



# Tri-County Central Office News

Material security is a hollow shelter if built at the expense of spiritual growth.

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

**September, 2009**

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## TOO BRIGHT FOR MY OWN GOOD

When I first got sober 16 years ago, I proved what my mother had said all along—that I was “just too smart for my own good.” I was almost too smart to get this program—too much knowledge, too little understanding. I could recite the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions long before I even had a clue as to what they meant. “Working the Steps” was a concept totally beyond me, and the Traditions were only for old-timers, the grown-ups in charge of the program. Fortunately, I was able to hear a few things in those first meetings I attended. In my first meeting I heard that the “only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking,” and I promptly raised my hand. At the next meeting I heard the Promise, “Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave us.” That sucked me in and made me stick around to hear what I heard next. I heard that I’d never take another drink if, at any one time, I could answer four questions: 1. Who’s your sponsor? 2. What Step are you on? 3. Where’s your home group? 4. Where’s your service commitment? I found a temporary sponsor list, picked a number at random, called her and asked her to be my sponsor. I didn’t give her my phone number, but I did find out what meetings she went to...and then made sure never to show up at any of those meetings. There, first question answered. I was prepared for the second question, too. I learned that if I said I was working on Step One or Step Four, I’d pretty much be left alone. The third question was easy. I picked two home groups, just to make double sure. Having a home group just meant showing up, of course; business meetings were for the people in charge. The only thing I was really willing to do was to volunteer for service. When I had been sober about six months, a little speaker-discussion group elected me secretary. I thought they’d nominated me because they recognized that I was a quick-study or a natural leader. I said yes without even asking what the job involved. It was customary for the secretary of this little group to obtain speakers from outside the group. Oops. It was also the group’s custom to alternate between male and female speakers. Double oops. For six painful months, I had to approach people I didn’t know, half of whom were the other gender. Then I had to call them to make sure they’d show up to speak. Then I had to sit in the front of that room for 15 minutes before the meeting, sweating whether the speaker would show up. That would not be the last time

my pride would get me into trouble, but it did inspire me to become the coffeemaker as my next service commitment. This attempt at humility almost overwhelmed me. The meeting, called the “Too Early Group,” supposedly began at 8 on Saturday mornings, but everybody started showing up at 7:30, expecting a cup of coffee and a donut. The 100-cup coffee maker took an hour to perk, which meant I had to get up at 5:45

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## A SECOND ROUND

Do I really belong here? I thought. What do I have in common with these people? I had returned to the rooms for my second round of AA. My first attempt at sobriety, some ten years earlier, had ended badly. On my part, there had been no Step work, no sponsor, no phone calls made, and no reaching out. I was ashamed to admit it, but the truth was that I had only shown up at those first few meetings to get my sheets signed and then get out. I had not read the Big Book that had been so graciously given to me. And as I said, it ended badly—not with a relapse, but a “never stopped.” Now I had returned—shaking, afraid, newly out of prison, and fully aware that I needed help. I needed to stop drinking. Of course, I had never been able to pull it off by myself. Sure, I had tried. I’d spend a day sober, a week sober, maybe even a few weeks sober, but in the end I always wound up with a drink in my hand. I say “wound up” because many times—if not most times—the drink found me. I got back into the booze as soon as someone casually handed me a beer or offered to buy me one. Just one. And after those first few sips, all my good intentions melted away somewhere. It was as if I were caught in a dark nightmare, trying to run but with my legs bogged down. There was no escape for me; alcohol always found my hiding place. These people are laughing. What’s funny? How can they laugh in the face of this horrible monster called alcoholism? They all say they suffer from it. Really? I glance around the room. No one looks as tired and broken as I feel. They all seem better, livelier, more full of hope. The meeting begins and I listen as some of them tell their stories. It’s been years since they’ve taken a drink. Years! And not just a few, but many—some of them touting fifteen, twenty, even thirty years of continuous sobriety. My mind staggers, trying to grasp the meaning of their words. I cannot imagine anyone staying away from alcohol for that long. I think, Weren’t you ever tempted? Didn’t anything bad happen to you in all that time? I’ll never be able to pull off anything like that. I figure if I make it through a couple of months completely sober, I’ll be doing well. The people talk about working the Steps of AA. I see the Twelve Steps hanging on the wall, inscribed on a large sign. I am familiar with them, and they still scare me half to death. I read through some of them. Steps Three, Seven, and Eleven jump out—my sticking points. I hadn’t been able to before, and I don’t hold out much hope now. “Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over...” “Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings.” “Sought through prayer and meditation....” No. It’s too much to ask. I don’t really believe in these Steps anyway—do I? Do I really believe in a Higher Power? All my life I had thought of myself as the higher power. But now it’s different. I know that I’ve hit bottom. I’d often wake up in my prison cell and think to myself, There’s got to be something better than this. Somehow, I’m going to find .....if I could just get some help.

