

# The Messenger



MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

Florida - USA

July 2023

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

## In Search of a Higher Power A Power Greater Than Myself

Seldom have I been in a meeting where someone hasn't referred to his or her higher power, and as I see it, most people that stay around for any length of time come to some sort of terms with, or an understanding of a power greater than themselves that works for them. Once that hurdle is cleared, they seem to settle into a more comfortable way of life. There are also those that come to us with a strong religious affiliation, and they sometimes share that the A.A. program helps them to enhance their faith. Others come here that are atheist or agnostic, and the program works for them as well as it does for anyone else. Then there are those who, for whatever reason, have trouble clearing those hurdles and sometimes spend years struggling with this issue of, God as we understand him.

I believe that as long as A.A. exists, we will witness these kind of quandaries in new members who are conditioned by the environments from which they came, and I don't claim to have a surefire answer to what makes us different, other than what I have learned about myself, and how I have come to see things as I attempt to resolve my own mental blocks. I know that I was biased myself when I first entered the program probably due to my failed attempt at religion as a child. This had little to do with religion but more to do with the fact that I was not mentally evolved enough to understand it at the age of six.

Fortunately for me I recognized, early in my sobriety, that I could take the steps of the program with the minimum understanding of God, or a higher power, after all, that's what it tells me in the 12&12. It says that even a one-time vice-president of American-Atheist Society got through the hoop with room to spare.

I was at a meeting recently when a member was trying to articulate how he had come to terms with his faith in a higher power and as he was poking fun at himself trying to fit it all together and make sense of it so everyone could understand, he finally threw his hands up in the air and said, with a smile, "Well, that's how it works for me". We all joined him in laughter because we had seen it so many times before. As I was listening to him, a thought came to me as the result of what he shared, and as we were leaving the meeting, I was following closely behind him, I offered that thought to him. I said, "Maybe if, instead of calling it A POWER GREATER THAN MYSELF, we could just refer to it as A PROGRAM GREATER THAN MY OWN". He laughed and said, that's what I was trying to say.

(Cont. on page 3)

## SABAL PALM GROUP 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary EXTRAVAGANZA

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR CELEBRATION ON

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023**



CATERED BY  
THE BIG CHEESE!

For more info  
305.274.7434

Desserts are welcome!

NEXT TO SABAL PALM ROOM AT THE  
RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

10775 SW 104<sup>th</sup> ST. - 33176



FELLOWSHIP @ 5:30pm

DINNER @ 6:00pm

SPEAKER @ 7:00pm



**INTERGROUP BENEFIT!**

### They Are Not at Fault Low Self Esteem

I am always listening to the different ways that members of the A.A. program try to articulate their perception of their day-to-day problems and what causes them and what can be done about them. I experienced the same type of confusion in my early days and it has taken me a very long time to convince myself to trust the A.A. process and to be totally honest with myself about those issues and I can honestly say that they got it right when they suggested that we "thoroughly follow this path" and that is what I do, to the best of my understanding. It was very hard to let down my egocentric guard in the beginning and even after many years in the program I still had to be very vigilant about my motives for every decision I make.

About twenty years ago, while listening to some members being critical of one of the newer members of the group, I heard this loud popping sound. That was my head coming out of my "you know what". They were accusing him of the same things that I recognized in myself when I was new to the program, and it gave me a new respect for how I treat other people. A friend of mine once said that "most forms of criticism and character assassination stem from low self-esteem". Recognizing these things in myself, and not letting my EGO convince me that I'm superior to anyone has been the most profound leap in my spiritual development that I have experienced in all my years in Alcoholics Anonymous. They are not at fault; they seem to have been born that way. (Big Book pg.58). If I want people to accept me, knowing that I am flawed myself, then how can I stand in the judgment of anyone else simply because that person has not been as fortunate as I have and has not yet been able to let down his guard? Those critics themselves also deserve my understanding as well for they are just displaying symptoms of alcoholism by being judgmental. We have all been conditioned to defend our turf this way. I have learned that, if I want forgiveness for my flaws, then I will have to be accepting of those other people and have the strength to look beneath the surface and try to understand the things that trouble that person and replace my criticism with empathy and compassion.

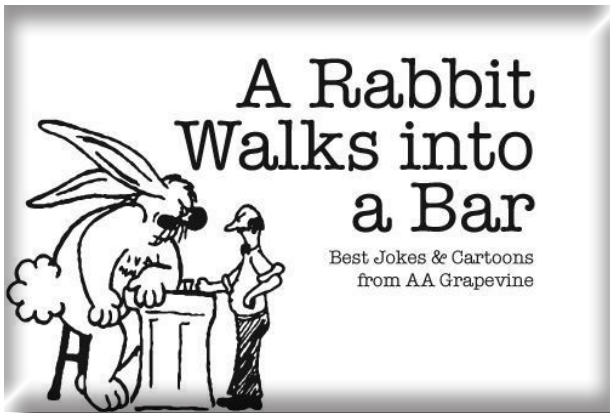
As I practice this little exercise on everyone that seems to act outside of the norms of acceptable behavior, I remove one more of those little mental conflicts that used to keep me awake at night. If, when I was new in the program, I could have understood this simple principle and the peace of mind that has ensued as the result, I would have cut to the chase and never looked back, but it wasn't that simple. I had to unlearn all the faulty behaviors that I employed and replace them with unselfish, proven principles while my EGO fought me every step of the way. I'm happy to report that this approach has put my EGO in the back seat and my conscience rides right up front with me and I am looking forward to my next late sobriety revelation.

