Greater Milwaukee Central Office

"Welcoming Newcomers and Aiding AA Groups In Our Community."

Vol. 29 Issue 2 FEBRUARY 2021

Financial News: Please remember our tradition of "selfsupport". 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)

Use QR Code To Contribute Using **VENMO**



If you don't use Venmo or PayPal, you can always come visit us at the Central Office or mail a check.

CHOICE / NO CHOICE IN THE MATTER OF DRINK

No Choice in drink: During my drinking years "quitting drinking forever" just got me drunk, year after year-I had no choice in the matter of drink! Page 24 of the Big Book states: "We are without defense against the first drink." I was 'unrecovered' in Big Book inference.

Choice in drink: Then, I ingested the Twelve Steps of AA, but the mental obsession continued with a vengeance. During this period, I had a **choice** in the matter of drink. I almost did but chose to refrain. I was a recovering-ing-ing alcoholic.

No Choice in drink again: However, several months later, maybe a year, I realized I had not thought about drinking for a long time. As years passed, I realized that drinking was no longer in my emotional vocabulary or conscious mind! The Big Book elaborates an AA member who "Couldn't drink if he would. God had restored his sanity." (p. 57). *

Indeed, page 86 of our basic text promises: "The problem has been removed. It does not exist for us." However, this is only so long as I remain in a fit spiritual condition and God has restored me to sanity, then I cannot choose to drink. Today, I have **no choice** in the matter of drink, nor do I want one!

Bob S Reprinted with permission Robert Stonebraker

* Fitz Mayo

July 1981

I Will Always Be an Alcoholic

By: H. B. | La Crosse, Wisconsin

WHEN I WAS about to begin my Fourth Step, my counselor in the treatment center told me to bring him a list of what I thought I was--in order of importance. The first two things on that list were: (1) I am an alcoholic; (2) I am a woman. I do not recall what else I put down. Whatever the rest of the list contained, it was probably changed in three years--except for those two things, which I will always be. The use of my intelligence, my marital status, my profession, my appearance all may change; but I will always be an alcoholic and a woman in the same degree I am now.

I have objected to the male orientation of AA, but I am sensitive to problems that all alcoholics have in common--problems of self-knowledge and self-image, particularly as they relate to our sobriety. We all need equally to be liberated.

Speaking as a woman, I find the greatest threat to my sobriety is relationships with men. I love 'em, bless 'em. Being a divorcée, I am quite free to pick and choose--or so it would appear. But to solve some problems of adjustment, I need to do some growing up--and I need the help of other women to do that.

When I was married twenty years ago, few of us really thought of ourselves as independent. I was sent to college to find a good man and pick up enough education to take care of myself in an emergency. The university I attended had high academic standards and a "quota"--three men to one woman. Many of those women achieved considerable professional success, in addition to getting married.

A friend recently noted that a remarkable number of those women we knew had become alcoholics. If they were like me, they prided themselves on their intellect, their independence, their ability to compete successfully with men--although few of them went into engineering, law, or medicine. Then, they found their "place in society" by getting married, having babies, and helping to support the family.

For me, that place seemed dull and everyday, and I eventually found that a bottle of sherry went a long way with the ironing.

("Alcoholic" Continued on page 9)

25¢

Published monthly by Greater Milwaukee Central Office, Inc., 7429 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI 53214, (414) 771-9119 Visit our website at: www.aamilwaukee.com

Greater Milwaukee Central Office AA December 2020 Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

December 2020 Profit &	LOSS LIEV I	ear Compans	OH	
	Dec 20	Dec 19	\$ Change	% Change
Ordinary Income/Expense	W ₂			
Income				
4000 · Literature Sales	5,987.90	14,003.45	-8,015.55	-57.24%
4050 · Between us	0.00	239.25	-239.25	-100.0%
4070 · Contributions	6,131.46	5,761.91	369.55	6.41%
4080 · Gratitude boxes	9,375.00	2,617.08	6,757.92	258.22%
4130 · Personal Contri.	1,790.90	2,079.00	-288.10	-13.86%
4150 · Other Income	51.76	122.36	-70.60	-57.7%
4170 · Interest Income	0.00	4.53	-4.53	-100.0%
4600 · Merchandise Sales	35.00	0.00	35.00	100.0%
4830 · Sales Discounts	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.0%
48900 · Shipping and Delivery Income	7.35	313.67	-306.32	-97.66%
Total Income	23,389.37	25,151.25	-1,761.88	-7.01%
Cost of Goods Sold	3,624.81	8,793.86	-5,169.05	-58.78%
Gross Profit	19,764.56	16,357.39	3,407.17	20.83%
Expense				
51100 · Freight and Shipping Costs	0.00	11.78	-11.78	-100.0%
59900 · POS Inventory Adjustments	8.16	5.24	2.92	55.73%
6040 · Bank Service Charges	0.00	11.00	-11.00	-100.0%
6045 · Coffee/Soda/Candy Expense	89.96	21.60	68.36	316.48%
6050 · Credit card fees	129.27	223.73	-94.46	-42.22%
6500 · Office	3,224.74	3,397.34	-172.60	-5.08%
6600 · Payroll	8,261.22	9,929.64	-1,668.42	-16.8%
6700 · Professional Fees	0.00	1,290.00	-1,290.00	-100.0%
Total Expense	11,713.35	14,890.33	-3,176.98	-21.34%
Net Ordinary Income	8,051.21	1,467.06	6,584.15	448.8%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income	0.00	0.01	-0.01	-100.0%
Net Other Income	0.00	0.01	-0.01	-100.0%
et Income	8,051.21	1,467.07	6,584.14	448.8%

Account Balances

Checking: 16,682.75 Savings Account: 60,026.37 Prudent Reserve: 171,281.54 What is the Prudent Reserve?

