

The Rallying Point



We often come into the rooms of A.A. broken, spiritually bankrupt and in desperate need for a solution to our unmanageable life. What we find, if we are willing, open-minded, honest, and if we keep coming back is a solution that works, not just for our drinking problem and its related unmanageability, but in all areas of life. For the newcomer it's often easy to recognize their powerlessness to alcohol or the insanity of the alcoholic existence (step 1). What can be more difficult is coming to believe that they can be restored to sanity by faith in a higher power and the steps of A.A (step 2). This common solution, a faith in a power greater than ourselves, which works 24 hours day (its must or else we drink, and to drink is to die), is the glue that binds members of the Gainesville AA community together.

"We are like the passenger of a great liner the moment after rescue from shipwreck when camaraderie, joyousness and democracy pervade the vessel from steerage to captain's table" (BB p. 17). When this was written originally, long-distance ship transportation was much more common; now we mostly use airplanes. The cheapest seats on the ship were in the bottom of the boat (steerage), kind of like sitting in the back of the airplane next to the bathrooms. Conversely, the most-exclusive opportunity for ship passengers was being invited to eat with captain at his table, which is kind of like being able to visit one of those private airport lounges with all you can eat buffets and free amenities. The point is that regardless of your background, socioeconomic status, or any other personal attributes, you are welcome in AA. The AA solution, sobriety by the grace of a higher power and a spiritual experience as a result of doing the 12 steps, has worked for countless people. It is this common solution, that despite our differences, brings us together

In the 12&12, step 2 is referred to as the rallying point: "Whether agnostic, atheist or former believer, we can stand together on this step" (p. 33). It does not matter how you come to believe in step 2. Most of us have taken a round-about journey, wrought with loneliness, pain and suffering. Some of us thought we had faith, but it became

apparent that we needed a faith that worked in good times and bad. Others of us were close-minded, even militant in our rejection of belief in a power greater than ourself. Mostly all of us, once we'd had enough to drink, could see we had to quit play God ourselves. Regardless, when we came to AA, we took an honest appraisal of ourselves, swallowed some inconvenient truths about ourselves, realized our right standing in the universe as one of God's kids, and began to change our hearts and minds, the miracle began. Therefore, let us band together in fellowship as members of AA, in acknowledgement and worship of the power which pulls chronic alcoholics back from the gates of death. Let us rally together to share this message with those still afflicted by alcoholic torture and suffering: that God could and would relieve our alcoholism if He we were sought.

Many members of AA who have recovered, can confidently tell the newcomer: "Yes, this sounds like a lofty ideal and may be scary, but in my experience the door I had to pass through was much wider than I thought. What's required is action (the steps) along with willingness, honesty, and open-mindedness. The results are up to your higher power". And nobody has to do it alone; We rally together! Thank God for recovery and for the hand of AA.

-A grateful member of the Gainesville AA community

Volunteers Needed for Important AA Service - Please Help!

There are SIX shifts open on the relay that answers the phones for AA in Gainesville and surrounding areas 24/7. If you are willing to take a shift answering the phones (in your home) please call Sue for further information at 352-301-0354. The shifts are easy as we receive few calls, but this service is very important. Sue will orient and support you if you volunteer. Thank you!

COMMUNITY NEWS



- ◆ The A.A. Hotline and Intergroup received 38 calls in February
- ◆ Founders Day is in Akron, Ohio June 10th, 11th & 12th. Go to akronaa.org for more information
- ◆ Matthew C. is Intergroup's new Chairperson - Thanks Matthew!
- ◆ Any upcoming events can be sent to the post@aagainesville.org
- ◆ Looking to get a Fairway Fellowship together. Contact Fred 386-628-2541
- ◆ The Founders Day planning committee needs your help! Please contact Greg N. for more information: regnorman5@aol.co.com or 352.283.2648.
- ◆ Suggestions or Comments for Intergroup ? Send them to gainesville.intergroup@gmail.com
- ◆ The website is still being worked on. Thanks to Nyree and William for the transition in progress.

Tradition 4

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

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."

Tradition Four Checklist

1. Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?
2. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
3. Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
4. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths--his lengths, not mine--to stay sober?

HEARD IN A MEETING:

"The big things felt like little things, and the little things felt like big things."

