

# Plain and Straight



July 2010  
The Newsletter of Pinellas  
County Intergroup

**Pinellas County Intergroup's Primary Purpose** is to assist and support the A.A. groups of Pinellas County, and surrounding areas, to carry the message of *Alcoholics Anonymous* to those who suffer from alcoholism. It is responsible to the member groups of the county. The voting body consists of representatives from each group, who decide on and implement the decisions concerning A.A. in Pinellas County. It is responsible for the maintenance of Central Office which provides general information and services, maintains a 24 hour phone line, publishes meeting schedules, and makes available an inventory of approved merchandise and literature for visitors, groups, and the general public. In all of its activities and policies, the *Pinellas County Intergroup* practices and observes the spirit of A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts of World Service, and promotes unity and fellowship among all the member groups it serves.



## Contacts

### A.A. Central Office

8340 Ulmerton Rd., Suite. 220  
Largo, FL. 33771

Ph: 727-530-0415

Fx: 727-530-0416

### OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Fri - 10AM-6PM

Email: [centraloffice@aapinellas.org](mailto:centraloffice@aapinellas.org)

Web Site: [www.aapinellas.org](http://www.aapinellas.org)

## Plain and Straight

Email: [plainandstraight@aapinellas.org](mailto:plainandstraight@aapinellas.org)

On web site: "What's Happening" > "Plain & Straight"

### Submit Anniversaries:

On web site: "Group Submissions" > "Anniversary Information Form"

## Where and When

### Email:

[whereandwhen@aapinellas.org](mailto:whereandwhen@aapinellas.org)

On web site: "Find a Meeting"

### Add new meetings:

On web site: "Group Submissions" > "New Meeting Form"

### Change Meetings:

On web site: "Group Submissions" > "Meeting Change Form"

## Unity Meeting

Email: [unitymeeting@aapinellas.org](mailto:unitymeeting@aapinellas.org)

On web site: "Find a Meeting" > Unity  
Speaker Meeting

### Unity Meeting Sign-up and Calendar:

"Group Submissions" > "Unity Sign-Up  
Form"

## Comments from Our Chairman

### The Spirit of A.A.

On the last day of 1990 I was approaching my first full year without alcohol. My wife and I along with three other couples attended a "Pot Luck" dinner at an A.A. Group. That meeting ended about 10:00pm, then we all set off for "New Years Eve" dance being held at the Rebos Club. When we entered the club the music was loud, the room was crowded and smoky, and most of the couples were dancing. It reminded me of the old days when we would attend a party where there was alcohol. We found the one table that had nothing on it, and thought it would be ideal if there were chairs available for us to sit on. All the other tables had chairs, but I was afraid that if I asked for a chair, someone might break one over my head (that might well happen if alcohol was involved). The music stopped and some folks came back to the tables surrounding ours. A man from one of the adjacent tables approached me, and with a smile extended his hand for a handshake. We exchanged names, and then he asked if we needed some chairs. I said yes and he, and I went on a quest for chairs. More people started helping us and within a couple of minutes we not only had chairs, but some new friends.

This experience taught me a lesson about A.A. folks. As I get sober, and start incorporating the twelve steps into my life, I change. I start to become the person I always could have been if alcohol hadn't taken me in a different direction. I become concerned about the well being of others and I'm willing to do things to help them.

During the past six weeks volunteers have been asked to help out doing the renovations to our Central Office. Every one of them has displayed the kindness, willingness to get involved, and work hard. We will finish the renovations in the next few weeks, and Pinellas County A.A. will be the beneficiary. I would love to call the newspaper in and let them do a story crediting the volunteers for the work that they have done. We of course will never do that. I am grateful to know the wonderful volunteers that have given so freely their time, energy and substance to make a better home for Pinellas County A.A. It reaffirms my faith that if I work hard and live by the principles I have been taught, that my A.A. involvement will make me a better person.

