

COMMUNIQUE

HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA



Making A Choice

I was born in Key West, FL. After a month, my family moved to Norfolk, VA due to my father’s military orders. After 3 years my father and mother divorced. At that time, I was the youngest of 3. My two sisters and I stayed with my mother until the divorce was final. My oldest sister and I stayed with our mother, and my older sister chose to live with our father. I had no say in the matter. We really didn’t have much contact with him, except on Christmas or our birthdays. A few years went by, and our mother was working two jobs to keep a roof over our heads plus food on the table. Then she met a Marine at a bar she was working at, and guess what, he became my stepfather.

He was a hard ass Marine; everything had to be perfect. For a few years I wouldn’t speak unless I was spoken to. They drank daily, and we paid the consequences. If we stepped out of line, out came the belt from him or our mother. They would always come home drunk after a night out; to me it seemed like every night. My only reprieve was that they got me involved in baseball. I was pretty good for 5 years of playing. They were very supportive, but mainly because most of our games were played on the naval base. That’s the same area they worked part time at the officer’s club as bartenders. During this time, my brother was born.

When I had time off during the summer and many weekends, I would spend quality time with my grandad in North Carolina. I truly miss him! He taught me how to fly fish and hunt. For most of my youth that was a gift. I remember my first taste of white lightning. It wasn’t a straight shot, mixed with sugar. He said it was cough medicine so we could get some sleep prior to getting up to go fishing the next morning. That was my first consumption of alcohol until I turned 16.

When I was 16 years old, my oldest sister drowned after having a seizure in the shower. She had just given birth to my niece two months prior. My other sister moved in with us after a falling out with our father. That’s when the drinking started with me. She wanted to party every weekend, and I wanted to see what it was all about. With a fake ID in hand, I was off and running. Just on the weekends, and finally going out with my parents also. We moved to Florida in 1979, which really...

(Continued on page 3 ...)

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Calendar

Fri 02/03	Intergroup Meeting [NO MEETING FOR FEBRUARY]
Sat 02/04*	Accessibilities 10:00 AM 4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill + Zoom
Mon 02/06	District Meeting 6:15 PM 1214 Broad St, Masaryktown
Sat 02/11*	Unity Meeting, 6:30 PM 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee
Fri 03/03	Intergroup Meeting 6:30 PM 8555 Forest Oaks Blvd, Spring Hill
Sat 03/04*	Accessibilities 10:00 AM 4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill + Zoom
Mon 03/06	District Meeting 6:15 PM 1214 Broad St, Masaryktown
Sat 03/11*	Unity Meeting, 6:30 PM 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee

* - More details in this newsletter



Intergroup Officers

CHAIRPERSON

Frank S.
chair@aahernando.org

ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Jim B. 727-642-3533
altchair@aahernando.org

SECRETARY

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

TREASURER

Suzanne M. 352-584-5656
igtreasurer@aahernando.org

Intergroup Contacts

OFFICE MANAGER

JJ M. 352-683-4597
info@aahernando.org

Intergroup Office Hours

Mon-Fri 9am-1pm
Saturday 9am-12pm
(Checks payable to Hernando Intergroup)

INTERGROUP COMMUNIQUÉ

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

HOTLINE 352-683-4597

Chairperson:

Johnny V. 352-346-6096

HEAART

Nancy E.
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heaart@aahernando.org

INTERGROUP LIAISON

Anthony C.
igliaison@aahernando.org

UNITY MEETING

Anne Marie Chair 352-277-6304
Nancy Asst. Chair
unity@aahernando.org

WEBMASTER & MEETING LISTS

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

Intergroup Meeting

First Friday

Feb NO MEETING, Mar 3rd at 6:30 PM
Forest Oaks Lutheran Church
8555 Forest Oaks Blvd.,
Spring Hills

District 13 Officers

DCM

Lori Ann S. 631-480-3200
dcm@aahernando.org

ALTERNATE DCM

Mark S. 727-858-8366
altdcm@aahernando.org

SECRETARY

<V A C A N T>
dsecretary@aahernando.org

TREASURER

Linda M. 812-841-5601
dtreasurer@aahernando.org

District 13 Committees

ACCESSIBILITIES

Richard C. Co-Chair
Diane B. Co-Chair
accessibilities@aahernando.org

ARCHIVES

Elizabeth S. 352-942-2591
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DISTRICT COMMUNIQUÉ

