



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 18 issue 11

November 2016

Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314
Worcester, MA 01605
(508) 752-9000
(508) 752-0755 (fax)
www.aaworcester.org

Office Hours:

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

The Office will be closed on Thursday, November 24, 2016 for Thanksgiving

The Beacon Staff :

(January 2016 to December 2016)

Editor:
Brandy H

Committee:
John H
Marc B

The opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does the publication of any article imply an endorsement by either A.A., general services nor Intergroup. Comments, questions and articles may be directed to The Beacon. All excerpts & Articles reprinted with permission from AAWS and/or The Grapevine.

Step 11

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God, as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere,
Reaches out for help, I want
The hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that, I am responsible.

Tradition Eleven

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion: we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

From the Traditions Checklist:

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around - even within the fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

Worcester Area Intergroup (WAI) accepts information regarding AA related events to be included on the website calendar. Let us know if you have an event you would like publicized.

Electronic format flyers accepted.

Please email information to the **Webmaster** at: webmaster@aaworcester.org



FROM THE EDITOR

DID YOU KNOW??
You can have a full color version of The Beacon emailed to you every month by sending an email to: Beacon@aaworcesterr.org and use **SUBSCRIBE** as the subject!!

The Faithful Fivers Club—AA members who donate \$5 or more a month on a regular basis to Worcester Area Intergroup! See form on this page...

THANK YOU to our Faithful Fivers: Tom E., John H., Brandy H., Brenda Mc.-T., Bill S., Stephen L., Ernie K., Ferne S.

WAI also accepts Anniversary Donations! It is suggested \$1 or \$2 for each year of Sobriety! See Page 2 for submission form or pick up donation envelopes at the WAI Office.

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!*

NOTICE—HELP NEEDED

Grafton Job Corps has contacted the Worcester Area Intergroup Public Information Committee in order to facilitate arranging for commitments to their program. The program consists of young men from 16-24 who need to hear the message of recovery. If your group is interested, please contact **pichair@aaworcesterr.org**
We call your attention to the Responsibility Declaration and the 5th Tradition of AA.

*"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."
Tradition 5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Worcester Area Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form

The Faith Fiver idea came about when we remembered that we wasted much more than five dollars each month during our drinking days.

"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

Bill W, Language of the Heart

YES, I want to help continue to carry our life-saving message of hope.

I will pay Annually(\$60) Quarterly(\$15) Monthly(\$5)

Here is my contribution of \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (in case of questions): _____

Please make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup

100 Grove St., Suite 314

Worcester, MA 01605

(508) 752-9000

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!

AA Events

NECYPAA XXVII—Sheraton Boston Hotel 12/30/2016—1/1/2017 necypaahost.org to register and book hotel room.

THANKSGIVING DAY ALKATHON—KofC, 110 S Main St, Garnder, MA Thursday, November 24th 7am-9pm.

LEOMINSTER`S OWN 2016 THANKSGIVING DAY MEETING MARATHON—November 24th 8am-9pm Unitarian Church, 15 West St., Leominster, MA.

PUTNAM UNITY GROUP 36TH ANNIVERSARY—Wed., Nov 9th United Methodist Church, 53 Grove St, Putnam, CT. 6pm-9pm.

AM I LISTENING GROUP 31ST ANNIVERSARY—Nov., 6th 6pm-9pm—Unitarian Church, 15 West St., Leominster, MA.

WAI Social Committee Escape Room Adventure! - Nov. 12th, 8pm-9pm—1 Exchange St. 3rd fl.—\$20 per person. Register by Oct. 31st. Text 508-277-0109

Elections for 2017 to be held!!

Worcester Area Intergroup will have Election of Officers and Appointment of Committee Chairpersons at their regular Delegates` Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2016. Please make sure your Group`s Delegate plans to attend!

