

# THE COURIER

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



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

April 2024



## How Step Two Can Restore Sanity Through Faith in Action

This year brings hope that the year of the pandemic with all of its dismal conditions will somehow evaporate; that the world will now become happy, joyous, and free — probably not!

The stage may be set for deep apprehension or even that great sobriety nemesis: FEAR! At the onset of this coming year, I may well look ahead and make decisions (resolutions) with prayer, good common sense, plus the use of my sponsor. However, irrational fear—that great friend of mental obsession—will doubtlessly continue its attack mode. What to do?

Page 68 of the Big Book offers suggestions. To paraphrase: First, to realize that I cannot be rid of the powerful fear-devil with my good-keen-intellectual-mind, nor with willpower. Self cannot rid self of self—consequently I need help from a power greater than me. But how? The Big Book advises: “We ask Him to remove our fear and direct our attention to what He would have us be.” (p. 68).

But how can I be as God would have me? How can I be different tomorrow than I am today? The answer is to live in the spirit of Steps Ten, Eleven and Twelve. “Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave us” (p. 84). PS — The two “Ghosts” are from the fear-movie: “The Shining.”

*By Bob S., The AA Cleveland District Office, 2020*

### 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. (Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc., Reprinted with permission.)



## APRIL 2024: The FOURTH Month Of Alcoholics Anonymous

**STEP FOUR:** "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

**TRADITION FOUR:** Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."

**TRADITION FOUR: (Long Form)** With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

**CONCEPT FOUR:** "Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge."

**47th Step Prayer:** "God, Please help me to be free of anger and to see that the world and its people have dominated me. Show me that the wrong-doing of others, fancied or real, has the power to actually kill me. Help me to master my resentments by understanding that the people who wrong me were perhaps spiritually sick. Please help me show those I resent the same Tolerance, Pity and Patience that I would cheerfully grant a sick friend.\*\* Help me to see that this is a sick man. Father, please show me how I can be helpful to him and save me from being angry. Lord, help me to avoid retaliation or argument. I know I can't be helpful to all people, but at least show me how to take a kindly and tolerant view of each and every one. Thy will be done."(66:2, 66:3, 66:4, 67:0, 67:1)

### TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

This is a Checklist for Tradition FOUR.

Reprinted with permission from Service Material from the General Service Office:

1. Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?
2. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
3. Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
4. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths—his lengths, not mine—to stay sober?
6. Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?

“I cannot adequately describe how light I feel since I took the Fifth Step, and how soundly I sleep.”

“A 5,000-Mile Discussion,” Secunderabad, India, December 1982,  
Step By Step: Real AAs,  
Real Recovery

**Calling all AA**

**Authors !!!**

**Please submit  
an article to**

**The COURIER !!!**

**Email article to:**

**[naplesintergroup@yahoo.com](mailto:naplesintergroup@yahoo.com)**



## STEP BY STEP

Real AAs, Real Recovery

**Your Home Group's  
Activities**

**Can Be Here  
Next Month.**

**To Highlight  
Your Group,  
Please Call Us:**

**Intergroup Office  
239/262-6535**



## MASQUERADE ... Continued from March 2024, Jerry E. ,Naples, Florida

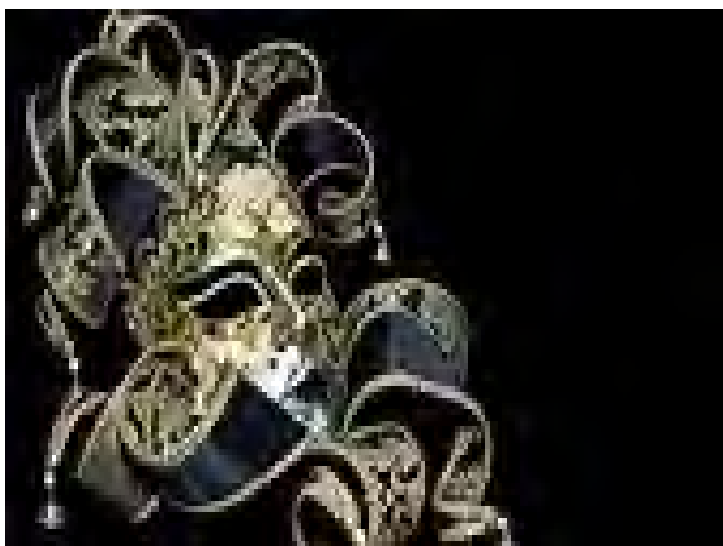
There is probably no simple solution to these issues, but I think that we owe it to the suffering addict or alcoholic/addict to send him to the fellowship that most specifically deals with his problem. I believe very strongly in our Singleness of Purpose, for the preservation of Alcoholics Anonymous and the compassionate referral of those with problems other than alcohol to the fellowships that can help them.

