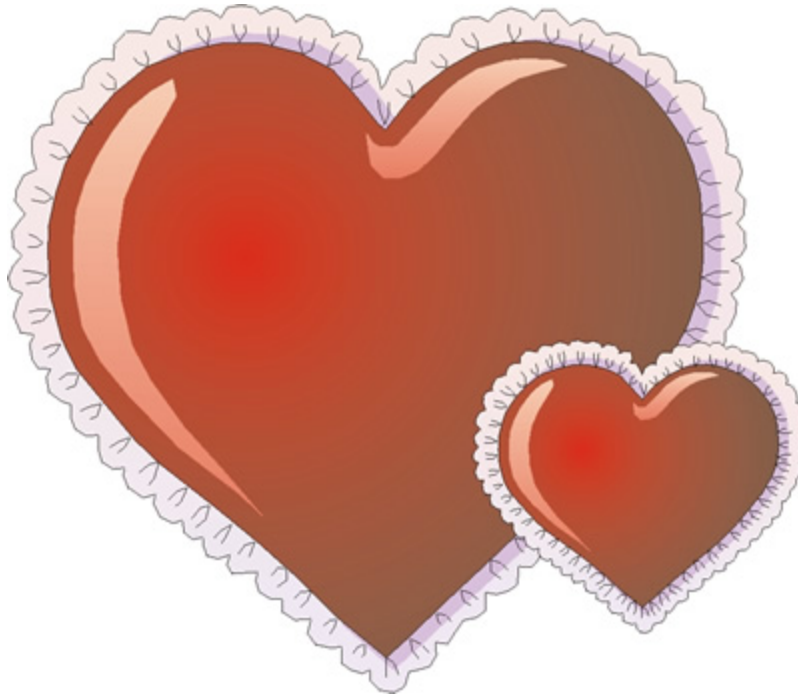


# FEBRUARY 2020



## HEARTLAND INTERGROUPE

4204 S. Florida Ave, Suite H.

Lakeland, FL 33813

863-688-0211 or 863-687-9275

[www.heartlandintergroup.org](http://www.heartlandintergroup.org)



Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 12:00pm



**Don't forget to get your Night of 'stAars' tickets. Contact Heartland Intergroup at (863) 688-0211, they are going fast!!!**



**HEARTLAND INTERGROUP NEEDS YOU!!!**

**VOLUNTEERS!**

**EVERY OTHER MONDAY AND TUESDAY 9AM-1PM**

**AND EVERY OTHER FRIDAY 1PM TO 5PM.**

**WE ALSO NEED SOME BACKUP VOLUNTEERS WHEN NEEDED.**

**CONTACT THE OFFICE TO HELP OUT**

**STEP TWO: "Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."**

**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."**

**TRADITION TWO (long form) : "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience."**

**CONCEPT TWO : "The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs."**

***2nd Step Prayer: I know in my heart that only you can restore me to sanity. I humbly ask that you remove all twisted thought & Addictive behavior from me this day. Heal my spirit & restore in me a clear mind.***

## TRADITIONS—CHECKLIST

This is a Checklist for Tradition TWO. Reprinted with permission from Service Material from the General Service Office:

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? New comers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

## A.A. History in February

**February 1 1918** - Original date set for Bill W.'s marriage to Lois Burnham. The date was moved up because of the war.

**February 2 1942** - Bill W. paid tribute to Ruth Hock, AA's first paid secretary, who resigned to get married. She had written approximately 15,000 letters to people who had asked for help.

**February 5 1941** - Pittsburgh Telegram ran a story on the first A.A. group's Friday night meeting of a dozen "former hopeless drunks."

**February 8 1940** - Bill W., Dr. Bob, and six other A.A.s asked 60 rich friends of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for money at the Union Club, N.Y. They got \$2,000. 1940 - Houston Press ran first of 6 anonymous articles on A.A. by Larry J.

**February 9 2002** - Sue Smith Windows, Dr. Bob's daughter died.

**February 10 1922**: Harold E. Hughes was born on a farm near Ida Grove, Iowa. After his recovery from alcoholism, he became Governor of Iowa, a United States Senator, and the leading dark horse for the Presidential Democratic nomination in 1972, until he announced he would not run. He authored the legislation which created the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and other legislation to help alcoholics and addicts.

**February 11 1938** - Clarence S. ("Home Brewmeister" in 1st, 2nd & 3rd editions) had his last drink.

**February 12 1945** - World War II paper shortage forced reduction in size of the Big Book.

**February 13 1937** - Oxford Groups "Alcoholic Squadron" met at the home of Hank P. ("The Unbeliever" in the 1st edition of the Big Book) in New Jersey. 1940 - With about two years of sobriety, Jim B. ("The Vicious Cycle") moved to the Philadelphia area and started the first Philadelphia A.A. group.

**February 14 1971** - AA groups worldwide held a memorial service for Bill Wilson.

**February 15 1946** - AA Tribune, Des Moines, IA, reported 36 new members since Marty M. had been there.

**February 16 1941** - Baltimore Sunday Sun reported city's first AA group begun in 1940 had grown from 3 to 40 members, with five being women.