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**From the Central Office  
SERVICE DESK**  
A total of 600 phone calls were made to the Central Office in JULY  
291 for info on AA,  
1 for info on Al-Anon,  
5 messages for other inquiries,  
5 requesting a Twelfth Step call, 303 after Office Hours calls. There were 282 walk-ins visits as well.

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

Hello everybody! My name is Kelly K. and I am an alcoholic.

I am your new Secretary, since Annie could no longer keep her position (due to schedule interferences)! This past meeting (August 22<sup>nd</sup>) was my first experience with TBAIC, and I enjoyed it immensely! I am very excited to be part of this committee and working with everyone. Thank you for having me.

We would like to thank Buddy H. for stepping up for the position of Alt. Chair! A motion was passed and Buddy was unanimously elected. Our committee looks forward to having Buddy serve in this position.

Over the past month, Barbara R. has been working with Joe M. in reaching out to various centers. They have been working on spreading our word and dropping off literature. We are in need of volunteers to help out at these centers! Orientation is not necessary! If you are interested in this rewarding service please contact Barbara R. our treatment coordinator.

Buddy H. reports all of the men's meetings are covered at Falkenburg Road Jail. Paul D. reports that all the men's meetings are covered and going well Orient Road Jail. Lindsay T. also states that all of the women's meetings are being in Hillsborough Jails. Mary R. speaking for Cathy C. reports that there have been some issues presented to those bring meetings in for the East Pasco Women involving singleness of purpose. Both she and Cathy are working with Pasco County corrections to cut down on cross talk that is occurring at these meetings.

Brian B. reports that all of the Juvenile meetings are covered. Wednesdays Riverside group will need a new representative as Chris B is stepping aside after 8 months of service. I just wanted to thank him personally and as a group for a job well done. As always volunteers are welcome we need more men to volunteer so we can add more meetings. I was able to take literature on Saturdays to Leslie Peters and the kids seemed to take to the literature. Tuesday Acts Detox is covered as well.

The Annual Florida Corrections Workshop is September 20<sup>th</sup> in Sanford, FL. Jim H. a.k.a. Georgia Jim will be speaking. Last year a strong pitch was made by the Florida Department of Corrections about involving AA in Florida prisons. Those interested in attending may contact Tom F.

In Love & Service,  
 Kelly K.

**Treasurers Report—August 22, 2009**

<b>Pink Can Donations YTD 2009</b>	<b>\$ 14,529.20</b>
<b>Less Prudent Reserve</b>	<b>- \$300.00</b>
<b>Less YTD Literature</b>	<b>- \$ 11,799.00</b>
<b>Less YTD Expenses</b>	<b>-\$ 294.74</b>
<b>Pink Can Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,277.13</b>

**Next Committee Meetings**

September 19<sup>th</sup> & October 17<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, Expect A Miracle Group, Midday Matinee Group, Ruskin Fellowship Group, Sisters in Sobriety, Soberstock, Steps to Freedom, Sunshine Group, Tampa Bay Young Peoples Group, Thursday Night There Is A Solution Group, Town & Country Wednesday Night Group, Wellspring Recovery Group.

