponsor. Ann seemed disappointed that she hadn't roped me into one of her groups, but she moved on to another newcomer. Mission accomplished!

My sponsor, however, only suggested it wasn't good enough to simply join the group— I should "get active". She asked when the next business meeting was, and when I told her, she insisted on going with me. I was relieved when she sat quietly through the meeting.

I certainly wasn't interested in making coffee or putting away chairs.

One night I went to my new home group, only to be told there was no meeting that night. The hospital needed that room for some other function, although they had made available a room in an adjoining building. My group had decided it wasn't worth lugging our gear over, so they had instead canceled the meeting.

I'd love to tell you that I volunteered to do the work— that I carried a coffee pot across the parking lot and went back for a box of meeting lists, pamphlets, and Big Books. But that's not what I did. I hadn't yet developed any sense of responsibility. I didn't care about the other group members, or the newcomer who might walk in the door that night. I was furious that my meeting had been canceled, I screamed at the handful of people who were directing people like me to other meetings in town that night. Then I walked home, vowing never to go to that meeting again.

After about a year of not drinking, my defiance started to soften. My anger, my stubbornness, my attitude—

see "Belonging" on pg. 4

Step 9

"Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

Tradition 9

"AA, as such, ought never to be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

0777
Newsletter

The Newsletter Committee is soliciting info about any AA Activities- group events, dances, picnics etc.

Submit all info by the 20th of the month preceding publication to:

news0777@yahoo.com

or drop off at :

West Pasco /Tarpon Springs InterGroup

6611 US 19 Suite 505

New Port Richey, Fl. 34652

(727) 847-0777

Donation Addresses

WEST PASCO/TARPON SPRINGS INTER-GROUP

TREASURER

6611 US 19, ROOM 505

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL. 34652

DISTRICT 15 GENERAL SERVICE

TREASURER

P.O. BOX 692

ELFERS, FL. 34680-0692

AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE

TREASURER P.O. BOX 561715

MIAMI, FL. 33256-1715

AA GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

P.O. BOX 459

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10063

TREASURER'S REPORT

July 1 Balance ... \$	4777.61
Income	+1336.45
Expenses	- 986.10
Ending Balance ... \$	5127.96

August—Central Office

Niteline calls 130

Office calls 178

Walk-ins 57

Pass the Basket

August 2009

KIS Women's	\$ 25.00
Two Or More	100.00
NPR KISS	40.00
Mon. Night Beginner's75
Tropical Attitudes	60.00
Noon High	51.25
Not A Glum Lot	10.00
InterGroup	12.00
Unity Mtg.	40.25
New Hope Beginners	30.00
Happy Joyous & Free	30.00
James Gang	50.00
Why It Works	20.00
Brown Baggers	<u>20.00</u>
	\$ 489.20

Thank YOU for your Support!

***** UNITY *****

MEETING

*** Every 3rd Saturday! ***

Sept. 19- Men Let's Talk

Oct. 17- Noon High

Nov. 15, December 20- Open

Groups wishing to sponsor a Unity Meeting, should attend a Unity Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month and meet with **Mary Ellen** to set up a date. You'll be glad you did because not only will you be supporting West Pasco/Tarpon Springs InterGroup, but you'll be showcasing your home group at the same time.

Starts @ 7 PM!

