

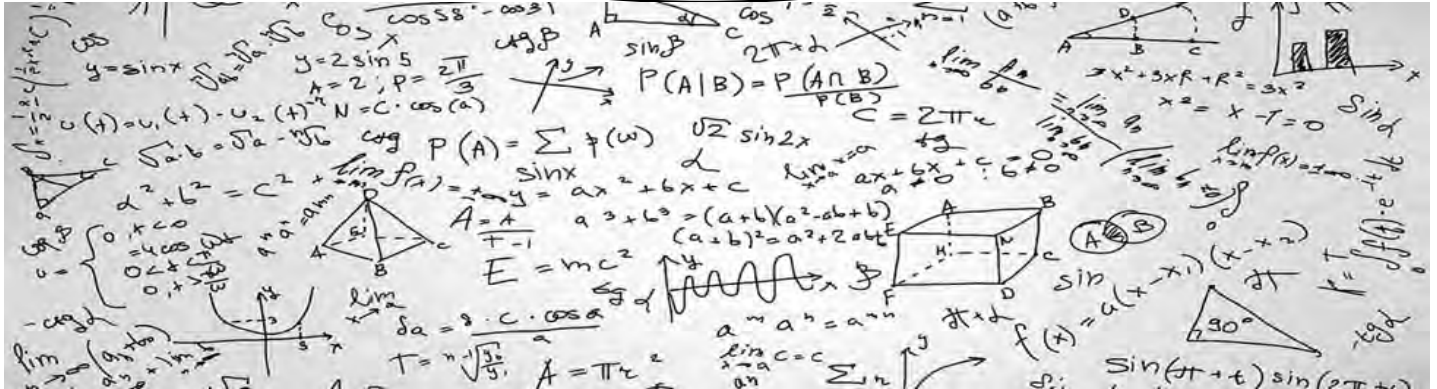
THE COURIER

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



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

May 2024



Living by the Dictates of My Conscience Rick R., Miami, Florida

"Desperation" has been the great motivator for me with respect to the thoroughness that I have applied since the day I surrendered and came to [Alcoholics Anonymous](#) searching for solutions to my out of control drinking problem.

Not everyone that comes to AA has that degree of desperation. That, I believe, is the difference in the various degrees of success we, as individuals, have when it comes to abstaining from alcohol. The reality is that not everyone gets it on their very first attempt.

With time, comes understanding and once I got beyond the initial stages of recovery it became clear to me that alcohol did not cause my problems although it eventually became one.

My mental and emotional troubles started surfacing long before I ever started drinking and I now realize that the drinking masked most of my mental and emotional difficulties for a long time.

But, as it happens, my tolerance for alcohol started to dissipate and the heavy drinking became an obvious problem. I failed at marriage, jobs, friendships, parenthood, and trust with just about every one that knew me. I burned so many bridges that, finally, I had no place to turn. By some miracle, I woke up one morning, and with no other options, I desperately called AA for help.

(Continued on page 2.)

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.)



Living by the Dictates of My Conscience Continued from page 1.

I was finally ready. And, from that day on, over fifty-three years ago, I have never wanted another drink since. The [obsession](#) to drink has never showed its face again. But had I not recognized the reason that drinking seemed to work, in the early days, and that the mental and emotional problems would be exposed when I stopped drinking and would need to be addressed if I was ever going to be at peace with myself and with the world around me.

I feel fortunate that, from that very first day, I have not been in denial about my condition and have embraced, what I recognized to be, the solution to my disease and the pathway to a future of the contentment that I enjoy today as the result of that thoroughness that I have applied to every facet of my life.

I had to relearn how to be a husband, father, brother, friend, employee, neighbor, partner, and a citizen. I had to become an asset and not a liability. I had to question my motives for everything I did and assure that I stayed on the unselfish side of the ledger.

I found it helpful to revisit the spirit of the things that I learned as a child in Church, in School, and in the Boy Scouts... and apply them where the selfish and dishonest habits had ruled my life.

