



# Tri-County Central Office News

WHEN IT COMES TO SURVIVAL FOR A.A., NOTHING SHORT OF OUR VERY BEST  
WILL BE GOOD ENOUGH....BILL W. 1955

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.  
8019 North Himes Avenue Ste. 104 , Tampa, Florida 33614-2763  
Phone: 813- 933-9123 E-Mail: [aainfo@aatampa-area.org](mailto:aainfo@aatampa-area.org)  
Web Site: [www.aatampa-area.org](http://www.aatampa-area.org)

March, 2023

## Working With Others

Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail. This is our *twelfth suggestion*: Carry this message to other alcoholics! You can help when no one else can. You can secure their confidence when others fail. Remember they are very ill. Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends - this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives. Perhaps you are not acquainted with any drinkers who want to recover. You can easily find some by asking a few doctors, ministers, priests or hospitals. They will be only too glad to assist you. Don't start out as an evangelist or reformer. Unfortunately a lot of prejudice exists. You will be handicapped if you arouse it. Ministers and doctors are competent and you can learn much from them if you wish, but it happens that because of your own drinking experience you can be uniquely useful to other alcoholics. When you discover a prospect for Alcoholics Anonymous, find out all you can about him. If he does not want to stop drinking, don't waste time trying to persuade him. You may spoil a later opportunity. This advice is given for his family also. They should be patient, realizing they are dealing with a sick person. If there is any indication that he wants to stop, have a good talk with the person most interested in him - usually his wife. Get an idea of his behavior, his problems, his background, the seriousness of his condition, and his religious leanings. You need this information to put yourself in his place, to see how you would like him to approach you if the tables were turned. Sometimes it is wise to wait till he goes on a binge. The family may object to this, but unless he is in a dangerous physical condition, it is better to risk it. Don't deal with him when he is very drunk, unless he is ugly and the family needs your help. Wait for the end of the spree, or at least for a lucid interval. Then let his family or a friend ask him if he wants to quit for good and if he would go to any extreme to do so. If he says yes, then his attention should be drawn to you as a person who has recovered. You should be described to him as one of a fellowship who, as part of their own recovery, try to help others and who will be glad to talk to him if he cares to see you. If he does not want to see you, never force yourself upon him. Neither should the family hysterically plead with him to do anything, nor should they tell him much about you. They should wait for the end of his next drinking bout. You might place this book where he can see it in the interval. Here no specific rule can be given. The family must decide these. So cooperate; never criticize. To be helpful is our only aim. When you discover a prospect for Alcoholics Anonymous, find out all you can about him. If he does not want to stop drinking, don't waste time trying to persuade him. You may spoil a later opportunity. This advice is given for his family also. They should be patient, realizing they are dealing with a sick person. If there is any indication that he wants to stop, have a good talk with the person most interested in him - usually his wife. Get an idea of his behavior, his problems, his background, the seriousness of his condition, and his religious leanings. You need this information to put yourself in his place, to see how you would like him to approach you if the tables were turned. Sometimes it is wise to

## Working With Others

wait till he goes on a binge. The family may object to this, but unless he is in a dangerous physical condition, it is better to risk it. Don't deal with him when he is very drunk, unless he is ugly and the family needs your help. Wait for the end of the spree, or at least for a lucid interval. Then let his family or a friend ask him if he wants to quit for good and if he would go to any extreme to do so. If he says yes, then his attention should be drawn to you as a person who has recovered. You should be described to him as one of a fellowship who, as part of their own recovery, try to help others and who will be glad to talk to him if he cares to see you. If he does not want to see you, never force yourself upon him. Neither should the family hysterically plead with him to do anything, nor should they tell him much about you. They should wait for the end of his next drinking bout. You might place this book where he can see it in the interval. Here no specific rule can be given. The family must decide these things. But urge them not to be over-anxious, for that might spoil matters. Usually the family should not try to tell your story. When possible, avoid meeting a man through his family. Approach through a doctor or an institution is a better bet. If your man needs hospitalization, he should have it, but not forcibly unless he is violent. Let the doctor, if he will, tell him he has something in the way of a solution. When your man is better, the doctor might suggest a visit from you. Though you have talked with the family, leave them out of the first discussion. Under these conditions your prospect will see he is under no pressure. He will feel he can deal with you without being nagged by his family. Call on him while he is still jittery. He may be more receptive when depressed. See your man alone, if possible. At first engage in general conversation. After a while, turn the talk to some phase of drinking. Tell him enough about your drinking habits, symptoms, and experiences to encourage him to speak of himself. If he wishes to talk, let him do so. You will thus get a better idea of how you ought to proceed. If he is not communicative, give him a sketch of your drinking career up to the time you quit. But say nothing, for the moment, of how that was accomplished. If he is in a serious mood dwell on the troubles liquor has caused you, being careful not to moralize or lecture. If his mood is light, tell him humorous stories of your escapades. Get him to tell some of his. When he sees you know all about the drinking game, commence to describe yourself as an alcoholic. Tell him how baffled you were, how you finally learned that you were sick. Give him an account of the struggles you made to stop. Show him the mental twist which leads to the first drink of a spree. We suggest you do this as we have done it in the chapter on alcoholism. If he is alcoholic, he will understand you at once. He will match your mental inconsistencies with some of his own. If you are satisfied that he is a real alcoholic, begin to dwell on the hopeless feature of the malady. Show him, from your own experience, how the queer mental condition surrounding that first drink prevents normal functioning of the will power. Don't, at this stage, refer to this book, unless he has seen it and wishes to discuss it. And be careful not to brand him as an alcoholic. Let him draw his own conclusion. If he sticks to the idea that he can still control his drinking, tell him that possibly he can - if he is not too alcoholic. But insist that if he is severely afflicted, there may be little chance he can recover by.....continued on Page 3

