

The **MESSENGER**

Middle Tennessee Central Office Intergroup

**APRIL
2014**

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The Messenger is available at an annual subscription price of \$12.00. A limited number of free subscriptions are available upon request by writing or calling the Central Office.

It is also available on-line at www.aanashville.org.

If you read *The Messenger* on-line, a contribution to The Middle Tennessee Central Office would help and be appreciated.

**PLEASE MAKE A NOTE
STATING YOUR
DONATION IS FOR
THE MESSENGER.**

How Step Four Came to Me

When thus out of joint, man's natural desires cause him great trouble, practically all the trouble there is. . . . We want to find exactly how, when, and where our natural desires have warped us. "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions"

DURING ELEVEN years in AA, I have become more and more aware of the difficulty that so many of us have in the successful completion--or perhaps I should say the successful beginning--of Step Four.

There is much good material to guide us through this important Step, chiefly in the *Big Book* and *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. Perhaps because of so much written material, plus so many different personal approaches that I heard, it was for a long time very difficult, if not impossible, for me to "keep it simple" and thus approach the Step in anything but a mechanical manner. This I did twice in treatment centers, because I was told to do it, "and the result was nil" for me.

In retrospect, I see I had not accepted the three preceding Steps fully and honestly. My experience is only my own. I have known many who have apparently completed the Fourth Step successfully in treatment on a "forced feeding" basis.

Between these two attempts in treatment, I tried the Step alone on the "outside," and it very nearly led me back to a drink. Again, I either was not ready for it or misunderstood it, and therefore was confused and did not possess the honesty, willingness, or ability to be "searching and fearless."

Contrary as it may seem, it is now my firm personal opinion that Step Four is strictly a *present* inventory or accounting of myself, and not a history of misdeeds committed

(Continued on page 2)

**WE HAVE MOVED
417 WELSHWOOD DRIVE
(SUNMARK BUILDING)
SUITE 207
NASHVILLE, TN 37211**

(Continued from page 1)

during a long career as a practicing alcoholic. It strikes me that what needs my attention today is my present attitude toward these many destructive incidents from the past, along with other character defects that could lead me back to drinking or, at best, to an unhappy "sobriety." I can see no profit in creating or increasing a burden of guilt and remorse regarding the past by digging up those painful incidents with which I am already too familiar. Guilt and remorse are themselves among the very things that need looking at today in Step Four, so that they may be honestly admitted to in Step Five and removed in Steps Six and Seven.

As an aside, regarding the past, I have found comfort in two ideas. The first is this: Being a practicing alcoholic (a thing I did not choose or set out to be), I quite naturally did to myself and others many of the terrible things that are typical manifestations of the disease of active alcoholism. I am hardly alone in having demonstrated these outward manifestations. The second idea is this: Being a practicing alcoholic, I probably did about as well as I could under the circumstances at any given time. It usually wasn't very good, but it was still my best under the circumstances, and I must remember that, for many years, I did discharge a lot of daily obligations pretty well--until I began approaching the end, the bottom of the chart, the hopeless, helpless, full-blown stage of chronic alcoholism. I sincerely hope I am not using this rationale as an easy way out.

Now let me tell you how Step Four finally came to me. And that's exactly what it did. It came to me; I didn't come to it. I had come to Step One, then to Step Two, and then to Step Three over a period of time with all the honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness I could muster. Then, one early morning, Step Four came to me quite unexpectedly. I found myself reaching for note pad and pen and began writing, very rapidly at first and then more deliberately as approximately one and a half hours slipped

by. Somewhere along the line, I believe, two convictions had finally gotten a foothold somewhere in my mind. The first was that I would go to any length to avoid another long and totally debilitating and terrifying period of dry depression; the other, that if God was going to restore me to sanity, I would have to do my full part in the process, unreservedly.

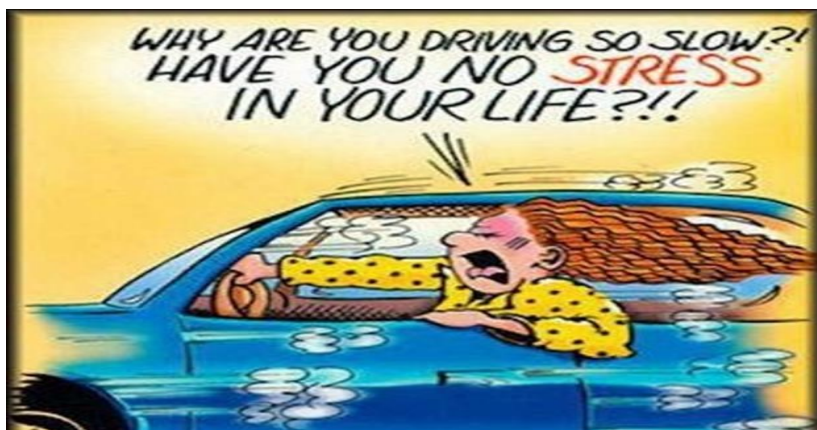
I did not concern myself with any pluses. I was already too aware of what I fancied to be my few remaining virtues. Nor did I concern myself with details from the past. I zeroed in strictly on what was wrong with me. Of course, what was wrong with me was my thinking, those somewhat diminished but still very present and destructive remnants of the alcoholic mind. This defective thinking had kept me in bondage to alcohol. Later, it had condemned me to dry periods, more drinking, dry periods, more drinking, ad nauseam, and this thinking and the resultant feelings had made any true sobriety quite impossible. It was these old defects (the list was long) that had to be gotten out of me and onto paper so that I could look at them squarely and thus prepare myself for their removal in the next three Steps.

