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HEARTLAND INTERGROUP

4204 S. Florida Ave, Suite H.
Lakeland, FL 33813
863-688-0211 or 863-687-9275

www.heartlandintergroup.org

I am pleased to announce that,
though we still have 3 open volunteer slots,
we are ready to re-open on Mondays!

Dec. 2nd and Dec. 9th, Heartland Intergroup office
will be open from 11 am to 5 pm.

Beginning on Monday December 16th,
we will begin our normal
Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm hours.
Our sincerest hope is that we maintain
or increase our volunteer coverage,
so we do not have to cut hours again.

As always, please feel free to call ahead as we too live life on life's terms.

**WE TOO LIVE LIFE ON LIFE'S TERMS!
IT MAY BE BEST TO CALL BEFORE YOU COME!**

Tradition One

“Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.”

THE unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has. Our lives, the lives of all to come, depend squarely upon it. We stay whole, or A.A. dies. Without unity, the heart of A.A. would cease to beat; our world arteries would no longer carry the life-giving grace of God; His gift to us would be spent aimlessly. Back again in their caves, alcoholics would reproach us and say, “What a great thing A.A. might have been!”

“Does this mean,” some will anxiously ask, “that in A.A. the individual doesn’t count for much? Is he to be dominated by his group and swallowed up in it?”

We may certainly answer this question with a loud “No!” We believe there isn’t a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon its individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual’s right to think, talk, and act as he wishes. No A.A. can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our Twelve Steps to recovery are suggestions; the Twelve Traditions which guarantee A.A.’s unity contain not a single “Don’t.” They repeatedly say “We ought...” but never “You must!”

To many minds all this liberty for the individual spells sheer anarchy. Every newcomer, every friend who looks at

ANY MEETING CHANGES PLEASE SUBMIT CHANGES TO WEBSITE:

[Submit Meeting Changes | Heartland AA \(heartlandintergroup.org\)](#)



Volunteer Openings

**Mondays 9 am to 1 pm
and 1 pm to 5 pm
Fridays 1 pm to 5 pm**

We understand in recovery that we try to keep our word.
If you can only commit in the short term, please still reach out to
officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org
or click the link below

CLICK FOR MORE INFO ON VOLUNTEERING!

30

STEP TWO

ideas. We who had won so handsomely in a walk turned into all-time losers. We saw that we had to reconsider or die. We found many in A.A. who once thought as we did. They helped us to get down to our right size. **By their example they showed us that humility and intellect could be compatible, provided we placed humility first. When we began to do that, we received the gift of faith, a faith which works. This faith is for you, too.**

Another crowd of A.A.'s says: "We were plumb disgusted with religion and all its works. The Bible, we said, was full of nonsense; we could cite it chapter and verse, and we couldn't see the Beatitudes for the 'begats.' In spots its morality was impossibly good; in others it seemed impossibly bad. But it was the morality of the religionists themselves that really got us down. We gloated over the hypocrisy, bigotry, and crushing self-righteousness that clung to so many 'believers' even in their Sunday best. How we loved to shout the damaging fact that millions of the 'good men of religion' were still killing one another off in the name of God. This all meant, of course, that we had substituted negative for positive thinking. After we came to A.A., we had to recognize that this trait had been an ego-feeding proposition. In belaboring the sins of some religious people, we could feel superior to all of them. Moreover, we could avoid looking at some of our own shortcomings. Self-righteousness, the very thing that we had contemptuously condemned in others, was our own besetting evil. This phony form of respectability was our undoing, so far as faith was concerned. But finally, driven to A.A., we learned better.



December Anniversary

John C. 12/17/2003 21 yrs.

**If your group or you would like to use your anniversary date
to illustrate through this newsletter
that A.A. really works if you work it...**

Please email officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org

Heartland Intergroup is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: December Rep Meeting

Time: Dec 9, 2024, 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2323580422?omn=83157119794>

Meeting ID: 232 358 0422

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,2323580422# US

+16469313860,,2323580422# US

Dial by your location

- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
 - +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 232 358 0422

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2323580422?omn=83157119794>

bring recovery to, the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from God, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates A.A.'s all around the globe.

There is another reason for this singleness of purpose. **It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away.** If a group of doctors possessed a cancer cure, they might be conscience-stricken if they failed their mission through self-seeking. Yet such a failure wouldn't jeopardize their personal survival. For us, if we neglect those who are still sick, there is unremitting danger to our own lives and sanity. Under these compulsions of self-preservation, duty, and love, it is not strange that our Society has concluded that it has but one high mission—to carry the A.A. message to those who don't know there's a way out.

Highlighting the wisdom of A.A.'s single purpose, a member tells this story:

“Restless one day, I felt I'd better do some Twelfth Step work. Maybe I should take out some insurance against a slip. But first I'd have to find a drunk to work on.

