The Messenger

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

305.461.2425 (24 hrs)

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net SW 8th St. # 303 - Miami, FL 33135 Florida - USA

-ebruarv

In the Quiet Hours...

The Twelve Steps have literally meant life to me. Not until recently, however, have I wondered about the phrase we hear so often, God as I understand Him. Why had it never appealed to me as so many of the AA words do? Why had I never used it in my own speaking or thinking?

Now I know. Because if I could understand God He would no longer be God to me. He would be another human. I think of God as I feel Him. That is the only expression I can use with truth. To me, God is something seldom to be described in terms used about humanity, and I question that there have been any words made to describe the God I know.

Most of us, oddly enough, have been fortunate in knowing love sometime during our lives. Perhaps we could agree that the love which says, "I love you because. . ." usually isn't Love. When we try to assign reasons to love we emerge with lack of faith in it. Either we love or we don't. We don't understand why, we only know that we do. When we begin to search for reasons, them doubt must arise. And doubt is death to love. For me, this is equally true of belief in a Higher Power; of my faith in God as I feel Him. When I must say, "I understand," then I have, already begun to doubt. I don't understand God-but I know Him.

I know Him in the quiet, unending, lonely hours of the night. I know Him in the desperate, frantic days of searching for everything else and when He comes with His strength and peace and grace, I know that He is the real object of the search.

T. R.

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MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP 67TH ANNUAL BANQUET

305.461.2426 (Fax)

SATURDAY - APRIL 23RD, 2022

THE GIFT

"ABANDON YOURSELF TO GOD"

BIG BOOK PG, 164

SAVE THE DATE! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

TICKETS: \$45.00 TABLES: \$270.00

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

Tradition Two: When They Kept It Simple Serenity was restored

I belonged to an Eleventh Step group in a small village out in the country during my first year of sobriety. We met on Sunday mornings in the village grange, and the meeting was quite popular. We regularly drew about sixty people who came for our ten-minute meditation, followed by a speaker/discussion meeting. The village was small and parking was tight, especially during the summer when tourists came to visit the surrounding countryside.

Occasionally, the town's police officer would come in during the meeting to say we had to move such-andsuch car away from a driveway, or that we were blocking some important access. The group realized that we had outgrown our space and discussions began on finding a larger space with better parking accommodations. This may sound like a simple proposition, but it became a volatile issue.

Many people loved the grange, and felt threatened by the prospect of moving. The meeting had been there for many years and some of us believed the spirituality of the meeting had infused the cinder block walls with a special feeling. Our business meetings became difficult and more emotional as we discussed whether or not we should move. People interrupted one another to get their point across, and some ill will developed. I started to dread business meetings because I felt confused.

The meeting itself could be so spiritual, nurturing, and loving, but the business meeting was governed more by insecurity, fear, and hurt feelings. Then a member of the group with more than ten years of sobriety suggested that we begin our business meetings by reading the Second Tradition: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

The group chairperson followed the Second Tradition reading with a short statement that said, "We are holding this group conscience to discover our Higher Powers will about moving the meeting. We ask each member who participates in these discussions to do their best to leave their personal opinions out of their comments, to respect the comments of others, and to sincerely try to consider what's best for our group." This statement brought calm to our business meetings and returned civility and respect to our group conscience process.

Ultimately, the group conscience decided that we move the meeting to the local fire station where there was more parking and where our presence was less of a burden to the village. We got used to sitting among the fire trucks and now those walls, too, have been infused with the spirituality of our meditations, prayers, and discussions. I learned a valuable personal lesson during this process. The principles of our program can bring me back from my selfcentered opinions to a sincere consideration of what is best for AA, and therefore what is best for me.

C.M., Pittsfield, MA

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MEMORIES OF ALCOHOL

"I drank for happiness and became unhappy I drank for joy and became miserable. I drank for sociability and became argumenta tive. I drank for sophistication and became obnoxious. I drank for friendship and made



enemies. I drank for sleep and woke up tired. I drank for strength and felt weak. I drank for relaxation and got the shakes. I drank

for courage and became afraid. I drank for confidence and became doubtful. I drank to make conversation easier and slurred my speech. I drank to feel heavenly and ended up feeling like hell."- Author Unknown

QUARTERLY DISTRICT 10 ANNOUNCEMENT

Greetings Miami Dade Alkies!!!

We are excited to inform you that District 10, which is YOUR District, is privileged to host the South Florida Area General Service Quarterly. The week-end Quarterly will be held at the Dadeland Marriott Hotel on July, 22nd-24th of 2022.

