

THE COURIER

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



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www.aanaples.org

August 2022

Editorial: On The Eight Step

"Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all."

It was characteristic of many of us as alcoholics to at least attempt to perform in the grandiose manner. And in harming others we usually succeeded magnificently. So, to say that the first phase of the Eighth Step is a large order is to indulge in understatement which matches our bombastic style.

And yet, however extended be the list of those we have harmed, the fulfillment of this step's admonition need not be a tedious nor a burdensome undertaking. In the first place, let's examine the meaning of the verb: Amend.

Webster's New International Dictionary defines it thus --"To make better, especially in character; to repair, restore; to free from faults, put right, correct, rectify. . ."

There is the credo to which we of A.A. subscribe; the goal we hope to achieve through sobriety. It is both the manifestation of our adherence to the other 11 Steps and our performance of the Eighth itself.

The definition continues:

". . . to change or modify in any way for the better; to recover from illness." It was written for us!

We have often heard that our sobriety should be founded on "unselfish selfishness", that we should strive to avoid a lapse into drinking for the benefits we, personally, derive from abstinence. It's not sound, we have been told, to try to stay dry for the sake of a wife or a sweetheart or someone else dear to us.

When we first heard that plan of action outlined, we revolted mildly because it didn't seem to meet the specifications of true altruism. Many of us, as we entered A.A., still yearned for that mystic power to "handle" alcohol and it seemed then that the step we were taking was at least in part --a gesture of devotion to some loved one. Without altruism there didn't seem to be much motive to propel us.

Of course, we soon discovered that "unselfish selfishness" was the firmest foundation for our recovery. We found, in the same way, that we try to help others, not solely through altruistic impulse, but so that we may gain strength.

The principle of "unselfish selfishness" is applicable again in the Eighth Step. We seek to identify all those we have harmed and we assume a willingness to make amends so that --recalling the definition of the word --we may "change . . . for the better" and "recover from illness."

The alternative is retrogression. If we fail to "repair", we can only impair.

L. J.

Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, July, 1945

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS PREAMBLE:

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA 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 achieve sobriety. (AA Grapevine, Inc.)



The EIGHTH MONTH of Alcoholics Anonymous

STEP EIGHT: “Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.”

TRADITION EIGHT: “Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional,

CONCEPT EIGHT: “The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) ...for policy and finance, they are the principle planners and administrators. ...(b)...incorporated and constantly active service, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial; oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.”

8th Step Prayer: “Higher Power, I ask Your help in making my list of all those I have harmed. I will take responsibility for my mistakes and Be forgiving to others as You are forgiving to me. Grant me the willingness to begin my restitution. This I pray.”

TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

This is a Checklist for Tradition EIGHT. Reprinted with permission from Service Material from the General Service Office.

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward - even if not money - for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself?. On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
7. Have I paid enough attention to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions? To the pamphlet AA Tradition – How It Developed?

**“How do I know when I’m doing God’s will?
I don’t ... but, I KNOW when I’m not.**

AA GRAPEVINE, February 2003

Love Empathy and Compassion No Criticism or Character Assassination

By Rick R.
Miami, Florida

Hanging on to resentments and criticizing the behavior of others is often a noticeable characteristic of some members of the program that never find the serenity and peace that is mentioned in the promises. For some people it seems impossible to let their guard down. I think that most of us can understand this, simply because we have all had to face this issue and deal with it as we went through the Twelve Step process. One of the things that I learned when I was faced with this matter was that I had a *self-esteem issue* and I overcorrected, by pointing the faults of others, to somehow make myself seem normal. This never worked for me as I could not fool my *conscience*. Things only got worse. I still worked through the steps and did what I could at the time. No one gets it perfect the first time, but we can make a second effort at it when we have established a record of living by principles. Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) meetings are a training ground for how we treat others and if we cannot accept the people there, it is a cinch we will not do it outside of the rooms.

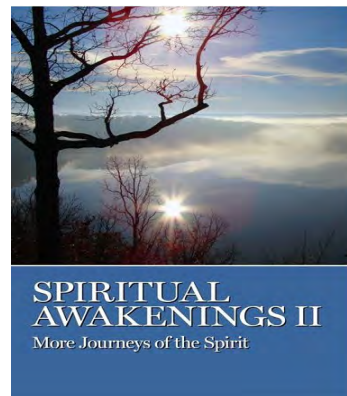
Everyone that comes to A.A. brings with them, their own assortment of mental, emotional, spiritual, and material problems, and none of us are without these concerns. If we did not have them, we would not need this program. We all feel vulnerable and establish our own firewalls, with the help of our EGO'S, to protect ourselves from our perception of what those other people are doing, saying, and thinking. We each might establish hard and fast protective reactions, mentally and verbally to protect our own turf. With so many different personalities brought together in one group, it is extremely hard to let down our guards we all feel justified when pointing out the faults of others. This is what the alcoholic personality does.

