

# T H E COURIER

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



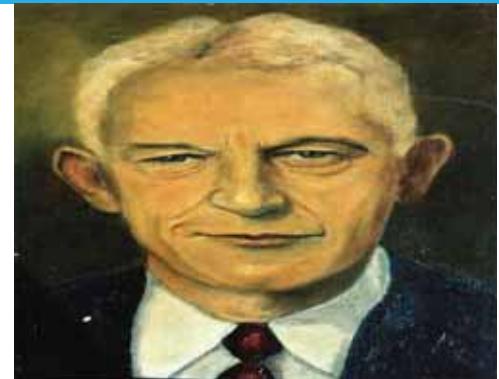
239-262-6535  
naplesinter-  
group@yahoo.com

## December 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 personal-ity 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. (Copyright © The AA Grapevine, ) Inc., Reprinted with permission.)





# 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.

## DECEMBER: The Twelfth (12th) Month Of Alcoholics Anonymous

**STEP TWELVE:** "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and practice these principles in all our affairs."

**TRADITION TWELVE:** "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

**TRADITION TWELVE: (Long Form)** "And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all."

**CONCEPT TWELVE:** "The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action. "

*12<sup>th</sup> Step Prayer: My spiritual awakening continues to unfold. The help I have received I shall pass on and give to others. Both in and out of the Fellowship. For this opportunity I am grateful. I pray most humbly to continue walking day by day on the road of spiritual progress. I pray for the inner strength and wisdom to practice the principles of this way of life in all I do and say. I need You, my friends, and the program every hour of every day. This is a better way to live.*

## TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

This is a Checklist for Tradition Twelve:  
Reprinted with permission from Service Material from the General Service

1. Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?
2. When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
3. In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
4. Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?
5. Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
6. Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition—or belie it?
7. Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a *Grapevine* subscription?
8. Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior—especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made me so smart?
9. Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
10. Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
11. Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help an other alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
12. What is the real importance of me among more than a million AAs?



Naples Area Intergroup  
**BOOKSTORE and**  
**GIFT SHOP**  
**HOLIDAY SHOPPING**

Jewelry, AA Medallions, Coffee Mugs,  
AA Literature, and **much more !!!**



**“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**

## The 12 Days of Christmas

With the first step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
A day of sobriety.

With the second step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
A wee bit of faith and...

With the third step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Will-ing-ness...

With the fourth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Pencil, pen and pad...

With the fifth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Another human being

With the sixth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Lots of options

With the eighth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Too good a mem'ry...

With the ninth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Shatterproof glasses...

With the tenth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Spot checks a plenty...

With the eleventh step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
The Prayer of St. Francis

With the twelfth step of A.A.  
My HP gave to me  
Calls on the hotline...

## The First Noel

The first little drink my sponsor did say would  
take my 3-year chip away.

Be it whiskey or beer—be it red wine or white.

I'll end with me puking all through the night.

Little drink, little drink, the first little drink -

It's an idea that really stinks!

## Deck the Halls

Deck the dash with beer and wine  
D-D-D-D-D-D-W-I  
Wreck the car with bongs and line  
D-D-D-D-D-D-W-I  
Officer, I hear you sing  
D-D-D-D-D-D-W-I  
Breathe into this little thing  
D-D-D-D-D-D-W-I

## God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

A.A. is where you ought to go  
While drinking is in your way  
It tells you what you need to know  
To get you through the day  
It leads you to your Higher Power  
When you have gone astray  
O come now and join us at A.A.  
Come to A.A.  
O come now and join us in A.A.

## Jingle Bells

Jingling keys, Jingling keys,  
That is what you'll hear  
When you get to rehab  
The end of your career  
Of alcohol, self-abuse,  
Life in disarray  
Then you can discover  
The healing of A.A.