Anniversary Donation

Name: _____

City/Home Group: _____

Sobriety Date: _____

Amt. Enclosed: _____

Please mail to:

**Worcester Are Intergroup
100 Grove St. Ste. 314
Worcester, MA 01605**

All Anniversaries submitted will be published the month following submission. Please contact the newsletter

Editor at beacon@aaworcester.org if an Anniversary has not been published for two months following submission.



Deadline....

.....for information to go into the November issue of The Beacon is October 15th, 2016. Information can be sent to :
Worcester Area Intergroup
 100 Grove St., Suite 309
 Worcester, MA 01605
 or e-mailed to:

Beacon@aaworcester.org

East Brookfield Noontime

meetings have changed format:

Monday—Open Big Book Discussion,

Wednesday—Open Topic discussion,

Friday—Open "Reflections" Discussion.

Meeting List Changes

FORMAT CHANGE

SPENCER FELLOWSHIP—Congregational Church, Rt.9, Spencer, MA—Mondays 7:30pm now **OPEN SPEAKER/DISCUSSION**

MOVED

SHREWSBURY MIDMORNING —Thursdays 10am **MOVED** to Trinity Episcopal Church 449 Main St., Shrewsbury, MA (closed speaker/discussion)

PASS IT ON—Sundays 6:45pm **MOVED** to Holy Rosary Church (off Regan St), Gardner, MA (open speaker)

SHREWSBURY SUNDAY MORNING— Veterans, Inc., 59 South St, Shrewsbury—Sundays 10am

TEMPORARILY MOVED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE to SAC Park 438 Lake St., Shrewsbury (open speaker)

MARLBOROUGH NEW LIFE - **MOVED** to Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 474 Lincoln St.

WEDNESDAY WOMENS 12 STEP—**MOVED** to 81 Plantation St.—entrance on Chrome St.—Worcester

TIME CHANGE

HAPPY JOYOUS & FREE—St. Andrews Church, N. Grafton—**TIME CHANGE**—to 7-8:30pm

HOW IT WORKS - Northboro, Wednesdays **TIME CHANGE** - to 7:30pm-8:30pm

FOUR CORNERS - Worcester, Wednesdays **TIME CHANGE** - to 7:30pm-8:45pm

GREENDALE GROUP - Friday nights—**TIME CHANGE**—to 7:30-8:30pm (beginning June 3rd)

REBOUND - Saturday nights—**TIME CHANGE**—to 8:30-9:30pm - **FORMAT CHANGE to Speaker/Discussion**

FITCHBURG FRIENDSHIP—205 Summer St., Fitchburg, MA—**TIME CHANGE**—to Monday Nights - 7:30-8:30pm **EFFECTIVE JULY 4TH**

ITS ABOUT TIME—1059 Main St. (Jeremiah`s Inn), Worcester—**DAY CHANGE**—to Friday Nights - 7:00-8:15pm

NEW

WOMEN`S DESTINY—Federated Church, Rt. 131, Sturbridge, MA—Fridays 5:00pm **NEW GROUP** (12 & 12 Open Women`s Meeting)

NORTHBORO LIVING SOBER— Church of The Nativity, Howard St. Northboro—Thursdays 7-8pm **NEW GROUP**— (Men`s Group)

SOBA SISTA`S—6 City Depot Rd., Charlton—Wednesdays 4-5pm—**NEW GROUP** (Women`s Discussion)

WOMEN`S WISDOM IN RECOVERY—Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Rd., Barre—Sundays 10-11am—**NEW GROUP** (Women`s Open Discussion)

CLINTON BB WORKSHOP—169 Chestnut, Clinton—Wednesdays 7-8pm—**NEW GROUP** (OBB)

THURSDAY OBB—28 Vernon St., Worcester—Thursdays 6:30-7:45pm—**NEW GROUP** (OBB)

12 STEP SISTERS—6 City Depot R., Charlton, MA—Tuesdays 6:00-7:00pm—**NEW GROUP** (Closed Women`s Step Meeting)

AA BEGINNERS Q&A —St. Stephen`s Church, 16 Hamilton St. Worcester, MA—Saturdays 9:00-9:30am—**NEW GROUP** (Open Beginners Meeting)

