

Worcester Area Intergroup



The **Beacon Weekly**

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aaworcester.org

Intergroup Office
Is **CLOSED** until
further notice.

Please call the office
number (shown
above) or email the
Office Manager
(shown below) for
any assistance
needed.

The Beacon Weekly Staff

1/2020 — 12/2020

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Keep the chain
going— Pass this
Along

Let us know how
we are doing—
beacon@

Intergroup Steering Committee Meets to Address WAI Financial Concerns

“Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) is not a sinking ship and the Steering Committee has made a commitment to keep the WAI service organization running during the pandemic and beyond, but we need your help!”

(Complete text of the Steering Committee’s letter appears on page 3, and an informational flyer outlining WAI activities is on page 4)

Worcester Area Intergroup Presents
VIRTUAL BIG BOOK
JEOPARDY!

July 25, 7pm — 9pm Zoom Meeting ID: 914 816 169 62
Password: JEOPARDY

Contestants Needed — If you have knowledge of The Big Book and want to compete, submit your team of three alcoholics to:

social@AAWorcester.org by July 11th
See the flyer on page 6

WAI Seeks Suggestions and Holds Zoom Event to Discuss and Decide Fate of Alcathons

Send your ideas by July 5 to: alcathon@aaworcester.org

See the flyer on page 5

Next Alcathon Committee Meeting: Friday, July 10th 5:30 PM
<https://zoom.us/j/99682321007> Password - Sober2020

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.



WAI's VIRTUAL LOCAL MEETING SUPPORT APP SOME AREA MEETINGS RESUMING IN-PERSON

<https://so7ey.glideapp.io/>



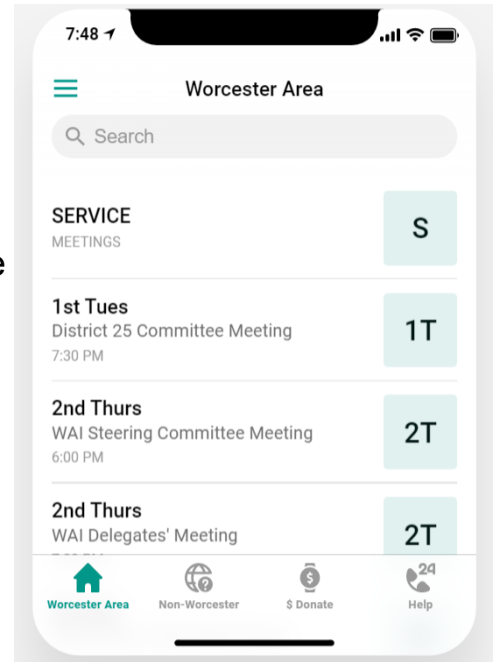
QR CODE
Scan with camera to install WAI app – (QR Code App required)

Worcester Area Intergroup's home page features a Virtual Meeting box with a link to a Web App for WAI activities. There is also spreadsheet listing Virtual A.A. meetings in Massachusetts, and the Worcester area.

<https://bit.ly/2WlpfBD> (left tab) The spreadsheet's left tab includes links to **184** meetings in the Central Mass. and surrounding areas, *some of which are resuming in-person meetings.*

Some meetings have plans resume to 'in-person' status—these are highlighted in yellow in the 'Notes' column on the right. [see illustration below]

If your group plans to resume in-person meetings, please let Worcester Intergroup know so the WAI list can be updated. The spreadsheet includes a second tab (the right tab) listing **65** online meetings in related areas. All meetings setup using the Worcester Intergroup account require a password to keep 'bots and hackers out — The password for attending is **Sober2020**



Eastern Massachusetts Central Service meeting list —

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/12-gRXU_fNZ2ggNxl2KdCbzODwR9mNvVW

350 meetings

These meetings are not associated with Worcester Area Intergroup. Any questions or concerns must be directed to the meeting itself.

Day	Time (ET)	Meeting Name	Topic/Meeting Format	ZOOM Link	Meeting ID	Password	Phone Number	Notes
Saturday	5:00 PM	RDU Fellowship	Boston Saturday Speaker Discussion	https://zoom.us/j/9963323885	996 332 3885	None	1 929 436 2866	
Saturday	10:00 PM	1 Day at a Time	1 Day at a Time	https://zoom.us/j/773878425	773 878 425	None	1 646 876 9923	
Saturday	10:00 PM	Sober Voices Group	Daily Reflections	https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home		654443#	1 712 432 0075	Also meeting in person at regular location
Saturday	10:00 PM	Sober Voices Group	AA Topic Discussions	https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home		654443#	1 712 432 0075	https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home

Worcester Area meeting list

Non-Worcester Area meeting list

Yellow Highlight — In-Person Meetings Resuming



June 26, 2020

Dear Worcester Area Members of Alcoholics Anonymous:

"We are like passengers of a great liner the moment after rescue from shipwreck when camaraderie, joyousness and democracy pervade the vessel from steerage to Captain's table."

Page 17 Alcoholics Anonymous

Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) is not a sinking ship and the Steering Committee has made a commitment to keep the WAI service organization running during the pandemic and beyond, but we need your help!

In response to an article in the June 20th Beacon regarding the financial status of the Worcester Area

Intergroup, the Steering Committee held an emergency meeting Thursday, June 25th. The committee feels it is important to address the article with this follow up letter.

First and foremost we want to thank all of the members and groups of Alcoholics Anonymous who have contributed financially and continue to during this turbulent time. It is because of your donations that WAI has been able to continue the important work we do as a vital service organization in the Worcester area.

We also want to acknowledge that although we run with a very small budget, we are not in quite as dire circumstances as the article implied. That said, we continue to have expenses, which includes (but not limited to) rent for the physical office, payroll for Brandy Harris, Office Manager, internet/phone, website hosting, and committee expenses.

Last night during the emergency meeting we thoroughly reviewed expenses and income. In order to maintain WAI through the pandemic we need to take in a minimum of \$5,000 a month. Prior to the pandemic the WAI bookstore sales, combined with group contributions, were enough to keep Intergroup running.

Thankfully, individual member contributions have increased, but overall group contributions are down. Also, due to groups not meeting in person (no more raffles and anniversaries being acknowledged electronically, mostly without coins), the sale of literature and coins has drastically decreased. Sales do continue coming in through the website, but not enough to make up for the physical storefront being closed. Due to this dramatic drop in sales, WAI will continue to rely on member contributions to stay afloat.

Even on a drastically reduced budget we have a life raft ready and waiting which includes:

- Website: volunteer run with a nominal monthly fee for website hosting.
- The Treatment Committee: volunteer run with no monthly cost.
- HALTline: volunteer run with a commitment to pay for the phone line.
- Alcathons: these may be virtual with zero cost or the committee may need to collect their own funds or negotiate for an in person meeting location.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Contribute financially by mail or through the website
- Shop at the WAI online bookstore
- Volunteer your time! There are important positions on the Steering Committee that need to be filled; Alternate Chairperson, Assistant Treasurer, Alternate Secretary.

Stay safe and stay sober. Together we can weather this storm and continue the vital service that the Worcester Area Intergroup provides in our recovery community.

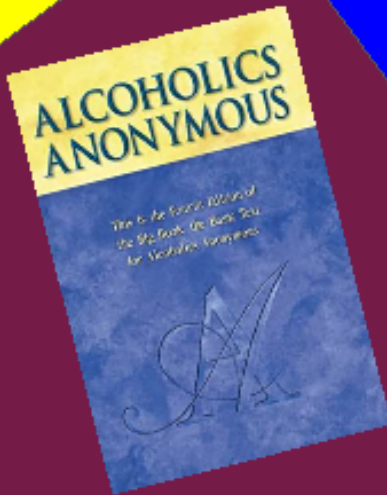
Yours in service,

The Worcester Area Intergroup Steering Committee



Keeping Worcester area sober since 1974!

GIVE TODAY!



WHY WE NEED YOU MORE THAN EVER.

The Worcester Area Intergroup has relied on bookstore sales and group contributions to keep the service organization running. With the physical store location closed since March and groups meeting online, income is down. We are relying more than ever on member contributions to keep the WAI office open to the newcomer and you! We are so appreciative of the member contributions to date, your contribution is what keeps us going.

TWO WAYS TO HELP:

1. Contribute online or by mail!
2. Shop in the online bookstore!

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove Street, Suite 314, Worcester, MA 01605

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



WHAT IS AA?

Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE?

Contributions are welcome from members of AA. Due to the 7th tradition we cannot accept donations from people who are not members.

WAI COMMITTEES

- Alcathon
- Corrections
- HALTline
- Public Information
- Social
- The Beacon
- Treatment Facilities
- Website / Technology

For more information, to contribute or shop visit aaworcester.org

CALL US 508.752.9000

IMPORTANT!!

ALCATHON CONCERNS!!



Decision MUST be made at the next meeting (see below)

Worcester Area Intergroup/District 25 Alcathon Committee faces a tough decision and we need YOUR input!!

With the current pandemic situation life has changed the way we do things. Our Primary Purpose is to help other alcoholics achieve sobriety, but we must also be responsible citizens. FACTS: 1) we do not know what the pandemic situation will be by November (social distancing? How do we enforce the 6 foot ruling?) 2) we do not know if any facilities will be open and allow us to rent 3) most important—FINANCES. Both District 25 and WAI are running on diminishing funds. Contributions are down across the board and product sales are down significantly.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Run the Alcathons on Zoom
- 2) Try to find a place to have them and shorten to 12 hours each with no coffee or food.

* Do we then ask people to make contributions specifically for the Alcathons? Will this further diminish regular contributions?

