

NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

6/80



MINUTES OF THE THIRD QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTH FLA. ARE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, JUNE 7-8, 1980, HOLIDAY INN OF SILVER SPRINGS, FLORIDA.

AGENDA, SAT., 6/7/80:

1:00 P.M.
" "
" "

Public Information Committee Meeting
Grapevine Committee Meeting
Handicap Committee Meeting

2:30 P.M.
" "

Institutional Committee Meeting
Secretarys and Treasurers Meeting

4:00 P.M.
" "

General Service Representatives Meeting
Area Committee Officers Meeting

8:30 P.M.

Open Speaker Meeting

AGENDA, SUN., 6/8/80:

8:30 A.M.
10:30 A.M.

GSR Sharing Session
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AREA COMMITTEE OFFICERS MEETING: Chairman, Tom L. opened meeting with meditation and Serenity Prayer. ROLL CALL - 22 present. Absent - 6: Alt.Del.; Alt.Chmn.; DCM#5, DCM#6; DCM#9; Inst. Chmn.

Minutes approved as written. Treasurer's Report adopted as read: Bal.6/7/80 - \$1,785.03.
"Prudent Reserve" Bal. 4/21/80 - \$566.93

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the sum of \$500.00 be added to the Prudent Reserve.

Delegate's Report: Lou M. stated that he will give a complete report on the General Service Conference of April, 1980, at the General Assembly on Sunday, 6/8/80. He touched on five of the "Hi-Lites": 1.-The film, "A.A.-An Inside View" received final approval, and that it is now available to anyone for showing both community wise and for television; 2.-A new film will be available in the near future on the "Archives-History of Alcoholics Anonymous". It was approved, and may be obtained from Nell Wing, GSO Archivist; 3.-Another film was approved-it will consist of excerpts from "A.A.-An Inside View" and also some of the "shorts" from N.Fla.; 4.-On video taping of A.A. talks in treatment facilities, it was felt that this was an infringement on our anonymity, and it is suggested that we do not do video taping; 5.-The term for delegates remains at two years- it was not extended to three years.
International Convention- Lou announced that Jesse P., Tallahassee, would be the N.Fla. speaker at the Florida Alkathon, 11:00 A.M., Friday, July 4th, at the Marriott Hotel.
Regional Forum, Dec. 12, 13, & 14, 1980, Atlanta, Ga., L.A.D.H.A. Townhouse- Lou urged all N.Fla. members to attend this forum brought to us by staff members from General Service Office, N.Y.
1981 April Conference Theme will be "Are we in A. A. getting more concerned about outside institutions than we are with A.A.?"

There was a discussion on North Florida Area purchasing the film "A.A.-An Inside View" for \$150.00, so that it might be available to all seventeen districts. The Public Information Committee is to research the subject, and report at the next meeting.

Committee Reports, by Chairmen of P.I., Instit., Grapevine, Handicap, GSRs, and Secretary/Treasurer Meetings, are attached, following Minutes.

State Convention and International Convention Reports: See details in Assembly Minutes.

Fourth Quarter Meeting - is ELECTION MEETING to be held at Crystel River, October 18-19, 1980. This is for election of Area Committee Officers, - Delegate, Alt. Delegate, Chairman, Alt. Chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and Distict Committeemen for our seventeen districts, for the two year term, 1981 - 1983. PLEASE READ PAGES 49 and 50 of the SERVICE MANUAL, for procedure of election. The Assembly Meeting on Sunday, October 19th, will begin at 9:30 A.M.

Speaker Meeting, 8:30 P.M., Sat. was chaired by Bert L., who introduced the speaker, Richard G. of Ocala, who shared his experiences both as a practicing alcoholic and now a sober, recovering alcoholic, in the field of entertainment.

Sharing Session, 8:30 A.M., Sunday: See attached report, following Minutes.