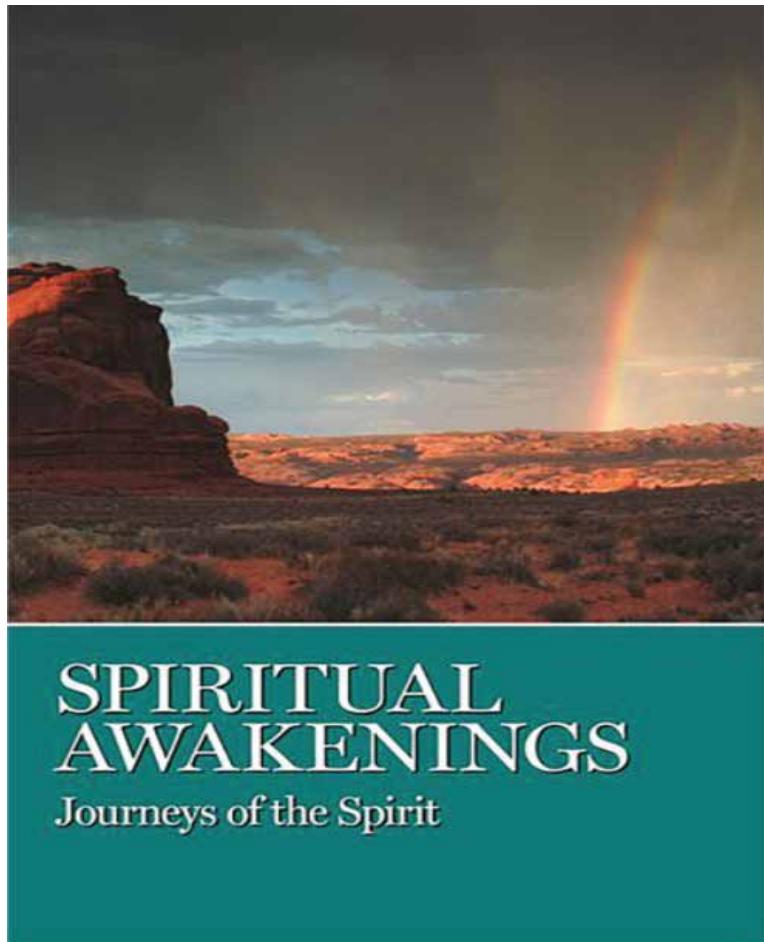
**“Until I understood and accepted my status as a human being, my effort toward seeking God was in vain.”**

**Nanaimo, British Columbia, February 2003, “My Name Is Gary and I’m a Human Being,” Spiritual Awakenings**



## **THE LANGUAGE OF THE HEART**

**Bill W.’s  
Grapevine Writings**



**“It doesn’t matter too much how the transforming spiritual experience is brought about so long as one gets one that works ... Somehow the alcoholic must get enough objectivity about himself to abate his fears and collapse his false pride.”**

**AA Co-Founder, Bill W., September 1944, “Comments on Wylie Ideas,” The Language of the Heart**

## What Brought Us Into AA?

It was the realization that we had no power to help ourselves.

We had relied entirely upon ourselves because we liked the rules we made for ourselves better than those rules that generations upon generations of mankind had found necessary for living without personal disaster. We had considered ourselves above those who lived by the universal rules.

When trouble came, we sought to help self-imposed discipline, we usually succeeded, for a while. But again, we made our own rules, and as we got the upper hand over our troubles we compromised with evil. A little evil would be all right: it was too much evil that got us into trouble. The particular evil that we compromised with was luring because we wished to recognize no responsibilities and because that evil destroyed all reminders of responsibility.

Simple first grade arithmetic ought to have been enough to teach us. But we wouldn't believe the simple addition because we wouldn't believe that what was meat for moderate, disciplined men was poison for the undisciplined.

Many of us still have trouble in believing it, and in accepting the simplest facts of our experience. We still want to make our own rules. We still want to avoid responsibility. We still are unwilling to accept our lots in life.

Let us look back at our efforts to help ourselves. How did we reach the position in which we found ourselves when we grabbed desperately at the help that AA offered? Very few of us were on an unbroken downward descent. We stopped the slide "many times and tried to walk up hill. Then we compromised with evil and tried to ride up hill, with no power other than our own feeble wills. It wasn't long before we found ourselves sliding backwards at breakneck speed.

Let us keep on looking back at our efforts to help ourselves. Each successive time that we tried to help ourselves, we were on a lower level than we had been before. Each effort to rise was less successful. Sometimes we thought we had gained a pinnacle, but we never looked back to see the towering mountain from which we had slid.

When we landed in a heap at the bottom of the slide, or banged up near the bottom, we realized at last that we had no power to help ourselves. We could not get up, we couldn't walk, and we surely couldn't climb. We seized the hand that was offered us. We took the nourishment that restored our ability to stand and then helped us to climb. We were restored outwardly and we found an inward strength.

The hand that was offered us was the hand of AA, the hand of another alcoholic. The strength that that hand found to pull us to our feet was not the hand's own but it was the strength that the hand had found after it had learned that it had no power to help itself.

