

THE COURIER

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



August 2025

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Editorial: On The Eight Step

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

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

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

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

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

The definition continues:

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

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

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

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

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

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

L. J.

Reprinted with permission of the Grapevine, July, 1945

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS PREAMBLE:

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or Institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics



Become Willing to Believe



“Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.”

The Big Book infers that a vital spiritual experience is necessary for alcoholics to face and be rid of the obsession to drink. (p. 27) Yet, paradoxically, we are told that belief in God was not necessary to accomplish this miracle—we need only become willing to believe (p. 46).

Indeed, I found that it wasn’t necessary to define God before doing the Twelve Steps, but I began to see the result of my willingness to believe several months afterward.

I experienced a release from that deadly mental obsession that had plagued me for nearly thirty years! My willingness to believe came before doing the Twelve Steps, but my belief came afterwards. The evidence was indisputable – I had been released!

I had experienced a *“personality change sufficient to recover from alcoholism.”* I had been in AA for about a year before the release took place (The Big Book uses the word recovered), so in AA Program language I had had a spiritual awakening (slow) rather than a spiritual experience (sudden) as mentioned in Appendix II. (p. 567)

The Big Book does not say that I must understand God, but it speaks of: *“God as we understood Him,”* in Steps 3 and 11. This simply means that we each may entertain our different views of a higher power. Although I may not understand God, I can see His results, i.e. We have over two million sober alcoholics in AA and most all of us claim that God saved them from an alcoholic pit (including me!).

Reverend Sam Shoemaker, Bill Wilson’s Oxford Group mentor, stated: *“Step two is not theological, it is evidential.”* The evidence is around the AA tables!

As I study the Big Book, I realize that certain words are used in a special and technical context not to be found in dictionaries. One of these words is *“sanity.”* Sanity, in Big Book speak, is when an alcoholic can see and act on the truth in the matter of drink. Alcoholic insanity is when they cannot. Two examples: Alcoholic insanity: Jim pouring whisky into milk: *“plain insanity”* (p. 37) Alcoholic Sanity: Fitz Mayo who *“couldn’t drink even if he would.”* (p. 57)

Someone wrote:

The better I understand God, the less I know God. Came to believe is a decision of the heart, rather than of a conclusion of the mind.

AnThe better I understand God, the less I know God. Came to believe is a decision of the heart, rather than of a conclusion of the mind.

Anonymous

Source: Alcoholics Anonymous Cleveland Ohio

AUGUST ... The Eighth (8th) Month Of Alcoholics Anonymous

The EIGHTH MONTH of Alcoholics Anonymous

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

TRADITION EIGHT: “Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional,

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

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

TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

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

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



How Spiritual Joy Differs From Human Happiness

For years I considered the Big Book statement: “Happy, joyous and free” as a bit redundant, for after all, are not happiness and Joy the same (p 133)? However, years later I found that HAPPINESS and JOY are two completely two different things:

HAPPINESS is a human experience. It disappears when we are sad or depressed. But JOY is a God experience that may take place even when we are sad or depressed.

I have experienced said unexplained joy while feeling deeply depressed in a tent while camping in Sault Ste. Marie, Canada. I had recently been separated from my ex-wife and was feeling enormous depression. We had camped in that same tent in the Grand Canyon during our honeymoon previously. In the middle of the night, I became unexplainably full of energy, and everything seemed to wax extremely vivid and bright. I was full of Joy. This lasted throughout the night.

I believe Bill Wilson was experiencing great Joy—not ordinary happiness—after he went through his vital spiritual experience on page 14 of the Big Book: Doctor Silkworth told him: “Something has happened to you I don’t understand. But you had better hang on to it. Anything is better than the way you were.” I believe Bill’s resultant Joy prompted him to immediately go out and start helping alcoholics. So, I believe God’s Joy can be ongoing.