**Current Service Opportunities**

Men's Pasco Jail Coordinator...*Call Jack M.*  
 813-417-9945

**TBAIC 2009 Committee Members**

<b>Tom F. - Chair</b>	<b>813-818-4439</b>
<b>Buddy H. - Alt Chair</b>	<b>813-871-2514</b>
<b>Lloyd O.—Treasurer</b>	<b>813-748-9116</b>
<b>Kelly K. – Secretary</b>	<b>813-313-0387</b>
<b>Dick D. - Hills Jails - Emeritus</b>	<b>813-254-4423</b>
<b>Paul D. – Men's Orient Rd</b>	<b>727-385-5529</b>
<b>Buddy H. – Men's Falkenburg</b>	<b>813-871-2514</b>
<b>Lindsay T.– Hills Women's Jails</b>	<b>813-326-5408</b>
<b>Rob T. - Detox</b>	<b>813-453-6059</b>
<b>Jill J. – HCI Women's Prison</b>	<b>813-349-7048</b>
<b>Open - E Pasco Jail - Mens</b>	
<b>Cathleen C. - E Pasco Jail - Women's</b>	<b>813-727-1415</b>
<b>Tom D. - E Pasco Prison</b>	<b>813-782-7209</b>
<b>Barbie R. - Treatment</b>	<b>727-804-3229</b>
<b>Jack S. - Bridge The Gap</b>	<b>813-598-4717</b>
<b>Joe L. - Pre-Release</b>	<b>813-918-3489</b>
<b>Brian B.- Juvenile</b>	<b>760-215-2993</b>
<b>Heather B.—Juvenile</b>	<b>760-828-5394</b>

**TOO BRIGHT FOR MY OWN GOOD**...continued from page one

**A SECOND ROUND**...continued from page one



am on Saturdays, go to the market to get supplies, stop at the donut store, and get to the meeting place by 6:15 to get the coffee started. Finally, I surrendered. "God," I said, "I'm willing to do service but I'm way too smart to figure out what service I should be doing. You gotta do that part. As soon as my current commitment starts running out, I'm just going to raise my hand and take the next job that comes along." That first surrender (there have been many more since) was my first real experience of "turning it over," and it has worked for me ever since. Not every commitment has been easy or pleasant. Almost none of them have been either, but there was no way to blame myself when I found myself being a greeter at a meeting two bus lines away from where I lived or a chair-stacker for a meeting of 400. God's plan is not to make this easy or pleasant for me but to teach me how to live outside my own head—a world populated with other people, places outside of bars, and things besides wine bottles. When I was a literature person, I learned all about AA by reading the material I was in charge of, material I couldn't at the time afford to buy. By being a greeter, I learned that hugs don't hurt. By being a GSR, I learned that patience and tolerance don't hurt, either. When I was fired from my day job and money became a bigger problem than usual, God made me treasurer of a small group where I learned how to keep track of finances, the importance of a prudent reserve, and how easy it is to build one—one dollar, one quarter at a time. In time, I was able to be sponsored and to sponsor. I learned how to "do relationships" and "play well with others." Reaching out and working with others helped cure me of my terminal self-reliance. Right now, I'm writing this during a break at my first regional service assembly. I'm learning how "big AA" works. I'm learning about the concepts. I'm learning how to be a worker among workers, a friend among friends, a team player. I am not always sane, not always happy and not always useful—but it's a fabulous life.  
**Karin H. , Volcano, Calif.**  
**Reprint Permission/AA Grapevine/September 2009**