Tom H., Chairman  
Pinellas County Intergroup

## Fun, Fellowship and Service

### District 1 Committee Meetings

#### **Archives Committee**

3rd Saturday - 1:30 PM  
Alano Club, Dolphin Village  
4615 Gulf Blvd. , #112, St. Pete  
Beach

#### **Corrections Committee**

2nd Monday - 6:30 PM  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
4825 East Bay Drive, Largo

#### **P/CPC**

Last Monday - 6:00 to 7:00 pm  
Disston Park Church  
4682 40th Avenue N., St. Petersburg

#### **Special Needs Committee**

1st Tuesday - 6:30 PM  
REBOS, 6766 54th Ave N  
St. Petersburg, FL

#### **Treatment Committee**

Last Saturday - 10:00 AM  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
4827 East Bay Drive, Largo

#### **Grapevine Committee**

2nd Monday - 6:00 PM  
REBOS, 6766 54th Ave N  
St. Petersburg, FL

## New Meetings

#### **TBAAM Angels**

Saturday, 7:00 p.m.  
Open Beginner Discussion  
3491 62nd Ave N  
Pinellas Park, FL, 33781  
ENTRANCE:East Side

#### **Oldsmar Group**

Wednesday, 12:00 Noon  
Open Discussion  
Community United Methodist  
Church  
207 Buckingham Ave. E.  
Oldsmar, FL, 34677  
Meeting Based On Grapevine  
Literature

#### **Experience Strength & Hope**

Wednesday, 8:pm  
Open, Discussion, Speaker  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
400 5th Street North  
St. Petersburg FL 33701

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## 2010 International Convention

### International Convention

July 1st – 4th, 2010

San Antonio, Texas

Wow! What an experience, once again. This was only my second international convention, but I have to say it was just as exhilarating as the first.

When we arrived at the convention center to get our badge holders and souvenir programs, I immediately noticed the kindness shown by everyone. If two people bumped into each other, each would say "Excuse me", simultaneously. People waited patiently in the mile-long lines, talking and joking with the other line-ees. There was an almost tangible feeling of acceptance, tolerance and patience wherever we went.

The opening ceremony gave me chill bumps as each nation's flag was proudly carried by a representative of that nation. There was applause and cheers for each flag, but maybe a little more for countries like India, Iran, China and Mexico. Ninety nations were represented at this convention, proving that AA works everywhere – no matter what the culture is, what language is spoken, what religion is most prominent, or what type of government runs the country. Drunks across the world want to get sober and start a new life!

Saturday night was the "old-timers" time in the spotlight, with the big meeting in the Alamodome paying homage to 545 members who had 40+ years each. Yes, that's over 21,800 years of sobriety with the most going to a man who had 64 years! Twelve old-timers' names were drawn from a sombrero (no regular hat here!) and each one of them had 5 minutes to share. What an interesting mix of stories and emotions from that loving, sharing group.

Sunday morning brought this great gathering of drunks to a close with the final meeting of the convention. It was a great meeting, but there were such mixed feelings because I knew this was the close of another great gathering, but at the same time, I didn't want to acknowledge the end. There were over 54,000 attendees celebrating sobriety and the Alamodome has never seen so many seats filled – especially by non-drinking participants.

There were many, many other things going on, but there's just not room enough to write about them. The Bill and Bob play was awesome, comedian Mark Lundholm was hilarious, and Sober City had every piece of convention memorabilia you could want. There were meetings going on all the time on every topic you could imagine, dances at three or four of the hotels, hospitality rooms for most of the states, and, of course, coffee everywhere. When I asked the woman at Starbucks if there were more people than they expected, she said they knew there would be a lot of people, but they weren't prepared for the non-stop lines that never went away!

All in all, it was nothing less than spectacular. The weather? Yes, it rained, but that didn't stop any of us alcoholics from having a great time. In my drinking days, I know it certainly wouldn't have stopped me from drinking and I'll be darned if it was going to stop me from having fun in sobriety!

If you've never been to an International Convention, I suggest you go. Just being around so many recovering people is enough to keep you sober for another day, so what more of a reason could you want? The next one will be in Atlanta in 2015, which isn't a bad drive for all of us Floridians. I think I might take my motorcycle. Let me see, what will I need to pack??

Convention attendee #3817,  
Woodie S.

