

Monthly Reprieve

Volume 16, Issue 10

October 2020

RACINE AREA CENTRAL OFFICE'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

3701 Durand Avenue #225

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

**** The Oxford House both men's and women's
still have openings spread the word**

Your Racine Central Office has numerous Openings on the steering committee. PLEASE consider volunteering for one of these positions:co-chairperson, secretary and co-secretary, co-staffing chair. RACO is also in dire need of volunteers for the bookstore for Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.Through volunteers RACO Is able to remain open, if you expect the bookstore to be open come be a volunteer. **THIS IS YOUR CENTRAL OFFICE IT TAKES ALL OF US. COME BE A CONTRIBUTOR ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE.**



Tradition 10

"ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS HAS NO OPINION ON OUTSIDE ISSUES; HENCE THE AA NAME OUGHT NEVER BE DRAWN INTO PUBLIC CONTROVERSY."



October Focus

Tenth Step Prayer

"I pray I may continue: To grow in understanding and effectiveness; To take daily spot check inventories of myself; To correct mistakes when I make them; To take responsibility for my actions; To be ever aware of my negative and Self-defeating attitudes and behaviors; To keep my willfulness in check; To always remember I need Your help; To keep love & tolerance of others as my code; and To continue in daily prayer how I can best serve You, My Higher Power."

Step 10

"Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it."

Step 10 worksheet

Make a list of areas of your life, e.g.

Home Work AA Friends Other

Ask, with each of these areas (where relevant):

Do I take anyone's inventory but my own?

Do I gossip?

Do I listen to gossip?

Do I act as a peacemaker?

If the 'inside issue' is my relationship with God and God's will for me in the world:

When tempted to intervene or interfere, do I ask God, 'outside issue or inside issue?'

Do I have the courage to take decisive action in the world?

Does the outside issue of others' opinions stop me from doing God's will?

Do I hide behind Tradition Ten to avoid taking difficult stands?

In relationships with others, do I try to effect change by criticising or by making polite requests?

Do I court controversy just to stand out?

Tradition X ideas and quotations

'An outside issue is anything outside of my relationship with God through sobriety.'

'If I am not taking my own inventory, I automatically begin to blame the world for keeping happiness from me.'

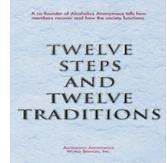
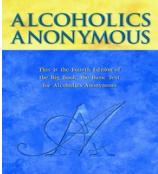
'Resentment and guilt come from the same place: judgement.'

'I know that two people can disagree and both be right in different ways.'

'I am God's voice, hands, and feet in the world. I avoid taking stands on outside issues in a controversial manner but take tough stands on matters of justice as God directs me with the love of a peacemaker.'

'Do not be afraid or dismayed at their large army, for the battle is not yours but God's' (2 Chronicles 20:15) 'My assignment in difficult situations is just to show up, pray, and let God take care of the conflict.'





Our Stories

Step 10

"Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

Editorial by Bill W. A.A. Grapevine, September 1948

No A.A. Group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues — particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous Groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

To most of us, Alcoholics Anonymous has become as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar. We like to believe that it will soon be as well known and just as enduring as that historic landmark. We enjoy this pleasant conviction because nothing has yet occurred to disturb it; we reason that we must hang together or die. Hence we take for granted our continued unity as a movement.

But should we? Though God has bestowed upon us great favors, and though we are bound by stronger ties of love and necessity than most societies, is it prudent to suppose that automatically these great gifts and attributes shall be ours forever. If we are worthy, we shall probably continue to enjoy them. So the real question is, how shall we always be worthy of our present blessings?

Seen from this point of view, our A.A. Traditions are those attitudes and practices by which we may deserve, as a movement, a long life and a useful one. To this end, none could be more vital than our 10th Tradition, for it deals with the subject of controversy — serious controversy.

On the other side of the world, millions have not long since died in religious dissension. Other millions have died in political controversy. The end is not yet. Nearly everybody in the world has turned reformer. Each group, society and nation is saying to the other, "You must do as we say, or else". Political controversy and reform by compulsion has reached an all-time high. And eternal, seemingly, are the flames of religious dissension. Being like other men and women, how can we expect to remain forever immune from these perils? Probably we shall not. At length, we must meet them all. We cannot flee from them, nor ought we try. If these challenges do come, we shall, I am sure, go out to meet them gladly and unafraid. That will be the acid test of our worth.

Our best defense? This surely lies in the formation of a Tradition respecting serious controversy so powerful that neither the weakness of persons nor the strain and strife of our troubled times can harm Alcoholics Anonymous. We know that A.A. must continue to live, or else many of us and many of our brother alcoholics throughout the world will surely resume the hopeless journey to oblivion. That must never be.

As though by some deep and compelling instinct we have thus far avoided serious controversies. Save minor and healthy growing pains, we are at peace among ourselves. And because we have thus far adhered to our sole aim, the whole world regards us favorably.

May God grant us the wisdom and fortitude ever to sustain an unbreakable unity.

Bill W.



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

Benjamin House Stools and Bottles Sun 10 a.m.

Benjamin House Board

Burlington 12&12 Friday 9:30 Big Book

Burlington 12&12 Sunday 10 a.m.

Burlington 12&12 Serenity Meadows

Wind Lake St. Clare Church Steps & Promises

***Thank You again for all of your continued support.
Teamwork makes the dream work***



Here is the September financial listings for Your Central Office!

