



A Newsletter, for AA Members, Published by Nature Coast Intergroup: *Carrying the Message*

# Nature Coast Journal



Hot Line: (352) 621-0599 □ Website: [ncintergroup.com](http://ncintergroup.com) □ News: [news@ncintergroup.com](mailto:news@ncintergroup.com)

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2012

Merry  
Christmas

The Holidays Are Here!

*Serenity News, December 2007  
Lake Sumter Intergroup, Leesburg*

Happy  
New Year!

Getting through the holidays is always a hot topic at meetings this time of year and it's true, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas are emotionally loaded events. They are loaded because of our memories and our expectations. It's as if everything conspires to keep us away from the present moment, the holy instant and throws us into our pasts and hopes. There are, however, a few guidelines that can help us all make the most of this season:

- *This year's holidays won't be like they were last year ... or like those from our childhood . Each day is different, new and fresh and we can bring to it whatever attitude we choose, even if it's a traditional family gathering.*
- *We are not the same as we were last year or when we were 5 years old. And, truth be told, our family isn't the same either.*
- *We can't buy love, nor can we measure it by the gifts we receive, or don't receive. It's so tempting to over-spend this time of year, but if we avoid it, we will save ourselves real agony in the new year.*
- *We don't have to do it "their" way, or the way it's always done. One of the joys of recovery is we have been returned to choice and we can make choices that serve us best.*
- *We can, if we choose, enjoy the holidays, however or with whomever we celebrate. It truly is up to us to decide what to do, how to give and how to receive.*

Love, blessings, abundance and happy holidays to all from the Nature Coast Intergroup Officers, Staff and Members.

---

## GRATITUDE DINNER REPORT

The Gratitude Dinner has come and gone for another year but will linger in the minds, hearts and stomach's of all those who attended. What better way to spend a holiday than with our AA family, a great speaker and of course delicious food. The kitchen area was filled with the wonderful smell of ham and all the other dishes to go along with it.

We who attended are grateful for the efforts of the few that made this dinner possible. Thank you God for all the volunteers.

From the Chair:

*I would like to say thank you to all who helped me with this Gratitude Dinner, NCI for books and other thing for the raffle and others who donated gifts for the raffle as well thank you all for everything. A thank you also goes out to all the groups who donated hams for without you this would not have been possible.*

*Sandy H, Gratitude Dinner Chair*

---

## Serenity Club, St. Benedict's Church, Crystal River

The "Crystal River Group At Noon" has taken the noon slot at the Serenity Club. The group will meet at noon Monday through Saturday.

The following is the schedule:-

- Monday----Beginner's Meeting.
- Tuesday----Open Discussion.
- Wednesday----Big Book Meeting.
- Thursday----Open Discussion.
- Friday----Step Meeting (Tradition 1st Friday of month).
- Saturday----Open Discussion.

The "It Works for Me" Group will continue to meet on Sundays at 2pm.

The "Early Bird" meeting will continue at 8am Monday thru Saturday and at 7am on Sundays.

There will be an 8pm meeting every night of the week as usual.

The "Women's New Beginnings" group will continue at 6pm on Wednesdays

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US SOON.

## ALKATHON'S 2012 AT CLUB RECOVERY

Saturday Night Live Group is sponsoring the Christmas event and The Resentment Group is sponsoring New Years. Location is Club Recovery.

Everyone is welcome to bring a desert.

The Club will open it's doors at 10am on the 24th & 31st and be open continuously until 10pm on the 25th & 1st. No one need be alone during the holidays and your presence could make a difference in someone else's life. Take part in yours and other's recovery over the Holidays by making plans to attend!

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday Night Live  
Meetings Every 2 hours  
starting at 6pm until 6pm  
Christmas Day.

### NEW YEARS EVE

6pm Resentment Group  
9pm Resentment Group

### NEW YEARS DAY

1am Resentment Group  
4am Resentment Group  
8am Resentment Group  
12pm Resentment Group

**Medallions, Brass, Alum and Fancy can be purchased at Club Recovery**

**Obituary:** Jim L, otherwise known as "Tug Boat Jim" or "Cookie Jim" choose to end his life's struggles on December 5th at his home in Inverness. Jim was always baking wonderful cookies and bringing them to most of the meetings he attended. Jim was very much respected by his fellow members and he will be missed. Services and memorial will be announced at a later

## Area Events

*Details on our web site*

### Area Assemblies 2013

January 18-20

March 29-31

Lake Mary, FL

aanorthflorida.org

**DETAILS ON WEBSITE**

**2nd Annual**

## Central Florida Women's Workshop

**Life Enrichment Center**

4991 Piccola Road

Fruitland Park, FL 34731

**March 8, 9 & 10, 2013**

Life Enrichment website : <http://www.lecetrements.org/>



The semi-annual softball game went off as it always does with lots of good food and fellowship. A huge effort by members made this another AA day to remember.