Then there is Fitz Mayo who had such an ongoing vital spiritual experience that: “He couldn’t drink even if he would.” (p 57, Big Book) There must have been great joy in that!

Again, Ebby Thacher (Bill’s sponsor), who was not a spiritual person prayed to God: “as never before” and was stuck sober for two years and seven months. Again, great joy must have been present. (EBBY The Man Who Sponsored Bill W., by Mel B. – p 58) Ebby died in 1966, two years sober.

I believe the blessing of spiritual Joy will come to me when God decides to send it—I cannot just wish for it. However, I believe my chances are all for the better if I try to maintain a fit spiritual condition by living the Twelve Steps.

By Bob S.

Source: Alcoholics Anonymous Cleveland Office

“It surely may be said that the future looks bright. Much more hospitalization, based on the certainty that we are a sick people and that plenty can be done about it, is now on the way. We ought gratefully to acknowledge the work of those agencies outside AA who are strenuously helping this life-redeeming trend along.”

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., May 1947, “Adequate Hospitalization: One Great Need”, The Language of the Heart



THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART

Bill W.'s
Grapevine Writings



SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS II

More Journeys of the Spirit

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

“Garden Hose Sobriety,” El Paso, Texas, October 2006, Spiritual Awakenings II



First AA International Convention, Public Hall, Cleveland, July 30, 1950

My good friends in AA and of AA... I get a big thrill out of looking over a vast sea of faces like this with a feeling that possibly some small thing that I did a number of years ago played a small part in making this meeting possible. I also get quite a thrill when I think that we all had the same problem. We all did the same things. We all get the same results in proportion to our zeal and enthusiasm and stick-to-itiveness. If you will pardon the injection of a personal note at this time, let me say that I have been in bed five of the last seven months and my strength hasn't returned as I would like, so my remarks of necessity will be very brief.

But there are two or three things that flashed into my mind on which it would be fitting to lay a little emphasis; one is the simplicity of our program. Let's not louse it all up with Freudian complexes and things that are interesting to the scientific mind, but have very little to do with our actual AA work. Our Twelve Steps, when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words "love" and "service." We understand what love is, and we understand what service is. So let's bear those two things in mind.

And one more thing: None of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to have done numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get the degree of smug complacency so that we're not willing to extend, or attempt to, that help which has been so beneficial to us, to our less fortunate brothers.

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

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



IN OUR OWN WORDS

Stories of Young AAs in Recovery



SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS

Journeys of the Spirit

“There are AA emotions and attitudes that transcend language.”

“Inside an ASL Meeting,” Kihei, Hawaii, October 2004, Spiritual Awakenings II

I had dropped by my partner's workplace to bring her some items she had requested. Her co-worker, Shannon, was there. I'd met Shannon socially a few times before and, when the time was appropriate, made her aware of my AA membership.

Shannon pulled me aside and said "We have a friend in common, David R." Shannon had gotten to know him through a sports activity they both shared. "I saw your name on a card in his room." David was institutionalized for cancer treatment. He was the DCM for our district 32 in the Cleveland Heights locale and also the chair of the Heights Hub Multi-District which adds districts 40, 41, 42, and 55 which border his district. Our area passed a card around for him.

"You belong to a wonderful organization," she beamed. "He has had dozens of visitors from AA just one after the other." I nodded and smiled—I was one of those. We hear sometimes at meetings that we may be the only Big Book that outsiders see. Cards and visitors: these were the Big Books Shannon saw.

I started attending meetings in my locale in 1984. During announcements the secretary would ask, "Are there any home group members sick or in the hospital that we can get a card out to or go visit?" As time went on we got cheaper and lazier and this announcement has become "Is there anyone we should pray for?"

I'm not sure what they want me to pray? Lord knows we all have prayed so-called "prayers of intercession" to tell God what to do; e.g., "God get me out of this mess." And often we got angry with God later for not doing our demands. We were confused about which one of us was God. AA tells us over and over to not pray that way "...praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out", "We are careful not to pray for our own selfish ends," and "We constantly remind ourselves we are no longer running the show, humbly saying to ourselves many times a day 'Thy will be done.'"

