

The MAICO

January - April 2017

GAAZETTE

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.

The Six S's

To help you remember the ideals that make for happy sobriety

Unquestionably, I needed AA. Those wonderfully simple truths from the Big Book and the emotional support of friends around the tables were for me. However, this was strange ground – not just a matter of getting my life back on track, but of finding specific rewards and purposes to give it meaning again. I had seen others fail because they chose the wrong subject for research; Would that first drink really throw them? So I decided instead to research the plus factors in being an AA member. “Sure, I need it.” I told myself. Then I asked, “But is that enough?” Where is the challenge, and what are the rewards?”

Basically, I have found, the challenge is the discovery of a new and better way of life. For me, AA provides rewards and bonuses I would not have believed possible in my drinking days. My life has been greatly enriched by what I choose to call the Six S's: *sobriety, sanity, serenity, spiritual growth, sharing, and service*. What a contrast to the hideous Four Horsemen of my drinking days: frustration, bewilderment, terror, and despair.

Sobriety is the foundation on which all the rest are built. Once this priority is established, the order of the other S's will vary with individual motivation, perception, and progress. A clear head helps me learn to cope with life's problems rather than to aggravate them.

Sanity returns slowly with sobriety, depending largely on how confused one has become. Like the five other S's, sanity may at first seem fleeting and difficult to maintain. Persistent working of the Twelve Steps on a day-to-day basis is essential. It is unrealistic to expect an immediate return to sanity; only with time can we put all things into perspective. Gradually, new patterns of thinking must be established and adhered to. I learned to encourage good thoughts to replace that stinking thinking.

Serenity has been called “a step beyond sanity.” It is the ability to live comfortably with oneself and others in the world as it exists, whether or not that is the world of one’s choice. The Serenity Prayer is an invaluable tool in making possible this high degree of acceptance of things as they are. Attaining the serenity to accept things (and people) I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can (including myself), and the wisdom to know the difference is a large order, requiring God’s help.

Spiritual growth is a byproduct of the search for serenity by means of prayer and meditation. This lofty concept is the most difficult to communicate to others. However, when the Third Step becomes an essential part of our lives, people will marvel at how we have changed. AA friends will realize, however, that we are using that Higher Power, instead of being our own little gods.

Sharing the bounty of sobriety with those who still suffer is necessary in order to maintain the spiritual quality of sobriety. Even as disturbed beginners, we warmed to the compassionate sharing of experience, strength, and hope by those who welcomed us to the tables of AA. Gradually, we became willing to participate and to try to help others as we had been helped. Each experiences this need to share in his own way; it is akin to his need to be understood. Our early self-hatred and sense of alienation become a common meeting ground in AA. Where else can we meet people with whom we can so readily identify?

Service not only gives us a sense of rejoining the human race, but fills that awful gap left by the absent bottle. Like happiness, service is where we find it – in making coffee, emptying ashtrays, doing Twelfth Step work, meeting with alcoholics in hospitals and institutions, being on committees, or taking part in AA meetings – whatever the challenge. To be able to give freely of self is the ultimate in happiness.

If the concern for these Six S’s seems selfish, perhaps it is. Self-centered, it is not. Here is a chance to be at peace with ourselves again. We cannot accept such rewards without a true sense of humility when we remember how God searches out that one lost sheep. If I had not been so lost, I might never have known the joy of finding a spiritual home in AA.

*C. J., Pleasant Hill, Calif.
AA Grapevine, June 1971*

The most common symptoms of emotional insecurity are worry, anger, self-pity, and depression. These stem from causes which sometimes seem to be within us, and at other times to come from without. To take inventory in this respect we ought to consider carefully all personal relationships which bring continuous or recurring trouble. It should be remembered that this kind of insecurity may arise in any area where instincts are threatened. Questioning directed to this end might run like this: Looking at both past and present, what sex situations have caused me anxiety, bitterness, frustration, or depression? Appraising each situation fairly, can I see where I have been at fault? Did these perplexities beset me because of selfishness or unreasonable demands? Or, if my disturbance was seemingly caused by the behavior of others, why do I lack the ability to accept conditions I cannot change? These are the sort of fundamental inquiries that can disclose the source of my discomfort and indicate whether I may be able to alter my own conduct and so adjust myself serenely to self-discipline.

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Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 52

