



# Tri-County Central Office News

## Merry Holidays (as you understand them)

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.  
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December, 2023

### Rocketed Into the Fourth Dimension

The message of Alcoholics Anonymous that we can carry into treatment centers is that this Fellowship has changed us from drunk and miserable to happy and sober, and that it can do the same for the man or woman sitting at what is perhaps their first AA meeting. The Big Book talks of rewards of service to us at the beginning of chapter seven, "Working with Others": "Practical experience shows us that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail." Bill joyously wrote in Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions that an AA who begins to do Step Twelve "somehow knows that God has enabled him to make a mighty beginning, and he senses that he stands at the edge of new mysteries, joys, and experiences of which he had never even dreamed." In several years of treatment center commitments, I've been privileged to have stayed sober, to have had the obsession to drink lifted from me, and to have had the experience of feeling that I'm a useful human being. When I was drinking, I was a completely useless person. I believe that much of the joy I have in my life now has come directly from being of service to others. I feel I could do less for AA and still not drink, but I know I would not be as happy in my sobriety as I am now. When I give myself in the service of AA, not only do I stay sober, but I receive the gifts of the spirit: humility, serenity, and peace. Almost all AA meetings held in treatment centers in any part of the county need support. On some occasions I've been the only outside AA member at the meeting where I have my commitment. I know of other meetings at this treatment center where no one shows up, and so the people there—who are, literally, "the alcoholic who still suffers"—don't have an AA meeting that night. The cornerstone of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is "one alcoholic helping another." The importance of this short phrase cannot be underestimated. The Big Book recounts the instance when Bill W. paced the lobby of the Mayflower Hotel in Akron, Ohio in 1935. At one end of the lobby was a cocktail bar, at the other end was a church directory. Although he had been sober six months and had had a profound spiritual experience, he had the desire to go into the bar. Knowing he must find another alcoholic to help he went to the church directory, and through it, eventually found Dr. Bob S. Had he not found another alcoholic to help, he might have gone into the bar and had a drink. If he had had a drink he might have died a drunk and there never would have been an Alcoholics Anonymous. That is why "one alcoholic helping another" is so important. The Big Book, written in the late 1930's, suggests looking for alcoholics who want to recover by "asking a few doctors, ministers, priests or hospitals." Nowadays it's easier. Going to a treatment center meeting is as easy as getting a meeting directory and figuring out directions. Waiting there right now are alcoholics who want to get sober. The results of any service work to the AA who performs it will be enormous. The Big Book doesn't talk about us simply not drinking; it talks about us "being rocketed into a fourth dimension," and states, "this is an experience you must not miss." For me, it has indeed been an experience I am grateful not have missed.

Roger E., Orlando, Fla.

Reprint Permission AA Grapevine December 1995

### A Wonderful Time Was Had By All

Our intergroup committee voted in favor of having our first Old-Timer's Meeting. Since I made the motion to sponsor the meeting, I was named chairwoman and organizer. Since I'm fairly new to this area (I got blown out of Miami by Hurricane Andrew), I didn't know who all the old-timers were, so I had to seek help in finding names, groups, and the whereabouts. I did this by going to our monthly district meeting and attending meetings I didn't normally attend. I asked everyone who came to our intergroup office if they knew of someone who had thirty years or more of sobriety. Allison, our intergroup newsletter editor, helped me put together a flyer which we made available to all the groups at the district meeting. We also handed them out at the intergroup office and at the monthly intergroup meeting. It wasn't long before I had a nice long list of old-timers compiled, complete with phone numbers. Every group got very competitive and if they had an old-timer in their group they wanted to see that he or she spoke at the meeting. So you can see we really spread the message to our area. We rented a church hall for an afternoon on the last Sunday in April. Since a lot of old-timers can no longer drive at night, we wanted to be sure everyone who wanted to participate could. Ken B. and I brought the coffeepots, bought the coffee, fixings, and cake; and then we prayed to God that AAs would show up. One week before the meeting I had finalized ten speakers and two who wanted to be introduced but didn't want to speak, so we were ready with a pre-printed program, medallions, and someone to tape the speakers. Bud E., our intergroup chairman, chaired the meeting. Nine old-timers spoke and we introduced three. Each old-timer had eight minutes each to tell a little about "what it was like when they came to Alcoholics Anonymous." I had a spot watch and a whistle so they wouldn't go beyond eight minutes. I blew the whistle a few times and everyone loved it, especially those who hadn't been to this kind of meeting. Old-timers can be lengthy (after all, they have a lot of experience), so the timing and the whistle were important to the progression of the meeting. We raffled two books, *Dr. Bob and The Good Old Timers* and *Pass It On*. We felt those were significant to the meeting. There was 387 years of sobriety among the speakers, 99 attendees who hung on to every word that was spoken and a lot of cheering and laughter. A wonderful time was had by all. We knew the meeting was a success beyond our wildest dreams when we heard a newcomer say, "This is the best meeting I've ever attended. It gave me so much hope. If they can stay sober that long, so can I."

