



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 18 issue 10

October 2016

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314
Worcester, MA 01605
(508) 752-9000
(508) 752-0755 (fax)
www.aaworcester.org

Office Hours:

Monday 10am-2pm
Tuesday 10am-8pm
Wednesday 10am-2pm
Thursday 10am-8pm
Friday 10am-2pm
Saturday 9am-2pm
Sunday CLOSED

The Beacon Staff :

(January 2016 to
December 2016)

Editor:
Brandy H

Committee:
John H
Marc B

The opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does the publication of any article imply an endorsement by either A.A., general services nor Intergroup. Comments, questions and articles may be directed to The Beacon. All excerpts & Articles reprinted with permission from AAWS and/or The Grapevine.

Step 10

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere,
Reaches out for help, I want
The hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that, I am responsible.

Tradition Ten

*Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues;
hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.*

From the Traditions Checklist:

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life? 5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA?
Inside AA?

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FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) accepts information regarding AA related events to be included on the website calendar. Let us know if you have an event you would like publicized.

Electronic format flyers accepted.

Please email information to the **Webmaster** at: webmaster@aaworcester.org

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!

AA Events

NECYPAA XXVII—Sheraton Boston Hotel 12/30/2016—1/1/2017 necypaahost.org to register and book hotel room.

Montachusett Young Peoples Masquerade Sober Dance Party—Oct. 1,2016 doors open at 6pm. \$10 15 West St., Leominster, MA Unitarian Church

Upton Spirit is having their anniversary on Wed. Oct. 12th, Dinner @7 and meeting @8.

Nominations Accepted!!

The Nominations Committee, Brandy H., Nicole L. and Bob S., are currently looking for nominees for all elected positions (Except Chair and Treasurer) and recommendations for appointed Committee Chairpersons. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact altchair@aaworcester.org or call the Intergroup Office.

ATTENTION!

As voted on by the May Worcester Area Intergroup Delegates Meeting:

Effective July 1st, 2016, Worcester Area Intergroup Meeting Lists will now cost **10 cents each / \$1 per bundle of 10** for Groups. Individuals coming in for single copies are still free. This is due to increasing printing costs.

Anniversary Donation

Name: _____

City/Home Group: _____

Sobriety Date: _____

Amt. Enclosed: _____

Please mail to:
Worcester Are Intergroup
100 Grove St. Ste.314
Worcester, MA 01605

All Anniversaries submitted will be published the month following submission. Please contact the newsletter Editor at beacon@aaworcester.org if an Anniversary has not been published for two months following submission.



FROM THE EDITOR

DID YOU KNOW??
You can have a full color version of The Beacon emailed to you every month by sending an email to: Beacon@aaworcesterr.org and use **SUBSCRIBE** as the subject!!

The Faithful Fivers Club—AA members who donate \$5 or more a month on a regular basis to Worcester Area Intergroup! See form on this page...

THANK YOU to our Faithful Fivers: Tom E., John H., Brandy H., Brenda Mc.-T., Bill S., Stephen L., Ernie K., Ferne S.

WAI also accepts Anniversary Donations! It is suggested \$1 or \$2 for each year of Sobriety! See Page 2 for submission form or pick up donation envelopes at the WAI Office.

Responsibility Declaration

*I am responsible.
When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible!*

NOTICE—HELP NEEDED

Grafton Job Corps has contacted the Worcester Area Intergroup Public Information Committee in order to facilitate arranging for commitments to their program. The program consists of young men from 16-24 who need to hear the message of recovery. If your group is interested, please contact **pichair@aaworchester.org**
We call your attention to the Responsibility Declaration and the 5th Tradition of AA.

*"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."
Tradition 5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Worcester Area Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form

The Faith Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than five dollars each month during our drinking days.

"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

Bill W, Language of the Heart

YES, I want to help continue to carry our life-saving message of hope.

