



NATURE COAST JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 2025

www.ncintergroup.com

Nature Coast Intergroup and District 28 Business Meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of the Month at Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, 2540 West Norvell Bryant Highway, Lecanto, FL

Intergroup meets at 4:30pm and District meets at 5:45pm.

All Are Welcome!!!

Intergroup & District 28 Business Meeting Dates

Jan 12	Feb 2
Mar 2	Apr 13
May 4	June 1
July 6	Aug 3
Sept 7	Oct 12
Nov 2	Dec 1

WHERE MONEY & SPIRITUALITY MIX

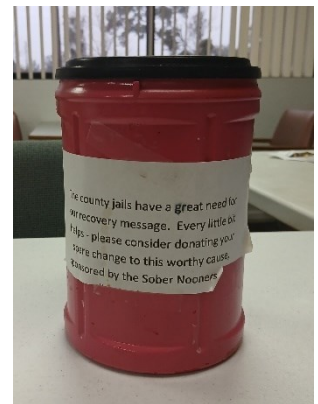


Bill W. thought that the success of the work of Alcoholics Anonymous required effort on our part and a little money. The example he used was when Ebby met him

at his home to bring him the message of sobriety, Ebby took some time to meet Bill and spent a dime on a phone call and subway fare (total cost).

We AA's still need to carry the message by our efforts and our funding. In my humble opinion we are doing a pretty good job. In this issue is an article on how the Pink Can supports AA's prison work.

Also in this issue is the information needed to make contributions to the District, Intergroup, Area 14, and General Service Office.



Bill K., Journal Editor, news@ncintergroup.com

HOTLINE: 352-621-0599



EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING

February 15 at 10:30 am

Cattle Dogs, 210B Thompkins Street, Inverness

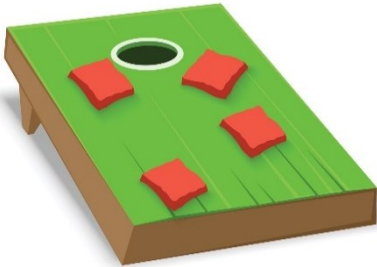
For Info contact: Steve P.

727-243-5682 or petersonsls@yahoo.com



PRESENTS:

JOIN US PLAYING CORNHOLE



February 15 from 1-4 pm

Liberty Park, 268 N Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL

Bring your own lawn chairs and beverages.

Questions??? Contact: Steve P. 727-243-5682 or
petersonsls@yahoo.com

NATURE COAST INTERGROUP

presents a

- **Speaker**
- **50/50**
- **Live Music**
- **"Best Chili" Competition**
- **\$4.00**
suggested contribution



MARCH 1st, 2025 • 2pm to 5pm

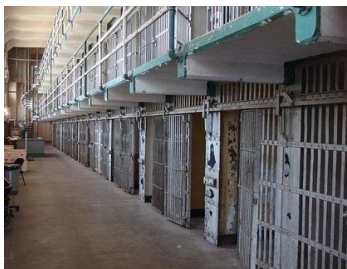
FT. COOPER STATE PARK

3100 S. Old Floral City Road • Pavilion 1
Inverness, FL 34450



- **Hot Dogs (and Chili)**
- **Bring a Dessert to Share**
- **Chili Makers Come @ 1:30**
- **Food, Fun & Fellowship!**

THE PINK CAN, AA IN JAILS & PRISONS, & CARRYING THE MESSAGE OF SOBRIETY, HOPE, & FREEDOM



WHERE DID THE PINK CAN COME FROM?

At many meetings here in Citrus County you may find a “pink can” that is used to collect money which is used to purchase AA materials for people incarcerated in prisons and jails. As far as we know, the pink can originated in California in the mid-1950s. Demand for AA literature was increasing as prison outreach spread. Someone came up with the idea of placing a brightly colored (pink, green, blue) can on the group literature table intended to collect “spare change” that would purchase AA literature for distribution in prisons. To be clear, the pink can was never intended to divert funds from the group’s normal Seventh Tradition contributions. The pink can practice has spread throughout Canada and North America.

It is important to understand that AA literature is an important tool in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic who is incarcerated. In many institutions regulations allow

only one meeting a week and, in many instances, attendance is limited. Many who would like to attend simply do not have the opportunity to attend as many meetings as they would like or to even attend any meeting at all! As a result, AA literature is often the only means available to the incarcerated individual to learn about the AA message. Another way AA reaches those behind bars is through the Corrections Correspondence program (for more information on the program go to aa.org and find Pamphlet F-26 “Corrections Correspondence —a special kind of A.A. Service”). AA established its presence in jails and prisons early in its history and continues to carry its message in those institutions in person, by literature, and by letter.

HOW DID AA GET STARTED IN PRISONS?

The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous first appeared in 1939 and in 1941 Clinton Duffy, the warden of San Quentin Prison in California, introduced AA into his prison. Duffy recognized that there was a strong relation between alcohol use and crime. Duffy also recognized that his institution was not adequately addressing the problem of alcoholism, and he looked to the young program of AA for help. *continued on page five*

continued from page four

Duffy described his impressions of AA at a prison meeting as follows:

Into the room comes a group of outsiders--smiling, happy, well-dressed men, some of whom had motored from distances as great as 100 miles from the prison. One by one, these men told the inmates, in words that only real alcoholics could use and understand, of their experiences with the program which was being studied.

