



SUITE 404

BROWARD COUNTY INTERGROUP, INC.

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VOLUME 6
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Step 6 - *"Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."*

Branching out

"The exact nature of our wrongs" in Step Five is expressed in terms of "defects of character." In Step Six, we offer (them) up to God for removal of our "shortcomings." Bill W., when asked why he used two different sets of words to define character defects, said it was to avoid repetition. Some members waste time needlessly trying to find the difference between the two expressions. It doesn't matter what you call them. If you don't change the nature of these defects, then they will change you, in my experience, and not for the better.

There are two deep emotions driving all the feelings that I have ever had. Each feeling has its roots in either love or fear. I personally don't see any character defects related to love. Even jealousy is related to the fear of losing love. All my shortcomings are connected one way or another to fear.

I had been asking God (praying) to remove individual defects only to have them show up on another day. This is treating the symptom and not the cause. The symptom may go away for a short time but will return if the cause isn't removed. Most of the time I have no idea why I do those things, so asking to have the defect removed doesn't work. I have found that I don't have to know the reason why, God does, and he has the power to heal the real problem. I now pray that the cause of the defect be removed.

I picture my defects as leaves on a large branch extending from the trunk of a tree. The trunk is who I really am, the branch is the fear and the leaves are individual defects. Plucking the defective leaf off the branch may help for the moment, but eventually another leaf will grow back. Making changes at the branch will affect the entire tree.

When something works I continue to use it. By asking God to heal the source, I have found that not only is that one defect removed, but many others as well. I have only been praying for the sources to be healed for a few months, and I can really feel a difference within me. I'm so excited about this new method of praying that I felt a need to share it with everyone. Maybe it will work for you as well.

—John L., Citrus County, FL

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Tradition Six	2
Word Puzzle	4
Committee Updates	4
Monthly Meetings	5
Anniversaries	5
Meeting Changes	8
Upcoming Events	8

**YOUR
INTERGROUP
BOOKSTORE
WILL NO LONGER
BE OPEN ON
SATURDAYS**

CONCEPT VI

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

Tradition Six - *"An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."*

Friendly Yet Different

How can we help alcoholics stay sober in the age of multi-addiction? I've come to believe that cooperation but not affiliation between AA and such organizations as Cocaine Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous can help alcoholics stay away from that first drink--and live. AA's policy of cooperation but not affiliation with churches, prisons, other fellowships, medical societies, treatment centers, hospitals, and so forth may be found in the long form of our Sixth Tradition (the long forms of the Traditions are given at the end of the Big Book or the "Twelve and Twelve").

A few years ago, a "pigeon," whom I'll call Pete, got drunk. I don't know what happened to him: he may be alive and sober; he may be alive; he may have died drunk. Pete's habit of always talking about his "drinking-and-drugging" allowed him, I believe, to cling to what our Big Book calls a lurking reservation: "I can't drink-and-drug, but maybe I can drink."

About the same time that Pete got drunk, a young lady came from another state where she had been active in Alateen and Narcotics Anonymous. Sue came to a closed AA meeting. Her position was: "I'm not an alcoholic, I'm a drug addict. But I have a desire to stop drinking, because if I drink it will reactivate my addiction to other drugs." Based on what Sue said about herself, and my understanding of how the short and long forms of the Third Tradition fit together, I asked her to please leave and come back to an open AA meeting. She did and she didn't "shoot up" or "get high." Later on, I worked on projects with Sue and other NAs in the spirit of cooperation but not affiliation.

It was a real privilege to visit schools and junior high schools, side by side with NA members. I introduced myself to the vice-principal, for example, in this way: "Hi. I'm a member of AA, visiting the schools today. Here's some of our literature that could help a kid with a drinking problem, if you'd care to have it. Here's our phone number for more information." My young friend said, "Hi. I'm Eddie, from Narcotics Anonymous, visiting the schools today too. Here are some of our pamphlets that could help a kid who has a problem with drugs other than alcohol. Our number for more information is here." We didn't plan it, but I wore a business suit while Eddie wore "mod threads" and an earring. We presented a visual image of being friendly with each other, yet different, separate.

