

# **Tri-County Central Office News**

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD......KEEP COMING BACK

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 North Himes Avenue Ste. 104, Tampa, Florida 33614-2763 Phone: 813- 933-9123 E-Mail: aainfo@aatampa-area.org Web Site: www.aatampa-area.org

# September, 2020

### WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS

### **A QUESTION OF SAFETY**

Mid-summer, 1938, was a watershed period for the writing of our Big Book—it almost did not happen! Donations from the Rockefellers, Charles Towns, and others were helpful, but Bill Wilson's upcoming Big Book project remained on hold, even doubtful. Bill W. had written two pre-manuscript drafts: THERE IS A SOLUTION (Chapter One) and BILL'S STORY (Chapter two) during the late spring months of that year—Please notice the reverse order. These chapters were only a beginning effort to publish a short book that could sell for a dollar (about \$18.00 today). Happily, Doctor Silkworth added, THE DOCTORS OPINION that July.

Bill had endured financial struggle for over a year and had become understandably discouraged. By early fall he had not written anything for three months—he finally stated: "*I am not an author*." However, his partner, Hank Parkhurst, convinced him that just a few more chapters were needed to justify the \$1.00 price. Hank's adamancy was successful! Bill began writing the next two chapters, MORE ABOUT ALCOHOLISM and WE AGNOSTICS ON September 15, 1938.

Thank God for Hank Parkhurst! I have always considered Hank and Ebby Thacher as two unsung heroes of AA history, although neither of them remained sober for timely periods. Bill may have made the touchdown, but Ebby handed him the Ball and Hank became his inspiring hard-driving coach!

Not to forget Jimmy Burwell who is given credit for "God as we understood Him."

By December Bill had finished the manuscript including HOW IT WORKS, INTO ACTION, WORKING WITH OTHERS, plus four other Chapters. Jim Scott helped write the Akron personal stories and the NY stories were also included. But in early 1939, Tom Uzzell, editor of Colliers Magazine, reduced the manuscript dramatically and a Dr. Howard (perhaps an alias) changed the tone from: "Thou must under pain of drunkenness, " to "This is what we did."

The finished book was published in April of 1939. It sold for \$3.50.

So, Bill was gifted with many helpful friends as he constructed this marvelous life-saving book for us. Thank you, God!

### Bob S, Richmond, IN

The Central Office continues to remain open for business and answering the phones and we try to update our website as often as possible as new updates come in. We would ask, if you know what you already need to pick up, call or email us ahead of time and we can have your literature order ready to go when you get here. Many AA members have asked us about contributions....how can we help when our meeting is not meeting and there is no 7th Tradition Basket to pass around? Simple, if you want, just make out a check or money to the Central Office and send it in. If you want us to credit the contribution to your Home Group, let us know or you can make it as Anonymous. Whatever you decide.

I don't feel safe," someone at a meeting will share, or "Let's keep AA a safe place." And I think, "Safe from whom? Safe from what? Safe from the outside world?" Perhaps, but it is more likely that the world needs to be kept safe from me should I pick up a drink, given my drinking history. Safe. Sometimes the word seems to float lonely, unattached, through the room, seeking a context. Sometimes, hearing the word, I feel, well, unsafe. I noticed that the business meeting that normally followed the regularly scheduled meeting on the first Thursday of the month did not take place. The next month came and again no business meeting. The same thing the following month. I asked the chairperson about it. "We have business meetings when we feel like having business meetings," he said. I went to another member of the group. "We're not into business meetings," he said. The group began to seem different. A group officer wandered around with the collections from the previous three weeks seeking to know who the treasurer was. The chairperson's personality seemed to intrude more on the meeting. Vacancies in some service positions went unfilled. The offerings on the literature table looked sparse. It became difficult to share simple things about sobriety at the meeting: the premium seemed to be wit over sincerity. Then, at the group's monthly anniversary meeting, the celebrants shared their gratitude for their year or years of recovery. At the secretary's break, the elderly manager of the center where we met asked for a few minutes of the group's time. She spoke with pain and anger. She said that we weren't cleaning up after ourselves. She said that time after time the meeting place was being left in disarray: chairs weren't put away, garbage was not disposed of, the floors weren't swept and mopped. She said that some group members, when she sought to discuss the problem, gave her the runaround, that they tried to con her with flip answers. "Keep it up and I'm going to put you out of here," she announced to the stunned group. Each group has the right to be wrong (and the right to be right). Tradition Four tells us so. And yet, among the sweetest words I hear at any AA meeting these days are, "There's a business meeting following our regular meeting tonight. All group officers are asked to attend, and members of the group are encouraged to do so responsibility regarding their service commitment. A business meeting is a way of saying that we as members have a right to an accounting of our Seventh Tradition contributions with a Treasurer's report. It is a way of allowing the general service representative, through his or her report, to introduce into the consciousness of the group the idea that the group is not an end in itself but part of the service structure beyond it. It is a way of ensuring that we take our inventory so our hosts won't have to. It is a way of saying we care. Safe from each other and safe for each other, and safe for the person coming in behind us, the alcoholic who still suffersthat is what I think safe means. Safe through our Twelve Traditions from the irresponsibility that was such a feature of my active alcoholism.