We need YOUR help in assisting our brother and sister alcoholics from out of town. We need YOUR help greeting them as they arrive. We need YOUR help with the registration table. We need YOUR help with staffing the hospitality room.

We need YOUR help in showing our fellow visiting alcoholics that the Service leg of our triangle fills us here in Miami Dade County and can fill them too.

Thank you for your help in advance. Without your support we would not be able to have a successful Quarterly.

Yours in Care and Service Jorge Lc

Contact the GSR of your group to sign up, or you can reach me at this email at:

quarterlyhost@district10miami.org

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Desperation is a Great Motivator Sincerity is a Great Healer

Recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) affects people in many ways. The first and most obvious is their ability to abstain from the use of alcohol for without that there can be no recovery. Next is the willingness to abandon the idea that they can do this on their own and to seek the help of something outside of their own failed way of thinking. Third is the act of surrendering and "buying in" completely (so to speak}. At this point, the recovery process may differ depending on your age, your gender, your economic situation, your marital status, your legal woes, and other side issues. It is not our role to judge anyone who comes to A. A. seeking help nor is it our job to bail them out of their current situation out of sympathy. That does not mean that we cannot buy a meal for a hungry soul or give them a few bucks for gas. We are recovering alcoholics and our role is to listen and to try to understand what they need from us consistent with the principles we have learned and relate our experiences with them. Younger arrivals usually are duel addicted and the average long-term alcoholic that has not experienced the drug culture lifestyle may have a difficult time identifying with them. Recovered addicts usually share about their Rip Off mentality as a user, while the average common variety alcoholic talks about the guilt and shame and the need to pay bar-tab. A high percentage of our membership arrive in their forties in the middle of, or on the cusp of the threat of a divorce, and without experienced feed-back, make bad decisions where, in some cases, they could have salvaged their marriage and saved the children the damage caused by divorce. My main question when greeting a newcomer at a meeting is usually "What brings you to A.A.?" Usually, their response comes in the form of a complaint about the situation they are in, (divorce papers, Dui, Fired from job) etc. My next question is, (If that hadn't happened, would you be here today?" Their response is usually, "Probably not." I then explain that my first wife could have filed for divorce ten times before she became Desperate enough to do it and, had she not, I would, still be out there circling the drain or worse. For two years I tried to convince her to take me back, but it did not happen. Desperation brought me to the door of A.A. where I began the life I live today. This type of perspective usually gets his attention, and they often turn out to be more accepting of the need to change. Next, I share the experience that worked or me. It may come in a sincere statement such as," I know that I have been wrong about what a husband/father's responsibilities are and that I am an alcoholic and I believe that I've found the solution to my drinking problem. You have suffered from all of this, and I have learned greatly from the mistakes I have made, and I intend to do my best to make it right. Whatever the outcome is, I want to minimize the trauma to the children as we move forward." This type of sincerity sometimes takes the pressure off and gives her some breathing room and in some cases, opens the door to salvaging the marriage. My guestion is: Can you live up to these proposed actions?

Another area where sincerity and ownership of past mistakes has an unexpected outcome is in the courtroom. Judges have heard every flimsy excuse in the world and can see right through all the BS of a con artists, and they are not fooled by them. Believe me when I say that I have witnessed more than my share of these two approaches to resolving the damages of alcoholic behavior, and the sincere approach far outweighs the con job, most of the time, and you cannot fake sincerity. By Rick R.

Did Shakespeare Get It Right? The Dram of Eale

Since I arrived at the door of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A,) in 1969, I have had led a highly active life physically, and mentally. I faced most of the challenges that I thought to be impossible before I got sober and found them to be much easier than I expected. As I got older, I had to be a little more calculating when I took physical risks to avoid ending up disabled. Sometime around the age of 65, I suffered a leg injury playing racket ball and it put a stop to most of my physical endeavors and forced me to look elsewhere for my challenges.

I always envied people who could quote classic literature and especially those who could understand Shakespeare. While I was incapacitated with the leg injury, I went to the library and took out books on understanding The Bard. As the result of many hours of reading all 38 of his plays I became able to comprehend Middle English. I have read all his plays multiple times, and the more popular plays, as many as 10 times each. I also believe that I have been that diligent about understanding the A.A. program and as the result of that, I believe that I saw a particular scene in Hamlet that the average literary critic would overlook unless they were alcoholics themselves.

Shakespeare developed hundreds of characters between 1588 and 1613 and modern readers marvel at how deeply he understood the human condition. It seemed that he could put himself right inside of the character whether they were Kings, or Fools. After reading many modern versions of what he was trying to express, I think they would have to be an alcoholic and a literary critic for them to understand what Hamlet was trying to describe in Act 1. Scene 4. Briefly I will try explaining the context of his words he uses to describe the King. (*Cont. on pg 5*)



Confianza Ciega?

