

The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

December 2022

1850 SW 8th St. # 303 - Miami, FL 33135 / 305.461.2425 (24 hrs) / 305.461.2426 (Fax) / aamiamidade.org

A Simple Program for Complicated People Living by the Dictates of my Conscience

"Desperation" has been the great motivator for me with respect to the thoroughness that I have applied since the day I surrendered and came to Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) searching for solutions to my, out of control, drinking problem. Not everyone that comes to A.A. has that degree of desperation and that, I believe is the difference in the various degrees of success we, as individuals, have when it comes to abstaining from alcohol.

The reality is that not everyone gets it on their very first attempt. With time, comes understanding and once I got beyond the initial stages of recovery it became clear to me that alcohol did not cause my problems although it eventually become a problem. My mental and emotional troubles started surfacing long before I ever started drinking and I now realize that the drinking masked most of my mental and emotional difficulties for a long time but, as it happens, my tolerance for alcohol started to dissipate and the heavy drinking became an obvious problem. I failed at marriage, jobs, friendships, parenthood, and trust with just about every one that knew me. I burned so many bridges that, finally, I had no place to turn and by some miracle, I woke up one morning, and with no other options, I desperately called A. A. for help. I was finally ready and from that day on, over fifty-three years ago, I have never wanted a drink since then.

The obsession to drink has never showed its face again but had I not recognized the reason that drinking seemed to work, in the early days, and that the mental and emotional problems would be exposed when I stopped

drinking and would need to be addressed if I was ever going to be at peace with myself and with the world around me. I feel fortunate that, from that very first day, I have not been in denial about my condition and have embraced, what I recognized to be, the solution to my disease and the pathway to a future of the contentment that I enjoy today as the result of that thoroughness that I have applied to every facet of my life.

I had to relearn how to be a husband, a father, a brother, a friend, an employee, a neighbor, a partner, and a citizen. I had to become an asset and not a liability. I had to question my motives for everything I did and assure that I stayed on the unselfish side of the ledger. I found it helpful to revisit the spirit of the things that I learned as a child in Church, in School, and in the Boy Scouts... and apply them where the selfish and dishonest habits had ruled my life. I came to understand

how my Ego had taken over all my mental properties and I had to let my Conscience slowly regain control of my virtues.

The A.A. program was there when I was ready to throw in the towel and it helped me to recognize all of these changes but it doesn't go into detail about how to meet these noble goals of how to be a good husband, father, friend,... so I had to learn from other experienced sources, the details of these neglected issues and go about reprogramming my inner self to incorporate all these components of right living.

These things take time, and they do not happen overnight, but I could not let that stop me from beginning this new journey and giving me a purpose for living. I am extremely grateful that the A.A. program was established just in time to be available to save this broken spirit and turn it into the person that I am today as I override my Ego and simply live by the dictates of my Conscience.

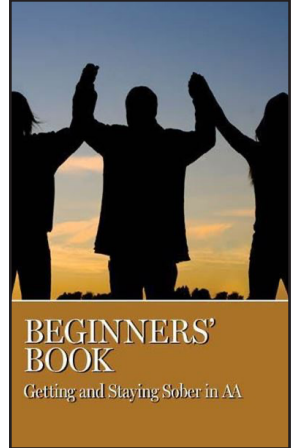
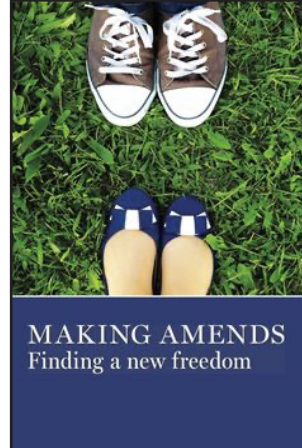
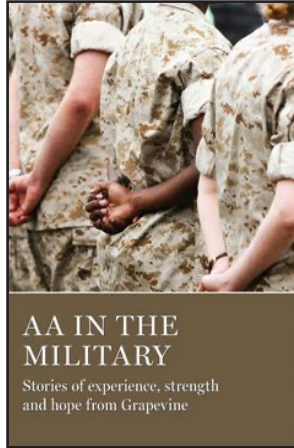
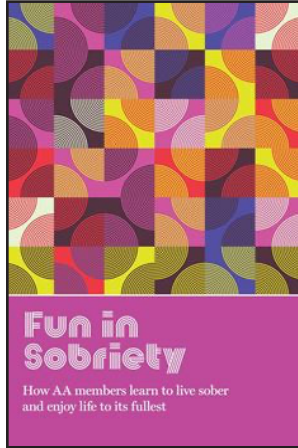
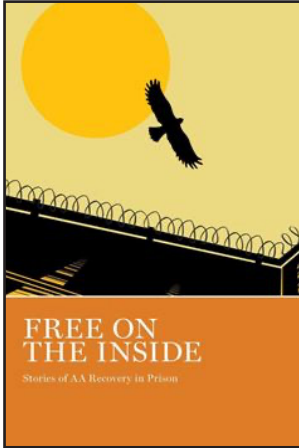
By Rick R.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Your Intergroup Office would like to thank
all of our members and groups for all their
amazing support throughout this year!
We wish you all a Happy New Year
filled with Joy, Health and Much Happiness.
ONE DAY AT A TIME!

