

# COMMUNIQUE

HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA



## The Woman in The Mirror

I grew up in the town of Linden, New Jersey where I lived with my parents and a younger brother. I was an extremely shy and introverted child and always felt like I did not fit in. Growing up my shyness was often misinterpreted by my peers and led to my being bullied throughout my school years.

It was at the age of 14 when I experienced my first drink. It was at a “get-together” with a much-older crowd where a vodka-laced punch was being served. I was handed a drink, and my first sip convinced me that this elixir was the answer to my problems. It was at that moment I believed I had arrived and became the life of the party! No more hiding for me! Little did I know that I would drink alcoholically over the next 17 years and that I would destroy everything I touched. I became a liar, a cheat, and a thief. Alcohol had become my master that told me what to do and when to do it.

Eventually I got married and had two children. Unfortunately, my drinking interfered with my ability to be a good wife or a mother to those two young girls. My drinking continued to get worse and worse, and after years of fighting and insanity that marriage was dissolved. Hopelessness prevailed. During those years my father had been my protector, and when he passed away unexpectedly, I was devastated. Who was going to rescue me now? It was shortly after his death that I made yet another geographic move to Huntington, Long Island where I lived with my two little girls, ages 2 and 6. I got a job in New York City and continued to drink. My drinking alienated me from family and friends creating an overwhelming loneliness and despair, but I continued to drink. Then one day a friend stopped by my home on Thursday evening with a bottle of Tequila and offered me a drink. Usually, I would not turn down a drink under any circumstances, however, this time I resisted because the bottle of Tequila had a worm in the bottom, and that was disgusting to me so I turned him down. With a little coaxing, some salt in my palm, and a shot glass filled with that Tequila in the other, I drank it down, and I did not come out of the black-out until Saturday morning in a way I will never forget. It ...

*(Continued on page 3 ...)*

### Inside This Issue

- 2 Officers & Committees
- 2 District & Intergroup Meetings
- 2 Unity Meeting, Area Assembly, **Meeting Changes**
- 3 Donation Addresses
- 3 Got Books?
- 4 [Alt] DCM Corner
- 4 Pre-Conference Workshop
- 4 Service Positions Available
- 4 Acceptance
- 5 About Concept 3
- 5 Step 3, Tradition 3, Concept 3
- 6 Intergroup Treasurer's Report
- 6 What is Accessibilities?
- 7 District Treasurer's Report
- 7 Unity Meeting Request
- 7 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- 8 Anniversaries
- 8 Grapevine

### CALENDAR

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
Sat 03/25	Women's Day, 9:00 AM 400 Wexford Boulevard, Spring Hill
Sat 04/01*	Accessibilities 10:00 AM 4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill + Zoom
Mon 04/03	District Meeting 6:15 PM 1214 Broad St, Masaryktown
Fri 04/07	Intergroup Meeting 6:30 PM 8555 Forest Oaks Blvd, Spring Hill
Sat 04/08*	Pre-Conference Workshop, 11:00 AM 20641 Chestnut Street, Dunnellon
Sat 04/08*	Unity Meeting, 6:30 PM 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee
Fri 04/14*	Area Assembly Registration, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-in-the-Hills
Sat 04/15*	Area Assembly, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-in-the-Hills
Sun 04/16*	Area Assembly, 10400 County Road 48, Howey-in-the-Hills

\* - 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  
4116 Lamson Ave. Spring Hill

### 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.  
(352) 232-5207  
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

Mar 3<sup>rd</sup>, Apr 7<sup>th</sup> 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. Chair  
Diane B. Alt Chair  
accessibilities@aahernando.org

### ARCHIVES

Elizabeth S. 352-942-2591  
archives@aahernando.org

### DISTRICT COMMUNIQUÉ

Maryanne N. 914-466-9116  
communique@aahernando.org

### 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

Mar 6<sup>th</sup>, Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 PM  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1214 Broad St., Masaryktown

### Accessibilities-Sat before 1st Mon

Mar 4<sup>th</sup>, Apr 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM  
Zoom and in person  
Meeting ID: 862 9460 0634,  
Passcode: 870466  
4116 Lamson Ave, Spring Hill

## Unity Meeting Schedule

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>  
Hosted by: **Principles Before Personalities**

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>  
Hosted by: **Sunday Morning Serenity Sisters**

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

***We are looking for a host group for the Unity Meeting for July 2023***

For more information please contact:  
Anne Marie, Chair: 352-277-6304,

## 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

## Meeting Changes

Fresh Air Group has a new location:  
Saturday, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Gateway Bible Church  
5338 Freepoint Drive  
Spring Hill

