



# Tri-County Central Office News

EIGHTY YEARS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
June 10th, 1935

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

June 2015

Phone: 813- 933-9123 E-Mail: [aainfo@aatampa-area.org](mailto:aainfo@aatampa-area.org) Web Site: [www.aatampa-area.org](http://www.aatampa-area.org)

## In AA's First Five Years

In the early days of AA things were really different. For five years there was no Big Book. The only way to communicate with other people was to go and tell them, so that's what we did. Of course, all of the meetings were held in people's homes, the homes of those who were lucky enough to have them. Anybody who had one made it wide open to whomever the boys brought in. Our houses, Dr. Bob's in Akron and ours in Brooklyn, were just filled with drunks, either drinking, or stopped temporarily, or well on the way to real sobriety. Yes, AA was quite different in those days for many reasons. One was that there were no people in AA except those who had gone to the very bottom. Only these would listen to the story that one drunk was telling another. When AA first started, before there was a book, it was more anonymous than it is now, because even the Fellowship was without a name. AA didn't have a name until the book was written. Before that it was just a bunch of drunks trying to help each other, a bunch of nameless drunks. They had to be worked with over and over; families and everybody did what they could to help. There were many, many sad things that happened, many very humorous things, and inspirational things, too. Several are coming to mind right now. Bill, as you know, came from Vermont and someone sent him some maple syrup from there. It came in a whiskey bottle. One of the boys saw this attractive container in the kitchen and he was so drunk at the time that he gulped the whole bottle of syrup, thinking it was whiskey. We had a rule that no one could come into the house when he was drinking. One night one of the boys came home drunk. We wouldn't let him in so he pried open the coal chute and slid into the cellar. Since he was very fat it was surprising that he could slide down it, yet somehow he made it. But this same fat man did get stuck one night in the washtubs. He lived in the basement apartment. Old city houses used to have stationary tubs in the kitchen. He thought he'd try to take a bath in one. But after getting in he couldn't get out so one of us (and I think it was I) had to pull him out. There were many other things...a man committed suicide in our house after having pawned our dress clothes, left over from more prosperous days. These included Bill's dress suit and my precious evening cape. We have never owned such articles again. AA was always thrilling. The families were included in all of the meetings; wives and parents (there weren't many alcoholic women then), and the children came too. The children were vitally interested in everything that went on. They would inquire about all the members and want to know

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## Bill's Wife Remembers

As the wife of an early A.A., some of our experiences and my reactions to my husband's changed life may be interesting to other wives. Bill was an alcoholic, I believe, from the first drink he ever took, just a few months before our marriage. From then on, for seventeen years, I did everything I could think of to keep him away from liquor. I will tell a little of our life before A.A. to help explain some of my later emotions. Bill and I had no children, so I soon felt that my job in life was to help Bill straighten himself out. As time went on, he earnestly tried to stop drinking. He was always very remorseful and perplexed the mornings-after. We would then resolve to lick this liquor situation together, launching off on some new tack. As his drinking got worse, all decision and responsibility had to be taken by me. It was lucky that we were companionable, for gradually as our social contacts were broken we were thrust back on each other for company. In order to get away from alcohol over the week ends, I used to engineer some sort of outing, as we both loved the outdoors. If our pocketbook was flat, we might take the subway to the Dyckman Street ferry and hike along the Palisades to some scenic spot where we would nibble our sandwiches and gaze at the view. Or we might ferry to Staten Island and walk there; perhaps broiling a steak over a campfire. We have hired a rowboat at Yonkers and, using a bath towel as a sail, floated up the Hudson, to a spit of land near Nyack, were we camped and tried to sleep. We once went so far to get away from alcohol that we both gave up our jobs and took a whole year off. This we spent motorcycling and camping over half the United States. These trips, although good for Bill's health, did nothing towards his permanent sobriety. In fact, his alcoholism grew steadily more serious. He lost job after job until I became entirely hopeless about him. And then suddenly and finally Bill straightened out through the help of an old friend. At once I was convinced of his complete change and was of course extremely happy. Bill began to go to religious meetings and to work feverishly with alcoholics. I would go to meetings too and would try to share his newfound enthusiasms. He always had some drunk in tow and would work all night or get up in the middle of the night to go to the suburbs if one called him. We had drunks all over the house; sometimes as many as five lived there at one time. One drunk committed suicide in the house after having sold about 700 dollars worth of our clothes and luggage. Another slid down the coal chute from the street to the cellar when we refused him the front door. Two others took to fighting, and one chased the other all around the house with a carving knife. The intended victim was saved by a third drunk, who delivered the knife-minding one a knockout blow. An alcoholic who was living in the basement was invited up for a pancake breakfast. After eating his share, he suddenly put on his hat and started out the door remarking that he was going to Childs for PLENTY of pancakes.

