

"BETWEEN-US"

VOL. 28 ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2020

Financial News: Please remember our tradition of "self-support". If you wish to contribute to the Central Office, you can now use **Venmo** from your smartphone. @MilwaukeeCentralOffice-AA https://venmo.com/code?user_id=2976454346276864728 ...0785 are the last four digits of the phone number associated with the Venmo account. (You may be asked for these numbers)

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To Contribute
Using
VENMO



NO GROUP SECRETARY MEETING in September due to the COVID-19.

Step 8

June 1962. By: J. E. | Guilford, Connecticut
Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.

THERE'S a spicy bit of folklore around called "The Hell-Bound Train," in which the devil taunts a trainload of alcoholic wraiths as follows: "You've mocked at God in your hell-born pride, you've plundered and cheated and sworn and lied; you've swindled, murdered, robbed and stole; not one hasn't perjured his soul." It's enough to make a repentant alcoholic curl up and disappear into the nap of the nearest rug.

A conscience making accusations of this sort is an uncomfortable thing to live with. Since one of the primary aims of the AA program, as I understand it, is to help members live more comfortably, we have to do something about the uneasy conscience.

Repressive techniques, most of us have found, don't work. I have never been able permanently to get rid of an uneasy conscience by telling it to go away, or by getting busy with other things and trying to forget it, or by pretending it wasn't there. The only things that have worked for me, in more than fifteen years of trying to live by the program, are admitting I've got it, asking forgiveness of God and man, and making amends as suggested in Steps Eight and Nine. Eight is the "on your

("List" Continued on page 5)

WRITING THE AMENDS LIST

Just after the finishing the Third Step Prayer, my sponsor, Carl, had me ask God for help with my Fourth Step information; this was simply praying to God to show me where I had been selfish, dishonest, resentful and fearful, then writing the answer as soon as it came from my deep inner self. (The Big Book mentions "the Great Reality deep within"—p 55) The Oxford Group—from hence came our Twelve Steps—called this practice "Automatic Writing." I added more information later from memory, but at first it had to be spontaneous. Once on this paper it could not be erased or altered, especially the harms I had done to others—not to forget employers, loan companies, etc.

About a week later, we were at Step Eight and much had been added to my list, especially from Step Five, thanks to my sponsor. The Step Eight information concerning the harms to others was right there on paper—remarkably simple—and there was no backing out!

Carl informed me that although I need to be willing to make amends to everyone on that list, there were certain amends that may harm others, and some may have been impossible to execute. What to do? I was told leave them on my Eighth Step list but be careful to follow the Big Book Step Nine instructions so as not to make another person's life troublesome. How to know? "God gave us brains to use" (p. 86).

I must add that, as previously stated, I came awfully close to drinking about two weeks before starting the step process. Therefore, my sponsor told me that I could not rely on my mind to put truth on paper—after all, didn't my mind almost lead me into a bar just two weeks before? He pointed out that I had a dishonest mind. He also said that he thought I was "silly as a pet raccoon" which I did not like very much. Ha.

I think it is important to realize that to follow the Big Book Step Eight directions I needed to realize that the Steps are in order for a reason. If I would have followed the temptation to make an amends list out of order, it would not have been nearly so effective. I would not have followed the Big Book's "clear cut directions." (p. 29) I continue to thank God for providing me with a sponsor dedicated to the true AA program of action.

Bob S, Richmond, IN

Reprinted with permission Robert Stonebraker, Richmond IN



**Greater Milwaukee Central Office AA
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
October 2019 through June 2020**

	<u>Oct '19 - Jun 20</u>	<u>Oct '18 - Jun 19</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4000 · Literature Sales	68,255.71	92,054.32	-23,798.61	-25.85%
4050 · Between us	540.50	3,005.00	-2,464.50	-82.01%
4070 · Contributions	52,379.25	55,180.69	-2,801.44	-5.08%
4080 · Gratitude boxes	25,788.14	24,489.19	1,298.95	5.3%
4090 · Open Meeting / Dinner	0.00	8,350.00	-8,350.00	-100.0%
4100 · Memorials	395.00	2,390.00	-1,995.00	-83.47%
4130 · Personal Contri.	21,914.17	3,353.60	18,560.57	553.45%
4150 · Other Income	867.99	1,980.05	-1,112.06	-56.16%
4170 · Interest Income	1,318.98	2,284.83	-965.85	-42.27%
4190 · Discrepancies	-162.80	0.00	-162.80	-100.0%
4200 · Bounced Checks Income	11.00	0.00	11.00	100.0%
4600 · Merchandise Sales	92.20	393.10	-300.90	-76.55%
4830 · Sales Discounts	72.18	89.99	-17.81	-19.79%
48900 · Shipping and Delivery Income	809.97	678.08	131.89	19.45%
Total Income	172,262.29	194,248.85	-21,986.56	-11.31%
Cost of Goods Sold	41,012.01	56,744.14	-15,732.13	-27.73%
Gross Profit	131,270.28	137,504.71	-6,234.43	-4.53%
Expense				
51100 · Freight and Shipping Costs	-319.99	1,423.56	-1,743.55	-122.48%
59900 · POS Inventory Adjustments	-58.96	618.78	-677.74	-109.53%
6000 · Advertising and Promotion	1,561.63	0.00	1,561.63	100.0%
6040 · Bank Service Charges	11.00	0.00	11.00	100.0%
6045 · Coffee/Soda/Candy Expense	398.34	745.12	-346.78	-46.54%
6050 · Credit card fees	1,288.52	1,845.56	-557.04	-30.18%
61200 · Cash Payouts from Drawer	1.55	0.00	1.55	100.0%
6170 · Computer and Internet Expenses	281.00	1,825.00	-1,544.00	-84.6%
6200 · Conferences & conventions	50.00	84.94	-34.94	-41.14%
6262 · Postage	30.35	0.00	30.35	100.0%
6345 · Open Meeting/Dinner	0.00	8,630.70	-8,630.70	-100.0%
6370 · License & permits	10.00	20.00	-10.00	-50.0%
6500 · Office	27,932.12	31,351.89	-3,419.57	-10.91%
6600 · Payroll	78,022.95	76,619.71	1,403.24	1.83%
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	-21.05	6.99	-28.04	-401.14%
6700 · Professional Fees	1,290.00	1,275.00	15.00	1.18%
6800 · Printing	6,275.16	0.00	6,275.16	100.0%
Total Expense	116,752.62	124,447.05	-7,694.43	-6.18%
Net Ordinary Income	14,517.66	13,057.66	1,460.00	11.18%
Other Income/Expense	5.01	0.00	5.01	100.0%
Net Income	14,522.67	13,057.66	1,465.01	11.22%



