



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 22 issue 2

February 2020

Worcester Area Intergroup

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

www.aaworcester.org

Worcester Intergroup
Office Winter Hours -
Labor Day to Memorial
Day

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

NOTICE

The WAI office will
close one hour early
on Tuesday,
February 4th, 7pm.

The opinions expressed herein
are not to be attributed to A.A.
as a whole, nor does the publi-
cation of any article imply an
endorsement by either A.A.,
General Services nor Inter-
group. Comments, questions and
articles may be directed to *The
Beacon*.

All excerpts & Articles reprint-
ed with permission from AAWS
and/or *The Grapevine*.

Worcester Area Intergroup *presents* Big Book

JEOPARDY!

February 8, 2020
Trinity Church, 23 Main Street
Northborough MA 6-9PM

Contestants Wanted

Email the name of a Homegroup and a contact person
to: social@AAWorcester.org and
see the flyer on pages 7 & 8 of the digital *Beacon*

MSPYCAA XXIV

Massachusetts State Conference of Young People in A.A.
August 21-23, 2020

MSCYPAA offers panels, workshops, sober dances, marathon
meetings, sobriety countdowns - fun, fellowship, and recovery!

The Sheraton, 1657 Worcester Rd. Framingham MA

More info—mscypaaxxiv@gmail.com

See the flyer and mail in registration form on page 10 of the
digital *Beacon*

MSPYCAA SUPER BOWL PARTY

Pot Luck—February 2 — 384 South St. Foxboro

February 2— 5-6PM Meeting

Followed by a Super Bowl watching party

Bring some food to share!

\$5 Suggested Donation—More info—mscypaaxxiv@gmail.com

See the flyer on page 24 of the digital *Beacon*



Step Two:

"Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

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."

The Beacon Staff

1/2020 – 12/2020

- Editor: John McI
becon@aaworcester.org

- Office Manager:
Brandy H.
officemanag-
er@aaworcester.org.

The Second Tradition

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority... a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants... they do not govern.

A.A. is both a democracy and, in Bill W.'s words, "a benign anarchy." A group elects its own officers—who have no power to order anybody to do anything. In most groups, most of the slate rotates out of office at the end of six months, and new officers are elected.

If a group wants to be a part of the whole A.A. service structure, it elects a G.S.R. (general service representative, with a two-year term). G.S.R.s elect area committee members and then join them in electing a delegate from their area to the annual General Service Conference. The Conference is about the closest approximation of a government that A.A. has; it produces opinions on important matters of policy; it approves the choice of some trustee nominees for the General Service Board and directly elects others. But neither the Conference nor the board can give orders to any group or member.

Then who's in charge around here? A.A. is a spiritual movement, and so the "ultimate authority" is the spiritual concept of the "group conscience." Its voice is heard when a well-informed group gathers to arrive at a decision. The result rests on more than arithmetic, a "yes" and "no" count. Minority ideas get thoughtful attention. What about that annoying character who's always sure she's right. If she's wrong, then she will—if she remembers the First Tradition as well as the Second—go along with the decision of the group conscience. Does this notion seem too cloudy? Let's think back to our first meetings. The presence we newcomers felt in those rooms was the same as the group conscience. And it was real—welcoming us in, setting up no barriers of rules...."

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Get The Beacon
every month—
FREE

A color PDF version of will be emailed to you—
send an email to:
Beacon@
aaworcester.org

with **SUBSCRIBE**
as the subject
line.

"Believe more deeply. Hold your face up to the Light, even though for the moment you do not see."

**Bill W. Letter,
1950**

Group Anniversary—Quinsigamond Tuesday Night

Quinsigamond Tuesday nite meeting will be celebrating its 50 year anniversary on February 11th with food at 6:30PM and a meeting at 8:00PM.

The event is pot luck, so feel free to bring your favorite dish to share. Soft drinks and water, cold cut sandwiches, cake, and coffee provided.

Two excellent speakers will provide food for thought.

All are welcome.

