

The Voice

Volume 27, Number 10

October 2010



One member's voice

Continued to Grow

A story of experience, strength, and hope

Step 10. *Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.*

Having completed the first nine steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (the program of action), like most newcomers, I felt I could coast on my past achievements. My most glaring character defects, drinking and fighting, had been removed, and my new life had begun. The pink cloud would carry me through what I saw others struggling with—or so I thought.

My sponsor at that time began saying things to me like, “Alcohol-ISM not alcohol-WASM.” I would only smile in response, unable to comprehend what he was subtly hinting at.

Not wanting to disappoint anyone around me, especially the people I was trying to impress (which WAS everyone), I began to keep my resentments, fears, and dishonesty to myself. Not daring to look at this growing mound of defects, the months passed, and my ego grew to a size that wouldn't allow me—or anyone else—to see what was really going on.

At about eighteen months sober, the

proverbial pink cloud dissipated, and I was left alone with a gnawing uncomfortable feeling, which manifested in my daily life as an attitude of judgment, self-righteous condemnation, and isolation.

Every so often, usually after some negative consequence, I would allow myself to become transparent, confess my shortcomings, pray for the removal of these irritating and annoying defects, and then go on my way never seeing the patterns that were emerging.

Around the same time, my sponsor died unexpectedly, and my grand-sponsor started suggesting I get a new one. Within a couple of days I had pinpointed my prospect and mustered up enough courage to ask him to sponsor me. He agreed and quickly told me that the following week I was to embark on a seven-month step study, which met once a week.

While on my second run-through of the steps, it became quite obvious to me that my problem WAS me! This idea had broken through my two years of denial, in which I thought everything would be fine once alcohol was removed from my life. Prior to this

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**Intergroup 17
Annual Fall Picnic**
Sunday, October 10
Carney Island Park
See page 5 for details

A quote for October

“Moments of perception can build into a lifetime of spiritual serenity.”

As Bill Sees It, page 173

Tradition Ten: Keeping Us Safe

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.

This tradition saves our fellowship from extinction. The Washingtonian Society died when their membership was at 100 thousand because they permitted politicians and reformers to use their society for stormy political issues.

Bill W. wrote Tradition 10 to keep us safe from taking stands on outside issues and supporting or opposing them. Whether it be war, political elections, or

social service issues, we stay out of the controversy.

Sometimes, I apply this tradition personally in meetings when I hear from fellow members who share about having made bad judgments in alcoholism ranging from spousal abuse to child abuse to breaking the law in various other ways.

This is when a strong chairperson is sometimes needed, one who has the experience to

steer a topic away from controversial social issues.

If we stay away from judging others and from controversy, we can help the still suffering alcoholic by leaving their Steps Four and Five to them and their sponsors.

Prepared by Kathy and John P. The views, expressions, and opinions presented here are those of the authors and not necessarily those of AA or Intergroup 17 as a whole

Congratulations October Birthdays!

This issue we celebrate anniversaries that add up to a collective **328 years**. That's more than **119,720 days of sobriety**. One day at a time!

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Kathy P | 39 years |
| John P | 33 years |
| Gene S | 27 years |
| Jim B | 26 years |
| Mike M | 25 years |
| Bob V | 20 years |
| Dean P | 18 years |
| Cheryl T | 10 years |
| Connie C | 8 years |
| Lisa E | 8 years |
| Alison C | 6 years |
| David B | 5 years |
| Virginia C | 5 years |
| Cathy U | 3 years |
| Pamela Z | 3 years |
| Tony M | 3 years |
| Michael C | 1 year |
| Randy A | 1 year |

September 2010

| | |
|------------|----------|
| Jim B | 42 years |
| Ottis/Mike | 20 years |
| Jim D | 13 years |
| Barbara G | 11 years |
| Casey | 3 years |
| Ryan R | 3 years |
| Steve R | 3 years |
| Andrea R | 2 years |
| Charlie | 2 years |
| Jason V | 1 year |
| Joe B | 1 year |

Please share your AA birthday with all.
Deadline for November birthdays is October 20.
Email: thevoice@aaocalamarion.org

Join the Birthday Club!



Celebrate an AA anniversary—yours or another member's—with a contribution to help Intergroup 17 carry the message to other alcoholics in Ocala and Marion County.

