

THE COURIER

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



239-262-6535
naplesintergroup@yahoo.com
www.aanaples.org

October, 2018

November Is Gratitude Month

The 84th Annual Bill W. Dinner/Dance

Saturday, November 3, 2018
New York Hilton Hotel
\$125.00 per ticket

Naples Intergroup Gratitude Dinner/ Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 10, 2018
New Hope Church
\$35.00 per ticket

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.

STEP 10

After completing Step 9, amends have been made for past behavior. Step 10 requires us to continue to take personal inventory, and when we are wrong to promptly admit it. Up to this point in recovery, steps one through nine have taught us to see the truth about our behavior and how the rest of the world responds to our actions. With this awareness we can now clearly see what is going on during every moment of our day. The purpose of AA's Tenth Step is to demonstrate to ourselves that we have the ability to control our actions. We are no longer functioning like a robot under the weight of old habits or not thinking about what we are doing.

Step 10 isn't always easy to define or understand. Of course we are aware of our actions, but are we taking inventory and admitting when wrong or when we have

done wrong? An example of working Step 10 might be getting angry when someone cuts us off at a traffic light. Just as we begin to form the profanities to hurl from our open window, we recognize that the other driver will not be improved by our anger and would benefit more from our demonstration of the right way to react to anger or stress. Instead of hurling abuse, we smile as we pass the driver, even if it's not a real smile. By responding to a conflict or anger with grace, we have used Step Ten.

Another example might be that we didn't get a recent promotion. When our boss tells us it is due to poor work performance, we disagree, and because we're angry, we tell him off. Working Step Ten doesn't mean that we don't get angry ever again, or that we don't make mistakes. It means

that if we do, we admit when we're wrong. So immediately after our outburst, we calm down and apologize to our boss for our inappropriate reaction. Step 10 doesn't require us to go into a long explanation about why we're wrong or to make excuses for it. It requires only that we admit we're wrong.

As part of step 10, Alcoholics Anonymous treatment programs recommend that you do daily and periodic reviews. The daily review means that you set aside time each day to meditate or constructively review our day. Were we resentful, dishonest or afraid? Do we owe anyone an apology for something we've done or said that day? What could we do better tomorrow? While carrying out our daily review, be careful to avoid slipping into worry, remorse or fear. It is not about beating ourselves up.

Continued on page 6

STEP TEN: “Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.”

TRADITION TEN: “Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

TRADITION TEN: (Long Form) “No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.”

CONCEPT TEN: “Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined. “

10th Step Prayer: *God remove the Selfishness, dishonesty, resentment and fear that has cropped up in my life right now. Help me to discuss this with someone immediately and make amends quickly if I have harmed anyone. Help me to cease fight anything and anyone. Show me where I may be helpful to someone else. Help me react sanely; not cocky or afraid. How can I best serve You - Your will, not mine be done. AMEN (p. 84-5 BB)*

TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

**This is a Checklist for Tradition Ten.
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1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an “AA opinion” on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the “AA opinion”?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

ONLY 31 AA PAGES LATER

THE BEDEVILMENTS ARE REPLACED BY THE PROMISES

We were having trouble with personal relationships.

We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows. Self-seeking will slip away.

We couldn't control our emotional natures.

We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace.

We were a prey to misery and depression.

Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change.

We couldn't make a living.

Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us.

We had a feeling of uselessness.

That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear.

We were full of fear.

We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.

We were unhappy.

We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.

We couldn't seem to be of real help to other people.

No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others. We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it. And, most of all, We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

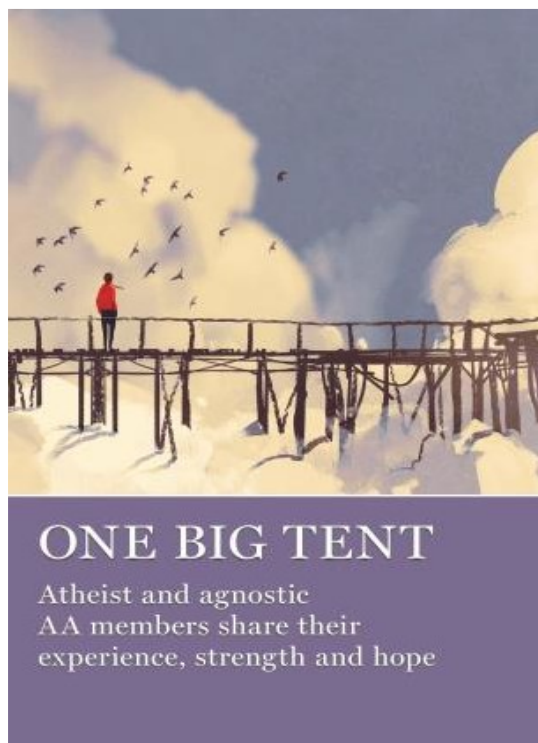
Rule 62

The Fine Print Pharmaceutical commercials have very long disclaimers. But alcoholic beverage ads just say: "Please drink responsibly." If alcohol ads had to follow the same guidelines as pharmaceutical ads, this might be their disclaimer:

