



The Voice



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December 2012

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What does Tradition 12 Mean Anyway?

Tradition 12 - Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles above personalities.

Long form - And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

This Tradition reminds us that anonymity means more than just not using our last name in public, it has a deeper spiritual significance in that it's calling us to renunciation. Normally alcoholics would rebel at that word, it sounds so harsh, and after all, aren't I the Center of the Universe? But in Alcoholics Anonymous we learn to give up a little something. We give up the need to always stand out by keeping our unity in mind, we give up the need to always be right when we listen to God speak in the group conscious, we give up jockeying for money, power, position, we give up being the face of AA in print, radio, and films. We give up looking for controversy, just to stir the pot a little.

We place emphasis on spiritual principles rather than personalities. Whether it's the cranky old timer who insist it's "My way or the highway!", the clueless newcomer who does know everything, the addict who wants to come hang out, the Guru Sponsor and his little collection of sponces, the DCM who believes the district will fall apart at any moment, there is a loving God as we understand him watching over the whole crazy, kooky, nutty bunch of us. And that's how this thing works.

"Our AA Traditions are, we trust, securely anchored in those wise precepts; charity, gratitude, and humility. Now, have we forgotten prudence? May these virtues ever stand clear before us in our meditations; may Alcoholics Anonymous serve God in happy unison for so long as he may need us."

~~~ Bill W. The Grapevine, November 1948

## Step 12

*Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

As the history of Alcoholics Anonymous so clearly indicates, it was working with others who were still suffering that kept Bill W. and Dr. Bob sober. The same principle is true for all members of 12 step groups: "to keep it you have to give it away."

In Al-Anon, the step reads try to carry the message to "others" and in A.A. is says to alcoholics. The principle is the same. In order to work all 12 of the steps, you must try to help others.

Carrying the message to others, by sharing experience, strength, and hope, reinforces the spiritual principle of the 12 steps in the person being 12-stepped as well as the one doing the sharing. It works for the stepper and the steppee! If nobody was doing any 12 step work, the program would simply cease to exist. Without the service work of those who came before, none would be here now.

But Step 12 also admonishes members to put the spiritual growth they have found to work not only within the fellowship, but it all aspects of their lives -- to practice these principles in all our affairs. This too is doing 12 step "work" and makes the program work as one of attraction and not promotion.

Intergroup District 17-3666A N.E. 25<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala, FL 34470 **24 Hour Hotline** 352-867-0660 [aaocalaintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:aaocalaintergroup@gmail.com)  
Hours of Operation: Weekdays 10:00 am-5:00 pm Saturdays 10:00am-2:00pm

**The Intergroup Office will be closed Monday, December 24th, Tuesday the 25th, Monday the 31st, and Tuesday, January 1st, 2013.**

**Congratulations!! December Birthdays!** Join the Birthday Club! Send \$1 (or more) for each year you celebrate to Intergroup 17

|            |              |            |           |                 |             |
|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| Bobby 1    | John S 2     | Ward W 5   | Chris 10  | <b>November</b> | Thomas H 32 |
| Bithy K 1  | Deb 3        | Ron F 6    | Lisa S 12 | Mike B 1        | James K 34  |
| Mike A 1   | Peter G 3    | Max R 6    | Ed 18     | N Josie 2       |             |
| Rhonda B 1 | Betti J 3    | Kelli S 6  | Fred W 23 | Max P 4         |             |
| Jerry D 1  | Theresa C 4  | Bob H 7    | Phil H 25 | Tim C 5         |             |
| Keely C 2  | Marjorie T 4 | Kelly O' 8 | Joe 27    | Lucy C 19       |             |
| Donna T 2  | Gordana U 5  | Mary H 10  | Jack R 31 | Jim 29          |             |



**New Meetings: Please support them.**

**Open Circle Group**, Saturday, 7 pm  
12332 Hwy. 301, Belleview 34420  
1/2 block south of Knights of Columbus bldg.  
Or .08 mile on left from the intersection of  
Hwy 301 and 132nd Street Rd.

**Reddick**—Open Big Book, Friday, 7:30pm  
Friendship Baptist Church, 15115 NW  
Gainesville Rd., 32686  
at Old Gainesville Rd. & Hwy. 25A

**Mid Afternoon Group** Friday, 2:30pm  
Open Books, Lost and Found Club, 2315 NE  
29th Terr., Ocala, 34470, 352-622-2360

**Unity, Service, Recovery Group**  
Fri., 7:30pm, Open Speaker  
The Ritz Historic Inn  
1205 East Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala 34470  
Community room in the back of building.

**Meeting Changes:**

**Morning Glory** meeting meets at  
10 am not 8 am, Monday & Friday  
