

# THE COURIER

Naples Area Intergroup  
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Naples, Florida 34109



239-262-6535  
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July 2024

## The Journey to Sobriety

We took our most important step when we recognized that we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable. Having done that, the next step was to find a solution. Our own efforts had failed. We had tried to control the use of alcohol. We had tried to do without alcohol, and failed there, too. We had tried to trick ourselves into sobriety.

We tried off-again-on-again. We tried beer and wine. We tried three a day, and saw three jiggers grow to three glasses. We tried the pledge, without fingers crossed. And, yet we remained powerless in the presence of alcohol. We still had “the strength of a bull in our necks,” and we wanted no one telling us how to order our lives, no doctors, no parents, no women, no men, and none of our fast disappearing friends. Particularly, we rejected any suggestion that smacked our uplift. We wanted no advice from those we suspected of believing us to be “sinners”.

But at last, after many months of headstrong persistence in error, we came to the realization that we were powerless to deal with our situations. Then we were ready to look beyond ourselves. In this, our experience has not been unique. It has been the experience of man throughout the ages that when he felt uneasy, that when he felt that something was wrong with him as he stood, he found his solution by looking beyond himself.

Man in all ages has turned to the realm of the spirit to find completeness, to find a way out of error. Man in all ages has come to the realization that he must place his faith in the Supreme Power that rules the universe and everything in it.

We took our second step. Then, when we came to believe that a power higher than ourselves could restore us to sanity. Having taken that step, we are brought to the threshold of release. To obtain release we must cross the threshold. To cross the threshold, we must exchange mere recognition of the existence of a Higher Power for firm conviction. For, to “believe” is to have firm conviction. And with firm conviction in the existence of Supreme Power and in the saving grace of that power, we enable ourselves to break the bounds of sensuality, to get off the merry-go-round of nervous compulsion that made us powerless in the presence of alcohol.

We turn our faces toward God and prepare to lift ourselves up from the shallower sphere of life.

*By the Editor, Central Bulletin, January 1943*

### 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.)



## JULY...The Seventh (7th) Month Of Alcoholics Anonymous

**STEP SEVEN:** Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

**TRADITION SEVEN:** Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

**CONCEPT SEVEN:** The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

*7th Step Prayer: My Creator, I am now willing that You should have all of me, good and bad. I pray that You now remove from me every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to You and my fellows. Grant me strength, as I go out from here to do Your bidding. Amen*

### TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

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

1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

## A Life of Principles and Purpose

Rebuilding Our Morality

By Rick R.

The twelve steps of the AA program are placed in numerical order for a reason. Each step is preparatory to the next step and each step requires a certain amount of attention before we can successfully move on to the next step.

Simply put, Step one is acknowledging that we have a problem. Step two is about accepting outside help. Step three is where we surrender to that outside help. (A power greater than ourselves) Step four is the beginning of the *action* steps where we acknowledge and document the immoral behaviors of our past and those we offended. Step five may be the most difficult step where we must admit to God, to our self and to another human being, all those faulty deeds and habits. It was that "other human being" part that I found to be the most difficult thing and it delayed my progress for a short time.

We cannot change one moment of the past, but we can change our habits and behavior as we begin our journey into the future and that is where Steps Six and Seven come in. To simplify my understanding of these two steps it occurred to me that most of my faulty behaviors (shortcomings) are the result of my (defective) thinking. Once I discovered the defect in my motives, it was not too difficult to change my behaviors. On the last page of Step 7 in the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions (12&12) it says, "The chief activator of our defects has been self-centered fear."

Most of my fears were of the irrational variety as I discovered that they stemmed from experiences in my youth that caused my fears and insecurity and to do things that were morally wrong. Those actions were the Shortcomings that stemmed from my Irrational Fears. Once I recognize the defect (fear), the Shortcomings (Behaviors) were much easier to change.

"Selfishness--Self-Centeredness! That we think is the root of our troubles. Driven by a hundred forms of Fear, Self-Delusion, Self-Seeking, and Self-Pity, we step on the toes of our fellows, and they retaliate." (BB pg.62) If, in fact, Selfishness-Self-Centeredness is the root of our problems it is plain to see that Unselfishness just might be solution to my problems.

I could not have understood this line of thinking when I was still using alcohol to mask these problems. I do not believe that I would have been strong enough to follow these guidelines had I not completed Step Five and admitted my fault to God, to myself, and to another human being.

