



Tri-County Central Office News

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN :)

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.
8019 North Himes Avenue Ste. 104, Tampa, Florida 33614-2763

November, 2008

Phone: 813- 933-9123 E-Mail: aainfo@aatampa-area.org Web Site: www.aatampa-area.org

A SUGGESTION FOR THANKSGIVING BY BILL W. 1949

The idea is in the air that AA might adopt Thanksgiving week as a time for meetings and meditation on the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous...I heartily agree...and hope you will too. Pre-AA, we alkie could sometimes achieve that dubious state called "sobriety, period." How bleak and empty this alleged virtue is, only God or a dried-up drunk can fully testify. The reason? Of course every AA knows it: nothing has taken the place of the victim's grog, he's still a man of conflict and disunity. Comes then the Twelve Steps of Recovery, bringing to him a "personality change." The shattered prospect feels reassembled; he now says he seems all one piece. We understand exactly what he means, for he describes the state of being "at oneness"; he is talking about personal unity. We know he must work to maintain it and that he can't stay alive without it. Will not the same principle hold true for AA as a whole? Isn't it also a fact that the alcoholic is in no greater peril than when he takes sobriety for granted? If vigilant practice of sound principle is a matter of life and death for him, why isn't that equally so for the AA group, and for our far-flung Society itself? Yet many of us still take the basic unity of Alcoholics Anonymous for granted. We seem to forget that the whole modern society is on a dangerous and contagious "dry bender." We evidently assume we are so different from other men and women that disintegration can't hit us. Our unity appears as a gift of Heaven; something to be perpetually enjoyed by us AA's quite without effort. Criticism is not intended, because our present attitude is natural enough. It stems from the fact that no Society in it's infancy has ever enjoyed more providential protection against temptation and untoward happenings than has ours. Minor troubles we have had, but none serious enough to test our adult strength. It's not strange that we are a bit complacent and self-satisfied. Surely there need be no counsel of fear, nor lack of faith in the prediction that a far greater time of trial may yet be ours. When we think our situation through, simple prudence and foresight will tell us that. The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous are a distillate of our experience of living and working together. They apply the sprit of the Twelve Recovery Steps to our group life and security. They deal with our relations with the world outside and with each other, they state our attitudes toward power and prestige, toward property and money. They would save us from tempting alliances and major controversies, they would elevate

From the Central Office
SERVICE DESK
A total of 605 phone calls were made to the Central Office in **September**
293 for info on AA,
1 for info on Al-Anon,
9 messages for other inquiries,
3 requesting a Twelfth Step call, 302 after Office Hours calls. There were 218 walk-ins

principles far above personal ambitions. And, as a token of this last, they request that we maintain personal anonymity before the open public as a protection to AA and as proof of the fact that our Society intends to practice true humility. For the information of the general public and for the instruction of new AA members, the Twelve Traditions have just been released in a much condensed "short form" which we hope will be as widely read and

Next Column

A SUGGESTION FOR THANKSGIVING BY BILL W. 1949

Continued

understood as the Twelve Steps of Recovery. Should this happen, our current growing pains will be lessened and we shall commence to lay up a great store of insurance for the years ahead. What then could be more appropriate than to set aside Thanksgiving week for discussion of the practice and spiritual values to be discovered in our Tradition? We could thus reinforce our faith in the future by these prudent works; we could show that we deserve to go on receiving that priceless gift of "Oneness" which God in his wisdom has so freely given to us of Alcoholics Anonymous in the precious years of our infancy.

Reprint Permission/AA Grapevine/1949

RED CHIP DAY

In 1943 there were only two A.A. groups in Tampa. One was the Victory Group and the other one was the DeSoto Group. There were a limited number of meetings. After about four years, The DeSoto Group started having an anniversary banquet. In 1947 the first anniversary banquet was held at the ballroom of the Old Hillsborough Hotel. There were between 350 and 400 people present. They came from all the surrounding areas, Lakeland, Bartow, Sarasota, Bradenton and St. Pete. The first banquet speaker was Horace M. from Texas. After that, if a person had around five years sobriety, he became the speaker for this event. Back then five years was a long time. A few years later there was a man who came here from Baltimore, MD., bringing with him the idea of the chip system as we know it today, telling that it works as a reminder of what we are trying to do. So eventually it changes from Anniversary Banquet to Red Chip Day. It was the one time during the year that everyone would join together to honor all the members that had red chips. It was a day of Fellowship and Food and Meetings. The money that was taken up was sent to General Service in New York to show gratitude. It then became a traditional event down through the years. So every year we try to carry out this as an annual gratitude meeting, sending all monies above the expense to Central Office. In this way we can show our gratitude and help other still suffering alcoholics. C.O.A.