To join, send name, sobriety date, years of sobriety, and a donation—suggested is \$1, \$5, or \$10 for each year of sobriety to:

Intergroup 17
P.O. Box 1192
Ocala, Florida 34478

Plug into Intergroup 17 online

Explore our new website features: www.aaocalamarion.org
Subscribe to The Voice by email: thevoice@aaocalamarion.org



e. 352-867-0660

Archives Reflections

Happy anniversary Intergroup 17.

This month marks the 24th anniversary of the opening of Intergroup 17 office. There are still plenty of “old-timers” who remember those early days. A couple have shared some of their memories with The Voice in hopes that others will come forward with even more details about the birth and growth of Intergroup in Ocala and Marion County.

Kathy P says that some of her memories are “foggy and getting more so the longer I stay sober,” but she recalls that around 1984 at the Winner's Circle in Anthony there were AA members from other areas of the country where the fellowship was served by an Intergroup or Central Office.

She recalls, “At the time we just used an answering service to take calls from those in need. Each group sent in a phone list of volunteers and the an-

swering service would call a member on that list who would then call the drunk back.”

Kathy remembers that the largest groups were the Serenity Group, the Ocala Group, the Belleview Group, and the Saturday night meeting in Oxford, Florida. Each group had its own literature chairperson who would order Big Books and other literature from GSO, which the groups then sold directly to the group members.

Members of these groups came together and decided that it would be a good idea to establish an Intergroup that would purchase and store the literature and answer the phones, hopefully with the same kind of volunteer help that seemed to be working all over the country.

Intergroup 17, Inc. was formed, and Kathy continues, “Ruth—not Ruth

T, but Chipmunk Ruth because she gave out the chips—adapted a set of by-laws from another Intergroup in the D.C. area and we proceeded to operate as Intergroup and collect funds for our office.”

Kathy left Ocala for a year, but recalls that Jim K and Ann K communicated to her that they had moved to Ocala and that Intergroup was ready to get an office. An office was secured at 9th Street and 8th Avenue, and Hermina became the first Intergroup office Manager.

Ruth T recalls that time vividly. “I had just been ordered by the court to do 210 hours of community service as a result of a DUI. I came into AA in September, and Jim K asked if I could help out in the Intergroup office.”

Continued, page 4

October by the Books

STEP TEN

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.

As we work the first nine Steps, we prepare ourselves for the adventure of a new life. But when we approach Step Ten we commence to put our A.A. way of living to practical use, day by day, in fair weather or foul. Then comes the acid test: can we stay sober, keep in emotional balance, and live to good purpose under all conditions."

Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 88

The A.A. Big Book says that when we work Step 10 on a daily basis: "We have entered the world of the Spirit. Our next function is to grow in understanding and effectiveness. This is not an overnight matter. It should continue for our lifetime."

And then it goes on to tell us exactly what we must do:

"Continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment, and fear. When these crop up, we ask God at once to remove them. We discuss them with someone immediately and make amends quickly if we have harmed anyone. Then we resolutely turn our thoughts to someone we can help. Love and tolerance of others is our code."

Alcoholics Anonymous, page 84

With the use of Step 10 on a daily basis:

".....We have ceased fighting anything or anyone---even alcohol. For by this time sanity will have returned. We will seldom be interested in alcohol. If tempted, we recoil from it as from a hot flame. We react sanely and normally, and we will find that this has happened automatically. We will see that our new attitude toward liquor has been given us without any thought or effort on our part. It just comes.

Alcoholics Anonymous, page 84

TRADITION TEN

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Never since it began has Alcoholics Anonymous been divided by a major controversial issue. Nor has our Fellowship ever publicly taken sides on any question in an embattled world. This, however, has been no earned virtue. It could almost be said that we were born with it, for, as one old-timer recently declared, "Practically never have I heard a heated religious, political, or reform argument among A.A. members. So long as we don't argue these matters privately, it's a cinch we never shall publicly."

As by some deep instinct, we AA.'s have known from the very beginning that we must never, no matter what the provocation, publicly take sides in any fight, even a worthy one.

When the Washingtonians became temperance crusaders, within a very few years they had completely lost their effectiveness in helping alcoholics. The lesson to be learned from the Washingtonians was not overlooked by Alcoholics Anonymous.

As we surveyed the wreck of that movement, early AA members resolved to keep our Society out of public controversy. Thus was laid the cornerstone for Tradition Ten: "Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, pages 176-179

CONCEPT TEN

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority — the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.

