

Upcoming Events ...



June 2015 marks the 80th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Akron (Ohio)Area Intergroup Council of A.A. is planning its annual Founders' Day observance June 12-14.

Most events will take place at the campus of Akron University, beginning 10 a.m. Friday and running through the closing speaker meeting Sunday morning, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Details and registration information are available online at www.akronaa.org.

Basic registration is \$20, while package plans of registration, meetings, all tours and room are \$130 a person; \$180 a person including meals.

Registration can be made with credit card, checks or money orders, with on-site registration closing at 6 p.m. Saturday, June 13.

Our 59th Florida State Convention is nearly here!

It's Aug. 12-16 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando and we need plenty of help: advanced bookings, registrations and banquet sales are low and your early support would help with our planning so please register and book rooms now if you can!.

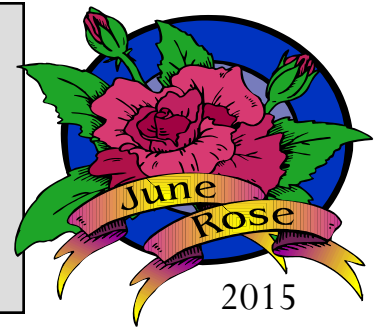
Check out the website at www.59.FlStateConvention.com for all the info on speakers, events and accommodations. Interested in volunteering? Please contact us at 59th@gmail.com. Contact the Rosen at 800-627-8258; ask for Florida state Convention rate!





Step Six

*Were entirely ready to have God remove all
these defects of character.*



Are You Attractive?

I N G R A T I T U D E

“Attraction rather than promotion” ... our Eleventh Tradition explains that, despite maintaining our anonymity in public, AA as a whole can draw those still suffering to us by sharing our success and recovery stories through media exposure, without individual identification.

But suppose attraction works for AA on a more personal, individual level? How can the whole “if you want what we have” thing work unless the folks still lost in alcohol can know what we have?

But it does work, it does happen: Likely you have heard personal accounts of AA members who were approached by acquaintances with sad booze stores and the lament that, “If only I hadn’t made those mistakes, maybe I’d have turned out like you.” The classic opening for: “Well, let me tell you something about myself and how I turned out this way. You’ll find it interesting.” Similar stories run through our literature, too.

Of course we are not going to be wearing AA signs on our foreheads or drive loudspeaker trucks through the streets proclaiming What We Have. But the improve-

ments in our behaviors and attitudes get noticed as we regain some sanity ... and people might ask you why.

Then again, if we’re bad neighbors, notorious drivers and soon, explanations of Tradition 11 make clear, AA will be judged along with us.

So are you ... you, who is reading this because you are engaged in AA service; you, who likely has at least a year of sobriety, who either volunteered to take on some responsibilities within your group/intergroup/district etc. or were strongly encouraged by your sponsor to do so; you, who has served many AA service positions over the years and now has eased off ... are YOU attractive ... in your sobriety, in your service work, in your fulfillment of responsibilities within and without the Program?

Our little newsletter here goes first and mainly to folks in service to the St. Lucie Intergroup, its members and its servant, District Six. You readers are definitely a group of “want what you have” veterans.

(Continued on page 3)

What Happened to AA?

Article concludes on page three of this issue

ST LUCIE INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.

897A NE Prima Vista Blvd.
Port St Lucie, FL 34952
(772) 873-9299

(in the NW corner of Prima Vista & US 1, located in Port St Lucie Plaza)

Visit our website at:

www.aastlucieintergroup.com

Where you can download PDF copies of this and recent newsletters

To receive a PDF copy of *In Gratitude* Newsletter via
e-mail send a request to:
stlucieintergroup@att.net, attn: Rex B., editor

Notices ...

The District 6 Monthly
Business Meetings
are held on the second
Tuesday of each month
Indian River State College
3209 Virginia Avenue
Ft. Pierce At 6:30 pm
Building R Room 248
Come support your
District!!
Visit district6aa.org

GSRs — ARE YOUR BASKET DONATIONS HELPING AA AS A WHOLE?

