

COMMUNIQUE

HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

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DO YOU HAVE ANY AA JOKES:
PLEASE SUBMIT THEM TO
US... COMMUNIQUE@AAHERNANDO.ORG

FROM: GV SEPTEMBER
1946
Barley !!! Corn !!!

The *Garden City, Kans.*,
Telegram reported recently that,
"There's a local man who says he's
started a counter organization to
Alcoholics Anonymous. He calls it
Inebriates Unanimous."

Actually, the mythical guy is a little late.
We were all "inebriates unanimous"
before we became "Alcoholics
Anonymous."

A Note from your DCM

Hello Everyone!

I pray that each of you are taking precautions in keeping yourself and your loved ones safe from the virus. Despite this difficult time in 2020, we should band together, stay strong and united in our primary purpose. I encourage you to reach out to one another, check in on those who are unable to come to meetings or any virtual platform. "Random Acts of Kindness" goes a long way in keeping us in service to others as well as keeping us sober and spiritually connected.

In these last few months, there has been a constant flow of negativity and bickering amongst our members. Now is the time to step up, let your light shine, overcome the darkness and always remember that AA unity depends on individual sobriety. Unity comes from consideration and respect for each other. Let's work together to bring peace into our District, our groups and ourselves.

May God Bless you, and stay safe!
In Service,
Eleanor B., DCM District 13

Trivia Quest

Q1 What was the name of "a certain American Businessman."
On page 26 of the Big Book?

Q2 What story is "Jim the Car Salesman" referencing?

Q3 Who was "The Home Brewmeister"?

Q4 Who claimed to have held the first meeting named after our book: Alcoholics Anonymous?

Q5 In We Agnostics who said, "Who am I to say there is no GOD?"

DISTRICT 13 OFFICERS**DCM**

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ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

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John Henry Fitzhugh Mayo AKA Fitz Q5

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HOTLINE

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WEBMASTER

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webmaster@aahernando.org

GROUP DONATION ADDRESSES:

Please send donations to:

DISTRICT 13 TREASURER

P.O. Box 5705
Spring Hill, FL 34611
(payable to District 13)

HERNANDO COUNTY INTERGROUP

4118 Lamson Ave.,
Spring Hill, FL 34608
(payable to Hernando County Intergroup)

NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

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

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

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

DISTRICT MEETING**First Monday of the month**

Oct 7th, 2020 at 6:15 PM
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1214 Broad St, Masaryktown, FL

INTERGROUP MEETING**First Friday of the month**

Oct 4th, 2020 @ 6:30pm,
Forest Oaks Lutheran Ch
8555 Forest Oaks Blvd.,
Spring Hill, FL

Unity Meeting

Saturday Sept 12

CANCELLED

Saturday Oct 10

TBD

Doors open at 6:30

Meeting at 7:00 pm

Nativity Lutheran Church
6363 Commercial Way
Weeki Wachee, FL

For more info please contact:
Amy R.: unity@aahernando.org

**HERNANDO CTY INTERGROUP
CENTRAL OFFICE/BOOK STORE**

4118 Lamson Ave.

Spring Hill, FL 34608

Office Manager: JJ M

Hotline/Phone number

352-683-4597

Intergroup Bookstore Hours:

Mon - Fri 9 am-1 pm

Saturday 9 am-12 pm

BOOKSTORE EMAIL:

sales@aahernando.org

Information on local AA:

info@aahernando.org

A.A. Information on World Wide Web

As of December 22, 1995, information about Alcoholics Anonymous became available on the World Wide Web <http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org> The General Service Board approved, at the October 1995 meeting, the recommendation of the trustees' Public Information Committee that G.S.O. implement an A.A. Web Page. The A.A. Fact File and a list of addresses to contact General Service Offices worldwide is now available, in English, Spanish and French, on the A.A. Web Site. There are ongoing discussions as to how to use the A.A. Web Page, (in keeping with our Traditions), to communicate the AA. message. (GSO, 1996)

