

HVAI NEWLETTER OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019

HURON VALLEY AREA INTERGROUP NEWSLETTER

Keeping the Buzz Going

When I was about 12 years old, my grandmother gave me some Mogen David wine as a medicinal panacea. I was wild about its magic effects. I felt so good! I continued to seek that initial magic for 70 years. Had I known my biological father I may have suspected what was to follow. I didn't meet him until I was in my forties, and I was a full-blown alcoholic by then.

Like many of us, I was a functioning alcoholic. I drank in high school, college, and everywhere in between. I was not a binge drinker, but a maintenance drinker imbibing just enough to keep the buzz going. At times I would have hangovers, but they weren't anything I couldn't handle. Everyone knew of my exploits. The result was predictable.

My first relationship lasted 26 years, and we both drank to excess. Although I was getting therapy, I didn't think this dependency was a problem, so we talked about mostly existential things, with the topic of alcohol one of passing interest. Alcohol was always the steady ingredient in the big fights, wounded pride and remorseful acts in my life.

After the relationship ended, I moved on to a single life for a couple of years. I was successful in my career, enjoying the benefits that went along with it. There were planes, boats, and other trips. I thought everything was fine.

I was lucky and found the love of my life. Despite pure joy and delight, I continued to drink. One day things got out of hand, and the police were called. I was drunk, of course, and could not believe what was happening. The police pressed charges with serious consequences to follow. My partner left me, and I continued to drink. I drove myself drunk to yet another detox where I finally became willing. Sobriety cleared my mind, and the message was loud and clear: I was in a good deal of personal trouble and could not fix my broken life alone.

My partner left me for a year. It took that long for me to put myself back together and find some physical and emotional health. I practiced a strong program, working the steps, staying in touch with my sponsor, and finding a higher power. I did everything I could to return to a good and simple life without the lifelong influence of alcohol.

It hasn't been easy. The bottle still turns my head every once in a while, but I know my triggers and haven't relapsed. After many measures and a fine therapist, my partner and I decided to try once again. I have found a new spirit of life as I continue to walk the road of sobriety, finding redemption, meaning and purpose along the way and enjoying life one day at a time,

—Anonymous AA

It Is Time for Our Holiday Alkathons!

The holidays can be challenging, leaving us feeling isolated and alone.

Please consider having your home group sponsor a two-hour slot for the Christmas and New Year alkathons.

Please contact Linda at HVAI with your group's availability.

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 6

9:00am
Central Michigan Intra-Area (1st Sun./even months)

Monday, December 16

7:00pm
District 4 General Service Meeting

Saturday, December 21

10:30am
Corrections Committee Meeting (3rd Sat.)
1:00pm
No HVAI Business Meeting (3rd Sat.) this month.

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Alkathon begins.
10:00pm
Promises, Fruits of Recovery, and Friday Night

Wednesday, December 25

12:00am
Despartely in Need
2:00am
Saline Last Chance
4:00am
The On-Ramp Group
6:00am
New Awakening
8:00am
Saturday Morning Men's
10:00am
Fellowship Group
Noon
Washtenaw Alano Club Christmas Dinner
(a dish to pass is welcomed)
2:00pm
Principles Before Personalities
4:00pm
A Vision for You
6:00pm
Volunteer Alkathon Group Needed
8:00pm
Stadium Big Book
10:00pm
Sisters in Sobriety and Sober Now
Christmas Alkathon ends at midnight.

Saturday, December 28

7:00pm
4th Saturday, Little House Open Speaker Night

Tuesday, December 31

Umbrella Ball at Dawn Farm Barn.
*7:30 open speaker, complimentary hor d'oeuvres,
9:00 dance. \$5 per person.*

Friends of Little House at Riverside Arts Center.
*6:00 dinner, 8:00 open speaker, 10:00 dance.
\$10 per person, \$15 per couple.*

New Year's Alkathon begins.

10:00pm
Promises, Fruits of Recovery and Friday Night

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

12:00am
Volunteer Alkathon Group Needed

2:00am
Saline Last Chance

4:00am
The On-Ramp Group

6:00am
New Awakening

8:00am
Saturday Morning Men's

10:00am
Fellowship Group

12:00pm
Volunteer Alkathon Group Needed

2:00pm
Volunteer Alkathon Group Needed

2:00pm
Washtenaw Alano Club New Year's Dinner
(a dish to pass is welcomed)

4:00pm
Desperately in Need

6:00pm
Volunteer Alkathon Group Needed

8:00pm
Stadium Big Book

10:00pm
Sisters in Serenity and Sober Now

New Year Alkathon ends at midnight.

Saturday, January 18, 2020

10:30am
Corrections Committee Meets (3rd Sat./monthly)

1:00pm
HVAI Business Meeting (3rd Sat./monthly)

For more information visit HVAI.org and click on “Calendar”

In AA News at AA.org

[Quarterly Report from GSO](#)

Recent activities of the General Service Board, including AA World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc.

Meeting Guide 3.0 Update

The updated Meeting Guide, a mobile app that helps people find AA meetings and resources, is now live.

Box 459 Fall Issue

The first installment of the new *Box 459* series includes information about technology that is changing the way Alcoholics Anonymous communicates to suffering alcoholics and interacts with its members. This issue also has brief biographies of five new trustees (Class A and Class B) and features an article on first responders in recovery.

GSO Systems Update

We've gone live with our new NetSuite system that includes our new online bookstores and online contribution system.

AA Call for Stories to Update “For the Older Alcoholic”

The trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee is seeking stories from a broad cross section of older AA members to make the pamphlet more representative of the Fellowship.

