

March

"Easy Does It"

• area54.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Unity LiveWire

710 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

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

2010

"First Things First"

• aa.org •
aaloraincounty.org

An Open Door

Tradition Three (AA Grapevine, Vol 45, No. 5, October 1988)

"One thing puzzles me," remarked Josh, our group's six-weeks-sober member, "Well, a lot of things puzzle me, but right now it's what you just read from the Preamble, and it's in the Traditions: 'The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.' What if someone comes into AA who doesn't desire to stop drinking?"

"Like you did?" Sara's understanding smile was like a friendly hand on his shoulder. Josh grinned back at her, secure in the warmth and love of his group.

"Exactly like I did! My first two or three meetings I was afraid to admit I didn't really want to stop drinking, for fear you might throw me out. But now that I'm sure you won't--you won't, will you?"

"Not a chance! You're doing just great and the whole group is thrilled about it. You've raised a point that has bothered a lot of people. Maybe that statement isn't quite as simple as it looks. You wonder if we are living up to our own principles. Daniel, tell Josh about your first AA meeting."

"At the time," Daniel began, "I was a patient in a mental hospital that had never given the time of day to AA. This was over twenty years ago; things are different now. As a daring experiment a few of us diagnosed alcoholics were taken to an AA meeting. I skimmed some of the AA literature, listened to what was said, and after the meeting closed I got into a conversation with the man who became my sponsor. He asked what my impression was.

"Doesn't matter," I said. "I've already flunked out. It says the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. I have no desire to stop drinking."

"Then tell me this," he said. "Do you ever have a desire to be a different person?"

"Now you've got my attention!" I told him. "What do I do and how soon can I start?" I've had twenty-three sober years starting with that night, so I'm glad AA makes allowances for people in no shape to know what they want."

Susan held up her hand, "I didn't think I wanted to stop drinking when I got here, either. I wanted desperately to stop being so scared and miserable, but I had loved alcohol and it was several years before I reached the point of actually desiring to live without it, or admitting to myself that I did. If the group had told me to get out, and come back when I had a desire to stop drinking, I'd have been long dead. Elinor, you're the longest-sober one here. Have you ever known of a group that 'threw out' newcomers who wouldn't say they wanted sobriety?"

"Not of my personal knowledge," Elinor answered, "In my experience very few of us came to AA with any conscious desire to stop drinking. I certainly didn't. Like Daniel and Susan, we urgently desired other things, and knew there was no chance of getting them unless we stopped drinking. That was enough for a start, and we developed, or recognized, the desire to stay sober later."

Josh said, "I'm beginning to see that there is a lot more to recovery than just stopping drinking, but the Tradition doesn't hint at that."

"Josh, when you said that after six weeks you are just beginning to see the difference between recovery and not drinking." It was Logan speaking, eight years sober and Josh's sponsor. "That we come into AA to stop drinking is about all most of us can comprehend at first. Why confuse new people further with ideas they aren't ready for? Also, as stated, the Tradition puts the emphasis where it belongs, on getting the drinking stopped. Nothing is more important to the new member than getting the drinking stopped. For a lot of us it makes the difference between staying alive and dying."

"Then why," Josh demanded, "don't we say: 'The only requirement for membership is to stop drinking'? That's what we're here for, isn't it?"

"And what time limit would you set, Josh?" Patrick asked amiably. "Must the new person stop drinking from his first AA meeting? Within a month? Six months? A year? That wouldn't have stopped my drinking. We celebrated my fourteen years of sobriety last month, if you recall, Josh, but I first came to AA nearly eighteen years ago. For the first three and a half years I kept drinking again every few months. Then I'd get the desire to stop drinking again, or enough of a one to bring me back to AA. And I was entitled to come back, and to keep trying. Tradition Three doesn't say we had to stop drinking, but only have a desire to. Otherwise I wouldn't be here tonight. I'd be with Susan, among the long dead.

"What impresses me most about the Third Tradition," Marjorie told us, "It tells us who is eligible for AA membership: anyone with a desire to stop drinking. And that's all. There is no other requirement. Not a word about being rich, or a high school graduate, or white, or male, or a church member. It doesn't say AA is closed to convicts, prostitutes, atheists, the unemployed, or those under twenty-one or over seventy-five. We can't keep anyone out who wants to stop drinking."

"You've got me convinced," Josh admitted. "Changing the Third Tradition wouldn't improve it. Now if we only had a way to tell whether people truly want to stop drinking."

"We do have a way," Elinor assured him confidently. "An absolutely certain way. Only, like so many things in AA, it requires patience. We know a person desires to stop drinking when he does stop drinking--and desires sobriety when he stays sober, day after day."

Elizabeth E.
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Lagrange Mon. Night

8:30 PM

Methodist Church
105 W. Main St., Rte. 303
1st. Kelly R.
(1st lead)
8th. Tom W.
(1st lead)
15th. Joyce A.
22nd. Tom B.
29th. Ken K.

Sun. Night
North Ridgeville

7:30 PM

First Merit Bank
35621 Center Ridge Rd.
7th. Jessie Meier
14th. Rick Burns
21st. John Rak
(Group's Anniversary)
28th. Adam H.

Friday Night

Amherst

7:30 PM

Church of the Nazarene
210 Cooper Foster Park
5th Chris W.
12th Richard K.
19th Steve B.
26th Pat F.

**One
Day
At
A
Time**

Amherst Saturday
Group

8:00 PM

Church of the Nazarene
210 Cooper Foster Park
6th. Tim T.
(Group's Anniversary)
13th Charlie B.
20th. Melody
27th. Bob P.

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.

Living Life, Sundays at Kennedy Plaza, 1730 Broadway, Lorain has a new time. Meeting is from 5:30-6:30 p.m. .

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle

Just another way that you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET . Be A Winner. January winner of \$74.00 was Dave T. Sold by Smiley Joe.

Phone Line Report:

Month of February 2010

12 Step Calls.....	7
Sponsorship.....	5
Al-A-Non.....	6
Meeting Info.....	120
General Info.....	74
Phone Service.....	104

Total:..... 316

• March Anniversary •

- Mar. 1st. Kris K. 9 yrs.
- Mar. 5th. Debbi S. 5 yrs.
- Mar. 8th Greg H. 6 yrs.
- Mar. 8 Nikki L. 7 yrs.
- Mar. 8th. Bob S. 13 yrs.
- Mar. 13th. Sandra S. 4 yrs.
- Mar. 19th. Denny L. 36 yrs.
- Mar. 22nd. James M. 7 yrs.
- Mar. 24th. Vicki T. 3 yrs.
- March 25th. Scott B. 25 yrs.

"You're exactly where you're supposed to be."

For as long as I can remember, I've been unhappy where I was and wished I was somewhere else. In school I always wanted to be in the next grade; at work I wanted a more senior position making more money; when I bought my first home, I quickly wanted one with a pool. When I entered recovery, I brought this same impatience and unhappiness into the rooms with me.

I remember complaining to my sponsor after a few months that things hadn't gotten better, and that I even felt worse. He listened patiently and then said, "You're exactly where you're supposed to be." This didn't make sense to me, and as my life continued to unravel and as I grew more frustrated, irritated and angry, I kept complaining. His answer remained the same, and it took years before I finally understood what he meant.

One of the most important things I've learned in recovery is that accepting where I am physically, emotionally and spiritually is the necessary key to changing it. Once I stop resenting how things are or wishing they were different, I can begin working with God to make them better. But it all begins with acceptance of where I am right now.

Today I know that I'm exactly where I should be, and I know how to make it better.

***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.

Concepts 3: To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. -- the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives-- with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, as we understood Him.

