



# Tri-County Central Office News

WE RECOVER BY THE STEPS WE TAKE,  
NOT THE MEETINGS WE MAKE....but it sure helps ☺🙌

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.  
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**January, 2020**

## Do you know your Group’s Birthday?

Are you one of those members who’ve wanted to celebrate your Home Group’s birthday, but couldn’t figure out when it was? If so, take heart—you may now be able to plan the party and candle the cake. This, because well over 60,000 U.S./Canada group information sheets maintained and constantly updated by G.S.O. also now include the date which each group registered with the General Service Office. For the vast majority of groups, says former G.S.O. archivist Frank M., the birth-date listed is fairly accurate. For some, however, the date that appears on the form may be off the mark for two possible reasons: **1)** The group went unreported to G.S.O. for a long time, perhaps years; and **2)** In the case of more than 13,000 groups, the birth-date will appear as the initial computer conversion data entered in 1976 when G.S.O. switched from manual to electronic record-keeping and so be considerably off. For local archivists, Frank notes, “knowing approximately when a group was founded can be helpful in compiling it’s AA history. In the process, old-timers often turn up to share their experience and confirm an even earlier anniversary date which in turn, can be incorporated into the G.S.O. records. These individual group dates, when arranged in chronological order, provide an interesting pattern of AA growth within each area. Noting that groups unlisted to date with G.S.O. now have extra incentive to do so. Frank foresaw that with time, “a small synopsis of each group’s history could be gathered from area archivists, included in the regular group file and made available on a scheduled basis to the incoming general service representative (GSR). Ideally, the group’s history would be passed on to each succeeding set of officers, which would be encouraged to add to the information bank. Some other benefits would be: **A)** In the long run, this gathering and preservation of group histories could lead to a fuller understanding of each group’s place in the overall fabric of the Fellowship, fostering unity and commitment to AA’s primary purpose. **B)** New emphasis on our past could involve many more group members in the information-gathering process and give them a greater sense of belonging to the Fellowship. **C)** Group members could come to realize that the experience of past AA’s is available to us as a guide in arriving at creative solutions to present problems—such as “addicts” taking over AA meetings, the loss of older members, the introduction of “outside vocabulary” and more. **D)** There is bound to be an increased yield of memorabilia suitable for exhibits at both AA and community meetings and events. Contact your local District 2 Archives Committee. What do they have about your group, if any, do you have anything you could contribute, or will you let your group die out in obscurity? The Archives are a collection of historical documents or records providing information about a place, institution, or group of people.

## Do you know your Group’s Birthday?

## HOPE AFTER STEP ONE

The Big Book tells us that alcoholics drink because they are “restless, irritable and discontented.” (xxvi) Well, that wasn’t me! I even drank when everything was hunky dory. I recall a time, back in the 1950s, arriving home from a joyous visit with my lovely girlfriend at a nearby college and not having drunk a drop. I was as exuberantly happy that a young man might be! However, I became “boiled as an owl” that night before the bars closed. Happy or otherwise, there was a mental obsession that decided when or if I would drink—the Big Book tells us: “Alcoholics have lost choice in the matter of drink.” (p. 24). So long as that demon (I refer to is as a drunken monkey) remains active in my noggin, I am sure to drink again. This episode took place during the 1950s when I still had sufficient willpower to choose to go home directly after ‘motel-time’ was announced at the bar. However, that was not to be the case as years passed. The Big Book tells us that real alcoholics have a *progressive* physical condition (allergy) which destroys their ability to control how much they drink after they once start. During the 1960s, I became an avid attendee of Los Angeles theater where they offer cocktails during intermission. Yet, I had learned, through torturous experience, that if I drank just one of those tempting devils, I was doomed to think of little else till I got to the nearest bar. My expensive evening at the theater would be ruined! Positive proof that the good doctor Silkworth rightly described the physical allergy. (p. xxviii) So, I was powerless over alcohol both before and after my first drink, and though I have been sober for a fairly long time, if I imbibe just one shot of whisky this evening, I may not be able to stop drinking for several days. My physical allergy landed my in several drunk tanks, through twenty-eight years of inebriated living and lost more jobs for not showing up than I can remember. However, that doesn’t amount to a hill of beans so long as I don’t take that first drink—and this won’t be necessary so long as I remain in a “fit spiritual condition.” (p. 85) I trust God will keep me safe from that drunken monkey so long as I live in accordance with the Twelve Steps.

