

# THE COURIER

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



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

January 2025

## **BILL W's HOLIDAY GIFT** by Bob S., A.A CLEVELAND

On a bleak November day in 1934, Bill W. was in the process of receiving—albeit unknowingly—a Christmas present beyond his belief. During a visit, an old schoolmate, Ebby T., explained how he had found sobriety via religious ideas of the Oxford Group. Bill was amazed, yet unimpressed. He thought: *“My gin would last longer than his preaching.”* (p 9 BB.) But it did not! Bill’s curiosity with his friend’s success eventually led Bill to the doors of the alcoholic ward of Towns Hospital a few weeks later. He was released with a full week of sobriety on December 18, just one week before Christmas. He never drank again!



But that was only a beginning! While in the hospital, he had a personality change that altered his modus operandi! He previously had never wanted anything more than to be a rich member of the Wall street crowd, as he was before drinking ruined that high point of his life. However, before leaving the hospital the thought came to him: *“There were thousands of hopeless alcoholics who might be glad to have what had been so freely given to me. Perhaps I could help some of them. They in turn might work with others.”* (p. 14 BB.)

Bill’s real Christmas present was a complete personality change as described by Dr. Carl Jung: *“Ideas, emotions, and attitudes which were once the guiding forces of the lives of these men are suddenly cast to one side, and a completely new set of conceptions and motives begin to dominate the-.”* (p. 27 BB.) Well, did Bill go back to Wall Street? No, he did not! He went down to Calvary mission and brought home a disheveled, and perhaps not-so-well-smelling, wino to his fancy Brooklyn Heights home and fed him and prayed with him. But the drunk got drunk, again. So, Bill went back, and the same thing happened. Did he give up and go back to Wall Street? No, he did not! He went back to that mission again and again through January, February and March of 1935 and guess what? They all got drunk! What a personality change! What a wonderful Christmas present! Not just getting sober, but a strong desire to help others. We call this Step Twelve today, but this personality change was not only Bill’s exciting Christmas Present—it is certainly ours, as well!

## **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.)



## January: The First (1st) Month Of Alcoholics Anonymous

**STEP ONE:** We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable."

**TRADITION ONE:** "Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity."

**CONCEPT ONE:** "The final responsibility and the ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship."

*1st Step Prayer:* I admit that I am powerless over my addiction. I admit that my life is unmanageable when I try to control it. Help me this day to understand the true meaning of powerlessness. Remove from me all denial of my addiction.

### TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

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

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship



## It's Never Too Late To Learn

Do you want to get the most out of “your wonderful human machine” or are you one of those people who are satisfied with mere sobriety? To get the most we must learn to be very critical of how much happiness we are “buying” with our thinking.

Resentments are negative thoughts and you do not “buy” happiness with negative thoughts. Examine the resentments that you hold at the present time using our AA prayer as a yardstick: “Grant me Almighty God, the serenity to accept that which I cannot change; the courage to change that which I can and the wisdom to know the difference.”

Most of us who have been in AA for any length of time realize that we of ourselves cannot change another man unless that man is first willing to be changed. Clashes between various personalities have at different times resulted in bitter resentments on both sides. Are these bitter resentments necessary?

Why is it that when some men have a resentment against another man or against another group that they want to “sell” the resentment to anybody who will listen? In our little AA prayer we ask Almighty God for the serenity to accept that which we cannot change. Can we change other personalities through bitter resentment? Are we living the 24-Hour Program when we harbor resentments for weeks at a time? Are we sincere when we ask our Higher Power for the serenity to accept that which we cannot change and then in the next breath spread BITTER RESENTMENT.

It is very possible that those of us who have been harboring resentments also have a different conception of our AA prayer than that which has just been stated. What of it? It's never too late to learn. Every day is New Year's Day! If placing “personalities” in that same category with other things which cannot be changed will help us to overcome our resentments then it is certainly worth a try. Think it over seriously. Don't be one of those people who are always ready to say “It can't be done.”

Why is it that sometimes we do not realize that there are no perfect people? If we would but accept other people's ideas in that light we would not be so apt to declare war on some other individual or group of individuals who wanted to try a different approach to some problem than we did.

