



Tri-County Central Office News

ANOTHER YEAR SOBER

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.
8019 North Himes Avenue Ste. 104, Tampa, Florida 33614-2763

January, 2014

Phone: 813- 933-9123 E-Mail: aainfo@aatampa-area.org Web Site: www.aatampa-area.org

RED CHIP DAY

RED CHIP DAY was held Sunday, November 17th, 2013 at the Apostles Lutheran Church in Brandon, Florida. With a great turn-out, lots of good food and great Fellowship, Red Chip Day was another success. Originally, (in the olden days) Red Chip Day was an annual celebration for all of those who had made it to a year or more of sobriety and the proceeds were send to New York. Each year a group or groups would host this event inviting all AA members to come and Fellowship with them and enjoy a meal and a speaker. Eventually, over time as AA grew in the Hillsborough area it was decided by the hosting groups to start contributing the proceeds to the Central Office. At some point, unknown, Red Chip Day naturally became the annual event hosted by the groups in the Brandon area and this year was no exception. Ellie Q. was the speaker for the event and there was plenty of good fixin's to be shared by everyone. After all was said and done, Red Chip Day netted a total of \$529.80 to contribute to Central Office. We here at Central Office would like to thank the following groups for coming together in the true spirit of Unity and supplying the cash and the woman/man power to make this a very truly happy and joyous event. Those groups are the *Expect a Miracle Group, the Spiritual Growth Group, the Brandon Tuesday Big Book Group, the New Beginnings Group, the Brandon Saturday Night Group, the Valrico Friday Morning Group, the North Brandon Open Forum Group, the Sweet Surrender Group, the Promises Meeting Group, the Hide-a-Way Group, the Positive Thinkers Group and the Sisters in Sobriety Group.* If anyone else was left out, please accept my apologies but know that we are deeply grateful for all your hard work.

Thank you all for your efforts, we are in your debt.

Attention to all Groups from Tri-County Central Office:

Please pass this information on to your group and if you so choose, to other groups you may visit.

On December 4th, 2013, a power outage caused Tri-county Central Office to lose all of it's company files from it's Quickbooks accounting software. After an exhaustive attempt at trying to retrieve our files, we were able to retrieve most of everything up to November 20th, 2013 and were able to piece together most everything up to December 2nd. If you happen to notice on the Contributions page that your Group did not get credited for a contribution, then you may be one of the invoices that were unable to retrieve . Please contact us if you think you are so we can fix any errors. Please contact us by mail or phone, or come in to the Central Office with the appropriate information, ie: the name of the Group, the date of the contribution, the check number or if it was cash, and the amount of the contribution. If not, we will not be able to appropriately credit your Group with it's contribution. This also applies to any literature you may have purchased. If you can bring it in or mail in your invoice, this will help us immensely in bringing our inventory back up to it's appropriate numbers. Because of this event, Central Office will be implementing more stringent safeguards to ensure that if something like this ever happens again, we will not suffer such a lost of critical data as we just did. We thank you for patience as we resolve this issue and thank you for your continued support.

Office Manager.....

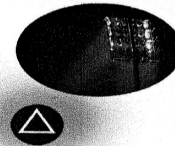
Bridging the Gap

1-877-AATAMPA
1-877-228-2672

If you are leaving a treatment/detox center and are interested in going to an AA meeting, please call the number above and leave your name and a phone number where you can be reached. A member of AA Tampa will contact you to set up transportation and find a meeting for you. REMEMBER, YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

BRIDGING THE GAP : Be a Temporary Contact (TC) for a patient being released from a jail or a treatment center who is returning home to your community. Take him/her to local AA group meetings for one to two weeks and introduce them to members of the fellowship and help them to Bridge the Gap into Alcoholics Anonymous.

1-877-AATAMPA 1-877-228-2672



The Friday Night Lights Group

Ice Cream Social to benefit Central Office
All Contributions this night go to support Central Office.

Friday, February 7th, 2014

**Sandy B.
AA History Talk
Part 2**

7:30 P.M.

Faithworx Church
202 Flamingo Drive
Apollo Beach, Florida



District 2 - Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee covering Hillsborough & East Pasco Counties

(877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672!

Important Reminder

T.B.A.I.C. Literature Availability And Distribution Will Be Once A Month Only On The Second Saturday Of Each Month During The T.B.A.I.C. Monthly Meeting. All Volunteers Are Welcome To Attend The Meeting And Gather Needed Literature At This Time.