The basket is passed around for donations and I don't put in any money, but I do put in an attendance sheet to be signed by the meeting chair. I feel guilty that I haven't put in a dollar or two, but I don't have any money. I'm broke. I pass the basket quickly, hoping no one notices what I've just done. I see others putting in sign-in slips, but they're different. They're also putting in a dollar or two, and doing it cheerfully. The AA Preamble comes to mind: "There are no dues or fees for AA membership." That's good, because right now I can't get kicked out of the program. I have a parole officer breathing down my neck every couple of weeks and the alternatives are anything but pleasant. I notice the placard with the Twelve Traditions written on it and I read the Third one: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking." Hmmm. That sounds simple enough. Could it be true? Do I have a desire to stop drinking? Yes. I'm thousands of dollars in debt, I'm on parole, I don't have a job, my friends and family have turned away from me, and I can't look at myself in the mirror. But the people in this room have somehow beaten alcohol. They have found something I want. For today, I want to be like them. Maybe I'll never join the thirty-year club, or the fifteen, or even the five, but I want to be free from alcohol today. After the closing prayer, someone says, "Keep coming back." Someone else shakes my hand and tells me the same thing, adding, "It gets better." This person can see my pain. For a moment, I connect. If a desire to stop drinking is all that's required for me to return, I think I can provide that. I've been beaten bloody, smashed, trashed, and humiliated by my years of drinking. Apparently, so have all these people. But they still leave the meeting smiling, laughing, happy, and free. I think I'll be back tomorrow.  
**Richard M., Lansing, Michigan**  
**Reprint Permission/AA Grapevine/ June 2008**

"Tri-County Central Office News" is a monthly newsletter of AA in Hillsborough and East Pasco County and the Tri-County Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by and for members of the AA Fellowship. **Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply any endorsement by either AA or the Tri-County Central Office.** Quotations or excerpted material from AA books or pamphlets are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc. Preamble, and excerpted matter reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc. We welcome articles of opinions or descriptions of personal experiences (NO poetry, please) which should be sent to: **Editor, Tri-County Central Office, 8019 N. Himes Avenue Ste. 104 Tampa, FL 33614-2763**  
**\$5.00 GETS YOU A Year Subscription to the Newsletter.**  
**Send in Name, Address, Phone & Home Group.**

**The National Council on Alcoholism, and Drug Dependence survey found that many believe alcohol used in recipes burns off in the cooking process.**  
**Federal government research actually has shown that depending on the alcohol type and the cooking method used, anywhere from 5 to 85% of the alcohol used in recipes remains in the dish after cooking.....**

**The joy of living is the theme of A.A.'s Twelfth Step, and action is it's key word.**


 **Coffee John says.....making coffee is a good beginning to learning humility and service to your Home Group. We lead not by titles but through our actions.....** 

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

August 11th, 2009 the Board of Directors for Central Office met:		
<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>		<b>REPRESENTING GROUP</b>
PAUL G.	CHAIRPERSON	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
Open Position	VICE-CHAIR	
CATHY K.	TREASURER	SOBRIETY @ SUNRISE GROUP
RICK D.	BOARD MEMBER	EARLY RISERS GROUP
KEVIN G.	BOARD MEMBER	NORTH TAMPA YOUNG & RESTLESS GROUP
DIANA H.	BOARD MEMBER	RIVERSIDE GROUP
JANIE M.	BOARD MEMBER	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
MICHAEL B.	BOARD MEMBER	BRANDON/VALRICO GROUP
CHRIS S.	BOARD MEMBER	NEW BEGINNINGS GROUP
Excused	BOARD MEMBER	HELPING HANDS GROUP
AL B.	ADVISOR TO THE CHAIR	DRUID HILLS GROUP

August 11th, 2009 the Central Office Representatives met:	
<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>REPRESENTING GROUP</b>

SUSAN B.	BRANDON SATURDAY NIGHT GROUP
SCOTT C.	MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS GROUP
STEVE J.	ODESSA GROUP
KIMBERLY T.	KEEP IT SIMPLE/PASS IT ON GROUP
LINDA T.	KEEP IT SIMPLE/PASS IT ON GROUP
ZANNA I.	PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP
THERESA C.	TAMPA YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
MAX A.	SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER GROUP
GARY N.	SAFE HAVEN GROUP
CATHERINE B.	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
DEBBIE M.	DISTRICT 2 LIAISON
VIVIAN J.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY GROUP
JACK M.	WELLSPRING GROUP
JOHN W.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
DYANN D.	NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
MARK K.	MIDDAY MATINEE GROUP
STEVE T.	DRUID HILLS GROUP
MONICA M.	IN THE MIDDLE GROUP
MARK H.	RIVERSIDE GROUP
JUNE T.	SOBRIETY GROUP
STUART S.	EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP
BILL B.	BRANDON SPEAKERS GROUP
JOHN G.	TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GROUP
JOHN A.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
EARLE W.	NOON BIG BOOK GROUP
JOHN DP	AS BILL SEES IT GROUP