**February 18 1943** - AA's were granted the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases, despite gas rationing.

**February 19 1967** - Father "John Doe" (Ralph P.), 1st Catholic Priest in AA, died.

**February 20 1941** - The Toledo Blade published first of three articles on AA by Seymour Rothman.

**February 21 1939** - 400 copies of the Big Book manuscript were sent to doctors, judges, psychiatrists, and others for comment. This was the "multilith" Big Book.

**February 22 1842** - Abe Lincoln addressed the Washington Temperance Society in Springfield, IL.

**February 24 2002** -- Hal M., "Dr. Attitude of Gratitude," died. He had 37 years of sobriety. Hal testified, anonymously, before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse on December 3, 1970.

Other February happenings with no specific date: 1908 - Bill W. made boomerang. 1916 - Bill W. & sophomore class at Norwich University was suspended for hazing. 1938 - Rockefeller gave \$5,000 to AA. 1939 - Dr. Harry Tiebout endorsed AA, the first psychiatrist to do so. 1940 - First organization meeting of Philadelphia AA is held at McCreedy H.'s room at 2209 Delaney Street. 1940 - 1st AA clubhouse opened at 334-1/2 West 24th Street, NYC. 1943 - San Francisco Bulletin reporter Marsh Masline interviewed Ricardo, a San Quentin Prison AA group member. 1946 - Baton Rouge, La., AA's hold their first anniversary meeting. 1946 - The AA Grapevine reported the New York Seaman's Group issued a pamphlet for seamen "on one page the 12 Steps have been streamlined into 5." 1946 - Des Moines Committee for Education on Alcoholism aired its first show on KRNT. 1946 - Pueblo, Colorado, had a second group, composed of alcoholic State Hospital patients. 1951 - Fortune magazine article about AA was published in pamphlet form. 1959 - AA granted "Recording for the Blind" permission to tape the Big Book. 1963 - Harpers carried article critical of AA. 1981 - 1st issue of "Markings," AA Archives Newsletter, was published, "to give the Fellowship a sense of its own past and the opportunity to study it."

## Why We Call It "The Big Book"

A printer in Cornwall, NY, named Edward Blackwell, had been highly recommended to Bill Wilson. Blackwell was the President of Cornwall Press. So Bill and Hank Parkhurst (author of the personal story "The Unbeliever" in the first edition of the Big Book) went to Cornwall to see Blackwell. There they were told that the book would probably be only about four hundred pages when printed. That seemed a bit skimpy. They wanted to sell the book for \$3.50 per copy. That was a very large sum in those days; probably the equivalent of about \$50 today, and people might not think they were getting their money's worth.

They picked the cheapest, thickest paper the printer had, and requested that each page be printed with unusually large margins surrounding the text. This made for an unusually large book. Thus, the book came to be nicknamed the "Big Book."

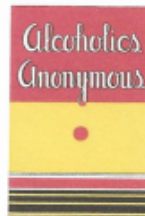
A reproduction of the first printing can be purchased today and it is much taller and thicker than our current Big Book, although it has fewer pages.

Blackwell had an excess of red material for the bindings, so he offered them a special deal. Eager to save costs, Bill and Hank agreed. They also thought, according to some reports, that the color red would make the book more attractive and marketable.

The first printing was the only one on which a red binding was used. All the other printings of the first edition, except for the fourth printing, were in various shades of blue. The fourth printing, due to another overstock of binding material and thus, lower cost, was bound in blue as well as in green.

Despite all their efforts at proofreading, there was a typographical error in the first printing. On page 234, the second and third line from the bottom was printed twice. This was corrected in subsequent editions.

A New York AA member named Ray Campbell, a recognized artist, was asked to design the dust jacket. His story, "An Artist's Concept", appears in the Big Book's first edition. He submitted various designs for consideration including one which was blue and in an Art Deco style. The one which was chosen was red, and yellow, with a little black, and a little white. The words Alcoholics Anonymous were printed across the top in large white script. It became known as the circus jacket because of its loud circus colors. The unused blue jacket is today in the Archives at the Stepping Stones Foundation.







# *District 3 Lunch*

HOSTED BY BACK TO BASICS, WOMEN'S PEACE OF SERENITY & EASY DOES IT GROUPS

*February 22, 2020*

*2 – 4pm*

**109 E Main St**

**Avon Park – Behind the Shuffleboard courts**

*\$10 at the door*

*Come see what we got cooking for  
YOU!...*

*Food at 2:00*

*Speaker @ 3:00*



*Food – Fun – Fellowship*

**Come support your District!**

QUESTIONS....CALL SUE 561-729-1886



# LOCATE MEETINGS WITH A CLICK!

"Meeting Guide by Josh R." is an app which can be downloaded to your cell phone to show you daily meetings in the Heartland Intergroup areas of Polk, Hardee and Highlands Counties. Available in your Play Store for Apple and Android phones.

Check it out!

Contributions from the previous month will be included in the following month's mid-month issue.

**(If you notice that your contribution is not reflected, please remember that we publish the contributions from the prior month, so yours may not show up until next month).**

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**\*officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org**

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