It had found a power greater than its own. It had found it in the realization that if the body is to be saved the Spirit must also be saved. It had found that since it is not able to defend itself it must seek the help of a higher power than itself.

This power is not a crutch that can be used for a while and then thrown away. Our whole experience should teach us that. And so should the experience of those who thought that the power was a mere crutch.

Our experience should teach us that when we try to make our own rules the temptation comes to embrace evil because a little evil seems pleasant; or we eagerly seize upon evil because we cannot stand to face a new adversity or we are not willing to accept the realization that our stature is less than we wish it to be.

No, the power is not a crutch: it is a backbone. It is a backbone whose living fluid is the Spirit, and that living fluid must be defended against assaults of evil and against the temptation to believe that we have the power to walk alone in any direction that we choose.

Those of us who are wise have learned that we have no power to help ourselves. Our help is in a power outside ourselves, a help that first comes to us through the hand of AA.





## Dr. Bob Explains His Understanding of AA Anonymity

"As far as anonymity was concerned we knew who we were. It wasn't only AA, but our social life. All of our lives seemed to be spent together. We took people home with us to dry out. The Cleveland group had the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all the members," said Warren. "In fact, I remember Dr. Bob saying, .....

"If I got up and gave my name as Dr. Bob S., people who needed help would have a hard time getting in touch with me."

Warren recalled, "He [Dr. Bob] said there were two ways to break the Anonymity Tradition: (1) by giving your name at the public level of press or radio; (2) by being so anonymous that you can't be reached by other drunks."

In an article in the February 1969 Grapevine: "Dr. Bob on Tradition Eleven," Volume 25, Issue 9, D. S. Of San Mateo, California, wrote that Dr. Bob commented on the Eleventh Tradition, "We need always maintain personal anonymity At the level of press, radio and films," as follows:

"Since our Tradition of Anonymity designates the exact level where the line should be held, it must be obvious to everyone who can read and understand the English Language that to maintain Anonymity at any other level is definitely a Violation of this Tradition."

"The AA who hides his identity from his fellow AAs by using only a given name Violates The Tradition just as much as the AA who permits his name to appear in the press in connection with matter pertaining to AA."

"The former is maintaining his anonymity ABOVE the level of press, radio and films, and the latter is maintaining his anonymity BELOW the level of press, radio and films—whereas the tradition states that we should maintain our anonymity 'AT' the level of press, radio and films."

Ernie G. of Toledo, commenting on what he saw to be an increase of anonymity within AA today as compared with the old days, said, "I made a lead [trip to bring message] over to Jackson [Michigan] one night, and everybody's coming up to me and saying, 'I'm Joe; I'm Pete.' Then one of the guys said, 'Safe journey home. If you get into any trouble, give me a buzz.'

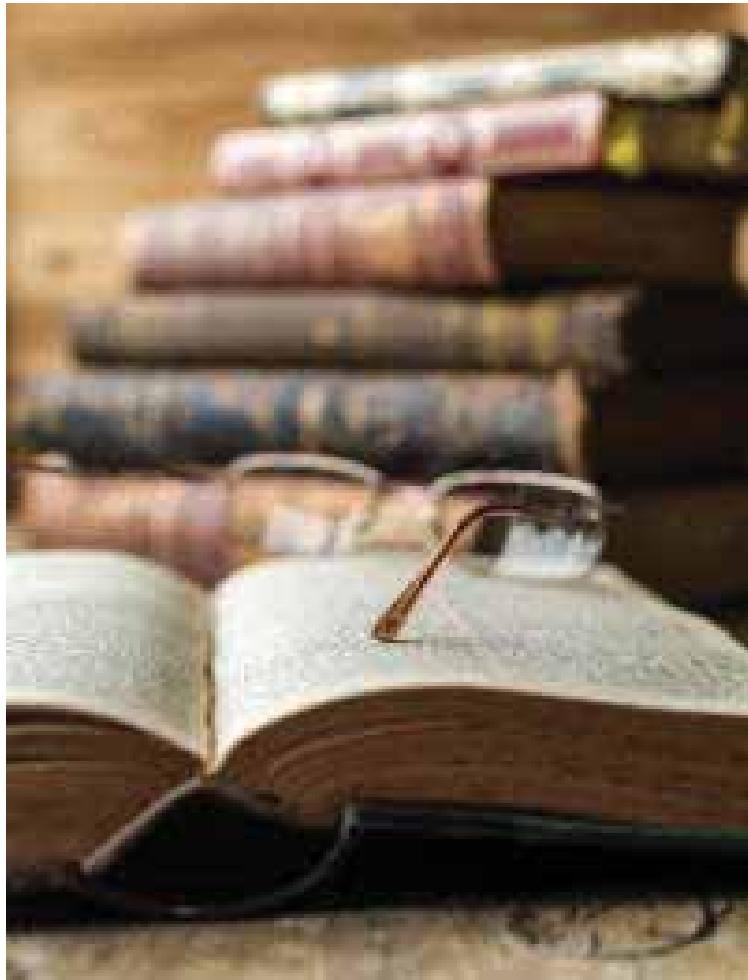
Later, I said to the fellow who was with me, 'You now, suppose we did get into trouble on the way home. How would we tell anyone in AA? We don't know anyone's last name.' They get so doggone carried away with this anonymity that it gets to be a joke." I had a book [evidently one of the small address books compiled by early members or their wives] with the first hundred names—first and last—telephone numbers, and where they lived.

