



The Beacon

Worcester Area Intergroup Newsletter

Volume 20 issue 8

August 2018

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 Beacon Staff

1/2018 – 12/2018

- Editor: John McI
beacon@aaworcester.org

- Office Manager:
Brandy H.
officemanager@aaworcester.org

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*

EVENTS!

Game Night and Pot Luck—Friday August 10th



- Pot Luck dinner at 6pm; A.A. Meeting at 7pm, **Board Games at 8pm.**
- Trinity Church, 23 Main St., Northborough.
- Come for all or part of Game Night!
- More info—Emily D. - social@aaworcester.org
- Worcester Area Intergroup Social Committee
- See the flyer on page 7 of the digital *Beacon*

WAI SOCIAL COMMITTEE SUMMER BOWLING

- **Bowlero Shrewsbury**, 405 Boston Turnpike, Route 9, Shrewsbury. SUNDAYS starting June 24
- \$8 Per player per week, 8 weeks
- More info at: <https://goo.gl/forms/D85HziLxQ3ASYAC2>

WHALE WATCH 2018

- Sunday August 12, rain or shine— Boarding time is 1PM
- \$20 per person—*first come, first served*
- Departs promptly at 1:30pm, Returns 5—6pm
- Eastman's Fishing Dock, 5 River St. Seabrook NH
- For tickets or info contact— Karen M. 978-496-0500, or Tim B. 978-407-3148—Pack a lunch or purchase food on the boat
- Sponsored by the District 26 Activities Committee
- See the flyer on page 8 of the digital *Beacon*

New Worcester Area Intergroup Web Site—

www.aaworcester.org

The WAI web site has been upgraded and improved, making it easier to navigate and easier to read.
Thanks to John H. for his service to WAI

Open Treatment Commitments—Help needed!

Visit the WAI website—, www.aaworcester.org
- click on the Treatment Facilities Committee link in the lower right corner of the home page to see a calendar of open commitment dates by facility. Find a commitment opening you can help with and enter your contact info so that facility's WAI Team Leader can connect with you.
See the Treatment Facilities flyer—pg. 11 of the digital *Beacon*.

Step Eight:

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

I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.

The Eighth Tradition

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

Spiritual as it is, A.A. remains very much of this world. The Eighth Tradition, like the Seventh, focuses on a vulgar five-letter word that isn't actually mentioned in either: money. Many of us have had to explain to some cynical prospect, "No, I'm not a social worker. I don't get paid for talking with you. I'm doing it because it's the best way to stay sober myself."

This does not mean, of course, that the idea of turning professional has never entered any A.A.'s mind. In the lean years, Bill W. did think of becoming a lay therapist to earn money through his experience in helping alcoholics. But, with a strong nudge from the group conscience, he soon realized that he could never hang out a shingle reading "Bill W., A.A. Therapist, \$10 an Hour"! It became clear to the early members that no A.A. should ever ask or accept payment for "carrying this message to somebody else, person to person and face to face." But new questions arose as membership grew and the word of hope spread, sending thousands of alcoholics in search of A.A. The first intergroups or central offices were usually manned by A.A. volunteers; now, most such offices are so busy that full-time employees are needed as well. Naturally, A.A.'s are better suited to such jobs than are nonmembers—but these A.A.'s then being paid for doing Twelfth Step work? No. In the office, they are just paving the way for this work. Arranging to get a sick drunk into a hospital, telling a shaky newcomer where the nearest meeting is tonight, they are helping to make it possible for that alcoholic to hear the message "person to person and face to face."