LET US KNOW HOW YOU FEEL BY JULY 5TH!

Email your thoughts and ideas to:

alcathon@aaworcester.org

Next Alcathon Committee Meeting:

Friday, July 10th 5:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99682321007>

Password - Sober2020





**July 25th
7pm - 9pm**

Big Book Jeopardy hosted by WAI
is back by popular demand!

Zoom Meeting ID: 914 816 169 62
Password: JEOPARDY

Two ways to enjoy the fun, sign in and watch
or submit a team to compete!

Contestants Needed!

If you have knowledge of the Big Book and want compete submit
your team of three alcoholics to:

social@aaworcester.org by July 11th

Info Needed: Team Name | Team Contact & Email



**One Laugh at a Time -
Mark Lundholm**

Who doesn't need a laugh these days? Mark, a comic in recovery, performs stand up sessions poking fun at the insanity of our disease.

This 1+ hour video is filled with sharp-eyed observations that many will identify with...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJPv9IPRgc0>



SELF-SUPPORT

The Seventh Tradition states that Alcoholics Anonymous is self-supporting through our own contributions. The contributions help to cover the group's expenses. But the Seventh Tradition is more than simply paying for rent and other group expenses. It is both a privilege and a responsibility of individual groups and members to ensure that our organization, at every level, remains forever self-supporting and free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose.

The monetary amount of each contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that joins us in unity with A.A. groups around the world.

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Some facts:

- Currently about 43.7% of groups contribute to the General Service Office.
- Costs of Services provided by G.S.O. (as of 2018) are approximately \$7.40 per member per year.
- Gross profit from A.A. literature sales account for over 50% of G.S.O.'s revenue.
- Your contributions help ensure the future of our Fellowship worldwide.

Personal thoughts:

- What is the value of your sobriety?
- Does your group know that contributions may be made online at AA.org?
- Gratitude, expressed through contributions, reaches the still-suffering alcoholic.



Why Bill W. Wrote the 12 Steps Twice

By Susan Cheever, author of *'My Name is Bill'*

The AA founder penned two versions of the 12 Steps, separated by 15 years and a lifetime of troubles. Their differences will surprise you.

The 12 Steps are the heart of Alcoholics Anonymous—but which 12 Steps?

The two principal versions of the 12 Steps are markedly different in history and in spirit. One was written by a young, optimistic Bill Wilson on the pink cloud of early sobriety; the other was written by Wilson 15 years later when he was disillusioned and suffering from crippling depression. He wrote the first version in a borrowed office with a pretty secretary transcribing; he wrote the second in a cinderblock shack built to escape visitors, with a judgmental editor so disgusted with Wilson's shenanigans that he broke away from AA a few years later. Needless to say, the two versions—one published in Alcoholics Anonymous (aka the Big Book) in 1939; the other in 1953's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions—paint very different pictures of the problem of alcoholism and its AA solution.

In the spring of 1938, AA was a fledgling organization, little more than a brainstorm in the minds of two native Vermonters who had managed to stop drinking. It was Bill's idea to write a book for people who couldn't get to AA meetings. He soon realized that he needed a structure for the book.

One night at home in Brooklyn, taking as a model the six tenets of the Oxford Group, a Christian evangelical group of which both Wilson and Smith had been members, he began writing. "I relaxed and asked for guidance," he recalled later. "With a speed that was astonishing...I completed the first draft." When he numbered the steps he had written, there were twelve.

As each chapter was finished, it was circulated in New York and Akron for editing by veteran newsmen who had gotten sober in AA. Some pages of the original manuscript are almost illegible because of the many edits, most of which make the text more inclusive and less Christian. For instance, Bill Wilson's first draft of the seventh step read: "Humbly, on our knees, asked God to forgive our shortcomings." The phrase "on our knees" was deleted, even as the phrase "as we understood him" was added to the word "God" in the third step.

It was more than a decade—and a World War—later, when AA was becoming so popular that Bill Wilson avoided meetings, before he thought that it was time for some system of governing and by-laws for the organization. By then he had read thousands of letters written by groups all over the world, many with the same questions and a few with the same solutions.

(Continued on page 10)



Why Bill W. Wrote the 12 Steps Twice

(Continued from page 9)

To bring all the knowledge together he planned a new book of "twelve traditions"—these are the by-laws—and an expansion of the 12 Steps. The steps in the Big Book are often brief and run together; Bill wanted to amplify each step and give it its due.

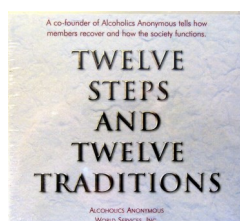
Dr. Bob had died in 1950, and Bill and Lois lived in the shingled house called Stepping Stones in Bedford Hills, New York. To edit the new book, Bill tapped AA friend Tom Powers, who had worked in advertising and lived nearby in Chappaqua, and magazine editor Betty Love. The three met in the morning in Wit's End, the cinderblock office Bill had built on a ridge above his house. Soon after they began the work, Bill was felled with the third disabling depression of his life, which he called a "period of blackness." Some mornings, Tom Powers said, Bill would just put his head down on his desk and weep while Powers and Love tapped out the new steps on Bill's typewriter.

The darkness in which the new steps were composed is reflected in the harshness of their tone. In step four in *Alcoholics Anonymous*, for instance, readers are gently led to the idea that they may have some part in their own misfortunes. There is no judgment. But in step four in the *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, readers are told that they are "tyrannized" by their desires, which has resulted in emotional "deformities." Readers are scolded for imposing their instincts on others and giving in to uncontrollable desires for prestige with a resulting "perverse soul-sickness." The *Big Book* promises that God is waiting: "when we drew near him he disclosed himself to us!" The *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* often describes a God who can seem unjust or heavy-handed.

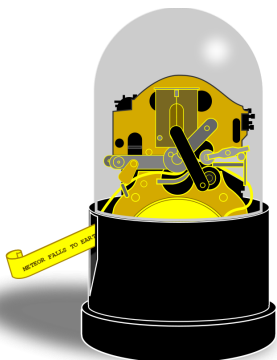
"A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds," Ralph Waldo Emerson, another New Englander, famously wrote. AA literature is magnificently inconsistent, often contradicting itself or dramatically changing its point of view, as it did about the steps from 1938 to 1953. This was part of Bill Wilson's ability to make AA welcoming to almost anyone who needed help. It's hard to pick a fight with someone who is on your side.

Writer Susan Cheever is the author of *'My Name Is Bill,'* a biography of Bill W. This is a condensed version of her article on the Steps. For the complete article go to:

<https://www.thefix.com/content/Bill-W-twelve-steps-two-versions8676>



Story Courtesy of
The Cyber Sot



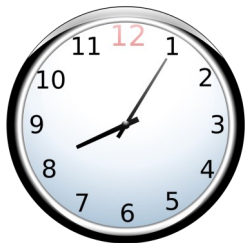
The WAI Ticker

I am responsible...

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

Step Seven:

“Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.”



Meeting List Changes

Changes to a meeting name, its time, its format or its location, or new meetings and groups closings -

Send all meeting changes to: beacon@aaworcester.org and to:
officemanager@aaworcester.org

For meetings resuming in-person, please submit the ‘Meeting Update Form’ available on the WAI home page



Group Anniversaries

Send Anniversary Info to: beacon@aaworcester.org

Special Events!



- ♦ Big Book Jeopardy — July 25, 7pm — 9pm
 - ⇒ See the flyer on page 6
- ♦ Alcatraz Committee Meeting: Friday, July 10th
 - ⇒ See page 5 for details
- ♦ 2020 INTERNATIONAL A.A. CONVENTION—Detroit, A VIRTUAL EVENT
 - ⇒ "Love and Tolerance Is Our Code"
 - ⇒ A.A. Stories (video)
 - ⇒ ‘Carry the Message’ - Public Info, Corrections, and Accessibility
 - ⇒ Available in English, Español, Français, and ASL
 - ⇒ <https://2020convention.aa.org/>



The Seventh Tradition

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

We do have to be practical. A group can hardly hold its regular meetings on a street corner, and an empty basket won't fill a coffee urn. As soon as we become active in a group, we learn how many expenses are involved in making its meetings effective. Then our horizons broaden. What about that intergroup or central office so many of us called to ask for help? Phone companies don't give free service. Beyond our own locality, we learn about the A.A. General Service Office and the work it does for groups everywhere. A.A. activity is self-supporting at all levels, and in every case the responsibility comes right back to us, the individual members, for we are A.A.

Perhaps, especially when we are very new, our contributions clink, rather than rustle. The first members were in the same fix, and it seemed to them that A.A. would need more outside help than the modest gifts then coming in. Their plans required grand-scale philanthropy. (Tradition Six hadn't evolved yet; Bill W. recalled a scheme for “a chain of hospitals.”) But John D. Rockefeller Jr., an early friend said, “I am afraid that money will spoil this thing.” A few A.A.'s had already reached the same conclusion; gradually, this minority became a majority as experience showed that members themselves could provide enough to finance A.A.'s proper aim. In its simplest application, Tradition Seven is easily understood; when we hear about a new A.A. group be-ing started with funds from a Federal antipoverty pro-gram, our quick reaction is “Somebody goofed!” But then we come to “borderline” cases: Groups put on a raffle for the benefit of their central office and invite the public to buy tickets; a hometown paper runs an ad for an A.A. dance and show. Both projects would be routine for any other society. For us, both mean that we've got the hand out again, asking nonmembers for money.