"During nine years in AA, I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal not only maintain sobriety but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well." Dr. Bob passed away on November 16, 1950. Take a moment on the 16th to reflect about this remarkable human being.....16 years sober.

TBAIC - District 2 - Hillsborough & East Pasco Counties
(877) AATAMPA or (877) 228-2672!

Hello everybody! I am an alcoholic and my name is Jack M. The TBAIC committee has been preparing to two workshops that will be conducted at the October General Service quarterly. The corrections workshop will feature two guest speakers. One of the speaker's works for Florida's Department of Corrections and the other works in the programs department for the Hillsborough County jail. Both guests will speak on importance of carrying AA's message to those behind bars. A treatment workshop will also be presented at the quarterly.

At our September meeting we heard from several coordinators that they had meetings which needed either speakers or chair people. I have listed some of the opportunities below:

Riverview: Womens Prison - HCI

Male/Female speakers - Call Jill @ 813-349-7048
No orientation required but they will do a background check for outstanding warrants and parole status.

Land O'Lakes: Jail - Pasco County Detention

Male & Female Chairpersons or Speakers - Call Cathleen @ 813-770-3078
Orientation and background check are required

Land O'Lakes: Juvenile - Gulf Lake Academy

Male & Female Chairpersons - Call Jonathan @ 813-727-1415
Orientation and background check are required

Acts: Detox

Alternate Chairpersons needed for the daily 12:00pm and three 7:45pm meetings - Call Michael @ 813-785-8027
No orientation or background checks

Lastly the TBAIC committee will hold elections at our October 25th meeting. The positions of Chair, Alternate Chair, Secretary, Hillsborough County Womens Jail coordinator, and Detox coordinator will be open. Our committee encourages its active volunteers to stand for open positions.

Love & Service - Jack M. & Eric V.

Treasurers Report - Sept 27th 2008

Pink Can Donations YTD 2008	\$15,223.77
Less Prudent Reserve	- \$300.00
Less YTD Literature	- \$8989.39
Less YTD Expenses	- \$939.75
Pink Can Current Balance	\$4994.63

Next Committee Meetings

Nov 29th and Dec 20th at 9:30 AM at the Tri-County Central Office (near Himes & Waters). If you need more specific directions please call Tim @ 813-933-9123. 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.

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

Thank you to those groups who have sent in a donation this month: Big Book Noon 3333, Keystone Discussion, Midday Matinee, Old School, Ruskin Fellowship, Sisters in Sobriety, Sober @ Seven, Sobriety, Sunshine, There is a Solution, Wellspring Recovery, Yana 5:45 Happy Hour.

Current Service Opportunities

- Men's Pasco (LOL) Jail Coordinator... Call Jack M.
- Committee Secretary..... Call Jack M
- Women's' 6:00pm Tuesday Call Jill J.
- Women's' LOL Jail Call Cathleen
- Various Detox Mtgs Call Michael K.
- Various Treatment Mtgs Call Mark A.

TBAIC Committee Members

Jack M. - Chair	813-417-9945
Eric V. - Alt Chair	813-277-4833
Mark L. - Treasurer	813-477-6855
Tom F. - Alternate	
Open - Secretary	
Dick D. - Hills Jails - Emeritus	813-254-4423
Paul D - Mens Orient Rd	727-385-5529
Buddy H - Mens Falkenburg	813-871-2514
Jill J - Hills Womens Jails	813-349-7048
Michael K. - Detox	813-785-8027
Jill J. - HCI Women's Prison	813-349-7048
Open - E Pasco Jail - Mens	
Cathleen C - E Pasco Jail - Women's	813-727-1415
Jim H. - E Pasco Prison	813-862-3539
Mark A - Treatment	813-407-2705
Lindsay T - Bridge The Gap	813-326-5408
Joe L - Pre-Release	813-918-3489
Jonathan L - Juvenile	813-770-3078

