

The **MESSENGER**

Middle Tennessee Central Office Intergroup

SEPTEMBER
2015

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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.**

MANY PATHS TO SPIRITUALITY

A.A. — a kinship of common suffering

“Newcomers are approaching A.A. at the rate of tens of thousands yearly. They represent almost every belief and attitude imaginable. We have atheists and agnostics. We have people of nearly every race, culture and religion. In A.A. we are supposed to be bound together in the kinship of a common suffering. Consequently, the full individual liberty to practice any creed or principle or therapy whatever should be a first consideration for us all. Let us not, therefore, pressure anyone with our individual or even our collective views. Let us instead accord each other the respect and love that is due to every human being as he tries to make his way toward the light. Let us always try to be inclusive rather than exclusive; let us remember that each alcoholic among us is a member of A.A., so long as he or she so declares.”

—Bill W. (A.A. Grapevine, July 1965)

A misconception about Alcoholics Anonymous is that it is a religious organization. Since A.A. groups often rent space in churches, attending an A.A. meeting in a church basement can

reinforce that impression, and the possibility of hearing a prayer at the end of a meeting can further cement the idea for some.

Yet A.A.'s pioneering members realized from the beginning that their sole purpose was to help people gain sobriety, and they went to great lengths to ensure the broadest membership among all who suffer from alcoholism. A.A. is a Fellowship, a community of like-minded sufferers who have found a way out of a hopeless condition.

We came to A.A. out of desperation to stop drinking, or reeling from the consequences of our actions while drunk. A.A.'s sense of community and partnership is strong because of our shared suffering and our shared solution.

*We recognized that our lives
would be a lot less chaotic if we
could stop drinking, but we
didn't know how.*

In our meetings people from all walks of life come together with a common

(Continued on page 2)

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CENTRAL OFFICE

We will have a table at the Music City Round-up Sept 3 - 6th at the Music City Sheraton.

Look for us in the lobby outside the meeting rooms.

Please stop by and say Hi.

See you there!

MANY PATHS TO SPIRITUALITY (con't)

(Continued from page 1)

purpose. Some members return to their religious roots, others find different spiritual paths. Some may find this “God of their understanding,” yet never become involved with organized religion. Still others make the A.A. group itself their higher power.

But one thing was sure — whatever our backgrounds, our beliefs or our lack of belief — our drinking had gotten out of hand.

We needed help

Alcoholism can be a lonely affair. Often, we drank to keep the pain of life at arm’s length, and then, when the pain overran us, we drank to wash it away. For some of us, things didn’t seem so bleak. We felt we could control our drinking — except when we couldn’t. We recognized that our lives would be a lot less chaotic if we could stop drinking, but we didn’t know how. We tried different strategies — drinking beer only, not drinking on an empty stomach, having just two drinks a night — but sooner or later we ended up drunk again, wondering what went wrong.

And it wasn’t just ourselves we were hurting. Our families, friends, employers and even complete strangers began to pull away from us, wary of our denials and skeptical of our many lies and pledges to stay sober.

“I knew I was an alcoholic before I came to A.A. I had attended management training courses on how to identify drug and alcohol problems in my employees — and I clearly fit the description. In addition, I am trained as a scientist and an engineer. The objective evidence was all around me — empty gin bottles, webs of lies, damaged relationships and self-loathing. I had also tried unsuccessfully to quit drinking on my own for several years, so I knew that I needed help.”

“My world had been so dark for so long that I grabbed onto that thin strand of hope with all my might.”

We reached out

A time came when we could no longer look the other way and pretend that we were in control of our drinking. Angry, defiant and suspicious as we were, something had to be done.

Asking for help didn’t come easily to many of us. We saw it as a sign of weakness or a character flaw. But when we finally did surrender and reach out for help with our drinking, we got back far more than we expected.

“I met with a doctor who specialized in addiction treatment. He encouraged me to go to A.A. meetings and listen. I did, and soon something deep inside me began shifting. The Fellowship gave me hope — hope that I didn’t have to die drunk, that there was another way.

“My world had been so dark for so long that I grabbed onto that thin strand of hope with all my might.”

We found sobriety — and some obstacles

Having finally found something that worked in our struggle against alcohol, we clung to A.A. like a drowning person clutches onto a life raft. But some of us soon encountered some questions about spirituality that seemed to present obstacles to our full acceptance of the A.A. program. Based on our prior beliefs — or the lack thereof — we felt at odds with what we perceived to be a religious approach to A.A. or pressure to adopt certain religious or spiritual concepts in order to remain in A.A.

