



The Message

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Intergroup

Chairman—Don W—Northside
Co-chairman—Ron L—Northside
Secretary—Craig F—Living Sober
Treasurer—Greg S—Home Group
Literature—Pat C—Crawfordville
Website—Rob K—Pathfinders
Activities—Vacant
Membership—Vacant
Newsletter—Larry H—Central

District 5

DCM—Kathy Lynn S—Pathfinders
Alternate DCM—Joe D—Downtown
Secretary—Jamie M—Downtown
Treasurer—Lisa F—Downtown

Standing Committees

PI-CPC—Kevin K—Central
Treatment—Allison B—Central
Corrections—Vacant
Grapevine—Tracey T—HappyHour
Intergroup—Joe D—Downtown
Accessibilities—Kayce M—Downtown
Archives—Bob S—Southside

CONTACT INFORMATION

Intergroup 5, Inc.

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District V

P.O. Box 12352
Tallahassee, FL 32317-2352

NFACAA—Area 14

Area Treasurer
C/O Rick B.
PO Box 4933
Winter Park, FL 32793

INTERGROUP 5, INC.

March, 2005

TALLAHASSEE, FL

A sponsor and his newcomer were at a meeting when the newcomer suddenly collapsed, went into cardiac arrest and fell to the floor. The paramedics arrived, performed CPR and brought the newcomer back to life. "My GOD!", said the sponsor. "I thought we had lost you". The newcomer looked up and told his sponsor, "I believe I was actually dead for a short time. I saw a bright light and felt myself basking in the light of my higher power. I'm sure it was heaven. It was an amazing experience!"

"What was heaven like?" asked the sponsor. The newcomer smiled and replied, "Well, I got good news, and I got bad news. The good news is that in heaven they have a huge speaker meeting every Thursday night. All the greatest AA speakers that have passed away speak there". "And the bad news?", asked the sponsor.

The newcomer looked his sponsor in the eyes and replied, "The bad news is that you're the speaker next week".

If you have the desire to carry the A.A. message inside the walls of a Florida State prison, prepare to attend the Florida State Orientation 4th Thursday of Every Month at 6:30pm Wakulla Correctional Institution Contact Joe D. at (850)508-8563

An alcoholic was walking along the beach when he saw a bottle. He stopped and rubbed it and a genie popped out.

"You have 3 wishes" said the genie.

The alcoholic said, "I'll take a bottle that is never empty." Whamo he has a bottle that is never empty and starts to drink. The genie taps him on the shoulder and says, "and what are your other two wishes?" "Oh," says the alcoholic, "I'll have two more like this one."

Leadership in A.A.: Ever A Vital Need

As individuals and as a fellowship, we shall surely suffer if we cast the whole job of planning for tomorrow onto a fatuous idea of Providence. God's real Providence has endowed us human beings with a considerable capacity for foresight, and He evidently expects us to use it. Therefore we must distinguish between wishful fantasy about a happy tomorrow and the present use of our powers of thoughtful estimate. This can spell the difference between future progress and unforeseen woe.

Vision is therefore the very essence of prudence, an essential virtue if ever there was one. Of course we shall often miscalculate the future in whole or in part, but that is better than to refuse to think at all.

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Three service positions available in District V: Secretary
Standing Committees (Two years of sobriety required.)

Archivist, Corrections Chair

*Did you hear there's a new 12-step program for people who talk too much?
It's called on-and-on-anon.*

District 5 News

From "Box 4-5-9 ... News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.," Vol. 50, No. 6/Holiday Issue 2004 (not copyrighted):

Second Call for Spanish-Language Stories Spanish-speaking members of Alcoholics Anonymous are invited to send their stories to the General Service Office in New York for consideration for inclusion in a new edition of "Alcohólicos Anónimos."

This request for Spanish stories was printed in the Oct./Nov. "Box 4-5-9," and letters were sent to all intergroup/central offices (U.S./Canada), Spanish districts, and all Spanish-language G.S.O.s. However, to date we have not received any manuscripts. Please remind members of your group, district and area of the proposed new Spanish edition and the need for stories.

The aim of the trustees' Literature Committee is that the stories in the new edition reflect the broad range and diversity of A.A. members today. As stated in the preface to the Big Book, "All changes made over the years to the Big Book ... have had the same purpose: to represent the current membership of Alcoholics Anonymous more accurately, and thereby reach more alcoholics." This same thinking applies to changes being made to the Spanish version.

