

\$1.00 SEPT 2021

Please join us for the

Annual Celebration of Sobriety Dinner

A Middle Tennessee Intergroup Potluck

Friday, November 19, 2021

Woodmont Hills Church

3710 Franklin Road at Woodmont Blvd

We are keeping
our eye on the
new covid is
new so please
sues so please

6pm



Reception

7pm



Dinner

8pm



Speaker

Meat, Desserts & Drinks Provided Please bring Casseroles, Vegetables, Salads, Side Dishes, & Bread Please have on site by 6:45pm

Tickets \$15



Please contact Central Office @ 615-831-1050 for tickets

Central Office—417 Welshwood Dr., # 207, Nashville, TN 37211, Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm, Sat, 9am-1pm, Hot Line (615) 831-1050, (800) 559-2252 (outside local area), Business—(615) 832-1136, Fax—(615) 834-5982, Articles for

A Study of Tradition 9

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ORT Central Service Politics

The short form of Tradition 9 reads:

AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

The long form of Tradition 9 reads:

Each AA group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its Secretary, the large group its Rotating Committee, and the groups of a large Metropolitan area their Central or Intergroup Committee, which often employs a full-time Secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are. in effect, our AA General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our AA Tradition and the receivers of voluntary AA contributions by which we maintain our AA General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principle newspaper, "The AA Grapevine." All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in AA are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

The words "Let's keep it simple" were the last Bill W heard from Dr Bob shortly before his death in 1950. Aware that "it" in "keep it simple" meant our recovery program, Bill later wrote, "We need to distinguish sharply between spiritual simplicity and functional simplicity. When we get into questions of action by groups, by areas, and by AA as a whole, we find that we must to some extent organize to carry the message or else face chaos. And chaos is not simplicity."

Groups and service committees do need some form of minimum organization. If everybody thinks somebody else is going to purchase the coffee, what's the result? No coffee! To avoid this, one or more group members volunteer to be responsible for it.

All the way from trusted group servants to trustees on the General Service Board, those who take part in AA service work are assuming responsibility - not taking on authority.

Many members don't know that AA is organized into 3 corporations. The General Service Board of AA is a non-profit corporation. It consists of 7 non-alcoholic and 14 alcoholic trustees who are nominated and elected for their business and professional skills.

The General Service Board, in behalf of all AA members, holds in trust literature copyrights and funds from the sale of literature and donations from groups and members. AA World Service, or AAWS, is also a corporation and one of the publishing arms of AA. The General Service Office is part of AAWS. The AA Grapevine is a separate corporation and is the 2nd publishing arm of AA. In many cases, an Intergroup Central Office will also be set up as a non-profit corporation.

Many members don't know that AA has something called a General Service Structure where groups are organized into districts and districts into areas and areas into regions and regions into Conferences with a General Service Board and General Service Office.

All of this organizational structure is (Continued on page 9)



Nell at the offices of the G.S.O. in 1966, where her initiative saved much early A.A. material from the dustbin.

Nell Wing, A.A.'s First Archivist, Dies at 89

Nell Wing (nonalcoholic), A.A.'s first archivist and friend to legions of A.A.s around the world, died February 14. She was 89 years old. In 1947, recently discharged from the U.S. Coast Guard (she served in the female arm called SPARS), Nell was on her way to Mexico to study art. Seeking temporary job, she landed one at A.A.'s headquarters on Lexing-

ton Ave.—35 years later, in 1982, she retired.

Nell, who was 29 at the time she started at G.S.O. (then called the Alcoholic Foundation), served as receptionist and did other clerical work before becoming Bill's secretary in 1950. At the time of her arrival, the three-room office had 13 people working there, including Bill. It was a time when A.A.'s Traditions were just beginning to emerge, the General Service Conference was still in the discussion phase, and the Board of Trustees of the Alcoholic Foundation (now General Service Board) was just starting to figure out its role.

Nell soon recognized the importance of Bill's correspondence and other material. She began going through his waste basket to retrieve and squirrel away material that would eventually be a basis for G.S.O.'s Archives, and be indispensable to scholars, writers and A.A. members in the years to come.

In 1973, Nell appeared twice on the Dick Cavett show, on broadcasts devoted to alcoholism. She explained the spiritual and psychological value of A.A.'s Traditions.

