

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

THE BEACON

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Deadline....

.....for information to go into the November issue of The Beacon is October 12th, 2001. 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 TEN

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

From The Traditions Checklist:

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?

2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?

3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?

4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?



5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?

6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?

7. How can I manifest the

spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

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NEW INTERGROUP DELEGATE MEETING PLACE

Chairperson – Enzo H.
Vice Chair – Jack H.
Secretary – Kate G.
Treasurer – Joanne O.
Assistant Treasurer – Kimball M.
Trustees - Brandy H., Bob D., Eric R., Tom W.

As per a vote of the Intergroup Delegates in June, The Worcester Area Intergroup Steering Committee and Dele-

gates meeting Will now be held at St. Joan of Arc Church on Lincoln St. in Worcester. Call the Intergroup Office if you need directions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 19-21, 2001 – 31st Northeast Regional Convention will be held at the Hilton Parsippany in Parsippany, NJ. For more information call (508) 752-9000.

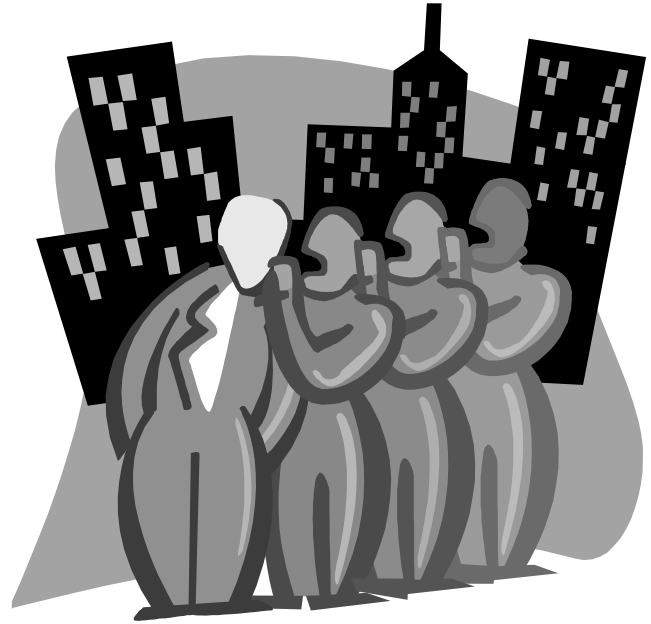
October 26-28, 2001 – 2001 HMB Area Convention will be held at the Radisson Hotel in Utica, NY. For more information, write to: 51st HMB Area Convention P.O.Box 8112 Utica, NY 13505.

November 1-4, 2001 – 40th Annual Hawaii AA Convention will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. For more information call (508) 752-9000

November 9-11, 2001— 38th Ma State AA Convention will be held at the Royal Plaza Hotel & Conference Center. Call Annemarie M. (508) 752-9000 for more information.

February 22-24, 2002 – NERAASA 2002 will be held at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott in Pittsburgh, PA. For more info call: Arlene H(508) 752-9000

October 4-6, 2002 – Northeast Regional Convention will be held at the Sheraton South Portland Hotel in Portland Maine. More details to come.



Step 10:

Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Deaf AA members requiring interpreters for AA meetings can call Paul Hostovsky (508) 752-9000 or e-mail at Paul.Hostovsky@state.ma.us

There is also a number to call for an update of meeting in the Boston Area that are interpreted, the number is (508) 752-9000 and this list of meetings

is updated every Friday.

Large print Meeting Lists are now available for those with vision problems. Call the Intergroup Office to find out how to get a copy for yourself or someone you know!!



HELP WANTED: ways to get involved...

H.A.L.T.line is looking for volunteers to answer the phone from their homes when the office is closed. Currently, there are 18 hours in the week left to fill. If you can give, even an hour a week, please call Paul P. at (508) 752-9000.

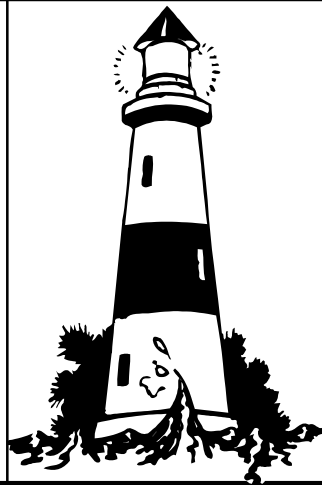
Treatment Facilities needs groups to fill the new commitments that are coming up. If you can help, please call at the Intergroup Office.