Permission to reprint AA Grapevine/April 2002 Issue

District 2 - Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee covering Hillsborough & East Pasco Counties					
CONTACT(877) AATAMPA d	or (877) 228-2672	Our Next Committee Meeting			
Special note: TBAIC literature is availa TBAIC meeting which is usually held the month or the 4th Thursday of the month at the Tri-County Central Office.) Plea when obtaining materials.	e second Saturday of each from 5:50 pm to 6:50 pm	(Format/location to be determined) September 12th, 2020 9:30 AM on at the Tri-County Central Office (near Himes & Waters). If you need more			
Allan D. opened the June 13, 2020, TBAIC Serenity Prayer and the Responsibility Star D., Scott S., Larry B., Tom F., Susan O., T and John T. Allan gave his chair report, with the infor the District 2 meeting. He and Kevin have meetings twice daily with Drew Park Am PM. Allan has tried contacting the juve received a response. The Henry Street de meetings via Go-to-Meeting. Tom F. will a set-up. Scott S. presented the Treasurer's report. Th	tement. Attendees: Allan Tracy B., Chris, Judy R., mation that he shared at been conducting Zoom ethyst at 1 PM and & 7 nile center but has not tox wants to start virtual assist in coordinating the	Treatment/Jail/ Prison facilities. If you would like to join our committee <i>PLEASE COME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</i>			
approved. Larry B. read the minutes from the June 20 were approved.	-	Thank you to those groups who ha last Month:	we sent in a donation		
Tom F. received two requests calls for The male and one female. Covid-19 restriction face contact, and phone contact was not four referrals from the Liver Transplan General Hospital. He made contact with tw St. Pete area and another still in the hospi follow-up calls. A case of pocket Big Boo Transplant department. All Hillsborough County jails remain close teers due to COVID-19. Tracy B. asked if TBAIC would pay the of for the Grapevine for Pasco Women's agreed to cover the cost. She will check we sure they would accept the Grapevine and in cart. John T. suggested looking into purcha	ns do not allow face-to- successful. He received t Department at Tampa vo, one who lives in the tal. Tom will be making ks was sent to the Liver sed to all outside volun- cost of two subscriptions facility. The committee with the facility to make nclude it on their library	TBAIC Contributions (July 12th - August 8th): Early Risers Group - \$94.70, Keep It Simple, Pass It On - \$34.00, Morning Meditation - \$58.00, Ruskin Fellowship - \$45.00.			
Grapevine for distribution. Susan O. has not received any updated in Corrections Workshop.	formation for the annual	TBAIC 2019-2020 Committee Members Contact: (877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672			
Tracy B. volunteered to stamp TBAIC liter	ature at Tri-County Cen-	www.tbaic.org Position	Name		
tral Office. Meeting adjourned.		Chair	Allan D.		
Meeting aujourned.		Chair (Alt.)	Ruth N.		
The next TBAIC meeting will be Saturday	, September 12, at 9:30	Treasurer	Scott S.		
AM. Format/location to be determined.		Treasurer (Alt.)	OPEN		
		Secretary	Larry B.		
		Secretary (Alt.)	Nancy B.		
		Hills Jails	OPEN		
VTD Contributions to TD ALC	¢ 0 0 40 70	Hillsborough County Jail	Buddy H.		
YTD Contributions to TBAIC	\$ 9,642.72	Hills Women's Jails	OPEN		
Pink Can Balance 12/14/19	\$ 9,391.54	Detox & Treatment	Ed D.		
\$ 0,00 H 0 I		E. Pasco Jail-Women's	Ruth N.		
YTD Money Spent on Literature	\$ 10,377.31	E. Pasco Prison	Chris D.		
YTD Expenses	\$,3,409.46	Women's Bridge the Gap Amanda L.			
		Men's Bridge the Gap Tom F. Pre-release OPEN			
Pink Can Balance 01/11/2020	\$ 5,247.49	Juvenile OPEN			
		5 4 T VIIIIV	CT LTI		

