



# NATURE COAST JOURNAL

March/April 2019



Nature Coast Intergroup Presents

## Spring Fling

**Saturday April 13th, 2019**

**2:00 pm to 5:30 pm**

**Whispering Pines Park**

**1700 Forest Drive**

**Inverness, FL 34453**

**Main Pavilion (PARKING AREA B)**

**Games, 50/50 raffle, food, fun,**

**Fellowship...Speaker**

Hotdogs, hamburgers, rolls, drinks, chips, soda,  
Coffee and cookies provided

**Covered dishes and desserts welcome**

**Suggested donation is \$4.00 per person  
collected at the park**

For more information or to volunteer please contact  
[events@ncintergroup.com](mailto:events@ncintergroup.com)

**March 3rd & April 14th\***

**Nature Coast Intergroup at 4:30pm**

**and District Business Meeting at 5:45pm**

## Step

Made a decision to turn our will  
and our lives over to the care of  
God *as we understood Him.*

## Tradition

The only requirement for A.A.  
membership is a desire to  
stop drinking.

## Concept

To insure effective leadership, we  
should endow each element of  
A.A. - the Conference, the General  
Service Board and its service  
corporations, staffs, committees,  
and executives - with a traditional  
"Right of Decision."

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\*The April 14th Intergroup and District meetings  
will be at a new location, Shepherd of the Hills  
Episcopal Church, 2540 W. Novell Bryant  
Highway (CR 486), Lecanto

**HOTLINE 352-621-0599**

## CONTRIBUTIONS

### District 28

P.O. Box 640914  
Beverly Hills, FL 34464

### Nature Coast Intergroup

P.O. Box 2634  
Crystal River, FL 34423

### North Florida Area Conference

5703 Red Bug Lake Road  
Unit 241  
Winter Springs, FL 32708

### General Service Office

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163

*\*Online contribution may be made by visiting  
AA.org. Credit card or E-check accepted.*

**"What it was like, What happened, and What it is like now"**

**Your story could appear in an upcoming issue.**

**Send your stories, poems,  
articles, and anniversary lists to  
[News@ncintergroup.com](mailto:News@ncintergroup.com)**

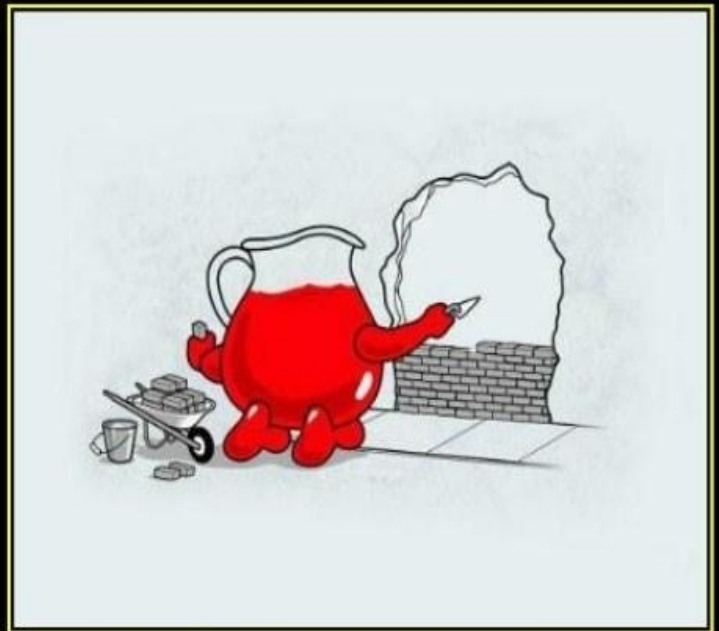
## Ch-ch-ch-changes...

The Lecanto Group located at Unity Church of Citrus County on Woodview will be changing it's meeting time to 7 pm effective Thursday March 7. It will remain in the same location and it will still be a closed meeting.

