

District 6

# ***SPAGHETTI DINNER***



***We Are NOT a Glum Lot!!!***

**Saturday, February 1, 2020 Doors open 5:30 pm**

**Polish American Club**

**343 Prima Vista Blvd, Port St. Lucie FL**

**Food Entertainment Fun Fellowship**

**Please bring a dessert to share**

**Please bring AA Approved**

**literature for raffle**

**Ticket Contribution \$15**

**Ticket Vouchers must be turned in  
prior to event.**





## The 1st Step...

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol —that our lives had become unmanageable.



Then HOW to find Faith?

## *Faith without Works is Dead?*

The quote "Faith without works is dead" was a favorite quote of Anne Smith, Dr. Bob's wife, who often led Bill and Bob in morning Quiet Time during those early day's in Akron.

By referencing The Sermon on the Mount in relation to the book of James, the principles of our 12 step program began taking shape. The influences from Anne's favorite Biblical references offered Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob much encouragement and motivated them to work tirelessly in finding and helping other alcoholics.

I learned a lot from studying these passages myself, and gained much insight and understanding that continues to be helpful in my own program of recovery.

I meditate often on what the word faith means to me today and how it relates to the result of the steps and becoming Spiritually Awake.

I look at how faith today without works would be dead in my own life. I often contemplate how I started with belief and obtained faith, and the two differ. This to the end that "victory over my difficulties may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love,

and Thy Way of life." (Pg 63, Alcoholics Anonymous).

I came into AA confused and depressed.

I had always believed in a concept of God. I believed there was a power greater than me.

What I didn't understand when I came into AA was that belief in God would not be enough to treat my alcoholism. It wasn't till I listened to the Joe and Charlie Tapes given to me by my sponsor that I understood what it means to have faith as a result of working the 12 steps.

When I had lived a life based on self and not God, I never allowed God to direct my life. I needed to change my personality sufficiently to recover from alcoholism.

My personality is simply how I think, feel, and act. I needed to change from a personality as a result of living on self-will to one living based on God's will. How could I do that?

If you want to change anything there is a process. The first thing I must do is to be willing to change. Willingness to change came for me when I admitted complete defeat. It came as a result of the pain I suffered living my life separated from God.

*(Continued on page 3)*

ST LUCIE INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION, INC.

883 E 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](http://www.aastlucieintergroup.com)

Where you can view and 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](mailto:stlucieintergroup@att.net), attn: Rex B., editor

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  
The next district meeting on  
will be in the Registration  
Building on the campus,  
upstairs in room W243.

Visit [district6aa.org](http://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 third 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 Committee Meetings** **(at the Intergroup Office** **883 E Prima Vista Blvd.**

..... the 1st Saturday of month 11:00 a.m.

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

..... the 3rd Saturday of month, 10:30 a.m.

PI/CPC..... the 4th Saturday of month 10:00 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 our District 6

Treatment Committee BTG

Coordinator Shawn M.:

[mickeyd729@yahoo.com](mailto:mickeyd729@yahoo.com)

1-561-801-9093

**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](mailto:stlucieintergroup@att.net)**





# SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY “Our Great Responsibility”

Hosted by District 8 | Palm Beach County, Florida | April 3-5, 2020  
Registration Friday 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Saturday 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM, Sunday 7:00-9:00 AM

<b>Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
8:30-9:30pm	Speaker Meeting***
10:00-11:00pm	Night Owl Meeting
10:00-11:00pm	Spanish Night Owl Meeting
<b>Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup></b>	
7:00-8:00am	Early Bird Meeting
7:00-8:00am	Spanish Early Bird Meeting
8:00-9:00am	Concepts Workshop
8:00-9:00am	Spanish Concepts Workshop
8:30-10:50am	Treatment Facilities Committee
9:00-10:50am	Remote Communities Committee
9:00-10:50am	State Convention Committee
9:00-10:50am	Archives Committee
9:00-10:50am	Current Practices Committee
9:00-10:50am	Grapevine/La Vina Committee*
9:00-10:50am	Literature Committee
9:00-10:50am	PI/CPC Committee
9:00-10:50am	Accessibilities Committee**
11:00-12:30pm	Spanish Linguistic Committee
11:00-12:00pm	Traditions Workshop
12:00-1:30pm	Website Committee

