

# NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

**AA**  
**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, OCTOBER 18-19, 1980, PLANTATION INN, CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA.

AGENDA, SAT., 10/18/80:

<u>1:00 P.M.</u>	<u>Public Information Committee Meeting</u>
" "	<u>Grapevine Committee Meeting</u>
" "	<u>Handicap Committee Meeting</u>
<u>2:30 P.M.</u>	<u>Institutional Committee Meeting</u>
" "	<u>Secretarys' &amp; Treasurers' Meeting</u>
<u>4:00 P.M.</u>	<u>General Service Representatives' Meeting</u>
" "	<u>Area Committee Officers' Meeting</u>
<u>8:30 P.M.</u>	<u>Open Speaker Meeting</u>

AGENDA, SUN., 10/19/80:

9:30 A.M. GENERAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

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AREA COMMITTEE MEETING: Chairman, Tom L. opened meeting with meditation and Serenity Prayer.  
ROLL CALL - 21 present. Absent - 7: Alt.Del.; Inst.Chmn.; Grapevine Chmn.; ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
DCM#2, DCM#4, DCM#5, DCM#16.

Minutes approved as written. Treasurer's Report adopted as read: Bal.10/18/80 - \$1,880.60  
"Prudent Reserve" Bal.9/30/80 - \$1,086.59

Delegate's Report: Lou M. announced that the "Print-Outs" would be given to the DCMs at this meeting. All DCMs were reminded to make all changes and corrections in these, and to return them to New York BY DECEMBER 15, 1980. The information from these Print-Outs is needed for next year's Directory. Lou thanked the Committee Members for their support during his two year term as Delegate.

Chairman, Tom L. gave the following names of members eligible to stand for offices at the Sunday Assembly Election Meeting: Delegate - Tom ; Alternate Delegate - Evelyn ;  
Chairman - Jimmy G ; Treasurer - Kay M ; Secretary - Phyllis D  
Elise L

Tom also advised that others, not present at this meeting, would probably stand at the election assembly, and that nominations from the floor would also be accepted. He also thanked the members for their support during his two year term as Chairman.

Committee Reports, by Chmn. of P.I., Instit., Grapevine, Handicap, & GSR Meetings, are attached.

First Quarter Assembly, January 17-18, 1981, St. Augustine Beach, at the Sheraton-Anastasia.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 P.M. Basket was passed. Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Speaker Meeting, 8:30 P.M., Saturday, 10/18/80: Charles J., chairman, introduced the speaker "Suitcase Bob" T., who recounted his experiences as an alcoholic in the field of education, sharing with us what it was like as a practicing alcoholic, and then how it has been for him as a sober one, who puts into practice using the tools of the Twelve Steps, by which he acquired his nickname of "Suitcase" Bob - because he carries with him some of them in his suitcase - one being a red toy telephone, which he called his "Hot Line to God".

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ASSEMBLY ELECTION MEETING, Sunday, 10/19/80, 9:30 A.M. Tom L., Chairman, opened the meeting with moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. ROLL CALL--Committee Officers, District Committee Members or Alternates present - 21: Absent - 3 - Alt. Del; DCM#2; DCM#5.

Minutes approved as written. Treasurer's Report approved - Balance 10/18/80: \$1,880.60  
"Prudent Reserve" Balance 9/30/80 : \$1,086.59

Committee Reports made: See attachments.

Delegate Report: Lou M., as outgoing delegate, thanked all those present for their support and help to him during his two year term.

Election of Area Officers,\*Southeastern Trustee , and\*Trustee-at-large: Number present and eligible to vote - 98. 2/3 vote required - 64. Voting by ballot, written. The officers elected, to take office January 1, 1981, and serve a period of two years, are as follows:

- Delegate - Tom I [redacted], Casselberry: Alt.Delegate - Evelyn S [redacted], Cocoa Beach
- Chairman - Bob S [redacted], Orange Park (Jax.): Alt.Chairman - Jimmy C [redacted], Jax.
- Recording Secty. - Phyllis D [redacted], Jax.: Corresponding Secty. - Pat N [redacted], Orlando
- Treasurer - Elise I [redacted], Sanford:

\*Southeastern Trustee (4-yr. term) - Sam J [redacted], Past Delegate for N.Fla.Area 1971-72, was elected at this Assembly. His name will be presented at the General Service Conference in April, 1981, when the election for a Class B regional trustee is held.

