

South Mississippi Intergroup Newsletter

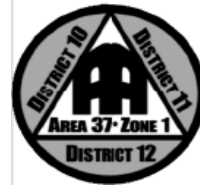
Serving George, Jackson, Pearl River, Hancock, Harrison & Stone Counties
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March 2024

Central Office

Hours of Operation

10 am-2pm

Monday, Wednesday,
& Friday

228-575-9225

March Events

March 16th 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
St. Patrick's Day Fun 2518 24th
Avenue, Gulfport, MS

March 23rd Pre Conference
Workshop 10 am-2 pm 19021
Commission Rd, Long Beach, MS

Now through April 24th Central
Office is having an inventory
reduction Sale.

See Flyers on all these events on
our website aagulfcoast.com

Sister Ignatia and Dr. Bob remembered in 2023

Dr. Bob was associated with St. Thomas Hospital, where he became acquainted with Sister Ignatia. She later recalled that they often discussed the tragedies caused by excessive drinking and the fact that alcoholics were sick and needed help. "Then one day, to my great surprise, Dr. Bob told me about his own drinking problem and about his meeting with Bill and what had resulted". Meanwhile, Akron City Hospital balked at admitting Dr. Bob's "jittering patients" and told him to seek refuge for them elsewhere. So he explained his problem to Sister Ignatia. "I was fearful to admit an alcoholic," she admitted. "But he assured me he would see that the patient didn't cause any trouble, so I consented to try it." *Silkworth.net*

On August 16, 1935, [Sister Ignatia Gavin](#), a Catholic sister in charge of admissions at St. Thomas Hospital, with the help of [Dr. Bob Smith](#), one of the founders of [Alcoholics Anonymous](#), admitted the first alcoholic patient under the diagnosis of [acute gastritis](#). This event made St. Thomas Hospital the first hospital in the world to treat [alcoholism](#) as a medical condition, and the first religious institution to recognize the rights of alcoholics to receive hospital treatment.

What Happened to St. Thomas Hospital? [Summa St. Thomas Hospital](#) was a former orthopedic and psychiatric hospital located in [Akron, Ohio](#). The hospital opened in 1922 and was originally operated by the [Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine](#) as a non-denominational, non-profit general hospital. In 1989, St. Thomas Hospital merged with [Akron City Hospital](#) to become [Summa Health System](#). The emergency room was closed in 2014, and **the hospital was closed in 2023.** **From Wikipedia**
March 8th, 2023 a magazine, Akron Life, in Akron Ohio had the following to say about Sister Ignatia.

Millions worldwide have found sobriety through AA. Ignatia was recognized in a letter from former President John F. Kennedy. AA and Ignatia Hall not only helped develop an effective treatment, but they also removed the stigma. At Ignatia Hall's start, people with alcoholism were cast out and sent to asylums. Ignatia overcame pushback of admitting hospital patients – sometimes having to sneak them in – and advocated for the treatment of alcoholism as a disease. "This is something that she and Dr. Bob did without support of others. in a time when it wasn't recognized," Heppner says. "It was her mission to help these individuals have better lives."

Events in March AA History

Mar-36	AA had 10 members staying sober. At end of 1936 A.A. had 15 members.
March-May 1938	Bill begins writing the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Works Publishing Inc established to support writing and printing of the book.
Mar-40	Mort J. came to LA from Denver; started custom of reading Chapter 5 Big Book at Cecil group.
Mar-41	Second printing of Big Book.
Mar-51	American Weekly publishes memorial article for Dr. Bob.
1-Mar-41	Jack Alexander's Saturday Evening Post article published and membership jumped from 2,000 to 8,000 by years end.
3/3/1947	Nell Wing started work at Alcoholic Foundation 415 Lexington Avenue.
5-Mar-45	Time Magazine reports Detroit radio broadcasts of AA members.
7-Mar-40	Bill and Lois visited the Philadelphia AA group.
7-Mar-41	Boston newspaper reported that any drunk who wanted to get well was more than welcome at the AA meeting at 115 Newbury St., at 8 PM Wednesdays.
9-Mar-41	Wichita Beacon reports AA member from NY who wants to form a group in Wichita.
10-Mar-44	New York Intergroup was established.
March 14,	South Orange, NJ, AA group held an anniversary dinner with Bill W as guest speaker
15-Mar-41	1st AA group formed in New Haven, Connecticut. Not reported in paper until Oct 1, 1941.
16-Mar-40	Alcoholic Foundation & Works Publishing move from Newark to 30 Vesey St in lower Manhattan – first headquarters of our own.
March 21 1966	Ebby dies.
22-Mar-51	Dr William Duncan Silkworth dies at Towns Hospital.
29-Mar-43	The Charleston Mail, WV, reported on Bill W's talk at St. John's Parish House.