GROUPS MEET VIA TELEPHONE An inter-city telephone hook-up linked A.A. groups in Chino State Prison and Van Nuys, Calif., Jackson Hole, Lander and Evanston, Wyo., for a one-hour round-robin meeting on a recent Sunday evening. It cost them altogether only \$75, according to Bob H., who had the idea and made the arrangements. "Many of these smaller groups had never heard an outside speaker," Frank F., Van Nuys, P.I. chair for the San Fernando Valley Central Office, wrote us. Each group opened its own meeting before the telephonic connection was made, then the three Wyoming groups each gave 10 minutes of A.A. talk from their members. An inmate A.A. in Chino told about the institution and its group, and finally a young newcomer in Van Nuys told of her gratitude for a new way of life after a hopeless existence 16 months ago. Highlight was the closing when a 50- man chorus of A.A. members in the prison sang "The Lord's Prayer." Bob H. says any two groups in the U.S. can do this on a Sunday night for around \$25. If you want further information, write G.S.O. (GSO, 1967)

GRAPEVINE SEPTEMBER 1955

AN EXCERPT FROM:

HOW TO MAKE AMENDS

BY ANONYMOUS | NEW YORK

There are no hard-and-fast suggestions for everybody on "How to Make Amends." Circumstances and Individuals vary. But there should be, I think, one necessary requisite for all of us. The success of our efforts, with respect to ourselves or those we have harmed, or both, ought to be predicated on our absolute *honesty* and *sincerity* of purpose.

Making amends will not properly work for us if we use them merely as lip service to get off a hook, to placate someone whose good opinion we only want to cultivate, or who might be in a position to do us a good turn in the future.

Neither do we gain much, or anything, by discharging such a duty to ourselves and as an obligation to others if it's just a mechanical action resulting from another AA member telling us it is the thing to do.

We should *want* to make amends because we are sincerely convinced, we were at fault and honestly desire to right a wrong. There is no substitute for this essential attitude or state of mind.

One of my difficulties in trying to put myself right with other people was how to know the difference between a real desire on my part to do the right thing and a phony attempt to ease my guilty conscience.

On the other hand, it is never advisable to try to make direct amends when to do so would injure those we have harmed, or others.

In my considered opinion, our home should be the first place to start. Our families bore the brunt of our alcoholism through the years and generally are the last to receive the benefits of our personal rehabilitation program.

Amends with the alcoholic, as well as charity, begin at home. If we put our own habitation in order first, we are better able, mentally, and emotionally, to try to rectify conditions created in the outside world by our uncontrolled drinking.

This is also true when we want to make spiritual amends. There is a better chance of attaining that goal after we have straightened out our home life. Then the "decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him" will bear quicker fruit.

Making amends can, be a rich and rewarding experience in humility, tolerance, and better understanding of the other fellow.

On a personal note: I want to Thank Clancy I for helping this alcoholic change her perspective. I am grateful I had the opportunity to share that with you. RIP 8/24/2020 Laurie C.

SERVICE CORNER

POSITIONS FILLED AT THE AUGUST DISTRICT AND INTERGROUPS MEETINGS.

Thank you, **Mike E** for stepping up as the Interim Secretary.

Welcome **Tia Mc** as the Interim Alt-DCM.

Welcome and Thank you to **Anthony C** for stepping up as Intergroup Liaison

HOTLINE OPENINGS:

Have you ever answered the call for help from another alcoholic?

There are guidelines, pamphlets, and training available at the intergroup. The twelve-step call list is a vital part of how we help other.

Call 352-683-4597 and sign up to be trained, it is truly an amazing thing

CONCEPT IX

GOOD SERVICE LEADERS, TOGETHER WITH SOUND AND APPROPRIATE METHODS OF CHOOSING THEM, ARE AT ALL LEVELS INDISPENSABLE FOR OUR FUTURE FUNCTIONING AND SAFETY. THE PRIMARY WORLD SERVICE LEADERSHIP ONCE EXERCISED BY THE FOUNDERS OF A.A. MUST NECESSARILY BE ASSUMED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL SERVICE BOARD OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2018)

TRADITION 9

- AA, AS SUCH, OUGHT NEVER BE ORGANIZED; BUT WE MAY CREATE SERVICE BOARDS OR COMMITTEES DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THOSE THEY SERVE.

