



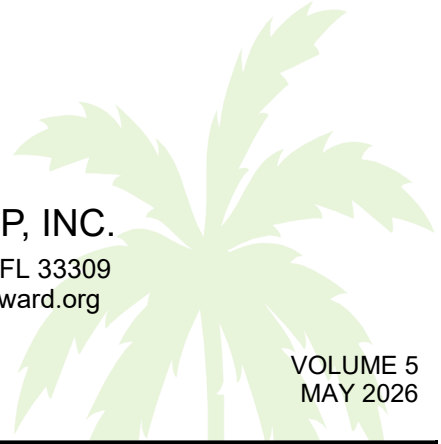
# SUITE 404

BROWARD COUNTY INTERGROUP, INC.

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VOLUME 5  
MAY 2026



**Step 5** - "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

## A day at the museum

It was a cold and stormy morning when I awoke. Getting my kids to school as a stay-at-home sober mom was much easier now. Of course, when I was drunk, it was a nearly impossible task. And let me not forget to mention that we lived directly across the street from school!

On this particular day, I was getting to chaperone a field trip to the Art Institute of Chicago. I had been to the museum before with my kids, as my mom had a lifetime membership for our family to use. But during my drinking days, trying to get three kids, age 5 and under, to the museum with a double hangover was impossible. One time I had tried to take them, the kids had to pick me up when I fell down walking up the museum steps.

A few days before today's field trip, I had completed my Fifth Step with my sponsor. I have to say it was a spiritual experience. When my sponsor came to the house that morning to do it, all my kids just kind of disappeared and took a nap. Now that was a miracle!

When I got sober in 1993, I had no help with childcare and would take my kids to AA meetings so I could get one in every day. Those old-timers at the New Valentine clubhouse welcomed not only me but my kids as well. We sat at a back table and they colored and I listened, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. They bought my kids coloring books and crayons, and one member, Gene, always had some extra change and gave it to me, saying, "Stop off at the store and get the kids a treat."

After I got my two younger children to school, I met up with my older daughter's class and did service with the other parents at the school. And I thought about how, when I was drinking, I'd spent days peering out the venetian blinds of our home, watching the other parents (continued on page 3)

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### Integrity:

*firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic value*

Merriam-Webster

### CONCEPT V

Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

**Tradition Five** - "Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

## Special Forum In Rimouski, Quebec

On Saturday, August 11, 323 members of AA, AA's General Service Board, and General Service Office (GSO) and Grapevine staff came together for a special forum in the village of Rimouski, located on the shore of the Saint Lawrence River in the upper reaches of Quebec. Tom K., acting Eastern Canada regional trustee, welcomed the largely French-speaking participants in their home language. Leonard Blumenthal, class A trustee and chairman of the General Service Board, explained the purpose of special forums in his opening remarks: Established in 1979, these forums were designed to foster communication between the General Service Board and AA members living in remote or isolated parts of North America. Next year, special forums will be replaced by local forums, which will be organized by local groups rather than the General Service Board, and will focus on the specific needs of their AA community.

Staff of the General Service Office (GSO) and the Grapevine kicked off the day's events with presentations about the general service structure, the General Service Board, AA Grapevine, Inc., and AA World Services. The coordinator of La Vigne AA, North America's French-language magazine, followed suit with an informative talk on the origin of the magazine and the ways it serves the Fellowship.

In the afternoon, General Service Conference delegates from the region gave a lively series of talks on the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts, moderated by Real M., chair of the Rimouski host committee. A question from the floor sparked a lively discussion during the sharing session that followed. "Since many people come to AA today addicted to drugs and alcohol, shouldn't AA welcome everyone?" an AA member asked. About twenty people responded, sharing their experience with newcomers, their home groups, and AA literature, such as the pamphlet containing Bill W.'s article, "Problems Other Than Alcohol." The Southeastern Quebec delegate's presentation on Tradition Seven contributions to the group evoked passionate discussion from the floor as well. "What is the value of my comfort, my joy, my peace of mind, and the feeling of being useful?" he asked. "Isn't this worth the cost of a cup of coffee?"

