



The

Today

Palm Beach County Intergroup Association



September
2011

1371 Okeechobee Road West Palm Beach, FL 33401 561-655-5700 Fax 561-655-6441
www.aa-palmbeachcounty.org Email: pbcia@bellsouth.net

Palm Beach County Intergroup's 35th Annual Potluck Dinner Saturday, September 17th, 2011 Finland House

301 Finlandia Blvd, Lantana, FL 33462

From the North: I-95 to Lantana Rd, East to N Federal Hwy, South to Finlandia Blvd, right turn for Finland House.

From the South: I-95 to Hypoluxo Rd, East to S Federal Hwy, North to Finlandia Blvd, left turn for Finland House.

Tickets \$8.00

Please bring a covered dish or dessert

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Speakers: 8:00 PM

Guest Speaker

50/50 Raffle

Limited Seating

Only 500 Tickets

For tickets and information contact the Intergroup Office: 561.655.5700 / pbciaa@bellsouth.net

The 9th Tradition & Me

To the world, a tradition that tells us not to be organized looks foolish. Yet, this tradition has led A.A. to be "a society without organization, animated only by the spirit of service – a true fellowship." I had never encountered a true fellowship before I entered A.A. People come to an A.A. meetings to help other people without wanting anything back. The idea that the only way we can have a true fellowship is without organization is a startling idea. The 9th Tradition tells me that if I am not willing to organize myself and others, but to let God do the organizing, I have a chance of developing good relationships. The two words that describe the ninth tradition in my life are "divine order". When I let go and stop trying to do the organizing and let God show me what to do, "divine order" takes over in my life. The first nine steps delivered me from the bondage (*Continued on Page 4*)

Big Book Study Workshop Sat. & Sun.

September 17th & 18th

8:30am - 4:30pm

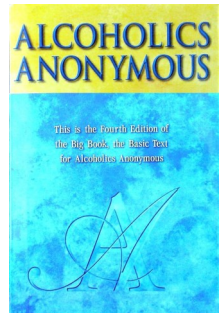
**At the Triangle Club
in the Serenity Room**

Hosted by

The Good Morning Group.

For More Info. Contact Ann

@ 772.672.1230



Intergroup's Purpose

To serve our associated groups in carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic according to the principles of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of A.A., always remembering that our common welfare comes first.

Group Spotlight

Welcome to "Group Spotlight". Each month, a Group at random will be spotlighted to present it's meeting time, format, history, location, and any other interesting tid-bits of information to encourage and inform our members who wish to attend other meetings or simply to get to know other Groups. To begin, let's start at the beginning with our oldest Group, The Lake Worth Group.

Name: The Lake Worth Group

Meeting Day: Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Location: 3730 Kirk Road @ the Holy Redeemer Episcopal Church, Lake Worth

Format: Open Speaker Discussion

History: In 1945, Steve H. returning home from World War II, placed an ad in the Lake Worth Herald inviting people who "If You Have a Drinking Problem" to reply to a Post Office Box number. He received many replies, mostly from people who had moved from the North. Among these replies was one from "Uncle Joe" who had been sober since 1940. The first meeting of the Lake Worth Group was held on December 15, 1945. This meeting, and perhaps a few others, was held at the former Woman's Club building on Lake Avenue and Federal Highway. The first new member of the Lake Worth Group was "P.O." the publisher and editor of the Lake Worth Herald, who had answered Steve's first newspaper advertisement. Shortly thereafter, the meetings were moved to the Lake Worth Christian Church on North "A" Street. Then probably about 1950, the group relocated to St. Andrews Episcopal Church where meetings continued every Wednesday evening. In 1998, the group relocated to The Calvary Methodist Church on First Street. In 2008 the group again relocated to their present location at the Holy Redeemer Church on Lakewood and Kirk Road.

Meeting: With an average meeting attendance of 50+ members and guests, the group has a majority of members with long term sobriety, many in the double digits of 20 years or more. This medium size meeting has the comfort and intimacy of a small group, while also having the stability and experience found in most larger meetings.

BIRTHDAY CLUB

★ August Celebrants ★

Susan C.	32 Years	Bill B.	30 Years
Louis S.	19 Years	Joyce L.	12 Years
Lori G.	10 Years	Deborah P.	2 Years
Lindsey Y.	2 Years		

★ September Celebrants ★

John H.	40 Years	John W.	27 Years
Alex A.	22 Years	Ed B.	22 Years
Cathy C.	15 Years	John K.	15 Years
Wayne E.	15 Years	Lauren E.	15 Years
Bernard W.	14 Years	Katie C.	13 Years
Ann C.	12 Years	Barry L.	10 Years
Mark P.	9 Years	Kevin D.	6 Years
David S.	4 Years	Wendy S.	4 Years
Ann G.	4 Years		



Gift Certificate

Palm Beach County Intergroup

The Perfect Gift !

