



Communiqué

HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

APRIL 2011

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The Communiqué is a monthly publication of District 13 and Hernando County Intergroup.

It is about, by and for members of A.A. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Publication of an article does not imply endorsement by A.A. or District 13 or Intergroup, except where indicated.

To submit an article, please email it to:

communiqué0910@gmail.com

Articles need to be submitted by the 21st of the month for publication in the following month's edition. However, articles will be placed in the publication as space and time allow.

Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us - sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. They will always materialize if we work for them.

The first time I heard the promises it was as I read them myself, out-loud, at the first meeting I ever went to. I'd already cried once when they offered me a chip, at which point I had tried to joke about 'being in here for some

Promise 12

booze...', but my laugh turned to sobs and someone shoved me a tissue box. So whoever the brilliant guy was that picked on me to read the promises, well let's just say it didn't take a genius to spot my vulnerability at the time. But I'm glad to have contributed to some warm fuzzies, though breaking down in sobs in front of a room full of strangers isn't a thing I would do under ordinary circumstances.

It's funny though, still to this day, when the promises are read, followed by the question 'Are these extravagant promises?' and the whole room chimes in 'We think not...', as if in reference to some elementary fact of life like 'Is the sky blue?' or 'Does a fish swim?'... well, let's just say in my head it's not so cut and dry. In fact, I'm usually too busy screaming 'OH MY GOD YES THEY ARE!!!' on the inside to join in the merriment on the outside.

And then my mind quiets down as I remember the definition of extravagant, which I've consequently looked up on more than one occasion, and in case you don't know means 'excessive' and 'exaggerated'; not 'spectacular' and 'unbelievable' as I'd rather thought it did. And as the owner of a new and amazing life that began only after I embarked on the journey of the 12 steps, I can definitely say to the above stated question: Spectacular, yes. Exaggerated... NOT EVEN A LITTLE!!

But back then, when I arrived in the rooms, it wasn't whether the promises were gaudy or moderate that started me coming apart inside. It was suddenly being able to pinpoint the anguish I'd been unable to explain for as long as I could remember. Hearing the reasons for all of my pain. Finally being able

to see exactly why I was in the pit of despair... I wanted freedom. Happiness. I was buried in my regrets. I knew no peace. I was as far down the scale as I could go. I was useless and drowning in self-pity. Hopeless and afraid. Economically bled dry. Constantly confused and baffled. And it seemed like I hadn't been able to accomplish a single solitary thing in as long as I could remember.

When I first came to AA, I was greatly comforted to find out it wasn't just me, that there was an actual problem, and consequently a solution. But my agony continued six long months of hitting meeting after meeting and wondering why I still felt like I was dying inside. The catch? The last five and perhaps the most important words of all the promises: "They will always materialize IF WE WORK FOR THEM" (work work work!).

I'd lost my life to drugs and alcohol years before I found AA. But the second I reached out my hand and asked another alcoholic for help, all of that began to change. Now two short years later each and every promise listed on page 83 of Alcoholics Anonymous has come true for me, above and beyond, and continuing more each and every day. I honestly believe with all of my heart that they can be true for anyone else who wants them too. The instructions are quite simple, but in case you missed it, quit waiting for the broken elevator and take the gosh-darn stairs already.

*Anonymous
Colorado Springs, CO*

In This Issue

- Promise 12 1 ●
- Sharing Around The Coffee Pot 2 ●
- District Update 3 ●
- Tradition Four 4 ●
- Coming Events 4 ●
- Slogan Scramble 5 ●
- Anniversaries 5 ●
- District Treasurer Report 6 ●
- District 13 Minutes 7 ●
- The AA Group 8 ●
- Scramble Solution 8 ●
- Unity Meeting Information 8 ●

Sharing around the coffee pot

by Jack R.

One day at a time! Again? Really? When I first came into the AA program I could not quite grasp this concept. Living one day at a time seemed ridiculous. Knowing that I could not ever drink again; I mean forever, how could you ask me to only think of one day.