"Con toda seguridad, no puede haber confianza donde no hay amor, ni verdadero amor donde reina la desconfianza maligna. "Pero no exige la confianza que hagamos la vista gorda a los motivos de otra gente, o de hecho a los nuestros? Claro que no; esto seria una locura. Sin duda, debemos considerar, en toda persona en que confiemos, tanto su capacidad para perjudicar como su capacidad para hacer el bien. Un inventario privado de este tipo puede enseñarnos el grado de confianza que debemos extender en cualquier situacion determinada.

"No obstante, es necesario hacer este inventario con un espiritu de comprension y amor. No hay nada que pueda influenciar tanto en nuestro criterio como las emociones negativas de recelo, envidia o ira. "Habiendo investido a alguien de nuestra confianza, debemos hacerle saber que tiene nuestro apoyo completo. A causa de esto la mayoria de las veces el o ella responderan de forma magnifica, superando

nuestras primeras esperanzas". CARTA, 1966

La Base de Toda Humildad

Mientras estuvimos convencido de que podiamos vivir exclusivamente con nuestra propia fuerza e inteligencia, era imposible tener una fe operante en un Poder Superior.

Esto era verdad aun cuando creiamos que existia Dios. Pudimos realmente tener creencias religiosas sinceras que resultaban esteriles porque todavia tratabamos nosotros mismos de hacer el papel de Dios. Mientras colocaramos primero la confianza en nosotros mismos, una genuina dependencia de un Poder Superior era completamente imposible. Faltaba el ingrediente basico de toda humildad, el deseo de buscar y hacer la voluntad de Dios.

DOCE Y DOCE, p g. 77 Como lo ve Bill, pagina 139 REUNIONES VIRTUALES EN ESPANOL

WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG

GRUPOS: VIVIENDO SOBRIO CORAL GABLES LA GRAN MANZANA

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.

ANIVERSARIO ARBOL DE VIDA

Semana de compartimiento del Lunes 7 de Marzo al Sabado 12 de Marzo de 8:00pm a 9:30pm

Sesion Publica Domingo 13 de Marzo de 1:00pm a 8:00pm

1801 NW 65th Ave. Ste. 4 Margate, FL 33063

GRATITUD EN SOBRIEDAD ANIVERSARIO

Semana de compartimiento del Domingo 13 al Sabado 19 de Marzo de 8:00pm a 10:00pm 5110 SR7 - Davie, Fl 33314

