



# The Beacon

Volume 13 Issue 2

February 2011

## Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314

Worcester, MA 01605

(508) 752-9000

(508) 752-0755 (fax)

[www.aaworcester.org](http://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 2011 to December 2011

**Editor:** Michelle G.

**Committee:** Gale P.

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. All excerpts & Articles reprinted with permission from AAWS and/or The Grapevine.

## 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](mailto:haltline@aaworcester.org).

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.**

## 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

*\*The Intergroup meetings occur the second Tuesday of month.*



**STEP TWO:** Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

**TRADITION TWO:** *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.*

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

[www.aagrapevine.org](http://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:

Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?

Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?

Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?

Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?

Although I have been sober a few years, am I willing to serve my turn at AA chores?

In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

Copyright © The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

#### **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****GOAL: SANITY**

*"... Step Two gently and very gradually began to infiltrate my life. I can't say upon what occasion or upon what day I came to believe in a Power greater than myself, but I certainly have that belief now."* TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P. 27

"Came to believe!" I gave lip service to my belief when I felt like it or when I thought it would look good. I didn't really trust God. I didn't believe He cared for me. I kept trying to change things I couldn't change. Gradually, in disgust, I began to turn it all over, saying: "You're so omnipotent, you take care of it." He did. I began to receive answers to my deepest problems, sometimes at the most unusual times: driving to work, eating lunch, or when I was sound asleep. I realized that I hadn't thought of those solutions—a Power greater than myself had given them to me. I came to believe. Copyright © [Daily Reflections](#), p. 40

**A PATH TO FAITH**

*True humility and an open mind can lead us to faith, and every A.A. meeting is an assurance that God will restore us to sanity if we rightly relate ourselves to Him.*

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, P.33

My last drunk had landed me in the hospital, totally broken. It was then that I was able to see my past float in front of me. I realized that, through drinking, I had lived every nightmare I had ever had. My own self-will and obsession to drink had driven me into a dark pit of hallucinations, blackouts and despair. Finally beaten, I asked for God's help. His presence told me to believe. My obsession for alcohol was taken away and my paranoia has since been lifted. I am no longer afraid. I know my life is healthy and sane. Copyright © [Daily Reflections](#), p. 46

**THE LIMITS OF SELF-RELIANCE**

*We asked ourselves why we had them (fears). Wasn't it because self-reliance failed us?*

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 68

All of my character defects separate me from God's will. When I ignore my association with Him I face the world and my alcoholism alone and must depend on self-reliance. I have never found security and happiness through self-will and the only result is a life of fear and discontent. God provides the path back to Him and to His gift of serenity and comfort. First, however, I must be willing to acknowledge my fears and understand their source and power over me. I frequently ask God to help me understand how I separate myself from Him.

Copyright © [Daily Reflections](#), p. 50

**I'M NOT DIFFERENT**

*In the beginning, it was four whole years before A.A. brought permanent sobriety to even one alcoholic woman. Like the "high bottoms," the women said they were different . . . So did the artists and the professional people, the rich, the poor, the religious, the agnostic, the Indians and the Eskimos, the veterans, and the prisoners. . . Nowadays all of these, and legions more, soberly talk about how very much alike all of us alcoholics are when we admit that the chips are finally down.*

AS BILL SEES IT, p. 24

I cannot consider myself "different" in A.A.; if I do I isolate myself from others and from contact with my Higher Power. If I feel isolated in A.A., it is not something for which others are responsible. It is something I've created by feeling I'm "different" in some way. Today I practice being just another alcoholic in the worldwide Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Copyright © [Daily Reflections](#), p. 58

A.A. is not a program of "don'ts, but of do's". A.A. is not martial law; it is freedom. A.A. is not tears over defects, but sweat over fixing them. A.A. is not penitence; it is salvation. A.A. is not "Woe is me" for my sins, past and present. A.A. is "Praise God" for the progress I am making today.

Copyright © Daily Reflections, p. 156

### Get Active In Recovery!

Isn't that what your sponsor always tells you? Well, that's a great suggestion and best of all it works. So why don't you **consider joining the Social Committee** you can kill three birds with one stone!

You'll get active-stay sober, meet new people and have a blast! We have some great events planned for the New Year - but, help is needed to pull off these events! Come and join us, we'd love to have you! E-mail Patty M at [PattyRN222@gmail.com](mailto:PattyRN222@gmail.com) with your contact information, and someone will get back to you! Thanks, let's make 2011 - the most exciting year yet!

### 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.

7 issues \$17     1 year (12 issues) \$27

**ORDER NOW!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT METHOD:**

Check/money order enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Bill me.

Charge my  Visa  Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

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 \$27, 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.

60DH111

## Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>
Chairperson	Maura J.	chair@aaworcester.org
Alt. Chair	Michelle N.	
Secretary	Marc B.	secretary@aaworcester.org
Treasurer	Ginny S	treasurer@aaworcester.org
Alt. Treasurer	Jody E.	
Trustees	Dot B., Joe N., Bill B., Bob L.	
Office Manager	John H.	steps@aaworcester.org
Joint Treatment Facilities		treatment@aaworcester.org
Joint Correctional Facilities	Sylvia T., Joe N.	corrections@aaworcester.org
Halt Line	Ferne S.	haltline@aaworcester.org
Social Committee	Pat M.	social@aaworcester.org
Joint Public Information		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	Sylvia T.	
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](mailto:webmaster@aaworcester.org)

### MEETING NEWS

**MEETING CHANGES/MOVES:** the SATURDAY NIGHT HOW IT WORKS MEETING AT CHL IS NO LONGER MEETING. The 11th STEP IN THE PARK meeting in Clinton on Wednesday nights is NO LONGER MEETING. Also the Sunday morning There Is Hope group has MOVED to St. Casimir's Church, 22 Waverly St.

**NEW MEETINGS:** She Means Business (CDW) meets from 5-6PM on Tuesday nights at Bethel Lutheran, 90 Bryn Mawr in Auburn. Tuesday night in Northboro : Desire to Stop Drinking—(OB12). Meets 6-7 PM at 45 Howard Street. Saturday morning in Harvard: Happy, Joyous and Free—(OD) meets from 9-10 a.m. at St. Teresa's 15 Still River Rd. **MEETING SPACE**

**AVAILABLE:** Meeting space is now available for AA meetings at Veterans Inc., 59 South St., Shrewsbury, MA. 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.