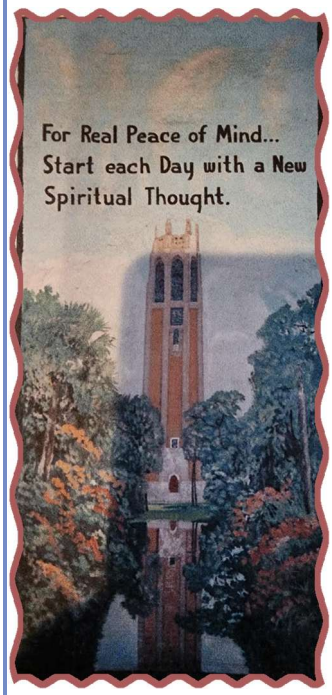
District Dispatch

DISTRICT 2 | AREA 15 | SOUTH FLORIDA | NOV 26

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT
2025-2026 Archives Committee
Chair Betsy B-F

Archives Committee Structure. The Archives Committee membership fluctuates between 5 and 7 A.A. members. Our primary focus is to collect, preserve, and share the history of Alcoholics Anonymous in District 2, while also helping preserve A.A.'s broader history.

Over the past two years, the committee achieved several goals, including developing and adopting a *Collection Policy*; updating the *Committee Composition, Scope, and Procedure document*; and completing our largest and most time-consuming project: conducting a thorough *inventory of District 2 archival materials and creating a functional spreadsheet catalog.*



The committee prepared several displays and enjoyed sharing them at local A.A. events: the July 2026 Area Quarterly hosted by District 2, and the 2025 and 2026 Florida Archives Workshops. One of the most enjoyable aspects of displaying archives is hearing members share their own pieces of A.A. history. Archives is essential in preserving Tampa history such as this photo of one of the murals in one of the first Tampa meeting groups, the DeSoto Group, @ downtown hotel, the Desoto Hotel. This picture was taken at the exhibit at Tampa Bay Fall Roundup.

Recent Highlights: Betsy reported a recent highlight for the committee was being able to preserve the early history of the Tampa Bay Fall Round Up. Information was received from an A.A. member who helped start the annual event,

Panel 77 Elections:
2027-2028 Open Positions

District Officer

- Chair
- Alt Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Registrar

Committee Chairs:

- Accessibilities
- Archives
- Communications
- Current Practice
- Finance
- Grapevine
- Literature
- Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community
- Remote Communities

District Panel/Liaison

- District Dispatch
- New GSR Orientation
- Room&Ride Coordinator

District Event Chairs

- Carry the Message Day
- Delegate Luncheon
- Gratitude Dinner

and a display was presented at this year's 39th Fall Round Up. Another highlight was participating in a joint workshop with the District 2 Grapevine Committee.

Area 15 - The Area 15 Archives Committee meetings held during quarterlies have been invaluable and continue to provide inspiration and new ideas. For example, one District Archives Committee recently introduced an **Interactive Exhibit Companion** featuring a touchscreen application that allows visitors to enlarge images, listen to narrated background information, and explore additional content. Similar to the Display Boards provided by all District Archives Committee, this interactive technology could enhance the viewer experience. This is one of the many benefits of participating in Area 15 Archives, seeing the creativity and dedication of committees throughout Florida and bringing those ideas back to our district.

Archive's committee members have also given several presentations at Area 15 Archives meetings, including one lighthearted skit that was much better received than expected.

Special Projects One of our special projects this year was a display titled **"Women of the Big Book."** The project was inspired by a virtual presentation given by historian Nancy K. at the 2026 Florida Archives Workshop on the role of women in A.A. history. Committee members researched nine women whose sobriety dates ranged from March 1937 through July 1947 and whose stories appeared in the Big Book. The display features photographs, sobriety dates, brief biographies, and links to their stories, highlighting the important contributions these women made to the growth of Alcoholics Anonymous.

District 2 is fortunate to possess a written history prepared by one of Tampa's earliest A.A. members. Portions of that history were derived from copies of correspondence written between April 13, 1942, and 1952 and provided to the writer by Nell Wing, Bill W.'s longtime secretary. Additional material includes recollections and information gathered from local A.A. members through the early 1960s.