Sesion Publica Domingo 20 de Marzo de 11:00am a 6:00pm

6401 Washington St. Hollywood, FL 33023

	Fiver Club!		
ate:			
Monthly:	Quarterly:	Annually:	
(Note: No A.A. member can co	ontribute more than \$	3,000 per year)	
	Address:		
State:	Zip Code:	Tel: _()	
ribution information plea bates in the work of our loca itions, something wonderful hs show that you care about p. Words cannot fully expre	ase call the office and A.A. services, whet happens in A.A. Wh the services we as a	at: 305.461.2425 her through those who "Contribute en a newcomer calls us and finds a fellowship provide and continued	e their Time" or Group your meeting, it is 1 hope for the
I DS are fellow A.A. mem generosity help us to car HANK YOU TO OUR FAIT	ry the message of HFUL FIVER'SYo	A.A. to the still sick and suffer	ing alcoholics
	Did Sha	kespeare Get It Right? (Co	ont.from pg 3)
Grapevine Commit 1st Wednesday of the m @ 7:15pm Upper Room 822 NE 125th St. # 1 North Miami, FL 331 ***********************************	teking, Hanhonthdead fathform studlet of thisthere waibelow in fon Denm.speak) Thspeak) Thchances (of natureSince natsome conOr by sorplausive ione defectvd.virtues elundergo-particulatesubstancecoined, Ifrom thestaring Lazato say.	nlet's father and immediately mar her's ghost is appearing each night k between this world and the nex and he goes there at night to wit ting, they see the King and his co the courtyard. He tries to explain ark as they are seen as drunkards then he tries to explain what he se happens) in particular men, That in them As in their birthwherei ure(life) cannot choose his origin- nplexion, oft breaking down the p ne habit that too much o'er-leave manners, that these men, Carryin tt, Being natures (life's) livery, or sebe they as pure as grace, as i - Shall in the general censure tak the fault: The dram (drink) of ealer a o'er daub (over paint) to his own of this is not an attempt by Shake Alcoholism long before the term " stand corrected. To see this on fil TCM channel where they show it a	rrying his mother. His t atop the castle plat- ct. The guards tell Ham- itness it. While they are purtiers carousing down the shames they bring s and low lives. (So to es in the King: So oft it for some vicious mole in they are not guilty, By the o'ergrowth of ales and forts of reason ns(raises) the form of g, I say, the stamp of fortunes star,- Their infinite as man may (e corruption from that (evil) Doth all the noble n scandal. speare's Hamlet to Alcoholism" was ever m, I recorded Hamlet about every 2 years,
3rd Saturday of the Mo @ 3:00pm ************* Accessibilities 3rd Tuesday of the mo @ 7:15pm Upper Roo For more information	onth onth om go to	"You've come to the right plo	ce, fella."
	(Note: No A.A. member can co Current Member: State: state: state: state: name to be added in "The I ribution information plea bates in the work of our loca utions, something wonderful his show that you care about lp. Words cannot fully expre- he still suffering alcoholic.' IDS are fellow A.A. mem generosity help us to car HANK YOU TO OUR FAIT GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Commit 1st Wednesday of the m @ 7:15pm Upper Room 822 NE 125th St. # 1 North Miami, FL 331 ***********************************	Monthly: Quarterly: (Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$: Current Member: State: Zip Code: rame to be added in "The Messenger." ribution information please call the office a pates in the work of our local A.A. services, whet utions, something wonderful happens in A.A. Whan s show that you care about the services we as a lp. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude he still suffering alcoholic.' MDS are fellow A.A. members who contributing generosity help us to carry the message of HANK YOU TO OUR FAITHFUL FIVER'SYour B Anonymous. GS DISTRICT 10 Grapevine Committe 1st Wednesday of the month @ 7:15pm Upper Room 822 NE 125th St. # 111 North Miami, FL 33 ***********************************	Monthly:Quarterly:Annually: (Note: No A.A. member can contribute more than \$3,000 per year) Current Member:Address: Address:Address: State:Zip Code:Tel: (Address: No, I would like to re ribution information please call the office at: 305.461.2425 pates in the work of our local A.A. services, whether through those who "Contribut titons, something wonderful happens in A.A. When a newcomer calls us and finds show that you care about the services we as a fellowship provide and continued p. Words cannot fully express the deep gratitude about the energy that your A.A. he still suffering alcoholic:

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INTERGROUP CONTACT LIST

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"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 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

I PROTECT MY ANONYMITY AT MY WORKPLACE, NOT JUST FOR MYSELF, BUT FOR THE SAKE OF OUR CLIENTS WHO ARE ALSO IN THE PROGRAM. ONE DAY, ONE OF MY MANAGERS ASKED ME HOW TO SPELL "ANONYMITY." I REPLIED, "A-N-O-N-Y-M-I-T-Y." "THAT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT," HE SAID. TO WHICH I REPLIED, "TRUST ME."

- JEAN M.

DECEMBER

SOUTH DIXIE

Don L. 3 Patricia D. 8 Ricky M. 11 Vince P. 17

JANUARY

SUNSET

Lourdes 1 Jesús 1 Roy M. 4 Camile D. 6 Aimee A. 6 Florie 8 Gustavo R. 10 Kevin C. 13 Rosy G .22

SOUTH DADE

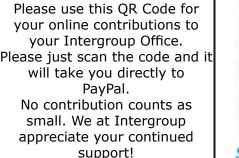
Sebastian R. 3 Davin G. 5 Jose A. 6 Sarah I. 12 Aldrick 15 Doug M. 21 Dale Q. 22 Meredith 23 Jaime G. 27 Gayle K. 29 Wes D. 33 Josh A. 37 Tom G. 41

SOUTH DIXIE

Ed J. 1 Marco F. 2 Buffy 4 Luisa R. 6 Kelly M. 14 Matt G. 23 Gerry G. 24 Russell S. 25 Joe R. 31

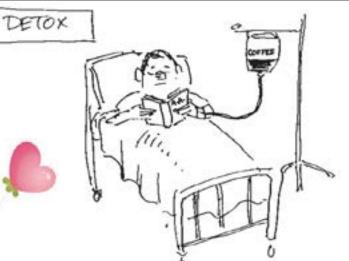








Scan. Pay. Go.



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



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 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 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**

<u>510up Anniversaries</u>

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/Last Monday @ 7:30pm Miami Young People/Last Saturday @ 8:30pm Mixed Nuts Group/Last Monday @ 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 A.A. MEETINGS?

Learn more at: *www.meetingguide.org*



Here is the icon to look for.....

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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 - March 10th, 2022 @ 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:			
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!!!