The A.A. guideline document produced by A.A. Wjorld 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 <u>not available for everyday use</u>. 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: milwareadeafaccess@ gmail.com

Southern Wisconsin Deaf Access Commit-

tee (SWDAC) December 2020
Beginning Balance: \$8,437.59
Contributions: \$449.28
Interpreter: \$50.00
Ending Balance: \$8,836.87
The cost for an interpreter is \$50 for a zoom meeting

and \$80 for an in-person meeting. Contact Kath W. with questions: brylerandme@gmail.com
VENMO Contributions: www.venmo.com/SWDAC

• Meeting Space Currently Available

•St Peter's Episcopal Church, 7929 W Lincoln Ave, West Allis, Contact: Steve 414-543-6040 or email: christumc1@sbcglobal.net

Anchor Covenant Church 1229 Park Row Lake Geneva WI 53147, contact Laura, 262-903-6888 office@anchorcovenant.org

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 INFORMATION ON THE WEB:

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

- 1. JACKSON, LaCROSSE, MONROE, VERNON, & TREMPEALEAU; 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, https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/88183312739? pwd=eVJwV0Q2UENydUJHcEhs UmM4RIJRZz09 Meeting ID: 881 8331 2739, Passcode: 071956
- 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 (1of 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

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: milwareadeafaccess@gmail.com; Mailto: Deaf Access Committee, P.O. Box 1982, Waukesha WI 53186

DISTRICT MEETINGS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

TAYCHEEDAH CORRECTIONAL, Meetings are held 1st, 2nd & 'Tuesday and on the 3rd Thursdáy 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 MORAINE 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: mccccoordinator@gmail.com with questions.

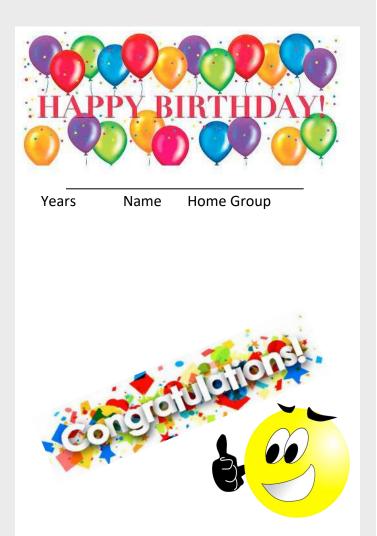
Corrections volunteers must go through the committee to get AA literature to take into the various facilities. Milwaukee Central Office no longer handles the funds.

Area 75, Southern WI, ,Calendar of Events 2021

Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., Madison, Held at Senior Center except where otherwise noted. Join Zoom By phone: 312-626-6799, enter meeting ID and Password.

- **Zoom Meeting** Contact Area Chair: Veronica O. vodonnell52@gmail.com
- March 14, 2021 Delegates Workshop
- April 11, 2021 Spring Service Assembly
- June 27, 2021 Summer Service Assembly
- Sept. 12 2021 Preconference Assembly
- Nov. 12-14, 2021 Area 75 Conference, LaCrosse WI.

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.



MILW. CENTRAL OFFICE

• E-mail us at:

dan@aamilwaukee.com

Temporary Hours until further notice: M - F 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- Secretary Meeting Bimonthly on 2nd Tuesday of each odd numbered month at 6:30 p. Jan., Mar., May, July, 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.

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,

Our regular monthly "Not So Secret Service Manual Study" will resume in March on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00. I'll send out the zoom codes for the meeting prior to that time.

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.





7210 W. Greenfield Ave. Suite 1 Lower Level

galanoclub.org 414-276-6936

email: galanoclub@gmail.com

Sunday:

LGBT and all in Recovery Welcome

10:30 a.m. - AA - Step / Topic Meeting (In-Person/Phone/Video)

10:30 a.m. - Al-Anon -Papillion Group (In-Person)

6:00 p.m. - SCA Meeting (Zoom) sca.recovery.milw@gmail.com

6:00 p.m. - AA Multi-Media (Postpone)

Monday:

7:30 p.m. - AA "Came to Believe" 12 Spirituality (In-Person/Phone/Video)

Tuesday:

7:30 p.m. - AA Over and Under 40 Group (In-Person & 7:30 Phone/Video)

6:00 p.m. -Pages of Healing -Recovery Book Club (Postpone)

7:00 p.m. - SCA - Blue Group (Zoom) sca.recovery.milw@gmail.com

Wednesday:

7:30 p.m. - AA -12 Steps and 12 Traditions (Phone/Video)

Thursday:

7:30 p.m. - AA - Living Sober One Day at a Time (Phone/Video)

Friday:

7:30 p.m. - AA - Topic "Grapevine" (In-Person)

Saturday:

7:30 p.m. - AA Big Book and More (Phone/Video)

LGBT AA Phone in Sun. 10:30 am M, T, W, Th, Sat. 7:30 pm (978) 990-5195 Code 1919178#

OVERCOMING FEAR OF THE FUTURE

(How Step Two can restore sanity through faith in action)

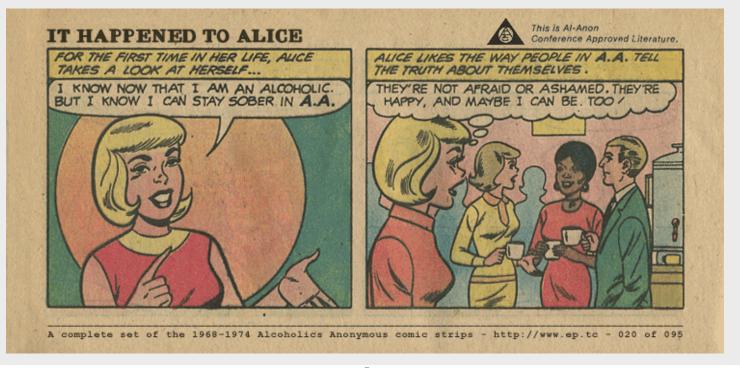
This new year brings hope that last year's dismal conditions will somehow evaporate; that the world will now become, happy joyous and free—probably not!