The Literature Committee will review submissions according to these guidelines:

- * Stories must be in Spanish, typewritten, no longer than 3,500 words (approximately 14 pages), and double-spaced.
- * Deadline for receipt of manuscripts is September 1, 2005.
- * The words "Spanish Third Edition" should be written on the outside of the mailing envelope and on the first page of the manuscript.
- * Author's full name and mailing address should

appear on the first page of the manuscript.

The General Service Office will protect the anonymity of the authors, who should keep a copy of their stories in their own files.

Manuscripts should be mailed to: Literature Coordinator, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

CONCEPT III

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

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Twelve Concepts and Service Manual

Continuing Workshop

Sundays

3:00pm - 4:00pm, rain or shine

909 N. Gadsden Street

Tallahassee

Please pass your experience, strength and hope on to those desiring to learn more about the Twelve Concepts and Service Structure of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Service is like wetting your pants.

Everybody sees it, but you're the one who feels the warmth....

A new definition for 13th stepping....

Steps 1 + 12, "My life is unmanageable and I want to share it with you!"

How can you tell when two alcoholics are on their second date?

There's a U-Haul in the driveway.

Intergroup 5 News

Intergroup 5 Minutes

Groups Represented: Central, Crawfordville, Downtown, Happy Hour, Home Group, Living Sober, Northside, Pathfinders, Southside [There were a total of 9 people representing 9 groups]. Don W. called the meeting to order at 7PM.

Jason S. read the Twelve Traditions.

Secretary's report was read and accepted.

Treasurer's report for January 2005 was read and accepted.

Office report: 77 calls received by volunteers in January.

Literature report read and accepted.

No Web committee report or District report.

Old Business:

-The grill: IG voted to sell the grill in the wake of all the potential liability issues the grill has created. It is to be sold at the price IG bought it for, \$250. Larry H. will buy the grill.

New Business:

-St. Patrick's Day Party at Southside: March 19th.

-Happy Hour group has undergone a format change on the Wednesday night meeting. Instead of a speaker meeting, the meeting will now be a 12 and 12 book study.

-Area Assembly: Rob K. went to area assembly and said that Nancy B. is the IG coordinator at District. Questions were asked re: IG's role in social activities. The guidelines are on GSO website (www.aa.org - click on services for members, then on A.A. guidelines, then scroll down to "Central or Intergroup Offices"). Guidelines say that IG is the "logical body to manage the details of an annual dinner, picnic, or convention, if the groups wish it...using the "profits" in support of the office."

-There is still a need for an Activities Chair.

-The Music Event/Coffee House suggestion made last month by Rob could be used as a fundraiser for IG, the idea is tabled for now to see if an Activities Chair can be found.

-Larry informed us that the State Convention is being sued by the Hotel the event was held at several years ago. District will be addressing whether the North Florida Area Assembly will be associated with the State Convention in the Future, either 100% or not at all.

-Larry printed the Message on large white paper which could then be folded, thus creating a staple free newsletter. He only has blue or black ink to use. Everyone agreed that it would be satisfactory to try printing the staple-less Message for a few months without variations in the color of the paper and ink.

-Larry brought info to us on a new phone service. It would separate from the answering service. We could still use both if so desired. Actual, real-life alcoholics in recovery would be responsible for answering the phone with the new system. It could be set up as a 24 hour system or in tandem using the answering service so that the service would be used during the late evening/early morning hours. With the new system, the phone could ring in the office and, if no one answers, would be forwarded to an on-call alcoholic. It was motioned and so moved to take this info back to our groups for further discussion next month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

Submitted by Craig F., Secretary.

