

"BETWEEN-US"

VOL. 23 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2015

The AA Spirit

I attended my first AA meeting, in Santa Monica, California, about twelve hours after a three-day non-stop drunken binge; strange non-existent music was still ringing through my booze saturated mind as I mumbled to myself in turns. Memories of that Friday night meeting remain a blur, but I will never forget that after the closing prayer (The Lord's Prayer), I somehow *knew* that AA was going to work for me . . . and I was right, because I haven't had to drink since! This was rather amazing because not in one of the previous twenty years had I not *quit drinking forever*, ending up soused within a few weeks. Why did *that* AA meeting give my still drunken mind such hope and confidence? I believe I felt the hand of God at that moment. What desperate and hopeless drunkard has not felt that fragile, yet powerful, God-given AA Spirit as they enter the door of a meeting?

I will never forget the outgoing love
 ("Spirit" Continued on page 17)



Can an Atheist Find a Place in AA? Here's a report from one who did

AS I read the Grapevine every month, one thought always stands out in my mind. Many stories are about particular alcoholics who have found their niches in life and, more important, in AA. In each case, there is a fight, a surrender and an acceptance. This seems to be topped off by an air of enthusiasm about the fellowship, and a tranquility about these individuals which is almost an entity unto itself.

Here is a new approach to AA, or here is how some of the other half lives, the half made up of scared-to-death newcomers, "doubting Thomases" and me, the outright non-believer, who finds that certain words in the English language still have their mysterious power over the chemical forces in the body. The mere mention of them makes me want to be physically ill. Some of these dandies are: acceptance, society, conformity, God, religion and at times, even the word alcoholic.

Joshua Loth Liebman once said that "Agnostics are like the damned spirits of Dante's inferno, condemned to"
 ("Atheist" Continued on page 7)

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Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · Literature Sales	10,572.95
4050 · Between us	122.00
4070 · Group Contributions	6,210.64
4131 · Faithful Fiver	100.00
4132 · Birthday Donation	47.00
4130 · Personal Contributions	153.01
4151 · Coffee Candy Soda	318.86
4170 · Interest Income	38.42
48900 · Shipping and Delivery Income	156.04
Total Income	17,718.92

Cost of Goods Sold	
5000 · Literature	5,786.47
Total COGS	5,786.47

Expenses	
51100 · Freight and Shipping Costs	69.50
59900 · POS Inventory Adjustments	40.33
6045 · Coffee/Soda/Candy Expense	136.09
6050 · Credit card fees	141.80
6262 · Postage	36.48
6500 · Office	2,945.91
6600 · Payroll	8,427.33
6800 · Printing	380.00
Total Expenses	12,177.44

Net Income -244.99

Bank Balances-

Regular Checking: \$4,662.16
 Savings Account: \$44,568.07
 CD, Prudaent Reserve: \$84,420.81

Total Income	1,7718.92
Minus Total COGS	5,786.47
Minus Total Expense	12,177.44
Equals Net Income	-244.99

Meeting Space Available

- **Aurora Psychiatric Hospital**, "Lighthouse on Dewey" 1220 Dewey Ave., Wauwatosa 53213, has this beautiful newly renovated meeting space available, for regular meetings and special group functions, open meetings, workshops, even small group dinners. Contact: Mark P. 414-803-3464 for more information.
- **Aurora West Allis Medical Center**, 8901 W Lincoln Ave, West Allis. Meeting space available. Contact Terese @414-328-7521 or email: terese.beauchamp@aurora.org
- **Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church**, 5277 N. 36th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209, Contact Rev. John Patterson, Phone: 414-461-7755, Email: mt.olivembc@wi.rr.com
- **Galano Club-LGBT Friendly** at 7210 W Greenfield Ave. West Allis, has meeting space available for recovery groups, inexpensive room rent (\$12 -\$15 week). Plenty of free parking. Contact Deb at the club at 414-276-6936.

Secretary Meeting, May 12, 2015

Groups represented: 7, 22, 59, 60, 153, A New Day, A Vision For You, Big Book Readers, Brown Deer Monday, Came To Believe Waukesha, Common Solution, Early Bird Roger's, Friday Big Book Discussion, Honest and Able, HOW It Works B/B 12x12 Disc., Monday Night Action, New Beginning's Oconomowoc, New Berlin Big Book Tuesday, New Faith, North Shore Big Book Saturday, Participation Gp, Pow Wow, Reliance Open Discussion, Saturday Morning Women's Freedom, Saturday Night 1st Edition Big Book Mtng, Sunday Night Men's Waukesha, Sussex Friday Night Action, Three Legacies, Trust Through Fellowship, Tuesday AM Big Book/12&12 Study, Tuesday Night Hales Corners Step/Topic, Turning Point Sunday Night, Wanderer's, Way of Life Gp., WELL Big Book, When All Else Fails, Women's Recovery Group, Written For Us Big Book/12 & 12. I'm sorry if I have missed anyone that was in attendance.

Kathy S opened the meeting at 7pm

Bank balances on April 30, 2015

Business Checking: \$4,662.16

Savings Account: 44,568.07

Prudent Reserve CD's: \$84,420.81

New secretaries introduced themselves.

All meetings listed in our meeting directories should be contributing regularly to the AA Service Entities; Milwaukee Central Office 50%, GSO in New York 30% and Area 75 Committee 10% and to your Districts 10%.

Renew Between-Us subscriptions now. \$9 yr. for 3 copies/mo. or \$18 yr. for 6 copies/mo. **NEW subscriptions welcome.**

Central Office is having an Open House Saturday June 6, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments

provided. All are welcome to come in and meet the employees and the Board of Directors. Browse, shop, eat, visit with friends.

Central Office is having a dinner and speaker meeting. Saturday September 26, 2015. 5 pm to 10 pm. Italian Community Center. Limited seating for 100 people. Pricing and menu to be determined. This is a fund raising event. Questions: gmco@aamilwaukee.com

Volunteer's needed to cover the hotline during hours when the Central Office is closed. 1 year sobriety, sponsor and home group required. Contact Kathy S at Central Office 414-771-9119.

Guest Speaker: Kristin W-L, Milwaukee County Correction Committee Chairperson, talked about what the committee does and is doing. They take meetings into the various correction facilities in the Milwaukee County area. They always need volunteers and maintain their own "corrections fund" account. Call Kris at 414-731-8572 to volunteer or ask questions. Donations can be sent to "MCCC", P.O. Box 270544, Milwaukee WI 53227-0544. (Central Office does not handle these funds.)

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday June 9, 2015 at 7 pm.