With the understanding that *most forms of criticism and character assassination stem from low self esteem*, it occurred to me that I was just as guilty of the very things that I was accusing them of. I likened it to two old men in a convalescent home hitting each other with their canes because one was not walking fast enough for the other. I had to step up to the plate and become strong enough to *look deeper into their motives and understand what caused them to behave the way they did, and not be threatened by their outside behavior*. I cannot express in words the mental freedom that this principle has produced in me. When I see someone acting out, my first thought is *not judgmental in nature but of empathy and compassion*. My next thought is "what I can do to help him or her." In time, I have come to terms with all the people that I inner act with on a day-to-day basis and I conflict with no one. To me, *they are all like kids just learning how to do life*. They all have problems, and I am not going to be one of their problems. I need to be strong enough to replaced words like *resentment, judgment, and criticism with empathy, understanding and compassion*. Today I have no adversaries that I can think of, and *peace of mind is the natural result of this approach*.

I find no exceptions to this principle, and I cannot be selective about who I apply it to. Everyone gets amnesty in my book. All those mental gymnastics about "those other people" are a distant memory and I cannot think of a single time that practicing this principle did not serve me well. The only one that is sorry for this profound and life changing transition is my EGO, but about that; who am I to criticize?

"God has continued to send me many miracles since the first one occurred the day he gave me the courage and willingness to go to my first AA meeting."

"Powerless Equals Free," Oak Park, Illinois, September 1984, Spiritual Awakenings II



I Want To Drink So Bad My Hair Hurts

For my first few months of one-day-at-a-time sobriety in AA, I suffered from a truly horrendous desire for alcohol. I didn't drink, but I had a fierce craving that never slept until I slept. One night at a meeting, sharing this desperate situation with my chums, I tried to find a form of expression that matched the enormity—the real outlandishness—of my abominable craving. And I found it. "I want to drink so bad my hair hurts!" Everyone in the room laughed, and so did I. From that moment the craving, although it did not disappear completely for several months, was more bearable and less frightening. I had laughed at it, and that made me stronger than it was.

Again and again in my sober years in AA, I've run across the power of humor, or a deft, unexpected turn of phrase, to cast a bright new light that suddenly makes a problem look different. Many of us sigh regretfully at the sad prospect of giving up alcohol. Norman and Willis, speaking at meetings separated by several weeks, handily knocked that nonsense out of me. "Ah, the joys of alcohol, how well we remember!" Norman told an open meeting audience. "We remember the soft lights, the music of ice cubes against glass, the enticing flavor and aroma of our delicious beverage...and we forget who threw up in whose lap." At another open meeting a few weeks later, Willis delivered the finishing touch to any lingering regret I might ever feel about parting from alcohol. "How could I possibly give up drinking?" Willis demanded of his audience. "I couldn't give it up and I didn't." The audience began exhibiting symptoms of shock. "Give up drinking? Give up guilt and shame and fear and bitter remorse and self-hatred? Give up constant sickness and living under the threat of death or imprisonment? You don't 'give up' garbage. You throw it away!"

However firm my conviction that removing alcohol from my life deprived me of nothing worth keeping, the fact still remained that sometimes I felt a bit pensive when others were drinking and I was not. Surely not because I thought it was unfair? I learned that life is unfair about the same time I learned the multiplication table, and a lot better. So I didn't expect life to be fair, or for me to be able to drink along with those nonalcoholic jerks—oops! I mean those charming ladies and gentlemen who can drink without getting drunk, a feat totally beyond me. One evening when I was somewhat sourly sipping my undiluted club soda and wondering if bourbon was still as delicious as I remembered from my last taste of it, eight years before, an unexpected voice murmured in my ear: "This could lead to self-pity if we let it." It was Al, a fellow AA member I had come to know and like in service work. Apparently it was his night to read minds, for he added, "I used to think it was unfair that other people could drink and I couldn't." "And now you don't think it is?" "Not since the night I got to figuring out how much alcohol I consumed before AA. I drank more than any of those socially drinking chaps would in their lifetimes, probably more than the bunch of them put together. No, you certainly can't say that not drinking me is depriving me of anything I'm entitled to. I've had my share." "I never looked at it that way before," I laughed.

