

THE COURIER

Naples Area Intergroup
1509 Pine Ridge Road, Unit B
Naples, Florida 34109



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www.aanaples.org

November, 2018

gratitude \ˈgrat-e-t(y)ud\ *n.* a strong feeling of appreciation to someone or something for what the person has done to help you.

A Full and Thankful Heart...

One exercise that I practice is to try for a full inventory of my blessings and then for a right acceptance of the many gifts that are mine—both temporal and spiritual. Here I try to achieve a state of joyful gratitude. When such a brand of gratitude is repeatedly affirmed and pondered, it can finally displace the natural tendency to congratulate myself on whatever progress I may have been enabled to make in some areas of living. I try hard to hold fast to the truth that a full and thankful heart cannot entertain great conceits. When brimming with gratitude, one's heart heal must surely result in outgoing love, the finest emotion that we can ever know.

Bill W.

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Nominating Committee Formed

Nominations for Naples Intergroup Steering Committee 2019 positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are required for a vote by Group Representatives at the December, 2018 Intergroup Meeting. Job descriptions for these positions are shown on page 5 of this *Courier*. Anyone wanting to nominate a qualified person should contact the nominating committee. The nominating committee is composed of the current Chair, Vice Chair, and Office Manager. Contact information is located on page 12 of this *Courier*. Nominations can also be given to your Home Group Intergroup Representative.

We're Grateful for All Our AA Office Volunteers...

Judy W., Tona S., Ivan B.,
Peter C., Ken H., Diane B.,
Ted S., Nikki E., Holly M.,
Jake M., Mary B., Holly G.,
Mary Pat B., Mari D.,
Bill C., Mike R. and Steve K.
and

After-Hours Phone Volunteers...

Mike S., Peter C., Nancy K.,
Bill S., Jonathan D., Ralph W.
Heather B., and Mary B.

STEP ELEVEN: “Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

TRADITION ELEVEN: “Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”

TRADITION ELEVEN: (Long Form) “Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.”

CONCEPT ELEVEN: *“The Trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.”*

117th Step Prayer: Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life

TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

This is a Checklist for Tradition Eleven.

Reprinted with permission from Service Material from the General Service

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

You Must Not Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
 When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
 When the funds are low and the debts are high,
 When care is pressing you down a bit,
 Rest if you must but don't you quit.

Life is strange with its twists and turns
 As everyone of us sometimes learns,
 And many a failure turns about
 When he might have won had he stuck it out.
 So don't give up through the pace seems slow.
 You might success with another blow.

Success is just failure turned inside out,
 The silver lining on clouds of doubt.
 And you never can tell how close you are,
 You might be near when it seems so far.
 So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit.
 It's when things go wrong that you must not quit.

2019 Nominations for Naples Intergroup Steering Committee



According to the By Laws of Naples Area Intergroup, nominations for the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are to be made by a Nominating Committee at the November Intergroup Meeting. **Nominations from the floor are welcome at the November or December Intergroup Meetings.** Each Nominee should give a brief description of their qualifications at the meeting. **Job Descriptions can be found on page 5 of this Courier.** The suggested length of sobriety for all officers is two years. The term of office is two years, effective January 1,



Thanksgiving Time

THIS is a season for counting our blessings and for giving our thanks. Does any fellowship have a greater store of God's gifts than Alcoholics Anonymous?

With a single voice, we would surely make this reply: No, none are more fortunate. We were blind, yet we have been given a vision. We once sickened, yet we now regain our health. We once warred with ourselves and all about us, yet we find ourselves in more security, unity and peace than ever before. We had lost the meaning of true love and service, yet we are rediscovering these very things. Onetime outcasts, we now belong with each other and are citizens of the world. We have been given a real purpose and, God willing, a great destiny.

Once the least deserving of people, why have we been entrusted with gifts such as these? No man may say; only God in His infinite wisdom can really know.

Bill W.

A BUCK IN THE BASKET? Maybe it's time for a raise.

Take me out to the ball game but I won't expect you to buy me a hot dog, too. Those who participate in the highway robbery of buying refreshments at sports events pay something like \$6.00 for the beers and \$5.00 or more for the hot dog. (I can remember when one got a whole case of beer at that price.)