Serendipity Sisters Group has a new location:  
Friday, 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Nativity Lutheran Church  
6363 Commercial Way  
Spring Hill

### ***New address for District 13 Treasurer:***

District 13 Treasurer  
7381 Lykes Dublin Road  
Brooksville, FL 34601

### ***New address for NFAC (North Florida Area Assembly):***

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

## Hernando County Intergroup

### Central Office & Book Store

4116 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](mailto: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  
4116 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](http://aanorthflorida.org)

**(Checks payable to NFAC)**

### General Service Office

PO Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

[aa.org](http://aa.org)

**(Checks payable to GSO)**

*(... Continued from page 1)*

... had happened again, and I was overwhelmed with despair. It was at this time that I had a moment of clarity, and when I looked in my mirror, I saw clearly what I had become and knew alcohol was my problem and begged God for help. My prayer was answered when I opened my telephone book and looked up the word alcoholic and found a number for Alcoholics Anonymous, and I called it. That call led to my being picked up by two beautiful women who came to my home and brought me to my first AA meeting. As I walked into that meeting I was filled with shame, guilt, and remorse; I found people who welcomed me, told me I was in the right place, and encouraged me to come back. It was a speaker meeting and I listened and identified with both speakers and somehow knew I was in the right place.

On the way home from the meeting, the woman who was to become my sponsor told me several important things. She explained that in this program we don't drink one day at a time. She asked me to make 90 meetings in 90 days; to get a sponsor; to get a group; to make AA the most important thing in my life. Lastly, she said that if I followed the path that was going to be laid out for me, I would never have to drink again. These words gave me the hope that I needed and the willingness to follow her direction.

In my second year of sobriety, I met and married my second husband with whom I had two more children. It was a rocky marriage because he was an alcoholic who could not stop drinking. Ten years later we were divorced, and two years later he passed away. I was left alone with four children to take care of, and for the next five years I worked two jobs and took care of those children.

Five years later, I married my current husband who is also a member of AA, and we decided to retire and moved to Clearwater 12 years ago. It was only nine months ago that we moved to Spring Hill where once again we have found a home in AA. I am grateful to have received the gift of sobriety as are all my family and friends.

AA has become an active part of my life. The steps and the principles of AA have given me a recipe for living, and I must say I have a life beyond my wildest dreams. I have been blessed with sobriety, and each time I go to a meeting I am given yet another opportunity to learn how to become a better person. I have faith that allows me the ability to pass on to others what has been so freely given to me.

Love in Service, Diane B.

Accessibilities Alt Chair



### Got Books?

Need an A.A. book or Grapevine? Want to donate some A.A.-approved literature? You can donate literature or pick up something new to read from the district literature library which is located at the Intergroup office: 4116 Lamson Ave. in Spring Hill. The Intergroup office number is (352) 683-4597.

For more information, email Linda S., our literature chairperson, at: [literature@aahernando.org](mailto:literature@aahernando.org)

## [Alt] DCM Corner

**Ridge Manor Big Book Group**  
**Tuesday 7:00pm B,O,X**  
**Thursday 7:00pm BE,LIT,O,X**  
**Sunday 7:00pm 12&12,O,SP,X**  
**Ridge Manor Baptist Church**  
**34132 Ridge Manor Blvd.**  
**Ridge Manor, FL**

Ridge Manor Big Book Group holds three meetings each week. Tuesday night is a Big Book study with members reading and then the chairperson opens the floor for discussion as they go through our book. Thursday night is literature readings from different AA-approved books or pamphlets. Sunday night is for Tradition and step of the month and speaker meetings. They have a newcomer format which they change to if a beginner comes to the meeting on any night. These members show true passion for what our program is all about! Recovery, Unity and Service! I highly recommend you check this group's meeting out!

They are in person and also do Zoom. I'm grateful for the invitation to attend their business and Big Book meeting!

We are coming up with our Delegate Workshop on April 8, 2023. We strongly suggest your group has a GSR that attends district and Area Assembly will attend. The workshop will be covering agenda items she will be bringing to the 73rd General Service Conference at the end of April.

On April 15, 2023 at the Area Assembly, she will be asking for a sense of the body as a whole. This is the procedure on how things work in AA. Agenda items will be provided to your GSR with available background material on each agenda item.

We are encouraging all GSR's to review all material for your next business meeting, so your group's voice is heard.

We do have a password protected area on the NFAC website with all the background material. Have your GSR contact us or see us on March 6, 2023 at the district meeting.