Ellie B., Lakeland, Fla.

Reprint Permission AA Grapevine December 1995

**The Birthday Club:** Contributions to the Central Office help support the local services to members and groups throughout Hillsborough and East Pasco Counties and help ensure that the A.A. message is carried around our area. Members customarily contribute \$1, \$2 or even \$5 a year for each year of sobriety—others may give a penny or a nickel a day for each day of their sobriety. Ask your Treasurer if they have any Birthday envelopes available. We usually send one out when a group sends in their contribution to Central Office or call or email your Central Office. **933-9123 or [aainfo@aatampa-area.org](mailto:aainfo@aatampa-area.org)**

**District 2 - Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee covering Hillsborough & East Pasco Counties**

**CONTACT---(877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672**

**DISTRICT 2 TBAIC BUSINESS MEETING NOVEMBER 11, 2023**  
 Chair: Jonathon C. called the meeting to order. In attendance: Jonathon C, Mike B, Melissa B, John T, Bianca H, Joe R, Liz G OFFICERS  
**REPORTS Chairpersons Report** – Jonathon C Attended District 2 Zoom Call - Motion to Virtual only is being voted on next week. Motion B passed. Accessibilities need volunteers. There are several motions with finance being voted on in December. Report Accepted **Secretary Report** – Melissa B John filled Melissa in on what needs to be handled for the secretary’s position. The email list will be sent to her so she can function. Report Accepted **Treasurers Report** – John T attached. If you need literature go to Central and buy it they will bill it to TBAIC. \$17,000 in contributions YTD is amazing local support. We are so grateful to have the funds to do this job. Report Accepted **Treatments Report:** Detox Treatment coordinator - John T Things are going well. At ACTS Friday noon meeting is not filled right now. ACTS juvenile is starting Wednesday night meetings and YPG is interested in chairing, as well as a lady from 3333. Report Accepted **Cove Women’s** – Linda is not present **Cove Men’s** – Joe R says things are going well. They have enough literature. Report Accepted **TB Community Hosp wellspring** – Tom is not present **Sandra Prince Intermediate Care ACTS** – Joe R Things are going well, plenty of volunteers, well attended. Report Accepted **New Beginnings** – They are not doing meetings there anymore. John will reach out to them. **Jails and Corrections Report:** True Core Behavioral Juvenile Facility – Jenna is not present **Hillsborough Women’s jail** – Bianca H. We have 3 meetings per week including Manatee Co., No new applications are being accepted as the coordinator retired. Their training a new coordinator but won’t accept applications while in process of training them. 11 volunteers missed only 1 meeting and that was because of Veterans Day. There will be no meeting on November 24th for Thanksgiving. We have a minimum of 1 person for all meetings available. We have been lending Suzie @ Manatee Co. one person for their Wednesday meeting. We had a lovely pot luck lunch fellowshiping. Manatee Co. had a literature cabinet added for us to use at the meetings. We have found the court ordered people are better behaved because there in classes all week so are used to the routine of sitting in a meeting. There are separate meetings for those that are not court ordered and those meetings are much rougher to keep focused and on track. Report Accepted **Hillsborough Men’s Jail** – Rich R is not present **Zephyrhills Corrections** – Tom F is not present **East Pasco Women’s Jail** – Brittnei B is not present. We are not sure if district 15 is taking that over. **Bridging the Gap:** This is a shared responsibility - Mike is creating manuals for coordinators and showed the new workbook kit (which is handsome). There were several calls that hang up; we think there is a technical problem with calls going through. Daily reports show time talking to people, but no one is there when the phone is answered. John will talk to Tom about fixing it again. Mike tested it at the meeting and it does seem to be functioning. The call hangs up when someone else answers it so that seems to be the issue with hang ups and calls not connecting. John, Jon, and Mike are going to work on calling everyone on the volunteer list and make sure everyone is still interested that’s currently listed. Report Accepted **Man on the Bed:** John - 6 calls, 4 men, and 2 women were able to contact 2 men and 2 women. The 2 men that we did not contact were discharged sooner than reported so we missed being able to connect with them. The social workers are very good and facilitate the calls to us. Tom wants to start doing it again, but he needs more time for personal reasons.