Nearly all societies and governments of today exhibit serious deviations from the very sound principle that each operational responsibility must be accompanied by a corresponding authority to discharge it.

This is why we have been at such pains in preceding discussions to define the several authorities and responsibilities of the A.A. groups, the Conference, the Trustees, and our active service corporations.

We have tried to make sure that authority in each of these levels is equal to responsibility. Then we have tried to relate these levels one to another in such a way that this principle is maintained throughout.

An outstanding characteristic of every good operational structure is that it guarantees harmonious and effective function by relating its several parts and people in such a way that none can doubt what their respective responsibilities and corresponding authorities actually are.

Unless these attributes are well defined; unless those holding the final authority are able and willing properly to delegate and maintain a suitable operational authority; unless those holding such delegated authority feel able and willing to use their delegated authority freely as trusted servants; and unless there exists some definite means of interpreting and deciding doubtful situations — then personal clashes, confusion, and ineffectiveness will be inevitable.

AA Service Manual, pages 43-44

Service. The Third Legacy.

Gratitude Dinner!

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with any aspect of this year's Gratitude Dinner is invited to attend the next planning meeting. Call 352-867-0660 for time and location.

Picnic. Picnic. Help. Help.

Intergroup 17 needs lots of volunteers to make this year's fall picnic another rousing success. Before, during, and after, there's lots of service work to do. Call 352-867-0660 to offer your help.

Intergroup 17 . Treasurer and steering committee positions open.

Seeking candidates for the position of Intergroup Treasurer and for Steering Committee member at large. Learn more 352 867-0660 or attend next monthly meeting: 5:15 pm, Sunday, October 17, St. Marks UMC, 1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala.

District 17 . Committee assignments and volunteers.

To learn more about service opportunities, please attend the next district meeting, 6:00 pm, Thursday, October 28, 2010, St. Marks UMC, 1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala.

"Corresponding" sponsors needed! Women only.

Members from District 17 are creating a way for women in our local fellowship to serve as "corresponding" sponsors to other women alcoholics currently serving time . Sponsorship can be done with complete sponsor anonymity. Want to learn more? Contact Debbie L or Sherry R through Intergroup. 352 867-0660

Through The Grapevine!

Share old copies of *The AA Grapevine* with fellow alcoholics in local corrections facilities. Drop off at the Intergroup office or through your GSR.

Take the message to local correctional institutions.

Meet a critical. Participation requires prior approval. Applications available at Intergroup 17 office.

To learn more, call 352-867-0660.

Or attend the next District 17 meeting, 6:00 pm, Thursday, October 28, 2010, St. Marks UMC, 1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala.

Publicize your group's service opportunities in The Voice. Call 352 867-0660 or email to thevoice@aaocalamarion.org

Continued to Grow

Continued from page 1

epiphany, I had accumulated a lot of trash, fears, resentments, and harms done to others, which hadn't been dealt with.

Continued is the first word in Step Ten, which begs the question: Continue what exactly? In my opinion, it means to continue to put into practice the principles of the first nine steps, which I hadn't done during the first two years of sobriety.

The awareness of the extent to which alcoholism permeated my life, even while abstaining from drinking alcohol, was eye-opening to say the least. As my sponsor and I became more and more acquainted with each other, he became familiar with my patterns of behavior and would frequently say, "Until this is dealt with, you will continue to get the same result." At this point, I decided to start taking a regular inventory in an attempt to keep my side of the street clean.

Throughout my day, for example, when I would tell a lie and immediately feel guilty because of the new "God consciousness" within, I was confronted with the choice to either slip back into old behavior or to put into practice the principle behind Step Ten, perseverance.

The first couple of times I challenged my defects made me very uncomfortable. Admitting you're wrong often does this.

At other times when my insecurities and fears began to dominate my thinking and actions, my sponsor would tell me, "God loves hearing from strangers." This sometimes would piss me off, but I began to get the point that self-reliance failed me every time. I know that this process is necessary for my growth in recovery.

Since the practice of the tenth step has become a regular and working part of my life I have *continued to grow* in my relationship with God, myself, and others.

Bill J
Ocala, Florida
October 2010

The thoughts, expressions, and opinions expressed on these pages are those of the authors and not necessarily those of AA or Intergroup 17, Ocala-Marion County, Florida.

