

Monthly Reprieve

Volume 15, Issue 8

August 2019

RACINE AREA CENTRAL OFFICE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

3701 Durand Avenue #225 Racine, WI 53403 (262) 554-6611 Hotline: (262) 554-7788 raconewsletter@gmail.com

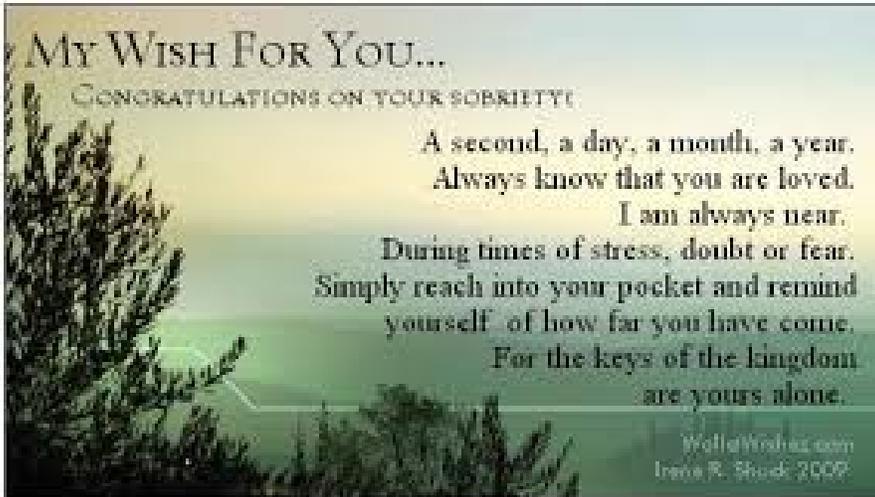
Store is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am—5:00 pm. Saturdays 9:00 am—2:00 pm; Closed Sundays

Come join us in the fellowship. RACO is in desperate need of some volunteers to help in the following areas:

Staffing Volunteers- please contact Ted V @262-909-4320

Co-Literature Volunteer Position- please contact Jon K @262-977-0748

Service Opportunity District 7- 4th Thurs of every month-Rogers Clinic contact: Don B @ 847-772-9506



POETRY CORNER



Tradition eight

“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”



August Focus

Eighth Step Prayer

“Higher Power, I ask Your help in making my list of all those I have harmed. I will take responsibility for my mistakes & Be forgiving to others as You are forgiving to me. Grant me the willingness to begin my restitution. This I pray..”

Step Eight

““Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.””

Sound Living by: *Bill W.*

On the 8th Tradition By Bill

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"Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we might otherwise have to engage non-alcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. "12th Step" work is never to be paid for."

Throughout the world A.A.s are "12th stepping" with thousands of new prospects a month. Between one and two thousand of these stick on our first presentation; past experience shows that most of the remainder will come back to us later on. Almost entirely unorganized, and completely non-professional, this mighty spiritual current is now flowing from alcoholics who are well to those who are sick. One alcoholic talking to another; that's all.

Could this vast and vital face-to-face effort ever be professionalized or even organized? Most emphatically, it could not. The few efforts to professionalize straight "12th Step" work have always failed quickly. Today, no A.A. will tolerate the idea of paid "A.A. Therapists" or "organizers". Nor does any A.A. like to be told just how he must handle that new prospect of his. No, this great life-giving stream can never be dammed up by paid do-gooders or professionals. Alcoholics Anonymous is never going to cut its own life lines. To a man, we are sure of that.

But what about those who serve us full time in other capacities—are cooks, care-takers and paid Intergroup secretaries "A.A. professionals"?

Because our thinking about these people is still unclear, we often feel and act as though they were such. The impression of professionalism subtly attaches to them, so we frequently hear they are "making money out of A.A.", or that they are "professionalizing" A.A. Seemingly, if they do take our A.A. dollars they don't quite belong with us A.A.s any more. We some- times go further; we underpay them on the theory they ought to be glad to "cook" for A.A. cheap.

