

The Messenger



aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP
Florida - USA

FEBRUARY 2016

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP 61st ANNUAL BANQUET



MARCH 19th, 2016



Double Tree Hotel by the Hilton
711 NW 72nd Ave. – 305.261.3800

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!

1 Ticket = \$40.00

1 Table = \$400.00



SAVE THE DATE!

and...ACCEPTANCE

Is the answer of *all* mv problems today. Pg. 417 BB



TRADITION TWO:

"For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience."

Sooner or later, every A.A. comes to depend upon a Power greater than himself. He finds that the God of his understanding is not only a source of strength, He is also a source of *positive direction*. Realizing that some fraction of that infinite resource is now available, his life takes on an entirely different complexion. He experiences a new inner security together with such a sense of destiny and purpose as he had never known before. As each day passes, our A.A. reviews his mistakes and vicissitudes. He learns from daily experience what his remaining character defects are and becomes ever more willing that they be removed. In this fashion he improves his conscious contact with God.

Every A.A. group follows this same cycle of development. We are coming to realize that each group, as well as each individual, is a special entity, not quite like any other. Though A.A. groups are basically the same, each group does have its own special atmosphere, its own peculiar state of development. We believe that every A.A. group has a conscience. It is the collective conscience of its own membership. Daily experience informs and instructs this conscience. The group begins to recognize its own defects of character and, one by one, these are removed or lessened. As this process continues, the group becomes better able to receive right direction for its own affairs. Trial and error produce group experience, and out of corrected

(Cont. on page 5)

**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

www.aamiamidade.org

Chairman

Maria Z.

Vice-Chairman

Maria S.

Treasurer

John L.

Secretary

Manuel N.

Steering Committee

Robert L.

Gary C.

Jennifer R.

Joe G.

Frank H.

Trustees

Askia K.

Doni B.

Founder's Day

Harrison K.

Intergroup Banquet

Lee A.

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

Shari T.

The Messenger

Jennifer R.

Outreach

OPEN POSITION

Public Information

OPEN POSITION

Twelve Step Relay

Frank H.

Big Service Breakfast

Maria S.

General Service Liaison

Robert L.

Spanish Intergroup

Miguel F.

Webmaster

Jennifer R.

**GENERAL SERVICE
CONTACT LIST**

www.district10miami.org

Chairman

Bruce V.

Alternate Chairperson

Ray S.

Treasurer

Dane B.

Registrar

Alex V.

Recording Secretary

Jack C.

Archives

Lisa H.

Corrections

Al P.

Current Practice

Robin L.

Grapevine

Matthew J.

Gratitude Dinner

Regina F.

Intergroup Liaison

Gerry S.

Literature

Askia K.

**Public Info/Cooperation with
the Professional Community**

Valerie M.

Special Needs

Roy P.

Treatment

Geoff G.

Big Service Breakfast

Open Position

District 17 Liaison

Ricardo M.

Remote Communities

Malachi H.

Website

Open

Mario P.

***THE MESSENGER*
Published Monthly**

by

Miami-Dade Intergroup
299 Alhambra Circle, Suite 309
Coral Gables, FL 33134-5113

Tel: (305) 461-2425

Fax: (305) 461-2426

E-mail:

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Web site:

www.aamiamidade.org

NOTICES

Notices published in
"The Messenger" are taken from
information submitted to the
Miami-Dade Intergroup Office.
Information is based on what
is current at the time of printing.
If your group discontinues a meeting
or changes it's scheduled time, please
notify Intergroup as soon as possible
at **(305) 461-2425**

Articles and opinions expressed
herein are not to be attributed to
Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole.
Further endorsements, opposing
views and rebuttals to articles
published are also welcomed. Also,
please tell us how we can improve.

