



Add - A - Line

April 2019, Volume 59 Issue 4

*Northeast Florida Intergroup Newsletter
Published in Northeast Florida Since Nov. 1962*

NORTHEAST FLORIDA INTERGROUP

3128 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Tel. 399-8535 Fax 399-8537

Website: www.neflaa.org

E-mail: neflintergroup@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am - 5 pm

1st Saturday of the Month 1-4 pm

*Most Up To Date Meetings Can Be
Found On Our Website at
WWW.NEFLAA.ORG*

FIND THE BEST TIME FOR YOU!

APRIL 2019 IG BUSINESS MEETING CHANGE

CHANGE THE DATE

Please Mark Your Calendars that the April 2019 IG Business Meeting will be held on Sat. April 13th, at 9:45 AM, following the Breakfast meeting at Gateway, 555 Stockton St. in the back conference Room.

Spring Gratitude Banquet



Ramallah American Club
3130 Parental Home Road

\$15 Single Tickets \$150 Reserved Tables

Guest Speaker — Patti O. from Jacksonville, FL

Doors open at 5 PM for Cake Viewing
& Fellowship

Speaker at 8:00 PM 50/50 Raffle Cake Auction

Volunteers Needed!!

Banquet Planning Committee Meets at 5:30 PM, On April 2nd, and April 9th at the Intergroup Office.

For Further Information Please call
Debbie C — 904-556-4669 (Chair) or
Theresa C. — (904) 557-1914 (Co-Chair)



*SPECIAL FROM THE
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
Old Timer Story Edition
Pages 9 — 12*

INTERGROUP OFFICE LOG

DESCRIPTION	Feb. 2019	Feb. 2018
A. A. Information	168	171
Admin. & Other Info.	64	39
12 Step Calls	2	7
Visitors to the Office	109	84

4 FOUR IV

STEP FOUR

"Made a searching and moral inventory of ourselves."

Reprinted with permission from the "Big Book" Copyright © Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

TRADITION FOUR

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole."

Reprinted with permission from *The Traditions Checklist* Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc.

CONCEPT FOUR

Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge. Reprinted with permission from *Twelve Concepts for World Service*

Why is group autonomy important? AA's 4th Tradition

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole." The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous

"Over the years every conceivable deviation from our Twelve Steps and Traditions has been tried. That was sure to be, since we are so largely a band of ego-driven individualists. Children of chaos, we have defiantly played with every brand of fire, only to emerge unharmed and, we think, wiser. These very deviations created a vast process of trial and error which, under the grace of God, has brought us to where we stand today." Bill W., AA Grapevine, August, 1952 <http://www.aagrapevine.org/node/32741>



"TRUE freedom is not doing what we want, but doing as we ought. There is no government in Alcoholics Anonymous, no rules or regulations. Each group may do as its members wish; they are autonomous. But to live in true freedom they ought to take every care that their actions do not interfere with other groups or contravene AA principles lest we lose our freedom. Our freedom only lives by our willingness to give to others that same right." R.M., AA Grapevine, December 1958 <http://www.aagrapevine.org/node/11335>

AA groups have the autonomy to run themselves as they please. Once upon a time, most meetings were either discussion meetings or speaker meetings. Some were open and some were closed.



The most obvious manifestation of group autonomy is the current meeting schedule. The Northeast Florida When and Where lists over 20 types of meetings, from As Bill Sees It to Young People, from Book Study (conference approved literature) to Other Literature Study, from LGBT to Smoking.

This wide variety of meetings is helping AA to carry its message to more alcoholics. Each group gets to determine for itself when it will meet, where it will meet, the format for the meeting, etc. As long as a group isn't doing anything that affects other groups or AA as a whole, it's all good.

Submitted by Danny

CAKE BAKERS —

Donate a cake for the cake Auction!
Be creative and let your Cake get the highest Bid

Debbie C 904-556-4669 (Chair)

or

Theresa C. 904 557-1914 (Co-Chair)

** Cake Plates will not be returned so please plan accordingly.



REQUESTING DESSERTS FOR THE DESSERT TABLES

If you are not baking a cake for the Cake Auction PLEASE help us out by donating a dessert for the dessert tables. These items can be store bought for your convenience. **THANK YOU**



Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet,
Drinking her scotch away.
Along came a spider and sat
down beside her,
Her DTs came early that day



	LEARN HOW TO CRUSH AAS 6th and 7th Steps
A DROP THE ROCK WORK SHOP	10 AM - 3 PM Saturday, June 22, 2019 Lunch Provided First Christian Church 119241 San Jose Blvd Jacksonville, FL 32223 Presented By The "DROP THE ROCK" AA Group From Dist. 30, Area 14