Indeed, Bill W, addressing the 3,000 of us at the 1950 International Convention stated "We have in AA what amounts to a rule that we never pray for people." So it seems inappropriate that we pray that the sick individual get better. Surely at some point, if I were ill, it shall be God's will that I not get better and I would hope that there are not people out there praying that it be otherwise. I asked my co-sponsor what to pray. He said he simply prays that the individuals named come to accept God's will for the situation.

Some religions believe in prayers of intercession and others do not. It is at any rate a religious question and I fear that we are giving the newcomer the misconception that AA has an opinion on this. I escorted a former General Manager of our General Service Office to some meetings in our area. I expressed my concern on this item and he simply put it, "Yes, they're turning this into a religion." I think we need be wary of this trend. We need to be a welcoming place for alcoholics of all backgrounds.

But I've spent enough time on the soap box so I'll step down and allow someone else a turn. Pray if you want, or don't pray if you don't want, but please do not stop the cards and visits! It is those that make us in other's eyes, and in our own, a wonderful organization!

By Bob M.

Source: Alcoholics Anonymous Cleveland Office



“Often simplicity yields to complexity as the human mind grasps a great revelation, and places its own particular interpretation upon it. All too often the revelation becomes lost in the maze of human ideas, interpretations, and suggestions. Thus have great movements risen, flourished for a season, and died. But AA has steadily progressed through the labyrinth of complexity, carefully avoiding luring temptations of wealth, professionalism, and fame as a healer of one of mankind's most deadly diseases. Dr. Bob who responded to that original phone call, and heard and accepted the message from Bill, has left ringing in our ears, the vital admonition: ‘Keep it simple.’”

“Thus We Grow...” Kimberley, British Columbia, September 1953, AA Grape-



“Our sobriety should be founded on ‘unselfish selfishness’ ... It’s not sound, we have been told, to try to stay dry for the sake of a wife or a sweetheart or someone else dear to us.”

“On the Eighth Step,” June 1945, Step By Step

STEP BY STEP

Real AAs, Real Recovery

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About A.A.

A NEWSLETTER FOR PROFESSIONALS

SPRING
2025

A.A.'s "SINGLENESSE OF PURPOSE"

ALSO INSIDE:

ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS TO CELEBRATE
90 YEARS OF RECOVERY
AT 2025 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION IN
VANCOUVER, CANADA,
JULY 3-6

THE FIFTH TRADITION — A BRIEF HISTORY

The General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) fields inquiries from professionals who seek information on how A.A. can help the people they serve or treat. Occasionally, those people are seeking help with a variety of problems that are not alcohol related. We hope that we can explain a little bit more about how Alcoholics Anonymous offers help only for those who are looking for help with their drinking problem.

Alcoholics Anonymous is guided by a series of principles called *The Twelve Traditions*. One of those Traditions, our Fifth Tradition, states that the primary purpose of an Alcoholics Anonymous group is to carry the message of A.A. to the alcoholic who still suffers.

A.A.'s Fifth Tradition established our singleness of purpose; it has guided Alcoholics Anonymous for nearly 90 years — preventing us from being distract-

ed or sending confused messaging in an attempt to help with problems that we can't handle.

Other Traditions help keep the A.A. Fellowship free from discussions of politics and sectarian religion, or guard us against accepting financial support or assistance from non-A.A. entities that might imply affiliation. More on how these Traditions developed can be found in the pamphlet *A.A. Tradition—How It Developed* (<https://www.aa.org/aa-tradition-how-it-developed>).

This Fifth Tradition suggests that A.A. sticks to the problem of alcoholism, recovery from alcoholism, and problems as they relate to alcohol. We are not professionals; we are amateurs helping one another. We are not professional medical experts. We don't offer treatment for any illnesses or maladies. Our only subject is Alcoholics Anonymous and recovery from alcoholism through *The Twelve Steps*.

