



COMMUNIQUE



Just Keep Coming Back

I have to begin when I was about 11 years old, when my parents, who were fine photographic illustrators, decided to go to work in New York City, after years of working out of our home in upstate NY. They hired an old Scottish lady to take care of us five days a week, while they were in the city during the week. We scared her away in a few days and spent the next year becoming the best fixers of broken things that the little town of Stone Ridge had ever seen.

It sounds like fun. We hot-wired the '53 Chevy truck that was left in the country and drove around wherever we wanted (at that time, I was 11, and my brother was 13.) A few scenes have stayed with me, as if they happened yesterday. Wednesday nights was roller skating at the local grammar school. I remember standing in my bedroom one Wednesday night looking at myself in the mirror, trying to do my hair. I was so sad because there was no one around to help me. As a matter of fact, there was no one around to teach me anything. I decided that I just had to accept the fact that I was going to have to figure things out for myself. That became the main theme of my mental attitude for many years.

My parents would travel on vacation and business trips, and at one point, stopped having people watch after us when they were away. During those vacations, my brother would organize great parties at our house. We lived in the middle of nowhere, and instead of going out to bars to drink and dance, he would invite the entire bar with band to our house. Needless to say, I started experimenting with alcohol at about age 13.

I started experimenting with dry goods in my late teens, and, by the time I was out of high school and on my way to music school, I was drinking and drugging with the rest of the kids growing up in the 1960s. I lasted a little less than a year at music school and was brought home in disgrace. I got sent to Europe to visit with a friend of mine I'd met at music school. When I got there, I didn't really have any access to drugs, but I did my best to drink as much as possible and am amazed that I really didn't get into too much trouble.

I came back to New York and decided I wanted to go to art school, since my dreams of becoming a concert pianist were dashed. I started going to night school on my own. I really loved it. I completed two semesters successfully and applied for full-time ...

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EVENT CALENDAR

Fri 12/01	Intergroup Meeting 6:30 PM 8555 Forest Oaks Blvd, Spring Hill
Sat 12/02	Accessibilities 10:00 AM Zoom only
Mon 12/04	District Meeting 6:15 PM 1214 Broad St, Masaryktown
Sat 12/09	Unity Meeting 6:30 PM 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee
Thu 12/14	Women's Christmas Party 5:45 PM Buffet City 13235 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville
Sat 12/16	Intergroup Holiday Party 4:00 PM 109 S. Broad Street, Brooksville
Sat 12/30	Accessibilities 10:00 AM Zoom only
Sat 12/30	Sunset BBQ & Speaker Meeting 4:30 PM 250 Bell Ave, Brooksville
Fri 01/05	Intergroup Meeting 6:30 PM 8555 Forest Oaks Blvd, Spring Hill
Mon 01/08	District Meeting 6:15 PM 1214 Broad St, Masaryktown
Sat 01/13	Unity Meeting 6:30 PM 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee



STEP 12

Having had a
SPIRITUAL AWAKENING
 as **THE** result of these steps,
 we tried to carry **THIS** message
TO ALCOHOLICS
 and to practice these principles in **ALL** our affairs

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

Group Donation Addresses

Attention all Group Treasurers:

Please send donations to the following:

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)

North Florida Area Assembly

PO Box 6301

Jacksonville FL 32205-9998

aanorthflorida.org

(Checks payable to NFAC)

Please note new address:

General Service Board

PO Box 2407

James A Farley Station

New York, NY 10116-2407

(Checks payable to GSB)



Just Keep Coming Back, continued from page 1

... status. I went there for two years, loving every minute of it. I did my fair share of drinking on weekends. My boyfriend and I decided one night that what we needed was a flag from one the tug boats that parked in the harbor, and, high on booze and other substances, somehow managed to find a tug boat, jump aboard and get off again with the flag, and make it back to his apartment in the East Village, all without getting killed or arrested. Alcohol was my constant companion.

