



NATURE COAST JOURNAL

SEPTEMBER 2022



Nature Coast Intergroup
presents



Fall Fling

Whispering Pines Park
Pavillion B
1700 Forest Drive • Inverness, FL 34453

September 10th, 2:00-5:00 pm

Side Dishes Welcome!

- ▶ Potato Salad
- ▶ Cole Slaw
- ▶ Etc.

Hamburgers,
Hot Dogs, and
Beverages
will be supplied



Speakers

D.J.

50/50

Fun, Food, Fellowship

Become a member of the Hotline Committee
and learn how to answer the NCI Hotline

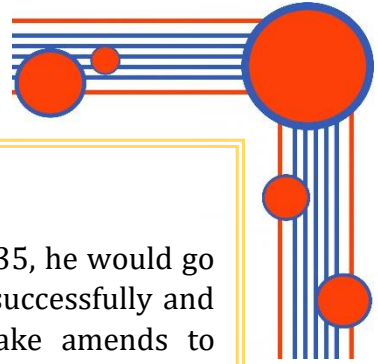
HOTLINE

Training Event

September 18th, 2:00-3:30 pm

Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church,
2540 West Norvell Bryant Hwy., Lecanto, FL 34461

HISTORY



DR. BOB, CO-FOUNDER OF A.A. Part 2 (Until his death in 1950)



When Dr. Bob left Bill on June 10, 1935, he would go on that day to operate on a patient successfully and immediately afterward begin to make amends to friends and acquaintances in Akron. Dr. Bob would remain sober until his death in 1950. Bill and Dr. Bob were acutely aware that their own sobriety was dependent on working with others and in late June welcomed Bill D. as AA number 3.

They continued their work carrying the message and when Bill departed for New York in August, there was a small Akron group meeting regularly on a weekly basis. The first AA group had started! In the early formative years of the AA program, Dr. Bob and the fellowship in Akron would provide a “sobering” influence on Bill W.’s aspirations to build an AA organization.

In 1937 Bill revisited Akron and he and Dr. Bob came to the realization that, upon an inventory of their work in carrying the message since June 1935, a “chain reaction” was beginning to take place. They came to the realization that some 40 hard core cases had been sober “a couple of years.” The message had been carried from one alcoholic to another. Bill recalled that he, Dr. Bob, and Anne Smith bowed their heads in silent thanks. Up to that time, their prospects came either to Akron or New York to sober up. Dr. Bob and Bill began to wonder if there was a way to bring the program to alcoholics wherever they might be.

Bill visualized a chain of hospitals or paid professionals, a fund-raising campaign, and to write a book to carry the message to other cities and other countries. Dr. Bob agreed with the book but frowned on the fund-raising and the professionalism. He believed that the success of the last two years was due in part to the spirit of service with no strings attached. Dr. Bob suggested and Bill agreed that it would be best to present the issues to the Akron group. There was a long, hard-fought meeting and Bill was given the approval to pursue his program. The fund-raising and professionalism were never to be a part of the AA program, but production of the book would begin soon in 1938.

Dr. Bob would play a pivotal role in supplying the stories of the Akron AAs for what was to become the Big Book. The stories were evidence that the program worked and most of the recoveries had taken place in Akron. Dr. Bob helped a drinking newspaperman sober up and he agreed to help to put the stories from the Akron AAs together. In 1939 Dr. Bob enlisted Sister Ignatia at St. Thomas hospital to partner with him in the treatment of alcoholics. Until Dr. Bob died in 1950, they

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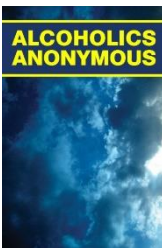
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were to help thousands of suffering drunks and offer them a path to a sober life. In the years before his death, Dr. Bob expressed concern about the changes occurring in the structure of AA, but the changes were to come, and they were to be credited to Bill W. The 12 Traditions, the Board of Trustees, the General Service Office, and the Grapevine would become integral parts of the AA structure. Those institutions would be placed into the direct custody of representatives of the AA movement. Dr. Bob's caution about the structure of AA is shadowed in his last words to Bill that they should not "louse this thing up".

Dr. Bob died November 16, 1950. He is buried near his home in Akron in the Mount Peace Cemetery. His resting place and his home in Akron remain favorite visiting spots for recovering alcoholics tracing the historic roots of the AA fellowship. This is especially true during the Founders' weekend held each year in Akron. Bob will perhaps best be remembered for his direct work with other alcoholics and his realization that the program of Alcoholics Anonymous hangs on the connection of one alcoholic to another. Someone once asked Bob at a meeting why he still needed to go. His answer was that he was there for the sake of the new man or woman.

Bill K., Journal Editor



YOUR STORY IS NEEDED IN THE NEW EDITION OF THE BIG BOOK

A new edition of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous is in the works. The guidelines on how to send in your story follow. The **Deadline is October 31, 2022.**

We suggest you send your story through the [Story Submission](https://www.aa.org/story-submission) page on the A.A. website. Here is the link: <https://www.aa.org/submit-bigbook-english-5th>

NOTE: You must attach a signed copy of the Copyright document form and send it with your submission. This is an important step; please make sure you return the completed form.

If you prefer to send your story by regular postal mail, here are the instructions:
Attn: Literature Assignment, 5th Edition BB, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

The words "5th Edition BB" should be written on the envelope and at the top of the first page of the manuscript.

Please be assured that your anonymity will be maintained if your story is selected for publication.

HOTLINE: 352-621-0599

WANT TO HELP ANOTHER ALCOHOLIC?

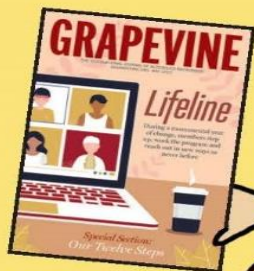
GRAPEVINE & LA VIÑA are Great Twelfth Step Tools!