Account Balances
 Checking: 2,603.70
 Savings Account: 66,007.06
 Prudent Reserve: 163,805.25

What is the Prudent Reserve?
 The A.A. guideline document produced by A.A. World Services, Inc., suggests a prudent reserve for a Central Office or Intergroup be fixed somewhere between one and twelve months' operating expenses. The prudent reserve is not available for everyday use. It is only meant for startup and twelve months of operating expenses, in an emergency situation.

The [Southern Wisconsin Deaf Access Committee](#) needs to rotate it's members. We are searching for two AA members to act as Co-Chairs, a treasure, and a liaison person to work with Members of AA Deaf community. They can email SWDAC at: mil-wareadeafaccess@gmail.com


[Southern Wisconsin Deaf Access Committee \(SWDAC\)](#)
 June 2020
 Balance: \$ 8,262.79
 Contributions: \$ 250.20
 Interpreter: \$ 150.00
 Awareness Event N/A
 Expenses: \$
 Contributions: N/A
 Annual Cost of interpreters for 3 meetings a week @\$160 per meeting is \$24,960
 Leslie P. with questions:
brylerandme@gmail.com

Meeting Space Available when meetings start up, again.
 • [Christ United Methodist Church](#), 5200 S 48th St. Greenfield WI 53221. Wheel-chair accessible space available. Contact: Jo, 414-421-0202 or email: christumc1@sbcglobal.net

2 Bucks In The Basket... Make it a Reality, not just a dream!

“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.
[Seventh Tradition Checklist](#)

Use [VENMO](#) on your smartphone to contribute.
 Or Contribute using [PayPal](#) or your [Credit Card](#) from our website.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT INFO ON THE WEB:

<https://www.area75.org/page/districtmeetings>

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

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. Contact: Salvador G. at 414-446-0158. Meets every 2nd & 4th Sunday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. 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., the Jackson Community Center N165W20330 Hickory Ln., Jackson, WI. 53037

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 6) 4th Wed. of month, 7:00 p, Milwaukee Central Office 7429 W Greenfield Ave., P.O. Box 13011, Wauwatosa WI 53226

16. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 6) 1st Wed. of month, 6:00 p, Milw. Central Office, 7429 W Greenfield Ave.

17. RACINE CNTY (1 of 2) 3rd Sun. of month, 1:00 p, Grove Club, 1037 Grove Ave., Racine

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 6) 3rd Wednesday of month, 7:00 p.m. Covenant Lutheran Church, 8121 W Hope Ave, Milwaukee WI 53222

28. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 6) 1st Mon. of month, 7:00 p, Bay View United Methodist 2772 S Kinnickinnic Ave. Bay View, WI 53207

29. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 6) 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

38. MILWAUKEE CNTY (1 of 6) Last Sunday of month 4:30 p.m. All Saint Cathedral, 818 E Juneau Ave.

SEND ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO:

7429 W. Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI 53214,
dan@aamilwaukee.com

CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

TAYCHEDAH CORRECTIONAL, Meetings are held 1st, 2nd & 4th Tuesday and on the 3rd Thursday at 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.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY JAIL 9th & State Milwaukee WI.

MILWAUKEE SECURE DETENTION CENTER, 1015 N. 10th St. Milwaukee

Milwaukee Women's Correctional Ctr. 615 W Keefe Ave. Milwaukee

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 5:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday on odd numbered months at Greater Milwaukee Central Office, 7429 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis WI 53214. Donation should be sent to: MCCC, PO Box 270544, Milwaukee WI 53227-0544. Contact coordinator: Kota at email: mcccordinator@gmail.com with questions.

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 WI., Calendar of Events 2020

Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St.,
Madison,

Held at Senior Center except where otherwise noted.

- Sep. 13, 2020, Assembly
- Nov. 6-8, 2020, Conference Area 75 Holiday Inn, Manitowoc WI

ADDRESSES FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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, or Bridging the Gap or Treatment write to:** PMB # 170, 5464 N Port Washington Rd., Glendale WI 53217

• **Southern Wisconsin Deaf Access Committee :** Email: milwareda deafaccess@gmail.com; Mailto: Deaf Access Committee, P.O. Box 1982, Waukesha WI 53186

JOIN the BIRTHDAY CLUB!

We celebrate birthdays, and we'd like to help you celebrate yours! Send us a contribution of **\$1 for each year of Sobriety**- or more if you choose- and we'll print your birthday in the Between-Us Newsletter. Include your Home Group, and we'll print that also!

Requests should be in by the 24th of the month prior to your sobriety date. 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: _____

Payment/Contribution: using [VENMO](#) or from our website, using [Credit Card](#) or [PayPal](#).



Years	Name	Home Group
45 (July)	Jeanne P.	Oconomowoc.
33 (July 13th)	Jackie J.	Grafton
36 (July 16th)	Daniel B.	Milwaukee
6 (July 15)	Michael F.	Gp 74, Milw. Psych.
44 (Aug. 18)	Tom H.	Central Office Meetings



MILW. CENTRAL OFFICE

- **E-mail us at:**
dan@aamilwaukee.com
- **Temporary Hours** until further notice: **M - F 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**
- **Secretary Meeting Bi-monthly** beginning the 2nd Tuesday of March at 6:30 p. and each odd numbered month thereafter. Jan, Mar, (~~May~~, ~~July~~, cancelled) Sept. and Nov.
- **Board of Directors Meeting**, Wednesday following Secretaries Meeting, (odd months) 6:30 p.
- **A. A. Meetings**, Mon - Fri at 12:15 p., Wed. & Thur at 4 p., Sat. 9:15 a., & 10:30 a.
- **Service Manual Study:** 2nd Thurs. of month at 6 p.m.
- **Dist. 14**, 4th Wed. at 7 p.m.
- **Dist. 16**, 1st Wed. at 6 p.m.
- **Milw Cnty Corrections Committee**, 3rd Thurs. at 5:30 on odd numbered months.

