

Nature Coast Journal

P.O. Box 2015 ☆ Crystal River, FL 34423-2015 ☆ Intergroup Hotline: (352) 621-0599

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 8

AUGUST, 2006

NATURE COAST INTERGROUP

MEETS ON LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH 4:30PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER IN HOLDER.

PLEASE GET INVOLVED!

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

DISTRICT 28
MONTHLY MEETING
FOLLOWS AT 6:00 P.M.

Local Event

August 20

**Wahoo Group Picnic
23rd Anniversary**

Eat@1pm

3pm Speaker Meeting

Hot Dogs, Beverages and

Cake supplied

Bring Covered Dish

DeSoto Historic Site—

Route 48

50/50 Raffle and other
games

Fun for the Whole Family

Between Floral City

and Bushnell

Change

Change is not easy, but it's absolutely unavoidable. Doors will close. Barriers will surface. Frustrations will mount. Nothing stays the same forever, and it's such folly to wish otherwise. Growth accompanies positive change; determining to risk the outcome resulting from a changed behavior or attitude will enhance our self-perceptions. We will have moved forward; in every instance, our lives will be influenced by making a change that only each of us can make.

We have all dreaded the changes we knew we had to make. Perhaps even now we fear some impending changes. Where might they take us? It's difficult accepting that the outcome is not ours to control. Only the effort is ours. The solace is that positive changes, which we know are right for us and other people in our lives, are never going to take us astray. In fact, they are necessary for the smooth path just beyond this stumbling block. When we are troubled by circumstances in our lives, a change is called for, a change that we must initiate. When we reflect on our recent as well as distant past, we will remember that the changes we most dreaded again and again have positively influenced our lives in untold ways.

Change ushers in glad, not bad, tidings.

Karen Casey ~ Each Day a New Beginning

Dear A.A. Member:

My name is Don, and as the controller and CFO at your General Service Office I have been given the honor of communicating with 50,000 plus A.A. groups in the United States and Canada.

As your controller, I help the boards and committees try to spend your money prudently and plan for both short-term and long-term financial affairs. While the average A.A. member says "one day at a time," my job forces me to ask what about next month, next year and ten years from now. As Tradition Nine tells us, even though A.A. is unorganized we have special offices, boards and service workers, and for those things money is needed.

How do members of the Fellowship support A.A. work financially? Hopefully, you make conscience decisions to support A.A. through our Seventh Tradition contributions. Many think of self-support as revenue from contributions and Conference-approved literature sales, hopefully more from contributions than from sales. Frequently members want to know "what do they do with the money?" And at least once a year I hear "if we tell the groups there is a need for money, the Fellowship will respond."

Your boards and trusted servants budget and plan for things of which perhaps indi-

G.S.O. (Continued on page 2)

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.

Area Events

October 13-15

Area Assembly

Phone: (352) 377-4000.

Paramount Resort and
Conference Center
Gainesville, FL
(877)992-9229

There is a 30 day cut-off for
registration at the hotel.
Make reservations early.

September 1-4

**20th Annual Tampa Bay
Fall Roundup**

Doubletree Hotel - Tampa
Westshore Airport
4500 W Cypress St
Tampa, FL 33607
Reservations:
(813) 879-4800
(800) 222-8733
Info: (813) 205-7663

email: G.Luker@verizon.net
web: tampabayfallroundup.com

September 15-17

Serenity Weekend

Women's Fall

Conference 2006

Cocoa Beach

Oceanfront Resort

1300 N. Atlantic Ave.
Cocoa Beach, FL
(321)783-2271
or (800)206-2747

Reserve Room By August 15
\$82 per Night (1-4 persons)
\$30 Registration
\$35 after August 16
(407)876-4430

September 22-24

Big Book Workshop

Weekend

Fort Myers

Clarion Hotel

12635 South Cleveland Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33907
(239)936-4300

(Continued on page 3)

Spirituality

Spirituality is an awakening --
or is it all the loose ends woven
together into a mellow fabric?

It's understanding -- or is it all the
knowledge one need ever know? It's
freedom -- if you consider fear slavery.

