

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

The Beacon

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Deadline....

.....for information to go into the August issue of The Beacon is July 13th, 2002.

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 Seven

Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

From The Traditions Checklist:

1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?

2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and be-



come a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price?

3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?

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4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?

5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?

6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

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!!

Meeting Changes

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

CHANGE!!! Happy Destiny group of Worcester is now meeting on Monday nights from 7-8:30pm

CHANGE!! Stow Sunday Morning now meets at Stow Town Hall, 380

Great Road, Stow

NEW!! Shrewsbury now has a Closed Discussion meeting at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church on Prospect Street. They meet on Tuesday nights from 5-6pm.

CHANGE!! The Monday night Happy Destiny step meeting has moved to the Congregational Church at 1070 Pleasant St. in Worcester effective May 6th. They meet from 7-8:30pm

Need more copies of The Beacon? Visit Worcester Area Intergroup or come to the Intergroup Delegates Meeting and pick up more. You can have the convenience of having The Beacon delivered to you!! Just \$5 will give you a one year subscription mailed to your home. Don't wait to rely on your group to have extras in stock!! See back page for subscription form or pick up forms at the Intergroup Office.

June 2002 to May 2003

July 11, 2002

August 8, 2002

September 12, 2002

October 10, 2002

November 14, 2002

December 12, 2002

January 9, 2003 – Guidelines reviewed to determine if revisions are needed

February 13, 2003 – Nominations Committee appointed

March 13, 2003 – Nominations made for all officers and Committee chairpersons

April 10, 2003 – Elections and appointments

May 8, 2003 – New signature cards for bank account signed; Budgets proposed and voted on

Step 7:

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Personal Amends

On a more personal note, I find I must offer an amends to the employees of Worcester Area Intergroup. At the Installation Breakfast in June I ran through the list of thank you's I had jotted down on the back of an envelope. I neglected to thank our wonderful employees. John, Mac and Joe have been the mainstay of the office and have kept us open and available for people beyond the normal expectations. So.....

John, Mac and Joe....I apologize for neglecting to thank you and the breakfast. Thank you for being there for all of us this past year.

Brandy H.
WAI Chairperson

Help Wanted

H.A.L.T.line is looking for volunteers to answer the phone from their homes when the office is closed. We currently have several hours open that need to be filled!! If you can help, 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.

Public Information is looking for more people to get active with their committee. Please call John H. at (508) 752-9000.

Several of our Intergroup and District Committees are in need of help. Worcester Area Intergroup is trying to eliminate the need to have 'committees of one'. 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.

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

Upcoming Events

July 4-7, 2002 – SERCYPAA
 2002. Columbia, SC.

www.SCWEBSTER.com

July 12-14, 2002 – 35th Annual
 New York State AA Convention.

Albany, NY. Write to: NYS AA
 Convention, P O Box 550, Rensse-
 laer, NY 12144

July 12-14, 2002 – 25th Annual
 Maine Round Up. Sugarloaf Moun-
 tain, Carrabassett Valley, ME Call
 Julia @ (508) 752-9000

July 26-28, 2002 – PENNSCYPAA
 XIV Pittsburgh, PA Call Rich @
 (508) 752-9000

August 2-4, 2002 – 9th Annual
 Pennsylvania State Convention.
 Carlisle, PA Call Lou @ (508) 752-
 9000

September 13-15, 2002 – 49th Area
 64 Tennessee State Convention.
 Kingsport, TN. Call Ann or Mike
 @ (508) 752-9000

September 29, 2002 – Area 30
 Workshop Assembly. See your
 DCM for more info.

October 4-6, 2002 – North East
 Regional Convention will be
 held at the Sheraton South Port-
 land Hotel in Portland Maine.
 Call Ted @ (508) 752-9000.

November 3, 2002 – Area 30
 Elections Assembly. See your
 DCM for info.

November 8-10, 2002 – 39th
 Annual Massachusetts State AA
 Convention. Fitchburg, MA. Call
 Marilyn @ (508) 752-9000.

Save your Grapevines!!
 Please set up a box at
 YOUR meetings.
 Worcester Area Inter-
 group will take you do-
 nations of old Grapevine
 issues to send out to
 Treatment and Correc-
 tional Facilities.

ONLINE....

