

February

Unity LiveWire

2011

“Easy Does It”

710 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

“First Things First”

• area54.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM Phone 440 246-1800
Lorain Inter-Group Central Office email address: lorainaa@live.com

• aa.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Lightning strikes twice (AA Grapevine, February 2010, Vol. 0, No.0)

Step Two helps an alcoholic get past his denial and see how alcohol was affecting his life

LIGHTNING never strikes twice in the same place. I have heard that said many times; but according to what I've read, lightning strikes twice each time it strikes. It comes in two flashes, so close together that they seem like one.

Step Two is like that. It uses the words "restore us to sanity." Before I got sober I was working in the field of mental health, doing bilingual counseling, taking people to AA meetings and going back a year later for their anniversaries. How could I, a professional in the fields, need to be restored to sanity? But that bolt, those words, opened up a crack in the armor of my denial. I began to see how alcohol was affecting every area of my life, in an increasingly negative way. It was always getting worse, never better. Yet I kept finding rationalizations to continue. If insanity is being disconnected from reality, then I was certainly insane.

The second part of the flash was more positive. I could be restored to sanity. Countless members of AA had been restored, with the help of a Higher Power in the spiritual program of the Fellowship of AA. So I went back to AA, not for others, but for myself. There I found the proof in a group of reasonably happy people enjoying life in a way I had forgotten could ever exist. Some of them seemed so peaceful and content they seemed better than normal. So I kept coming back, and have been doing so since 1986. The double "whammo" had worked. My prayer life left my head and went back to my heart. My spiritual life became real again and began to slowly grow. The Steps, Traditions, a home group and good sponsorship were a wonderful formula for a happy way of life.

Well, how about now, almost 22 years later? The lightening bolt of my first experience of Step Two has mellowed over the years. Now, almost 80 years old and coming up on 22 years of sobriety, it is easy for me to take sobriety granted, to get complacent. I can start to sound like a know-it-all, at times even pontificate or spout truisms or cliches. This kind of an attitude can easily lead me first to a dry drunk and eventually to a wet one.

I came to believe that what was the solution then is the solution now. AA is a spiritual entity. When I remember that fact and go into action on it, the original awe of Step Two stays alive in a calmer and more peaceful way. Take a look at the phrase "spiritual entity" in the Grapevine's Digital Archive. I think there are 33 entries, most of them by Bill W. and Dr. Bob. The last one is from May 2006, and talks of Tradition Five. I agree with the alcoholic who wrote that. When I put that into practice along with Step Two, all of my character defects are included in the lightning bolt, and become manageable now, one day at a time. If I want to have a reasonably happy and productive life, and an enjoyable degree of serenity, then I have to pray, meditate and do some spiritual reading--in other words, lead a spiritual life. I've never been able to find another way that works. How about you?

ANONYMOUS

Maryland

Who's in charge? (AA Grapevine, February 2010, Vol. 0, No.0)

Tradition Two helps us to sort out the always-tricky question: "Who is in charge?" After I came out of my alcoholic fog and looked around at the meetings, meeting rooms and members, I had a lot of questions. I needed to know who decided how meetings would be run, who the speakers would be and how the collection was spent. After attending meetings for a while, I noticed that there is quite a lot of menial labor required to keep the meetings running and the rooms open. Who does it and why? I'm sure I'm not the only one who came in with questions like these. But I was genuinely surprised as I learned the answers. AA is different from any other organization I've encountered. I'm as amazed today as I was then about how and why the Fellowship works.

The short answer is that "group conscience" runs AA at every level. Yes, we have volunteers for different jobs. However, they have no authority to decide anything; they merely have the responsibility to carry out the decisions of the group, or the "group conscience."

It would seem that an organizational structure like this would produce only chaos. At times, it does, but eventually everything gets sorted out--not always the way any particular member wants it to.

I saw this principle operating up front and personal in the first group that I joined. It was run by one individual who had been there for some years and made all the decisions about the group himself. Everyone else just wandered in and out. What happened was that when a serious problem faced the group, it fell apart. No one had enough interest to solve it. That group doesn't exist today.

When I attend business meetings today, the part of this Tradition that I try to remember is that it is a "loving" God expressed in our group conscience.

Too often we are too human. I want to look smarter, more important or better informed; I want to see someone else put in his or her place; I want to squash what I think is a really stupid idea. Our business can and should be conducted in a loving way. I retain the gift of sobriety today.