Why is it that we will defend some of our own silly ideas long after we know that the other man has a better approach to the problem? Humility is a very necessary ingredient if we want our thinking to “buy” the most happiness. Do we have [humility](#)? If you have resentments and especially if you have been trying to “sell” them to others it might be well to re-check the quality of your HUMILITY.

When dealing with other people, remember you are not dealing with creatures of logic, but with creatures of emotion, creatures bristling with prejudices and motivated by pride and vanity. And if you want to stir up a resentment tomorrow that may rankle across the years to come, just indulge in a little stinging criticism – no matter how certain you are it is justified.

*By The Thought Starter, Central Bulletin, April 1947 ( Alcoholics Anonymous, Cleveland )*

## Thoroughness Ought to be the Watchword

The Willingness to Move Forward

- Rick R. , San Diego, California

When I attended my first AA meeting, I had no idea what the 12 steps entailed but at that meeting I heard the things that were read. I heard people sharing about steps; and, looking back on it now, I realized that I came away from that meeting a changed man.

My life took 180% turn at that point, and I have never been the same since. For the first time in my life, I saw a refreshing new approach to living and all I had done, up to that point, was to show up and listen. From that day on, I have had a huge change of perception, and I have learned to recognize faulty thinking and to find the answers to life issues as they were articulated by the collective sharing in that meeting.

While attending a step study meeting recently, we were on Step 4 and as each person shared their experience with what we had read, it occurred to me that the same thing was happening there, that happened at my first meeting decades before. It seemed that many of the people were assimilating into their thinking, the things we had read and talked about, and that it had influenced them in ways that they probably didn't even realize at the time. I've heard people in the program, when attending structured step study meetings, say that there may be as many as 50 people at the meeting when they started on Step 1, but by the time they got to Step 4 they might be down to 12 people left in the room. There seems to be something in Step 4 that their ego would not let them address, at the time.

It appears they had reached a fork in the road. When this happens, I believe they may not be ready for Step 4 yet, and if they are hurried into it, they may start to search for an easier softer way. If they stay on the softer path for long, they may end up developing a half measures approach and they may waste many precious years, or worse, they may relapse and do irreparable damage that cannot be undone. When I hear of a person who has a relapse after long term sobriety I often wonder if it was due to skimping on Step 4 and 5, which may lead to a superficial approach to the remaining steps.

"Thoroughness ought to be the watchword when taking inventory. " (12&12 pg.54) I use the 4th step to illustrate what I mean when describing the way reading and hearing the things described in Step 4, are the things that we live with every day of our lives. And each time we cycle through them again, we realize that we have addressed some of these issues without being aware of it.

I've heard people who have not taken Step 4 yet using such terms as "Restraint of pen and tongue" or "Remove the word blame from my speech" and, without realizing it, they are reducing their problems as the result of this different mindset. If they are honest, about, not being ready to take Step 4, it leaves the door open for the time when they are more confident, and they will be able to revisit this step and make a clean slate of it without feeling guilty about it.

I believe that the main reason why they wrote and published the 12 & 12 was because they did not want to establish a precedent of editing the big book. They wanted to give amplifying information and examples of how to navigate the 12 steps. We can tell stories and drunkalogues of our drinking days and that is fine, but if we do not go through a meaningful process of addressing the causes and solutions to our problems and "The willingness to move forward " (12&12 pg.54). We will be selling ourselves short, and life is much too precious to waste.

**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**

**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**

## It's Not That Way Anymore

- Rick R., San Diego, California

I remember the time, when I was a boy, and was lost in a world of delusion.  
How I struggled to find, a way to fit in, and make sense of all that confusion  
I wanted to be, the right kind of lad, and stand up for the weak and the poor,  
But my thoughts of a hero, turned out to be zero, when selfishness bolted that door.

I remember the time, at the age of thirteen, when I found a friend in a bottle.  
It made me feel right, my fears out of sight, so I pressed my foot down on the throttle.

The ride I was on went ok for a while, then things started going woefully wrong.  
Hospitals, jails, unemployment, and fights became common events before long.