**Our Next Committee Meeting**  
**December 9th, 2023 9:30 am on ZOOM.** Contact us at [www.tbaic.org](http://www.tbaic.org) for more information. The meeting usually lasts about an hour and it is the best way to get involved with service work, in Detox/Treatment/Jail/ Prison facilities. If you would like to join our committee **PLEASE COME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

| <a href="http://www.tbaic.org">www.tbaic.org</a> |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Position   | Name              |
| Chair  | Jonathan C.       |
| Chair (Alt.)                                     | Mike B.           |
| Treasurer  | John T.           |
| Secretary  | Tom F.            |
| Hillsborough County Jail                         | Buddy H. (Men’s)  |
| Hillsborough Women’s Jails                       | Sara R. (Women’s) |
| Pasco Jail-Women’s                               | Brittani B.       |
| Treatment Coordinator                            | John T.           |
| Bridging the Gap                                 | Tracy S.          |
| Man on the Bed                                   | Tom F.            |
| Zephyrhills CI                                   | Tom F.            |

Report Accepted **Old Business:** We need a new secretary as Tom is stepping away from the position at least in the short term. In the interim we propose Melissa B. to be the secretary for now until Tom returns. So Melissa will be filling in until Tom comes back. No vote needs to be taken as she is just filling the spot until he returns. **New Business:** Suzie is heading the jail meetings and is requesting money for 1 case of Daily Reflections books and 2 cases of Grapevines. They take meetings into District 4 Manatee Co. as there is no real support thus far from Manatee Co. district. The ladies doing it have home groups that are heavy contributors to the pink can in District 2. Jon thinks we need to make sure Manatee Co. District knows we are doing this due to their budgetary restrictions. Joe thinks a cap should be put on the budget for it with no disagreement from any members of the committee. John thinks a \$200 one time funding should be the cap which will cover this order. Suzie is doing both Hillsborough and Manatee female jail meetings. Manatee allows paper literature that’s why these will be used at Manatee but not in Hillsborough which is digital. Committee Voted Yes The Central Office TBAIC cabinet needs some work. John is going on the 21st to work on it and add pamphlets, books, and organization. The Carry the Message Day event is March 9, 2024 and we have been asked to set up a booth there. It will be at the Salvation Army on Sligh Ave. in the gym. We will be providing a booth and manning it. Motion to close accepted

**Thank you to those groups who have sent in a donation last Month:**

**Contributions: November 11th-December 9th, 2023**  
**Florida State Convention: \$3,500.00, Keep it Simple/ Pass it On: \$171.89, Old School Group: \$144.00, Ruskin Fellowship: \$73.00**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| YTD Contributions to TBAIC        | \$21,180.53 |
| Pink Can Balance 12/22            | \$8,063.62  |
| YTD Money Spent on Literature     | \$18,187.74 |
| YTD Operational Expenses          | \$3,945.95  |
| Pink Can Current Balance 01/07/23 | \$7,110.46  |