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

(Special note: TBAIC literature is available for distribution at the TBAIC meeting which is usually held the second Saturday of each month at the Tri-County Central Office.)

The May 9th TBAIC meeting was opened by Chair Susan O. leading the "Serenity Prayer". Scott R., Detox Coordinator, was unable to attend but sent his report to the committee by email communication with an updated meeting schedule attachment. He made note in his email that Drew Park no longer has a 10:30 morning meeting on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday and no longer has the 7pm evening meeting on Thursday, Friday or Saturday. The meetings at the homeless shelter on Florida Avenue have discontinued.

Tom F. distributed the Treasurer's Report. Although the collections for the month were low, enough money remained from the previous month to order a bare minimum of literature.

Ruth N. of E. Pasco Women's has started using the "Living Sober" book at the DACCO Tuesday night meeting she has been volunteering at since she found the book so useful to her at the Pasco Women's facility. She is also planning a get together with the volunteers from E. Pasco so they can get to know each other and share new ideas.

Jim S. reported Bridge the Gap received 13 calls and provided 4 rides. Five of the calls were repeat calls from a *persistent* caller. However, whenever contact was attempted, there were no return phone calls.

Alan D. said the rummage sale for "Steps to Freedom" was a success and the event is Saturday June 20th at Christ the King Church. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. T-shirts are \$15. Contact Alan for more info: 8137898822.

Susan O. announced the winning trophy from the "Keep it Simple" softball tournament goes to the team from Sarasota. The tournament was a fundraising event for TBAIC and should clear approximately \$500 for TBAIC. Susan O. also gave a recap on some of the reports from quarterly meeting she recently attended in Boca Raton. She passed along this information to help give a better understanding of how many areas TBAIC covers: In the Hillsborough and East Pasco Counties, TBAIC provides meetings, volunteers and literatures for 61 AA meetings per week in 12 different treatment facilities and 11 AA meetings per week in 3 different correctional facilities. For the 1st quarter of 2015

Bridge the Gap received 20 calls and provided 11 rides.

"My sponsor sold me one idea, and that was sobriety. At the time that, I couldn't have bought anything else." (12 & 12, pg 154)

<b>YTD Contributions to TBAIC \$6,289.03</b>
<b>YTD Money Placed in Tri-County spending account \$6,627.80</b>
<b>Money in Spending Account at Year End 2014 \$260.10</b>
<b>YTD Money Spent on Literature \$6,794.78</b>
<b>YTD Expenses \$383.56</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance as of 12/13/2014 \$918.22</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance as of 04/11/2015 \$195.89</b>

**Our Next Committee Meeting**

Is at 9:30 AM on **June 13th, 2015** 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 \$120.53; Anonymous \$1.30; As Bills Sees It Group (Brandon) \$104.45; As Bill Sees It Men's Group(Odessa) \$25.00; Came to Believe Group \$28.00; Early Risers Group \$124.51; Keystone Discussion Group \$54.00; Monday Night Madness Group \$1.25; Noon big Book \$25.14; Red Door Group \$38.03; Sunshine Group \$76.00; Wellspring Group \$57.61;**