The proper completion of Step Five was the most humbling experience of my life, but it opened the door to the rest of the program. Had I not done that I could never have taken my ego out of the game and the rest of the program may have been a shallow facade. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Those words were put in place by the Co-founders of the program Alcoholics Anonymous and it gives each of its members the opportunity to choose their own degree of thoroughness when it comes to practicing the AA principles. I am so thankful that I did not let my ego stand in the way of my spiritual development and all the progress that I have made in the program.

I have experienced all the promises and I encourage anyone who is still caught up in the Fear of Step Five to take the leap of faith, revisit it ... get your ego out of the way, and clear your conscience. We only live once, and it would be a shame to waste this precious gift.

**"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**

## JUDIASM and the LORD'S PRAYER

Mike L., Santa Barbara, California  
GRAPEVINE Magazine, January 1997

As a Jewish member of Alcoholics Anonymous, I've been concerned about the fact that so many meetings end in the Lord's Prayer. While I was willing to go to any lengths to get--and stay--sober, I was worried about reciting a prayer that might in some way compromise my Jewish identity.

So I talked with my rabbi, who is knowledgeable not just about Jewish affairs but also about the Twelve Steps. He is Orthodox and the leader of an extremely large Jewish congregation. He does a lot of work visiting treatment centers, and he knows a lot about AA. Probably more than I do.

He explained to me that there is nothing in the Lord's Prayer--or in all of the Twelve Steps, for that matter--that in any way contradicts anything in traditional Judaism. He pointed out that many of the phrases in the Lord's Prayer actually come from Jewish prayers in use two thousand years ago and still current today. While the Lord's Prayer is used primarily by Christians, its origins are firmly rooted in the Jewish prayer book.

Now, I'm no scholar (although I've written a few books about Judaism), and I can't locate all of the phrases in Jewish liturgy off the top of my head, but I know a few, and perhaps these will give some sense of how the Lord's Prayer was assembled.

Our Father who art in heaven = Avinu shebashamiyim

That Hebrew phrase, Avinu shebashamiyim, has been used for millenia to start prayers. The most recent use came in the Prayer For The State of Israel, composed after the founding of Israel in 1948.

Hallowed be thy name = Yiskadal v'yiskadash sh'may rabbo

This Aramaic formation is extremely familiar to Jews as the first line of the Kaddish (the Mourner's Prayer) and also the prayer that separates sections of the Orthodox prayer service.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven = ba'shamayim me'ma'al u'va' aretz mitachas

This line from the "aleinu" prayer, said at the conclusion of each prayer service and in the important Mussaf service on Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement, translates as "in the heavens above and on the earth below."

Give us this day our daily bread = Hu nosain lechem l'chol basar

This comes from the first paragraph of the Jewish Grace After Meals. The meaning is that God gives bread to all beings.

And forgive us our trespasses = She'tislach lanu al cal chatosainu

"Forgive us for all of our sins" reads this line repeated many times in the Yom Kippur prayers.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory = L'cha, adoshem

The Jewish phrase translates as "the greatness and the power and the glory." This is a line recited in a Sabbath morning prayer just prior to the reading of the Torah in the synagogue.

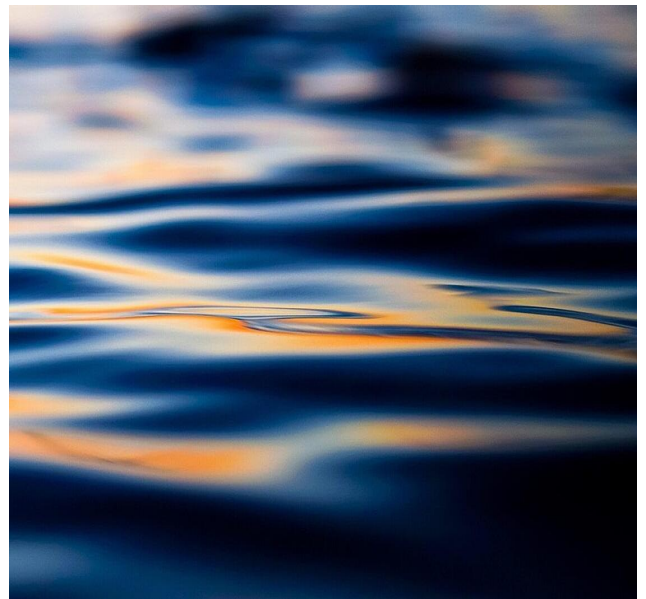
Forever and ever = L'dor va'dor

Literally, this means "from generation to generation."