Bob S, Richmond, Indiana

### A HELPFUL SUGGESTION ONE DAY AT A TIME)

Sobriety definitely can become a habit. Start your morning by asking God (God as you understand Him) to give you a lift for the day; ask for help in your problems, and guidance in Sobriety. At night before going to sleep, thank your Higher Power for the help given you for that day and pray that you may be sober another 24 hours. You’ll notice that the folks who are most active have the easiest time keeping sober. Acquire the habit of being faithful to friendships and responsibilities and remember the greatest pleasure in life is to do a good turn in secret and have it discovered by accident.

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

**CONTACT---(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.) Please use the sign-out sheet when obtaining materials.**

Allen D. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer at 9:30 am, on Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Scott S. presented the Treasurers report for the period ending Nov. 2019. Motion was made to approve, group approved James S presented the minutes for the meeting held on Nov. 2019. Motion was made to accept, group approved. Tom F. reported there were 3 calls to the Man On the Bed Program, all male patients, Gene L. from the Mustard Seed will be following up with one of the men. Sara R. reported all is going well at the woman's Hillsborough County Jails. Ruth N. reported all the meetings at the Pasco Woman's Jail are being covered. All volunteers will now be required show a state issued ID Tom F. reported 0 calls to the Bridging the Gap. Tom will be stepping down from BTG coordinator. He reported the position can be handled by 1 male or female, since they will be working from a master list of volunteers.

**New Business**

Meeting attendance: 6  
 Reminder that volunteers that wish to attend the DAACO facility meeting need to have at least a year away from their program.  
 Tracy S. will look into seeing if the Old School group would like to volunteer for the BTG position. Federal Juvenile facility will start using speaker tapes.  
 Chris A., the Amethyst meeting coordinator reported all is going well, there is an opening for a volunteer for the Tuesday 1 pm meeting

**The Corrections Committee** needs all types of volunteers. They 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. 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!

<b>YTD Contributions to TBAIC</b>	<b>\$ \$ 24,685.20</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance 12/31/17</b>	<b>\$ 7,546.15</b>
<b>YTD Money Spent on Literature</b>	<b>\$ 21,228.15</b>
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,611.66</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance 8/11/18</b>	<b>\$ 9,391.54</b>

**The Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee meets the second Saturday of each month at the Central Office at 9:30 am. If you are on the TBAI Committee and you need supplies for your meeting, this would be an excellent time for you to come down and pick up your material. If you are an AA member interested in learning more about TBAIC, then this would also be an excellent time to come down and see what's going on and ask questions of some of the very friendly TBAIC Officers.**

**Our Next Committee Meeting**

**January 11th, 2020 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:**

TBAIC Contributions (November 10th - December 14th):  
 AA 101 - \$167.00, As Bill Sees it Group Brandon - \$73.00, As Bill Sees it Monday Mens Group (Odessa) - \$127.00, Barricks Brigade - \$19.00, Cardinal Group - \$30.00, Friday Morning Friendship Group - \$211.00, High Nooners Group (Plant City) - \$158.00, Keep It Simple Pass It On - \$102.50, Keystone Discussion Group - \$133.86, Meeting Place (Land O Lakes) - \$528.82, Monday Night Mens St. James New Tampa - \$179.00, Morning Meditation - \$108.05, New Beginnings Group-Our Club - \$61.77, Nightly Newcomers 3333 - \$72.63, Noon Big Book 3333 - \$3.00, Nooner's Group - \$39.53, Odessa Group - \$9.00, On The Way Home Group - \$62.00, Wellspring Recovery Group - \$61.05.

**TBAIC 2019-2020 Committee Members**  
 Contact: (877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672  
[www.tbaic.org](http://www.tbaic.org)

Position	Name
Chair	Allan D.
Chair (Alt.)	Ruth N.
Treasurer	Scott S.
Treasurer (Alt.)	Open
Secretary	Jim S.
Secretary (Alt.)	Nancy B.
Hills Jails	Open
Hillsborough County Jail	Buddy H.
Hills Women's Jails	Sara R.
Detox & Treatment	Ed D.
E. Pasco Jail-Women's	Ruth N.
E. Pasco Prison	Chris D.
Women's Bridge the Gap	Amanda L.
Men's Bridge the Gap	Tom F.
Pre-release	Open
Juvenile	Open

