

COMMUNIQUÉ

February 2022



Interested in sharing your story,
please contact Sue S. or submit
it to:
Communique@aahernando.org

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CREATED MY GOD BY COINCIDENCES

I was the youngest child born twelve years after my sister, she left at 17 married had 2 children and died at the age of 30. I was a teenage mother, at age 17 I was pregnant. My Dad wanted me to stay home finish my education and raise the baby there, but a month before my baby was due, my Dad died. My Mom threw me out, I had no where to go so I moved in and married the babies Dad who was already abusive. My Mom and I didn't have a good relationship we were always fighting so staying there wasn't an option. I was always attracted to people that needed to be fixed and he wasn't any different. He didn't work and I had to take care of him. By 19 I had 2 children and I continued to look for the type of people that were a little rough around the edges and needed to be fixed. Oh yeah, and also were abusive.

I met my current husband and he was everything I never looked for in a man, he was kind gentle understanding and loving, not something I was ever attracted to. He wasn't even abusive...He had a job, car and had it together. We've now been married 26 years. I was still drinking when we met, and took him on a journey of care taking hurt and forgotten promises.

In 2005 I starting seeing an old friend who I had partied with, she thought I had a problem and should go to an A.A. meeting. She went with me to Aripeka meeting and I walked in and overheard someone say, she looks like she needs to be here, meaning I looked too perfect.. (hair, nails, clothes everything perfect) so I decided to leave before the meeting began.

Every day when I would get home from work (as a nurse) I started drinking and if I had the next day off I just continued through the next day. I stopped only during working or sleeping hours. I would love to take assignments at work that no one else wanted so I looked good, but then I would get resentful that I was taking on all the hard assignments. Then because I had the resentments I had to continue drinking. I went through jobs every couple of years because they would start to figure me out, I would come to work and booze was just pouring out of my pores and I stunk of booze.

I was at a work Conference on Clearwater Beach and while out walking I saw a group of homeless people under a bridge and as I watched them a light bulb went off and I realized that was what I wanted to be like..

Continued on Page 5



District 13 Officers

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dcm@aahernando.org

Alternate DCM
Sue S.
(413) 219-5133
altdcm@aahernando.org

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dsecretary@aahernando.org

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accessibilities@aahernando.org

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Communique Chair
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Communique@aahernando.org

Communique Co-Chair & Anniversaries
John K. (352) 650-2324
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Grapevine
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Public Info (PICPC)
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chair@aahernando.org

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webmaster@aahernando.org

Central Office & Book Store
4116 Lamson Ave
Spring Hill, FL 34608
Mon – Fri 9am to 1pm
Saturdays 9am to Noon
Office Manager: JJ M.
(352) 683-4597
Hotline: Jonny V

Monthly Intergroup Meeting

First Friday Of Each Month
February 4, 2022 @ 6:30 PM
Forest Oaks Lutheran Church
8555 Forest Oaks Blvd
Spring Hill FL

Zoom ID: 852 952 5883
Password: intergroup

Monthly District Meeting

First Monday Of The Month.
February 7, 2022 @ 6:15PM
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1214 Broad St.
Masaryktown FL

Zoom ID: 987 5790 9290
Password: district13

Group Donations

District 13 Treasurer
P.O. Box 10653
Brooksville, FL 34605
(checks payable to District 13)

Hernando Intergroup Office
4116 Lamson Ave
Spring Hill, FL 34608
(352)683-4597
Office manager JJ M.
Office Hours
Mon-Fri 9am-1pm
Saturday 9am-12pm
Info@aahernando.org
(make checks payable to Hernando Intergroup)

North Florida Assembly
P.O. Box 226
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130
(checks payable to NFAC)

General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
(checks payable to GSO)



District 13 Committee Member's Corner

Eleanor B.

GSR Sharing: The slogan “meeting makers make it” is a myth, it takes a lot more work than that, starting with doing the steps with a sponsor, getting a higher power, and helping other alcoholics. An AA acquaintance of mine said “You don’t get this program through ass-mosis.”
Mark S.