Contributions to
"The Messenger"

will be gratefully accepted.
A sign-up form is on the back cover.
E-mail the Editor at:
aamiamimessenger@bellsouth.net
Please make checks payable to :

"The Messenger"

**"Came to believe that a Power greater
than ourselves could restore us to sanity."**

HOMESTEAD GROUP**66th Anniversary****FEBRUARY 20th, 2016****DINNER: 6:00pm****SPEAKER MEETING @ 7:00pm***FUN, FELLOWSHIP, RAFFLE, MUSIC!!!***INTERGROUP BENEFIT!****ADDRESS:****106 SE 2nd Road
Homestead, FL****THE DAY THE LIGHTS CAME ON**

Like most of us in AA, I spent years trying to navigate my way through the rough waters of alcoholism thinking that, someday, everything would come together and I would settle into a life that was normal, but we all know how absurd that delusion is for an undiagnosed alcoholic. I started drinking in my early teens and never drank moderately. I always drank for oblivion from the start and I believe it was to cover up emotional damage done as the result of my unsupervised, misguided, undisciplined behavior. I don't attribute that to anybody's mistreatment of me, but more to my inability to see myself as an equal to those around me. I was used to being the smallest kid in the presence of my peers and I found myself trying to get my share of attention so I often over compensated to make up for my low self esteem. I developed habits of dishonesty to make up for my short falls, and that led to a pattern of life that we in AA are familiar with.

At the young age of 28, I became desperate enough to swallow my pride and call AA for help as nothing I was doing seemed to be working. I showed up before a meeting, and 3 people were there to greet me, and within 2 minutes, THE LIGHTS CAME ON,

**I developed habits of dishonesty
to make up for my short falls,
and that led to a pattern of life
that we in A.A. are familiar with.**

GRAPEVINE ROUND UP**25th Anniversary****FUN!!****APRIL 30th, 2016****MUSIC!**

**Kendall Indian Hammocks Park
11395 SW 79th St, Miami, FL 33173**

From 10:00am till 5:00pm



in my head and I have been sober since that day. At the time, I hadn't realized it, and I was vigilant for a long time but the obsession was gone from that very first day. I made a 180% turn in most of my thinking consistent with the steps and principles of the program. The answers to all of my self esteem issues were there and all I had to do was to seek them

out as I saw others dealing with those same problems and getting positive results.

I After 45 years of attending many meetings, over a long period of time, and watching thousands of people coming and going in the program, with various reasons for being there,

and like snowflakes, no two are alike, I can almost tell when he/she comes to that point when THE LIGHTS COME ON. Seeing that happen, sometimes after years of struggle, is a touching experience. In my early days I didn't recognize it so much as I was mentally busy trying to figure out my own solutions, but as I have settled into a life that is, for the most part, peaceful, I recognize it often and it is a moving experience.

If anyone has ever watched the movie about Helen Keller entitled, **The Miracle Worker**, about a girl who was born blind and deaf.

(Cont. on pg 5)

Carta de Anonimato para los Medios de Comunicación
Oficina de Servicios Generales de Alcohólicos Anónimos

Octubre de 2015

ALCOHÓLICOS ANÓNIMOS (NOTA DE AGRADECIMIENTO – PEDIDO DE COLABORACIÓN)

Periódicamente le escribimos a nuestros amigos de los medios de comunicación pública para agradecerles por ayudarnos a observar nuestra tradición de anonimato de larga trayectoria para los miembros de Alcohólicos Anónimos.

En primer término, les queremos expresar a ustedes nuestra profunda gratitud. Desde los comienzos de A.A. en 1935, sus miembros han reconocido que la palabra de boca en boca no es suficiente por sí misma para llevar el mensaje del programa de esperanza y recuperación a todas las personas que aún sufren de la enfermedad del alcoholismo. Los medios de comunicación pública han sido una parte esencial de este esfuerzo, y en la actualidad estimamos que existen más de 2 millones de miembros exitosamente recuperados en Alcohólicos Anónimos en más de 180 países.

