

# "BETWEEN-US"

VOL. 19 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2011

## Not A Pretty Drinker

September 20061  
Vol. 63 No. 4

At seven years sober, a  
twenty-two-year-old looks  
back

I grew up in a middle-class suburban home with two nonalcoholic parents. I was intelligent, pretty, and popular, but felt an enormous hole inside me. I wrote morbid poetry and cried myself to sleep every night.

The first time I drank, I was, alone in my bedroom. I got drunk and blacked out. I vowed then that I would drink as much as I could, as frequently as possible. Until that hole was filled with the first drink, I felt that I was putting on a show for the world. Soon I became a regular blackout weekend warrior.

I was eleven years old.

Eventually, I got bored drinking by myself and befriended a group of men with lengthy jail records and street attitudes. Most of them were at least ten years my senior, but they

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## A Fresh Introduction to Hell

July 1998  
Vol. 55, No. 2

I started drinking when I was eleven years old. My grandpa was drinking beer and he asked me if I wanted a sip. I said yes. My sip was finishing off the bottle, and then drinking quite a few more. I hated the taste of beer and despised the smell, but when the effects hit me, I was in love. My whole body burned with a numbing fire. I could stand on top of the world with alcohol. All my problems went away.

Right off I was an everyday drinker. I stole from my friends' parents, hung out at slop houses, and went to parties. None of the people I went to school with had any clue what I was doing. But I was hooked.

For a year, no one knew that I was drinking almost all the time. At twelve years old, I had my first

*("Hell" Continued on page 8)*

### Between-Us Subscribers!

Due to some strange and unique postal bulk mail pricing, it is cheaper for us to mail the group subscription in two separate envelopes of three each. This means that the group will receive six copies instead of five for the same low price of \$18.00.

Also, individual subscribers will receive three copies in their envelope. The price will remain the same, \$9.00. Share the extras with your friends. Thank you.



11:09 AM  
08/09/11  
Accrual Basis

Greater Milwaukee Central Office AA

Profit & Loss

July 2011

	Jul 11
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 - Literature Sales	11,055.23
4050 - Between us	140.75
4070 - Contributions	3,470.63
4080 - Gratitude boxes	31.29
4130 - Personal Contri.	51.47
4150 - Other Income	97.97
4170 - Interest Income	3.97
4600 - Merchandise Sales	9.47
4830 - Sales Discounts	10.04
48900 - Shipping and Delivery Income	225.20
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>15,096.02</b>
Cost of Goods Sold	
5000 - Literature	6,760.67
50000 - Cost of Goods Sold	7.95
5050 - Between us COGS	380.00
52900 - Purchases - Resale Items	18.22
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>7,166.84</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>7,929.18</b>
Expense	
51100 - Freight and Shipping Costs	7.88
59900 - POS Inventory Adjustments	-117.77
6050 - Credit card fees	121.72
6260 - Shipping and freight	321.62
6262 - Postage	3.84
6330 - Insurance Expense	1,333.00
6500 - Office	3,042.55
6600 - Payroll	7,345.18
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>12,058.02</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-4,128.84</b>
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
Balancing Adjustments	0.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-4,128.84</b>
CD Prudent Reserve	84,350.36
Money Market	34,089.67
Checking	2,042.23

### AREA 75 EVENTS CALENDAR

1. Go to Area 75 website at: [area75.org](http://area75.org), 2. Look for the Area 75 Events Calendar on the right side of the page. 3. Events listed are color coded according to the area office that listed them. 4. Click on the small down arrow at the top right hand corner of the Events listing for the color "key" to the area's events. 5. Click on the small down arrow in the middle (next to the date) to view a specific date or just use the scroll button to move up and down through the days listed.

## Secretary Meeting, August 9, 2011

Groups represented: 15 TAL, 23, 48, 59, 60, 83, 88, 200, 201, Badger Group, Bethesda Seniors Gp, Big Book Readers, Common Solution, Daily Reprieve Men's, Early Bird Roger's Memorial, First Step Closed, Grupo 5 Conceptos, Honest and Able, How It Works, Mayfair Ladies Mon/Fri, Monday Night Women's Waukesha, New Beginnings Oconomowoc, New Berlin Big Book Tue, New Berlin Friday, Oak Creek Friday, Serenity at the Vineyard, Sunday Morning Sunlight, Sunday Night Surrender, T-N-T, There is a Solution/Waukesha, There is a Solution/Pewaukee, Trust Through Fellowship, Wanderers, WELL Big Book, When All Else Fails, I'm sorry if I have missed anyone that was at the meeting.

Meeting opened by Kathy at 7:00 p.m.

New secretaries were asked to stand and introduce themselves and mention the groups they represented.

Secretaries were all given a chance to talk about whatever events might be coming up relating to AA or their groups. Numerous events were mentioned.

Bank balances on July 31, 2011  
Business Checking: \$2,042.23  
Money Market Savings: \$34,089.67  
Prudent Reserve CD's: \$84,350.36

Between-Us subscriptions: if your group hasn't paid yet for year 2011,

now is the time. \$18.00 for 6 copies per month. Individual subscriptions are available at \$9.00 (3 copies). New Subscriptions will be "pro-rated" according to the date.

41st Annual City Wide Jamboree for the Central Office will be held on Saturday September 17, 2011. at the Milwaukee County Zoo. \$25.00, AA Speaker: Mildred F. from Toronto. Tickets available now at Central Office or by mail.

Brent W. Area 75 CPC was the guest speaker. He talked about the duties and responsibilities of the position. Information panels, booths have been, often set up at professional conferences and association meetings. Information is also provided to health care providers as well as members of the legal systems, police, judges, lawyers, and probation/parole workers and also to educators.

Meeting closed at 7:40 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting is Tuesday September 13, 2011. at 7 pm. The next Board of Director's meeting will be Wednesday September 14, 2011 at 6:30 pm

### Deaf, Deaf/Blind and Hard of Hearing AA Meeting List, ASL Interpreter available

- Thursdays at 8:00 p. St John Vianney Parish 1755 N. Calhoun Rd, Brookfield WI. **Open AA Meeting for everyone—Third Thursday of Month**, Wheelchair entrance available.

Meetings are weekly closed AA meetings, except where otherwise noted. All meetings are Non-Smoking. **ASL Interpreter available.**

Contact John R. through Voice Relay Service 800-973-8024 / 414-546-3246 TTY/Voice.

E-mail at: [johnreske9@yahoo.com](mailto:johnreske9@yahoo.com)  
Contact George B. through Video Relay Service 866-483-1938 / 414-903-8905 TTY/VP

### AA Groups Need Your Support

- **Gp 24, Sun. 10 a.m.** 12 Step Club, 4102 W Townsend St. Milwaukee, 53216
- **Monday at 1:30 pm.** Bethesda Community Center, 2845 W. Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, WI 5310
- **Thursday at 12:15 pm. and Wednesday 5:30 pm.** Topic both meet at: St. John's Cathedral Complex, 831 N. Van Buren St. Milwaukee, WI 53202
- **Broken Arrow Gp., Friday at 6:30 pm.,** Serenity Club, 3677 E Pulaski, Cudahy WI 53110

# Orientation for GSR's

Second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. prior to the secretary's meeting, at the Milwaukee Central Office. Or, call Ken G. 608-221-2891, [sherwood1@charter.net](mailto:sherwood1@charter.net), to arrange for G.S.R. orientation at your district or workshop.

# DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT

1. JACKSON, LaCROSSE, MONROE, TREMPPEALEAU & VERNON CNTY'S 2nd Sat. of month, 1:00 p.: Faith Evangelical Free Church, 6644 Hwy 16, Sparta WI 54656 (One mile west of Sparta)
  2. GREEN LAKE & MARQUETTE CNTY'S & PART OF WAUSHARA CNTY 4th Sun. of month, 4:30 p., St. John's Church 1211 W. Main St., Princeton
  3. MANITOWOC & SHEBOYGAN CNTY'S 3rd Wed. of month, 6:30 p., Even numbered months at 1907 Club, 2908 N. 21st St., Sheboygan. Odd numbered months: Alano Club, 404 S 29 St Manitowoc
  4. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 2nd Thr. of month, 6:00 p., Alano Club, 1521 N. Prospect Av.
  6. WALWORTH CNTY 2nd Wed. of month, 7:30 p., Walworth Alano Club, 611 E. Walworth St., Delavan
  7. KENOSHA CNTY 3rd Sun. of month, 4:00 p., Kenosha Alano Club, 630 56th St.
  8. ROCK CNTY (1 of 2) 1st Fri of month, 6:30 p., Good Shepard Lutheran Ch, 2447 Park St., Beloit
  9. CRAWFORD, GRANT, IOWA and LAFAYETTE CNTY'S Last Mon. of month, 6:30 p., West View Methodist, Madison & Hathaway, Platteville,
  10. Spanish District, at large. Contact Ernesto N. at 414 645-8591. Meets every Tue. at 5:00 p., 1663 S. 6th Street, Milw.
  11. JEFFERSON CNTY Meets last Wed. at 5:30 p.m. Moravian Church, 301 College St., Lake Mills,
  12. WASHINGTON CNTY 1st Wed. of month, 6:00 p., Jansen Family Park, Schuster Dr. West Bend
  13. WAUKESHA CNTY (1 of 4) 1st Sun. of month, 4:00 p, St. Matthias Church, 111 E. Main, Waukesha
  14. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 4th Wed. of month, 7:00 p, Milwaukee Central Office 7429 W Greenfield Ave., P.O. Box 13011, Wauwatosa WI 53226
  15. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) Last Sunday of month, 5:30 p, Milwaukee Room 933 E. Center St. Milwaukee
  16. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 1st Wed. of month, 7:00 p, Faith United Methodist Church, 400 S. 91st St.,
  17. RACINE CNTY (1 of 2) 3rd Sun. of month, 1:00 p, Grove Club, 1037 Grove Ave., Racine
  18. Combined with District 2. See "District #2"
  - 19/37. RICHLAND & SAUK CNTY'S Last Wed. of month, 6:15 p, in Rm 14, at Baraboo Civic Cntr.
  - 20/21 DANE CNTY (1 of 2) Last Tue. of month, 6:30 p, Monona Community Center, 1011 Nichols Rd., 53716
  22. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 2nd Thr of month, 6:00 p, Alano Club, 1521 N. Prospect Ave.
  23. DODGE CNTY 1st Wed of month at 7:00 p, Dodge Cnty Alano Club, 115 N. Lincoln, Beaver Dam, call to confirm 920-583-3142
  24. OZAUKEE CNTY 3rd Tue. of month, 6:30 p., Advent Lutheran, W63N642 Washington, Cedarburg
  25. FOND du LAC CNTY 2nd Tue. of month, 6:30 p., Gratitude Club, 295 Ruggles St., Fond du Lac
  26. DANE CNTY Combined with District 20
  27. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 3rd Sat. of month, 9:00 a.m. 12 Step Club, 4102 W. Townsend
  28. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 3rd Mon. of month, 7:00 p, Bay View United Methodist 2772 S Kinnickinnic Ave. Bay View, WI 53207
  29. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 9) 1st Mon. of month, 7:00 p, St. Alphonsus School, 6000 W. Loomis Rd., Greendale (enter west side/rear of school)
  30. ROCK CNTY (1 of 2) 1st Fri. of month, 6:30 p. 734 Railroad St., Janesville. (Unity Group)
  31. COLUMBIA CNTY 3rd Sun. of month, 6:30 p., Pardeeville Village Library, 119 N. Main St. Pardeeville, South entrance, lower level.
  - 32/33. WAUKESHA CNTY (1 of 4) 3rd Sun. of month, 1:00 p, Galilee Lutheran Church, N24 W26430 Crestview Dr., Pewaukee.
  34. WAUKESHA CNTY (1 of 4) 1st Tue. of month, 6:30 p, Northwest Alano Club, N88W17658 Christman Rd., Menomonee Falls
  35. GREEN CNTY Quarterly, when called.
  36. RACINE/KENOSHA (1 of 2) 2nd Tues. month 6:00 p.m., 12 & 12 Club, 724 N Pine St., Burlington
  37. JUNEAU CNTY No information available.
- SEND ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO:**  
Greater Milwaukee Central Office  
7429 W. Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214,  
[dan@aamilwaukee.com](mailto:dan@aamilwaukee.com)

# CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

**ETHAN ALLEN SCHOOL, Wales, WI 53183**  
Open speaker meetings every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. (no meeting on the 5th Tuesday of a month). Need facilitators and speakers for 2010, contact Mark G at 262-896-9526 [mgukich@wi.rr.com](mailto:mgukich@wi.rr.com) or Perry C. at 414-588-1638 [pgcristan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pgcristan@sbcglobal.net)

**TAYCHEEDAH CORRECTIONAL**, Meetings are held every other Tuesday, 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Contact: Deb L-H. (920)238-7414

**FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**, P.O. Box 1085 Oxford, No Meeting!

**FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL Satellite Camp**, New Path Group, P. O. Box 1085 Oxford, WI. Meetings Wed. at 1:30 p.m.

**OAK HILL AA GROUP, OAK HILL WCI**  
5212 Hwy M, P.O. Box 140 Oregon, WI 53575 Meetings Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Contact: Rick B. (608) 235-5154

**THOMPSON FARM, RT. 2 DEERFIELD, WI.**  
Closed meeting Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. Contact: Tom Dickert, (608)764-5755

**SOUTHERN OAKS GIRLS SCHOOL, Union Grove WI**, AA Wednesday 5:55 p.m. and Alateen Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Contact: Marty S. (414) 975-8903 for clearance

**ROBERT ELLSWORTH CORRECTIONAL**, 21425A Spring St., Union Grove, 53182 Call for AA Meeting times: Contact Jo (262) 551-7371 or Karelyn P. 414-327-7915.

**KETTLE MORAIN CORRECTIONAL**, Box 31, W9071 Forrest Dr., Plymouth, WI, AA Thr. at 6:00 p.m. Contact Mike L (920) 898-4782.

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY HOUSE OF CORRECTION**, 8885 S. 68th St. Franklin WI. **AA Women's** Saturday 10:00 a.m. Contact: Kristin L. 414-731-8572 or **AA Men's** on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Contact: Dennis D. 414-372-8324

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY JAIL** 9th & State Milwaukee WI. Clearance needed at both facilities. **AA Women's** Sat. at 5:00 p.m. Contact Felisa C. (414) 672-6724. **AA Men's** Thr. at 7:00 p.m. Contact: John A. at (414) 915-9512

**MILWAUKEE SECURE DETENTION CENTER**, 1015 N. 10th St. Milw. Sunday Nights from 6:30 p. to 7:30 p., Men & Women, Call Marty S. at 414-975-8903 for information

**WAUPUN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**  
AA Meeting Sat. , 8:00a.m.-9:30 a.m. Contact Dale C. 920-387-4229 after 5 p. clearance.