Serious relationships had always scared me. I met another great guy, but when he wanted to take the relationship to the next level I chickened out. This set the pattern for most of my relationships. I always had someone waiting in the wings for when things got too serious, too real. I regret this as I never had what I would call a successful relationship with a partner. I wonder, when I look back to those times, why I made some of the decisions I did. I'm not sure that alcohol particularly had a lot to do with them, but I'm certain that alcoholism DID. For instance, my parents did not have money to send me on to graduate school after art school, and, by then, I was anxious to get out of school anyway. After three years, the art school asked me to return for a fourth year, which was a huge honor, and I declined. Because of my alcoholic thinking, I threw that opportunity away.

I decided to follow in my mother's footsteps and go to work for the advertising industry, so she helped me create a portfolio. Drinking all the time, I won't mention any major disasters due to drinking, but it was just one drama after another. Relationships created and lost, and jobs gained and lost. I worked on Wall Street at a really great job. One day I just didn't show up because I was too hung over. I had been upstate visiting with my mother. I just decided not to go back to the city. I didn't pay my rent and didn't communicate with anyone. I just checked out. When I finally got it together to go back, all my furniture had been moved to the basement. I don't even remember being particularly upset. I was amazed any of it was there at all. It was not the last time that happened to me. I've lost belongings, writings, paintings, relationships, just by disappearing. Some of those times I was in such a fog, I don't remember but the haziest images of what was really going on.

I went back to freelancing in advertising and design studios in NYC and made a pretty good living for a number of years. I had an affair with one of my art directors and helped destroy his marriage. That had an effect on me, and I was beginning to see how my behavior affected other people, not just me. No one ever mentioned that I drank too much, but a number of people had things to say about how I behaved and treated others. I was not only emotionally irresponsible; I was financially irresponsible. Every year I put money aside in a joint bank account that I had with my boyfriend to pay my taxes, and every year, he would spend it on a boat or a car, or some such, so I never filed any forms or paid my taxes. I had codependency issues as well as alcoholism. I was also having physical issues. I was falling a lot and breaking or spraining something in my body. I was beginning to think that something was wrong with my drinking. I was also having car "incidents": spinning off the road in the snow, and getting right back on the road and driving home.

At one point, I was offered a full-time position at the ad agency, and I accepted. I knew that once I filed my taxes, the government would catch up with me, but something in me wanted to end this insanity. As a result of filing my taxes, the government attached my income and took everything except \$80 a week. I ...

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Just Keep Coming Back, continued from page 2

... had my own apartment, and there was no way I could live on \$80 a week. It was the last straw for me.

I was miserable. I had to do something. Finally, I remembered the many conversations that my brother had had with me, since he was already in the program of AA, and I called the intergroup office where I lived to find a meeting. That was in 1987. I don't remember much of that first meeting, but what I do remember is so clear. The person who was chairing the meeting began speaking and said, "My name is -----, and I really don't want to be here today, but I want to be sober, so let's have a meeting." The room exploded in applause, and I was mystified. What was she doing here, if she didn't want to be? Who could look so happy about doing what they didn't want to do? The meeting went by in a blur. After it was over, the woman who led the meeting came up to me and said something that has saved my life over the years. "Don't let anything keep you away from meetings. No matter what happens to you. No matter what you do to anyone else, just keep coming back!"

I stayed dry long enough to file 8 years of back taxes with a lot of help, then relapsed on and off. I finally got two years together, then hooked up with a newly-sober married alcoholic and helped ruin his marriage. It was such a crazy time. Eventually we moved to Florida in 1997. I stayed sober, amazingly, for a total of 9 years. My then-husband started bringing drugs and booze into the house, and we were fighting more than ever. One day I was walking from one spot in the apartment to the other, and saw a joint burning in the ash-tray. I just picked it up and took a hit. Nine years down the tubes! How could that happen? Easily. I dropped my support network. I had not been going to meetings, didn't have a sponsor, wasn't talking about what was going on in my head, and wasn't dealing with any relationship issues.