I am just here to serve, and by doing so, I retain the gift of sobriety.

NANCY C.

Coconut Grove, Fla.

**St. Mary's
Sunday Night**

**Sobriety
7:00 PM**

St. Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.
6th Denise C.
13th Lou
20th Wayne
27th Pam

Monday Night

**Lorain
7:30 PM**

Zion Lutheran
Church
5100 Ashland Ave.
7th Jeff K.
14th Charlie R.
21st Lilly R.
28th Johnny C.

**Midnight Elyria
Group**

12:00 AM

St. Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.
5th Russ B.
12th Rick B.
19th Sam C.
26th Steve C.

G.S.R./D.C.M. Meeting: The Multi-District meeting is held at 11 AM on the 1st. Sunday of the month. This meeting is for the General Service Rep's. (G.S.R.) of each Group and the District Committee Member's (D.C.M.). If you want to learn more about service attend this meeting.

The Lorain Inter-Group Meeting is the 1st. Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. It is very Important that all the Secretaries of each Group attend this meeting. We urge your Attendance (Be Informed, Be Active)

Advisory Board Meeting: The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month, at the Inter-Group Office.

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle: Just another way that you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET . Be A Winner. Last months Winner: \$66.00 was won by Orlow H. Sold by Smiley Joe.

Step 2: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Promise 2: We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.

Tradition 2: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority-a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. Personal recovery depends upon A.A. Unity.

Concepts 2: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

The **Great Fact Group** meeting, Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 523 E. Broad St. & Winckles St., at Noon on Wednesday is now an Open meeting.

Thought to Consider . . .*If faith without works is dead, then willingness without action is fantasy.*

Please submit your groups' or personal anniversaries to the Livewire by the 25th of each month. Anniversaries will not be carried over to the next year for publication automatically. Thank you for your cooperation.

*To submit information for the news letter please contact: Vicki T. 440 225-1314, Jim Parks 440 385-5687, Bobbi Matear 440 537-4280, Opal A. 440 670-6619, Donna L. 440 574-3464, Amy D. 440 714-7444, via: Call, email or leave the information at the Inter-Group Office before the 25th. of each month.

For information on Cocaine Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous or Al-Anon meetings, please contact the Intergroup office at 440-246-1800.

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**Tues. Night
Laporte**

8:00 PM

Elyria Baptist Church
276 Washington Ave.
1st Troy S.
8th Brenda S.
15th Johnny Cash
(Meeting Anniversary)
22nd Greg R.

**Friday Night
Amherst**

7:30 PM

Church of the Nazarene
Cooper Foster
Park Rd.
4th Greg M
11th Donna H.
18th Bob G.
25th Sober Alcoholic

Friday Nite Haven

7:00 PM

Haven Center
1536 E. 30th St., Lorain
4th Russ B.
11th Trinidad M.
18th Vicki T.
25th Doug R.

**Fri. Night
Faith Group**

11:00 PM

1741 N Ridge Rd.
Sheffield Village
4th Bob S.
11th Greg R.
18th One Topic Disc.
25th Katie I.

On behalf of the Advisory Board and the Lorain County Intergroup Office, we would like to thank Bill Jackson and Alan Revercomb for their years of service on the Advisory Board. Their efforts and contributions will be appreciated for many 24 hours to come. Thank you Bill and Alan!

I would like to express my gratitude from the bottom of my heart to those who helped with the 2010 Holiday functions. "Giving is a True Reflection of the Heart". May God continue to Bless each and everyone of You and may you all have a prosperous New Year.

*With all My Love
Linda S*

**** Anniversary ****

• 27 years •

February 2nd

Grafton

Wednesday Night

8:00 p.m.

Grafton Fire Station

1050 Novak Rd.

Lead: Layman C.

Pizza & Fellowship

**** Anniversary ****

• 28 years •

February 15th

Tuesday Night

Laporte

Elyria Baptist Church

276 Washington Ave.

Dinner: 6:30-7:30 pm

Lead: 8:00 pm

Johnny Cash

50/50 & Door Prizes to follow

**COME ONE - COME ALL
G.S.R. WORKSHOP**

FEB. 5th, 2011

1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

Lorain InterGroup Office

For all GSRs

PRESENT - NEW

AND THOSE INTERESTED

• COFFEE •

• SNACK • FUN •

• FELLOWSHIP •

Survivors List:

Groups in need of
Support to stay afloat . Please
Attend, Contribute,
Be Active, Help Chair,
Be a Secretary,
Be Responsible

Tuesday Night Haven

7:00 p.m.