AREA 75/Central Office EVENTS CALENDAR

1. Go to Area 75 website at: 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.

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

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

E-mail at: johnres-ke9@yahoo.com

or Contact George B. through Video Relay Service 866-483-1938 / 414-903-8905 TTY/VP

ORIENTATION for GSR'S

Second Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. prior to the secretary's meeting, at the Milwaukee Central Office.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT INFO ON THE WEB:

<http://www.area75.org/district.html>

1. JACKSON, LaCROSSE, MONROE, VERNON, & TREMPPEALEAU; 2 & 18 GREEN LAKE & MARQUETTE CNTY'S & PART OF WAUSHARA; 8 & 30 ROCK ; 9. CRAWFORD, GRANT, IOWA and LAFAYETTE; 19 & 37. RICHLAND & SAUK; 20, 21 & 26 DANE; 31. COLUMBIA CNTY; 35. GREEN; 37. JUNEAU CNTY'S

(Check the web address above for meeting info.)

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 Tue. 7:30 p. Feb. Apr. June. Aug. Oct. and Dec. only, Walworth Alano Club, 611 E. Walworth St., Delavan

7. KENOSHA CNTY 3rd Sun. of month, 4:00 p., Kenosha Alano Club, 630 56th St.

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 3) 1st Sun. of month, 1:00 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) Is not an active district. No District Meeting.

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

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., Peltz Center for Jewish Life, 2233 W Mequon Rd. Mequon

25. FOND du LAC CNTY 2nd Tue. of month, 6:30 p., Gratitude Club, 295 Ruggles St., Fond du Lac

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, Luther Memorial Church, 2840 S 84th St., West Allis, WI 53227

32. WAUKESHA CNTY (1 of 3) 4th Tuesday of month, 6:30 p, Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 470 Oak Crest Dr., Wales WI.

34. WAUKESHA CNTY (1 of 3) 1st Tue. of month, 6:30 p, Northwest Alano Club, N88W17658 Christman Rd., Menomonee Falls

36. RACINE/KENOSHA (1 of 2) 2nd Tues. month 6:00 p.m., 12 & 12 Club, 724 N Pine St., Burlington

SEND ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO:
7429 W. Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214,
dan@aamilwaukee.com

A Buck In The Basket... Really? Maybe it's time for a raise!



"Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

Tradition Seven, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions,

Reprinted with permission AA World Services, Inc.

CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

TAYCHEEDAH CORRECTIONAL,
Meetings are held every Tuesday, 5:45 -7:30 p.m., Gloria K. (920) 921-2395

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

ROBERT ELLSWORTH CORRECTIONAL,
21425A Spring St., Union Grove, 53182 Call for AA Meeting times: Contact Jennifer H. 262) 237-1294 or Cheryl P. (262) 914-3970.

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

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

MILWAUKEE COUNTY HOUSE OF CORRECTION, 8885 S. 68th St. Franklin WI.

AA Women's Saturday 10:00 a.m. Kristin L. 414-731-8572 or **AA Men's** on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. 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. Felisa C. (414) 672-6724. **AA Men's** Thr. at 7:00 p.m. 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 Dave C. 414-xxx-xxxx for information

Milw Women's Correctional Ctr. 615 W Keefe Ave. Milw. Contact: Karelyn P 414-975-6701. Meetings on Monday & Friday.

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. and two meetings on Thursday at 7:00 p. English and Spanish. Call Paul H. (262) 537-2884

MILWAUKEE COUNTY CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE: Meets at 6:30 p. on the 3rd Wednesday of every other odd 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: Kris WL at 414—731-8572, with questions. Treasurer Bill E. at 414-852-3815. 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, So. WI, Calendar of Events 2015
Madison Senior Center (MSC), 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI, except where otherwise noted.
2015:

- June 21, Summer Service Assembly
- Oct. 18, Fall Service Assembly

- Milwaukee Central Office:** 7429 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214 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

JOIN the BIRTHDAY CLUB!

We celebrate birthdays, and we'd like to help you celebrate yours! Send us a donation of \$1 for each year - or a gift of your choosing - and we'll send you a copy of that month's Between-Us, and we'll print your birthday. Include your Home Group, and we'll print that too!

All request must be by the 12th of the previous month. Late arrivals will appear the following month.

Just fill in the form below and mail, with your donation, to:

Payable to: "Greater Milwaukee Central Office"
Memo: Birthday Club
7429 W Greenfield Ave
West Allis WI 53214



\$ _____ enclosed.

I will have _____ years on _____ / _____ / _____ .

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: () _____ - _____

Email: _____

Home Group: _____

Happy Birthday June 2015

Years	Name	Home Group
47	Reggie D.	Saturday Morning Big Book Gp.
19	Lisa W.	Good Hope Sun. Night
23	Brad G.	Brown Deer Monday
25	John W.	---
31	Dan F.	---

(“Atheist” Continued from page 1)

be whirled forever on the shifting winds of opinions and emotions, and that atheism at bottom means the inability of a man to utter an all embracing 'Yea' to existence. It is the denial of meaning in life, it is the distrust of the universe."

I am an alcoholic, and I am also an atheist, and it is to my own kind that I am writing. The atheist, the agnostic, the people who are still searching. A terrible restlessness pounds at our hearts and our consciences as we

continue the ever-loving search for what's beyond the next green hill, with the terrible realization that, above all, the first drink is out.

For as shocking as this may seem to some people, I am one of those individuals who do not enjoy being an alcoholic, and I know that there are many more like me. I also know that this is contrary to all the basic laws of staying sober, which brings the number-one point in question to the test.

(“Shocking” Continued on page 8)

(“Shocking” Continued from page 7)

Can such a person find his place in AA? And if he can, how does he manage to stay sober? I tried AA in 1960 and after one meeting and one particular slogan that kept glaring at me to the bitter end, *But for the Grace of God*, I went out and got drunk, and stayed drunk for another year--a year filled with horror and degradation that in comparison made my other nine years of drinking seem like kid's play.

Having had my fill of people and life, and people and life having had their fill of me, I again turned to the last door that was open to me: AA, and to that slogan that I dreaded so much the year before.

The first night back, I don't think I would have cared if God Himself had been the chairman, I was staying, and I have stayed, and if the prisoners don't get too restless up stairs in my overactive mind, which I think of as Cell Block 9, I will be staying every day, each and every twenty-four hours of them one at a time.

I believe that there is a place in the world and in AA for people who do not have the capacity to believe, and that we are no more or no greater oddballs, than those people who do believe. After all, Faith is not something that you can buy packaged and ready for sale in a grocery store. You either believe or you don't believe, and if you don't, stop worrying about it. You can still stay sober.

