



The Beacon

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Worcester Area Intergroup

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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 2010 to December 2010

Editor: Michelle G.

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H.A.L.T.LINE NEWS

Thank you to all the new H.A.L.T. line Volunteers! We still have hours available that need to be covered on the H.A.L.T. line.
WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

What is the HALT line? One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic. Isn't that what AA is all about?

"Talk to a drunk", you may be the link in the chain that could save their life.

What volunteers do:

- Give out current meeting list information.
- Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic in danger of picking up a drink.
- Talk to those seeking help with their drinking problem.

What do you need to volunteer?

A phone

One year of sobriety is recommended.

Meeting list

A phone (touch tone or cell phone)

An hour of your time.

Great way to do service without leaving your home.

If you would like information please email haltline@aaworcester.org or call Ferne at (508) 847 - 3802. Will train the right candidate - great pay - HUGE REWARDS! **From time to time the HALT Line will be rewarding volunteers for their time and dedication by awarding someone with a subscription to the GRAPEVINE.** Not only will this be a bonus for the lucky person but will help keep the struggling Grape-

Local Service Meetings

Intergroup Steering Committee - Veterans, Inc., 59 South St.
Shrewsbury, MA —6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates - Veterans, Inc., 59 South St. Shrewsbury, MA
—7:00pm

Joint Public Information Committee— Worcester Area Intergroup Of-
fice 100 Grove St. Suite 314—4th Monday of each month—7:00pm



On-Line 12 Steps & 12 Traditions, Articles, and Tradition Checklists

www.aagrapevine.org

Traditions Checklist

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through October 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

STEP SEVEN: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

TRADITION SEVEN: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST:

TRADITION SEVEN: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

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 become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
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?
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?

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Are you willing to CARRY THE MESSAGE to an alcoholic in need?

Are you willing to help an alcoholic in need? The intergroup delegates are working to devise an updated list of people willing to volunteer for "12 Step calls". This information will be kept **CONFIDENTIAL** and only be used by the HALT line chair and other appropriate individuals. Please complete the "**12 Step Volunteer Application**" on page 6 and return to your groups Intergroup representative or drop of at the Intergroup office. You may also mail the completed application to: Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St, Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605

DAILY REFLECTIONS EXCERPTS**A NEW DIRECTION**

*Our human resources, as marshaled by the will, were not sufficient; they failed utterly. . . .
Every day is a day when we must carry the vision of God's will into all our activities.*

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 45, 85

I hear talk of the "weak willed" alcoholic, but I am one of the strongest-willed people on earth! I now know that my incredible strength of will is not enough to save my life. My problem is not one of "weakness," but rather of direction. When I, without falsely diminishing myself, accept my honest limitations and turn to God's guidance, my worst faults become my greatest assets. My strong will, rightly directed, keeps me working until the promises of the program become my daily reality.

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IDENTIFYING FEAR . . .

The chief activator of our defects has been self-centered fear. . . .

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P.76

When I feel uncomfortable, irritated, or depressed, I look for fear. This "evil and corroding thread" is the root of my distress: Fear of failure; fear of others' opinions; fear of harm, and many other fears. I have found a Higher Power who does not want me to live in fear and, as a result, the experience of A.A. in my life is freedom and joy. I am no longer willing to live with the multitude of character defects that characterized my life while I was drinking. Step Seven is my vehicle to freedom from these defects. I pray for help in identifying the fear underneath the defect, and then I ask God to relieve me of that fear. This method works for me without fail and is one of the great miracles of my life in Alcoholics Anonymous.

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. . . AND LETTING GO OF IT

. . . Primarily fear that we would lose something we already possessed or would fail to get something we demanded. Living upon a basis of unsatisfied demands, we were in a state of continual disturbance and frustration. Therefore, no peace was to be had unless we could find a means of reducing these demands. The difference between a demand and a simple request is plain to anyone.

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P.76

Peace is possible for me only when I let go of expectations. When I'm trapped in thoughts about what I want and what should be coming to me, I'm in a state of fear or anxious anticipation and this is not conducive to emotional sobriety. I must surrender— over and over — to the reality of my dependence on God, for then I find peace, gratitude and spiritual security.

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"THE GOOD AND THE BAD"

"My creator, I am now willing that you should have all of me, good and bad."