It was the promises that saw me through. The one that speaks of things that used to baffle me, and the one that says "God did for me what I could not do for myself". Somehow, sometime along the way without realizing it, I have learned to live one day at a time.

After I sobered up I faced unemployment for the first time in my life. We had quite a bit of debt and it was not a good idea to look years ahead. The task was too large. Slowly, one day at a time was the way to go. Many times, looking ahead was not a pleasant option. There were times when I was seriously ill and required surgery. Times when people I loved and cared for were ill or passed away. Difficult times to be sure. And I could not conceive of living one hour or one minute at a time.

But thanks to the program I have learned how to eat an elephant. "One bite at a time."

I am writing this article because it is time for me to apply this way of life again. I have recently been diagnosed with lung cancer. It will take about seven weeks of chemotherapy and radiation five days each week. So looking at the whole deal could be a little discouraging. To look ahead could be depressing or too hard to want to go forward. But thank God for this AA program. I am able to face this situation "One day at a time" with a grateful heart. I take what God gives me and move ahead expecting the best.

I have great support from my family and friends. And I know that all of you in AA and Al-Anon are there for me if I need anything. I wanted to share this with you because people that are new to the program need to know that no matter what happens in their life, they do not need to drink. Drinking would only make the problem worse.

There are people in this AA program who care about you and will help you stay sober. If I can do it, so can you.

I also wanted to share this because I might not make any meetings until I get through this. It helps me to write this down. I know you don't mind. So, don't worry, pray for me and I'll see you when I can.

Hernando County Intergroup Office
4169 Lamson Ave., Suite 107
(behind Sherwood Forest)
Spring Hill, FL 34608
352-683-4597

Intergroup Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5
www.aa.hernandocounty.com

General Service Office
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10164



www.alcoholics-anonymous.org

A couple turned up at a friend's house for dinner and the door was opened by their eight year old daughter, holding a glass of water. After the usual polite "good evenings" the little girl, with startled eyes suddenly held out the glass of water and said to the guest, "will you drink this please?"
"Why?" asked the man.
"Because Mummy said you used to drink like a fish!!!"

**WE HAVE TO GIVE
IT AWAY TO KEEP IT!**



**Relapse
Corner!**

OMNIPOTENCE

You now have all the answers for yourself and others. No one can tell you anything. You ignore suggestions or advice from others.

Relapse is probably imminent unless drastic change takes place.

QUOTE
OF
THE
MONTH

I have frequently seen people become neurotic when they content themselves with inadequate or wrong answers to the questions of life. They seek position, marriage, reputation, outward success or money, and remain unhappy and neurotic even when they have attained what they were seeking. Such people are usually confined within too narrow a spiritual horizon. Their life has not sufficient content, sufficient meaning. If they are enabled to develop into more spacious personalities, the neurosis generally disappears.

C. G. Jung

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Dear Friends –

April brings us into Spring and the North Florida Area Assembly prepares to meet in St. Augustine on April 9th and 10th. Your GSR will be voting on Agenda items for the 61st General Service Conference held May 1-7th in New York. This is the chance to share your voice with the voice of millions of alcoholics across our nation. Watch for details when our Area 14 Delegate (Cecilia R.) will be reporting back to our District after the May conference, every member invited.

District Update

On the homefront, our District hosted its Picnic Workshop in early March. It was well attended – at best guess around 200 people. Applause to Ed S. and our team of cooks who kept the burgers and dogs coming. Also, thanks to the generosity of our fellows - side dishes were plentiful and Chuck T. provided music for our listening pleasure. Your District Committee Chairs were on hand providing information and literature about the work of each Committee. Especially important to note; Corrections had a good number of volunteers sign up to carry the message into Correctional Facilities. Literature provided us with a newly created display of the latest pamphlet literature out of GSO, Archives worked on signing up Groups for their Group History Project, our Treatment Chair was on-hand and our Grapevine Chair had a “grape day” sharing the message about our meeting in print. And who said picnics were only for eating in the

park? Thanks to all who participated and helped to make this event a success.