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

GRAPEVINE BOOKS! ON SALE NOW!



AA Grapevine Announces A Price Increase On Books

As of January 1, 2023, book and other content related items prices will increase.

To learn more visit www.aagrapevine.org/news-release

A Search for Humility and Happiness Not an End in Itself

On Page 70 in my version of the 12&12 it says that "humility, as a word, is often misunderstood". When asked, what is the opposite of humility; my first guess would be Pride. Who could argue with that? It was in my 22nd year of sobriety when I had a phone call from my first wife's husband at the time and the conversation started going south. I was trying to refrain from bickering with him and when he couldn't get any traction, he made the statement that, "He had heard stories about me in the past, and that I was no angel. I thought about it for a few seconds and responded, "I've done a lot of things in my life that I'm not proud of, but I'm not ashamed of anything I've done in the last 22 years." The call ended peacefully. It didn't occur to me at the time, but in that phone call, the polarity of pride and shame was evident.

About 16 years later, at a step study meeting on Step Seven, the discussion of Humility came up and I listened to all the different points of view. The memory of that phone call came back, and I questioned where humility fits in. In the 12&12 Step 5, it amounts to "a clear recognition of what and who we really are followed by a sincere attempt to become what we could be". With Pride at one extreme and Shame at the other, I see Humility right in the middle. It simply means doing the things we are supposed to be doing every day and doing them without fanfare. I always knew what I was supposed to be doing but with an overbearing sense of insecurity and neediness, seldom was I strong enough to do the right thing. I developed a sense of unworthiness that prevailed until I found a solution in the bottle which only deepened my guilt and shame. In one of my more recent articles, I explained that I was doing a little research to find the definition of the word happiness and discovered that it is often described as "a byproduct of right living, and not an end in itself"

(Cont. on pg. 7)

REDLANDS GROUP OF A.A.

"1st Anniversary"



January 10th, 2023

(Open Meeting) @ 7pm

**Followed by Pie, Coffee, Hot Cocoa,
Camp Fire & S'mores**



**We are starting a
NEW MEETING!**

**As of January 12, 2023 on
Thursdays @ 7pm
(Closed Meeting)**

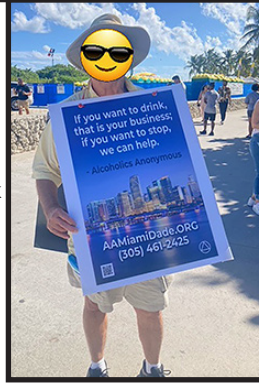


REDLANDS COMMUNITY CHURCH

14601 SW 248 Street, Homestead, FL 33032

The 2022 Miami Beach Seafood Festival

I am leaving the Beach now, 7:30pm. The afternoon and evening were awesome! I arrived on Miami Beach at 2:30pm. I believe I made a difference and changed many a life or two! (So many drunk people coming out, the last hour). So many nods of appreciation throughout the day and evening. I was told that I would not be allowed to display the A.A. sandwich boards within the Festival area and the people entering the festivities were concentrating on their "mission" of making their way inside the gated beach area. This gave me the opportunity to spend the first two hours, walking down the very crowded sidewalk and the edge of the street along all the rolls of numerous open air restaurants from the entrance of the festival at 14 Street down to 5th Street and back. No cars were allowed on all of Ocean Drive.



I posed, allowing all the hundreds of diners, giving them the opportunity to read the A.A. information with very many responding with a "Thumbs Up". Many people called me over to have a conversation about A.A. Numerous employees of the Restaurants asked for information for themselves and fellow workers/friends and I was able to hand them a Pamphlet from my pocket.

