

# NEW FRONTIERS

A.A. of the Niagara Frontier

NOVEMBER 2012

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL A.A. MEMBERS OF WESTERN NEW YORK AND THE NIAGARA FRONTIER

We request that this newsletter be kept within the Fellowship to ensure anonymity



## Are You Waxing ~ Or Working ~ The Program?

PROBABLY the one basic essential, necessary for getting sober and staying sober through the A.A. program, is sincerity. The word is used so much in the practice of the program that it might be interesting to indulge in a little research into its origin.

As I understand it, at one time the Romans sold marble building stone to the Gauls. Even then they must have had sharp business practices, because occasionally the Gauls would discover that the Romans had concealed blemishes and defects in the stone by filling them with wax. Then the heat of the sun would melt the wax, thus revealing those defects, sometimes after the stone was already in the wall. In order to protect themselves against this practice the Gauls had a clause inserted into the contract, to the effect that the stone was to be delivered without wax. In the Latin language of the contract, "without" was written as sine; "wax" as cere.

Therefore the marble was to be delivered sine-cere. Without wax. In time the two words were combined into one, meaning, in the present day English (according to Funk & Wagnalls dictionary), "1. Being in reality as in appearance. 2. Intending pre-

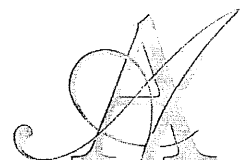
cisely what one says or what one appears to intend; honest in one's action or profession."

This wax, as it applies to the personality of an alcoholic, is deceptive stuff. The Sixth Step says, "we became entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character." Right now is when we find out how sincere we really are. How much "wax" we've been using. Wax ought to be easy to remove, but the stuff as it applies to an alcoholic is as sticky as flypaper. Even when we are rid of it, it seems to grow back by itself, even as insincerity creeps back.

The founders of A.A. must have recognized this danger because they offered a "wax solvent" in the form of the Third and Eleventh Steps. This very effective solvent should be applied daily, particularly the phrase "sought through prayer and meditation to increase our conscious contact with God"—a vital ingredient in the solvent which will permit us to live a life free from alcohol. A sincere life.

Without wax!

L ~ L. Superior, Wis. ~  
via Chit-Chat





He was born in Italy centuries ago. The age in which he lived was almost as confused and baffling as our own. His first attempt at living was just like ours. He ran away from life as fast as he could, and by nearly the same means. Few, it was said, could romance more gaily than he, shake the dice with Dame Fortune with more abandon, nor clatter his wine flagon on the table more loudly. He probably had a pretty good time doing it, too, at least for a while.

Bit by bit, though, he got fed up. During a long siege of illness he hit bottom, even as we alcoholics do.

One day he said to himself, "Suppose that in all things I try henceforth to do exactly as my Master would have done." This was the vision that gripped him, and he set foot on the new highroad. Some of his friends were amused, and others were deeply concerned. Some said it wasn't practical; others thought he had gone out of his mind. But by living one day at a time, teaching and sharing as he went, with no thought of reward for himself, he started a movement that deeply affected the whole world of his day; it reached into every level of society. He gave all he had, and that inspired others to do likewise. He brought true comfort where there had been none.

And how did he do this? The prayer he so often spoke tells us. Here it is:

*"Lord, make me a channel of Thy Peace ~  
That where there is hatred, I may bring love ~  
That where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness ~  
That where there is discord, I may bring harmony ~  
That where there is error, I may bring truth ~  
That where there is doubt, I may bring faith ~  
That where there is despair, I may bring hope ~  
That where there are shadows, I may bring light ~  
That where there is sadness, I may bring joy.  
Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted ~  
To understand, than to be understood ~  
To love, than to be loved.  
For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.  
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.  
It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life."*

The lesson that Francis leaves us is clear and no example could be brighter. "Freely ye have received; Freely give."

~ Excerpted from "Every Day Is Christmas" ~ Bill W. ~ Reprinted with permission ~ *A.A. Grapevine* ~ December 1952 ~ Vol. 9 No. 7 ~

### **"Our Stories Disclose ..."**

"Our stories disclose in a general way what we used to be like, what happened, and what we are like now." (A.A. pg 58) This sentence describes the subject matter of our personal stories of recovery. Speaker meetings are not 12-Step seminars, nor are they meant to disclose our employment resumés. These meetings are meant to share our personal stories of recovery. Yes, our personal stories, not some page from the Big Book.

I have attended many speaker meetings in the past, and recently I was shocked at some meetings where the speaker very boldly stated that they would not be telling a "drunkalog". Whoa! Isn't that what speaker meetings are all about? It's telling our audience what our life was like—the humiliation, anger and terrible suffering we experienced as a result of our alcoholic drinking? One would think we just stopped drinking on our own and proudly walked into an A.A. meeting and recovered. Sound right to you? The real reason for speaker meetings is for those in attendance to identify the symptoms of alcoholism and seek help because of the message.

Let's talk about dress codes, or rather the lack of them for open meeting speakers. At the podium we represent Alcoholics Anonymous. It may be the first or last time that someone in the audience hears about alcoholism and our program of recovery. Let's make it a meaningful memory. Coffee-stained sweatshirts, loose jeans and soiled sneakers are not exactly impressive to an audience who came to see and hear our personal message of recovery. I'm not talking tuxedos or cocktail dresses here, just your best look, whatever that is. That, in itself, tells the audience you at least look recovered. I know groups in our area who insist that members dress up when speaking, and especially those receiving and awarding anniversary pins.

I remember days when the only way you could distinguish between who was sober and who was new at a meeting was by the clothes they wore. Our archives photos portray men in suits and ties, and the ladies in dresses. This tells us how A.A. has changed over the years. Respect for A.A. and our audience is paramount. The message has been, and always shall be, the primary reason for speaker meetings. The messengers and their clothing are trivial, yet a well-dressed speaker is impressive and sends a more positive image of a recovered alcoholic. An old saying, "Clean up, Dress up and Show up" still holds true today when we are asked to speak at an A.A. meeting. Amen.

~ John H ~ Sunday Morning Breakfast ~

# archives

a collection of documents

such as letters, official papers, photographs, or recorded material,  
kept for their historical interest



## **This Month in A.A.** ~ *Bob D.*

The idea that Alcoholics Anonymous would spread throughout the United States and expand across the globe probably never crossed the mind of Bill W. and Dr. Bob when they first put the fellowship into motion in Akron, Ohio. In those very early days A.A.'s founders sought out other alcoholics as a means of maintaining their own sobriety. How could they have foreseen A.A. growing as it has, one rescued alcoholic at a time, one day at a time, with the message taking hold in faraway places?

A.A.'s reach astounds when we stop to think about it. This is a fellowship, as stated in the 11th Tradition, based on attraction rather than promotion. Magazine and newspaper accounts helped spread word of its successes but the solution itself was passed from one alcoholic to another or, in some cases, by an individual reading the book "Alcoholic Anonymous" and grabbing hold of the message.

Think of the barriers that had to be overcome for A.A. to expand well beyond its roots in the mid-west United States to where there are 23 million copies of the Big Book in print spanning 48 languages.

Up until 1959 the Big Book was available only in English. The first translation was undertaken in November of 1959 in bilingual South Africa, a country that at the time operated as an apartheid with the rights of black citizens suppressed for the benefit of white supremacy.

"From the very beginning, Alcoholics Anonymous bridged the gap that separated black from white in racially-segregated South Africa," reads an account of A.A.'s expansion at [www.silkworth.net](http://www.silkworth.net). "In the early 1950's the message was being carried to the Zulu and other native tribes and, despite the laws of apartheid, white A.A. members met with blacks in meetings. Dr. Jack Norris, in his 1974 visit, remarked with some amazement at the free intermingling of the races at an A.A. gathering in Durban."

A.A.'s roots in South Africa have been traced to 1946 with the formation of four separate groups. Here's the Web site's account of how one of them started:

"In Johannesburg, Arthur S., a successful stockbroker drying (out) once more in a posh hospital, read the article about A.A. in the Digest. Impressed, he determined to find out more about it and wrote G.S.O in New York. In return, he received a pamphlet containing excerpts from the Big Book, and on the basis of this he got sober. Armed with the pamphlet, he set to work to find other alcoholics. In the upper-class circles in which he moved, no one would admit to having a problem."