All that sounds rather simple, doesn't it? The only hooker is that it isn't. Among other things, I have had to violate one of my cardinal rules and jump out of order to Step Ten each day of my life since then. But then, why not continue to take inventory? The alternative is not at all an attractive choice.

My sincere hope--and my only reason for writing this--is that it may somehow reach and help somebody still lost in that awful wasteland from which I am just emerging and back into which I could so easily and quickly fall. My experience has been that Step Four was the beginning of the way out.

Anonymous

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Though I still find it difficult to accept today's pain and anxiety with any degree of serenity --

as those more advanced in the spiritual life seem able to do --

I can, if I try hard, give thanks for present pain nevertheless."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., March 1962

What Is Acceptance?

Reprinted with permission—AAGrapevine—
The Language of the Heart

I Better Get a Kiss Out of This

**Lucky for him,
a romantic night out
took a very strange
turn.**

I never thought I had a drinking problem. Everybody drank a lot in the Army. On a Friday night at the officers' club, everybody drank more than they should have, and by the end of the evening I was usually still ready to keep going. I never really thought I drank differently from most people. I was always at work on time, and even though it took a couple cups of coffee to get me going, by noon I was always feeling OK.

However, I did notice that even when I had no intention of having more than a glass or two of wine at dinner, I would end up having a bottle or two. That bothered me a little, but at my favorite piano bar in Carmel, Calif., it was not unusual to see many others do the same thing.

I had a friend there named Bob. I worried about him because he used to keep a jug of wine in his car and would take slugs from it every couple minutes or so. He seemed to have a perpetual buzz on, and I never saw him when he wasn't drinking, so I thought he might be an alcoholic. I definitely didn't drink like Bob. That much I knew.

One day my artillery commander said to me, "You look mighty tired today lieutenant colonel. Are you feeling OK? Did you stay out a little late last night?" "No sir," I replied. "Maybe I have a little touch of the flu."

Hmmm, I thought, that's not good; my boss noticed I was not doing so well. So I tried to drink just on weekends for a while, but I couldn't do it. The idea of not drinking at all didn't seem like an option to me. I told myself I had a lot on my mind: my divorce, the nightmares about Vietnam, and the bills that seemed to

never go away. I worked hard, and at the end of the day I had earned that glass of wine. I also had a lot of fun when I was drinking. I was wittier, a better dancer, and a lot less shy. I wasn't sure I could be the life of the party unless I drank, especially with the fun-loving crowd I hung around with at my piano bar. What the heck, I wasn't carrying a jug of wine around in my car like Bob.

One weekend when I came into the bar, one of my buddies said, "Hey George, you were a riot last night when you got up on the table and sang." "Uh, yeah" I replied, "a riot." I tried to remember the incident, but I just couldn't. I also couldn't remember driving home. That scared me. For the first time it occurred to me that I might really have a problem, but I quickly put it out of my mind. I couldn't imagine my life without drinks to have a good time.

The truth was that I wasn't having as good a time as I used to. Drinking was becoming an end in itself. It especially wasn't fun looking for my frigging car when I had no idea where I'd parked it. It was getting harder to get to work every morning. And my boss was beginning to give me strange looks. I tried to cut back. One week, I didn't have a drink until Friday came. Then I felt I deserved a reward. A couple glasses of wine at dinner really felt great and before I knew it, I had two empty bottles at my table. I sang a few songs at the bar, decided to go home, and woke up in jail.

What the hell was I doing on the floor in a jail cell? I couldn't remember a thing. The next morning, they told me I had been driving erratically, had been pulled over, failed a field sobriety test (turns out the alphabet has 26 letters, not 12), and I would be going to court soon.

All the drunk-driving violations

of military personnel—especially officers—ended up on the general's desk. Before I knew it I was reporting to him and he was telling me, "lieutenant colonel, you've disgraced your uniform. If this ever happens again, I'll make sure you lose your commission and your retirement."

I was completely ashamed. I promised the general and myself that I would never drink and drive again. That Friday at the piano bar I told myself that I would have just one, two at the most. Several hours later, I was driving home drunk. Holy crap, I thought, if I get caught I will throw away almost 20 years in the service. Luckily I made it home, but as I lay in my bed I realized my drinking had gotten out of control. My life was unmanageable. I was scared to death, but still I was not giving up my wine.