March Birthdays

Everything or Nothing

MH – 1 yr

MC – 1 yr

DA – 33 yrs

Women's Step Study

EW – 8 yrs

Tuesday Night Step Study

JW - 39 yrs

Eye Opener

PA Jr. – 19 yrs

Women's Serenity Seekers

CW – 31 yrs

SM – 4 yrs

DM – 33 yrs

AD – 9 yrs

CC – 5 yrs (Feb)

ST – 10 yrs (Feb)

The greatest
gift
of all
is to
become
the
blessing.
– Ann Voskamp

Wholesale Miracle

JW – 7 yrs

Gratitude Group

LK – 12 yrs

**April Birthdays?
Send them by Apr 12th to
POST@AAGainesville.org**



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

PO Box 226

DeLeon Springs, FL 32130

(Checks payable to NFAC)

General Service Office

PO Box 2407

James A. Farley Station

NY, NY 10116

(Checks payable to GSO)

Step 4 *"Made a searching and fearless inventory of ourselves."*

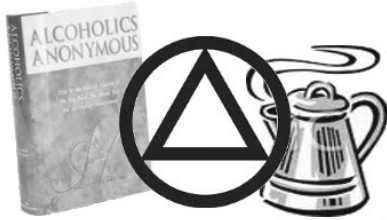
We are told the principle behind Step 4 is courage. It takes courage to take a long hard look at one's self and then to reveal these findings to another person in step 5, however, I am convinced that the steps were born out of God's perfect love for us, and if I truly love myself, the way God loves me, then how could I ever wish to hold on to these patterns of thinking and behavior that are causing pain and strife to myself and those about me? It is in step 4 that I first start to feel a part of AA. Up until this point, I've learned more about the disease I have, and have come to believe in the futility of the way of life as I had been living it. I've made the biggest decision of my life in step 3 (and they say no big changes in the first year..ha!), but I have yet to do any actual work until my pen hits the paper and I begin to make my grudge list. Please let me make this crystal clear: The purpose of this step is not to beat ourselves up. This is not a list of how horrible we are. It is an objective view of what is in our hearts that drives us, and the making of the list needs no emotion attached to it.

I'm a big advocate in keeping the steps as simple as possible. Dr. Bob said "let's not louse this thing up with Freudian complexes." Besides, the steps were written by drunks for drunks, how complicated could they be? You will want to be as thorough as possible, but do not worry if you leave anything out, it can always be inventoried at a later date. The importance though is that we do not procrastinate or postpone this step. If you are as honest and thorough as possible, the book says certain things will come true for you in the 5th step promises. These came true for me, and I can't wait for you to experience them! What are you waiting for? Remember, we agreed to go to any length, and alcohol is a subtle foe! -BE



"transitioning from knowing better to consistently doing better is a journey in itself." -anonymous





North Central Florida Intergroup

Our office is located at:

Land Title Plaza

2632 NW 43rd Street
Building 1000, around back at suite 1182
Gainesville, FL 32606-7551
Telephone: 352-372-8091

Office hours:

Monday - Wednesday: 2:00 - 5:00 pm
Thursday - Friday: 12:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Sunday: Closed



POST Submissions

Send articles and anniversaries to Post@AAGainesville.org or mail them to the NCFI office no later than the 12th of each month.

Activities Submissions

Send information for all activities in the AA community to Activities@AAGainesville.org. If you want them to be announced in the POST, they must be submitted by no later than the 12th of the month.

Intergroup

Questions about AA in North Central Florida or to order large quantities of literature please contact office.manager@AAGainesville.org with requests.

Check out our website at
www.AAGainesville.org

Our next Intergroup meeting
will be held on the last
Sunday of the month:
April 24th @ 1:00



Intergroup Chairperson's Corner

Hello everyone,

I hope you're all well. I would like to take a moment to thank and congratulate our friend Mark R for stepping up as our newly appointed Intergroup Alternate Treasurer. Thank you for your service! I would also like to thank our committee for your confidence and vote to appoint me as our Intergroup Chairperson. I will do my best to serve. We currently have an Intergroup Alternate Chair service position open. The requirements and duties are listed in our AAGainesville.org website under the about tab in the menu. If you are interested, or know someone who is, be sure to come on by our next Intergroup meeting on the last Sunday of every month at 1:00 pm at the Triangle Club. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Matthew C
MatthewC.IntergroupChair@outlook.com
(352) 682-6728

