



Tri-County Central Office News

Do many of us today expect the way to be paved for our convenience?
Are we willing to go to any lengths for sobriety?

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.
8019 North Himes Avenue Ste. 104, Tampa, Florida 33614-2763
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June, 2017

Web Site: www.aatampa-area.org

Turn to Page 63...

In early March 1973, the American forces were pulling out of South Viet Nam. I, an army sergeant, was having a final talk with my sponsor, a Department of the Army civilian, who was due to leave Saigon the next day. I had made my first AA meeting just three months before and I wasn't sure how I could handle moving back to the States, rejoining my wife, and not having the benefit of other AA members for the next couple of weeks. "Jerry" asked me if I was convinced that I was powerless over alcohol, that my life was unmanageable; and if I had come to believe that a Power greater than myself had restored me to sanity. I assured him that I had taken the first two Steps. "Being convinced, then," he said, "it's time you took Step Three!" He asked me to make a quick mental review of my life, to see if I had made the best use of it. Had I taken care of myself, mind and body? Had I driven a car while drunk and even in blackouts? Had there been accidents, or even battles, when I could have been seriously hurt or even killed, and wasn't. The real question he was asking was: could I see that a Higher Power had actually been taking care of me all my life? I had to admit that I had really done my best to destroy my life, that God must have been taking care of me, because I surely hadn't been. Jerry asked me, "Then what's the big deal about letting God continue to do what he has been doing all your life anyhow?" He further explained that there was nothing in the Third Step that would take away my "free will." I could go get drunk anytime I chose to. Nor does the Step say that God will run my life in any way against my will. However, it does say that God will protect me from myself if I will make a decision to let him do so. My sponsor gave me the names and addresses of a couple of AA members to look up when I got to Fort Knox, Kentucky, which was where I would go when I left Viet Nam. He told me several ways to contact AA and AA members in my travels. He did his utmost to impress on me the need to get on with working the Twelve Steps as soon as possible. He assured me that if I asked for God's help in staying sober and in running my life, he would give it to me. Finally he asked if I was ready to make the decision to turn my will and my life over to the care of God. I told him that I was. He picked up a Big Book, turned to page 62, and asked me to read the last paragraph and all of page 63. When I finished reading, he asked if I was ready to make the decision required in Step Three and to confirm that decision by reading the prayer in the middle of page 63 aloud with him. We read the Step Three prayer together, talked for a while longer, then parted and were to see each other again until some three years later. Within two weeks of Jerry's departure all the other sober AA members I knew had left Viet Nam. Being on my own gave me the incentive to begin working the rest of the Steps. Within six weeks of his departure, I had completed all the remaining Steps for the first time. By then I had arrived safe and sober at Fort Knox, where I would begin the lifetime process of practicing the principles of AA.

At a recent meeting I was reminded again how

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Beyond Our Primary Purpose

Anyone who has attended a few AA meetings has heard the AA Preamble, but do we all listen to it? Do we listen when we hear "Our primary purpose is to stay sober..."? It does not stay "to get sober" but to *stay* sober." And, in my opinion just as important, it states "our *primary* purpose." Those who go by the book, as I try to do, believe that every word is to be taken seriously, that every single verb, noun, or adjective was providentially inspired, and therefore not one of them should be by-passed. It naturally follows, of course, that I don't agree with those who say, "The only reason I'm in AA is to stay sober." If sobriety was the only purpose of AA, I don't think the word "primary" would have been used. There are AA members who stay physically sober for many years without going any further in the program. I myself don't know how they do it and still live with themselves. When I express this opinion, I often get the answer "Okay, so we all know he's dishonest or a phony or promiscuous, but he's sober. And that's what it's all about—sobriety." I think there's a great deal more than sobriety to be gained from the AA way of living. It goes without saying, of course, that sobriety is *first*. It's understandable that the only concern of newcomers is their sobriety. That is the way it should be. However, after they've lost the compulsion to drink, most of them begin to work the Steps. Watching the change in them is the most inspiring experience of my life. By the same token, the few who stay sober for many years and either cannot or will not try to correct their character defects are the most discouraging. Fortunately, such people are in the minority. Whenever I become discouraged, I think of one young man who came to his first AA meeting two or three years ago. He made no attempt to hide or gloss over the fact that he had been a thief and had served time in prison for his crimes. Today, he's one of the most honest AA members I know. His very presence gladdens my heart, for his is not only cash-register honesty, but honesty in every facet of his life. He's even honest enough to say that he's not always honest! I also think of a young woman who, in telling her story, says that during her drinking years she did anything to get a drink. She doesn't go into unpleasant details. She doesn't have to. We all know what she means. Even though her life was sordid, her talk is still in good taste. She also says she's been reborn, and it's obviously true. Her story of the miracle wrought in her life through living the AA program is truly beautiful. That she is a real lady, there can be no doubt. I don't care in the least what a man or woman alcoholic has done in the past, but I do care if such past behavior continues after a number of years of sobriety. I've been told this attitude is intolerant. Maybe it is. But if I'm to be honest, and I try to be, I cannot imagine myself ever being tolerant, as I understand the word, of dishonesty, malice, and promiscuity in those who have been sober AA members for many years.

