

PLUG IN
JUG
NEWS

Plug-in-Jug News
Published Monthly
by:
Acadiana Area
Central Office, Inc.
Located at:
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Lafayette, LA 70506
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(24 Hours)
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Contributions to:
P.O. Box 52186
Lafayette, LA 70505
Office Hours:
Monday—Friday
11:00AM-5:30PM
Sat. 8:30-12:30

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Acadiana Area

Step 11 Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious with God as we understand Him, praying only for the knowledge of His will and the power to carry it out.

Tradition 11 Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

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November 2011
COR Meeting
Sunday, November 20, 2011
1119C Johnston Street
Lafayette, LA
6:00 PM

*Visited the Central Office lately?
Come check out the Bookstore
Now in Stock!*

An extremely informative book which doesn't offer a plan for getting sober but does offer us advice on how to stay sober Basic, essential information from AA. As the book states,

Anyone can get sober.
The trick is to live sober...

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COR Meeting Agenda—November 20, 2011
Old Business-Answering Service & ALCATHON

Louisiana State Corrections Conference

Clifton Chenier Center in Lafayette
December. 3-4, 2011

Bars Bars Freedom

More info call - **337 501 6149**

28th Annual Scott Group
Chicken -Sausage Gumbo
November 12, 2011
St Jules Catholic Church Hall
116 St. Jules St. Corner of Macon & St. Jules, Lafayette
6:00 - Fellowship
7:00 - Eat Gumbo
8:00 - Speaker
9:00 -Door Prizes/50/50 Raffle
A-L please bring potato salad or favorite dish
M-Z please bring bread or desert
All Proceeds go to Acadiana Central Office
Questions Call Rod S. 704-1895

Acadiana Central Office
2011 Christmas Party
Saturday, December 10
Evangeline Shrine Club,
328 Guilbeau Rd in Lafayette
Speaker-Claire W, Lafayette

Donations needed to buy turkeys
Mail to: Acadiana Central Office
PO Box 52186, Lafayette, LA 70508
All Proceeds go to Acadiana Central Office
A-L Bring a side dish/M-Z Bring dessert

Southern States AA Service Assembly
November 4-6 Fairfax, VA Info -1 800 228 9290

Cajun Country Conference Fundraiser
New Years Eve Costume Party
St Barnabas Episcopal Church
400 Camellia Blvd, Lafayette, LA 70503

5:30-Doors Open
6:00- Jambalaya
7:30-Speaker:KathyC.(Sunset)
9:00- Costume Judging/ Dance
A-L Side Dish M-Z dessert
Best costume prize!

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MISSION STATEMENT
It is the goal of your Central Office Steering Committee to monitor and improve upon the quality of services provided by the office and its workers. The Steering Committee meets regularly to review Policies and Operations in order to improve its services to our A.A. Community.
www.aa-acadiana.org Email the Central Office at centraloffice@aa-acadiana.org

Want to contribute an item to the Plug-In-Jug? Email us at plug-in-jug@aa-acadiana.org, or send it to the Central Office, by the 4th Friday of the month. To include a flyer with the Plug-In-Jug mail-out, please provide **130 copies** and a \$15.00 donation to defray postage expense to the Central Office.

What Others Say...

