

H.O.W.

HONESTY OPEN-MINDEDNESS WILLINGNESS

Monthly Publication of the Indian River Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

Volume 40 Issue 2

February 2021



The HOW is published to improve communication between local AA groups and encourage the participation of AA members in service and activities. You can email anniversaries, group announcements or articles to aairhow@yahoo.com

TRADITION 2: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. "

THE FORK IN THE ROAD

It is coming up on a year that the current situation threw pretty much every aspect of society for a loop. I don't believe that many thought that we would still be struggling to accept the tragedy that caused all the upheaval.

However, we do what Alcoholics Anonymous has always done, we continue to trudge the road to Happy Destiny regardless of roadblocks. That great American sage, Yogi Berra said "**WHEN YOU COME TO A FORK IN THE ROAD—TAKE IT.**"

The truth of Alcoholics Anonymous is that we don't have to "**TAKE IT**" by ourselves. We turn to the Higher Power of our understanding, our Sponsors, our Fellows and our Home Groups, there is no shortage of help in A.A.

A.A. meetings NEVER stopped, maybe a few hiccups at first, but today there are inside meetings, there are outside meetings as well as virtual meetings.

We have newcomers celebrating monthly and now coming up on a year who have never been to a face-to-face meeting.

Yes, we came to a fork in the road and we have taken it, together, trudging the road of Happy Destiny.

STEP 2: "Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity"



Reprinted with permission from the AA Grapevine

CONCEPT 2: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.



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NOTICE

**THE CENTRAL OFFICE WILL BE OPEN FOR
BUSINESS EVERY SATURDAY**

9:00 AM TO NOON

**MASKS REQUIRED AND AVAILABLE
LIMITED TO 3 PEOPLE AT ONE TIME**

FOR SALES AT OTHER TIMES PLEASE CALL

STEVE S

772-205-8206

OR

DONALD S

772-360-7373

A Continued Existence

How can A.A. best assure its continued existence?

(The following is from Bill W. discussing this topic at the 1961 General Service Conference)

Since the beginning of recorded time, many societies and nations of civilizations have passed in review. In those great ones that have left their mark for good, in contrast with those who have left their mark for evil, there has always been a sense of history, a true and high constant purpose, and there has always been a sense of destiny.

In the societies which failed to leave a bright mark in the annals of the world, there was always a false or boastful sense of history, always a mistaken or inadequate purpose and always the presumption of an infinite, a glorious and an exclusive destiny.

In the societies that left their mark of goodness on time, the sense of history was not a matter for pride or for glory; it was the substance of the learning of the experience of the past. In the purpose of such a society there was always truth and constancy, but never a supposition that the society had apprehended all of the truth – or the superior truth. And in the sense of destiny there was no conceit, no supposition that a society or nation or culture would last forever and go on to greater glories. But there was always a sense of duty to be fulfilled, whatever destiny the society might be assigned by providence for the betterment of the world.

This is the crossroads at which we in A.A. stand. This is a good time to re-examine how well we have looked upon our A.A. history and how much we have profited by it, what false insights or false glories we may have been extracting from history – to our future detriment. It is a moment to examine the purpose of this Society. Indeed, we are very lucky to be able to state as the nucleus of that purpose a single word: sobriety.

Quite early we saw, however, that sobriety in abstinence from alcohol could never be attained unless there was sobriety and more quietude in the false motivation that underlay our drinking.

When the Twelve Steps were cast up – without any real experience and therefore under some Guidance, surely – we were given keys to sobriety in its wider implications. We have been blessed with a concrete definition of purpose but, for all its concreteness, we could still abuse it and misuse it in a very natural way.

Some times we begin to think that perhaps, according to Scriptural promise, the first shall be last and the last – meaning us – shall really be first. That would indeed be a very dangerous presumption and never should we indulge it. If we do, we shall compete in history with other societies who have been ill-advised enough to suppose that they had a monopoly on truth or were in some way superior to other attempts of men to think and to associate in love and in harmony.

