

Central Office
910-678-8002
310 Green St.
Fayetteville, NC
28301
Website:
fayaa.org

The Common Bond

The Newsletter of the Cumberland and Robeson Central Office

December 2014

Upcoming Events

Nov. 26-30

Sandalwood alcothon starts at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 26, and runs through 4 p.m. Nov. 30. Thanksgiving Day dinner at 2 p.m.

Nov. 27

Central Group will have a Thanksgiving Day dinner at 1:30 p.m. at the Alco Club, 104 German St., Fayetteville. See Page 2.

Dec. 24-25

Alcothon at Sandalwood begins Christmas Eve at 5:30 p.m. and runs through 5:30 p.m. New Year's Day. Christmas Eve play at 7 p.m., followed by Santa Christmas Day dinner at 2 p.m. See Page 3.

Dec. 31-Jan 1

Alcothon at Sandalwood (began on Christmas Eve) ends 5:30 p.m. New Year's Day.

Jan. 18

District 51 Committee meeting. 3 p.m. Alco Club, 104 German St., Fayetteville.

Jan. 21

Cumberland and Robeson Central Office Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., 310 Green St., Fayetteville.

Special gift: Try taking a pleasant inventory

All humans are created with innate gifts from G-d. In our book we are admonished to look at our "character defects" in our written inventory on page 64. We are also admonished to inventory our strengths as well.

While I've talked to a multitude of folks about inventories, I've yet to meet more than one hand's fingers full of these who have formally — or even informally — taken stock of "one's strengths." It would be interesting to meditate, carefully and reflectively, concerning the reasons for this. If my mentor, the editor of this newsletter, should think it agreeable I'll do this.

Back to the topic of strengths. The book gives little guidance in this en-

deavor. In the thought prayer and meditation Living Faith for October 25, 2014 the author Fr. Kenneth E. Grabnet, C.S.C., gives one approach. I quote:

"Our unique talents are God's gifts, and he guides us in the way we use them. For me, this guidance comes through silent prayer and the inspirations that arrive when I most need them. Usually that

won't happen if I allow myself to become overly upset. Only a quiet trusting heart can pick up on the guidance God wants to give."

So there are several things in the above to guide us. When we get guidance in our eleventh step perhaps we should look for a strength. Also when "we face indecision ... we relax and take it easy" page 86;

Continued on page 3



Central Office Board

Chairman
Ray V.
Vice chairman
Duncan K.
Treasurer
Dave C.
At-Large members
Cumberland
Mike E.
Robeson
Thomas E.
Office manager/secretary
Linda C.

Council

Central Group
Charlotte S.
Sandalwood
Wayne C.
Back to Basics
Dan. A.
Bare Bones
(vacant)
ODAT
Jeff W.
Fort Bragg
Michael
Freedom in Growth
Amanda K.
Keep It Simple
Liz M.
Principles Group:
Charles K.
Little Group
Cass C.
Pine Run
Craig
Seekers of Sobriety
Darlene D.
Spring Into Action
Mark P.
S.U.R.E
Jeff
Turning Point
Syndi

Services

Hotline
Charlotte S.
Webmaster
Jim H.
Common Bond editor
Dave C.



District 51 committee elects new officers for 2015

The District 51 committee held its election of officers at its meeting on Nov. 16 at the Alco Club in Fayetteville.

Scott D., currently assistant district committee member, was elected to succeed John B. as the next district committee member. Scott is a member of the Keep It Simple Group in Hope Mills. His other new officers terms of office are 2 years.

Other elected officers are:

Assistant District Committee Member – Kate of Freedom in Growth

Treasurer – Corey B. of Keep It Simple

Secretary – Kathy of Sandalwood

CPC/PI coordinator – Dorothy of Sandalwood
Corrections Facilities coordinator – John B. of Central

Treatment Facilities coordinator – Allen

Grapevine – John of Turning Point

Besides the DCM other outgoing officers were Treasurer David C. of Bare Bones, Secretary Wanda P. Central Group, CPC/CI coordinator Aryn of Central Group, and Corrections coordinator Tracy E.

The committee thanked and applauded them for their service.

The next committee meeting will be at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Alco Club at 104 German St., in Fayetteville.

