



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

Friday, April 3rd

8:30-9:30pm	Speaker Meeting***
10:00-11:00pm	Night Owl Meeting
10:00-11:00pm	Spanish Night Owl Meeting

Saturday, April 4th

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**
9:00-10:50am	Spanish Linguistic Committee
11:00-12:30pm	Traditions Workshop
11:00-12:30pm	Website Committee

Saturday, April 4th (continued)

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

Sunday, April 5th

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 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 _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Cell Phone _____
E-mail _____
District _____
Guests with Special Dietary Needs (state needs): _____

Payments due upon order receipt.

Make checks payable to: District 8 – note “banquet” on check

Mail order in (with coupon) to: General Service District 8, Attention:
Treasurer, PO Box 13, West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center

5150 Town Center Circle, Boca Raton, FL 33486

Hotel Room Reservations:

Book your group rate for South Florida General Service

Conference April 2019

(561) 392-4600

Room Rate: \$159.00 per night + tax; Parking is free

Reference: “South Florida General Service Conference”

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.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Quarterly Assembly Chair at
altchair@district8area15.org

For hotel room cancellations OR to be placed
on a hotel room wait list, please contact the
Quarterly Hotel Liaison at hotelinfo@area15aa.org



Step Three

Made a decision to turn our will and our
lives over to the care of God
as we understood Him.



How a Jesuit Priest Came to Help Bill W. See the Spiritual Nature of the 12 and 12

According to Bill Wilson, the first meeting of he and Father Ed took place early in 1940, likely January or February. Other accounts have this meeting taking place in either November or December. While the actual date may be lost to history, the content and the outcome of this meeting has been fairly well documented. The night was particularly cold and bleak. Bill reports it this way:

"My first unforgettable contact with Father Ed came about in this way. It was early



The new American Sign Language video of AA's 12 and 12 plays at District Six's Public Information Booth at the St. Lucie County Fair last week. See more about the PI/CPC Committee's booth inside.

1940, though late in the winter. Save for old Tom, the fireman we had lately rescued from Rockland Asylum, the club was empty (24th St. clubhouse in N.Y. City where Bill and Lois were living, as they had been evicted from their Clinton St. home.) My wife Lois was out somewhere. It had been a hectic day, full of disappointments. I lay upstairs in our room, consumed with self-pity. This had been brought on by one of my characteristic imaginary ulcer attacks. It was a bitter night, frightfully windy. Hail and sleet beat on the tin roof over my head.

"Then the front doorbell rang and I heard old Tom toddle off to answer it. A minute later he looked into the doorway of my room, obviously much annoyed. Then he said, 'Bill, there is some old damn bum down there from St. Louis, and he wants to see you.' Great heavens, I thought, this can't be still another one." Warily and even resentfully, I said to Tom, 'Oh well, bring him up, bring him up.' Then a strange figure appeared in my bedroom door. He wore a shapeless black

(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

Where you can view and download PDF copies of this
and recent newsletters.

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

**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
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**



AA at St. Lucie County Fair

“With an outpouring of help from our District Six Service Committees, the word that best describes our St. Lucie County Fair 2020 outreach is unity,” said Erin G., chair of the Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee.

“Grapevine, Accessibilities and Remote Communities committees provided literature specific to their committees for display and distribution.

“Treatment, Website and the 772 Bid for FYCPAA committees, as well as DCMs and GSRs from all four counties contributed their time to man the booth.”