Corrections Facilities is looking for people to get involved. Please contact the Intergroup Office for more details. (508) 752-9000.

Several of our Intergroup and District Committees are in need of help. 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. We are currently looking for active Chairpeople for CPC and Archives committees.

Addresses needed!!

We still have several groups in this area that we do not have contact information for. The contact person would receive The Beacon to bring to their groups. To find out if we have your group contact, please call Brandy at [REDACTED]



Need more copies of The Beacon?

Visit Worcester Area Intergroup or come to the Intergroup Delegates Meeting and pick up more. You can have the convenience of having The Beacon delivered to you!! Just \$5 will give you a one year subscription mailed to your home. See back page for subscription form or pick up forms at the Intergroup Office.

PLEA FOR HELP

The Intergroup Office reports that there is a huge need for 12-Step volunteers. There just aren't enough to cover the whole area and we need for the hand of AA to be there to welcome newcomers and talk to people who just aren't sure AA is for them. There is a form in

this issue to fill out if you are interested. It could involve anything from visiting a wet drunk, to meeting someone at a meeting. Your level of involvement is completely up to you. Please help us help those who are still sick and suffering.



ONLINE....

Worcester Area Intergroup

NEW!!!

<http://www.aaworcester.org>

Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office

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

Grapevine

<http://www.aagrapevine.org>

KORTE'S CORNER

Wow, I really don't know what to write. I've done everything I can to avoid finally sitting and typing...typing what? I don't know. I sat in front of the computer screen playing a game of solitaire for an hour that I truly can't stand, just to avoid writing this article.

I am moving out of state next month and thought this would be a fun, "afraid of moving to the south" article, but Tuesday, September 11th changed all that. I've wrestled with an appropriate topic, fearful that I will launch into some foolish political diatribe, or worse, try to force my philosophy of spirituality onto you so you can "feel better". I vowed I would not do this with my friends, yet when they asked for my opinion, invariably, they got it, until the pain of forcing my will started to bite, then I finally stopped, and prayed. You see, I can't give my experience to anyone, it's *my* experience, just as your experience is yours.

I guess what I'll do is share my experience of the past week. First off, I felt sad, especially when I heard about the second plane. My alcoholic mind immediately flashed to terrorism, and knew there would be more innocent people killed later, some by them, some by us. I dropped to my knees and prayed for everyone involved, including terrorists and future victims. Later in the week, I would recognize that this is an obvious example of the psychic change levied by the 12 steps. I NEVER would have prayed for anyone that enacted a cruel act against me or my people.

As Thursday rolled around, I became concerned that I wasn't upset enough. My alcoholic mind told me I needed to feel worse inside about what happened or I wasn't a decent person. I began to use my alcoholic mind to "figure this out"- a sure sign of trouble. It dawned on me that a close friend of mine had recently been diagnosed with a rare and quite troublesome form of cancer, and I hadn't felt bad about that either. This was particularly unsettling because my mother died of cancer when I was ten years old. I talked to my sponsor about my lack of deep sadness and my concern about that.

I am feeling insignificant. I begin to cop a "who cares" attitude. This is big trouble for a guy like me.

"Big deal" I say to myself, "you help a few drunks,

but what is that really worth-look at the TV screen."

All the while, I kept a little band around my wrist, there for the purpose of reminding me to pray for my friend and the victims, and fortunately, I did so constantly. Those moments would prove to be the only ones I would not be using to dwell on myself.

Friday comes and I am filling in at the recovery (half-way) house. I end up running a group on the first step. A guy that had seven years of sobriety and another man that previously had thirteen years thank me profusely, telling me they never heard most of the stuff I talked about. Waving them off, I begin singing a familiar tune. I am focused on me and my "feelings". I am annoyed with God yet again because I don't *feel* "connected". I want a more obvious arrangement with God where His presence is blatant, obvious, obtrusive even. In my alcoholic mind, a relationship with God should feel like a drug-crazed sex binge. I want flashing lights. I want loud music, God's voice booming through my head, "you're the best Korte, you're my favorite Korte, boy! are you special!"

