



# Tri-County Central Office News

I don't have time to help you stay sick...  
but if you want to get better I'd be glad to help

A Monthly Newsletter of the Tri-County Central Office, Inc.  
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January, 2026

## TRY NOT TO COMPARE

*When our minds open up, every AA story  
we hear is essentially our own*

I don't remember much about the meeting other than hearing someone describe his incredible experiences in jails and hospitals. This horror story provided all the evidence I needed that I didn't belong there in the first place. Not that I had any doubts. On the contrary, I knew it wasn't for me before I'd even walked in the door. It had been "Go to AA or else." So I heard only what I wanted and nothing of what I needed to hear. Granted, I'd been out of work for a year, had no prospects, and was on the brink of losing my family for good (I'd already lost myself). Indisputable facts, yes. But they meant nothing to me. I was incapable of getting honest with myself. My denial of the problem would continue for a few more months before I'd be brought back to AA with something of an open mind and a willingness to try what was suggested. It was then that I started to hear "Try not to compare. Try to identify." Or, to put it another way, stop doing what comes naturally and start finding out whether maybe you are in the right place after all. But self-honesty doesn't come easy for the confused, frightened newcomer like me. As a beginner, I found identification possible only when I could see obvious similarities between the speaker's experiences and my own. Yet our stories are all essentially the same. Only the incidents vary. Our stories are all essentially the same. I keep this in mind today when I hear someone talk mostly of things I haven't done—yet. The incidents may vary, but no speaker I've heard has told a story other than one that goes about like this: "I started drinking, and I liked it. It was fun and good times, so much so that I found myself drinking more and more. When I began getting drunk, I accepted it as normal. After all, everyone gets drunk once in a while, don't they? As my drinking picked up, I started having trouble. It wasn't so bad at first, but it got worse. Eventually, it reached a point where I began trying to control how much I drank. Nothing seemed to work, though, and the trouble became more and more serious. "When I got to AA, they suggested that I try to stay away from the first drink one day at a time to follow these and make meetings. I was told that things would get better if I was willing to follow these and other simple suggestions. It wasn't easy, and it took time, but I know today they were right. Things did get better and keep getting better as I get better." Sound at all familiar? It should, since it's more or less our common experience. Specific incidents along the way are only variations on this general theme. By keeping it this simple, I find I can identify with anybody today. The horror story of my first meeting turns out to be not so incredible after all. Leave out the jails and hospitals, and it becomes my story. There's another aspect of our common story that's heard whenever a speaker talks about despair, self-pity, fear, and other feelings we know so well. They, too, are a part of the experience shared by all of us. How I first happened to identify with feelings is something I don't think I'll ever forget. My isolation at the time was so complete that, for all practical intents and purposes, my wife and small son were no longer a part of my life. We lived under the same roof, but were nothing like a family.

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## WE FOUND NO 'EASIER, SOFTER WAY'