<b>Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> (continued)</b>	
12:30-1:30pm	District Chairpersons Meeting
12:30-1:30pm	District Treasurers Meeting
12:30-1:30pm	District Secretaries/Registrars Meeting
1:00-1:50pm	Spanish Traditions Workshop
1:30-3:50pm	Corrections Committee
2:00-3:50pm	Finance Committee
2:00-3:50pm	Intergroup/Central Office Meeting
2:00-3:50pm	GSR Sharing
2:00-3:50pm	DCM Sharing
2:00-3:50pm	Quarterly Coordinators Meeting
4:00-5:00pm	Service Manual Workshop
5:00-6:00pm	“What’s On Your Mind?”
7:00-8:30pm	Banquet
8:30-9:30pm	Speaker Meeting***
10:00-11:00pm	Night Owl Meeting
10:00-11:00pm	Spanish Night Owl Meeting
<b>Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup></b>	
7:00-8:00am	Early Bird Meeting
7:00-8:00am	Spanish Early Bird Meeting
9:00am	Area 15 Business Meeting***

\*Spanish Language Interpreter provided; \*\* ASL Interpreter Provided (if requested); \*\*\*ASL (if requested) & Spanish Language Interpreter Provided.  
Arrangements for Accessibilities accommodations at any meeting, workshop, hotel room with wheelchair access or interpreter for the hearing impaired for the Sunday morning business meeting can be made by contacting the Area Accessibilities Chair at [accessibilities@area15aa.org](mailto:accessibilities@area15aa.org) by 3/27/20.



SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET	
No. of Blackened Mahi Mahi	
No. of Sirloin Steak with Chimichurri Sauce	
No. of Vegan (Roasted Pepper Ragu)	
Total Tickets @ \$48 each	
Total Amount Enclosed	
Name <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
Address <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
City <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 80px;"></span>	State <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 40px;"></span> Zip <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 60px;"></span>
Cell Phone <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
E-mail <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
District <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
Guests with Special Dietary Needs (state needs): <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px;"></span>	
Payments due upon order receipt.	
<b>Make checks payable to:</b> District 8 – note “banquet” on check	
<b>Mail order in (with coupon) to:</b> General Service District 8, Attention: Treasurer, PO Box 13, West Palm Beach, FL 33402	

<b>Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center</b> 5150 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton, FL 33486 <b>Hotel Room Reservations:</b> <u><b>Book your group rate for South Florida General Service</b></u> <u><b>Conference April 2019</b></u> (561) 392-4600  Room Rate: \$159.00 per night + tax; Parking is free <b>Reference: “South Florida General Service Conference”</b>  HOTEL RESERVATIONS OPEN ON JANUARY 6, 2020 at 9AM AND MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 6, 2020  From I-95, exit Palmetto Park Road (exit 44) go west. Turn right (North) at Military Trail. Turn right at Town Center Circle & follow road to hotel entrance.  <b>QUESTIONS?</b> <b>Please contact the Quarterly Assembly Chair at</b> <b><a href="mailto:altchair@district8area15.org">altchair@district8area15.org</a></b>  <b>For hotel room cancellations OR to be placed</b> <b>on a hotel room wait list, please contact the</b> <b>Quarterly Hotel Liaison at <a href="mailto:hotelinfo@area15aa.org">hotelinfo@area15aa.org</a></b>
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# 2019 Group Contributions thru November 31