They say camel's backs, are broken by straws, and I can remember just one  
I came home one day, to an empty house, and gone were my wife and my son.  
Two more years of drinking, and desperately thinking, and hoping I'd get a reprieve,

When it never came, desperation and pain, is what saved my life I believe.

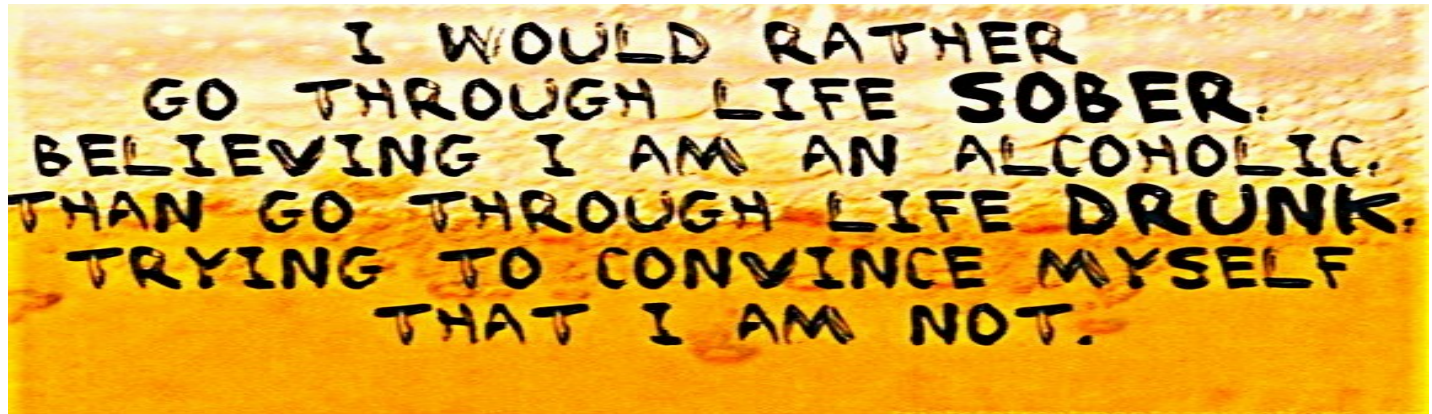
I woke up hung over, and I can't explain why, but I knew that I must call A.A.

I went to a meeting, and believe it or not, haven't wanted a drink since that day.

The hope I experienced, that very first day, is a memory I'll never forget.

The love and compassion, the caring I felt, stay fixed in my memory yet.

My childhood ambition, to be a good kid, not that tragic soul of before  
Has all come full circle, with the help of A.A. and, It's not that way anymore.





Mid-summer, 1938, was a watershed period for the writing of our Big Book—it almost did not happen!

[Donations](#) from the Rockefellers, Charles Towns, and others were helpful, but Bill Wilson’s upcoming Big Book project remained on hold, even doubtful.

Bill W. had written two pre-manuscript drafts: “There is a Solution” (Chapter One) and “Bill’s Story” (Chapter two) during the late spring months of that year—Please notice the reverse order. These chapters were only a beginning effort to publish a short book that could sell for a dollar (about \$18.00 today). Happily, Doctor Silkworth added, “The Doctors Opinion” that July.

Bill had endured financial struggle for over a year and had become understandably discouraged. By early fall he had not written anything for three months—he finally stated: “I am not an author.” However, his partner, Hank P., convinced him that just a few more chapters were needed to justify the \$1.00 price. Hank’s adamancy was successful! Bill began writing the next two chapters, “More About Alcoholism” and “We Agnostics” on September 15, 1938.

Thank God for Hank P.! I have always considered Hank and [Ebby T.](#) as two unsung heroes of AA history, although neither of them remained sober for timely periods. Bill may have made the touchdown, but Ebby handed him the ball and Hank became his inspiring hard-driving coach!

Not to forget Jimmy B. who is given credit for “God as we understood Him.”

By December, Bill had finished the manuscript including “How It Works”, “Into Action”, “Working with Others”, plus four other Chapters. Jim S. helped write the Akron personal stories and the NY stories were also included.