*We have to be willing to go to any length*

There are two sayings which have been rather traditional around AA and which, in this writer's opinion, have been greatly misused. "Keep it Simple" and "Easy Does It" were not meant to be an alternative to the working of the Twelve Steps, nor were they meant to be "an easier, softer way." I believe their intention was to keep us from going overboard in our typical compulsive fashion; they were not meant to be a license for sitting on our duffs. The program of Alcoholics Anonymous is a program of action, requiring willingness to go to any lengths to obtain and maintain our sobriety. For example, let's look at the opening of Chapter 5 in the Big Book. There we find many words which strongly suggest action. Even the chapter title suggests action: "How it Works." The italics are mine, as those in the following excerpt: Rarely have we seen a person fail who has *thoroughly followed our path*. Those who do not recover are people who cannot or will not *completely give themselves* to this simple program, usually men and women who are constitutionally incapable of being honest with themselves. There are such unfortunates. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way. They are naturally incapable of *grasping and developing* a manner of living which demands rigorous honesty. Their chances are less than average. There are those too, who suffer from grave emotional and mental disorders, but many of them do recover if they have the capacity to be honest. Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now. If you have decided you want what we have and are *willing to go to any length to get it*—then you are ready to *take certain steps*. At some of these we balked. We thought we could find an easier, softer way. But we could not. With all the earnestness at our command, we beg of you to be *fearless* and *thorough* from the very start. Some of us have tried to hold on to our old ideas and the result was nil until we let go absolutely. Remember that we deal with alcohol—cunning, baffling, powerful! Without help it is too much for us. But there is One who has all power—that One is God. May you find Him now! *Half measures availed us nothing*. We stood at the turning point. We asked his protection and care with complete abandon. Here are the steps we took, which are suggested as a Program of Recovery: 1. We *admitted* we were powerless over alcohol...that our lives had become unmanageable. 2. *Came to believe* that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. 3. *Made a decision* to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him. 4. *Made a searching* and *fearless* moral inventory of ourselves. 5. *Admitted* to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs. 6. *Were entirely ready* to have God remove all these defects of character. 7. *Humbly* asked Him to remove our shortcomings. 8. *Made a list* of all persons harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all. 9. *Made direct amends* to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

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

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

**TBAIC SECRETARY REPORT  
December 13, 2025**

Attendees: Jessica M, Mike B, Vicki R, Patty G, Michael P, Mindy W, Adam S, and John T. Meeting was started with the Declaration of Unity. Adam S. said he is now the H&I rep for the YANA Sunday Night Speakers group Chair Report: Jessica said the TBAIC/District 2 Unity Event will be on January 17, 2026, at Club 3333. She encouraged attendees to circulate the event flyer and to invite other AA members to attend the event. Jessica mentioned several things about the Corrections Conference she attended last month. She said the conference for 2027 will be held in Florida on November 12 – 14, 2027 at the Marriott Hotel in Lake Mary, FL. **Secretary Report:** Jessica read the secretary’s report for the month of November. The minutes were approved without any changes. **Treasurer Report:** The current balance is \$5,354.49. Contributions received from 7 groups totaled \$330.38. Operational expenses included \$250 to BizGo for website and \$150 to Central Office for storage in November and December. Literature expenses were \$2,661.50. Vicki recommended updating the document for reporting and tracking TBAIC income and expenses and preparing a budget for 2026. She presented a combined budget for discussion and added that the format was successfully implemented in 2019 when she served as treasurer for District 2, Panel 69. Vicki said starting January 2026, reports will be issued in arrears for the prior calendar month (rather than based on committee meeting dates). The report provided for the January meeting will report the 2nd half of December activities. She said this change will provide more accurate monthly reporting and the ability to reconcile the monthly bank statement on a calendar-month basis, consistent with business account practices. There were no objections to these changes. Vicki said to contact her in advance for literature purchases. There were several comments made about this. The approval process needs to be clarified (see New Business). Vicki also said there had been no payment for the Zoom account since 2023. She said she will research and submit the required payment. **Treatment Centers:** John reports: - ACTS Adult Detox going well - ACTS Wraparound (Amethyst) meetings held six times a week – low attendance - - - - Tampa Hope has good attendance and is going well Ibis/Cove Housing meeting still suspended TGH Behavioral Health weekly meeting is going well. Currently two volunteers that have been cleared and several others in process. VA ARC meeting not being held yet. Several volunteers awaiting clearance. Jessica reports on behalf of Alberto: - Northside Behavioral Health is going well with good volunteer support. **Corrections:** Michael reports: - Falkenburg men’s meetings going well. No meeting on December 26th. Jessica reports: - Pasco Women’s Jail meetings still suspended due to construction Vicki reports: - Falkenburg women’s meetings going well. Jessica reports on behalf of Suzanne: - Rite of Passage girls meetings not being held yet. Point of contact is not responding to phone calls John reports on behalf of Hezikiah: - Rite of Passage boys meetings held on Saturday morning. Currently 3 volunteers. More volunteers needed. Still trying to identify the new point of contact. **Bridging The Gap:** - Individuals who receive the Bridging the Gap calls report 6 bridges out of 6 calls. 6/6. Four text messages/emails received with no response to text/call back.. **Man on the Bed:** - Mindy reports 9 calls received and 9 visits completed. 9/9. **Old Business:** - - Jessica said Alberto is still looking into using Google instead of Ring Central for Bridging the Gap calls. It still needs to be determined if the existing phone number can be used with Google.

