



# The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 21 issue 12

December 2019

## Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite  
314 Worcester, MA  
01605  
(508) 752-9000  
(508) 752-0755 (fax)  
[www.aaworcester.org](http://www.aaworcester.org)

Worcester Intergroup  
Office Winter Hours -  
Labor Day to Memorial  
Day

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

**Also CLOSED**  
Christmas Day and  
New Year's Day

**Alcathon  
Volunteers  
Needed! —See  
pages 1, 2 & 4**

The opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does the publication of any article imply an endorsement by either A.A., General Services nor Intergroup. Comments, questions and articles may be directed to *The Beacon*.

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## WORCESTER HOLIDAY ALCATHONS

**St. John's Church 44 Temple St, Worcester, MA 01604**

The schedule for the Christmas Alcathon is:  
*Starting: Tuesday, December 24 at NOON*  
*Ending: Wednesday, December 25 at MIDNIGHT*  
For Group Schedules, see Page 3

The schedule for the New Year's Alcathon is:  
*Starting: Tuesday, December 24 at NOON*  
*Ending: Wednesday, December 25 at MIDNIGHT*  
For Group Schedules, see Page 4

See page 2 for Handicap access at St. John's

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Alcathon Committee needs **Hosts/Hostesses** to take shifts during the Alcathons to insure the food table is maintained, coffee is replenished, etc. **Setup and Cleanup** help is also needed. If you are interested in helping, contact any Committee member, or call the Intergroup Office at (508) 752-9000 Monday 10-2, Tuesday and Wednesday 10-3, or Saturday 9-2 and speak to Brandy.

Food Donations are Appreciated by Groups and Individuals, *but all donations must be fully prepared*—St. John's has no facilities for preparation or cooking.

## DISTRICT 26 CHRISTMAS ALCATHON

Hosted by your Activities Committee (Marathon of Meetings) Starts — noon December 24th, and ends 9:00 PM December 25th  
UNITARIAN CHURCH 15 West St., Leominster MA

Join us for food and fellowship. Book and food donations welcome.  
**For more information, please contact/text: Melinda B. 414-510-3566**

## WAI ELECTIONS and APPOINTMENTS

Election of WAI Officers and Appointments of Committee Chairs took place at the Intergroup Delegates Meeting on November 14th.

New assignments effective January 1, 2020, will be listed in *The Beacon*



**Step Twelve:**  
 "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

**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."

**The Twelfth Tradition**

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films."

Alcoholics who have recovered through our program are themselves the strongest attraction that A.A. has. When people are asked what led them to seek A.A. help, the answer given most often is: "An A.A. member." Their chances would have been slim if all of us had remained completely in hiding. But many of us have chosen to tell our friends, neighbors, employers, co-workers, doctors, or spiritual advisers that we are in A.A.—and when we do so, we are not breaking our anonymity in the meaning of this Tradition. Suppose a sick alcoholic never has the good fortune to meet an A.A. How is such a person going to find us? The search will be difficult if the local group thinks it should be anonymous, too. The Tradition is talking about "personal anonymity," remember? Alcoholics will not be attracted to A.A. if they don't know that it exists or if they have distorted, unfavorable impressions of its members or its program. Giving the general public an accurate picture of A.A. is the chief job of our public information committees. In addition, they often carry the message to certain groups—from police officers to personnel directors— whose work includes contact with active alcoholics.

from *The TWELVE TRADITIONS Illustrated*

**2019 Alcathon Handicap Access**

St. John's has an elevator that provides handicap access. If you are handicapped, please ask someone standing outside to let the Host know. The Host has an access a key for elevator use — and will come and get you. There will be signage posted which indicates the correct door for handicap access.

**Alcathon Hosts/Hostesses NEEDED**

Requirement is 1 year of sobriety for the Main Host/Hostess. Each group is asked to have 1 co-host/co-hostess (no sobriety requirement)  
 Signup at [Alcathon@AAWorcester.org](mailto:Alcathon@AAWorcester.org)

**Did you know...**

Your A. A. group contributions to Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) helping us accomplish so many things!, including:

The **HALTline** - so there is a live AA member available to answer the phone 24 hours a day - not a generic answering service with no recovery experience!

**The Beacon Staff**

1/2019 – 12/2019

- **Editor:** John McI  
[beacon@aaworcester.org](mailto:beacon@aaworcester.org)

- **Office Manager:**  
 Brandy H.  
[officemanager@aaworcester.org](mailto:officemanager@aaworcester.org)

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with **SUBSCRIBE** as the subject line.