Income Statement

Revenues	<u>February</u>	<u>Jan & Feb 2017</u>
Donations – Groups	3,603.53	7,914.95
Individual Donations	112.40	162.52
Donations – Answering Service	140.00	140.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	121.00	892.67
Conference Literature	2,625.46	5,781.02
Non-Conference Literature	879.22	1,385.58
Non-Conference Merchandise	1,395.25	2,582.53
Grapevine Literature	75.55	111.30
Faithful Fivers	60.00	99.00
Directories	82.50	187.50
Savings Account Income	0.00	1.65
Other Income – copies	7.62	8.55
Shipping Charges Reimbursed	<u>32.72</u>	<u>69.25</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$9,135.25</u>	<u>\$19,336.52</u>
Cost of Sales		
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	1,971.08	4,559.88
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	134.03	908.958
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	1,259.37	2,762.27
Inventory Exp.- Grapevine Lit.	0.00	0.00
Inventory Exp.-Directories	0.00	0.00
Total Cost of Sales	<u>\$3,364.48</u>	<u>\$8,231.10</u>
Gross Profit	<u>\$5,770.77</u>	<u>\$11,105.42</u>
Expenses		
Wages Expense	3,067.66	6,686.75
Payroll Tax Expense	234.68	511.54
Medical Reimbursement	160.00	320.00
Credit Card Processing Costs	45.81	98.55
Mobile Credit Card Unit Fees	15.00	30.00
License and Fees Expense – Bulk Mail fee	225.00	235.00
Office Supplies Expense	29.57	187.72
Office Expense	354.39	364.37
Computer Maintenance Expense	70.00	140.00
Telephone/Internet Expense	155.33	310.66
Answering Service Expense	407.66	853.86
Advertising in Phone Book	86.00	166.00
Postage and Shipping Expense	33.44	76.79
Occupancy Expense	776.00	1552.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.11	-0.22
Total Expenses	<u>\$5,660.43</u>	<u>\$11,533.02</u>
Net Income	<u>\$110.34</u>	<u>-\$427.60</u>

Upcoming Events 2017

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, 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, enter Ohio St. side of church.

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.

Last Sat of month– Hosted by Dodgeville Downtown Group, Anniversary Potluck, Dodgeville Serenity Club, 401 N. Union St., Dodgeville. 6pm Potluck, 7pm Speaker, Please bring a salad or dessert if you would like, \$5.00 donation appreciated if possible.

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

March 17 – 6th Annual District 35 “Green Celebration,” Zwingli UCC Church, 416. E. Lake Avenue, Monticello, 5:30pm. Corned beef potluck dinner at 6pm, speaker at 7pm.

March 18 – Cabin Fever, Eastside Alano Club, 1017 Northport Drive, Madison, 9am-4pm. Work the 12 steps in 1 day! Bring your Big Book, highlighters and another alcoholic! A pulled pork dinner will be provided, please bring a salad or dessert. \$5 suggested donation.

March 25 – 35th Annual AA, Al-Anon, Alateen Tri-County Spring Conference, “Miracles can happen,” U.A.W. Hall, 3615 Washington Rd., Kenosha. Registration 8am, kick off 9am, includes speakers, panels, chili lunch, banquet, dance and all day alcathon.

March 25 – 41st Annual Badger Intergroup, Waukesha Expo Center, 5:30pm. Dinner at 6:30pm followed at 8pm by speaker Clancy I. from Los Angeles, CA. Purchase tickets online by March 10 at www.badgerintergroup.com.

April 8 – MAICO Representative's 2017 Spring Into Action Mini-Conference: Carrying the Message, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1904 Winnebago St., Madison, 9am-12pm. Registration opens 8:30am. Pizza lunch at 12pm - \$5. Three panels -- Sponsorship: The Sponsee/Sponsor Experience; The 12x12: Favorite Steps & Traditions; Experience, Strength & Hope: AA in Treatment and Corrections.

April 22 – 32nd Annual District 9 Mini-Conference, “A Sense of Purpose.”, St. Rose School, 218 Jackson St., Cuba City. Registration 9am, opening ceremony 10am, includes 11:30am lunch, Panels, 12:30pm Al-Anon speaker & an AA speaker at 4:15pm, dinner at 5:30pm. Bring a salad or dessert to pass (if possible)

April 29 – Greater Milwaukee Central Office Spring Thing, The Schwabenhoff, N56 W14750 Silver Spring Rd., Menomonee Falls, 5:30pm. Buffet dinner and AA speaker event, \$25 per person. Seating is limited; call or email for more information: gmco@aamilwaukee.com / 414-771-9119.

June 9, 10 & 11 – 82nd Anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous, Founder's Day, Akron, Ohio, Birthplace of AA. Registration is \$25 due by May 15, 2017, Package Plan A - \$200 which include admission to all meetings, meals, room, registration and bus tour, Package Plan B – \$150 includes all items in Package Plan A *except* meals. For more information go to www.akronaa.org for information, click on Founder's Day link.

October 27 – 29 – Area 75 Annual Conference, WE, hosted by Dist. 31, Heidel House Resort & Spa, Green Lake, WI.