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

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

Chair Report - The meeting opened at 9:30 AM with the Declaration of Unity. Followed by the attendees introducing themselves. Jonathan C. started with his report saying that he attended Area Assembly in Sarasota that he attended both the Treatment and Corrections meetings at the assembly submitting his reports to both meetings. He also attended the monthly district meeting submitting his report to the district. He thanked Mike B. for helping him through his first time doing these meetings. Secretary Report - Tom F. was having a technical issue using his microphone and could not be heard in the Zoom meeting room. It was asked that if any changes needed to be made to the report previously emailed. No one asked for any changes and the report was approved as written and as it appears on the TBAIC website by those in attendance. Treasurer Report - John T. gave the Treasures report. He started by saying the current "Pink Can" balance was 6,633.92. He went on to say that we received contributions from 11 groups totaling 1,659.72. Our expenses for the month besides literature were as follows: \$50.00 to central office for use of their space to store our literature; \$417.09 to Ring Central to maintain our phone number for "Bridge the Gap"; \$61.25 to SUNBIZ to protect our doing business as name; \$149.90 for our Zoom Account; \$25.28 to Sarah R for a literature reimbursement. Those expenses totaled \$703.52. We also spent \$610.27 cents on literature. John T. said that our supply cabinets are full but if anyone needs literature to see him at Central Office on either Tuesday or Thursday. A motion made and approved to accept the report. Treatment - John T. then shifted to his role as treatment coordinator. He said we were looking good most places but ACTS Amethyst Monday Evening at 7:00 PM. The Friday meeting in March and April Meeting can use coverage as the current person will not be able to cover during those months. The ACTS Detox on 50th street can use some help with meeting on Saturday afternoon and Friday evening. New Beginnings sober living facility ideally a group could adopt the meeting. Salvation Army Detox can always use help. White Sands Treatment Center in Plant City wants to have one meeting a week brought in at 7:30 PM the day would need to be worked out. Alan D. asked about the HCA in Town and Country and John T said the meeting was being covered. The report was approved by the body. Detention Centers - Rich said all was going well at Falkenburg Road Jail. And he said 4 men were in the rotation for coverage. He mentioned that he could bring in literature. He also said he tried to reach out to Buddy Hall but has not been able to reach him. Ed agreed with Rich on his report. Mike C. asked about the meeting at Zephyrhills CI and was told to contact Tom F. which he subsequently did. Tom F. reported the meeting at Zephyrhills CI is going well. We had 60 men in attendance at the last meeting and he are continuing the Big Book study. We are now on page 76 in the book. Tom said he is going to shift to the 12 x 12 to fully cover steps 6 and 7. True Core juvenile detention center has a few issues with disruptions to report on, one was a fight. The fight was due, in part to lack of control by the facility. Meetings were temporarily suspended until further notice. If seems the women facilitators are on maternity leave. These facilitators were keeping the female attendees under control. Man on the Bed - Tom F reported had 8 calls since the last meeting. Six were for men and two for women. Bridging the Gap - John T reported Tracy S had 3 calls and John T. had four calls, 2 John completed. The other was a fellow wanted a ride to a meeting who was visiting from outside the area was told the service was for people leaving a treatment facility. The other was from a probation officer who wanted to verify if a parolee had attended meeting. John told him attendance information was not kept at AA meetings.

**Our Next Committee Meeting**  
**March 11th ,2023 9:30 am on ZOOM.** Contact us at **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!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**Pink Can Drive**  
 Our committee is 100% self supporting and receives no funds from the traditional pie charts or District 2 in accordance with our group conscious. If your home group has not made a pink can donation recently or if you are able to send an additional donation this year ...  
 We will put it to great use!  
**TBAIC, PO Box 26242, Tampa FL 33623**

New Business - Tom F. made a motion to get a monthly budget item not to exceed \$100.00 each month for coffee and supplies such as cups, sugar and creamers at the Zephyrhills CI. All expenses would be verified by the treasurer and reported to the committee. Rich brought up and issue where a number of treatment centers were dropping many people off at group meetings. This activity was causing some people to leave a meeting due to space issues. After some discussion it was decided that TBAIC should not be involved in trying to resolve that issue. The meeting closed at 10:20 AM with a recitation the Responsibility Pledge followed by the Lord's Prayer.