Now isn't this carrying our fears of professionalism rather far? If these fears ever got too strong, none but a saint or an incompetent could work for Alcoholics Anonymous. Our supply of saints being quite small, we would certainly wind up with less competent workers than we need. We are beginning to see that our few paid workers are performing only those service tasks that our volunteers cannot consistently handle. Primarily these folks are not doing 12th Step work. They are just making more and better 12th Step work possible. Secretaries at their desks are valuable points of contact, information and public relations. That is what they are paid for, and nothing else. They help carry the good news of A.A. to the outside world and bring our prospects face to face with us. That's not "A.A. therapy"; it's just a lot of very necessary but often thankless work.

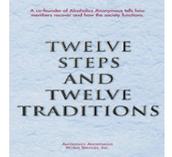
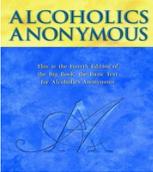
So, where needed, let's revise our attitude toward those who labor at our special services. Let us treat them as A.A. associates, and not as hired help; let's recompense them fairly and, above all, let's absolve them from the label of professionalism.

Let us also distinguish clearly between "organizing the A.A. movement" and set- ting up, in a reasonably business-like manner, its few essential services of contact and propagation. Once we do that, all will be well. The million or so brother alcoholics who are still sick will then continue to get the break we 60,000 A.A.s have already had.

Let's give our "service desks" the hand they so well deserve.

JUL Y 1948





Our Stories

Goodbye by Helen B.

Written
by Helene "Elaine" B

To All the Alcohol and other Spirits - Goodbye old friends of mine
How do you say goodbye - to an old friend who was
Always there when I needed you, a nice, fulfilling buzz.
You hung around me mostly at night, lingering while I slept

I'd awoken each day, and go to work, but in my thoughts you crept
You were never, very far away, I hid you here and there
You became a destructive force in my life, You made me just not care

At first I was scared to let you go - How would I sleep on my own?
Trouble and pain you caused me so much, So afraid to be all alone

I'd wake up to find my memories gone - The flash backs made no sense
I'd cry and pray for my soul to return - My life was so intense
Goodbye ol' friend, enemy of mine, My life and soul are my own
I have so much to do You see, I will never be alone

Goodbye forever, enemy of mine, No longer can we be friends,
Acceptance of all responsibility, I must be true to the end.
My hopes and dreams, my courage you took
You tried your damndest to twist
But this is my life and I want it back - I don't just want to exist.

Always be known as the devil's urine - Who seeks to destroy all his
friendsBut
Not this girl, you have no right -and I will fight you until the end!

So leave me be – you SON OF A BITCH!
You tried to destroy me forever
I have joined AA and IOP
And we will destroy you together.

Goodbye



Thank You to the Following Groups for Your continued support to Your Central Office!

Benjamin House-Sunday am Stools and Bottles
Benjamin House-Tues6pm AA/Al-anon
Benjamin House-Thurs 6pm Big Book
Benjamin House-Mon 6pm 12x12
Benjamin House-Sat 7am Cellar Dwellers
Burlington Sunday 10 am 12 & 12
Grove-Sunday 10am Sober on Sunday
Kenosha Friday Night Happy Hour 718857
Kenosha St. Mary's Lutheran 12x12
Racine Transitional Care
We Agnostics Sunday 9am

Thank You again for all of your continued support.

Teamwork makes the dream work



Here is the July financial listings for Your Central Office!