My experience has been that since we took great pains to stress cooperation not affiliation in this and many other similar projects, not even the gruffest, gnarled old-timer snarled at us about so much "cooperation." I've helped organize AA workshops with as many as six other fellowships at a time participating as "guests"; registrations for each fellowship were separate and Seventh Tradition baskets ("self-supporting, through our own contributions") went to whichever fellowship conducted the particular meeting. Attention to details, such as separate rooms and different typefaces on flyers, has also been very helpful.

Ninety-nine percent of the newcomers in the year 2000 may be "double-winners" (alcoholic-addicts). They'll have to face the same basic question, as set forth in the Big Book, that every newcomer faces: Can I handle my drinking problem myself (the hard drinker) or do I need help beyond human power (the real alcoholic)?

As a newcomer, hearing other alcoholics talk about *booze* helped me decide that I needed help from "a power greater than myself" with my kind of drinking problem. I've come to believe that talk about compulsive gambling, compulsive overeating, other drugs, alcoholic parents, what happened in the last therapy session doesn't help newcomers sort out the basic question: "Am I a hard drinker or an alcoholic?"

Continued on page 3

Suite 404 is a monthly publication of Broward County Intergroup, Inc. (BCI). The opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of BCI or AA as a whole. The deadline for submission is the 15th of each month. Material may be edited for space and content. We welcome your stories, news and comments. Please send your submissions to help@aabroward.org.

(continued from page 2)

Some people like Pete can still deny their alcoholism by dwelling on their "drinking-and-drugging." But thanks to the growth of CA, NA, and other programs, it's easier for them to focus on their experiences (possibly very few) with alcohol by itself. Focusing on booze can help newcomers decide whether they have the physical craving for alcohol described in "The Doctor's Opinion" and the mental obsession for alcohol described in the first three chapters of our Big Book. Many like Pete now belong to two fellowships and try to change their focus depending on whether they are attending an AA meeting or a CA or NA meeting. Cooperation but not affiliation between AA and CA and NA helps newcomers to Alcoholics Anonymous stay sober--and live.

--Anonymous

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Celebrating our Founders...

June 10, 1935

An amazing, lifesaving fellowship was born, when one alcoholic reached out to help another alcoholic, to preserve his own sobriety.

"I went to Atlantic City to attend several days' meeting of a national society of which I was a member. I drank all the scotch they had on the train and bought several quarts on my way to the hotel. This was on Sunday. I got tight that night, stayed sober Monday till after the dinner and then proceeded to get tight again. I drank all I dared in the bar, and then went to my room to finish the job. Tuesday, I started in the morning, getting well organized by noon.

I did not want to disgrace myself so I then checked out. I bought some more liquor on the way to the depot. I had to wait some time for the train. I remember nothing from then on until I woke up at a friend's house, in a town near home. The good people notified my wife, who sent my newly made friend over to get me. He came and got me home and to bed, gave me a few drinks that night, and one bottle of beer the next morning.

That was June 10, 1935, and that was my last drink. As I write nearly four years have passed. "

Excerpt from "Dr. Bob's Nightmare", Alcoholics Anonymous, pp. 179-180

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

General Service Office, NY

Post Office Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

Bridging The Gap

877.207.2242

Broward Co. Intergroup, Inc.

3317 NW 10 Terrace, Ste. 404
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309
954.462.0265

BCIC

P.O. Box 22701
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

Area 15 General Service

Treasurer, P.O. Box 311
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

District 9 General Service

P.O. Box 100126
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310

Recovery Word Puzzle

RAASYSDTU
PMOMTYS
TICSEESOI
PLASMTHPE
TEASREAP
BLEGNARCTIE



Unscramble the letters. Answers to puzzle can be found on page 7. Words for this puzzle have been used somewhere else in this edition of Suite 404.