Thanks to the following 4 Groups and Individuals who sent in a donation to Intergroup in Feb. 2022

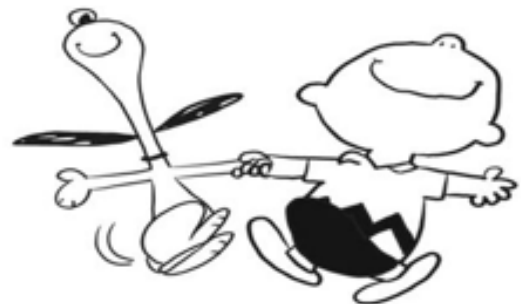
Individuals \$56.24
Fresh Start \$15.00
Pamphlet Palooza \$40.00
Peaceseekers \$50.00
\$161.24

Support
 your Home
 Group

Intergroup Accepts Contributions via Cash
Checks made out to NCFI,
PayPal, *gainesville.intergroup*
Venmo, *Billw1935*



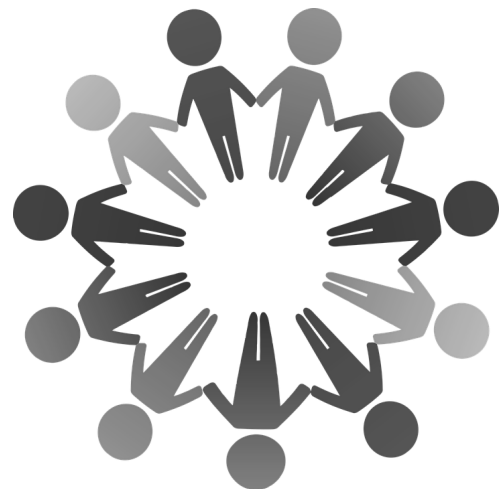
WHAT IF TODAY, WE WERE JUST GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING?



In November 1957, Bill wrote a Grapevine article entitled “Respecting Money,” in which he juxtaposed outside contributions and self-support: “Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with a responsibility—one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and our bills paid.”

Intergroup Treasurer's Report: February 2022

Sales	Current	Y.T.D.	Purchases	Current	Y.T.D.
A.A. Literature & Misc.	522.80	1,648.65	A.A. Literature & Misc.	758.85	2,074.94
Chips	55.50	157.50	Chips	0.00	0.00
Medallions	85.00	202.50	Medallions	0.00	241.86
Where and Whens	84.75	129.00	Where and Whens	337.50	337.50
Total Sales	748.05	2,137.65	Total Purchases	1,096.35	2,654.30
Sales Tax Collected	52.44	136.00			
Activities Revenues			Activities Expenses		
Gratitude Dinner Cake Auction	0.00	0.00	Alkathon	0.00	0.00
Gratitude Dinner Contributions	0.00	0.00	Gratitude Dinner	0.00	0.00
Gratitude Dinner 50/50 Raffle	0.00	0.00	Hawthorne Picnic Donation	0.00	0.00
Gratitude Dinner Tickets	0.00	0.00	Phone Workshop	0.00	0.00
Total Activities Revenues	0.00	0.00	Total Activities Expenses	0.00	0.00
Contributions			Committee Expenses		
Faithful Fivers and Tanners	89.00	183.00	Phone Committee	0.00	0.00
Group Contributions	161.24	2,787.79	Steering Committee	0.00	0.00
Total Contributions	250.24	2,970.79	The Post	0.00	0.00
 			Website Committee	0.00	0.00
Overhead Expenses			Total Committee Expenses	0.00	0.00
Annual Corp Filing Fee	0.00	61.25			
Insurance	0.00	0.00	Fund Balance		
Intergroup's Monthly Meeting	32.98	62.46	Checking		
Internet	71.17	142.34	Checking @ 1st of Mo.	6,243.16	
Office Expenses	34.47	62.72	Current Deposits	1,050.73	
Office Rent	190.00	380.00	Current Expenditures	2,497.26	
Office Manager Salary	675.00	1,350.00	Transfer to Off. Res. Avail.	0.00	
Paypal & Square Fees	15.27	36.24	Ending Balance, Checking		4,796.63
Payroll Taxes	0.00	0.00			
Postage	14.32	26.08			
Printing: Other	0.00	0.00			
Printing: Phone Volunteer Packets	0.00	0.00			
Printing: POST	113.90	227.80			
State Sales Tax	81.41	194.72			
Telephone	172.39	345.88			
Total Overhead Expenses	1,400.91	2,889.49			
Reserves					
Ending Balance, Grat. Din. Res.		3,500.00			
Office Reserve Available		10,000.00			
Office Reserve in CD's		4,836.72			