I smoked pot for about 4 months, and then called my old sponsor in NY and confessed. She promptly called me an idiot, laughed at me, and told me to go pick up a white chip. The day I picked up that white chip was February 9, 1999. I had to find and implement the things that were missing, or I wasn't going to survive. I was living a lie, and in serious denial, but I started changing things that I could. I remember the real turning point, and it was the morning that I woke up and found out that my husband had not returned after "borrowing" my car the night before. I stood in my living room of our apartment and said to myself, "OK, so NOW what am I going to do? Guess I better call my sponsor for a ride to a meeting."

Many meetings and lots of therapy, and lots of drama later, I got a divorce and committed to myself that I would NOT repeat this type of insane relationship ever again. It was the

hardest thing I ever did, not to continue to sabotage my life. Inch by inch and change by change, I began to learn how to live.

I haven't had a drink or a drug since I picked up that white chip in February 1999. Today I try to live a life of balance and integrity. I went through the steps with a sponsor, and continue to do so, to the best of my ability. The steps embody universal principals that work under ALL conditions. I had to admit that I was powerless, not only over alcohol but to predict the outcome of things. Life had taught me that I had to do it all, and perfectly, and that was something I had to unlearn. Instead, I had to ask for help. I had to rely on a power greater than myself. And lastly, so importantly, I had to learn how to be of service. I had to take my attention from myself and pass on what I'd learned. To my joy I discovered how amazingly working with others can lift your spirits and increase your self-esteem. My sponsor always says, "If you want to have great self-esteem, then do esteemable things."

I have people in my life that I care for and who care for me. I never did get married again, and have no children, but I have discovered ways of living and expressing myself through art that have afforded me great joy and fulfillment. I am the curator of a wonderful community cultural center, and I'm learning an entirely new line of work. Yahoo!

Life doesn't always work out the way you think it should, but if you say "yes" to the universe, have faith in a higher power, whatever that means to you, and don't let yourself get glued to the couch with fear, you can learn to live a life that is always rich and full and meaningful.

Willow W.

Reflections Group, Thursday Night, Tampa



Intergroup Officers

CHAIRPERSON

Frank S.
chair@aahernando.org

ALTERNATE CHAIRPERSON

Jim B. 727-642-3533
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TREASURER

Suzanne M. 352-584-5656
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Intergroup Contacts

OFFICE MANAGER

JJ M. 352-683-4597
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4116 Lamson Ave. Spring Hill

Intergroup Office Hours

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

COMMUNIQUÉ (INTERGROUP)

John K. 352-650-2324
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Chairperson:

Johnny V. 352-346-6096

HEAART

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INTERGROUP LIAISON

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UNITY MEETING

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

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

John K. Chair 352-650-2324
technology@aahernando.org

Intergroup Meeting

First Friday

Dec 1st, Jan 5th at 6:30 PM
Forest Oaks Lutheran Church
8555 Forest Oaks Blvd,
Spring Hill



District 13 Officers

DCM

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

ALTERNATE DCM

Mark S. 727-858-8366
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SECRETARY

<V A C A N T>
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TREASURER

Linda M. 812-841-5601
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District 13 Committees

ACCESSIBILITIES

Diane B. Chair
Laura L. Co-Chair
accessibilities@aahernando.org

ARCHIVES

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COMMUNIQUÉ (DISTRICT)

Maryanne N. 914-466-9116
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CORRECTIONS

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Lisa W. 912-312-0210
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GRAPEVINE

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Jim S.
picpc@aahernando.org

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Eleanor B.
parliamentarian@aahernando.org

TREATMENT

Joe C.
treatment@aahernando.org

District Meetings

District-1st Monday

Dec 4th, Jan 8th at 6:15 PM
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1214 Broad St., Masaryktown