Archives Reflections

Happy Birthday

Intergroup 17

Continued from page 2

Because Hermina lived in the forest, she had difficulty getting into the office sometimes. Eventually she gave up her position as office manager. Jack W took over the responsibilities and served until 1990. When Jack left to become manager of the Lost & Found Club, Ruth T accepted the position as the Intergroup 17 office manager, a position she held for the next 16 years.

Ruth remembers that Intergroup moved from 9th Street and 8th Avenue to an office behind the 10 Minute Oil Change on Silver Springs Boulevard. The office later moved to a four-room

space near the Subway on the Boulevard, and stayed there until the move to the current location on 25th St.

Although the history of Intergroup is filled with countless inspiring stories of alcoholics who found the solution after a call to the hotline, it's also important to record the details of those early days in our archives for future generations to know how we came into being.

The District Archives house the written and oral history of AA in Ocala-Marion County. If you have a story, memory, documents, photos, or other memorabilia that relate to our local history, please relay it to Kathy P through Intergroup, 352-867-0660.

Intergroup 17 ANNUAL FALL PICNIC

Sunday, October 10, 2010
Carney Island Park, Lake Weir
Ocklawaha

Fun starts: 10:00am Lunch: 12:00 noon



Fabulous Food

Chicken on the grill
Sides and beverages.
Bring a dessert to share.



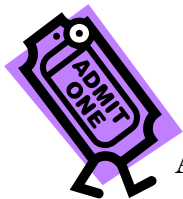
Lunch served at 12 noon



Fun & games

DJ Seth will spin the tunes.

Lawn games, swimming, volleyball
and more for children of all ages.
A surprise or two may be in store.



Tickets

Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Adults: \$6 Children: \$4

Available from the Intergroup Office. Or ask your Intergroup rep.

Advance purchase only. No on-site ticket sales.

Please note. Pets are not permitted inside the park.

Directions

Carney Island Park, 13275 SE 115th Ave., Ocklawaha
Carney Island Park is off SR 25 between Belleview and Ocklawaha,
just south of Silver Springs Shores.

Follow the signs into the park from SR 25.

More information? Call Intergroup 352.867-0660



Live Auction. By popular demand.

Treasures. Bargains. And the downright odd. Bring cash to bid. All proceeds go
to support Intergroup 17's mission of carrying the message.

Call Intergroup 17 to donate auction items.

Accepted: Jewelry, appliances, tools, art, electronics, knick-knacks, whatever.

Not accepted: No furniture, clothes, or junk please.

Item should be clean, unbroken, in working order. New or lovingly-used preferred.

How Groups and Individuals Support the Work of AA

Group contributions funding the work of Intergroup 17 and other areas of AA. Many groups follow the 50-30-10-10 plan of support after they meet their own financial needs:

- 50 percent to Intergroup 17
- 30 percent to AA Worldwide General Services Office
- 10 percent to North Florida Area Assembly
- 10 percent to District 17

Group contributions

Intergroup 17
3666A NE 25th Street
Ocala, FL 34470

The General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
6035 E. Tudor St.
New York, NY 10164
NFACAA
P.O. Box 567
Melbourne, FL 32902

District 17
P.O. Box 3081
Ocala, FL 3447

Individual contributions

Individual members can provide financial support to Intergroup 17 in various ways.

- *Faithful Fivers*: \$5 each month
- *Double Nickel*: \$10 each month
- *Birthday Club Members*: \$1 or more per year of sobriety, on their AA "birthday"
- Once-a-year contribution

Please note: According to the AA publication, "Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix," individual contributions are accepted from AA members only and are limited to \$3000 per year per person. (http://aa.org/pdf/products/f-3_selfsupport.pdf)

District 17 Corner

North Florida Area Assembly October 22-24, 2010

Paramount Resort
and Conference Center
2900 SW 13th Street
Gainesville, FL

District 17 officers, GSRs and committee chairs urged to attend and vote. Area 14 elections are being held on Sunday. All welcome. Complete information and full agenda at www.aanorthflorida.org

Get Involved.
Officer Elections
coming in November,
Committee chair and
service positions available.
Learn more.
**Attend the next
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 28**

St. Marks United Methodist Church,
1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala, FL

District 17 Contributions Make payable and send to:

District 17
P.O. Box 3081
Ocala, FL 3447

District 17 Officers & Committee Chairs

DCM: Nancy D
Secretary: Alison C
Treasurer: Ashley C
Accessibilities: Monte B
Archives: Kathy P
Bridging the Gap: Billy C
CPC/PI: Chris P
Corrections: Sherry R
Grapevine: Lydia N
Intergroup: John P
Literature: Max R
Treatment: William J

Group GSRs

164 Group: John B
Anthony: Lisa E
Came to Believe: John D
Conscious Contact: Jim B
Forest Group: Petra H
Free to Be: Brian L
Happy, Joyous & Free: Rick D
Head Start: Patti B
Keep It Simple: Tina T
Last Call: Chris P
Living Sober: Diane I
Men's Group: Bob L
No Name Group: Lisa E
Ocala Group: Ricky B
Sober Yankees: Ginger H
We Give Up: Carol W
Weir Crazy: Jennifer M
Young People's Group: Melissa B

The list above includes names of GSRs who have been active in recent District 17 activities. If your group's GSR is not listed, please send name and contact info to: thevoice@aaocalamarion.org

**To contact a District 17 officer, committee chair, or GSR, call
352.867.0660.**

District 17 Monthly Meeting Highlights August 26, 2010

DCM Nancy D presided. 24 officers, committee chairs, GSRs, and visitors in attendance.

DCM Report: Considering holding a joint meeting for Area 14 delegate report with District 7 later in the year..

Secretary's Report: July minutes read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report Accepted.. Financials available to view on request.

CPC/PI: Purchased 1400 Where & When schedules to distribute to all area probation officers.

Corrections: Sending thank you cards to wardens. Men's meetings need volunteers. Keeton Corrections seeking a meeting.

Grapevine: Publicizing opportunities for members to write their stories for publication in the magazine..

Intergroup: Office volunteers needed. Picnic scheduled for October 10 at Carney Island Park.

Literature: Asked for suggestions for using the 75th Anniversary Books. Investigating table-top displays..

Treatment: Compiling a list of area treatment centers. Vines needs meeting volunteers

Workshop subcommittee: Exploring sponsoring a "12th Stepping the Wet Drunk" workshop.

Gratitude Dinner: Date and location to be determined. Volunteers needed.

Old business: Billy C named chair of Bridging the Gap committee. Inquiry about taking meetings to nursing homes referred to Accessibilities.

Group Contributions to Intergroup 17 August 2010

**This table presents contributions for fiscal year June 2010-May 2011.
Report below is from June 1, 2010 through August 31, 2010 only.
If there is an error, please contact Intergroup 17.**

| GROUP NAME | \$ August '10 Con- tributions | Contri- butions 6/1/10- 8/3110 | GROUP NAME | \$ August '10 Con- tributions | Contri- butions 6/1/10- 8/3110 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 164 Pages Group | \$9.60 | \$74.53 | Living Sober Group | | 66.00 |
| Acceptance | | | Lunch Bunch Group | | 159.05 |
| Alive and Well | | | Marion Oaks | | |
| All You Need Group | | 30.00 | McIntosh Group | | |
| As Bill Sees It | | 169.00 | Men's Group Ocala | | 81.00 |
| Belleview Eye Opener | | | New Attitudes Group | | 30.00 |
| Belleview God's Way | | | New Beginnings Group | | |
| Belleview Group | | 150.00 | New Life Group | | |
| Bonfire Group | | | No Name Group | 42.75 | 42.75 |
| Breakfast Club | | 385.00 | Ocala Group | 256.84 | 503.63 |
| Cabin in the Woods | 25.00 | 25.00 | One Page at a Time | | |
| Came To Believe | | 24.00 | Primary Purpose Group | | 24.00 |
| Citra Group | | | Resentment Too Group | | |
| Come As You Are | | | Second Step Group | | |
| Conscious Contact | 50.00 | 50.00 | Shores of Sobriety | | |
| Day by Day | | | Sisters of Serenity | | |
| Eleventh Step | | | Sober Yankees | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Experience, Strength & Hope | | | Start A New Life | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| First Impressions | | | Steps and Promises | | |
| Forest Group | 20.00 | 20.00 | Stop Whining & Sober Up | | |
| Fountain of Gratitude | | 50.00 | Strength In Numbers | | |
| Free To Be | | 45.00 | Summerfield Group | | |
| Ft. McCoy Group | | | Summerfield New Green | | |
| God's Way Group | 8.76 | 8.76 | Sm'field Living in Today | | |
| Grace Group | | | Sundae Social Group | | |
| Grateful Gals | | | TLC Group, The Centers | | |
| Green Group | | | Thursday Night Step Gp. | | |
| Grupo Mano Abierta | | | We Give Thanks | | |
| Grupo Nueva Vida | | | We Give Up | | 47.03 |
| Happy Hour Group | | 80.00 | Weir Crazy | | 143.00 |
| Happy, Joyous & Free | 178.36 | 985.15 | Williston Winners | | |
| Headstart Group | 25.50 | 90.98 | Won Rebos Group | | |
| Healing Group | 30.00 | 30.00 | Young People's Group | | |
| It's In The Book | 60.00 | 60.00 | Zion-Blichton Group | | 20.00 |
| Keep It Simple | | 76.51 | District 17 | | 50.00 |
| Last Call Group | | | Birthday Club (personal) | | |
| Last House on the Block | | | Double Nickel (personal) | | |
| Life is Good Sober Group | | | Faithful 5-ers (personal) | | 25.00 |
| Life Saver Group | 200.00 | 200.00 | Individuals (other) | 7.76 | 32.78 |
| | | | Total | \$1,089.92 | \$3,922.52 |

