

THE SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES OF THE 12 TRADITIONS

The Twelve Traditions are often referred to as, "Why it works." They ensure the continuance of A.A. as a whole, by providing guidelines for groups to evaluate their activities and actions. In a practical vein they are, individually and collectively, humility builders for the group; they ask that the group consider its conduct from a broader perspective and, when necessary, give up something for the overall good of A.A.

The Traditions also contain spiritual principles. These principles, when applied in our lives, complement the Steps as a guide to personal recovery. Here, taken from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, (with minor editorial modification) are the spiritual principles of the Traditions:

4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as whole.

5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

6. An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Type of Change	Address	Day/Time	Meeting Type
New	Sober Sisters Scoops Ice Cream 8602 SW St.Rd. 200 Ste. C Ocala, FL 34481	Sat. 10:00 am	Women's Closed Discussion
Time	Sober Yankees South West Christian 9045 SW 60th Ave. Ocala, FL 34476	Tuesday 6:00 pm	1st Tues. Open Tradition 2nd Tues. Open Grapevine 3rd Tues. Open Step 4th Tuesday Open Speaker 5th Tuesday Open Discussion
Relocated	Alive and Well Silver Springs Shores Community Youth Center 590 Silver Rd. Silver Springs Shores, 34472	Monday 10:00 am	Open Discussion
Relocated	Shores of Sobriety Silver Springs Shores Community Center 590 Silver Rd. Silver Springs Shores, 34472	Tuesday 7:00 pm	Open Step
Relocated	Shores of Sobriety Silver Springs Shores Community Youth Center 590 Silver Rd. Silver Springs Shores, 34472	Thursday 7:00 pm	Open Discussion
Cancelled	If you spot it - you've got it Silver Springs Shores Community Youth Center 590 Silver Rd. Silver Springs Shores, 34472	Saturday 7:00 pm	Open Discussion

The primary purpose of Intergroup District 17 is to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to those who suffer from alcoholism, and to operate and maintain the Intergroup District 17 office, to participate in other AA activities in the territory covered by Intergroup District 17, all in accordance with The Twelve Traditions, and such future suggestions as may hereafter be issued by the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous in New York.

Constitution and By-Laws of Intergroup District 17, Inc. Article 1 Section 3

Congratulations April, May, & June Birthdays!

April		Patricia B.	1	June	
Kimberly L.	1	Andrew S.	2	Diane P.	1
Laura P.	1	Michelle M.	2	Jessica R	1
Daniel B.	1	Erica M.	2	Jamie U.	1
Jay V.	3	Seth J.	2	CJ	1
Michael S.	3	Chris H.	3	Richard L.	1
Barbara W.	4	Nicole M.	3	Kristyn	1
Roxanne	4	Sam D.	3	Mel G.	1
Roxanne C.	4	Modesto	4	Mike N.	1
Dennis C.	4	Matt J.	4	Brian K.	2
Glenn K.	5	John M.	4	Crystal	2
Ricky W.	5	Helmut	4	Errol O	2
Ambica R.	6	Susan M.	4	Stacy P.	2
Gus	6	Amber C.	5	Larry B.	3
Kim Mc.	7	Greta C.	6	Sue C	3
Jeremy S.	8	Bob B.	7	John P.	4
Judy M.	9	Bonnie S.	8	Peter L.	4
Rick L.	9	Harry P.	8	Lauren L.	5
Jack C.	10	Nathan S.	10	Patrick O.	5
Charlie S.	11	Cree M.	11	Craig C	6
Fred C.	11	Phil S.	11	Dan B.	6
Fred	12	Jim R.	11	Mike L.	6
Peggy D.	13	Edward M.	11	Ryan B.	6
Tammy H.	13	Rhonda M.	12	Jill C.	7
Buddy S.	17	David S	13	Julio C.	8
Charley Mc.	19	Mike Pa	13	Steve M.	11
George G.	22	Don C.	19	Wade B.	11
Brian J.	23	Steve H.	20	Sheila N.	12
James P.	23	Jay B.	23	Joan R.	17
Tim R.	25	Jerry	25	Mike V.	19
Liz R.	26	Ken C.	25	Rick P.	25
Sherry R.	28	Tony E.	26	Rudy B.	27
Al C.	30	Fran P.	29	Jay P.	29
Ronnie B.	30	Pam E.	29	Margie R.	30
Beverly H.	35	Susan N.	29	Debbie T.	30
R.C. W.	35	Priscilla P.	30	Dick O.	30
May		Steve P.	32	Rick D.	32
Andrew S.	1	Bob S.	34	David M.	34
Chip O.	1	Rich F.	34	Karren Mc.	42
Kim B.	1	Andy H.	35	Diane R.	45
Matthew C.	1	Bill H.	36		
Patricia W.	1	Carol F.	39		
		Danny S.	58		