“When I arrived in A.A. at age 50, broken in every way, I was immediately faced with a distressing and essential conflict. I knew almost immediately that A.A. was my only hope and I saw that the spiritual dimension of the program was unavoidable. And yet my rejection of any form of divinity was absolute; my agnostic/atheistic view was as essential to my being as the shape of my hands or the sound of my voice.

“Coming to believe in a higher power, however I defined it, seemed wholly impossible, and yet absolutely essential if I was to survive my disease, which had taken me to a level of demoralization and despair I could not have imagined possible.”

Working the A.A. Program

Recognizing, first of all, that we needed to stay sober, many of us began to discover that we could utilize the A.A. program without conforming to religious or spiritual concepts we either disagreed with or didn’t have. As we became more familiar with A.A., we began to realize the deep significance in the phrasing of A.A.’s Twelve Steps, which emphasize “a Power greater than ourselves,” and “God, *as we understand him.*”

These words and A.A.’s traditional commitment to inclusivity provided comfort to many of us, leaving the door to spirituality open for alcoholics of all faiths, beliefs and practices, and allowing each of us to determine for himself or herself just what to believe.

“In trying to find something to believe in, I read books about philosophy, spirituality and eastern religions. I listened to people share in meetings and tried to believe in their higher power. I even tried prayer and going back to church. But, in spite of my efforts to ‘educate myself’ into a higher power, I didn’t know what I believed. But I knew that the days I prayed seemed to go better than the days I didn’t, even when I thought I was praying to my bedspread.”

Many paths to spirituality

Many of us came to rely on a “Higher Power”, whether it was the collective power of A.A., the A.A. group itself, or some

(Continued on page 3)

MANY PATHS TO SPIRITUALITY (con't)

(Continued from page 2)

other entity, concept or being that helped us to stay sober.

"My sponsor encouraged me to choose my own conception of a higher power. It didn't need a gender, or a name, or any human attributes — it just had to be 'a power greater than myself.' It was then that I realized that the Fellowship, though comprised of human beings, represented a power greater than anything human. Even more surprisingly, by taking the Steps in my own clumsy way, supported by the unconditional love of my fellow alcoholics, I had discovered a quiet, inner voice — a God within."

There were many other ideas and approaches, too, that helped us move forward in staying sober and understanding how the A.A. program could work best for us.

"By incorporating basic Buddhist practices with my A.A. practices — regular meetings, doing service, working with newcomers, living the Steps and reading A.A. literature — I have discovered an awesome way to improve my conscious contact with the God of my understanding and live life on life's terms in relative serenity. I still have anxieties, anger and all the rest of the emotions that come with life, but, bit by bit, I am able to manage them."

Many of us come from different belief systems and cultures, yet there has always been plenty of latitude in A.A. for members to practice whatever belief works best for them.

"I am a Sioux/Blackfoot woman. I have been sober in A.A. for many years. Many of us believe in the Great Spirit, and it was a great relief to find out I could believe in a higher power of my choice. I didn't have to give up any part of my beliefs when I joined A.A. I could live in the white man's world, but also retain all of my people's Native traditions, customs and ceremonies. In fact, A.A. made my beliefs stronger. My joining A.A. didn't restrict me, it gave me more freedom."

The spirit of tolerance is strong in A.A., and members of all faiths and traditions find common ground in our program of recovery.

"I'm a devout, lifelong Catholic. That is an integral part of my experience, strength and hope. I call my higher power God and do not feel I should have to qualify that every time I speak at a meeting. I'm perfectly okay with others referring to Buddha, Mohammed, Yahweh, or whatever name they call their higher power."

"I'm uncomfortable, though, with anyone citing the Bible, the Koran, the Talmud, or any non-A.A. literature as the truth in an A.A. meeting. But I certainly give them the right to refer to or even quote (briefly) from any of these texts if it's part of their A.A. experience."

"In my eighteen years of recovery, I have heard plenty of inappropriate talk about religion, and I probably will again.... But so far I haven't found it necessary to take a

drink over any of it, and more than once, it has caused me to experience unexpected spiritual growth. And that's the point, isn't it?

For many of us, sobriety was a gift — freely given and freely received. Yet we have to do our part in maintaining it.

"I'm still an agnostic. But I have discovered that the program will work for anyone who will let it. I didn't have to find a way to make it work. It will work perfectly well on its own, provided I'm willing to do some work myself."

"The first thing I had to do was resign from the debating society. That didn't mean I started agreeing with everything I heard. It means only that I listened without arguing, used what I could use, and filed the rest for future reference."