CLOSED

PRIMARY PURPOSE—60 West St., Leominster

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee* - 100 Grove St. , Worcester MA —6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - 100 Grove St. , Worcester MA —7:00pm

**The Intergroup meetings occur the second THURSDAY of each month.*

District 25 General Service Committee—St. Joan of Arc Church, Lincoln Street Worcester, Ma meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm

District 26 General Service Committee—Madonna of the Holy rosary Church Hall, 118 Theresa St., Fitchburg, Ma meets first Thursday of the month 7:00pm AA members welcome— please come join us!

AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee — Grace Vision Church
80 Mt. Auburn Watertown 4th Wednesday 8:00pm

Why does your group need an Intergroup Delegate?

The Worcester area Intergroup has no authority of it's own but derives it from the participating groups. The representative that each group elects is the groups voice to Intergroup—your link to those who maintain and operate the Intergroup Office.

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>
Chairperson	Tom E.	chair@aaworcester.org
Alt. Chair	Brandy H.	altchair@aaworcester.org
Secretary	Bob S.	secretary@aaworcester.org
Alt. Secretary	Karen McG.	
Treasurer	Mike D.	treasurer@aaworcester.org
Alt. Treasurer	Ellen McQ.	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org
Trustees	Bob L., Nicole L., Anne G., Barbara C.	
Office Manager	John H.	steps@aaworcester.org
Treatment Facilities	Open	treatment@aaworcester.org
Correctional Facilities	Wes M.	corrections@aaworcester.org
Halt Line	Dot B.	haltline@aaworcester.org
Social Committee	Ellen McQ.	social@aaworcester.org
Public Information	Bill S.	pichair@aaworcester.org
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org
Joint Alcathon Committee	Marc B.	
Beacon Editor	Brandy H.	beacon@aaworcester.org
Liaison to District 25	Nicole L.	
Liaison to District 26	Bob S.	
Liaison to Area 30	Open	

Subscription Form

Please fill out form, enclose your payment, and mail to:
 Worcester Area Intergroup ATTN: The Beacon
 100 Grove Street Suite 314
 Worcester Mass. 01605

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Subscriptions to The Beacon are \$10.00 per year to defray the cost of mailing.
 Additional donations from members are gratefully accepted.

Worcester Area Intergroup is a non-profit organization, dependent on members' contributions. Please make checks payable to Worcester Area Intergroup.

Worcester Area Intergroup could use support from the local A.A. Groups.

If your group has an excess amount in your treasury please consider making the pie chart split to help not only Worcester Intergroup but the other local A.A. entities and also A.A. World Services. If you are a group treasurer and need more information, feel free to call the office at 508-752-9000.

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

Ag^es I am willing to work with: Teens 20 to 30 30 to 40 40 to 50 50 to 60 Over 60

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

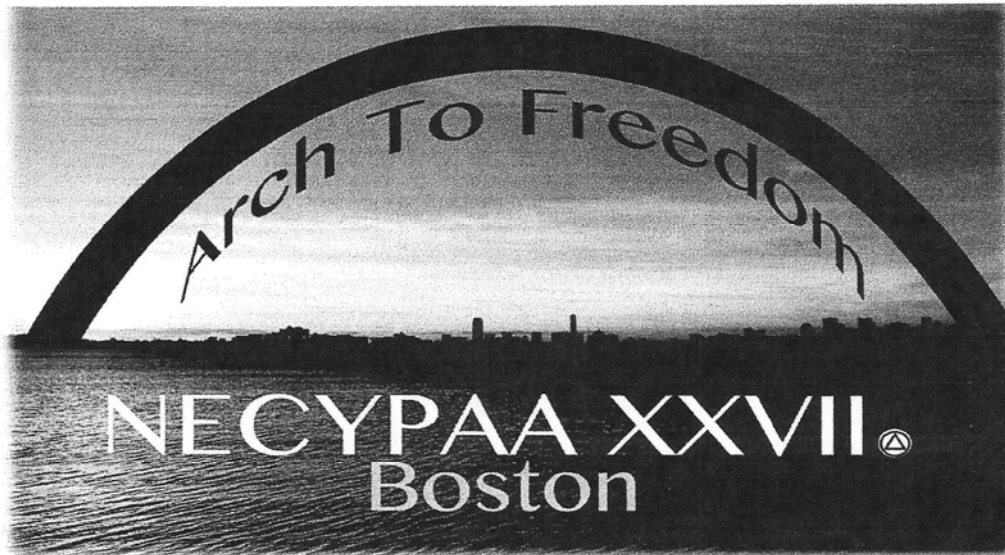
Talk to a person on the phone Go to a persons home to talk *

