

CASA NEWS

MY EXPERIENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Submitted by Andy J.

So Patty B. and I made the road trip to Atlanta on the July 4th weekend to experience the International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous, and we both agree that it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience not to be missed.

It was such a mind-boggling and chaotic convention that's its hard to describe in narrative form in one newsletter, so I'll just break it down into sound bites.

The People

Put simply? A LOT OF THEM. There were over 70,000 AA member from (I heard) over 35 countries in attendance. Everywhere you looked in Atlanta there seemed to be AA's with the blue lanyards around their necks, signifying their attendance. As a result, it was very, very crowded at times. Long lines at the coffee stations, longer lines at the restrooms and people everywhere. At times it was overwhelming and we often took breaks just to relax. However, kudos to the organizers and volunteers because it was probably the most organized and efficient convention I've ever attended. Despite the people and the lines, there were always helping hands to guide you, cheer you on, make you laugh — just like in an AA meeting, really. It was amazing to see how the spirit of AA can come alive in such a state of spectacle and crowds, but it was definitely there.

The Programs & Speakers

The programs that we were able to attend were fantastic. Unfortunately, we learned that it's best to really plan ahead to ensure a seat in some of the bigger more popular sessions. Several times throughout the weekend we showed up to a meeting and were turned away because they were full. Because of the crowds and the intense engagement of everyone, this scenario played out more than once. The meetings we WERE able to attend, though, were everything we expected and more. They typically had 3 speakers who shared on a singular topic. Throughout the three days, there were topics for everyone ranging from Traditions to Anonymity to Sex, Security and Society to Young People in AA to LGBT and much more.

The Shopping

The convention covered several city blocks in Atlanta, and there was a "Sober Village" of vendors that was very similar to a street fair. Except that all the shopping and gifts were Recovery-focused. If you needed anything from a charm bracelet to a Big Book cover to speaker tapes to more T-shirts than you can possibly imagine, it was all there in the 'Sober Village', complete with funnel cakes. And coffee. Lots of coffee.

The Bottom Line

Patty and I drove away from Atlanta with one primary conviction: that we were part of something way bigger than what we may have previously understood. Seeing meetings and fellow AA's from all over the world, sitting in a stadium of 70K people all saying the Serenity Prayer, and walking away with a bigger understanding of the universal nature of our fellowship. We are indeed a global family.

CASA BOARD MESSAGE

From the CASA Board of Directors, June 30, 2015.

TIME IS ON OUR SIDE. THE WOLF IS NOT AT THE DOOR!

Dear CASA Members,

This is a summary of the remarks and board consensus from the June 10, 2015 CASA board of directors meeting.

Jack S. and **Gary S.** learned at a meeting on June 8th with Nancy Linnan (*environmental attorney*) that (1.) CASA has until next summer, 2016, to obtain the required environmental permit, and (2.) by filing for said permit by next summer, the building process can be extended out until 2019. This is good news because fundraising for the building has not reached goals that were set. This allows more time to raise funds and complete the building project.

To date \$41,243 has been raised for the Building Fund. From that CASA has spent \$4,919 on engineering/building plans that can be used going forward. Clearly funds have been raised, but unfortunately not enough to complete the project within a year. CASA will be able to access the Marion Brown Funds (*invested*) once ground is broken on a new structure (*approximately \$69,000.*)

New leaders are needed in the area of fundraising. CASA is also seeking a new point person for construction planning. Jack S. will remain a donor but will not continue as the point man on the building. Another CASA member or a member of the board is sought to manage a new planning team. The building planning team might consist of 3 or 4 people. A committed group of 25 individuals ideally is needed to bring the building process to completion, to provide funding and leadership support for raising funds. We have more time to raise the required funding for a building which will ultimately cost around \$300,000.

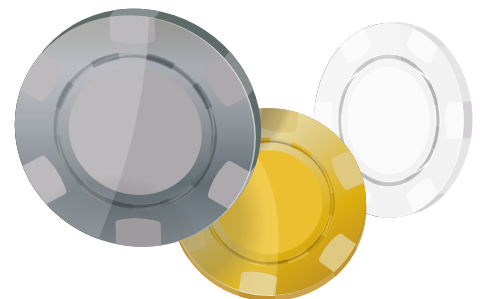
Our thanks and gratitude to Jack S. for the marvelous service and support he has provided to CASA and to the building project. **Mark H.** is doing a great job managing the funds for CASA operations and the building fund. We are grateful also to **Kim P.** who is doing a fine job as Assistant Treasurer. And let us not forget to thank **Kathy R.** who completed our CASA IRS 990 form. Also we are grateful to Gary S. who has provided experience and expertise on building related matters.