Written by Bill W

For the Akron Intergroup News Vol. 56, Issue 9 July, 1959

When it comes to the practice of AA's Step 11—"Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out" I'm sure I am still very much in the beginner's class. Around me I see many people make a far better job of relating themselves to God than I do. Certainly it mustn't be said I haven't made any progress at all over the years. I simply confess that I haven't made the progress that I might have made, my opportunities being what they have been. My 24th AA anniversary is just ahead; I haven't had a drink in all this time. This is some evidence that I must have taken and ever since maintained Step 1: "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol, that our lives had become unmanageable." Step 1 was easy for me. Then, at the very beginning, I was fortunate enough to receive a tremendous spiritual awakening and was instantly "made conscious of the presence of God" and "restored to sanity". Therefore I've had no difficulty with AA's Step 2 because, in my case, its content was an outright gift. Step 4 and 5, dealing with self-survey and confession of one's defects, have not been overly difficult, either. Of course, my self-analysis has frequently been faulty. Sometimes I've failed to share my defects with the right people; at other times, I've confessed *their* defects, rather than my own. Nevertheless, I think I've usually been able to make a fairly thorough and searching job of finding and admitting my personal defects. So far as I know, there isn't at this moment a single defect or current problem of mine which hasn't been discussed with my close advisers. Yet this pretty well-ventilated condition is nothing for self-congratulation. Long ago I was lucky enough to see that I'd have to keep up my self-analysis or else blow my top completely. Though driven by stark necessity, this continuous self-revelation--to myself and to others--was rough medicine to take. But years of repetition has made this job far easier. Step 9, making restitution for harms done, has fallen into much the same bracket. In Step 12--carrying the AA message to others--I've found little else than great joy. We alkie are folks of action and I'm no exception. When action pays off as it does in AA, it's a small wonder that Step 12 is the most popular and, for most of us, the easiest. This little sketch of my own "pilgrim's progress" is offered to illustrate where I, and maybe lots of other AAs, have still been missing something of top importance. Through lack of disciplined attention and sometimes through lack of the right kind of faith, many of us keep ourselves year after year in the rather easy spiritual kindergarten I've just described. But almost inevitably we become dissatisfied; we have to admit we have hit an uncomfortable and maybe a very painful sticking point. Twelfth-Stepping, talking at meetings, recitals of drinking histories, confession of our defects and what progress we have made with them no longer provide us with the released and the abundant life. Our lack of growth is often revealed by an unexpected calamity or a big emotional upset. Perhaps we hit the financial jackpot and are surprised that this solves almost nothing; that we are still bored and miserable, notwithstanding. As we usually don't get drunk on these occasions, our bright-eyed friends tell us how well we are doing. But inside, we know better. We know we aren't doing well enough. We still can't handle life, as life is. There must be a serious flaw somewhere in our spiritual practice and development. What then, is it? The chances are better than ever that we shall locate our trouble in our misunderstanding or neglect of Step 11.

continued on page 7.....

Step 11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand Him, praying only for the knowledge of His will and the power to carry it out.



I ask a Higher Power for help to live the right way.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday

11:00am-5:30pm

Saturday

8:30am—12:30pm

Concept 11 The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

1. Do we understand how the roles of non trustee directors and non trustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system?
2. How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional "Right of Participation?"
3. Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?

Acadiana Central Office

Acadiana Central Office COR Meeting

Minutes from October 16, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Ruth B. and opened with the Serenity Prayer. She welcomed the new COR's, alternates and visitors. Everyone introduced themselves.

STEERING COMMITTEE	COR & Alt. COR		
Chairman	Ruth B.	A Design for Living	Janssen C.
Vice Chair	Not Present	Downtown Group	Cathy C.
Treasurer	Not Present	Faith Group	Trey H.
Secretary	Kathy A.	Hub City Group	Suzanne D. (alt)
Activities Chair	Not Present	Kitchen Table Group	Rhonda M. (alt)
Contact Chair	Jeff B.	Living Sober Group	Danny W.
Communications Chair	David C.	Primary Purpose Group	Rob C.
		Sisters in Sobriety	Cathryn U.
		Sobriety & Beyond	Bob C.
OTHERS:	Sun-Up	Jon N.	
		Surrender Group	Shirley R.
13C DCM (alt)	Julia S.	We Agnostics	Patrick M.
Office Manager	Linda F.	12 @ 12 Group	Jan C.

Kathy A. read the minutes from the September COR meeting. Correction made; the District 13C workshop is called *Putting the Pieces Together* not *Putting the Puzzle Together*. Minutes were accepted as read.

