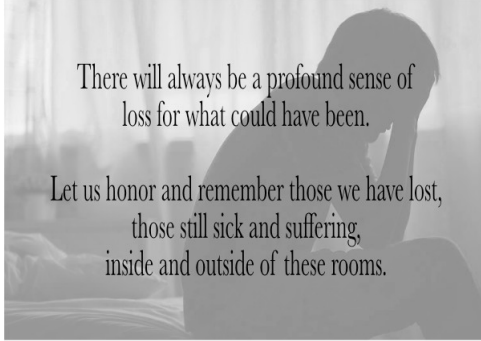


# COMMUNIQUE

March 2022



There will always be a profound sense of loss for what could have been.

Let us honor and remember those we have lost, those still sick and suffering, inside and outside of these rooms.

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### Interested in sharing your story?

Contact Sue S. or submit it to:  
[Communique@aahernando.org](mailto:Communique@aahernando.org)



## God led me to AA and AA led me back to God

I had a very happy childhood – I was in the church choir, loved to sing and act I was also in the many school plays. I loved it, but I do believe I had all the ism's. My father was an alcoholic and my mother was an enabler. I kept busy with all my stuff growing up but I was selfish and as we know this is a major flaw for an alcoholic. The progress of my disease was a very slow process and took many years. I was a child of the 60's (burn your bra, me, me, me). I never took responsibility for anything growing up and I know now that was part of my disease. I took my 1<sup>st</sup> drink at 14 years old, Halloween with friends, we raided our parents alcohol cabinets, we had so much we filled cottage cheese jars and buried them in the back yard. Most of my friends got drunk, one a little more than the others but me, I got wasted, fell down hit my head at my friends family restaurant and had to go to the hospital. I don't remember it, I woke up on the couch the next day. After high school I moved in with my high school sweetheart, we were typical partiers but he took it to an excess. We would be out camping with friends and everyone would go to bed around midnight except him, he would stay up drinking until wee hours of the morning. How did I solve this problem, I married the problem!!! I met him when I was 14 and we stayed together until I was 26 years old. My Father was an alcoholic so it made sense to marry one. He beat me throughout the years, and I never told anyone. We had 2 children with this man and they were the joy in my life. I left him and met another guy and that is when I crossed the line with my disease. I stayed with him and we had a child. We got into drugs and became dealers to support our habit. We both sold drugs. But I thought I was better than him because I wouldn't sell to pregnant women. After our relationship ended I was working in a restaurant working my way up to ownership. I would go out after work and have a few drinks, I deserved it. My drinking started with a few and ended with me have periods of time I couldn't remember. Even though we broke up, we tried to get sober together. I would stay at his house or he at mine and try to keep each other sober. By day 7 or 8 we couldn't wait to get away from each other to sneak our drinks. We had to continue to work together for a many years because we were business partners. Finally I was so upset with him, I called my daughter to vent and she said Mom did you ever think to buy him out!!! Wow never thought of that, but that is what I did. When I bought him out I wanted nothing more than to strangle him, over the next year we were able to become friends again.

**Continued on page 5**

[www.aahernando.org](http://www.aahernando.org)

