

PLUG IN JUG NEWS

Plug-in-Jug News
 Published Monthly by:
 Acadiana Central Office
 Located at:
 115 Leonie St.,
 Lafayette, LA 70506
 Phone: 337 991-0830
 (24 Hours)
 Mail all
 Contributions to:
 P.O. Box 52186
 Lafayette, LA 70505
 Office Hours:
 Mon-Fri 8:30AM-4:30AM
 (Lunch Hour Varies - Please Call First)

Step 2 —

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.....

Tradition 2 —

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.....

Printed with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.



February 2008

COR Meeting
February 17, 2008
 1119C Johnston Street
 Lafayette, LA 6:00PM

Central Office Christmas Alcathon

The following groups participated in the Christmas Alcathon: Primary Purpose, Lafayette, Reflections, Abbeville Area, Sun Up, New Way, Any Lengths, Step By Step, Design For Living, and Northside. Group Donations were \$155.61 and the C.O. donation for use of the building was \$40.00. A good **Sober** time was had by all.

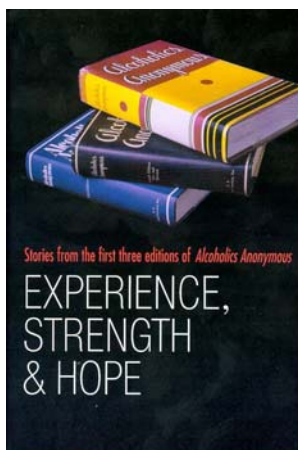
Visited the Central Office lately?

Come check out the Bookstore!

Now In Stock!

EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH & HOPE

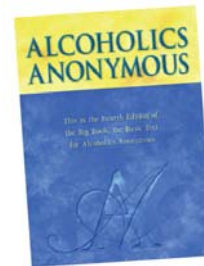
This collection of stories offers back to the A.A. Fellowship the experience of 56 members whose stories are no longer available in the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*. There have been three revisions of the Big Book's story section, and each time, as new stories were added to reflect A.A.'s changing membership, others had to be dropped to make room for them. Over the years, many A.A. members requested a separate publication of these stories, and the General Service Conference responded with publication of this book.



Saturday, Feb 16th Acadiana Central Office Chili Cookoff

Held at St. Jules Church
 Macon Street, Lafayette (Off Eraste Landry)

Fellowship Starts at 6pm
 Judging Begins at 6:45pm, Eating Begins at 7pm
Please Help!! Contact Schanda H: 258-3636
 A-L Bring Side Dish and M-Z Bring Dessert



SPONSORSHIP WORKSHOP

Saturday
March 15, 2008
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
 (registration at 8:30 am)

Presented by District 13E

Conducted by Chris R.- Hunt, TX
Clifton Chenier Center
 220 W. Willow Street, Lafayette, LA



2008 Fellowship of the Spirit "South"

Mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual Fellowship of the Spirit "South" Conference April 2-6, 2008, Lafayette Holiday Inn *Holidome*.

For More Information, Contact:
 Floyd C. chair@fotssouth.com or
 Debbie C. cochair@fotssouth.com

Central Office Manager Resigns

Pat d., long time Central Office Manager, announced at the January COR Meeting that she would step down in February. COR and Steering Committee members thanked Pat for her many years of dedicated service to the Central Office.

A search has begun for her replacement. Anyone interested in applying should review the application materials posted on our web site at: <http://www.aa-acadiana.org>

50th La. State AA Convention

Mark your calendars for the next State AA Convention, to be held June 19-22, 2008, in Houma, LA. For more information, check out the flyer attached to this issue of the *Plug-In-Jug*.

Concept 2 —

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in world affairs.....

Printed with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

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 120 copies to the Central Office.

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 increase its Professional Services to our A.A. Community.

TODD D. CHAIR

www.aa-acadiana.org Email the Central Office at centraloffice@aa-acadiana.org.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

TODD D., CHAIR

337-280-4877

chair@aa-acadiana.org

CAME TO BELIEVE...

Offering various types of general AA information.

...that a Power greater than ourselves...

