

Staying in the Moment - Choosing a Peaceful Life!

For many of us, as alcoholism brutalized our lives, the idea of living with the collateral damage in our lives was unbearable and there seemed to be no way out of this murky mire. Miraculously we made it to the rooms of AA through no effort on our part only to be faced with another dilemma. The "tool kit" offered to the newcomer includes some shockingly novel concepts such as reliance on a Higher Power and living in the present.

The concept of being "present" in my own life seemed like a philosophy for simpletons- people who were mentally and intellectually incapable of micromanaging their future while analyzing the past. The slogans "just for today" and "one day at a time" seemed to confirm that I had joined a cult of mentally inferior people! I soon learned that most of my fellow AAs were actually highly intelligent lifeforms. Why would smart people (with similarly over-active minds) have such a party-line mentality? What could possibly be the advantage of living "right here, right now"?

Thank God for the steps like 4 and 5 which show me how much of my life is wasted on regrets of the past and fears of the future. Those two items alone have been responsible for almost all of the chaos, drama, and pain I have ever experienced. Steps 8 and 9 have purged me of the guilt, shame, and regret of the past. Steps 3, 7, and 11 get me an intimate relationship with a loving God of my understanding, a Higher Power who operates in this current place and time. If I choose to continue to be courageous and trust God, then the past and future are irrelevant. In exchange, my daily task is to simply be the very best steward of the gifts I find in my present extraordinary life. The result is a quiet mind and an open heart- a peace that each of us craved for a very long time!

Easier said than done? Not so. This is simply another example of where we (once again) surrender. I have to give up the illusions of control with the firm knowledge that worry or manipulating outcomes has never been productive, and that God really is in charge. I practice "relaxing" into the present, as a mere passenger in this wonderful experience we call life- I no longer drive the bus. I thank God and our program for the opportunity to be able to practice peace, and to live as a useful and positive force in this present moment.

~ Anonymous

Tradition 12

The Steps are HOW IT WORKS.
The Traditions are WHY IT WORKS.

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

This is unquestionably the one great Tradition of AA. It is the silent guardian of our quality of purpose and the true measure of our dedication to service. It permeates everything AA does, everything AA is. Future historians may judge us not by the number of drunks sobered up but as people who earnestly tried to make selflessness a part of everyday living in a material and cynical world.

.... In so living we may be making our greatest contribution to a distressed world. . .proving the truth of simple things. . .the Golden Rule. . .the uselessness of personal power and greed. . .the priceless compensations from serving for the sake of service. . .the incredible possibility that the meek shall, indeed, inherit the earth. Such may be the magnitude of AA anonymity! *~from Nov 1951 Grapevine*



Community News

This year's annual Gratitude Dinner, sponsored by Intergroup, took place on Saturday, November 11, at Holy Trinity Church. It was, as in the past, a resounding success. The event began at 4:30 with Fellowship which was followed by a hilarious and profitable Cake Auction. The atmosphere of conviviality prevailed through the delicious dinner and meeting that followed. The speaker delivered a great talk that all could identify with. The AA celebration for members and friends and would not have been what it was without the participation of dozens of members of our community who served as ticket sellers, decorators, food preparation, handlers and clean up. Kudos to all who helped with this event.

The Intergroup **Alkathon**, held at the **Triangle Club** will take place on **New Year's Eve, from noon on December 31st to noon on January 1st**. There will be continuous meetings, including the Club's regular meetings and meetings sponsored and chaired by many of the area groups. Coffee and refreshments will be available throughout. Flyer enclosed.

Intergroup will not hold its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, December 31st. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28th at Schaffer Hall at 1p.m. (2505 NE 9th Street).

12 Tips for a Sober Holiday

1. Line up extra AA activities (help on the phones, speak, etc).
2. Be host to friends, especially newcomers, at home or at a coffee shop.
3. Keep your AA telephone list with you at all times.
4. Find out about holiday meetings or celebrations in your local groups.
5. Skip any drinking occasions you're nervous about.
6. If there's one you can't skip, take an AA friend--or keep candy handy.
7. Don't think you have to stay late (plan an "important date" in advance).
8. Go to church. Any church. And don't forget about extra meetings.
9. Don't sit around brooding; catch up on reading, museums, walks, letters.
10. Don't project about holiday temptations: remember "One day at a time."
11. Even if you cannot give material gifts, enjoy the beauty of holiday love.
12. Carry the message. Give the joy away, and it will be yours to keep.



Happy Holidays

-- Adapted from Box 4-5-9, December 1989

Congratulations!