"What we have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition. Every day is a day when we must carry the vision of God's will into all of our activities." ~ W. G. Wilson

Why the word reprieve??

Of all the synonyms of the word reprieve: abate, absolve, allay, alleviate, amnesty, excuse, forgive, grant a stay, let go, let off, let off the hook, let off this time, let up on, mitigate, palliate, pardon, postpone, remit, and/or respite, none quite complete the exact meaning of the temporary feeling that the author intends, the feeling that identifies the Spiritual Awakening that is achieved when one is doing the will of a Higher Power.

Having had a Spiritual Awakening is but a beginning, it is not a once and done deal. The reprieve is granted when we realize that there is a God and it is not us: a Spiritual Awakening. The reprieve is granted when we believe that a Higher Power can do for us what we cannot do for ourselves: a Spiritual Awakening. The reprieve is granted when we turn our will and our lives over to that Higher Power: a Spiritual Awakening. On a daily basis we must maintain a conscious contact with our Higher Power so that we may receive our daily reprieve, a Spiritual Awakening.

What are we being reprieved from? We are being reprieved from self. Self-centered, selfish, self-serving, arrogance, self-pity, instant gratification received at the expense of others, grandiosity, and most importantly, self will run riot.

A Higher Power can also grant us a reprieve from repeating bad habits or succumbing to an addiction.

When we receive our daily reprieve we will; know Serenity, know Peace, know Love, know Kindness, know Happiness, know Patience and Tolerance, know that our Spirit has awakened to the understanding of what doing the next right thing is all about.

Today, have a gratitude list and on that list include a thank you to a Higher Power for giving us a daily reprieve.

Michael_e

**TRUSTEE AT LARGE:
INTERVIEW WITH BOB W.
PART 2**

As Bob left the G.S.O. Office in New York City, he received a call from a woman he knew of from Mass., her name was Margaret C. Margaret is an AA pioneer from the Western Mass area that has helped thousands of Alcoholics find recovery. Heck she even had a detox and rehab center named after her. She called to congratulate Bob on his new position as Trustee at large. As they talked, Bob was filled with gratitude that she called as he was overwhelmed with his new position. Getting her call just then was just what he needed. Margaret quickly assured Bob that he would do fine in his position and to just be himself. She had been a Trustee at Large so she knew the position, and what was needed to fulfill it.

Bob's first conference as a Trustee was in Ecuador at REDELA, an acronym for Reunion De Las Americas (Meeting of the Americas). It is usually held in Sept or Oct every other year opposite the World Service meeting. REDELA typically has approximately 14 countries present. As he began preparing for REDELA he was surprisingly told he would also be the Keynote speaker for opening night. WOW!!!

He enjoyed his time at the conference. He met people from many countries and listened to how they structured A.A. in their country. Bob was the only one there that didn't speak Spanish, so they provided him an interrupter for his entire visit. The meetings he attended, made him feel as though he was in a District meeting, they were easy and comfortable, and his fears began to leave. Ecuador, the host country, had a tour bus and many of the REDELA attendees were able to see historical sites and important landmarks during their visit.

REDELA was just the first country Bob traveled to. His appointment as Trustee at large gave him opportunities to visit as many as 14 Countries. When an invitation from a country came in, the committee would meet to discuss the invite and what issues the country was looking to resolve. They would try to place the trustee that had skills to match the countries need. Continued planning consisted of all the history G.S.O. had on that country, any previous visit experience with that country, research of each countries guidelines or laws and making sure all proper visas and paperwork were properly completed.