\*Trustee-at-Large (United States) - Barbara S [redacted], Past Delegate for N.Fla. Area 1977-78, was elected at this Assembly. Her name will be presented as a candidate at the General Service Conference in April, 1981 when election is held.

Names for Public Information, Institutional, Grapevine, and Handicap Chairmen for the Area will be presented for approval at the next Assembly.

Tom L., as outgoing Chairman, and incoming Delegate, thanked all those present for their support during his two year term as chairman, and for their vote of confidence in him to be the N. Fla. Delegate for the next two years.

REMINDER TO ALL DCMS: Send your up-dated District roster, listing new or succeeding DCM and each Group, and GSR. List full names, mailing addresses, including zip and telephone #s. A complete new roster will be prepared for incoming Committee Officers and Members, and will also be sent to General Service Office. This is how you receive mail from N.Fla. Area and from New York. Send information to Rhoda I [redacted] (outgoing Rec.Secty.) [redacted], as soon as possible.

First Quarterly Meeting, January 17-18, 1981 District #6 will be the host group. To be held at the Sheraton-Anastasia, St. Augustine Beach. Included in the Saturday agenda, will be a tour of this historical city, arranged by District 6.

Meeting adjourned 11:30 A.M., with passing of basket, and closing with the Lord's Prayer.

KEEP COMING BACK

IT REALLY WORKS

IF YOU WANT IT TO

Respectfully submitted



Phyllis G. D.  
Corresponding Secretary (outgoing)

11/1/80

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GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE REPORT

4th QUARTERLY MEETING  
Oct. 18-19, 1980  
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL.

CHAIRMAN, DICK F

In the absence of the chairman, Katy D., as acting chairman, opened the meeting in the usual manner. Those present shared some thoughts on how the Grapevine is effective for those who subscribe to it - 1. The Gift Subscription is a good idea; 2. The reader receives opinions through the articles from all over the world-wide A.A. community; 3. Carry the Grapevine with you on hospital visits; 4. The articles make for a "meeting in print"; Excellent topics found in Grapevine, for sharing at a group meeting.

Leo R. shared his comments on the September Grapevine article "EGO". Ego can also manifest itself in an introvert. The program teaches that we must have humility in order to counterbalance ego. We must be ever watchful, as the article concludes, "of ---adding to this AA program, or leaving out some key ingredient, my incredible ego will get terribly drunk, even though I have not touched a drop of alcohol."

Don P. reported on the October Grapevine article "NEVER WASTE YOUR TIME ON A DRUNK?" Comments on this article were - 1: There is no such thing as an unsuccessful 12 Step call; 2: There is no rule against letting a drunk come to a meeting - as long as he or she does not disrupt the meeting.

Claude, from Deland, and George, from Altamonte Springs, will report on articles from the Grapevine, at the next meeting.

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

Katie D., Acting Chairman

# NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

**AA**  
**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Saturday, 1:00 P.M., 10/18/80

Del E., Chairman, opened the meeting in the usual manner. Fifty-two were present. Minutes of last meeting read, the basket was passed, and Del observed that this was his last meeting as Chairman of the P.I. Committee. He was pleased to announce the GSO has released a new film "Markings on the Journey", the archives film strip, and it is now available.

Del likened members of AA to snowflakes - "delicate and fragile when in singular form, but formidable when stuck together" (as we are in AA).

He referred particularly to the pamphlet "AA Tradition - How It Developed - by Bill W.", and stated that altho' he had no copies with him, they could be obtained by writing to Susan D., GSO, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, N.Y., N.Y., 10163. He gave special attention to Page 27, a through g. In Public Information work, we must ever be mindful of our twelve traditions.

Another pamphlet of importance "AA in Treatment Centers", which can also be ordered from N.Y., is of value for a group to have, before they "carry the message" to people in treatment facilities.

Topics discussed touched upon: 1. Importance of A.A. being for the individual; 2. Public Information is responsible for much of the spreading of the word, and carrying the message; 3. Guidelines for announcements in newspaper; 4. Guidelines to use with a person attending his or her first meeting; 5. Sponsorship; 6. Guidelines for working with minors (under 18 yrs.) - be sure and get parental permission.

Reminder was made that we have no police force in A.A., and each one, as an individual, in public information work, should always keep the suggested steps and traditions in mind.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Del E., Chairman

Helen W., Acting Secretary

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE MEETING, Saturday, 4:00 P.M., 10/18/80

Maynard opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. He observed that when he first came to A.A. he had three crutches - two canes and a "glass" one - booze, and that now, with his program, he needs to use only one of the two canes.