**TBAIC 2014-2015 Committee Members**

<b>Susan O. - Chair</b>	<b>813-325-6538</b>
<b>Jim S.— Alternate Chair</b>	<b>813-679-9130</b>
<b>Tom F.— Treasurer</b>	<b>813-205-4945</b>
<b>Carolyn L. Alt. Treasurer</b>	<b>813-961-1144</b>
<b>Larry B. – Secretary</b>	<b>813-215-8423</b>
<b>Nancy B.— Alt. Secretary</b>	<b>813-872-0262</b>
<b>Open- Hills Jails -</b>	
<b>Buddy H. – Hillsborough County Jail</b>	<b>813-871-2514</b>
<b>Nancy B.— Hills Women's Jails</b>	<b>813-872-0262</b>
<b>Scott R. Detox &amp; Treatment</b>	<b>813-727-7290</b>
<b>Ruth N. - E Pasco Jail-Women's</b>	<b>813-629-1547</b>
<b>Chris D. - E Pasco Prison</b>	<b>813-857-5400</b>
<b>Michele S. --Women's Bridge The Gap</b>	<b>813-507-5796</b>
<b>Jim S.— Men's Bridge The Gap</b>	<b>813-679-9130</b>
<b>OPEN- Pre-Release</b>	
<b>OPEN— Juvenile</b>	

**In AA's First Five Years .....continued from page One**

how they were. They'd learn the Twelve Steps and really try to live by them. I don't think youngsters can be too young to be thrilled by the AA program and be helped by it. One of the first women who came in was the ex-wife of a friend of Bill's. She had been in Bellevue and had come from there to our house. At that time there was a wonderful man - I think he was the fourth or fifth AA - who was trying to start a group in Washington, D.C. This woman went down to help him and she stayed sober for quite a long time. Then she married a man they were trying to bring onto the program. He really didn't go along with the idea himself and used to say to her every once in a while, "Florence, you look so thirsty." And so she did something about that, Florence disappeared. Everybody looked for her everywhere and couldn't find her. After a couple of weeks they found her in the morgue. At that time each group used to visit every other group. New York members would go to New Jersey or Greenwich, Philadelphia or Washington or even Cleveland or Akron. Those were the groups I recall were in existence in the first five years. If anybody had a car a bunch of us would pile in and we'd go wherever we knew there was a meeting. Families were just as much a part of AA as the alcoholics and we did feel we belonged. But after a while the AA's thought that they should have an occasional meeting - at least one every week - of just alcoholics so that they could really get down to business. When this occurred the wives thought they'd meet together, too, at the same time. At first these little gatherings of wives didn't have any particular purpose. Sometimes we'd play bridge and sometimes we'd gossip about our husbands. Then a few of us began to see that we really needed the AA program just as much as the alcoholics. The famous case of my throwing a shoe at Bill started me wondering about myself and realizing that I needed to live by the Twelve Steps just as much as he did. He was getting way ahead of me. I always thought of myself as being the moral mentor in the house, but Bill, who never was a mentor, was certainly growing spiritually while I was standing still. Or perhaps there is no standing still - if I wasn't going ahead, I must be going backwards. I decided I'd better live by the Twelve Steps. Annie S. and a number of other people had come to the same conclusion. So, whenever we visited another group, we would tell the wives and families how we found that we, too, needed to live by the Twelve Steps of AA. Little groups of wives and families all over the country began to feel the same need for something to help overcome their frustrations and help them become integrated human beings again. That's the way Al-Anon started. We followed the AA program in every principle. I want to thank AA's so very much for showing us the way. Without your leading us we would still be the unhappy folks we were. In our meetings we tell our own experiences just as AA's do. We tell

**In AA's First Five Years .....continued**

how we came to find that we needed Al-Anon and what Al-Anon has done for us. And we seek to help other families that were, or are, having the same sort of experience. In 1950 Bill traveled all over Canada and the United States to see how AA's would react to the idea of a general conference for Alcoholics Anonymous, and in doing so he discovered quite a few types of groups of the family of alcoholics. He thought that they should have a Central Office here in New York, just as AA did, so that they could be unified in their use of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions - a place where inquiries could be received, literature prepared and the public informed so that those in need would know where to turn. A good friend and I started a small office in Bedford Hills. By then AA had had eighty-seven inquiries from wives or groups who wished to register. As AA was not equipped to handle the families of alcoholics it handed over this list to us and we wrote to them. Fifty groups responded and were registered with us. That was in '51. Today (1967) there are over 3,000 Al-Anon groups. The numerical potential of Al-Anon is greater than AA's because it is composed not only of mates of alcoholics, but children, parents and other relatives and friends. It is estimated that five people are seriously affected by one alcoholic. Though we have barely scratched the surface, the future is bright, thanks to you AA's for your wonderful example and inspiration. **Lois Wilson**  
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**Bill's Wife Remembers .....continued from page one**

