

Service - Will You Answer the Call?

The Service Fair is coming up September 27th, and it's a free event! It will be at Parkview Baptist Church from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will start off with a continental breakfast and fellowship. All the Service Committees will have information tables, Intergroup will be there with merchandise and information and a table for information about our phone volunteers ("Phone Army") that keep us available 24/7, and FCYPAA's 352 Bid will also have an information table.

We'll also have a table for GSRs (General Service Representatives) and potential GSRs. With elections coming up in October at the Area, District, and group levels, this is a perfect opportunity to get involved in service! New terms start in January for all officers, committee chairs, and GSRs at these levels.

The District service committees include Archives, Corrections, CPC/PI (Cooperation with the Professional Community/Public Information), Grapevine, Literature, Special Needs/Accessibilities, Treatment, and Website. If you've been wondering what these committees do or are thinking of helping them out, come by and get the information you'll need! Every committee can always use more help. Our only mission is to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

As well as the displays, there will be presentations about each Service Committee and

one by V.F., our Area Chairperson, about service in general. She has been involved in general service for a long time and has a wealth of information to share with us!

Throughout the Service Fair, we'll have free raffles, giveaways, and more. When you visit a committee table you will get a free raffle ticket from that table. That's how you can be included in the free raffles/giveaways. So make plans to be there on September 27th!

Service has been a big part of my recovery over the years and will continue to be. I got hooked on carrying the message through general service early in my recovery. I can't tell you how rewarding it is to work toward a common solution with so many wonderful people I would not have met otherwise! Most importantly, it helps keep me sober.

Feel free to get in touch with me if you need anything, I'm here to help!

*G.N., Alt. DCM, District 14
altdcm@aanfldistrict14.org*



An Open Letter

Our fifth Tradition states, "Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

What better way to carry the message to a suffering alcoholic who is calling our AA hotline looking for some respite, some relief from the

(Continued on page 5)



Our Community News

The **Hawthorne Intergroup Picnic**, held on Saturday, August 16th, was well attended by AAs from all over the North Central Florida Community. Great food, fun, and fellowship was had by all. The lake and the slide were two of the highlights for adults and children alike considering the *hot* weather! Thanks to all who worked hard to put this event on, it was yet another successful day for friends and family!

It is time once more for the **District 14 Service Fair**, scheduled for *Saturday, September 27th*. Festivities will begin at 9 a.m. This will be an indoor event at *Parkview Baptist Church*, 3404 NW 13th St. Many activities are planned as well as separate booths for each of the standing committees which will be available to explain the many opportunities for service work within the AA community. All members of our community are encouraged to attend and become more involved, especially newcomers! There will be no charge. Come see what is behind the "Hand of AA"

Round-Ups and Workshops:

Pockets of Enthusiasm, presented by the Serenity Club of Sarasota, *September 19-21st* at the *Hyatt Regency*, 1000 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, FL. Contact Jerry at 239-776-6767, or email JEddleman@aol.com.

Florida Unity will take place on *October 3-5th* at the *Hyatt Regency*, 225 East Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL. For further information contact D.V. at 904-631-2350 or explore www.floridaunityroundup.com.

The 66th **Atlanta Men's Workshop** will be held *October 10-12* at Rock Eagle 4-H Center near Atlanta, for a weekend of speakers, Step Studies and fellowship. Register on line at www.mensworkshop.org or contact B.S. at 770-992-0666.

The Good Morning God and New Hope Groups are sponsoring a **Leadership & Sponsorship Workshop** to take place from 10 am – 2 pm on Saturday, *October 25th* at the *Primary Purpose Club*, 1329 NW 13th St. There will be food, fun and fellowship.

The **Saturday Night Promises Group** will be holding meetings, both beginners and speakers, at Highlands Presbyterian Church, 1001 NE 16th Ave on Gator Football home game weekends.

Intergroup will host the annual **Gratitude Dinner** on *Saturday, November 1st* at *Holy Trinity Church*. The first committee meeting will be held at the Intergroup Office on Wednesday, September 10th at 5 pm. As always, there are numerous service opportunities available in order to ensure the continued success of this worthwhile event.

Upcoming Topics in the P.O.S.T.:

October: "*Virtual Sobriety*"

November: "*Gratitude Is an Action*"

December: "*Giving Back*"

Thought for the Day

"If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money cannot buy." --*Anonymous*

Contributions on these or other topics are welcome and will be printed in the respective issues. Send your articles and letters to post@northcentralflaa.org.

Congratulations!

