



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 20 issue 4

April 2018

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

1/2018 – 12/2018

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beacon@aaworcester.org

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Brandy H.
officemanager@aaworcester.org

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*.

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EVENTS!

WAI Game Night and Pot Luck—April 6

- Friday, April 6th. Pot Luck dinner at 6pm, Meeting at 7pm, Board Games at 8pm.
- Trinity Church, 23 Main St., Northborough.
- Runs the first Friday of every month!
- For more info—contact Emily D. - social@aaworcester.org

District 26 AA 14th Annual Comedy Night and Dinner

- Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee
- **Saturday, April 14, 2018**
- Knights of Columbus, 484 Lancaster St., Leominster, MA
- COFFEE: 6:00 pm / DINNER: 6:30 pm
- Amateur Joke Contest: 7:30 pm
- COMEDIANS: 8:00 - 9:30 PM
- Ticket Price: \$15.00 (Adult Comedy, No Children please)
- More information: www.aadistrict26.org.
- June S. 717-468-4264 or Karen M. 978-496-0500
- See the flyer on page 7 of the digital *Beacon*

RECOVERY HIKE

- Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee
- **Saturday, April 21, 2018, 9:30AM**
- Doane's Falls and Tully Lake
- Meet at Tully Dam, Rt. 32, Royalston, MA at 9:30AM.
- 4 ½ miles moderate hike. Bring water, lunch, snacks, bug spray, and wear weather appropriate clothing including boots.
- Questions— Dan B. 978-895-3979 See flyer on page 8 of the digital *Beacon*. Heavy rain cancels.

We need your help!

The Treatment Facilities Committee needs your help. There are hundreds of open commitment opportunities in Central Mass and we are looking for groups and/or individuals to step up and fill the void. If you or your group are interested please email us at treatment@aaworcester.org to learn more about how you can help.

Step Four:

"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.

The Fourth Tradition

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.."

A member who does any amount of traveling finds the A.A. spirit much the same everywhere. But apart from this inward kinship, there are vast differences among groups. Here, the traveler finds three members discussing the Steps in somebody's living room; there, 300 listening to speakers in a church auditorium. In one part of the U.S., respectful silence greets the speaker who begins, "My name is Ann, and I am an alcoholic." In another, everybody happily shouts, "Hi, Ann!" And in many other places, she may introduce herself with her full name—at a one-hour meeting or a 90-minute meeting. In each neighborhood in every part of the world reached by A.A., the local group is free to work out its own customs.

As always, freedom brings responsibility. Because each group is autonomous, it's up to each group to avoid any action that might harm A.A. And there have been such actions—or this Tradition would be unnecessary. "Implicit throughout A.A.'s Traditions," Bill W. wrote, "is the confession that our Fellowship has its sins. We admit that we have character defects as a society and these defects threatens us continually."

Blown up to multiple size, the Big Ego may inspire one group to take over all the public information work for its area, without consulting any of the other local groups. Once the group has decided, "We have all the answers," the lid's off. The group may then decide that, let's say, the Eleventh Tradition is an outdated technicality: "This is a competitive age! We're going to come right out and give A.A. some good, vigorous promoting!" To the general public, this one conspicuous group is A.A. Its antics reflect, not only on the ignored neighboring groups, but on the entire Fellowship.

In a way, the Fourth Tradition is like the Fourth Step: It suggests that the A.A. group should take honest inventory of itself, asking about each of its independently planned actions, "Would this break any Tradition?" Like the individual member who chooses to make the Steps his or her guide toward happy sobriety, the wise group recognizes that the Traditions are not hindering technicalities—they are proved guides toward the chief objective of all A.A. groups...."

From **The TWELVE TRADITIONS** Illustrated—Copyright© 1971 A.A. World Services.

The Root of the Problem

"Nearly every serious emotional problem can be seen as a case of misdirected instinct. When that happens, our great natural assets, the instincts, have turned into physical and mental liabilities." -*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, P. 42

"The sponsor probably points out that the newcomer has some assets which can be noted along with his liabilities." -*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, P. 46

**Deadline....**

.....for information to go into the May issue of *The Beacon* is April 15, 2018. Please send to:

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St.,
Suite 314
Worcester, MA
01605

or e-mail to:

[Beacon@aaworcest
er.org](mailto:Beacon@aaworcest
er.org)

**Planning a
special event?
Let us know
about it!**

The Beacon
publishes notices
for A.A. events in
the area. E-mail
event information or
flyers (PDF) to:
[Beacon@aaworces
ter.org](mailto:Beacon@aaworces
ter.org)

**"Here, of course,
we
have lost all
perspective,
and therefore all
genuine humility"**

Step 4 - Twelve
Steps and Twelve
Traditions, P. 45

Meeting List Changes

New Worcester Area Intergroup Meeting Lists in PDF are available for download at www.aaworcester.org.

