



NEWSLETTER

January – March 2023

www.aamadisonwi.o

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.

MAICO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY OFFICE MANAGER

Our current Office Manager will retire
March 31, 2023.

Please share this information to anyone interested in applying. The approved Job Description is on:

MAICO website www.aamadisonwi.org.

Persons interested send a cover letter and resume no later than **January 31, 2023** to pamandscott@charter.net.

THEME: Meetings Remote & Unique

BY: ANNA W. | OREGON CITY, ORE |
GRAPEVINE | DECEMBER 2020

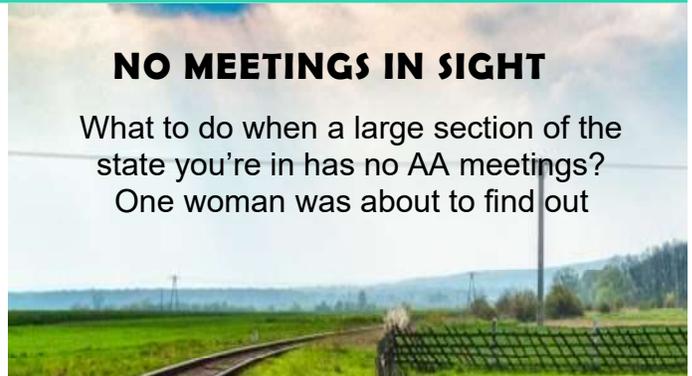
I got sober in **Los Angeles** where I was blessed with a choice of more than **1200 meetings a week**, all within driving and mass-transit distance from where I rested my head each night. There were even 20 meetings of every variety within walking distance of my home.

Later, I moved to the great Northwest. Still blessed with over **900 meetings a week in my area**, I had the mindset that if one really wanted sobriety it was only a matter of *willingness to go to any lengths*.

Fast forward several decades. I found myself traveling full-time for work, so **I attended meetings all across the United States**. New faces, new formats, hard chairs, soft chairs and even luxurious women’s meetings in downtown Dallas with imported coffee and couches and pastries! I went all over: Gaithersburg, Maryland; New Jersey; New Bedford, Connecticut.

NO MEETINGS IN SIGHT

What to do when a large section of the state you’re in has no AA meetings?
One woman was about to find out



In Houston, I attended the Westchase Nooners group, which meets every weekday. *It was an inviting, loving meeting*. I always felt welcome there, sitting on those old chairs and drinking in the great coffee and solid sobriety.

There were meetings in Wichita Falls, Texas, with their old-school clubhouses, similar to what I experienced when I first got sober and was scared out of my mind. The blue-haired women and grizzly looking men are all still there—only now they all kind of look like me and my AA friends.

Continued Pg. 2

NO MEETINGS IN SIGHT Continued from Pg. 1

BY: ANNA W. | OREGON CITY, ORE | GRAPEVINE | DECEMBER 2020

I laugh out loud sometimes when I think about my life in AA, to see the time pass and feel the gratitude. Sometimes it feels as if the building may collapse around us from all the laughter and other times it just roars through the walls with mutual understanding. One thing in common with all of us, everywhere, is our alcoholism.

I was in **rural Alabama** a while back. *I pulled up the AA meeting app on my phone and found nothing.* Literally, **no AA meetings in the area.** So I called **GSO** and they had a couple of suggestions but **no information** on meetings. I called the **local hospital.** I figured there would be a meeting there. I was referred by a helpful switchboard operator to a **hospital social worker.** She transferred me to the patient advocate, **who said she couldn't help me.** But she gave me the number of **a mental-health facility** in the county that *might be able to help.*

When I called, I found out I had been given the email address and phone number for the **Secretary of Mental Health for the state of Alabama!** Not knowing what else to do, I left a message for her. Amazingly, this wonderful woman called me back right away and provided me with the phone number of the **county health coordinator** for the small hamlet where I would be working for the next nine weeks. I called and left a message and the woman emailed me the next morning, informing me that there were **no AA meetings anywhere in the county.** Wow. My options were limited. *I could drive to Tuscaloosa, Alabama, or Meridian, Mississippi or down to Selma.* Each of these was **50 miles away and an hour drive.**

I was left humbled. What did alcoholics do in this part of the state if they wanted to quit drinking? I eventually found out that people went to the county mental health authority, registered for treatment and, after detox, they could go to the one in-patient Twelve Step meeting available each week. No transportation available. No guarantee the meeting would even be open if no one was in the current program cycle. I really understand now that depending on where we live, we do not all have the same opportunities.