<p>Treasurer's Report: Linda read the report:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Starting Bank Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$3000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Income</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2779.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3617.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Net Income</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- 838.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Transferred from Prudent Reserve</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- 844.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New Prudent Reserve Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$6861.86</td> </tr> </table> <p>Linda reported group donations were down in Sept. and a transfer was made from the Prudent Reserve. Donations are up this month. Report accepted as read.</p>	Starting Bank Balance	\$3000.00	Total Income	2779.60	Total Expenses	3617.88	Net Income	- 838.28	Transferred from Prudent Reserve	- 844.79	New Prudent Reserve Balance	\$6861.86	<p>Office Manager's Report Linda F. reported:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">12-Step Calls (Office)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-Step Calls (Answer Svc.)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting Info Calls (Office)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting Info Calls (Answer Svc.)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walk Ins</td> <td style="text-align: right;">87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Office Information</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Al-Anon Info</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting Lists Mailed</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting Lists Faxed</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Internet Inquiries</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sales of Merchandise</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PIJ Subscriptions</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PIJ Mailed</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>53 Paid Subscribers/ 37 COR's</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Report accepted as read.</p>	12-Step Calls (Office)	3	12-Step Calls (Answer Svc.)	1	Meeting Info Calls (Office)	90	Meeting Info Calls (Answer Svc.)	49	Walk Ins	87	Office Information	9	Al-Anon Info	2	Meeting Lists Mailed	1	Meeting Lists Faxed	0	Internet Inquiries	0	Sales of Merchandise	80	PIJ Subscriptions	1	PIJ Mailed	90	53 Paid Subscribers/ 37 COR's	
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Activities Report: Ruth reported for Jim that attendance was down from last years' BBQ but more money was raised. Girard Park has been booked for Oct. 27, 2012 for next year's BBQ. The Christmas Party is Dec. 10 at the Shrine Club. Flyers were mailed out with the *Plug-N-Jug*. Members can donate items for the silent auction and there will be a 50/50 raffle. Jim can be contacted at activities@aa-acadiana.org. Eddy P. is taking turkey donations. The party will begin at 5, serving will start at 6 and the speaker will start at 7:30. The Alcathon begins at 6pm Dec. 24 at the Pink Building. The Chili Cook-Off is planned for March at St. Barnabas Church.

Report accepted as read.

Communications: David reported:

883 visitors made 1284 visits to the website in September 2011

Meeting Lists were downloaded 867 times

Plug-In-Jug issues were downloaded 48 times

The Events/Calendar page was viewed 160 times

Total visits year-to-date: 14143

David reports the new format for the *Plug-N-Jug* will probably be ready Dec. 1. It will take a few months to complete. He will ask CORs/ DCMs for article contributions from members. Subscribers to *Plug-N-Jug* are receiving the newsletter torn from the Post Off. David is going to use 100# cardstock as last page to prevent the tearing. Changes to the Website will probably be done Jan. 1.

Report accepted as read

Contact: Jeff met this month with Last Chance Acceptance group and plans more meetings in the future.

Report accepted as read.

District 13A: Inactive district

District 13C: Julia S reported positive response to the website ladistrict13c.org. *Putting the Pieces Together*, a workshop will be Jan.7-8 at the Clifton Chenier Center. The Dist. will elect 2 DCMs and Alternates. The Correction's conference is the 1st weekend of Dec.

District 13D: Inactive district

District 13E David reported the sobriety requirement is one year for jail meeting participation. The District is planning a workshop March 9-12 at the Clifton Chenier Center.

District 2: No report

District 9: No report

New Business

1. The CORs voted unanimously to not hold a COR meeting in December.
2. Danny W. made a motion that groups rotate meeting times for the Alcathon. David suggested he discuss this with Jim W. We Agnostics will have the 6pm meeting time as this is the group's regular meeting time at the Pink Building.
3. Janssen C asked if a complaint about the answering service had been addressed. Linda spoke with the service and was told they had new employees and had corrected the problem. A motion was made to survey the groups about the answering service. There was a discussion about discontinuing the service which costs \$95.00 per month and have groups take responsibility for the phone from 5:30 pm till 11:00 am weekdays and during weekends. Ruth suggested the motion be tabled until next month's meeting and the CORs can discuss the issue with their home groups.