We may look out upon our destiny with no violation of our principle that we are to live one day at a time. We mean that, emotionally, each in his personal life is never to repine upon the past glory too much, in the present, or presume upon the future. We shall attend to the day's business but we shall try to apprehend ever more truth from the lessons of our history, not the lessons of our successes but the lessons of our defections, failures and the awful emotions that can set us loose upon us. For these, indeed, are the raw materials that God has used to forge this still rather little instrument called Alcoholics Anonymous. So we may look at destiny and we may ask ourselves about it and speculate upon it a little – if we do not presume to play God.

(G.S.C., 1961)

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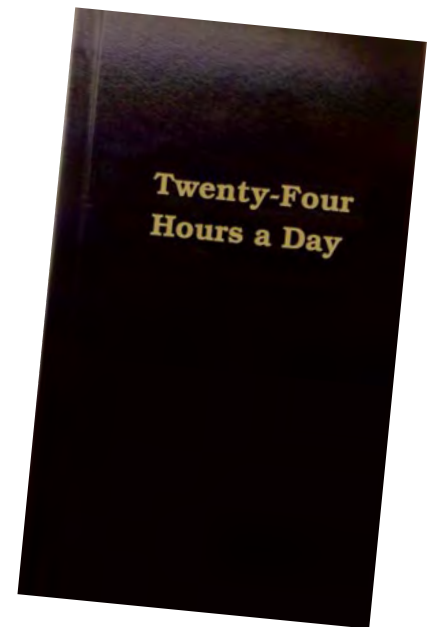
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AT THE CENTRAL OFFICE

"24Hours A Day"

Regularly \$15.00

On Sale \$10.00



On sale—limited availability



The replica First Edition is regularly priced at \$12 and "Our Great Responsibility" at \$10.00.

While supplies last. We are offering this set for **\$15.00**

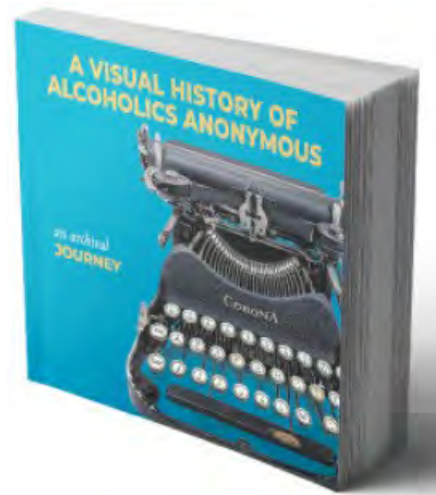
The replica first edition of the book "ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS" is what gave our 12 Step program to the world. Originally conceived as a way to make some money to keep the fledgling organization's head above water, it has become a our basic text for sobriety and life. The book "Our Great Responsibility" is a collection of Bill W's remarks at the General Service Conferences..

Every 5 years AAWS produces a booklet specifically for the AA World Convention. Even though we did not get to go to Detroit, the book has been completed and will be up for sale mid February 2021.

The "VISUAL HISTORY OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS" is a masterful book, taking us from our humble beginnings to where AA is today. The price set by AAWS is \$12, however when individually ordering the book from New York, if you spend a total of up to \$50.00 you'll pay additionally a minimum of \$10 shipping and handling in addition to the purchase price..

Since the groups are the sole supporters of the Central Office, we strive to sell AA literature at the lowest possible price.

With the 7th Tradition support from our groups and a quantity discount from AAWS we are able to sell the book, out the door,



The Man On The Bed “Stain Glass Window”

Some people involved with Akron Intergroup and the Akron A.A. Archives had the inspiration to make the painting “The Man on the Bed” into a stained glass window. The finished project fills the whole front window of the Intergroup office (see below) and was done in time for Founders Day weekend, 2001.

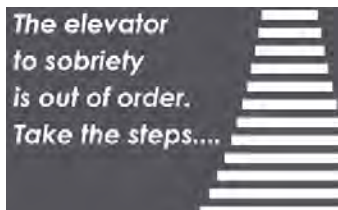
The Four Absolutes (Honesty, Purity, Unselfishness, and Love) are on the four sides and the picture is bordered by sobriety medallions contributed by many local members and set into the glass.