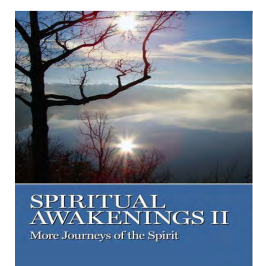
"Now that you mention it, I've had my share, too. And several other people's." That night the resentment I still had about not being able to drink with the crowd linked arms with Al's old resentment, and they staggered away together, into the past, where they belonged. If it ever shows signs of reappearing, the thought, "I've had my share!" sends it scurrying off again. I can recall visiting an open meeting where a new member was giving her first AA talk. We heard a great deal more than we either needed or wanted to hear about the upheavals in her personal life just prior to AA. We would have preferred not hearing that there was a question about the paternity of her young child—and felt reasonably sure the woman's husband and young child also would have preferred our not hearing it. Clearly it is the duty of AA women with several years of sobriety to inform these confused young women that "program of honesty" does not mean revealing the most intimate details of your life to a roomful of strangers.

Some things should be discussed only with a sponsor or when taking the Fifth Step. Now I try to carry this message, too: "You have no obligation to tell the group anything about yourself that you might regret telling later, and a responsibility not to tell anything that could hurt or embarrass someone else. Remember..." And here, laughter comes to my aid again, and I hand them the comment I heard from a witty elderly woman at a tea many years ago. The conversation had turned to a new book by a female celebrity who gave a bed-by-bed account of all the players. Asked why she didn't like the book, Mrs. X replied crisply, "If a woman isn't going to be a lady, she ought to be a gentleman!" My little lectures on early-day discretion always end with Mrs. X's pungent remark. Without fail my new friends give me hope that they may be ready to stop drinking and start living. They laugh.

Elizabeth E. Tulsa, Oklahoma Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. (February 1989). Reprinted with permission.

"When I effectively practice my program, I am only a cheap dime-store garden hose carrying God's message of hope, recovery, and forgiveness."

*"Garden Hose Sobriety," El Paso, Texas, October 2006,
Spiritual Awakenings II*



Naples Area Intergroup 2022 GRATITUDE DINNER

Saturday, November 19th @ 7:00pm

NORTH NAPLES CHURCH

6000 Goodlette Road North
Naples, Florida 34109
<https://nnchurch.org>

Tickets: \$35.00 each.



Shirley P., Immediate Past
Chairperson, Area XV
Chairperson, 65th (2022)
Florida State Convention

Purchase tickets at the INTERGROUP OFFICE,
or from your home group Intergroup Representative.

Questions: Call the Intergroup Office: 239/262-6535

“It has been difficult for me to accept myself and some of my decisions ... But I’ve done the best I can with the information available, even if it might not be someone else’s best.”

“A Tough Pull,” Bennettville, Minnesota, December 1999, In Our Own Words

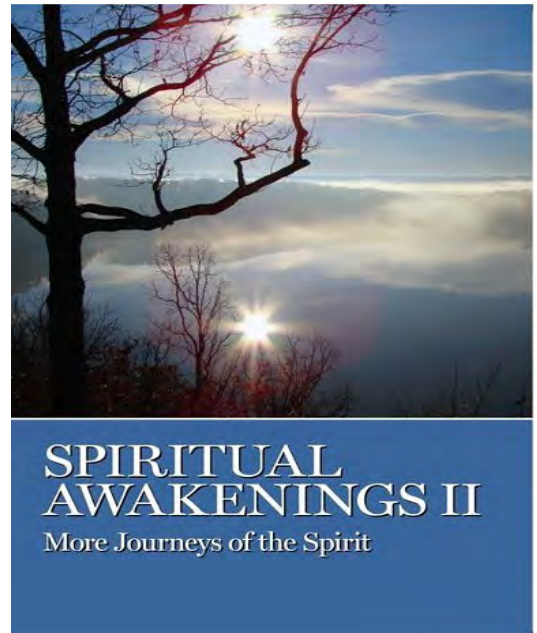


**IN OUR OWN
WORDS**

Stories of Young AAs in Recovery

“God has continued to send me many miracles since the first one occurred the day he gave me the courage and willingness to go to my first AA meeting.”

“Powerless Equals Free,” Oak Park, Illinois, September 1984, Spiritual Awakenings II



AA Volunteer Opportunities



*Naples Area
Intergroup*

Mornings: 9:00 to 12:30

Afternoon: 12:30 to 4:00

(One morning or afternoon each week.)

and, Telephone Helpline

After-hours, various days.