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The Attitude Adjustment Group, which meets Mondays and Wednesdays at noon, has moved to:

First Christian Church  
2018 Colonade Street  
Inverness



# MAKING AMENDS

part of the 12 Step Program

## Origin of the Idea of the "Home Group"

In many parts of the U.S. in the 1940s, you were lucky if there was any A.A. group meeting in your own town at all. That group would frequently meet only once a week, although once A.A. got big enough in a town they would have one open meeting a week where everybody and their spouses went (in a church or someplace like that), and divide the A.A. people up into several smaller subgroups, each of which met once a week for a closed meeting in someone's home. You were simply told by the leaders which subgroup you were to attend (which was your "home group" in the sense in which you are using the word) -- the Wednesday night meeting, or the Thursday night meeting, or whatever.

But in smaller towns, there would not be enough A.A. people to do that. So, you would have one A.A. meeting a week in the town where you lived (your "home group"), and then people would get together in small groups in someone's automobile and go to visit A.A. meetings in other nearby towns on some of the other nights of the week. Two or three of the visitors were often asked to stand up and give short (five or ten minute) mini-leads at the meeting they were visiting.

Even in the 1950s, the really dedicated A.A. people were still traveling to visit meetings many miles away, so that everybody in A.A. knew who people like Brownie and Goshen Bill and Nick K. and Stimpie Jersey Jim were.

You and the people who were in your "home group" became very close to one another as a result. Your sponsor would also be a member of that group, who showed up every week without fail. You would drop in on one another's homes just to chat and visit, have picnics together, and that sort of thing. You had the feeling of a really close-knit support group that you could call on instantly if you were hitting any kind of problem -- not just your sponsor, but everybody else in that group.

Over a period of time, the people in that "home group" got to know one another very well indeed. There were no secrets after a while. This was very good. Alcoholism is a disease of isolationism. Also, as one old timer puts it, "You are as sick as your secrets," and we have seen many people fail in attaining quality sobriety because they closed off other people too much and wouldn't talk about their real feelings and the real problems they were struggling with in their lives. This "home group" was a small close-knit group where you could finally come to trust a few other people enough to "tell them where it hurts."

All of this helped to produce a high success rate among these early groups. There is an A.A. group in an area which still operates much like that, that has an 81% success rate in getting people sober and keeping them sober. Of the newcomers who come to that meeting without fail once a week for a year, 90% are still sober at the end of the year. They get to know the other people in the group extremely well, and vice versa. Even if they later transfer to other meetings, 90% of that group are still sober today.

-Dean B., District 28 Archives Chair



## Upcoming Anniversaries

March & April 2019

### CRYSTAL RIVER GROUP

#### **MARCH**

Mal L	42
Shirley M	37
Jack H	35
John K	34
Ned C	32
Christine M	30
John H	30
Mike O	29
Sheila E	26
Marie W	26
Steve C	19
Keith H	9
Robert A	8
Jen A	8
Bobbi H	5
Lacy E	4
Lydia B	4
Josh R	3
James S	3

#### **APRIL**

Bob P	28
Danny P	27
Ralph B	26
Ron C	24
Harry H	18
Mark A	12
Scott C	8
Judy S	6
Kevin H	6
Francis C	6
Tara S	5
Barbara A	5
Heather C	5
Nikole	2
Garret C	1

### HOLDER WAY OF LIFE

#### **MARCH**

Al M. 39

#### **APRIL**

Terry P. 15

### WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP

#### **MARCH**

Candi A. 32

#### **APRIL**

Liz R. 28  
Fredericka L. 11  
Gail M. 1

### SOBER SAND GNATS

#### **MARCH**

Buddy H. 43  
Jack R. 6  
Scott M. 4  
Tammy G. 2

#### **APRIL**

Christ T. 30  
Michael G. 7  
Donny H. 6  
Kelly M. 3  
Gary S. 2  
Steve V. 2

### REAL HAPPY HOUR GROUP

#### **MARCH**

Jim 3  
Sharon 1

#### **APRIL**

George S. 41  
Dianna S. 17  
Kathie S. 10  
Robert B. 1  
Steve C. 1