November Anniversaries

BOYB

D.M. - 4 yrs
Fr.S. - 27 yrs
J - 29 yrs
J - 1 yr
L - 31 yrs
M - 5 yrs

Eyeopener

L.F. - 5yrs
M.P. - 30yrs
M.C. - 1yr
W - 1yr

Downtown

S.C. - 3 yrs

Free to Be

CG - 1yr
K - 8yrs

Big Book Basics

M.D. - 3 yrs

Fourth Dimension

K.B. - 9 yrs
K.C. - 12 yrs
K.B. - 6 yrs

Gratitude Group

K.J. - 4 yrs
L.W. - 1 yr
T.S. - 22 yrs

Saturday Morning 10th/11th Step

L.F. - 5yrs
Ly.S. - 2yrs
M.D. - 3yrs
M.O. - 4yrs

Women's Serenity Seekers

C. H. - 4 yrs
L.S. - 2 yrs

New Freedom

(August)

G- 2 yrs
J - 3yrs
M - 7yrs

(September)

D.A. - 5yrs
G - 1yr
J - 1yr
J.P. - 36yrs
J - 1yr
M - 13yrs
D - 9yrs
J.G. - 36yrs
M - 9yrs
T.H. - 15yrs



December Birthdays?

Send them by Dec 15th to the Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org

DISTRICT 27

(Serving Dixie, Levy & Gilchrist Counties)

District 27 Business Meeting:

3rd Tuesday, 6:00 pm
St. Alban Episcopal Church
7550 NW 149th Place, Chiefland

District 27 Hotline:

(352) 949-2239

Contributions Address:

District 27 AA
PO Box 1257
Bronson, FL 32621

Website Address:

www.District27aa.org



NORTH CENTRAL INTERGROUP MINUTES

November 26, 2017

The meeting opened at 1pm with the Serenity Prayer. The representatives introduced themselves around the table.

After the minutes were read, Robin made a motion to accept as read with Murray seconding. Motion passed

There was no Treasurer's report due to not having the POST available.

POST: As usual, the POST is being very well put together by the volunteers who edit the articles. There is always an opportunity to send articles into the office.

The office is always well stocked with recovery items, books, jewelry, and other gift items. It's a great place to get things for your sponsee's Christmas.

Phone committee: The volunteer who works on the phone committee was not in attendance. M had a question regarding who she should turn the hotline over to since the person who was in that slot resigned. The open slot is Tuesday from 7-10pm. There were some other changes to the grid as follows; Friday 2-5pm (in office) is now Paul, and Thursday 2-5pm (in office) needs a volunteer. JVB is helping in that time slot for now.

Where and When: A new meeting has started on Wednesday at 4pm located at Spirit of Truth Church. Another new meeting has started on Saturday at 10pm located at University Lutheran Church. A member is trying to start another noon meeting on Saturdays in High Springs. The PPC has a new meeting on Saturday at 7pm, the meeting is about the Traditions and Concepts. None of these meetings are listed in the paper copy yet.

Activities: The Alkathon is scheduled from Sunday 12/31/17 11am thru 1/1/18 1pm at the Triangle Club. Along with the regular meetings at the club, the following groups are hosting meetings. Sunday, 12/31, 1-2pm, Saturday 10-11th Step; 2:30-3:30pm, By The Book; 4-5pm, Keystone Heights; 7-8pm, Gratitude; 10-11pm, Tuesday Nite Step Study; 11:30pm-12:30am, Promises; Monday, 1/1/18, 1-2am, Free to Be; 2:30-3:30am, Micanopy; 4-5am, 4th Dimension; 5:30-6:30am, Keystone; 8:30-9:30am, New Freedom; 10-11am, Good Morning God. FCYPAA is hosting a "popping tags" party at the Triangle Club on Dec 16th from 7pm to 1am.

Old Business: The annual Gratitude Dinner was a HUGE success. ♦ We asked for nominations for Treasurer, Secretary to replace the current people. J nominated P for treasurer. P accepted the nomination. There were no nominations for secretary, so a motion made by M and seconded by B to go to our groups to ask if anyone would like to stand for the positions and have the elections at the January meeting. Motion passed. ♦ The chair and alt chair will be coming up for elections in June. Start thinking about whether you would like to do that kind of service. ♦ We had a lengthy discussion regarding renewing or starting over the incorporation of Intergroup. A motion was made to start fresh beginning January. J made the motion and P seconded. Motion passed. ♦ M suggested having a lawyer on the board of directors. An executive committee was elected consisting of P as President, C as Vice-President, JF as Secretary. J made a motion to change the officers every three years, D seconded. Motion passed. It was suggested the board of directors report to the IG representatives regularly. ♦ F made a motion to get a new office manager which made J very happy. J seconded, motion passed 11 for, 4 against. S announced she has to step down from the Chair of IG position as of Dec 1. JVB stepped up to fill the position until the election in June '18. T made a motion for P to be interim office manager, which P declined. P made a motion to place F as interim office manager, J seconded, motion passed, F accepted the position. It was suggested to look at early elections at the January meeting. C made a motion to table discussing paying F until January, seconded by J. Motion passed. ♦ C made a motion to adjourn, seconded by F. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

Heard in a Meeting

I am responsible for the EFFORT,
but God's in CONTROL of the
OUTCOME!