"The second thing I did was become an active member of my home group, which happened to be my sponsor's home group. (I'd gotten a sponsor immediately. I already knew that was one thing I'd better do right away.) I saw that whatever else spirituality might consist of, it had to include being of maximum service to my fellow alcoholics, whether or not they were still suffering."

In working the program, we came to a better understanding of spirituality and the part it plays in our recovery.

"When I first came to A.A., I thought that religion and spirituality were the same thing. But I've come to realize that religion means being committed to a practice of belief, and being spiritual means actively living life through a life-giving force. I believe this is any power greater than myself, whether I choose to call it God, Allah, Higher Power, Creative Intelligence, or the Power of Good."

"I don't have a specific religious faith that I practice or church that I go to. Matter of fact, I haven't been in a sanctuary for some time. But I do try to practice the principles of the A.A. program. Through this, I believe that my higher power lives within and through me, and that is my sanctuary."

With time, we came to recognize that we could stay sober and enjoy full membership in the Fellowship, regardless of our beliefs.

"When I finally admitted I was an alcoholic and came into the program four years ago, I thought, 'Oh God, why me?' We Jews were supposed to be immune to alcoholism, we were the 'Chosen Ones' — or so my denial told me. Yet today I am doubly blessed; I am a grateful, recovering, Jewish alcoholic."

"It took me a long time to separate Judaism from alcoholism, to accept that spirituality did not affect or change my religious beliefs, but enhanced them, that my higher power was not the same as yours, that praying and the posture I use to pray does not alter my Jewishness but is necessary for my recovery. Today I can even recite the Lord's Prayer without

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GENEALOGY

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race appear?"

The mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children and so was all mankind made."

Two days later the girl asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved."

The confused girl returned to her mother and said, "Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?"

The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple: I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

BEGGING

At the entrance to a Hindu temple there was a beggar always stretching out his hand, asking and pleading for alms.

One day he stretched out both of his hands.

A passerby asked him: "All these days, you were stretching out only one hand—why are you today stretching out two hands?"

To which the beggar replied: "*Hari Om!* Praise God! Business was so good that I opened another branch!"

Out Of Gas

A nun who works for a local home health care agency was out making her rounds when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it there was a station just down the street. She walked to the station to borrow a can with enough gas to start the car and drive to the station for a fill up.

The attendant regretfully told her that the only can he owned had just been loaned out, but if she would care to wait he was sure it would be back shortly.

Since the nun was on the way to see a patient she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. After looking through her car for something to carry to the station to fill with gas, she spotted a bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, she carried it to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried it back to her car.

As she was pouring the gas into the tank of her car two men walked by. One of them turned to the other and said: "Now that is what I call faith!"

A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest were good friends.

At a picnic one day, the priest was eating a ham sandwich. "You know," he said to his friend, "this ham sandwich is delicious. I know you're not supposed to eat ham, but I don't understand why such a good thing would be forbidden. When will you break down and try it?"

To which the rabbi replied, "At your wedding."

MEDITATING MONKS

One Buddhist monk leaned over to another and quietly asked, "Are you not thinking what I'm not thinking?"



WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?

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	Whitney J	615.533.2308
Treasurer	Chris K	615.689.2706
Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community	Paul S	615.556.3357
Special Needs	Reanate M	615.625.8483
Corrections	Charlie B	615.554.9085
Treatment Facilities	Jennifer S	615.415.4177
Archives	Everett C	615.226.4880
Sobriety Dinner	Cathy M	615.500.0863

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: Monday (this has changed due to conference room conflict)

October 26th 5:45pm – 6:45pm

Where: Central Office
417 Welshwood

G	R	D	Y	S	D	T	U	O	N	B	D	R	M	N	V	W	C	A	S
T	E	X	P	E	N	S	E	R	T	Y	G	Y	W	H	H	D	N	N	X
W	C	L	W	S	V	R	S	A	U	R	N	B	H	F	Z	D	J	B	R
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D	I	T	S	R	O	W	F	B	Z	X	E	F	K	U	W	O	H	N	G
N	F	E	J	F	B	K	W	L	K	R	P	N	E	R	R	Y	U	A	T

Find the CAPITALIZED words below.

WHILE we may be QUITE WILLING to REVEAL the VERY WORST, we MUST be SURE to REMEMBER that we CANNOT BUY our own PEACE of MIND at the EXPENSE of OTHERS.

It does not LIGHTEN our BURDEN when we RECKLESSLY MAKE the CROSSES of others HEAVIER.