**FOX LAKE CORRECTIONAL**, Box #147, Fox Lake, WI 53933 Closed meetings Tue. & Fri. from 6:00 -8:00 p.m.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY JAIL** 411 S. Center St., Jefferson, WI, Mtng. held on Mon. at 7:00 p.m., Contact: Scott N. 920-397-0170

**RACINE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION for MEN** Mtngs: Sun. 8:30 AM, Dane Rx Unit Wed. 7:00 p. Contact: Bill H. (262) 633-1851

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE:** Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month at Faith United Methodist Church, 400 S. 91st St (91st & Adler). All Milwaukee **County Corrections donations should be sent to: MCCC, PO Box 270544, Milwaukee WI 53227-0544.** Call coordinator: Steve G at 414-339-7691, email: [stevegravatt@yahoo.com](mailto:stevegravatt@yahoo.com) with questions. Treasurer Bill E. at 414-433-3507. Corrections volunteers must go through the committee to get AA literature to take into the various facilities. Milwaukee Central Office no longer handles the funds.

## Area 75, Southern Wisconsin, Calendar of Events 2011

Madison Senior Center (MSC),  
330 W. Mifflin St. Madison, WI,  
except where otherwise noted.

- Oct 16, Fall Service Assembly
- Nov 11-13, East Central Regional, Miamisburg OH

- Milwaukee Central Office:** 7429 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214 [gmco@aamilwaukee.com](mailto:gmco@aamilwaukee.com)
- Area 75 Treasurer:** PMB #167, 5464 N Port Washington Rd., Glendale WI 53217
- General Service Office:** G.S.O, P O Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163
- Area 75 Corrections, Bridging the Gap and Treatment write to:** PMB # 170, 5464 N Port Washington Rd., Glendale WI 53217

**IN MEMORIAM...John Swiger** passed away on Saturday, July 16th, 2011. His sobriety birthday was September 25th, 1984. One day at a time, John was graced with 27 years of continuous sobriety. He was a regular attendee of several area groups.

**Peter (Pete) J. Cefalu** passed on July 22, 2011, age 78, of Wautoma formerly of Milwaukee. Pete enjoyed many years of continuous sobriety and had attended meetings at the Twelve Step Club in Milwaukee as well as the Pass It On Club. Peter was a former employee of AT&T and City of Milwaukee

*("Pretty" Continued from page 1)*

drank like me. In exchange for joyrides and drug runs in the car I "borrowed" from my parents every night, they bought me forty-ounce bottles of malt liquor and let me smoke their weed. By the time I was twelve years old, I drank and did drugs every day. Sometimes I drank in the shower before school. I thought everything was going well, but as friends disappeared around me--the girls despised me, the boys went to jail--I started questioning my behavior.

I am not a pretty drinker. I cried constantly and screamed in blackouts. I vomited and wet the bed with regularity. My friends called my parents numerous times and asked them to take me home.

"Why did you drink tonight when I specifically asked you not to?" my mother, horrified and befuddled, asked on one occasion.

"Because I need to drink every day," I said. It was an answer that made sense to me.

Two days later, at the age of thir-

teen, I was dragged to my first AA meeting. I listened a little, even identified, but I had no intention of going back. I had more drinking to do; I hadn't lost enough yet.

When AA members told me to "stay in the day," I resented them. Everyone said how fabulous it was that I was starting so young, but they all had drunk at least twenty years more than me--I was jealous!

Fortunately, the seed was planted and I knew where to go, later, when I had had enough. After countless disasters with friends, family, and my body, I ended up in AA at age fourteen. I believe I had the guidance of my Higher Power because I stayed, listened, and came to believe I could get through all of it.

I was in and out of the rooms for about six months before AA's love taught me to care whether I lived or died. On my last day of drinking, they kicked me out of high school and my parents were ready to throw me out on the streets. But some AA had rubbed off and taught me that my life could be worth living. Finally,  
*("Sobriety" Continued on page 7)*



*("Pretty" Continued from page 6)*

I cared what happened, and I was afraid to die.

I jumped right into the middle of AA. My parents drove me to a meeting every night for over two years because I was still too young to have a driver's license. In a group of men and women three times my age, I felt accepted somewhere for the first time.

A woman took me under her wing and through the Steps quickly, and with determination. I wanted what she had and was willing to go to any lengths to get it. With each Step, I was granted promises. The desire to drink disappeared, and the things in my life that I had lost slowly materialized.

The relationships I had trameled took a long time to mend. First, I had to identify my patterns and behaviors with the Fourth and Fifth Steps. I had to work on a relationship between God and me. I decided, with the help of my sponsor, that I no longer wanted to be the girl in my Fourth Step. I wanted to grow, change, and be rid of those character defects. Steps Six and Seven allowed God to help me become someone new who could deal with life in new ways. With Steps Eight and Nine, I stopped hiding from the world and began building a future that included other people. My parents and my younger brother began trusting me; I gained genuine friendships in and out of AA. To this day, I maintain these things by using Step Ten to check my motives and myself. Steps Eleven and

Twelve keep me right with God and allow me to give back what was so freely given to me.

I got sober two weeks before my fifteenth birthday. Now, over seven years later, my life is better than I could have imagined. I came into AA because I thought I was going to die if I drank one more day. I didn't want to get sober. Yet, what I have found in AA I wouldn't trade for a drink. All those "old" AA members were right. Getting sober young has been amazing. I have literally and figuratively grown up in AA. I made it through senior prom, high school graduation, and my twenty-first birthday sober. I have lived in other countries and found the same simple program of recovery in bomb shelters, on beaches, and in church basements. I have suffered heartbreak, lost close friends, and overcome serious physical illness.

Incredibly, I am in my last semester of college and looking forward to graduation. I am doing the Steps again because I am still crazy, and they keep me sober. My approach to recovery hasn't changed since I first came to AA: I go to a meeting six nights a week, pray twice a day, call my sponsor, read literature, and work with others daily.

One day at a time, these actions keep me sober and give me a life beyond my wildest dreams. With the help of this program and God, I see that sobriety is not always easy, but it is always good.

Danna F.  
New York, NY

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*("Hell" Continued from page 1)*

experience with drugs and I got that high feeling again--the feeling that I could stand on top of the world. I was popular, beautiful, and bulletproof. My journey with drugs progressed rapidly with the aid of my alcoholism.

It was fun for a time. The parties were good, the friends were good, life seemed good. But the fun didn't last. It became harder to get the things I needed from people. School authorities didn't like my habits or my attitudes, so I was kicked out of every school I went to.

My parents were baffled. They didn't know that I was drinking and drug-ging; they thought I was going through a rebellious phase. I didn't care what they thought as long as they didn't know the truth.

I didn't know the truth either--that I had a problem that was steadily getting worse. I started prostituting for drugs, and it ripped me up inside. Getting out of bed every morning was a fresh introduction to hell.

In January 1996, I ran away from home. I was sleeping on curbs in the Utah winter. I couldn't control my craving for alcohol. I had reached my bottom.

