



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 20 issue 5

May 2018

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314
Worcester, MA 01605
(508) 752-9000
(508) 752-0755 (fax)

www.aaworcester.org

Office Hours:

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

The Beacon Staff

1/2018 – 12/2018

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beacon@aaworcester.org

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

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EVENTS!



Worcester Area Intergroup Social Committee
Presents...
Game Night and Pot Luck
Friday May 11th

- Pot Luck dinner at 6pm
- A.A. Meeting at 7pm, **Board Games at 8pm.**
- Come for all or part of Game Night!
- Trinity Church, 23 Main St., Northborough.
- If you join for Pot Luck, please consider bringing a food item to share.
- For more info—contact Emily D. - hnewyear2@gmail.com
- See the flyer on page 7 of the digital *Beacon*



Sober Cinco de Mayo Dance!!

- Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee
- **Saturday, May 5, 2018**
- Knights of Columbus Hall, 110 South Main St., Gardner, MA
- \$5.00 at the door includes meal featuring Spanish Rice, Corn Bread, Chili.
- Bring a crock pot of Chili for the Chili Cook Off Contest to be eligible to win a pair of tickets to the Whale Watch! - Pls call or text Tim (below) to enter in advance.
- 6 PM Doors open. Chili Contest & supper 6:30 to 7:30PM.
- A.A. Meeting at 7:30PM. Dancing from 8-11PM.
- Gift & 50/50 raffles.
- Contact June S. 717-468-4264 or Tim B. 978-407-3148

Step Five:

“Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”

I am responsible...

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

The Fifth Tradition

“Each group has but one primary purpose ...to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.”

Every newcomer learns (some of us the hard way) that the business of staying sober must have top priority. If we fail at that, we can't succeed at anything else. The Fifth Tradition tells us that groups should remember their “one primary purpose.” Often, unthinking enthusiasm puts a group off the main track. One, for instance, offered an “expanded A.A. program” that included helping newcomers to find jobs. Tradition Five doesn't frown on the individual A.A. who tells another about a good opening. But when the group turns itself into an employment agency, newcomers may get confused about their primary purpose. A.A.'s function is to help them get sober—then they can find work for themselves.

Using discretion, a member may lend a few dollars needed for a meal or a hotel room, or may even invite a broke alcoholic to be a temporary houseguest. But the A.A. group as a whole is not a friendly finance company, nor a welfare department, nor a housing bureau.

Even when acting on their own, as individual members, A.A. lay people certainly shouldn't award themselves honorary medical degrees and hand out diagnoses and prescriptions and amateur analysis of other people's neuroses. Exactly because this personal failing is so common, the A.A. group in all its dealings should be extra careful to emphasize that it is not invading the medical field. Through the personal experiences of its members, it is qualified to carry only one message: how an alcoholic can recover in A.A. That's all.

Yet one group recently felt itself equipped to set up an “alcoholism information center.” The temptation is understandable; it was even stronger at the time this Tradition was written, because public ignorance about alcoholism as an illness was more widespread than it is now. Since then, other agencies have sprung up to assume the task of educating the general public on alcoholism. That is not A.A.'s purpose, but these agencies also are trying to help the active alcoholic. They are our friends—and Tradition Six marks the boundaries of the relationship....”

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

**We are all bound together by one common RESPONSIBILITY:
to carry the message to the suffering alcoholic.**

We need your help!

The Treatment Facilities Committee needs your help. There are hundreds of open commitment opportunities in Central Mass and we are looking for groups and/or individuals to step up and fill the void. If you or your group are interested please email us at treatment@aaworcester.org to learn more about how you can help.

If you are interested in volunteering for a position, call the Intergroup office during business hours for more information. See the flyer on page 9 of the digital *Beacon*.

**Deadline....**

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

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St.,
Suite 314
Worcester, MA
01605

or e-mail to:

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

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

The Beacon
publishes notices
for A.A. events in
the area. E-mail
event information or
flyers (PDF) to:
[Beacon@aaworces
ter.org](mailto:Beacon@aaworces
ter.org)

**"In actual
practice, we
usually find a
solitary self-
appraisal
insufficient."**

A.A. Big Book,
p. 72-73

Meeting List Changes

New Worcester Area Intergroup Meeting Lists in PDF are available for download at www.aaworcester.org.

