

All Phone numbers have been changed to the Intergroup Office Phone number...

The Beacon

Inside this issue:

EACYPAA	1
Bookie Meeting	2
Help Wanted	3
Korte's Korner	4
Alcathon News	5
Bookie Board	6
Service Meetings	7

Deadline....

.....for information to go into the September issue of The Beacon is August 9th, 2002.

Information can be sent to:

Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St., Suite 309
Worcester, MA 01605

or e-mailed to:

BRANDYLH1@yahoo.com
(please use the word "beacon" in the subject line)

Tradition Eight

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

From The Traditions Checklist:

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?

2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?

3. Do I sometimes try to get *some* reward - even if not money - for my personal AA efforts?

4. Do I try to sound in AA like



stand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?

6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?

7. Have I paid enough attention to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*? To the pamphlet *AA Tradition - How It Developed*?

an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on *humility*?

5. Do I make an effort to under-

Copyright © by the AA Grapevine, Inc.; Reprinted with permission.

EACYPAA

The Eastern Area Convention of Young People in AA are pleased to note the following events:

August 4th, 2002 – Summer Picnic at Rogers Park in Brighton, MA. Call Debbie for more info (508) 752-9000.

August 16-18, 2002 – Camping

in Maine. Beaver Brook Campground, N. Monmouth, ME. Call Kayla for more info (508) 752-9000.

September 8, 2002 – Boat Cruise from the World Trade Center Wharf. Call Debbie for more info (508) 752-9000

April 10-13, 2003 – EACYPAA 1 – Hyatt Regency Cambridge. Contact Joe M. for more info (508) 752-9000

Please visit the calendar at:
<http://calendar.yahoo.com/eacypaacalendar/>

Timeline

June 2002 to May 2003

August 8, 2002 – Vote on Guideline Changes

September 12, 2002 - Vote on Guideline Changes

October 10, 2002

November 14, 2002

December 12, 2002

January 9, 2003 – Guidelines reviewed to determine if revisions are needed

February 13, 2003 – Nominations Committee appointed

March 13, 2003 – Nominations made for all officers and Committee chairpersons

April 10, 2003 – Elections and appointments

May 8, 2003 – New signature cards for bank account signed; Budgets proposed and voted on

Bookie Meeting

There will be a Bookie Exchange Meeting on Wednesday, September 4th, 2002 at the Intergroup Office, 100 Grove St., Suite 309, Worcester. The exchange will begin at 6:30pm and will be available until 7:45pm. Coffee will be served. Come and fill up those blank spots!!!

Step 8: Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Steering Committee & Committee Chairpersons

Chairperson – Brandy H.

Vice Chair – Bob D.

Secretary – Tom B.

Treasurer – Kimball M.

Assistant Treasurer – Glen S.

Trustees – Enzo H., Darlene V., Billy S., Ellen Mc.

Office Manager - John H.

Treatment Facilities – open

Correctional Facilities – Eric R.

H.A.L.T.line – Paul P.

Social Committee – Natasha H.

Public Information – John H.

Beacon Editor – Brandy H.

Liaison to District 25 – Kate F.

Liaison to Area 30 – Brandy H.

Alcathon Committee – Billy S.

If you need to speak to any of these people, you can leave a message at the Intergroup Office, 752-9000, and the staff will be happy to ask them to return your call.

Help Wanted

H.A.L.T.line is looking for volunteers to answer the phone from their homes when the office is closed. We currently have several hours open that need to be filled!! If you can help, even an hour a week please call Paul P. at (508) 752-9000.

Treatment Facilities needs groups to fill the new commitments that are coming up. If you can help, please call at the Intergroup Office.

Corrections Facilities is looking for people to get involved. Please contact the Intergroup Office for more details.

Public Information is looking for more people to get active with their committee. Please call John H. at (508) 752-9000.

Alcathon Committee needs people to help in many areas for the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years Alcathons. Please see the article elsewhere in this issue for more information and signup form.

Several of our Intergroup and District Committees are in need of help. Worcester Area Intergroup is trying to eliminate the need to have 'committees of one'. If you have one day a month you could devote to helping out on a Committee, please ask your Intergroup Delegate, GSR or call the Intergroup Office for more information.

Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove St., Suite 309
Worcester, MA 01605
(508) 752-9000
(508) 752-0755 (fax)

<http://www.ultranet.com/~step>

Office Hours:

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

Upcoming Events

August 2-4, 2002 – 9th Annual Pennsylvania State Convention. Carlisle, PA Call Lou @ (508) 752-9000

August 4th, 2002 – EACYPAA Summer Picnic at Rogers Park in Brighton, MA. Call Debbie for more info (508) 752-9000.

August 16-18, 2002 – EACYPAA Camping in Maine. Beaver Brook Campground, N. Monmouth, ME. Call Kayla for more info (508) 752-9000

September 8, 2002 – EACYPAA Boat Cruise from the World Trade Center Wharf. Call Debbie for more info (508) 752-9000.

September 13-15, 2002 – 49th Area 64 Tennessee State Convention. Kingsport, TN. Call Ann or Mike @ (508) 752-9000

September 29, 2002 – Area 30 Workshop Assembly. See your DCM for more info.

October 4-6, 2002 – North East Regional Convention will be held at the Sheraton South Portland Hotel in Portland Maine. Call Ted @ (508) 752-9000.

November 3, 2002 – Area 30 Elections Assembly. See your DCM for info.

November 8-10, 2002 – 39th Annual Massachusetts State AA Convention. Fitchburg, MA. Call Marilyn @ (508) 752-9000.

April 10-13, 2003 – EACYPAA 1 – Hyatt Regency Cambridge. Contact Joe M. for more info (508) 752-9000

It caught me by surprise, but not completely.

A bunch of us had wondered what happened to a friend I'd call Frank. (I'll call him Frank primarily because I don't have any friends named Frank) We wondered why his phone number was out of service and he hadn't given anyone a new number where he could be reached, why he hadn't returned any emails for weeks, why he hadn't talked to anyone at all.

I hoped for better, but assumed things were not good in Frank's world. Of course things had been going down hill for a while, a long while, (over thirty years to be precise), but as an alcoholic, I was always the last to become aware of my own decline, why should he be any different?

We aren't close, Frank and I, and we are different, but we are the same. Sort of like people that have experienced two distinctly different perils, but share the experience of peril just the same. We do share a peril, but Frank isn't aware of the danger. Oh, doctors warned him, the way they warn most of us, "if you don't do this, if you don't stop doing that" and so on. You have diabetes, treatable, but you have to cut down on the booze. To a guy like me, that means I stick to beer now, not surprisingly, that was the same conclusion Frank drew. The courts warned him, too, "if you do this again then blah blah blah". I can't recall if I actually heard what they said, or if I was already figuring out how I could continue to drink, but stay out of court. It all sounds like so much noise to a guy with a brain like mine, and maybe in the mind of a guy like Frank.

The threats worked...for a while. Even a drunk knows enough to lay low when they are threatened with jail time, but it wears off, it always wears off. Sounds like the promise (and not a good one) on page 24 of the big book, "at certain times, the alcoholic is unable to bring into his consciousness with sufficient force the memory of the suffering and humiliation of a week, or even a month ago..." If a man still has an alcoholic mind, he will drink again, and he will (fill in the blank with a self-destructive behavior of your choice) again.

It must've worn off when Frank made the decision to violate parole and do the very thing he got arrested for in the first place, naturally expecting different results. Maybe things would be different, *this* time. When Frank appeared on television after his arrest, the folks in his home state were a little disappointed when they caught wind of the news that he hadn't changed his ways as he had promised, and had violated probation. Now he has two state court systems to deal with.

We have an unspoken rule in A.A. of letting alcoholics diagnose themselves, even as people put on the blinker and slide into the passing lane, racing down the road to an alcoholic death, we let them call themselves what they want.

So...is Frank an alcoholic? Maybe not. Maybe Frank's a guy with "problems", problems that crop up 4 a.m. when the police knock on your door asking a lot of questions and taking you with them.

It frustrates me to no small amount to know that this never had to happen to Frank, the people he hurt this time, or his family. If he had just accepted help, help mandated by the court, help offered by his friends freely, none of this would have happened, none of it at all had to happen. But it did happen, and alcoholism has claimed another ten or fifteen peripheral victims.

I can only wonder if things could have been different had I been more persistent a year ago when I talked with him about drinking. Probably not, and maybe I would have rendered myself useless in the future, but that is something I can only sit and imagine.

