

All Phone numbers have been changed to the Intergroup Office Number.

# THE BEACON

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## Deadline....

.....for information to go into the January issue of The Beacon is December 14th, 2001. Information can be sent to :

Worcester Area Intergroup  
100 Grove St., Suite 309  
Worcester, MA 01605

or e-mailed to:

BRANDYLH1@yahoo.com  
(please use the word "beacon" in the subject line)

## TRADITION TWELVE

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

From The Traditions Checklist:

1. Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to *me* if AA as a whole disappeared?

2. When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?

3. In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?

4. Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to *my* standards, not its own?

5. Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is *my* part?

6. Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition – or belie it?

7. Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine sub-



scription?

8. Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior – especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made *me* so smart?

9. Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?

10. Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?

11. Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?

12. What is the real importance of *me* among more than a million AAs?

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 22-24, 2002** – NERAASA 2002 will be held at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott in Pittsburgh, PA. For more info call: Arlene H. (508) 752-9000

**October 4-6, 2002** – Northeast Regional Convention will be held at the Sheraton South Portland Hotel in Portland Maine. More details to come.

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

**NEW!!!**  
<http://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



### Step 12:

*Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.*

### **HELP WANTED:** ways to get involved....

**H.A.L.T.line** is looking for volunteers to answer the phone from their homes when the office is closed. Currently, there are 2 hours in the week left to fill. If you can give, even an hour a week, please call Paul P. at (508) 752-9000.

**Treatment Facilities** needs groups to fill the new commitments that are coming up. If you can help, please call at the Intergroup Office.

**Corrections Facilities** is looking for people to get involved. Please contact the Intergroup Office for more details. (508) 752-9000.

Several of our Intergroup and District Committees are in need of help. If you have one day a month you could devote to helping out on a Committee, please ask your Intergroup Delegate, GSR or call the Intergroup Office for more information. We are currently looking for active Chairpersons for CPC and Archives committees.

# MEETING CHANGES & ANNIVERSARIES

*Is your meeting changing time or location? Closing? New Meeting starting? Let us know!! Send the information to the Inter-group Office and it will go into The Beacon, the next update of the Meeting List and updated on our web site!!*

**CHANGE!!** Friday night meeting at Assumption College is now in La Maison, Main Building, 2nd floor.

**CHANGE!!** The Holden Group Thursday night meeting will be changing their meeting time from 8:30-9:30pm to 8:00-9:00pm beginning in September.

**NEW!!** Milford Nooner (Big Book) Wednesday noon to 1pm at Trinity Episcopal Church Milford.

**CHANGE!!** Southbridge Original (Sundays) is changing times to: Beginners Meeting 6-7pm and Speaker meeting 7-8pm.

**CHANGE!!** Primary Purpose (Spencer) has moved to the South Spencer Community House, South Spencer Road.

**NEW!!** 449 Group 7:00pm-8:30pm Tuesdays at Bethany Church, 1189 Main St. Worcester. This is a closed discussion meeting.

**CHANGE!!** The Auburn 12 Step Meeting that meets on Thursdays will be moving to St. Thomas Episcopal Church on School St. effective as of December 7th.

## PROPOSED INTERGROUP MEETING TIMELINE

### June 2001 to May 2002

Committee appointed

**December 13, 2001** – Outreach from the Area 30 CPC Committee

**March 14, 2002** – Nominations made for all officers and Committee chairpersons

**January 10, 2002** – Guidelines reviewed to determine if revisions are needed. Outreach from Area 30 Public Information Committee

**April 11, 2002** – Elections and appointments

**February 14, 2002** – Nominations

**May 9, 2002** – New signature cards for bank account signed; Budgets proposed and voted on

### Meeting Date Change!!

The January District 25 Meeting has been moved to January 8th due to the holiday. This will be a budget meeting, so come prepared!!

I can't possibly thank the program enough for everything it's given me. I know I have to give it away in order to keep my sobriety. I take my service work and 12-step work very seriously.

At the present, I am the Secretary for Area 30. This is quite a challenge and keeps me on my toes. You have to be able to listen to what was done versus what was said. It's not always easy and requires a lot of patience. I always have to pray for patience. (Thank you H.P.!!)

I also write to 6 or 7 men in prisons across the country and share my AA life with them behind the walls. Their gratitude is overwhelming to me. I just take a moment to care about another drunk and it really helps me.

I do some other good things for my sobriety. I go to meetings, talk to my sponsor and walk the talk. Life can really be good.