TFC

The Treatment Facilities Committee coordinator Allen reported that he is expecting the first Bridge the Gap contact soon. Bridge the Gap is an AA program to put people coming out of treatment and corrections facilities in touch with local AA members as mentors

Alco Thanksgiving

The Central Group will host Thanksgiving Day dinner at 1:30 p.m. at the Alco Club, 104

German St., Fayetteville. Contact the Alco Club for more information.

Meetings

The Fort Bragg Group is down to one evening meeting at 8 p.m. on Saturdays. Its noon meetings are unchanged.

The Pine Run Group in Lumberton has moved to 4303 Lovegate St. Its Thursday morning meeting has been canceled.

Groups with meeting changes are asked to inform the Central Office.

Treasurer's report

The committee agreed to disburse the remaining \$856.24 in unspent funds from the past fiscal year which ended May 31 in accordance with AA traditions. Half the money will go to the GSO and half will go to the Cumberland and Robeson Central Office. The extra funds built up over several years.

Make contact with the Central Office

Common Bond editor: commonbond2011@gmail.com
Fayaa.org webmaster: webmaster@fayaa.org
Central Office: bcrcentraloffice@embarqmail.com
also info@fayaa.org
Hotline: 910-678-8737
Snail mail: 310 Green St. Fayetteville, NC 28301



Pleasant inventory Continued from Page 1

thus stilling our hearts to calmness. Further, I must trust. Another is I will get them when I need them, pages 63 and 86. G-d will raise these qualities up to serve him and our fellows, and sometimes ourselves.

For more on this, one might also look to selfish use of perfectly good traits. I once saw my ability to teach the Big Book as hubris and was told repeatedly that this was, in truth, overweening pride. In my meditations over time, G-d showed me quite clearly and convincingly that this was a gift and that he would not remove this since it served him and my fellows. So sometimes our character assets are misperceived and

we want to be rid of them because we want to avoid our given gifts so as to please others and prevent exclusion by our little groups.

Look to see if you have compassion, generosity, courage (both moral, spiritual, intellectual, and least of all physical), fidelity, honesty, trustworthiness and, and well you get the picture now I'm sure. So go and do a pleasant inventory for a change, don't forget to share with another and praise your G-d for the new found gifts. I pray for you as I write this, pray for me when you read it.

– Carl Anonym

Sandalwood sets alcohons; holiday celebrations planned

Sandalwood is offering a place to celebrate the coming holidays with fellowship among AA members.

The Fayetteville group will once again be holding alcohons over Thanksgiving weekend and from Christmas Eve until New Year's Day.

Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day dinners will also be held.

The festivities begin Nov. 26 (the night before Thanksgiving) when the alcohon kicks off at 8 p.m. The building will stay open throughout the event. It ends at 4 p.m. Sunday (Nov. 30).

Dinner on Thanksgiving Day will be at 2 p.m. Sandalwood will provide meat and drinks, but guests are asked to bring a dessert or side dish. An angel tree for Christmastime will also be put up that day.

For the Christmas holidays a special Christmas Eve celebration, which is especially for kids, is planned. The regular 5:30 and 8 p.m. meetings will not be held. The alcohon will begin at 5:30 p.m. A short Christmas play (about 20 to 30 minutes long) will be performed at 7 p.m. Santa will arrive at its end and presents will be distributed.

Christmas Day dinner will be at 2 p.m. Guests are requested to bring a side dish. Meat and drinks will be provided.

The alcohon will continue through 5 p.m. New Year's Day.

Sober thoughts

(Helpful quotes for the AA way of life)

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you?"

– William A. Ward

The struggle ends when the gratitude begins.

– Neale Donald Walsch

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance.

– Khalil Gibran

Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: it must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all.

– William Faulkner

Gratitude is an art of painting an adversity into a lovely picture.

– Kak Sri

A.A. BIRTHDAYS



Celebrate sobriety with us

Would your group like to add its members to our birthday celebration list?

Send your sobriety dates to us at commobond2011@gmail.com.

Include name, date and year of sobriety. The names will be added to our list (we'll do the math on which birthday it is).