Often, of course, we don't have to ask. A.A. is now high on the worthy-cause list; G.S.O. and groups politely turn down many unsolicited gifts and bequests. In Tradition Seven, there's a note of realism: Handsome gifts may have strings attached. We even put a limit of \$5,000 on the amount members may leave to A.A. in their wills or contribute annually while living, so that none of us can buy influence in A.A., no matter how rich we are.

Money may pose a different problem if a group treasury grows too fat, beyond a prudent reserve. Squabbling over uses for the spare cash, groups have lost their unity and strayed from their purpose. But there's one simple solution that strengthens our unity and advances our purpose: Give the excess to A.A. activities and services....



Worcester Area Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form

The Faith Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than five dollars each month during our drinking days. "When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who

still suffer." Bill W, *Language of the Heart*

YES, I want to help continue to carry our life-saving message of hope.

I will pay: Annually(\$60) Quarterly(\$15) Monthly(\$5)

Here is my contribution of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (in case of questions): _____

Please make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup, 100 Grove St., Suite
314 Worcester, MA 01605

Get The Beacon every month—FREE

A color PDF will be emailed to you— send an email to: Beacon@aaworcester.org



How has lockdown affected addiction, rehabilitation and recovery?

This is a comprehensive article touching on the different effects that COVID-19 has brought about for people in recovery.

"If there is a problem with Zoom meetings in the fellowships, it's that it's silent, the response is silent. That's the difference – you're talking to potentially a vacuum."

"I was [calling] people, an average of one per day, but I was just really missing being in a circle and the power that exists when we're all there"

<https://newseu.cgtn.com/news/2020-07-02/How-has-lockdown-affected-addiction-rehabilitation-and-recovery--RM2DPyWHwA/index.html>



AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

With our focus aimed at understanding how the 7th Tradition can be adapted in the time of COVID-19, it might be helpful to read what Bill W. wrote about it in 1967.

Bill talks about 7th tradition

“A.A.’s far-flung Twelfth Step activities, carrying the message to the next sufferer, are the very lifeblood of our A.A. adventure. Without this vital activity, we would soon become anemic; we would literally wither and die. “Now where do A.A.’s services — worldwide, area, local — fit into our scheme of things?

Why should we provide these functions with money? The answer is simple enough. Every single A.A. service is designed to make more and better Twelfth Step work possible, whether it be a group meeting place, a central or intergroup office to arrange hospitalization and sponsorship, or the world service Headquarters [now the General Service Office] to maintain unity and effectiveness all over the globe. “Though not costly, these service agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion — to our survival as a Fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to recognition on our part that A.A. must everywhere function in full strength — and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill.”

Bill W., October 1967 *Grapevine*



**2020 INTERNATIONAL
A.A. CONVENTION—
Detroit**

A VIRTUAL EVENT

<https://2020convention.aa.org/>

Web pages available during
July



The Seventh Step

“An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”

The “related facility” may be an outside group combating alcoholism—or an enterprise that A.A.’s want to start. It was the latter that most often confronted the young Fellowship. Outside agencies were pretty scarce in those days, and some members thought A.A. should cover the whole alcoholism field. Led by a “super-promoter” (as the “*Twelve and Twelve*” describes him), one group built an all-purpose center, including a section for drying-out treatment. Picture any group tackling such a project! Arguments over cost, architecture, staff, fees, medication, and rules might even make the local paper. (And pity the poor newcomer straying into the group— “We’ll get around to you in a minute.”)

Though that ambitious center failed, some individual members have since founded successful clubhouses, rest farms, halfway houses, etc. The enterprises are run by these A.A.’s and patronized by other members or prospective members. But money and property are involved. Therefore, it has proved wise to keep the operation of the facility completely separate from that of any A.A. group, and to keep “A.A.” or terms like “Twelfth Step” out of the name.

Toward outside agencies dealing with alcoholism, the A.A. policy is “cooperation but not affiliation.” A group cooperates, for example, by welcoming referrals from clinics or by sponsoring A.A. groups in institutions. But in one area, money for a rehab was solicited at an A.A. meeting—implying affiliation. In another, A.A. was listed among beneficiaries of a United Fund drive....

A.A. members employed by outside agencies “wear two hats”— but *Tradition Six* cautions any such members against wearing both at once! On the job, they may be alcoholism counselors; they are not “A.A. counselors.” At meetings they’re just A.A.’s, not alcoholism experts.



AA is a Bridge to Happy Living

May 1948

The Alcoholics Anonymous program is a bridge from the negative or egocentric personality of the sick alcoholic to the more desirable affirmative personality of the sober man, Dr. Harry M. Tiebout, physician in charge of Blythwood Hospital, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, believes. "An incident that happened twenty-five years ago when I was an intern, explains to me the alcoholic personality," Dr. Tiebout told an open meeting of the Manhattan Inter-Group recently. Patients of the "quiet ward" in the hospital where the doctor was an intern became upset and jittery. The nurses on the floor told the doctor that the trouble was caused by a patient who claimed to be able to read minds - and seemed to be doing so. "This of course was of great interest to me," said the doctor. "I couldn't read anybody's mind so it seemed like a good idea if I met the man who could. I called the patient to my office. I asked him how he could do this impossible thing."

A Matter of Muscles

"'It's easy,' the man said. 'All you have to do is watch the muscle reaction. If a man is thinking "no" his muscles unconsciously contract and he pulls away. When he is thinking "yes" he is relaxed.'" "It wasn't until this summer, twenty-five years later, that the full impact of that incident hit me," Dr. Tiebout continued. "When the alcoholic is sick, he is an 'aginner.' His mental attitude is one of withdrawal - his psychological 'muscles' contract." The "aginner" cannot enjoy life, Dr. Tiebout continued, "No, I won't go along, I'll do it myself," is his attitude. He feels an apartness from others because of this inner refusal to go along. This person feels unrest, discomfort, tension, dissatisfaction. He is full of resentments and hostility. In order to overcome these feelings, he seeks happiness in excitement and liquor is one outlet. Then he becomes gregarious, noisy, opinionated, in his fear of becoming a "Mr. Milquetoast." This person, too, may become over conscientious - he is selfish and full of guilt. "The 'aginner,' said Dr. Tiebout, "has no acceptance of life and the world as it is. He hasn't a chance of living on a twenty-four-hour program. Why doesn't this man give up? Because he has will power - he can fight the world, alone - he thinks." The more desirable, affirmative personality is quieter and feels fewer compulsions. He shares in fellowship and feels less guilt. This man is even-tempered and has learned to take things in his stride.

(Continued on page 16)



AA is a Bridge to Happy Living

(Continued from page 15)

He has an affirmative enjoyment of life as it is. He no longer demands that life produce thus-and-so. He's no longer trying to whip the world single handedly.

"The Alcoholics Anonymous program," Dr. Tiebout continued, "tends to produce the 'yes' state of mind.

Admits It

"In your First Step the alcoholic admits that his life has become unmanageable.

He can't whip the world alone - and admits it. Then in the Second Step, he reiterates; admitting that he cannot manage his life himself, he asks for help from the Power greater than he. He reminds himself of this constantly. "By attending group meetings he gradually loses the feeling of aloneness - he is no longer set apart. He has become an integral part of a group of people, enjoying their activities with them; he belongs. "By doing Twelfth Step work, the man or woman begins to 'sell' someone else and, by so doing, sells himself for what he is. "The person on the AA program then begins to say 'yes' to the kind of person he is. He takes a moral inventory and when he begins to say 'yes' he begins to grow. "Then as he begins to grow, he says 'yes' to God. Thy will be done. Through this he gains humbleness and humility," Dr. Tiebout emphasized.

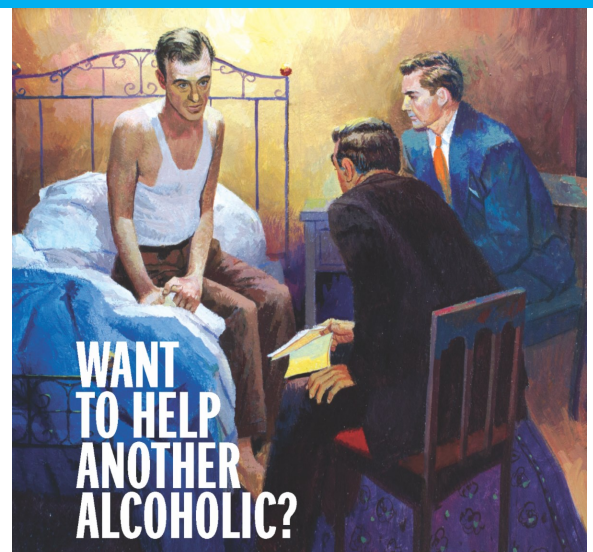
Anonymous, New York, New York

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Want To Help Another Alcoholic?

**Join Us in our 2020
Carry The Message
Project**

To learn more, visit our website at
aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message
or visit our YouTube channel at
youtube.com/aagrapevine





12 Step Videos

'The only time tested and proven solution to addiction can be found in the "Big Book" of Alcoholics Anonymous. The Owl's Nest is not AA, and AA does not endorse The Owl's Nest or any other outside entity. However, if you are struggling with addiction, we hope that you will find these workshops helpful to your recovery'

This page hosts 8 videos, each one addressing either the 12 Steps or a discussion of the disease of alcoholism. The page also hosts links to downloads and the organization's YouTube channel.