Especially important to remember at all A.A. events is our 11th Tradition and 12th Tradition as they apply to an individual’s anonymity, cameras, the internet and social media available today. “Understanding Anonymity”, pamphlet P-47 an A.A. General Service Conference approved literature piece provides us guidance on this. Contact Tammy B. our Literature Chair if you would like to have a copy.

In closing, I’d like to leave you with a thought from A.A. Today, PP. 7-8: Why at this particular point in history, has God chosen to communicate His healing grace to so many of us? Every aspect of this global unfoldment can be related to a single crucial word. The word is “communication”. There has been a lifesaving communication among ourselves, with the world around us, and with God. From the beginning, communication in A.A. has been no ordinary transmission of helpful ideas and attitudes. Because of our kinship in suffering, and because our common means of deliverance are effective for ourselves only when constantly carried to others, our channels of contact have always been charged with the language of the heart. Thank you Jack for keeping our Communique’ in front of us.

May God Bless and Keep you all.
Lori P.
DCM District 13

Who will spread the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to our children and their children? As historian Carl Sandburg has said, “Whenever a society or civilization perishes there is always one condition present, they forgot where they came from.”

Who will tell the children?

“AA members have a responsibility to gather and care for the Fellowship’s historical documents and memorabilia” (AA Archives Guidelines).

Here in Hernando County; District 13 and Intergroup have decided to develop an archives collection to preserve our own local AA history. But we need your help and support.

Any correspondence, records, minutes, report, photos, newspaper or magazine articles from the past and present should be collected and preserved and made available to AA members for

now and for generations to come.

It is by the collection and sharing of these important historical elements that our collective gratitude for Alcoholics Anonymous is deepened.

Won’t you help us pass on the word by going through your own collection of AA souvenirs and donate any memorabilia, records etc. from your group’s early beginnings to the local Archives committee. The Committee has decided to conduct oral history interviews in the coming weeks. If your group is interested in being a part of the recorded history here in Hernando County, please contact us.

We are also looking for additional members for the Archives Committee. We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month @ 7PM in the Intergroup office at 4169 Lamson Ave., Suite 107, Spring Hill.

Or you can call Mary T. @ 352-684-0531

The traditions are important to all AA members - Traditions protect us from ourselves. As more and more groups were started and were spread out geographically, guidelines were needed to keep all AA uniform, successful, and moving forward. The fourth tradition parallels the fourth step.

Step four

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition four

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

Although there are vast differences between the many A.A. groups throughout our district, area, state, nation, and world, the A.A. spirit is much the same wherever one goes. Every A.A. group is free to work out its own customs

and agendas. However, freedom comes with a responsibility. As members of A.A., ALL groups; large, small, discussion, step, or speaker must avoid ANY action that might harm A.A. Of course this is humanly impossible. In a way, the fourth tradition is like the fourth step: As an individual should take an honest inventory of himself, each A.A. group should also take an honest group inventory of itself and its collective actions. Are we breaking any traditions? Are we maintaining the chief message of ALL A.A. groups to help the suffering alcoholic? Are any of our "special interests" or our "individual's egos or group egos" hindering the newcomers or group membership? Is the helping hand held out to ANY and EVERYONE who wants to stop drinking?

Pam P.
Alternate DCM

GROUP DONATION ADDRESSES

Attention all group treasurers: Please send donations to the following. It is very important to include your Group Number on all your donations. Please contact Howard with any questions.

District 13 Howard M.