En segundo lugar, les pedimos respetuosamente que continúen colaborando con nosotros para mantener el anonimato de los miembros de A.A. El principio de anonimato es una doctrina básica de nuestra comunidad. Aquellos que se muestran reticentes a buscar nuestra ayuda pueden superar sus miedos si confían en que el anonimato será respetado. Además, y quizás esto sea más difícil de entender, nuestra tradición de anonimato actúa como una restricción para los miembros de A.A., recordándonos que somos un programa de principios, no de personalidades, y que ningún miembro individual de A.A. puede pretender actuar como vocero o líder de nuestra comunidad. Si un miembro de A.A. es identificado en los medios de comunicación, le pedimos que usen solamente su nombre de pila (p.ej. Bob S. o Alice F.) y que no utilicen fotografías o imágenes electrónicas en las que puedan reconocerse sus caras.

Una vez más, les agradecemos por su permanente colaboración. Quienes deseen saber más acerca de nuestra comunidad sírvanse visitar la sección "Recursos Mediáticos" en www.aa.org. Si bien nuestra comunidad no hace comentarios sobre asuntos de confrontación pública, nos complace brindarles información acerca de A.A. a cualquiera que pueda estar interesado.

Atentamente,
Comité de Información Pública (de Alcohólicos Anónimos)



LA VIDA EN EL CARRIL RÁPIDO

Aceptación es cuando estás en la cola de la caja de un supermercado para diez o menos artículos, hay una persona adelante que tiene más de diez y eso ya no te molesta. Si ya no cuentas la cantidad de artículos que está comprando la persona que está adelante, entonces eso es serenidad.

Paul K. Beverly, MA



UN PAVO MUY ESPECIAL

Un cazador había estado siguiendo pavos salvajes durante años sin éxito.

Sin embargo, un día un pavo caminó a ciegas hacia él y, sin perder tiempo, el cazador le disparó.

El pavo salvaje es escurridizo, con una vista y un oído muy agudos, y el hombre sospechó que el ave estaba lastimada o enferma. Un examen

cuidadoso demostró que ninguna de esas opciones era cierta pero, al limpiarlo para cocinarlo, el cazador descubrió que estaba repleto de uvas fermentadas. !

El pavo estaba borracho!

D.R. Corning, NY

TRADITION TWO (Cont. from pg. 1)

experience comes custom. When a customary way of doing things is definitely proved to be best, then that custom forms into A.A. Tradition. The Greater Power is then working through a clear group conscience. We humbly hope and believe that our growing A.A. Tradition will prove to be the will of God for us. Many people are coming to think that Alcoholics Anonymous is, to some extent, a new form of human society. In our discussion of the 1st Tradition, it was emphasized that we have, in A.A., no coercive human authority. Because each A.A., of necessity, has a sensitive and responsive conscience, and because alcohol will discipline him severely if he backslides, we are finding we have little need for man-made rules or regulations. Despite the fact that we do veer off at times on tangents, we are becoming more able to depend absolutely on the long-term stability of the A.A. group itself. With respect to its own affairs, the collective conscience of the group will, given time, almost surely demonstrate its perfect dependability. The group conscience will, in the end, prove a far more infallible guide for group affairs than the decision of any individual member, however good or wise he may be. This is a striking and almost unbelievable fact about Alcoholics Anonymous. Hence we can safely dispense with those exhortations and punishments seemingly so necessary to other societies. And we need not depend overmuch on inspired leaders. Because our active leadership of service can be truly rotating, we enjoy a kind of democracy rarely possible elsewhere. In this respect we may be, to a large degree, unique.

Therefore we of Alcoholics Anonymous are certain that there is but one ultimate authority, "a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience."

Bill W.

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THE DAY THE LIGHTS CAME ON (Cont. from pg. 3)

She woke up each day in total *silence and darkness*. Imagine how that would be. In desperation, they brought in a teacher, Anne Sullivan, to help them with this unbearable state of hopelessness. Anne started working with her to teach her tactile sign language, and at some point, after much frustration, she finally learns her first word, WATER, in the scene at the water pump. To this day, it's the most touching scene I've ever watched. It's like the Lights came on in her head and it opened up the world of communication for the first time in her life. That is the way I feel when I see someone in the program crosses over that line of denial and make that 180% turn. Whenever anybody comes to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous in *the state of spiritual darkness*, I hope that someone will always be there to help them find the light switch.

