

**NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY**

July 19, 1985

**THIRD QUARTERLY MINUTES OF NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
June 15 - 16, 1985 - Orlando, FL.**

**OFFICERS & DCMS' COMMITTEE MEETING:** Acting Chairman Bob S opened with a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Recording Secretary called the roll - Absent-Chmn., Alt. Chmn., DCM #8, #13, #16, #19, #21, #22.

Minutes of last meeting approved as mailed. Treasurer's Report approved as read: Balance on hand \$7,624.62. Prudent reserve 5/31/85 - \$7,687.77.

**Old Business:** Hank J advised that N. Fl. is setting in motion steps to be taken relevant to securing a Federal Exempt Certificate Number first - this will facilitate getting a State Exempt Number. A Federal Exempt No. is needed when there are interest bearing accounts.

**New Business:** The newly created CPC (Cooperation with Professional Community) Committee now has a Chairman - Bobbe L.  
Welcome, Bobbe.

Following discussion on subject presented at last quarter, a motion was made and seconded that a budget be worked up, following a review of the past five years' annual receipts and expenditures, which Budget will include a contingency fund for N. Fl. Area Officers and Committee Chairmen, to cover financial emergency assistance for same. This subject to be presented at the next quarterly assembly meeting, to be voted upon by the Assembly.

Motion made and seconded that a computer, costing in the vicinity of \$800.00, be purchased. Said computer to be housed by Recording Secretary, Pat N, with Dick C to serve as consultant.

Following discussion on the subject of N. Florida Area participating with South Florida Area in sharing expenses of ten (10) inmates from the Dept. of Corrections to the State Convention, Aug. 7-11, 1985, in Tampa - a motion was made, seconded and affirmed that N. Florida participate in this worthwhile endeavor by contributing one-third (1/3) of costs (\$1500.00) in the amount of \$500.00. Subject to be presented to General Assembly, Sunday, June 16, 1985 for vote

Meeting adjourned 5:30 P.M., basket passed, and closing with the Lord's Prayer.

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**OPEN SPEAKER MEETING**, Saturday, June 15, 1985, 8:30 P.M.-Chaired by Sharon D, who introduced the speaker, Helen A., from Jacksonville. Her story was well received by an appreciative audience.

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**, Sunday, June 16, 1985, 10:30 A.M. - Opened by Acting Chairman, Bob S, calling for a moment of silent meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Recording Secretary called the roll.-Absent - Chmn., Alt.Chmn.,DCMs #8; #16; #17; #21, Intergroups Present- #s 1,2,3,&4; #8; #s 9,10,11/&18; #s 12 & 15.

Minutes were approved as mailed; Treasurer's Report approved as read.

Committee Reports were made - See Attached Pages.

**New Business:** Assembly informed of effort still being made to secure both a Federal and State Tax Exempt Certificate for N. Florida.

Assembly advised of review to be made of past five years' annual receipts and expenditures, by Treasurer, pursuant to presenting to the Assembly at the next quarterly meeting a proposed Budget incorporating emergency funds to be available to officers and committee chairmen - said Budget to be presented for vote by Assembly.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, New Business, continued: Portion of letter, addressed to Delegate, Bob S , from Chairman of South Fl. Institutional Comm., was read - pertaining to South Fl.'s request that North Fl. Assembly assist in helping to defray costs of sending ten (10) inmates from Dept. of Corrections to the State of Florida Convention, Aug. 7 - 11, 1985, in Tampa, FL. Total Cost will be \$1,500.00. The Assembly, upon motion being made and seconded that North Fl. participate in this worthwhile endeavor by contributing one-third (1/3) of costs, in the amount of \$500.00, voted "Aye".

Delegate's Report: Bob S reported in brief, some Highlights of the General Service Conference, held in April, 1985, as follows: There are in excess of 36,000 registered for the 50th Anniversary in Montreal, for July 4 - 7, 1985. Lois is to be honored guest, and Bob and Sue, son and daughter, will also be present. The five millionth copy of the Big Book will be presented to Ruth Hock (Bill W.'s non-alcoholic secretary who typed the first manuscript). Entertainment will cover "Can-Can Girls", a chanteuse, the Ink Spots, and the Mummers from Philadelphia.

