

Monthly Reprieve

Volume 17, Issue 12

December 2021

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



Tradition 12

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to put principles before personalities."



December Focus

Twelfth Step Prayer

"Dear Higher Power, my spiritual awakening continues to unfold. The help I have received I shall pass on and give to others, both in and out of the fellowship."

Step 12

"Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

Step 12

Spiritual Awakening

In step 12, many people feel as if they have had a spiritual awakening. They've acknowledged a power greater than themselves, made amends, and have learned their role in accepting and living serenely with their addiction. The 12th step is a time to be pleased and grateful for your accomplishments, but still remember that **recovery is a lifelong process**.

Practice the 12 Step Principles Daily

Every day, you'll conduct a personal inventory and put into practice what you've learned in the previous steps. You're open to the need for ongoing recovery and you accept that the **work of the 12 steps doesn't end**. The goal is to practice the 12 steps **every day** and make recovery a long-term commitment, **one day at a time**.

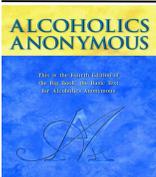
Carry the Message of Recovery to Others

And finally, the 12th step is about carrying the message of recovery to other alcoholics. You'll share what the steps in Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) offer to those struggling with addiction.

In addition to helping others, you build your self-esteem and make a positive contribution to the recovery community. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and enjoy fulfilling experiences with others.

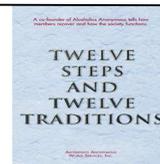
Carrying the message of AA to others helps you:

- * Remember the early days of your recovery and recognize how hard you've worked to move past that stage
- * Stay accountable and prevents you from being complacent in your recovery
- * Gain a sense of purpose
- * Enhance your fellowship with other people
- * Inspire others to stay on the sober path
- * Provide insight to other people in recovery
- * Become a trustworthy person who can offer support to someone in recovery



Step 12

Chris J.



“Tried to practice these principles in all of our affairs”

Ok, so I have managed to string together a few “24’s”, work the steps and now the rest of the world thinks I am all better. Relatives, friends and employers no longer have to worry about me not showing up, showing up and embarrassing myself, stealing from them, lying to them or frankly, disappearing all together. Wouldn’t that be something to be “all better”?

The real work for me today is remembering that every morning I am blessed to wake up, I am still an alcoholic. I still think I know best, am a step ahead, won’t get my fair share, blah, blah, blah in all of my affairs – just ask me (wink wink). My disease attacks me when a family member asks me a question. When a co-worker does something that I think is “wrong or a bad idea”. When a fellow alcoholic shares their experience, strength and hope in a meeting and I think how “off topic and crazy their comments are” as opposed to truly listening, being compassionate and trying to learn from others.

Truth be told and please don’t tell anyone, I am as sick today as I ever was. The DIFFERENCE TODAY is that I recognize and accept there is a solution. I cannot be a recovering alcoholic only in meetings, when attending family functions, when the mood strikes me at work or when I think to myself “better do something good today” like that is doing someone a favor. I need to practice the principles I have learned in all of my affairs, every day – one thought and action at a time.

Do I pick up the piece of trash on the ground when no one is looking? Do I hold the door open for a stranger? Do I stop and listen to someone after a meeting when I am in a hurry but realize they really need to talk to someone in recovery? Am I patient and understanding with my adult children as they grow and live their own lives? Do I turn off the football game because my girlfriend doesn’t share the passion of watching 11 hours of sports? Do I not flip the bird to every crazy driver that doesn’t respect the fact I own the road? Do I take the time to help someone at work learn instead of being resentful that they haven’t learned faster? The list goes on and on for me as I continue to live life.

My sponsor tells me to try and get a little bit better every day. I can only do that one thought and action at a time. I have to remember that a pause or keeping my mouth shut is in fact an action step. That allows me a chance for my Higher Power to help me think of helping others or the situation, not trying to manipulate it to my advantage. That is how I am to live my recovery today.

My disease tells me I should get a trophy for having been lifted of the desire to drink every single day. My sponsor, loved ones and friends in recovery tell me to keep coming back and sharing my daily travels/experiences living without taking that first drink. That first drink that is quietly, patiently and eagerly awaiting me if I fail to consistently practice the 12 steps in all of my affairs, not just the ones I selectively choose to prove I am recovered.