The stage may be set for deep apprehension or even that great sobriety nemesis: FEAR! At the onset of this new year, I may well look ahead and make decisions (resolutions!) with prayer, good common sense, plus the use of my sponsor. However, irrational fear—that great friend of mental-obsession—will doubtless continue its attack mode. What to do?

Page 68 of the Big Book offers suggestions. To paraphrase: First, to realize that I cannot be rid of the powerful fear-devil with my good-keen-intellectual-mind, nor with willpower! Self cannot rid self of self with self—consequently I need help from a power greater than me. But how? The Big Book advises: "We ask Him to remove our fear and direct our attention to what He would have us be." (p. 68) But how can I be as God would have me? How can I be different tomorrow than I am today? The answer is to live in the spirit of Steps Ten, Eleven and Twelve. "Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave us" (p. 84).

Bob S, Richmond, IN

Reprinted with permission Robert Stonebraker



December 2020 Milwaukee Central Office AA 64 Groups Contributed - Thank You

Group Name	Group#	Amount	Group Name	Group#	Amount
#023 Wed	114447	90.00	Mayfair Ladies Mon & Fri	114336	171.17
#048 Gp	114315	60.00	Menomonee Falls Sun	128237	38.40
#059 Gp	117184	30.00	Men's Topic/Discussion	661357	60,00
#060 Gp	114323	30.00	Mon Independence	MIL-MH	33.00
#069 Wed	125748	60.00	Mon Night Big Book Study		99.00
#074 Gp	159542	150.00	Muskego Tue Night Step/Topic	690183	150.00
#078 Gp	114444	100.00	NCIC Group 24, NCIC Church	MIL-F2	26.00
#100 Gp	114445	77.00	North Prairie Gp of AA	716748	155.50
Airport Group	159599	100.00	Oconomowoc Fri Night	120632	80.00
Big Book Readers	617805	60.00	One Day at a Time, Watertown	664578	25.00
Butler Sun Night	114272	65.00	Pizza Not Perfection	690079	25.00
Cross Roads Gp	119518	55.00	Promises Gp 2:00 p.m.	641518	25.00
District 32		1,100.00	Sussex Fri Night Action	147499	150.00
Elkhart Lake Thr Night	157897	50.00	Thank God It's Mon	720790	35.00
Elm Grove Living Sober	665770	10.00	There is a Solution/Pewaukee	605313	193.50
First Step	635840	60.00	There Is A Solution/Waukesha	173128	16.00
First Things First	139238	60.00	Thinking Outside the Bottle	719338	154.00
Fri Noon 12 & 12	MIL-FB	24.00	Thr Night AA/ St Anskar's	117644	216.63
Friendship Gp, Lake Area Clu	128753	156.00	Thr Success Step	MIL-RB	37.00
Gratitude Plus, Pass It On Club	647840	100.00	Today's Choices	614204	60.00
Hales Corners Tue Night	177353	120.00	Tue Night Big Book, Ft Atkinson	114199	135.00
Hand Of AA - Online		50.00	Tue Night Grapevine	665769	11.00
Happy Hour Step	653359	60.00	Tue Reflections	MIL-TH	77.96
Hartford Women's Big Book	667036	150.00	Victory Group	163882	20.00
Holidy Alkathon Fund		248.60	Wed 5:30 p.m. Step Gp	632773	55.20
Honesty Gp, Serenity Club	145607	100.00	Wed Night Men's Meeting	663905	12.00
Impaired Professionals In AA	126056	50.00	Wed Noon Lunch Bunch	690831	46.00
Jackson Gp	172965	15.00	West Bend Thr a.m. Big Book	114448	25.00
Jim's Sun Night 1st Step	719963	120.00	Women's AA	158304	170.00
Just Do It, Northwest Alano Club	174350	190.00	Women's Wed 5:30 p.m.	704135	25.00
Key To Recovery Open Meeting	MIL-S3	23.00	Written For Us	717556	50.00
Lake Geneva Kitchen Table	125465	25.00		TOTAL	\$6063.46
Matt Talbot Bell Ringers	675208	97.50	Į.		

Personal Contributions December 2020								
Name	Amount	Name	Amount	Name	Amount			
Anonymous	1,056.90	D. Rich	200.00	L. Keith	40.00			
B. Carol	100.00	E. Bill	15.00	N. Bill	25.00			
B. Sara	30.00	G. Jeanne	25.00	N. Kristine	30.00			
B. John	187.00	G. Paul	20.00	U. Todd	10.00			
C. Mike	100.00	K. Mark	20.00	TOTAL	1,858.90			

Need to make a group or personal contribution?

Use our **CONTRIBUTE** button on our website: <u>aamilwaukee.com</u> 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 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
Al-Anon, \$250 three nights. We discuss the 12 steps and related topics.

2021 Weekend Retreats
Jesuit Retreat House,
4800 Fahrnwald Rd. Oshkosh,
WI 54901, call 800-962-7330
jesuitretreathouse.org

Men and Women in AA, Al-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:

NEW DAY CLUB

11936 N. Port Washington Mequon, (262) 241-4673

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

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

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

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

10:00 a. 5:00 p. 7:00 p. 10:00 p. Step Meeting Fellowship of Spirit Feelings Young People Sat.

