



The FYI

"Your voice to Area 31 Alcoholics Anonymous"

It's on your Phone or on the Web at:
[www.westernmassaa.org!](http://www.westernmassaa.org)



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Western Mass Intergroup 24 Hour Christmas Alcathon

Dec
24th
at
6pm



Dec
25th
at
6pm

**Grace United Church
474 Pleasant Street
Holyoke, MA**

**Meetings on the Hour
Last meeting starts at 5:00 pm
Food and Fellowship all Night
Bring a dish to share - Donations Welcome**

Western Mass Intergroup Group Donations - NOVEMBER, 2019

474 DONATION LYNN F
 LOST AND FOUND
 GREEN STREET
 NOHO BB STEP STUDY
 SUNDERLAND SECURITY
 SOUTH HADLEY SUNDAY WOMEN'S
 TAM I OPENER
 STEPS TO LIVE
 LA LUZ DE UN MILAGRO
 LOST AND FOUND GROUP
 EASTHAMPTON MEN'S GROUP
 SOUTH HADLEY THURSDAY AFTERNOON
 FIND YOUR VOICE
 MORNING LIGHT GROUP
 CNNN
 NOHO SATURDAY NIGHT BEGINNERS
 WHIP CITY
 HOLYOKE NOONTIME
 AMHERST MONDAY NIGHT
 WILBRAHAM GROUP
 MIXED NUTS
 SOUTHWICK NOONTIME
 LYNN F MONTHLY 474
 BRUCE 474 DONATION X 4 PEOPLE

FIND YOUR VOICE
 SOMMERSVILLE TUESDAY NIGHT STEP
 THURSDAY BB GROUP SHELburn FALLS
 HOLYOKE NOONTIME GROUP
 EAST OF THE RIVER
 SOUTH DEERFIELD BIG BOOK
 DO OR DIE GROUP
 HANK IN HAND GROUP
 RICHARD C - 474 CHALLENGE
 ALANOONER
 GRANVILLE GROUP
 NUEVO AMANECER

Thank You For Your Generous Donations! Please place group name and service # on all checks.

Weekly AA Group Phone Coverage

DATE	GROUP NAME
NOV 23 - NOV 29 →	BELCHERTOWN SATURDAY NIGHT
NOV 30 - DEC 6 →	BETTER LIFE GROUP
DEC 7 - DEC 13 →	COLD SPRING GROUP
DEC 14 - DEC 20 →	DAILY REFLECTIONS
DEC 21 - DEC 27 →	
DEC 28 - JAN 3 →	
JAN 4 - JAN 10 →	
JAN 11 - JAN 17 →	

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

**LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS GIFT? COME SEE OUR
WIDE SELECTION OF SPECIALTY
COINS, BRACELETS, & MORE.**

WESTERN MASS INTERGROUP BOOK STORE

BOOKS ON CD

NEW! Big Book 1st 165 pages for \$25.00 (English and Spanish)

Big Book Full Version with All Stories for \$55

Step Book of AA Full Version \$25.00

Living Sober CD \$15.00

AA Comes of Age - CD \$15.00

Pioneers of AA Old Big Book Stories - \$18.00

Grapevine CD's DVD's \$12.00

Bill & 12 Traditions CD - Bills Story DVD - Bill & 12 Traditions DVD

Three Legacies CD - Co-Founders CD—Other Grapevine CD's

DVD Movies

My Name is Bill W - \$20.00

Bill W and Dr. Bob—Broadway Play - \$20.00

To view more of our products please visit our on-line bookstore at:
www.westernmassaa.org - online bookstore. We also ship anywhere in the world!

Western Mass Intergroup



FOR KIDS 12 & UNDER

FREE FAMILY EVENT

December 14th, 2019 - 1pm to 3pm



Toys from Santa!
Christmas Treats

The Grace United Church

474 Pleasant Street

Holyoke, MA - side door





Serenity Club of Springfield
143 Main St, 2nd Floor (Monkeywrench Building)

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY ALCATHON

DEC 24

Meetings will be
as regularly
scheduled:
**Hang In
There Group -
12 Noon**

DEC 25

All regularly
scheduled meetings
will run.

