

All Phone numbers have been changed to the Intergroup Office Number.

# THE BEACON

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### Deadline....

.....for information to go into the April issue of The Beacon is March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Information can be sent to :

Worcester Area Intergroup  
100 Grove St., Suite 309  
Worcester, MA 01605  
or e-mailed to:  
BRANDYLH1@yahoo.com (please use the word "beacon" in the subject line)

## TRADITION THREE

**The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.**

From The traditions Checklist:

1. In my mind, do I pre-judge some new AA members as losers?

2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?

3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?

4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?

5. Am I overimpressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a

clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?

6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does

for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he has been to AA before? What his other problems are?

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## STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairperson – Brandy H.  
Vice Chair – Enzo H.  
Secretary – Christine T.  
Treasurer – Rose Ann C.  
Assistant Treasurer – Ron C.  
Trustees - Peg B., Kimball M., Kate G., Joanne O.

If you need to speak to any of these people, you can leave a message at the Intergroup Office, 752-9000, and the staff will be happy to ask them to return your call.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*attend.*

(508) 752-9000.

**March 23-25, 2001** – the Rhode Island Convention will be held at the Hotel Viking in Newport, RI. Contact Dave P. (508) 752-9000 [DPCETC@aol.com](mailto:DPCETC@aol.com) for registration information or visit their website at [www.rhodeisland-aa.org/ricc](http://www.rhodeisland-aa.org/ricc)

**March 23-25, 2001** - Pockets of Enthusiasm will be held at the SeaCrest Resort, Old Silver Beach in North Falmouth, MA. For more information call Maggie C. at (508) 752-9000

**April 1, 2001** – Area 30 Pre-Conference Assembly will be held at St. Edwards Church in Brockton, MA. Hosted by District 6, registration begins at 9am and Assemble continues until 4pm. *All GSR's, DCM's, Area Officers & Alternates and Committee Chairs & Alternates are responsible to attend. All interested AA's are encouraged to*

**April 20-22, 2001** – First annual International AA Men's Conference "Arch to Freedom" will be held in St. Louis, MO. For more information call Bill W. at (508) 752-9000

**April 21-22, 2001** – Cape Cod Intergroup presents their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Spring Into Sobriety AA Roundup on Cape Cod. For more information and registration call Cape Cod Intergroup at

**April 27-29, 2001** – Vermont AA Convention 2001 will be held at the Clarion Hotel in Burlington, VT. For more info call Rita at (508) 752-9000

**June 8-10, 2001** – Western Mass Young People's Conference Committee presents "2001 A Young People's Odyssey & Founders Day Weekend Campout. It will be held at the Horace A. Moses Boy Scout Reservation in Woronoco, MA. For more info please write to WMYPCC, PO BOX 1037, Holyoke, MA 01041.



Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him.*

## SPECIAL NEEDS

Deaf AA members requiring interpreters for AA meetings can call Paul Hostovsky at (508) 752-9000 or e-mail at [Paul.Hostovsky@state.ma.us](mailto:Paul.Hostovsky@state.ma.us)

There is also a number to call for an update of meeting in the Boston Area that are interpreted, the



number is (508) 752-9000 and this list of meetings is updated every Friday.

Large print Meeting Lists are now available for those with vision problems. Call the Intergroup Office to find out how to get a copy for yourself or someone you know!!

# HELP WANTED: WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

**H.A.L.T.line** is looking for volunteers to answer the phone from their homes when the office is closed. Currently, there is only **ONE** hour in the week left to fill. If you can give, even an hour a week, please call the Intergroup Office.

**Treatment Facilities** is happy to welcome a new Chairperson and needs groups to fill the new commitments that are coming up. If you can help, please call at the Intergroup Office.

**Corrections Facilities** is looking for people to get involved. Please contact the Intergroup Office for more details. (508) 752-9000.

Several of our Intergroup and District Committees are in need of help. If you have one day a month you could devote to helping out on a Committee, please ask your Intergroup Delegate, GSR or call the Intergroup Office for more information.

## Support Needed!!!

Worcester Friendly Big Book is in need of support. They meet on Saturday mornings from 10-11:30am at 36 Wall St. in Worcester.