Saud p. Open Meeting (held on Sat Saturday of month only)

AL-ANON MEETINGS
Monday 6:30 p. Al-Anon
Tuesday 1:00 p. Al-Anon
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 8:00 a. Sun. Wake Up 8:00 a. 3 Legados (Spanish) 9:30 a. Reliance Meeting 11:00 a. Today' cheire

11:00 a. Today' choice 3:00 p. Gratitude Plus 7:00 p. Big Book Readers 7:30 a. Jump Start 10:30 a. First Step Mon 4:00 p. Happy Hour Step Gp. 7:00 p. Open IntroductoryAA 7:30 a. Comin'Back Gp 10:30 a. Keep It Simple

Tue. 7:30 a. Comin'Back Gp 10:30 a. Keep It Simple 4:00 p. Drop the Rock 7:30 p. Three Legacies 7:30 p. Double Trouble DD/O 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 7:30 a. Welcome Back Gp 10:30 a. Welcome Back Gp 10:30 a. Wade Decision 5:15 p. As Bill Sees It 7:00 p. Gateway Topic Gp 7:30 a. Honesty Gp. 10:30 a. Came To Believe 6:30 p. Thoughts 4 Today 8:00 p. Broken Arrow 8:30 a. Early Bird 10:30 a. Happy Joyous Free 3:00 p. Twelve Promises 8:00 p. Sparish Speaking 8:00 p. Spack Is Basck 12x12 AL-ANON MEETINGS

Thr

AL-ANON MEETINGS

11:00 a. 7:00 p. 7:00 p. Sun. Wed. 7:30 p. 10:30 a. Fri. Sat.

LAKE AREA CLUB N60 W 35878 Lake Dr

Oconomowoc, WI (262) 567-9912

A.A. MEETING CHEDULE 8:00 a. Early Bird 1:00 a. Friendship Gp 6:00 p. Big Book 8:00 p. Gopher Sunday 9:00 a. Positive Attitude 6:30 p. Otter Gp 8:00 p. Step/Tradition Stdy Mon.

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

8:00 a. 10:00 a. 2:00 p. 6:00 p. 8:00 p. . Back To Basics Women's Meeting

4:00 p. 8:00 p. Grapevine Mtng

12:30 p. 4:00 p. 6:00 p. Non-smoking 8:00 p. Old School House 8:30 a. 11th Step 10:00 a. Big Book

> OPEN AA/AI-Anon SPEAKER MEETING 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. MEETINGS, All are VIRTUAL

Sun. 9:30 a. Sun Morn Sunlight 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

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

Phone/Video AA Meetings Using the FCC App. Video at the club Sun. 10:30 am, M,T @ 7:30pm Phone: W, Th. Sat 7:30pm (978) 990-5195 Meeting Id: galano7210 Code: 1919178#

Sun. 10:30 a. In-person/Phone/Video 6:00 p. AA Multimedia

Mon. 7:30 p. In-person/Phone/Video

Tue.
7:30 p. In-person/Phone/Video
Wed. 7:30 p. Phone/Video
Thurs. 7:30 p. Phone/Video
Fri. 7:30 p. In-Person
Sat. 7:30 p. Phone/Video
AL-ANON MEETINGS

Sun. 10:30 a. Al-anon In-person Meeting Space Available See website for Club Events.

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.

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

Tue. 10:00 a. Step 7:00 p. Terrific Tue 8:00 p. Topic

7:00 p. Step/Topic

10:00 a. Step 6:00 p. Women's Fri. 8:00 p. Step/Topic

10:00 a. Step 7:00 p. Simply Sober Gp Sat.

AL-ANON MEETINGS Wed. 7:00 p. Al-Anon

7:30 p. Al-Anon

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

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 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

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

7:00 a. AA Meeting 10:00 a. Gp 17 Step

7:00 a. Early Morning 10:30 a. Gp 72 Topic 12:15 p. Big Book Meeting 6:30 p. Gp 40 Big Book

7:00 a. As Bill Sees It, 10:30 a. Gp 70 Step 12:15 p. Gp 76 **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 6:00 a. AA 7:00 a. Big Book Meeting 10:30 a. Gp 97, Step

10:30 a. Gp 97, Step 12:15 p. Here & Now Gp 7:00 a. Daily Reflections 10:30 a. Gp 21, Step 12:15 p. Gp 65 6:30 p. Here & Now 12:15 am. Second Shifters (Sat.)

7:00 a. AA Meeting 11:00 a. Gp 87 Step 3:00 p. Spiritual Growth 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 Thr 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. 11:00 p. What's the Point

Tue. 11:00 a. Willingness Group 6:00 p. Tue Topic 6pm 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 11:00 p. After Hours Group

10:00 a But For Grace Of God 6:00 p. Here and Now 8:00 p. How To Get It Going 11:00 a. Priority Group

6:00 p. Big Book Group 8:00 p. R.U.S. For Us 11:00 p. Candlelight Promises 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 Web and Facebook Info

A.A. MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00 a. Topic Sun. 10:00 a. Step/Topic

5:00 p. Step Mon. 6:30 a. Topic 10:00 a. Topic

8:00 p. Men's 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 6:30 a. Topic

10:00 a. Topic 5:30 p. Step/Topic/Trad 8:00 p. Men's 12 & 12

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

6:30 a. Topic 8:30 a. Big Book /Steps 10:00 a. Big Book 8:00 p. Open Špeaker Mtng.

Ham on Wry By: John C.

January 2005

IN MANY CANADIAN PROVINCES, the police check on vehicles stalled on the highway when the temperatures drop into the single digits, as a matter of policy.

One morning, before dawn, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable responded to a report involving a stalled car in southeastern Alberta.

The constable located the car still running and stuck in deep snow along the highway. Pulling in behind, with his emergency lights on, the constable walked up to the driver's door to find a man passed out behind the wheel and a near empty bottle of vodka on the seat.

He rapped on the window and the startled driver awoke to flashing

blue lights and a constable standing next to his car. In a panic, the driver threw the gearshift into drive and hit the gas. Although the car's speedometer showed increasing speeds of 20, 30, 40, and 50 KPH, the car remained stuck in snow.

The constable, having a sense of humor, began running in place next to the "speeding" but still stationery car. The bewildered and disoriented driver was convinced that the officer was actually keeping up with him.

This went on for about a half-minute before the constable shouted for the man to pull over. The man obeyed and stopped the engine.

Once out of the car, the drunken driver exclaimed over the RCMP's special abilities--amazed that a man could actually run 50 KPH. He was arrested still believing that a Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable had outrun his car. Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine, Inc.

