

"Pass the Basket"

Self-support: The Seventh Tradition

There are no dues or fees for membership in A.A., but we do have expenses such as rent, refreshments, A.A. Conference-approved literature, meeting lists and contributions to services provided by the local intergroup (central office), district and area, and the General Service Office of A.A. In keeping with the Seventh Tradition a group may "pass the basket" for contributions, and members are encouraged to participate.

Disbursement of a Group's Funds

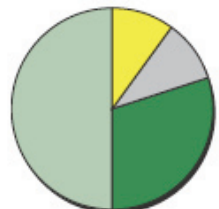
The group treasurer is usually the person responsible for paying the group's routine bills and for keeping accurate records of the group's funds. The treasurer needs to be well informed about how the group's money is spent and should have addresses and mailing information for all A.A. service entities that the group contributes to.

After the group's basic needs are met, such as providing for rent, literature, refreshments, and insurance, the group can participate in the financial support of the Fellowship as a whole by sending money to various A.A. service entities: 1) their local intergroup or central office, 2) their area and district; and 3) the General Service Office. Many groups provide financial support for their G.S.R.s attending service functions.

These entities use contributions in a number of ways, always with the aim of *carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers*.

Examples of Group Contributions

Contributions to A.A. Service Entities Distribution of funds from groups that support four service entities:



10% to district
 10% to area committee
 30% to G.S.O.
 50% to intergroup or central office

Reprinted from [the A.A. pamphlets: *The AA Group, The AA Group Treasurer, Self-Support...*] with permission from AA Worldwide Services.

If your group would like to contribute to Intergroup, please send checks to:

I.A.F.C.
P.O. Box 1605
Darien, CT 06820
203-855-0075

June 2010

NEW TIME: Phone Shift Orientation - Monday, June 7th
7:00-10:00 PM @ Intergroup's Service Office

Intergroup Rep Meeting - Wednesday, June 2, 7:30 PM
Intergroup Board Meeting - Wednesday, June 2, 8:15 PM
Intergroup Speaker Exchange - Wednesday, June 2, 8:15 PM

Next Intergroup Speaker Exchange:

Aug.4

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.*

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



intergroup NEWS

www.FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org

June
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

If your group would like to contribute to Intergroup, please send checks to the Mailing Address above.

Fairfield County
Intergroup

Softball & BBQ
Co-Ed Game • All are welcome

Saturday June 26th

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Come enjoy a day of Summer fun & fellowship!
Burgers, Dogs, Ribs, Snacks and Drinks.

@ Greens Farms School
Westport, CT

17 Morningside Drive South
Westport, CT 06880

For more info, contact: **Steve G.**
C&T@FAIRFIELDCOUNTYINTERGROUP.ORG

June Anniversaries



Common Solution

Norwalk, CT

Steve A 1 year
Brian C 1 year
Noelle S 2 years
Rachael L 2 years
Bob R 20 years

Recovery Unlimited

Norwalk, CT

Amanda P-1 yr
Joe G-2 yrs
Noelle S-2 yrs
Larry B-3 yrs

Sat Morning Big Book

Fairfield, CT

Amanda S. - 15 years
Chris S. - 13 years

Safe Harbor

Bridgeport, CT

Lorraine D. - 3 years

Steps to Recovery

Stamford, CT

Stacey T 13 yrs
Glen D 90 days

Touchstone

Westport, CT

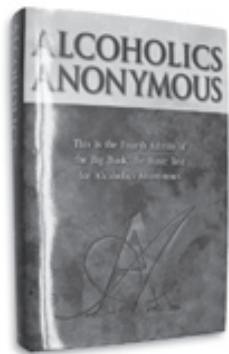
Ahren C. -1 year
Craig V. - 3 years
Kirsten H. - 3 years
Steve G. - 5 years

Don't forget to send in your group's anniversaries for publishing in next month's issue.

Email to: newsletter@fairfieldcountyintergroup.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.....



Need Literature?

Intergroup has A.A. conference approved literature and pamphlets. Download an order form on our website or Contact Intergroup's Literature Chair:

literature@fairfieldcountyintergroup.org

Events & Announcements

Soberfest 2010

June 4, 5, 6th

Odetah Campgrounds in Bozrah, CT

Email soberfest@ct-aa.org

for more information

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 - 6:30pm - Open Speaker Meeting

at Christ Church in 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

Steps to Recovery Celebrates their 3rd Anniversary

Saturday, July 17, 2010

St. Maurice Church, Doran Hall

358 Glenbrook Road, Stamford, CT

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Dinner

6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - Speakers

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Dessert & Fellowship

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

E-mail submissions to:

Newsletter@FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org DEAD-

LINE: the 15th of the month.

The Role of an InterGroup Representative

Serving as an InterGroup Representative offers you a rewarding opportunity to share in Alcoholics Anonymous' Third Legacy - Service.

Here's how it works. The InterGroup Representative is elected by his or her group. (Meetings, by definition, do not have group reps). They then attend the monthly InterGroup representatives' meeting. To this meeting they bring any suggestions, comments, or opinions their group may have. The InterGroup representative or alternate casts their group's vote on all matters requiring a group conscience.

The purpose of the InterGroup rep is to be a link in the chain connecting the individual member of an AA group to those who are elected to maintain the operation of InterGroup. This allows InterGroup to better serve its members – which is the reason for its existence as provided for in the 9th Tradition which says, "AA, as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

Once each month, representatives and alternates participate in the InterGroup business meeting. This business meeting is also attended by the officers and committee chairpersons, and is like a stockholders' meeting. Each group representative attending has one vote.

Attendance at InterGroup meetings is highly important since every group registered with InterGroup has a voice in reviewing the activities of all the committees and approving all actions taken.

Each individual group determines the qualifications and period of service for its InterGroup representative. However, experience has shown that Alcoholics Anonymous is best served when the rep has at least one year of continuous sobriety and serves for a term of two years.

* Visit www.FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org for rest of this article and more info on becoming a better trusted servant of your group and AA as a whole.

Does your group have an Intergroup Rep?

Each group that participates in Intergroup is encouraged to have an Intergroup Representative. This person is the liaison between Intergroup & their home group.

Rep. meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM, followed by the Board meeting at 8:15 PM.

Any A.A. member is welcome to attend the rep. or board meeting as a guest. If your group is interested in joining Intergroup, send a member to the rep. meeting, and we will gladly give you all the information you need to get started.

Intergroup's monthly meeting is held at

The Star Facility • 182 Wolfpit Avenue • Norwalk, CT • 06851

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 6:

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

- Are we familiar with how our General Service Board (G.S.B.) Class A and Class B trustees serve A.A.? Are we familiar with how our other trusted servants serve A.A.?
- Are we clear about the terms, "chief initiative" and "active responsibility"? Can we see a direct link to our home group?

Newsletter Help Needed!

We're looking for someone to take over the Internal Publications Chair position on the Intergroup board.

Responsibilities: To publish a monthly newsletter and to be in charge of all printed matter pertaining to IAFC.

Interested?

Join us next month at our board meeting to learn more or volunteer. The Board meets the first Wednesday of every month at 8:15 pm. Right after the Intergroup rep meeting.

Email Newsletter@FairfieldCountyIntergroup.org for more info.