The Chinese say a picture is worth one thousand words. That was a picture. For the inmates it meant a new vision or real help when they needed it most, BEFORE the first drink, for these men were not preaching something out of books. They were pouring out their hearts and souls. They were not preaching. They were assuring and reassuring.

Today studies confirm that alcohol plays a large role in criminal activity. Alcohol causes loss of inhibition, affects our ability to make good judgments, and makes us more inclined to violent behavior. These studies indicate that perhaps as many as 25% of incarcerated individuals either abused or were dependent on alcohol before being incarcerated. A 2016 survey by the Department of Justice found that among state and federal prisoners 30%

reported drinking alcohol at the time of the offense for which they were serving time.

Prison work by AA has grown, and is supported and organized in the AA service structure from the local groups to the General Service Office on a nation-wide basis. Volunteers do their part in by going into institutions, corresponding with inmates, and by tossing their spare change into the pink can. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions about any of these programs, you can email to news@ncintergroup.com.

WOMEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



If you have more than one year of sobriety and would like to bring a meeting to women in jail, please email Bernette at jaydeveric@aol.com.



Plain Language Big Book: A tool for reading the book

Alcoholics Anonymous

It's now available! The Second Printing of the First Edition; *Plain Language Big Book* is written to help readers better understand the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* — fondly called “the Big Book”.



By Tressa H.

Do I want to be right or happy?
 I can let others be wrong without being mean
 I must put God first to stay sober
 I no longer must take things into my own hands: I can let God handle it
 Prayer changes my attitude towards God
 Part of my "ism" is that I have a distorted view of myself
 It takes a lot of strength to let go. Fear can paralyze us. Growth and comfort don't coexist.
 Any progress I have made is all God's doing
 God is about believing and receiving
 Letting others help you gives you humility and allows others to feel good
 There is beauty behind all the pain
 I know my worth and value myself today
 Don't be too proud or stubborn
 Stay humble
 Accept yourself right where you are at
 When I am controlling, I have already lost control
 The best defense against character defects is time
 I finally uttered those words "God help me"
 I had to be fearless
 God has mercy and grace for us
 Without God, I am nothing
 I see God in all of you
 I came to AA not knowing what to expect
 I can't let fear run my life
 There is no graduation from AA

Akron Intergroup News, January 2025

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

If you would like us to recognize the sober anniversaries in your group, please send them to news@ncintergroup.com.



The You Have A Choice group at First United Methodist Church celebrates these anniversaries.

Ron L.	2 years
Jen S.	17 years
Lisa R-B.	25 years
Mike P.	29 years
DeDe R.	34 years
Fran D.	42 years

The Monday Nite Men's Step Group at Shepherd of the Hills Church announces these anniversaries.

Jimbo A.	15 years
Quentin B.	35 years
Gary R.	37 years
Dave D.	39 years

Women's Friendship Group that meets on Mondays at 10am at Club Recovery celebrates these anniversaries.

Mary Jo T.	25 years
Trish D.	33 years
Arlene M.	35 years
Mary R.	36 years
Tommie P.	38 years
Gayle W.	42 years

The Women to Women's group that meets on Tuesdays at 6pm at Redeemer Presbyterian Church announces these anniversaries.

Lindsey S.	2years
Sheila G.	2 years
Nancy O.	3 years
Adri B.	4 years
Shannon T.	7 years
Nancy M	20 years
Helen G.	24 years
Kathy H-M.	24 years

AREA 14 CONTRIBUTIONS

There has been some confusion about where to send Area 14 group contributions. The correct information is below. Please be sure to put your group name and group number on the check. Please send this form with your check.

Use this for Panel 75, Area 14 contributions: make check payable to: NFAC
 Mail to: Area 14 Panel 75 Treasurer, PO Box 840066, St Augustine, FL 32080

Please complete all information	District _____ Number: _____
Group _____ Number: _____	Group _____ Name: _____
Contact _____ Name: _____	Contact _____ Email: _____

Use this for Panel 75, Area 14 contributions: make check payable to: NFAC
 Mail to: Area 14 Panel 75 Treasurer, PO Box 840066, St Augustine, FL 32080

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Please complete all information	District _____ Number: _____
Group _____ Number: _____	Group _____ Name: _____
Contact _____ Name: _____	Contact _____ Email: _____

SEVENTH TRADITION

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

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

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

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

SEVENTH TRADITION

For **Area** (aanorthflorida.org) and **GSO** (aa.org) **online** contributions are preferred.

If paying **Area** by check, please write
"District 28" and your group name and number on the check.

Make check payable to
"NFAC" and mail to:
Area 14, Panel 75 Treasurer,
PO Box 840066,
St. Augustine, FL 32080

If paying **GSO** by check, please write
"District 28" and your group name and number on the check.

Make check payable to
"General Service Board" and mail to:
GSO, PO Box 2407, James A. Farley
Station, New York, NY 10116-2407



Step Two

"Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."



Tradition Two

"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."



Concept Two

"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."



Redrick House Noon AA
840 N Citrus Ave, Crystal River, FL



Next to Citrus Diagnostic
Center.

Enter off Citrus Avenue
at the gravel path.

Handicapped Accessible

Noon meetings
Monday through Friday