

The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

April 2021

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

Those Friends Thou Hast Friends and Acquaintances

Those friends thou hast, and their adoption tried, Grapple them unto thy soul with hoops of steel.

(William Shakespeare)

Every so often at an Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) meeting I hear a newcomer share that most of his old friends stopped coming around and that he thought that he was losing them. Sometimes this may be distressful and may cause a person to question whether the sacrifice is worth the loss of those old acquaintances.

Sometimes the word friend is misunderstood. We often refer to people we are associated with as friends. Others will say that you can count on one hand the true friends you will have in a lifetime. So where do these associate/acquaintances come in?

I played golf for about 35 years and had many so-called golfer friends but when the round of golf was over, we put our clubs in the car and went our separate ways.

Fishing was the same. When we finished fishing, we put the rods and tackle box in the car and went home.

With these acquaintances, the common denominator was the golf or the fishing. That is what bound us to each other. I quit playing golf about 15 years ago and when the common denominator was gone, I seldom saw my old golfing friends except in passing where we exchanged pleasantries and again were on our ways.

Most of the, so called, friends I had before I was sober had only one thing in common with me and that was the drinking. Unlike the golf and the fishing, we could drink 24 hours a day if we wanted to. We did not need a boat or even a set of clubs to associate with each other. The bottle was all that was necessary and without it we had little in common. When the common denominator was gone, trying to hang out with them became awkward for them and for me. I had to accept the reality and let them be. If we have anything else in common, we will know it and share that association with each other, but that was seldom the case except for family members or work associates.

We, in AA, are fortunate indeed for we have a common denominator that has been likened to the survivors on a sinking ship, in a lifeboat, caring for each other. We associate at such a deep an intimate level that we develop true friendships that the average person seldom is exposed to. Understanding this can be a great comfort to those new members who may need to be prepared to move on with their lives.

If that new member is fortunate enough to adopt the AA program for the long haul, he may become the true friend that those old acquaintances in the bar room may need should they become a troubled alcoholic seeking help themselves. I cannot tell you how many true friends I have developed in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, but I have been grappling them unto my soul for over 50 years now. Thank you, Mr. Shakespeare.

By Rick R.

*"Made a Searching
and
Fearless Moral Inventory
of Ourselves"*

FORTIFY YOUR MIND

I tried to change my way of drinking but had to change my way of thinking. It will ultimately pay you to fortify your mind with courage and patience, not alcohol, so you can support your allotted portion of bad breaks.

Dangers, misfortunes, want, pain and injury, are to be expected by all of us in this life, but that first drink will not stop or alleviate them in the long run.

Remember you are not drinking now, so raise your head like an honest man. After all, yesterday is water under the bridge, only to be remembered in the sense of a lesson of life's experience. Repetition of the old life is out.

The alcoholic who has arrested his disease meets the obstacles of life as a brave man goes into battle.

While under the pressure of experiencing misfortunes, sobriety and calmness will alleviate their weight and we will surely surmount them.

Where did most of our uneasiness come from? From our own false pride, our own folly and our own disillusioned and distempered fancy. How do I know and how did I find out?

Simply by following the advice of the 4th Step. I made an inventory and tried to be honest about it. I used to kid myself as well as others. I found that I had put my desire to quit drinking above the wishing level.

L.P.P.

Hattiesburg, MS

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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

Thank you! We can accept contributions through PayPal or Zelle under our e-mail: aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

66th Annual Intergroup Banquet

Saturday JULY 24th, 2021

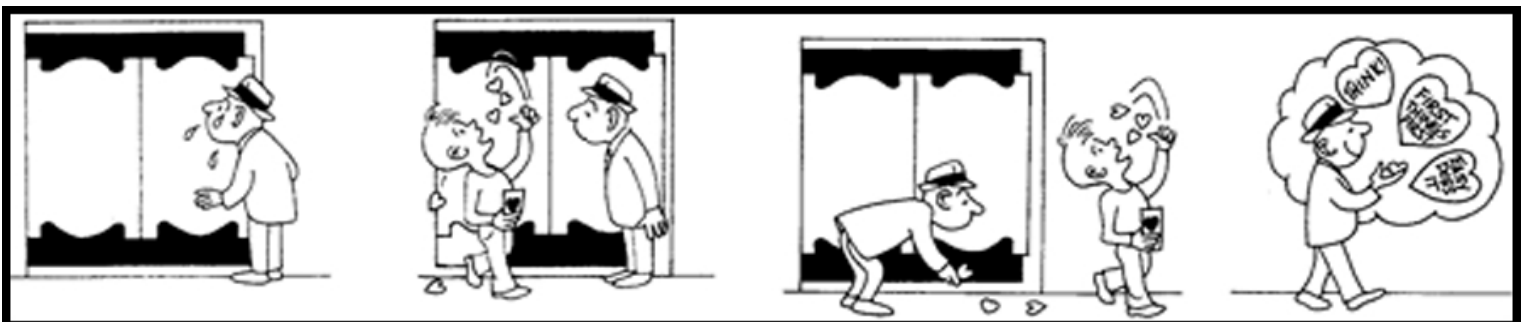
Reception - 6:00pm
Dinner - 7:00pm
Speaker - 8:30pm
Dance - 10:00pm