This I do know: I am going to tell Frank the truth when I visit him in jail next month. He may have the option of calling himself what he wants, but I plan on telling him that he *may* have a

ONLINE....

Worcester Area Intergroup

NEW!!!

<http://www.aaworcester.org>

**Alcoholics Anonymous
General Service Office**

<http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org>

Grapevine

<http://www.aagrapevine.org>

Alcathon Committee News

2002 Alcathons Volunteers are needed to help at the 3 Alcathons Thanksgiving-Christmas-New Year

Alcathon Committee responsibilities consist of:

Determine site location, contact landlord and review policies regarding rent., initial set-up and final clean-up, purchasing of all supplies, sign making, coordinating & scheduling of groups, scheduling of host/hostesses, reviewing lottery (group time slots), review formats, review and maintain allocated budgets. First meeting will be: Thursday

August 22. 2002 7:00 PM
Worcester Area Intergroup – Suite 309
100 Grove St., Worcester

Host/Hostess responsibilities consist of:

Responsible for alcathon kitchen area, overseeing coffee preparation and refreshments, general housekeeping of meeting facilities. Service may be from 1 hour to as many hours as you wish. More than 1 AA member can serve during the same time frame. Suggested sobriety of 1 year, but less time if other host/hostess have 1 year.

If you wish to serve please provide the following information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Community: _____
Tel. No. _____

Alcathon Committee:
Host/Hostess: (times you wish & which Alcathon)

(Service)	Thanksgiving	Christmas	New Year
Alcathon Committee			
Host/Hostess			

Mail, fax, email, or call Worcester Area Intergroup 508-752-9000 steps@aaworcester.org

Co-Chairperson (Intergroup) Bill S. (508) 752-9000

Co-Chairperson (District 25) Bob D. (508) 752-9000 bobdsr@charter.net

fatal illness.

When was it that we started dulling that down? It may take one quick car wreck, or a bullet from a gun with your own (or someone else's) finger on the trigger, or it may be like being buried in an anthill with about nine ants- excruciating, irritating, and painfully slow, but this thing *will kill you*. I plan on telling him that untreated alcoholism has a 100% fatality rate, but is imminently treatable. I plan on telling him that I am his friend, and letting him know I'll do anything to help him except tell him "he's okay", "it wasn't his fault", or "the cops are idiots." I plan on telling him that this incarceration might have saved his life, might just be the best thing that's ever happened to him. Then I'll tell him that THERE IS A SOLUTION for what's wrong with him.

The truth is that I'll care about this guy and pray for him and his family no matter what he does, but I will not soft sell him and powder his bum. I won't tell him he's okay as he rots from the inside out. Life is too precious to keep the truth hidden in the dark, like it's a dirty little secret, or to protect someone's feelings at the expense of their very lives. Maybe the real shame is that he has no idea how beloved he is, or how precious is his life. Perhaps I should plan on sharing that with him, too.

Bookie Board

Auburn Group (*Wednesdays*
7:30-9pm)
Tony B. (508) 752-9000

Aurora Group (6:45pm-8pm)
Joanne K. (508) 752-9000 leave
message

Bellingham – Workshop
(*Mondays 7pm-8pm*)
outgoing only
Sean K. (508) 752-9000

Brookfield Sunday Morning
(*Sun. 10am*)
Leon F. (508) 752-9000

Clinton Shamrocks (*Tues.*
8:00pm-9:15pm)
Sean N. (508) 752-9000

Crozier (*Mondays 8-9:30pm*)
Paul G. (508) 752-9000

Douglas Maintenance and Re-
pair (*Thurs. 7-8pm*)
Paul P (508) 752-9000

Dudley Day At A Time
(*Thursdays 8:30-10pm*)
Kerry T. (508) 752-9000

Early Risers (*Worcester Sun*
10am)
Dayle O.
(508) 752-9000

Fellowship Group of Webster
Jason P (508) 752-9000

Four Corners (Worcester):
(*Wed. 8:00pm*)
John Y. (508) 752-9000

Greendale Group (*Worcester*
Fri. 8:30pm)
Paul H (508) 752-9000

Groton Easy Duz It (*Tuesday*
7:30pm)
Joe F. (508) 752-9000

Holden Thursday Night (*Thurs.*
8:30pm)
Gill B. (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Northboro):
(*Wed 8:00pm*)
David C. (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Worcester) (*Sat.*
6:45pm)
Laura R. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Straight Shooters
(*Thurs. 8:00pm*)
Brian B. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Sunday Best (*Sunday*
7:30pm)
David B. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Townline (*Sat. 8:00pm*)
Bob G. (508) 752-9000