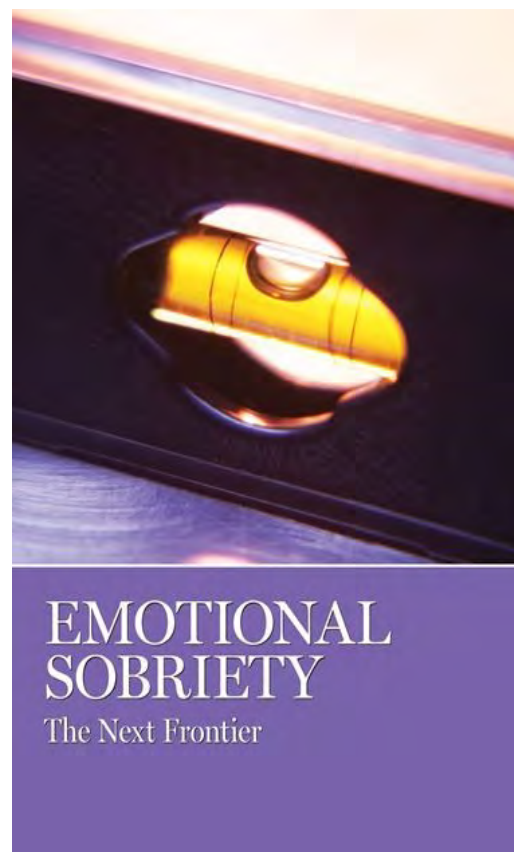
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“Self-centeredness is a poison to my emotional system. It frustrates my every effort toward a comfortable and happy existence. A terrible chain reaction begins. Fear sets in. Anger, resentment, and self-pity become my guiding forces. My only escape is to put this awful selfishness aside and become involved with the world around me.”

“The Root of Our Troubles,” December 1979,

Emotional Sobriety



**Calling all AA
Authors !!!**

**Please submit
an article to**

The COURIER !!!

Email article to:

naplesintergroup@yahoo.com



**Your Groups’
Activities
Can Be Here
Next Month.
To Highlight
Your Group,**

**Please Call Us:
Intergroup Office
239/262-6535**

A SPIRITUAL OVERHAUL ... continued from July 2022 COURIER

Donald W. Fort Myers, Florida

“Let me get you a refill,” I said to my friend as I headed to the kitchen to fill up my cup. As I popped the first pod in the Keurig and waited for the coffee to brew, I looked out at the gentleman I had been introduced to several years earlier at my home group, but I now realized that I did not really know him and then wondered if that mattered. In our recent conversations, my friend disclosed what he identified as his troubles – “my boss is a jerk, my wife is always asking me to do things after I get home after working all day, she never listens to me, the kids don’t appreciate me, and I never seem to have time to do what I want to do”. Before he was even halfway through his catalog of woes, I had formulated a response, “Dude, you are selfish”. I held my tongue.

No need to be short with my friend, it was not like I was a permanent resident of Mount Serenity, life comes after us all some days harder than others for sure. But it was easy for me to zero in on the root of his frustration because I had been down this road myself. I attended hundreds of A.A. meetings before the light went on for me. For real alcoholics, it is not about stopping drinking, it is about living sober. My friend was now struggling to find his way in a world without alcohol or drugs. Sobriety was now his new normal, but people were not following his “script”, and that was frustrating. I thought of the passage in the Big Book, “...*any life run on self-will can hardly be a success. On that basis, we are almost always in collision with something or somebody, even though our motives are good*”.

But often we can’t see our selfishness, even though it is right in front of our nose. When upset, frustrated, or disturbed by someone or something, I can produce a list of objections a mile long as to why I am being the one who has been wronged. But invariably, it always seems to come back to square one – I am being selfish. No, I don’t need to *accept my selfishness* or the external conditions which I think are the cause of my distress. Today I understand that this sort of circumstance is an opportunity to possibly learn something about my favorite subject – ME.

As I carried our coffees back out to the lanai, I thought to myself that revisiting with my friend the simple formula of “Trust God, clean house, and help others” was not going to be a matter that would be resolved over a second cup of coffee. There was not enough coffee in all of Columbia to do that.

Before my getting coffee refills, we were talking about my friend’s conception of God and that it can, should, and will be changing if we are applying the program to our daily routine. Now I was going to switch gears for a moment and ask my friend about that other discipline, inventory. After all, it must be important as the process appears in Steps 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 and is intimately connected to our relationship with God. You can separate them but like peanut butter and jelly, ‘trust God and clean house’, works best together.