Maryanne N. 914-466-9116
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CORRECTIONS

Debbie Q.
corrections@aahernando.org

GRAPEVINE

Jennean G.
grapevine@aahernando.org

LITERATURE

Linda S.
literature@aahernando.org

PUBLIC INFO (PICPC)

Jim S.
picpc@aahernando.org

PARLIAMENTARIAN

<V A C A N T>
parliamentarian@aahernando.org

TREATMENT

Joe C.
treatment@aahernando.org

District Meetings

District – 1st Monday

Feb 6th, Mar 6th at 6:15 PM
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1214 Broad St., Masaryktown

Accessibilities – Sat before 1st Monday

Feb 4th, Mar 4th at 10:00 AM
Zoom and in person
Meeting ID: 839 0564 1292 Passcode: 347398
4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill

Unity Meeting Schedule

Saturday, February 11th
Hosted by: **A Desire**

Saturday, March 11th
Hosted by: **Principles Before Personalities**

Doors open at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 pm.
Nativity Lutheran Church, 6363 Commercial Way,
Weeki Wachee, FL

We are looking for host groups for the Unity Meeting for April through August 2023

For more information please contact:
Anne Marie, Chair: 352-277-6304,
unity@aahernando.org

2023 AREA 14 ASSEMBLY DATES

April 14-16
July 7-9
Sept 29-Oct 1

Area Assembly location: Mission Inn Resort & Club,
10400 County Road 48, Howey-in-the-Hills, FL. 352-324-3101, 800-874-9053 (toll free.) Check in 4:00 PM,
check out 12:00 PM.

See Area Assembly website for more information:
aanorthflorida.org/assembly_agenda.asp

But for
the
Grace
of God.

Hernando County Intergroup

Central Office & Book Store

4118 Lamson Ave.
Lamson Woods Plaza
Spring Hill, FL 34608
Office Manager: JJ M.

352-683-4597

Intergroup Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 9 am–1 pm
Saturday 9 am–12 pm
info@aahernando.org

Group Donation Addresses

Attention all Group Treasurers:

Please send donations to the following:

Please note new address:

District 13 Treasurer

7381 Lykes Dublin Road
Brooksville, FL 34601

(Checks payable to District 13)

Hernando Intergroup Office

Suzanne M. –Treasurer
4118 Lamson Ave.
Spring Hill, FL 34608

(Checks payable to Hernando Intergroup)

Please note new address:

North Florida Area Assembly

PO Box 6301
Jacksonville FL 32205-9998
aanorthflorida.org

(Checks payable to NFAC)

General Service Office

PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

aa.org

(Checks payable to GSO)

(Continued from page 3...)

... pissed me off because it was midway through my senior year in high school. Down here in Florida things weren't going so well, so I moved out on my own with a friend and really started drinking like a party animal.

I had a good paying job, manager of an auto parts store at the age of 18. They screwed me out of my yearly bonus, so I quit and moved on. For five years I rarely drank heavy; you know, a 6 pack occasionally, just to feel good. Things didn't work out, so I moved to Cedar Key area with a girl I met. Turns out I was drinking a 6 pack every day. I had a decent job, until I received a call at work. My mother called and said she needed me to come home. Your stepfather is in the hospital. So, I rushed to the hospital, just to see them trying to revive him from a heart attack. He died before I could say goodbye. I knew my mother needed support, so I moved back home. Drinking daily became the norm for me; you know, covering up the loss.

At this point in my life, I had jobs from being dump truck driver to a nurseryman and landscaper. Now comes where I meet my first wife through a mutual friend. After we were married, we had a son. Life was going great, I backed off drinking somewhat until I changed jobs. I went to work on a golf course and really enjoyed working there. Then the heavy drinking again took its toll. I had to file for bankruptcy, and she wanted a divorce. She got out of the marriage with only biweekly weekends visits with our son. I got main custody through a home evaluation. During this time, I started feeling alone in the world and needed some else in my life. I started seeing a woman, and we got married. Life started going great with a new wife, and my father came back into my life. Well, it turns out she liked drinking as much as me. My father helped us with purchasing a house with the agreement to live in it also, and we agreed.