I was grateful beyond measure once I hit Missouri, Tennessee and Illinois. There were meetings there within walking distance of my hotel. I am deeply saddened that some people don't have the opportunities and options for meetings I have had. Many of my clients in Alabama have never been out of that county.

There are those still suffering alcoholics who might die never knowing what AA is or could mean for them. I may not be able to stay and help fix this, but when I am able, I will do my best to ensure a meeting is open and available if I can.

And since I have the options, I call my sponsor and call back the women I sponsor. Then I go to a meeting.

Sometimes it's not just about willingness.

There are those who will not have access to

AA. They don't have the luxury of

complaining that

there's no coffee at the meeting or that the

meeting has run out of their favorite type of

cookie. I get to stop,

pray, cry a little, shake

off my seemingly petty

resentments and move



Tradition #5 Jan. – March. 2023

Each Group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

- # 1 Do I ever cop out by saying, “I’m not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn’t apply to me”?
- # 2 Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the *limitations* of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
- # 3 Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
- # 4 Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
- # 5 Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
- # 6 Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

Sidebar: BY: R.Y. | KERRVILLE, TEXAS | MARCH 1984

I met **Joe in 1944**, when I was stationed in Tampa, Florida. *He was in the guardhouse for drinking.* He didn't need AA, because he wasn't an alcoholic. His only problem was the army - and that was soon solved, because he was kicked out on a Section 8.

After the war, I went to work for the government in Washington, D.C., and was given an assignment that included a chance to travel. While in Los Angeles, I went to a meeting. While I was waiting for the meeting to start, **I felt a tap on my shoulder. I turned to see Joe, from Tampa.**

I said, “I sure am glad to see you. **How long have you been in AA?**”

And he replied, “**This is my first meeting.**” *Two and a half years later, 3,000 miles away.* I used to call it **coincidence**, but now we know better.

**I used to call it
Coincidence,
but now we
know better**

GRAPEVINE QUOTES

IS IT COINCIDENCE OR OUR HIGHER POWER GUIDING US?

“THE GUY AT THE END OF THE BAR”

“It is impossible to know everyone, but if I try to relate myself with just one other person, something will happen, something remarkable.”

MARIETTA, OHIO | APRIL 1993 | “THE GUY AT THE END OF THE BAR” | AA GRAPEVINE

“A SPECIAL KIND OF PEACE”

“The little things that happen, the spoken word, the kind smile, the nod of encouragement – the fellowship that goes with the program – these things I will never forget.”

BENONI | JANUARY 1988 | “A SPECIAL KIND OF PEACE” | AA GRAPEVINE

“THERE’S A SEAT FOR ME IN CUBA”

“Coincidences are merely a manner in which God protects his anonymity.”

NEW YORK, NEW YORK | JANUARY 1999 | “AA AROUND THE WORLD” | “THERE’S A SEAT FOR ME IN CUBA”

“A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE”

Is it a **coincidence** that between the words “serenity” and “Higher Power” in the December puzzle the “I” appears – as in, “I get in the way of having serenity by not listening to my Higher Power?”

PO BOX 1980 | BRYAN B. | HOPKINS | MINNESOTA | “A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE”

HUMOR IN RECOVERY



Perhaps the height of my humility was when I wrote an anonymous story for the Grapevine so that when it was published I could humbly mention it to my friends!

SEPTEMBER 1978 | GRAPEVINE HUMOR | BY: B.P.

There's only one thing two alcoholics can agree on-- what the third alcoholic should put in the basket.

MARCH 1990 | GRAPEVINE HUMOR | ANONYMOUS

When two egoists meet is a case of an ... I for a ... I

JUNE 1963 | GRAPEVINE HUMOR | BY: RAILBEAMS

Your won't have a leg to stand on unless you put your foot down.

