



# Today

March  
2010

Palm Beach County Intergroup Association

1371 Okeechobee Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
561-655-5700 Fax 561-655-6441  
www.aa-balmbeachcounty.org

## 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OLD TIMERS PANEL & SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the Finland House.  
Located at Dixie Hwy and Central Blvd in Lantana.  
Dinner from 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
Speakers from 7:30pm - 9:30pm  
Dinner tickets are \$12.00. The meeting is Free  
Tickets are available through your Intergroup Rep,  
or at the Intergroup office. Advanced ticket  
purchase is recommended.



## BIRTHDAY CLUB

Celebrants for January:  
Barry B. 25 yrs  
Celebrants for February:  
Dennis C. 8yrs.

### Calls to the Office In

AA related	268
Twelve Step calls	4
Other Programs	33
Public Information	2
Institutions	2
Visitors	295
AA Emails	182
Total Activity	786
Website Unique visitors	786
1 <sup>st</sup> time visitors	2401
Return visitors	463



A drunken man staggers in to a Catholic church and sits down in a confession box and says nothing. The bewildered priest coughs to attract his attention, but still the man says nothing. The priest then knocks on the wall three times in a final attempt to get the man to speak. Finally, the drunk replies: "No use knocking' mate, there's no paper in this one either."

### *Service Schedule*

3/7 - Institutions Committee Mtg. 4:30pm  
3/14 - GSR Meeting 5:00pm  
3/31 - Intergroup Meeting 6:15pm  
4/7 - Steering Committee Meeting 6:15pm

Groups may announce  
Sponsored events in the  
Today.  
Call the Intergroup Office  
655-5700

## Intergroup Purpose

To serve our associated groups in carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic according to the principles of the twelve steps, twelve traditions, and twelve concepts of A.A., always remembering that our common welfare comes first.



*You're Quotes for the cartoon:*

1. I told you I could drink you under the table. Larry
2. Do you think our wives will find us here? Cheryl L.
3. What where we looking for? Craig L.
4. We must stop meeting like this. Nausheen S.
5. Oh S+++ now we have to call our sponsors. Ted G.
6. Where did the table go? Denise
7. Got any ice? Barbie Jo
8. Do you think we are safe under here? George

**What is Sponsorship ?**

Alcoholics Anonymous began with sponsorship. When Bill W., only a few months sober, was stricken with a powerful urge to drink, this thought came to him: "You need another alcoholic to talk to. You need another alcoholic just as much as he needs you!"

He found Dr. Bob, who had been trying desperately and unsuccessfully to stop drinking and out of their common need A.A. was born. The word "sponsor" was not used then; the Twelve Steps had not been written; but Bill carried the message to Dr. Bob, who in turn safeguarded his own sobriety by sponsoring countless other alcoholics. Through sharing, both of our co-founders discovered, their own sober lives could be enriched beyond measure.

What does A.A. mean by sponsorship? To join some organizations, you must have a sponsor----a person who vouches for you, presents you as being suitable for membership. This definitely not the case with A.A. anyone who has a desire to stop drinking is welcome to join us!

In A.A., sponsor and sponsored meet as equals, just as Bill and Dr. Bob did. Essentially, the process of sponsorship is this: An alcoholic who has made some progress in the recovery program shares that experience on the continuous, individual basis with another alcoholic who is attempting to attain or maintain sobriety through A.A.

When we first begin to attend A.A. meeting, we may feel confused and sick and apprehensive. Although people at meetings respond to our questions willingly, that alone isn't enough. May other questions occur to us between meetings; we find that we need constant, close support as we begin learning how to "live sober."

So we select an A.A. member with whom we can feel comfortable, someone with whom we talk freely and confidently, and we ask that person to be our sponsor.

From: AA Phamplet - Questions & Answers on Sponsorship

**Welcome new Reps in  
February**

- Jack K. Men's Fifth Tradition
- Matt J. Big Book Spiritual
- Sandie F. Big Book Wed.
- MaryAnn M. Free Spirited Women
- Michaela S. End of the Road
- Jennifer F. Somewhere to Turn
- Peter W. Happy, Joyous, Free
- Bruce F. Sobriety & Thunder

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Mail to:

Palm Beach County Intergroup Association  
 1371 Okeechobee Rd, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

**SIGN UP FOR THE BIRTHDAY CLUB**  
 Complete form & mail to "Birthday Club"  
 1371 Okeechobee Rd, WPB FL 33401  
 Or e-mail us at [pbciaa @ Bellsouth.net](mailto:pbciaa@bellsouth.net)  
 Please include your name, address and  
 Anniversary Month and Year.