GROUP	Group #	NOV	YTD	GROUP	Group #	NOV	YTD
11th Step Candlelight PSL		0.00	0.00	Lunch Bunch PSL	169623	0.00	520.00
A Desire To Stop GP		0.00	25.00	Men's Sobriety Group Sun.AM	172529	0.00	280.00
Alternate MC Beginners AA GP	645696	0.00	0.00	Midday Matinee	172992	0.00	0.00
Back To Basics	617295	0.00	325.00	New Hope Group	163611	0.00	200.00
Bayside GP	134955	0.00	0.00	New Windmill Point	148626	0.00	0.00
Begin Where You Are	666125	0.00	300.00	Okeechobee Discussion		0.00	0.00
Better By The Beach	688860	145.00	474.20	Okeechobee Night Group	103633	0.00	0.00
Better Understanding	670079	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Noon Group	147217	0.00	150.00
Easy Does It	149241	0.00	25.00	Okeechobee Sobriety Group	643907	0.00	0.00
Emotional Sobriety Group		0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Women's Group		0.00	25.00
Ensollielle (French, seasonal)	681471	0.00	50.00	Primary Purpose Welcome Home	141056	0.00	100.00
Eye Opener	169889	25.00	310.00	Primary Purpose Bayshore	679364	0.00	0.00
First Things First	697413	73.00	367.00	PSL AA Tues. Nite Group	103698	0.00	40.00
Friday Night Men's	604208	0.00	300.00	PSL Sat. AM Men's Group	606637	0.00	950.00
Friendship Group	103470	0.00	105.50	Reach Out Group	714201	50.00	230.00
From Darkness To Light		0.00	0.00	Sisters of Sobriety	700856	0.00	15.85
Gays In Recovery	655112	0.00	25.00	Step Into Action	696779	0.00	120.00
Good Guys North	678914	25.00	25.00	Step Sisters	683996	0.00	122.50
Grupo Renacer Hispano FP (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	Talking Feathers		0.00	120.00
Grupo Serendad PSL (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	There Is a Solution		0.00	0.00
Happy Hour Living Sober	653464	200.00	775.00	Tough Love Group	721766	20.00	395.20
Heard It Thru the Grapevine	662713	0.00	50.00	Wake-Up Group Okeechobee		0.00	0.00
Helping Hands Group	654010	0.00	50.00	Warriors		0.00	1.00
Higher Power Sunday	679339	0.00	250.00	Watch your Steps	645676	75.00	205.00
Just For Today	168564	0.00	0.00	We Stopped in Time	669606	2.00	2.00
Keep It Simple— Okeechobee	643906	0.00	0.00	Westside Group Ft Pierce	125608	0.00	180.00
KISS	127410	0.00	300.00	Wolff Road Group Okeechobee	703404	0.00	0.00
Lakewood Park	177727	0.00	280.00	Women Stepping Up	157843	0.00	200.00
Last Call	151221	0.00	0.00	Women's New Beginnings	611306	50.00	50.00
Late Risers	681809	0.00	900.00				
Lunch Box Ft. Pierce		0.00	0.00				
TOTAL AA GP Contributions						663.00	9033.25

**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."**

## Then HOW to find Faith?

# *Faith without Works is Dead?*

(Continued from page 1)

However just being willing won't change me. I have to believe I can change. How did I come to believe I could change? Page 25 says I saw it had worked in others. I had come to believe in the hopelessness and futility in life as I had been living it but came to believe by seeing how it worked in others. I saw how it worked in others by going to meetings and hearing members stories.

Now I have to make a decision to

change in Step 3. However, this decision doesn't cause change. It just means I have decided to take action to change .

Steps 4-9 are the steps that change me. The 12 promises come while working step 9 and describe how we are changed.

These promises bring me to step 10. I have now entered the world of the spirit. Steps 10-11 are how I stay in this world.

I constantly seek to improve my knowledge of God's will for me and the power to carry it out in step 11. In step 10 I work steps 4-9 all day long to maintain conscious contact and stay vigilant, for alcohol is a subtle foe.

How does this result in faith?

I came to understand that belief was based on the hope I had in other people's experience. By being willing, believing, deciding , and acting, I can see the result of change, so faith is developed when those experiences become my own.

I go from belief to faith. I have seen God working in my life. The promises are coming true. God is doing for me what I could not do for myself.

Faith means trust. Faith means courage. God is no longer a theory. He has become a fact. I have trust in God.