“Tell me about inventory, how does the process of inventory work in your daily routine?” I said as I handed my friend a fresh cup. “Yeah, inventory was a pretty big deal for me. That 4th Step stuff opened my eyes. I had no idea how selfish and dishonest I was when I was drinking. My sponsor pointed out that those character defects regularly manifested themselves when I was about to not get what I wanted or I was about to lose something that I already had.”

I could identify with that. My friend went on to explain that he was desperate when he arrived in A.A. It did not take much convincing to get him started on doing step work – something I could not identify with. I dodged my sponsor’s suggestion to get to work for a full year. I was convinced that I was an exception, that I was different, I was a special case. Of course, I did not see it that way. Inventory

Continued on page 9.

A SPIRITUAL OVERHAUL ... continued from page 8,

would reveal that I too, had a whole truckload of character defects, some of which were painfully evident and still others obscured by pride.

My friend and I had been given largely similar directions to reach our destination of a spiritual experience but our paths were dissimilar. But it is clear that that is “how it works”. Our journey does not map directly to others despite being given the same directions. Once we began the process, we simply had to be “honest and thorough” and if we did that, we would have the spiritual awakening that is promised. How that awakening manifested itself in our life would be unique as well. Not everybody is reluctant to embrace the process, not everybody is transformed in the same way but each one is changed if they are willing to take the action honestly and thoroughly.

My friend stared down at his coffee and said, “You know in looking back now, I can say for sure that my relationship with my Higher Power changed around the time I began making my amends. One of my friends often says that it is the step work that removes the things that have been blocking us from God all this time we were drinking. I can identify with that. That is the textbook definition of a spiritual experience, right? Having a new relationship with God?” I smiled, “Oh, for sure. But that is just a start, we can’t rest on our laurels. We must continue to do the work that is laid out so masterfully in the steps to enable our relationship with God to continue to evolve.

I resumed, “My mistake was that after completing my initial step work, I assumed that I was good to go. Sure, I was no longer occupying my regular bar stool at happy hour, I was going to a meeting instead where I met a host of new friends. My daily routine changed into one that most people would consider normal – a dramatic departure from what I had considered normal when I was drinking. But for me anyway, as time went by, normal was not going to cut it. What I failed to recognize is that eliminating bad behavior, and *wanting* to not be selfish, dishonest, or inconsiderate anymore without taking action was futile”.

“The directions in the Big Book are clear as to what is often called the maintenance steps, Steps 10 and 11. In both instances, they require action on our part. Think about it, how many hours a week do you spend driving to meetings, sitting in meetings, and then talking in the parking lot after the meeting?” “Wow, I never thought about that,” my friend responded. “Give me a ballpark number,” I said while taking a sip of my coffee. My friend's brow furrowed as he spoke, “Well, usually 3 or 4 meetings a week these days, typically driving 20 minutes each way, I guess I would say at least 6 hours a week”. “And how much time do you spend in quiet time?” My friend nodded slowly, “I see where you are going with this. Pretty silly to assume that my relationship with God is going to grow if I don’t show up or if I only do when I need something”.

I responded “Yeah, that was my experience. That awakening of the new relationship with God had been inconceivable to me when I first arrived in the rooms. But that was just the beginning, my friends told me and I believed them. But relationships require effort if they are to continue to grow, to evolve. That is what I meant earlier when I talked about believing in God is not the same as believing in the power of God and that is not the same as trusting in God. Most of us get hung up on the last two, especially when we are faced with life situations that are beyond our control.

” My friend interrupted with a smile, “Oh, you mean not spiritually fit?”
I smiled back, “Exactly”.

To be continued ... September 2022 COURIER.

Alcoholics
Anonymous®
www.aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all
communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

STORY SOLICITATION

Fifth Edition of the Book *Alcoholics Anonymous* — Big Book

Deadline for submissions: October 31, 2022

Online submission: aa.org/submit-bigbook-english-5th

The Preface to the Second Edition of the Big Book explains that revisions to the personal history section of the book were made in order "to represent the current membership of Alcoholics Anonymous more accurately, and thereby to reach more Alcoholics."

In that spirit, the 2021 General Service Conference recommended that "a Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect the current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action:

"The first 164 pages of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Preface, the Forewords, 'The Doctor's Opinion', 'Dr. Bob's Nightmare', and the Appendices remain as is."

In response to the 2021 General Service Conference Advisory Action requesting the development of a Fifth edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the trustees' Literature Committee is seeking a wide range of A.A. recovery experience of members in the Fellowship.