“So I hopped the subway to Towns Hospital, where I asked Dr. Silkworth if he had a prospect. ‘Nothing too promising,’ the little doc said. ‘There's just one chap on the third floor who might be a possibility. But he's an awfully tough Irishman. I never saw a man so obstinate. He

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

**To place our common welfare first;
To keep our fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives;
And the lives of those to come.**

From Bill's last message*

If I were asked which of our blessings
I felt was most responsible for our
growth as a fellowship and most vital
to our continuity, I would say, the
"Concept of Anonymity."

*Read by Lois at the 1970
Annual New York Intergroup Dinner

which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being. He has been set on a path which tells him he is really going somewhere, that life is not a dead end, not something to be endured or mastered. In a very real sense he has been transformed, because he has laid hold of a source of strength which, in one way or another, he had hitherto denied himself. He finds himself in possession of a degree of honesty, tolerance, unselfishness, peace of mind, and love of which he had thought himself quite incapable. What he has received is a free gift, and yet usually, at least in some small part, he has made himself ready to receive it.

A.A.'s manner of making ready to receive this gift lies in the practice of the Twelve Steps in our program. So let's consider briefly what we have been trying to do up to this point:

Step One showed us an amazing paradox: We found that we were totally unable to be rid of the alcohol obsession until we first admitted that we were powerless over it. In Step Two we saw that since we could not restore ourselves to sanity, some Higher Power must necessarily do so if we were to survive. Consequently, in Step Three we turned our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him. For the time being, we who were atheist or agnostic discovered that our own group, or A.A. as a whole, would suffice as a higher power. Beginning with Step Four, we commenced to search out the things in ourselves which had brought us to physical, moral, and spiritual bankruptcy. We made a searching and fearless moral inventory. Look-

I Am RESPONSIBLE...

**When anyone, anywhere,
reaches out for help, I want the
hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.**

Thanksgiving Alcothon 2024



- Begins - Wednesday November 27, 2024 @ 5:30PM
- Ends - Thursday, Thanksgiving Day @ 4:00PM
- 2720 East Main St Lakeland, Fl.
- 50/50 drawing at the end of the Alcothon
- **Thanksgiving Dinner** from 1:00PM until 4:00PM Thanksgiving Day
- **Meats will be supplied - will need side dishes. Please be giving.**
- Meeting times available to fill. **Check bulletin board @ 2720 Club to sign up.**
- Donations of additional snacks and food items for the Alcothon hours are greatly appreciated.

Sponsored by Monday Night Men's and Woman's Meetings

Key to Sobriety's 99th Annual
Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 28, 2024

Church of the Good Shepherd

Address: 221 S 4th St, Lake Wales, FL 33853

Doors open: 5:00 pm

Dinner: 5:30 pm

Speaker Meeting: 6:30 pm Shane K

Bring a hot, ready to serve side dish or
dessert to share!



The District 3 Meetings for November
and December are being merged to
accommodate the Gratitude Dinner.

District 3 December Business Meeting
December 1, 2024
1 - 4 PM

*please bring light snack or dessert to share *

Friday Family Fun Night Presents
Merry Christmas 2024
Games! Music!
Santa Food
Prizes! Toy Give Away!
December 20th
8pm - 11pm
2027 E Main St. Lakeland, FL
Ugly Sweater Contest!
Toy Donations Can Be Received By John W. 863-585-8140



Experience, Strength and Hope needed!

Step it up

**Needs support for the outside meeting on
Sundays at 7 pm**

4532 Clubhouse rd. Lakeland Fl 33812

Bring a chair and help the hand of A.A. to always be there!

District 3 breakfast

Hosted by

the Broken Glass Group of sebring

Saturday January 25

Doors open at 9:30 am

Breakfast at 10:00

Speaker at 11:00



Resurrection Lutheran church

324 East Main street

Avon park

Tickets \$10.00

50/50 raffle



JOIN IWC ONLINE!



Can't make it to the in-person 61st IWC in San Diego?
Register today for the online program!
Cost: \$15

[Click for information and registration](#)

One Day Women's Conference
"Your Recovery: A Checkup From The Neck Up"
February 22, 2025
9am – 3 pm



This will be an interactive conference focusing on steps three thru five plus meditation. We will have speakers and activities designed to get you into action.

Tickets are \$20.00 and includes a box lunch. Tickets on sale until February 15th.
Tickets available at Wednesday nights Ladies or the Lake, Women's The Acceptance meeting or any of the contacts below.

For More information, please contact any of the following:
Luanne S: 863-393-4703, Cindy A: 863-397-0953,
Donna W: 813-841-7745, Joanann B: 863-660-6341

Hosted by Women in AA
Cost \$20.00 which includes a box lunch
Location: Boy scout building - 1st Presbyterian Church
175 Lake Hollingsworth Drive, Lakeland FL 33801

General Service Office

Post Office Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116
Payable to: General Service Board

Area 15 Treasurer *New

2950 W Cypress Creek Rd
Ste 333 # 1097
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
Payable to: Area 15 Treasurer

District III Treasurer*New

740 Cambridge Way
Lake Wales, FL 33853
Payable to: District 3 Treasurer

Heartland Intergroup

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Payable to: Heartland Intergroup



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Any questions can be emailed to the office manager at:

*officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org

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