

The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

May 2020

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

ONLINE MEETING INFORMATION WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

12-STEPS: FIRST AN EVENT—THEN A PROCESS

I view the first nine steps as primarily a short-lived event that teaches how to begin the lifelong process of the living last three steps.

The event: Steps One, Two and Three are simply admitting: I can't; God can; then asking for help. This is a prerequisite! Step Four begins "at once" (p. 64) which may take a week or so of writing to attain honest information to allow a sponsor to show how to "face and be rid of" selfishness, dishonesty, resentment and fear—this sponsor-help procedure often takes only an hour or so. (PP 64-71)

Step Five begins "at first opportunity" (p. 74) which can start about five minutes after finalizing Step Four with a sponsor. This may take only an hour or so but may vary. Step Six begins then, not later. (p. 76) and Step Seven begins "when ready." (p. 76) Steps Six and Seven are often completed in a rather short period. Most of the Eighth Step "harms to others" has been already listed from Step four and Step Nine begins "Now." (p. 76) Of course, Step Nine may last for an indefinite period as continued in Step Ten.

The Process: I view the above, Steps One through Nine, as a learning event that has a beginning and an end. Once this learning has taken place it is time to put what has been learned into action by following the clear-cut directions of Steps Ten, Eleven and Twelve for a lifetime. (PP 84-103) Of course, "learning" continues as we go along. I view the important difference between an event and a process is the former has a timeline, of sorts, but the latter is non-ending. First, we learn how to do it—then we do it.

Bob S, Richmond, IN

Shoemaker, Stick to Thy Last I Hope I Never Stray

I remember how it was when I was a child in the 1940s when there was only one doctor in the community where I lived. I was one of ten children in my family and we had to deal with all of the different physical ailments that kids went through in those days. We were poor and didn't have the luxury to take our pick of doctors. Today I could liken it to what you see in many of the third world countries. Since then, as medical research has evolved, many of problems of that time have been eliminated and the medical profession is made up of an abundance of specialist that focus on specific fields that they have experience in and as a result become experts in that field. Not being distracted by the need to know the specifics of all of the other specialists, they continue to dig deeper into the field that they are familiar with and new ideas about how to identify and cure those specific ailments.

If a person in AA attends a weekly step study meeting that also studies the 12 traditions they would know; by the stories in the book, the pains and struggles that those first hundred members, that put the twelve step program together, suffered through. The 12 traditions came later when they realized that mixing outside issues with the AA program would probably end in disaster as it happen to the Oxford Group and The Washingtonians. The first printing of the 12X12 was in 1953 and those traditions were pounded out on anvils of steel and they have been the protective coating that has insulated Alcoholics Anonymous from getting affiliated with outside organizations. Tradition Five "Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic that still suffers." I have known many members of AA who have worked outside of AA itself in rehabilitation centers and such, and there is no conflict of interest as long as that person does not imply that he/she represents Alcoholics Anonymous. Some of those members are pillars of AA at their own group level but maintain a healthy separation when it comes to non affiliation.

We learn in AA that we have to give it away to keep it. If carrying the message was not the primary purpose of the group how could AA sustain itself as far as new membership was concerned? My experience in the program has been one of appreciation for the wisdom of the founders who understood that carrying the message benefit's both the giver and the receiver. In the words of Shakespeare: The quality of mercy is not strain'd, it droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath: It is twice blest; it blesseth him that gives and him that takes.

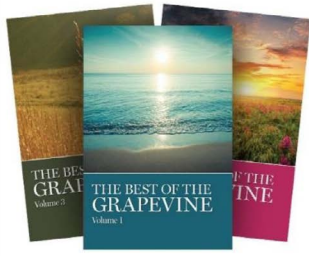
I find that the AA program is the most successful approach to the disease of alcoholism. I hope we never stray from this tradition and that spirit of carrying the message to those who still suffer. I owe my life to it.

By Rick R.

STEP FIVE

**"Admitted to God, to ourselves,
and to another human
being the exact nature of our wrongs."**

Due to COVID-19 and the inability of the groups to meet in person we find ourselves limited to attend:
• mostly online meetings. Even though people do contribute as per our 7th Tradition the Intergroup
• Office has been very affected and will be having a hard time keeping the doors open in the near
• future if us, the members and the groups don't contribute to keep its doors open.
• Please keep your Intergroup Office in mind when you send your contributions, the office has a direct
• link for contributions on our website. www.aamiamidade.org

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.


Just a quick note to let you know the new book bundle
"The Best of the Grapevine" volumes 1, 2 and 3
 will be available later this month.

Item #GV41

**Due to Covid -19 and the
 closure of State
 Parks, our upcoming event**

**FOUNDER'S DAY PICNIC
 SET FOR JUNE 13TH, 2020**

**Has been cancelled until
 further notice.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON PRACTICING THE SEVENTH TRADITION AT VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Service Material from the General Service Office

In recent years a number of groups have utilized digital payment platforms to provide opportunities for members to make cashless contributions. There are different payment platforms to facilitate this service, and it is up to the group to determine which one to use. Experience suggests that the treasurer is a natural choice to handle digital contributions. Some groups, however, share the responsibilities among trusted servants or even create a new service position to inform group members about digital payment options and assist those who are interested in contributing this way.