Intergroup 17 Call Center August 2010

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Meeting info requests | 73 |
| Twelfth Step Calls | 4 |
| Office transactions | 83 |
| Visitors | 35 |
| Al-Anon* | 11 |
| Miscellaneous | 47 |

*Calls requesting information on or needing assistance from Al-Anon are respectfully referred to the appropriate local resources.

Intergroup 17 Financial Statements

Monthly financial statements for Intergroup 17 are available for review at the Intergroup 17 office during regular office hours. Please telephone in advance to make an appointment. 352-867-0660.

First Contact



“Is this AA? Well, um . . .
I might have a drinking problem.
Can you help me?”

**Can YOU?
Yes YOU can!
Will YOU?**

**Just say “Yes” to
answering 12th Step calls,
we’ll show you the rest.**

Call Intergroup to learn more.
352 867-0660

Intergroup 17 Monthly Meetings Everyone invited!

Open to all. Learn more about AA, Intergroup 17, and the great opportunities for service work .

**Sunday, October 17, 5:15 pm
St. Mark's United Methodist
1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala**

Upcoming Events and Meetings of Interest

Looking for a local meeting?

Choose from more than
160 meetings a week.

When and Where online!
www.aocalamarion.org

Print copies available through home
groups or at Intergroup 17 office.

Here's just a sampling that
may be of interest.

Beginners Meeting

Mondays

17th Street Group

6:00pm every Monday
Church of Christ

2730 SE Maricamp Rd., Ocala

Tuesdays

Needs your support!

Living Sober Group

7:30 pm every Tuesday

Congregational Church

7171 SW State Rd 200, Ocala

Meditation

Wednesdays

Conscious Contact

7:00pm every Wednesday

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

3452 NE Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala

Spanish Speaking

Wednesdays

Grupo Nueva Vida

7:00pm every Wednesday

150-A SW 23rd Ave. (1/2 block South
of Ft. King), Ocala

Fridays and Saturdays

Grupo Mano Abierta

7:00pm every Friday

2082 Walnut Street, Dunnellon

Eat 'n Speak

Keep It Simple Group

Last Thursday of the month

Eat: 7:00pm Speaker: 8:00pm

Small fee for meal

Ascension Lutheran Church

5730 SE 28th Street, Ocala

Ocala Group

Last Saturday of the month

Eat: 7:00pm Speaker: 8:00pm

Small fee for meal. All welcome.

St. Mark's United Methodist

1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

District 17 Monthly Meeting

All GSRs. Everyone welcome.

6:00 pm last Thursday of the month

St. Mark's United Methodist

1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

Intergroup 17 Monthly

Intergroup reps. All welcome.

5:15 pm second Sunday of month

Note: Change of date for this

month only, Meeting October 17.