I have been around AA a few twenty-four hours, and when I received my two-year medallion, I was convinced that there is a place in AA for you and me.

They say, "Don't fight it." I try not to, but there are many times when I still do. I can see that beautiful pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, but so

often I have stumbled and fallen, and mentally slipped back. It is foolish to run; I can barely walk.

There is an old proverb that says "A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step." Today, Step One is behind me on my road to glory and continued sobriety.

If in my travels and search for truth, on this twisted, hazardous road of life, I chance to meet the one they call God, my secret wish is that we will recognize each other and that pride will not keep me from accepting and admitting the painful truth, when and if I do find it. On the other hand, should I not meet any strangers on my journey, I will be contented and happy in my realization that AA as my higher power is walking close behind as I continue one step at a time toward that pot of gold at the end of my rainbow, which is filled with every one of my diamond-studded twenty-four hours of sobriety.

Is there a God or isn't there? I say it doesn't matter. Keep an open mind and don't give up the fight because of a slogan or someone's personal credo. The highway is wide enough for all of us, and the rules for pedestrians are: **KEEP AN OPEN MIND; KEEP COMING BACK.**

Anonymous

Reprinted w/permission AA Grapevine, Inc.
June 1964, Vol. 21, No. 1



A.A. 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 2 - 5, 2015 ATLANTA, GEORGIA

3 WAYS TO REGISTER *Online: www.aa.org *Fax: (508) 743-3605 *Mail

REGISTRATION OPENS
SEPTEMBER 3, 2014

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS:
MAY 12, 2015

A. REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

* No badge required for children 12 years and younger. * Both sides of this form may be duplicated. * See reverse side for cancellation policy.

MAIN ATTENDEE (All fields are requested)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NICKNAME ON BADGE	
ADDRESS			
CITY	ST/PROV	ZIP/POSTAL CODE	COUNTRY
E-MAIL	PREFERRED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION <input type="checkbox"/> E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> PHONE:		
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1. <input type="checkbox"/> AA	2. <input type="checkbox"/> AL-ANON	3. <input type="checkbox"/> ALATEEN 4. <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND/SPOUSE
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. <input type="checkbox"/> SPANISH	2. <input type="checkbox"/> FRENCH	3. <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 4. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. <input type="checkbox"/> YES	2. <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YR. OR LESS	2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4-10 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 5. <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 20
AGE GROUP	1. <input type="checkbox"/> 13-15	2. <input type="checkbox"/> 16-25	3. <input type="checkbox"/> 26-39 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 40-55 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 56-65 6. <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 65
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL ASSISTANCE ON-SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH ME ON SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT AVAILABLE		
EMERGENCY CONTACT	TELEPHONE		

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE (All fields are requested)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NICKNAME ON BADGE	
ADDRESS			
CITY	ST/PROV	ZIP/POSTAL CODE	COUNTRY
E-MAIL	PREFERRED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION <input type="checkbox"/> E-MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> PHONE:		
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1. <input type="checkbox"/> AA	2. <input type="checkbox"/> AL-ANON	3. <input type="checkbox"/> ALATEEN 4. <input type="checkbox"/> FRIEND/SPOUSE
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. <input type="checkbox"/> SPANISH	2. <input type="checkbox"/> FRENCH	3. <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 4. <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. <input type="checkbox"/> YES	2. <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 YR. OR LESS	2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	3. <input type="checkbox"/> 4-10 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 5. <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 20
AGE GROUP	1. <input type="checkbox"/> 13-15	2. <input type="checkbox"/> 16-25	3. <input type="checkbox"/> 26-39 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 40-55 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 56-65 6. <input type="checkbox"/> OVER 65
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL ASSISTANCE ON-SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> YES, PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH ME ON SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT AVAILABLE		

B. PAYMENT - Onsite transactions will be in U.S. funds only, credit card or cash (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Preregistration Fee is:

\$100 USD PER PERSON X _____ \$110 USD AFTER MAY 12TH TOTALING \$ _____
 \$120 CAD (WHEN USING CANADIAN CHECKS) PER PERSON X _____ TOTALING \$ _____

MARTA Convention Pass (Atlanta Transportation Rail System - see additional information under Transportation)

7 DAY PASSES AT \$20.00 _____ # 4 DAY PASSES AT \$16.20 TOTALING \$ _____

2015 International Convention Souvenir Book (Optional)

\$8 USD PER BOOK X _____ ENGLISH _____ FRENCH _____ SPANISH QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____
 \$9 CAD PER BOOK X _____ ENGLISH _____ FRENCH _____ SPANISH QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____

Grapevine 2015 Convention Book (Optional)

\$10.99 USD PER BOOK X _____ ENGLISH _____ FRENCH _____ SPANISH QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____

Grapevine One Year Print Subscription/English Only (Optional)

\$28.97 USD USA \$35 USD CANADA \$42 USD FOREIGN QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____

Grapevine One Year Online Subscription/English Only (Optional)

\$34.97 USD ALL QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____

La Viña One Year Print Subscription/Spanish Only (Optional)

\$11.97 USD USA \$14 USD CANADA/FOREIGN QUANTITY _____ TOTALING \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____ USDCAD

CREDIT CARD PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD \$ _____ USD VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

All credit card charges will be displayed and charged in US Dollars. Daily Exchange rates will apply for all non-US credit cards.

CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

CARDHOLDER NAME _____ CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE _____

CARDHOLDER ADDRESS _____ DAYTIME PHONE (please include country code) _____

Your signature authorizes your credit card to be charged for the total payment due. AA World Services Inc. reserves the right to charge the correct amount if different from the total listed above.