There are now 42 groups in Poland. Two Polish Delegates were present at European Conference. The first seven chapters of the 12 & 12, in Polish, were presented from New York. Finland will print free of charge. There was a \$1300.00 gift, plus money from New York, for a typewriter. Russians are now recognizing the disease of alcoholism. There can be outreach from Poland to Russia. Dr. Jack N reported that physicians and other professionals are constantly searching for new ways of understanding what "makes us tick" in the hope that new tools of thought and chemistry would improve the results of treatment. Dr. N feels that without working the Steps, there is no relief from the soul sickness which is the burden of alcoholism. Bob noted that GSO offers gratis a set of our tapes from which they may record to organizations and libraries which provide tapes at no charge to the blind and physically handicapped. Thus we are assured that AA's message is being professionally delivered through our taping of the Big Book and 12 & 12. North Florida shows a listing in GSO of 327 groups - 201 contributed-61.5%, or \$4.16 per capita (our membership totals 5,024). Bob looks forward to meeting Tom E from Maryland - he is the person to whom Bill W. said "Pass It On" (from which the title of the latest publication was taken).

Inserted in Charter - "Only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking" - does not constitute a mandate, but will serve as a guideline.

The vote on selling and displaying of Conference approved literature only, did not carry.

Suggestion made that whatever helps to fortify our spiritual sobriety is okay.

Joe Phelan, from Atlanta, on second ballot, was elected Regional Trustee. Don P , from Aurora, Colo. was elected Trustee-At-Large.

Fourth Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Silver Springs, October 5 - 6, 1985.

A heartfelt thanks to Districts 9, 10, 11, & 18 (Central Florida) for the accomodations at this third quarterly meeting.

A card was signed by many members and sent to our Alternate Chairman, Mitch M , who is at present having a series of radiation treatment, following surgery for throat malignancy. We wish him speedy recovery, and look forward to seeing him in October!

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Phyllis Dickenson*  
Phyllis G. D.  
Corresponding Secretary

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INSTITUTIONAL MEETING (Correctional & Prison Facilities) Bob S Sat., 6/15/85 1:30 P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner - with 30 in attendance. Bob reminded there is a list of films and that the Film Library is working. There has been much help from other groups. Suggestion was made that each group see if they can furnish literature to prison facilities in their areas.

Institutional (Corr.Facils.& Prisons) meeting, cont'd: There was a good bit of discussion on the subject of "gain time" - i.e. time taken off sentence for attending AA meeting. New York did away with Gain Time in their system - meetings dropped off drastically. Prisoners tend to sign in and out, or sign in, stay a few minutes, and leave. Bill D reported that M.C.T. has two different meetings with 35-50 attending, with gain time - it is a discussion meeting. with questions. 9 - 15 attend without gain time.

It is important to abide by the rules of an institution - instance cited there<sup>were</sup> two AA members, who had ID cards, did not call in three days prior to meeting date, as required, and were not admitted as a result. Question asked - are you still covered if you don't go through orientation Answer - don't know.

State wide coverage is still being worked on - should take approximately five or six months yet. Ron F said in his district, as a result of meeting, they have been invited to an institute to put on a workshop. Setting up Guidelines for inside and outside sponsors is being done, and same will be sent to these sponsors.

Effort should be made to keep a meeting fairly small so that the group will have better opportunity to understand the program.

Kissimmee and Orlando institutions currently having problem with no one holding meetings lately.  
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INSTITUTIONAL MEETING (Hospitals & Treatment Facilities) Madeleine C Sat.6/15/85 1:30 P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner. 40 in attendance. Madeleine explained functions of the treatment facility chairpeople in the Districts - to keep present meetings running smoothly and to start meetings in facilities where there are no meetings. Gave suggestions in implementing new meetings, and advised available literature that can be helpful.

Treatment facilities include: free standing residential programs; detox; programs in hospitals, including V.A.; half-way houses; convalescent centers (Nursing Homes).

Many comments and suggestions were made, and several were discussed at length re: people "condemned to AA" by Courts, etc.; patients from treatment centers appear to be "know italls"; cooperation on part of professionals is constantly improving; treatment first - then AA; detoxification units who use drugs; and other points of interest were discussed.

The group was unanimous in regard to needing more help from AA members in "carrying the message" The role of "two-hatters" was discussed.

The meeting was well attended, everyone was very responsive, and the input was informative.

At the next assembly, more time will be devoted to the "temporary sponsor" programs. A few districts will give reports on how they are handling this phase of their program.

If anyone has suggestions for additions to the agenda, contact the Chairman, Madeleine C

Madeleine stated that she is available to visit any facility or district meeting, if more information or suggestions are needed. To not hesitate to call her.

Basket was passed, and meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Adjourned 3:00 P.M.

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DISABILITIES MEETING Tom C, Chmn. Sat.6/15/85 11:00 A.M.

In a well attended and enthusiastic meeting, we defined "disability" as anything that prevents an alcoholic from getting the full benefit of the AA program.

We know that we discuss the same topics over and over at each conference. However, we feel that if something is repeated enough, sooner or later groups will try some of the ideas expressed at this meeting.