August 2014 Anniversaries

10 & 11th Step Meeting

EF - 2 yrs

MR - 4 yrs

Bring Your Own Book

JS - 30 yrs

KA - 12 yrs

Cross Creek

K - 11 years

S - 27 years

S - 33 years

Downtown

LE - 9 yrs

Everything or Nothing

DH - 8 yrs

Eye Opener

PA - 11 yrs

N - 1 yr

JJ - 1 yr

RD - 1 yr

Free to Be

BB - 1 yr

BMay - 5 yrs

C - 6 yrs

K - 1 yr

Gratitude

NS - 11 yrs

Hawthorne

DP - 18 yrs

C - 14 yrs

Hole in the Wall

AH - 1 yr

PW - 27 yrs

Tuesday Night Step Study

DP - 11 yrs

L - 3 yrs

The Way Out

PP - 11 years

LE - 5 years

R - 5 years

JS - 30 years



September Anniversaries? Send them by September 15th to: post@northcentralflaa.org

Everyone Has One

I'll Fix This!

Over the course of my few 24 hours, I am grateful for having had the opportunity to attend meetings in quite a few states and in various areas of Florida. The familiarity is always a comfort, regardless of the group's name or the format of the meeting. For a long time, I felt that any meeting was better than none and was not hesitant about saying so to those who would judge.

My sense that I know best (my ego?) made sly and subtle return over the past few months. I have become annoyed in meetings by things done and said that do not suit MY thoughts on what is appropriate. I scoured the literature, searching for something that described the correct way. I read and reread the traditions. I read about group Inventories. I found nothing specific.

During this time a group I attend regularly had a group conscious meeting and made a small change in how they run the meetings. That small change had big, positive effects. It was done and announced in the spirit of the traditions.

I had my answer. I have two venues for making changes in how meetings are run. I can attend and participate in the business meetings of my home group and I can pray for acceptance in all things.

North Central Florida Intergroup Minutes

July 27, 2014

Open: The meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer at 1p.m., followed by introductions of attendees.

Attendance: B, A Vision For You; BM, Eye Opener; CH, Solutions; DC, Thursday Womens Step Study; FS, Faith Hope Strength; HB , Alt Rep, Solutions; JM, Office Manager; JV, All Inclusive Solution; JV, Alt New Freedom, Geezers; KH, All Inclusive Solution; MV, Promises; PM, The Way Out, IG Sec; RG, Unity/TILIS Mens; RM, Geezers; SR, IG Chair, Sat Am 10/11th Step; PC, POST, visitor; JS, HALT; LD, Tuesday Step Study; AG, Every Step We Take; DM, Free To Be.

Secretary's Report: JV made a motion to accept the minutes as read, BK seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: FS reported the new spreadsheet is ready to be implemented, but waiting to get together with S. LD made a motion to accept as reported. JV seconded. Motion passed.

Phone Committee: As of July 27, there are no open slots, however the committee can always use backups. RM moved to accept, KH seconded. Motion passed.

P.O.S.T.: The P.O.S.T. can always use stories and articles for publication. Also looking for a volunteer to be on the board to help put the P.O.S.T. together.

Literature & Merchandise: JM reported everything is up to date in the office with plenty of merchandise for sale.

Where & When: AG mentioned there is no PDF on website for the *Where & When*. The problem has been corrected. The web and printed versions of the *Where & When* are current.

Activities: The Hawthorne Picnic is scheduled for Aug 16, The annual Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for Aug 23. Tickets are on sale now.

Old Business: None at this time.

New Business: The Gratitude Dinner is coming in November. The committee will be starting soon.

Close: Meeting closed at 1:30 p.m. with the "we" version of the Serenity Prayer.





"Our alcoholism is a sickness we no longer fear to discuss."

~ AA co-founder Bill W., January 1946

"A Tradition Born of Our Anonymity"

The Language of the Heart

Don't forget to visit the District 14 Grapevine display at the upcoming Service Fair on September 27th! Bring your past issues of the Grapevine and place them into the "Grapevine Box" to be entered in a drawing to win prizes courtesy of the District 14 Grapevine committee!

The Magic Carpet Meeting

a Grapevine-based meeting

6:30 p.m. Tuesday – Room 204

Trinity United Methodist Church

For more information: Grapevine@AAAnflDistrict14.org

Carrying the Message

I am writing this as I am feeling really sad about the lack of dedication and attendance to the older groups in AA; they appear to be becoming deserted with less participation which is causing them to close. Our oldest meeting here in Gainesville (Downtown Meeting) is now only open one night per week. I remember when you could not even get a seat and when it was birthday night on the last Friday of the month there was a full house with lines outside the doors in the hallway and social gathering following. Now the 12:30 p.m. meeting (New Life Group) is getting sparse also and people are talking about either changing the meeting time or closing some of the meetings.

I am an old-timer and am trying to get to as many of these meetings as I can but we need help from other AA members because only one person cannot keep the room open.