GET IN TOUCH: cpc@aa.org • 212-870-3400 • Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 • www.aa.org

ABOUT A.A. — SPRING 2025

“Our Fifth Tradition, states that the primary purpose of an Alcoholics Anonymous group is to carry the message of A.A. to the alcoholic who still suffers.”

We don't engage in advice on prescriptions, therapy, treatment for mental health issues, physical issues, or related problems. We are aware that many professionals currently refer to alcoholism as substance-use disorder or alcohol-use disorder. There are any number of descriptions or diagnoses. We do not engage in any debate about that. While professional terminology has changed over the years, our singleness of purpose has not. We do not oppose other recovery methods or treatment methods. We have no monopoly on recovery or spirituality. Our sole program is the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as outlined in our basic text, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, commonly referred to as “The Big Book.”

HOW PROFESSIONALS CAN HELP

At times, professionals ask questions, such as:

Q: “Well, what about the drug addict?”

A: Other Twelve Step fellowships deal specifically with narcotics addictions, gambling, and other addictions. However, if a drug addict or a gambling addict or any other addict is an alcoholic, they are still welcome to join Alcoholics Anonymous.

In the 90 years since Alcoholics Anonymous was founded, many alcoholics have also had addictions such as narcotics, opioids, and pills. This is not new. In 1958, A.A.'s co-founder Bill W. wrote an

oft-cited article that has been excerpted in the pamphlet *Problems Other Than Alcohol* (<https://www.aa.org/problems-other-alcohol>):

“I see no way of making nonalcoholic addicts into A.A. members. Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. If we persist in trying this, I'm afraid it will be hard on the drug user himself, as well as on A.A. We must accept the fact that no nonalcoholic, whatever his affliction, can be converted into an alcoholic A.A. member.”

Q: How do I convince my client that they are an alcoholic?

A: We welcome anyone who wants to treat their alcoholism, anyone who has a desire to stop drinking. There are no other requirements for A.A. membership.

One way a potential member can discover if they are an alcoholic is to attend an open meeting and learn if they identify with alcoholic experiences and emotions. By listening to A.A. members share their stories of recovery, they may learn that they also have this problem. Many alcoholics have other addictions but find that their problems began with alcohol.

The key word here is identification. As we attend A.A. meetings, we listen to others share and identify as an alcoholic by recognizing the similarities and not the differ-

ences in our stories. Many people have discovered while attending meetings and listening to others in A.A. share their stories, that they too identify. While alcohol may not have been their drug of choice, they have had an unhealthy relationship with alcohol that accompanied them along their journey with other substances.

People who identify as alcoholics and drug addicts often share that their problems with substances began with alcohol, progressed to include other substances, including hard drugs, and ended with alcohol. This is a very common story. We are not here to judge anyone based on their use of other substances. We are here to welcome anyone who wishes to do something about their drinking problem.

We have also heard experiences from members who identify as drug addicts joining Alcoholics Anonymous and hearing their stories told by others and how they identify as alcoholics. Understanding that the root of all their problems is alcoholism helps them identify as an alcoholic.

This is for each individual member to explore; maybe they will consult with a sponsor or other members they meet in A.A. A sponsor is someone who has experience in Alcoholics Anonymous, has experience with the Twelve Steps of the Alcoholics Anonymous program, and guides

A.A.'S "SINGLENESSE OF PURPOSE"

a newer member through their sobriety journey. A sponsor is someone with whom a member will stay in touch to help navigate early sobriety, to provide examples of things they can do to stay sober; but together they work on the Twelve Steps and their program of recovery. By consulting honestly with the sponsor, they recognize that they, too, are an alcoholic.

Q: What is an "open meeting"?

A: Anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous may attend open A.A. meetings as an observer, but only those with a drinking problem may attend closed meetings. For more on the different types of A.A. meetings, please visit our website What to Expect at an A.A. Meeting.

