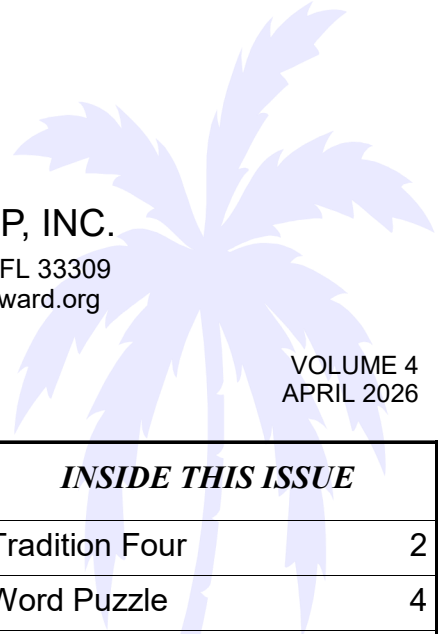




SUITE 404

BROWARD COUNTY INTERGROUP, INC.
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VOLUME 4
APRIL 2026



Step 4 - "Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

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Off with the Masks

As the month of October arrives, I contemplate Halloween and the whole idea of the masks we wear. As I walk through sobriety, I realize now the many layers of masks I wore as an active drunk.

When I was a teenager I drank to douse the pain. That was the first mask. I wanted to hide all my shame and all my dislike for my body. I did not like my skin. I covered my feelings up with alcohol.

In my 20s, I wanted so much to succeed and belong. Being a Mexican, I thought if I "acted white" enough, I could succeed in the world and make something of my life. I did what people told me to do. I got a college degree and worked really hard as a government employee. No matter what, I couldn't win. I was in so much pain with all the masks I wore, I had to drink to hide and to cope.

In my 30s, I was light years away from the truth. I drank and drank and drank. I was so lost by this time, I had to wear a mask to survive. I was able to fool everybody into thinking I was OK.

It wasn't until I was in my 40s that I got to the point where I couldn't wear a mask anymore. I found myself lying on the floor with a can of beer by my side. I was going to die if I didn't do something. So I decided to walk into the rooms of AA.

It was then that I was finally able to take my mask off for a few moments to ask for help, to let someone see my pain. As I learned to trust, I was finally able to take the mask off completely—with a sponsor—for my first Fourth Step inventory. I will never forget how she listened with such compassion and such patience and unconditional love. That woman saved my life. My mask came off, and my heart was on the table for inspection. It was time to pick up the pieces and start this healing work.

(continued on page 3)



62nd Appreciation Banquet Tickets are STILL ON SALE
\$60 each
Text inquiries to Mary at 786.286.4504

CONCEPT IV
At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

Tradition Four - "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole."

A Question of Safety

"I don't feel safe," someone at a meeting will share, or "Let's keep AA a safe place." And I will think, "Safe from whom? Safe from what? Safe from the outside world?" Perhaps, but it is more likely that the world needs to be kept safe from me should I pick up a drink, given my drinking history. *Safe*. Sometimes the word seems to float lonely, unattached, through the room, seeking a context. Sometimes, hearing the word, I feel, well, unsafe.

I noticed that the business meeting that normally followed the regularly scheduled meeting on the first Thursday of the month did not take place. The next month came and again no business meeting. The same thing the following month. I asked the chairperson about it. "We have business meetings when we feel like having business meetings," he said. I went to another member of the group. "We're not into business meetings," he said.

The group began to seem different. A group officer wandered around with the collections from the previous three weeks seeking to know who the treasurer was. The chairperson's personality seemed to intrude more on the meeting. Vacancies in some service positions went unfilled. The offerings on the literature table looked sparse. It became difficult to share simple things about sobriety at the meeting: the premium seemed to be on wit over sincerity.

Then, at the group's monthly anniversary meeting, the celebrants shared their gratitude for their year or years of recovery. At the secretary's break, the elderly manager of the center where we met asked for a few minutes of the group's time. She spoke with pain and anger. She said that we weren't cleaning up after ourselves. She said that time after time the meeting place was being left in disarray: chairs weren't put away, garbage was not disposed of, the floors weren't swept and mopped. She said that some group members, when she sought to discuss the problem, gave her the runaround, that they tried to con her with flip answers. "Keep it up and I'm going to put you out of here," she announced to the stunned group.