Promise 3: We will comprehend the word serenity.

Tradition 3: The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Friends of Bill W. Picnic

Steak Fry

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Noon-5:00 PM

**Birmingham Youth Center
South Street, Birmingham**

(same place as Sunday Breakfast and Thursday Spaghetti)

\$15.00 Donation

12-14 oz. Strip steak, baked potato, salad and soda or coffee (extra soda .75 cents)

Come have some fellowship and fun while helping us put on the annual FREE picnic this summer.

We will have a 50/50, and we hope some door prizes. Anybody willing to help or donate please call the numbers below! All proceeds go to bring you the picnic.

**Contact persons:
Sue 440-309-0491
Art 440-773-9474**

Spirit of the Pines

April 16, 17, 18 2010

**At Lutheran Memorial Camp,
Fulton, Ohio**

6 Miles South of Mt. Gilead, on Rte. 61

Topic: Emotional Sobriety

**Cost: \$95.00 Per Person For The Weekend
Includes Lodging, Friday Night Cook Out,
3 Meals Saturday and Brunch Sunday**

**Make check payable to: Larry Cassady,
40078 State Rt. 18,**

Wellington, Ohio 44090

Prepayment Required by April 2nd

For More Info Call:

Rose W. (419) 502-6660

Mike W (419) 483-3667

Paulene & Dean M. (419) 898-0191

Sharon V. (419) 752-6340

Larry C. (440) 667-5492

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

Friends of Bill W.

Picnic

Sunday, June 20, 2010

Noon - 5 pm

**Birmingham Methodist
Youth Center**

South Street, Birmingham

**Food, burgers and dogs and drinks on us
Bring a dish to share.**

**Games for the kids, door prizes and a
50/50 raffle.**

**We had a great time last year, come join us
for our annual gathering of fellowship and
fun!**

**Anyone willing to help or donate please call
the numbers below.**

**For info or tickets call:
Sue 440-309-0491
Art 440-773-9474**

**Meeting & Dance
Arid Fellowship
Club**

March 6, 2010

**1741 N. Ridge Rd.
Sheffield Township
6 pm - ?**

**Discussion with dance to
follow**

**Food available to
purchase**

**Anniversary
Amherst**

Saturday Group

*** 36 years ***

March 6, 2010

**Church of the
Nazarene
210 Cooper Foster
Park**

**Food: 6:30 p.m
Lead: 8:00 p.m.**

**28th ANNUAL
NEW LONDON
CAMPOUT**

**Thursday June 24th
through**

Sunday June 27th , 2010

**New London Recreation Park,
New London, Ohio
Grove Street
(off State Rt. 60)**

**For more information call:
Bas and Judy Elliott
419-929-0054
Mary Ott 419-668-4122
Pat Morgan 440-225-0125
Larry Nagy 440-965-4165**

Survivors List:

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

Lorain Consolidated

Sunday 2:30 PM

710 Broadway Ave. Lorain

Serenity Hall

"The Gould"

Sat. 8:30pm

710 Broadway Ave. Lorain

St Agnes Thurs. Gp.

Thurs. 8:00 PM

**St. John's Luthern Church
W. River Road**

St. Anthony's

Fri. Nite

**1305 E. Erie Ave.
Lorain**

Friday Night Faith

Fri. 11:00 PM

Monday Night Big Book

Mon. 7:00 p.m.

Sat. Young Person's

Group

Sat. 2:00 PM

Sun. Night Serenity

Sun. 8:00 PM

**Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge Rd.,
Sheffield Township**

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT

THE GROUPS.