Sacred Heart Church, 600 Cambridge St., Worcester



Deadline....

....for information to go into the March issue of *The Beacon* is February 16, 2020. Please send to:

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St.,
Suite 314
Worcester, MA
01605

or e-mail to:

Beacon@aaworcestter.org

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

E-mail event information or flyers (PDF) to:
Beacon@aaworcestter.org

Meeting List Changes

NEW

WEBSTER—Tuesday & Thursday 10-11am at Serenity Hall, 6 Mechanic St. Tuesday is OD, Thursday is OSpD

TURN THE PAGE—Webster—Open Big Book Workshop Tuesday nights 5:45-6:45p 10 Mechanic St. Opening the Word Recovery Center Starting Dec 3

QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE— TRUST AND RELY - Thursdays, 5:30-6:30PM, Room 107A (Administration Building) No Smoking Anywhere On Campus!! Living Sober Discussion. The Administration Building is the big brick building facing Route 12/West Boylston Street.

WORCESTER—BACK TO BASICS— Friday Back To Basics 7:00-8:30PM; CALL WORCESTER INTERGROUP FOR LOCATION INFO

TIME CHANGE

WESTBORO — GET WELL SLOWLY—Sunday night is now 7:30-8:30PM

WORCESTER—BB164 - Thursdays - is now only 1 hour, 6:30-7:30pm.

FORMAT CHANGE

HOPEDALE — 2nd CHANCE—Thursday 8-9PM, format is now C12SPD.

NAME CHANGE

WEBSTER—SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE is now **DROP THE ROCK**

MOVED

WORCESTER— Wednesday BBSS (7:00pm) has moved to Wesley U.M. Church, 114 Main St., Please use the State St entrance

SUNDAY NIGHT SHREWSBURY SIMPLE STEPS - Has a new address - Shrewsbury Simple Steps 7-8PM, First Congressional Church, 19 Church Road Shrewsbury, MA 01545

GROUPS CLOSING

WESTBORO — Monday Night Big Book group is closed.

SOUTHBRIDGE—Stronger Together meeting is closed.

ATHOL—Tuesday Night Women's meeting is closed

TEMPORARY GROUP LOCATIONS

ALTHOL—Due to the fire at Our Lady Immaculate Roman Catholic Church, effective Monday, Dec. 16 the Athol **Back to Basics** meeting will move to The Masonic Temple, located at 336 Main St. in Athol, MA. from 12 noon to 1 pm. The group hopes they have found a permanent meeting place since the fire—where this meeting had been held for many, many years.

MSPYCAA HOST MEETING

February 1, 2020
4–6PM
Host meetings are held the first Saturday of every month
320 West Center St., West Bridgewater
mscypaaxxiv@gmail.com
see the flyer on pages 11 of the digital Beacon

Central MA Area 30

is producing a bid for Massachusetts Convention of Young People in AA (MYCYPAA) to have the conference hosted in Central MA for 2021. Theme is "Keep it on the firing line". Great chance for service above the group level. The next planning meeting is Saturday February 8th at the Worcester Intergroup Office at 100 Grove Street from 3pm to 5pm. We have service positions available, so come check it out!

See the flyer on page 25 of the digital Beacon

Questions, email Ray M. at treatment@AAWorcester.org.

WAI's ONLINE BOOKIE EXCHANGE

The new WAI Bookie Exchange portal enables Bookies from local towns to quickly find groups seeking commitments and/or post a request.

Open slots are listed by town

BookieXchange.aaworcester.org

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): _____

Please make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St., Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605

WAI INTERGROUP OFFICE PARKING NOTICE

Parking lot for the WAI office is on the side of building and requires an access code —or action by office staff—to open the gate allowing entry. Call the office at the entry gate kiosk and office personnel will remotely open the gate for you.

SPREAD the word: DON'T park in the attended lot across the street from the WAI office. The lot is private parking only and is not for Intergroup visitors. WAI office staff **CANNOT** validate a parking ticket for that lot. The lot attendant **WILL charge you \$15** to exit the lot without a validated ticket!

