



The Message

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Intergroup

Chairman—Mike L—New Hope

Co-chairman—Craig F—

Living Sober

Secretary—Carol M—New Hope

Treasurer—Matt—Lake Jackson

Literature—Greg S—Home

Website—Andy E—Men's Faith

Activities—Laura A—Central

Membership—Vacant

Newsletter—Larry H—Central

District 5

DCM—Joe D—Downtown

Alternate DCM—Susan E—Central

Secretary—vacant

Treasurer—Matt N—Central

Standing Committees

Public Info—Jeff D—Central

CPC—Steve H—Central

Treatment—Kevin T—Happy Hour

Corrections—Mike L—Lloyd

Grapevine—Vern D—Northside

Accessibilities—Janis T—Willing

Archives—Rob K—Pathfinders

Bridging the Gap—Gail H—

Bradfordville

CONTACT INFORMATION

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District 5

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NFACAA—Area 14

Area Treasurer

Marilyn B.

6035 Tudor St.

Inverness, FL 34452

INTERGROUP 5, INC. APRIL, 2007 TALLAHASSEE, FL

I recently completed the Eighth Step and have decided that my first amends should be to Alcoholics Anonymous itself, which I believe I have harmed to some extent by violating its singleness of purpose.

I used to identify myself as an alcoholic and an addict. I do not anymore because I now believe other addictions are irrelevant at AA meetings. But, aside from that, I also used to insist on talking about my other addictions beyond what was necessary to relate them to alcohol.

I justified this by saying that alcohol was just another drug and so it was unfair to expect me not to talk about all my addictions. And refused to attend any other fellowship because I claimed to prefer the wisdom and sobriety in AA.

I realize now how inconsiderate and self-centered this position was. It is not a question of what is fair or whether alcohol is just another drug. The Traditions and primary purpose of AA are what they are whether I agree with them or not.

In the past, when I was active, I often had dinner at the homes of people who did not use drugs, but who did drink. I never considered insisting that I had the right to smoke a joint at their dinner table because they were drinking wine.

And imagine if I had, and then added insult to injury by saying: "And not only do I have a right to use any drug I want to around here if you're going to drink, but I'm going to keep coming back and I'm going to keep using any drug I want to in your home because I like the food you serve and your company better than the food and company I find in the homes of my drug addict friends.

And I have the right to do this because all drugs are the same and I don't care what the rules or customs of your home are.

Such a gross abuse of hospitality sounds preposterous, but that is essentially what I was doing by insisting that I had a right to violate AA's singleness of purpose. I was abusing the hospitality of this Fellowship.

This is not an apology. I was too sick to realize how selfishly I was acting, and a mere apology is not necessarily an amends.

I am hoping to amend the harm I did by stating clearly what I did, for the benefit of others, and, further, by not doing it again. H.D.

This is my final attempt at editing this newsletter. I hope there haven't been too many disappointments. For the next editor, to be sure we all have a clear understanding, these are the definitions of *edit*.

1. To prepare (written material) for publication or presentation, as by correcting, revising, or adapting
2. To prepare an edition of for publication: *edit a collection of short stories*.
3. To modify or adapt so as to make suitable or acceptable.

It's been three years since I began work on this newsletter. The April 2004 edition was my first. I will be available to help the next editor any way that I can.

District 5 News

District 5 February 2007 Unapproved Minutes

We opened with the serenity prayer. The declaration of unity was read by Mike F. The 12 traditions were read by Joel A. Introductions were made by each in attendance. Concept 2 was read by Steve.

Attendees at the meeting: Matt N. Treasurer Central, Kevin T. Treatment Living Sober, Susan E. GSR Central Gail H. BTG Bradfordville, Vern D.. Grapevine Bradfordville, Janis T. GSR Willing, Mike F. GSR Lloyd New Hope, Mike L. AGSR/Corrections Lloyd New Hope, Joe D. ACM Downtown, Rob K. Archives Pathfinders, Joel A GSR, Home Group, Tony D. GSR Diversity of Spirit, Jeff D., PI Central, Steve H. CPC Central, Brad C. GSR (illegible), LillyA. GSR Night Owl, Jeff K. GSR Happy Hour

Officers and Standing Committees reports:

Secretary: January minutes were accepted with corrections.

Treasury: A written report provided and accepted. Balance in District 5 account is \$3,523.61. Prudent reserve is \$2,189.30. We are \$1334.31 over prudent reserve. The Sonny's gift card had no value.

DCM: Joe was not present. No report was presented.

ALT DCM: Susan E., gave a report from Intergroup. She reported 18 people were present at the last meeting. The Website calendar has been approved.