I will pay Annually(\$60) Quarterly(\$15) Monthly(\$5)

Here is my contribution of \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (in case of questions): _____

Please make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314

Worcester, MA 01605

(508) 752-9000



Deadline....

.....for information to go into the November issue of The Beacon is October 15th, 2016. Information can be sent to :

Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St., Suite 309
Worcester, MA 01605
or e-mailed to:
Beacon@aaworcester.org

Serenity Group in Worcester could use your support. They are looking for speakers for their Thursday night (8-9pm) meeting!

ATTENTION: The Beacon Subscription Price Increase

Due to rising costs, the subscription price for The Beacon will increase to \$10/year. This includes having the printed copy of The Beacon mailed to you every month. The increase will begin with new subscriptions and renewals beginning 07/01/2016.

Meeting List Changes

FORMAT CHANGE

SPENCER FELLOWSHIP—Congregational Church, Rt.9, Spencer, MA—Mondays 7:30pm now OPEN SPEAKER/DISCUSSION

MOVED

SHREWSBURY MIDMORNING —Thursdays 10am MOVED to Trinity Episcopal Church 449 Main St., Shrewsbury, MA (closed speaker/discussion)

PASS IT ON—Sundays 6:45pm MOVED to Holy Rosary Church (off Regan St), Gardner, MA (open speaker)

SHREWSBURY SUNDAY MORNING— Veterans, Inc., 59 South St, Shrewsbury—Sundays 10am

TEMPORARILY MOVED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE to SAC Park 438 Lake St., Shrewsbury (open speaker)

MARLBOROUGH NEW LIFE - MOVED to Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 474 Lincoln St.

WEDNESDAY WOMENS 12 STEP—MOVED to 81 Plantation St.—entrance on Chrome St.—Worcester

TIME CHANGE

HAPPY JOYOUS & FREE—St. Andrews Church, N. Grafton—TIME CHANGE—to 7-8:30pm

HOW IT WORKS - Northboro, Wednesdays TIME CHANGE - to 7:30pm-8:30pm

FOUR CORNERS - Worcester, Wednesdays TIME CHANGE - to 7:30pm-8:45pm

GREENDALE GROUP - Friday nights—TIME CHANGE—to 7:30-8:30pm (beginning June 3rd)

REBOUND - Saturday nights—TIME CHANGE—to 8:30-9:30pm - FORMAT CHANGE to Speaker/ Discussion

FITCHBURG FRIENDSHIP—205 Summer St., Fitchburg, MA—TIME CHANGE—to Monday Nights - 7:30-8:30pm EFFECTIVE JULY 4TH

ITS ABOUT TIME—1059 Main St. (Jeremiah`s Inn), Worcester—DAY CHANGE—to Friday Nights - 7:00-8:15pm

NEW

WOMEN`S DESTINY—Federated Church, Rt. 131, Sturbridge, MA—Fridays 5:00pm NEW GROUP (12 & 12 Open Women`s Meeting)

NORTHBORO LIVING SOBER— Church of The Nativity, Howard St. Northboro—Thursdays 7-8pm NEW GROUP— (Men`s Group)

SOBA SISTA`S—6 City Depot Rd., Charlton—Wednesdays 4-5pm—NEW GROUP (Women`s Discussion)

WOMEN`S WISDOM IN RECOVERY—Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Rd., Barre—Sundays 10-11am—NEW GROUP (Women`s Open Discussion)

CLINTON BB WORKSHOP—169 Chestnut, Clinton—Wednesdays 7-8pm—NEW GROUP (OBB)

THURSDAY OBB—28 Vernon St., Worcester—Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm—NEW GROUP (OBB)

12 STEP SISTERS—6 City Depot R., Charlton, MA—Tuesdays 6:00-7:00pm—NEW GROUP (Closed Women`s Step Meeting)

CLOSED

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee* - 100 Grove St. , Worcester MA —6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - 100 Grove St. , Worcester MA —7:00pm

**The Intergroup meetings occur the second THURSDAY of each month.*

District 25 General Service Committee—St. Joan of Arc Church, Lincoln Street Worcester, Ma meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm

District 26 General Service Committee—Madonna of the Holy rosary Church Hall, 118 Theresa St., Fitchburg, Ma meets first Thursday of the month 7:00pm AA members welcome— please come join us!

AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee — Grace Vision Church
80 Mt. Auburn Watertown 4th Wednesday 8:00pm

Why does your group need an Intergroup Delegate?

The Worcester area Intergroup has no authority of it's own but derives it from the participating groups. The representative that each group elects is the groups voice to intergroup—your link to those who maintain and operate the Intergroup Office.

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>
Chairperson	Tom E.	chair@aaworcester.org
Alt. Chair	Brandy H.	altchair@aaworcester.org
Secretary	Bob S.	secretary@aaworcester.org
Alt. Secretary	Karen McG.	
Treasurer	Mike D.	treasurer@aaworcester.org
Alt. Treasurer	Ellen McQ.	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org
Trustees	Bob L., Nicole L., Anne G., Barbara C.	
Office Manager	John H.	steps@aaworcester.org
Treatment Facilities	Open	treatment@aaworcester.org
Correctional Facilities	Wes M.	corrections@aaworcester.org
Halt Line	Dot B.	haltline@aaworcester.org
Social Committee	Ellen McQ.	social@aaworcester.org
Public Information	Bill S.	pichair@aaworcester.org
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org
Joint Alcathon Committee	Marc B.	
Beacon Editor	Brandy H.	beacon@aaworcester.org
Liaison to District 25	Nicole L.	
Liaison to District 26	Bob S.	
Liaison to Area 30	Open	

Subscription Form

Please fill out form, enclose your payment, and mail to:
 Worcester Area Intergroup ATTN: The Beacon
 100 Grove Street Suite 314
 Worcester Mass. 01605

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Subscriptions to The Beacon are \$10.00 per year to defray the cost of mailing.
 Additional donations from members are gratefully accepted.

Worcester Area Intergroup is a non-profit organization, dependent on members' contributions. Please make checks payable to Worcester Area Intergroup.

Worcester Area Intergroup could use support from the local A.A. Groups.

If your group has an excess amount in your treasury please consider making the pie chart split to help not only Worcester Intergroup but the other local A.A. entities and also A.A. World Services. If you are a group treasurer and need more information, feel free to call the office at 508-752-9000.

12 Step Volunteer Application

Name (First name and last initial): _____

Telephone Number: _____

Towns you will accept calls from: _____

Hours that you are available: _____

I wish to help: Males Only Females Only Both

Ag^es I am willing to work with: Teens 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60 Over 60

I am willing to: (please circle all that apply)

Talk to a person on the phone Go to a persons home to talk *

Give rides to AA Meetings Give rides to Detox *

Meet someone at a meeting Other (please specify) _____

**It is suggested that a person NOT go on a twelfth step call alone to help an alcoholic who is still suffering. Also you should NOT drive a wet drunk to a treatment facility (detox) without having another A.A. member with you. If you circled either of these items, please be sure that you have another member of A.A. that is willing to go along with you.*

Please mail to: Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St. Suite 314
 Worcester, MA 01605

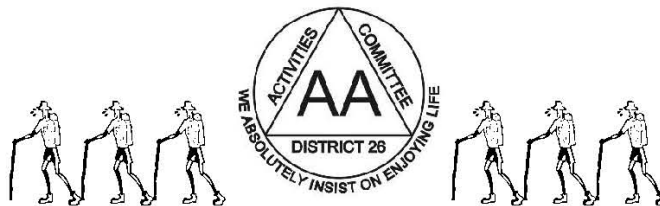
District 26 Activities Committee

RECOVERY HIKE



Saturday, OCT. 8, 2016
Mount Wachusett

Hike starts at 9:30 am rain or shine. (Heavy rain cancels.) Lunch will be provided at the top of the mountain. Bring appropriate hiking gear; sturdy boots, water, bug spray, tissue, camera, etc. Dress for the weather! Meeting to be held weather and time permitting. Have Fun!



www.aadistrict26.org

MONTACHUSETT YOUNG PEOPLE'S

Presents Our 1st EVER

Masquerade

50/50 Raffle
and
Mask Contest

MUSIC BY
DJ Q



****Mask and Costumes Optional

Sober Dance Party

Limited Door Sales
Available- Please
purchase tickets in
advance

October 1, 2016

Doors Open @ 6pm

7:00-8:00pm Meeting

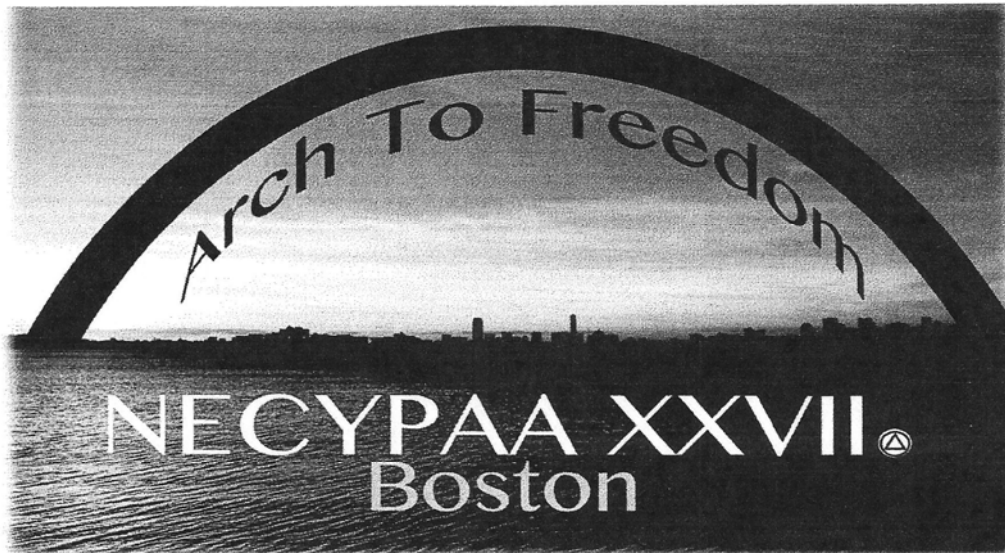
8:00 – 12am Dance

15 West St. Leominster, MA - Unitarian Church

For More Information and Pre-Sale Tickets Contact
Mike M. 978-549-3385 or Rob S. 978-353-9204

10\$ Tickets

Proceeds benefit literature, expenses and
future events



New England Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous

Sheraton Boston Hotel

Pre-Registration



39 Dalton Street
 Boston, MA, 02199
 1-888-627-7054

\$20

12.30.16 – 1.1.17

NECYPAA Room Rate Special \$149/Night

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____

Zipcode _____

Sobriety Date _____

- Would you like to help outreach in your area? Yes No
- Would you like to be of service at the conference? Yes No
- Will you be buying a T-Shirt at the conference? Yes No
- Do you need a partial or full scholarship? Yes No
- Are you under the age of 21? Yes No
- Would you like to make a donation to NECYPAA? Yes No Amount _____
- Would you like to be added to our mailing list? Yes No
- What would you like to see at NECYPAA? _____
- Do you have any special needs? Yes No Please specify _____

Will you require Spanish translation at the conference? Yes No

Will an ASL interpreter be helpful for your conference experience? Yes No

Make checks payable to NECYPAA

To register online & to book hotel room go to:

PO Box 714
 208 Main Street
 Norfolk, MA 02056

www.necypaahost.org

Anonymity, the Internet and Social Media

(Reprinted excerpts from MG-18, AA Guidelines-Internet)

GUARDING ANONYMITY ONLINE

Modern communication in A.A. is flowing from one alcoholic to another in ways that are high-tech, relatively open-ended and evolving quickly. Protecting anonymity is a major concern for members, who are accessing the Internet in ever-growing numbers. When we use digital media, we are responsible for our own anonymity and that of others. When we post, text, or blog, we should assume that we are publishing at the public level. When we break our anonymity in these forums, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others.

ANONYMITY AND EMAIL

Electronic mail is a widely used and accepted method of communication. It is now used regularly as a service tool in A.A., but as with any service, we need to ensure the Fellowship's Traditions are maintained while still receiving the most benefit from this form of communication.

When using email it is necessary to consider the anonymity of the recipients of messages. Sending messages to multiple recipients that disclose the email addresses of everyone on the addressee list is a potential break of someone else's anonymity. Therefore, it is a good idea to obtain a recipient's explicit permission before using his or her email address for A.A. correspondence, especially if it is a workplace email address. When sending A.A. mail to multiple recipients who wish to remain anonymous, use can be made of the BCC (Blind Courtesy Copy) option available on most computers.

GENERAL SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

Facebook and other social networking websites are public in nature. Though users create accounts and utilize usernames and passwords, once on the site, it is a public medium where A.A. members and nonA.A.s mingle. As long as individuals do not identify themselves as A.A. members, there is no conflict of interest. However, someone using their full name and/or a likeness, such as a full-face photograph, would be contrary to the spirit of the Eleventh Tradition, which states in the Long Form that, "... our [last] names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed." Experience suggests that it is in keeping with the Eleventh Tradition not to disclose A.A. membership on social networking sites as well as on any

other website, blog, electronic bulletin board, etc., that is not composed solely of A.A. members and not password protected, or is accessible to the public. Websites social networking offer individuals the chance to post a great deal of personal information about themselves (and others). Our experience suggests that some A.A. members do not post anything that is

"A.A. jargon" on their personal profiles and in "status updates," while others feel it is alright to do so as long as A.A. or Alcoholics Anonymous specifically is not mentioned. These websites often allow users to create social networking "groups" and the ability to invite others to "events" for like-minded individuals. Some A.A.s have chosen to create A.A.-related groups. Since this is a relatively new medium, A.A. members are frequently "learning as they go," and technology and applications change practically on a daily basis.

Our experience has shown that the evolving nature of social networking platforms makes it difficult to provide specific guidelines for using such resources for A.A. purposes. Any A.A. group or member that is thinking about entering this public arena should closely consider the privacy policies of such sites, in light of A.A.'s tradition of anonymity. For example, social networking sites often provide full names and pictures of group members, contrary to A.A.'s practice of avoiding such disclosures in public media. Even "closed" or "private" groups might still reveal an

individual's identity. Being well-informed prior to joining or starting such a group is the key to protecting your own anonymity, and that of others. G.S.O. has received numerous complaints from concerned A.A. members regarding anonymity breaks online, inappropriate use of the A.A. name, and copyrighted materials and protected trademarks being improperly used on Facebook and other social networking websites. No local online A.A. or non-A.A. entity should purport itself to be a spokesperson for A.A. or act as if they represent the General Service Office, A.A.W.S., or the General Service Board. Each A.A. entity is autonomous and encouraged to make decisions by informed group conscience decision in light of the guidance provided in our Twelve Traditions. A.A. members sometimes contact G.S.O. for suggestions on how to remain within the Traditions on Facebook and other social networking websites. Keep in mind that G.S.O. staff members are not "special workers" of the "technological wizards" variety, but they can act as a resource regarding A.A.'s Twelve Traditions and the shared experience of the Fellowship in the U.S. and Canada. How A.A.'s spiritual principles play out in new technologies needs to be carefully discussed by each A.A. individual or entity creating an online presence.

This information has been distributed by the Public Information Committee of the Worcester Area Intergroup to help AA's understand anonymity issues regarding the use of social media. Questions or concerns may be addressed to the Worcester Area Intergroup office by emailing: pichair@aaWORCESTER.org.