St. Mark's United Methodist

1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

New Meetings

164 Pages Group Two New Meet- ings Starting October 11

Women's Meeting

Mondays 6pm WC/HC

Ocklawaha United Methodist

Church, 13333 East Hwy 25

Men's Meeting

Mondays 6pm WC/HC

Ocklawaha United Methodist

Church, 13333 East Hwy 25

A Vision For You

Mondays, 7 pm

Open Discussion

Florida Highlands Baptist Church

10891 SW 155th St, Dunnellon, FL

Accessible

Live, Laugh, & Love Starting Sunday October 3

Sundays, 1 pm

Lost & Found Club

339 NE Sanchez Avenue, Ocala

Meeting News

Name Change

Ocklawaha AM Group has changed its

name to the **Cabin in the Woods**

Group. Wednesdays, 10 am

New Meeting Location

Experience, Strength

& Hope Group

Fridays, 8 PM, Speaker Meeting

Church of Christ, 2730 SE Maricamp

Road, Ocala, Florida

New Location

Heavy Hitters (men's group)

Closed Big Book Discussion

Saturdays, 5:00-6:30 pm, Unity Place,

525 NE Sanchez, Bldg 300, Ocala

Discontinued

Happy Highlanders meeting discon-

tinued. Wednesday 5 pm Florida High-
lander Baptist Church, Dunnellon

17th Street Group dissolved. Meet-
ings discontinued, Monday and Thurs-
day, 6 pm.

A Vision for You, Tuesday 7 pm
meetings discontinued Highlands Bap-
tist Church in "Highland" Dunnellon.

How to publicize new and changed meetings

To help ensure the accuracy of
information about meeting dates,
times, and locations, please submit
all new and changed information
in writing or by email
(ocalaintergroup@msn.com) and
authorized by the Home Group
chairperson, secretary, or Inter-
group representative. Thanks.

DISCLAIMER

The Voice newsletter is published by Inter-
group 17 Ocala-Marion County, Florida,
and is created by alcoholics for alcoholics.
Articles in the newsletter written by indi-
vidual members of Alcoholics Anonymous
are expressions of their own experiences
and opinions and not necessarily those of
Intergroup 17 or AA as a whole. *The Voice*
editorial committee reserves the right to
edit anything submitted prior to its publi-
cation.

Special Events, Celebrations, Notices

Living Sober Group

Annual Picnic

Sunday, October 3

6:00 pm Food & Fellowship

7:30 pm Speaker: Bosch R

Bring side-dish/dessert and families!
50/50 raffle. Donations welcome.

Speaker Meeting

Sunday, October 10

7:30 pm

Speaker: Don C

Congregational Church

7171 SW State Rd 200

Ocala, Florida

All Welcome

Ocala Group

Eat 'n Speak Saturday, October 30

Dinner 7 pm
Speakers 8 pm

\$2 if you bring a dish
\$4 without a dish

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

October at the Lost and Found Club

339 NE Sanchez Avenue
(NE 4th St. & Tusawilla Park)
352-351-4688

- Saturday, October 2: Dance, 9 pm. \$2 members/\$3 nonmembers.
- Saturday, October 9: Movie Night. *The Machinist*. 50-cent hot dogs/sodas/chips/popcorn.
- Saturday, October 16: Open Jam, 9 pm. All instruments welcome. \$2 admission.
- Saturday, October 23: Sober Bingo, 9 pm. \$1/ three cards; \$2/seven cards.
- Saturday, October 30: Halloween Party, 9 pm. Best costume wins. \$2 adults. Kids free.

The Lost and Found Club is not affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous World Services or Intergroup 17. Local AA groups and others rent space from the club for meetings and events. Inquire at the club about availability.

LET THESE SPIRITS
MOVE YOU



Young People's Group 4th Annual Halloween Bash

Saturday October 30, 2010

7:00 pm Meeting @ Unity

9:00pm-Midnight Dance w/Guest DJ

The Livestock Pavilion

2220 NE Jacksonville Road

Fun for all ages

Costume contest with prizes
Please bring a desert.

Tickets: \$5.00 in advance,
\$6.00 at the door
Kids under 12 enter free.

New Grapevine Books at Intergroup 17

*Spiritual Awakenings:
Journeys of the Spirit*

*Spiritual Awakenings II
More Journeys of the Spirit*

Stories from the pages of Grapevine, published since 1944. Sobriety's message of miracles and redemptions. \$13.65 each.