It's confidence -- or is it the belief that
a higher power will see you through
any storm or gale?

It's adhering to the dictates of your
conscience -- or is it a deep, genuine,
living concern for the people and the
planet?

It's peace of mind in the face of adver-
sity. It's a keen and sharpened desire
for survival.

c. 1973 AAWS, *Came To Believe*. . . ,
p. 5 With permission, Alcoholics
Anonymous World Services, Inc.

August '06 Anniversaries

Group Secretaries, please call Ed P. at 422-
0144 or email at news@ncintergroup.com
before the 1st of each month with a list of
month's anniversaries.

	<u>Years</u>
Attitude Adjustment Group	
Janet B.	10
Rob P.	7
Debbie B.	3
Last Chance Group	
Scotty E.	13
Jim K. (belated—July)	22
Andy K. (belated—July)	20
Women's Friendship Group	
Janet L.	19
Char S.	2
Women's New Beginnings Group	
Sue C..	26
Sheila S.	16
Sandy P.	11
Elyse T.	1

G.S.O. (Continued from page 1)

vidual A.A.s and groups are unaware. Your group may have 10, 20, or 30 people and worry about rent, coffee, and perhaps even insurance for your space. We worry about renting office space for 80 or more employees. We worry about payroll, payroll taxes, insurance and pension plans. The A.A.W.S. and A.A. Grapevine Pension Plan even covers former employees, some of whom worked with Bill W. in the office.

Your group may have to think about literature purchases of a few books or pamphlets – we produce hundreds of thousands of books and pamphlets each year, warehouse them, take your orders, and ship them out.

You, your group, District committee or Area may take meetings into Prisons, Treatment Facilities, or Hospitals. Your local C.P.C. efforts may include visits to your doctor, lawyer, accountant, sheriff, police chief or judge. Here at your General Service Office, we have employees whose job requires that they be A.A. members, not to do Twelfth Step Work, but to respond to phone calls and e-mails, assist the trustees and Conference committees, and to insure that a clear, consistent A.A. message is communicated.

Your group may think about funding the local answering service. Employees of your G.S.O. speak with hundreds or thousands of A.A. members every month, which results in a hefty phone bill. We also hear from hundreds or more each month via e-mail.

A few towns from where I live there are Polish-speaking A.A. groups that help carry the message to those who can only speak Polish in a predominately English-speaking community. Imagine if you were still an active drunk looking for help and no one understood you. Your contributions help the G.S.O. facilitate translations of pamphlets and books for newly sober members and still-suffering alcoholics in foreign lands, who are incredibly grateful to have a few written in their own language. Your dollars, as well as, help from some established foreign G.S.O.s help support this.

Each group listed in our computer system receives the same services from this office. Groups get mailings several times a year, a *Box 4-5-9* bulletin, and other information. Printing, mailing and postage costs add up to a big expense. Groups, who do not

G.S.O. (Continued on page 3)

Health Fair

At our last District 28 meeting Janet B., CPC/PI Chairperson announced that District 28 plans to occupy a booth at a Health Fair sponsored by "The Hungry and Homeless" organization at Vineyard Church on Hwy 41 S in Inverness on November 4. Janet explained that we must give away a lot of literature because the people who come to this event do not have a lot of money. Many approach asking for a Big Book and other literature because they just started going to meetings and cannot quite afford to buy anything. We do not want to turn any of them away empty handed. Anyone wanting to volunteer their time to this vital service can contact Janet at 726-9067 or any District officer. Contact information is listed on the back page.

District 28 would appreciate that each group, that can afford to do so, contribute at least one Big Book (3rd Editions are okay) and one 12 & 12 for the Health Fair. More would be welcome. These books will be for people who are below the poverty line and may have alcohol problems. District wants to be able to put this literature in their hands at no cost. Remember! This why we are here: to carry the message of sobriety to the alcoholic who still suffers.

G.S.O. (Continued from page 2)

contribute, for whatever reason, still receive the same services.

Also, the organized part of the unorganized Fellowship has delegates, directors, trustees and staff who travel on behalf of A.A. We also have Conference and various other meeting expenses.