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

After going to meetings for thirty days, I took my last drink on August 5, 1988. I was twenty-two years old. Although I didn't realize it until now, AA's singleness of purpose has meant a lot to me. When I showed up at your doors, you kept it very simple for me. You said, "Don't drink, go to meetings, get a sponsor, and keep coming back." You said that if I did this, things would get better. You didn't tell me when but I believed you just the same. There was no evaluation process, no fees to pay, no people I needed to see, or appointments that I needed to make. I just showed up at the meetings and you loved me. I was an alcoholic who wanted a new way of life, and that was all you cared about. I believe it's the simplicity of AA based on our singleness of purpose, that makes AA not only easily accessible to every alcoholic but creates a program that really works. From conversations I've had with people who have come to AA via treatment centers, I can understand why our singleness of purpose is getting lost. Treatment centers do not have a singleness of purpose or the Traditions; their clients are counseled on everything from drugs and alcohol to co-dependency, child abuse, incest, anger control, dysfunctional families—the list goes on and on. It's no wonder that by the time these people get to AA, they see themselves as "alcoholic and a" It also follows that when in an AA meeting, many people continue to discuss all these issues. I don't believe that this is a real threat to AA. Most of the people I see who maintain this mentality that "I'm addicted to everything" usually don't stick around too long. I for one don't blame them. If you had told me in the beginning what I was going to have to do, I never would have come back. I was at a meeting one night when a man got his five-year chip and said, "I didn't come into Alcoholics Anonymous to get a beautiful wife, a nice home, and a new car; to be blessed with two wonderful children, or a host of friends. I came to AA to get sober, and in staying sober I received all that and so much more." This to me really sums up what I'm trying to say. If I stay focused on sobriety and my disease of alcoholism, the multitude of other problems I have will eventually work their way to the surface. Then with the tools I have available in AA, they can be dealt with, one at a time. One last thing. I think it's wonderful when people find the courage to seek help outside AA when necessary. But I believe it's a mistake to bring these things into an AA meeting. A newer member or somebody not listening closely may interpret what you say as a part of our recovery program when it really isn't. This only serves to dilute the AA message and maybe lead someone from our proven Twelve Steps. My sobriety, and the sobriety of those to come, depends on the simplicity of AA and on our singleness of purpose.

**Terry R./Permission AA Grapevine/
"Thank You For Sharing" 2003**

NOTE THESE DATES THAT THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Thursday-November 27 — Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday-December 24—Christmas Eve

Thursday-December 25—Christmas Day

Wednesday-December 31, 2008—New Year

Thursday-January 1, 2009—New Year

**Saturday-January 10th, 2009 —Year-End Physical
Inventory Count—9:00 am-Until Finished**

Before the first General Service Conference was held in April 1951, at least 16 Central Offices/Inter-groups were serving local groups. (*Editors note: Tampa's AA began in 1942 and by 1946, there were 100 members and 4 groups. The Central Headquarters (Central Office as we call it today) was located at 409 Tyler Street.*) Since they predated the formation of the General Service structure and performed a different function, they were not part of the structure. Sometimes over the years there was some overlapping of services, especially when both entities were performing similar services, in public information, for instance. No one appreciated more than Bill W. the value of inter-groups. Back in 1946 he exclaimed in the Grapevine "Heaven has surely reserved a special place for every one of them." Today there are approximately 1500 Inter-group/Central Offices in the U.S. and Canada, including local answering services. Inter-groups and central offices are established and supported by local groups. Each inter-group is unique, reflecting the needs and wishes of it's own community, and is responsible to the groups it serves. Typically, each participating group has an Inter-group Representative (*Editor's note: they are known as Central Office Representatives (COR) here in Tampa*) These reps meet periodically to elect a steering committee or Board of Directors, responsible for administering the Office. They report back to the group representatives who, in turn, keep their groups informed. A continuing flow of communication is vital, because the groups give financial support to the Office.