By Rick R.

## GRAPEVINE BOOKS! ON SALE NOW!

A.A. Grapevine Announces  
A Price Increase On Books  
As of January 1, 2023,  
books and other contents  
related items prices will  
increase.

To learn more visit  
[www.aagrapevine.org/news-release](http://www.aagrapevine.org/news-release)



## ***In Search of a Higher Power....***

*(Cont. from page 1)*

It's clear to me now, that it wasn't as important to identify what or who God is, or what my concept of a power greater than myself was at the time. I found it more important at the time to proceed through the rest of the program and do the things that are suggested. The main thing that I had to do was to accept outside guidance, especially when it is based on sound, well-established principles. Many successful people in the program have come to understand the concept of a higher power in that way. Sometimes it's hard to grasp it all at once. Don't let that stop you. I would encourage anyone who is having trouble with this issue to consider the "PROGRAM GREATER THAN MY OWN" idea. Time and experience will help you along the road to understanding. I can almost guarantee that if you stop fighting and practice the rest of the AA program as enthusiastically as you can, (12&12 Pg. 27) you will come to terms with a power greater than yourself and put this issue to rest.

By Rick R.

## The 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous

### Step

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12

“

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings

”

Alcoholics Anonymous AA.Org

## **HUMILITY, WITH A TOUCH OF HUMOR**

A fellow AA recently shared on Step Seven: “Becoming keenly aware of my character defects is often a sequence of ‘aha’ moments, in which I finally can see one of my short-comings in a clear, honest light.”

Being humble includes having a sense of humor. When pride has a hold of me, I don't laugh much. I am the center of the universe, a burden too serious to handle. With humil-ity, “If you learn to laugh at yourself, you will have a lifetime of entertainment.” Perhaps that is why “human,” “humble,” and “humor” all come from the same linguistic root. Humility has my feet firmly planted on the ground, an earthy reality.

Anonymous, Adelphi, MD

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## **SAVE THE DATES!**



## **66TH FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION 2023**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 10 - SUNDAY AUGUST 13**

**WWW.FLORIDASTATECONVENTION.COM**

**SADDLEBROOK RESORT - WESLEY CHAPEL, FL 33543**

**WWW.SADDLEBROOK.COM**



**¿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](mailto: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  
ESPAÑOL  
**[WWW.AAMIAMIDADE.ORG](http://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](mailto:aamiamidade@bellsouth.net)  
o llamar al  
**305.461.2425**  
con su informacion.

# GRUPO NUEVA VIDA

ESTA CELEBRANDO.....

## 17 AÑOS

TODOS ESTÁN INVITADOS A CELEBRAR  
CON NOSOTROS EL 15 DE JULIO  
A PARTIR DE LAS 8:30 PM

TENDREMOS COMPARTIMIENTO,  
COMIDA, ALEGRÍA Y MUCHAS 24 HORAS  
DE SOBRIEDAD!

EN LA SEDE DE NUESTRO GRUPO:

**5545 SW 8TH STREET, STE. 207  
MIAMI, FL 33134**

## Reunión de Mujeres

### AA

## Grupo Nuevo Porvenir



**JULIO/2023**

**Día Sábados**

**1st, 15th y 29th**

**Hora 5.00pm a 7.00pm**

**Solo por Hoy**

## 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.**

## Little River Group

### 8:30pm Meetings

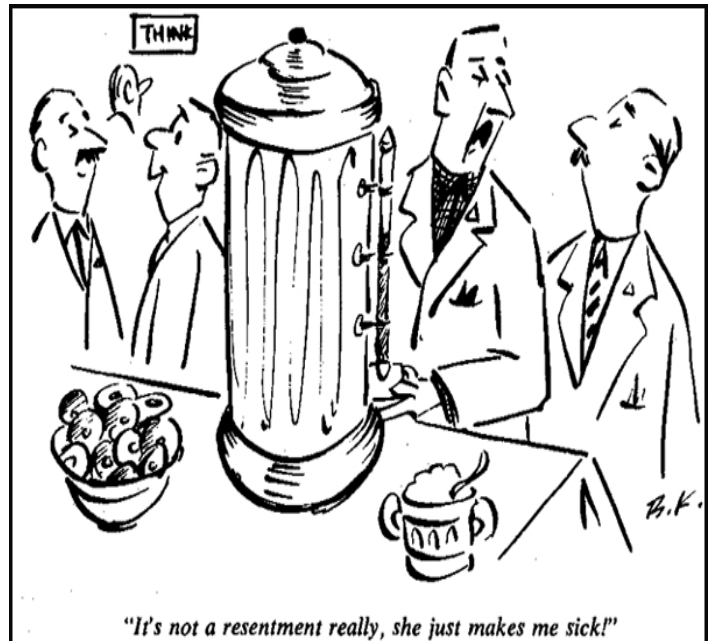
### ***NEEDS SUPPORT!***

### **WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS**



**Little River Club**

51 NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Tr. — Miami — 33138 — 305.759.6332



**INTERGROUP  
CONTACT LIST**

aamiamidade.org

**Chairman**

Richard A.

**Vice-Chair**

Gloria P.

**Treasurer**

Sal G.

**Secretary**

Carroll K.

**Steering Committee**

Jennifer R.

Manuel M.

Ma. Isabel S.

Jonathan M.

Paul R.

**Trustees**

Ian S.

**Founder's Day**

Richard A.

**Intergroup Banquet**

Ma. Isabel S.

**Intergroup Office**

Jennifer R.

**The Messenger**

Office

*Outreach***OPEN POSITION***Public Information***OPEN POSITION****Twelve Step Relay**

Gloria P.

Maria S.

**Big Service Breakfast**

Mary Beth L.

**General Service Liaison**

Andrea L.

**Spanish Intergroup Liaison**

Jennifer R.

**Webmaster**

Office

**GENERAL SERVICE  
CONTACT LIST**  
www.district10miami.org**Chairman**

Regina F.

**Alternate Chairperson**

Sara G.

**Treasurer**

Jorge L.

**Registrar**

Analisa D.

**Recording Secretary**

Pablo B.

**Archives**

Carl L.

**Corrections**

Jim L.

**Current Practice**

Ric B.

**Grapevine****OPEN POSITION****Gratitud Dinner**

Johanna M.

**Intergroup Liaison**

Andrea L.

**Literature**

Kenneth T.

**PI/CPC**

David A.

**Accessibilities**

Adi M.

**Treatment**

Paul H.

**Big Service Breakfast**

David A.

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

Brenda C.

**Communications****OPEN POSITION****"THE MESSENGER"**

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**WEBSITE:**

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**

*The tremendous fact for every one of us is that we have discovered a common solution. We have a way out on which we can absolutely agree, and upon which we can join in brotherly and harmonious action. This is the great news this book carries to those who suffer from alcoholism.*

*BB page 18*



## JUNE

### SABAL PALM

Aaron S. 1  
Kim R. 1  
Maria D.C. 1  
Stephanie M. 2  
Liliana G. 3  
Richard C. 5  
Christy G. 6  
Gus Z. 6  
Fernando V. 14  
Gus S. 18  
Kelly R. 18  
Darren C. 20  
Robert A. 29

### SOUTH DIXIE

Crystal 1  
Mari 1  
Bridget 1  
Sarah 13  
Andy 17

### MIXED NUTS

Eddie M. 1  
Mark S. 13

### PALMETTO BAY

Sean L. 3  
Ralph C. 3  
Sheila W. 7  
Dave S. 10  
Suzy H. 20  
Ivette Mc 22  
Fredrick 30  
Carolyn S. 39

## JULY

### MIXED NUTS

Soul V. 1  
Eli B. 2  
Cole G. 5

## 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](http://www.russianaa.com)  
[russianaa.florida@gmail.com](mailto:russianaa.florida@gmail.com)

### 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 @ 7:30pm  
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/2nd Friday @ 7:00pm  
West Miami Group/3rd Tuesday @ 7:00pm

### SOBER WAY OUT

Jess B. 2  
Joe b. 2  
Jonathan K. 2  
John R. 4  
Joseph S. 4  
Paco 5  
Graciela P. 6  
Robert L. 7  
Freddie D. 9  
Lina 13  
Patrick 19  
Wilfredo V. 21  
Judy S. 24  
Karen W. 25

### HOMESTEAD

Barbie P. 1  
Miguel A. 11  
Marion K. 15

"My Creator, I am now  
willing that you should  
have all of me, good and  
bad. I pray that you now  
remove from me every  
single defect of character  
which stands in the way of  
my usefulness to you and  
my fellows. Grant me  
strength, as I go out from  
here, to do your bidding.  
Amen."

## STEP 7 PRAYER



### 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 Saturday @ 7:30pm  
West Miami Group/Last Friday @ 8:30pm



## 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"

### LOOKING FOR A.A. MEETINGS?

Learn more at:

[www.meetingguide.org](http://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 - August 10th, 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](mailto:jamc13@bellsouth.net) or [aamiamidade@bellsouth.net](mailto: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

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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**

Miami-Dade Intergroup  
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Miami, FL 33135  
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Fax: 305.461.2426