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.*

Please mail to: Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St. Suite 314
 Worcester, MA 01605



New England Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous

Sheraton Boston Hotel

Pre-Registration



39 Dalton Street
 Boston, MA, 02199
 1-888-627-7054

\$20

12.30.16 – 1.1.17

NECYPAA Room Rate Special \$149/Night

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____

Zipcode _____

Sobriety Date _____

- Would you like to help outreach in your area? Yes No
- Would you like to be of service at the conference? Yes No
- Will you be buying a T-Shirt at the conference? Yes No
- Do you need a partial or full scholarship? Yes No
- Are you under the age of 21? Yes No
- Would you like to make a donation to NECYPAA? Yes No Amount _____
- Would you like to be added to our mailing list? Yes No
- What would you like to see at NECYPAA? _____
- Do you have any special needs? Yes No Please specify _____

Will you require Spanish translation at the conference? Yes No

Will an ASL interpreter be helpful for your conference experience? Yes No

Make checks payable to NECYPAA

To register online & to book hotel room go to:

PO Box 714
 208 Main Street
 Norfolk, MA 02056

www.necypaahost.org



Worcester Area Intergroup Social committee event

Escape Room Adventure!

We will be locked in a room for one hour, given clues and need to find a way out. The first team out wins. I have reserved the whole facility for our event.

Come along with us, we are not a glum lot.

1 Exchange Street 3rd Floor --- Our entrance is on Commercial St, Worcester, Massachusetts 01608 ([view map](#))

Phone : 508-753-1856

<http://LiveActionEscapes.com> PuzzleMaster@liveactionescapes.com



Saturday November 12th, 2016 8:00Pm – 9pm

\$20.00 per person (scholarships are available)

Please reserve your spot by:

Monday October 31st call or text 508-277-0109



LEOMINSTER'S OWN 2016

THANKSGIVING DAY
MEETING MARATHON

NOV. 24TH 8AM – 9PM UNITARIAN CHURCH, 15 WEST ST.



DON'T BE ALONE. JOIN US AND BE GRATEFUL!

9 HRS. OF MEETINGS, FELLOWSHIP

AND GOOD FOOD!

HOSTED BY FRIENDS OF BOTH BILL AND BOB

THANKSGIVING DAY

ALKATHON

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
District 26



Thursday, November 24th, 2016 from 7 AM to 9 PM
K of C, 110 S Main St · Gardner · MA