CHECK/MONEY ORDER (PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH)

I/We enclose the following total registration fees \$ _____ USD/CAD. Checks/Money Orders made payable to "General Service Board Convention." International Checks/Money Orders (Except Canadian) must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. **WE SUGGEST DUPLICATING BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM.**

To mail completed form with payment, send to: 2015 International Convention, ICAA075 • c/o Convention Data Services • 107 Waterhouse Road • Bourne, MA 02532

AA Groups Need Your Support

- **Jim's Sun Night 1st Step**, Roger's Hospital, 11101 W Lincoln Ave West Allis Sun at 6pm
- **Women's 12 x 12 Gp**, Mondays at 6:00 p. Grace Bible Church, 2643 S 117th St West Allis WI 53227
- **Women's Recovery, Wednesday 7pm**. St Francis Hospital 8th Floor, 3237 S 16th St. Milwaukee
- **New Hope Brookfield, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.** Trinity UCC, 4435 N Calhoun Rd Brookfield 53005
- **Thursday at 12:15 pm. and Wednesday 5:30 pm. Topic at St. John's Cathedral Complex,**

831 N. Van Buren St. Milwaukee 53202

- **All Welcome Gp, Mondays & Thursday at 1:30 p.** Bethesda Community Center, 2845 W Fond du Lac Ave, Milwaukee WI 53210
- **First Things First, Friday at 7:00 pm.** St Margaret Mary, 3930 N 92nd St. Milw 53222
- **Friday Big Book Discussion, 9:30 p.m.** Martin Luther Church 9235 W Bluemound Rd. Milw. 53226
- **Friday Night Candlelight, 8:00 pm.** St Anskar Episcopal, N48W31340 Hill Rd Hartland WI (Hwy's 16 & 83)

Mysterious Alchemy

"Frankly, B., I don't understand alcoholism. Go to AA." Those were the words of my exasperated psychotherapist, whom I had been seeing for several years in a futile attempt to stop drinking. So miserable was I that it was a struggle just to get to his office for my weekly appointments. The only thing I knew about AA was that there was a lot of talk about God. Whatever God I had once believed in became a casualty of my scientific training. I no longer believed in a personal God. Yet what did I have to lose? I was desperate.

Leaving nothing to chance, my therapist arranged for an AA member to take me to my first meeting. As I walked into the meeting room my companion explained that AA is a spiritual, not religious program. Yet, staring at me from the wall was a poster containing the Twelve Steps, and I noted that half of them contained certain ominous, capitalized words. When the meeting ended with the

Lord's Prayer, surely a religious exercise, I thought, my anxiety turned to despair. Sensing this, my companion told me that I could substitute the group for my Higher Power. Those words gave me hope that there was a way out of my misery.

So I went to meetings, listened to people, and read all the literature. But I found in the "Twelve and Twelve" the strong implication that the group-as-Higher-Power is only a temporary expedient, that in time the newcomer must embrace something above and beyond the group. I was convinced this was crossing the line into religion.

Today, after ten years in AA, I am still of that opinion, and I still do not believe in a personal God. When meetings close with the Lord's Prayer, I stand silent. I wince when I hear the words ". . . that probably no human power could have relieved our alcoholism. . . ." For me today, it is precisely a human power that keeps me sober. That power comes in part from

("Alchemy" Continued on page 17)

Spirit of Love

... God as we understand Him - Beginning on this page and the next--articles on approaches to AA that work for alcoholics who are "nonbelievers"

IT is interesting to see people who don't believe in God using the same spiritual approach, reciting the Steps and the Lord's Prayer, even entering into discussions pertaining to a Higher Power. I try not to be merely "tolerant" of them--tolerance smacks of superiority. I wish rather to accept their disbelief as a reality, and I do not try to convert them, partly because I recognize the futility of such a project, but mostly because I do not wish to rock the boat of their sobriety.

While words like "faith" and "spirituality" seem to lack adequate definitions, we somehow manage to share the essence of these words and recover together. Perhaps this is due to a common acceptance of the concept of a loving God expressing Himself in our group conscience. Certainly, the feeling of this presence is sufficient to establish a common understanding among members, if one can reasonably assume that the feeling is approximately the same in all--including the agnostics.

An agnostic is a person who does not know whether or not there is a God. According to this definition, I am actually an agnostic, because the existence of God has never been *proved* to me. This way, perhaps we are all agnostics, with the possible exception of the relatively few saints who have

been privileged to receive some sort of divine proof. But I am still a believer--simply because I can't *not* be.

Again, it is interesting to note that the agnostic AA member admits to a feeling of well-being after a meeting. He is apt to refer to this as the result of the empathy of group therapy. I think this is correct as far as it goes, but if this were all there was to it, AA would

not have nearly the success that it has. There must be something else, something far more powerful than mere empathy, something which I call the spirit of love. Indeed, the clearest manifestation of God I have ever perceived is this spirit of love as it is expressed in the group conscience.

So we recover, believer and non-believer alike. Consider the wisdom of one group member who stated that it doesn't matter whether or not we believe in God; what really matters is that He believes in us.

J. S. C.
New Hartford, New York

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February 1968, Vol. 24, No. 9



MEETING ROOMS

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

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun.	8:00 a. Topic 11:00 a. Topic 5:00 p. Young People 7:30 p. Topic
Mon.	12:30 p. Tenth Step Gp 5:30 p. More about Alcoholism 7:00 p. 8:15 p. Men's Gp
Tue.	10:00 a. Topic 5:30 p. Big Book 7:00 p. Beginners Gp 8:00 p. Big Book Gp
Wed.	10:00 a. Topic 2:00 p. Promises Meeting 5:30 p. Step Meeting 7:00 p. Women's Lifeline
Thur.	10:00 a. Topic Meeting 1:00 p. Women's Gp 5:30 p. Topic Mtng.
Fri.	10:00 a. Topic Meeting 5:30 p. Step/Tradition 8:00 p.
Sat.	10:00 a. Step Meeting 5:00 p. Fellowship of Spirit 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

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun.	8:00 a. Sun. Wake Up 9:30 a. Reliance Open Disc. 11:00 a. Today's 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. Happy Hour Step Gp. 7:00 p. Mon. Freedom 7:00 p. Open Introductory AA 7:30 a. Comin' Back Gp 10:30 a. Keep It Simple 4:00 p. Drop the Rock 6:00 p. Women's Step
Tue.	7:00 p. Three Legacies 7:30 p. Double Trouble DD/O 7:30 a. Big Book Study 10:30 a. Pass It On
Wed.	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 7:30 a. Honesty Gp.
Thur.	10:30 a. Came To Believe 6:00 p. Women's Fri. Kickoff 6:30 p. Thoughts 4 Today 8:00 p. Broken Arrow 8:30 a. Early Bird
Fri.	10:30 a. Happy Joyous Free 3:00 p. Twelve Promises 8:00 p. Spanish Speaking 8:00 p. Back to Basics 12x12
Sat.	11:00 a. (Alateen) 7:00 p. Fri. 7:30 p. 7:00 p. Sat. 10:30 a.

