The Messenger (A) MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP



aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

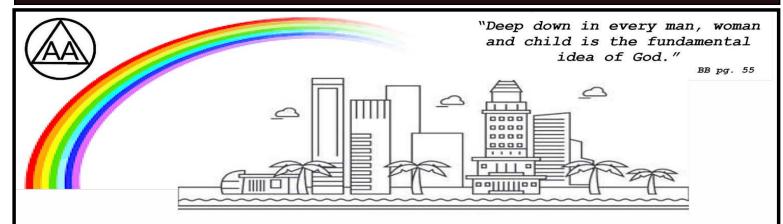
March 2019

4315 NW 7th St. Suite 36 - Miami, FL 33126 /

305.461.2425 (24 hrs

305.461.2426 (Fax

aamiamidade.org



64th ANNUAL BANQUET MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP MARCH 23rd, 2019

Tickets on sale NOW!

\$40.00 per person \$400 per table

at the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton

"PRINCIPLES GROUP"

New Meeting!

(Big Book Study)

WEDNESDAYS
@ 8:30pm

Starting March 27th, 2019







Principles Group

4850 NE 2nd Ave. - Miami - 33137

Groups we need your help!

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

64th Annual Intergroup Banquet MARCH 23rd, 2019

Please contact the Intergroup Office: 305.461.2425

64th Annual Miami-Dade Intergroup Banquet

Prices for baskets are at cost for this

BIG BOOK RAFFLE!

1946 - FIRST EDITION "BIG BOOK"

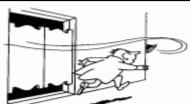
10th Printing

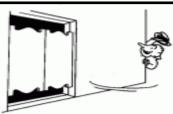
Winning ticket to be drawn at Banquet
Doubletree Hotel by Hilton on March 23rd, 2019
NEED NOT TO BE PRESENT TO WIN
1 ticket for \$5.00 or 3 tickets for \$10.00











Step Three Need Not be Difficult Abandon Our Failed Ego Driven Insanity

I don't believe that any two people in the A.A. program have settled into a concept of a higher power that are identical in every respect. Alcoholics have been off the grid for such a time that their concept of everything must be recalibrated into some form of strategy that they can work with whether or not, anybody else understands the linguistics •they use to describe it. The taking of Step Three is deciding to abandon our failed Ego driven insanity and to find another •source of principles and behaviors to replace them. Some of us return to the Religion of our choice while others may *struggle with that idea and settle for an approach that is more practical in nature. We in Alcoholics Anonymous see examples of success in a variety of different approaches when it comes to turning our will and our lives over to a power greater athan ourselves. If this wasn't that way, where would the Agnostic and Atheist go to get relief from this terrible disease? I get• •an uncomfortable feeling at a meeting when it starts going overly religious and I see a new member squirming in his seat. I •was the one described in step two in the 12x12 that had "tried Religion and found it wanting." Had I not read that line in the •12X12 I may not have stayed with the program. Having the option to come to terms with this issue has opened the gate to $ilde{ullet}$ a path which has worked for me. On page 34 in the 12x12 Where it says" This is the way to a Faith that works" and when I simply combined that line with the line on page 27 in the 12x12 which says," You can, if you wish, make A.A. itself your •"higher power." When I addressed it in that way, I had no problem moving on with the rest of the steps of the program. I •am not driven away by anything that I've read in The Big Book or the 12x12. I have never wanted a drink since I entered the program and the only answer, I could come up with, was the influence of A.A in my life. For a guy who couldn't conceive. of a day without alcohol, to a guy that has never wanted a drink since, was all I needed to know about God. I wish I could tell you who or what God is, but I can't. I have researched things that I have heard concerning how the A.A. program came •to be what it is today and the thing that had the most influence on me concerning this issue was the book, "The Sermon on the Mount" by Emmet Fox which highly influenced the founders of the A.A. Program as to how to address the spiritual *aspects and how to apply them. The Grapevine article of Feb. 1996 "Emmet Fox and Alcoholics Anonymous" explains these things. I have read that book upwards if ten times and it defines and reinforces all the principles that we learn in the A.A. program. When I pray, I simply ask God for his guidance and for the strength to carry what comes to me as the answer •that I seek. When I do it in that way, I become a better listener and the answers do come to me eventually. I believe that I •practice principles that are consistent with Christian teaching as well as any Christian I know but I don't consider myself a *Christian as I find these principles in most historical philosophies. I've studied Plato, Socrates and Aristotle, who came three ullet hundred fifty years before Christ and they are not unlike the values of most religions. As the result of all my Studies, I have ulletsettled into a way of life based on unselfish principals and values that govern all my motives and actions and it has led to a •life of meaningful purpose and a peace of mind that I never thought possible. by Rick R.



