The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

August 2019

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aamiamidade.org

A Life of Purpose and Meaning Right Living is the Key to Happiness

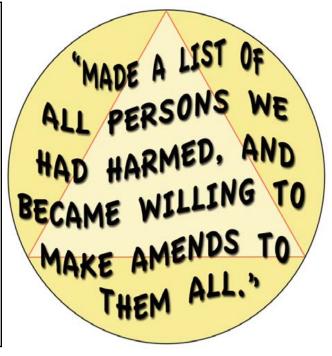
 $\langle I$ was a barroom drunk and the lounge was my living room. The only reason that I went to my apartment was to shower and to sleep. In all my time in the bar, words like Humility and Ego were never the topic of conversation. As I look back on it now, I realize that the barroom was my place of refuge where I felt safe and I could rationalize just about anything without ever facing the truth. I was living in a bubble of denial that would eventually run out of oxygen (options) and I would have to face life, for the alcoholic way of life is a dead-end street which leads to hospitals, prisons, or death. When I ran out of resources, facing desperation, I surrendered, and I entered the A.A. program where the denial was immediately replaced with hope and encouragement and I got realistic about life. The obsession to drink was lifted and has never returned. The understanding of (life didn't happen overnight for I had to go through the process of unlearning of all my Ego driven fantasies and habits and replace them with unselfish values and principles that are common in A.A. as well as, in most of the meaningful philosophies and religions in the world today. My Ego has been the biggest obstacle in the way of this process, and I must never let down my quard. My Conscience now stands between my Ego and my Thoughts and Actions and it's doing a pretty good job of it. It $^\prime$ has been a very slow process adopting these ideas and discarding the failed mentality of the past but, one by one, as I developed the strength and the trust in what I found in the program. I examine my motives for every decision I make, and I apply a proven, unselfish principle to those decisions. That takes most of the decision making out of my hands and I make less mistakes. As I continue to repeat this process, in time, it becomes second nature and replaces old behaviors that cause my discontent. Next, defining the word Humility was not an easy thing to do and it took a long time to settle on an understanding that put it to rest for me. The final piece of the puzzle came to me when, in my 22nd year of sobriety, I was on the phone with a man who was trying to engage me in an argument, and when he realized that I wasn't going to bite, he fired his last volley by saying: Well, I've heard stories about you, and you're no angel." I thought about it for a few seconds and replied," I've done a lot of things in my life that I'm not proud of, but I'm not ashamed of anything that I've done in the (past 22 years. The phone call ended peacefully. Several years later, in a step study meeting on step seven the topic was Humility. I remembered that phone call and realized that Pride was not the opposite of humility, that pride was the opposite of shame and that, humility fell right in the middle of the two. When I boiled it all down, I concluded that I should not be ρ proud of, nor ashamed of the things I do and that I should be in the middle somewhere. This applies to my receiving as well as my giving. Aristotle referred to this as" The Golden Mean" where, for example, when we are in the habit of giving $^{\circ}$ compliments to our friends when they deserve it, we should not be so stoic that we cannot accept a compliment with the proper amount of appreciation, when we deserve it. To me this means finding the Mean between the extremes and exercising it until it becomes second nature. With my Ego on the sideline and my Conscience in control, I stay on the unselfish side of the ledger. At the age of seventy-seven, I am always involved in some form of service and it gives Purpose to my life, and I plan to live to the age of one hundred and four, so I can't quit now. LOL By Rick R

"Made a list of all persons we have harmed and became willing to make amends to them all."

Here the program demonstrates its reality, its understaning of the nature of the alcoholic. How often have we come out of the fog to find the path strewn with persons we have injured or wronged? How often have we stayed awake at night thinking of the wife or mother or sister who suffered far more than we did on our last drunk?

Remember the kindly grocer who cashed our bum checks? Remember the look of anguish on the face of the boss when he had to tell us we were fired? Remember the guys in the company we let down when our part of the work was neglected? Of course we do. But, more importantly, the A.A. program remembers and understands.

The 8th Step was written for us when we remembered these things. "Make a list," it says. "Be willing to make amends to them all." In other words, stop being remorseful and do something about it. The part about making a list is easy. Depending on our history, we make either a long or a short list. But the part about making amends is tough. That part takes courage and humility. (Cont. on pg. 2)





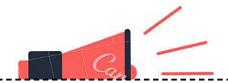
FCYPAA 2020

HOST COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

August 11, 2019 @ 12pm

The Florida Conference for Young People in AA will be held in Miami next year. Come out for elections, stand for a position and get involved! See you there!