Speaker Meeting
May 4, 2019 Gateway's Dining Room
555 Stockton St.
8:00 AM All You Can Eat Breakfast — \$4.00
8:30 AM Speaker Meeting





INTERGROUP BUSINESS MEETING
9:45 AM
Saturday
May 4th, 2019
555 Stockton Street
Gateway Back Conference Room

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Time / Date</u>	<u>Location / Notes</u>
<i>Archives</i>	Noon, Mon., Apr. 1st and May 6th, 2019	Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd. 1st Monday of the Month
<i>Finance</i>	5:30 pm, Tues., April 19th, 2019	Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd. Please call the IG office at 399-8535 for more information.
<i>Corrections</i>	6:00 PM, Thur., April 25th, 2019	Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL
<i>CPC / PI</i>	1:00 PM, Sat., April 13th, 2019	Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL
<i>Intergroup Steering Committee</i>	5:30 PM, Tues., April 23, 2019	Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville, FL All AA Members are welcome to attend.

2019-2020 District Committee Contact and Meeting Info				
	<u>Position & Name</u>	<u>E mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Monthly Meeting</u>
<u>District 1:</u>	DCM - Evonne H.	DCMDist1@gmail.com	904-307-2279	3rd Tuesday @ 6:45 pm in the Intergroup Office, 3128 Beach Blvd, Jacksonville Florida 32207
<u>District 3:</u>	DCM- Lindy J.	District3Area14DCM@gmail.com	832-306-1950	3rd Sunday @ 2:30 pm in the Clay County Club, 1835 Smith St, Orange Park, FL 32073
<u>District 4:</u>	DCM - Debbie C.	debbiecarter9966@gmail.com	904-556-4669	3rd Thursday 7:45 pm @ St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave, Room 204 Fernandina Bch, FL 32034
<u>District 6:</u>	DCM- Whitney B.	dcmdist6@gmail.com	919-622-4010	1st Monday @ 6:00 pm in the Flager Hospital, Osceola Room 400 Health Park Blvd, St
<u>District 24:</u>	DCM - Tim S.	97roadking@gmail.com	408-263-1172	2nd Wednesday @ 6:30 pm in the St. Marks Episcopal Church, 200 Main Street, Palatka, FL
<u>District 25:</u>	DCM - Glenn G.	justgg@aol.com	904-233-6258	2nd Wednesday @ 7:00 pm Neptune Beach Library, 600 3rd St, Neptune Beach, FL 32266 (3rd
<u>District 30:</u>	DCM - Rita H.	flrita@comcast.net	904-703-3655	4th Saturday @ 9:00 am in the Fruit Cove Baptist Church, 210 Ridgecrest Lane, Jacksonville, FL

63rd FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION

July 31 - August 4, 2019
DORAL, FL

Registration and Hotel Information
Available at the website:
<https://63.floridastateconvention.com>



SERVICE IN ACTION

63rd Florida State Convention
Volunteer Positions Are Now Available Online

Front registration desk, security, players for the service manual musical, hospitality room, and all spots in between, we have you covered.

Check out the main link
<https://63.floridastateconvention.com>
Under the Volunteers Tab

Committee Chairs

Chairman: Jack G. 714-661-3918
Vice Chair: Dan. B. 904-737-7532
Treas: Ricardo G. 408-460-5493



Corrections is looking for volunteers to take meetings to the MacClenny jail on Wednesday afternoon.

Men call Clayton D. at 904 832-2120
Woman Gayle E. at 904 655-3881

Steering Committee Chair Preston W.	914-882-9373
Add-a-Line Committee- Mike M.	904-399-8535
Contact Mike for information on participating on this committee. <u>All articles due to Intergroup by the 18th of each month.</u> E Mail: nefladdaline@gmail.com	
Archives Committee- Charlie M. E Mail: ggmoyer@aol.com	904-247-3421
Banquet Committee- Co-Chair: Debbie C. E Mail: debecarter9966@gmail.com Co-Chair: Theresa C.	904-556-4669 904-557-1914
Corrections Committee - Men — Clayton D. E Mail: Clay-tondvis9333@gmail.com Women — Gayle E. E Mail: notefromgayle@gmail.com	904-832-2120 904-655-3881
CPC/PI Marty C. Cooperation With The Professional Community and Public Information Committee- E Mail: jazzman81661@yahoo.com	904-554-2128
Finance Committee- Bryant G. E Mail: financeNEFLIG@gmail.com	352-575-4005
Grapevine: Roger L. rlhman25@yahoo.com	904-318-8535
Phone Army- Brandy C. E Mail: brandyc0831@yahoo.com	904-671-4292
Treatment Facility Committee- Paul H. For E Mail call the IG office.	904-759-3211
Website Committee- Carl G. E Mail: nefl.ig.website@gmail.com	904-497-9769

FAITHFUL FIVERS

\$ 5.00 ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ **\$ 5.00**

Carl G. Debra W. Jonathan B.
Linda G. Samuel L. Susan I.