Thank God that I have today because one never knows – another September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy could happen and it could be me not surviving. I just have today. If I make it through, I will have 11 years of sobriety next February. That's nice to think about but I really only have today and I am ever so grateful for that.

Jim M.

## ONLINE....

**Worcester Area Intergroup**

**NEW!!!**  
<http://www.aaworcester.org>

**Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office**  
<http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org>

**Grapevine**  
<http://www.aagrapevine.org>

## Group Anniversaries

If your Group would like to announce their Anniversary in The Beacon, please call the Intergroup Office during their normal business hours.

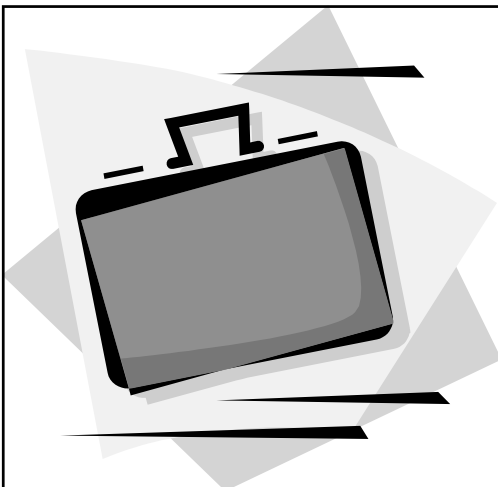
**Leominster Common Group** will celebrate their 29th Anniversary on December 4th. Social time starts at 6:30pm with the meeting to follow from 7:45 until 9:00pm. They meet at the Unitarian Church on West Street in Leominster.

## Addresses needed!!

We still have several groups in this area that we do not have contact information for. The contact person would receive The Beacon to bring to their groups. To find out if we have your group contact, please call Brandy at (508) 752-9000.

## Plea for Help

The Intergroup Office reports that there is a huge need for 12-Step volunteers. There just aren't enough to cover the whole area and we need for the hand of AA to be there to welcome newcomers and talk to people who just aren't sure AA is for them. There is a form in this issue to fill out if you are interested. It could involve anything from visiting a wet drunk, to meeting someone at a meeting. Your level of involvement is completely up to you. Please help us help those who are still sick and suffering.



## Bookie Meeting

There will be a Bookie Exchange Meeting on Wednesday, December 5th, 2001 at the Intergroup Office, 100 Grove St., Suite 309, Worcester. The exchange will begin at 6:30pm and will be available until 7:45pm.

Coffee and Munchies will be served. Come and fill up those blank spots!!!

## Steering Committee

**Chairperson** – Enzo H.

**Vice Chair** – Jack H.

**Secretary** –Kate G.

**Treasurer** – Joanne O.

**Assistant Treasurer** – Kimball M.

**Trustees** - Brandy H., Bob D., Eric R., Tom W.

**Office Manager** - John H.

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.

## Special Needs

Deaf AA members requiring interpreters for AA meetings can call Paul

Hostovsky at (508) 752-9000 or e-mail at Paul.Hostovsky@state.ma.us

There is also a number to call for an update of meeting in the Boston Area that are interpreted, the number is (508) 752-9000 and this list of meetings is updated every Friday.

Large print Meeting Lists are now available for those with vision problems. Call the Intergroup Office to find out how to get a copy for yourself or someone you know!!

## Korte's Corner Returns....

I have been in Asheville, NC now for about ten days. The weather is beautiful here, and things are much different than in the great northeast. Some things, however, are just the same everywhere you go: Like my need to work with other alcoholics.

After about three hours in town, I realized I'd begun to lose the battle to not think about myself constantly. I was still a sick cat that needed to work with other drunks to stay sane himself.

Monday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, my first full day here brought with it a waterfall of fears that I thought I had laid to rest. The freedom from many fears without an airtight connection with God was only an illusion that the comfort and familiarity of Boston had given me.

I was constantly assured by family, friends and sponsees (by their responses to me), that indeed, I had become well. Feelings of comfort from walking into a meeting and knowing many people there, or speaking at meetings and having folks walk up and tell me how good it was to hear me- these human supports I had been relying on more than I'd like to admit.

Whilst I touted God as the author of my recovery, I had relied on a seemingly endless supply of human assurance, unwittingly using my intellect as insurance for the miracle. Well, all that seemed to vanish on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, as I pulled into the driveway of 49 Maxwell St, Asheville, NC.

Monday morning, doubt flooded my mind. Questions raised up that I only thought I had answered. The most obvious of which was, "What the hell was I thinking?"

