The Messenger **MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP**



aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

February 2017

4315 NW 7th St. Suite 36 - Miami, FL 33126 / 305.461.2425 (24 hrs) / 305.461.2426 (Fax) / www.aamiamidade.org

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP 62ND ANNUAL BANQUET

"WE WANT THE HAND OF AA ALWAYS TO BE THERE"

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

MARCH 18, 2017 Double Tree Hotel by Hilton

Tickets \$ 40.00 per person \$400.00 per table



2

THE MESSENGER

Groups we need your help!

We are looking for groups that would like to donate a basket with A.A. approved Literature for our

62nd Annual Intergroup Banquet

March 18th, 2017

Double Tree Hotel by Hilton – 711 NW 72nd Ave. - Miami



Books will be for sale at cost for these baskets!



Please contact: the Intergroup Office at (305) 461.2425

HOMESTEAD GROUP 67th Anniversary FEBRUARY 11th, 2017

Coffee Social: 5:00pm

Dinner: 6:00pm

Speaker Meeting @ 7:30pm

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, 50/50 RAFFLE!



*ASL Available



Redland Community Church 14601 SW 248th St. Homestead, FL – 305.245.1796



THE SPEED OF LIFE

I'm seven years old and every adult in my immediate environment is drinking daily and it isn't hard for me to get a taste of beer, if I wanted, but I don't necessarily like the taste, so no problem. I'm ten years old and beer is beginning to taste better but still not my favorite, but a little sip of whiskey, now and then, tastes o.k. but it's harder to get the adults to give it up. I'm thirteen years old and my friend and I talk an old drunk into buying us a few quarts of beer, and we commence to get drunk for the first time in our lives, and now I know why all those adults drink this stuff every night. I was giddy, sloppy, stupid, sick and eventually unconscious. I woke up the next morning and went off to school with a nasty hangover. I was in the eighth grade at that time. Still it was no problem.

From that time on my mind was consumed with thoughts of how I was going to repeat that wonderful experience. As I started high school I worked in a bowling alley from six pm till ten thirty pm, setting up pins and when we got off, we would go straight to a sleazy bar where we could get someone to buy beer for us. From there, we would go to an abandoned school building and drink till all the beer was gone, get into fist fights with each other, wake up the next morning with black eyes, skinned up knuckles and elbows, go back to school and come up with some ridicules' story about what had happened.

I'm sixteen years old and I'm allowed to party with the adults and shortly after getting my driver's license, I am asked to drive someone home, and on the return trip, I missed a turn and smashed into a parked car. I continue to drink unabated, I quit school in May of my senior year with almost no resistance, Join the navy in August of that same year, locked up for gang fighting, have my second drunk driving accident when I drive into a gas station and hit a car at the pump.

I continue this kind of behavior for ten more years and am lucky to have survived after more trips to jail, failed marriage, broken bones, cuts and bruises and broken relations with almost everyone that means anything to me. I'm twenty eight years old surrender and show up at A.A. coming out of a blackout. I am greeted on the front lawn of a little yellow house in the suburbs that is being used to hold meetings, by three people who welcome this stranger with opened arms as though they are expecting me. They began to listen patiently to my tales of woe, nodding as they seem to understand. Their eyes are soft and gentle and I feel their compassion.

At the young age of twenty eight, I believed that my life was over but, one of them says "life isn't passing you by near as fast as you think it is" and they say, come inside and have a cup of coffee. They were right; I had a profound change of perception and all of those bad days are but a distant memory. The obsession was gone and it has never returned. In my first year of sobriety I met a young lady who was not an alcoholic but was curious about a fleet sailor who was divorced, had a young child, and was an alcoholic, and I suppose she sensed something in me that intrigued her. The more we talked about my aspirations and the type of principles I was learning to live by, the closer we became. We were married

 $(Cont.\ on\ page\ 5)$



WHEN: MARCH 4th, 2017 Saturday

WHERE: 609 Brickell Avenue, Miami, FL

DINNER at 6PM
SPEAKER at 8 PM
Great Guest Speaker



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

LEGACY NIGHT







Enjoy three speakers in one night discussing our Three Legacies:

RECOVERY, UNITY AND SERVICE

Evening of Saturday, February 18th, 2017

West Dixie Club at 8:30pm – 3 Speakers

Homestead Club - Ice Cream Social at 7:00pm - 3 Speakers

Sunset Room - Potluck Dinner at 5:30pm - 3 Speakers @ 8:30pm

Groups and individuals can purchase tickets to the INTERGROUP 62nd ANNUAL BANQUET that night!

