



Tri-County Central Office News

SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY

October 10-12, 2014

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

October, 2014

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WHO NEEDS SERVICE? WE ALL DO-THAT'S WHO

Every three months in my state, there is a Sunday when a lot of golf games aren't played, fishing trips aren't taken, church isn't attended, and families get quick-fix food instead of a home-cooked meal. The people who ordinarily would be doing these things have gone to the quarterly meeting of the Oklahoma Area Committee of Alcoholics Anonymous. Some got up early and drove more than 200 miles to be there at 10:00 am. They hear reports on what is being done, and make plans for future efforts, in such activities as public information, taking AA meetings into hospitals and prisons, helping to set up AA meetings at alcoholism treatment centers, providing speakers for schools and hospitals—and discussing how groups can be persuaded to come through with enough donations to keep it all going. "I think you're a bunch of nuts!" declared one of the newer members of my group as she tried, unsuccessfully, to resist my efforts to get her started in AA service. "Dedicated, but nuts. What do you get out of all this work? What does AA service have to do with my sobriety? Who needs it?" Although I have been deeply engaged in many aspects of AA service for more than ten years, I could sympathize with her objections. When I was pushed into becoming general service representative (GSR) for my group, I felt about the degree of enthusiasm as when I went to my first AA meeting: namely, none. Exactly the same thing happened. I fell deeply and permanently in love with AA service, just as I had fallen deeply and permanently in love with AA itself at that first meeting. Oh yes, I had answers for her. **"What do you get out of all this work?"** I can only hit high spots on this one. Describing *all* the rewards of AA service would take a large book. There is the satisfaction of trying to give to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous a fraction of what it has given to us. We talk a lot about gratitude. In service, we show it. You extend your AA acquaintanceship widely, making friends with dozens, perhaps hundreds, of men and women you would never meet except through service activity. And what a vital, enthusiastic, stimulating lot they are! You develop qualities of responsibility and leadership at the same time you gain in humility. This is not as contradictory as it sounds. If a member goes into service with nothing but a burning ambition to be elected to an office he considers impressive and important, he often fails to attain it. The one who puts personal ambition aside while he concentrates on doing the best he can with the task at hand is much more likely to be chosen for greater responsibility. Involvement in service is the best remedy known for boredom and the AA blahs. Have you ever, after a few sober years, found yourself wondering, "Is this all there is? Sure, sobriety and the group are great, but there must be something more." Maybe you're getting a signal that it's time to move into a new area of action, to begin flexing some mental muscles that are begging to be used. Service enables you to expand your Twelfth Step activity on a mammoth scale. Through it, you

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Ask an AA if God is Dead

The recent "Is God Dead" controversy that has been crowding the pages of the newsletters and magazines and drawing reverberations from pulpits around the world sounds to many AAs like the quaint babbling of precocious but inexperienced children. Our reaction is bound to be like that of Roman Catholic playwright William Alfred, who quoted in *Time* (April 8, 1966, p. 83) as saying: "People who tell me there is no God are like a six-year-old boy saying there is no such thing as passionate love—they just haven't experienced it. Experience is the key word. The God-idea is not based on knowledge or understanding. AAs are no more capable than other people of defining God or reconciling the God-idea with the many evils of human existence. What we have had is a deep and effective spiritual experience that has not only freed us from the compulsion to drink but has completely changed our attitudes toward ourselves, others and God. We know that this change in our lives was affected by a power greater than ourselves, a power which most of us call God. We do not have to be able to explain or understand this power in order to know that it exists. We cannot fully explain many things whose existence is absolutely certain to us and by which we live: love, loyalty, honesty, honor—to mention only a few. What human reason can explain constitutes only a small part of human existence, but many agnostics are obsessed by a blinf faith in the power of reason, that is touching in its naivete. They are like the man who, after seeing a giraffe for the first time, protested, "There ain't no such animal." Of course, not all of us alcoholics were agnostics before we came into AA. But whether we were believers or non-believers we all had one thing in common: no power. We had all tried many times to stop drinking, realizing that it was undermining our lives and the lives of those around us, but we were totally unable to quit. Reason and self-knowledge did not help. Nor did the memory of past misery keep us from taking that first drink, again and again. Our moral code, effective in other situations, was impotent against alcohol. Our willpower could sometimes produce short, illusory periods of being dry, but always broke down sooner or later. We also seemed to get no real power from whatever God we believed in. Prayer, assiduous church attendance, meditation, service—none of these things helped. It was as though we were tuned in on the wrong frequency, a frequency set by our own limited self-will. We were asking for help all right, but we wanted it on our own terms. We wanted to keep the alcohol in our lives and go right on living as before, but without the ugly by-products. We wanted controlled drinking, not sobriety. What we did not realize was that we were asking for something that was completely impossible—because we were alcoholics. Alcoholics are people who cannot drink at all. They can never be normal, social drinkers. They can never take

