

The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

March 2016

ORIGIN OF A WELL-KNOWN QUOTE

Many of us have heard that our Co-Founder Bill W. said "If A.A. ever fails, it will be from within," or words to that effect.

Actually, the quote is from the closing talk to the 1977 General Service Conference by Bob H., who served as G.S.O.'s general manager from 1968-1974. Excerpted here is an interesting piece of A.A. history.

"....all of us are part of the continuum of A.A. history. To some small degree, then, each of us is responsible for A.A.'s future. Some of us, sometimes, are fearful of that future. We fear lest this development, or that problem, may destroy us all. Fear no, my friends. If this Fellowship ever falters, it won't be because of 'two hatters,' of professionals on the field. Nor will it be caused by future 'Rand-type' reports, or by members with 'other' problems. No, it won't be because of any of these about which we seem to worry so much. If we ever fail, it will be simply because of us. It will be because we can't control our own egos, nor get along well enough with each other. It will be because we're just not wise enough or good enough to hold this thing together. It will be because we think too much about our 'rights,' and too little about our obligations and responsibilities.

But don't think we're going to fall apart. I think we are going to stick together and keep A.A. strong and growing."

BOX 4.5.9., February-March 2006. Reprinted with Permission

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

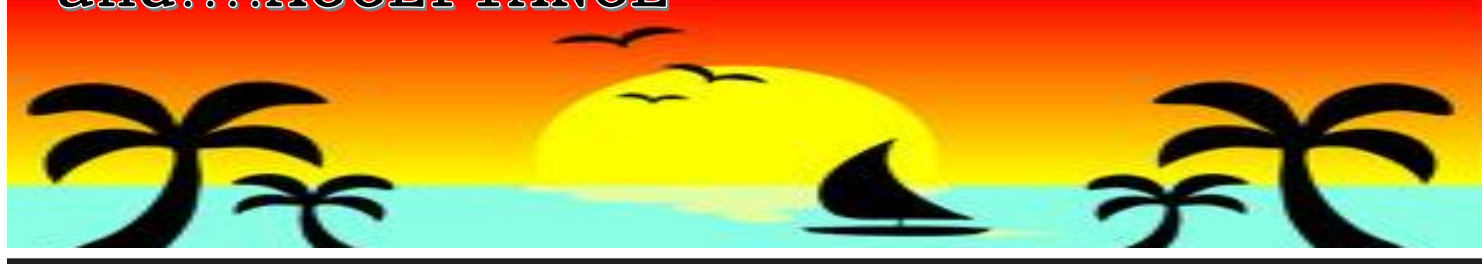
1 Table = \$400.00



SAVE THE DATE!

and....ACCEPTANCE

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



**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

www.aamiamidade.org

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Maria Z.

Vice-Chair

Maria S.

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Secretary

Manuel N.

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Robert L.

Gary C.

Frank H.

Lee A.

Jennifer R.

Trustees

Doni B.

Askia K.

Founder's Day

Harrison K.

Intergroup Banquet

Lee A.

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

Shari T.

The Messenger

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General Service Liaison

Robert L.

*Spanish Intergroup***OPEN POSITION****Webmaster**

Jennifer R.

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Geoff G.

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Ricardo M.

Remote Communities

Malachi H.

Webmaster**OPEN POSITION**

Mario P. (Alt)

"THE MESSENGER"

Published Monthly by

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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 3

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

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



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



The Killian Pines Group

Friday, March 25, 2016

35th Anniversary Celebration



7:00pm Potluck and Fellowship

8:00pm Meeting

Kendall Church of God
8795 SW 112 Street (Killian and Galloway)

We hope you will join us!

ME LLAMO AINHARA Y SOY ALCOHÓLICA.

Ahora que empiezo a escribir mi historia llevo sobria: 4 años, 3 meses y dos semanas. Cuando entré por primera vez por las puertas de la comunidad de A.A. lo primero que encontré fue comprensión, amor y serenidad. Esperar que me explique.

Cuando me senté por primera vez en una reunión y dije con voz temblorosa dije que no sabía cómo dejar de beber, que mi vida se había convertido en un infierno y no encontraba solución, mis compañeros me dijeron, que no era culpa mía, que esto era una enfermedad que no tenía cura, pero que si yo quería se podía detener, me contaron sus experiencias y ahí comprendí que ellos me entendían esa angustia que yo padecía, no hubo ningún reproche, o un tu puedes dejarlo cuando tu quieras, me animaron y me dijeron que yo sola no podría, pero que si me daba la oportunidad que ellos en su tiempo se dieron, que saldría adelante, solo me pedían honestidad conmigo misma y el firme deseo de dejar la bebida, de ir a las reuniones de compartir mis alegrías y mis penas y poco a poco iría viendo los resultados. mientras ellos me irían dando sugerencias me fui dando cuenta con que amor me transmitían esa esperanza que ellos compartían, la esperanza de un camino más cómodo y más fácil, me hablaban sin inquietudes, con firmeza, convicción y fe.