ASSEMBLY MEETING, 10:30 A.M., Sunday, 6/8/80: Chmn., Tom L. opened with moment of meditation, followed by Serenity Prayer. *ROLL CALL-Alt.Del.,Alt.Chmn.,DCMs#4,5,6,7,9,14,16. Upon motion made and seconded, the Minutes were approved as written. Upon motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's Report was approved - balance, 6/7/80 - \$1,785.03, Savings Acc't. - \$566.93. Elise D., Treas. stated that a smaller percentage of the groups are contributing, but those who do are doing a marvelous job. Upon motion made and seconded, it was approved that the Prudent Reserve be increased an additional \$500.00. *Roll Call-19 Present: 9 (see above) Absent.

Fla. State Convention: Chmn., John F. 1, reported that registrations are lagging. Support of all members is needed. 493 have registered to date (6/8/80). 500 additional are needed. This 24th Annual State Convention will be held August 28-31, at the Court of Flags Hotel, Orlando, Fl. Call or write: 1. John F. 1, Chmn., Rt. 6 Box 973, Orlando,Fl.,32807
Phone: 305/568-4207
2. Lorne I. : Registration Chmn., P.O.Box 20473,Orlando,Fl., 32814
Phone: 305/568-4695

Int'l. Convention: Will be held July 3-6 in New Orleans. This is the 45th Anniversary, and plans are being made for 26,000 members to attend A.A. functions at the Superdome and various of the hotels.

Delegate's Report of the April, 1980 General Service Conference, New York, N.Y.: Lou M. gave a most informative and comprehensive report of his week in New York City. The following are "Hi-Lites" (see also five "Hi-Lites" under Area Committee Report, Page 1) on all matters discussed and/or approved, which will be covered in the 30th Annual Meeting of the General Services Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, 1980, Final Report: 1.-Statistics-average age at Conference was 54,-oldest 72, youngest 36; Sobriety average-12 yrs,-longest 32, shortest 6 yrs.; there are over one million members, 39,964 groups, with 58.9% contributing; we are almost at the point of being solely self-supporting through contributions, and this in turn reduces the price of literature; a reminder for us all- that it is time to double the amount we each put in the basket - the rate of inflation doubles every five or six years - we should try to increase what we put in the basket. N. Fla. contributed \$1.50 per capita, and S. Fla. contributed \$3.78 per capita.: A.A. voting structure-A 75% written vote is required from all representatives to change anything in A.A. We suggest, we do not mandate (but each member must mandate his own principles, remembering not to be too hard on himself when he goofs.): 2.- Films and Tapes

The film "A.A.-An Inside View" was approved-there was some controversy from California in the pictures of the Co-Founders being shown in the film-it was felt this was a break in anonymity. After discussion, the film was approved, with these pictures remaining in. It is suggested that when this film is shown anywhere, that an A.A. member be present. Cost of film is \$35.00 weekly to rent; \$150.00 long-term loan (i.e. keep until film wears out); The new film on A.A. Archives, which was approved, is titled "Markings on A Journey" and will be available for distribution shortly; Tapes on TV Spots of 10 seconds were approved, with five accepted. Will be available shortly; On video taping of A.A. talks and speakers - we are reminded to observe the 11th Tradition. Preferably, give talk in person, rather than taping: 3.-Literature-All pamphlets are now service approved, and will be so stamped; A.A. Guidelines do not come under service pamphlets - they reflect the feelings and growth of all groups, which are compiled by GSO; The two main meetings at the Int'l. Convention will be translated into French, Spanish, and German; 4.-Questionnaire on Membership will be done this year - this will be of a general nature, and will be Anonymous. A majority of us will receive copies: 5.-Change has been made in the Service Manual, in reference to Alternates, and their importance in the Service Structure: 6.-Reaffirmation of cooperation with Professional field and others was made: 7.-A.A. Groups in Treatment Facilities-the validity and use of same for future insertion in the Directory will come up for discussion at the '81 Conference; 8.-A new problem has arisen in California and is moving eastward - it pertains to teen agers with alcoholism, who are under legal age, attending A.A. without the consent of their parents. A.A. members could become involved in legal suits and be charged with "contributing to the delinquency of a minor": 9.-GSO Structure- Lou pointed out that GSO is a service structure- and as such, does not mandate. There is no governing body - we are guided by the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and the 12 Concepts; GSO is set up solely to serve the groups - they do not have any concrete answers to questions - we (every member) find the answers for ourselves locally: 10.-Report of 1980 Conference will be sent to all committee members and DCMs; or individual members may order from GSO for \$2.00 a copy.