“Be strong enough to stand alone, smart enough to know
when you need help, and brave enough to ask for it.”

- Ziad K. Abdelnour

**NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA INTERGROUP MONTHLY HYBRID MEETING
AT THE TRIANGLE CLUB & ON ZOOM
FEBRUARY 27, 2022 MINUTES**

Opening – MC, Alt Chair, opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer at 1:00 PM.

In Attendance (22 Live; 5 Zoom*) MC (Alt Chair), PB (Treasurer); MR (Alt Treasurer); DK (Secretary); FS (I/G Office Mgr); SS, in absentia (Phone Committee); and TS. (P.O.S.T.). **I/G Board members:** AO (Wholesale Miracle) and BB. **District 14 (D14):** TD. (DCM). **IG Reps/Alts:** AW (Vulnerable Warriors Student Group); AW (Happy Hour); CW (Fourth Dimension); CH (Solutions); GAH* (Gratitude Group); GN (Downtown Group); JR (Free to Be); JH* (New Life); JS (Fresh Start Beginners); MA (Everything or Nothing); NF* (Kanapaha Open Discussion); PC (Women’s Serenity Seekers); SS (New Freedom). **Guests:** BK*; JH*; MB. and MJ.

Chair Report – MC: No report

Alt I/G Chair Report – Position vacant: No report.

Secretary Report – DK: There were no corrections to the January 30, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion to accept by JR. 2nd by JS. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report – FS. reported in PB’s absence. He reviewed the December report on page 7 of the February POST. Totals for 2021 were presented. Revenues exceeded expenses by \$2,647. Contributions totaled \$12,852, an all-time record! Motion to accept by CH. 2nd by GN. Passed unanimously.

Phone Committee – MC read SS’s report: There are four hotline volunteer openings. The hotline instruction manual is being updated, as is the 12th Step list of members willing to talk to callers referred by hotline volunteers. Members should have at least 6 months of sobriety. To volunteer or for more info, call SS. at 352.301.0354.

P.O.S.T. – TS: All is simpatico

Intergroup Office - FS: The latest “Where and When” is now available at cost, or \$0.75 each. There are service opportunities available. The office is fully stocked.

Website – NL: No report. AW. reported his group, Vulnerable Warriors Student Group, suggested that the “Open Meetings Only” list be omitted from the website. They appreciate that it is intended to steer non-alcoholic guests and observers away from closed meetings, but they’ve received feedback from newcomers who found two lists confusing. Further, they point out the original list that includes both open and closed meetings is sufficient for all to use because both types of meetings are defined in a legend.

A long discussion ensued. DK suggested the topic be tabled until the March meeting so IR’s can consult with their groups. MC stated he would bring it up in March under Old Business.

Activities Committee: No report

D14 DCM Report – TD 1) “Dogs with the Delegate. Chips with the Chair,” is a joint picnic with District 7 (Sumter Co) scheduled for March 13th, from 1 - 4 PM, at Veterans Memorial Park, Pavilion 2 in Gainesville. Please bring a side dish or dessert for a chance to win great prizes. The pre-Conference Report will be summarized at 2:00. Q &A starts at 3PM. Flyers were provided and are on last page of the current P.O.S.T.; **2) The next Area Assembly is April 8 – 10;** **3) Two D14 positions are open:** Alt DCM and Treatment Committee Chair; and **4) Talks of reviving the D14 Service Fair** are in motion. It will probably occur in August or September, and will be held indoors. All interested in planning this important and fun event should contact Tobi at tobi@rejuvenada.com.

