



Completion up to 67% in March.

The percent of phone calls that got answered increased to 67% this past month. Please encourage you groups to fill their commitments. If your group is doing well they may want to consider taking a few more shifts. Remember, we still regularly receive calls from people who really need help that are going unanswered...

When the phones ring, We are responsible for answering them. Intergroup needs your support... The alcoholic who needs help-needs your support.

Thank you to everyone who gave their time to this vital service!

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

Intergroup Phone Shift Percentages - March 2010

Group	Total Shifts Assigned	Shifts Made	Shifts Missed	% Completion
Alive Again	4	3	1	75.0%
Back to Basics	3	3	0	100.0%
Common Solution	6	4	2	66.7%
Daily Reprieve	3	3	0	100.0%
Early Birds	14	9	5	64.3%
Individual Shifts	6	5	0	83.3%
Lambda Group	2	0	2	0.0%
Living Sober	8	5	3	62.5%
New Fairfield Unity	1	1	0	100.0%
New Life	11	10	1	90.9%
Primary Purpose	3	3	0	100.0%
Recovery Unlimited	22	14	8	63.6%
Safe Harbor	3	1	2	33.3%
Sat Morning Big Book	2	0	2	0.0%
Sat Morning Mens	4	2	2	50.0%
Sober Sunrise	2	2	0	100.0%
St. Anthony's Thur Morn	1	1	0	100.0%
Stables Noon & 5:30PM	5	1	4	20.0%
Stables Tue Morning	1	0	1	0.0%
Steps to Recovery	1	0	1	0.0%
Sunday 1PM Long Hill	1	1	0	100.0%
Sunday Night St.Peters	3	3	0	100.0%
Sunday Night Stables	4	2	2	50.0%
Touchstones	13	7	6	53.8%
Unity Group	2	2	0	100.0%
Totals	111	74	37	66.7%

April 2010

NEW TIME: Phone Shift Orientation - Monday, April 1st
7:00-10:00 PM @ Intergroup's Service Office

Intergroup Rep Meeting - Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 PM
Intergroup Board Meeting - Wednesday, April 3, 8:15 PM
Intergroup Speaker Exchange - Wednesday, May 5, 8:15 PM

Next Intergroup Speaker Exchange: **May.5**

Exchange meets at 8:15 PM on the first Wed. of February, May, August and November. Immediately following the Intergroup rep meeting.



Intergroup's Service Office
718 West Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06850
(White building with red doors)

Located at the parish house across from the old cvs. (now City Market)

Mailing Address:

I.A.F.C. • P.O. Box 1605 • Darien, CT • 06820

If your group would like to contribute to Intergroup, please send checks to the Mailing Address above. *Don't forget to put your group's name on the check so we can give you credit for your contribution.*



intergroup NEWS

www.FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org

April
2010

The monthly newsletter for the Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup Association of Fairfield County

Phone line: **203-855-0075** or **866-STEPS-12 (783-7712)**

Service Office: 718 West Avenue • Norwalk, CT • 06850 **Mailing Address:** I.A.F.C. • P.O. Box 1605 • Darien, CT • 06820

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21ST ANNIVERSARY

We Thank Everyone for attending Intergroup's 21st Anniversary Celebration at the Star facility on March 6 (the postponement date due to inclement weather!) and thank you all for spreading the word about the canceled date of February 27. I didn't hear any horror stories of people showing up, so..... we thank everyone for calling the people they knew, etc.

Tom, Chairman of Intergroup had to step in to co-ordinate things, as we lost the person who was filling in for fellowship chair mid stream. Tom and all the Board did a great job in helping, planning and coordinating and there were some key players not even on the Board whose contributions we could not have done without (Kirsten, Vinnie, Jennifer and a few others). And, of course, there is no celebration without participants. Thank you.

It appears next year we will need to use the bigger room or move to a larger space (if anyone knows of a great place that doesn't cost an arm and a leg, please let us know). We apologize for those who showed up and the food was gone!!!! We ordered more than last year and we never know how many are going to show – and it's varied so over the years – it is even harder to know. Now, if we keep up great attendance and we keep growing, it'll be easier to plan. Servers are a must, also, we learned.

An original speaker had to be replaced when the date of the party changed. Jared was no longer available. Thank you Markus, a long time participant in Intergroup in almost all positions, for stepping in. Maryanne D did a great job as we all expected. 44 Years is a long time in sobriety and hearing what it was like for a woman (particularly) back then was interesting and she made it amusing as well.