Does your Home Group distribute
the remaining donations after Group
expenses and prudent reserve
according to AA Tradition?

Is your Home Group doing it's part
to help support your local
Intergroup Office?
District 6? Area 15?

The General Service Office ?
Is your Home Group represented at
the local monthly Intergroup
steering committee meeting?

Is your local Intergroup Office and
its members properly serving the
needs of the local Groups?

These are questions you should be
asking at your Home Group business
meetings.

Get involved.

Support AA as a whole!

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE AN INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE ?

Intergroup Steering Committee
and Group Representatives meet
the 3rd Thursday of every month
@ 7pm. Help support Intergroup

REMEMBER:

"I am responsible . . .

*When anyone, anywhere, reaches
out for help, I want the hand of
A.A. always to be there.*

And for that: I am responsible."

District 6 Meetings (at the Intergroup Office 897A NE Prima Vista Blvd. Port St Lucie, Fl 34952)

Special Needs Committee Meeting ... the 1st Saturday of month 9:00 a.m.

DCMs/GSRs Meeting ... the 1st Saturday of month 10:30 a.m.

Archives Committee Meeting ... the 2nd Saturday of month 9:00 a.m.

Corrections Committee Meeting... the 2nd Saturday of month, 10:30 a.m.

Events Committee Meeting ... the 3rd Saturday of month 10:30 a.m.

PI/CPC Committee Meeting ... the 4th Saturday of month 10:30 a.m.

Please send all
District 6 Group
donations to:
District 6 Treasurer
P.O. Box 12248
Fort Pierce, Fl
34979-2248

Want to get Involved?
Bridging the Gap
needs volunteers as contacts for
individuals leaving treatment.
Be their first contact.
To sign up contact the District 6
Treatment Committee
BTG Coordinator at
dist6treatment@gmail.com or
call 772-49SOBER

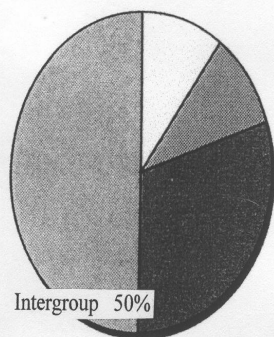
St. Lucie Intergroup needs to update our
Twelfth Step list. If you would like to be
contacted to help insure that the hand of AA
is always there, please contact the Intergroup
Office and leave your information: name,
phone number and hours available so we can
continue to help the still sick and suffering
alcoholic. Call 772-873-9299 or e-mail
stlucieintergroup@att.net

Bill W. on Group Donations

In 1957, Bill W. said, "We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and AA Literature. We support our Central Office, our area Committee, and our General services Office. If it were not for these entities, many people would never discover the miracles of AA".

To that end, AA World services offers the following model for donations by local AA Groups. GSO suggests that each group able to do so, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation.

This is the model suggested in AA's "Self Support" brochure, a World Services Pamphlet. (Page 12).



10% to district
10% to area committee
30% to G.S.O.
50% to intergroup or central office

ADDRESSES FOR GROUP DONATIONS

GSO

PO Box 459

Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163

South Florida Area 15 Treasurer

PO Box 690275

Vero Beach, Fl 32969

District 6 Treasurer

PO Box 12248

Ft. Pierce, Fl 34979-2248

St. Lucie Intergroup Association, Inc.

897A NE Prima Vista Blvd.

Port St Lucie, Fl 34952

WHY AREN'T MY GROUP'S ANNIVERSARIES HERE???

SIMPLY BECAUSE NO ONE TOLD US ABOUT THEM, SO LET US KNOW! It would be a service... and an easy one, for the folks who make sure anniversary coins and cards are ready each month to let the Intergroup Office know, too. (See details at bottom of this column) ... Or for your GSR ... or for YOU!!!

May Anniversaries ...