UNITY CLUB

1715 Creek Rd West Bend, (262) 338-3500 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 5:00 p. Happy Hour Gp 8:15 p. Step Gp

Thr. 10:00 a. Big Book 7:00 p. EZ Dozen12x12 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 Thursday

urday 9:00 a. Al-Anon ırsday 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.

Fmail:

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 information on Open Speaker AA meetings, meetings for other fellowships and for special events.

MILWAUKEE GROUP

933 E Center St, Milw WI 53212. Zoom Information:

https://us02web.zoom.us/ i/8974697046?pwd=3CBAi

A.A. MEETINGS

10:00 a Zoom. 8:30 p. In-Person Sun. 5:30 p. Zoom Mon. 7:00 p. In-Person 8:30 p. In-Person 7:00 p. In-Person 8:30 p. Zoom Tue. 7:00 p. In-Person 8:30 p. Zoom Wed. 6:30 p. In-Person 8:30 p. Zoom Thur. 7:00 p. In-Person 8:30 p. Zoom 8:30 p. In-Person Fri. Sat.

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

A.A. MEETINGS Mon. Tue. Wed. 12:15

12:15 p, 4:00 p 12:15 p, 4:00 p Thur. 12:15 p 9:15 a, 1st Step Fri. 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 Great Room 7:30 p. Gp /8 Great Room Monday 7:30 p. Laughs/Leisure Tuesday 6:00 p. 11th Step Meditation 7:30 p. Professionals Wednesday
7:30 p. Presidents Hall
7;30 p. Women Mellows Lounge 7,30 p. women Mello 8:00 p. "RES-IPSA" Thursday 7:00 p. Women's AA 7:30 p. Alumni No 12 Friday 7:15 p. Gp 74 Saturday 10:00 a. Gp 59

All Saint's Cathedral 818 E Juneau Av Milw 53202

Monday: 7:30 p.m. Sane & Sober Tuesday: Zoom 10:30 a.m. Men's meeting Wednesday: In-person 7:30 p.m. Men's meeting Thursday: Zoom 7:00 p.m. Men's meeting Friday: Zoom 7:30 p.m. Big Book Saturday: In-person 10:30 a.m. Men's meeting

recto

NEW MEETINGS

Sundays 6:00 p.m. Galano Club, 7210 W Greenfield Ave. West Allis. "Multimedia Sunday Night AA Meeting"

Mondays & Wednesdays & Saturday "We Agnostics". 7:30 p.m. https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/86432257621?

pwd=dTBwak9VaHVRZEhPTU1Tckk3YnBqUT 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 Tuesday 7p.m., Primary Purpose, First Evan-

gelical, 311 W Mackie St. Beaver Dam 53916 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. Zoom : https://us02web.zoom.us/j/74831701793? pwd=ZGdsZWtMVE9mSFRGMHh5ZzRlckN5Q T09

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, Meguon WI 53092. Zoom: https://zoom.us/ i/6701384020 Password: fellowship

DISBANDED GROUPS

Tuesday 8:00 p.m. Treat Yourself Tue. Christ Church, 5655 N Lake Dr. Whitefish Bay WI Wednesday 1:30 p.m. Bridges of Milw. Rehab and Care Center, 6800 N 76th St. Milwaukee.

OTHER CHANGES

Friday 6:30 p. A Vision For You Big Book **Gp.** Now meets at Holy Trinity Church, 11709 W Cleveland Ave, West Allis 53227, In-person & Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/2089530649' pwd=akQ0YIYyNzB5RXV3cFV1R1dlNzlRZz09

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 53212 Zoom: https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/8974697046? pwd=3CBAuoiYS3s

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 Lutheran Church, 7400 W Lapham St, West Allis Wednesdays at 7:00 p. Salem United Methodist Church, 541 Hwy. 59, Waukesha Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8035659147 Password: 052 240

3rd Thursday, 7:30 p. Badger Gp, St John Vianney, 1755 N Calhoun Rd, Brookfield WI. Plus Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/498452652 Password:668830

Every Friday 7:00 p. Christ the King, 1600 N Genesee Rd Delafield. Zoom: https:// us04web.zoom.us/j/79611727313

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-Zoom: https:// us04web.zoom.us/j/902402700? pwd=MU9XYzhhRCtCNIBMYUFBcGdzQ29yZz 09

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, Meguon,

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. ("Alcoholic" Continued from page 1)

I wanted to be a good wife and had looked forward to that all my life. Fourteen years later, I was a drunk. My home, my husband, my three children were all gone--along with my place in society. I was not very employable, because I had no experience. I had lost whatever identification I had with any family or community. I did get jobs, and I did survive--always looking for a man to take me away from what seemed a demeaning and misplaced existence.

Finally, after several men and several years of on-and-off sobriety, in and out of AA, I confronted the counselor who said: "Who are you?" I realized then that all my life I had consciously worked at being "somebody's something"--though often a rebellious one. I had the attitude that other people were responsible for my identity and my security.

Being responsible is a large part of what being sober is all aboutand what we alcoholics keep trying to get around. A woman can get around it longer than a man can. To some extent, we are set up for a cop-out: finding someone to take care of us, someone to follow. We selflessly dedicate ourselves to the daily needs of a family (or maybe an office), because that is what a "good woman" does. I remember crying to myself, "I wish somebody would wash *my* socks, or worry about *my* diet for a change." (Or, later, "Why can't the boss sharpen his own blasted pencils!")

Now, I am firmly attached to AA, have a number of women

friends I depend on (particularly when I haven't a man around), and I am happily established as an equal in a male-dominated profession--radio journalism. I am learning to enjoy myself alone, sometimes, and not resent it when somebody tries to get my goat by calling me a "ding-y broad" (though I still wince). I have stayed sober through two disappointing love affairs (which definitely beats my previous record).