I came to understand how my [Ego](#) had taken over all my mental properties and I had to let my Conscience slowly regain control of my virtues. The AA program was there when I was ready to throw in the towel and it helped me to recognize all of these changes. But it doesn't go into detail about how to meet these noble goals of how to be a good husband, father, friend... so I had to learn from other experienced sources, the details of these neglected issues and go about reprogramming my inner self to incorporate all these components of right living.

These things take time, and they do not happen overnight, but I could not let that stop me from beginning this new journey and giving me a purpose for living. I am extremely grateful that the AA program was established just in time to be available to save this broken spirit and turn it into the person that I am today as I override my Ego and simply live by the dictates of my Conscience.

**Calling all AA
Authors !!!**

**Please submit
an article to
The COURIER**

Email article to:

naplesintergroup@yahoo.com



**Your Home Group's
Activities**

**Can Be Here
Next Month.**

**To Highlight
Your Group,**

Please Call Us:

Intergroup Office

239/262-6535

May ... The Fifth Month of Alcoholics Anonymous

STEP FIVE: *"Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."*

TRADITION FIVE: *"Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."*

CONCEPT FIVE: *"Throughout our World Service Structure, a traditional "right of appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered."*

5TH Step Prayer: *"My inventory has shown me who I am, Yet I ask for Your help in admitting my wrongs to another person and to You. Assure me, and be with me, in this Step, For without this Step I cannot progress in my recovery. With Your help, I can do this, and I do it."*

TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

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

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, "I'm not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn't apply to me"?
2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

Step Five: A Clean Slate

Those Tormenting Ghosts of Yesterday

Rick R. – Miami, Florida

We were all born with a clean slate. From the first day of our lives, we started to experience different emotions and those feelings had to do with the way we evolved into who we are today.

Instinctively we responded to the different Threats and Comforts, of life, and these were the things that established our mental Strengths and Weaknesses. I believe, our problems can be traced back to the conditioning we experienced as we formed our Mental and Spiritual makeup. The perception we have of ourselves may be likened to a chalkboard containing every experience of our lives. If we can look at it and be satisfied that we had a good track-record, we would be comfortable with it and lead a normal life. If, however, we find ourselves on the negative side of the ledger in our formative years, we may develop abnormal feelings of guilt and shame, that triggers the beginning of the compulsion to drink excessively.

In the beginning we get a temporary relief that tells us that we are fine, but it only lasts until we wake up the next morning and find ourselves in an even deeper quandary. We reach for the bottle, and again it gives us that temporary euphoria, and we repeat this process over and over until, something tragic in our lives drives us to Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) where we are encouraged to go through a process that can restore us to a more normal life. Steps One through Four are about surrender, acceptance, and discovery.

STEP FIVE is about disclosure and for me, it was the gateway to how I was to live the rest of my life. After two attempts at Step Four, I was faced with the decision as to whether my future was going to be honest and meaningful, or just a meaningless facade. Fortunately, for me, I took a leap of faith and disclosed all those, so called, *tormenting ghosts of yesterday* (12&12, pg.55). Looking back on it now, I realize that the decision to do this was the hinge pin for my thoroughness, with the rest of the steps. Had I not “Cleaned the Slate” at that time, I just do not see how I could have followed the spirit of truth and honesty, with myself and others that would have resulted in the peace of mind that I enjoy today.