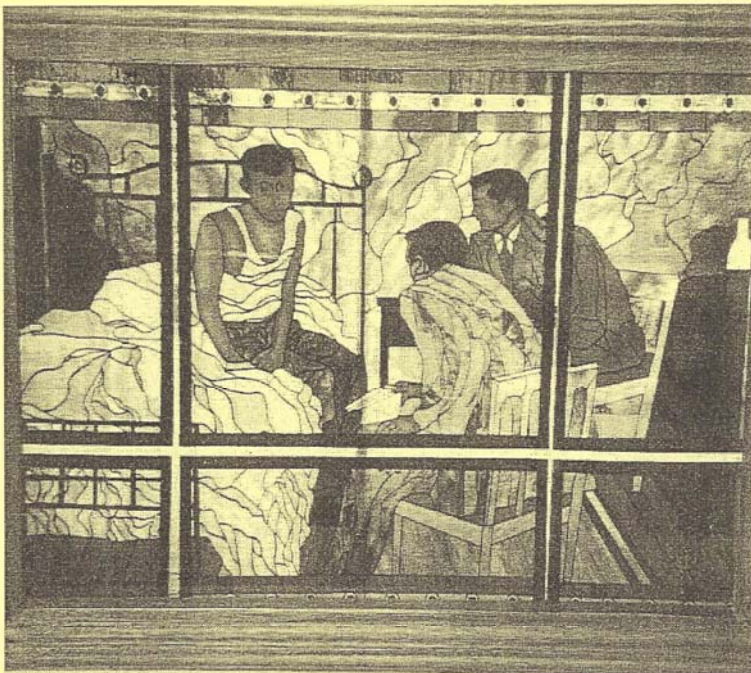
Hosted by our Activities Committee
For more information Contact Rob S. (978) 353-9204 or Karen M (978) 496-0500

Join in Fellowship, Gratitude and Recovery at our All Day Marathon of Meetings from 7 am to 9 pm. Don't be alone on Thanksgiving Day. Be with us! Food and book donations very much welcome.



AM I LISTENING GROUP'S
31st ANNIVERSARY!

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US!



NOVEMBER 6th
2016

Unitarian Church
15 West Street –
Leominster

Coffee 6:00-6:30
Food 6:30-7:30
Meeting 7:30-9:00

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

GUEST SPEAKERS

RAFFLES

Food and book donations welcome!



Area 30

Alcoholics Anonymous
General Service Committee
of Eastern Massachusetts



67th General Service Conference Theme: "Supporting Our Future".

Election Assembly Hosted by Spanish District Sunday, November 6, 2016

9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Somerville City Club

20 Inner Belt Road, Somerville, MA 02143

- 9:00a.m. – 10:00a.m. Registration
- 9:15a.m. – 9:45a.m. Third Legacy Procedure Orientation
- 10:00a.m. – Noon Elections
- Noon – 1:00p.m. Lunch
- 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m. Elections Continues

From Rte 93 North: Exit 28 (Rte 99/Sullivan Square). Turn left onto Cambridge St which soon becomes Washington St. Turn left onto Inner Belt Rd.

From Rte 93 South: Exit 28 (Rte 99/Sullivan Square). Slight left on Mystic Ave. Take ramp toward Boston/Sullivan Sq. Slight left onto Broadway which becomes Maffa Way. Slight right onto Cambridge St which soon becomes Washington St. Turn left onto Inner Belt Rd.

Mass Transit: Sullivan Square T stop (Orange Line) is 0.5 mile away. Several bus routes run from Sullivan Square and from the Lechmere T stop (Green line).

Landmark: Boston-Somerville Holiday Inn on Washington St.

For more info: Roberto A. – 781-706-1629 Steven D. – 781-856-2796

**All GSRs, DCMs, Area 30 Officers, Committee Chairs, and Alternates are responsible to attend.
All interested AAs are welcome and encouraged to attend!**

The Putnam Unity Group of
Alcoholics Anonymous is Celebrating
36 Years of Sobriety!!!

COME HELP US CELEBRATE!!

Wednesday, November 9th, 2016

at the United Methodist Church,
53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT

Raffles, Food and Good Company
will be enjoyed by all!!

Food and Fellowship Starting at 6:00
Guest Speakers from 7:30 to 9:00

All food donations are most welcome!

