

NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

October 23, 1985

FOURTH QUARTERLY MINUTES OF NORTH FLORIDA AREA OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

October 5 - 6, 1985 - Silver Springs, FL.

OFFICERS & DCMS' COMMITTEE MEETING: Chairman, Dick P. , opened with a moment of meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Recording Secretary called the roll - DCM #1, #2, #4 #8, #13, #19, #22. - absent.

Minutes of last meeting approved as mailed. Treasurer's Report approved as read: Balance on hand \$7,266.18. Prudent Reserve 8/30/85 - \$7,819.98.

The DCMS received the individual group print-outs for their areas. Corrected print-outs must be returned to Pat N. , Recording Secretary, by November 6, 1985. She must forward them to GSO by January 1, 1986, to be entered in the 1986 Directory. Pat's address is:

A Commodore 64 Computer was purchased for \$790.60, with Disc 1541, Star Printer-Pintype and Plain Sheet, and Color Monitor. All DCMS received a new roster page of their groups, as done on the computer.

The Officers and DCMS approved unanimously that Delegate Bob S. write to Joe P. , from Atlanta, Ga., who was elected at the April, 1985 General Service Conference as the Southeastern Regional Trustee - inviting Joe to attend the North Florida Area Assembly in April, 1986, prior to the Gen'l. Serv. Conf. Bob will also ask Joe to be our Saturday night speaker at that time. Expenses incurred will be paid by the North Florida Treasury..

District #7 outgoing DCM introduced Steve M. , who will serve as DCM #7 for the remainder of 85 - 86. (John M. is outgoing DCM).

Film Library Chairman will be Paul G. Lee T. will be on ~~extended~~ sea duty for an extended period of time.

It was suggested that Corresponding Secty. forward the N.F.L. Assembly quarterly meeting dates to the Grapevine for their Calendar Listings. This has been done, covering the 1986 dates..

Delegate Bob S. requested Institutional Chairman, Bob S. , to work up a utilization report on our Film Library, so he can present it at the April Conference.

Dick P. reminded us that November is Traditions Month - informed members tell us that if groups follow the Traditions, AA will survive and grow and, for a long time to come, continue to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

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

OPEN SPEAKER MEETING, Saturday, Oct. 5th, 8:30 P.M. The speaker, Dale M. shared with us his experience, and the strength and hope he has found in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Sun., Oct. 6th, 10:30 A.M.- Opened by Chmn., Dick P. , calling for a moment of silent meditation, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Recording Secty. called the roll- Absent -DCMS #2; #4; #8; #13, ~~#3~~, #16, #19, #21, Intergroups present-all but 5,7, and 17.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, cont'd: Recording Secty. reminded all DCMs of the deadline date, November 6th for the Group Print-Outs to be returned to her.

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

Committee Reports were made - See Attached Pages. Delegate's Report also attached.

The Treasurer, Elise D., advised she will make an analysis of the budget. In answer to an inquiry regarding the Prudent Reserve, she explained that the first monies for this account, which began in 1977, came from State Convention apportionment plus interest; it increased by interest, and in 1980 there was added \$500.00 from checking account plus \$300.00 from State Conv.; in 1981 - \$375.00 from St. Conv., plus \$175.00 from St. Conv., plus \$2,000.00 from checking account; in 1982 - \$144.82 from Young People's Conv. plus \$267.05 interest; and in 1983 - \$2000.00 from checking account. She also noted that when she began as Treasurer in 1975, the balance in the Treasury was \$318.54. The number of groups in North Florida has increased considerably. However, as noted on 4th quarter report, out of approximately 327 groups in N. Fl., only 92 Groups made 135 contributions during the last quarterly period.

Chairman, Dick P., reminded us to all read the General Service Conference Report. If you wish to order extra copies the charge is \$2.00 per copy, sent to A.A. World Services, Inc., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y., 10163.

A vote of thanks is given to District 17 members who hosted this excellent fourth quarter assembly.

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING, January 11 - 12, 1986, will be held at the Plantation Inn, Crystal River. Room rates will be \$50.00 single or double.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis
Phyllis G. D., Corresponding Secretary

DELEGATE'S REPORT - Bob S

Sa. Sunday, 12:30 A.M. October 6, 1985

There were 45,000 paid registrations for the 50th Anniversary AA Convention at Montreal this past July.

A ball park figure of 60,000 is estimated for the 1990 Convention. Bids are pending for the site. A city must be able to guarantee 17,000 hotel rooms, with facilities for meetings rooms which will be able to seat 600 people, each room.

