

NEWSPAGES

Pinellas Traditions Intergroup (PTI)
P O Box 56765
St. Pete, FL 33732

November 2006

Step 11 – Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition 11 – Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, television and other public media of communication.

Concept Eleven of OA Service – Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executive staffs and consultants.

The hardest thing I ever had to do was let go of my self-will and turn my life over to the care of God. It has also been the best thing that has happened to me since I discovered OA. Through my first honest prayer, I sought knowledge of God's will for me and the power to carry that out. But I didn't know how to really pray. So I started simply by talking to God. That gave me time to hear what God might be saying back to me. Many times when I've been sitting quietly, I have had some intuitive thoughts or ideas about how to handle a problem that is troubling me. Situations I thought were impossible have miraculously worked out because I remembered to let go of MY will, and let God's will be done.

Voices of Recovery

Thanksgiving Day Meetings

**10a-11a – Friendship United Methodist Church, Clw --(see page 2 for address)
11a-12 p-- Taffey's --3131 12 St. N, St. Pete, 822-6460, Taffey@tampabay.rr.com**

Step Eleven – Some Thoughts To Ponder

How does Step 11 challenge me? What is my belief about recovery through spiritual relationship with a power greater than myself alone? In what ways do I actively seek to improve my relationship with my HP? How important is it for me to have a regular daily quiet time for prayer and meditation? Am I afraid to express my honest feeling to God? Have I felt angry with God?

In what tangible ways can I communicate with God? What does meditation offer me? How do I know which thoughts are God's direction and which are my own rationalization? How does time spent in prayer and meditation affect me? In what ways does God speak to me? What do I need to do to stay aligned with this higher spiritual power? From OA Twelve Step Workbook

This step is highly individual process. As sponsors we should be on guard against forcing our concept of God on another, or trying to convert OA members to our chosen religion. If we maintain our spirituality outside of organized religion, we do not seek to sway others from their Personal search, wherever it may lead. The sharing at step study meetings, or on a one to one basis helps in the practice of Step Eleven. Many people before coming to OA were very hesitant to talk about spiritual matters. Our open sharing as sponsors encourages others to express their doubts and uncertainties and their desire for a deeper conscious contact with God. That very desire is God within them. Encourage those you sponsor to begin to trust that power within, to rely on their intuition, and to ask for God's guidance throughout each day. Ask them to read pages 86 to 89 in the Big Book. For specific directions on how to meditate they should review Step Eleven in the 12 & 12. OA Guide to Twelve Steps for You and Your Sponsor

I came to study the Steps through an 11th Step retreat. I had resisted doing steps 2 – 11 and two stepped my way through my first year in program. My HP asked me to volunteer to co-chair the retreat and I thought I was “in charge”. Little did I know this was to be the beginning of the rest of my life. After all, even though I wanted to run away from His message, my “in charge” personality would not let me. HP knew me well. I am so grateful.

AW

I find the 11th step to be one of the program's greatest tools. It serves as a means of direct communication with my HP (whom I choose to call God) at any given moment. It brings me peace, a sense of calmness and oneness with my creator. When I am willing to be still and listen it somehow brings better clarity as to my place in the world. The 11th step also helps to diffuse the voice of my "dis-ease" and to strengthen the voice of "spirit" within me.

JK

Let go and let God – God's will not mine – Surrender to God's will

JR

OA Calendar of Events

October 28, 2006, Sat., 10:30 AM – 4 PM – RECOVERY THROUGH THE HOLIDAZE

– St Paul's United Methodist Church, 1199 Highland Ave NE, Largo,

November 3,4,5- 2006 – SOAR 8 Region Assembly & Recovery Convention, Orlando,

FL, Cheryl S 407-221-5928 or Barb J 407-312-5428 www.oaregion8.org/docs/SOAR8Nov06.pdf

November 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9, 2006 – CRUISE A Voyage of Recovery, 4 Night Cruise on Carnival Cruise,

“Fantasy” - Judy P. 407-339-7164 or Twila 706-650-7333

www.oaregion8.org/docs/cruise/pdf

November 11, 2006 – Speaker Marathon, St. Mark's, Dunedin, Mary 727-384-3303

November 23, 2006 – Thanksgiving Day Meetings –

10a-11-, Friendship United Meth Church, 2039 E Druid, Clw: betwn Hercules & Belcher, turn on Canterbury 11a-12p-Taffey's House:3131 12St. N., St. Pete, 727-822-6460, Taffey@tampabay.rr.com

February 16-18, 2007 RU SLIPPIN' & SLIDIN' OR RU FLYIN', DOWLIN PARK, FL. 32060.

www.oaregion8.org/docs/2007Yana.pdf, Jackie 229-556-9374

February 23, 24, 25, 2007 – Florida State Convention, Jacksonville, Fl, Ellen 871-7451

March 2007, REGION 8 CONVENTION & BUSINESS ASSEMBLY Memphis, TN

May 18, 19, 20, 2007 - Big Book Retreat At the Franciscan Center in Tampa hosted by Pasco County, call Barbara Joy

