

Central Office
910-678-8002
310 Green St., Suite
201, Box 14
Fayetteville, NC 28301
Office hours: 10 a.m.
to 2 p.m. Tuesdays
and Thursdays

Upcoming Events

April 6

Central Pre-
Conference, noon to 4
p.m., Southern Pines
First Baptist Church,
200 E. New York Ave.,
Southern Pines. For
flyer go to aanorthcarolina.org.

* * *

April 7

Spanish Pre-
Conference, noon to 4
p.m., 29 W. Lemon St.,
Coats. For flyer go to
aanorthcarolina.org.

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May 19

Spring Fellowship
and District 51 meet-
ing at Sandalwood.
Meeting at 1 p.m.
speaker at 2 p.m., fel-
lowship at 3 p.m.

* * *

June 8

BCR-CO Founders
Day celebration will
be held at Peace Pres-
byterian Church,
3202 Ramsey St.,
Fayetteville. From 1

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The Common Bond

The Newsletter of the Bladen, Cumberland and Robeson Central Office

April –May 2019

BCR-CO financial needs addressed at meeting

BCR-CO Chairwoman Kate S., gave the following report on the state of the organization's finances at the council meeting on March 20:

"Since we have not had a treasurer since November, I've been creating the report for a few months. It's not good news. We have been spending more than we're getting. I went through records from the July 2016-2018 period, took the totals, and divided by the number of months to get some numbers to use as a budget. It's in your handouts, and it is not pretty.

One thing that is missing, and several people have brought this up before, is the value of our existing literature inventory. That would change the bottom line some. Still, we need to encourage more participation and donations if we are to stay afloat.

"I would like to see us keep a copy of the minutes and the Council and Board handouts in each month's file, so we have a historical record. We have not always done so, and we could really use the information. I'm making a file of things a chair needs to know, as I discover

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Art and pictures courtesy of Courtesy of Common Core/Bing

Central Office Board

Chairman
Kate S.
Vice chairman
Johnny V.
Treasurer
Jay O.
At-Large members
Bladen
Vacant
Cumberland
Jerry T.
Robeson
Vacant
Office manager/
secretary
Doreene B.

Council

Agnostics & Others
Vacant
Central Group
Jackie M.
Sandalwood
Billy B.
Back to Basics
Dan. A
Bare Bones
Richard A.
ODAT
Jon F.
Fort Bragg
Michael
Freedom in Growth
Leah W.
Keep It Simple
Jackie W.
New Freedom

101 Big Book

Principles Group
Charles K.
Pine Run

Sandalwood
Grace M.
Seekers of Sobriety

Spring Into Action
Anne S.
There is a Solution
Bryan Z.
Village Group
Sylvia E.
Walking the Same Path
Alexis L.
Women of Quality
Candice B.

DISTRICT 51

Pre-Conference discussed, new Big Book in works

Assistant DCM Brenna O., who chaired the District 51 meeting on March 17 announced that a new edition of the Big Book is in the works, but that a release date has not been set.

She also encouraged attendance at the Central Pre-Conference on April 6 where she noted changing the rules on Conference Approved materials will be discussed.

The Pre-Conference will be at Southern Pines Baptist Church, 600 E. New York Ave., Southern Pines.

She also informed groups that the

Meeting Guide app is conference approved. Discussion also included getting the district's schedule on the app.

Former BCR-CO chairman Dave C., said that the Council approved membership last year and technical work is still continuing on converting schedule to meet the standards.

The district will hold the Spring Fellowship and meeting at Sandalwood on Sunday May 19. The district meeting will be at 1 p.m., a speaker will be at 2 p.m. and fellowship will be at 3 p.m.

Calendar

p.m. to 8 p.m. Games, workshops and a speaker planned.

June 13

Deadline for pre-registration and hotel reservations for the 72nd North Carolina State Convention, July 11-14 at Hilton Raleigh North Park, 3415 Wade Ave, off I-440 Beltline at Exit 10. Pre-registration is \$20, after that \$25. For schedule, hotel information and more go to aanorthcarolina.org.

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June 21-23

Area 51 Spring Committee meeting and General Assembly, Hilton Raleigh North Hills, 3415 Wake Ave., Exit 10 off I-440 Beltline. Committee meetings on Friday for member only. Assembly begins 12:30 p.m. on Saturday and ends 11:30 p.m. on Sunday. Open to all A.A. members. See aanorthcarolina.org and click on events for flyer and reservation information.

Make contact with the Central Office

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Finances

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what those things are.

“Finally, we need an accountant. If you know of anyone in the program who might be willing to help for a reduced cost, please let me know.”

Members of the former board of directors had discussed with Kate S., the state of the Central Office’s finances and their concerns over a lack of a budget. Kate S. then went through the office’s documents to put together her report.

Since the Central Office took over from the old intergroup, finances have been a continuing problem and the organization has often lacked the funds it needed to carry out some of its duties. Most of the time, the Central Office has just scraped by.

The idea of the Central Office came about, because of questions over legal issues the Intergroup faced and a lack of funding.

The question then becomes whether the groups want a Central Office, what they’re willing to do to support it and whether it wants to drop some functions.