B.B., Naples, Fla.

Reprint Permission/ AA Grapevine/ June 1977

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

~~(877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672!~~
(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 May 13th (2017) meeting of TBAIC was opened by Susan O.; leading the "Serenity Prayer". Scott S. read the April minutes. There was a motion to approve; group approved. Linn D., Treasurer, distributed/reviewed the Treasurer's Report and contributions expenses. There was a motion to approve Treasurer's report; group approved. The TBAIC softball tournament was held on May 6th @ Gadsden Park; raising \$232.50. Scott R., Detox and Treatment Coordinator, circulated the current meeting schedule and requested corrections and/or volunteers to fill openings. Chris D., E. Pasco Prison Coordinator, indicated that they are back to full "staff" after some of the volunteers being off for a 5-week stretch. Jim S., Bridge the Gap, indicated that there were three (3) Bridging the Gaps requested; two accommodated. Additional women volunteers are needed to help ensure these requests can be accommodated going forward. Ruth N., East Pasco County Women's Prisons Coordinator, indicated that a new volunteer is going to be helping with the scheduling piece of her role going forward. Julie L., Falkenburg Women's, provided a reminder that staples are not allowed in literature being taken into the Falkenburg facility. Eric, coordinator of the Veterans Facility on 131st, has requested that a Sunday meeting be brought into the facility. Martin G. expressed an interest in chairing this meeting and will follow up. Jim S., Bridge the Gap, indicated that he is resigning as coordinator and looking for a volunteer to back-fill his position. Ruth N., East Pasco County Women's Prisons Coordinator, revisited her previous request and approval for six (6) Grapevine subscriptions. Jim S. made a motion that the money be provided today so that the subscriptions could be purchased; group approved. Sarah R. suggested that other literature be considered/used in facilities (Inmate to Inmate, It Happen to Joe, It Happen to Alice, etc...) Some of this may already be available; where not, group to consider for future purchase. Steps to Freedom will be held on June 17th at Christ the King Church. The committee is requesting that the TBAIC display be provided as in years past and that someone attend their next planning meeting to provide a TBAIC overview. The Steps to Freedom Committee meets the first Sunday of every month at 6pm at club 3333. Below are the dates for upcoming meetings: June 4 - 6PM, July 2 - 6PM, August 6 - 6PM, September 3 - 6PM, October 1 - 6PM

Martin G. indicated that there are two (2) new facilities requesting assistance. Additional details to follow on this... Cas K. inquired about literature in Spanish. Group indicated that the cabinet contains basic literature in Spanish. Allan D. suggested that thank you cards be reinstated for groups that donate. Group taking into consideration. Ben J. recently started volunteering for Sober Living America and indicated they need Big Book donations. Anyone wishing to donate a Big Book can contact Ben directly at (724) 581-1276. As a reminder, scheduled times to obtain meeting materials are noted below. Please use the sign-out sheet when obtaining materials. Last Thursday of the month, 5:50 - 6:50PM, 2nd Saturday of the month, 9:30 - 10:30AM (monthly TBAIC meeting) Ruth N. made a motion to close the meeting; group approved.