Accessibilities: Janis T. was not present. Gail reported that there are 2 women at Hope Center who need rides to meetings. Also, there are people at the Shelter who need rides. Janice is requesting names of people needing special assistance in attending meetings.

Archivist: Rob K submitted a report electronically. This will be his last report.

Bridging the Gap: Gail H. reports she is giving a presentation at Sisters in Sobriety on 2/25. She will be making a position description. She circulated a sign up list of Temporary Contacts.

Corrections: Mike L. reports that a new comer from Miami has volunteered to take a meeting to Taylor C.I.

Grapevine: Vern thanked the Downtown Group for old Grapevines. They were sent to Gadsden C.I. The website has a call for photographs. CPC: Steve reported that March will be Ministry Month. He is looking for a list of area ministers. He is also working with the medical community.

PI: Jeff is giving presentations at Detox on Saturday evening. He has a presentation at the Anglican Church on 3/15. He sent a letter to the Department of Health in Quincy. He has also visited Great Recovery Treatment Center. Treatment: Kevin T reports that he has asked Alice to contact Great Recovery Treatment about the possibility of taking a meeting there..

Unfinished Business: A motion was made at the last meeting to have District 5 contacts be placed in the Message. That motion was tabled at the last meeting. The motion was revisited and amended to investigate the possibility of obtaining anonymous e-mail addresses for all committee chairpersons. The motion was passed and all chairpersons gave their permission to have their phone numbers published in the Message.

New Business: A motion was passed to distribute all funds from the Gratitude Dinner to the General Service Office. There was a request for a new meeting at the Sunrise Apartments on 2525 Texas Street. Rebbekah R. is interested in becoming the Archives Chair. She will need to attend the next meeting so that she can be voted in. The meeting at NPI is now on Saturday evenings from 6-7. (*Notified DCM each person must personally request publishing their number—editor*)

Service positions available on the Accessibility Committee

While there are no special A.A. members, many members have special needs. A.A.s who are blind or visually impaired may need help with transportation to a meeting. A deaf or hard-of-hearing member may be able to get to the meeting, but needs a sign language interpreter in order to understand what's being shared. A person with a physical disability must find a meeting with wheelchair access, while chronically ill alcoholics are often homebound and cannot attend regular meetings at all. A.A.s throughout the Fellowship are discovering that the common bond of recovery can transcend the barriers of physical disabilities. Both groups and members can become more aware of A.A.s who need specific kinds of help. But the most important fact to keep in mind is that all alcoholics—whether deaf, blind, or with other disabilities, want to be a part of the whole. The goal is to enable every alcoholic to be an active participant in the group, without emphasizing differences. Sign up now and enjoy the many benefits of service work, sobriety, freedom from bondage of self, a chance to be the hand offered to someone reaching out, a place in the sunlight of the spirit, and the absolute joy of simple good living.

Please call Janis @ 980-1793 if you would like to help.

Intergroup 5 News

In the month of February Intergroup 5 received 663 calls. Only 38 of these were answered by volunteers. The remaining 625 went to the answering service. The answering service can give general information about meeting times, locations and can have a sober member of AA call someone back for a 12th step call.

The 38 callers who talked to recovering alcoholic volunteers made immediate contact with persons who have at least 6 months or more sober time.

Local volunteers can give more detailed instructions for finding meetings they have attended.

A particular caller may be concerned about their drinking and suffering from a hangover or have any number of questions.

This may be their very first contact with AA.

To contribute your time at the Intergroup office, call Larry H. at 567-8407 or email message@intergroup5.org
Matt C

Our web site still has the most visitors on Monday followed closely by Thursday. How do people find our site? The last ten people who came:

<http://www.google.com/>

<http://www.theagapecenter.com/>

<http://www.google.com/>

<http://www.aanorthflorida.org/>

<http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org/>

<http://www.google.com/>

<http://www.step12.com/florida-aa.html>

<http://search.yahoo.com/>

Yes, that's only 8. The other two typed the address in directly. They did not come from a search or referral.

The busiest time of day is from 4 PM to 5 PM since the counter was put on the site. There were 88 first time visitors in the last seven days.