Individuals can also purchase the 1st EDITION BIG BOOK raffle tickets!

West Dixie Club: 1636 NE 148th St. - North Miami, FL Homestead Alano Club: 124 SE 1st Rd. - Homestead, FL Sunset Room: 6999 N. Waterway Dr. - Miami, FL

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:
Raz S. at: <u>intergroupbanquet@gmail.com</u>
or at the Intergroup office 305.461.2425.

EASE OF SOBRIETY

HAPPY SOBRIETY is not the result of not drinking. It is the result of a new way of life. We cannot live a new life in the way that we used to live the old one. To think that we can is like thinking that we can control our drinking. The habits of the old life are not compatible with those of the new one and the new one, because it is new, is simple.

When our ego is finally busted and our sick will completely broken we become aware, often very gradually, of a supreme power which makes the program of Alcoholics Anonymous work. With this growing awareness that we are not God we are enabled to receive forgiveness and love. Thus cleansed by this feeling of forgiveness, relaxed and strengthened by this love, we are able to start the adventure of living with gratitude and simple trust. Whereas before, in our drinking days, every detail was a problem, now most problems are a detail. They are that way to God. They will stay that way unless we wrestle with them.

God salvaged the human wreckage which was us and one way or another, in spite of ourselves, shunted us into Alcoholics Anonymous. We do not know why, but we know it is intended for us to be happy in our new way of life and that to maintain our happiness we must seek to share it. It is a simple rule that when we give we get, and we can give to anyone, anywhere, any time. The day is bulging with opportunity. The day is as good as we let it be.

I read in the Big Book one short sentence in the chapter "Into Action." It says, "We don't struggle." To struggle means, eventually, to drink. To struggle means to take every opportunity and turn it into a problem which cannot be solved. To struggle means to clutch to ourselves fear, pride, shame, remorse, jealousy, dishonesty, conceit and selfishness; to make a great show of overcoming; and then, in an orgy of self-pity, to be overcome.

If that is what we want we can get it straight and quickly in one short drink, a drink that will never, never end. But we want it no more because we have learned through experience a truth which cannot be refuted, a living truth which is responsible for the pulse-beat at our wrists today: that we were specially blessed people made to live abundantly, and more abundantly still, made to know humility—and joy—and new life. Our life is made worthwhile. It takes time to learn to live the new way. It takes time to uncomplicate ourselves. It takes experience to learn by experience. It takes just as long as it takes—but meanwhile with our new-found gifts of honesty, open-mindedness and willingness we are very much taken up in something which we had no part of before: living life in the world as it is, and liking it. Our selfishness begins to fall away through neglect as we start giving of what we have, and the least of what we have in AA is hope for the hopeless and love for the loveless.

The program of AA is unlimited. Its healing action is infinite.

Moreover it is not intricate. It is simple, straight-forward and proven. It works.

Tony W. London, England

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Concept II

When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference --excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter -- the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole society.

LO PRIMERO ES LO PRIMERO

En A.A. logra tener mucho más que 24 horas sobria.

En 1998 visité el grupo "Buena Voluntad" de Ciudad Juárez, en Chihuahua, México. Ahí conocí la comunidad de Alcohólicos Anónimos y me pasaron el mensaje. En el grupo me trataron como si yo fuese la persona más importante. Pero en ese tiempo yo no escuchaba nada, me creía superior a todos, la soberbia me encegueció, no entendí o quizá no era mi momento para quedarme en este maravilloso programa.

Entraba y salía de los grupos como alma en pena, usando todas mis fuerzas para dejar de beber. Hasta que finalmente estuve tres meses en el grupo "Sí se puede" de la misma ciudad, pero sin poder ocupar la silla que se me destinaba. Fueron seis años cayéndome y levantándome.

Lo peor de todo fue que los temblores y la ansiedad por otro trago eran cada vez más frecuentes, así como las lagunas mentales.

Cada día era de sufrimiento porque luchaba conmigo misma para no tomar y beber, pero siempre el alcohol estaba ahí recordándome que era lo único que me hacía olvidar mis tragedias, y si había alguna alegría, la botella estaba junto a mí.