I have gone from belief in God to knowledge of God.

Faith means that I have a knowledge and a relationship with God which I can rely on. I believe this is what a spiritual awakening means to me today, awareness.

I am awake to the presence of God today. His power and direction is available to me today. I use steps 10 and 11 on a daily basis, moment by moment, by remaining vigilant I maintain and improve this conscious contact.

Now that I have faith, how does this faith as a result of the 12 steps show in my works?

I remain active, I try to be the best person I can be. I do my best to seek and do God's Will by practicing the principles in all my affairs. I am considerate of others, I am willing to admit when I am wrong, and I am grateful.

And I remember always that it is a privilege to be a member of the Blessed Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

*Submitted with love in sobriety, Bob S.*

### ADDRESSES FOR GROUP DONATIONS

GSO  
PO Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

South Florida Area 15  
Treasurer  
PO Box 1784  
Pompano Beach Fl 33061

District 6 Treasurer  
PO Box 12248  
Ft. Pierce, Fl 34979-2248

St. Lucie Intergroup  
Association, Inc.  
883 E Prima Vista Blvd.,  
Port St Lucie, Fl 34952

### Help us share information to make Alcoholics Anonymous accessible to all who reach for the hand of AA

GSRs, DCMs and District Committee Chairs and Members: If you are aware of AA members who are using online resources to overcome hearing, sight, movement, distance, language or other challenges to accessing The Hand of Alcoholics Anonymous or are seeking such resources, please have them e-mail useful links to our St. Lucie Intergroup Webmaster at [stlucieintergroup@att.net](mailto:stlucieintergroup@att.net). We are attempting to create a link page on our Intergroup website as a resource for enabling access for all.



# *On the First Step ...*

## The First Step ...

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol — that our lives  
had become unmanageable.

### **Bill W. on Tradition One, 1947**

©Grapevine, December 1947, reprinted with permission

Our whole AA program is securely founded on the principle of humility that is to say, perspective. Which implies, among other things, that we relate ourselves rightly to God and to our fellows; that we each see ourselves as we really are -- "a small part of a great whole". Seeing our fellows thus, we shall enjoy group harmony. That is why AA Tradition can confidently state, "Our common welfare comes first."

"Does this mean," some will ask, "that in AA the individual doesn't count too much? Is he to be swallowed up, dominated by the group?"

No, it doesn't seem to work out that way. Perhaps there is no society on earth more solicitous of personal welfare, more careful to grant the individual the greatest possible liberty of belief and action. Alcoholics Anonymous has no "musts." Few AA groups impose penalties on anyone for nonconformity. We do suggest, but we don't discipline. Instead, compliance or noncompliance with any principle of AA is a matter for the conscience of the individual; he is the judge of his own conduct. Those words of old time, "judge not," we observe most literally.

"But," some of us argue, "if AA has no authority to govern its individual members or groups, how shall it ever be sure that the common welfare does come first? How is it possible to be governed without a government? If everyone can do as he pleases, how can you have aught but anarchy?"

The answer seems to be that we AA's cannot really do as we please, though there is no constituted human authority to restrain us. Actually, our common welfare is protected by powerful safeguards. The moment any action seriously threatens the common welfare, group opinion mobilizes to remind us; our conscience begins to complain. If one persists, he may become so disturbed as to get drunk; alcohol gives him a beating. Group opinion shows him that he is off the beam, his own conscience tells him that he is dead wrong, and, if he goes too far, Barleycorn brings him real conviction.

So it is we learn that in matters deeply affecting the group as a whole, "our common welfare comes first." Rebellion ceases and cooperation begins because it must; we have disciplined ourselves.

Eventually, of course, we cooperate because we really wish to; we see that without AA there can be little lasting recovery for anyone. We gladly set aside personal ambitions whenever these might harm AA. We humbly confess that we are but "a small part of a great whole."

# *On the First Step ...*

## The First Step Principle...

The principle behind the First Step is Acceptance.

## Tradition One...

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity.

## First Tradition Checklist ...

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