



# Tri-County Central Office News

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY AA !!!

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

June, 2011

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### The Fundamentals - In Retrospect

It is gratifying to feel that one belongs to and has a definite personal part in the work of a growing and spiritually prospering organization for the release of the alcoholics of mankind from a deadly enslavement. For me, there is double gratification in the realization that, more than thirteen years ago, an all-wise Providence, whose ways must always be mysterious to our limited understandings, brought me to "see my duty clear" and to contribute in decent humility, as have so many others, my part in guiding the first trembling steps of the then-infant organization, Alcoholics Anonymous. [AA began June 10, 1935, with the start of Dr. Bob's lasting sobriety. He died November 16, 1950.]

It is fitting at this time to indulge in some retrospect regarding certain fundamentals. Much has been written; much has been said about the Twelve Steps of AA. These tenets of our faith and practice were not worked out overnight and then presented to our members as an opportunist creed. Born of our early trials and many tribulations, they were and are the result of humble and sincere desire, sought in personal prayer, for divine guidance. As finally expressed and offered, they are simple in language, plain in meaning. They are also workable by any person having a sincere desire to obtain and keep sobriety. The results are the proof. Their simplicity and workability are such that no special interpretations, and certainly no reservations, have ever been necessary. And it has become increasingly clear that the degree of harmonious living that we achieve is in direct ratio to our earnest attempt to follow them literally under divine guidance to the best of our ability.

Yet there are no shibboleths (which means "long-standing formula, doctrine, or phrase, etc., held to be true by a group) in AA. We are not bound by theological doctrines. None of us may be excommunicated and cast into outer darkness. For we are many minds in our organization, and an AA Decalogue (which means "Ten Commandments") in the language of "Thou shalt not" would gall (which means "irritate") us indeed. Look at our Twelve Traditions. No random expressions, these, based on just casual observation. On the contrary, they represent the sum of our experiences as individuals, as groups within AA, and similarly with our fellows and other organizations in the great fellowship of humanity under God throughout the world. They are all suggestions,

yet the spirit in which they have been conceived merits their serious, prayerful consideration as the guidepost of AA policy for the individual, the group, and our various committees, local and national. We have found it wise policy, too, to hold to no glorification of the individual. Obviously that is sound. Most of us will concede that

**From the Central Office  
SERVICE DESK**  
A total of 488 phone calls were made to the Central Office in March  
196 for info on AA,  
0 for info on Al-Anon,  
1 messages for other inquiries,  
6 requesting a Twelfth Step call,  
285 after Office Hours calls.  
There were 255 walk-ins visits as well.

### "Alcoholics Anonymous Makes Its Stand Here"

Much has been written about Alcoholics Anonymous, an organization doing major work in reclaiming the habitual drinker. This is the first of a series describing the work the group is doing in Cleveland.

#### Success

By now it is a rare Clevelander who does not know, or know of, at least one man or woman of high talent whose drinking had become a public scandal, and who suddenly has straightened out "over night," as the saying goes-the liquor habit licked. Men who have lost \$15,000 a year jobs have them back again. Drunks who have taken every "cure" available to the most lavish purse, only to take them over again with equally spectacular lack of success, suddenly have become total abstainers, apparently without anything to account for their reform. Yet something must account for the seeming miracle. Something does. Alcoholics Anonymous has reached the town.

#### Fellowship

Every Thursday evening at the home of some ex-drunk in Cleveland, 40 or 50 former hopeless rummies meet for a social evening during which they buck each other up. Nearly every Saturday evening they and their families have a party -- just as gay as any other party held that evening despite the fact that there is nothing alcoholic to drink. From time to time they have a picnic, where everyone has a roaring good time without the aid of even one bottle of beer. Yet these are men and women who, until recently, had scarcely been sober a day for years, and members of their families who all that time had been emotionally distraught, social and economic victims of another's addiction. These ex-rummies, as they call themselves, suddenly salvaged from the most socially noisome of fates, are the members of the Cleveland Fellowship of an informal society called "Alcoholics Anonymous." Who they are cannot be told, because the name means exactly what it says. But any incurable alcoholic who really wants to be cured will find the members of the Cleveland chapter eager to help. The society maintains a "blind" address: The Alcoholic Foundation, Box 657, Church Street Annex Post office, New York City. Inquiries made there are forwarded to a Cleveland banker, who is head of the local Fellowship, or to a former big league ball player who is recruiting officer of the Akron Fellowship, which meets Wednesday evenings in a mansion loaned for the purpose by a non-alcoholic supporter of the movement.