Accessibilities-Sat before 1st Mon

Dec 2nd, Dec 30th at 10:00 AM
Zoom Meeting ID: 852 0319 0787
Passcode: 820000 (all 2023 meetings)

Unity Meeting Schedule

Saturday, December 9th

Hosted by: **Intergroup (New officers intro)**

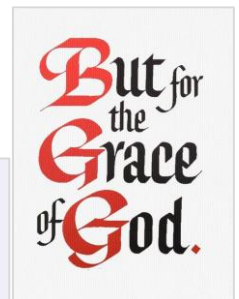
Saturday, January 13th

Hosted by: **Singleness of Purpose**

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

For more information please contact:

Anne Marie, Chair: 352-277-6304,
unity@aahernando.org



Meeting Changes

Heavy Hitters has a meeting change to announce:

The women's meeting on Saturday at 10:00 AM will now be known as the Women's Literature Meeting. The format has been changed to a literature meeting.

The group meets at 250 Bell Avenue in Brooksville.

Communique Email List

Anyone wishing to subscribe to the Communique email list can send an email with a subject line of "Opt In" to the address below requesting to be added to the email list. You will automatically receive the Communique in your email inbox on the first of every month. You can opt out anytime by sending an email with your request to the same address with the subject line "Opt Out."

subscribe@aahernando.org

Your email address will not be shared for any other purpose.



Concept 12

General Warranties of the Conference: in all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

About Concept 12

This Concept consists of the General Warranties of the General Service Conference. It is cast in stone; that is, although Bill leaves the door open for alterations and changes in the other concepts and points out that the rest of the Conference Charter "can be readily amended," these General Warranties -- like the Twelve Steps and the Traditions -- be changed only by "written consent of three-quarters of all A.A. groups who respond" in the world!

Why?

Because "these Warranties indicate the qualities of prudence and spirituality which the Conference should always possess... These are permanent bonds that hold the Conference fast to the movement it serves."

The Warranties also express spiritual principles which apply to all other entities as well. Let us, then consider these principles one by one:

Warranty One: "The conference shall never become the seat of perilous wealth or power." The Seventh Tradition protects us against the accumulation of too much money. So long as we refuse to take outside contributions and limit individual member's donations, "we shall not become wealthy in any perilous sense." And if we live by Tradition Two -- that "our ultimate authority is a loving God" our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern" -- then we are safe from perilous power.

Warranty Two: "Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample Reserve, should be its prudent financial principle." although many of us as active alcoholics were free spenders, when it comes to supporting "A.A. service overhead, we are apt to turn a bit reluctant." Yet, in A.A. the cost of the service office is relatively low in terms of the number of groups served, and if the need for support is made clear, the contributions are forthcoming. The Reserve Fund should be one full year's operating expenses of the G.S.O. and Grapevine. The Reserve Fund comes almost entirely from the sale of A.A. literature, which also is used to make up the deficit between group contributions and the cost of group services.

Warranty Three: "None of the Conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any others," This principle is discussed earlier in Concept IV, but "it is so important we have made it the subject of this Warranty" --a "strong stand against the creation of unqualified authority at any point in our Conference structure."

Step 12

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Tradition 12 (Short Form)

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Tradition 12 (Long Form)

And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

A.A. and Anonymity

Two of A.A.'s traditions address anonymity. The Eleventh Tradition states that our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films. The Twelfth Tradition says that Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Anonymity is often referred to as the greatest single protection the Fellowship has to assure its continued existence and growth. In stressing the equality of all A.A. members — and unity in the common bond of their recovery from alcoholism — anonymity serves as the spiritual foundation of A.A.

If we look at the history of A.A., from its beginning in 1935 until now, it is clear that anonymity serves two different yet equally vital functions:

At the personal level, anonymity provides protection for all members from identification as alcoholics, a safeguard often of special importance to newcomers.

As valuable as privacy is to new members, most of them are eager to share the good news of their A.A. affiliation with their families. Such a disclosure, however, is always their own choice.

