



# Tri-County Central Office News

Memo To AAs Who Experience Difficulty In “Accepting” AA:  
Don’t Forget—AA Accepted You.

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

April, 2016

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## A PRAYER FOR JIM

As a young boy, I received a wonderful religious training that gave me great comfort and a sense of purpose. At the same time, I craved recognition from others. I especially liked the Lenten season. I was allowed to go to services each morning and to come into classes late, where I would be allowed to eat breakfast while the other kids were already working. I’m not sure which made me feel better, my devotion or the attention I got because of it. When I was 18, I discovered drinking and many more ways to get attention. I would dress for church, but instead I drove to a bar where I’d drink long enough to cover the length of the service and then return home as if I had gone to church. It was the ‘60’s, and ideas about God and religion were changing along with almost everything else. It was fashionable not to belong to any religion. Rather, we would live by a code of ethics. Everything would be OK if we just treated everyone right. This appealed to me because I had begun to see that doing God’s will, as I had been taught, would not be nearly as much fun as I wanted. I made the conscious decision to leave religion behind and live by this new code. I would take care of my business and God would take care of his. Fortunately, my religion gave me the perfect out. When I got really old, I thought, about a week before I died, I would make peace with God and still get my eternal reward. Time passed, the drinking progressed and my ethical code didn’t hold up well. The trouble was that I held everybody to my high standards, but I was able to cut myself a break. There was always a good reason why I couldn’t live up to those standards, and I would excuse myself. Toward the end of my drinking, I had lots of friends and acquaintances. However, I felt I had to be on guard against them hurting me in some way. I couldn’t let anyone know anything personal about me for fear they’d somehow use it against me. I longed for someone with whom it could be “you and me against the world,” but I couldn’t even bring myself to trust either of the two women I had married. When I finally shut them out of my life, they left me wondering why this always had to happen to me. I tried one AA meeting, but couldn’t admit powerlessness. I went on a 12-year quest to try to drink enough to feel good but not so much that I would get into trouble. After the second wife left, I went on a tear and found myself passed out in my car in a resort town 60 miles from my home. I realized the only reason I had stopped drinking that night was because the bar had called last call. If I had had the time, money and strength, I would’ve still been drinking. This scared me into going to another AA meeting. This time, I felt immediately at ease and I actually loved the Fellowship. I went to a meeting every night and was amazed at the openness of the AAs who shared. Even though I didn’t fully understand powerlessness and wasn’t completely sold on it, I did begin to see that I had to get the drinking under control if I were going to solve all the other problems in my life. After about two weeks, I was at the terrible spot many of us find ourselves: I was feeling better and I wasn’t feeling the heat quite so much. Perhaps I was making too much of this

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## Working Together Through the Twelve Steps

When Bob joined our Tuesday night Step group, he was sober nine years. He had gone to meetings regularly, but when he came to our group he was consumed by anger, depression, and fear. He had never worked the Twelve Steps, and so he’d never found the freedom the program promises. Within just one month of his first meeting with us, Bob had done a good job of working the first eight Steps and was making progress on his amends. In the next several years, he swapped a number of Fifth Steps with the other members of the group. He cleaned up his amends by making them *directly* to those he had harmed. He learned about taking Step Three aloud with another AA member and did that numerous times. He did the same with Step Seven. He continued to write thorough Fourth Steps and follow them with the cleansing of Step Five. Bob explained, “By example and encouragement, members of the group helped me find the benefits of the program that had eluded me. The promises began to come true. Anger, depression, and fear gradually dissolved and disappeared. Freed from the past, I began to live easily in the present.” In our view, a group is strong to the degree that its members are working the Steps. This releases the vitality needed for change, and all the members share its power. A member joining the group is picked up and carried by this vitality. It starts him doing the things that make him well. Martha came into our group two years ago, sober just a few weeks. Soon after that, several women helped her with her Fourth Step. When she was ready for her Fifth Step, Martha took it with a woman in the group, who took hers at the same time. They took Step Three and Step Seven aloud. Then this older member helped Martha write out her list of persons she had harmed. Martha began to make amends. She has continued to work all the Steps. She stayed sober in the past two years despite difficult personal problems. The example of the group encouraged her to keep following the program’s directions. This, in turn, enabled her to handle each day’s trails. “As I worked the Steps, I found my own answers and gained the strength to put them to work in my life.” Martha said. We meet in members’ homes and each Tuesday night take one of the Twelve Steps. When we get up to Twelve, we start over again. The comments are alive because each person is working every one of the Steps and is speaking from fresh experience. It’s a working group, not a discussion group. The spiritual life demands honesty and responsibility. It recalls the pungent observation of St. Theresa: “God is among the pots and pans.” Speaking from where we are generates an honesty that helps each of us become a bit more sane. Persuasive in its power, the strength of the group helps us move along in the program. It carries a transforming message for all, whether new or old in the Fellowship. Working the Steps slashes through the empty rhetoric of conversation *about* God and provides an experience of God. The gap between the two is measured in light years. To go from knowledge to experience is to move from one side of the earth to the other. Each Tuesday night, the meeting

