

THE MAICO GAAZETTE

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2021

www.aamadisonwi.org

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.

MAICO, in all of its activities, shall abide by the intent and spirit of the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and where possible the suggested procedures and limitations suggested by the AA Service Manual and other conference approved literature.

THEME: Steps & Principles & Traditions

Twelve-Spiritual-Principles

This list originally was Virtues (not principals) that originated from a plaque which was sold years ago and may originally come from a Grapevine article or other AA newsletter. It is known in the rooms of AA that the spiritual principles are the Twelve Steps. There are many different spiritual virtue lists that refer to the Twelve Steps which have been printed by other AA's over the years <https://www.aacle.org/twelve-spiritual-principles/>

Bill W. considered each step to be a spiritual principle in and of itself. However, particularly in the 12 & 12, he outlined the spiritual principles behind each step. Some of them seem like common sense, but understand going into the exercise that reading these principles and actually practicing them in your day-to-day lives are two entirely different things (and that the latter requires vigilance and willingness).

HONESTY	Fairness and straight forwardness of conduct: adherence to the facts.
HOPE	To expect with desire; something on which hopes are centered.
FAITH	Complete confidence; belief and trust.
COURAGE	Firmness of mind and will in the face of extreme difficulty; mental or moral strength to withstand fear.
INTEGRITY	The quality or state of being complete or undivided; soundness.
WILLINGNESS	Prompt to act or respond; accepted and done of choice or without reluctance.
HUMILITY	Not proud or haughty; not arrogant or assertive; a clear and concise understanding of what we are, followed by a sincere desire to become what we can be.
LOVE	Unselfish concern that freely accepts another in loyalty and seeks his good to hold dear.
DISCIPLINE	Training that corrects, molds, or perfects the mental faculties or moral character; to bring under control; to train or develop by instruction.
PRESERVERANCE	Steadfast despite opposition or adversity; able or willing to bear; to persist in an understanding in spite of counter influences.
AWARENESS	Alive and alert; vigilance in observing.
SERVICE	A helpful act; contribution to the welfare of others; useful labor that does not produce a tangible commodity.

ANONYMITY Online & Digital Media

Service Material from the General Service Office

(*The references included and other helpful resources can be accessed through www.aa.org)

In 2013 the General Service Conference affirmed “that the Internet, social media and all forms of public communications are implicit in the last phrase of the Short Form of Tradition Eleven, which reads: ‘at the level of press, radio and films.’”

In all A.A.’s public relations, A.A.’s sole objective is to help the still suffering alcoholic; always mindful of the importance of personal anonymity at the public level.

Public information takes many forms, from the simple sign outside a meeting place, to distribution of A.A. literature, A.A. websites, anonymity protected PSAs, informational videos, radio, television and digital media. A thoughtful and informed group conscience is encouraged to be responsible for deciding how best to inform members, the public about A.A. and how members can use digital media, practice anonymity and avoid anonymity breaks.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

“When appearing on radio, television, film or on the Internet as A.A. members, we refrain from showing our faces or revealing our last names. In printed articles, on websites or email, we are identified by our first names and last initials only. [*The A.A. Group – Where it All Begins*, p. 8](#)

“When using digital media, A.A. members are responsible for their own anonymity and that of others. When we post, text, or blog, we should assume that we are publishing at the public level. When we break our anonymity in these forums, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others.” [*Understanding Anonymity*, p. 5](#)

AA WEBSITES

“We observe all of A.A.’s principles and Traditions on our websites. As anonymity is the “spiritual foundation of all our Traditions,” we practice anonymity on A.A. websites. Some A.A. websites contain password-protected sections for members only, but publicly accessible pages of an A.A. website have the potential for reaching the broadest possible audience and, therefore, require the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio and film. For more sharing on this topic, see the resource page [*Anonymity — A Vital Spiritual Principle*](#) on G.S.O.’s website.” [*Frequently Asked Questions about A.A. Websites*, p. 2](#)

SOCIAL WORKING WEBSITES

“Social networking websites are public in nature. Though users create accounts and utilize usernames and passwords, once on the site, it is a public medium where A.A. members and non-A.A.s mingle...’ ‘...As long as individuals do not identify themselves as A.A. members, there is no conflict of interest. However, someone using their full name and/or a likeness, such as a full-face photograph, would be contrary to the spirit of the Eleventh Tradition, which states in the Long Form that, ‘... our [last] names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed...’ ‘...Even “closed” or “private” groups might still reveal an individual’s identity. Being well- informed prior to joining or starting such a group is the key to protecting your own anonymity, and that of others.’” [*A.A. Guidelines – Internet*, p.1,2](#)

EMAIL

“When using email it is necessary to consider the anonymity of the recipients of messages. Sending messages to multiple recipients that disclose the email addresses of everyone on the addressee list is a potential break of someone else’s anonymity. Therefore, it is a good idea to obtain a recipient’s explicit permission before using his or her e-mail address for A.A. correspondence, especially if it is a workplace email address. When sending A.A. mail to multiple recipients who wish to remain anonymous, use can be made of the BCC (Blind Courtesy Copy) option available on most computers.” [*A.A. Guidelines – Internet*, p.1,2](#)

ANONYMITY Online & Digital Media

Service Material from the General Service Office

Continued from page 2

INTERNET

“Many technological options are possible and, presumably, more are being developed each day. Yet . . . it is important not to let the speed of technological development pressure a committee [or an A.A. group] into a quick solution as opposed to a well-thought-out A.A.-oriented decision. Of course, all decisions must include careful consideration of any situations where an A.A. member’s anonymity could be compromised at the public level.”

[A.A. Guidelines – Internet, p. 5](#)

VIDEOS & AUDIOS

Sound and visual media help to carry the message of recovery of Alcoholics Anonymous and to inform the public and professionals about A.A. Public Service Announcements (PSAs) are available in both video and audio formats (for television and radio broadcast), as well as other materials specifically for young people and for professionals working with alcoholics. *(These are examples of anonymity protected media to carry the A.A. message.)* [*Videos and Audios, aa.org](#)

MORE REFLECTIONS on ANONYMITY

“Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical. On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use A.A. for sick and selfish purposes.” [*Bill’s Last Message, aa.org](#) [A.A. Guidelines – Internet](#)

At this level, according to Bill W., “. . . anonymity—100 percent anonymity—was the only possible answer. Here, principles would have to come before personalities, without exception.” [*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 187](#)

“Anonymity is real humility at work. It is an all-pervading spiritual quality which today keynotes A.A. life everywhere. Moved by the spirit of anonymity, we try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction as A.A. members both among fellow alcoholics and before the general public. As we lay aside these very human aspirations, we believe that each of us takes part in the weaving of a protective mantle which covers our whole Society and under which we may grow and work in unity.” [*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 187](#)

“A vast communications net now covers the earth, even to its remotest reaches. Granting all its huge public benefits, this limitless world forum is nevertheless a hunting ground for all those who would seek money, acclaim and power at the expense of society in general...

“Therefore nothing can matter more to the future welfare of AA *than the manner in which we use this colossus of communication*. Used unselfishly and well, the results can surpass our present imagination. Should we handle this great instrument badly, we shall be shattered by the ego demands of our own people—often with the best of intention on their part. Against all this, the *sacrificial spirit* of AA’s anonymity at the top public level is literally our shield and our buckler. Here again we must be confident that love of AA, and of God, will always carry the day.”

[“Freedom Under God: The Choice Is Ours” Bill W., AA Grapevine, November 1960 \[www.aagrapevine.org\]\(http://www.aagrapevine.org\)](#)

“In my belief, the entire future of our fellowship hangs upon this vital principle. If we continue to be filled with the spirit and practice of anonymity, no shoal or reef can wreck us. If we forget this principle, the lid to Pandora’s box will be off and the spirits of Money, Power, and Prestige will be loosed among us. . . I am positive that A.A.’s anonymity is the key to long-time survival.” [*A.A. Comes of Age, pp. 131-132](#)

Beyond the Call of Duty

Resource: Box 459 Vo. 58, No. 1 Spring 2012

Jo N. Central Office Manager, *Call the Denver, Colorado Area Central Office of AA asking for help or information, and chances are you will reach Jo N., the office manager no-matter where the physical office might be. Jo became the office manager a few years ago. The office had been in the same building for 37 years.*



Just ten months later of June the following year, Jo came to work one morning to find the building on fire. "When I arrived, the building was surrounded by fire trucks and smoke coming out of the building lobby." She recalled.