Rich R., Miami-FL

New Group!**"NOONERS ON THE BAY"**

New Meeting!

THURSDAYS @ 12:00pm

**Starting
JANUARY 7th, 2016
(O,D)**



Trinity Cathedral

464 NE 16th St. - Miami, 33132
(Near the Adrienne Arsht Ctr., People Mover & Metro Rail)
(Parking is **Free** for meeting makers)

BIG BOOK RAFFLE

1st Edition - 14th Printing

No need to be present at the Banquet to win!



**1 Ticket - \$ 5.00
3 Tickets - \$10.00**

**Miami-Dade Intergroup
61st Annual Banquet**

FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

YES! I want to participate in the Faithful Fiver's Club.

Contribution information: Date: _____

Amount: _____ Monthly: _____ Quarterly _____ Annually _____

(Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$3,000 per year)

I am a new member _____ Current member _____ Returning member _____

PAYMENT PLAN

Check enclosed: _____ Credit card: _____ Visa _____ M/C _____ CVS _____

Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration Date: _____/_____/_____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone number: () _____ - _____

_____ Yes, I would like my name to be added in the messenger!

_____ No, I would like to remain anonymous!



FAITHFUL FIVER FRIENDS! are fellow A.A. members who contribute \$5.00 a month to Intergroup as an act of gratitude. Their generosity helps us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholic throughout the year.

Thank you to our FAITHFUL FIVER'S....Your contributions are very much appreciated!

Gary C. & Friends; Phillip S.; Charlie C.; Stanley J.; Doni B.; Maria Z.; Anonymous Key Biscayne; Anonymous Young, Sober & Free; Lee A., Jersey Girl - South Dade; Michael S.; Anonymous South Miami Men's; Ten @ Sobe Anonymous; Anonymous West Miami, Biker's in Recovery Anonymous.

NOTICES:

GS District 10
GRAPEVINE
Committee Meetings
Coral Room
1100 Ponce de Leon Blvd. CG
1st Sunday of the Month
@ 2:00pm

GS District 10
Business Meeting
1st Tuesday of the Month
at 7:30pm at the
CG Congregational Church
3010 De Soto Blvd., CG

GS District 10
TREATMENT COMMITTEE
For more information go to
www.district10miami.org

GS District 10
PI/CPC
Last Saturday of the Month
EVEN MONTHS
Coral Room @ 3:00pm
1100 Ponce de Leon Blvd. CG
ODD MONTHS
Upper Room @ 3:00pm
822 NE 125th St. # 111, NM

**Forgiving Self?**

It seemed as though my Fourth Step had enough guilty substance to last several lifetimes. I have been told many times that the reason I felt guilty because I *was* guilty. Very true! But then, I listened to people around the AA tables who reiterated as how they had forgiven themselves. Well, I had tried that from the first time I was released from a terrifying experience. I remember the Judge pointing his angry finger at me shouting: "*You have disgraced your mother and father . . . I don't feel sorry for you at all! Ninety days in the Indiana Penal farm.*" There had been three drunken arrests in a row at age nineteen, yet luck was on my side; in finality I was released to the custody of my father, but wow, did I feel guilty! But for the sake of relief I found reason to believe that I was a victim because the cops were always after me. It was *not* my fault! I seemed to forgive myself, but yet that annoying hole in my stomach only grew larger.

As my drunken misadventures continued throughout my twenties and thirties I would seek solace from my bar room buddies, and they would agree with me—I was just an unfortunate victim having bad luck. I believed that, too! Yet that cavity of the stomach grew evermore annoying and painful. The truth is painful, but so long as I could drink on a lie, I could find some comfort, at least while drunk. I believe that an alcoholic cannot drink on the truth; an alcoholic can only drink on a lie—and I was an expert at believing lies.