Included in your membership you will receive A "Bill and Bob" Medallion a Birthday Flyer and Your name printed in the Today news letter.

\$1.00 per year of sobriety is the suggested donation.

**Birthday Club Form**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sobriety Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

*North Palm Beach County needs  
 your help identifying your  
 GROUP CONTACT. Please call:*

*Debbie S. (941)830-0158 or  
 Steve Y. (561) 689-4638*

A Group Contact Person is someone who notifies Intergroup if their changes locations time of the meeting or a name

ASL Interpreted Meetings are offered at the following meeting:

**Love, Faith & Life Group**  
**Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 2341 South Military Trail**

**Thursday @ 8:30pm CD Men's meeting**  
 If you have any Questions Contact Intergroup at  
 561-655-5700

### Intergroup Meeting Minutes for February 3, 2010

Alex A. called the meeting to order at 6:15pm followed by the Serenity prayer and the reading of the 12 Traditions.

**Welcome New Representatives:** Jack K. Men's Fifth Tradition, Matt J. Big Book Spiritual, Sandie F. Big Book Wed., MaryAnn M. Free Spirited Women, Michaela S. Endo of Road, Jennifer F. Somewhere to Turn, Peter W. Happy, Joyous & Free

**Vice Chair's Report: Steve Y.** - Info regarding the spaghetti dinner I old timer's panel: We have printed 500 tickets 275 tickets have been handed out, so far we have confirmed for 15 speakers getting volunteers in place for the event always looking for new volunteers, if you are interested in doing service work, please call Steve Y. @ (561) 689-4638. If you need the search for direction for the Finland house the Zip code there is 33462.

**Secretary's Report: David C.** - Motion made accept minutes as printed in the Today.

**Treasurer's Report: Henry M.** - I would once again like to thank the all groups who supported our 43rd Annual Holiday Alcothon. To clarify; contributions from the AA GROUPS that participated in an Alcothon held simultaneously at The Triangle Club totaled \$248.32 which was given to Intergroup in accordance with our 7th Tradition, while The Intergroup Alcothon netted \$581.21 after expenses. Our total income for 12/2009 \$9914.01, expenses were \$8944.21 for an increase of \$969.80 with our ending balance being \$4511.89, leaving us at \$19488.11 below our \$24,000.00 prudent reserve. Our income one year ago was \$7883.25 and expenses were \$6042.55 and we were below the prudent reserve by \$9161.60. These figures were taken from 02/2009 Today Newsletter.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**1. General Service/Intergroup Liaison: Luiz C.** - Last meeting we had a couple of notices: 2011 we will be hosting the Quarterly in January, so we will be needing volunteers. 2010 will be elections for the District, so people that want to get more into service should start attending the District business meetings and getting involved Founder's day and delegate's report date to be confirmed by Ken C, maybe 06/13; John McGreevy, executive director of fern house, passed away; ASL meeting down again to once a week on Thursdays, at Love Faith and Life group.

**3. Office Manager: Beth E.** - We have open shifts Mon (9-1), Wed (10-1 and 1-5). Phones are busy. All special orders for literature will require a pre payment.

**4. Public Information: Larry M.** - From PI/CPC has had a wonderful opportunity to participate at the Lake Worth Resource Center. This is a meeting place for many Spanish speaking day laborers. The city of Lake Worth is concerned at the lack of information provided to these citizens about alcoholism and a possible treatment through A.A. Through both North & South county Intergroup, PI/CPC has been providing Spanish speaking presentations every other Tuesday at the Resource Center. Spanish literature and meeting list are made available. This really is cooperation within A.A. and with our community. The committee also received a list of members of the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission from a past PI/CPC chair. We sent letters out to each member providing literature and offering to meet and discuss what services A.A. can provide. We received our first call back from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department with a request to set up a meeting. We're very excited at the possibilities this could provide. Through our North County Intergroup, PI/CPC has also been asked to participate again in the Florida Atlantic University's Health and Wellness Fair. We will have a booth set up in a high student traffic area providing literature with A.A.ers available to answer questions. We participated last year and found it to be not only a great chance to inform the students about A.A., but also the other fair participants.