## STEP 12

Step 12 gives us a guarantee—a promise that if we take the first eleven Steps, we will have a spiritual awakening. The result of working these Steps is just that: a spiritual awakening. We have tapped the “*unsuspected inner resource*” of strength by working these Steps, and our spirit is awakened. (Big Book, pp. 569-570 3rd Ed.) Now we carry this message to others: “I have tapped an inner resource with the first eleven Steps, and if you have a problem in your life and you would like to tap your inner resource, this is the way you can do it. It has worked for me.” This is all the message is. It is very simple: *here is a program that works*. Throughout the Big Book, Bill talks about a “*sudden spiritual experience*” which effected his recovery and influenced his writing and the focus of the book. Later on, when they were putting out the second edition, a lot of people asked him not to emphasize his sudden spiritual experience because they thought many people might feel they would have to have the same type of spiritual experience in order to recover. So he changed the term to “*spiritual awakening*.” The distinction is that a “spiritual experience” happens suddenly, and a “spiritual awakening” happens more gradually. It doesn’t matter which we have (far more people have the gradual kind of spiritual awakening), but we are promised that if we work these Steps, we will become spiritually awakened. I believe there are as many different experiences of spiritual awakening as there are people. It is a very personal thing. God knows that no two people are alike. Each person is going to have a unique spiritual experience or a unique spiritual awakening that will fit his or her particular life. Each one will be like no other, but they all will have something in common: *we will be able to think, believe, and feel things that we couldn’t before*. We will be able to do things we couldn’t do on our own strength. We can receive God’s directions in our lives; we have had a spiritual awakening. This is what we carry to other people. Remember that we said if we can believe in Step 2, and decide in Step 3 and act in Steps 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, we will get the Promises in Step 9 and results in Step 10, and the results of prayer and meditation in Step 11. Now we *know*. We are people who have faith. We have seen the program work for us, and those of us who know from our own experience that it works can go to the new person and help him or her come to believe.

Joe McQ (of the Big Book Study Tapes)



“We really value our anonymity in this group.”

## TRADITION TWELVE

One may say that anonymity is the spiritual base, the sure key to all the rest of our Traditions. It has come to stand for prudence and, most importantly, for self-effacement. True consideration for the newcomer if he desires to be nameless; vital protection against misuse of the name Alcoholics Anonymous at the public level; and to each of us a constant reminder that principles come before personal interest—such is the wide scope of this all-embracing principle. In it we see the corner-stone of our security as a movement; at a deeper spiritual level it points us to still greater self-renunciation. A glance at the Twelve Traditions will instantly assure anyone that “giving up” is the essential idea of them all. In each Tradition, the individual or the group is asked to give up something for our general welfare. **Tradition One** asks us to place the common good ahead of personal desire. **Tradition Two** asks us to listen to God as he may speak in the group conscience. **Tradition Three** requires that we exclude no alcoholic from AA membership. **Tradition Four** implies that we abandon all ideas of centralized human authority or government. But each group is enjoined to consult widely in matters affecting us all. **Tradition Five** restricts the AA group to a single purpose, carrying our message to other alcoholics. **Tradition Six** points at the corroding influence of money, property, and personal authority; it begs that we keep these influences at a minimum by separate incorporation and management of our special services. It also warns against the natural temptation to make alliances or give endorsements. **Tradition Seven** states that we had best pay our own bills; that large contributions or those carrying obligations ought not be received; that public solicitation using the name Alcoholic Anonymous is positively dangerous. **Tradition Eight** forswears professionalizing our Twelfth Step work but it does guarantee our few paid service workers an unquestioned amateur status. **Tradition Nine** asks that we give up all idea of expensive organization; enough is needed to permit effective work by our special services—and no more. This Tradition breathes democracy; our leadership is one of service and it is rotating; our few titles never clothe their holders with arbitrary personal authority; they hold authorizations to **serve, never govern**. **Tradition Ten** is an emphatic restraint of serious controversy; it implores each of us to take care against committing AA to the fires of reform, political or religious dissension. **Tradition Eleven** asks, in our public relations, that we be alert against sensationalism and it declares there is never need to praise ourselves. Personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and film is urgently required, thus avoiding the pitfall of vanity, and the temptation through broken anonymity to link AA to other causes. **Tradition Twelve**, in its mood of humble anonymity, plainly enough comprehends the preceding eleven. The Twelve Points of Tradition are little else than a specific application of the spirit of the Twelve Steps of recovery to our group life and to our relations with society in general. The recovery steps would make each individual AA whole and one with God; the Twelve Points of Tradition would make us one with each other and whole with the world around us. Unity is our aim. Our AA Traditions are, we trust, securely anchored in those wise precepts: charity, gratitude, and humility. Nor have we forgotten *prudence*. May these virtues ever stand clear before us in our meditations; may Alcoholics Anonymous serve God in happy unison for so long as he may need us.

