

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

Sept. 20

District 51 board
meeting.

Oct. 11

Prepare for Area 51
Fall Assembly on
Zoom from 3 to 5
p.m. See below for
Assembly dates. More
information at
aanorthcarolina.org.

Oct. 30-Nov. 1

Area 51 Fall Commit-
tee, Assembly and
Election meetings. Hil-
ton Raleigh North
Hills, 3415 Wake For-
est Road, just off I-
440. Committees will
meet Friday, Elections
on Saturday, General
Assembly Saturday and
Sunday. Reservations
deadline Oct. 2.

Nov. 26-29

Thanksgiving Day and
holiday weekend.
Check with groups for
events and scheduled
changes.

The Common Bond

The Newsletter of the Bladen, Cumberland and Robeson Central Office

October-November 2020



All art and pictures courtesy of Courtesy of Common Core/Bing

BCR-CO to close over lack of funds

With a unanimous vote from five groups attending, the Bladen, Cumberland and Robeson Central Office set a date to close its doors and turn over its remaining assets to District 51 at its regular meeting on Sept. 13.

Covid-19, also known as the Coronavirus, not only closed meetings or put meetings online, it also led to too few donations coming in to continue what for 10 years has always been a shaky existence. Added to that was a recent raise in rent,

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Dedicated officers made Central Office work

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

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
Cathy M.
Keep It Simple
Jackie W.
Middle Cape Fear
Bill R.
New Freedom
Adam

Principles Group
Charles K.
Pine Run

Sandalwood
Billy
Seekers of Sobriety

Spring Into Action

Solution 101
Christy L.
Village Group
Sylvia E.
Walking the Same Path
Alexis L.
Women of Quality
Candice B.

It's been almost a decade since the founding of the Bladen, Cumberland, Robeson Central Office and during that time a number of people have given their time to help keep the Alcohols Anonymous message alive in our communities.

It has not always been easy. While groups from all three counties were asked to join the organization, mostly those in Cumberland County joined. A group in St. Paul's in Robeson County and a group in Elizabethtown in Bladen County are members.

I have watched a number of dedicated people serve in positions during that time with a goal of trying to create an organization not only to serve all groups in this area, but allow each group to have a voice in decisions through the Council.

Not all groups have been willing to become a part of the process.

From the start, I watched as Donnie W., the group's first secretary, and Rocky O., the group's first chairman, sought to forge an organization to serve all groups in the area. Many of the principals set in those first few years, still guide the organization. Carl S. also worked with the two on forging the bylaws, which govern how Council and Board meetings are run, elections and other policies.

The office has stocked all the supplies needed for groups to run their meetings, from the Big Book, The 12x12, pamphlets, chips and other material needed for meetings. Its organization has also been in

charge of our hot line, schedule, web site and of course, The Common Bond.

There have been people like Dave C. of the Central Group, who was the first treasurer and a few years ago served temporarily in the same position after a treasurer quit. Jim B. created the original online page for the organization and ran it for many years.

The office-managers-secretaries following in Donnie's steps: Linda C., and Audrey were valued managers.

Over the years, there are several people who gave their time and efforts to keep the Central Office open. Many were not officers but just Council members who gave their time doing things such as organizing Founders Day activities for the good of A.A. I'm sorry I can't list all the names.

Even now, the current group of officers, Chairwoman Kate S., vice chairman Johnny V., treasurer Jay, and secretary Doreene B. have made every effort to keep the office running and looking at ways to do things better. Others such as Amanda, who has modernized the website and Leah, who, before moving on, updated the hot line operations.

It takes a lot to run an organization that affects so many people as the Central Office has. It has had a number of dedicated A.A.'s over the years to make it happen.

No one does this for applause. They do it because they want to make A.A. better in this three-county area..

— Dave C.

Make contact with the Central Office

Hot line: 910-302-7129, coordinator Candice B.

Common Bond editor: Dave C., commonbond2011@gmail.com

Fayaa.org webmaster: Amanda K., fayaa.org@gmail

Central Office: Doreene B., bcrcentraloffice@gmail.com.