As alcoholics, we often operated under the illusion that we were in control and in charge of our own lives. It was as though we tried to compensate for the lack of control we had over our drinking, by attempting to control every thing and every one around us. It was only when this soaring delusion came crashing to a screeching halt, as we came to grips with the fact that our powerlessness over alcohol had made our lives totally unmanageable, that we finally knew that we had little control over anything. We were forced to surrender, to accept that there are many things we cannot change.

Only then, as we finally hit bottom with a resounding “thud,” could we become open to a new reality: that our Higher Power “could do for us what we could not do for ourselves,” and restore us to a rational and sane existence.

When we came to believe that a Higher Power could manage our lives for us far better than we could ever hope to do on our own, then we finally began to understand that, “He has come to all who have honestly sought Him. When we drew near to Him He disclosed Himself to us.”

Quotations printed with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

2 *Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.*



There is help.

WHAT OTHERS SAY...

LET GO AND LET GOD...

THE GREAT UNSUNG SECOND STEP

My dear friend Billy B. always referred to the Second Step that way. He claimed its value was sometimes almost unnoticed, or unmentioned. He would say that any fool could beat themselves up with alcohol, if they tried long enough and hard enough. So Step One, for him, was just getting to that place where you absolutely just could not do it anymore. But then, what do you do about it? Step Two, that is what success or failure hinged upon. He said that many people sort of rushed by the fact that they had come to believe in their hurry to turn it over to the Higher Power they had come to understand. Think about it. The fact that we alcoholics, an undisciplined lot for sure, have had enough stuffing knocked out of us by John Barleycorn that sometimes we, just for a second, are willing to concede that we may not be the alpha and omega of existence after all.

For me, it had to do with having no place left to turn, or any people left to use. Then, and only then, could I look at the truth of my failure to succeed by force of will. So I crawled into Alcoholics Anonymous, because there was no place else to go. Here you introduced me to the mental obsession and the physical allergy. I began to see the truth of what you said, but what was I supposed to do about it? My friend Billy talked to me about Step Two. He said I should try to see the synchronicity we used to call coincidence in the events taking place in my life. When I began to attempt to do that, I began to see how, if I was open-minded and willing enough, just exactly the right person would come along, at just exactly the right time, with just exactly the right help I needed to get through the day.

So for me the Group, and the members of the Group, became my first inkling of Higher Power. I started to run into people in stores and on the street that would help me just by being there. We would stop and exchange words about recovery, or just about life. I started to see that if I was willing to listen there was help for me. I started to trust the process. That was enough for me to make a start.

I have always thought that Billy's point was that some of us fail to realize just what a monumental event it is that we have been beaten up enough, and demoralized enough, that we were able to open our minds and hearts to a Power greater than ourselves. That we could come to believe.

Tim

The Santa Barbara Messenger, February 2007, 23rd District Intergroup, Santa Barbara, CA

Acadiana Central Office Representatives (COR) Meeting

Minutes from January 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Todd D. and opened with the Serenity Prayer.

The attendee list was not received and will be included with the February minutes as an addendum.

The November minutes were read by Michael H. and accepted with modification. The November minutes were amended to include Ruth B. nomination as interim contact chair until regular elections in March. Ken L. reminded all that the Central Office By-Laws state that a one month waiting period should be observed after resignation of a Steering Committee member before a new election is held. The COR's were asked if they would like to confirm Ruth B. to continue as interim chair or hold election per By-Laws. Ruth B. will continue as interim contact chair and until regular Steering Committee elections in March.

Treasurer's Report: Evelyn R. reported Starting Bank Balance \$2500.00 Total Income \$7072.23 Total Expenses \$6958.38 Net Income \$113.95 Transferred to/from Prudent Reserve -\$113.85 New Prudent Reserve Balance \$8410.93 Victoria C. requested a definition of "Prudent Reserve" and Evelyn R. provided an explanation of the role of a prudent reserve in the operation of the Central Office. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.	Office Manager's Report: Pat D. reported Twelve Step Calls 4 Meeting Lists Faxed 0 Internet Inquiries 5 Meeting Information Calls 141 Office Information Calls 0 Other Calls 0 Meeting Lists Mailed 0 Walk-Ins 82 Sales of Merchandise 69 AI-Anon Information 1 Rent for the Central Office has increased to \$400.00 per month. Pat D. has resigned as Central Office Manager. She will continue until new manager is hired but no later than the end of February 2008. She will be speaking with the COR's as the hiring process progresses. According to the Central Office By-Laws, the Steering Committee is responsible for the hiring of a new office manager. Pat D. thanked the members of AA for their contributions to her Christmas bonus. Report accepted with round of applause.
--	---

