



# NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

August 27, 1984

## THIRD QUARTERLY MINUES OF NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

August 4 - 5, 1984 - Tallahassee, FL.

OFFICERS' & DCMS' COMMITTEE MEETING: Chairman, Jimmy G , opened with a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Recording Secretary, Pat N , called the roll: Absent - DCM 13; DCM 17.

Minutes of last meeting approved as mailed.

Treasurer's Report: Approved as read. Balance on hand 7/28/84 - \$6,171.63. Prudent reserve - 6/29/84 - \$6,524.31. Prudent Reserve Account has been changed from a regular savings account to a Security Plus Fund, with interest being paid on monthly basis.

A tax exemption certificate number has been applied for, and should be available for the North Florida Area districts by the fourth quarter assembly. Motion made and seconded that the corresponding secretary write letter of thanks to J. Thomas Gurney, Jr., Atty., for the time and effort expended by he and his secretary towards the filing of this application. Pat N is to present a plant to his secretary. Letter was written August 20, 1984.

A report will be made at the fourth quarterly meeting by Bill D , District 10, pertaining to the redistricting of Districts 8 and 10, and possibly 9.

Discussion was held relating to change in the function of the Institutional Committee - following guidelines from GSO, there should be one Institutional Committee with co-chairmen, to handle two separate areas of institutional work - 1. Rehabilitation centers and hospitals. 2. Correctional Facilities, It was recommended that the Correction Facilities Chairman be the single source for supplies pertaining to films.

Motion made and seconded that a committee be set up to formulate plans for a Film Library. Report to be made at the next meeting..

All Committee Reports will be made at the General Assembly, Sunday A.M., 8/5/84.

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

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OPEN SPEAKER MEETING, Saturday, August 4, 1984, 8:30 P.M. was chaired by Jim B. The speaker Carl A. gave an inspiring talk on his experiences as an alcoholic before he found sobriety and related how the program of Alcoholics Anonymous brought about a miraculous sober change in his life - physically, mentally, and spiritually.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Sunday, August 5, 1984, 10:30 A.M., the meeting was opened by Jimmy G , Chairman, calling for a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Recording Secretary, Pat N , called the roll. Absent were DCMS' 13, 14, 17.

Minutes were approved as mailed. Treasurer's report approved as read. Total group contributions for three month period, plus 29 days, was \$2,516.42, - 72 grps. out of 325 currently registered groups contributed.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, cont'd: OLD BUSINESS: 1. Districts 9, 10, 11, and 8 are working on boundary changes, and will report at next quarterly meeting. 2. Tax exempt number application is in the mail, and we should have it in three to four months. 3. Upon motion made and seconded at the Committee Officers' meeting, Saturday, 8/4/84, a committee will be set up to formulate plan for a Film Library, with findings to be presented at the next meeting. Also, the recommendation has been made that there be one Institutional Committee Chairman, plus two Co-Chairmen, separating the institutions into two groups - a. Rehab. centers and hospitals; b. Correctional facilities. We were advised that the committee to study both matters is composed of Bob S , Owen M , Lee T , and George T . Report will be made next quarter.

DELEGATE'S REPORT on General Service Conference in New York, April 15 - 21, 1984. Bob S , serving as our Delegate for 1984, due to Evelyn S finding it necessary to resign on her doctor's orders, gave a most informative report, speaking in a manner that held the interest of all members present. HIGHLIGHTS on the 24th Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous are as follows:

1. Theme, "Gratitude-The Language of the Heart", was unifying force of those who came together for a week of sharing and decision making, united in the spirit of love and service, and in gratitude for being trusted servants of A.A.

2. In 1983 4300 new groups registered - showing 3500 net gain with an increase of 34,000 members. 55% of registered groups contribute. Most of GSO funds come from sale of literature. A.A. reaches 114 countries. A new group receives all necessary information from GSO, without charge, which a group needs to get started. North Florida shows a 62.7% in membership contributions.

3. 8,900,000 pieces of literature mailed out in '83 - 543,00 Big Books-"Alcoholics Anonymous" were sold. 600,000 copies are expected to be printed this year - in one month, January, '84 60,000 copies sold. To expedite mailings there are AA warehouses in Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago, Minneapolis, and Toronto and Calgary, Canada.

4. A.A. Groups in foreign countries are on the increase - Italy had two (2) groups eight years ago (1975). In 1983 there were 100 groups.

5. 50% of those who come into AA remain after 90 days-and remain sober. Question asked - How did you get to A.A.? - Figures show that in '77 - 44% came through members; in '83 - 30% thru members. The percentage is slowly rising for those who come in through other contacts; In '83 the percentage of members who are women was 30%.