**Our Next Committee Meeting**  
**January 10th, 2025 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!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Jessica asked about meetings at Sterling Sober Living. John said he talked with someone about those meetings and would find out more details. **New Business:** - - Jessica said she spoke with the TBAIC web master (Sylvia) about setting up a PINK CAN contribution button at the web site to facilitate groups/individual contributions. No one objected to doing that. Jessica said she will work with Sylvia and Vicki to get that accomplished. Literature purchase approval process needs to be clarified. - Adam asked if Grapevine magazines were being used to carry the message. Several people said they are very effective and more would be helpful Meeting closed at 11:00 AM with the Responsibility Statement and the Lord’s Prayer.

**www.tbaic.org**

Position	Name
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Jessica M.</b>
<b>Chair (Alt.)</b>	<b>Mike B.</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Vicki R.</b>
<b>Treasurer (Alt)</b>	<b>Joe R.</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Gaby G.</b>
<b>Hillsborough County Jail</b>	<b>Buddy H. (Men’s)</b>
<b>Falkenberg Women's Jails</b>	<b>Bianca H. (Women’s)</b>
<b>Pasco Jail-Women's</b>	<b>Jessica M.</b>
<b>Treatment Coordinator</b>	<b>John T.</b>
<b>Bridging the Gap</b>	<b>Michael P.</b>
<b>Man on the Bed</b>	<b>Mindy W.</b>
<b>Zephyrhills CI</b>	<b>Matthew R.</b>

**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**

**CONTRIBUTIONS: No updated info received**

<b>YTD Contributions to TBAIC</b>	<b>\$16,824.44</b>
<b>Pink Can Balance 12/2024</b>	<b>\$2,924.93</b>
<b>YTD Money Spent on Literature</b>	<b>\$9,773.83</b>
<b>YTD Operational Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,606.65</b>
<b>Pink Can Current Balance</b>	<b>\$6,368.89</b>

**TRY NOT TO COMPARE...continued from page One**

They went their way and I went mine. I was alone in a way no one could possibly understand—when I heard someone else describe exactly how I felt. It had been apart of his own experience, and I began to identify without even realizing it. But there's nothing like being able to say, "Hey, I know what you're talking about—I did the same thing!" And it happens, time and time again. For, despite what we may think, we're really not so different from everybody else. Considering our common bond, the only difference I can see is in the price we paid to get here. The lower the price, the better. If possible, I'd rather identify with what *can* happen than what *has* happened, that's for sure. If you're new and perhaps finding it difficult to identify, don't worry about it. Remember, *First Things First* is "Don't drink today and go to meetings." You do that, and you'll be identifying before you know it. And don't be surprised if, some day at a meeting, you hear your own story told by someone else. It's almost guaranteed to happen!

Dick C. Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Permission to Reprint: AA Grapevine January 1975

**WE FOUND NO 'EASIER, SOFTER WAY'...continued from Page One**

10. *Continued to take personal inventory* and when we were wrong promptly admitted it. 11. *Sought* through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out. 12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs. "Keep it simple" and *Easy Does It*—but do it!

Dean S. Santa Monica, Calif  
Reprint Permission: AA Grapevine January 1973



"... And there are no dues or fees. They just take you on face value."

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"I think I'll look into that Athletic Association — they all seem so damn healthy and happy."

