



Nature Coast Journal



111 W. Main St., Room 308 ☆ Inverness, FL 34450 ☆ Office & Literature: (352) 344-0290 ☆ Hot Line: (352) 621-0599

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER, 2007

NATURE COAST INTERGROUP

OFFICE/BOOKSTORE

111 W. MAIN ST.
RM 308

INVERNESS, FL 34450
(352)344-0290

OPEN: MON, WED, FRI
10AM-4PM

SAT 10AM-1PM

**OFFICE CLOSED ON
SATURDAY, DEC. 8**

**BUSINESS MEETING
LAST SUNDAY OF EACH
MONTH 4:30PM AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTER
IN HOLDER.**

**DISTRICT 28
MONTHLY MEETING
FOLLOWS AT 6:00PM**

**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:
INTERGROUP AND
DISTRICT MEETINGS
WILL BE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 18 AND
DECEMBER 16**

Events (Continued on page 2)

4 Dunnellon Groups Join District 28

It is now official! Dunnellon Group, Dunnellon New Beginnings, Dunnellon Rainbow Group, and Dunnellon Won Rebos Group formerly with District 17 have joined District 28. This was voted upon and unanimously passed at the last District meeting on October 28. (One other Dunnellon group Manos Abierta will remain with Spanish speaking District 33.) The four groups joined District 28 primarily due to difficulty in reaching District 17 and Intergroup business meetings and functions in distant Ocala. This had resulted in poor communications and inability of the groups to adequately participate in service work at the District and Intergroup levels. All of the groups of District 28 extend a warm welcome to our new groups. The next step is for District 28 to merely inform Area 14 of the transfer at the next Area Assembly in January.

From "The Kelly Foundation":

It is with deep sorrow and sadness that we announce the passing of Joe McQ. For over 40 years, Joe has devoted himself to helping others discover the joy of recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction.

~ November 16, 1928 - October 25, 2007 ~

History of Joe & Charlie Big Book Studies

Joe McQ. & Charlie P. met in 1973 when Joe introduced Charlie as the AA speaker at an Al-Anon Convention. Joe had wondered if Charlie might be the country-western singer Charlie Pride. "He wasn't even the right color," Joe laments. They instantly discovered their mutual fascination with AA's basic text "The Big Book". What interested them most was that The Big Book was written in a particular sequence to convey certain ideas. That interest began a close friendship which has lasted to this day. They would frequently meet to discuss the book, often driving 225 miles to meet in each other's homes.

Soon they were planning meetings in hotel rooms at AA conventions in Oklahoma and Arkansas, and within a few years, the meetings grew in popularity. In 1977, some members met in a Tulsa, OK hotel room for a discussion of the Big Book. One asked Joe & Charlie to come to his home group to present a program on the book. An AA taper made a four tape set of their presentation and called it "The Big Book Study". The tapes were gradually circulated throughout the fel-

Joe McQ (Continued on page 3)

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.

Events (Continued from page 1)

Local Events

Saturday, November 10

High Noon Group
 Softball Game
 Bicentennial Field
 Crystal River
 Free Hot Dogs, Hamburgers
 & Drinks
 Bring Covered Dish
 1 pm—5 pm

Thursday, November 22

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
 Presented by
 High Noon Group
 Serenity Club
 St. Benedict's
 Crystal River
 Turkey, Ham & Drinks
 Bring Covered Dish
 1 pm—5 pm
 After the High Noon meeting

Area Events

Area Assemblies

2008:

January 11-13

April 4-6

July 11-13

October 3-5

Paramount Resort and
 Conference Center
 Gainesville, FL
 Hotel: (352) 377-4000
 There is a 30 day cut-off
 for registration at the
 hotel. Make reservations
 early.
 Info: (877)992-9229

Events (Continued on page 3)

Addiction

Addiction tried to steal my life
 Smother the God that was in me
 I fought long and hard to kill off the lie
 That threatened to stifle me forever.

Addiction is the scourge of a life
 That wants to sing and fly.
 Addiction is an affliction of life
 But is beat by my God which is mightier.

Addiction is an earth bound demon
 Wanting me to die.
 It claims, twists, imprisons, souls it finds
 Floundering without Godly powers.

Addiction is the scourge of a life
 That wants to sing and fly.
 Addiction is an affliction of life
 But is beat by my God which is mightier.

I took back my life by the might of a sword
 Forged by twelve simple steps.
 I got a new life surrounded by friends
 That enjoy a new life free from bondage.

Addiction is the scourge of a life
 That wants to sing and fly.
 Addiction is an affliction of life
 But is beat by my God which is mightier.