Dec. 2
Chris G. – 26
Dec. 3
Carole V. – 23
Brian C. – 2
Dec. 4
Kenneth L. – 12
Dec. 5
Dody H. – 43
Dec. 6
Nat T. – 35
Dec. 10
Nathan D. – 15
Dec. 11
Julie C. – 10
Dec. 12
Beverly R. – 18
Glenn L. – 4
Audrey – 3
Joel L. – 3
Dec. 13
Krista C. – 7
Dec. 15
Sherry B. – 7
Dec. 16
Gene G. – 29
Sherry B. – 17
Dec. 17
Judy S. – 8
Dec. 18
Osh – 6
Red M. – 27
Dec. 19
Warren B. – 12
Dec. 20
Tracy C. – 9

Dec. 21
Rusty V. – 8
Dec. 22
Bob W. – 26
Jena H. – 7
Jenna H. – 6
Dec., 24
Jerold B. – 10
Dec. 25
Rick L. – 3
Dec. 26
Carolyn L. – 14
Michael C. – 3
Dec. 29
Robert K. – 6
Ben. C – 5

Dec. 30
Pat G. – 24
Jan. 1
Andrea HR – 36
Bill B. – 14
Dorothy C. – 14
Joe V. – 11
Jan. 2
Deb F. – 26
Ike H. – 7
Stuart P. – 8
Jan. 4
Adam J. – 10
Larry H. – 7
Jan. 5
Sammy W. – 19

Jan. 6
Teresa V. – 8
Jan. 7
Patti F. – 20
Jan. 8
Angie G. – 27
Bob H. – 13
Jim B. – 28
Jim H. – 6
Mark M. – 6
Megan A. – 6
Jan. 9
Jennifer B. – 17
Sam C. – 8
Jan. 10
Clark B. – 27

Joseph F. – 8
Jack B. – 8
Jan. 11
Mary Catherine – 13
Mike P. – 6
Sharon B. – 16
Jan. 13
Brenda F. – 7
Jan. 14
David C. – 21
Jan. 15
Lauren B. – 15
Jan. 16
Alvin M. – 14
Kristin G. – 10
Louise G. – 30
Randy W. – 36
Wayne J. – 17
Jan. 17
Marcia R. – 24
Jan. 20
Mike S. – 7
Jan. 21
Mark B. – 12
Jan. 22
Linda G. – 6
Jan. 23
Carey D. – 10
Jan. 25
Amyn A. – 12
Jan. 30
Daniel M. – 19
Dawn M. – 6
Jan. 31
Dunkin K. – 34
Beverly R. – 17

Online Resources for Sobriety

Here are some website that can provide information on sobriety, meetings, AA history and such.

Cumberland and Robeson Central Office: fayaa.org

District 51 meeting schedule: fayaa.org

Alcoholics Anonymous (Everything AA. including online meetings): aa.org

Grapevine (includes info on subscriptions, also national events calendar): aagrapevine.org

Area 51 (State committee): aanorthcarolina.org

Silkworth.net (Not affiliated with AA, some AA history): Silkworth.net

Financial Report for October 2014

Date	Contrib	Sales	Tax	Total						
Beginning Balance				3,663.85						
10/09	273.71	647.50	45.33	966.54	10/30 Creative Arts Unlimited	10.00	Campground Grp	0	0	40.00
10/16	5.00	277.85	19.45	302.30		461.46	Central Group	121.72	25.71	950.73
10/30		97.68	6.84	104.52	Expenses: Debits		Freedom In Growth	0	0	258.50
				1,714.21	10/02 Prudent Reserve Transfer	40.00	Fort Bragg	0	0	355.00
					10/06 StraightTalk (Hotline)	46.81	Kiss Grp	0	248.00	461.50
					10/14 CCF (Rent)	240.83	Keeping It Real	0	0	0
					10/16 CenturyLink (Office)	120.65	Little Grp	0	0	66.00
					10/29 Sober Camel (Medallion)	10.12	Turning Point	0	0	59.48
Expenses: Checks Paid						458.41	Principles Grp	89.44	0	30.00
Expenses: Checks Paid						458.41	Spring Into Action	0	0	750.00
10/15 Payroll				105.13	Prudent Reserves/Savings	880.63	SOS Grp	0	20	335.74
10/27 Payroll				105.12	Founder's Day Contribution	2,140.53	Sandalwood Grp	0	0	475.00
10/28 Recovery Accents				40.10	Checking Acct	1,136.18	Unity Grp	0	0	0
10/28 Recovery Accents				11.75	Ending Balance	4,157.34	ODAT	0	0	1,559.34
10/30 Creative Arts Unlimited				17.20	Contributions		Walking Same Path	0	0	0
10/28 Hazelden				52.31						
10/31 Wilmington Intergroup				119.85	Bare Bones Group	0	0	0		