> Location: LAMBDA miami dade 28 NE 54th St, Miami, FL 33137



Serenity Prayer With A Twist!

God, grant me the Serenity to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good for tune to run into the ones I do, And the eyesight to tell the difference.

On the 8th Step..... (Cont. from pg. 1)

A man we know made a list of 43 former employers he had harmed, wrote a letter to each, and—fearing the consequences—left town for two weeks! When he arrived back in town, there were 43 answers. Every employer took time out to thank the man for his letter and to wish him luck! Many A.A.s find it impossible to make full restitution to all persons. That's not essential if you have been willing to make amends. Sometimes, a trip across town to a person you have harmed is enough.

Most people are happier to see you sober than you think. It's human nature to root for the horse that's behind in the race. It makes people feel goodwhen you show enough courage to come up to them and tell them you are sorry. Making a list of things you did wrong is a good idea anyway.

Just to look at the foolish and terrible things we do gives us pause to think. If we go further and try—we mean really try—to do something about them, we get a far greater satisfaction than we deserve. The 8th Step is close to the 4th Step. It's practical and simple. If you found in the 4th Step that you were selfish, look at your list from the 8th Step and see who you harmed through selfishness. Then do something about it!

The 8th Step convinces us that A.A. is a program of action. If you think it was hard to admit you were an alcoholic, see how you feel when you go to the people you have been avoiding to tell them you are sorry. That's really hard. And yet, we cannot describe the wonderful satisfaction that comes if you go through with it. Even the air seems cleaner. Yes, the 8th Step is a lulu, but it pays off at the welcome rate of about 100 to one.

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72nd ANNIVERSARY Miami-Dade Intergroup

PIZZA PARTY!!

September 12, 2019 @ 7:30pm

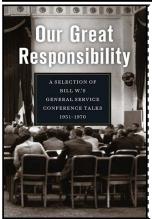






Iglesia Metodista Unida 133 Ponce de Leon Blvd.

COME AND HELP US CELEBRATE!



"Our Great Responsibility"

New Publication

A selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference talks, 1951 – 1970. Timeless & timely, these 16 selected talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in our co-founder's own words.

BOOK ON SALE NOW! at your INTERGROUP OFFICE

in English & Spanish!

2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
Registration, Housing, and Transportation
International Convention - Love and Tolerance is Our Code
Detroit 2020

In less than two years — July 2-5, 2020 — the International Convention will celebrate A.A.'s 85th Anniversary in Detroit, Michigan. With a theme of "Love and Tolerance Is Our Code," A.A.s from around the world will converge on Detroit to celebrate sobriety and to share experience, strength and hope in meetings, panels and workshops at the Cobo Center, the Ford Field stadium and at other locations throughout the friendly city. Members of the Fellowship are now gearing up for this wonderful event, and the General Service Office is beginning to receive inquiries.









BATTLE OF THE BOTTLE

Following these episodes there would be a fairly long period of sobriety and hard work, many trips into the Colonel's office loaded down with perfectly executed orders, reports, memoranda etc. for his signature. The Colonel was a grizzled and rough old timer, affectionately called "The Bull of the Woods" when he wasn't within hearing distance. Impatient and curt with Majors and Captains, he was very patient with me with the exception of his occasional bellowing when I slipped off the deep end. Somehow that officer must have known that I was fighting a terrific battle—the battle of alcoholism wherein no well laid plan of mine brought victory. His advice to me was: "Soldier, most of us like a few drinks now and then. No harm in that. But remember to handle your liquor like a soldier!"

An eminent psychiatrist, one of two nationally famous brothers in that field, had been called to active duty and one day visited our Air Base. A sober and hardworking Bill (on that particular day) was instructed to report to the hospital. Following an hour long private audience with the doc, he told me that I was an alcoholic.

So long as I'd leave liquor entirely alone, I was a definite asset to the service, but only under that condition. Later I told my Colonel about that audience and he bellowed: "Those brain busters are nuts. Don't know what's getting into this army. You-are on the beamn so stay that way." But my periodic battle of the bottle continued.

One day my Colonel took off in a B-17 never to return. The only consolation I could then find was in the fact that at least most of the time I was putting out good work and thereby eased to some degree the terrific burden he was carrying on his shoulders as the Executive Officer of a large Command.