Spring Hill FL 34608
(please make checks payable to District 13)

Hernando County Intergroup
Paul K.
4169 Lamson Ave.
Suite 107
Spring Hill, FL 34608
(please make checks payable to Hernando County Intergroup)

North Florida Area Assembly
NFAC
PO Box 8983
Jacksonville, FL 32239-8983

General Service Office
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
(please make checks payable to GSO)

District 13 Committee Chairpersons

Communication between the general population of AA members and District 13 Committee Chairpersons is very important. If you are not sure what their committee is all about, District 13 encourages you to call them. Speak with them about what their service committee has to offer for the still suffering alcoholic and you as a member of AA. One alcoholic working with another alcoholic is all good.

Accessibilities Committee
Steve G.

Cooperation With The Professional Community Committee/Public Information Committee
Claudia S.

Treatment Committee
Tom H.

Archives Committee
Mary T.

Corrections Committee
Steve Z.

Grapevine Committee
Arnie C.

Literature
Tammy B.

If you find mistakes in this newsletter, Please consider that they are there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone and some people are always looking for mistakes.

Coming Events

April 9-10, 2011

North Florida Area Assembly
The Renaissance® Resort
At World Golf Village
500 South Legacy Trail
St. Augustine, FL 32092
Toll Free: 1-888-740-7020
www.worldgolfrenaissance.com/

July 9-10, 2011

North Florida Area Assembly
The Renaissance® Resort
At World Golf Village
500 South Legacy Trail
St. Augustine, FL 32092
Toll Free: 1-888-740-7020
www.worldgolfrenaissance.com/

July 20-24, 2011

55th Florida State Convention
Doubletree Hotel/Universal
Orlando
Online registration
55.FLSTATECONVENTION.COM

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Does your group want to host a UNITY meeting?

It's so simple even a cavegroup could do it!!!

All you need is a group (or 2), a desire, a chairperson and greeters.

- 2 speakers (about 30 min each).

- 5 people to read the preamble, the steps, the traditions, more about alcoholism (first 4 paragraphs and the promises).

Your group can bring your chip system or we will use ours.

Your group needs to provide the desserts (and utensils, plates forks, napkins etc).

We will serve the drinks, coffee is free. Soda and water is available.

Set up and clean up help is usually provided by the host group but we always have help.

AND LETS NOT FORGET TO BRING THE FUN. WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT! Any questions please call 683-4597 to ask or get on the schedule.

“Our greatest delusion is the supposition, even for a moment, that we have gained mastery over our egos. The minute we believe we have attained humility is the exact instant in which we cease to be humble.”
 ~ Meriem M.

Arthur Godfrey of CBS told of the drunk reeling up the street saying, “Shay, can you direct me to the Alcoholics Shanonymous?”
 “What’s the matter?” asked a helpful one. “Do you want to join?”
 “No.” said the drunk. “I want to resign.”

District Treasurer Report for Period Ending: March 15, 2011

| Group | District | Corr. | March/YTD |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| AA Way of Life | | | |
| Algood Group | | | \$42.00/\$0.00 |
| Anonymous | | | |
| Aripeka Big Book | | | |
| Aripeka Open Speaker | | | |
| Ask It Basket | | | |
| Attitude Adjustment | | | |
| Audio Big Book | | | |
| Back to Basics | | | |
| Brooksville Heavy Hitters | | | |
| Brooksville Women | \$10.00 | | 10.00/0.00 |
| Early Birds @ A Club | | | |
| Easy Does It Group | | | |
| Feeling Better Group | | | |
| 5:00 Promises Group | | | 0.00/5.00 |
| Friendship Group | | | |
| Fun & Frolic Group | | | |
| Garden Grove Group | | | |
| Happy Hour Group | | 36.01 | 0.00/104.21 |
| Heavy Hitters | | | 16.90/18.05 |
| Hernando Beach Group | | | |
| Hope Group | | | 100.00/0.00 |
| Ladies Big Book | | | |
| Let Go & Let God | | | |
| Let's Get Serious | | | |
| Life Goes On | | | 0.00/6.00 |
| Living Sober (Thursday Night) | | | |
| More Serenity Sisters | | | 29.70/0.00 |
| New Hope Beginners | | | |
| Precisely II BB Study | | | |
| Ridge Manor BB | | | |
| Rough Road Group | 30.00 | 34.00 | 80.00/ 34.00 |
| Sat Morning 12th Step | | | |
| Sat. Night Beginners | | | 75.00/8.00 |
| Serendipity Sisters | | | |
| Serenity Sisters | | | |
| Singleness of Purpose | | | |
| Springhill Monday Night | 15.00 | | 15.00/0.00 |
| Steps We Took Step Study | | | |
| Sunset Group | | | |
| There is a solution | | | |
| Thursday Nite Welcome Group | | | |
| Tranquility Group | | | 70.00/0.00 |
| Tuesday Nite Get A Life Group | | | |
| Tuesday Noon Group | | | |
| Umbrella Group | | | 100.00/0.00 |
| W.I.S.E. Women | | | |
| Woman's Serenity | | | 33.00/0.00 |
| Young Men's | | | |
| Total | \$45.00 | \$70.01 | \$571.60/\$175.26 |