P-84 Pamphlet "Many Paths to Spirituality"
Reprinted with Permission: AA.Org

WHEN YOU'RE IN UP TO YOUR NOSE, KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT.

RECOVERY

As I begin here today
My mind has told me
I've nothing to say
But my hope is that by the end
You will know that I'm here as your friend

I've lived a very hard life
Full of addiction and strife
With such pain that stabbed like a knife
This life that I had grown now to fear
Never able to feel any cheer
For instead all my days had been filled
with just tears.

My life was a mess
You'd say, "to stay sober, just do this"
Which I'd try very hard to dismiss,
I felt shame and disgrace
And totally misplaced
For the alcohol had shown me
How my life was amiss.

I'm sober now
But don't ask me how
For I'd hear you all say
Just don't drink for today
Now this I could work to allow.
For my thinking was starting to sway
Then you taught me to pray
And ask Gods' help for each day
And this has become my new vow.

As I stand before you
You can know this is true
When I started to do as you do,
I turned away from that life,
Replaced all my strife
Now I'm a person who's life is made new.

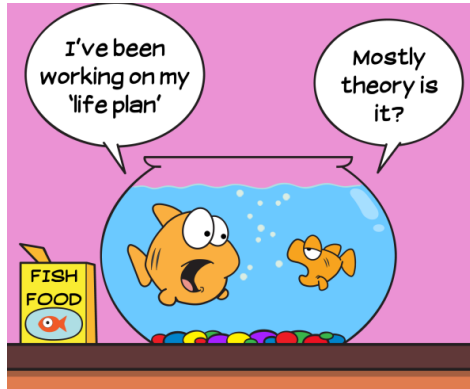
*Reanate M.
Mid-Day Break Group—Nashville, TN*

A police officer called the station on his radio.

"I have an interesting case here. An old lady shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped."

"Have you arrested the woman?"

"Not yet. The floor's still wet."



Why science teachers
should not be given
playground duty.

District 31 Workshop

4th Step Workshop The Easier, Softer Way

presented by
Scott L.

October 3rd
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Light Lunch Served

Location
Old Hickory Presbyterian Church
801 Jones Street
Old Hickory, TN 37138

Any questions, contact Darin M.
at 615-423-2620

LOOK NO FURTHER FOR

UTOPIA

57TH ICYPAA

MIAMI, FL

SEPT 3RD - 6TH

Labor Day Weekend!

AT THE TRUMP NATIONAL DORAL

Want to help outreach ICYPAA at an event, conference or meeting in your area?
We're always looking for motivated liaisons to join us on our outreach team!
Send an email including where you live to outreach@ICYPAAHOST.org for more info.