2019 GRAPEVINE ROUNDUP!

APRIL 27TH, 10AM-4PM



BLUE LAKES PARK 4225 SW 92nd Ave Miami, FL 33165



TICKETS: \$10.00 EACH DESSERTS WELCOME!

Join the Grapevine Committee meets every 1st Sunday of the month at Coral Room at 2pm!

CALL ANNA FOR TICKETS (773) 220-4262



PRIEST WITH A SECRET

After a few months sober, he knew it was time to tell the group how different he was. Would they let him stay?

It was January 2005 and I had just returned from an alcohol rehab facility for priests in Rochester, Minnesota. I had spent the three months there working through the issues surrounding my alcohol addiction. All those being discharged were encouraged to find AA meetings in their areas to begin this "new life" of recovery.

So I went online and located the page for the A.A. Intergroup for Miami-Dade, where I was living at the time. There were plenty of meetings in area but I was seeking a special kind of meeting, the ones with the "G" next to the meeting description, for gay. I located the meeting schedule for a place called Lambda/Dade, which was not far from the university where I was living and working.

At my first meeting there, I was warmly welcomed when I came in and was recognized as being new to the group. I introduced myself by saying my name was Warren, "and I'm an alcoholic." But it would take months to let people know me fully.

One night I went to a meeting and the scheduled speaker failed to show up. The secretary of the group approached me and asked if I would be willing to share my story. In that instant, every conceivable excuse I could come up with to say no flashed through my mind yet somehow I heard my mouth say, "OK."

I sat in the chair in the front of the room. Everyone quieted down. I took a deep breath and I said something that I had never said publicly before. "Hello, my name is Warren," I told the group. "I'm an alcoholic. I'm also gay and a Catholic priest."

Much to my surprise, the ceiling did not collapse, the walls did not cave in, the crowd did not rush at me to stone me and cast me out into the night. Everyone calmly replied, "Hi, Warren."

(Cont. on page 5)

Tradition 3: "Real, RECOVERED, Grateful

Drawing a big circle with love and wit

One evening, as a newcomer, I was sitting next to my sponsor in an AA meeting when a man introduced himself as "an alcoholic and an addict." My sponsor leaned over to me and whispered, "In Alcoholics Anonymous, you don't get any extra points for that."

For me, the statement, "I am an alcoholic" is the great leveler, the primary point of identification, and the fulcrum of unity for our entire Fellowship. But just because I introduce myself as an alcoholic doesn't mean that everyone else has to fall lockstep on my schedule. I have seen AA members become agitated and rude when newcomers don't introduce themselves "correctly." But yelling at people just chases them out the door. Kindness and concern can temper conversations about identification and unity.

No one, other than ourselves, can decide if we are AA members or not. The judge doesn't decide; the probation officer doesn't decide; the counselor doesn't decide; the sponsor doesn't decide; and the AA group doesn't decide. The criminal justice system and treatment programs may decide if their clients go to AA meetings, but attendance at AA meetings does not necessarily mean one is an AA member. The decision about AA membership is left up to the individual and no one else.

The American writer Edwin Markham wrote, "He drew a circle that shut me out--Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win: We drew a circle that took him in!" Frankly, I'd rather let a few drug addicts, mentally ill folks, and anyone else hang around AA until they figure out if they belong here, than exclude alcoholics who don't quite understand how to introduce themselves at AA meetings. I think that badgering these people is harmful to the spirit of our Fellowship.

I sometimes hear AA members suggest that those who identify themselves as drug addicts or anything else in addition to alcoholic are trying to be "different" or "special." While that may be true of some of them, I believe that most introduce themselves that way to give additional identification to newcomers who may have difficulty looking for the similarities rather than the differences among us.