FORMAT CHANGE

NORTHBORO TUESDAY NOON STEP—now BEGINNERS 123

Marlboro Saturday Helping Hand has changed from an Open Speaker Meeting to an Open Speaker/Discussion Meeting.

Charlton Daybreaker —Wednesday: is no longer a Step meeting...it is now ODNSh
Charlton - Night Owl is no longer a YP meeting...it is now ODNSh

MOVED

WOMEN'S 12 STEP Worcester - Wednesday, has **MOVED** to St. Stephen's Church, 16 Hamilton St. - no time change.

WESTBORO SUNDAY MORNING — at the Senior Center at 4 Rogers Rd. 10-11 AM
Oxford - No Rules BBSS Thurs 7pm has moved to First Congregational Church - 355 Main St. 2nd floor.

ANOTHER DAY SOBER (Not DAY OF HOPE!) Quinebaug, CT - Wednesday - - same address but moved to Rectory basement. Same time

TIME CHANGE

WORCESTER GAY GROUP—695 Southbridge St., Worcester —Mondays 7:00-8:00pm; Open 12 Step Gay

BROOKFIELD SUNDAY MORNING —Was 10:00 - 11:30 am; Now 10:00 - 11:00 am

HUDSON THURSDAY NUGHT STRAIGHT SHOOTERS — OSp - Riverside Gun Club, 16 Wilkins St.— 7:30-8:30 PM

NEW

SPIRITUAL SISTERS —Monday, First Parish of Bolton, 673 Main St. Bolton; 7-8:30pm —**NEW GROUP** Women`s OBB12

WOMEN'S WISDOM IN RECOVERY—Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Rd., Barre—Sundays 10-11am—**NEW GROUP** Women`s Open Discussion

CLINTON BB WORKSHOP—169 Chestnut St.—Wednesdays 7-8pm—**NEW GROUP** Open Big Book

THURSDAY OBB—44 Vernon St., Worcester—Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm—**NEW GROUP** Open Big Book

DROP THE ROCK —6 Depot City Rd. Charlton —Mondays 6:15-7:30pm—**NEW GROUP** (Closed Discussion, Non-smoking)

SUNLIGHT OF THE SPIRIT—114 Main St., Worcester, MA—**NEW GROUP**—to Thursday Nights - 7:30-8:30pm (Steps 1-2-3)

THANK GOD IT'S HERE—Chaffin Congregational Church 155 Shrewsbury St., Holden —**ADDITIONAL GROUP**—to Saturdays - 10:30-noon Open 12 Step Beg., Steps 1-2-3

THERE IS A SOLUTION—17 East Main St., Webster —Tuesdays - 7:00-8:00pm Open Speaker Discussion

TOUGH DIVAS DON'T DRINK - Philadelphia Baptist Church, 259 Concord St., Framingham, MA - Fridays 6:60-7:30pm OSpDW

CLOSED

Tuesday: Charlton - 12 Step Sisters has been discontinued

**An alcoholic needs your help. Will you answer the call?
HELP the HALTline!**

Find out how you can help - One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic ---
Isn't that what A.A. is all about? See Page 4 for details!



FROM THE EDITOR

NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

Get a color version of *The Beacon* emailed to you—send an email to: Beacon@aaworcester.org with SUBSCRIBE as the subject line.

The Faithful Fivers Club—

AA members who donate \$5 or more a month on a regular basis to Worcester Area Intergroup!

Thanks to new members Bill S., Ferne S. and Kevin K.

See form on the right to join...

WAI also accepts Anniversary Donations!

It is suggested \$1 or \$2 for each year of Sobriety! See Page 2 for submission form or pick up donation envelopes at the WAI Office.

**Think
think
think.**

True Twelfth Step Work—Keep Yourself Sober!

HELP the HALTline!

What the HALTline is:

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

You Might:

- Give 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 a chain that could save their life.
- Refer callers to the Intergroup Office—inform them of the office hours.

What the HALTline is not:

- The Halt Line is not a taxi service...
- It is not a referral service...We are not a counseling service...
- We do not give medical advice or opinions.

What you need to be a volunteer:

One year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such service; Touch-tone phone 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," and 3 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. You need 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?"

What will happen:

For your scheduled time, calls are forwarded from the Intergroup Office to the phone number you provide. This is done at no expense to you.