Each group has the right to be wrong (and the right to be right). Tradition Four tells us so. And yet, among the sweetest words I hear at any AA meeting these days are, "There's a business meeting following our regular meeting tonight. All group officers are asked to attend, and members of the group are encouraged to do so as well." A regularly scheduled business meeting increases the probability of group unity, of an informed group conscience rather than the whims of a few. It increases the probability that group officers will, along with the right to serve, have a sense of responsibility regarding their service commitment. A business meeting is a way of saying that we as members have a right to an accounting of our Seventh Tradition contributions with a treasurer's report. It is a way of allowing the general service representative, through his or her report, to introduce into the consciousness of the group the idea that the group is not an end in itself but part of

(continued on page 7)

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 1)

Since I've been in the rooms of AA, about five years now, I've learned to trust enough to not have to wear a mask. Yes, it's scary, and vulnerable, but I have no choice. I don't want to live in lies anymore. I want truth. "Progress, not perfection," we say.

There's a Treasure Valley Intergroup Halloween dance coming up. I'm thinking about going. I have yet to go to a dance sober! I might go and see what it's like. Will I wear a mask? Nah, I think I'll paint my face like Shiva, the God of fertility, for I feel fertile and vital. That's what truth does to a person—especially an alcoholic like me.

— Brenda M., Boise, ID

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Intergroup is now seeking Donations from Groups and Individuals to be Raffled off at our Appreciation Dinner.

The Basket Raffle is a critical part of the Fundraiser and also lots of fun.

All Gift Cards, Certificates, Cash welcome!!

**We need baskets or descriptions turned in to
office no later than April 23rd.**



LET'S HEAR IT FOR CHUCK!!!



The Intergroup Bookstore floors are shining again, thanks to our office
volunteer's elbow grease and Swiffer with a little Mop N Glo!
First time since before the pandemic!! Yahooooooo!!

General Service Office, NY

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

Bridging The Gap

877.207.2242

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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

TRIPNAOUTE
RAELSFSE
TORLAIDANTI
ROBELANESA
REVALBENLU
PEETNACTLOM



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

VESRIUV
NETAPECI
LEGHANI
SNUGRINE
ATSEERRUR
RICYTNISE

The 68th Florida State Convention (2026) in Orlando is only 4 months away.

Get registered. Buy banquet tickets.

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

The next planning meeting for the **2026 Founder's Day Picnic** will be held on

Saturday, April 25th at 12:30 PM

at the 101 Club, 700 SW 10th Street, Pompano Beach

The next planning meeting for the **69th Florida State Convention** (to be held in Ft. Lauderdale)

will be held at **Residences at Equality Park**, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy., Wilton Manors

on **Saturday, April 25th at 9 AM**

Volunteers are needed for over 20 committees. Come find out how you can serve.

Please make sure your group's raffle donation for the Banquet or the [detailed description and value of such](#) is sent to the office via email to

Help@aabroward.org **NO LATER THAN**

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD

so that it can be listed among the other gift items in the raffle program for the evening. This helps eliminate crowding at baskets.

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!

SERVICE KEEPS YOU SOBER



A.A. Birthdays

April Celebrants

Bottom Line Group

Natasha ~ 6 yrs.

One Day at a Time

Jimmy ~ 5 yrs.

Serenity Sisters

Shirley ~ 39 yrs.

Sally ~ 4 yrs.

Colleen ~ 6 yrs.

Sunlight of the Spirit

Susan H. ~ 38 yrs.

Cathi D. ~ 5 yrs.

Express Group

Joanna P. ~ 22 yrs.

Iris S. ~ 39 yrs.

Edna C. ~ 16 yrs.

**Serenity in the Park—
SWR**

Joanie D. ~ 1 yr.

Veronica D. ~ 1 yr.

Stuart M. ~ 2 yrs.

Victor E.

Joe G. ~ 28 yrs.

East Naples

Paul B. ~ 41 yrs.

Oakland Park

Paul P. ~ 39 yrs.

