

GAA ZETTE

Our meeting in print.

About MAICO

The mission of MAICO (Madison Area Intergroup Central Office) is to help A.A. groups within its service area (South Central Wisconsin) carry the A.A. message. MAICO helps coordinate and facilitate communication and cooperation among individual A.A. groups, area 12-step and other committees, and components of the A.A. service structure. MAICO provides needed services that are beyond the scope and ability of any individual A.A. group, and is at all times responsible to the groups it serves.

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What a Sponsor Is and Is Not

The opportunity to help another alcoholic work the Steps and live in the solution keeps me in the heart of what recovery is all about. It has helped me to feel a "part of" - something I tried to do for years. But it turned out to be as simple as sharing my experience, strength, and hope with another drunk.

The Twelve Steps have the answers to all of the riddles life throws at me. Other drunks took the time to show me, not only by sharing their time and lives, but by living in the solution and dealing with whatever came along with faith and trust. This truly is attraction versus promotion. The "winners" worked the Steps and stayed involved in service - those were the people I wanted to hang out with; that is where I looked for a sponsor.

Today, I sponsor five women who are five reasons for my growth. I met four of these women in a Step meeting - the same meeting that laid the foundation of the Steps for me. I think that spending time at the same Step meeting listening to people share and getting to know them is the place to look for a sponsor. The Steps offer the solutions, and that was what I was looking to learn.

Spiritual fitness is required if I am to be of service to anyone. Without a connection to my Higher Power, I am the same old person with the same old defects, causing the same old pain in my life and others'. So often I have found myself at a complete loss of thought and words for a sponsee who is struggling with life, and then an intuitive thought comes to me and offers a new perspective for consideration. When I wonder where the thought came from, I feel the warmth in my heart, and I know that once again God has done for me what I can't do myself.

As a sponsor, I neither expect or desire to make decisions for people. I just ask some extra questions about motives, honesty, and spiritual contact. I was taught to make informed decisions and stand ready to accept responsibility for those decisions. I was also taught that Steps Six and Seven come into play when fear is running those decisions. This was a big factor for me when I first started sponsoring - fear that I would mess it up and harm someone as well as fear that I wouldn't know the "answers" and be viewed as a dope.

Thank God that today I have a clearer perspective on what my role as a sponsor is and isn't. It is to stay sober, be available to listen, share my thoughts, pray for others, and let them live their own lives. It is not to "fix" anyone, get them sober, make them happy, demand they conform, or make their decisions.

My God has blessed me with some incredible role models in sponsors and friends. What a lesson in humility and gratitude sponsorship has given me. I have grown so much in this program and in life. The Promises have come so true in my life - all from cleaning house, trusting God, and working with others.

Hilary T. - September 2004
Berlin, Ct.

Copied with permission from AA Grapevine
From One on One - AA Sponsorship in Action Book

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The 75th anniversary edition of the Big Book is here

A.A. World Services is pleased to announce the publication of the only authorized reproduction of the first edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. This new edition will be a faithful replica of the original, with the famous "circus cover" dust jacket and bulky paper (which is why it was initially called the Big Book.)

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the historic publication of Alcoholics Anonymous in April 1939, the 2013 General Service Conference approved the creation of this facsimile edition of the first printing of the first edition. MAICO has copies in stock selling for \$16.20.

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Unity: The Second Legacy - AA Comes of Age

Ours is not the usual success story; rather it is the story of how, under God's grace, an unsuspected strength has arisen out of great weakness; of how, under threats of disunity and collapse, world-wide unity and brotherhood have been forged. In the course of this experience we have evolved a set of traditional principles by which we live and work together and relate ourselves as a fellowship to the world around us. These principles are called the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. They represent the distilled experience of our past, and we rely on them to carry us in unity through the challenges and dangers which the future will bring. (AA Comes of Age – page 79)