Bob advised that there would be a couple of workshops of interest at the 1986 Gen'l. Serv. Conf. in New York next April: 1 - Workshop on considering the idea of "letting go of old ideas". sub-heading a. - new ways of carrying the A.A. message; b - are we getting too rigid?; 2 - Workshop on impact of AA on the World - sub-heading a - are we being friendly with our friends?

A publishing company named CTM (stands for Carrying The Message) is illegally selling an unauthorized publication of the Big Book, First Edition Printing. The copyright on this edition has run out, but all following editions copyrights are protected.

Bob plans to take a utilization report to Conference on our Film Library - North Fla. so far seems to be the only area which has a Film Library which is operating.

Bob will extend a written invitation to Joe Phelan, new Southeastern Regional Trustee, to attend N. Fl. April quarterly meeting and to be the Saturday night speaker. The General Assembly voted their approval.

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INSTITUTIONAL MEETING (Correctional & Prison Facilities) Bob S. ,Chmn. Sat.,10/5/85 1:30P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner - 40 in attendance. Roll call by Districts to obtain updated information of district institutional representatives.

Report by Bob re workshop at Marion Correction Institute in May - at which there was discussion centered around problems facing inside/outside sponsors, administration, format of meetings. There will be another workshop in near future to iron out more of these problems.

Everyone is urged to send letters to state representatives and Dept. of Corrections people, urging them to take immediate action to set standards for all correctional facilities in regard to AA meetings. Dept. of Corrections believes in the AA program - BUT - that's as far as it goes. They are still working on a standard I.D. system for AA members.

Some facilities will not let AA members in if the inside sponsor is not there. Kit from Dist. #15 reported they wanted a closed meeting at Brevard Correctional, but that the inside sponsor is not in the program. Consensus of opinion was - "while on their turf" we have to abide by their rules - so either allow inside sponsor to attend closed meeting, or change to an open meeting.

Bob also reported that the jails will not allow both AA and NA meetings separately - so again we have to go along with their decision. Some facilities just called them Institutional Meetings, and this covers both.

New Film Librarian is Paul Q. from Gainesville, replacing Lee T. who is on sea duty. Paul will be sending out a letter explaining the process to use in order to obtain films and a current list of films on hand. See Page 1 Committee Mtg. for Paul's address and phone #.

Bob asked for volunteers to start AA program at Sumter Correctional Institution.

Meeting closed at 2:30 P.M., with basket passed and saying of the Lord's Prayer.

INSTITUTIONAL MEETING(Hospitals & Treatment Facilities)Madeleine G. ,Co-Chmn.,Sat.10/5/85
3:00 P.M.

Meeting opened with Serenity Prayer. 37 present. Roll by Districts taken.

Madeleine emphasized importance of pamphlet "AA Members, Medication and Other Drugs" - especially for use in treatment facilities and meetings. She reminded us that we must abide by rules of the facilities, when we bring meetings to these places. In maintaining our anonymity - we should use our own discretion - anonymity can intimidate, or on the other hand, create a bond; The Districts' General Service Representatives of district groups can promote interest for attendance at treatment facilities meetings by the AA members in the outside community, both at their local group meetings and at their District GSR meetings; She noted that there is reluctance regarding attendance by Outside AAs at psychiatric hospitals or units. Phyllis, from Jax., said that a way to remove this stigma that the patients are mentally insane is to think of their having a disability.

Reports, as follows from two District Areas: Don C, Brevard Cty., Dists. 12 & 15, stated they use a system which they call the "Contact Friend" - i.e. before the person is released from treatment, an AA member contacts them. This member follows the patient from Detox to treatment and possibly to half-way houses, and if they move gives them names of facilities they can contact for help, if needed. Paul S., Jax. Dists. 1,2,3,4, reported on their temporary sponsor program which is rather unique inasmuch as it includes interested persons in the community as well as AA members. They send letters from a mailing list and have a dinner meeting to explain their program. He stated they are having a good amount of success. There will be a detailed description of this program plus other suggestions made today, at the next assembly.

Meeting closed at 4:15 P.M., with basket being passed and saying of the Lord's Prayer..

GRAPEVINE MEETING Tom D. , Chairman Sat., 10/5/85 11:00 A.M.

Meeting opened with Serenity Prayer - 38 present. Mitch T. from Jax. talked on a past issue article from the Grapevine, entitled "We Have A Choice"..