**Central Office Suggested Pie Chart Distribution :**

<p><b>Your Central Office</b> Tri-County Central Office 8019 N. Himes Ave. Suite 104 Tampa, FL 33614 813-933-9123 33614-2759 www.aatampa-area.org 65%</p>	<p><b>Your District "District Two"</b> Send to: District 2, General Service P.O. Box 20623 Tampa, FL 33622-0623 www.aatampa.org 20%</p>	<p><b>General Service Office</b> Make checks payable to General Service Board P.O. Box 2407 James A. Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407 www.aa.org 10%</p>	<p><b>Your Area</b> South Florida Area Committee Send to: Area 15 Treasurer 2950 W. Cypress Creek Road Ste. 333#1097 Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33309 www.area15aa.org 5%</p>
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**Again: a reminder....TO ALL** members who have been sending Contributions to Central Office through our Web Site. **THANK YOU! BUT**—If you don't put down the name of your Home Group—it will be listed as **ANONYMOUS**, so don't be upset at us, if you don't see contributions from your Group on our Contributions page in the Newsletter. **Dear A.A. member pass this along during announcements at the meetings you go to.**

**DRIVERS NEEDED**

**GOT A CAR? WANT TO HELP YOUR SOBRIETY? HELP SOMEBODY GET TO A MEETING BY GIVING THEM A RIDE.**

**Interested In Helping—send us an E-mail to: [aaInfo@aatampa-area.org](mailto:aaInfo@aatampa-area.org)**

**That person just might be your newest member of your Home Group.**

"Helping others is the foundation stone of your recovery. A kindly act occasionally isn't enough. We must act the Good Samaritan every day, if need be. Big Book p.97"

☺



"In the spirit of participation, no contribution toward carrying the message can be too small. ... If everyone waited until they had a sizeable amount, it's more than likely that A.A.'s bills would go unpaid."

**NOTES FROM INSIDE THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

**December 9th, 2025** the Board of Directors for Central Office  
**BOARD MEMBERS** **REPRESENTING GROUP**

AL B.	CHAIRPERSON	THURSDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK
BRIAN L.	BOARD MEMBER	BARRACKS BRIGADE GROUP
SCOTT B.	BOARD MEMBER	TAMPA SATURDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS
CATHY H.	SECRETARY	SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S GROUP
LINDA R.	BOARD MEMBER	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
TRACI L.	BOARD MEMBER	STEPPING STONES WOMEN'S
OPEN	BOARD MEMBER	

Board Members present: Chairperson: Al B., Secretary: Cathy H., Linda R. Scott B., Traci L. & Brian L.  
**Board Meeting: 6:45 pm:** Al welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting. He then opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Al then noted that Line 7 New Business was for the Board to discuss, the Christmas Bonuses for the staff and Office Manager's insurance. The Christmas bonuses for the staff were approved. After some discussion the Medicare health insurance was approved for the Office Manager. (Addendum from Tim. When I quoted \$312.30 for my insurance (Florida Blue), I thought that was the full total for the BlueMedicare Supplement Plan F and the BlueMedicare Premier Rx (PDP). It wasn't until I received my bill that I realized that I was incorrect. The \$312.30 was for the BlueMedicare Supplement Plan F only. The BlueMedicare Premier Rx (PDP) went up to \$98.60. The Plan F went from \$266.00 to \$312.30, the Rx went from \$51.60 to \$98.60, so it was an increase of \$98.30 total to my Florida Blue Medicare plan.) Scott had a couple of updates for events that were going on. The PanCake Breakfast was scheduled for this Saturday (12-13-2025). Scott gave a brief rundown on the food being provided. He asked people to RSVP so we could get a headcount of how many people would be attending. Only 24 at this time, the speaker is Don S. who lives in Ruskin. He has 61 years of sobriety and knew and had conversations with Bill W. . Scott went on to explain the income side of the event, who was giving what from the proceeds and why. The next event was the Central Office Anniversary....the committee will be meeting to pick a speaker. The next meeting will be in January to finalize the program. Scott asked Tim if he knew how many tickets had been sold so far? Tim...6 people have brought tickets equaling to \$750.00, about 30 seats. Some discussion followed about seating at the 301 House, flyers for the Anniversary Dinner and registering for the event from calendar on the TRICO web site . At 6:58 pm the recording was paused waiting for the Council Meeting. It appears the recording did not resume because there was nothing on the recording I received. So I could not transcribe the Council Meeting The next Board & Council Meeting will be January 13th on ZOOM Board Meeting at 6:45 and Council meeting at 7:00 pm  
Timothy S. Office Manager