More and more areas are putting a notation on their meeting lists showing what groups are accessible to the disabled. However, we have found that only a person who is in a wheelchair can tell you if your meeting place is really accessible. PLUS - any meeting place can be "short term" accessible, with the help of AA members with strong backs and quick minds.

When it comes to smoke filled rooms and the problems caused by them, we feel that there is no one answer that will work all the time. A/C helps. Fans Help. Some kinds of smoke eaters help - some do not. The ones with charcoal filters seem to work best. Candles help. The point is to keep trying and let us know what works for you, so we can pass it on.

Try to let members with mobility problems park close to the building - it is such a little request, but it would help so much.

Last of all, remember - every time you make a meeting a little better for a few - it makes the meeting much better for everyone.

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GRAPEVINE MEETING Tom D, Chmn. Sat. 6/15/85 11:00 A.M.  
Meeting opened with moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Approximately 30 in attendance.

The Grapevine Computer has lost some subscriptions. If you haven't been receiving yours, write to P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y., 10163, or call New York direct, and get the matter straightened out.

New tape is out - "Not for Newcomers Only", and is also done in Braille.

Two members gave reports on articles they had recently read in the Grapevine.

Grapevine can be purchased for Group rates - sell them at regular price, and make a few pennies for your treasury. Give Grapevine to a newcomer. The stories bear a greater impact, when member is new; it doesn't take much effort to concentrate on one page articles, either.

Also give as gifts for anniversaries, birthdays, or Christmas.

If you have old copies, treatment centers, detoxes, prison facilities, half-way houses, can use them.

Acting Secretary  
Barbara B

SECRETARY/TREASURER MEETING Catherine S., Chmn. Sat. 6/15/85 11:00 A.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner. Attendance - 20.

Suggested for secretary - Two years sobriety. Pamphlet is available from GSO on the AA Group, also the Service Manual is most informative for both secretary and treasurer duties of a group. Some groups' secretaries keep a 12 Step list for their area, and where there is a central office (Intergroup) these 12 step calls are reported after they have been followed through.

Without an Intergroup in your area, some areas have an answering service with volunteers to handle calls. Secretaries should have a list of group members names and telephone numbers - to be kept confidential - so they can be contacted for special events, for serving as a speaker, and for AA birthday anniversary dates. In general, secretary serves as coordinator of group activities.

Treasurer is responsible for receipts and disbursements - such as General Service Representative expenses to Assembly quarterly meetings - some groups have a fixed amount for this - some pay all. Suggestion made that the current GSR accept at least some amount of money, in order to set a precedent for those who come later, and who could not afford to be a GSR - it would help them not to feel uncomfortable. Suggestion also made that each District contribute to cover expenses to assemblies of the District Committee Member. Sharing problems at the assemblies is enlightening and informative. Alternates usually pay own expenses, and attend assemblies in order to get involved in further service work.

When there is a problem in getting speakers for special meetings, i.e. Outreach Programs, spread news of need through groups and newsletters, announcing such meetings. It is very important to get persons going through treatment facilities involved in AA after they get out. Subject of 60-30-10 for contributions as suggested by GSO was discussed. Also workable is 50-30-10-10. Suggestion made that GSRs and DCMs visit groups explaining distribution of group monies, after group expenses and their prudent reserve amount has been taken care of. Pamphlet available from GSO.

Basket passed, and meeting closed with Lord's Prayer. Acting Secretary, Alice C.

COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC) Bob S., Chmn. 6/15/85, Sat. 3:00 P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner. Bob served as interim chairman. It was announced at the General Assembly meeting Sunday morning that we now have a CPC Chairman - Bobbe Lyon, who served as Acting Secretary for CPC meeting, and gave the report at the Assembly meeting, so that we had a chance to meet her in person.

Several suggestions on CPC work were shared: That sub-committees be formed under the CPC committee, which would include the following - Treatment Ctr. Chmn., Temp. Sponsorship Chmn., Communication Chmn., Program Chmn., Community Outreach Co-Ordinator, to contact Medical, Clergy, and Nursing. Newsletter or CPC insert could be considered for both in-house and community. This CPC Committee as a whole could design a community outreach program.

Elmer W., Jax., seems to have a marvelous monthly meeting in place that acts as a forum of interested professionals and AA members.

It was suggested that CPC committees work closely with their PI Committees - a nucleus of workers could be formed - the need for volunteers should be made known.

It was also suggested that the name "contact friend" be used in place of temporary sponsor, which was thought to imply more responsibility than some people would care to take on.