A similar development has taken place at the Fellowship's "headquarters." Once a tiny office for one co-founder (Bill) and one secretary, it has grown into the present *General Service Office*, fully staffed, with a big mailroom keeping the lines of communication open throughout A.A. worldwide. The employees, both A.A. and nonalcoholic, are paid on a scale comparable to that in profit-making enterprises, so that the office force can function dependably. And the A.A. staff members are in exactly the same position as the A.A. intergroup employees. Suppose you drop in at *G.S.O.* one day when you're in New York. Staff members who pause to chat with you may have been working on next year's Conference or corresponding with a group in your home area, helping it to carry the message more effectively. For that, they are paid biweekly checks. But you may also hear them mention to other staff members plans for taking a newcomer to a meeting in the evening or for giving an A.A. talk to a neighborhood group the next week. For that, they are paid only with their own continuing sobriety. In these office jobs and in other assignments, members are actually paid for their business and professional skills. Working at a *G.S.O.* desk, on Conference-approved books and pamphlets, or on the *Grapevine*, these A.A.'s use their abilities as correspondents, managers, writers, editors, artists, proofreaders— as well as their understanding of A.A. from the inside. On occasion, volunteers have given their time and talent to all these services, and their contributions are deeply appreciated. But what if the Fellowship decided that all such assignments should be handled only by unpaid volunteers? In present-day A.A., there's too great a volume of work to be done in spare hours here and there, and only the rich or the retired could afford to work full-time. If we tried to find in this limited group people qualified for particular tasks, obviously the field would be narrowed down—too often, down to nobody at all.

There would be another problem in using volunteers alone: It seems ungrateful—or, at least, it's socially awkward—to criticize or reject a job done for free. But paid jobs for A.A. get quite a going-over! Take our literature, for instance (like this pamphlet). Whatever the subject, we want to be sure that each piece expresses as clearly as possible the view of the group conscience of A.A. as a whole. So any new project must first be approved by the Conference. Once it is in process, the Literature Committee of the General Service Board keeps a careful eye on it at every stage. Frequently, drastic changes are required. The "finished" product then must be okayed both by that committee and by the Conference Literature Committee, and further revisions are often—

"Now wait a minute!" some old-timer may interrupt. "What's going on here? Didn't Dr. Bob say, 'Let's keep it simple?'"...

From **The TWELVE TRADITIONS** Illustrated—Copyright© 1971 A.A. World Services.



Deadline....
 ...for information to go into the August issue of *The Beacon* is August 15, 2018. Please send to:

Worcester Area Intergroup
 100 Grove St.,
 Suite 314
 Worcester, MA 01605
 or e-mail to:
Beacon@aaworcester.org

Planning a special event? Let us know about it!
 E-mail event information or flyers (PDF) to:
Beacon@aaworcester.org

"The ability to laugh at ourselves is an intrinsic part of the healing process."
 "People Make the Program,"

Grapevine,
 Marcy, New York,
 December 1992,

The Home Group:
 Heartbeat of AA

Meeting List Changes

CLARIFICATION

Webster Women's — Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15pm (CWDH) - 6 Mechanic St.
 Webster Women's—Thursdays, 5:30-6:30pm (CW12H) - 6 Mechanic St.

FORMAT CHANGE

Marlboro Saturday Helping Hand has changed from an Open Speaker Meeting to an Open Speaker/Discussion Meeting.
 Charlton Daybreaker —Wednesday: is no longer a Step meeting...it is now ODN SH
 Charlton - Night Owl is no longer a YP meeting...it is now ODN SH

MOVED

ANOTHER DAY SOBER—Quinebaug, CT - Wednesday - - same address but moved to Rectory basement. Same time
 GROTON — Monday night Groton "Steps to Recovery" group has relocated to the fire station, 185 Lost Lake Drive in Groton at 7:30pm.

TIME CHANGE

HUDSON THURSDAY NIGHT STRAIGHT SHOOTERS — OSp - Riverside Gun Club, 16 Wilkins St.— 7:30-8:30 PM

NEW

SPIRITUAL SISTERS —Monday, First Parish of Bolton, 673 Main St. Bolton; 7-8:30pm —NEW GROUP Women`s OBB12
 EARLY BIRD—FITCHBURG- 7:30am - First Parish Ch 923 Main St. OD, Monday-Friday
 FRIDAY NOON BIG BOOK NORTHBORO - 12- 1pm Trinity Church, 23 Main St. OBB

WAI UPDATED MEETING LIST— Revision C for 2018 — Color: Green Available now!!