#### Cured

The basic point about Alcoholics Anonymous is that it is a fellowship of "cured" alcoholics. And that both old-line medicine and modern psychiatry had agreed on the one point that no alcoholic could be cured. Repeat the astounding fact: These are cured. They have cured each other. They have done it by adopting, with each other's aid, what they call "a spiritual way of life." "Incurable" alcoholism is not a moral vice. It is a disease. No dipsomaniac drinks because he

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**TBAIC - District 2 - Hillsborough & East Pasco Counties  
 (877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672!**

Hello everybody! My name is John O. and I am an alcoholic. This month has been an exciting one for TBAIC, Sober Stock came and went with a great turn out and continues to help TBAIC grow in carrying the message.

Good news was a plenty in our monthly Committee Meeting. Carl C. our Treatment Coordinator reported that New Beginnings has expanded with a new satellite halfway house facility. While Scott D., our Detox Coordinator, reported that the Town and Country Hospital Detox has finished reconstruction and now has double the space. As these treatment and detox facilities continue to expand we need the help of volunteers like you and thank everyone for their service. Also Carl C. is looking for volunteers to go to the VA clinic at University Mall on Mondays from 10-11am, please contact Carl for more information.

John S., our Juvenile Coordinator and Alternate Chair, reported back from the District Meeting where he proudly gave our committee's report. After seeing the discussions over where district money gets allocated, John was proud to share how the majority of TBAIC's money goes towards literature to help carry the message inside Jails and Institutions.

Melissa our new Bridging the Gaps Coordinator was not able to attend our meeting but did communicate that she had had several calls from new comers coming out of rehabs and detoxes seeking rides to meetings and she was able to get rides for all who called. TBAIC would like to send out another thank you to all who have been of service in this part of our committee.

We welcome all those interested in volunteering or becoming a part of TBAIC at our next business meeting on June 11th at 9:30 AM at the Tri-County Central Office. Also do not miss out on Steps to Freedom on June 18<sup>th</sup>, more information is available on the website [www.stepstofreedomtampa.com](http://www.stepstofreedomtampa.com). Thank you all again for your hard work and support, and also for the opportunity to be of service. John O.

**Treasurer's Report – May 14, 2011**

Year to Date Income Including 2010	
Year End Balance	\$9,776.15
Less Prudent Reserve	- \$500.00
Less YTD Literature	- \$3,670.93
Less YTD Expenses	-\$360.82
Pink Can Current Balance	\$1,915.33
Spending Account Balance including 2010 Year End Balance	\$2,580.18

**Our Next Committee Meeting**

Is at 9:30 AM on **June 11<sup>th</sup>** 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 this Month:**

Came to Believe Group (\$40.00), Early Risers Group (\$39.47), Kingsway Group (\$172.29), Pass it On (\$53.00), Living in the Solution (\$157.66) Midday Matinee Group (\$472.00), Monday Night Madness (\$25.02), Monday Night Men's As Bill Sees It (\$58.69), New Beginnings Group-Brandon (\$51.00), Noon Big Book (\$179.00), Old School Group (\$127.03), Ruskin Fellowship (\$85.00), Solution Group (\$225.67), Sunshine Group (\$17.74), Sun Eleven 15 Speaker 3333 (\$100.00), There is a Solution Group (\$66.00), Town n Country Group (\$57.07), TGIS Group-Women (\$11.15), Wellspring Recovery Group (\$127.89), Rush Hour Serenity (\$127.00).

**TBAIC 2010 Committee Members**

<b>Buddy H. - Chair</b>	<b>813-871-2514</b>
<b>John S.</b>	<b>813-562-5601</b>
<b>Brian B. Treasurer</b>	<b>813-361-5884</b>
<b>John O. – Secretary</b>	<b>813-263-4998</b>
<b>Dick D. - Hills Jails - Emeritus</b>	<b>813-254-4423</b>
<b>Paul D. – Hillsborough County Jail</b>	<b>727-385-5529</b>
<b>Nancy B.— Hills Women's Jails</b>	<b>813-872-0262</b>
<b>Scott D. - Detox</b>	<b>813-403-2714</b>
<b>HCI Women's Prison</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>E Pasco Jail - Mens- POSITION</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>Cathleen C. - E Pasco Jail-Women's</b>	<b>813-727-1415</b>
<b>Chris D. - E Pasco Prison</b>	<b>813-857-5400</b>
<b>Carl C.—Treatment</b>	<b>813-215-9195</b>
<b>Melissa—Bridge The Gap</b>	<b>407-325-6498</b>
<b>Joe L. - Pre-Release</b>	<b>813-918-3489</b>
<b>John S.— Juvenile</b>	<b>813-562-5601</b>
<b>Heather B.—Alt. Juvenile</b>	<b>813-361-5884</b>