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Previous Month's Balance Restricted Funds | \$ 240.00 |
| Previous Month's Balance Contributions | \$ 4295.84 |
| Previous Month's Balance Corrections | \$ 586.81 |
| Income | |
| Group Contributions | \$ 45.00 |
| Misc. (Intergroup, \$ Picnic contributions) | \$ 286.50 |
| Corrections Contributions | \$ 70.01 |
| Total Income | |
| | \$ 401.51 |
| Expenses | |
| Events (Picnic) | \$ 314.74 |
| Postage | |
| Area Assembly (DCM stipend) | |
| Communiqué | \$ 135.00 |
| Office Supplies/Copies | \$ 10.55 |
| Corrections Literature | \$ 298.40 |
| Treatment | |
| CPC/PI | |
| Grapevine | |
| Accessibilities | |
| Archive Storage | \$ 50.06 |
| Rent | |
| Rooms (Area Assembly) | \$ 61.22 |
| Literature Committee | \$ 51.17 |
| Total Expenses | |
| | \$ 921.14 |
| Closing Balance Restricted Funds | |
| | \$ 240.00 |
| Closing Balance Contributions | |
| | \$4059.81 |
| Closing Balance Corrections | |
| | \$ 288.41 |
| Closing Total Balance | \$4588.22 |

All are invited to attend our Intergroup meetings on the first Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in Spring Hill. Forest Oaks Lutheran Church 8555 Forest Oaks Blvd.

☆☆☆☆

Please join us Monday, April 4th at 6:30 pm. for our District 13 business meeting. All GSRs should attend. Holy Cross Lutheran Springhill Drive and Airmont

☆☆☆☆

THEY HAVE PASSED Has another AA or a family member passed? To get the word out so friends in AA can offer condolences in this time of sorrow. Please email: theyhavepassed@gmail.com with the name of the deceased, the location and times for viewing and the funeral. We will get the word out to friends in AA. If you want to be part of the group who receives these announcements please send us your email address and we will add you to the list.

You can buy AA ANNIVERSARY CARDS at our Intergroup Office located at 4169 Lamson Ave., Suite 107 9am-5pm M-F Call 352-683-4597



HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Suggested Requirements:
 6 months sobriety
 Desire to do service work

TIME SLOTS
 9 AM to 1 PM • 1 PM to 5 PM
 • 5 PM to 9 AM
 Hotline can be forwarded to your cell or home phone.
 Call 352-686-3100

Minutes – District 13 Meeting – Date: 3/7/2011 (To be approved at next District Meeting)**OPENING (Earl):** Moment of Silence/Serenity Prayer/Preamble.**TRADITION OF THE MONTH (Steve Z.):** Tradition #3 “The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking”. Steve read excerpts from the Traditions checklist.**INTRODUCTIONS: 26 Members were present:** Cindy, Ed, Steve Z., Gary, Tom, Jack, Mary, Megan, Louise, Claudia, Wendy, Mike, Tina, Tom, Howard, Darren, Steve G, Joan, Pam, Tammy, Rose, Arnie, Dave, Sherri, Earl, Lori.**SECRETARY’S REPORT (Wendy S.):** Minutes reviewed & approved.**TREASURER REPORT (Howard M.):** Treasurers report in Communiqué. Approved.**Income**