REMINDER - All DCMs hold district meeting with your GSRs and read pages 49 and 50 in the Service Manual on voting procedure for the next Assembly.

All DCMs remind your groups they should elect new GSRs for upcoming two year term, and, if possible, have them present in October at the next quarterly meeting. Also, remember that only the present committee members, DCMs and GSRs (or their alternates) are eligible to vote in October.

FOURTH QUARTER ASSEMBLY at Crystal River, The Plantation Inn, October 18-19, 1980. All members are urged to attend this Election Assembly, which will begin at 9:30 A.M., Sunday, 10/19.

Meeting adjourned, upon motion made and seconded and approved, 11:30 A.M. Basket was passed. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Phyllis G. D
Corresponding Secretary

7/15/80

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

1:00 P.M., Saturday, 6/7/80

Del E., Chmn., opened the meeting in usual manner. Attendance-28 present. Del commented on the General Service Conference recent bulletin which states that the AA film, "A.A.-An Inside View" is to be released to the public, and that the pictures of Dr. Bob and Bill W. shown, are in accordance with the traditions, since both are deceased, and both families have granted their permission to release them.

The pamphlet "AA and the Alcoholic Employee" is to be discontinued, as there are several other pamphlets covering this matter. Also, "AA In Your Community" will be discontinued, since it is superfluous.

Del remarked that he felt we should not schedule other important meetings at the same time as this meeting, noting that the Grapevine and Handicap meetings were being held simultaneously with Public Information. Those present agreed.

Everyone was given copy of reprint "WHAT AA CAN DO AND WHAT AA DOES NOT DO". There was much comment on #2 - do not solicit members, or try to persuade anyone to come to AA if he does not want to. The floor had much to say about the success we have had visiting treatment centers and half-way houses. The consensus of opinion on this was - we can urge AA members to visit these places, answer questions, share our experience, but we cannot 4th Step them, or pressure them. Ours is a program of attraction.

We agreed to urge AA members to accept the poly abuser (i.e. other drugs in addition to alcohol) into our meetings, providing they limit their discussion and comments to the alcoholic problem only.

An AA member should do the following things, when attending a treatment center meeting: 1.-Distribute pamphlets, particularly "When and Where", "AA at a Glance", and "Is AA for You?"; 2.-Take chips to them.

When making a 12th Step call, if the person asking for help is in very bad physical shape, it is suggested, and definitely permissible, to advise the family that a drying out, or treatment center, would be advisable. In 12th Stepping, a fairly normal drunk who seems well-nourished and responds well in conversation, may be advised, at the A.A. members' discretion, to see his or her physician, in order to restore physical balance.

The complete SERENITY PRAYER pamphlet was given to those present. Del also advised that an individual member may purchase the Public Information Kit for \$7.00, from GSO, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y., 10163, % Susan D.

Meeting adjourned, with basket passed, and closing with Lord's Prayer.

Del E , Chairman

Laddie M , Acting Secretary

Laddie M.

NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

AA
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Grapevine Committee Meeting
Saturday, June 7, 1980

Meeting opened in the usual manner, with a moment of silent meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. There was discussion on the various items available to all groups through the Grapevine Office in New York. Due to increasing circulation and increasing costs, it was necessary to increase the price of the Grapevine Magazine to \$6.00/year and \$10.00 for 2 yrs., as of July 1, 1980. Also, the AA Today Magazine, which is a reprint of the 25th Anniversary AA Publication, is now available at \$4.00 per copy. In addition, the New York office has made available reprints of the Memorial Issue of "Bill W." and "Dr. Bob" in a packet, together, for \$2.00. There is also a new item - a Grapevine Pocket Calendar - price is \$2.00 - ordered from New York.