**THE MEETING AFTER THE MEETING**

(An important 12-Step opportunity!)  
Bill W. wrote in an AA pamphlet: *“Sobriety—freedom from alcohol through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps—is the sole purpose of an AA group.”* I believe this means my home group has further purposes than simply presenting its regular weekly meetings. One of these must be the “Meeting after the meeting.” What better time might be to discuss the Twelve Steps with a newcomer, or even with a more seasoned member? Many years ago, a certain new person mentioned that he was unable to go ahead with the steps because of his negative spiritual beliefs. After the meeting, we had a rather long talk which resulted in him taking a more fruitful view of a higher power—soon thereafter, we went through the AA step process; he later he finished a college degree to become an enthusiastic and well-liked alcoholic counselor, directing countless alcoholics toward the blessings of Alcoholics Anonymous. This took place nearly forty years ago, but what if *“Motel time”* (AA slang for we’re closing: **right now!**) would have been announced before that crucial conversation? Local AA history: Oldtimers have reported that during the early years of AA, donuts were a “must” at a certain meeting. However, these tempting goodies were not served till **after** the meeting. This was to intercept the newcomer from directly marching out the door after the Lord’s Prayer, as newbies are wont to do. One member of that group would hang around the clubhouse till the bars closed and then go to a nearby hamburger joint where all the late-night drunks would hang out and talk AA to drunks. Meeting after the meeting, indeed! Many of the 90-minute meetings in the Los Angeles area had short mid-meeting breaks in order to greet the newcomer; perhaps to invite them out for coffee. Also, after the meeting is a good time to introduce newcomers to AA literature—they could then be introduced to the most appropriate booklet. Of course, this could erupt into a changing of phone numbers and invites to other AA meetings, or even lead to sponsorship! I say, let us leave *“Motel time”* to the bars!  
Bob S., Richmond, IN

Perhaps this story is worth sharing with others:

In December 1973 I was living in a halfway house for alcoholics and I was complaining that we should have a Christmas tree. So two Al-Anon ladies brought us a little 3-foot artificial tree that we could set on the mantle and all the men stilled to enjoy it. After the holidays someone took it down and put it in a shed out back of the house. I left the halfway house in July to try and make it on my own and when Christmas was coming up I wondered if the little tree was still in the shed. When I went by the halfway house the tree was still there and I asked the men if they wanted it. They said no so I took it home with me and now my Christmas tree and I have been sober in AA for 35 years—One Day At A Time. My little Christmas tree has traveled over 100,000 miles in our motor home. We put it up on the dash board every Christmas we were on the road. Today my little Christmas tree sits on a table still shimmering brightly. It’s the only Christmas tree I ever had sober. D.F.—South Tampa, Florida

**THE GREAT REALITY DEEP WITHIN**

I believe I am—as are we all—endowed with a powerful Truth that can potentially envelop our false ego that tells us to drink. The Big Book tags it as: *“The Great Reality deep within.”* (p. 55) Some think of this spirit as “Soul” or “God Self.” This True Self has the benevolent potentiality to encompass and overcome our false *ego-driven* self. This Great Reality could be thought of as an OVERSELF, if you will. However, this remarkable blessing is manifested only so long as alcoholics remain in a fit spiritual condition. (p. 85)

It has become AA cliché: *“An alcoholic cannot drink on the truth—only on a lie.”* My false self usually believes what it wants to believe regardless of anything that stands in the way of that first drink—it has the unique capacity to believe a lie, *even* when it knows it’s a lie. The Big Book calls this: *“alcoholic insanity.”* (p. 9) For me, this resulted in twenty-four unsuccessful years of ‘quitting drinking forever.’

However, after a year or so of living in the *spirit* of the Twelve Steps, this Great Reality (Overself) magically enveloped (ate) my false ego self. Now drinking alcohol no longer remains in my emotional vocabulary! Seemingly gone! As the Tenth Step promise, promises: The problem (mental obsession) has been removed! (p. 85) (Removed yes, but still lurking!) Possible explanation: Just as darkness cannot penetrate the light, a lie (mental obsession) cannot penetrate the Truth. In a word: *“The True Self gobbles up the false self and sets us free.”*

Bob S., Richmond, IN

**New Service Opportunity**

**For Women**

**Daytime AA meetings at the  
Pasco County Detention Center**

**20101 Central Blvd.**

**Land O’ Lakes, Florida 34637**

**Please contact**

**Carol B. at 813-924-5862, NW. Tampa**

**Tamela H. at 813-380-9491, S. Tampa**

**Meeting times can be from 8am to 9:30am or 2pm to 3:30pm\***

**\*to be determined**

**We are also looking for “Featured Speakers” for these meetings.**

**AA News**

THE AA WORLD SERVICE

**Meeting Guide App**

*A free mobile app for iOS and Android. Designed to be simple, fast, and help you find AA meetings wherever you are*