- ☺ Space Coast Roundup January 29-February 1, 2026  
For Info: [www.spacecoastroundup.com](http://www.spacecoastroundup.com)
- ☺ 33rd Annual Housecleaning Retreat March 13-15, 2026  
For Info: [www.retreatforaa-alanon.com](http://www.retreatforaa-alanon.com)
- ☺ District 2 Presents Carry the Message Day April 18, 2026  
For Info: [www.aatampa.org](http://www.aatampa.org)

**December 9th, 2025** 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)

BRAD W.	GUEST— TECH HOST
DARIEN W.	SUNDAY NIGHT SPEAKER'S GROUP
ANTONELLA L.	TAMPA NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS GROUP
KALEIGH F.	GREAT WAY TO START THE DAY GROUP
JANET T.	THE MEETING PLACE GROUP
JESS M.	KEEP IT SIMPLE PASS IT ON GROUP
SAMANTHA A.	FISHHAWK GROUP
KEN M.	SAFE HAVEN GROUP
VICTOR A.	TURNING POINT GROUP
TYLER M.	KEEP IT SIMPLE MEN'S GROUP
MIKE M.	SERENITY GROUP
JAMIE N.	SOBER @ 7 GROUP
NANCY G.	HIDE-A-WAY GROUP
ALEX R.	OLD SCHOOL GROUP
TOM R.	LANGUAGE OF THE HEART GROUP
KRISTA M.	STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY GROUP
TERRY Y.	TAMPA BAY YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP

TRI-COUNTY CENTRAL OFFICE PRESENTS

# 51<sup>st</sup> ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Lunch served  
50/50 raffle  
Speakers  
Sobriety Countdown  
Cakewalk



\$25 per ticket



All proceeds go to Central Office

**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 21, 2026  
2-6PM**

PALMA CEIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
3501 W SAN JOSE ST, TAMPA, FL 33629

*We are not a glum lot!*

If your home group is interested in being a part of the success of the event please contact  
Scott B. (727) 612-7233  
Cakewalk info call  
Darlen W. (561) 846-0311

For tickets, scan the QR code above or go to  
<https://meetings.aatampa-area.org/event/tri-county-central-office-51st-anniversary/>