Spanish Speaking Meetings: Meeting at English Speaking Clubs

- GRUPO 5 CONCEPTOS, Pass It On Club, 6229 W. Forest Home Av, Milw, on Saturday at 8: 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

SERVICE MANUAL STUDY, 6 p.m. 2020 Schedule: **Aug-13, Sept 10, Oct 8, and Nov 12, Dec no meeting.**

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

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.](#)



("List" Continued from page 1)

marks, get set," Nine is "go!" Right now we're on Eight.

To get into a frame of mind to make amends is a hard thing for an alcoholic--at least, this alcoholic--to do. It brings to mind times when, as a child, I was made to say "I'm sorry" for some unintentional mistake. I wasn't really sorry because I hadn't intended to do wrong. I resented being rammed into the guilty seat, and wound up at the end of the scene with a worse conscience than I'd had at the beginning.

As a full-blown alcoholic, even after introduction to AA, some of this childhood attitude persisted. I strongly resisted suggestions that I express regret and make restitution. It wasn't really my fault, something within me was arguing, that I had become an alcoholic. Through no deed of my own, I had inherited a constitution that was susceptible to the sauce. I'd been born into a society that encouraged the use of alcohol and thrown among companions who worshipped it. I had only done what everybody did. Was it my fault if things had gone wrong?

Only gradually did I come to understand the essential childishness of this point of view. Slowly, I began to see that no human being, alcoholic or not, could live at peace in this world unless he had made himself part of a network of harmonious human relationships. This could come about only when he had established inner harmony by coming to terms with his own troublesome conscience, and outer harmony by making amends to those he had injured and with whom he was in regular contact.

Steps Eight and Nine are the "human relations steps." It will be noted that *other people* are not mentioned at all (except for brief reference to "another human being" in Step Five) until Step Eight. Now, after having done something about getting right with a Higher Power, we're ready to take on the job of getting right with human society.

The authors of the Steps showed great wisdom in breaking up the work of restitution into two parts. Step Eight, the getting ready, is an essential preliminary. To make amends less than wholeheartedly would defeat the purpose of Step Nine. I gradually came to comprehend that until I was ready to take on to myself the full responsibility for my actions, including the influence on them of a million years of history and twenty thousand generations of forebears, I was not really adult. Whatever might have been society's fault and heredity's fault, I accepted as *my* fault, along with those offenses which originated with me. (I have a hunch one of the reasons the Higher Power is so ready to forgive is that He acknowledges the racial burden we bear). Then I tried to get ready to make good wherever possible.

This has never been an easy process for me. But it is the only route I know to that estimable goal of a reasonably harmonious inner life and friendly outer relationships. My own difficulties have already been partly chronicled in Grapevine. Seven years ago, in the "Twelve Steps and the Older Member" series, I got going on how this step looked to me on first arrival in AA, and after seven years:

"I remember just how I felt about Number Eight at the start. I didn't like it. Most of the time I didn't want to think about the persons I had harmed. Rather I inclined to brood about those who had harmed me.

"Take this thing cafeteria style," I was advised. 'Select what you want and can digest, and leave the rest until later.' Part of the 'rest to be left for later' was the Eighth Step.

"Whether we like it or not, we are fundamentally moral creatures. Even the most depraved of us offer moral justifications for what we do. I justified my drinking on grounds it wasn't hurting any-

one but me.

"Old John Donne had a point when he wrote that 'no man is an island.' Take the loneliest homeless drunk you can think of, and let's see whether he harms people. He harms the room clerk, the bellhop and the chambermaid of the hotel where he's holed up, with a sense that their services are wasted, the cop and judge who finally lock him up and the doctor who treats him, with the frustration of such work. He harms the people he passes on the street by scaring some, angering others and saddening the rest. His friends are harmed by the loss of his friendship; if he has no friends, he's depriving those who need friends. Let's face it, we alcoholics have hurt people by our insane drinking.

"I certainly did. I had a boss, business associates, a wife, two kids, a brother, a sister, a father and mother. They all had a sense of insecurity where I was concerned, and this was especially hard on the kids, whose whole world wobbles when one of the parents at its center wobbles.

"And I really wobbled. The night of my father's funeral I was drunk and when my mother came to my house for solace I was drunk and when people had a birthday or an anniversary or a solemn occasion or a crisis, I was drunk.

"Gradually, as the twenty-four-hour periods in AA linked themselves into weeks, then months and finally years, a change began in my outlook. This change is not complete, but its direction is something like this: At first I inclined to feel that the universe was not giving me my just due, that I deserved far better than I got. As the change progresses, I tend more to feel I'm lucky God gave me a look-in on His marvelous creation on any terms, that I'm lucky to be let off so easily for my misdemeanors.

"Thoughts like this mean more and more to me: God has given us power to harm people if we want to. Anybody can smash a fine watch, but how many can make one? A person is more wonderful than the most marvelous watch. It's easy to smash a person's happiness, but how many know how to restore it?

"Make amends? Some amends I can never make, in the sense of reliving years already lived. But I can try to live these present days the way I ought to have lived all my days.

"It's strange how a deep change of heart brings opportunities for restitution one never thought were possible. There's a certain man I've always thought highly of. I flubbed things so badly our relationship was strained, so I thought, beyond repair. Yet just the other day I picked up the phone and called him on impulse. We had a nice chat, and by even so ordinary a means the extraordinary thing was accomplished: our relationship as friends was reestablished."