We need to stop loving these people to death. We have no power to compel the treatment centers either to more completely diagnose their clients' problems or to refer those patients to the fellowships that most specifically deal with their addictions. We also lack the ability to force anyone to honestly face his problems. What we can do is stop participating in the charade. We can kindly urge the addict to seek help in Narcotics Anonymous. Recently, a friend that I believe is not an alcoholic but a heroin addict, asked me for help. I gave him the phone number of a man known to me to be a strong member of Narcotics Anonymous. My friend never called the number and he is still using (but not drinking). After many years of trying to help this man, I don't believe that he really wants to stop using completely; I think he was simply looking for a place to recuperate just long enough to go back out and do it all over again. Unfortunately, we will probably also bury this man in the not too distant future. But, after many failed attempts at recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous, I truly believe that my friend's only hope is to get honest about his addiction and seek help in Narcotics Anonymous.

In the AA pamphlet, "Problems Other Than Alcohol," one of our co-founders, Bill W., states, "Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. If we persist in trying this, I'm afraid it will be hard on the drug user himself, as well as on AA." I think that over the years we have been hard on my friend. In attempting to be kind, we have made it possible for him to be insincere and, as the Big Book warns us on page 97, we have been aiding in his destruction rather than his recovery. I have sometimes asked an addict or alcoholic/addict why they don't go to NA and the answer has invariably been the same: "AA is stronger; more members with long term recovery." Even assuming that this is true, how will NA ever get any stronger if the addicts keep flocking to (and dying in) Alcoholics Anonymous? I think the addict's preference for Alcoholics Anonymous is misguided, self-centered, and shortsighted. Many of them "win the battle" of abstinence and "lose the war" of recovery.

Today I received a call from a friend who invited me to help him with a "Twelve Step Call" on another friend of ours who has been "slipping" in recent months on various painkillers. Now that our mutual friend has been admitted to the hospital, I wonder if he will repeat the same mistake of hiding out in Alcoholics Anonymous when he is released or if he will take his pill problem to NA. And I wonder if I can support him if he chooses the former rather than the latter. If I was qualified for the fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, I would get actively involved with it to try to make it more effective. However, I am not. The best I can do is to refer the addict to NA and to urge him to get actively involved with their fellowship and tools of recovery. At the very least, I can stop participating in the masquerade. In this then, perhaps, my friend will not have died in vain.

**Jerry E., Naples, Florida First printed as a three-part series in the first three issues of the Courier beginning in May 2001**



# 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.

*1-year continuous sobriety.*

For information: 239/262-6535

**“Spiritual growth and experiences are not limited to orthodox believers in a deity, any more than the disease of alcoholism is limited to skid-row bums.”**

**Casper, Wyo., September 1969, From: “Is ‘Agnostic’ a Nasty Word?”, AA Grapevine**



## **SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS**

*Journeys of the Spirit*

**“I politely invited God to spend the day with me (like a visiting relative or friend), and instantly began a mental dialogue with God ... I realized that in the process of introducing myself to God, I was getting a good look at who I really was.”**

**Houston, Texas, October 1985, From: “Okay, God...”, Spiritual Awakenings**

## Adopting a New Value System

### A Life Based on Proven A.A. Principles

By Rick R.