In Service, Mark S.- Alt DCM

## Acceptance

When I stopped living in the problem and began living in the answer, the problem went away. From that moment on, I have not had a single compulsion to drink. And acceptance is the answer to all my problems today. When I am disturbed, it is because I find some person, place, thing or situation - some fact of my life - unacceptable to me. I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment. Nothing, absolutely nothing, happens in God's world by mistake. Until I could accept my alcoholism, I could not stay sober; unless I accept life completely on life's terms, I cannot be happy. I need to concentrate not so much on what needs to be changed in the world as on what needs to be changed in me and my attitudes.

Alcoholics Anonymous (Big Book), 4th Edition, P. 417

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

The General Service Pre-Conference Workshop will be held Saturday, April 8, 2023 between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM.

### Location:

Dunnellon Presbyterian Church  
 20641 Chestnut Street, Dunnellon

Come join us for two hours filled with food, fun, and information. The workshop will be attended by the North Florida Area Delegate and the Alternate Delegate.

Pre-conference is where AA members learn about and provide feedback to our Area Delegate on agenda items to be discussed at the General Service Conference, held annually in April in New York. Come and see how the business of AA is done. Make sure your voice is heard!

Lunch will be provided

*Hosted by Districts 7a, 7b, 13, 17, 27 and 28*



## Spring Forward

Don't forget to set your clocks  
 ahead one hour at 2:00 AM  
 MARCH 12, 2023

## 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](#))? "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.



## About Concept 3

*As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world services with traditional "Right of Decision."*

A background for this Concept, you should be familiar with the Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board, both of which are found in The A.A. Service Manual. For, except for the specific directions in these documents, every trusted servant and every A.A. entity — at all levels of service — has the right "to decide ... how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises." That is, they can "decide which problems they will dispose of themselves and upon which matters they will report, consult, or ask specific directions." This is "the essence of 'The Right of Decision.'"

But this right also means the Fellowship must have trust in its "trusted servants." If the groups instruct their G.S.R.s rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the area conference is hamstrung. If the G.S.R.s instruct the area delegates rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the General Service Conference is hamstrung. As Bill points out, "our Conference delegates are primarily the servants of A.A. as they should ... cast their votes ... according to the best dictates of their own judgment and conscience at that time."

Similarly, if the General Service Board, acting through its subsidiary boards, "were to attempt to manage" the General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine "in detail, then ... the staff members ... would quickly become demoralized; they would be turned into buck-passers and rubber stamps; their choice would be to rebel and resign, or to submit and rot."

Bill warns against using "The Right of Decision" as an excuse for failure to make the proper reports of actions taken; or for exceeding a clearly defined authority; or for failing to consult the proper people before making an important decision. But he concludes:

"Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other."

## Step 3

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

## Tradition 3 (Short Form)

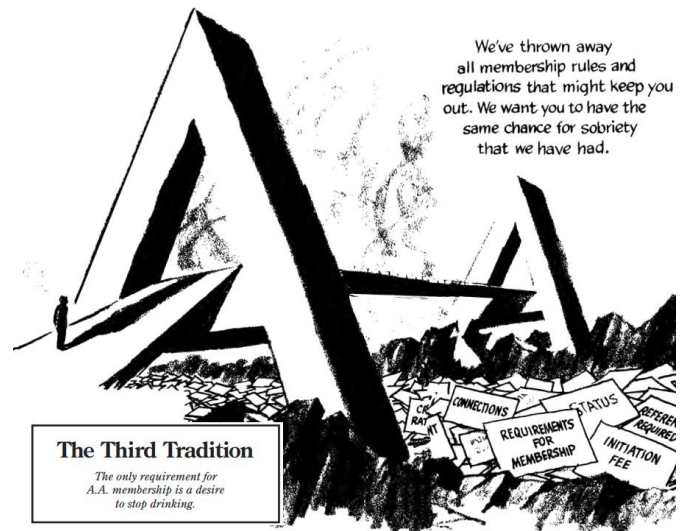
The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

## Tradition 3 (Long Form)

Our membership ought to include all who suffer alcoholism. Hence, we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

## Concept 3

To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."



"We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be."

*from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*



## INTERGROUP TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023

Hernando County Intergroup Treasurer's report			
Jan-23			
Checking		Savings	
Beginning Balance 8/1/2022	\$ 456.49	Beginning Balance 8/1/2022	\$ 3,263.11
Total Withdrawals	\$ (2,102.57)	Total Withdrawals	\$ (300.00)
Total Deposits	\$ 2,528.58	Total Deposits	\$ 200.03
Ending Balance 8/30/2022	\$ 882.50	Ending Balance 8/30/2022	\$ 3,163.14
<b>Expenses</b>			
Rent - Intergroup Office	\$ (600.00)		
Spectrum	\$ (129.97)		
AAWS	\$ (217.20)		
Printing Plus - W&W	\$ (188.03)		
Gratitude Reciept, food	\$ (300.00)		
Unity rent	\$ (150.00)		
Transfer to savings	\$ (200.00)		
Office Supplies	\$ (305.37)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (2,090.57)</b>		
<b>Deposits</b>			
Cash/Checks	2268.43		
Square (Credit Cards)	260.15		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2528.58</b>		

### What is Accessibilities?

The purpose of an Accessibilities Committee is to determine resources and recommend activities that will help carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to those with accessibility needs, both inside and outside the rooms of AA.