(excerpt reprinted from Box 459 Vol 40/Feb-March 2002 and borrowed from "Between Us" the newsletter of the Greater Milwaukee Central Office, thanks Guys & Gals for a great newsletter. tws:))

November is Gratitude Month, so as an A.A. group and as individual A.A. members, you can help support those service entities that are working hard to insure that Alcoholics Anonymous stays Alcoholics Anonymous. If your group can.....try to send some support to:

- 1. The General Service Office in New York**
- 2. The South Florida Area 15 Committee**
- 3. The District 2 General Services**
- 4. Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee**
- 4. And of course The Central Office**

NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE

October 14th, 2008 the Board of Directors for Central Office met:
BOARD MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP

AL B.	CHAIRPERSON	DRUID HILLS GROUP
PAUL G.	VICE-CHAIR	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
JOYCE Q.	TREASURER	KEYSTONE GROUP
JIM VK	BOARD MEMBER	CARROLLWOOD NS GROUP
EXCUSED	BOARD MEMBER	NEW WAY GROUP
KEVIN G.	BOARD MEMBER	NORTH TAMPA YOUNG & RESTLESS GROUP
UNEXCUSED	BOARD MEMBER	EARLY RISERS GROUP
STACY W.	BOARD MEMBER	RIVERSIDE GROUP
JANIE M.	BOARD MEMBER	CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP
OPEN		

October 14th, 2008 the Central Office Representatives met:
COUNCIL MEMBERS REPRESENTING GROUP

MARY VDB	BRANDON BEGINNERS STEP GROUP
FERNANDO S.	NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
KRISTIN R.	MONDAY NIGHT MADNESS GROUP
JUNE T.	SOBRIETY GROUP
JOHN F.	LIFE ENRICHMENT GROUP
BUDDY H.	MORNING MEDITATION GROUP
JAKE S.	TAMPA YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
CHRIS B.	TAMPA YOUNG PEOPLES GROUP
RYON S.	WELLSPRING RECOVERY GROUP
VIVIAN J.	FREEDOM IN SOBRIETY GROUP
TONY J.	MORNING MIRACLES GROUP
MARK H.	RIVERSIDE GROUP
JOE B.	IT'S IN THE BOOK GROUP
TIGGER F.	SOLUTIONS GROUP
AL F.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
STEVE J.	ODESSA GROUP
EARLE W.	NOON BIG BOOK GROUP
DEBBI M.	DISTRICT 2 LIAISON
FRED L.	TEMPLE TERRACE MEN'S GROUP
MIKE D.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
JOHN G.	TAMPA PALMS BIG BOOK GROUP

Al opened the meeting in the usual manner : He then asked for anyone new. Our newest Board members are Stacy from the Riverside Group and Janie from the Came to Believe Group. The Secretary Report was read, a motion to accept was made and all were in favor. During the Treasurer's report, Joyce stated that she would be getting the 2009 Budget together and asked everyone to decide on what they may need to put in the Budget. Most of the meeting centered around (1) Getting all the preparations ready for the Anniversary Dinner in February, who-what-where & when. Tickets for the event will be ready by November 11th. To hand out at the Council meeting. There was also discussion about trying to get a **BIG GIANT CAKE**.....(2) Discussion then turned to the decision to put the newsletter on our web site. At the Council meeting it was discussed and voted on to try it for six months to see how it fared and to see if it would impact on the regular paid subscriptions....(3) Joyce brought up the idea about having a Central Office Representative orientation either before or during the middle or after the Board and Council meetings, with each Board member doing the Orientation on a rotating basis. Most thought it was a good idea... Tim was asked to make new copies of the Central Office Representative Handbook and have copies ready to distribute at the next meeting (4) Joyce brought up the suggestion to donate \$ 75.00 to the District 2 Hospitality room that will be at the Area Assembly October 17-19 here in Tampa, hosted by District 2. Some thought and it a good idea, some didn't. It was voted on 5 to 1 to make the donation....(5) Al brought to everyone's attention that we needed to also start getting prepared to do our Annual End of the Year Physical Inventory. We decided that it would be Saturday, January 10th, 2009, starting at 9:00 am in the morning and going until we finished counting everything. (Editor's Note: Any interested AA member is more than welcome to come help. Just call Tim @ 933-9123 and let him know.) It was a good meeting and the next Board and Council Meeting will be November 11th, 2008. Board at 6:00 pm and Council at 7:00 pm. Hope to see everyone they and maybe even some new faces.