Arthur S., not unlike A.A. co-founder Bill Wilson, contacted people who held positions that might bring them into contact with alcoholics and asked for help in locating a prospect or two. But as explained on [silkworth.net](http://silkworth.net), "Even before Arthur, a black alcoholic named Soloman was wandering the neglected streets of the black Township of Alexandra, north of Johannesburg, reflecting the wreckage of his life. His last bender had brought him and his family to the brink of starvation. From a rubbish bin, he salvaged a copy of the same Reader's Digest and read the article. He, too, wrote G.S.O. in New York. In return, he received a pamphlet and was registered as a lone member. Not long afterward, G.S.O. put him in touch with Arthur S., and the two men met regularly until Arthur's death. Thus, Soloman was the first sober A.A. member in South Africa, but he did not found a group."

More than 10 years later the Big Book was translated for the first time—into Afrikaans. But it didn't stop there: "A General Service Office was established in Johannesburg in 1957, with the responsibility for distributing literature to groups in South Africa. (This task had previously been done by G.S.O./New York.) Six years later they reported that they produced and stocked A.A. material in five languages: English, Afrikaans, Sesutu, Isixhosa and Zulu and were considering German because there were many calls for it. By 1969, they carried 78 literature items, 29 of which they printed locally. During these 12 years, the Johannesburg G.S.O. was structured much like a U.S. intergroup, but in March of that year it became responsible to the newly formed General Service Board, and through it, the functioning General Service Conference. A Public Information Committee was also set up in 1969."

A.A. remains strong and active in South Africa some 65 years after its start, a striking example of how the fellowship has crossed borders, continents and hemispheres since its beginnings in Akron with a meeting between Bill and Dr. Bob.



## Editorial: On the 11th Tradition

*“Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.”*

Providence has been looking after the public relations of Alcoholics Anonymous. It can scarcely have been otherwise. Though more than a dozen years old, hardly a syllable of criticism or ridicule has ever been spoken of A.A. Somehow we have been spared all the pains of medical or religious controversy and we have good friends both wet and dry, right and left. Like most societies, we are sometimes scandalous—but never yet in public. From all over the world, naught comes but keen sympathy and downright admiration. Our friends of the press and radio have outdone themselves. Anyone can see that we are in a fair way to be spoiled. Our reputation is already so much better than our actual character!

Surely these phenomenal blessings must have a deep purpose. Who doubts that this purpose wishes to let every alcoholic in the world know that A.A. is truly for him, can he only want his liberation enough. Hence, our messages through public channels have never been seriously discolored, nor has the searing breath of prejudice ever issued from anywhere.

Good public relations are A.A. lifelines reaching out to the brother alcoholic who still does not know us. For years to come, our growth is sure to depend upon the strength and number of these lifelines. One serious public relations calamity could always turn thousands away from us to perish—a matter of life and death indeed!

The future poses no greater problem or challenge to A.A. than how best to preserve a friendly and vital relation to all the world about us. Success will heavily rest upon right principles, a wise vigilance and the deepest personal responsibility on the part of every man jack of us. Nothing less will do. Else our brother may again turn his face to the wall because we did not care enough.

So, the 11th Tradition stands sentinel over the lifelines, announcing that there is no need for self-praise, that it is better to let our friends recommend us, and that our whole public relations policy, contrary to usual customs, should be based upon the principle of attraction rather than promotion. Shot in the arm methods are not for us—no press agents, no promotional devices, no big names. The hazards are too great. Immediate results will always be illusive because easy shortcuts to notoriety can generate permanent and smothering liabilities.

More and more, therefore, are we emphasizing the principle of personal anonymity as it applies to our public relations. We ask of each other the highest degree of personal responsibility in this respect. As a movement, we have been, before now, tempted to exploit the names of our well known public characters. We have rationalized that other societies, even the best, do the same. As individuals, we have sometimes believed that the public use of our names could demonstrate our personal courage in the face of stigma; so lending power and conviction to news stories and magazine articles.

But these are not the allures they once were. Vividly, we are becoming aware that no member ought to describe himself in full view of the general public as an A.A., even for the most worthy purpose, lest a perilous precedent be set which would tempt others to do likewise for purposes not so worthy.

We see that on breaking anonymity by press, radio or pictures, anyone of us could easily transfer the valuable name of Alcoholics Anonymous over onto any enterprise or into the midst of any controversy. So, it is becoming our code that there are things that no A.A. ever does, lest he divert A.A. from its sole purpose and injure our public relations. And thereby the chances of those sick ones yet to come.

To the million alcoholics who have not yet heard our A.A. story we should ever say, "Greetings and welcome. Be assured that we shall never weaken the lifelines which we float out to you. In our public relations, we shall, God willing, keep the faith."

Bill W.



## GROUPS ~ Introduction



~ Chip R ~ Lighten Up ~ Central Committee Co-Chair ~

All of the power giving us a chance for recovery in the A.A. program lies within the Home Groups. This was done by the first 100 members' design. However, with that power comes responsibility, which any organization can choose to accept or ignore. In our area, these obligations may be carried out by the Home Group itself or through our Central Committee.

This accountability is not just due to "writs issued by A.A. World Services as you should do these things", but based on the experience of those before us—things that they *had to do* to stay sober themselves. Without strong well-functioning groups none of us would be sober.

The primary theme of this series will be the most important and unique aspect of A.A.—the Home Group's operations and responsibilities—and how we're doing in our area. This is where I find MY sobriety. You do have a home group, don't you?

If you are satisfied with just being present at meetings and sharing at a table once in a while, then putting A.A. back on the shelf, what I'll be addressing might not interest you. If, on the other hand, your Higher Power is telling you that you might be missing something, stay tuned. God may put the words on paper in a future article just for you some day.

The "secondary" theme for this series is the level of service involvement by A.A. members in WNY. Only one word is needed: apathetic. You'd think we were asking people to drink poison. There isn't ONE sub-committee of Central Committee that has enough members to make the smallest dent in their particular area of service. This is against everything Bill & Dr. Bob believed in. Are we smarter than the pioneers with a better way to stay sober? Bill stayed sober for six months simply by trying to help other alcoholics before he met Dr. Bob! Sharing with drunks — NOT people at a table who already know something about A.A. I can't believe it is just because no one knows the need exists!

This dilemma may stem from a lack of willingness to be of service in your own Home Group. All but a few groups struggle to get people to do SOMETHING. Home group members (please raise your hands) average 2-10 at their own meetings. Half of our groups are so strapped for cash that a box of Tim-Bits will blow the month's budget. Tables veer off target more than cars on the Thruway during freezing rain because experienced members pass on chairing tables. The majority of WNY groups had at least one function a year long ago (anniversary nights do not count); now few venture out into "building fellowship" territory. Is it just that most groups are broke, or have we gotten a little complacent? Do we have 50 meetings too many to pick from? You decide.

As we snub these service positions in carrying the message, our collective sobriety suffers. We all become average. The lowest common denominator becomes the standard. There is no sparkle in the eyes of members. Watch the faces at your next meeting when "How It Works" is read. Thriving, joyful sobriety? Sometimes hard to tell!

Someone once said, "**My sobriety depends on your program.**" Think about that for a minute—your level of sobriety depends upon how well "I" (each member of the group) am working my own program, and vice versa. If my Home Group has a bunch of people who take sobriety for granted, my sobriety will suffer. I might even think of looking for a different group. On the other

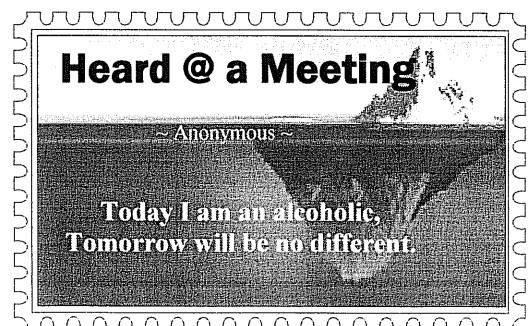
hand, in a group that takes their program seriously, ALL of the members will thrive as a result. Those groups place a priority on "serving those visiting their meeting". You can even tell by how much care is taken in what snacks are available and how soon they run out of coffee.