Give back what was freely given to you...

The WAI Treatment committee needs your help to fill badly needed commitments in treatment centers in the Worcester area.

For a list of treatment locations and commitment calendars, see below for: <http://aaworcester.org/> and click on "Treatment Facilities"

- Treatment committee updates are on page 23 of the digital *Beacon*, -
- Help is needed at the Westborough Behavioral Healthcare Hospital with weekend commitments for their Dual Diagnosis program.
- District 25 is looking for groups who would like a group inventory/ conscience facilitated.

For schedule details—Email: treatment@aaworcester.org or see announcements and calendars on pages 13–22 of the digital *Beacon*

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee and Intergroup Delegates monthly meeting has a new location— Salem Covenant Church, 215 Mountain Street East, Worcester.

Parking and Meeting Room is in the rear.

Intergroup Steering Committee - See Above New Location Notice, 6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - See Above New Location Notice, 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, meets first Thursday of the month 7:00pm AA members welcome—please come join us!

AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee — Belmont / Watertown United Methodist Church 421 Common St., Belmont—4th Wednesday 8:00pm

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 1/1/20)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new</u>
Chairperson	Steve O	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	<u>OPEN</u>	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	Hilary D	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	<u>OPEN</u>	altsecretary@aaworcester.org	
Treasurer	Ted K	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	<u>OPEN</u>	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Fred F.	trustee1@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Joe C.	trustee2@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Alice B.	trustee3@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Emily D.	trustee4@aaworcester.org	
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Alcathon (WAI)	Brandy H.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John McI	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Raymond M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Corrections	Steve O.	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	Donna H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	Steve O.		
Liaison to District 26	Jenn C.		
Liaison to Area 30	Jim B.		
Public Information	Alice B.	pichair@aaworcester.org	
Social Committee	Jeff W.	social@aaworcester.org	

HALT LINE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Intergroup HALT line needs volunteers to cover open time slots. The HALT line is there to assist any alcoholic needing to find a meeting. This is service work that really matters.

See the flyer on page 12 of the digital Beacon

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. Please
 make checks payable to Worcester Area Intergroup.

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.

WORCESTER AREA INTERGROUP
PRESENTS **BIG BOOK**
JEOPARDY!

CONTESTANTS WANTED
FEBRUARY 8TH 2020



TRINITY CHURCH
23 MAIN ST. - NORTHBOROUGH, MA
TIME: 6PM - 9PM
SEE BACK FOR MORE DETAILS

WORCESTER AREA INTERGROUP SOCIAL COMMITTEE

**IS IN SEARCH OF LOCAL HOMEGROUPS TO ENTER
TEAMS OF NO MORE THAN 3 TO BE CONTESTANTS ON**

BIG BOOK JEOPARDY

**CONTESTANTS WIL BE CHOSEN AT RANDOM.
EMAIL NAME OF HOMEGROUP WITH A
CONTACT PERSON TO**

SOCIAL@AAWORCESTER.ORG

**BILLS STORY BINGO CARDS
SOLD AT THE DOOR \$4 EACH
SHEET OF 4 GAMES**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BINGO AND
JEOPARDY PRIZES AND FUTURE
INTERGROUP EVENTS**

AAWORCESTER.ORG

EACYPAA XVIII

PITTSBURGH PA MARCH 26-29 2020

WESTIN CONVENTION CENTER

EACYPAA2020.ORG



Our Pick Struck

GOLD

MSCYPAA XXIV

Massachusetts State Conference
Of Young People in A.A.