The December 14th meeting was opened by chair Bobby B. with the Serenity Prayer. Buddy H. had contacted Bobby to let him know everything was going well with the men's meetings at Falkenburg.

Tom F. distributed a Treasurer's report. The necessary paper work to file for tax exempt (501c) is complete and will be submitted once all autobiographies of the committee members have been received. Tom reminded the group that once the tax exempt status is approved, it will add an additional responsibility for annual reporting. Regions Bank has agreed to waive account fees regardless of account balance. A small literature order was received and another one will be placed once the current donations have been deposited.

Nancy B. said The women's meetings at Faulkenburg were going well. There are only two minor issues. One is a reminder for the volunteers not to wear the color orange. The second, volunteers are not to sign any kind of forms from the inmates.

John B. asked for more outside attendance at the DACCO 6 PM Wednesday night meeting (4422 E. Columbus) it is an open meeting and the women are seeking sponsors. He also says Manatee County could use more volunteers if anyone was interested.

Ruth N. needs more volunteers for the Thursday and Sunday meeting at the E. Pasco County Women's Jail.

Chris D. said they have maintained contact with two recent Pasco Prison releases and both are doing well. They will be having their regular AA meetings on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Jim S. reported that Bridge the Gap received 5 phone calls. Three were wrong numbers but two callers were given rides to an AA meeting. He has an updated list of drivers and posters have been distributed. A supply of business cards was on had for distribution. Sign-up sheets, brochures, posters and other information are available by contacting Jim S. He also received the annual phone service bill for \$119.90 which he will submit for payment.

Gail F. (813-785-8564) is looking for volunteers to help at St. Joseph's Hospital Behavioral on Tuesdays.

Nancy B. will serve as Detox Coordinator and continue to update the list as she has been doing for the past several months. Scott R. will assist in maintaining a current data base to produce a printable list as needed.

"God grant that AA may ever stay simple" (Dr. Bob, September 1948 "The Fundamentals in Retrospect")

Our Next Committee Meeting
 Is at 9:30 AM on January 14th, 2014 at the Tri-County Central Office (near Himes & Waters). If you need more specific directions please call Tim @ 813-933-9123. The meeting usually lasts about an hour and it is the best way to get involved with service work, in Detox/Treatment/Jail/ Prison facilities. If you would like to join our committee **PLEASE COME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Pink Can Drive
 Our committee is 100% self supporting and receives no funds from the traditional pie charts or District 2 in accordance with our group conscious. If your home group has not made a pink can donation recently or if you are able to send an additional donation this year ... We will put it to great use!
 TBAIC, PO Box 26242, Tampa FL 33623

Thank you to those groups who have sent in a donation last Month:
A.A. 101 (70.70) Anonymous (43.06) Brandon Big Book (12.16) Came to Believe (41.00) H.O.W. (23.50) Lunch Bunch (4.00) Live & Let Live (64.00) Meeting Place (34.00) Midday Matinee (328.00) Morning Meditation (159.75) New Beginnings (10.00) Tampa Monday Nite Mens (95.00) Noon Big Book (152.00) Old School Group (192.00) Riverside (41.00) Rush Hour Serenity (50.00) Town & Country Tuesday (45.00) Wellspring (53.00) YANA Noon Big Book (74.00)

TBAIC 2012-2013 Committee Members

Bobby B. - Chair	813-415-4961
Janine M. -Alternate Chair	813-455-6617
Tom F.— Treasurer	813-205-4945
Shanna M.—Alt. Treasurer	813-390-3558
Larry B. – Secretary	813-215-8423
Dick D. - Hills Jails - Emeritus	813-254-4423
Buddy H. – Hillsborough County Jail	813-871-2514
Nancy B.— Hills Women's Jails	813-872-0262
John L.— Detox & Treatment	813-283-8059
Ruth N. - E Pasco Jail-Women's	813-629-1547
Chris D. - E Pasco Prison	813-857-5400
Michele S. Women's Bridge The Gap	813-507-5796
Jim S.— Men's Bridge The Gap	813-679-9130
OPEN- Pre-Release	
OPEN— Juvenile	

YTD Contributions to TBAIC \$14,795.60
YTD Money Placed in Tri-County spending account \$14,313.65
YTD Money Spent on Literature \$14,285.46

MORE NEWS & STUFF AROUND TOWN

Do You Have A Subscription To Our Newsletter "Tri-County Central Office News"? Why Not???-Starting January 1st, 2014 the cost for our Newsletter will be going up to \$7.00. You Will Receive 12 Issues. The "News" Is One Of The Few Ways Central Office Can Reach Our Individual Members. Support your Central Office by purchasing a Newsletter subscription. If not for yourself, how about a sponsee or newcomer? Help the Newsletter become self-supporting. Mail a check or Money Order to Tri-County Central Office.

SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY January 3-5, 2014

Marriott North, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
33309 –

Reservations: 800-319-5705

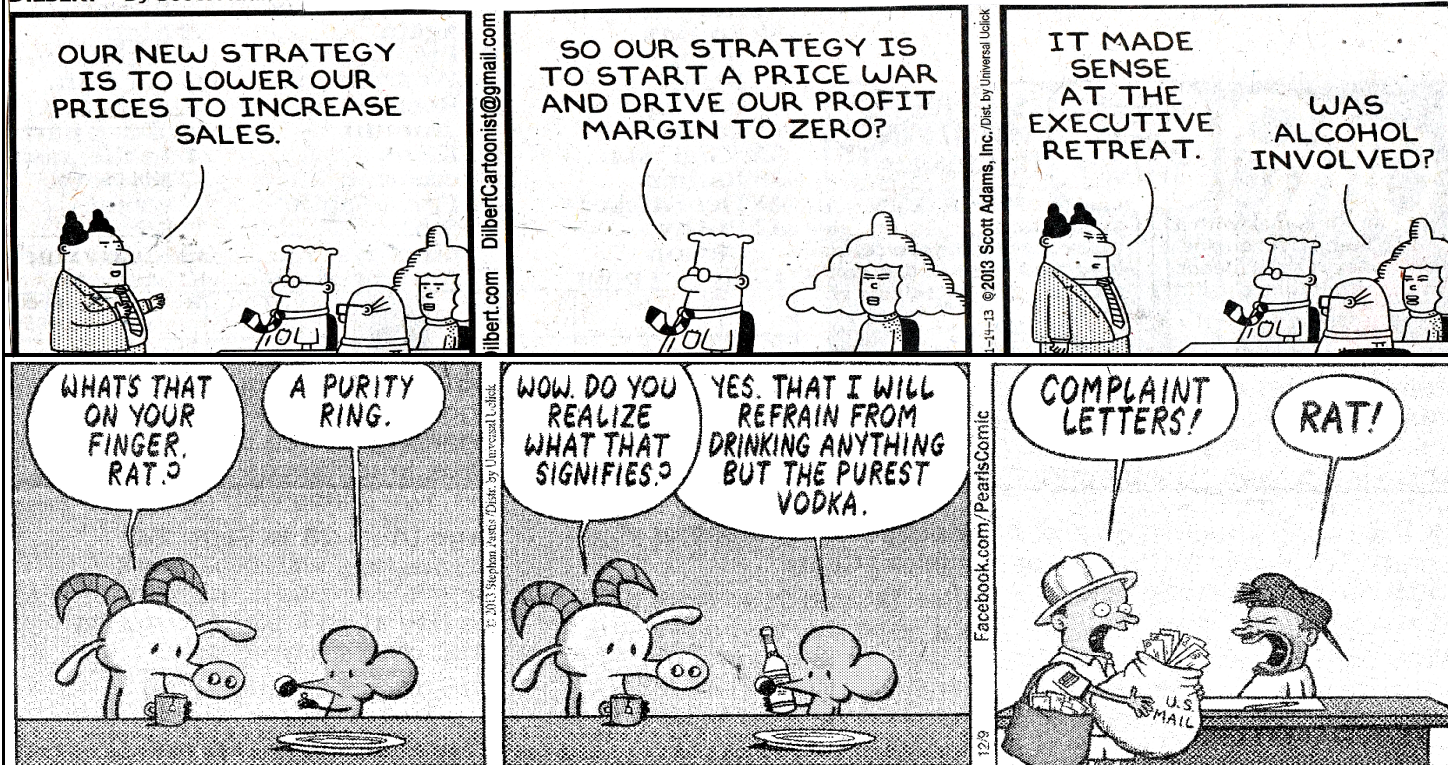
Registration Friday 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM;

Saturday 8:00 AM-8:30 PM;

