



NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

SECOND QUARTERLY MINUTES OF THE NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS

April 9 - 10, 1983 - Jacksonville, Florida

SPEAKERS' MEETING: Virgil Bell from the Central Group in Jacksonville chaired the meeting, opening with Serenity Prayer; Norma C. read "How It Works" and Katie D. the "12 Traditions." Virgil then introduced the speaker, Jim McC. from the Mandarin Group in Jacksonville. The theme of Jim's speech was see God through AA, there are beautiful things in life - see God in an alcoholic. He said that we are two people; one, the alcoholic straining to come out, and, the person with hope and happiness who is with God. Jim said that he is glad and proud to be an alcoholic because he found a God of his understanding. There are two books that had Spiritual Guidance in their creation, Bible and Big Book. He feels that there should be at least two series of Step Classes a year; that this is part of recovery therapy. As recovering alcoholics, we now have a different way of living and thinking. No human power could have relieved our alcoholism or can stop us from taking our first drink. Our natural state is to be drunk - so every day sober is a miracle. He also said that God promises that he will do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

This is just a small portion of Jim's talk, which everyone enjoyed very much.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C.
Madeleine C., Secretary

OFFICERS' & DCMS' MEETING AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Chariman Jimmy G. opened both with a moment of silence followed by Serenity Prayer.

ROLL CALL: Pat N. called the roll - absent were Districts 9 and 13. Minutes of previous assembly were accepted as mailed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Elise D. gave report, which is attached; it was accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Attached.

DELEGATE'S REPORT: Evelyn thanked everyone for their co-operation in replying to questions on Communication and Anonymity. Some replies indicated that a better knowledge of the Service Structure is needed. She said to keep working on this through communication. We are all new to our jobs at this time and there is a lot of work to be done by all of us - get to know what you are doing in General Service so you can pass it on - it is a "continuing chain of service." We need workshops at district level so there can be a continuity of procedures at group level. She spoke of her upcoming trip to the New York Conference at the end of the month and when she got back she would be visiting the districts to give her report. She said that the report would not be filled with statistics, but common sense. She said to start thinking about a Regional Forum - Membership Survey - and she will have more information at next assembly; also encourage the Birthday Plan.

The Chairman, Jimmy, reminded us of the next Assembly in Orlando on July 16 and 17, and also the State Convention July 20 to 24, and the Southeast Conference August 24 to 27.

The basket was passed and both meetings closed with Serenity Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Madeleine C.
Madeleine C., Secretary

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

MITCH M , CHAIRMAN

The meeting was opened by Mitch with the Serenity Prayer, there were about 100 in attendance.

Many districts are now participating actively talking in the schools. There are a few districts where it is more difficult getting into the schools, but it takes time. Districts 14 & 15 have made inroads in carrying the message in Medical Training Facilities. Daytona Beach is using a questionnaire so students can ask questions without embarrassment of being identified.

Survey year (1983) is here. Some groups in the area will be pre-selected to participate in this every three-year survey.

Primary purpose of Public Information is to inform the public of the principles of AA and to correct misinformation concerning AA.

During the next Assembly, it is suggested the DCM's and Officers investigate the best methods of "carrying the message" in the professional community.

Basket was passed and the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

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INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Bob S , Chairman

The meeting was called to order; Bob opened with The Serenity Prayer. There were about 50 people in attendance.

Sent questionnaires to all 34 groups - 9 responded; will do this again and hopefully get a better response.

Order blanks for literature has been sent to all institution groups.

Lowell Ladies Group has been started again; this is on Tuesday nights.

Best way to get into the prisons is to contact the Superintendent of the particular one interested in.

Cross City Medium Security needs outside participation.

Avon Park has a meeting at 1:30 Sundays - no problem getting in.

Encourage the Temporary Sponsor Program - it is working well in some areas, but needs to be pushed in many districts. Jacksonville is doing very well in this.

Trying to get I.D. Cards on a State level so that one card will go for all institutions.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Bob S , Chairman

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GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE MEETING

M. R. , Chairman

Meeting was opened by M. R. with the Serenity Prayer; there were approximately 20 present. M. R. explained in response to a question that the Grapevine is not on tape because of prohibitive cost.

1983 calendars are available - free.

New bulletin will be out soon with additional info concerning new items. We need a representative for every group in north Florida. When new representatives register with N. Y. they receive a kit that will give ideas on promotion, use of, etc.

Gray pages have a lot of good info for liaison.

Put GV around for others to read.

Bring old issues to meetings for new members.

Try to put copies in Public Libraries - give to doctors, ministers and priests.

Katie D said she had another article accepted to be printed in the future.

Two new representatives were registered from District 1.

GV in Florida have increased from 267, December '82 to 289, February '83.

Basket was passed and closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

M. R. , Chairman

Tom opened the meeting with a moment of meditation followed by the Serenity Prayer. Tom stated that the District Committeeman (DCM) is the direct link between the groups and the delegate. The duties of the DCM are in the Service Manual. Tom stressed the importance of the District Committeeman holding monthly meeting with all the General Service Representatives (GSR) of his district - contact each GSR to get them attend this meeting!