Announcements! The Intergroup office will be closed Mon., May 29th in observance of Memorial Day. The Intergroup Rep meeting will be on Sun., May 21st, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church at 3:30 pm. The Archives committee is looking for pictures of your meeting place. Please make sure no people are in the picture. They can be outside or the inside of the meeting area. We are also looking for any copies of the Gratitude Dinner place cards, tickets or flyers. I will get them back to you or make me copies. Send to Intergroup at aaocalaintergroup@gmail.com
Thank you - Rick D., District 17 Archives Chairperson

Rule 62: Scientific Humility: Not claiming to know what one does not know is essential to new discovery. Spiritual Humility: Is the recognition of a "context" greater than oneself. This type of humility provides a firm foundation for self-trust and self-confidence. If we recognize that we do not have to be the end-all and be-all for everything in our lives, the pressure is relieved. There is a greater force at work and that perspective allows for us to develop a positive humility. We can "get over ourselves" and be who we really are and stay sober.

Join the Birthday Club

The Birthday Club is a tangible way to celebrate an AA anniversary—yours or another member's. To join, complete the form below and enclose a donation—suggested is \$1 for each year of sobriety. The money is used to help Intergroup 17 carry the message to other alcoholics in Ocala and Marion County.

Your name: _____

Sobriety date: _____

Number of years: _____

Donation amount: _____

**Make checks payable and mail with this form to:
Intergroup District 17
1815 NE 19th Ave. Suite B
Ocala, Florida 34470**

Group Contributions	01/01/17-03/31/17
Fountain of Gratitude	5.94
Fort McCoy	6.27
By the Book	1.04
We Give Up	103.04
Living Sober	2.00
Complete Abandon	1.00
Free to Be	90.00
All You Need	45.00
Breakfast Club	805.29
Ocala Group	65.85
CPC/PI	3.00
District 17 Storage	375.00
Cabin in the Woods	400.00
Start a New Life	73.98
Into Action 4th Dimension	80.00
The Who 4th Dimension	80.00
Emotional Balance	175.00
One Day at a Time	574.47
Serenity at the Vines	2.00
Sober Yankees	1.72
Headstart	349.05
Birthday Club	57.00
Individual	42.25
Bellevue Eye Opener	2.00
Grace Group	8.10
Happy, Joyous, & Free	447.00
No Name Group	35.00
Primary Purpose	130.00
Weir Crazy	200.00
Young People's Group	3.00
Lunch Bunch	0.51
Bellevue As Bill Sees It	1.05
Came to Believe	2.77
Anonymity Group	15.00
Forest Group	1.79
Forest Men's Group	30.00
Perspectives	0.18
District 17 Copies	5.50
Total	4,220.80

SELF—SUPPORT: The 7th Tradition states: " Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the 7th Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose—to help the alcoholic who still suffers. The amount of our contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.