Gradually, just by being around AA and soaking up some of the excess goodwill our society can generate when it's working well, we really become willing to make amends. Really *wanting to* takes the strain out of actually doing it. When the time comes, we sit down and make our list.

My list was short. This was the human relations step, I reasoned, as well as the conscience step. Thereafter, whenever my conscience began to yell at me I could yell back: "Okay, I'm working on it!" I decided to restrict my amends to those with whom I had continuing contact. Old friends whose addresses I'd lost, burned-out flames and broken associations of other days were set aside. My job is to live with the people I live with. Wife, in-laws, children, relatives, work associates, present friends--it is to these staunch ones I must make my amends. Step Eight is getting the list ready and the heart ready. Step Nine--actually making amends--comes next.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine Inc. June 1962

August 2014

Pay Them, Not Me

By: Jennifer M. | Mobile, Alabama

Doing service is one thing, working an eight-hour job is another

TRADITION EIGHT: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Going on Twelfth Step calls, chairing meetings, sharing my story, doing H&I service, working on special committees for AA events, and doing general service for my home group are all types of service work, but they do not by any means qualify as paying positions. However, AA does hire people to perform certain tasks.

While I do work a full-time job and have a life, the truth is that the time I give to Alcoholics Anonymous is an investment in my sobriety. I do not need to get paid, nor would I want to. To be paid would take away from the humbling and spiritually fulfilling aspect of service that I need to stay sober.

The work I do that's not seen by everyone is definitely the most rewarding, such as when I am sitting at home counting envelopes or preparing my report for my home group. It's especially rewarding when I don't feel like doing it, but I do it anyway. This kind of service helps me to learn accountability, discipline and humility, which I often lack. These traits can't be bought.

We're taught in Alcoholics Anonymous that service will keep us sober. We're also taught that no person should make a sole vocation of such work. I actually look forward to retiring and donating a larger chunk of time to AA and general service work.

Now, how about those paid positions in AA? How about the men and women at the General Service Office (GSO) who answer phones for book orders, or the ones who process the countless letters, articles, questions, comments, updates or donations? These activities may be service, and even though it's for AA, these are jobs.

Truth is, these jobs actually help make my Twelfth Step work a lot easier. When I call GSO as a part of a service commitment, the person on the line is helping me to carry the message, via books and other literature. They also sometimes answer questions and share experiences other groups may have had. But in truth, the work they do at GSO is hard work—and they should get paid.

I don't put in an eight-hour day for AA. Sure, in the course of a week I may put in a few hours, but that's my time. Any person who is putting in a 40-hour week to facilitate the running of AA should be paid. Anyone who puts in time carrying the message and working with others and thinks they should get paid, I will pray for!

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine Inc. August 2014

August 2014

Pedro's Story

By: Pedro V. | Havestraw, New York

During my childhood drinking was the way I related to my partying friends—smoking, drinking and girls. Then, around 17 or 18, I joined the Army. After basic training, I became officially alcoholic: beer was all I thought about. My time with the Army came to an end, but my alcoholism was just getting started.

Then came disco music, parties, sex and drugs. Wow, what a life! Or so I thought. During one of my outings, I meet a girl named Tara, who's now my wife. Despite my craziness, God blessed me with her. I drank and partied. I prided myself that I paid the bills, yet I took money from my wife and kids. I would

lie and say I hadn't done it. I'd drink and call my wife names. Afterward, I wouldn't remember. I'd buy vodka and then hide the bottle so my wife wouldn't find it. Of course I'd forget where I had put it. I'd go crazy looking for the vodka until I found it and guzzled it down.

On June 8, 2012, I got so drunk my wife called the police. I went to jail for a month. I realized then that drinking was destroying my life and my family. Then I received a blessing from God: I went to a rehab.

Now my wife and kids are beginning to come together as a family. I realize that if I put God and AA first, I can keep this gift and be free for the rest of my life. My experience teaches me that I cannot go back to the old life. But thanks to AA, and most of all the grace of God, I can make a brand new start.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine Inc. August 2014

October 1977

The Eighth Step; Around the Tables

AROUND THE TABLES, I have, of late, participated in a succession of discussions centering on the Eighth Step. I regard this Step as the easiest but perhaps the most subtle in the program. It requires only that I make a list of people I have harmed and become willing to make amends to them all. Unlike Step Five, Eight does not require that I seek out a companion and unload it on him. It does not require searching my soul or being hum-

ble—only making a list and becoming willing. Step Nine requires some damn bold action, so it is very different from, though obviously dependent on, Step Eight.

The Eighth Step relates to people other than me. Unquestionably, it points outward and not inward. Many of us feel anger about this position and protest, "I didn't hurt anyone else but me. I figure I have to make amends to me." The phrasing may vary, but the idea is always the same: "make amends to me."

("Amends" Continued on page 12)

MEETING ROOMS

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

Thr. 0:00 a. Topic Meeting
1:00 p. Women's AA Gp
5:30 p. Topic Meeting

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
A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a. Sun. Wake Up
8:00 a. 3 Legados (spanish)
9:30 a. Reliance Meeting
11:00 a. Today' choice
3:00 p. Gratitude Plus
7:00 p. Big Book Readers

Mon. 7:30 a. Jump Start
10:30 a. First Step
4:00 p. Happy Hour Step Gp.
7:00 p. Open Introductory AA
7:30 a. Comin' Back Gp

Tue. 10:30 a. Keep It Simple
4:00 p. Drop the Rock
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
5:30 p. Courage to Change
7:00 p. We, Us & Ours

Thr. 7:30 a. Welcome Back Gp
10:30 a. Made Decision
5:15 p. As Bill Sees It

Fri. 7:00 p. Gateway Topic Gp
7:30 a. Honestly Gp
10:30 a. Came To Believe
6:00 p. Women's Fri. Kickoff
6:30 p. Thoughts 4 Today
8:00 p. Broken Arrow

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

AL-ANON MEETINGS
Sun. 11:00 a. Fri. 7:30 p.
Wed. 7:00 p. Sat. 10:30 a.
Thr. 7:00 p.
(Alateen)

LAKE AREA CLUB
N60 W 35878 Lake Dr
Oconomowoc, WI
(262) 567-9912
www.lakeareaclub.com
A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 8:00 a. Early Bird
11:00 a. Friendship Gp
6:00 p. Big Book
8:00 p. Gopher Sunday

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

Tue. 1:00 p.
4:00 p.
7:00 p. Life House

Wed. 8:00 a.
10:00 a. Back To Basics
1:00 p. Women's Meeting
6:00 p.
8:00 p.