Download Worcester Area Intergroup Meeting Lists in PDF at www.aaworcester.org.

EASTERN MASS. MEETING LIST IN SPANISH—

<http://www.aaworcester.org/lists/Spanish%20Speaking%20Meetings.pdf>

You are responsible—When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.

Help the HALTline!! Also see Page 5

The HALTline needs help with the following uncovered time slots:
 Sunday: midnight-2PM and 5PM-10PM
 Wednesday: midnight-8AM
 Thursday: midnight-8AM
 Saturday: midnight-9AM

Open Holiday time slots (WAI Office is closed on these dates):
 September 3, 10-2
 November 22nd 10-8
 December 26th 10-8

Contact the HALTline—haltline@aaworcester.org to offer your service.

Service Meeting Schedule

Intergroup Steering Committee* - 100 Grove St. 2nd Floor, Room 206 Worcester, 6:00pm

Intergroup Delegates* - 100 Grove St. 2nd Floor, Room 206, Worcester, MA 7:00 pm

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

****Until further notice, Steering Committee and Intergroup Delegates Meetings will be held in room 206 (2nd floor) at 100 Grove St. instead of room 401 ****

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

Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 6/20/18)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u>Bold = new</u>
Chairperson	Nicole L.	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	Emily D.	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	OPEN	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	Wendy S.	altsecretary@aaworcester.org	
Treasurer	Lisa R.	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	Jim B.	altrtreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Fred F.	trustee1@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Sean K.	trustee2@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Bill S.	trustee3@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	Steve O.	trustee4@aaworcester.org	
Office Manager	Brandy H.	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Asst. Office Manager	Kevin K.	asstofficemanager@aaworcester.org	
Alcathon (WAI)	Jim B.	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	John McI	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	Robert M.	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Corrections	OPEN	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	Brandy H.	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	OPEN		
Liaison to District 26	Fred F.		
Liaison to Area 30	Ellen McQ.		
Public Information	Bill S.	pichair@aaworcester.org	
Social Committee	Emily D.	social@aaworcester.org	
Webmaster	John H.	webmaster@aaworcester.org	
Bookie Exchange	Bill S. & Fred F.	bookieexchange@aaworcester.org	

"Times change, people change, and language may change. But the disease of alcoholism does not change. It always kills."

"We've Got What You Need," Beaumont, Texas, AA Grapevine, February 1996, In Our Own Words: Stories of Young AAs in Recovery



FROM THE EDITOR

NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

Get a color version of The Beacon emailed to you—send an email to:

Beacon@aaworcester.org with SUBSCRIBE as the subject line.

The Faithful Fivers Club—

AA members who donate \$5 or more a month on a regular basis to Worcester Area Intergroup!

Thanks to new members Bill S., Ferne S., Kevin K., and Fred F.

See form on the right to join...

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

If God seems far away, who moved?

True Twelfth Step Work—HELP the HALTline!

What the HALTline is:

One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic --- Isn't that what A.A. is all about?

You Might:

- Give meeting time and location information.
- Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic in danger of picking up a drink.
- Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic who is visiting the area.
- Talk to a "drunk". You may be the link in a chain that could save their life.
- Refer callers to the Intergroup Office—inform them of the office hours.

What the HALTline is not:

- The Halt Line is not a taxi service...
- It is not a referral service...We are not a counseling service...
- We do not give medical advice or opinions.

What you need to be a volunteer:

One year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such service; Touch-tone phone service; Meeting lists (we suggest District 26 and Worcester Area). These are available free of charge from Worcester Area Intergroup and are available on the Website "www.aaworcester.org," and 2 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. You need not have to answer as A.A.—you can simply answer and when asked say you are "Answering for Worcester Area Intergroup, How can I help you?"

What will happen:

For your scheduled time, calls are forwarded from the Intergroup Office to the phone number you provide. This is done at no expense to you.

Ready to help?