Activities Report: Michael H. reported

The Christmas Party was held in December at the Youngsville Lion's Club and was well attended. Dick A. from Atlanta, GA was the speaker. Total expense for the Christmas Party was \$1806.65 and total income was \$1254.00. The speaker presented an invoice for travel and meal expenses at the Christmas Party and requested cash reimbursement if possible to assist with return home. Michael H. and Schanda H. reimbursed the speaker \$300.00 in cash out of Christmas Party proceeds and without COR pre-approval. COR's are to approve all expenditures in excess of \$250.00. A remaining balance due to the speaker in the amount of \$89.79 was approved for payment by the COR's. The COR's approved \$100.00 in travel expense reimbursement for the Chili Cook-Off speaker.

The Chili Cook-Off will be held at St. Jules Church in Lafayette on Sat. February 16, 2008. Area groups are asked to provide donations of money, condiments (cheese, etc.), and bags/case of chips. Report accepted.

Communications: Greg C. reported

120 copies of Plug-In-Jug printed and 100 mailed.

Greg C. reported that there is a plan to implement criteria and a process for submitting and printing *P-I-J* content.

Greg C. suggested a group-wide inventory for all area groups in the near future (tentatively May) and he is researching a facilitator for the inventory. Greg encouraged COR's to go back to groups and get questions from groups that they would like answered concerning Central Office function and operations. General agreement by show of hands was to proceed with the inventory.

During the month of **November** there were:

386 visitors to the Central Office web site
194 visitors viewed the Meetings page
95 visitors downloaded the Central Office Meeting List
51 visitors viewed the *Plug-In-Jug* page
25 visitors downloaded the September *Plug-In-Jug*

During the month of **December** there were:

469 visitors to the Central Office web site
243 visitors viewed the Meetings page
146 visitors downloaded the Central Office Meeting List
81 visitors viewed the *Plug-In-Jug* page
21 visitors downloaded the September *Plug-In-Jug*

During the **Calendar Year 2007** there were:

4556 visitors to the Central Office web site
3044 visitors viewed the Meetings page
782 visitors viewed the *Plug-In-Jug* page

Report accepted.

Contact:

Ruth B. stated no report and asked for a list of dates for all area group business meetings so that she can attend and be available to groups to voice concerns and ideas concerning Central Office.

District 13A: No Report

District 13B: No Report

District 13C: No Report

District 13D: No Report

District 13E: Ken L. reported that the next workshop will be held Jan. 25-27 at the Clifton Chenier Center and will be conducted by Scott L. from Tennessee. The Central Office was invited to sell Big Books at the workshop.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Todd D. passed out handout with qualifications and job description for Central Office Manager. The job application should be posted on the Central Office website Monday of next week and applications can also be picked up at the Central Office. Greg C. stated that it was a work in progress. The document handed out is just a general description of the person we are looking for and the finalized document will be mailed to COR's once completed.

Motion to close. Second. Meeting closed with Serenity Prayer.

Next Scheduled COR Meeting: Sunday, February 17, 2008, at 6:00pm
Agenda Items Include:

- Plans for an Area Wide Group Inventory in May.
- Search for a new Central Office Manager.
- Nomination process for Steering Committee positions.

Office Manager's Corner

For the month of January, the Office Mgr. Pat d. reports the following activity:

12-Step Calls	5
Meeting Info Calls	204
Walk Ins	140
Office Information	2
Al-Anon Info	3
Other Calls	3
Meeting Lists Faxed	0
Internet Inquiries	2
Sales of Merchandise	77
Meeting Lists Mailed	0
P-I-J Sales	44

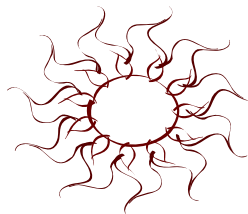


THURSDAYS / FRIDAYS IN JANUARY

1/3	Carole T.	1/4	Bill S.
1/10	George H./Bill S.	1/11	Nancy F.
1/17	Carole T.	1/18	Nancy F.
1/24	George H./Nancy F.	1/25	Bill S.
1/31	Pat d.		