Contact haltline@aaworcester.org if you have time available and are willing to volunteer -preferably in 3 hour or longer shifts .

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): _____

Make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup, 100 Grove St., Suite 314, Worcester, MA 01605 (508) 752-9000

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee* - 100 Grove St. 2nd Floor, Room 206 Worcester, 6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - 100 Grove St. 2nd Floor, Room 206, Worcester, MA 7:00 pm

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

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

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

AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee — Grace Vision Church
80 Mt. Auburn Watertown 4th Wednesday 8:00pm

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 4/15/18)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new</u>
Chairperson	Nicole L.	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	Emily D.	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	Erin M.	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	Wendy S.		
Treasurer	Lisa R.	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	Jim B.	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustees	Fred F., Sean K., Bill S; Steve O.		
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Robert M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Correctional Facilities	OPEN	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	John H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Social Committee	Emily D.	social@aaworcester.org	
Public Information	Bill S.	pichair@aaworcester.org	
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org	
Joint Alcathon Committee	Jim B.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John McI	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	Chris Mac.		
Liaison to District 26	Fred F.		
Liaison to Area 30	Ellen McQ.		
Bookie Exchange	Bill S. & Fred F.	bookieexchange@aaworcester.org	

Get Involved!!

Can you spare an hour? HELP the HALTline!

Find out how you can help - One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic ---
Isn't that what A.A. is all about? See Page 4 for details!

Worcester Area Intergroup Needs YOU!

WAI has an OPEN position for a Correctional Facilities chairperson. There are many alcoholics behind bars that need to hear the message of A.A.

The Beacon—Subscription Form

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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Subscriptions to The Beacon are \$10.00 per year to defray the cost of production and postage.
Additional donations from members are gratefully accepted.

Worcester Area Intergroup is a non-profit organization, dependent on members' contributions.

Mail All completed forms and payments to:

Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St., Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605
Attn: The Beacon

12 Step Volunteer Application

Name (First name and last initial): _____

Telephone Number: _____

Towns you will accept calls from: _____

Hours that you are available: _____

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

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

I am willing to (please circle):

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

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

Other (please specify) _____

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

Anniversary Donation

Name: _____

City/Home Group: _____

Sobriety Date: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____

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

Worcester Area Intergroup Social Committee Introduces Game Night!

Friday, MAY 11th
6pm Pot Luck Dinner
7pm AA Meeting
8pm GAME ON!!!



Will be held at Trinity Church of Northborough
23 Main Street, Northborough MA

Come for all or part of game night!

If you join us for the pot luck please consider bringing an item to share.

For more information please contact Emily D. by email
hnewyear2@gmail.com

Sober Cinco de Mayo Dance!!



Saturday, May 5, 2018

Location:
Knights of Columbus Hall
110 South Main Street
Gardner, MA

\$5.00 at the door includes meal featuring Spanish Rice, Corn Bread, Chili.

Bring a crock pot of Chili for the **Chili Cook Off Contest!!** to be eligible to win a pair of tickets to the Whale Watch! Pls call or text Tim below to enter in advance.

6 PM Doors open. Chili Contest & supper 6:30 to 7:30. Meeting at 7:30.
Dancing from 8-11. Gift & 50/50 raffles.

Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee

Contact June S. 717-468-4264 or Tim B. 978-407-3148



www.aadistrict26.org

Treatment Facilities Committee Announcement

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

This is a Call to Action for the fellowship to step up to the plate and carry the message of AA to those just beginning their journey of recovery at Treatment Facilities. We are looking for Groups and Individuals to take Standing Commitments at several Detox and Rehab programs. It is NOT necessary that it be a Group that takes these open commitments. If you and some friends are looking to give back what has been so freely given to you and express your gratitude for the program a great way to do this is commit to one day a month to share your experience, strength and hope. Get 2-3 friends to join you and get in touch with us.

There are plenty of open dates to fit your schedule(s). We currently have spots at the following facilities:

- Washburn House
- Community Healthlink
- Tara Vista Behavioral Health
- Farris Center
- Spectrum Health
- Harrington Hospital

So if you and/or your group are interested in learning more about which facilities have open needs and the times and dates available please email the committee at treatment@aaworcester.org.

Sincerely,
Robert M.
Matthew H.
Tim J.