Lost & Found Club

**Eat & Speak Meetings**

Keep It Simple Group  
Dinner 7:00pm, Speaker 8:00 pm  
Ascension Lutheran 5730 SE 28th St.  
Ocala 34480-6429  
Last Thurs. of the month

**Speaker Meetings**

Experience, Strength & Hope  
Ice Cream Social & Speaker  
First Fri., of the month  
7:00pm, Church of Christ  
2750 Maricamp Rd.  
Ocala 34471-5583

Living Sober Group  
2<sup>nd</sup> Fri. of the month  
First Congregational UC C,  
7171 State Rd. 200, Ocala, 34476-7055

**Beginners Meetings**

Lunch Bunch Group  
Mon., Noon, Open  
Lost & Found Club  
2315 NE 29th Terr., Ocala 34470

Summerfield Group  
Mon., 7:30 pm, Closed  
Mulberry Grove Rec. Center  
8445 SE 165th Mulberry Lane  
Summerfield/The Villages 32162

Living Sober Group  
Tues., 7:30 pm, Open  
First Congregational UCC  
7171 SW State Rd 200, Ocala 34476-7055

First Impressions Group  
Tues., 8:00 pm, Open  
The Vines, 3130 SW 27th Ave.  
Ocala 34471-4306

Joy of Living Group  
Fri., Noon, Closed  
Ocala West United Methodist  
9330 SW 105th St, Ocala 34481-7614

Belleview Group  
Fri., 5:00 pm, Open  
Belleview Lions Club  
5850 SE Lillian Circle  
Belleview 34420

Keep It Green Group  
Fri., 7:30pm, Open  
Sunset Harbor Baptist  
9200 SE Sunset Harbor Rd.  
Summerfield 34491

Strength in Numbers Group  
Sat., 7:00 pm, Open  
Family Life Ministries  
12404 SE 112th Ave Rd.  
Belleview 34420

**Meditation**

Conscious Contact Group  
Wed., 7 pm  
St. Matthew's Lutheran  
3452 NE Silver Springs Blvd.  
Ocala 34470-6405

Emotional Balance Group  
Open Meditation, Thurs., 5:30 pm  
Oakbrook Center for Living  
1009 NE 28th Ave., Ocala 34470

**Spanish Speaking**

**Grupo Mano Abierta**  
Monday & Friday 7:00 pm  
St. John's Methodist  
12390 West State Rd. 328  
Ocala 34482-6955



**Mark Your Calendar**

Dec. 20 Thursday, District 17 GSR Meeting  
6:45 pm St. Mark's UMC  
1839 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Rd. Ocala 34470

Dec 29 Saturday Headstart Group  
7:00 am Anniversary Speaker (Bob L.) Breakfast  
Unity Place, 525 NE Sanchez Ave, Ocala 34470

Dec. 31 Monday, New Year's Celebration  
Hosted by Intergroup 17 & Living Sober Group  
7:30 pm First Congregational UC C,  
7171 State Rd. 200, Ocala, 34476-7055

Jan. 18-20 North Florida Area Assembly  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary  
1501 International Parkway  
Lake Mary, FL 32746 Phone: 800-380-7724



Intergroup Insights

It is with a sad and heavy heart that I inform the fellowship of our recent members who have passed away this month. Jack R., had 30 years sobriety and was a member of the One Day at a Time Group, spoke at The Centers for several years and was a member of several other groups here in Ocala over the years. John D., was the GSR for the Came to Believe group and very active in the AA community for many years, and Erik K. was a member of the Happy, Joyous, and Free group. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and friends.

If you are looking for a service position the Steering Committee is in need of a Co-Chair and Member at Large. Just call the office for more information. Great News! We are now accepting Visa, Master Card, and Discover credit cards on all purchases and contributions. A \$10 minium purchase is required. A Saturday desk volunteer is needed. The shift time is from 10 am to 2 pm. Also, The Voice will no longer be published until another editor is found. If you have knowledge of laying out a newsletter and would like to help, please call me.

Wishing everyone a happy and sober holiday season,  
 Connie C. – Office Manager

Women's Corrections

Have you ever gone to only one meeting a week? What if you could only go to one meeting a week? What if all you were able to attend was only one meeting a week because NO ONE wanted to be of service to A.A. How would you be able to do 90 meetings in 90 days? What kind of recovery would you have? What if you were told that is all some women in A.A. can go to? Would you feel sorry for their chance of recovery? Can you be of service to the women in A.A. and share your experience, strength, and hope for one day a week? The women in the Lowell prison only get one A.A. meeting a week and at times none are provided. If you can be of service the A.A. members in the Department of Corrections are begging you to please step up and be of service. The women look forward to the meetings and are so disappointed when none are taken there. Just contact Intergroup for the clearance papers needed to be filled out. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Lori M. – Women's Corrections Chair

| Name                         | Oct    | Y/T/D  |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 164 Pages                    | 20.00  | 41.76  |
| Acceptance                   |        |        |
| Alive & Well                 |        |        |
| All You Need                 | 50.00  | 68.00  |
| Anonymity                    |        | 4.08   |
| As Bill Sees It              |        |        |
| Belleview Group              |        | 300.00 |
| Belleview Eye Opener         |        |        |