I spent most of my adolescent years attempting to get the *attention* and the *approval* of the people around me, and it seldom worked out the way I planned it. The harder I tried, the worse it got. Why didn't they appreciate my *wit and wisdom*? The more I was rejected the more bizarre I behaved, and this began a misguided approach to my *decision making*. I had formulated my own concept of right and wrong and did things to be unique, but I never got the respect I was seeking. I seldom did anything that I could lay claim to for myself except for those *misguided escapades*. This was true before I ever drank a drop of alcohol, and even more so throughout my drinking days. When I entered AA I *identified* with just about everything I had read and heard, and I began to recognize where I went wrong in my youth. I realized that I had no *direction in my life*, no *moral compass* to speak of, and that the failure in my personal relations manifested itself in *low self-esteem* (self-loathing). I felt inferior, unworthy, disrespected, isolated, unappreciated, disliked, etc. etc. I was going to have to depend on something outside of myself to govern my judgment and my decision making. One of the first default positions I would take to surrender to these new realities was to concede to the fact that *my brain does not process information properly*, and that I was going to have to trust in something more reliable. *Principles, what a concept!* There are people who believe that if we all lived by one simple principle, we would not need any other laws on this planet, and that principle is *The Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have others do unto you*. That was a good starting point, although I found it *easier said than done*, it did give me perspective and understanding of how I could begin adopting a value system where I did not have to originate my own rules.

While reading a book on economics, the author stated that "*a man who lives by principles has 99% of his decisions already made for him*". With that in mind, I began to establish a system of principles that are consistent with the AA program, and, I might add, with most of the other successful philosophies of life. I would read the *St. Francis Prayer in The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12&12)* daily. *I attend a step study meeting weekly to reinforce these principles*. I try to make sure that I am not modifying these standards to evade the tougher actions.

One day, I was carping and complaining about another member of our group, to one of my mentors at that time, and he suggested that I try to *place principles before personalities*. I responded, yes, but I do not agree with his principles. He then said, it was not *his principles* that we are talking about, but that it was *my principles*. He then informed me that we cannot be selective about who and when we apply these values. I must treat everyone with respect, and that goes for *the smallest, innocent child to the most errant rogue that I might encounter*. I know that it seems like an impossible task, but I assure you that if you start with the child and work your way to the rogue, it will get easier, if you do not cave into your ego. One day at a time I practice these new-found principles over and over until they become commonplace and these new principles and values have served me well.

**“Every recovery, though it may go unnoticed, improves the world in some way.”**

**“Why I Keep Coming Back,” Toledo, Ohio, May 2001, Voices of Long-Term Sobriety**



**VOICES OF  
LONG-TERM SOBRIETY**  
OLD-TIMERS' STORIES  
FROM AA GRAPEVINE



**THE LANGUAGE  
OF THE HEART**

Bill W.'s  
Grapevine Writings

**“Emotional and instinctual satisfactions, I saw, were really the extra dividends of having love, offering love, and expressing a love appropriate to each relation of life.”**

**AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1958, “The Next Frontier: Emotional Sobriety”, The Language of the Heart**