There was discussion on how we can improve ways to increase GV subscriptions, and how to spread the word about the Grapevine and its value to a recovering alcoholic. Many good suggestions made. Tom advised that GSO tells us the Grapevine needs 30,000 new subscriptions by Jan., '86, or a price increase will occur.

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

Meeting opened in usual manner - approximately 30 in attendance.

Tom referred to the LIM meetings - this is the Loners International Meeting - and is a meeting in writing complete from the Serenity Prayer opening to closing with the Lord's Prayer - for those individual recovering alcoholics who are in any way unable to attend meetings or share in person with another alcoholic. These meetings are printed six (6) times a year, and are available through GSO.

As Tom states - A disability is anything that interferes with an alcoholic's receiving the benefit of the AA program - these include handicaps, hearing, reading, mobility, etc., and people who smoke or people who don't smoke, etc.,.

On the subject of other drugs - people who need medication, as prescribed correctly by a doctor, for a legitimate reason, are more likely to drink if they don't take necessary medication.

In discussion on this subject, several good points were made - 1. There is a difference between mood altering drugs and drugs which are required to return and help keep a person normal; 2.- Alcoholics tend to be addictive, but the percentage of people that doctors prescribe medication for about only 10%-15% who will become addicted to prescription drugs.

AA is a program for recovery from alcoholism, and this is what we should be concerned with - there is no recovery from suicide - with some people drugs are a matter of survival, not sobriety.

At a meeting where there are newcomers, any discussion pro and con and taking other drugs should probably be avoided - new members should be handled on a one to one basis; 3. There are still physicians who know little or nothing about alcoholism - some still think that alcoholism is a vitamin deficiency; 4. Reference was made to Bill W. having a pretty broad view on other drugs, as far as persons requiring medications.

Pamphlet on drugs, by physicians who are in AA should be read - "The AA Member-Medications and Other Drugs" - it recognizes that alcoholics have other diseases and disabilities.

For the hard of hearing, it was noted that the 12 Steps ~~BOOK~~ has been revised and is now available. This is a translation in sign language.

Meeting closed at 12:00 Noon, with basket passed, and saying of Lord's Prayer.

(Cooperation with the

Meeting opened with moment of silence and Serenity Prayer. Explanation given of what CPC is and does and what it is not: 1. It is an extension of 12 Step Work - working with treatment centers, clergy, elderly, half-way houses , educators, physicians, hospitals, Employee Assistance Programs in industry, correctional and prison facilities, and social workers; 2. What CPC is not is best summed up by letting the professional people know that AA is available as a program for recovery from alcoholism.

Feeling of Bobbe, as Chairman of this committee, is that she serves as a clearing house for information.

Brad D., Dist. 14, shared that he gave pamphlets to Gainesville university, and also gave information to counselors, which led to a 5:00-6:30 P.M. AA meeting, and which also benefitted the AA members involved.

Recommendation made that we also sponsor our physicians. Giving them AA literature and a subscription to the Grapevine magazine helps in "carrying the message".. Having literature available at Health Fairs works well. Dick, Dist. 12, stated in contacting the EAP of a large corporation, AA members volunteered use of a 15 minute video of alcoholics talking about their disease.

Bobbe plans to have a progress report at next meeting. At this meeting(Oct.5th) Mitch, Dist.12, passed out information on CPC, and Bobbe handed out a questionnaire form for feedback on having a CPC Newsletter, and also setting up a master list of temporary sponsor chairmen throughout the N. Fl. area. To date, there are not too many temporary sponsor programs - Brevard Cty., and Jacksonville districts seem to be most active. If a Newsletter is feasible, it was suggested that to help defray cost of same, it could be distributed at quarterly meetings to the Area DCMs, to be carried back to their groups. Questionnaire responses showed unanimous approval of a Newsletter-and those who volunteered their services will be contacted.

Summation of meeting, by the Chairman, was that people are willing and able and just need to know how to carry the message through CPC.

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

INFORMAL INTERGROUP SERVICES MEETING

Ellen T , Chairman Sat., 10/5/85 3:00 P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner - attendance 10 people from 5 of the 8 N.Fl., Intergroups.

This was the second meeting of Intergroups, to share experiences, strengths, and hopes among Intergroups that they may solve their common problems and better serve their groups.