Central Group's Oldtimers
46th Annual Fish Fry



Sat. April 20th, 2019
San Marco Clubhouse
1423 San Marco Blvd, Jax, FL 32207
 Hear the Oldtimers share their experience, strength & hope and the history of AA in FL.
Eating 12:30 PM Speakers 1:30 PM
Please Bring a Dessert
Questions: Call Doug S. 904-731-0821
Or San Marco Club 904-398-9977

I AM RESPONSIBLE...
DURING THE PAST MONTH WE HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT SIX PHONE CALLS ABOUT VARIOUS MEETINGS NOT OPEN WHEN MEMBERS ARRIVE. PLEASE ADDRESS THIS ISSUE WITH YOUR GROUP TO ENSURE THAT THE MEETING ROOM IS OPEN ON THE DAY AND TIME SPECIFIED ON OUR WEB SITE. T H A N K Y O U





What Is The Pink Can ?????

“The *Pink Can* idea seemed to have originated in the Northern California Area in 1957. The purpose was to provide sufficient funds to purchase literature for expanding work in prisons. Individual contributions, although quite helpful, were not enough to keep up with the expanding responsibilities of the local Hospitals & Institutions Committees.

Someone came up with the idea of passing a can during meetings and requesting spare change. It was explained that all monies collected would be used to buy literature for alcoholics in hospitals and prisons. In order to make the can “stand out,” a decision was made to paint the can pink. In short time, pink cans started appearing on literature tables and were being passed around at various meetings.” (Taken from the article *Pink Cans: Small Change Brings Big Results* originally printed in Box 4-5-9 October-November 2006)

There was some concern that it may cut into the 7th Tradition contributions. But the groups having the Pink Can available have found that it does not cut into 7th Tradition contributions.

The can is passed separately from the 7th Tradition basket and an announcement is made by the chair to make sure everyone understands what is what. The money collected by the Pink Can is donated to Intergroup, District, etc. as designated by the group conscience at their business meeting.

The pink can is just another tool that a group, district or any other AA service entity can use to do a little something more to ensure that the message of Alcoholics Anonymous is carried to those who need it. It does not matter how small your group is or how much your group can contribute. Every little bit helps. Corrections committees are just one of the many ways that we carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic. I would encourage you to take the idea to your next group conscience meeting. By Ken S.

RESENTMENT

Resentment has been a trigger for me. My ego gets in the way often and I want everything to be FAIR. Well, life is not fair. I believe that we all must go through difficult situations in order to learn. Through the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous and the help of sponsors and many wise people in my network I can now recognize this demon, resentment, sooner. I can ask God to teach me what I need to learn and get out of myself. Here is my chance to say "Bless him, Change me". Seeing the issue from the other side always helps.

Page 66 of the Big Book says: " It is plain that a life which includes deep resentment leads only to futility and unhappiness. To the precise extent that we permit these (resentments), do we squander the hours that might have been worthwhile. " I must pray for the person or cause of my resentment. Submitted by Shirley J.

Step 4 Prayer When a person offended we said to ourselves,

"This is a sick man. How can I be helpful to him? God save me from being angry. Thy will be done.

The Step 4 Prayer from "How it Works" page 66 of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous



Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:
To place our common welfare first;
To keep our fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.

WORKING WITH OTHERS

“Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics.”



Celebrating



Sobriety



MARCH

CENTRAL

Bonnie P. 37 yrs.
 Jerry W. 37 yrs.
 Gregory K. 36 yrs.
 Monique S. 24 yrs.
 Jeff W. 8 yrs.

FERNANDINA BEACH

Marcia B. 34 yrs.
 Don F. 28 yrs.
 Sharon MB 28 yrs.
 Drue A. 13 yrs.
 Julia M. 12 yrs.
 Bob J. 7 yrs.
 Nowo 4 yrs.
 Karen B. 3 yrs.
 Nick 3 yrs.
 Nick A. 3 yrs.
 Allie G. 1 yr.
 Brian M. 1 yr.

FIESTA

Joe C. 10 yrs.
 Kenny T. 6 yrs.
 Jennifer T. 3 yrs.
 Grace G. 1 yr.

MARCH

WESTSIDE

Carl M. 40 yrs.

WINNERS

Carl. 40 yrs.
 Joe P. 11 yrs.
 Donna 4 yrs.
 Angela R. 2 yrs.
 Rude 1 yr.
 Bob S. 1 yr.

APRIL

EASTSIDE

Ted B. 27 yrs.
 Ossie N. 4 yrs.