**An Education in the Art of Living**  
**Sharing our Experience, Strength, and Hope**

**By Rick R.**

For the newcomer, the first 164 pages of the Big Book contain the framework of how to overcome the disaster of a life consumed by Alcoholism. As I drank myself into the corner of life and ran out of options, I desperately searched for the answer, and something told me to try Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and there I found People who had overcome most of the troubling issues of life. Each chapter in the Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous) has a certain subject, and they try to explain specific areas of our lives where we could improve our thoughts and behaviors. It seems that if we did what they suggested in those 164 pages everything would be fine with us alcoholics; but wait! Next, they published The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (12&12) to give more amplifying information as to how to incorporate the steps into our daily lives. As I continued to progress in the program it caused me to seek a vastly more serious understanding of the depth of this disease and how serious my symptoms were. The first 164 pages just scratched the surface, but they gave me a challenge as to what degree of commitment I would pursue as I began to uncover defect after defect in a Thousand Facets of my sick mentality. Fear, insecurity, and my EGO dogged my every step and as I become strong enough to overcome my Ego driven approach to these issues my Conscience started getting a foothold and it motivated me to dig deeper yet and pursue a life based on unselfish Principles and to abandon the faulty thinking of the past. As I continued to grow, I had to come to terms with the understanding of a Power greater than myself and I was encouraged to read a book by Emmet Fox entitled "The Sermon on the Mount" considered to be the inspiration that the founders of the AA program incorporated into the Spiritual Solution to the doubters like me, and it removed all those doubts. Next, I had to learn how to become a good Husband, Father, Friend, Coworker, and so on. As we share our experiences with each other we are in the state of learning how to solve those Thousand Facets of our sick mentality. My wife came home from an Al Anon meeting, in my early years of sobriety, all excited about the topic of "Examining our Motives. That one little statement changed my entire way of thinking about my behavioral problems. Selfishness---Self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles. (BB pg.62) If selfishness is the root, (motive) then unselfishness is the obvious solution. That simple understanding set, in place, a habit of living by unselfish motives and as a result, I am not ashamed of anything I do today, I have a clear conscience, and it is so much easier than I thought it would be. It does not say generous, it just says unselfish. DUH! The world is full of supporting information concerning all the facets of the different mental troubles the alcoholic is faced with when seeking answers. When we use the word Love, I thought it was a feeling, but I found a version of Love in a book by Scott Peck's, The Road less Traveled that defines Love as: Caring for and Nurturing another Person's Soul. It is an *action* word, and I can Love everyone even if they do not love me back by wanting the best for them and offering my help. Using these examples is my way of encouraging everyone who finds it difficult to experience the quiet satisfaction that they expect to receive from the program, to find the answers by looking deeper into the subject and seek out the answers that help you to set, in place those unselfish Principles and Habits which lead to, as an old friend refers to as, Peace of Mind and a Quiet Heart.

I was deeply touched by what I heard a young man at a meeting share about planning a party for his mother. He started to search through some old pictures in a shoebox and came up with photos of himself when he was 3 years old. Looking at them, he said to himself, "That little kid was no scoundrel." I believe that everyone in the room could identify with him, but what happened to him between then and now?

Most of us were perfect when we were born, but something influenced us in those formative years that set the tone for the direction that our thinking would take. The childlike innocence gave way to the neediness and insecurity that Alcoholics seemed to have in common. The unworthiness tapes ran rampant in our heads telling us that we could not keep pace without cutting corners and doing things that we were ashamed of and then we were plagued by our conscience.

That little child was damaged and scarred on the inside in such a way that nothing could bring him peace, until he discovered the elixir in a bottle that gave him relief for a time. But, when that finally failed him, he showed up in the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous trying to make sense of it all.

When I look around the room at an AA meeting, it seems like we all look about the same on the surface, with a few minor differences due to age and generational things. We're all made up of hair, eyeballs, elbows, and feet, and things like that. Most of us follow certain dress codes and courtesy standards.

We're not all that much different on the surface. But, real problems consume us on the inside, and we spend years trying to convince the world around us that we are as good as they are while, on the inside, loathing what we have become. It's hard to convince a drunk that the child that he was, at 3 years old, is still inside him and can resurface if he desperately wants it.

Suppose for a moment, that we all woke up this morning with amnesia. We would all be the same. Only thing that makes us different is what is going on between our ears and we drag that around with us everywhere we go. I discovered years ago that my brain, with the aid of my ego, was lying to me, and that I wasn't that hopeless loser that I thought I was.

I also discovered that all the damage could be reversed by amends and restitution and that I could, in time, develop an approach to life far superior to anything I could have ever imagined. The hardest thing that stands in the way of this was my inability to surrender, and to trust the A.A. process.

With the help of the group, slowly letting go of some of the old ideas, you can start seeing the results in a short period of time, and it will be exhilarating. However, we didn't get this way overnight, and it will be a slow journey, but a very exciting and happy experience.

An old, departed friend of mine, used to say, "Your hair will be a different color before you know who you are." To me it means patiently changing all those old habits that caused me grief and replacing them with unselfish deeds that start to heal the conscience. I've heard it said, "Try it for 90 days and if you don't like what we have to offer we will gladly refund your misery".

What have you got to lose? Now let's go find that kid!

