

PEACHFORD PRESS

Peachford Communities Third Annual Workshop

The 2008 Retreat will be held on December 5-7, 2008 at Camp Woodland in Temple, Georgia west of Atlanta.

The Peachford Workshop was founded by a few clients who came through Peachford House to establish a new way of life. As life improved, one autumn afternoon during clients regular Step Study meeting, they asked themselves what they could do to give back what was so freely given to them. They came up with the idea of sponsoring a Recovery Workshop in December 2006, at Jones Bridge Park in Gwinnett County, Georgia. It was a unique experience. They decided to continue the tradition the following year at Camp Woodland in Temple, Georgia. They voted to create an annual Workshop sponsored by Peachford Communities.

The Recovery Workshop will again be held in Temple, Georgia on December 5-7, 2008. All that is required to attend is the willingness to learn and grow.

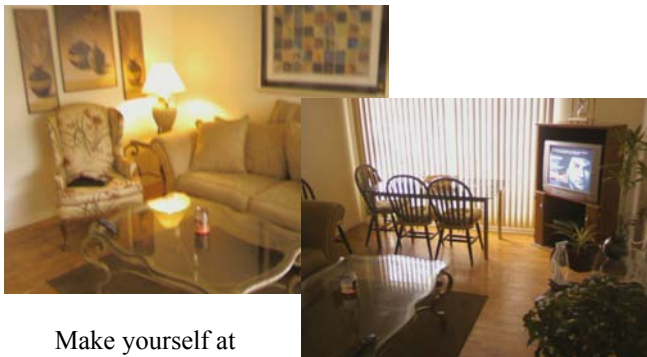
Hoping to see you there for a great weekend of sharing experience, strength and hope with each other.

Contact Person: Mike Marshall 770 891-2657

FROM TAMPA...

*New Quarters
New Staff*

(left to right: Whitson Childress (Intake Coordinator), Mark Sampson (A.D. In training), & Walter Balser (Resident Manager)



Make yourself at home!

PEACHFORD CEO Jim DeVarenes

Hello Peachford Family:



Welcome to the guys from Houston to Tampa Florida! The intake office is all set up ...pictures attached – WOW. What a wonderful first impression. I particularly like the non-smoking sign. Looks good & smells good....sorry couldn't help it.

Bryant, Mark, Walt, & Charles have been helping Joe get acclimated to his new city next to Bush Gardens. We hope you guys make both the Florida Men's workshop in Leesburg & the Peachford's 3rd annual at Camp Woodland in Temple GA.

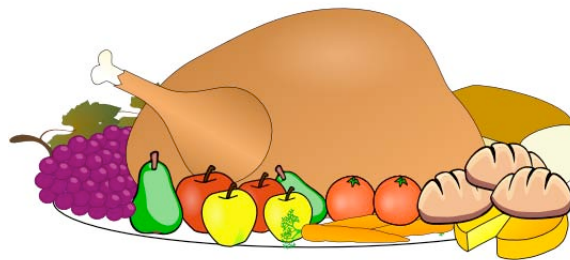
I really appreciate everyone's help through these difficult financial times. It's imperative to keep our collections up, beds full, and most important our mission: "Connecting our Clients & STAFF with the 12 Step fellowships".

Love ya,
Jim

FROM THE WEST COAST

Good Morning Peachford Family,

Although most of you are not familiar with me, I do some work with the Peachford House from the west coast. I was thrilled that the photos were shared with me. When I started with Peachford House in 1996, our new apartments were made up of furniture we got wherever we could get it. I can't tell you how impressed I was looking at the pictures of Tampa's intake office...being the neat freak and clean freak that I am, I was even more impressed. If I had to bring a family member to that office, I would not be the least bit nervous to leave them in your hands. You have created a warm and caring environment for your clients. Unfortunately we had to close the Houston doors, but have opened a new Tampa door.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



COMMENTS FROM THE LADIES

“I am a recent graduate of the Atlanta Women’s Program. Peachford House taught me how to successfully stay sober and live a responsible life. Since I left, I got my six year old daughter back, enrolled in college, and got a full-time job. A sober life after Peachford House is possible. Thank you to all the people who helped me during my journey! I hope that everyone is as appreciative as I am and uses the opportunities that this program gives us to change their lives.”