## Meeting Changes

#### **Old Name: CDSGW**

#### **New Name: Sisterhood**

Saturday, 5:30pm  
Gulfport Presbyterian Church  
531327<sup>th</sup> Ave South

#### **Blind Pass Group**

Saturday, 2:00pm  
Spanish Closed Discussion  
**CANCELLED**

#### **Mid Day Miricle**

Monday-Saturday, Noon  
REBOS  
**NOW ALL NON-SMOKING**

*(Continued Page 7)*



**PINELLAS COUNTY UNITY SPEAKERS MEETING**  
**JOIN THE AA ROADSHOW AND BRING YOUR GROUP TO DEGEORGE**  
**PLAZA ON STARKEY ROAD ON SATURDAY NIGHT AT 8 P.M.**

*I live one day at a time  
I dream one dream at a time  
Yesterday's dead, and tomorrow is blind  
and I live one day at a time.*  
**(Willie Nelson)**

6/5/10

**Back Porch Lunch Bunch**

Daily—several meetings each day.  
DeGeorge Plaza  
12678 Starkey Rd.  
Largo

Chair: Stan S.  
Preamble: Paul G.  
How It Works: Joe G.  
Chips: Darcee C.

**Speakers:**

Eva P  
Nick R  
Sheri  
Roger H.  
Cathy C.  
Chris

**Eva P. S/D – 1/23/1999**

Eva was the only alcoholic in her family and when she first came into the rooms, she was in denial about being an alcoholic. She knew she was a binge drinker, but she thought she could solve her problem by herself. She blamed her problems on many other things beside herself. It was her first DUI that brought her to AA. She came to meetings for 15 months but wasn't really being honest and hadn't really accepted that she was an alcoholic so she went back out again. The progression of the disease rapidly brought her back down again and she came back to the rooms and started taking it seriously. After awhile she began to see similarities between herself and others in the rooms and she found herself willing to listen and learn. Today she is a grateful recovering alcoholic who stays sober by staying active in service to AA. She has a terrific network of sober friends and she enjoys staying in the middle of the boat. To newcomers her message is "This program works! Keep coming back."

**Nick R. Sober for 10 years**

Nick's father was a heavy drinker and a very angry man. Nick began drinking as a method to "take him away" from the turmoil at home. He was a good student and he had a very bright future, but he started hanging with the wrong crowd, people who drank like he did, and his education took a backseat. Nick used to love the affect alcohol had on him. But eventually it brought him down to a level that he could not live with. He found his way into the rooms of AA. He believes that a higher power brought him here. Today he is happy, joyous, and free. He has a wonderful wife and a successful relationship with his stepdaughter. AA has helped Nick to feel whole on the inside. He relies on the unconditional love of the fellowship because they continued to love him until he learned to love himself.

**Sheri S/D – 4/14/01**

Sheri was an honor roll student until she started running with a bad crowd. She had a very big ego and she says "The bigger the ego, the lower the bottom." Alcohol brought a lot of misery into her life. She was lucky enough to find her way through the doors of AA; however, she has had two relapses. This time is different for her. After finding herself living on the streets as a result of her alcoholism, she came to the conclusion that she was going to die from the disease if she didn't seek and accept help. Today she is willing to do whatever it takes to stay sober. Her life is better than she ever imagined it could be. She is married to a wonderful man and has a successful career. She believes that her higher power always has been and always will be there for her. Her message to newcomers is to

"suit up, show up, and stay sober." The program works if you practice the principles in all of your affairs.

**Roger:**

Roger moved from Kentucky to Florida two years ago. He had lost everything before he came into AA. He had lost his mind. Today he has everything he never dreamed he would have. He has a beautiful wife and two wonderful children. Roger says "You don't have to be smart or bright to get something out of this program, you just have to have the gift of desperation. He knew nothing about living a spiritual life before he found this program, but today he relies on his Higher Power to help him learn to deal with life on life's terms. Keep coming back!

**Cathy C.**

Cathy was alone all of her life. She went to work, she came home, and she drank. She would drink every night until she passed out then she would get up and begin the cycle again. She had no friends and no social life. One day she was approached by a woman who said to her "You look miserable." The woman was right and Cathy soon found her way into the rooms. Today she believes that her sobriety is the greatest miracle in her life. The words "Welcome, you are no longer alone" mean everything to her and she believes those words kept her here. The right people have been in her life since she got sober. They all loved her until she learned to love herself. She works the steps and she stays actively involved with service work. Cathy doesn't have many material things in her life, but she has peace and serenity and that is all that really matters.