\$40.00 per person
\$240.00 per Table
(6 people per table)

Semi Formal Attire
Self parking \$5.00

Double Tree Hotel by Hilton
711 NW 72nd Ave. - Miami, FL 33126

Modem-to-modem or face-to-face, A.A.'s speak the language of the heart
in all its power and simplicity." Big Book pg XXIV



The Enabling Process Can go on Forever. If I Thought it Would Help

As a practicing alcoholic, I became very crafty when it came to manipulating the people who loved me. I made promise after promise to change the way I did things, but I always disappointed them, which only made things worse for them and for me, as I see it now. What they did not know then was that most of the time, when they gave in trying to meet my requests, they were not helping me. Well meaning as they were, they were, in fact, enabling me, and that only perpetuated my problem. When I was turned down, I just went to the next one on my list, until I found someone that could not say no.

After I entered Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and got deeper into the program I had to address my behavioral problems of the past and make restitution to those people, I realized how difficult it was for a loved one to say NO to a child or a friend when they appeal to them the way we do. Then, came the acid test for me.

I received a collect phone call from a divorced relative, (mother of two daughters ages 11 and 13) asking me for, what was, a goodly amount of money at that time. I was aware of her use of drugs and her priorities about her children. At first, she did not want to say why she needed the money, but after I insisted, she said that she was in jail and need to get bailed out. Visions of my past came back, and I was now on the receiving end of the enabling process. Writing the check would have been the easy thing to do, but as I now understand, not the right thing. I asked her why she called me instead of her friends. She replied, "yours was the only number I could find". I thought about it for moment then said, "IF I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP, I would be all over it but, I know your track record and I know that if I bail you out, you will be running again, and your girls need you right now". That was the best thing I could do for her at that time and I have never regretted it, and neither has she. She has nothing but respect for me today for having the strength to say NO when that was the right answer. She has been sober for about 30 years.

Every so often a new person shows up at a meeting and is complaining about the bad break that came about that brought them to the program and when I get a chance to talk to them on a personal level the first question, I ask them is: "If that had not happened would you be here right now?" and their usual response is, "Probably not".

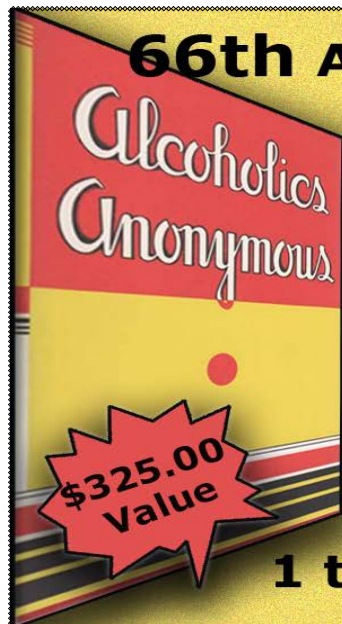
The right decision is not always the most popular one and I may be misunderstood when I make it, but in good conscience I do try to muster up the strength to make it. Writing the check would have been the easy way and I may have been applauded for doing it but, for me, it would have been the more selfish thing to do. That single act may have been the turning point in her life, but no one can predict the outcome of any decision we make. As I look back on it now. If no one ever said NO to me, I may never have changed and could have reached the point of no return and ended badly. Sometimes I must risk the disapproval of those that do not understand me. I, however, must make sure that my motives are unselfish.

By Rick R.

AAGRAPEVINE, Inc.



"Step Four is our vigorous and painstaking effort to discover what these liabilities in each of us have been, and are."



66th Annual Miami-Dade Intergroup Banquet BIG RAFFLE!

1948 - FIRST EDITION "BIG BOOK"

12th Printing

Winning ticket to be drawn at Banquet

Doubletree Hotel by Hilton on July 24th, 2021

NEED NOT TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

1 ticket for \$5.00 or 3 tickets for \$10.00

LA TERCERA ES LA VENCIDA

No importa cuántas veces lo intentó: hoy está sobrio.