**District 13 Officers****DCM**

Eleanor B.  
(484) 661-8753  
dcm@aahernando.org

**Alternate DCM**

Sue S.  
(413) 219-5133  
altdcm@aahernando.org

**Treasurer**

Laurie C.  
(207) 712-5677  
dtreasurer@aahernando.org

**Secretary**

Michael E.  
dsecretary@aahernando.org

**District 13 Committees****Accessibilities**

Ashley W.  
accessibilities@aahernando.org

**Archives**

Open

**Communique Chair**

Sue S. (413) 219-5133  
Communique@aahernando.org

**Communique Co-Chair & Anniversaries**

John K. (352) 650-2324  
anniversaries@aahernando.org

**Corrections**

Debby Q.  
corrections@aahernando.org

**Grapevine**

Jenlean G.  
grapevine@aahernando.org

**Literature**

Open

**Public Info (PICPC)**

Jim C.  
picpc@aahernando.org

**Parliamentarian**

Wendy S.  
parliamentarian@aahernando.org

**Treatment**

Joe C.  
treatment@aahernando.org

**Please let your Groups know that Intergroup has open positions.**

**Intergroup Officers****Chairperson**

**OPEN**  
chair@aahernando.org

**Alternate Chair**

**OPEN**  
altchair@aahernando.org

**Secretary**

Dee Mc.  
(352) 442-6423  
igsecretary@aahernando.org

**Treasurer**

Roger S.  
(617) 710-8207  
igtreasurer@aahernando.org

**Intergroup Liaison**

Anthony C.  
igliaison@aahernando.org

**HotLine**

Johnny V.  
(352) 346-6096

**HEAART**

Nancy E.  
(352) 232-5207  
heart@aahernando.org

**WebMaster & Meeting List**

John K.  
(352) 650-2324  
webmaster@aahernando.org

**Central Office & Book Store**

4116 Lamson Ave  
Spring Hill, FL 34608  
Mon – Fri 9am to 1pm  
Saturdays 9am to Noon  
Office Manager: JJ M.  
(352) 683-4597  
Hotline: Jonny V

**Monthly Intergroup Meeting**

First Friday Of Each Month  
March 4th, 2022 @ 6:30 PM  
Forest Oaks Lutheran Church  
8555 Forest Oaks Blvd  
Spring Hill FL

Zoom ID: 852 952 5883  
Password: intergroup

**Monthly District Meeting**

First Monday Of The Month.  
March 7th, 2022 @ 6:15PM  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1214 Broad St.  
Masaryktown FL

Zoom ID: 987 5790 9290  
Password: district13

**Group Donations****District 13 Treasurer**

P.O. Box 10653  
Brooksville, FL 34605  
(checks payable to District 13)

**Hernando Intergroup Office**

4116 Lamson Ave  
Spring Hill, FL 34608  
(352) 683-4597  
Office manager JJ M.  
Office Hours  
Mon-Fri 9am-1pm  
Saturday 9am-12pm  
Info@aahernando.org  
(make checks payable to  
Hernando Intergroup)

**North Florida Assembly**

P.O. Box 226  
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130  
(checks payable to NFAC)

**General Service Office**

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
(checks payable to GSO)





## District 13 Committee Member's Corner Eleanor B.

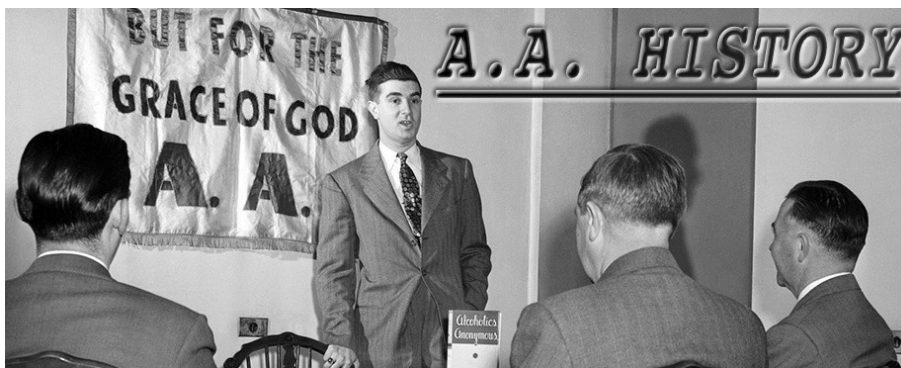
Promise Group  
Tuesdays, 5PM - (Closed, Discussion)  
United Church of Christ.  
4244 Mariner Blvd.  
Spring Hill, FL

This is a closed meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. A medium-large group that is very warm, caring and welcoming. The topic is the Promises. Usually a member will choose a Promise and the group discusses how it relates to their lives. This meeting focused on the 11th Promise. "WE will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us". How do we handle life and death? Are we spirituality fit to handle such situations? We, as Alcoholics, suggest to work the AA program, learn empathy and acceptance. Go and grow through bad events with Grace and care. We would try to see blessings and gifts out of tragedy and pain. When life is going good, it's wonderful- when it's not so good, we have the opportunity to grow the most. I was left with this thought, "keep God in the now", so I may know how to handle situations that used to baffle me. This member feels that this meeting is on the must visit list! Don't miss out on some good fellowship!