Again, the importance of appointing Grapevine Representatives, and the ultimate increased support for the Grapevine, itself, was discussed. The General Service Office gains much of its support from the sale of Grapevine subscriptions and other items.

Following our new meeting format, two reports were given on articles selected from the April and May and June, 1980 issues, which were, in the opinion of the reporters, the best articles.

Greta J., Daytona Bch., reported on the 1st article in the June issue-"I'm Glad I'm an Alcoholic". Read that article, and you will be glad you are, too.

Dick P. substituted for Curtis McT., Orlando, who could not attend. Dick reported on the 1st article of the May issue-"This Business of Humility". Sometimes, in our urgent desire to find humility, we overlook the fact that we are still performing good works - but for personal gain. Do for another person, without a desire for personal gain, but for the purpose of sharing what has been given to you by others. This Gift of Sobriety - God's forgiveness comes to all of us, as long as "we just try" to carry the message.

Thanks to Greta and Dick for sharing.

At our October meeting, we will have reports planned by Don P., Turning Point Grp., Orlando, and Leon, Central Grp., Orlando. We will see you in Crystal River - bring your GVR (Grapevine Representative) with you.

Meeting closed in usual manner, basket passed, and closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Gratefully submitted



Dick P., Chairman



GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE
NORTHERN AREA

HANDICAP COMMITTEE REPORT

THIRD QUARTER ASSEMBLY

June 6/7, 1980

Some of the following points relative to the handicapped alcoholic and the Handicap Committee were discussed by ten service members:

The primary purpose of the committee is to carry the message of recovery to the still suffering alcoholic with a physical handicap as well as to motivate the handicapped AA member to become more active in the fellowship.

TWELVE STEP CALLS

If possible, group members with a handicap should be listed on the answering service. This not only will give notice of our primary purpose, but will probably be more effective, on a one-on-one basis, when another person with a disability is involved.

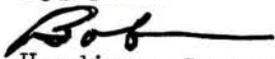
It was pointed out that no matter who makes the initial contact with the handicapped person, it should be remembered that his or her first disability is alcoholism and as such, should be greeted and treated as the same as any other newcomer. When it comes to alcoholism, there is no discrimination.

For those who cannot regularly attend meetings because of physical or medical reasons, there is a remedy. Most DCMS and many GSRS have been given lists of A.A. literature which has been recorded on cassette and open-reel tapes and is available from the General Service Office. In hardship cases, these aides are furnished on a no charge basis.

Once again, the topic of the hard of hearing was discussed and for now, the best A.A. approach is to SPEAK UP. When sharing at any A.A. activity it is vital to be heard by all.

It must also be reported that the enthusiasm and interest in this service assignment is growing from conference to conference and the personal experiences shared by some has been very rewarding.

Bob F


Handicap Chairman

Institutional Committee Meeting

Saturday, June 7, 1980

Nubby N , of Fort Lauderdale, Institutional Chairman, South Florida, chaired the North Florida meeting, while Bill R , our chairman will chair the South Florida meeting.

Nubby well qualifies as an Institutional Chairman, based on his personal experiences of having served time in prison (he had received a sentence for three consecutive life plus fifteen year term). He has eight years of sobriety in the Alcoholics Anonymous program.

He related that this meeting began with a discussion on the hand of A.A. to always be there, especially for those in institutions - one of the ways being to give them the names of people in each District who are able to serve as contacts - perhaps a type of Directory could be put out.

From his personal experience of being in prison, he learned that we in A.A. are responsible for helping all institutions - penal, half-way houses, drying-out centers, hospitals, treatment centers - any place where people might be for a period of time, and who would need help. They can be given all the medical help they need, but we need to give them all the help through A.A. in order to make their recovery a success.