REGISTER NOW!
57TH.ICYPAA.ORG

NEW / MOVES / CHANGES		NEW / MOVES / CHANGES	
37027	Saturday Serenity - Cumberland Heights Outpatient - 7105 Cross-roads Blvd, Brentwood - Sat 8a - Women's OD	37206	Eastside Men's Stag Woodland Pres Ch. 211 N. 11th St Thurs -
37030	Smith County Friendship - Carthage United Methodist Church 608 Main Street N	37209	Next Right Thing - Crosspoint Dream Center - 4007 Delaware Ave -
37043	Safe Harbor - Sun 6p OD	37209	Cumberland Heights - Crossover is Fri 7pm (not Thurs)
37055	DAFA phone # for Clubhouses and for Dickson Group 615-326-8669	37209	WANGL -BBStudy 6:30p Mon Quaker House 530 26th Ave N.
37062	Psychic Change - 112 Hwy 96 N Fairview TN	37210	Late Nite News - now Sat 10:30p
37062	Psychic Change - 112 Hwy 96 N Fairview TN Wed 7:30 OD	37210	Cross Roads - now CD meetings
37064	Garden Variety - St Andrew's Lutheran - 908 Murfreesboro Rd Hwy 96 - Tues & Thurs 7:15p OD/Lit/DN	37210	Unity Group - Added OD Mon - Wed - Sat 6pm & Tues 6p is now
37066	Gallatin AA - Tues Noon OD, Wed 8p OD/Lit, Thu Noon OD	37211	Solo Por Hoy - 2610-A Nolensville Pike 8p Every Day - OD 2 hour
37066	No Boundaries - 1531 Hunt Club Blvd #300 - Sun 9:30a OD/ Meditation	37211	District 32 Meeting - 1st Tuesday Monthly - Club 62 329 Peachtree
37066	Gallatin AA - 2nd Sun Eating/Speaker	37217	Bradford Newcomer Group - 1410 Donelson Pike, Suite A7, Mon
37072	Made A Decision - Parkway Bapt 505 Cuniff Pkwy M-8p OD	37218	The Lions Den Bordeaux Church of Christ 3715 John Mallette Dr -
37087	IBI-UBU - Healing Broken Vessels 311 College Street - Sat, Mon, Tues 11am	37221	Bellevue Group - added Sun 5p BBS
37098	East Hickman AA Wrigley Ch of God of Prophecy 7703 Grover Vaughn Rd, Lyles, TN Tue & Fri 6:30p OD	37334	Serenity Cellar West End Baptist Church 200 Morgan Ave Fayette-
37110	Recovery First St. Catherine's Catholic CH 1024 Faulkner Springs, McMinnville Tue & Thu 7p OD	37388	Sat Night Alive - Thurs 7p OD
37115	Search for Serenity -Tu OD/Beg-W OD/BB aln-F OD/GV aln	38401	Columbia Group - added Sat 9a OD/WMN
37122	Key to Sobriety - Wed now 7p OD/Lit/Wmn	38401	Lunch Bunch Tues (OD) 12p & Thus 12p
37130	Serenity Group - Thurs is CD only, no Lit study - Sun 8 pm no ALN	38464	Winners Group new address Word of Life Ministries #3 Rabbit Trail
37130	New Beginnings - Murfreesboro - Tues & Thurs now at 6p		CANCELLED
37130	3 Fingers - Cumberland Heights IOP Bldg 745 S Church St Suite 505 Murfreesboro 5:30 p 1st Sat	37013	Just Wednesday - Lighthouse Fellowship Church
37130	Haven At Last Wed 7:30p OD/Lit/CDLT	37027	Free Thinkers
37135	Right Direction - Southpointe Comm Church 7227 Haley Industrial Rd #1000 Mon 7p OD	37040	Road of Happy Destiny - Wed 7p & Thurs Noon
37160	Women in the Solution - moved - Episcopal Ch 203 E. Lane Street	37055	142 Group
37167	Smyrna Gratitude - Fri 10p YP/OD	37055	Solutions Group
37174	Ruts Group new address UAW Union Hall (Local 1853) 125 Stephen P. Yokich Parkway	37062	Psychic Change - Sat 7:30p
37174	Spring Hill Group - Spring Hill United Mth - 5286 main st 8p Mon CD	37087	Any Lengths - 8am Sun
37174	RUSSH Hour - Speaker meeting is 1st Thurs - Sun 5:30 is Lit Work-shop	37087	IBU-UBU - 11a Tues
37204	Vine Hill Thurs - now meets at 3pm	37110	McMinnville Group - Tue & Thu 8p
37205	Everything or nothing - 7p Tues CD/Lit/BB Brookhollow Baptist ch 678 Brookhollow Rd	37115	City Road
37205	Women's Freedom - now meets at Concordia Lutheran Ch 3501 Central Ave	37115	Halfway There Meeting
37205	SOS - Meeting on Fri - 9:30 not 9:00	37115	Three Legacies of Madison
37205	11th Step Meeting - Belle Meade United Meth - now 10am Sat	37115	8pm Serenity House - Mon-Fri
37205	Women's Speaker - now 7p Fri 90 minute meeting	37130	Murfreesboro Group - Tues 8p
37205	S.O.S. - Belle Meade Unit Met - 121 Davidson Rd F- 10a OD / LIT / Wmn	37130	Serenity Group - Sun 4p & Sat 10a
37206	East Side Sunlighters - Woodland Pres Ch - 211 N. 11th St Wed & Fri 7:30 p OD	37172	Robertson Cnty - Tu 8pm Dwnt-W Noon & Th 7p 208B
37206	Every Sat Nite at 6:30p OD - House of Blessing Ch 900 Gallatin	37174	Spring Hill Twisted Pickles
37206	Eastside Men's Stag Woodland Pres Ch. 211 N. 11th St Thurs - 7p Men (not Wed)	37174	RUSSH Hour - Sun 7:01 Young People & Sun 5:3p Lit
37209	Next Right Thing - Crosspoint Dream Center - 4007 Delaware Ave - Wed 10a WMN/OD	37205	F.L.O. - Thu 7pm CD/WMN/GAY
		37207	Seven Dips
		37210	Young Timers Wed 8p
		37210	Last Call Group
		37211	Woodbine - Sunday 6:30p
		37211	Steel Magnolias Wmn Last Stop 2122 Utopia TH - 6:30p
		37211	Last Stop Club - Men's OD 6:30p Tues
		37212	(L.O.C.A.L.) Library of Conf Approved Literature
		37214	Freedom Hour Meeting
		37217	Love & Laughter - Thurs 6:30p
		37334	Fayetteville Group - W & Sa cancelled
		38401	Columbia Group - all noon meetings cancelled
		38464	Lawrenceburg Group Tues, Fri, & Sat 7pm cancelled
		38562	Old Time AA - 8p Fri
		38565	Grimsley - 5:30 p Tue