(Cont. on page 5)

SABAL PALM GROUP

27th Anniversary

EXTRAVAGANZA

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17th, 2019

POTLUCK! PLEASE BRING A DISH! FUN, FOOD AND

FELLOWSHIP GALORE



For more info 305.274.7434

NEXT TO SABAL PALM ROOM

AT THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

10775 SW 104th ST. - 33176

FELLOWSHIP @ 5:00pm

DINNER @ 5:30pm GUEST SPEAKER @ 7:00pm



INTERGROUP BENEFIT!

GRUPO UNIDAD

2012-2019



7mo Aniversario

Semana de compartimiento Del 8 al 14 de Septiembre

Sesion Publica
Domingo 15 de Septiembre
a la 1:00pm

A Party Hall

10957 SW 186th St. - Miami, FL 33157 Para informacion 786.326.4369 / 786.487.6849

Nuevo Grupo en Español!

"SOBRIEDAD EN BRICKELL"

(Reunion Abierta)

Nueva Reunion! Lunes a las 8:30pm





Immanuel Lutheran Church

1770 Brickell Ave. - Miami - 33131

ESTADOS UNIDOS Y CANADA SEDE ATLANTA, GEORGIA AGOSTO 30, 31 Y SEPTIEMBRE 1, 2019

UN MILLON DE VOCES UNIDOS MENSAJE

RESERVACIONES 1(800) 468-3571.
CLAYE: CONVENCION NACIONALHISPANA DE ALCOHOLICOS, INC. XLIVII 30, 31 AGOSTO 1 SEPTIEMBRE

ATLANTA, GA
P.O BOX 191586
ATLANTA GA. 31119
ATLANTA GA. 31119
ATLANTA GA. 31119
ATLANTA GA. 30339

Octavo Paso

UNMILLONDEVOCESUNSOLOMENSAJE@GMAIL.COM

770-875-5463 / 770-655-1874

"Ďicimos una lista de todas aquellas per- sonas a quienes habíamos ofendido y estu- vimos dispuestos a reparar el daño que les causamos."

Octava Gradición

"Alcohólicos Anónimos nunca tendrá carácter profesional, pero nuestros centros de servicio pueden emplear trabajadores especiales."

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 participate in the Faithful Fiver Club!

Date:			
Monthly:	Quarterly:	Annually:	
•			
me:	Address:		
State:	Zip Code:	Tel: <u>()</u>	
	Monthly: (Note: No A.A. mem Current N	Monthly: Quarterly: (Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than Current Member: Address: me: Address:	Monthly: Quarterly: Annually: (Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$3,000 per year) Current Member: Returning Member: me: Address: Address:

"Each day that your Group participates in the work of our local A.A. services, whether through those who "Contribute their Time" or Group Contributions, or Sobriety Contributions, something wonderful happens in A.A. When a newcomer calls us and finds your meeting, it is indeed a miracle. Your contributions show that you care about the services we as a fellowship provide and continued hope for the newcomer that reaches out for help. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude about the energy that your A.A. Group devotes into carrying the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic.'

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. Adam M., 5 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 ******

GS DISTRICT 10 Corrections Committee

4th Thursday of the month @ 8:00pm at Sabal Palm Room 10102 SW 107th Av., 33176 *********

Miami Bid for FCYPAA

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

Archives Committee

2nd Tuesday of the month @ the Harmony Room 721 SW 24th St. # 205 ******

Remote Communities

4th Friday of the month @ 1:00pm at St. Jude Church 126 SE 15th Rd. 2nd Floor *********

Meetings at the **CORAL ROOM**

1100 Ponce de Leon, CG 305.446.9558 ********

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

Treatment Committe

3rd Saturday of the Month @ 3:00pm

For more information go to www.district10miami.org











BATTLE OF THE BOTTLE (Cont. from page 3)

"Colonel, wherever you now are, stationed with other old soldiers who have successfully completed their missions on this earth, I hope that you can look down upon this AA meeting and have the satisfaction of knowing that here is a successful battle plan to conquer man's ancient enemy—alcohol. It is a simple plan. You see it in operation riaht now.

We must admit that you and I were wrong in the strategy of my "having a few drinks and handling it like a soldier." We must concede that the psychiatrist was right but he offered no plan for victory. His "don't drink" advice would be like the General telling you to go out and kill off all the enemy and then we'd win the war."