Reality & Beauty of the Forest



Hotel:

The Sheraton
1657 Worcester Rd.
Framingham, Ma

Room Rate:

\$115 Single Kings
\$115 Double Fulls

Date:

August 21-23, 2020



Mail Completed Form To:
PO BOX 674, S. Easton, Ma. 02375

Pre-Registration Cost:

Name:

E-Mail:

Phone:

Address:

Sobriety Date:

Home Group:

Do You Need A Translator? Yes No **Language:**

Do You Require Special Assistance? Yes No

Do You Want To Be Of Service At The Conference? Yes No

Do You Want To Help Outreach Events/ the Conference? Yes No

For More Information, Visit www.msccypaa.com, or Email msccypaaaxxiv@gmail.com



MSCYPAA HOST MEETING

COME JOIN US ON:

FEBRUARY 1st 4-6 PM

**320 W. CENTER ST., WEST
BRIDGEWATER**

HALT Line Volunteers needed

What the HALT line is:

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

One might:

- *Give out 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 the chain that could save their life.
- *Refer a caller to the Intergroup Office and inform them of the office hours.

This is a very easy way to do service from the convenience of your own home.

What you need to be a volunteer:

*1 year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such 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 or use the App MeetingGuide on your cell phone.



*3 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. This is done from your own home or cell phone. 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?"



Please call Donna H., the HALT Line chair, at 508-735-8559 or email her at donnaaham@charter.net or send an email to haltline@aaworcester.org

DISTRICT 25 & WORCESTER AREA INTERGROUP TREATMENT FACILITIES

FEBRUARY 2020 COMMITMENT NEEDS

There is a tremendous need to fill open commitment dates to several facilities that have contacted both Worcester Area Intergroup and District 25. We are asking you to help by announcing to any/all groups that you attend that we are looking for Standing Commitments to the following facilities:

- 1) Washburn House
- 2) Independence Hall
- 3) Community Healthlink
- 4) Sunrise Detox
- 5) Adcare Hospital
- 6) Spring Hill Recovery
- 7) Motivating Youth Recovery

Between these facilities there are upwards of 100 open dates per month that are not being covered and the message is not being received by those in desperate need of hearing our Experience, Strength and Hope. We understand and appreciate that many groups already have Standing Commitments booked, and we thank you for your service. If your group(s) could take into consideration at your next business meeting taking on another that's all we can ask.

If individuals are willing to take a Standing Commitment we could obviously use the help. Many of the open dates we are currently able to fill are taken by a group of friends. Either way please help spread the word to your groups to visit our website at www.aaworcester.org and click on Treatment Facilities. There you will find the calendars for the units we are trying to help. If you find something that works for you or your group please contact us at:

Treatment@aaworcester.org or D25treatment@aaworcester.org

**Remember that the primary purpose of the group is to carry the A.A. message.
And for that - "We are responsible!"**

Sincerely,

Matthew H. & Ray M.

WAI TREATMENT FACILITIES

JANUARY 2020 COMMITMENT NEEDS

Thursday January 9th, 2020

There is a tremendous need to fill open commitment dates to several facilities that have contacted both Worcester Area Intergroup and District 25. We are asking you to add to Secretary announcements and bring back to your business meetings for your home groups.

It would also be helpful to announce at other groups you may attend that are not represented here at the Intergroup meeting. If at the very least you could get the contact info for someone interested and pass onto us, we would be happy to contact.

WHO CAN DO COMMITMENTS? (Just 90 Days Sobriety is suggested)

1. Group Commitment
2. Individual Commitment
3. Sponsor/Sponsee Commitment

WHAT IS TIME COMMITMENT?

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers. The primary purpose of any A.A. group is to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics. Experience with alcohol is one thing all A.A. members have in common.

Please consider choosing one of the following:

1. Weekly
2. Bi-Weekly
3. Monthly
4. On-Demand (Look at openings for the week and choose to fill in a gap)

WHAT ARE SOME POSSIBLE FORMATS?

It is YOUR commitment – if it is getting stale because you are at an extended care week to week, you may need to rotate to something different.

1. Speaker (This is the most common)
2. Speaker/Discussion
3. AA Daily Reflection
4. Literature (Grapevine or other AA approved literature)
5. 12 Step with just Steps 1-3

WHO DO WE TO EXPECT TO COME ONLINE (New or Reactivated Facilities)?