At the level of press, radio, TV, films, and on the internet practicing anonymity stresses the equality of all A.A. members. Maintaining anonymity at this level puts the brakes on those who might otherwise exploit their A.A. affiliation to achieve recognition, power, or personal gain.

When using social media and other online platforms, A.A. members are responsible for their own anonymity and that of others. When we break our anonymity in online forums, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others. Protecting anonymity is a major consideration for A.A. members who are moving online in ever-growing numbers.

Read more in: [Anonymity Online](#)

(source: aa.org)

INTERGROUP TREASURER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023

Hernando County Intergroup Treasurer's report October, 2023				
Checking			Savings	
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,550.30		Beginning Balance	\$ 1,799.64
Total Withdrawals	\$ (2,234.62)		Total Withdrawals	\$ (250.00)
Total Deposits	\$ 3,583.88		Total Deposits	\$ 0.01
Ending Balance	\$ 2,899.56		Ending Balance	\$ 1,549.65
Expenses				
Rent - Intergroup Office	\$ (600.00)	Ck 5383	<u>Donations</u>	
Spectrum	\$ (137.97)		There is a solution	\$ 50.00
WREC	\$ (61.00)		Aripeka speaker	\$ 215.50
Nationwide insurance	\$ (913.05)	Ck 1020	Anonymous	\$ 50.00
Printing Plus - W&W			Unity	\$ 345.00
Recovery Accents	\$ (60.60)		Promises	\$ 300.00
Donation error	\$ (300.00)	Ck 1024	Sunset group	\$ 300.00
Unity rent	\$ (150.00)	Ck 5484	Precisely	\$ 100.00
Service charge	\$ (12.00)		Singleness of purpose	\$ 23.00
Total	\$ (2,234.62)		Brooksville group	\$ 100.00
			Ernie P	\$ 50.00
<u>Outstanding checks</u>				
Gratitude food	\$ 1,125.00			
Cheirtmas party hall rent	\$ 100.00			
<u>Deposits</u>				
Transfer from Savings	250			
Cash/Checks	3049.5			
Square (Credit Cards)	284.38			
Total	3583.88			

AA Grapevine's YEAR-END DOUBLE SAVING SALE continues: 20% off all products, plus FREE shipping for the US and Canada.

Select from over 100 products including books, CDs, artwork and organizers. Now is the perfect time to order a gift or something for yourself. Hurry! This special offer is available for a limited time only. P.S. Offer good on purchases from 11/1/23 through 12/31/23 only.

Shop now at aagrapevine.org!



Grapevine for Android

Download the app for free from the Google Play Store for Android. Scan this QR code with your phone camera.




Grapevine for iOS

Download the app for free from the Apple App Store for iPhone. Scan this QR code with your phone camera.



DISTRICT TREASURER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2023

DISTRICT 13	Oct-23	YTD
Beginning Balance	\$3,635.13	
Expenses		
Archive Rent	\$50.00	500
Founders Day	\$0.00	435
Meeting Rent	\$0.00	300
Area Room Rent	\$297.48	918.12
Communique	\$0.00	1625
Email Expense	\$0.00	59.7
Service Fee	\$0.00	47
Accessibilities	\$0.00	24.59
Literature	\$0.00	32.08
Treatment	\$0.00	89.2
Total	\$347.48	(\$347.48)
Donations	\$245.00	3512.4
Comq	\$0.00	\$2,065.10
Ending Balance	\$3,532.65	