Worcester Area Intergroup

NEW!!!

www.aaworcester.orgAlcoholics Anonymous
General Service Office<http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org>

Grapevine

<http://www.aagrapevine.org>

I knew what was on page 52.

I had already been duly impressed by the guest speaker leading the three day retreat. His name was Tom. He was from North Carolina and had been sober for about forty-six years. He was the first (and only, as far as I know) ex-con ever to become a prison *warden*. He spoke with a wisdom that obviously came from experience, not books. He had a gut-level knowledge of the steps and the big book, Alcoholics Anonymous. He shook his head sadly at the notion of “gurus” or “teachers” in AA, and claimed he wasn’t there to “teach anyone anything”, but was there to learn along with the rest of us. Funny...that’s the kind of thing I say when I want to sound humble, but this guy actually *meant* it. And whether a newcomer was sharing, or someone with long-term sobriety, Tom hung on their every word.

Tom had a genuine quality about him that made you feel like you had known him for years. I wanted to go up and give him a hug, talk solemnly with him, and *listen to him*. No, really, I mean it...I actually *wanted* to listen and listen some more to this man. I thought it was pretty cool that folks from the crowd were encouraged to share, but at times I found my wishing they would lose the microphone. Yet I’d look up and Tom was completely focused on each word the person uttered.

A man raised his hand and talked about his life, described how he felt, and the words “page fifty-two” ran through my mind long before he uttered them. The Man shared his own wonder at how he had managed to stay sober, describing his technique as “self-willing it”. He sat blank-faced, “amazed” that he had “managed to stay dry for twelve years”, and felt so miserable that he “might as well have drank”.

He was in the misery of untreated alcoholism, and I was glad that he had stayed sober and made it to this weekend. I knew he had a chance. I knew he would hear about the program of recovery and the truth-that he had an *option*, that he didn’t have to go on in the painful mire of untreated alcoholism.

Tom grasped every word The Man said, knew the pain he was in, could feel it. A sense of relief came over me, knowing that The Man was going to hear the good news about the Solution to the agony of a life run on self-will by an alcoholic mind.

I was momentarily stunned when Tom asked, “What’s on page fifty-two?”

After someone read the paragraph containing the bedevilmments, or the “unmanageable life” paragraph, Tom nodded. He then mentioned that he would probably misquote the big book a few dozen times and make some mistakes paraphrasing things.

*****NOTICE*****

Steering Committee & Committee Chairpersons

Chairperson – Brandy H.
Vice Chair – Bob D.
Secretary – Tom B.
Treasurer – Kimball M.
Assistant Treasurer – Glen S.
Trustees – Enzo H., Darlene V., Billy S., Ellen Mc.
Office Manager – John H.
Treatment Facilities – open
Correctional Facilities – Eric R.
H.A.L.T.line – Paul P.
Social Committee – Natasha H.
Public Information – John H.
Beacon Editor – Brandy H.
Liaison to District 25 – Kate F.
Liaison to Area 30 – Brandy H.
Alcathon Committee – Billy S.

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.

The Beacon Committee is looking for a few people who can make some phone calls. We are trying to update the Bookie Board section of our newsletter. Please call Brandy at (508) 752-9000 if you can help.

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.

Group Anniversaries

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

I began to get a new idea of what it was to really grasp this stuff. After forty years of running workshops and retreats, starting big book groups and sponsoring hundreds of men, he didn't need to memorize page numbers.

The program of Alcoholics Anonymous wasn't about becoming a better student of the book; it was about practicing the spiritual principles I learned (when I was just trying to stay alive) in *every* aspect of my life. It was about actually *living* this stuff. I honestly had been trying to do that, but somewhere lurking in the back of my alcoholic mind was the notion that I could be a half-assed scholar in AA, and (embarrassingly) that this might be my real purpose in life.

How shocked I was when I learned on June 8th that I'm here to learn and to serve. By the time Sunday rolled around, I wasn't surprised to hear Tom share his simple daily prayer with us, "God, help me see where I can be of service today."

"That's it??? But you've been sober a zillion years!" I thought. "Surely there must be some formulaic prayer you're ready to share that will jet me to the top of the spirituality chain?"

"Ask God where you can be of service, and take the action."