ST. NICHOLAS

Maxine JR. 37 yrs.
 Bonnie P. 37 yrs.
 Ellen O. 21 yrs.
 David S. 15 yrs.
 Scott D 9. 9 yrs.
 Patrick M. 7 yrs.
 Chris N. 6 yrs.
 Daniela D. 4 yrs.
 Jerry M. 4 yrs.
 Amber E. 4 yrs.

APIRL

THIS TOO SHALL PASS

Anne S. 2 yrs.
 Gary W. 1 yr.

WESTSIDE

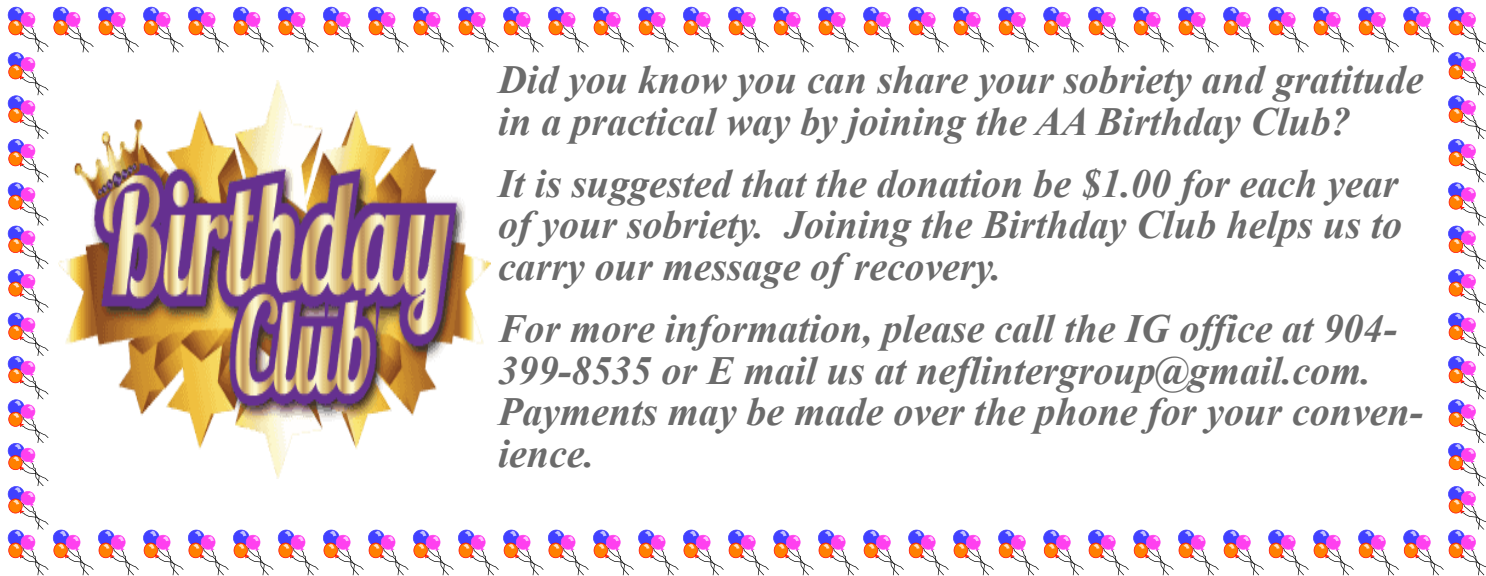
Barbara S. 31 yrs.
 Ron B. 26 yrs.
 Donna P. 22 yrs.
 Hans H. 17 yrs.
 Joe M. 16 yrs.
 Tina G. 15 yrs.
 Keith E. 15 yrs.
 Barbara C. 14 yrs.
 Richard H. 10 yrs.
 Eli M. 1 yr.
 Alex G. 1 yr.
 Kim McA. 1 yr.



Did you know you can share your sobriety and gratitude in a practical way by joining the AA Birthday Club?

It is suggested that the donation be \$1.00 for each year of your sobriety. Joining the Birthday Club helps us to carry our message of recovery.

For more information, please call the IG office at 904-399-8535 or E mail us at neflintergroup@gmail.com. Payments may be made over the phone for your convenience.