OCTOBER 1962 | GRAPEVINE HUMOR | BY: E.L.M. | HONOLULU | HAWAII

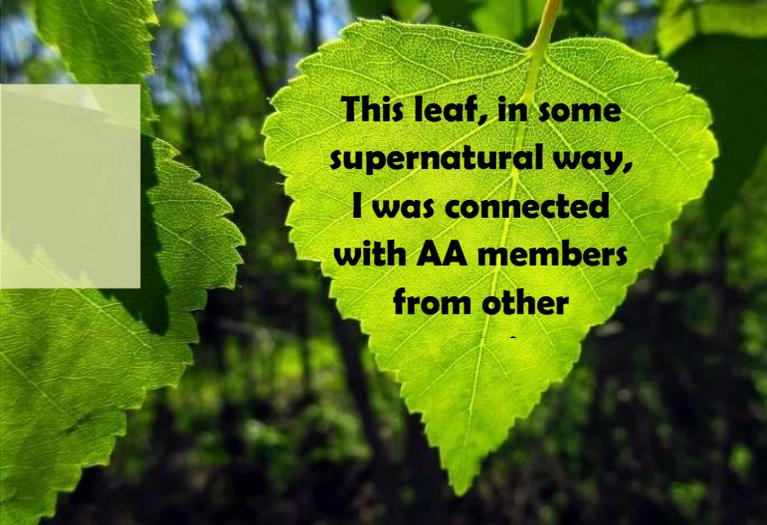


DOCTOR to patient: "When did you first

JULY 1959 | GRAPEVINE HUMOR | BY: G.L. | BOISE | IDAHO

A SMALL DRY LEAF

SVETLANA S. | ROSTOV-ON-DOM, RUSSIA |
GRAPEVINE | APRIL 2009



**This leaf, in some
supernatural way,
I was connected
with AA members
from other**

I am a very blessed alcoholic because there were **two AA groups in my city in Russia** when I was trying to figure out what to do about my drinking. Not everyone has such a possibility in my country, even today.

I went to my first meeting in March 1994, but it took me nearly three years to get sober. And I am sure that it happened because of my involvement in service.

In 1999, a *Russian AA convention was held in my city*. I had been sober *almost three years*, and I had many questions about AA service but nobody who could answer them. At our convention, I met an AA member who shared his experience in service. I threw out all my questions to him. **He answered and then he gave me a small dry leaf.**

He had been the first *Russian delegate for the 14th World Service Meeting, held in New York City in 1996*. He, with other WSM delegates, went to **Bill's Stepping Stones and this leaf was from its garden**. *I can't put into words, especially English words, how happy I was at that moment*. I had some AA coins and badges, but **this leaf had the most value for me**. I didn't understand what the WSM was, I couldn't imagine that excursion, but it seemed **that through this leaf, in some supernatural way, I was connected with AA members from other countries. I was connected with Bill! I saved this leaf in a box and periodically over time I would take it out and look at it.**

In the next year, 2000, *I attended the General Service Conference of Russian AA as a delegate*. During my sobriety, I'd had many more trials than in my drinking years - and they were huge, believe me. But I learned the wisdom of our cofounders about the necessity of service for my recovery. Service helped me overcome all my trials. **My service made me think about my responsibilities in AA**, about other people - not about my awful circumstances and myself. **I stayed sober, with no desire to drink.**

Every year, I participated at our conference as a delegate. I never dreamed that I would be elected a delegate for the WSM in the United States. But God granted me a miracle, and I was elected to represent the Russian Fellowship at the 20th WSM in New York!

I took my dry small leaf with me. At the meeting, I met many sober alcoholics from all over the world who were devoted to service, who shared their experience on how to carry the AA message to other alcoholics and take it to my country. It was exciting!

After the end of 20th WSM, all the delegates went to the Stepping Stones. It was incredible--I was there! Again, I can't put into words my feelings of gratitude, happiness and love. **I remembered my old small leaf and thought that God had helped me all the way here.**

I began to collect leaves at the Stepping Stones garden to pass them on. I put these leaves between the pages of the Grapevine and brought them home.

Sometimes I thought: They're just dry leaves! Who needs them? But yesterday I gave one of them to a young girl who had come to AA not long ago, and explained where the leaf came from. I was excited about her reaction: she was very happy!

And I thought: Who knows what God has prepared for her?



CONTACT INFO & WEBSITES

UPCOMING EVENTS JAN. – MARCH 2023

Madison Area Intergroup
Office: www.aamadisonwi.org

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

www.aamadisonwi.org
Meetings online &
in person & Events

www.aa-intergroup.org
AA Online Intergroup
Meetings & Events

Event flyers are on The MAICO
website 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.

FOR THIS, WE ARE RESPONSIBLE
We need your help and cooperation to
update meetings and groups we serve.