My goal for this series is to build up A.A. and its members—to encourage, equip and help members become elder statesmen. In pointing out the "good" and the "needs help", I do this as *one member* of A.A., and not some self-proclaimed expert. Personally, I do not want "barely passing" sobriety. I want thriving sobriety. Don't you? I want permanent sobriety. I want sobriety that will get me through ANY situation I run into for the rest of my life. I don't want to do early sobriety over again—EVER. I want the ability to help another alcoholic, 5 minutes from his/her last drink or 30 years sober, to achieve sobriety. To do that, I have to challenge myself in light of our Principles, Steps, Traditions and Concepts. In the process maybe I'll challenge you too. This is no different than getting into physical shape—set the bar a little higher than where you are now, and work toward it.

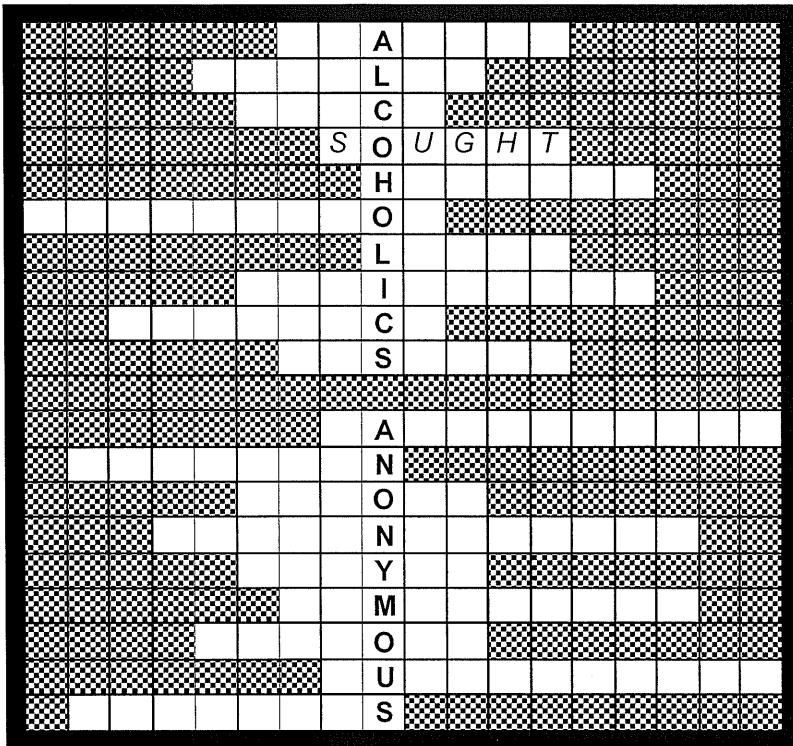
I absolutely do not assume to have all the answers, or even some of them. Half the time I don't even know if I'm asking the right questions. I do know for a fact that other Intergroup areas, both within New York State and in other states, have full committees and are doing something about helping the "Sick and Suffering Alcoholic"—the person who has NO CLUE THAT WE HAVE A PROGRAM THAT HAS WORKED FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WORLDWIDE. They're doing a lot more than we are. I don't want to simplistically compare "A" versus "B" here, but I think we can do better.

A.A. membership for me began in 1981, and I remember the 80's and early 90's rather well. Future articles will contrast "30 years ago" to "the last 7 years" here in WNY. Overall, I think A.A. has become weaker than it used to be; the truth gets harder to find, and it is possible that more people who come to A.A. end up walking out for more hell. Yes, I know it is ultimately their choice—luckily a few of those do come back and become members.

If I am giving you the impression that it is all gloom and doom, fear not! People ARE getting sober! A.A. is alive in WNY. There are too many people who have moved away and then come back to say they prefer "our A.A. here". Central Committee is somewhat well represented. There are a couple of areas here that need some extra attention—and your involvement. If you have a suggestion for a topic related to groups or service work, or a comment on any of the articles published, please send it in to the New Frontiers, c/o The Editor, with the "Groups Series" as the subject. Stay tuned...



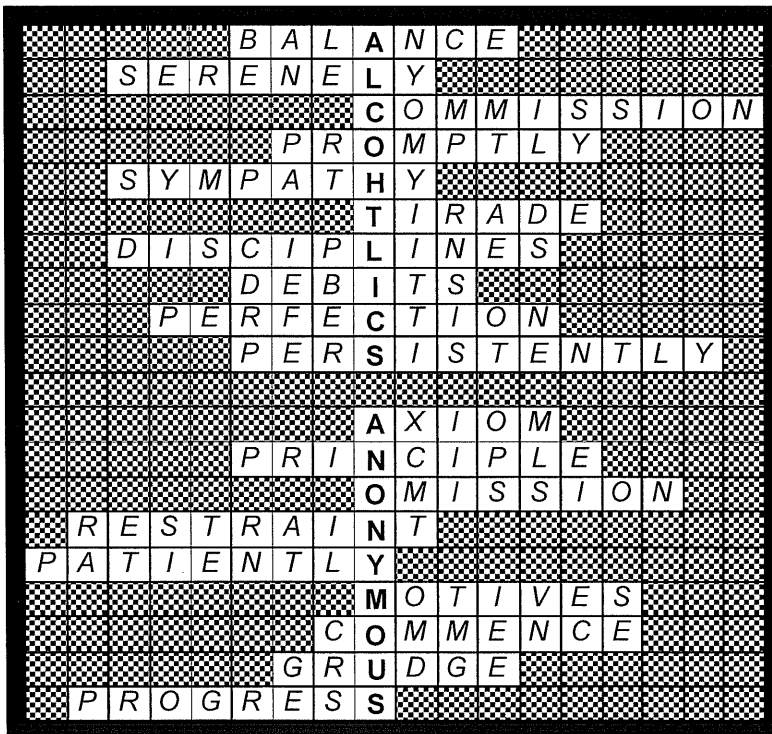
**Step Eleven Puzzle - If you are baffled, you know where you can find the answers!**



**Use each letter in one word across**

- Means of communication or expression
- Took pleasure, enjoyed
- Generosity of spirit
- Attempted, strived for*
- Antagonistic, unfriendly or not favorable
- Contemplation, serious thoughtful effort to understand
- Sensible rational thought and argument
- Desire or ambition towards achievement
- Sign or proof
- Disagreement, incompatibility or conflict
- Offer reasonable explanation
- Appeal or request to a higher authority
- React instinctively with fear or disgust
- Causing uneasiness or confusion
- Expression of praise, thanks, confession or request
- Enticement by promise of pleasure or gain
- Friendly agreement or settlement
- Suggested or accepted as truth without proof
- Those who mock or jeer

**Step Ten Puzzle - Answers**



- State of equilibrium
- Calmly, without worry or stress
- Act of doing something
- Done readily and immediately*
- Expression of pity or sorrow
- Long angry speech
- Conscious controls over lifestyle
- Unfavorable qualities, drawbacks
- Highest degree of excellence
- Going on resolutely or stubbornly
- Generally accepted truth
- Fundamental law or assumption
- Act of leaving out or not doing
- Quality of holding back
- At a calm, steady and persistent rate
- Causes for action
- Begin something
- Feeling of deep-seated resentment
- Gradual forward movement

*Ed. Note: It seems that since June, "ALCOHOLICS" has been misspelled in the puzzles. Maybe it has something to do with the difficulty I have saying I am one sometimes ~ or maybe it's just payback for cheating and copying the puzzle format from month to month. My apologies to all, and thanks, Deb, for bringing it to my attention.*

11th Step ~ Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for the knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry it out.

11th Tradition ~ 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.