Aripeka Open Speaker Group.  
Tuesdays, 7PM – (Open, Speaker, Discussion)  
Aripeka Community Center  
1393 Osowaw Blvd  
Aripeka, FL

Back by the Grace Of God, and popular demand, we welcome Aripeka Open Speaker meeting back to our District! As in the name, this is a Speaker meeting, generally with 2 speaker's sharing their experience, strength and hope. A medium-large meeting, Aripeka Open Speaker has always been one of my favorites! Friendly faces, warm greetings and honest/sincere speaker's make this meeting unique! Bring your listening ears and open heart to this special meeting.

In Service,  
Eleanor B  
DCM District 13



### A.A. - A kinship of common suffering

"Newcomers are approaching A.A at a rate of tens of thousands yearly. They represent almost every belief and attitude imaginable. We have atheist and agnostics. We have people of nearly every race, culture and religion. In A.A. we are suppose to be bound together in the kinship of a common suffering. Consequently, the full individual liberty to practice any creed or principle or therapy whatever should be a first consideration for us all. Let us not, therefore, pressure anyone with our individual or even our collective views. Let us instead accord each other the respect and love that is due to every human being as he tries to make his way toward the light. Let us always try to be inclusive rather than exclusive; let us remember that each alcoholic among us is a member of A.A., so long as he or she so declares."

**Bill W. (A.A. Grapevine, July 1965)**

Visit [aahernando.org/events/](http://aahernando.org/events/) for a full list of upcoming events.

### **District 13**

#### **Pre Conference Workshop**

Saturday March 19, 2022

12:00PM to 2:00PM

Featuring: Ruth R.

Area 14 North Florida

Delegate Panel 71

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Krysher Hall

2301 Deltona Blvd, Spring Hill

#### **Sunset Group**

#### **Barbecue and Speaker Meeting**

Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup>, 4:30PM

250 Bell Ave, Brooksville

Side dishes and deserts appreciated

Eat 4:30, Speaker 5:30

Rick B. of Spring Hill

Suggested Donation \$5

#### **Founder's Day 2022**

#### **Save the date!**

Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers Needed.

Contact Debbie Q for more info:

[suzieq-74@hotmail.com](mailto:suzieq-74@hotmail.com)

#### **Intergroup Picnic**

Barbecue and Karaoke

Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup> Noon – 4PM

Tom Varn Park Brooksville FL

Bring a covered dish or desert

**Meeting Information** - If your Group or Meeting makes changes (time/location, etc) please notify John K – [webmaster@aahernando.org](mailto:webmaster@aahernando.org) with the information. John will make the necessary changes on the online meeting list, meeting apps, "Where & When" and HEAART. - Thanks!

#### **Service Opportunities**

- \* Intergroup Chairperson
- \* Alternate Intergroup Chair
- \* District 13 Archives
- \* District 13 Literature

**Anniversary information** can now be submitted from our website. Look for the link "Anniversary Submissions" at the top of our homepage, [www.aahernando.org](http://www.aahernando.org)

**Did you know you can now attend the District 13 and Intergroup monthly meeting by Zoom? Check page 2 for details.**

### **UNITY MEETING**

Saturday

March 12, 2022

Doors open at 6:30

Meeting at 7:00

Hosted by:

Sunset Group/ There is a Solution

Nativity Lutheran Church

6363 Commercial Way,

Weeki Wachee, FL

April Host will be:

Sunday Morning Serenity Sisters

#### **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Soberstock 2022**

March 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

A.A./Al-Anon/ and their families

Sand Hill Scout Reservation

11210 Cortez Blvd

Brooksville FL

More details and tickets available at:

[www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com)

**Let us know if you would like to share an announcement or future event for your group or meeting.** Email us at: [Communique@aahernando.org](mailto:Communique@aahernando.org)

**Have you considered including a copy of the Communique In your newcomers packet?**



## Story Continues:

I was so grateful to be given the opportunity to become friends. again, because unfortunately he died later that year. My drinking continued and I tried to control it anyway possible. I would buy a nip and say that it was all I was going to drink, but by the end of the night I had been to 12 different Liquor store. So many times I would buy a bottle of wine for the restaurant and leave it in my car, after a couple of hours of knowing it was there It would make me crazy, until I finally went out to the car to get it.

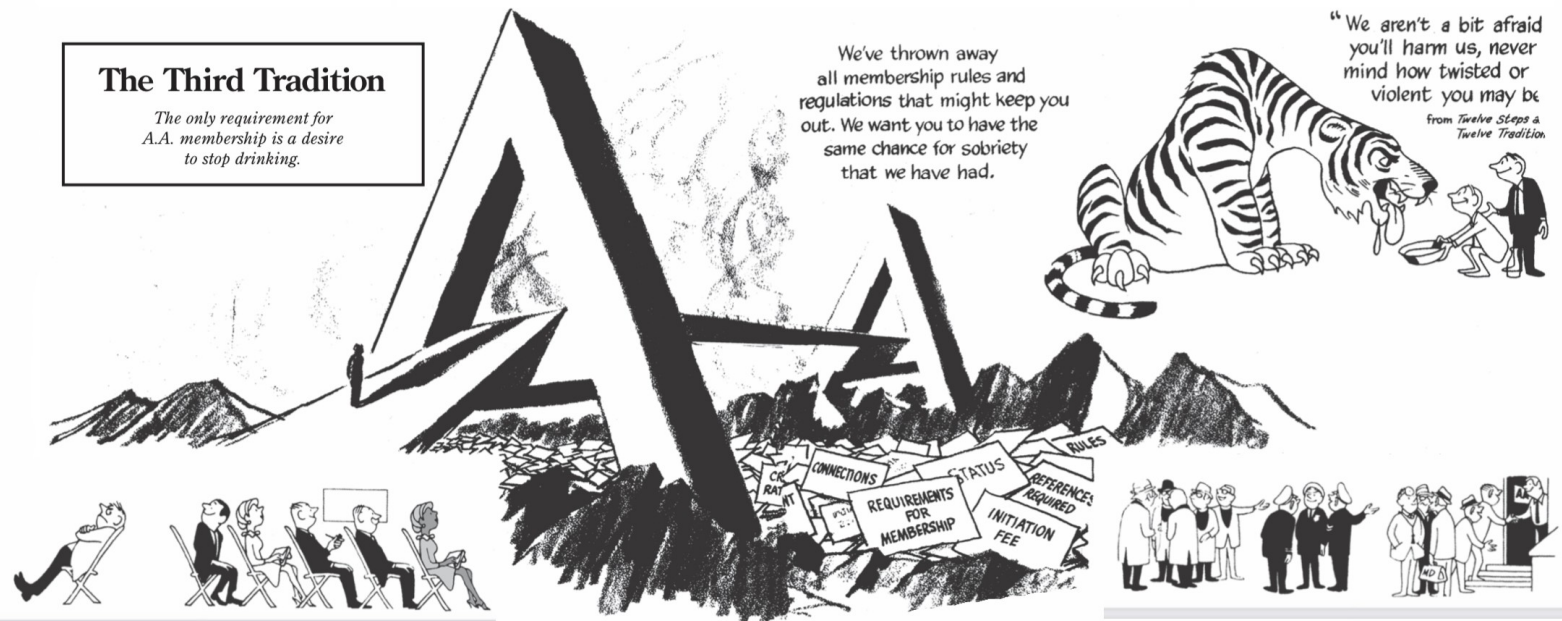
My family kept pushing me to get help and I finally agreed to go to A.A. Within 5 minutes at a meeting I knew I was in the right place. I went for my kids and stayed for myself. I had 17 days the first time, I was having surgery and decided I should buy a Big Book and read it to keep myself stay sober and not go to meetings. New Years Eve 2012 I was out to dinner with my kids and said I was going to have a few drinks, I saw the looks of disgust on my kids faces, but I still drank. After a very long bender I went back to AA and got 55 days. Although I couldn't continue to stay sober I still went to meetings, but I didn't tell anyone I was drinking and got my chips and used my fake sobriety date for months. I knew there was something in the rooms that I wanted and I kept coming even though I was drinking. I finally was able to kept it together, get honest and changed my sobriety date to June 29,2013, the true date. My grandson was going to be born so I wanted this grandson to never see me drink. When he was born he had some medical issues and I was able to be there for my daughter. That was a miracle.