Things didn't work out! She tried controlling everything, so we divorced. Life was lonely again, but I never stopped drinking daily. So, I started to look for a companion, and she's my wife now! Life was great, a new wife and a whole new family. Then part of the way into our marriage, life went south. Between the death of my parents and her mother, my drinking was out of control. I drank to cover up my feelings about life. The turning point was when I could have killed my oldest stepdaughter and granddaughter coming home drunk and almost crashed into them. I pulled into the driveway, then all hell broke out. I don't remember anything. It was a complete blackout. I continued drinking daily and didn't have a care in the world, only wanted to numb the pain. My family had an intervention with me, and that's when I truly knew I was an alcoholic and needed help.

I had a choice to make. Stop drinking and seek help, or lose everything. I made a choice while driving to work. I stopped and googled the closest AA meeting. I pulled into the intergroup parking lot and called the Hotline. The nicest lady answered. I said I'm an alcoholic and need help. That was over 6 years ago. I thank God I made that phone call!! What a new life I have today, Living Life on Life's Terms!!

Mark S.
Alt. DCM

DCM Corner

January was an exciting month for me. I attended my first Area Assembly January 13 - 15 as District 13 DCM. District 13 was represented by 10 voting GSRs and Alt GSRs at the business meeting Sunday morning. Everything about the Assembly was new. We have a new panel of Trusted Servants, Panel 73. The Committee Chair people were new and the location was new. With the exception of some IT hiccups, it ran smoothly. Since the location is so close, it was nice to see some of District 13 GSRs on Saturday attending workshops. At the Area Assembly we were coordinating with other districts to schedule and plan a pre-Conference Workshop. More to come on that. I will have more to share at our next District meeting.

I attended an AA meeting on Friday night where the topic of discussion was...What does service mean to me? Since I first got sober, I took on many commitments (making coffee, setting up chairs, taking down chairs, vacuuming the carpet, throwing away the trash, door greeter). As I grew in sobriety, I became more active in the group business meetings and commitments outside my own homegroup. I learned in Alcoholics Anonymous that service is any action I take to help another alcoholic. That help could be as simple as a phone call, a ride to a meeting or a smile. Alcoholics Anonymous has shown me how to live a wonderful life by teaching me the twelve steps. I feel a responsibility for keeping AA going for generations.

In Service,
Lori Ann S.
DCM
District 13

Please Note:

There is a new address for District 13 Treasurer:

District 13 Treasurer
7381 Lykes Dublin Road
Brooksville, FL 34601

There is a new address for NFAC (North Florida Area Assembly):

NFAC
P.O. Box 6301
Jacksonville FL 32205-9998

MEETING IN A BOX

Are you or do you know of anyone who is unable to regularly attend meetings? Convalescing at home recovering or caring for a loved one? Extended stay at assisted living facility or hospital? We have a fully self-contained meeting in a box. Portable to take to any location and designed to leave no trace from set up to clean up. Coffee and percolator, cream, sugar, cups, readings, format, and commemorative chips for all who attend.

Here's an example of how it works. If you know someone who is in the hospital or who will be convalescing at home for a while, and they want a meeting, you can borrow Meeting in a Box from the Accessibilities committee, get people together, show up, have a meeting, then return the box to the committee. They will make sure it is organized and stocked for the next use.

Just put any 7th tradition funds collected in the envelope provided, and Accessibilities will remit to District minus any expenses.

An Accessibilities committee member can also be available to chair the meeting (when possible.)

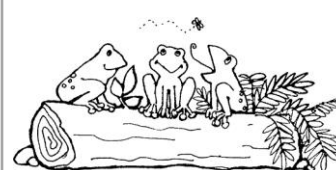
To find out more, contact Richard C. or Dianne B. at accessibilities@aahernando.org

Service Positions Available

Thinking about a service position? District 13 is looking to fill the position of secretary. No experience necessary, but some sobriety is required.