There was discussion about "screening" non-alcoholics from meetings: An open meeting is open to anyone. On Double Addiction - If you have a problem with members in an A.A. group seeming to discuss more their other drug addictions, try to contact the nearest Narcotics Office, and ask them to coordinate groups - i.e. one group for other drugs, and one for alcoholism, only.

Meeting adjourned in usual manner, basket being passed, and closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Report made from Secretary's Minutes at
General Assembly, Sunday, June 8, 1980

Nubby N , Acting Chairman
from South Florida Area A.A.

Secretary/Treasurer Meeting - Chairman, Roy, Oxford Grp., Wildwood, Fl. Saturday, June 7, 1980

Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer. There were approximately 25 present. Roy proposed the subject for discussion - "How our money is spent and distributed." The following are some of the comments, thoughts, and suggestions from the group present -:
1. Use AA Guidelines; charity starts at home - take care of own "family" (group) first, then use 10-30-60%.: 2. Any group that does not contribute to GSO or N.Fl.Area is getting a "free ride". The Treasurer of N.Fl.Area commented that less than 60% of our groups in Area contribute.: 3. On question re sending the GSR to the Area meetings and paying expenses for same from group contributions, suggestion was made to deduct a portion from grp. funds, after the grp. expenses were taken care of (rent, coffee).; 4. In getting involved in service work at the local level (making coffee for grp.)-i.e. serving in various group offices as soon as sobriety is established, enables a member to strengthen his or her recovery program, and instills a sense of responsibility, and one learns to use common sense in handling the group's money - which we in A.A. can consider is money "of a spiritual nature".; Business meetings and an accurate keeping of records will have positive effect in the group practicing the basics in the Third Legacy.

The meeting closed, with basket passed, and with the Lord's Prayer.

Maureen C.
Maureen A , Acting Secretary

NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY



General Service Representative Meeting
Saturday, June 7, 1980

Fred K [redacted], Chairman, opened the meeting with a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. He recited our preamble, and opened the floor for discussion, by asking if any of the GSRs had any problems in their respective groups, they wished to discuss. Some of the following were covered: 1. In answer to a newly elected GSR's query "How do you get your group to participate?", Fred suggested that he ask for volunteers, and if no one volunteers, say that there just might not be a meeting, if no one is willing to open up, etc. Usually, someone will volunteer to be responsible for a one month period; 2. On the subject of sponsoring Narcotics Anonymous Groups, and allowing them to display literature at AA meetings, after much discussion, the general feeling was that it is definitely against our Traditions to become affiliated with any outside groups. Also, that an A.A. member could, as an individual, personally attend a N.A. Grp. meeting and tell of his experiences, strength and hope in alcoholism. As "alkys" an A.A. group, as a whole should not identify with pills or needles, even though we have "double dippers" in the Program. - We discuss and work with the problem drinker and the A.A. recovery program for alcoholics.

The meeting closed with basket being passed, and with the Lord's Prayer. Fred K [redacted], Chmn.

GSR-SHARING SESSION, 8:30 A.M., Sunday, June 8, 1980 Fred K., Ocala, Chairman

As usual, the sharing session was well represented by GSRs, DCMs, and interested persons from many of the Districts representing the N. Fla. Area. Fred opened in the usual manner, with reading of How it Works by Jim from Citrus County, and the 12 Traditions by Bill M. A subject raised for discussion was "Why customs in each group of A.A. were not uniform?". One answer was that this was covered in the Traditions, by making each group Autonomous, but that all groups must remember to follow the principles of A.A. The next subject was on Patience and Tolerance, with some following thoughts and comments: 1. These are valuable possessions, and the loss of them puts one at great disadvantage in applying the Twelve Steps to daily affairs; 2. It is important, to practice patience and tolerance, to be an active member of a group, learning to keep our mouths shut, and to listen. Also, do not take control of or inventory other members, or we can subject ourselves to mental and/or physical illness.; 3. Patience and tolerance is realizing that in helping the other guy, even though it bothers us, we are helping ourselves. Working the 10th Step, in taking a daily inventory of self, helps us to get through intolerance. Over the years, we learn that if we wait, & work our program, that patience and tolerance grow. Accepting people as they are, without fear of ourselves, using gratitude as a balance, talking a problem over with someone (do you have a sponsor?), and sometimes, a proverb helps: "Proverb 14:7 - Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest Not in him the lips of knowledge." Tolerance and Patience are gifts, freely given to those who are willing to re-learn the law of Love.