6. In pamphlet for the Medical Field, it will be suggested that doctors recommend patients try A.A. and attend two or more meetings, before saying that A.A. is not a part of therapy. Following a three year study on having a special Homosexual Pamphlet, the General Service Conference advised that one not be developed, as the need is currently addressed in the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different?".

7. The Public Information Committee presented a 58 second video tape for public service spots ready to be sent out to TV now-taken from film "Inside A.A.". However, this action must be studied and go through channels of A.A. World Services for approval - it will perhaps be a year or more before this can be seen on TV screens. Nothing is done quickly in A.A.

There will be a two hour prime time NBC movie on "Bill W and the First Five Years of A.A." to be shown in the near future, sometime before the International 1985 Convention in Montreal.

There will also be an article on AA in the Reader's Digest in the near future.

8. Treatment Facilities Work Book will be prepared and presented to the '85 Gen'l.Serv.Conf.

We are reminded that there must be mutual agreement between what AA can do and what the facilities' requirements are, when we carry the message to these institutions. Treatment facilities and correctional institutions are to be considered as two separate areas.

DELEGATE'S REPORT, cont'd: 9. Responding to the every day problems in A.A. and the changing world, the feeling is that A.A. has challenges, rather than problems. The rapid growth of treatment and rehabilitation centers is a challenge. Cooperation between A.A. and these centers will be beneficial in apportioning the number of patients who attend an AA meeting. A second problem is the number of people coming to AA seeking help for other drug problems. There are those who are dual addicted and alcoholism is a very real part of their problem. But for the non-alcoholic who has other drug problems, Alcoholics Anonymous should direct these people-withlove- to other sources of help - i.e. Narcotics Anonymous. The preamble of AA clearly says "The only requirement for membership in AA is a desire to stop drinking".

10. A serious problem-challenge-facing our program today is the lack of sponsorship, and a lack of emphasis on the "home group". Correcting these two vital areas can be done only by you at the local level. Taking a group inventory is of value here and in other matters of concern to a group - for instance - offensive language. Through group inventory ways and means to let members know that this is not acceptable can be arrived at. We must ever remember to "reach out" in carrying the message, for we are on a journey of sobriety.

11. There will be an increase of \$100.00, raising to \$400.00 a delegate's expenses to attend the Conference in 1985.

11. The information on the 50th International Convention, to be held in Montreal, will be coming in the early part of September. MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW. People in Australia are ready to fly; Canadians will be traveling by train; Folks in Alabama plan to go by bus; Others plan to go in campers.

13,500 rooms have been booked by our General Service Office - first come first served.  
50,000 people from 50 countries - this is definitely a possibility for July 4 thru 7, 1985.  
The "Big Event" will be the opening ceremony Friday night - this is the Flag Ceremony in which all the countries represented will participate.  
Membership attendance grew from 7,000 in 1950 to 22,500 in 1980.  
Members of Al-Anon will hold their first International Convention at the same time.

12. GSO wants examples of personal experiences of District Committee Members and General Service Representatives for Service Manual additions.

Bob stated that he was privileged to be acting as delegate for North Florida, and reminded us that he is available to come to districts or areas and give this report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: These reports were made before the General Assembly. See attached pages.

The fourth quarterly assembly will be our election of officers for the two year term 1985-6. Slate of those standing follows: Delegate - Bob S... ; Alternate Delegate - Jimmy G... ; Chairman - Dick P... ; Mitch M... ; Corresponding Secty. - Phyllis D... ; Recording Secty. - Pat N... ; Treasurer - Elise D...

North Florida Area is to recommend a Class B Southeast Regional Trustee to serve a 4-yr. term. Also we are to recommend a trustee-at-large/U.S. to serve a 4-year term. Both of these offices will be filled by election at the General Service Conference in April, 1985.

Fourth quarterly assembly will be Oct. 6 & 7, 1984, in Orlando at the Howard Johnson, located at Lee Road and I-4.

A round of applause was given Districts 5 & 16, who hosted this excellent meeting.

Assembly adjourned 12:00 noon - basket passed and closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Phyllis D.*  
Phyllis G. D.  
Corresponding Secretary

INSTITUTIONAL MEETING

Bob Scott, Chairman

Saturday, 8/4/84

12:30 P.M.

Meeting opened with moment of meditation followed by Serenity Prayer. Basket passed next.

Three inmates from Work Release Center, Tallahassee Community Facility, spoke.

George T. is making an appointment with Louis Wainwright (St. of Fla. Correctional Facilities), on Friday, August 9, 1984, to discuss and send Guidelines to Inside Sponsors of Institutions - to clarify what duties of an Inside Sponsor mean.

