

October

“Easy Does It”

• area54.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Unity LiveWire

710 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

Lorain Inter-Group Central Office email address: intergroup@centurytel.net

Phone 440 246-1800

2008

“First Things First”

• aa.org •
aaloraincounty.org

They're Back in Prison—But This Time It's Voluntary
“I feel like I've lived three lives: I lived the life before I drank, I existed while I drank, and now I'm living the spiritual way of life that I had no idea even existed,” says Alan D., an ex-offender who was first introduced to A.A. in Colorado State Prison in 1985.

“Some guy was speaking on the message of hope. My thinking at the time was ‘this sounds great, if I should ever need it.’ I was just starting an eight-year sentence, which was committed during a blackout, but my pride was still so huge I didn't want to admit I was an alcoholic. But what happened, what took place, is that a seed was planted.

Alan didn't get sober until fifteen years later, “fifteen more years of miserable drinking, more run-ins with the law.” But, when he did, he didn't forget what it was like to be incarcerated and without hope, the only dream the dream of the next drink. “I was in prison the first time for three and a half years straight, for 42 months, and you know, I had the obsession to drink the whole time. My goal when I got out was not to get next to a woman, get next to my family, get next to a good meal—it was to get a drink. That was it. And I succeeded in my goal: I was drunk as a skunk three hours into the bus ride home.”

Ultimately, on the outside, Alan got sober. It wasn't long, though, before he had an urge to go back into prison, this time as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

“A.A. provided me with that opportunity and you can't imagine, I mean, there's just no words to describe the feeling that overcomes you when you're sober and you're back in the place where you were just one of those guys walking down the hallway so hopeless.

“I had that same experience when I went back to the county jail up in Fort Collins. I've been going there about a year now, but that was the same feeling—same walls, same cells, same noises as when I was locked up in there. A.A. saved my life and I'll do anything I can to get the message to that guy who's sitting in the back, his arms crossed with contempt, just like I was.”

Alan also takes the message into a local detox where he spent time “going to pieces” prior to getting sober. “I think it's important that we tell people to go into all kinds of facilities. It's frustrating work, it's not glamorous, but it's possible that the guy or gal you're going to talk to this one time will know where to go to find help in a couple of years. It gets me every time I think about it.”

Patty K. is another ex-offender who was introduced to A.A. in prison. In the beginning, she says, she went to the meetings because she thought the people who came in to carry the A.A. message were “nice.” “While they were there, I realized they had

something I wanted. They had a light in their eyes and they were not handcuffed to their disease.

“I looked forward to those meetings, because when the A.A.s got there, they brought with them a sense of real life, laughter and respect. One day, a woman I had known from the ‘bad-old-days’ came. I knew she was just like me.” Patty took her aside and asked her what substance she was on, knowing there had to be some kind of an angle. “She just laughed and said she wasn't on anything. She told me to read the last two pages of ‘Keys to the Kingdom’ in the Big Book and that she would come back the next week.”

For someone whose family used to keep track of her by reading through the obituaries to see if she was dead or alive, Patty found a flicker of hope in A.A. “One day when I was so angry at God for letting me wake up again, I shouted out, ‘Yo, Dude! If you are up there, you have to help me because I can't do this anymore on my own!’” Patty passed out and when she woke up, she had the light of hope burning deep inside of her. The loneliness had begun to disappear.

Patty got involved in the Fellowship right away. “I found a home group the day I got out. I didn't know where I would sleep that night, but I knew it didn't matter. My recovery had to come first.” And service soon followed. “They gave me a job! I was the coffee maker the next day.”

After attending her first area assembly, Patty got hooked on service. “I wanted to go back into the prisons, and even with my record they let me. I became the outside G.S.R. for the Mountaineers prison A.A. group and after that I made myself available for the district corrections chair.”

In a twist of fate nobody could have predicted, Patty recalls with humor standing before a judge at the end of her drinking. The judge, exasperated with her less than stellar record, said “Mrs. K., you'll still be going to treatment, jail, or prison when you're an old lady.” And, you know what, Patty says, “He was right. I turned 60 last year and I still go to treatment facilities twice a month, and I still go to jails and prisons three times a month for Alcoholics Anonymous. With God and the Fellowship and being of service, anything is possible,” says Patty.