FORMAT CHANGE

NORTHBORO TUESDAY NOON STEP—now **BEGINNERS 123**

Marlboro Saturday Helping Hand has changed from an Open Speaker Meeting to an Open Speaker/Discussion Meeting.

MOVED

WOMEN'S 12 STEP Worcester - Wednesday, has MOVED to St. Stephen's Church, 16 Hamilton St. - no time change.

WESTBORO SUNDAY MORNING — at the Senior Center at 4 Rogers Rd. 10-11 AM
Oxford - No Rules BBSS Thurs 7pm has moved to First Congregational Church - 355 Main St. 2nd floor.

ANOTHER DAY SOBER (Not DAY OF HOPE!) Quinebaug, CT - Wednesday - - same address but moved to Rectory basement. Same time

TIME CHANGE

WORCESTER GAY GROUP—695 Southbridge St., Worcester —Mondays 7:00-8:00pm; Open 12 Step Gay

BROOKFIELD SUNDAY MORNING —Was 10:00 - 11:30 am; Now 10:00 - 11:00 am

HUDSON THURSDAY NIGHT STRAIGHT SHOOTERS — OSp - Riverside Gun Club, 16 Wilkins St.— 7:30-8:30 PM

NEW

SPIRITUAL SISTERS —Monday, First Parish of Bolton, 673 Main St. Bolton; 7-8:30pm —NEW GROUP Women`s OBB12

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 St.—Wednesdays 7-8pm—NEW GROUP Open Big Book

THURSDAY OBB—44 Vernon St., Worcester—Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm—NEW GROUP Open Big Book

AA BEGINNERS Q&A —St. Stephen`s Church, 16 Hamilton St. Worcester — Saturdays 9:00-9:30am—NEW GROUP (Open Beginners)

DROP THE ROCK —6 Depot City Rd. Charlton —Mondays 6:15-7:30pm—NEW GROUP (Closed Discussion, Non-smoking)

SUNLIGHT OF THE SPIRIT—114 Main St., Worcester, MA—NEW GROUP—to Thursday Nights - 7:30-8:30pm (Steps 1-2-3)

THANK GOD IT'S HERE—Chaffin Congregational Church 155 Shrewsbury St., Holden —ADDITIONAL GROUP—to Saturdays - 10:30-noon Open 12 Step Beg., Steps 1-2-3

THERE IS A SOLUTION—17 East Main St., Webster —Tuesdays - 7:00-8:00pm Open Speaker Discussion

TOUGH DIVAS DON'T DRINK - Philadelphia Baptist Church, 259 Concord St., Framingham, MA - Fridays 6:60-7:30pm OSpDW

DAY OF HOPE—St. Stephan's Church, 130 Old Turnpike Rd, Quinebaug, CT— Wednesdays - 6-7pm Open Discussion

Can you spare an hour? HELP the HALTline!

Find out how you can help - One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic ---
Isn't that what A.A. is all about?
See Page 4 for details!



FROM THE EDITOR

NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

Get a color version of *The Beacon* emailed to you—send an email to: Beacon@aaworcester.org with SUBSCRIBE as the subject line.

The Faithful Fivers Club—

AA members who donate \$5 or more a month on a regular basis to Worcester Area Intergroup!

Thanks to new members Bill S., Ferne S. and Kevin K.

See form on the right to join...

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.

You are a member of A.A. if you say you are.

Can you spare an hour?

HELP the HALTline!

What the HALTline is:

One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic --- Isn't that what A.A. is all about?

You Might:

- Give meeting time and location information.
- Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic in danger of picking up a drink.
- Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic who is visiting the area.
- Talk to a "drunk". You may be the link in a chain that could save their life.
- Refer callers to the Intergroup Office—inform them of the office hours.

What the HALTline is not:

- The Halt Line is not a taxi service...
- It is not a referral service...We are not a counseling service...
- We do not give medical advice or opinions.

What you need to be a volunteer:

One year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such service; Touch-tone phone service; Meeting lists (we suggest District 26 and Worcester Area). These are available free of charge from Worcester Area Intergroup and are available on the Website "www.aaworcester.org," and 3 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. You need not have to answer as A.A.—you can simply answer and when asked say you are "Answering for Worcester Area Intergroup, How can I help you?"

What will happen:

For your scheduled time, calls are forwarded from the Intergroup Office to the phone number you provide. This is done at no expense to you.

Contact haltline@aaworcester.org if you have time available and are willing to volunteer -preferably in 3 hour or longer shifts .