### **Chris**

Chris feels he had a subconscious death wish when he found AA. He was very confused about life. He had lost a very successful business and had gone through a divorce because of his drinking. He no longer wanted to live. He used to live very dangerously, almost in hopes that the things he would do would end his life. Once he found the program and began to accept it, he found his life changing. He started feeling better and good things started happening for him. He sees the promises working in his life every day. Today he lives life on life's terms and he stays actively involved with helping other to achieve sobriety.

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6/13/10

### **Into Action Group**

Meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays  
Serenity Club  
631 Turner St.  
Clearwater

Chair: Bruce B.  
Preamble: Maggie T.  
How It Works: Mike T.  
Chips: Dawn C.

Speakers:  
Joanne C  
Tom C.

JoAnne C  
JoAnne is powerless over alcohol. She didn't have a long drinking career. She began drinking as an adult during her marriage. She seldom drank at first, perhaps a few times a year, but she found herself always looking forward to those times as a method of escape from her everyday life. She got divorced and started joining some friends for happy hour. She would drink herself into oblivion. Alcohol took her very rapidly to a very bad place. Within 5 years, she was a full-fledged alcoholic. She had crossed a line where alcohol became a way of life. She suffered many blackouts and she was very ashamed of her behavior. It was not the direction she wanted her life to go. She found the rooms of AA. She had always thought that she would find happiness in material things, but soon learned that happiness comes from

within. She believes that in order to find happiness you have to find a God in your life. The grace of God is what brought her into the rooms and AA has taught her how to live. To newcomers she says: "Willpower is not enough. You must rely on the help of others. Keep coming back until the miracle happens and then pass it along."

### **Tom C**

Tom doesn't recall many of his drunken endeavors because he was a blackout drinker from the beginning. At 13 years old, Tom drank an entire bottle of Canadian Mist and became an instant alcoholic. Tom never lost anything material to alcohol, but he did lose his sense of self worth. In 1984, his wife encouraged him to try AA and he did. He found a sponsor, a great sponsor as a matter of fact, and he helped him through the steps. Tom did as he was told, but he didn't put his soul into it and he soon found himself back out. The disease took him right back down again and he came back into the rooms. He was sober for another 6 years, and then went back out again. This time he experienced a heart attack and his wife left him. He wanted to die. Luckily, he found his way back again and since then he has taken the program very seriously. Today he is happy, joyous, and free. He discovered the spiritual aspect of the program and he began to believe. He found freedom from alcohol. All the promises are coming true for him and he relies on his Higher Power to help him through each day. To newcomers his message is that Step one is the most important of all. You have to believe.

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6/19/10

### **Our Common Problem**

Meets Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
4827 East Bay Dr.  
Largo

Chair: Lanni F.  
Preamble: Chip L.  
How It Works: Jason M.  
Chips: Diane S.

Speakers: Diane S, Billy S.

### **Diane S/D -9/7/1993**

Diane likens her alcoholism to having a void in her heart. Alcohol had turned her into a liar, a cheat, and a manipulator. Diane came into the program through a treatment facility. She was amazed that so many people wanted to simply help her without expecting anything in return. She kept running into one woman time and time again. She didn't want her as a sponsor, but eventually she felt that she needed to ask her to be her sponsor so she did. That's when she began her journey of recovery. She began to understand what alcoholism really was and that it wasn't just for bums who carried around paper bags on the street. She learned many new things from her sponsor. Her sponsor helped her become honest with herself and with others. Diane learned a tremendous amount about herself during her 4<sup>th</sup> step. She was able to make some very difficult amends, but as a result, she gained back the trust of her children and family. She began to build a relationship with God and today her life is better than she ever imagined it could be. Diane turned her will over to God and He has never let her down.

### **Billy S.**

Billy lived 20 years of his life as a drug addicted, hopeless alcoholic. Through AA, he has learned about a spiritual way of living and today God is his strength. God is truly doing for Billy what he could not possibly do for himself. He has a life that is second to none. He has had the same home group for 17 years now and he has a big happy family. He lives his life by the spiritual principles of the program and he is very grateful for this profound design for living. His message to newcomers is: You can have this way of life too! All you have to do is be willing and teachable. Take the steps properly and you WILL feel the change. This is a wonderful journey and the promises do come true if you truly want them to. Keep coming back and don't quit before the miracle happens!