Thoughts were shared on various topics - 1. How one becomes a GSR; 2. How to handle situations that arise in your group - i.e. cross-addiction and/or advising others about taking medication. Points made were - on cross-addiction, that no one is turned away from Alcoholics Anonymous; in advising others about medication, we must remember that we are not doctors, and should not interfere with a member who is under a doctor's care and taking prescribed medication for other ailments. In summation, the A.A. program is one of recovery for the alcoholic, from alcoholism, only.

Several members shared their way of "carrying the message" to their groups, as the GSR.-1. If possible, read something pertinent (and brief) to role of GSR, at each meeting and stress the importance of service work; 2. Ask chmn. of group meeting for a short period of time to give GSR report; 3. When opportunity presents itself, introduce into the topic for discussion how same topic was discussed at the quarterly Assembly meeting.

Since alcoholics appear to be "experts" in everything but managing their own lives - a word of advice might be "When all else fails - READ DIRECTIONS" - meaning following the twelve steps and traditions for one's own recovery program of sobriety.

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

Helen W., Acting Secretary

# NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Saturday, 2:30 P.M., 10/18/80

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

Perry G., Acting Chairman, opened the meeting with a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Two visitors, Ralph and Jimmy from Lancaster Institution, were present.

There was discussion on the Basics in the Institutional Program, and several areas were covered. Owen McR. pointed out that Institutional work means a lot. He works at the Fla. State Prison, and serves as an Inside and Outside Sponsor. He is not an "expert" but knows that in carrying the message to men and women in institutions really does work for those "inside", who are waiting for the message. He spoke again of the fact that 84% of those at Fla. State are there for alcohol related offenses. He feels that A.A. members are missing the opportunity of a lifetime, if they don't share in Institutional Work.

At the North Fla. Area Assembly, 1975-76, it was decided that the GSR of an institutional group does have a vote in the Assembly.

There was discussion on the need continuing for outside groups to take an active part in institutional A.A. meetings. And that an Outside Sponsor plays an important part in keeping the lines of communication open between the inside group, and outside A.A. fellowship. A motion was made and seconded that the outside Sponsoring Group elect a GSR for the Inside Group, as a further means of keeping communications open.

There are procedures and guidelines for correctional institutions, and other types of facilities. Guidelines can be obtained from GSO, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y., 10163.

Spoke again of the importance of coordinating the inmate and outside group at time of release from institution. This is an area of responsibility of A.A. Perry shared the importance for him of the "inside group", and of being helped by members of A.A. who were involved in institutional program. He wouldn't be here today, if it were not for this kind of caring and sharing. He felt that the group secretary carried a responsibility in locating A.A. meetings, and being familiar with the Directory listings. Also said the inmate should be reminded, upon release, to make contact asking for sponsorship.

Outside sponsor should let Inside Group members know how he feels about A.A., and what are their objectives. Also, the outside sponsor should take the message to A.A. groups about what the institutional meeting people are thinking - can give a better understanding of what they want from A.A.

Observation made that even though some inmates went to meetings at first because it would look good on their record, they did become serious about A.A. as a life-saving program.

Some people thinks those on the inside are a "different breed". It is not important how anyone gets to A.A., or what their background is - the important thing is that the message gets carried to those who hurt.

Make A.A. most important things in your life - and everything else will fall in place.

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

Perry G., Acting Chairman



## GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

FLORIDA STATE COMMITTEE

NORTHERN AREA

HANDICAP COMMITTEE REPORT

4th QUARTERLY MEETING  
OCT. 18-19, 1980  
CRYSTAL RIVER, FLA.

The discussion opened with the fact that the committee was nearly two years old and we recalled what we had experienced during this time and what we could do to more effectively carry the message.

We all agreed that there was a need for this area of service work and had made other members aware of its purpose. Not as a "special interest group," but as fellow alcoholics with a duo disability. Number one-alcoholism-number two, a physical disability (handicap).

It was brought out that as a new committee, we few members had no guidelines or experience "yardstick" to go by and consequently we served individually as the active voice of the service assignment.

Through our collective experiences, we shared our rewards and disappointments and concluded that it was time to compose a list of suggested guidelines to share with the fellowship.