It's a sentiment shared by Tim V. of Colorado, even though his motives for going to A.A. in the beginning were less than forthright. “When you're in prison, you want to get out,” says Tim. “It's probably the most predominant thought on your mind,” he explains, indicating that he went to A.A. meetings at the start to get “credit” that might help him look good when his parole hearings came around. “I knew they were keeping track of how many meetings I went to and I figured it would help me, you know, to get out. On some level I believed I was working the Steps and being real about my A.A. participation, but the truth is I really wasn't, not initially.”

Mon. Night**Lorain**

7:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church
5100 Ashland Ave.**6th. Wally M.****13th. Mike S.****20th. Worren B.****27th. Rae P.****Fri. Night****Faith Group**

11:00 PM

1741 N Ridge Rd.

3rd. Dave L.**10th. (10 Step)****17th. Disc.****24th. Susan T.**

*But
for the
Grace
of God*

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.

Notice to the Lorain A.A. Community:

On the first Sunday of every month at the Inter-Group Office at 11:00 AM, we have a G.S.R. Meeting (The Service Leaders for his or her Group, Your Groups). Lorain County has approximately 120 Meetings in the County and only 16 people showed up Representing these 120 Meetings. What's wrong with this attendance?

We all have to carry the message to the Alcoholic, and in what better way can we do this, then to be active and informed. If you don't have a General Service Representative elect one, your group needs representation. Have a voice in A.A. Lets get active and have your group be a part of that VOICE.

Patty McM.

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.

Need A.A. Volunteers to Speak, Lead and or Assist at the Lake Point Nursing Home on Monday's 7 PM.
Contact Coretta Farley. 308-1714

Thought to Ponder . . . Many things can be preserved with alcohol. Dignity is not one of them.

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle Winner: Tom O. \$87.00, Sold by Inter-Group Office. Just another way that you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET from any Advisory Board Member. Be A Winner

The Lorain Inter-Group would like to extend a sincere Thanks to all the volunteers that help make the Move to our New Location 710 Broadway Ave. a total success, from construction, electrical, painting, maintenance, the moving and much more. Also Special Thanks to the Lady's from the Keys.
God Bless, Thank you all. Lorain Inter-Group Central Office

Concepts 10: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

Step 10: Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Promise 10: Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us.

Tradition 10: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. Name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Mid- Night**Elyria Group**

Sat. 12:00 PM

St Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.**4th. Sam C.****11th. Ask It Basket****18th. Lois R.****25th. Mike W.****Lorain
Consolidated****Sun. 2:30 PM**

710 Broadway

5th. Bonnie L.**12th. Lora J.****19th. Opal****26th. Corey S.**

*There is always
Space
Available in
The LiveWire
for your Groups
Messages, News
& Activities
Contact:
James P.
440 385-5687*

(Continued from page 1)

Tim also went to Narcotics Anonymous meetings in prison. "I'm definitely someone who had problems with other substances besides alcohol. I thought I was more of a drug addict, but I would stop taking drugs and drank more, and my life was still unmanageable. So, I kind of figured out that it had to be all or nothing.

"And so I did a transition from going for the credit to really taking a look at what I was doing and saying. I needed to take this thing seriously or I was just going to continue cycling in and out of prison. So, the program was a life changing proposition and it definitely changed mine."

Once out of prison, the path of recovery led to service. "I go to a Twelve Concepts study meeting once a week, and one on the Traditions, and I'm the G.S.R. for my home group. I recently completed my term of parole," says Tim, "and I've got a good start—a good start on my recovery, a good start on my new life.


"When I was in prison six years ago, I couldn't have imagined what my life would be like or the things that I would have, that I now have. I was in a treatment center in prison and they asked me to come back and talk to the inmates. And I'm going to go in there and say I'm a member, an active member of A.A."

Carrying the message of A.A. into correctional facilities isn't for everybody, but if you're one of those A.A. members like Patty, Alan and Tim who've been bitten by the bug for this kind of service work, it's hard to keep you out. And you never know just whom you're going to reach. "I know that the miracle can happen," says Alan about carrying the A.A. message inside.

"You can't predict when or with whom, but I know it happens."

(Box 4-5-9, August/September 2008)

Halloween Party

 **St. John's Hall**
Homewood and Route 57

Sat. October 27th.

7:00 PM until Midnight

Great Family Fun!! 