Introduction to The 12 Steps

An Introduction to The Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous



Problem & Solution Workshop

A correct understanding of the problem is required to



Steps 1, 2, 3

Steps 1, 2, 3 from Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous at the Owl's Nest Recovery and Treatment Community



8 and 9 Step Workshop

Steps 8 & 9 To Recovery



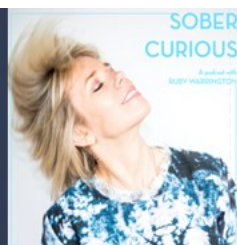
Doing A Proper 5th Step with 6 & 7

How to do a proper 5th step along with steps 6 & 7

<https://owlsnestrecovery.com/videos/12-step-workshop-videos/>

The Temper 21 Women-Led Recovery Podcasts to Listen to When You Need Hope

These podcasts will leave you feeling inspired, informed, and less alone.



<https://www.thetemper.com/best-recovery-podcasts/>



10 Reasons Why I Love Zoom Meetings... and Why You Should Too.

Love them or hate them, Zoom meetings are here to stay. Even though more and more face-to-face meetings are reopening, a lot of AAs say they will stick with Zoom. Many of the committed Zoomers have medical issues or are senior citizens, which puts them in a high-risk group. Some have transportation problems. Others just like the convenience. And then there are those who simply say: All of the above.

Yes, face-to-face meetings are a lot more personal. It can be hard to feel that “I” am part of a digital “we” when sitting alone with a computer. When you are part of a physical group you can experience the physical presence, warmth, and support of the other AAs. You can hear the laughter and feel the love. There is also basic skin hunger. We all need hugs, and you can’t get them at a Zoom meeting. You can’t join hands in prayer, either.

But you can join Zoom any time of day or night, or time zone. It’s worth noting that the United Nations has 193 member nations, and two observer states, the Vatican and the State of Palestine, and that AA is in 180 of those countries, including the Vatican, and 67 of those countries consider English their official language. You can hunt online for AA Zoom meetings around the world, or simply click on <http://www.247aaonline.com/> to join an English-speaking meeting any time of any day, or night, or even middle of the night.

Constant availability is just one reason I love Zoom. Here are 10 more:

Parking is never a problem.

Smoking or non-smoking meeting? My choice!

If I’m in the mood for caffeine-free, gluten-free, sugar free, low-calorie chocolate latte, with lactose free whipped pumpkin spice cream substitute on top, plus a cherry, I can have it. All I have to do is make it... and I don’t have to share.

If I see something or someone I don’t want to see, I can put a Post-it Note on the screen to cover that Zoom box. If the box moves, I move the Post-it Note.

Before I share, I can look up quotes in the Big Book to make it look as if I’ve actually read it and know what I’m talking about.

Four words! Volume control. Mute button.

I see the name of the person sharing and, over time, actually remember it. (NOTE: I used to think that the majority of AAs were named Tom, Pat or Mary, but a lot of AAs now seem to be named iPhone, Samsung, or Galaxy.)

Every seat is a good one, and I don’t have to make a decision about who to sit next to or worry about who will sit next to me.

My sponsor can’t elbow me when someone says something I should pay attention to. I don’t have to carry cash for the 7th Tradition. I just send regular checks to Worcester Area Intergroup, 100 Grove St., Suite 314, Worcester, MA 01605

The Cyber Sot



The GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA—Carrying the Message



The AA Grapevine, Inc., publisher of the *International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous* and the Spanish language version *La Viña* — monthly publications that share experience, strength, and hope with alcoholics everywhere.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/>

<http://www.aalavina.org/>

Worcester Area Intergroup’s Online Bookstore

WAI has a new Online Bookstore, enabling local A.A.’s to order coins, books, and cards. The site also includes a printable PDF listing these items, which can be filled out and mailed in if that is more convenient for some buyers.

If you don’t know it, sales of books and other items from the WAI Bookstore helps support local A.A. activities (such as the Intergroup Office and Alcathons), so help the local recovery community by buying your A. A.-related items from the WAI bookstore. Gift certificates are now available for the WAI Bookstore and can be used for anything in the bookstore or for special orders.



Find it here: <http://bookstore.aaworcester.org>

Please remember to close out the transaction after Paypal returns you to the bookstore.

As explained on pages 3 and 4 of this *Beacon* issue, you support important local WAI recovery programs when you buy A.A. items from the WAI Bookstore.

WAI’s mission has been supporting recovery in Central Mass. for 46 years.

WAI’s ONLINE BOOKIE EXCHANGE

The WAI Bookie Exchange portal enables Bookies from local towns to quickly find groups seeking commitments and/or post a request. Open slots are listed by town.

Contact — BookieXchange.aaworcester.org



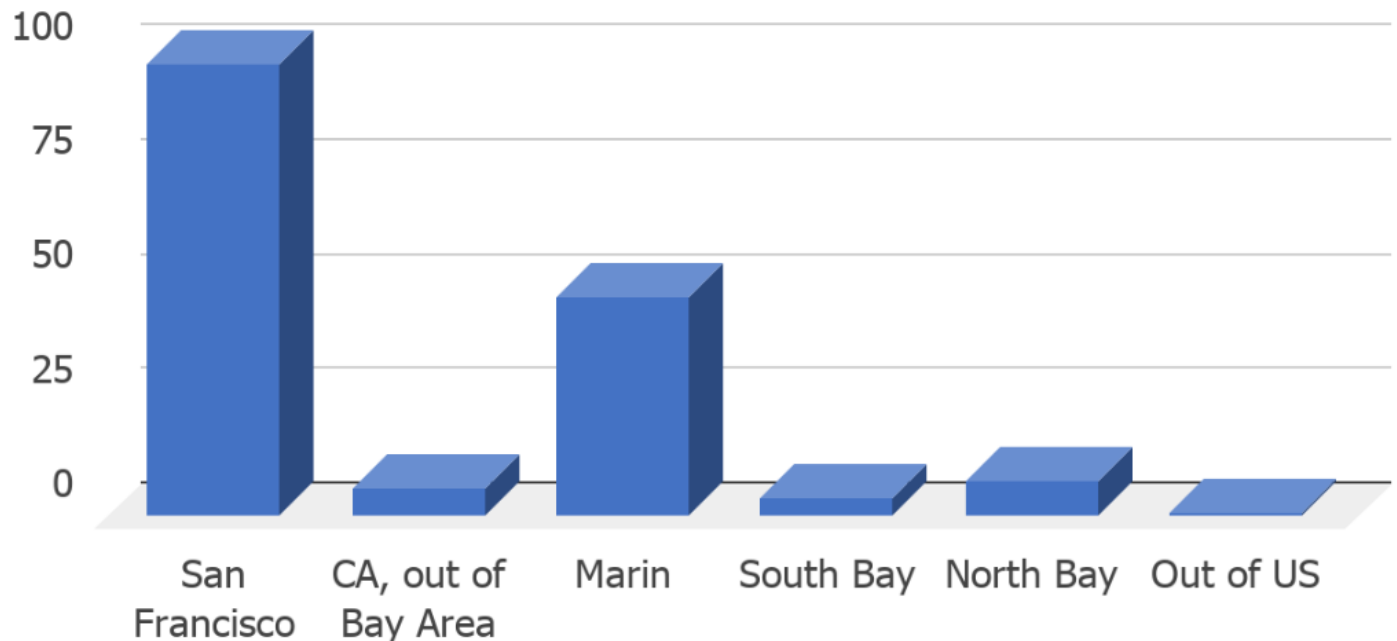
Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

On June 18, the Intercounty Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, a group that covers San Francisco and Marin County California, held a virtual Town Hall on the issues related to the COVID-19 virus and the resumption of in-person meetings. The group says that about 300 people attended the event. During the event, an online survey was conducted with attendees—the edited results are presented here. Note: while 300 may have attended the event, the result data does not report exactly how many attendees took the survey or answered each question, so the ‘n’ sample size is a guesstimate based on interpretation of the bar graphs.

More here: <https://aasfmarin.org/resuming>



Where is your home group?



Historically, 1/3 of the meetings we list are in Marin and 2/3 are in SF; the attendance ratio was consistent with that.

As indicated, 2/3rds of those taking the survey have their home group based in San Francisco. The sample size for the question looks like it was about 160.

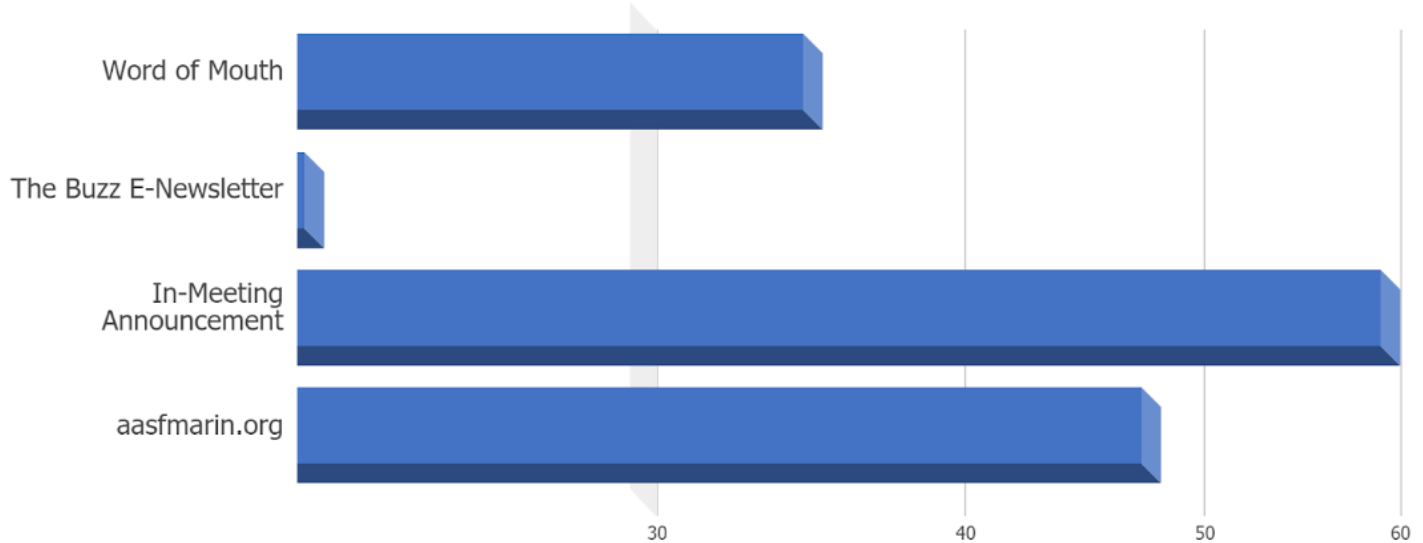
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Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 20

How did you hear about the Town Hall?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 180.

