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HEARTLAND INTERGROUP

4204 S. Florida Ave, Suite H.
Lakeland, FL 33813
863-688-0211 or 863-687-9275

www.heartlandintergroup.org

MONDAY- 9AM-5PM

TUESDAY-9AM-5PM

WEDNESDAY-9AM- 5PM

THURSDAY- 9AM- 5PM


FRIDAY- 9AM- 5PM

WE TOO LIVE LIFE ON LIFE'S TERMS! IT MAY BE BEST TO CALL BEFORE YOU COME!

**HEARTLAND INTERGROUP OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED MONDAY, FEBRUARY
19th, 2024, IN OBSERVANCE OF
PRESIDENT'S DAY.**

**ANY MEETING CHANGES PLEASE SUBMIT CHANGES TO
WEBSITE:**

[Submit Meeting Changes](#) | [Heartland AA](#) (heartlandintergroup.org)



***CAME TO BELIEVE
THAT A POWER
GREATER THAN
OURSELVES COULD
RESTORE US TO
SANITY***

Step Two



ABOUT FAITHFUL FIVERS

Faithful Fivers are A.A. Members who pledge to contribute at least \$5.00 a month to support our local Intergroup office in its efforts to carry the A.A. message of hope and recovery to alcoholics in Polk, Highlands, and Hardee counties.