Dr. Bob's views on anonymity remained clear in the recollections of Akron's Joe P. [The Dartmouth grad]. Though it was not the custom in the mid-1940's to give AA talks to anyone except drunks, Joe noted, a few members formed an unofficial public information committee that started to speak to Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs throughout the state.

*Excerpt from Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers, p 264-265*

**“Admitting I lack faith does me no harm ... being different, dissenting from views by a majority of my peers, is not a source of guilt.”**

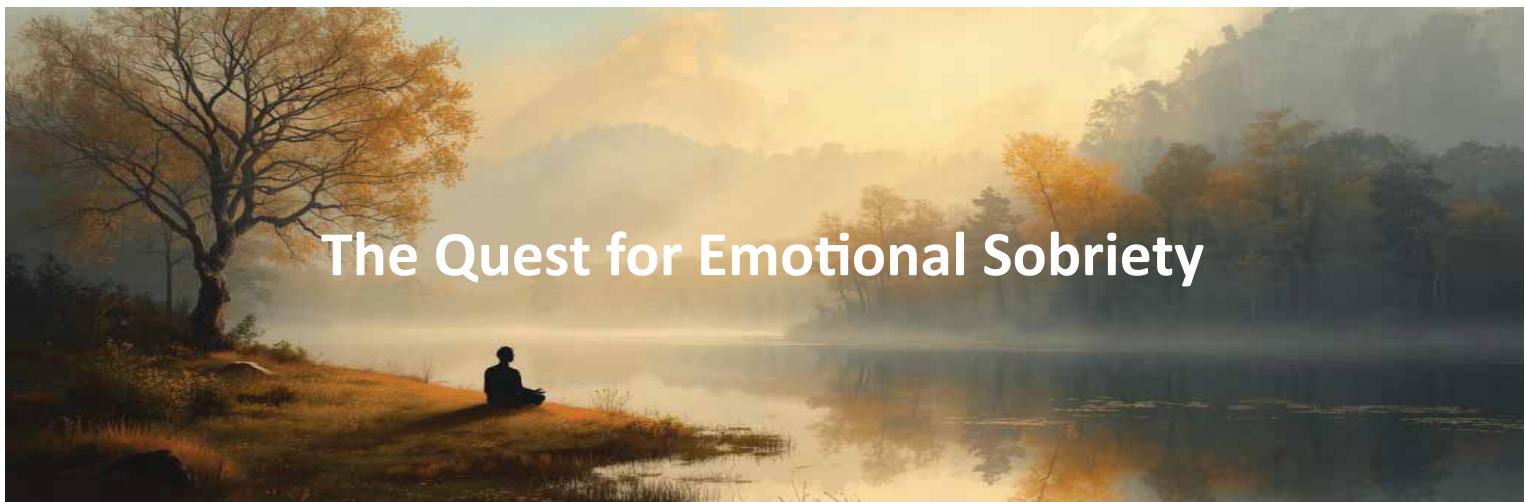
**West Lebanon, New York,  
April 1985, “Spiritual Hon-  
esty,” Spiritual Awakenings  
II**