Bill had found himself a job about this time; and it used to take him away from home a great deal and I was left with one or more alcoholics to look after. Once one of these boys lay in the vestibule all night and screamed invectives at me because I would not let him in. He was so loud the passers-by all stopped, looked and listened. Another time it was 4 a.m. before I succeeded in towing a drunk home. He was anxious to be at his job the next morning and we had gone out around midnight to look for a doctor, having been unable to get one to come to the house at that hour. I helped his shaky steps up and down stoops, lit his cigarettes for him and finally, when we could not rouse a doctor, held a drink to his lips in a bar. When I asked him how he then felt he said, "Well, a bird can't fly on one wing." After a few more drinks I managed to get him home, but he did not get to his job the next morning. I was once suddenly taken sick, and when my sister arrived to nurse me she found five men milling around in the living room, one of them muttering, "One woman can look after five drunks but five drunks cannot look after one woman." Now to describe my reactions to it all. When Bill first sobered up I was terribly happy but soon, without my realizing it, I began to resent the fact that Bill and I never spent any time together any more. I stayed at home while he went off somewhere scouting up new drunks or working with old ones. My life's job of sobering up Bill with all its former responsibilities was suddenly taken away from me. I had not yet found anything to fill the void. And then there was the feeling of being on the

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

**May 12th, 2015** the Board of Directors for Central Office met:  
**BOARD MEMBERS** **REPRESENTING GROUP**

<b>BRETT B.</b>	<b>CHAIRPERSON</b>	<b>164 WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP</b>
<b>BRIAN L.</b>	<b>VICE-CHAIR</b>	<b>HIGH NOONERS GROUP</b>
<b>SAM F.</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS GROUP</b>
<b>JIM W.</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>OLD SCHOOL GROUP</b>
<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S</b>
<b>JIM VK</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>SEEKERS OF SERENITY GROUP II</b>
<b>VICKI M.</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GROUP</b>
<b>ROBERT L.</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>LATENIGHTERS GROUP</b>
<b>Open Position</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	
<b>Open Position</b>	<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	

Brett B., Chairperson opened the meeting in the usual matter with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. He then asked everyone to turn down their cell phones. This was followed by giving Brian L. a Certificate of Appreciation for the service he has rendered as a Board Member for the past two years. **Secretary Report:** Jim read the April minutes. There were no questions or comments so the minutes were seconded and approved. **Treasurer Report:** Sam presented the April Treasurer's Report noting that we were \$740.58 in the black for the month and \$4,892.43 in the black for the year. There were no questions. The April Treasurer's report was seconded and approved. **Old Business:** Old Business was mainly concerned with the Founders Day event. After much discussion a motion was made and passed to cancel the Founders Day event for this year with the main reason being that some felt we were ill-prepared to go forward because we had less than a month to get everything prepared and we still had not found a reasonable venue to hold the event. There was some light discussion on possibly looking at holding the event maybe at Lowery Park or some other venue of that nature for next year. **New Business:** No New Business. It was noted that the June meeting would be Jim VK's last meeting as a Board member. His term is up. Brett opened the Council Meeting in the usual matter with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, followed by asking if everyone had signed in, if there were any new Council members and for everyone to turn down their cell phones. Brian L. was then recognized as a Board member who was rotating out and was thanked for his service. **Secretary Report:** Jim read the April Minutes. There were no questions or comments so the minutes were seconded and approved. Lauren was asked to read "What is Tri-County Central Office and John read "What is a Central Office Representative." Brett noted that we would read these at every meeting particularly for the benefit of the new person coming in to the Council. **Treasurer Report:** Sam presented the April Treasurer's Report noting that we were \$740.58 in the black for the month and \$4,892.43 in the black for the year. There were no questions. Brett commented that it was the best report that he had heard. "I'm finally getting it." The April Treasurer's report was seconded and approved. **Old Business:** Old Business was mainly concerned with the Founders Day event. After much discussion a motion was made and passed to cancel the Founders Day event for this year with the main reason being that some felt we were ill-prepared to go forward because we had less than a month to get everything prepared and we still had not found a reasonable venue to hold the event. Also the people that usually did the Cakewalk raffle would not be able to do it this year. A motion was made and passed to cancel the Founders Day event for this year. There was some light discussion on possibly

**May 12th 2015** the Central Office Representatives met:  
**COUNCIL MEMBERS** **REPRESENTING GROUP**

<b>JOHN G.</b>	<b>TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GROUP</b>
<b>MIKE J.</b>	<b>SOLUTIONS GROUP</b>
<b>SUE Z.</b>	<b>CLEAN AIR GROUP</b>
<b>JOE M.</b>	<b>CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP</b>
<b>TOM P.</b>	<b>FRIDAY NIGHT STEP STUDY GROUP</b>
<b>MICHELLE G.</b>	<b>JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP</b>
<b>HAROLD G.</b>	<b>DISTRICT 2 LIAISON</b>
<b>FRED H.</b>	<b>OLD SCHOOL GROUP</b>
<b>LAUREN D.</b>	<b>TGIS GROUP</b>
<b>SALLY O.</b>	<b>TGIS GROUP</b>
<b>CONRAD B.</b>	<b>DRUID HILLS GROUP</b>
<b>JOHN L.</b>	<b>SOBRENITY GROUP</b>
<b>CATHY L.</b>	<b>SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP</b>
<b>BRIAN G.</b>	<b>SOBER ON SUNDAY GROUP</b>
<b>JERRY K.</b>	<b>SOBER @ 7 GROUP</b>
<b>VIVIAN J.</b>	<b>FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP</b>
<b>JON S.</b>	<b>KEEP IT SIMPLE PLANT CITY GROUP</b>
<b>JACK S.</b>	<b>THE MEETING PLACE GROUP</b>
<b>STEVE S.</b>	<b>EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH &amp; HOPE GROUP</b>

looking at holding the event maybe at Lowery Park or some other venue of that nature for next year. **New Business:** Brett posed the question, Does anyone have any ideas, "What can we do for Central Office or what can Central Office do for you?" Is anyone planning an All Groups? Fred from the Old School Group announced that they had raised \$546.30 for the benefit of Central Office from their Annual OSG Anniversary Dinner and Speaker Meeting. John L. from the Sobrenity Group talked about the cookouts they have. Vivian from the Freedom in Sobriety Group asked about sending Pink Cans around the groups for Central Office. Brett commented that, that would be up to the groups. "If I want to create the Fellowship I crave for, I need to be prepared to support it." More ideas floated around on how to support Central Office. The FCYPAA event scheduled for May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was announced and also the Tampa Bay Fall Round-up scheduled for Labor Day Weekend and the 301 House Steak Dinner scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> were also announced. Martin asked if anyone was willing to help a lady get to a meeting but there was no response. The International Convention scheduled for July 2<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was announced. Harold, the District 2 Central Office Liaison announced that the South Florida Area Delegate would be giving his annual report June 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm 2015 at The Club. Vivian announced that everyone should show up at the next meeting for a surprise. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer for all of those who wished to join in.

**SUPPORT YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE**

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BILL M.	06/29/99	16 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JUDY K.	06/24/93	22 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JOHN L.	06/07/89	26 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	WRAY W.	06/10/84	31 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	DICK W.	06/10/58	57 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	TRAVIS G.	06/10/03	12 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	GREG W.	06/14/02	13 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	JOHN C.	06/06/69	46 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	LAURA O.	06/05/13	2 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	ANN O.	06/03/13	2 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	DIANE M.	06/21/11	4 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	JERI T.	06/07/10	5 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	RHONDA R.	06/18/93	22 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	KATHIE N.	06/11/79	36 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED WOMEN'S	LINDA C.	06/01/08	7 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED WOMEN'S	SANDY G.	06/15/93	22 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED WOMEN'S	LINDA B.	06/09/88	27 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	JAMIE C.	06/16/12	3 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	JAY M.	06/01/86	29 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	MIKE D.	06/16/10	5 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	BARBARA R.	06/04/10	5 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	JAMUS H.	06/01/10	5 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	BOB P.	06/23/85	30 YRS