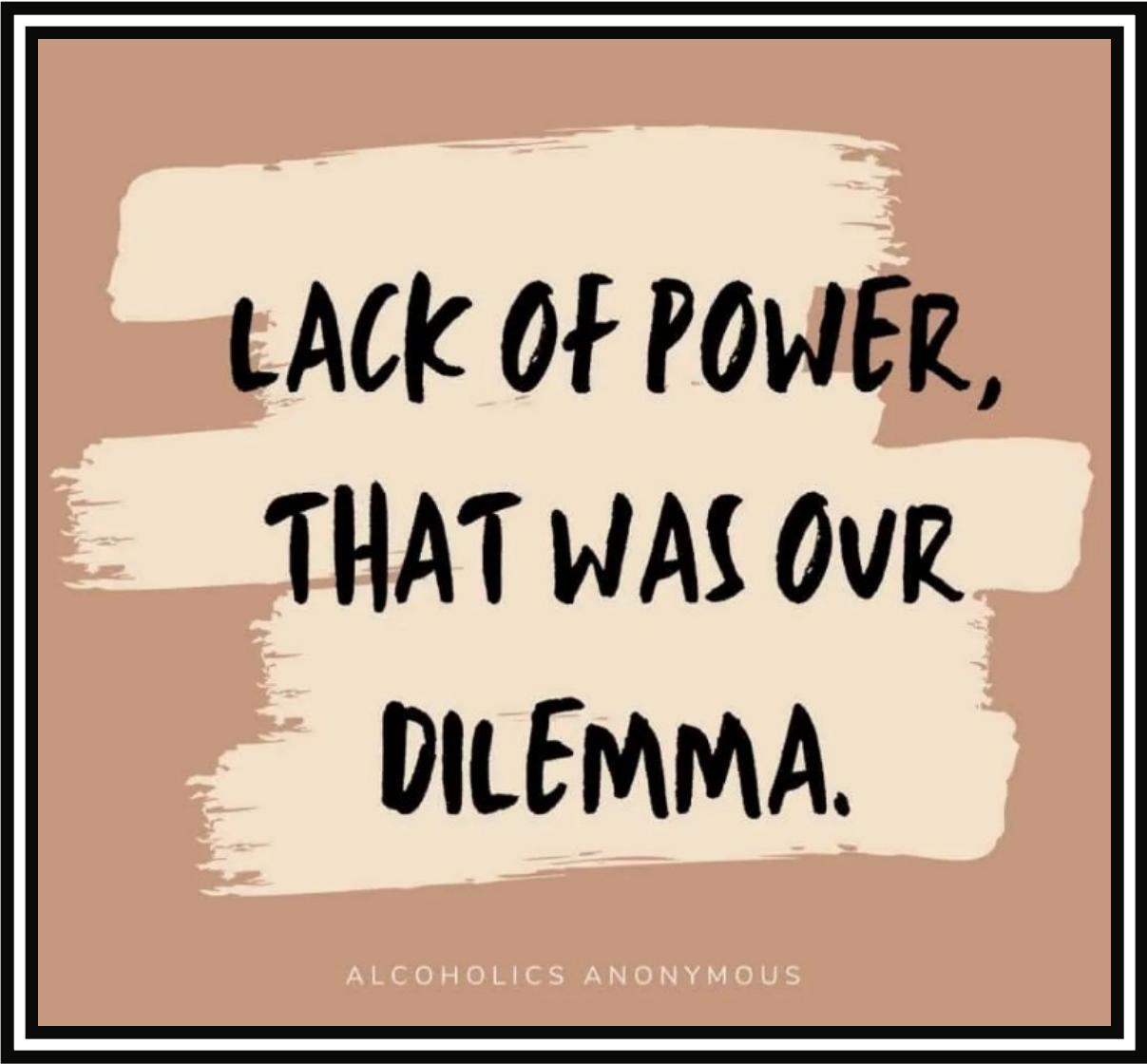
HOW TO BECOME A FAITHFUL FIVER

- Call the office manager at (863) 688-0211
- Visit our website at Heartlandintergroup.org. Go to the **donate** tab at the top right of the screen.

What does our Intergroup do?

- Provides a 24-hour A.A. Hotline
- Has available space for AA meetings
- Sells A.A. literature and merchandise
- Publishes a monthly Newsletter called the Intergrouper, free to sign up for.
- Offers an informative up-to-date website with current meeting lists, and events.
- Has an online bookstore for convenience to those that may not be able to visit in person.
- Has an extensive Lending Library of speaker CD's and tapes.
- Provides a 12-Step room for sponsor/sponsee to meet.

(863) 688-0211
4204 S. FLORIDA AVE STE. H
LAKELAND, FL 33813



LACK OF POWER,
THAT WAS OUR
DILEMMA.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

A.A. Oldtimers...On the Second Step

A.A. Grapevine, December 1944 Vol. 1 No. 7

Editorial: On the Second Step

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

Having taken the First Step of the A.A. program by admitting that we were powerless over alcohol, we were confronted with Step Two: "We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

This Second Step is often referred to as the first spiritual step; but is it or the subsequent steps any more spiritual than Step One? Is not anything spiritual which tends toward elevating us to the best and highest type of human being we are capable of becoming?

The Second Step contains the crux of the A.A. method of getting well: it shows us how to expel that little streak of insanity which caused so many relapses into debauchery

long after the normal drinker would have shrunk from another drink. This twisted kind of thinking is eliminated by faith in a Power greater than ourselves.

The question which naturally arises in the newcomer's mind is: "How can I acquire enough faith to get well?" The road to faith is by taking all Twelve Steps. Faith is acquired by working for it; it is retained by continuous use of the Twelve Steps.

One who has gained faith in this greater Power finds such faith reflected toward himself. To the alcoholic this means faith that he will not take the first, fatal drink. But that is not all, for soon we learn that in some mysterious way our whole lives have been changed, our thinking changed, and our desires as well. Finally the realization comes that we no longer drink—because we just don't want to.

The greater Power now becomes for us the court of final appeal. Those harsh judgments of people, conditions, and so on, which we made in the past are now left to this court. This is the way to tolerance. Our own ideals, aims and ambitions are also submitted. This leads to progress, and it is by progressing that we become—and remain—well.

Horace C.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO CALL HOME?



HEARTLAND
—INTERGROUP—

WE WELCOME YOUR GROUP!

What does that include?

