

Nature Coast Journal

Volume 6, Issue 4

Carrying the message

April 2004

NATURE COAST INTERGROUP AND DISTRICT 28

meetings are held at the
Community Center in Holder
on the last Sunday of each
month.

INTERGROUP... 4:30 PM

DISTRICT...6 PM

Come get involved!

This is YOUR Intergroup!

INTERGROUP OFFICERS

Chairperson

Ron B. — 489-7216
rbee44@hotmail.com

Vice-Chairperson

John T. — 726-3942

Secretary

Kevin B. — 628-7944
Kbacon1@tampabay.rr.com

Alt. Secretary

Rosario R.

Treasurer

Beverly H. — 344-5939
behunter@naturecoast.net

INTERGROUP TRUSTEES

Frank S.
Janet B.
Jim K.
Pete M.

DISTRICT 28 OFFICERS

DCM

Joe C. — 563-5430

Alternate DCM

Marilyn B. — 637-9643

Secretary

Brian W. — 344-1119

Treasurer

Barbara C. — 563-5430

Step Four Step Four

Made a searching and fearless
inventory of ourselves.

"I need to look at my life."

- from The Twelve Steps Illustrated

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

1. Do I insist that there are only a few *right* ways of doing things in AA?
2. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
3. Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
4. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths—his lengths, not mine—to stay sober?
6. Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who have not heard them?

- From the Traditions Checklist, AA Grapevine

"Not allied with Any Sect..." from *As Bill Sees It*, page 34



"While A.A. has restored thousands of poor Christians to their churches, and has made believers out of atheists and agnostics, it has also made good A.A.'s out of those belonging to the Buddhist, Islamic, and Jewish faiths.

For example, we question very much whether our Buddhist members in Japan would ever have joined this Society had A.A. officially stamped itself a strictly Christian movement.

"You can easily convince yourself of this by imagining that A.A. started among the Buddhists and that they then told you you couldn't join them unless you became Buddhist, too. If you were a Christian alcoholic under these circumstances, you might well turn your face to the wall and die."

Letter, 1954

If you trust, you don't worry! If you worry, you don't trust!

DISCLAIMER

The Nature Coast Journal is a monthly publication of the Nature Coast Intergroup. It is about, by and for members of A.A. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous. Publication of an article does not imply endorsement by either A.A. or Nature Coast Journal, except where indicated.

INTERGROUP TREASURER'S REPORT		March 2004
Beginning Balance		\$2377.15
	Mar	YTD (2004)
Income		
Support - Individuals	\$17.52	\$37.52
Support - Groups	340.00	969.10
Book Sales	322.66	778.05
Medallion Sales	14.42	68.15
Other Sales	43.26	115.39
Sales Tax Collected	22.85	57.80
Events	0.00	71.30
Misc. Income	0.00	0.00
Total Income	\$760.71	\$2097.31
Expenses		
Rent	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sprint	38.65	117.26
Alltel	53.04	194.46
Books & Medallions	490.10	1227.82
Recovery Items	14.70	49.20
Sales Tax Paid	0.00	81.75
Journal	53.00	106.00
Website	0.00	0.00
Secretary Expenses	37.00	37.00
Bank Fees	0.00	0.00
Events	0.00	0.00
Misc. Expenses	61.25	61.25
Total Expenses	\$747.74	\$1927.74
Ending Checking Bal.	\$2264.84	
Reserved for Events	-1275.73	
Available Funds	989.11	
Inventory Value	1080.79	
Accounts Receivable	356.16	
Office Reserve Acct	2511.48	
Total Assets	\$6213.27	

Group Support 2004		
	March	YTD (2004)
CATS Group	40.00	70.00
Crystal River Group	300.00	300.00
High Noon Group	0.00	29.10
Holder Way of Life Group	0.00	75.00
Inverness Monday Night Group	0.00	175.00
Last Chance Group	0.00	60.00
Red Eye Group	0.00	200.00
Women's Friendship Group	60.00	60.00
Total	\$340.00	\$969.10

Carrying the Message by Practicing the 7th Tradition

I was recently asked the question " what does Nature Coast Intergroup do?" I was amazed because many residents of Citrus County and other areas have no idea what Intergroup really does. Many feel it is a secret organization, not a part of AA. Some think it's a money grubbing, unessential part of the service structure. I realized at that moment Nature Coast Intergroup needs to do some public relations work.