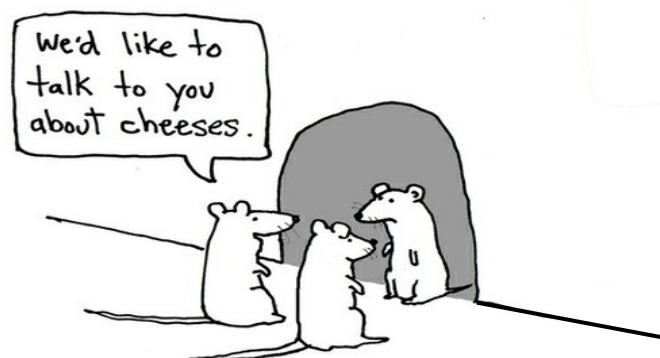
GROUP/MEETING	Dist	July	YTD
11TH STEP MTG	30	-	73
21st AVENUE	30	-	167
24 HOUR	32	300	550
60 MINUTES	64	-	110
ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTIONS	0	26	446
ANY LENGTHS	13	-	100
BACK ROOM	35	-	2,411
BACK TO THE BIG BOOK	12	-	61
BELLEVUE WINNERS & BEGINNERS	35	-	100
BRENTWOOD FULL MOON	33	485	970
BY THE BOOK -DICKSON	15	57	217
CAME TO BELIEVE	33	100	100
CAMELS		-	35
CELEBRATE SERENITY		-	325
CHICKEN PLUCKERS MEN'S	33	-	142
CLARKSVILLE	14	-	100
CLUB 62 UNITY	32	-	10
COLUMBIA	40	20	140
COMFORT ZONE	15	180	530
COOL SPRINGS NEWCOMERS	33	-	302
CROSSVILLE NON -SMK STEP	9	40	40
DAILY REPRIEVE	13	-	146
DAVIDSON ROAD	30	-	3,700
DICKSON AA	15	-	600
DISTRICT 11	11	-	120
DONELSON YET	31	-	100
DOWNTOWN LUNCH BUNCH	32	-	319
DROP THE ROCK		100	100
DRUNKS IN THE PARK	33	256	617
EAST NASHVILLE 86'ers	34	-	229
EAST NASHVILLE MEN'S STAG MTG	34	-	600
EAST NASHVILLE WOMENS MTG	31	-	138
EAST SIDE SATURDAY MTG		320	770
EASY DOES IT (MT JULIET)	31	-	275
EVERY NIGHT AT 6	32	-	58
FAIRFIELD GLADE	9	-	33
FAIRVIEW	33	50	200
FAYETTEVILLE	40	45	65
FIRST THINGS FIRST	34	220	770
FIVE & FIVE	30	-	266
FRANKLIN 12&12	33	-	200
FRANKLIN	33	-	1,950
FRANKLIN MEN'S	33	-	400
FRANKLIN ROAD WOMEN'S	33	-	300
FREE TO BE MTG	31	182	558
FRIDAY NIGHT PRIME TIME	33	-	25
GRATEFUL ALIVE	33	66	76
GRATITUDE	11	-	25
HAPPY HOUR- COOKEVILLE	9	-	100
HARDING ROAD	30	-	300
HENDERSONVILLE BB	34	-	50
HERMITAGE	31	-	200
HIGH NOON	34	370	915
HILLSBORO ROAD	32	-	250
HOPE PARK AA LIT STUDY	30	-	133
KEEP IT SIMPLE BELLEVUE d35	33	-	216

