



THE MESSENGER

MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP

AAMIAMIDADE@BELLSOUTH.NET

MARCH 2024

1850 SW 8th St. # 303 - Miami, FL 33135

305.461.2425 (24 hrs)

305.461.2426 (Fax)

aamiamidade.org

Anonymity: The Spiritual Foundation We Failed Idealists Need Attention

I came from a family that was riddled with alcoholic drinkers and many of them had the problem as bad as I did. I recall the first month, or so, when I got sober, still hanging out with them at our favorite watering hole, drinking ginger ale. I would slip out every night at 8:00pm and go to the AA meeting at 8:30 pm and return at 10:30 pm without telling anyone where I was going. I didn't want anybody to know that I was checking out the AA program. I didn't want to face the ridicule at the time, and I wasn't sure it was going to work for me. If it didn't work, I wouldn't have put up with their mocking me. You might say that I was protecting my anonymity at the time and didn't even know it. After thirty days of that, I didn't care who knew about it because I believed I had found the answer, and I did. Soon after that I was one of those guys that wanted to shout it from the rooftops and try to sober up everyone around me and you know how that turned out.

As I dragged each or my five brothers to AA meetings, it seems that they each learned just enough to be able to rationalize exactly why they were not alcoholics, and they ridiculed me anyway. Since then, one brother, a nephew, and a niece have committed suicide. That was among the experiences that gave me hard earned lessons on the respect for the principle of anonymity. Of the rest of my immediate family of ten siblings, only one sister saw something in me that she liked, and she got sober in the program and hasn't had a drink in over forty-eight years. We are exposed to the discussions in AA meeting as the newer members complain about someone breaking their anonymity, or the ones that want to shout it from the rooftops, like my former self, and that will always be the case in AA as that is one of the symptoms of alcoholism. We are failed idealists that need attention, but as we get more experience, we learn the true value of the spirit of anonymity.

We can always come up with some noble reason for tooting our own horn and we can dress it up in the altruistic motive of sacrificing one's own anonymity to save someone's life and that, sometimes, in the long run, destroys the chance of being a good example and often turns out doing just the opposite, and I have personally witnessed that. In Tradition Twelve it talks of Anonymity as "The spiritual foundation of all our Tradition ever reminding us to place principles before personalities". There is a difference in the "Spirit of the law", and the "Letter of the law". We who have been diligent with the program have been highly influenced by the Spirit of what the founders learned and introduced us to in the form of the 12 steps and the 12 traditions, and they all come in the form of unselfishness of the spirit. I have yet to find one prayer or principle in the two books that we use as reference guides, that are of a material nature or of selfish motives. This tells me that the things I do, that are as the result of practicing the principles of the program, should be done unselfishly and without fanfare. So long as I needed the attention that I was always seeking when I was looking for the photo opp., I was still only following the letter of the law, so to speak. When I came to understand the Spirit of Anonymity, I was able to rein in my EGO and my selfish motives. I try to be a good role model and do it quietly. It seems to work better that way.

By Rick R.

69th Annual Banquet MIAMI-DADE INTERGROUP



The great fact is just this, and nothing less:

SATURDAY
March 16th, 2024

Tickets on Sale Now!

\$50.00 per person | \$500.00 per table (10 people)

Renaissance Ballrooms

5910 SW 8th St. - Miami, FL 33144

7:00pm - Fellowship

7:30pm - Dinner

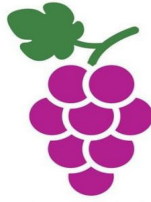
8:30 pm - Speaker

10:00pm - Followed by Dance

For more information please call the Intergroup Office: 305.461.2425

We can accept contributions through **PayPal Giving Fund, Venmo** to **305.461.2239** or **Zelle** to **aamiamidade@bellsouth.net**

DISTRICT 10 GRAPEVINE ROUNDUP



TROPICAL PARK, SHELTER # 2
7900 SW 40TH STREET
MIAMI, FL 33155

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
11AM-3:30PM
BBQ LUNCH 12-1:30PM
RAFFLE 1:30PM
SPEAKER 2-3PM