The next board meeting is scheduled for July 15th. Please attend and invite others to come. A new approach and a new style are needed. Anyone who specializes in “persuasive messaging” is urged to attend.

Please help CASA to identify individuals who want to help! Let's bring in new folks (and some younger ones, too) as leaders on the board of CASA. Let us be successful in all that we do in the spirit of CASA, our “Clubhouse Association of Sober Alcoholics!”

JOIN US FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING – 7:30 PM, WED. JULY 15TH

Sobriety birthdays are celebrated the last Friday of each month. Bring a covered dish at 6:00pm, and we'll hear from our celebrants starting at 6:30!



CASA 12, INC. MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBER INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Telephone (cell) _____

E-mail _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES

I prefer to pay: ☐ Annually (\$100) **Best Value!**

☐ Semi-Annually (\$50)

☐ Monthly (\$10)

Signature _____

Date _____

Please make checks payable to **CASA 12, Inc.**
Payments (*along with this form*) can either be mailed to the
address below or placed in an envelope in the clubhouse safe,
or to to casa12inc.org and pay your dues online.

CASA 12, INC.

P.O. BOX 12391

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-2391

Thank you for your support!.



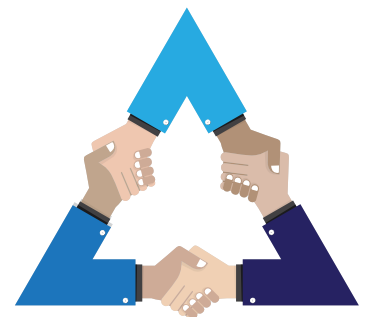
CASA BREAKFAST

Breakfast takes place the **second Sunday of every month** from 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Feast on the best custom-made omelets prepared by **Mark H.**

Please bring a side dish like hash browns, sausage, bacon, fruit, etc. Help with setting up and cleaning up is always needed and appreciated... so get there early and stay late.

It's only \$3.00 for CASA members & \$5.00 for all others. **It's the best deal in town!**



CASA BOARD MEETINGS

WED, JULY 15 AT 7:30

WED, AUGUST 12 AT 7:30

The CASA Board meets on the **second Wednesday night of every month** at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend, and your input is welcome. Please join us!

**CASA 12, INC. BUILDING FUND
PLEDGE FORM****DONOR INFORMATION** (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Telephone (cell) _____

E-mail _____

PLEDGE INFORMATION

I (we) pledge \$_____ to be paid: ☐ Monthly
☐ Quarterly
☐ Yearly

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

Please make checks payable to **CASA 12, Inc. Building Fund**.
Payments (*along with this form*) can either be mailed to the below
address or placed in an envelope in the clubhouse safe, or go to
casa12inc.org and make your building donations online.