Next Meeting: June 10, 2017

Our Next Committee Meeting

June 10th, 2017 9:30 AM on 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:

As Bill Sees It Group Brandon - \$63.00, BYOB 12 & 12 Group - \$10.00, Good Day AA & Staying Alive - \$226.00, High Nooner's Group - \$301.63, Keystone Group - \$32.00, Living in the Solution Group - \$50.30, Monday Night Mens Group - New Tampa - \$130.00, Morning Meditation Group - \$86.50, New Beginnings Group - \$154.95, New Beginnings Women's Group - \$30.00, Nooner's Group - 26.00, Ruskin Fellowship Group - \$41.00, Sunshine Group - \$25.00, Turning Point Zephyrhills - \$37.92, Wellspring Recovery Group - \$40.00, Women's Friendship Group - 88.38

YTD Contributions to TBAIC	\$9761.03
Pink Can Balance 12/31/16	\$1705.00
Money Spent on Literature	\$9291.15
YTD Expenses	\$ 766.16
Pink Can Balance 4/08/17	\$1408.72
Pink Can Balance 4/09/16	\$ 913.96

TBAIC 2017-2018 Committee Members

Susan O. - Chair	813-325-6538
Martin G. — Alternate Chair	813-516-0557
Linn D. — Treasurer	813-777-3007
Scott S. – Secretary	813-765-7376
Open- Hills Jails -	
Buddy H. – Hillsborough County Jail	813-871-2514
Cydney P. Hills Women's Jails	813-475-1136
Scott R. Detox & Treatment	813-727-8839
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	

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fortunate I was too have had such a great sponsor for my first months in the Fellowship. The chairman explained that she had been approached by a person with much less sobriety than she, who had asked her opinion of the suggestion on page 63 to take the Third Step with another person, such as a wife, best friend, or spiritual advisor. She had told the newer person that he was confused, it was the Fifth Step that we take with another person. She was dumbfounded when he showed her the sentence, in reference to Step Three, that said; "We found it very desirable to take this spiritual step with an understanding person..." She had talked with others, and had gotten almost the same reaction. Shouldn't we be telling more people about that apparently very much overlooked part of the Big Book?

D.G., Radcliffe, Ky.

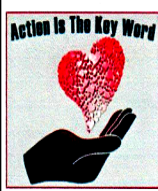
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Passing the Basket...or Passing the Buck?

When I was newly sober in AA, fourteen years ago, I seldom attended a meeting without taking a pamphlet to read. I always had at least two cups of coffee, and if there was anything to eat, I ate. When the basket was passed, I always put a quarter in it—for two people, my wife and me. I f we could truly stretch a dollar as far as I must have thought we could, the financial world would be beating a path to our doorsteps to learn AA's remarkable brand of economics. Most of us decry the fact that more than forty percent of the groups do not support the Fellowship. When it comes to AA's being self-supporting, many fail to recognize one important aspect: If we aren't willing to pay our own way at a meeting, how can we expect the group to support the Fellowship? What we need to realize is that we *are* the groups, and we *are* Alcoholics Anonymous. I have seen AAs spend more money at a coffee shop than they would ever think of putting in the collection at a meeting. Early in my sobriety, it was explained that it was imperative for me to get my priorities in order. Learning to become responsible was one of them. This financial buck-passing certainly seems to run counter to responsibility. If we want "the hand of AA always to be there," we each need to assume our own share of responsibility. If money and spirituality do mix in the basket, as the "Twelve and Twelve" says, then how much better they will blend when money is used to perpetuate AA by making more Twelfth Step work possible. We, who have had so much given to us freely—in love, with no strings attached—sometimes forget that this also is an area where we have to give it away to keep it. One of the promises in the Big Book is freedom from "fear of economic insecurity." Long ago, one of my sponsors suggested that if I stayed sober and tried to live along spiritual lines, my needs would always be met. Today, I can honestly say that never has there been an instance where I have given of myself, financially or otherwise, and have not been compensated many times over. Our family has never lacked anything because we accepted our responsibility to help carry the message. God has given each of us a share of the responsibility. He has given each of us tools to work with and the ability to use them. Let's all of us assume our shares so that we may all reap ever-increasingly the fruits of selflessness and love in service to our Fellowship.