Thr. 10:00 a.
4:00 p.
6:00 p. Women's Group
8:00 p. Grapevine Mtng

Fri. 12:30 p.
4:00 p.
6:00 p. Non-smoking
8:00 p. Old School House

Sat. 8:30 a. 11th Step
10:00 a. Big Book

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

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

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

Thr. 12:00 Noon
Fri. 12:00 Noon T.G.I.F. Gp
7:00 Topic Discussion

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

OPEN MEETINGS, DANCES & EVENTS
Call for information.

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
6:00 p. AA Multimedia

Mon. 7:30 p. Came To Believe

Tue. 6:00 p. 40 + Topic

Wed. 7:00 p. 12 x 12

Thurs. 7:30 p. Living Sober - ODAT

Fri. 7:00 p. Step/Topic

Sat. 7:30 p. Big Book & More

AL-ANON MEETINGS
Sun. 10:30 a. Al-anon

Meeting Space Available
See website for Club Events.
www.galanoclub.org

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

Sun. 10:00 a. Big Book
7:00 p.

Mon. 7:00 p. Just Do It Gp
8:00 p. Action Gp

Tue. 10:00 a. Step
8:00 p. Topic

Wed. 7:30 p. Step/Topic

Thr. 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. 7:00 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.

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. 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. Sunny Side Up
12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.
6:30 p. Delavan 12 Step Topic

Wednesday AA
7:30 a. Sunny Side Up
12:00 Noon As Bill Sees It Gp.
6:30 p. Delavan IT Meeting

Thursday AA
7:30 a. Sunny Side Up
12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.
5:30 p. Step Sisters Women
6:30 p. Delavan Big Book Gp.

Friday AA
7:30 a. Sunny Side Up
12:00 Noon Big Book Study
6:30 p. Delavan Discussion

Saturday AA
7:30 a. Sunny Side Up
12:00 Noon Delavan Noon Gp.
6:30 p. Delavan Beginners Gp.

ALANO CLUB 1521 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI, 53202 (414) 278-9102
<http://www.mkealanoclub.org/>
A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Sun. 7:00 a. AA Meeting
10:00 a. Gp 17 Step
1:00 p. Refuge Recovery
4:30 p. Life Savers

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

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

Wed. 7:00 a. AA Women's meeting
10:30 a. Gp 9, Step
12:15 p. Oasis Topic Gp
6:00 p. Chicks at Six Gp
7:30 p. Yoga AA

Thr. 6:00 a. AA
7:00 a. Big Book Meeting
10:30 a. Gp 97, Step
12:15 p. Here & Now Gp
7:00 p. Sober and Out

Fri. 7:00 a. Daily Reflections
10:30 a. Gp 21, Step
12:15 p. Gp 65
6:30 p. Here & Now
11:59 p. Second Shifters (Sat.)

Sat. 7:00 a. AA Meeting
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/>
M, W, F, Sat. 9 a. -11 p,
Tue Thur 9a. - 9p., Sun 8a to 9p.

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. Restore Us To Sanity
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. What's The Point

Tue. 11:00 a. Willingness Group
6:00 p. Topic Gp
7:00 p. Sign for Sobriety AA
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. 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)

24 HOUR CLUB
153 Green Bay Rd.
Thiensville, WI
<http://www.24hourclub.org/>
[Web and Facebook Info](https://www.facebook.com/24hourclub)
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
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. Big Book/Steps
10:00 a. Big Book
8:00 p. Open Speaker Mtng.
(1st Saturday Only)

TRADITION EIGHT

By: Colin R. | Sydney, February 1959, AA Grapevine, Inc.

CALLING all Tradition-lawyers . . . the artistes of argument!

Here's your arena . . .

Once again the two opposites that make a composite bob up.

This time it's ideals and money . . . the spiritual and the materi-

al. But let us lend a sympathetic, humble, and indeed willing

attitude of mind when reconciling spiritual values with the use

of paid workers. Any contentious AA member may not pause to realize that the ideals of a special worker are no doubt as sincere and pure as his own. All over the world it's been my personal experience that these workers are people dedicated to their indispensable positions throughout AA . . . Not only with money should they be paid . . . but with our heartfelt gratitude as well. Bill W. sums everything up neatly, "Professional workers are not professional AAs . . ." To this, sez I, amen! There is no argument if we really understand Tradition Eight . . .

MEETING ROOMS

UNITY CLUB
1715 Creek Rd
West Bend, (262) 338-3500
unityclub1715@att.net
www.facebook.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
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
Thr. 10:00 a. Big Book
7:00 p. EZ Dozen 12x12
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 (10:30 a.m.)

FRIENDSHIP CLUB
2245 W. Fond du Lac Ave
Milwaukee, WI
(414) 931-7033

Email:
friendshipinc@sbcglobal.net

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.

Email:
friendshipinc@sbcglobal.net

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

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday:
11:00 a. Gp. 27
Friday:
11:00 a. Gp. 61(12x12)
Saturday:
10:00 a. Beginner's
7:00 p. Gp 6

Call the club for infor-
mation on Open Speaker
AA meetings, meetings for
other fellowships and for
special events.

