



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)



THE AREA 31 SERVICE COMMITTEE

GSR/DCM WORKSHOP

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1st, 2020

Grace United Church

474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke MA

12:30pm to 3:30pm

GSR Presentation

Speaker on GSR

Speaker on DCM



Coffee & Beverages
PIZZA FOR LUNCH!

(enter side entrance)



Western Mass Intergroup Group Donations - DECEMBER, 2019

SOBER AND FREE
 PATH TO RECOVERY
 LA LUZ DE UN MILAGRO
 SCRAMBLED EGGS
 HAND OF HOPE
 NOHO BIG BOOK STEP STUDY
 SUFFIELD MEN'S GROUP
 EAST MOUNTAIN GROUP
 EASTHAPTON MEN'S MEETING
 NOHO SUNDAY NIGHT
 BYOC
 STEPS TO LIVE
 ASHFIELD TUESDAY NIGHT
 SUNDERLAND SECURITY
 MORNING LIGHT
 JOY OF LIVING
 SUFFILE MONDAY NIGHT GRAPEVINE
 COLD SPRING GROUP
 7AM I OPENER
 DAILY REPRIEVE
 HUNTINGTON HILLTOWN
 AFTER DINNER GROUP
 WEDNESDAY BIG BOOK
 SOUTHERN BERKSHIRES
 WARE IT'S AT
 LYNN F - 474 CHALLENGE
 SCOTT K - 474 CHALLENGE

ENFIELD FRIDAY NIGHT
 NOHO SATURDAY NIGHT BEGINNERS
 TUESDAYNIGHT STEP MEETING JERICO
 TUESDAY BIG BOOK STEP STUDY
 EAST LONGMEADOW GROUP
 WHIP CITY NOONER
 BRIMFIELD ACADEMY
 EASTLONGMEADOW GROUP
 WHIP CITY NOONER
 BRIMFIELD ACADEMY GROUP
 NOTHING CHANGES IF NOTHING CHANGES
 TOP OF THE HILL GROUP
 MON NIGHT HOLYOKE DISCUSSION
 ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT
 NEW BEGINNINGS LUDLOW
 HOLYOKE NOONTIME
 FAITH THAT WORKS
 AMHERST SUNDAY REFLECTIONS
 MIXED NUTS
 SUNRISE
 LIVE, LOVE, & LAUGH GROUP
 WILBRAHAM MENS GROUP
 AGAWAM WILD CATS
 FRIDAY NIGHT AA
 ALANOONER
 LA LUZ DE UN MILAGRO

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

Weekly AA Group Phone Coverage

DATE	GROUP NAME
DEC 21 - DEC 27 →	EAST MOUNTAIN GROUP
DEC 28 - JAN 3 →	EASTHAMPTON MONDAY NIGHT
JAN 4 - JAN 10 →	EYE OPENER LUDLOW
JAN 11 - JAN 17 →	HAND IN HAND
JAN 18 - JAN 24 →	
JAN 25 - JAN 31 →	
FEB 1 - FEB 7 →	
FEB 8 - FEB 14 →	

NEW OFFICERS

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR OUTGOING OFFICE FOR
THEIR SERVICE TO WM INTERGROUP**

***Charlie R - Chair, Ron G - Treasurer, Marc C - Secretary
And Tamara P - Events Coordinator***

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEW OFFICERS

***MIKE R - Chair, Marc C - Treasurer, Kate - Secretary,
& Charlie R - Events Coordinator***

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!

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 to 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. We recommend 1 year of sobriety and have knowledge of the Steps and Traditions. There are a number of things you can do to become a better trusted servant of your group and of AA as a whole:

Attend Intergroup Regularly

Western Mass Intergroup Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of every month at The Grace United Church at 474 Pleasant Street, Holyoke, MA at 7:30pm. A monthly Bookie Group Exchange meeting is on the same night at 7:00pm. These monthly business meetings are open to any member. You can better serve the members of your group and fellow reps by being an observer at as many meetings as possible. Even if you have no vote, you have a right to voice your opinion.

Inform Your Group Members

Take time to grab the informative brochures that are available at the meeting. Ask questions! And most important know the Bylaws. You can find them in the pamphlet "What is an Intergroup" located at every Intergroup Meeting or at the office.

Through the Intergroup office those groups with an active representative are involved in keeping the AA program healthy and active. Operations continue under a set of guidelines. By your study of these guidelines, you can help to keep all methods up-to-date. Remember that AA is in its greatest growth period ever; some procedures may need changing.

Know the AA Literature

You will be better able to serve your group, to answer questions, and to make recommendations if you are familiar with the contents of most, if not all, of the pamphlets now available. In other words, do your "homework" on AA.

Sign Up Volunteers

Since your responsibility as an Intergroup representative brings you face-to-face with AA's overall activities, you can take on the task of recruiting members of your group to assist in our mission of "carrying the message." Activities that we utilize to "pass it on" include: Twelve Step calls, answering the "Hotline", representing AA as a speaker in schools or at other non-AA meetings, or serving on committees for any of Intercrop's events. All of these ventures require much assistance.