Amen = Amen Amen is actually a Hebrew word from the verb "to believe." In a prayer or a room--or in a Jewish court of law--to answer "Amen" after a statement is to say, "I believe this."

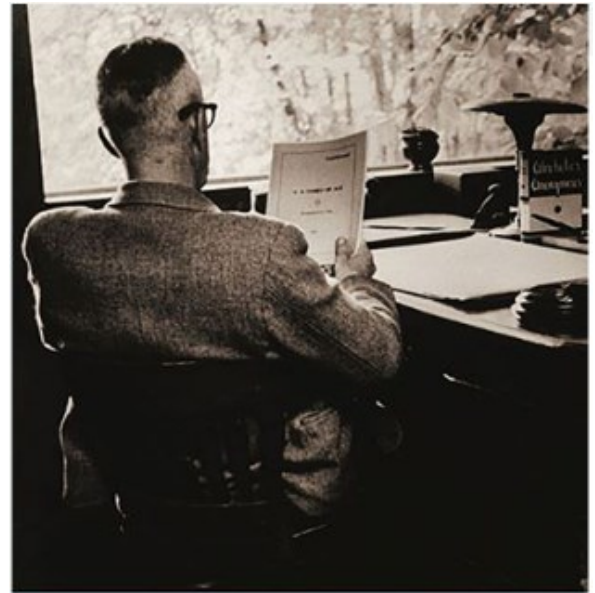
So you see that as a believing Jew, when I'm saying the Lord's Prayer, I'm saying a compilation of excerpts of prayers that are a part of the traditional Jewish prayer book. I hope that this makes things more comfortable for other Jews.

Source URL: <https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine/1997/jan/judaism-and-lords-prayer>



**“If we examine every disturbance we have, great or small, we will find at the root of it some unhealthy dependency and its consequent unhealthy demand. Let us, with God’s help, continually surrender these hobbling liabilities.”**

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



## THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

Bill W.'s  
Grapevine Writings



## Introduction to the *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

Mary Pat B., Naples, Florida

The reason we join hands as we say the LORD'S PRAYER ... is to remind us of the truth ... that we are not alone ... our prayer is for the still suffering alcoholic ... those who are with us ... and, those who are still searching for us. Hold on to the hand of the person next to you like your life depends on it ... **someday it may.**

## A Simple Program for Complicated People

### 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 (A.A.) searching for solutions to my, out of control, drinking problem. Not everyone that comes to A.A. has that degree of desperation and 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 become a problem. 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 and by some miracle, I woke up one morning, and with no other options ... [I desperately called A. A. for help.](#)

I was finally ready and from that day on ... over fifty-three years ago ... I have never wanted a drink since then. 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 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, a father, a brother, a friend, an employee, a neighbor, a 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 A.A. 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 A.A. 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.](#)

“I opened the door and walked into the warmth, the laughter, the acceptance, and the love that is AA. No one asked me who I was or what I wanted; no one asked me how much money I had or what I did for a living; no one asked me where I did my drinking or what my sexual preferences were. The smiling man who greeted me told me that night that if I thought I had a drinking problem, I was in the right place.”

“Above All, an Alcoholic,” Toledo, Ohio, September 1982, In Our Own Words: Stories of Young AAs in Recovery



## IN OUR OWN WORDS

Stories of Young AAs in Recovery

**Calling all AA**

**Authors !!!**

**Please submit  
an article to**

**The COURIER !!!**

**Email article to:**

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



**Your Groups’**

**Activities**

**Can Be Here**

**Next Month.**

**To Highlight**

**Your Group,**

**Please Call Us:**

**Intergroup Office**

**239/262-6535**

A

## Declaration of Unity

**This we owe to A.A.'s future:**

**To place our common welfare first;**

**To keep our fellowship united.**

**For on A.A. unity depend our lives;**

**And the lives of those to come.**

From Bill's last message\* . . . .