Sunday 7:00 AM– 9:00 AM

Details: www.area15aa.org

DILBERT ♦ By Scott Adams



WE NEED 12 STEPPERS!!! There are hundreds, probably thousands of active alcoholics in our area. Many may never think they need our help or even want our help. But, just like you and I, there will be a few who desperately want and need our help. Many may reach for but not find the hand of A.A. We need to be there to help them when they are ready. Are you ready to help? Will you help? Come by the Office and fill out a 12 Step Form or email us and we will send you a form to fill out. Email: aainfo@aatampa-area.org

NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE

December 10th, 2013 the Board of Directors for Central Office met:
BOARD MEMBERS **REPRESENTING GROUP**

WARD H.	CHAIRPERSON	PALMA CEIA BIG BOOK GROUP
EXCUSED	TREASURER	TURNING POINT GROUP
BRIAN W.	BOARD MEMBER	ODESSA GROUP
J. KELLEY L.	BOARD MEMBER	CLEAN AIR GROUP
LISA C.	BOARD MEMBER	REFLECTIONS GROUP
BRIAN L.	BOARD MEMBER	HIGH NOONERS GROUP
LESLIE G.	BOARD MEMBER	PROMISES MEETING GROUP
OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION
OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION
OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION	OPEN POSITION

Ward opened the meeting in the usual matter with the Serenity Prayer and asking if everyone had turned down their cell phones. He also asked how many open positions there were for the Board. Three was the answer. Brian read the November minutes. A correction was made to change Linda to Leslie. The minutes were seconded and approved. Tim presented the Treasurers report. The report was accepted as read. In Old Business Ward noted that the absent Treasurer was supposed to have checked into other catering services for the Anniversary Dinner. Ward noted that he would check into how many tables would be needed for the catering. Brian noted that one of the speakers was unable to be there so after some discussion it was decided that he would find another speaker. The Physical Inventory for January was briefly touched on. Ward also noted that since the Officer Managers insurance policy was changing, the Employee Policy Handbook needed to be updated along with the new date for Employee Evaluation. Al explained how the Evaluation used to be done. Ward noted that Tim was okay about not getting a raise in lieu of the Insurance being paid. Brian asked why Tim had not gotten a raise and Al explained the reasons. Kelley asked if we could look into this next month. In New Business Ward noted the 7th Tradition statements Tim had added to the new Meeting Schedules and that the new check signers information had been completed at the Bank. Discussion followed about the lost of the Quickbooks Company files but most of it had been retrieved. Some commits on data security were discussed. Ward noted that he would be helping with setting up the 2014 Budget. Robin (the Cake Lady) was present to explain how we could do a CakeWalk at our Dinner. Discussion followed. Leslie noted the snacks she had brought to try to raise a few extra dollars for Central Office. At the Council meeting Ward went over the different Committee duties once again with everyone to make sure we were all on the same page and if there were any changes. Ward talked about the Physical Inventory and then Robin explained the CakeWalk to everyone. Ward then noted the Employee Policy changes and a Christmas Bonus was brought up for Tim and Martin and approved. The 7th Tradition statement inserted into the new Meeting Schedule was mentioned and also working on the 2014 Budget. Discussion also centered around having more All Group Meetings and other ways to raise money for Central Office. Several announcements were made and the meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

December 10th,2013 the Central Office Representatives met:
COUNCIL MEMBERS **REPRESENTING GROUP**

ANN S.	LIVING IN THE SOLUTION GROUP
ED J.	NOON BIG BOOK GROUP
LINDA F.	STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
SAM F.	FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS GROUP
GREG R.	PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP
BOB C.	SOBRIETY GROUP
SUE Z.	CLEAN AIR GROUP
BILL J.	EARLY RISERS GROUP
MARY S.	RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP
CINDY L.	SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
RILEY T.	EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP
VIVIAN J.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY GROUP
JEFF B.	HOOR GLASS GROUP
TROY S.	THE PROMISES MEETING GROUP
BART S.	BYOB 12 & 12 GROUP
RAY D.	CARDINAL GROUP
BILL M.	AS BILL SEES IT GROUP
JEANNIE A.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
LAUREN D.	TAMPA BAY SPEAKER GROUP
GLENN Y.	TAMPA BAY YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
AL B.	THURSDAY NITE BIG BOOK GROUP
TOM F.	KEYSTONE GROUP
ED DET.	KEYSTONE GROUP
GREG G.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
TRAVIS B.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
ANDY B.	LUNCH BUNCH GROUP
ALLAN D'H	LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP

Steps to Freedom 2014
12-Step Workshop

Saturday, June 14, 2014
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Christ the King Church
821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

Brian H. and Pat R.
(Sunset Ranches, FL) (Coral Springs, FL)
present
a "Joe and Charlie" approach to the Steps

Admission includes lunch!
\$8 in advance, \$10 at door

Register NOW online
at <http://stepstofreedom.us!>



ALL proceeds go to Tampa Bay Jails and Institutions

ANNIVERSARY TIME

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
OLD SCHOOL GROUP	JEANNIE A.	01/02/07	7 YRS
FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS GROUP	KEVIN R.	01/15/90	24 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	STACY W.	01/09/05	9 YRS
PROMISES MEETING GROUP	LESLIE G.	01/02/90	24 YRS
SOLUTIONS GROUP	MIKE J.	01/10/12	2 YRS
SUNSHINE GROUP	DONNA L.	01/16/10	4 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	BILL B.	01/01/04	10 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	DAVID G.	01/24/95	19 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	MARK M.	01/03/91	23 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	BARBARA L.	01/07/09	5 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	KATHY M.	01/29/06	8 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	JIM P.	01/31/97	17 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	SARAH G.	01/03/09	5 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	JUNE T.	01/09/99	15 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	ED S.	01/15/86	28 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	ED P.	01/17/77	37 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	MARILYN H.	01/18/12	2 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	NANCY	01/13/11	3 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	MICHAEL S.	01/20/07	7 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	JOHN L.	01/03/96	18 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	CHERYL T.	01/01/92	22 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	TOM G.	01/31/84	30 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JOYCE S.	01/07/98	16 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BRIAN K.	01/29/83	31 YRS
CLEAN AIR GROUP	SUE Z.	01/16/89	25 YRS
T-n-C SISTERS IN SOBRIETY	TAMMY P.	01/16/08	6 YRS
INTO ACTION GROUP	LYNN P.	01/11/08	6 YRS

**A BIRTHDAY CLUB SUPPORTER TO CENTRAL OFFICE
ONE DOLLAR FOR EACH YEAR OF SOBRIETY**

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
HIDE-A-WAY GROUP	PHIL S.	11/08/07	6 YRS
	JANET S.	12/01/13	1 YR
STEP BY STEP GROUP	KAY M.	12/08/01	12 YRS
WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP	VINCE T.	12/14/72	41 YRS

SELF-SUPPORT- November 2013

☺ Back in 2004 our annual income was around \$59,000.00 and our annual expenses were around \$54,000.00. Today we have almost doubled both of these amounts. Why? That's easy. More Groups, more people in AA. In 1998 we had 174 Groups in the Hillsborough/East Pasco area. That was 364 meetings per week in our area. Today in September of 2013 we have **221** Groups with **588** meetings a week. There are 10 Spanish Groups with 35 meetings a week. Brandon has 38 Groups with 85 meetings a week. Carrollwood has 9 Groups with 10 meetings a week. Central Tampa has 24 Groups with 65 meetings a week. Wesley Chapel/East Pasco has 17 Groups with 58 meetings a week. Odessa/Lutz, west of Dale Mabry has 8 Groups with 8 meetings a week. Lutz/Land-o-Lakes east of Dale Mabry has 3 Groups with 52 meetings a week. Plant City has 10 Groups with 17 meetings a week. Sun City/Ruskin/Apollo Beach has 23 Groups with 47 meetings a week. Seminole has 6 Groups with 50 meetings a week. South Tampa has 41 Groups with 103 meetings a week. Temple Terrace has 19 Groups with 40 meetings a week and Town & Country has 10 Groups with 20 meetings a week. Although we may lose some groups, others spring up just as fast, that's still a lot of meetings and that's still a lot of Groups wanting material. The year to date contributions from Groups (November 2013) have totaled \$67,718.35 for the year. That accounts for what **143** Groups out of 221 Groups in our area have contributed plus the 66 AAer's who contributed \$1618.38 in contributions anonymously and the 3641.00 we generated from ticket sales, the 7th Tradition Basket and a raffle at our Anniversary Dinner. And the \$775.00 from the 37 members who have participated in the Birthday Plan thus far. Also the \$589.00 from the Old School Group Anniversary Dinner and the \$305.00 from the 164 Group's 12 Step Workshop and the \$1700.00 from the Keystone Group's All Groups meeting in March. And the \$1166.50 generated from our Founders Day Event and the \$774.60 from two of the Friday Night Lights Group's Movie Nights and the \$525.00 from the Cardinal Groups All Groups event and the \$320.00 from the Memorial Day Picnic hosted by the Wellspring Group, Sunshine Group and the Wednesday Night Town & Country Group and the \$433.00 from the Sober @ 7's annual Group celebration and All Groups and the \$171.00 generated from the Pieoberfest event hosted by the Tampa Bay Speakers Group and the \$393.00 from the Old School Group's All Groups Meeting. Our Literature sales for November bought in \$3,817.01 plus \$10.00 in Newsletter subscriptions. Total Contributions were \$6,282.82. Our total income for November was \$10,119.98. Our Cost of Goods Sold was \$2,605.44. Subtracting the Cost of Goods Sold from our November income left us with a Gross Profit of \$7,514.54. Our Expenses for November were \$8,792.67. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus **\$1,278.13** for the month of November. As our AA membership continues to grow in the Tampa Bay area, the demand for more and more material and services continue to expand and we have to try and strive to keep up with the demand. That is only possible with your continued support. Thanks!

MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

Old School Group

12th Anniversary Gratitude Dinner and
Speaker Meeting

Featuring:

Sandy B. (49 Years) – Tampa, FL
Saturday, January 18, 2014

Christ the King Catholic Church - 821 South Dale
Mabry, Tampa, FL

7 pm - Gratitude Dinner – Catered by Carrabbas
Tickets \$15.00 - 350 Total seats available

Dinner Tickets Available at: Tri County Office or
from an OSG Group Member

8 pm - AA Speaker Meeting

Everyone is Welcome to Come & Listen
50 / 50 Raffle at the door

Proceeds to benefit - Tri County Central

Tickets are NOW available at the Central Office
(STILL HAVE TICKETS AVAILABLE - GET THEM

NOW) I ALREADY GOT MY TICKET!!!

Make checks payable to:

Old School Group



Big Book Workshop
January 24th 2013

6:00pm - 9pm

St Mary Catholic Church
15520 North Blvd, Tampa, FL 33613

Larry S - Atlanta, GA

Chris R - Texas

January 25, 2013

9:00am - 6pm

Requested Contribution: \$ 10

Includes Lunch

(proceeds to benefit Tri-County Central Office)

Hosted By:



I ALREADY GOT MY TICKET!!!



MARCH
14th-16th, 2014

An annual event of
recovery including
AA Speakers, Live
Bands, Free Food,
Camping, Fellowship
& Fun!

www.soberstock.com

TRI-COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE
39TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER & SPEAKER MEETING
February 15th, 2014

This year (2014) our event will be held at the
Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
2515 3500 San Jose & Himes Avenue
Tampa, Florida 33629

Complete details will be coming soon—check the web site
for updates. I can tell you for now, the scheduled speakers
will be Monica A. (originally Tampa) from Orlando
& Brett B. from Wesley Chapel & it will be a catered
Dinner.

More to be revealed!

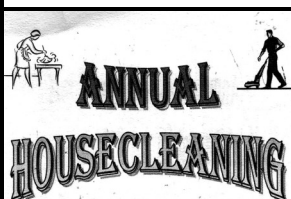


January 29, 2014 - AA History
Presentation - by: Bill B & Dan M

Beginning January 29, 2014—164 USF
will travel together as a group through the
basic text of the AA Big Book one section
at a time. 164USF is not a reading
meeting. 164 USF is a Solution Based
Meeting.... Often considered a 'back to
basics AA' format. We want to learn from
each other how the Big Book impacts our
lives. Basic text tour complete by 4th July.
Come share with others what was shared
so freely with you.

Wednesdays
@ 7PM
Chapel Center
USF
12850 N 50th St
Tampa, FL 33617

Go to <http://www.164fl.com/164SBF.pdf> for
complete details



Spiritual Retreat
for A.A. & Al-Anon

mpa-area.org
March 21-23, 2014

Lake Yale Conference Center
39034 County Road 452
Leesburg, Florida 34788

The retreat will center
around God as we
understand Him, through
discussions of Steps
2,3,7,10,11,&12

For Complete Info: Tom B.
@ 813-951-5740 or Carmen
L. @ 727-541-3737 or

www.retreatforaa-alanon.com