Mini-Alcathon:

Hourly meetings
starting at **6PM**.
Last meeting starts
at **10PM**

We will be gladly accepting all small food donations for the Alcathon
(snack foods, cheese/crackers, cakes, donuts, etc.) Thank you.

JOKE of the MONTH

The Devil walks into a crowded bar. Within seconds the bar emptied with people running out screaming all over the place, all except for one old timer sat at the bar sipping an orange juice. The Devil wanders across to the old timer and says "Do you know how I am?" The old timer took another sip of his orange juice and answered "Yep" The Devil stared at the old timer and asked "Well aren't you afraid of me?" The old timer looked the Devil up and down for a minute and shrugs "I married your sister 40 years ago, why the hell should I be scared of you?"

Big Book Quote

"In thinking about our day we may face indecision. We may not be able to determine which course to take. Here we ask God for inspiration, an intuitive thought or a decision. We relax and take it easy. We don't struggle. We are often surprised how the right answers come after we have tried this for a while."

Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th Edition, Into Action, pg. 86

Area 31 Service Committee



*The Service Manual Meeting
3rd Wednesday of the month
@ 7:30pm*

*The Concept Meeting is on the
1st Thursday of the month
@ 7:30pm*

Grace United Church 474 Pleasant
Street, Holyoke MA (1st floor)
www.area31aa.org

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
ALL AREA 31 COMMITTEE'S,
EVENTS, AND MORE, VISIT
WWW.AREA31AA.ORG**



Bill W.

From the words of Bill W. & Friends

Ultimately Destroy

The tyrant alcohol wielded a double-edged sword over us: first we were smitten by an insane urge that condemned us to go on drinking, and then by an allergy of the body that insured we would ultimately destroy ourselves in the process.

Few indeed were those who, so assailed, had ever won through in singlehanded combat.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (Step One) p. 22



THOUGHT TO PONDER



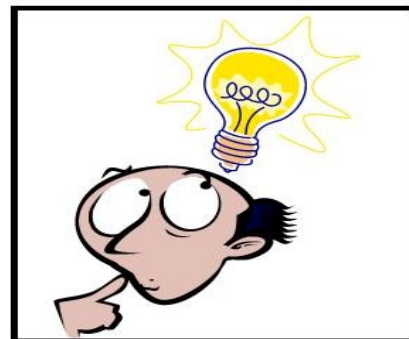
It's hard to fight an enemy who has outposts in your head.



RULE #62



"If she drank like that for twenty years, she must have a fantastic plastic surgeon."

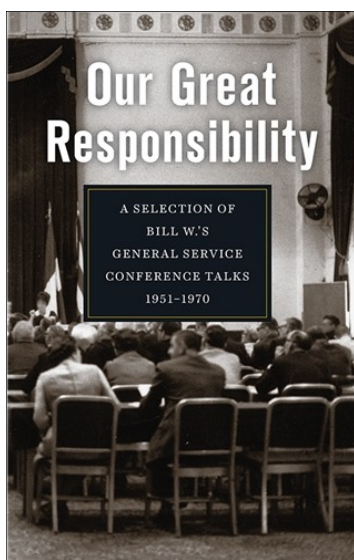


**H O W =
Honesty, Open-
mindedness,
Willingness.**



New from Grapevine: Cartoon Book "Take Me To Your Sponsor"

Sobriety can be tough sometimes, which is why recovering alcoholics can always use a good laugh. In AA, members learn to not take themselves too seriously, to be happy, joyous and free. Luckily, sobriety can be pretty darn amusing. Two of the most beloved departments of Grapevine are the "At Wit's End" jokes and the cartoons, all contributed and drawn by AA members. This book contains some of the best laughs of the last few years, dealing with meetings, sponsorship, dating and marriage, friends and coworkers, character defects and more. We hope this book brightens your day and gives you some hearty, well-earned laughs.