Give a gift subscription to an alcoholic who needs it. Great for:

- Sponsees • Newcomers • Prisons • Detoxes • Doctor's Offices • Group Celebrations • District and Area Events • Giveaways

Get your group, district, area or AA friends to join in. Carry the Message, it's easy!

Go to aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message to get started and see our new Carry the Message video at www.youtube.com/c/AAGrapevine



Join in. It's easy!

2022
**CARRY
THE
MESSAGE
PROJECT**

Go to aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message to get started.

Heard at a Meeting
(OR “TAKE THE COTTON OUT”)



Please send in anything you have “heard” before, during, or after at a meeting. “Heard” can include things observed (“seen”), things you have learned, or anything you take away from a meeting. Send in what you “hear” to news@ncintergroup.com. Thanks much!

Old musicians don’t die; they decompose.

When around people drinking, always have a soft drink in hand and a plan to get away.

In my family we all drank, and the cops knew us by our first names.

Never was there enough of what we wanted.

Pride goeth before the fall.

We have a brown chip if you have had a sh***y day.

The best times to drink were when things couldn’t get any better or when they couldn’t get any worse. And I learned to drink to fill the spaces in between.

I know there is nothing left in that drink for me.

Except when to do so would injure them or others.

Personal recovery depends on AA Unity.

Hurt people hurt people.

Alcohol will take everything from you, everything.

AA has some pretty cool people who have been through some “stuff”.

Before I got sober (returned to a sound mind) I did not understand powerlessness, even though I experienced five divorces, three bankruptcies, and was in and out of the AA Program for more than twenty years.

7th TRADITION

For District and Intergroup contributions,
please write your group number on the check.

Make check payable to “District 28” and mail to:
District 28, PO Box 640914, Beverly Hills, FL 34464

Make check payable to “Nature Coast Intergroup” and mail to:
Nature Coast Intergroup, PO Box 2634, Crystal River, FL 34423

For Area and G.S.O. contributions, please write
“District 28” and your group number on the check.

Make check payable to “NFAC” and mail to:
North Florida Area Conference, PO Box 226, DeLeon Springs, FL 32130

Make check payable to “General Service Board” and mail to:
G.S.O., PO Box 2407, James A. Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407

Nature Coast Intergroup and
District 28 Business Meetings
are held on the first Sunday of the Month at 4:30 pm at
Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church
2540 West Norvell Bryant Highway,
Lecanto, FL 34461
District 28 Meeting immediately follows Intergroup



MUSICIANS WANTED



IF YOU HAVE AT LEAST ONE YEAR OF SOBRIETY
AND PLAY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CONTACT:

QUENTIN B. CELL: 561-386-0843
EMAIL: quentinl@earthlink.net

WOMEN NEEDED TO CARRY THE MESSAGE

Female AA volunteers are needed to bring the Alcoholics Anonymous message to women inmates at the Citrus County Jail. If interested, please email your name and phone number to news@ncintergroup.com.



YOUR TWO CENTS

(Contributions from AA members in the area)

Am I a good AA member?

What is my inventory as a member of my group?

Do I ...

Attend meetings only when "I need a meeting" or feel like it?

Refuse to hold any office at any time; even when I could?

Shun responsibility, refuse to run errands, make coffee, wipe a cup, empty ashtrays, set up chairs, and ignore anything that needs doing by refusing to notice - always manage to "let somebody else do it"?

Neglect to talk to newcomers or, worse, listen to them? Drift off to certain little cliques of personal friends after meetings - or just "beat it", always with good reasons, too tired, too busy, or TV more often than not?

Turn down, or turn over to someone else, all Twelfth Step calls, when I could have gone?

Refuse to speak before non-AA groups or students, without good reason?

Give up after a time or two recontacting the sick alcoholic? Use the "not ready", "not honest" routine? Try to carry the alcoholic instead of the message? Forget that I go to see the sick alcoholic not because he is an alcoholic (only he can say he is or isn't) but because I am?

Make no effort to attend other meetings, help other groups get started, or give a lift to an older group? Encourage other groups to visit us, or am I "a tight little island"?

Show no interest in our Traditions, General Service, or worldwide AA?

Have I grown tight with my money when I do not have to be, not realizing that the pamphlets and other services to help other alcoholics "do not grow on trees"?

Indulge in criticism, resentment, or self-pity toward the group, a member, or members?

Complain of boredom, repetition, the speakers, the chairman? Am I becoming part of the problem instead of part of the solution?

Criticize a member to other members behind his back with no chance for him to defend himself? Criticize slippers? Take people's moral inventory?

...Do I?

Want to see Your Two Cents in print? Email it to news@NCintergroup.com.

THE JOURNAL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT! PLEASE CONTRIBUTE YOUR THOUGHTS!

We create AA when we decide to adopt the AA way of life and make it our own. We voluntarily do the things we do to nourish AA's common welfare and because we do this, because we are willing to help our fellow alcoholic achieve sobriety, we ensure our own recovery from the disease of alcoholism.

Please help to create the JOURNAL by sending in your stories, poems, articles, anniversary lists, and the like to news@NCintergroup.com. We will also consider original artwork and cartoons. A good laugh in any format is always welcome!

We will do our best to respond to every email and will make every effort to include your contributions in an upcoming issue of the JOURNAL. We look forward to hearing from you.

HOTLINE: 352-621-0599

**VISIT NCINTERGROUP.COM
FOR THE LATEST
MEETING LOCATIONS AND TIMES,
NEWS AND OTHER RESOURCES**



Steps | Traditions | Concepts

STEP 9

“Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

TRADITION 9

“A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible for those they serve.”

CONCEPT 9

“Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.”