**5. 12 Step List: Anthony M.** - Absent Unexcused

**6. Phone Volunteer: Lisa M.** - All permanent positions filled. Good amount of back-ups on the list at this time but not sure all are still available to serve; back-ups are always welcome to sign up. One permanent position volunteer came off (Thurs 5:00-8:00 p.m.); position was filled right away by a volunteer on the back up list. Hotline Volunteers' Training Session is scheduled for (last) Sunday, February 28th, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. - to meet at the Intergroup Office. All permanent and back-up volunteers are encouraged to attend. Lisa M will conduct training session; all current volunteers (permanent & back-ups) will be contacted 2 weeks ahead of time by phone and email regarding the training session, date, time and place. Anyone desiring to serve as a Hotline volunteer may, and should, attend the training session. Attn: "Today" Chair; please post training session date and info in the Feb issue of the "Today"; Intergroup Reps: please announce this information at your meetings.

**7. Today: Cheryl L.** All this is new to me, but I some what got a handle on it. I am trying to get people to get active with the Today so I will be putting jokes in it **7. Today: Cheryl.** - I want to introduce myself to all the Reps. As the new today editor, and I am looking forward to serving you. If there are any events or announcements you would like to be in the Today, send them to the Intergroup office by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, also the Today still have a "comedy Corner" joke section. People can email AA jokes to the Intergroup office, we will pick one and put it in the today all emails can be sent to [pbcciaa@bellsouth.net](mailto:pbcciaa@bellsouth.net).

**8. B-Day Club/Today: Hugh** - Working on prices for new envelopes, Need to get groups opinion and vote on topic, also all Today's and Birthday Club letter where sent out.

**9. Website Committee: Mark P.** - No written report was provided to secretary. "Web site is up to date and if you find any correction need to website please notify Intergroup"

**10. Group Contact Committee: Steve Y.** - No written report was provided to secretary. "So far there is nothing new to report regarding the Group Contact info."

**11. Bridging the Gap: Babs** - absent, Bridging the gap is going well totals are as follows 77 bridges in 2008, 17 bridges in the month of December 2009 and 169 total bridges for the year of 2009. As reported last month this position is open if someone would like to stand for it. (Read into the by secretary)

**12. Ad-Hoc Committee for reviewing Intergroup By-Laws: Luiz C.** - Committee will be meeting during January to gather information about by-laws, and bring a suggestion of topics to be discussed by the groups regarding updating ours.

**13. Ad-Hoc Committee for reviewing Moving Intergroup Location: Mark** - Committee has meet twice to discuss the feasibility of moving Intergroup location and findings are as follows.

- That the \$400 dollar rent is below market value and is in violation of AA Traditions.
- It is feasible that Intergroup move several location where found with squarer footages of 450 to 650 SF at a rent monthly of 400 to 650.
- If we are to renew are lease we should request a fair market values for our rent and request all communication from the landlord be confined to our leasing agreement.

The committee is requesting a "sense of the meeting" to determine which direction the groups would like to focus on, decision must be made by April's meeting and as such the committee will bring recommendation to discuss in February's meeting and to vote on in March.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- Potluck- Is scheduled for April (Tabled)
- Spaghetti Dinner- Date is set 3/13/2010- Tickets are available at Intergroup.
- Dance- Tabled

#### **Business Discussed:**

- Vice Chair stepped down from office, Motion made to suspend the rules and have an election to fill open chair. ( PASSED Unanimously)
- Election to fill vice chair position. Two people stood, Steve Y.won simple majority.
- An Ad-Hoc committee from Archives passed out a survey to be filled out by groups. On the location that we store Artifacts of Palm Beach County AA.
- Motion from Ad-Hoc Committee for reviewing Moving Intergroups Location to take "Sense of the meeting" 22 votes for look into new location, 2 votes to stay where we are.
- Motion made to buy 2500 birthday club envelopes at \$250.( PASSED Unanimously)
- Motion made to sell birthday club envelopes at \$10 each.( PASSED 14/4)

## Step 3

Made a decision to turn my will and life over to the care of God as we understood him.

## Tradition 3

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

## Concept 3

As a traditional mean of creating and maintaining clearly defined working relations between the groups, the Conference, A.A.General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision".

## COUPON FOR INTERGROUP

Help us Help you Carry the message !!!!

For every \$20 spent on LITERATURE at the Intergroup Office, you will get 10 AA Phamplets of your choice for FREE .....

Must bring coupon with you.....

## The Biggest Loser

This fellow tried something called the Bourbon Street diet. "I've only been on it a month," he said, "and already I've lost three weeks!"