Motion made and carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

February 1969 Vol. 25 No. 9

Dr. Bob on Tradition Eleven

Dr. Bob, co-founder of AA, commented on Tradition 11 as follows: "Since our Tradition on anonymity designates the exact level where the line should be held, it must be obvious to everyone who can read and understand the English language that to maintain anonymity at any other level is definitely a violation of this Tradition. "The AA who hides his identity from his fellow AA by using only a given name violates the Tradition just as much as the AA who permits his name to appear in the press in connection with matters pertaining to AA. "The former is maintaining anonymity *above* the level of press, radio, and films, and the latter is maintaining his anonymity *below* the level of press, radio, and films—whereas the Tradition states that we should maintain our anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films."

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Office Manager's Corner

October 2011 Central Office had:

12 Step Calls (office)	2
12 Step Calls (ansv)	2
Meeting Info (office)	62
Meeting Info (ansv)	43
Walk-Ins	63
Office Information	6
Al-Anon Information	5
Meeting List Mailed	4
Meeting List Faxed	1
Internet Inquires	4
Sales of Merchandise	58
PIJ Subscriptions	1
PIJ Mailed	91
54 Paid Subscribers/37 COR's	



HOW ARE WE DOING?

Ruth E.
337-281-7915
chair@aa-acadiana.org



TO VOLUNTEER AT
CENTRAL OFFICE
CALL LINDA
(337) 991-0830

Volunteer Workdays—September 2111

Janet H. (12@12 Group)	5, 12, 19, 26
Debbie C. (Faith Group)	4, 10, 18
Jim O. (Any Lengths)	12, 26
Jean T. (Primary Purpose)	20, 27
Bill S. (Sun-Up)	15
Yvonne A. (Surrender)	22
Gilbert W. (3 rd Street Park)	29
Virginia R. (Sisters in Sobriety)	31

Your service is appreciated!

Things We Cannot Change (In Memoriam)

Want to contribute to the Plug-In-Jug?
Email to plug-in-jug@aa-acadiana.org
or send it to the Central Office by the
4th Friday of the month.

To include a flyer with the
Plug-In-Jug mail-out, please
provide 130 copies and a \$15
donation to de-fray postage.

Sick Bay

Russell C	Any Lengths
Keith C.	Area Group of Breaux Bridge
Pete R.	Bienvenue
Sam J.	Freedom's Choice
Claire W.	Hub City
Ola B.	Last Chance Acceptance
John H	Sun Up
Jo C.	Sun Up
Eddie P.	Sun Up

Groups— Please submit changes for Sick
Bay and/or In Memoriam to Central Office.

Acadiana Central Office SEPTEMBER 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Regular Income	\$1,042.03
Total Sales Income	\$1,737.57
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,779.60
Total Regular Expenses	\$2,305.90
Total Sales Expenses	\$1,311.98
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,617.88
NET INCOME	-\$838.28
Checkbook Balance	\$2,155.21
Prudent Reserve Transfer Amount	\$844.79
New Checkbook Balance	\$3,000.00
Prudent Reserve Starting Balance	\$7,705.30
Prudent Reserve Transfer Amount	-\$844.79
New Prudent Reserve Balance	\$6,861.86