**Download from [aa.org](http://aa.org) or  
[www.aatampa-area.org](http://www.aatampa-area.org)**

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

December 10th, 2019 the Board of Directors for Central Office		
BOARD MEMBERS		REPRESENTING GROUP
AL B.	CHAIRPERSON	THURSDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK
MICHELLE S.	BOARD MEMBER	SAFE,SANE & SOBER GROUP
ROD Q.	VICE-CHAIR	SOBER ON SATURDAY GROUP
Unexcused	BOARD MEMBER	SOBRENITY GROUP
Unexcused	BOARD MEMBER	THURSDAY BIG BOOK GROUP
Excused	BOARD MEMBER	LIVINGSOBER/PASS IT ON GROUP
SCOTT G.	BOARD MEMBER	WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP
RITA Y.	BOARD MEMBER	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER	
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER	

Al then opened the meeting in the usual matter with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. He asked everyone if they had signed in and to turn down their cell phones. Board Members present: Al B. Chairperson, Rod Q. Vice-Chair, John T., Scott G. Rita Y. & Michelle S. **Secretary Report:** Michelle read the November minutes. There were no questions, a motion to accept was made, seconded and approved. **Treasurers Report:** Contributions in November totaled \$5,721.48. This accounts for what 41 Groups or individuals in our area have contributed in November. Included we also received \$67.00 from three AA members for the Birthday Club and \$453.28 from the Red Chip Day event. Our total income for November was \$13,920.95. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$5,882.76. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our November income left us with a Gross Profit of \$8,038.19. Our Total Expenses for November were \$ 8,214.26. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus-\$176.07 for the month of November. We are now, at the end of November minus- \$ 1,062.58 in the red for the year. **Old Business:** Tim's insurance was approved. New computers will be purchased with the new budget. Al discussed the physical inventory to be held January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please note that Rita Y. did attend the November Board Meeting. **New Business:** Tim's evaluation—all categories were voted satisfactory. Christmas/Holiday bonuses were discussed for office staff—approved. All Groups meetings were discussed—will put on hold until early 2020 .

**Groups listed on the Sign-In Sheet at the Council Meeting were:** Clean Air Group, Came to Believe Group, Next Door Group, Sobrenity Group, Sober @ 7 Group, Town & Country Wednesday Night Group, Village 12 Step Group, Nightly Newcomers Group, Tampa Bay Young People's Group, District 2 Liaison, Valrico/Brandon Wednesday Night Group, Town & Country Sisters in Sobriety Group, Keep it Simple Men's Group, Sisters in Sobriety Group, It's in the Book Group, Step Sisters in Sobriety Group, Monday Night Madness Group, To Improve Our Conscious Contact Group, & Promises Group. Board Members present: Al B. Chairperson, Rod Q. Vice-Chair, John T., Scott G. Rita Y. & Michelle S. Al opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer followed by asking everyone to turn down their cell phones. New Council Member Robert B. from the Monday Night Madness Group. **Secretary Report:** Kara H. read the November Secretary Report. There were no questions. Motion to approve was seconded and approved.

December 10th, 2019 the Central Office Representatives met:	
COUNCIL MEMBERS	REPRESENTING GROUP
MICHEAL R.	NEXT DOOR GROUP
MARGANT S.	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
DEBBIE S.	TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIOUS CONTACT
BETH S.	DISTRICT 2 LIAISON
ARIEL M.	STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
BRAD W.	NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
KATIE P.	SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
BETTY E.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
DENNY M.	VALRICO/BRANDON WEDNESDAY NIGHT
KERRY C.	TOWN n COUNTRY SISTERS IN SOBRIETY
KARA H.	TOWN & COUNTRY WEDNESDAY NIGHT
BETTY E.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
JEFF P.	TAMPA YPG
DEBBY M.	SOBRENITY GROUP
SUE Z.	CLEAN AIR GROUP
CRAIG O.	THE PROMISES GROUP
MIKE J.	VILLAGE 12 STEP GROUP
JEFF H.	IT'S IN THE BOOK GROUP
MICHEAL B.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
ROBERT B.	MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS GROUP