## **SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS II**

**More Journeys of the Spirit**

**“More than a million of us who suffer from the disease of alcoholism have found not just the ability to live with or survive this insidious disease, but a joyful way of life as new as this morning and as old as mankind. We can gain sobriety, aspire to serenity, at no greater price than caring for our fellow sufferers and sharing with them what has been freely given to us. We can experience the true joy of love that we once tried to destroy by not giving it away, and we can learn the truth that the more we give away, the more we will have.”**



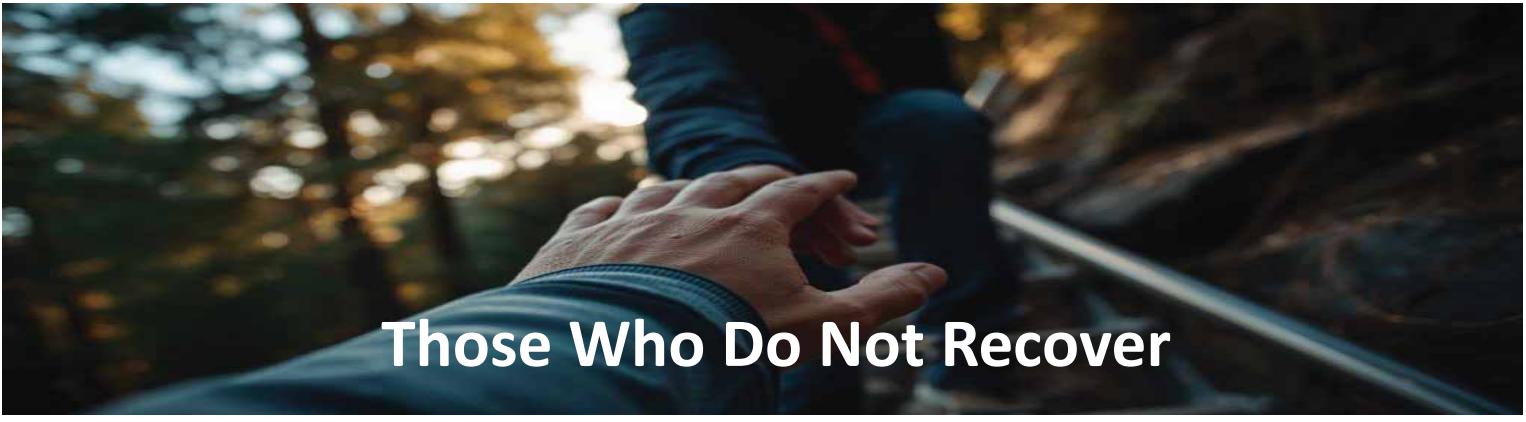
## The Quest for Emotional Sobriety

As I continue on the path of sobriety, my vision of what I need to attain has changed dramatically. Once concerned with the status quo, I now find myself longing to possess a higher degree of spiritual principles to integrate into the core of my being. In addition to maintaining sobriety, passing the message along to others and giving back to the fellowship, I have a desire to reach a place where I have emotional sobriety. A manner of living, where I can take life as it comes, not concerned with events or their subsequent outcomes, focus on what I can do for others and become unaffected by people's words or actions; a place of peace.

Going through sobriety and the steps, I have been relieved of many of the crippling defects that have been a part of me. Amazing as this release has been, deep inside, elements of these defects remain. I can still find myself affected by individuals' actions or words, life's everchanging course and the desire to secure the basic human instincts of survival and security. When caught up in what is happening in my immediate surroundings, I am often taken aback, drawn into my own small world, and as a result, lack the ability to focus on the needs of others. Though I can rationalize centering attention on myself, in reality, this creates an escalation of one of my most glaring defects, self-centeredness.

In many an instance, my back has been up against the wall, brought on by an underlying defect that suddenly emerged. In these times, I have often been forced to look at what brought upon my present situation. Unbeknownst to me, I became intertwined in the circumstances at hand, forgetting to step back, reflect, gain composure and act in a mature and rational manner. With these realizations, fear would come over me; was I ever going to be rid of this defect? Fortunately, I have learned, with work and a strong desire, I could change. Slowly, I began to possess restraint of tongue and pen and gained the ability to have perspective, realize everything is not about me and choose personal peace over conflict and turmoil.

Bill W. wrote; emotional sobriety is the next frontier. I believe his vision was correct. As the years go by, it is imperative I strive to be a better version of myself on a daily basis. Though some days I will fail and other days will be somewhat successful, with each effort, I will become closer to the version of the individual I want to be, a person who can live amidst the chaos of the world and maintain an element of peace. While I possess no illusions that I will ever obtain perfection in the quest for emotional sobriety, I know, if I keep striving, I can become a more spiritual being, and, as result, be able to offer tolerance, patience, love and understanding to those who are in my life.