Friday Nite Haven

7:00 p.m.

Haven Center

1536 E. 30th St., Lorain

**Sat. Young Person's
Group**

Sat. 2:00 PM

Monday Big Book Discussion

7:30 PM

Arid Club

1741 N.Ridge Rd.

Midnight Elyria Group

12:00 AM

St. Mary's Church

4th & Middle Ave.

Great Fact Group

Wed. 12:00 pm

Pilgrim United Church of
Christ

523 E. Broad St. & Winckles
St., Elyria

Sunday Living Life

5:30 PM

1730 Broadway JFK

Turning Point

Thursday 6:00 PM

Elyria Baptist Church
276 Washington Ave.

Mon. Night Rainbow Group

7:30 PM

1st Lutheran Church
6th & Washington

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT

THE GROUPS.

*Saturday, March 5
Wings of Change
ARID Fellowship Club
70s Rewind*

*Lead at 7pm & Free Dance to Follow
Bringing Disco Back*

*Food & Beverage will be available to purchase
Door Prized - Raffles - 50/50*

**Valentine's Day
Dinner & Dance**

Saturday, Feb. 12

Arid Fellowship Club

8:00 pm

Tickets \$5 pp/\$8 per couple
50/50 & Raffles

• Feb. Anniversary •

1st Russ B. 1 yr.

2nd Keith S. 8 yrs.

8th Yolanda A. 21 yrs.

9th LaPhenie C. 12 yrs.

10th Keith Shagie 8 yrs.

15th Sandy P. 4 yrs.

17th Kim C. 9 yrs.

18th Bill Y. 33 yrs.

26th Bill G. 29 yrs.

27th Kelly R. 2 yrs.



LOOKING TO GET ACTIVE IN SERVICE...COME

SEE WHAT ITS' ALL ABOUT

PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKSHOP NTERGROUP

OFFICE

MARCH 12, 2011

1:00 P.M TO 3:00 P.M.

NEW

OPEN AA MEETING!

Monday at 8:00 P.M.

"New Beginnings"

Church of the New Harvest

223 Clinton Ave.

Elyria, Ohio 44035

(Corner of Adams and Clinton, off of Bell)

Notice to All

The Lorain InterGroup Office is actively seeking new Advisory Board Members., especially from Vermilion, Lorain, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Wellington, Grafton or North Ridgeville areas of the county. Requirements are 3 years of continued sobriety, availability on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and 1st Sunday of the month for meetings, and a commitment to service. If you are interested, please submit a letter of intent to any board member or contact the InterGroup Office.



**Super Bowl
Sunday**

Phone Line Report:

Month of Jan. 2011

12 Step Calls.....	7
Sponsorship.....	6
Al-A-Non.....	3
Meeting Info.....	81
General Info.....	65
Phone Service.....	111

Total:..... 273

ATTENTION: Lorain County A.A. Community - help needed on various Committees! If interested, please contact one of the Advisory Board Members and VOLUNTEER!!!! Help Make A Difference!!!

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire Committee

Vicki Tomlinson..... 440 225-1314
 *e mail vickitom@oh.rr.com
 Jim Parks.....440 385-5687
 *e mail jbparks2542@yahoo.com

Internet Committee (aaloraincounty.org)

Mike.....440 670-9910
 e mail webmaster@aaloraincounty.org

Cooperation with the Professionals Committee

Opal A.....440 670-6619

Correctional Committee

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Archives Committee

Linda S.440 245-2928

Special Needs Committee

Yolanda A.....440 541-2216
 Coretta Farley440 308-1714

Picnic Committee

Art C.....440 773-9474

Treatment Facilities Committee

Patti Rodgers 440-284-6677

Pig Roast Committee

Troy Smith.....440 365-9018

Memorial Day Breakfast Committee

Donna Lawson.....440 574-3464

Grapevine Committee

Linda S.440 245-2928
 Coretta Farley440 308-1714

District Committee

District 19A (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Avon, N. Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton DCM Ellen Winson.440 327-8812

District 19B (Lorain City Meetings and some in Vermilion) DCM. Yolanda A.440 541-2216

**District 20A (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle) DCM Patty McMullen.....440 365-3778
 Alt. DCM. Judy Sexton.440 322-2619**

District 20B (All Meetings at ARID Club) DCM. Debbie McConnell.....440 277-0162

**District 20C(LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm Tns., Amherst, Henrietta Tns., S. Amherst, Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Twp., Pittsfield Twp., BrightonTwp., Wellington Meetings) DCM. Patti Rodgers440-284-6677
 Alt DCM Donna Lawson.....440 574-3464**

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the Month of December , 2010.