11th Concept ~ The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

IN MEMORIAM

Things We Can Not Change

~~~~~

To all of our members who have lost family and loved ones ~  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you



*The Eleventh Step Prayer, the Prayer of St. Francis, asks that I be an instrument of peace, nothing else. When someone looks at a masterpiece of art, they praise the artist, not the brush. I am the instrument. It is up to the master to do what the master has planned. My successes are not my successes. My failures are not my failures if I have done all that I can. I need to keep my big ego in check. I am not the important one.*

~ Excerpted from "An Instrument of Peace" ~ Anonymous ~ Brookline, Massachusetts ~

~ Reprinted with permission ~ A.A. Grapevine ~ June 1990 ~ Vol. 47 No. 1 ~

**Share your Experience, Strength and Hope**

Please submit your announcements by the 12th for next month's issue

Articles can be submitted at any time

**e-mail address: buffaloA.A.@hotmail.com**

or mail to

**Buffalo Central Office  
681 Seneca St (lower)  
Buffalo, New York 14210**

The Central Office of Western New York publishes the *New Frontiers* monthly. We are supported by your subscriptions and Central Office donations. The *New Frontiers* presents the experience and opinions of members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of alcoholism. The staff reserves the right to edit any article for clarity and length. Articles will not be returned. Opinions expressed here are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply the endorsement by the Central Office of Western New York or Alcoholics Anonymous. (Exceptions: quotations from "Alcoholics Anonymous", "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" and other A.A. books and pamphlets are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Articles reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are subject to Grapevine copyright.)

**COMING SOON**

The Buffalo Central Committee is starting up a new phone answering service known as NIGHTWATCH. Where members of AA will be able to answer calls coming into central office directly after 4:30pm. For more information or interest on how you or your group can get involved please contact: nightwatchbuffalo@gmail.com or call Jason D. at 716-289-8960

"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."

**NIGHTWATCH!**

please contact nightwatchbuffalo@gmail.com or call Jason D. at 289-8960 for more information or to get involved

**PLEASE READ AT YOUR MEETING...HELP KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED:**

*BUFFALO CENTRAL OFFICE  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
(716) 853-0388  
9:00 AM- 12:30PM, 2:00 PM- 4:30 PM  
Schedule on line at: [www.buffaloaany.org](http://www.buffaloaany.org)*

*681 SENECA STREET (Lower)  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14210  
Fax: 853-0389  
[www.buffaloaany.org](http://www.buffaloaany.org)  
[buffalooa@hotmail.com](mailto:buffalooa@hotmail.com)*

## **NOVEMBER 2012**

### **MEETING CHANGES**

- ~Gahada Gon meeting on Tuesday & Thursday, No Longer Meets,
- ~Pride in Recovery; Saturday's 6PM, No Longer Meets. Unitarian Universalist Church, 6320 Main St. Williamsville.
- ~**Southwester Group** is changing their **starting time to 3:30 PM**. Monday's, St. John Vianney, 2950 Southwestern, Orchard Park.
- ~**East Aurora Group** will **not meet on Saturday October 6th**, due to Church Activities. St. Matthias Episcopal Church, 2 PM,
- ~**Ray Of Hope Group Needs Support**. Tuesday's, 1 PM, Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Aurora.
- ~**Abbott Corners Group, NO LONGER MEETS**. Wednesday's Noon, Lakeshore Behavioral Health, 3176 Abbott Rd. Bldg A., Orchard Park.
- ~**Keep It Simple Sister Group** will be an **Open Speaker** meeting the **last week** of the month.
- ~In **January; Fireside PM** Group will **change** its start time to **7PM**. Sunday's, Unitarian Universalist Church, 6320 Main St., Williamsville
- \*\*\*IF YOUR GROUP IS NOT MEETING, PLEASE INFORM THE CENTRAL OFFICE. THIS ALSO INCLUDES THOSE MEETING DAYS WHEN YOUR SITE IS CLOSED FOR A HOLIDAY.**

### **COMING EVENTS**

- ~ Oct 26,27 & 28, **71st. BUFFALO FALL CONVENTION:** Buffalo Marriott Hotel, 1340 Millersport Hwy. Amherst.
- ~ Nov. 4, **Steering Committee**, SUNDAY 5:30 PM, Central Office, 681 Seneca
- ~ Nov. 4, **Central Committee Meeting**, SUNDAY, 7 pm, Buffalo Central Office( Hosted by Sober Train Group)
- ~ Nov 4, **General Service Assembly**, SUNDAY ,12 Noon., Hamburg Town Hall, 5999 South Park Ave., Hamburg.



- ~ Nov 5, "**Nightwatch**" **Committee Meeting**, Tuesday, 6 PM , Central Office, 681 Seneca
- ~ Nov 7, 14, 21, 28 & Dec. 5; **An Introduction To the 12 Steps Workshop**. To acquaint members with the 12 Steps in 5- 1-hour sessions. Wednesday 4-5 PM. Sponsored Helping Hand Group, St. John Vianney Church, Southwestern Blvd, Orchard Park.. Journey through the 12 steps in 5/ 1 hr sessions. Questions? Call 479-8888.
- ~ Nov 12, **District 11, Area 50; Day of Sharing**, "The AA Group". 5:00-7:30 PM, Unitarian Universalist Church, 695 Elmwood Ave @ W.Ferry. Speaker, Panel, Discussion, Food
- ~ Nov 12, **Public Information Committee meeting**, Monday, Anyone interested in helping the community understand who we are, what we do, and what we are not to do, PLEASE come out and get involved. Help keep A.A. around for your children. Buffalo Central Office, 6 PM.
- ~ Nov. 19, **Treatment Facilities Committee**, MONDAY, 6 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street. Please if you or your group are taking a meeting into a treatment facility , could you please send a rep to this meeting
- ~ Nov. 10, **Archives Committee Meeting**, SATURDAY, 10 AM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca Street
- ~ Nov. 25, **Corrections Committee Meeting**, last SUNDAY, 7:00 PM, Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca .
- ~ Dec. 19, **Main & High Groups Annual Christmas Vigil**. 5:00 PM- 9:00 pm. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1080 Main St. 2 Speakers. Please come fellowship with us. Bring and dish to share
- ~ Dec 24, **Friends of AA Annual Christmas Vigil**; 291 High St, Moot Senior center. Doors open at 4 PM. **Donations accepted**. Children's toys, 2 PM-7 PM. Contact Charles L.:602-5037, Mona W.:247-3690.
- ~ Dec 24 & 25th, **Elmwood Group 3rd Annual Christmas Vigil**. 2590 Elmwood Ave in Kenmore my 14217 donations of kids toys for the vigil are being accepted call Joe at 716-361-7513 .

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**11th TRADITION: "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."**

**11<sup>th</sup> CONCEPT; The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.**

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM...**

*Yours in the Fellowship of the Spirit...Terry .... Executive Secretary*

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

**Amherst/Snyder**

Jason S. 1y  
 Dustin A. 1y  
 Jeanine J. 1y  
 Sarah M. 3y  
 Chris B. 3y  
 Linda D. 5y  
 Ruby A. 6y  
 Jennifer T. 9y  
 David M. 11y  
 Susan M. 22y  
 David W. 23y  
 Sister Marc 31y

**Big Book Lockport**

Angelo B. 1y  
 Jason P. 3y

**Coldsprings**

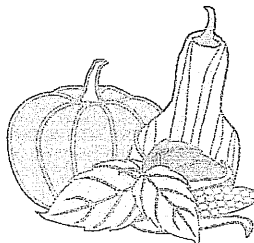
Blaine H. 23y

**Courage**

Chris B. 10y  
 Patty K. 29y  
 Sue S. 23y

**Eyeopener**

Bernie A. 1y  
 Joe 1y  
 Mike 1y  
 Evan 2y  
 Jim 2y  
 Beth 3y  
 Dave M. 3y  
 Elizabeth 3y  
 Suzanne 4y  
 Lori 4y  
 Paul V. 4y  
 Deb M. 6y  
 Jeff 6y  
 Mike C. 6y  
 Mark P. 9y  
 Ivona 12y  
 Jay W. 12y  
 Joe E. 13y  
 Kathleen 21y  
 Paul G. 24y  
 Tom C. 24y  
 Jay 29y



**Helping Hand**

Chris E. 14y

**Holland**

Chris P. 24y  
 Mike S. 28y

**Just For Today(Cheek)**

Jim K. 23y  
 Jim C. 28y

**Kensington**

Terese R. 6y

**Lakeshore**

Pat I. 1y  
 Kevin T. 1y

Jenifer B. 3y  
 Marc L. 11y

Mike M. 14y

**Lakeview**

Doug B. 10y  
 Dave S. 13y

**Lockport #1**

Sally W. 29y

**Lovejoy**

Sue H. 3m  
 Paul J. 1y

**Matt Talbot**

John M. 6m

**North Buffalo**

Megan K. 2y  
 Maria C. 2y  
 Ember 2y

Paul A. 3y  
 James S. 3y  
 Gary W. 4y

Janet J. 4y  
 Tony P. 5y  
 Dave H. 8y

Elizabeth G. 11y  
 Dave K. 16y

Jay H. 19y

**Orchard Park Step**

Jacque S. 6m

**Remember When**

Antoinette 2y  
 Terry M. 11y

**Renaissance**

Mary K 29y  
 Ralph K 48y



**Rise & Shine**

Peter Z. 4y  
 Jeff F. 4y

Kim M. 5y  
 Tim L. 5y

Anthony P. 5y  
 Jason H. 5y

Tom L. 6y  
 Neil L. 6y

Torrie L. 7y  
 Terry M. 11y

Michael R. 18y  
 Greg J. 20y

Mary Lou Z. 34y

**Serenity**

SallyAnn C. 27y  
 Linda H. 29y

**Sheridan**

Kristen L. 1y  
 Jim C. 28y

Dave C. 32y

**Spirit of Hope**

Jim R. 22y

**Spiritual Progress**  
 Maggie M. 9m  
 Carol M. 2y

Lloyah S. 2y  
 Beth Ann 4y  
 Sally Ann 27y

**Sun. Morning Br.**

Janice C. 20y

**Surrender & Hope**  
 Sean M. 26y

Midge S. 42y

**TGIF**  
 Dennis M. 22y

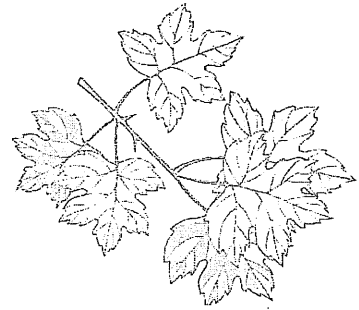
**The Journey**  
 Bridgette M. 4y  
 Mark A. 5y

Sue E. 9y  
 Christopher 10y

Jeff F. 10y  
 Dave M. 11y

**Williamsville**  
 Bill G. 1y  
 Andy R. 6y

Tom 22y



***Group Anniversaries***

4th Step Stumbers; 16y  
 Amherst Snyder; 52y  
 Any Lengths; 18y  
 Blasdeil; 45y  
 Easy Does It; 22y  
 Eyeopener; 29y  
 JC Big Book; 13y  
 Keep it Simple Sister; 23y  
 Lockveiw; 25y  
 Lower River; 23y  
 McKinley Winners; 33y  
 Chapter V; 23y  
 Reflections; 9y  
 Stepping Stones Gowanda; 24y  
 Sunday AM Breakfast; 23y  
 The Journey-20y(belated)  
 Turning Point; 28y  
 Twin Cities; 69y  
 Women's Westside; 23y

Please remember to  
*have the anniversaries  
 submitted by  
 the 12th  
 END OF BUSINESS DAY 4:30!  
 of the month  
 previous*



## BUFFALO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Pete E. Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with a moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer. Sue (Courage Group) read the Preamble, Nadav (How It Works) read the Purpose of Central Committee, Brian (Eye Opener) read the Twelve Traditions. It was moved by Pat (Thru-Way Group) and seconded by Debi (OP Step) to accept the September minutes. Refreshments were Provided by The Courage group (Next month they will be provided by Sober Train). New groups were greeted and 19 groups were represented: #2 Acceptance/Welcome, How It Works, North Buffalo, Questions and Answers, Sheridan, Sober Train, Three Legacies, Dist. #3 Iron Horse, New Life, South Buffalo, Thruway Dist. #4 Orchard Park Step, Dist. #5 Lockport No.1, Simplicity, Dist. #6 As Bill Sees it, Derby, Lakeshore, Dist. #7 Fresh Start Dist. #8 Eye Opener

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

•**ENVELOPE SYSTEM:** No Report

•**STEERING COMMITTEE-** Attended: Chair, Co-Chair, Financial Secretary, Executive Secretary and Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8. Positions 1, and 7 are open. There were no issues discussed that need to be addressed by the Central Committee. Sincerely, Chip R.