It is the committee's hope that local groups and individual members will continue to share their histories and contribute information to the District 2 Family Group Tree display. By preserving these stories today, future members

District Committee Members (DCM):

Sub-District A: Central Brandon, Lithia, Valrico

Sub-District B: Zephyrhills, Wesley Chapel, Dade City

Sub-District C: Dover, Plant City

Sub-District D: Land-O-Lakes, Lutz, & Odessa

Sub-District E: West Columbus

Sub-District F: South Central Tampa)

Sub-District G: Carrollwood, Citrus Park, & Northdale

Sub-District H: Apollo Beach, Ruskin, & Sun City

Sub-District I: Temple Terrace

Sub-District K: Hyde Park & Downtown

Sub-District M: Seminole Heights

Sub-District N: Riverview

Sub-District O: Interbay, Gandy, Bay to Bay

Sub-District Q: S. Brandon, Clair Mel

Sub-District T: New Tampa/USF

Sub-District U: Drew Park/NW Tampa

Alternate DCMs – All Sub-District positions are open for ADCMs.

A summary of positions is available at https://aatampa.org/service-opportunity/

Please come to the District 2 monthly business meeting; for more information, see calendar at https://aatampa.org/

will be able to look back, learn, laugh, and gain a greater appreciation of what A.A. was like "back then."

Betsy continued the interview with discussion of her service work experience in AA:

Betsy was introduced to General Service through a **Traditions and Concepts** meeting. While she could not remember exactly what was said, something about service and A.A. history sparked her interest.

The meeting chairperson suggested she consider standing for GSR at their home group. "I followed that suggestion and became a GSR in mid-2015. Since then, I have had the opportunity to serve as a DCM, GSR Orientation Coordinator, Literature Chairperson, Registrar, and currently Archives Chairperson…I do have one regret regarding General Service: and that is I did not get involved sooner!"

Betsy has been in general service for ten and a half years and her favorite position was "without question, **General Service Representative.** Serving as a GSR gave me a deep appreciation for A.A.'s General Service structure and the "upside-down triangle" that makes our Fellowship unique. It was a privilege to carry my home group's conscience to the district, area assemblies, and ultimately through our delegate to the General Service Conference." Additionally Besty enjoyed the aspects of fellowship in the District 2 in-person business meetings at Club 3333, GSR workshops, Traditions and Concepts sessions, and yes, even Area business meetings. She still remembers attending her first Area assembly and being amazed during roll call by the number of A.A. members represented across South Florida! "It was a tremendous learning experience. My home group would probably confirm that my early GSR reports were much too long and that they were greatly relieved when I eventually discovered the value of bullet points." 😊

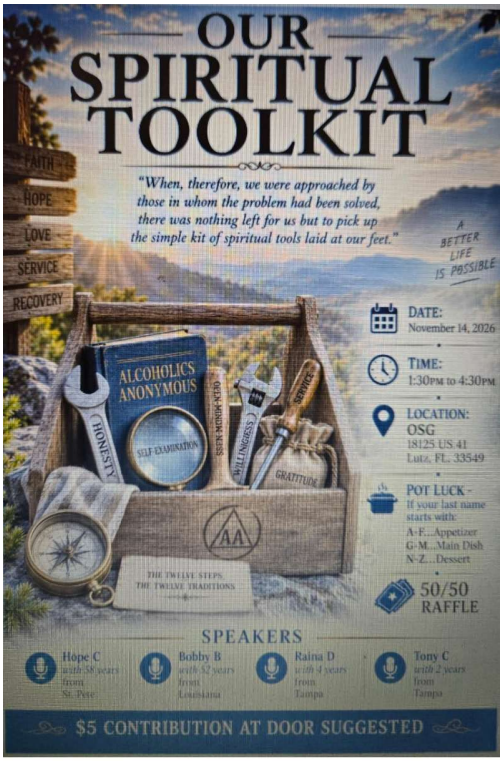
A few highlights for Betsy this year were the **2026 Florida Archives Workshop** which featured several outstanding presentations, including the presentation on women in A.A. history that inspired the committee's "**Women of the Big Book"** display. The workshop also featured impressive displays prepared by archivists and archives committees from South Florida to the Panhandle that provided fresh ideas and led to revamping the **Early A.A. History Display Board.**

CONCEPT 11

AA World Services Concept 11 - Source: AA.ORG

The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.





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At the August **Florida State Convention** several members of our committee staffed the Archives Room and I along with others, gathered volunteers to assist visitors to the Archives Room. We all enjoyed attending several workshops focused on the history of A.A. in Florida.

Betsy recalled "Our archives display at the **Tampa Bay Fall Round Up** was well visited, and we greatly appreciated everyone who stopped by. The committee also received a donation of several early A.A.-related books and, for the first time at both the Round Up and in District 2, collected a Big Book signed by convention attendees, creating a unique historical keepsake for future members."