It's a harsh fact that inflation has us by the throat and is choking us to death. Those of us who are no longer kids feel pinched and distressed by the ongoing soaring prices.

So how does this affect Grapevine readers? In order to keep operating, businesses like the Grapevine must raise their rates to keep this battle against the roaring tiger under control. Gasoline hovers around \$2.50 to \$3.00 a gallon. Movies cost in the neighborhood of \$8.00. We are all aware of these facts. Let's look at AA meetings, something dear and essential in our lives, which are treated shabbily by far too many members.

When I first came to AA in 1963, the accepted contribution was \$1.00, which seemed to pretty well cover expenses. That dollar from 1963, the average "dues" paid by most members, when adjusted for inflation is equal to just 16 cents today!

How--and why--should this be you might ask. The cost of food and others essentials, like coffee, has tripled in forty years. The cost of rent for most meeting places has shot up, too. Literature, directories, coffee, cream and sugar, paper cups, it all adds up.

We have not really paid serious attention to inflation in AA, even though we'd have to be blind not to recognize its serious nature. Churches, which so generously make their facilities available, deserve a larger rental fee. The bite of inflation-affects them too. If we aren't paying a fair rental fee, we have to ask ourselves if we are in violation of Tradition Seven: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

Likewise, there have been continuously increasing expenses to maintain our vital intergroup offices, area assemblies, and the General Service Office in New York. They can't carry our message of recovery effectively without adequate funding, and there are millions of alcoholics around the world awaiting a message they may never hear.

Obviously, if the average contribution is only one dollar, a group of fifteen or twenty members will have little, if

any, money left over to make badly needed contributions. Does this help explain why only about half of all groups in Canada and the United States contributed to the GSO last year? That lamentable figure--only about fifty percent of the membership--is about the same for my local group's contributions to our intergroup office.

Is this responsibility? Is one dollar--less than the price of a bag of popcorn at a movie --the value that we place on AA?

Let's wake up to the dangers lurking out there. We must not deny our precious life-saving heritage to other alcoholics lurking in the wings for lack of a few more dollars from each of us, not if we truly believe our Declaration of Responsibility: "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

Editor's note: There are no dues or fees in AA. AA is here for anyone who reaches out for help. The program is given freely to anyone who wants to stop drinking, even at times when he or she may not be able to contribute financially.

What Is It Worth?

That Seventh Tradition dollar ain't what it used to be. Here are a few comparisons of prices in 1963, when the author of this article first came to AA and "the accepted contribution was \$1.00," and prices today.

First of all, what cost \$1.00 in 1963 costs \$6.11 today. Buying the same product in 2005 for \$1.00 would have cost you just \$0.16 in 1963.

COSTS: 1963 compared to 2005

1. Loaf of bread \$0.25—\$2.89
2. Gallon of milk \$0.49—\$4.50
3. 6-pack of beer \$0.—\$3.76
4. Carton of cigarettes \$1.99—\$45.00 (avg.)
5. Postage stamp \$0.04—\$0.37
6. The Grapevine \$0.35—\$1.50
7. **Contribution \$1.00—\$1.00**

Jack H.
Stanwood, Washington

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DUTIES OF INTERGROUP ELECTED OFFICERS

(per BYLAWS of Naples Area Intergroup, Inc., rev. 2015)

Chairperson

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings and shall perform such acts and duties as are customary to such office. The Chairperson shall be ex-officio member of all committees and shall perform other duties required by these bylaws.

Vice Chairperson

The Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of such chairperson. In the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, the Naples Area Intergroup Representatives present shall select a temporary person who shall assume the duties of the Chairperson during such absence. The Vice Chairperson is also responsible for organizing the Annual Meeting of the Membership in the month of November in Collier County. In addition, the Vice Chairperson shall perform other duties required by the bylaws.