**Group Donations**

2010	YEAR TO DATE	JANUARY
AFTER HOURS GROUP	\$ 292.20	\$ 292.20
DESIGN FOR LIVING	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
GIFT OF SOBRIETY	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
GOOD ORDERLY DIRECTION	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
HAPPY HOUR GROUP	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
HARMONY WOMEN'S GROUP	\$ 510.00	\$ 510.00
JUPITER GROUP	\$ 53.14	\$ 53.14
JUPITER SUNRISE GROUP	\$ 630.29	\$ 630.29
KIRK ROAD GROUP	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
LANTANA GROUP	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00
LOOK TO THIS DAY	\$ 22.60	\$ 22.60
LOVE, FAITH & LIFE	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
MAIN PURPOSE	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S GROUP	\$ 72.00	\$ 72.00
NOON HOUR GROUP	\$ 340.00	\$ 340.00
NORTHWOOD GROUP	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
OCEAN PARK MEETING	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
PRIMARY PUROSE	\$ 325.00	\$ 325.00
PRIMETIME GROUP	74.20	\$ 74.20
ROAD TO FREEDOM	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
SATURDAY EVENING RECOVERY	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
SERENITY ON THE BEACH	\$ 160.00	\$ 160.00
SMOKE FREE SOBRIETY	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
TELL IT LIKE IT IS	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
THE NEW DOWNTOWN GROUP	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,792.43</b>	<b>\$ 4,792.43</b>
<b>DONATING GROUPS</b>	<b>25</b>	



In the first few weeks without a drink  
 When the wolf is at the door,  
 And the sheriff's at the window  
 And you're sleeping on the floor,  
 And life looks bleak and hopeless  
 From a monetary angle,  
 It's time to spend, in certain ways,  
 To solve the awful tangle:  
 That token or that bus fate  
 To get you to a meeting,  
 That dime to use the telephone  
 For that necessary greeting,  
 That nickel for "expenses"  
 That makes you feel you matter,  
 That dollar for the coffee shop  
 For after-meeting chatter.  
 All these are wise investments  
 For the neophyte to make.  
 This "bread", when cast upon the waters,  
 Always comes back cake.

Living Sober

**Palm Beach County Integroup  
 Operating Report 1/01/10 - 1/31/10**

**Income:**  
 Literature Sales \_\_\_\_\_ \$4,207.51  
 Sales Tax \_\_\_\_\_ \$272.28  
 Tax Exempt Sales \_\_\_\_\_ \$87.75  
 Group Donations \_\_\_\_\_ \$4,792.43  
 Today Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00  
 Birthday Club \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00  
 Intergroup Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ \$59.18

**Total Income** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$9,449.15**

**Expenses:**  
 Office Salary \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,997.73  
 Payroll Tax (Q4 2010) \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,683.89  
 Unemployment Tax (Quarterly) \_\_\_\_\_ \$0.00  
 Health Insurance (Quarterly) \_\_\_\_\_ \$601.00

Rent \_\_\_\_\_ \$400.00  
 Water \_\_\_\_\_ \$75.00  
 AT&T (Internet/Long distance, Advertising) \_\_\_\_\_ \$308.78  
 FPL \_\_\_\_\_ \$91.42  
 Pest Control \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00  
 Printing \_\_\_\_\_ \$112.08  
 Sales Tax \_\_\_\_\_ \$248.78  
 Literature Purchases \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,650.30  
 Office Expense \_\_\_\_\_ \$101.02  
 Accountant (Year End) \_\_\_\_\_ \$820.00  
 Finland House (Security deposit) \_\_\_\_\_ \$300.00

**Total Expenses** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$12,430.58**

**Monthly Profit/Loss** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$2,981.43**

**Account Balance Checking** \_\_\_\_\_ **-\$533.99**

**Prudent Reserve Balance** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$5,296.94**

**PALM BEACH COUNTY INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE  
 Operating Report 1/1/10-1/31/10**

**Beginning Balance** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$12,313.92**

**Income:**  
**Group Contributions**  
 Men's Tell It Like It Is \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,000.00  
 Smoke Free Sobriety \_\_\_\_\_ \$8.65  
 Good Guys Group \_\_\_\_\_ \$95.00  
 Noon Hour Group \_\_\_\_\_ \$66.00  
 After Hours Group \_\_\_\_\_  
 Each Day A New Beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day's End Group \_\_\_\_\_  
 Anonymous Donations \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Contributions** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$1,169.65**

Bowling for Big Books Income \_\_\_\_\_ \$120.00  
**Total Income** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$1,289.65**

**Expenses:**  
 Bank Charge \_\_\_\_\_  
 Big Books \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,246.00  
 Printing \_\_\_\_\_ \$23.25  
 Big Book Ball \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bowling for Big Books \_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00  
 Rent \_\_\_\_\_ \$60.00

**Total Expenses** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$1,334.25**

**Monthly Profit/Loss** \_\_\_\_\_ **-\$44.60**