The trustees' Literature Committee is searching for recovery stories of our members for possible inclusion in the Fifth Edition which are from a broad cross-section of our local communities, all stories are of value. As Bill writes on page 29 of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*: "Our hope is that many alcoholic men and women, desperately in need, will see these pages, and we believe that it is only by fully disclosing ourselves and our problems that they will be persuaded to say, 'Yes, I am one of them too; I must have this thing.'"

It is the Literature Committee's shared hope that any new stories from our current membership will help future alcoholics to identify and find recovery in the pages of a Fifth edition.

The suggested format for typed manuscripts is 3500 words, double spaced, in 12-point font. Handwritten manuscripts should be approximately 5 to 6 pages. Please include your complete name, address, and email/phone information on the first page of the submission. A copy of your manuscript should be retained for your files.

The anonymity of all authors will be observed whether their story is selected for publication or not. Stories will be accepted in English, French or Spanish. If you have any questions, please write to 5BBStory@aa.org.

Instructions for submitting your manuscript:

Deadline: Please submit on or before October 31, 2022.

Online: aa.org/submit-bigbook-english-5th

Email: 5BBStory@aa.org

Subject Line: Fifth Edition of the Book *Alcoholics Anonymous*

Postal Mail: Attn. Literature Assignment, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

On the envelope: The word "5th Edition BB" should be written on the envelope and at the top of the first page of the manuscript.

Thank you to all who are participating in this process!



Serenity By The Sea!



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*A Weekend of Food, Fun & Fellowship Featuring
Meetings, Workshops, Speakers, and a Saturday Night Banquet!*

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MENTION GROUP CODE: GSBTS22

For more information visit www.serenityclubswfl.org/
(Reservations must be made as soon as possible, to receive this rate.)

If you need additional information, or have special needs, please call
Jerry at 239-776-6767, email jeddlenn@aol.com, or write:
Serenity By The Sea, 5625 Cedar Tree Lane, Naples, FL 34116

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\$45.00 Per Person

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Registration Fee (Required) **\$45.00**

Saturday Night Banquet (Optional) **\$44.00**

TOTAL _____

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and Mail To: **12435 Collier Blvd., Ste. 107**
Naples, FL 34116

This is a fundraiser. All sales are final. NO REFUNDS. Cancelled/unclaimed registrations will become scholarships.

5TH ANNUAL KEYS FOR SERENITY ROUNDUP 2022

September 16-18, 2022

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Key West, Florida

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Guest Speakers Include:

Georgia B California

June G California

Steve L Tennessee

Jack C California

Register online now at: www.keysforserenity.com

We look forward to seeing you in September!

Our committee is working closely with the host hotel DoubleTree Resort to ensure the health and well-being for those who attend our conference. We will follow Covid-19 guidelines according to the CDC as well as city/state ordinances.

FINANCES**July****YTD22****Income**

Literature/Merchandise	\$2,467	24,578
Group Contributions	2,850	19,946
AA Birthdays	-	520
Faithful Five	30	250
Individual/Anonymous	264	1,850

Total Income

5,611 47,144

Expenses

Bank/Credit Card Fees	59	641
Travel/Licenses/Permits	178	248
Office Supplies	163	3,653
Office Improve/Repair	200	355
Web Hosting	-	360
Payroll	1,958	13,709
Payroll Tax	-	-
Postage	18	57
Printing		
Purchases/Lit./Merch.	1,136	17,719
Insurance		0
Rent	500	3,500
Sales Tax	229	2,206
Telephone/www	218	1,510
Utilities	100	700
Computer Equipment		
Computer Software	1513	1871
Computer/Maintain		
Inst Comm (Pink Pig)	-	177

Total Expenses

6,272 46,706

Net Ordinary Income

(661) 438

Gratitude Dinner

- -

Interest Income

- 69

NET OTHER INCOME**NET INCOME**

(\$661) \$507

**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**

1509-2 Pine Ridge Road
Naples, FL 34109
(50%)

District 20

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

General Service Office

James A. Farley Station
P. O. Box 2407
New York, N. Y. 10116
(New Address) (30%)

Area 15

Don H.
P.O. Box 311
Safety Harbor, FL 34695
(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