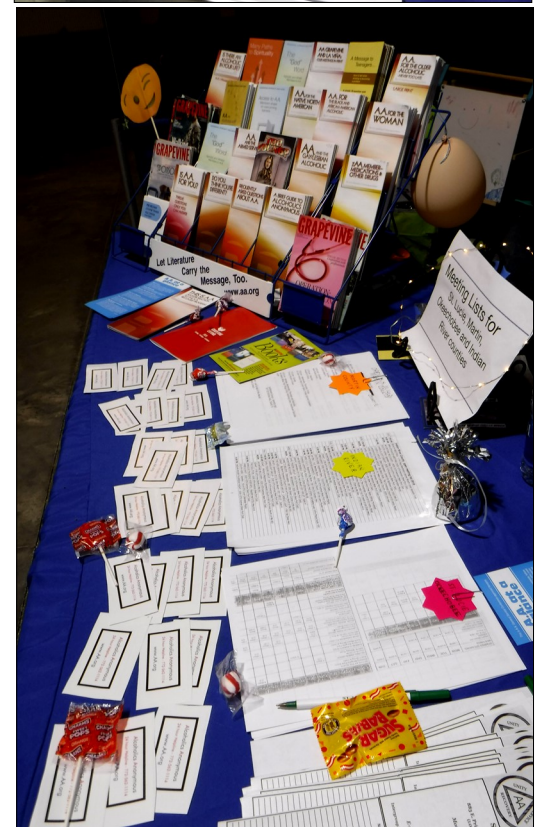
PI/CPC has joined a number of non-

profit and government organizations in the Fair’s Community Service building for several years.

Once again, the AA presence was located right next to a pristine Florida Highway Patrol cruiser on display.

“While other non-profit displays had a hard time filling representative timeslots, we has 22-pls trusted servants ready and willing to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic,” Erin G. said.

“Thank you, District Six! This Public Information event would not have been possible without your dedicated Service.”



How a Jesuit Priest Came to Help Bill W. See the Spiritual Nature of the 12 and 12

(Continued from page 3)

arthritis that was turning his back to stone.

When their meeting together was over, Dowling hobbled to the door and declared, as a parting shot, "that

if ever Bill grew impatient, or angry at God's way of doing things, if ever he forgot to be grateful for being alive right here and now, he, Father Ed Dowling, would make the trip all the way from St. Louis to wallop him over

the head with his good Irish stick."

**Next month, The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius*

Submitted with love in sobriety,
Bob S.

2020 Group Contributions thru January 31

GROUP	Group #	JAN	YTD	GROUP	Group #	JAN	YTD
11th Step Candlelight PSL		0.00	0.00	Lunch Bunch PSL	169623	0.00	0.00
A Desire To Stop GP		0.00	0.00	Men's Sobriety Group Sun.AM	172529	0.00	0.00
Alternate MC Beginners AA GP	645696	0.00	0.00	Midday Matinee	172992	0.00	0.00
Back To Basics	617295	0.00	0.00	New Hope Group	163611	0.00	0.00
Bayside GP	134955	0.00	0.00	New Windmill Point	148626	0.00	0.00
Begin Where You Are	666125	0.00	0.00	Okeechobee Discussion		0.00	0.00
Better By The Beach	688860	75.60	75.60	Okeechobee Night Group	103633	0.00	0.00
Better Understanding	670079	60.00	60.00	Okeechobee Noon Group	147217	0.00	0.00
Easy Does It	149241	0.00	25.00	Okeechobee Sobriety Group	643907	0.00	0.00
Emotional Sobriety Group		19.00	19.00	Okeechobee Women's Group		0.00	0.00
Ensolielle (French, seasonal)	681471	0.00	0.00	Primary Purpose Welcome Home	141056	0.00	0.00
Eye Opener	169889	25.00	25.00	Primary Purpose Bayshore	679364	0.00	0.00
First Things First	697413	0.00	0.00	PSL AA Tues. Nite Group	103698	0.00	0.00
Friday Night Men's	604208	0.00	0.00	PSL Sat. AM Men's Group	606637	0.00	0.00
Friendship Group	103470	0.00	0.00	Reach Out Group	714201	0.00	0.00
From Darkness To Light		0.00	0.00	Sisters of Sobriety	700856	0.00	0.00
Gays In Recovery	655112	0.00	0.00	Step Into Action	696779	0.00	0.00
Good Guys North	678914	0.00	0.00	Step Sisters	683996	0.00	0.00
Grupo Renacer Hispano FP (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	Talking Feathers	728541	0.00	0.00
Grupo Serendad PSL (Spanish)		0.00	0.00	There Is a Solution		0.00	0.00
Happy Hour Living Sober	653464	0.00	0.00	Tough Love Group	721766	37.00	0.00
Heard It Thru the Grapevine	662713	0.00	0.00	Wake-Up Group Okeechobee		0.00	0.00
Helping Hands Group	654010	0.00	0.00	Warriors		0.00	0.00
Higher Power Sunday	679339	0.00	0.00	Watch your Steps	645676	0.00	0.00
Just For Today	168564	0.00	0.00	We Stopped in Time	669606	0.00	0.00
Keep It Simple— Okeechobee	643906	0.00	0.00	Westside Group Ft Pierce	125608	0.00	0.00
KISS	127410	0.00	0.00	Wolff Road Group Okeechobee	703404	0.00	0.00
Lakewood Park	177727	0.00	0.00	Women Stepping Up	157843	50.00	50.00
Last Call	151221	0.00	0.00	Women's New Beginnings	611306	0.00	0.00
Late Risers	681809	0.00	0.00				
Lunch Box Ft. Pierce		0.00	0.00				
				TOTAL AA GP Contributions			
				266.60 266.60			