D.C.M. Sharing: Getting Involved

There is action and more action. “Faith without works is dead:.....To be helpful is our only aim. I understand that service is a vital part of recovery, but I often wonder, “What can I do?” Simply start with what I have today! I look around to see where there is a need. Are there ashtrays full? Do I have hands and feet to empty them? Suddenly I’m involved! The best speaker may make the worst coffee: the member who’s best with newcomers may be unable to read: the one willing to clean up may make a mess of the bank account—yet every one of these people and jobs is essential to an active group. The miracle of service is this: when I use what I have, I find there is more available to me than I realized before...

HISTORY CORNER

THE AA PREAMBLE:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

THE PREAMBLE was introduced in the June 1947 issue of the AA Grapevine magazine. It was written by the then-editor, who borrowed much of the phrasing from the Foreword to the original edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

In those early years, the Grapevine had just begun to circulate among nonalcoholics, and the Preamble was intended primarily to describe for them what AA is and is not. It is still often used for public information purposes. As time passed, it began appearing in all Conference-approved publications, and many AA groups now use it to open meetings. The original version differed in two ways from the familiar form we all know: 1) It stated that the only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking,” and 2) it contained only the very brief statement “AA has no dues or fees.”

People often ask why the word “honest” was deleted. At the 1958 General Service Conference, a delegate asked about the words “honest desire to stop drinking,” suggesting that since “honest” does not appear in the Third Tradition, it might be deleted from the Preamble. In discussion, most Conference members felt that as AA had matured, it had become almost impossible to determine what constitutes an honest desire to stop drinking, and also that some who might be interested in the program could be confused by the phrase. Thus, as part of the evolution of AA, the phrase had been dropped from common usage. The midsummer 1958 meeting of the General Service Board of Trustees ratified the deletion, and since then the Preamble has read simply “a desire to stop drinking.”

At the same time, the phrase “AA has no dues or fees” was clarified to read as it presently does: “There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.” The current version of the Preamble appears on page one of every issue of the Grapevine.

At the 71st General Service Conference in 2021, after a series of votes, a final Advisory Action requested that “The Preamble revision replacing the words ‘men and women’ with the word ‘people’ be presented to the General Service Board for approval as the new revised A.A. Preamble.” The revised A.A. Preamble first appeared in the July 2021 AA Grapevine and the July/August La Viña, and afterwards throughout Grapevine and A.A.W.S. literature and other media.

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AA PREAMBLE©

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Announcements & Upcoming Events**16th Annual SOBERSTOCK 2022**

NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR!



Soberstock is a 3 -day weekend AA/AI-Anon/Alateen event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship. This festival is open to all members of AA/AI-Anon and their families.

Proceeds of this function will purchase Big Books and other AA literature for District 2 Jails & Institutions. The remaining profits go to the area pie chart.

Speaker Meetings! Campfire Meetings! Live Bands!

Outdoor Meetings! ALL Food & Drinks provided! Tent Camping ONLY!

When: Friday, March 11th, 2022- Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at noon. (No RV's/Popups!)

Where: "Sand Hill Scout Reservation" - 11210 Confer Blvd, Brooksville, FL 34613

What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, lanterns, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS, NO cabins at this facility.

What we provide: Refreshments, Camp Style Meals - Fri. lunch & dinner, Sat. breakfast, lunch and dinner, & Sunday breakfast.

online orders www.soberstock.com

Anniversary information can now be submitted from our website. Look for the link "Anniversary Submissions" at the top of our homepage, www.aahernando.org

* Please submit month, Day & Year vs total years.

Did you know you can now attend the District 13 and Intergroup monthly meeting by Zoom? Check page 2 for details.