Sick Bay

Gail C.	Abbeville Area
Pete R.	Bienville
Glynn S.	New Way Group
Ola B.	Las Chance Acceptance
Ronnie B.	Scott Group
Grover R.	12 at 12
Jack B.	Freedom's Choice
Mary Le A.	Primary Purpose
Norman B.	Freedom's Choice
Sam J.	Freedom's Choice
Scott P.	Any Lengths
Lynn B.	New Way
Keith C.	Area Group
Gwen B.	Reflections
Lynn B.	Sunday Morning Fellowship



**Things We Cannot Change
(In Memoriam)**

Glenn S.	New Way
Walter T.	Freedom's Choice

Sunlight of the Spirit

Acadiana Central Office
2008 FINANCIAL REPORT

	January	YTD	Group Donations	January	YTD
Starting Bank Balance	\$2,500.00		Abbeville Area	\$0.00	\$0.00
INCOME			Acadian Gr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anonymous	\$50.00	\$50.00	Any Lengths	\$0.00	\$0.00
Coffee Kitty - Meeting List	\$20.00	\$20.00	Boulevard Gr. (Opelousas)	\$0.00	\$0.00
COR Meeting	\$14.45	\$14.45	Courage To Change (N.I.)	\$81.59	\$81.59
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	Design For Living	\$99.82	\$99.82
Alcathon	\$155.61	\$155.61	Downtown Gr. (Opelousas)	\$81.00	\$81.00
Chili Cook Off	\$0.00	\$0.00	Dry Dock	\$0.00	\$0.00
Barbeque	\$0.00	\$0.00	Eunice Solutions Gr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00	Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
Plug In The Jug News Letter	\$540.00	\$540.00	Freedoms Choice	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales Tax Received	\$240.66	\$240.66	Hang In There (Scott)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Group Donations	\$1,800.26	\$1,800.26	Hub City	\$200.00	\$200.00
Total Regular Income	\$2,820.98	\$2,820.98	Last Chance Acceptance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Literature Sales	\$2,087.05	\$2,087.05	Living Sober	\$50.00	\$50.00
Chips & Specialty Items	\$730.00	\$730.00	New Way (Breux Bridge)	\$349.00	\$349.00
Sales Income	\$2,817.05	\$2,817.05	Northside Gratitude	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$5,638.03	\$5,638.03	Opelousas Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
EXPENSES			Primary Purpose	\$83.00	\$83.00
Advertisement	\$66.00	\$66.00	Queen City/ Gratitude (N.I.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Answering Service	\$85.00	\$85.00	Reflections	\$100.00	\$100.00
Bank Svc Chrg & NSF	\$10.00	\$10.00	Scott Group	\$127.32	\$127.32
Copying / Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	Serenity N.I.	\$25.00	\$25.00
Chili Cook Off	\$0.00	\$0.00	Simply Sober	\$0.00	\$0.00
Barbeque	\$0.00	\$0.00	Sisters In Sobriety	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00	Sobriety & Beyond	\$0.00	\$0.00
Alcathon	\$0.00	\$0.00	Solutions Gr. Ville Platte	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gas Allowance	\$30.00	\$30.00	Spring Gr. Port Barre	\$10.00	\$10.00
Office Supplies/Equip	\$54.58	\$54.58	Step Into Recovery	\$0.00	\$0.00
Payroll	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00	Step By Step	\$0.00	\$0.00
Taxes	\$846.39	\$846.39	S.M.F. Gr	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales Tax Paid	\$0.00	\$0.00	Sun Up	\$483.53	\$483.53
Repair & Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	3rd Street Park	\$70.00	\$70.00
Postage	\$0.00	\$0.00	Triangle Gr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rent (All)	\$470.07	\$470.07	Truman Gr.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone	\$30.95	\$30.95	12 @ 12 Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities	\$29.94	\$29.94	Willing To Believe (Duson)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Workman's Comp.	\$0.00	\$0.00	Total Group Donations	\$1,800.26	\$1,800.26
Secretary of State	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Accounting Services	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Internet Service Provider	\$59.95	\$59.95			
Website	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Regular Expenses	\$2,942.88	\$2,942.88			
Literature Purchases	\$1,970.30	\$1,970.30			
Chips & Specialty Items	\$718.28	\$718.28			
Sales Expenses	\$2,688.58	\$2,688.58			
Total Expenses	\$5,631.46	\$5,631.46			
Net Income - Regular	-\$121.90	-\$121.90			
Net Income - Sales	\$128.47	\$128.47			
Theft	\$0.00	\$0.00			
Net Income - Total	\$6.57	\$6.57			
Bk. Statement Bal.	\$2,506.57	31-Jan-08			
Prudent Reserve Transfer	-\$6.57				
Reg Working Bk. Bal.	\$2,500.00	1-Feb-08			
Prud. Res. Bk. Bal.(Old)	\$8,410.93	31-Jan-08			
Transferred	\$6.57				
Prud. Res. Bk. Bal.(New)	\$8,417.50	1-Feb-08			