Nature Coast Intergroup (NCI) carries the AA message in the following ways: Pays for and mans a 24-hr Hotline; maintains a Website that provides on-line meeting schedules, upcoming AA events and links to other AA recovery sites; and publishes a monthly Newsletter with valuable recovery information. NCI also hosts the gratitude dinner in November and sponsors various family oriented events throughout the year.

Each time your Group sends a contribution to Nature Coast Intergroup you are providing the funds necessary to see that AA is there when someone needs us. You are carrying the message by practicing the 7th Tradition.

If your group is still unsure what NCI does or you would like to have NCI financial records available for inspection, please contact the Intergroup Chairman, Ron B. One of the NCI Trustees would be more than happy to attend your group's next business meeting.

We are but trusted servants. We are nothing more than a group of alcoholics trying to be of service to our fellow alcoholics. Please attend our meetings and find out what we are really about.

Marilyn B
NCI Representative, C.A.T.S. Group

Nature Coast Intergroup Meeting Highlights — March 28, 2004

Intergroup needs support from the groups' representatives. If your group does not have a representative, please elect one so that your group has a voice at the Intergroup Meetings.

- ❖ The Hotline had 97 AA calls for the month of March.
- ❖ Skip S. suggested that volunteers take the Hotline for 2 weeks at a time if 1 month seems too long. It was also suggested that groups sign up for one month at a time and the phone could then be past around to several people during the month so that no one would have the responsibility for a long length of time.
- ❖ Ron B. will incorporate the AIAnon meeting schedule on the Intergroup's website — to also include AIAnon link and phone number.
- ❖ The Nature Coast Intergroup Website www.ncintergroup.com had 247 hits in March. (4575 from inception)
- ❖ For the Spanish speaking AA members, a link to the District 33 website has been added to our website.

Visit www.ncintergroup.com for complete minutes of the meeting.

Turn

11

Over

**Help
Wanted**

INTERGROUP is in urgent need of volunteers to coordinate the annual Gratitude Dinner scheduled for November. Volunteers need to attend the April Intergroup Monthly Meeting on April 25th at 4:30 pm at the Holder Community Center building or contact Ron B. at 352-489-7216.

GOSSIP

by Pat D.

*Gos.sip – n. Idle, often malicious talk, esp. about others.
(Funk & Wagnalls Standard Desk Dictionary)*

Even today, with many years of sobriety, I still feel pain when I learn that I am the subject of gossip. Consider what it does to a newcomer struggling to stay away from that first drink. Any comment made in a place where it can be overheard and passed on is gossip. Maybe the comment was made sincerely with concern and love but it usually gets back to the subject, all twisted. That's the nature of gossip.

I was taught that there are unwritten rules in AA concerning gossip, good manners and language. It takes more than not drinking to become a winner. I learned that I had to make that 180-degree turn and change many things about myself. The Twelve Steps are but the outline for my new way of life. How I work them and practice them in my everyday living and relationships with others determines if I am a winner or not.

Gossip is mentioned on page 67 of "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" and is defined as "a polite form of murder by character assassination." "Daily Reflections" discusses gossip on page 297 for October 15.

Think, think, think; engage brain before opening mouth; *Live and Let Live* and all the other sayings we use are helpful. I think of them as shortcuts to the path I want to travel for the rest of my life. When I was drinking, I was mean and I did not like myself. Today I try to stop before I take anyone's inventory. Thoughts may enter my mind but I now have the control to stop and think before I get down into a gossip session. There are times when I feel that I must say something to someone about an action that I consider unacceptable behavior. But I can now tell that person directly and not talk about it to other people like a teenager.

Simply put, if I can't say something nice about someone, then I'd better keep my mouth shut!



Live and Let Live

From the desk of the Journal Editor

AA articles and/or thoughts that you would like featured in the newsletter are welcome to be submitted to **Mary R.**, editor, **Nature Coast Journal**. Please contact Mary at news@ncintergroup.com or by ph: 352-465-4381. Thank you.

April 2004 Anniversaries



ATTN. Group Secretaries:

Please call or email your list for next month's anniversaries to: **Mary R. – ph.# 352-465-4381** or email address: news@ncintergroup.com by the 25th of each month.