Bob and his friend from Canada were sent to visit a country assuming they were there as a guest, only to find out however when they sat down at the meeting they would be doing a presentation, they had about 20 minutes to throw their presentation together. Bob reflects, "Thank God they had a Service Manual." Their talk came out great, they enjoyed their time and were able to discuss and resolve many issues within that country.

"Another Prodigal Story" Pg 357 of the First Edition, Ralph Furlong Q2

Bob talked about his service career and what he felt was important. "Overall," he says, "it is necessary to have done the steps to do service work properly." In his experience, "spirituality, humility, the steps, and sponsorship are just as important as the 12 traditions and 12 concepts." Bob says before goes into any country, or when he speaks, he spends a moment in Prayer and asked that he be a conduit of Gods Will. He articulates again, "spirituality is one of the most important things to have when entering service work, it would be impossible to do service work well without having done all the footwork in the steps. Although some try, and some even make it far in their journey, they tend to be difficult and full of anger."

As we talked about his journey in service work, Bob mentioned a time when he became Area Chair and was confronted with a lot of anger and negativity, he wanted to add structure & guidelines to the area and to follow Robert's Rules of Order. He was met with a lot of resistance from many who did not want any changes, and then of course there are those that will always try to be the "AA police." "One rule." he said, "that is good to remember, is that Structures and Guidelines are just that - guidelines not rules, they are meant to bend and flow with what works for that area, not set rules that cannot ever be bent." Bob was able to take this belief with him as a Trustee while visiting other Countries. His understanding that each area/country is autonomous, and everything can and should bend and flow as needed helped immensely, we should always remember we are all only trusted servants.

Bob loved the countries he went to and often traveled with his Trustee friend from Canada. They both enjoyed discussing problems with these countries and often found they had the same issues that had just been discussed at a meeting at G.S.O. Although we lived in different countries, we found many times we had the same issues to resolve. It was great to spend time discussing A.A. trying to come up with a solution that works for them. Bob never believed he had all the answers but would work with a country to help them find their solution.

Gratitude is such a powerful word, and when you meet someone that has it, you really know it. During my conversations with Bob for this article and other conversations we've had throughout the years I've known him, I find that he continues to work on his Spirituality, his love for service work, and has a lot of gratitude in his life.

Bob also feels its vitally important for rotation in service work, he feels it's not letting go of a position, as much as moving forward to a new position. Bob is so grateful for the man that suggested service work all those years ago, he sees it as passing it on, and that is what we do in A.A.

Thank You, Bob, for spending the time with me to write this story. Sue S

HERNANDO COUNTY INTERGROUP JULY 2020

	<u>Jul-20</u>	Contributions	<u>Jul-20</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income		Algood Grp	0.00	160.00
Group Contributions	531.75	Anonymous	2.99	869.19
Sales		Aripeka Open Speaker	0.00	180.00
AA Grapevine	41.50	Ask it Basket	0.00	1.48
AAWS Books	177.50	Fresh Air	40.00	95.00
Medallions	85.25	Fun & Frolic	0.00	100.00
Non AA Books	110.95	Garden Grove Grp	0.00	80.00
Other Recovery Items	106.50	Heavy Hitters	0.00	100.00
Total Sales	521.70	Hernando Beach	0.00	25.00
Income - Other	0.00	Hope Grp	0.00	100.00
Total Income	1,053.45	Ladies Big Book	60.00	60.00
Cost of Goods Sold		Let Go Let God	14.67	89.74
Shipping Charges	11.41	Living Sober Grp	0.00	4.71
Cost of Goods Sold - Other	348.49	More Serenity Sisters	0.00	25.00
Total Cost of Goods Sold	359.90	Precisely II	0.00	200.00
Gross Profit	1,413.35	Principles Before Personalities	78.45	828.16
Expense		Ridge Manor Grp	0.00	200.00
Non-Profit Acct/Tax/Legal		Rough Road Grp	0.00	411.34
Taxes and Fees	0.00	Serendipity Grp	250.00	250.00
Total Non-Profit Acct/Tax/Legal	0.00	Singleness of Purpose	0.00	160.00
Facilities and Equipment		Step Sisters	0.00	40.00
Electric Exp	112.54	Sunset Grp	0.00	360.00
Rent, Parking, Utilities	360.00	The Promises	0.00	50.00
Total Facilities and Equipment	472.54	The Steps We Took	5.64	32.44
Intergroup Services Exp		There is a Solution	80.00	170.56
Communique	201.33	Thursday Night Step	0.00	0.60
Intergroup Services Exp - Other	13.52	Together We Stand	0.00	30.00
Total Intergroup Services Exp	214.85	Umbrella Group	0.00	330.10
Operations		Unity Meeting	0.00	292.40
Telephone, Internet, Website	154.20	WISE Women	0.00	100.30
Total Operations	154.20	Women's Serenity Group	0.00	36.90
Square Fees	4.59	Clarence Snyder's story was in the first three editions.Q3&4		
Total Expense	846.18		531.75	5382.92
Net Income	(152.63)			