## Addresses needed!!

We still have several groups in this area that we do not have contact information for. The contact person would receive The Beacon to bring to their groups. To find out if we have your group contact, please call Brandy at [redacted]



**Need more copies of The Beacon?** Visit Worcester Area Intergroup or come to the Intergroup Delegates Meeting and pick up more. You can have the convenience of having The Beacon delivered to you!! Just \$5 will give you a one year subscription mailed to your home. See back page for subscription form or pick up forms at the Intergroup Office.

## PLEA FOR HELP

The Intergroup Office reports that there is a huge need for 12-Step volunteers. There just aren't enough to cover the whole area and we need for the hand of AA to be there to welcome newcomers and talk to people who just aren't sure AA is for them. There is a form in

this issue to fill out if you are interested. It could involve anything from visiting a wet drunk, to meeting someone at a meeting. Your level of involvement is completely up to you. Please help us help those who are still sick and suffering.



## ONLINE....

**Worcester Area Intergroup**  
<http://www.ultranet.com/~steps>

**Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Office**  
<http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org>

**Grapevine**  
<http://www.aagrapevine.org>

## KORTE'S CORNER

***“Selfishness-- self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles.”***

As long as I live, I'll never forget how I learned this lesson. I was absolutely miserable. I was about six months sober and a couple of months into writing my fourth step. I was busting my butt getting to as many meetings as I could and (most of the time) spending the amount of time my sponsor had instructed me to spend working on the fourth step each day. Still, I was restless, irritable and discontented to the max.

I sat in front of a liquor store in Medford for about five minutes, debating the prospect of getting drunk. I had little desire to drink, but great desire not to feel. I began to forget that the booze hadn't been able to shut my head off for a long while. I experienced the moment predicted in the big book where no power on earth would keep me from a drink. I knew alcohol didn't work for me any more, but what else could I do? I asked God to help me get the hell out of there. I went to a meeting, but couldn't talk to anyone.

Two days later, I asked a guy that I had always enjoyed listening to if I could call him that night. He had been through oral surgery on two wisdom teeth that day, but agreed to speak with me without a second thought.

I called Randy at about 8 o'clock. He was extremely nauseous and was experiencing intense pain from the surgery. Keeping this in mind, I only ranted for about forty minutes. I rambled on about how hard I was working at sobriety and all I was doing to get better. All my questions

were rhetorical, I wasn't really all that interested in his input, but was looking to vent. When fear crept in that he might actually try to get a word in edgewise, I spoke faster, being sure not to leave any gaps in my speech that he might feel were large enough for interjection.

After forty minutes of spewing alcoholism, I stopped, exhausted, and waited for answers. *“Now solve my problems,”* I thought.

*“What about the other guy?”* was all he said.

*“The other guy?”* I thought. *“Hasn't this dope been listening to me, I've got real problems here.”*

*“What other guy?”* I led in, then discharged five more minutes of venom.

Randy was enormously patient. *“All I'm hearing is me me me...selfishness--self-centeredness, that we think is the root of our troubles. Why don't you help somebody?”*

You'd think my response would have been one of anger, but somewhere a light flicked on. Here was a man that had been violently ill all day, yet was happy. He was feeling okay *inside*. I was in perfect health and wanted to blow my brains out. Suddenly, a couple of concepts my sponsor had tried to teach me became clear in my mind.

My purpose was to be of maximum service to God and those about me. I had said, *“yeah yeah yeah”* and pushed the idea aside, curious as to how I could possibly benefit from such a strategy. But now, it made perfect sense, and has become clearer as I have continued to work the steps.

My *“will”* (my thoughts and actions) as an alcoholic has a couple of characteristics strange to ordinary people. Firstly, I am self-centered in the extreme. Not *“bad”* or a *“jerk”*, just overly concerned with how everything

in the universe pertains to me. If a tree falls in the woods and no one is there to hear it, does it somehow affect MY LIFE? I never really grasped in step three that I was undertaking this program of recovery to be of use to God and those about me. I was focused on getting the pain and insanity to stop. I began writing my fourth step to feel better. While this philosophy was sufficient to get me going, it wasn't going to be enough to carry me through the process. I had to be rid of selfishness, or it would kill me.

As a result of practicing self-will to the best of my ability, doing the best I could to run my life and be happy, I wound up owing more money than I earned in a year. I was involved in nightmare relationships and unwanted pregnancies with people I never should have been with in the first place. I was miserable, usually depressed, and suicidal. I drank on a daily basis and used other things to alter my mood. One thing was clear--my way didn't work.