I ask myself how I managed that. I know it is not because of my own good sense. Perhaps it is because I am learning to accept the facts that I am a person and an alcoholic--and my life will go on with or without any given individual. My first commitment is to myself, and to living my program. To do that, I depend on Sue and Carol and Betty and all those macho guys up at the club who laugh at me like brothers and say I am "a classy broad, if a little too emotional." They all help me accept myself and my immature dependencies, which I am trying to outgrow.

I stay away from alcohol because I can't handle it. My life is sometimes unmanageable where men are concerned, too, but a fling now and then is mighty nice--and I think it's part of being a woman-person. There is a difference in sharing special things with a man. It is important to me to learn to handle such relationships honestly and responsibly--in spite of the risks. So, while nursing my present case of broken heart, I am looking for another chance to practice. I hate to quit--practicing is kind of fun.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine, Inc.

November 1981

PO Box 1980

By: D. M. | Edgerton, Wisconsin

Expectations aren't so great

"No Strings Attached" (June Grapevine) brought to mind an element of my program I would like to pass on. Some years ago, a friend planted in my mind what gets me in so much emotional trouble--expectations.

Most of us feel that expectations of ourselves and others are as normal as apple pie. As I looked at my own expectations, of myself and other people, I found that most of my bad feelings come when people don't come through. (I wrote Mary that letter three weeks ago--how come no reply? Why can't I speak as well as Joe can?)

I spent some time looking at these feelings, and at the expectations that cause them. Part of my program now is that each day I look at my expectations and remove them from my thinking. At first, it wasn't easy-I've had these things all my life. But it helps. When Mary answers the letter, it's a bonus. Better still, I call.

I don't wish to imply that eliminating or minimizing expectations lets me sit around and do nothing. It just helps me avoid perfectionism in regard to myself and others. And I really enjoy the bonuses.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine Inc.

Grapevine Online Exclusives

A Week in the Life of Lisa

By: Kaycee F. | Brown Deer, Wis.

The call to service unites a group of AA women around one troubled soul

The phone rang as I finished my morning prayers, which always including "let me be of some service today." A former sponsee, now living out of state, was calling to see if I was available to help someone, named Lisa, who was reaching out through "Friends of Bill W." God always gives me what I need; my prayer was being answered already. Little did I know that by agreeing to help this young woman, I was being launched into a mighty circle of like-minded women who would all agree to "love this young woman until she could love herself."

I spoke with Lisa 30 minutes later and we decided to attend an AA meeting together the next day. By the time I picked her up, much of the organizing was already complete. Since Lisa had many needs, it took assistance from a power greater than any of us to line up daily transportation for meetings, daily legal commitments, food and doctors' appointments. What an order and a true labor of love! Women were eager to help with no expectation of acknowledgement nor compensation. The beauty of being called to service struck all of us. Lisa was no longer alone. She caught on that something very special was happening, which showed her that she could be grateful and even hopeful.

I met Lisa on a Thursday. She was a frightened, gravely ill, and a lonely young woman who had lost it all. In one week, one short week, she had come to know love in a new and extraordinary way. I said good bye and thank you to Lisa on the next Thursday. Lisa died an accidental and tragic death. We loved her until she died and then we loved her even more. We received far more than we gave and we grew in a profound sense of community. We received the blessings of having known and served together for one brief week—a week that provided a lifetime of love.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine, Inc.

Grapevine Online Exclusives

The Officer

By: Vanessa D. | Milwaukee, Wis.

When she went missing a police officer saw her as a sick person, not a bad one. It set her on the road to grateful sobriety

Let me tell you a story about the day when a great change took place in my life. When I look back, I can't believe I didn't recognize what an incredible moment this was for me.

I've shared this story with hundreds of people, and there were many people who lived it along with me. It is the story of when I went missing at the end of my active addiction. I had come to the conclusion, as many active alcoholics do, that I was unworthy of the life I was living and that everyone would be better off without me. I had no intention of ever returning. My plan, and I admit it was a terrible one, was to drink myself to death. I thought, "At least I won't know what's happening when I go." I turned off my phone, took cash out of an ATM and walked away from my life.

I was considered a missing person for five days. For five long days my family didn't know if I was dead or alive—this included my four-year-old daughter. Sadly, I hadn't even thought about what my disappearance would do to the people in my life, the people who still saw something in me that I just couldn't see in myself yet. All I knew was that I was miserable, and I didn't believe I would ever get better. I remember being furious when a police officer found me on that fifth day...still alive. I remember thinking, "I can't even kill

myself right!" I was not a lady that night, and I am sure I did nothing to deserve that officer's respect. As I was escorted to the crisis center, and then lawfully committed to the mental health facility, I was unrecognizable.

Something I appreciate about my recovery is that it has taught me to offer my hand to others who are struggling with alcoholism. When I was about nine months sober, I returned to the same crisis center I had been taken to after I was located. Only this time I wasn't there for me, I was there to help a friend who had found herself in the same hopeless position I was once in. When I arrived, I calmly talked to my friend and agreed to get her home safely. There was a police officer there who asked to take down my information. I remember he gave me a curious look while he was scanning my driver's license. I thought maybe he had noticed that my driver's license was suspended, and I was suddenly panicked about whether or not I was within my restricted driving hours. He proceeded to hand my information back to me without comment and my friend and I were on our way.

The next morning, my parents received a knock on their door at about 7:30am. It was the same officer that I had seen the day before. I'm sure, although my mother probably won't admit it, my parents were thinking, "Oh Lord, here we go again!" Because this particular officer was, after all, the same officer who found me when my mother reported me missing nine months earlier. I hadn't even recognized him, and I am not surprised he had trouble recognizing me.