If you have time available and willing to volunteer -preferably in 2 hour or longer shifts—**Contact Brandy H. at haltline@aaworcester.org for more info.**

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.

My contribution of \$_____ (once) Annual(\$60); Quarterly(\$15); Monthly(\$5)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number (in case of questions): _____

Make check payable to: Worcester Area Intergroup; mail to WAI address on page 8

The Beacon—Subscription Form

Please fill out form, enclose your payment, and mail to: Worcester Area Intergroup

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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

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

Mail All completed forms and payments to:
Worcester Area Intergroup 100 Grove St., Suite 314 Worcester, MA 01605
 Attn: The Beacon

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 (please circle *all* that apply): 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

I am willing to (please circle):

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 make 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 available and willing to go along with you.*

Anniversary Donation

Name: _____

City/Home Group: _____

Sobriety Date: _____ Amt. Enclosed: _____

Mail to: **Worcester Area Intergroup**. 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.

Worcester Area Intergroup Social Committee Introduces Game Night!

Friday, AUGUST 10th

6pm Pot Luck Dinner

7pm AA Meeting

8pm GAME ON!!!

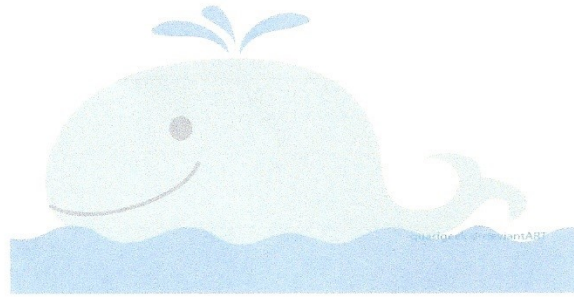


Will be held at Trinity Church of Northborough
23 Main Street, Northborough MA

Come for all or part of game night!

If you join us for the pot luck please consider bringing an item to share.
For more information please contact Emily D. by email
hnewyear2@gmail.com

“Whale Watch 2018”



Sunday, August 12, 2018 (Rain or Shine)

Eastman's Fishing Dock, 5 River St., Seabrook N.H.

\$20 per person (first come, first served basis,
limited to 110 people, so don't miss out!)

Boarding time: - 1:00 pm

Departs promptly: - 1:30 pm, Returns 5-6:00pm

Pack a picnic from home or purchase food on the boat.

For tickets or info contact:

Karen M. (978) 496-0500 or Tim B. 978-407-3148

Sponsored by District 26 Activities Committee

www.AAdistrict26.org





**WOMAN TO WOMAN
NEW ENGLAND
October 12, 13, 14, 2018**



BOXBORO REGENCY HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

242 Adams Place, Boxborough, MA 01719

Hotel Reservation Call: 978-263-8701

Must mention Woman to Woman New England Conference

Hotel Website Link: <https://us01.iqwebbook.com/BRMA227/>

Go to Rate Options Tab and enter W2W code

Room rate \$105.00/night double occupancy...free parking

Must register by September 12, 2018 for guaranteed rate and availability

Join our closed Facebook Group: **The Road to Freedom**
For Sneak Preview Posts about the 2018 W2W Conference.

Register Online At:

www.womantowomannewengland.org

Mail Registration Form To:

Woman to Woman New England

P.O. Box 259

Bellingham, MA 02019

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Woman to Woman New England

Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	
Zip:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Walk-in Cash Only	Amount	Paid
Conference Registration Fee:	\$50.00	\$_____
After August 31, 2018	\$60.00	\$_____
Pre-order T-Shirt		
S__ M__ L__ XL__		
2X__ 3X__	\$20.00	\$_____
<i>Scholarship Donation</i>	\$____	\$_____
MEALS:		
Saturday Breakfast Buffet	\$24.00	\$_____
Saturday Lunch Buffet	\$28.00	\$_____
Saturday Night Banquet		
____Chicken ____Haddock	\$40.00	\$_____
Sunday Breakfast Buffet	\$24.00	\$_____
Package Deal Includes:	\$150.00	\$_____
Registration & ALL meals a		
\$16.00 savings (doesn't include t-shirt)		
Package Deal after 8/31/18	\$160.00	\$_____
A \$6.00 savings		
Total Enclosed		\$_____