*By Rick R., Cleveland District Office*



## Whoever Pays the Piper Calls the Tune



I was once chairing my home group and therefore sitting at the front table. A group from an adolescent treatment center visited and they sat near the front row. During the meeting the basket was passed quickly down that row since no one among them had any, or much money with them.

A woman near the end opened her purse and retrieved what seemed to be a dime. The gal next to her advised, “You don’t need to do that.”

“Yes, I do!” she replied. Tears welled in my eyes—a rare event for me. I knew exactly what she meant. That dime didn’t mean much to the group but to her, contributing what she could, meant everything.

I joined AA in the early ‘80s. In the suburbs where I went to meetings, practically everyone was tossing a dollar bill in the basket. It didn’t seem like much to ask—a movie cost several times that. I asked around and the locals said around 1975 a full dollar donation became de rigueur .

By 1980, what had been double-digit inflation slowed and stayed low, but persistent, until 2022 when the [pandemic](#) pushed it back near 10%. It now takes \$5.71 to purchase what \$1.00 in 1975 could.

Many churches ask their congregants for sacrificial giving – for donations so large that they have to give up something important to meet that goal. AA asks no such thing! But several years ago tossing a buck in the plate stopped meaning anything to me. I knew I had to up that amount so that I really felt I was making a contribution.

Indeed, at my home group, we sometimes get no more people in attendance than the few dollars in rental required by the church. In other words, the first dollar I toss in the basket pays the church for my seat at that meeting, leaving nothing to the group or AA as a whole. A good friend started going to his bank and getting a stack of \$2 bills and would toss one in each collection basket. It made a point.

I know there are some of you who, at one time or another, can only afford to part with one dollar, if that, for the collection plate and that’s fine – give what you reasonably can. But, there are others who, given a little encouragement, can and will contribute more. Consider yourself encouraged!

Many groups have not yet really recovered from the pandemic and so their donations to our central office ([www.aacle.org](http://www.aacle.org)) at their March [Fund Drive](#) have dwindled. Likewise for AA as a whole ([www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)) which expects a million dollar shortfall from last year, reducing its already-too-small prudent reserve.

Both entities encourage individual donations in addition to their atrophied group donations. Remember, AA has no other source of income other than a small profit from sales of its literature and these contributions.

Some years ago, the church (where my home group meets) greatly raised our rent to pay the cost of the custodian they felt necessary to have on duty at that time. Our group treasurer told the church we could not afford it and then left for parts unknown. I was asked to fill in and soon found that part of the problem was that a few hundred dollars from the collection had never found their way to the bank.

This is a not an uncommon problem for groups that don’t mandate an occasional treasurer’s report and verification of the bank statement. The church asked me if the rent was unaffordable. I told them “No. But, by meeting it, we will not have any monies to support the downtown office or national organization.” Their board cut our rent in half! They get it! Fortunately, two other 12-step groups joined us at this church around the same time period, sharing the custodian cost.

I’m an [archivist](#) for two AA entities and for a local city’s historical society. Much of the funding for this historical society comes from grants. I can tell you from experience that Bill W’s fear of accepting funds from outside sources that “whoever pays the piper is apt to call the tune” is absolutely true and also much of my time there is spent writing grant proposals.

AA is saved from this by refusing outside support. But, the other side of this coin is that it must have inside support: Our Own Contributions.

By Bob M. ( AA Cleveland District Office )

**FINANCES****Feb 24** **YTD 24****Income**

Literature/Merchandise	\$4,963	\$9,928
Group Contributions	1,847	4,317
AA Birthdays	-	-
Faithful Five	20	30
Individual/Anonymous	169	1,169
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,505</b>	<b>15,444</b>

**Expenses**

Bank/Credit Card Fees	170	647
Licenses/Permits	-	-
Office Supplies	191	189
Office Improve/Repair	-	-
www Hosting	-	-
Payroll	2,240	4,481
Payroll Tax	-	-
Postage	39	68
Printing	-	187
Purchases/Lit./Merch.	2,369	6,839
Insurance	-	-
Rent	500	500
Sales Tax	275	380
Telephone/www	426	842
Utilities	100	200
Computer Equipment	-	142
Computer Software	257	647
Computer/Maintain	-	-
Quarterlies / Travel/ Membership	-	150
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6,298</b>	<b>8,820</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$641</b>	<b>-\$315</b>
Gratitude Dinner Tickets	-	-
Gratitude Expenses	-	-
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$641</b>	<b>-\$243</b>