Ask yourself 2 questions.....

1. Are you an Alcoholic?
2. Are you done Drinking?

If yes to both of these, then this IS YOUR BOTTOM.

7th Tradition Addresses

North Central Florida Intergroup

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

District 14

PO Box 357254
Gainesville, FL 32635-7254
(Checks payable to District 14)



North Florida Area Assembly

5703 Red Bug Lake Road, Unit 241
Winter Springs, FL 32708
(Checks payable to NFAC)

General Service Office

PO Box 459, Grand Central Station
NY, NY 10163
(Checks payable to GSO)

Self-support: Where money and spirituality mix!

Step 12

“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”

It is as difficult to describe a spiritual awakening as it would be to tell of a lovely flower by means of a logarithm. Sometimes, there are no words, only feeling.

But suddenly, I rejoiced that I was an alcoholic and that being so had brought me to AA. Deeply sorry for the harm done, I still know that if it had not been thus, even if I had never encountered alcohol, I would have lived and died like a vegetable, with never a glimpse of the incredible world of the spirit.

Until I can say and do no more, my prayer is to be allowed to tell all this good news to alcoholics and to others, by word, by action, by example. And this last way is the most effective of all.

In my drinking days, I was a seven-day, around-the-clock toper. Now I know that in the Twelve Steps and especially in the final phrase, "in all our affairs," I have something to fill each day of my life just as completely, around the clock.

All I need do is listen a little, read a little, do a little, and think a little. In all history, was there ever such a bargain?

-- B.C. Hull, Massachusetts, from August 1974 Grapevine



BILL W. and Dr. BOB

Upcoming topics:

January: "Turn it Over"
February: "Relation-slips"
March: "Procrastination"

Get published! Entry deadline is the 15th of each month. Send your topic articles, op-eds, opinions or cartoons to:
Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org

DISTRICT 14*Serving Alachua County***DCM Corner**

Hi everybody,

Well, the holiday season has begun and what a wonderful way to kick it off with Intergroup's annual **Gratitude Dinner!** Many thanks and kudos to **Intergroup** and to all the volunteers who gave their time to make this a wonderful event with delicious food, an entertaining cake auction, and an excellent speaker. The amount of work that goes into our annual events is truly phenomenal and we are very blessed to have such dedicated and talented individuals in our fellowship.

The holidays remind us of the importance of giving and of being of service to others. They can also be a time when we need to be extra diligent when it comes to our sobriety as there are many temptations and stressors that may be potential traps for us. Both clubhouses are hosting **Thanksgiving** and **Christmas** dinners and, on **New Year's Eve and New Year's Day**, we have our annual **Alcathon**, sponsored by Intergroup. Let us all remember we are here for one another and have places we can go and people we can be with when times get rough. This time of year, it is especially important to remember our responsibility pledge: "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And, for that, I am responsible." Let us make sure we show up and are there for that still sick and suffering alcoholic. It is especially important for us to honor any commitments we have made to take meetings into our treatment centers and corrections facilities. These are tough times for our brothers and sisters spending their holidays this way and they need us more than ever to be there for them. I will never forget the gratitude of the women at the county jail on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve a few years back when we showed up to take a meeting to them. It made my heart smile big!

Our monthly **District 14 meeting** is Wednesday, December 13th at 6 pm at *Westminster Presbyterian Church* and our next **Area Assembly** is January 12th through 14th at the *Wyndham Hotel* on SW 13th Street. All are welcome to attend. It is an honor to serve you! And, as always, please contact me with any questions or concerns.

In love and service,

Pati C, DCM for District 14, (352) 281-5751 qvillepati@cox.net

District 14 Service Committee Meetings

District 14 Business Meeting

2nd Wednesday, 6:00 pm

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Accessibilities

2nd Thursday, 6:00 pm

Books a Million (Newberry Rd)

Archives

1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Triangle Club

Corrections

3rd Tuesday, 6:00 pm

Triangle Club

CPC/PI

1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Triangle Club

Grapevine

TBD

Contact Lynn E at maggoblynn@gmail.com for information.

Literature

2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Intergroup Office

Phones (NCFI Committee)

2nd Tuesday, 5:00 pm

Intergroup Office

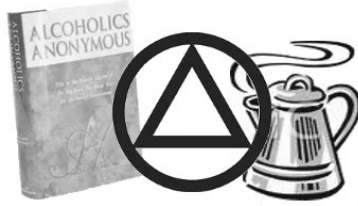
Treatment

1st Monday, 6:30 pm

Triangle Club

Visit our new District 14 website @
www.AAGainesville.org for more information!