Pensar en mi pasado y, sobre todo, en mis recaídas no es agradable, pero eso me da fortaleza para vivir mis veinticuatro horas con más ganas porque es difícil vivir una vida sin esperanzas, viendo las lágrimas de mi madre y sintiendo como una bomba en mi cabeza el eco de los ruegos de mi padre para que dejara el vicio de la bebida.

Ahora que tengo cuatro años sin beber me doy cuenta que el permanecer sobria un día a la vez, es el regalo más preciado que tengo. En AA he aprendido a vivir sin alcohol y a descubrir que el alcohol envasado en las botellas viene mezclado con resentimientos, ira, envidias y rabia.

Hoy puedo decir que esas recaídas eran producto de mi juicio perturbado, sumida en la soledad, sin fe, y, fundamentalmente, sin quererme a mí misma.

Después de estar yendo y viniendo en los grupos de AA, ahora, que puedo disfrutar de mi sobriedad y compartir con mi esposo, despertar sin temblores en el cuerpo y sin lagunas mentales, ya no tengo que regresar a comprobar si soy alcohólica.

También hoy disfruto de la soledad, puedo saborear esos momentos, tal como un bonito mensaje que me mandó un AA: "El sol está solo y no por eso deja de brillar". Y es que yo ya no estoy sola, ahora tengo a mis hermanos de la comunidad a quienes veo cada noche en mis juntas, porque asistiendo a las juntas seguiré de pie después de los terremotos de las recaídas.

Me siento contenta de estar escribiendo y poder pasar este mensaje al que sufrió, o aún sufre, de una recaída o al que está sufriendo por no poder quedarse. Les puedo compartir, que con un poquito de esfuerzo de uno mismo, con un milésimo grano de fe y con toda la vida puesta en manos de ese Poder Superior, se puede pisar en tierra firme sin tener que naufragar en mar abierto. Hoy puedo.

Les quiero decir que "Sólo por hoy", "Lo primero es lo primero" y "Vive y deja vivir", son los axiomas con los que me levanto cada mañana. Esto es Alcohólicos Anónimos, un lugar desde donde se desprende el amor genuino que cada alcohólico tiene en su corazón.

-Martha C., El Paso, TX

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El Don Compartido

A.A. es algo más que un conjunto de principios; es una sociedad de alcohólicos en acción. Debemos llevar el mensaje, pues, de no hacerlo, nosotros mismos podemos debilitarnos y aquellos a quienes no se les ha comunicado la verdad, pueden perecer.

La fe es nuestro don más precioso; compartirla con otros es nuestra responsabilidad más grande. Que los A.A. busquemos siempre la sabiduría y la buena voluntad por medio de las cuales podamos cumplir con el cometido importantísimo que el Donante de todas las dádivas perfectas ha depositado en nuestras manos.

1. Manuel de Servicio, pág. S1 - 2. Grapevine, Abril de 1961

iNunca Más!

"La mayoría de la gente se siente más segura con el plan de 24 horas que con la resolución de no volver a beber nunca. La mayoría han roto ya demasiadas resoluciones. En realidad es una cuestión de elección personal: cada miembro tiene el privilegio de interpretar el programa según le parezca.

"Personalmente, adopto la actitud de que tengo la intención de no beber nunca. Esta es ligeramente distinta a decir: 'No beberé nunca más'. Esta última postura puede a veces meter a la gente en dificultades, porque es pretender hacer en un plan personal lo que los alcohólicos no podrían hacer nunca. Se trata demasiado de un acto de voluntad, y deja muy poco espacio para la idea de que Dios nos liberará de la obsesión de beber con tal que siga-

mos el programa de A.A.". Carta 1949



Suspensión Diaria

No estamos curados del alcoholismo. Lo que en realidad tenemos es una suspensión diaria de nuestra sentencia, que depende del mantenimiento de nuestra condición espiritual.

Nosotros los miembros de A.A. obedecemos a principios espirituales, primero porque es forzoso que lo hagamos, y finalmente porque nos agrada la clase de vida que nos trae esa obediencia. Los grandes sufrimientos y el gran amor son los disciplinarios de los A.A.; no

Alcoholicos Anonimos, pg.79
 Doce y Doce, pg. 183

necesitamos tener otros.

FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

Yes, I want to partice Contribution information: Amount:	Monthly:	Quarterly:					
(Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$3,000 per year)							
I am a new Member: PAYMENT PLAN	Current Me	ember:		Returning Mem	ber:		
Check Enclosed:	Credit Card:	Visa	_ MC	Amex	CVS:		
Card #:			_ Expiration	n date:/_			
Name on Card:		Address:					
City:	State:	Zip Code: _		Tel: _()_			
Yes, I would like					uld like to remain anonymous!		