Caution: Drinking alcohol may result in vomiting, nausea, indigestion, slurred speech, frequent urination (with pants up or down), memory loss, brain damage, impaired vision, headaches, delusions of grandeur, lying, divorce, unemployment, evictions, bankruptcy, black eyes, broken bones, concussions, bleeding ulcers, cirrhosis of the liver or death! Do not consume if you are allergic to alcohol. If these symptoms persist, call the AA hotline immediately!

—Anonymous

New from GRAPEVINE



One Big Tent is a collection of stories, originally published in Grapevine, which represent the shared experience of secular AA members who have struggled with alcoholism, yet ultimately found a common solution in AA.

Atheists, agnostics, nonbelievers and secular alcoholics have been members of the AA Fellowship since its earliest days, making significant contributions to the development of the program, helping to swing the doors of AA ever Wider.

But finding their path has not always been easy.

In ***One Big Tent***, these members share how they found their place in AA, work the program, do service and spon-

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 October Intergroup Meeting (October 3rd). **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,

The Language of the Heart Bill W's Grapevine Writings

The Language of the Heart is celebrating its 20th anniversary. This publication, introduced in 1988, brought together for the first time virtually every article written for the AA Grapevine by AA co-founders, his battles with chronic depression and spiritual pride and a vivid description of founder Bill W. Bill was the Grapevine's most prolific contributor, writing more than 150 articles between 1944 and 1970.

The Language of the Heart contains all of Bill's articles, including his first thoughts about the Tradition he came to organize the Steps (there were only six in the first draft).

Bill's insights are timeless and illuminate the present with the wisdom of AA's experience in its early days.

Copies of ***The Language of the Heart*** hard bound (\$13.25), soft bound (\$12.20), and lg. print (\$14.79) are available at Intergroup/Central Office.

DUTIES OF INTERGROUP ELECTED OFFICERS

(per BYLAWS of Naples Area Intergroup, Inc., re. 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.

Continued from page 1

Step 10 is about being aware of our actions and their consequences.

The periodic review is basically taking stock of where we are and what we need to do to ensure our stay on the path to recovery. The periodic review is similar to the daily review in that we ask ourselves the same questions, but rather than reflect on the previous 24 hours, we're looking back over a month or more.

Each year, we take stock of promises made in previous steps. If there are any that we have not kept, then this is the time to rectify that wrong.

Step 10 keeps our house clean and is not about being perfect. Everyone makes mistakes, but owning up to them settles conflict before it can fester and become blown out of proportion. The Tenth Step is a natural progression from Step 9, where we make amends. Step 10 helps us keep our commitment to better behavior by serving as a motivator to act in a manner that doesn't require us to owe any apologies. Essentially, accomplishing step 10 means we've worked hard to be the person we want to be.

Gratitude is not a noun, it's a verb.

How do you act out gratitude?"

Share your Experience Strength and Hope on this topic, or another topic.
Submit your article to:

The Courier

naplesintgroup@yahoo.com

Deadline for November Articles is October 26, 2018

"I'm an Alcoholic and a"

In more and more meetings today, people announce themselves as being an alcoholic and then add whatever their second addiction may be: i.e., "I'm an alcoholic and a drug addict," "I'm an alcoholic and cross-addicted;" or, "I'm chemically addicted and an alcoholic."

This identification process, which originates in treatment centers, has slowly crept into common us- meetings. There is nothing es- pecially wrong with the idea here, but is it really nec- essary that we announ- ce our sec- ondary afflic- tions more to the point, should we

allow it? Thank God centers that many new- we surely want people. How- need the treat- ments that they bring with them. Treatment centers generally consider alco- hol to be only another drug, and their treatment includes all types of ad- diction.

In A.A. we should only be concerned with alcohol but the more we assimilate treatment center jargon and ideas into A.A. meetings, the further we are moving away from our primary purpose of staying sober and helping other alcoholics achieve sobriety. There are many people today who would like to have A.A. stand for "Addicts Anonymous." In fact, the way membership is going in some groups, that is not too far from actuality.