	Feb 19	Jan - Feb 19	Feb 18	Jan - Feb 18
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · Contribution Income				
4002 · Groups	\$3,884.00	\$11,531.16	\$3,537.29	\$11,337.02
4003 · Pink Can Contribution	\$52.13	\$80.13	\$86.00	\$5.22
4005 · Faithful Five	\$35.00	\$155.00	\$20.00	\$40.00
4006 · Birthdays		\$100.00		\$28.00
4007 · Other Contributions	\$575.00	\$600.00		\$20.00
4008 · Anonymous		\$1.00		
4010 · IG Breakfast/Speaker Mtg	\$148.00	\$231.00	\$78.00	\$148.75
Total 4000 · Contribution Income	\$4,694.13	\$12,698.29	\$3,721.29	\$11,578.99
4020 · Retail Income	\$6,594.50	\$12,993.98	\$4,349.50	\$7,962.46
4040 · Monthly IG Mtg / Otr				
4042 · Business Meeting	\$42.00	\$82.00	\$47.00	\$87.00
Total 4040 · Monthly IG Mtg / Otr	\$42.00	\$82.00	\$47.00	\$87.00
4060 · Income - Special Events				
4062 · Banquet	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00		
Total 4060 · Income - Special Events	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00		
Total Income	\$12,530.63	\$26,974.27	\$8,117.79	\$19,628.45
Cost of Goods Sold				
4510 · Cost of Retail Sales	\$5,316.07	\$9,647.24	\$2,650.51	\$5,249.14
5001 · Cost of Revenues - Other				
4540 · Cost of Event - Banquet Expense	\$196.23	\$196.23		\$87.00
5215 · IG Business Meeting Expense	\$42.00	\$82.00	\$47.00	\$191.53
5195 · CC Fees	\$107.12	\$245.01	\$81.00	
5290 · IG Breakfast Expense	\$19.25	\$40.86	\$25.68	\$45.36
5990 · POS Inventory Adjustments	\$11.76	\$19.21	\$460.10	\$466.97
Total 5001 · Cost of Revenues - Other	\$376.36	\$583.31	\$613.78	\$790.86
Total COGS	\$5,692.43	\$10,230.55	\$3,264.29	\$6,040.00
Gross Profit	\$6,838.20	\$16,743.72	\$4,853.50	\$13,588.45
Expense				
60000 · Salaries and Benefits				
6560 · Wages	\$1,755.13	\$3,247.77	\$1,628.35	\$3,051.48
6565 · Payroll Taxes	\$244.16	\$447.95	\$156.85	\$294.95
Total 60000 · Salaries and Benefits	\$1,999.29	\$3,695.72	\$1,785.20	\$3,346.43
61000 · Office Expense				
Total 61000 · Office Expense	\$1,951.96	\$3,124.19	\$395.19	\$783.39
62000 · Facilities and maintenance				
Total 62000 · Facilities and maintenance	\$1,144.04	\$2,930.77	\$1,267.37	\$2,712.77
5300 · When & Where Cost				
55000 · Committees Expense				
5530 · CPC/PI		\$77.66		(\$50.00)
5540 · Corrections	\$2,362.60	\$2,417.08		\$2,250.00
5560 · Newsletter	\$262.00	\$491.00	\$229.00	\$458.00
5590 · Treatment	\$69.60	\$220.89		\$32.88
5595 · Website	\$700.00	\$700.00		
Total 55000 · Committees Expense	\$3,394.20	\$3,906.63	\$229.00	\$2,690.88
70900 · Business Expenses				
5145 · Advertising	\$102.12	\$153.12	\$51.00	\$102.00
5220 · Dues/Fees/Licenses			\$61.25	\$61.25
Total 70900 · Business Expenses	\$102.12	\$153.12	\$112.25	\$163.25
61200 · Cash Drawer Payouts	\$11.00	\$11.00		
62100 · Contract Services				
5200 · Professional Fees			\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Total 62100 · Contract Services			\$500.00	\$1,000.00
65100 · Other Expenses				
5190 · Bank Charges		\$14.47		
Total 65100 · Other Expenses		\$14.47		
Total Expense	\$8,602.61	\$13,835.90	\$4,289.01	\$10,696.72
Net Ordinary Income	(\$1,764.41)	\$2,907.82	\$564.49	\$2,891.73
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
73000 · Other Income				
73050 · Interest Income		\$106.70	\$1.26	\$4.61
6310 · Sales Tax Collection Allowance	\$8.92	\$13.49	\$5.03	\$11.79
6301 · Cash Short/Over POS	\$3.74	\$3.74		
Total 73000 · Other Income	\$12.66	\$123.93	\$6.29	\$16.40
Total Other Income	\$12.66	\$123.93	\$6.29	\$16.40
Net Other Income	\$12.66	\$123.93	\$6.29	\$16.40
Net Income	(\$1,751.75)	\$3,031.75	\$570.78	\$2,908.13

