



# SUITE 404

BROWARD COUNTY INTERGROUP, INC.

3317 NW 10th Terrace, Suite 404, Oakland Park, FL 33309

Phone 954-462-0265, 954-462-7202; www.aabroward.org

Email: [help@aabroward.org](mailto:help@aabroward.org)

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**Step 9** - "Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

## Life and Taxes

Last November, I began working the Steps in order to take responsibility for my past--and especially to make amends to the Internal Revenue Service for twenty-three years of failing to file income tax returns. Yesterday, I signed, sealed, and mailed the final four years of my taxes. I went to my accountant, with a conscious contact of my Higher Power, ready to take whatever was coming to me. I felt myself move with a new power, courage, and faith that, by the grace of God, I have acquired as a result of working the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The attorneys tell me that I am open to possible criminal charges. The accountants tell me that the government may say I owe up to thirty thousand dollars more in back taxes. And yet, at this moment, I am at ease. There are no fears or anxieties, no doubts or insecurities, and no trepidation about what might happen in the future.

Furthermore, I'm not judging myself for being irresponsible. I am simply doing this with an attitude of self-compassion, kind of what I imagine a loving parent would feel toward a child who just wasn't able to do any better at the time. It's a big step for a fellow who had lost all faith in God and his life.

The malignant doubt that had poisoned my life for forty-two years (including ten years of sobriety) is gone, thanks to God and the AA program. I am incredibly happy and joyous, and free of the restless, irritable, and discontented life I used to know. I only want to do God's will to the best of my ability. And each day, my life just gets better and better.

—J.B., Connecticut

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**The bookstore will  
be closed for  
Annual Inventory  
on Tuesday,  
September 30th**

### CONCEPT IX

Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

**Tradition Nine - "A.A. as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."**

## **A FIRM COMMITMENT TO UNITY**

**Former Trustee-at-Large Dean R. presented the following talk on Tradition Nine at a 1998 General Sharing Session**

IT is impossible to contemplate that AA, as such, ought never be organized, but when we create service boards and committees directly responsible for those they serve, there are really no rules and no laws; services provided are dictated by the needs of others.

The opening line of Tradition Nine, as reflected in the writings of Bill W. in an August 1948 Grapevine editorial, sets forth: "The least possible organization, that's our universal ideal. No fees, no dues, no rules imposed on anybody."

This statement and definition of Tradition Nine would lead us to believe that AA was operating in anarchy. We all know that is not true. The impossible contradiction works--AA as a whole should never be organized at all. But we proceeded to set up a Conference of recognized and identified areas in 1951 and proceeded to create boards and committees to assist in providing services to alcoholics and AA groups world wide.

It was explained early in my service experience that AA was the most unorganized, organized Fellowship that ever existed, and so it is.

With our informed group conscience, we have throughout the history of AA been able to weather discord and negativism because of our firm commitment to unity, with the underlying knowledge that failure to maintain unity, and pursuing an unsafe course of AA, will lead to its demise and ultimately to the jeopardy of our individual sobriety.

While we do not recognize and have resisted, sometimes violently, the idea of any type of general organization efforts that would hinge on government, we have resolutely and persistently insisted upon organizing special services to assist members of our Fellowship to be more effective and available to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

The general services that AA provides at the group, district and area level, as well as at the General Service Office, are carried out without authority to order any AA member or group, as they are autonomous.

We make suggestions based on shared experience. We recognize that we cannot dictate to fellow members individually or collectively, and choose not to do so.

AA is truly a society without organization as such; sacrifice is the basis of service, and founded on the spiritual principles, AA is a true Fellowship, with only one purpose--to carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic.

The good will of our Fellowship that we enjoy throughout the world in large measure is directly due to services that we provide through our service structure. May each of us continue to sacrifice in following the spiritual principles and maintaining those principles over personalities and may we continue to carry the spiritual message that was freely given to us so that we may freely pass the AA message on to the suffering alcoholic.

— Dean R., El Reno, OK

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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](mailto:help@aabroward.org).

## TRADITION NINE CHECKLIST



1. Do I try to "boss" things in AA?
2. Do I ever resist formal aspects of AA because I see them as authoritative?
3. Do I try to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

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## THIS MONTH IN AA HISTORY

- Sept. 21, 1938** Works Publishing formed by Bill W. and Hank P.
- Sept. 30, 1939** "Alcoholics and God" is published in Liberty Magazine.
- Sept. 1946** First AA group begins in Mexico.
- Sept. 17, 1954** Bob D., AA #3 dies.
- Sept. 19, 1964** Saturday Evening Post publishes article "Alcoholics Can be Cured. ...Despite AA".
- Sept. 11, 2001** AA's first office on Vesey St., NY is damaged in WTC attack.