NO REFUNDS AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2018



Area 30

Alcoholics Anonymous
General Service Committee
of Eastern Massachusetts



WORKSHOP ASSEMBLY

Sunday, September 16, 2018

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Hosted by District 4

Location:

**Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School
207 Hart Street, Taunton, MA 02780**

The following trusted servants and their alternates are responsible to attend: GSR's, DCM's,
Area 30 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

The event is free and all interested AA's are encouraged to attend.

Lunch will be provided as well as a continental breakfast.

Registration at 9:00 AM

New GSR and DCM Orientation 9:15 AM – 9:45 AM

Assembly Begins at 10:00 AM and Ends at 4:00 PM

Directions:

Bristol-Plymouth is located off of Rt. 140 near the Silver City Galleria Mall, and across the street from the Home Depot Plaza. Look for the sign near the Massachusetts Highway Building. The driveway runs alongside Uno Pizza.

Coming from Rt. 24-S: Take exit 12-A and bear left at the lights. Follow the highway for about half a mile, then turn right into the Bristol-Plymouth roadway.

Coming from Rt. 24-N: Take exit 12-B and bear right. Follow the road for about half a mile, then turn right into Bristol-Plymouth's roadway which runs alongside Uno Bar and Grill.

Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future: To place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come

www.aaemass.org

OPEN COMMITMENTS TO TREATMENT FACILITIES ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERGROUP TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

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

Remember that the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous is to stay sober and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. There are far too many people in very early sobriety at Treatment Facilities that are not hearing the message that we are responsible for carrying. With that said the WAI Treatment Facilities Committee is pleased to announce some changes to help fill Open Commitment spots but we need your help.

Please visit the WAI website at www.aaworcester.org and click on the Treatment Facilities Committee link in the lower right corner of the home page. There you will find calendars by facility to view open dates that we need your help filling. Once you find a date that you can help fill please contact the facility's Team Leader. Their emails are as follows:

- 1) Adcare@aaworcester.org – for all commitments to Adcare Hospital
- 2) CHL@aaworcester.org – for all commitments to Community Healthlink
- 3) Spectrum@aaworcester.org – for all male units at Spectrum Health Systems
- 4) MYRCHL@aaworcester.org – for all commitments to the youth program of CHL
- 5) Washburn@aaworcester.org – for all commitments to Washburn House
- 6) Willows@aaworcester.org – for all female units at Spectrum Health Systems

There are hundreds of open spots for just these 6 facilities we are working with. We need help and you can provide that for us in the following ways:

- 1) Having your Group take a Standing Commitment
- 2) Having a group of friends take a Standing Commitment
- 3) Having you and some friends fill an open spot until a Standing Commitment can be found

So please do what you can and if you have general questions you can always contact us at Treatment@aaworcester.org.

Thank you for your service,
WAI Treatment Facilities Committee

*the convention is coming * the convention is coming*



Save the Date!

55th Annual Massachusetts State A.A. Convention



Hosted by Areas 30 & 31



with Al-Anon & Alateen participation

**Friday, November 9th thru
Sunday November 11th, 2018**

Join us for a Weekend of Fellowship and Fun!



Sheraton Framingham Hotel and Conference Center
1657 Worcester Road (Just off the Mass Pike)
Route 9 - Framingham, MA



For more information, or to participate, please contact:

Mark N., Chair (860) 559-0814

Sue W., Treasurer (978) 223-3803

or email: mastateconvention@aaemass.org

Planning Meetings are held at the hotel, 7:30pm:

Last Tuesdays – January 30th, March 27th, May 29th, July 31st,
September 25th, and October 30, 2018

Save the Date!

*the convention is coming * the convention is coming*

*better be ready! the convention is coming * the convention is coming*

*better be ready! the convention is coming * the convention is coming*