If addiction wants you, some things you must do
 To protect the life that God gave to you.
 Surrender to him that wants only you
 To live free to adore and praise him.

Addiction is the scourge of a life
 That wants to sing and fly.
 Addiction is an affliction of life
 But is beat by my God which is mightier.

Groups Urged to Participate in Hot Line Service Work

At the September Intergroup business meeting each Group Rep was encouraged to ask their group to volunteer to take the Hot Line Phone for a period of a month. Volunteers from within a group could take turns carrying the Phone. If all 33 groups were to participate in this plan, no group would need to carry the phone more frequently than one month in 2 ½ years. This is a tremendous opportunity for all of us served by Nature Coast Intergroup and District 28 to participate in a vital and worthwhile service and to give back some of what we all have so freely and joyfully received from the fellowship.

Rick T., Hot Line Chairperson

Anniversaries November 2007

To post your group's anniversaries ask your Group Secretary to contact Ed P. at 422-0144 or send email to news @ncintergroup.com prior to the first of each month.

	Years
Floral City Group	
Darral M.	3
Shannon	2
High Noon Group	
Dick	12
Gwen	2
Last Chance Group	
Connie D.	24
No Name Group	
Curlye A. *	25
Share at Noon Group	
Jack B.	16
Women's Friendship Group	
Sharon B.	10

* Incorrect anniversary year posted in July.

New Beginnings Recovery by the Fire

The New Beginnings Group has just changed its name to New Beginnings Recovery by the Fire Group. This is an outdoor meeting and smoking is allowed. Located at 1515 White Lake Drive, Inverness the group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00pm and Fridays at 10:00pm.

Night Cap Group Meets at Yana Club

A new meeting has formed at the Yana Club. The Night Cap Group meets on Fridays at 10:00pm. For information call Rock 257-2302.

Joe Mc Q. (Continued from page 1)

lowship and invitations were received for Joe & Charlie to present the study at AA conventions, roundups and special events. By 1980, there had been about eight studies offered.

At the 1980 International AA Convention in New Orleans, Westly P. an impassioned Big Booker from Pompano Beach, Florida, organized a lunch for 1,500 AAs from all over the world and gave away 100 Joe & Charlie tape sets as door prizes. Invitations exploded and within a couple of years, Joe & Charlie were presenting about 36 studies a year worldwide. Obviously, the seminars struck a deep chord within AA members ... for the reaffirmation of "this message" as written in April 1939 with the publication of the first edition of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Studies have been given in 48 states and most Canadian provinces. Additionally, Australia, New Zealand, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden and the Netherlands have all hosted the Big Book Study seminars with Joe & Charlie.

The original Joe McQ. has had to curtail his travels in recent years. Oddly enough, another Joe -- Joe McC., active in the study group since the beginning -- has been able to pick up the slack. "Where God guides, God provides," as some members say.

All this growth has not come without a measure of turbulence. What spiritual journey does not encounter obstacles? Some fellow AAs have termed the duo, "self-appointed gurus". Others have accused them of making money on these weekends. Actually, only travel expenses, meals and lodging are paid for by the independent AA host committee sponsoring the study. This is in accordance with the AA Guidelines for Conferences and Conventions (MG4), published by the General Service Office. Since 1977, an estimated 200,000 AA Members have experienced the spiritual benefits of these collective studies.

Treasurer's Message

Our office is up and running but in order to keep the doors open we need approximately \$550.00 per month in group support and fundraising events. Please stop by the office/bookstore Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Saturday morning for a cup of coffee and check-out the merchandise.

Sue C., Intergroup Treasurer

The Need to be Grateful

From as Bill Sees It

I believe that we in Alcoholics Anonymous are fortunate in that we are constantly reminded of the need to be grateful and of how important gratitude is to our sobriety. I am truly grateful for the sobriety God has given me through the AA program and am glad I can give back what was given to me freely. I am grateful not only for sobriety, but for the quality of life my sobriety has brought. God has been gracious enough to give me sober days and a life blessed with peace and contentment, as well as the ability to give and receive love, and the opportunity to serve others — in our Fellowship, my family and my community. For all of this, I have "a full and thankful heart."

Notice

Please contact the Webmaster to announce any upcoming group events on the Nature Coast Intergroup Website. Call Ron B. at 489-7216 or email web@ncintergroup.com.