I was able to make amends early in my sobriety to my parents. I told my mother I was an alcoholic and all the years and days I had promised to show up and never did was because I was drinking. She had no idea!! I went outside and found my father and made amends to him, he cried. They both had always blamed themselves and thought it was because they had been lousy parents. I'm so grateful I was able to make those amends because a few months later I lost my Mom. In November that year I had a surgery and it didn't go well, my children came in to tell me the outcome and I was ok, I realized I had so much gratitude that I would be fine... I've learned so much over the years in AA. Now know you will always have the lesson before the blessing..

**Donna M**

## The 12 Traditions Illustrated

Based on a series that first appeared in Grapevine in the 1960s, this classic pamphlet retains its retro, light-hearted illustrations as well as its clear and plainly spoken language. Taken together, the text and images convey both the spirit and the practical application of our Traditions.



## Intergroup Treasury Report (Pending Approval)

| <u>Hernando County Intergroup</u><br><b>1/31/2022profit_Loss</b> | Checking      | Savings     |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$ 4,851.07   | \$ 3,062.83 |
| Deposits   | \$ 2,136.83   |             |
|  | \$ -          |             |
| Checks   | \$ (2,036.98) |             |
| Withdrawals/Debits   | \$ (487.10)   |             |
| Interest   |               | \$ -        |
| Ending Balance   | \$ 4,463.82   | \$ 3,062.83 |
| <br>   |               |             |
| <b>Income</b>  |               |             |
| Group Contributions  | \$ 1,446.20   |             |
| Office Sales   | \$ 621.00     |             |
| Sales tax  | \$ 40.37      |             |
|  | \$0.00        |             |
| <u>Unity</u>   | In Donations  |             |
| Archives rent  | In Donations  |             |
| District Copies  | In Donations  |             |
|  | -----         |             |
| Total Income   | \$ 2,107.57   |             |
| <br>   |               |             |
| <u>Expenses</u>  |               |             |
| Rent   | \$ (600.00)   |             |
| Electric   | \$ (40.75)    |             |
| Paypal   | (\$99.99)     |             |
| Spectrum   | \$ (167.96)   |             |
| Office Supplies  | \$ (96.00)    |             |
| Maintenance Fee  | \$0.00        |             |
| <br>   |               |             |
| Total Expenses   | \$ (1,004.70) |             |
| Profit Loss January 2022   | \$ 1,102.87   |             |

