

THE MAICO GAAZETTE

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2019

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.

www.aamadisonwi.org

GRATEFUL: Fox Lake Corrections Institution

A Letter to MAICO

Ben - Inmate at Fox Lake Correctional Institution

Hi my name is Ben I'm an inmate at Fox Lake Correctional Institution and a member of *Fox Lake Dry Dock AA Group*. I am writing to thank you for the generosity that you have shown our group. We really appreciate that you and M.A.I.C.O. recently donated new Big Books to our group. We've also been made aware of your past donations of Big Books, Daily Reflections, and As Bill Sees It. Without these contributions we would not have enough material for everyone in our group. We meet every Wednesday and put these books to good use. If it were possible we would conduct meetings more often, but that's a story for another time.

Although we are locked up in prison, we still deal with the temptation to drink alcohol on a daily basis. There are always people who find a way to drink, even in here. That is the foremost reason for our AA meeting here at FLCI; but we also hope that by conditioning ourselves to attend meetings here, we increase the likelihood of attending AA upon release. With that being said, we thank you for your support now and in the future. Please pass along our gratitude to the others at M.A.I.C.O. because our meetings wouldn't be the same without these materials.

Thank you and God bless!



NOVEMBER = Gratitude Month

One of the most satisfying things we receive in AA is humble gratitude that slowly fills our hearts as we continue, day-by-day, to live our program of recovery. Our return is rich. The seed we have planted is small, merely a willingness to be helped and in turn to help others. Our useless lives become useful. Our fears give way to serenity. Confusion is replaced with purpose. Wishes become actions. Existence becomes a daily adventure in living.

Maintenance of our Madison Area Intergroup Central Office (MAICO) is costly. There are many expenses connected with running this office -- so that MAICO can continue to provide a service to those in need. *Even with ongoing donations received from area AA groups, MAICO needs your support in meeting their operational expenses.*

Gratitude Month - Was first officially recognized in 1956. As Bill W. urged in a letter, "Gratitude should go forward, rather than backward. If you carry the message to others, you will be making the best possible repayment for the help given to you."

This Is Our Appeal – Consider making a special donation to assist MAICO in continuing to provide a service which is so important to our own sobriety and to those still suffering. There are some who can't give at this time. There are others who will be able to give much more. But no matter whether your contribution is large or small, it will be welcomed. And it will give each of us a tangible outlet to show the gratitude welling up in our hearts for the good life we are enjoying.

Each Week During November – An envelope will be circulated at those group meetings who wish to participate in this effort. Please consider making an extra donation for this purpose. Whether your contribution is small or large – *it will greatly be appreciated.*

WHAT IS: MAICO?

From A.A. Guidelines for Central or Intergroup Offices, reprinted with permission.

Updated July 16, 2019

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The term MAICO is an acronym for **Madison Area Intergroup Central Office**. "A central office (or intergroup) is an A.A. service office that involves partnership among groups in a community—just as A.A. groups themselves are a partnership of individuals. It is established to carry out certain functions common to all groups—functions which are best handled by a centralized office—and is usually maintained, supervised and supported by these groups in their general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. There are *more than 500 central/intergroup offices* functioning throughout the world, performing vital A.A. services."

Eighth Tradition (Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.),

24 Hour Hot line # - 608-222-8989

Fax - 608-663-9097

Web Site: www.aamadisonwi.org

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 11am - 8pm

Wednesday to Friday 11am to - 6pm

Saturday Noon - 2pm

Suite 104 Engel St., Madison, WI 53713

Office Manager: Diane E.

SERVICES THAT MAICO PROVIDES:

- 24-hour phone service providing 12-Step referrals and meeting information.
- Conference-approved literature
- Clearing house for information about the A.A. Fellowship
- Facilitation and support of the service work of local 12-Step committees (e.g., Public Information, Bridging the Gap, Corrections, Treatment, Special Needs, Cooperation with Professional Community)
- MAICO newsletter
- Directory of area meetings with periodic updates to that directory
- Other services requested by individual groups within the service area

MAICO depends on group and individual contributions for: Leased office space | Telephone answering service | Office manager compensation | Office supplies | Literature purchasing | Newsletter Printing and Meeting Directory (Production of both donated by MAICO Steering Comm.) *Reader content input is always welcomed.* Send to MAICO.

MAICO keeps track of group and individual contributions by means of a computerized spreadsheet. Any group in the service area that has had contact with the MAICO office is assigned a group number. Ideally, a group's contacts (treasurer and secretary), GSR and MAICO Rep are also recorded in the spreadsheet. Contributions are entered into Quickbooks when they are deposited into MAICO's bank account. The MAICO treasurer runs a monthly financial report that is submitted to the MAICO Steering Committee for approval at its monthly meeting. The report is available to all A.A.'s, who may stop by the MAICO Office during business hours to review it.