This is truly a work of love and dedication, and many people helped by adding a few pieces whenever they could. In the evening, with the light of the setting sun coming through the panels, it was breathtaking.

If you're in the area be sure to stop in and see this, and the Archives (<http://www.akronaa.org/Archives>) too!



Thanks to Kevin S. for the photo!



A.A. Celebrants

PLEASE READ

Apologies to you all, I am unable to access the current HOW email account, I have the password but cannot prove to Google's satisfaction that I have authority to the account. Google has certain securities instilled in their products and since I was not the one that opened the account they won't let me in. Boohoo— It is too late in the month to mess with right now, I'd like to have this issue printed before the end of the month. We'll get it all straightened out by next month—in the meantime, please use the below email for your March Birthdays, as well as the February birthdays missing from this issue.

iraahow@yahoo.com

Barefoot Bay

(from January 2021)

Tom.....46
Bill.....5

Vero Beach Men's Group

(from January 2021)

Marty P (in memory)
Tony S (in memory)
Billy K.....19
Justin B.....14
Dave R.....5
Eli M.....3
Pete T.....2
Rob S.....2
Brandon C.....1

(February 2021)

Mike P.....34
Richie K28
Jonathan P.....28
Chris S3
Joe S.....3
Charlie1

A New Day

Denise B38
Geno B26
Bobbie D.....17
Bob R15
Doug D8
John B5

ODAAT

Michael C51
Sue B-R50
George McK46

ODAAT (continued)

Monika R36
Ben W.....36
Denise D33
Kathleen O9
Sharon N8
LouAnn P2
Randi L2



The greatest service one can give to A.A. is read at just about every meeting I have attended over the years, the last phrase in our Preamble:

"Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety"

Bill W. Defines sobriety as "the absence of alcohol through the use and practice of the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous"

The 3rds paragraph in the foreword of the 12&12 completes the cycle—"AA's 12 steps are a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole"



WHY DOES YOUR GROUP NEED AN IRCO REPRESENTATIVE

The IRCO has no authority of its own but derives it from the participating groups. The representative that each group elects is the group's voice to IRCO— your link to those who maintain and operate the IRCO.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair.....Rocky I.
Vice-Chair.....Debbie D..
Treasurer.....John H.
Secretary.....Donald S.

Advisory Committee

Delegate.....John B.
Delegate (Past Chair).....Steve S.
Delegate (Past Chair).....

2020 STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives.....
Birthday Dinner 2018.....
Desk Coordinator.....Bill VB
Corrections—Women.....Lorelei G..
Corrections-Men..... Lane

Corporate Documents.....Trish H.
Public Information.....Susan M.
Unity Committee.....
Nominating Committee.....Bill VB.
After Hours Phone.....Mindy S.
HOW Editor (Dutch-temporary)
Inventory Control.....
Literature..... Dutch V.
Nominating.....Billie VB
Treatment.....Bobby Z/Clyde K.
Website.....Dutch V.
Where and When.....Maria G.
12 Step List Coordinator.....Trent L.
District 6 Liaison.....

12 STEP VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

NAME" _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

AREA IN WHICH YOU WILLING TO PARTICIPATE

NOIRTH COUNTY Y__ N__ SOUTH COUNTY Y __ N __

AVAILABILITY; MON-FRI __ WEEKENDS __ DAYS __ EVENINGS __

I AM WILLING TO (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

TALK TO SOMONE OVER THE PHONE __ TAKE SOMEONE TO DETOX* __

TALK TO SOMEONE AT THEIR HOME* __ GIVE RIDES TO A.A. MEETINGS __

MEET SOMEONE AT A MEETING __ OTHER: _____

** It is suggested that a person NOT go on a Twelve Step call by themselves to help an alcoholic who is still suffering. Also you should NOT drive a wet frunk to a treatment facility or detox without havin another AA member with you. I you checked any of these items, please be sure that you have another AA who is willing to go along with you*



Indian River Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
1600 26th Street, Suite 6
P.O. Box 1776
Vero Beach, FL 32961
772-562-1114



<http://www.indianriveraa.org>

Indian River Central Office Birthday Plan

This contribution on my #_____A.A. Birthday is my way of saying *thank you* to Central Office for serving the A.A. community in Indian River County.