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

894 YEARS OF SOBRIETY



Al B.	3/21/06	New Way	2 yrs	Joe L.	3/8/00	3rd Street Park Crowley	8 yrs
Al B.	3/26/04	Sun Up	4 yrs	Joe R.	3/29/00	Lafayette Group	8 yrs
Anne L.	3/20/05	Faith Group	3 yrs	John G.	3/14/99	Design For Living	9 yrs
Anthony T.	3/30/01	Courage To Change	7 yrs	John M.	3/28/06	Faith Group	2 yrs
Bill B.	3/28/87	Courage To Change	21 yrs	John O'D	3/20/84	Dry Dock	24 yrs
Bill H.	3/5/04	Hub City	4 yrs	Johnny L.	3/25/03	Courage To Change	5 yrs
Blue S.	3/3/97	Liberty Group	11 yrs	Karen N	3/28/89	New Way	19 yrs
Bobbie H.	3/4/78	SMF Group	30 yrs	Keith F,	3/25/07	Downtown Group	1 yr
Carl C.	3/3/00	Courage To Change	8 yrs	Kirk D.	3/14/05	Step By Step	3 yrs
Charlie L.	3/30/94	Freedoms Choice	14 yrs	Kurt D.	3/26/05	Primary Purpose	3 yrs
Charlie P.	3/3/82	Dry Dock	26 yrs	Larry B.	3/10/03	Courage To Change	5 yrs
Cheri-lea Mc	3/10/02	Reflections	6 yrs	Larry L.	3/3/99	Sun Up	9 yrs
Cheryl T.	3/9/06	Sisters In Sobriety	2 yrs	Laura B.	3/26/07	Primary Purpose	1 yr
Christie J.	3/27/98	Sisters In Sobriety	10 yrs	Lisa M.	3/19/99	Design For Living	9 yrs
Dave B.	3/21/84	Willing To Be Willing	24 yrs	Lynn B.	3/20/96	New Way	12 yrs
David H.	3/1/06	New Way	2 yrs	Margaret A.	3/27/77	Live & Let Live Krotz Springs	31 yrs
David S.	3/28/06	Design For Living	2 yrs	Marilyn T.	3/4/00	Abbeville Area	8 yrs
Dennis B	3/23/04	Duson Willing To Believe	4 yrs	Mitch S.	3/19/03	New Way	5 yrs
Derek J.	3/11/06	Design For Living	2 yrs	Nick T.	3/11/00	Opelousas Group	8 yrs
Dimitrios B.	3/17/03	Design For Living	5 yrs	Owen O.	3/11/99	Courage To Change	9 yrs
Don R,	3/24/87	Living Sober	21 yrs	Pat C.	3/26/01	Sobriety & Beyond	7 yrs
Donald C.	3/23/02	Area Group Of BB	6 yrs	Pat d.	3/19/79	Sun Up	29 yrs
Eddie P.	3/27/87	Living Sober	21 yrs	Paul S.	3/3/97	Liberty Group	11 yrs
Elaine L.	3/26/05	3rd Street Park Crowley	3 yrs	Phil W.	3/26/01	New Way	7 yrs
Eric P.	3/18/06	Design For Living	2 yrs	Phil W.	3/26/01	Primary Purpose	7 yrs
Floyd C.	3/29/93	Any Lengths	15 yrs	Randy S.	3/3/85	SMF Group	23 yrs
Gerald C.	3/27/87	Faith Group	21 yrs	Ray W.	3/9/91	3rd Street Park Crowley	17 yrs
Gina S.	3/9/04	Sun Up	4 yrs	Rick S.	3/4/88	New Way	20 yrs
Glenn P.	3/6/05	Faith Group	3 yrs	Robert R.	3/29/01	Courage To Change	7 yrs
Gordy M.	3/12/06	Primary Purpose	2 yrs	Robin J.	3/22/83	Faith Group	25 yrs
Gregory G.	3/10/03	Abbeville Area	5 yrs	Ronald C.	3/19/00	New Way	8 yrs
Harold L.	3/4/91	Abbeville Area	17 yrs	Ronnie B.	3/9/04	Sun Up	4 yrs