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

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Correctional Committee

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Archives Committee

Linda S.440 240-1189

Young Peoples Committee

John Flores.....440 308-5421

Picnic Committee

Sue Prosser.....440 309-0491

Finance Committee

Mark Potter.....440 452-5946

Pig Roast Committee

Troy Smith.....440 365-9018

Special Needs Committee

Yolanda A.440 541-4843

Memorial Day Breakfast Committee

Terry Poznako.....440 225-6897

Grapevine Committee

Linda S.440 240-1189

Coretta Farley440 308-1714

District Committee

District 19A (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield,

Avon, N. Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton

DCM. James Barker.....440 233-4992

Alt DCM Ellen W.440 327-8812

District 19B (Lorain City Meetings and some in Vermilion)

DCM. Yolanda A.440 541-4843

District 20A (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle)

DCM. Judy Sexton.440 322-2619

Alt. DCM Patty McMullen.....440 365-3778

District 20B (All Meetings at ARID Club)

DCM. Debbie McConnell.....440 277-0162

District 20C(LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm

Tnsp., Amherst, Henrietta Tnsp., S. Amherst,

Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Tnsp., Pittsfield Tnsp.,

BrightonTnsp., 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 January, 2010.

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations/Rents</u>
1.Rent	\$ 650.00	
2.Columbia Gas	\$ 201.00	
3.All Service Telephone Answering	\$ 144.53	
4.Ohio Edison 710 Broadway	\$ 256.64	
5. Time Warner	\$ 91.07	
6. House Managers	\$ 1504.62	
7. Pay Cor Fees	\$ 153.22	
8. Live Wire Printing	\$ 69.00	
9. Berry Yellow Pages	\$ 19.46	
10. Bank Service Charge	\$ 6.25	
11. Petty Cash	\$ 100.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$3,195.79	

By Week

1.....	\$905.87
2.....	\$619.51
3.....	\$683.60
4.....	\$1,580.78
5.....	\$0
	<hr/>
	3,789.76

Month of January, 2010

Donations/Rents	\$3,789.76
Coca Cola Sales	42.62
Total Income	\$3,832.38
Expenses	\$3,195.79
	<hr/>

Total Gain January, 2010 **\$636.59**

Rents:

Month of January, 2010

1. Blue Monday
2. Friday Morning Survivor
3. Lorain Consolidated Group
4. Mid Week Morning Discussion
5. Monday Happy Hour
6. Never Too Young
7. Sharing Our Sobriety
8. Spanish American
9. Strength In Sobriety

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 Night | 19. LCCC After Lunch Bunch Discussion |
| 2. Amherst Who Me | 20. Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle |
| 3. Anonymous | 21. Midnight Elyria Group |
| 4. Avon Lake 12 Step Group | 22. Mid Week Morning Discussion |
| 5. Back to Basics Discussion | 23. Monday Night Lorain |
| 6. Blue Monday | 24. North Ridgeville 1st Step |
| 7. CBS Big Book Step Study | 25. North Ridgeville Men's |
| 8. Early Morning Discussion | 26. Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| 9. Elyria Friday Night | 27. Oberlin Group |
| 10. Elyria Monday Closed Discussion | 28. Oberlin Women's Closed Group |
| 11. Elyria New Way of Life Group | 29. Rainbow Group |
| 12. Elyria Sunday Night Group | 30. Serenity Hall |
| 13. Friday Morning Survivor | 31. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 14. Friday Night Amherst | 32. St. Anthony's Friday Night |
| 15. Friday Night Avon Lake | 33. Strength in Sobriety |
| 16.. Friday Night Sobriety | 34. Tuesday Morning Discussion- Vermilion |
| 17. Grafton Wednesday Night | 35. Vermilion Tuesday Night Group |
| 18. Laporte Tuesday Group | 36. Wednesday Morning Discussion |

Board Of Directors

Chairperson	Troy Smith.....365-9018
Vice-Chairperson	Ken Cain..... 322-2496
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

Tom Ortiz.....	315-8600
Tom Banks.....	309-3226
Bill Jackson.....	935-3251
Terri Poznako.....	225-6897
Nikki Lustek.....	409-2136
Donna Lawson	574-3464
Alan Revercomb.....	541-2473