GOOMTHISSNCR
DEESVERR
RUSELETVNO
DEARTTIGU
GLINTSI
FEESMERRTHSN

2022 Intergroup Picnic has been reserved for Sunday, October 30th



FIRST PLANNING MEETING

will be held following the next monthly meeting at the Twelve Step House

Sunday, June 26th at 2:00 PM

Come join a committee and find out where you can do service!

2022 Florida State Convention to be held on Fort Lauderdale Beach STILL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS...NEXT PLANNING MEETING

The Center for Spiritual Living
4849 North Dixie Hwy, Oakland Park, FL 33334
Mask required if not vaccinated (facility rules)



Hybrid option Available

Saturday, May 21st, 2022 at 9:00 AM

More info, Chair2022fsc@gmail.com

Zoom ID 882 8429 1768 PW FSC2022

SERVICE KEEPS YOU SOBER



NEW BOOKSTORE HOURS

Mon.– Tues. - Thurs.– Fri. 1-6 PM / Wednesday 11 AM - 7 PM

A.A. Birthdays

June Celebrants

Living in the Solution

Lesley A. ~ 3 yrs.
Marshall B. ~ 4 yrs.
Nancy S. ~ 4 yrs.
Shaunarae ~ 4 yrs.
Pat D. ~ 6 yrs.
Joe H. ~ 7 yrs.
Lloyd G. ~ 11 yrs.
Pete S. ~ 24 yrs.
Stan S. ~ 31 yrs.
Marilyn M. ~ 48 yrs.

Meditation at the Rock

Melissa S. ~ 5 yrs.
Ken K. ~ 11 yrs.

Oakland Park

Gene S. ~ 13 yrs.

East Naples Men's

Wes R. ~ 34 yrs.
Stan S. ~ 31 yrs.
Pete S. ~ 24 yrs.
Wade B. ~ 22 yrs.
Ralph O. ~ 21 yrs.
Luis F. ~ 19 yrs.

Empowered Women

Debbie B. ~ 34 yrs.
Julie D. ~ 4 yrs.
Heather ~ 14 yrs.

Ft. Lauderdale Women's

Nancy S. ~ 9 yrs.

Serenity in the Park (E)

Patricia B. ~ 18 yrs.

Mountain Group

Dawn D. ~ 6 yrs.

5:45 Happy Hour

Sandy S. ~ 32 yrs.

Sunlight of the Spirit

Shannon A. ~ 10 yrs.

441 Group

Jill W. ~ 14 yrs.

Sunshine Group

Richard H. ~ 15 yrs.

Good Morning God

Matt M. ~ 13 yrs.

I Came To Stay

Floyd G. ~ 8 yrs.

Straight Talk

Mark O. ~ 31 yrs.

B.A.L.L.S.

Drew ~ 9 yrs.

Men's Independence

Ken W. ~ 19 yrs.

Y.A.N.A.

Bruce P. ~ 29 yrs.

Other Notables

Lynda Z. ~ 26 yrs.
Sharon M. ~ 40 yrs.
Kevin M. ~ 29 yrs.
Lee B. ~ 36 yrs.

JOIN THE BIRTHDAY CLUB!

Celebrate your sobriety by sending \$1 per every year sober to your local Intergroup office to show your gratitude and give back once a year.

(Birthday listings are not contingent upon contributions...we just like to celebrate sobriety.)



MAY CELEBRANTS

not previously mentioned....

Rule 62 Group

Jan ~ 15 yrs.
Pat ~ 16 yrs.
Diane ~ 19 yrs.



BCIC

Broward County Institutions Committee will hold their next meeting on

**Saturday, June 11th
10:00 AM**

Twelve Step House,
205 SW 23rd St., Ft. Lauderdale

The next **Intergroup Meeting** will be held on

**Sunday, June 26th
at 1:00 PM**

Twelve Step House
205 SW 23rd St., Ft. Lauderdale

NEW JUNE 2022

WHERE & WHENS ARE IN!!!