The results to this question are interesting because a third, 33% or 60 respondents, reported hearing about the virtual Town Hall from an in-meeting announcement, and about 28% read about it via the local A.A. Intergroup web site—aasfmarin.org. About 20% heard it through word-of-mouth—so that old fashioned communications channel is still significant. Surprisingly, only a tiny percentage (less than 5%) heard about the Town Hall event by reading aasfmarin.org’s digital newsletter—”*The Buzz E-Newsletter.*”

The big takeaway for the Fellowship is that A.A.’s pay particular attention to information presented during meetings, that they do use their local Intergroup web site for information/announcements, and that word-of-mouth continues to be a significant source of A.A.-related news. Those findings suggest that A.A.’s hoping to ‘get the word out’ concerning a special event or an important change in say, a meeting schedule, should definitely plan on using several different channels if they hope to successfully reach their fellow A.A.’s with their message—and don’t solely rely on a group’s digital newsletter to ‘get the word out.’

Continued on page 22

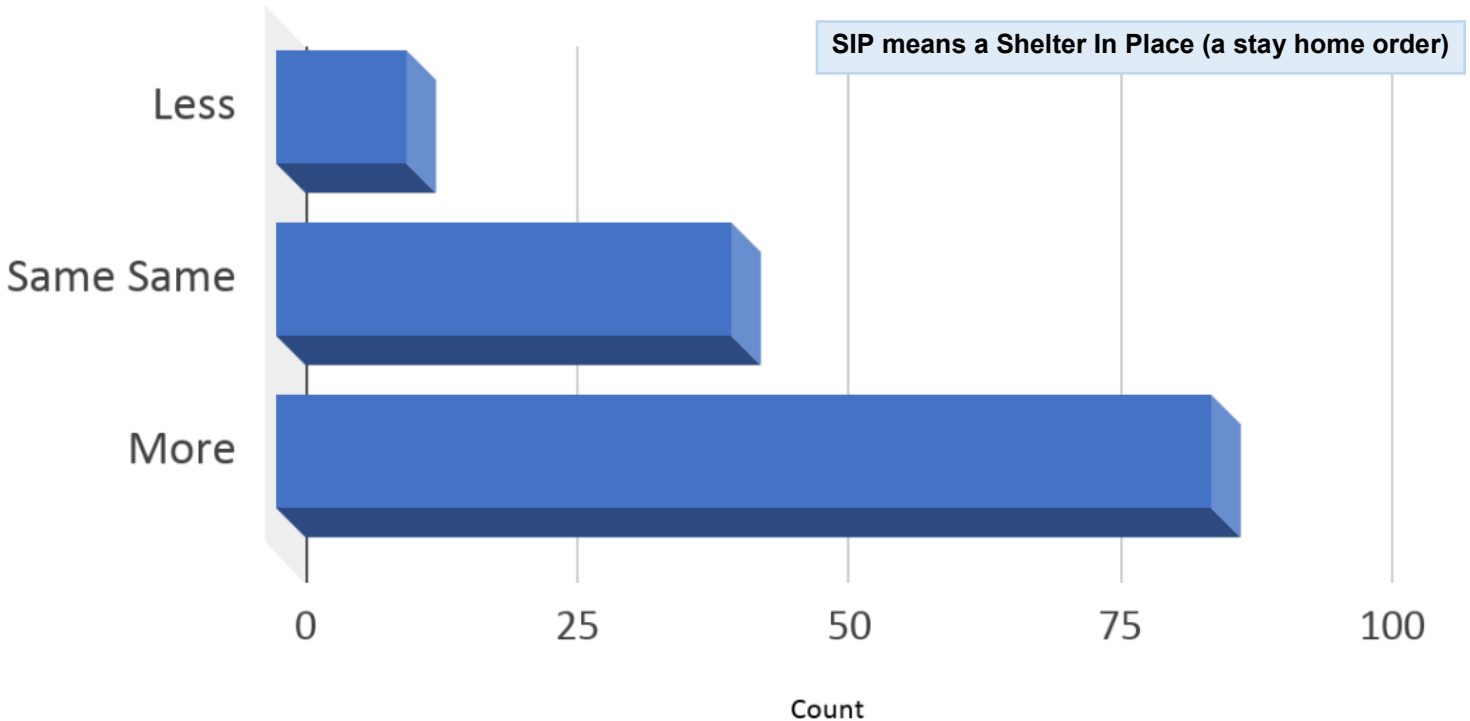




Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 21

Meeting Attendance since SIP began?



The sample estimate for responses to this question is about 136.

This is an important question if you believe that meeting attendance—in any form—is a critical element in maintaining sobriety. The clear preference of the survey respondents—about 65%—was to go to ‘More’ meetings. The respondents who chose ‘Less’ meetings appear to be about 8% of the audience. About 27% of respondents indicated they attended the ‘Same’ number of meetings as they had prior to the virus.

The big takeaway for the Fellowship is that A.A.’s have embraced virtual meetings, and that a ‘stay at home’ order from government officials had only a minor impact in reducing overall meeting attendance.

Of course, increased meeting attendance at virtual groups may be because they are relatively easy and convenient to attend compared to physical groups—no travel is necessary. It is also possible that virtual meetings combined with stay at home orders offers A.A.’s the opportunity to attend meetings they could not have before because of time or distance constraints, or, possibly attend meetings outside their local area.

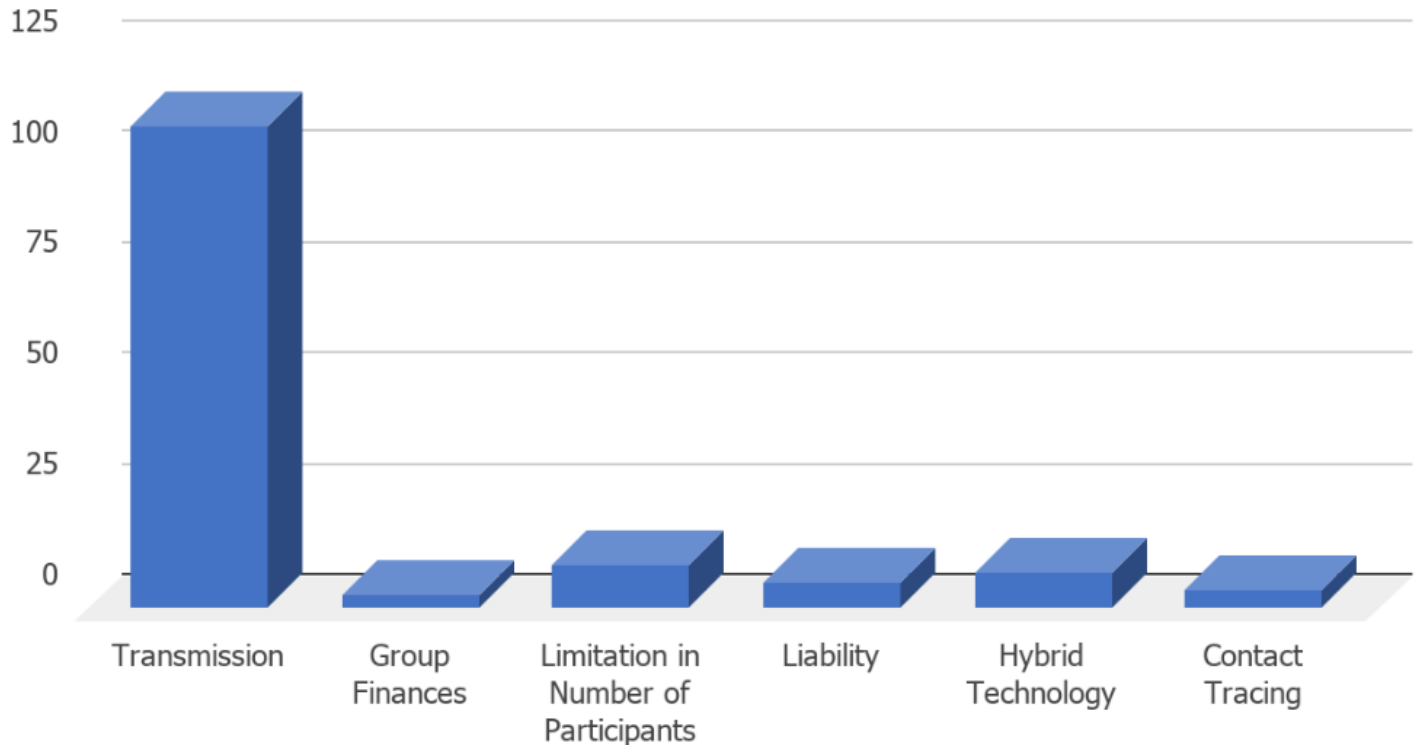
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Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 22

What is your primary concern about returning to in-person meetings?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 141.