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

**Contributions: January 8th through February 11**  
 Anonymous \$0.91, Come As You Are \$20.00 , Great Way To Start The Day \$334.00, Hide A Way Group \$ 390.00, Keep It Simple, Pass It On \$244.00, Keystone Discussion Group \$10.15, Nightly Newcomers \$ 52.58, Old School Group \$164.00, On The Way Home Group \$19.00, Ruskin Fellowship \$52.75, Sober on Saturday \$10.00, Turning Point Group \$362.33

<b>YTD Contributions to TBAIC</b>	<b>\$ 3,393.69</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance 12/31/22</b>	<b>\$ 8,063.62</b>
<b>YTD Money Spent on Literature</b>	<b>\$ 3,637.87</b>
<b>YTD Operational Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4485.52</b>
<b>Pink Can Current Balance 01/07/23</b>	<b>\$ 6,633.92</b>

**The Corrections Committee needs all types of volunteers. They need people to attend meetings in the facilities, people to help spread the word about this type of service work. It is okay if you have never been to jail yourself! You can still help. You can still carry A.A.'s message of hope to an alcoholic who is incarcerated. Let's face it: many of us who should have or never have been arrested just never got caught!**

**Working With Others**

himself. Continue to speak of alcoholism as an illness, a fatal malady. Talk about the conditions of body and mind which accompany it. Keep his attention focused mainly on your personal experience. Explain that many are doomed who never realize their predicament. Doctors are rightly loath to tell alcoholic patients the whole story unless it will serve some good purpose. But you may talk to him about the hopelessness of alcoholism because you offer a solution. You will soon have your friend admitting he has many, if not all, of the traits of the alcoholic. If his own doctor is willing to tell him that he is alcoholic, so much the better. Even though your protégé may not have entirely admitted his condition, he has become very curious to know how you got well. Let him ask you that question, if he will. *Tell him exactly what happened to you.* Stress the spiritual feature freely. If the man be agnostic or atheist, make it emphatic that *he does not have to agree with your conception of God.* He can choose any conception he likes, provided it makes sense to him. *The main thing is that he be willing to believe in a Power greater than himself and that he live by spiritual principles.* When dealing with such a person, you had better use everyday language to describe spiritual principles. There is no use arousing any prejudice he may have against certain theological terms and conceptions about which he may already be confused. Don't raise such issues, no matter what your own convictions are. Your prospect may belong to a religious denomination. His religious education and training may be far superior to yours. In that case he is going to wonder how you can add anything to what he already knows. But he will be curious to learn why his own convictions have not worked and why yours seem to work so well. He may be an example of the truth that faith alone is insufficient. To be vital, faith must be accompanied by self sacrifice and unselfish, constructive action. Let him see that you are not there to instruct him in religion. Admit that he probably knows more about it than you do, but call to his attention the fact that however deep his faith and knowledge, he could not have applied it or he would not drink. Perhaps your story will help him see where he has failed to practice the very precepts he knows so well. We represent no particular faith or denomination. We are dealing only with general principles common to most denominations. Outline the program of action, explaining how you made a self-appraisal, how you straightened out your past and why you are now endeavoring to be helpful to him. It is important for him to realize that your attempt to pass this on to him plays a vital part in your own recovery. Actually, he may be helping you more than you are helping him. Make it plain he is under no obligation to you, that you hope only that he will try to help other alcoholics when he escapes his own difficulties. Suggest how important it is that he place the welfare of other people ahead of his own. Make it clear that he is not under pressure, that he needn't see you again if he doesn't want to. You should not be offended if he wants to call it off, for he has helped you more than you have helped him. If your talk has been sane, quiet and full of human understanding, you have perhaps made a friend. Maybe you have disturbed him about the question of alcoholism. This is all to the good. The more hopeless he feels, the better. He will be more likely to follow your suggestions. Your candidate may give reasons why he need not follow all of the program. He may rebel at the thought of a drastic housecleaning which requires discussion with other