C.C., West Palm Beach, Fla.

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SPEAKERS
Janine G, Tpa, FI

Candice M, Los Angeles, CA

Butch M, Barrie, ON

Juanita U, (AFG)

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sheldon F, Las Vega, NV

June G, Los Angeles, Ca

Tom U, Santa Fe New Mexico

Tim H, Louisville, KY

Teri K, Woodville, OH

Monday meeting only...

OPEN TO THE
AA COMMUNITY
NO REG FEE REQUIRED

**31st ANNUAL
TAMPA BAY FALL ROUNDUP**
Action Is The Key Word
Friday, Sept 1, 2017 to Monday, Sept 4, 2017
FRIDAY 1PM REGISTRATION OPENS / 3PM SPEAKER
Register online at:
www.tampabayfallroundup.com



AA, AFG, Al-Ateen Meetings
AA Movies All Weekend

Friday

TALENT SHOW 10pm

SIGN UP ONLINE OR BY

7PM AT REGISTRATION TABLE

Saturday

6:45am- Meditation-Carmen L.

8:30 Late Riser Meditation

7am SK Walk/Run*

6:30pm Speaker Banquet *

10pm Dance

Sunday

6:45am Meditation - Carmen L.

8:30 Late Riser Meditation

4:30pm - Karaoke Poolside

5:00pm Poolside Dinner Buffet *

10 pm Play "Win It In A Minute"

SHERATON TAMPA EAST HOTEL
10221 Princess Palm Ave. Tampa, FL 33610
Traditional King/Double \$105 (1-2 guests) \$115 (3-4 guests)
Junior Suite 3rd/4th Floor (limited number avail)
\$125 (1-2 guests) \$135 (3-4 guests)
Complimentary Breakfast Buffet included with all room rates
Complimentary Guestroom Internet Access
Enjoy the heated pool & the Core Performance fitness room
Call 1-800-325-3535 and identify yourself with The Tampa Bay Fall Roundup
Online: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/TBFR2017>
SPECIAL ROOM RATE CUTOFF 8/26/2016



61st Florida State Convention
Jacksonville, FL
July 27 - July 30, 2017
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
Register and Pay Securely By Visa/MC at:
www.floridastateconvention.com

Speakers

- Beth H., Cary NC; Chuck H., Cary NC
- Cindy S., Helotes TX; John S., Helotes TX
- Cushing P., Montgomery AL
- Heather G., Powell TN; Pat Y., Palm Desert CA
- Teresa F., Van Nuys CA; Billy N., Atlanta GA

Workshops

- Rule 62
- The (Higher) Power of Prayer
- We Agnostics & Free-Thinkers
- Our Primary Purpose
- Corrections - We Are Responsible

Book your accommodations at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville @ the Convention Rooms Link:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FSC2017>
Rates: Single to Quad \$119; Premier Suite \$169; Queen / King Waterfront Upgrade \$30/\$40
Parking Rates: \$10/day Self Parking, \$15/day Valet Parking
Hotel Cutoff Date 7/5/2017 - 904-588-1234

**11th Step Retreat
For AA / Al-Anon**

September 22-24, 2017
Day Spring Conference Center
Ellenton, Florida
Online Registration: <http://11thstepretreat.org>

NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE

**May 9th 2017 the Central Office Representatives met:
COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

**May 9th 2017 the Board of Directors for Central Office
BOARD MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

LARRY B.	CHAIRPERSON	AA 101 GROUP
OPEN	VICE-CHAIR	
SUE Z.	TREASURER	OPEN AIR GROUP
PETER F.	BOARD MEMBER	MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP
Excused	BOARD MEMBER	LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP
BILL J.	BOARD MEMBER	EARLY RISERS GROUP
CINDY L.	BOARD MEMBER	SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMAN'S GROUP
JANET S.	BOARD MEMBER	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
Excused	BOARD MEMBER	MAPLEDALE GROUP
OPEN		