## NEW WHERE & WHENS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

*Intergroup will now be making all meeting directories in-house so that they will be current. If you need more than 20, please order ahead.*

**Email: [help@aabroward.org](mailto:help@aabroward.org)**

*Things we cannot change....*

David H., Carlos R., Don F., and Larry F.



*They will be missed by all who knew them. May they rest in peace..*



**Are you interested in making 12-Step Calls to the person still suffering?  
Please call or email the office to sign up. We need you.  
**YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!!****

**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 Treasurer**  
2950 W Cypress Creek Rd.  
Ste. 333, #10907  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309

**District 9 General Service**  
P.O. Box 100126  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310

# Recovery Word Puzzle

VYINRETNO  
GAMTNAILN  
VIGESIMTAN

FARECCISI  
PRILYSBONEITSI  
CREEDIRTSOI



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

NOOTVICENN  
TREESIGDER  
ZIRTECICI  
MEITANTI  
BROOSTUNICNIT  
TRAYSUCNA

The 68th Florida State Convention (2026) is in Orlando in 11 months.

**Website NOW LIVE!! Get registered. Buy banquet tickets.**

<https://68.floridastateconvention.com/>

**The 69th Florida State Convention is in Ft. Lauderdale!**

Planning meetings coming soon.

**2025 Intergroup Picnic planning** is now underway. The next meeting  
will be held at **2 PM, Sunday, September 21st**

Twelve Step House, 205 SW 23 Ave., Ft. Lauderdale

**2025 Gratitude Dinner planning** is now underway. The next planning  
meeting will be held **Sunday, September 14th at 1:30 PM**

Pompano Beach Group, 110 E McNab Road, Pompano Beach

**Thanks so much to all the many Intergroup volunteers  
in Broward County - on the phones, in the office, Representing your  
Groups each month, serving on a Committee.**

**We could not do it without you!!**

**SERVICE KEEPS YOU SOBER**



# A.A. Birthdays

## September Celebrants

**Women's Honesty ~**  
53 yrs.

**Sober Today Club ~**  
14 yrs.

**Serenity in the Park (SWR)**

Carolina F. ~ 4 yrs.  
Angie ~ 3 yrs.  
Natasha ~ 4 yrs.  
Cristina M. ~ 36 yrs.  
Richie V. ~ 6 yrs.

**Living in the Solutions**

Joann E. ~ 1 yr.  
Roland ~ 1 yr.  
Lorraine ~ 8 yrs.  
Dan L. ~ 20 yrs.  
Bill S. ~ 40 yrs.  
Elle L. ~ 51 yrs.

**Into Action**

Karen D. ~ 24 yrs.

**Saturday Morning Awareness**

Nadine ~ 16 yrs.

**Rule 62**

Frannie C. ~ 8 yrs.

**Sober on the Beach**

Steven A. ~ 3 yrs.  
Peter N. ~ 4 yrs.

**Beyond Your Wildest Dreams**

Aileen W. ~ 30 yrs.

**Hollywood Men's**  
Leon ~ 18 yrs.

**Downtown Dry Dock**

Kathy R. ~ 19 yrs.  
Marlene A. ~ 19 yrs.  
Jessica ~ 12 yrs.  
Paul ~ 8 yrs.  
Mitch ~ 37 yrs.  
Walt ~ 42 yrs.

**Other Notables**

Scott W. ~ 32 yrs.  
Ed B. ~ 28 yrs.  
Peter H. ~ 28 yrs.  
Katia L. ~ 18 yrs.  
Carol B. ~ 35 yrs.  
Thom F. ~ 51 yrs.  
Collette D ~ 38 yrs.  
Jim N. ~ 47 yrs.  
Jami F. ~ 13 yrs.

**Joy of Sobriety**

Randall L. ~ 17 yrs.

**B.A.L.L.S.**

Tim B. ~ 22 yrs.  
Chino ~ 24 yrs.  
Alan P. ~ 40 yrs.

**Freedom From Alcohol**

Joe L. ~ 47 yrs.

**One Day at a Time**

Yvonne S. ~ 16 yrs.

**Sunlight of the Spirit**

Barbaree K. ~ 43 yrs.

**Tuesday Night Step**

Marty L. ~ 41 yrs.