1ST MONTH'S RENT FREE

INSURANCE IS COVERED

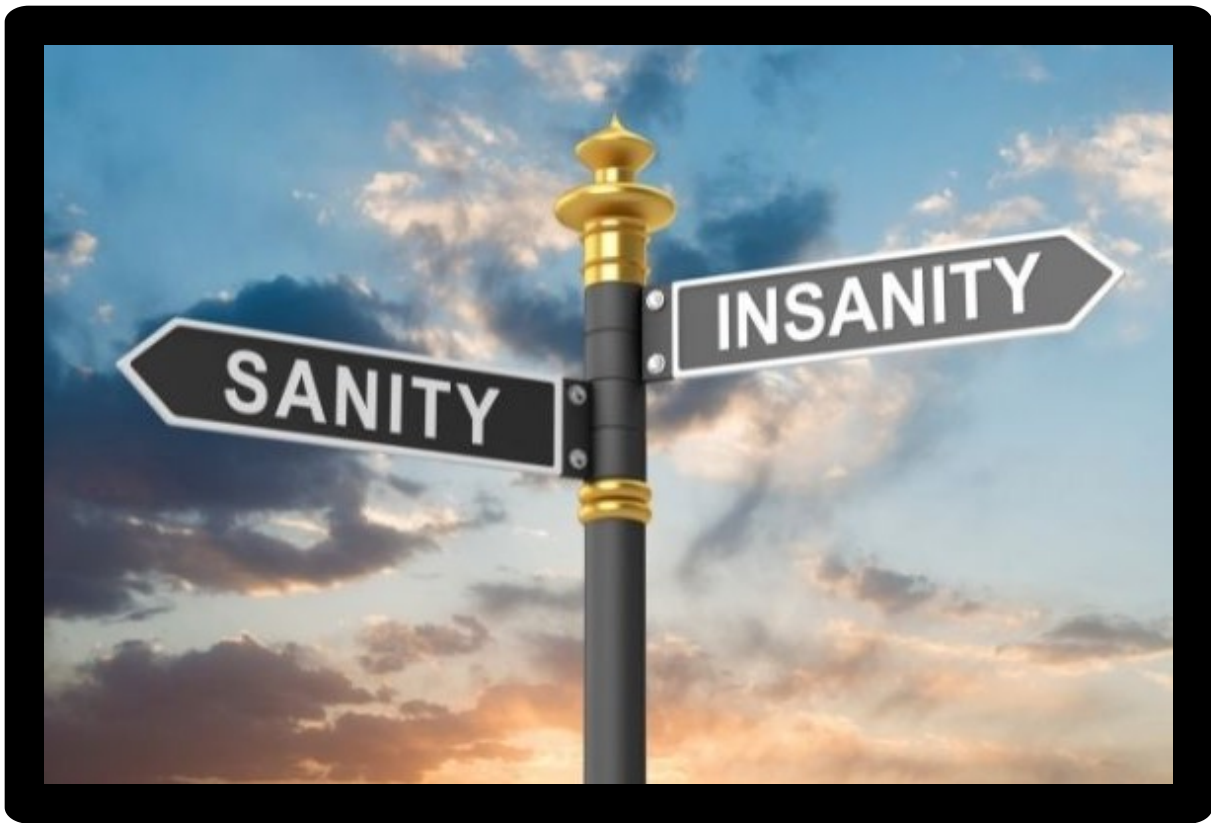
COFFEE AND WATER INCLUDED

HYBRID MEETING POSSIBILITIES

BIG BOOKS TO USE WHILE IN MEETING SPACE

LOTS OF TIME SLOTS AVAILABLE

CONTACT OFFICE MANAGER AT:
OFFICEMANAGER@HEARTLANDINTERGROUP.ORG



HYBRID MEETING- February Heartland Intergroup Representative Meeting, Monday, February 12th at 6:00PM.

Heartland Intergroup is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: February Heartland Intergroup Rep Meeting

Time: Feb 12, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2323580422?omn=84403052699>

Meeting ID: 232 358 0422

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,2323580422# US

+16469313860,,2323580422# US

Dial by your location

- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
 - +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
 - +1 360 209 5623 US
 - +1 386 347 5053 US
 - +1 507 473 4847 US
 - +1 564 217 2000 US
 - +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
 - +1 689 278 1000 US
 - +1 719 359 4580 US
 - +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 232 358 0422

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kWFhYUfKP>

What does HYBRID mean you ask? HYBRID means, in person AND online! Thats right!!! We will be meeting at the Heartland Intergroup Office AND on Zoom! We want you to be a part of our Intergroup however you can!!

ACCEPTANCE
IS THE ANSWER
TO ALL OF MY
PROBLEMS TODAY.
WHEN I AM DISTURBED,
IT IS BECAUSE I FIND SOME
PERSON, PLACE, THING OR SITUATION
- SOME FACT OF MY LIFE -
UNACCEPTABLE TO ME,
AND I CAN FIND NO SERENITY
UNTIL I ACCEPT THAT
PERSON, PLACE, THING OR SITUATION
AS BEING EXACTLY THE WAY IT IS
SUPPOSED TO BE
AT THIS MOMENT.
NOTHING, ABSOLUTELY NOTHING,
HAPPENS IN GOD'S WORLD BY MISTAKE.

p.417

We Would Love To Update Your Group Contacts:

If it has been a while since you have updated the contacts for your group and if things have changed, please let us know.