**Easy Does It.**

2019 Christmas Alcathon		
Day/Date	Time	Group
1 Tuesday 12/24	12pm-1pm	Worcester Crozier
2 Tuesday 12/24	1pm-2pm	Worcester Wednesday BBSS
3 Tuesday 12/24	2pm-3pm	Charlton Daybreaker
4 Tuesday 12/24	3pm-4pm	Worcester Young People
5 Tuesday 12/24	4pm-5pm	Worcester Serenity
6 Tuesday 12/24	5pm-6pm	Worcester Main South Sobriety
7 Tuesday 12/24	6pm-7pm	Charlton Courage To Change
8 Tuesday 12/24	7pm-8pm	Worcester Quinsigamond
9 Tuesday 12/24	8pm-9pm	Worcester Saturday BBSS
10 Tuesday 12/24	9pm-10pm	Whitinsville GOYA
11 Tuesday 12/24	10pm-11pm	Northboro Saturday Morning
12 Tuesday 12/24	11pm-12am	Worcester Greendale
13 Wednesday 12/25	12am-1am	Worcester People Helping People
14 Wednesday 12/25	1am-2am	Worcester Mid-Day
15 Wednesday 12/25	2am-3am	Rutland Naquag Firewater
16 Wednesday 12/25	3am-4am	Worcester It All Starts Here
17 Wednesday 12/25	4am-5am	Northboro How It Works
18 Wednesday 12/25	5am-6am	Oxford Primary Purpose
19 Wednesday 12/25	6am-7am	Worcester As Bill Sees It
20 Wednesday 12/25	7am-8am	Worcester Daily Choice
21 Wednesday 12/25	8am-9am	Worcester Seven Hills
22 Wednesday 12/25	9am-10am	Grafton Happy Joyous & Free
23 Wednesday 12/25	10am-11am	Worcester The Way Out
24 Wednesday 12/25	11am-12pm	Upton Spirit
25 Wednesday 12/25	12pm-1pm	Worcester 4 Corners
26 Wednesday 12/25	1pm-2pm	Millbury Traditions
27 Wednesday 12/25	2pm-3pm	Shrewsbury Gratitude
28 Wednesday 12/25	3pm-4pm	N. Brookfield Sunset
29 Wednesday 12/25	4pm-5pm	Webster Early Risers
30 Wednesday 12/25	5pm-6pm	Shrewsbury Eternal Vigilance
31 Wednesday 12/25	6pm-7pm	Central Mass MSCYPAA Bid
32 Wednesday 12/25	7pm-8pm	Worcester Gratitude
33 Wednesday 12/25	8pm-9pm	Worcester Way Of Sobriety
34 Wednesday 12/25	9pm-10pm	Westboro Forge
35 Wednesday 12/25	10pm-11pm	Worcester 7 AM
36 Wednesday 12/25	11pm-12am	Holden Group

2019 New Year's Alcathon

Day/Date	Time	Group
1 Tuesday 12/31	12pm-1pm	Shrewsbury Gratitude
2 Tuesday 12/31	1pm-2pm	Oxford Primary Purpose
3 Tuesday 12/31	2pm-3pm	Worcester People Helping People
4 Tuesday 12/31	3pm-4pm	Grafton Happy Joyous & Free
5 Tuesday 12/31	4pm-5pm	Worcester The Way Out
6 Tuesday 12/31	5pm-6pm	Worcester Main South Sobriety
7 Tuesday 12/31	6pm-7pm	Northboro How It Works
8 Tuesday 12/31	7pm-8pm	Charlton Daybreaker
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10 Tuesday 12/31	9pm-10pm	Worcester Saturday BBSS
11 Tuesday 12/31	10pm-11pm	Rutland Naquag Firewater
12 Tuesday 12/31	11pm-12am	Holden Group
13 Wednesday 01/01	12am-1am	Westboro Sunday Morning
14 Wednesday 01/01	1am-2am	Shrewsbury Eternal Vigilance
15 Wednesday 01/01	2am-3am	Worcester Daily Coice
16 Wednesday 01/01	3am-4am	Upton Spirit
17 Wednesday 01/01	4am-5am	Worcester Crozier
18 Wednesday 01/01	5am-6am	Worcester Gratitude
19 Wednesday 01/01	6am-7am	Worcester As Bill Sees It
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30 Wednesday 01/01	5pm-6pm	Worcester It All Starts Here
31 Wednesday 01/01	6pm-7pm	Webster Early Risers
32 Wednesday 01/01	7pm-8pm	Worcester Mid-Day
33 Wednesday 01/01	8pm-9pm	Hopedale Ray Of Hope
34 Wednesday 01/01	9pm-10pm	Dudley Day At A Time
35 Wednesday 01/01	10pm-11pm	Grafton Easy Does It
36 Wednesday 01/01	11pm-12am	N. Brookfield Sunset

**ALCATHON VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**

Plans are in the works for the Holiday Alcathons and volunteers are needed to help out for many different positions. Committed volunteers are the glue that make the Alcathons a success — and help alcoholics stay sober during the holidays.