This is not intended to direct AA members to specific meetings; please refer to our Where & When or the online Meeting Guise app for area meeting places, types and times. If your group's number is not shown here, please contact the Intergroup Office to 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."

How a Jesuit Priest Came to Help Bill W.

See the Spiritual Nature of the 12 and 12

(Continued from page 1)

hat that somehow reminded me of a cabbage leaf. His coat collar was drawn around his neck, and he leaned heavily on a cane. He was plastered with sleet. Thinking him to be just another drunk, I didn't even get off the bed. Then he unbuttoned his coat and I saw that he was a clergyman.

"A moment later I realized with

great joy that he was the clergyman who had put that wonderful plug for A.A. into *The Queen's Work*. My weariness and annoyance instantly evaporated. We talked of many things, not always about serious matters either. Then I began to be aware of one of the most remarkable pair of eyes I have ever seen. And, as we talked on, the room increasingly filled with what seemed to me to be the presence of God which flowed through my new friend. It was one of the most extraordinary experiences that I have ever had. Such was his rare ability to transmit grace. Nor was my experience at all unique. Hundreds of AA's have reported having exactly this experience when in his presence. This was the beginning of one of the deepest and most inspiring friendships that I shall ever know. This was the first meaningful contact that I have ever had with the clergymen of the Catholic faith."

But why did Father Ed seek out Bill in the first place? It was because of the similarity between the 12 Steps and a spiritual practice within Father Ed's

Jesuit order known as the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius*. Primarily, Father Ed wanted to talk about the paradox of AA, the 'regeneration,' he called it, the strength arising out of defeat and weakness, the loss of one's old life as a condition for achieving a new one. And Bill agreed with everything.

"This is the Step that separates the men from the boys." This well known reference from Bill's essay on Step 6 in the book, *The 12 Steps and The 12 Traditions*, is credited to this meeting Bill had with Father Ed and can also be found in Appendix V in the Big Book, *The Religious View on A.A.* and provided Bill with a much deeper understanding of the real spiritual significance of the 12 Steps.

That night, for the first time in months, Bill Wilson slept soundly.

Thus began a 20-year friendship nourished by visits, phone calls, and letters. Both men spoke the language of the HEART, learned through suffering: Bill from alcoholism, Father Ed from

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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. We are attempting to create a link page on our Intergroup website as a resource for enabling access for all.

On the Third Step ...

The Third Step...

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over

The Third Step Principles...

The principles behind the Third step are Surrender and Trust

THE THIRD STEP PRAYER

*"God, I offer myself to thee - to build with me and
do with me as Thou wilt.*

*Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may
better do Thy will.*

*Take away my difficulties, that victory over them
may bear witness to those I would help of Thy
Power, Thy Love and Thy Way of life.*

May I do Thy will always!"

(63:2 original Big Book manuscript)

On the Third Step ...

The Third Tradition ...

**The only requirement for A.A. membership
is a desire to stop drinking.**

My Third Step Checklist ...

- 1. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?**
- 2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?**
- 3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?**
- 4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?**
- 5. Am I overimpressed by a celebrity, a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?**
- 6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he has been to AA before? What his other problems are?**