Two weeks later, my parents found me. They took me to an adolescent psychiatric ward where I made an alcohol inventory and got a Big Book that I read cover to cover. But when I got out of treatment, I didn't know where to go and I started drinking again. My relapse lasted a little over three weeks. I woke up one morning, looked in the mirror and started to cry. I was fourteen, weighed eighty-five pounds, had stringy hair and dead eyes lined with fatigue. That person in the mirror scared me; I didn't want it to be me. I needed help.

I called my psych ward and my counselor gave me the number of an AA central office. I took it. I felt hope re-

surfacing in my life for the first time in years.

I didn't call for another week. I was scared; I wasn't sure what I would say. I stayed dry for that week, but I was miserable. Finally, that misery became too much to bear. I picked up the phone and called.

A really nice lady answered. She took my name and number and told me that someone would get back to me as soon as possible. Someone did. That person took me to my first meeting.

I don't remember a whole lot that was said at that meeting, but there was a feeling of happiness and peace in that room and it affected me.

I started going to meetings every day. I got a sponsor. I began to work the Steps. I got into lots of service work. Surprisingly enough, my life began to change for the better. I found a Higher Power of my own understanding.

Now I'm sixteen years old, and I'm coming up on two years of sobriety. I'd love to tell you that life has been easy and sweet since I got sober, but some days I have to really work to keep my sanity. But I have a program for living that makes it much easier.

Life is better today. I have a support group of friends who have stuck with me in sobriety. I feel things now, and I don't mind feeling them. I have a relationship with a guy in the Fellowship, and he helps me in way I can't describe.

Only one thing really helps me: I try to listen to the suggestions and the experiences. "Keep Coming Back" also helps. This program isn't for those that need it; it's for those who want it. I'm just glad I wanted it badly enough.

Breanne M.

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# Living Large

## The longer he's sober, the better it gets

I'm twenty-nine years old, and by the grace of God, I have been sober since May 19, 1990. Sometimes that feels like forever, while other times it feels as if it is only yesterday. I still have a lot to learn.

I grew up in the suburbs with a loving family. At age three, I was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. The doctors told my parents that their youngest son might never be able to ride a bicycle, learn to swim, or graduate from high school.

I look back now and see that I used that as an excuse to not try to reach my potential. As I grew up, I had very little self-esteem and few problem-solving skills. I started to feel more and more like an outsider. Why should anyone else care for me when I didn't even like myself? When alcohol came into my life, I took to it very fast. I never really crossed the line into alcoholism--when I started out, I was already past that line.

Whenever the media covers a shooting at a school, my reaction is just like everyone else's: I'm shocked at today's youth. Then I have to remember that it could have been me. I remember being in grade school and carrying around weapons, or having parties in the eighth grade where people would fire handguns from my parent's backyard. When I was ten years old, I broke a classmate's neck. I was on a first-name basis with the youth officer in my town because my friends and I had so many en-

counters with him. All in all, my life was not normal, and I earned my seat at the tables of AA. I wish I could tell a very elaborate bottoming-out story, but the truth is much more simple. I got caught drinking, and it doesn't take much more than that to get a fourteen-year-old kid in serious trouble.

For someone in my situation, an inpatient hospital stay is the easiest way to make a "geographic change." While in the treatment center, I found AA. Where would I be now if those AA members didn't volunteer their time to bring meetings into hospitals?

When I went to my first meeting, I didn't see anybody that looked like me, but these fellow AA members told me what happened to them and what it was like now. I can't say that I really wanted what they had, but I knew that I didn't want what I had. So I kept coming back.

Throughout the years, I got noticed a lot because of my age and length of sobriety. Statements were directed toward me, such as, "It is so great that you are sober at such a young age," or "You can help other young people better than I can." It didn't seem like any of the other hard work I did, such as working the Steps, was even acknowledged. I grew to resent the attention that I received because of my youth.

I will be thirty soon, and now I'm not always the youngest person at the  
*("Living Large" Continued on page 15)*

# CLUB INFORMATION

## NEW DAY CLUB

11936 N. Port Washington  
Mequon, (262) 241-4673  
<http://www.newdayclub.org>

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a.  
11:00 a.  
5:00 p. Young People  
7:30 p. Sun. Night Topic

Mon. 12:30 p. Tenth Step Gp  
5:30 p.  
7:00 p.  
8-15 p. Men's Gp

Tue. 10:00 a.  
5:30 p. Topic Meeting  
7:00 p. Beginners Gp  
8:00 p. Big Book Gp

Wed. 10:00 a.  
2:00 p. Promises Meeting  
5:30 p. Step Meeting  
7:30 p. Women's Gp

Thr. 10:00 a. Topic Meeting  
1:00 p. Women's Gp  
5:30 p. Topic Mtng.  
8:00 p. Step Meeting

Fri. 10:00 a. Topic Meeting  
5:30 p. Step/Tradition  
8:00 p.

Sat. 10:00 a. Step Meeting  
5:00 p. Steps/Principles  
7:00 p. (Feelings)  
10:00 p. Young People

8:00 p. Open Meeting (held on 3rd Saturday of month only)

AL-ANON MEETINGS  
Monday 6:30 p. Al-Anon  
Tuesday 1:00 p. Al-Anon/ACOA  
Thursday 7:00 p. Al-Anon  
Contact club for info on other fellowships.

## PASS IT ON CLUB

6229 W. Forest Home Ave  
Milwaukee WI (414) 541-6923  
[passitonclub.com](http://passitonclub.com)

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a. Sun. Wake Up  
9:30 a. Reliance Open Disc.  
11:00 a. Today choice  
3:00 p. Gratitude Plus  
7:00 p. Big Book Readers  
7:30 a. Jump Start

Mon. 10:30 a. First Step  
4:00 p. HappyHour Step Gp.  
7:00 p. Mon. Freedom  
7:00 p. Open IntroductoryAA

Tue. 7:30 a. Comin' Back Gp  
10:30 a. Keep It Simple  
4:00 p. Drop the Rock  
6:00 p. Women's Step  
7:30 p. Three Legacies  
7:30 p. Double Trouble DD/O

Wed. 7:30 a. Big Book Study  
10:30 a. Pass It On  
4:00 p. Happy Hr Promises  
7:00 p. We, Us & Ours  
7:30 a. Welcome Back Gp  
10:30 a. Made Decision  
5:15 p. As Bill Sees It  
7:00 p. Gateway Topic Gp

Fri. 7:30 a. Honesty Gp.  
10:30 a. Came To Believe  
6:00 p. Women's Fri. Kickoff  
6:30 p. Thoughts 4 Today  
8:00 p. Spanish Speaking

Sat. 8:30 a. Early Bird  
10:30 a. Happy Joyous Free  
3:00 p. Twelve Promises  
8:00 p. Back to Basics 12x12

AL-ANON MEETINGS  
Sun. 11:00 a. Thr. 7:00 p.  
Tue. open Fri. 7:30 p.  
Wed. 7:00 p. Sat. 10:30 a.

## LAKE AREA CLUB

N60 W 35878 Lake Dr  
Oconomowoc, WI  
(262) 567-9912

Visit our website at:  
[www.lakeareaclub.com](http://www.lakeareaclub.com)

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a.  
11:00 a.  
6:00 p. Big Book  
8:00 p.

Mon. 9:00 a. Positive Attitude  
6:30 p.  
8:00 p. Step/Tradition Stdy

Tue. 1:00 p.  
8:00 p. Back To Basics

Wed. 8:00 a.  
10:00 a.  
6:00 p.  
8:00 p.

Thr. 10:00 a.  
6:00 p. Women's Group  
8:00 p.