Among the thousands who have visited our site **FOUR HAD WEB TV! Is that going to any length?**

**ARE YOU HAVING
TROUBLE BELIEVING IN
GOD?
THERE ARE AROUND 400
REFERENCES IN THE
BIG BOOK THAT REFER
TO HIM! CHECK IT OUT—**

March 2007 Treasurer's report

General Fund

Checking:

Beginning 2/28/2007 balance	320.93
<u>Contributions:</u>	
Apalachicola Bay Serenity	20.00
Bradfordville	165.00
Central	200.00
Home group	85.00
Mustard Seed	150.00
Anonymous bequest	180.00
Contribution transfer from literature	38.75
Total Contributions	838.75
Less:	
<u>Disbursements:</u>	
Answering service	0.00
Office Coordinator Travel & related ex.	220.00
Supplies	0.00
Printing News letter/ When and where	78.00
Rent	248.36
Telephone	46.44
Total Expense Disbursements	592.80
Ending Balance 3/31/2007	566.88

Prudent Reserve Savings:

Ending Balance 3/31/2007 2,004.05

Literature Fund

Beginning 2/28/2007 Balance	989.14
add:	
Literature sales	400.25
Sales Tax collected	29.76
Total receipts	430.01
less:	
Purchases	0.00
Transfer contribution	38.75
Total expenditures	38.75
Ending Balance 3/31/2007	1,380.40
Total accrued 2007 sales tax liability	(131.01)

"Seek out that particular mental attribute which makes you feel most deeply and vitally alive, along with which comes the inner voice which says, "This is the real me," and when you have found that attitude, follow it."

- William James

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

We need your help! Please volunteer your time and your money!

Events and Happenings

Current Events

April 8— Corrections—Treatment —Bridging the Gap
3 PM At Central 909 N Gadsden St

April 18—District 5 monthly meeting, Faith Presbyterian Church, Meridian and John Knox Road, 7:00 pm.

May 2—IG 5, Inc. monthly meeting, Faith Presbyterian Church, Meridian and John Knox Road, 7:00 pm.

June 16—Intergroup 5 Annual Picnic

June 22-24, 2007—Founders Day Florida Style

July 13-15, 2007—Next Area Assembly:
Location: Paramount Resort & Conference Center, 2900 SW 13th St. Gainesville, FL 32608. (352) 377-4000 or 877-992-9229 When making reservations, be sure to say you want a room in the “North Florida Area block.” (\$64/night, register at least one month in advance!)

Overflow hotels:
Comfort Inn, 2435 SW 13th Street 352-373-6500
Econolodge, 2649 SW 13th Street 352-373-7816
Super 8, 2000 SW 13th Street 352-373-3654

Northside Group has moved !
New location—6494 Thomasville Rd.

Don't forget the Westside Group at 7:30 PM on Tuesday!

Singleness of Purpose in Woodville now meets at 7:00 PM

The Bradfordville Group (Bradfordville First Baptist Church, the older annex)
6494 Thomasville Rd. Mon., Tue., Thurs., Fri. 6:15 pm,
Open, NS, Wheelchair Accessible, Discussion

The Reaching Out Meeting
Open Meeting
Wednesday Evenings
7:00pm—8:00pm
1002 Appleyard Drive
(New Life Ministries and Community Church)
(Located at the intersection of Appleyard Drive and Mission Road)

New open meeting, Advent Church, Piedmont Road, Mondays
6:00 PM BB. Traditions, Steps, Speaker alternates n/s

The Saint Marks Group Open Discussion
Monday and Thursday Evenings 7:00 pm
Sunday Mornings
Location: First Baptist Church (Annex)
14 Shell Island Road
St. Marks, Florida
Contact: John B. 925-7735

March Phone Report

(49 Calls Received by Volunteers)



3—12th Step
2—AI-anon
11—AA Info
31—Meeting Information
0—Agency
3—Miscellaneous

We need more Volunteers!
Please call Larry H 567-8407

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in Spanish!
Where? Calvary United Methodist Church
2145 W. Pensacola Street Tallahassee, FL 32304
When? Mondays from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

You can be the Editor of the Message!
Have you seen something you'd like to change about this publication? It's your opportunity to correct and improve the monthly newsletter of IG5!
Write to message@intergroup5.org call 224-1818 or come to the next IG5 meeting!

Happy A.A. Anniversary

Central Group—Adam C. 1, Debbie C. 1, Larry 1, Roland 1, Randy M. 2, R.E. 3, Rob G. 3, Charles 5, Will C. 13, Ron D. 14, Elizabeth 19, B. C. 23, Tad 25, Jack R. 28

Happy Hour—

David G 2

Colleen 2

Rock A 2

Maddie 2

Living Sober—

Suzy 2

Earl 22

Home—

Greg S 15

*WHEN ANYONE IN
DISTRICT 5 MAKES IT
FOR A YEAR OR ANY
MULTIPLE
PLEASE LET ME KNOW
224-1818!*

Celebrate
Your
Success!

