

Easy Does It Group History

Easy Does It replaced the Prince Avenue Group, which met in Emmanuel Episcopal Church from 1970 to 1974. Many members of Prince Avenue Group wanted to form a club and their membership was moved to a new group called the 12 & 12. According to Margaret R. this was a club in a house on Satula Avenue. The group was started by people who split off from the Biscayne, because they wanted more sociability, such as a pool table, card tables and a television set. (This group no longer exists.)

Two members of the old Prince Avenue Group (Andy B. and Jimmy D.) did not wish to move, so they borrowed a coffee pot from the Jug Tavern Group in Winder and began the Easy Does It Group. They registered as a group in January 1974, and from the beginning the Monday meeting was closed (usually a literature study) and the Thursday one open. The meeting time was originally 8:30, but it was changed in 2000 to 8 p.m.

Initially the group had 4 to 5 members but all other local groups pitched in to help with attendance. Other early members included Lynn K., Chuck J., Irene J., Andy S., Marsha S., Carl M. and Evelyn D. Easy Does It continued to meet at Emmanuel until September 1999, when the group was asked to leave and moved to the old scout hut behind Young Harris Methodist Church, several blocks further down Prince Avenue. When the scout hut was demolished for the church's new fellowship hall, the group moved upstairs inside the main building, and then into the new fellowship hall, where it meets today. The Prince Avenue Alanon group moved to Young Harris Church along with Easy Does It, but dissolved in 2001. A new Alanon group, First Things First, began meeting in 2007, each Thursday at 7 p.m.

Before 1994, Easy Does It had as many as 50 home group members, and held a beginners meeting each Monday as well as a Step Study. After some of its oldest members started an earlier 7 p.m. meeting at St. James Methodist Church, group membership dropped. Since that time (1994), membership has fluctuated between 10 and 30 members.

The two founders gave Easy Does It a strong tradition of service work and sponsorship. The group also has always given a warm welcome to newcomers and for many years supported efforts led by Doug R. and Conoly H. to carry the message into correctional institutions. The strong service orientation is illustrated by the fact that six of its members (Jimmy D., Carl M., Doug R., Kathleen G., Gayle N./V. and Tennyson S.) have served 16B as District Committeemen. A number of these group members moved on to state-level offices. Kathleen G., who died (sober) in September 2001, was an editor of the first edition of the state AA history, "We Share: Our Georgia Experience." Gayle N./V. served as State PI/CPC chairman.

While the group was receiving strong support from Emmanuel, it served as the host for many 16B activities such as workshops and the annual New Years Eve party. After moving to Young Harris, Easy Does It twice celebrated the anniversary of its founding with a January potluck supper and speaker. The event had district-wide attendance.

Today, Easy Does It meets at 7p.m. three times a week, with a Sunday open discussion meeting, a Monday open Step Study and a Thursday closed Big Book study.

Approved by Group Conscience October 10, 2012

EASY DOES IT GROUP
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