

SMIN ONF - NI - ONI

Published Monthly by: Acadiana Area

Central Office, Inc. **Located at:**

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Mail all Contributions to:

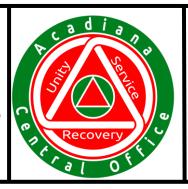
P.O. Box 61144 Lafayette, LA 70596

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 11:00 - 4:00

COPYRIGHT © 2024 Acadiana Area Central Office, Inc. Step 5: "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

<u>Tradition 5:</u> "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."



May 2024

COR Meeting
May 19th, 2024
Turning Point, 210 8th Street

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Acadiana Area Central Office is looking for volunteers to answer the "AA Hotline" phone after hours and on weekends.

Call 337-991-0830 to sign up.



Literature and more available at Acadiana Area Central Office:

- Big Books (all formats!)
- 12 Steps & 12 Traditions
- · As Bill Sees It
- Dr. Bob and the Good Old-Timers
- AA Comes of Age
- Language of the Heart
- · Daily Reflections
- Pass It On
- Living Sober
- · Came To Believe

- ¡También disponible!
- Alcohólicos Anónimos "Libro Grande"
- Doce Pasos y Doce Tradiciones
- Reflexiones Diarias
- Como Lo Ve Bill
- AA Manual de Servicio
- Living Sober
- AA Service Manual
- Big Book Dictionary
- 12&12 Dictionary

- AA Service Manual
- AA Pamphlets
- Newcomer Packets
- Sobriety Chips
- Meeting Lists
- Event Flyers
- Drop The Rock
- DTR Ripple Effect
- 24 Hours A Day
- A New Pair Of Glasses

Want to contribute an item to the Plug-In-Jug? Email us at centraloffice@aa-acadiana.org or send it to Acadiana Area Central Office by the 15th of the month to mail out with the following months publication.

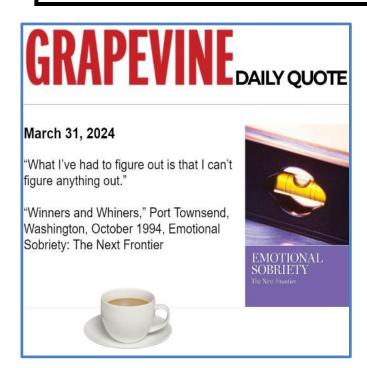
MISSION STATEMENT

It is the goal of your Central Office Steering Committee to monitor and improve upon the quality of services provided by the office and its workers. The Steering Committee meets regularly to review Policies and Operations in order to improve its services to our A.A. Community.

<u>acadiana.org</u>

<u>aa-acadiana.org</u>

Email the Central Office at: centraloffice@aa-





Drinking problem?

Call 337-991-0830 24/7

DONATE

Español 337-298-9762



Acadiana Central Office

Alcoholics Anonymous in the Acadiana Area

A new feature has been added to the Central Office website.

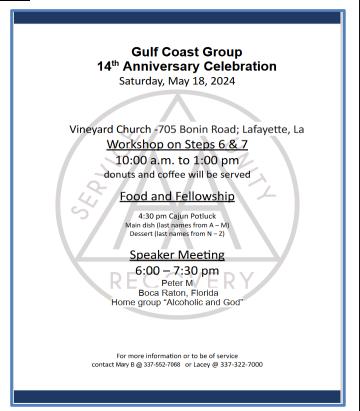
You can now donate to the Central Office via PayPal.

Any donations *from AA members* will be appreciated.

If donating for a group, please include group name in memo.

Events





Future Events- Flyers can be accessed on the Central Office Website:

https://aa-acadiana.org/events

June 28 @ 4:00 pm - June 30 @ 5:00 pm 64th Louisiana State Convention Baton Rouge, LA

July 19 @ 12:00 pm - July 21 @ 12:00 pm LASCYPAA XXXVIII Lafayette, La



A Question of Sanity By: Robert P. | Amity, Oregon



A newcomer gets a little Higher Power logic to help him find his way to Step Two.

I came into AA as the prototypical agnostic. I didn't know if there was a God or there wasn't, and I didn't care. Not that I gave the matter much thought. I had my priorities, don't you know. I was a religious mongrel, a little Jewish, some Lutheran, with a heavy dollop of Southern Baptist. So my concept of God was quite confused. Right away it was obvious that I couldn't go far into the Steps without addressing this Higher Power issue. That turned out not to be a problem as there was a whole chapter in the Big Book just for me: We Agnostics.