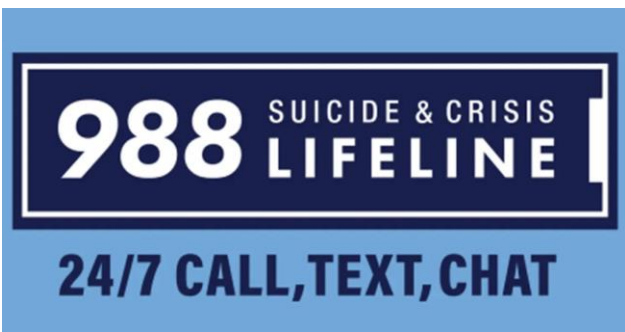
CORRECTIONS

	YTD	*\$703.58
Beginning Balance		
Hope grp	0	136.03
Intergroup Pink Can	0	76.68
Living Sober	0	72.37
Ridge Manor BB	101	206.75
Tranquility	0	15
Total	101	506.83
Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,099.75
Ending Balance		*\$804.58

Accessibilities	0
Anonymous	0
Aripeka BB	0
Fun and Frolic	0
Happy Hour	0
Heavy Hitters	0
Hernando Beach	0
Hope Group	0
Its All Good	0
Let Go Let God	25
Lunch Bunch	100
More Serenity Sis	0
Principles b4	0
Ridge Manor BB	120
Rough Roads	0
S.A.Y.S.	0
Serendipity Sisters	0
Serenity Sisters	0
Singleness of Purpose	0
Step Sisters	0
Sunset Grp	0
The Steps We Took	0
TIAS	0
Tranquility Group	0
Wise Women	0
Woman's Serenity Grp.	0
Young Mens Club	0
	13530
Total	245

Bank Beginning Balance	\$4,339.06
Bank Ending Balance	\$4,337.58
Cash on hand	\$0.35
Total	\$4,337.93

* adjusted to reflect Aug omission



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.

What is “Accessibilities?”

The purpose of an Accessibilities Committee is to define and 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 to carry the A.A. message to anyone who needs it. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Diane B. or Laura L. at accessibilities@aahernando.org.

If interested, please join us at our upcoming committee meeting(s) via Zoom:

Scheduled Accessibilities Committee Meetings 2023:

Dec 2nd 10:00 AM

Dec 30th 10:00 AM

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85203190787?pwd=WE9sandMWDJLTjhYMWIXb3pRZmFhdz09>

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.

Contact Dianne B. or Laura L. at accessibilities@aahernando.org

Meeting In A Bag

Accessibilities committee is announcing Meeting in a Bag, also called Mini-Meeting in a Box. If you are planning to visit a member of AA in the hospital, residential center, convalescing at home, or caring for a loved one, and they can't make it to a meeting, simply contact Accessibilities committee, and take one of these with you. Visiting is great, but sometimes a meeting can be even better. It includes everything needed: format card, readings, and our commemorative chips.

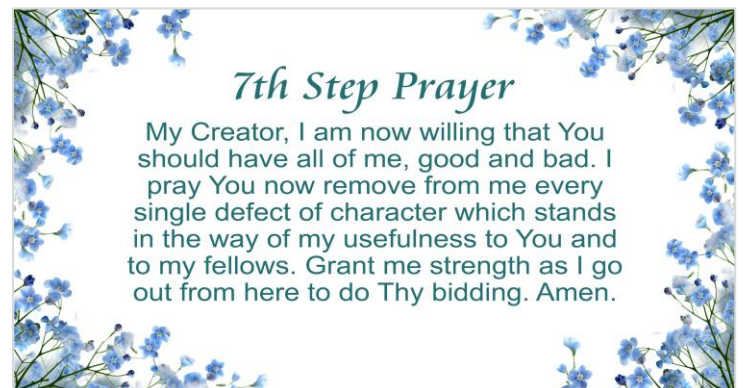
Contact Dianne B. or Laura L. at accessibilities@aahernando.org

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.

Also available is the position of Archivist. An archivist for Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) collects, organizes, and preserves historical records. They are responsible for the physical and intellectual integrity of the collection. No experience is necessary, but some sobriety is required.