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

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

(Special note: TBAIC literature is available for distribution at the TBAIC meeting which is usually held the second Saturday of each month at the the Tri-County Central Office.) Tom F. opened the the September 13th TBAIC meeting leading the "Serenity Prayer". He distributed the Treasurer's Report noting the \$1500 donation from *Steps to Freedom*. Other than literature, the only known immediate upcoming expenses will be mileage for Janine G. to attend the Corrections Workshop and the Area Assembly. Tom F. also reported that the Men's Prison Re-Entry facility on N 50th Street will be closing. Also, Buddy H. left word that everything is going well with the men's meetings at Faulkenburg Jail. Nancy B. had 2 volunteers cleared for Faulkenburg Jail. There may be another orientation in October for both women and men for Faulkenburg. Jim S. received 9 calls for Bridge the Gap and 7 rides were given. Thirteen volunteers added their names to the signup sheet that was at the TBAIC tri-fold display during the Tampa Bay Fall Roundup. Chris D. of E. Pasco County Men's meetings are going well. He is also involved with North Tampa Behavior Health and taking his sponsees there is part of their service commitment. Sometimes there may not be any attendees. Even though no one at the facility attended the meeting, a volunteer was there. *He thought it was important to point out that our responsibility is commitment and service and that is being fulfilled. As a committee and volunteers we need to keep our commitments.* Scott R. still is trying to fill 2 volunteer positions at ACTS on Henry Street. A new inhouse closed meeting at the men's DACCO facility will be at 6 pm on Tuesdays. Contact Luke V. 904-334-9007. Alan D., the *Steps to Freedom* committee meets every 3rd Sunday of the month 7 pm at The Club, 3333 West Columbus Drive and everyone is welcome. He is also working on Carry the Message (10/18) and the Gratitude Dinner (11/22) both at Christ the Kings Church. Ruth N. of E. Pasco Women's still needs volunteers. Meetings have been affected due to weather because of the layout of the facility. The next TBAIC meeting will be October 18th. There will be a presentation about the Man on the Bed Program. "We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth will die." ("The Language of the Heart" pg. 160

YTD Contributions to TBAIC \$15,758.57
YTD Money Placed in Tri-County spending account \$15,295.11
YTD Money Spent on Literature \$14,969.31
YTD Expenses \$690.85
Direct Purchase from AAWS \$238.00
Pink Can Balance as of 12/31/2013 \$829.29
Pink Can Balance as of 09/13/2014 \$363.90

Our Next Committee Meeting

Is at 9:30 AM on **October 18th, 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:

AA 101 \$135.49; As Bill Sees It Group Brandon \$75.34; Barracks Brigade \$30.00; H.O.W. Group \$17.25; Keep It Simple YANA Men's Group \$42.09; Keystone Group \$25.00; Live and Let Live Group \$207.00; Lunch Bunch Group \$161.00; Meeting Place Group \$13.00; Morning Meditation \$103.58; Mustard Seed Group \$31.00; New Beginnings Women's Group Dade City \$15.00; Noon Big Book Group (3333) \$109.54; On Awakening \$3.21; Ruskin Fellowship \$56.00; Steps To Freedom \$1,500.00; There is a Solution Group (3333) \$21.00; Wellspring Recovery Group \$42.00; Wesley Chapel Group \$47.67.

TBAIC 2014-2015 Committee Members	
Janine G. - Chair	813-455-6617
Susan O. -Alternate Chair	813-325-6538
Tom F.— Treasurer	813-205-4945
Shanna M.—Alt. Treasurer	813-390-3558
Larry B. – Secretary	813-215-8423
Open- Hills Jails -	
Buddy H. – Hillsborough County Jail	813-871-2514
Nancy B.— Hills Women's Jails	813-872-0262
Scott R. Detox & Treatment	813-727-7290
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	