Group Donations	September	YTD
Abbeville Area	\$0.00	\$10.00
A Design For Living	\$0.00	\$480.00
Acadian Gr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Any Lengths	\$0.00	\$597.08
Back to Basics (N.I.)	\$10.00	\$30.00
Big Book Experience	\$0.00	\$95.00
Boulevard Gr. (Opelousas)	\$31.91	\$111.91
Brown Baggers (Morgan City)	\$0.00	\$83.09
By the Book	\$0.00	\$45.00
Courage To Change (N.I.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Downtown Gr. (Opelousas)	\$0.00	\$267.29
Dry Dock	\$0.00	\$100.00
Eunice Solutions Gr.	\$0.00	\$20.00
Faith	\$0.00	\$602.42
Freedoms Choice	\$20.00	\$40.20
Hang In There (Scott)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hub City	\$0.00	\$736.56
Kitchen Table	\$156.49	\$1,727.24
Last Chance Acceptance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Living Sober	\$0.00	\$75.00
New Way (Breaux Bridge)	\$93.00	\$1,075.00
Newcomers Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Northside Gratitude	\$0.00	\$63.00
Opelousas Group	\$0.00	\$25.00
Primary Purpose	\$218.24	\$2,388.67
Queen City/ Gratitude (N.I.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reflections	\$0.00	\$100.00
S.M.F. Gr	\$0.00	\$200.00
Scott Group	\$29.20	\$562.81
Serenity N.I.	\$0.00	\$200.00
Simply Sober	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sisters In Sobriety	\$0.00	\$75.00
Sober Chicks	\$0.00	\$10.00
Solutions Gr. Ville Platte	\$0.00	\$0.00
Spring Gr. Port Barre	\$0.00	\$0.00
Step By Step	\$0.00	\$210.00
Step Into Recovery	\$0.00	\$50.00
Sun Up	\$271.42	\$2,246.33
Surrender	\$0.00	\$314.62
The Gulf Coast Group	\$100.00	\$180.00
3rd Street Park	\$0.00	\$544.81
Truman Gr.	\$0.00	\$25.00
12 at 12 Group	\$0.00	\$45.00
We Agnostics	\$0.00	\$0.00
Willing To Believe (Duson)	\$0.00	\$10.28
Total Group Donations	\$930.26	\$13,346.31



TWO BUCKS IN THE BASKET IS THE NEW DOLLAR!

The Acadiana Area Central Office, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corp. Donations are tax deductible up to \$3,000 / AA member /year. Personal donations are accepted only from AA members.