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)
Sat. 8:30 p. Topic

Milwaukee Central Office
7429 W Greenfield
West Allis WI 414-771-9119

A.A. MEETINGS

Mon. 12:15 p
Tue. 12:15 p
Wed. 12:15 p, 4:00 p
Thur. 12:15 p, 4:00 p
Fri. 12:15 p
Sat. 9:15 a, 1st Step
10:30 a

**We do not meet on
major holidays.**

LIGHTHOUSE ON DEWEY
1220 Dewey Ave.
Wauwatosa WI
AA MEETINGS

Sunday
6:00 p. Jim's First Step
7:30 p. Gp 78
Tuesday
6:00 p. 11th Step Meditation
7:30 p. Professionals
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
7:00 p. Big Book Topic

All Saint's Cathedral

818 E Juneau Av Milw 53202
Monday:
7:30 p.m. Sane & Sober
Tuesday:
10:30 a.m. Men's meeting
Wednesday:
7:30 p.m. Men's meeting
Thursday:
7:00 p.m. Men's meeting
Friday:
7:30 p.m. Big Book
Saturday:
10:30 a.m. Men's meeting

Directory Changes

NEW MEETINGS

Sundays 6:00 p.m. Galano Club, 7210 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis. "Multimedia Sunday Night AA Meeting"
Mondays 7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Society, 1342 N Astor St. Milwaukee, "We Agnostics".
Mondays 6:30 p.m. Uhles Cigar Shop (LL) 114 W Wisconsin Ave, Milw 53203. Cigar smoking allowed. No wheelchair access.
Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Cedar Springs Church, 3128 Slinger Rd, Slinger WI 53086
Thursday at 6 p.m., St Matthew CME, 2944 N 9th St, Milwaukee 53206
Thursday at 7 p.m. Men's Gp, All Saint's Cathedral 818 E Juneau Ave, Milw. 53202
Fridays at 7p.m., Primary Purpose, St James Catholic Church, W220N6588 Town Line Rd, Menomonee Falls WI 53051
Saturday 8:30 a.m. Step Meeting Lumen Christi Catholic Church, 2750 W Mequon Rd, Mequon WI 53092
Saturday 7:30 p.m. 7210 W Greenfield Ave, West Allis 53214

DISBANDED GROUPS

Tuesday 8:00 p.m. Treat Yourself Tue. Christ Church, 5655 N Lake Dr. Whitefish Bay WI

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Home At Last, met at St Luke's Lutheran, 6705 Northway, Greendale
Wednesday 1:30 p.m. Bridges of Milw. Rehab and Care Center, 6800 N 76th St. Milwaukee.
Wednesday 8 p.m. Menomonee Falls, Gloria Dei Church, W180N7863 Town Hall Rd.

OTHER CHANGES

WELL Beginners and WELL Big Book, Tuesdays in Wales, **NOW** meets at: New Vision Bretheren-Christ Church, N14W27995 Silvermail Rd, Pewaukee WI 53072

OPEN SPEAKER

Weekly & monthly speaker meetings listed in October 2019 When & Where
aamilwaukee.com/directory.html
Sundays at 10 a. Milwaukee Gp. 933 E Center St, Milwaukee WI, 53212
2nd Sunday at 11:00 a. Alano Club 318 W. Broadway, Waukesha,
3rd Sunday Open 11 a., Friendship Club, 2245 W Fond du Lac Ave, Milw
Sundays at 7:00 p. VA Hospital 5000 W National Ave 3rd Floor Unit 3A
1st Tuesdays in Jan, Apr, July and October at 7:30 p. Acceptance Gp. First Congregational Church, 1111 N Chicago Ave So. Milwaukee.
Last Wednesday 7:30 p. Gp 23 First Luther-

an Church, 7400 W Lapham St, West Allis
Wednesdays at 7:00 p. Salem United Methodist Church, 541 Hwy. 59, Waukesha
3rd Thursday, 7:30 p. St John Vianney, 1755 N Calhoun Rd, Brookfield WI
Every Friday 7:00 p. Christ the King, 1600 N Genesee Rd Delafield
4th Friday 8:00 p. Imago Dei Church, 2327 N. 52nd St., Milwaukee 53210
1st Saturday 8:00 p. 24 Hour Club Open Meeting, 153 Green Bay Rd, Thiensville.
1st 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
3rd Saturday 7:30 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
Every Saturdays 7:30 p. Alano Club 1521 N. Prospect, Milwaukee.
Contact the Central Office via email:
gmco@aamilwaukee.com, with changes

Central Office Contributions

31 Groups Contributed THANK YOU June 2020

<u>Group Name</u>	<u>Group #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
#015 TAL Gp	137297	10.00
#023 Wed	114447	30.00
#051 Sicker Than Most	114317	60.00
#059 Gp	117184	160.00
#132 Women's Mon	128238	8.00
ARO Tue Night	667103	105.00
Big Book and 12 Steps Gp	715113	50.00
Big Book Readers	617805	60.00
Cross Roads Gp	119518	20.00
District 11 GSR Meeting	District 11	100.00
Elm Grove Living Sober	665770	20.00
Fri Noon 12 & 12	MIL-FB	51.00
Gopher Sun Night, Lake Area Club	125948	50.00
Green Lake Round-Up	138020	469.29
Impaired Professionals In AA	126056	225.00
Keep Passing It On, Pass It On	630882	60.00
Living Sober Wed Night	673826	50.00
Mon Independence	MIL-MH	54.91
Mon Night Big Book Study		73.00
Sat Moming Serenity Women's	657160	30.00
Sun Morning Hartford Gp	164282	63.00
There Is A Solution/Waukesha	173128	18.00
Thr Success Step	MIL-RB	33.00
Tue Morn Gp 10 AM	138530	31.10
Tue Non Smoking West Allis	676017	50.00
Tue Reflections	MIL-TH	26.41
Wed Noon Lunch Bunch	690831	34.00
Wind Lake Steps & Promises	698955	100.00
Women's AA	158304	84.51
Written For Us	717556	10.00
		<u>2,136.22</u>

Central Office June 2020

Personal Contributions Thank You

A. Susan	50.00
Anonymous	650.31
E. Bill	15.00
G. Paul	18.00
G. Chase	10.00
G. Kathleen	25.00
G. Steven	30.00
G. Annamaria	5.00
H. Kerry	50.00
H. Tom	100.00
K. Paul	90.00
L. Scott	40.00
M. Barbara	40.00
MC D. Bob	50.00
N. Marie	20.00
O. Mike	40.00
O. J.D.	324.00
P. Richard	50.00
P. Bill	40.00
S. Connie	50.00
S. Deborah	9.05
S. Andrew	50.00
S. Christopher	20.00
T. Jen	100.00
U. Todd	10.00
U. Mike	25.00
	<u>1,911.36</u>

Need to make a group or personal contribution?