July 13, 14, 15, 2007 – SOARING INTO WAVES OF SERVICE- Region 8 Convention and Business

Assembly Dolphin Beach Resort, St Pete Bch, Flier: www.oapinellas.org

August 30th – September 2, 2007 – OA – WSO – World Convention,

Philadelphia, PA – call Donna for roommates 727-526-4082

2010 - OA's 50th Birthday, World Service Convention, Los Angeles, CA –

call Donna for roommates 526-4082

Sponsor List:

Ann V. – 787-7652;

Addie S. – 327-4555/email-ernietoss@hotmail.com

Beth P. (anorexia/bulimia only) – 894-4090

Joanne (early morning only) – 669-5168

Maryl email-mmroan1@tampabay.rr.com

Please let me know if you'd like to add your name to the list.

Next month, I will be looking for comments on "Step Twelve", anyone liking to contribute to the "Newspages" please email me at russelljo1@earthlink.net by the 5th of the month.

Eleventh Step Prayer

Lord, make me a channel of thy peace – that where there is hatred, I may bring love – that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness – that where there is discord, I may bring harmony – that where there is error, I may bring truth – that where there is doubt, I may bring faith – that where there is despair, I may bring hope – that where there are shadows, I may bring light – that where there is sadness, I may bring joy. Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted – to understand, than to be understood – to love, than to be loved. For it is by self-forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life. Amen.

When you feel unlovable, unworthy, and unclean, when you think no one can heal you, Remember, Friend, God can.

When you think that you are unforgivable for your guilt and your shame, Remember, Friend, God can.

When you think that all is hidden, and no one can see within, Remember, Friend, God can.

And when you have reached the bottom, and you think that no one can hear, Remember, Friend, God can.

And when you think that no one can love, the real person deep inside of you, Remember, my dear friend, God does! Anonymouse

Each group is being asked to donate a raffle basket for the Nov. 11th, Speaker's Marathon at St. Mark's, Curlew Road, Dunedin. Please choose your theme, notify Mary S at 423-9047, collect the items and send the basket with your intergroup rep to the October 20th meeting.

Get the latest information on activities around the area from our website – and add your own comments to those of others in our Forum at <http://www.oapinellas.org/index>

Help Wanted

F/M, Thurs 11AM-Noon
Meeting needs support
First Presb Church
Dun 797-7728

Help Wanted

F/M, Friday 6-7PM
Meeting needs support
Morton Plant Hospital
Clw 530-9576

This meeting will be closing if attendance doesn't pick up. So please support attending.

Help Wanted

M/F, Tuesday 7:30PM
Step meeting
Meeting needs support
Karen..384-3303

Help Wanted

F/M, Tuesday 7:00PM
Meeting needs support
St. Marks Church
Dun 773-9863

OA Institution Meeting for all

2pm Fridays
Long Term Care
3479 54th Ave. N., St. Pete
Vicki 239-0098

PTI is looking for a new SOAR 8 alternate representative. There is a one year abstinence rule. Also, available; 12th Step Within, Public Outreach, Meeting Retention, Young People, Radio and TV outreach, Lifeline Representatives, Spanish meetings, and much more.

We are collecting clothes for all, (men, women, kids any good usable clothing), crafts, boutique items for the October "Recovery through the Holiday". Contact Claudia at 781-7411. Please wear your old oversized clothes over your outfit to show how much you have changed and then you will be able to donate them to the Boutique. There will be a revealing later. There will be 2 speakers and much interaction. Please plan on attending, \$5 Suggested donation.

There are many service positions available to anyone who is willing to help. Vicki H, 239-0098, is looking for people to help with the Region 8 assembly here next July. The entertainment committee is looking for help for the February Florida State Convention. Come join the fun. Call Ellen at 871-7451

Intergroup is interested in buying the literature for all groups, in quantities, to save money and the literature would be available at the Intergroup meeting for a better price.

It's not the elephants that get us, it's the ants!

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Pinellas Traditions Intergroup --- Treasurer's Report-- October 1, 2006

Beginning Balance	1854.42
Sept donations	240.00
Total	2094.42

7th tradition meeting donations

Meeting #	Name	Amount	WSO Region 8	
	Great Reality	120.00	36.00	12.00
36776	?????	20.00	6.00	2.00
	Keys to Freedom	100.00	30.00	10.00
	40873			
	Total	240.00	67.50	22.50

Disbursements

Hand Books	3.50
Copying	
10.60	
Verizon 800 number	115.31
WSO	72.00
Soar 8	24.00
Gas & mileage to FSC meeting	67.50
Craft Supplies for banners	41.54
Mileage for FSC meeting	35.52

Ending Balance	Total	302.47
		1791.95

September 15, 2006 PTI Meeting Notes.