We would love to stay in touch when we need to! No worries, we don't share this information with the public! The only people that see it are the Heartland Intergroup Board, web servants, and the District 3 Registrar.

Anytime you need to make a change or add a contact, just

go to our website: Heartlandintergroup.org
Click on MEETINGS in the upper right side on the screen,
scroll down to SUBMIT MEETING CHANGES, and answer
the questions! It's that easy!

If you would rather, you are always welcome to
email officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org and send
us your info that way!

Thank you everyone for your continued support!



Please direct all
communications to:
Grand Central Station,
P.O. Box 459,
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

January 25, 2024

Dear A.A. Friends,

On behalf of the General Service Office, I wish you a very Happy New Year! Although we A.A.s strive to live one day at a time, for many of us the new year brings a spirit of renewal and an added spark of hope. I share this spirit for A.A.'s future as well!

I want to provide an update to my most recent letter regarding A.A.'s finances in which I shared details of the challenges we've been facing and the need for sustained increases in contributions. The response from the Fellowship in the last two months has been extremely heartwarming. We have heard from many of you expressing your support, concerns, and understanding in the form of heartfelt messages and generous contributions to the General Service Board. I want to personally express my deep gratitude and sincere thanks to each and every one of you.

I'm very encouraged and happy to share that we have seen recent increases in both the number of contributions received as well as total dollar amounts. In fact, in December, we received contributions from more than 9,000 groups and members. The average we typically receive in December is 6,900. This increased participation has resulted in the highest amount ever received in the month of December, just over \$1.65 million. We also saw an increase in participation in November just following the call for help. On a year-to-date basis, contributions to the General Service Board also have exceeded the highest ever received at over \$10.8 million. This amount also exceeds the amount budgeted for 2023, which was \$10.5 million.

Your positive response and increases in participation and dollar amounts have been very helpful to operations in the last few months, however, we are still facing difficulties meeting expenses. Gross literature sales in December were strong, but profits for 2023 will be below budget. As I mentioned in my November message, the reduction in literature sales and profits has been the driving factor in the loss in income. Although contributions have increased post-pandemic, literature profits have dropped at a higher rate. Our literature is a vital spiritual tool and service to our Fellowship. The volume in which it is purchased is based on the needs of the Fellowship. It is very important to keep it affordable so it can be distributed as widely as possible and assuring it finds its way into the hands of those who need it. But we cannot rely on increased literature profits to solve our financial challenges.

In addition, the ability to rebuild the Reserve Fund is also challenging. As of December year end, the balance is sufficient to cover approximately 7.28 months' operating expenses, which is less than the general expectation of 9 to 12 months.

Your overwhelming response also brings to mind the principle of participation that resides within our Seventh Tradition. Even more significant than financial contributions is our participation, which fills us with the spirit of belonging and connection to A.A. This is in line with the overarching goal to meet and overcome our financial challenges in the long term. That is, more frequent and sustained contributions but also from a larger representation of our groups and members.

Bill W.'s insights on the Seventh Tradition reinforce the answer to our financial challenges:

"But this leaves us with a responsibility — one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid. When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer." (The Language of the Heart, p. 221)

The AAWS and AA Grapevine Boards, in strong collaboration with the office, have been working very hard for the last several months preparing the 2024 budget. The General Service Board will review, discuss, and finalize the budget during their next scheduled quarterly Board Weekend at the end of this month. Several projects and items have been deferred in order to present a balanced budget.

So let's keep it going—continued participation! Perhaps your group, or you personally, may consider setting up a reoccurring contribution to the General Service Board. It's very simple to set up through our online contributions site, which can be accessed through [AA.org](https://www.aa.org) or by clicking [here](#). There are options to make a one-time, weekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly contribution.

Thank you again for your participation not only with our Seventh Tradition but with all each and every one of you do for our beloved Fellowship. Your participation is the very best investment in A.A.'s future and keeps Alcoholics Anonymous vibrant and available for all who need it today, tomorrow, and beyond.

With gratitude for all the sacrifices you make for A.A.,

Bob W.

Bob W.
General Manager, G.S.O.

Alcoholics
Anonymous® | www.aa.org

*On this day you surrendered you
mustered up some courage and asked
for help. You began a new way of life.
Slowly, you became honest. You sought
to help others. You became a giver.
You took less. You began to feel...
pleasure, pain, sadness and joy.
On this day... you got sober*





We are forming a Heartland Intergroup
Outreach Committee.