**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-B 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**

**Treasurer Area 15**  
**PO Box 590835**  
**Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33359**  
**(New Address) (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

<b><u>Group/Meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Feb24</u></b>	<b><u>YTD24</u></b>
11th Step Prayer & Meditation .....	66	66
Big Book Comes Alive.....	147	147
Bonita Banyan, 176463.....	160	160
Bonita Springs Morning, 678493.....	328	328
Bonita Women Step.....	300	300
Daily Reflections ZOOM .....	308	308
Early Risers .....	680	680
Easy Does It .....	1,000	1,000
Girlfriends Group .....	50	50
Jaywalkers, 634271.....	106	106
Keep It Simple, 651598.....	227	227
Meeting In The Park .....	177	177
Men Of Naples, 634030.....	39	66
Daily Reflections – Monday .....	26	26
Naples Men BB Group.....	100	100
On Awakening .....	48	48
Park Shore Women .....	250	250
Switch It Up Group .....	100	100
Tables Of Naples .....	25	25
Veranda Group .....	9	23
Wanderers Ave Maria .....	31	31
Where Are We .....	100	100

<b><u>Group/Meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Feb24</u></b>	<b><u>YTD24</u></b>

**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

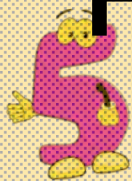
Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the AA Birthday Club? Sign up today and be featured in the *Courier*. Show your support for your Central Office. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety will help carry the message to alcoholics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



Paul B.	51 years
Ron P.	51 years
Ron L.	42 years
Don M.	43 years
Jim B.	41 years
Jackie T. F.	39 years
Bill D.	36 years
Dennis F.	35 years
Rad W.	35 years
Judy W.	35 years
Janice R.	35 years
Steve K.	31 years
Peter F.	27 years
Eileen D.	22 years
Bill S.	22 years
Ken H.	21 years
Laura T. F.	7 years
Tina S	2 years



## Faithful Fivers Needed



### 2023 Faithful Fiver Club

***April O., Bill D., Bill S., Eric S., James B., Jeanette H., Jim B., Jim H., Judy W., Kathryn Mc., Ken H., Ralph W., Ron L., Theresa R., Tim A.,***

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:****Chair:**

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

**Alt. Chair:**

Joe S., 845/554-8721  
joeascaliala@icloud.com

**Registrar:**

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

**Treasurer**

George A., 276-4024  
george.arminio1@gmail.com

**Secretary:**

Tom D., 206-6780  
tomadavision@yahoo.com

**Service Committees:****Archives**

Susan H., 280-7093  
Business meeting 3rd Saturday @ 24 Hour Club at 11am

**Current Practices**

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

**Grapevine**

Andrea C., 908/347-0494  
4chellana@gmail.com  
Business meeting the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., 24 Hour Club

**Institutions**

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

**Public Information/CPC**

Ronnie P., 269-8251  
Business meeting the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., 24 Hour Club

**Technology Opportunity.**

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 for space and clarity only.

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

**WILLOUGH**

Sunday, Monday and Thursday  
7:30pm  
Peggy E., 269-7651  
marcoangel2000@gmail.com

**HAZELDEN**

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

**BRIDGING THE GAP**

Maria M.  
370-2034  
mmetchear@aol.com

**Area 15; Panel 69**

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

**Delegate:** Cary W  
delegate@area15aa.org

**Alternate:** Lisa D.  
altdelegate@area15aa.org

**Chair:** Donna W.  
chair@area15aa.org

**Treasurer:** Karen V.  
PO Box 590835  
Ft Lauderdale, FL  
33359-0835  
treasurer@area15aa.org

**Registrar:** Robin P.  
registrar@area15aa.org

**Secretary:** Bronwyn F.  
secretary@area15aa.org

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

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

**Vice Chair:**

Blake B., 285-7174  
blake91511@gmail.com

**Treasurer:**

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

**Secretary:**

Tiana B. 818/918-1173  
tsbrancato@gmail.com

**Members at Large:**

Tim A., 571-5440  
timallencmb@gmail.com  
**Service Opportunity**

**Office Manager:**

Ken Helton  
Naples Area Intergroup  
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**

Becky S., Bill C., Bill D., Bill S., Bonnie B., Caroline H., Chrissie F., Eric S., Faye B., Kathleen M., Nikki E., Peggy E., Steve K. ... and loyal substitutes.