Contributor: _____

Address: _____

* Group Name: _____

Please indicate whether you want your contribution credited to (a) your group* or (b) anonymously: _____

Make check out to **Indian River Central Office of AA**. Drop off at the Central Office or mail to the address listed below.

1600 26th Street, Suite 6

Vero Beach, FL 32960

Phone: 772-562-1114

Indian River Central Office

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Indian River Central Office (hereafter "IRCO") is to provide AA services within Indian River County, with the primary goal being to carry the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers. It is the mission of the IRCO to keep groups informed about AA activities by newsletter and by maintain a website, answer inquiries for help, provide AA meeting information, maintain an available supply of Conference Approved books and literature, and to provide guidance and support to the IRCO standing committees.

The IRCO shall function within the meaning and intent of the Twelve Traditions and the Guidelines for Intergroup and Central Offices and other guidelines as set forth by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The IRCO is entirely accountable to the groups it serves and is entirely supported by the voluntary contributions of AA groups within Indian River County.

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY VIRTUAL MEETINGS				2/5/2021
DAY	TIME	GROUP/MEETING	ZOOM ID	PASSWORD
SUNDAY	5:00 PM	Sundowners - Chairman's Choice	650 367 733	Rule 62
MON	Noon	O.D.A.A.T. Closed Step/Tradition	864 287 580	63228
	Noon	Hibiscus Thursday - Speaker/Step	835 0216 0464	
	5:00 PM	Sundowners - Living Sober	650 367 733	Rule 62
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	7:00 PM	Indian River Women's Grp/BB-12&12	885 8030 8385	647726
TUE	Noon	O.D.A.A.T. - Open Discussion	864 287 580	63228
	Noon	Daily Reflections	236 615 4804	
	5:00 PM	Sundowners - Big Book	650 367 733	Rule 62
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	6:00 PM	The 3 Leg Group - A.A. Literature	452 100 1634	31236
	6:00 PM	Promises Meeting	879 9604 4860	
	7:00 PM	Vero Beach A.A. - Big Book	717 856 963	875016
	7:00 PM	Vero Beach Men	873 6680 9886	782444
WED	Noon	O.D.A.A.T. Big Book	864 287 580	63228
	5:00 PM	Sundowners	650 367 733	Rule 62
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	7:00 PM	Man To Man (Men Only)	601 949 6762	mantoman
	7:00 PM	Vero Beach A.A. - Open Discussion	717 856 963	875016
THU	Noon	O.D.A.A.T. - Open Beginner	864 287 580	63228
	5:00 PM	Sundowners - Step Meeting	650 367 733	Rule 62
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	5:00 PM	Hibiscus Thursday - Big Book	835 0216 0464	
	6:00 PM	The 3 Leg Group - Pamphlets Study	452 100 1634	31236
	7:00 PM	Vero Beach Men - Closed Discussion	876 1125 8301	829672
	7:00 PM	Women sTaaYING Connected	319 619 2864	2864
FRI	Noon	O.D.A.A.T. Speaker	864 287 580	63228
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	5:00 PM	Sundowners - As Bill Sees It	650 367 733	Rule 62
	6:00 PM	The 3 Leg Group - Topic Dual Speaker	452 100 1634	31236
SAT	7:30 AM	South Vero - Spkr Meeting/Discussion	924 7373 2754	132567
	CENTRAL OFFICE IS OPEN FROM 9:00 AM TIL NOON			
	5:00 PM	Sundowners - Open Discussion	650 367 733	Rule 62
	5:30 PM	South Vero	919 2868 4512	132567
	6:00 PM	The 3 Leg Group -Topic Dual Speaker	452 100 1634	31236
	7:30 PM	12&12 Speaker/Discussion	886 0538 3611	722488
	8:00 PM	Lakewood Park Speaker Meeting	298 703 197	2030