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Group Donations | \$ 45.00 |
| Corrections | \$ 70.01 |
| Misc. | \$ 286.50 |
| TOTAL: | \$ 401.51 |

Expenses: \$ 921.14**Closing Balance:**

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Group | \$4059.81 |
| Restricted | \$ 240.00 |
| Corrections | \$ 288.41 |
| TOTAL: | \$4588.22 |

ACCESSIBILITY (Steve G.): There is a braille 12&12, and Big Book at the office. Asking G.S.R.'s to check their groups for wheelchair access not only to meetings but the restrooms also. Let Steve know, his # is in the Communiqué. They also need volunteers available during the days to help people who need meetings.**ARCHIVES (Mary T.):** They attended both the Unity meeting and Picnic with a display. Spoke to Steve R. about being represented at the State Convention in Orlando. Volunteers are needed to represent Archives on Founders day. We are searching for a list of past Intergroup and District Chairpersons. We are also searching for members who were present during the start up of Hernando County meetings for interviews.**CORRECTIONS (Steve Z.):** They were represented at the District picnic & new volunteer applications were received. \$227.00 out of the Corrections fund was spent on various Literature to help carry the message. Requesting all G.S.R.'s to ask their groups if they would agree to make a box available at their meetings for collection of old A.A. literature. This is not to replace the pink can but a means of recycling some of your old literature**CPC/PI (Claudia S.):** Provided 3 more literature displays: 2 for doctors offices and 1 for Rose to bring to the parole office. Took one poster to Springstead High School.**GRAPEVINE (Arnie):** Represented at the picnic. Looking to get back orders of Grapevine for libraries in existence, and also collecting old Grapevines from members. Arnie's # is in the Communiqué.**COMMUNIQUE (Jack R.):** No Report.**LITERATURE (Tammy):** Literature and books were purchased. Display was set up at the District picnic where they passed out literature and sold their first book.**TREATMENT (Tom H.):** Need speakers for panels to go to Springbrook on Monday & Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Call Tom: # in Communiqué.**Intergroup (Tina):** Office is covered except for Tuesday from 1 to 5 p.m.. The Unity meeting is covered for March, April, and May.**ALTERNATE CHAIR (Pam P.):** Thank you for all the hard work at the picnic!**CHAIR (Lori P.):** Next NFAA will be April 8-10th in St. Augustine. Thank you to all those who participated in the District picnic. Meet the alt. Delegate-March 27th, Holder Community Center, Hwy 41 North just past Lecanto Hwy.- 2011 General Service Conference Committee Agenda.**OLD BUSINESS:** The proposed guidelines for NFAA G.S.R.'s rooms was passed. A sign up sheet for the April assembly was passed around. Founders Day dinner for June 4th. Sheryl offered to do printing again this year for Founders day. Tabled for next month. The proposed 2011 budget was approved by a 2/3 majority vote.

There was a discussion about hosting a NFAC. Tabled for next month. A District Picnic committee report was given by Ed.

The District picnic was a great experience and good exposure for our Committees. Thanks to everyone that was involved. Special thanks to Tammy for all your effort in helping put this together and to Committees chairpersons that were involved. Expense report as followed:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Pavillion | \$ 30.00 |
| Food/supplies..... | \$ 314.74 |
| Total | \$ 344.74 |
| Giveaway income | \$ 170.00 |
| Total expenses | \$ 174.74 |