Old Business – None

New Business – 1) GN nominated MC for the open Chair position; 2nd by AW. Passed unanimously. **2)** Three discussion items were tabled until the next meeting: Updating the NCFI Board of Directors and the current bank signature cards; voting on who will fill the position of Alt Chair; and whether to continue the option for remote attendance at monthly meetings. **3)** FS announced he will draft a message to the Triangle Club President regarding COVID restrictions as they are posted on the NCFI website.

BF moved to **adjourn** the meeting; 2nd by GN. Passed unanimously.

MC closed the meeting at 1:30 PM with the Responsibility Declaration.

District 14 Business Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2022

Meeting called to order – 6:31 pm.

In Attendance:

Officers: TD.- DCM; AR- Secretary (also GSR 10th and 11th Step Group)

Committee Chairs: BB.-Corrections; BF.- Literature; JT.- Accessibilities, GN.- Archives (Shirley has stepped down)

Intergroup Reps: MC, Chair.- (also GSR, Fourth Dimension)

GSRs/Alts: MR.- Tues. Night Step Study; GM.- New Freedom; MR.- Tuesday Night Step Study; SG.- Survivors; LM.-Free to Be; DG.- Gratitude; BM.- Eye Opener; DH.- Downtown; JS.- Fresh Start Beginners

Minutes of December meeting: Accepted as corrected (JT. not present, GM. was present, Dogs with Delegates date corrected to 3/13/22)

Treasurer's report: TD explained clarified room expenses, \$250.00 allotted for Website.

Alt DCM's Report

None

Area Assembly: TD reported an issue with COVID-19 exposure. Refer to online reports.

Area will host in Maitland, BE. general manager.

Budget is in the black. State Assembly Ft. Lauderdale 2022, Jacksonville 2023

New newsletter by Area Chair Laurie, subscribe on line, deadline for naming newsletter 2/18/22

DCM calls for Service Committee Reports:

Accessibilities – JT.- slow progress attracting new members

Archives- GN. stated that Shirley stepped down as Chair and has not been replaced.

Last Saturday of the month will be a workday at Triangle Club 10 AM for inventory.

Founders' Day- MH. Will be kitchen manager and GSO will have a skit. Donations need to be specified for Founders' Day

Corrections – BB.- Jail and Work Release Program shut down due to COVID. Lancaster is still active. New members are welcome to attend mtg. Remember there is process to complete to become approved to volunteer in the Jail, so please attend and get started!

CPC / PI – no report.

Grapevine – JW. sent report and will have a table at the upcoming event

Literature – BF- 4 members now and alt. chair, bought portable table for display at meetings that is easy to set up

Treatment – SD. resigned but will coordinate with new chair. There are two active groups, facilities have been shut down due to COVID-19

Website – Chair not present

Intergroup: Matthew stated that they are reviewing the manual for 12 step calls and preparing a new list of those willing to take calls (6 month sobriety requirement). Check Website. Group has new Treasurer.

Old business-

Tobi discussed the upcoming "Dogs with the Delegate" scheduled for Sunday 3/13/22. Fliers were passed out and the structure of the Event was discussed. District 7 (Sumpter County) will share cost. Committee will meet 2:30 PM at Veteran's Memorial Park Pavilion 2 Sunday 2/27/22. People were encouraged to distribute fliers at meetings they attend and get RSVP, remind people to bring side dishes.

New business-

The District needs a new Alternate DCM/Treatment Committee Chair and volunteers. Greg may have candidate.

Will vote on FY 22-23 Budget next month and bring to groups.

April Assembly will be in Maitland.

Adjourned with Responsibility Pledge 7:23 PM

Respectfully Submitted: AR., Secretary.

District 14

Treasurer Report March 2022 Meeting

Report on February Financial Activity Fiscal Year April 2021-March 2022

	Amount	Year to Date
Opening Bank Balance	\$ 15,396.81	
Group and Individual Contributions	\$ 727.67	
Committee Expenses	\$ (16.05)	
D14 Expenses	\$ (16.00)	
Unauthorized Withdrawal reported to bank	\$ (818.65)	\$ -
Earned Interest	\$ 1.18	
Total Expenses	\$ (850.70)	\$ -
Closing Bank Balance	\$ 15,274.96	
Money Held in Reserve:		
<i>Founders Day Reserve for 2022</i>	\$ 452.50	
<i>Service Fair - Reserve for 2022</i>	\$ 300.00	
<i>Prudent Reserve</i>	\$ 5,000.00	
Operating Cash (bank balance minus reserves)	\$ 9,522.46	