Our goal is to bring the tri-county AA
community closer together. We are looking
for volunteers who are willing to travel to
meetings throughout the tri-county area to
spread the word that Intergroup is here to
support and help them. If you are interested
in attending new meetings, meeting new
people and being of service, please call or
text Mark C. at 863-307-6545 or send an
email to LakelandWW@gmail.com.



Heartland Inter group

February Merchandise of the Month



*Came to
Believe*

Over 75 A.A. members from around the world share about what the terms "spiritual awakening," "Higher Power" and "God as we understood Him" mean to them. Offers a range of perspectives on what spirituality can look like in the context of Alcoholics

Anonymous.

General Service Conference-approved.

20% off for February!





HEARTLAND
—INTERGROUP—

Winter Closeout Sale

UP TO 60% OFF

WE ARE CLEANING HOUSE!

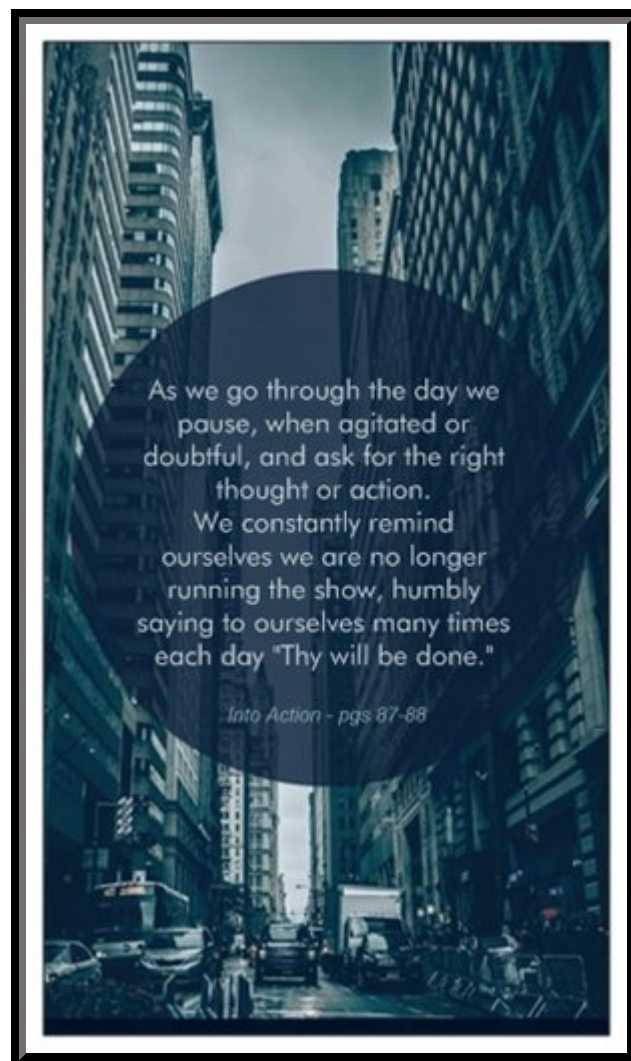
**In store only
While supplies last*

4204 S. FLORIDA AVE.
SUITE H
LAKELAND, FL 33813
863-688-0211

We want to know your Sobriety Birthdays AND Group Anniversaries!

Heartland Intergroup wants to recognize greatness and remind the newcomers that IT WORKS!!!! Please send in your sobriety birthday and/ or group anniversary so we can share it for that month in our newsletter!! You can send them in via email at officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



**DISTRICT III BUSINESS MEETING- Meets at 2:00PM
on the 3rd Sunday of every month at Holy Trinity
Episcopal Church, 500 West Stuart St. Bartow, FL**

33830.

Come celebrate
with us!



HEARTLAND
—INTERGROUP—

40th Anniversary

Saturday, February 17th, 2024

Doors open: 5:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 PM

Speaker: Jade D.

Tickets are \$20.00

Available at Heartland Intergroup office

DOOR PRIZES!

50/50 RAFFLE!

DESSERT AUCTION!

FAM Church

1400 E. Canal St.

Mulberry, FL 33860



desserts desserts desserts

HEARTLAND
INTERGROUP

NEEDS YOUR BAKING SKILLS!

FOR OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY
FUNDRAISING DESSERT RAFFLE
ON FEBRUARY 17TH

Can't bake?
No worries, store bought is great too!!