**ANNIVERSARY TIME**

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

**SELF-SUPPORT-DECEMBER, 2025**

GROUP	Honors To	Date	Years
NEW WAY WOMEN'S GROUP	SHERRI F.	01/11/96	30 YRS
11TH STEP MEETING	KATHY M.	01/17/86	40 YRS
SPANISH	JERONIMO R.	01/20/56	70 YRS
SAFE HAVEN GROUP	SUE Z.	01/16/89	37 YRS
STEP SISTERS IN SOBRIETY WOMEN'S	SONIA T.	01/07/87	39 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	SUSAN S.	01/28/10	16 YRS
RIVERSIDE GROUP	JEFF S.	01/08/05	21 YRS
TAMPA NIGHTLY NEWCOMERS	BRAD W.	01/02/12	14 YRS
SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S	ARISSA H.	01/29/17	9 YRS
SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S	TERRI H.	01/07/13	13 YRS
SIMPLY SOBRIETY WOMEN'S	LESLIE G.	01/02/90	36 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	AMANDA F.	01/16/14	12 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	PEGGY C.	01/01/14	12 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	SHELLY P.	01/10/13	13 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	KATHLEEN M.	01/01/13	13 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	NANCY	01/13/11	15 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	VAL M.	01/19/10	16 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	LAURA M.	01/06/04	22 YRS
FRIDAY MORNING FRIENDSHIP ...	STEPHANIE C.	01/29/91	35 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION GROUP	MELINDA D.	01/24/18	8 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION GROUP	BILL B.	01/02/11	15 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION GROUP	MARRY W.	01/10/10	16 YRS
KEYSTONE DISCUSSION GROUP	DAVID G.	01/24/95	31 YRS
FRIDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK	LYNN P.	01/11/08	18 YRS
HIGH-NOONERS GROUP PLANT CITY	DENNIS O.	01/28/84	42 YRS
HIGH-NOONERS GROUP PLANT CITY	KURT R.	01/28/68	58 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME GROUP	JIM	01/17	9 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME GROUP	JO ANN S.	01/19/05	21 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME GROUP	ROBIN J.	01/06/02	24 YRS
ON THE WAY HOME GROUP	HENRY S.	01/28/90	36 YRS
CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP	CHERYL T.	01/31/92	34 YRS
RUSH HOUR GROUP	MIKE C.	01/03/11	15 YRS
RUSH HOUR GROUP	ED S.	01/15/86	40 YRS

© Today in December, 2025 we currently have 191 Groups in the Hillsborough-East Pasco area with around 498 meetings weekly. Also we have 128 Zoom meetings weekly. Contributions in December totaled \$5,499.83. This accounts for what 43 Groups or Individuals in our area have contributed in December, also included is, \$1,853.16 from 17 Groups or Individuals who made contributions through PayPal. We also received a \$91.00 from 3 Birthday Contributions and \$550.00 from the ticket sales for our upcoming Anniversary Dinner in 2026. Our literature sales for December was \$6,055.74 and 2 Newsletter Subscription for \$14.00. This also includes sales from A.A material and non-A,A, material (medallions—etc.) Our total income for December was \$11,569.57. Our Total Cost of Goods Sold was \$4,946.25. Subtracting the Total Cost of Goods Sold from our December income left us with a Gross Profit of \$6,623.32. Our Total Expenses for December were \$9,640.37. Subtracting our Expenses from our Gross Profit gave us a Net Income of minus-\$3,017.05 for the month of December. Currently, 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 Thank you for your support . Thank You!!!O.M. tws:)

**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. your Treasurer if they have any Birthday envelopes available. Call or email your Central Office. **813-933-9123** or **aainfo@aatampa-area.org** To the Treasurer or Contact Person of a Group—if you receive a Birthday envelope with the Thank You letter that we sent you—you can use it for yourself or hand it out to someone celebrating an Anniversary or use it to celebrate someone's Anniversary-Anonymously.

**Two Roads for the Oldtimer:** The founders of many groups ultimately divide into two classes known in A.A. slang as “elder statesmen” and “bleeding deacons.” The elder statesman sees the wisdom of the group's decision to run itself and holds no resentment over his reduced status. His judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound; he is willing to sit quietly on the side lines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him. He constantly connives for re-election to office and continues to be consumed with self-pity. Nearly every oldtimer in our Society has gone through this process in some degree. Happily, most of them survive and live to become elder statesmen. They become the real and permanent leadership of A.A. Twelve & Twelve p. 135

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

Home Group	Honors To	Date	Years
NEW WAY WOMEN'S	ANN K.	12/12/05	20 YRS
ODESSA GROUP	AL.G.	12/02/86	39 YRS
ANONYMOUS	ANONYMOUS	12/93	32 YRS