1. Q. Our group is meeting virtually as a result of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Our meeting costs are low, so why do we need to take a Seventh Tradition collection?
 A. The spirit of self-support ensures that even minimal expenses are borne by the whole group rather than by individual members. In addition, many groups want to continue support for other A.A. services. Local intergroup/central offices still have bills to pay, such as rent and utilities. Many have employees who are working hard to keep meeting information updated and respond to calls for help. The Online Intergroup of A.A. also has its own costs which require support, and many districts and areas continue to have expenses as they support the work of committees and plan future events. Furthermore, the General Service Office needs to cover its operating expenses in order to continue providing services. Literature sales, which traditionally help pay for services, currently are much lower than usual.
2. Q. If our group decides we want to "pass the virtual basket" how would we get started?
 A. Often a group will have their treasurer or other members gather shared experience and information on different digital payment options, then present that to the group for discussion at a business meeting.
3. Q. What kind of options are available?
 A. Here are some of the digital payment platforms that groups using: Apple Pay, Cash-App, Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle. Information on options being used locally may be available from your intergroup/central office, district or area.
4. Q. How would we decide between them?
 A. Groups often compare the costs and benefits of each platform, considering things like ease of set up and use, payment processing fees, security, privacy, and how commonly known it is. Some groups offer multiple options for their members.
5. Q. Once the group decides, then what?
 A. Often it will be the group treasurer who sets up the account and links it to the bank account the group is using (for more information on setting up bank accounts and tax ID numbers, see the links below). It is helpful to choose a username for the account that is simple and intuitive since it will be shared with those attending the meeting. Groups usually avoid using a personal email that reveals someone's full name so as not to compromise that person's anonymity. Often at the beginning of a digital meeting, or during a break, groups will share the username through the chat or a screen share as they make an announcement about practicing the Seventh Tradition. It is recommended that groups do not share the username as part of the meeting's public online information.
6. Q. What about anonymity?
 A. Some digital payment platforms have social components that members may want to disable to protect anonymity. For example, members have shared about changing the privacy settings on Venmo so contributions are only visible to the sender and recipient. A couple of intergroup/central offices have posted helpful guides to practicing the Seventh Tradition at virtual meetings:

Best Practices for Online 7th Tradition Contribution from SF and Marin Office
Remote meetings 7th Tradition Best Practices from New York Intergroup Office

The Stage of Fear and Insecurity

Shakespeare said the world's a stage,
and we each play our part.
My stage was in a bar room
and that's where I got my start.
It was the place where I felt safe to dream
of things to be.
"I think I'll be an astronaut,"
it all made sense to me.
Where fear and insecurity where
words you'd never hear.
For they were safely locked away,
behind a keg of beer.
But this can only last so long
and the Piper we must pay.
The fallacy was ripped away,
and I had to face the day.
I had to find a different stage
and play a different role,
To face my insecurities
and fears would be my goal.
Instinctive fear is not a fault
that I need to replace,
for it saves me from recklessness
and falling on my face.
Irrational fear is where I falter whenever
I'm in doubt,
while doing shameful things
that I don't like to talk about.
In later years I changed my role
to acting like a clown.
My drinking used to mask these things,
that weighed my conscience down.
Desperation was the final roll
that brought me to my knees.
My conscience told me
"Call AA and deal with your disease".
It's in the program that
I learn the habits of right living.
Abandoning all the taking
and replacing it with giving.
AA has been the answer
and I go there every day,
now acting like I'm a grown-up,
knowing God directs the play
By Rick R.

EDGAR R.

Newly sober, Dr. Bob S. was eager that he and Bill W. work with other alcoholics. A local Akron Minister, J. C. Wright, provided them with a prospect, Eddie R. Bill and Dr. Bob learned a great deal about the "dos and don'ts" of Twelfth Step work in trying to sober up Eddie, who Bill described at the time as being "able to produce a major crisis of some sort about every other day."



Anne Smith loved to tell the story of how Eddie chased her with a butcher knife. They tried in vain, throughout the summer of 1935, to sober up Eddie.

Eddie missed the chance to be A.A. #3, but he showed up at Dr. Bob's funeral in 1950. He was sober a year and attending the Youngstown, OH group. When Eddie had seven years' sobriety he visited Nell Wing at the A.A. General Service Office. She wondered "how this serene, mild-mannered man could possibly have caused all that trouble."

Old Time A.A.