District 13 is also looking to fill the position of parliamentarian. Are you familiar with *Roberts Rules of Order* (first published in 1876, according to [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberts_rules_of_order))? "Roberts Rules" is the standard for facilitating discussions and group decision-making. Copies of the rules are available at most bookstores and online. Questions regarding meeting procedure would be referred to the parliamentarian during the district meeting.

If you are interested in either position or have questions, please contact any of the district officers listed on the second page of this newsletter.



There are 3 frogs sitting on a log; one decided to jump off. How many frogs are left on the log?

3! The frog only DECIDED to jump off the log. She hadn't taken any action!

About Concept 2

When in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference — excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or article 12 of the Conference Charter — the actual voice and effective conscience for our whole Society.

Concept I establishes the "final responsibility and ultimate authority" of the A.A. groups; but in actual practice, how are they to manage A.A.'s service affairs? By delegation, Concept II declares.

Bill and Dr. Bob, entrusted by early groups to get the program going and to spread the message, found nonalcoholic friends to help them. They formed a trusteeship and delegated to it the responsibility for finances, the Big Book and other literature, public information, the service office and the A.A. Grapevine. However, as the trustees constantly looked to the co-founders for advice and guidance and the groups also contributed to hold them accountable, it was evident that the leadership should be transferred to A.A. groups as a whole. But if the groups as a whole were to carry on their primary purpose, they would have to delegate their leadership role to a General Service Conference. They do this by electing a General Service Representative for each group. These G.S.R.s meet regularly in area assemblies and every two years elect a delegate from among their number. Every April, the delegates from 91 areas in the U.S. and Canada meet for six days with the trustees of the General Service Board, staffs of the General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine and certain other service workers. Thus, this General Service Conference of A.A. is "the actual voice and effective conscience of our whole Society in its world service affairs."



Step 2

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition 2 (Short Form)

For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants.

Tradition 2 (Long Form)

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.

Concept 2

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.



Thank You!

(01/01/2023) I almost died 10 days ago. I went to the emergency room with a subinguinal hernia and abscess the size of a softball, necrotizing fasciitis (flesh eating bacteria), expanded to lung infection, pericardium infection, and was in full septic shock. Without emergency surgery, I would not have survived until morning. Even with the surgery there were many concerns by the medical team that I would not survive the surgery. I spent the next 3 days in the hospital and went through a range of emotions, especially anger, self-pity, and depression. All I've been doing for the last year and a half of my sobriety is keeping everything inside. Fifty years of ego, arrogance, and self-reliance led me to the inability to ask for help and depend on others. When I finally broke down and asked for help, it was instantly there. I wish to thank my higher power, God, for the privilege he gave me to go through this so I could share this message with others that they may not have to go through what I did. With help from God, my sponsor, and my friends, the wall I spent many decades building that I have around myself on the inside will be coming down. I truly love and thank you all for being in my life.

Richard C.
Accessibilities Co-Chair, Member Ridge Manor Big Book

INTERGROUP TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022

Hernando County Intergroup Treasurer's report
Dec-22

Checking		Savings	
Beginning Balance	\$470.81	Beginning Balance	\$3,263.08
Total Withdrawals	\$(1,755.54)	Total Withdrawals	
Total Deposits	\$1,741.22	Total Deposits	\$0.03
Ending Balance	\$456.49	Ending Balance	\$3,263.11

Expenses

Office expenses	\$839.97
AAWS	\$482.81
Hazelden	
Recovery Accents	\$56.35
Communique	\$302.41 Ck#5471
Gratitude receipt	\$74.00 Ck#5467
Total	\$1,755.54

Deposits

Cash/Checks	1691.73
Square (Credit Cards)	49.49
Total	1741.22



If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, please call 988 (formerly 1-800-273-8255(TALK)). 988 is a 24/7, free, confidential counseling line that connects individuals to a trained specialist in suicide crisis intervention. **One common misconception of the line is that people need to be suicidal to contact 988, yet that is not the case.** Call, text, or chat 988 if you are feeling overwhelmed, upset, or worried about a suicidal loved one, and talk through the steps to take to feel better.

DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022

BEGINNING BALANCE					2022 December
Expenses					
Corrections	\$0.00				DONATIONS
Treatment	\$0.00				Dec
Print Plus	\$395.00				YTD
Service Charge	\$12.00				A Desire/Friendship Group
Area Rooms	\$0.00				AA Way of Life
Stop Check	\$35.00				AlGood Grp
Archives	\$100.00				Anonymus
Copies					Aripeka Tues
Total	\$542.00	(\$542.00)			Audio Big Book Group
					Founders day 7th Trad.
Deposits		\$1,225.41			Fun & Frolic Group
Donations	\$907.00				Happy Hour Grp
Comqu	\$302.41				Hernando Beach Group
Corrections	\$16.00				Heavy Hitters
					Hope Group
ENDING BALANCE		(\$37.20)			Let Go Let God
					Ladies Big Book
Beginning [CORRECTIONS		\$1,400.67			Principles Before Personalitie:
Expenses					Ridge Manor Big Book Group
Donations		YTD			Rough Road Group
Hope Group	\$4.50	\$72.50			Serendipity Sisters Group
Intergroup	\$11.31	\$111.81			Singleness Of Purpose Gp
Lunch Bunch		\$25.00			Spring Hill Group
PB4P		\$20.00			Sunset Group
Ridge Mannor	\$0.00	\$181.63			The Steps we took
Rough Roads		\$54.00			There Is A Solution Group
Total	\$15.81	\$464.94	15.81		Thursday Night Welcome
ENDING CORRECTIONS		\$1,416.48			Tranquility Group
Bank Balance		\$1,390.71			WISE Women
					Women's Christmas Party
					Womens Serenity Group
					Workshop

Accessibilities Announcement

Our service calls us to assist any member of Alcoholics Anonymous who is having difficulty in receiving the message of A.A. whether in or out of the rooms. We do this by using the available resources A.A. has to offer along with our own creativity to find a solution.

We at the Accessibilities Committee both want and need your help carrying A.A.'s message to the alcoholics who still suffer.

If interested in becoming a member of the Accessibilities Committee, please email us with your contact information (name, phone number, home group, and email) to: accessibilities@aahernando.org,

and we will add your name to our member list and keep you posted on upcoming Accessibilities Committee updates and events.

You may also call or text (preferred) Richard C. at 352-346-8338

Here is our meeting schedule information: we meet the Saturday before the first Monday of the month. We meet both in person and on Zoom:

Zoom Meeting ID: 839 0564 1292 Passcode: 347398

In Person: 4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



Send us anniversary information for your group at www.aahernando.org. Look for the "Submit Anniversaries" link at the top of the home page, or email them to anniversaries@aahernando.org. Please submit by the 25th of the month for the following month.

Group Anniversaries

(Date registered with GSO)

Happy Hour25

A Desire
Lisa R.....28

AI Good
Kurtis D.....13

Aripeka*
Jim D.37

Happy Hour
Felicia P.....9
Steve T.....37

Hernando Beach
Carol H.22
Mike C.5
George E.35
Terry K.38
Pat C.41

Hope
Ann S.35

Ladies Big Book
Ernestine D.27

Life Goes On
Richard26

More Serenity Sisters
Diana12
Debbie Q.....21

Principles Before Personalities
Jason G.....11
Bill V.5
Michelle S.5

Ridge Manor Big Book
Russell H.14
Lelaine37

Robert S. 43
Steve G. 5

Rough Roads
Diana 12

Singleness of Purpose
Bill V..... 5
Tammy C. 40

Step Sisters
Tammy C. 40

Steps We Took
Leo L..... 11
Randy S..... 8
Tim D. 17

There is a Solution
Linda M. 32
Meriem M. 16
Tom M. 32

Thursday Night Step
Jeremy P. 3
Tom M. 32

Women's Serenity
Jinty..... 16
Ernestine 31

* Will be identified by individual group starting next month

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aalavina.org

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HOTLINE**

**7 DAYS week
365 DAYS a year
352-683-4597**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
aahernando.org

for all your event info and meeting schedules when you are on the go. If you have any changes or event information to add please email webmaster@aahernando.org

If you find a mistake in this newsletter, please consider that it is there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.