## Those Who Do Not Recover

Through the years, I have often heard AA members refer to those who did not recover as not wanting it. I cannot imagine anything could be further from the truth. To think breaking free from the powerful grips of active alcoholism is merely a choice of wanting it or not wanting it is, in my opinion, an erroneous belief. As we have all learned, alcoholism is a disease which affects the mind, body and spirit. It is cunning, baffling and insidious, and robs us of the ability to make sane and rational choices. If this was not the case, I doubt few recovering alcoholics would share stories of personal and financial losses, incarcerations and living with an absence of moral dignity and character; I imagine most of us would have made the "choice" to surrender at the first sign of trouble.

In my experience, I could not get it until I did. Now, an outsider watching my 9 stints at rehabs, 4 I completed, and the 4 years I spent in and out of meetings, might have declared "that girl is never going to get sober". To be honest, many at the meetings I attended had similar thoughts. Actually, some people started walking away from me when I came into the room. During this time, I can declare with much certainty, my inability to get sobriety was not a matter of me wanting it or not. The layers of denial were so thick, the realization I was truly and desperately ill, could not penetrate. Although, a part of me knew I needed help, hence the rehabs and meetings, the other part of me was numb to the consequences I was enduring in my fight to keep drinking. I believe the longer I was around, the armor I was wearing slowly became broken down allowing for a little clarity to seep in.

When the time came that I finally put the drink down, I did not have an epiphany or knew I had surrendered, I just acted as if. It would be months before I realized I really wanted and needed sobriety. I heard someone share, many years ago, they were unaware of how sick they were until their 1-year anniversary. In reaching the same milestone, I knew exactly what he had been talking about. The fog was lifting, and in looking back at my drinking, I could see how sick I truly was, something I was unable to appreciate in the months before.

I am so fortunate I lived long enough to get the program. Without being given so many chances, it is highly doubtful I would be here to write about my journey. If I had died before my last attempt, I can assure you, my death would not have occurred from a conscious choice to throw my life away. It would have been because my disease had such a hold on me, my mind, body and soul were incapable of accepting the absolute truth. When I hear of those who do not make it, my heart is deeply saddened, Perhaps, if they were given more time, they could have broken free from the unrelenting clutches of addiction. I honestly never think they did not want it, instead, what immediately comes to mind is There but for the grace of God, go I.

- Lisa F., Red Bank New Jersey

**“The realization that I had experienced something spiritual was in itself a spiritual experience, and I am only slowly understanding its implications. What happened in the past, without my knowledge, is probably continuing now. And in the future, when tomorrow becomes today, it can go on and on. All that is required is a desire to stop drinking, and to stay stopped.”**

**York, Pennsylvania, January 1977,  
“So That’s a Spiritual Experience!”, Spiritual Awakenings**



## **SPIRITUAL AWAKENINGS**

*Journeys of the Spirit*



## **EMOTIONAL SOBRIETY**

*The Next Frontier*

**“It doesn’t do too much good to carry the Big Book on your arm all day if you don’t open it up and read it.”**

**Oceanside, California, June 2000, “As Unique as Ham and Eggs,” Emotional Sobriety**

## In Memory of Priscilla Hubbard

This is in memory of Priscilla Hubbard, a member in good standing of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Naples Area from 1987 'til she passed away September, 19th, 2025, thirteen days before her 95th birthday.

She first joined AA in the 1960's, went out briefly a couple of times, but made it back for 60+ years of great sobriety.

Priscilla requested no services except to have an obituary published in the Naples Area Intergroup COURIER (formerly The TURNING POINT) newsletter.

Priscilla was co-author of the Naples Intergroup newsletter for some years ... we believe in the 1980's to 1990's. She had a great passion for the newsletter and felt that it was her way to contribute service to AA. After a while she was unable to make it to meetings and the newsletter, physically.

Some of Priscilla's favorite sayings and slogans were: She felt that AA was the miracle of the 20th century. She looked at AA as a Fellowship, not just a Program... although a lot of us need a Program. She always practiced Gratitude and was grateful. She preached it: "The attitude of gratitude." Priscilla always practiced the "Principals of AA" in all that she did. Especially when she couldn't make meetings.