Income Statement - Three Months ending March 31, 2014

Revenues	This year	Last Year
Donations	8,990.20	11,802.34
MAICO Reps Events	254.00	200.20
Individual Donations	302.22	214.71
Donations – Answering Service	0.00	130.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	688.40	745.49
Donations – Prudent Reserve	75.00	0.00
Conference Literature	7,551.05	9,168.27
Grapevine Literature	622.05	328.40
Non-Conference Literature	3,226.18	2,942.12
Non-Conference Merchandise	5,645.72	5,739.36
Faithful Fivers	110.00	107.00
Directories	411.80	511.00
Newsletter Subscriptions	10.00	10.00
Other Income – copies	121.87	86.43
Shipping Charges Reimbursed	182.53	280.92
Sales Tax Discount	<u>20.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total Revenues	<u>28,211.02</u>	<u>32,286.24</u>
Cost of Sales		
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	5,413.97	7,433.87
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	1,650.66	2,330.53
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	<u>4,646.92</u>	<u>4,355.98</u>
Total Cost of Sales	<u>11,711.55</u>	<u>14,120.38</u>
Gross Profit	16,499.47	18,165.86
Expenses		
Auto Expense – mileage	22.45	13.48
Wages Expense	9,291.60	9,239.40
Payroll Tax Expense	710.77	706.78
Medical Reimbursement	300.00	0.00
Credit Card Processing Costs	255.23	272.87
Accounting Fees	0.00	50.00
License and Fees Expenses	230.00	0.00
Computer – Software	669.00	466.20
Supplies Expense	270.80	312.63
Office Expense	52.81	43.67
Newsletter Expense – printing	113.06	46.42
Telephone/Internet Provider	465.54	353.76
Domain Name – Go Daddy Acct	42.74	0.00
Answering Service Expense	1,778.58	1,333.40
Advertising in Phone Book	276.00	276.00
Postage and Shipping Expense	176.28	592.32
Occupancy Expense	2,505.00	2,433.00
Insurance Expense	6.00	4.00
Printing Expense	0.00	62.99
Directory Expense	0.00	1,598.00
MAICO Reps Events	189.46	150.00
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.12</u>
Total Expenses	17,355.32	17,955.04
Net Income	(\$855.85)	\$210.82

Upcoming Events 2014

Some event flyers are on www.aamadisonwi.org or www.area75.org
Any district or group AA event can be posted on the Area 75 calendar by going to www.area75.org, click "get your event posted here", be aware that info & flyers go on internet, mindful of anonymity, names on flyers etc

Recurring events:

- 1st Sun of month – Ripon's Royal Ridge Open Speaker AA Breakfast**, Royal Ridges, State Hwy 23 (W. Fond du Lac St.), Ripon. Breakfast 10am, Speaker 11:00am. \$9.00 adults, Holiday meets 2nd Sunday.
- 3rd Sun of month – Pocket Full of Sunshine Breakfast**, Howard Johnson, 3841 E. Washington Ave., Madison, 10am breakfast buffet \$8.99 all you can eat, 12 & under \$5.00, 11am Speaker
- 2nd Fri of month – Finger Food Friday, Appetizer Potluck**, Speaker meeting, 6:30pm appetizer's, 7:00pm Speaker, United Methodist Ch., 1804 New Pinery Rd., Portage.
- Last Wed of month – Sunlight of the Spirit Grp, (SOTS) Open speaker meeting**, Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2401 Atwood Ave., 5:30pm Potluck, bring a dish to share, 6:30pm Speaker, ring doorbell
- Last Sat of month – Hosted by Portage Area Recovery Groups, Open Speaker Meeting**, 8pm, Historic Apts., 207 W. Cook St., Portage, basement, handicap accessible, Potluck to follow meeting.
- 1st & 3rd Sat of month – Monroe Sister Blandine Group, Open Speaker Meeting**, St. Victor's Church, 1760 14th St., Monroe, entrance off 20th Ave (parish library door) Everyone welcome
- 1st Sat of month only – Back to Basics workshop, Raising the bottom for Young People, Teens 14 – 21 years old**, Lussier Community Education Center, 55 S. Gammon Rd., 10:30am – 4pm. All welcome.