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	July	YTD22
11th Step Prayer & Med., 715482.....	0.....	.64
12 Steps By Paragraph.....	0.....	0
24 Hour Solution.....	0.....	.462
After and Before.....	0.....	.50
Anchor.....	0.....	0
Aprendiendo A Vivre, 176467.....	0.....	0
Back To Basics.....	0.....	0
Beach Bums 641645.....	0.....	.600
Big Book Comes Alive.....	.206.....	.206
Big Book Step Study.....	0.....	0
Big Book Steppers, Bonita, 698101.....	0.....	.80
Big Book Steppers, Naples, 654630.....	.32.....	.142
Big Book Study, 662395.....	0.....	0
Bonita Awareness, 124788.....	0.....	0
Bonita Banyan, 176463.....	.93.....	.393
Bonita Beginnings.....	0.....	0
Bonita Friday Night.....	0.....	0
Bonita Happy Hour, 670997.....	.811.....	.1,544
Bonita Men, 654428.....	0.....	0
Bonita Morning.....	0.....	.405
Bonita Saturday Night.....	0.....	.803
Bonita Springs Morning, 678493.....	0.....	.591
Bonita Springs Women's 169127.....	0.....	0
Bonita Springs Step, 134588.....	0.....	.83
Bonita Unity.....	0.....	0
Bonita Wed Beginners.....	0.....	.50
Bonita Women's Step.....	0.....	.750
Bring Your Own Big Book.....	0.....	.100
Brown Bag, 163924.....	0.....	.909
Cake Meeting, 701813.....	0.....	0
Came to Believe, 615490.....	0.....	0
Candlelight, 606877.....	0.....	0
Comes Of Age.....	0.....	0
Common Solutions, 179613.....	.575.....	.2,551
Daily Reflections ZOOM.....	.90.....	.945
Early Reflections, 653770.....	0.....	0
Early Risers, 161795.....	0.....	.1,157
East Trail, 150873.....	0.....	0
Easy Does It, 156979.....	.500.....	.500
FCYPAA.....	0.....	0
Free 2 Be, 670930.....	0.....	0
Friday Big Book.....	0.....	0
Girlfriends.....	0.....	.200
Go To Any Length, 305375.....	0.....	0
Golden Gate, 123819.....	0.....	0
Good Orderly Direction, 642330.....	0.....	0
Gratitude Hour, 134223.....	0.....	.330
Happy Healers.....	0.....	.500
Happy Hour, 172923.....	0.....	0
Jaywalkers, 634271.....	0.....	0
Keep It Positive, 650541.....	0.....	0
Keep It Simple, 651598.....	0.....	.898
Ladies Night, Bonita, 672950.....	0.....	.100
Ladies Noon.....	0.....	0
Living Sober, 605904.....	0.....	0
Living Sober Isle of Capri.....	0.....	0
Men Of Naples, 634030.....	.17.....	.189
Men's Big Book.....	0.....	0
Monday Night Men Step 724529.....	0.....	0
Monday Noon Big Book.....	0.....	0
Monday Noon Daily Reflections.....	.11.....	.76
Morning Reflections, 660700.....	0.....	.470
Naples Group, 103609.....	.400.....	.1,160

Group/Meeting	July	YTD22
Naples Living Sober.....	0.....	.400
Naples South, 130210.....	0.....	.250
Naples Young People, 699130.....	0.....	0
New Dawn, 632504.....	0.....	.622
New Women (Thursday noon).....	0.....	0
Newcomers Coming Together, 684199.....	0.....	0
No Compromise, 681260.....	0.....	0
Not A Glum Lot.....	0.....	0
Nueva Vida.....	0.....	0
Old Timers, 698956.....	0.....	0
One Day At A Time.....	0.....	.150
Our Common Welfare.....	0.....	0
Out To Lunch Bunch, 147323.....	0.....	0
Park Shore Women.....	.400.....	.400
Pay It Forward, 704772.....	0.....	0
Primary Purpose Marco, 146715.....	0.....	.685
Saturday Morning Girlfriends 678117.....	0.....	0
Saturday Night Live.....	0.....	0
Spiritual Solutions, 720796.....	0.....	0
Start Where You Are.....	0.....	0
Step By Step.....	0.....	.32
Step Into Life.....	0.....	0
Sunday Night Speakers, 665079.....	0.....	.53
Sunlight Of the Spirit, 647959.....	0.....	0
Sunset Serenity, 654981.....	0.....	0
Survivor's, 157268.....	0.....	0
SW 239 BID.....	0.....	0
Swamp Group, 672733.....	.59.....	.50
Tables Of Naples.....	.30.....	.108
The Solution Big Book Study Group 632503.....	0.....	0
Third Tradition, 143298.....	0.....	0
Three Legacies, 679400.....	0.....	0
Thursday New Women.....	0.....	0
Unity Monday Noon Step.....	0.....	0
Unity Step.....	0.....	0
Veranda.....	.7.....	.65
Walk The Steps With Women, 701923.....	0.....	0
Wanderers, Ave Maria.....	.30.....	.30
We Care, Bonita, 617011.....	0.....	.220
Wednesday Step St. Johns.....	0.....	0
Where Are We.....	0.....	.250

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.