As I listened to Randy, I became aware that I didn't have the slightest clue what I needed to be happy. I only knew what I wanted, and those things had nearly destroyed me. Only a Higher Power could provide what I needed to be happy. I was shown that I needed to seek to be useful to others instead of how to make myself happy. Happiness was a side effect of recovery and could not be sought directly because of the nature of my disease.

This is a lesson I have had to learn over and over. Each time I feel myself getting resentful, or agitated, each time something is not going my way, I have to pause and ask God to remind me that based on my track record, I simply do not know what is best for me or anyone else.

After forty minutes of spewing alcoholism, I stopped, exhausted, and waited for answers. *“Now solve my problems”* I thought.

# BOOKIE BOARD

If you are the bookie for your home group and wish to have your number posted here, please call or write to the Intergroup Office. This is a great way to learn who the Bookies are for other groups and to get your number out to others!!

Upton Capertown:( Sat. 1:30pm)

Cindy S. (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Worcester): (Sat. 6:45pm)

Dayna (508) 752-9000

How It Works (Northboro): (Wed 8:00pm)

David C. (508) 752-9000

Hopedale Ray Of Hope: (Sun 10:30am)

Carol Y. or Ricky B. (508) 752-9000

4 Corners (Worcester): (Wed. 8:00pm)

John Y. (508) 752-9000

Way Of Sobriety (Worcester) (Sun 10:00am)

Debbie P. (508) 752-9000

Stow Sunday: (Sun. 11:00am)

Tom S. (508) 752-9000

Holden Thursday Night (Thurs. 8:30pm)

Gill B. (508) 752-9000

Starting Anew (Holliston) (Wed. 8:00pm)

Elaine K. (508) 752-9000

Sutton Center Step (Mon. 6:45pm) (Outgoing Only)

Deb W. (508) 752-9000

GOYA (Whitinsville) (Thurs. 8:00pm)

Mike H. (508) 752-9000

Marybeth N. (508) 752-9000

Worcester Young People (Tues. 7:30pm)

Tom B. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Straight Shooters (Thurs. 8:00pm)

Brian B. (508) 752-9000

Hudson Sunday Best (Sunday 7:30pm)

David B. (508) 752-9000

Millis Fellowship (Thurs. 8:00pm)

Bill G. (508) 752-9000

Douglas Maintenance and Repair (Thurs. 7-8pm)

Melissa A. (508) 752-9000

Top Of The Hill (Wed.

8:00pm)

Jeanne M. (508) 752-9000

Webster Joy of Living (Mon. 8:00pm)

Harry (508) 752-9000

Hudson Townline (Sat. 8:00pm)

Bob G. (508) 752-9000

Greendale Group (Worcester Fri. 8:30pm)

Paul H. (508) 752-9000

Putnam Young People's (Putnam, CT Fri. 8:00pm)

Keith K. (508) 752-9000

Northboro Sat. Morning (Sat. 10am)

Adam S. (508) 752-9000

Westboro Sunday Morning (Sunday 11-noon)

Jim L. (508) 752-9000

Seven AM Group (Saturday 7am)

Vi M. (508) 752-9000

Groton Easy Duz It (Tuesday 7:30pm)

Joe F. (508) 752-9000

Early Risers (Worcester Sun 10am)

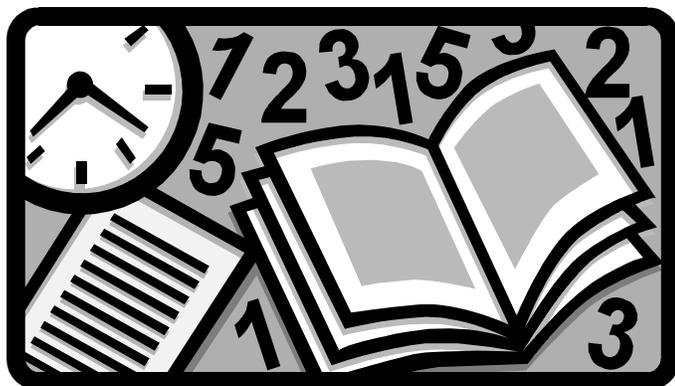
Dayle (508) 752-9000

Worcester Area Intergroup  
100 Grove St., Suite 309  
Worcester, MA 01605  
(508) 752-9000