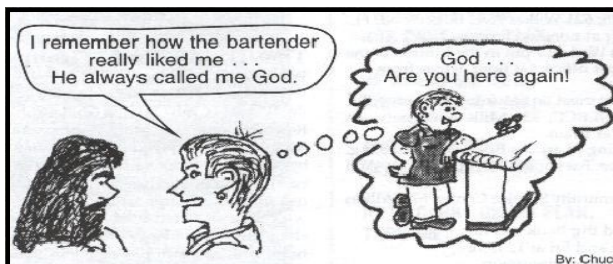
December Birthdays

1193 years of Sobriety



Alice E.	12/30/90	Step By Step	21	yrs
Alice E.	12/30/90	Step By Step	1	yr
Allison P.	12/11/09	Living Sober	2	yrs
Angela C.	12/17/92	Sisters In Sobriety	19	yrs
Beau T.	12/10/05	Acadian	6	yrs
Belinda S.	12/9/08	Opelousas Group	3	yrs
Brian F.	12/6/04	A Design for Living	7	yrs
Brice L.	12/25/07	Faith Group	4	yrs
Bryan F.	12/29/03	Reflections	8	yrs
Butch V.	12/28/08	Kitchen Table Group	3	yrs
Camille A	12/22/09	New Beginnings Henderson	2	yrs
Charmaine S.	12/16/09	Twelve At Twelve	2	yrs
Cheryl P.	12/11/04	Brown Baggers-Morgan City	7	yrs
Chris D	12/20/09	Reflections	2	yrs
Claudette M.C.	12/12/01	Abbeville Area	10	yrs
Clyde N	12/30/10	New Way	1	yr
Colt S	12/16/10	Kitchen Table Group	1	yrs
Connor S	12/10/10	New Way	1	yr
Crys B	12/27/88	Serenity Group N.I.	23	yrs
Dan D,	12/12/81	Freedoms Choice	30	yrs
Daniel D.	12/12/81	Last Chance Acceptance	29	yrs
Daniel F.	12/12/97	Liberty Group	14	yrs
Darren H.	12/20/07	Any Lengths	4	yrs
David B.	12/18/88	Brown Baggers-Morgan City	23	yrs
David D.	12/12/01	Kitchen Table Group	10	yrs
David F.	12/14/08	Living Sober	3	yrs
David G.	12/29/04	Kitchen Table Group	7	yrs
David R.	12/25/87	Courage To Change	24	yrs
Deborah Y.	12/5/01	The Gulf Coast Group	10	yrs
Deborah Y.	12/5/09	Primary Purpose	2	yrs
Debra W.	12/20/92	Primary Purpose	17	yrs
Derek D.	12/28/07	Faith Group	4	yrs
Dimet C.	12/4/10	Any Lengths	1	yr
Don C.	12/8/10	Sun Up	1	yr
Droze K.	12/1/04	New Way	7	yrs
Elaine D.	12/15/01	Primary Purpose	9	yrs
Gay W.	12/31/76	Freedoms Choice	35	yrs
George L	12/28/90	Live&Let Live,Krotz Springs	21	yrs
George V.	12/14/76	Abbeville Area	35	yrs
Giselle B.	12/30/05	A Design for Living	6	yrs
Glenn S.	12/11/07	Faith Group	4	yrs
Jamie B.	12/4/09	The Gulf Coast Group	0	yrs
Jennifer B.	12/29/86	A Design for Living	25	yrs
Jessie J	12/19/10	New Way	1	yr
Jimmy G.	12/10/10	3rd Street Park Crowley	1	yr
Jimmy J.	12/3/04	Simply Sober	7	yrs
Joe C.	12/3/08	New Beginnings Henderson	3	yrs
John A.	12/9/08	We Agnostics of Acadiana	3	yrs
John S	12/15/81	Reflections	30	yrs
Jonathan S.	12/1/08	Faith Group	3	yrs

Joy T.	12/22/99	Abbeville Area	12	yrs
Judy P	12/24/10	Reflections	1	yr
Kasey P.	12/4/00	Simply Sober	11	yrs
Keith H.	12/6/91	Step By Step	20	yrs
Keith L.	12/1/01	Faith Group	10	yrs
Keith L.	12/1/01	Primary Purpose	10	yrs
Ken L.	12/8/90	Primary Purpose	21	yrs
Kyle L.	12/7/09	Downtown Group	1	yrs
Lainey S.	3/1/05	Downtown Group	7	yrs
Lana H.	12/1/07	Hub City	3	yrs
Lawrence Z.	12/24/92	Liberty Group	19	yrs
Lawrence Z.	12/24/92	Opelousas Group	19	yrs
Leonard M.	12/2/93	Scott Group	18	yrs
Margaret S.	12/21/99	Sun Up	12	yrs
Mark B.	12/19/89	Faith Group	22	yrs
Mark D.	12/4/08	Hub City	2	yrs
Mark L.	12/30/07	Scott Group	4	yrs
Mary C.	12/29/83	North Side Gratitude	28	yrs
Mary W.	12/21/83	Serenity Group N.I.	28	yrs
Mickey S	12/22/09	Reflections	2	yrs
Mike H.	12/2/83	Abbeville Area	28	yrs
Milissa R.	12/27/06	Primary Purpose	5	yrs
Pat D.	12/21/81	Primary Purpose	30	yrs
Pat E.	12/25/00	Courage To Change	11	yrs
Paul B.	12/26/10	Scott Group	1	yr
Perry P.	12/12/04	Brown Baggers-Morgan City	7	yrs
Ray K.	12/19/81	Old Timers Group	30	yrs
Rhonda M.	12/25/04	Kitchen Table Group	7	yrs
Ron L.	12/9/88	Abbeville Area	23	yrs
Rusty D	12/6/83	Faith Group	28	yrs
Sally R.	12/10/00	Back To Basics	11	yrs
Scott V.	12/14/07	Faith Group	4	yrs
Shane C.	12/4/05	Hub City	6	yrs
Shelia B.	12/25/09	The Gulf Coast Group	1	yr
Shirley R	12/16/07	The Gulf Coast Group	3	yrs
Shirley T.	12/10/02	Faith Group	9	yrs
Stephanie C.	12/23/90	Back To Basics New Iberia	20	yrs
Susan B	12/1/91	Willing To Be Willing	20	yrs
Susan B.	12/1/91	We Agnostics of Acadiana	20	yrs
Ted F.	12/12/94	We Agnostics of Acadiana	17	yrs
Terry B	12/21/84	New Way	27	yrs
Thad T.	12/1/92	Abbeville Area	19	yrs
Todd D.	12/30/81	Reflections	30	yrs
Todd S.	12/5/05	Solutions Gr. Ville Platte	6	yrs
Tony P.	12/18/04	A Design for Living	7	yrs
Tyler M	12/10/10	New Way	1	yr
Tyra P.	12/23/09	New Beginnings Henderson	2	yrs
Will L.	12/1/02	Courage To Change	9	yrs
Yolanda G.	12/3/01	Abbeville Area	10	yrs
Zachary L.	12/24/92	Opelousas Group	19	yrs