The next weekend I went home to visit my mom. I liked that, because whenever I went there she would fix me up with one of her friends' cute daughters. This time was no exception. When I picked up my date to go to dinner she asked me if I would mind going to a short meeting with her that she really needed to attend before dinner. What the heck, no problem I told her. She was very cute.

"What kind of meeting?" I asked.

"An AA meeting," she said.

"You mean ... like Alcoholics Anonymous?"

"Yes, it's only an hour," she said. "And then we can hit the town."

For years my mom had been telling me I had a drinking problem, and now look what she did! Anyway, I thought, what can it hurt? She's darn cute.

(Continued on page 4)

I Better Get a Kiss Out of This (con't)

(Continued from page 3)

The next thing I knew I was in a room with the Twelve Steps hanging on a wall and the slogan "Let go and let God." Man, I thought, I better at least get a good night kiss out of this.

The funny thing was, the people in the room didn't look like alcoholics. They were well-dressed, well-spoken and seemed pretty damn happy. So I listened to what they were saying. Since they introduced me as a newcomer, Step One became the topic of the meeting.

When the chair of the meeting read, "We admitted we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable," that got my attention. My life was unmanageable. I listened to them tell their stories. Some sounded much worse than me and some sounded just like me. I felt

like I was on a different planet, but I had a crazy feeling that maybe I was finally really home. When my turn came going around the table, I surprised myself when I said, "My name is George, and I'm an alcoholic."

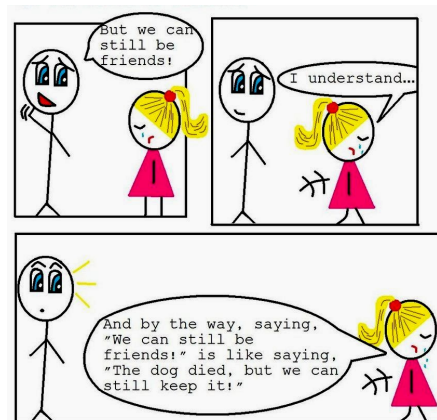
The strangest sensation came over me. I didn't believe in religion then, and I still don't. But something happened to me that day. The desire to drink left me, as if by magic, and I felt a new fellowship with my fellow human beings. I didn't know at the moment that I had found a new way to operate my life.

Now, many years later, I realize it was the beginning of my new life. After the meeting, my date and I went to dinner. As we were sitting in the restaurant, I looked around at the other diners with their cocktails and beer

and asked her, "I can never, really never, ever have a drink again?" She smiled sweetly and said, "No, silly not forever. It's just for today, one day at a time."

We both laughed. And, oh yeah, I did get a very nice kiss goodnight!

—George K., Magnolia, Texas
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AAGrapevine



STEP 4 : THE WHEN & WHY

The top paragraph of page 64 tells us: "Though our decision was vital and crucial step, it could have little permanent effect unless at once followed by a strenuous effort to face, and to be rid of, the things in ourselves which had been blocking us. Our liquor was but a symptom. So we had to get down to causes and conditions." This important paragraph not only tells *when* to begin Step Four, it tells *why* we are to do Step Four, and get on with the rest of the program of action!

When?: I found it vitally important to begin Step Four '*at once*' per instructions - because if delayed, the immediate enthusiasm may well begin to diminish, e.g.: Depending on the outcome of the Friday night high school football game I would be either elated, talkative and cheerful . . . or sad. But a few days later this "great effect" would disappear (see page 63 – bottom). Immediately following the Third Step Prayer, I was willing to be as honest as I could be, but a few days later, well you know how it is . . . emotions wax and wane.

Why?: Perhaps the most important of the wonderful rewards of Step Four is that we learn tools explaining how to face and be rid of the things in ourselves which had

been blocking us (Remember in the Third Step Prayer we asked to be relieved of the bondage of self?). In the following few pages we learn tools to help rid us of resentment and needless, illogical and illogical fear. We also come across tools that teach us to discover when we have been selfish and dishonest.

This great news should encourage all of us to look forward to this step with glee, rather than the usual fear and dread so often heard around the tables. This is one reason that I never allow sponsees do Step Four alone—they need sponsor guidance right from the beginning! I have them pray to God, asking for knowledge of their defects and shortcomings, then write them down as they spontaneously come to mind. This may take a few days of prayer and scribing, but it exonerates much of the panic. This is because the writing comes spontaneously without having to think it out—God has provided the information automatically! Of course, later, they may add as they see fit, but never subtract. After this we go through the Fourth Step process as laid out in the Big Book on page 64 thru 71.

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submitted by another AA Member on behalf of Bob S., Richmond, IN

Real Friends

How an AA member's friendships became more than just golf buddies.