6/26/2010

## The Holiday Isles Group

**The Holiday Isles Group** meets at St. Alban's Episcopal, 333 84th Avenue in St. Pete Beach. Their noon meetings are seasonal, they have an assortment of meeting types, at varied times. The last Sunday of the month, they have a Pot Luck event. Refer to the *Where and When* Booklet for specifics.

Chairperson: Thomas W.

Preamble: Roland R.

How It Works: David L.

Chips: Andy K.

Speakers:

Patricia M.

Donnie S.

### Patricia M

Patricia was the first to share her experience strength and hope with us. She found out that she was coming to this meeting just a few hours ago. She leant that she was speaking ten minutes ago, no time for worries or stomach butterflies in that short of notice. She shared that she was an "army brat" growing up and moved every three or four years. She had four siblings; two of them are not alcoholics. The other two siblings and her mother were alcoholics. Patricia was the caretaker in the family; she cooked, cleaned, and helped with homework because her mother worked. At one point she had her sights on being a pom-pom girl, unfortunately it was not possible because of her responsibilities at home. She distinctly recalls her first drink; she thought it was nice, lying on the kitchen floor talking to the cat. She began bonding with her dad because they would cook together while drinking together. At 17 years old, she moved out of the family home. She recalls an incident at her job; she made a blunder on the menus and invitation for a wedding. Once printed, they read "Rehearsal Dinner" instead of "Wedding." Her employer asked her if she had been drinking, of course she said no. She was fired, they were not happy with her because of this big mistake. She remembers that an intervention was done on her mom. Patricia lived a half-hour away from

her mom and still had to "be the adult." Patricia's birthday was in October, that December her mom died of alcoholism. Patricia then moved in with her sister's family, her sister's kids noticed that she was stumbling because of her drinking. Feeling uncomfortable there, Patricia moved out and got her own place. She was paying her own bills, until she was once again fired due to drinking. Her drinking escalated to 24/7 and she relied heavily on sleeping pills in order to get a few hours asleep. Meanwhile her sister had been in and out of about twenty rehabs/detox facilities. Patricia was envious of this and "thought, where is my rehab?" She continued to drink, rationalizing that since her sister was still drinking after the rehabs: she too should, could and would continue to drink. Patricia walked into her first AA meeting in Atlanta Georgia, there she ran into her "angel," her sponsor. She did the steps, became a greeter for her group, even joined a church, and taught Sunday school. However, she secretly continued drinking and believed that no one knew. She jokingly remarked, "Be careful, you really never know who it is watching your kids." Eventually, she was twelve-stepped over the phone and drove to Florida to meet with her sponsor face-to-face. She made several more trips back and forth between Atlanta and Florida, but still was not "cured." The last journey was back to Florida, she packed whatever belongings would fit in her car and drove here. "You guys took me in." She learned to get on her knees. She could only have her phone one hour a day, and she did the steps. She cannot explain it, "by getting on my knees I just asked God to let me see/feel a little more of God each day. This time when she did her fifth step, she did not get any pats on the back nor was she told it was all ok. She got her "butt kicked." When she gets on her knees, she is forgiven. Sadly, her little sister was found alone dead in her apartment at 36 years-old. Her liver burst, "found dead from alcohol just like my mom." Recently, her brother sent her a text, it read, "It's good to have my sister back." She closes with, "Thank you guys for

welcoming me, my family likes me sober."