Our Great Responsibility

1st AAWS Publication in 30 years!

A selection of Bill W.'s General Service Conference talks, 1951 – 1970. Timeless and timely, these 16 selected talks give fresh perspectives on the A.A. Fellowship in our co-founder's own words.

Only...
\$10.00



Bill W. speaking at a General Service Conference, circa 1950.

Western Mass Intergroup

\$4.74

ONLINE DONATION CHALLENGE

Visit Westernmassaa.org home page and scroll down to online donation and follow the directions.

In keeping with the Spirit of the General Service Office's NEW 2019 \$8.06 financial challenge to the AA fellowship we are asking our AA fellowship to help us, help you, to help others.

For a ***Personal Online Donation of only \$4.74*** (That's about a few Coffee's) you can be part of helping ***Your Intergroup*** to continue to provide the vital services to AA as a whole.

You can make it as a one time donation, or sign up for monthly donations, we accept any donations in any amount up to \$3,000.

Our mission to make sure that when a newcomer calls someone is there to answer the phone, also sell groups their literature, and provide a meeting list, full staff, a website, and much more!

For more information call Kevin or Joy at the Intergroup office during business hours! at 413-532-2111 Thank You

This is an **ONLINE DONATION CHALLENGE**, but if **YOU choose to mail in your donation**, we accept them also. Please visit the website on our **HOME** page for the donation link.

Area 31 Service Committee News

The Area 31 Service Committee meets 2nd **Wednesday of the month** at the Grace United Church (front entrance) 474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke.
Please urge your Home-Group to elect a GSR and have a voice in Area 31 AA.

Is your group looking to have the Grapevine or Archives boards at your next AA function for anniversary?
Please let the Archives or Grapevine Committee know a month in advance.
Grapevine & Archives email - a31chair@gmail.com.

AREA COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- ARCHIVES** - 1st Tuesday, 7:30pm
- GRAPEVINE** - 1st Tuesday, 7:30pm
- PUBLIC INFORMATION** - 2nd Tuesday, 7:30pm
- CPC** - 2nd Tuesday, 7:30pm
- WM Round-Up** - 1st Weds following 2nd Tues,
- WESTERN MASS INTERGROUP** - 2nd Thurs, 7:30pm,
- WMIG STEERING COMMITTEE** - Last Thurs, 7pm (please check with office to confirm)
- AREA 31 - 12 CONCEPTS OF AA** - 1st Thurs, 7:30pm
- ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE** - 4th Weds - 7:00pm
- AREA 31 WEBSITE COMMITTEE** - 4th Weds - 7:00pm

(All Meetings Above Meet at the Grace United Church
474 Pleasant Street in Holyoke MA

- INSTITUTIONS** - 1st Wednesday, 7pm, Providence Hospital, Holyoke
- BERKSHIRE INTERGROUP** - 2nd Monday, 7pm, 152 North St. suite 30C, Pittsfield, MA
- WESTERN MASS YOUNG PEOPLES** - 2nd Sat, 6pm, Serenity Club, 143 Main St., Springfield

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

- DISTRICT 1** - 3rd Thursday, 7:30pm, Sacred Heart Church
35 Everett Street, Springfield
- DISTRICT 2** - 2nd Monday, 7pm, Grace United Church, 474 Pleasant St Holyoke
- DISTRICT 3** - 3rd Friday, 7pm, Old Court House, Lee Town Hall - Lee, MA
- DISTRICT 4** - 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Holy Father Parish, 29 Sugarloaf St. S. Deerfield
- DISTRICT 5** - 1st Monday, 7:30pm, Union Church of Christ, 52 Center St, Ludlow
- DISTRICT 6** - 3rd Monday, 7:00pm, Western Mass Hosp, 91 East Mountain Rd, Westfield

AA Service Manual & Tradition Meetings

AREA 31 - AA SERVICE MANUAL MEETING - 1st Thurs, 7:30pm

Join us in learning the rest of the 36 Spiritual Principles!