How often have you heard a newcomer share at a meeting that, since he joined AA, most of his old friends stopped coming around and that he thought that he was losing them? Sometimes this may be distressful and may cause a person to question whether the sacrifice is worth it.

Sometimes the word "friend" is misunderstood. We often refer to the people we are associated with as friends. Some will say that you can count on one hand, the true friends you will have in a lifetime. So where do these associates/acquaintances come in?

I played golf for about 35 years and had many so called "golfing friends." but when the round of golf was over, we put our clubs in the car and went our separate ways. Fishing was the same. When we finished fishing, we put our rod and tackle box in the car and went home.

With these acquaintances, the common denominator was the golf or the fishing. That's what bound us to each other. I quit playing golf about five years ago and when the common denominator was gone, I seldom saw my old golfing friends except in passing where we exchange pleasantries and again, are on our ways.

Most of the friends I had before I was sober had only one thing in common with me and that was the drinking. Unlike the golf and the fishing, we could drink 24 hours a day if we wanted to. We didn't need a boat or even a set of clubs to associate with each other. A bottle was all that was necessary, and without it we had very little in common. When the common denominator was gone, trying to hang out with them became awkward for them and for me. I had to accept that reality and let them be. If we have anything else in common we will know it and share that association with each other, but that was seldom

the case except for family members or work associates.

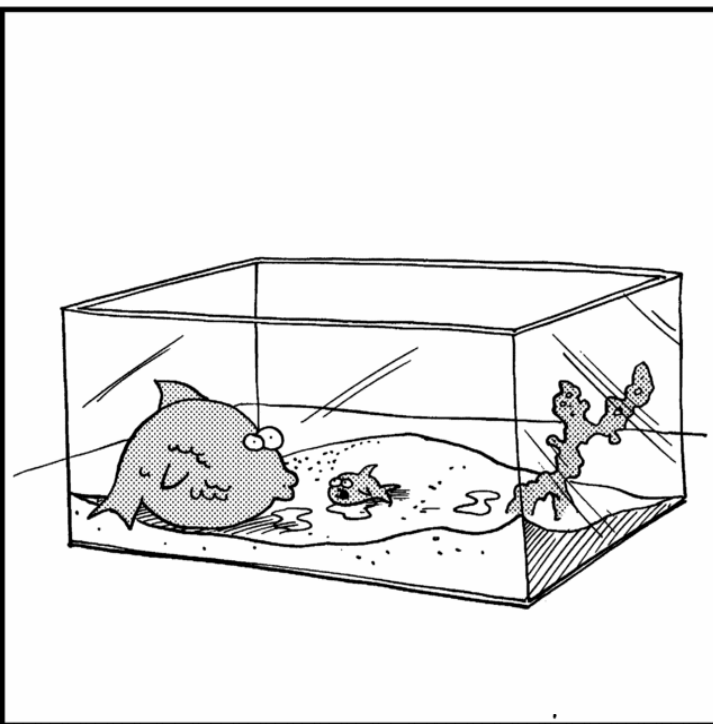
We, in A.A. are fortunate indeed, for we have a common denominator that has been likened to survivors of a sinking ship, in a life boat. We associate at such a deep and intimate level that we develop true friendships that the average person seldom is exposed to. Understanding this can be a great comfort to that new member who has to be prepared to move on.

—Rick R., Poway, Cali

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"We associate at such a deep and intimate level that we develop true friendships that the average person seldom is exposed to."



"I told you not to drink so much."

From the desk of Charles C.

As you can see from our financials, the groups have really responded with their contributions. February 2014 exceeded February 2013 by almost \$6,000. As always, group contributions and literature sales are the primary means of support for your Middle Tennessee Central Office. We do have an annual sobriety dinner as a fundraiser, but profit is not the intention of the dinner. At \$10.00 a ticket - with no one turned away - it is primarily a celebration for the wonderful reciprocal support between groups, individuals and The Middle Tennessee Central Office.

When I visit and communicate with other Central Offices, most are amazed at our book prices. Other offices in our state sell hard cover Big Books, for \$10.00, we sell ours for \$8.00. Of course, we sell over a thousand hard cover Big Books at that price and almost 5,000 soft covers for \$7.60. We handle all the Grapevine publications, again for the catalog price with no exceptions.

Chips and medallions constitute over 50% of literature profits here, and we are grateful for all the groups purchasing medallions. We do have a nice "mark-up" on medallions. The Steering Committee realized long ago that getting literature in the hands of alcoholics as practically, quickly, and as inexpensively as possible, was a huge benefit to all alcoholics, but certainly to our newcomers.

We are especially blessed to have the book business of most local treatment centers. Many of them purchase in enough volume to receive a small discount, if ordered directly.

We do offer 30 day terms, and purchase in odd amounts for these facilities. They pay the same price an individual would pay, since they support the local AA community. I believe the treatment centers receive lots of support from the local groups, meetings and individuals in return.