Maybe we should try and have some snacks and sodas available, just a thought. Probably too expensive anyway.....☺

It is that time again to print new When & Where's. If you have already updated your meeting information with Tim to be included in the next printing, you are safe. If you haven't, then it's a good bet that you will have to wait until April.

DOES ANYONE HAVE SOME FOLDING METAL CHAIRS THAT THEY MIGHT LIKE TO DONATE TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE???? WE NEED ABOUT 10 OF THEM. OUR MEETING IS GETTING BIGGER & BIGGER. CALL 933-9123.....Thanks!!!

Come Join Us As We Celebrate
50 Years of Sobriety With
Diana H.
Oct 31st, 2008
7:30 pm
at
Christ The King Church
821 South Dale Mabry
Tampa, Fl. 33609
Bring a Dessert to Share as we Honor
Diana H. on her 50th Anniversary
And the Miracle of
Alcoholics Anonymous
Contact: Pam F. 863-409-8423 pfreeman1219@tampabay.rr.com



ANNIVERSARY TIME

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years	A BIRTHDAY PLAN SUPPORTER TO CENTRAL OFFICE ONE DOLLAR FOR EACH YEAR OF SOBRIETY		
				Honors To	Date	Years
PASS IT ON GROUP- PLANT CITY	DAVE Z.	10/17/92	16 YRS	DAVE Z.	10/17/92	16 YRS
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE GROUP	MARY R.	10/21/83	25 YRS	MARY R.	10/21/83	25 YRS
SUNSHINE GROUP	DAN K.	11/04/05	3 YRS			
SUNSHINE GROUP	MICHAEL B.	11/21/04	4 YRS			
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	KATHY B.	11/07/81	27 YRS			
SOBER @ 7 GROUP	TOMMY D.	11/06/66	42 YRS			
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	ROY K.	11/01/07	1 YR			
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	SANDY S.	11/25/02	6 YRS			
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	MARISELA M.	11/18/96	12 YRS			
RUSH HOUR SERENITY GROUP	LADY LOU D.	11/14/79	29 YRS			
RIVERSIDE GROUP	EMILIE	11/27/06	2 YRS			
RIVERSIDE GROUP	AL B.	11/02/06	2 YRS			
RIVERSIDE GROUP	DEBBI M.	11/04/04	4 YRS			
RIVERSIDE GROUP	LU ANN C.	11/09/98	10 YRS			
EXPECT A MIRACLE	MARY C.	11/21/01	7 YRS			
CARROLLWOOD NS GROUP	JIM VK	11/20/04	4 YRS			
CARROLLWOOD NS GROUP	EDDIE	11/02/01	7 YRS			
INTO ACTION GROUP	BETTIE W.	11/15/03	5 YRS			
INTO ACTION GROUP	LINDA P.	11/07/95	13 YRS			
INTO ACTION GROUP	CHARLES M.	11/04/92	16 YRS			
INTO ACTION GROUP	CHRIS F.	11/04/92	16 YRS			
TEMPLE TERRACE MEN'S	FRED L.	11/09/82	26 YRS			
THE DOVER GROUP	ROB T.	11/06/06	2 YRS			

Next District Meeting:
November 2th, 2008
Bayshore Baptist Church
3111 W. Morrison Ave.
(Morrison & MacDill)
GSR Sharing 3:30 pm
Business Meeting 4:30 pm

SOBRENITY GROUP NEWS

Activities & Events Nov. 2008
Sat. 11/15 2:00p - until ? Hip Hoppin' Hoe
Down & Funfest
This one oughta be interesting!! Family Games
and Activities, DJ & Live Music, and more!!
Thanks for your support.
Please see us online at: <http://www.sobrenity.org/>

WESLEY CHAPEL GROUP ANNIVERSARY
MONDAY NOVEMBER 3RD, AT 7:30PM
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
33425 STATE ROAD 54
WESLEY CHAPEL

352/585-3159 JIM F
OR
813/715-1496 DAVE F.