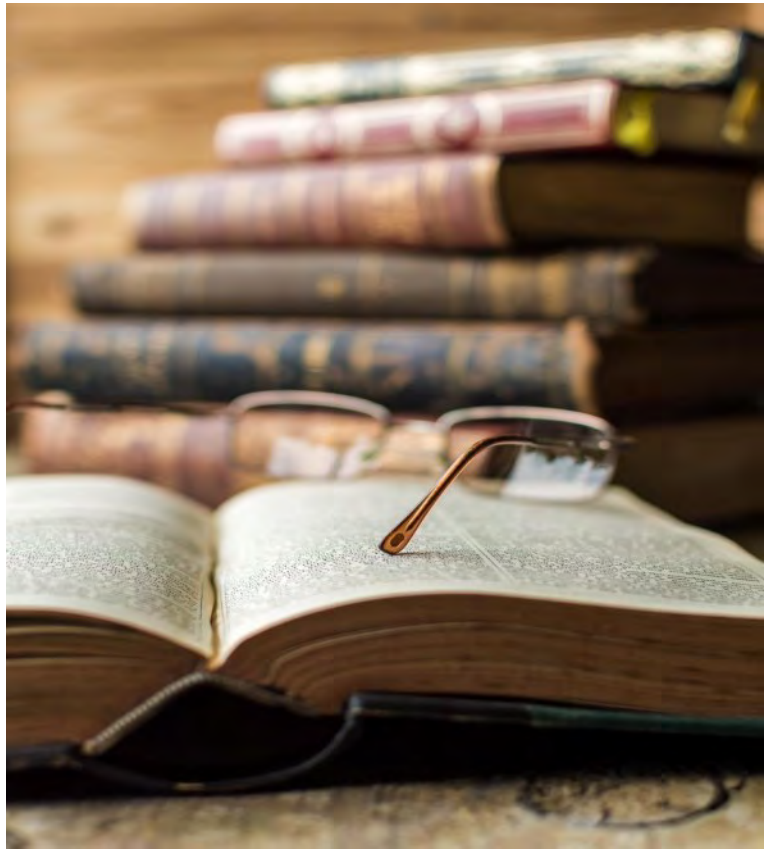
My inventory had to deal with bad habits and deeds which had to be changed by the process suggested in steps six and seven. That was the easy part of STEP FIVE. However, *those tormenting ghosts of yesterday* were another story. These were not habits, but deeds that I had done as an adolescent kid that seemed unforgivable. *No one should ever know; I would take them to the grave with me.* Mustering the strength to take that risk may have been the most crucial step forward I have ever made.

My brain had been lying to me, after all; how bad could a thirteen-year-old kid be? That one decision is what I credit with giving me my life back and if I had not done it, I do not see how I could have given a good effort to the rest of the steps. I often hear members of the program that seem to resist looking deeper into their regrets and seem to build a wall of reasons why they do not need to, and I wonder if they might be caught up in the same dilemma that I was in when I took my FIFTH STEP. I wish I could reassure them that it is not worth the mental torment that it puts us through and that it may be wise to revisit that step and clean the slate. We cannot live alone with them; we must talk to someone about them. (Even A.A. old-timers, sober for years, often pay dearly for skimping this step (12&12, pg. 56). If, you are that person, I encourage you to try to garner the strength to take that risk, and clean the slate.

“ After all, we only live once. Let us not waste the opportunity to live a peaceful and contented life. “

“Whatever strengthens the spirituality of the group strengthens my spirituality, and vice versa.”

“Tradition Five: What a Group ‘Ought’ to Be,” May 2006, AA Grapevine



THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

Bill W.'s
Grapevine Writings

“Truly transforming spiritual experiences are nearly always founded on calamity and collapse.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., August 1957, “The Physicians”, The Language of the Heart

AA 24-Hour Help-Line 911 Call

Rob O., Naples, Florida

My name is Rob; and, I am an alcoholic. This is a story about my service, fellowship, and gratitude that I owe entirely to the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

As part of my program, I volunteer at the Naples Area Intergroup Central Office / bookstore once a week. During my three and a half hours shift I interact with both newcomers and those with long-term sobriety. Most people that come into the store are in a good mood and are more than willing to discuss their journey in sobriety and to tell me about their home group. It is heart-warming to hear about the "best home group in Naples" from everyone as they refer to their own groups. Hearing about other fellowships has encouraged me to attend more meetings outside of my immediate area. Service has given me far more than I have given; and, it has opened my eyes to other groups and fellowships within my community while helping me continue on my own path of sobriety and spirituality.

Most of my shifts are filled with assisting customers looking for books or medallions. One afternoon, near the end of my shift, I received a call on the Intergroup landline from Leslie (not her real name). All she said was she needed help. The Naples AA meeting guide was available; and, I suggested meetings that she could attend. She said she had been drinking and was in no condition to drive ... and, it quickly became clear that she was in crisis. I asked how I could help, and she began crying. She said she had lost her husband and her father and that she had no one else in her life. At some point, she said she was getting her affairs in order and that she was going to take her own life. At that point, I used my cell phone and called 911. The operator took Leslie's name and phone number and told me help would be on the way. I relayed that message to Leslie and assured her that everything was going to be alright; and, someone would be calling her soon. The call ended and I closed the bookstore and left to meet my sponsee, and attend a meeting at the Twenty-Four Hour Club.