*Note - Please indicate Group Name or Number on Contributions

2021 -2022 District & Committee Expenses

	Previous Month Spent	Year to Date Spent	Annual Budget	Remaining Budget Avail.
D14-Rent/PO Box/PayPal	\$ (16.00)	\$ (235.70)	\$ 725.00	\$ 489.30
D14 Sponsored Events/Area	\$ -	\$ (560.40)	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,839.60
Accessibilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Archives	\$ -	\$ (300.00)	\$ 550.00	\$ 250.00
Corrections	\$ -	\$ (768.92)	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 831.08
CPC/PI	\$ (16.05)	\$ (16.05)	\$ 750.00	\$ 733.95
Grapevine	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Literature	\$ -	\$ (127.98)	\$ 200.00	\$ 72.02
Treatment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Website	\$ -	\$ (76.56)	\$ 250.00	\$ 173.44
Total	\$ (32.05)	\$ (2,085.61)	\$ 8,375.00	\$ 6,289.39

Breakdown of Month Expenses

District 14 - general expense	Meeting Room Rent	\$ (16.00)
Intergroup	CPC/PI (Dec Invoice)	\$ (16.05)
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
		\$ -
Total Expenditures		\$ (32.05)

DCM'S CORNER

Our district and District 7 from Sumter County hosted the Dogs with the Delegate, Chips with the Chair picnic on Sunday, March 13, 2022 at the Veteran's Memorial Park, Pavilion 2, and it was fabulous! It was so great to be out and around people again! There was plenty of good food and good fellowship, and we also got to hear our Delegate, Ruth, give her Pre-Conference Report. A great time was had by all.

Keep an eye out for future workshops. If your group has a topic that would be good for our District to address in a workshop, please ask your GSR to come to the District business meeting and let us know.

In love and service,

Tobi



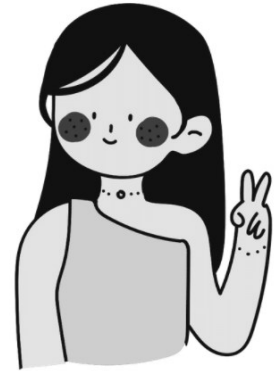
become a
Faithful Fiver

Faithful Fivers are AA members who graciously choose to contribute five dollars each month to support the Intergroup Office in its efforts to carry the AA message of hope & recovery to those alcoholics who still suffer, in the North Central Florida Intergroup Area. As a Faithful Fiver, your personal contribution will help to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"The Faithful Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than \$5 each month during our drinking careers."

Payment Options: Checks, payable to NCFI, Cash, or
Credit Card (min charge \$25 fee waived)

Email any questions to: Gainesville.Intergroup@gmail.com
or call Fred S. @ 386-628-2541



You are only responsible for the effort, not the outcome.

BRYANT MCGILL

Service Positions Available

Intergroup needs Volunteers!
Volunteer 3 hours of your time weekly
Mondays or Wednesdays from 2:00 pm till 5:00

Contact Fred @ 386-628-2541

Duties to include:
Helping Customers with Literature and Merchandise
Answering the A.A. Hotline
Familiar with using computer



**Intergroup now accepts PayPal & Venmo for
Groups, Individuals and Faithful 10er's and 5er's**

Send donations to gainesville.intergroup@gmail.com

Under notes: Please include Group name, Anonymous Individual or Faithful 5'er or 10'er

Intergroup wishes to thank all who continue to contribute to help the still sick and suffering

IF BILL & BOB COULD SEE US NOW!

TECH VOLUNTEERS & ZOOM HOSTS NEEDED



**APRIL
8-10
2022**

**ORLANDO
AREA 14
HYBRID
ASSEMBLY**



IF YOU KNOW HOW TO HOST A ZOOM MEETING, HYBRID EVENT OR A/V AND HAVE A FEW HOURS TO SPARE FOR AA, THE FELLOWSHIP NEEDS YOUR HELP. ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT PROVIDED.

REPLY TO: TECHNOLOGY@AANORTHFLORIDA.ORG
OR TEXT [321-345-7272](tel:321-345-7272)