2016 Alcathons

Sponsored by District 25 and Worcester
Area Intergroup

All Alcathons Will Be Held At St. John's
Church
44 Temple St.
Worcester, MA

2016 Thanksgiving Alkacathon Slots

1 Wednesday 11/23	12pm-1pm	Worcester 7am Group
2 Wednesday 11/23	1pm-2pm	
3 Wednesday 11/23	2pm-3pm	Wednesday Big Book Step
4 Wednesday 11/23	3pm-4pm	NECYPAA
5 Wednesday 11/23	4pm-5pm	Worcester Grendale Group
6 Wednesday 11/23	5pm-6pm	Worcester Gratitude
7 Wednesday 11/23	6pm-7pm	Webster Early Risers
8 Wednesday 11/23	7pm-8pm	Worcester 4 Corners
9 Wednesday 11/23	8pm-9pm	Worcester Seven Hills
10 Wednesday 11/23	9pm-10pm	Northboro Saturday Morning
11 Wednesday 11/23	10pm-11pm	Worcester Fellowship
12 Wednesday 11/23	11pm-12am	Worcester Main South Sobriety
13 Thursday 11/24	12am-1am	Upton Spirit
14 Thursday 11/24	1am-2am	
15 Thursday 11/24	2am-3am	N. BrookfieldSunset Group
16 Thursday 11/24	3am-4am	
17 Thursday 11/24	4am-5am	Key To Freedom
18 Thursday 11/24	5am-6am	Worcester Daily Choice
19 Thursday 11/24	6am-7am	Worcester Serenity
20 Thursday 11/24	7am-8am	Worcester Way Out Group
21 Thursday 11/24	8am-9am	Worcester Way of Sobriety
22 Thursday 11/24	9am-10am	Worcester Hi-Noon
23 Thursday 11/24	10am-11am	Holden
24 Thursday 11/24	11am-12pm	Naquag Firewater
25 Thursday 11/24	12pm-1pm	Worcester People Helping People
26 Thursday 11/24	1pm-2pm	Worcester MidDay
27 Thursday 11/24	2pm-3pm	Worcester Saturday Morning BigBook Step
28 Thursday 11/24	3pm-4pm	Westboro Forge
29 Thursday 11/24	4pm-5pm	Hudson Second Chance
30 Thursday 11/24	5pm-6pm	Worcester Young People
31 Thursday 11/24	6pm-7pm	Shrewsbury Eternal Vigilance
32 Thursday 11/24	7pm-8pm	Shrewsbury Gratitude
33 Thursday 11/24	8pm-9pm	As Bill Sees it
34 Thursday 11/24	9pm-10pm	It All Starts Here
35 Thursday 11/24	10pm-11pm	Webster Triton
36 Thursday 11/24	11pm-12am	Worcester Quinsig Group

2016 Christmas Alcathon Slots

1 Saturday 12/24	12pm-1pm	Worcester 7 am Group
2 Saturday 12/24	1pm-2pm	Worcester Four Corners
3 Saturday 12/24	2pm-3pm	Worcester Daily Reflections
4 Saturday 12/24	3pm-4pm	Worcester Young People
5 Saturday 12/24	4pm-5pm	Worcester Quinsig Group
6 Saturday 12/24	5pm-6pm	
7 Saturday 12/24	6pm-7pm	Hudson Second Chance
8 Saturday 12/24	7pm-8pm	Worcester Way of Sobriety
9 Saturday 12/24	8pm-9pm	Worcester Midday
10 Saturday 12/24	9pm-10pm	Worcester Gratitude
11 Saturday 12/24	10pm-11pm	Worcester It All Starts Here
12 Saturday 12/24	11pm-12am	Mian South Sobriety
13 Sunday 12/25	12am-1am	Worcester Hi-Noon
14 Sunday 12/25	1am-2am	Naquag Firewater
15 Sunday 12/25	2am-3am	Westboro Forge
16 Sunday 12/25	3am-4am	
17 Sunday 12/25	4am-5am	Happy, Joyous & Free
18 Sunday 12/25	5am-6am	
19 Sunday 12/25	6am-7am	Webster Triton
20 Sunday 12/25	7am-8am	Northboro Saturday Morning
21 Sunday 12/25	8am-9am	Worcester 7am Group
22 Sunday 12/25	9am-10am	Worcester Seven Hills
23 Sunday 12/25	10am-11am	N. Brookfield Sunset Group
24 Sunday 12/25	11am-12pm	
25 Sunday 12/25	12pm-1pm	Webster Early Risers
26 Sunday 12/25	1pm-2pm	
27 Sunday 12/25	2pm-3pm	Shrewsbury Sunday Morning
28 Sunday 12/25	3pm-4pm	NECYPAA
29 Sunday 12/25	4pm-5pm	Holden
30 Sunday 12/25	5pm-6pm	Worcester Daily Choice
31 Sunday 12/25	6pm-7pm	Shrewsbury Eternal Vigilance
32 Sunday 12/25	7pm-8pm	Worcester Greendale Group
33 Sunday 12/25	8pm-9pm	Grafton Easy Does It
34 Sunday 12/25	9pm-10pm	Shrewsbury Gratitude
35 Sunday 12/25	10pm-11pm	As Bill Sees it
36 Sunday 12/25	11pm-12am	Worcester The Way Out