Jo immediately called her roommate and said, **"We need to transfer the office phone number to our house."** She then talked to the firemen, still battling the blaze who said they had to secure the building before occupants could retrieve their belongings. Jo continued: "So I walk to my house with the phone ringing. It is the first forwarded call from our office. The caller said, *"You talked to me 5 years ago in the night and you were not nice to me!"*. I asked the caller, **were you drunk when you called?** He said yeah that sounds right. Then he said that night he went to my suggested meeting and now coming up on his **Fifth anniversary of AA** and wanted me to know that. That was the first call I took that morning.

When I walked into my apartment that morning, I was thinking 'Where is the insurance: Are we covered for this: What if we don't have the money? Jo returned to the office later that day and retrieved the bar essentials; check book, insurance policy and the "when and wheres" and returned home. She answered the phone as if in the office rest of the day. She called up the General Service Office explaining the situation and requested literature for the area's needs to keep providing for the Fellowship and rent a storage facility. Jo's apartment is a 825 square foot two bedroom condo. We had some emergency insurance cash, a scanner/copier/fax machine and a small work station. I realized later my condo could have really hammered me for running a business from a residence.

When the area did finally find a new office, Jo was amazed at the kindness of the Fellowship. "The volunteers were great. One guy came in and painted, one moved walls, another moved the ceiling around and they all donated their time and energy and helped the Fellowship with a sense of ownership." Today, the office is in a stand-alone facility.

Recalling that time, Jo said, "It did get a little bit overwhelming. I was a little oblivious, and I could have gone crazy trying to fill all those orders. I feel like I had more information than anyone should have to have to stay sober." But, she added, "The woman who ran the office before me always said, 'These are our adventures after . . . it is always and adventure.

John M., a fellow AA member in the Denver area, says that Jo is an AA hero. **She went beyond the call of duty.**" Jo deflects the compliment lightly: "Wow. We tend to be a little dramatic! Just a tad. I didn't really know what I was doing. **I knew everything was just going to be fine, so I just did the next thing in front of me.**"

I asked the caller, **were you drunk when you called?**

He said yeah that sounds right.

TWELVE TIPS:

Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Reference From Box 459 GSO Vol. 58, No. 4/ Winter Issue 2012

- 1 **Line up extra AA activities for the holiday season.** Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, (MAICO), speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at the hospital.
- 2 **Be host to AA friends, especially newcomers.** If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.
- 3 **Keep your AA telephone list with you all the time.** If a drinking urge or panic comes – postpone everything else until you've called an AA.
- 4 **Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings or other celebrations given by groups in your area, and go.** If you're timid take someone newer than you are.
- 5 **Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about.** Remember how clever you were at excused when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.
- 6 **If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an AA with you,** keep some candy handy.
- 7 **Don't think you have to stay late.** Plan advance an "important date: you have to keep.
- 8 **Worship in your own way.**
- 9 **Don't sit around brooding.** Catch up on those books, museums, walks and letters.
- 10 **Don't start now getting worked up** about all those holiday temptations. Remember – "One Day at a Time."
- 11 **Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy.** Maybe you cannot give material gifts – but this year, you can give LOVE.
- 12 **"Having had a ..."** No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.



QUOTES ON Gratitude

Today, my newcomer friends, I truly live a life that I love and there is no way I would exchange it for my old one. All our lives we've known **abundant** moments, and in this sober moment we can know abundant life.

"Ed the dead" sings songs of gratitude

AA Grapevine; April 2011

Ed L. Wrightwood, CA



There's a final item on my gratitude list:

I've surrendered to the will of what I know is a loving God. One whose ways are mysterious to me, but to whom, based on experience, I entrust my own.

From Wish List to Gratitude List

AA Grapevine; June 2007

Anonymous; Maine

"Gratitude
is a form
of Perspective."