LAKE AREA CLUB
N60 W 35878 Lake Dr
Oconomowoc, WI
(262) 567-9912
www.lakeareacub.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. 4:00 p. 8:00 p. Back To Basics
Wed.	8:00 a. 10:00 a. Back To Basics 6:00 p. 8:00 p.
Thur.	10:00 a. 4:00 p. 6:00 p. Women's Group 8:00 p.
Fri.	12:30 p. 4:00 p. 6:00 p. Non-smoking 7:00 p. Big Book 8:00 p.
Sat.	8:30 a. 10:00 a. Big Book

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 nd & 4 th Saturdays (AA and/or Al-Anon Speakers)
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WAUKESHA ALANO CLUB
318 W. Broadway
Waukesha, WI
(262) 549-6541

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun.	9:30 a. Sun Morn Sunlite 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
Thur.	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 Rd
West Bend, (262) 338-3500
unityclub1715@att.net

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 7:00 p. Women's
Tue.	10:00 a. Tuesday A.M. 7:30 p. Beginner's 8:00 p. Step Gp
Wed.	10:00 a. Promises 1:00 p. Steps/Promises 8:15 p. Step Gp
Thur.	10:00 a. Big Book 7:00 p. EZ Dozen12x12
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

Saturday	9:00 a. Al-Anon
Thursday	7:15 p. Al-Anon

* Open Mtng. Last Friday of month
** Open Mtng. 3rd Sunday of month (a.m.)

NORTHWEST ALANO CLUB*
N88 W17658 Christman Rd
Menomonee Falls WI
53051 (No Phone)

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun.	7:30 p.
Mon.	7:00 p. Just Do It Gp 8:00 p. Action Gp
Tue.	10:00 a. Step 8:00 p. Topic
Wed.	8:00 p. Step/Topic
Thur.	10:00 a. Step 6:00 p. Women's
Fri.	8:00 p. Step/Topic
Sat.	10:00 a. Step 7:00 p. Simply Sober Gp

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.

MEETING ROOMS

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

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
6:30 p. Gp 40 Big Book
8:00 p. Gp 20 Topic
10:30 p. Step/Topic

Tue. 7:00 a. As Bill Sees It,
10:30 a. Gp 70 Step
12:15 p. Gp 76
7:00 p. Beginners, 1st Step
8:00 p. Gp 57 Topic
10:30 p. 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
7:00 p. LGBT Big Book
7:30 p. Gp 26 12x12
10:30 p. Step Meeting

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. Gp30 Tub 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

AL-ANON MEETING
Sunday 10:00 a. Al-Anon

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
6:00 p. How It Works Topic Disc
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
9:15 a. Men's Topic
11:00 a. Pioneers Group
**3:00 p. How It Works B/B, 12x12
**(Open meeting on 5th Saturday)
6:00 p. 1st & 12 Topic
*8:00 p. HOW To Saturday
*(Open meeting on 3rd Saturday)
10:30 p. Candlelight Gratitude

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
8:00 p. Men's 12 & 12

Fri. 6:30 a. Topic
10:00 a. Step/12 & 12
5:30 p. Principles
8:00 p. Step

Sat. 6:30 a. Topic
8:30 a. Living Sober
10:00 a. Big Book

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

GALANO CLUB

- LGBT & All in Recovery -
7210 W Greenfield Ave
Suite 1, Lower Level
Milwaukee, WI 53214
(414) 276-6936

<http://www.galanoclub.org/>
galanoclub@gmail.com

MEETING SCHEDULE
Sun. 10:30 a. Step Topic

Mon. 7:30 p. Came To Believe

Tue. 6:00 p. 40 + Topic

Wed. 7:00 p. 12 x 12

Thur. 6:00 p. Living Sober

Fri. 7:00 p. Step/Topic

Sat. 7:30 p. Topic

AL-ANON MEETINGS
Sun. 10:30 a. Al-anon
Meeting Space Available
See website for Club Events.
www.galanoclub.org

12 STEP CLUB

4102 W Townsend St.
Milwaukee, WI 53216
(414) 871-0610

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Tues. 6:45 p. Gp. 79

Wed. 11:00 a. Gp. 27

Fri. 11:00 a. Gp. 61 (12x12)

Sat. 10:00 a. Beginner's 7:00 p. Gp 6

CALL THE CLUB FOR INFORMATION ON OPEN A.A. MEETINGS, MEETINGS FOR OTHER FELLOWSHIPS and SPECIAL EVENTS.

MEETING ROOMS

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

2245 W. Fond du Lac
Milwaukee, WI
414. 931.7033

MEETING SCHEDULE

Sunday

10:00 a. Friendship
11:00 a. Third Sunday
Open Meeting

Monday

10:30 a. Step Gp

Tuesday

7:00 p. Gp 43 Big
Book

Saturday

10:30 a. Gp 112 Step
Call for information
on other types
of meetings.

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. Back To Basics
8:00 p. WITTSS

Thr. 6:00 p. Topic Meeting

Fri. 8:00 p. Good Fight Gp

Sat. 9:30 a. Non-Smoking
6:30 p. Grapevine Gp

Open Meeting 1st & 3rd
Saturday of month at 7:30 p.

Al-Anon Meetings

Wednesday 9:30 a. Al-Anon
Saturday 9:30 a. Al-Anon
Saturday 9:30 a. Ala-teen

Greater Milwaukee Central Office
7429 W Greenfield Ave.
West Allis WI 53214,
414-771-9119

[\(aamilwaukee.com\)](http://aamilwaukee.com)

A.A. MEETINGS

Mon. 12:15 p
4:00 p

Tue. 12:15 p
4:00 p

Wed. 12:15 p
4:00 p

Thur. 12:15 p
4:00 p

Fri. 12:15 p
4:00 p

Sat. 9:45 a. Newcomer
10:30 a
3:00 p

Directory Changes

NEW MEETINGS

Monday 6:30 p. Salem Lutheran Church 2400 N Cramer St, Milwaukee 53211, 1st Things 1st, Beginners

Tuesdays 12 Noon, Mt Zion 12012 W North Ave Wauwatosa 53226

Tuesdays 6:00 p. Aurora Psych "Lighthouse", 1220 Dewey Ave Wauwatosa Ave (11th Step)

Wed. at 1:30 p.m. Milwaukee Estates Living/ Care Ctr. 6800 N 76 St, Milwaukee 53223

Wed. at 6:00 p.m. St Matthew's CME Church, 2944 N 9th St. Milwaukee WI 53206

Milwaukee Group
933 E Center St.
(River West)
Milwaukee WI 53212

A.A. MEETINGS

Sun. 10:00 a Open (Disc.)
8:30 p. Big Book

Mon. 5:30 p. Big Book
7:00 p. Open (1st Step)
8:30 p. Topic

Tue. 7:00 p. Open (Topic)
8:30 p. Open (Big Book)

Wed. 7:00 p. Open (Big Book)
8:30 p. Topic

Thur. 6:30 p. Open (Topic)
8:30 p. Step

Fri. 7:00 p. Beginner's
8:30 p. Open (Big Book)
11:30 p. Topic

Sat. 8:30 p. Topic
11:30 p. Topic

LIGHTHOUSE ON DEWEY
1220 Dewey Ave.
Wauwatosa WI
MEETING SCHEDULE

Sunday

7:30 p. Gp 78

Tuesday

6:00 p. 11th Step
7:00 p. Milw. Professionals in AA
7:30 p. Gp 77

Wednesday

7:30 p. Big Book
8:00 p. "RES-IPSA"

Thursday

7:30 p. Alumni No 12

Friday

7:15 p. Gp 74

Saturday

10:00 a. Gp 59

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.