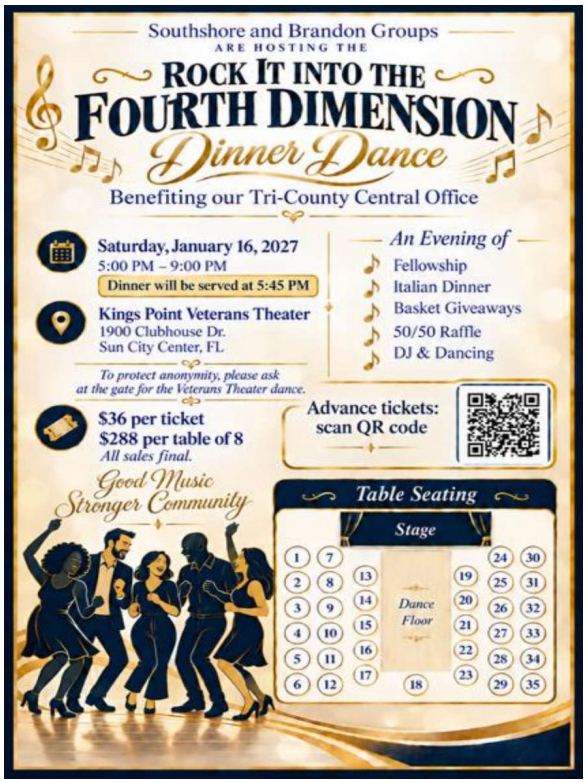
Our thanks to Betsy for the thoroughly enjoyable interview. Betsy is pleasant to work with and we hope you get to meet her if you haven't already!

TRI COUNTY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

$10 DECEMBER 12TH 8AM TO 10AM

301 HOUSE – 8601 BOWLES ROAD

For more events and information, please go to https://aatampa-area.org/



SOBER EVENTS AND SERVICE

District 2 Business Meeting (all welcome): Sunday, December 6, 3pm Club 3333

New: Step Meeting Palma Ceia Fridays 8pm

New Group: The Big Book Hour Group – Wednesdays 10-11am, Club Yana

New: SponsorTron Big Book Old School Group Fridays 7:30pm

District 2 Gratitude Dinner Palma Ceia Church $25 11/7 SOLD OUT

Red Chip Day - 11/8 2PM Brandon Presbyterian. Proceeds go to Central Office

The Spiritual Toolkit 1:30 - 4:30 11/14 - Old School Group Workshop

Pre-Registration for 2027 44th FCYPAA (TAMPA is Hosting)

2027 9th Florida Archives Workshop 02/20/2027 Lakeland, FL sponsored by Areas 1, 14, & 15


TAMPA'S
RED CHIP DAY
A Long-Standing Tradition of Gratitude & Fellowship
ONE DAY AT A TIME
TAMPA
Guest Speaker: Kat M.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026 • 2:00 PM
Sobriety Countdown • Fellowship • Raffle & More!
PLEASE BRING A DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE
APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH
200 Kingsway Rd., Brandon, FL 33510
A Tampa Tradition Since 1947
What began as the DeSoto Group's anniversary banquet has grown into Red Chip Day—a beloved annual celebration honoring sobriety, fellowship, and gratitude.
All proceeds benefit Central Office.


ALPHA CLUB PRESENTS
CHILI COOK-OFF
SUNDAY November 8th, 2026
11:30AM Setup
12:00PM - 3:00PM
Steve W SPEAKER @1:30PM
50/50 raffle
Hot Prize for the best chili!
1st place: $200 Amazon gift card
$5 DONATION
Sobriety Countdown
Limited Spots- email to enter
tampaalphagroup@gmail.com
BRING THE HEAT!
WHERE: ALPHA CLUB 4418 N. HUBERT AVE TAMPA, FL 33614
PLEASE BRING A SMALL DESSERT OR CHILI SIDE: CORNBREAD, ONIONS, CHEESE, SOUR CREAM, APPS.


AA GRAPEVINE AND LITERATURE COMMITTEES PRESENT
CARRY THE MESSAGE EVENT
Tell YOUR Story!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
2 P.M. - 4 P.M.
CLUB YANA
SUBMIT YOUR STORY TO THE GRAPEVINE
BBQ + BEVERAGES
FELLOWSHIP
GAMES
SPEAKERS
LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 5TH EDITION BIG BOOK
PLUS CHANCES TO WIN VINTAGE GRAPEVINES!
BRING A SIDE OR DESSERT
QUESTIONS? CONTACT (585) 7757291


Craft Show & Yard Sale
FUNDRAISER
for
301 House
8601 Bowles Road
Tampa 33637
YARD SALE
Handmade Crafts
NOVEMBER 14, 2026
8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Setup 7:00 am
$15 with your table
$20 we provide table
Per Space
To pre-register contact
Sherri Hatcher
(352)408-6914
1 free breakfast