In order to form an outline for this publication, the chairman will compile and distribute all the recorded opinions from past meetings to the committee members. They in turn are expected to peruse this material and give their constructive criticisms as well as those of other handicapped AA's in their groups or districts.

Naturally, any AA member is invited to participate in this project and any assistance will be appreciated.

please mail you suggestions to the address listed below.

*Bob*

Bob K  
37 Rhode Ave.,  
St. Augustine,  
Fl. 32084



# NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

TREASURER'S  
R E P O R T

PRESENTED AT FOURTH QUARTERLY MEETING  
OCTOBER EIGHTEENTH & NINETEEN 4, 1980  
PLANTATION INN, CRYSTAL RIVER FLORIDA

PERIOD ENDING	GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	MISCEL. COLLECTIONS	TOTAL IN- COME	EXPENSES		
				DELEGATE/ GSCONFER	HOTEL	OPERA- TIVAL
12.31.79						
4. 3.80	\$1,163.04	\$ 427.98	\$1,591.02	\$ 300.00	\$627.40	\$290.38
6. 2.80 **	539.98	333.07	873.05	1,000.00	7.01	212.42
10.13.80	917.91	294.92	1,212.83	----	176.80	440.46
	*\$2,620.93	\$1,055.97	\$3,676.90	\$1,300.00	\$811.21	\$943.26

BALANCES		
TOTAL	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
EXPENSES	BALANCES	BALANCES
		\$1,758.17
17.78	\$373.24	2,131.41
19.43	(346.38)	1,785.03
17.26	95.47	1,880.60
54.47*	\$122.43	

\*Group contributions include three contributions by two groups especially for Institutions work.  
 \*\*Includes special collections made by GSR's of District 1, and an in memoriam donation from Marvin R. G...  
 \*1 Includes \$500.00 transferred from Checking Account to Savings

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS  
DIST.

I. BEACHES UNITY	\$ 30.00
CENTRAL	25.00
LIFE LINE	25.00
II. FOUR OAKS	9.00
III. HANGIN' LOOSE	7.00
JAX MEN'S GR.	25.00
ORTEGA (2 ea Gen.&Inst.)	60.00
V. QUINCY	50.00
VII. NINE TWENTY-FIVE	25.00
VIII. BIG BOOK STUDY (2)	20.00
BRIGHTER DAYS BREAKFAST CLUB (4)	40.00
CALM SEAS (2)	9.45
DELAND	25.00
NEW SMYRNA BEACH	25.00
OCEAN HOLIDAY (3)	15.00
PORT ORANGE	4.00
THREE LEGACIES (3)	18.20
WAY OF LIFE (5)	44.31
WINNERS WAY (2)	52.95

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS  
DIST.

X. ALTAMONTE SPRINGS	\$ 1.00
SANFORD WOMEN	5.00
SANFORD BIG BOOK	10.00
17-92 (SEVENTEEN NINETY TWO)	15.00
TANGLEWOOD (2)	17.00
WOMEN'S GRATITUDE	10.00
XI. ATLANTIC DRY DOCK	50.00
GOOD SHEPHERD	5.00
MARVIN R.	13.00
WINTER PARK	50.00
XII. CANOVA BEACH	10.00
EAU GALLIE	80.00
PATRICK	30.00
XIII. HOPE	15.00
INVERNESS	20.00
XIV. FIRESIDE AA GROUP	25.00
XVI. BRADFORD	25.00
BRANFORD	10.00
LIVE OAK	20.00

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

12.30.79	\$ 559.61
4.21.80	566.93
9.30.80	1086.59

CHECK BOOK BALANCE  
\$1,880.60

EXPENSES  
TO SAVINGS.... \$ 500.00  
Hotel 176.80

Operational

Grapevine	9.00
Postage, Envelopes	
Printing, & other	
mailing expenses	598.93
Treasurer- Checks, Type- writer repair	20.22
Miscellaneous	12.31

During this period 38 groups made 62 contributions towards general operational expenses and the delegates expenses. In addition, one group made two contributions to Institutional work. Since the beginning of the year a total of 85 groups have contributed.

A SUMMARY OF THE YEAR  
WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE  
JANUARY 1981 QUARTERLY.  
STILL TIME TO CONTRIBUTE  
FOR 1980!

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED... Elise R. Dean, Treasurer  
108 Mayfair Circle, Sanford, Fla 32771  
1-305/323-0383

*Elise R. Dean*