164 Group

Annie D. 24 yrs

Begin Where You Are

Betsy 24 yrs

Ray 20 yrs

Chris 9 yrs

Late Risers

Mike 4 yrs

Ruth 36 yrs

Midday Matinee

Isaiah 1 yr

Derek 1 yr

Paul 1 yr

Tom L 9 yrs

Alex 14 yrs

Anne 24 yrs

Sara 27 yrs

Bayshore Club

David S 1 yr

Jackie 1 yr

Marty 2 yrs

Sandy R 2Yrs

Rob H 4 yrs

Eric 7 yrs

Marty 7Yrs

Rich 7 yrs

Stephanie 11 yrs

Bill S 23 yrs

Jeff 25 yrs

Bobby 30 yrs

Mary L 33 yrs

(Please e-mail anniversaries at the end of the month to info@aastlucieintergroup.com or drop off at office by the

2015 Group Contributions Thru April

Group Name	Group #	APR	YTD	Group Name	Group #	APR	YTD
164 Group	648188	0.00	0.00	Last Call	151221	50.00	100.00
4th Dimension	648185	0.00	0.00	Late Risers	681809	0.00	150.00
A Desire To Stop Group		0.00	0.00	Lunch Box		0.00	0.00
AA Midday Matinee Bayshore	172992	0.00	0.00	Lunch Bunch	169623	25.00	50.00
AA Promises Group	671816	0.00	0.00	Men's Sobriety Group	172529	0.00	160.00
Alternate MC Beginners AA Group	645696	0.00	0.00	Midday Matinee Group	172992	91.45	646.84
An AA Group	706090	0.00	0.00	New Hope	163611	20.00	60.00
Back to Basics	617295	0.00	0.00	New Windmill Point	148626	0.00	50.00
Bayside Group	134955	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Kiss Group	643906	0.00	0.00
Begin Where You Are	666125	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Night Group	103633	0.00	0.00
Better By The Beach	688860	302.00	304.00	Okeechobee Noon Group	147217	60.00	150.00
Better Understanding	670079	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Sobriety Group	643907	0.00	0.00
Bleeding Deacons	710958	0.00	180.00	Primary Purpose (WHC)	141056	0.00	0.00
Easy Does It	149241	0.00	40.00	Primary Purpose Bayshore	679364	0.00	0.00
Emotional Sobriety		0.00	0.00	PSL Sat. AM Men's Group	606637	0.00	240.00
Eye Opener	169889	0.00	900.00	PSL AA (Tues. Nite) Group	103698	10.00	190.00
First Things First	697413	50.00	115.44	Reach Out Group	714201	10.00	30.00
Friday Night Men's	604208	0.00	0.00	Sisters of Sobriety	700856	0.00	0.00
Friendship Group	103470	0.00	0.00	Sour Grapes Group	690990	0.00	0.00
From Darkness To Light		0.00	0.00	Step Into Action	696779	0.00	20.00
Gays In Recovery	655112	0.00	60.00	Step Sisters	683996	0.00	0.00
Good Guys North	678914	25.00	50.00	Sun Rise 11th Step		0.00	0.00
Grupo Renacer Hispano FP (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	The Future of AA (Young People)	697507	0.00	0.00
Grupo Serendad PSL (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	Tough Love Group		0.00	0.00
Happy Hour Living Sober	653464	300.00	600.00	Warriors		0.00	0.00
Heard it thru the GrapevineGroup	662713	0.00	0.00	Watch your Steps	645676	0.00	75.00
Helping Hands Group	654010	60.00	70.00	We Stopped in Time	669606	0.00	312.00
Higher Power Sunday	679339	171.00	469.00	Westside Group	125608	0.00	0.00
How It Works		0.00	0.00	Wolff Road Group	703404	0.00	0.00
Just For Today	168564	50.00	50.00	Women Stepping Up	157843	50.00	100.00
Keep It Simple	643906	0.00	0.00	Women's New Beginnings	611306	100.00	100.00
KISS (WHC)	127410	0.00	603.00				
Lakewood Park	177727	20.00	60.00	TOTAL Group Contributions		1474.45	6065.28

This is not intended to direct AA members to specific meetings; please refer to our Where&When for area meeting places, types and times. If your group's number is not shown here, please contact the Intergroup Office so we may correct it. Thank you.