**Working With Others**

people. Do not contradict such views. Tell him you once felt as he does, but you doubt whether you would have made much progress had you not taken action. On your first visit tell him about the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. If he shows interest, lend him your copy of this book. Unless your friend wants to talk further about himself, do not wear out your welcome. Give him a chance to think it over. If you do stay, let him steer the conversation in any direction he likes. Sometimes a new man is anxious to proceed at once. And you may be tempted to let him do so. This is sometimes a mistake. If he has trouble later, he is likely to say you rushed him. You will be most successful with alcoholics if you do not exhibit any passion for crusade or reform. Never talk down to an alcoholic from any moral or spiritual hilltop; simply lay out the kit of spiritual tools for his inspection. Show him how they worked with you. Offer him friendship and fellowship. Tell him that if he wants to get well you will do anything to help. If he is not interested in your solution, if he expects you to act only as a banker for his financial difficulties or a nurse for his sprees, you may have to drop him until he changes his mind. This he may do after he gets hurt some more. If he is sincerely interested and wants to see you again, ask him to read this book in the interval. After doing that, he must decide for himself whether he wants to go on. He should not be pushed or prodded by you, his wife, or his friends. If he is to find God, the desire must come from within. If he thinks he can do the job in some other way, or prefers some other spiritual approach, encourage him to follow his own conscience. We have no monopoly on God; we merely have an approach that worked with us. But point out that we alcoholics have much in common and that you would like, in any case, to be friendly. Let it go at that. Do not be discouraged if your prospect does not respond at once. Search out another alcoholic and try again. You are sure to find someone desperate enough to accept with eagerness what you offer. We find it a waste of time to keep chasing a man who cannot or will not work with you. If you leave such a person alone, he may soon become convinced that he cannot recover by himself. To spend too much time on any one situation is to deny some other alcoholic an opportunity to live and be happy. One of our Fellowship failed entirely with his first half dozen prospects. He often says that if he had continued to work on them, he might have deprived many others, who have since recovered, of their chance. Suppose now you are making your second visit to a man. He has read this volume and says he is prepared to go through with the Twelve Steps of the program of recovery. Having had the experience yourself, you can give him much practical advice. Let him know you are available if he wishes to make a decision and tell his story, but do not insist upon it if he prefers to consult someone else. He may be broke and homeless. If he is, you might try to help him about getting a job, or give him a little financial assistance. But you should not deprive your family or creditors of money they should have. Perhaps you will want to take the man into your home for a few days. But be sure you use discretion. Be certain he will be welcomed by your family, and that he is not trying to impose upon you for money, connections, or shelter. Permit that and you only harm him. You will be making it possible for him to be insincere. **Excerpt from the Big Book "Working with Others"** Reprint Permission: AAWS.

**To learn more on how to help the alcoholic—with clear-cut directions—Read the Big Book.**

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

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

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

AL B.	CHAIRPERSON	THURSDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK
TOM F.	BOARD MEMBER	KEYSTONE GROUP
BRIAN L.	BOARD MEMBER	BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP
LINDA B.	BOARD MEMBER	JUST WHAT I WANTED GROUP
Absent	BOARD MEMBER	RUSKIN FELLOWSHIP GROUP
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER	

**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@aatamapa-area.org](mailto:aainfo@aatamapa-area.org)**

KARA H.	LANGUAGE OF THE HEART GROUP
NANCY H.	KINGSWAY GROUP
SUSAN S.	STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
CAROLINE G.	SPEAK EASY GROUP
BRAD W.	TAMPA NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP-Z
MIKE C.	SERENITY GROUP—ZOOM
BILL S.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
CARL L.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
ANNIE L.	KEEP IT SIMPLE GROUP-RUSKIN
NANCY G.	HIDE-A-WAY GROUP
SONIA T.	BIG BOOK BUNCH
DAVID S.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
FRANK L.	SOBRIETY GROUP
PHIL M.	NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
DEBBIE S.	TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIOUS CONTACT
DOTY H.	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
ANDREW D.	PROMISES MEETING GROUP
KELLY E.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
MAX C.	TAMPA BAY YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
KIMBERLY S.	THE 164 GROUP
CATHY H.	SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S 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., Tom F., Linda B. & Brian L. **Secretary Report:** Tim read the January Secretary report. Motion to approve & seconded & accepted. Al asked if we had any new Board members. Julie replied that she was new. (In hind-sight Tim failed to get her Home Group and it is not sure if she was a new Board member or new to the meeting. Will ask at the March meeting) **Treasurers Report:** Tim presented the January Treasurer's Report. Contributions in January totaled \$ 10,215.30. This accounts for what 65 Groups or Individuals in our area have contributed in January, also included is \$ 2,126.37 from 13 Groups or Individuals who made contributions through PayPal. Included, also, \$34.00 from 1 member for the Birthday Club. Our literature sales for January was \$ 9,062.78. This includes sales from A.A. material and non-A.A. material (medallions—etc.) Our total income for January was \$19,278.08. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$6,729.86. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our January income left us with a Gross Profit of \$12,548.22. Our Total Expenses for January were \$8,325.96. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of plus+\$4,222.26 for the month of January. **Old Business:** None **New Business:** Al noted that he is rotating out from the Chairperson's position and turned the meeting over to Tim for election of a new Board Chair. Tim noted that only Board members can vote for the Board Chair and then asked if anyone was willing to be the Board Chair. It can only be between Tom and Linda. Tom asked Tim to clarify why between him and Linda. Tim explained that Brian is rotating out tonight and this is Kimberly's first night on the Board. Tom noted that he is rotating out next month, if he stood for Chair and had to rotate out next month, doesn't that kind of void the election process? Tim replied, I guess it would. We are in a kind of conundrum because we haven't been able to get Board members to get to our full 10 members, so we're kind of stuck here. Debbie asked what are the requirements. Tim replied, 2 ½ years continuous sobriety. That's all! That's all. Someone wanted to nominate Debbie. Tim replied that it couldn't be done like that, it has to be a Board member to be nominated—this is for the Board Chair. Brad, want I'm hearing is that Linda would be the only eligible person to be nominated. Linda noted that she can't do it because she is going into surgery tomorrow. Tom, I'll stand but I'm still confused if I'm eligible or not. Tim, me too. Tom, so whatever position you hold, at the end of your 2 years, you have to rotate out. Tim—correct. Kimberly asked if she could into Central Office and have Tim show her the ropes on what to do and maybe stand, later. Tim replied that we could probably do that. It was then revealed that Kimberly did not have enough time to be a Board member, so that disqualified her from being a Board member. Brian asked he could remain on the Board long enough for Tim to send out more letters and get more Board members. Tim, we could put it to a vote with the Board members