How much money does all this cost? G.S.O.'s annual operating budget is approximately \$11 million. This represents approximately \$200 per group, or about \$9 per member.

And then...there is the rainy day...

Some groups may be fortunate enough to set aside some funds for a rainy day, know as a Prudent Reserve, usually a few months operating expenses. At business meetings, members discuss the funds needed to support their group, and what portion of the treasury will be sent to the local Intergroup, Area, District and G.S.O. in New York to support A.A. world-wide services.

If not through contributions, then how are these services funded? Literature sales provide approximately half of the budget and contributions about half. Your trusted servants worry about raising prices and how to cover those long-term needs. They hope groups will want to be responsible for funding these services. They hope the groups will feel the need to contribute more to support the office and perhaps be less dependent on literature revenue. Your boards discuss appropriate ways to communicate information to the Fellowship. Some of us wonder if the average A.A. member ever hears about services provided by their office. We ponder what it means if the average A.A. member does not even know what their money in the basket does for others.

Your group tries to be self-supporting for this week or month – we try to be self-supporting until that time when there are no more suffering alcoholics.

Please let us know your thoughts, and if you find this information helpful.

In Fellowship,
Don Meurer
Controller/CFO

NEW MEETING —BRIGHT SPOT — Friday at 7PM
At the YANA Club, 147 NW 7th Street Off US 19, one block north of Citrus Ave.
Behind CR Police Station
Call Rocky for details: (352) 257-2302

(Continued from page 2)

Reserve Room By August 22
Ask for BBW Conference
Rate: \$84.00
\$25 Registration
\$30 at the Door
Info: (877)902-5975
Email: leestapes@via-family.com

Sept 29 thru Oct 1

7th West Coast Sponsorship Weekend

Hyatt Hotel
1000 Blvd of the Arts
Sarasota, FL

Register Early; Space Limited
Information:

Call Dick L. (941)922-5226
email: scmsrl@comcast.net

Or write to
Sponsorship Weekend
PO Box 17712
Sarasota, FL 34276

National Events

November 3-5 9th Gratitude Weekend

Holiday Inn Beach Resort
200 Beachview Dr
Jekyll Island, Ga

Holiday Inn Reservations:

(808) 753-5955
(912) 635-3311

Reserve by October 3

Registration \$30
\$35 at Door

Information:

(FUN)677-6037

email: fwb34@bellsouth.net
web: www.jekyllislandaa.com

December 1-3 2006 Southeast Regional Forum

With our U.S./Canada General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous

The Westin Atlanta North
7 Concourse Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Rate: \$99 plus tax
(770)395-3900

Registration is Free!