•**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Good news everyone!! We received over \$4,600 in group contributions. Four groups, who donated a total of \$3,338, had not donated until this month. Our envelope system is still under average, but our income is being uplifted by our growing group contributions. Accounts receivable is \$421.21. The majority of the money owed is less than 30 days, with one over 90 days. We had income of \$8,382.28 and expenses of \$9,450.25 for a net loss of \$1,067.97. Expenses were higher this month due to paying the quarterly sales tax and postage lease. We also had PIC expenses of \$5.38 in literature. Bank balances are \$13,974.23 in general operating, \$3,000 in petty cash, and \$23,105.60 in prudent reserve. Corrections received \$370.00 and had expenses of \$71.00, leaving a balance of \$1,606.87. Treatment received contributions of \$120.00 and expenses of \$318.00 leaving a balance of \$2,728.96. Respectfully submitted, yours in AA, Sue B

•**TREATMENT:** No Report

•**CORRECTIONS:** No Report

•**CENTRAL OFFICE:** October OFFICE REPORT

AAINFO:171,12-STEP:2,ALANON:2,VISITORS:114,VOLUNTEERS: 5

GROUPS WE ARE IN NEED OF CONTACTS FROM ARE; Sunday's in Cattaraugus 6, HIGHER POWERED 7, VIP-2 I will be on vacation Novemeber 19, 20, 21, and 23.

Yours in the fellowship of the Spirit...Terry B.

•**NEW FRONTIERS:** No Report

•**CONVENTION:** We had a walk through meeting Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at Marriott. Everything is set. We have 325 pre-registrations at this time. All is on schedule. Only a few service positions open in greeting and coffee serving. Please attend Oct. 26,27,28<sup>th</sup> Jack M

•**GSA LIASON:** Treatment Facilities Chair has resigned, anyone interested please attend the next meeting Nov 4, 2012. In order to avoid conflicts in event planning we have set permanent dates for our Pre and Post Conference Workshops, Pre conference will be 3rd Saturday in March and Post conference will be 3rd Saturday in May. Website does not have the registration section ,so Area website cannot use it. An Ad Hoc committee is being set up to study the need for a Financial Committee. Joanne McC. Has put in her resume to stand for Trustee –at – Large US. Budget for 2012 was approved, and three revisions to the Guidelines were defeated. Ours in service John C Liaison

•**ARCHIVES:** We thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you this past month. We have had a busy month reporting to the four intergroup's in Area 50 and showing the video on Ground Zero that we received from SENY at the State Convention. We also displayed the video at the General Assembly meeting in Hamburg September 9th. We had one other display at the 44th anniversary of the Action Group in Orchard Park on September 23<sup>rd</sup> In October we will have a display at the 20th anniversary of the Journey Group on Monday the 15th. We will also have a full display at the Buffalo Fall Convention at the Marriot in Amherst the 26th - 28<sup>th</sup> The video from Ground Zero will be shown throughout the weekend. Please attend the convention and visit the Archives Display. We received contributions in September from the Thruway Group, the Iron Horse Group, Sobriety Men's Discussion, and the Action Group. We continue to depend upon your support to maintain and enhance the archives. Please send contributions to: Area 50 Archives, c/o Buffalo Central Office, 681 Seneca St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14210. Thank you for your continued support. Some of us had the privilege to attend a anniversary meeting at the Serenity Group in St. Catharine's Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> Ralph Z. celebrated 62 years of sobriety. Early in the history of Area 50, the Niagara peninsula was part of our area. Ralph served as a Panel 22 delegate from our area. This was the year after our Founder Bill W. passed. He continues to attend three to four meetings a week and share his great experience with us.

Yours in service, Wally E. Area 50 Panel 62 Archives Chair

•**AD HOC:** No Report

•**RECAP:**

•**OLD BUSINESS:** Saturday Night Alive group was voted into the meeting schedule (17- for, 0- against, 2-abstain)

•**NEW BUSINESS:** Derek (Lockport No. 1) offered to make a map or maps for the Central Office depicting North East Region of AA, Area 50, Central Offices, and area districts and intergroup districts. Next Committee meeting there will be positions in need of nominations for the upcoming year. Positions are Co-Chair, Recording Secretary, and Steering Representatives 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7.

**NEXT MEETING: November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7pm.**

Sober Train Group will be providing refreshments at next month's meeting.

It was moved by JD (Three Legacies) and seconded by Derek (Lockport No.1) that we adjourn; adopted. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:56 p.m.

| Cash Flow Statement                 | Jul-12            | Aug-12           | Sep-12            | YTD               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Reg Bal Cash on hand                | 10,023.63         | 8,837.65         | 15,042.20         |                   |
| <b>Contributions</b>                |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Groups                              | 3,626.41          | 5,411.64         | 4,607.88          | 37,162.52         |
| Joint Meeting                       | 31.75             | 47.75            | 57.00             | 396.21            |
| Envelope System                     | 792.00            | 157.00           | 370.00            | 4,398.00          |
| New Frontiers Subs                  | 148.00            | 44.00            | 53.00             | 469.00            |
| Literature/Medallions/Pins          | 2,698.40          | 6,104.30         | 3,026.45          | 34,615.87         |
| Literature Sales Tax                | 223.95            | 429.11           | 229.20            | 2,494.90          |
| Literature Postage                  | 31.93             | 45.65            | 10.75             | 268.11            |
| Sales +/-                           |                   |                  |                   | (48.64)           |
| Archives Room Rent                  |                   | 200.00           |                   | 600.00            |
| Com. Meetings at CO                 | 18.00             | 19.30            | 28.00             | 196.30            |
| Mail/Misc.                          | 25.00             | 25.00            |                   | 205.00            |
| Tax Returns                         |                   | 720.56           |                   |                   |
| Transfer from PR                    |                   | 5,000.00         |                   |                   |
| "Gratitude Month" (NOV)             |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| Conventions/Day of Sharing          |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| <b>Monthly Income</b>               | <b>7,695.44</b>   | <b>18,204.31</b> | <b>8,382.28</b>   | <b>86,496.69</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                     |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Office Rent                         | 892.23            | 892.23           | 892.23            | 8,030.48          |
| Electric                            | 90.00             | 90.00            | 90.00             | 810.00            |
| <b>Payroll Gross</b>                | <b>2,571.40</b>   | <b>3,853.50</b>  | <b>2,571.40</b>   | <b>25,699.60</b>  |
| Employment Taxes                    | 196.70            | 295.05           | 196.70            | 2,140.52          |
| Unemployment Surcharge              |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| <b>Payroll Tax Deposits</b>         |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Federal                             |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| State                               |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| NYS Sales Tax                       |                   |                  | 924.85            | 2,413.46          |
| Insurance                           |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| State Ins Fund(Travelers)           | (2.40)            | (3.60)           | (2.40)            | 358.60            |
| Health                              | 1,252.16          | 626.08           | 626.08            | 5,634.72          |
| Liability                           |                   |                  |                   | 1,235.23          |
| Postage                             | 1.35              | 198.70           | 288.99            | 2,316.09          |
| Phone                               | 168.09            | 167.48           | 168.18            | 1,502.53          |
| Accounting                          |                   |                  |                   | 1,600.00          |
| Paychex                             | 83.13             | 111.27           | 74.18             | 826.04            |
| Advt                                |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Talking Phone Book                  |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Super Media                         | 165.15            | 165.15           | 165.15            | 1,478.85          |
| website                             |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| white directory                     |                   | 143.00           |                   | 143.00            |
| Yellow Pages                        |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| <b>Literature Expenses</b>          |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Grapevine                           |                   |                  |                   | 498.47            |
| World Services Inc                  | 2,024.00          | 2,888.00         | 2,141.20          | 19,704.75         |
| Hazeldon                            | 602.75            |                  | 616.50            | 2,011.06          |
| Printers                            |                   | 1,628.00         |                   | 3,248.00          |
| Medallions                          |                   |                  | 140.96            | 223.37            |
| PINS                                |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| Petty Cash                          |                   |                  |                   |                   |
| Office Supplies                     | 174.31            | 342.45           | 10.43             | 1,497.09          |
| Answering service                   | 189.55            | 168.20           | 172.80            | 1,571.95          |
| Copier leasing                      | 209.00            | 209.00           | 209.00            | 1,881.00          |