BRIAN L.	BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP
LARRY G.	LIVING IN THE SOLUTION GROUP
ERICA J.	SIMPLY SOBRIETYWOMEN'S GROUP
CINDY L.	SIMPLY SOBRIETYWOMEN'S GROUP
HAROLD G.	WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP
DAVID S.	MIDDAY MATINEE GROUP
CHRIS H.	PLANT CITY KEEP IT SIMPLE GROUP
CHRIS W.	NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
PEG S.	SUN CITY CENTER GROUP
RON H.	LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP
RENEE R.	THE PROMISES GROUP
JERRY K.	SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER GTROUP
JEFF M.	CARDINAL GROUP
CATHY K.	HIDE-A-WAY GROUP
ISAAC M.	TAMPA YPG
DIANE S.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
CARL L.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
KARA H.	SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
AMANDA L.	MUSTARD SEED GROUP
JARROD H.	WELLSPRING GROUP
CIERA L.	SAFE HAVEN GROUP
DEBBIE S.	TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIOUS CONTACT
JOHN F.	SOBRENITY GROUP
VIVIAN J.	NEW BEGINNINGS WOMEN'S GROUP
MARY N.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP
JACK S.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
JACK J.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP

Groups represented at the Board Meeting were: AA 101 Group, Early Risers Group, Monday Night Men's Group, Simply Sobriety Woman's Group, Sober @ 7 Group, Live & Let Live Group, & Clean Air Group **Excused:** Mapledale Group

Larry B. opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and then asked everyone to please turn down their cell phones. **Office Managers Report:** Cindy presented the Office Managers report for April. There were no questions. Report was seconded and approved. **Secretary Report:** Bill presented the April minutes. There were no questions. A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. **Treasurer Report:** Sue presented the April Treasurers Report. We were \$731.84 in the black for the month, and we were \$1,691.73 to the good for this year. Peter asked if Soberstock send in any contribution from their event? They donated some T-Shirts from the event. Peter noted that a check would be on the way. A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. **Old Business:** Discussion centered around the upcoming Founders Day event scheduled for June 10, 2017 at Christ the King Church. Larry went over the different committees to see if anyone had questions or problems with what needed to be done. Tim noted that we still needed to complete the check signing process at the bank. Two tentative dates were set to get everything completed. Sue had to leave for a 12th Step call. **New Business:** Bill brought up the question of moving forward and finding new venues for next year for our two events. He suggested an idea of making up a list of questions to use as a format in selecting venues that could possibility be used in the future. Questions like location, cost, capacity, amenities such as kitchen use, restrooms—etc. Diane noted that some communities have club houses and may be willing to rent them out. A lot of chit-chat followed. It was noted that the Promises Group had a great place to hold an event. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Larry B. opened the Council meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and then asked everyone to please turn down their cell phones. **Office Managers Report:** Larry read the Office Managers report for April. There were no questions. Report was seconded and approved. **Secretary Report:** The April Council minutes were read by Debbie. There were no questions. A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. **Treasurer Report:** Sue presented the April Treasurers Report. We were \$731.84 in the black for the month, and we were \$1,691.73 to the good for this year. A motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. New Council Members were: Chris H.-Plant City Keep it Simple, Jerrod H.-Wellspring, Matthew T.-New Tampa Monday

Night Men's, Jerry K., Saturday Night Fever, Nancy R.-Barracks Brigade, and Rusty T.-It's in the Book. **Old Business:** Discussion centered around the upcoming Founders Day event scheduled for June 10, 2017 at Christ the King Church. Larry went over the different committees, updating names and telephone numbers and to see if anyone had questions or problems with what needed to be done. Mary asked if ice was provided, Rusty noted that this was his first time here and had been told to come check it out, Mary asked how much water would be needed, Diane asked who would provide the raffle tickets. **New Business:** Bill brought up the question of moving forward and finding new venues for next year for our two events at the Board meeting and this was carried over to the Council meeting. He had suggested an idea of making up a list of questions to use as a format in selecting venues that could possibility be used in the future. Questions like location, cost, capacity, amenities such as kitchen use, restrooms—etc. A lot of chit-chat followed. It was noted that the Promises Group had a great place to hold an event. **Announcements:** Amanda announced that the Grapevine Committee needed support and the Special Needs Committee would be meeting at the 301 House. Sue announced a Cook-Out at 301 House and an announcement for the Promises Group 7th Anniversary was made. Brian announced the Literature Committee meeting, other announcements.