CPC MEETING, cont'd: It was further suggested that a District's 12 Step List would be a good place to start recruiting. It was also suggested that people have a reasonable period of sobriety to do this work. Just how much was left up to the individual districts. I, as your new CPC Chmn. for North Florida, welcome any and all suggestions - I'll be contacting all DCMs in the near future for feedback.

At this point, I have no "sure thing" game plan. I do feel that the professional community is finally beginning to understand what really works for lasting sobriety, and when they reach out for help it would be nice if AA was there with some willing examples of the AA Way of Life. In closing - If we just step out of the way, the Higher Power will show us just what to do to carry the message. It's easy to tell when you're on the right road - it's all uphill. Meeting closed with basket passed, and Lord's Prayer.

Acting Sect.-Bobbe L

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PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING Tom I r, Chairman Sat.6/15/85 3:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order with the Serenity Prayer. Attendance - 35 Contrs.-\$21.78  
Tom made introductory remarks, following which varous subjects were touched upon and discussed. Puposue of P.I. Committee - to inform the general public. There has been newspaper publication out of GSO covering the 50th Anniversary of AA, In reference to P.I. activity in local areas, question asked - any video tapes in schools? Leon County High School was shown tapes, and have requested more. Who controls video cassettes? Answer - the high school. How about annonimity? Don't use last names. There are updated films - cassettes for schools, also address to the younger alcoholics who are students.

How is a program started at a school? Go to the school's Superintendent for permission. Tom gave detailed information concerning TV Spots - advised go to the station director. TV Spots are considered as a public service announcement. Now would be a good time to follow through on approaching TV stations to do spots - due to activity in progress to get beer commercials off of TV. TV spots are for 30 seconds, and also for 1 minute. Films can be secured from GSO on loan, or long term lease. N. Fl. Area AA now has a film library, also - contact Lee

Value of "newsletter" was discussed. Tom D. stated, reading from P.I. Guidelines, "Communication with ~~the~~ in the fellowship is our biggest obstacle." For P.I. Chairmen there is a P.I. Workbook available, also a CPC Workbook - both contain a wealth of information for anyone interested in public information, to get started.

Meeting closed with basket passed, and Lord's Prayer Tom D. , Chmn.

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INFORMAL INTERGROUP SERVICES MEETING Bob H. Acting Chmn. Sat.6/15/85 4:30 P.M.

Bob H., Vice Chairman Orlando Intergroup opened the meeting in the usual manner. Attendance was 9. Discussion followed: 1. What Intergroup is about; 2. Problems of Intergroup structures, and various committees; Motivation of groups to participate - conclusion: All intergroup representatives present seem to experience same problem with group participation in intergroup activities. District 19 has held succssful workshops to motivate groups to elect and use intergroup delegates. Bob and Luke have personally visited groups to explain Intergroup and its needs.

Group conscience decided that this Intergroup Representatives Meeting should remain a part of the Assembly, as an informal meeting, until conditions warrant changing it to a formal, structured meeting.

Basket passed, and meeting closed with Lord's Prayer. Acting Secty., Chris R Chmn. Volusia/Flagler Steering Committee

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GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES MTG. Jack D , Chmn. Sat.6/15/85 4:30 P.M.

There were fourteen (14) new GSRs present - ones who have come in since beginning of year. All phases of the General Service Representative, as the liason person between group and N. Fl., and GSO were discussed

Basket passed, and meeting closed with Lord's Prayer.

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To the Third Quarterly General Assembly of the North Florida General Service Conference Area, JUNE 15-16, HOWARD JOHNSON MOTOR CONFERENCE CENTER, I-4 & Lee Road, Orlando, Florida