| Copies/ service contract            | 161.00            | 161.00           | 161.00            | 1,449.00          |
| PIC                                 |                   |                  |                   | 52.62             |
| Bank Fee's                          | 3.00              | 3.00             | 3.00              | 51.00             |
| literature returns re-embsement     |                   | 61.25            |                   | 61.25             |
| Seed \$\$                           |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| Seminar                             |                   |                  |                   | -                 |
| <b>Monthly Expenses</b>             | <b>3,781.42</b>   | <b>11,999.76</b> | <b>9,450.25</b>   | <b>87,098.68</b>  |
| <b>Monthly Income (Loss)</b>        | <b>(1,185.98)</b> | <b>6,204.55</b>  | <b>(1,067.97)</b> | <b>(\$601.99)</b> |
| End Balance                         | 8,837.65          | 15,042.20        | 13,974.23         |                   |
| Petty Cash                          | 3,000.00          | 3,000.00         | 3,000.00          |                   |
| <b>Total Balance</b>                | <b>11,837.65</b>  | <b>18,042.20</b> | <b>16,974.23</b>  |                   |
| <b>PRUDENT RESERVE</b>              | <b>28,102.86</b>  | <b>23,104.69</b> | <b>23,105.60</b>  |                   |
| Assets: Literature & Medallions     | 11,492.50         | 11,993.52        | 13,083.86         |                   |
| Literature Receivable:(outstanding) | 1,248.07          | 689.54           | 427.21            |                   |
| PIC Removed from Stock              |                   |                  | 5.38              |                   |
| <b>Corrections Facilites</b>        | <b>1,092.12</b>   | <b>1,300.34</b>  | <b>1,307.87</b>   |                   |
| Contributions                       | 293.22            | 250.53           | 370.00            | 2,633.92          |
| Bank Fee's                          | 3.00              | 3.00             | 3.00              | 27.00             |
| Expenses                            | 82.00             | 240.00           | 68.00             | 1,846.75          |
| <b>Balance</b>                      | <b>1,300.34</b>   | <b>1,307.87</b>  | <b>1,606.87</b>   | <b>814.17</b>     |
| <b>Treatment Facilites</b>          | <b>2,932.96</b>   | <b>3,079.96</b>  | <b>2,926.96</b>   |                   |
| Contributions                       | 150.00            | 90.00            | 120.00            | 885.00            |
| Expenses                            |                   | 240.00           | 315.00            | 1,907.75          |
| Bank Fee's                          | 3.00              | 3.00             | 3.00              | 27.00             |
| <b>Balance</b>                      | <b>3,079.96</b>   | <b>2,926.96</b>  | <b>2,728.96</b>   | <b>1,934.75</b>   |
|                                     |                   |                  |                   | <b>(1,022.75)</b> |

| GROUP                           | CENTRAL |        | CORRECTIONS |      | TREATMENT |      |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------|-------------|------|-----------|------|
|                                 | SEPT    | YEAR   | SEPT        | YEAR | SEPT      | YEAR |
| 1 One Day At A Time             | 60.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 On The Cliffs                 | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Open Arms                     | 150.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Open Mind                     | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Orchard Park Step             | 783.31  |        | 25.00       |      | 0.00      |      |
| 8 Our Meeting @ the VA          | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Patchin                       | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Pendleton Chapter Five        | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Point of No Return            | 30.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Powerless                     | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Pride                         | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Primary Purpose               | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Principles Ref. Personalities | 100.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Progress                      | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Purpose/Tonawanda             | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Questions & Answers           | 25.00   | 100.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Ray of Hope                   | 10.00   | 60.00  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Recovery Near the Gardens     | 35.50   | 37.45  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Reflections                   | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Reflections on Recovery       | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Remember When                 | 100.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Renaissance                   | 900.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Renewal                       | 37.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Ridge                         | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Rigorous Monast               | 6.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Rise and Shine                | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Rochester                     | 150.00  | 250.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Roland                        | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Rural is Plural               | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Sally                         | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 8 Saratoga                      | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Saturday 12 & 12              | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Sat. Nite Sober               | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Searching For Serenity        | 100.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Second Chance                 | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Serenity                      | 50.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Serenity on the Lake          | 0.00    |        | 300.00      |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Serenity Trails               | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Setaside                      | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Sheridan                      | 200.00  | 600.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Silvercreek Friendship        | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Simplicity                    | 25.00   | 200.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sober Saturday                | 50.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Sober Trails                  | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Sober Train                   | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sober Winners                 | 50.00   | 100.00 | 50.00       |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sobriety for Women            | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 Sobriety Men's Disc.          | 100.00  | 300.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Sobriety On The Canal         | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Sobriety on a Sat. Night      | 105.00  |        | 20.00       |      | 25.00     |      |
| 5 Sobriety on the Lake          | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Solidarity                    | 48.00   | 431.16 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Somersat                      | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 South Buffalo                 | 600.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 South Town                    | 150.00  |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Southgate                     | 0.00    |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Southwestern                  | 30.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Spirit of Hope                | 48.00   |        | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Spiritual Progress            | 40.00   | 250.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Springville Sat. Afternoon    |         | 83.56  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Springville Tues. Night       |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Springville Wed. Noon         | 25.00   | 190.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Springville New Life          |         | 120.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sprout into Sobriety          |         | 30.00  | 10.00       |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 St. Barnabas                  |         | 150.00 | 50.00       |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 St. Mark's                    |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Staying Over                  | 100.00  | 700.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Staying Sober                 |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Step Action Group             |         | 370.00 | 30.00       |      | 80.00     |      |
| 1 Stepping Stones/Will.         |         | 150.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Steps 1, 2 & 3                |         | 135.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 5 Sunday in Catterugas          |         | 30.00  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sunday Grapevine              |         | 20.00  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sunday Morning Breakfast      |         | 650.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Sunday @ 8:00                 |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Sunday's Best                 |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Sunrise Court                 |         | 550.00 | 75.00       |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 SUNY Amherst Campus           |         | 93.47  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 1 Surrender and Hope            |         | 150.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 6 TGF                           |         | 100.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Thankful                      |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 The Noon Meeting              |         | 25.00  | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 2 Three Legacies                |         | 133.71 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 3 Thruway                       | 100.00  | 743.83 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 7 Thurs. Nite Steppers          |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 TNT                           |         | 505.00 | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |
| 4 Today                         |         | 0.00   | 0.00        |      | 0.00      |      |

| GROUP                                | CENTRAL |         | CORRECTIONS |        | TREATMENT |        |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|--------|
|                                      | SEPT    | YEAR    | SEPT        | YEAR   | SEPT      | YEAR   |
| 6 11:45                              |         | 0.00    |             | 6.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 12 Steps/12 Traditions             |         | 135.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 4th Step Stumblers/F.U.N.          |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 6th Step                           |         | 125.00  |             | 6.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 4 A Day At A Time                    |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Abbott Corners                     | 108.00  | 108.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Abbott Men's                       |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Acceptance/Welcom                  | 100.00  | 100.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 8 Achievement                        |         | 200.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 4 Action                             |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Age Doesn't Matter                 |         | 50.00   |             | 50.00  |           | 0.00   |
| 8 Akron Awareness                    |         | 12.50   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Albion New Beginnings              |         | 12.50   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Alexander                          |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Amherst/ Snyder                    | 158.57  | 677.53  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Amsdell Lakeshore                  |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Any Age                            |         | 250.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Any Length                         | 35.00   | 315.00  |             | 30.00  |           | 30.00  |
| 4 Arcade                             |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 As Bill Sees It                    |         | 227.00  |             | 127.00 |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Attitude Adjustment(Williamsville) |         | 50.00   |             | 25.00  |           | 25.00  |
| 5 Attitude Adjustment(NF)            | 200.00  | 200.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Attraction                         |         | 33.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Backdoor                           |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 8 Back To Basics                     |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Beginners Group (NF)               |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 7 Beginning in Sobriety II           |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 8 Beginning's Women                  |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Big Book Lockport                  |         | 100.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 BB Spiritual Studies               |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Big Book Study                     |         | 30.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Blasdel                            |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Blasdel Monday Night               |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Bodhisattva                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Boulevard Helping Hand             |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Boulevard Women                    | 30.00   | 30.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Brass                              |         | 33.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Building Hope                      |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 By The Book                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 By the Wayside                     |         | 45.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Carry the Message                  |         | 50.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 7 Casting                            |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Cathedral Park                     |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Cayuga Wake- Up Call               | 280.00  | 730.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Caz Manor                          |         | 75.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 7 Central City Cafe                  |         | 50.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Chapter IX                         |         | 171.24  |             | 50.00  |           | 50.00  |
| 3 Cheektowaga                        | 75.00   | 850.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Changing Our Way's                 |         | 100.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Clarence Men's                     |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Clarence Men's II                  |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 7 Cold Spring                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Common Bond                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Common Solution                    |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Commitment                         |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Cornplanters                       | 10.00   | 50.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 3 Courage                            |         | 30.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Daily Reflections                  |         | 100.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Daily Reprieve                     |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Dawn of Hope                       |         | 50.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Derby                              | 100.00  | 300.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Derby Lunch                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Desire                             |         | 500.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Desperate                          |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Downtown Men's                     | 10.00   | 56.83   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Dunkirk Monday Night               |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 4 Early Bird South                   |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 Early Rising Obliging              |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 8 East Amherst                       |         | 570.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 5 East Amherst Traditions            | 20.00   | 180.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 4 East Aurora                        |         | 300.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Easy Does It                       | 115.00  | 375.00  | 100.00      | 340.00 | 30.00     | 270.00 |
| 4 Ellicottville                      |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Everybody's                        |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 1 Express                            |         | 5.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 8 Eyeopener                          | 143.41  | 1900.56 |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Eyeopener South                    | 544.00  | 1763.00 | 135.00      | 437.00 |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Feelings                           |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Fireside PM                        |         | 200.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Fireside                           | 133.00  | 1204.00 |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 First Things First                 |         | 200.00  |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Forestville Sunday Serenity        |         | 75.00   |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 6 Fraconia Discussion                |         | 0.00    |             | 0.00   |           | 0.00   |
| 2 Freedom                            |         | 400.00  |             | 100.00 |           | 0.00   |
| 7 Fresh Start                        |         | 105.00  |             | 15.00  |           | 15.00  |



## November 4th, 2012: Nominations For The Following Positions

- **Co-Chair Person for Central Committee**
- **Recording Secretary**
- **Steering Committee Representatives for districts 1, 4, 5, 6 & 7**
- **GSA Liaison**

### **The Requirements for each position are as Follows:**

#### **C. *Co-Chairperson***

1. The Co-Chairperson shall be elected by a simple majority vote of Central Committee Representatives or Alternates present and voting at the meeting designated for the election of officers. Candidates for Co-Chairperson shall be Members of Alcoholics Anonymous having a minimum of five (5) years continuous sobriety immediately preceding the date of the election. The Co-Chairperson shall serve for one year (January through December) in that office. Upon conclusion of the Co-Chairperson's year of service, that individual shall automatically succeed to the office of Chairperson in January.

#### **D. *Recording Secretary***

1. The Recording Secretary shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Central Committee Representatives present and voting at the meeting designated for the election of officers. Nominees for the office of Recording Secretary shall be Members of Alcoholics Anonymous having a minimum of two (2) years of continuous sobriety immediately preceding the date of the election. The Recording Secretary shall hold office for a one year term (January through December) and shall be eligible for re-nomination and re-election. Nominations for the office of Recording Secretary shall be made annually at the November meeting of the Central Committee. The election for this office shall be held annually at the December meeting and the elected officer shall take office in January.
2. The Recording Secretary shall have the following duties:
  - take the minutes of all proceedings at meetings of the Central Committee;