One of the great joys in life for Priscilla was ballroom dancing. She would float across the dance floor, often accompanied by her late companion, Herbie.

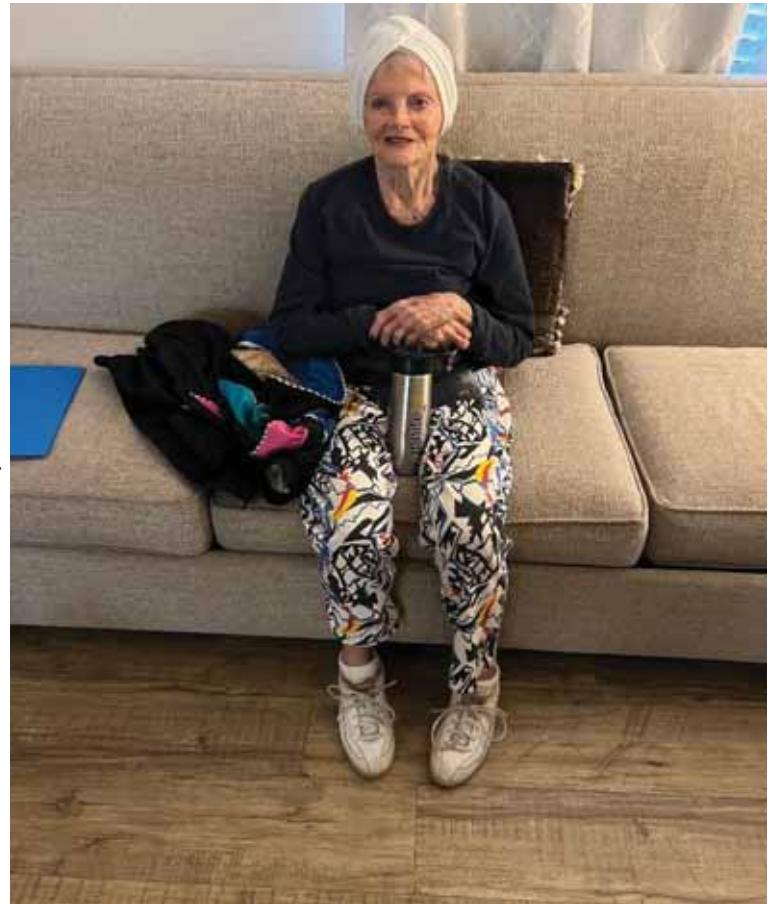
Priscilla outlived most of her relatives. She is survived by her daughter Gloria O., son and wife, Joseph and Wendy O, grandchildren Chris O, Joseph O, Erin O, and various cousins, nieces and nephews.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Introduction to *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.**



# 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**

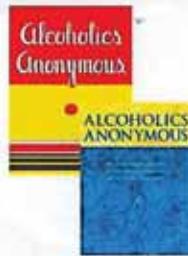
**Calling all AA  
Authors !!!  
Please submit  
an article to  
The COURIER !!!**

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**



## Deep Dive Big Book Study

Where	24 Hour Club 1509 Pine Ridge Rd Naples
When	8 am Saturdays
	Starting December 6 <sup>th</sup> to May 2nd
Who is it for?	Anyone interested in going on a 22-week deep study of the BIG BOOK of ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
	Sponsors, Sponsees, Newcomers, Old Timers, Friends
What do I need?	An open mind, A Big Book, A 12 Steps and 12 Traditions Pen, highlighter, notebook
We will have	Big Books, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions Pens, highlighters, notebooks if you don't.
What to expect?	Food, Fellowship, Laughter, deep discussion about the Big book, AA history, the common solution and we hope a new experience that will go with you in your daily living.
Questions	Call or email Paul B 763-464-9799 <a href="mailto:pbeckfeld@naplesretreat.org">pbeckfeld@naplesretreat.org</a>

**Sponsored by Naples Retreat**

# Christmas At the 24 Hour Club



*Dinner at 12:00 Noon  
Speaker to Follow at 1:00 pm  
Open to all*



*Come Join Us For Food, Fun & Fellowship*



*The Club will provide the Turkey,  
Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes and  
Gravy.*

*Sign up to provide your specialty!  
Help set up or  
Help clean up after dinner*

*Gratitude*

*Sign Up Sheet  
Is Posted In the Kitchen*

*Thanks*



*Blessed*





SW 239 BID FOR FCYPAA PRESENTS

**GLITZ & GLAM**  
*New Year's Eve  
Party*

Come join us in the fun at the  
New Year's Eve Party!