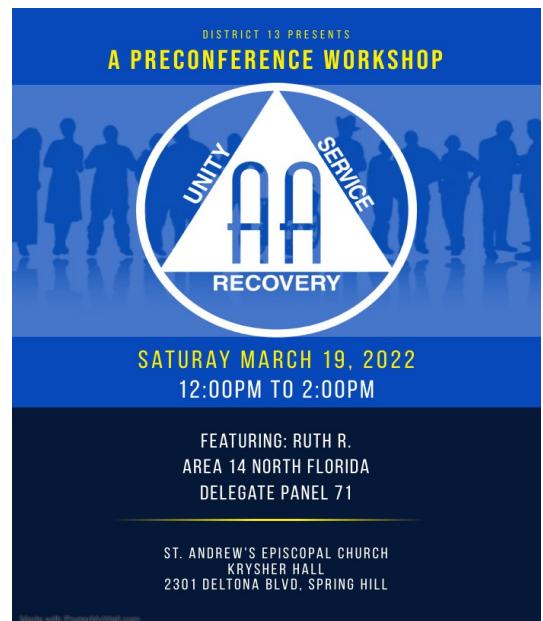
UNITY MEETING**Saturday****February 12, 2022****Doors open at 6:30****Meeting at 7:00**

**Nativity Lutheran Church
6363 Weeki Wachee, Fl.**

**THE FEBRUARY HOST WILL BE:
A DESIRE GROUP**

March host will be: The Sunset Group

Have you considered including a copy of the Communique In your newcomers packet?



HEAART is still looking to have at least one representative for each Group to serve as a contact and help in relaying information during times of crisis or emergency.

Meeting Information - If your Group or Meeting makes changes (time/location, etc) please notify John K – webmaster@aahernando.org with the information. John will make the necessary changes on the online meeting list, meeting apps, "Where & When" and HEAART. - Thanks!

Service Opportunities - We are always looking for volunteers for the Hotline and 12 Step calls. Currently in need of Hotline help Saturday noon – 5PM, and Thursday 1-5PM. If you are interested, contact Johnny V. (352) 346-6096

Volunteers needed for the Intergroup office on:
Please contact J.J. - (352) 683-4597

The Archives position with District 13 is currently unfilled. If interested, contact Eleanor B. (DCM) by email at dcm@aahernando.org

Let us know if you would like to share an announcement or future event for your group or meeting. Email us at: Communique@aahernando.org

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My husband would ask me to please stay with him, I didn't understand what he was talking about I was always with him when not at work. and he said no, stay and not drink one night, but I could never make it past 3pm on a day off. As much as I tried I couldn't do it. I missed out on numerous baby showers, weddings and parties, just couldn't show up. eventually they stopped inviting me. I had quit my job and was going to take a week off, my husband said I think you need to go to a meeting so I said fine and your coming with me. We found a meeting to go to and it happened to be a men's homeless shelter. My first thought was this wasn't for me I had so much more than they do, (now I realize they had so much more than I could ever imagine). I started a new job and continued drinking for a short time.

One morning I woke up and went into the bathroom and looked in the mirror, I had this big brown stain on my pajamas, Afraid of what I was going to find I opened the door, I went into the living room and there was Chinese food all over the place. I must have ordered enough food for 5 people. I had no memory of any of it, I was horrified by it. Of course this wasn't the first time I did this, I would wake up most mornings and thought oh great I made it to bed, only to find out my husband had put me to bed. While looking in the mirror that morning I remembered a saying I saw at a meeting, "nothing changes if nothing changes", I woke my husband up and said I need to go to a meeting. I gave up the battle, I was done. I entered the rooms terrified, Didn't understand a thing but heard in the meeting I needed a sponsor. I asked the man chairing the meeting to be my sponsor he agreed. I did whatever I needed to do to stay sober. Went to a meeting everyday, but still didn't understand anything. I detoxed by myself and kept trying to work and live life while sick.. About 30 days into meetings I decided I was going to drink again. This guys saw I was struggling and sat and talked for a couple of hours, he was a life saver.