There was discussion on bringing in people from treatment centers to outside AA meetings - several different opinions, both pro and con, were given. Rex Andrews related how they took care of situation in Gainesville.

Bob Scott has information on leasing films from GSO in New York, thanks to Bob Schneck. The Film Library project has been tabled twice in General Assembly, North Florida. Films are available for DCMS and DFCs.

Motion made by Tom D, and seconded, to have co-chairmen for Hospital and Treatment Centers, and Correctional Facilities, and to have additional time given to the Institutional Committee meeting at the quarterly area assemblies. One hour is not long enough - two hour meeting better.

The Film Committee, Bob Scott, Owen McInnis, Lee Thomas, and George Thompson, met before General Assembly adjourned Sunday, - Bob advises they will have all information and cost on Film Library and who will be in charge of it, to report to the fourth quarterly assembly.

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GRAPEVINE MEETING

M. R. Jones, Chairman

Saturday, 8/4/84

12:30 P.M.

Attendance - 15. Opened with moment of meditation, Serenity Prayer, and basket passed.

Noted as follows: Review of available literature: Take old Grapevine Issues to meetings to give away: There is a 4-way order form for cassettes, etc.: Send Grapevine Representatives' registrations to M.R. Jones, 1633 Ferris Ave., Orlando, FL., 32803: GVRs are needed in every group (There are 401 GVRs in Florida): Memorial Issues are still available: GRAPEVINE will get new terminals soon, and we will have an updated list of representatives: Use alternate DCMS and/or alternate GSRs as Grapevine Representatives: A GVR is for the GRAPEVINE only, not to handle general literature: More people are needed to send in articles for GRAPEVINE - everybody has a story - share it: A Special Package for GVRs is available for \$17.00 - retail package costs \$26.00: The GRAPEVINE TAPE has been recommended by Conference for publication - one ea. year: Gray pages to be kept in the GRAPEVINE: 100 back issues available for \$2.70 for distribution to GVRs: Dale Fuqua, GRAPEVINE Secretary, GRAPEVINE, P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, N.Y., N.Y. 10163: PURPOSE OF GRAPEVINE IS TO CARRY THE MESSAGE.

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SECRETARY/TREASURER MEETING

Cindy I., Chairwoman

Saturday, 8/4/84

12:30 P.M.

Attendance-14. Opened with moment of meditation, Serenity Prayer, and basket passed. Subjects discussed: 1. Conference Approved Literature - Elise Dean talked about this and how literature is approved. She also talked about our loss if we exclude all other literature: 2. Organization of the different jobs to be done in the Group - a. delegate jobs to 4 or 5 members; b. remember that people are just waiting to be asked to help but are reluctant to volunteer; 3. Problem of getting group support at district level - ask groups directly for contributions: 4. Problem of getting members to serve at group level - a. have business meeting at same time as eating meeting; b. person who is absent gets the job; c. announce service news at beginning of meeting: 5. Unless a person is active, should his/her birthday be celebrated? a. have a sign up board for birthdays; b. call up to see if they will be there to celebrate (maybe they will come around again); c. up to group conscience. Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

Diane Ott., Acting Secretary

Meeting opened with moment of silent meditation; Serenity Prayer; basket passed.

Tom D. and Jack R. of the 5th District, Tallahassee, showed a videotape of a TV program about AA that was produced and aired through their efforts, on a local weekly public affairs show. The format was a question and answer session, with the show's regular host asking questions (which happened to come from the AA pamphlet "44 Questions") of a panel of three people of different ages, sexes, and backgrounds.

Tom said it was not difficult to get cooperation from non-AA people, because alcoholism is so widespread and so destructive that the many people who are affected by the disease are willing to help spread the message.

One of the panel members recommended the panel format, because one member can correct or clarify what another one has said, -thus keeping misinformation to a minimum, as well as avoiding the impression that any of them are spokespersons for AA.

On other fronts: A group can go about implementing a CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community) committee by working with the DCM and/or the PI person of the district, or Intergroup. Mitch sees PI work as basically being direct through personal contact and through the media, while CPC work is contact through a third party - the professional who is in contact with alcoholics. In the 12th District, Brevard, getting volunteers to work on sub-committees of CPC has been easy; response has been overwhelming, and there are active sub-committees working now with the clergy, probation officers, industry, and rehabs. Whichever ones you are interested in pursuing, or through which means, Susan from the 8th District said that you should pursue it thru channels which the PI Committee has already established. Contact your PI first, so as to not duplicate efforts, or create confusion.