**Treasurers Report:** Sue Z. presented the November Treasurer's report: Contributions in November totaled \$5,721.48. This accounts for what 41 Groups or individuals in our area have contributed in November. Included we also received \$67.00 from three AA members for the Birthday Club and \$453.28 from the Red Chip Day event. Our total income for November was \$13,920.95. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$5,882.76. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our November income left us with a Gross Profit of \$8,038.19. Our Total Expenses for November were \$ 8,214.26. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus-\$176.07 for the month of November. We are now, at the end of November minus- \$ 1,062.58 in the red for the year. **Old Business:** Al talked about the need for help with the January Physical Inventory. Tim's insurance was approved. New computers will be purchased with the new budget. Tim will research—get back with cost. **New Business:** Tim's evaluation—all categories were voted satisfactory. Christmas/Holiday bonuses were discussed for office staff—approved **Announcements:** Betty E. announced that Dick W. with 62 Years of Sobriety has passed away. He will be missed greatly. No new updates for Anniversary Dinner, about 100 tickets left. Tables and tickets are going fast. Get your tickets quickly. Friday Night Lights 9<sup>th</sup> Candlelight Meeting. Al—Holidays with a lot going on. Get phone number—if you want to celebrate, go to MacDonalds or something. Stay close to the program and your sponsor. New Years Eve open 24 hours at 301 House. Alpha Club—Ala-thon—meeting every 3 hours. Al wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

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

**SELF-SUPPORT-December, 2019**

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS	BRAD W.	01/02/12	8 YRS
CLEAN AIR GROUP	SUE Z.	01/16/89	31 YRS
SIMPLY SOBRIETY GROUP	ARRISSA H.	01/29/17	3 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	NANCI V.	01/08/18	2 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BETH B.	01/15/15	5 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JACK S.	01/07/14	6 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BRIAN K.	01/29/83	37 YRS
11th STEP GROUP	KATHY M.	01/17/86	34 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	AMANDA F.	01/16/14	6 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	PEGGY C.	01/01/14	6 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	SHELLY P.	01/10/13	7 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	KATHLEEN M.	01/01/13	7 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	NANCY	01/13/11	9 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	VAL M.	01/19/10	10 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	LAURA M.	01/06/04	16 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	JUNE T.	01/09/99	21 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	STEPHANIE C.	01/29/91	29 YRS
HIGH NOONERS GROUP PC	CHET K.	01/22/87	33 YRS
HIGH NOONERS GROUP PC	DENNIS O.	01/28/84	36 YRS
FRIDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK	LYNN P.	01/11/08	12 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	SARAH G.	01/03/09	11 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	CHERYL T.	01/01/92	28 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	ANDREA E.	01/05/15	5 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	BILL B.	01/02/11	9 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	DAVID G.	01/24/95	25 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	TERRY M.	01/05/83	37 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	SUSAN S.	01/28/10	10 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JEFF S.	01/08/05	15 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY	BOURKE	01/29/99	21 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY	ED S.	01/15/86	34 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY	ED P.	01/17/77	43 YRS
MORNING MEDITATION	GENE S.	01/25/88	32 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME	JO ANN S.	01/19/05	15 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME	ROBIN J.	01/06/02	18 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME	HENRY S.	01/28/90	30 YRS

© Today in December of 2019 we have 223 Groups with 536 meetings a week. Contributions in December totaled \$2,779.07. This accounts for what 33 Groups or individuals in our area have contributed in December. Included we also received \$196.00 from nine AA members for the Birthday Club. Our total income for December was \$8,507.78. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$4296.72. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our December income left us with a Gross Profit of \$4211.06. Our Total Expenses for December were \$ 9425.83. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus-\$ 5,214.77 for the month of December. We are now, at the end of December minus-\$ 6,277.35 in the red for the year. But as they say in the rooms of AA “this too shall past.” No matter *how good or bad* 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 !!!

**Celebrate the Life of Dick W**

The passing of U.S. Army Colonel Dick Whalen at age 95 saddens us. He passed quickly in his home with family and friends by his side. Dick last celebrated 61 years of sobriety 6/10/19 at Sober@7 in Ruskin. Yes, his anniversary is on the date that is celebrated as Dr. Bob's last drink and the official founding date of AA. Dick is survived by his sister, 7 of his 8 children, 14 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren as well as the many friends along his journey in life. There are many memories held by those that he touched along they way. He never hesitated to serve in AA as well as in life – home group greeter, birthday cakes, anniversary donation, served on Central Office board, sat on Old Timer’s panels, drove many to regular meetings as well as attended many, many weekend events and International Conventions. He also shared the passion for ice cream that we all know so well. His family motto is “Live long, die fast and don’t quit your day job until you have another”. His most common AA line was “I’m powerless over alcohol and my wife is unmanageable”. Dick was funny, direct, kind, generous, considerate, energized and most of all loved by many. Please take a moment to recall your memories of Dick -- he will be in our hearts forever. Services will be held at a date, to be determined, with internment at Arlington National Cemetery.

