



Carry the Message September 2008

The Huron Valley Area Intergroup Newsletter

Serving the Recovery Community since 1979

Step Nine

Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition Nine: Long Form

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its Secretary, the large group its Rotating Committee, and the

groups of a large Metropolitan area their Central or Intergroup Committee, which often employs a full-time Secretary.

The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-

all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principle newspaper, "The A.A. Grapevine."

All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

Traditions Checklist—from the A.A. Grapevine

For Tradition Nine

1. Do I still try to boss things in AA?
2. Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?
3. Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?
7. Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully—and profit thereby—when the time comes?
8. What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

Published by the Huron Valley Area Intergroup, 31 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 (I-94 exit 183 "Ypsilanti, Huron Street", 0.9 miles north)

Hours: Tues—Fri, 1 p.m.—6 p.m. Phone: (734) 482-0707 Website: www.hvai.org E-mail: office@hvai.org Help Line: (734) 482-5700 orhelpline@hvai.org

HVAI Contributions

Huron Valley Area Intergroup could not exist without the support of our many Groups and generous contributions from individual members. We rely on your contributions to keep our doors open to the still suffering alcoholics, and those who care for them. We wish to thank the following contributors:

Ann Arbor Sat. 10 a.m. Living the Steps

Milan/ Mon. 8:30

Saline Tue. In The Barn

Ann Arbor Tue. 6 p.m. Beginner's, 7:30 p.m. No Smoking

ANONYMOUS

Ypsilanti Sat. 8 p.m. Weekend By the Book

Ann Arbor Th. 9:30 a.m. Stadium Big Book Group

Ann Arbor Tu. 7:30 p.m. Hope is Here

Meeting Updates

Our meeting updates are now available online at www.hvai.org.

New to the HVAI website is a searchable meeting directory! heck it out, let us know what you think, and help us to spread the word. You can search by day, time, location, and type of meeting to name a few options.

The Spring 2008 meeting directory is now available. Get one at a local meeting or stop into the HVAI office at 31 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti MI.

Bill's Last Message

**Read by Lois at the annual dinner given by the New York Intergroup Association in honor of Bill's 36th anniversary—October 10, 1970.*

My dear friends,

Recently an A.A. member sent me an unusual greeting which I would like to extend to you. He told me it was an ancient Arabian salutation. Perhaps we have no Arabian groups, but it still seems a fitting expression of how I feel for each of you. It says, "I salute you and thank you for your life."

My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our Fellowship and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God's Grace.

If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our continuity, I would say, the "Concept of Anonymity."

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity

demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.

A.A. must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we, turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God's Grace.

And so—once more, I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you *for your lives.*

May God bless us all now, and forever.

*Ever Yours
Bill*

Send Your Voluntary 7th Tradition Contributions To:

Huron Valley Area Intergroup
31 South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

District 4
Washtenaw County Treasurer
Box 971502
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Central Michigan Intra-Area 32
C.M.I.A. Area 32 Treasurer
P. O. Box 283
Saline, MI 48176

AA World Service
Grand Central Station
P.O. Box 459
New York, NY 10164-0423

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER, 2008

September 7, 2008: Dawn Farm Jamboree. 1-6 PM FREE activities for all ages, (live music, hayrides, animals, pony rides,& silent auctions). Funds raised from the auctions will help defray treatment costs for individuals who have no other resources. Dawn Farm, 6633 Stoney Creek Road, Ypsilanti MI.

September 7, 2008: (1st. Sun) CMIA 32 Assembly: Knights of Columbus Hall, 165 W Federal Highway, Roscommon MI 48653

September 13, 2008: Karaoke at Washtenaw Alano Club, every other Saturday evening 6 PM- midnight FREE. 995 N. Maple Rd, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103 www.washtenawalano.org 734-668-8138

September 27, 2008: Karaoke at Washtenaw Alano Club, every other Saturday evening 6 PM- midnight FREE. 995 N. Maple Rd, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103 www.washtenawalano.org 734-668-8138

OCTOBER, 2008

October 2-5, 2008: Woman's AA Retreat Friday-Sunday (pre-retreat, Thurs. 7:30p) Weber Center, Adrian, Mi. Info: adriandominicans.org/weber/program.cfm

October 3-5, 2008: 21st Tri-County Conference: "Journey to Serenity" at the Troy Marriott. Sponsored by A.A. of Greater Detroit Central Office. For more info: 248) 541-6565

October 3-5, 2008: Midwest Woman to Woman Seminar in St. Louis, Missouri: "Show Me Serenity".
for info: 314)322-7749 or www.midwest-woman-to-woman.com

October 3-5, 2008: 4th Annual Greater Cleveland Conference www.greaterclevelandconference.com

October 5, 2008: (1st. Sun.) CMIA 32 Assembly: Bay City **NOTE: beginning February 1, 2009, CMIA 32 Assemblies will be held EVERY OTHER MONTH, on the first Sunday, locations to be announced. There will be no January Assembly.**

October 17-19, 2008: Michigan Women's Conference, McGuire's Resort in Cadillac MI.
www.michiganwc.com

October 26-Nov 2, 2008: 7th Annual Halloween Gratitude Cruise, Freedom of the Seas by Royal Caribbean, the largest cruise ships in the world! Daily 12 Step Meetings, 24 Hour Fellowship Station, Al Anon participation. www.gratitudecruise.com www.sobercelebrations.com

'Tis the Season...

Politics in AA is called reaching an informed group conscience. Politics in AA is what took one side who wanted an entirely Christian Big Book and the other side who wanted no mention of God whatever and ended up with God as we understand Him. Politics in AA is what has put together every piece of Conference approved literature. Politics in AA, if done on principles and not personalities, is a spiritual exercise

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A.A. Preamble: ...A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our Primary purpose is to stay sober and help others to achieve sobriety.

Tradition 10.—No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

Wouldn't it be sad if a newcomer didn't get your ESH (experience, strength, and hope) because they couldn't get past your Nader-obobama-cain T-shirt?

District 4 Corner

The HVAJ provides this space as a courtesy to District 4 in the spirit of cooperation in carrying the message. Please direct all questions and comments to your Home Group GSR or DCM or attend a District 4 meeting.

District 4 News

District 4 monthly meeting is held at 7 PM on the third Monday of each month. The meeting is primarily for G.S.R.s and L.C.M.s and all AAs are welcome to attend.

The September District meeting will take place on Monday September 15, 2008 at the *First Congregational Church*, 608 East William Street, Ann Arbor, at the intersection of William and State Streets.

Elections for District 4 Officers and Chairs will be held at the December 15, 2008 meeting. Nominations will be accepted at the October 20 and November 17 meetings. Open positions include:

- District Chair
- Alternate District Chair
- Treasurer
- Alternate Treasurer
- Secretary
- Alternate Secretary
- District Committee Member
- Alternate District Committee Member

Grapevine: Looking for volunteers to serve on Grapevine Committee for District 4 and ideas on how to share the Grapevine message. Contact Daryl A. at 517.851.8255.

Share your Story: A.A.s willing

to share story in local treatment facilities contact Shannon T. at 734.678.2478 or district4treatment@gmail.com

Carry the Message: join the Public Information Committee! Matt O. mobrien9@emich.edu

District 4 Finances

06/01/08 – 06/30/08	
Beginning balance:	\$1289.51
Total income	\$325.16
Total expenses	\$ 82.00
Closing balance:	\$1532.67

07/01/08 – 07/31/08	
Beginning balance:	\$1532.67
Total income	\$365.55
Total expenses	\$297.05

We hope you are convinced now that God can remove whatever self-will has blocked you off from Him.