Me he sentido en momentos muy perdida pero siempre he tenido a un compañero a mi lado y me ha dado su mano para que sepa que no estaba sola, que se puede salir de este sufrimiento solo con tener un poco de buena voluntad, cuando llegué pidiendo ayuda no era solo por dejar de beber es porque ya no sabes manejar tu propia vida. Tu vida se ha vuelto ingobernable, ni siquiera sabía por donde empezar, pero...ahí estaba A.A. para decirte: tu vales, tu puedes, eres un ser humano único y que si tu quieres siempre tendrás la oportunidad de empezar de nuevo y empezar ha tener serenidad para aceptar las cosas que no puedo cambiar, valor para cambiar las que puedo, y sabiduría para reconocer las diferencias. No me fue fácil, pero me di cuenta que soy capaz de enfrentarme a mis circunstancias sin beber alcohol, a buscarles soluciones para ellos y sinó los había, dejarlos. pues la vida se te da para vivirla con alegría, no para morir en vida.

Hoy soy una mujer con mis defectos y mis virtudes disfruto de cada momento o al menos eso intento, me quiero a mi misma y he aprendido a reirme de mi misma, a ser feliz, y haciendo esto puedo reir con los demás, dar amor es lo más bonito que me ha pasado, simplemente por haber pasado por las puertas de A.A. pues ellos me dieron todo su amor y yo me sentía feliz, hoy hago lo mismo y es curioso, cuanto más amor doy más recibo, hoy por fin me siento una mujer realizada he conocido la libertad de ser yo misma sin ataduras a una botella ni a nada, por eso hoy puedo gritar. GRACIAS POR DEVOLVERME LA VIDA. Soy AINHARA soy alcohólica y sigo sin beber.

**ME LLAMO ÉIDER Y SOY ALCOHÓLICA.**

Fueron muchos los años que viví escondida en las botellas emborrachándome día a día, una situación que por momentos se hacía insostenible. Empecé a beber siendo muy joven, pero fue a partir de los 25 años cuando los síntomas de la enfermedad empezaron a ser más frecuentes y perjudiciales. Ignoraba que mi forma de ser tendría que ver con mi alcoholismo. Era muy posesiva, muy celosa y absorbente, necesitaba ser el centro de atención de todas las personas que me rodeaban. Estube 2 años en tratamiento psiquiátrico. Tomaba tratamiento, tranquilizantes y ansiolíticos, pero cuando terminé con el tratamiento mi cabeza hasta entonces comenzó con las mismas obsesiones. Me divorcié de mi marido, estaba obsesionada con todo lo que él hacía, decía, donde iba, con quien, me convertí en una persona obsesiva para él. Terminó odiándome. Por aquel entonces mezclaba pastillas alcohol, una bomba de relojería para mí y todos, los que estaban a mi alrededor. Me quedé completamente sola y tube varios intentos de suicidio, hasta que alguien me sugirió que probase en la comunidad de Alcohólicos anónimos. Fui por complacerle y desde entonces, ahí sigo. Cuando entré y comencé a oír los primeros testimonios de mis compañeros, supe que ese era mi sitio. Llevo casi 6 años, y ahí he recuperado mi vida social, ya no soy aquella persona que bebía y se drogaba, ahora vivo y dejo vivir y aunque tengo mis circunstancias, como tiene todo el mundo, hoy puedo sentir la vida sin esa presión, gracias a esta nueva vida he conocido a un chico con el cual llevo 3 años, un hombre maravilloso, que siempre me anima a que acuda a las reuniones, ya que ahí está mi recuperación. Vivo día a día, sin esperar nada a cambio. Hoy me siento como EL AVE FENIX QUE RESURGIÓ DE SUS PROPIAS CENIZAS, y todo esto es gracias A.A. Soy ÉIDER, soy alcohólica y sigo sin beber. SI SE QUIERE SE PUEDE, PERO HAY QUE QUERER.



