

# The Sober Times Newsletter August 2017

Intergroup Office hours are from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm  
Monday - Thursday, Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

**Cape Cod Intergroup**

Phone- 508-775-7060  
www.capecodaa.net

## Notes from the editor

Hello All,

Hopefully this finds you all enjoying your Summer on Cape Cod. Lots and lots of people around for sure. I have had the opportunity to meet some great people that have traveled here. They all speak very highly of the meetings they have attended here and all have said they are looking forward to coming back. That says a lot about Cape Cod A.A. I do have one request. If you all can help me in validating the meeting list online as well as the one in print. I have had some visitors call the office saying, "I went to this meeting at such and such and no one was there" I try my best to keep both meeting lists as up to date as possible but I can't do it without the help from the groups and A.A. members like yourselves. If anyone knows of any meetings that have disbanded or new meetings that have started up can you please forward that information to me?? I would greatly appreciate it. Summer is flying by. Get out there and enjoy it.

Chuck T.

### Service Committee Meetings

**Intergroup Reps Meeting** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 7:30  
Federated Church  
Resource Room, 320  
Main Street (Front  
Door Hyannis, MA.

**General Service Districts 1&2** Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm  
behind St David's  
Church in Nelson's  
Hall 205 Old Main  
So. Yarmouth

Newly elected GSR's are requested to meet at St. David's Church every 2nd Tuesday At 6:45 pm in Nelson's Hall for a welcoming orientation.

Barbara F. is contact for District 1 & 2  
774-836-8830

Just what is Intergroup doing for your group?

How does your group benefit from Intergroup?

How can your group have a voice in what Intergroup does?

Why not invite us to share with your group at your next business meeting and answer these questions?

A member of our Steering Committee will be glad to make a presentation at your business meeting. Contact us today. **508-775-7060**

**Your Intergroup is not a governing body and does not attempt to, nor can it, rule any AA Group.**

**Its sole purpose is to act as a clearinghouse for the convenience of members and groups desiring assistance, and to extend the Twelve Step Work of "carrying the message."**

It is suggested the 8th Tradition be read at each meeting in August:

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

Boston's Bid for ICYPAA is looking for people to get involved from Dist. 1&2. Group meets at 12 Channel St. So. Boston, 1st & 3rd Sundays at 5 P.M.

### **Did you.....**

- Begin your morning with prayer?
- Talk with another alcoholic?
- Call your sponsor?
- Are you doing service work?

## Meeting Updates

### Meeting Changes

#### New Meetings Osterville

“New Beginnings”  
Lady of Assumption Church, 76 Wianno Ave.  
Mondays 7:30-8:30

#### Chatham

"Donut Hole"  
Open 12&12  
Saturdays 10:30-11:30 819 Main  
St. Unitarian Meeting House Annex

#### Orleans

"11th step meeting" Nauset Beach 6:30-7:30am This meeting is seasonal from June 3rd to Sept. 2nd

### Would you like to serve your group?

AA gives us many ways to be of service to our fellowship.

One of those is to represent your group as an Intergroup Representative (IGR).

Does your group have an IGR? If not, why not volunteer to represent your group? Volunteer to serve at your next business meeting.

Does your group have a General Service Representative? (GSR)

The GSR is the link between your group and AA as a whole.

Your Intergroup Office is always looking for volunteers to staff the office during vacations, illness, etc. Please contact the office if interested.

### Tradition Eight: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward—even if not money—for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
7. Have I paid enough attention to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions? To the pamphlet AA Tradition—How It Developed?

### Is Cape Cod Intergroup a part of A.A.?

Cape Cod Intergroup is entirely dependent on the AA groups and individuals for its continuing operation.

Your group can participate by selecting an Intergroup Representative to represent your group.

IG Reps meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month. Any AA member can attend.

As an A.A. member you can support CCIG by volunteering. While CCIG has one paid staff worker, many of the services are provided by volunteers.