Tickets \$5.00 in Advance

At the Door \$6.00

Children under 12 Free

Food, DJ, Treats, Raffle,

 Door Prizes, Big Cash

Prizes for Costume

Contact: Tommy O. 315-8600

• Oct. Anniversary •

1st. Dave L. 3 yrs.

4th. Bill J. 5 yrs.

7th. Joe L. 36 yrs.

13th. Nora M. 8 yrs.

15th. Shawn M. 9 yrs.

21st. Caroline J. S. 20 yrs.

22nd. Roy P. 26 yrs.

23rd. Big Tony M. 1 yr.

23rd. Jim P. 4 yrs.

23rd. Corey S. 5 yrs.

24th. Bill A. 20 yrs.

26th. Theresa B. 1 yr.

29th. Hallie R. 1 yr.

H
O
N
E
S
T
Y
.
P
U
R
T
Y
.
L
O
V
E

Arid Fellowship Halloween Party

Sat. November 1st.

8:00 PM until Midnight

Great Freaky Fun!! 

Tickets: Singles \$3.00

 Couples \$5.00

Kids under 10 \$1.00

Covered Dish Appreciated

Contact: Arid Club

233-4801 Bobbie 537-4280

Trini 670-2563 Jerry 452-1600

Children's Christmas Party Meeting

We need many volunteers to help make this

Children's Christmas Party a success.

We are having a planning meeting.

Date: Sunday, October 19, 2008

Time: 12:00 Noon

Place: Lorain Intergroup, Inc.

710 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Ohio

Hope you will help us to make this year's party the best yet. If you have any questions about the meeting contact: Troy Smith (440 365-9018)

Phone Line Report:

Month of Sept., 2008

12 Step Calls..... 6

Sponsorship..... 3

Al-A-Non..... 12

Meeting Info..... 99

General Info..... 59

Total:..... 179

HELP NEEDED

A.A. Men & Women to carry the message to other Alcoholics that are incarcerated in Jail or Prison in Lorain County. There is also a correspondence program in place for those who would like to write to inmates.

Requirements:

1 yr. Sobriety (if you would like to help)

Please Call:

**Eddie Logan
440 829-7541
Joel (Gypsy) T.
330 646-3490**

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

*To submit information for the news letter please contact: Jim Parks 440 385-5687 or Bobbi Matear 440 537-4280 via: Call, *email or leave the information at the Inter-Group Office before the 25th. of each month.

Arid Fellowship Center

Needs Volunteers to be part of the Entertainment

Committee to help in the planning and setup of events throughout the year.

If interested

Contact:

Arid Club (440 233-4801)

Jerry (440 452-1600)

Bobbie M. (440 537-4280)

Trini (440 670-2563)

Leave a message

11th Annual "Fall In Sobriety" Women's Mini Convention

Saturday, Nov. 8th,
9 am until 3:00 pm

Tickets - \$15.00

Rosewood Place

4493 Oberlin Avenue,

Lorain, OH 44053

A Continental Breakfast & Luncheon Will Be Served
Panel Speakers, Lead Speaker,
Raffles & Lots of Recovery

Please Note:

This is non-smoking

Contact by Phone or email:

Kathy C. (440) 365-1925

kc426358@yahoo.com

Linda S. (440) 323-9217

diamonds97@windstream.net

Survivors List:

Groups in need of
Support to stay afloat Please

Attend, Contribute,
Be Active, Help Chair,

Be a Secretary,
Be Responsible

Blue Monday

Mon. 10:30 AM

710 Broadway Ave. Lorain

Sisters In Sobriety

Wed. 7:30 PM

Firstmerit Bank

Center Ridge Road

North Ridgeville

Friday Morn. Trad.

Fri. 10:00 AM

St. Clarence Church

30106 Lorain Rd. N. Olmsted

St Agnes Thurs. Gp.

Thurs. 8:00 PM

St. John's Luthern Church

W. River Road

Sun. Night Serenity

Sun. 8:00 PM

Tues. Lunch Break

Tues. 12:00 Noon

Friday Night Faith

Fri. 11:00 PM

Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge Rd.,

Sheffield Township

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT

THE GROUPS.

A.C.T.I.O.N.