Actually, I find it more annoying when people introduce themselves as real alcoholics, or recovered alcoholics, or grateful alcoholics, or as real, recovered, grateful, sober, happy, tiptoe-through-the-tulips alcoholics. I hear a lot more of that in AA than introductions as addicts, gamblers, overeaters, and so forth. Being grateful or sober are not requirements for membership in AA, though they are key to our recovery. But this isn't Real Alcoholics Anonymous, or Recovered Alcoholics Anonymous, or Grateful Alcoholics Anonymous, or even Sober Alcoholics Anonymous--and it's certainly not Alcoholics and Addicts Anonymous. It's Alcoholics Anonymous, without any other modifiers. That's why I just introduce myself as an alcoholic at AA meetings.

Over the years, I've encouraged the men I sponsor to figure out how to introduce themselves at AA meetings, and none of them introduced himself as anything other than alcoholic for very long. It probably helps that, as their alcoholic, drug-addicted, addlepated sponsor, I only introduce myself as an alcoholic, despite the myriad of other complications in my life at any given time.

Alcoholics are entitled to have as many other problems as they wish; as long as one of them is alcoholism, they are welcome to become AA members. Newcomers eventually realize that they don't get extra points for introducing themselves as anything other than an alcoholic in AA, and that the simple statement: "I am an alcoholic" contributes a great deal to our worldwide unity and primary purpose.

Paul C., Oceanside, CA

GRUPO CENTRAL

1978 - 2019



41 Aniversario Semana de Compartimiento Del 8 de Abril al 13 de Abril



Sabado Maratonico de 11:00am en adelante.

Sesion Publica Domingo 14 de Abril del 2019 De 1:00pm a 5:00pm

Jorge Mas Canosa Youth Center 250 SW 114th Ave. - Sweetwater

UN DIA A LA VEZ

1999 - 2019

20 Aniversario

Semana de Compartimiento Del 15 de Abril al 20 de Abril a las 12:30pm

Sesion Publica 20 de Abril del 2019 a las 12:30pm

LOCAL DEL GRUPO 32 SW 21st Ct. - Miami 33125

GRUPO DOCE PASOS 1978 - 2019

41 Aniversario
Semana de Compartimiento
Del 20 de Abril al 26 de Abril

Sesion Publica

27 de Abril de 2019 a las 6:00pm

Logia Masonica 601 West 29th St. - Hialeah, FL 33012 XLVII CONVENCIÓN HISPANA DE ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y CANADA SEDE ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30 Y 31 DE AGOSTO Y 1 DE SEPTIEMRE 2019

UN MILLÓN DE VOCES UN SOLO MENSAJE





OFICINA INTERGRUPAL HISPANA Y DISTRITO 17

Los invita a nuestras reuniones planificadas de servicio en los grupos Continuando con el grupo

GRUPO AMISTAD

Sábado – Marzo 2, 2019 a la 8:00pm

Temas:

La importancia de la Oficina Intergrupal.
 Las Atribuciones de un R.I.?

GRUPO TRADICION

Sábado - Marzo 23, 2019 a la 8:00pm

Temas:

1) Recuperación, Unidad y Servicio.

2) Alcohólicos en acción.

TODOS LOS GRUPOS ESTAN INVITADOS! HABRA REFRIGERIO!

· Acompañenos para fortalecer nuestra unidad!

Convención Internacional - Detroit, Michigan Julio 2 al 5 de 2020

Para el otoño de 2019, se dispondrá de información sobre la inscripción para la Convención y reservaciones en hoteles. Se proporci nará a la información necesaria en los paquetes de inscripción, que también estarán disponibles en otoño de 2019. El paquete incluirá una lista de números telefónicos a que llamar

para informarse en concreto sobre el alojamiento, el programa, etc. Se faciliará la información por

correo postal a los grupos, oficinas y contactos de A.A. alrededor del mundo, así como por el sitio web.



FAITHFUL FIVER MEMBERS

Yes, I want to partic Contribution information:	ipate in the Fait Date:		ub!				
Amount:	Monthly:	Quarterly:		_ Annually:			5
	(Note: No A.A. me	mber can contril	oute more tha	an \$3,000 p	er year)		
I am a new Member: PAYMENT PLAN	Current Me	mber:		Returning	g Member: _		
Check Enclosed:	Credit Card:	Visa	_ MC	Amex		_ CVS:	
Card #:	-		_ Expiration d	ate:	/		
Name on Card:		Address:					
City:		•		-	-		
Yes, I would like	my name to be added ir	"The Messenger."	<u> </u>	No	, I would lik	e 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. **Lee A. South Dade, Adam M., Kandice South Dade, Becka South Dade, 4 Anonymous.**