I like how the chapter starts with as accurate a definition of an alcoholic as you will find anywhere in the Big Book: "If, when you honestly want to, you find that you cannot quit entirely, or if when drinking, you have little control over the amount you take, you are probably alcoholic." Yep, that's me.

But then comes the veiled threat. "If that be the case, you may be suffering from an illness which only a spiritual experience will conquer." Followed by the absolute threat, "But after a while we had to face the fact that we must find a spiritual basis of life—or else." Oh no, I thought, I'm doomed. I shared my dismay in a meeting and afterward this oldtimer came up to me. "Not so fast," he said. "If you have honestly taken the First Step, you already have a power greater than yourself."

"Huh?" I replied.

"You admitted that you're powerless over alcohol, right?" he said. "So, alcohol is a power greater than yourself. Simply call alcohol your 'lower power.' Do you suppose there could be anything higher than a lower power?"

"Yeah, well, I guess so," I replied. "There," he said. "That's all you need to get started. Turn your will and your life over to whatever that is and you are on your way." I thought about that. "So now I'm on Step Three?" I asked. "Not so fast," he said. "You still have to come to believe that this power greater than yourself could restore you to sanity. Do you think you're insane?"

"No problem there, dude," I replied. "I have a certifiable mental illness, with suicide attempts and stays in the psych hospital."

"Wrong!" replied the oldtimer. "Read the story of Jim in Chapter Three. What does it say about the definition of insanity?"

"I don't know," I replied, puzzled. "Well, of course you don't," he said. "Go read those pages." So I went home and read about Jim. He had been Twelfth Stepped and was sober for a few months when he stopped at a restaurant for a sandwich and milk. Still hungry, he ordered another sandwich and milk, but this time he decided to put an ounce of whiskey in his milk as it "couldn't hurt me on a full stomach." The experiment went so well that he ordered another and another. This started one more trip to the asylum for Jim. However, the sentence that really jumped out at me is on the next page: "Whatever the precise definition of the word may be, we call this plain insanity." I returned to that oldtimer and told him what I found, and he said, "So, where drinking is concerned, do you think you're insane?"

"Well, when I was drinking back in the 1980s, I had a lot of stomach problems," I explained. "And I read that taking an ounce of antacid every two hours would help. That seemed like a lot of antacid, and I was kind of busy, so I mixed an ounce of vodka in my antacid and drank it every ... well, not that I really timed myself."

"You're kidding?" the oldtimer said. "No," I replied. "That's the God's honest truth."

"Sheesh, and I thought I was bad," he said and walked away.

The AA Grapevine online store

has a variety of books, ebooks and other publications full of inspiring stories of fellow AAs on their journey to recovery.





The Road to Joy

By: Harold I. | Marietta, Georgia

Though he got a late start, he luckily made the right turn. Boy, is life better now

Where's the road to true joy and how do I find it? I would ask myself. That road was staring me in the face for nearly 20 years before I saw it. And it took a few more years before I actually got on it. Dr. Bob pointed us all toward it when he summed up our program in three words—love and service.

It wasn't that I was unhappy in my sobriety or that I wasn't doing service. I've actually been sober since 1982, and my life in AA has been a vast improvement over my drinking years.

An early mentor of mine in AA once told me that I could have a slice of the joy in sobriety, or I could have the whole pie—the choice was mine. Much depends on whether I decide to commit to be a person of service or a person who gets by on performing just a little. Both paths improve my life, but one gets me a bigger piece of joy.

One of the founders of my home group always talked about our Twelve Steps. It took me forever to figure out what he was saying. This guy was all about action. Our group had a plaque on the front of our podium that read "Gratitude is An Attitude" and he used tell me all the time that it didn't apply to guys like us. "Gratitude is an action," he'd say. "Don't tell me you're grateful—show me." He showed his gratitude by being of service in AA and out in his community. The Steps aren't just for me to study or to work, he told me. They are there for me to take into my soul, to become part of me and shape the very essence of my existence.

I believe now that the Steps are the soul of the program and meetings are the heart. I balked at taking the Steps early in sobriety. I was afraid of what they might change me into. Even though I was pretty miserable back then, at least my misery was familiar. I was fearful of entering into unknown territory, even if it might benefit me. When the gift of desperation became too much for me, I relented and began taking the Steps in earnest.

Finally I realized taking the Steps was not work. The Steps are my admission ticket back into society. The process of taking the Steps prepares me to fulfill my purpose of being of maximum service. And eventually, that work turns into joy.