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**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

**November 14th, 2023** the Board of Directors for Central Office  
**BOARD MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

**November 14th 2023** the Central Office Representatives met:  
**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP**

**If you attended the Meeting but not listed below, we didn't catch your info in the chat—follow up with an email to [aainfo@aatampa-area.org](mailto:aainfo@aatampa-area.org)**

| AL B.     | CHAIRPERSON  | THURSDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK          |
|-----------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| LINDA B.  | BOARD MEMBER | JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP         |
| CHRIS S.  | BOARD MEMBER | RUSKIN FELLOWSHIP GROUP          |
| DODY H.   | BOARD MEMBER | CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP            |
| DEBBIE S. | BOARD MEMBER | TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIOUS CONTACT |
| CARL L.   | BOARD MEMBER | KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP       |
| BRAD W.   | BOARD MEMBER | TAMPA NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP    |
| OPEN      | BOARD MEMBER |                                  |
| OPEN      | BOARD MEMBER |                                  |
| OPEN      | BOARD MEMBER |                                  |

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| CLARENCE W.     | TAMPA NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP      |
| ERIN C.         | NEXT DOOR GROUP                    |
| SANDY M.        | STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP     |
| JOHN T.         | LIVING SOBER/AS BILL SEES IT GROUP |
| MIKE M.         | SERENITY GROUP (ZOOM)              |
| NANCY H.        | FOURTH DIMENSION GROUP             |
| CATHY H.        | SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP      |
| ANNIE L.        | KEEP IT SIMPLE GROUP               |
| KIMBERLY S.     | 164 GROUP                          |
| SCOTT B.        | TAMPA SATURDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS      |
| SONIA T.        | BIG BOOK BUNCH GROUP               |
| NES Z. ALT. COR | THE PROMISES GROUP                 |
| KAITLYN H.      | SPEAK EASY GROUP                   |
| LYNNE J.        | SISTERS IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP  |
| PRISCILLA M.    | BUTTERFLY HER JOURNEY GROUP        |
| FRANK L.        | SOBRENITY GROUP                    |

Al opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. (Because of time restraints the Board & Council meeting has been combined. ) Board Members present: Al B., Linda B., Dody H., Debbie S., Brad W., Chris S. & Carl L. Al asked all Board members to be present at the December meeting to take care of some holiday business. Secretary Report: Debbie read the October Secretary report. Nancy asked if we had not received the Promises Group Anniversary contribution. Tim clarified that it had been received. Debbie noted that we had read the September minutes, that's why it wasn't reported-yet. A Motion to approve was made & seconded & accepted. Treasurers Report: Chris presented the October Treasurer's Report. Contributions in October totaled \$13,740.61. This accounts for what 34 Groups or Individuals in our area have contributed in October, also included is, \$1,840.86 from 13 Groups or Individuals who made contributions through PayPal. The Promises Group Anniversary Dinner and in collaboration with the Sisters in Sobriety Group raised \$5000.00 for the benefit of the Central Office. Our literature sales for October was \$4,372.79. This includes sales from A.A. material and non-A,A, material (medallions—etc.) Our total income for October was \$18,113.40. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$3,554.14. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our October income left us with a Gross Profit of \$14,559.26. Our Total Expenses for October were \$10,159.73. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of plus+\$4,399.53 for the month of October. Chris was a little confused about the Promises Anniversary contribution with the Promises Group and the Sisters in Sobriety Group. Tim clarified that both the Promises Group and the Sisters in Sobriety had both collaborated on the event, that's why the contribution had been broken down the way it was. The Cakewalk Raffle was included in the contribution. A Motion to approve was made & seconded & accepted. Old Business: NOTE: There was some audio problems, so I didn't hear some things said. New Business: NOTE: Al bought up the 12 Step List looking for drivers to help folks get to a meeting. Some discussion followed. Announcements: Tim announced Thanksgiving & Christmas Alcathons & New Years event. All posted on our web site [www.aatampa-area.org](http://www.aatampa-area.org) A motion to close was made, seconded and approved. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. The next Board & Council Meeting will be December 12th, 2023 at 7:00 pm on ZOOM