But in early 1939, Tom Uzzell, editor of Colliers Magazine, reduced the [manuscript](#) dramatically and a Dr. Howard (perhaps an alias) changed the tone from: “Thou must under pain of drunkenness, “ to “This is what we did.”

The finished book was published in April of 1939. It sold for \$3.50.

So, Bill was gifted with many helpful friends as he constructed this marvelous life-saving book for us. Thank you, God!

*By Bob S, Richmond, IN ( Alcoholics Anonymous, Cleveland )*

**“Perhaps for some, ‘How It Work’ has become a tired, overworked bit of dogma, an opportunity to daydream. But not for this alcoholic. I get more out of those words with each passing day. The words don’t change, but I do.”**

**“‘How It Work’ Works for Me,”  
Paradise, California, October  
2003, Beginners’ Book: Get-  
ting and Staying Sober in AA**



**BEGINNERS’  
BOOK**  
Getting and Staying Sober in AA



**“Certainly, we need leaders, but we must regard them as the human agent of the Higher Power and not with undue adulation as individuals.”**

**AA Co-Founder, Dr. Bob,  
September 1948, “The Fundamentals in Retrospect”,  
The Best of the Grapevine,  
Volume 2**



## The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

### Step Study Meetings

Rick R. - San Diego, California

I consider myself to be one of the fortunate ones that came to Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) in 1969, at the age of 28, desperately looking for answers. The Rehabilitation programs had not gotten off the ground yet, and Drug Addicts did not begin to show up until the mid-1970s. A considerable number of the members of A.A. came there of their own free will, wanting to get sober. The elders of my first group suggest that, if you plan to attend so many meetings a week, one of them should be a Step Study Meeting, and I have been doing that ever since. As we do that, we go through the steps 4 times a year as we split step 12 into two parts due to the number of pages it entails. As new members come into the group they bring with them, their own variety of alcoholic symptoms and it takes time to abandon the things that they feel threatens their own identity. It was not uncommon to see them in the parking lot after the meeting gossiping and bad-mouthing other members that they disagree with, and I was no different than them in my early days of recovery.

About 20 years ago a local group in our community was uprooted from their location and ended up in a new Alano Club at the time and they settled into the Monday through Friday 7 AM slots. The Thursday meeting became a Big Book Study, and the Friday meeting was a Step Study. I was happy to have them so convenient for me. I was much happier when, after we completed Step Twelve, we did not go back to Step One. We went straight into Tradition One and in a short time I noticed how the traditions shined a new light on what Alcoholics Anonymous was all about. On the first page in Tradition One it states *"We believe there isn't a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon its individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual's right to think, talk, and act as he wishes. No A.A. can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our 12 steps to recovery are suggestions; the 12 traditions which guarantee A.A.'s unity contain not a single Don't. They repeatedly say, "We ought..." but never "You must." WE don't normally hear these things in the everyday meetings.*

Each of the Traditions have their own variety of suggestions that, in the interest of unity, add a mature understanding to those that study them and share them with those that have not studied the Traditions.

When I share at a meeting I try to explain, in a way that does not reflect *being in judgement* about any individual. I may discuss Character Defects or Shortcomings and explain the idea that we all have them and for me to point out the faults of others is a *shortcoming, itself*. The person that gets off the beaten path is the person I care about the most. These are all symptoms of Alcoholism, and I am no better than anyone in the program. I may be farther down the path, but No Better. We may hear the term "Love and Tolerance" and try to explain how I include it in my approach to these two words. Scott Peck was influential in the spiritual approach in the program and in his book "The Road Less Traveled" he defines Love, as "Caring for and nurturing another person's soul, and not the version we see up on the movie screen." It is an action word, and I can Love everyone even if they do not love me back.

As for the word "Tolerance," I would change that word to "Acceptance," as they suffer from the same disease that I once suffered from, and I am not superior to anyone in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.