Question 1: When a geographical sector of the groups isn't supporting Intergroup, what can be done to catalyze participation? Sharings: A breakfast (Dutch treat) once a month brings 150 people, and is designated as the Intergroup Breakfast Meeting - basket, plus a raffle brings good financial support; In one area, to pay for a secretary, contributions made to "Adopt-A-Secretary" for a day or a week is working. Picnics (Dutch Treat), Round-Ups, Dances, all including pass-the-basket and some type of raffle, work well. Family events are especially good.; In the building of a new Intergroup, there was a \$2.00 monthly charge for Newsletter, and later \$30.00 donations for the initial setting up of an Intergroup Office; Visit groups and talk about what Intergroup will do for them; The consensus of experience was that 1/3 of Groups will support an Intergroup financially.

Question 2: What can be done to stimulate interest in Intergroup with a small town group 30 miles from the office, also a group with low average sobriety time and meager resources? Sharings: Have exchange meetings with other groups; Have available GSO Guideline on Intergroups, with copies for members, and discuss same.

Question 3: What are ways Intergroup and the District divide the work, especially for carrying meetings to institutions, Public Information services, and Cooperation with the Professional Community services? Sharings: Having too many people trying to do the same job tends to cause confusion and even resentment among the people being served; Some Intergroups fund literature for District Committees (E.G. \$35.00 per mo. for GPC), provides speakers, handles meeting arrangements, supplies literature in response to requests by the District who finds new need or opportunity; The Districts inform about the 60-30-10 plan re group contributions (or the 50-30-10-10 plan - the last 10 for GSR/DCM expenses) to the groups; Intergroup chairmen attend District meetings; DCM attends Intergroup meetings; review another Intergroup's By-Laws - who does what is unique to each situation.

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

Acting Secretary - Vic M , DCM#6

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Tom D , Chairman

Sat., 10/5/85 1:30 P.M.

Meeting opened in usual manner, with moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

A sharing session followed on the following: 1. Re temporary sponsorship program usually handled through an Intergroup, where person leaving treatment is contacted by AA member to assist with the transition; 2. Temporary sponsor usually stays with newcomer until person is stabilized, at which time person should get a permanent sponsor; 3. Distribution of AA pamphlets in infirmaries, AA members speaking to people in probation, radio spots with editing, and TV spots, are all excellent public information procedures; 4. In Jax. area speakers go to high schools; and in Texas, there are meetings at some high schools; 5. Tom related interaction from AA at Health Fairs; 6. Daytona Bch. area handles school programs thru P.I. person at Intergroup level - they speak to health classes in small numbers, and present questions to the students. The students join in by also asking questions verbally. One child related "Since my mother has been going to your meetings, she is a much better mother."; 7. Professional outreach by AA professionals to talk on alcoholism; 8. An Episcopal Church is having Sunday programs on "Alcohol and Drug Abuse Awareness, with individual conferences with interested individuals, following the meetings; 9. Tom shared that TV spots, i.e. "don't drink and drive", do not tell people what to do about their drinking - suggested we call program directors at TV stations to remind them about AA as another alternative; 10. From New Smyrna Bch. representative feels that drunk drivers are not informed about AA, and since many people are first offenders, AA literature could be given to them; 11. Display of literature explained by Tom. Box 459 has good articles of interest re P.I. There is a statistics folder for speaker information, cost \$7.00, can be obtained; 12. It was pointed out that many of our districts do not have copies of Big Book in public libraries; 13. People are being told not to take medications prescribed to them by physicians, through a misunderstanding by some AA members of the AA program. We are not doctors-our primary concern is alcoholism, and sobriety through the program. See pamphlet re this.

Meeting closed 2:40 P.M., basket passed, and saying of the Lord's Prayer. Actg. Secty.-Kay H.

TREASURER'S REPORT NORTH FLORIDA AREA ASSEMBLY

TO THE FOURTH QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTH FLORIDA GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE AREA
HOLIDAY INN, SILVER SPRINGS, FL. OCTOBER 5 & 6, 1985

PERIOD ENDING 1985	I N C O M E			E X P E N D I T U R E S				B A L A N C E S		
	GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL	GSCONF/DELE-GATE	ASSEMBLY HOTEL, COFFEE ETC	OPERATIONAL MISC.	INST.	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
12.31.84			on hand						\$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	\$2,398.32	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
9.30.85	2,888.51	439.84*	3,328.35	500.00	1,197.89 +	1,388.90+	**600.00	3,686.79	(-358.44)	7,266.18
TOTALS	\$6,972.33	\$1,423.91	\$ 8,396.24	\$1,829.03	\$2,745.81	\$2,426.11	\$ 846.91	\$7,847.86	\$ 548.38	\$7,266.18