CASA 12, INC. BUILDING FUND

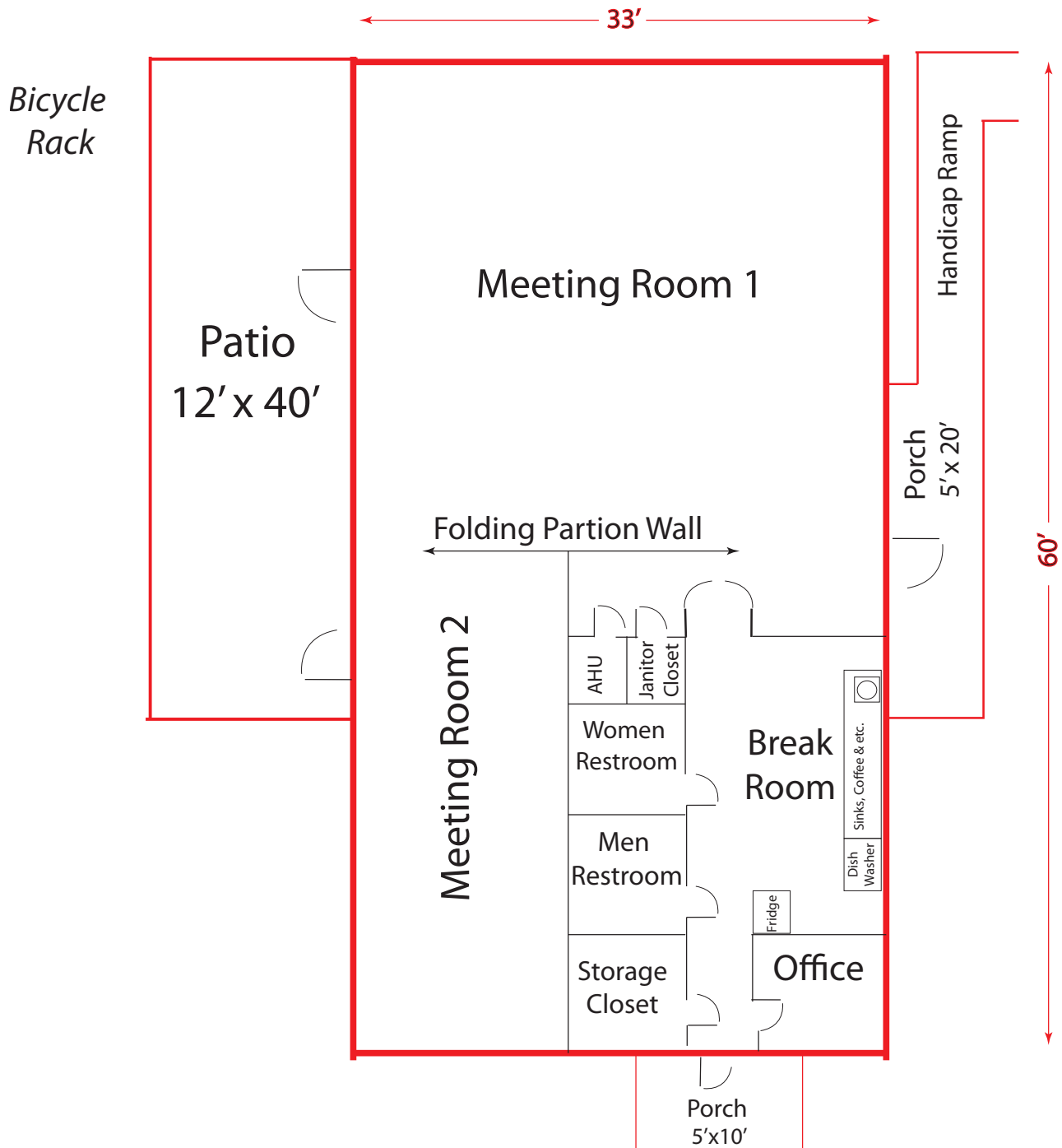
**P.O. BOX 12391
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-2391**

**Contributions are tax-deductable and will go toward the
purchase of a permanent Clubhouse Building for CASA 12, Inc.
Thank you for your support.**

DESIGN DRAWING OF CASA PROPERTY AND NEW BUILDING (DRAFT)

Submitted by Will E.

Casa-12 ***Proposed Building***



MEETINGS AT CASA-12, INC.

2410 MONDAY ROAD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301

MONDAY

7:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
12:30 p.m. – 1. Living Sober 12 & 12 AA meeting
12:30 p.m. – 2. Al-Anon meeting (*Casita*)
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA meeting

TUESDAY

7:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
12:30 p.m. – Living Sober AA meeting
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA meeting

WEDNESDAY

7:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
12:30 p.m. – Living Sober AA meeting
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA – Speaker meeting

THURSDAY

7:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
10:30 a.m. – Tears & Laughter Women's AA meeting
12:30 p.m. – Living Sober AA meeting
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA meeting – (*Closed Meeting*)

FRIDAY

7:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact Open AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
12:30 p.m. – 1. Living Sober AA meeting
12:30 p.m. – 2. Al-Anon meeting (*Casita*)
6:15 p.m. – 1. Step-Sisters (*Casita*) *On the last Friday of each month, Step-Sisters meets at 5:15 p.m.*
6:15 p.m. – 2. Happy Hour AA meeting *

*** THE LAST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH:** *CASA's Sobriety Birthday Meeting celebrates those attending Living Sober, Happy Hour, Step-Sisters or Conscious Contact AA meetings. Covered dish dinner starts at 6:00 p.m., followed by celebrants sharing their stories of recovery 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (Open Meeting.)*

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – Meditation (*Casita*)
11:00 a.m. – Living Sober AA meeting
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA meeting – 12 & 12 Step Study
7:30 p.m. – Game Night!

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. – Conscious Contact AA meeting – (*Meditation*) *
** On the 2nd Sunday of each month, Conscious Contact meets at 8:00 a.m.*
CASA BREAKFAST from 9:30 – 10:30 A.M. on the 2nd Sunday of Each Month
11:00 a.m. – Living Sober AA meeting
6:15 p.m. – Happy Hour AA meeting – Half and Half Book Study
8:00 p.m. – Miracle Group AA meeting

To receive this newsletter by email, contact **Chris B.** at: casa12news@gmail.com and you will be placed on the anonymous distribution list. To submit content, please contact **Amy H.** at: amyhen05@yahoo.com.