present. It was a vote for yes. Tim then made a suggestion to let Al continue on as Board Chair for another 6 months to a year enough we could get our Board more stabilized. Motion passed. Some discussion followed Tom noted he was willing to stay on but we need to make some changes to the By Laws. Linda suggested that everyone needs to make suggestions as to what we could do. Some discussion followed as what to do in the future. Someone asked if we would be going back to live meetings. It was noted that a lot of people don't want to drive long distance just to attend a 15 minute meeting, we haven't had a lot of business to have to attend to. Once Al came back to the meeting and was informed that he would stay on as Board Chair, he spent a few minutes explain what his duties were. Dody asked what the process was to get on the Board. Tim explained about sending the letters out. That groups were on a rotation list. Some members asked if they could get a letter send to their group. Discussion then moved to a raise for the Office Manager. Al noted that he had not had a raise since 2018. Tom made a motion to bump Tim up to \$20.00 an hour from \$16.75. Motion passed. **Announcements :** Al reminded everyone of the 20% discount for attending members. David from Sober @ 7 announced that their group was looking for a new place to hold meetings, if anyone had any ideas to please contact him. Debbie said that there several spots at the Alpha Club. Kimberly noted that the 164 Group was also looking for a new place. Al ended the announcements about trying to find new Board members and also taking a look at the possibly of resuming live meetings and maybe having a Central Office event in the future. A motion to close was made, seconded and approved. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

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

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
HIDE-A-WAY GROUP	MARY C.	03/21/01	22 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE	JOANIE	03/12/84	39 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE	JOE M.	03/01 71	52 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	LAURA	03/08/19	4 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	PAUL K.	03/08/19	4 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BOB S.	03/28/95	28 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	BOB O.	03/03/95	28 YRS
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	GREG O.	03/21/93	30 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY	PHIL C.	03/10/01	22 YRS
RUSH HOUR SERENITY	MARY S.	03/12/87	36 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	RHONDA C.	03/26/09	14 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	SUE T.	03/19/90	33 YRS
FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP	JOANIE	03/12/84	39 YRS
LIVING SOBER AS BILL SEES IT	LEE S.	03/24/17	6 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	DONNA	03/09/20	3 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	MICHELLE S.	03/04/18	5 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	DEBI S.	03/16/09	14 YRS
JUST WHAT I WANTED	TRICIA S.	03/18/08	15 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION	BOB W.	03/28/92	31 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION	JOHN W.	03/15/77	46 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION	MARY L.	03/09/73	50 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	MELISSA W.	03/27/15	8 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	BILL	03/14/13	10 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JOE D.	03/03/09	14 YRS
HIGH-NOONERS PLANT CITY	CLARK M.	03/03/18	5 YRS
HIGH-NOONERS PLANT CITY	LARRY G.	03/09/17	6 YRS
HIGH-NOONERS PLANT CITY	ELLIOT F.	03/13/89	34 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME	JOE DiR	03/03/09	14 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME	JESSICA S.	03/28/04	19 YRS

**A BIRTHDAY CLUB SUPPORTER TO  
CENTRAL OFFICE**

**ONE DOLLAR OR MORE FOR EACH YEAR OF SOBRIETY**

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
CARDINAL GROUP	MIKE S.	02/04/89	34 YRS

**That's 665 Years of Sobriety!**

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

**SELF-SUPPORT-FEBRUARY, 2022**

☺ Today in February 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 38 Zoom Groups with 113 meetings weekly (If I counted correctly). Contributions in February totaled \$ 4,871.58. This accounts for what 31 Groups or Individuals in our area have contributed in February, also included is \$ 800.65 from 10 Groups or Individuals who made contributions through PayPal. Included, also, \$34.00 from 1 member for the Birthday Club. Our literature sales for February was \$ 13,505.08. This includes sales from A.A. material and non-A.A, material (medallions—etc.) Our total income for February was \$18,376.66. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$10,403.75. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our February income left us with a Gross Profit of \$7,972.91. Our Total Expenses for February were \$7,397.91. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of plus+\$575.00 for the month of February. 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 looking like 2023 just might be a better year to look forward to. Thank you for your support of the Central Office. Thank You!!!O.M. tws:)



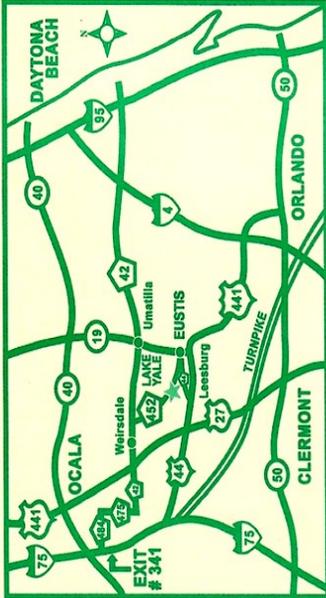
**“Whenever I have a problem, I ask myself  
‘How would a grown-up handle it?’”**