My choice today is to attend meetings, work with other alcoholics, begrudgingly listen to my sponsor and take his suggestions, be a loving and supportive father on my children’s terms, be a trustworthy, caring and respectful boyfriend, try to help others learn/improve at work and reflect and be grateful for the good things in my life.

Sounds an awful lot like “practicing these principles in all of my affairs”.....

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

Alano 6pm Coffee Hour Group
Benjamin House Board
Burlington Group#46585
Burlington 12&12 Saturday Women's Group
Burlington Sunday 10am 12&12
Burlington Speak as the Spirit Moves You
Grove Friday 5:30pm
Grove Sunday 10am
Kansasville/Paddock Lake 12 Step Group
Kenosha Alano Club
Paddock Lake, 12 Step Monday 7pm
Veteran's Outreach



Here are the November financial listings for Your Central Office!

Racine Area Central Office Summary of Income/Expense 2021

Income Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Donations-Groups	859.21	854.32	918.51	428.76	1423.35	815.00	672.92	399.00	1220.20	1633.06	3081.50		12303.83
Office Sales	816.55	214.65	501.65	854.45	490.25	810.20	674.50	543.45	183.40	389.25	376.80		5854.95
Charge and Debit Card Sales	148.75	233.70	505.35	167.60	400.70	285.68	401.90	208.70	420.20	252.80	66.35		3091.71
Rent-Groups	390.00	450.00	360.00	530.00	670.00	385.00	365.00	699.75	415.00	563.50	377.00		5195.25
Transfer from Savings	500.00				500.00								1000.00
Fellowship Day													0.00
Floor donations			1265.00	20.00									1285.00
Pepsi soda machine refund				37.84									37.84
Gratitude Cans	512.96		46.45			112.00							671.41
Small donation can (office)	19.40		67.25	27.94	12.51	6.06	17.89	17.76	26.85	15.82	5.53		217.01
Big donation box (meeting room)	8.01												8.01
District 36 Hotline (bill split)													0.00
District 17 Hotline (bill split)			90.00		60.00	30.00		60.00		60.00			300.00
Total Income by Month	3244.88	1752.67	3754.21	2064.59	3556.81	2443.92	2132.21	1928.66	2265.65	2914.43	3906.98	0.00	29965.01

Expense Summary:	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
Rent & Water	1096.30	1025.18	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00	1030.00		11391.48
Electric (Heat & Air)	216.21	207.48	154.38	141.00	185.77	160.67	146.24	191.33	185.26	181.23	123.67		1893.24
Telephone - AT & T	138.40	141.62	140.63	140.63	140.97	140.91	140.91	139.73	139.22	140.04	139.09		1542.15
Internet/Telephone - Spectrum	138.33	139.10	139.10	139.10	140.97	140.97	140.97	140.97	140.97	140.97	140.97		1542.42
Sam's Club Membership												47.48	47.48
Office & Maint., Supplies	76.48			927.00	127.80	51.08	9.50	91.86			335.06		1618.80
Credit Card Fees	16.38	32.38	14.73	20.56	33.28	18.95	14.38	37.36	15.42	18.66	34.23		256.33
Bank Fees	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00		110.00
Literature & Merchandise	1122.70	269.40	577.22	787.44	62.50	283.14	846.67	1190.30	761.12	251.10	137.92		6289.51
Website						165.87							165.87
Wisconsin Sales Tax		93.26											93.26
Liability Insurance				799.00									799.00
Returned check (Moneygram) fee		12.00											12.00
Wisconsin Business Tax Registration									10.00				10.00
Repair and Maintenance	120.00	120.00	120.00	702.15	120.00	120.00	60.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00		1862.15
Total Expenses Month to Month	2934.80	2050.42	2186.06	4696.86	1851.29	2121.59	2418.67	2951.57	2411.99	1892.00	2118.42	0.00	27633.69

Account Balances
 Checking: \$3,754.89
 Savings: \$3,176.49

A.A. RESOURCES LOCATED IN AREA 75 - SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

The following are the telephone numbers and addresses of the four local central offices and one intergroup located in southern Wisconsin.