Help Keep AA Effective & Self-Supporting

One of the most important ways an Intergroup representative can serve is to encourage his/her group to be consistent in making contributions to the operation of the Western Mass Intergroup office, as well as the Area, Institutions, and the General Service Office. It is difficult for the Steering Committee to keep the office running smoothly when the money comes in sporadically. Peaks and valleys in contribution totals work against efficiency in carrying the message. Keep members aware, on every level, that AA is self-supporting through our own contributions. Thank you for your generosity

Keep Your Group Up-To-Date

Make sure the details of your group's meetings, (days, times, locations, etc.) are accurate and correct at the office at all times.

Encourage members of your group to become avid readers of our newsletter. Periodically provide the office with news of your group and any other articles of interest to all AAs for publication in our monthly newsletter. Stimulate individuals in your group to write about their experiences with the AA program for publication in the newsletter.

Ask Questions

Sometimes the pressures of time and our zeal to get things done expeditiously cause us to move through things too quickly. If you don't get answers to things your group members want to know about, it is your privilege to ask questions and be heard. Problems in a group, as they pertain to AA as a whole, are your concern also. You can help to see that over-all policy (ie. the 12 Traditions & the 12 Concepts) is adhered to in your group. You can be a solver of problems, small or large.

Alcoholics Anonymous is now making the greatest strides in its history in membership growth, service to the community and the respect of professionals and the public.

Each and every group representative has a vital role to play in this process.

Thank you all very much for your service to AA

For information, or if you have any questions, on how your Western Mass Intergroup operates please read our informative pamphlet "What is an Intergroup" located online at [Www.westernmassaa.org](http://www.westernmassaa.org) or grab a copy at the next Intergroup meeting or in the office during normal business hours.

JOKE of the MONTH

A drunk staggers into a Catholic Church, enters a confessional booth, sits down, but says nothing.

The Priest coughs a few times to get his attention, but the drunk continues to sit there.

Finally, the Priest pounds three times on the wall.
The drunk mumbles, 'Ain't no use knockin, there's no paper on this side either.'

Big Book Quote

"At the moment we are trying to put our lives in order.
But this is not an end in itself."

Alcoholics Anonymous,
4th Edition, Into Action, pg. 77

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

Are We Ready?

If we can answer to our satisfaction,
we then look at Step Six.

We have emphasized willingness as being
indispensable. Are we now ready to let God remove
from us all the things which we have admitted are
objectionable? Can He now take them all - every one?

If we still cling to something we
will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing.

- *Alcoholics Anonymous, (Into Action) p. 76*



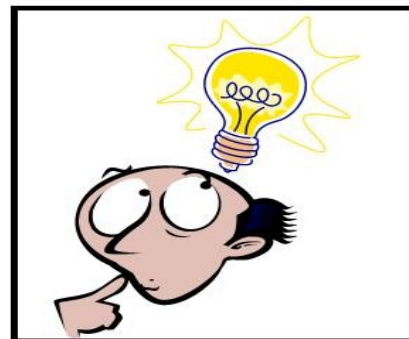
THOUGHT TO PONDER



*Habits are like cork or lead -- they tend
to keep you up or hold you down.*



RULE #62



**H O W =
Honest,
Open-minded,
Willing.**



"And on my third day of sobriety...."

NERAASA 2020

29th Annual

NORTHEAST REGIONAL A.A. SERVICE ASSEMBLY

February 21-23, 2020 – Nashua, NH

All A.A. members are welcome!

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is for the GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee Members and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the Areas of the Northeast Region.

**2020 General Service Conference Theme:
2020: A Clear Vision for You**

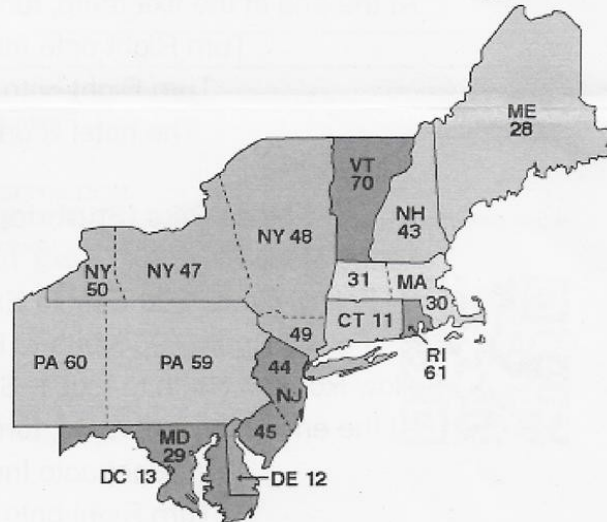


Kickoff Meeting Thursday 8:00 pm

Onsite registration begins on Friday at 12:00 noon
Orientation begins on Friday 3:00 pm
Panel 1 begins on Friday 4:00 pm

ROUNDTABLES

- Accessibilities
- Area Chairpersons
- Archives
- Corrections
- CPC
- Delegates/Alternates
- DCMs/DCMCs/ Alternates
- Grapevine / La Viña
- GSRs / Alternates
- Intergroups / Central Offices
- Literature
- Newsletters
- Public Information
- Registrars
- Secretaries
- Treasurers
- Treatment
- Website
- Young People



Hotel reservations must be made through the hotel.

