

# HOW DO I "TURN IT OVER"?

What exactly does that mean anyway? Many of us were bombarded with a number of slogans upon our arrival to AA. Among the most mysterious was this "turning it over" business. I could only assume that it was related to the "let go and let God" thing. Nobody could give me good directions on what that process would look like. Kind of sounded like "quit thinking about it" or "stop worrying".

It was almost as if my more experienced brethren had a calloused lack of compassion for my many, many fears and concerns. Didn't they realize that my problems were real emergencies? There were bills to pay, people to avoid, licenses to keep, deadlines to observe, jobs to salvage, family members to manipulate....oh what unique situations! They simply did not understand! Each of our steps and every part of our recovery seems to center around the concept of surrender and the humility with which to do it. Willfulness vs willingness seems to be the battle, and for me it has been a long painful journey. Some of us have to be beaten into submission while others just get tired of the fight. Either way, we are all looking for a peacefully open heart and a quiet mind. On the other hand, getting "my own way" is a whole lot of work and often has bad results!

Living life on life's terms is pretty easy now that I actually TRUST my higher power. Oh yes, I would formerly tell you that I believed in God and had "faith", but then I would constantly struggle to get my own way. The key is the willingness to be vulnerable and to "go with the Flow", let life happen. Now, I simply do the next right thing and then take my hands off the results. Our dear departed Dorothy P. from the Eyeopener group often used the expression "you don't have to like it, but you DO have to accept it".

The most ironic part is that most of us struggle so very long to have that illusion of control only to find that, in life, there is very little control over anything (oh, that's right, we are powerless). Step 1 (part B) suggests that I have not had good management skills running my own life. Turning it over (letting go and letting God) is not only inevitable but absolutely necessary for a peaceful and useful sober life. After all, I've made the commitment in step three to turn my will and my life over to the CARE of God.....

~ Anonymous

## Tradition 1

The Steps are HOW IT WORKS.

The Traditions are WHY IT WORKS.

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

*"Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward." ...*

...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 substantial unity there can be no A.A., and that without A.A. there can be little lasting recovery for anyone. We gladly set aside personal ambitions whenever these might harm A.A. We humbly confess that we are but "a small part of a great whole."

Bill W. The A.A. Grapevine, December, 1947

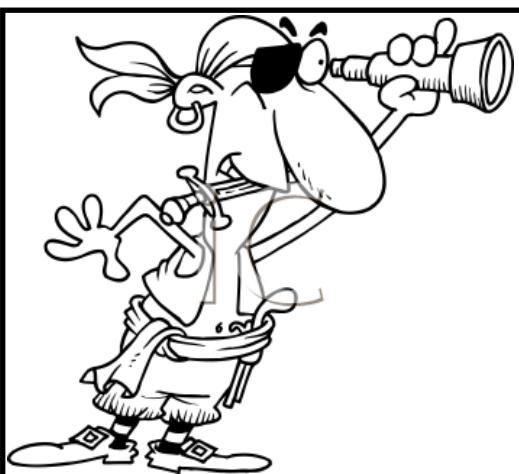


# Community News

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Soberstock will take place Friday through Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, at Camp Brorein, 16901 Boy Scout Rd., Odessa, FL. Family and friends of AA, Alateen and Alanon are welcome to come and enjoy speaker's, meetings, bands, food and fellowship. For more information: [www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com), or see flyers at the Intergroup Office.

The monthly Intergroup Meeting, held at Scheffer Hall on the last Sunday of the month is cancelled for December since the date falls on New Year's Eve.

After January 1<sup>st</sup>, J.M. will no longer be the Intergroup Office Manager.



Looking for **WRITERS**, *ARTISTS*,  
and other 'appropriate'  
content for the **POST!**

It's a **NEW** Year and we need **YOU!**  
Submit articles, comics, etc to  
[Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org](mailto:Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org)

## Everyone's Got One... **O P I N I O N**

Some AA practices are new to me. This is good! New AA experience helps me learn and grow. Even so, I've bumped into something new to me in AA which, in my experience, seems a bit risky. I also take seriously the GSR's responsibility to be "a guardian of AA Traditions", even though it's been quite some time since I served as a GSR (General Service Representative). Having discussed this 'new' topic with some experienced AA's, though, I decided to write this article.

I was taught to commit to one home group, and have no experience with multiple home groups. This isn't bad or wrong. Rather, in my experience, some elements of having multiple home groups have the potential to be damaging.

As you know, votes that affect other groups and AA as a whole are usually brought to the groups by Intergroup Rep's and GSR's. If an AA member has two or more home groups, this member might unknowingly vote in two or more home groups, too. What concerns me is that doing so would oppose AA's democratic foundation of one AA, one vote.

"The AA Group" pamphlet states: *"With membership comes the right to vote upon issues that might affect the group and might also affect A.A. as a whole—a process that forms the very cornerstone of A.A.'s service structure. As with all group-conscience matters, each A.A. member has one vote; and this, ideally, is voiced through the home group."*

~K.M. Gainesville FL

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# Congratulations!