### Donnie S

Donnie wanted to point out that there are "Rebos" all over; they are in Georgia, Virginia, etc. He and Patricia both had went to Rebos in places other than Florida. He shares that little by little drinking started dictating his life. After getting in trouble, probation sent him to a treatment center, he "graduated treatment early, but did not get plugged into AA. Tough love can be a good thing sometimes." His mom kicked him out of the house, so he went and drank with his dad. He began living in fear. He was afraid that people were going to steal his "stuff." Each night he locked his stuff up in a safe, keeping the window blinds closed, the lights out, and a flashlight in his hand. He recalls that once he went out just to be social, but he became wasted drinking vodka, once again he was oblivious. He knew he had to make some changes. He went and visited a counselor that he knew from the rehab he went to earlier. He was told, "It sounds like you may be an alcoholic. Come to Rebos tonight." He did go; he picked up a white chip, found a sponsor, and began reading the literature. Reading the Big Book of Alcoholic Anonymous got him to relate. Since he was only 17 years-old, he did not relate to the people in the AA meetings because of their age. Regardless, he kept showing up at meetings, and he started listening. One day he called an individual from the meeting and said, "I need help with my fourth step." They began back at step one, Donnie began to see it as an adventure. He felt like he finally had a home, he "had a place here." When making his amends, some people said that he was not an alcoholic. He does not have to prove it to them. It was hard enough proving it to himself. After a while, he stopped going to meeting for eight months, and his old behaviors returned: he became ungrateful. It is hard to help another alcoholic if you do not go to meetings. Because he had stopped going to meetings, he was hesitant to return to his group, he felt like he had let them down. He was scared to face his home group members, but he did it anyway. He was afraid to face certain individuals, but he did it

anyway. Today he has courage. He is glad there are newcomers here tonight. He hopes that someone will get something out of his talk tonight. He now continues to help anyone he can, "as long as you are willing to do the work. Thank you for walking this path with me."

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**In July, the Hosts will be as follows:**

**7/03-----TURNER STREET EVENING**  
**7/10-----OFF YOUR CHEST**  
**7/17-----BACK TO THE BOOK**  
**7/24-----MIXED NUTS**  
**7/31-----OPEN DOOR**

**In August, the Hosts will be as follows:**

**08/07-----Ozona**  
**08/14-----Grow Up**  
**08/21-----Real Happy Hour**  
**08/28-----Serenity Seekers**

**The Unity Speaker's Meeting is a project of Pinellas County Intergroup. To sign up your group, go to the web site [www.aa-pinellas.org](http://www.aa-pinellas.org) and click on group submissions or call Melody at 727-623-1296.**

**This is an Open Speaker Meeting and is family friendly. You are invited to come join us every Saturday night at 8:00 PM at the DeGeorge Plaza, located at 12678 Starkey Road in Largo.**

Notes taken and submitted by Lauri C.  
The Unity Team's Plain and Straight Reporter

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Mark Your Calendar

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**2010 ICYPAA 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
New York City  
TIMES SQUARE  
August 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>**

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## "The Seed"

A successful business man was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over the business. Instead of choosing one of his Directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together.

He said, 'It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO. I have decided to choose one of you 'The young executives were shocked, but the boss continued. 'I am going to give each one of you a SEED today - one very special SEED. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO.'

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Everyday, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow.

Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure. Six months went by -- still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing.. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however. He just kept watering and fertilizing the soil - He so wanted the seed to grow.

A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection. Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room. When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful -- in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives. Jim just tried to hide in the back. 'My, what great plants, trees, and flowers you have grown,' said the CEO. 'Today one of

you will be appointed the next CEO!' All of a sudden, the CEO potted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the Financial Director to bring him to the front. Jim was terrified. He thought, 'The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!' When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed - Jim told him the story. The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, 'Behold your next Chief Executive Officer!'

His name is Jim!' Jim couldn't believe it. Jim couldn't even grow his seed. 'How could he be the new CEO?' the others said. Then the CEO said, 'One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me day. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead - it was not possible for them to grow.'

All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!'

If you plant honesty, you will reap trust  
If you plant goodness, you will reap friends

If you plant humility, you will reap greatness

If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment

If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective

If you plant hard work, you will reap success

If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation

If you plant faith in God , you will reap a harvest

So, be careful what you plant now;  
it will determine what you will reap later.

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Twelfth Annual  
**BIG BOOK on  
the BEACH**

August 13, 14, and 15, 2010

1500 Pass-a-grille Way

St. Pete Beach, Florida

[bigbookonthebeach@yahoo.com](mailto:bigbookonthebeach@yahoo.com)

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# PINELLAS COUNTY INTERGROUP