Mail: Radisson Nashua 11 Tara Blvd, Nashua, NH 03062 Reference NERAASA2020

Telephone: 603-888-9970 or 1-800-333-3333 Reference NERAASA2020

Online at www.radisson.com/nashuanh Code NERA20

Room rates are \$119/night plus tax. Hotel reservation deadline is February 6, 2020

Pre-registration deadline. Must be postmarked by 2/4/20

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, 7:30pm (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** - Last Sunday, 3pm, Providence Hospital, 1233 Main Street Holyoke, MA (Auditorium)

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)



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Wordsearch



Search for the words going up, down, left and right.

C	S	L	L	X	N	O	I	T	U	L	O	S	E	R
A	Z	N	A	G	A	V	A	R	T	X	E	I	Q	I
G	G	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G	W	Z	N	P	N
A	F	O	T	S	W	O	S	D	R	W	L	O	L	V
D	I	D	R	O	Z	T	H	G	I	N	D	I	M	I
H	R	T	A	H	F	Y	T	R	A	P	W	S	E	T
F	E	B	D	F	B	I	N	H	M	G	Y	E	U	A
N	W	Q	I	Q	A	Z	F	G	D	C	G	M	S	T
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K	K	H	O	C	V	W	T	R	D	A	Q	E	J	N
I	S	K	N	X	V	J	O	I	B	U	E	R	Z	N
Y	Z	P	H	C	O	U	N	T	D	O	W	N	S	M
H	W	W	J	M	U	H	N	U	X	X	O	U	Q	R
L	F	A	A	H	S	E	Q	S	I	O	C	O	F	G

CELEBRATION
 FIREWORKS
 JANUARY
 PARTY

COUNTDOWN
 GATHERING
 MIDNIGHT
 RESOLUTION

EXTRAVAGANZA
 INVITATION
 NOISEMAKER
 TRADITION



NEW GROUP!

of Alcoholics Anonymous

All Women's Living Sober Discussion Group



Christ Church Cathedral
35 CHESTNUT STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MA

SUNDAY'S @ 1:00pm

**OPEN
WOMEN'S
Discussion**



NEW GROUP!

of Alcoholics Anonymous

THE VETERANS GROUP



**OPEN
Speaker
Discussion**

**Saturdays
@ 7:00pm**

Massachusetts Military Support Center
104 Ramha Hill Road, Agawam MA

Please note this meeting is designed
for Veterans but no one will be turned away

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
2 Speaker
Meeting 6:30pm**

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

THE SATURDAY 11th STEP GROUP MEDITATION MEETING

Saturday 5pm November to April
Grace Episcopal Church
14 Boltwood Ave. Amherst, MA
Saturday 5pm May to October
New England Peace Pogoda
100 Cave Hill Road, Leverette, MA



CREATED JANUARY 24TH, 2017

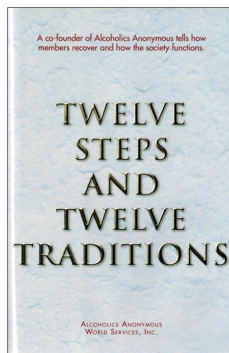


**ALL MEETINGS HELD AT
WESTERN MASS HOSPITAL
WILL NOT BE MEETING FROM
FRIDAY January 24th to
TUESDAY February 4th, 2020
Meetings will resume as usual
on February 5th, 2020**

NECYPAA XXXI IN AREA 31!!!
NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE OF
YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
**NECYPAA IS COMING
TO WESTERN MASS!!!**

WESTERN MASS HOST COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
FOR THE 31st NECYPAA WILL BE HELD:
PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL, 1233 MAIN STREET
HOLYOKE, MA (NORTH CONFERENCE ROOM)
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 1 PM
WE NEED YOU TO HELP HOST THIS AWESOME
EVENT! ALL ARE WELCOME!
QUESTIONS? E-MAIL NECYPAAXXXI@GMAIL.COM

NEW GROUP! of Alcoholics Anonymous **SOBER STEP SISTERS** Step Meeting



First Congregational Church
7 Somers Road
East Longmeadow, MA

**If you have a Step Book
Please bring it with you!**

**Thursday's @ 6:00pm
Closed Women's AA Meeting**



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

"Full consciousness ... implies not only the willingness to receive the love and benefits AA has to offer, but also to surrender to the equally painful experience of exposure to ourselves, and others, of ourselves."

Pleasantville, New York, August 1959 "The Sense of Sobriety", Spiritual Awakenings

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

AA does not teach us how to handle drinking, it teaches us how to handle sobriety.

Walk Softly and Carry a Big Book