September 22nd Pool and Games night 5 – 9 pm, October 8th Poetry & Journaling 6-8 pm

October 28th **Recovery Through the Holiday, Attending** – Where your big clothes over your regular clothes, be part of the fashion show, Speakers: Donna D. morning - Karen C. afternoon, Clothing boutique -Clothing for men, women, children available - Donations accepted for clean, saleable clothing Privacy provided to try on

Nov. 3 – 5th **Region 8 Assembly** – Orlando Reps and alternates are needed. If you would like to go there is room in One room for one or two more. Flyers are available.

Nov. 11th - **Speaker Marathon** - Baskets are due by October 20 intergroup mtg. for wrapping.

Nov. 22nd **A Thanksgiving Morning Meeting** is being planned. Time and location to be announced

OAPINELLAS.ORG Forum is up and running, promising to never crash or burn. For postings to website. Send simplest text, check spelling and grammar will be posted immediately.

NEW BUSINESS: A central office has been proposed for OA literature. Advantages.. One price for all books, reduce cost by buying in bulk and shipping charges, pick up is once a month at Intergroup. Questions: How to fund? Will majority of meetings use central office? What materials to stock? Let your intergroup rep know what group conscience feels about this and bring it to the next meeting.?

From the IG Chair: Thanks for all the service that you are doing.

We read in Our Invitation to You that our primary purpose is to stay abstinent and to carry the message to those who still suffer. OA appreciates your service. We are desperate for your service. In Pinellas County we already have so many events planned and carried out, a cutting edge website, people who donate a precious Friday night once a month to attend an Intergroup meeting, answer the phone on our hotline, put together a newsletter every month, etc. But the thing is that it is just a hand full of people that are doing all the service and they get burned out. So, here is a list of ways you can give service which might very well help your recovery and certainly would help OA.

Actually, who does this at your meetings? And how long have they been doing it? They might need a break or some help?

Who

Gets the room opened? Ready? Cleaned up after the meeting?

Has to come because they carry the key?

Brings the literature?

Inventoriys and orders the literature?

Provides newsletters for those without a computer or printer?

Provides flyers of events?

Records decisions made at your business meetings? (secretary)

Collects donations and sends it out?

Votes for your meeting at Intergroup meetings?

Announces the Lifeline subscriptions?

Gets your meeting listed in your neighborhood newspaper?

Puts up and maintains OA info flyers in your neighborhood stores? Libraries? Laundramats? Churches?

Announces the Courier OA 's special publication for doctors and nurses at meetings?

Calls in your changed meeting info? To our website? Our newsletter? OA World Service Office? WSO website? The Region 8 website?

Answers questions for people calling our 800 phone hotline?

Goes to SOAR committee meetings and brings back great ideas that work elsewhere?

Goes on our website and writes a comment or two?

Here are some OA committees desperate for people to help out: Come to our IG and meet others willing to help!

1. **Archives**: Organize and keep our historical newsletters, pictures, etc
2. Keep our **IG Bylaws** updated and distributed to our reps
3. **Events**: help with local events
4. **FL State Convention**: attend state meetings, or help with our annual responsibility like entertainment
5. **OA Handbook**: Read it and keep us on track !!!
6. **Intergroup Outreach: IGOR** Find out what is going on in SOAR IGOR and let us know so we can implement their good ideas
7. **Parliamentarian/Roberts Rules**: Keep us on track at IG meetings
8. **Literature/Newsletter**: Help with the Newsletter
9. **Public Information: P.I.**—Chairperson-keep track of all PI stuff
10. **Public Information: P.I.**—Newspapers-contact local neighborhood papers with OA info
11. **Public Information: P.I.**—OA Radio Spots (we have the tapes and CD's)
12. **Public Information: P.I.**—Tab Flyers-put pne up and keep track of it, tell us where it is
13. **Public Information: P.I.**----OA Television Spots (we have the CD's and tapes)
14. **P.O. Professional Outreach**: Chairperson-keep track of the PO people
15. **P.O. Professional Outreach**: Hospitals
16. **P.O. Professional Outreach**: Institutions
17. **P.O. Professional Outreach**: Contact the Military like Bay Pines
18. **P.O. Professional Outreach**: Professionals
19. **P.O. Professional Outreach**:
20. **12th Step Within**: Chairperson- keep track of the 12 Step Within committees
21. **12th Step Within**: Roadshows-do a skit for a meeting or IG
22. **12th Step Within**: Meeting Retention-read the booklet and help us keep our meeting members
23. **12th Step Within**: Relapse Preventions and solutions- read the booklet and enlighten us
24. **12th Step Within**: Contacting missing OA's
25. **12th Step Within**: CD/Tape Librarian, keep track of our media to loan out.
26. **Budget/Ways and Means-Fundraising**: Help us raise money to fund our organization ourselves
27. **Spanish Meeting**: Reach out to the Spanish speaking community with OA recovery.
28. **Young People**: Reach out to the youth suffering from our disease
29. **Webmaster/Podcasting**: get our message out via the web