## The Sober @ 7 Group & The Friday Night Lights Group

# ALL GROUPS MEETING & 7th ANNIVERSARY

### SPEAKER MEETING & DINNER

(All Proceeds to benefit Tri-County Central Office)

**\$5.00 Donation per person**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 2009**  
**APOLLO BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**400 Apollo Beach Blvd.**  
**(Next to Circle-K)**  
**POTLUCK DINNER: 6 P.M.**  
**SPEAKER MEETING: 7 P.M.**  
**Speaker: John H.**  
**Orlando, Florida**

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**WE ASK YOU TO PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH  
(WITH FOOD IN IT)  
TO THE CHURCH BY 5:15 P.M.  
SO WE CAN SETUP THE FOOD.**

We had another great turn-out of service oriented members show up for our Board and Council meeting. At the Board meeting it was decided to change our Budget Reports back to the way we used to have them. It was decided that it was easier to read and understand. Decisions concerning the Personnel Policy were put off until next month to give everyone ample time to look them over. Main topic for the meeting was the starting to get preparations ready for the Anniversary Dinner in February, how to get volunteers, where to have, how much to charge, can we have a dance and a host of other questions. After the usual reports at the Council meeting there was a little discussion about the upcoming Softball Tournament. Announcements were made for a few All Group meetings and some groups announced that their group may decide to host an All Groups. This was Paul's first night as Chair for the Board and he did very well.

<b>ANNIVERSARY TIME</b>			
<b>GROUP</b>	<b>Honors To</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Years</b>
RIVERSIDE GROUP	LINDA P.	08/20/08	1 YR
RIVERSIDE GROUP	ROD G.	08/24/04	5 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JENNIFER D.	09/25/06	3 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	BLAKE B.	09/23/03	6 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	MARK H.	09/01/87	22 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	ANNETTE G.	09/25/07	2 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	AL C.	09/14/07	2 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	CAROLYN L.	09/21/04	5 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	WENDY P.	09/07/04	5 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	KAREN S.	09/24/89	20 YRS
KEYSTONE GROUP	BOB V.	09/01/03	6 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	LENNY G.	09/24/00	9 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	TOM V.	09/02/88	21 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	VALLIDA G.	09/18/84	25 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	JOE C.	09/21/07	2 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	NANCY F.	09/17/85	24 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	DAVID D.	09/18/07	2 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	ANDREA M.	09/23/06	3 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	JOAN B.	09/17/01	8 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	SOPHIA C.	09/20/97	12 YRS
EXPECT A MIRACLE GROUP	MARSHALL S.	09/14/92	17 YRS
INTO ACTION GROUP	TARA E.	09/02/05	4 YRS
INTO ACTION GROUP	CAROL C.	09/08/88	21 YRS

**NEWS AROUND TOWN**

**Special Needs Committee**  
For info: Committee Meeting September 5th, the first Saturday of the month at 12:00 P.M, Noon at The Club on 3333 West Columbus Drive. For info: **210-4865**

**TAMPA BAY FALL ROUNDUP**  
**"The Language of the Heart"**  
September 4-7, 2009  
Embassy Suites Hotel  
3705 Spectrum Blvd  
Tampa, Florida 33612  
For Details: [www.tampabayfallroundup.com](http://www.tampabayfallroundup.com)