Dr. Bob's Bookshelf	Dr. Bob's Bookshelfcontinued
The following Grapevine Article was written by Tom T. who passed away June 26, 2007. This Grapevine article supplies interesting information concerning Brown University's collection of Dr. Bob's papers and artifacts. The original is archived in the Rhode Island Grapevine committee's files. The material presented here is redacted for web references outside our website. This material is available in the original article or at Brown. March 2006 Vol. 62 No. 10 Dr. Bob's Bookshelf Browsing through the Smith Collection at Brown University Last summer, I was taken back to the earliest days of AA by visiting the Robert Holbrook Smith Collection, a selection of books and artifacts once owned by AA's co-founder and now housed in the John Hay Library at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. It was a rare opportunity to recapture the miracle we know as Alcoholics Anonymous. One of the first objects I saw was the coffee pot that AA archivists believe was used at Dr. Bob's historic first meeting with Bill W. in 1935. The collection also contains Dr. Bob's portable medicine kit and his business card, which reads: DR. ROBERT SMITHDISEASES OF THE RECTUM. ("Proctologist" sounds so much better!) But the heart of the collection is comprised of books presumably dear to Dr. Bob. At the top of the list, for me, was what may have been Dr. Bob's personal copy of the First Edition, first printing of Alcoholics Anonymous, our Big Book, published by Works Publishing Company in 1939. Since alcoholism had not yet been accepted as an illness, Dr. Silkworth's essay, "The Doctor's Opinion," was unsigned. I also examined a copy of the original Big Book manuscript, which contains instances of language slightly different	that alcoholism is a manifestation of the wish to escape from reality. Second, it posits that the first requirement for the successful treatment of alcoholism is the desire by the active alcoholic to be helpedin other words, surrender. The Spiritualist Manual, on the other hand, focused on spiritual growth and the identification and role of a Higher Power. It says that a personal relationship develops and deepens on the basis of one's understanding of a Higher Power, which it refers to in various essays as Infinite Intelligence, Creative Power of the Universe, Spirit of Infinite Wisdom, Spirit of Infinite Love and Tenderness, and Eternal Spirit of the Universe. I urge anyone with an interest in the history of AA to explore this treasure-trove of information about one of the watershed events of the twentieth centurythe birth of Alcoholics Anonymous. My hope is that it will be as revitalizing an experience for you as it was for me. The Smith Collection John Hay Library 20 Prospect St. / Box A Providence, RI 02912 Hours: Monday- Friday 9 A.M5 P.M. Appointments to see Dr. Bob's collection should be made at least 48 hours (2 full business days) in advance. A photo ID is required. There is no fee. An orientation for first-time users is available online at the Brown University website by clicking "first-time users" at the John Hay Library page. Photocopying carries certain restrictions depending on copyright, confidentiality, and physical condition of documents. For additional questions or information, call 401-863-3723 (ref).
from the form which we are accustomed to. For instance, the last sentence in the section on Step Nine originally read: "Be humble without being servile or scraping. As one of God's people, you are to stand on your feet; don't crawl on your belly before anyone." And the last sentence of the Promises read: "You say these are ex- travagant promisesthey are not" (which seems to me even strong- er than "we think not"). Then there is a fascinating spiritual essay entitled "The Assurance of Immortality" by Harry Emerson Fosdick, published in 1934, and The Bible of Mankind, compiled and edited by Mirza Ahmad Sohrab in 1939. This suggests that, in addition to his own religion, Christianity, Dr. Bob may have had some interest in Hindusim, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Judaism. A work entitled But for the Grace of GodHow Intergroups and Central Offices Carried the Message of AA in the 1940s suggests that the Boston Central Service is another great repository of AA archive material, and ex- plains that in the 1940s, Boston began to support its central service office with All Group Meetings, much as Area 61, Rhode Island, does today with its Joy of Service Meetings. I was also in- trigued by two other works: The Common Sense of Drinking, by Richard R. Peabody (1930), and The Spiritualist Manual, issued by the National Spiritualist Association in 1911. While it posited a cure for alcoholism that was almost entirely mental, The Common Sense of Drinking did offer theories that jibe with my experience	WORKING WITH OTHERS (Our Primary Purpose) Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail. This is our twelfth suggestion: Carry this message to other alcoholics! You can help when no one else can. You can secure their confidence when others fail. Remember they are very ill. Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends—this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent con- tact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives. Perhaps you are not acquainted with any drinkers who want to recover. You can easily find some by asking a few doctors, ministers, priests or hospitals. They will be only too glad to assist you. Don't start out as an evangelist or reformer. Unfortunately a lot of prejudice exists. You will be handicapped if you arouse it. Ministers and doctors are competent and you can learn much from them if you wish, but it happens that because of your own drinking experience you can be uniquely useful to other al- coholics. So cooperate; never criticize. To be helpful is our only aim. page 89 B.B.

Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc. Tampa, Florida 33614-2763

NOTES '		THE CENTRAL OFFICE	April 14 COUN
April 14	"d of Dire	ctors for Central Office	BRISEI
BOA ROD Q.	Meeting	SOBER ON SATURDAY GROUP	MARG
JOHN T.	Bp an	ctors for Central Office <b>REPRESENTING GROUP</b> SOBER ON SATURDAY GROUP VINGSOBER/PASS IT ON GROUP Office CHO CHO CHO CHO CHO CHO CHO CHO	DF 
EXCUSED		We & SOBER GROUP	-1
UNEXCUSED	BOARD.	Un Cu GROUP	F
SCOTT G.	BOARD MEM.	GROUP	BR <sub>r</sub> .
RITA Y.	BOARD MEMBER		KATHI
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER		CARLO
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER		BRIAN
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER		A.J. C.
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER		KARA
	-	·	

Office Managers COVID-19 Report for August 2020 Greetings Everyone,.

I've put together a brief synopsis of where we are currently standing here at the Central Office.

Here is a current rundown of our finances. As you can see from the Budget reports provided, we were \$7,177.03 in the red for the month of August. This is due, I'm sure, to the COVID-19 virus and the cancellation of many groups not being able to meet at their regular meeting places. We received \$4,118.72 in mail-in or brought in contributions. Our literature sales were \$3,356.54 for the month of August. Total income for the month of August was \$7,489.56. Our Cost of Goods was \$2,385.12 and subtracting COG from Total Income left us with \$5,104.44 for August. Our expenses for August were \$7,177.03. Subtracting our expenses from our Total Income, left us with \$7,177.03 in the **red**. We still have plenty of operating cash in our Money Market and Prudent Reserve, all the bills have been being paid. Lots of literature on hand and the phones are still working. A huge Thank You goes to everyone who has helped us pull through these lean months.

We did purchase two new computers---unfortunately I went over the budget. As I had stated earlier they are Lenovo ThinkCentre M630e Tiny..... DDR4 Memory with high-speed SSD storage, also had to purchase Windows Pro 10 and new Microsoft Office. It's a good thing though, because our main computer finally crashed, losing most of the data in it. We have recently put a contributions button on our web site. We STILL have not had a meeting due COVID-19. It seems to be rampant everywhere here in Florida. We will try again for a Board & Council meeting at a later date when it is deemed safe. If you need literature-etc., you will still get the 20% discount.

There will be no events put on by Central Office this year. All in all, we are still in somewhat good stable condition in spite of taking a big hit on the budget this month. We know it's been hard on a lot of you, not being able to attend meetings, low attendance, etc. but , as, the Big Book reminds us...Trust God, Clean House, and help Others... Timothy S. Central Office

	Septer	nber, 2020 page 4
	April 14th, 2020 the C COUNCIL MEMBE	Central Office Representatives met: RS REPRESENTING GROUP
	BRISEIDA S.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
	MARGARET S.	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
	DF A	TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIOUS CONTACT         SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP         "TEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP         "UN NEWCOMERS GROUP         "IN NEW HOPE BIG BOON         EXPERIENCE STRENGTH & GROUP
_	eeti.	SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP
		TEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
	BR.	TLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
	KATHIE .	SOBRIETY GROUP
	CARLOS M.	Upri- Up
	BRIAN G.	fue to
	A.J. C.	KEY_ Ther O
	KARA H.	TOWN & C TOP IGHT
)	JEFF P.	TAMPA YPG
,	KATE R.	NEW HOPE BIG BOOK
/	STEVE S.	EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH & 2 GROUP
) )	SUE Z.	CLEAN AIR GROUP
è	MICHEAL B.	VILLAGE 12 STEP GROUP
t e	JEFF H.	IT'S IN THE BOOK GROUP
	MICHEAL J.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
r	RYAN C.	NEW TAMPA MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S
ו	MARK S.	MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS GROUP
r r	ROD R.	MIDDAY MATINEE GROUP
י ר	CHARLES C.	TTF KEEP IT SIMPLE GROUP
/ 1	DAN	TTF KEEP IT SIMPLE GROUP
וו		

For all those who attend the Board and Council meetings we will continue to keep you informed by email on any updates concerning the Central Office. Until it's decided differently. Whatever happens, we will try to inform you, well ahead of time, so sit tight and relax. Make your AA meetings often, either at the ones that are still meeting face-to-face or those online. Keep in touch with your sponsor and your AA friends. Remember, our Higher Power is in charge. This too shall pass....

Why collect 7th Tradition for an online meeting? Our regular meeting locations still have operating expenses...

**Central Office and the General Service Office still have operating expenses such as...** Websites – which we may now rely on more than ever! Phone lines, rent and insurance on office space, Utility and other ongoing expenses, Paid Special Workers who deserve our continued support. Their compensation is crucial to their ability to serve us. We realize that even though the immediate need for virtual connections is relatively inexpensive, the real expenses of our fellowship continues. aasfmarin.org

ANNIVI It Work-It Really Does	ERSARY TIME —Ask them how		t!!!	ſ
GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years	
SOBER@7 GROUP	MIKE C.	09/25/11	9 YRS	1
SOBER@7 GROUP	DARLENE McK	09/10/07	13 YRS	
SOBER@7 GROUP	CAROL C.	09/07/93	27 YRS	
SOBER@7 GROUP	PATTI Mc	09/28/76	44 YRS	;
164 GROUP	LARRY B.	09/28/09	11 YRS	
SOBRENITY GROUP	MIKE McA	09/28/74	46 YRS	]
ON THE WAY HOME	BARBARA B.	09/22/15	5 YRS	
ON THE WAY HOME	WADE W.	09/25/08	12 YRS	1
ON THE WAY HOME	LISA M.	09/23/07	13 YRS	
ON THE WAY HOME	KAY R.	09/01/86	34 YRS	
ON THE WAY HOME	JORENE S.	09/24/84	36 YRS	1
<b>RIVERSIDE GROUP</b>	JEREMY C.	09/20/11	9 YRS	,
<b>RIVERSIDE GROUP</b>	AIDA	09/23/87	33 YRS	
<b>KEYSTONE GROUP</b>	BRENT M.	09/14/14	6 YRS	
KEYSTONE GROUP	CHRIS L.	09/09/14	6 YRS	
<b>KEYSTONE GROUP</b>	STEPHEN C.	09/17/13	7 YRS	
<b>KEYSTONE GROUP</b>	ERIC V.	09/10/13	7 YRS	
CAME TO BELIEVE	JOE C.	09/21/07	13 YRS	
CAME TO BELIEVE	NANCY F.	09/17/85	35 YRS	
FRIDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK	CAROL C.	09/08/88	32 YRS	
HIGH NOONERS PLANT CITY	DAVE S.	09/05/17	3 YRS	,
MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS	KIRK J.	09/01/09	11 YRS	1
JUST WHAT I WANTED	JESSICA O.	09/29/13	7 YRS	1
JUST WHAT I WANTED	JUNE W.	09/18/86	34 YRS	6
A BIRTHDAY CLUB SUPI	PORTER TO CE	NTRAL O	FFICE	5