May 11, 1935, found Bill Wilson feverishly pacing the lobby of the Mayflower Hotel remorsefully reflecting on the failed aforementioned enterprise. Had he been successful, he would have been set on his feet financially which, at the time, seemed vitally important. Bitterly discouraged, he found himself in a strange place, discredited and almost broke. Still physically weak, and sober but five months, he saw that his predicament was dangerous. He wanted so much to talk with someone, but whom?

At the end of the room stood a glass covered directory of local churches. Down the lobby a door opened into an attractive bar. He could see the gay crowd inside. In there he would find companionship and release. Unless he took some drinks, he might not have the courage to scrape an acquaintance and would have a lonely weekend.

Of course he couldn't drink, but why not sit hopefully at a table, a bottle of ginger ale before him? After all, had he not been sober five months now? Perhaps he could handle, say, three drinks—no more! Fear gripped him. He was on thin ice! Again it was the old, insidious insanity—that first drink.

With a shiver, he turned away and walked down the lobby to the church directory. Music and gay chatter still floated to him from the bar. But what about his responsibilities — his family and the men who would die because they would not know how to get well, ah—yes, those other alcoholics? There must be many such in this town. He would phone a clergyman.

His sanity returned and he thanked God. Selecting the name of Reverend Walter F. Tunks from the church directory, he invested a nickel to make one of the most important calls in AA history (Lois Wilson thought the reason for picking the name of Tunks may have been that one of Bill's favorite expressions was, "taking a tunk," which refers to a short walk.).

Excerpt from [Pre-AA History](#) ( AA Cleveland )



## ONE ON ONE

AA Sponsorship in Action

**“Sponsorship is a bridge to trusting the human race, the very race we once resigned from. In learning to trust, we are strengthening our sobriety.”**

**“A Means to a Beginning,” Grand Island, Nebraska, February 1984, One On One: AA Sponsorship in Action**

**“In despair, I had cried out, ‘Now I am willing to do anything. If there is a God, will he show himself?’ And he did. This was my first conscious contact, my first awakening. I asked from the heart, and I received.”**



## THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

Bill W.'s  
Grapevine Writings



## God as We Understand Him

Alcoholics Anonymous came into existence in 1935 at a time when much of our society was centered around the churches in the communities where we lived. Much of the South and the Midwest are still like that to this day. As a child in my home town, on Sunday morning I could look out the window and see a great majority of my neighbors walking to church. That was the way it was in the early 1940's. The book, [Alcoholics Anonymous](#), was published in 1939 and seems that it was highly influenced by the many early members of the program at that time.

A.A. could have, very easily become a religious program. But, fortunately, the elders of that time realized, by the mistakes of the Oxford Group, and the Washingtonians, that they had to make it clear that, a desire to stop drinking was the only requirement for membership, and that the individual members could choose their own concept of a power greater than themselves, i.e. God as we understand him.

In Tradition Two it says, "*As He may express Himself in our group conscience*" When the word God is used in the remainder of the book, it is not always followed by the "*as we understand him*" qualifier, and I believe that many members get the idea that somehow, they are trying to push religion on them. I think that's understandable.

When I was faced with that possibility, I personally found it easy enough to read the black part of the pages in the book and to not let myself become distracted by what I now recognized as a cultural norm at the time. I had no problem setting aside my religious bias and recognizing the parts of the Big Book and the [12x12](#) that clearly state all of the options available when it comes to finding a "*power greater than myself*", and I can name several right off top.

Alcohol itself was my higher power for a long time and still would be if hadn't gotten into the program.

My [EGO](#) ran my life for quite awhile until I got serious about life issues.

The A.A. program itself. I found myself spiritually lost when I surrendered and entered the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and when faced with the need to come to terms with the Higher Power issue, I now realize why it took such a long time to settle this subject.