What happened when my mother opened the door is just a testament to what recovery was starting to do for my life. He told her not to worry, I wasn't in any trouble. He said that I had been at the crisis center the day before, in an attempt to help my friend. He wanted to

tell her how proud he was of me, that I was willing to go back to where I had been on that fateful night in order to extend a caring hand to a friend. He said that he rarely gets to see what happens after people leave their custody and go about their lives. Sadly, he usually only sees them again if they find themselves in trouble. He said it was pretty amazing to see someone who was once so lost, turn their life around the way that I had.

Wow! I still get tears in my eyes when I reflect on this. That officer did not have to take time out of his day to go speak with my parents, but he did. I am forever grateful to him for doing this. Because of his kind gesture, I started to realize that I had changed. It made me want to continue working even harder to be a better person.

To this day, I do not remember that officer's name, but I remember how he made me feel. If I ever get the chance to see him again, I will be sure to do two things:

- 1. Apologize for being so disrespectful to him when he found me. He was simply trying to protect me from myself.
- 2. Thank him for seeing me as a sick person, not a bad person, and for recognizing the positive changes I had made to improve my life. I have grown so much since that day. The gifts of recovery are some of the most beautiful gifts I have ever received. Today, I can honestly say that I feel my Higher Power working in my life every single day. I have continued to change daily since I started this journey. Some change is uncomfortable, and along with it comes countless tears and fears, but I have friends who I can share those things with today. Some change is overwhelmingly beautiful.

When I came into the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, I was an absent mother, my husband had filed for divorce and I was up to my eyeballs in legal consequences. Today, my life has been restored. I am a loving mother who participates daily in her daughter's life. By

the grace of God, I am still a wife who has a new appreciation for her husband. I am a socially acceptable, productive and lawabiding citizen who accepted the consequences of her actions with humility and grace. And most importantly, I am alive. And I don't just mean alive in just a general sense of the word- that my heart is still beating, and I am breathing oxygen. I mean really alive! I enjoy life, I laugh, I play, and I have hope.

Don't ever give up before the miracle happens. And if you've tried and didn't succeed like I did, just know that your Higher Power is telling you that is not how your story is going to end.

Keep coming back. It gets better. Then it gets great. And then it gets beautiful.

Reprinted with permission AA Grapevine, Inc.

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS GROUP CLOSED AA MEETING SATURDAY NIGHT BIG BOOK STUDY

BEGINS AT 7:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING ID - 892 9232 8326

PASSCODE - 440706

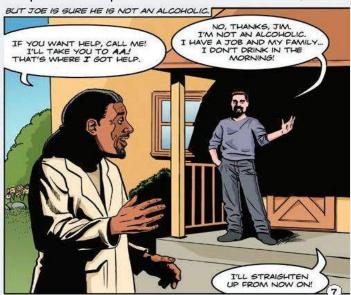
BRING YOUR BIG BOOK

JOIN US AS WE READ THROUGH THE FIRST 164 PAGES IN THE BIG BOOK OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

It Happened To Joe, page 9



Reprinted with permission AA World Services, Inc.



Alcoholics Anonymous Monday Night Action Group



Virtual -

34th Anniversary Meeting (Open)

February 20, 2021 Saturday - 8:00 pm

Speaker – Teresa O'

Join us \(\begin{aligned} \text{wia 'Zoom'} \end{aligned} \)

MEETING ID #: 9065125885

Password # 545454

Price - \$0

Personal \$\$\$ contributions appreciated to support "Milwaukee Central Office"

- Online @ www.aamilwaukee.com
- Call @ 414-771-9119
 - o Open: M-F 9:00am 4:30pm
 - o Open: Sat 9:00am 12:00pm



DISTRICT 34 OPEN SPEAKER MEETING

Location: CURRENTLY ZOOM ONLY

(St. Francis Episcopal Church N84W16525 Menomonee Ave. Menomonee Falls, WI 53051)

Hosting Group / Speakers

Zoom Room/Doors open at 6:30 Meeting at 7:00pm

Jan. 9th, 2021 Meno. Falls Sunday Night Stephanie S. (AA) Laurie (Alanon)

IMPORTANT COVID 19 NOTICE

Until further notice, the Open Meeting will take place via Zoom. The open meeting chairs will continue to communicate with St. Francis and monitor local and state guidelines to determine when the meeting can take place in person again. Please check aamilwaukee.com → Meeting Directory for updated meeting information.

Feb. 13th, 2021 Simply Sober (Saturday) Mike B. (AA)

ZOOM ID #687 010 9941

Mar. 13th, 2021 Monday Night Action Destiny B. (AA)

Password: 343434

Consider supporting the "District 34* Open Meeting" in one of the following ways:

- Share your group message by sponsoring the Open Speaker Meeting
- Contact your group GSR to volunteer
- Attend the District 34 meeting (1st Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm, NW Alano Club)
- Get in touch with the Open Meeting Co-Chairs, Ashley M. (715-685-4141) or Tim R. (262-719-4389)



*District 34 is the Northeast corner of Waukesha County

...our primary purpose is to carry the message..."



Open Zoom Meeting

Friday Night Couples in Recovery Friday, February 12th, 2021

Fellowship 6:45 to 7:00 pm Bring coffee and refreshments with you.



Introduction and Speakers: 7:00 to 8:30

AA Speaker: Meredith Y. of Shorewood, WI

Al-Anon Speaker: Kathy K. of New Berlin, WI

ZOOM Information:

Join Zoom Meeting

ZOOM MEETING ID #: 820 3378 1370

Meeting ID: 820 3378 1370

Passcode: 354009 One tap mobile

+13126266799,,82033781370#,,,,*354009# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 820 3378 1370

Passcode: 354009

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcb2u5l6yz

This meeting will be limited to 100 participants.

We usually meet at St. Pius Church Fridays @ 7:30 pm in Wauwatosa and hope to see you there in the future.