On our Public Information Policy in general, Mitch said, there really is no contradiction between the 5th and the 11th Traditions. While we practice anonymity for ourselves, to get away from ego and self-will, we have a duty and a responsibility to reach the still-suffering alcoholic, so that he or she knows about AA - that it is here - and what AA can do for him/her.

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DISABILITIES MEETING M. R. Jones, Acting Chairman Saturday, 8/4/84 1:50 P.M.

Attendance - 11. Opened with moment of meditation, Serenity Prayer, basket passed.

An interesting discussion was had concerning the need to, the difficulties of, and the profits gained, from interfacing with disabled persons in an appropriate manner. One point became very clear - do not offer aid to a disabled person unless it is asked for, or you are certain it will be welcome. An instance was cited of a disabled person being helped across a street - a street which the person did not want to cross.

A problem was presented where-in a person (non-alcoholic) was told her presence as a "signer" for a deaf alcoholic was not proper at a closed discussion meeting. Many cogent remarks were made. It was agreed that probably a group conscience should be taken regarding whether to "invite" her. Most apparently felt their groups would.

Comment made that Central Florida meeting lists were coded to show non-smoking meetings, and meetings accessible to wheelchairs. This information will be passed to the Jacksonville Intrgrp. M.R. Jones commented that this was his first disabilities meeting, and he was impressed with how useful it is to the "non-disabled". It was agreed that we would emphasize this. The benefits to non-disabled persons accrue from attending disability committee meetings.

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GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES' MEETING Saturday, 8/4/84 4:30 P.M.

Attendance - 15. Opened with moment of meditation, Serenity Prayer, basket passed.

Per notes from Grace S. and Ellen T.: - Discussion on increasing numbers of non-alcoholics attending AA meetings, i.e. people with other drug problems. Feeling was that they may attend open AA meetings, but should not actively participate. Referred to pamphlet on Problems of Alcohol, for clarification. Emphasis placed on Singleness of Purpose. One member stated that AA is based on mistakes made by early groups, with corrections thereof - our program is for Alcoholism - it should not be "diluted". One suggestion was to have a committee by the door, to greet people, ask if they are alcoholics - if not alcoholics, suggest they seek other sources of help, i.e. Narcotics Anonymous.



TREASURER'S REPORT FOR PERIOD  
 APRIL 1 - JULY 28, 1984 TO THIRD  
 QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF NORTH FLORIDA GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA HELD IN TALLAHASSEE  
 AT TALLAHASSEE HILTON, AUGUST 4-5, 1984

| PERIOD ENDING   | R E C E I P T S : I N C O M E |              |                               | E X P E N D I T U R E S : E X P E N S E S |               |                        |            | B A L A N C E S      |            |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
|   | MISCEL. COLLECT-IONS          | TOTAL INCOME | GSCONF./ DELEGATE ALT. DELEG. | ASSEMBLY: HOTEL/ HOST COM.                | OPERAT- IONAL | TOTAL EXPENSES         | PERIOD     | CUMULA- TIVE BALANCE |            |
|   | GROUPS                        |              |                               |   |               |                        |            |                      |            |
| 12.31.83  |                               |              |                               |   |               |                        |            |                      | \$4,060.31 |
| 3.31.84   | \$2,314.66                    | \$ 457.83    | \$2,772.49                    | \$ 650.00                                 | \$ 763.10     | \$ <sup>+</sup> 537.03 | \$1,950.13 | \$822.36             | 4,882.67   |
| 7.28.84   | 2,516.42                      | 487.03       | 3,003.45                      | 700.00                                    | 424.07        | 590.42                 | 1,714.49   | 1,288.96             | 6,171.63   |
| TOTAL....   | \$4,831.08                    | \$ 944.86    | \$5,775.94                    | \$1,350.00                                | \$1,187.17    | \$1,127.45             | \$3,664.62 | \$ 2,111.32          | \$6,171.63 |
| P R U D E N T R E S E R V E   |                               |              |                               |   |               |                        |            |                      |            |
| 12.31.83  | \$6,335.21                    | 3.31. 84     | \$6,404.99                    | * 5.8.84                                  | \$6,440.70    | 5.31.84                | \$6,477.28 | 6.29.84              | \$6,524.31 |
| * At this point, changed from a regular Savings Account to Southeast SECURITY PLUS FUND (Interest on Monthly Basis) |                               |              |                               |   |               |                        |            |                      |            |