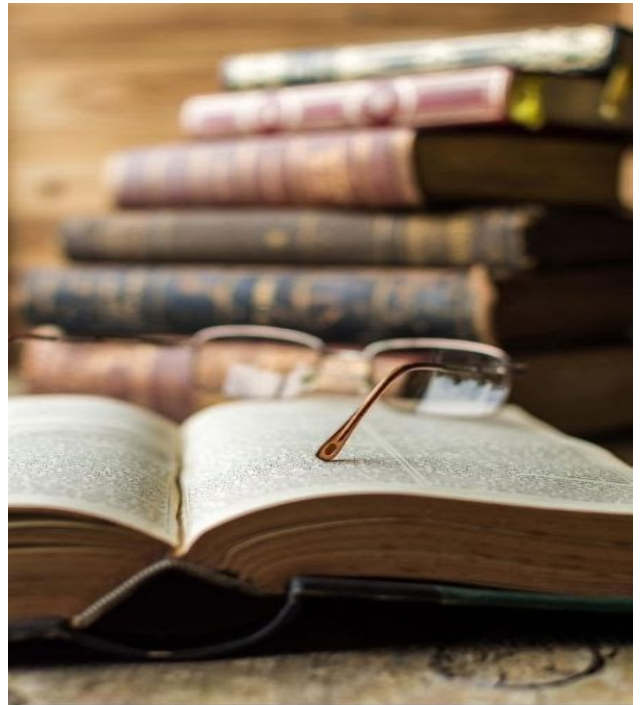
If I were asked which of our blessings  
I felt was most responsible for our  
growth as a fellowship and most vital  
to our continuity, I would say, the  
"Concept of Anonymity."

\*Read by Lois at the 1970  
Annual New York Intergroup Dinner



“While I wouldn’t recommend that anyone become an alcoholic, I believe that sober alcoholics living the AA way of life have been blessed with a gift. It’s a gift that can’t be bought, that can’t be won in a lottery, that can’t be stolen, forged, or rented.”

Edenvale, Gauteng, South Africa, October 1996, “A Healthy Appetite for Beer,” The Best of the Grapevine, Volume 3



## 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**

# IMPRESSIONS

By Central Bulletin Editor, June 1960

## *Alcoholics Anonymous Cleveland*



We were talking with a comparatively new member at a meeting recently who stated that he had made this trip across town to hear the speaker scheduled to speak. He informed us that he had known this man for many years and considered him one of the lowest of the low, a man without any decent principles or impulses and absolutely devoid of any morals or character.

Soon after he had embraced the Fellowship, he heard this man [being extolled by several as being one of the most outstanding AAs in the Cleveland area. He couldn't believe his ears, It couldn't be the same man . . . and if it was, then very evidently this cookie had certainly pulled the wool over the eyes of "the guys who ran AA" and let him come in. And if it was indeed the same fellow whom he knew, inside and out, he would expose this fourflusher to all and sundry.

He searched the Group News column of the [Central Bulletin](#) and learned that this man was to speak at this particular meeting. We sat with the visitor and as the speaker rose to make his talk, the visitor hissed an aside to us: "That's the faker!" We quieted him and urged him to listen with an open mind.

For fifteen minutes, the speaker qualified, describing himself as having been morally and spiritually bankrupt. He had been disloyal to his wife and family, his employer and all of his friends. His word was worth nothing and his promises false. None could have sunk lower, he admitted.

"God must have listened to the prayers of my family," he went on, "for I hadn't been in contact with Him for many years." A complete stranger took him in, had hospitalized him, reconciled him with his family and former employer and gave him the keys to the AA way of life.

His words rang with sincerity and his humility was impressive as he described the battle he had with downing his old wrong impulses and changing his thinking habits so that he could face "The Man Upstairs" (his conception of the Power Greater Than Himself) each night.

It hadn't been easy for him, but he dutifully followed his sponsor's example and advice. His sponsor had impressed him with his need for a mental and moral catharsis, and emphasized the importance of the [Four Absolutes](#) which he had found as a solution for his own moral regeneration.

He found it most difficult to be ABSOLUTELY honest, pure, unselfish, and to practice love . . . but he persisted and found to his amazement that life was FUN – real, honest, care-free fun, and life was good.

The man at our right sat spellbound and when the meeting closed, he jumped to his feet and was the first to greet the man whom he had intended to "expose."

We did not listen to their conversation, but we did notice that afterwards they sat to one side, talking intimately as we left the meeting.