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

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS	BRAD W.	01/02/12	8 YRS
NEW WAY WOMEN’S	ELLIE C.	01/8787	33 YRS
NEW WAY WOMEN’S	ANN K.	12/12/05	14 YRS
NEW WAY WOMEN’S	SHERRI F.	01/11/96	24 YRS
	JANICE P.	12/09/90	30 YRS
	SUSAN G.	12/23/84	36 YRS



**MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA**

**Old Time A.A.**

Presents: A Day for Dr. Bob's Home

Saturday, January 18, 2020  
 Christ The King Church  
 821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy.  
 Tampa FL 33608

Doors Open at 9:00  
 Program 9:30 to 4:30

Breakfast and Lunch  
 Served



**Scheduled Speakers**

Gail L. Dr. Bob's Home  
 Akron Ohio/The Villages FL

Dave Mc. Hudson FL

Allan R. Amityville NY

**Special Guests**

Akron Ohio's Hickin Brothers  
 Tom 50 yrs. Mike 43 yrs.  
 Jack 44 yrs. Paul 41 Yrs  
 Wayne 40 yrs.

Visit our website: [www.OLDTIMEAA.COM](http://www.OLDTIMEAA.COM)

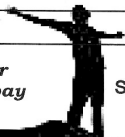
**Workshop Registration Form**

Registration is \$25.00 in advance, \$30.00 beginning December 28, 2019. Seating is limited.  
 For Online Registration, visit our website: [www.OLDTIMEAA.COM](http://www.OLDTIMEAA.COM)  
 If preferred, make check payable to: Old Time AA; mail to: 21632 State Road 54, #2, Lutz, FL 33549  
 For more information call (352) 556-7711 or email: [oldtimeaa@gmail.com](mailto:oldtimeaa@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Lend a hand for  
 those unable to pay



Sponsorship Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Proceeds benefit Dr. Bob's Home

THE '164 GROUP PRESENTS:  
**SOBERILLA**



**STEPS WORKSHOP**

JANUARY 25, 2020

9:00AM – 3:00PM

REQUESTED CONTRIBUTION: \$10.00

SPAGHETTI LUNCH INCLUDED  
 (\*PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT TRI-COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE)

ST MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH - 15520 NORTH BLVD, TAMPA, FL 33613  
 I-275 TO BEARSS AVE - WEST TO NORTH BLVD - TURN RIGHT (NORTH) TO ST MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH ON LEFT.



The 164 Group meets every  
 Tuesday Night at 7:30 pm  
 Northgate Baptist Church  
 1301 W. Linebaugh Avenue  
 Tampa, FL 33612



**16th Annual SOBERSTOCK 2020**

Soberstock 16

Unity Recovery Music

March 20-22, 2020

Soberstock is a 3-day weekend AA/Al-Anon/Alateen event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship. This festival is open to all members of AA/Al-Anon and their families.

Proceeds of this function will purchase Big Books and other AA literature for District 2 Jails & Institutions. The remaining profits go to the area pie chart.

- SPEAKER MEETINGS!**
- CAMPFIRE MEETINGS!**
- LIVE BANDS!**
- OUTDOOR MEETINGS!**
- ALL FOOD & DRINKS PROVIDED!**
- TENT CAMPING ONLY!**  
(No RV's/Popups!)

When: Friday, March 20th, 2020- Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at noon.  
 Where: "Camp Brorein" - 16901 Boy Scout Rd. Odessa, FL 33556  
 What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, LANTERNS, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS, NO cabins at this facility.  
 What we provide: Refreshments, Camp Style Meals - Fri. lunch & dinner, Sat. breakfast, lunch and dinner, & Sunday breakfast.

**ONLINE ORDERS** [www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com)

Be a part of with "Soberstock Memorabilia" - All SoberStock orders are on a "Will Call" basis, which means we do not mail any products or tickets. After orders are received, we simply have you on our list and you will pick up all of your items at the gate. Online orders are safe & secure and we take most major credit cards with the PayPal payment processing system. Please visit our website at [www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com) for the schedule of events, credit card payment, flyers, t-shirt ordering and so much more than we can fit on this flyer!



**FREE SOBERSTOCK  
 T-SHIRT WITH  
 ONLINE ORDERS!**  
 until 01/01/2020!  
 \*Per Weekend/  
 Day Pass Order

**ONLINE PRICING vs GATE PRICING:**

- 1 DayPass - \$30.00 per person/\$35 Gate
- Weekend - \$55.00 per person/\$60 Gate
- Child under 12-1 DayPass - \$5.00/\$10 Gate
- (CHILDREN ALLOWED ONLY IF ACCOMP. BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)
- Child under 12-Weekend - \$10.00/\$15 Gate
- Tent Pitching: \$15 Per tent (We don't supply tents)
- T-Shirts: \$20/ea (Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL)

NOTE: WE ONLY TAKE CASH OR CHECKS AT THE GATE  
 NO CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS AT THE GATE!