**DISTRICT 2 GRATITUDE DINNER**  
November 14th, 2009  
**Christ the King Church**  
**821 South Dale Mabry**  
Tampa, Florida  
Doors open 6:00pm  
All proceeds go to GSO in New York

**Fall Mountain Housecleaning**  
Spiritual Retreat for A.A. & Al-Anon  
October 1st-4th, 2009  
Hinton Rural Life Center  
2330 Hinton Center Road  
Hayesville, NC 28904  
For Details: <http://fallmountainretreat.com>

**South Florida Area 15 General Service Assembly**  
*Hosted by District 3*  
October 23-25, 2009  
Four Points by Sheraton Sebring,  
Château Élan  
150 Midway Drive  
Sebring, Florida 33870  
Complete Details & Flyer: [www.area15aa.org](http://www.area15aa.org)

**CENTRAL OFFICE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
**COMING IN OCTOBER**  
MORE WILL BE REVEALED

**MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE:**  
**The Alpha Club** has space available. If you are looking for a new place to start a meeting....Please, only those who are fully committed to making sure this gets off the ground need apply. Contact **Mark L.** at **813-477-6855**.

**MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE:** If you are looking for a new place to start a meeting....see the information below. Please, only those who are fully committed to making sure this gets off the ground need apply.  
Dear Tim, At your request, I am forwarding the information you need in order to start AA meetings at: (Between Six Mile Creek & MLK) **Highland Oaks Baptist Church, 4038 North Falkenberg Road, Tampa, Florida.** The days available will be: Monday thru Saturday. Chairman of AA Meeting will have a key. **Contact person: Pastor Ralph Wood** —Cell: (813) 625-9351 Home: (813) 571-7770  
Look forward to hearing from you. Pastor Ralph

## MORE NEWS AROUND TOWN

### ACTS OF RECOVERY Tampa Bay

Saturday September 26th, 2009 – 12 Noon to 5 PM

First Presbyterian Church

121 Carver Avenue

Brandon, FL 33510

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Tim H. ~ Boston, MA

*"We Were Delighted"*

1:15 – 2:15 pm

Lindsay T. ~ Tampa, FL

*"Giving Freely"*

2:15 – 2:45 pm Light Lunch Provided

2:45 - 3:45 pm

Sammie G. ~ Powhatan, VA

*"No Human Power"*

4:00 – 5:00 pm

Joe L. ~ York, PA

*"Primary Purpose"*

Contacts: Bill 813-756-4931,

Chet 813-784-0984,

Patty 717-577-9057

"The Acts of Recovery is a 5 hour, 4 speaker mini-conference. There is no registration fee and all are welcome!"

### 1st Annual Solutions Group CHILI COOK-OFF!!

September 26, 2009

Our Place

1009 Lithia Pinecrest Road

Brandon, FL. 33511

2:00 PM - 4:00 pm

Please join us for an afternoon of food, fun and fellowship. Come sample and vote for your favorite chili. Ballots to vote are \$2.00 each. All proceeds after expenses will go to the Tri-County Central Office. \$25.00 gift cards will be awarded for the best overall, the hottest, the mildest, and the most original recipe. Table space and electricity will be provided for contestants. If you wish to enter a chili in the contest please call or text 813-917-5254 or e-mail your contact info to [solgrp1@gmail.com](mailto:solgrp1@gmail.com) Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served along with other side dishes. Please feel free to bring a covered-dish (with food in it) Hope to see ya'll there!

### THE OLD SCHOOL GROUP

INVITES YOU TO THEIR

8th ANNIVERSARY GRATITUDE DINNER  
AND SPEAKER MEETING

January 16th, 2010

Christ the King Church

821 South Dale Mabry

Tampa, Florida

Guest Speaker: Joe McC from Oklahoma  
of the Joe & Charlie Big Book Study

Tickets: \$15.00 for the Catered Dinner

6:00 pm--Gratitude Dinner

There will be a total of 350 total seats available for the  
Dinner

8:00pm--AA speaker Meeting

Only 750 total seats available for the Speaker Meeting

Those who attended the Gratitude Dinner will be seated  
in the main room with the Speaker, Once this room is filled  
all others will be seated in the over-flow room.