FEBRUARY 2019 GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

GROUP NAME	FEB 2019	FEB 2019 YTD	Att.	GROUP NAME	FEB 2019	FEB 2019 YTD	Att.
11th Step Meeting	\$25.00	\$25.00		New Beginnings			X
A Way Out		\$73.80		Nocatee Promises		\$29.00	
Alexis		\$15.00	X	Nocatee Sobriety		\$31.50	
Anonymous Contribution -1		\$250.00		Orange Park			X
Arlington	\$400.00	\$400.00		Orange Park Step Sisters	\$36.00	\$36.00	X
As Bill Sees It		\$205.00		Ortega		\$59.00	
Atlantic Beach Men's		\$250.00		Other Side of the Bridge		\$46.15	
BAA		\$20.00		Pass It On			
Baymeadows			X	Phoenix Men's			X
Beaches Agnostic & FT		\$0.00		Ponte Vedra Men's		\$34.00	X
Beaches Unity (BUG)	\$360.00	\$720.00		Reborn	\$50.00	\$150.00	
Central			X	Riverside (Tom S)		\$44.00	
Clean And Free				Riverside Ortega		\$31.49	
Coffee and Readings	\$244.00	\$766.00		Salisbury Men's		\$10.00	
Conscious Contact		\$581.00	X	San Pablo Sober Sisters		\$19.18	
Coyote Men's Group	\$500.00	\$500.00		Saturday Night Live - St. Augustine		\$98.07	
Diverse Views		\$29.44		Seascape		\$195.15	
Drop The Rock				Serenity At Noon	\$112.00	\$112.00	
Evergreen	\$20.00	\$20.00		Sojourn			X
Fernandina Beach PPG				Sons of Spirit			
Fiesta		\$294.75		St. Nicholas			X
Free Men's		\$153.50		Step A Month		\$59.00	
Free To Be		\$279.04		Step Sisters of Grace			
From The Heart	\$150.00	\$150.00		Step Sisters of Orange Park			
Fruit Cove Literature		\$210.00		Step Sisters of Ortega		\$163.32	
Fruit Cove Women		\$101.05		Stepping In Sobriety			X
Green Cove Springs			X	Stepping It Up	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Greenland				Student		\$96.61	
Half Way Through	\$135.90	\$135.90		Sunday Morning	\$60.00	\$171.00	X
Heart To Heart				Surrender To Win			X
Hold On Group				Switzerland		\$175.00	X
I Am Responsible			X	The Alcoholics		\$785.00	
I've Come To Believe	\$32.00	\$32.00		Third Street Third Tradition	\$120.00	\$120.00	
Jax PPG				This Too Shall Pass		\$316.26	X
Jax YPG			X	Thursday Nite PPG			
K.I.S.S.	\$167.30	\$167.30	X	Timiquana Ladies of Grace			X
Ladies Unity	\$64.00	\$64.00		Triangle Men's	\$80.00	\$80.00	
Language of the Heart		\$165.00	X	Village Women's		\$51.57	
Lest We Forget	\$150.00	\$150.00		We Agnostics			X
Living In the Light		\$882.06		Wesconnett		\$133.26	
Los Lobos Men's		\$70.00		Winners	\$810.64	\$810.64	X
Mandarin Big Book Study	\$60.00	\$60.00		Westside	\$15.50	\$96.50	X
Mandarin Sunset Group				Women Enjoying Sobriety		\$171.51	X
Mandarin Women in Recovery		\$100.00		Women Speak		\$19.00	
Men Hooked on Sobriety			X	Women Upstart		\$75.00	X
Men's Red Eye			X	Women's YPG (St. Nick's)			
Middleburg	\$100.00	\$100.00		Young Peoples Group (St. Aug)	\$81.00	\$81.00	
More About Alcoholism		\$90.00		Yulee	\$60.66	\$60.66	
Murray Hill		\$60.45		TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$3,884.00	\$11,531.16	

Represented at the Feb 2018 IG Business Meeting: IG Reps = 29 Total signed in = 40
 Groups Contributing in Feb'19 - 25 (Jan'19 YTD)

ACCOUNT BALANCES AS OF FEB. 28, 2019

Checking/Savings

1021 · Cash - Regions Bank	\$9,991.64
1025 · Cash - Paypal Acct.	\$557.73
1024 · Cash in Drawer	\$256.42

Total Checking/Savings

\$10,805.79

1360 · Inventory	\$16,987.36
------------------	-------------

1400 · Prudent Reserve

1476 · Regions Bank - CD #001	\$20,125.42
1481 · Regions Bank - CD #002	\$10,087.60
1486 · Regions Bank - CD #003	\$6,000.00
Total 1400 · Prudent Reserve	\$36,213.02



Special Archives Edition April 2019 Add A Line

FROM OUR ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

John T. Is one of Jacksonville's AA pioneers, He has 44 years of sobriety (DOB 11/5/1973). John taped his story for the Intergroup Archives and the following has been excerpted from that tape with his permission. Interview by Tom F. transcribed by Rhonda B. and edited by Charlie M.

Interviewer: John where were you born and what was your life like and how did you get drunk and how did you get sober?