River Ridge Presbyterian Church

7540 Ridge Rd. — East of Little Rd.

September- Pickin' up chips

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
<u>AA WAY</u>		<u>MEN LET'S TALK</u>	
Dave N.	34 yrs	Joe K.	4 yrs
Bob S.	24 yrs	Ray L.	29 yrs
Gary D.	23 yrs	Ed B.	24 yrs
Jeff U.	22 yrs	Mike M.	13 yrs
Bill D.	20 yrs	Stephen	9 yrs
Michelle G.	14 yrs	<u>MIRACLE GROUP</u>	
Patrick B.	14 yrs	<u>NEW HOPE BEGINNERS</u>	
Robert V.	4 yrs	<u>NEW LIFE GROUP</u>	
<u>BACK TO BASICS</u>		Tony D.	6 yrs
Denny S.	17 yrs	Karen R.	3 yrs
Dan L.	20 yrs	<u>NPR KISS GROUP</u>	
<u>CAME TO BELIEVE</u>		Denise	6 yrs
<u>CANDLELIGHT BEGINNERS</u>		Debi	22 yrs
<u>COTEE RIVER YOUNG PEOPLES</u>		<u>NOON HIGH</u>	
Steve	10 yrs	<u>PASCO BIG BOOK</u>	
<u>HAPPY JOYOUS & FREE</u>		Linda S.	4 yrs
<u>HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?</u>		David L.	10 yrs
Kathie C.	7 yrs	Tom O.	14 yrs
Nellie Cate W.	25 yrs	Butch	29 yrs
<u>K.I.S. WOMEN</u>		<u>SERENITY GROUP</u>	
Maureen L.	12 yrs	John J.	22 yrs
Judy S.	27 yrs	Donna R.	18 yrs
Sunnie	5 yrs	Gary D.	24 yrs
Kate D.	33 yrs	<u>3 & 11 STEP GROUP</u>	
Debbie R.	1 yr	<u>TROPICAL ATTITUDES</u>	
<u>SUN. MORN. GRATITUDE</u>		Patrick B.	14 yrs
<u>SURRENDER GROUP</u>		Cyndie M.	27 yrs
<u>LIFE GOES ON</u>		Don L.	1 yr
Jack A.	34 yrs	Cammie H.	2 yrs
<u>WONDERFUL SATURDAY STEP</u>		Bonnie C.	2 yrs
<u>2 for 1 WOMENS</u>		Kate D.	33 yrs
<u>IF your group anniversaries are not listed here, be sure to have them @ Central Office by the 20th of the month preceding publication.</u>		Ralph O.	12 yrs
		<u>2 for 1 WOMENS</u>	
		Terry M. (August)	7 yrs
		Anita (August)	24 yrs
		Sonia O.	5 yrs
		Monica S.	3 yrs
		<u>WONDERFUL SATURDAY STEP</u>	
		Maxine D.	3 yrs
		Monica S.	3 yrs
		Ken C.	12 yrs
		Don T.	2 yrs
		Karen C.	14 yrs

District 15

Special Needs Committee

The **Special Needs Committee** is looking for volunteers to assist with taking meetings to homebound AA members and help any members with special needs. If you have only a couple hours a month, that is enough to help us out. We meet the 1st SATURDAY OF THE MONTH @ 12 Noon at the A Club. Any questions call Donna E. @ 727-375-2489 or Email me @ d15specialneeds@hotmail.com. The AClub is at 5650 W. Missouri Ave., NPR.

This is
YOUR NEWSLETTER

We need to get the input of our readers into 0777 Newsletter. We are asking people within District 15 to contribute articles to this newsletter. A.A. members with one (1) or more years of continuous sobriety can reserve a month-date for their 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

AA CD's
TO LEND!!!

District 15 Archives Committee has placed a number of CD's at Central Office to lend. There are different speakers, Steps, Traditions, Concepts and history cd's to sign out. The only thing asked is that you sign for them so that others will know where they are. Archives Committee meets on the last Sat. of the month @ 12 Noon. All are invited. Questions? Call Nancy A. @ 992-2204

WORD SEARCH

STEP 9

Word List

- | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Amends | Except | Important |
| Made | Others | Possible |
| Such | Tranquil | Would |
| Courage | Expense | Injure |
| Making | Peace | Prudence |
| Them | When | Direct |
| Good | Judgment | Mind |
| People | Requisite | Timing |
| | Wherever | |

Directions-

Find the above words in the puzzle forwards, backwards, up, down, diagonal.

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

By Rich F., NPR KISS Group



wptsaa.org

*** current meeting list**

*** current 0777**

A.A. Preamble

Circa 1940

We are gathered here because we are faced with the fact that we are powerless over alcohol and unable to do anything about it without the help of a Power greater than ourselves. We feel that a person's religious views, if any, are his own affair. The simple purpose of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is to show what may be done to enlist the aid of a Power greater than ourselves regardless of what our individual conception of that power may be.

In order to form a habit of depending upon and referring all that we do to that power, we must first apply ourselves with some diligence. By often repeating these acts, they become habitual and the help rendered becomes natural to us. We have all come to know that as alcoholics we are suffering from a serious illness for which medicine has no cure. Our condition may be the result of an allergy which makes us different from other people. It has never with any treatment with which we are familiar, permanently cured. The only relief we have to offer is absolute abstinence, the second meaning of A.A.

There are no dues or fees. Our only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Each member squares his debt by helping others to recover. An Alcoholics Anonymous is an alcoholic who through application and adherence to the A.A. program has forsworn the use of any and all alcoholic beverages in any form. The moment he takes so much as one drop of beer, wine, spirits, or any other alcoholic beverage he automatically loses all status as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

A.A. is not interested in sobering up drunks who are not sincere in their desire to remain sober for all time. Not being reformers, we offer our experience only to those who want it. We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree and on which we can join in harmonious action.

Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our program. Those who do not recover are people who will not or simply cannot give themselves to this simple program. Now you may like this program or you may not, but the fact remains. It works. It is our only chance to recover. (See "Preamble" on pg. 4)

Belonging *from pg. 1*

these were all keeping me from enjoying my sobriety, and I started to recognize that fact. I decided to try some of the things that until then I'd refused to do. I finished my Fourth Step and shared it with my sponsor. I started going to meetings a little early and resisted the urge to bolt out the door the moment the Lord's Prayer was finished. *I thought I might try some of that "get active" stuff, so I volunteered to make coffee at a meeting I liked to attend.

You meet a lot of people when you need to be at the meeting. An hour early. There's always the 2nd person to get there— maybe a newcomer, or an out-of-towner, or even an old-timer who knows that the coffee maker needs some company. It wasn't long before I found myself in the middle of Alcoholics Anonymous. I discovered that there really is an easier, softer way— the way of striving to be a part of. What I've been willing to give to AA, most often through my home group, I've gotten back tenfold in peace of mind.

Not that making coffee rendered me white as snow. The first time I was elected treasurer I stole the groups money! When the rent was due there was nothing to pay it with. I had to tell the group what I had done, and I vowed to pay it back, which I did. They didn't want me to be treasurer anymore (they were sober, not stupid), but found I made a good chip person and cake baker. A few years later, in a different group, I was again asked to be treasurer, a job which I at first declined. *I related the story of how I'd proven myself to be a sober thief, but they were insistent I take the job. This time I managed to perform my duties with honor and integrity.

I recently moved and now I have another home group. I got active here immediately— I needed

to. I walked into that meeting not knowing a soul and felt as if I was back at recess again. So I served as the greeter, introducing myself to these strangers I knew were just friends I hadn't met yet, and I welcomed them to the meeting. I took care of other odds and ends, such as selling raffle tickets or signing court papers and I was elected alternate general service representative. I go on commitments with other group members, sharing my experience, strength, and hope as a representative of the Manchester Original Group. This fall we will celebrate the group's fifty-fifth anniversary. I can't believe I'm a member of a group that's older than my mother.

I don't corner new-comers in exactly the same way that Ann did, insisting they join a group, but I think I understand what she wanted me to know. So I ask the new-comer to help me wash the coffee-pot, or put chairs away, because service was, and still is, my key to belonging.

Karen S.

Manchester, New Hampshire

Reprinted from the Grapevine, Sept., 2000- with permission.

"Preamble" *cont'd.*

There is a vast amount of fun in the A.A. fellowship. Some people may be shocked at our seeming worldliness and levity but just underneath there lies a deadly earnestness and a full realization that we must put first things first and with each of us the first thing is our alcoholic problem. To drink is to die. Faith must work twenty-four hours a day in and through us or we perish.

In order to set our tone for this meeting I ask that we bow our heads in a moment of silent prayer and meditation. I wish to remind you that whatever is said at this meeting express our own individual opinions as of today and as of up to this moment.. We do not speak for A.A. as a whole and you are free to agree or disagree as you see fit, in fact, it is suggested that you pay no attention to anything which might not be reconciled with what is in the Big Book. If you don't have a Big Book, it's time you bought one. Read it, study it, live with it, loan it, scatter it, and then learn from it what it means to be an A.A.

*from an Old-Timer
with 54 years*

Recovery
JEWELRY
Now At
**Central
Office**



6611 US 19 St. 505- NPR



**Live and
Let Live**

... I am responsible

Whenever anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to be there...

Dist. 15 Treatment Committee
will meet **Sat. Sept. 12th @ Noon @ the AClub.**
5650 W. Missouri Ave. NPR

23rd Annual Tampa Bay Fall Roundup
September 4 - 7, 2009

"The Of Language The Heart"



Embassy Suites Hotel ~ USF
3705 Spectrum Blvd. Tampa, FL 33612
Details at Central Office!

Groups Represented
At InterGroup 8/12/09

*New Life Group, Tropical Attitudes, Not A Glam Lot,
NPR KRIS Group, 2 For 1 Women's Step,
Happier Hour, New Hope Beginners, Wonderful Group,
Back To Basics, Your Group?*

BRIDGING THE GAP
for **Basic Step**
12th **BRIDGING THE GAP** **new**
Work taken to a **new** dimension in Pasco and Pi- nellas Counties.

~District 15~
**Corrections
Committee**

Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at the AClub @ Noon.

Come and get involved! This month Sept. 19th
AClub is at 5650 W. Missouri Ave., NPR

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 is welcome to attend and place their item on the agenda; they must do so at this meeting.

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 a message for **Kathryn @**

847-0777