Holder Way of Life Group

Richie C 20 yrs
Kathy F 7 yrs

Last Chance Group

(celebrates the last Sunday)

Kevin H..... 20 yrs
Kathy F..... 7 yrs

Women's Friendship Group

Pat O'B..... 30 yrs
Gloria D..... 10 yrs

Books for Sale

In addition to the A.A conference-approved literature, Nature Coast Intergroup also carries a supply of some **Hazelden books**:

- 24-Hour Book – hard cover \$12.00
- 24-Hour Book – soft cover \$10.00
- 24-Hour Book – Large Print \$16.00
- Language of Letting Go \$18.00
- More Language of Letting Go \$17.00
- Touchstones \$13.00

We also have **Grapevine Literature**:

- Language of the Heart –hard cover \$10.00
- Language of the Heart – soft cover \$9.00
- Best of Bill – soft cover \$5.00
- AA Around the World \$5.00
- The Home Group \$3.25
- Thank You For Sharing \$8.00

NEW AA ITEMS:

**Large Print of the following:
As Bill Sees It; Came to Believe;
Living Sober**

**Call Beverly H. to order
Ph: 344-5939**

Local Events

1st Annual Attitude Dinner

(Resentment Group)
April 24, 2004—6:00 pm
First United Methodist Church
Hwy 581, Inverness
\$3 donation
Please bring a covered dish.



Regional Events

Young At Heart Roundup

April 30, May 1-2, 2004
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Tampa
Westshore
700 N. Westshore Blvd
Tampa, FL 33609
Reservations: (813) 289-8200 use
"young at heart" code
online reservations:
www.crowneplazatampa.com
group booking code "AAY"
email: jkaput@newsouth.com
or
jhoffma6@tampabay.rr.com Web-
site: Young At Heart Roundup



5th Annual Women's Conference

May 14-16, 2004
Holiday Inn
455 US 41 By-Pass
Venice, FL 34293
Reservations: (941) 485-5411 use
"SIS" code
Info: Roni S. (941) 408-9688
Conference limited to 250



Naples Spring "Into Action" Roundup

May 21-23, 2004
Hilton Naples & Towers
5111 Tamiami Trail N.
Naples, FL 34103
Reservations: (800) HILTONS use
"Spring into Action" code
Information email: [springintoac-
tion2004@yahoo.com](mailto:springintoaction2004@yahoo.com) or
phone: Chris H. (850) 445-3882



**This meeting needs your
support!**

WOMEN'S MEETING
Wed. 6 pm/St Benedict's
Crystal River

Hope to see you there!

Other Meetings

Monday at 7:00 PM—
YANA Group — Open Discussion —
147 NW 7th St., Crystal River
(yellow house behind Crystal River
Police Station)



Wed at Noon
Moves from 1st Presbyterian
Church to Unity House —
1515 Whitelake Dr
Inverness



Thursday at 5:00PM
Open Step Study
United Methodist Church
Hwy 581 South, Inverness Thursday at
7:30PM



Hernando Men's Group
8 pm — Closed Discussion
Citrus Family Worship Center
2577 N. Florida Ave (Hwy 41N)
Hernando — between Bank of Inver-
ness and ACE Hardware



Holder Way of Life Group—8 pm
2nd Sat — Open Speakers (OS)
3rd Saturday — (Anniversaries)
Last Saturday — Grapevine Discussion
All other meetings — OD

ATTENTION:

The **Unity Church** has invited AA
to open new meetings at its new
location in Lecanto. If you are
interested in starting a new
meeting, please contact:
Lori at 746-1270.

Regional Events cont.

Naples Spring "Into Action" Roundup

May 21-23, 2004
Hilton Naples & Towers
5111 Tamiami Trial N
Naples, FL
Reservations: (800)HILTONS
use "Spring into Action" code
Email: [springintoac-
tion2004@yahoo.com](mailto:springintoaction2004@yahoo.com)
or ph: Chris H. (850)445-3882

Lake Yale Spring Meeting

Fri, June 4—Sun, June 6, 2004
Lake Yale—7903 Colley Rd—
Odessa, FL
(Lake Yale is 7 miles north of Eustis-map
provided with registration)
813-920-9100
WEBSITE: www.lakeyaleretreat.com



48th Florida State Convention August 4-8, 2004

The Adams Mark Hotel
225 Coast Line Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Reservations: (800) 444-2326
Information: (340) 473-7764 (340)
776-1335

Register online:

[Florida State Convention](http://www.floridastateconvention.com)



National Events

23rd Annual Azalea City Jamobree

June 11-13, 2004
The Holiday Inn
Tillman's Corner
Mobile, AL
Reservations: (251)666-5600



Announcing: Exciting Recovery Cruises

<http://www.meetingsenroute.com>



Sober Celebrations
with Snow and Carol
<http://www.sobercelebrations.com>