**Let's Do Lunch Bunch**

Steve ~ 37 yrs.  
Carmen R. ~ 36 yrs.  
Darius ~ 11 yrs.

**Riverside Group**

Sheldon V. ~ 38 yrs.  
Patricia M. ~ 16 yrs.

**Serenity Sisters**

Kim B. ~ 26 yrs.  
Gwen C. ~ 13 yrs.

**Bottom Line Group**

Dennis ~ 24 yrs.

**Women's Honesty**

Helen ~ 43 yrs.  
Marissa ~ 15 yrs.

**Mountain Group**

Lisa D. ~ 43 yrs.

### Big Book Quote of the Month:

"Another principle we observe carefully is that we do not relate intimate experiences of another person unless we are sure he would approve. We find it better, when possible, to stick to our own stories. A man may criticize or laugh at himself and it will affect others favorably, but criticism or ridicule coming from another often produces the contrary effect."

*Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 125*

### BECOME A GRATEFUL GIVER

Set up regular monthly contributions to Intergroup using Zelle, PayPal or bank draft.

The next **Intergroup Meeting** will be held on  
**Sunday, September 21st**  
**at 1:00 PM**

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

### BCIC

Broward County Institutions Committee will hold their next meeting on

**Saturday, September 13**  
**at 10:00 AM**

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

### District 9 General Service

Meeting will be held on

**Sunday, Sept. 21 at 2:00 PM**

Sanctuary, 1400 N. Federal Hwy., FTL  
**New Rep Workshop at 12:30 PM**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS ....not previously mentioned**

**Living in the Solution**

Glenn ~ 2 yrs.  
Peter ~ 1 yr.

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE CELEBRATING A SOBER ANNIVERSARY THAT WOULD LIKE TO BE LISTED HERE?**

Let us know ahead of time at [help@aabroward.org](mailto:help@aabroward.org)

**AUGUST CONTRIBUTIONS**

Group Name	AUG	CYTD	Group Name	AUG	CYTD
441 Group		150	In Memorium	5000	5800
5-3-Zero		92	Intergroup Meeting	108	807.31
545 Happy Hour		585	Into Action		300
Acceptance Meeting		25	KIS Lunchtime	285	675
Alcoholics Anonymous	348.6	4222.02	Kiss Today	322.2	1098.55
Attitude of Gratitude	110	110	Lambda HALT	183.81	183.81
Back to Basics		50	Lambda Rising		600
Bayview Beginners		117	Let's Study the Book		50
Beyond Your Wildest Dreams		883.2	Lighthouse Point Group	90	120
Big Book Cafe		1200	Life in Recovery Group		253.12
Bonnaventure BB Group		250	Living in the Solution		915
Bottom Line Group		1049.58	Living in the Solution Virtual	146	1046
Brothers in Sobriety		295	Living Sober	100	200
Broward Women's		451	Lunch in Plantation		385
Broward Young People		212	Lunch Bunch Zoom		100
By Word of Mouth	212	212	Lunch Express	383.63	1440.97
Came to Believe		60	Made a Decision		298
Coconut Creek Group		140	Margate Group		25
Coral Springs As Bill Sees It		25	Melrose Park Group		216.94
Coral Springs Group	25	225	Men's Independence		300
Coral Springs Men's	75	150	Mid Day Sobriety	100	600
Dania After Work		180	New Beginnings		200
Davie Women's Group		680	New Day Group		400
Deerfield Bch Oldtimers		75	New Leaf Group		331.5
Deerfield Beach Study		440.88	New Way of Life		200
Don't Forget	360	840	Nooners		450
Each Day a New Beginning		5900	Noontime Sober Living	75	375
Early Risers		400	Noontime Sobriety Zoom		200
Easier Softer Way		2500	North Beach		116
East Naples Men's		2422	Oakland Park		388
Enjoy the Journey		330	Off the Hook		560.99
Eye Opener	200	200	Old Timers		1393
Ft Lauderdale Men's		77.67	One Day at a Time	51	294.97
Ft Lauderdale Women's		75	One Step at a Time		50
Free to Be Group		1600	Online Men's Independ		50
Freedom From Alcohol	175	390	Open Door		216
French Intergroup		250	Peace of Mind		150.07
Ft Lauderdale Twelve Step		757.14	Pembroke Pines Last Stand		290
FtL Primary Purpose BB Stdy		300	Perry Street South		597.13
Happy Joyous Free Zoom		390	Plantation Happy Hour		1034.97
Harbor Group		525	Pompano Beach Group	648.31	2079.72
Good Morning God	50	250	Pride 5:45	900	2579.85