**A futurist who drank his way from the Think-tank to the Drunk-tank still keeps an eye on 2023. Picking up a bunch of grapes recently he marveled, “Ah, wine capsules!”**

# MORE NEWS AROUND THE TOWN & THE AREA

Lake Yale Baptist  
Conference Center  
39034 County Road 452  
Leesburg, FL 34788

Phone: 352-483-9800  
Web Site: <http://www.lybcc.org>



## SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15 GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY April 14-16, 2023

Hosted by Districts 8 & 9 Palm Beach County & Broward County  
Registration Friday 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Saturday 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM, Sunday 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

<b>Friday, April 14</b>	8:30-9:30pm Speaker Meeting
10:00-11:00pm Night Owl Meeting	
10:00-11:00pm Spanish Night Owl Meeting	
<b>Saturday, April 15</b>	7:00-8:00am Early Bird Meeting
7:00-8:00am Spanish Early Bird Meeting	
8:00-9:00am Traditions Workshop	
8:00-9:00am Spanish Traditions Workshop	
8:30-10:50am Treatment Facilities Committee	
9:00-10:50am Remote Communities Committee	
9:00-10:50am State Convention Committee	
9:00-10:50am Archives Committee	
9:00-10:50am Current Practices Committee	
9:00-10:50am Grapevine/La Vina Committee*	
9:00-10:50am Literature Committee	
9:00-10:50am PI/CPC Committee	
9:00-10:50am Accessibilities Committee**	
11:00-12:30pm Spanish Linguistic Committee	
11:00-12:00pm Concepts Workshop	
12:00-1:30pm Website Committee	

<b>Saturday, April 15</b>	12:30-1:30pm District Chairpersons Meeting
12:30-1:30pm District Treasurers Meeting	
12:30-1:30pm District Secretaries/Registrars Mtg	
1:00-1:50pm Spanish Concepts Workshop	
1:30-3:50pm Corrections Committee	
2:00-3:50pm Finance Committee	
2:00-3:50pm Intergroup/Central Office Meeting	
2:00-3:50pm GSM Sharing*	
2:00-3:50pm DCM Sharing	
2:00-3:50pm Quarterly Coordinators Meeting	
4:00-6:00pm Conference Agenda Review	
6:00-7:00pm Outreach Committee	
7:00-8:30pm Banquet	
8:30pm-9:30pm Speaker Meeting***	
10:00-11:00pm Night Owl Meeting	
10:00-11:00pm Spanish Night Owl Meeting	
<b>Sunday, April 16</b>	7:00-8:00am Early Bird Meeting
7:00-8:00am Spanish Early Bird Meeting	
9:00am Area 15 Business Meeting***	

\*Spanish language interpreter provided; \*\*ASL interpreter provided (if requested); \*\*\*ASL (if requested) and Spanish language interpreter provided.

Arrangements for Accessibilities accommodations at any meeting, workshop or interpreter for the hearing impaired for the Sunday morning business meeting can be made by contacting the Area Accessibilities Chair at [accessibilities@area15aa.org](mailto:accessibilities@area15aa.org) by 03/18/23. Wheelchair accessible rooms need to be booked directly with the hotel.

### SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET

No. of Chicken \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of Steak \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of Vegetable Steak (Vegan) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Tickets @ \$44 each \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guests with Special Dietary Needs (state needs): \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to District & Mail in (with coupon & note "banquet" on check) to:  
 General Service District 8 Attrs: Treasurer, PO Box 18, West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
 Venmo payments also accepted: @GeneralServiceDistrict8  
 If paying with Venmo, include your meal choice and names pick up your tickets at the April 2023 Quarterly.  
 If paying by CASH please email Gerry @ [gerrygms06@yahoo.com](mailto:gerrygms06@yahoo.com)  
 Request "PRE-Ticket Sales" Cut-off: March 31st, 2023

## SOFL ANNUAL HOUSECLEANING



## Spiritual Retreat for A.A. & Al-Anon



LAKE YALE  
CONFERENCE CENTER, FL  
OR ZOOM/PHONE  
MARCH 10-12, 2023

Unity • Service • Recovery

# 17th Annual SOBERSTOCK 2023



17TH ANNUAL

## Soberstock

MARCH 17-19, 2023 BROOKSVILLE, FL



Soberstock is a 3-day weekend AA/Al-Anon/Alateen event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship. This festival is open to all members of AA/Al-Anon and their families.

Proceeds of this function will purchase Big Books and other AA literature for District 2 Jails & Institutions. The remaining profits go to the area pie chart.

- Speaker Meetings!
- Campfire Meetings!
- Live Bands!
- Outdoor Meetings!
- ALL Food & Drinks provided!
- Tent Camping!

When: Friday, March 17th, 2023- Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at noon.

Where: "Sand Hill Scout Reservation" - 11210 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville, FL 34613

What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, lanterns, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS, NO cabins at this facility.

What we provide: Refreshments, Camp Style Meals - Fri. dinner, Sat. breakfast, lunch and dinner, & Sunday breakfast.