Finally, MAICO provides area groups the opportunity and the means to communicate and cooperate with one another. Such communication and cooperation are the key ingredients in working together to carry the A.A. message. **Diane our office manager does a great job of running the office smoothly and efficiently.**

MAICO operates on a calendar fiscal-year (January to December). It is overseen by a steering committee directly responsible to groups within the service area. The MAICO Steering Committee of seven members whose specific purpose is to watch over and guide the activities of MAICO. The **MAICO Steering Committee** meets the **second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm** and the **MAICO reps** meet monthly **on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm**, Both are located at **6400 Gisholt Dr., Madison, Basement Conference Room, handicap accessible**. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. Because the MAICO reps elect the Steering Committee members, all groups are encouraged to appoint a MAICO rep. If you have further questions about MAICO and what it does, or if you want to get involved in service work through MAICO, call the MAICO office at 608-222-8989, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday.

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUES	<u>Jan to Aug 2019</u>	<u>Jan to Aug 2018</u>
Donations – Groups	31,339.55	26,656.00
Donations – Events	705.59	279.67
Individual Donations	2,641.40	1,529.41
Donations – Answering Service	135.00	210.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	620.51	934.38
Conference Literature	18,195.04	24,586.22
Non-Conference Literature	5,524.77	7,001.68
Non-Conference Merchandise	11,325.10	12,239.44
Grapevine Literature	1,218.79	1,060.42
Faithful Fivers	157.00	367.00
Directories	573.25	403.00
Savings Account Income	8.18	1.62
Other Income	390.50	517.88
Sales Tax Discount	<u>63.14</u>	<u>50.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>72,897.82</u>	<u>75,836.72</u>

COST OF SALES		
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	10,737.48	16,666.88
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	2,899.88	4,400.44
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	6,779.31	8,256.91
Inventory Exp.- Grapevine Lit.	755.17	1,781.61
Inventory Exp – Directories	-883.18	252.51
Total Cost of Sales	<u>20,288.66</u>	<u>31,358.35</u>
Gross Profit	<u>52,609.16</u>	<u>44,478.37</u>

EXPENSES		
Wages Expense	29,552.60	29,225.55
Employee Medical Reimbursement	1,280.00	1,280.00
Payroll Tax Expense	2,260.77	2,235.75
Credit Card Processing Costs	623.92	590.89
License and Fees Expense	10.00	245.00
Office Supplies/Expense	1,475.79	930.47
Computer Maintenance Expense	2,000.00	2,050.00
Computer-Software/Hardware	1,297.91	1,678.74
Telephone/Internet Expense	1,126.90	1,124.78
Answering Service Expense	3,864.92	3,836.95
Advertising in Phone Book	704.00	700.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.39	-0.53
Postage and Shipping Expense	194.75	135.30
Occupancy Expense	6,560.00	6,400.00
Insurance Expense	671.00	608.00
Printing Expense	746.20	833.40
Directory Printing Expense	1,202.00	0.00
Travel Expense	261.97	350.49
Conference Expense	65.00	861.00
MAICO Reps Events Expense	356.54	175.00
Other Expense	23.16	-44.62
Over/Under Cash on Hand	<u>24.00</u>	<u>16.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$54,301.04</u>	<u>\$53,232.17</u>

NET INCOME	<u>\$-1,691.88</u>	<u>\$-8,753.80</u>
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UPCOMING Events 2019

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.**



RECURRING

1st Sunday of Month – Ripon's Royal Ridge Open Speaker AA Breakfast, Royal Ridges, State Hwy 23 (W. Fond du Lac St.) Ripon. Breakfast 10am, Speaker 11:00 am \$10.00 adults, (Holiday meets 2nd Sunday).

2nd Sunday of Month – Open AA Speaker, Adams, Adams-Friendship Club, 1093 County M, Adams, Noon.

3rd Sunday of Month – Pocket Full of Sunshine Breakfast, Howard Johnson, 3841 E. Washington Ave., Madison, 10:00 am breakfast buffet, \$10.00 all you can eat, 11am Speaker.

Last Wednesday of Month – Sunlight of the Spirit Group, (SOTS) Open speaker meeting, Plymouth United Church of Christ, 2401 Atwood Ave., 5:30 pm Potluck, bring dish to share, 6:30pm Speaker.

Last Saturday of Month – Hosted by Portage Area Recovery Groups, Open Speaker Meeting, 8:00 pm, Historic Apts., 207 W. Cook St., Portage, basement, handicap accessible, Potluck to follow meeting.