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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 or the 4th Thursday of the month from 5:50 pm to 6:50 pm at the Tri-County Central Office.)**

The March 5th meeting of TBAIC was opened by chair Susan O. leading the "Serenity Prayer".

Jim S. left word that Bridge the Gap received 2 phone calls. A female caller was referred to a female contact. The other caller was requesting a ride, but declined the offer when the arrangements had been made.

Tom F. distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report showing total collections for the month of \$1899.74. The amount includes the check received from Soberween for the fundraising Halloween Event held at Hyde Park Methodist Church last October.

Nancy B. had nine women contact her with an interest in volunteering for Falkenburg Jail. Out of the nine, only two women have actually completed an application for the April 11th orientation. Applications must be received by the Falkenburg Jail Program Coordinator by March 13th.

Scott R.(Detox Coordinator) will be sending out an updated schedule of TBAIC meetings and locations. He said Buddy H. is still working with ACTS Drew Park on resolving issues with volunteers coming into their facility. ACTS has agreed that someone with at least six months of sobriety can come as volunteer if they are accompanied with someone with more than one year of sobriety and that they do not chair the meeting.

Chris D. of E. Pasco County Men's has one volunteer schedule for the orientation at Zephyrhills Prison. At a recent Zephyrhills meeting, nine volunteers were there. The inmates were touched by the volunteer's presence and expressed their gratitude. Chris will be meeting with the new program director at North Tampa Behavioral Health as a courtesy visit and to answer any questions they may have.

Sylvia L. has done some more refinements to the TBAIC website. (User ID: tbaic, Passcode:123) An events tag has been added, She is open for any suggestions that will make the website more user friendly and serve the needs of TBAIC.

A brief explanation was given on the new meetings at Brandon Hospital's Behavioral Health Department. Currently there is a meeting every Wednesday at 7 pm. A meeting on Sundays, at 9:30 am, will be added soon. Ray W. (8634403937) has agreed to be the volunteer coordinator. Anyone interested in participating with the Brandon Hospital meetings should contact Ray.

The December 2016 TBAIC meeting will be elections for officers of TBAIC. Of special note is the rotation of Treasurer's position. Tom F. stressed the importance of the timely filing of the necessary forms to maintain the tax exempt status.

**"Action is the magic word." (from the pamphlet "A Member's Eye View of Alcoholics Anonymous" GSO stock number P41,page 17)**

**YTD Contributions to TBAIC \$5,905.63**  
**YTD Money Placed in Tri-County spending account \$5,300.00**  
**Money in Spending Account at Year End 2015 \$161.28**  
**YTD Money Spent on Literature \$5,411.10**  
**YTD Expenses \$757.65**  
**Pink Can Balance as of 12/12/2015 \$168.27**  
**Pink Can Balance as of 03/05/2016 \$16.25**

**Our Next Committee Meeting**

Is at 9:30 AM on **April 9th, 2016** 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 Group \$187.51;**
- High Nooner's Group 144.61;**
- Keystone Discussion Group \$30.00;**
- Lunch Bunch Group \$24.00;**
- Old School Group \$196.09;**
- Steps to Freedom Soberween Event \$1260.00;**
- Turning Point Group Zephyrhills \$57.53;**

**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>813-727-8839</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>                      |                     |

The Corrections Committee needs all types of volunteers. We need people to attend meetings in the facilities, people to help spread the word about this type of service work. It is okay if you have never been to jail yourself! You can still help us. You can still carry A.A.'s message of hope to an alcoholic who is incarcerated. Let's face it: many of us who have never been arrested just never got caught!