STILL ONLY \$1

LISTING ZOOM AND FACE-TO FACE MEETINGS



32nd ANNIVERSARY of the 441 GROUP CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, JUNE 25th
Noon - 4:00 PM

Food - Fun - Fellowship
FREE

Lunch at 1:00 - Potluck

Speaker Meeting at Noon
Chair's Choice Meeting at 3 PM
Entertainment

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY SALES EVENT

SUNDAY, JUNE 19th
11 AM - 3 PM

Broward County Intergroup Bookstore
3317 NW 10th Terrace, Ste. 404, Oakland Park

RAFFLE - REFRESHMENTS

*Various Books, Triplates,
and gift items on sale.*

Free T-shirt with every \$25 purchase.

Giveaways - Fellowship



Get Registered!

www.FloridaStateConvention.com

August 3-7, 2022 FTL Beach

Faithful Fivers are fellow A.A. members who donate five dollars (\$5) a month to Intergroup as an act of gratitude. Their generosity helps us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholic throughout the year.

(Easy to set up with your bank or through PayPal)

Thank you to our Faithful Fivers and all our Contributors! You are all so appreciated!

Tom J	James H.	Brian H.	Al G.	Fred L.	Drew B.	Kerry W.	Ed H.	Gina B.
Liz J	Gerry B.	Steven L.	Glen P.	Laura E.	Valerie J.	Marsha M.	Thomas J.	Marcy B.
Gregory C.	Robert H.	Barbara S.	Richard M.	Janine C.	Giselle P.	Maggie H.	Sandy R.	Wilma D.
Suzanne J.	Don W.	Jenae R.	Ali S.	Sheila C.	Laurel	Javier C.	Gayle K.	Anne B.
Bob H.	Drew B.	Michael T.	Kathy	Marilyn M.	Tony A.	John B.	Phyllis P.	Susan O.
Anonymous	David S.	Alexander W.	Peggy D.	Elizabeth C.	Julie L.	Arthur M.	Marcy H.	Lorna V.
Elizabeth B.	David J.	Gary S.	Peggy G.	Larry C.	Carla B.	Debra B.	Douglas R.	Walter B.
Ron J.	Bonnie T.	Dave J.	Tracy S.	Robert K.	Corinne S.	Kerry F.	Sally S.	Denis H.
Jennifer S.	Anonymous	Patrick M.	Carmen D.	Jackie P.	Jennifer E.	Craig S.	Kathleen R.	George D.
Pat R.	Michael E.	Patrick C.	Sharon G.	Gil W.	Michael P.	Paul A.	Emily P.	Steven S.
Beth D.	Stephen W.	Joe G.	Jeff H.	Nancy M.	Nancy N.	Robert M.	Christine Y.	Dianne N.
Craig G.	Marlene A.	Nancy S.	Paul	Trish F.	E - Walter	Sam B.	Barbaree K.	Laurey T.
Vickie T.	Ernie F.	Mary S.	Victoria M.	Robert A.	George O.	Dan M.	Karen L.	Adie M.
Howie K.	HBeta	Allison B.	Robert S.	Nancy G.	Gwendolyn	Stephen H.	Michael B.	
Sheldon V.	Dennis G.	Ellen F.						

Answers from page 4: Saturdays, symptom, societies, pamphlets, separate, celebrating, shortcomings, reserved, volunteers, gratitude, listing, refreshments

I AM RESPONSIBLE....

WHEN ANYONE, ANYWHERE, REACHES OUT FOR HELP,
I WANT THE HAND OF A.A. ALWAYS TO BE THERE. AND FOR THAT: I AM RESPONSIBLE.