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 76

The joy of life is in the giving. Being freed of my shortcomings, that I may more freely be of service, allows humility to grow in me. My shortcomings can be humbly placed in God's loving care and be removed. The essence of Step Seven is humility, and what better way to seek humility than by giving all of myself- good and bad- to God, so that He may remove the bad and return to me the good.

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A PRAYER FOR ALL SEASONS

God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, Courage to change the things we can, And wisdom to know the difference. TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P.125

The power of this prayer is overwhelming in that its simple beauty parallels the A.A. Fellowship. There are times when I get stuck while reciting it, but if I examine the section which is troubling me, I find the answer to my problem. The first time this happened I was scared, but now I use it as a valuable tool. By accepting life as it is, I gain serenity. By taking action, I gain courage and I thank God for the ability to distinguish between those situations I can work on, and those I must turn over. All that I have now is a gift from God: my life, my usefulness, my contentment, and this program. The serenity enables me to continue walking forward. Alcoholics Anonymous *is* the easier, softer way.

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THE GRAPEVINE: AA's meeting in print IS IN TROUBLE! PLEASE HELP BY PURCHASING A SUBSCRIPTION!

The AA Grapevine is the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Written, edited, illustrated and read by AA members and others interested in the AA program of recovery from alcoholism, the Grapevine is a lifeline linking one alcoholic to another. The AA Grapevine communicates the experience strength and hope of its contributors and reflects a broad geographic spectrum of current AA experience with recovery, unity and service. ©GRAPEVINE

7 Issues = \$17

1 year (12 Issues) = \$27

You may order the Grapevine in one of three ways

1. Call 1 (800) 631-6025
2. Online at: <http://www.aagrapevine.org/catalog/shop/gvsuborder.php>
3. Mail completed subscription form (see below) with payment to: GRAPEVINE; PO Box 422488; Palm Coast, FL 32142-6997

YES I want to receive the experience, strength, and hope of Grapevine.

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ORDER NOW!

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Signature _____

Make checks or money orders payable to Grapevine and mail to: PO Box 422487, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2487. Canadian orders: 7 issues US \$21, 1 year (12 issues) US \$31; GST included. Outside the US or Canada: 7 issues US \$29, 1 year US \$39.

Order by phone 1-800-631-6025 (US) 1-386-246-0148 (International)

AA Grapevine does not accept group contributions. It is self-supporting through the sale of magazine subscriptions and Grapevine items. Grapevine and all Grapevine items are mailed in packaging that protects anonymity.

60DHHH

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>
Chairperson	Billy B.	chair@aaworcester.org
Alt. Chair	Maura R.	
Secretary	Marc B.	secretary@aaworcester.org
Treasurer	Dot B.	treasurer@aaworcester.org
Alt. Treasurer	Ginny S.	
Trustees	Bob L., Joe N., Michelle N., Mike B.	
Office Manager	John H.	steps@aaworcester.org
Joint Treatment Facilities	Rich D.	treatment@aaworcester.org
Joint Correctional Facilities	Joe N.	corrections@aaworcester.org
Halt Line	Ferne S.	haltline@aaworcester.org
Social Committee	Maura R.	social@aaworcester.org
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Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org
Joint Alcathon Committee	Michelle N.	
Beacon Editor	Michelle G.	beacon@aaworcester.org
Liaison to District 25	Jane P.	
Liaison to District 26	Richard M.	
Liaison to Area 30	Richard M.	

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) accepts information regarding AA related events to be included in the website calendar. Let us know if you have an event you would like publicized. Please email information to the Office Manager at:

webmaster@aaworcester.org

MEETING NEWS

MEETING CHANGES/MOVES: The Worcester Area Intergroup Delegates and Steering Committees will now be meeting at Veterans Inc., South St. in Shrewsbury on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Same times as previous (see page 1).

NEW MEETING: Fridays in Hopedale — Friday Night Lights, ODNs, Sacred Heart Church, 187 Hopedale St., Hopedale, 8:00-9:00 P.M.

MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE: Meeting space is now available for AA meetings at Veterans Inc., 59 South St., Shrewsbury, MA. This is the site of the old Calvary Retreat Center. They have several options in room sizes and also have cafeteria facilities available. For more information please contact: Susan Boucher at 508-791-1213, x132.



Subscription

Form

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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

COUNTRY (If other than USA) _____ E

-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Subscriptions to The Beacon are \$5.00 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. Please make checks 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 BothAges I am willing to work with: Teens 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60 Over 60

Other (Please specify) _____

MAIL TO: Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St., Suite 314
Worcester, MA 01605

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.