Fill Out Form

Available from G.S.O.
(212)870-3400

TREASURER'S REPORT			30-Jul-06
	July	YTD	
Beginning Balance	4,998.32		
Income			
Support - Individuals	13.00	109.97	
Support - Groups	125.00	2,418.50	
Book Sales	306.79	3,648.24	
Medallion Sales	34.14	298.07	
Other Sales	26.15	358.32	
Sales Tax Collected	22.04	258.38	
Events	404.00	463.10	
Miscellaneous	-	3.00	
Total Income	931.12	7,557.58	
Expenses			
Rent (pd for yr in Oct.)	-	-	
Alltel	55.82	402.24	
Books	361.74	4,088.20	
Medallions	17.40	237.30	
Recovery Items	25.25	116.74	
Sales Tax Paid	111.91	317.79	
Journal	56.05	391.92	
Website (pd for yr in Oct)	-	-	
Treasurer Expenses	-	39.00	
Bank Fees	-	-	
Events	131.55	261.89	
Miscellaneous	-	100.25	
Total Expenses	759.72	5,955.33	
Ending Checking Balance	5,169.72		
Reserved for Events	-968.13		
Available Funds	4,201.59		
Inventory Value	1,788.42		
Accounts Receivable	4.24		
Office Reserve Account(CD)	2,500.00		
Office Reserve Account(MM)	4,512.12		
Total Assets	13,974.50		
GROUP SUPPORT 2006			
	YTD	July	
ABC Group	25.00	-	
Attitude Adjustment Group	200.00	-	
CATS Group	-	-	
Citrus Springs Closed Step Gr	-	-	
Crystal River Big Book Grp	175.00	75.00	
Crystal River Group	500.00	-	
Dunnellon Group	-	-	
Early Birds Group	-	-	
Floral City Group	37.50	-	
Floral City Men's Group	-	-	
Hernando Men's Group	-	-	
High Noon Group	281.00	-	
Holder Way of Life Group	150.00	-	
Inverness Fri Night Group	100.00	-	
Inverness Mon Night Group	325.00	-	
Inverness Wed. at Noon Group	-	-	
It's in the Book Group	40.00	-	
Keep in Step Group	20.00	-	
Last Chance Group	25.00	-	
Lecanto Group	-	-	
Mon. Night Men's Step Group	60.00	-	
Never Too Early Group	-	-	
New Beginnings Group	-	-	
No Name Group	-	-	
Quail Run Closed Step Group	-	-	
Red Eye Group	-	-	
Resentment Group	40.00	-	
Share at Noon Group	250.00	50.00	
Wahoo Group	50.00	-	
Wed Inverness Step Group	-	-	
What's the Book Say Group	-	-	
Women's Friendship Group	140.00	-	
Works For Me Group	-	-	
YANA Group	-	-	
Total	2,418.50	125.00	

For Your Information

Intergroup Telephone Hotline chair Gail N.'s July Hotline Report: 86 calls total: 1 for detox, 2 NA, 6 Alanon, 2 wet drunk, 5 for rides, 58 meeting information, and 12 miscellaneous inquiries.

The Nature Coast Intergroup Website is located at www.ncintergroup.com. **Please note: Website features printable AA meeting schedules and directions/maps, and Nature Coast Intergroup and District 28 Meeting Minutes.**

Webmaster Needed

To maintain Nature Coast Intergroup Website (<http://www.ncintergroup.com>) Our current webmaster is resigning as of Jan 2007 and we need someone to take over maintaining and updating our website. This is a volunteer position. Knowledge of html is essential and a working understanding of CSS and ftp protocol is desired. (Some training will be provided). Dreamweaver or Front Page skills are helpful. If you feel you are qualified for this position please contact Ron B. at 489-7216 or email webmaster@ncintergroup.com or contact Beverly H. (Intergroup Chair) at 344-5939.

This is a wonderful way to be of service.

Book Sales

In addition to the A.A conference-approved literature, Nature Coast Intergroup stocks a supply of some Hazelden books. We also have Grapevine Literature.

Call Beverly H. to order

COPIES OF *NATURE COAST JOURNAL* ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AND DISTRIBUTION FOR ALL THE GROUPS EARLY EACH MONTH FROM TWO LOCATIONS:

EAST COUNTY
1ST LUTHERAN CHURCH,
INVERNESS (FRIDAY BEGINNERS'
MEETING 6:30 PM)

WEST COUNTY
SERENITY CLUB, ST. BENEDICT'S,
CRYSTAL RIVER

INTERGROUP OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON
BEVERLY H.
344-5939
behunter34453@earthlink.net

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
NEIL S.
527-3014

SECRETARY
KEVIN B.
628-7944
kevinbacon6451@yahoo.com

ALT. SECRETARY
SHERRIE L.

TREASURER
KATHY F.

INTERGROUP TRUSTEES
ALFRED L.
GAYLE W.
PETE M.
RON B.

MAILING ADDRESS
NATURE COAST
INTERGROUP
P.O. Box 2015
CRYSTAL RIVER
FL 34423-2015

INTERGROUP HOTLINE
621-0599

WEBSITE
www.ncintergroup.com

JOURNAL EDITOR
ED P.
422-0144
news@ncintergroup.com

DISTRICT 28 OFFICERS

DCM
MARILYN B.
637-9643

ALT DCM
JIM K.
746-3115

SECRETARY
DON G.
489-8752

TREASURER
JOHN R.
637-2814