In the early 1970s, Nell turned her attention to the task of organizing the material that would form the basis of an archives: "With the advice of a professional librarian," she said, "I set about wading through and organizing mounds of accumulated correspondence and historical records." (Grapevine, Sept. 1977)

The trustees' Archives Committee was formed in 1973, and in 1975, A.A.'s Archives was officially opened with a ceremony chaired by George G., then chairman of the trustees' Archives Committee. Lois W., Bill's widow, cut the ribbon and Nell Wing was, of course, the Archivist.

Nell knew everybody and remembered everything. She was a treasure trove of A.A. information. All one had to do was mention a name or event and Nell was off and running with more information than one could absorb. Always upbeat, with a beautiful winning smile, she never said a bad thing about anyone, one past staff member said. "With Nell," George observed, "A.A. matters are a labor of love."

In 1992, Nell's story of her years with A.A., *Grateful to Have Been There*, was published.

"From the beginning," Nell recalled, "I was caught by the A.A. Fellowship, particularly by the caring... a oneon-one caring, a love for one another without thought of any reward."

The Fellowship credits Nell with helping it attain a clearer sense of its history. "The fantastic success of A.A. is like a big puzzle and there are pieces that you know fit in, but you just don't know where until you look

back into the past." (Nell in an interview in the Grapevine, June 1994)

In this photo from 1988, six years after her retirement from G.S.O., Nell is at Stepping Stones, the home of Bill W. and Lois. Nell was very close to Bill and his wife, and had her own room at their home.



A Fellowship Prayer

Dear Higher Power I am grateful that:

I am part of the Fellowship, one among many, but I am one.

I need to work the Steps for the development of the buried life within me.

Our Program may be human in its organization, but it is Divine in its purpose. The purpose is to continue my spiritual awakening.

Participating in the privileges of the movement, I shall share in the responsibilities, taking it upon myself to carry my fair share of the load, not grudgingly, but joyfully.

To the extent that I fail in my responsibilities, the Program fails. To the extent that I succeed, the Program succeeds.

I shall not wait to be drafted for service to my fellow members, I shall volunteer.

I shall be loyal in my attendance, generous in my giving, kind in my criticism, intuitive in my suggestions, loving in my attitudes.

I shall give to the Program my interest, my enthusiasm, my devotion, and, most of all, myself.

	<u> </u>	
Chairperson	Garrett D	615.957.7674
Central Office Manager	Charles C	615.973.9898
Central Office Bookkeeper	Bill M	615.512.5710
Vice Chairperson	Joe C	615.491.1824
Secretary	Lindsey T	615.260.6295
Treasurer	Butler M	225.226.5457
Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community	Steve M	865.567.6734
Accessibility Committee	Jennifer S	615.717.7682
Corrections	Stephen T	615.926.9467
Treatment Facilities	Darin M	615.423.2620
Events Chair		
Archives	Don M	615.708.7957
Sobriety Dinner		
Newsletter	Pat P	615.574.4412

1ST TUESDAY OF EVERY MO.

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

2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MO.

Intergroup Meeting When: 6:00pm – 7:00pm Where: Central Office 417 Welshwood

STEERING COMMITTEE

When: Monday Jul—26th 6:00pm – 7:00pm Where: Central Office 417 Welshwood

1ST TUESDAY OF EVERY MO.

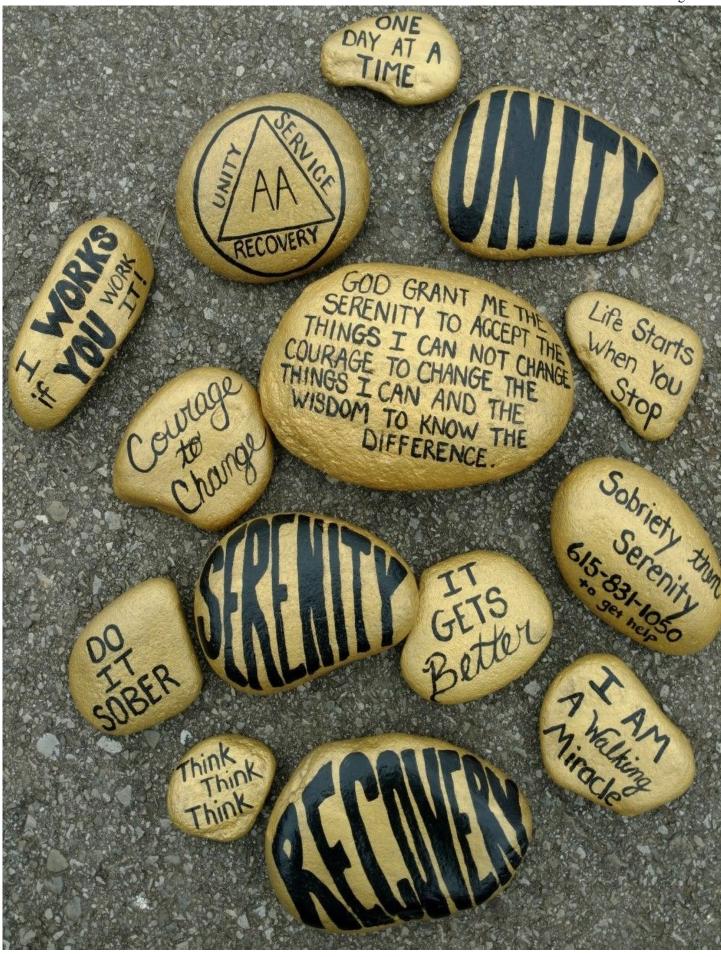
District 32 Meeting When: 6:30pm Where: Last Stop Club 2122 Utopia