Margate Group

Robin G. ~ 17 yrs.

Early Risers

Steve L. ~ 27 yrs.

Davie Women's

Barbara N. ~ 21 yrs.

Colleen C. ~ 25 yrs.

Toni J. ~ 25 yrs.

Sandee L. ~ 35 yrs.

Eileen G. ~ 53 yrs.

Womens Honesty

Alexis H. ~ 10 yrs.

Phyllis K. ~ 53 yrs.

Lunch Bunch

Evonne M. ~ 13 yrs.

Mountain Group

Michelle O. ~ 17 yrs.

Craig L. ~ 19 yrs.

Rob B. ~ 42 yrs.

New Day

Lilla ~ 7 yrs.

Riverside Group ~ 41

yrs.

One Day at a Time ~

36 yrs.

Let's Do Lunch Bunch

~ 35 yrs.

Sunlight of the Spirit

~ 22 yrs.

Sunrise Serenity

Mike M. ~ 46 yrs.

**Big Book
Quote of the Month:**

"More than most people, the alcoholic leads a double life. He is very much the actor. To the outer world he presents his stage character. This is the one he likes his fellows to see. He wants to enjoy a certain reputation, but knows in his heart he doesn't deserve it."

Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 73

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, April 19th

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, April 11th
at 10:00 AM**

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

District 9 General Service

Meeting will be held on

Sunday, April 19th at 2 PM

Sanctuary, 1400 N. Federal Hwy., FTL

New Rep Workshop at 12:30 PM

MARCH CELEBRANTS

not previously mentioned....

Into Action

Sharon G. ~ 40 yrs.

Sandy S. ~ 23 yrs.

Let's Do Lunch Bunch

Tony A. ~ 16 yrs.

Life in Recovery

Mitzi ~ 40 yrs.

Jill ~ 13 yrs.

Deerfield Beach Oldtimers

Ron ~ 41 yrs.

Lisa ~ 35 yrs.

Steve ~ 29 yrs.

Serenity Sisters

Jolie ~ 2 yrs.

A Step at a Time

Robin P. ~ 38 yrs.

Life in Recovery Group ~

39 yrs.

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

Let us know,
help@aabroward.org

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

MARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP NAME	MARCH	CYTD
545 Happy Hour		325.00
Alcoholics Anonymous	864.85	2,170.21
Back to Basics	100.00	200.00
Boca Men's Group		183.40
Brothers in Sobriety		100.00
Broward Men's	138.50	138.50
Coral Springs Group	25.00	75.00
Daily Reflects w/Pride		524.86
Dania After Work		180.00
Deerfield Beach Study	378.99	378.99
Downtown Big Book	216.00	216.00
Each Day a New Beginning		2,085.00
Early Riser Group		400.00
East Naples Men's		817.00
Fort Laud Twelve Step		500.00
Fort Laud Women's		25.00
Ft Laud Primary Purpose		100.00
Free Thinkers	350.00	350.00
Free To Be Zoom	1,080.00	1,080.00
Freedom From Alcohol	100.00	200.00
French Intergroup	250.00	250.00
Good Morning God		100.00
IN Memorium		1,500.00
Intergroup Meeting	117.00	413.00
Into Action		90.00
KISS Today		213.30
Language of the Heart	70.00	70.00
Lambda Rising		125.00
Life in Recovery		70.00
Living in the Solution		465.00
Living in Solution - Virtual	170.00	343.00
Living Sober		100.00
Lunch Bunch Plantation		140.00
Lunch Express	394.62	394.62
Made a Decision		5.45
Margate Men's Bk Study	100.00	100.00
Mid Day Sobriety	100.00	200.00
New Beginnings		265.76
New Way of Life		100.00
Noontime Sober Living		400.00
Oakland Park Group	157.00	684.00
Old Timers Group	305.50	510.50
One Day at a Time	21.38	121.28

GROUP NAME	MARCH	CYTD
Open Door		253.00
Peace of Mind Group		303.84
Pembroke Pines Last Stand		222.00
Perry Street South	324.50	324.50
Plantation Happy Hour		705.35
Riverside Group	39.00	111.00
Rule 62		105.00
Russian Speaking AA	150.00	150.00
Sand Pebbles		200.00
Saturday Morning	75.00	125.00
Serenity Hour	81.50	190.63
Serenity in Park East	67.75	67.75
Serenity in Park-SWR	225.00	585.00
Smell The Coffee Group		10.37
Sober Seniors		544.00
Sobriety 101		49.00
Spiritual Principles		0.00
Spiritual Principles Lambda		150.00
Splinter group	909.20	1653.20
Sunlight of the Spirit	0.08	0.08
Sunrise Serenity		116.66
Surrender Group	150.00	150.00
Surrender is Freedom		20.00
The Anonymous Group		139.05
The Outsiders		204.30
Traditions & Steps at 7p	41.00	83.00
True Self Group	75.00	75.00
Tuesday Nt. Step Group		83.00
University Big Book	45.00	125.00
Victor E		750.00
Westside Men's Group		527.65
Why It Works		162.00
Women's Fri. Nt. BB Study	144.00	144.00
Women's Primary Purpose		46.00
Women's Sober Tribe	25.00	50.00
Women's Step by Step		120.00
You Are Not Alone	100.00	330.00
You're Off the Hook		308.99
TOTALS	5,696.67	24,200.04

Thank you, thank you,
thank you!

(continued from page 2)

the service structure beyond it. It is a way of ensuring that we take our inventory so our hosts won't have to. It is a way of saying we care.

Safe from each other and safe for each other, and safe for the person coming in behind us, the alcoholic who still suffers--that is what I think *safe* means. Safe through our Twelve Traditions from the irresponsibility that was such a feature of my active alcoholism.

— David S. | New York, New York

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Things we cannot change.....

Bart C., John G., Doug C., Joe F., Fred S. and Billy H.



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

Answers from page 4: reputation, fearless, traditional, reasonable, vulnerable, contemplate, survive, patience, healing, ensuring, treasurer, sincerity

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 receive every 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

10 & 11 at 7 which met at Sober Today Club in Hollywood at 7 PM NO LONGER MEETS.

Wednesday

The Turning Point which met at Sober Today Club in Hollywood at 10:30 AM NO LONGER MEETS.

Friday

Rise and Shine meeting that was at the Stirling Room in Davie at 9 AM NO LONGER MEETS.

Saturday

Saturday in the Park women's meeting that was in Cooper City NO LONGER MEETS.

Daily

NEW MEETING On Awakening meets at 7 AM Mon—Fri at the Stirling Room in Davie. OD

Daily Dose that met at Sober Today Club in Hollywood at noon NO LONGER MEETS.

Serenity in the Park in Southwest Ranches has changed the meeting times back to 5:30 PM, 7 days a week.

Serenity in the Park in Hollywood has changed the meeting times M-F back to 5:30 PM.

Sunrise Serenity that was started at West Broward Club in Davie at 7 AM NO LONGER MEETS.



*HAPPY EASTER HAPPY
PASSOVER HAPPY SPRING*



Upcoming Events

- Apr. 10-12** **South Florida Area 15 Assembly** Boca Raton Marriott, speakers, workshops and business meeting with third legacy on Sunday.
- Apr. 11** **Bunny Bingo BBQ*** hosted by Lambda South Clubhouse, will be held at First Presbyterian, 451 N Tarpon Drive from 6:30-10 PM. This is a club fundraiser. For tickets or more information go to lambdasouth.com
- Apr. 26** **62nd Intergroup Appreciation Dinner** Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Dania, 4 PM — 8 PM, must have ticket in advance, \$60, 4 course meal, 2 speakers, basket raffle.
- May 7-10** **Big Book Seminar 2026**, presented by the Paul Revere Group in the spirit of “Joe and Charlie”. Boca Raton Town Center Marriott. Register online www.bigbookseminar.org
- May 24** **District 9 Old Timer's** presented by Archives Committee. Deerfield Beach Women's Club, 910 E. Hillsboro Blvd., Deerfield. Fellowship 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM
- June 7** **Founder's Day Picnic** Snyder Park, Fort Lauderdale 11 AM—4 PM . Hosted by District 9.

*Not an AA-sanctioned event.