Secretary

The Secretary shall perform the following duties:

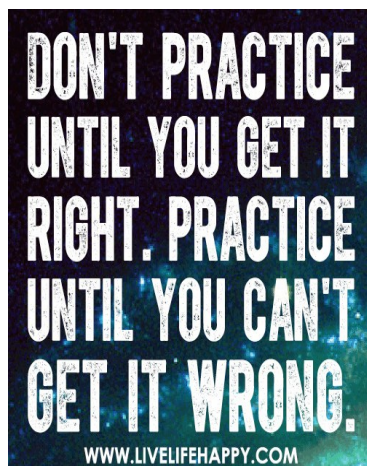
1. Record accurate minutes of each meeting in a permanent file.
2. Maintain records of attendance of Intergroup Officers and Group Representatives.
3. Maintain a Book of Resolutions at the intergroup office.
4. Memorialize all Minutes of Intergroup and Steering Committee meetings.
5. Distribute copies of the minutes in a timely manner (within two weeks of the last meeting) to the Officers and Representatives of the Intergroup.
6. The date and the time of the next monthly meeting shall be included as part of the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer

1. A working knowledge of Quick Books, as well as a basic understanding of bookkeeping and accounting.
2. Reconcile monthly bank statements.
3. Prepare and present monthly Profit and Loss statements for Intergroup meetings. The periods covered are through the end of the previous month and Year to Date.
4. Prepare and present the Treasurers report at the monthly Intergroup meetings.
5. Prepare an annual budget to be presented at the January Steering Committee Meeting.
6. Present the Treasurers report at the Annual meeting.
7. Be prepared to answer questions that arise at the monthly Intergroup or Steering Committee meetings.
8. Make checkbook, bank statements, etc. available for review, if requested.
9. Process the Office Managers pay checks on the 1st and 15th of each month.
10. Prepare and file quarterly payroll taxes (Form 941) in a timely manner.
11. Prepare and file Form W2 and W3 in the month of January for the previous tax year using IRS approved software purchased each year.

His Will....Not Mine

IT is often wisely said in A.A. that we should not become over-



anxious, should not expect to get the whole program overnight, but should take the steps one at time when we feel that we are ready for them. This means that although we are not ready at a given time to take this step or that one and are, therefore, not then taking it, we should be disposing ourselves toward it. It never means that we should plan on avoiding any of the steps.

Practice of the 11th Step is the surest method of disposing oneself toward all the other steps. It was only through seeking contact with God through meditation and prayer that some of us came to believe in Him and became willing to turn our wills and our lives over to Him. The wish to improve that contact, the searching for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry it out, gives us strength to make amends, to do

the things necessary to remake our lives. Unless we improve our contact with God we will gradually lose it. There will be a slow return to indifference and we will suffer that let-down that so many experience after a few months in A.A. Gradually old desires return with increasingly great urgency. The alteration in conduct that we have made for a few months has not been sufficiently sustained to lead to a change in character, and the deeper habit patterns reassert themselves. Growth in spiritual understanding alone will dispose us to make the effort to recondition ourselves, to change our emotional attitudes and bring about a true character change.

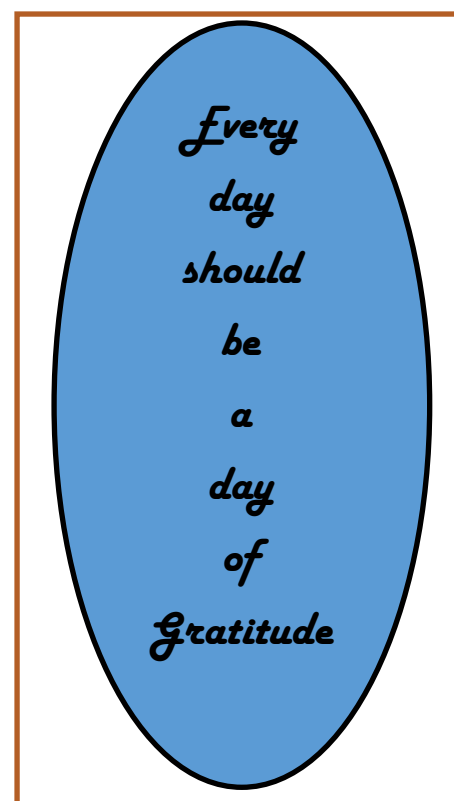
For specific suggestions for practicing the 11th Step we turn to the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, as we do on all A.A. questions, before going ahead on our own. Applying the wisdom we find there, we turn with newly awakened interest and intensity to the practices of our particular religious denomination, if we have one; we sometimes select and memorize a few set prayers; we may study the recorded thoughts of others; but in any event we make it a practice in the morning to ask God to guide us during the day, and thank Him at the day's close for His many blessings. We are careful never to pray for our own selfish ends, but ask especially for freedom from self-will

