



NATURE COAST JOURNAL



June/July 2018

Nature Coast Intergroup and District 28 present:

The 6th Annual

Founder's Day Brunch

Saturday, June 9, 2018

First Baptist Church of Crystal River
700 North Citrus Avenue
Crystal River, FL 34428

Doors open at 10:00 am
Brunch at 11:00 am
Speaker at 12:00 pm

For more information, tickets or to volunteer,
please contact us at events@ncintergroup.com

Suggested Donation \$7.00

BILL W. AND DR. BOB

Long Timers Speaker Meeting

June 19, 2018

Doors open at 7

River Life Church

2871 West Dunnellon Road

Dunnellon, Florida

Hosted by Firehouse Group

Sponsored by District 28

District 28 and Nature Coast Intergroup present

AA Grows in Florida, an Archives Event

July 28, 2018 10am-4pm

Location: TBA

Refreshments and light lunch provided

Desserts welcome

Suggested Donation \$5.00

HOT LINE 352-621-0599

AA Daily Reflections

February 27th

A UNIQUE STABILITY

Where does A.A. get its direction? . . . These practical folk then read Tradition Two, and learn that the sole authority in A.A. is a loving God as He may express Himself in the group conscience. . . .

The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments.

— TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, pp. 132, 135

Into the fabric of recovery from alcoholism are woven the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions. As my recovery progressed, I realized that the new mantle was tailor-made for me. The elders of the group gently offered suggestions when change seemed impossible. Everyone's shared experiences became the substance for treasured friendships. I know that the Fellowship is ready and equipped to aid each suffering alcoholic at all crossroads in life. In a world beset by many problems, I find this assurance a unique stability. I cherish the gift of sobriety. I offer God my gratitude for the strength I receive in a Fellowship that truly exists for the

THE STATUS OF "SLIPPERS"

In the first pamphlet put out in Alcoholics Anonymous, "[A Manual for Alcoholics Anonymous](#)" published in early 1940, shortly after the Big Book, by AA Group No. 1, Akron, Ohio, after Dr. Bob's Home Group had moved from his home to the Kings School in January 1940, is the following statement about the status of "Slippers". Dr. Bob probably was instrumental in the writing and distributing of this pamphlet.

"An Alcoholic Anonymous is an alcoholic who through application of and adherence to rules laid down by the organization, has completely forsworn the use of any and all alcoholic beverages. The moment he wittingly drinks so much as a drop of beer, wine, spirits, or any other alcoholic drink he automatically loses all status as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous."

That statement is still very true today, and will always be true.

The following clarifies some misunderstandings that found among today's current Fellowship taking exception to this very important statement.

As soon as a member wittingly takes a drop, they have breached the only requirement for membership, the desire to stop drinking, and they lose all status as a member ... They are always welcome back, of

course, but they start over as newcomers, from day zero and counting again, to try to see and learn how they tried to short cut the program ... hopefully to learn how to not make the same mistakes again.

The opening paragraph of Chapter Five very plainly states who these people, the slippers, are, those who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, who will not or cannot get honest with themselves.

The Program of Alcoholics Anonymous is one hundred percent effective for those who faithfully follow the rules. It is those who try to cut corners who find themselves back in their old drunken state, and newcomers again if they make it back alive. The opening paragraph of Chapter Five very plainly states who these people, the slippers, are, those who cannot or will not completely give themselves to this simple program, who will not or cannot get honest with themselves.

This, incidently, implies that some of us may not make it, we may come to the program (the Twelve Steps) over and over and yet again and we still may not make it ... Why? For one reason only, we cannot get honest with ourselves.

And if we do make it we have to stay honest with ourselves. To do that we must continue to practice the Steps, One Day At A Time.

The book in the opening paragraph of the Foreward to the First Edition uses the word "precisely" ie, "To show other alcoholics *precisely how we have recovered* is the main purpose of this book..." If we are to recover, we must follow the same path, the Program, the Steps, as *precisely* as we are able.

One thing we must come to realize once and for all is that the "Fellowship" is NOT the "Program". The Steps are the "Program". The Fellowship is where we learn to practice the Steps so that we can learn to form true partnerships with our Inner Self, with our Fellows and our Higher Power. Many have gotten sober and stayed sober with the Big Book and the Steps alone, not being in a place where a fellowship existed, or can exist, being sponsored by Bill and Dr. Bob in the first 164 pages, and in a meeting with their fellow alcoholics as they read the stories in the back of the book... They are the Loners, although they now, for the most part, have a fellowship going over the years via shortwave radio, letters, and now the net

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 3 & July 1** **NCI Business Meeting** **4:30**
District 28 Business Meeting **5:45**
Holder Community Building
- July 13-15** **NFAC Area 14 Assembly**
Gainesville
- August 14-19** **62nd Florida State Convention**
Fort Lauderdale
- September 8** **Picnic in the Park**
Rainbow Springs State Park
- September 28-30** **NFAC Area 14 Assembly**
Gainesville

What the heck is "Rule 62"?

In Alcoholics Anonymous, there is a story about a member in the 1940's who attempted to promote AA by creating three separate corporations. This was outlined in 61 rules to create the operations and get them operating. Although this behavior and plan went against the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, the man was informed by Bill Wilson every AA group is autonomous and thus the man's group had the right to go on with the plan as they saw fit. When they did and it ultimately has disastrous results, the man wrote to the New York office of AA that indeed "you were right and I was wrong." Enclosed with that letter was a golf scorecard, on it was written "Rule 62: Don't take yourself too damned seriously."

ANNIVERSARIES AROUND OUR AREA
CONGRATULATIONS ALL!

	<u>June</u>		<u>July</u>	
Crystal River Group				
	Jim P	37	Vella K	45
	Shana D	36	Jim N	41
	Ronnie G	32	Gloria T	38

<i>Jim K</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>Curly A</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Mikeal B</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>Marsha M</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>Betty G</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Rick B</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>John M</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>George B</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Kel E</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>Tom M</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Melissa A</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Joanne M</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Kay B</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Michael C</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Gail C</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>Lanell R</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Georgeann S</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>Ricky O</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Dave R</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Lynn D</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Kathy E</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Ray O</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Nikki V</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Chris C</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Matthew Mc</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Joe M</i>	<i>2</i>

Holder Way of Life

<i>Patricia H</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Mike W</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Jeff B</i>	<i>1</i>

Old Firehouse Group

<i>Bill M 8/16</i>	<i>11</i>
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Rainbow Group

<i>Kel E</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>Jack B</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Hans</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>Gene M</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Dennis B</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Ken</i>	<i>28</i>
		<i>Little Feather</i>	<i>29</i>
		<i>John L</i>	<i>32</i>

CONTRIBUTIONS

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GSO

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