It may be my imagination but it seems that I can hear that old gruff voice of yours right now: "O.K., soldier, vou've been briefed. Your plane is the one with that AA banner emblazoned on her nose.

Finest crew on earth will be flying with you. Keep her on course. Remain constantly on the alert for approaching enemy aircraft—resentments, fears, jealousies, indecisions, and the rest of those devils who will do their best to sneak up on you.

"When your mission is accomplished and your craft is headed out to sea toward the setting sun, remember soldier, I'll be standing by to watch you come in. Good flying, boy. . .and here's to a happy landing!.

Thanks Colonel, for your understanding—then and now.

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INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

aamiamidade.org

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Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Yvonne N.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Tom D.

Tamara K.

Barry G.

Ian S.

Trustees

Askia K.

Founder's Day Picnic

OPEN POSITION

Intergroup Banquet

Ian S. (Chair)

Leah L. (Co-Chair)

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

OPEN POSITION

Public Information

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Barry G.

Big Service Breakfast

Charles A. (Co Chair)

General Service Liaison

Tamara K.

Spanish Intergroup Liaison

Anthony B.

Webmaster

Office

GENERAL SERVICE CONTACT LIST

www.district10miami.org

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Alternate Chairperson

Peter D.

Treasurer

Regina F.

Registrar

Sara G.

Recording Secretary

Manuel T.

Archives

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Corrections

Erik R.

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Grapevine

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Isabel C.

PI/CPC

Mario P.

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Remote Communities

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Nino P.

"THE MESSENGER"

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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 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 EIGHT

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of overall policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

JUNE

SOUTH DIXIE

Sarah B. 7 Andrew 1 Andy M. 13 Matt 1 Suzy H. 16 Sheila 3 Rob S. 28 Charles F. 4 Larry D. 41 JMS 5

JULY



SOUTH DADE **NORTH MIAMI**

Cam B. 1 Regina R. 1 Brian S. 1 Max Z. 3 Gloria I. 2 Maria S. 12 John H. 4 Shirley B. 23 Carol Krystal R. 29 Kirstin F. 9 Karl K. 32 Lori S. 24 **HOMESTEAD** Marion L. 26 Todd L. 26

Brian Z. 1

Samuel J. 4

Milissa H. 10

James R. 22

SOBER WAY OUT

Melissa S. 3

Brain D.T. 3

Towana 4

Maria G. 5

Daisy V. 7

Todd A. 7

Stacy F. 9

Edgar R. 9

Erick D. 9

Sandra P. 11

Jessica B. 17

Ricky T. 17

Kenneth 22

Linda V. 22

James N. 23

Bartimous 26

Karenia R. 8

Fernando V. 3

Frederick B. 3

Leo M. 23

Ray C. 25

Naomi 1

David A. 39 **SOUTH DIXIE**

John Z. 2 Shaina S. 4 Scott J. 8 Bruce G. 8 Kathy 9 Alan 14 Tom D. 15

Gerry S. 17

Anka 40

PALMETTO BAY

Marcella 3 Kirstin F. 9 David 14 Tom V. 30

PRIMARY PURPOSE

Ray 1 Marsha 1 Kristin 3 MAnny 3 Catherine 6 Scott 14 Bernard 20 Larry 38

LITTLE RIVER **GROUP**

Norma 9 Lucille 10 Kriss 14 Efraim 21 Garcia 26 Deborah 28 Patricia 29 Charlotte 30 Jimmy 34 LA Rose 35

AUGUST

GOOD **MORNING**

Antonio W. 6 Krystal B. 9 Kris S. 14 James T. 14 Gloria H. 16 Wilbur B. 24 Charlotte W. 30



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.



www.russianaa.com russianaa.florida@gmail.com



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 Happy Hour Group/ 3rd Thursday @ 6:35pm 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 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 Happy Hour Group/Last Friday @ 5:30pm 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

Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues

- My Spiritual Awakening (due July 20)
- Getting Through Tough Times in Sobriety (due Aug 20)

www.aagrapevine.org/contribute

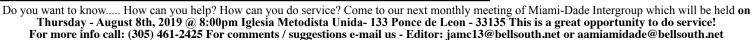
LOOKING FOR MEETINGS?

Young, Sober and Free/Last Sunday

Learn more at: www.meetingguide.org

Here is the icon to look for...





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

NI			
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!!!