**REDUCED PRICING &  
 1 FREE T-SHIRT PER  
 WEEKEND DAY PASS ORDER**  
 until January, 1st, 2020!

All sales are final, and non-refundable. This is a Rain Or Shine event. When ordering online, we will not ship any items to you. We will have all items for you at the front gate day of the event on a Will Call basis. Please remember, pets are NOT allowed (Service pets with paperwork only) and no RV's/Popou campers either. Thank

**TRI-COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE  
 45TH ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY DINNER & SPEAKER  
 MEETING**

Celebrating 78 Years as our Area Service Center

Hosted by the Sisters in Sobriety

February 22nd, 2020

Kings Avenue Baptist Church

2602 South Kings Avenue, Brandon, Florida 33511

Speaker: Snow P. sobriety date: 03/07/1975

Purchase online before January 31, 2020 & receive 5 Free

Raffle tickets per person. [www.staysobersocials.com](http://www.staysobersocials.com)

Seating is limited. Save your seat and purchase your tickets today.

\$15.00 single person and receive 5 early bird raffle tickets or \$120.00 for a reserved table of 8 and receive 5 early bird raffle tickets per person for

Catering provided by Olive Garden. \*\*\*LIMITED SEATING\*\*

Music—Photo Booth—Cakewalk Raffle and More

Come out and support your Central Office

Remember—All Tickets are purchased On-Line

Group	DEC	Y T D	Group	DEC	Y T D	Group	DEC	Y T D
11th Step Group- Christ King		1,193.15	Keystone Group		1,781.81	Simply Sobriety Women's		210.00
11th Step Meeting--Sun City			Keystone All Groups		480.00	Singleness of Purpose		100.00
11th Step Retreat		150.00	Kingsway Group		488.00	Sisters in Sobriety Group		508.74
AA 101 Group		1,087.64	Lemon Tree Group			Sisters in Sobriety Group 50/50		
Alpha Group		720.00	Life Enrichment Group		403.00	Sober @ 6 Group		641.26
All Groups			Little Harbor Grapevine Group		347.00	Sober @ 7 Group		987.00
Anniversary Dinner 2018			Live and Let Live Group			Sober @ 7 Anniversary		705.00
Anniversary Dinner 2019		3,123.25	Living in the Solution		960.00	Sober on Saturday Group		190.00
7th Tradition Basket		105.00	LivingSober/As Bill Sees It		284.36	Sober on Sunday		747.50
TRICO Big Book Raffle 2018			Lutz @ Noon		109.00	Sober Spirits Group		
TRICO Big Book Raffle 2019		10.00	Mad Dogs Group			Soberilla		803.00
Trico 50/50 Raffle 2019		294.00	Mainely Sober Group			SoberSticks Event		442.00
Cakewalk RaffleEvent 2018			Magnolia Group		431.46	Soberstock Committee		1,200.00
Housecleaning Retreat		156.00	Maple Dale Group			Sobrietya Womens Group		21.21
Anonymous Donations	14.98	548.01	Mid Day Matinee Group		630.72	Sobriety at Sunrise Group		790.00
As Bill Sees It--Brandon	158.60	808.60	Monday Night Madness		117.65	Sobriety at Sunset Group		729.04
As Bill Sees It Mens Odessa		295.17	Morning Express Group	258.50	1,394.95	Sobriety Group		765.00
Attitude of Gratitude Group	100.00	260.31	Morning Group -Zephyrhill		100.00	Solutions Group	65.00	555.45
Barracks Brigade Group			Morning Meditation Group		10.00	Southshore Men's Group		188.00
Beginners Group		204.00	Morning Mindset Group	100.00	100.00	Southside Men's Group # 1		1,175.00
Bel-Mar Group			Mustard Seed Group			Southside Men's Group # 2		562.00
Bill D's Group	200.00	600.00	My Turn Group		125.00	Southside Men's Group #3		
BIRTHDAY CLUB	196.00	1,483.25	New Beginnings Women's			Southside Men's Group #4		450.00
Brandon Free Thinkers		78.00	New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's	71.09	1,071.46	Spiritual Growth Group		971.91
BrandonSaturday Night		619.18	New Beginnings Brandon		275.00	Spiritual Progress Goup		
By the Book Men's Group			New Beginnings-(Our Club)		1,233.83	Step at a Time Group		87.50