## online orders [www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com)

Be a part of with "Soberstock Memorabilia" - All SoberStock orders are on a "Will Call" basis, which means we do not mail any products or tickets. After orders are received, we simply have you on our list and you will pick up all of your items at the gate. Online orders are safe & secure and we take most major credit cards with the PayPal payment processing system. Please visit our website at [www.soberstock.com](http://www.soberstock.com) for the schedule of events, credit card payment, flyers, t-shirt ordering and so much more than we can fit on this flyer!



### ONLINE PRICING vs GATE PRICING:

1 DayPass - \$40.00 per person/\$50 Gate

Weekend - \$75.00 per person/\$90 Gate

Child under 12-1 DayPass - \$5.00/\$10 Gate

(CHILDREN ALLOWED ONLY IF ACCOMP. BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)

Child under 12-Weekend - \$10.00/\$15 Gate

Tent Pitching: \$15 per tent (We don't supply tents)

T-Shirts: \$20/ea (Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL)

NOTE: WE ONLY TAKE CASH OR CHECKS AT THE GATE  
NO CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS AT THE GATE!



Soberstock attendees, in light of the ongoing COVID, if you are sick, or think you are sick, please do not attend the event. Masks will be encouraged, especially in inside facilities. Should conditions around Covid change, Soberstock reserves the right to put into place additional safety measures the committee may deem necessary. We will keep you posted on our website about any changes to safety measures leading up to the event. Your love and tolerance of such is greatly appreciated.

All sales are final, and non-refundable. This is a Rain Or Shine Event. When ordering online, we will not ship any items to you. We will have all items for you (INCLUDING TICKETS!) at the front gate day of the event on a Will Call basis. Please remember, pets are NOT allowed (Service pets with paperwork only). Thank you so much for your cooperation!

## 2023 Spring Sobersticks April 7th-9th

Fun and Fellowship all weekend with Camping, Kayaking  
Campfire Meeting @ 7:00pm  
Both Friday and Saturday

\$10.00 per day per person, if you rent a campsite, cabin or RV outside group campsites you will still be required to pay the \$10.00.  
Well Be-Haved pets are welcomed.  
Group rates on canoe or kayak rentals.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
Stewart 813-455-7260

Call for Canoe/Kayak rental  
Little Manatee River  
Canoe Outpost  
18001 U.S. hwy 301 S.  
Wimauma, FL 33598  
813-634-2228  
Tell your with Sobersticks Group

Little Manatee River  
Canoe Outpost  
18001 U.S. hwy 301 S.  
Wimauma, FL 33598  
813-634-2228

### BOGA RATON MARRIOTT AT BOGA CENTER 5150 TOWN CENTER CIRCLE, BOGA RATON, FL 33486

Hotel Room Reservations:  
Call (800) 228-9290 or (561) 392-4600  
Room Rate: \$163.00 per night + tax

Reference: "South Florida General Service Conference"  
HOTEL RESERVATIONS OPEN ON JANUARY 16, 2023 @ 9:00 AM AND  
MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 14, 2023

For hotel room cancellations OR to be placed on a hotel room wait list, please contact:  
Quarterly Hotel Liaison, at:  
[hotelinfo@area15aa.org](mailto:hotelinfo@area15aa.org)

FROM I-95, EXIT PALMETTO PARK ROAD (EXIT 44) AND GO WEST.  
TURN RIGHT (NORTH) AT MILITARY TRAIL.  
TURN RIGHT AT TOWN CENTER CIRCLE & FOLLOW ROAD TO HOTEL  
ENTRANCE.

QUESTIONS? Please contact  
Quarterly Assembly Chair at:  
[garygms06@yahoo.com](mailto:garygms06@yahoo.com)