Alcoholics Anonymous Selects Two Friends of AA to Serve as Trustees

Sister Judith Ann Karam, congregational leader of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine in Cleveland, Ohio, and Dr. Al J. Mooney, a pioneer in the field of addiction medicine in Cary, North Carolina, have been selected as Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Resumes for Trustees Election Due January 1, 2020

Two new Class B (alcoholic) regional trustees, from the West Central and Western Canada regions, will be elected at the General Service Conference in April 2020. Resumes must be submitted by area delegates from the US/Canada only and received at GSO no later than January 1, 2020. In seeking applications for vacancies in Alcoholics Anonymous, the fellowship is committed to creating a large file of qualified applicants that reflect the inclusiveness and diversity of AA itself. Please submit your candidates' resumes to the secretary, Trustees Committee on Nominating, GSO. at nominating@aa.org or mail to the secretary, Trustees Nominating Committee, c/o The General Service Office, PO Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163..

Archives Checklist: A Quick Guide for Local Archivists

A quick guide for local AA archivists on getting started, the collection process, storage, maintenance, security, outreach, and more.

[New Book: Our Great Responsibility](#)

The first original title released by Alcoholics Anonymous since *Daily Reflections*, the book *Our Great Responsibility: A Selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951–1970* is now available in English, French, and Spanish. Publication of this important volume culminates years of research and transcription of archived audio recordings of Bill W. addressing the General Service Conference. Complementing the text are more than sixty photographs and other images from the AA archives, some never before published. Timeless and timely, these 16 talks give fresh perspectives on the AA Fellowship in our cofounder's own words. For more information, visit the [AAWS Online Bookstore](#) or call (212) 870-3312.

2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2–5, 2020 | Detroit, Michigan “Love and Tolerance Is Our Code”

Early mail-in registration, (\$115 per attendee), is open with registration forms available at HVAI until April 14, 2020 or online at AA.org. Only online registration, (\$140 per attendee), will be available after April 15, 2020. To register or for more information,

visit https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/2020-international-convention-frequently-asked-questions.

Statement of Purpose

The Huron Valley Area Intergroup is a service group organized in accordance with the Twelve Traditions and the AA Service Manual. Its purpose is to provide communication among AA groups and to provide services that are beyond the capabilities of any single group.

Among its responsibilities are the publication of a local group directory, maintaining an answering service, keeping in contact with local institutional meetings, coordinating area-wide events in the AA community, providing AA speakers for community events and assisting groups in obtaining AA literature.

The Intergroup is composed of representatives from Alcoholics Anonymous groups in Washtenaw County, Michigan. We meet at 1:00pm on the third (3rd) Saturday of the month at a pre-determined location to conduct business. Our standing committees may meet at other times.

Thank you to the following meetings for their recent donations.

ANONYMOUS 3

Ypsi Friends of Little House

A2/Fri. 7:30pm Ann Arbor Group Open Speaker

A2/Fri 7:30pm Fri. Night @ St. Andrews

A2/Fri. 7:30pm Primary Purpose

A2/Fri. 9:30am As Bill Sees It

A2/Mon.–Fri. 6:30am New Awakening

A2/Mon. 10:00am Stadium 12&12

A2/Mon. noon T.G.I.M.A.A.

A2/Mon. 7:30pm Sober Atheists and Agnostics

A2/Sat. 10:00am Living the Steps (12&12)

A2/Sat. 7:30pm S.N.O.W.

A2/Sat. 8:30am Sat. Morning Men's Meeting

A2/Thurs. 7:30pm First Things First

A2/Thurs. 7:30pm Fruits of Recovery

A2/Thurs. 7:00pm 1, 2, 3 Steps Group

A2/Thurs. 9:30am Stadium Big Book Group

A2/Tues. 6:00pm Beginner's & 7:30pm No Smoking

A2/Tues. 7:30pm Principles B4 Personality 2

A2/Tues. 7:30pm Sober Spice

A2/Tues. 8:00pm Working with Others

A2/Wed. 7:30pm A Vision for You

Belleville/Fri. 7:30pm 12&12

Belleville/Mon. 8:00pm Open Speaker

Chelsea/Sun. 7:00pm, Mon 8:30pm, Thurs.
8:00pm, Sat. 7:00pm

Chelsea/Tues. and Wed. Thy, Not My, Will

Dexter/Thurs. 6:30pm Women of Substance

District 4 Washtenaw: Access/Special Needs, HVAI

District 4 Washtenaw: Public Information, HVAI

Manchester/Tues. 7:00pm Serenity in Action

Saline/Thurs. 7:30pm Last Chance Group

Westland/Sun. 8:00pm Big Book at St. John's

Whittaker/Sat. 8:30am St. Joseph

New Boston/Wed. 6:00pm Always Hope, Too

Ypsi/Fri. 11:00am It's a Lifeboat

Ypsi/Fri. 5:30pm New Courage

Ypsi/Mon. 10:30am Other Directions Group

Ypsi/Mon. 7:00pm Sisters in Serenity

Ypsi/Sat. 10:30 First Things First

Ypsi/Sun. 10:00am Unity

Ypsi/Sun. 7:30pm Promises Group (LGBTQ)

Ypsi/Tues. 7:30pm Attitude Adjustment

Ypsi/Wed 7:30pm Desperately in Need

Huron Valley Area Inter-Group

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Office Phone: (734) 482-0707

Office Hours: Tuesday–Friday, 1:00pm–6:00pm

Helpline Phone Number (734) 482-5700

hvai.org