**A PRAYER FOR JIM.....continued from page 1**

deal but I really did like the people and the feeling I got around them. I came to a turning point. Should I continue going to so many meetings or should I cut back? Should I stay or should I go? I went to a meeting early one day with these thoughts swirling around in my head. I ran into the pastor of that church and we chatted. He was not one of us but had worked with many of us during his priest-hood. He suggested that I pray about it at the chapel on grounds. I went and soon realized that it had been so long, I didn't remember any prayers. But I was stubborn and decided to stay until something happened. I looked through the little books and pamphlets in the chapel and came across the prayer of St. Francis in one of them. I had not seen it in any AA literature but truly intrigued about the prayer. The sentiments expressed in it clashed with the way I was living: the prayer talked about giving love and not worrying about getting it back. I was only willing to give love if I received it first. I craved understanding while never giving it to others. Somehow I could sense that many of my AA friends were living closer to St. Francis's ideal and their lives appeared to be working. And besides, my life wasn't working and here was another way. I decided to stay and try AA. I learned that improving the quality of my relationships was much more important than any money or influence I might get. I found that spirituality was not just in the number or fervor of my prayers. It was also in the manner in which I treated God's children: showing them love and service may be even more important demonstration. Over the years I've stayed sober, but every time I've put money or influence first, my life has suffered and my Higher Power has guided me back on the path. I'm even more convinced 24 years later that the path to spirituality lies in my willingness to love rather than be loved.

**Jim H., Largo, Florida**  
**Reprint Permission/ AA Grapevine/ April 2016**

**Working Together Through the Twelve Steps...continued from page One**

begins with a quiet time. Someone reads "How it Works." The host or hostess speaks on the Step for that evening, each member comments, and the meeting closes with the Lord's Prayer. There's an unofficial collection, and occasionally we have a *brief* discussion of what to do with the money. Our members live in about eight different suburbs west of Chicago. Recently, we donated Big Books to the libraries in each of these suburbs. Later, we may give them copies of the "Twelve and Twelve," too. We support local and world AA services, but we take care of these obligations with a minimum of time and no confusion. I've spend a good bit of time in AA activities, committees, and so on, and some of those meetings should have been held in the violent ward of the local state hospital. Members of our Step group are concerned with the message—experiencing the message and carrying it. We spend no time in business-bickering. Our Fellowship has Three Legacies: Recovery, Unity, and Service. Recovery starts with working the Steps. As long as I'm a member of AA, my recovery will continue through the Steps. That's where the message comes from. Without a solid base of experience in working the Steps, we'll ultimately have no need for either Unity or Service. There'll be nothing to unify and no understanding of how to serve. We could find

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**Working Together Through the Twelve Steps...continued ....**

ourselves in the same predicament as a town with an elaborate water system—gleaming pipes, tanks, pumping stations, filtration plants—but no source of water. Many other spiritual movements have drifted down that dismal path where structure supplants spirit. The power in our group is tangible, but not coercive. Each of us works the Steps because friends are witnessing to what they find through the Steps. A vehicle for God's love, our group liberates the wonderful spiritual alchemy that takes the worthless past and transmutes it into a useful present. It turns garbage into gold. Initially, the bond in AA is one of mutual suffering. Then it becomes mutual aid, and finally a vision of a future we couldn't reach anywhere else. In the spirit of Tradition Eleven, we have attracted members from all over the Chicago area. Several other Step groups have formed from ours in the past few years. One of our members, Bill, was sober eleven years when he joined us six years ago. In those eleven years, he had gone to countless meetings, made innumerable calls on new members, sponsored a number of alcoholics. He'd made one slight omission, however. He had never worked the Steps. Depressed, afraid, angry, he frantically sought relief from his symptoms caused by sobriety without Steps. "I went to a psychiatrist who explored my subconscious and checkbook with equal enthusiasm," declared Bill. "I tried other therapies. Nothing helped." Then he visited a treatment facility near Chicago and talked to the chief psychologist, who supposedly knew something about alcoholics and AA. The psychologist suggested shock treatment. Bill now calls him "Dr. Electrode." Fortunately, before Dr. Electrode could connect him up to the current, Bill ran into a member of our group. The member explained that Bill's symptoms were the inevitable result of stopping drinking without working the program. Step by Step, he helped Bill follow the program's directions, right through Step Eight, which he helped Bill write after they had shared a Fifth Step. Bill joined our group, continued to work the Steps, and quickly lost his depression and other miseries. In general, the experience of the AA members who have joined us testifies that *recovery is a process, not an event*. Some have been sober many years before they began to honestly use the program as it's designed. Others had been around AA for years, unable to find freedom from the insane obsession that kept bringing the first drink to their lips. From these varying personal stories, they've all drawn the same conclusion, however: The program works just as the Big Book says it will; the payoff comes from persistent effort with all the Steps. Our group stimulates that kind of action in each of us. No one can throw us out of AA, but we can throw ourselves out by living in a way that forfeits our membership. On occasion, I've nearly done that. Dishonest, irresponsible, self-centered, I've pushed myself to the outskirts of our Fellowship. My friends in the Tuesday night Step group have seen what's happening, caught me, and said, "Hey, come back. Stick with us or you don't have a chance." They've been right, of course, and they've saved my life.