prayer, meditation and guidance of God. The other Steps can keep most of us sober and somehow functioning. But Step 11 can keep us growing, if we try hard and work at it continually. If we expend even five percent of the time on Step 11 that we habitually (and rightly) lavish on Step 12, the results can be wonderfully far-reaching. That is an almost uniform experience of those who constantly practice Step 11. I'd like to develop Step 11 further--for the benefit of the complete doubter, the unlucky one who can't believe it has any real merit at all. In lots of instances I think that people find their first great obstacle in the phrase "God as we understand Him." The doubter is apt to say, "On the face of it, nobody can understand God. I half believe that there is a First Cause, a Something, and maybe a Somebody. But I can't get any further than this. I think people are kidding themselves when they say they can. Even if there were a Somebody, why should he bother with little me, when, in making the Cosmos run, he already has plenty to do? As for those folks who claim that God tells them where to drill for oil, or when to brush their teeth--well, they just make me tired. "Our friend is clearly one who believes in some kind of God--"God as he understands Him." But he doesn't believe any bigger concept or better feeling about God to be possible. So he looks upon meditation, prayer and guidance as the means of a self-delusion. Now what can our hard-pressed friend do about this? Well, he can strenuously try meditation, prayer and guidance, just as an experiment. He can address himself to whatever God he thinks there is. Or, if he thinks there is none, he can admit--just for experimental purposes--that he might be wrong. This is all-important. As soon as he is able to take this attitude, it means that he has stopped playing God himself; his mind has opened. Like any good scientist in his laboratory, our friend can assume a theory and can make an experiment. He can pray to a "higher power" that *may* exist and *may* be willing to help and guide him. He keeps on experimenting--in this case, praying--for a long time. Again he tries to behave like the scientist, an experimenter who is never supposed to give up so long as there is a vestige of any chance of success. As he goes along with his process of prayer, he begins to add up the results. If he persists, he will almost surely find more serenity, more tolerance, less fear and less anger. He will acquire a quiet courage, the kind that doesn't strain him. He can look at so-called failure and success for what they really are. Problems and calamity will begin to mean instruction, instead of destruction. He will feel freer and saner. The idea that he may have been hypnotizing himself by auto-suggestion will become laughable. His sense of purpose and of direction will increase. His tensions and anxieties will commence to fade. His physical health is likely to improve. Wonderful and unaccountable things will start to happen. Twisted relations in his family and on the outside will unaccountably improve. Even if few of these things happen, he will still find himself in possession of great gifts. When he has to deal with hard circumstances he can face them and accept them. He can now accept himself and the world around him. He can do this because he now accepts a God who is All--and who loves all. When he now says, "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name," our friend deeply and humbly means it. When in good meditation and thus freed from the clamors of the world, he knows that he is in God's hands; that his own destiny is really secure, here and hereafter. A great theologian once declared, "The chief critics of prayer are those who have never really tried it enough." That's good advice; I'm trying to take ever more seriously for myself. Many AAs have long been striving for a better conscious contact with God and I trust that many more of us will presently join with that wise company.