ANNIVERSARY TIME

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

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BILL M.	06/29/99	18 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JUDY K.	06/24/93	24 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JOHN vL.	06/07/89	28 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	WRAY W.	06/10/84	33 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	DICK W.	06/10/58	59 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	COLLEN	06/22/15	2 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	WENDY B.	06/08/15	2 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	BOB P.	06/23/85	32 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	SANDY G.	06/15/93	24 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	LINDA C.	06/01/08	9 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	LINDA B.	06/09/88	29 YRS
SOUTHSIDE MEN'S BLACKBELT	ERIC H.	06/28/05	12 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	DIANE M.	06/21/11	6 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	JERI T.	06/07/10	7 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP WOMEN'S	KATHIE N.	06/11/79	38 YRS
MUSTARD SEED GROUP	GENE L.	06/10/78	39 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	TOM N.	06/28/03	14 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	MARCY	06/13/99	18 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	JAMIE C.	06/16/12	5 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	JAY McC.	06/01/86	31 YRS
SUN CITY CENTER GROUP	RITA C.	06/28/04	13 YRS
5:45 HAPPY HOUR GROUP	CHUCK R.	06/21/80	37 YRS
STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY	MINDY W.	06/08/93	24 YRS

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

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP	BRIAN L.	05/30/93	24 YRS
NEW BEGINNINGS WOMEN'S GP	VIVIAN J.	05/16/89	28 YRS

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 in our area.

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

SELF-SUPPORT-May 2017

☺ Today in May of 2017 we have 225 Groups with 559 meetings a week. Contributions in May totaled \$ 3,493.82. That accounts for what 38 Groups or individuals out of 225 Groups in our area have contributed in May. This also takes into account the \$52.00 from 2 members who contributed to the Birthday Club and \$70.00 from the Friday Friendship Women's Group who celebrated the Anniversary of their group. Our total income for May was \$12,354.31. Our Cost of Goods Sold was \$6,511.95. Subtracting the Cost of Goods Sold from our May income left us with a Gross Profit of \$5,842.95. Our Total Expenses for May were \$8,177.54. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus—2,334.59 for the month of May. This leaves us a total of \$506.36 in the red for the year thus far. No matter how good it may appear that we are doing from one month to another, it takes your consistent contributions to keep us operating on a steady level. 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 continue 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 !!!

SUPPORT YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE

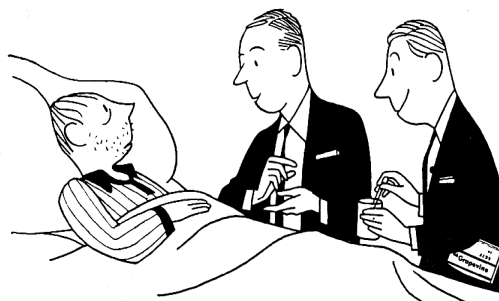
WE STILL NEED 12 STEPPERS!!!

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

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.

The Birthday Club: Contributions to the Central Office help support the local services to members and groups throughout Hillsborough and East Pasco Counties and help ensure that the A.A. message is carried around our area. Members customarily contribute \$1, \$2 or even \$5 a year for each year of sobriety—others may give a penny or a nickel a day for each day of their sobriety. Ask your Treasurer if they have any Birthday envelopes available. We usually send one out when a group sends in their contribution to Central Office or call or email your Central Office. **933-9123...aainfo@aatampa-area.org**

AA's who carry the message often carry the Grapevine



MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

**Central Office
 Founder's Day Event
 Saturday--June 10th, 2017**



**Christ the King Church
 821 South Dale Mabry
 Tampa, FL 33609**



**From 1:00 pm-4:00pm
 Doors open at Noon**

Pot-Luck Mid-Afternoon Luncheon

Please, everyone bring something to share or we may not be able to feed everyone. Soda, Coffee & Water will be provided.

This is a Free Admission Event

50/50 Raffle & More

This is a Fun Event hosted by Central Office and all the Board Members & Central Office Representatives for your enjoyment!!!