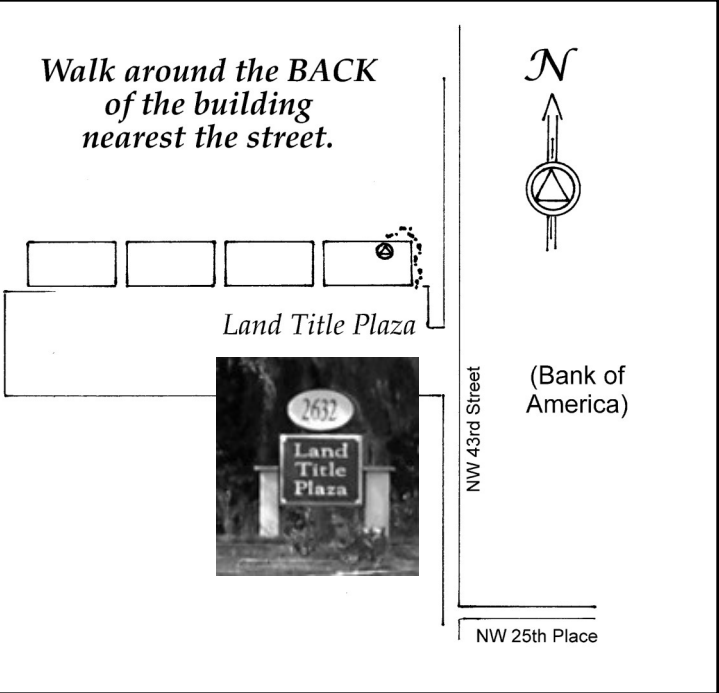
NCFI



North Central Florida Intergroup

Our office is located in
Land Title Plaza
 2632 NW 43rd Street, Suite 1182
 Gainesville, FL 32606-7551
 Telephone: 352-372-8091

Our office hours are:
 Monday - Friday: 2:00 - 5:00 pm
 Saturday: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Sunday: Closed



Meetings Schedule

The *Where & 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 meeting listings,

Please use "Meetings Change Form" available at our office and online at
<http://www.NorthCentralFLAA.org/d.mtg-change/mtg-change-form-options.html>
 Or follow the link from the Intergroup home page: www.NorthCentralFLAA.org

Our next Intergroup meeting
 will be held on the last
 Sunday of the month (except for Dec),
 January 28, 2018
 At 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:
<http://www.NorthCentralFLAA.org/d.post/post.html>
 Our home-page, <http://www.NorthCentralFLAA.org>
 has links to the Where and When and more.

Intergroup Treasurer's Report: September 2017

Sales	Current	Y.T.D.
Chips/Medallions	208.00	2,466.00
AA Literature	427.00	8,419.00
General merchandise	22.00	644.55
Miscellaneous		0.00
Sub-total Sales	657.00	11,529.55

Activities Revenues	Current	Y.T.D.
Picnic		0.00
Gratitude Dinner		0.00
Sub-total Activities	0.00	0.00

Group Contributions **276.00** **5,238.61**

Fund Balances

Checking @ 1st of mo.	2,922.12	2,922.12
Current deposits	974.00	
Current expenditures	3,156.34	24,876.57
Ending balance, checking		739.78
Savings/CDs 1st of mo.	6,191.07	
Current deposits		
Current withdrawals		
Interest earned		
Ending balance, savings & CDs	6,191.07	
Total cash on hand:	6,930.85	
General prudent reserve	5,076.17	
Reserve for Gratitude Dinner	1,114.90	
Operating funds available	739.78	

Cost of Sales	Current	Y.T.D.
Chips/Medallions	684.50	983.55
Literature	489.55	8,790.19
General merchandise		157.67
Miscellaneous		28.00
Sub-total Cost of Sales	1,174.05	9,959.41

Activities Expenses	Current	Y.T.D.
Hawthorne Picnic Donation		212.25
Gratitude Dinner		0.00
Alkathon		156.83
Phone Workshop		0.00
Other Workshop contributions		0.00
Sub-total Activities Expense	0.00	369.08

Office/Operating Expenses

Office Manager consultant fee	650.00	5,850.00
Insurance	510.12	510.12
IRS forms preparation		0.00
Taxes & Registration Fees	42.71	749.44
Corporate Annual Report fee		0.00
Office rent	190.00	1,610.00
Rent for monthly meeting		340.00
Telephone	147.02	1,330.72
Office supplies	128.94	534.01
Printing: POST	212.25	1,773.05
Printing: Phone volunteer packets		72.70
Printing & copying, general		405.13
Postage	101.25	797.98
Computer software		0.00
Computer: Website		331.93
Grapevine subscriptions		243.00
Bank charges & cash discrepancy		0.00
Sub-total Overhead Expenses	1,982.29	14,548.08



Contributions are credited for the month they are deposited, hence some contributions received may not be credited until next month