As Kate noted, the Central Office’s largest asset is its literature. Yet the selling of literature brings in little profit. It’s biggest seller, the hardbound Big Book is sold at cost to the groups.

The largest expense is the office itself. Besides paying for the space, a manager must be paid, taxes must be paid, a phone line and internet connection are needed, and the office is required to have insurance.

The Central Office also maintains a hotline, meeting schedule, and a website that includes the meeting schedule, announcements and the Common Bond. Most of these functions are done by volunteers



and the Common Bond is not printed, but posted online, where members can download it, to save money.

During the meeting, it was suggested that those groups that didn’t have any money to contribute but wanted to help, could hold a second collection once a month to give the Central Office.

Until now, the office has had no official budget. Documents Kate gave to the groups present, outlines what that budget should be.

There will be many choices that groups will need to make as to what services that groups want in the community.

Meeting dates changes

In other action, Kate proposed changing the meeting times for the Council and the Board of Directors from the third Wednesday of the month to the first Sunday of the month.

An amendment to the By Laws changing the board meeting to 1:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of even numbered months was adopted.

An amendment to change the Council meetings to 1:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of odd numbered months will be voted on by the Council at its meeting on May 15.

A.A. BIRTHDAYS

- April 1**
Russell J. – 23
- April 4**
Victoria J. – 14
- April 8**
Frank N. – 18
Jerry T. – 18
- April 11**
Donny W. – 17
Paula B. – 24
Kay C. – 22
Willie B. – 11
- April 13**
Cliff B. – 28
Ann H. – 20
Ron H. – 11
- April 14**
Mark P. – 35
- April 15**
Bill D. – 14
- April 18**
Jennifer C. – 9
- April 21**
Bernard – 10
- April 22**
Tom Mc – 15
- April 23**
Jim C. – 21
- April 24**
Anni – 18
Jason S – 10
- April 28**
Wayne C. – 29



Send your birthdays, with first name and last initial, date and first year of sobriety to bcrcentraloffice@embarqmail.com or commonbond2011@gmail.com.

- April 30**
Tiffany K. – 3
- May 1**
Kenny F. – 18
Joyce L. – 12
Royce – 12
- May 5**
Rae E. – 42
Gerry L. – 13
- May 7**
Mike B. – 20
- May 10**
Jack L. – 35
William – 35
- May 15**
James H. – 13
Sonja H. – 19

- May 17**
Ty G. – 25
- May 19**
Brandon L. – 10
- May 20**
Stephanie F. – 13
- May 21**
April F. – 9
- May 22**
Aaron J. – 9
- May 24**
Eric E. – 14
- May 27**
John B. – 29
- May 28**
Audrey – 8
- May 31**
Megan G. – 18

Council elects new BCR-CO officers

The Council elected two officers for two-year terms at its March meeting.

Jay O. of the New Freedom group was elected treasurer, filling a vacant position. Jay has served as a GSR on the District 51 board. The position most recently was held by Dave C. of the Central Group, filling in last year after Cary D. resigned the position.

Jerry T. of One Day At A Time, was elected as the Cumberland County representative. He replaces Carl S., whose term had expired. Jerry also served on the Council and was chairman last year of the Founders Day celebration.

Sober thoughts

(Helpful quotes for the AA way of life)

All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them.

— Galileo Galilei

The Promised Land always lies on the other side of a wilderness.

— Havelock Ellis

Financial Report for February 2019

Beginning Balance	\$2,565.13	02/25 Grapevine	74.00	I-95 Group	0	0
Date Contrib Sales Tax Total		02/25 AAWS	599.53	Keep Coming Back	0	0
02/07 76.64 354.18 24.80 455.62		Total	\$853.66	Keep It Simple	31.66	31.66
02/14 0 40.98 2.87 43.85		Beginning balance	2,565.13	The Recovery Group	0	0
02/21 0 406.69 28.47 435.16		Deposit subtotal	934.63	Middle Cape Fear	0	0
Total Deposit	\$934.63	Checking account	2,103.49	New Beginnings	0	0
Expenses: Checks Paid		Founders' Day Funds		New Freedom	0	0
02/08 Payroll	105.12	Prudent reserve/savings		ODAT	0	63.88
02/08 Rent	240.83	Checking account	\$1,396.27	Pine Run Drive	0	0
02/11 Wilmington AIG	418.81	Ending balance	\$1,396.27	Principles Group	0	0
02/14 Payroll	105.13	Deposits/ payments +/-	-\$1,168.86	Restoration Group	0	0
02/19 Recovery shop	30.70	Contributions		Road Not Taken	0	0
02/28 IRS	107.22	Past month		Sandalwood Group	0	0
02/28 N.C. Dept. of Revenue	136.90	Agnostics & Others	0	Spring Into Action	0	0
02/28 Payroll	105.12	Bare Bones Group	0	SOS Group	0	0
Total	\$1,249.83	Central Group	44.98	Staying Sober	0	0
Expenses: Debits		Fairmont Group	0	Tar Hill	0	0
02/07 Deposit difference	9.00	Freedom In Growth	0	There Is A Solution	0	0
02/14 CenturyLink	122.74	Firing Line	0	Village Group	0	0
02/22 Hotline	48.39	Fort Bragg	0	Walking The Same Path	0	0
				Totals	\$76.64	\$306.27