**The Fundamentals - In Retrospect ...continued from page One**

when it came to the personal showdown of admitting our failures and deciding to surrender our will and our lives to Almighty God, as we understood him, we still had some sneaking ideas of personal justification and excuse. We had to discard them, but the ego of the alcoholic dies a hard death. Many of us, because of activity, have received praise, not only from our fellow AAs, but also from the world at large. We would be ungrateful indeed to be boorish when that happens; still, it is so easy for us to become, privately perhaps, just a little vain about it all. Yet fitting and wearing halos are not for us. We've all seen the new member who stays sober for a time, largely through sponsor-worship. Then maybe the sponsor gets drunk, and you know what usually happens. Left without a human prop, the new member gets drunk, too. He has been glorifying an individual, instead of following the program.

Certainly, we need leaders, but we must regard them as the human agents of the Higher Power and not with undue adulation as individuals. The Fourth and Tenth Steps cannot be too strongly emphasized here - "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves...Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it." There is your perfect antidote for halo poisoning. So with the question of anonymity. If we have a banner, that word, speaking of the surrender of the individual - the ego - is emblazoned on it. Let us dwell thoughtfully on its full meaning and learn thereby to remain humble, modest, and ever conscious that we are eternally under divine direction.

Alcoholics Anonymous was nurtured in its early days around a kitchen table. Many of our pioneer groups and some of our most resultful meetings and best programs have their origin around that modest piece of furniture, with the coffeepot handy on the stove. True, we have progressed materially to better furniture and more comfortable surroundings. Yet the kitchen table must ever be appropriate for us. It is the perfect symbol of simplicity. In AA we have no VIPs, nor have we need of any. Our organization needs neither titleholders nor grandiose buildings. That is by design. Experience has taught us that simplicity is basic in preservation of our personal sobriety and helping those in need.

Far better it is for us to fully understand the meaning and practice of "thou good and faithful servant" than to listen to "When 60,000 members [in 1948] you should have a sixty-stories-high administration headquarters in New York with an assortment of trained 'ists' to direct your affairs." We need nothing of the sort. God grant that AA may ever stay simple. Over the years, we have tested and developed suitable techniques for our purpose. They are entirely flexible. We have all known and seen miracles - the healing of broken individuals, the rebuilding of broken homes. And always, it has been the constructive, personal Twelfth Step work based on an ever-upward-looking faith that has done the job. In as large an organization as ours, we naturally have had our share of those who fail to measure up to certain obvious standards of conduct. They have included schemers for personal gain, petty swindlers and confidence men, crooks of various kinds,

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**"Alcoholics Anonymous Makes Its Stand Here" ...continued from page One**

wants to. He drinks because he can't help drinking. He will drink when he had rather die than take a drink. That is why so many alcoholics die as suicides. He will get drunk on the way home from the hospital or sanitarium that has just discharged him as "cured." He will get drunk at the wake of a friend who died of drink. He will swear off for a year, and suddenly find himself half-seas over, well into another "bust." He will get drunk at the gates of an insane asylum where he has just visited an old friend, hopeless victim of "wet brain."

**Prayer**

These are the alcoholics that "Alcoholics Anonymous" cures. Cure is impossible until the victim is convinced that nothing that he or a "cure" hospital can do, can help. He must know that his disease is fatal. He must be convinced that he is hopelessly sick of body, and of mind and of soul. He must be eager to accept help from any source -- even God. Alcoholics Anonymous has a simple explanation for an alcoholic's physical disease. It was provided them by the head of one of New York City's oldest and most famous "cure" sanitariums. The alcoholic is allergic to alcohol. One drink sets up a poisonous craving that only more of the poison can assuage. That is why after the first drink the alcoholic cannot stop. They have a psychiatric theory equally simple and convincing. Only an alcoholic can understand another alcoholic's mental processes and state. And they have an equally simple, if unorthodox, conception of God.