Years of drinking and an underdeveloped thinking process that was hard to get up to speed right away. As I got more familiar with the Big Book, and the 12x12, I started to uncover all the evidence that debunked the idea that I had to conform to any religious doctrine. In the 12x12 I read on page 26, "*Alcoholics Anonymous does not demand that you to believe anything.*" On belief, "*to acquire it, I had only to stop fighting and practice the rest of A.A.'s program as enthusiastically as I could.*" (p 27)

Also on page 26 where it states, "*Take it easy. The hoop you have to jump through is a lot wider than you think.... A one-time vice-president of the American atheist Society ... got through with room to spare*" Then on page 33 of the 12x12 it says "*Therefore, Step Two is the rallying point for all of us. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we can stand together on this step.*"

Today I am very comfortable with my own concept of a Higher Power and I use the word God only to put a name on a concept that has no physical form and I might say that it expresses itself in the collective conscience of the world we live in. I can assure you that if you read these qualifiers and practice the rest of the principals of the program, as enthusiastically as you can, you will come to terms with a personal concept of a higher power as well as any of us.



Join District 20 "Grapevine"

# GRAPE FEST 2025

"Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser"  
Tickets at door \$15

SUNDAY, MARCH 16th

FROM 1:00PM - 5:00PM

Panel Speaker Meeting to Follow

24 Hour Club  
1509 Pine Ridge Rd. Naples, FL

Promoted by Lauren F. District 20 Grapevine Chair  
(239) 220-2792



| <u>FINANCES</u>                   | <u>Dec 24</u>    | <u>YTD24</u>     |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>              |                  |                  |
| Literature/Merchandise            | \$5,871          | \$46,452         |
| Group Contributions               | 1,820            | 23,756           |
| AA Birthdays                      | 190              | 350              |
| Faithful Five                     | 20               | 420              |
| Individual/Anonymous              | 137              | 2,665            |
| <b><u>Total Income</u></b>        | <b>8,038</b>     | <b>73,643</b>    |
| <b><u>Expenses</u></b>            |                  |                  |
| Bank/Credit Card Fees             | 177              | 1,631            |
| Licenses/Permits                  | -                | 220              |
| Office Supplies                   | 308              | 3,362            |
| Office Improve/Repair             | -                | 1,151            |
| www Hosting                       | -                | 400              |
| Payroll                           | 2,240            | 26,886           |
| Payroll Tax                       | -                | -                |
| Postage                           | -                | 175              |
| Printing                          | -                | 708              |
| Purchases/Lit./Merch.             | 2,365            | 30,630           |
| Insurance                         | -                | -                |
| Rent                              | 500              | 5,500            |
| Sales Tax                         | 219              | 2,760            |
| Telephone/www                     | 214              | 2,603            |
| Utilities                         | 100              | 1,100            |
| Computer Equipment                | -                | 498              |
| Computer Software                 | 107              | 2,389            |
| Computer/Maintain                 | -                | -                |
| Accounting Services               | 141              | 1,625            |
| <b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>      | <b>6,230</b>     | <b>81,531</b>    |
| <b><u>Net Ordinary Income</u></b> | <b>\$1,808</b>   | <b>(\$7,888)</b> |
| Gratitude Dinner Tickets          | -                | 12,430           |
| Raffle Ticket Sales               | -                | -                |
| Gratitude Expenses                | 6,100            | 7,909            |
| <b><u>NET OTHER INCOME</u></b>    | <b>\$6,100</b>   | <b>4,521</b>     |
| <b><u>NET INCOME</u></b>          | <b>(\$4,292)</b> | <b>(\$3,367)</b> |