The results to this question are simple and compelling—nearly 80% of respondents seriously fear contracting COVID-19 from any resumption of in-person meetings. Of the five other answer choices offered, limiting the number of participants was the most significant objection raised, though it appears to have garnered less than about 7% of the overall sample.

The big takeaway from these results for the Fellowship is just as simple and compelling—that resumption of physical A.A. meetings is not likely to be welcome (or successful) until a high degree of confidence in the safety of attending such meetings can be assured or proven. This finding has major implications for those responsible for deciding when to resume in-person meetings: they will not likely be successful until the fear of contracting the virus has been eliminated by effective public health measures, which also means that they probably will not resume in widespread fashion until at least 2021.

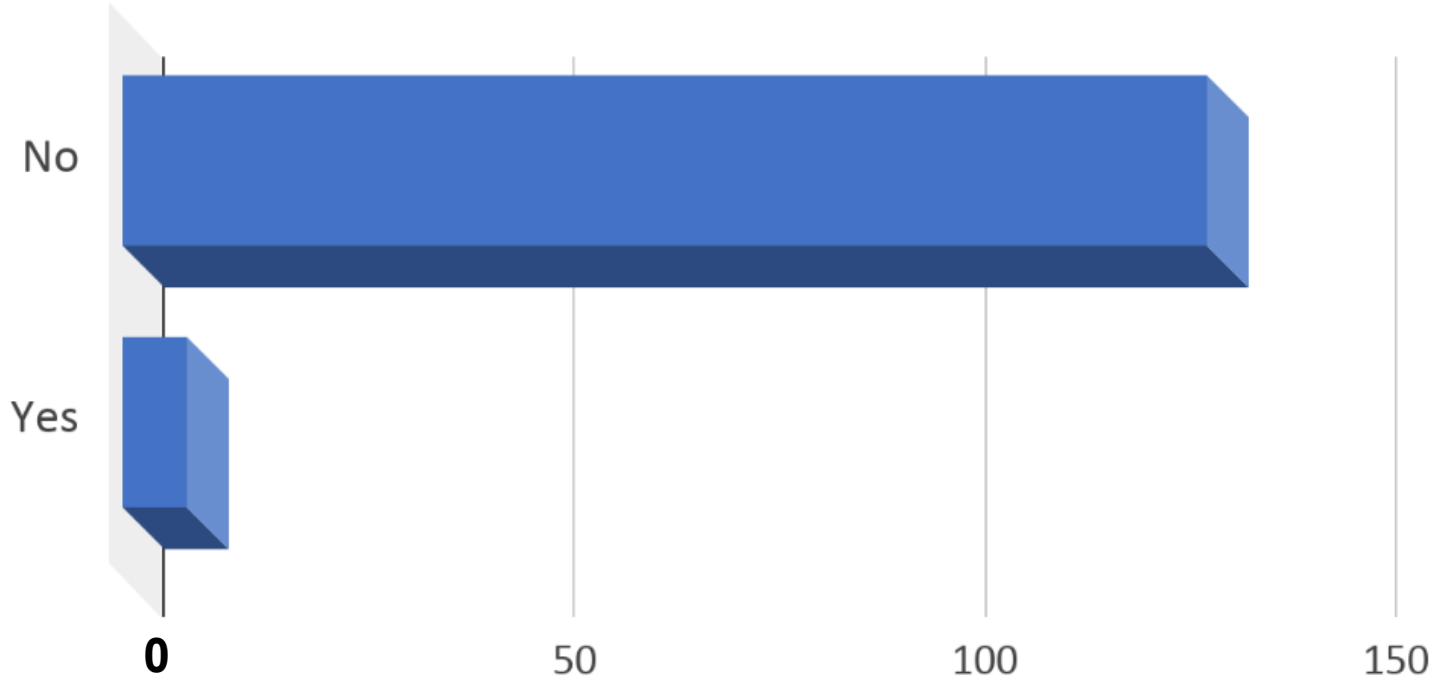
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Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 23

Are you comfortable attending in-person meetings with those not wearing masks?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 142.

The answers to this question are also clear and convincing—over 90% of respondents are very fearful of contracting COVID-19 in a physical meeting from anyone not wearing a mask.

The big takeaway for the Fellowship is that any resumption of physical A.A. meetings in which the primary protection strategy from virus contraction for attendees is requiring masks be worn will not likely succeed.

As we found in the last question, any plan to resume physical meetings is premature until a high degree of confidence in the safety of attending those meetings can be assured. This finding again suggests that in-person meetings are unlikely to resume in 2020.

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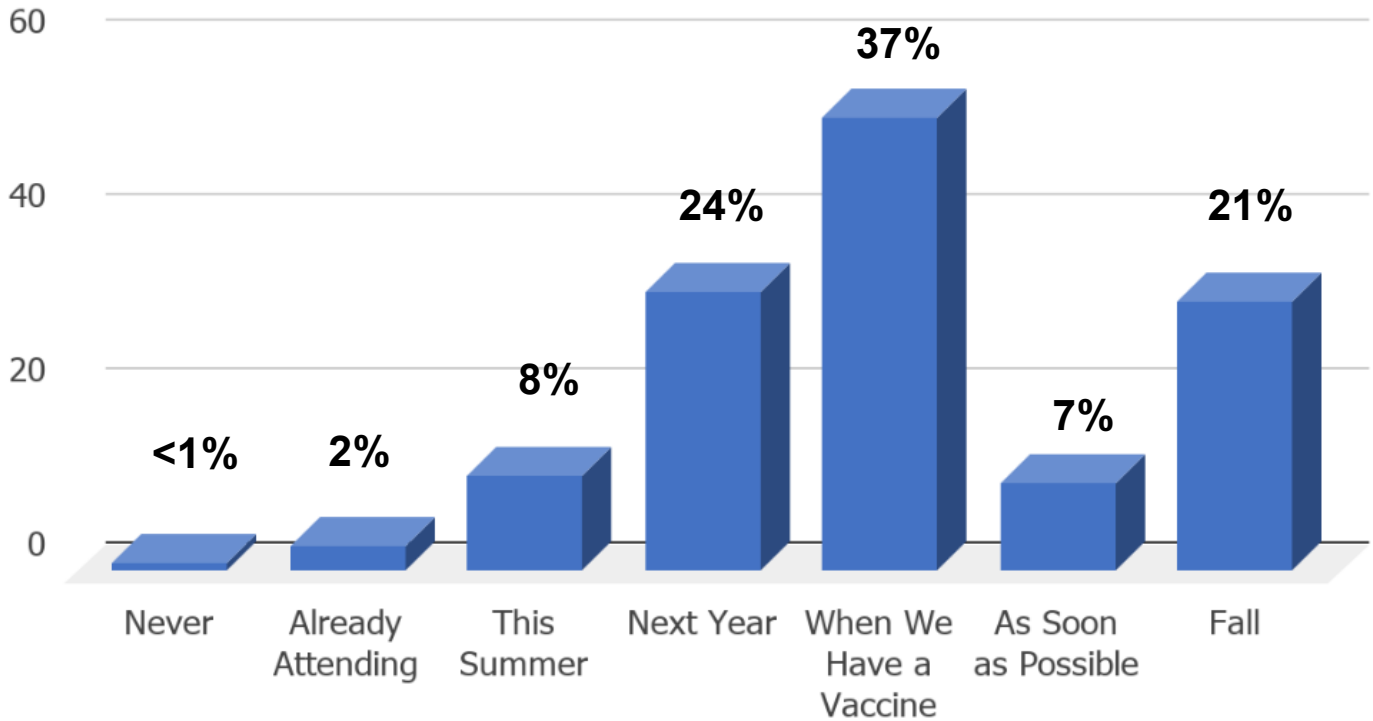




Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 24

At this point, when do you think you will return to in-person meetings?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 134.

The large number of answer choices prompted the addition of the percentage for each choice to the bar graph table—

The most popular choice among the 7 selections presented to survey respondents was “*When we have a vaccine*” at 37% of the audience—which means that these respondents have no fixed horizon for returning to physical meetings—they will wait until it is safe. The second most popular selection, ‘*Next Year,*’ at 24% reinforces the overall impression that many A.A.’s don’t expect to return to physical meetings anytime soon. A combined 29% - or nearly a third—think they will return to physical meetings this summer or in the fall. A combined 3% of respondents indicated that they have already returned to in-person meetings, or, don’t ever expect to return to them at all.

[NOTE: these percentages were calculated based on visual estimates of the numerical value of each answer represented as a percentage of the whole. The percentages added to the graph were not included by aasfmarin.org and they are not responsible for these representations or any errors therein.]