If this practice of announcing one's secondary problem continues to grow, it won't be long before we will be hearing announcements like: "I'm an alcoholic and a food addict," "I'm an alcoholic and a gambling addict," or "I'm an alcoholic and a sex maniac." When and where do we draw the line? If we go back to basics and abide by the Traditions, the line was drawn for us a long time ago. The only topic of discussion that we are supposed to deal with is our alcoholism. First off, if they are truly alcohol- ic and ready for the program, they will not be scared off by an explanation of what A.A. can and cannot help them with. Special meetings on the Third Tradition could be held. Also, whenever an appropriate opening arises at meetings, we can make a general objection to the announcement of secondary problems at A.A. meetings. Sponsors and older members can explain the sole purpose of A.A. to those with whom they are work- ing. We should be careful, though, not to point the finger or embarrass anyone during a meeting by telling them that they are out of order. After all, it is the announcement of secondary problems that we are objecting to, not the person or the problem itself.

Tradition Three states, "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking." The only problem that should be brought into an A.A. meeting is our alcoholism, or problems caused by alcoholism. The only announce- ment should be, "My name is _____ and I'm an alcoholic." After all, that says everything we need to know.



for the treatment are sending so comers to A.A., as and need these ever, we do not ment center prac-

Why do meetings end with The Lord's Prayer?

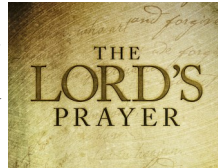
Question: How did the practice of closing an A.A. meeting with The Lord's Prayer develop? Does it go back to the Oxford Groups?

Answer: In A.A. the closing of meetings with The Lord's Prayer is common in some regions and somewhat rare in others. Many groups open with the Serenity Prayer and close with The Lord's Prayer. It is also common for groups to open without a prayer and to close with the Serenity Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer, found in The Bible

(Matthew 6:9-13), was used extensively in both

the Oxford Group and early A.A. In a letter written in 1959, Bill Wilson explaining the Lord's Prayer to each A.A. meeting-ford Groups who were influential in the early Comes of Age what the connection of these Lord's Prayer was a custom of theirs follow-easily got shifted into a general custom among us.



plained it this way: Now about the business of ing. This practice probably came from the Ox-days of A.A. You have probably noted in A.A. people in A.A. really was. I think saying the ing the close of each meeting. Therefore it quite

Of course there will always be those who seem to be offended by the introduction of any prayer whatever into an ordinary A.A. gathering. Also, it is sometimes complained that the Lord's Prayer is a Christian document. Nevertheless this Prayer is of such widespread use and recognition that the arguments of its farfetched. It is also true that most A.A.'s believe in some kind of God and that communication and strength is obtainable through His grace. Since this is the general consensus it seems only right that at least the Serenity Prayer and the Lord's Prayer be used in connection with our meetings.

It does not seem necessary to defer to the feelings of our agnostic and atheist newcomers to the extent of completely hiding our light under a bushel. However, around here, the leader of the meeting usually asks those to join him in the Lord's Prayer who feel that they would care to do so.

The worst that happens to the objectors is that they have to listen to it. This is doubtless a salutary exercise in tolerance at their stage of progress.

I was told a long time ago to shake hands when I enter an AA meeting.



I often wonder why people stop shaking hands when they come in the meeting. It wasn't until I had been in the meeting for years, I learned why I was told to shake hands. This year I went to a couple of meetings in Katy, Texas. There, people were real welcoming and thought I was a newcomer and they gave me a firm handshake. Once the meeting got started, I felt right at home. I also went to meetings in Youngstown and Cleveland and there I found few people shake hands, but when I went around to shake hands they reached out their hand to me. My experience in Columbus, was that I got lots of hugs.

This has been a question on my mind and I want to know what others think. I have been going to meetings for 19 years, at least five a week. I notice that people who have been around for a while are the ones that talk about shaking hands when they came in. Its looking like I need to do more to say we should shake hands. I know today we shake hands, so people will get to know us better. I have gone in a meeting countless times and people knew my name and I didn't remember theirs. I believe it's because when I go into a meeting I always shake hands. I guess it's all in where you live if people in your town shake hands at the meeting

I would love to see hand shaking come back for the new people, that's how I felt real love in the first hand shake.

I want the newcomer to feel welcomed and loved when they walk in their first AA meeting. I don't know a better way other than shaking hands and saying hello my name is Lynette. □

Source:

FINANCES

| | Sep. | YTD |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Income | | |
| Literature/Merchandise | \$2,705 | \$36,018 |
| Group Contributions | 1,615 | 16,584 |
| AA Birthdays | 130 | 760 |
| Faithful Five | 156 | 351 |
| Anonymous | | |
| Total Income | | 53,713 |
| Expenses | | |
| Bank/Credit Card Fees | 67 | 661 |
| Travel/Licenses/Permits | | |
| Office Supplies | 103 | 982 |
| Office Improvement | | |
| Payroll Net | 1,618 | 14,565 |
| Payroll Tax | | 3,568 |
| Postage | | 32 |
| Printing | | 2,387 |
| Purchases/Lit./Merch. | 1,666 | 22,214 |
| Insurance | | 567 |
| Rent | 500 | 4,500 |
| Sales Tax | 400 | 2,151 |
| Telephone/www | 832 | 2,338 |
| Utilities | 100 | 900 |
| Contributions | | |
| Computer Software | | 543 |
| Computer Maintenance | | 74 |
| Computer Equipment | | |
| Total Expenses | 5,286 | 55,483 |
| Net Ordinary Income | -679 | -1,769 |
| Other Income | -727 | 1,147 |
| Other Expenses | 727 | 1,825 |
| NET OTHER INCOME | -727 | -668 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$-1,406 | \$-2,437 |