**BARRACKS BRIGADE CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS ALCATHON**

38418 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Zephyrhills, Florida 33542

**On Christmas Day on the 25th we are having an Alcathon, food and a Christmas party from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. December 31st 2023 New Year's Eve from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 am the Barracks is having an Alcathon, food New Year's Day from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Old School Group's Annual Winter Holiday Alcothon!**

18125 US Hwy 41, Lutz, FL 33549

**Meetings will be held EVERY TWO HOURS!!**

**Sunday, December 24th (Christmas Eve) 8am - 4pm. 6pm we will have fellowship followed by 7pm Candlelight Reflections Meeting.**

**Monday, December 25th (Christmas Day) 8am - 8pm. Christmas Dinner served from 1pm to 2pm.**

**Sunday, December 31st (New Years Eve) 8am - 8pm.**

**Monday, January 1st (New Years Day) 8am - 8pm.**



**"How can the Grapevine keep in touch with your group if you don't have a GvR?"\***

\*Grapevine Representative

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

**It Works-It Really Does—Ask them how they did it!!!**

| GROUP                        | Honors To  | Date     | Years  |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|--------|
| AA 101 GROUP                 | KAY M.     | 12/08/01 | 22 YRS |
| THANK GOD IT'S FRIDAY        | JANICE P.  | 12/09/90 | 33 YRS |
| NEW WAY WOMEN'S              | ANN K.     | 12/12/05 | 18 YRS |
| NEW WAY WOMEN'S              | ELLIE C.   | 12/14/86 | 37 YRS |
| NEW WAY WOMEN'S              | SUSAN G.   | 12/23/84 | 39 YRS |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP              | TOMMY P.   | 12/27/19 | 4 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP              | MIKE H.    | 12/18/19 | 4 YRS  |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP              | MICHAEL P. | 12/26/09 | 14 YRS |
| SOBER @ 7 GROUP              | JANET S.   | 12/01/09 | 14 YRS |
| LIVING SOBER/AS BILL SEES IT | DIANE S.   | 12/28/18 | 5 YRS  |
| CAME TO BELIEVE              | PAUL H.    | 12/07/10 | 13 YRS |
| CAME TO BELIEVE              | DODY H.    | 12/23/09 | 14YRS  |
| CAME TO BELIEVE              | PENNY M.   | 12/10/09 | 14 YRS |
| CAME TO BELIEVE              | ROBERT B.  | 12/31/07 | 16 YRS |
| CAME TO BELIEVE              | BRIAN A.   | 12/02/94 | 29 YRS |

**A BIRTHDAY CLUB SUPPORTER TO  
CENTRAL OFFICE  
ONE DOLLAR OR MORE FOR EACH YEAR OF  
SOBRIETY**

| Home Group       | Honors To | Date     | Years  |
|------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| HOST OF FRIENDS  | BILL C.   | 10/29/91 | 32 YRS |
| KEYSTONE GROUP   | TOM F.    | 10/19/81 | 42 YRS |
| HIDE-A-WAY GROUP | PHILIP S. | 11/08/07 | 16 YRS |

**That's 366 Years of Sobriety!**

Someone is definitely doing something right !Search out these people and find out their secret. ☺