As I arrived back to the Festival, truly fulfilled with a personal feeling of worth for how I was spending my afternoon, I approached the Entrance/Exit of the Festival at 14th Street.

I spent the next two hours, standing back, on the walkway just outside the exit as the masses of people were leaving, giving most, each and everyone the opportunity to read the inviting information on the A.A. posters. Every 10 seconds I received a "Thumbs Up" or very sincere, verbal acknowledgment of my "contributions, kindness, etc. for my efforts" and other words of appreciation, that would continually warm my heart and lessen the pain of being on my feet for so long.

As the next two hours went by, with a continuous stream of people walking past me as many read the poster out loud, I had the opportunity to answer the questions and inquiries of so many. I learned that much of the alcohol within the Festival was being "given away freely". This was to become apparent as the last 45 minutes approached and the masses of people seemed to "thicken with inebriated drunken guests". I wondered to myself, "How many will proclaim that night or morning, that they need help and remember seeing the A.A. Poster". At least a thousand people read the poster that I wore on my front. They now know that if anyone reaches out to them for Help, A.A. is there to Help. How many people that viewed the sign on my backside, I will leave to your imagination. A number of persons and groups asked to take a picture to post online and instagram. Many others took a picture from their tables or from afar. I know of one life that I definitely changed... Mine!

By Bob D.

CORAL ROOM HOLIDAY HOURS!



CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday - December 24th, 2022 from 12:00pm
Till Sunday - December 25th, 2022 @ 12:00pm
With a **MEETING @ 3:00AM**

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday - December 31st, 2022 from 12:00pm
Till Sunday - January 1st, 2023 @ 12:00pm
With a **MEETING @ 3:00AM**



CORAL GABLES GROUP
1717 SW 37th Ave. # 103 - Miami - 33145



SUNSET GROUP Holiday Hours

CHRISTMAS HOURS

Room Open from
CHRISTMAS EVE @ 5:30pm - December 24th, 2022
Till **CHRISTMAS DAY @ 10:30am - December 25th, 2022**

NEW YEAR'S HOURS

Room Open from
NEW YEAR'S EVE @ 5:30pm - December 31st, 2022
Till **NEW YEAR'S DAY @ 10:30am - January 1st, 2023**



SUNSET ROOM

6999 N. Waterway Dr. - Miami - 305.261.3725

For A Newcomer To Know

Most, if not all newcomers walk into an Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting thinking they are in an Alcoholics Anonymous Program. Not knowing they are among an Alcoholics Anonymous Fellowship that has a Twelve Step Program available for them. A lot of them never comeback when they feel Alcoholics Anonymous has failed them before they get a sponsor and work a step, not really understanding how A.A. works. They may go out into the streets or go online and trash A.A. because of this.

First, the Twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous has never failed anyone, you can only fail the steps by not applying them in your every day life after working them with a sponsor. What is a sponsor? A sponsor is someone who has completed or worked the Twelve Steps, is willing to help and guide a newcomer through the Twelve steps. At most A.A. Meetings you will recognize a sponsor at the end of a meeting, when they are asked to raise their hands.

I have sat in many A.A. meetings over the years, and to this day when I am not paying attention, I can miss parts of the A.A. Preamble when it states and reads: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a Fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other, that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism, the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking".

When someone tells you this is their first A.A. Meeting, whether if they are coming off the streets or fresh out of a treatment center. For those of us who came before the newcomer within the fellowship, I think it is extremely important to let the newcomer know a treatment center is a program, Alcoholics Anonymous is a Fellowship, not a program.

By Kenneth S. A Member of Alcoholics Anonymous

¿Sabías qué..?

La Oficina de Servicios Generales (OSG) tiene actualmente una extensa lista de hombres encarcelados que están a la espera de intercambiar correspondencia con un miembro de A.A. de afuera. La gran mayoría de estos hombres son alcohólicos hispanos que desean trabajar el programa de A.A.

Tu puedes enviar el mensaje de A.A. manteniendo esta correspondencia y usando La Viña como herramienta de Paso Doce.

Para obtener más información, envía un correo electrónico a: corrections@aa.org. O puedes escribir a:

**Correccionales,
Oficina de Servicios Generales
Box 459, Grand Central Station
Nueva York, N.Y. 10163.**

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.



