



The Common Bond

The Cape Fear Intergroup Newsletter

September 2009

Cape Fear Intergroup Service Board

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Dody H.

Co Chairperson

Audry C

Secretary

Sandra E.

Treasurer

Ryan R./Ray C.

Hotline

Wanda P.

Web Master

Jim H.

Office Manager

Donny W.

Activities

(open)

Common Bond

Judy S

At Large Members

John B., 3 yrs.

Clara M., 2 yrs.

Maria M., 1 yr.

(open) 1 yr.

Groups Represented

Sandalwood,

Central Group

Tom Mc.

One Day At A Time

Principals Group

310 Green Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303

Phone 910-878-8002

Website fayaa.org

**I'M AN ALCOHOLIC AND A _____
I'M A _____ AND AN ALCOHOLIC**

In more and more meetings today, people announce themselves as being an alcoholic and then add whatever their second addiction may be, i.e..... I'm an alcoholic and a drug addict. I'm an alcoholic and a pillhead, I'm an alcoholic and cross addicted, or I'm chemically addicted and an alcoholic.

This identification process, which originates in treatment centers, has slowly crept into common usage at our meetings. While there is nothing especially wrong with the idea here, but is it really necessary that we announce our secondary addictions or more to the point should we continue to allow it?

Thank God for the treatment centers that are sending so many newcomers to A.A. as we surely want and need these people. however we do not need the treatment center practices that they bring with them. Treatment centers generally consider alcohol to be only another drug and their treatment includes all types of addiction.

There are many people that would like to change the name of A.A. to stand for Addictions anonymous.

In fact, the way membership is going in some groups is not too far from actuality. If this practice of announcing one's secondary problem continues to grow, it won't be long before we will be announcements like: I'm and alcoholic and a food addict, I'm an alcoholic and a gambling addict, I'm an alcoholic and a sex maniac, or I'm an alcoholic and a bad house painter.

When and where do we draw the line? If we go back to basics and abide by the Traditions, the line was drawn for us a long time ago. **The only type of discussion that we are supposed to deal with is our alcoholism.**

How do we reverse this trend without scaring off the newcomer and maybe offending some that are not so new? First off, if they are truly alcoholic and ready for the program, they will not be scared off by an explanation of what A.A. can and cannot help them with. **Probably the best way to reverse the trend is to generally explain the purpose and the limitations of A.A. as often as possible at meetings.**



Special meetings on the third tradition could be held. Also whenever and appropriate opening arises at meetings, we can make a general objection to the announcement of secondary problems at A.A. meetings. Sponsors and older members can explain the sole purpose of A.A. on a one-to-one basis when the opportunity arises with someone they are working with.

We should be careful though, not to point the finger or embarrass anyone during a meeting by telling them that they are out of order.

After all, it is the announcement of a secondary problem that we are objecting to, not the person or the problem itself.

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking. The only problem that should be brought into an A.A. meeting is out alcoholism or problems caused by alcoholism. **The only announcement should be is that “I’m and alcoholic. “**

AFTER ALL THAT SAYS EVERYTHING WE NEED TO KNOW

Anonymous

Reprinted from the Akron Intergroup Newsletter, July 1994.
THE BIRTHPLACE OF A.A. – AKRON OHIO, JUNE 10 1935

Happy
Birthday



GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

Group
 Anonymous
 Back to Basics Grp
 Campground Grp.
 Central Grp.
 Fort Bragg Grp.
 Freedom in Growth Grp.
 Keep It simple Grp
 Little Grp
 Group
 Misc
 ODAT
 Personal
 Plug in the Jug Grp
 Sandalwood Grp
 SOS Group
 Summerville Group

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Name	Date	
Bob O.	June	
Charlene E.	June	
Craig E.	June	
Sandra E.	June	
Tilton T.	June	
Tim J.	June	
Mack H.	August 14	
Charlie L.	June 19	1981
Cass C.	July	1985
Darlene H.	August 4	1987
Don L.	June 26	1989
Diane D.	August 4	1989
Deb S.	July 19	1990
Greg W.	August 24	1992
Linda G.	August 14	1992
Denny	August 9.	1994
Sam A.	July 7	1995
Chris J.	August 7	1995
Jamie N.	August 1	2001
Matt S.	June 18	2002
Kallie L.	June 17	2003
Allison K	June 17	2004
Julie C.	July 7.	2004
Christy G	August 23	2004
Tom C	June 27	2005
Jay S.	July 1	2005
Terry C	July 10	2005
Penny S.	August 13	2005
Tom C.	June 27.	2006
Terry C.	July	2006
Sue S.	July 15	2006
Sue S.	July 5	2006
Sharon H.	August 1	2006
Janice A.	June 22	2007
Theresa V.	June 6	2007
Mike	July 18	2007
Peaches P.	July 31	2007
Mercedes R.	July 4	2007
Dana C.	August 1	2007
Jen S.	August 24	2007
Paul S.	August 3	2007
James P	July 26	2008
Beth M.	August 5	2008
Faye	August 13	2008
Mark B.	August 8	2008