TICKETS \$10
BEVERAGES \$1
DESSERTS ARE WELCOME

FOR MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL - GRAPEVINE@DISTRICT10MIAMI.ORG

*We are the hardest
to love when we need
love the most.*

Aaron S.
New Orleans, LA

ALONE I CAN TOUCH THE LIVES OF BUT A FEW;
BY GIVING MYSELF TO A.A. I CAN TOUCH THE LIVES OF
HUNDREDS OF DRUNKS WHO NEED
THE MESSAGE WE CARRY.

David S., Vernon, CT

*All I know about
spirituality is: one
drunk helping another drunk.*

Peggy B.
Palos Verdes

Step Three

*"Made a decision to turn our will
and our lives over to the care of
God as we understood Him."*

God,

I offer myself to Thee - To build with
me and do with me as Thou wilt.
Relieve me of the bondage of self,
that I may better do Thy will. Take
away my difficulties, that victory
over them may bear witness to those
I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love,
and Thy Way of Life. May I do Thy
Will always.

MY FAITH FLICKERED ON AND OFF

And then awareness came back in the joy of being alive and of seeing beauty again - The Search for Spiritual Experience.

WHEN I was very small, about six, I frequently had the idea that it might be disastrous if I fell asleep—I might stop breathing, and then I would surely die. Many years later, when groping for some concept of a higher power—something I could believe in, above and beyond the chaos of my own personal life—I experienced a new concept of God as an ever-present, intelligent, loving force that would keep me breathing all night, even though I let go, even though I never tried to use my own mind or muscle to save myself. My Creator, I decided, would sustain me. Understanding God was not necessary to save my life. Letting go, trusting Him, was necessary. This belief did not come to me without struggle. At the age of twenty, I had a serious case of diphtheria, and it nearly terminated my short life. Formerly healthy and happy for the most part, I under went heart and nerve damage which made me a semi-invalid for a couple of years. The man I was engaged to became discouraged and married another woman.

This incident (or catastrophe) made me cry out in despair to whatever gods there might be. Always a lover of natural beauty, I suddenly turned away from the God of bird-song, of starlight, of golden dawn. These messages of bright promise now mocked me. I saw myself sick, alone, deserted. Fate (or God, I thought) had mistreated me. What a good excuse for the heavy drinking that began later on! All this disappointment led to the inability to eat sanely or manage normal digestion, and thereby to ulcers.

The doctor and I worked on this problem for years. Only much later did I realize that no amount of trying or demanding or conniving could help my stomach. I couldn't turn my food into blood and muscle and bone. But there was an intelligent power within me which could—if I let it. During my drinking years, my faith in God flickered on and off in a pathetic fashion, and eventually the disease gained the upper hand and alcohol ruled supreme over my entire life. At my first AA meeting, I prayed for help, and my craving for alcohol was lifted from me like some horrible burden.

A month later, while taking a walk, I stopped to gaze down at a huge ivy leaf, and tears came to my eyes. It was back—my conscious awareness of God, the joy of being alive, of seeing beauty again. God as the ever-present intelligence and love within people and animals and all the leaves on every tree—this is a joyous concept too big for me to explain or even grasp. But if we are patient and willing and live by AA principles, we do receive the gift of conscious contact, of awareness, and we can feel that Something Greater which keeps the stars in their orbits and peace in our hearts.

D.C.

Los Angeles, CA

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Don't look up. Look in, for if God is not within, there is very little chance of getting results by looking up.

When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on to A.A.

The eight year old son of a California AA father was asked by the teacher to spell the word "straight."

"S-T-R-A-I-G-H-T-!" quoth Junior promptly.

"That's fine, Junior!" beamed the teacher

"Now can you tell us what the word

"straight" means?"

"Certainly," replied Junior.

"Without soda!"