**SELF-SUPPORT-MAY, 2015**

© Today in May of 2015 we have **224** Groups with **597** meetings a week. Contributions in May totaled \$4,125.78. That accounts for what **38** Groups out of **224** Groups in our area have contributed in May. This also takes into account the 2 AAer's who contributed \$120.00 in contributions anonymously, and \$546.30 from the Old School Group's Annual Dinner & Speaker Meeting All Groups meeting fundraiser for Central Office, and \$30.00 from the Wesley Chapel Big Book Raffle. Our total income for May was \$9,735.27. Our Cost of Goods Sold was \$3,791.81. Subtracting the Cost of Goods Sold from our May income left us with a Gross Profit of \$5,791.81. Our Expenses for May were \$7,916.45. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus **-\$2,124.64** for the month of May. **Since January we have had 11 new groups formed in our area adding 25 additional meetings.** 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 !!!

**Bill's Wife Remembers .....continued from page Three**

outside of a very tight little clique of alcoholics into which no mere wife could possibly enter. I did not understand what was going on within myself until one Sunday, Bill asked me to go with him to a meeting. To my own surprise as well as his I burst forth with, "Damn all your meeting," and threw my shoe at him as hard as I could. This bad display of temper woke me up. I realized that I had been wallowing in self pity; that Bill's change was simply miraculous; that his feverish activity with alcoholics was absolutely necessary to his sobriety; and that if I did not want to be left way behind I had better jump on the bandwagon, too!  
 Copyright © The A.A. Grapevine, Inc., Christmas Issue, 1944 Bill's wife, Lois W.

**WE STILL 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](mailto:aainfo@aatampa-area.org)

*Central Office provides a number of services acting as a clearing house for the convenience of members and groups, provides phone service for twelfth step calls and other inquires, helps with the coordination of group activities and keeps track of meeting times and changes and the printing of the schedules. We also edit and print our monthly newsletter. In addition we sell all Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference Approved Literature and some other materials requested by our AA members.*

*Please join us  
 for the  
**FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
 Of  
**THE PROMISES MEETING**  
 Sunday, June 28, 2015  
 Holy Innocents Church  
 604 N. Valrico Rd.  
 Valrico, Florida 33594  
 6:00 PM Dinner  
 7:30 PM Speaker  
 Chris N.  
 (who has 30 years sobriety)  
 Dinner is provided  
 Please bring a dish to share*

## MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

### The Safe Haven Group will be hosting their: 2nd Annual Steak Dinner and Speaker Meeting

at the 301 House 8601 Bowles Road on Saturday, **June 13, 2015**. Dinner will be served at 5pm. It includes grilled steak, baked potato, vegetable, bread, dessert and drink. Patti L., whose home group is "The Joy of Sobriety" that meets at Sobrenity, will share her experience, strength and hope at 7pm. There will be no smoking in the meeting room where the dinner and meeting is being held. Dinner tickets are \$10.00 and include 1 raffle ticket into the drawing for 1 of 3 prizes... A new TV, a \$50.00 Walmart gift card, or a \$25.00 Walmart gift card. More raffle tickets can be purchased at the price of: 1 for \$2.00; 3 for \$5.00; 7 for 10.00 Dinner tickets and raffle tickets are being presold and can be purchased by calling or texting Sue Z. at 813.601.3113 or email : [srz4211@verizon.net](mailto:srz4211@verizon.net) She'll get you connected with someone that has tickets for sale.

### Steps to Freedom 12-Step Workshop

Saturday, June 20, 2015 9:00am-4:30pm  
Christ the King Church, 821 S. Dale Mabry, Tampa, FL  
\$8 in advance \$10 at the door Lunch Included  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO JAILS & INSTITUTIONS

ALPHA CLUB BBQ & SPEAKER MEETING FUND-RAISER



- Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2015
- 4418-B N. Hubert Ave, Tampa FL 33614
- 12pm Big Book MTG, BBQ @ 1:15pm, Speaker @ 2:15pm
- Tickets are 5\$ per person
- 50/50 raffle following the speaker with a **SPECIAL** prize

For updated info: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)



2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2-5, 2015 • Atlanta, Georgia

Coordinated by A.A. World Services, Inc.