FAITHFUL FIVER FRIENDS are fellow A.A. members who contribute \$5.00 a month to the Intergroup Office as an act of gratitude. Their generosity help us to carry the message of A.A. to the still sick and suffering alcoholics throughout the year! THANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL FIVER'S....Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Gary C. & Friends; Stanley J., Doni B; Maria Z., Lee A. South Dade, Penny South Dade, Michael S., Anonymous South Miami Men's, Gayle South Dade, Laura South Dade; Isabel South Dade, Anonymous South Dade, Anonymous West Miami, Biker's in Recovery Anonymous, Manuel N., Brickell Circle, John G. South Dade

COMMITTEES MEETINGS:

GS DISTRICT 10
Monthly Business Meeting
1st Tuesday of the month
at 7:30pm at the
CG Congregational Ch.
3010 De Soto Blvd., CG

GS DISTRICT 10 TREATMENT Committe For more information go to www.district10miami.org

GS District 10 PI/CPC
Last Saturday of the month
and Even Months
Coral Room @ 3:00pm
1100 Ponce de Leon Blvd.
Odd Months
Upper Room @ 3:00pm
822 NE 125th St. # 111, NM

SPEED OF LIFE (Cont. from page 2)

married on October 31, 1970 and have been together ever since. She is the happiest wife I know and needless to say, I hit the Jackpot. Since embracing the program we have gained the love and respect of my first wife and we have been kind and understanding towards her as well and my son has been witness to all of this. Since that very first day in the program I have been practicing the twelve steps to the best of my ability and understanding and it has been a wonderful experience. I wouldn't trade places with the richest man on this planet. I couldn't be more grateful for the way I was welcomed when I needed hope and understanding. I felt safe for the first time in my life. My hope is that all who arrive at the doors of A.A. can be accepted with the same love and kindness that I experienced. I'm seventy five years old and on my way to one hundred +and life is awesome.

Today I celebrate another birthday. A year ago today I decided to live. I decided I could make my way back from anything. Today I am accountable to someone other than myself. My job is to show up willing and wide eyed, and to be that glimmer of light I saw in someone else that gave me the hope I needed to come out on the other side. To that special someone, you know who you are, I couldn't have taken this spiritual journey without you or your quidance. Thank you for being my spiritual mentor. I love you unconditionally because I needed you to love me and believe in me before I could love myself- and you did. In the face of the impossible I was inspired. So today I am here to be that glimmer of light for those who are still in the mist of the struggle and to show others that there is another BEAUTIFUL way to live. That there is a way out of living in your own head and that you can be free from the bondage of self; so long you choose to be. I didn't know peace existed. I didn't know what peace felt like but today I know Peace isn't always a permanent state. It can exist in moments. Fleeting. Gone before we even knew it was there. Every day we all experience these moments of peace. The trick is to know when they are happening so we can embrace them, live in them. And today that is how I choose to live my life. It was as simple, yet complicated, as making a decision. Like my father told me my whole life- life is about making choices. And today I choose to live, I choose to be sober, I choose to smile and love myself first. I choose to trust god. I choose to ask for help. But most importantly. I choose to help others. May god bless all of those who have not yet found this way of life. Adriana G., Miami, FL

INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

aamiamidade.org

Chairman

Gary C.

Vice-Chair

Robert L.

Treasurer

John L.

Secretary

Manuel N.

Steering Committee

Remilda G.

Raz S.

Lee A.

Jennifer R.

Aly P.

Trustees

Maria Z.

Doni B.

Askia K.

Founder's Day

Barry G.

Intergroup Banquet

Raz S.

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

Shari T.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

Manuel N.

Public Information

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Laura N.

Big Service Breakfast

OPEN POSITION

General Service Liaison

Keith D.

Spanish Intergroup

OPEN POSITION

Webmaster

Jennifer R.