Leominster Original (*Mon 7:45-*
9:00pm)
Ann P. (508) 752-9000

Millbury Traditions (*Saturdays*
7:30pm-8:30pm)
Donna (508) 752-9000

Northboro Saturday Morning
(*Sat. 10am*)
Chris C. (508) 752-9000

Putnam Young People's
(*Putnam, CT Fri. 8:00pm*)
Glenn R. (508) 752-9000

Sherborn Wednesday Night
(*Wed 8pm-9:15pm*)
Debbie C. (508) 752-9000

Southbridge Original (*Sun 6pm*)
Leo M. (508) 752-9000

Spencer Fellowship (*Mon.*
7:30pm)
Mike P. (508) 752-9000

Starting Anew (Holliston) (*Wed.*
8:00pm)
Elaine K. (508) 752-9000

Stay Active (*Thurs. 6:45pm*)
Chuck B. (508) 752-9000

Stow Sunday: (*Sun. 11:00 am*)
Tom S. (508) 752-9000

Top of The Hill (*Wed. 8pm*)
Jeanne M. (508) 752-9000 or
(508) 752-9000(cell)

Upton Capertown:(*Sat.*
1:30pm)
John H. (508) 752-9000

Upton Spirit (*Wednesday 8pm*)
Amy L. (508) 752-9000

Way Of Sobriety (Worcester)
(*Sun 10:00 am*)
Gina G. (508) 752-9000

Webster Joy of Living (*Mon.*
8:00pm)
Krista (508) 752-9000

Webster Triton (*Sundays 7:30-*
9:00pm)
Gail D. (508) 752-9000

Worcester Young People (*Tues.*
7:30pm)
Mike S. (508) 752-9000

**Area 30 Joint Treatment
Facilities Committee
Calendar Coordinator
Tracey M.**
(508) 752-9000

*If you are the bookie for
your home group and wish to
have your number posted
here, please call or write to
the Intergroup Office. This is
a great way to learn who the
Bookies are for other groups
and to get your number out
to others!!*

Service Meetings

INTERGROUP / DISTRICT 25

Steering Committee
St. Joan of Arc Church
570 Lincoln St.
Worcester
2nd Thursday
6:15pm

Intergroup Delegates
St. Joan of Arc Church
570 Lincoln St.
Worcester
2nd Thursday
7:00pm

Public Information
Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
2nd Monday
7:00pm

Joint Treatment
Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
TBA

Joint Corrections
Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
TBA

Social Committee
Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester
TBA

Beacon Committee
Intergroup Office
100 Grove St. # 309
Worcester

TBA

District 25 (GSR's)
St. Joan of Arc Church
570 Lincoln St.
Worcester
1st Tuesday
7:30pm

District 26 (GSR's)
Local 60 Union Hall
Mechanic St.
Leominster
1st Thursday
7-9pm

AREA 30
Eastern Mass. General Service Committee
St. John's
80 Mt. Auburn
Watertown
4th Wednesday
8:00pm

Grapevine Committee
Boston Central Service
368 Congress St. Lower Level
Boston
4th Sunday
1:00pm-3:00pm

CPC Committee
Boston Central Service
368 Congress St. Lower Level
Boston
2nd Thursday
7:00pm

Joint Treatment Facilities
St. Luke's
950 East St.

Dedham
3rd Friday
8:00pm

Archives Committee
St. John's
80 Mt. Auburn
Watertown
3rd Thursday
7:30pm

Literature Committee
Carter Methodist Church
800 Highland Ave.
Needham
1st Monday
7:30pm

Corrections Committee
Boston Central Service
368 Congress St. Lower Level
Boston
4th Thursday
7:00pm

Public Information
Boston Central Service
368 Congress St. Lower Level
Boston
1st Thursday
7:00pm

Responsibility Declaration

I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

The Beacon Subscription Form
Get The Beacon delivered right to your home!!
Please print neatly!

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please bring this form, along with \$5.00 for a one year subscription to the Intergroup Office, or mail to:

Worcester Area Intergroup
100 Grove Street Suite 309
Worcester, MA 01605
ATTN: 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: 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.