80 YEARS - HAPPY, JOYOUS AND FREE

A COMMON  
**SOLUTION**

59th Florida State Convention

Orlando, Aug 12-16, 2015

[www.59.flstateconvention.com](http://www.59.flstateconvention.com)



29th ANNUAL  
TAMPA BAY FALL ROUNDUP  
LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Friday, Sept 4th, 2015 - Monday, Sept 7th, 2015

"Came to Believe"

REGISTRATION OPENS FRIDAY AT 1PM



<https://tampabayfallroundup.com>

DO YOU HAVE A SUBSCRIPTION TO OUR NEWSLETTER

"TRI-COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS" ?

WHY NOT???-FOR \$7.00 YOU WILL RECEIVE 12 ISSUES. THE "NEWS" IS ONE OF THE FEW  
WAYS CENTRAL OFFICE CAN REACH OUR INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT YOUR NEWSLETTER

Group	MAY	Y T D	Group	MAY	Y T D	Group	MAY	Y T D
11th Step Group- Christ King	130.00	355.00	Keystone Group		245.00	Sisters in Sobriety Group		266.82
A.A. 101 Group		888.28	Keystone All Groups		651.00	Sober @ 7 Group		599.82
A.A. 102 Group		54.00	Kingsway Group	275.00	396.00	Sober @ 7 Group All Groups		
All Groups Meeting		36.00	Last Call Meeting			Sober on Saturday Group	40.00	165.00
Alpha Group		120.00	LateNighters Group	49.50	211.25	Sober on Sunday Group		
Anniversary Dinner 2015		2,593.97	Late Night Red Door Group			Sober Rewards Group		2.00
7th Tradition Basket		167.00	Lemon Tree Group		100.00	Sober Spirits Group		
Trico 50/50 Raffle 2015		211.00	Live and Let Live Group	14.00	516.09	Soberstock Committee		
Cakewalk RaffleEvent 2015		603.00	Living in the Solution			Sobriety at Sunrise Group	35.00	193.00
Soberstock Basket Raffle 2014			LivingSober/As Bill Sees It			Sobrenity Group	325.00	440.05
Housecleaning Retreat			Lunch Bunch Group			Solutions Group	132.61	915.93
Anonymous Donations	120.00	702.76	Lutz @ Noon	16.00	49.00	Southshore Men's Group		165.00
As Bill Sees It--Brandon	181.27	296.32	Main Purpose Group			Southside Men's Group		494.00
As Bill Sees It Mens Odessa		268.97	Mapledale Group		50.00	Southside Men's Group # 2		65.00
Attitude of Gratitude Group	50.00	250.00	Mid Day Matinee Group		332.00	Southside Men's Group # 3		
Barracks Brigade Group	329.95	1,051.41	Morning Express Group	100.00	200.00	Spiritual Development Gp.		
Bel-Mar Group			Morning Group -Zephyrhill		200.00	Spiritual Growth Group		
Bill D's Group		93.45	Morning Meditation Group			Spiritual Progress Goup		24.05
BIRTHDAY CLUB		215.00	Mustard Seed Group	6.00	6.00	Step Sisters in Sobriety		130.00
Brandon Men's Blackbelt			New Beginnings - Brandon		52.00	Step at a Time Group		429.65
Brandon Tues. Big Book		45.00	New Beginnings Women's		70.00	Stepping Stones Group (w)		107.00
Brandon Sat. Night Group			New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's			Sun City Center Group		
BYO 12 & 12 Group	68.00	337.00	New Beginnings-(Our Club)		295.97	Sunday Afternnoon Meeting		
Came To Believe Group		395.47	Newcomers Group (JC)			Sunday Speakers - 3333	80.00	320.00
Cardinal Group - Odessa		200.00	New Day Group	50.00	75.00	Sunshine Group		200.00
Cardinal Group All Groups			New Hope Big Book		134.15	Sweet Surrender Group		500.00
Carrollwood Group		50.00	New Tampa Monday Night		187.25	Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