From the August 1997 Grapevine

Every morning as I pour water into my coffee maker, I'm filled with gratitude because I'm reminded of what it was like fourteen years ago. Every morning, I filled a glass with brandy just to get my day started. Today, thanks to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, I don't have to do that anymore.

Gratitude: Time for one more . . .

AA Grapevine; August 2002

Art V. Hohns Island, South Carolina



Gratitude: Time for one more.

DONATIONS

GROUP DONATIONS

A Few Simple Rules
 Berlin Friday Night Group
 Blackhawk Good Fellowship Group
 Chix at Six Group
 DeForest Progress Group
 Dry Docs Group
 Early Risers Group
 Easy Breathers Group
 Family Afterwards Group
 Feet to the Fire Meeting
 Fitchburg 10:10 Serenity Seekers
 Fitchburg Sunrisers Group
 Fitchburg Traditions Group
 Good Morning Promises Group
 Happy Hour Groups in WI. Dells
 Into Action Group
 It's A God Thing Group
 Janesville Early Risers Group
 Lake Mills Our Group
 Living Sober Group
 Madison Saturday Night Live Group
 Mauston Friday Night Fellowship Group
 Mineral Point Trinity Grapevine Group
 New Glarus Sobrietyfest Group
 Prairie Dock Group
 Precisely How We Recovered
 Renegade Women's Meeting
 Richland Center Group
 Rock River Group
 Sauk Prairie AA Groups
 Sauk/Prairie Early Risers Group
 Sister Blandine Thursday Night Big Book
 Spiritual Program of Action
 Spring Green Read n Lead
 Stoughton Group
 Sun Prairie Eye Opener
 Sunlight of the Spirit (S.O.T.S)
 Sunrise Serenity Group
 The 1728 Group
 The Capital Steps Group
 The Promises Group
 The Way Out Group
 There is a Solution Group
 Tuesday Night Workshop Group
 Waunakee Wauna Meeting
 Waupun Tuesday/Friday H.O.W. Group
 We Agnostics Free Thinkers Group
 What's Good About Today! Group
 White River Study Group

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

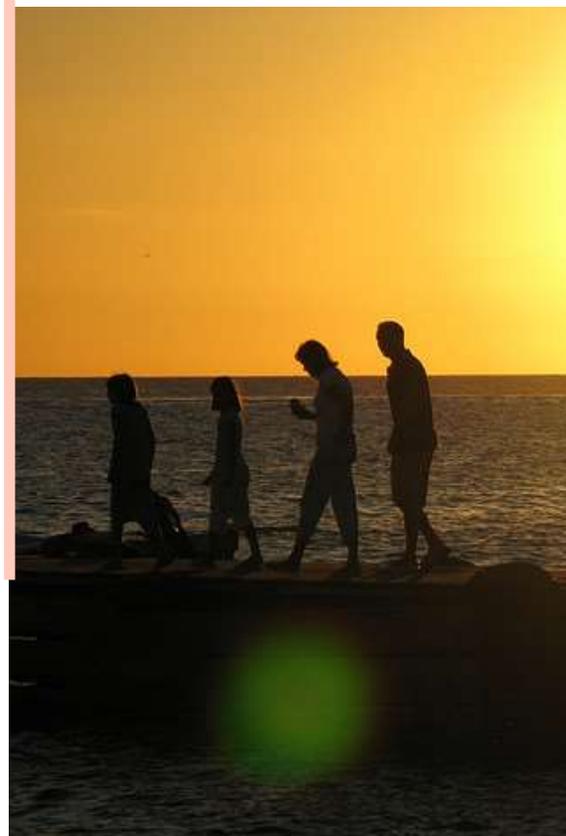
Amelia L.
 Anonymous Donations
 Anonymous -memory of David L.
 Anonymous -memory of Howard H.
 Barbara S.
 Charles B.
 Chris M.
 David D.
 Dennis G.
 Dona C.
 Frederick J.
 Greg F.
 Jacob T.
 Jane L.
 Jeff T.
 John B.
 Katherine F.
 Laura C.
 Les S.
 Lori W.
 Mary C.
 Mary S.
 Richard P.
 Shawn G.
 Steve H.
 Sue M.
 Tom B.

CORRECTIONS TREATMENT FUND

Living Sober
 Early Risers

FAITHFUL FIVERS

Mary S.



INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME	<u>Jan-Aug 2021</u>	<u>Jan-Aug 2020</u>
Donations – Groups	24,801.68	26,706.14
Donations – Events	100.00	309.74
Individual Donations	8,425.07	17,463.11
Donations – Answering Service	125.00	0.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	78.83	1,035.61
Conference Literature	12,571.39	10,850.57
Non-Conference Literature	4,372.07	3,881.42
Non-Conference Merchandise	8,805.31	6,995.47
Grapevine Literature	737.35	591.46
Faithful Fivers	220.00	157.36
Directories	0.00	145.00
Savings Account Income	2.44	4.91
Other Income	477.95	72.06
Sales Tax Discount	60.00	60.00
Uncategorized Income	0.00	54.76
TOTAL INCOME	<u>60,597.09</u>	<u>68,327.61</u>
COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	8,150.61	6,298.50
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	2,547.96	1,688.49
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	5,483.02	2,697.42
Inventory Exp.- Grapevine Lit.	538.45	244.84
Total Cost of Goods Sold	<u>16,720.04</u>	<u>10,929.25</u>
Gross Profit	<u>43,877.05</u>	<u>57,398.36</u>
EXPENSES		
Wages Expense	28,705.10	28,603.20
Employee Medical Reimbursement	1,280.00	1,280.00
Payroll Tax Expense	2,195.94	2,188.15
Credit Card Processing Costs	559.71	520.56
License and Fees Expense	166.55	125.48
Office Supplies/Expense	450.92	2,136.19
Computer Maintenance Expense	2,600.00	2,000.00
Computer-Software/Hardware	476.36	1,475.09
Telephone/Internet Expense	1,439.98	1,400.41
Answering Service Expense	3,948.87	4,111.96
Advertising in Phone Book	0.00	178.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.99	-0.24
Postage and Shipping Expense	-203.05	106.96
Occupancy Expense	6,848.00	6,722.00
Insurance Expense	997.00	669.00
Printing Expense	531.00	180.00
Travel Expense	0.00	156.81
Conference Expense	160.00	0.00
MAICO Reps Events Expense	0.00	240.07
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>50,164.39</u>	<u>52,093.64</u>
NET INCOME	<u>-\$6,287.34</u>	<u>\$5,304.72</u>

UPCOMING EVENTS

www.aamadisonwi.org –

**ONLINE ZOOM MEETINGS & EVENTS
MEETINGS & EVENTS**

www.aa-intergroup.org –

**AA ONLINE INTERGROUP -
MEETINGS & EVENTS**

EVENTS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2021

October 2, 2021	Dist. 20 Mini-Conference	8:30am - Noon	Trinity Lutheran Church, 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI.
November 6, 2021	25th MAICO Youngtimers/ Oldtimers Workshop	In Person/Hybrid possibility 9am to Noon	Trinity Lutheran Church 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI.
November 12-14, 2021	Area 75 Annual Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous	Our Great Responsibility Speakers, Panels & more	La Crosse Center 300 Harborview Plaza LaCrosse, WI

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** at www.area75.org

Be mindful of anonymity with names, flyers and information on the internet

•
**Flyers available on the MAICO website with more details for all events.

MAICO INFORMATION TIDBITS



Madison Area Intergroup Office

2000 Engel Street, Suite 104 | Madison, WI 53713

Phone: 608-222-8989 Hot Line 24/7

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday Noon – 2:00 pm

Call MAICO at 608-222-8989

Email to info@aamadisonwi.org

Fill out this form and mail to:

MAICO, 2000 Engel St., Suite 104,
Madison, WI. 53713

FOR THIS, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

We need your help and cooperation to **update meetings and groups** we serve.

Please let us know in your meetings/groups you attend have any changes.

Provide as much of the following information as is possible

New _____ Change _____ Help _____ Discontinued _____

Group name (if any) _____ Open _____ Closed _____

Handicap 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)

OFFICE IS NOW OPEN TO MAKE PURCHASES

Online & Office Orders <https://store.aamadisonwi.org>



AA Literature (large selection) * Medallions * Grapevine monthly booklets * Set up your account

