



The Beacon

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Worcester Area Intergroup

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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.

Beacon Committee: Joe P. and John H.

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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 508-752-9000. Will train the right candidate - great pay - HUGE REWARDS!

Local Service Meetings

Intergroup Steering Committee - St. Mary of the Hills 630 Cross St
Boylston - 2nd Thursday of each month—6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates - St. Mary of the Hills 630 Cross St Boylston -
2nd Thursday of each month—7:00pm

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



STEP THREE:

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him.*

TRADITION THREE:

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

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.

TRADITIONS CHECKLIST:

The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.

In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?

- Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?
- Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?
- Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?
- Am I over-impressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
- When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?

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W.A.I. Needs your help!

Many groups do not have an intergroup representative. We are also in great need of a Treatment facilities chairperson to ensure adequate coverage in each treatment facility in our region. We all need help, especially when newly sober. Join us the 2nd Thursday of each month: 7:00pm @ St. Mary of the Hills Church, 630 Cross St., Boylston (Exit 23B from I290) We can use your help in many areas. **GET INVOLVED IN YOUR RECOVERY!**

**Come one, come all, to the
WORCESTER AREA INTERGROUP'S
SPRING FLING DANCE**

With DJ, Tom W.
Saturday March 20, 2010
8p.m.—midnight
At the Froshinn Club
25 N. Quinsigamond Ave,
Shrewsbury, MA
Tickets: \$5.00

DAILY REFLECTIONS EXCERPTS

March 1: IT WORKS

It works—it really does.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 88.

When I got sober I initially had faith only in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Desperation and fear kept me sober (and maybe a caring and/or tough sponsor helped!). Faith in a Higher Power came much later. This faith came slowly at first, after I began listening to others share at meetings about their experiences—experiences that I had never faced sober, but that they were facing with strength from a Higher Power. Out of their sharing came hope that I too would—and could—“get” a Higher Power—a faith that works under all conditions—is possible. Today this faith, plus the honestly, open-mindedness and willingness to work the Steps of the program, gives me the serenity that I seek. It works—it really does.

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March 18: REAL INDEPENDENCE

The more we become willing to depend upon a Higher Power, the more independent we actually are.

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P.36

I start with a little willingness to trust God and He causes that willingness to grow. The more willingness I have, the trust I gain, and the more willingness I have. My dependence on God grows as my trust in Him grows. Before I became willing, I depended on myself for all my needs and I was restricted by my incompleteness. Through my willingness to depend upon my Higher Power, whom I choose to call God, all my needs are provided for by Someone Who knows me better than I know myself — even the needs I may not realize, as well as the ones yet to come. Only Someone Who knows me that well

(Continued on next page)

could bring me to be myself and to help me fill the need in someone else that only I am meant to fill. There never will be another exactly like me. And that is real independence.

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March 28: EQUALITY

Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 563.

Prior to A.A., I often felt that I didn't "fit in" with the people around me. Usually "they" had more/less money than I did, and my points of view didn't jibe with "theirs". The amount of prejudice I had experienced in society only proved to me just how phony some self-righteous people were. After joining A.A., I found the way of life I had been searching for. In A.A. no member is better than any other member; we're just alcoholics trying to recover from alcoholism.

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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.

-----Meeting News-----

NEW MEETINGS: There is a **new meeting in Sturbridge** on **Saturday** night from 8:00 - 9:00 pm. It is an open 12 step meeting at Federated Church, on Maple St. (Rt. 131). The name of the group is **Key To Freedom**.

MEETING CHANGES: **AS BILL SEES IT** at St. Stevens Church in Worcester will no longer be meeting on Thursday nights. The meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on **WEDNESDAY NIGHT** from now on.

MOVES: Saturday night **Lake Whalom** group has moved to Our Lady of the Lake, 1400 Main St. in Leominster (Route 13) and now meets from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

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 | <u>VACANT</u> | 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 |
| Joint Public Information | Hermis Y. (Junior) | pichair@aaworcester.org |
| 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

We now have in inventory the "Acceptance" booklet which is published by Abbey Press. We had been getting a lot of request for this publication and it was voted at December's Delegates meeting to allow it to be sold.



The 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 1-4 in San Antonio, Texas with the theme "A Vision for You." Convention registration, housing reservation and all other necessary information is available at <http://www.aa.org>



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 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.