BYO 12 & 12 Group		123.00	New Day Group			Step Sisters in Sobriety		130.00
Came To Believe Group		1,465.00	New Hope Big Book		484.25	Stepping Stones Group (w)		789.53
Cardinal Group - Odessa		600.00	New Way Women's Group		778.59	Sun City Center Group		166.77
Carrollwood Blue Roof			Nightly Newcomers Group		106.00	Sunday Afternoon Step Mtg		216.00
Carrollwood Group		5.79	Nooners Group--Riverview	78.64	561.93	Sunday Speakers - 3333	75.00	900.00
Carrollwood Women's Group			Nooners Group--Tampa		785.01	Sunshine Group		325.00
Chancey Road Group			Noontime Celebration Gp.		500.00	Swamp Meeting		
Clean Air Group	100.00	151.21	Northdale Group		130.00	Sweet Surrender Group		75.00
Design for Living Group		5.85	Odessa Group		310.72	Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
District Two General Service		358.88	Old School Group		4,590.00	Tampa Bay Institutions	50.00	650.00
Dover Group		159.53	Old School Group All Groups			Tampa Bay Speakers Gp.		455.00
Druid Hills Big Book Group			Oldtimer's Group - JC		66.85	Tampa Bay Young Peoples		
Early Risers Group - Joe's		139.73	On the Way Home Tpa 5:30	114.00	399.52	Tampa Bid for FCYPAA		
Expect a Miracle Group			One Day at a Time Group		400.00	Tampa Palms Big Book		150.00
Experience, Strength & Hope		150.00	Palma Ceia Group			Tampa Palms Monday Men's		441.27
Fear Not Group		156.80	Palma Ceia 12 Step Study			Tampa Recovery Group		
Fireside Group		1,057.25	Palma Ceia Big Book Group		400.00	TGIS Group		148.45
Follow Our Path Group		1.20	Pathfinders Group		100.00	Thank God it's Friday Group		725.22
Freedom in Sobriety Group		357.22	Pilgrim Group -St Leo's		214.11	The 164 Group		
Fresh Start Group		162.33	Plank Owners Group		660.00	The 164 Group Wesley Chapel		
Friday Freedom Group			Plant City Keep it Simple			The 164 Group USF		
Friday Night Lights Group		280.10	Primary Purpose Group		26.00	The Meeting Place Group		1,350.57
Friday Night Big book		400.00	Promises Meeting Group		1,031.11	The Next Door Group		
Friday Night Women's Group		221.00	Recovery Bootcamp Group			T & C Sisters in Sobriety		436.57
Friday Women's Friendship		565.09	Red Chip Day		453.28	To Improve Conscious		160.00
Gifts of Sobriety Group		154.00	Reflections Group-Lake Mag		562.58	Town & Country Wed. Group		600.00
Grapevine Gals Group		141.17	Riverside Group		183.30	Tues Big Book Study Gp.		
Happy Hour Group		900.00	Riverview Mens Blackbelt			Tuesday Book Club Group		139.75
Helping Hands Gp.-P.C.			Rush Hour Serenity Group		175.52	Turning Point Group -Z-H.	97.00	800.00
Hide-A-Way Group		1677.79	Ruskin Fellowship Group		200.00	Valrico/Brandon Wed Night		70.00
High Nooners Group	300.00	420.00	Safe Haven Group	100.00	100.00	Valrico Fri. Morning Group		115.00
High Nooners Group Plant City			Safe, Sane & Sober Group	154.26	382.01	UptownDowntown Group		
Hope Floats Group		363.62	Saturday Night Fever Gp.		1,924.36	UT 717 Group		50.00
HOW Group		13.00	Saturday Night Live Group	130.00	130.00	Wed Night Step Workshop		99.25
In the Wind Group	100.00	100.00	Seekers of Serenity II Group		126.64	Wed Keep it Simple Group		150.00
It's in the Book Men's Gp.		760.70				Weedpatch Group		220.00
Just What I Wanted Big Book	162.00	292.00				Wellspring Group		
Keep It Simple - YANA						Wesley Chapel Group		896.07
Keep It Simple/Pass It On		1,394.84				With Room to Grow Group		500.00
Keep it Simple Group Dade City	154.00	270.00				Women's Friendship Group		283.32
						YaYa Sisterhood of Sobriety		56.72
Total	1,485.58		Total	1,006.49		Total	287.00	
						Monthly Total	2,779.07	
	YTD Total	24,582.66		YTD Total	26,125.02		YTD Total	23,929.10
						Grand Total	74,636.78	