. Mail: 310 Green St., Suite 201, Mailbox 14, Fayetteville, NC 28301



A.A. BIRTHDAYS



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

June 2
Tilton T. – 15

June 3
Sharon C. – 12

June 4
John G. – 8

June 6
Robert B. – 11

June 7
John S. – 33

June 8
Ricky S. – 29

June 10
John D. – 9
Bethany B. – 18
Bob P. – 28

June 11
Charles K. – 10

June 12
Charlene C. – 12

June 13
Pete F. – 12

June 14
Craig E. – 14
Sandra E. – 14
William B. – 18

June 16
Tim V. – 12

June 17
John S. – 33
Allison K. – 16
Allison K. – 11

June 18
Henry K. – 11

June 19
Charlie L. – 39

June 20
Jerry – 32

June 26
Don L. – 31
Bagley J. – 14

June 27
Tom C. – 15

June 30
Alphonzo M. – 33

July 1
Jay S. – 14

Amy P. – 8

July 2
Anne S. – 39

July 4
Mercedes – 13
Mercedes R. – 13

July 5
Mike G. – 13

July 5
Sue S. – 14

July 6
Sam A. – 25

July 7
Julie C. – 14

July 8
Jim B. – 33

July 9
Thurmond G. – 15
Greg – 12
Rick L. – 9

July 10
Terry C. – 14

July 11
Mike L. – 11
Brandon T. – 8
Scott D. – 20
Donna L. – 10
Mitzi A. – 38

July 18
Mike – 13

July 19
Ellie O. – 44
Deb S. – 30
Kate S. – 34

July 21
Andre C. – 13
Bernard – 11
Eric R. – 12

July 24
Delores B. – 34
Alan P. – 4

July 26
Don L. – 11
James P. – 11

July 31
Peaches P. – 13

Sober thoughts

(Helpful quotes or the AA way of life)

Selfishness — Self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles. Driven by a hundred forms of fear, self-delusion, self-seeking and self-pity, we step on our fellows and they retaliate. ... We invariably find that at sometime in the past we have made decisions based on self which later put us in a position to be hurt.

– Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 62.

Financial Report for August 2020

Income		Subtotal	1,783.69	New Beginnings/		
Contributions	\$275.65	check & debit subtotal	744.17	Steps to Freedom	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales	399.66	Ending balance	\$1,026.79	New Freedom	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sales tax collected	28.00	Bimonthly plus/minus	-40.56	One Day at a Time	\$0.00	\$161.54
Total deposit	703.61			Pine Run Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenses checks		Contributions		Road Not Taken	\$0.00	\$0.00
IRS	\$20.33	Group	Month Total	Sandalwood	\$0.00	\$0.00
CCF (July rent adjusted)	48.17	101 Big Book/Principles	\$0.00 \$0.00	Seekers of Sobriety	\$0.00	\$283.25
CCF rent	289.00	Bare Bones	\$0.00 \$400.00	Spring Into Action	\$0.00	\$0.00
Payroll tax	17.25	Central	\$0.00 \$176.37	Staying Sober	\$0.00	\$0.00
Payroll	210.25	Fairmont	\$0.00 \$0.00	Tar Heel	\$0.00	\$15.00
Expenses debit:		Freedom in Growth	\$140.65 \$680.76	There Is A Solution	\$0.00	\$0.00
Century Link (phone/internet)	143.17	Firing Line	\$0.00 \$0.00	Village	\$0.00	\$0.00
Latest thing	16.00	Fort Bragg	\$0.00 \$0.00	Walking the Same Path	\$0.00	\$50.00
Expenses total	744.17	I-95	\$0.00 \$20.00	Women of Quality	\$0.00	\$46.54
Beginning balance	1,080.08	Keep Coming Back	\$0.00 \$0.00	Individuals	\$0.00	\$460.00
Deposit subtotal	703.61	Life Recovery (St. Pauls)	\$0.00 \$0.00			
		Middle Cape Fear	\$0.00 \$30.00	Total	\$140.65	\$2,461.68

Office closes Continued from page 1

From the start, the BCR-CO was cutting expenses to keep running. It never had the funds it needed to conduct business in the manner that was necessary. For instance, in 2011, issues of the Common Bond were printed with 10 copies for each group. But the organization could not afford to mail all the issues, so groups needed to pick them up at the office. Most groups did not, so the newsletter was only available online to whoever wanted it.

Over the years, it searched for ways to keep the office open. Often by cutting back on services. Having funds to run the annual Founders Day celebration was always tough and required additional fundraising efforts.

Over the years, more services and activities were cut back because the organization barely had enough to survive. That all came to an end when the pandemic hit, closing many meetings and moving others online.

The office will remain in operation

through October as it winds business down and disperses assets.

Most of the functions of the BCR-CO will be turned over to the district including the schedule and hot line.

Assets will be dispersed with the bookstore inventory, including AA books, chips, pamphlets and other materials, also going to the district.

Chairwoman Kate S. noted during the meeting that too few donations had come in since Covid-19 began for the Central Office to be able to pay its bills.

In the final council meeting, Kate S. noted the lack of participation in the organization, which made it nearly impossible to continue.

Kate S. said groups will no longer have a local office to get their supplies and will either have to go to Wilmington or online to get books, chips and materials.

The BCR-CO held its first meeting in November 2010 and afterwards held its elections every two years in November.