Mi llegada a Alcohólicos Anónimos no fue grata. Yo nací por primera vez en un grupo de 24 horas, o sea un anexo, un lugar que jamás imaginé conocería. Tenía 27 años de edad cuando fui al grupo, "Siempre Unidos", ahí se me dio mi junta de información, una junta que tenía mucho valor, ya que no habría otra.

Aunque escuché lo que se dijo en esa junta, no puse esa mente receptiva que mencionaban los padrinos. Para hacerlo corto, no me quedé, tuvieron que pasar siete años para aceptar que tenía problemas con mi manera de beber.

Regresé al tercer intento. Aunque para entonces ya tenía casi 34 años de edad, pude entender que los compañeros tenían la razón, que ellos nada más querían que fuera parte de esta comunidad, ahí me di cuenta que yo estaba mal, y que me costaba aceptarlo.

Yo tuve mi primer contacto con el alcohol a los catorce años y consideré que beber era lo normal. Hoy, a mis 42 años, estoy convencido que soy un alcohólico. Para llegar a ese convencimiento tuve que tocar fondo una y otra vez.

Durante muchos años me hice daño a mí y a mi familia, es decir a mi esposa, a mis cuatro hijos, a mi madre, a mi padre, a mis hermanos, mis tíos y a la sociedad. Al año de haber comenzado mi recuperación en AA, dejé mi ciudad natal, Cuernavaca, en México, para trasladarme a los Estados Unidos.

En ese momento recordé las sugerencias de aquellos padrinos: "Vayas a donde vayas, encontrarás grupos de Alcohólicos Anónimos". Entonces me di cuenta que AA estaba funcionando para mí. Llegué a los Estados Unidos y encontré a mi familia: o sea a los AA. Tengo seis años viviendo en este bendito país y asistiendo a mi grupo base, "Nueva vida", de Austin, Texas. En este grupo he vivido mis experiencias con el servicio, que hoy se hace de buena voluntad, y no a la fuerza. Hoy vivo diferente, sólo por hoy y sólo por estas benditas 24 horas.

Hoy en día, con ocho años de sobriedad, veo lo equivocado que estaba en mi vida pasada. Hoy mi madrecita ya no está pendiente de que su "mongolito" circule por ahí destruyéndose, como en aquellos años. Mi padre está muy agradecido con AA, mis hermanos ya no se preocupan por su hermano borracho, mis tíos y primos están contentos. Y lo más importante, mi compañera y mis cuatro hijos, ya no sufren mi alcoholismo.

Hoy todos vivimos en paz, mi esposa ya no vive atemorizada por su alcohólico, ella está tranquila y yo estoy agradecido por su paciencia y tolerancia.

Hoy puedo valorar a toda mi familia y también soy capaz de quererme a mí mismo, acepto que soy un alcohólico anónimo, gracias a mi Poder Superior, o sea Dios, como yo lo concibo.

Francisco R. Austin, TX

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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.

CUARTA TRADICION

"Cada grupo debe ser autónomo, excepto en asuntos que afecten a otros grupos o a Alcohólicos Anónimos considerado como un todo."

CUARTO CONCEPTO

"En todos los niveles de responsabilidad, debemos mantener un "Derecho de Participación" tradicional, en forma tal que permita la representación votante en proporción razonable a la responsabilidad que cada nivel deba asumir."

Cuarto Paso

*"Sin miedo hicimos un minucioso
inventario moral de nosotros mismos."*

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.
3 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 Club
28 NE 54th St.
Miami, FL 33137

GS District 10 Lives 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 Committee

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

GS DISTRICT 10 Literary Committee

2nd Tuesday of the month
@ 8:00pm
Iglesia Metodista Unida
1100 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 Committee

3rd Saturday of the Month
@ 3:00pm

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

"SOUTH DADE GROUP"



New Step Series On Zoom

THURSDAYS @ 8:00pm

Started on:

April 1st, 2021 No Foolin! ☺

Zoom ID: 869 9131 6591

Password: 072574



South Dade Room

10965 SW 186th St. - 33157

**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

aamiamidade.org

Chairman

Ian S.

Vice-Chair

Raz S.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Del H.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Gloria P.

Tamara K.

Richard A.

Gerry O.

Trustees

Manuel N.

Founder's Day**OPEN POSITION****Intergroup Banquet**

Ian S. (Chair)

Jose S. (Co-Chair)

Intergroup Office

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

Outreach**OPEN POSITION****Public Information**

Sam H.

Twelve Step Relay

Jenn G.

Big Service Breakfast**OPEN POSITION****General Service Liaison**

Jorge L.

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

Office

**GENERAL SERVICE
CONTACT LIST**

www.district10miami.org

Chairman

Ric B.

Alternate Chairperson

Regina F.