Any questions email:
officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org



39th Annual Women's Day

Broadway Palm Dinner Theater

1380 Colonial Blvd

Fort Myers, FL 33907

Tickets: \$35.00

tax & gratuity included

February 25th, 2024
8am - 3pm

Tickets: Kathy W. 239-738-9154

fortmyerswomensday.org

18th Annual SOBERSTOCK 2024



SOBERSTOCK
2024
UNITY • RECOVERY • MUSIC

MARCH 15-17, 2024 BROOKSVILLE, FL



Soberstock is a 3-day weekend AA/Al-Anon/Alateen event featuring speakers, meetings, bands, food & fellowship.

Soberstock is open to all members of AA/Al-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!

Bike Run!

When: Friday, March 15th, 2024- Gates open at Noon on Friday! Event ends on Sunday at noon.

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

What to bring: Tents, blankets, coolers, chairs, lanterns, bug spray, snacks, NO PETS (except service animals) NO RV's

What we provide: Fri. dinner, Sat. breakfast, lunch and dinner, & Sunday breakfast.

www.soberstock.com

All SoberStock orders are on a "Will Call" basis, which means we do not mail any products or tickets. After orders are received, we simply have you on our list and you will pick up all of your items at the gate. Online orders are safe & secure and we take most major credit cards via PayPal.



FREE MUG
for the first 50 admissions
sold before Jan 1, 2024!

ONLINE PRICING GOOD UNTIL MARCH 1ST, 2024

ONLINE PRICING vs GATE PRICING:

1 DayPass - \$40.00 per person/\$50 Gate

Weekend - \$75.00 per person/\$90 Gate

Child under 12-1 DayPass - \$5.00/\$10 Gate

(CHILDREN ALLOWED ONLY IF ACCOMP. BY PARENT/GUARDIAN)

Child under 12-Weekend - \$10.00/\$15 Gate

Tent Pitching: \$15 Per tent (We don't supply tents)

T-Shirts: \$20/ea (Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL)

Bike Run: \$20 (FREE if you buy a day or weekend pass)

**NOTE: WE ONLY TAKE CASH OR CHECKS AT THE GATE
NO CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS AT THE GATE!**

All sales are final, and non-refundable.

This is a Rain Or Shine Event. When ordering online, we don't ship items to you.

We will have all items for you (INCLUDING TICKETS!) at the front gate day of the event on a Will Call basis.

Thank you so much for your cooperation!

NEW! Bike Run!

We're having our first bike run (motorcycles) at Soberstock this year. Please visit our website for more details!

Scan me for ALL the info!



Prodigal Sons V Central Florida AA Men's 12-Step Retreat, Spring 2024

The Spring Retreat is once again around the corner!

WHAT: 3-day, 12-Step Men's Retreat welcome to all members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Based on the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, put on by recovered alcoholics for other alcoholics in recovery. The presenters utilize only AA conference approved literature. The events include speakers for each step, buzz group sessions to work the steps, (5) meals, AA speaker meeting, snacks, fellowship, bonfire, lakeside morning meditation. Camp style lodging included with registration fee.

WHEN: Friday May 17 thru Sunday May 19, 2024

WHERE: Lake Yale Baptist Convention Center
39034 County Rd 452, Leesburg, FL 34788

WELCOME: Registration begins 2:00 pm Friday, November 17th
Retreat begins at 4:00pm
Dinner served at 5:30pm

COST: **\$162:** Camp lodging and bring your own bedding, towels, pillow

\$177: Camp lodging with supplied bedding

\$120: All retreat events with no lodging

*Limited hotel room space for additional fee is available. Call for details.

Payment (check money order, PayPal) **Due on March 29, 2024**

WHO TO CONTACT: For the application form send an email to:
prodigalsonsv@gmail.com
or call/text Daniel at 941-730-4274

Addresses for Contributions:

General Service Office

Post Office Box 2407
James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116
Payable to: AA General Service Office

Area 15 Treasurer

PO Box 590835
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33359-0835
Payable to: Area 15 Treasurer

District III Treasurer

District III
5441 Chandler Drive
Winter Haven, FL 33884
Payable to: District III Treasurer

Heartland Intergroup

4204 S. Florida Ave, Suite H
Lakeland, FL 33803
Payable to: Heartland Intergroup



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Any questions can be emailed to the office manager at:

****officemanager@heartlandintergroup.org***

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