John: I was born in Atlanta, Georgia. My daddy worked with the Texaco Company and he was sent Florida in 1934. I think I was 5 years old and I lived there until 1950 when I went in the service. Those were the depression years, and daddy had the only job in the whole extended family and we had a lot of family. At one time I think we had 5 families living in a 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Daddy had the only job and he took care of everybody. I had a great childhood. We didn't have anything but we didn't know we didn't have anything because nobody had anything but we had each other. We lived on the river and every weekend we caught crawfish and shrimp. We would boil all that and then daddy would play the banjo and all the adults drank and sang until we went to bed Saturday night and then we got up and went to church on Sunday. I started working when I was about 8 years old and I had a job working for a man at his dairy. I went to school and I worked 6 days, Monday through Saturday. I was about 12 when I found out you could make \$10 to \$12 a week being a paperboy, so I got a paper route. I had to give mama money every week. It was room and board, and then I had to put so much money in the bank. It was the rule of the house that anybody that made any money had to contribute to the household and that's the way I grew up and it was a fun life. We lived close to the river and I was in the river a lot when I wasn't working. At school I was just an average student. I wasn't outstanding at anything until I got to high school. I don't remember if we had honor rolls or anything like that. I never was a straight A student. I didn't make a lot of A's. I made a lot of B's and C's. Anyhow we got into athletics and that's when my life took on a different thing. I loved athletics and I loved being part of the team. In those days in south Florida the town's identity was the high school athletic teams and so Daddy let me play football and basketball but I did not play baseball because I had to go back to work, which was fine. I really loved football and basketball.



After high school I went off to the University of Florida. I was the first person in my family to go to college and I went up there to play ball for the University. I lasted 1 year, almost a year, but I didn't go to class, and that's when I started drinking. I think I only drank one time in high school and that was the night I graduated. I don't remember much about that night. At the University all of the veterans were back at the end of World War II and every night one of them would say, "Ya want to go get a beer?" It was amazing to me that I was free to go get a beer. You could get a glass of beer for a nickel. Of course I didn't have any money but I could afford a nickel. I started drinking that way and I drank. Daddy pulled me out of school before the end of that year and he put me to work back in Fort Pierce.

*SPECIAL ARCHIVES
EDITION
APRIL 2019 ADD A LINE*

*Interview of John T. Is one
of Jacksonville's AA pioneer*

Page 10 of 12

JOHN: (con't)

I was working for him, which I didn't mind because I had worked for him off and on all the way through high school and I knew all about what he did in the oil business. However, I was drinking at night. I would come home and my parents had a baby when I was 16 and so now she is about 5 or 6 and I'm 19 or 20 and I'm coming home and I'm waking them up at night and they don't like that at all.

In 1950 the Korean War started. I had wanted to enlist at the end of World

War II but I was too young and the war ended. When the Korean War started daddy took me down to the recruiting office and I enlisted. I went in the service and within 6 months of enlisting I was in Korea. There was no drinking most of the time because we were trying to stay warm and stay alive. I spent a year there and when I came back I had enough points to get an early discharge. So, I got out early and went back to college and by now I wanted an education. It was kind of funny because by this time I had grown from 5' 10 " when I first went there to 6' 2" and weighed 180 pounds but now all I really wanted to do was get an education. I didn't want any more of the college life. I was ready to grow up. I went to study. I don't think I ever took less than 19 or 20 hours. I graduated in about 3 years. I met a lady and married her and we had our first baby before I graduated. She was born in December of 1955 and I graduated in January of 1956. My drinking was pretty much under control. I didn't have any time while I was going to college.



I had the GI Bill and I also had a laundry route. I went to the fraternity houses, picked up their laundry, got it cleaned, and brought it back. Later, I got a job running a motel. We lived at the motel, which was wonderful because it was nice. We had enough room, a kitchen, a living room, and that's where the new baby was born. Every night I was renting rooms. The next morning I would get up at 7:00a.m. and pick up the laundry from the night before and take it and have it cleaned.



I studied marketing. At this point, I thought I was going to be a salesman. I wanted to learn as much about marketing and then I began to realize that nothing happens until the sale is made. It took an awful of effort to learn how to make the sale and what to do after the sale. To make a long story short, I went to Southern Bell in 1955 and my drinking progressed pretty good there. I came to Jacksonville and got promoted a couple of times, selling advertising, and did very well. I made supervisor there and they put me in the business office and then I became a manager and they sent me down to Orlando and I became the Orlando manager. I came back to Jacksonville and was running the state office of advertising and public relations and they were going to send me to New York

and I didn't want to go to New York. By this time, I think I had 5 kids and I didn't want to take them up there and I didn't want to go. In those days you didn't tell the corporation what you wanted to do. The guy that ran the State called me and did everything he could to get me to go to New York and I told him I just couldn't. He said, "John you have a year to find a new job."