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has a variety of books, ebooks and other publications full of inspiring stories of fellow AAs on their journey to recovery.



May 2024 BIRTHDAYS



| NAME | BIRTHDAY | HOME GROUP | YEARS | NAME | BIRTHDAY | HOME GROUP | YEARS |
|------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|
| Dave B. | 5/2/2003 | A Vision for You | 20 | Liz C. | 5/30/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 |
| Tory H. | 5/5/2019 | A Vision for You | 4 | Sean D. | 5/7/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Joe H. | 5/10/2019 | A Vision for You | 4 | Greg V. | 5/11/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Diana L. | 5/4/2020 | A Vision for You | 3 | Jose L. B. | 5/27/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Travis W. | 5/31/2010 | Abbeville Area | 13 | Leslie M. | 5/27/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Joe I. | 5/15/2013 | Abbeville Area | 10 | Adam H. | 5/28/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Mark A. | 5/2/2015 | Abbeville Area | 8 | Kingsley H. | 5/28/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Bridgette T. | 5/21/2018 | Abbeville Area | 5 | Kayla C. | 5/20/2020 | Reflections | 3 |
| John F. | 5/15/2011 | Back to Basics NI | 12 | Brenda S. | 5/22/2021 | Sisters in Sobriety | 2 |
| Tommy W. | 5/25/2016 | Back to Basics NI | 7 | Donna B. | 5/9/1986 | Step by Step | 37 |
| Kurt I. | 5/15/2017 | Back to Basics NI | 6 | Tammy G. | 5/12/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Bobby B. | 5/17/1974 | Boulevard Group | 49 | Charles F. | 5/1/2019 | Sun Up | 4 |
| AC B. | 5/7/1983 | Faith Group | 40 | Phyllis L. | 5/6/2019 | Sun Up | 4 |
| Ann F. | 5/15/1985 | Kitchen Table Group | 38 | Peter F. | 5/11/2019 | Sun Up | 4 |
| Don H. | 5/7/2016 | New Way Group | 7 | Tommy G. | 5/1/1982 | Sun Up | 41 |
| Mark T. | 5/3/2018 | New Way Group | 5 | Stephen M. | 5/10/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Dale T. | 5/21/1981 | Primary Purpose | 42 | Kathleen R. | 5/13/1983 | Sun Up | 40 |
| Lisa O. | 5/16/1988 | Primary Purpose | 35 | Brandy R. | 5/2/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Elizabeth Y. | 5/2/1999 | Primary Purpose | 24 | Jed C. | 5/23/2015 | Sun Up | 8 |
| Geraldine M. B. | 5/16/2008 | Primary Purpose | 15 | Archie H. | 5/27/1974 | Sun Up | 49 |
| Bubba (Wayne) B. | 5/21/2008 | Primary Purpose | 15 | Donna D. | 5/3/1992 | Sun Up | 31 |
| Steve M. | 5/16/2009 | Primary Purpose | 14 | Tony K | 5/3/2009 | Sun Up | 14 |
| Kay D. | 5/4/2012 | Primary Purpose | 11 | Paul D. | 5/3/2014 | Sun Up | 9 |
| Todd S. | 5/12/2012 | Primary Purpose | 11 | Kristin P. | 5/30/2017 | Sun Up | 6 |
| Bobby K. | 5/21/2013 | Primary Purpose | 10 | JJ F. | 5/8/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Richard G. | 5/28/2016 | Primary Purpose | 7 | Norman F. | 5/9/2000 | Sun Up | 23 |
| Robert S. | 5/12/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 | | | | |



752 YEARS!

Don't see your name?

Go to aa-acadiana.org and complete the "Sobriety Date

Submittal form:



JUNE 2024 BIRTHDAYS



| NAME | BIRTHDAY | HOME GROUP | YEARS | NAME | BIRTHDAY | HOME GROUP | YEARS |
|---------------|-----------|------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|
| Nicole J. | 6/29/2019 | A Vision for You | 4 | Dan B. | 6/9/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 |
| Troy G. | 6/23/2022 | Abbeville Area | 1 | Mark W. | 6/26/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 |
| Will G. | 6/14/1981 | Back to Basics NI | 42 | Nick J. | 6/28/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 |
| во-воу | 6/22/2001 | Back to Basics NI | 22 | Sharon O. | 6/10/2017 | Primary Purpose | 6 |
| Debbie O. | 6/21/2002 | Back to Basics NI | 21 | Nancy O. | 6/12/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Nick S. | 6/28/2010 | Back to Basics NI | 13 | Todd B. | 6/3/2018 | Primary Purpose | 5 |
| Jared L. | 6/15/2016 | Back to Basics NI | 7 | John C. | 6/29/2021 | Primary Purpose | 2 |
| Emilie | 6/23/2017 | Back to Basics NI | 6 | Jim B. | 6/30/1989 | Scott Group | 34 |
| Abby K. | 6/1/2018 | Candlelight Group | 5 | Debi V. | 6/13/2015 | Sisters in Sobriety | 8 |
| Rex L. | 6/21/2018 | Candlelight Group | 5 | Kelly Y. | 6/20/2018 | Sisters in Sobriety | 5 |
| Tanner T. | 6/4/2018 | Candlelight Group | 5 | Pat A. | 6/1/1983 | Sun Up | 40 |
| Pam B. | 6/25/2000 | Circle & Triangle | 23 | John H. | 6/1/1986 | Sun Up | 37 |
| Jeff B. | 6/11/2001 | Circle & Triangle | 22 | Al L. | 6/2/1990 | Sun Up | 33 |
| Ronnie L. | 6/13/2008 | Dry Dock | 15 | Clay A. | 6/8/1997 | Sun Up | 26 |
| Joseph R. | 6/28/2015 | Dry Dock | 8 | Jon N. | 6/15/2006 | Sun Up | 17 |
| Casey S. | 6/29/2016 | Dry Dock | 7 | Kirk W. | 6/6/2007 | Sun Up | 16 |
| Dave B. | 6/21/2018 | Dry Dock | 5 | Robin N. | 6/1/2007 | Sun Up | 16 |
| Herman J. | 6/17/2015 | Freedom's Choice | 8 | Warren B. | 6/13/2011 | Sun Up | 12 |
| Curtis H. | 6/1/1980 | Keys to the Kingdom | 43 | Erica R. | 6/28/2012 | Sun Up | 11 |
| Francis L. | 6/3/2008 | New Way Group | 15 | Scotty R. | 6/4/2013 | Sun Up | 10 |
| Iris V. | 6/2/1983 | Primary Purpose | 40 | Jacqueline S. | 6/2/2014 | Sun Up | 9 |
| Sue McD. | 6/23/1986 | Primary Purpose | 37 | Derek D. | 6/1/2016 | Sun Up | 7 |
| Vinny B. | 6/27/1988 | Primary Purpose | 35 | Felix E. | 6/13/2016 | Sun Up | 7 |
| Kay F. | 6/25/2000 | Primary Purpose | 23 | Coy D. | 6/24/2017 | Sun Up | 6 |
| Marcelle T. | 6/3/2001 | Primary Purpose | 22 | CJ O. | 6/14/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Jacqueline S. | 6/2/2014 | Primary Purpose | 9 | Jan S. | 6/16/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Donna L. | 6/16/2015 | Primary Purpose | 8 | Kimmy B. | 6/2/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Dale S. | 6/6/2016 | Primary Purpose | 7 | Mitch B. | 6/2/2018 | Sun Up | 5 |
| Jeff L. | 6/6/2016 | Primary Purpose | 7 | Larry W. | 6/15/2019 | Sun Up | 4 |
| Mark W. | 6/6/2016 | Primary Purpose | 7 | Jeanette | 6/11/2020 | Sun Up | 3 |
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829 YEARS!

Don't see your name?





Acadiana Area Service/Committee Meetings



Fellowship of the Spirit South Committee Meeting

1st Sunday — 4:00 pm 210 8th St. (Turning Point)

Central Office Steering Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday — 4:00 pm 115 Leonie St. (Central Office)

District 13E Meeting (GSRs)

2nd Wednesday — 6:00 pm 300 E Martial Ave (Covenant United Methodist Church) Zoom ID: 828 6914 4187 Password: District13

Cajun Country Conference Committee Meeting

3rd Sunday — 3:00 pm 210 8th St. (Turning Point)

Central Office Representatives (COR) Meeting

3rd Sunday — 4:00 pm 210 8th St. (Turning Point)

LASCYPAA Committee Meeting

4th Sunday — 9:00 am 924 Kaliste Saloom Rd. (The DOC)

Louisiana State Convention Committee Meeting

4th Sunday — 3:00 pm Baton Rouge Central Office 10319 Old Hammond Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA

Louisiana (Area 27) Assembly

April 6-7, 2024 Holiday Inn Baton Rouge 9990 Airline Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA

Update COR contact info at:

Update GSR contact info at:

aa-acadiana.org/cor

district13e.org/gsr