**\*That's 885 Years of Sobriety!\***

**Please support your Central Office.**

# Old Time A.A.

Presents: A benefit for Dr. Bob's Home



January 24, 2026  
9:30 AM to 4:30 PM  
Tickets \$30  
Breakfast & Lunch Served  
St. Jerome Catholic Church  
10895 Hamlin Blvd  
Largo, FL 33774  
oldtimeaa.com



- Gail L. - Oxford, FL "Who was the Oxford Group?"
- Christina G. - Brecksville, OH Her Story
- Paul G. - Brecksville, OH 4th Edition Big Book Author of "Gutter Bravado"
- Sheryl R. - Tampa, FL State and History of Dr. Bob's Home

In order to reserve your spot, please go to [www.oldtimeaa.com](http://www.oldtimeaa.com) to register or clip and mail form below.

If preferred, make check payable to Old Time AA and mail to: 21632 State Rd 54, Lutz, FL 33549 For more information call (352) 556-7711 or email [oldtimeaa@gmail.com](mailto:oldtimeaa@gmail.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Like to make a contribution to Dr. Bob's Home? Zelle @ 352-556-7711; Venmo @ Stephen-Ryan-56  
 I wish to volunteer at Old Time A.A.

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

# TBAIC & DISTRICT 2 Unity Potluck

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE

SATURDAY, 12 PM - 2:30 PM  
FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, SPEAKERS



3333 WEST COLUMBUS DRIVE  
TAMPA, FL 33607

In gratitude to our volunteers!  
All are welcome - many service opportunities available!



Tampa Bay Area Institutions Committee

# 68th FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION



ORLANDO, FL <sup>ROSEN</sup> PLAZA  
August 6<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
9700 International Drive Orlando, FL 32819

Scholarships Available!

A NEW FREEDOM



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

## Fun Activities

- Indoor Go-Karts
- Games & Trivia
- World Class Golf
- Dance Parties
- Scenic 5K Run

## Experience Freedom

- Workshops
- Great Speakers
- Meet New Friends
- Marathon Meetings
- Panels

Register Today While Rooms Are Available!!!

Register Online at <https://68.FloridaStateConvention.com>

Scan the QR Code with your camera. For assistance please visit <https://68.FloridaStateConvention.com>



Overflow Hotel 1 - \$109  
2026 person  
Hyatt Place  
8741 International Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32819  
1-407-370-4720



Overflow Hotel 2 - \$159  
Rosen Centre  
9840 International Dr  
Orlando, FL 32819  
1-407-996-9700

Host Hotel Sold Out

Call 1-407-996-9700 to be put on a waiting list if available. • \$159  
9700 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32819

# 164 GROUP PRESENTS SOBERILLA.ORG



12 Step Workshop  
From Struggle to Structure  
From Pain to Freedom

\$15 (advance) - \$20 (door)  
Proceeds Benefit Central Office  
Dinner Provided



January 31st, 2026  
2AM - 8PM

Location  
**Seminole Heights UMC**  
6111 N Central Ave  
Tampa, FL 33604



2026

MARCH 13-15



2026

BROOKSVILLE, FL

Soberstock is a 3-day weekend AA/Al-Anon/Alateen event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship.

Soberstock 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! Motorcycle Run!  
Outdoor Meetings! ALL Food & Drinks provided! Tent Camping! Karaoke!

When: Friday, March 13th, 2026 - Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at noon.

Registration: Friday: Noon-7:30 pm Saturday 8:00am - 7:00 pm

\*Everyone must stop at registration and complete a liability form before entering event\*

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

What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, lanterns, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS (except service animals) NO RV's

What we provide: Fri. dinner, Sat. breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.

# www.soberstock.com

All SoberStock orders are processed on a "Will Call" basis, meaning no products or tickets are shipped. Once your order is received, your name is added to our list, and you can pick up everything at the registration office upon entering the gate. Online orders are secure, and we accept most major credit cards through PayPal.