Intergroup 17
3666-A N.E. 25th Street
Ocala, Florida
Phone: 352-867-0660

the weIR CrAzY gRoUp "weIR weIR HaPpY" 7 Year Anniversary & Gratitude Celebration

Wednesday, November 10

6:00 pm. Food and Fellowship

7:00 pm, Speaker, Randie P. Winter Garden, FL

St. John Lutheran Church
10495 Sunset Harbor Rd
Summerfield/Weirsdale Florida

Group provides meat, cheese, rolls,
chips, coffee and soft drinks.
Bring a nice covered dish or desert to express
your thanks giving.

Start a New Life Big Book Step Study Group Two-Year Anniversary

Saturday, October 9, 10 am
Speakers

Continental breakfast
Donations accepted

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

Mark Your Calendar

See details elsewhere in this issue or call
or link to more information.

10/2, 2010 Fun in Recovery Unity Day, Picnic,
Fruitland Park, FL. Information at 678-278-5457

10/3, 2010 Living Sober Annual Picnic, this page

10/9, 2010 Start a New Life Group Anniversary
Celebration. This page.

10/10, 2010 Intergroup 17 Fall Picnic, Carney
Island, Ocala. See page 5

10/17, 2010 Intergroup 17 Monthly Meeting.
See back page.

10/22-24, 2010 North Florida Area Assembly.
www.aanorthflorida.org

10/28, 2010 District 17 Monthly Meeting, See
page 6.

10/30, 2010 YPG Halloween Bash, this page

11/10, 2010 Weir Crazy Group Anniversary
and Gratitude Celebration, this page

11/13, 2010 District 17 Annual Gratitude
Dinner. See back page for details.

*Activities are listed for information only. Not necessarily
affiliated with AA World Services and/or Intergroup 17,
Ocala/Marion, Florida unless specifically noted.



Intergroup 17 Meetings Everyone invited!

Open to all. Learn more about AA, Intergroup, and the great opportunities for service work .

Next Meeting

Sunday, October 17, 5:15 pm
St. Mark's UMC
1839 NE 8th Avenue, Ocala

Free Subscription. The Voice by e-mail.



To subscribe for free,
send an e-mail
with "Free Voice" in
the subject line to:

thevoice@aaocalamarion.org

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Printed copies available at Intergroup office.

Intergroup 17 Ocala-Marion County Florida

3666-A N.E. 25th Street
Ocala, Florida 34470
Phone: 352-867-0660

Email: ocalaintergroup@msn.com
Website: aaocalamarion.org

Hours of operation

Monday-Friday 10 am to 5 pm
Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

365 days a year
24-hour Hotline
352-867-0660



District 17 2010 Annual Gratitude Dinner Saturday, November 13



Your imagination will be fired.

An evening of thanks and celebration.

Social hour & hors d'oeuvres
Dinner buffet
Guest speaker Debra V
Sobriety quilt raffle
Cake auction
50/50 raffle
Sobriety count down
And much more



Tickets \$20 each

See your group GSR or contact Intergroup 17 office.

Doors open: 5:30

Dinner: 6:30

Speaker: 8:00 pm

Our Lady of the Springs Church

4047 NE 21st Street
Ocala

North of Silver Springs Blvd, east of 36th Avenue.



Volunteer to Help

Bake a cake for the auction? Volunteer for the Gratitude Dinner Committee? Contact your GSR for details, or attend the next planning meeting. Call 352 867-0660 for time and location.

Attitude of GrAAttitude

A tremendous thank you to all the groups and individuals that contributed \$1 or more to Intergroup 17 in August, including:

- 164 Pages
- All You Need
- As Bill Sees It
- Belleview Group
- Came to Believe
- Happy Hour Group
- Happy, Joyous, & Free
- Headstart Group
- Keep It Simple
- Living Sober
- Lunch Bunch
- Ocala Group
- Primary Purpose
- Zion-Blichton Group

All who have contributed this fiscal year are gratefully acknowledged on page 7.

Intergroup 17 thanks all who volunteer to staff and maintain our office and hotline, manage our website, and produce our publications: Alison C, Bill J, Bobby J, Mike G, Daniel R, Ricky B, Jason B, Diane M, Connie C, Toni Marie C, Rick F, Phil H, Holly M, Peggy N, James M, James N, Rafael Q, Bosch R, Ed G, John P, Max R .

If we've left anyone out, we sincerely apologize. Let us know, we'll make amends. Every contribution whether in time, energy, or money is greatly valued and sincerely appreciated.

Priscilla P, Intergroup 17 Office Manager