#### A BIRTHDAY CLUB SUPPORTER TO CENTRAL OFFIC ONE DOLLAR FOR EACH YEAR OF SOBRIETY

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years	
NOONERS GROUP	JAN F.	07/22/11	9 YRS	
SOBRIETY AT SUNRISE	LEANNE M.	07/22/00	20 YRS	
FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS	BERNIE H.	07/17/94	26 YRS	
NEW WAY WOMEN'S	KATHY A.	08/28/98	22 YRS	
	CATHY C.	08/23/79	41 YRS	
SOBER ON SUNDAY	TOM W.	09/16/10	10 YRS	

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### SELF-SUPPORT-AUGUST, 2020

© Today in August of 2020 we have 223 Groups with 536 meetings a week. Contributions in August totaled \$ 4,118.72. This accounts for what 38 Groups or individuals in our area have contributed in August. Included we also received \$ 135.00 from 6 members for the Birthday Club. Our total income for August was \$ 7,489.56. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$ 2,385.12. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our August income left us with a Gross Profit of \$ 5,104.44. Our Total Expenses for August were \$ 12,281.47. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus-\$ 7,177.03 for the month of August. In spite of the COVID-19 virus, our groups are still continuing to support us however they can. Many meetings are still live, but many have gone to ZOOM for the time being due to the requirements of the facility that they meet in. We thank you for your continuing support. As they say in the rooms of AA "this too shall past." And this virus will. No matter *how good or bad* it may appear that we are doing from one month to another, it takes your consistent contributions and support 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 !!!

AAs who carry the message often carry the Grapevine



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

# **STAY SAFE STAY SOBER** Wear Your Face Cover

## Alcoholics Anonymous, COVID-19 and Our Seventh Tradition

June 19, 2020

Dear A.A. friends,

We in A.A. – here at G.S.O., along with the rest of the world – continue to experience an unprecedented situation. Without question, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Fellowship, including our organized service structure, is facing enormous challenges, locally and globally. For many of us, the most prominent example is that, for the first time in the 85-year history of our Fellowship, we are navigating the lack of face-to-face meetings. While we have found creative ways to allow for the vital interaction between one alcoholic and another, and welcoming newcomers daily, it is clear that the health crisis has other far-reaching consequences. As we all adapt to the present reality of digital meetings, the question now is, "How do we responsibly practice self-support, our Seventh Tradition?" As we can no longer pass a physical basket, we are working to find ways to support the Fellowship at all levels, from our groups to Intergroups and Central Offices, from our Districts and Areas to the General Service Office itself.

The reality is that even though meetings, Twelfth Step services and operations have shifted to a virtual environment, expenses continue to accumulate during this crisis, which underscores the importance of practicing the Seventh Tradition. Through this crisis, however, we have witnessed the many ways in which the entire A.A. Fellowship has come together to provide ongoing support. Among them:

• Many home groups are still paying rent even though their meetings cannot convene. They are also providing online meetings on platforms that may have associated costs.

• Intergroup/Central Offices are still stocking needed literature and fielding Twelfth Step calls, redirecting A.A. members and those looking for recovery to online meetings.

• Area-level committees are working to keep channels open between the Fellowship and the delegates and board members that make up our General Service Conference, as well as to do public information, corrections and other service.