COMMITTEE 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

Meetings at the

CORAL ROOM

GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Committe

1st Sunday of the month @ 2:00pm

GS DISTRICT 10 PI/CPC

4th Saturday of the month @ 3:00pm

GS DISTRICT 10 Literature Committee

2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7:00pm

Address:

1100 Ponce de Leon, CG 305.446.9558

GS DISTRICT 10

Corrections Committee

4th Thursday of the month

@ 8:00pm at

Sabal Palm Room

10102 SW 107th Ave.

305.274.74.34

corrections@district10miami.org

Miami Bid for FCYPAA

2nd Sunday of the month @ 1:30pm at the Lambda Miami Dade Club 28 NE 54th St. Miami, FL 33137

New Time and Location! GS DISTRICT 10

Treatment Committe

3rd Saturday of the Month @ 3:00pm Coral Room 1100 Ponce de Leon, CG 305.446.9558

For more information go to www.district10miami.org



Priest with secret (Cont. from page 3)

For a guy who lived his whole life in separate, secret "compartments," it was no wonder I resorted to depending on alcohol. If secrets make us sick—and they do—I had two big ones.

With my family and friends, I was the good kid who was rather spiritual at a young age and who was going to be a priest (like it or not) but I wouldn't dare mention my "gay secret." When I crossed the river into New York City to be with my gay tribe, I wouldn't dare mention my "Catholic secret." It was only in a meeting of alcoholics that the walls of my compartments came crumbling down and I felt a freedom that had eluded me for most of my life.

There have been times since then when, due to my life's circumstances, I wanted to put the walls back up. But I knew that to do that would surely lead me to a drink. By continuing to go to meetings and staying in the center of the program, not only do I resist putting the walls back up, but I realize that I don't need them anymore.

Warren H., Hoboken, NJ

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GRAPEVINE SHORT TAKES

I believe in an immortal soul. Science has proved that nothing disintegrates into nothingness. Life and soul, therefore, cannot disintegrate into nothingness, and so are immortal -- Wernher von Braun

Growing up is the very painful process of breaking the tyranny of our emotions. ...

INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

aamiamidade.org

Chairman

OPEN POSITION

Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Yvonne N.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Tom D.

Manuel N.

Chris W.

Ian S.

Trustees

Askia K.

Mary S.

Founder's Day Picnic **OPEN POSITION**

Intergroup Banquet

Lee & April

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

OPEN POSITION

Public Information

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Berry G.

Big Service Breakfast

OPEN POSITION

General Service Liaison

Spanish Intergroup

OPEN POSITION

Webmaster

Office

GENERAL SERVICE CONTACT LIST

www.district10miami.org

Chairman

Gerry S.

Alternate Chairperson

Peter D.

Treasurer

Regina F.

Registrar

Sara G.

Recording Secretary

Manuel T.

Outreach

OPEN POSITION

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Toni Marie

Corrections

Erik R.

Current Practice

Ray S.

Grapevine

Anna G.

Gratitud Dinner

David M.

Intergroup Liaison

OPEN POSITION

Literature

Isabel C.

PI/CPC

Mario P.

Accessibilities

OPEN POSITION

Treatment

Bob G.

Big Service Breakfast

OPEN POSITION

District 17 Liaison

Glen H.

Remote Communities

George R.

Webmaster

Nino P.

"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**

Concept Three

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings

Coral Gables Group/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm

Good Morning Group/3rd Friday @11:00am

Happy Hour Group/ 3rd Thursday @ 6:35pm

Happy 1060 Group/3rd Sunday @ 11:45am

Homestead Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm

Little River Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm Miami Young People/3rd Saturday @ 7:00pm