December  
Anniversaries

**BYOB**

B - 2yrs

**Eyeopener**

A - 2yrs  
D.B - 6yrs  
J - 3yrs  
J - 13yrs  
L - 10yrs

**Downtown**

E.B - 8 yrs

**Free To Be**

D.N - 11yrs  
L.T - 1yrs  
M.A - 28yrs  
M.S - 1yr

**Gratitude Group**

Big D.H - 35yrs  
K.C.T - 2 yrs  
S.C - 1yr  
T.C - 10 yrs

**New Freedom**

R.M - 16 yrs

**Women's Serenity Seekers**

A.R - 3 yrs  
C.V - 2 yrs  
L.D - 1yr  
R.G - 1 yr

**Women's Step Study**

D.C - 5  
S.S - 37

**January Birthdays?**  
Send them by  
January 15th  
to the  
[Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org](mailto:Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org)



## Heard in a Meeting...

*We are not united by Alcoholism, but by RECOVERY.*

{ Faith is not Belief without Proof,  
But Trust without Reservation. }

**Happiness is an  
INSIDE JOB!!**

### **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](http://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, R made a motion to accept as read with M 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 PBI, and Thursday 2-5pm (in office) needs a volunteer. JiVB 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 10-11<sup>th</sup> 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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 PB for treasurer. PB 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 PB seconded. Motion passed.

MB suggested having a lawyer on the board of directors. An executive committee was elected consisting of PB as President, C as Vice-President, JF as Secretary. JF 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.

FS made a motion to get a new office manager which Jay made JM very happy. J seconded, motion passed 11 for, 4 against. SR 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. Ted made a motion for PB to be interim office manager, which PB declined. PB made a motion to place FS as interim office manager, JF seconded, motion passed, FS accepted the position. It was suggested to look at early elections at the January meeting. C made a motion to table discussing paying FS until January, seconded by JF. Motion passed.

C made a motion to adjourn, seconded by FS Passed. 

Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

# 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 1 *"We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable."*

***Yes and no are two of the most important words that one will ever say. How and when you say them affects your entire life.***

That first step I took in faith was more powerful than a thousand miles in doubt. I was able to dream and pursue those dreams that God helped me create. The dreams that I carried inside of me were a source of power and incentive. They created hope and without hope we are nothing. What has happened in the past is just that--the past! What I should have done about certain issues no longer matters. What I do now is of greatest concern. Therefore, I am indeed happy that this Fellowship found me, brought me to this fold, nurtured me and showed me this new way of life that I am still living today after 33 years.

-- PK.Williamsville, Trinidad, W.I.

Found in the June 2010 Grapevine "Able To Dream"



**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**

Happy Holidays everyone!

The holidays are upon us...a time of giving and sharing with those around us. Let us remember not to limit it to just those we love. It is also for those we have only just met and for those who are not as fortunate as we are. Our responsibility pledge reminds us to be ready to reach out to our fellow alcoholics in need – anytime, anywhere. So let us all be extra diligent this holiday season and practice being of service to others

For those coming into the rooms for the first time...I remember how confused and afraid I was! Then someone came over, smiled and said hello and suddenly I wasn't as frightened. Perhaps they're coming back from a relapse. Many of us have experienced that and how difficult it is to come back into the rooms. The guilt and shame can be overwhelming. My own pride kept me out for 10 years before I would eventually crawl back into the rooms.

Bill W. writes, "Our Twelfth Step – carrying the message – is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principle aim and the main reason for our existence." We can offer to pick them up and bring them to a meeting or a holiday party or offer to meet them there. It takes so little effort on our part but can make all the difference to that one alcoholic who is at the turning point. And for that person sitting alone in the meeting, maybe reach out with some gentle words of encouragement. Introduce them to a couple of friends and help them to "feel a part of." Maybe they're here for the holidays and really needing a meeting and a friend! Try to arrive a little early if you can, or stay a little later and put out that extra effort to make our brothers and sisters feel welcomed and safe. Anyone can be of service. It's about sharing the grace we have been given.

Our monthly **District 14 meeting** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday every month at 6 pm at *Westminster Presbyterian Church* and our next **Area Assembly** is January 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> at the *Wyndham Hotel* on SW 13<sup>th</sup> Street. We would love to see you there!

May you all have a very blessed holiday season filled with peace and joy. I look forward to seeing you and being of service to you in the new year!

*In love and service, Pati C, DCM for District 14, (352) 281-5751 [gvillepati@cox.net](mailto:gvillepati@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](mailto:maggoblynn@gmail.com) for information.

## Literature

2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Intergroup Office

## Phones (NCFI Committee)

2nd Tuesday, 5:00 pm

Intergroup Office

## Treatment

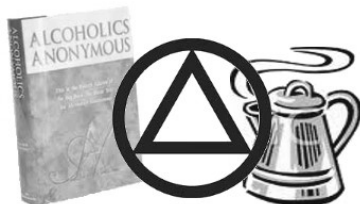
1st Monday, 6:30 pm

Triangle Club

Visit our new District 14 website @  
[www.AAGainesville.org](http://www.AAGainesville.org) for more information!