Audio & Video Monitor in the over-flow room.

Get your Tickets Now!!!

Available from Alex @ the Old School Group  
or Tri-County Central Office

Proceeds go to Benefit the Central Office

### 7th Annual Women's Retreat for members of A.A. & Al-Anon

October 16th-18th, 2009

Nancy's Legacy

Saint Leo Abbey Retreat Center

Dade City, Florida

Reservations must be made early, space  
limited

For Details call Judy (813) 872-8282

or Lorinda (813) 763-500

### Tampa Bay Young People's Group

to host an All Groups Meeting, Saturday,

November 7th, 2009 at the

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church

located at

3501 West San Jose Street from

1:00 pm til 4:00 pm.

More details to follow soon.

Group	JULY	Y T D	Group	JULY	Y T D	Group	JULY	Y T D
11th Step Meeting- Christ King		150.00	I.D.A.A.		154.00	SCC Steps to Sobriety		
11th Step Meeting--Sun City			Into Action Group		60.00	Serenity Sisters Group		
12 Steps to Growth Group		120.00	It's in the Book Men's Group		102.00	Sincerity Group		
2250 Group			Just for Today Group		300.00	Sisters In Sobriety Group (W)	61.18	61.18
A.A. 101 Group	65.00	320.00	Just What I Wanted Big Book			Sober At 7 Group		166.00
A.A. 102 Group		79.00	Keep It Simple/Pass It On R.	159.25	902.17	Sober on Saturday Group		524.00
All Groups--			Keep It Simple - YANA			Sober Spirits Group		75.00
Alpha Group	40.00	280.00	Keep It Simple Group (Dade)		175.00	SOBERSTOCK		
Anniversary Dinner 2009		2109.00	Keystone Group		533.33	Sober on Sunday Group		260.00
Annual Housecleaning Retreat		100.00	Kingsway Group			Sobrenity Group	2.50	19.12
Annual Spring House Retreat		100.00	Lake Magdalene Group			Sobriety at Sunrise	33.89	281.42
Anonymous Donations	46.47	237.03	Life Enrichment Group		260.00	Softball Tournament / CO		1082.95
As Bill Sees It Mens -Odessa	336.78	736.38	Little Red Book Group	100.00	175.00	Solutions Group	75.58	2722.50
Attitude of Gratitude Group	100.00	600.00	Live and Let Live Group	52.80	248.18	Southshore Men's Meeting		
Back to Basics Group - Tampa	80.00	130.00	Living in the Solution Group		500.00	Southside Men's Group		
Back to Basics Grp. PlantCity			MacDill Group			Southside Men's Group # 2		
Barracks Brigade Group		25.00	Mainly Sober Group - Zhills		233.73	Speaker Meeting (Our Club)		40.00
Bayshore Back to Basics		638.00	Mapledale Group		130.00	Speaker Sisters in Sobriety		
Bel-Mar Group	74.75	378.75	Mid Day Matinee Group		2275.00	Spiritual Growth Group		
Beginners Step Group	50.00	100.00	Monday Nite Madness 3333		473.00	Spiritual Progress Goup		195.00
Bill D's Group		260.00	Morning Express Group	134.18	335.07	Step at a Time Group	195.00	455.00
Birthday Plan		163.00	Morning Group - Zephyrhills		100.00	Step Sisters in Sobriety		130.00
Brandon Men's Blackbelt Mt.			Morning Miracles Group		583.26	Stepping Stones Group (w)	28.00	88.00
Brandon Sat. Night Group			Mustard Seed Group		39.82	Sulphur Springs - Disbanded		
Brandon Tues. Big Book Grp		455.00	New Beginnings - Brandon	130.00	325.00	Sun City Center Group		400.00
Brandon Young @ Heart			New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's	92.92	519.89	Sunday Speakers - 3333	60.00	420.00
Bring Your Own Big Book Gp.			Newcomers Group (Joe's Club)			Sunshine Group		585.00