• G.S.O. in New York is continuing to support all levels of service. Literature still needs to be published and distributed, calls need to be answered, online platforms still need to be updated, and support operations sustained.

In an effort to keep the membership informed during this challenging time we would like to share a brief three-minute video update from Leslie Backus, the Class A (nonalcoholic) treasurer of our General Service Board.

#### [https://vimeo.com/430834698]

Please feel free to pass this information along to members and groups in your Area to watch on their own time or to play before their online meetings.

We are so grateful for your time and attention, your dedicated service and - always - your generous support.

Yours sincerely, in fellowship,

HJiegory Job

G. Gregory Tobin General Manager

# HAVE YOU VOLUNTEERED FOR THE 12TH STEP LIST? WHY NOT! YOU CAN'T KEEP IT UNLESS YOU GIVE IT

AWAY...

Group	August	Y T D	Group	August	Y T D	Group	August	Y T D
11th Step Group- Christ King	32.00		Live and Let Live Group		80.00	Sober @ 7 Group		830.10
11th Step MeetingSun City			Living in the Solution		340.00	Sober @ 7 Anniversary	100.00	
11th Step Retreat			LivingSober/As Bill Sees It	50.00	511.50	Sober on Saturday Group	100.00	300.00
AA 101 Group			Mad Dogs Group			Sober Spirits Group		
Alpha Group			Mainely Sober Group			Soberilla		
Anniversary Dinner 2020			Magnolia Group			SoberSticks Event		200.00
Housecleaning Retreat			Mapledale Group			Soberstock Committee		
Anonymous Donations	460.82		Mid Day Matinee Group			Sobrietea Womens Group		
As Bill Sees ItRiverview		124.80	Monday Night Madness			Sobriety at Sunrise Group		277.00
As Bill Sees It Mens Odessa			Morning Express Group		237.01	Sobriety at Sunset Group		130.20
Attitude of Gratitude Group	50.00		Morning Group -Zephyrhill			Sobrenity Group		
Back to Basics Group			Morning Meditation Group			Solutions Group	65.00	520.00
Barracks Brigade Group		80.00	Morning Mindset Group			Southshore Men's Group		355.50
Beginners Group			Mustard Seed Group			Southside Men's Group # 1		1,766.00
Bel-Mar Group			My Turn Group		300.00	Southside Men's Group # 2		197.90
Bill D's Group			Never Too Early Group	160.00	160.00	Southside Men's Group #3		500.00
BIRTHDAY CLUB	135.00	1,057.78	New Beginnings Women's			Southside Men's Group #4		300.00
Brandon Free Thinkers		39.00	New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's		215.13	Spiritual Development		76.00
BrandonSaturday Night		143.03	New Beginnings Brandon		41.00	Spiritual Growth Group		300.00
By the Book Men's Group			New Beginnings-(Our Club)		623.87	Spiritual Progress Goup		
BYO 12 & 12 Group			New Day Group		0	Step at a Time Group		
Came To Believe Group			New Hope Big Book		390.00	Step Sisters in Sobriety	130.00	555.00
Cardinal Group - Odessa			New Way Women's Group		174.00	Stepping Stones Group (w)		273.14
Carrollwood Blue Roof			Nightly Newcomers Group		171.00	Sun City Center Group		107.20
Carrollwood Group			Nooners GroupRiverview		451.37	Sunday Afternoon Step Mtg		175.50
Carrollwood Women's Group			*	64.00	342.79	Sunday Speakers - 3333		225.00
Carrollwood Women's Group			Nooners GroupTampa Noontime Celebration Gp.	04.00	<u>342.79</u> 500.00	Sunday Speakers - 3333 Sunshine Group		910.00
					500.00			910.00
Clean Air Group	150.00	20.51	Northdale Group			Swamp Meeting		
Close to Home Group	150.00	150.00	Odessa Group		2 0 2 5 1 0	Sweet Surrender Group		