FAVORITE DRINK
A BEGINNER was asked what had been his favorite drink. "Brother," he said, "I didn't have any favorite drink. I'd drink anything that was too thin to chew!"



¿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
ESPAÑOL
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.

GRUPO DOCE PASOS

CELEBRANDO

Nuestro

46

ANIVERSARIO

Sábado 27 de Abril 2024

Hora: 6:00 pm

**601 West, 29 St
Hialeah, FL 33012**

GRUPO ÁRBOL DE VIDA

17 ANIVERSARIO

SEMANA DE COMPARTIMIENTO
DEL 11 AL 16 DE MARZO DEL 2024
DE 8PM A 10:00PM

7660 MARGATE BLVD.
MARGATE, FL 33063

FIESTA PUBLICA 17 DE MARZO

THE POLISH AMERICAN CLUB
935 ROCK ISLAND RD.
N. LAUDERDALE, FL 33068

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.



New Group

"QUEER & SOBER SOUTH BEACH GROUP"

New Meeting!

(Open, LGBTQ+)

FRIDAYS @ 7:00pm

**Starts on
April 5th**



Old City Hall

1130 Washington Ave. – Miami Beach, FL 33139



"I promptly admitted I was wrong and got fined \$200!"



"I'm sure my George was a much bigger drunk than your Ed!"

**INTERGROUP
CONTACT LIST**

aamiamidade.org

Chairman

Richard A.

Vice-Chair

Gloria P.

Treasurer

Sal G.

Secretary

Carroll K.

Steering Committee

Jennifer R.

Sandra N.

Ma. Isabel S.

Eva S.

Paul R.

Trustees

Ian S.

*Founder's Day***OPEN POSITION****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

Open Position

Registrar

Analisa D.

Recording Secretary

Pablo B.

Archives

Carl P.

Corrections

Jim L.

Current Practice

Ric B.

Grapevine

Jose M.

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****OPEN POSITION****Communications**

Anna G.

"THE MESSENGER"

Published Monthly by

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E-MAIL:

aamiamidade@bellsouth.net

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

Concept III

Every trusted servant and every AA entity — at all levels of service — has the right to decide how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility.

FEBRUARY

SABAL PALM

Raul C. 2
Dylan G. 2
Jose F. 2
Sashi 4
Michael P. 5
Juan P. 6
Donald S. 12
Gordy 20
Lorene D. 24
Donny 25
Kelly W. 26
Nick B. 26

PALMETTO BAY

Amy R. 3
Sashi 4
Robert D. 5
Shannon 8
Xaiver P. 31

SUNSET

ED F. 1
Jennifer L. 1
Liam C. 2
Michael P. 5
Darlene S. 25
Emi B. 40

TRIANGLE AA

Neil T. 9



SOBER WAY OUT

Dean 1
Jeff 1
Meagan S. 3
Ross S. 4
Stephen T. 5
Karl O. 7
Tony 7
Angel 16
Marcy 19
Alan 20
Nate 22
Don P. 23
Judy 28
Andres 29
Xavier 31
James S. 33
Ralph 34
Sandra C. 34
Melvin B. 35
Ron H. 40

MARCH

SOBER WAY OUT

Nandy 3
Bo. F 3
Konstantin V. 4
Liz S. 4
Carlos H. 8
Jennifer D. 8
Carlos 17
Martha P. 19
Jerzy L. 23
Annie P. 25
Robert T. 26
Raymond A. 27
Keith D. 29
Felix F. 31
Fred T. 24

MIXED NUTS

Lindsey P. 5
Amber C. 6
Beth M. 8

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

...THE 3RD STEP PRAYER...

TAKE MY WILL & MY LIFE, GUIDE ME
IN MY RECOVERY, AND SHOW ME HOW TO LIVE



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

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

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 - April 11th, 2024 @ 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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Miami, FL 33135
Phone: 305.461.2425 (24 hrs.)
Fax: 305.461.2426

HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY

