

April 2004



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup

Email: AABeacon@netscape.net

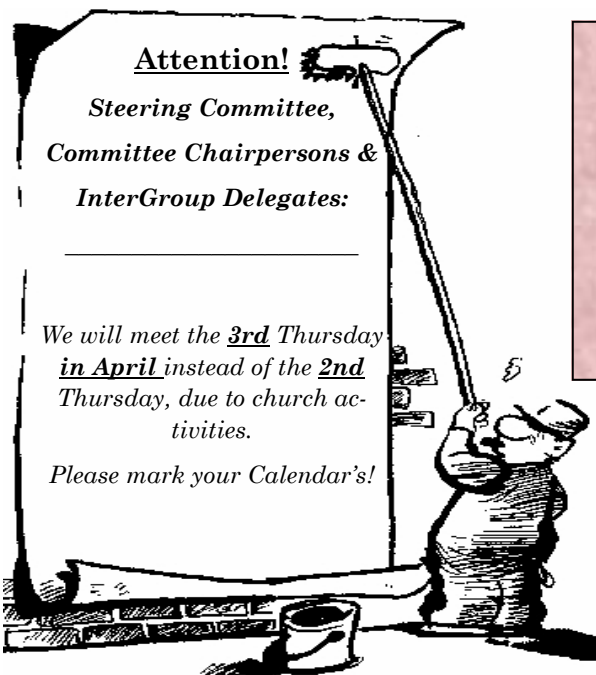
Volume 6, Issue 4



"The circle stands for the whole world of A.A., and the triangle stands for A.A.'s Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service."

Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, page 139

<u>Step Four</u> (Recovery)	<u>Tradition Four</u> (Unity)	<u>Concept Four</u> (Service)
<i>Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.</i>	<i>Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.</i>	<i>At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.</i>



Attention!

*Steering Committee,
Committee Chairpersons &
InterGroup Delegates:*

*We will meet the **3rd Thursday** in April instead of the **2nd Thursday**, due to church activities.*

Please mark your Calendar's!

Express Yourself!

Have a sobriety related story to tell? Submit your writings to "The Beacon" for consideration.

eMail us at
"aabeacon@netscape.net"

Be Free

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Worcester Gratitude
The April 4th Meeting will be
at 2:00 pm
NOT at 7:00 pm
Let your fellow A.A.'s know

Upcoming Events

May 16	Area 30 Post Conference Assembly. Hosted by District 26. Site TBD. All G.S.R.'s, DCM's and Area <u>Officers</u> are responsible to attend. All A.A. members are encouraged to attend. Contact chair@aaemass.org
June 24 - 27	34th Maryland State Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous - For more info, please email... stateconvention@marylandaa.org
September 12	Area 30 Workshop Assembly. Hosted by Districts 12 & 13. Site TBD. All G.S.R.'s, DCM's and Area Officers are responsible to attend. All A.A. members are encouraged to attend. Contact chair@aaemass.org

Attention!

Westboro area A.A. Meetings

Spectrum Transitional program (154 Oak Street Westboro, Ma) needs help with getting clients to meetings. These are people who will be released soon and need the hand of A.A. to help them learn about A.A. meetings. (what A.A. can and cannot do)

If you have a car and are willing to help out on any night of the week, Please call....:

Ellen McQ.

(Treatment Facility Chairperson)

(508) 752-9000
(Leave a Message)

This is 12th Step work!

Email: treatment@aaworcester.org

Meeting Locations

If your group is looking for a new location, or know of a new startup group that needs a place to meet, contact the Intergroup office. We get contacted by organizations who are willing to have A.A. meetings use their locations.

Call the Intergroup Office:

(508) 752-9000

Are you the future Beacon Editor?

In about a year my term as editor of "The Beacon" will be up. Do you have an interest in getting involved in service work that's enjoyable, rewarding, and even a bit creative?

Get involved now !

I am a committee of one at the moment, but if you, or someone you know has an interest in working on "The Beacon", [REDACTED] eMail me at "aabeacon@netscape.net" for further details.

Charlie W.

Don't just "hang around" A.A.

Get Involved!

"...Put your legs to work and give your gums a rest!..."

Alcathon Committee


Have some great Alcathon ideas? Then shout 'em out man!

The Alcathon Committee will meet on **April 22, 2004 @ 7:00 pm** (at the Intergroup office) to plan the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Alcathon(s) for 2004!

~

Here is your chance to be part of the solution!

Service Meetings

<u>InterGroup/District 25 & 26</u>		<u>Area 30</u>	
<p><u>Steering Committee</u> St. Joan of Arc Church 570 Lincoln St. Worcester 2nd Thursday 6:15pm</p>	<p><u>Intergroup Delegates</u> St. Joan of Arc Church 570 Lincoln St. Worcester 2nd Thursday 7:00pm</p>	<p><u>Eastern Mass. General Service Committee</u> St. John's 80 Mt. Auburn Watertown 4th Wednesday 8:00pm</p>	<p><u>Grapevine Committee</u> Boston Central Service 368 Congress St. Lower Level Boston 4th Sunday 1:00pm-3:00pm</p>
<p><u>Public Information</u> Intergroup Office 100 Grove St. # 309 Worcester 2nd Monday 7:00pm</p>	<p><u>Joint Treatment</u> Intergroup Office 100 Grove St. # 309 Worcester 4th Saturday 10am</p>	<p><u>CPC Committee</u> Boston Central Service 368 Congress St. Lower Level Boston 2nd Thursday 7:00pm</p>	<p><u>Joint Treatment Facilities</u> St. Luke's 950 East St. Dedham 3rd Friday 8:00pm</p>
<p><u>Joint Corrections</u> Intergroup Office 100 Grove St. # 309 Worcester TBA</p>	<p><u>Social Committee</u> Intergroup Office 100 Grove St. # 309 Worcester TBA</p>	<p><u>Archives Committee</u> St. John's 80 Mt. Auburn Watertown 3rd Thursday 7:30pm</p>	<p><u>Literature Committee</u> Carter Methodist Church 800 Highland Ave. Needham 1st Monday 7:30pm</p>
<p><u>District 25 - CPC Committee</u> Intergroup Office 100 Grove St. # 309 Worcester 2nd Wed. 6:30 - 8:00 pm</p>	<p><u>District 25 (GSR's)</u> St. Joan of Arc Church 570 Lincoln St. Worcester 1st Tuesday 7:30pm</p>	<p><u>Corrections Committee</u> Boston Central Service 368 Congress St. Lower Level Boston 4th Thursday</p>	<p><u>Joint Public Information</u> Boston Central Service 368 Congress St. Lower Level Boston 1st Thursday 7:00 pm</p>
<p><u>District 26 (GSR's)</u> Local 60 Union Hall Mechanic St. Leominster 1st Thursday 7-9pm</p>		<p><u>Sobriety One-Liners</u></p> <p>“...it works best if you don’t drink...”</p> <p>“...get involved...”</p> <p>“...follow the path as it’s been laid before us...”</p> <p>“...try something new...”</p> <p>“...we’ve all made stupid choices - learn from them...”</p>	

Updated!

→

“Rarely have we seen a person fail”

Intergroup Office Phone # listed.
Please contact the office for
Bookie Phone Number(s).

The Bookie Board

*** Group Updates Needed!! ***

If your group is not listed, or your group has "TBD" (To be Determined) as part of it's bookie information, please get your updates to the Beacon staff by emailing them to AABeacon@netscape.net, or calling the Intergroup office at (508) 752-9000 and let them know you have a Bookie Board update.

SUNDAY	Brookfield	"Sunday Morning"	10:00 am	Leon F.	(508) 752-9000
	Fitchburg	"Sunday Morning"	10:15 am	Frank G.	(508) 752-9000
	Shrewsbury	"Shrewsbury Gratitude"	7:00 pm	TBD	(508) 752-9000
	Southbridge	"Southbridge Originals"	7:00 pm	André L.	(508) 752-9000
	Stow	"Stow Sunday"	11:00 am	Tom S.	(508) 752-9000
	Webster	"Triton"	7:30 pm	Kim W.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Early Risers"	10:00 am	John O.	(508) 752-9000
"Gratitude"		7:00 pm	Christine T.	(508) 752-9000	

MONDAY	Leominster	"Original Group"	7:45 pm	Dean R.	(508) 752-9000
	Spencer	"Spencer Fellowship"	7:30 pm	Anna R.	(508) 752-9000
	Sutton	"Sutton Center"	7:00 pm	John C.	(508) 752-9000
	Webster	"Joy of Living"	8:00 pm	Harry H.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Crozier"	8:00 pm	Marla V.	(508) 752-9000

Outgoing Only!

TUESDAY	Groton	"Easy Does it"	7:30 pm	Joe F.	(508) 752-9000
	Webster	"The Fellowship of Webster"	7:30 pm	Jack	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Young People"	7:30 pm	TBD	(508) 752-9000

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Please contact the office for
Bookie Phone Number(s).

The Bookie Board

WEDNESDAY	Auburn	"Auburn Group"	7:30 pm	Tony B.	(508) 752-9000
	Westboro	"Westboro Forge"	8:00 pm	Sue N.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Four Corners"	8:00 pm	Terry A.	(508) 752-9000
		"Top of the Hill"	8:00 pm	Bonnie	(508) 752-9000
		"We Mean Business"	7:00 pm	Happy C.	(508) 752-9000

THURSDAY	Douglas	"Maintenance & Repair"	7:00 pm	Paul P.	(508) 752-9000
	Dudley	"Day at a Time"	8:30 pm	TBD	(508) 752-9000
	Holden	"Holden Group"	8:00 pm	Mike K.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Stay Active"	6:45 pm	Rose	(508) 752-9000
		"Serenity"	7:30 pm	Maureen B.	(508) 752-9000

Friday	Westboro	"As Bill Sees it"	7:30 pm	Pat C.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"Greendale"	8:30 pm	Ginny	(508) 752-9000

SATURDAY	Millbury	"Millbury Traditions"	7:30 pm	Donna H.	(508) 752-9000
	Upton	"Upton Capertown"	1:30 pm	Fred S.	(508) 752-9000
	Worcester	"How it Works"	6:45 pm	Happy C.	(508) 752-9000

2004 InterGroup Timeline

Updated!

April 15

Elections and appointments

May 13

New signature cards for bank account signed; Budgets proposed and voted on

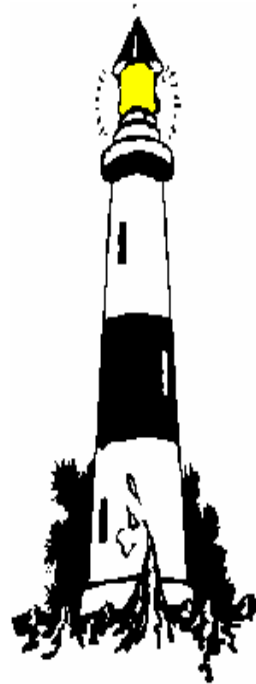
June 10

New Officers and Committee chairs begin term of office; Meeting times for the year established

Steering Committee & Committee Chairpersons

Chairperson	<i>Bob D.</i>
Alternate Chair	<i>Ellen Mc.</i>
Secretary	<i>Sherry F.</i>
Treasurer	<i>Jeanne L.</i>
Alternate Treasurer	<i>Harry H.</i>
Trustees	<i>Brandy H., Janet L., Bob Mc., Tom W.</i>
Office Manager	<i>John H.</i>
Treatment Facilities	<i>Ellen Mc.</i>
Correctional Facilities	<i>Enzo H.</i>
H.A.L.T. Line	<i>Enzo H.</i>
Social Committee	<i>Brandy H.</i>
Public Information	<i>Bruce W.</i>
Beacon Editor	<i>Charlie W.</i>
Liaison to District 25	<i>Janet L.</i>
Liaison to Area 30	<i>Open</i>
Alcathon Committee	<i>Billy S.</i>

If you need to speak to any of these people, you can leave a message at the Intergroup Office, 752-9000, and the staff will be happy to ask them to return your call.



Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 309
 Worcester, MA 01605
 (508) 752-9000
 (508) 752-0755 (fax)

www.aaworcester.org

Office Hours:

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

Deadline!

For Information to go into the
 May issue, submissions

Must be received by

April 16, 2004

Email "The Beacon" at:

AABeacon@netscape.net

H.A.L.T. Line (Available Hours)

Updated!

When anyone calls the Intergroup office after business hours, WAI provides a service known as the H.A.L.T. line. This free service is to provide 24/7 access to meetings information for everyone.

Monday	1:00 am - 3:00 am	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	10:00 pm - Midnight
Tuesday	3:00 am - 8:00 am	10:00 pm - Midnight	
Wednesday	10:00 pm - 8:00 am		
Thursday	<i>All slots currently filled !</i>		
Friday	<i>All slots currently filled !</i>		
Saturday	6:00 pm - 11:00 pm		
Sunday	<i>All slots currently filled !</i>		

To volunteer, call the Hotline Chairperson, Enzo, at (508) 752-9000 or email @ worchaltline@aol.com.

Has Sponsorship changed?

Probably! All things that remain the same, and do not evolve with the times, typically wither and fade away. I've spoken many times about how my first sponsor would say things to me like "*sit down, shut-up, and we'll let you know when you have something to say*". I rarely see this kind of raw instruction given to a newcomer these days. Even from me.

In some ways it's become a kinder gentler process when newcomers start attending meetings. Had I been treated in a more friendly manner, I may not have stayed sober. What I got, and how it was delivered to me, stays with me to this day, and is the foundation of my recovery. It was exactly what I needed at the time. If my first sponsor had said, "*There, there big guy, it'll be ok*", I would have felt in control, and stopped listening pretty early on. As it was, I was always on edge when we were together, because he held me to my word. If I said I was going to do something, he followed up, and made sure I was being truthful. Being truthful was not a personality trait I practiced often before getting sober.

All of us have needed re-programming when we got to A.A. I have yet to meet anyone in the program who was mentally and spiritually stable when they entered the halls, and was truthful about it. Some people have claimed to me that drinking was their only issue, everything else was fine. Fine? Yeah right! As I've heard over the years, "*My best thinking and my worst drinking got me to the halls of A.A.*". In time, I learned, that I thought different, and reacted different than non-alcoholic "Earth" people.

Over the years I've sponsored a number of people, and some have gotten it, and followed the path, as it's laid before us, and others have faded away, or in a few cases, have died. In sponsorship, sometimes it's easy to feel a failure when a pigeon relapses. In these times I find that it's not a bad thing to feel that way, because at least I'm feeling something, instead of stuffing it. And if in their failings at staying sober, I have remained sober, then a total failure, it was not. I use these times as a learning tool, so I may become a better sponsor the next time I'm asked.

So has sponsorship changed? Or have I changed over the years in sobriety? Could be either. The principles of sponsorship are to help the newcomer to get an understanding of the program, and even more basic than that, get them to meetings, so maybe they can "get it". Sometimes sponsoring people with longer sobriety is less rewarding than those just starting out. When you see someone new, begin to see the light in living a clean and sober life, it makes it all worth while. It even makes those crazy phone calls at 3:00 am an acceptable part of the process.

I've experienced pigeons who have found this new path to be the most rewarding experience of their lives, and typically I'm asked "How can I ever thank you?". My response, as I learned it from others, has always been to say, "Pass it on!".

Charlie W.

On Anonymity

"...there were two ways to break the anonymity Tradition: (1) by giving your name at the public level of press or radio; (2) by being so anonymous that you can't be reached by other drunks..."

Dr. Bob

12 Step Volunteer Application

Name: (First Name & Last initial only) : _____

Telephone Number : _____

Towns You will accept calls from : _____

Hours you are available : _____

I wish to help : Males Only Females Only Both

Ages I am willing to work with : Teens 20-30 30-40
 40-50 50-60 Over 60
 Other (Please specify): _____

I am willing to : Talk to a person on the phone Go to a person's home to talk *
 Give rides to A.A. Meetings Give rides to a Detox/Rehab *
 Meet someone at A.A. Meetings Other: _____

(* Note. It is strongly 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/Rehab) without another member of A.A. with you. If you checked either of these items above, please be sure to have someone ready to go with you in case you're called.)

The Beacon Subscription Form

Get The Beacon delivered right to your home!!

(Please print neatly!)

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please bring this form, along with \$5.00 for a one year subscription to the Intergroup Office, or mail to:

**Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove Street Suite 309
Worcester, MA 01605
ATTN: Beacon**

**"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."**