**COME AND JOIN US AT THE WESLEY
CHAPEL GROUP ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION.**

SPEAKER WILL BE BILL O.
CURRENT SOUTH FLORIDA DELEGATE.
**AFTER THE MEETING CAKE AND ICE
CREAM WILL BE SERVED.**
A 50/50 RAFFLE WILL BE HELD

Newsletter Subscription

The news source of AA in Hillsborough & East Pasco County. Send \$5.00 to:
Central Office, 8019 N. Himes Ave. Ste. 104, Tampa, Florida 33614 and you
will receive a one-year subscription to our Newsletter.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ St. _____ Zip _____

"Tri-County Central Office News" is a monthly newsletter of AA in Hillsborough and East Pasco County and the Tri-County Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by and for members of the AA Fellowship. **Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply any endorsement by either AA or the Tri-County Central Office.** Quotations or excerpted material from AA books or pamphlets are reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc. Preamble, AA cartoons and excerpted matter reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc. We welcome articles of opinions or descriptions of personal experiences (NO poetry, please) which should be sent to:

Editor, Tri-County Central Office, 8019 N. Himes Ave. Ste. 104 Tampa, FL 33614-2763

~IN REMEMBRANCE~

Memories of Eileen Mahoney
February 7, 1936 – September 29, 2008
Eileen Mahoney was a true giant in the world of AA. Once you met her, I don't think you'd forget her. She was honest and demanded honesty of her Pigeons. She had a way of keeping us grounded and had a sense of humor that could always get a laugh out of us. Eileen will definitely live on in all of the many people she helped. We remember how graciously she opened her home to anyone at any time. We remember all the wonderful meetings and gatherings at her house. She had Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and invited anyone who wanted to come. Eileen would always remind us that anytime 2 or 3 are gathered for recovery it was an AA meeting. Eileen had a wonderful capacity to speak the truth in love. She also had an amazing capacity to forgive. Eileen loved people and AA was her world. Eileen could always be counted on to do anything for anyone. She could also help put things (however, difficult they seemed at the time) in perspective. She truly lived acceptance of life on life's terms. Service was so very important to her. She loved to go to Round Up's and Quarterlies. She loved the Big Book, stories in the back of the Big Book and the 24 hour book. We think her favorite hobby was shopping. She loved to shop. Eileen taught us to Pass It On and always talked about the importance to her of having a home group. We remember her saying "My name is Eileen Mahoney, I belong to the Sulphur Springs Group and I am an alcoholic."

For the past 5 months, Eileen really suffered. She went to a hospice house first, where she had a heart attack and like the trooper she was, came out of that, went to a nursing home, got MRSA and was sent To Tampa General. That seemed to clear up and she went back to a nursing home, got another infection and went back to Tampa General and this went on for months. A group of her 'Pigeons', along with her son, Ron, visited her regularly and she still kept us on our toes. Her mind worked up until the end but she was ready to go. She told us once that she wasn't afraid to die because she was sure where she was going to go. Eileen tried to prepare all her Pigeons for the eventuality when she wouldn't be there for us and would get us together from time to time so that we would know each other. She also credited the AA principles for helping to keep her sanity through all her sufferings. Thank God for the memories and direction Eileen gave us, which will live on in us and in many others and we value the time we had with her. October 13th would have been her 43rd AA Anniversary. Each one was precious to her.
Mary R., Kathy A., Bob K., Sandy B.

MORE NEWS AROUND TOWN

CENTRAL OFFICE 34TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Saturday, February 28th, 2009
Christ the King Church
(Parrish Center)
821 Dale Mabry Hwy S. Tampa
Italian Night – Lasagna Dinner Provided
&
Covered Dishes Greatly Appreciated!!!

Tickets: \$5.00
Doors Open: 5 P.M.
Dinner Served: 6 P.M.
Speakers: 7 P. M.

2 Speakers:

Lindsay T.

Tampa, Florida

Kevin W.

Brandon, Florida

Enjoy a fabulous evening and support Central Office at the same time. Tickets on sale at Central Office or at the door.