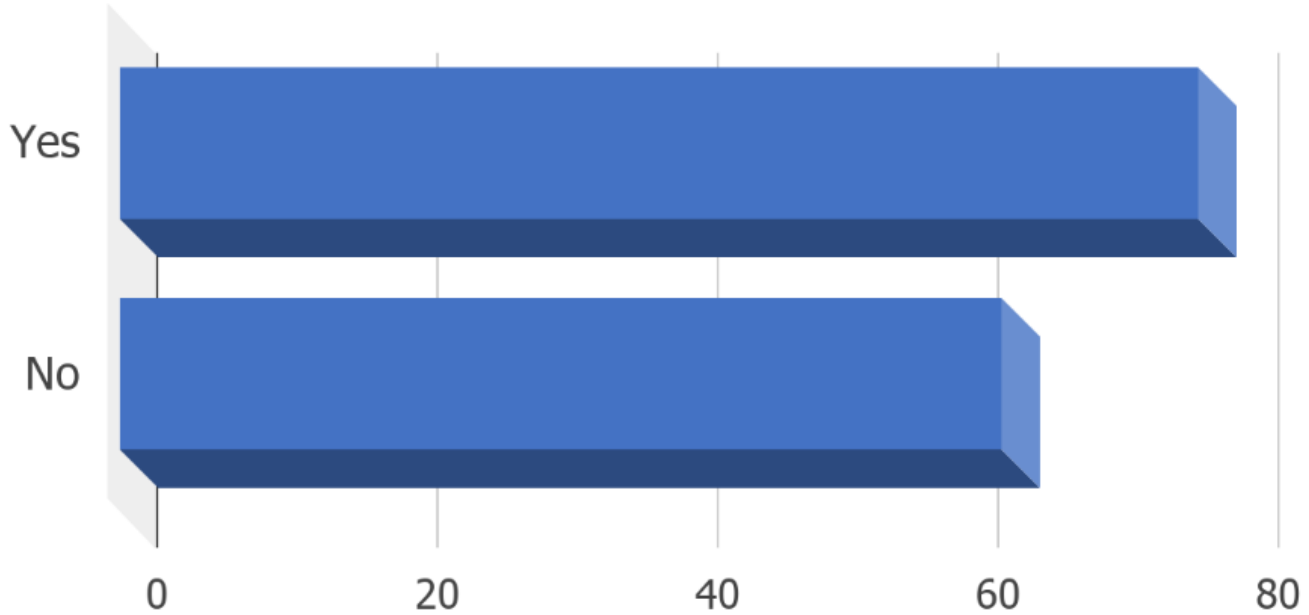
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Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 25

Has your group started talking about returning to a physical meeting space?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 140.

When asked if the respondent’s group has discussed resuming physical meetings, a majority—about 54% - indicated that they had such discussions. The remainder, about 46%, said that they had not discussed resuming physical meetings. The nearly equal choice selections of the survey takers presented with a simple Yes or No may not tell us much, except perhaps that a majority have considered it—which is notable, but perhaps more notable is that nearly half have not discussed it—another indication that these respondents don’t expect to have to tackle that issue anytime soon.

Continued on page 27

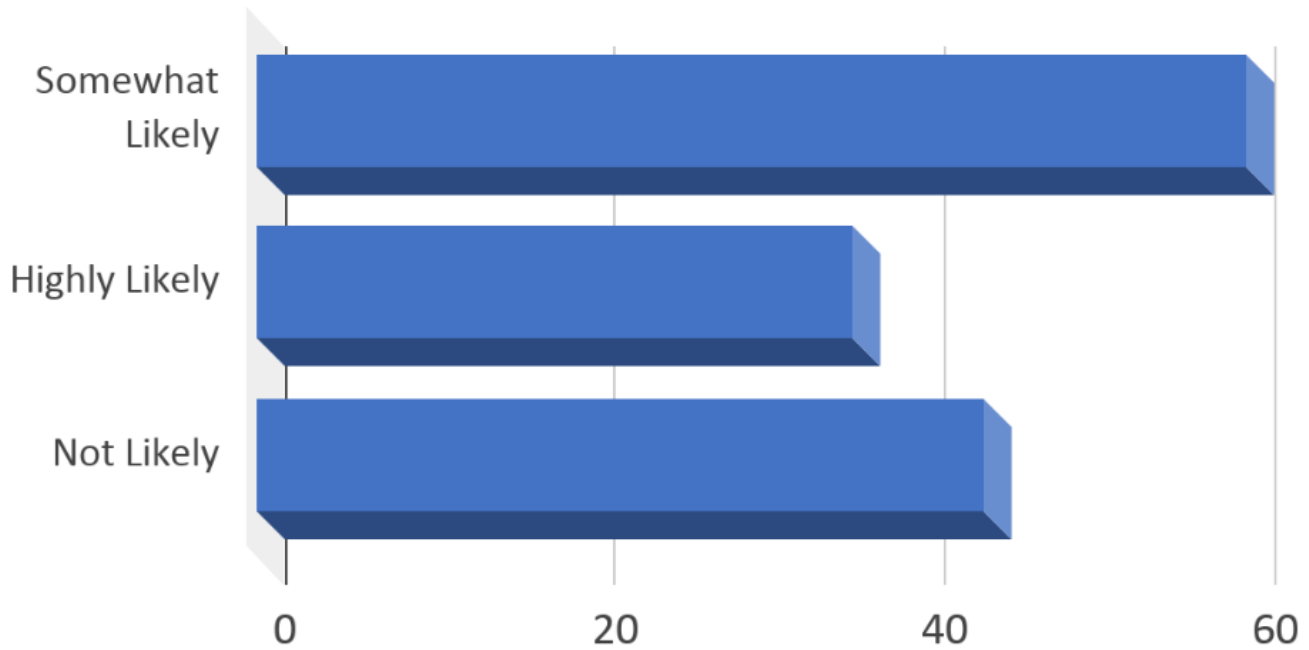




Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 26

How likely are you to go to a meeting that implements Contact Tracing?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 140.

The responses to this question reveal that a majority of A.A.'s surveyed (68%) do put considerable faith in technology to provide possible protection from contracting the virus in a physical meeting. These findings may be a bit of a surprise, but it is also worthwhile to recognize that San Francisco and the Bay Area have one of the highest rates of internet connectivity, and, are probably a technology savvy population compared to America at large. That audience slant could explain why these respondents are willing to consider a technology-based solution to making physical meetings safe enough to consider attending. Still, about a third of survey responses indicated that contact tracing would be unlikely to convince them to resume attending physical meetings.

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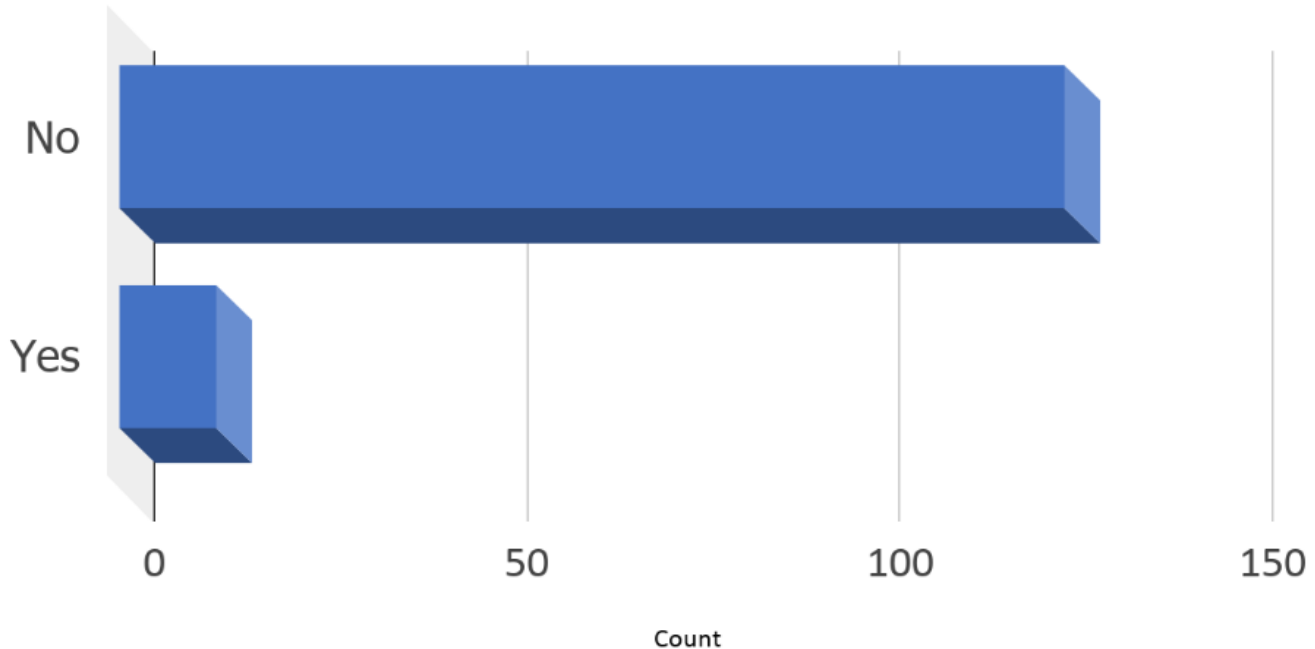




Poll Results from the IFAA June 18 Town Hall

Continued from page 27

Have you been to a Hybrid Meeting?



The sample size estimate for responses to this question is about 140.

The responses to this final question reveal that an overwhelming majority of A.A.'s surveyed (~90%) have not attended a hybrid meeting. While launching hybrid meetings has been a topic of discussion among A.A.'s for several months now, there are a number of technology and physical co-ordination hurdles to be overcome before such a meeting design is likely to be widely adopted.

The caveats for accepting these survey results as conclusive of how all U.S. A.A.'s feel are many, including:

- This is only one survey
- The survey shows the attitudes of respondents from a single metropolitan area
- The sample size is probably too small to adequately represent the number of A.A.'s in the San Francisco metro area
 - This survey only questioned A.A.'s that attended the virtual 'Town Hall'
- The survey obviously did not gather the attitudes of local A.A. members who don't attend virtual meetings or events.

The above noted, what the survey does is offer a glimpse into the thinking of some A.A.'s concerning the challenge of resuming physical meetings—a goal that many A.A.'s feel strongly about achieving.