NEW BUSINESS: Suggestions on changing meeting times or locations for the district meeting were tabled until next month. A G.S.R.'s group during an inventory to address how we can best serve the newcomer that comes in asked “Are we careful to preserve the anonymity of group members and other A.A.'s outside meeting rooms?” A question was raised about anonymity because of cameras at the district picnic. There was discussion about educating others about anonymity and the Traditions. In the Box 459 Volume 55 Winter 2009 topic discussion “Anonymity Understanding & Social Networking sites. There's also a pamphlet “Understanding Anonymity” which goes into this topic further which is now available thru Literature so if anyone may want to get one for their group to reinforce this please contact Tammy. Her # is in the Communiqué.**NEXT MEETING: April 4, 2011****CLOSED WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Understanding the Purpose of an A.A. Group.
 The purpose of all A.A. groups, as stated in our Preamble, is for members to "share their experience, strength and hope with each other, that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." Most A.A. meetings are considered voting groups when they follow the long form of our Third Tradition.

The AA Group
 Why is a meeting not a Group?
 Perhaps the most important distinction between groups and meetings is singleness of purpose: to stay sober and help others recover from alcoholism. Unlike most meetings, A.A. groups generally continue to exist outside prescribed meeting hours, always ready to provide Twelfth Step help when needed. A Group has a vote in the decision making process of A.A. as a whole.

The Home Group - One Group, One Vote
 Although A.A. members attend the meetings of many groups, and feel comfortable in these meetings, the Home Group remains the strongest bond between the individual A.A. member and the Fellowship. With membership comes the right to vote upon issues that might affect the Group and might also affect A.A. as a whole - a process that forms the very cornerstone of A.A.'s service structure. As with all Group conscience matters, each A.A. member has one vote; and this, ideally, IS voiced through the Home Group.

The Spirit of Rotation
 Traditionally, rotation of service positions keeps A.A. members from becoming frozen in office. It also ensures that group tasks, like nearly everything else in A.A., are passed around for all to share. Rotation insures that fresh ideas are brought to the task, and helps to bring us spiritual rewards more enduring than fame. And, in the spirit of Tradition Twelve, it ever reminds us "to place principles before personalities." Terms are usually two years, but can be any length the Group designates. Before you rotate out of any A.A. office, be sure to help train your replacement and get them registered.

What is an informed group conscience?
 The group conscience is the collective conscience of the Group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive action is taken. This is achieved by the group members through the sharing of information, individual points of view, and the practice of A.A. principles. To be fully informed requires a willingness to listen to minority points of view with an open mind.

On sensitive issues, the group works slowly - discouraging formal motions until a clear sense of its collective view emerges. Placing principles before personalities, the membership is wary of dominant opinions. Its voice is heard when a well informed group arrives at a decision. The results rests on more than a yes or no count precisely because it is the spiritual expression of the group conscience. The term informed group conscience implies that pertinent information has been studied and views are heard before the group votes.

AA Group Inventory
 Many groups periodically hold a group inventory meeting to evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Some groups take an inventory by examining our Twelve Traditions, one at a time, to determine how well they are living up to these principles. Some helpful questions may be found in the A.A.W.S. publication "The A.A. Group" pamphlet. Groups will probably wish to pose questions of their own as well.

"Although we realize that alcoholism is a permanent, irreversible condition, our experience has taught us to make no long-term promises about staying sober. We have found it more realistic - and more successful - to say, "I am not taking a drink JUST FOR TODAY."

c. 1975, Living Sober, Page 6

SLOGAN SCRAMBLE ANSWER

**Easy Does It;
 One Day at a time;
 First Things First;
 Live and Let Live;
 Think, Think, Think;
 SLOGANS**

Unity Meeting

Second Saturday of each month
 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
 (Doors open at 6:30)

**Sponsored by your Hernando County Intergroup
 Nativity Lutheran Church
 6363 Commercial Way
 Refreshments will be served**

If your group is interested in hosting a Unity Meeting, please have your Intergroup Representative sign your group up at the monthly business meeting or contact the Intergroup office at (352)683-4597

Upcoming Unity Meeting Calendar

Date Host Group
 April 9 Promises Group

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