AREA 31 TRADITIONS MEETING

3rd Wednesday, 7:30pm both meetings held at the Grace United Church,
474 Pleasant in Holyoke (home of the WM Intergroup)

Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



1 Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.



2 Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.



3 Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.



4 Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations

given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.



5 Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.



6 If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.



7 Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.



8 Worship in your own way.



9 Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.



10 Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—"one day at a time."



11 Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.



12 "Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.

SERENITY CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY AND TOY DRIVE

December 21, 2019
2PM to 4PM

143 Main St, 2nd Floor | Springfield, MA 01105

TOY DRIVE

We will be accepting donations of *unwrapped* toys for children of all ages.

Questions? Contact:

Chuck - 413-278-1963

Launa - 413-847-0439



Serenity Club

24 hours of meetings

New Year's Alcathon

FAMILY * FRIENDS * RECOVERY * MEETINGS * FOOD

DEC 31 - Jan 1
Meetings on the hour
6PM until 6PM.

Serenity Club
143 Main St, 2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01105

If you or your group would like to host a meeting slot, stop down to the club to sign up.
Any and all food donations are appreciated and accepted.

THE LOST AND FOUND GROUP

39th Year Group Anniversary



Thursday, January 23th, 2020
Church of Christ
284 Montgomery Street, Chicopee MA



5:30pm AA Open Meeting
6:30pm Speaker Meeting

THE RANDALL GROUP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

65th Year Group Anniversary



Starts at 1pm - Beg Mtg
Sunday, February 23rd, 2020
St. Andrew's Church
335 Longmeadow Street
Longmeadow, MA



Beginners
1:00pm
Speaker Mtg
2:00pm



Bring a Friend!

& Raffle To Follow



Christmas Reindeer Word Search



P R A N C E R S E D D
P N E E R E L E N O A
R C E V E E D D O N R
E H T E I B A A R N U
S R E G N L N S T E D
E I H S D I C H H R O
N S C A E T E E P C L
T T O N E Z R R O U P
S M M T R E E E L P H
E A E A E N H A E I A
E S T V I X E N A D A

Words to find:

BLITZEN
DASHER
REINDEER

CHRISTMAS
DONNER
RUDOLPH

COMET
NORTHPOLE
SANTA

CUPID
PRANCER
SLEIGH

DANCER
PRESENTS
VIXEN



Western Mass Intergroup

474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke MA 01040
Office Phone: 413-532-2111
Website: www.westernmassaa.org
E-mail: intergro4@aol.com
Office Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9am - 1pm
Thursday until 5:30pm

Intergroup Officers & Staff

Charlie R - Chair	Kevin L. - General Manager
Ron G - Treasurer	Joy F - Store Manager
Marc - Secretary	Renee D - Office Staff
	Eddie K - Office Staff

If you have Questions or Comments you may reach us at the contact information above.
Thank You for your support.

Monthly Thought

"Though all alone out there, an AA from the Marshall Islands still claimed his group had three members, to wit: 'God, the book Alcoholics Anonymous, and me.'"

"We Came of Age", AA Co-Founder, Bill W., September 1950
The Language of the Heart

WESTERN MASS INTERGROUP is a body made up of representatives from all AA groups in the area (Area 31). It has met on a monthly basis since it was established in 1953. Each AA group elects, annually, one of its members (one year of sobriety recommended) to serve as its representative on this important committee, and, an alternate to regularly attend its meetings (one year of sobriety recommended). Its main responsibilities are to:

1. Coordinate AA activities among its various groups and to help weaker groups in anyway possible.
2. Maintain 24 hour AA telephone coverage
3. Publish regularly updated schedules of group meetings in the area
4. Provide a program which will promote regular visits between groups.
5. Provide an inventory of AA Literature for the convenience of local groups and committees in an office which also serves as a communication and information center
6. And, to act upon any suggestions be any group, through its representatives, that would be of potential benefit to our area groups.

WESTERN MASS INTERGROUP MEETS ON THE 2nd THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM AT THE INTERGROUP OFFICE.



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.**

Quote of the Month

