

Nature Coast Intergroup - November 5, 2017

Call to Order: 4:30

Serenity Prayer

Roll Call: 9 groups represented: Attitude Adjustment, Crystal River, Holder Way of Life, Freedom House, Holder Way of Life, Keep in Step, Sober Nooners, Sober Sand Gnats, Women's Friendship.

Officers Reports:

Secretary: minutes for October moved, seconded and accepted as read.

Treasurer:

Report for **October** summary:

Beginning Balance:	\$ 5,117.48	check book
Total Income:	\$ 2,333.44	
Total Expense:	\$ 1,013.16	
Net Income:	\$ 1,320.28	
Ending Balance	\$ 6,437.76	check book
Cash on Hand:	\$ 50.00	
Final Balance:	\$ 6,487.76	

Moved, Seconded and Accepted as presented.

Trustees:

Janet: Working hard on selling tickets. Has a strong team helping.

Denis: Trying to help Mike get back tickets for selling to others.

Bill M.: Absent

Sandy: Attending the Gratitude Dinner planning and enjoying the process. People are excited about the dinner and the dinner price (\$3).

Standing Committee Reports

Hotline Activity for September:

37 incoming calls:

19 looking for meeting, 6 talking about not drinking, two 12 step calls.

Hotline Activity for October:

43 incoming calls.

14 looking for meetings, 12 talk about not drinking and two 12 step calls.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H.

Web Site: In October there were 5,374 visits by 3,125 unique users who visited 10,096 pages for 1.88 pages per visit. The most visited pages were Where and When, Monday Meetings, Responsibility Statement, Journal, Meetings General, Workshop Topics, Meetings by Day, Calendar, Meetings by Location, and Information Links. The most downloaded pages were Where and When, Journal, Grapevine Workshop Flyer, Legacies, Is AA for You, AA History, Traditions MP4, Contribution Information, Hot Line Phone Number, and Motions August 2013. 53.5% of the users were on mobile devices, 39.4% on desktops and 6.89% on tablets. The Bounce Rate was great at 44%. For the hitsters there was an average of 79 hits per hour or 59,108 for the month. Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Steve N, NCI webmaster

Journal: Online Journal can be viewed on www.ncintergroup.com. This is your Journal, and personal contributions for the Journal are really appreciated. Material can be emailed to Sue at (news@ncintergroup.com), or brought to the monthly Intergroup Meeting. New issue for October/November is on the website, printed copies are available at meetings. Grateful for the opportunity to serve. Sue

Events: Two meetings planning the Gratitude Dinner have gone well. Yesterday \$164 was turned in on ticket sales, and today another \$90. People are still buying tickets where available. Ticket sales are going well. Paige will email suggested material to be used for the format of the dinner. Steve N. will say grace, Meg will do the 50/50, Lacy will read and more readers are needed. Volunteers will be ready to carve turkeys at 2:30. Rich will take care of the electronics, PJ will do the sobriety countdown, Paige will introduce the speaker, Mike will be the emcee. People planning to buy tickets at the door should plan to bring a side dish to share. Lorraine will send out a note with that information. Need Volunteers at 1:00 to decorate; Ingrid is coordinating the decorations. Capacity of the building is 340. Next meeting will be 18th at the Serenity Club at 1:30. Call or email fitzgeraldm004@yahoo.com or 352-697-9700 for further information and to participate.

Mike F. , Grateful to serve

Alt. Chair: I spent time with Kim, the Service Coordinator for the Grapevine, on Friday, October 13th to prepare for the Grapevine Record Your Story Workshop that following Saturday. It was nice seeing Deb, the Area Grapevine Chair from Jacksonville help present the workshop. I thought it was a wonderful event and, though a small turnout, it was extremely well done and very informational. Thank you Paige for the wonderful literature displays. I even found a pamphlet I was not aware of. Even though

there was nobody interested in recording a story for the Grapevine, we were prepared for multiple options. And yours truly won the raffle, the Grapevine book, *Spiritual Awakenings, Journeys of the Spirit*.

I attended the Sunday, October 15th Events Committee meeting at the Serenity Club at Saint Benedicts Church and sorry to report to have missed the last two committee meetings. October 21st I was at the Area Assembly in Gainesville, I attended ‘the Big Book Litigation: What Are the Facts Workshop’. It had to do with the lawsuit for acquiring the Original 1939 Printer’s Copy of the manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous. Next I was pleased to FINALLY attend the Intergroup workshop. It was the first time that the agenda separated Archives and Intergroup. I was pleased to share some information on NCI and gave a copy of the NCI pamphlet to the Intergroup Chair in Tallahassee. They have been considering a similar endeavor. Then came Archives. We talked about how to sort ‘gifts’ as they are delivered in a box, and anyone venturing into the Archives room would have seen the mess of scanning Area Inventory Archives to digitalize everything. Last was the Area Inventory where the Delegate for Area 15, Annie C. went over the questionnaire that was handed out last month.