**Reprinted from the October 21, 1939 Cleveland Plain Dealer with permission "Alcoholics Anonymous Makes Its Stand Here" By ELRICK B. DAVIS**

**This is an open 9th Step Letter to the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. The result of Twelve Years, NOT taking your Suggestions.....**

- First Year:** Did not get a sponsor.
- Second Year:** Went to Discussion Meetings Only. Wouldn't Study the Book.
- Third Year:** Always Went to Meetings Late and Left Early.
- Fourth Year:** Did some 13 Steppin.
- Fifth Year:** Became Official 2 Stepper. (1st & 12th Only)
- Sixth Year:** Continually Refused to Have Any Type of Higher Power.
- Seventh Year:** Overwhelming Guilt From Drinking Non-Alcoholic Beer and Lying at Meetings.
- Eighth Year:** Make Coffee But Never Joined a Group.
- Ninth Year:** Started to Smoke Illegal Drugs.
- Tenth Year:** Sponsored Women.
- Eleventh Year:** Attended One Meeting to Get 11 Year chip.
- Twelfth Year:** Got Drunk; Now in Prison for 3 Life Sentences. Vehicular Homicide for Killing a Family, (Father, Mother and Daughter). Living in a 6x8 cell. Thinking About You Wonderful People Who Loved Me and Some Still Do.

Anonymous

P.S. If Only I Took the Action You All Told Me To Take

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

May 10th, 2011 the Board of Directors for Central Office met:

BOARD MEMBERS		REPRESENTING GROUP
AL B.	CHAIRPERSON	MORNING MIRACLES GROUP
CHRIS S.	VICE-CHAIR	NEW BEGINNINGS GROUP
STAN P.	TREASURER	INTO ACTION GROUP
WILLOW W.	BOARD MEMBER	SWAMP GROUP
EXCUSED	BOARD MEMBER	SOBER ON SATURDAY GROUP
HUD R.	BOARD MEMBER	KEEP IT SIMPLE/PASS IT ON
EXCUSED	BOARD MEMBER	IT'S IN THE BOOK GROUP
JOE B.	ALT. BOARD MEMBER	IT'S IN THE BOOK GROUP
ABSENT	BOARD MEMBER	TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GP.
EXCUSED	BOARD MEMBER	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
BRIAN L.	ALT. BOARD MEMBER	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP

Al welcomed everyone to the meeting and then asked everyone to turn down or off their cell phones. He then opened the meeting in the usual manner with the Serenity Prayer. The April minutes were read. There was no discussion. A motion to accept the minutes was made and seconded. All were in favor. Stan presented the April Treasurer's report. A little bit better than the month before. Kind of an average month. Everything pretty close to what it should be. On a year to date basis we are \$399.00 to the good. Lots of people hurting financially, the District-etc. Stan brought up discussion about something he had heard at the District meeting. The PI/CPC Committee had mentioned that they had a bunch of extra Big Books that they felt they didn't need and was wondering if Central Office would refund them. Tim explained what he had heard but no one had contacted him-yet. He had no problem refunding the books as long as they were in re-sellable condition. After some discussion a motion was made to take the books back if they were re-sellable. Motion was seconded and all were in favor. Stan then brought up discussion about the District and their CD's in Prudent Reserve. They were considering changing the CD's into operational cash. Brief discussion followed. Tim noted that he had talked to the Bank about any penalties we might incur if we cashed in one of our CD's. It would be very minimum. In Old Business Joe asked if it would be appropriate to do our possible Founder's Day event with District 2. It was decided to let the Council decide since they are in charge of it. Discussion followed about several other Founder's Day events going on in the area. In New Business Al read the letter from Patti announcing the outcome of the Audit and that she would be stepping down from her duties as our Auditor and recommended Tim P. who had agreed to take over the position. Discussion followed and it was decided that Al should call him and ask him to come to the Board meeting so everyone could meet him. Stan gave a brief Central Office Liaison report instead of Tim because Tim had been sick and couldn't make the meeting. Discussion then went into why we seem to always be out of material. Tim tried to explain the ebb and flow of the cash vs expenses vs items to be purchased. Contributions are up, literature sales are up and expenses are up but we are always running out of stuff. Discussion then went into maybe cashing in one of our CD's and load up on a bunch of books to try and get ahead of the game. Willow made a motion to liquidate one of the CD's to use for literature. More discussion followed. Finally the motion was tabled

May 10th, 2011 the Central Office Representatives met:  
**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