Henry P.	3/10/02	Courage To Change	6 yrs	Samuel C.	3/12/87	Area Group Of BB	21 yrs
Irvin P.	3/12/87	Courage To Change	21 yrs	Sean H.	3/12/00	Simply Sober	8 yrs
J.D.	3/19/05	Opelousas Group	3 yrs	Shiela B.	3/23/06	Reflections	2 yrs
Jack P.	3/20/04	Sobriety & Beyond	4 yrs	Ted G.	3/3/79	Sobriety & Beyond	29 yrs
James S.	3/4/02	Courage To Change	6 yrs	Todd B.	3/6/06	New Way	2 yrs
Jan H.	3/8/04	Any Lengths	4 yrs	Todd L.	3/20/06	Back To Basics New Iberia	2 yrs
Jansaan L.	3/12/05	Faith Group	3 yrs	Tom D.	3/29/91	Faith Group	17 yrs
Jason R.	3/3/03	Sun Up	5 yrs	Tom M.	3/15/06	Faith Group	2 yrs
Jeff C.	3/8/00	Abbeville Area	8 yrs	Tommy D.	3/22/98	Hang In There	10 yrs
Jeff L.	3/7/00	Hang In There	8 yrs	Tonny P.	3/31/03	Primary Purpose	5 yrs
Jeff M.	3/11/98	Sun Up	10 yrs	Wade M.	3/29/87	Abbeville Area	21 yrs
Jerome H.	3/18/06	Twelve At Twelve	2 yrs	Walter S.	3/16/84	New Way	24 yrs
Jim H.	3/1/03	Courage To Change	5 yrs	Winston B.	3/11/93	Abbeville Area	15 yrs

NOTES FROM ALL AROUND...

Offering a variety of items from sources around the world of A.A.

A.A. Group Inventory

Many groups periodically hold a "group inventory meeting" to evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose: to help alcoholics recover through A.A.'s suggested Twelve Steps of recovery. Some groups take inventory by examining our Twelve Traditions, one at a time, to determine how well they are living up to these principles.

The following questions, compiled from A.A. shared experience, may be useful in arriving at an informed group conscience. Groups will probably wish to add questions of their own:

1. What is the basic purpose of our group?
2. What more can our group do to carry the message?
3. Is our group attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our community, including those with special needs?
4. Do new members stick with us, or does the turnover seem excessive? If so, why? What can we as a group do to retain members?
5. Do we emphasize the importance of sponsorship? How effectively? How can we do it better?
6. Are we careful to preserve the anonymity of our group members and other A.A.s outside the meeting rooms? Do we also leave what they share at meetings behind?

For more about group inventories see, "The A.A. Group...Where It All Begins." Printed with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Here's One Example of a Group Inventory:

Sponsorship and home group card-a result of our group inventory.