INCOME				EXPENDITURES				BALANCES			
PERIOD ENDING	GROUP DONATIONS	MISC. COLLECTIONS	TOTAL RECEIPTS	GSO CONF. DELEGATE	ASSEMBLY (HOTEL, COFFEE HOST, ETC)	OPERATIONAL Secy/Treas. Misc. Institutional	TOTAL EXPENSES	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE		
12.31.84	\$8,398.48	\$1,815.87	\$10,214.35	\$1,350.00	\$3,386.80	\$1,886.88 \$ 933.18	\$7,556.86	\$2,657.49	\$6,717.80		
3.25.85	\$2,072.98	\$ 564.40	\$ 2,637.38	\$ 829.03	\$ 901.22	\$ 454.66 \$ 213.41*	\$2,398.30	\$ 239.06	\$6,956.86		
6. 7.85	2,010.84	419.67	2,430.51	500.00	646.70	582.55 33.50**	1,762.75	667.75	7,624.62		
*	\$4,083.82	\$ 984.07	\$ 5,067.89	\$1,329.03	\$1,547.92	\$1,037.21 \$ 246.91	\$4,161.03	\$ 906.81	\$7,624.62		
\$180 - Film Library; \$24.95, Lit. for Jails; \$8.45 Misc. Committe Exp. ** Postage (\$20 Correctional; \$13.50 Treatment Centers)											
PRUDENT RESERVE			DIST.			DIST.			DIST.		
12.31.84	\$7,454.67	1. ARLINGTON (2)	61.59	7. MT. DORA TRIANGLE	25.00	14. DOWNTOWN	25.00				
3.29.85	7,592.98	BEACHES UNITY	75.00	NINE TWENTY-FIVE	25.00	FREE TO BE	10.00				
5.31.85	7,687.77	BROWN BAGGERS	20.00	TAVARES 12 & 12	20.00	TUES NIGHT					
DONATIONS BY DISTRICTS			CENTRAL (3)			8. BRIGHTER DAYS BREAKFAST CLUB (2)			STEP STUDY		
1. 11(14)	282.59	LIFE LINE	10.00	OCEAN HOLIDAY (2)	7.00	15. ---					
2. 2( 3)	19.36	LIFE'S A BEACH	10.00	ROAD TO RECOVERY (3)	50.00	16. LIVE OAK	10.00				
3. 3( 5)	85.00	MANDARIN	25.00	WAY OF LIFE	28.80	17. ---					
4. 3( 4)	66.00	SAWGRASS DUTCH	20.00	WINNER'S WAY	63.65	18. ABBOT SOBER LIVING (2)	20.00				
5. 6( 6)	120.34	STRENGTH & HOPE	10.00	9. CENTRAL ORLANDO	90.00	LONGWOOD	10.00				
6. 4( 7)	190.00	SWITZERLAND	6.00	LIVE & LET LIVE	17.50	CASSLEBERRY	15.00				
7. 3( 3)	70.00	T.H.E. GROUP	15.00	*** (LIVE & LET LIVE	7.00)	CLEAN AIR	10.00				
8. 5( 9)	189.45	2. SAINTS & SINNERS (2)	16.36	PINECASTLE FRIENDSHIP	12.50	SANFORD	50.00				
9. 3( 3)	120.00	TOGETHER	3.00	10. ALOMA	5.00	SANFORD WOMEN	2.76				
10. 3( 4)	53.92	3. HAPPY HOUR	25.00	FAIRBANKS	15.00	WEKIVA	20.00				
11. 2( 3)	100.00	LA PAZ (3)	15.00	TANGLEWOOD (2)	33.92	19. BOULEVARD	40.00				
12. 7( 8)	160.00	TIMAQUANA LADIES	45.00	11. WINTER PARK (2)	70.00	DELTONA-DEBARY	5.00				
13. 3( 5)	60.00	4. BALDWIN	6.00	WINTER PARK MEN	30.00	DELTONA-ENTERPRISE	5.00				
14. 3( 3)	40.00	FERNANDINA BEACH	25.00	12. BAREFOOT BAY (2)	15.00	20. HIGH NOON (3)	107.72				
15. ---		RIVERSIDE (2)	35.00	EARLY BIRDS, THE	10.00	NEW SMYRNA	50.00				
16. 1( 1)	10.00	5. CAPITAL CIRCLE	20.00	NEW HOPE	5.00	21. ALOHA	35.00				
17. ---		CRAWFORDVILLE	33.34	SANDPIPER	30.00	BIG BOOK (3)	10.70				
18. 7( 8)	127.76	LIVE & LET LIVE	15.00	SATELLITE BEACH	50.00	BRIDGE, THE (2)	20.00				
19. 3( 3)	50.00	MEN'S FAITH	12.00	SERENITY	40.00	ORMOND-BY-THE-SEA (3)	13.00				
20. 2( 4)	157.72	NORTHSIDE	25.00	WOMEN'S BEACHSIDE	10.00	PRIMARY PURPOSE	20.00				
21. 5(10)	98.70	SOUTHSIDE	15.00	13. CRYSTAL RIVER (3)	30.00	22. HAPPY WANDERERS	10.00				
22. 1( 1)	10.00	6. BIG BASS	35.00	WAY OF LIFE, A	20.00						
77 Groups made		OLDEST CITY (3)	30.00	WAHOO HISTORIC SITE	10.00						
104 Donations		PALATKA	25.00								
Total: \$2,010.84		ST JOHN'S RIVER (2)	100.00								

Prepared June 10, 1985

\*\*\* This item was omitted last quarter, although the donation was included in last quarter's totals.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
*Elise D.*  
 ELISE D., Treasurer