After some time sober—guilt still all knotted up in my stomach—I heard someone say: "*Self cannot remove guilt with self.*" If that was true, then who can? The answer came to me on page 86 of our Big Book (bottom of 1st full paragraph): "*After making our review, we ask God's forgiveness and inquire what corrective measures should be taken.*" [Bold emphasis mine] Of course, here the Big Book is about a nighttime critical analysis of the previous day, but I now use this for my entire past life. I now try to live in the spirit of Steps Ten, Eleven and Twelve, thereby practicing the "corrective measures" mentioned above.

Consequently, save for brief moments, that guilty pain has disappeared.
Thank you God!
Bob S., Richmond, IN

DECEMBER**CORAL GABLES**

Tina B. 1 Jacqueline 12
 Ariani 1 Armando B. 13
 Brenda P. 3 Larry G. 13
 Lourdes B. 3 Maria T. 14
 Jessica R. 3 Jacki G. 15
 Ben G. 4 Juan M. 23
 Ricky M. 4 Adam T. 23
 Meryl G. 5 Gena K. 24
 George L. 5 Bob D. 24
 Freddy D. 6 Joel M. 25
 Bob B. 7 Dan B. 26
 Ma. Isabel 9 Rob M. 29
 Robert A. 11 Jerry 33

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Richard 1
 Malika 1
 Ivan 1
 Angela 2
 Humberto 2
 Mel 4
 Kim B. 4
 Cory 4
 Alex 4
 Dan 5
 Robert 6
 Raul P. 15
 Tony 16
 Aly 21
 Iggy 24
 Lewie 25

SUNSET

Alexandra B.1
 Florie 2
 Jose B. 3
 Gustavo R. 4
 Matt S. 5
 Maria F. 6
 Kevin C. 7
 Pamela S. 13
 Cary 15
 Rosy G.16
 Frank G. 19
 Joe T.19

DAILY MAINTENANCE

Eileen 6
 Megan 7
 Celeste M. 13

HOMESTEAD

Mark R. 1
 Luis Z. 2
 Jade M. 3
 Rich H. 5
 Judi J. 23
 James W. 25
 Lil Mac 37

**JANUARY****BIKER'S IN RECOVERY**

Aly 21

HOMESTEAD

Willie E. 1
 Vicky M. 1
 Chris F. 4
 Kevin P. 6
 Luisa R. 6
 Myrna 6
 Lazaro G. 7
 Renee F. 7
 Michael H. 11
 Flo M.14

HAPPY HOUR

Megan M. 7
 Stevie 7
 Lori R. 9
 Celeste M. 13
 Eudeley R. 17
 Fred D. 21
 Jack M. 25

**TWO MEN ATTENDED A FUNERAL.**

One of them knew the deceased as a drinking buddy; the other questioned him about the corpse.

"What killed your friend?" he asked.

"Oh, booze killed him."

"Did he ever try that A.A. business?"

"Oh, no!" replied the friend with surprise. "He wasn't really all that bad." - Anonymous

SOLUTIONS

Andrew 1

BREAKFAST CLUB

Daniela 6
 Stevie 7
 Kate Mc G. 19
 Joey 20

MIXED NUTS

Andrew M. 1
 Marc 5

SOUTH DADE

David H. 1
 Raylene 2
 Bruce 2
 Clerin 2
 Russell W. 2
 Rachelle 3
 Jason 4
 Karen 5
 Bryan S. 5
 Nellie 6
 Ben T. 6
 Richard V. 16
 Peter C. 18
 Victoria 33