With 900 meetings a week, a strong Central Office, grateful alcoholics and great relations with the professional and treatment community, Middle Tennessee is one of strongest "recovery communities" in the world. Many who get sober here, stay here and contribute to Alcoholics Anonymous in an especially grateful and supportive way.

And then there is also our huge "sober living residence" community. These residents are a huge part of all the groups and this Central Office. I am told the 37211 zip code alone, has 10 half-way houses here in south Nashville.

IT AIN'T HARD TO GET GRATEFUL, if you ain't already !!

FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH: District 30 Meeting

When: 6:30pm – 7:30pm
Where: 5925 O'Brien

SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH: Intergroup Meeting

When: 5:45pm – 6:45pm
Where: Central Office
417 Welshwood

STEERING COMMITTEE

When: Thursday April 17th
5:45pm – 6:45pm
Where: Central Office
417 Welshwood

CENTRAL OFFICE OFFICERS	NAME	PHONE #
Chairperson	Michael A	615.497.6617
Central Office Manager	Charles C	615.973.9898
Central Office Bookkeeper	David W	615.973.9962
Vice Chairperson	Cathy M	615.500.0863
Secretary	Sara B	615.708.0384
Treasurer	Chris K	615.689.2706
Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community	Jimmy G	615.924.4260
Corrections	Charlie B	615.544.9085
Special Needs	Leigh W	615.566.4170
Archives	Everett C	615.226.4880
Sobriety Dinner	Cathy M	615.500.0863



NEW

Valley View 109 Cumberland Street Ashland City Noon - M-
37015 OD, W-OD/LIT, F-OD

Auburntown AA Community Center 193 Main Au-
37016 burntown TN Fri 7:30p OD

Late Lunch Bunch 309 Franklin Rd Brentwood Sat & Sun 1p
37027 Beg

Road of Happy Destiny Melvin Maynard Center Wed-BB
 Thurs-Wmns Fri-Open All at - Noon then 2:00 pm Sunday
37040 Speaker/OD

37066 G-AA 107 College St Gallatin Mon & Fri 8pm Sun 7pm OD

Cool Springs Newcomers Bradford Hlth Svcs 1897 Gen
37067 George Patton Dr Franklin Mon & Wed 7pm CD/Beg

Ladies Night Out 200 E Cedars @ Church St. Goodlettsville Fri
37072 6pm OD/Lit

Women's BB Study Hermitage Pres Church 4401 Lebanon Rd
37076 Hermitage Sat 3pm

37087 IBI-UBU 407 Park Ave Lebanon Fri 6:30p OD

37115 Three Legacies 4th Tues is Speaker

37130 Serenity 435 S. Molloy Lane, Murfreesboro 4p Sun

Bill Wilson Literary Society Old Hickory Pres Church 801
37138 Jones Old Hickory W 7:30p OD/Lit

Jacob's Well Woman's Meeting 1053 Donelson St Old Hicky-
37138 ry 37138 Sun 10:15 am OD

Monday Night - Pegram UMC 479 Thompson Lane Mon
37143 5:30pm OD

37148 Portland Unity Fri 6:30pm

Step Study Peace Lutheran Church 762 Beechcroft Rd (Hwy
37174 247) Spring Hill, TN Th 7p

Woodbury Senior Citizens Center 609 Lehman St Wood-
37190 bury TN Sun 7:30pm OD

Safe Place Oasis Church 7533 Lords Chapel Dr Tue & Thurs
37211 6:30pm OD

37211 Woodbine 2122 Utopia M - W - F 6:30pm OD

Steel Magnolia Women's Last Stop Club 2122 Utopia Sun
37211 10am CD/WM

37211 Unity Group Club 62 329 Peachtree - Fr 6pm OD

Just Wednesday Lighthouse Fellowship Church 5100 Blue
37211 Hole Rd Antioch Tn 6:30 p wed CD

We're Glad You're Here Antioch United Methodist 41 Tuscu-
37211 lum Rd Sat 5pm OD

37214 Freedom House - M 7pm OD Sun 10am OD

MOVED

Key to Sobriety Grove United Meth 6485 Central
37122 Pike Mt Juliet

Women in the Solution - Gateway Church
37160 1304 Madison St Shelbyville

Saturday Eyeopener Club 62 323 Peachtree Nashville
37211 9am OD

CHANGES

McMinnville Serenity Group Fri & Sat now meet at
37110 7pm

Camel Group 1265 Bradyville Pike (Church of Christ)
37130 Murfreesboro

S.O.S. Sunday 6:30pm now at Peace Lutheran 762
37174 Beechcroft Rd Springhill

Robert E. Lee Women's is now "NOW" (Nashville's
37203 Original Woman's group)