and knowledge of God's will for us.

Some of us have found the following verse helpful on awakening, when all our wishes and hopes for the day rush at us like wild animals; the first thing we must do is shove them all back, and listen to that other voice, letting a calmer, quieter, stronger life flow into us: "Every morning rest your arms awhile upon the window-sill of Heaven and gaze upon your Lord, and with that vision in your heart turn strong to meet your day."

All of which, of course, is calculated to keep us from taking that first drink. It works --it really does.

Reprinted with permission from the AA Grapevine, Sept 1945, Vol. 2, No4)



TRADITION ELEVEN



Providence has been looking after the public relations of Alcoholics Anonymous. It can scarcely have been otherwise. Though we are more than a dozen years old, hardly a syllable of criticism or ridicule has ever been spoken of AA. Somehow we have been spared all the pains of medical or religious controversy and we have good friends both wet and dry, right and left. Like most societies, we are sometimes scandalous--but never yet in public. From all over the world, naught comes but keen sympathy and downright admiration. Our friends of the press and radio have outdone themselves. Anyone can see that we are in a fair way to be spoiled. Our reputation is already so much better than our actual character!

Surely these phenomenal blessings must have a deep purpose. Who doubts that this purpose wishes to let every alcoholic in the world know that AA is truly for him, can he only want his liberation enough. Hence, our messages through public channels have never been seriously discolored, nor has the searing breath of prejudice ever issued from anywhere.

Good public relations are AA lifelines reaching out to the alcoholic who still does not know us. For years to come, our growth is sure to depend upon the strength and number of these lifelines. One serious public relations calamity could always turn thousands away from us to perish--a matter of life and death indeed!

The future poses no greater problem or challenge to AA than how best to preserve a friendly and vital relation to all the world about us. Success will rest heavily upon right principles, a wise vigilance, and the deepest personal responsibility on the part of every one of us. Nothing less will do. Else our brother may again turn his face to the wall because we did not care enough.

So the Eleventh Tradition stands sentinel over the lifelines, announcing that there is no need for self-praise, that it is better to let our friends recommend us, and that our whole public relations policy, contrary to usual customs, should be based upon the principle of *attraction* rather than promotion. Shot-in-the-arm methods are not for us--no press agents, no promotional devices, no big names. The hazards are too great. Immediate results will always be illusive because easy shortcuts to notoriety can generate permanent and smothering liabilities.

More and more, therefore, are we emphasizing the principle of personal anonymity as it applies to our public relations. We ask of each other the highest degree of personal responsibility in this respect. As a movement we have been, before now, tempted to exploit the names of our well-known public characters. We have rationalized that other societies, even the best, do the same. As individuals, we have sometimes believed that the public use of our names could demonstrate our personal courage in the face of stigma, so lending power and conviction to news stories and magazine articles.

But these are not the allures they once were. Vividly, we are becoming aware that no member ought to describe himself in full view of the general public as an AA, even for the most worthy purpose, lest a perilous precedent be set which would tempt others to do likewise for purposes not so worthy.

We see that on breaking anonymity by press, radio, or pictures, any one of us could easily transfer the valuable name of Alcoholics Anonymous over onto any enterprise or into the midst of any controversy.

So it is becoming our code that there are things that no AA ever does, lest he divert AA from its sole purpose and injure our public relations. And thereby the chances of those sick ones yet to come.

To the million alcoholics who have not yet heard our AA story, we should ever say. "Greetings and welcome. Be assured that we shall never weaken the lifelines which we float out to you. In our public relations, we shall, God willing, keep the faith."