Q: Why singleness of purpose? Doesn't A.A. work for anyone?

A: Our experience has shown that A.A. only works for those who admit that they are alcoholics and who honestly want to stop drinking. We have found through experience that it does not work for people who have reservations, who might say..."Well, my problem is drugs. I don't have a problem with alcohol. I can have a few glasses of wine with dinner safely."

That is not the experience with most alcoholics; most alcoholics didn't want a glass or two of wine with dinner. Most alcoholics have an unhealthy relationship with alcohol, so those people who come in with reservations about drinking may start drinking again. They then may develop into alcoholics. If so, they will at least have been aware of Alcoholics Anonymous

and may return when they realize that they have a drinking problem and want to do something about it.

And as stated before, Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on medical advice, medication, or any other treatment. These matters are for physicians or health care practitioners and the individual. These are not determined by members of A.A. or by a sponsor.

Q: Where can my patient or client learn more?

A: A simple set of questions to help them recognize they have a problem can be found in the pamphlet *Is A.A. for Me?* We also offer a Meeting Guide App <https://www.aa.org/meeting-guide> that lists the closest locations for face-to-face A.A. meetings with text, map features, and local intergroup/central offices. These local offices can also provide information about getting started in A.A. with Professionals Can Help

MORE ON THE A.A. PROGRAM

Recently, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) published a companion to our Big Book called *The Plain Language Big Book*, which is a tool for accessing the

book Alcoholics Anonymous. Many other publications are available, such as the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, members' personal reflections in our Daily Reflections, and other A.A. and AA Grapevine literature in which members share their stories on how they apply the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous to recover from alcoholism.

HOW CAN A.A. HELP PROFESSIONALS?

For more information on Alcoholics Anonymous, please reach out to the Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) desk, at cpc@aa.org. Our office can connect you with local A.A. volunteers who can provide A.A. materials, inform your clients and staff on how to find A.A. in your community, and arrange to give a presentation to staff or clients in your facility. Helping professionals help alcoholics who seek recovery from alcoholism is our purpose. We welcome your questions, comments and requests.

To sign up for digital delivery of this newsletter, or to download past issues, please visit: <https://www.aa.org/about-aa>.



HOW ARE YOU DOING IN SOBRIETY ?

Are you still struggling with anxiety or want to be happier in your sobriety?

Do you wake up dreading another day? Wrestling with the same old thoughts that drove you to drink?

Are you still restless, irritable or discontented?

Would you like to experience real emotional sobriety?

THERE IS A SOLUTION



Join women who have found the answers to all these questions and more! Curious? *LISTEN, LEARN, FIND RELIEF*

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"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



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Group Contributions 3,413 19,769