Twenty minutes into the meeting, I received a call from a Collier County Sheriff stating he was in the parking lot and would like to discuss my 911 call. At that point, I met Cpl Traynor (also not his real name). He said the police were not able to reach Leslie and she was not answering their calls. We went into the bookstore; and, I called from the Intergroup phone. She answered and was agitated stating that she tried to call back to speak to me but someone else answered the phone. I explained that I was in an AA meeting. After a couple of minutes, she calmed down and started talking to me with a calmer voice. Cpl Traynor stated that it seemed Leslie did not want to speak to the police and that the best course of action would be if I could keep her on the line until a sheriff deputy could get to her and help. At some point, I started sharing my experience, strength and hope with her just as had been suggested to me so many times over the years in the rooms. Since I had the rapport with her, we opted to have me continue with the call as long as she was willing to continue our conversation. Going forward, we were able to ascertain many details that would be helpful to the sheriff deputy once they reached her. Due to a few unfortunate miscues, it took an hour and a half for the sheriffs in her county to contact her. I stayed on the line with her the entire time; and, Cpl Traynor sat next to me, ignoring his scheduled end of shift. He was very encouraging and continued to suggest questions that helped me stay calm and focused ...and that would ultimately help Leslie.

AA 24-Hour Help-Line 911 Call ... continued on page 7.

AA Help-Line 911 Call ... continued from page 6.

At one point, I heard the familiar sound of ice hitting a glass; she had started drinking again. Her speech was soon close to unintelligible; and she mumbled something I could not understand. Cpl Traynor understood it as she wanted to go out to buy cigarettes. Neither of us wanted Leslie to leave her apartment before help arrived. Immediately I jumped to talking about my own personal addiction to nicotine. I started asking about her favorite brand. Newport? Mine was Marlboro. Her plan to buy menthol cigarettes after they discontinued them. Black market (duh). When she started smoking, etc. Soon her speech was getting clearer, and she was back to being engaged, and appeared to pause the drinking. She seemed to focus on our conversation again. This gave us an additional 15 minutes until help could reach her. When the sheriff deputy came to her front door, she became angry with me and said she was locking the door and not letting them in her home. Leslie ended her communication with me at that point.

We soon heard via the Collier Sheriff Office that the Lee County Deputy had been successful in rescuing Leslie. The information Leslie had given me proved valuable in helping her. Since she had explicitly threatened to harm herself, the police had enough information to invoke the Baker Act (a law that focuses on crisis service for individuals experiencing mental health crises). I filled out an affidavit which ultimately led to Leslie receiving the assistance that she needed ... at least for the next 72 hours. My part in this day was complete. I pray that she accepted the help and is in a much better mental, physical and spiritual place today.

When the call was over, I was in the parking lot again with Cpl Traynor. A flood of emotions swept over me. Remorse for not alerting the person covering the AA overnight phone line to the crisis and for closing the bookstore to go to a meeting instead of staying with Leslie; fear that what I did was not enough or that I could have done more; sorrow that she was going through this; pride that flowed over me in knowing that I acted in a helpful and empathetic way; selfishness that the situation was over for me but continued for her. I was smiling as I had tears in my eyes, my heart was beating at 100 mph. At the end, Cpl Traynor thanked me for being willing to do what I did. When I explained that I was just doing what people in the rooms of AA do every day, he expressed that he had little exposure to AA and that this was a great first impression.

During the middle of the debrief with Cpl Taylor, my sponsee called to see if I was OK. I told him I would call back. Yet another moment and sign that AA truly works. I called him on my way home. That was the first of 20 or so calls to fellow AA's that I was to make over the next 24 hours.

I had no formal training in what to do in this situation and no idea I would ever be put in a situation like this. The calmness I felt during this process and the ability to personally go through this is a direct result of my years attending AA meetings, working with others in the program, and my relationship with my higher power. I knew I could not control the situation; but, I could offer hope and empathy to Leslie in her time of need. I had to let go and let my higher power take over and guide me through this. Sharing my experience, strength, and hope possibly helped her; but, I also knew it would certainly help me.