Contributions Report  
July, 2010



**A tisket,  
a tasket,  
If you can,  
Put TWO in the  
basket!**

	<u>Jun 10</u>	<u>Jan - Jun 10</u>
2250 Group	0.00	200.00
3rd Tradition Group	0.00	60.00
4th Dimension	52.50	177.50
7 and Up	0.00	25.00
A Day At A Time	0.00	69.86
AA By The Sea	0.00	157.91
ABC	0.00	25.00
ABES Place	207.82	1,300.55
Absolute Sobriety	0.00	100.00
Afterwork Bunch	190.21	315.59
All Ages	0.00	400.00
Amazing Grace	16.00	16.00
Archangel Group	200.00	300.00
At The End Of The Rainbow	0.00	377.87
Attitude Adjustment	200.00	1,336.00
Back Porch Lunch Bunch	250.00	450.00
Back To The Book	0.00	93.48
BAIGIS	30.00	150.00
Blind Pass Group	75.00	150.00
Cash Customer	0.00	80.79
Center Of Hope	30.00	60.00
Clearwater Group	30.00	220.00
Coffee Makers Beginner Step Study	50.00	50.00
Common Solution	2.89	56.20
Countryside Women	0.00	200.00
Couples Growing Together	0.00	48.80
Don Vista Group	0.00	180.00
Dunedin Group	0.00	50.00
East Lake Group	0.00	731.00
Feelings Group	0.00	240.00
Find Yourself	45.00	440.99
Forty Niners	20.00	80.00
Free Spirits	90.00	180.00
Go After Your Sobriety	0.00	211.34
GOYA	0.00	160.00
Grow Up Group	0.00	40.00
High Noon Daily	0.00	35.00
Holiday Isles Group	0.00	100.00
Hopeful Group	80.00	166.50
Indian Rocks Beach	50.00	50.00
Intergroup Meeting	45.31	313.99
Into Action	100.00	200.00
Keep It Simple	75.00	275.00
Kirk Group	0.00	176.00
Ladies Night	60.00	102.00
Log Cabin Speakers	0.00	100.00
Lunch Bunch	502.07	1,807.81
Maximo Point	0.00	50.00
Mixed Nuts	0.00	45.00
New Beginnings Womens Meeting	0.00	453.00
New Freedom/New Happiness	0.00	275.00
New Hope	0.00	400.00
Our Common Problem	0.00	50.00
Palm Harbor Group	82.45	258.75
Philippe Park	0.00	50.00
Primary Purpose	61.85	295.59
Progress Not Perfection	0.00	139.33
Sat. Morning Wome's Big Book	0.00	120.00
Sat. Morning Women's Big Book	120.00	120.00
Saturday Morning Men's Step	0.00	117.00
Saturday Morning Mens Group	0.00	222.00
Saturday Night Group	0.00	25.00
Saturday Steppin' In	0.00	225.00
Seminole Group	133.00	523.00
Serenity Seekers	145.72	637.24
Shore Acres Gratitude	0.00	341.90

Snowbirds	0.00	50.00
Sober In Paradise	0.00	110.00
Special Needs Committee	0.00	30.00
Step Sisters	0.00	90.00
Step Up To The Plate	0.00	27.22
Steps For Sobriety	0.00	50.00
Sunday A.M. Big Book	0.00	87.19
Sunrise Sunset	490.00	1,641.00
Sunset Beach	156.75	631.75
Sunshine City	200.00	300.00
THE GOD STUFF	0.00	30.00
The Real Happy Hour	0.00	51.50
Thursday Morning Break	0.00	116.83
Thursday Night Uplifters	25.00	25.00
Today In Sobriety	0.00	180.00
Triangle	0.00	50.00
Tuesday Night Men's	0.00	100.00
Turner Street Evening	0.00	125.00
Unity Meeting	261.58	1,409.58
We Agnostics	25.00	25.00
We Are Not Saints	0.00	30.00
Weds Nite Men's Step	0.00	74.00
What's Your Motive	29.73	51.57
Women In Step	0.00	20.00
Women Stepping Up	0.00	31.00
Women With Freedom	0.00	120.00
Wonderful Program	0.00	150.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><u>4,132.88</u></u>	<u><u>22,014.63</u></u>

## New Meetings (Continued from Page 2)

### St Petersburg Group

Friday, 5:30pm  
Closed Big Book  
3454 5th Ave. N  
St.Petersburg,Fl 33713

### Seminole Beginners

Tuesday, 7pm  
Open Speaker Participation  
9111 90<sup>th</sup> Ave N  
Seminole, Fl, 33773