LA OFICINA DE INTERGRUPO
Les Invitamos a celebrar

GRAN FIESTA NAVIDEÑA

10 de Diciembre 2022
7:00 pm a 12:00 am

CENA Y BAILE

**1700 s.w 62 avenue
WEST MIAMI ,FL 33155**

adultos \$ 25 niños 3 a 13 \$ 10

INFORMACION
754 816-0957 & 786 612-5703



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.
5 Anonymous.



WEST MIAMI GROUP

HOLIDAY - POTLUCK

Dinner & Fellowship
5:30pm to 6:30pm



Followed by:
Meeting



GUEST SPEAKER



@ 7:00pm



SUNDAY | December 11th, 2022

Everyone Is Welcome!





HARMONY ROOM
7221 SW 24th St. # 205 | Miami | 305.261.1221





Celebrating 63 Years!

Key Biscayne Group

INTERGROUP BENEFIT

FELLOWSHIP * FOOD * FUN * RAFFLE

WHEN

Friday
December 16th, 2022

WHERE

St. Christopher by the Sea
95 Harbor Dr. – Key Biscayne

POTLUCK DINNER

6:30pm – Fellowship | 8:00pm - Speaker
9:00pm - Raffle




**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

aamiamidade.org

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Vice-Chair

Richard A.

Treasurer

Dylan S.

Secretary

Rebeca C.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Gloria P.

Manuel M.

Oliver M.

Jonathan M.

Trustees

Manuel N.

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

Jennifer R.

The Messenger

Office

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Twelve Step Relay

Paul R.

Maria S.

Big Service Breakfast

Richard A.

General Service Liaison

Jorge L.

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

Office

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Treatment

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Big Service Breakfast

Al P.

District 17 Liaison

Enrique S.

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Andrea L.

Communications

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"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 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

Having had a
spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this
message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

NOVEMBER

PALMETTO BAY

Rebecca C. 2
Pat J. 42

SOBER WAY OUT

Miriam B. 5
Meg R. 6
Rachael H. 10
Mehgan G. 11
Conrad G. 16
Sophie S. 31
Jim C. 30
Alfred J. 33
Wendy D. 34
Robert O. 40



DECEMBER

SUNSET

Zeth T. 1
Niki M. 1
Omar O. 1
Maggie S. 4
Alfred 11
Maria Isabel 16
Stephanie G. 30
Dan B. 33
George P. 35

SABAL PALM

Brian S. 1
Dave N. 1
Byron H. 11
Al P. 14
Barry L. 16
Ray S. 16
Francisco 18
Angelo K. 28
Kenneth C. 28

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.
FL. Lauderdale, FL 33315

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

PAYPAL NEWS

Fees charges have changed with PayPal while sending contributions through their site or app.

Please if you send your contributions through PayPal you need to send it through their

"PayPal Giving Fund"

so the Intergroup Office does not incur any extra charges.

I USED TO THINK SOBRIETY WAS BORING... UNTIL I CREATED A NEW LIFE THAT DIDN'T NEED ALCOHOL TO ENTERTAIN ME. TURNS OUT IT WAS MY OLD LIFE THAT WAS ACTUALLY BORING.

A Search for Humility and Happiness (Cont. from pg.2)

Happiness is not a goal, but it is the result of living right. A friend once shared at a meeting that, satisfying his wants will never make a person happy. Another person shared that she had read something that described it like this: "happiness is like a butterfly, the more you chase it, the farther away it gets, but when you stand still, it will land on your shoulder". If my motive is to create happiness, it's probably not going to happen. I believe that this perspective applies to Humility as well. I also believe that right living is a good start. I don't believe that anybody can claim humility for themselves, but we can see it in others, and it seems to be a byproduct of the way they live. I've known some humble people, in and outside of the program, and they all have some things in common: They seldom bring attention to themselves, they never criticize others, they are always comforting, and they are always an asset and never a liability. Humble people do the things they were taught as a child. They treat others with respect. They are trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind.... Sound familiar?

I learned it in the boy scouts. I learned the Golden Rule in church, but I was never strong enough to live by it. If you're not sure what you're supposed to be doing, Read the 11th Step Prayer in the 12&12 or The Boy Scouts Laws, or try practicing The Golden Rule. That should be a pretty good start. When I found Alcoholics Anonymous, I was reintroduced to these values and helped to rein in my ego, and today I am at peace with myself and with those around me.

By Rick R.

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
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/Last Saturday @ 7:30pm
West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm

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/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
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

LOOKING FOR A.A. MEETINGS?

Learn more at:

www.meetingguide.org

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



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 - January 12, 2023 @ 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: 305.461.2426

Happy
Holidays