**OSG's Annual Candlelight Reflections**

**18125 Hwy 41**

**Lutz FL 33548**

**Entrance in the back**



**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Please bring your family/friends**

**to our Candlelight Reflections event**

**and express our gratitude for this program  
that has given us so much!**

**6:00 p.m. Light Refreshments**

**7:00 p.m. Candlelight Reflection**

**SELF-SUPPORT-November, 2023**

© Today in November of 2023 still COVID has changed the way many groups contribute to the Central Office. Some groups have remained steady in their contributions, some groups have gone to ZOOM, A few ZOOM groups have made some contributions and some groups are Hybrid (in-person & ZOOM), other groups have folded for a lack of a space to have their meeting and some new groups are starting up, and now many groups are getting back to normal pre-pandemic live meetings. Things are looking up and getting better. It's certainly a time to renew our efforts and practice the meaning of the Serenity Prayer a little bit more. We currently have 198 Groups in the Hillsborough-East Pasco area with around 520 meetings weekly. Also we have 40 Zoom Groups with 113 meetings weekly (If I counted correctly). Contributions in November totaled \$13,913.37. This accounts for what 36 Groups or Individuals in our area have contributed in November, also included is, \$4,652.03 from 13 Groups or Individuals who made contributions through PayPal. 3 members contributed \$1,048.00 from the Birthday Club and 1 member sent \$75.00 in Loving Memory of a friend who passed away. The Red Chip Day raised \$424.00 for the benefit of the Central Office. Our literature sales for November was \$7,203.63. This includes sales from A.A. material and non-A.A. material (medallions—etc.) Our total income for November was \$21,529.41. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$5,193.98. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our November income left us with a Gross Profit of \$16,335.43. Our Total Expenses for November were \$10,176.81. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of plus+\$6,158.62 for the month of November. We still have a good Prudent Reserve, all our bills keep getting paid, the lights are on, we have a decent amount of literature available, the phones are working and it is looking like 2024 just might be a better year to look forward to. Thank you for your support . Thank You!!!O.M.

*These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. (The 12 Traditions were created to help each A.A. group maintain unity and relate better to the world about us. Below is a snapshot inventory you can take to see how well you are honoring the spiritual principle found in this Tradition.)* **Tradition Twelve:** Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities. **1.** Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared? **2.** When I do not trust or agree with AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out? **3.** In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, do I imply that membership requirements go beyond the desire to stay sober? **4.** Have I a personal responsibility to help an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part? **5.** Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? **6.** Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA attractive so that other drunks might want it? **7.** What does anonymity mean to me? **8.** In light of increased awareness of alcoholism and AA's program of recovery among the general public, why is the principle of anonymity still important? **9.** Am I mindful to respect the anonymity of other AA members who may work in my place of employment or my industry? How about AA members who live in my area or neighborhood? **10.** What does "principles before personalities" mean to me?

IT'S HERE



Time for annual end of year

## Sobrenity Group

# MIDNIGHT MEETING MARATHON

Join us nightly:  
Fri. Dec.22 to Sun. Dec.31

Including  
Christmas Eve & New Years Eve

8410 N. Armenia & Waters  
(Winn Dixie plaza behind Popeye's)

# ALPHA ALCATHON

4418 North Hubert Avenue, Tampa, Florida

**CHRISTMAS EVE** (Noon)

TIL'

**CHRISTMAS NIGHT!**

**Meeting every 3 HOURS!**



**Come join us for a meeting  
and some treats!**

4418 North Hubert Avenue, Tampa, Florida

LET'S ALL GATHER &  
BE GRATEFUL...JOIN US FOR A  
**Holiday Alcathon**

SUN, DEC 24TH AT 4P EST - MON, DEC 25TH AT 11:59P EST  
SUN, DEC 24TH AT 1P PST - MON, DEC 25TH AT 8:59P PST  
SUN, DEC 24TH AT 9P UK - TUES, DEC 26TH AT 4:59A UK

ID: 789 7054 7193 PW: 920284

Join Link: <https://tinyurl.com/Serenity-Zoom>

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CONTACT US AT  
SERENITYGROUP7PM@HOTMAIL.COM

Let's Gather and Ring in a  
Sober New Year!  
New Year's Alcathon  
**2024**

SUN, DEC 31ST AT 4P EST - MON, JAN 1ST AT 11:59P EST  
SUN, DEC 31ST AT 1P PST - MON, JAN 1ST AT 8:59P PST  
SUN, DEC 31ST AT 9P UK - TUES, JAN 2ND AT 4:59A UK

ID: 789 7054 7193 PW: 920284



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