WHO NEEDS SERVICE? ...from page 1

have a part in carrying the message to thousands of still-suffering alcoholics you could never reach in person. ***“What does AA service have to do with my sobriety?”*** Just about everything. If you are like most of us, AA service was what got you here in the first place. You, or the spouse, minister, doctor, or friend who suggested AA to you, had to have some prior knowledge that AA exists and some idea of what it does. You, or they. Learned something about AA from thousands of newspaper and magazine articles, radio and TV announcements, or talks by AA members to churches, schools, or civic groups. All these came about as the result of AA public information efforts, a basic part of our service program. When you were ready to give AA a try, you looked in the telephone directory and found it listed. When you dialed the number, there was an answer—from a central office or an answering service or an understanding AA member. We have plenty of miracles in AA, but this chain of circumstances was not among them. AA service had arranged the whole thing. Probably, the member who made the Twelfth Step call on you gave you some AA literature, or the group did at your first meeting. Remember what help it was when you were just starting? And isn't it still a help today? Years of work and many thousands of dollars went into getting that literature written, printed, and distributed, so it would be there when you needed it. This has been going on for about forty years, as a standard AA service. Perhaps, like many of us, you had your first encounter with AA when you were confined in a hospital or prison. Since you could not go out to meetings, AA service brought them “inside” to you. Your sobriety is not something spate and apart from AA service. Service has been there to help you, and you've been relying on it, every step of the way. ***“Who needs it?”*** I do, for one, and as we've just seen, you do. Besides us, there is quite a crowd of suffering alcoholics out there whose need is urgent. Let's not boggle our minds with trying to figure out how many of the earth's billions share our illness. In the United States alone, the best estimates we can get place the number of alcoholics at between five and ten percent of the total population. In view of the rapid increase in alcoholism, I suspect the larger figure is more nearly correct, but we'll be conservative, and say seven and one-half percent. That gives us 15,000,000 alcoholics in this country. Does anyone question their need for the service that helped bring so many of us to AA, and helped us achieve sobriety? And how about that average of five people per alcoholic whose lives are being torn up by the other person's alcoholism? If anything can offer a ray of hope to all those wives, husbands, children, parents, brothers, sisters, employers, employees, and friends, surely it is AA service, energetically spreading the word that recovery is possible. Now, we have the 150,000,000 alcoholics, and the 75,000,000 others being hurt by their illness, for a total of 90,000,000 Americans who need AA service. But the entity most in need of this service is the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous itself. Our service structure, made up of thousands of people doing all kinds of AA work, is the force that keeps our growing Fellowship healthy, active, and able to adapt to our changing world. I do not think it an exaggeration to say that the very survival of Alcoholics Anonymous may well depend on this core of informed, involved, and intensely concerned people who make up our service structure. If the

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“one drink,” because the first drink, sooner or later, sets in motion the chain reaction that leads to insane over-indulgence. Here, again, is a fact of experience that is no less real because it cannot be fully explained. No one has ever satisfactorily answered the questions: Exactly what is an alcoholic? Is alcoholism a physical or a mental disease, or both? When, how and why does it begin? To be sure, we all have opinions about these questions, and these opinions frequently illuminate some of the dark corners of the alcoholic syndrome. In my opinion, the psychological basis for alcoholism is present in the personality long before the disease becomes obvious. This psychic basis consists in an abnormally dependent attitude toward alcoholic beverages, a using of them for consolation, confidence building, revenge, the working off of resentments. A person with this attitude could be labeled a potential alcoholic. I also believe that, while there is certainly a physical side to alcoholism, the central problem is a psychological and a spiritual one. My reason for this rests on a differentiation between craving and compulsion. Craving is a physical, chemical phenomenon. One can have a craving for alcohol comparable to the craving one has at times for water, ice cream, cheese. One can also have a psychological compulsion to drink, and this compulsion can exist in the absence of any physical craving. I clearly remember rising out of my bed many a night without any physical craving for alcohol, but with an irresistible compulsion to drink, and being guided, zombie-like, downstairs and into the shed, where my compulsion dutifully poured me two or three stiff drinks of bourbon. I do not know, and I shall probably never know, when, why and how my compulsive attitude toward drinking began. But I am convinced that it was a symptom of a deep-seated maladjustment. We are told in our Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, that alcoholism is a symptom of self-will gone wild. We were persons trying to live by self-propulsion, actors who wanted to be directors, humans playing God. In this role we were not necessarily bad people. We could be lovable, patient, witty—only to turn into resentful tyrants when the environment and the people in it did not conform to the play we were directing. For all we know, our alcoholism may have been God's tool to bring us to our knees. As long as we were trying to do something about our drinking, we failed again and again. It was only when we stopped trying, gave up absolutely, admitted we were licked, and turned the problem over to a Higher Power, that we began to make progress. Note that we did not swear off for any specified period, nor did we swear off forever. Having finally learned not to impose our presumptive self-will on God's will, we asked for one day of sobriety at a time. One day at a time, we got it and are still getting it. The compulsion to drink, this mysterious mental “must,” is entirely gone. We do not have to fight the problem anymore. Soon we found that this habit of turning to God in the morning, during the day, and at night, was doing more than keeping us sober. Life was beginning to mean something at last. We could feel ourselves making progress. We gradually noticed that our attitudes on all sorts of things were changing,

NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE

September 9th 2014 the Board of Directors for Central Office met:
BOARD MEMBERS **REPRESENTING GROUP**

WARD H.	CHAIRPERSON	PALMA CEIA BIG BOOK GROUP
BRIAN L.	VICE-CHAIR	HIGH NOONERS GROUP
SAM F.	TREASURER	FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS GROUP
DAVE F.	BOARD MEMBER	WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP
RALPH R.	BOARD MEMBER	WED. NIGHT STEP WORKSHOP
DREW D.	BOARD MEMBER	KEYSTONE GROUP
Excused	BOARD MEMBER	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
DIANA S.	BOARD MEMBER	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S
JIM VK.	BOARD MEMBER	SEEKERS OF SERENITY GROUP II
Open Position	BOARD MEMBER	

Ward welcomed everyone to the Board meeting and asked if everyone had signed in and to turn down your cell phones. This was followed by the Serenity Prayer. Jim read the August minutes. Dave had a question concerning the budget. Did we spend more or less than the approved budget? We were actually in the red for the month. Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and approved. Sam presented the August Treasurer's report. It was noted that although Tim had made an extra \$2200.00 for the month working at the Roundup, we still came out a few thousand dollars in the red. Contributions were less than what had been budgeted for that month. Ralph questioned why we were \$2000.00 ahead last month and now \$2000.00 in the red this month, again it was repeated that contributions were down. Ward talked about the progress on securing the money for our CD and that although it was coming along nicely, we still needed to push for All Group meetings and other Fund-raisers. Dave mentioned that his group, the Wesley Chapel Group couldn't do an All Groups but that they had raffled off a First Edition Reprint from GSO and had collected \$50.00 for the benefit of Central Office. Diana noted that in West Pasco County that it is illegal to do raffles. Motion to accept the Treasurers report was made, seconded and approved. In Old Business Tim gave a brief rundown of his time spent at the Roundup. Discussion moved into the preparations for our Anniversary Dinner in February. A motion to have the event on February the 7th with the 21st as an alternate date was made and passed. A motion to have sell tickets at \$20.00 failed. A motion to have presale tickets at \$15.00 and \$18.00 at the door passed. A motion to hold the event at Christ the King Church passed. A motion to have the dinner catered by Wrights Gourmet passed. A motion to allow people to bring in a covered dish passed. A motion to have Tim try to purchase a First Edition Big Book for no more than \$300.00 off of EBAY passed. There was no New Business. Meeting ended at 7:43 pm. At the Council Meeting Sue read the August minutes. Motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and approved. Sam presented the August Treasurer's report. It was noted that although Tim had made an extra \$2200.00 for the month working at the Roundup, we still came out a few thousand dollars in the red. Contributions were less than what had been budgeted for that month. Motion to accept the Treasurers report was made,

September 9th 2014 the Central Office Representatives met:
COUNCIL MEMBERS **REPRESENTING GROUP**

SUE Z.	CLEAN AIR GROUP
KATHIE C.	FRIDAY NIGHT STEP STUDY GROUP
LAUREN D.	TGIS GROUP
MANDI P.	BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP
JAMES S.	RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP
BILL J.	EARLY RISERS GROUP
RYAN C.	FIRESIDE GROUP
MICHELLE G.	JUST WHAT I WANTED WOMEN'S GROUP
RICH E.	SOLUTIONS GROUP
JANET S.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
VIVIAN J.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP
AL B.	THURSDAY NITE BIG BOOK GROUP
SCOTT S.	BYO 12 & 12 GROUP
MARK S.	HAPPY HOUR GROUP
BEN P.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
ANDREA D.	STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
JACK S.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
BRIAN G.	SOBER ON SUNDAY GROUP
RILEY T.	EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP
JOHN F.	SOBRENITY GROUP
CRAIG O.	THE PROMISES MEETING GROUP
GREG R.	PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP
MCSHERRY	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
TURNER E.	164 GROUP
ALAN D.	LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP
MICHEAL B.	SERENITY GROUP
RICHARD C.	SERENITY GROUP
BONNIE G.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP

seconded and approved. In Old Business Sue gave a brief rundown of the events at the Roundup and presented from the Roundup Committee a contribution of \$500.00 to Central Office. Discussion then centered around the preparations for our Anniversary Dinner in February. There was a lot of discussion concerning when and where to hold the event, what food to be served, ticket price—etc. Al made a motion to have the event at Christ the King Church, Wrights Gourmet would be catering the food, tickets would be \$15.00 and the event would be taped. Motion passed. Another motion to allow people to bring a covered dish was made, seconded and passed. Ward and Sue would look into the liability issue for holding the event at Christ the King. Al made a motion to have Tim try to purchase a First Edition Big Book for no more than \$300.00 off of EBAY and this passed. More discussion followed about having some other raffle ideas like gift baskets, weekend spa get-a-way and whatever.

ANNIVERSARY TIME

SELF-SUPPORT-August 2014

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	DOTTY R.	10/05/10	
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	JANIE H.	10/24/06	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	JENNIFER H.	10/25/04	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	HEATHER D.	10/03/04	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	LAURA G.	10/31/91	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	ROBERT R.	10/26/87	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	DON S.	10/20/84	
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	ROSE ANN	10/15/84	
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMENS	MEGHAN M.	10/31/10	
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMENS	DOTTY R.	10/10/10	
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMENS	MAURA	10/04/04	
KEYSTONE GROUP	ED D.	10/17/05	
KEYSTONE GROUP	JOE B.	10/16/05	
KEYSTONE GROUP	ALEX P.	10/11/90	
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BETTY E.	10/08/09	
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JOHN W.	10/26/97	
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	ANN S.	10/01/88	
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	RICH R.	10/01/74	
FRIDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK GROUP	CAROL C.	10/08/88	

© Today in August of 2014 we have **213** Groups with **572** meetings a week. Contributions in August totaled \$3,950.27. That accounts for what **39** Groups out of **213** Groups in our area have contributed in August. This also takes into account the 4 AAer's who contributed \$150.00 in contributions anonymously, \$50.00 in memory of Carol C., \$59.00 from the 3 members who contributed to the Birthday Fund , \$7.00 for the Dick D. Memorial Fund and \$50.00 from the Wesley Chapel Big Book Raffle. Our total income for August was \$11,433.91. Our Cost of Goods Sold was \$5,527.23. Subtracting the Cost of Goods Sold from our August income left us with a Gross Profit of \$5,906.68. Our Expenses for August were \$8,015.49. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus **-\$2,108.81** for the month of August. 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 for all of your support !!!

Ask an AA if God is Dead....continued from Page 3

attitudes that we had not even realized were deficient. We found that many things that had formerly bothered us were not bothering us at all. Our dispositions improved. Our work, which we thought had been pretty good while we were drinking, got better and better. Our imaginations were fired, ideas came easily and frequently. As we took stock of this new situation, we wondered what had happen to the dull life we had so feared would be ours without drinking. Slowly life became zestful, more intense, more joyous than we had ever believed possible. Then finally we saw that AA sobriety is not merely non-drinking, not only the absence of something, but a plus—a new way of life, a progressive growth, just as our alcoholism had been a progressive death. We do not deceive ourselves into thinking that we have it made. We try to keep in mind the words of the Big Book: “We have been granted a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition. We maintain this condition by spreading the word, by giving away the gift we have received . We maintain it by daily prayer and meditation and by regular attendance at meetings. We do this joyfully, without any sense of burdensome duty. It is a joy to see reflected in the faces of others the deep joy that we have received in our new way of life.” When you ask an AA whether God is dead, remember that you are questioning the reality of a power that has raised him from living death to abundant life, a power to which he turns daily for sobriety, serenity, and strength. Do not be surprised if he smiles with a tinge of sadness.