AA Birthdays 79 681

Faithful Five 70 490

Individual/Anonymous 85 6,551

Total Income 6,726 59,679**Expenses**

Bank/Credit Card Fees 115 901

Licenses/Permits - 200

Office Supplies 397 2,394

Office Improve/Repair - 441

www Hosting - 240

Payroll 2,331 16,317

Payroll Tax - 1,314

Postage - 40

Printing - 671

Purchases/Lit./Merch. 2,991 24,414

Insurance -

Rent 500 3,500

Sales Tax 245 2,476

Telephone/www 218 1,760

Utilities 100 700

Computer Equipment -

Computer Software 267 1,172

Computer/Maintain

Accounting Services 156 1,271

Total Expenses 7,320 57,817**Net Ordinary Income** (\$494) \$1,862

Gratitude Dinner Tickets -

Raffle Ticket Sales -

Gratitude Expenses -

NET OTHER INCOME -**NET INCOME** (494) \$1,862

**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.
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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>July 2025</u>	<u>YTD 25</u>
Bonita 1st Step Prayer & Meditation	0.....	144
24 Hour Solutions	0.....	500
Beach Bums.....	0.....	500
Big Book Steppers— Bonita	0.....	214
Big Book Steppers- - Naples.....	0.....	167
Bonita Banyon	0.....	332
Bonita Friday Joe & Chrlie	0.....	197
Bonita Happy Hour	0.....	496
Bonita Ladies Night	0.....	75
Bonita Morning Group	0.....	623
Bonita Women's Step.....	150.....	150
Brown Bag Group.....	352.....	762
Cake Meeting	0.....	70
Common Solutions Naples.....	0.....	453
Daily Reflections ZOOM	0.....	235
Easy Does It	0.....	3,000
Early Risers.....	0.....	500
Flemsy Reed Group	0.....	203
Free 2 Be	100.....	400
Friday Nite Lights.....	0.....	200
Happy Healers.....	0.....	425
Jaywalkers.....	0.....	47
Keep It Simple.....	135.....	722
Living Sober Naples	0.....	70
Meeting In The Park	0.....	639
Men Of Naples	0.....	64
Monday Daily Reflections	0.....	44
Morning Reflections	145.....	185
Naples Men Big Book Study.....	0.....	52
Naples Nooners	1,600.....	2,850
New Dawn.....	182.....	467
New Serenity.....	250.....	250
Nuts & Bolts	0.....	350
On Awakening.....	0.....	150
Park Shore Women.....	500.....	500

<u>Group/Meeting</u>	<u>July 25</u>	<u>YTD 25</u>
Primary Purpose Marco	0.....	3,150
Saturday Girlfriends.....	0.....	150
Three Legacies.....	0.....	194
Veranda Group	0.....	28
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 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.

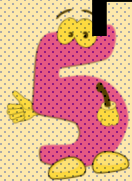


Rick G.	54 years
Paul B.	51 years
Ron P.	51 years
Ron L.	47 years

Jackie G.	39 years
Bill D.	37 years
Michael L.	36 years
Dennis F.	35 years
Rad W.	35 years
Judy W.	34 years
Steve K.	32 years
Bill S.	23 years
Ken H.	23 years
Laura .	7 years
Eric S.	6 years



Faithful Fivers Needed



2025 Monthly Faithful Fiver Club

April O., Bill D., Bill S., Eric S., Jeanette H., Jim H., Judy W., Kathryn Mc., Ken H., Ralph W., Rick G., Ron L., Theresa R.

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
joeascalia@icloud.com

Alt. Chair:

Tom D. 845/23-6780
tomadavison@yahoo.com

Registrar:

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

Treasurer

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

Secretary:

Maury D. 239/370-7232
maury@mdailey.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
laurenfrosh@comcast.net
Jody L. 518/335-9748
jojopr1025@gmail.com
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

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
7:00pm
Peggy E., 269-7651
marco-
angel2000@gmail.com

HAZELDEN
Monday, 7:00pm
Nick Geer 818/424-5463
nicgeer@gmail.com

BRIDGING THE GAP

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

Area 15; Panel 75

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

Delegate: Lisa D.
delegate@area15aa.org

Alternate: Donna W.
altdelegate@area15aa.org

Chair: Bron F.
chair@area15aa.org

Treasurer: Alan T.
treasurer@area15aa.org

Registrar: Lea A.
registrar@area15aa.org

Secretary: Paul M.
secretary@area15aa.org

Naples Area Intergroup

Trusted Servants

Chair:

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

Vice Chair:

Robert C. 784-8514
bcrowe616@aol.com

Treasurer:

Dalton M.
781/444-7070

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 S., Blair S.,
Bonnie B., Carrie W., Caroline
H., Eric S., Gay S., Geoff
S., Lara E., Natacha A.,
Peggy E., Ralph B., Swen L.,
... and loyal substitutes.

Service Opportunity

After-Hours Phone Volunteers

Bob M., Craig P., Geoff E.,
Heather B., Ken H., Lauren
F., Steve K., and Tim A.

Service Opportunity