I am grateful to the Triangle Club (where our meetings are being held) for their patience in continuing to let these meetings go on, but I realize they need to get rent fees so they can stay open also. I hope it will not come to this, so I am asking the members of AA not to let the old meetings die. AA meetings have saved my life and many others' lives, so come on AAer's, let's keep these meetings going to save more lives. Remember our Responsibility Code: If anyone, anywhere reaches out for help the hands of AA are always there.

~ Thank you and God bless, JH.

An Open Letter *(continued from Page 1)*

pain, than being on the other end of that line? You can be that person saving the individual from that too-familiar misery. Only you know how it is to be in the grip of alcohol! All you need to do is to commit two to three hours of your time per week.

If you would like to help us by joining the many volunteers who answer the telephone hotline or even join our telephone committee, call our office at 372-8091 day or night and let us know how you would like to help. Come see us on Tuesday, September 9 at 5 PM at the Intergroup office and see what we do at a committee meeting.

~ Telephone Committee

Say It on the *Grapevine*

Each month, *Grapevine* publishes stories on special topics as well many articles on other issues that relate to AA experience and reflects an awareness of AA's singleness of purpose. Some of the special topics for future issues are these . . .

March 2015: How I Found My Higher Power (*stories due by Sept 25, 2014*). Share your personal journey with Step Two. Did you struggle? Was it easy for you? What was your experience?

April 2015: Double-Digit Sobriety (*stories due by Nov 10, 2014*). Now that you're past early recovery, how is it going? What are some things you've learned along the way? What have been some of your growth opportunities? How has your life changed and what AA tools do you depend on most now? Share your experiences.

May 2015: Cooperation with Professionals (*stories due by Dec 1, 2014*). Stories by AA members who do service with Cooperation with Professionals. How did you get into this service? What are some things you've learned? Share your experience.

District 14

District Service Committee Meetings

District 14 Business Meeting

Second Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
Westminster Presbyterian Church
1521 NW 34th Street

Accessibilities and CPC/PI

No meetings scheduled.

Archives

First Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Triangle Club

Corrections

Third Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.
Triangle Club, Board Room

Grapevine

Second Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.
Trinity United Methodist Church, Room 204
4000 NW 53rd Avenue

Literature

*(None -- Service opportunity available
for volunteer Chairperson!)*

Phones (NCFI Committee)

Second Tuesday, 5:00 p.m., Intergroup Office

Treatment

First Monday, 6:30 p.m., Triangle Club

Visit the District 14 website at www.aanfldistrict14.org for more information.

7th Tradition Addresses



*Self-support: Where money and
spirituality mix.*

North Central Florida Intergroup

2632 NW 43rd Street, Suite 1182
Gainesville, FL 32606-7551
[Checks payable to: NCFI]

District 14

P.O. Box 357254
Gainesville, FL 32635-7254
[Checks payable to District 14]

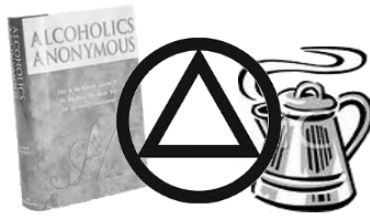
North Florida Area Assembly

P.O. Box 360831
Melbourne, FL 32936-0831
[Checks payable to NFAC]

General Services Office

P.O. Box 459, Grand Central
Station, NY, NY 10163
[Checks payable to GSO]

NCFI



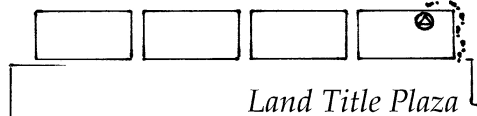
North Central Florida INTERGROUP

Our office is located in
Land Title Plaza

2632 NW 43rd Street, Suite 1182
 (Same office. New number on the door.)
 Gainesville, FL 32606-7551
 Telephone: 352-372-8091

Our office hours are:
 Monday - Friday: 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Sunday: Closed

Walk around the **BACK**
 of the building
 nearest the street.



NW 43rd Street
 (Bank of America)
 NW 25th Place

Meetings schedule

The *Where and When* is available at our office, and online at our website: www.northcentralflaa.org/wandw.html

P.O.S.T. Submissions

Send articles and anniversaries to: post@northcentralflaa.org or mail them to the NCFI office.

To add, change, or delete meetings listings,

please use "*Meetings Change Form*," also available at our office, and online at www.northcentralflaa.org/mtg-change/mtg-change-form-options.html, or follow the link from the Intergroup home page: www.northcentralflaa.org.

Our next monthly meeting

will be held on the last Sunday of the month, September 28th at 1:00 PM, in Schaffer Hall, 2505 NE 9th Street

The P.O.S.T. (and more) in Cyberspace

The *Power of Sober Thinking* can now be found online. You can find the current and past issues (back to January of 2014) at <http://www.northcentralflaa.org/d.post/post.html>.

Our home-page, <http://www.northcentralflaa.org>, has links to the *Where and When* (our schedule of meetings), notices of special events, and more.