NAME: _____ GENDER: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

PREFER: VOICE: _____ TEXT: _____ EMAIL: _____ CITY OF RESIDENCE: _____

WILL CALL BACK: _____ AND/OR PAY A VISIT: _____

AVAILABILITY: MONDAY to FRIDAY: _____ WEEKENDS: _____

8:00am-12:00pm _____ 12:00pm-5:00pm _____ 5:00pm-9:00pm _____ 9:00pm-8:00am _____

TO COMPLETE A 12-STEP CALL, you only need to be sober one day, but you NEVER GO ALONE.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: help@aabroward.org

Definition of Broward County Intergroup, Inc.

Your Intergroup office services all groups in the Broward County area. It is not a governing body and does not attempt to, nor can it, rule any AA Group. Its sole purpose is to act as a clearinghouse for the convenience of members and groups desiring assistance, and to extend the Twelve Step Work "carrying the message" to the sick alcoholic. The Intergroup office is supported entirely by contributions from groups, usually a specified amount each month or at intervals throughout the year.

The office purchases and sells all conference-approved books and literature to groups throughout Broward County.

MEETING CHANGES

Monday

24 Hours a Day Group is finally meeting again at St. Ambrose Church in Deerfield Beach, 380 S. Federal Hwy. OD at 7:30 PM.

Tuesday

The Tamarac Group is no longer Hybrid on Tuesdays—in person only.

NEW MEETING Back to the Basics meets at the Sunshine Cathedral, 1480 SW 9th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale. OSS at 7 PM.

Wednesday

Meditation at the Rock has changed its name and format to Recovery at the Rock. 140 W Prospect Road, Oakland Park. OSPD at 6:30 PM.

NEW MEETING The Sober Group meets at the NE 16th St. Pavilion in Pompano Beach. ORF at 6 PM.

From Under the Bridge which met at the 101 Club in Pompano at 5:30 NO LONGER MEETS.

Thursday

NEW MEETING Sermon on the Mount now meets at the Sober Today Club in Hollywood at 3:30 PM. OD

Search For Serenity that met at the Sanctuary in Ft. Lauderdale NO LONGER MEETS.

Free Thinkers has moved from Oakland Park to Wilton Manors, 1410 NE 26th Ave. OD 7:30 PM, agnostics.

Friday

Women's Friday Night Big Book Study is finally meeting Live again at North Creek Presbyterian Church, 4601 NW 71st Place, Coconut Creek. CBBw at 6:30 PM.

Sunday

The Anonymous Club that meets Hybrid in Ft. Lauderdale has changed the time. They now meet at 7:30 PM

Conscious Contact now meets again at St. Benedict's Church in Plantation, 7801 NW 5th Street. OM at 7 PM.

PLEASE KEEP OFFICE UPDATED ON ANY CHANGES TO YOUR MEETINGS

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| June 5 | District 9 Founders Day Picnic Snyder Park, Ft. Lauderdale. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at gate, DJ, dancing, volleyball, speaker, dessert contest and surprises!! Pay to park. |
| June 18 | Movie Night at the Bottom Line group, 823 SE 8th Ave., Deerfield Beach. "My Name is Bill W." starts at 7 PM. Popcorn, potluck. |
| June 19 | Customer Appreciation Day Sales Event , Intergroup office, 3317 NW 10 Terrace, Ste. 404, Oakland Park. 11 AM - 3 PM. Raffles, giveaways, sales, refreshments. |
| June 25 | 32nd Anniversary Celebration of the 441 Group - Free event, Noon - 4 PM, Village Plaza, 1452 N State Rd 7, Margate. Speakers, lunch, entertainment. |
| July 22-24 | South Florida Area 15 General Assembly hosted by District 10, at Miami Marriott Dadeland. Workshops, Speakers, Banquets. For more info: www.district9aa.org |
| Aug. 3-7 | 65th Florida State Convention 2022 , Ft. Lauderdale Harbor Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, \$40 registration. Overflow parking with shuttle service available for commuters. Golf, Volleyball, 2 mile walk/run, Entertainment, Banquets and lots of speakers. Marathon meetings and so much fellowship. Register online at www.floridastateconvention.com or pay there. |