Women's Thursdays 12 Noon, Mt Zion 12012 W North Ave Wauwatosa 53226

DISBANDED GROUPS

Gp 41, met at Nativity School, 3658 E Plankinton Ave, Cudahy on Fridays at 10 a.m.

OTHER CHANGES

New Beginnings Sunday at 7:30 formerly at 216 Main St Mukwonago. **NOW meets at St James Catholic Church 830 Cnty Rd NN E, Mukwonago WI 53149**

Gp 200 and 201, formerly at 3213 W Lapham. **Now meets at 1601 S 33rd St. on Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m**

United We Stand, Tuesdays at 8:00 p. formerly at Unity Church, 1717 N 73 St, **now meets at Wauwatosa Congregational 1511 Church St Wauwatosa**

Fireside, formerly at Brookfield Presbyterian, 1485 N Brookfield Rd, **now meets at Brookfield Lutheran, 18580 W Burleigh Rd on Wednesdays at 8pm.**

Gp 67 Elm Grove, meets on Thursday at 8 p. moved to Community United Methodist, 14700 Watertown Plank Rd Elm Grove.

OPEN SPEAKER

Weekly & monthly open speaker meetings listed in June 2015 When & Where

aamilwaukee.com/directory.html

Sundays at 10 a. Milwaukee Gp. 933 E Center St, Milw 53212

Sundays at 6:30 p. VA Hospital 5000 W National Ave 3rd Fl Unit 3A

Every Friday 7:00 p. Christ the King, 1600 N Genesee Rd Delafield

1st Monday at 1:30 p. Bethesda Seniors Community Center Open Meeting, 2845 W

Fond du Lac Ave

Wednesdays at 7:00 p. Salem United Methodist Church, 541 Hwy. 59, Waukesha

March 7, Saturday 7:00 p. Pass It On Club, 6229 W Forest Home Ave. Milw.

1st Saturday 8:00 p. 24 Hour Club Open Meeting, 153 Green Bay Rd, Thiensville,

2nd Saturday at 7:00 p. Dist 12, Living Word Lutheran Church, 2240 Living Word Ln., Jackson WI 53037

2nd Saturday at 7:00 p. Dist 34, St. Francis Episcopal Church, N84 W16525 Menomonee Ave, Menomonee Falls, WI

2nd Sunday at 11:00 a. Alano Club 318 W. Broadway, Waukesha,

3rd Sunday at 11:00 a. Friendship Club 2245 W. Fond du Lac Ave. Milwaukee, WI

3rd Saturday 8:00 p. HOW To Club 8930 W. National Ave, West Allis

3rd Saturday 8:00 p. New Day Club 11936 N. Port Washington Rd, Mequon,

5th Saturday 3:00 p. How To Club, 8930 W National Ave, West Allis

4th Friday 8:00 p. Pilgrim Church, 2327 N. 52nd St., Milwaukee 53210

Last Wednesday 8:00 p. 1st Lutheran Church, 7400 W Lapham St, West Allis

Saturdays 7:30 p. Alano Club 1521 N. Prospect, Milwaukee

Contact the Central Office via email: dan@aamilwaukee.com, before the 12th of the month prior to your meeting so that it can be listed here under the special Open Meetings.

Looking for a **NO Nonsense STEP Meeting**, Look no further.

Come check out our **TUESDAY NIGHT STEP MEETING**

at **St Jude Day Care Center** in Wauwatosa

Tuesday Nights at 7:00 pm
822 Glenview Ave
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Enter in **BACK** of Daycare Building. Meeting is **Upstairs**.

SERVICE MANUAL STUDY

Meets 2nd Thursday each month at 6:00 p.m.

Milwaukee Central Office
7429 W Greenfield Ave
West Allis WI

Find out more about the AA Service Manual. Study group is open to any AA member whether currently active in AA service work, or not.

Contact: Nancy H at 414-801-5184 with questions.

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

2015 Weekend Retreats
Jesuit Retreat House,
4800 Fahrwald Rd. Oshkosh,
WI 54901, call 800-962-7330
jesuitretreathouse.org

Men and Women members of AA, Al-Anon

Total cost: 4 days \$360.00. Send a \$50.00 deposit with requests for specific dates to retreat house or call for information.

Men: December 3-6, 2015

Women: Aug. 20-23,
Nov. 12-15 & Nov. 19-22, 2015

Redemptorist Retreat Center,
1800 North Timber Trail Lane,
Oconomowoc, WI 53066, (262) 567-6900 Email:
rrc@redemptoristretreat.org Please call 262-567-6900 for reservations.

MILWAUKEE CENTRAL OFFICE

- **E-mail Director Dan F.** at: dan@aamilwaukee.com
- **Hours: M-F** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. **Saturday** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **G.S.R. Orientation**, 2nd Tuesday 6:30 p.
- **Secretary Meeting**, 2nd 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. Meetings** Saturday 9:45 a., 10:30 a. and 3:00 p.
- www.aamilwaukee.com

(*"Spirit" Continued from page 1*)

of a small gang of four, who would pick me up for meetings during those first weeks. Nor will I forget the lady who—some months later—informed me that I looked very mean when I first came in, but she stated: "*We knew you weren't mean, you were just crazy.*" Of course, she was right!

I was thrilled to join the spirit of

(*"Alchemy" Continued from page 10*)

all of my wonderful AA friends--certainly a power greater than myself. I sometimes say at meetings, "I don't drink because you people don't want me to."

Is the group my only Higher Power? No, there is more, for I have found something "above and beyond." Far from a vaporous deity, this "something" resides within me. It is a power to which I can "turn it over." It gives a nonbeliever like myself a meaning to prayer and meditation. Oddly, I have known this thing within me long before I came to AA. It comes from many years in my profession as a mathematician.

Whenever I am unable to solve a mathematical problem I have found that if I set it aside until another day, the answer will often come. And it comes seemingly out of nowhere, even when I am not thinking about the problem. Insights come while I'm jogging, standing in the shower, or even enduring a long-winded monologue at an AA meeting! Of course, you don't have to be a scientist to know what I am talking about; we all have sudden bolts out of the blue. After coming into AA I discovered that I could "turn over" such things as resentments, self-pity, and personal decisions, to this mysterious alchemy. I now practice a

AA—I went to meetings non-stop. Had I not become immersed in the AA Spirit (meetings) those first crucial months, I surely would have not maintained the continuous sobriety I am enjoying today.

Bob S., Richmond, IN

Reprinted w/permission Roberts, May 2015

daily meditation, a time of quiet when I try to turn off all verbal chatter. At such times, answers to my problems often appear. Is this what my AA friends would call God's will for me? Or am I missing something? I've thought a lot about these questions.

Sir Thomas Brown wrote, in 1635: "We carry within us the wonders we seek without us." I believe there is in each of us a creative power, a force for good, an innate genius that is unique to the human species. People like St. Francis, Mozart, and Einstein are extreme examples of that creative force. As a practicing alcoholic I was too engulfed in my own ego to be aware of such a power. I now know it is there if I am willing to listen. This power lies deep in the human mind, and my belief in it is an act of faith, just as my AA friends have a more conventional faith.

Today, chemistry and biology are probing the very foundations of life, and physicists talk of a forthcoming "Theory of Everything." These advances in knowledge are among the wonders wrought by the human mind. But how the mind itself works remains a mystery. As a recovering alcoholic, I prefer it that way.

I have described my own version of spirituality. I don't argue with those

(*"Sir Thomas" Continued on page 19*)

All of Us Are Special

THE WORDS "neither endorses nor opposes any causes" opened my eyes to the unique quality of AA. I had believed that any group must stand or fall upon what it opposed.

After all, there was a lot wrong in my world, and if AA was not opposed to that, what could it do to help me with my compulsion to drink? Looking for the answer kept me coming back just long enough to discover something that AA called "spiritual condition." Only when the light began to burn through my darkness by the use of AA literature, sharing with others one day at a time, and turning my will and my life over, was sobriety mine. A new way of life, unparalleled in my past experience, opened up a vast reservoir of love and understanding.

Lately, however, I have been disturbed by a phrase that I hear being used in AA: special-interest groups. I believe a desire to stop drinking is the only requirement for membership.

If professionals, women, blacks, whites, Methodists, Baptists, gays, young people, or others of any particular race, creed, color, or lifestyle want to meet in a dark cave, it's all right with me. If they wish to identify themselves as the Dark Cave Group, that's all right with me also! Who am I to tell them what their group name should be?

If a group's life-style does not happen to be my cup of tea, it does not disturb me at all. If any alcoholics choose to meet together as an AA group, why should I concern myself if the majority or all of them belong to a particular segment of society? Are we not all God's creatures? If it is necessary to

have a group of lawyers or doctors, and even one drunken lawyer or doctor recovers from alcoholism, should I deny that one sobriety because I am not of their profession? Should I say to the AA General Service Office, "Burn all the pamphlets relating to these because they are special-interest groups"? Personally, I know no members of AA who are not special. We all have the opportunity to recover from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body, through God's grace (which we don't attempt to define, either).

If one specially directed piece of literature or one special-interest group aids one drunk to find the way into AA and sobriety, as we understand sobriety in this Fellowship, then it has not been in vain. The blind, the deaf, the lame, the diabetic, the gay, the young, the old, the red, the black, the white, the believer, and the nonbeliever are all creatures of God. And if they are alcoholics, what have all the foregoing categories got to do with whether they are welcome here?

In the Big Book, we are told that none have fallen so low as to be unwelcome here. Thank God for that! Without it, you would never have let me in.

B. L.
Clinton, Tennessee

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March 1983, Vol. 39, No. 10

DISTRICT 15
OPEN SPEAKER MEETING

Saturday June 13th
Meeting 6 to 7

Speaker
Rick S from Wauwatosa

Come early for snacks and fellowship

Feel free to bring a snack - more importantly, bring yourself and a friend

Milwaukee Group Meeting Hall
933 East Center Street
Milwaukee 53212

SAVE THE DATE!

September 20, 2015

Tri-District Round-up
Celebrating 80 years of AA



Holy Assumption School (7109 West Orchard Street, West Allis)

Details coming soon!

Brought to you by districts 14, 16, and 27

("Sir Thomas" Continued from page 17)

who believe in God. I don't proselytize. Some may think my beliefs incomplete, only half the equation. Others may say that what I have found is no different from a belief in a God, that only my language is different. I really don't care. I am comfortable with it, it works for me, and has given me an inner peace that I would never have believed possible. I am grateful to AA for forcing me to find the spiritual meaning of the Steps. The essential ingredient for my wonderful discovery is quiet--a wordless silence. It may be that I have only rediscovered what the Psalmist knew when he wrote:

"Be still and know that I am God."

Bill M.
Creston, California

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December 1990, Vol. 47, No. 7

In Memoriam....Murphy DeVane, passed away on April 14 2015. Murphy had 31 years of sobriety at the time of death. He attended meetings in the north shore area, many at the old Roundy's Church on Hampton Ave. Later attending the Friday and Saturday meetings at the Bay Shore Lutheran Church on Hampton Ave in Whitefish Bay. Murphy was only 66 years old. He will be missed by his many friends in recovery. Rest in peace.