Bill W.

FINANCES**Oct. YTD****Income**

Literature/Merchandise	\$3,884	39,602
Group Contributions	3,393	19,951
AA Birthdays	10	770
Faithful Five	15	366
Anonymous		

Total Income

7,276 60,690

Expenses

Bank/Credit Card Fees	90	739
Travel/Licenses/Permits	306	306
Office Supplies	53	1,035
Office Improvement		
Payroll Net	1,618	16,183
Payroll Tax	1,113	4,682
Postage		32
Printing		2,387
Purchases/Lit./Merch.	2,790	25,004
Insurance		567
Rent	500	5,000
Sales Tax	153	2,303
Telephone/www		1,889
Utilities	100	1,000
Contributions		
Computer Software		543
Computer Maintenance		74
Computer Equipment		

Total Expenses

6,274 61,757

Net Ordinary Income

1,002 -1,067

Other Income 2,345 3,802

Other Expenses 46 1,870

NET OTHER INCOME

2,299 1,932

TOTAL INCOME

3,301 864

Thank You to all who contributed to Naples Intergroup/Central Office

Spirituality and Money

"While the work of the group treasurer often involves many details, it is important to remember that the money the treasurer oversees serves a spiritual purpose: it enables each group to fulfill its primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. This is the fundamental work of A.A. and to continue it the group must keep its doors open. The group treasurer is an important part of this Twelfth Step work."

SELF-SUPPORT:

Where Money and Spirituality Mix

Naples Area Intergroup

1509 Pine Ridge Rd., Unit B
Naples, FL 34109
(50%)

District 20

District 20 Treasurer
P.O. Box 2896
Naples, FL 34106
(10%)

General Service Office

P. O. Box 459
New York, N. Y. 10163
(30%)

Area 15

Cary White
P.O. Box 56
Sebring FL 33870
(10%)

Disbursement of a Group's Funds

"After the group's basic needs are met, such as providing for rent, literature, refreshments, and insurance, the group can participate in the financial support of the Fellowship as a whole by sending money to various A.A. service entities: 1) their local Intergroup or Central Office, 2) Area 15 and District 20; and 3) the General Service Office in New York. Many groups provide financial support for their G.S.R.s attending service functions. These entities use contributions in a number of ways, always with the aim of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. *The A.A. Group Treasurer, F-96,*

*Service material prepared by the
General Service Office*

GROUP*/MEETING CONTRIBUTIONS

The six digit number next to the meeting name is their unique AA Registration Number assigned by the General Service Office in New York. This number signifies they are a "Registered Group"...Those meetings listed without a six digit number are **NOT registered with G.S.O.** and therefore not a "Group" (by AA definition), but is a "meeting".

**Please see A.A. pamphlet: "The A.A. Group...where it all begins" P-16*

Group/Meeting	Oct.	YTD
11th Step Prayer & Med., 715482	0	94
Aprendiendo A Vivre, 176467	0	0
Back To Basics	0	0
Beach Bums 641645	0	250
Big Book Comes Alive, 710427	0	48
Big Book Steppers, Bonita, 698101	48	118
Big Book Steppers, Naples, 654630	0	70
Big Book Study, 662395	0	0
Bonita Awareness, 124788	0	0
Bonita Banyan, 176463	0	0
Bonita Beginners	50	198
Bonita Happy Hour, 670997	379	1,405
Bonita Men, 654428	0	0
Bonita Saturday Night	0	0
Bonita Springs Morning, 678493	300	1,010
Bonita Springs Women's 169127	0	583
Bonita Springs Step, 134588	194	359
Bonita Unity, 103316	0	200
Bring Your Own Big Book	0	192
Brown Bag, 163924	0	680
Burning Desire, 653891	0	200
Cake Meeting	0	25
Came to Believe, 615490	0	0
Candlelight, 606877	0	0
Common Solutions, 179613	200	1,377
Early Reflections, 653770	0	1,008
Early Riser, 161795	0	1,008
East Trail, 150873	0	0
Easy Does It, 156979	0	950
Free 2 Be, 6700930	105	362
Friday Big Book	0	50
Girlfriends, 678117	0	50
Golden Gate, 123819	0	0
Good Orderly Direction, 642330	0	0
Gratitude Hour, 134223	0	500
Happy Hour, 172923	0	0
Jaywalkers, 634271	0	0
Keep It Positive, 650541	0	0
Keep It Simple, 651598	0	383
Ladies Night, Bonita, 672950	0	175
Lil'White House	0	240
Living Sober, 605904	0	37
Living Sober Isle of Capri	0	0
Men Of Naples, 634030	0	585
Morning Reflections, 660700	0	711
Naples Group, 103609	0	500
Naples Men's, 694322	0	75
Naples South, 130210	0	234
Naples Young People, 699130	0	0
New Dawn, 632504	1,200	1,200
New Women (Thursday noon)	0	400
Newcomers Coming Together, 684199	0	0
No Compromise, 681260	0	0
Not A Glum Lot	0	80
Nueva Vida	0	0
Old Timers, 698956	0	0
One Day At A Time, 120975	0	225