During this meeting, the DCM can explore topics in Box 4-5-9 and copies can be ordered, if necessary. It is also advisable to have the alternate DCM attend all these meetings since the alternate might have to assume some of these duties during the two-year term of a DCM. At the quarterly assemblies, the DCM should keep the GSR's up to date on all changes, etc. COMMUNICATION is the largest problem of the DCM. The DCM shows attraction to service by serving through gratitude.

Barbara S., past delegate & DCM, stressed communication. It is vital to get the feelings of the groups. The regularity of monthly meetings is important; listening is important in service work.

Dick P., past DCM, stated they had breakfast meetings to overcome their communication problem once a month. They Discuss GSO (General Service Office), group problems and often eliminate problems that arise as they come up. Dick also requested 3-4 minutes of a group chairman so that the DCM could talk at a meeting - courage went a long way. Dick stressed he only talked the 3-4 minutes as agreed upon, too! Dick stated a DCM should go around to groups of his district to tell them what they can do as a group - growing as a group. He can discuss the area assembly, explaining the different committees, such as PI, Gvp., Instit., and Disabilities.

Tom said one day a GSR or DCM might be elected to be delegate! The only way you can do this is to come to the monthly district meetings, Area Assembly, etc. Tom suggested having someone speak at the district (monthly) meeting.

Jimmy G., past DCM, said he looked at people with good sobriety - most were involved in the Area Assemblies or service work of some sort. Jimmy said as DCM he went to every single meeting in his Jacksonville area and explained his job and what he was trying to do. Tom stated groups become stagnant without communication but through communication by the GSR/DCM to groups service is shared.

Howard S., past DCM, stated that the DCM is the forgotten person in contributions. He spent over \$400 out of his pocket for service, willingly. Many can't afford to do this. Many GSR's get contributions from their group but there are no contributions from any groups for the DCM.

Tom stated in talking to other delegates that some groups contribute to the DCM - to ask for contributions for the DCM.

Bob H., DCM District #1, commented at the last assembly this was discussed and it would be ideal to help pay; however, they don't have enough money to do this. He explained that he just "used" his whiskey money now! Bob also stressed the importance of their breakfast meeting.

Owen Mc , DCM DistricT #16, said he comes from a spread-out area. They have meetings every two months due to the large distance between groups. They have a news letter and felt this was one of their best links in communication.

Evelyn S , Delegate, stated she grew in monthly meetings. Communication is vital and the way to service. Tom suggested the earlier you get into service, the easier it is.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Pat N , Rec. Sec.

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DISABILITIES MEETING

Tom C , Chairman

Tom opened the meeting with a moment of silent meditation followed by the Serenity Prayer; 23 were in attendance.

Tom opened the discussion concerning Centers for Independent Living and their need to know about alcoholism. There are various types of organizations for the disabled and they are listed according to type of disability unless they are a center for Independent Living. Going to see them - leave literature - even a Big Book is a great idea.

Next we discussed the problems with meetings which do not separate smokers and non-smokers, where there is poor ventilation. It was suggested that chairman could ask any meeting to reduce the smoking during the meeting. Use of candles helps reduce smoke. The question was raised regarding the third and fourth traditions when designating a meeting as smoking or non-smoking and a lively discussion ensued. Groups may designate non-smoking meetings if they so desire.

Tom indicated the problem where meetings are not designated with symbols as to being accessible with whell chairs, second floor and no elevators for instance. Discussion followed concerning possible problems with OSHA since they are responsible for safety in public buildings as well as industrial plants. It was suggested that intergroups or central offices be advised where meetings are held that maybe a problem for disabled to reach and they could then advise those would call for info.

Tom indicated the most important point of these meetings was to help eliminate frustration of those persons wanting to get to meetings and being faced with obstacles in addition to their own disability. Tom also said he is planning to write articles on the subject of disabilities for the Grapevine and he was urged to do so.

Bill pointed out that alcoholism for the disabled is being treated as a family disease just as it is for other alcoholics. A blind person can get just as drunk as one who can see. Tom said he could sing very well when drunk!

Basket was passed. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Tom C , Chairman

Bob opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Serenity Prayer.
 Bob said that there is personal growth through service work; home groups and sponsors are vital. Service helps to keep you sober and prompts the study of all facets of A.A. It is the GSR's job to promote service to their groups; they need to make themselves heard.
 There should be more workshops for GSR's and DCM's. We can't tell the group about service unless we know it ourselves.
 Sometimes new people have to be pushed into service in the beginning. Tell your group how good you feel after attending a Service Conference.
 The basket was passed and meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Bob H. , DCM District #1

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Remember, our next Assembly is July 16 & 17 in Orlando (Howard Johnson's at I-4 & Lee Rd.