Use our [CONTRIBUTE](#) button on our website: aamilwaukee.com or use our your [VENMO app](#) from your smartphone.

All the groups listed in your [When and Where](#) directory, should be contributing regularly to the support of your Central Office. We want to be here when anyone reaches out for help. A big thank you to everyone, for all you do.

ASL Interpreter

Available: Meeting for Deaf and Hard

of Hearing,

Tuesdays 7:00 P.M.,
H.O.W To Club, 8930 W
National Ave. West Allis
WI 53227

[Redemptorist Retreat Center,](#)

1800 N Timber Trail Lane, Oconomowoc, WI 53066, (262) 567-6900

Email: rrc@redemptoristretreat.org

Please call for information and schedule of retreats for recovering people. AA and AI-Anon, \$250 three nights. We discuss the 12 steps and related topics.

[2020 Weekend Retreats](#)

[Jesuit Retreat House,](#)

4800 Fahrwald Rd. Oshkosh,
WI 54901, call 800-962-7330

jesuitretreathouse.org

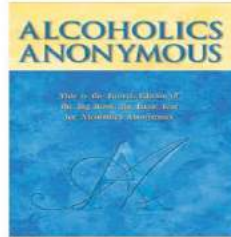
Men and Women in AA, AI-Anon

Total cost: 4 days \$390.00. Send a \$75.00 deposit with requests for specific dates to retreat house or call for info.

Men: , Dec. 3-6 2020.

Women: Nov. 12-15 2020, Nov. 19-22 2020.

Hales Corners Sunday Night Big Book Study



Come and Join Us!

Did you know that everything you need to learn about Alcoholics Anonymous is contained in just the first three words on Page 112? Want to learn more about the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous? Join our group for a weekly discussion as we learn and discuss interpretations of the Big Book. Find where you can learn more about alcoholism. Discover the Promises. Explore the Traditions.

"FROM REPETITION COMES RECOGNITION"

Any reader of the Big Book will quickly recognize that the author repeats numerous points of view with great frequency. Bill and Dr. Bob together contrived an idea to have a book written that would document what the Twelve Step Program was. While they introduced several other ideas to the Fellowship, the Big Book is the one that was approved. Bill Wilson set out to then document the actions common to the overall Fellowship, the actions they believed brought about removal of their obsession. While Bill Wilson wrote the book, his role was merely one of documentarian, not author. Bill would write portions of the book and submit them to the groups existing at that time. The Fellowship would review the book and inform Bill where he was on track and where he was completely off base. Due to individual differences in a conscious awareness of *the Great Reality* of life, on life's terms, there are differences in individual alcoholics. What is understood by one may not be clear to another. That is precisely the point of our meeting.

Emanuel United Church of Christ
10627 West Forest Home Avenue
Hales Corners, WI 53130
Sunday Nights, 7:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.

Zoom Meetings until further notice, detail information as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8594494504?pwd=R2lXQlpmT0hDUGNlcm5pVlplKbWx5Zz09>

By phone, dial (312) 626-6799 and enter the meeting ID number
Meeting ID: 859-449-4504
Password: 685420

IT HAPPENED TO ALICE



Tommy's Mustache

By: Daniel A. D. | New York, New York

Step Eight - Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

This Step was, for some reason, a particularly hard one for me to tackle. While I did my initial Fourth and Fifth Steps when I was about ten months sober (and another full Fourth and Fifth a year later), it wasn't until I was almost four years sober that I pulled myself together and did an Eighth Step.

In part, this was because of Step-slump, or Step-discouragement, resulting from the bewildered, foggy time I spent in Steps Six and Seven after the crisp, and exhilarating experiences of Steps Four and Five. There was substantial fear also: I knew Nine was only one Step away and would no doubt involve humiliating encounters with hateful people. My friend Jules kept pointing out that "Step Eight is only a list, just a list, no action" until I finally sat down and wrote it (though I knew that Jules was lying shamelessly).

Many people put themselves on their lists. That's fine if it's fine for them. For me, it would not have worked. I think of Steps Eight and Nine as giving me a chance to heal myself with respect to my guilt and incompetence in my relations, not with myself, but with some of the hundreds of millions of people lucky enough to not be me. Other Steps covered my amends to hateful, all-important me.

When it was at last completed, my Eighth Step list was puny; it covered the back of one old envelope and less than half of the back of another.

There were some, but not many, specific bad acts which fostered guilt and required amends. However, running through my dealings with each grouping of people in my life (family, friends, lovers, work associates), I found a poisonous strain of self-absorption, an unintended deafness to the needs, the hurts, the actual reality of people other than myself. While I knew that I had large needs that deserved to be fulfilled and that I was easily hurt, it never occurred to me to wonder whether others had similar traits. I call this self-centered blindness "a case of Tommy's mustache" (after a long drinking evening I spent relating my triumphs and woes to my friend Tommy, without ever noticing that he had transformed his whole appearance by shaving his huge, bristly mustache; that was appropriate--our friendship was about me, not him).

So my principal amends were of this nature--unintended neglect and tactlessness. There were some active wrongs, such as:

(1) I stole from clients. When I handed in a slip to receive reimbursement for amounts I'd spent on behalf of a law client, I almost always padded it a bit. A business trip might properly cost

\$300; I would put in for \$315. These thefts were not about greed. Partly they arose from my attraction to danger (these were petty thefts, but they *were* thefts, and they wouldn't catch *me*), partly to establish my uniqueness (stealing violates one of those rules that don't apply to *me*). An amend was clearly called for. But what amend? When it came time for Step Nine, after much conferring with my sponsor, I devised a just and appropriate solution.