**Service Opportunities****After-Hours Phone Volunteers**

Geoff E., Heather B., Ken H. Lauren F., Libby S., Steve K., and Tim A.

**Service Opportunity**

# PICNIC!

## NEW ATTITUDES

~~(SATURDAY)~~ May 11<sup>th</sup> from 11 to 4

Sugden Park Pavilion 1

- Hamburgers, hot dogs, dessert
- Soda and water
- ALL FREE

## !Live Band!

Noon meeting speaker

Please sign up if you will attend so we know how much food to order. Thank you!

Call Peter Cook: 239-450-6647



*The Serenity Club's*

**28th ANNIVERSARY  
DINNER/DANCE**

**FOOD  
PRIZES!**

**50/50  
RAFFLE**

**The Serenity Club of Southwest Florida, Inc.**  
12435 Collier Boulevard, Suite 107, Naples, Florida 34116

**\$20 Tickets for Baked Ziti Dinner!**



**SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024**

**\* FROM 6:00 PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT \***

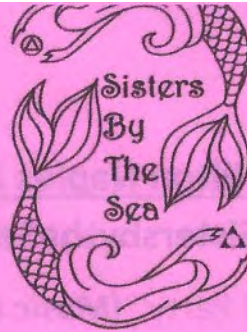
**FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP!!**

*A Dinner and a DJ Dance*

*and Special Guest Speaker:*

**“Irish” Gerry F. (Naples, FL)**

*For More Info: Call John F2 at 239-248-0596*



**Naples, FL**

**2024 June**

**14, 15, 16**

**A Group Of 400 of your  
Closest Friends**

**A Conference for AA & Al-Anon Women**

**Katie P.**

**Austin, Tx.**

**Misoon**

**Naples**

**Marti R.**

**Buda, Tx**

**Vannoy S. (AFG)**

**Justin ,Tx**

**Mari G.**

**Toronto**

**Lisa Lee B.**

**Boca Raton, Fl**

**Sisters By The Sea**

**A Journey through the Steps...The Stairway to Serenity**

**Hilton Naples**

5111 Tamiami Trail, Naples, FL 34103

**Free Shuttle To The Beach  
Free Beach Chairs ~ Free Wi Fi  
Free Parking**

Rates available until May 1st, 2024

\$160 Per Night Single or Double

**(239)430-4900 Group Code: SBS24**

**EARLY BIRD SPLASH PARTY**

**POOLSIDE 12-3 FRIDAY**

Sorry No Refunds Questions call

Peggy P.E. (239)269-7651 or

email: [Sistersbytheseaallc@gmail.com](mailto:Sistersbytheseaallc@gmail.com)

Your one click booking link is: <https://www.hilton.com/n/attend-my-event/apfnhhf-sbs24-1abe0093-c2dc-4131>

[-825c-05733404d549](https://www.hilton.com/n/attend-my-event/apfnhhf-sbs24-1abe0093-c2dc-4131)

Sisters By The Sea Registration

One form per person or register online at

[www.SistersbytheSea.com](http://www.SistersbytheSea.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Early Bird January 1st \$45 Registration**

**Registration \$50.00 Banquet \$50.00 Choice**

**Fish \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make Checks Payable to:**

**Sisters By The Sea**

**PO Box 305 Marco Island, Fl. 34146 or**

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sisters-by-the-sea-tickets-747497042777?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sisters-by-the-sea-tickets-747497042777?aff=oddtcreator)