GROUP/MEETING	Dist	July	YTD
KEY TO SOBRIETY	31	200	200
LADIES NIGHT OUT	34	25	50
LATE LUNCH BUNCH	33	450	1,450
LET IT HAPPEN	35	25	100
LEWISBURG UNITY	41	-	21
LIFE SAVERS	30	150	150
LIVE & LET LIVE	9	25	25
MIDDAY BREAK	32	-	561
MT JULIET FELLOWSHIP	31	-	100
MURFREESBORO	12	15	105
MUSIC ROW	30	-	300
MUSTARD SEED	32	-	250
(NOW) NASHVILLE ORIGINAL WOMENS	30	42	42
NEW BEGINNINGS(Dist 12)	12	-	100
NEW LIFE H-VILLE	34	20	30
NO NONSENSE	32	49	110
NORTHSIDE , CLARKSVILLE	14	50	175
ONE DAY AT A TIME	31	-	800
ONE STEP CLOSER	33	180	581
OUT TO BREAKFAST	30	-	106
PAGE 112	31	46	46
PAY DAY	15	-	125
PORTLAND UNITY	13	20	65
PRIMARY PURPOSE	34	147	421
PULASKI	40	5	35
REBOS (SOBER)	34	-	210
ROBERTSON COUNTY	14	-	25
SAFE HARBOR (D14)	14	-	200
SAFE PLACE		-	73
SANGO SOLUTIONS		10	50
SATURDAY LIVING BY THE PRINT	30	100	275
SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE	11	-	30
SEARCH FOR SERENITY	34	-	120
SEARCHERS	34	-	200
SEEKING SANITY	31	293	780
SERENITY (12)	12	50	350
SHADE TREE	31	1,980	3,960
SHELBYVILLE	11	-	300
SMYRNA GRATITUDE	12	243	1,163
SUNDAY NIGHT BUNCH	32	100	100
THE THREE LEGACIES	34	-	13
THE UNITED	13	-	400
TRINITY	11	-	50
TRUDGING THE ROAD	33	-	80
TURNING POINT	33	-	147
VALLEYVIEW-ASHLAND CITY	15	1,241	1,241
WANGL	30	115	265
WAVERLY	15	-	68
WAVERLY-BELMONT	32	-	100
WEEKENDERS	34	-	50
WEST MEADE	30	-	100
WEST NASHVILLE	35	-	53
WESTMINSTER	30	-	216
WOMEN IN THE SOLUTION	11	50	361
WOMEN'S FREEDOM MTG	30	-	350
YOUNG TIMERS	32	-	66

Grand total: 8,447 39,075

Middle Tennessee Intergroup Association
Statement of Activities - Actual and Budgeted - Schedule 1
For the Month and the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2015

	July 2015			YTD 2015		
	Actual	Budget	Budget Variance	Actual	Budget	Budget Variance
Income						
Literature Sales	\$ 15,185.13	16,230.00	(1,064.87)	\$ 74,490.98	113,610.00	(39,119.02)
Literature Purchases	(10,396.16)	(11,355.00)	958.84	(44,874.09)	(79,485.00)	34,610.91
Freight In	(56.50)	(41.00)	(15.50)	(290.68)	(287.00)	(3.68)
Net Literature Sales	4,712.47	4,834.00	(121.53)	29,326.21	33,838.00	(4,511.79)
Non Profit Income	-	-	-	51.75	-	51.75
Group Donations	7,758.95	5,166.00	2,592.95	39,042.63	36,162.00	2,880.63
Individual Donations	162.01	366.00	(203.99)	2,073.09	2,562.00	(488.91)
Messenger Donations	12.00	29.00	(17.00)	72.00	203.00	(131.00)
Website Donations	-	-	-	2,727.20	-	2,727.20
Special Events	-	333.00	(333.00)	-	2,331.00	(2,331.00)
Interest	2.38	1.00	1.38	12.76	7.00	5.76
Total Income	12,647.81	10,729.00	1,918.81	73,305.64	75,103.00	(1,797.36)
Expenses						
Casual Labor	200.00	200.00	-	1,400.00	1,400.00	-
Payroll	4,397.92	4,783.00	(385.08)	32,441.90	33,481.00	(1,039.10)
Bad Debts	-	-	-	66.70	-	66.70
Legal & Professional	350.00	200.00	150.00	2,733.75	1,400.00	1,333.75
Sales Tax Expense	-	-	-	0.04	-	0.04
Rent	1,092.25	1,000.00	92.25	7,067.75	7,000.00	67.75
Printing	-	333.00	(333.00)	390.00	2,331.00	(1,941.00)
Payroll Taxes	336.44	320.00	16.44	2,481.80	2,240.00	241.80
Repairs & Maintenance	50.00	97.00	(47.00)	350.00	679.00	(329.00)
Equipment Rental	103.00	120.00	(17.00)	754.11	840.00	(85.89)
Telephone & Fax	502.76	541.00	(38.24)	3,118.30	3,787.00	(668.70)
Answering Service	204.00	233.00	(29.00)	1,605.00	1,631.00	(26.00)
Postage	55.09	200.00	(144.91)	922.11	1,400.00	(477.89)
Office Supplies	114.03	250.00	(135.97)	1,688.95	1,750.00	(61.05)
Computer & Technology	64.85	250.00	(185.15)	389.59	1,750.00	(1,360.41)
Intergroup Expense	231.00	125.00	106.00	351.90	875.00	(523.10)
Insurance	-	200.00	(200.00)	1,244.00	1,400.00	(156.00)
Special Events	-	191.00	(191.00)	-	1,337.00	(1,337.00)
Travel	500.00	333.00	167.00	735.16	2,331.00	(1,595.84)
Depreciation	7.92	50.00	(42.08)	55.44	350.00	(294.56)
Total Expenses	8,209.26	9,426.00	(1,216.74)	57,796.50	65,982.00	(8,185.50)
Net Income	\$ 4,438.55	1,303.00	3,135.55	\$ 15,509.14	9,121.00	6,388.14