**P.M., Riverside, Ill.**  
**Reprint Permission/ AA Grapevine/ April 1977**

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

**March 8th, 2016** the Central Office Representatives met:  
**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

**March 8th, 2016** the Board of Directors for Central Office met:  
**BOARD MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

|            |              |                             |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Excused    | CHAIRPERSON  | 164 WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP     |
| ROBERT L.  | VICE-CHAIR   | LATENIGHTERS GROUP          |
| AIDA S.    | TREASURER    | NEW WAY WOMENS GROUP        |
| Un-Excused | BOARD MEMBER | OLD SCHOOL GROUP            |
| Un-Excused | BOARD MEMBER | FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S |
| MINDY W.   | BOARD MEMBER | STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY    |
| Un-Excused | BOARD MEMBER | MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP    |
| LARRY B.   | BOARD MEMBER | AA 101 GROUP                |
| NO SHOW    | BOARD MEMBER |                             |
| NO SHOW    | BOARD MEMBER |                             |

|             |                                    |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| BRIAN L.    | BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP             |
| HAROLD G.   | DISTRICT 2 LIAISON                 |
| KATHIE N.   | SOBRENITY GROUP                    |
| MONICA C.   | MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS GROUP         |
| MICHELLE G. | JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP           |
| BILL L.     | LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP              |
| JOE M.      | CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP              |
| JACK S.     | THE MEETING PLACE GROUP            |
| MARLENE M   | TURNING POINT GROUP                |
| TOM P.      | FRIDAY NIGHT STEP STUDY GROUP      |
| MERRICK M.  | TAMPA BAY YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP      |
| JERRY K.    | SOBER 2 7 GROUP                    |
| CAROL J.    | SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP          |
| SILVIA H.   | NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP            |
| CINDI M.    | PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP              |
| STEVE W.    | AS BILL SEES IT GROUP              |
| STEVE S.    | EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH, & HOPE GROUP |
| CATHY K.    | HIDE-A-WAY GROUP                   |
| SUE Z.      | CLEAN AIR GROUP                    |
| DAVID Y.    | SOLUTIONS GROUP                    |
| VIVIAN J.   | FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP  |
| FRED H.     | OLD SCHOOL GROUP                   |
| JULIET S-B  | SUNSHINE GROUP                     |
| THOMAS M.   | KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP         |

Robert our Vice-Chairperson opened the meeting in the usual matter with the Serenity Prayer. **Office Managers Report:** Tim presented the Office Managers report for February. A question was asked about how many Newsletters are printed (350). **Secretary Report:** Robert read the February minutes. No questions. Minutes were seconded and approved. **Treasurer Report:** Aida presented the February Treasurer's Report noting that we were \$2532.61 in the black for the month There were no questions. The February Treasurer's report was seconded and approved. **Old Business:** None. **New Business:** Office Managers change in Health Care status. After some explanation and discussion it was noted that the Office Managers healthcare has been reduced for \$882.00 to less than \$400.00. A motion was made to pay the initial premiums and continue on with the monthly payments. Motion was seconded and approved. A brief discussion of Founders Day followed. Robert our Vice-Chairperson opened the Council meeting in the usual matter with the Serenity Prayer, followed by asking everyone to turn down their cell phones. **Secretary Report:** Kathy read the February minutes. Minutes were seconded and approved. **Treasurer Report:** Aida presented the February Treasurer's Report noting that we were \$2532.61 in the black for the month A question was asked why the TRICO expenses were showing in the Previous year line item. The February Treasurer's report. A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. **Old Business:** None. **New Business:** Discussion centered around the Founders Day Event. Kathy N. noted that she had volunteered to be on the Ask it Basket panel. Harold asked if this was a speaker meeting or Ask it Basket—it is an Ask it Basket. Fred had questions about paper products. We have plenty of paper products left over from the Anniversary Dinner. Robert went over the Committee sign up sheet and some groups volunteered to serve. Several announcements were made. Harold presented a brief District 2 report. Aida noted that the Alpha Group Saturday 7:15 meeting was looking for speakers. Joe McS. And Bill W. from the Sobrenity Group have volunteered to be on the Ask it Basket panel. New Council Members were Silvia H. from the Nightly Newcomers Group, Bill L. from the Live & Let Live Group, and Merrick M. from the Tampa Bay Young Peoples Group. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer

**41Q** - If an alcoholic comes to an A.A. meeting under the influence of alcohol, how do you treat him or handle him during the meeting?  
**41A** - Groups will usually run amuck on that sort of question. At first we are likely to say that we are going to be supermen and save every drunk in town. The fact is that a great many of them just don't want to stop. They come, but they interfere very greatly with the meeting. Then, being still rather intolerant, the group will swing way over in the other direction and say, "No drunks around these meetings." We get forcible and put them out of the meeting, saying, "You're welcome here if your sober." But the general rule in most places is that if a person comes for the first or second time and can sit quietly in the meeting, without creating an uproar, nobody bothers him. On the other hand, if he's a chronic "slipper" and interferes with the meetings, we lead him out gently, or maybe not so gently, on the theory that one man cannot be permitted to hold up the recovery of others. The theory is "the greatest good for the greatest number."

**(Yale Summer School of Alcohol Studies, June 1945)**

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

**It Works-It Really Does—Ask them how they did it!!!**

| GROUP                    | Honors To   | Date     | Years  |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | JESSICA P.  | 04/15/15 | 1 YR   |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | KAREY H.    | 04/03/12 | 4 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | MARK D.     | 04/19/10 | 6 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | MARY ANN L. | 04/17/10 | 6 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | DEB P.      | 04/02/08 | 8 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | JERRY K.    | 04/03/05 | 11 YRS |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP          | STAN W.     | 04/16/96 | 20 YRS |
| SOBRENITY GROUP          | ANNIE       | 04/07    | 9 YRS  |
| SOBRENITY GROUP          | DIANE C.    | 04/02    | 14 YRS |
| SOBRENITY GROUP          | MARY V.     | 04/96    | 20 YRS |
| SOBRENITY GROUP          | GARY Y.     | 04/87    | 29 YRS |
| SOBRENITY GROUP          | GUS A.      | 04/82    | 34 YRS |
| MID DAY MATINEE          | ROBIN D.    | 04/20/10 | 6 YRS  |
| KEYSTONE GROUP           | SANDY G.    | 04/14/97 | 19 YRS |
| KEYSTONE GROUP           | PAUL F.     | 04/03/96 | 20 YRS |
| KEYSTONE GROUP           | SHAWN K.    | 04/01/94 | 22 YRS |
| KEYSTONE GROUP           | MIKE B.     | 04/13/87 | 29 YRS |
| KEYSTONE GROUP           | TOM R.      | 04/14/84 | 32 YRS |
| FRIDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK    | BUD F.      | 04/16/83 | 33 YRS |
| MUSTARD SEED GROUP       | NAMCY B.    | 04/24/10 | 6 YRS  |
| RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP | CHRIS S.    | 04/29/07 | 9 YRS  |
| RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP | STEVE S.    | 04/01/03 | 13 YRS |
| RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP | HECTOR R.   | 04/24/86 | 30 YRS |
| JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP | TRACY S.    | 04/27/10 | 6 YRS  |
| JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP | KEY M.      | 04/20/10 | 6 YRS  |
| JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP | LIZ T.      | 04/10/10 | 6 YRS  |
| JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP | DEBBIE N    | 04/25/09 | 7 YRS  |
| JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP | RHONDA B.   | 04/13/09 | 7 YRS  |
| CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP    | KORI T.     | 04/20/14 | 2 YRS  |
| RIVERSIDE GROUP          | BRAD        | 04/16/12 | 4 YRS  |
| FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN  | KATHY M.    | 04/01/13 | 3 YRS  |
| FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN  | LUANNE M.   | 04/01/09 | 7 YRS  |
| FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN  | DIANE C.    | 04/10/02 | 14 YRS |
| FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN  | KAREN       | 04/19/91 | 25 YRS |