As I sat in my meeting Friday night pining about my poor connection to the almighty, a smiling voice laughed in my ear. I finally could see the obvious. God was saying to me, "what do I have to do- a Mexican hat dance?"

It became clear to me how present God had really been for me that week. It hit me like a brick-I had never been angry, not once. How is that even possible? A guy that gets mad when someone tries to slip through a red light or sneak by the express check out lane with fifteen items doesn't get angry when a tragedy like this hits? On top of that, as self-obsessed as I had been at times, God had found a way to help others through me in spite of myself. Thank heaven I had continued to follow directions. It dawned on me that the men at the recovery home probably didn't think I was insignificant. The other men I sponsor didn't think I was insignificant. The hundreds of wonderful people in my life didn't feel that way, yet I was willing to take my alcoholic mind's "feeling" at its word.

The key chain that rested comfortably in my pocket-a gift from my friend with the cancer-came to mind. "*Serenity is not freedom from the storm, but calm amid the storm.*" I realized that God had been with me all week. I hadn't been worried about the victims or my friend because I intuitively knew they were okay. I had prayed continuously for them, what else could I do? Worrying was a waste of time.

Life is going to happen, there's no stopping it. A friend of mine says "none of us is getting out of this alive". Live your life to the fullest and become the person you were intended to be-it's a blast.

A story about a man that stayed in the burning building with his quadriplegic friend while most ran for their lives came to mind. It was not possible for the disabled man to leave his chair, and the chair wouldn't fit down the stairs, so his friend stayed with him. Is there possibly a better way to die than that? Could anyone be more in the moment, more reliant on God, more trusting in God? How many people's lives will be affected by that man's courage and faith? I know if I was running down the stairwell and saw that, I'd never forget it for a second, how could I?

None of us is getting out of this human experience alive, so live well. Live all you can. Tell people you love them. *Show* people you love them. Climb a tree. Get a dog. Run as fast as you can across a field. Even if your 48 and haven't run in ten years, it's faster than you'll be able to run in another ten years. Kiss your wife and tell her she's beautiful. Take your kid to the park even if you'd rather watch the ballgame on TV. Thank God for the person you are. If you don't like that person, ask God to help you change. Do it *today*. Help someone. Smile. Let someone go in front of you in traffic. When someone does something to make you angry, stop and ask yourself how important it really is. Then ask yourself if you've ever done exactly what that person is doing. Laugh for no apparent reason.

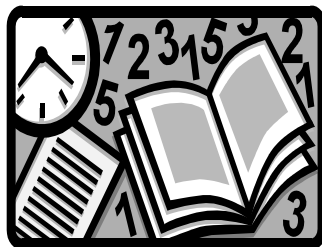
You see, there might not be a tomorrow so live today like you've always dreamt of living.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is Korte's last article for us before he moves south. We will miss you, Korte!! Good luck in all you do)

BOOKIE BOARD

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!!