Melissa M.

“We have a new environment, and our Atlanta Women’s Program has made big improvements. I would have to say Peachford House has helped me better my life in so many ways. I have completed my six months here and I am still here working as the property manager. I am still working my steps and getting my recovery every day. Thank you to Shellie Thompson who has been a big inspiration to me, and I hope to keep someone like her positive in my life to continue my recovery in the future. Thank you Jimmy for giving me and the women in this program your love and support. Oh yeah, “Thanks for the Van”.

Demetris M.

“I am blessed and grateful for the structure in this program. I am especially grateful to my director for the dedication, time, stability, effort and love (tough love) that she has put into this program. If it wasn’t for her and this program, I would be dead or in jail; and I am grateful for everything she does not only in my life, but in the other women’s lives here at Peachford House. Thank you Jimmy for the upgrade and the van!”

Holly P.

“I would like to say thank you for blessing us with our director Shellie. If it wasn’t for Shellie and her encouraging words and being so positive about everything (even when it was bad) I wouldn’t have made it. I am very excited about continuing my relationship with Peachford House. So, family, when you get down and think you’re going nowhere with Peachford House - stop, refocus, pray, talk to your sponsor, go to a meet-

ing, write in your journal, talk with your roommates, or call some people in your network. Things could be a lot worse. I love each and every one of you, and I will love you till you love yourself. Thank you Jimmy for providing me with a safe structured environment. I love being clean and sober!!!!

Gloria B.



ATLANTA WOMEN’S PROGRAM

The Atlanta Women’s Program has moved to Tempo Cabana. We now have 56 beds. We have a new property manager, Demetris Marshall, and a van driver, Holly Parker. We recently got a van for the women and it truly has been a blessing to these ladies. We are now going to a lot of outside meetings which we are really grateful for. We have started going to Celebrate Recovery every week and the ladies really like and enjoy it. Gloria Beauford, Demetris Marshall, Eve McNair and Becky Snellgrove all have completed 6 months and are still here with us continuing their recovery. The ladies here would like to thank Jim for the upgrade on our apartments and especially for our van.

Thanks,
Shellie Thompson



GROWTH IN CHARLOTTE

After getting off to a slow start the Charlotte Women’s program is growing and beginning to hold it’s own. Our newest team member “Kimberly Appling” far left is largely responsible for bringing harmony & recovery to the ladies here. Kimberly is from the Charlotte area and brings a lot of useful knowledge to our program. We look forward to a long and lasting relationship with Kim and Peachford.

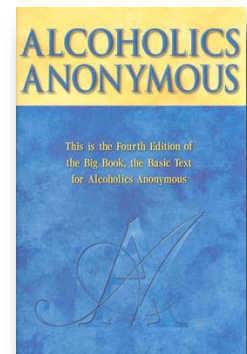


FOURTH OF JULY IN CHARLOTTE

We went all out for our annual 4th of July cookout. Our men’s & Ladies programs came together to celebrate Independence Day in fashion with plenty of eats for everyone in the communities and all family members who wanted to participate in the festivities. The first shot is mostly clients enjoying themselves and in the latter it’s none other than Richard S. overseeing to ensure everyone fellowships in a respectful manner.

WHERE ARE THE STEPS IN THE BIG BOOK? Here’s a quick guide:
BIG BOOK 12 STEPS LOCATOR

STEP	PAGE
1	30
2	44
3	60
4	64
5	72
6	76
7	76
8	76
9	76
10	84
11	85
12	89



The answers to life’s challenges can all be found in the Steps of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous...if we look for them!