Group/Meeting	Sep.	YTD
Our Common Welfare	72	210
Out To Lunch Bunch, 147323	0	0
Pay It Forward, 704772	0	0
Primary Purpose Marco, 146715	450	1,125
Saturday Morning Girlfriends	0	0
Spiritual Solutions, 720796	0	0
Start Where You Are	0	0
Step By Step	0	321
Still Living Sober, 624730	0	0
Students of the Steps, 635600	0	0
Sunday Night Speakers, 665079	71	122
Sunlight Of the Spirit, 647959	52	411
Sunset Serenity, 654981	0	0
Survivor's, 157268	0	50
SW 239 BID	134	134
Swamp Group, 672733	0	80
Tables of Naples, 147671	0	250
Third Tradition, 143298	0	60
Three Legacies, 679400	0	75
Thursday Women	0	200
Unity Noon Step	0	113
Unity Step	0	133
Walk The Steps With Women, 701923	0	150
Wanderers, Ave Maria	0	0
We Care, Bonita, 617011	113	549
Wednesday Step St. Johns	0	0
Where Are We	0	0
Women's Spirit	0	0
Women's Step, 159957	0	0

AA Groups/Meetings listed here are those which are either registered as a Group at the AA General Service Office in New York, or, have contributed financially to the Naples Area Intergroup.



Sought Through Prayer and Meditation

The lights are out, the candle is lit, the chairperson is reading the Eleventh Step Prayer aloud, and the people around me have their eyes closed. This is not your ordinary AA meeting. This is the Saturday night 6:15 P.M. Eleventh Step Meditation Meeting at the Crane Road Group, and it has been at the core of my meeting repertoire for over three years now.

Our Big Book tells us, "The have to live it." This is why I be truly "happy, joyous and emotional balance, if I want to gram, then I have to enlarge resting in the presence of God, necting to the power I need to daily basis.



spiritual life is not a theory. We love this meeting. If I want to free," if I want serenity and taste the true fruits of our pro-my spiritual life. Meditation, has become my means of con-carry out God's will for me on a

I have often heard people share how the incorporation of prayer into their lives was a fairly simple process, but meditation was a bit more difficult to fit into their schedules. Either they felt silly sitting still "doing nothing," or simply could not sit for any length of time without their speeding minds infringing on the peace they'd hoped to find. Yet our meeting has hooked many a non-meditator. Some have gone from no meditation to twenty minutes a day. Others choose to meditate only with the group on the meeting night. But the benefits both describe from the power in the group meditation are more than inspiring.

Sobriety, according to Bill W., is only the first of many spiritual awakenings. I need to continue to grow spiritually to become the person my Higher Power intends me to be. In my journey, meditation has been the bridge from belief in God to trust in God--and oh, what a world of difference between those two places.

Meditation

Now that I have survived getting sober and have begun my spiritual journey in recovery, meditation has become a valuable tool in my daily life. Why meditate? Because it helps us to live in the now and is suggested in the Eleventh Step: "Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him. . ."