Group	FEB	Y T D	Group	FEB	Y T D	Group	FEB	Y T D
11th Step Group- Christ King			Live and Let Live Group			Sober @ 7 Group		
11th Step Meditation			Living in the Solution	200.00	200.00	Sober @ 7 Anniversary		
11th Step Retreat			LivingSober/As Bill Sees It			Sober on Saturday Group	100.00	100.00
AA 101 Group			Lunch Bunch Group			SoberSticks Event		
A Common Solution Group	8.78	17.75	Mid Day Madness		25.00	Sobrenity Group		
Alpha Group			Mid Day Matinee Group (z)			Sobrietea Women's Group		20.00
Annual Housecleaning			Mid Day Matinee Group		650.00	Soberilla		
Anonymous Donations	380.54	1237.36	Morning Express Group			Sobriety at Sunrise Group		105.95
As Bill Sees It--Riverview			Morning Meditation Meeting			Social Distancing Group (Texas) (Z)		
As Bill Sees It Mens Odessa	325.00	325.00	My Turn Group			Sobriety at Sunset Group	471.90	471.90
Attitude of Gratitude Group			Never Too Early Group			Solutions Group		
Barracks Brigade Group	20.00	20.00	Never Too Early Group(Z)			Southshore Men's Group		
Beginners Group		130.00	New Beginnings-(5:45)Joe's	40.57	160.98	Southside Men's Group # 1		
Big Book Bunch Group			New Beginnings Brandon		192.00	Southside Men's Group # 2		
Bill D's Group			New Beginnings-(Our Club)			Southside Men's Group #3		
BIRTHDAY CLUB	34.00	34.00	Newcomers Group			Southside Men's Group #4		
Brandon Big Book Group			New Tampa Monday Men's		133.00	Spiritual Development	150.00	150.00
BYO 12 & 12 Group		82.00	New Way Women's Group			Spiritual Growth Group		
Came To Believe Group			Next Door Group			Stay the Course Group		
Candlelight Group			Nightly Newcomers Group	80.00	80.00	Staying Alive @ 5:45 Group		
Cardinal Group - Odessa			Nooners Group--Riverview			Step Sisters in Sobriety		
Carrollwood Group	135.00	135.00	Nooners Group--Tampa	63.61	63.61	Stepping Stones Group (w)		134.00
Carrollwood Blue Roof Group			Noontime Celebration Gp.			Sun City Center Group	30.80	30.80
Clean Air Group			Odessa Group			Sun City Center Zoom		
Close to Home Group			Old School Group			Sunday Afternoon Step Mtg		
Come as You Are Group			Old School Gp Anniversary			Sunday Speakers - 3333		
District Two General Service	763.75	763.75	On the Way Home Tpa 5:30		240.63	Sunset Group		500.00
Early Risers Group - Joe's			One Day at a Time Group			Sunshine Group		
Expect a Miracle Group			Palma Ceia Big Book Group			Sweet Surrender Group		
Experience, Strength & Hope			Pathfinders Group			Tampa Bay Fall Roundup		
FCYPAA Committee			Pavillion Peeps	110.00	110.00	Tampa Bay Institutions	50.00	150.00
Fear Not Group			Pilgrim Group -St Leo's			Tampa Bay Speakers Gp.		216.05
Fireside Group		104.01	Plank Owners Group			Tampa Bay Young People		
Freedom in Sobriety Group		70.08	Plant City Sunday Night			Tampa Bid for FCYPAA		
Fresh Start Group			Primary Purpose Group		1.01	Tampa Group		
Friday @ 4 Group		156.00	Promises Meeting Group		213.41	Tampa Nightly Newcomers-Zoom		
Friday Night Lights Group			Promises Group Anniverary			Tampa Palms Big Book		
Fri. Morning Women's Friendship	350.00	350.00	Red Chip Day			Tampa Sat Night Speakers		100.92
Friday Night Women's Group			Reflections Group-Lake Mag			T & C Sisters in Sobriety Group		
Friends of Bill Meditation (Z)		40.00	Riverside Group		61.10	TGIS Group		
Good Start Group	6.00	956.00	Rule 62/Keep it Simple			Thank God it's Friday Group	352.00	352.00
Grapevine Gals Group	141.00	141.00	Ruskin Fellowship Group		156.00	The 164 Group		
Great Way To Start The Day		229.00	Ruskin Womens Big Book			The 164 Group Wesley Chapel		
Grupo Poco a Poco			Ruskin 11th Step Meditation			The Meeting Place Group		0.73
Grupo Solo por Hoy			Safe Haven Group			There is a Solution		
Grupo Un Milagro En Tampa			Safe, Sane & Sober Group		239.10	Thursday Pavillion Peeps		
Happy Destinty Group			Saturday Night Fever Group			To Improve Our Consious Contact		
Happy Hour Group	650.00	1,300.00	Saturday Night Live Group			Town & Country Wed. Night		
Grupo Un Milagro En Tampa			Saturday Serenity Group		144.30	Tues. Night Big Book Study		
Hi Nooners Group Plant City	100.00	200.00	Seekers of Serenity II Group			Turning Point Group -Z-H.		260.00
Hide-A-Way Group		358.27	Serenity Group--ZOOM		194.23	UT 717 Group		
High Nooners Group			Simply Sobriety Women's		67.60	Valrico Friday Morning		
Hope Floats Group			Sisters 12 n 12 Group (Zoom)		221.07	We Are Not Saints Group		
Host of Friends Group			Sisters Celebrating Sobriety			Wed Night Step Workshop		14.57
It's in the Book Group		351.73	Sisters in Sobriety Group		96.60	Wed Keep it Simple Group	195.00	195.00
In Loving Memory						Wellspring Group		7.21
Into The Triad AA Group						Wesley Chapel Group		310.87
Just What I Wanted Big Book		185.00				With Room to Grow Group		500.00
Keep it Simple Men's Group		75.00				Women's Big Book Tampa		
Keep It Simple/Pass It On						Women's Big Book Ruskin		
Keep it Simple Group Dade City		195.00	Donations thru PayPal			Women's Friendship Group		464.1
Keeping It Real Group						XYZ-32 Group		
Keystone Group	150.15	150.15	Total	494.18				
Kingsway Group		133.25	YTD Total		3,249.64			
Life Enrichment Group								
Little Harbor Grapevine Group						Total	1,349.70	
						YTD Total		4,084.10
						Monthly Total	4,908.10	
Total	3,064.22							
YTD Total		7,739.35						
						Grand Total	15,073.09	