#### Examples of Accessibility needs:

- Deaf/Blind, Hard of Hearing or Low Vision
- Homebound or Bedridden • Technology/Literacy
- Speech and Language Barriers • Military/Veterans
- Reading Comprehension • Remote Communities
- Foreign Language / English as a second language

- Cooperation with the Elder Community CEC
- Nursing Homes/Assisted Living • Loners
- Internationalists Correspondence Service • Lack of Transportation/Mobility • Childcare Availability

The Accessibilities Committee is looking for enthusiastic people to help us carry the message of A.A. to anyone needing help.

If you are interested in joining us, or know of anyone needing assistance, please contact Richard C. or Diane B. at [accessibilities@aahernando.org](mailto:accessibilities@aahernando.org)

DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023

**DISTRICT 13 JAN 2023**

**DISTRICT**

Beginning Balance (\$37.20)

**Expenses**

Archive Rent (\$50.00)  
 Meeting Rent (\$25.00)  
 Area Room Rent (\$297.48)  
 Communique (\$325.00)  
 Service Fee (\$47.00)  
**Total (\$744.48)**

Donations \$480.00 ==>  
 Intergrp Comm Contrib \$0.00

**Ending Balance (\$301.68)**

**CORRECTIONS**

Beginning Balance \$1,416.48  
 Expenses \$0.00  
 Donations \$143.86 ==>

**Ending Balance \$1,560.34**

**District Donations**

Anonymous	\$150.00
Happy Hour	\$50.00
Its All Good	\$50.00
Let Go Let God	\$75.00
S.A.Y.S.	\$10.00
Singleness of Purpose	\$145.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$480.00</b>

**Corrections Donations**

Intergroup Pink Can	\$16.84
Living Sober	\$72.37
Ridge Manor BB	\$54.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$143.86</b>

Bank Beginning Balance \$1,390.71

Bank Ending Balance \$1,269.23

The Unity Meeting needs a host group for July 2023. If your group would like to volunteer, please contact Ann Marie: 352-277-6304 or [unity@aahernando.org](mailto:unity@aahernando.org)



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.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



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, or email them to [anniversaries@aahernando.org](mailto:anniversaries@aahernando.org). Please submit by the 25th of the month for the following month.

**Group Anniversaries**

(Date registered with GSO)

- More Serenity Sisters.....31
- Serenity Sisters.....32
- Singleness Of Purpose.....18
- The Steps We Took.....22
- A Desire**
- Pete H. ....8

- AlGood**
- Tom M. ....37
- Jim S. ....41
- Aripeka Open Speaker**
- Pete H. ....8
- Howard.....14
- Heavy Hitters**
- Elaine A.....30
- Liz S. ....1
- Ann B.....57
- Wayne S.....14
- Hernando Beach**
- John D. ....34
- Hope**
- George H. ....46
- John S. ....5
- Lisa B. ....6
- Ladies Big Book**
- Angela R.....6
- Let Go and Let God**
- John P. ....6
- John D. ....34
- Let's Get Serious**
- Tracey R.....23
- Life Goes On**
- Rosan .....28

- Principles Before Personalities**
- Scott S. ....13
- Eric L. ....28
- Bill S.....12
- Don C. ....2
- Jim S. ....41
- John P. ....6
- Terry M. ....10
- Ridge Manor Big Book**
- Denise W. ....3
- Kathy H. ....49
- Rough Roads**
- Charlie W.....4
- Chuck S. ....49
- John W.....46
- Pat H. ....48
- Scott S. ....26
- Spring Hill Monday Night**
- James O. ....2
- Serendipity Sisters**
- Eileen B.....13
- Sherrill A.....21
- Serenity Sisters**
- Carole M. ....11
- Joanne H. ....26
- Tranquility**
- Howard B.....14

The A.A. Grapevine makes for great reading and a terrific gift! Bring a meeting topic with you wherever you go! A one-year online subscription (digital only) is \$19.99.

To find out more open a browser and go to:

[aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org)

Or

[aalavina.org](http://aalavina.org)

And click on "Subscribe."



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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](mailto: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.**