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www.district10miami.org

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Alternate Chairperson

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Big Service Breakfast

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OPEN POSITION

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OPEN POSITION

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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 schedule time, please notify Intergroup as soon as possible at (305) 461-2425

Articles and opinions expressed herein 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: aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Please make checks payable to: MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP



TRADITION TWO



"For our group purpose there is one but ultimate authority--a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

SOBER WAY OUT

Alexis A. 1 Donato G. 1 Cory S. 2 Johnny Y. 5 Stefanie H. 6 Robert B. 11 Kenneth T. 12 Patrick R. 12 Mechelle L. 13 Eudaly R. 18 David H. 20 Yasaar M. 24 Michael L. 32

SUNSET

David V. 1 Aimee A. 1 Will S. 1 Florida G. 3 Jose V. 4 Gustave R. 5 Matt S. 6 Maria F. 7 Kevin C. 8 Rosy G. 17 Joe T. 19 Frank G. 20

SOUTH DIXIE

Marco F. 3 Luisa R. 7 Lynn A. 11 Liz R. 27 Gerard G. 33 Russell S. 36

SABAL PALM

Mark D. 1 Luz M. 2 Victor H. 2 Hilda S. 3 Carlos A. 3 Denise V. 4 Jorge P. 5 Amos L. 5 Tai M. 5 Kathi T. 8 Jennifer M. 12 Marcelle G. 12 Kathleen Y. 14 Nancy B. 14 Rita C. 21 Graham G. 22 Luis M. 22 Connie G. 29 Lisa M. 30 Mary L. 32

JANUARY

CORAL GABLES

Ruben 1 Gisel 1 Betty 1 Camille 1 Rafael P. 2 Emily 3 Susan 4 Tere 4 Daisy O. 4 Meryl 6 Kent 9 Den W. 9 Miguel P. 10 Tom F. 11 Manny M. 12 Ryan L. 14 Elizabeth 15 Jeannie 16 Bernie V. 16 Peter C. 19 Geoff C. 20 Eddie R. 22 Shawn S. 24 Gina 25 Pamela D. 27 Nelly 30 Peg 44

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Margie 1 Ray 1 Ivan 2 Malika 2 Humberto 3 Angela 3 Kim 5 Cory 5 Alex 5 Dan 6 Lisa H. 6 Robert 7 Edsel 8 Tony 17 Aly 22 Iggy 25 Lewie 26

SOUTH DADE

Abby 1 Clerin 3 Karen M. 6 Bryan S. 6 Nellie 7 Richard V. 17 Peter C. 19 Mike M. 33 Victoria 34



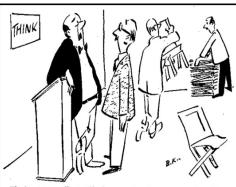
NORTH MIAMI

James B. 2 Bijou. 5 Julie P. 8 Peter V. 8 Art W. 12 Valerie M. 25 Ruth G. 25 Mary S. 36

FEBRUARY

GOOD MORNING

Jacqueline P. 1 Dennis T. 5 Paula S. 6 Sherman L. 6 Nav C. 15 John B. 18 Ernie 26 Lee-Lee 42



"I give an excellent talk, because I put across my sincerity and humility!"

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



Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm Coral Gables Group/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Good Morning Group/3rd Friday @11:00am Happy 1060 Group/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 @ 7:00pm New Beginner's # 2/2nd Thursday @ 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 Sabal Palm/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm Sober Way Out/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm Something Happens/1st Saturday @ 10:00am South Dade Group/3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings

We Stopped in Time/1st Monday @ 9:35pm Young, Sober &Free/Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm

South Dixie Group/2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm

West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm

Group Anniversaries

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 Group/Last Sunday @ 10:45am Homestead Group/Last Thursday @ 8:30pm Key Biscayne Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Killian Pines Group/Last Friday @ 8:00pm Lincoln Road YP/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Little River Group/Last Wednesday @ 8:30pm Miami Springs Group/Last Monday @ 7:30pm Miami Young People/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm North Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Palmetto Bay Group/Last Saturday @ 5:30pm Plymouth Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:00pm Primary Purpose/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm Sabal Palm Group/Last Sunday @ 7:00pm Shamrock Group/Last Tuesday @ 8:30pm Sober Way Out/Last Friday @ 8:30pm Something Happens/Last Saturday @ 9:00am South Dade Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm South Dixie Group/Last Saturday @ 7:30pm Sunset Group/Last Friday @ 7:30pm West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm We Stopped in Time/Last Monday Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

Miami Bid for FCYPAA meets the second Friday of every month at 7:30pm at the South **Miami Treatment Center** located at: 6900 SW 80th St Miami, FL 33143

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 9th, 2017 @ 8:00pm (To be announced) 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 for a yearly contribution.

Please make checks payable to: MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP c/o The Messenger

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, a joke or something you heard at a meeting.)

HELP US CARRY THE MESSAGE!!!