Please note for future reference:

PUBLIC INFORMATION CHAIRMAN
Duane "Mitch" M

INSTITUTIONAL CHAIRMAN
Bob S

GRAPEVINE CHAIRMAN
M. R. J

DISABILITY CHAIRMAN
Tom C

TREASURER
Elise D

SECRETARY
Pat N

SECRETARY
Madeleine C

Please include District No. with donations to N. FL Assembly

Any name/address change

Correspondence/minutes

Madeleine



NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

SECOND QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY-NORTH FLORIDA GENERAL SERVICE
CONFERENCE AREA-APRIL 9-10, 1983. JACKSONVILLE HILTON

REPORT BY TREASURER FOR PERIOD JANUARY 1-MARCH 31, 1983.

INCOME	EXPENSES	PERIOD BALANCE	PRUDENT RESERVE (SAVINGS ACCOUNT)
* Group Donations \$2,066.29	Delegate/GS Conference \$ 600.00		12/31/1981 \$4,821.79
Miscellaneous	Assembly 526.58		12/31/1982 5,051.92
Collections 432.51	Operational 567.16		3/31/1983 5,117.74
PERIOD TOTAL 2,498.80	PERIOD TOTAL EXPENSE \$1,693.74	\$ 805.06	
1.83 BALANCE ON HAND 2,014.00	CUMULATIVE BALANCE		
TOTAL INCOME 4,512.80	ON HAND MARCH 31, 1983	\$2819.06	

*Includes a \$500 donation from DISTRICT VIII INTERGROUP; \$7 from DIST. III GSR'S.

SUMMARY GROUP DONATIONS ()-Indicates number of donations

GROUP	AMOUNT	NUMBER	AMOUNT	NUMBER
GSR'S DISTRICT III	\$ 7.00		VIII. Way of Life (3)	\$ 53.66
INTERGROUP DIST VIII	500.00		Winner's Way	74.88 \$391.54
DIST. I Arlington	50.00	13	IX. Friendship	18.00
Beaches Unity	25.00	Groups	Magnolia	100.00 \$118.00
Brown Baggers (2)	10.00	in Dist.	X. Altamonte, A.A. of	15.00 25
Life Line (3)	15.00		Casselberry	15.00
THE Group	15.00	\$115.00	Longwood	30.00
II. -0-	-0-	7	Maitland (for Inst.)	5.00
III. Lake Shore	5.00	17	Maitland Serenity	64.45
NASAP-Cecil Field	7.00		Sanford (1201)	100.00
Ortega	25.00	\$ 37.00	Sanford Big Book	15.00
IV. After 5	25.00	13	Sanford Women	5.00
Baldwin (3)	40.00		Young & Free	10.00 \$284.45
Saints & Sinners(3)	18.27	\$ 83.27	XI. Dry Dock #24	50.00 17
V. Lloyd's Nu Hope	30.00	19	Marvin R	13.00
Nite Owl	20.00	\$ 50.00	Sharing & Caring	4.00
VI. Trinity (2)	20.00	13-\$20	Winter Park	35.00 \$102.00
VII. Big Bass	40.00	14	XII. Canova Beach	10.00 19
Clermont	3.00		Eau Gallie	30.00
Mt. Dora Triangle	25.00	\$ 68.00	Sandpiper	20.00
VIII. Big Book Study(3)	50.00	48	Serenity (Melbourne)	8.30 \$ 68.30
Boulevard (3)	30.00		XIII. Crystal River	56.73 17
Brighter Days	30.00		Inverness Lunch Bunch	10.00 \$ 66.73
Calm Seas	10.00		XIV. Bronson	15.00 15
Deltona-Debary	10.00		J&G	30.00
New Smyrna Bch(2)	50.00		Quarterway	25.00
Ocean Holiday(4)	36.50		Tues Nite Step (2)	15.00 \$ 85.00
(2) Ormond by the Sea	6.50		XV. Central Brevard	40.00 10
Primary Purpose	10.00		Primary Purpose	10.00 \$ 50.00
(3) Road to Recovery	30.00		XVI. -0-	-0- 6- \$0.00
			XVII. Serenity	20.00 12-\$20.00

Expenses	ASSEMBLY	OPERATIONAL
Hotel, tips, etc.	\$140.00	
Guest Speaker Exp.		
Travel	249.00	
Hotel	125.81	
Host Group Exp.	11.77	
Primarily printing and postage expenses plus additional supplies		\$567.16

THANKS TO GROUPS FOR EARLY AND MANY CONTRIBUTIONS. PLEASE... PLEASE indicate on your checks the district (I through XVII) your group is located in! Geography is NOT your Treasurer's long suit! Sometimes takes a private Eye to locate you...and do want to give your group AND District credit for your contributions...

Respectfully... Elise De...

NOTE: In addition to the special contributions made by GSR's of Dist. III and Dist VIII Intergroup, 58 individual groups (out of 277 registered in North Florida) made 82 contributions, for a total of \$1,559.29. The special donations brought the group total to \$ 2,066.29.