VIVIAN J.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY GROUP
MIKE MCA	LIVING IN THE SOLUTION GROUP
TRISH R.	LUNCH BUNCH GROUP
GENE M.	LIVE & LET LIVE GROUP
JAMIE H.	TAMPA BAY SPEAKERS GROUP
NEZ Z.	KINGSWAY GROUP
ANN S.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
MARIA G.	KEEP IT SIMPLE/PASS IT ON GROUP
SOPHIA C.	EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP
CAROL M.	NEW BEGINNINGS GROUP
BRIAN L.	THE TURNING POINT GROUP
DAVE H.	NOON BIG BOOK GROUP
BERNIE H.	FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS GROUP
JOHN G.	TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GROUP
DAVE C.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
RUSS W.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
JOHN DP	CARDINAL GROUP
JULIET SB	SUNSHINE GROUP
J.C.	SERENITY GROUP
EARLE W.	RIVERSIDE GROUP
ANNA M.	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
WES M.	SOLUTIONS GROUP
JOHN F.	SOBRENITY GROUP
JONATHAN L.	WELLSPRING GROUP
JOHN R.	AS BILL SEES IT GROUP
BILL S.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
TERRY F.	PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP
MARC A.	TAMPA BAY YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
JIM VK	CARROLLWOOD NS GROUP
JASON O'S	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP

until Tim and Stan could get together and decide what we needed to get. The Council meeting was pretty much like the Board meeting. In Old Business Tim announced that he had no luck in finding a place to hold the Founder's Day event and asked if anyone had any ideas. After lots of discussion Ann expressed that we really didn't have enough time now to hold a good event and that maybe we should cancel this event and do it next year giving up plenty of time to plan and decide what we wanted to do. The Founder's Day event was tabled until next year. The rest of the meeting was announcements about the Special Needs Committee and several special events getting ready to take place over Memorial Day weekend and in June, July and November. Jamie noted that her group, Tampa Bay Speakers was considering doing an All Groups Meeting. More to follow.

<b>ANNIVERSARY TIME</b>			
GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JOHN R.	06/25/09	2 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JAMES S.	06/25/07	4 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JOHN M.	06/14/89	22 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	TOM N.	06/28/03	8 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	DENNIS D.	06/06/00	11 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	DICK D.	06/06/69	42 YRS
MEN'S SOUTHSIDE BLACKBELT	ERIC H.	06/28/05	6 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	LINDA C.	06/01/08	3 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	LAFONDA	06/13/02	9 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	SANDY G.	06/15/93	18 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP	LINDA B.	06/09/88	23 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	DAN E.	06/14/09	2 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BILL M.	06/29/99	12 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	JUDY K.	06/24/93	18 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	WRAY	06/10/84	27 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	DICK W.	06/10/58	53 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	MIKE D.	06/16/10	1 YR
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	RICHIE G.	06/03/10	1 YR
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	RICARDO A.	06/01/10	1 YR
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	JAMUS H.	06/01/10	1 YR
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	CHRIS H.	06/08/10	1 YR
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	CHAD S.	06/25/07	4 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	DAVID P.	06/15/02	9 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	BERNIE S.	06/19/93	18 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	BRIAN B.	06/21/89	22 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	TRAVIS G.	06/10/03	8 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	GREG W.	06/14/02	9 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	JOHN C.	06/06/69	42 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	VINCE H,	06/16/06	5 YRS
YOUR GROUP COULD BE HERE	YOUR NAME	☺	✎

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

Honors To	Date	Years
ERIC H.	06/28/05	6 YRS

**The Fundamentals - In Retrospect ...continued from page Three**

and other human fallibles. Relatively, their number has been small, much smaller than in many religious and social-uplift organizations. Yet they have been a problem and not an easy one. They have caused many an AA to stop thinking and working constructively for a time. We cannot condone their actions, yet we must concede that when we have used normal caution and precaution in dealing with such cases, we may safely leave them to the Higher Power. Let me reiterate that we AAs are many men and women that we are of many minds. It will be well for us to concentrate on the goal of personal sobriety and active work. We humans and alcoholics, on strict moral stocktaking, must confess to at least a slight degree of larcenous (which means "characterized by the wrongful taking of the personal goods of another") instinct. We can hardly arrogate (which means "to assume to ourself without right") the roles of judges and executioners.

Thirteen grand years! To have been a part of it all from the beginning has been reward indeed.