February, 2005

Treasurer's Report

General Fund	
Beginning 1/31/2005 Balance	2,265.02
<u>Contributions:</u>	
Happy Hour	356.52
Central	150.00
Powder no Puff	125.00
Miracle Sunday nite	36.02
IG5 meeting	6.00
Total	673.54
<u>Other Sources of funds:</u>	
Proceeds, sale of Bar-B-Que Grill	250.00
Total Funds Received	923.54
Less:	
<u>Disbursements:</u>	
Rent	236.50
Answering service (not recd at 2/25)	0.00
Telephone	41.04
Office coordinator travel & related exp	220.00
Supplies, Msg copies	9.90
Total	507.44
Ending 2/25/2005 Balance	\$2,681.12
Literature Fund	
Beginning 1/31/2005 Balance	\$966.47
Literature sales	259.95
Sales tax collected	19.52
Total	279.47
Less: Literature purchased	224.20
Money Order chg	0.50
Total	224.70
Ending 2/25/2005 Balance	\$1,021.24

NEWSLETTER

Please submit articles, anniversary notices or announcements for "The Message" to the Intergroup office or send email to message@intergroup5.org by the last Wednesday of each month. If you have questions,

WANTED INTERGROUP Office Volunteers

If you are willing to be of service, please contact (850) 224-1818.

February Phone Report (94 Calls Received by Volunteers)



52—Meeting Information
19—Miscellaneous
3—12th Step
6—Agency
3—Al-anon
11—AA Info

Events and Happenings

Current Events

March 16—District 5 monthly meeting, Faith Presbyterian Church, Meridian and John Knox Road, 7:00 pm.
April 6—IG 5, Inc. monthly meeting, Faith Presbyterian Church, Meridian and John Knox Road, 7:00 pm.

Future Events

The Eighth Annual Flint River Roundup of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held in Bainbridge, Georgia's starting Friday March 11 and will end Sunday March 13, 2005. A Friday afternoon workshop will be held at 4:00 PM on steps ten thru twelve and will be done by Bob O. of Colorado Wallace B. will be the Kickoff speaker on Friday evening, Wallace bring a lot of country humor in his talk that includes some time in prison. Regena I., of Tallahassee will be featured on Saturday morning at 9:30 Am. Regena born in Pensacola brings her alcoholism full turn to Tallahassee. Sara Jane B of Milledgeville, GA. will be the Al-anon speaker.

Saturday night Bob O. who has been off the circuit for a few years will tell of tales of alcoholism throughout his life as a bill collector and a General Sales managing. On Sunday morning, Judy P. of Ellijay, Ga. will be the speaker and take us all home. A Renown raffle will be held and a FREE Fish fry on Saturday afternoon for all attendees. A sobriety countdown will be held for the oldest and newest member of AA. Registration is \$18 per person and can be sent to PO Box 7461 Bainbridge GA 39818.

Happy A.A. Anniversary February

Central Group
 Neaheimia C. 1, Jim R. 1, Toby 1, Jen M. 3, Lisa F. 3, Terry R. 4, Jon D. 4, Clara H. 6, Tom A. 9, Bobby 12, Leslie W. 12, Dick L. 14, Doug B. 17, Bill L. 18, Karen M. 21, Jim K. 30

Living Sober & Happy Hour
 Paula Z. - 2 years
 Juliet C. - 18 years
 Tad - 23 years

Home group:
 Ken S. 1 year, Greg S. 13 years

SouthSide **ST. PATRICK'S DAY**
DINNER AND DANCE
 Saturday, March 19th 9:30pm
 At 4 Points Auto Sales
"DETOX" TERRY WILL PROVIDE
MUSIC
 Covered dish, sodas/tea or desserts would be appreciated, but not required
 For directions, information or to volunteer with setup
 Please call Sheila H 264-7007 or email
 4pointsauto@comcast.net

**HAVE A
WONDERFUL
SPRING!**



New Meeting Being Convinced Thursday evenings at 7:00pm
 Woodville MethodistChurch
 Open Discussion Non-Smoking Contact: Ken B.
 (850)575-2839

**Assembly Agenda 1, 2 and 3 April 2005
 Paramount Resort and Conference Center**

**2900 SW 13th St Gainesville FL 32608-3015
 352.377.4000 (front desk) 352.377.7766 (facsimile)
 877.992.9229 (reservations)**

It is suggested to make room reservations at least 30 days in advance: Tell them you are with North Florida Area Conference

Conference rate: \$61
 Comfort Inn (\$49 per night)
 2435 SW 13th Street
 352-373-6500

Econolodge (\$43 per night)
 2649 SW 13th Street
 352-373-7819

Super 8 (\$40 per night)
 2000 SW 13th Street
 352-373-3654

Inform the desk that the manager was contacted in Nov 2002 about these rates.
 If you have any problems with the hotels, contact Tina C-L, Alternate Chair. 407-323-5196
 Host Districts: 5,17,25