Carrollwood Blue Roof Group			New Way Women's Group		200.00	Tampa Bay Speakers Gp.		292.50
Clair-Mel Positive Thinkers		100.00	Nightly Newcomers Group			Tampa Bay Young Peoples		144.00
Clean Air Group	20.00	72.16	Noon Big Book Group			Tampa Palms Big Book	100.00	200.43
Dade City Step Study Group			Nooners Group--Riverview	62.81	105.15	TGIS Women's Group		100.67
Design for Living Group		1,197.00	Nooners Group--Tampa		268.97	Thank God it's Friday Gp		130.00
Dover Group		120.00	Noontime Celebration Gp.	250.00	250.00	The 164 Group		
Early Risers Group - Joe's		290.62	N. Brandon Open Forum		80.00	The 164 12 Step Workshop		382.00
Expect a Miracle Group		234.00	Northdale Group		117.65	The 164 Group USF		75.00
Experience, Strength & Hope			Odessa Group			The 164 Gp Wesley Chapel		
Fear Not Group			Old School Group		592.43	The Meeting Place Group		118.00
Fireside Group		451.22	Old School Group All Groups			The Next Frontier Group		144.87
Founders Day Event			Old School Group Anniversary	546.30	546.30	T & C Sisters in Sobriety	20.00	120.00
Freedom in Sobriety Group		156.89	OSG Ladies Birthday Event			Town & Country Men's Gp.		100.00
Friday Night Lights Group	43.00	250.72	Oldtimer's Group - JC			Town & Country Wed. Gp.	350.00	1,000.00
Friday Night Lights Ice Cream			On the Way Home Tpa 5:30		127.60	Tues Big Book Study Gp.		130.00
Friday Night Lights Movie		136.00	One Day at a Time Group			Turning Point Group -Z-H.		200.00
Friday Night Step Study Gp		20.00	Palma Ceia Group			Valrico Fri. Morning Group		115.00
Friday Night Women's Gp.			Palma Ceia 12 Step Group			Valrico/Brandon Wed. Night		
Friday Women's Friendship			Palma Ceia Big Book Study			Village 12 Step Group		300.00
Gifts of Sobriety Group		220.35	Pilgrim Group -St Leo's		195.00	Warrior's Group		0.57
Good Start Group		496.39	Plant City Keep it Simple	45.00	140.00	We Have a Way Out Group	17.00	17.00
Grapevine Gals Group	23.50	172.96	Primary Purpose Group		20.00	Weedpatch Group		
Happy Hour Group YANA			Promises Meeting Group		260.00	Wed Night Step Workshop		20.25
Helping Hands Gp.-P.C.	100.00	175.00	Prosperity AA Group			Wed. Keep it Simple Group		
Hide-A-Way Group		454.31	Red Chip Day			Wellspring Group		140.00
High Nooners Group		100.00	Red Door Group	45.90	245.90	Wesley Chapel Group		332.80
Hope in Progress Group			Reflections Group-Lake Mag	100.00	100.00	Wesley Chapel Gp B.B. Raffle	30.00	109.00
International Doctors of AA		12.00	Riverside Group	260.94	260.94	With Room to Grow Group		
It's in the Book Men's Gp.	108.00	183.00	Rush Hour Serenity Group	1.00	89.40	WST Memorial Day Picnic		
Just What I Wanted Big Book			Ruskin Fellowship Group			Women's Friendship Group		191.29
Keep It Simple - YANA			Safe Haven Group			YaYa Sisterhood of Sobriety		
Keep It Simple/Pass It On		676.82	Saturday Night Fever Gp.		340.00			
Keeping it Simple Group			Saturday Night Live Group					
			Seekers of Serenity II Group		35.79			
						TOTAL	1,129.61	
TOTAL	1,173.72		TOTAL	1822.45		YTD	TOTAL	9,380.70
						Grand Total for Month	4,125.78	
YTD	TOTAL	14,453.07	YTD	TOTAL	7745.84	Grand Total for Year		31,579.66