errors, changes or omissions - please text or call (772) 360-7949

A service piece of the Indian River Central Office	
2/9/2021	
CURRENT COVID-19 MODIFICATIONS	
THE CENTRAL OFFICE IS OPEN SATURDAYS 9am - Noon	
KNOWN INSIDE MEETINGS	
SOCIAL DISTANCING OBSERVED ALL MEETINGS	
ALL MEETINGS	Club Sebastian - All Meetings
ALL MEETINGS	Newport Club - All Meetings (FACE MASKS REQUIRED)
ALL MEETINGS	Lakewood Park Group (Indrio Rd, Ft. Pierce)
12 Noon Mon-Fri	O.D.A.A.T. - (Limited to 25 participants inside)
12 Noon Mon-Fri	Souih Vero Noon Beginner's Meeting
Mon-Sat 7am; Sun 8 am	A New Day - Meets at Sebastian Yacht Club, 820 Indian River Drive
Tuesday 7pm	Holy Cross Catholic Church, 500 Iris Lane
Tuesday 6pm	11th Step Meditation, A Sharing Plce 9430 US 1 Sebastian
Friday 7pm	St John Of the Cross-rear Building -74th Ave/26thy Street
Wed & Sat 7:00pm	Buildings D&E - inside
Mon 7:30 am	South Vero Group
Mon 5:30 pm	South Vero Group
Mon 7:00 pm	Indian River Women's Group -(temporarily moved to Zoom) Zoom ID: 885 8030 8385 PW: 647726
Mon 7:00 pm	Hibiscus Monday Night (Closed Discussion) Indian River Shores 6001 N A!A (corner of Fred Tuerk Drive)
Mon 8:00pm	Royal Palm Group - 1st Prebyterian Church
Tue & Thu 5:30pm	Free & Easy - Newport Club
Tue 5:30 pm	South Vero Group (Beginners)
Tue 7:00 pm	South Vero Group (Men)
Wed 7:30am/5:30pm	South Vero Group
Sunday 7:00pm	Vero Beach Group (Speaker Meeting) St.Helen Cath Church Gym
Thu 7:00 pm	South Vero Group (Men)
Fri 7:30am/5:30pm	South Vero Group
Friday 7:00pm	West Vero Group
Fri 6:00pm	Meat and Potatoes - Community Church 21st St Vero Beach
Sat 5:30 pm	South Vero Group
Sat 7:00 PM	Big Book Study - Newport Club
Sun 9:00 am	South Vero Group (Women)
KNOWN OUTSIDE MEETINGS	
SOCIAL DISTANCING OBSERVED ALL MEETINGS	
Sunday 12 Noon	Step/Discussion Meeting - A.W.Young Park, 2-12 Park Ave, Vero Bch
Daily - Monday-Sunday 5:00pm	Sundowners - 1st Presbyterian Church, 1405 Louisiana Ave, Sebastian
12 Noon Mon-Fri	O.D.A.A.T. - On the basketball Ct - (Bring your own chair)
Mon/Wed/Thu/Sat 5:00 pm	SPEAKEASY - Riverview Park (near restrooms-in Pavillion when raining) Bring your own chair
Mon/Wed/Fri 10:30am	Dale Winbrow Park on Roseland Rd, Sebastian
9:00 AM Tue/Fri	The Lunch Bunch - Sebastian Riverside Pavillion
Sat 12:30pm	Barefoot Bay - Outside under Oaks, left of "A" Building
Tue 7:30pm	Sebastian Freedom-NE Corner Main St/US 1 (by big Flagpole)
Fri 6:00pm	Meat and Potatoes - Community Church 21st St Vero Beach
Mon-Fri 5:32pm	The 5:32 Group meets at the Roseland Meth. Outside Church
Mon 5:30pm	Roosevelt Community Park - 12/12
Thur 5:30pm	