Night Owl Group/2nd Sunday @ 7:00pm

Palmetto Bay/3rd Wednesday @ 6:35pm

Quinto Paso/1st Monday @ 7:00pm

Sabal Palm/3rd Thursday @ 7:00pm

Sunset Group/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm

Sober Way Out/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm

Primary Purpose/Last Wednesday @ 6:45pm

Something Happens/1st Saturday @ 10:00am

South Dade Group/3rd Wednesday @ 7:00pm

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

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

We Stopped in Time/1st Monday @ 9:35pm

Young, Sober &Free/Last Sunday @ 8:05pm

Coral Gables Group/Last Monday @ 8:00pm

Almeria Group/Last Tuesday @ 7:30pm

Grupo Central/Last Sunday @ 1:00pm

Group Anniversaries

New Beginner's # 2/2nd Thursday @ 7:30pm

North Miami Group/Last Wednesday @ 7:15pm

Lincoln Road YP/3rd Sunday @ 7:00pm

Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm

THE MESSENGER

JANUARY



SUNSET

Roy M. 1 Juan P. 1 Aimee A. 3 Florie G. 5 Vladimir M. 6 Jose V. 6 Gustavo R. 7

Maria F. 9 Kevin C. 10 Haydee J 12 Rosy G. 19 Joe T. 21 Frank G. 22 Isabel M. 26 Nelly B. 32

Karl O. 2

Hopi M. 3

Kevin L. 4

Alexia W. 5

Sherman 8

Liliana V. 11

Gregory B. 16

Angel 11

Nate C. 17

Don P. 18

Andres 24

Jane S. 28

Sandra C. 29

Melvin B. 30

Ernie 28

Ralph 29

Ron H. 35

PRIMARY

PURPOSE

Diana 1

Howard 7

Jorge 9

Brian 10

Rey 13

Jim 62

Cleve 50

Marisa 10

Dale 6

Judy 23

NORTH MIAMI

Rich S. 1 Kerri 3 Manny 4 Nay 17 Frnie F. 28 Sandra 29 Michael P. 33

SABAL PALM

Patti K. 1 Juan P. 1 Gus N. 1 Enrique M. 1 Linda E. 2 Joah St J. 5 Don S. 7 Maria K. 9 Alex M. 10 Terry B. 10 Greg M. 15 Kelly W. 21 Nick B. 21 Bruce VT. 22 Frank M. 28 Ron H. 35

SOUTH DADE

John C. 1 Stephanie H. 1 Tim C. 4 Zack 4 Haymon 8 Jason R. 12 Monica R. 13 Carl G. 21 Stan P. 27 Nathan C. 29 Mike B. 32

SOUTH DIXIE

Tara T. 3 Tarri B. 6 Rickv M. 7 Lorraine 19 Bob L. 26

FEBRUARY

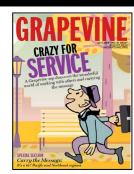
SOBER WAY OUT Tony B. 2 PALMETTO BAY

Shannon S. 3 Fel 3 Tim C. 4 Neil T. 4 Ann B. 18 Xavier 26 Nathan C. 29 SUNSET

Andrew E. 1 Stephanie R. 1 Katrina B. 5 Julian T. 6 Letty C. 10 Darlene S. 20 Jorge G. 20 Frank M. 28 Bill M. 32 Jimmy G. 33 Emi B. 35

CORAL GABLES

Maria B. 2 Jeremiah 5 Jose 7 Jose G. 9 Bernie 11 Stewart 13 Gordy 15 Doug 16 Mike R. 17 Pepe A. 17 Sandra 19 Estrella 23 Michael 24 Frank 24 Andre S. 24 Mark R. 24 Richard S. 24 Xavier 26 Jerry 26 Miriam 30 Nancy W. 32



HOMESTEAD

Greg M. 15 Joan W. 1 James M. 2 Michael K. 20 Tom H. 20 Bob B. 4 Jay S. 5 Gerri E. 28 Kirk S. 10 Ruth C. 34

MEETINGS IN RUSSIAN

Do you know any Russian-speaking friend, who has drinking problems? Please invite them to our new 7pm Sunday Russian-speaking Alcoholics Anonymous meeting.



205 SW 23rd St

russianaa.florida@gmail.com

MARCH

SUNSET

David G. 1 Jason B. 1 Jackie S. 3 Carlos V. 22 Scott G. 25 Carlos B. 30



www.russianaa.com

NEW BEGINNER'S

Mark H. 5 Monkia T. 6 Chris F. 6 Bernetta C. 25 Felix F. 26 Eddie C. 31 Roy P. 34

LOOKING FOR MEETINGS?

Sunset Group/Last Friday @ 7:30pm

We Stopped in Time/Last Monday Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm

Learn more at: www.meetingguide.org

Here is the icon to look for...



BUILDING CONNECTIONS WITH **GRAPEVINE'S** THANNIVERSARY



A comprehensive package of recovery tools to connect groups

Available January 21st, 2019 aagrapevine.org/75thanniversary



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!!!