Worcester Area Intergroup Information

Until further notice, the Intergroup Steering Committee, District 25 meeting and Intergroup Delegates monthly meeting has been changed to a virtual event—

Information for these meetings is listed at the top of the virtual meeting list at aaworcester.org.

**The Intergroup meetings occur the second THURSDAY of each month.*

District 25 General Service Committee—meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm

District 26 General Service Committee—Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church Hall, 118Theresa St., Fitchburg, meets first Thursday of the month 7:00pm AA members welcome—please come join us!

AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee — Belmont / Watertown United Methodist Church 421 Common St., Belmont—4th Wednesday 8:00pm

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 7/05/20)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new in 2020</u>
Chairperson	Steve O	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	OPEN	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	Hilary D	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	OPEN	altsecretary@aaworcester.org	
Treasurer	Ted K	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	OPEN	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Fred F.	trustee1@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Kim N.	trustee2@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Alice B.	trustee3@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Emily D.	trustee4@aaworcester.org	
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Alcathon (WAI)	Brandy H.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John Mcl	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Raymond M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Corrections	Steve O.	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	Donna H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	Steve O.		
Liaison to District 26	Jenn C.		
Liaison to Area 30	Jim B.		

Worcester Intergroup Service Opportunities—Step Up!

Worcester Intergroup has three open positions (see above) and needs a new webmaster.

For A.A.'s seeking an opportunity to serve — Please contact:

officemanager@aaworcester.org for more info



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 people ages:

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—address on page 1.** 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.

HALT LINE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Intergroup HALT line needs volunteers to cover open time slots. The HALT line is there to assist any alcoholic needing to find a meeting. This is service work that really matters.

See the flyer on page 35



Online Intergroup—Online Meetings Directory

<http://aa-intergroup.org/directory.php>



The Directory lists different meeting formats—Regular, Men/Women, Men only, Women only, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually Impaired, Loners Internationalists, Atheist/

Agnostic, Regional / Ethnic, Profession Specific, Closed or Open

The Online Intergroup aids its member groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Find a Meeting—Local or Anywhere!

Find a local meeting fast on a Map, a grid, or on a list!

MeetingMap.aaWorcester.org

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Meeting Guide



The official Meeting Guide is a free of charge meeting finder app for iOS and Android that provides meeting information from A.A. service entities in an easy-to-access format.

Meeting Guide syncs with area, district, intergroup/central offices and international General Service Office websites (some of which are listed on A.A. Near You), relaying meeting information from more than 300 A.A. service entities directly to you. Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily. This app gives A.A. service entities full control of their local meeting information while collecting it in one place, making it easy for anyone to find a meeting.



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.meetingguide>



[apps.apple.com > app > meeting-guide](https://apps.apple.com/app/meeting-guide)

Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google LLC. The App Store and iOS are registered trademarks of Apple Inc.

NEED HELP? A.A. Worcester Intergroup offers in-depth user training called *Zoom Trooper Boot Camp* — training assistance for using Zoom — please contact Brandy, WAI Office Manager, for info: officemanager@aaworcester.org (508) 752-9000



SUPPORT LOCAL VIRTUAL MEETINGS and WAI

One element in online meetings which *is* different is that the digital world needs a special method to ‘*Pass the (Virtual) Basket*’ for the Seventh Tradition. Online hosting—(such as Zoom meetings) - cost money to operate, and area A.A. activities still need support to provide ongoing services, so a link to a contribution page is included http://aaworcester.org/contribution_page.html on www.aaworcester.org.

Please help keep local A.A. resources available for the alcoholic who still suffers. Payment services charge WAI a *per transaction* fee - so when using them, please contribute less frequently but in larger amounts—reducing transaction fees. The contribution page offers PayPal or Square Cash/Cash App payment options, and both offer an app for download.



<https://www.paypal.com/>



Square

[\\$WAIintergroup](#)



Of course, these stone-age paper sheets work just fine also.....

You can specify that your contribution be credited to your home group—and acknowledge that in your transaction. If your group is looking to add digital contributions, this link offers an overview for adding a digital 7th

Tradition capability to a group — <https://aasfmarin.org/online-contributions-your-digital-7th-tradition-guide-to-best-practices>

Many thanks to our fellow A.A.’s for continuing to support WAI’s mission of service to alcoholics in Central Massachusetts.

GRAPEVINE Daily Quote

June 28, 2020

“Sanity begins with the admission of reality into the mind.”

“The Only Revolution,” April 1976, AA Grapevine



A Guide to using Zoom as a Virtual Meeting Platform

Highlights from the New York Intergroup's suggestions for developing and managing virtual meetings using Zoom

<https://www.nyintergroup.org/remote-meetings/join-the-nyig-zoom-meeting-room/what-is-the-aa-zoom-room/nyig-zoom-room-support/>

The NYC Intergroup offers a helpful guide for using Zoom as a virtual meeting platform, addressing topics such as Account Setup, How to use Zoom, Guide for Meeting Chairs, Managing anonymity in virtual meetings, and Member and Group resources.

Zoom also offers support videos and other resources—explore <https://support.zoom.us>

Virtual Meetings face their own challenges

Some A.A. groups hosting virtual meetings on Zoom have had problems with internet trolls who are jumping into public Zoom calls and using the screen-sharing feature to project graphic (and sometimes pornographic) content to unwitting conference participants, forcing hosts to shut down their events. This practice is apparently called “Zoom Bombing.”

The Inter-Group Association of A.A. New York offers a helpful 4 page guide, ‘NYIG Toolkit for Handling Unwanted Meeting Disruptions’ [download: https://www.nyintergroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NYIG_Zoom-Protection-Guide_033020.pdf]

Zoom also offers a security guide - How to Keep Uninvited Guests Out of Your Zoom Event — [<https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/03/20/keep-uninvited-guests-out-of-your-zoom-event/>]

WAI's ZOOM WARRIOR COMMITTEE TO THE RESCUE!!

Worcester Intergroup's new committee—the ZOOM Warriors— consists of 12 Zoom Warriors and 2 Honorary Warriors, along with over 70 Zoom Troopers, who's mission is to help keep local A.A. meetings going when our physical locations are closed by giving technical support to groups adding online sessions. Need help? The Warriors have a useful guide to Zoom, and, offer training assistance for using Zoom — contact Brandy, WAI Office Manager, for info: officemanager@aaworcester.org (508) 752-9000

"All true communication must be founded on mutual need. We saw that each sponsor would have to admit humbly his own needs as clearly as those of his prospect."

A.A. TODAY, P. 10



Virtual

5th Annual Unity & Service Conference

"Applying our 12 Traditions & 12 Concepts to Real Life"

**September 5-6, 2020 (PDT)
Labor Day Weekend
Concord, CA, USA**



**Pacific
Daylight
Time Zone**

Saturday, September 5

Sunday, September 6

Welcome!

Serenity Prayer & Kickoff

8:45 am

9:00 am

Memoirs of a Judge that Nudged

*Rogelio Flores, Santa Barbara, CA
Retired Judge & Past Class A Trustee*

Contempt Prior to Investigation?

**The 12 Concepts -
"A Spiritual Experience"**
Jennifer D., Wilmington, NC

10-Minute Tradition or Concept Vignette Before Each Main Speaker

10:30 am

Service Panels

Panel 1 - **Young People**
Panel 2 - **Bridging the Gap**
Panel 3 - **Corrections (H & I)
Q&A**

Service Panels

Panel 1 - **Public Info & Cooperation with
Professionals**
Panel 2 - **Intergroup/Hotline**
Panel 3 - **General Service**
Panel 4 - **Sponsorship
Q&A**

12:00 pm

Break

12:30 pm

**Finance & Romance
in AA's Digital Age**

Jennifer D., Wilmington, NC

**Anonymity and Outside Issues:
Right vs. Responsibilities**

Roger W., Vine Grove, KY

10-Minute Tradition or Concept Vignette Before Each Main Speaker

2:00 pm

The Three Legacies and Relationships

Chuck & Beth H., Cary, NC

10-Minute Tradition or Concept Vignette
from an AI-Anon Speaker

*This 2 Hour and 15-Minute Session Includes
a 15-Minute Break at 3 pm Before Concluding at 4:15 pm*

Ask It Basket with Speakers

*Rogelio, Jennifer, Don, Roger,
Chuck & Beth*

3:00 pm

Break

Close with Responsibility Statement

4:30 pm

**Unity vs. Conformity
in the Home Group**

Don L., Bellingham, WA

10-Minute Tradition or Concept Vignette to Open

6:00 pm

Close with Responsibility Statement

Online-Only Event!

Space is Limited.....

Pre-Registration Encouraged!



Registration Link & Contact Info: Unityandserviceconference.org

925.222.5639



HALT Line Volunteers needed

What the HALT line is:

One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic --- Isn't that what A.A. is all about?

One might:

- *Give out meeting time and location information.
- *Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic in danger of picking up a drink.
- *Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic who is visiting the area.
- *Talk to a "drunk". You may be the link in the chain that could save their life.
- *Refer a caller to the Intergroup Office and inform them of the office hours.

This is a very easy way to do service from the convenience of your own home.

What you need to be a volunteer:

*1 year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such service.

*Meeting lists (we suggest District 26 and Worcester Area). These are available free of charge from Worcester Area Intergroup and are available on the Website www.aaworcester.org or use the App MeetingGuide on your cell phone.



*3 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. This is done from your own home or cell phone. You do not have to answer as A.A. you can simply answer and when asked say you are "Answering for Worcester Area Intergroup, how can I help you?"



Please call Donna H., the HALT Line chair, at 508-735-8559 or email her at donnaaham@charter.net or send an email to haltline@aaworcester.org