By The Book Group			New Day Group	130.00	444.00	Sunrise Meeting Our Club		
Came To Believe Group		650.00	New Way Women's Group			SWAMP Group (w)		
Cardinal Group - Odessa		780.00	Nightly Newcomers Group		10.00	Tampa Bay Area Institutions	1,225.60	1225.60
Carrollwood Group	2.50	7.50	Noon AA Meeting Brandon			Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
Carrollwood NS Group			Noon Big Book Group-The Club		92.12	Tampa Bay Young Peoples		623.08
Challenge of Living Sober		150.00	Nooners Group		49.85	Tampa Palms Big Book		124.00
Clair-Mel Positive Thinkers Gp.			Noontime Celebration Group		845.00	Temple Terrace Men's Group		50.00
Clean Air Group (301)			North Tampa Young & Restless			TGIS Women's Group		
Design for Living Grp - Joe's		50.00	Northdale Group		130.00	Thank God It's Friday		
District 2 General Service	1,000.00	1,000.00	Odessa Group	234.00	503.43	The Meeting Place Group		125.00
Dover AA Group		61.61	Old School Group		1900.00	There is a Solution Conference		
Druid Hills Group	140.00	140.00	Oldtimer's Group - Joe's Club			Thurs. AM Discussion Group		9.39
Early Risers Group - Joe's	75.72	270.05	On the Way Home -Tampa 5:30		601.90	Town & Country Step Group		
Expect a Miracle Group		322.00	One Day at a Time Group		150.00	Town & Country Wed. Group	200.00	400.00
FCYPAA Convention		304.53	Open Air Group - Gazebo			Tuesday Night Big Book		
Fireside Group	204.74	494.74	Palma Ceia Group			Tuesday Serenity Group		
Freedom in Sobriety Group			Palma Ceia 12 Step Group			Turning Point Group -Z-Hills		
Friday Women's Friendship			Palma Ceia Big Book Study	200.00	400.00	Uptowners Group		
Gifts of Sobriety Group	135.00	471.00	Pass It On Group - Plant City		75.00	Uptown/Downtown Group		
Good Start Group - YANA		286.28	Pilgrim Group - St Leo's Univ.			Valrico Fri. Morning Group	122.00	364.00
Grupo Alegria de Vivir			Plank Owners Group		280.00	Valrico/Brandon Wed. Night Group		82.55
Grupo Latino Sobriedad		15.00	Red Chip Day Donation			Village 12 Step Group		
Grupo Hispano Salvacion			Red Door Group			Wed.NightStep Wksp Joe's		50.00
Grupo Mano Amiga			Reflections Group - 3333			Wednesday Night Women's Gp.		
Grupo Poco a Poco		15.00	Reflections Group-Lake Mag		130.00	Weedpatch Group		85.00
Grupo Una Dia Ala Vez. (PC)			Riverside Group		475.00	Wellspring Group		
Grupo Una Luz Enmicamino		5.00	Riverview Sisterhood in Sobriety		58.00	Wesley Chapel Group		
Happy Hour Group - YANA			Rush Hour Serenity Group	193.93	729.86	West Side Winners Group		50.00
Happy Hour Mtg.- Apollo Beach			Ruskin Fellowship Group			With Room to Grow Group		
Harbor Lights Group			Ruskin Tomato Patch Group			Women's Friendship Group		284.45
Helping Hands Gp.-Plant City		80.00	Safe Haven Group			Women's Perspective Conf		801.45
Hide-A-Way Group		150.00	Safe Haven Group		107.53	Zephyrhills Big Book	62.50	212.50
High Nooners Group		400.00	Saturday Night Fever Group		586.00			
Hour Glass Group		10.00	Saturday Night Live Group					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,350.96</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1427.08</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,066.25</b>	
	YTD TOTAL	12,643.87		YTD TOTAL	15992.14		YTD TOTAL	11992.19
						Grand Total for Month	5,844.29	
						Grand Total for Year		40615.20