Greater Milwaukee Central Office

77 Meetings Contributed in April 2015

Group Name	Group ID	\$ Amount
#007 Gp	114287	\$50.00
#015 TAL Gp	137297	\$60.00
#027 Gp	114301	\$5.00
#051 Gp	114317	\$50.00
#056 Gp	114321	\$100.00
#059 Gp	117184	\$93.74
#061 Twelve and Twelve	118495	\$5.00
#074 Gp	159542	\$120.00
#079 Gp	133431	\$5.00
#125 Gp	145828	\$92.00
#153 Gp	132869	\$60.00
#232 Gp	126832	\$25.00
A New Day	660862	\$150.00
A Vision for You Big Book Study	675262	\$284.76
Anonymous		\$5.70
Back To Basics	149978	\$50.00
Big Book Readers	617805	\$60.00
Came To Believe	617129	\$60.00
Caring and Sharing	131334	\$50.00
Comin' Back	683006	\$60.00
Each Day A New Beginning	147336	\$19.25
Early Bird	613662	\$64.20
Early Bird Sun, Lake Area Club	132470	\$182.00
Elm Grove Living Sober	665770	\$261.52
Eye Opener	603117	\$30.00
First Step	635840	\$60.00
Fri Night Pocket of Enthusiasm	707574	\$400.00
Fri Noon 12 & 12	MIL-FB	\$120.41
Get A Life	MIL-WM	\$45.59
Grapevine Topic Fri 4 p.m.	MIL-FM	\$25.92
Hartford Big Book	171403	\$85.00
Hartford Women's Big Book	667036	\$50.00
Honesty Plus, Pass It On Club	638093	\$63.00
Impaired Professionals In AA	126056	\$75.00
Juneau Pioneers Men's	628213	\$120.00
Lake Area Club, Fri Non Smokers	687967	\$20.00
Lake Geneva Kitchen Table	125465	\$25.00
Living Sober Wed Night	673826	\$46.67
Mayfair Ladies Mon & Fri	114336	\$100.00
Mayflower, Salem Methodist Church	161712	\$42.20
Mon Independence	MIL-MH	\$144.21
Mon Night Women's, Waukesha	114085	\$164.25

Continued on top of page 21

Greater Milwaukee Central Office

<u>Group Name</u>	<u>Group ID</u>	<u>\$ Amount</u>
Mon Twelve and Twelve	687894	\$50.00
New Beginnings Mukwonago	120519	\$66.00
New Beginnings Oconomowoc	617659	\$68.80
New Berlin Big Book Tue 8 p.m.	667045	\$60.00
Oak Creek Mon 12 & 12	130190	\$90.00
Oak Creek Tue 10 a.m. Step	144522	\$60.00
Oconomowoc Wed Get Over It	174427	\$50.00
One Day at a Time, Watertown Medical Center	664578	\$100.00
Pewaukee Mon Night	114365	\$75.00
Pizza Not Perfection Gp	690079	\$25.00
Promises Gp 2 PM	641518	\$50.00
Reflections II	616378	\$100.00
Reliance Group	121595	\$60.00
Rule 62 Men's Gp	173372	\$75.00
Sat 3 p.m. Big Book Study	178043	\$15.00
Sat Morn Gp 10 AM	138045	\$48.00
Sat Morning Big Book	136286	\$50.00
Sat Morning Women's Freedom	695465	\$200.00
Seeds of Recovery/Steps	MIL-MM	\$26.50
Stop For a Quick One/Step	MIL-R3	\$177.00
Sullivan Big Book	655736	\$37.50
Sun Morning Wake Up	617656	\$84.60
Sun Night Surrender Gp	145851	\$77.00
Thr Success Step	MIL-RB	\$124.81
Traditions 101	MIL-TM	\$25.75
Tue Morning Sunshine	114357	\$50.00
Tue Reflections	MIL-TH	\$114.90
Twelve Promises Discussion Thr	MIL-RM	\$34.50
Waukesha Sun Night, Ascension Church	164804	\$155.61
Wed Night Men's Meeting	663905	\$180.00
Wed Night Recovery	127865	\$45.00
Wed Noon Lunch Bunch	690831	\$132.25
Welcome Back	667042	\$120.00
Women's Recovery Group	162884	\$12.00
Written For Us	MIL-A5	\$40.00

April 2015 TOTAL

\$6,210.64

77 Meetings Contributed in April 2015

All the groups listed in your When and Where should be contributing regularly to the support of your Central Office. We want to be here when you need us.

DISTRICT 16 ANNUAL PICNIC
JUNE 13, 2015

GREENFIELD PARK, Picnic area #5
(116th & Rogers 3 blocks south of Greenfield Ave)



11 AM – 4 PM
Lunch at Noon



SPEAKER AT 1:00 PM
SPEAKER: John L from West Allis



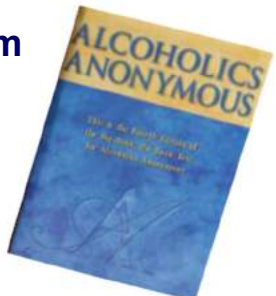
Please bring a dish to pass!



Written for Us Newcomer's Meeting
An Insight to 'How it Works'
An Orientation for Newcomers!

when:
Saturday's from 9:45 to 10:15am

where:
Greater Milwaukee Central Office
7429 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214
414.771.9119



Come JOIN US & learn more about Alcoholics Anonymous

1ST ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE



WHEN

Saturday, June 6, 2015
10am – 2pm

WHERE

**Milwaukee Central
Office**

7429 West Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214

REFRESHMENTS • REFRESHMENTS • REFRESHMENTS

Welcoming Newcomers and Aiding AA Groups In Our Community

**COME TOUR
YOUR
MILWAUKEE
CENTRAL
OFFICE**

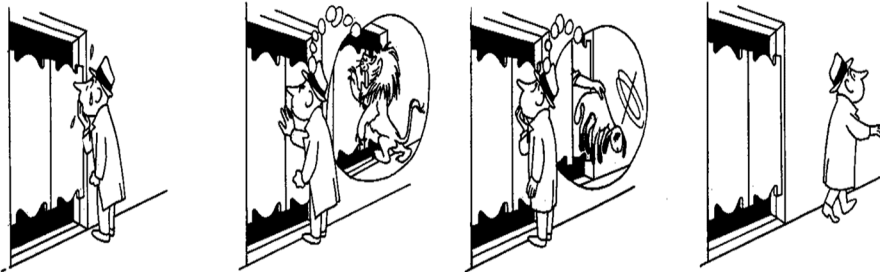
**MEET YOUR
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

**GREET YOUR
FRIENDLY
GENERAL
OFFICE
PERSONNEL**

**ENJOY
FELLOWSHIP**

**SUGGESTIONS
TO IMPROVE
AA IN THE
COMMUNITY
ARE
ENCOURAGED**

Victor E., March 1965, Reprinted w/permission AA Grapevine, Inc



The Alano Foundation Presents
The Second Annual

Homecoming

Open House and Speaker's Meeting

Saturday June 13, 2015 1-5 PM

Open Speaker's Meeting 1:30-3PM

DECADES OF RECOVERY

70's	Carol Mc. (B.)
80's	Doug B.
90's	Brian P.
2000	Lisa F.
2010	Paul K.

Come back and share your memories at the place where it all started! The meeting will again open with our own Bob Smoke singing "Bar without Booze." And Julius C. as MC and Grand Toastmaster. For more information, contact mkealanoclub.org or Marge N. at 414-763-2843. Volunteers and Donations welcomed.



**THE ALANO
FOUNDATION**

1521 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee, WI. 53202
414-278-9102