Design for Living Group			Old School Group		3,925.18	Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
District Two General Service			Old School Group All Groups			Tampa Bay Institutions	50.00	350.00
Dover Group			Oldtimer's Group - JC			Tampa Bay Speakers Gp.		
Druid Hills Big Book Group		219.05	On the Way Home Tpa 5:30		144.30	Tampa Bay Young Peoples		
Early Risers Group - Joe's		81.63	One Day at a Time Group		202.15	Tampa Bid for FCYPAA		
Expect a Miracle Group		337.00	Palma Ceia Group		0.36	Tampa Group		150.00
Experience, Strength & Hope	25.00		Palma Ceia 12 Step Study			Tampa Nightly Newcomers	157.37	157.37
Fear Not Group	20100		Palma Ceia Big Book Group		200.00	Tampa Palms Big Book	150.00	240.00
Fireside Group			Pathfinders Group		200.00	Tampa Palms Monday Men's	190.82	481.54
Follow Our Path Group			Pilgrim Group -St Leo's		208.98	Tampa Recovery Group	190.02	401.34
Freedom in Sobriety Group	167.69				330.00	TGIS Group		142.58
	107.09		Plank Owners Group		330.00	Thank God it's Friday Group		
Fresh Start Group			Plant City Keep it Simple	11.00	11.09	•		190.81
Friday Freedom Group			Primary Purpose Group	11.08	11.08	The 164 Group		342.00
Friday Night Lights Group			Promises Meeting Group		594.86	The 164 Group Wesley Chapel		293.00
Friday Night Big book			Recovery Bootcamp Group			The 164 Group USF		
Friday Night Women's Group			Red Chip Day			The Meeting Place Group	975.00	975.00
Friday Women's Friendship			Reflections Group-Lake Mag		100.00	The Next Door Group		
Gifts of Sobriety Group			Riverside Group		50.00	T & C Sisters in Sobriety		
Grapevine Gals Group	157.50		Riverview Mens Blackbelt			To Improve Conscious		
Happy Hour Group			Rule 62/Keep it Simple	138.00	138.00	Town & Country Wed. Group		300.00
Hard Knox Group			Rush Hour Serenity Group		305.42	Tues Big Book Study Gp.		
Helping Hands GpP.C.			Ruskin Fellowship Group		300.00	Tuesday Book Club Group		
Hide-A-Way Group			Ruskin 11th Step Meditation		45.00	Turning Point Group -Z-H.		345.00
High Nooners Group		800.00	Safe Haven Group		50.00	Valrico/Brandon Wed Night		124.00
High Nooners Group Plant City		150.00	Safe, Sane &Sober Group		403.35	Valrico Fri. Morning Group		
Hope Floats Group			Saturday Night Fever Gp.		384.00	UptownDowntown Group		
HOW Group			Saturday Night Live Group			UT 717 Group		50.00
In the Wind Group			Saturday Serenity Group		65.00	Wed Night Step Workshop		55.00
It's in the Book Men's Gp.	242.42	636.40	Seekers of Serenity II Group	8.39	68.54	Wed Keep it Simple Group		
Just What I Wanted Big Book	4.25		Simply Sobriety Women's	5.07	306.89	Weedpatch Group		
Keep It Simple - YANA	F.#J		Singleness of Purpose		200.07	Wellspring Group		285.00
Keep It Simple/Pass It On			Sisters in Sobriety Group			Wesley Chapel Group		278.33
			· · ·		-			210.33
Keep it Simple Group Dade City	363.68		Sisters in Sobriety Raffle			With Room to Grow Group	a	
Keystone Group			Sisters in Sobriety Group 50/50			Women's Big Book Tampa	80.70	80.70
Keystone All Groups			Sober @ 6 Group		690.73	Women's Big Book Ruskin		103.25
Kingsway Group		215.00				Women's Friendship Group		138.50
Kingsway Group						YaYa Sisterhood of Sobriety		
Lemon Tree Group								
Life Enrichment Group		504.13						
Little Harbor Grapevine Group		175.00				Total	1,898.89	
*			Total	431.47				
Total	1,788.36					Monthly Total		
	,			1				
	YTD Total	27,900.42		YTD Total	12,926.51		YTD Total	13.080.62
		,, oo. 12			,0.01	Grand Total	53,907.55	
			1	1		Granu Lotai	33,907.33	1