- Upton Capertown:(*Sat. 1:30pm*)
Cindy S. (508) 752-9000
- How It Works (Worcester): (*Sat 6:45pm*)
John S. (508) 752-9000
- How It Works (Northboro): (*Wed 8:00pm*)
David C. (508) 752-9000
- Hopedale Ray Of Hope: (*Sun 10:30am*)
Carol Y. or Ricky B. (508) 752-9000
- 4 Corners (Worcester): (*Wed. 8:00pm*)
John Y. (508) 752-9000
- Way Of Sobriety (Worcester) (*Sun 10:00 am*)
Debbie P. (508) 752-9000
- Stow Sunday: (*Sun. 11:00 am*)
Tom S. (508) 752-9000
- Holden Thursday Night (*Thurs. 8:30pm*)
Gill B. (508) 752-9000
- Starting Anew (Holliston) (*Wed. 8:00pm*)
Elaine K. (508) 752-9000
- GOYA (Whitinsville) (*Thurs. 8:00pm*)
Mike H. (508) 752-9000
Marybeth N. (508) 752-9000
- Worcester Young People (*Tues. 7:30pm*)
Jamie F. (508) 752-9000or (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
- Millis Fellowship (*Thurs. 8:00pm*)
Bill G. (508) 752-9000
- Douglas Maintenance and Repair (*Thurs. 7-8pm*)
Paul P. (508) 752-9000
- Top Of The Hill (*Wed. 8:00pm*)
Jeanne M. (508) 752-9000
- Webster Joy of Living (*Mon. 8:00pm*)
Harry (508) 752-9000
- Hudson Townline (*Sat. 8:00pm*)
Bob G. (508) 752-9000
- Greendale Group (*Worcester Fri. 8:30pm*)
Paul H. (508) 752-9000
- Putnam Young People's (*Putnam, CT Fri. 8:00pm*)
Glenn R. (508) 752-9000
- What's Up of AA (*Thurs. 7:30pm*)
Mike S. (508) 752-9000or (508) 752-9000
- Westboro Sunday Morning (*Sunday 11-noon*)
Jim L. (508) 752-9000
- Upton Spirit (*Wednesday*)
Amy L. (508) 752-9000
- Groton Easy Duz It (*Tuesday 7:30pm*)
Joe F. (508) 752-9000
- Early Risers (*Worcester Sun 10am*)
Dayle (508) 752-9000
- Leominster Original (*Mon 7:45-9:00pm*)
James S. (508) 752-9000
- Clinton Shamrocks (*Tues. 7:15p-8:30pm*)
Cheryl D. (508) 752-9000
- Aurora Group (*6:45pm-8pm*)
Joanne K. (508) 752-9000leave message
- New Way Of Life (*Mon. 7pm-8pm*)
Audrey M. (508) 752-9000
- Sherborn Wednesday Night (*Wed 8pm-9:15pm*)
Debbie C. (508) 752-9000
- 7AM Group (*daily*)
Alan S. (508) 752-9000
- Southbridge Sunday Night
John B. (508) 752-9000
- Millbury Traditions
Donna (508) 752-9000



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

NEW!!!
<http://www.aaworcester.org>

Office Hours:

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

MEETING CHANGES & ANNIVERSARIES

Is your meeting changing time or location? Closing? New Meeting starting? Let us know!! Send the information to the Intergroup Office and it will go into The Beacon, the next update of the Meeting List and updated on our web site!!



NEW!! Sober Pride (gay open discussion) Meeting Sundays from 6pm to 7pm at 275 Main St. Webster.

Main Building, 2nd floor.

NEW!! A New Way Of Life open speaker Meeting Mondays 7pm-8pm at the Trinitarian Church, Route 32, Gilbertville.

CHANGE!! The Holden Group Thursday night meeting will be changing their meeting time from 8:30-9:30pm to 8:00-9:00pm beginning in September.

CHANGE!! It's About Time Mondays in Worcester will now meet from 7pm to 8:30pm.

NEW!! What's Up of AA (open/ different meeting every week) 7:30pm at 79 Pleasant St. Worcester.

CHANGE!! Friday night meeting at Assumption College is now in La Maison,

NEW!! Milford Nooner (Big Book) Wednesday noon to 1pm at Trinity Episcopal Church Milford.

Articles needed!! We are currently looking for a few people to write articles for future issues of The Beacon. If you would like to contribute an article, call Brandy at [REDACTED]

PROPOSED INTERGROUP MEETING TIMELINE

June 2001 to May 2002

October 11, 2001 - Outreach from Area 30 Literature Committee.

November 8, 2001 - Thanksgiving Alcathon Drawing. Outreach from Area 30 Grapevine Committee.

December 13, 2001 - Christmas and New Years Alcathon Drawings. Outreach from the Area 30 CPC Committee

January 10, 2002 - Guidelines reviewed to determine if revisions are needed. Outreach from Area 30 Public Information Committee

February 14, 2002 - Nominations Committee appointed

March 14, 2002 - Nominations made for all officers and Committee chairpersons

April 11, 2002 - Elections and appointments

May 9, 2002 - New signature cards

for bank account signed; Budgets proposed and voted on

SERVICE MEETINGS

INTERGROUP

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
 2nd Monday
 7:00pm

Corrections
 Intergroup Office
 100 Grove St. # 309
 Worcester
 TBA

Social Committee
 Intergroup Office
 100 Grove St. # 309
 Worcester
 1st Monday
 6:30pm

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

DISTRICT

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

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



I am responsible....

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

Checks may be made 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.