Racine Area Central Office Summary of Income/Expense 2020

Income Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Donations-Groups	982.00	1140.70	695.00	693.39	3021.62	674.56	658.11	978.02	435.00				6278.40
Office Sales	1358.40	590.05	392.35			270.05	275.15	141.90	263.40				3291.30
Charge and Debit Card Sales	149.35	469.70	93.55			212.25	256.00	234.45	520.69				1935.99
Rent-Groups	490.00	527.00	534.00			110.00	530.00	452.00	500.00				3143.00
Transfer from Savings				1000.00									1000.00
Fellowship Day													0.00
Gift Certificate Redeemed													0.00
Gratitude Cans	100.91	43.15	89.65			9.14							242.85
Small donation can (office)	9.85	10.80	5.05			18.67	18.85	21.15	12.25				96.62
Big donation box (meeting room)													0.00
Larry Pfeiffer Memorial (Gerald Green)			40.00										40.00
Tri County Conference Literature Sales													0.00
WE Energies Refund			327.79										327.79
District 36 Hotline (bill split)						180.00							0.00
District 17 Hotline (bill split)													180.00
Total Income by Month	3090.51	2781.40	2177.39	1693.39	3021.62	1474.67	1738.11	1827.52	1731.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	19535.95

Expense Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Rent & Water	1030.00	1254.86	1030.00	1030.00		2060.00	1030.00	1131.75	1030.00				6596.61
Electric (Heat & Air)	241.62	239.22	233.00	171.10	123.98	70.49	126.67	260.16	192.45				1658.69
Telephone - AT & T	132.18	131.07	131.36	131.36	131.08	131.05	131.05	131.25	141.27				1191.67
Internet/Telephone - Spectrum	141.54	140.93	140.93	141.38		141.38	141.38	138.15	138.15				1123.84
Sam's Club Membership													0.00
Office & Maint. Supplies	212.96	278.96	808.58		36.68	104.99	62.98	73.49	19.56				1598.22
Credit Card Fees	13.53	32.47	21.35	12.15	27.75	8.95	14.86	33.37	15.74				180.17
Bank Fees	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00				90.00
Literature & Merchandise	295.45	817.80	659.10	622.20		90.35	259.44	100.00					2845.34
Website			89.00			147.87							236.87
Wisconsin Sales Tax	118.51			138.31			12.97						269.79
State of WI (tax registration 2014 penalty)			150.00										150.00
Liability Insurance				745.00									745.00
Newsletter													0.00
Repair and Maintenance	120.00	120.00	80.00	313.00			120.00	120.00	120.00				993.00
Total Expenses Month to Month	2316.79	3025.33	3353.32	3314.50	329.49	2765.08	1909.35	1998.17	1667.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	20679.20

Account Balances
Checking: \$1,508.50
Savings: \$2,597.92



Services and Service Opportunities

RACO Volunteers Needed!!

We can help fill your volunteer positions by listing them with us

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 Ted V.—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!

Volunteer Positions

Come join us in the fellowship.
Looking for volunteers to help in the following areas:

People Interested in doing 12 Step Work and working with those "Young in Sobriety"-8pm at 12&12 Club 724 Pine St Burlington

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



Best Practices For a Digital 7th Tradition

Online meeting spaces make it difficult to “pass the basket.” Some groups have set up digital contribution accounts with services like Venmo, PayPal, Google Pay, etc. to deal with this problem. Now might be a good time to review an essential piece of AA literature, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.” Each group is autonomous and might consider taking a group conscience on whether digital contributions are an option, and which platform (or mix of platforms) best suits their groups’ needs.

Why collect 7th Tradition for an online meeting?

Our regular meeting locations still have operating expenses...

Our meetings facilities may rely on our regular rent to help pay their rent, utilities, and employees. Meeting supplies will still be needed when our meetings reopen – coffee, paper products, literature, refreshments. And after an extended closure, we may experience a large influx of people who are motivated to re-join the fellowship in person. Central Office and the General Service Office still have operating expenses such as... Websites – which we may now rely on more than ever! Phone lines, rent and insurance on office space, Utility and other ongoing expenses Paid Special Workers who deserve our continued support. Their compensation is crucial to their ability to serve us. Our Districts and Areas and H&I still have expenses...

Regular expenses to support the work of committees and events that will take place when the crisis has passed are still there. Web services support for groups expenses for venues for events that have been cancelled may still need to be met, since any income from the event won’t be there to support the pre-payment of reservations, cancellation fees, etc. The expense of re-arranging for venues to reschedule events is very real. Let’s continue to support these folks during the crisis.

Teamwork makes the dream work

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
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
Kenosha Alano Club Website: http://kenoshaalanoclub.org		
District 36		Burlington 12 x 12 Club 724 N. Pine St. Burlington, WI
West Racine/Kenosha County		
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		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		

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Racine Area Central Office	
<i>Officers/Steering Committee</i>	
Chairperson	Jon K
Co-Chairperson	Open
Secretary	Open
Co-Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Tom M
Co-Treasurer	Mike S
Staffing Coordinator	Ted V
Co-Staffing Coordinator	Open
Newsletter	Jon L
Co-Newsletter	Chris J
Hotline Chairperson	Jake T
Co-Hotline Chairperson	Chris W
Literature Chairperson	Austin P
Co-Literature Chair	Rachel M
Procurement	Open
Co-Procurement	Eric E.
Webmaster	Dave W
Co-Webmaster	Rebecca B
Advisor	Toni M
Advisor	Roxanne D
Advisor	Pam L
3701 Durand Avenue #225B	
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(262) 554-6611	
24-Hour Hotline: (262) 554-7788	