Dinner * Fellowship * Speaker * Sobriety Countdown * Raffle

**2nd ANNUAL WOMEN'S
PERSPECTIVE**

Saturday November 22th, 2008
11: am - 4:00 pm
Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
3501 San Jose & Himes Avenue
(Behind Plant High School)
3 Speakers

Annie L. from Tampa YPG

Jackie C. from Pinellas

Ginger W. from Tampa

Lunch will be Provided

Advance Tickets: \$ 7.00

At Door: \$ 10.00

Contact: Jennifer @ 727-644-8379

Susanne @ 813-728-7236

BOOKERS EXCHANGE MEETING

2nd Saturday of each Month

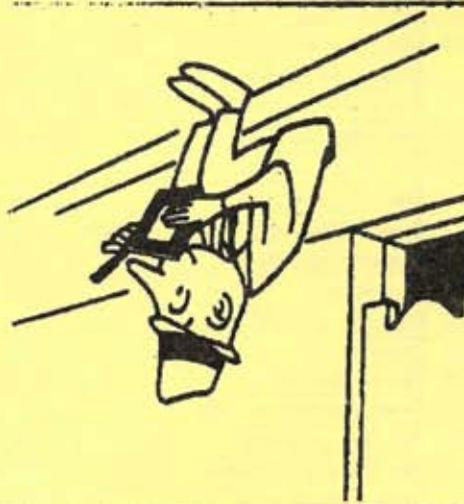
11:00am—Noon

Tri-County Central Office

To find out how to get involved in the Speaker Exchange Project...Contact.....Jack M. 813-471-4880

~ Many Voices with One Message ~

PLEASE SHARE ME WITH A FRIEND

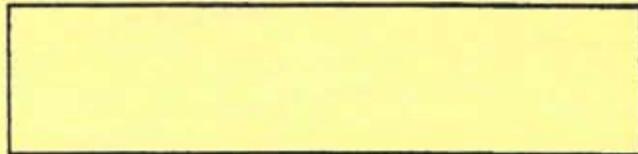
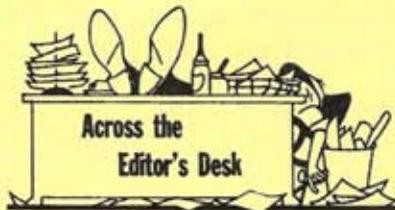


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IN THIS ISSUE...News from Groups and District...stories, thoughts and humor.....please share me :)

Red Chip Day 2008

When: Sunday, November 9th
2:00 PM

Where: Apostles Lutheran Church
200 N. Kingsway Ave.

(map on reverse side)



Time again for the annual
Red Chip Day Celebration
in Brandon, FL

Come join us for:
Excellent Speaker
Reading of History
Memorial Candle
Sobriety Countdown
Raffle
and MUCH MORE

Please Bring Finger Food

Love and Service



Gratitude Dinner



Date: 11/08/2008

TIME:

Doors Open: 5:30 PM

Dinner: 6:30 PM

Speaker: 8:00 PM

Speaker: Kent J.

Chairman: Dick D.

Tickets: \$6.00

PLEASE BRING A COVERED DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE

All Net Proceeds Donated to General Service Office in New York

Palma Ceia Presbyterian Church
3500 San Jose & Himes Avenue
(Behind Plant High School)
Tampa, Florida

Hosted by: District 2 General Service
Contact: Patti L. 813-597-5600 for Tickets and Information

Friday - Sunday, March 13th, 14th & 15th, 2009



SOBERSTOCK 2009

5th ANNUAL EVENT MARCH 13-15



SoberStock is a 3 day weekend AA event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship. This festival is open to all members of AA and their families. Proceeds of this function will purchase Big Books and other AA literature for District 2 Jails & Institutions. With the remaining profits going to the area pie chart.

Speaker Meetings!
Campfire Meetings!
Fishing! (license req.)
Karaoke!



Live Bands!
ALL Food & Drinks INCLUDED!
Tent Camping ONLY!
(No RV's/Popups!)

When: Friday, March 13th, 2008- Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at Noon.

Where: "Camp Brorein" - 16901 Boy Scout Rd. Odessa, FL 33556 - **SEE MAP ON BACK OF THIS FLYER**

What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, LANTERNS, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS, NO cabins at this facility. No electrical hookups allowed. We do have restroom facilities and showers.