---

*December* **31** *At 9:00 p.m.*

---

**9PM SPEAKER MEETING  
KARAOKE  
DANCING  
COUNTDOWN  
& MORE!**

**SUGGESTED DONATION  
\$15 PRESALE OR \$20 AT THE  
DOOR**

Located at the 24 hour club!

1509 Pine Ridge Rd.  
Naples, FL. 34109

FINANCES	Nov 25	YTD 25
<b>Income</b>		
Literature/Merchandise		
Literature/Merchandise	\$4,777	\$46,036
Group Contributions	2,161	29,676
AA Birthdays	-	716
Faithful Five	-	575
Individual/Anonymous	2,515	8,905
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,061</b>	<b>84,618</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Bank/Credit Card Fees	126	1,371
Licenses/Permits	-	200
Office Supplies	370	3,684
Office Improve/Repair	-	441
www Hosting	-	510
Payroll	2,331	25,641
Payroll Tax	-	1,314
Postage	-	66
Printing	-	671
Purchases/Lit./Merch.	1,932	31,173
Insurance	-	722
Rent	500	5,500
Sales Tax	242	3,477
Telephone/www	276	2,759
Utilities	100	1,100
Computer Equipment	-	75
Computer Software	107	1,402
Computer/Maintain		
Accounting Services	155	1,892
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6,253</b>	<b>82,441</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>\$808</b>	<b>\$2,176</b>
Gratitude Dinner Tickets	1,040	9,040
Raffle Ticket Sales	1,271	1,271
Gratitude Expenses	6,890	7,219
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>(\$4,579)</b>	<b>3,495</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>(\$3,771)</b>	<b>\$5,671</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

<b>Group/Meeting</b>	<b>Nov 2025</b>	<b>YTD 25</b>
Bonita 1th Step Prayer & Meditation	77	
24 Hour Solutions	0	500
Beach Bums	450	950
Big Book Babes	0	30
Big Book Steppers— Bonita	31	281
Big Book Steppers- Naples	0	237
Bonita Banyon	0	415
Bonita Friday Joe & Chrlie	84	347
Bonita Happy Hour	0	496
Bonita Ladies Night	0	150
Bonita Morning Group	0	805
Bonita Saturday Nite	0	1,000
Bonita Springs 96395	150	150
Bonita Unity	50	50
Bonita Women's Step	0	150
Brown Bag Group	0	1,067
Cake Meeting	0	70
Common Solutions Naples	0	1,348
Daily Reflections ZOOM	111	379
Easy Does It	0	3,000
Early Risers	500	1,000
Flemsy Reed Group	0	258
Free 2 Be	0	750
Friday Nite Lights	0	200
Group #510367	0	149
Happy Healers	0	635
Jaywalkers	0	47
Keep It Simple	148	870
Living Sober Naples	0	70
Meeting In The Park	0	639
Men Of Naples	0	64
Monday Daily Reflections	0	44
Morning Reflections	0	185
Naples Group	0	400
Naples Men Big Book Study	0	52

<b>Group/Meeting</b>	<b>Nov 25</b>	<b>YTD 25</b>
Naples Nooners	0	2,850
Naples South	400	400
New Dawn	0	467
New Serenity	0	250
Nuts & Bolts	0	350
On Awakening	0	150
One Day At A Time	0	153
Park Shore Women	0	500
Primary Purpose Marco	0	6,583
Saturday Girlfriends	0	150
Three Legacies	160	354
Veranda Group	5	45
Where Are We	100	300

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.	55 years
Paul B.	51 years
Ron P.	51 years
Ron L.	47 years
Jackie G.	39 years
Bill D.	38 years
Merle B.	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@mдаiley.com

#### Service Committees:

#### Archives

Heather O. 272-2632  
district20archives@gmail.com

### 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

*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

### Technology Opportunity.

## **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

## **NAPLES AREA INTERGROUP MEETING**

Central Office

1509-2 Pine Ridge Rd.  
(next to 24 Hour Club)

**SECOND** Wednesday of  
each month at 7:00pm

## **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  
daltonmurfee@aol.com

#### Secretary:

Service Opportunity

#### Members at Large:

Service Opportunities

#### Office Manager:

Ken Helton  
1509-B 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

Amy D., Becky S., Bill 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