The Dinner will be followed by a panel of our local Old-Timers answering questions (Ask it Basket Style) and sharing their experience, strength & hope



Panel Speakers:

Gene L. 6/10/78 (Mustard Seed Group)	Sonja P. 1/07/87 (Step Sisters in Sobriety Group)
Riche R. 10/01/74 (Sober @ 7 Group)	Kathie N. 6/11/79 (Sobrenity Group)
Dick W. 6/10/58 (Sober @ 7 Group)	Pattie L. 2/08/77 (Midday Matinee Group)

Christ the King Catholic Church has a **NO-SMOKING Policy**
 However they are granting us a designated smoking area.
 Smoking will be allowed in that area only.
 No Exceptions...please respect their wishes. ☺

Steps to Freedom

12 Steps Speaker Workshop

Saturday, June 17, 2017 | 9am-4:30 PM

\$15.00 in advance
 \$20.00 at the door

Speakers

Steps 1,2&3 | Roger Hightower, Seminole, FL

Steps 4&5 | Doug F., Brandon, FL

Steps 6&7 | TBD

Steps 8&9 | Kelly, Treasure Island, FL

Steps 10&11 | Steve, Springhill, FL

Step 12 | TBD

Location

Christ the King Church | McLoughlin Center
 821 S. Dale Mabry, Tampa, FL 33609



**Refreshments:
 Coffee &
 Pastries
 Lunch**

**Come Join Us for the Promises
 7th Anniversary Celebration**

"I stood in the sunlight at last"

Bill Wilson DD. Page 12

Guest Speakers

Patty L. 40yrs and Tommy D. 50yrs

Sunday June 25, 2017



Dinner Starts at 6pm-Speakers at 7:30 pm

Holy Innocents Church, 604 N. Valrico Rd. Valrico, FL. 33694

Contact: Ness 813-507-6408 or Chris 813-494-2932

50/50 Raffle, Food and Fellowship

Please bring a covered dish to share



Archway to Freedom

**SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15
 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
 "ARCHWAY to FREEDOM"**

Hosted by District 4 * Sarasota County, Florida * July 21st-23rd, 2017

Registration Friday 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM; Saturday 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM; Sunday 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

**Saturday Banquet
 Banquet Menu**

No. of Chicken Dish _____
 No. of Lasagna _____
 No. of Vegetarian Option _____
 Total Tickets at \$43 each _____
 Total Amount Enclosed _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ ST _____
 Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____
 District _____ Day you will arrive: Fri or Sat
 Guests with special needs (state needs)

PAYMENTS DUE BY: July 15th, 2017

Checks payable to: District 4 G.S.
 Mail to: Central Office of Sara-Mana
 1748 Independence Blvd.,
 Suite B-2 Sarasota, 34234

QUESTIONS? Contact: Mick G. (Banquet Chair)
 at 941-587-0881
 or District4 banquet chair at: esall@assro.org

Hyatt Regency Sarasota

1000 Boulevard of the Arts
 Sarasota, Florida, USA, 34236
 Phone: 941-953-1234

Reservations: 1-888-421-1442

Reference "South FL Area General Service"

Room Rate: \$119.00 S/D \$129 T \$139 Q

Must be received by July 18th, 2017

FOR HOTEL ROOM WAIT LIST OR TO CANCEL A ROOM PLEASE CONTACT: hotelinfo@area15aa.org

Directions:

I-75 to Exit 210, turn West on Fruitville Road towards Sarasota for approx.. 7 miles, turn right on Tamiami Trail, turn left first at traffic light onto Boulevard of the Arts

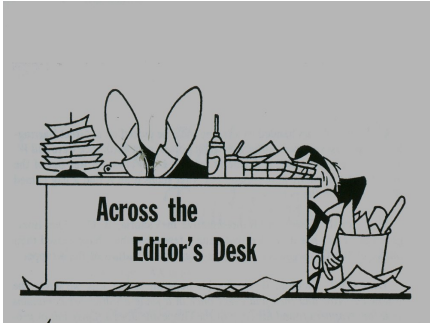
QUESTIONS? Contact Quarterly Chair
 Text please or call Cori F 727-400-8991 or

District 4 Quarterly Chair at: district4quarterly@gmail.com

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IN THIS ISSUE....News from Groups and District...stories, thoughts and humor....

PLEASE SHARE ME WITH A FRIEND