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

EVENT	DATE	TIME	DETAILS
*Download event flyers online www.aamadisonwi.org			
WICYPAA XXX	January Friday 6th - Sunday 8th 2023		The Lismore Hotel 333 Gibson St. Eau Claire, WI *See flyer on MAICO
Stepping in to the New Year	January 14th Saturday 2023	8:00 AM – Speaker 1:00	Our Saviors Lutheran Church 145 E. Lisbon Ave. Oconomowoc, WI *See Flyer on MAICO
Fit Spiritual Condition 2023 HACYPAA Conference	April 7-9 2023		Chula Vista Resort Wisconsin Dells, WI *See Flyer on MAICO
34th International Men's Conference Washington DC	April 21 –23 2023		The Doubletree by Hilton Crystal City 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA *See Flyer on MAICO

Provide as much of the following information as is possible.

New Change Help Discontinued

Group name (if any) _____

Open Closed Handicap Accessible

Day/Time _____ Type _____

Location (any specifics) _____

Group contact person _____

Contact's phone number _____

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

DONATIONS

Continued on page 9

GROUP DONATIONS

1728 Group
7:30am Sunrisers Grp
10:10 Serenity Seekers Grp
Acceptance is the Answer
Baraboo KISS Grp
Berlin Friday Night
Brodhead Sister Blandine Tuesday
Cambridge Grp
Conscious Contact Grp
Cross Plains Unity Grp
DeForest Progress Grp
Dry Docs Grp
Early Risers Grp
Eye Openers Grp
Family Afterwards
Feet to the Fire Grp
Fel-O-Ship Grp
Free Thinkers
Friday Nite Lights Gtp
Grace Lunch Grp
Hwy 21 Open Discussion Grp
In the Middle Grp
It's a God Thing Grp
Janesville Unity Grp
Keep It Simple Sisters
Keys to the Kingdom
Lake Mills Our Group
Living Sober Grp
Marshall 449 Grp
Mauston Friday Night Fellowship
Men in Recovery
Monroe Early Birds
Monroe New Beginnings
Mt. Horeb Saturday Morning

GROUP DONATIONS

Orfordville Grp
Poynette DeKorra Grp
Prairie Dock Grp
Renegade Women's Meeting
Richland Center Grp
Rock River Grp
Spiritual Program of Action
Spring Green Read N Lead Grp
St. Andy's 7am Grp
St. Dunstan's Beginners Grp
Suburban Sobriety Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp
Sun Prairie Phoenix Grp
Sunrise Serenity Grp
Tuesday Night Workshop
Waupun HOW Grp
We are not a Glum Lot Grp
The Way Out Grp
Thursday Off the Shelf Grp
Traditions Grp
Watertown Sun 11am Big Book
Watertown One Day at a Time
West Siders Grp
White River Study Grp
Windsor Grp
Woman's Sat Serenity
Working Step Grp

DONATIONS

Continued from pg. 8

Gratitude Month

1728 Group
Acceptance is the Answer
Clear Cut Directions
Early Risers
Easy Breathers
Eye Opener
Feet to the Fire
Grace Lunch Group
Platteville Monday Night
Prairie Dock Group
Precisely How We Recovered
Rule 62 Group
Stoughton Group
Sunlight of the Spirit
Sunrisers Group
Take Off the Shelf Grp
There is a Solution Group
Traditions Group
Woman's Serenity Group
Trinity Grapevine Group

MAICO CORRECTIONS/ TREATMENT FUND

Early Risers Group
Living Sober Group

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Abby G.
Andy S.
George P. - Gratitude
George R. - Gratitude
Greg F.
Gretchen L.
K. Andrea B.
Karen K. - Gratitude
Karen K. - Gratitude
Linda H.
Louise B.
Mary S.
Randy M.
Richard P.
Roger H.
Sheila R. - Gratitude
Shelley H.
Sue M.



INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME	Jan-Nov 2022	Jan-Nov 2021
Donations – Groups	40,306.07	33,861.72
Donations – Events	1,472.50	100.00
Donations - Individual	11,552.36	11,885.72
Donations – Answering Service	125.00	125.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	1,538.65	1,224.83
Conference Literature	26,565.89	19,238.10
Non-Conference Literature	8,073.69	7,119.42
Non-Conference Merchandise	11,876.65	13,480.43
Grapevine Literature	2,285.96	1,728.85
Faithful Fivers	75.00	220.00
Directories	-27.45	2.00
Savings Account Income	1.61	3.26
Other Income	133.35	512.02
Sales Tax Discount	110.00	90.00
TOTAL INCOME	104,089.28	89,497.93
COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Inventory Expense Conference Literature	15,680.40	11,288.39
Inventory Expense Non-Conference Literature	4,716.26	4,409.76
Inventory Expense Non-Conference Merchandise	7,286.43	8,989.01
Inventory Expense Grapevine Literature	1,764.30	861.25
Physical Inventory Adjustments	1,861.54	0.00
Total Cost of Goods Sold	31,308.93	25,548.41
Gross Profit	72,780.35	64,042.94
EXPENSES		
Wages Expense	42,084.84	40,549.10
Employee Medical Reimbursement	1,760.00	1,760.00
Payroll Tax Expense	3,219.49	3,102.00
Credit Card Processing Costs	1,231.57	908.73
License and Fees Expense	266.22	274.66
Office Supplies/Expense	1,859.52	719.96
Computer Maintenance Expense	3,850.00	3,650.00
Computer-Software/Hardware	1,676.96	516.70
Telephone/Internet Expense	1,687.12	1,989.86
Answering Service Expense	5,397.53	5,702.88
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.35	-1.14
Postage and Shipping Expense	84.63	100.19
Occupancy Expense	9,702.00	9,416.00
Insurance Expense	1,226.00	997.00
Printing Expense	555.10	531.00
Travel Expense	630.32	258.46
Conference Expense	1,368.19	288.00
MAICO Representatives		
Events Expense	350.00	0.00
Other Expense	4.00	0.00
Total Expense	76,953.14	70,763.40
NET INCOME	-4,172.79	-6,720.46

WICYPAA XXX

'How Dark It Is Before The Dawn!' pg. 8

Friday, January 6th - Sunday, January 8th 2023

The Lismore Hotel

333 Gibson St Eau Claire, WI 54701

\$119/night

Call to book your room or use
code "WIC" in Group Rate when
booking online



Name:

Email:

City/State:

Bill W Scholarship? Y/N

Special Accommodations:

Venmo your registration information to
@wicypaa or register online at
wicypaa30.square.site

Pre Reg
\$15

Registration Website



Hotel Website



WICYPAA is the Wisconsin Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous -
Young being defined as anyone with room to grow. For more information, visit
www.wicypaa.org or email the Host Committee at wicypaaxxx@gmail.com



59TH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL

FEBRUARY 16-19, 2023

DALLAS, TEXAS

InternationalWomensConference.org



REGISTER ONLINE TODAY





34th International Men's Conference 2023 Washington DC

"Keeping the Legacy ALIVE 2023 and BEYOND"

www.IAAMC-DC23.org

When: April 21-23, 2023

Where: The Doubletree by Hilton Crystal City

300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington VA, 22202

<https://book.passkey.com/go/AAMensConference>

For Room Reservations: Call (703) 416-4100. Use Promo Code: IAA and mention IAA to receive conference rate of \$149.00 (plus tax per night) visit our webpage: www.IAAMC-DC23.org

for more information contact:

Chair	Lee M.	(202) 441-0111	Chair.IAAMCDC23@gmail.com
Co-chair	Willie S.	(301) 257-3320	CoChair.IAAMCDC23@gmail.com
Treasurer	Stan C.	(301) 598-5953	Treasurer.IAAMCOC23@gmail.com

Conference Registration Options

	Price	Quantity	Amount
Early Bird Package Limited to First 100 (June 1 – July 31) <i>(Includes registration and banquet dinner)</i>	\$ 110.00	_____	_____
General registration and banquet <i>(Circle your meat choice: Salmon, chicken or sliced pork tenderloin, vegetarian)</i>	\$ 120.00	_____	_____
Early Registration Only (June 1 – October 31)	\$ 45.00	_____	_____
Registration Only (After October 31)	\$ 50.00	_____	_____
Tour of Washington, DC by Motor Coach	\$ 39.00	_____	_____
Ball Cap	\$ 17.00	_____	_____
Tee-shirt (sizes Large to 5X): State size: _____ (sizes run small)	\$ 23.00	_____	_____
Donate to the 34 th IAAMC 2023		_____	_____
Total		_____	_____

please visit our website for details and updates @ www.IAAMC-DC23.org

Mail Registration to: IAAMC-DC23, PO Box 12226, Silver Spring, MD 20906-1548

Make check or money order payable to: IAAMC-DC23 or register online using our webpage: www.IAAMC-DC23.org

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____ Home Group: _____

Meal Preference: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Badges Required for ALL Sessions