Gift Certificates now available at the Intergroup Office.

JOIN THE BIRTHDAY CLUB!

Celebrate your years of recovery by giving a little something back!

You get:

Bill & Bob Medallion, Birthday Flyer, and Name in the TODAY newsletter.*

Complete this form and mail to:

Birthday Club, 1371 Okeechobee Road, WPB FL 33401

Or email us at: pbciaa@bellsouth.net.

\$1 per year of sobriety is the suggested donation.
(Feel free to give more!)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Email : _____

Home Group : _____

Sobriety Date: ____/____/____

Phone # () ____ - ____

DONATION: \$ _____

* Deadline for new submissions for Today printing is the last Wednesday 1 month prior to sobriety month.



Financial Reports

Palm Beach County Intergroup Operating Report – 8/01/2011 - 8/31/2011

Revenues:	
Literature Sales	\$3,762.52
Sales Tax	\$222.70
Tax Exempt Sales	\$36.00
Group Contributions	\$1,322.81
Picnic Tickets	\$120.00
Picnic Deposit Refund	\$250.00
Potluck Dinner Tickets	\$184.00
Today Subscriptions	\$12.00
Birthday Club Memberships	\$110.00
Meeting Basket	\$43.00
Total Revenues:	\$6063.03
Expenses:	
Literature Purchases	\$2,435.24
Sales Tax	\$199.32
Potluck Dinner Expenses	\$39.88
Lee's Tapes	\$65.00
Office Salary	\$2,461.52
FICA & Unemployment Tax	\$188.31
Health Insurance	\$500.00
Paychex (monthly fee)	\$69.00
Rent & Water	\$475.00
AT&T (Internet, Phone, Website)	\$320.74
FP&L	\$28.77
FP&L Deposit	\$257.00
Exterminating	\$35.00
Printing	\$205.00
Office Supplies / Postage	\$173.99
Total Expenses	\$7,453.77
Monthly Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$1,390.74)
Checking Account Balance	\$4,289.98
Prudent Reserve Interest	0.63
Prudent Reserve Balance	\$19,545.85

Palm Beach County Intergroup **Institutions Committee** Operating Report – 8/01/2011 - 8/31/2011

Beginning Balance	\$11,971.88
Income:	
Group Contributions	
After Hours Group	\$412.91
Total Income	\$412.91
Expenses:	
Where & When	\$0.00
Big Books	\$1246.00
Printing	\$23.00
Rent	\$60.00
Total Expenses	\$1329.00
Monthly Profit/Loss	(\$916.09)
Ending Balance	\$11,055.79

Office Activity in August

- 12 Step Requests – 4
- Other information - 46
- Bridging The Gap - 0
- Institutions – 0
- Request for meeting info – 189
- Public Information – 3
- Visitors – 210
- AA Emails – 183
- **Total Activity – 635**

Website Visits in August

- 1st time visits – 1833
- Return visits – 436
- **Total Visitors – 2269**

Tomorrow

September 17th: 35th Annual Pot Luck Dinner @ Finland House in Lantana. Tickets \$8, Special Guest Speaker. Contact Intergroup Office for info & tickets.

September 17th - 18th: Big Book Study Workshop. 8:30am - 4:30pm @ Triangle Club in Serenity Room. Hosted by The Good Moring Group. Info: Ann - 772-672-1230

September 20th: Friends of Bill W. Groups' 8th Anniversary & Pot Luck Dinner. All are welcome. Dinner at 6pm, 2 Speakers starting at 7pm. Located at Mary Immaculate Church - 500 Spencer Dr. West Palm Beach, FL

September 23rd - 25th: FCYPAA (Florida Conference of Young People in A.A.) Cocoa Beach, FL For more info: www.fcypaa2011.net

October 2: Institutions Committee Meeting @ Triangle Club (4:30pm - Orientation) 5:00pm Committee Meeting.

October 5th: Intergroup Committee Chair Meeting 6:15pm @ Intergroup Office. All are welcome to attend.

October 9th: General Service, District 8 Meeting 5:00pm @ Triangle Club.

October 12th: Intergroup Business Meeting 6:15pm @ Intergroup Office.