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



Origins

[Newsweek Article from February 19, 1940](#)

Alcoholics Anonymous Science Column

Medicine usually claims to cure only about 2 per cent of the cases of acute alcoholism it treats. Last week a non-medical group appeared which made the unusual claim that 25 per cent of its cases were cured. Called Alcoholics Anonymous, the group was a club composed of ex-drunkards and men trying to overcome the liquor habit who, for obvious reasons, prefer their names to remain unknown. Not particularly anxious for publicity, it nevertheless came into the limelight last Thursday evening when John D. Rockefeller Jr. gave a dinner party for educators and others interested in the club's work.

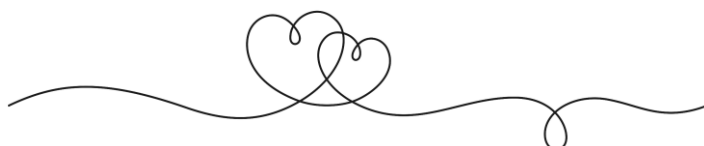
The organization has existed for more than four years; yet it has spread its gospel only by word-of-mouth advertising and a free book. It started with two members; today it has something around 500. It has no dues, but it does have a strict membership requirement: an honest desire to stop drinking.

The founder was a commercial traveler who found himself obsessed with liquor and was unable to get cured at any of the sanitariums he tried. Finally, though he was an agnostic, he turned to what for want of a better name might be called faith. Immediately he got help in the form of his own determination to stop drinking; almost as soon, he was impelled to help another drinker cure himself in the same manner.

From these two men sprang the society and its three principles of (1) telling another person – a friend, a member of the group, perhaps even a priest, in the case of a Roman Catholic – of the trouble that has turned him to drink, (2) resolving to abstain henceforth; (3) helping others to abstain. In short, members subordinate a desire for liquor for something higher – call it God, Buddha, faith, self-determination, or what you will.

Today the society has branches in Akron, Cleveland, Chicago, and the New York metropolitan area. It meets in small groups at various members' houses and keeps the address of its headquarters as secret as its members' names – giving out only two post-office box numbers in New York, one for general inquiries and the other for requests for its book. Through the generosity of men who have conquered alcoholism and of onlookers like Rockefeller, who does not drink but is interested in movements to eradicate drunkenness, it raises a budget for salaries of its directors and stenographers, rent, and stationery.

(Source: silkworth.net)



subscribe@aahernando.org

Alt DCM Corner

Happy Holidays to All!!

I would like to thank all the volunteers who made our Gratitude dinner a wonderful event for all. A special thanks to the groups and individuals for their contributions. Without them, we wouldn't be able to continue our celebration of Gratitude month. Thank you!

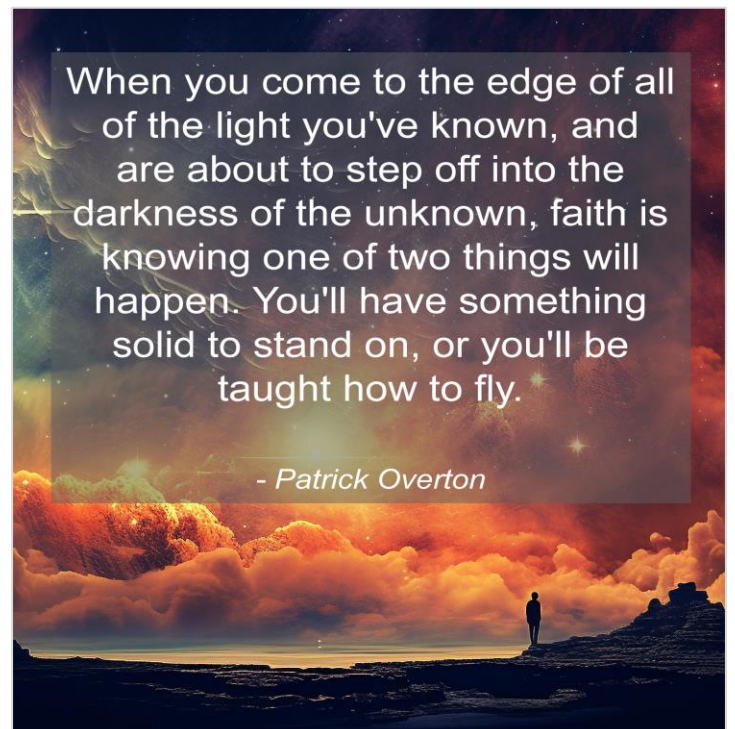
During this past month I needed a meeting. I attended Singleness of Purpose. It's a Big Book closed meeting. Great reading and discussion meeting, they only go through 2 pages every meeting. They are a medium size group that meets every Thursday night at St. Andrews Episcopal Church at 6:00 PM.