- **Washburn House** (CSS)

1183 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01603

Expected Date to begin – TBD

Matt and Ray are going to work to see if they want help with the CSS now.

We have only been servicing Detox and the Extended Care as of current

- **Westboro Behavioral Health** (Dual Diagnosis)

300 Friberg Parkway

Westborough, MA 01581

Saturday and Sunday Only

Expected Date to begin – January 15th

Ray has been working with Melissa Sansone who is in process of purchasing literature from Intergroup. We spoke with Melissa about how CORI checks derail many AA's from qualifying, but Melissa wants to make sure we are bringing completely sober people in. I assured her we should not have any issue with that. We are looking at maybe an afternoon time 3pm, 4pm, instead of the traditional 7pm. Let me know your thoughts.

- **Spectrum Health Systems (Detox, CSS, TSS)**

155 Oak Street

Westborough, MA 01581

Daily

Expected Date to Reactivate – February 1st

Spectrum has gone through many transitions. All the programs were moved around and personell moved into new roles. We did not have a clear person to speak to in order to organize the schedule. In many cases, groups were showing up to double bookings or being turned away. We really could use groups closer to Westboro to step up to service BOTH Westboro facilities. (Northboro, Southboro, Framingham, Shewsbury, etc). Ray spoke with Liz at WYP on Tuesday and she was meeting with her director and assured me we could work right through her a reorganize it. In order to service Spectrum, we will need help to pull the facility back online. All standing group commitments should still service Spectrum, just Intergroup was not sending anyone new until we were able to get reorganized.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 7 pm - Filled
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 7 pm - Filled
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9 7 pm - FILLED	10 7 pm - Filled	11 OPEN DATE	12 7 pm - Filled	13 OPEN DATE	14 OPEN DATE	15 7 pm - FILLED
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23 OPEN DATE	24 7 pm - FILLED	25 OPEN DATE	26 OPEN DATE	27 7 pm - FILLED	28 7 pm - FILLED	29 OPEN DATE

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16 OPEN DATE	17 7 pm - Filled	18	19 7 pm - Filled	20 7 pm - Filled	21 7 pm - Filled	22 OPEN DATE
23 OPEN DATE	24 7 pm - Filled	25 7 pm - Filled	26 7 pm - Filled	27 7 pm - Filled	28 7 pm - Filled	29 OPEN DATE

Treatment Facilities Updates

We need help with Westborough Behavioral Healthcare Hospital with weekend commitments for their Dual Diagnosis program. 3pm will be the time instead of the transitional 7pm time. If your group can commit to once a month, please let Ray know. 90 days sobriety is all you need and you may save a life! We are looking to start these ASAP! Email Ray M at treatment@AAWorcester.org

District 25 is looking for groups who would like a group inventory/conscience facilitated. Your DCM and Alternate DCM are available to facilitate this process for your group. Please contact Jamie S or Ray M. At d25dcm@aaworcester.org

FOOD
FELLOWSHIP
& FUN!

MSCYPAA
**SUPER BOWL
PARTY** POTLUCK!



Bring food & snacks to share!

5pm to 6pm meeting
followed by Super Bowl watch party

February 2, 2020

384 South St. Foxboro, MA

Suggested Donation: \$5



**GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE OF EASTERN
MASSACHUSETTS - AREA 30**



"2020: A Clear Vision for You"

Pre-Conference Assembly

Sunday March 22, 2020

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Hosted by District 7

South Shore Regional Vocational Technical School

476 Webster Street

Hanover, MA 02339

Registration	9:00 AM
Orientation	9:15 AM – 9:45 AM
Assembly Begins	10:00 AM
Lunch	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Assembly Ends	4:00 PM

The following trusted servants and their alternates are responsible to attend: GSRs, DCMs, Area 30 Committee Officers, Standing Committee Chairpersons, Conference Committee Chairpersons and liasons from MSCYPAA, ICYPAA, Boston Central Service and Intergroups. The event is free and all interested AAs are encouraged to attend.

Lunch will be provided as well as a continental breakfast.