Trying to figure out my Higher Power was difficult because I didn't have any base to compare it to. My sponsor pointed out when some coincidence happened I could look at it as a God moment and to recognize them as that. I soon learned how to recognize these moments and began to see how God worked in my life, I then began to build my God through these coincidences. I've joined a group (Fun & Frolic) my sponsor and I have gone through the steps and have learned with each step how to become a better person, partner, Mother and friend.

Lisa W.

TRIVIA CORNER

- 1) HOW MANY YEARS OF SOBRIETY DID ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS CO-FOUNDER BILL W HAVE WHEN HE DIED?**
- 2) WHEN BILL W WAS AT THE MAYFLOWER HOTEL IN AKRON BEFORE MEETING DR. BOB. WHO ENDED UP PAYING FOR THE ROOM?**
- 3) WHAT IS THE WEDDING DATE THAT DR. BOB MARRIED HIS WIFE ANN?**

ANSWERS:

- 1) BILL W. HAD 36 YEARS OF SOBRIETY.**
- 2) HENRIETTA, SHE ALSO SENT A CAR FOR HIM TO BRING HIM TO THE GATEHOUSE**
- 3) JANUARY 25, 1915**

Intergroup Treasury Report

<u>Hernando County Intergroup</u>		Checking		Savings		Title	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
12/31/2021						A Desire	\$30.00								\$30.00
Beginning Balance		\$ 4,656.65		\$ 3,062.75		Allgood Grp	\$160.00		\$80.00					\$80.00	\$320.00
Cash Deposits		\$ 1,769.90				Aripeka Speaker									\$0.00
Credit Cards		\$ 282.68				AA Way of Li	\$25.00		\$30.00		\$40.00				\$95.00
Checks		\$ (1,595.45)				Audio Big Bo	\$235.00								\$235.00
Withdrawals/Debits		\$ (262.71)				Bring Your own Big Book				\$50.00					\$50.00
Interest				\$ 0.02		District printing		\$5.00							\$5.00
Ending Balance		\$ 4,851.07		\$ 3,062.77		District archives					\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$150.00	
Income						Founders Day			\$1,314.25						\$1,314.25
Group Contributions		\$ 614.90				Founders day seed return			\$400.00						-\$400.00
Christmas Party Proceeds		\$645.00				Fun And Frolic	\$150.00								\$150.00
Office Sales		\$ 570.41				Heavy Hitters		\$100.00							\$100.00
Sales tax		\$ 37.08				Hernando Beach					\$50.00	\$100.00			\$150.00
Archives rent		In Donations				Hope Group	\$100.00								\$100.00
Total Income		\$ 1,867.39				Lets Get Serious			\$25.00						\$25.00
Expenses						Let Go and Lt	\$50.00		\$25.00						\$100.00
Rent		\$ (600.00)				Life goes on									\$10.00
Electric		\$ (94.75)				Living Sober	\$100.00		\$100.00						\$300.00
Pizza		\$ (100.00)				More Serenity Sisters									\$0.00
Spectrum		\$ (167.96)				Monday Night Meeting rental				\$30.00					\$30.00
Office Supplies		\$ (211.30)				P.B. P.	\$298.19	\$178.32	\$102.05	\$115.00		\$206.68	\$68.97	\$110.07	\$1,079.28
Maintainence Fee		\$ 0.00				Precisely II	\$200.00		\$100.00		\$150.00		\$150.00		\$600.00
Total Expenses		\$ (1,174.01)				Ridge Manor	\$300.00				\$450.00				\$200.00
ProfitDecember 2021		\$ 693.38				Rough Road	\$2.70								\$2.70
						Serenity Sisters									\$30.00
						Singleness of	\$125.00								\$125.00
						Spring Hill M	\$100.00								\$100.00
						Step Sisters									\$0.00
						Sunset Grou	\$600.00								\$600.00
						The Steps we	\$50.74		\$25.00			\$25.00			\$150.74
						There is a Sol	\$130.00	\$35.00			\$90.00				\$255.00
						Together We	\$5.00								\$5.00
						Tranquility G	\$100.00								\$137.50
						Thursday Night Welcome									\$50.00
						Tuesday Nig'	\$5.00								\$5.00
						Unity	\$948.56	\$455.00	\$286.55	\$236.40	\$230.50	\$416.00	\$254.00	\$204.83	\$3,031.84
						Umbrella Grp	\$170.75								\$170.75
						Wise Wom	\$100.00								\$100.00
						Womens Ser	\$60.00		\$30.00						\$90.00
						=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
							\$3,865.94	\$818.32	\$1,877.85	\$426.40	\$1,065.50	\$910.18	\$627.97	\$624.90	\$10,217.06