The A.A. Service Manual

A Study Of The First 12 Chapters

UNLOCK THE MYSTERY







Thursdays Jan 7- Feb 11

Zoom ID: 837 3047 2616

Passcode 462942



p70a12delegate@gmail.com area28delegate@gmail.com a29p70delegate@gmail.com

A.A.s Legacy & Introduction

Terry H.~ Nikki O.~ Cynthia T.
Panel 70 Delegates
12, 28 & 29

The Group and its GSR

Deb D. Past Delegate Area 48

The District and the DCM

Billy N. Past General Service Trustee

The Area Assembly and Activities

Monica F. Panel 71 Area 19 Delegate

The Area Committee

Lori M. Area 29 Chair

The Delegate

Bob W. Past Trustee At Large

The Annual Conference Meeting

Elaine McDowell, Trustee Emeritus, GSB

Conference Committees

Mary C. GSO Staff

The General Service Board

J. Gary L. Past N.E. Past Regional Trustee

The Boards Operating Corporations

Jimmy D. S.W. Regional Trustee

The General Service Office

Phyllis H. Past GM GSO

The AA Grapevine

Cindy F.

Past Delegate Area 71

Current Non-Trustee Director Grapevine

Board

Join us in this collaborative rendition of unlocking the mystery of The A.A. Service Manual.

Areas 12, 28 & 29 are pleased to invite you to join us on Thursday evenings from 7 pm – 8:30 pm (ET)

Beginning January 7 – February 11 2021

Come be part of the informative presentations and lively discussion

March 2016

Endless Drunkalogs

One member would rather hear about the Steps we worked to recover than the steps we tumbled down

The book Alcoholics Anonymous, in "How It Works," states that "our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened and what we are like now." I don't remember reading: "We talk endlessly about our drunken escapades, with particular emphasis on humorous anecdotes involving forged identity cards, fancy drinks with little umbrellas, or how many times we've vomited in a 24-hour period."

These thoughts were prompted by my experience at a recent AA meeting. Both speakers gave half-hour drunkalogs. The first one promised that he would get to the "AA part" in the second half, but he never did because the second speaker used up the remaining time. Speaker two devoted about two minutes at the end of his drunkalog to the general assertion that once he "got into AA" his life "got better." Neither speaker mentioned working the Twelve Steps, yet both claimed long-term sobriety. Neither spoke about a Higher Power, a design for living, the benefits of sponsorship or service to others. Spiritual awakening? Nope. Nothing. Yet presumably, hopefully, they knew something about these things.

I found myself becoming increasingly restless, irritable and discontented as they spoke. I listened in vain for a hint of the tremendous power that the AA program—if it's worked—provides. It brought to mind my third grade math class. A large clock with a second hand hung on the wall in front of me. I could smell the starch of the nun's habit. I watched closely as the chalk in her hand screeched across the blackboard, but I tuned out the lesson. I was intent on an anticipated reward (recess). While that recess in fact came, the reward of this hour long AA meeting did not. Why am I sitting here?

Why does the Big Book say that our stories should disclose our experience in a general way? Did the first 100 alcoholics want us to share specifics of how many cars, marriages, families and houses we've wrecked, or how many jobs we've lost? And if so, should it take 20 minutes, 30 minutes—an hour? The book's statement would suggest that equal time be given to the other two parts: what happened and what I'm like today. To be sure, on a classic Twelfth Step call, such details might help a newcomer identify with me—but in moderation, no doubt. The Big Book also suggests: "Tell him enough about your drinking habits, symptoms and experiences to encourage him to speak of himself. ... If he is not communicative, give him a sketch of your drinking career up until the time you quit."

So even with a "newbie," we give him only a sketch, not the whole museum. And an AA meeting is no different. Let's assume that 90 percent of those attending an AA speaker meeting acknowledge that they are alcoholics, and further, that they've heard drunkalogs before. Their identification as alcoholics is accomplished. Presumably most want to hear a mes-

sage of hope and recovery (as opposed to just drinking coffee or looking for a date.) Let's assume 10 percent are newcomers, either still drinking or counting days. Yes, a drunkalog may help them identify with the speaker, but how much detail is realistically necessary? What differentiates an AA speaker from a still active drunk? Both have war stories galore. But shouldn't an experienced AA bring more to the table?

Advice from a 1940s "Speakers Manual" from the Friday AA meeting at the Mayflower Hotel in Akron, Ohio, still rings true:

"Your audience knows you're an alcoholic and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. Your presence at the platform is proof of that—except in a few rare occasions when the speaker may be a nonalcoholic, and will be introduced as such. Consequently, it's ridiculous to 'qualify' yourself. It may be necessary to give some of your drinking history to illustrate what obstacles you had to overcome to become a practicing AA. But keep it to a bare minimum. Avoid as you would the plague a blow-byblow account of your drinking days and experiences. A recitation of drinking experiences has a definite place in the AA program. It establishes a bond between the AA and the man who may someday be a member. It helps convince the new man that he's not the only one in the world who has a problem. So your drinking story is valuable when you call on the prospect in his home, in jail, or in a hospital. But at a meeting the audience is more interested in what you have done to keep sober. Draw on your drinking experiences to illustrate points and make an end of it. 'How I keep sober' should be the topic of every AA

A great spiritual teacher once noted that you don't put your lamp under a basket. You put it on top of a table, where it can give light to everyone in the room. Our Foreward to the Big Book's First Edition states, "To show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of this book." How often do speakers talk about that? We have "a design for living that really works." Why aren't we shouting that from the rooftops?

People coming into AA already know how to drink and screw up their lives. They are knee-deep in the problem. They want a solution. But the solution is extremely elusive for someone shaking, scared and alone. We even have our own language that puzzles the newcomer. The Big Book can sound like Greek without a knowledgeable AA to walk the new member through it.

So let's remember that we carry great news, the Great Reality, a solution that every day saves seemingly hopeless lives. But only when alcoholics hear it! Let's not hide it under the bushel basket of our drunken antics. It's the Steps we worked to recover—not the steps we tumbled down—that saved our lives, and can save others' too.

-Rich N., Montville, N.J.

Reprinted with permission of AA Grapevine, Inc