Rents:

Month of Dec. , 2010

1. Blue Monday
2. Friday Morning Survivor
3. Strength in Sobriety
4. Spanish American
5. Tuesday Night Central
6. Unity Hall Discussion
7. Happy Hour

Donations/Rents

By Week

- | | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 1..... | \$466.34 |
| 2..... | \$1,130.68 |
| 3..... | \$254.39 |
| 4..... | \$257.15 |
| 5..... | \$888.47 |
| <hr/> | |
| | \$2,997.03 |

Expenses

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1.Rent | \$650.00 |
| 2.Columbia Gas | \$193.00 |
| 3. All Service Telecommunications | \$152.03 |
| 4.Ohio Edison 710 Broadway | \$200.15 |
| 5. Time Warner | \$91.26 |
| 6. House Managers | \$1,519.43 |
| 7. Pay Cor Fees | \$64.29 |
| 8. Live Wire Printing | \$69.00 |
| 9. Berry Yellow Pages | \$20.05 |
| 10. Holiday Open House | \$150.00 |
| 11. Funeral Flowers for Bill Watkins | \$53.81 |
| 12. Big Books for Public Information | \$108.00 |

Committee

\$3,271.02

Month of Dec. 2010

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Donations/Rents | \$2,997.03 |
| Coca Cola Sales | \$33.08 |
| Total Income | <u>\$3,030.11</u> |
| Expenses | <u>\$3,271.02</u> |

Total Loss December, 2010 (\$240.91)

When making Donations to the Lorain Inter-Group, Area 54, Multi-District, or the General Service Office in New York. PLEASE put your Groups General Service number on the Donation. You can find your Groups General Service number in the meeting schedule or on the internet at aaloraincounty.org under A.A. Meetings. Please put your Area & District numbers on the donation, it also helps to identify your Group. If you don't have a General Service number under your Groups information in the meeting schedule you can contact your District Committee person listed in the LiveWire to help you get registered.

Donations

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Amherst Saturday Group | 17. LCCC After Lunch Bunch Discussion |
| 2. Anonymous | 18. Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle |
| 3. Attitude of Gratitude | 19. Mid Week Morning discussion |
| 4. Back to Basics Discussion | 20. Monday Night Lorain |
| 5. Blue Monday | 21. Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| 6. Carlisle Lunch Bunch | 22. Oberlin Group |
| 7. CBS Big Book Step Study | 23. Oberlin Women's Closed Group |
| 8. Early Morning Discussion | 24. Saturday Night Security |
| 9. Elyria Men's Stag | 25. Serenity Hall |
| 10. Elyria Monday Closed Discussion | 26. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 11. Elyria Sunday Night Group | 27. Strength In Sobriety |
| 12. Friday Morning Survivor | 28. Sunday Night Sobriety |
| 13. Friday Night Amherst | 29. Sunday Open Men's Discussion |
| 14. Friday Night Sobriety | 30. Tuesday Morning Discussion-Vermilion |
| 15. Grafton Wednesday Night | 31. Vermilion Discussion |
| 16. LaPorte Tuesday Group | 32. Wellington Thursday Night |

Board Of Directors

Chairperson Ken Cain..... 322-2496
 Vice-Chairperson Donna Lawson.....574-3464
 Treasurer Bill Post.....933-4153
 Secretary Mark Potter.....452-5946
 Office Managers Sam Hensley.....288-4942
 Tom Niemiec.....258-7286
 Keith Shagie.....258-1159

Advisory Board Members

Troy Smith.....365-9018
 Tom Ortiz.....315-8600
 Nikki Lustek.....409-2136
 Vicki Tomlinson.....225-1314
 Rich Yowler.....477-1019