In 1957, Bill W. said, " We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and AA Literature. We support our Central Office, our Area Committee and our General Services Office. If it were not for these entities, many people would never discover the miracle of AA. "

What Happened to AA?



There is a tendency to want to place the blame for our predicament on the treatment industry and professionals. They do what they do and it has nothing to do with what we in Alcoholics Anonymous do. That is their business. That is not where to place the blame and also is in violation of our Tenth Tradition.

The real problem is that the members of Alcoholics Anonymous who were here when the “clients” began coming to our Fellowship did not help the “clients” to understand that our Program had been firmly established since April 1939 and that the guide-

lines for the preservation and growth of our Fellowship were adopted in 1950. That they must get rid of their “old ideas” and start practicing the Twelve Step Program of Alcoholics Anonymous as it had been given to us. That until they had taken the Steps and recovered, they had nothing to say that needed to be heard except by their sponsor.

But that didn't happen.

To the contrary, the old timers failed in their responsibility to the newcomer to remind them of a vital truth, “Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple Program.” We have permitted untreated alcoholics and non-alcoholics to sit in our meetings and lay out their problems, ideas and opinions. We have gone from “Rarely have we seen a person fail” to “Seldom do we see a

person recover.”

So there we are. We have had 30 years of unbelievable success by following the directions in the Big Book.

We have had 30 years of disappointing failure by wanting to hear from everyone. We now have something to compare. We now know what the problem is and we know what the solution is. Unfortunately, we have not been prompt to correct the faults and mistakes, which have been created by what appears to be large doses of apathy and complacency. The problem we are trying to live with is killing alcoholics.

The Solution? The Power, greater than ourselves, that we find through our Twelve Steps promises recovery for those who are willing to follow the clear-cut directions in the Big Book.

Do you want to be a part of the problem or a part of the solution? Simple, but not easy, a price has to be paid.

This is the final installment of an article that has made the rounds of AA for several years now and its author and origin were intentionally obscured at some point, so as to isolate its message from any particular person.

Because of its length, it was printed in three parts, part 1 in our April newsletter and Part 2 in the May edition. Those newsletters can be read and downloaded from our website:

www.aastlucieintergroup.com

Are You Attractive?

(Continued from page 1)

So do others want what you have? Are you AA's attraction? Do you:

- Attend your committee meetings ... and actually tell your home group what's up and how they are affected. Take part in your committee's functions and responsibilities.
- Volunteer to help with events ... and actually show up to fulfill your promise and bring along a newer member to introduce him/her to how to have fun in service.
- Still, after all these years, put your phone number down

when the new person's phone list is passed around ... then actually answer the phone, offer rides and use the opportunities to explain how you got what they want.

- Show your gratitude for the Program and the Blessings your Higher Power has bestowed by buying raffle tickets, donating prizes, sponsoring tickets so others may attend and, yes, bringing dessert to events.
- Share your Blessings by buying Big Books and other literature for newer members.
- Sometimes take on the task or responsibility some other alcoholic has shirked because somehow, in AA, it always works out.

On the Sixth Step ...

The Sixth Step ...

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

The Sixth Step Principle ...

The principle behind the 6th Step is *WILLINGNESS*.

The Sixth Tradition ...

An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

My Sixth Tradition Checklist ...

1. Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?
2. Is it good for a group to lease a small building?
3. Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with “Guidelines on Clubs”, which is available free from GSO?
4. Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor’s advisory committee on alcoholism?
5. Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and a card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?

On the Sixth Step ...

A Sixth Step Prayer ...

GOD HELP ME BECOME
WILLING TO LET GO OF ALL
THE THINGS TO WHICH I
STILL CLING. HELP ME TO BE
READY TO LET YOU RE-
MOVE ALL OF THESE DE-
FECTS, THAT YOUR WILL
AND PURPOSE MAY TAKE
THEIR PLACE. AMEN

(P. 76 OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, "THE BIG BOOK")