Later that night, Leonard Blumenthal's presentation, "Let's Be Friendly with Our Friends," invited sharing on what groups in the community are doing to make sure that professionals know about our program. "This work begins with me," said one participant. "I need to let my own doctors know that I'm available to help when one of their alcoholic patients wants help." Another described how his group approached local police and a school with information about AA.

After a powerful three-speaker AA meeting on Sunday morning, there was time for one last sharing session. Here, many AAs who had never addressed a group this size before spoke of how moved they were by the work being done to help alcoholics (continued on page 7)

(continued from page 1)

and always feeling less than.

This day at the museum though, I had a group of five girls, all around 8 years old. My biggest challenge was not to lose any of them. We boarded the Archer Avenue bus and headed into downtown Chicago, about 20 minutes away. It was the same bus that took me to my first meeting of AA.

When we boarded the bus, I got the overwhelming feeling that I was in a safe place. It was sort of a magical moment. My Fourth Step had seemed to put me in a position of neutrality. I no longer felt the need to be at the top of the heap or to see myself as hiding underneath it.

As I looked around the bus and my eyes scanned my fellow riders, I realized we all were the same. I felt in that moment as though I had joined the human race, that I was connected with my fellow human beings in a way I hadn't been before. It was the end of isolation and the beginning of my new life. And wouldn't you know it, I even spotted another member of AA. The Fifth Step had allowed me to feel the presence of God. I always knew he was there, but I had lost him along the way.

I have to say chaperoning for my daughter's class was the start of many more similar events in my sobriety. And I'm happy to say that I did not lose any children in my group that day, nor did I fall up or down the steps of the Art Institute.

— Diane D., Chicago

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## About the Banquet . . .



The 62nd Intergroup Appreciation Banquet was a sold-out event with 320 people and over 50 baskets donated by groups!! It was a record-breaking fundraiser and we really appreciate all the support from groups and individuals that helped make it a truly special event!! Thank you all so very much!!

Please, also help us pray for the individual(s) who took home baskets they had not actually won. We had at least 3 winners who went to collect their winnings and found the baskets already gone. We, at Intergroup, feel so sorry that this happened at our event and promise to have more "coverage" of the baskets at future events.



The floral arrangements were provided for the event at a discount, by HOORAY'S FOR HOLLYWOOD, and were gorgeous, as always.



Thank you, again, to everyone who came out and/or supported the event!

### 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.

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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

CREESVGINA  
 GEUNOPRRTI  
 LEEHAGNCL  
 LUTTRENYIA  
 SOONITAIL  
 GLARNEOI



*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.*

TUTERRCUS  
 LAPYTISHITO  
 SEEDTAGLE  
 NYMUCTIMO  
 DURFSENO  
 RUSMOECT

The 68th Florida State Convention (2026) in Orlando is only 3 months away.

**Get registered. Buy banquet tickets.**

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

The next two planning meetings for the **2026 Founder’s Day Picnic** will be held on

**Saturday, May 16th at 12:30 PM**

and

**Saturday, May 30th 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)*

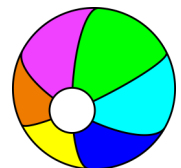
will be held at **Residences at Equality Park**, 2040 N. Dixie Hwy., Wilton Manors

on **Saturday, May 23rd at 9 AM**

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

*It takes an ARMY of Volunteers to host a State Convention — come find out what you can do for the Convention on the beach!*

- |                 |              |            |             |                  |
|-----------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------------|
| REGISTRATION    | GREETERS     | SECURITY   | DECORATIONS | ENTERTAINMENT    |
| HOSPITALITY     | MERCHANDISE  | PROGRAM    | READY SQUAD | GRAPHICS         |
| TRANSPORTATION  | ARCHIVES     | PICKLEBALL | AL-ANON     | YOUNG PEOPLE     |
| LGBT            | GRAPEVINE    | BANQUET    | YOGA        | BEACH VOLLEYBALL |
| ACCESSIBILITIES | INSTITUTIONS | COFFEE     | GOLF        | WALK/RUN         |



**SERVICE KEEPS YOU SOBER**



# A.A. Birthdays

## May Celebrants

**Serenity in the Park—  
SWR**

Greg T. ~ 5 yrs.

**Sunlight of the Spirit**

Amy R. ~ 44 yrs.  
Cookie ~ 29 yrs.

**Serenity Sisters**

Lisa K. ~ 13 yrs.  
Joyce ~ 31 yrs.  
Lisa D. ~ 17 yrs.  
Ruth ~ 39 yrs.

**Ft. Lauderdale  
Women's**

Jan S. ~ 41 yrs.  
Jen ~ 17 yrs.

**5:45 Happy Hour**

Linden ~ 40 yrs.

**Sober on the Beach**

Andrew K. ~ 5 yrs.

**Sunshine Group**

Dave A. ~ 15 yrs.

**Happy Joyous & Free**

Peggy D. ~ 22 yrs.

**Living in the Solution**

Arlene R. ~ 7 yrs.  
Billy E. ~ 9 yrs.  
Glenn H. ~ 11 yrs.  
Nancy H. ~ 15 yrs.

**12 Steppers Men's**

Mike O. ~ 4 yr.  
Mike B. ~ 13 yrs.

**One Day at A Time**

Sterling R. ~14 yrs.

**We Came to Stay ~ 40 yrs.**

**Express Group**

Jodi W. ~ 25 yrs.  
Donna H. ~ 18 yrs.  
Jane C. ~ 13 yrs.  
Bobby ~ 14 yrs.  
Lisa ~ 32 yrs.

**Women's Honesty**

Kelly M. ~ 5 yrs.  
Patrisia L. ~ 11 yrs.  
Ilana H. ~ 10 yrs.

**Plantation Happy  
Hour**

Keith N. ~ 11 yrs.  
Howard S. ~ 11 yrs.  
Lou P. ~ 26 yrs.  
Robin S. ~ 32 yrs.

**Big Book  
Quote of the Month:**

"We went back through our lives. Nothing counted but thoroughness and honesty. When we were finished we considered it carefully.

*Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 65*

**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, May 17th**  
**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, May 9th**  
**at 10:00 AM**

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

**District 9 General Service**

Meeting will be held on

**Sunday, May 17th at 2 PM**

Sanctuary, 1400 N. Federal Hwy., FTL

**New Rep Workshop at 12:30 PM**

## APRIL CELEBRANTS

not previously mentioned....

**Sunrise Serenity**

Mike M. ~ 47 yrs.

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

Let us know, [help@aabroward.org](mailto:help@aabroward.org)

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**

**APRIL CONTRIBUTIONS**

GROUP NAME	APRIL	CYTD
11th Step Conscious Contact	120.00	120.00
441 Group	100.00	100.00
545 Happy Hour		325.00
Alcoholics Anonymous	642.41	2,812.62
Back to Basics	100.00	300.00
Boca Men's Group		183.40
Brothers in Sobriety	100.00	200.00
Broward Men's		138.50
Broward Women's	235.00	235.00
Coral Springs Group	25.00	100.00
Daily Reflections with Pride		524.86
Dania After Work		180.00
Davie Women's Group	160.00	160.00
Deerfld Bch Study		378.99
Downtown Big Book		216.00
Each Day a New Beginning		2,085.00
Early Riser Group	400.00	800.00
East Naples Men's	739.20	1,556.20
Fort Laud Twelve Step		500.00
Fort Laud Women's		25.00
Fort Laud Primary Purpose		100.00
Free Thinkers		350.00
Free to Be	600.00	600.00
Free To Be Zoom		1,080.00
Freedom From Alcohol	235.00	435.00
French Intergroup		250.00
Fresh Start Beginners	2.08	2.08
Happy Joyous & Free	170.00	170.00
Harbor Group	200.00	200.00
Good Morning God Group		100.00
Imperial Point Sunday Night	200.00	200.00
IN Memorium		1,500.00
Intergroup Meeting	85.00	498.00
Into Action	60.00	150.00
KISS Today		213.30
Language of the Heart		70.00
Lambda Rising		125.00
Life in Recovery	60.00	130.00
Living in the Solution	419.00	884.00
Living in the Solution Virtual	161.00	504.00
Living Sober		100.00
Lunch Bunch in Plantation		140.00
Lunch Express		394.62

GROUP NAME	APRIL	CYTD
Made a Decision		5.45
Margate Men's Book Study		100.00
Mid Day Sobriety	100.00	300.00
New Beginnings		265.76
New Way of Life		100.00
Nooners	200.00	200.00
Noontime Sober Living	600.00	1,000.00
North Beach Group	60.00	60.00
Oakland Park Group		684.00
Old Timers Group	669.02	1,179.52
One Day at a Time	63.00	184.28
Open Door		253.00
Peace of Mind Group		303.84
Pembroke Pines Last Stand		222.00
Perry Street South		324.50
Plantation Happy Hour	300.00	1,005.35
Pride 545	1,308.00	1,308.00
Riverside Group		111.00
Rule 62		105.00
Russian Speaking AA		150.00
Sandpebbles		200.00
Saturday Morning Group	75.00	200.00
Serenity Hour	51.50	242.13
Serenity in the Park East		67.75
Serenity in the Park-SWR	225.00	810.00
Smell The Coffee Group		10.37
Sober Seniors		544.00
Sobriety 101		49.00
Spiritual Principles Lambda		150.00
Splinter group		1,653.20
Sunlight of the Spirit		0.08
Sunrise Serenity		116.66
Surrender Group		150.00
Surrender is Freedom Group		20.00
The Anonymous Club	163.88	302.93
The Outsiders		204.30
Traditions & Steps at 7p	30.00	113.00
True Self Group		75.00
Tuesday Nt. Step Group		83.00
University Big Book	40.00	165.00
Victor E		750.00
Westside Men's Group	369.36	897.01

**April contributions continued on page 7...**

(continued from page 2)

in their community and by the extraordinary network of AA support throughout North America. "I used to think the people in the New York office were AA bosses," admitted one member. "But this forum has given us a chance to feel close to them. This is a meeting where we are all one, and all working to make sure AA is there for suffering alcoholics." He summed up the feelings of many in the room, as we went back to our home groups, our service positions, and our offices, strengthened by one another at this historic meeting, the last special forum to date.

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**APRIL CONTRIBUTIONS** *continued from page 6*

GROUP NAME	APRIL	CYTD
Why It Works	120.00	282.00
Womens Friday Nit. BB Study		144.00
Women's Hope in Recovery	260.00	260.00
Women's Primary Purpose		46.00
Women's Sober Tribe	20.00	70.00
Women's Step by Step		120.00
You Are Not Alone	66.67	396.67
YANA Online	375.00	375.00
You're Off the Hook		308.99
TOTALS	9,910.12	35,804.36

Thank you, thank you,  
 thank you to all the groups and  
 individuals who support  
 Intergroup!!  
 We couldn't do it without you!



Answers from page 4: grievances, intergroup, challenge, neutrality, isolation, regional, structure, hospitality, delegates, community, founders, customer

**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>

### Friday

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

### Saturday

**Free and Easy** which met in Davie NO LONGER MEETS.

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

### Daily

**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.



## Upcoming Events

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>May 7-10</b> | <b>Big Book Seminar* 2026</b> , presented by the Paul Revere Group in the spirit of "Joe and Charlie". Boca Raton Town Center Marriott. Register online <a href="http://www.bigbookseminar.org">www.bigbookseminar.org</a> |
| <b>May 24</b>   | <b>District 9 Old Timer's</b> presented by Archives Committee. Deerfield Beach Women's Club, 910 E. Hillsboro Blvd., Deerfield. Fellowship 6 PM, Meeting 7 PM. Bring a newcomer and a dessert.                             |
| <b>June 7</b>   | <b>Founder's Day Picnic</b> Snyder Park, Fort Lauderdale 11 AM—4 PM . Hosted by District 9. Tickets \$15 in advance and \$18 at gate.  |
| <b>June 20</b>  | <b>AA Trivia Game</b> hosted by Intergroup at the Twelve Step House. \$10 to attend. 215 SW 23rd Street, Ft. Lauderdale. Fun and prizes. 1:30-4:30 PM.   |
| <b>July 18</b>  | <b>Customer Appreciation Day</b> Intergroup Bookstore, 3317 NW 10th Terrace, Oakland Park, Sales, Refreshments, Door prizes, Raffle. 11 AM—3 PM  |

\*Not an AA-sanctioned event.