## To the Editor,

Thank you so much for bringing us an interesting Journal to read each month for the last four years! Your talents have been well expressed in the formatting and choice of articles printed, even when controversy was created. I, for one, appreciated the time you've spent creating the Journal messages and hope your "time off" will be well spent helping others in recovery.

God has Blessed You,  
Thanks, Darral M.  
Floral City Men's Group

TO ALL MEMBERS: Greetings On Our 10th Christmas, 1944

Yes, it's in the air! The spirit of Christmas once more warms this poor distraught world. Over the whole globe millions are looking forward to that one day when strife can be forgotten, when it will be remembered that all human beings, even the least are loved by God, when men will hope for the coming of the Prince of Peace as they never hoped before.

But there is another world which is not poor. Neither is it distraught. It is the world of Alcoholics Anonymous, where thousands dwell happily and secure. Secure because each of us, in his own way, knows a greater power who is love, who is just, and who can be trusted.

Nor can men and women of AA ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough humility to enter the portals of that New World.

How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weakness, that humiliation goes before resurrection; that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth.

Knowing it's full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity where there was poverty, peace and joy have sprung out of the very midst of chaos.

Great indeed, our blessings!

And so, Merry Christmas to you all-- from the Trustees, from Bobbie and from Lois and me.

*Bill Wilson*

---

What is the most important gift that I have received by attending AA meetings and working the AA program? That is very easy to answer for this Alcoholic. The number one gift that I have received is a personal connection with a Power Greater than Myself. Our Big Book says, "*In nearly all cases, their ideals must be grounded in a power greater than themselves, if they are to re-create their lives*". My life has been re-created. The book goes on to say, "*One feels that something more than human power is needed to produce the essential psychic change*". I have had that psychic change. All the answers that I have ever needed can be found in this book. The book tells me it's primary purpose when it says, "*Its main object is to enable you to find a Power greater than yourself which will solve your problem*". I no longer have problems, just more things to learn.

I have found that power and my life has totally changed. I follow this book which was written for me by the first 80 members with the wisdom and guidance of a loving God.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.... I owe my life to the program and our founders.

John L, Editor

---

## Putting Down the Drink

A long time ago when I swallowed my first drink I was so disappointed when my life did not change but it did not matter as much as before the first drink. After my last drink, many years later, I realized just not drinking was only one step in a series of steps needed to stay sober. For me just being sober is not enough. Sober is the first step in finding a new life. I used another series in the AA program known as the 12 steps, which are very much like the Ten Commandments in the bible. If I practice 12 & 10 to the best of my ability, my life will get better.

I have to make an effort if I wanted peace of mind, sobriety and a new way of life. First thing in the morning, I ask God to take control of my life and use me as an example, and not to say or do anything to hurt another.

AA worked when I gave it a chance. I ask God for wisdom to know the difference and accepted the gift of sobriety.

*Ernie P, Resentment Group*

---

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Deadline for submissions is the Thursday following Intergroup meeting

- Floral City Group**
  - Dave N..... 23
  - Ken..... 20
  - Charlie..... 2
- Crystal River Group**
  - Freddie..... 21
  - Steph M..... 20
  - Jeff C..... 19
  - Charlie T..... 17
  - James S..... 10
  - Aimee U..... 1
- Holder Way of Life Group**
  - Robert H..... 23
- No Name Group**
  - Deckie Y..... 42
  - Bill W..... 30
  - Bert H..... 12
  - Dianna R..... 1
  - Joel R..... 1
- Rainbow Group**
  - Sue R..... 15
  - Dawn H..... 7
  - Debbie M..... 6
- Share At Noon**
  - Shirley..... 28
- Woman's Friendship Group**
  - Mary P..... 15
  - Dana C..... 3