- **Volunteer** - It is a great way for people who need it to get the A.A. message
- **What you get out of it** — getting involved in service work outside your home group helps you stay sober.
- **It is IMPORTANT:** Alcathons are a welcoming place for many of us to go for fellowship and comfort during a stressful holiday period.
- **It is an great way to give back** what was freely given to you.
- **It helps spread the message** of hope even if you are not speaking.

CONTACT — Lisa R. of the Alcathon Committee— [alcathon@aaworcester.org](mailto:alcathon@aaworcester.org) today and find out how you can help.

**Deadline....**

....for information to go into the January issue of *The Beacon* is December 16, 2019. Please send to:

**Worcester Area Intergroup**

100 Grove St.,  
Suite 314  
Worcester, MA  
01605

or e-mail to:

[Beacon@aaworcest.org](mailto:Beacon@aaworcest.org)

**Planning a special event?  
Let us know about it!**

E-mail event information or flyers (PDF) to:  
[Beacon@aaworcest.org](mailto:Beacon@aaworcest.org)

**Meeting List Changes****NEW**

**WEBSTER—Tuesday & Thursday** 10-11am at Serenity Hall, 6 Mechanic St. Tuesday is OD, Thursday is OSpD

**TURN THE PAGE—Webster—Open Big Book Workshop** Tuesday nights 5:45-6:45p 10 Mechanic St. Opening the Word Recovery Center Starting Dec 3

**HAPPY, JOYOUS, and FREE**, will begin meeting on Thursdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, at the Community Church in Ashburnham (84 Main St, aka 9 Chapel St.)

**QUINSIGAMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE— TRUST AND RELY -** Thursdays, 5:30-6:30PM, Room 107A (Administration Building) No Smoking Anywhere On Campus!! Living Sober Discussion. The Administration Building is the big brick building facing Route 12/West Boylston Street.

**WORCESTER—BACK TO BASICS—** Friday Back To Basics 7:00-8:30PM;  
**CALL WORCESTER INTERGROUP FOR LOCATION INFO**

**TIME CHANGE**

**WESTBORO — GET WELL SLOWLY—**Sunday night is now 7:30-8:30PM

**WORCESTER—BB164 -** Thursdays - is now only 1 hour, 6:30-7:30pm.

**FORMAT CHANGE**

**HOPEDALE — 2nd CHANCE—**Thursday 8-9PM, format is now C12SPD.

**NAME CHANGE**

**WEBSTER—SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE** is now **DROP THE ROCK**

**GROUP NOTICE REFRESH**

**SOBER AS A JUDGE—** Mondays N. Grosvenordale, CT. OD, St. Joseph's Church, 23 Main St. 7:30pm-8:30PM

**GROUPS CLOSING**

**WESTBORO —** Monday Night Big Book group is closed.

**SOUTHBRIDGE—**Stronger Together meeting is closed.

**ATHOL—**Tuesday Night Women's meeting is closed

**TEMPORARY GROUP LOCATIONS**

**ALTHOL—**Due to a fire at Our Lady Immaculate Roman Catholic Church, the following meetings have been moved:

- **M-F BACK TO BASICS:** noon - 1pm Athol Credit Union - back door entrance to community room 521 Main St
- **SATURDAY NOON:** Recovery Center 419 Main St.
- **SUNDAY NIGHT BEGINNERS:** Recovery Center 419 Main St.
- **TUESDAY ORIGINAL:** Recovery Center 419 Main St.

**WAI's ONLINE BOOKIE EXCHANGE**

The new 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

**BookieXchange.aaworcester.org**

**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

**WAI INTERGROUP OFFICE PARKING NOTICE**

The parking lot for the WAI offices is on the side of building and requires an access code —or action by office staff—to open the gate allowing entry. Call the office at the entry gate kiosk and office personnel will remotely open the gate for you.

If the office does not answer, please try again in a few seconds as office staff may be on the phone and unable to immediately acknowledge your call, and also confirm that your visit is during open office hours. No code is required to exit the lot. *The parking lot in the rear of the building is now for employees only and requires a badge for entry.*

**SPREAD** the word: **DON'T park in the attended lot across the street.**

The lot is private parking only and is not for Intergroup visitors.

WAI office personnel **CANNOT** validate a parking ticket for that lot. The lot attendant **WILL charge you \$15** to exit the lot without a validated ticket!