One day-two day-three day Conferences/Workshops/Campouts/Area Assemblies

- May 3 – Dist. 2, Area 75 hosting GSR School**, Trinity United Methodist Ch., W3032 Park St./Fern Dr., Montello, WI. Contact: Dist. 2 DCM – Ted B. at dcm.a75d02@gmail.com or 920-229-1653
- May 16-18 – 63rd Annual Area 75 Conference**, Racine Marriott, 7111 Washington Ave., Racine, WI. www.area75.org Online registration@ www.2014area75conference.eventbrite.com convenience fees apply
- Jun 1 – 4th Annual Summer Picnic, "Living in the Solution"**, hosted by No Butts Grp, Twining Park, 425 14th Ave., Monroe, 10am-4pm, Mystery Speaker at 1:00pm. Please bring two things: A newcomer and a dish to pass, burgers, brats & refreshments provided. Contact: Jim U. 608-426-1850
- Jun 6 – 8 – Buddies Off Booze Camp-out, Token Creek County Park**, 6200 Hwy 51, DeForest, WI. Camping: \$10/person, bring own food, AA & Al-anon Speakers, Campfire meetings and more. Contact: Bob J. 608-445-9089 or email: soberbob1954@gmail.com
- Jun 7 – 19th Annual Wisconsin/UP Michigan Corrections Conference**, First Presbyterian Ch., 1225 4th St., Fond du Lac, WI. 8:30am – 4:30pm. Panels, Lunch provided, Speaker: Clement C., GSO Staff
Contacts: Nancy G: 608-843-2265, Ken G: 608-843-2264, Les M: 920-517-3901

Jun 6 – 8 – 79th Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous, Founder’s Day, Akron, Ohio, Birthplace of AA., Registration Form with costs and room & meals info at www.akronaa.org

Jun 8 – Dist. 9 Summer Picnic, Memorial Park Warming Shelter, Lancaster, WI. (north end of park), Fellowship, Fun, Food, Celebrating AA’s 79th Anniversary, Eating at Noon, Hamburgers, Brats & Potato Salad furnished, please bring a dish to pass and games to play.

Jun. 22 – Area 75 Summer Assembly, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Madison, 9am

Jul 11-13 – 17th Annual “Keep It Simple” Washington Island AA Retreat, AA & Al-Anon Speakers, \$15.00 per-person pre-registration, \$20 that weekend (no charge for children). Large Group site at Campground. Site fee is \$5 per person/per night. Information: wi.retreat@yahoo.com

Jul 19 – Stoughton Groups Mini-Conference, “Service with a Smile”, Stoughton Alano Club, 900 Giles, Stoughton – Panels

Jul 20 – East Side Alano Picnic, East Side Alano Club, 1017 Northport Dr., Madison

Aug 2 – MAICO 9th Annual Picnic, Traxler Park, 600 N. Main St., Lion’s Pavilion, Janesville, 10am-5pm, Rain or Shine, AA & Al-Anon Speakers, Food served at 1pm, Please bring salad or dessert to pass. Camping, fishing, boat launch, playground available.

Aug 30 – Sep 6 – AA & Al-Anon Historical Tour, Bus trip to The Wilson House in Vermont, Stepping Stones in Katonah, NY, AA World Service Headquarters, Dr. Bob’s House, Mayflower Hotel, Dr. Bob’s Gravesite, Akron, Ohio. Approximate cost: \$499.00, meals on own, \$200 deposit due August 1. Bus is 40 passenger with restroom. Contact: Roger H. 608-225-6696 or Diane B. 608-438-7703. Limited scholarships available based on need.

Thank You’s - Donations received from February 28 to April 18, 2014

General Fund

Barneveld Group
Clear Cut Directions Grp
Early Risers Grp
East Side Groups
Fitchburg Traditions Grp
Foxhall Recovery Grp
Friday Night Lights
Good Fellowship Grp
Grace Lunch Grp
Happy Hour Grp in Wi. Dells
Into Action Grp
Lancaster Tues Night Grp
Language of the Heart Grp
Monona Serenity Grp
Montello Women’s Grp
Monticello 12 & 12 Grp
Mt. Olive Grp
New Glarus Sobrietyfest Grp
Oregon Eye Openers
Our Group Wednesday Grp
Pardeeville Village Grp
Poynette DeKorra Grp
Red Circle Grp
Sat. Morning Ontimers Grp
Slip Nots Grp

Spring Green Read n Lead Grp
St. Andy’s 7am Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit (SOTS) Grp
The Home Grp
Windsor Grp
Working Step Grp

Faithful Fivers

Anonymous

Individual Donations

Alice G.

Anonymous

Karen K.

MAICO Corrections Treatment Fund

Early Risers Grp

Monona Serenity Grp

Sunlight of the Spirit (SOTS) Grp

Answering Service

Early Risers Grp

Anniversary Donation

Karen Elizabeth K.

Greg F.