We met the newcomer the other day at one of our nursing homes, where he had taken his first "baby." We noticed a decided change in his [attitude](#). He seemed "to belong."

We asked him how he was getting along and he informed us that his life had completely changed since the meeting we had attended together when he was going to show up the "faker."

The "faker" and he became inseparable companions and the "Daily Plan and the Four Absolutes" have completely changed his life.

He also has found that sober living with a plan and purpose can be fun-real fun.

By Central Bulletin Editor, June 1960



News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.<sup>®</sup>

[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

Vol. 65, No. 3 / Fall 2019

## The Meeting Guide App



*This is the first installment of a new Box 4-5-9 series on the technology that is changing the way Alcoholics Anonymous communicates to suffering alcoholics and interacts with its members.*

Josh R., a web developer, did most of his drinking in New York City. In 2013, he decided a geographic would help and he moved to San Jose. Unlike most geographics, this one turned out to be fruitful — for both Josh and for Alcoholics Anonymous.

Once in San Jose, Josh got sober, found a sponsor and started going to A.A. meetings in the area. Only problem was, the local central office website — while it listed meetings — wasn't so user-friendly for someone using a mobile phone. Like most A.A. websites, the site had been developed before mobile design came into general use. Such sites work fine for someone on a computer, but these days, A.A. sites get more than twice as many visitors from handheld devices as from traditional desktops or laptops.

"Essentially what I did," Josh says, "is take all the meeting listings and export them to an Excel file with links to directions, and then made my own little app, just for myself. That's where the germ of the idea for the Meeting Guide app developed — just me trying to find meetings."

From early sobriety, Josh has been a supporter of intergroups and central offices. The intergroup rep from his home group suggested that Josh develop his personal app into an app that all A.A.s in Santa Clara County could use. Josh agreed and conferred with the Santa Clara County central office. Eventually, Josh went further than originally envisioned. He came up with the idea to develop a WordPress plug-in that intergroup/central offices, areas and districts across the country (and the world) could use, so that the meetings they listed on their sites could be added to the app and automatically updated every 12 hours.

A turning point for Josh was making a presentation of his app to the National A.A. Technology Workshop (NAATW), where he received support and feedback. The free app was launched in November 2015 with seven connected A.A. websites — those in Austin, Mesa (Arizona), Oakland, Philadelphia, Portland (Oregon), San Francisco and San Jose.

Today, Meeting Guide is connected to 326 local A.A. organization websites. Getting connected wasn't easy for all of them. Some local sites had to find new web servants, while others had to draft new policies and procedures, sign up for new web hosting, and try new software. In several cases, group consciences were sought to settle concerns about the Sixth Tradition and the future of the app: Would it always be free? Does this represent affiliation with an outside entity?

In an era when smartphones dominate, Meeting Guide is a simple, useful tool for newcomers and oldtimers alike — one that standardizes meeting information so that it is always readily available and up to date. Recognizing this, Josh did something unusual, but which is also completely within the spirit of the Fellowship: he gave the Meeting Guide app to Alcoholics Anonymous, *for free*.

"I realized," Josh says, "that the only way we could continue to grow was to pass it on."

In the fall of 2018, A.A.W.S., Inc. licensed Meeting Guide and put together a working group of consultants, employees and trustees to help bring it to fruition, and an updated version was released in summer 2019. Lois L. is a member of the steering committee for the NAATW and an administrator on the Technology in A.A. (TIAA) online forum. As an A.A. member with 30 years sobriety

*"Nothing matters more to A.A.'s future welfare than the manner in which we use the colossus of modern communication. Used unselfishly and well, it can produce results surpassing our present imagination."*

— Bill W.

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**August 1-4, 2024**  
**67.floridastateconvention.com**  
**Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront**  
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**67th Florida State Convention**  
**JACKSONVILLE 2024**

## 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!



SCAN HERE  
BE AMAZED

### 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

### 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. 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

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Riverside, CA

**MISOON W.**

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

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*(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!**

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*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 [jerryedleman@gmail.com](mailto:jerryedleman@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.**

**FINANCES****June24 YTD 24****Income**

Literature/Merchandise	\$3,243	\$25,611
Group Contributions	1,385	14,404
AA Birthdays	33	68
Faithful Five	40	170
Individual/Anonymous	100	1,962