37214 Bikers in Recovery now meets at 7:30pm Thurs

37215 LAMBDA Unitarian Church Thurs is now at 8pm

37216 New Beginnings Now Begins at 8pm

CANCELLED

37046 College Grove Meetings

37075 Sat Noon REBOS Meeting

37086 LaVergne Solutions Group - M Tu Th Fr- 5pm

37115 I am Responsible

37129 Serenity Murfreesboro 2:30 Sat Od/GLBS

37129 Serenity Murfreesboro 6:45 Fri

37130 Northboro Group Murfreesboro

37166 Dekelb County Friendship Thurs

37167 Ladies Life Change

37167 Smyrna Serenity

37172 Downtowners Meeting Springfield Thur 8pm

37174 S.O.S. Mon & Fri

37209 Music City Happy Hour Thurs 6pm

37211 Sisters of Faith Thurs 6pm

37212 Women Veterans AA Meeting

37214 Freedom Hour Mon thru Sat 11:30 Meetings

37214 Donelson Fairway Old Timers

37214 Old Timers Meeting

37215 There is a Solution

37221 BYOBB

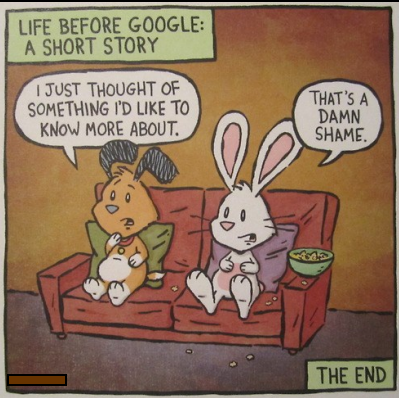
Way back in the time of the samurai, there was a powerful emperor. This emperor needed a new head samurai. So, he sent out a message to everybody he knew for them to send a message to who they knew, and so forth.

A year passes, and only three people show up: a Japanese samurai, a Chinese samurai, and a Jewish samurai. The emperor asks the Japanese samurai to come in and demonstrate why he should be head samurai. The Japanese samurai opens up a matchbox, and out pops a little fly. WHOOOOOSH. The fly drops dead on the ground in 2 pieces! The emperor says, "That is very impressive!"

Then the emperor asks the Chinese samurai to come in and demonstrate why he should be head samurai. The Chinese samurai opens up a matchbox and out pops a little fly. WHOOOOOSH. WHOOOOOSH. The fly drops dead on the ground in 4 pieces! The emperor says, "That is really impressive!"

Then the emperor asks the Jewish samurai to come in and demonstrate why he should be head samurai. The Jewish samurai thinks, "If it works for the other two..." So the Jewish samurai walks in, opens a matchbox, and out pops a little fly. WHOOOOOSH. A gust of wind fills the room, but the fly is still buzzing around. The emperor says in disappointment, "Why is the fly not dead?"

And the Jewish samurai replies, "If you look closely, you'll see that the fly has been circumcised."



- Little Robert asked his mother for two cents. "What did you do with the money I gave you yesterday?"
- "I gave it to a poor old woman," he answered.
- "You're a good boy," said the mother proudly. "Here are two cents more. But why are you so interested in the old woman?"
- "She is the one who sells the candy."



P.O.P.

Annual Old-Timers Dinner

May 9, 2014

6:30 Dinner

**8:00 pm Countdown to So-
briety**

Meat and drinks provided, bring a
dish to share

Brush Hill Presbyterian Church
2705 Brush Hill Road
Inglewood, TN

Join us to help celebrate FOUNDER'S DAY

June 7th, 2014

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
217 EAST MAIN STREET, HENDERSONVILLE, TN

Registration begins at 8am
Festivities last until 10pm



MARATHON MEETINGS
FROM 10AM UNTIL 7PM
3 SPEAKERS *TO BE ANNOUNCED*
LAST SPEAKER AT 8PM
CLOSING CEREMONIES AT 9

We have open slots for marathon meetings!

10am - Robertson County Group
11am - Straight from the Book
Noon - United Group (Gallatin)

1pm - Open
2pm - Open
3pm - Steven T

4pm - Open
5pm - Open
6pm - Open
7pm - Open

Call Now to Reserve Your Spot!