### TGIS Womens Meeting

Friday, 7pm  
Open Beginner, Women  
St Anne Grace Episcopal  
6650 113th St N  
Seminole Fl 33772

## Meeting Changes (Continued from Page 2)

### Holiday Isles

Tuesday & Thursday, Noon  
Add Open Discussion  
St Albans Episcopal  
333 84 Avenue  
St Pete Beach

### San Martin Group

Sunday, 6/8/10pm  
Change to Closed Discussion  
**also**  
Monday, 6pm  
5923 Park Blvd  
Pinellas Park

# Anniversaries

## June

### 2250

Charles	12
Jessie H.	4
Christina E.	4
Tom D.	1
Andrew D.	5
Jill G.	21
Ed D.	4
Johnny A.	32

### 3rd Tradition Group

Jan D	35
Vinny P	26

### 49ers

Al	10
Jerry B	8
Jim P	29
Joel F	26
John B	17
Mary Jane W	18
Peggy K	26
Trey L	3

### Abe's Place

Chris	1
Howard H	1
Mark D	2
Geoffrey	7
Diane H	7
Susan G	10
Mary Jane	18
Joy B	24
Bill K	40

### Afterwork Bunch

Rob N.	2
Harry K.	18

### Alive Again

Bob G	20
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### All Ages of Gulfport

Mellisa N	12
David C	27
Lori B	10
David J	28

### Attitude Adjustment

Dswm C	2
Paul L	1
Russ	24
Carla	4
Dan S	25
Nick A	20

### Back Porch Lunch Bunch

Keith W	1
Vickie G	1
Jim D	23
David W	2
David J	22
Pat T	29
Kris C	2
Patti R	23
Sherry E	23
Nicole H	1
Tiffany R	1

### BAIGIS

Richard D	5
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### Countryside

Shane W.	2
Russell N.	17

### Don Vista

Shane S.	3
Bob K.	20

### Dunedin

Donna D.	32
Dave P.	8
Beian C.	34

### Find Yourself Group

Buzz S.	26
Connie S.	8
Gardy S.	2
Heather T.	28
Jeff E.	1
Rudy M.	18

### GOYA

Kim S.	1
Drew H.	3

### Grow Up Group

Nicole H	1
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### High Noon Daily

Mel R.	29
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### High Point

Angela. L	5
Gerry. L	15
Elizabeth. V	20

### Into Action

Gary	1
George	24

### Kitchen Table

JB H	6
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### Ladies Beach Serenity

Nancy P	24
Vegas Linda	1

### Lunch Bunch - Dunedin

Darlene H	11
Patricia	10
Peter S	3
Johnny K	14
Rebecca S	3
Gayle B	2
Larry D	17

### Off Your Chest

David J.	22
John D.	5
Mark D.	2
Geofy S.	7
Warren W.	19
Howard H.	1

### Mid Day Miracle

Cyndi V.	6
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### Oldsmar Group

Tina S	2
Kathy L	2
Andrea M	1
Jeanne R	1
Jona5han G	1
Kirsi O	1
Jon S	1
Reg M	1
Darlene M	1
Dave U	1
Pamela N	1
Mary C	8
Jane H	1
Bill M	27
Jean M	15
Cristin C	9
Richard G	9
Peter W	8
Anna M	6
Cynthia S	5
Melissa T	4
Steve D	4
Brittany A	2

### Open Door

Dan W.	1
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### Ozona

Albert	11
Joe "Slim"	11
Linda H.	5
Jason	3

Susan	3
Walt	2
Mike H.	1
Brian	1

### Palm Harbor Group

John P.	26
Ray S.	4
Rob C.	3

### San Martin Group

Kathy V.	2
Vinny V.	2
Rick	17

### Seminole Group

Michael D.	5
Tom McN.	6

### Shore Acres Gratitude

Steve W.	2
Judy J.	16

### Sober Spirits

Paige J	5
Lisa M	3
Tina P	1

### Sunshine City Group

Allan B	3
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### The Real Happy Hour

John D	5
George D	5
Julie	2
Dana W	1

### Today In Sobriety

Sam M.	45
Barb Z.	24
Jen D.	1

### We Don't Know Yet

Johnny W.	6
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