Events (Continued from page 2)

January 31- February 3, 2008 2008 Spacecoast Round Up

Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach
Oceanfront Resort
1300 N. Atlantic Ave (A1A)
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
Hotel Reservations:
(800) 206-2747
(321) 783-2271
Group Code "SPU"
Information:
email: aaspacecoast.org
(321) 724-2247
or 633-0052

January 18-20, 2008 Big Book Weekend

Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach
Oceanfront Resort
1300 N. Atlantic Ave (A1A)
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
Hotel Reservations:
(800) 206-2747
(321) 783-2271
Group Code "BBK"
Information:
Lee (877) 902-5975

April 1-5, 2008 18th Spring Conference

Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach
Oceanfront Resort
1300 N. Atlantic Ave (A1A)
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
Hotel Reservations:
(800) 206-2747
(321) 783-2271
Group Code "SPU"

TREASURER'S REPORT		
	October	2,007.00
Beginning Checking Balance	2,464.33	YTD
Income		
Support - Individuals	22.00	194.65
Support - Groups	360.00	3,135.00
Book Sales	472.20	3,518.70
Medallion Sales	81.20	549.92
Other Sales	129.72	673.21
Sales Tax Collected	38.40	281.03
Events	255.00	546.94
Misc Income	-	2,755.20
Total Income	1,358.52	10,296.13
Expenses		
Rent (Holder CC)		63.60
Office Exp (111 W Main St)	551.78	5,121.82
Alltel	58.02	615.04
Books	286.86	4,168.81
Medallions	63.00	469.40
Recovery Items	150.28	513.72
Sales Tax Paid	68.35	332.24
Journal	117.10	686.53
Website (pd for yr in Oct)		-
Treasurer Expenses		-
Bank Fees		-
Events		934.37
Misc Expenses	399.99	765.93
Total Expenses	1,693.38	13,671.46
Ending Checking Balance	2,129.47	
Reserved for Office (MM)	4,527.87	
Reserved for Office (CD)	-	
Office Change Fund	40.00	
Balance Cash Accounts	6,697.34	
Inventory Value	2,502.20	
Accounts Receivable	50.18	
Total Assets	9,249.72	
Prudent Reserve	3,000.00	
Group Support 2007	YTD	October
ABC Group	60.00	
Attitude Adjustment Group	225.00	100.00
Bright Spot	10.00	10.00
Citrus Springs Group	-	
Crystal River Big Book Group	70.00	
Crystal River Group	400.00	
Floral City Group	95.00	70.00
Floral City Men's Group	40.00	
Hernando Men's Group	150.00	
High Noon Group	100.00	
Holder Way of Life Group	425.00	
Inverness Friday Night Group	320.00	80.00
Inverness Monday Night Group	200.00	
Inverness Wednesday Night Step	40.00	
It's in the Book Group	25.00	
Keep in Step Group	20.00	
Last Chance Group	275.00	
Lecanto Group	-	
Monday Night Men's Group	60.00	
Never Too Early Group	-	
New Beginnings	-	
Night Cap	-	
No Name Group	25.00	
Quail Run Group	-	
Red Eye Group	-	
Resentment Group	100.00	
Share at Noon Group	200.00	100.00
Sober Sand Gnats	-	
Wahoo Group	-	
What's the Book Say Group	45.00	
Women to Women Group	-	
Women's Friendship Group	210.00	
Women's New Beginnings Group	40.00	
YANA Group	-	
Total	3,135.00	360.00

Bookstore at the Office

In addition to the A.A conference-approved literature, Nature Coast Intergroup Office/Bookstore carries Grapevine Literature, Medallions, Hazelden books, and a good selection of Recovery Items suitable for gifts. The following items are also available in our new Store:

- Audio Big Book
- Audio 12 & 12
- Audio Living Sober
- Audio AA Comes of Age
- Braille Big Book
- Literature Rack
- Meeting Sign
- Pocket Cards (steps, traditions, serenity prayer)
- Big Book Dictionary
- Speaker Certificates
- Birthday Cards
- Serenity Prayer Cards
- Medallion Boxes
- Key Rings
- Large Circle Stickers
- Small Circle Stickers
- Mini Saying Stickers
- Bookmarks
- Verse Cards
- Special Bronze Medallions
- Leather Book Covers
- Chrome Travel Mugs w/slogans
- Gift bags and wrapping paper with circle and triangle motif
- Tri-plate Lapel Pins
- Tri-plate Specialty Medallions

For Your Information

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.

Intergroup Telephone Hotline Chair Rick T.'s October Hotline Report: Total Calls Incoming were 143: 117 for AA information/meetings, 22 NA, 3 Alanon, 1 Alateen, 3 wet drunks.

Hotline Volunteers greatly needed to carry the phone. Call the Hotline at 621-0599.

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

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TONI T.
382-7578

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

MARTHA G.
489-8752

SECRETARY

JOAN B.
637-5696

ALT. SECRETARY

(VACANT)

TREASURER

SUE C.
344-5153

INTERGROUP TRUSTEES

ALFRED L.

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RICK T.

(VACANT)

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