Douglas B.
Reprint permission/AA Grapevine/ October 1966

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

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
RIVERSIDE GROUP	EARLE W.	07/01/95	19 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	JACKIE W.	07/03/87	27 YRS
NOONTIME CELEBRATION	JIM H.	09/22/87	27 YEARS
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE	MARY R.	10/21/83	31 YRS

WHO NEEDS SERVICE? ...continued from Page 3

Existence of AA is ever in danger, it will not be from outside. It will be from uninformed, apathetic, and indifferent AA members. None of them means to do AA harm, but the flood of new people coming in, who have yet to grasp the importance of our Traditions of self-support, avoidance of public controversy, and personal anonymity, carries the possibility of damage to AA. Our best protection is a strong, growing, service-oriented membership—men and women who can instruct the newcomers about their responsibility to AA and, as soon as the newcomers' recovery permits, draw them into service activity. My new friend had a very good question when she exclaimed, “AA service...who needs it?” But I believe I have a better one: Who doesn't.

E.E., Tulsa, Okla.
Reprint Permission/ AA Grapevine/ October 1978

Want to get involved in some Service Work? How about volunteering for the After-Hour Phones on the Weekend. Call Martin after Office Hours @ **813-933-9123** and get all the details.

MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

IN MEMORY OF: Wayne I. Wayne I., 73, of Tampa, formerly of LaFollette, TN, died Saturday, August 23, 2014. He is survived by four daughters, Rebecca Collins, of St. Petersburg, FL, Sabrina Fabian and Waynette Speakman, both of Tampa, and Amy Shook, of Columbus, OH; and by three sisters, Frankie Bacon, Martha Wells and Dorothy Mize, all of LaFollette, TN; and eight grandchildren. Mr. Ivey was a US Army veteran of the Vietnam War. Services will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 07, 2014, at Bayshore Baptist Church, 3111 W. Morrison Ave., Tampa. The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to The Club, Inc., of Tampa, an organization whose work Mr. Ivey strongly supported.

Published in TBO.com on September 3th, 2014

Editor's Note: I knew Wayne for the past 26 years. He was one of the first AA members I met when I first came to AA at The Club and I could always look up to him for support and guidance. Whenever I needed help at the Central Office for a 12 Step call, he was always ready and willing to help any drunk, day or night, wet or dry, he never said no. There aren't many of his kind around anymore. He will be missed. Wayne would have celebrated 37 years of continuous sobriety September 9th.

5th Annual Women's Weekend —October 24-26, 2014
Lake Placid Camp and Conference Center (www.lpccc.net)
2665 Placid View Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852
(2 hours from S. Tampa) Limited Capacity!

\$110 includes meals and accommodations. Contact Lourdes P. (813-317-3351) if you have questions or want to register. Relaxing grounds, dormitory style bunk beds, restrooms and showers with our own AA Common Room. Remember it's like Summer Camp, so bring items such as:

- Sheets, blanket, pillow, towel & toiletries
- Bug spray, flashlight, sunscreen
- Small cooler (water, snacks)
- Small fan or other convenience items



**SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
October 10-12, 2014**

Hosted by District 6 at the Hutchinson Island Marriott
Registration Friday 4 PM-8:30 PM, Saturday 8 AM-8:00 PM, Sunday 7 AM-8:30 AM

Hutchinson Island Marriot
555 NE Ocean Blvd
Stuart, FL 34996

Phone: 772-225-3700

Reservations by Phone: 1-888-236-2427

Book your group rate: **SF Area 15/Individual Call-in**
Room Rate: \$129.00 (Single King & Double 1-4 people)
Must be received by September 19, 2014

To Book online: at hutchinsonismarriott.com

The 28th Annual Tampa Bay Fall Roundup was held August 29th thru September 1st, 2014 at the Sheraton Tampa East right off of Princess Palm Avenue. Although I worked most of the time there with a booth set up selling AA and non-AA material, I still had a great time. With around 134 customers and just as much Fellowship, we were able to sell a little over \$2200.00 worth of merchandise. There were between 700 & 800 sober alcoholics having a good time with Fellowship, Food & Fun. If you didn't make it this year, hopefully you will next year. Thank you to the Roundup Committee for allowing us to participate in the Event. And if that wasn't good enough, Sue Z. from the Roundup Committee presented a contribution of \$500.00 to Central Office from the Roundup at our September Board & Council meeting. The blessings keep rolling in. Thank You All!!! ☺



Sober @ 7 Group presents

**ALL GROUPS MEETING & 12th ANNIVERSARY
SPEAKER MEETING & DINNER**
(All Proceeds to benefit Tri-County Central Office)

\$5.00 Donation per person

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 2014
ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
106 11TH Avenue, NE
Ruskin, FL 33570

POTLUCK DINNER: 6 P.M. SPEAKER MEETING: 7 P.M.