Madison Area Intergroup Central Office (MAICO)

2000 Engel St, Suite 104
Madison, WI 53713
(608) 222-8989
Fax: (608) 663-9097
E-mail us at info@aamadisonwi.org
Website: <http://www.aamadisonwi.org/>

Racine Area Central Office (RACO)

3701 Durand Avenue, #225 LL-B
Racine WI 53045
(262) 554-6611
E-mail: racostaff@racinecentraloffice.org
Website: <http://www.racinecentraloffice.org>

Winnebago land Central Office - Fond du Lac

P.O. Box 572
280 North Main Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-0572
(920) 922-7512
E-mail us at winnebagolandco@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.fonddulacaa.org/>

Milwaukee Central Office

7429 W. Greenfield Avenue
West Allis, WI 53214
(414) 771-9119
Website: <http://www.aamilwaukee.com>

LaCrosse Intergroup

Box 1212
LaCrosse, WI
(800) 886-0695

Club Events

Racine Alano Club

Sunday, December 26th 70th Anniversary Celebration 12p - 4p

Eagles Club of Racine – 319 Hamilton Street, Racine

* See Club members for ticket, sit-down dinner

RACO (Racine Area Central Office)

Saturday, December 11th

Kick off the Holidays Candlelight Meeting - 7pm

(at RACO – 3701 Durand Avenue)

RACO Steering Committee Positions Needed!!

“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all of our affairs.”

The following positions are still needed for the Steering Committee moving forward in 2022.

- * Treasurer (5 years sobriety required)
- * Co-Treasurer (3 years sobriety required)
- * Co-Chairman (3 years sobriety required)
- * Staffing Coordinator (1 year sobriety required)

(Responsible for volunteers who are working in the bookstore when it is open)

Talk with your sponsor, sponsees, home groups and others you know in the fellowship who might be interested in this important (and fun) 12th step work. The Steering Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm at the Central Office (RACO).

Please consider donating your faith, hope and strength to the group as we continue to try and help the next suffering alcoholic one day at a time!



Services and Service Opportunities

RACO Volunteers Needed!!

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

Call RACO at (262) 554-6611 or e-mail us to volunteer and we will get you trained!

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 Bookstore

The Racine Area Central Office's bookstore has all of your recovery literature needs (some Spanish versions available). Bookstore is open during normal office hours and debit/credit cards are accepted. Stop in today for your or your groups' literature needs!

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 the RACO office.



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
West Racine/Kenosha County		724 N. Pine St. Burlington, WI
District 6		Walworth County Alano Club
Eastern Walworth County		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
Western Lake County		311 E Depot St.; Suite C Antioch, IL 60002 (847) 838-1882
Antioch Recovery Club: http://www.antiochrecoveryclub.org/		
Antioch Hotline: (847) 395-5988		

Racine Area Central Office <i>Officers/Steering Committee</i>	
Chairperson	Geoff G.
Co-Chairperson	Open
Secretary	Simon L.
Co-Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Open
Co-Treasurer	Open
Staffing Coordinator	Open
Co-Staffing Coordinator	Open
Newsletter	Chris J
Co-Newsletter	Open
Hotline Chairperson	Chris W
Co-Hotline Chairperson	Open
Literature Chairperson	Austin P
Co-Literature Chair	Rachael M
Procurement	Open
Co-Procurement	Open
Webmaster	Dave W
Co-Webmaster	Rebecca B
Advisor	Toni M
Advisor	Pam L
Advisor	Jon K
3701 Durand Avenue #225B	
Racine, WI 53403	
(262) 554-6611	
24-Hour Hotline: (262) 554-7788	

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

Your Racine Area Central Office has numerous openings on the steering committee. Please put Wednesday, January 5th, 6:30pm on your calendar and attend the next Steering Committee meeting at the RACO office, 3701 Durand Avenue, Racine, 53405.

Please note that Western Union money grams are no longer accepted by our bank. Thanks to all who have used this method in the past and thank you for understanding and using a different means of donating.

Your story could be what the next recovering alcoholic needs to hear! Please submit your personal story of strength, hope & faith for publication in one of our newsletters!

If interested in getting on the 12th step hotline phone list or to volunteer, please go to the website or click the following link:

<https://racinecentraloffice.org/24-hour-hotline/>

If you know of someone who would like to receive a monthly e-version of the Reprieve, please e-mail request to RACONewsletter@gmail.com

<https://racinecentraloffice.org/>