Grateful to serve, Dean

Chair Report:

Service to Others

We soon learn that twelfth step work involves sharing the A.A. message with other alcoholics – and that doing that will keep us sober. Just what does it mean to be of service to others in recovery from alcoholism, and how do you do it?

As usual Bill W. is the best source of what A.A. means about service? In *A.A.’s Legacy of Service* Bill states it quite succinctly: “Our Twelfth Step – carrying the message – is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principle aim and the main reason for our existence.” Bill goes on to say that is more than just a set of principles. Rather, it is a society of alcoholics in action.

The simplest explanation of what it means to be of service to others is that you’re ready to help someone in recovery who’s in need — anytime and anywhere. Maybe that’s being on the other end of the phone when a friend or group acquaintance calls you crying and begging for help. You don’t have to be his or her sponsor to lend your support. Just the fact that you take the time to listen to the person’s concerns is often enough to get them over the immediate issue. It could be offering to pick up and take a newcomer to a meeting or buying another alcoholic a cup of coffee during a time of need. So, one-on-

one help is an important part of being in service to others in recovery. But it's not the only way you can help accomplish the work of Step Twelve.

Most importantly become active in your home group. AA does not seem to have a governing body like most organizations, but it does rely on the combined expertise and volunteerism of individuals in local groups, the local intergroup, district, and general service.

Remember back to when you first started going to meetings, how confused and a little afraid you were? What you were really afraid of was what you didn't know – how A.A. worked and what was expected of you. Then, someone came forward and invited you in and suddenly this meeting place didn't seem quite so intimidating after all.

Part of helping out in your local A.A. meeting is as easy as greeting newcomers and helping to put them at ease with a smile, a hearty handshake, and a few gentle words of welcome. Becoming active in your local group could also involve volunteering to set out the chairs, ensure the coffee is brewed and hot, that the cups are all arranged. By the same token, after the meeting is over, there's the breakdown of chairs, cleaning the coffee pot, disposing of the cups, taking out the trash, and other duties. Someone has to do this and even if there's a person assigned to do it, helping hands can speed things along.

What do such simple tasks have to do with being of service? Actually, a lot. What happens is that you begin to incorporate being of service in how you live your life every day. Maybe it's a small thing to help out at a meeting, but it's certainly a start. From there, many other instances of being of service can grow.

By the time you arrive at the Twelfth Step, you'll probably have had many discussions with your sponsor about any number of points related to the Steps, the Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts of Service. But, if you haven't touched on being of service to any great extent, now is certainly the time to ask your sponsor about how you can get involved.

Chances are pretty good that your sponsor will encourage you to become active in service early on. In fact, some long-time fellowship members refer to A.A. as a kind of 36-point program: 12 steps, 12 traditions, and 12 concepts.

There's really no mystery about service work. In fact, your sponsor is doing service work when you are under his/her wing and he/she tries to make you aware of what A.A. is as a whole. Think about the things you and your sponsor talk about. It's very likely that an effort has been made to interest you in service work beyond the group.

There certainly is no requirement that you have to go into service. But many of us attribute service as a key component in remaining sober. Dr. Bob himself once said that if we fail to acquire a spirit of service, we will have missed out on the greatest gift A.A. has to offer – the ability to give our sobriety away and so keep it.

Service is actually the Third Legacy of A. A. – following behind Recovery, the First Legacy, and Unity, the Second Legacy. As our pamphlet states: "Service to others and to the Fellowship reminds us that we owe our sobriety to the work of earlier members, and

that our continued sobriety may depend on the hundreds of thousands who still need to learn of A.A.”

Steve N. Intergroup Chair

Old Business: None

New Business: 2018 Budget proposal. (See attachment) Moved, seconded, discussion. Prudent to budget for assembly even though right now it is not an expense. All in favor? Passed unanimously.

Announcements:

Resentment Group has moved to Calvary Chapel, meeting Monday night at 7:00. OD. Men’s Monday Step Meeting in Lecanto has moved their meeting time up to 7:00 PM.

District will be printing a new Meeting List in January, so please make sure all changes are brought to the attention of District, and also on the web at ncintergroup.com. The changes submitted to the web are immediately entered into the meeting information.

There will be an open house December 3, 3:30 at Holder for a meet and greet about service work in AA before the Intergroup meeting which is held at 4:30.

Freedom House group Dec. 19th Christmas Party, eat and greet at 7 pm and discussion at 8 pm. Please bring something to share.

Motion to Close: 5:25PM moved and unanimously accepted. Closing Prayer.

Lorraine T, grateful to serve as Secretary