I had just finished re-reading the chapter on Step 11 in our book, "12 Steps and 12 Traditions." This was written almost 5 years ago. I was astonished when I realized how little time I had actually been giving to my own elementary advice on meditation, prayer and guidance--practices that I had so earnestly recommended to everybody else. In this lack of attention I probably have plenty of company. But I do know that this is a neglect that can cause us to miss the finest experiences of life, a neglect that can seriously slacken the growth that God hopes we may achieve right here on earth; here in this very first of our Father's Many Mansions!

Bill W.

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Central Office Representatives (COR) Meeting	3rd Sunday	6:00pm	1119C Johnston St.
District 13E Business Meeting	2nd Wednesday	6:00pm	300 E. Martial Ave.
District 13C Business Meeting	4th Sunday	4:00pm	210 8th St. - Turning Point
Steering Committee Meeting	2nd Saturday		Central Office
District 9 Business Meeting	1st Wednesday	6:00pm	206 N. Liberty - Opelousas
District 2 Business Meeting	2nd Saturday	5:30pm	613 1st St. - Morgan City
[NOTE: In EVEN Numbered Months, Dist. 2 meets at the Charenton Fire Station!!]			
F.O.T.S. South Planning Meeting	1st Sunday	4:00pm	210 8th St. - Turning Point
C. C. C. Planning Meeting	3rd Sunday	3:00pm	210 8th St.—Turning Point
Area 27 Corrections Conference Planning Meeting	2nd Wednesday	7:00pm	300 E. Martial Ave.

Acadiana Groups Celebrating Anniversaries This Month



Group Name	District	Month	History Date	Years	City
Opelousas Group	9	12	12/22/1976	35	Opelousas
Faith Group	13-E	12	12/21/1982	29	Lafayette
Sun-Up Group	13-E	12	12/14/1983	28	Lafayette
Third Street Park Group	13-C	12	12/30/1989	22	Crowley
Willing to Believe	13-C	12	12/10/1996	15	Duson
Oaks Group	9	12	12/9/2003	8	Grand Coteau

November

2011

December

2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
30 	31	1	2	3	4 SSAASA Fairfax, VA	5 SSAASA Fairfax, VA
6 SSAASA Fairfax, VA FOTS South Mtg Turning Point 4:00 Lafayette	7	8	9	10	11	12 Distr. 2 Mtg Scott Group Gumbo @ St Jules 6:00 pm
13	14	15	16 Dist 13E Bus/ Gen. Serv. Mtg 6pm 300 E.Martial Ave Lafayette	17	18	19
20 Area Assembly <u>COR 6:00pm</u> <u>1119C Johnston</u> CCC Planning Turning Pt 3pm	21	22	23	24  Central Office Closed	25 Central Office Closed	26
27 Dist13C Gen.Svc 3pm, Bus. 4pm @ T.P	28	29	30			31 
				1	2	3 Louisiana Area27 Corrections Conference
4 Louisiana Area 27 Corrections Conference FOTS South Mtg Turning Point	5	6	7 Dist 9 Bus Mtg 206 Liberty 6pm Opelousas	8	9	10 Distr. 2 Mtg Charenton CENTRAL OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY
11	12	13	14 Dist 13E Bus/ Gen. Serv. Mtg 6pm 300 E.Martial Ave Lafayette	15	14	15
18 <u>COR 6:00pm</u> <u>1119C Johnston</u> CCC Planning Turning Pt 3pm	19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>Alcathon</i> Central Office Closed
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 <i>CCC Fundraiser</i> <i>New Year's Eve Party</i> 

Want to add an A.A. event to the Central Office Calendar? Email us at plug-in-jug@aa-acadiana.org, or visit the Events/Flyers page at <http://www.aa-acadiana.org/calendar.htm>