October 16th: SPBC Intergroup's 8th Annual Serenity Scramble Golf Tournament. At Delray Beach Golf Club. Info: www.aainpalmbeach.org

October 22nd: Concepts Workshop 2pm - 5pm @ Intergroup Office. All are welcome to attend. Drinks and snacks will be served. For more info contact Intergroup @ 561-655-5700

November 19th: SPBC Intergroup's 23rd Annual Gratitude Dinner @ Embassy Suites, 661 NW 53rd St., Boca Raton For tickets call SPBC Intergroup 561-276-4851

Traditions & Concepts Panel & Skit

Hosted by District 8 Traditions Committee.

We will come to your Group and provide a Traditions or Concepts Panel or Skit. Please contact Pam @ 561.319.8011

FRIENDS OF BILL W.



Please join us for our Groups' 8th Anniversary & Pot Luck Dinner on September 20th
Dinner at 6pm & 2 Speakers at 7pm
Mary Immaculate Church
500 Spencer Dr. W.P.B.

(The 9th Tradition and Me continued from Front Page)

of my past experiences with alcohol. I finally arrived at the place where I could say, "I have totally faced my past. And there is nothing left in my past that I'm ashamed of. There's nothing left that hurts anymore. There's nothing left in my past that's painful. There's nothing left in my past I need to forgive or need to be forgiven for. I'm at total oneness and peace with my past." Well, that's a tremendous statement to be able to say. That's an enormous statement for any person to be able to say about their life. And that's what the first nine steps give me. Similarly, the first nine Traditions deliver me from the bondage of poor relationships with others to a state of "divine order" with God and you. The 9th Tradition not only contains the secret of "divine order" but also contains the personal principle that will keep an alcoholic like me in "divine order". It is so simple. I give up control. I stop organizing myself. I stop trying to organize God into my limited ideas of order. The degree of my willingness to let go of organizing life is the degree that God grants me "divine order". I can have as much "divine order" happen to me as I am willing to stop organizing. After I have the spiritual awakening to function on an intuitive level in my relationship with God, I learn to let go of my ironclad plans and follow the ones my Higher Power gives me .

When I stop fighting the flow of the river, I won't go into the rocks. When I let go, I drift with the divine flow. Life becomes a joy not a struggle. The degree of my willingness to let go is the degree of opportunity I give to God to place me in "divine order." When I am in "divine order", I am free to enjoy life. God gets me in "divine order", if I am willing to be unorganized. This does not mean that I don't plan. Being unorganized is not being disorganized. It means that I am able to follow God's plans because I let go of myself. I make long range plans but I only execute them a day at a time. When I am led by "divine order", I don't undertake more than I can handle without undue stress and strain. Nor do I go to the other extreme and avoid my responsibilities in life. I am able to handle challenging assignments God gives me with ease. I find that when I am following God's order, I stop giving orders. I am suggestive to others just like A.A. is suggestive to me. I can afford to let you make mistakes because I'm not in charge. You have your own Higher Power looking out for you. I give up being rigid and over-controlled and allow myself to be spontaneous to God's will and others. The most beautiful blessing that comes to me from living in "divine order" is the freedom I have to be spontaneous because I am not the organizer anymore.

This doesn't mean that A.A. members or groups are irresponsible. We are obedient as only the dying can be. The 12X12 reminds me: "Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our Twelve Steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from his personal disobedience to spiritual principles. The same stern threat applies to the group itself. Unless there is approximate conformity to A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, the group, too, can deteriorate and die. So we of A.A. do obey spiritual principles, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are A.A.'s disciplinarians: we need no others." The second half of the ninth tradition tells me that I am directly responsible to those I serve. I don't give orders or organize those I serve. I give up my desire to be in control for a desire to serve. I seek a true fellowship in life being directed not by an organized life but by a spirit of service. Whenever the "divine order" of that relationship is disturbed, I can restore order by making the unmade amends that put my life out of order. The ninth step poses the question, "After making amends, how do I stay reconciled with you today?" The ninth tradition answers that question by implying that I remain in the "divine order" by not organizing you, myself or God and spontaneously being of service to you and God.

Step 9:

Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition 9: AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

1. Do I still try to boss things in AA?
2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
3. Am I mature enough 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?

Concept 9: 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.

- Do we discuss how we can best strengthen the composition and leadership of our future trusted servants?
- Do we recognize the need for group officers? What is our criteria for election? Do we sometimes give a position to someone "because it would be good for them?"
- Do I set a positive leadership example?

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