## **We Have Increased Our Inventory Of Books And Supplies To Serve You Better**

Do you have a special anniversary coming up? Does your group need a bulk order of books or other materials? Would you like to order from the comfort of your home or meeting space? Well, look no further. We have increased our inventory and are now pleased to offer painted medallions, the bronze "Boston" medallions, and 24-hour bronze medallions. Send us your email orders. There is no limit on books or other merchandise. No order too big or too small. If you are looking for specialty items we will be happy to order them for you. Come in and check us out. We would love to see and get to know you. We always try to have coffee available and have time for good conversation. Also, feel free to check out the website for info on meetings and other related information. **DON'T FORGET WE OFFER FREE SHIPPING!!!!!!**

### **Mashpee "drop-in night"**

**Providing substance use information,  
education and treatment resource options.**

**Drop In Night will be on the first Tuesday of  
each month at the Community Health Center of  
Cape Cod. 4-8 P.M.**

**107 Commercial St. Mashpee, Mass.**

**District is looking for volunteers to staff the  
A.A. table.**

**For more information call the Intergroup office.**

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

**Osterville "Beginners Group"  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Cookout  
Sunday Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30P.M.  
Our Lady of Assumption  
Church, 78 Wianno Ave.**

Volunteers are needed for the Corrections  
Committee. Please contact Roger Allen.  
for details. 508-563-4435

### **Bill W. Speaks on Tradition 8 July 1948**

Throughout the world AA's are twelfth-stepping with thousands of new prospects a month. Between one and two thousand of these sick on our first presentation; past experience shows that most of the remainder will come back to us later on. Almost entirely unorganized and completely nonprofessional, this mighty spiritual current is now flowing from alcoholics who are well to those who are sick. One alcoholic talking to another; that's all.

Could this vast and vital face-to-face effort ever be professionalized or even organized? Most emphatically, it could not. The few efforts to professionalized straight twelfth Step work have always failed quickly. Today, no AA will tolerate the idea of paid "AA therapists" or "organizers." Nor does any AA like to be told just how he must handle that new prospect of his. No, this great life-giving stream can never be dammed up by paid do-gooders or professionals. Alcoholics Anonymous is never going to cut its own lifelines. To a man, we are sure of that. But what about those who serve us full time in other capacities -- are cooks, caretakers, and paid intergroup secretaries "AA professionals"?

Because our thinking about these people is still unclear, we often feel and act as though they were such. The impression of professionalism subtly attaches to them, so we frequently hear they are "making money out of AA" or that they are "professionalizing" AA. Seemingly, if they do take our AA dollars they don't quite belong with us AA's anymore. We sometimes go further; we underpay them on the theory they ought to be glad to "cook" for AA cheap.

Now isn't this carrying our fears of professionalism rather far? If these fears ever got too strong, none but a saint or an incompetent could work for Alcoholics Anonymous. Our supply of saints being quite small, we would certainly wind up with less competent workers than we need.

We are beginning to see that our few paid workers are performing only those service tasks that our volunteers cannot consistently handle. Primarily these folks are not doing Twelfth Step work. They are just making more and better Twelfth Step work possible. Secretaries at their desks are valuable points of contact, information, and public relations. That is what they are paid for, and nothing else. They help carry the good news of AA to the outside world and bring our prospects face to face with us. That's not "AA therapy"; it's just a lot of very necessary but often thankless work.

So, where needed, let's revise our attitude toward those who labor at our special services. Let us treat them as AA associated, and not as hired help; let's recompense them fairly and, above all, let's absolve them from the label of professionalism.

Let us also distinguish clearly between "organizing the AA movement" and setting up, in a reasonably businesslike manner, its few essential services of contact and propagation. Once we do that, all will be well. The million or so fellow alcoholics who are still sick will then continue to get the break we sixty thousand AA's have already had.

Let's give our "service desks" the hand they so well deserve.

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