Group Conscience/ Business/Service Meetings

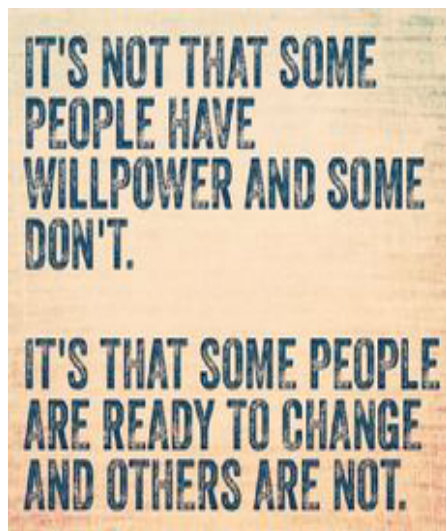
Brickell Group / 3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm
 Coral Gables Group / 3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm
 Good Morning Group / 3rd Wednesday @ 11:00am
 Happy 1060 / 3rd Sunday @ 11:45am
 Homestead Group / 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm
 Lincoln Road YP / 3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 Little River Group / 2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 Miami Young People / 3rd Saturday @ 7:30pm
 Night Owl Group / 2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 North Miami Group / Last Wednesday @ 7:15pm
 Palmetto Bay / 3rd Wednesday @ 6:35pm
 Primary Purpose / Last Wednesday @ 6:45pm
 Quinto Paso / 1st Monday @ 7:00pm
 Rise, Shine & Awake / Last Monday @ 7:29am
 Sabal Palm / 3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm
 Sober Way Out / 3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm
 Something Happens / 1st Saturday @ 10:00am
 South Dade / 3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm
 South Dixie / 2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm
 Sunset / 2nd Friday @ 7:00pm
 West Miami / 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm
 We Stopped in Time / 1st Monday @ 9:35pm
 Young, Sober and Free / Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

**Group Anniversary Meetings**

Almeria Group / Last Tuesday @ 7:30pm
 Coral Gables Group / Last Monday @ 8:00pm
 Grupo Central / Last Sunday @ 1:00pm
 Good Morning Group / Last Friday @ 10:00am
 Happy 1060 / Last Sunday @ 10:45am
 Homestead Group / Last Thursday @ 8:30pm
 Key Biscayne Group / Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 Killian Pines / Last Friday @ 8:00pm
 K.I.S.S. / Last Friday @ 12:15pm
 Lincoln Road YP / Last Sunday @ 7:00pm
 Little River Group / Last Wednesday @ 8:30pm
 Miami Springs / Last Monday @ 7:30pm
 Miami Young People / Last Saturday @ 8:30pm
 North Miami Group / Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 Palmetto Bay / Last Saturday @ 5:30pm
 Plymouth / Last Wednesday @ 7:00pm
 Primary Purpose Group / Last Saturday @ 8:30pm
 Rise, Shine & Awake / Last Friday @ 7:29am
 Sabal Palm Group / Last Sunday @ 7:00pm
 Shamrock / Last Tuesday @ 8:30pm
 Sober Way Out / Last Friday @ 8:30
 Something Happens / Last Saturday @ 9:00am
 South Dade / Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 South Dixie / Last Saturday @ 7:30pm
 Stepping Stones / Last Monday @ 11am
 Sunset / Last Saturday @ 8:30pm
 West Miami / Last Friday @ 8:30pm
 We Stopped in Time / Last Monday
 Young, Sober and Free / Last Sunday

If your group would like to be listed please let us know.

congratulations!



Do you want to know..... How can you help? How can you do service? Come to our next monthly meeting of Miami-Dade Intergroup which will be held on Thursday-March 10th, 2016 @ 8:00pm (Iglesia Metodista Unida - 133 Ponce de Leon Blvd. - Miami)

This is a great opportunity to do service! For more info call: (305) 461-2425

For comments / suggestions e-mail us - Editor: jamc13@bellsouth.net or aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Help Support "The Messenger"**This Publication Belongs To You!****To make address changes you can notify the Intergroup Office or mail in the form below.****To subscribe to "The Messenger" please fill out the form below and mail with your \$12.00 donation.****Please make checks payable to:**

**Miami-Dade Intergroup
c/o The Messenger
299 Alhambra Circle - Suite 309
Coral Gables, FL 33134-5113**

Name: _____**Address:** _____**City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip** _____

Please Note: When you mail in this form, feel free to add something you would like to share with the fellowship (a thought, a story, something you heard at a meeting).

Help us carry the message!

The Messenger

**Miami-Dade Intergroup
299 Alhambra Circle - Suite 309
Coral Gables, FL 33134-5113
Phone: 305.461.2425 (24 hours)
Fax: 305.461.2426**