**sea-tickets-747497042777?**

**aff=oddtcreator**

**AA \_\_\_\_\_**

**AL-Anon \_\_\_\_\_**



## PROGRAM & ACTIVITIES

Workshops ■ Young People Meetings ■ Golf Tournament  
 LGBTQ Meetings ■ Shark Tooth Hunt ■ ASL Interpreter ■ River Run/Walk  
 Ice Cream Socials ■ Entertainment ■ Marathon Meetings ■ Cornhole  
 Spanish Speaking Meetings ■ Grapevine ■ Archives Room ■ Kayak Event  
 Old-Timer's Meeting ■ Banquets ■ Meditation ■ AI-Anon/Alateen  
 Convention Merchandise ■ Photo Ops With Co-Founders Bill and Dr. Bob ■ Yoga

## World-Renowned Hospitality Room!

### Guest Speakers:

Ed M. - Louisville, KY  
 Heather G. - Knoxville, TN  
 Ali H. - Toronto, ON  
 Mildred F. - Toronto, ON  
 Angie B. - Destin, FL (AI-Anon)  
 Chip B. - Destin, FL  
 Danny B. - Spring, TX  
 Kathryn A. - Jacksonville, FL



SCAN HERE  
BE AMAZED

### Host Hotel Information

**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**  
 225 East Coastline Dr. ■ Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
 1-877-803-7534 <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/JAXRJ/G-FS24>  
**Rates start at \$131+** Distribution Rate Code: G-FS24  
 Rates honored 30 days before, after convention dates. All rooms  
 subject to state/local taxes. Non-hotel is non-smoking. Designated  
 smoking areas will be provided. Check-in 3 P.M. — Check-out 12 P.M.  
 Parking: \$15/day Self Park \$39/day Valet Park

### Overflow Hotel Information

**DoubleTree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront**  
 1202 River Place Blvd ■ Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
 1-800-222-TREE (8733) <https://shorturl.at/ENPS4>  
**Rates start at \$119+** Group Code: FSC or CDTFSC  
 First night's room and tax due at booking. Two-night minimum stay.  
 Cancellations must be 8 days before arrival or full booking will be  
 charged. +\$10 each adult over two per room; cut off date 7/11/2024.  
 All rooms subject to state/local taxes. Non-smoking hotel.  
 Check-in 4 P.M. — Check-out 11 A.M.  
 Parking: Free - Self Park \$24/day - Valet Park  
 For hotel questions please contact Ruth R. at [hotel67fsc@gmail.com](mailto:hotel67fsc@gmail.com)



# Serenity By The Sea!



## SEPTEMBER 13 - 15, 2024

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

**BOB D.**

Las Vegas, NV

**DIANA M.**

Largo, FL

**MIKE S.**

Riverside, CA

**MISOON W.**

Naples, FL

**SHARON C.**

Los Angeles, CA

★ *Dynamic Workshop Leaders From All Over The Great State of Florida* ★

### A VARIETY OF SPECIAL EVENTS!

*(Badges must be worn to attend all meetings & workshops)*

**Open Discussion Meetings! ~ Workshops! ~ Archives! ~ Entertainment!  
Panel Discussions! ~ Specialty Meetings! ~ Ask-It-Baskets!  
Sunrise/Early Bird and Sunset/Night Owl Meetings!**

#### HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### *The Naples Grande Beach Resort!*

**844-489-9663**

*Please visit our website for additional information and one-click booking!*

**\$169 Per Night Single or Double Occupancy**  
*(Free Self-Parking, Wi-Fi, & No Daily Resort Fees!)*

**MENTION GROUP CODE: GSER24**

**For more information visit [www.serenityclubswfl.org/](http://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 [jerryeddleman@gmail.com](mailto:jerryeddleman@gmail.com), or write: **Serenity By The Sea**, 5625 Cedar Tree Lane, Naples, FL 34116

*Your Registration Includes:*

**Access To All Meetings And Workshops!**

#### SERENITY BY THE SEA REGISTRATION

*(Register online at [www.serenityclubswfl.org](http://www.serenityclubswfl.org))*

**\$50.00 Per Person**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (Required) **\$50.00**

Saturday Night Banquet (Optional) **\$60.00**

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks Payable To: The Serenity Club**  
**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.**