<http://www.ultranet.com/~steps>

**Office Hours:**

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



# MEETING TIMELINE

## June 2000 to May 2001

*Here's a brief look at what the Intergroup Delegates will be doing this year. We'll keep this as updated as possible, but there may be slight changes and new items brought after publication.*

**March 8, 2001** – Nominations made for all officers and Committee Chairpersons

**April 12, 2001** - Elections

**May 10, 2001** – New signature cards for bank account signed



## Bookie Meeting

There will be a Bookie Exchange Meeting on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001 at the Intergroup Office, 100 Grove St., Suite 309, Worcester. The exchange will begin at 6:30pm and will be available until 7:45pm. Coffee and Munchies will be served. Come and fill up those blank spots!!!



## Group Anniversaries

If your Group would like to announce their Anniversary in The Beacon, please call the Intergroup Office during their normal business hours.

# MEETING CHANGES

Is your meeting changing time or location? Closing? New Meeting starting? Let us know!! Send the information to the Intergroup Office and it will go into The Beacon, the next update of the Meeting

List and updated on our web site!!

The **Seven AM Group** at AdCare Hospital has added another meeting on Saturday mornings (at 7 am, of course!). This is an Open Speaker Meeting.

**Happy Joyous and Free** (Mondays 7:30-9pm N.

Grafton) is now a Big Book Step Study Meeting.

**There Is Hope** (Sunday 10-11am) has moved to the Central Mass Shelter for Homeless Veterans.

**Way Of Sobriety** (Sunday 10-11am) has moved to Holy Name Central Catholic High School.

# SERVICE MEETINGS

## INTERGROUP

**Steering Committee**  
 St. Matthews Church  
 695 Southbridge St.  
 Worcester  
 2nd Thursday  
 6:15pm

**Intergroup Delegates**  
 St. Matthews Church  
 695 Southbridge St.  
 Worcester  
 2nd Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Public Information**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 2nd Monday  
 7:00pm

**Joint Treatment**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 TBA

**Corrections**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 TBA

**Social Committee**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 2nd Wednesday  
 7:00pm

**Beacon Committee**  
 Intergroup Office  
 100 Grove St. # 309  
 Worcester  
 Monday after Intergroup  
 Meeting  
 7:00pm

## DISTRICT

**District 25 (GSR's)**  
 St. Joan of Arc Church  
 570 Lincoln St.  
 Worcester  
 1st Tuesday  
 7:30pm

## AREA 30

**Eastern Mass. General  
 Service Committee**  
 St. John's  
 80 Mt. Auburn  
 Watertown  
 4th Wednesday  
 8:00pm

**Grapevine Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower  
 Level  
 Boston  
 4th Sunday  
 1:00pm-3:00pm

**CPC Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower  
 Level  
 Boston  
 2nd Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Joint Treatment Facilities**  
 St. Luke's  
 950 East St.  
 Dedham  
 3rd Friday  
 8:00pm

**Archives Committee**  
 St. John's  
 80 Mt. Auburn  
 Watertown  
 3rd Thursday  
 7:30pm



*I am responsible....*

**Literature Committee**  
 Carter Methodist Church  
 800 Highland Ave.  
 Needham  
 1st Monday  
 7:30pm

**Corrections Committee**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower  
 Level  
 Boston  
 4th Thursday  
 7:00pm

**Public Information**  
 Boston Central Service  
 368 Congress St. Lower  
 Level  
 Boston  
 1st Thursday  
 7:00pm

## ***Responsibility Declaration***

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

# The Beacon Subscription Form

Get The Beacon delivered right to your home!!

Please print neatly!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please bring this form, along with \$5.00 for a one year subscription to the Intergroup Office, or mail to:

Worcester Area Intergroup  
100 Grove Street Suite 309  
Worcester, MA 01605  
ATTN: Beacon

Checks may be made payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup

## 12 Step Volunteer Application

Name (First name and last initial): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Towns you will accept calls from: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hours that you are available: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to help: Males Only Females Only Both

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

Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to: (please circle all that apply)

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

Give rides to AA Meetings Give rides to Detox \*

Meet someone at a meeting Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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