DISTRICT 13 TREASURER'S REPORT
JULY 2020

GROUP	DISTRICT		CORRECTIONS		SUNTRUST BANK BALANCES
	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>	
AI Good		60.00			SAVINGS-PRUDENT RESERVE
Aripeka Big Book					Beginning 7/1/20 1000.41
Aripeka Open Speaker					Ending 7/30/20 1000.42
Audio Big Book					
Brksvl Heavy Hitters					<u>CHECKING ACCOUNT</u>
Easy Does It					Beginning Balance 3806.88
Fellowship We Crave					Group Deposits 323.13
Friendship Group					Expenditures <u>126.23</u>
Fun & Frolic Group					Ending Bank Balance
Happy Hour Group					7/31/20 3806.88
Hernando Beach		25.00			
Hope Group			84.00		Outstanding/Uncashed
LadiesBigBook	60.00	60.00			#352 IG-Archives
Let Go & Let God		50.00			June & July 30.00
Let's Get Serious					#353 IG - Aug <u>15.00</u>
Life Goes On Group					Subtotal uncashed 45.00
Living Sober					
More Serenity Sisters		50.00			ACTUAL BALANCE: \$3761.88
Principles before					
Personalities		385.67	100.00		<u>EXPENSE DETAIL- JULY</u>
Promises Group		30.00			Communique- APRIL 111.83
Ridge Manor Big Book		40.00	130.00		(DCM ordered 200 & delivered to
Rough Roads Group		45.00	51.00		IG Office to distribute in July)
Serenity Sisters Group					Printing - Eleanor B
Singleness of Purpose		9.00			(Agenda 5.40; other 9.00) <u>14.40</u>
Spring Hill Group					TOTAL EXPENSES 126.13
Step in the Rt. Direction					
Step Sisters Group		40.00			CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE
Steps We Took					June Balance 1178.73
Sunset Group		240.00	100.00		July contributions <u>-0-</u>
The Usual Suspects					Total (7/31/2020) 1178.73
There is a Solution	55.00	170.00			
Thursday Night Step					
Tranquility Group					
Umbrella Group	6.80	179.80			
W.I.S.E. Women					
Women's Serenity		21.14			
Young Men's Group					
Intergroup	201.33	422.62			
Other					
Founders Seed refund]		[400.00]			
TOTAL.....	323.13	2182.43	465.00		

<u>Monthly Contributions to District</u>				
May	June	July	YTD.....	2182.43
159.00	218.80	323.13		

<u>Contributions to Corrections</u>			
May	June	July	
0.00	104.00	0.00	

STEP 9

“Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

Ninth Step Meditation

We ask each morning in meditation that our Creator show us the way of Patience, Tolerance, Kindness and Love. The spiritual life is not a theory. *We have to live it.* AA pg. 83

As we trudge forward on the road to happy destiny we bring with us the wreckage of our past. In our drinking days, we as alcoholics, often stole, lied, harmed others, and cheated our way to the next drink. The ninth step frees us of the weight of our wrong doings; keeping us from moving forward away from a drink. No longer living with a hangover of guilt. We now can move toward a new caring for others. As stated in the AA Promises “We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows. Self-seeking will slip away.