(2) Some years before I got sober, at a year-end meeting of partners held to decide on how the next year's profits, if any, would be divided, I gave a little speech that was meant to force recognition of my high value and worth. The device I used was to compare myself, my energy, my creativity, my loyalty, and my income production with those of a fellow whom I painted as a slacker partner. There was no malice in my heart or voice. In fact, my victim was a very able, fine man, whom I liked. But a plan is a plan, a speech is a speech; one must make a point. It

never occurred to me that any viciousness was involved, or any pain caused (the man was in the room as I spoke). I just made my talk, and it either worked or it didn't. A week or so later, at a firm party, I was bewildered when the man's wife refused to speak to me. And then I understood. For the next five or more years, much of my energy went into managing to be in those parts of our small office where this partner was not. Clearly an amend was needed. I knew what the amend would be, and dreaded it, but by the time I was

ready for Step Nine, I was ready to make it.

(3) Two persons, my brother and my senior law partner, appeared on my list of "harmed ones" followed by question marks. In each case, the men wished to become close to me, one professionally and the other personally, and in effect I had refused close relations. Did I owe either an apology and a changed attitude or not? Clouds of confusion and uncertainty hid the answer from me, and I knew why: Both of these men were the objects of my white-lipped resentment--justified, of course. I wanted to achieve forgiveness, but couldn't. As instructed, I prayed daily, as sincerely as I could, that they would be given every good thing I hoped for myself, but both resentments boiled and bubbled on. Eventually, aided by prayer, but principally as a result of distance, boredom, and battle fatigue, the resentment level receded enough for clarity to creep in. Happily, no amends were required. My partner, although brilliant, was credit-grabbing and conceited, poison to clients, hard to handle; avoiding him was professionally wise. Even more clearly, my brother, after decades of heavy drinking, had become zany and vicious; any close relationship with him would be inadvisable.

I had thought that when I was asked to do anything for anyone, I should do it; any refusal was a bad act. My experience with this Step taught me that, in some situations, healthy self-protection required the answer: "Sorry, but I don't do that." I once heard a woman say, "In politics, we have a saying: 'Forgive and Remember.'" My wrestling with the Step taught me that lesson.

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August 2020

No One's the Boss - [Audio Recording](#)

By: Steve S. | Bloomfield, N.J.

Oh, no! What will these AAs make him do? What does he owe? This newcomer's first encounter with the Traditions was a pleasant surprise

At my very first AA meeting, two large vinyl posters were hanging on the wall. The Twelve Steps were on one poster and the Twelve Traditions were on another.

With a suspicion-filled mind, I read the words on them. What I gathered from the Traditions was that it sounded like no one in particular was in charge, and the only goal was to help. I figured this was like most organizations; its ideals were posted on the walls. I sat in meetings a long time waiting to spot who actually was going to presume they could boss me around and what they would claim I owed.

Turns out I was wrong. As a dear AA friend likes to share at meetings, "When it comes to carrying AA's message, we do it for fun and for free."

My suspicion, which today I consider a fermented form of fear, has never played out. Here and there, AAs might act bossy, but not one is the boss of another. We are each left to our own path of recovery. We are each subject to our own devices, our own consciences.

And we owe nothing. Matters of money, time and talents are also left to each member to decide whether or not, and how much to contribute. Each member is their own boss and chooses if and how to contribute to AA's collective effort to carry the AA message to alcoholics who still suffer. This approach is best.

There's a line in the Tradition Eight essay from our book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions which says, "Alcoholics simply will not listen to a paid Twelfth-Stepper." I identify. This principle of "non-professionalism" when it comes to carrying AA's message saved me from my fearful, suspicion-driven mind. As I sat reading those Traditions on the poster that day, I decided that if someone attempted to boss me, I wasn't coming to another meeting. I

would take my alcohol-soaked resentments home and not come back!

Thankfully no one bossed me. Rather, many helped, and the Steps provided a path to freedom from alcohol and the resentments that I have continued to enjoy for more than 20 years now.

Another influence, more subtle but as great in importance, also stemmed from Tradition Eight as I look back. The first meeting I attended included about six or seven regulars. I took quick measure of them, as I had to spot who the boss really was among them. The suspicion in my keen alcoholic mind was dulled and ultimately outdone by openness. Not one of the six or seven took on being "the boss" and not one of them was getting paid. The real kicker though, what kicked down my suspicion and made room for some open-mindedness, was the fact that they were there in our meeting every week just to be helpful—and they were having fun.

I wasn't having much fun in those days. Being afraid and resentful of everyone and everything is serious stuff. Also, I wasn't interested in doing anything without getting paid, even though I was a lousy employee and hardly employed.

When it came to AA's message being carried, non-professionalism was in effect at that first AA meeting I attended—no bosses and no one getting paid. There's more to Tradition Eight, including the whole bit about service centers and employment and support of AA members' Twelfth Step efforts. But this article is short, so I hope you review for yourself, in full, the Tradition Eight essay in the "Twelve and Twelve."

Tradition Eight, and all Twelve Traditions on the one poster, were all in effect and a part of the AA group I was so fortunate to find. I am grateful because I know today that those Traditions fostered the group's environment of love and tolerance as well as singleness of purpose. All of which were essential so I would stick around long enough to experience the amazing gifts along the path described on that other poster, the one with the Twelve Steps.

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(*"Amends" Continued from page 6*)

Frankly, I think this is so much garbage. It's one of the "old ideas" the Big Book advises us to discard--namely, selfishness. If the founders had meant Eight and Nine to be directed at themselves, they would have so stated in plain English.

But here's an AA paradox: I have found, to my great joy, that if I work on Eight and Nine and keep the emphasis on my relationships with others, these Steps actually do bring about the ultimate amends to me--a happy, sober day-to-day life that brims over with gladness, happiness, good fortune, and all that I could wish for. It's far better to work on the Steps the way the Big Book and the "Twelve and Twelve" suggest than to risk losing this great life.

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