  - transcribe the minutes and have them available for review prior to the next Central Committee meeting; and
  - transmit to the Central Committee all resolutions or other communications pertaining to the business of the Central Committee.

### **STEERING COMMITTEE**

#### **Section 3.01 Purpose and Duties**

The Steering Committee shall have the duty to advise the Central Committee on all aspects of the management of the property, affairs and business concerns of the Intergroup as well as compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations of the State of New York and in a manner consistent with these By-Laws. Such duties shall include, without limitation, ensuring the Intergroup's compliance with federal, state and local laws, protecting the Intergroup's assets and ensuring the financial viability of the Central Office, allocating the resources in the best interests of the Intergroup such that the Central Committee functions and the Central Office operates in accordance with the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts of World Service of Alcoholics Anonymous.

#### **Section 3.02 Additional Duties**

- A. The Steering Committee shall provide analysis, advice and counsel on matters as requested by the Central Committee Chairperson and/or the Executive Secretary of the Central Office when,



because of time and/or other considerations, such matters cannot be brought to the Central Committee.

- B. The Steering Committee is responsible and authorized to act in place of the Central Committee in emergency situations.
- C. The Steering Committee shall oversee the whole of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Area and consider whether the actions, policies, the manner of conducting meetings by groups or actions of individual A.A. Members could have an effect on local groups or Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, as guided by the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.
- D. The Steering Committee shall follow through on various tasks, matters and/or issues as directed by the Central Committee.
- E. The Steering Committee shall provide summaries and reports and shall otherwise make suggestions and/or recommendations to the Central Committee.
- F. The Steering Committee shall serve as the confidential contact and liaison with the Executive Secretary of the Central Office. Such personal and confidential communication will ensure that the Executive Secretary may air his or her complaints and concerns without fear of reprisal and that the performance of the Executive Secretary may be confidentially evaluated

B. *Qualifications*

A Member of the Steering Committee must be a Member of Alcoholics Anonymous whose home group is within the District he or she is elected to represent. The individual must also have at least three (3) years of continuous sobriety before the effective date of his or her term as a Member.

C. *Term and Election*

3. District Members - The term of the Members elected from the 8 Districts shall be two (2) years commencing on January 1<sup>st</sup> following his or her election and ending on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the second year of service.

- Members representing the following Districts shall be elected to terms beginning in years ending in an odd number:

|            |                      |
|------------|----------------------|
| District 2 | North Erie County    |
| District 3 | South Buffalo & East |
| District 7 | Buffalo East         |
| District 8 | Northeast Erie       |

- Members representing the following Districts shall be elected to terms beginning in years ending that end in an even number:

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>District 1</u> | <u>Buffalo West</u>   |
| <u>District 4</u> | <u>Southeast</u>      |
| <u>District 5</u> | <u>Niagara County</u> |
| <u>District 6</u> | <u>Southwest</u>      |

STILL OPEN FROM 2011:

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| <u>District 7</u> | <u>Buffalo East</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|

4. In the spirit of service rotation, Members may not be re-elected to two (2) consecutive terms on the Steering Committee. However, a Member once having completed and served his or term may again be nominated and re-elected as a Member after an absence of at least one year from the Steering Committee.

- 5. Members of the Steering Committee (from Districts) shall be selected or elected by the Central Committee Members of the groups within the particular Districts in such manner as they shall determine.

# Elections On December 2, 2012

# PROPOSED AMMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION:

**Motion;** Raeanne (Three Legacies Group) submitted a written motion to go back to the groups to “change the term ‘District’ in Central Committee By-Laws to ‘Zone’ to avoid confusion with Area level districts.” Motion was seconded by Pat (Thru-Way Group) and will be voted on in November.

## ARTICLE III;

### Section 3.03 Members, Qualifications, Term and Elections

#### A. *Members*

The Steering Committee shall be comprised of twelve (12) Members (the “Members”), as follows:

- the Chairperson of the Central Committee;
- the Co-Chairperson of the Central Committee;
- the Financial Chairperson of the Central Committee;
- the Executive Secretary of the Central Office; and
- one elected Member from each ZONE(\*) of the Western New York/Niagara Frontier General Service Area as follows:

ZONE 1Buffalo West

ZONE 2North Erie County

ZONE 3South Buffalo & East

ZONE 4South East

ZONE 5Niagara County

ZONE 6Southwest

ZONE 7Buffalo East

ZONE 8Northeast Erie

(\*) A map showing the current delineation of the ZONE boundaries is attached to these By-Laws as Appendix II. Appendix II also contains a current listing of the names of the groups in each ZONE. This list shall be updated whenever a new group is formed or an existing group no longer meets.

#### B. *Qualifications*

A Member of the Steering Committee must be a Member of Alcoholics Anonymous whose home group is within the ZONE he or she is elected to represent. The individual must also have at least three (3) years of continuous sobriety before the effective date of his or her term as a Member.

3. ZONE Members - The term of the Members elected from the 8 ZONE's shall be two (2) years commencing on January 1<sup>st</sup> following his or her election and ending on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the second year of service.

▪ Members representing the following ZONE's shall be elected to terms beginning in years ending in an odd number:

ZONE 2North Erie County

ZONE 3South Buffalo & East

ZONE 7Buffalo East

ZONE 8Northeast Erie

▪ Members representing the following ZONE's shall be elected to terms beginning in years ending that end in an even number:

ZONE 1Buffalo West

ZONE 4Southeast

ZONE 5Niagara County

ZONE 6Southwest

4. In the spirit of service rotation, Members may not be re-elected to two (2) consecutive terms on the Steering Committee. However, a Member once having completed and served his or term may again be nominated and re-elected as a Member after an absence of at least one year from the Steering Committee.

5. Members of the Steering Committee (from ZONE's) shall be selected or elected by the Central Committee Members of the groups within the particular ZONE in such manner as they shall determine.

F. Vacancies

If any Member of the Steering Committee should resign or be removed during their term, the Central Committee Representatives of the ZONE represented by the resigned or removed Member shall elect, as soon as is possible and practicable, a qualified candidate to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the existing term. A Member who has been elected to serve for the remainder of an existing term shall be eligible for re-election for the next following full two (2) year term for that ZONE provided that the remainder of the existing term served is less than one year.

Section 3.05 Meetings and Voting;

B. Quorum

Attendance by Members constituting at least two thirds (66.66%) of the then serving Members of the Steering Committee shall constitute a quorum. If there is a vacancy on the Steering Committee at any time when the determination of a quorum must be made, the vacant Member's seat shall not be counted in calculating the percentage required to constitute a quorum. The vote of the majority of Members present at any meeting where there is a quorum shall decide on an issue or authorize any action to be taken by the Steering Committee. The Co-Chairperson of the Central Committee shall be a Member of the Steering Committee and shall be permitted to attend and participate in all meetings of the Steering Committee but the Central Committee Co-Chairperson shall not have a vote on issues or actions to be decided by the Steering Committee. The Central Committee Chairperson, the Central Committee Financial Chairperson, the Executive Secretary of the Central Office and all elected Representatives of each of the eight (8) ZONE's shall be entitled to one vote on any issue or action to be decided by the Steering Committee.

Section 3.06 Miscellaneous;

A. When a Member cannot attend a Steering Committee Meeting, that Member should appoint an Alternate Representative from his or her ZONE who has at least three (3) years of continuous sobriety to represent him or her at the meeting.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS



District 11, Area 50

# Day of Sharing

Who: everyone, especially district GSRs, district home group members, others interested in AA service

When: **Saturday, November 10, 2012**  
5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church,  
695 Elmwood Ave. @ W. Ferry

What: Topic: “*The A. A. Group*”

- Speaker
- Panel
- Food & Fellowship
- Fun

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition basket will be passed

Contact:

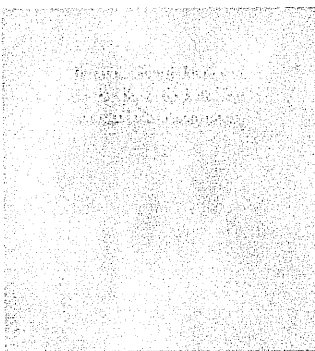
Gary W., District Committee Member (DCM), District 11, Area 50  
[district11@area50wny.org](mailto:district11@area50wny.org)

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE 12 STEPS

## A FIVE WEEK WORKSHOP

THE  
TWELVE STEPS  
SUGGESTED IN  
THE BIG BOOK  
AS A  
PROGRAM OF  
RECOVERY

ALCOHOLICS  
ANONYMOUS



QUESTIONS?  
Call 479-8888

## FIVE ONE HOUR SESSIONS

STARTS :Wednesday, November 7,  
2012

### Dates

Wednesday, November 7, 2012  
Wednesday, November 14, 2012  
Wednesday, November 21, 2012  
Wednesday, November 28, 2012  
Wednesday, December 05, 2012

**4:00—5:00 PM**

*HELPING HAND GROUP  
ST. JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH  
SOUTHWESTERN BLVD.  
ORCHARD PARK, NY*

### SPONSORING GROUPS

- \* *East Aurora*
- \* *Helping Hands*
- \* *Holiday Village*
- \* *Iron Horse*
- \* *New Beginnings (Springbrook)*
- \* *Principles Before Personalities*
- \* *Southwestern*
- \* *Springville New Life*
- \* *Springville Weds. Noon*

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