2016 New Years Alcathon Slots

1 Saturday 12/31	12pm-1pm	Westboro Forge
2 Saturday 12/31	1pm-2pm	
3 Saturday 12/31	2pm-3pm	Worcester Seven Hills
4 Saturday 12/31	3pm-4pm	Worcester Greendale Group
5 Saturday 12/31	4pm-5pm	Upton Spirit
6 Saturday 12/31	5pm-6pm	
7 Saturday 12/31	6pm-7pm	Way Of Sobriety
8 Saturday 12/31	7pm-8pm	
9 Saturday 12/31	8pm-9pm	Holden
10 Saturday 12/31	9pm-10pm	Worcester Gratitude
11 Saturday 12/31	10pm-11pm	Worcester People Helping People
12 Saturday 12/31	11pm-12am	
13 Sunday 01/01	12am-1am	Worcester Wednesday BigBook Step Study
14 Sunday 01/01	1am-2am	Shrewsbury Gratitude
15 Sunday 01/01	2am-3am	Millbury Traditions
16 Sunday 01/01	3am-4am	
17 Sunday 01/01	4am-5am	worcester Saturday Morning BigBook Step Study
18 Sunday 01/01	5am-6am	
19 Sunday 01/01	6am-7am	Worcester Mid Day
20 Sunday 01/01	7am-8am	
21 Sunday 01/01	8am-9am	Webster Early Risers
22 Sunday 01/01	9am-10am	Worcester Daily Choice
23 Sunday 01/01	10am-11am	Worcester Serenity
24 Sunday 01/01	11am-12pm	Worcester Main South Sobriety
25 Sunday 01/01	12pm-1pm	Worcester Hi-Noon Group
26 Sunday 01/01	1pm-2pm	Worcester Fellowship Group
27 Sunday 01/01	2pm-3pm	Worcester Quinsig Group
28 Sunday 01/01	3pm-4pm	Worcester Four Corners
29 Sunday 01/01	4pm-5pm	Shrewsbury Eternal Vigilance
30 Sunday 01/01	5pm-6pm	Worcester The Way Out Group
31 Sunday 01/01	6pm-7pm	Worcester Happy,Joyous & Free
32 Sunday 01/01	7pm-8pm	Worcester Young People
33 Sunday 01/01	8pm-9pm	As Bill Sees It
34 Sunday 01/01	9pm-10pm	It All Starts Here
35 Sunday 01/01	10pm-11pm	Northboro Saturday Morning
36 Sunday 01/01	11pm-12am	Naquag Firewater

Anonymity, the Internet and Social Media

(Reprinted excerpts from MG-18, AA Guidelines-Internet)

GUARDING ANONYMITY ONLINE

Modern communication in A.A. is flowing from one alcoholic to another in ways that are high-tech, relatively open-ended and evolving quickly. Protecting anonymity is a major concern for members, who are accessing the Internet in ever-growing numbers. When we use digital media, we are responsible for our own anonymity and that of others. When we post, text, or blog, we should assume that we are publishing at the public level. When we break our anonymity in these forums, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others.