<sup>+</sup>Includes \$81.55 spent for literature-jails

G R O U P D O N A T I O N S

| DIST.   |                      |          | DIST. |                              |         | DIST. |                        |          |
|---------|----------------------|----------|-------|------------------------------|---------|-------|------------------------|----------|
| 1.      | BEACHES UNITY (2)    | \$150.00 | 7.    | NINE-TWENTY FIVE             | \$25.00 | 10.   | TANGLEWOOD             | \$ 21.00 |
|         | BROWN BAGGERS (2)    | 20.00    | 8.    | BIG BOOK STUDY (2)           | \$25.00 |       | TUES.NITE SERENITY(2)  | 25.35    |
| 18      | CENTRAL (5)          | 50.00    | 53    | BOULEVARD (3)                | 30.00   |       | YOUNG & FREE (3)       | 57.00    |
| Gr      | G.S.R.'S             | 25.00    | Gr    | BRIGHTER DAYS BFST (3)       | 60.00   | 11.   | SHARING & CARING(2)    | 10.00    |
|         | LIFE LINE (4)        | 30.00    |       | DELTONA DE BARY              | 8.00    | 20    | TODAY'S WOMEN          | 20.00    |
|         | MANDARIN (2)         | 50.00    |       | HAPPY WANDERERS              | 8.00    |       | WINTER PARK (5)        | 175.00   |
|         | PALMS STUDY (2)      | 20.00    |       | HELPING HAND                 | 30.00   |       | WINTER PARK MEN        | 5.00     |
|         | T.H.E.               | 10.00    |       | K.I.S.S.                     | 5.00    | 12.   | BAREFOOT BAY (2)       | 18.00    |
| Apr 12. |                      | -----    |       | NEW SMYRNA                   | 40.00   | 21    | EAU GALLIE             | 40.00    |
| 3.      | ORTEGA               | 25.00    |       | OCEAN HOLIDAY (3)            | 13.90   |       | SANDPIPER (2)          | 60.00    |
| 17      | TIMAQUANA            | 25.00    |       | ORMOND-BY-THE-SEA (4)        | 11.00   |       | SERENITY (2)           | 52.10    |
|         | TIMAQUANA LADIES     | 20.00    |       | PRIMARY PURPOSE              | 10.00   |       | THE NEW HOPE           | 7.00     |
| 4.      | BALDWIN (5)          | 65.00    |       | ROAD TO RECOVERY (3)         | 45.00   |       | WOMEN'S                | 2.50     |
| 18      | DISTANCE             | 4.28     |       | STORMY SEAS                  | 10.00   | 13.   | LECANTO (3)            | 75.00    |
|         | FERNANDINA BEACH (2) | 40.00    |       | T.G.I.F.                     | 10.00   | 14.   | BRONSON (2)            | 30.00    |
|         | RIVERSIDE            | 25.00    |       | THREE LEGACIES               | 23.00   | 19    | DOWNTOWN GROUP         | 25.00    |
|         | SAINTS & SINNERS(4)  | 24.30    |       | WAY OF LIFE (3)              | 101.10  |       | QUARTERWAY             | 25.00    |
| 5.      | CAPITOL CIRCLE       | 30.00    |       | WINNERS WAY (2)              | 118.09  |       | SERENITY (2)           | 44.00    |
| 20      | NITE OWL (2)         | 80.00    | 9.    | FRIENDSHIP (4) <u>159.20</u> | 43.00   |       | TUES.NIGHT STUDY (2)   | 10.00    |
|         | NORTHSIDE KILLIAN    | 20.00    | 10.   | ALTAMONTE SPRINGS            | 20.00   |       | WED.NITE WOMEN'S SMKLS | 10.30    |
| 6.      | BIG BASS             | 15.00    | 30    | CASSELBERRY (2)              | 25.00   | 15.   | GATEWAY                | 5.00     |
| 18      | PALATKA              | 25.00    |       | FAIRBANKS (2)                | 30.00   | 10    | PRIMARY PURPOSE        | 80.00    |
|         | SWITZ AND (2)        | 12.50    |       | FELLOWSHIP                   | 25.00   | 16.   | 12 STEP <u>9 grs</u>   | 20.00    |
|         | TRINI (4)            | 40.00    |       | SANFORD WOMEN                | 2.00    | 17.   | OCALA                  | 25.00    |
| 7.      | TAVAI 12&12 (2)      | 80.00    |       | SANFORD (1201)               | 50.00   | 15    | SERENITY               | 20.00    |
| 14      |                      |          |       |                              |         |       |                        |          |

S U M M A R Y

72 Groups out of 325\*currently registered groups and one District GSR's made a total of 135 donations during this period (3 months plus 29 days).

Amounting to \$2,516.42.

RESPECTFULLY PRESENTED.

*Elise R.*  
 ELISE R.  
 TREASURER