Meeting closed, with basket being passed, and with the Lord's Prayer.

Marilyn G.
Marilyn G. [redacted], Acting Secretary



NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

TREASURER'S REPORT

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
 JUNE 6 AND 7, 1980
 HOLIDAY INN, SILVER SPRINGS

BALANCE ON HAND \$1,758.17

PERIOD COVERED	I N C O M E			E X P E N S E S				PERIOD	CUR. BALANCE
	GROUP	Misc.Col.	TOTAL	GSO/DEL.	HOTELS	OPERAT.	TOTAL		
1.1-4.3	*\$1,163.04	\$ 427.98	\$1,566.17	\$ 300.00	\$627.40	\$290.38	\$1,217.78	\$ 373.24	\$2,131.41
4.4-6.2	** 539.98	333.07	873.05	1,000.00	7.01	212.42	1,219.43	- 346.38	1,785.03
	\$1,703.02	\$ 761.05	\$2,464.07	\$1,300.00	\$634.41	\$502.80	\$2,437.21	16.86	1,785.03

*Includes \$10.00 designated especially for use in Institutional Work **Includes Anon. Donation in memory of Jack B., Marvin R. Group, Orlando and GSR'S of District I donation of \$40.00.

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS DURING QUARTER (APRIL 4-JUNE 2, 1980), BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	GROUP	AMOUNT	DISTRICT	GROUP	AMOUNT
DIS. I.	ARLINGTON	\$50.00	VIII.	BRIGHTER DAYS BREAKFAST GROUP	\$20.00
	BEACHES UNITY	15.00		OCEAN HOLIDAY (2)	15.00
	CENTRAL (2)	10.00		PORT ORANGE	5.00
	GSR'S	40.00		WAY OF LIFE	6.49
	LIFE LINE (2)	10.00		WINNERS'S WAY	19.49
	STRENGTH & HOPE	20.00	IX.	PINE HILLS GRACE	40.00
II	EUREKA	30.00	X.	SANFORD	20.00
III	ARS ALUMNI	15.00		TANGLEWOOD	20.00
	ESPIRIT	5.00	XI.	ANONYMOUS (JACK B.)	20.00
	HANGIN' LOOSE	6.00		MARVIN R.	13.00
	TINQUANA	10.00	XIII.	CRYSTAL RIVER	10.00
IV.	FERNANDINA		XIV.	J&G (GAINESVILLE)	20.00
	BEACH (2)	30.00	XVI.	BRADFORD	25.00
	RIVERSIDE	25.00	XVII.	OCALA GRACE	5.00
VII.	LEESBURG	25.00		SERENITY	10.00

EXPENSES

DELEGATE.....	\$1,000.00
HOTEL.....	7.01
OPERATIONAL	
Grapevine Com.	12.00
Treasurer's Report	8.50
Other printing, mailing, etcetera.	173.92
MISCELLANEOUS	18.00

To date 69 groups have made contributions (some single, others multiple).

The Committee will welcome especially contributions from those groups that have not participated in our program to date.

Please make checks to:
 North Florida Committee AA
 and send to Treasurer:
 Elise R. Dean
 108 Gayfair Circle
 Sanford, Florida 32771
 (Phone: 305/323-0383)

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance on hand 12.30.79..... \$559.61
 4.21.80 In. \$7.31 566.93

Respectfully submitted,

Elise R. Dean
 Elise R. Dean
 Treasurer