**Dr. Bob—Co-Founder Alcoholics Anonymous - 1948**  
*Copyright © AA Grapevine, Inc from the September 1948 issue*

**IS OUR MESSAGE FOR EVERYONE?**

I am a Christian recovering alcoholic. Do I require Christian theology on the podium of my AA meetings in order for me to get sober and stay sober? No, I don't. Do Baptists, Catholics, Republications, socialists, Democrats, Jews, cops, or robbers require their own particular messages be presented in AA meetings as a stipulation of their recovery from alcoholism? No, they don't. I find Jesus Christ and the Bible personally meaningful in my life, yet I seldom mention these things during the meeting because so many people require time and freedom to find their own spiritual path, and because AA's primary purpose constrains me to our major topic. I have learned discretion in matters where there is no complete unity, at least during the meeting. Before and after the meeting I will be as open and daring about my own convictions as I see fit. When I came into AA, the hand of AA was there for me. That hand was not affiliated with any particular religious denomination, political group, or lifestyle. That hand was simply a recovering alcoholic's hand in mine. Period. S.A 1998  
 Permission to Reprint/ AA Grapevine (Thank You for Sharing) 2005

*Our Society, therefore, will prudently cleave to its single purpose: the carrying of the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Let us resist the proud assumption that since God has enabled us to do well in one area we are destined to be a channel of saving grace for everybody. A.A. Comes of Age p. 232*

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

**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE**



## MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

**Join Us for an Anniversary Dinner**  
**24th Anniversary of T.G.I.S.**  
**Womens Group, Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**Eating meeting and Speaker meeting**  
**on Friday, June 3**  
**at Palma Ceia Baptist Church**  
**Food and Fellowship 6:30p.m.- 7:30p.m.**  
**Speaker 7:30p.m.- 8:30p.m.**  
**Located at**  
**3511 West Bay to Bay Blvd.**  
**Tampa, FL 33629**  
**Additional Questions email**  
**[tgiswomensmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:tgiswomensmeeting@gmail.com)**

**PICNIC at FORT DESOTO BEACH**  
**Sunday June 12th, 2011**  
**Sponsored by The Keep it Simple Men's Group**  
**"Fifth Annual Ft. Desoto Picnic"**  
**3500 Pinellas Bayway S., Tierra Verde, 33715**  
**Pavilion # 7**

8:00 am til 5:00 pm  
Lunch served from 11:00 am til 1:00 pm  
We encourage you to bring your favorite covered dish  
Please bring your family and friends  
to celebrate our serenity

### **Welcome to the 55rd Florida State Convention** **July 20 - July 24, 2011**

**THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL**  
**At the entrance to Universal Studios Orlando**  
**5780 Major Boulevard, Orlando, Florida 32819**  
**407-351-1000, Toll Free 800-327-2110**  
**On-Line Reservations:**  
**<http://55.flstateconvention.com/>**

### **2011 DISTRICT 2 GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE** **GRATITUDE DINNER**

**Saturday November 5th, 2011**  
**Christ the King Church**  
**821 South Dale Mabry**  
**Tampa, FL. 33609**

**Net Proceeds to benefit GSO in New York**  
**Doors Open: 6:00 pm**  
**Dinner: 6:30 pm-7:45 pm**  
**Speaker: 8:00 pm**  
**Chairperson: Kaeli McC, High Nooners Group**  
**Guest Speaker: Jim F.-Wesley Chapel Group,**  
**District 2 DCM**  
**FOOD-FELLOWSHIP-FUN-50/50 RAFFLE**  
**Tickets: \$6.00 (Call Brian L. @ 813-788-4146 )**

### **STEPS TO FREEDOM**

**June 18th, 2011**

**Christ the King Church**

**Speaker: Mickey B. from California**

**([WWW.STEPSTOFREEDOMTAMPA.COM](http://WWW.STEPSTOFREEDOMTAMPA.COM))**

**If you are interested in helping out with this event,**

**there is a Steering Committee Meeting every Third**

**Saturday of the Month at The Club,**

**3333 West Columbus Drive at 7:00 pm.**

**We could really use your help.**

**Attend the meeting and check us out**

### **Founder's Day Breakfast**

**June 11, 2011**

**Breakfast at 8 am**

**Speaker at 9:30 am**

**Mike B. from Cocoa Beach**

**\$3 proceeds go to There is a Solution Conference**

**October 15, 2011**

**Club YANA**

**209 S. Tampania**

**813-245-6546 for more info**

### **A.A. "Sponsorship Workshop"**

**Judy G. & Jay McC**

**Old School Group, Inc**

**108 Myrtle Ridge Road , Lutz**

**Saturday, June 25, 2011**

**2 - 5 pm**

**Everyone is Welcome!!**

**Meat will be provided**

**Bring a covered dish to share**

**Donation: \$5.00 per person**

**Portion of the proceeds to Benefit the**

**Tri County Office**

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