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

| Home Group         | Honors To | Date     | Years |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| LATENIGHTERS GROUP | ROBERT L. | 04/16/09 | 7 YRS |
| YOUR NAME          |           |          |       |
| COULD HAVE BEEN    |           |          |       |
| HERE ☺☻            |           |          |       |

**SELF-SUPPORT-March, 2016**

© Today in March of 2016 we have 218 Groups with 576 meetings a week. Contributions in February totaled \$4,639.70. That accounts for what 46 Groups out of 218 Groups in our area have contributed in March. This also takes into account the \$7.00 from the 1 members who contributed to the Birthday Club and the \$635.25 collected from the Sobrenity Group's 30th Anniversary Dinner. Our total income for March was \$11,092.23. Our Cost of Goods Sold was \$5,388.28. Subtracting the Cost of Goods Sold from our March income left us with a Gross Profit of \$6,545.91. Our Total Expenses for March were \$9,203.59. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus—\$2,657.68.66 for the month of March. 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 . Thank you for all of your support !!!

**From the Central Office SERVICE DESK**

**A total of 230 phone calls were made to the Central Office in March: 216 for info on AA, 3 for info on Al-Anon, 9 messages for other inquiries, 2 requesting a Twelfth Step call, There were 208 walk-ins visits as well. A total of 205 phone calls were made to the After Hours Hotline in March: 125 for info on AA, 29 for info on Al-Anon, 13 messages for other inquiries, 38 requesting a Twelfth Step call,**

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

**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)

**Do You Have A Subscription To Our Newsletter**

**"Tri-County Central Office News " ? Why Not???-For \$7.00 You Will Receiver 12 Issues. The "NEWS" Is One Of The Few Ways Central Office Can Reach Our Individual Member's. PLEASE HELP SUPPORT YOUR NEWSLETTER**

*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.*

## MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

### April 29<sup>th</sup> 2016 Nightly Newcomers Group

Food - Fun - Fellowship - Karaoke - 50/50 Raffle  
7:00 PM Eating Meeting. A What? Eating Meeting! Ahh!  
8:15 PM Medallion & Candle Light Meeting  
9:15 PM Karaoke Till 11:45 PM  
Come Celebrate Years of Sobriety With Us

Please Bring Some Food To Share If You Can  
Please Contact Joyce D. @ 813-465-8047 To See what is needed.

**3333 W. Columbus Drive, Tampa, FL**  
**Birthday/Anniversary Celebration**

Great Time to Bring A Newcomer



DICK D MEMORIAL- KEEP IT SIMPLE

## COED SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT SATURDAY MAY 7 2016

### Gasden Park

6901 South MacDill Avenue,  
Tampa, FL, 33611

From 8:30 AM TILL WE ARE DONE

Food and drinks provided

50/50 Raffle

Donations Welcome

**COST \$100.00 per Team**

For a team of 12 players that's only \$8.33 per player!

Contact Susan 813-325-6538, Buddy H. 813-871-2514  
or Tim @ Central Office 813-933-9123

*Deadline to Register is May 2nd 2016*

This tournament is a fundraising event for the Tampa Bay Area Institutional Committee (TBAIC) which carries the message into jails, prisons, detox centers and hospitals. ALL money raised is spent to buy pocket sized Big Books, 12 x 12s and AA literature to take into these facilities. Come on out, support your team and enjoy a day of fun and fellowship while supporting our 5th Tradition!

## Come Join Us For The Promises 6th Anniversary Celebration

Guest Speakers Grace & Mr. Z from NYC  
recent speakers at the 80th AA International Convention

# Sunday June 26th 2016

Dinner starts at 6pm

Speakers at 7:30pm



Holy Innocence Church 604 N. Valrico Rd. Valrico, FL 33594  
Contact Nes 813-507-6408 or Chris 813-494-2932

**50/50 Raffle, Food & Fellowship**  
(please bring a covered dish to share)



## Founders' Day Herald

81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous

June 10, 11 & 12, 2016 | Akron, Ohio | Birthplace of A.A.

FOUNDERS DAY EVENT

JUNE, 2016

HOSTED BY THE CENTRAL OFFICE

TAMPA, FLORIDA

INFORMATION TO BE POSTED SOON

## 30th ANNUAL TAMPA BAY FALL ROUNDUP

Friday, September 2, 2016

through

Monday, September 5, 2016



"Sheraton Tampa East Hotel"

10221 Princess Palm Ave., Tampa, FL 33610