Presents: A Day for Dr. Bob's Home



**The 2020 International Convention
scheduled for July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan,
has been cancelled.**



**XLVIII CONVENCION HISPANA DE ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS
ESTADOS UNIDOS Y CANADA, SEDE CHICAGO ILLINOIS
4, 5 Y 6 DE SEPTIEMBRE 2020**

<https://convencionhispanadeaausaycanada.com>



PARA INFORMACION
(815) 276-1230
(224) 478-7313

P.O. BOX 945
Woodstock, IL
60098-6402



**RESERVACIONES DEL
HOTEL**
(1 855) 479-0732

Hyatt Regency Mc Cormick Place
2233 S Martin Luther King Dr
Chicago, Illinois 60616

Para reservaciones, entrar en:
www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHIMC/G-AAHP



**REUNIONES VIRTUALES
EN
ESPANOL**

WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

GRUPOS:

**VIVIENDO SOBRIO
CORAL GABLES
LA GRAN MANZANA
NORTH MIAMI GROUP**

Si necesitan postear sus
reuniones virtuales en
el website de

Miami-Dade Intergroup
por favor
enviar e-mail a
aamiamidade@bellsouth.net
o llamar al
305.461.2425
con su informacion.

QUINTO PASO

**"Admitimos ante Dios, ante
nosotros mismos, y ante
otro ser humano, la
naturaleza exacta de
nuestros defectos."**

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

CANCELADA!



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: _____

Check Enclosed: _____ Name: _____ 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

For Credit Card recurring contribution information please call the office at: 305.461.2425

"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.

9 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 FCYPAA Host

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
@ 1:30pm at the
Lambda Miami Dade Club
28 NE 54th St.
Miami, FL 33137

Archives Committee

4th Tuesday of the month
@ 6:30pm - Sunset Room
6999 N. Waterway Dr.

Remote Communities

3rd Sunday of the month
@ 10:00am at Little River Club
51 NE 82nd Tr.

Accessibilities

3rd Tuesday of the month
@ 7:15pm Upper Room
811 NE 125th St. # 111 - NM

GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Committe

1st Wednesday of the month
@ 7:15pm
Upper Room
822 NE 125th St. # 111
North Miami, FL 33161

GS DISTRICT 10 Literature Committee

2nd Tuesday of the month
@ 8:00pm
Iglesia Metodista Unida
133 Ponce de Leon Blvd.

Meetings at the
CORAL ROOM
1100 Ponce de Leon, CG
305.446.9558

GS DISTRICT 10 PI/CPC

4th Saturday of the month
@ 3:00pm

Treatment Committe

3rd Saturday of the Month
@ 3:00pm

**For more information go to
www.district10miami.org**

BAGGAGE YOU DON'T NEED TO CARRY



**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

aamiamidade.org

Chairman

Manuel N.

Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Del H.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Tom D.

Tamara K.

Barry G.

Ian S.

Trustees

Askia K.

Founder's Day Picnic

Tom L.

Intergroup Banquet

Ian S. (Chair)

Leah L. (Co-Chair)

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach

Sean-Paul G.

Public Information

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Jenn G.

Big Service Breakfast

Charles A.

General Service Liaison

Tamara K.

Spanish Intergroup Liaison

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

David M.

Archives

Toni Marie

Corrections

Erik R.

Current Practice

Ray S.

Grapevine

Anna G.

Gratitud Dinner

David M.

Intergroup Liaison

Jorge L.

Literature

Isabel C.

PI/CPC

Mario P.

Accessibilities

Melissa L.

Treatment

Glen H.

Big Service Breakfast

OPEN POSITION

District 17 Liaison

Sonia H.

Remote Communities

George R. 1

Webservant

Nino P.

"THE MESSENGER"

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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 its 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 FIVE

"Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the alcoholic that still suffers."

APRIL

HOMESTEAD

Jennifer G. 1
Angel M. 2
Jim R. 8

PALMETTO BAY

Jennie M. 1
Carla C. 9

SUNSET

Johanna M. 1
Jose T. 1
Maggie M. 2
Matt B. 2
Andrew F. 4
Luis G. 5
Ileana F. 5
Robert E. 11
Charlotte 26
Carol A. 33

SOUTH DADE

Jen 1
Mary RL 7
Lee 9
John G. 11
Darryl W. 17
Oliver H. 27
Scott N. 29



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.



12 STEP HOUSE
205 SW 23rd St.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315

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

**I NEVER
REALIZED
HOW SICK I
WAS UNTIL I
GOT SOBER.**



"I've discovered I'm unique — just like everyone else!"



"So they bring a tree in the house and put all these shiny, dangling things on it, then freak out if I go near it... This is why I drink."



**TAKE
ME
TO
YOUR
SPONSOR**

Take Me To Your Sponsor

Sobriety can be tough sometimes, which is why recovering alcoholics can always use a good laugh. In AA, members learn to not take themselves too seriously, to be happy, joyous and free. Luckily, sobriety can be pretty darn amusing.

Group Conscience/Business/Service Meetings

Brickell Group/3rd Thursday @ 1:05pm
Brickell Circle/3d Saturday @ 8:15pm
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
Mix Nuts Group/1st Monday @ 9:30pm
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
Bickell Circle/Last Thursday @ 8:00pm
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
Mixed Nuts Group/Last Monday @ 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

LOOKING FOR MEETINGS?

Learn more at:

www.meetingguide.org



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 - June 11th, 2020 @ 8:00pm Iglesia Metodista Unida- 133 Ponce de Leon - 33135 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

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This Publication Belongs To You!

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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!!!

The **Messenger**

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A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners, intended for a message or drawing.