Fri. 12:30 p.  
6:00 p. Non-smoking  
8:00 p.

Sat. 8:30 a.  
10:00 a. Big Book  
8:00 p.

AL-ANON MEETINGS  
Mon. 8:00 p. Al-Anon  
Tue. 9:00 a. Al-Anon  
Wed. 7:00 p. Al-Anon

OPEN SPEAKER MEETING  
Sat. 7:00 p. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays  
(AA and/or Al-Anon Speakers)

## WAUKESHA ALANO CLUB

318 W. Broadway  
Waukesha, WI  
(262) 549-6541

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 11:00 a. Sun Go-To-Mtng  
(Open speaker 2nd Sunday & Breakfast)  
7:00 p. (Open Step Gp)

Mon. 12:00 Noon  
6:00 p. Beginners AA  
7:00 p. (12 & 12)

Tue. 12:00 Noon

Wed. 12:00 Noon  
5:30 p. Topic Gp  
8:00 p.

Thr. 12:00 Noon  
8:00 p.

Fri. 12:00 Noon T.G.I.F. Gp

Sat. 10:00 a. Gp 124  
7:00 p. Closed Meeting

**OPEN MEETINGS,  
DANCES & EVENTS  
Call for information.**

## UNITY CLUB

1715 Creek Drive  
West Bend, (262) 338-3500  
<http://www.unityofwb.com>

### AA MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 10:30 a.\*\* Gratitude Gp.  
8:00 p.\* Candlelight Gp.

Mon. 10:00 a. Monday A.M.  
7:00 p. Men's

Tue. 10:00 a. Tuesday A.M.  
7:30 p. Beginner's  
8:00 p. Step Gp

Wed. 10:00 a. Promises  
8:15 p. Step Gp

Thr. 10:00 a. Big Book  
8:00 p. Young People

Fri. 10:00 a. Step/Topic Gp  
8:00 p.\*\*\* Step Gp.

Sat. 10:00 a. Here & Now  
7:00 p. Big Book

### AL-ANON & ALATEEN MTNGS

Monday 6:30 p. Alateen  
Wednesday 8:15 p. Al-Anon

\* Open Mtng. 1st Sunday Quarterly  
\*\* Open Mtng. 3rd Sunday of month  
(a.m.)

## SERENITY CLUB

3677 E. Pulaski Ave,  
Cudahy, WI 53110,  
(414)483-8308  
[serenityclub.info](http://serenityclub.info)

### AA Meetings

Sun. 10:00 a. Welcome Gp.  
7:00 p. Gp. 83

Mon. 10:00 a. Honesty Gp.  
8:00 p. Sharing Strength

Tue. 10:00 a. Gp. 118  
8:00 p. Gratitude Gp.

Wed. 10:00 a. Rap Discussion  
5:30 P. Courage/Change  
8:00 p. 1 Day At A Time

Thr. 10:00 a. Gp. 89  
8:00 p. Gp. 88

Fri. 10:00 a. Gp. 41  
6:30 p. Broken Arrow  
8:00 p. Gp. 449

Sat. 10:00 a. Reliance Gp.  
7:00 p. Big Book Gp.

AL-ANON MTNG: Sunday 5:30 p.  
AL-ANON MTNG: Tuesday 6:30 p.

**Call Club for Open Meeting  
& Dance Information**

# CLUB INFORMATION

## WALWORTH COUNTY ALANO CLUB

611 Walworth St.  
(Hwy. 50 & 11)  
Delavan, WI 53115,  
(262) 740-1888

### Sunday AA

10:00 a. Primitive Group  
12:00 Noon Open Speakers  
6:30 p. Delavan Discussion

### Monday AA

7:30 a. Delavan Sunny Side Up  
12:00 Noon Delavan Step Meeting  
6:30 p. Former Miss Americas  
(Women's Step Group)  
6:30 p. Delavan Men's Meeting

### Tuesday AA

7:30 a. Delavan Sunrise Tue  
12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.  
6:30 p. Delavan 12 Step Topic

### Wednesday AA

7:30 a. Delavan Sunrise Wed.  
12:00 Noon As Bill Sees It Gp.  
6:30 p. Delavan IT Meeting

### Thursday AA

7:30 a. Delavan Sunrise Thr.  
12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.  
5:30 p. Step Sisters Women  
6:30 p. Delavan Big Book Gp.

### Friday AA

7:30 a. Delavan Sunrise Fri.  
12:00 Noon Big Book Study  
6:30 p. Delavan Discussion  
8:00 p. Delavan Candle-less Gp.

### Saturday AA

12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.  
6:30 p. Delavan Beginners Gp.

ALANO CLUB 1521 N. Prospect Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI (414) 278-9102  
<http://www.alanofoundation.com>

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 10:00 a. Gp 17 Step  
4:30 p. Step Gp.  
7:30 p. Gp 19 Step  
10:00 p. Topic Gp.  
Mon. 7:00 a. Early Morning  
10:30 a. Gp 72 Topic  
12:15 p. Big Book Meeting  
5:30 p. 12 12 Monday Blues  
6:30 p. Gp 40 Big Book  
8:00 p. Gp 20 Topic  
10:30 p. Living Sober Step/Topic  
Tue. 7:00 a. As Bill Sees It.  
10:30 a. Gp 70 Step  
12:15 p. Gp 76  
5:30 p. Men's AA & Al-Anon  
7:00 p. Beginners - 1st Step (3rd fl)  
8:00 p. Gp 57 Topic  
10:30 p. 4th Dimension Step/Topic  
Wed. 7:00 a. Men's Step  
10:30 a. Gp 9 Step  
12:10 p. Oasis Topic Gp  
6:00 p. Gp 91 Women's  
8:00 p. Gp 3 Step/Topic  
10:30 p. Step/Topic Gp  
Thr. 7:00 a. Big Book Meeting  
10:30 a. Gp 97 Step  
12:15 p. Here & Now Gp  
5:30 p. Acceptance Topic  
7:00 p. LGBT Big Book  
7:30 p. Gp 26 12x12  
10:30 p. As Bill Sees It  
Fri. 7:00 a. Daily Reflections  
10:30 a. Gp 21 Step  
12:15 p. Gp 65  
6:30 p. Here & Now  
8:30 p. Gp 30 Tub Topic  
11:30 p. Step/Topic  
12:15 a. Second Shifters  
Sat. 11:00 a. Gp 87 Step  
3:00 p. Spiritual Growth  
7:30 p. Open Speaker  
9:00 p. Here and Now  
11:30 p. Tub-Topic

AL-ANON MEETING Sunday 10:00 a.  
Club is smoke free. Many meetings break  
outdoors for smoking.

## H.O.W. TO CLUB

8930 W. National Ave,  
West Allis, (414) 543-2448

<http://howtoclub.info/>

Sun. 8 a.-11 p.  
Mon - Thr. 9 a. -11 p  
Fri - Sat. 9 a. - 1 a.