Service Material from the General Service Office

How Groups & Individuals Support

50% Intergroup District 17
1815 NE 19th Ave.
Ocala, FL 34470

30% General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

10% North Florida Area
Conference
5703 Red Bug Lake Rd. #241
Winter Springs, FL 32708

10% to District 17
P.O. Box 3081
Ocala, Fl. 34474

Some individual members
choose to provide financial
support Intergroup District
17 in various ways such as...

Faithful Fivers: \$5 each
month.

Double Nickel: \$10 each
month.

Birthday Club Members: \$1
or more per year of sobriety
on their AA "birthday."

Weir Crazy Group presents
the 13th Annual "Miracles
in May" Celebration on
beautiful Lake Weir

Celebrating the 82 years when
 Bill W. and Dr. Bob S. first met.

Wed., May 17th, 2017

Dinner at 6:00pm

Speaker at 7:00pm

The group will provide pulled
 pork, soft drinks and coffee.
 Please bring your favorite dish
 or dessert to share.

St. John's Lutheran Church
 10495 Sunset Harbor Rd.
 Summerfield, FL 34491

"The age of miracles is still with
 us, Our own recovery proves
 that." (Big Book page 153)



Intergroup Office	Feb., March &
12 Step	18
Meeting Info	185
Office Trans.	243
Miscellaneous	134
Visitor	104
Al-Anon	9

The Voice

Intergroup District 17, Inc. 1815 NE 19th Ave. Ste. B, Ocala, FL 34470 ~ (352) 867-0660

Email: aaocalaintergroup@gmail.com

Website: www.aaocalamarion.org

Hours of operation

Mon.- Fri. 10 am to 5 pm

Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

Steps Four, Five and Six are Action Steps

These steps help us to "clean house" of the things that cause negative feelings like guilt, shame, anger and resentment, the emotions that make alcoholics seek the relief of a drink.

The "Big Book" describes steps 4 and 5 as necessary to rid alcoholics of their "spiritual malady." Resentment is classified as the number one offender. In conducting a rigorous moral inventory we list people, institutions and principles with which we are angry. In most cases our self-esteem, finances, personal relationships or ambitions were hurt or threatened.

It is crucial that we look for our own mistakes "where we had been selfish, dishonest, self-seeking and frightened." The central question in this inventory is determination of our own part in this.

After completion of this "fearless moral inventory" Step 5 requires it be shared for only by disclosure to another human being we can be rid of secrets and shame. In this way we also learn to be honest and humble enough to avoid the guilt and shame that caused us drink over and over again.

Step 5 and Step 1 are humbling. Fear of further humiliation by admission of these guilty secrets to someone (by anticipation of their disapproval) must be overcome by many before they can "fearlessly" complete Step 5. Many sponsors make their own admissions during the process which tends to alleviate the stress and even benefits the sponsor. When he or she admits to doing some the same dreadful things you have done you are no longer alone with your shame.

Step 5 is a tremendous lesson in acceptance. When another person accepts you no matter how bad are the things you have done, it becomes much easier to accept yourself.

As the Big Book puts it, after "illuminating every twist of character, every dark cranny of the past," withholding nothing, "we can look the world in the eye. We can be alone at perfect peace and ease." There is then no longer the need to drink away our negative emotions.

In Step 6 "Were entirely ready to have God remove our defects of character." Once our defects have been identified, we ask our creator "I am now willing that you should have all of me, the good and the bad. I pray that you will remove every single defect of character which stands in the way of my usefulness to you and my fellows. Grant me the strength, as I go out from here to do your bidding." Amen.

Looking for service work?

Intergroup is always looking for volunteers, not just in the office, but we have two activities coming up; an appreciation luncheon, and Fall family picnic. And we need people to serve on the committees to help plan and carry out these events. The first committee meeting for the Appreciation Luncheon will be Wed., May 24th, 5:00 pm at the Intergroup office. More information will be forthcoming on how you can serve on the Fall family picnic. Come and share your talents!