Open Spiritual Twelve Step Retreat

It is ranked as one of the best retreat centers in the country. Last year over 100,000, people experienced the serenity and spirituality that pervades this gorgeous place of oak trees, hanging moss, palm trees, and exquisite wildlife.

It was located in DaySpring, FL above Sarasota. It was a spiritual retreat on the 10th, 11th, & 12th Steps.

Here are some pictures:



No, we didn't burn the place down, but the program was hot and a good time was had by all who attended.



Peachford House Celebrates 14 Years

It was 1994 in Atlanta, Georgia, and patients ready to be released from Treatment Facilities would ask their counselors: "I can't go back to where I was living. I don't have any money, can someone help me?"

With the support and encouragement from hundreds of Counselors, Social Workers, Sponsors, Employers, Ministers, & Clients, Peachford House Recovery Communities were born and have grown to 11 facilities located in 6 cities providing housing to over 700 clients.

We were not ready for the thousands of clients that would arrive. But through our ups and downs, you stuck with us and had faith. Together we have provided our clients a safe place to live and a road to a better life.

On this Anniversary with Love & Gratitude in our Hearts, we say Thank You.



COMING EVENTS

PEACHFORD RETREAT

DECEMBER 5TH , 6TH & 7TH AND 8TH

HEAVY HITTERS RETREAT

ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER, EATONTON GA
JANUARY 16-18, 2009

8TH ANNUAL CENTRAL FLORIDA MEN'S WORKSHOP

LEESBURG FL
JANUARY 30TH, 31ST & FEB. 1.

SOBERSTOCK 2009, 5TH ANNUAL EVENT

MARCH 13TH, 14TH & 15TH

55TH ATLANTA MEN'S WORKSHOP

ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER, EATONTON GA
MARCH 27TH THROUGH 29TH, 2009

FROM BILL SANDERS

Not long ago, I got a call from a sponsee talking about the stock market taking a dive and the depression he was feeling as the result. I asked how he had gotten to my house. "In my car," he replied.

"Where did you come here from?" I asked.

"My house," he replied, looking uncomfortable and wondering where I was going with these questions.

I looked at him and said, "Let's get this straight. You came from your nice warm house to my house in your nice warm car. You'll go home tonight to your loving wife and devoted children. You have a job and an income. You're sober and you have a sponsor and a home group. What's your problem?"

"Yeah, today, I'm OK...but."

I interrupted. "Today is all you have. Tomorrow is not here, just today. Make the best of it. Be grateful for it and milk it for all it's worth. Tomorrow will take care of itself. You see, for us in recovery, every day is Thanksgiving Day. We don't have to wait for the third Thursday in November. Every day that we awaken sane and sober, we're celebrating gratitude.



Happy Thanksgiving!

From the Biography Dr. Howard Kelly, who established the GYN, Oncology Dept. at John Hopkins in 1895.

One day, a poor boy who was selling goods from door to door to pay his way through school, found he had only one thin dime left, and he was hungry.

He decided he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door.

Instead of a meal he asked for a drink of water. She thought he looked hungry so brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it slowly, and then asked "How much do I owe you?"

"You don't owe me anything," she replied. "Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness."

He said.... "Then I thank you from my heart."

As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was strong also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Many year's later that same young woman became critically ill.

The local doctors were baffled! They finally sent her to the big city, where they called in specialists to study her rare disease.

Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, a strange light filled his eyes. Immediately he rose and went down the hall of the hospital to her room.

Dressed in his doctor's gown he went in to see her. He recognized her at once.

He went back to the consultation room determined to do his best to save her life. From that day he gave special attention to her case.

After a long struggle, the battle was won.

Dr. Kelly requested the business office to pass the final bill to him for approval. He looked at it, then wrote something on the edge and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay for it all. Finally she looked, and something caught her attention on the side of the bill. She read these words

"Paid in full with one glass of milk"

(Signed) Dr. Howard Kelly.



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publication send it to
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