Contributions continued on page 7



## AUGUST CONTRIBUTIONS (continued from page 6)

GROUP NAME	AUG	CYTD
Riverside	80	500.4
Rock Group		400
Rule 62		125
Russian Speaking AA		150
Sand Pebbles Group		250
Saturday Morning		200
Serenity at 630		200
Saturdays in the Park		500
Serenity in the Park East		253.5
Serenity in the Park-SWR	135	987.16
Serenity Sisters		400
Smell The Coffee Group		57.31
Sober on the Beach		300
Sober Seniors		469.02
Sober Today		100
Spiritual Principles		472.5
Splinter Group		918.8
Stepping Out		75
Sun AM Attitude of Gratitude		120
Sun Morning Together		200
Sunlight of the Spirit		100
Sunrise Serenity		136

GROUP NAME	AUG	CYTD
Surrender Group		100
Surrender is Freedom	70	445
Tamarac Group		15
The Anonymous Club		555.53
The Outsiders		613.38
Thurs Nt. Study		78
Traditions & Steps at 7	40.51	105.16
True Self 11th Step	75	150
Tuesday Night Step Group		40
University Big Book Study	45	248
Victor E		1001.79
Wed. Night As Bill Sees It		125
West Broward Women		93
Westside Men's Group		1246.9
Women's Fri Night BB Study	150	450
Women's Hope in Recovery		135
Women's Primary Purpose	50	107
Women's Sober Tribe	50	210
Women's Step by Step		80
Why It Works		238
YANA Group	100	650
YANA Online		984
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10,744.06</b>	<b>71,143.84</b>

### *Spiritual Principles Behind Step 9*

Responsibility—(noun)

1. The state or fact of having a duty to deal with something...
2. The state or fact of being accountable or to blame for something.

Justice—(noun)

1. The maintenance or administration of what is just...

Answers from page 4: inventory, malignant, negativism, sacrifice, responsibility, directories, convention, registered, criticize, intimate, contributions, sanctuary

### **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.

## MEETING CHANGES

Where and Whens are now being printed in-house, so they are always current. The majority of changes we've received in the past month are for online meetings, and as always the website has the most up-to-the-minute information available.

<https://aabroward.org/locations> or <https://aabroward.org/virtual-meetings>

### Monday

**NEW MEETING No Matter What** is a men's meeting at the Stirling Room in Davie. ODm 7 PM.

### Tuesday

**NEW MEETING Serenity at 7** at Stirling Room in Davie, OD 7 PM.

### Wednesday

**Chickee Group** has moved from Hollywood to Davie. The new address is First Seminole Baptist Church, 4701 Stirling Road. Time and format remain the same.

### Thursday

**NEW MEETING Women of Hope** is a women's meeting at the Stirling Room in Davie. ODw 7 PM.

### Daily

**The Stirling Room** has cancelled the following meetings: All 8/9 AM except on Friday, All 5:30 PM meetings except Friday, the 1 PM and 2 PM on Sunday and the 11:30 AM on Saturday.

## ***INTERGROUP PICNIC TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE \$12 EACH or 3/\$30***

### Upcoming Events

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Sept 6</b>     | <b>District 9 Spaghetti Dinner</b> Emma Lou Olson Center, 1801 NE 6th Street, Pompano Beach, 5 PM. Tickets are \$15 each. No pets allowed. Bring a dessert.  |
| <b>Sept 19-21</b> | <b>Women in Recovery Conference*</b> Opal Grand Hotel, Delray Beach. To register or purchase banquet tickets go to <a href="http://www.thewomeninrecovery.com">www.thewomeninrecovery.com</a> Workshops, speakers, raffles, fun. |
| <b>Sept 28</b>    | <b>District 9 How it Works Get-Together</b> Sanctuary, 1400 N Federal Hwy., Free event, food, Workshops  |
| <b>Oct. 26</b>    | <b>49th Intergroup Picnic</b> Snyder Park Caldwell Pavilion, 11 AM—4 PM, \$12 each or 3/\$30. Kids under 8 eat free. Food, fellowship (no loud music) raffles, and speakers.   |
| <b>Nov. 15</b>    | <b>District 9 Gratitude Dinner</b> 6-10 PM, First Baptist Church, 301 E Broward Blvd, FTL. Tickets available through your General Service Reps. Tickets needed to attend.  |

\*Not an AA-sanctioned event