Church Mice.

BACK ROOM	
Andi B	09.05.07
Brian S	09.15.08
Edwin W	09.20.13
Emma J	09.23.92
Jan C	09.08.04
John P	09.07.91
Karin K	09.01.14
Kelly C	09.05.97
Maureen O	09.03.02
Morris R	09.05.89
Pam N	09.21.08
Sarah P	09.13.13
Steve G	09.13.82
FELLOWSHIP	
Becky N	09.24.95
Charley Y	09.23.91
Geary M	09.01.06
Lindsey T	09.20.14
Melissa S	09.21.02
EASY DOES IT	
Alan B	09.05.94
Barbara Anne Z	09.08.14
Susan P	09.12.09
FULL MOON	
Beth T	09.03.84
Jim M	09.23.07
Kelly C	09.15.97
Steve K	09.24.94
Toni H	09.01.13
HIGH NOON	
Allen B	09.05.94
Elise D	09.25.14
Greg H	09.07.02
James S	09.02.14
Lisa C	09.08.13
Mark L	09.03.14
Scott E	09.22.03
Tom B	09.20.12

LOVE & LAUGHTER	
Mike McM	09.02.96
Peggy P	09.25.94
MID-DAY BREAK	
Charley Y	09.23.91
Colin S	09.18.08
Jeff P	09.22.90
Jesse M	09.09.14
Sherein	09.18.11
NIPPERS CORNER	
Cindy M	09.26.11
Kathy B	09.12.82
Susan H	09.15.95
Vanessa S	09.21.02
ONE DAY AT A TIME	
Brian W	09.25.04
Bruce J	09.19.12
Cory P	09.10.14
Cullen T	09.30.13
Deon D	09.15.13
Jamie H	09.11.11
Jeff F	09.13.04
Jeff R	09.26.12
Karin K	09.01.14
Kimberly F	09.07.12
Michael D	09.21.13
Mike G	09.18.12
Nick K	09.03.06
Peter P	09.13.02
Rick	09.16.88
Russell J	09.15.02
Sanna K	09.11.10
Tree	09.01.12
Zachary Y	09.24.14
P.O.P.	
Brady M	09.13.00
Chris G	09.13.06
Gary V	09.07.07
Jimmy N	09.19.08
Shelly A	09.16.03

PORTLAND UNITY	
Curtis S	09.30.13
SEARCH FOR SERENITY	
Everett C	09.09.12
Susanne M	09.21.02
SEEKING SANITY	
Bob M	09.29.09
Chris W	09.26.14
Lee M	09.01.12
Monroe C	09.11.05
Pam W	09.03.12
Rusty B	09.??.10
SHADE TREE	
A. Casper V	09.01.02
Amanda K	09.17.06
Beth D	09.22.13
Betty S	09.03.14
Bill W	09.14.13
Brandy P	09.15.14
Chris H	09.13.14
Darin M	09.29.08
Gabe H	09.28.01
James C	09.02.06
Jessica H	09.22.14
Mary S	09.28.93
Nancy H	09.21.05
Walt D	09.15.13
WEEKENDERS	
Eric T	09.11.98
Shelly A	09.16.03
WOMEN'S SPEAKER	
Lyn M	09.19.84
Susan B	09.18.97
YET	
Ed C	09.16.92
JJ T	09.27.01
Joe V	09.27.96
Nat T	09.11.10



A man got into a bus and found himself sitting next to a youngster who was obviously a hippie. He was wearing only one shoe. "You've evidently lost a shoe, son."

"No, man," came the reply. "I found one."



ANOTHER ESKIMO BAPTISM GONE BAD

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