Joyce with a Choice; Kenmore Group

It took us five months to do our group's inventory. Here is one result of our group's inventory which other groups have adopted for their own group. We had them printed and laminated and folded in half for a double sided card on each table at the Kenmore Saturday night group. We give anyone permission to edit the name of the group, and use this format or information to make their own information to carry the AA message.

WHY WOULD I WANT TO HAVE A HOME GROUP?

- A HOME GROUP IS AN AA MEETING WE COMMIT TO ATTEND EVERY WEEK SO MEMBERS CAN GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER.
- AN AA HOME GROUP IS IMPORTANT TO ANCHOR US TO THE FELLOWSHIP, SO IT'S NOT SO EASY TO SLIP AWAY
- AN AA HOME GROUP HELPS US GET ACTIVE BY MAKING COFFEE, CHAIRING THE MEETING, ETC. IN THIS WAY WE KEEP THE DOORS OPEN FOR THE STILL SUFFERING ALCOHOLIC.
- AN AA HOME GROUP GIVES US THAT FEELING OF HOME AND A SENSE OF BELONGING.

WHAT IS THIS I HEAR ABOUT NEEDING A SPONSOR?

A SPONSOR IS:

- An AA member who guides us in our understanding of the Alcoholics Anonymous program and the twelve steps to recovery.
- A member of the same sex as you, who has been sober for at least one year.
- A member who is familiar with the inner workings of Alcoholics Anonymous and has successful experiences with the program of recovery.

I NEED ONE BECAUSE:

- Unlike ourselves when we are new, he or she has learned a way of living without alcohol and can share precisely how they went about obtaining their sobriety.
- A sponsor can help us to avoid others' past mistakes and mistakes they themselves have made.
- Sharing difficulties with your sponsor before you make decisions can help you to make more informed choices.
- Our sponsors can also help anchor us to the fellowship and may become a lifelong friend upon whom we can rely.

Akron Intergroup News, February 2007 (V. 54:4) Akron, OH



TOP TEN WAYS TO SHOW YOU CARE

OK, Valentine's Day happens during the month of February. So instead of celebrating for just one day, why not celebrate for the entire month! Some ideas!

Reason Number 10: Coffee for 2!

Reason Number 9: "You're the cream in my coffee." Bring actual carton of cream for the coffee at a meeting.

Reason Number 8: Greet a newcomer!

Reason Number 7: Come to the meeting early, stay late and LISTEN!

Reason Number 6: Volunteer to set up a meeting.

Reason Number 5: Buy a Big Book for a newcomer.

Reason Number 4: Write short article on "How AA has changed my life" and give to person who writes the newsletter.

HUGS

LOVE,

HUGS

LOVE,

HUGS

LOVE

Reason Number 3: Call your sponsor.

Reason Number 2: Call someone in need.

And the Number 1 Way to

show you care: Hugs all around!!!

Midshore Intergroup Newsletter, February 2007 (V. 3:1) Easton, MD

February

2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Red Stick Roundup	2 Red Stick Roundup
3 Red Stick Roundup	4	5	6 District 9 5:30pm 169 Kay Ave. Opelousas	7	8	9
10 District 13 GSC 6:30pm Covenant UMC 300 E. Martial	11	12	13 District 13E 6pm Covenant UMC 300 E. Martial	14  District 13B 7pm 321 E. 3rd St. Crowley	15	16 District 2 5:30pm, Charenton Chili Cookoff 6pm 116 St. Jules
17 COR Meeting 6pm 1119C Johnston	18	19	20	21	22 Louisiana Area Assembly	23 Louisiana Area Assembly
24 Louisiana Area Assembly AND District 13C 4pm Turning Point 210 Eighth	25	26	27	28	29	

March

2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 District 9 5:30pm 169 Kay Ave. Opelousas	6	7	8
9 District 13 GSC 6:30pm Covenant UMC 300 E. Martial	10	11	12 District 13E 6pm Covenant UMC 300 E. Martial	13 District 13B 7pm 321 E. 3rd St. Crowley	14	15 District 2 5:30pm, Charenton District 13E Sponsorship Workshop
16 COR Meeting 6pm 1119C Johnston	17  Happy St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22
23  District 13C 4pm Turning Point 210 Eighth	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					