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 | Sep. | 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 | 28 | 48 |
| Big Book Steppers, Bonita, 698101 | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | 0 | 148 |
| Bonita Happy Hour, 670997 | 487 | 1,026 |
| Bonita Men, 654428 | 0 | 0 |
| Bonita Saturday Night | 0 | 0 |
| Bonita Springs Morning, 678493 | 0 | 759 |
| Bonita Springs Women's 169127 | 0 | 583 |
| Bonita Springs Step, 134588 | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | 0 | 1,177 |
| Early Reflections, 653770 | 0 | 1,008 |
| Early Riser, 161795 | 0 | 1,008 |
| East Trail, 150873 | 0 | 0 |
| Easy Does It, 156979 | 500 | 950 |
| Free 2 Be, 6700930 | 0 | 258 |
| Friday Big Book | 0 | 50 |
| Girlfriends, 678117 | 0 | 50 |
| Golden Gate, 123819 | 0 | 0 |
| Good Orderly Direction, 642330 | 0 | 0 |
| Gratitude Hour, 134223 | 250 | 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 | 100 | 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 | 250 | 500 |
| Naples Men's, 694322 | 0 | 75 |
| Naples South, 130210 | 0 | 234 |
| Naples Young People, 699130 | 0 | 0 |
| New Dawn, 632504 | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | 0 | 138 |
| Out To Lunch Bunch, 147323 | 0 | 0 |
| Pay It Forward, 704772 | 0 | 0 |
| Primary Purpose Marco, 146715 | 0 | 675 |
| 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 | 0 | 0 |
| Sunlight Of the Spirit, 647959 | 0 | 359 |
| Sunset Serenity, 654981 | 0 | 0 |
| Survivor's, 157268 | 0 | 50 |
| SW 239 BID | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | 0 | 436 |
| Wednesday Step St. Johns | 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.



Origins of the Alcoholics Anonymous Preamble

Q. Who wrote A.A.'s Preamble? And when was the word "honest" dropped from it (i.e. "honest desire to stop drinking"), and why?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problems and help others from alcoholism. The only requirement for a desire to stop are no dues or membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.



A. The Preamble first appeared in the Grapevine in June 1947, and was written by Tom Y., the Grapevine editor at that time. The aim was to offer a concise definition of A.A. Shortly thereafter, the Preamble began appearing in each monthly issue of the Grapevine, and later on in much of our A.A. Conference-approved literature. It came to be called the preamble because it is so often read at the opening of A.A. meetings. The original version of the Preamble contained the wording, "an honest desire to stop drinking." However, since the adoption of the short form of the Traditions in 1950, the Third Tradition has always read, "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking" and this form was used by Bill in writing the book, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. In 1958 the expression "honest desire" was discussed at great length at the General Service Conference. It was felt that it was impossible to determine what constitutes an

"honest" desire to stop drinking, thus the word was dropped. The version of the Preamble without the word "honest" first appeared in the September 1958 issue of the Grapevine. There have been other versions of the Preamble, written by A.A. members for their local groups' use, which were then circulated around A.A.; for example: the "Texas Preamble," the "Wilmington Preamble," etc. Many A.A. members find these interesting, though they have never been adopted by the Fellowship as a whole.

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Two Bucks is the new dollar.

Have you been able to stay away from a drink because of AA? Have you gotten your life back? How much is that worth to you? In the rooms, we AA members agree that our sobriety is an undeserved gift from a higher power. While the message is free, our Central Office (and Intergroup and Area) has expenses to carry the AA message. For those of us who can afford it, it is our responsibility to put more than a dollar in the basket. Many of our members go beyond this! However, many more do not. Where we used to give \$1, we must try to give \$2. And those of us not giving at all, we must try giving something and have faith we will be taken care of for helping. It works, it really does. Are you giving more to the coffee chain on the corner than to the Program that gave you your life? Part of spiritual growth is adapting to reality. The reality is the world is more expensive and a buck doesn't go far enough. Let's

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
MEETINGI**

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, Ba-
hamas, US and Brit-
ish Virgin Islands,
Antigua, St. Maar-
ten, and Cayman Is-
lands)

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., Eli F.,
Mary B., Holly G.,
Mary Pat B., Mari D.,
...and loyal Substitutes

After Hours Phone

Mary B., 877-8066