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): _____

Make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup, 100 Grove St., Suite 314, Worcester, MA 01605 (508) 752-9000

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee* - 100 Grove St. 4th Floor, Worcester, MA 6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - 100 Grove St. 4th Floor, Worcester, MA 7:00 pm

**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

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 1/1/18)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new</u>
Chairperson	Nicole L.	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	Emily D.	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	Erin M.	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	Wendy S.		
Treasurer	Lisa R.	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	Jim B.	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustees	Fred F., Sean K. , Bill S; Open (1)		
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Robert M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Correctional Facilities	OPEN	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	John H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Social Committee	Emily D.	social@aaworcester.org	
Public Information	Bill S.	pichair@aaworcester.org	
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org	
Joint Alcathon Committee	Jennifer W., Jim B.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John McI	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	Chris Mac.		
Liaison to District 26	Fred F.		
Liaison to Area 30	Ellen McQ.		
Bookie Exchange	Bill S. & Fred F.	bookieexchange@aaworcester.org	

Get Involved!!

WAI Intergroup Open Positions

The Worcester Area Intergroup Committee has open positions—these are great opportunities for service work and to get involved:

- Correctional Facilities, and, one Trustee

If you are interested in volunteering for a position, call the Intergroup office during business hours for more information.

The Beacon—Subscription Form

Please fill out form, enclose your payment, and mail to: Worcester Area Intergroup

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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

Worcester Area Intergroup is a non-profit organization, dependent on members' contributions.

Mail All completed forms and payments to:

Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St., Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605
Attn: The 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 (please circle *all* that apply): 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

I am willing to (please circle):

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 make 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 available and willing to go along with you.*

Anniversary Donation

Name: _____

City/Home Group: _____

Sobriety Date: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____

Mail to: **Worcester Area Intergroup**. 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.



COMEDY NIGHT AND DINNER

Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee

Saturday, April 14, 2018
Knights of Columbus, 484 Lancaster St.
Leominster, MA

COFFEE: 6:00 pm / DINNER: 6:30 pm

Amateur Joke Contest: 7:30 pm

COMEDIANS: 8:00 – 9:30 PM

(Adult Comedy, No Children please)

Ticket Price: \$15.00 (Available in March)

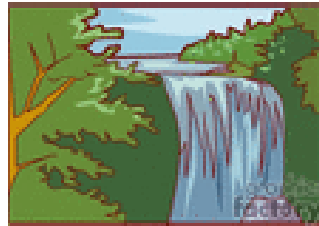
[More information:](#)

June S. 717-468-4264 or Karen M. 978-496-0500



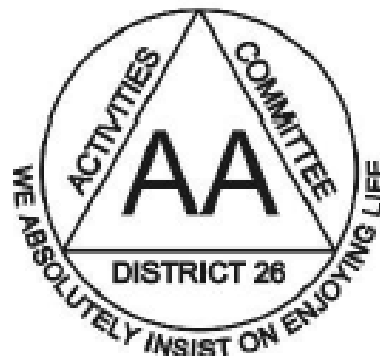
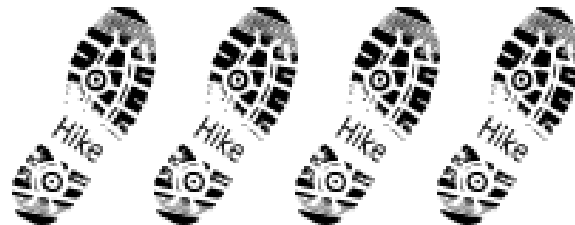
Visit our website at www.aadistrict26.org

District 26 Activities Committee ***RECOVERY HIKE***



Saturday, April 21, 2018, 9:30AM
Doane's Falls and Tully Lake

Meet at Tully Dam, Rt. 32, Royalston, MA at 9:30AM. 4 ½ miles moderate hike. Bring water, lunch, snacks, bug spray, and wear weather appropriate clothing including boots. Heavy rain cancels.



Call if you have any questions.

Dan B. 978-895-3979

www.aadistrict26.org

Service, gladly rendered...*



peace.



love.



community.

Looking to find some inner peace in your life, express the love you have for both the AA program and the people in it and to give back to your community? There's no better way than to get more involved with service work than doing commitments to Treatment Facilities.

The InterGroup Treatment Facilities Committee continues to discover more and more open spots for groups and/or individuals to conduct Standing Commitments. In just one month we have learned of hundreds of open spots that dozens of facilities are hoping to fill. This is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of the need to carry the message of AA to those in early recovery.

So, if you and/or your group are interested in learning more about which facilities have open needs and the times and dates available please email the committee at treatment@aaworcester.org.

“When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.”

Sincerely,

Robert M.

Matthew H.

Tim J.

* Step 12 -*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p.124