2ND SATURDAY OF EVERY MO

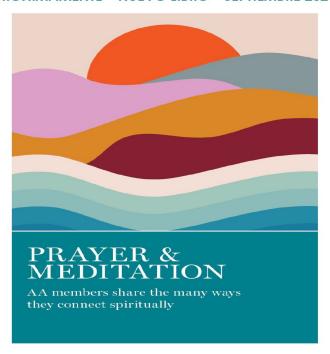
District 34 Meeting When: 10am Where: 200 E. Cedar St Goodlettsville

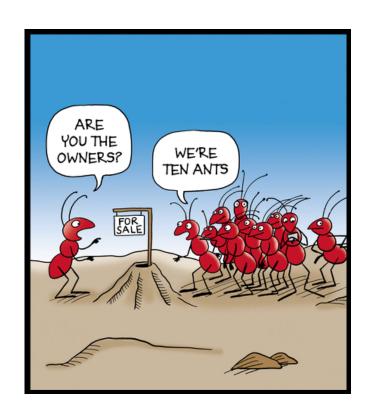
3RD SUNDAY OF EVERY MO

District 35 Meeting
When: 4pm
Zoom: 715 0132 4166
Pswd: D3520



COMING SOON – NEW BOOK – SEPT 2021! BIENTÔT DISPONIBLE – NOUVEAU LIVRE – SEPT 2021! PRÓXIMAMENTE – NUEVO LIBRO – SEPTIEMBRE 2021





FREEDOM

National Corrections Conference November 12-14, 2021 Hilton New Orleans Airport

New Orleans, Louisiana

nationalcorrectionsconference.org Contact Stacy C. for more info: 704-361-2755 correctionsarea27@gmail.com



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

ANY LENGTHS

Ben S	09.05.19
Chad H	09.08.20
Danielle M	09.09.19
David P	09.15.19
Jonathan Y	09.14.19
Lisa H	09.23.16

BACKROOM

Robert S	09.19.03
Tamara Y	09.07.19

This is a good example of what happens here in this just when you're about to go under for the last time action program called AA:

When you hit a bottom with alcoholism it feels like you are dying. It's very much like being shipwrecked at sea, and you're out in the middle of the ocean all alone, thousands of miles from land. You're treading water and you're going to die and you know it and you're hanging on as hard as you can and it's a losing battle.

You're getting tired and all of a sudden you see coming across the water towards you, two goofy looking guys in this invisible boat. As a matter of fact you don't even understand how they are sitting on top of the water, there is nothing there, they're just kinda on top of the water coming toward you.

They come up to you and they say, "My name is Bill and my name is Bob, we're from Alcoholics Anonymous, we have God and these beautiful 12 Steps that will solve all your problems", and if you're like me you say, "Get away from me, you guys are wacky, you have nothing there for me and problem, get away from me." And they row off.

Now you are starting to get in a lot more trouble and We need to have a sponsor that we are accountable to you're finding it harder to stay above water, when over the horizon comes this big chrome ocean-liner that says "Treatment Center" on the side and they've got psychiatrists, psychologists, and they've got biofeedback technicians and vocational rehabilitation specialists, and they've got people with many doctorate degrees.

People that you suspect "a guy of my complexity and depth" must surely need. And you get on board the SS Treatment Center and out into the water you go and it's amazing and intellectually very stimulating. You're cracking the secrets of your illness and you're getting insights and it's just fascinating.

Twenty-eight days later over the side you go, you must leave the ocean-liner. And there you are trying to treading water and you're just worn out and you watch that ocean-liner go off into the distance and you have your graduation chip and it's hard and you don't know how much longer you can take this, and

here come those two jerks in the invisible boat.

"My name's Bill and my name's Bob and we're from Alcoholics Anonymous. We have God and these beautiful 12 Steps that will solve all your problems." You think they have nothing, it's just a delusion, get away from me, it's now just annoying.

And if you're lucky they pull you on board and there you are sitting on top of the water and you don't even know how you are sitting there. Some of us find ourselves at eight, ten, twelve months sober, sober long than it's ever been since you drank your very first drink and you're not sure how this is happening. And you say, "What do I do," and they say, "Row," "Row what?" "Just pretend, just row."

And a funny thing happens, because the more you row that boat of meetings, Steps & service the more substantial it becomes. And if at any time you get comfortable enough in that boat to stop rowing, what happens is it starts to disappear again. It's an exact spiritual cause and effect, based not on what I think but only on what I do.

and transparent with, who doesn't care much about how we feel but is very concerned with what we do. And if you want to see them give you a talking to just come late to a meeting or leave your phone on during the meeting, all kinds of stuff like that. If we exhibit behavior where we think we are more important than AA, a good sponsor will set you straight, always encouraging us to act like someone who respects what's going on here.

You can't get help from something you don't respect, and self-serving, self-obsessed, self-focused, selfabsorbed people like us don't care about anything but ourselves. Sponsors push us to continually take actions in our lives and have accountability on what we do. They don't care if we feel like a good example of the Program, they only care that we act like one.

Right actions will change your life.

Clancy I. Just Love Audio

YOUR GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	IUUN U	KUUF	CO
GROUP / MEETING	JULY	YTD	G
3 LEGACIES		79	H
805		200	H
86'ers	429	1,146	KI
ANONYMOUS		60	KI
AWOL	99	246	$\overline{\mathbf{L}}$
BACK TO THE BIG BOOK		50	L/
BACKROOM		1,212	$\overline{\mathbf{L}}$
BASEMENT BUNCH		17	$\overline{\mathbf{L}}$
BRENTWOOD FULL MOON		443	 L <i>P</i>
BY THE BOOK	30	275	 LI
CELEBRATE SERENITY		285	LI
CENTERVILLE	104	599	M
CHICKEN PLUCKERS		240	$\frac{M}{M}$
CLARK STREET		500	M
COLUMBIA		140	M
COLUMBIA BASEMENT		75	
COMFORT ZONE		631	$\frac{M}{M}$
COOKEVILLE		90	
CROSSVILLE AA		70	N
CROSSVILLE NOONERS		313	No
CROSSVILLE SERENITY		100	No
DICKSON		225	N.
DISTRICT 9		300	0
DONELSON Y.E.T.		100	0
DOUBLE DIPPERS		50	0
DRUNKS IN THE PARK		1,340	O TI
EAST HICKMAN		500	0
EAST SIDE MEN'S STAGE		1,100	<u> </u>
EAST SIDE SATURDAY		635	
EASTSIDE SUNLIGHTERS		1,517	PO PI
EVERY WOMAN HAS A STORY	?	225	LE
FAIRVIEW		250	PI
FAYETTEVILLE		50	M
FIRST THINGS FIRST	541	1,010	Pί
FIVE AND FUVE		30	RI
FRANKLIN	472	2,172	RO
FRANKLIN ROAD WOMEN'S		92	RU
FREE TO BE	70	276	SI
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE		25	SI
G.O.D.		65	ST
GOODLETTSVILLE		200	SI
GRATITUDE		20	S <i>I</i>
HENDERSONVILLE BIG BOOK		400	SI

GROUP / MEETING	JULY	YTD
HOW IT WORKS	109	109
HUT		100
KEEP IT SIMPLE		60
KEY TO SOBRIETY		400
LADIES NIGHT OUT		355
LAFAYETTE NEW HOPE		50
LAMBDA		184
LAST HOUSE ON THE BLOCK		5
LATE LUNCH BUNCH	1,000	4,000
LIVING BY THE PRINT		600
LIVINGSTON 12x12		75
MCMINNVILLE		60
MEN'S LOG CABIN		120
MONDAY NIGHT	25	25
MONDAY NIGHT OUT		50
MURFREESBORO	15	105
MUSTARD SEED		500
NIPPER'S CORNER	100	423
NOON WOMEN'S STEP STUDY		37
NORTHSIDE		50
N.O.W.		85
ON AWAKENING	200	200
ONE PURPOSE	25	100
ONE STEP CLOSER	152	650
OUT OF THE FOG/OUT OF	500	1 572
THE BOG		1,573
OUT TO BREAKFAST BUNCH	154	228
PAGE 112		333
PORTLAND UNITED	25	50
PRIMARY PURPOSE		
LEWISBURG	197	264
PRIMARY PURPOSE MURFREESBORO	0.5	0.5
	35 5	35
PULASKI RECOVERY ON THE ROW		35 150
ROBERTSON COUNTY		110
RUSHH HOUR		86
SAFE HARBOR	100	150
SAFE PLACE	238	563
	150	
ST. A's	100	150
SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE		120
SAVE HER A SEAT		50
SEEKERS, SPARTA		500

A Study of Tradition 9

(Continued from page 2)

described in the AA Service Manual and in "The AA Group" pamphlet. A very important trait of this organization is that it is represented by an upside down pyramid, or triangle, to signify that the top authority is the AA groups, not a board of directors or a corporation or a committee. The General Service Structure is also organized into service committees to help carry the AA message to a wide variety of people and locations.

This includes Corrections and Treatment Center committees to ensure that AA meetings and literature are reliably and consistently brought into those institutions. It also includes Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community service committees to inform professionals in the legal, medical, educational and business fields on what AA is and just as importantly what AA isn't. Also, the Public Information service committee arranges for AA public service announcements to be aired on local radio and TV stations. Other service committees consist of Special Needs, Grapevine and Archives. The local Intergroup Central Office also provides a variety of services in cooperation with other AA service committees.

Similarly, it takes group member participation and organization to ensure that group service work is done. These elected trusted servants are sometimes called "officers" and usually are chosen by the group for limited terms of service. Groups may also

choose to have a Steering Committee to tend to the day-to-day operations of the group.

These service positions may have titles. But titles in AA do not bring authority - they describe services and responsibilities. And it has generally been found that giving members service positions solely to help them stay sober does not work. Instead, the group's welfare is of primary concern in choosing officers or trusted servants. It is also important to practice the principle of rotation so that all who wish to serve are provided the opportunity to do so.

For a group to keep carrying a message of recovery all kinds of organized services must be done. It is through the combined efforts and organization of group members that:

- ★ A meeting place is provided and maintained.
- Monthly programs are arranged and speakers are scheduled to speak.
- ◆ 7th Tradition contributions are collected, and group bills and expenses are paid.
- AA literature is on hand.
- Lists of local group meetings are available.
- ◆ Refreshments, such as coffee, are available as well as supplies.
- Calls for help are answered,
- Group problems are aired and resolved.

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"Surely you have one friend who could stay sober long enough to be Best Man?"

Alcoholism doesn't run in my Me: "It's not about how many family. Me: "It's not about how many times you fall. What matters

It walks. You spill less beer that way.

What's a drinking game you can play by yourself?
Alcoholism

Me: "It's not about how many times you fall. What matters is how many times you get back up."

Officer: "That isn't how field sobriety tests work."

What do you call an alcohol free Japanese city?

Nadasaki

Middle Tennessee Intergroup Association

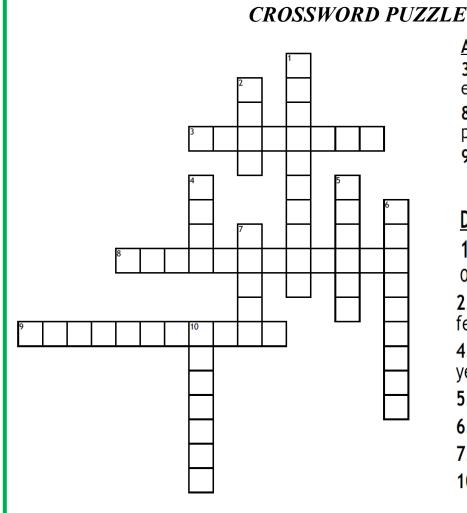
Statement of Activities - Actual and Budgeted - Schedule 1

For the Month and Seven Months Ended July 31, 2021

	July 2021		YTD 2021			
	Actual	Budget	Budget Variance	Actual	Budget	Budget Variance
Income						
Net Literature Sales	2,538.16	2,416.33	121.83	15,637.29	16,914.33	(1,277.04)
Group Donations	6,225.06	6,666.67	(441.61)	41,817.67	46,666.67	(4,849.00)
Individual Donations	1,060.23	1,264.83	(204.60)	12,138.47	8,853.83	3,284.64
Messenger Donations	-	12.50	(12.50)	17.00	87.50	(70.50)
Website Donations	-	•		•		-
Special Events	-	333.33	(333.33)		2,333.33	(2,333.33)
Interest	3.48	4.17	(0.69)	26.74	29.17	(2.43)
Total Income	9,826.93	10,697.83	(870.90)	69,637.17	74,884.83	(5,247.66)
Expenses						
Casual Labor	225.00	266.67	(41.67)	1,575.00	1,866.67	(291.67)
Payroll	6,271.00	6,272.00	(1.00)	43,897.00	43,904.00	(7.00)
Legal & Professional	350.00	350.00		2,450.00	2,450.00	
Rent	946.00	1,046.00	(100.00)	6,852.00	7,322.00	(470.00)
Printing	-	50.00	(50.00)		350.00	(350.00)
Payroll Taxes	480.00	480.25	(0.25)	3,343.27	3,361.75	(18.48)
Repairs & Maintenance	-	25.00	(25.00)		175.00	(175.00)
Equipment Rental	102.53	95.83	6.70	689.92	670.83	19.09
Telephone & Fax	516.49	475.00	41.49	3,608.03	3,325.00	283.03
Answering Service	173.68	250.00	(76.32)	1,806.89	1,750.00	56.89
Postage	55.68	95.83	(40.15)	751.66	670.83	80.83
Office Supplies	96.95	208.00	(111.05)	631.68	1,456.00	(824.32)
Bank Service Charges	40.00	40.00	•	295.00	280.00	15.00
Computer & Technology	92.86	250.00	(157.14)	1,149.81	1,750.00	(600.19)
Credit Card Service Fees	82.54	50.00	32.54	542.01	350.00	192.01
Intergroup Expense		166.67	(166.67)	23.10	1,166.67	(1,143.57)
Insurance	-	216.67	(216.67)	1,525.00	1,516.67	8.33
Special Events	-	83.33	(83.33)	-	583.33	(583.33)
Travel	-	250.33	(250.33)	-	1,752.33	(1,752.33)
Miscellaneous	-		•	-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Depreciation		26.25	(26.25)	-	183.75	(183.75)
Over/Under		<u> </u>	· 		•	
Total Expenses	9,432.73	10,697.83	(1,265.10)	69,140.37	74,884.83	(5,744.46)
Net Income	394.20		394.20	496.80		496.80

		1001
GROUP / MEETING	JULY	YTD
SERENITY		50
SERENITY IN THE PARK		200
SHADE TREE	490	3,345
SIMPLY SUNDAY	223	223
SMYRNA GRATITUDE	430	3,603
SOBER ON SUNDAY		200
SOBRIETY FIRST LEBANON		100
SPARTA FELLOWSHIP		50
SPRING HILL		209
SPIRITUAL WARFARE		100
STRAGGLERS		350
THERE IS A SOLUTION		191
TRINITY		400
TURNING POINT	-	300

UNOUT CONTRIBUTIONS				
GROUP / MEETING	JULY	YTD		
TWO TO LIFE		100		
UNCOMMON WOMEN		89		
UNITED		600		
WAKE UP		188		
WAVERLY		240		
WEST NASHVILLE	40	101		
WHITE HOUSE		132		
WINNERS & BEGINNERS	216	216		
WOMEN IN THE SOLUTION	50	150		
WOMEN'S FREEDOM		490		
GROUP TOTALS TO DATE	6,225.06	41,818		
INDIVIDUALS	1,060	12,138		
MESSENGER	-	17		
COMBINED TOTALS TO DATE	7,285	53,973		



Across

- **3.** A severe headache or after effects caused by drinking.
- **8.** Influence from members of one's peer group
- 9. Another word for being drunk

Down

- 1. An addiction to the consumption of alcohol.
- **2.** An alcoholic drink made from fermented grape juice.
- **4.** An alcoholic drink made from yeast-fermented malt.
- 5. an alcoholic drink
- 6. legal drinking age
- 7. Don't do this if you are drunk
- 10. Wine, beer, and other drinks.

ANSWERS IN NEXT MONTHS EDITION

Middle Tennessee Central Intergroup Association

417 Welshwood Drive Suite 207 Nashville, TN 37211

615.832.1136 800.559.2252

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