Contact
Ciro at
615-712-0386
for more
information



\$5.00 REGISTRATION
(SUGGESTED DONATION)
\$5.00 - BREAKFAST
\$5.00 - LUNCH
\$7.00 - DINNER

All Donations will go to Central Office

Group & District	FEB	YTD	Group & District	FEB	YTD
ANONYMOUS GROUPS (ALL) CONTRIBUTIONS - 0	24	62	LADIES NIGHT OUT - 34	25	25
ANY LENGTHS - 13	35	35	LATE LUNCH BUNCH - 33		650
BACK ROOM - 35	510	1,314	LET IT HAPPEN - 35	75	75
BACK TO THE BIG BOOK - 12	60	60	LIFE SAVERS - 30		200
BILL WILSON LITERARY SOCIETY - 31	134	134	MADE A DECISION -	115	115
BY THE BOOK—DICKSON - 15		97	MID-DAY BREAK - 32	49	49
CELEBRATE SERENITY -		200	MURFREESBORO - 12		30
COLUMBIA - 40	20	40	MUSTARD SEED - 32	50	100
COMFORT ZONE -	332	332	NEW BEGINNINGS - 12		40
DAVIDSON RD MEETING - 30	1,300	1,300	NORTHSIDE, CLARKSVILLE - 14		75
DAVIDSON ROAD WOMEN'S MEETING -	470	470	ONE DAY AT A TIME - 31		900
DICKSON AA - 15		390	OUT TO BREAKFAST - 30	89	89
DRUNKS IN THE PARK - 33	454	454	PRIMARY PURPOSE - 34		54
EAST NASHVILLE 86'ers - 34	60	60	PULASKI - 40	5	10
EAST SIDE SATURDAY MEETING -	1,400	1,400	ROAD OF HAPPY DESTINY - 14	15	15
EVERY NIGHT AT 6 - 32	65	65	SATURDAY LIVING BY THE PRINT - 30	75	75
FAIRFIELD GLADE - 9	33	33	SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE MEETING(11) - 11		30
FAIRVIEW - 33		14	SEARCH FOR SERENITY - 34	113	113
FAYETTEVILLE - 40		20	SEEKING SANITY - 31		557
FIRST THINGS FIRST - 34		100	SERENITY (12) - 12	50	50
FIVE & FIVE - 30		448	SHADE TREE - 31	730	730
FRANKLIN 4TH BB STUDY - 33	150	150	SMYRNA GRATITUDE - 12	100	100
FRANKLIN - 33		400	THE UNITED - 13	75	75
FREE TO BE - 31	157	157	TRINITY - 11	50	50
G.O.D. (OF DRUNKS) - 40	160	160	TURNING POINT - 33		123
GRATEFUL ALIVE - 33	147	147	WEEKENDERS - 34	50	50
HAPPY HOUR -LEWISBURG - 40	50	50	WHITE HOUSE - 34		80
HAPPY HOUR - COOKEVILLE - 9		50	WILSON COUNTY FRIENDSHIP - 13	25	25
HIGHER POWERED - 32		133	WINNERS AND BEGINNERS - 35	50	50
HILLSBORO ROAD - 32		500	WOMEN'S FREEDOM MEETING - 30	304	304
IBI-UBU - 13	100	100	WOMENS SPEAKER MEETING - 30	300	300
JOELTON MEETING - 34	50	50	YOUNG GUNS - 32	9	14
KEEP IT SIMPLE BELLEVUE (d35) - 33	103	177	GRAND TOTAL	8,168	14,255

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES ACTUAL AND BUDGETED
FOR THE MONTH AND YTD FEBRUARY 28, 2014**

	Actual	CURRENT MONTH Budget	Budget Var- iance	Actual	YEAR TO DATE Budget	Budget Var- iance
INCOME						
LITERATURE SALES	10,598	11,363	(765)	24,848	22,727	2,122
LITERATURE PURCHASES	(6,869)	(8,333)	1,464	(16,990)	(16,667)	(323)
FREIGHT IN	(60)	-	(60)	(82)	-	(82)
NET LITERATURE SALES	3,669	3,030	639	7,777	6,060	1,717
GROUP						
INDIVIDUAL	213	517	(304)	1,291	1,033	258
MESSENGER	12	92	(80)	60	183	(123)
SPECIAL EVENTS	-	417	(417)	-	833	(833)
INTEREST	1	18	(16)	2	35	(33)
TOTAL INCOME	12,151	9,142	3,008	23,982	18,284	5,698
EXPENSES						
CASUAL LABOR	300	200	100	400	400	-
PAYROLL	5,768	4,453	1,315	9,958	8,906	1,052
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	155	217	(62)	312	433	(121)
SALES TAX EXPENSE	1	-	1	(0)	-	(0)
RENT	946	1,137	(191)	1,892	2,275	(383)
PRINTING	-	400	(400)	265	800	(535)
PAYROLL TAXES	441	340	101	762	680	82
MAINTENANCE	-	83	(83)	95	167	(72)
TELEPHONE & FAX	361	722	(361)	1,109	1,445	(336)
COMMUNICATIONS	-	-	-	-	-	-
ANSWERING SERVICE	231	253	(22)	426	507	(81)
POSTAGE	323	200	123	391	400	(9)
OFFICE SUPPLIES	556	208	348	929	417	513
BANK SERVICE CHARGE	-	-	-	(10)	-	(10)
MOVING EXPENSES	170	-	170	1,965	-	1,965
COMPUTER PROJECT	512	200	312	545	400	145
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTERGROUP EXPENSE	195	63	133	195	125	70
INSURANCE	-	200	(200)	1,216	400	816
SPECIAL EVENTS / YEARLY FUNCTIONS	-	167	(167)	-	333	(333)
REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	-	83	(83)	-	167	(167)
CUSTODIAL	-	50	(50)	-	100	(100)
TRAVEL	-	166	(166)	312	331	(19)
DEPRECIATION	25	-	25	50	-	50
OVER/UNDER	10	-	10	10	-	10
TOTAL EXPENSES	9,994	9,142	852	20,823	18,284	2,539
NET INCOME	2,157	0	2,157	3,159	0	3,159