| God's Way                    |        |        |
| Blichton Road                | 12.00  | 40.00  |
| Breakfast Club               |        | 561.86 |
| Cabin in the Woods           | 100.00 | 303.00 |
| Came to Believe              | 1.00   | 45.71  |
| A Light in Citra             |        |        |
| Conscious Contact            |        |        |
| Eleventh Step                |        |        |
| Experience Strength and Hope |        |        |
| Eye Opener                   | 20.00  | 20.00  |
| Forest Group                 |        | 64.17  |
| Forest Men's Group           |        | 100.00 |
| Fort McCoy Group             |        |        |
| Fountain of Gratitude        |        | 4.76   |
| Free To Be                   |        | 80.00  |
| Fresh Start                  |        | 1.37   |
| Grace Group                  | 1.00   | 11.83  |
| Grateful Gals                |        | 73.50  |

|                        |        |         |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| Grupo Mano Abierta     |        | 25.00   |
| Happy Hour             | 50.00  | 50.00   |
| Happy, Joyous and Free | 242.14 | 1568.18 |
| Headstart              | 192.54 | 302.29  |
| The Healing Group      |        |         |
| Heavy Hitters          |        | 5.28    |
| Into Action            |        |         |
| It's in the Book       |        |         |
| It's Not Them          |        |         |
| Keep It Green          |        |         |
| Joy of Living          |        |         |
| Keep It Simple         |        | 115.98  |
| Last Call              |        | 2.58    |
| Living Sober           |        | 53.33   |
| Lunch Bunch            |        |         |
| McIntosh Group         |        |         |
| Marion Oaks 12 Step    |        |         |
| New Attitudes          |        | 37.66   |
| Ocala Group            | 65.65  | 677.27  |
| Ocala Men's            |        |         |
| One Day at a Time      |        | 400.00  |
| Primary Purpose        | 33.00  | 97.00   |
| Serenity Group         |        | 50.00   |
| Shores Of Sobriety     |        | 50.00   |
| Sisters of Serenity    |        |         |
| Sober Yankees          |        | 74.10   |
| Start a New Life       |        |         |

|                         |               |                |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Stop Whining & Sober Up |               |                |
| Strength in Numbers     |               | 105.66         |
| Summerfield Group       |               |                |
| Sundae Social           |               |                |
| TLC                     |               | 2.64           |
| Thursday Night Step     |               | 40.00          |
| Together We Can         |               |                |
| We Give Up              |               |                |
| We Give Thanks          |               | 6.55           |
| Weir Crazy              |               | 250.00         |
| Young People's Group    |               | 100.00         |
| District #17 Purchases  | 140.65        | 562.72         |
| Birthday Club           |               | 580.00         |
| Double Nickel           |               |                |
| Faithful Fivers         |               | 15.00          |
| Individual Members      | 29.47         | 119.68         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>957.45</b> | <b>7010.96</b> |

THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING 😊

**Intergroup Office Calls October 2012**

- Visitors - 37
- Al-Anon - 7
- Misc. - 115
- Meeting info - 93
- Office Transactions - 77
- Twelve Step Calls – 4

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Addresses

**Intergroup District 17, Inc.**  
 3666A NE 25th Street  
 Ocala, FL 34470  
 Checks payable to:  
 Intergroup District 17, Inc.

**District 17**  
 P.O. Box 3081  
 Ocala, FL 34478  
 Checks payable to:  
 District 17

**North Florida Area Conference**  
 P.O Box 360831  
 Melbourne, FL 32936  
 Checks payable to: NFAC

**General Service Office**  
 P.O. Box 459  
 Grand Central Station  
 New York, NY 10164  
 Checks payable to: GSO

***“HAPPY SOBER NEW YEAR”***

*Unity Place, located at 525 NE Sanchez Ave, is hosting a complimentary Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, 1 pm to 3pm. All are welcome. Share the food and fellowship.*



*Desserts are welcome.*

*Al-Cathon Alert: hosting Al-Cathons New Year's Eve St. Mark's United 1839 NE 8th Rd,*



*The Ocala Group is on Christmas Eve and beginning at 5:30 pm. Methodist Church Ocala, FL 34470*

*Bring a chair. Side dishes are welcome.*

## *New Years Eve Celebration*

*Hosted by Intergroup 17 and Living Sober Group 7:30 pm – 1 am  
First United Congregational Church of Christ, 7171 SW Highway 200, Ocala, FL 34476*



*7:30 Fellowship  
8:00 Speaker: Jim C, Sarasota  
9:30 Play: Stories from the Big Book  
10:30 Food, Music, Dance, Cards  
11:45 Countdown to 2013*



*Please bring finger foods and desserts to share. Cold drinks & coffee provided.  
Suggested donation \$5.00. Proceeds after expenses help Intergroup and District 17.*