I tried to take a little time at the beginning to explain what Intergroup is and how answering the phones, and groups and individuals who want to help in this capacity – could see how it works (with some mini charts). However, anyone can always go to the website – www.fairfieldcountyintergroup.org and get a good idea by reading what's contained therein and from there, contact any of the board members (through same website) and we can direct you. Anyone who has answered the phones, received calls of alcoholics and their families needing help of any kind knows the value of being available for this kind of service. There is nothing like this. THIS is how AA started when Bill picked up the phone and made all those calls till he reached someone who could help. Let's follow in our founders footsteps.

Intergroup thanks all their groups for their contributions and support. WE NEED YOU!!!

Irene S.
Business Manager

Check out our new website!

The site was just redesigned by our webmaster Chris H. Visit us online to: check phone shifts, get info on Intergroup, Intergroup Events, AA district & area events, and other recovery related links and information.

www.FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org



April Anniversaries



Back to Basics

Stamford, CT
Butch B. 2 years
Frank D. 7 years
Diane B. 14 years

New Life

Wilton, CT
Tina M. - 90 days
Jenn M. - 90 days
Paul O. - 90 days
Kyle O. - 1 year
Michael S. - 1 year
Rich C. - 1 year
Boyd M. - 2 years

Regina C. - 3 years
Andrew G. - 4 years
Eric S. - 4 years
Erin R. - 5 years
Kathleen M. - 6 years
Patty L. - 8 years
Leah H. 9 years

Recovery Unlimited

Norwalk, CT
Licinio L- 1 year
Tony C-2 years
Adam K- 4 years

Saturday Morning Big Book

Fairfield, CT
Paul A - 9 years
Nicole S - 16 years
Katie C - 14 years
Paul K - 22 years

Steps to Recovery

Stamford, CT
Dick C. 49 yrs
Elaine H. 9 yrs
Jim S. 6 yrs
Lisa F. 3 yrs

Touchstone

Westport, CT
Robyn H. - 2 years
Tracey W. - 2 years
Ed V. - 5 years
Janine B. - 9 years
Jack L. - 21 years
Dennis M. - 90 days

Send in your group's anniversaries for publishing in next month's issue.

Email to: newsletter@fairfield-countyintergroup.org

The Grapevine – Don't Let it Die On The Vine

Literature has always been a very important part of and tool in AA. When we can't get to a meeting, or just need an uplift or reminder or whatever, to be able to pick up something and read can help us tremendously and be the difference between picking up a drink. Just as we know that if every member of AA contributed just \$7.50 per year to the General Service Office, GSO would be self supporting. On this same note if most people, everyone who earns a living had one subscription (\$27.00 per year – think what we spent on drinking in a year!!!!) I'm equally sure Grapevine would be self supporting. However, Grapevine has always run in the red. This is a shame. It's an amazing publication. Even if you don't read it, you donate it – to a shelter or to the prisons. Most groups have someone who can collect them and bring them to Corrections and Treatment Reps who can get these into the jails. The prisoners love them. There are so many ways we can do service and help the sick and suffering alcoholic and for \$27 a year – to maybe save a life and save a publication that has been around since the beginning.....

Fairfield County INTERGROUP BOARD

OPEN POSITIONS

If you would like to get involved in service Intergroup is a great place to give back what has been so freely given to us!

* The sobriety requirement for IAFC Board members will be two years or more of continuous sobriety, except for the Anniversary Chair, which is one year of continuous sobriety. The term of office for Board members will be two (2) years.

Literature Chair

To obtain and maintain a stock of AA conference approved literature for sale to AA groups. To maintain a supply of AA conference approved pamphlets, CT AA meeting schedules for distribution to those requesting them through calls to the IAFC office.

To fill and deliver (or arrange for delivery) of orders.

Fellowship Chair

Each year, Intergroup sponsors events and activities for the sole purpose of carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous and Fairfield County Intergroup.

The primary function of the event chair is one of greeter, hospitality, ticket sales and flyer distribution where applicable.

If you're interested in one of these positions, come down to the Intergroup board meeting to learn more. The Intergroup Board meets at 8:15 PM on the First Wednesday of every month @ The Star Facility 182 Wolfpit Avenue Norwalk, CT 06851.