AA Help-Line 911 Call ... continued on page 8.

AA 24-Hour Help-Line 911 Call ... continued from page 7.

As I processed what had happened and what I was feeling, I reached out to my sponsor, my sponsee, people in the fellowship in Chicago that I have known for years and those in Naples that I have known for less time ... but, are a huge part of my sobriety today. Having the fellowship, gave me strength and allowed me to accept my role in all of this. Some people right sized me when I was too prideful, others encouraged me as I tearfully told them my experience. I also reached out to my therapist who did have experiences like I had that day. He explained that this flood of emotions was typical and that I should accept them and learn from them. The depth of love and friendship I felt from this program was off the charts and I am very grateful for every one of the people I reached out to that day.

It has been over two months since this happened. I don't know what happened to Leslie nor Cpl Traynor (though I did see him several days later at the scene of an auto accident that I witnessed. Naples is still not that big of a town!). Both Leslie and Cpl Traynor touched my life in a way that I did not see coming. Without being part of this fellowship, I do not think I would have had the ability to stay as calm and focused for those 90 minutes while on the phone. I do not know what happened to Leslie after this incident ... and, I am okay with that. I can accept my role in the day and know that I was the hand of AA when Leslie needed it.

I may not know what my Higher Power looks like ... but, I am certain it is not me. I love Alcoholics Anonymous.

AA RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

*I am responsible when anyone,
Anywhere, reaches out for help.
I want the hand of AA always to be there;
And for that ... I am responsible.*

If you or someone you know is in crisis and need to talk to someone, there are many resources available nationally and in Collier County, Florida.

If it is an emergency: **NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE NUMBER: 988**

Collier Coalition for Healthy Minds <https://www.collierhealthyminds.com/>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention <https://afsp.org/find-a-local-chapter/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention <https://afsp.org/find-a-local-chapter/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/988>

* * * * *

How do I know if I'm doing God's will?

I don't ... but, I know when I'm not.

- GRAPEVINE, February 2002.

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

THE AA PREAMBLE: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Service Material from the General Service Office

THE PREAMBLE was introduced in the June 1947 issue of the AA Grapevine magazine. It was written by the then-editor, who borrowed much of the phrasing from the Foreword to the original edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous. In those early years, the Grapevine had just begun to circulate among non-alcoholics, and the Preamble was intended primarily to describe for them what AA is and is not. It is still often used for public information purposes. As time passed, it began appearing in all Conference-approved publications, and many AA groups now use it to open meetings. The original version differed in two ways from the familiar form we all know: 1) It stated that the only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking,” and 2) it contained only the very brief statement “AA has no dues or fees.” People often ask why the word “honest” was deleted. At the 1958 General Service Conference, a delegate asked about the words “honest desire to stop drinking,” suggesting that since “honest” does not appear in the Third Tradition, it might be deleted from the Preamble. In discussion, most Conference members felt that as AA had matured, it had become almost impossible to determine what constitutes an honest desire to stop drinking, and also that some who might be interested in the program could be confused by the phrase. Thus, as part of the evolution of AA, the phrase had been dropped from common usage. The midsummer 1958 meeting of the General Service Board of Trustees ratified the deletion, and since then the Preamble has read simply “a desire to stop drinking.” At the same time, the phrase “AA has no dues or fees” was clarified to read as it presently does: “There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.” The current version of the Preamble appears on page one of every issue of the Grapevine. At the 71st General Service Conference in 2021, after a series of votes, a final Advisory Action requested that “The Preamble revision replacing the words ‘men and women’ with the word ‘people’ be presented to the General Service Board for approval as the new revised A.A. Preamble.” The revised A.A. Preamble first appeared in the July 2021 AA Grapevine and the July/August La Viña, and afterwards throughout Grapevine and A.A.W.S. literature and other media. When reprinted, the Preamble should carry the following credit line: Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission. AA 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 to achieve sobriety.