Thank You's - Donations received Oct. 28, 2016 to March 3, 2017

General Fund

1st 164 Pages Monday Night Grp
1728 Group
4th Dimension
511 Step Grp
A Way of Life Grp
Anonymous Donations
Atwood Women's Grp
Bashford Workshop Grp
Beaver Dam 1st Step Grp
Beaver Dam Friday Night 6pm
Beaver Dam Sunday Serenity
Beaver Dam Thursday Morning
Beaver Dam Tuesday Morning
Beloit Happy Hour Grp
Cassville Pioneers Grp
Cross Plains Unity Grp
DeForest Progress Grp
District 30
District 35
Dodgeville Downtowners
Early Risers Grp
Easy Breather's Grp
Easy Does It But Do It Grp
Experience, Strength & Hope
Family Afterward
Foxhall Recovery Grp
Fri. Night Happy Hour Grp
Friday Night Lights
Ft. Atkinson Mon Wed Fri Morning
Ft. Atkinson Open Beginner's
Ft. Atkinson Tuesday Night Big Book
Go After Your Sobriety Grp
Good Morning Promises Grp
Grace Lunch Grp
Happy Hour Grps in the Dells
Into Action Grp
It's a God Thing Grp
Janesville Unity Grp
Keep It Simple Grp
KISS Grp
Lake Mills Our Grp
Lancaster Grp
Living Sober Grp
Lodi Lifeliners
Marjorie S.
Mauston Fri Fellowship
Mauston Mon Night
Mid Morning Grp
Mike P.
Mineral Pt Grapevine Grp
Monroe Early Birds Grp
Monroe No Butts Grp
Monroe Sat. Morning Grapevine
Montello Fri Nite
Mt. Olive Grp
New Glarus Sobrietyfest
Out to Lunch Grp
Portage 207 Grp
Poynette-DeKorra Grp
Prairie Dock Grp
Precisely How We Recovered
Recovery with the Big Book

Red Circle Grp
Richland Center Grp
Rock River Grp
Sat. Morning On-timers
Sauk Prairie Grp
Serenity at Six
Shine at Nine Grp
Slip Nots
Sober Today
SOTs Grp
Spring Green Read n Lead
St. Andy's 7am Group
Stoughton Grp
Suburban Sobriety
Sullivan Big Book Grp
Sun Prairie Mon/Thurs & Tuesday Grp
Sunrises's Grp
Sunrise Serenity Grp
Sunshine Grp
The Phoenix Grp
Thursday Floater's Grp
Traditions Grp
Wautoma Tuesday Night
What? An Order? Meeting
Woman's Serenity Grp
Women in Recovery
Working Step Grp

Answering Service

Early Risers Grp
Easy Does It But Do It Grp

Corrections/Treatment Fund

Early Risers Grp
Living Sober Grp
Prairie Dock Grp
SOTs Grp

Faithful Fiver

Larry L.
Mary S.

Gratitude Month

1728 Grp
511 Step Grp
A Vision for You
Baraboo Letting Go
Belleville Grp
Brodhead Sister Blandine
Clear Cut Directions
Columbus Grp
Design for Living
Daily Reflections
Dave S.
DeForest Progress Grp
Dodgeville Downtowners
Exit 164 Grp
Experience, Strength & Hope
Family Afterward
Foxhall Recovery
George R.
Good Fellowship
Green Lake Tues 9am

Green Lake Wed 5:30pm
Green Lake Sat 7pm
Happy Hour Grps in the Dells
High Noon Grp
James P.
Janesville Early Risers
Janesville Men in Recovery
Janesville No Name Grp
Janesville Sunday Night Discussion
Jean F.
Johnson Creek Friday Night
Into Action Grp
Keep Calm Tuesdays
KISS Grp
Lake Mills Our Group
Living Sober
Lodi Lifeliners
Markesan Fri 1pm
Mauston Mon Night
Mid Morning Grp
Milton Young at Heart
Mineral Pt. Grapevine Grp
Monroe Early Birds
Monroe No Butts Grp
Monroe Sat. Night Open Speaker
Monticello 12 & 12
New Glarus Sobrietyfest
Oregon Room to Grow
Orfordville Grp
Palmyra Monday Night Group
Platteville Mon Night
Platteville Wed. Noon
Poynette-DeKorra Grp
Prairie Dock Grp
Precisely How We Recovered
Princeton Thurs/Sat am
Red Circle Grp
Ripon Mon/Thurs 7pm
Rock River Grp
Sauk Prairie Grp
Serenity at 6pm Woman's
Sheila R.
SOTs Grp
Spring Green Read n Lead
St. Dunstan's Tuesday Beginners
Sun Prairie Mon/Thurs
Sunrises's Grp
Sunrise Serenity
The Phoenix Grp
Traditions Grp
Watertown Lost in the Woods
Watertown Monday Night Madness
Watertown Sat. Morning Woman's
Serenity
Watertown Wed. Night Recovery
Westfield 12 & 12 Grp
West Point Winner's
Wl. Dells Tuesday
Woman's Reflection Grp
Woman's Thursday Serenity
Woman's Saturday Serenity

Madison Area Intergroup Central Office, Inc.
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For This, We are Responsible

We need your help and cooperation if we are to keep up to date about meetings and groups in the area we serve. Please let us know of any changes to the meetings you attend or to your group so we can pass the information along to our readers. Call MAICO at 608-222-8989, email to aamadisonwi@gmail.com or fill out the form and mail to MAICO, 2000 Engel St., Suite 104, Madison, WI. 53713

Provide as much of the following information as is possible

New___ Change___ Help___ Discontinued___

Group name (if any)_____ Open___ Closed___

Smoking___ Non-smoking___ Signed___ Accessible___

Day and time of meeting _____

Location_____

Type of meeting_____

Group contact person_____

Contact's phone number_____

Also, let us know of any changes in your group's contact person(s):

Name_____

Position _____

Phone number_____

Group name (if any)_____

Day and time of meeting_____

Location_____