### AA MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a. Eye Opener AA Gp.  
10:00 a. Grass Roots (Steps)  
4:30 p. Drop the Rock 6/7 Step  
6:00 p. AA Topic Group  
8:00 p. Sun. Sober & Serene  
Mon. 11:00 a. Winner's Circle  
5:45 p. Gp 132, Women's Gp  
7:00 p. Big Book Gp.  
8:00 p. New Hope Gp.  
11:15 p. Nighthawk Gp.  
Tue. 11:00 a. Willingness Group  
6:00 p. Tuesday Non-Smok  
8:00 p. 12 & 12 AA Meeting  
Wed. 10:00 a. Foundations Meeting  
6:00 p. AA Beginners Gp.  
7:00 p. Women's Freedom  
8:00 p. Promises Group  
11:15 p. After Hours Gp.  
Thr. 10:00 a. But For Grace Of God  
6:00 p. 6 PM Here and Now  
8:00 p. How To Get It Going  
Fri. 11:00 a. Priority Group  
6:00 p. Big Book Group  
8:00 p. R.U.S. For Us  
11:15 p. Candlelight Promises  
Sat. 9:15 a. Men's Topic  
11:00 a. Pioneers Group  
6:00 p. 1st & 12 Topic  
8:00 p. HOW To Saturday\*)  
\*(Open meeting on 3rd Saturday)  
10:30 p. Candlelight Gratitude

# CLUB INFORMATION

The "Clubs" listed here are  
not A.A. Clubs. **A.A. DOES  
NOT HAVE CLUBS!**

A.A. neither endorses nor  
opposes such clubs. These  
are social clubs established  
by groups or individuals who  
are themselves recovering  
alcoholics. The A.A. group  
meeting at the club is  
available to any  
alcoholic - club member or  
not. The group is separate  
from the club and pays a fair  
rent for the use of the club  
facilities. Even though the  
group meets in a club that  
may be composed exclusively  
of A.A. members, and many  
members of the group may be  
club members, too, the  
relationship of the A.A. group  
itself to the club should be the  
same as it would be to a  
church, hospital, school, etc.,  
in which it might rent space  
for its meetings.

**12 STEP CLUB**  
4102 W Townsend St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53216  
(414) 871-0610

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 10:00 a. Gp. 24 Upstairs  
Mon. 11:00 a. Gp. 92  
Tuesday 6:45 p. Gp. 79  
Wed. 11:00 a. Gp. 27  
Fri. 11:00 a. Gp. 61 (12x12)  
6:00 p. Women's Gp.  
Sat. 10:00 a. Beginners Gp.  
7:00 p. Gp 6

**CALL THE CLUB FOR  
INFORMATION ON OPEN  
A.A. MEETINGS,  
MEETINGS FOR OTHER FEL-  
LOWSHIPS and  
SPECIAL EVENTS.**

**1907 CLUB**  
2908 N 21st St.  
Sheboygan, WI 53083  
(920) 457-9633

### AA MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun: 7:00 p. As Bill Sees It  
Mon: 6:30 p. Old Timers  
7:30 p. Women's  
8:00 p. Beginners  
Tue: 6:00 p. Big Book  
Wed: 9:30 a.  
8:00 p. WITTS  
Thr: 6:00 p. Topic Meeting  
7:00 p. Closed Speaker  
Fri: 8:00 p. Good Fight Gp  
Sat: 9:30 a. Non-Smoking  
6:30 p. Grapevine  
MtnG  
Open Meeting 1st & 3rd  
Saturday of month at 8:00 p.

### Al-Anon Meetings

Monday: 7:00 p. Al-Anon  
Wednesday: 9:30 a. Al-Anon  
Saturday: 9:30 a. Ala-teen  
9:30 a. Ala-Tot  
9:30 a. Al-Anon

# When and Where

## NEW MEETINGS

**11th Step Open AA Meeting**, Bethel Lutheran Church, S77W18426 Janesville Rd, Muskego. Meets Saturdays at 7:30 a.m.

**Gp 79, Twelve Step Club**, 4102 W Townsend St, Milwaukee 53216, meets Tuesday at 6:45 p.

**W.E.L.L. Beginner's Group**, Bethlehem Lutheran Church 470 N Oak Crest Dr, Wales, WI 53188 on Tuesday's at 7:00 p.m.

**Women's Big Book**, Christ Church 13460 N Port Washington Rd, Menomonie 53092, meets Mon. at 6:00 p.

**Polish Sober Eagles (Polish Speaking)** Prince of Peace, 4419 S Howell Ave Milwaukee 53207 (rear parking & entrance) Meets on Tuesdays at 6:00 p. (Polish/Russian Inter-

preter available)

**Tues Night Bay View Big Book**, United Methodist 2772 S K.K. Ave, meets on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.

**Bright Spot of Our Lives Young People**, St James Congregation W222 N6570 Town Line Rd, Menomonie Falls Wednesdays at 7:00 p.

**UW-Whitewater**, Ambrose Health Center, 800 W Main St, Whitewater, Wednesdays at 4:00 p.

**By The Book**, Tippecanoe Presbyterian, 125 W Saveland Ave Milwaukee 53207 Wednesday, 7:00 p.

## DISBANDED GROUPS

**Weekly Open AA Forum**, West Allis Memorial Hosp. 8901 W Lincoln Ave, met Sunday at 4:30 p.

**Fight the Good Fight Open, Ace Boxing Club**, 2160 S 10th, Milw.

## 24 HOUR CLUB

153 Green Bay Rd.  
Thiensville, WI  
(262) 242-9999

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Step/Topic  
5:00 p. Step  
Mon. 6:30 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Topic  
12:00 p. Women's  
8:00 p. Men's  
Tue. 6:30 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Step/Topic  
5:30 p. Big Book  
Wed. 6:30 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Big Book  
5:15 p. Women's  
Thr. 6:30 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Topic  
5:30 p. Step/Topic/Trad  
Fri. 6:30 a. Topic  
10:00 a. Step/12 & 12  
5:30 p. Principles  
8:00 p. Step  
Sat. 8:30 a. Living Sober  
10:00 a. Big Book

**8:00 p. Open Speaker Mtng.**  
(1st Saturday Only)

## GALANO CLUB

### - LGBT Recovery -

315 W. Court St. Suite 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53212-3825  
(414) 276-6936

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

[mail@galanoclub.org](mailto:mail@galanoclub.org)

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 10:30 a. Step Topic  
Mon. 7:30 p. Came To Believe  
Tue. 5:30 p. 40+ Topic  
Wed. 7:00 p. 12 x 12  
Fri. 7:00 p. Step/Topic  
Sat. 7:30 p. Topic

### AL-ANON MEETINGS

Sun. 10:30 a.m. (Co-ed.)

**CALL THE CLUB FOR INFO ON  
SPECIAL EVENTS AND OPEN  
MEETINGS!**

## NORTHWEST ALANO CLUB\*

N88 W17658 Christman Rd  
Menomonie Falls WI  
53051 (No Phone)

### A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 7:30 p.  
Mon. 7:00 p.  
8:00 p. Action Gp  
Tue. 10:00 a. Step  
8:00 p.  
Wed. 8:00 p. Step/Topic  
Thr. 10:00 a. Step  
6:00 p. Women's  
Fri. 8:00 p. Step/Topic  
Sat. 10:00 a. Step

### AL-ANON MEETINGS

Wed. 8:00 p. Al-Anon  
Fri. 8:00 p. Al-Anon

\*This Club is a Smoke-Free  
environment. We have ample  
meeting space available for 12 Step  
groups. Contact the Northwest Alano  
Club by mail.



met on Mondays at 7:00 p.