Last Saturday of Month – Hosted by Dodgeville Downtown Group, Dodgeville Serenity Club, 401 N. Union St., Dodgeville. 7:00 pm Speaker, Please bring a snack or dessert if you would like.

1st & 3rd Saturday of Month – Monroe Sister Blandine Group, Open Speaker Meeting, 6:30 pm, St. Victor's Church, 1760 14th St., Monroe, entrance off 20th Ave (parish library door) Everyone welcome.

Every Saturday – New Voices Open Speaker Meeting, 7:00 pm, 402 W. Delavan Dr., Janesville, Hosted (Chair & Speaker) each month by groups in Area 75 & nearby Illinois groups.

OCTOBER 2019

October 5 – Dist. 31 Annual Fall Workshop – Experience the 12 Steps from the Big Book, DeKorra Lutheran Ch., Smith Rd., DeKorra, WI. Registration: 8:30am. Interactive experience 9:00am to 4:00pm. Bring your Big Book. BBQ Lunch provided, Bring a side dish to share. MAICO available for literature needs. Sponsees/Sponsors and Friends of AA are welcome.

October 12 –2019 Fall Recovery Round Up – The Journey to Serenity, 3 Legacies, 514 Sutherland Ave., Janesville, WI. Registration: 9:00am. 10am – AA/Al-Anon speaker Jessica S. Madison, Noon – Lunch, Panels throughout the day, 5pm – Dinner/Raffles, 7pm – Speaker – Kris K. – Area 75 Delegate. MAICO onsite book store. Hosted by Dist. 30 in cooperation with Dist. 8 and Al-Anon Dist. 25.

October 18 – 20 – Area 75 & East Central Regional Conference – Into Action, Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th St., Milwaukee. Room Single/Double: \$103.00 + tax, Registration after 9/26 forward \$25, Sat Night Banquet, \$30, Sunday Breakfast \$18. AA & Al-Anon speakers & Panels, Area Assembly.

NOVEMBER 2019

November 2 – 23rd Annual MAICO Reps Youngtimers/Oldtimers Chili Cookoff – Trinity Lutheran Ch., 1904 Winnebago St., Madison, WI. 9am to Noon, 3 sets of YT/OT speakers. Bring your best Chili in a small crock pot. Salads, desserts and donations appreciated. All are Welcome.

EVENTS Continued Page 5

UPCOMING IN 2020

January 10-12, 2020 – WICYPAA Conference at Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells 1000 Chula Vista Pkwy, Wisconsin Dells.

February 20-23, 2020 – 56th International Women's Conference, Indianapolis, In. JW Marriot Hotel, 10 S. West St., Indianapolis, In. www.InternationalWomensConference.org

July 2-5, 2020 – 2020 International Convention, Alcoholics Anonymous, Detroit, MI. Information and registration on www.aa.org

THANK YOU'S - Donation

General Fund

207 Grp
511 Step Grp
1728 Grp
A Vision for You
Baraboo Sat. Morning Eye Opener
Belleville Big Book
Beloit Happy Hour
Belmont Thursday
Berlin Sunday Night
Blackhawk Good Fellowship
Brodhead Tues Nite Sister Blandine
Cambridge Grp
Chicks at Six
Children of Chaos
Clear Cut Directions
Cop Shop Grp
Daily Reflections Thursday
Daily Reflections Sat. Morning
DeForest Progress
Early Risers
Easy Breathers
Edgerton Monday PM
Foxhall Recovery
Ft Atkinson MWF Morning
Good Fellowship
Grace Lunch Grp
High Noon
Into Action
It's a God Thing
Keep It Simple Sisters
Lancaster Tues Nite Grp
Living Sober
Mauston Fri Night Fellowship
Mauston Monday Night
Mauston Wed Afternoon
Mineral Pt. Grapevine
Monroe Friends of AA
Monroe No Butts
Monticello 12 & 12
Mt. Horeb Sat Morning
Oregon Room to Grow
Orfordville Grp
Platteville Monday Night