The Birthday Club

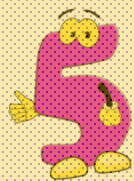
Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the **2022 AA Birthday Club**? Sign up today and be featured in the *Courier*. Show your support for your Central Office. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety will help carry the message to alcoholics who still suffer. Envelopes available at Central Office or from your In-



Paul B.	50 years
Jim B.	40 years
Steve K.	30 years
Peter F.	27 years
Ken H.	20 years
Bill S.	20 years



Faithful Fivers Needed



2022 Faithful Fiver Club

*Bill S., James B., Jeanette H., Jim B., Jim H., Judy W.,
Kathryn Mc., Ken H., Paul B., Ron L., Theresa R., Tim A., Wendy T.*

We are members of A.A. who want the hand of A.A. always to be there in the Naples, Florida area.

It's easy to join!

Use a Check or Credit Card to contribute monthly, or one time.

Stop by the Central Office for a one time Credit Card charge.

\$5.00 per month or \$60.00 per year!

Your membership directly supports 12-Step work in District 20 and the Central Office Operations.

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
jerryeddleman@gmail.com

Alt. Chair:

Peter C., 784-7725
pete.curtner@yahoo.com

Registrar:

Michele B., 465-6047
mousekatear@gmail.com

Secretary:

Shy A., 595-8893
shyadams95@gmail.com

Treasurer

Maria M., 370-2034
mmetchear@aol.com

Service Committees:**Archives**

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

Current Practices

Jerry E., 776-6767
jerryeddleman@gmail.com

Grapevine/Literature

Peter C., 784-7725
Business meeting the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., 24 Hour Club

Institutions

Joe S. 845/554-8721
joeascalai@icloud.com
1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., 24 Hour Club

Public Information/CPC

Nanette D., 572-4214
Business meeting the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., 24 Hour Club

Technology

Dianna M., 248-6565
diannamusse@gmail.com

The Courier is published monthly by the *Naples Area Intergroup of Alcoholic Anonymous* with an office located at 1509-2 Pine Ridge Road, 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 Grapevine, Inc..

Contributions from our readers are encouraged.

Submissions are edited

District 20**Business Meeting:**

Fourth Thursday of the Month, 7:00 pm
New Attitudes Club
4133 Tamiami Trail E.
(Lakewood & E 41)
Behind Speedway Gas

**NAPLES
INTERGROUP
MEETING****Central Office**

1509-2 Pine Ridge Rd.
(next to 24 Hour Club)

SECOND Wednesday of
each month at 7:00pm

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

Every day except
Wednesday
7:00 p.m.
Jon B., 537-5862

WILLOUGH
Sunday, Monday and
Thursday
7:30pm
Joe S., 845-554-8721

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

BRIDGING THE GAP
Joe S.
239-206-3284

Area 15; Panel 69

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

Delegate: Tom W.
delegate@area15aa.org

Alternate: Cary W.
altdelegate@area15aa.org

Chair: Lisa D.
chair@area15aa.org

Treasurer: Wayne H.
PO Box 131
Safety Harbor, FL
34695
treasurer@area15aa.org

Registrar: Donna W.
registrar@area15aa.org

Secretary: Karen V.
secretary@area15aa.org

Naples Area**Trusted Servants****Chair:**

John F., 239/248-0596
accabinets123@gmail.com

Vice Chair:

Robert C., 239/784-8514
bcrowe616@aol.com

Treasurer:

Spence G., 239/207-7534
spenceg123@gmail.com

Secretary:

Tiana B. 337/283-1208
tsbrancato@gmail.com

Members at Large:

Kathy Mc., 239/776-9643
katmcadam@yahoo.com
Tim A., 239/571-5440
timallencmb@gmail.com
Service Opportunity

Office Manager:

Ken Helton
1509-2 Pine Ridge Road
Naples, Florida 34109-2198
naplesintergroup@yahoo.com
Phone: 239-262-6535
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

Andrea C., Anthony M., Bill C.
Bill S., Bonnie B., Elaine D.
Fay B., Lauren F., Nikki E.
Raz K., Pat S., Peggy G.
Sue S., ... and loyal
substitutes.
Service Opportunity