Racine Area Central Office Summary of Income/Expense 2019

Income Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Donations-Groups	1397.61	212.00	575.00	1154.60	2762.25	321.00	394.00						6816.46
Office Sales	445.20	499.05	500.85	1438.00	971.35	414.35	344.50						4613.30
Charge and Debit Card Sales	202.15	371.35	454.20	368.90	370.05	346.20	650.80						2763.65
Charge and Debit Card Donations				26.00									26.00
Rent-Groups	550.00	560.00	350.00	437.50	790.00	440.00	375.00						3502.50
Transfer to Savings													0.00
Fellowship Day													0.00
Gift Certificate Redeemed													0.00
Gratitude Cans	373.42												373.42
Insurance Refund (Hartford)						21.00							21.00
Pauline Vader Memorials				251.00									251.00
Small donation can (office)	3.25	11.77	19.20	5.00	28.96	5.75	11.79						85.72
Big donation box (meeting room)	22.21												22.21
Tri County Conference Literature Sales			618.25										618.25
District 17 Hotline (bill split)		180.00											180.00
Total Income by Month	2993.84	1834.17	2517.50	3681.00	4922.61	1548.30	1776.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19273.51

Expense Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Rent & Water	1030.00	1080.38	1030.00	1030.00	1080.70	1030.00	1030.00						7311.08
Electric (Heat & Air)	280.85	251.88	200.22	159.50	159.64	146.15	130.55						1328.79
Telephone - AT & T	27.84	82.16	80.26	80.28	80.12	80.10	80.16						510.90
Internet/Telephone - Spectrum	111.67	111.67	111.67	113.91	113.91	114.18	121.38						798.39
Coffee & coffee supplies													0.00
Office & Maint. Supplies	122.36	76.67		81.71	38.06	217.59							536.39
Credit Card Fees	16.47	42.31	17.49	17.43	37.78	18.31	16.99						168.76
Bank Fees	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00						70.00
Literature & Merchandise	138.90	526.60	472.47	789.20	1357.78	933.43	230.95						4449.33
Website			80.00			135.87							224.87
Wisconsin State Tax	131.88			139.99			179.68						451.55
State of WI (Corporation Reinstatement)													0.00
State of WI (tax registration)													0.00
Liability Insurance					21.00	720.00							741.00
Merchandise return (AA Literature)			129.27										129.27
Repair and Maintenance	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	277.10						967.10
Total Expenses Month to Month	1989.97	2301.67	2260.38	2542.00	3018.97	3525.63	2076.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17715.43

Account Balances
 Checking: \$1,984.62
 Savings: \$3,597.17



Events and Service Notes

RACO Volunteers Needed!!

The Racine Area Central Office has unfortunately had to close its doors during some daytime hours over the past few weeks due to a shortage of volunteers to staff the desk. If you or someone you sponsor has an interest in getting trained to staff the desk and be of service, please call RACO at (262) 554-6611 and we will get you in touch with John B.—RACO's Staffing Coordinator. No one who needs the services of RACO should ever be turned away due to a shortage of volunteers! Be of service to your central office today! :-)

Kenosha / Racine Oxford Houses

Are you in early recovery or know someone who is? The Oxford House concept, which emphasizes that "together we can democratically run a clean and sober house" is helpful to gaining the strength and support to achieve longterm sobriety.

With separate houses for both men and women, there are Oxford Houses in both Kenosha as well as Racine—providing the support and accountability to help in early recovery. For more information, or to request an interview, please call (262) 800-3840 or visit www.oxfordhouse.org for a history, vacancies, locations and applications. Let the Oxford House help you or someone you love get a jumpstart into a happy and healthy life of clean and sober living today!

RACO Steering Committee Meetings

The Racine Area Central Office's 'Steering Committee' meets on the first **WEDNESDAY** of every month at RACO (6:30pm). The steering committee invites anyone who may be interested in Area 75 and District 17 events and happenings.

Please note the NEW day/time of the Steering Committee meetings—as they used to be held on Saturday mornings! If you or someone you know might be interested in sitting-in on a Committee meeting or possibly filling an open position, please join us for a monthly meeting or email raconewsletter@gmail.com for information on available positions and position requirements. We look forward to seeing you at the next Committee meeting!