AA Group Birthdays in South Mississippi

Gulf Coast Group	Gulfport	4/12/46
Singing River Group	Pascagoula	3/5/47
Biloxi Group	Biloxi	7/16/49
Long Beach Group	Long Beach	1/30/63
	Ocean	
Little Yellow House	Springs	2/19/69
Picayune Group	Picayune	1/21/77
Mustard Seed Group	Bay St. Louis	9/19/79
Beach Group	Gulfport	12/29/80
Wiggins Group	Wiggins	8/24/81
Kiln Group	Kiln	12/1/81
Poplarville Group	Poplarville	3/3/83
Camel Group	Bay St. Louis	5/18/84
Diamondhead Group	Diamondhead	6/8/84
Chip In Group	D'Lisle	10/14/87
3-2-1 Group	d'iberville	2/10/89
Altered Attitudes	Long Beach	2/29/96
Lucedale 11 Step	Lucedale	3/6/96
Gautier Group	Gautier	7/1/01
Happy Hour Group	Bay St. Louis	12/28/03
Sisters In Sobriety	Bay St. Louis	4/20/10
Old School Group	Poplarville	11/3/11
We Agnostics Group	Biloxi	3/11/18
Bayou View Group	Gulfport	8/5/21
Vancleave Group		2023
Grace Group		2023

Little Yellow House

February 2024 AA Birthdays Little Yellow House

Patti B.	1 yr
Jeff M.	1 yr
Julie	1 yr
Mark F	20 yrs
Marcel	21 yrs

3-2-1 February Birthdays

Tricia ? 02/26/21 3 Yrs
 Mr. Dick 02/26 5 Yrs
 Katrina V 02/27/01 24Yrs
 Emily C 02/01/21 3 Yrs
 Amy F 02/02/20 4 Yrs
 Don S 02/11/21 3 Yrs
 Amber L 02/08/17 7 Yrs
 Lisa C 02/22/06 18 Yrs
 Maggie L 02/08/18 6 Yrs
 Jessica A 02/13/18 6 Yrs

Picayune February Birthdays:

Allen T. 2-8-22 2 Yrs
 Tyler G 2-13-23 1 Yr
 Jenelle F 2-17-10 14 Yrs
 Angela B 2-28-09 15 Yrs

A Reader Responds to Question from February Issue of our Newsletter:

**Question: What is the Difference in a
Bleeding Deacon and an Elder
Statesman?**

1. The elder statesman is the one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The elder statesmen become the real and permanent leadership of A.A. Theirs is the quiet opinion, the sure knowledge and humble example that resolve a crisis. They become the voice of the group conscience, the true voice of Alcoholics Anonymous. They do not mandate, they lead by example. This is the experience which has led us to the conclusion that our group conscience, well-advised by its elders, will be in the long run wiser than any single leader.

2. The bleeding deacon is the one who is just as surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him, who constantly connives for re-election to office, and who continues to be consumed with self-pity. A few hemorrhage so badly that - drained of all AA's spirit and principle - they get drunk. At times, the A.A. landscape seems to be littered with bleeding forms. Nearly every old-timer in our Society has gone through this process in some degree. Happily, most of them survive and live to become elder statesmen.

.... Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Tradition Two, Page 135

Many thanks to our reader!

More on the Question " Should a Jail Group have a GSR"

In the pamphlet P-26 Page 9 "AA in Correctional Facilities", It states that "In some areas correctional facility groups participate in the AA. General Service Structure. For example, an inside group's general service representative (G.S.R.) might be given a proxy vote or a vote through alternate on the outside at district and area meetings."

The same pamphlet outlines the guidelines for members and gives guidelines for starting a group inside the jails and prisons.

More Questions:

When does one group affect another group and please give an example.

How could a group affect AA as a whole? Give example please.

What is an AA District?

What is an AA D.C.M.?

What is Intergroup?

Who should be allowed to share in an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous according to our Conference Approved Literature?

What is the difference in a meeting and a group?

INFORMATION SOURCES FOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:

**Hotline answered by AA members 24/7
228-575-9225.**

South MS Central Office

Location: 19021 Commission Road Long
Beach, MS 39560
Phone: 228-575-9225
Currently Hours are 9-2 Monday, Wednesday,
Friday
Website: AAGulfCoast.com
Email: CentralOfficeManager23@gmail.com
P.O. Box 334, Long Beach, MS 39560

MS Area 37 Website:

aa-mississippi.org

MS AA Area Archives are located:

19021 Commission Road Long
Beach, MS

**Please call Central Office to set appointment if
you wish to see.**

National AA Website: AA.org National AA
General Service Office (G.S.O) Phone Number:
212-870-3401

AA Grapevine Website:

Aagrapevine.org

AA National Newsletter Box 459:

aa.org/box-459

South MS Intergroup

Meets at Central Office 19021
Commission Road Long Beach,
MS 39560

First Sunday of each month at 5 p.m.

You can zoom Intergroup Meeting just go to
AAGulfcoast.com press zoom meeting button and
enter the following:

Meeting ID 832 1961 7748

Passcode xyz32

District 10 serving Hancock and Pearl River Counties

Meets 3rd Wednesday each month 7 pm
Kiln Library, Kiln, MS

District 11 serving Harrison and Stone County

Meets 2nd Sunday each month. 24th
Avenue Clubhouse
2516 24th Avenue, Gulfport, MS

District 12 serving Jackson & George Counties

Meets 3rd Sunday of
each month.

Location rotated.

New Location for Area 37 Assembly

Next Meeting April 6, 2024

Look next month for
location and time