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Rev.6/23/2021

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) at their March Fund Drive have dwindled. Likewise for AA as a whole (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 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)



Naples, FL

2024 June

14, 15, 16

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-825c-05733404d549

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www.SistersbytheSea.com

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Early Bird January 1st \$45 Registration

Registration \$50.00 Banquet \$50.00 Choice

Fish _____ Chicken _____ Vegan _____

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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)

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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
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 Mildred F. - Toronto, ON
 Angie B. - Destin, FL (Al-Anon)
 Chip B. - Destin, FL
 Danny B. - Spring, TX
 Kathryn A. - Jacksonville, FL

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+ Discount 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.
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(Free Self-Parking, Wi-Fi, & No Daily Resort Fees!)

MENTION GROUP CODE: GSER24

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 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)

\$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:
and Mail To:**

**The Serenity Club
12435 Collier Blvd., Ste. 107
Naples, FL 34116**

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

FINANCES**Apr 24 YTD 24****Income**

Literature/Merchandise \$3,516 \$15,416

Group Contributions 3,554 12,828

AA Birthdays - 35

Faithful Five 20 70

Individual/Anonymous - 1,444

Total Income 7,090 29,728**Expenses**

Bank/Credit Card Fees 148 312

Licenses/Permits - 70

Office Supplies 237 1,312

Office Improve/Repair - -

www Hosting - -

Payroll 2,240 6,722

Payroll Tax - -

Postage 10 88

Printing - 187

Purchases/Lit./Merch. 2,293 13,933

Insurance - -

Rent 500 1,500

Sales Tax 532 1,154

Telephone/www 218 872

Utilities 100 300

Computer Equipment - 782

Computer Software 108 312

Computer/Maintain - -

Quarterlies / Travel/ 150

Membership

Total Expenses 6,964 27,864**Net Ordinary Income** \$126 \$1,864

Gratitude Dinner Tickets - -

Gratitude Expenses - -

NET OTHER INCOME - -**NET INCOME** \$126 \$1,864

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

Spirituality and Money

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

SELF-SUPPORT:**Where Money and Spirituality Mix****Naples Area Intergroup**

1509-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

<u>Group/Meeting</u>	<u>Feb24</u>	<u>YTD24</u>
Grp# 510367	86.....	86
11th Step Prayer & Meditation	66.....	500
Beach Bums	300.....	300
Big Book Comes Alive.....	147.....	147
Big Book Steppers—Bonita	0.....	77
Bonita Banyan, 176463.....	234.....	393
Bonita Happy Hour	0.....	395
Bonita Springs Primary Purpose	0.....	88
Bonita Springs Morning, 678493.....	589.....	589
Bonita Women Step.....	400.....	700
Bring Your Own Big Book	75.....	75
Daily Reflections ZOOM	0.....	433
Common Solutions Naples	0.....	504
Early Risers	0.....	680
Easy Does It	0.....	1,000
Grupo Nueva Vida	25.....	25
Girlfriends Group	0.....	50
Jaywalkers, 634271.....	0.....	157
Keep It Simple, 651598.....	0.....	227
Language of Letting Go	13.....	13
Meeting In The Park	0.....	577
Men Of Naples, 634030.....	0.....	122
Daily Reflections – Monday	12.....	58
Naples Group	0.....	849
Naples Men BB Group.....	25.....	125
On Awakening	0.....	48
Park Shore Women	0.....	250
Primary Purpose Marco	0.....	600
Switch It Up Group	0.....	100

<u>Group/Meeting</u>	<u>Feb24</u>	<u>YTD24</u>
Tables Of Naples	0.....	25
Three Legacies	50.....	50
Veranda Group	20.....	59
Wanderers Ave Maria	41.....	110
Where Are We	0.....	100

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

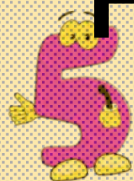
Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the AA Birthday Club? Sign up today and be featured in the *Courier*. Show your support for your Central Office. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety will help carry the message to alcoholics 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
joeasclia@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
jerryeddlleman@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
joeasclia@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., Chris G., Chrissie F., Eric S., Faye B., Gay S., Holli G., Peggy E., Rob O. ... 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 Opportunities