Treasurer

Sara G.

Registrar

Mario P.

Recording Secretary

David M.

Archives

Anna G.

Corrections

Kathleen K.

Current Practice

Gerry S.

Grapevine

Ken T.

Gratitud Dinner

Pablo B.

Intergroup Liaison

Iliana K.

Literature

Carl L.

PI/CPC

Eel A.

Accessibilities

Melissa L.

Treatment

Dulli H.

Big Service Breakfast

Al P.

District 17 Liaison**OPEN POSITION****Remote Communities**

Andrea L.

 Webservant

Diana C.

"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 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

CONCEPT FOUR

"At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge."

FEBRUARY

SOUTH DIXIE

Frankie G. 1
Tarri B. 8
Hiedi S. 18

MARCH

Laura S. 2
Leo W. 4
Marco F. 19

PALMETTO BAY

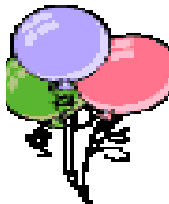
Day Y. 1
Laura S. 2
John M. 5
Arlene L. 23
Ben S. 30
Dan U. 31

SOBER WAY OUT

Konstantin V. 1
Cindy J. 2
Jennifer 4
Lisa B. 4
Aaron M. 5
Carlos H. 5
Jennifer D. 5
Jessica S. 12
Carlos 14
Marta P. 16
John H. 17
Jerry L. 20
Annie 22
Robert J. 23
Raymond E. 24
Fred T. 21
Felix F. 28

SOUTH DADE

Alva 1
Dillon 1
Frank 1
Art B. 5
Bill F. 7
Blanca 9
Shane 10
Rick S. 11
Cecile C. 20
Dawn F. 21
Arlene L. 23
Eddie L. 27
Ben S. 30
Frank B. 31
Sandor 43
Judy K. 44

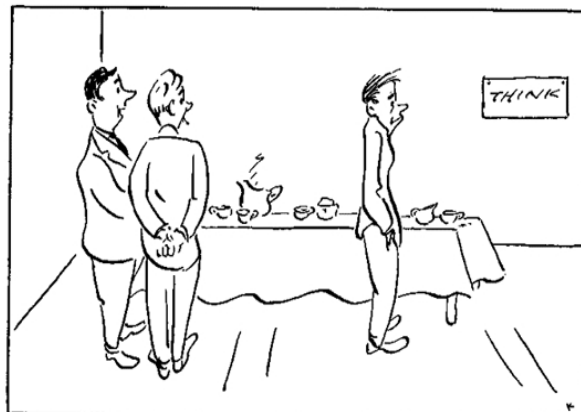
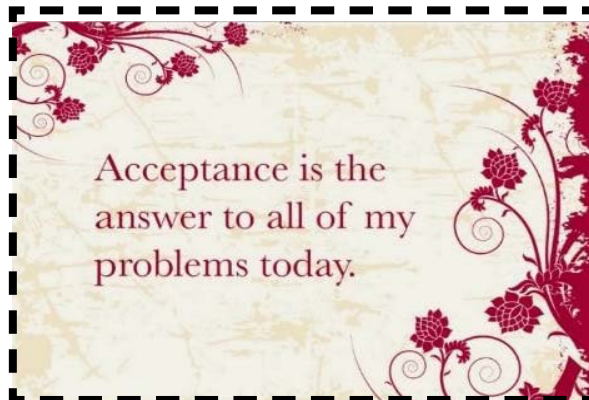
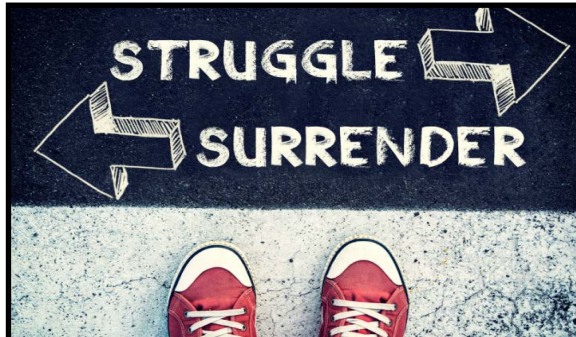


Please use this QR Code for your online contributions to your Intergroup Office. Please just scan the code and it will take you directly to PayPal.

No contribution counts as small. We at Intergroup appreciate your continued support!



Scan. Pay. Go.



That's Charlie; 10 years of happy sobriety!

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



TAKE ME TO YOUR SPONSOR
From Robert & Caroleen from AA Grapevine

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 - May 13th, 2021 @ 8:00pm Via Zoom. 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!!!

The Messenger

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Fax: 305.461.2416