AREA 15 SUR DE LA FLORIDA ASAMBLEA DE SERVICIOS GENERALES

ABRIL 8 al 10, 2016

Coauspiciada por los Distritos 1 y 15

Bayfront Hilton Downtown - St. Petersburg,

333 1st St S, St Petersburg, FL 33701

Inscripcion: Viernes 4pm-8:30pm, Sabado 8am-8:30pm, Domingo 7am-9am



"SOUTH DIXIE GROUP"

NEW MEETINGS!

Monday-Wednesday-Friday

@ 12:30pm / Open Beginner's

Starting March 2nd, 2016



Sundays @ 4:00pm

Closed Meditation

Starting March 6th, 2016



SOUTH DIXIE

17011 South Dixie Hwy. — Palmetto Bay — 305.233.4784

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**

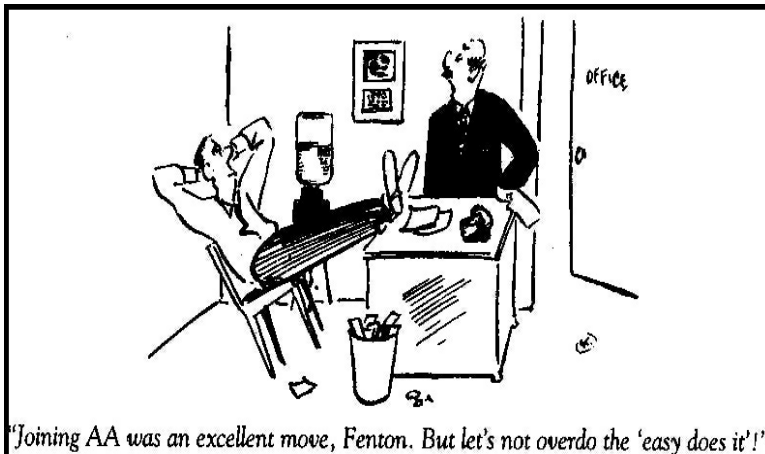
DIGNITY AND SELF RESPECT

In my most desperate days, I was the guy standing around in the parking lot 15 minutes early, along with one or two other desperate souls, waiting for the bar to open up. I was craving a drink and when we heard the keys being inserted in the door from the inside, we knew the agonizing wait was almost over. The door would open and we would exchange jokes and wise cracks in an attempt to make normal, a scene that was obviously pathetic. We then sat down at the bar, the bartender would draw a glass of beer and place it in front of me and I would sit there for about 5 minutes, just staring at the bubbles rising, before drinking it. I was already getting relief before I even raised the glass to my lips. Why the delay? If I was so desperate, why didn't I just pick it up and guzzle it down? The answer came to me years after I was sober. It occurred to me that, in those 5 minutes, I was attempting to regain my dignity. After all I couldn't be that desperate, could I?

It took about four more years of drinking to get me to the point where I had lost more than I was willing to lose and was about to lose a lot more. In those four years, in a last ditch effort to regain some sanity, I reenlisted in the navy, one of the only things I was still qualified for that I had not destroyed. In a very short time, I also got married, had a child and was divorced by correspondence, as I was all over the Pacific, while trying to deal with all of this. I then started to lose the ability to show up at my ship on Monday mornings and the reality started to set in once again. Without the discipline and structure of the navy, I would be, once more, standing in front of that bar, before it opened, and that was the last straw. I called A.A. that morning and, in military terms, I did the right about-face and that part of my life was over. I spent my last thirteen years of my navy career sober and I retired in 1982, to continue this wonderful journey as a civilian once again.

I wasn't much for platitudes when I was in my first year of sobriety and heard a man sharing that, "if I surrendered to this disease, cleared up the wreckage of the past, and practiced these principles in all my affairs, I could walk out the door with my dignity and my self respect". He seemed to understand how worthless I was feeling about myself. I knew that I was in the right place so I took him up on it and things have never been the same. I've learned about character building, respect for everyone around me, compassion, forgiveness, faith, how to be a friend and the list goes on and on. In closing, I would like to quote another old friend, who is no longer with us. He used to close his sharing at the meetings with: I'm sober today, I'll get Weller with time, but I never want to graduate from this beautiful program.

Rick R., Miami - FL



"Joining AA was an excellent move, Fenton. But let's not overdo the 'easy does it'!"



"When I drank, the introvert in me got extroverted."

FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

***Yes, I want to participate in the Faithful Fiver 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 _____ MC _____ Amex _____ CVS: _____

Card #: _____ - _____ - _____ Expiration date: _____/_____/_____

Name on Card: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Tel: (_____) _____

_____ 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 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; Phillilp S., Charlie C., Stanley J., Doni B; Maria Z., Anonymous Key Biscayne, Anonymous Group, Anonymous Young, Sober and Free"; Lee A., Jersey Girl.- South Dade, Michael S., Anonymous South Miami Men's, Ten @ SOBE, Anonymous South Dade; Anonymous West Miami, Biker's in Recovery anonymous.

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
GRAPEVINE Committe
Meetings at the
Coral Room
1st Sunday of the month
@ 2:00pm

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

**THE JOURNEY**

Words cannot begin to describe
the feelings in my heart....
as I sometimes ponder how much my life
has changed, how far I've come, and how
much there is yet to discover.

And though I'm not sure where my journey
may take me next, I know I'll owe it to the
Grace of God, and to the words of the
Twelve Steps....continue, improve, practice.
Oh, and one more thing they told me....
Humility is the KEY....

JANUARY

NORTH MIAMI

.....

WEST MIAMI

Berny G. 28
Michael P. 30
Ron H. 32
Daria S. 40

SABAL PALM

Mark F. 1
Chris J. 1
Willie V. 1
Joah 2
Donald S. 4
Rick P. 4
Maria K. 6
Alex M. 7
Mary G. 9
Julie M. 9
Joy N. 15
Donnie 17
Kelly W. 18
Bruce V. 19
Kelli 22
Paul T. 28
Emi B. 32

BREAKFAST CLUB

Daniela 6
Stevie 7
Kate McG. 19
Joey 20

BIKERS IN RECOVERY

Aly 21

FEBRUARY

SOUTH DADE

Zack 1
Tim C. 1
Tarri 3
Monique 4
Payam 4
Josh K. 4
Haymon 5
Monica R. 10
Carl G. 18
Miriam 22
Daniel C. 36

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Kim 1
Tracy 2
Dale 3
Brian 3
Howard 4
Jorge 6
Marisa 7
Rey 10
Robert 12
Richie 15
Cleve 47
Jim 59

MIXED NUTS

Andrew M. 1
Marc 5

DAILY MAINTENANCE

Eileen 6
Megan 7
Celeste M. 13

James B. 1
Bijou H. 4
Windell K. 6
Julie P. 7
Megan M. 7

Peter V. 7
Lori R. 9
Ruth G. 24
Valerie M. 24
Jack M. 25
Mary S. 35

SUNSET

Alyn F. 1
Alina G. 1
Katrina B. 2
Rene D. 2
Don S. 4
Leticia C. 7
Jason R. 9
Scott F. 11
Mike B. 11
Gordy 12
Darlene S. 17
Jorge G. 17
Estrella B. 20
Frank M. 25
Bill M. 29
Jimmy G. 30

SOLUTIONS

Sha 1
Emily 1
Matt C. 1
Ari 2
Doug H. 13

HAPPY HOUR

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

CORAL GABLES

Rafael P. 1
Lexi 1
Steve D. 1
Vicente M. 1
David J. 2
Emily 2
Susan 3
Tere B. 3
Vladimir 3
Daisy O. 3
Mery 1
Ben T. 6
Mark B. 8
Ken T. 8
Dan W. 8
Chauncey M. 8
Parris B. 8
Emily H. 9
Tom F. 10
David D. 10
Mary C. 11
Ryan L. 13
Joel H. 14
Elizabeth B. 14
Bernie V. 15
Jeannie F. 15
Peter C. 17
Geoff C. 19
Nitza 19
Eddie R. 21
Ingrid 21
Shawn S. 23
Jenny 23
Pamela D. 26
David MC B. 29
Peggy C. 43

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 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 @ 7:30pm
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
South Dixie Group/2nd Sunday @ 12:15pm
Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm
West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm
We Stopped in Time/1st Monday @ 9:35pm
Young, Sober & Free/Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

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 Saturday @ 8:30pm
West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm
We Stopped in Time/Last Monday
Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

MARCH

NEW BEGINNER'S # 2

Roy P. 31

BRICKELL CIRCLE

Manuel N. 3

KEY NOTE GROUP

Meeting Canceled!

Fridays @ 1:00pm



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This Publication Belongs To You!

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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!!!

The Messenger

Miami-Dade Intergroup
299 Alhambra Circle - Suite 309
Coral Gables, FL 33134-5113
Phone: 305.461.2425 (24 hrs.)
Fax: 305.461.2416

**HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY**