John (con't)

The newspaper had offered me a job, so I quit and went over to work at the newspaper in 1965. I stayed there until they sold it in 1983. My drinking really got out of control. I had no boss. I was driving all over the country selling advertising and I had no supervision. I was in charge of all the sales and I got the sales going really, really good for them, and they began to make more money than they ever thought possible and they let me do whatever I wanted to do. So, my drinking went way out of control. I finally reached a point where they could no longer put up with my drinking and they sent me to a place called Willingway because they had an alcohol program. They sent me there for 30 days and that was the first

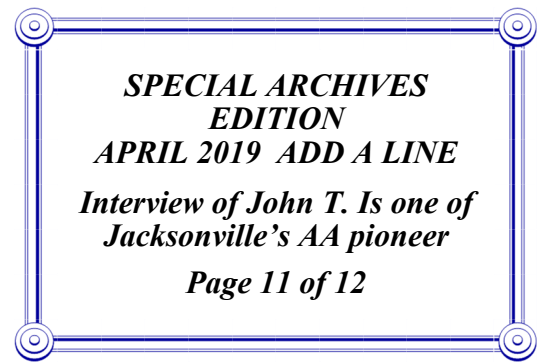


time I had ever been to an AA meeting. I think I had heard of AA but I had no idea what AA was all about. I met alcoholics in recovery and I couldn't believe how they liked each other and I couldn't believe how they laughed and giggled and I realized how much I missed. Facing myself and admitting and being honest with me was very difficult. Once I got through that process I reached a point in the steps that I felt that God had forgiven me. I didn't spend a lot of time worrying about forgiving myself. By this time I knew if I did certain things I felt good, so I really was focused on how can I feel better, and better, and better, and then I began to learn new habits that the people that came before me shared with me what they did and it

felt good to feel good. I really didn't fight it because the minute I quit trying to learn, chaos and conflict would come back in my life. All I had to do was work on one thing. For instance, if I was working on patience, I think I'm working on one thing but really when I became more patient, I became kinder, because I wasn't going crazy. Since I wasn't completely impatient, I wasn't abrupt and everything with everybody else, so I became kinder. I became more gentle and I couldn't become patient if I had not become honest. All these things are connected and I didn't know that. I started out working on one thing and everything improved which was really kind of fun to learn new ways to think. I really have enjoyed my time in AA. It has given me my family back. My family has grown. I've got so many grandchildren from seven kids and it has given me a chance to just love them and to be there and to constantly love them. I look at almost everything differently than I did before. Sometimes my wife will say, "Why are you smiling" and I'll be smiling because I'm thinking of what I would have said years ago if I hadn't been patient. I say, "Thank you Lord." and that is new in my life. There is so much gratitude in my life that didn't exist before. AA has given me so much and I will never be able to give back what it gave me but I am going to try.

I: How do you feel about how we are actually helping people get sober and stay sober today?

John: The difference that I see in today are the club meetings, particularly the noon meetings are so large that there is no fellowship. People come in, newcomers, they raise their hand, they get there right on time, they leave maybe a little early or right on time. People don't know each other. I think AA has gotten too big. When I came in every meeting was 4 or 5 people, so you couldn't hide in any meeting. If you were a new person, everybody had a shot to try to help you. I see so many really big meetings now. I see people come into meetings and don't speak to anybody but their friends. They go sit with their friends. I miss the old days when everybody talked to everybody. Now, there are 100 people in the room and you don't get to know anyone.



Copyright © BeeVector - <http://BeeVector.com> 002017

I: When you were first getting sober how did you do your 12 step work?

John: One of the things we all did is we took newcomers to all different meetings to see who they connected with. If they connected with people in different groups then we would help them get a network of people and put new people together, not all new people, but we put 1 or 2 together, so they would have somebody to talk to. In the days when I came in if you said that you wanted me to come to such and such a meeting, you would say to me, "I'll pick you up." and I

would say, "No, I'll meet you there," and you would say to me, "No, I'll pick you up." It was important that meeting before the meeting, the meeting, and the meeting after the meeting. If I was riding with you, you would take me to coffee with your friends and that would open up a network. It was more of a hands-on thing. Now I think we miss a lot of opportunities.



I: What did you think about the AA organization; Intergroup, World Service Office, GSO, group involvement in that?

John: I have been a GSR several times but never really been involved in the AA structure. It works and it is being run by people who have turned their lives over to God. It's all God driven. AA is not about me it is what can I do for somebody else.

I: Thank you John.

*SPECIAL ARCHIVES
EDITION
APRIL 2019 ADD A LINE*

*Interview of John T. Is one
of Jacksonville's AA pioneer*

Page 12 of 12

Thank You For Sharing

*Sobriety Begins When One Alcoholic
Talks With Another Alcoholic
Sharing Experience, Strength and Hope*