District Treasurer Report

Pending Approval

			Beginning Balance	3836.69
	Jan 22	Jan - Jan 22		Jan 22
A Desire/Friendship Group	0.00	0.00		
AA Way of Life	0.00	0.00	Income	
AlGood Grp	0.00	0.00	Income	
Audio Big Book Group	0.00	0.00	Corrections Contributions	0.00
BYOBB	0.00	0.00	Group Contributions	0.00
Founders day	0.00	0.00		0.00
Fun & Frolic Group	0.00	0.00		Total Income 0.00
Hernando Beach Group	0.00	0.00	Expenses	
Hope Group	0.00	0.00	Archives Rent	50.00
Let Go Let God	0.00	0.00	Communique	0.00
Living Sober	0.00	0.00	Rent Holy Trinity	0.00
Principles Before Personalities	0.00	0.00	Zoom	14.99
Ridge Manor Big Book Group	0.00	Text-0.00		Total Expenses 64.99
Rough Road Group	0.00	0.00		
Serendipity Sisters Group	0.00	0.00	Net Income	(64.99)
Singleness Of Purpose Gp	0.00	0.00		
Spring Hill Group	0.00	0.00	Ending Balance	3771.70
Sunset Group	0.00	0.00		
The Steps we took	0.00	0.00	Corrections Beginning Bal	2163.64
There Is A Solution Group	0.00	0.00	Deposits:	0.00
Thursday Night Welcome	0.00	0.00	Corrections Ending Balance	2163.64
Tranquility Group	0.00	0.00		
Womens Serenity Group	0.00	0.00	Deposits in Transit:	0.00
	0.00	0.00		
			Pink Can:	
			Total	▲

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority...a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants...they do not govern.

A.A. is both a democracy and, in Bill W's words "a benign anarchy." a group elects it's own officers---who have no power to order anybody to do anything. In most groups, most of the slate rotates out of the office at the end of six months, and new officers are elected. If a group wants to be a part of the whole A.A. service structure, it elects a GSR (general service representative with a two year term). GSRs elected area committee members and then join them in electing a delegate from their area to the annual General Service Conference. The Conference is about the closest approximation of government that A.A. has; it produces opinions on important matters of policy; it approves the choice of some trustee nominees for the General Service Board and directly elects others. But neither the conference nor the board can give an order to any group member. Then who's in charge around here? A.A. is a spiritual movement, and so the "ultimate" authority" is the spiritual concept of the "group conscience." Its voice is heard when a well-informed group gathers to arrive at a decision. The result rests on more than arithmetic, "yes and no" count. Minority ideas get thoughtful attention. What about that annoying character who's always sure she's right? If she's right. If she is wrong, then she will--if she remembers the First Tradition as well as the Second--go along with the decision of the group conscience. Does this notion seem too cloudy? Let's think back to our first meetings. The presence we newcomers felt in those rooms was the same as the group conscience. And it was real--welcoming us in, setting up no barriers of rules...