ANONYMITY AND EMAIL

Electronic mail is a widely used and accepted method of communication. It is now used regularly as a service tool in A.A., but as with any service, we need to ensure the Fellowship's Traditions are maintained while still receiving the most benefit from this form of communication.

When using email it is necessary to consider the anonymity of the recipients of messages. Sending messages to multiple recipients that disclose the email addresses of everyone on the addressee list is a potential break of someone else's anonymity. Therefore, it is a good idea to obtain a recipient's explicit permission before using his or her email address for A.A. correspondence, especially if it is a workplace email address. When sending A.A. mail to multiple recipients who wish to remain anonymous, use can be made of the BCC (Blind Courtesy Copy) option available on most computers.

GENERAL SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

Facebook and other social networking websites are public in nature. Though users create accounts and utilize usernames and passwords, once on the site, it is a public medium where A.A. members and nonA.A.s mingle. As long as individuals do not identify themselves as A.A. members, there is no conflict of interest. However, someone using their full name and/or a likeness, such as a full-face photograph, would be contrary to the spirit of the Eleventh Tradition, which states in the Long Form that, "... our [last] names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed." Experience suggests that it is in keeping with the Eleventh Tradition not to disclose A.A. membership on social networking sites as well as on any

other website, blog, electronic bulletin board, etc., that is not composed solely of A.A. members and not password protected, or is accessible to the public. Websites social networking offer individuals the chance to post a great deal of personal information about themselves (and others). Our experience suggests that some A.A. members do not post anything that is "A.A. jargon" on their personal profiles and in "status updates," while others feel it is alright to do so as long as A.A. or Alcoholics Anonymous specifically is not mentioned. These websites often allow users to create social networking "groups" and the ability to invite others to "events" for like-minded individuals. Some A.A.s have chosen to create A.A.-related groups. Since this is a relatively new medium, A.A. members are frequently "learning as they go," and technology and applications change practically on a daily basis.

Our experience has shown that the evolving nature of social networking platforms makes it difficult to provide specific guidelines for using such resources for A.A. purposes. Any A.A. group or member that is thinking about entering this public arena should closely consider the privacy policies of such sites, in light of A.A.'s tradition of anonymity. For example, social networking sites often provide full names and pictures of group members, contrary to A.A.'s practice of avoiding such disclosures in public media. Even "closed" or "private" groups might still reveal an

individual's identity. Being well-informed prior to joining or starting such a group is the key to protecting your own anonymity, and that of others. G.S.O. has received numerous complaints from concerned A.A. members regarding anonymity breaks online, inappropriate use of the A.A. name, and copyrighted materials and protected trademarks being improperly used on Facebook and other social networking websites. No local online A.A. or non-A.A. entity should purport itself to be a spokesperson for A.A. or act as if they represent the General Service Office, A.A.W.S., or the General Service Board. Each A.A. entity is autonomous and encouraged to make decisions by informed group conscience decision in light of the guidance provided in our Twelve Traditions. A.A. members sometimes contact G.S.O. for suggestions on how to remain within the Traditions on Facebook and other social networking websites. Keep in mind that G.S.O. staff members are not "special workers" of the "technological wizards" variety, but they can act as a resource regarding A.A.'s Twelve Traditions and the shared experience of the Fellowship in the U.S. and Canada. How A.A.'s spiritual principles play out in new technologies needs to be carefully discussed by each A.A. individual or entity creating an online presence.

This information has been distributed by the Public Information Committee of the Worcester Area Intergroup to help AA's understand anonymity issues regarding the use of social media. Questions or concerns may be addressed to the Worcester Area Intergroup office by emailing: pichair@aaWORCESTER.org.