Portage Sunshine Grp
Prairie Du Chien Rendezvous
Prairie Dock Grp
Precisely How We Recovered
Richland Center Grp
Rock River Grp
Sat. Morning Miracles
Sat. Morning Ontimers
Sat. Morning Serenity
Sat. Night Candlelight
Sauk Prairie Grp
Serenity at Six
Serenity Seekers
Slacker's Grp
Slip Nots Grp
Sober Today
Sobrietyfest Grp
Spring Green Read n Lead
St. Andy's 7:00am
St. Dunstan's Beginners
Stoughton Grp
Sullivan Big Book
Sunday Night By The Book
Sunlight of the Spirit
Sunrisers Grp
Sunrise Serenity
Sun Prairie Phoenix Grp
Sun. Recovery with the Big Book
The Home Grp
There is a Solution
Thursday Floaters
Thursday Sister Blandine
Traditions Grp
Tuesday Night Workshop
Turning Point Grp
Viroqua Big Book Study
Watertown Fri/Sun
Watertown One Day at a Time
Watertown Wed. Nite
Waupun H.O.W.
We Agnostics



Westfield 12 & 12
White River Study Grp
WI. Dells Happy Hour
Woman's Daily Reflection

Gratitude

Ft. Atkinson Friday Nite

Faithful Fiver

Larry L.
Mary S.
Mike G.
Susan K.

Corrections/Treatment Fund

Early Risers
High Noon
Living Sober
Sunlight of the Spirit

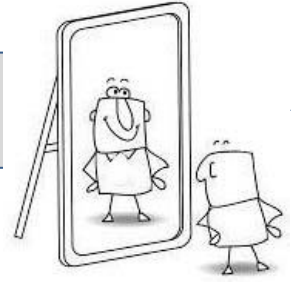
Individuals

Anonymous
Don M.
Erik K.
Greg F.
John B.
John C.
Kaitlin S.
Melodie C.
Tom S.

Picnic Donations

Anonymous
Clear Cut Directions
Family Afterward
Living Sober
Sunlight of the Spirit
Sunrise Serenity

DAILY Reflections



The Beauty of Numbers

Many, many times in the past I used numbers to con myself: "I'll just have one or two more, then I'll get out of this bar and go home. Honest. I'll have two or three more, then I'll put this jug away forever."

Today, I walk not in shadow but in the sunlight of the spirit, in a kind of bright **reflection** of my Higher Power, who casts a special light before me and all around me. And as I walk, many others walk with me. I am so deeply grateful.

August, 1979 – M.L.

Happy Reflection

TO me, A.A. is my mirror of a past which **reflects** a happy way of life, with wondrous gratefulness.

To me, to admit being an alcoholic wanting sobriety opens the door to A.A. Complete surrender to that admission is a foundation for freedom from drink. It's better to contribute than to impose my will unto others.

January, 1949 – L.W.A., Concord, New Hampshire

But for the Grace of God

My God, I am grateful that what You gave me I have held on to as tightly as I am able to. I pray that my Higher Power will let me **reflect** on my story to a desirable conclusion, whatever that may be.

All of us in a crash, dive with my illness, and nobody could see it, until a fateful day in March 1969 when I succumbed to my powerlessness.

June, 1979 – F. D., Argo, Illinois

Misery Is Optional

I was about nine months sober and feeling that I really had a solid foundation of recovery under me.

The construction company I occasionally worked for in Anchorage called and asked me if I'd go to a remote island off the coast of Juneau, Alaska. I had the flu--with all the symptoms. The weather was **reflecting** my state of being, as the clouds were black and it was pouring down rain.

I learned a whole lot from the misery of that time. But especially, I learned that I can never get complacent about my recovery and that without God I will always be powerless over alcohol, because extenuating circumstances could lead me right back to thinking about taking a drink.

August 1996 – Michael G., Anchorage, Alaska

The Gift

I'm a fifty-year-old woman with two grown sons who has done all the dysfunctional things. I've been married four times, divorced three times, and am now a widow. I am at a time in my life when I am doing a lot of **reflecting** on the past, soul-searching, and twelfth-stepping of myself, and I've recently had a special awakening that I would like to share.

A little over eight years ago, there was another crisis in my life. I hit a bottom and began praying that God would help me find my way back to AA and allow me to know love once in my life. I prayed this prayer every night before I slept or before I drank. Then I met Tom. Tom was diagnosed with the most aggressive forms of cancer, in which he died shortly after. My whole life was turned upside down in less than a month leaving an emptiness inside that will always be there. He gave me AA, which gave me sanity, sobriety, self-respect, and life. I never have to face any crisis in my life alone. I never have to feel unworthy, useless, unloved, or unneeded again. Because I have the best gift God could have answered my prayers with. I have Alcoholics Anonymous.

June, 2001 – Brenda C., Tonneau Beach, South Carolina

**Madison Area Intergroup Central Office, Inc.
2000 Engel St., Suite 104
Madison, WI. 53713**

Electronic Service Requested

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
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Madison, WI
Permit No. 1562

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 update our information. Call MAICO at 608-222-8989, email to info@aamadisonwi.org 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_____

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)