BACKROOM		FULL MOON		SHADE TREE		Ol' Fred had been a religious man who was in the hospital, near death. The family called their preacher to stand with them. As the preacher stood next to the bed, Ol' Fred's condition appeared to deteriorate and he motioned frantically for something to write on.
Alvin S	04.19.15	Michelle F	04.13.08	Ann T	04.26.09	
Bill S	04.05.94	Mike R	04.17.12	Bill F	04.17.06	
Blake W	04.02.16	Nicole B	04.03.13	Bo R	04.06.06	The pastor lovingly handed him a pen and a piece of paper, and Ol' Fred used his last bit of energy to scribble a note, then he died. The preacher thought it best not to look at the note at that time, so he placed it in his jacket pocket.
Darren H	05.01.14	Stan D	04.07.08	Burnette C	04.27.12	
Eva B	04.15.15	Sue M	04.16.13	David S	04.04.06	
Johnny R	04.07.98	Will P	04.04.09	Dick H	04.15.83	At the funeral, as he was finishing the message, he realized that he was wearing the same jacket that he was wearing when Ol' Fred died.
Julie C	04.20.14			Jimmy M	04.22.12	
Kidd R	04.07.13	KEEP IT SIMPLE		Karen B	04.19.13	
Leslie M	04.06.00	Allen C	04.07.13	Kathy B	04.28.94	He said, "You know, Ol' Fred handed me a note just before he died. I haven't looked at it, but knowing Fred, I'm sure there's a word of inspiration there for us all."
Liz W	04.24.13	Bill C	04.15.13	Kelly B	04.11.13	
Martin B	04.16.04	Julie C	04.19.10	Lindsay L	04.01.11	
Matt K	04.02.13			Lynnsey D	04.03.10	He opened the note, and read out loud, "Hey, you're standing on my oxygen tube!"
Monty A	04.10.97	MID-DAY BREAK		Lucy A	04.07.12	
Patrick O'R	04.06.02	Anna R	04.15.13	Monty P	04.10.07	
Rich F	04.28.12	Blake W	04.01.12	Nick M	04.11.04	In the men's bathroom, an accountant, a lawyer and a cowboy were standing side-by-side using the urinal.
		Lori S	04.10.11			
DONELSON YET		Stan D	04.07.08	SMYRNA GRATITUDE		
Bridget A	04.08.13			Anita M	04.12.95	The accountant finished, zipped up and started washing and literally scrubbing his hands....clear up to his elbows....he used 20 paper towels before he finished. He turned to the other two men and commented, "I graduated from the University of Michigan and they taught us to be clean."
John W	04.11.91	NIPPERS CORNER		Brian D	04.18.92	
Mark S	04.15.89	Mike E	04.23.06	Cliff A	04.24.04	
				Dana S	04.08.08	The lawyer finished, zipped up and quickly wet the tips of his fingers, grabbed one paper towel and commented, "I graduated from the University of California and they taught us to be environmentally conscious."
		P.O.P.		Debbie M	04.21.04	
EASY DOES IT		Andy E	04.28.12	Diane S	04.02.87	
Brandon	04.15.07	Daniel R	04.15.85	Franklin S	04.20.93	The cowboy zipped up and as he was walking out the door said, "I graduated from Texas Tech University and they taught us not to piss on our hands."
George	04.04.89	Ed B	04.08.03	Jeff P	04.01.12	
Haly	04.23.86	Josh T	04.01.12	Joanna C	04.16.12	
Nick	04.04.09	Larry S	04.02.87	Monte M	04.21.96	
		Lucy A	04.18.12	Ray S	04.01.90	
FULL MOON		Marlene R	04.01.89	Regina D	04.07.07	
Chris C	04.14.12					
Debbie M	04.21.04	PORTLAND UNITY		WOMEN SPEAKER		
Heather P	04.08.12	Bob G	04.12.12	Melanie G	04.16.10	
Holly W	04.26.13	Casey S	04.24.13			
John M	04.15.10			WOMEN IN THE SOLUTION		
Keith G	04.16.12	SEARCH FOR SERENITY		Kathleen S	03.30.85	
Mark M	04.08.12	Donna S	04.20.11	APRIL ANNIVERSARIES		
Marty W	04.26.07	Mattie W	04.22.90			
Melissa B	04.10.13	Theresa	04.25.13			
Michael U	04.19.07	Sheri W	04.30.09			

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