**Total Income**

4,800 42,217

**Expenses**

Bank/Credit Card Fees	168	390
Licenses/Permits	-	70
Office Supplies	412	2,019
Office Improve/Repair	-	1,003
www Hosting	-	400
Payroll	2,240	11,203
Payroll Tax	-	-
Postage	20	118
Printing	-	640
Purchases/Lit./Merch.	1,265	18,069
Insurance	-	-
Rent	500	2,500
Sales Tax	56	1,495
Telephone/www	213	1,303
Utilities	100	500
Computer Equipment	-	356
Computer Software	108	419
Computer/Maintain	-	-
Accounting Services	918	918
<b>Total Expenses</b>	5,910	42,009

**Net Ordinary Income**

(\$1,110) \$208

Gratitude Dinner Tickets - -

Gratitude Expenses - -

**NET OTHER INCOME**

- -

**NET INCOME**

(\$1,110) \$208

**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**

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  
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>June24</u>	<u>YTD24</u>
Grp# 510367 .....	.0	86
11th Step Prayer & Meditation .....	73	573
Beach Bums .....	.0	300
Big Book Comes Alive.....	.0	147
Big Book Babes .....	10	10
Big Book Steppers—Bonita .....	.65	142
Bonita Banyan, 176463.....	.0	393
Bonita Happy Hour .....	.0	395
Bonita Ladies Night .....	.75	75
Bonita Springs Primary Purpose .....	.45	133
Bonita Springs Morning, 678493.....	.0	589
Bonita Women Step.....	.0	700
Bring Your Own Big Book .....	.0	75
Daily Reflections ZOOM .....	.25	533
Cake Meeting .....	.0	25
Common Solutions Naples .....	.0	944
Early Risers .....	579	1,260
Easy Does It .....	.0	2,000
Flemsy Reed Group .....	.245	245
Free 2 Be .....	.0	150
Grupo Nueva Vida .....	.25	75
Girlfriends Group .....	.0	50
Happy Healers .....	.0	635
Jaywalkers, 634271.....	.0	193
Keep It Simple, 651598.....	.0	227
Language of Letting Go .....	.0	13
Living Sober .....	.0	20
Meeting In The Park .....	.35	831
Men Of Naples, 634030.....	.56	202
Morning Reflections .....	.49	258
Daily Reflections – Monday .....	.12	83
Naples Group .....	.0	849
Naples Men BB Group.....	.39	164

<u>Group/Meeting</u>	<u>June24</u>	<u>YTD24</u>
On Awakening .....	.49	95
Park Shore Women .....	.0	250
Primary Purpose Marco .....	.0	600
Switch It Up Group .....	.0	100
Tables Of Naples .....	.0	25
Three Legacies .....	.0	50
Veranda Group .....	.13	89
Wanderers Ave Maria .....	.47	192
Where Are We .....	.0	200

**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

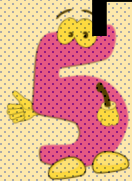
Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the AA Birthday Club? Sign up today and be featured in the *Courier*. Show your support for your Central Office. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety will help carry the message to alcoholics 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
Dennis F.	35 years
Rad W.	35 years
Judy W.	34 years
Steve K.	33 years
Peter F.	28 years
Eileen D.	22 years
Bill S.	22 years
Ken H.	22 years
Laura T. F.	7 years
Tina S	2 years



## Faithful Fivers Needed



### 2024 Faithful Fiver Club

***April O., Bill D., Bill S., Eric S., James B., Jeanette H., Jim H., Judy W., Kathryn Mc., Ken H., Ralph W., Rick G., 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.



## 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:

Katie B. 708/408-9330  
kaboyle56@gmail.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

#### **Opportunity**

#### 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  
marco-  
angel2000@gmail.com

### HAZELDEN

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

### BRIDGING THE GAP

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

## Area 15; Panel 69

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

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. 337/283-1208  
tsbrancato@gmail.com

#### Members at Large:

#### **Service Opportunities**

#### 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

Becky S., Bill C., Bill D., Bill  
S., Bonnie B., Chrissie F.,  
Chris G., Ed C., Eric S., Gay  
S., Lara E., Peggy E., Rob  
O., Tom S. ... and loyal sub-  
stitutes.

#### **Service Opportunity**

#### After-Hours Phone Volunteers

Geoff E., Holli G., Jeanette  
H., Ken H. Lauren F.,  
Heather B., Steve and Tim A.  
**Service Opportunity**