**Contributions**

	2012	YTD	Nov
ABC Group		\$0.00	
Attitude Adjustment Gp		\$75.00	\$25.00
Big Book 164		\$125.00	
Bright Spot		\$10.00	
Crystal River BB		\$0.00	
Crystal River Group		\$150.00	
Primary Purpose CR		\$17.00	
Dunnellon Group		\$90.00	\$30.00
New Beginnings-Dunn		\$75.00	
Floral City Group		\$0.00	
Floral City Men's Group		\$25.00	
High Noon Group		\$100.00	
Holder Way of Life Gp		\$50.00	
Inverness Friday Night		\$80.00	
Inverness Monday Night		\$150.00	
Inverness Wed Night		\$80.00	
It's In The Book		\$20.00	
Keep In Step		\$0.00	
Last Chance Gp		\$0.00	
Lecanto Group		\$0.00	
Monday Night Men's		\$0.00	
Never To Early Group		\$10.00	
Night Cap Group		\$0.00	
Quail Run Closed Step		\$0.00	
No Name Group		\$150.00	\$150.00
Red Eye Group		\$0.00	
Rainbow Group		\$115.00	
Resentment Group		\$0.00	
Real Happy Hour Group		\$100.00	
Share At Noon		\$175.00	
Sober Sandgnats		\$0.00	
Wahoo Group		\$0.00	
What The Book Says		\$0.00	
Women's Friendship Gp		\$63.00	\$8.00
Women to Women		\$20.00	
Women's N-Beginnings		\$0.00	
Won Rebos		\$227.00	
Yana		\$10.00	
Personal		\$50.00	
<b>Monthly Totals 2012</b>		<b>\$1,917.00</b>	<b>\$213.00</b>
2011		\$3,181.36	\$0.00
2010		\$3,066.09	\$391.00

Intergroup Hotline Report

Hotline Report: *If you would like to be a volunteer for the 12 Step List just call the Hotline number for details: 56 meetings, 8 wet, 4 treatment, 6 Al Anon, 1 NA*

**The following groups were represented at the Intergroup meeting.**

Attitude Adjustment, Crystal River, Dunnellon, Dunnellon New Beginnings, Floral City Men's, High Noon, Women's Friendship, Real Happy Hour Group

**INTERGROUP IS STILL LOOKING FOR A TREASURER AND ALT SECRETARY. PLEASE COME TO THE NEXT MEETING IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING.**

**Depth of Humility**

Humility means to understand the self and through that to understand others as well. Humility is the attitude where a person is not attached to his or her opinion and feelings. Humility is the most natural expression of truth. It helps in better understanding of truth. Humility is the basis for maintaining self-respect. Humility does not mean bowing down and being subservient to others. Humility allows you to see benefit in everything. Developing humility brings a lot of comfort and ease into your life.

**MEETING CHANGE:**

The RED EYE GROUP has cancelled all of it's meetings.

**SERENITY CLUB  
ALKATHON'S**

There will be Alkathon's at The Serenity Club, St Benedicts Catholic Church, Crystal River. The Alkathon's will be held on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

In both cases the first meeting will be at 8pm and the Alkathon's will end at 2am.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

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

**DISTRICT 28**

MONTHLY MEETING TO FOLLOW INTERGROUP

**INTERGROUP**

**OFFICERS**

CHAIR—AL L

586-0800

VICE CHAIR—OPEN

344-5939

SECT—DENIS S

TREAS—JOHN L

**INTERGROUP TRUSTEES**

DARRAL M—PAUL B

STEVE N—DEBRA S

**HOTLINE**

DAVID

621-0599

**WEBSITE**

DAVID D

[web@ncintergroup.com](mailto:web@ncintergroup.com)

**JOURNAL**

EDITOR—JOHN L

ASSIST—STEVE N

[news@ncintergroup.com](mailto:news@ncintergroup.com)

**DISTRICT 28**

**OFFICERS**

DCM—PAT H

ALT DCM—PAULA D

SECT—STEVE N

TREAS—CHAR S

**JOURNALS FOR GROUPS**

CAN BE PICKED UP AT:

**EAST COUNTY**

FRIDAY BEGINNER'S

MEETING 6:30 PM

**WEST COUNTY**

SERENITY CLUB

CRYSTAL RIVER

**District 28,  
Panel 63,  
Officers:**

DCM - Paula D

Alt DCM - Steve N.

Treasurer - Debra S.

Secretary - Open

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