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

Cost: \$40 for the Weekend pass at the gate. UNLESS if you register EARLY (Before March 6th, 2009) You can register by sending in the form below or register online at www.soberstock.com - save \$5 on your admission price with Early Registration.

Looking for more details on speakers, bands and other info? Visit www.SoberStock.com



If you are mailing in this form, WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR PAYMENT BY March. 6TH, 2009

REGISTRATION FORM

- 1 DayPass - \$25.00 per person Qty. of people? _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
- Weekend - \$35.00 per person Qty. of people? _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
(for early registrations OR \$40.00 at the gate)
- Child under 12-1 DayPass - \$5.00 Qty. of children? _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
CHILDREN ALLOWED ONLY IF ACCOMP. BY PARENT/GUARDIAN
- Child under 12-Weekend - \$10.00 Qty. of children? _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
- Tent Pitching: \$10.00 **PER TENT** Tent Qty: _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
- T-Shirts: \$15.00/ea List sizes: _____ Shirt Qty: _____ Sub Total: \$ _____
Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL

TOTAL: \$ _____

NOTE!

All sales are final, and non-refundable.
This is a Rain Or Shine Event.

PLEASE NOTE:

When ordering with this form or online, we will not ship any items to you. We will have all items for you at the front gate on the day of the event on a Will Call basis - Thanks!

Please remember, pets are NOT allowed and no RV's/Popup campers either. Thank you so much for your help.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ email: _____

Please make checks or money orders payable to : **SoberStock**
Please detach this form and mail form and payment to:
SoberStock PO Box 340613 Tampa, FL 33694-0613

SOBERSTOCK

Friday, Saturday & Sunday - March 13th-15th, 2009

Here is a little handy map & directions you can use for coming to SoberStock!

We need to make clear some specific things to help us continue SoberStock for the future:

NO PETS! Please do not leave fires unattended! We have had some major problems with people leaving fires unattended - for the safety of yourself and others, please respect the owners who graciously let us use their facility. Please place all cigarette butts in coffee cans that are located throughout the camp. Also as a reminder, this is a tent-only facility, with no exceptions. This means no RV's, pop-ups, etc. There are no vehicles allowed in the campground areas. We have hand carts to use for bringing your camping equipment to your campsite area. Thank you so much for helping in being responsible!

Directions:

From the North:

I-75 South toward TAMPA.
Merge onto I-275 S toward TAMPA / ST PETERSBURG.
Take the BEARSS AVE exit- EXIT 53. Take right off exit.
Bearss becomes Ehrlich Rd, and Ehrlich road becomes Gunn Hwy
(About 7 miles of road)
Road will end at Sickie's High School.. go right (This is still Gunn Hwy.)
Turn Left onto RACE TRACK ROAD. 0.6 miles down, you will see
BOY SCOUT RD. on right - take this right.
1.3 miles down on right, you will see Camp Brorein

From the South:

I-275 North to Tampa.
Take the BEARSS AVE exit- EXIT 53. Take left off exit.
Bearss becomes Ehrlich Rd, and Ehrlich road becomes Gunn Hwy
(About 7 miles of road)
Road will end at Sickie's High School.. go right (This is still Gunn Hwy.)
Turn Left onto RACE TRACK ROAD. 0.6 miles down, you will see
BOY SCOUT RD. on right - take this right.
1.3 miles down on right, you will see Camp Brorein

From the West:

US Hwy 19 to Tampa Rd. Go east.
Take a left (north) on Race Track rd.
Take a left on Boy Scout Rd.
1.3 miles down on right, you will see Camp Brorein

From the East:

Take I-4 West to Tampa.
Merge onto I-275 North
Take the BEARSS AVE exit- EXIT 53. Take left off exit.
Bearss becomes Ehrlich Rd, and Ehrlich road becomes Gunn Hwy
(About 7 miles of road)
Road will end at Sickie's High School.. go right (This is still Gunn Hwy.)
Turn Left onto RACE TRACK ROAD. 0.6 miles down, you will see
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Order Form on the other side of this flyer.