| <u>Hernando County Intergroup</u><br><b>1/31/2022profit_Loss</b> | Checking     | Savings |
|--|--------------|---------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$ -         | \$ -    |
| Cash Deposits  | \$ -         |         |
| Credit Cards   | \$ -         |         |
| Checks   | \$ -         |         |
| Withdrawals/Debits   | \$ -         |         |
| Interest   |              | \$ -    |
| Ending Balance   | \$ -         | \$ -    |
| <br>   |              |         |
| <b>Income</b>  |              |         |
| Group Contributions  | \$ -         |         |
| <u>Gratitude Seed Rent &amp; Deposit</u>                         | \$0.00       |         |
| Office Sales   | \$ -         |         |
| Sales tax  | \$ -         |         |
| Gratitude Profit   | \$0.00       |         |
| <u>Misc. Gratitude Money</u>                                     | \$0.00       |         |
| Archives rent  | In Donations |         |
| District Copies  | In Donations |         |
|  | -----        |         |
| Total Income   | \$ -         |         |
| <br>   |              |         |
| <u>Expenses</u>  |              |         |
| Rent   | \$ -         |         |
| Electric   | \$ -         |         |
| Christmas Party  | \$0.00       |         |
| Spectrum   | \$ -         |         |
| Office Supplies  | \$ -         |         |
| Maintenance Fee  | (\$1.00)     |         |
| <br>   |              |         |
| Total Expenses   | \$ (1.00)    |         |
| Profit Nov 2021  | \$ (1.00)    |         |

## STEP 3

**Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.**

Step 3 is where I decide to trust GOD with my recovery. I have admitted my powerlessness to overcome my addictive behaviors on my own. I have realized that there is a Higher Power that can deliver me from the insanity of my addiction. Now I am ready to make the step of giving these matters over to this Higher Power, to God as I understand God. I trust that God can restore me to a right mind, as sane mind that leads me to sane and healthy behavior and a life filled with greater serenity, personal power and even joy. I let God be the overall manager of my life. I "let go and let God".

We found that all we needed to do was to try. When we gave our best effort to the Program, it worked for us as it has worked for countless others. The Third Step does not say, "We turn our will and our lives over to the care of God". It says, "We made a **decision** to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him". We made the decision; it was not made for us by the alcohol, our families, a probation officer, judge, therapist or doctor. We made it. For the first time since that first drink, we have made a decision for ourselves.

It is significant that this step suggest that we turn our will and our lives over to the care of God of our understanding. These words a particularly important. By working the Third Step, we are allowing someone or something to care for us, not control us or conduct our lives for us. This step does not suggest that we become mindless robots with no ability to live our own lives, nor does it allow those of us who find such irresponsibility attract to indulge such an urge. Instead, we are making a simple decision to change direction, to stop rebelling at the natural and logical throw of events in our lives, to stop wearing ourselves out trying to make everything happen as if we were in charge of the world. We are accepting that a power greater than ourselves will do a better job of caring for our will and our lives than we have. We are furthering the spiritual process of recovery by beginning to explore what we understand the word "God" to mean to us as individuals.

## TRADITION 3

**THE ONLY REQUIREMENT FOR A.A. MEMBERSHIP IS A DESIRE TO STOP DRINKING.**

Isn't every origination entitled to have rules for membership? Why did A.A. decide to forgo the privilege, "to be inclusive...never exclusive"? That's easy. Early members tried it the other way, and it just didn't work. As the fellowship was nearing its ten-year mark, the office that served as headquarters "asked the groups to list their membership rules and send them in, "Bill W. recalled, "If all of these edicts had been in force everywhere at once, it would have been practically impossible for any alcoholic to have to have ever joined A.A. About nine-tenths of our oldest and best members could never have got by!" So the rule books went out the window and were replaced by one uncomplicated sentence: Tradition Three.

But somebody may ask, isn't this Tradition itself a rule? It does state *one* requirement for membership. Let's read it again and ask another question: *who determines* weather or not newcomers qualify, whether they do want to stop drinking? Obviously, nobody except the newcomer themselves, everybody else simply must take their word for it. In fact, they don't have to say it aloud and that is fortunate, for many of us who arrived at A.A. with only a halfhearted desire to stay sober. We are alive because the A.A. road stayed open to us.

The problem faced by this Tradition isn't just past A.A. history. It keeps coming up for instance, when a group debates whether to exclude alcoholics who have problems other than alcohol or have differing lifestyles. The Tradition mentions no such additional requirements, no demand that prospective members must *not* have a history of drug abuse, a certain lifestyle, or an institutional background. All alcoholics are welcome.