On November 18, our corrections chairperson and I attended SSAASA 7 in Orlando. It was held by Area 14 members. For those who do not know what SSAASA is, here it goes: Southern States A.A. Service Assembly. It is for GSRs, DCMs, District members, Area committee members, Intergroup/Central Office reps, and anyone interested in or involved with A.A. service. All A.A. members are welcome to learn more about our Third Legacy-Service!

We attended a few roundtable workshops of interest to bring more information and ideas back to our district. We hope to get this information out to all who attend our district and intergroup monthly meetings.

May you and your family have a safe and blessed holiday season!!

In Service,
Mark S.
Alternate DCM District 13



When you come to the edge of all of the light you've known, and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing one of two things will happen. You'll have something solid to stand on, or you'll be taught how to fly.

- Patrick Overton

aahernando.org

You are invited!

Women's Christmas Party

Thursday
December 14th
5:45 PM
Buffet City
13235 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville

Enjoy some fun, food, and fellowship!
Theme: pajama party ... festive or casual. Tickets are \$21 including tip. Bring a Yankee swap gift worth up to \$20 if you would like to participate

Intergroup Holiday Party

Please bring a dish or dessert to share!

You're invited for some holiday cheer to celebrate this special time of year!

See you at the United Methodist Church 109 S. Broad St. in downtown Brooksville

Saturday, December 16
Doors open @ 4 pm
DJ starts at 4:30

You may contact Sue S. at 413-219-5133 with any questions

Sunset Group
BBQ & Speaker
meeting

Saturday, December 30th


Food 4:30 pm T.J. B from
Speaker 5:30 pm Riverview FL

Side dishes and desserts are appreciated

Suggested Donation \$6
No alcoholic turned away

First Presbyterian Church
250 Bell Ave Brooksville

Proceeds will be donated according to our group pie

ACCEPTANCE 
IS THE KEY

ACCEPTANCE IS THE ANSWER TO ALL OF 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, AND 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 MY 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 IN MY ATTITUDES.

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Send us anniversary information for your group at 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)

Life Goes On33
 Promises25
A Desire
 Russell P.15
 Barbie A.20
AlGood
 Tom D.17
Heavy Hitters
 John C.6
 Kelly T.25

Leo B.8
 Mark C.4
 Mark L.11
 Michael L.9
 Mike L.6
 Pamp P.30
 Ron S.26
 Tom L.3

Hernando Beach

Karen M.35

Let Go & Let God

Ken38

Principles Before Personalities

Gini B.37

Promises

Sam A.40
 Ken F.38

Ridge Manor

Clifford C.42
 Edward J.1
 John K.5

Rough Roads

Cliff C.42
 Susan F.37
 Toni O.35

Spring Hill Monday Night

Renee O.3

Sunset

Jules D.2

Thursday Night Welcome

Andy K.35

Tranquility

Mark C.9
 Mike W.12

Women's Serenity

Leah2

"... Our book is meant to be suggestive only. We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. The answers will come, if your own house is in order. But obviously you cannot transmit something you haven't got. See to it that your relationship with Him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the Great Fact for us.

"Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

"May God bless you and keep you - until then."

- *Alcoholics Anonymous, page 164*

**24 Hour
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*

technology@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.