Upcoming Events & Activities

August 30th—5th Friday Open AA Meeting Friday 7p.m. Northside Hope Redeemer Parkside Church 2620 14th Place

September 7th
BAI-Anon Soberfest Fundraiser Doors Open 5p.m. Speakers at 7p.m. McHenryTownshipHall 3703 N.Richmond Rd (rt 31) Johnsburg, IL

September 9th Pleasant Prairie 11th anniversary Celebration Open Speaker Meeting. 7 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 4311 104th St

September 20th
2019 Open Community Al-Anon Meeting Burlington, WI 7-9 p.m.

September 21st
Kenosha-Racine Rally for Recovery Library Park 711 59th Pl-Kenosha, WI 10a.m.-4p.m. Open to the public

October 18-20
Into Action Alcathon 2019 Area 75 & ECR Conference Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport

Sept 28 7:30 am-3 pm
12 Steps, 12 Traditions, 12 Years 12th Annual -AA Conference at the VA Hosted by District 16 of Area 75

October 26th District 7 Fall Workshop. First Presbyterian Church Kenosha 9-130

Nov 22-24th
"How it Works" @ The Grand Geneva Resort 7036 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. Register online June 4th-Nov 15 at [www..soberfest.org](http://www.soberfest.org)

January 10-12th
WICYPAA XXV11
2020 A Vision for you. Chula Vista Resort 2501 River Road. Wisconsin Dells, WI call 855-956-1322



Help is Everywhere

District/Club Information

District 17

Racine, Wisconsin

Racine Alano Club 1140 Douglas Ave. Racine, WI 53404 (262) 634-9902	The Grove Club 1037 Grove Ave. Racine, WI 53405 (262) 634-9656	Benjamin House 4848 Highway H Franksville, WI 53126 (262) 886-9611
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Benjamin House Website: <http://www.benjaminhouseracine.org/>

District 7

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Kenosha Alano Club 630 56 th St. Kenosha, WI 53140 (262) 654-8246	Outcasts 1310 63 rd St. Kenosha, WI 53144	Southport Lighthouse Recovery Club 8017 Sheridan Rd. Kenosha, WI 53143 (262) 653-9800
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Kenosha Alano Club Website: <http://kenoshaalanoclub.org>

District 36

West Racine/Kenosha County

Burlington 12 x 12 Club
724 N. Pine St.
Burlington, WI

District 6

Eastern Walworth County

Walworth County Alano Club
611 E. Walworth St.
Delavan, WI 53115
(262) 740-1888

District 12

Eastern Lake County, Illinois

Alano Club of Waukegan
2419 Washington St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 662-9640

Zion-Benton Alano Club
228 Sheridan Rd.
Winthrop Harbor, IL 60096
(847) 746-9842

Alano Club of Waukegan Website: <http://alanoclubwaukegan.com/>

Waukegan Hotline: (847) 623-9660

District 10

Western Lake County

Antioch Recovery Club
311 E Depot St.; Suite C
Antioch, IL 60002
(847) 838-1882

Antioch Recovery Club: <http://www.antiochrecoveryclub.org/>

Antioch Hotline: (847) 395-5988

Alcoholics Anonymous is not affiliated with any club or other outside enterprise

Interested in receiving the Monthly Newsletter through e-mail? Become a subscriber today by sending an e-mail to raconewsletter@gmail.com

Racine Area Central Office Officers/Steering Committee

Chairperson	Jon K
Co-Chairperson	John S
Secretary	Mary Kay
Co-Secretary	Larissa H
Treasurer	Tom M
Co-Treasurer	Mike S
Staffing Coordinator	Ted V
Co-Staffing Coordinator	VACANT
Newsletter	Jon L
Co-Newsletter	Chris J
Hotline Chairperson	Jake T
Co-Hotline Chairperson	Chris W
Literature Chairperson	John B
Co-Literature Chair	VACANT
Procurement	VACANT
Co-Procurement	Eric E.
Webmaster	Dave W
Co-Webmaster	VACANT
Advisor	Toni M
Advisor	Roxanne D
Advisor	Pam L

3701 Durand Avenue #225B

Racine, WI 53403

(262) 554-6611

24-Hour Hotline: (262) 554-7788