**Any Change To Improve
Our Nature.**

We need volunteers from our Lorain County A.A. Community to help on all these various Committees listed, if anyone is interested please contact one or more of the chairperson and **VOLUNTEER!!!!**

Help Make A Difference

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire Committee

Jim P.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

Eddie Logan..... 440 829-7541

Archives Committee

Mary Ann Schulz.....440 453-4115

Young Peoples Committee

John Flores.....440 308-5421

Treatment Facilities Committee

Edwin Torres.....440 989-0362

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

Maggie Middleton.....440 775-1274

Memorial Day Breakfast Committee

Terry Poznako.....440 225-6897

Grapevine Committee

Sarah Lamb.....440 787-7520

District Committee

District 19A (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Avon, N. Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton DCM. James B. ?

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

DCM. Yolanda A. ?

District 20A (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle) DCM. Judy S.440 322-2619

District 20B (All Meetings at ARID Club)

DCM. Kevin Snodgrass440 241-7166

District 20C(LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm

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

Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Twsp., Pittsfield Twsp., Brighton Twsp., Wellington Meetings)

DCM. MaryAnn S.440 453-4115

e mail maschulz@oh.rr.com

Alt. DCM.Donna L.440 574-3464

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the month of August, 2008.

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations</u>
1. Rent	\$ 700.00	1..... \$ 2,145.33
2. Columbia Gas	\$ 568.00	2..... \$ 794.69
3. All Service Telephone Answering	\$ 144.53	3..... \$ 219.93
4. Ohio Edison 710 Broadway	\$ 30.36	4..... \$ 926.81
5. Ohio Edison 577 Broadway	\$ 197.78	
6. Century Telephone	\$ 124.74	\$ 4,086.76
7. House Managers	\$ 1,235.92	<u>Donations/Rent</u> \$ 4,086.76
8. Pay Cor Fees	\$ 79.33	<u>Proceeds from Coke</u> \$0.00
9. Live Wire Printing	\$ 64.00	<u>Machine</u>
10. Insight Yellow Pages	\$ 18.86	<u>Total</u> \$ 4,086.76
11. Tom Ortiz Building Materials	\$ 1,500.00	<u>Expenses</u> \$ 4,978.08
710 Broadway		
12. Troy Smith Building Materials	\$ 250.00	<u>Loss August 2008</u> -\$891.32
710 Broadway		
14. Ohio Bureau of Workers Comp.	\$ 50.00	
15. Office Supplies	\$ 14.56	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 4,978.08	

"Alcoholics Anonymous does not work in theory --
It only works in practice!"

Donations: Month of August, 2008

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.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Amherst Saturday | 17. Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle |
| 2. Anonymous | 18. Lorain Wednesday Group |
| 3. Blue Monday | 19. Mid-Week Morning Disc. |
| 4. Carlisle Lunch Bunch | 20. Mon. Night 12 X 12 Disc. Wellington |
| 5. Crazy But Sober Big Book Step Study | 21. Monday Night Lorain |
| 6. Early Morning Disc. | 22. Never Too Young |
| 7. Elyria Friday Night | 23. North Ridgeville Men's |
| 8. Elyria Monday Closed Disc. | 24. Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| 9. Elyria Women's Disc. | 25. Oberlin Group |
| 10. Ford Local 425 Group | 26. Oberlin Women's Closed Disc. |
| 11. Friday Night Sobriety | 27. S.I.O.G.A. |
| 12. Friday Morning Survivor | 28. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 13. Friday Night Avon Lake | 29. Spanish American |
| 14. Friday Wellington Group | 30. Stepping Into Sobriety |
| 15. Grafton Wed. Night | 31. Tuesday Night Central |
| 16. LaGrange Monday Night | 32. We Care Tuesday Morning Disc. |

G.O.D.

Good Orderly Direction

H.A.L.T.

[Don't get too] Hungry, Angry, Lonely, Tired.

Board of Directors

Chairperson	Tom Ortiz.....315-8600
Vice-Chairperson	Troy Smith.....365-9018
Treasurer	Bill Post.....933-4153
Secretary	Mark Potter.....452-5946
Office Managers	George Schmidt....288-8935
	Sam Hensley.....288-4942
	Tom Niemiec.....258-7286

Advisory Board Members

Tom Banks.....309-3226
Bill Jackson.....935-3251
Terri Poznako.....225-6897
Nikki Lustek225-6036
Donna Lawson574-3464