Ninth Step Prayer

I pray for the right attitude to make amends, being ever mindful not to harm others in the process. I ask your guidance in making indirect amends. Most important, I will continue to make amends by staying abstinent, helping others, and growing in spiritual progress.
Anonymous

GV FEBRUARY 2019 | STORIES BY OUR LONGTIME MEMBERS

Excerpt from: Business is not a bad word

In order to be honest, ethical and accountable, service entities need to be transparent. When trusted servants authorize spending money that comes from AA members and groups, they must be willing to always disclose the exact details. Rather than being upset by questions from the Fellowship, trusted servants should welcome questions and even encourage them. In the end, good business practice is spiritual, and anything less than good business practice is no different than untreated alcoholism.

A simple rule is to ask yourself when voting to spend money: Will this money help carry the message and save the lives of alcoholics? Simply divide the amount of money by the cost of sending a softcover Big Book into a prison and ask yourself, Is it worth that many Big Books?

SEPTEMBER 2020 ANNIVERSARIES

Group Anniversaries (date registered GSO)

<u>Group Anniversaries</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Let Go & Let God</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Serenity Sisters</u>	
Brooksville Thurs Welcome	43	Tattoo Bill	21	Melissa L.	13
Living Sober	33			Virginia G.	10
Al Good	29	<u>Lunch Bunch Gr</u>		Laura J.	1
Saturday Night Beginners	23	Sue S	31		
				<u>Singleness of Purpose</u>	<u>Years</u>
				Peggy G.	32
<u>Member Anniversaries</u>		<u>More Serenity Sisters</u>		<u>Spring Hill Monday Night</u>	
<u>Al Good</u>		Nina V.	32	Johnny O.	42
Luis V.	34	Donna H. (August)	24	Wayne B.	11
John H.	20				
Wayne B.	11	<u>Principles B4 Personalities</u>		<u>Step Sisters</u>	
Chyna T.	10	Charlie B.	10	Nancy C. (August)	34
		Ashley W.	1	Annette D.	13
<u>Aripeka Open Speaker</u>		<u>Promises Group</u>		<u>Umbrella Group</u>	
John G.	10	Caryl M.	40	Robbin R.	24
Robert	6	Nina V.	32	Debbie N.	23
		Donna I.	11	Tom H.	9
<u>Friendship Grp</u>		<u>Ridge Manor Big Book</u>		Bob W.	6
John G.	10	Catherine	8	Pattie B.	1
		Tina	6		
<u>Happy Hours Grp</u>		Jessica	3	<u>Women's Serenity Grp</u>	
Laurie C.	29			Carolyn M.	40
Frank S.	22	<u>Rough Roads</u>		Ashley W.	1
		John H.	20		
<u>Heavy Hitters</u>		Christine B.	14	<u>The Birthday Plan</u>	
Linda K.	34	Steve T.	8	Contributions to the General Service Office support G.S.O.'s services to members and groups throughout Canada and the U.S. and help ensure that the A.A. message is carried around the world. The services that the G.S.O. provides the A.A. groups cost more than \$6 per member contribute year. Members customarily \$1, \$2 or even \$5 a year for each year of sobriety— others may give a penny or a nickel a day for each day of their sobriety.	
Frank	22	Julia B	1	(reprinted from www.aa.org)	
Cindy W.	4			The General Service Office	
Jacque J.	4	<u>Saturday Night Beginners</u>		Post Office Box 459	
Lorne D.	3	Tydon H.	20	Grand Central Station	
Willy W.	2			New York, NY 10163-0459	
		<u>Serendipity Sisters</u>			
<u>Hope Group</u>		Joyce W.	32		
Peter C.	40	Deb	10		
Mick W.	10	Misty (August)	2		
<u>Ladies Big Book</u>					
Mary Ann S.	2				
Rowland Hazard Q1					