Hadn't I prayed ceaselessly for the next right thing to do? Hadn't I always wanted to live in another state? Even though I was happier than I ever had been before, hadn't I felt like there was a strong vibe pulling me here for only God knows what reason? Hadn't I come out of countless meditations feeling like this would be the perfect place for me to try a living in a new area and be useful in the A.A. program as well?

On Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, none of those things was clear to me. What *was* clear was the absence of all the visible insurance, all the safety, acceptance and human/material

proof of my wellness. I was really going to have to back up my talk about faith in God, and how He really is the source of my well-being.

Geez-it all *sounded* real coming out of my mouth all those years. I honestly believed God raised me here from the pile of rubble I had become. I truly felt guided by Him, why was it so hard to give up the visual and emotional crutches I had gotten used to?

I guess the truth is that while I was cruising comfortably, even doing a little trick riding along the way, I had really taken the training wheels off.

Once in Asheville, I craved the old support, the old rallying cries that I was one healthy dude. I hung on affirming emails like a sixteen-year-old girl waiting for her prom date to show up. As the days passed, I found myself pausing and asking God to remove fear and direct me, more and more often. I found old fears resurrected and making noise like the good old days of panic and frantic worry. As the fears grew, I noticed that they were getting further and further into the future, deeper into self, and frankly, more ridiculous.

They started with the basics, as they always seem to.

*Fear of not having control:* They weren't running the local step study meeting correctly. It was obviously going to be my job to right the ship, according to the deductions of my alcoholic mind. I wrestled with that one for about a day, playing over and over in my head all the things I would say and to which people.

I tried to turn it over to God, but kept reclaiming control of the issue, because I was *right*.

When I hang on to a fear, (voluntarily or involuntarily) it usually grows into about a zillion fears at light speed. From the fear of not having control, grew people's opinions, sprouted confrontation. From there it was only a hop, skip and a jump to mantras like, "no woman in her right mind is ever going to want anything to do with me" and "you loser...you're thirty-five and every job you take is a step down the economic ladder".

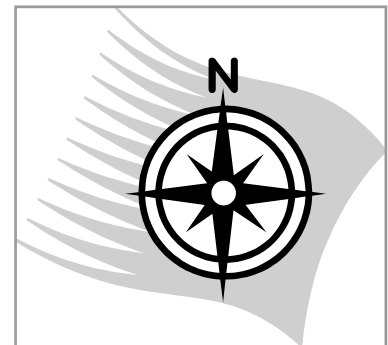
At this point, I'm nowhere near reality. I'm in self-centered fear like it's a vice grip. I prayed and prayed some more. I took my best shot at the "next right thing". But, above all, I realized how desperately I needed someone to work with. I had learned a while back that my real purpose in this life was to be a fisher of men. For me this is

vital, I needed these men more than they needed me. Combing through the meeting list book, I plotted my course.

*Chuns Cove Group*-no, I had been there-the people were a little too healthy looking, conversations seemed to revolve around the weather. *The Traditional Group*, no...12 & 12...no, then...BINGO! There it was! *The ABCCM shelter meeting*- perfect! The place was packed with guys donning their cleanest dirty T-shirt and people that couldn't sit still five minutes-I knew I was home.

I picked up my first new sponsee. Being as self-focused as I am, I knew the work to overcome self had just begun. Perusing the next day's agenda, I again skimmed the listings, deciding on a meeting at the Neil Dobbins Detox center- "*just right*" I thought. I was able to give my number to a wonderful fellow that was very grateful to be there-and alive. He had gotten there via the hospital where he was taken after laying down in the highway, hoping to be hit by a speeding vehicle. The man was instead picked up by some teenagers that took him to a hospital. This guy was obviously earmarked for me.

You know what? One more thing dawned on me. It's enough that I prayed about coming here and made the decision. It's probably none of my business why I'm here, maybe it's as simple as a lesson on trusting and relying on God. One thing's for sure- His timing is impeccable, these guys arrived just in time to save my butt.



## BOOKIE BOARD

*If you are the bookie for your home group and wish to have your number posted here, please call or write to the Intergroup Office. This is a great way to learn who the Bookies are for other groups and to get your number out to others!!*

Upton Capertown: (Sat.  
1:30pm)  
Cindy S. (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Worcester):  
(Sat 6:45pm)  
Tom B. (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Northboro):  
(Wed 8:00pm)  
David C. (508) 752-9000