**Muskego Wednesday Night**, met at Heritage Presbyterian, 13761 College Ave, Muskego, at 7:30 p.

**Brown Deer Friday**, Abiding Savior, 5214 W Luebbe Ln, met on Fridays at 8:00 p.

**Holy Hill Gp**, on Friday in Hubertus no longer meets at Holy Hill.

### OTHER CHANGES

**Gp 91 Women**, Alano Club 1521 N Prospect Wed at 6 p. now has **Child Care Available**.

**Time To Start Living**, Brookfield Presbyterian, 1485 Brookfield Rd, Noon on Mondays, now has an **open meeting on the last Monday** of the month.

**Cedarburg Tue Gp**, Advent Lutheran W63 N642 Washington Ave, Cedarburg, formerly met at 8:00 p. on Tuesday, now meets at 7:00 p.

**Hartford Wednesday Night**, time change, old time 8:00 p. **NEW time is 7:00 p.**

**Here and Now**, formerly at the 12 Step Club, now meets on Thursdays 7 p. at St Francis of Assisi Church, 1927 N 4th St Milw. 53212

**Friday Night Second Shifter's** formerly met at Serenity Club, now meets at the Alano Club, 1521 N Prospect Ave Friday night/Saturday morning at 12:15am

**Fri North Shore**, Bay Shore Lutheran, 1200 E Hampton, formerly at 8 p. now meets at 7:30 p.

## OPEN MEETINGS

**Weekly & monthly open meetings listed in June 2011, When & Where**

[aamilwaukee.com/directory.html](http://aamilwaukee.com/directory.html)

Grapevine Open Meeting, Pass It On Club, 6229 W. Forest Home Ave. meets on **Sundays at 5:00 p.**

Bethesda Seniors Community Center Open Meeting, 2845 W Fond du Lac Ave **1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 1:30 p.**

Salem United Methodist Church, 541 Hwy. 59, Waukesha, ea. **Wed. 7:00 p.**

St. Lukes Church, 300 Carroll St., Waukesha **1st Friday only 8:00 p.**

24 Hour Club Open Meeting, 153 Green Bay Rd, Thiensville, **First Saturday of month at 8:00 p.**

New Hope United Church, 4360 N. Jackson Dr., Jackson WI, meets on **2nd Saturday only at 7:00 p.m.**

Dist 34, St. Francis Episcopal Church, N84 W16525 Menomonee Ave., **Second Saturday at 7:00p.**

Waukesha Alano Open Meeting, 318 W. Broadway, Waukesha, **2nd Sunday, at 11:00 a.**

Open Meeting 2245 W. Fond du Lac Ave. Milwaukee, WI. Meets on **3rd Sunday at 11:00 a.**

HOW To Club Open Meeting, 8930 W. National Ave., **3rd Saturday 8:00 p.**

New Day Club Open Meeting, 11936 N. Port Washington Rd, Mequon, **Third Saturday at 8:00 pm**

Trinity United Church of Christ, 4435 N. Calhoun Rd. **Last Wed. 8:00 p.**

Holy Assumption School, 72<sup>nd</sup> & Orchard, **Last Wednesday 8:00 p.**

New Day Club Open Meeting, 11936 N. Port Washington Rd., Mequon, **Third Saturday at 8:00 p.**

Alano Club Open Meeting, 1521 N. Prospect **Each Saturday 7:30 p.**

Contact the Central Office via email: [gmco@aamilwaukee.com](mailto:gmco@aamilwaukee.com), before the 12th of the month prior to your Open Meeting so that it can be listed here under the special/anniversary Open Meetings section.

# 5/5

## "Faithful Fivers"

**Greater Milwaukee Central Office  
7429 W. Greenfield Ave. West Allis WI 53214**

**Faithful Fivers** "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 blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with those who still suffer." - *Bill W.*

Every single AA service is designed to make 12th Step work possible. As a **Faithful Fiver** your personal contributions can and will make our vital services possible. You can start with a minimum monthly contribution of \$5.00 or more. This can be paid by check or billed to your credit card.

**Yes! I want to participate in the Faithful Fivers Club.**

**Contribution Information: Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount \$:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Monthly** \_\_\_\_\_ **Quarterly** \_\_\_\_\_ **Annually** \_\_\_\_\_

(Note no AA member can contribute more that \$3000 per year)

I am a new member \_\_\_\_\_ a current member \_\_\_\_\_ a returning member \_\_\_\_\_.

Payment Plan:

Check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ or Bill my credit card: Visa \_\_\_\_\_ M/C \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_

**Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

### 2011 Weekend Retreats Jesuit Retreat House, Oshkosh, WI [jesuitretreathouse.org](http://jesuitretreathouse.org)

Men and Women members of AA, Al-Anon  
Total cost: 4 days \$290.00. Send a \$40.00 deposit with requests for specific dates to:  
Jesuit Retreat House, 4800 Fahrwald Road, Oshkosh, WI 54901 or call for information, 1 (800) 962-7330

Aug 18-21 Women, Mildred Frank  
Nov 10-13 Women, Sr Kerry Larkin OSM  
Nov 17-20 Women, Sr Elise Cholewinski OSF  
Dec 01-04 Men, Fr Kevin Ballard, S.J.

### Spanish Speaking Meetings: Meeting at English Speaking Clubs

- GRUPO 5 CONCEPTOS, Pass It On Club, 6229 W. Forest Home Av, Milw, on Friday at 8:00 p.
- GRUPO NUEVO AMANECER, Tri-County Unity Club, 104 N. First St, Watertown, on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7:00 PM and on Sunday at 11:00 AM
- GRUPO FE Y ESPRONZA, Gratitude Club, 295 Ruggles St. Fond du Lac WI on Wednesday at 7:00 PM and Sundays at 4:00 PM

### MILWAUKEE CENTRAL OFFICE

- **E-mail the Board President at:** [board@aamilwaukee.com](mailto:board@aamilwaukee.com)
- **E-mail Director Dan F. at:** [dan@aamilwaukee.com](mailto:dan@aamilwaukee.com)
- **Hours:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday
- **G.S.R. Orientation, 2<sup>nd</sup>** Tuesday 6:30 p.
- **Secretary Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup>** Tuesday 7:00 p.
- **Board of Directors Meeting,** Wednesday following Secretaries Meeting, (odd numbered months) 6:30 p.
- **A. A. Meetings,** Mon - Fri at 12:15 p. and 4:00 p.
- **A. A. Meeting Saturday** 9:15 a., 10:30 a. and 3:00 p.
- [www.aamilwaukee.com](http://www.aamilwaukee.com)

(“Living Large” Continued from page 9)

meeting. My uniqueness has been slipping away. Where am I now in AA?

Well, I have worked the Twelve Steps a couple of times. I have chaired committees at both district and area level. I have told my story to groups ranging from one alcoholic to an audience of several thousand, and it has been published in AA literature. I have sponsored dozens of alcoholics. I am no longer seen as a young person, but rather as a trusted servant. I have become a member among members. I finally believe that I truly belong here.

There have been times in my sobriety when I started to feel sorry for myself. Not so much because I am not able to drink, but because I always have to be responsible for my actions. I think to myself, Teenagers/young people are supposed to do stupid things, and because I have a program, I can't! But looking back, I can truthfully say that I have made plenty of mistakes in my sober life. In fact, probably the only mistake that I haven't made is that I haven't picked up a drink--yet.

I used to put expectations on myself that were just not necessary. I felt that because I was living a sober life, there were things that I wasn't able to do. I never went to any of my high school proms for fear that there would be drinking there. I thought I was doomed to a life filled with only AA dances and picnics. It took me a long time to find out that AA wasn't here to limit my life, it was here to fulfill it.