**Thank you to all who contribute 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%)

##### General Service Office

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

##### District 20

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

##### Area 15

Area 15 Treasurer  
2950 W. Cypress Creek Rd.  
Ste 333 #1097  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309  
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>Dec 24</u> | <u>YTD 24</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Grp# 510367 .....                    | .0            | .86           |
| 11th Step Prayer & Meditation .....  | .0            | .691          |
| Aprendiendo A Vivre .....            | .0            | .50           |
| Beach Bums .....                     | .0            | .600          |
| Big Book Comes Alive.....            | .0            | .147          |
| Big Book Babes .....                 | .0            | .10           |
| Big Book Steppers—Bonita .....       | .29           | .227          |
| Big Book Steppers—Naples .....       | .0            | .107          |
| Bonita Banyan, 176463.....           | .0            | .578          |
| Bonita Happy Hour .....              | .0            | .1,018        |
| Bonita Ladies Night .....            | .0            | .75           |
| Bonita Springs Primary Purpose ..... | .66           | .247          |
| Bonita Springs Morning, 678493.....  | .0            | .938          |
| Bonita Springs 96395 .....           | .0            | .250          |
| Bonita Women Step.....               | .100          | .800          |
| Bring Your Own Big Book .....        | .0            | .75           |
| Brown Bag Group .....                | .922          | .....         |
| Common Solutions Naples .....        | .0            | .944          |
| Daily Reflections ZOOM .....         | .40           | .748          |
| Cake Meeting .....                   | .0            | .....         |
| Early Risers .....                   | .0            | .1,260        |
| Easy Does It .....                   | .0            | .2,000        |
| Flemsy Reed Group .....              | .0            | .320.         |
| Free 2 Be .....                      | .50           | .300          |
| Friday Night Lights.....             | .200          | .200          |
| Grupo Nueva Vida .....               | .25           | .175          |
| Girlfriends Group .....              | .0            | .50           |
| Happy Healers .....                  | .0            | .635          |
| Jaywalkers, 634271.....              | .0            | .198          |
| Keep It Simple, 651598.....          | .0            | .442          |
| Language of Letting Go .....         | .0            | .13           |
| Living Sober .....                   | .0            | .20           |
| Meeting In The Park .....            | .0            | .831          |
| Men Of Naples, 634030.....           | .0            | .280          |

| <u>Group/Meeting</u>             | <u>Dec24</u> | <u>YTD 24</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Morning Reflections .....        | .9           | .258          |
| Daily Reflections – Monday ..... | .7           | .158          |
| Naples Group .....               | .0           | .849          |
| Naples Living Sober .....        | .0           | .50           |
| Naples Men BB Group.....         | .78          | .214          |
| New Dawn.....                    | .0           | .751          |
| Nuts & Bolts .....               | .0           | .38           |
| On Awakening .....               | .0           | .95           |
| Park Shore Women .....           | .0           | .650          |
| Primary Purpose Marco .....      | .0           | .600          |
| Saturday Big Book.....           | .0           | .500          |
| Sunday Speaker Meeting.....      | .0           | .121          |
| Swamp Group.....                 | .0           | .50           |
| Switch It Up Group .....         | .0           | .100          |
| Tables Of Naples .....           | .0           | .25           |
| Three Legacies .....             | .0           | .50           |
| Tuesday Women Step.....          | .500         | .500          |
| Veranda Group .....              | .10          | .153          |
| Wanderers Ave Maria .....        | .0           | .315          |
| 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

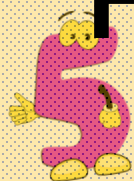
Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the AA Birthday Club? Sign up today and be featured in the *Courier*. Show your support for your Central Office. A donation of only one dollar for every year of your sobriety will help carry the message to alcoholics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



- Rick G. 54 years
- Paul B. 51 years
- Ron P. 51 years
- Ron L. 46 years
- Jim B. 41 years
- Jackie G. 39 years
- Bill D. 37 years
- Dennis F. 35 years
- Rad W. 35 years
- Judy W. 34 years
- Steve K. 33 years
- Eileen D. 22 years
- Bill S. 22 years
- Ken H. 22 years
- Laura . 7 years
- Eric S. 6 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:

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

#### Alt. Chair:

**Opportunity**

#### Registrar:

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

#### Treasurer

Bob A., 440/667-4372  
rsadams00@gmail.com

#### Secretary:

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

#### Service Committees:

##### Archives

Susan H., 280-7093

### District 20 Business Meeting

4th Thursday of each month,  
7:00pm New Attitudes Club  
4133 Tamiami Trail E.

### Current Practices

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

### Grapevine / Literature

Lauren F. 220-2792  
laurenfrosch@comcast.net  
Business meeting the third  
Tuesday of each month at  
5:30 p.m., 24 Hour Club

### Institutions

Maria M.  
mmetchear@aol.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

## 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-  
angelzoo0@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, 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. 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., Geoff S., Lara E., Peggy E., Rob O., Tom S. ... and loyal substitutes.

**Service Opportunity**

#### After-Hours Phone Volunteers

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

**Service Opportunity**