Speaker: Phillip S. from Baker, FL

WE ASK YOU TO PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH
(WITH FOOD IN IT) TO THE CHURCH
BY 5:30 P.M. SO WE CAN SETUP THE FOOD.

**FOR IDEAS ON WHAT TO BRING PLEASE JOIN
US AT ONE OF OUR OPEN DISCUSSION
MEETINGS WHICH MEETS EVERY TUESDAY
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Join us for Sundays at the Sobriety Group, Food and Fellowship from 1:15 pm to 2:30 pm—only \$3.00 a plate located at the Winn Dixie Plaza 8410 N. Armenia and Corner of Waters behind the Popeyes. Left side of Plaza look for Circle & Triangle on the door.

Group	AUG	Y T D	Group	AUG	Y T D	Group	AUG	Y T D
11th Step Group—Tampa	50.00	275.00	Just What I Wanted Big Book			Sisters in Sobriety Group	3.73	405.98
11th Step Meeting--Sun City			Keep It Simple - YANA		150.00	Sisters in Sobriety TRICO Raffle		34.00
11th Step Retreat		100.00	Keep It Simple/Pass It On		416.60	Sober @ 6 Group		
12 Steps to Growth Group			Keeping it Simple Group		200.00	Sober @ 7 Group		874.48
A.A. 101 Group		908.94	Keystone Group		694.92	Sober @ 7 Group All Groups		
A.A. 102 Group			Kingsway Group		96.00	Sober on Saturday Group	30.00	290.00
All Groups Cardinal Group.			LateNighters Group	38.25	320.00	Sober on Sunday Group		200.00
All Groups Keystone Group		941.00	Late Night Red Door Group		1.18	Sober Rewards Group		10.20
All Groups Sober @ 7 Group			Lemon Tree Group		250.00	Sober Spirits Group		15.00
All Groups Old School Group			Life Enrichment Group			Soberstock Committee		500.00
All Grps Friday Women's Friendship		287.00	Live and Let Live Group		1045.28	Sobriety at Sunrise Group		
Anniversary/Old School Gp.			Living in the Solution		1206.75	Sobrenity Group	325.00	650.00
Alpha Group	20.00	100.00	LivingSober/As Bill Sees It		375.00	Soberilla Tees		20.00
Anniversary Dinner 2014		2,380.00	Love & Service Group		57.00	Solutions Group		5.77
TRICO 7th Tradition 2014			Lunch Bunch Group		139.36	Southshore Men's Group	119.60	282.60
Trico 50/50 Raffle 2014		674.00	Lutz @ Noon	16.00	76.00	Southside Men's Group		421.00
Cakewalk RaffleEvent 2014		388.00	Main Purpose Group		41.00	Southside Men's Group # 2		220.00
Soberstock Basket Raffle 2014		114.00	Maple Dale Group		135.00	Southside Men's Group # 3		
Dick D. Memorial Fund		1057.00	Mid Day Matinee Group	426.55	3331.91	Spiritual Development Gp.		300.00
Housecleaning Retreat		150.00	Monday Nite Madness			Spiritual Growth Group		
Anonymous Donations	215.05	3305.12	Morning Express Group	200.00	425.00	Spiritual Progress Goup		79.20
As Bill Sees It--Brandon	203.45	720.85	Morning Group -Zephyrhill	100.00	325.00	Step Sisters in Sobriety		
As Bill Sees It Mens Odessa		676.48	Morning Meditation Group		1.60	Step at a Time Group		404.00
Attitude of Gratitude Group	50.00	250.00	My Turn Group			Stepping Stones Group (w)		124.50
Barracks Brigade Group	118.20	491.91	New Beginnings - Brandon		351.00	Sun City Center Group		
Bel-Mar Group		105.95	New Beginnings Our Club			Sunday Afternoon Meeting		
Bill D's Group		126.00	New Beginnings Women's		70.00	Sunday Speakers - 3333	40.00	320.00
BIRTHDAY CLUB	59.00	562.00	New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's		2258.00	Sunshine Group		
Brandon Beginners 12 & 12			Newcomers Group (JC)	195.00	270.00	Sweet Surrender Group		3.88
Brandon Men's Blackbelt		58.00	New Day Group	19.50	221.54	Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
Brandon Sat. Night Group			New Tampa Monday Night Men's		371.00	Tampa Bay Speakers Gp.		490.37