Step Two

(Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity)

When, therefore, we speak to you of God, we mean your own concept of God. This applies, too other spiritual expressions which you find in the Big Book. Do not let any prejudice you may have against spiritual terms deter you from honestly asking yourself what they mean to you. At the start, this was all we needed to commence spiritual growth, to effect our first conscious relation with God as we understood him. Afterward, we found ourselves excepting many things which then seemed entirely out of reach. That was growth, but if we wished to grow we had to begin somewhere. So we used our own conception, however limited it was. We needed to ask ourselves but one short question. -"Do I now believe, or am I even willing to believe, that there is a Power greater than myself?" As soon as a man can say that he does believe, or is wiling to believe, we emphatically assure him that he is on his way. It has been repeatedly proven among us that upon this simple cornerstone a wonderfully effective spiritual structure can be built.

The process of coming to believe is something that we seem to experience in similar ways. One thing most of us lacked was a working relationship with a Higher Power. We begin to develop this relationship by simply admitting to the possibility of a Power greater than ourselves. Most of us have no trouble admitting that addiction has become a destructive force in our lives. Our best efforts resulted in ever greater destruction and despair. At some point we realize we needed the help of some Power greater than our addiction. Our understanding of a Higher Power is up to us. No one is going to decide for us. We can call it the group, the program, or we can call it God. The only suggested guidelines are that this Power be loving, caring and greater than ourselves. We don't have to be religious to accept this idea. The point is that we open our minds to believe. We may have difficulty with this, but by keeping an open mind, sooner or later, we find the help we need.

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**Groups:**

Happy Hour – 1998
Promises - 2001

Members:**A Desire**

Jack P - 1975

All Good

Kurtis D - 2010

Aripeka

Jim D - 1986

Brooksville Group

Angel N – 2021

Happy Hour

Felecia P – 2014
Steve T - 1986

Heavy Hitters

None Reported

Hernando Beach

Carol H – 2001
Mike C – 2019
George E – 1988
Terry K – 1985
Pat C - 1982

Hope Group

Ann S - 1988

Ladies Big Book

None Reported

Let Go Let God

Josh – 2019
Terry M - 2009

More Serenity Sisters

None Reported

Principles B4 Personalities

Michelle S – 2018
Bill V – 2018
Jason G - 2012

Promises

None Reported

Ridge Manor Big Book Group

Russell H - 2009

Rough Roads

Daina – 2011

Serenity Sisters

Patience – 2019
Ernestine – 1992

Singleness of Purpose

Howard B - 2009

Spring Hill Monday Nite

Katie M

Serendipity Sisters

None Reported

Step in the right direction

None Reported

StepSisters

Tammy C - 1983

Steps We Took

None Reported

Sunset Group

Mike R - 2019

There is a Solution

Linda M. - 1991
Meriem M – 2007
Tom M - 1991

Tranquility Group

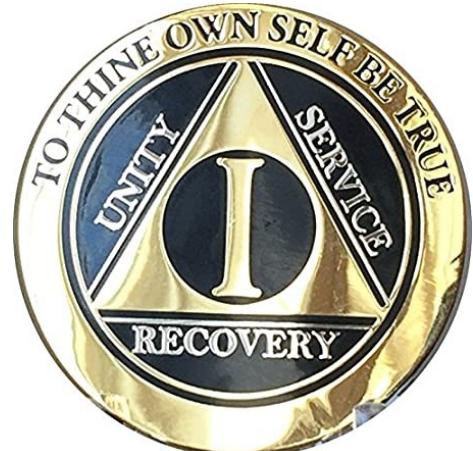
None Reported

Women's Serenity Group

Jinty – 2007
Ernestine - 1992

Young at heart

None Reported



Congratulations to all of those celebrating! Have you ever considered sharing your story? Let us know. We are always looking for stories to feature and we will come to you.

Submit Anniversary information for your group at www.aahernando.org Look for the “Submit Anniversaries” link at the top of the home page. Please submit month, day and year of sobriety date vs total years. (Communique will continue to show years of sobriety as it always has) There is a master list on this page for anniversary information we currently have. You only need to provide any updates or changes necessary for your Group. Thank You!