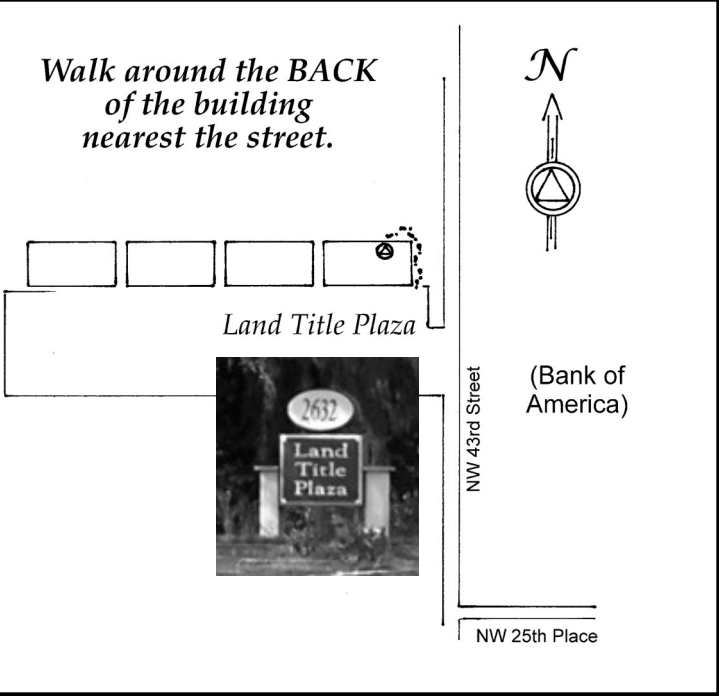
# NCFI



# 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](http://www.NorthCentralFLAA.org/wandw.html)

## P.O.S.T Submissions

Send articles and anniversaries to:  
[Post@NorthCentralFLAA.org](mailto: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](http://www.NorthCentralFLAA.org)

**Our next Intergroup meeting**

will be held on the last  
 Sunday of the month:  
 January 28, 2018 @ 1:00  
 At Schaffer Hall (2505 NE 9<sup>th</sup> 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: November 2017

<b>Sales</b>			<b>Cost of Sales</b>		
	<b>Current</b>	<b>Y.T.D.</b>		<b>Current</b>	<b>Y.T.D.</b>
Chips/Medallions	397.00	2,973.00	Chips/Medallions		1,378.67
AA Literature	778.00	9,742.00	Literature		8,790.19
General merchandise	17.00	690.55	General merchandise		157.67
Miscellaneous		0.00	Miscellaneous		28.00
<b>Sub-total Sales</b>	<b>1,192.00</b>	<b>13,405.55</b>	<b>Sub-total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10,354.53</b>
<b>Activities Revenues</b>			<b>Activities Expenses</b>		
Picnic		0.00	Hawthorne Picnic Donation		212.25
Gratitude Dinner	6,470.84	8,405.84	Gratitude Dinner	910.61	910.61
<b>Sub-total Activities</b>	<b>6,470.84</b>	<b>8,405.84</b>	Alkathon		156.83
			Phone Workshop		0.00
<b>Group Contributions</b>	<b>714.21</b>	<b>8,899.60</b>	Other Workshop contributions		0.00
			<b>Sub-total Activities Expense</b>	<b>910.61</b>	<b>1,279.69</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>			<b>Office/Operating Expenses</b>		
Checking @ 1st of mo.	3,492.30	3,492.30	Office Manager consultant fee	650.00	7,150.00
Current deposits	8,264.84	26,440.38	Insurance		510.12
Current expenditures	2,333.78	29,026.49	IRS forms preparation		0.00
Ending balance, checking		9,423.36	Taxes & Registration Fees	77.48	871.38
Savings/CDs 1st of mo.	6,193.23	6,193.23	Corporate Annual Report fee		0.00
Current deposits			Office rent	190.00	1,990.00
Current withdrawals			Rent for monthly meeting		340.00
Interest earned	2.09	23.68	Telephone	166.84	1,657.58
Ending balance, savings & CDs		6,195.32	Office supplies	38.09	646.92
<b>Total cash on hand:</b>		<b>15,618.68</b>	Printing: POST	226.50	2,176.05
General prudent reserve		5,080.42	Printing: Phone volunteer packets		72.70
Reserve for Gratitude Dinner		1,114.90	Printing & copying, general		454.13
<b>Operating funds available</b>		<b>9,423.36</b>	Postage	74.26	948.46
			Computer software		0.00
			Computer: Website		331.93
			Grapevine subscriptions		243.00
			Bank charges & cash discrepancy		0.00
			<b>Sub-total Overhead Expenses</b>	<b>1,423.17</b>	<b>17,392.27</b>



Gratitude Dinner Cake Auction : \$2,965.00



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