When I first got sober I was filled with fear and self-loathing. It was suggested that I try to meditate to help with the severe anxiety and insomnia I suffered from. My response to the suggestion was, "But I can't meditate." Yet, I had never tried to meditate; it was hard for me to imagine just sitting still and being with myself.

I have since learned that anyone can meditate. You don't have to be a yogi mystic or join an ashram to learn how. After medicating and anesthetizing myself with alcohol, I found I needed something to be gentle with my vulnerable self. That something for me was meditation.

My life was so full in recovery, I was finding it hard to accomplish all the things that I wanted to do in a day, trying to make up for twenty years of time lost because of active alcoholism. I wanted to get well yesterday, yet I resisted trying meditation because it was new and different. "I can't find the time to meditate, what with meetings, school, and just life in general." My sponsor responded with, "Make the time for yourself! Like meetings, eating well, and exercising, meditation is a wonderful daily gift of self-love. Find a special place, your own private retreat, to meditate for just twenty minutes a day."

Celebrate Your Sobriety ... Join the Birthday

Birthday Plan Members:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Sobriety Date</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Home Group</u>
Ron P.	03/29/70	45	Beach Bums
Ron L.	07/24/78	38	Gratitude Hour
Don M.	03/09/80	38	Bonita Unity
Rad W.	08/20/85	33	Gratitude Hour
Jackie T. F.	04/25/84	33	Morning Reflection
Dennis F.	07/15/84	27	Unity Step
Richard K.	11/25/90	27	Miami
Peter F.	03/01/95	23	Easy Does It
Bill S.	01/11/02	16	Brown Bag
Mary B.	07/22/02	16	Brown Bag
Karen B.	02/11/09	7	Brown Bag
Heather W.	03/22/00	17	Naples Group
Judy W.	03/21/86	31	Easy Does It
Laura T. F.	06/16/16	1	Morning reflection
Steve K.	07/29/92	26	Primary Purpose
Sarah B.		14	
Steve L.	08/28/93	25	Early Reflection
Dale P.	05/29/98	20	

History of the Birthday Plan...

The 1955 General Service Conference approved the Birthday Plan, under which members of the Fellowship send a dollar a year for each year of sobriety they have in A.A. Others use a figure of \$3.65, a penny a day, for each year. Some give more, but the amount cannot exceed \$3,000 for any year. Special envelopes are available to send your Birthday Plan contribution.



become a Faithful Fiver

“Every A.A. wants to make sure of his survival from alcoholism, and his spiritual well-being afterward. This is just as it should be. He also wants to do what he can for the survival and well-being of his fellow alcoholics. Therefore he is bound to have a vital interest in the permanence and well-being of A.A. itself.”

Bill W., *Language of the Heart*, p.166

What are Faithful Fivers?

Faithful Fivers are A.A. members who graciously contribute \$5.00 or more each month to support Naples Inter-group/Central Office.*

*contributions are limited to \$3,000 per member per year and are tax deductible under Internal Revenue Code 501 (c)(3).

*Page 9, Self-Support Pamphlet

Welcome

FAITHFUL FIVERS

KAREN B., (04/17), RON L., (07/19), CHUCK W., (03/17),

TOM H., (01/18), BILL S., (01/18), MARY B., (03/18), JAMES B., (07/19)

THERESA R., MONTHLY, JEFFREY S., MONTHLY,

JUDY W., (01/18), KATHRYN M., MONTHLY

District 20

(Collier County, the portion of Monroe County bordered by Collier and Miami-Dade Counties, and the portion of Hendry County below the northernmost boundary of Collier County.)