What about the group that seems to impose extra requirements, beyond a "desire to stop drinking"? This might be a "special interest" group or collection of groups in which, for example, each member must be a physician--or young person, a man, a woman, a priest, or law-enforcement officer. By their own account, those attending special interest groups consider themselves A.A. members *first*. They attend general-membership meetings as well as those that fill their other individual needs, and they remain devoted to A.A.'s primary purpose.

These "special interest" groups offer only one instance of the diverse and inclusive membership within our Fellowship. Our Traditions allows unparalleled freedom, not only to every A.A. member but to every A.A. group.

## **MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

### **Groups:**

Heavy Hitters Group – 30 yrs  
 More Serenity Sisters – 30 yrs  
 Serenity Sisters – 31 yrs  
 Singleness of Purpose – 17 yrs  
 Step In The Right Direction – 17 yrs  
 Steps We Took – 21 yrs

### **Members:**

#### **A Desire**

None Reported

#### **All Good**

Richard E – 34 yrs  
 Tom M – 36 yrs  
 Bill S – 11 yrs  
 Jim S – 40 yrs

#### **Aripeka**

Richard E – 34 yrs  
 Terry – 38 yrs

#### **Brooksville Group**

None Reported

#### **Fun and Frolic**

None Reported

#### **Happy Hour**

None Reported

#### **Heavy Hitters**

Randy R – 32 yrs  
 Gary S – 17 yrs  
 Niko L – 3 yrs  
 Robin W – 7 yrs  
 Wayne S – 13 yrs

#### **Hernando Beach**

Denise W – 2 yrs  
 Kathy A – 18 yrs  
 John D – 33 yrs

#### **Hope Group**

George H – 45 yrs  
 John S – 4 yrs  
 Lisa B – 5 yrs

#### **Ladies Big Book**

None Reported

#### **Let Go Let God**

Andrew S – 3 yrs  
 Ellen – 22 yrs  
 Kathy – 18 yrs  
 John D – 33 yrs

#### **Lets Get Serious**

Tracey R – 22 yrs

#### **Life Goes On**

Rosan - 27

#### **More Serenity Sisters**

None Reported

#### **Principles B4 Personalities**

Scott S – 12 yrs  
 Bill S – 11 yrs  
 Jim S – 40 yrs  
 John P – 5 yrs  
 Terry M – 9 yrs  
 Don C – 1 yr  
 Eric L – 27 yrs

#### **Promises**

None Reported

#### **Ridge Manor Big Book Group**

Denise W – 2 yrs  
 Kathy H – 48 yrs

#### **Rough Roads**

Charlie W – 3 yrs  
 Chuck S – 48 yrs  
 John W – 45 yrs  
 Pat H – 47 yrs  
 Scott S – 25 yrs

#### **Spring Hill Monday Nite**

Andy W – 22 yrs  
 Dave K – 8 yrs  
 Terry B – 38 yrs

#### **Serendipity Sisters**

Eileen B – 21 yrs  
 Sherrill A – 19 yrs

#### **Serenity Sisters**

Carole M – 10 yrs  
 Joanne H – 25 yrs

#### **Singleness of Purpose**

None Reported

#### **Step in the right direction**

None Reported

#### **StepSisters**

Louella – 11 yrs

#### **Steps We Took**

None Reported

#### **Sunset Group**

None Reported

#### **There is a Solution**

None Reported

#### **Thursday Night Step**

None Reported

#### **Tranquility Group**

Howard B – 13 yrs

#### **Women's Serenity Group**

None Reported

#### **Young at heart**

None Reported

#### **Young Mens**

Andy B – 16 years

**Congratulations to all of those celebrating!** Have you ever considered sharing your story? Let us know. We are always looking for stories to feature and we will come to you.

**Send us Anniversary information for your group** at [www.aahernando.org](http://www.aahernando.org) Look for the "Submit Anniversaries" link at the top of the home page. There is full member list for anniversaries we currently have. You only need to provide any updates or changes necessary for your Group. Thank You!