Brandon Tues. Big Book		200.00	New Way Women's Group		300.00	Tampa Bay Young Peoples		654.76
BYO 12 & 12 Group		420.00	Nightly Newcomers Group		39.00	Tampa Palms Big Book		100.04
Came To Believe Group		597.71	Noon Big Book Group	260.00	435.00	TBSBBEA Scavenger Hunt		110.00
Cardinal Group - Odessa			Nooners Group--Riverview	60.52	218.56	Temple Terrace Men's Group		
Cardinal Group All Groups			Nooners Group--Tampa	100.00	377.58	TGIS Women's Group	29.14	167.61
Carrollwood Group		52.61	Noontime Celebration Gp.		500.00	Thank God it's Friday Group		280.00
Carrollwood Blue Roof Group		75.00	North Brandon Open Forum		60.00	The 164 Group		
Chancey Road AA Group			Northdale Group			The 164 12 Step Workshop		
Clair-Mel Positive Thinkers		100.00	Odessa Group		500.00	The 164 Group USF		90.00
Clean Air Group		50.00	Old School Group		0.44	The 164 Group Wesley Chapel		634.00
Dade City Step Study Group		97.85	Old School Group All Groups			The Meeting Place Group	6.50	91.39
Dover Group		108.62	Old School Group Anniversary		1201.00	The Next Frontier Group		195.00
Early Risers Group - Joe's		1.36	OSG Ladies Birthday Event		100.00	Thurs. AM Discussion Group		
Expect a Miracle Group	195.00	196.51	Oldtimer's Group - JC			T & C Sisters in Sobriety	20.00	180.00
Experience, Strength & Hope		675.00	On the Way Home Tpa 5:30		457.08	Town & Country Men's Group		151.00
Fear Not Group		150.00	One Day at a Time Group		300.00	Town & Country Wed. Group		2.86
Fill the Gap Group			Palma Ceia Group	18.27	18.27	Tues Big Book Study Gp.		37.70
Fireside Group		2.39	Palma Ceia 12 Step Group			Turning Point Group -Z-H.		50.00
Founders Day Event		528.00	Palma Ceia Big Book Study		200.00	Uptown/Downtown Group		
Fourth Dimension Group			Pilgrim Group -St Leo's			Valrico Fri. Morning Group		150.00
Freedom in Sobriety Group			Plant City Keep it Simple	20.00	43.00	Valrico/Brandon Wed. Night		125.00
Friday Night Big Book Group			Primary Purpose Group		157.00	Village 12 Step Group		180.00
Friday Night Lights Group		430.64	Promises Meeting Group		333.96	Warrior's Group		
Friday Night Lights Ice Cream		247.00	Prosperity AA Group		242.25	Weedpatch Group		190.00
Friday Night Lights Movie Night			Recovery Group P.City			Wed Night Step Workshop		150.40
Friday Night Women's Gp.		100.00	Red Chip Day			Wed. Keep it Simple Group		
Friday Women's Friendship		250.03	Red Door Group		100.00	Wellspring Group		275.99
Gifts of Sobriety Group	130.00	325.00	Reflections Group-Lake Mag		295.61	Wesley Chapel Group	246.00	773.00
Good Day AA Group			Riverside Group		394.70	Wesley Chapel Group B.Bk Raffle	50.00	50.00
Good Start Group		1,236.41	Rush Hour Serenity Group		454.25	West Side Winners Group		
Grapevine Gals Group	37.50	183.97	Ruskin Fellowship Group		150.00	With Room to Grow Group		250.00
Happy Hour Group YANA		400.00	Safe Haven Group		129.94	WST Memorial Day Picnic		165.00
Helping Hands Gp.-P.C.		100.00	Rush Hour Serenity Group		1.25	Women's Friendship Group		612.10
Hide-A-Way Group	350.22	1,378.78	Ruskin Fellowship Group			YaYaSisterhood in Sobriety		
High Nooners Group		400.00	Safe Haven Group	77.79	146.73			
Hope in Progress Group		67.00	Saturday Night Fever Gp.	120.00	465.20			
Hour Glass Group			Saturday Night Live Group					
In the Wind Group			Seekers of Serenity II Group		82.41			
International Doctors of AA		748.00						
It's in the Book Men's Gp.		222.00						
						Monthly Total	869.97	
							YTD	11,316.83
Monthly Total	1,428.42		Monthly Total	1651.88		Grand Total for Month	3,950.27	
	YTD	23,015.13		YTD	20532.37	Grand Total for Year		54,864.33