**Give back what was freely given to you...**

The WAI Treatment committee needs your help to fill badly needed commitments in treatment centers in the Worcester area.

list of treatment locations and commitment calendars, see below for:

**http://aaworcester.org/** and click on "Treatment Facilities"

- Community Healthlink (CHL)
- Motivating Youth Recovery (MYR)
- Spectrum Healthcare Systems - Female Units
- Spectrum Healthcare Systems - Male Units
- Sunrise Detox Calendar - Washburn House

For schedule details—**Email: [treatment@aaworcester.org](mailto:treatment@aaworcester.org)**

**"Without a connection to my Higher Power, I am the same old person with the same old defects, causing the same old pain in my life and others'."**

Berlin,  
Connecticut,  
Sept. 2004  
**A.A. Grapevine**  
"What a Sponsor Is and Is Not," One on One



## Service Meeting Schedule

**Intergroup Steering Committee and Intergroup Delegates monthly meeting has a new location— Salem Covenant Church, 215 Mountain Street East, Worcester.**

**Parking and Meeting Room is in the rear.**

**Intergroup Steering Committee - See Above New Location Notice, 6:00pm**

**Intergroup Delegates\* - See Above New Location Notice, 7:00 pm**

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

**District 25 General Service Committee**—St. Joan of Arc Church, Lincoln Street Worcester, MA—meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm

**District 26 General Service Committee**—Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church Hall, 118 Theresa St., Fitchburg, 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 11/16/19)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new</u>
Chairperson	Emily D.	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	Steve O.	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	Alice B.	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	Paula T.	altsecretary@aaworcester.org	
Treasurer	Jim B.	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	Ted K.	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Nicole L.	<b>trustee1@aaworcester.org</b>	
Trustee	Sean K.	<b>trustee2@aaworcester.org</b>	
Trustee	Linda D.	<b>trustee3@aaworcester.org</b>	
Trustee	Fred F.	<b>trustee4@aaworcester.org</b>	
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Alcathon (WAI)	Lisa R.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John McI	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Robert M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Corrections	Steve O.	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	Brandy H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	Steve O.		
Liaison to District 26	Fred F.		
Liaison to Area 30	Sean K.		
Public Information	<b>OPEN</b>	pichair@aaworcester.org	
Social Committee	Emily D.	social@aaworcester.org	
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org	
Bookie Exchange	Bill S. & Fred F.	bookiexchange@aaworcester.org	

**"A new chapter has once again started in my life -- a chapter that has no ending, a chapter that I did not write, but a chapter with many characters."**

Trenton, NJ, April 2005, A.A. **GRAPEVINE** "Falling Apart on the Inside," No Matter What

**The Beacon—Subscription Form**

Please fill out form, enclose your payment, and mail to: Worcester Area Intergroup

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
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 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Subscriptions to The Beacon are \$10.00 per year to defray the cost of production and postage.  
 Additional donations from members are gratefully accepted.  
 Worcester Area Intergroup is a non-profit organization, dependent on members' contributions. Please  
 make checks payable to Worcester Area Intergroup.

**Mail All completed forms and payments to:**  
**Worcester Area Intergroup** 100 Grove St., Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605  
 Attn: The Beacon

**12 Step Volunteer Application**

Name (First name and last initial): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Towns you will accept calls from: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hours that you are available: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to help (please circle *all* that apply): Males Only Females Only Both

Ages I am willing to work with: Teens 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60 Over 60

I am willing to (please circle):

Talk to a person on the phone Go to a persons home to talk \*

Give rides to AA Meetings Give rides to Detox \* Meet someone at a meeting

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

*\*It is suggested that a person NOT make a Twelfth Step call alone to help an alcoholic who is still suffering. Also you should NOT drive a wet drunk to a treatment facility (detox) without having another A.A. member with you. If you circled either of these items, please be sure that you have another member of A.A. that is available and willing to go along with you.*

**Anniversary Donation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Home Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sobriety Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Worcester Area Intergroup**. All Anniversaries submitted will be published the month following submission. Please contact the newsletter Editor at [beacon@aaworcester.org](mailto:beacon@aaworcester.org) if an Anniversary has not been published for two months following submission.





**The AA Responsibility Statement: I AM RESPONSIBLE WHEN ANYONE ANY WHERE REACHES OUT FOR HELP, I WANT THE HAND OF AA TO ALWAYS BE THERE; AND FOR THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

# 2019 Alcathons

## St. John's Church

44 Temple Street, Worcester, MA 01604

### Thanksgiving



**Starting:** Wednesday, November 27 at NOON  
**Ending:** Thursday, November 28 at MIDNIGHT

### Christmas



**Starting:** Tuesday, December 24 at NOON  
**Ending:** Wednesday, December 25 at MIDNIGHT

### New Years Eve



**Starting:** Tuesday, December 31 at NOON  
**Ending:** Wednesday, January 1 at MIDNIGHT

Food Donations Appreciated by Groups and Individuals

# ALCATHON HOST/HOSTESS VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

*Requirement is 1 year sobriety for main  
host/hostess.*

*Each group is asked to have 1 member as  
co-host/co-hostess (no sobriety requirement)*

If you are interested in signing up or being part  
of the clean up or set up crew please email:

**[alcathon@aaworcester.org](mailto:alcathon@aaworcester.org)**