In the past fifteen years, that I have been in AA, I have attended dozens of concerts and weddings, gone on vacations, and gone to nightclubs. I have become a firefighter, a black belt in judo, a scuba diver, a sky-diver, and a motorcyclist. I graduated from the college of my choice, and I was able to study in Europe for a semester. I have a good job, I own my own home, and I have great credit. In May, I married the most beautiful, kind, loving woman in the world on a beach in Maui. Not bad for a little kid who was never expected to ride a bicycle, right?

Today I understand that I go to AA to live my life, not live my life to go to AA. So, when anyone asks me what a young sober member of AA can do for fun, I always tell him or her, "With the exception of drinking, you can do anything legal." It is a big world out there with tons of possibilities to explore.

When I meet my maker someday, it will not matter how long I was sober or how young I was. Nor will it matter what life experiences I have had, or the size of my bank account. What I want to be judged on is how good a husband, and possibly a father, I was. Did I love and support others as much as God loved and supported me? Today it is no longer about who cares for me, it is about learning to love others. Without the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous, I would not be able to live the life that God wanted me to.

Kevin P.  
Schaumburg, Illinois

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## Volunteers Needed To Staff the Archives Room

### GOAL

**Keep the Archives Room Open  
From Noon until 4:00 Sunday's  
throughout the year of 2011**

**Volunteers can sign up for one day  
or as many days that  
they are able to commit to.**

**Please contact Nancy Seelen  
Area 75 Archivist  
414 339-3934  
aanancy@att.net**

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tuesday Night Rule 62 Men's Group

## Open Meeting



When: Tuesday, September 6, 2011

Where: Zion Episcopal Church, 135 Rockwell St. in  
Oconomowoc

Time: Social Hour 6pm and Speaker at 7pm

## Speaker

**Aaron M. – Neosho, WI**

Everyone is Welcome

Refreshments will be Provided

Directions: Once in Oconomowoc, follow Wisconsin Ave. to N. Lake Drive and head north. Rockwell is about a block and a half up.

If you need more info contact Larry at 262-729-5475.

## District 27 Presents: “Movie Day”

District 27 will screen the film:

**“Bill W. – The Twelve Traditions”**  
**When: Saturday October 22, 2011**  
12 noon to ?

**Where:**  
**Wellington Park Lutheran Church**  
**7017 West Medford Avenue**

(Parking in lot south of building)  
Medford Avenue is an angle street  
North of Hampton Avenue in between  
68th and 69th streets

Join us for an outstanding  
Movie & Refreshments,  
Fellowship & Door Prizes.

**Emcee: Lisa W.**

## Alcoholics Anonymous

**New Meeting**  
**12-Step format**

**When: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: Gesu Church**

**Parish Hall basement**  
**1212 W. Michigan Avenue**

**Directions:** Take the Gesu parking lot from 11th Street, just south of Wisconsin Avenue. Park in the lot on the north side of the driveway, opposite the Law School.

The Parish Hall is the building on the west side of the parking lot. Entrance to the basement is down the steps on the south side of the building.

For more information, call: 414-475-8006





# 4th ANNUAL "A.A. at the V.A." Mini Conference

With Participation by AI-ANON

## October 8, 2011 8:30AM to 5:00PM

Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center  
5000 West National Ave.  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53295

Early registration closes Midnight on Friday, September 23, 2011

Mail early registration form to:  
**AA at the VA Mini-Conference**  
P.O. Box 114, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53295  
C/O Conference Treasurer

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ AA: \_\_\_\_\_ AI-Anon: \_\_\_\_\_

Bill W. Scholarship Request: \_\_\_\_\_ Lois W. Scholarship Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Donation: \$5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Bill W. Scholarship Fund Donation Amount: (\$5.00 suggested) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lois W. Scholarship Fund Donation Amount: (\$5.00 suggested) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Literature Donations: (Book or cost of book donations accepted)

AA Big Book Donation (\$8.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Steps & 12 Traditions Book Donation (\$7.50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "AA at the VA" ON SITE REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 AM**

Volunteer to help: Greeter \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_\_\_ Registration \_\_\_\_\_



## AA: Women to Women

This is a closed AA meeting

A day of sharing:

To foster the sharing of ideas, feelings & issues

To create a safe atmosphere that nurtures honesty & becoming

To explore the positive energy among AA women

9:00 - 9:30 Registration/ Coffee

9:30 - 9:45 Opening/Announcements

9:45 - 10:30 Too Much, Too Fast

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 11:30 The "Disease To Please"

11:30 - 11:45 Break

11:45 - 12:30 The Balancing Act

12:30 - 1:30 Lunch

1:30 - 2:15 Why We Were Chosen

2:15 - 2:30 Closing/Countdown

Saturday October 22, 2011  
9:00am - 2:30pm

The Pass It On Club  
6229 W. Forest Home Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53220  
414-541-6923

For more information contact:

Joy S. 262-215-7513

Cyann R. 414-614-3028

### Registration Form

Deadline: October 7, 2011

Registration: \$10.00 (in advance)

\$15.00 (at the door)

Please use a separate form for each person

Includes: Lunch Buffet, Coffee, Doughnuts

Please print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

It is okay to leave a message at this number

Make checks payable to: Women to Women  
Mail to: Women to Women c/o Joy Steinbicer  
3251 S. 54th St Milwaukee, WI 53219

**GROUP 15**

**44th ANNUAL OPEN MEETING**

**FELLOWSHIP**      **FOOD**

**BEST CAKE IN TOWN**      **FUN**

**Otis P.- AA**

**Mary H.- Al-Anon**

**Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**

**Lutheran Church  
of the  
Great Spirit**

**3127 S. Howell Ave.  
Bay View, WI 53207**

## Staying Grounded in Sobriety

### 5th Annual District 16 Fall Workshop

#### Session 1

- Panel 1 The Home Group—Where Sobriety Begins
- Panel 2 Sponsorship—Commitment to Sobriety

#### Session 2

- Panel 3 Spirituality—Having a Higher Power
- Panel 4 Service—Giving it away to keep

**November 13, 2010      NOON TO 4:00 PM**  
**Hospitality at Noon – Speakers at 12:30PM**

**Location: Milwaukee Central Office**  
**7429 W. Greenfield Avenue**  
**West Allis, WI 53214**

Please bring a snack to pass for hospitality/lunch

#### New This year

*Sandwiches will be provided for lunch—suggested donation \$2.00*

District 16 at PO BOX 14511 West Allis, WI 53214  
 For suggestions, questions or donations

**LAST CHANCE**  
 get your tickets now.

**JAMBOREE 2011**

Milwaukee County Zoo, Peck Welcome Center  
 10001 W. BLUEMOUND RD.

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**  
**HOSPITALITY: 5:00 P.M., DINNER: 6:00 P.M.**  
**SPEAKER: Mildred F., Toronto, 7:00 P.M.**

**Dance to follow**

**\$25.00**      **Soda and Water Only \$1.50**      **\$25.00**

Tickets by mail, \$25.00 each, include a self addressed stamped envelope.  
 Greater Milwaukee Central Office 41st Annual City Wide Jamboree  
 7429 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI 53214, 414-771-9119

Pay by check or credit card, Visa/MasterCard/Discover, include all necessary information.  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ CID# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address Please: \_\_\_\_\_

**Zoo Admission and Parking are included with Jamboree ticket purchase.**