PRUDENT RESERVE *Checking account now draws interest. Included in total miscel. \$37.04 interest (8.6 & 9.7).
 12.31.84 \$7,351.48 ** \$100 towards postage. \$500 contribution to South Florida Institutional Comm. for use in bringing prisoners to State Convention. + Includes initial cost of Computer (\$790.60).
 8.30.85 7,819.98

C O N T R I B U T I O N S B Y G R O U P S B Y D I S T R I C T S PERIOD 6.8.85 - 9.30.85

DIST.	GROUP	AMOUNT	DIST.	GROUP	AMOUNT	DIST.	GROUP	AMOUNT
1.	AMETHYST	20.00	4.	BALDWIN (4)	76.00	10.	GOLDENROD	15.00
	ARLINGTON (3)	78.49		RIVERSIDE (4)	65.00		MAITLAND BEGIN.	10.00
	BEACHES UNITY	75.00	5.	CAPITOL CITY	15.00		TANGLEWOOD (2)	25.00
	BETTER DAYS	20.00		LIVE & LET LIVE	7.00		YOUNG & FREE (2)	20.00
	BROWN BAGGERS	11.40		MEN'S FAITH	10.00	11.	AZALEA PARK	25.00
	CARE FREE (2)	60.00		NITE OWL	80.00		DRY DOCK	40.00
	CENTRAL (3)	75.00		SERENITY SMOKELESS	15.00		SHARING & CARING	7.50
	LIFE'S A BEACH (2)	20.00	6.	BIG BASS	35.00		TODAY'S WOMEN(2)	337.78
	DUTCH'S SAWGRASS	10.00		OLDEST CITY (3)	30.00		WINTER PARK (3)	105.00
	KUFE LINE (2)	20.25	7.	BACKWOODS	36.00		WINTER PARK MEN	24.00
	MANDARIN	25.00		12&12	20.00		WOODLAKE VILLA	7.50
	SWITZERLAND (2)	14.00		YOU ARE NOT ALONE	100.00	12.	BAREFOOT BAY	9.00
2.	CABOOSE (2)	70.00	8.	BRIGHTER DAYS	40.00		BEACHCOMBERS	25.00
	HELPING HAND	25.00		OCEAN HOLIDAY (2)	8.30		EAU GALLIE	40.00
	RAIL RATTLERS	25.00		ROAD TO RECOVERY (3)	45.00		PATRICK	15.00
	SAINTS & SINNERS(2)	6.77		SAT. NIGHT ALIVE (2)	27.27		POWER OF FEELINGS	10.00
	SUNRISE	60.00		WAY OF LIFE (4)	71.07		SANDPIPER (2)	60.00
	TOGETHER	3.00		WED. WOMEN	15.00		SERENITY (2)	40.00
3.	CONTENTMENT	50.00		WINNERS WAY	66.53	13.	CRYSTAL RIVER (3)	30.00
	EUREKA	20.00	9.			14.	BRONSON	10.00
	HAPPY HOUR, THE	20.00		FRIENDSHIP	6.00		DOWNTOWN	25.00
	LA PAZ	3.00		LIVE & LET LIVE	10.00		FREE TO BE	10.00
	ORTEGA	12.50		PINE HILLS GRACE	100.00		QUARTERWAY	15.00
	TIMAQUANA	25.00	10.	ALOMA	10.00		STEP STUDY	5.00
	TIMAQUANA LADIES	45.00		FAIRBANKS	15.00		WED.WOMEN SMOKELESS	5.00

15.	GATEWAY (2)	50.00
	PRIMARY PURPOSE	40.00
16.	TWELVE STEPS	10.00
17.	CAME TO BELIEVE	15.00
	SERENITY	84.00
18.	ABBOT SOBER LIV.	10.00
	BORN TO WIN	15.00
	CASSELBERRY (2)	30.00
	SANFORD WOMEN	2.00
19.	DELTONA DEBARRY	10.00
	DELT. ENTERPRISE	5.00
20.	HELPING HAND(2)	60.00
	HIGH NOON (2)	78.00
	NEW SMYRNA BEACH	50.00
21.	ANY LENGTHS	51.00
	BIG BOOK (3)	15.00
(3)	ORMOND-BY-THE-SEA	15.00
	PRIMARY PURPOSE(2)	30.00
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92 Groups Made 135
Donations during
this period.

THANKS TO ALL FOR THE CONTINUING SUPPORT. PLEASE MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO NORTH FLORIDA COMMITTEE AA. PLEASE SEND TO YOUR TREASURER: Elise De