Events & Announcements

36th Annual Area 11 Round-Up Hosted by District 5

Sunday, April 11th, 2010
David Wooster Middle School
150 Lincoln Street • Stratford, CT 06615
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Steps to Recovery - Time Change Big Book Meeting - Thursdays

Now meets at 7:00pm to 8:15 PM.

New Meeting in Greenwich Men's meeting - Daily reflections

Closed discussion
Thursdays at 8:15pm at the Christ Church in the library

The Greenwich 12&12 - Meeting Change

The Open Speaker meeting has moved from Thursdays at 8:15pm at Christ Church in Greenwich to Sundays at 7pm at the 1st Congregational Church in Old Greenwich.

Current Greenwich 12&12 Meeting Schedule:

Tues - 7:00pm - Closed Step Meeting at Christ Church in Greenwich

Tues - 8:15pm - Closed Beginners' Meeting at Christ Church in Greenwich

Thur - 7:00pm - Closed Beginners' Meeting at Christ Church in Greenwich

Sun - 7:00pm - Open Speaker Meeting at 1st Congregational Church in Old Greenwich

New Spanish Language AA Meeting

Saturday Evenings 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Starting April 17th 2010 at The Unity Group Calvary/St. George's Church
Corner of Clinton Ave. and Beechwood Ave.
Bridgeport, CT

* Have an event, article or announcement you would like published in the newsletter?

E-mail submissions to:

Newsletter@FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org
DEADLINE: the 15th of the month.

Step 4

"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

"To show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of this book."

– Forward to the First Edition of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*

There is much more to life than being physically sober. There is much more to sobriety than having the obsession for alcohol removed. Sober isn't much fun - unless we can learn to be happy and sober. To be happy and sober requires emotional sobriety. The Fourth Step is our first action step towards physical and emotional sobriety.

We are in a process to recreate our lives. We made a decision to give up our old plans for living and to try A.A.'s 12 Step Plan for Living. The Fourth Step is our first action step. It is here that we know whether or not we really took Steps 1, 2 and 3.

Step Four is a fact-finding and fact-facing process.

We are searching for "causes and conditions."

We want to uncover the truth about ourselves. We want to discover the attitudes, thoughts, beliefs, fears, actions, behaviors, and the behavior patterns - that have been blocking us, causing us problems and causing our failure.

We want to learn the exact nature our "character defects" and what causes us to do the unacceptable things we do - so that once they are removed - we can acquire and live with new attitudes, thoughts, beliefs, actions and behaviors for our highest good, and for the highest good of those with whom we come in contact.

This prepares us to live a life of purpose - where we can be in maximum fit condition to be of service to others. And, by taking inventory and learning the exact nature of our wrongs - we will be able to recognize when we might be slipping into our old way of life - and headed for new problems, and possibly relapse.

If you doubt that you have any problems – just think back to the last time that you felt restless, irritable and discontented. Remember when you got angry - with your self or with another person. Remember the last time you were disturbed. Remember the last time you had a problem or troubles. The last time you felt uncomfortable and not at ease in a situation. What was it? Whom was it with? What happened?

Article from **Steps12.com** more info can be found there on the 4th Step and the other 12 steps of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. Visit the website to read more or download 4th Step worksheets to help you with your inventory.

The 12 Concepts of World Service of Alcoholics Anonymous

The Twelve Concepts for World Service were written by A.A.'s co-founder Bill W., and were adopted by the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in 1962. The Concepts are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure as it emerged through A.A.'s early history and experience.

Additional information about the Concepts can be found in The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service and "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" pamphlet. (The Concepts stated here are in the short form.)

Concept 4:

At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

- Do we understand the spiritual principles underlying the "Right of Participation"?
- What does "in reasonable proportion" mean? Do we understand when it is appropriate for A.A. paid staff to have a vote at the General Service Conference or in our local service structure?
- Do we expect that, because we are A.A. members, we should be allowed to vote at any group, even if we are not active members of that group?

Share your experience, strength & hope!

The Intergroup Newsletter would love to hear from you! We're looking for submissions. Share your thoughts on AA, recovery, the 12 Steps, service and the fellowship.

Ways to contact us:

Email: newsletter@fairfieldcountyintergroup.org

Mail: Intergroup Newsletter, P.O. Box 1605 Darien, CT • 06820

Hand: material to an Intergroup Representative to deliver it to us at the monthly meeting.

Want to help create the Newsletter?

We're looking for someone to assist in production. Email the address above for more info!