



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 20 issue 3

March 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

- Office Manager:
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

- Fri., March 2nd. Pot Luck dinner at 6pm, Meeting at 7pm, Board Games at 8pm.
- Trinity Church, 23 Main St., Northborough.
- Also 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
- (Adult Comedy, No Children please)
- Ticket Price: \$15.00 (Available in March)
- 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*

A WORKSHOP/PRESENTATION OF THE 12 TRADITIONS OF A.A. : “WHY IT WORKS”

- SATURDAY, March 24th; 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- The First Church (U.U. Stone Church)
- 15 West St., Leominster, MA
- Sponsored by District 26 A.A. This is a free event.
- Continental breakfast, lunch, literature, and a free raffle!
- Pre-register, Bring a Friend and/or a Sponsee, and learn things!
- Newcomers, OldTimers, and anyone in between is Welcome
- See Rosi S., John S., Brian N. or Richard M. for a sign up sheet. Also contact Rosi at 978-413-8235, or email—Rosi.MOBILEMAIL@GMAIL.COM
- See the flyer on page 8 of the digital *Beacon*

Step Three:

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

I am responsible...

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

Tradition Three

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

Isn't every organization entitled to have rules for membership? Why did A.A. decide to forgo this privilege, to be "inclusive...never exclusive"? That's easy. Early members tried it the other way, and it just didn't work. As the Fellowship was nearing its ten-year mark, the office that served as headquarters "asked the groups to list their membership rules and send them in," Bill W. recalled. "If all of these edicts had been in force everywhere at once, it would have been practically impossible for any alcoholic to have ever joined A.A. About nine-tenths of our oldest and best members could never have got by!" So the rule books went out the window and were replaced by one uncomplicated sentence: Tradition Three.

But, somebody may ask, isn't this Tradition itself a rule? It does state one requirement for membership. Let's read it again, and ask another question: Who determines whether or not newcomers qualify, whether they do want to stop drinking? Obviously, nobody except the newcomers themselves; everybody else simply has to take their word for it. In fact, they don't even have to say it aloud. And that's fortunate for many of us who arrived at A.A. with only a halfhearted desire to stay sober. We are alive because the A.A. road stayed open to us. The problem faced by this Tradition isn't just past A.A. history. It keeps coming up—for instance, when a group debates whether to exclude alcoholics who have problems other than alcohol or have differing lifestyles. The Tradition mentions no such additional requirements, no demand that prospective members must not have a history of drug abuse, a certain lifestyle, or an institutional background. All alcoholics are welcome.

What about the group that seems to impose extra requirements, beyond "a desire to stop drinking"? This might be a "special interest" group or collection of groups in which, for example, each member must be a physician—or a young person, a man, a woman, a priest, or a law-enforcement officer. By their own account, those attending special interest groups consider themselves A.A. members first. They attend general-membership meetings as well as those that fill their other individual needs, and they remain devoted to A.A.'s primary purpose. These "special interest" groups offer only one instance of the diverse and inclusive membership within our Fellowship. Our Traditions allow unparalleled freedom, not only to every A.A. member, but to every A.A. group.

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

Third Step Prayer

God, I offer myself to Thee To build with me & to do with me as Thou wilt. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy love & Thy way of life. May I do Thy will always.

**Deadline....**

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

Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St.,
Suite 314
Worcester, MA
01605
or e-mail to:
Beacon@aaworcest.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@aaworcest.org

"The essence of humility in Step 3 is acknowledging and accepting our dependence on God. The essence of faith is trusting God." -

Big Book, p. 167

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

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. Sponsored by District 26 A.A.
Questions— Dan B. 978-895-3979 See flyer on page 8 of the digital *Beacon*

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	Anne G., Fred F., Sean K., Bill S.		
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,

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

**JOIN US FOR A WORKSHOP/PRESENTATION OF
THE 12 TRADITIONS OF A.A.**

"WHY IT WORKS"

WHEN: SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WHERE: THE FIRST CHURCH (U.U. STONE CHURCH)

15 WEST ST, LEOMINSTER MA

THIS IS A FREE EVENT

SPONSORED BY DISTRICT 26

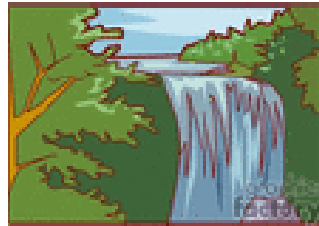
**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, LUNCH, LITERATURE AND A
FREE RAFFLE!**

**PRE-REGISTER, BRING A FRIEND AND/OR A SPONSEE AND
LEARN THINGS!**

**NEWCOMERS, OLDTIMERS, AND ANYONE IN BETWEEN IS
WELCOME**

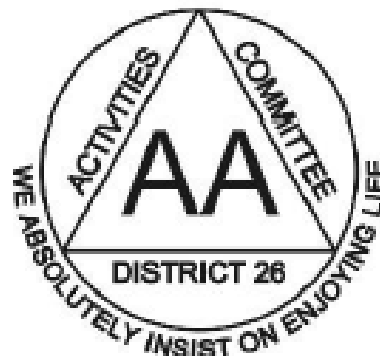
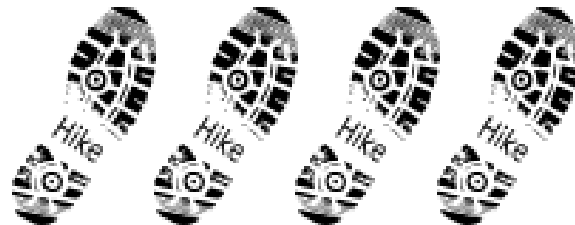
TO PRE-REGISTER, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE ROSI S., JOHN S.,
BRIAN N. OR RICHARD M. FOR SIGN UP SHEET. YOU MAY ALSO CONTACT
ROSI AT 978-413-8235, OR EMAIL ROSI.MOBILEMAIL@GMAIL.COM

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

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