Hopedale Ray Of Hope: (Sun  
10:30am)  
Carol Y. or Ricky B. (508)  
752-9000

4 Corners (Worcester): (Wed.  
8:00pm)  
John Y. (508) 752-9000

Way Of Sobriety (Worcester)  
(Sun 10:00 am)  
Debbie P. (508) 752-9000

Stow Sunday: (Sun. 11:00  
am)  
Tom S. (508) 752-9000

Holden Thursday Night  
(Thurs. 8:30pm)  
Gill B. (508) 752-9000

Starting Anew (Holliston)  
(Wed. 8:00pm)  
Elaine K. (508) 752-9000

GOYA (Whitinsville) (Thurs.  
8:00pm)  
Mike H. (508) 752-9000  
Marybeth N. (508) 752-9000

Worcester Young People  
(Tues. 7:30pm)  
Jamie F. (508) 752-9000or  
(508) 752-9000

Hudson Straight Shooters  
(Thurs. 8:00pm)  
Brian B. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Sunday Best (Sunday  
7:30pm)  
David B. (508) 752-9000

Millis Fellowship (Thurs.  
8:00pm)  
Bill G. (508) 752-9000

Douglas Maintenance and  
Repair (Thurs. 7-8pm)  
Paul P. (508) 752-9000

Top Of The Hill (Wed.  
8:00pm)  
Jeanne M. (508) 752-9000

Webster Joy of Living (Mon.  
8:00pm)  
Harry (508) 752-9000

Hudson Townline (Sat.  
8:00pm)  
Bob G. (508) 752-9000

Greendale Group (Worcester  
Fri. 8:30pm)  
Paul H. (508) 752-9000

Putnam Young People's  
(Putnam, CT Fri. 8:00pm)  
Glenn R. (508) 752-9000

What's Up of AA  
(Thurs. 7:30pm)  
Mike S. (508) 752-9000or  
(508) 752-9000

Westboro Sunday Morning  
(Sunday 11-noon)  
Janet (508) 752-9000

Upton Spirit (Wednesday)  
Amy L. (508) 752-9000

Groton Easy Duz It (Tuesday  
7:30pm)  
Joe F. (508) 752-9000

Early Risers (Worcester Sun  
10am)  
Dayle (508) 752-9000

Leominster Original (Mon  
7:45-9:00pm)  
James S. (508) 752-9000

Clinton Shamrocks (Tues.  
7:15p-8:30pm)  
Cheryl D. (508) 752-9000

Aurora Group (6:45pm-8pm)  
Joanne K. (508) 752-  
9000leave message

New Way Of Life ( Mon.  
7pm-8pm)  
Audrey M. (508) 752-9000

Sherborn Wednesday Night  
(Wed 8pm-9:15pm)  
Debbie C. (508) 752-9000

7AM Group (daily)  
Alan S. (508) 752-9000

Southbridge Sunday Night  
John B. (508) 752-9000

Millbury Traditions  
(Saturdays 7:30pm-8:30pm)  
Donna (508) 752-9000



# SERVICE MEETINGS

## INTERGROUP

**Steering Committee**  
 St. Joan of Arc Church  
 570 Lincoln St.  
 Worcester  
 2nd Thursday  
 6:15pm

**Intergroup Delegates**  
 St. Joan of Arc Church  
 570 Lincoln St.  
 Worcester  
 2nd Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Public Information**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 2nd Monday  
 7:00pm

**Joint Treatment**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 2nd Monday  
 7:00pm

**Corrections**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 TBA

**Social Committee**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 1st Monday  
 6:30pm

**Beacon Committee**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 TBA

## DISTRICT

**District 25 (GSR's)**  
 St. Joan of Arc Church  
 570 Lincoln St.  
 Worcester  
 1st Tuesday  
 7:30pm

## AREA 30

**Eastern Mass. General Service Committee**  
 St. John's  
 80 Mt. Auburn  
 Watertown  
 4th Wednesday  
 8:00pm

**Grapevine Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower Level  
 Boston  
 4th Sunday  
 1:00pm-3:00pm

**CPC Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower Level  
 Boston  
 2nd Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Joint Treatment Facilities**  
 St. Luke's  
 950 East St.  
 Dedham  
 3rd Friday  
 8:00pm

**Archives Committee**  
 St. John's  
 80 Mt. Auburn  
 Watertown  
 3rd Thursday  
 7:30pm



*I am responsible....*

**Literature Committee**  
 Carter Methodist Church  
 800 Highland Ave.  
 Needham  
 1st Monday  
 7:30pm

**Corrections Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower Level  
 Boston  
 4th Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Public Information**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower Level  
 Boston  
 1st Thursday  
 7:00pm

### ***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*

## 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

Checks may be made payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup

### 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

Ages I am willing to work with: Teens 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60 Over 60

Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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.