Thanks Tom. If I stop trying to intellectualize myself to serenity, and simply try to work on serving God and my fellows, I might have a chance. That's so simple and so perfect, that it just might work.

Bookie Board

Auburn Group (<i>Wednesdays</i> 7:30-9pm) Tony B. (508) 752-9000	Groton Easy Duz It (<i>Tuesday</i> 7:30pm) Joe F. (508) 752-9000	Southbridge Original (<i>Sun</i> 6pm) Leo M. (508) 752-9000
Aurora Group (6:45pm-8pm) Joanne K. (508) 752-9000 leave message	Holden Thursday Night (<i>Thurs. 8:30pm</i>) Gill B. (508) 752-9000	Starting Anew (Holliston) (<i>Wed. 8:00pm</i>) Elaine K. (508) 752-9000
Bellingham – Workshop (<i>Mondays 7pm-8pm</i>) outgoing only Sean K. (508) 752-9000	How It Works (Northboro): (<i>Wed 8:00pm</i>) David C. (508) 752-9000	Stay Active (<i>Thurs. 6:45pm</i>) Chuck B. (508) 752-9000
Brookfield Sunday Morning (<i>Sun. 10am</i>) Leon F. (508) 752-9000	How It Works (Worcester) (<i>Sat. 6:45pm</i>) Laura R. (508) 752-9000	Stow Sunday: (<i>Sun. 11:00 am</i>) Tom S. (508) 752-9000
Clinton Shamrocks (<i>Tues.</i> 8:00mp-9:15pm) Sean N. (508) 752-9000	Hudson Straight Shooters (<i>Thurs. 8:00pm</i>) Brian B. v	Top of The Hill (<i>Wed. 8pm</i>) Jeanne M. (508) 752-9000
Crozier (<i>Mondays 8-9:30pm</i>) Paul G. (508) 752-9000	Hudson Sunday Best (<i>Sunday</i> 7:30pm) David B. (508) 752-9000	Upton Capertown:(<i>Sat.</i> 1:30pm) John H. (508) 752-9000
Douglas Maintenance and Re- pair (<i>Thurs. 7-8pm</i>) Paul P. (508) 752-9000	Hudson Townline (<i>Sat.</i> 8:00pm) Bob G. (508) 752-9000	Upton Spirit (<i>Wednesday 8pm</i>) Amy L. (508) 752-9000
Dudley Day At A Time (<i>Thursdays 8:30-10pm</i>) Kerry T. (508) 752-9000	Leominster Original (<i>Mon</i> 7:45-9:00pm) James S. (508) 752-9000	Way Of Sobriety (Worcester) (<i>Sun 10:00 am</i>) Gina G. (508) 752-9000
Early Risers (<i>Worcester Sun</i> 10am) Dayle O. (508) 752-9000	Millbury Traditions (<i>Saturdays 7:30pm-8:30pm</i>) Donna (508) 752-9000	Webster Joy of Living (<i>Mon.</i> 8:00pm) Krista (508) 752-9000
Fellowship Group of Webster Jason P. (508) 752-9000	Northboro Saturday Morning (<i>Sat. 10am</i>) Chris C. (508) 752-9000	Webster Triton (<i>Sundays 7:30-9:00pm</i>) Ellen McQ (508) 752-9000
Four Corners (Worcester): (<i>Wed. 8:00pm</i>) John Y. (508) 752-9000	Putnam Young People's (<i>Putnam, CT Fri. 8:00pm</i>) Glenn R. v	Worcester Young People (<i>Tues. 7:30pm</i>) Joanne O. (508) 752-9000
Greendale Group (<i>Worcester</i> <i>Fri. 8:30pm</i>) Paul H. (508) 752-9000	Sherborn Wednesday Night (<i>Wed 8pm-9:15pm</i>) Debbie C. (508) 752-9000	Area 30 Joint Treatment Facilities Committee Calendar Coordinator Tracey M. (508) 752-9000

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!!

Service Meetings

INTERGROUP / DISTRICT 25

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 Wednesday

Joint Corrections

Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
TBA

Social Committee

Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
TBA

Beacon Committee

Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309

Worcester
TBA

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

District 26 (GSR's)
Local 60 Union Hall
Mechanic St.
Leominster
1st Thursday
7-9pm

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

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

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.