District 20 Officers:

Chairman:

Jerry E., 776-6767
chair@district20aa.org

Alt. Chair:

Mike B., 777-4812
altchair@district20aa.org

Treasurer:

Jordon M., 331-9545
treasurer@district20aa.org

Registrar:

Mary B., 777-8066
registrar@district20aa.org

Secretary:

Tiffany M. 227-8669
secretary@district20aa.org

Service Committees:**Treatment/Accessibilities-**

Robert C., 784-8514
bcrowe616@aol.com
treatment@district20aa.org
Business meeting the first
Thursday of each month at
7 p.m., 24 Hour Club

Corrections

Blake B., 285-7174
corrections@district20aa.org
Business meeting the second
Tuesday of each month at
5:30 p.m., 24 Hour Club

Public Information/CPC

Ronny P., 269-8251
Business meeting the first
Wednesday of each month at
7pm, 24 Hour Club

Grapevine/Literature

Mary B., 777-8066
Business meeting the third
Tuesday of each month at
5:30p.m., 24 Hour Club

Archives

Laurel B., 451-0095
naplesboff@hotmail.com
Business meeting 3rd Saturday
@ 24 Hour Club at 11am

**Current Practices
Opportunity****District 20 Website**
Peggy P.E., 269-7651

The Courier is published monthly by the *Naples Area Intergroup of Alcoholic Anonymous* with an office located at 1509 Pine Ridge Road, Unit B, Naples, FL 34109-2198. This publication is by, for, and about the Fellowship of AA. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of information imply any endorsement by either Alcoholics Anonymous or The *Naples Area Intergroup*. Quotations and artwork from AA literature are reprinted with permission from AA World Service, Inc., and/or The AA

**District 20
Business Meeting:**

Last Wednesday of the
Month 7pm
Faith Lutheran Church
4150 Goodlette Road N.,
Naples, 34103
6pm GSR sharing
7pm Meeting

**Treatment
Commitments****DAVID LAWRENCE CENTER**

Every day except
Wednesday
7:00 p.m.

John G. 413-777-2065
jwg1953@gmail.com

**NAPLES COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL**

Jim P., 572-2075
jimparadise.sr@gmail.com

WILLOUGH

Sunday, Monday and Thursday
7:30pm
Ken C., kenknauf@comcast.net
J.C., 253-3602
superioryacht07@gmail.com

HAZELDEN

Monday, 7:00pm
Tom H., 777-1430
tomhigh@me.com

BRIDGING THE GAP

Melissa B.
720-982-1852
John B.
537-5862

**MONTHLY
NAPLES
INTERGROUP
MEETING**

Central Office
1509 Pine Ridge Rd.
Unit B
(next to 24 Hour Club)

First Wednesday of
month at 7:00pm

Area 15; Panel 67

(South Florida, Bahamas, US and British Virgin Islands, Antigua, St. Maarten, and Cayman Islands)

Delegate: Annie C.
delegate@area15aa.org

Alt. Del.: Shirley P.
altdelegate@area15aa.org

Chair: Tom W.
chair@area15aa.org

Treasurer: Cary W.
PO Box 56
Sebring, FL 33870
treasurer@area15aa.org

Registrar: Kevin D
registrar@area15aa.org

Secretary: Lisa D.
secretary@area15aa.org

**SERVICE
helps us
stay sober**

Naples Intergroup**Trusted Servants**

Chair:

Steve K., 430-9110
stevegk727@yahoo.com

Vice Chair:

Kathy Mc., 776-9643
katmcadam@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Brandon M., 438-5299
sw239ypaa@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Ken H., 963-7820
kenahelton@gmail.com

Members at Large:

Judy W., 207-6056
Opportunity
Opportunity

www

Mary B., 777-8066
mbrown8869@earthlink.net

Office Manager:

Bill S., 249-0523 (cell)
1509 Pine Ridge Rd., Unit B
Naples, Florida 34109-2198
naplesintergroup@yahoo.com
Phone (239) 262-6535
Fax (239) 262-0560
www.aanaples.org

Office Hours:

Monday 9am to 4pm
Tuesday 9am to 4pm
Wednesday 9am to 4pm
Thursday 9am to 4pm
Friday 9am to 4pm
Saturday 9am to 4pm
Sunday CLOSED

Office Volunteers:

Judy W., Tona W.,
Ivan B., Peter C
Ken H., Diane B.
Nikki E.,
Mary B., Holly G.,
Mary Pat B., Mari D.,
...and loyal Substitutes

After Hours Phone

Mary B., 877-8066