



## NEWSLETTER

October – December 2022

[www.aamadisonwi.org](http://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.

*A Tradition per issue in 2022. Oct. - Dec. # 4*

## GRATITUDE THEME



### HAPPINESS COMES QUIETLY

#### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS DAILY REFLECTIONS AA ONLINE | JANUARY 17

“The trouble with us alcoholics was this: We demanded that the world give us **happiness** and peace of mind in just the particular order we wanted to get it-by the alcohol route and we weren’t successful. But when we take time to find out some of the spiritual laws, and familiarize ourselves with them, and put them into practice, then we do get **happiness** and peace of mind. There seem to be some rules that we have to follow, but **happiness** and peace of mind are always here, open and free to anyone.”

#### DR. BOB AND THE GOOD OLDTIIMERS | PAGE 308

The simplicity of the A.A. program teaches me that happiness is something I can “demand.” It comes upon me quietly, while I serve others. In offering my hand to the newcomer or to someone who has relapsed, I find that my own sobriety has been recharged with indescribable **gratitude and happiness**.



## Tradition #4 Oct. – Dec. 2022

**Each Group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.**

- # 1 Do I insist that there are only a few *right* ways of doing things in AA?
- # 2 Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
- # 3 Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
- # 4 Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
- # 5 Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths --- his lengths, not mine --- to stay sober?
- # 6 Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?



## Principles and Personalities BY: J. C. | ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT | JUNE 1971

### Keep your eye on the principle and don't let the personality bug you

MY NAME is Joe C. I have been sober four years now, and the last three have been happy years, though the first was miserable. I never want to live through that year again, and, if I don't pick up that first drink, I won't have to.

Recently, an AA friend of mine got drunk. I was crushed! He had been sober for two years. I liked him. We were friends. I had a lot of faith in him. Too much! I took his slip personally. It really bothered me. He came back to the meetings after the drunk, but his attitude had changed. We spoke together after the meetings, but it wasn't the same.

My feelings were deeply hurt. I got mad at him for letting me down. I didn't for one minute consider *his* feelings--his guilt, remorse, heart-sickness. I thought not of his wife, children, or father. I dwelled only on my own hurt. What self-centeredness and ego!

Since that time and after much deliberation, I understand the meaning of "principles before personalities." My friend's misfortune has helped me gain greater insight into the AA philosophy; I hope.

### I must never again allow personalities to play so large a role in my sobriety.

Sober AAs are the finest people in the world, in my opinion. The fellowship, friendships, and acquaintances are a tremendous benefit to our program--but they are not enough! There are many times when we are on our own, with no AAs to talk with, and this is the time that we must draw on AA principles and teachings. People can err; time-tested principles cannot.

I must learn that any of us can, and some probably always will, fall by the wayside, and that I must not be shaken by these slips. It will not be easy, but if I continue to realize that my sobriety is "a daily reprieve" contingent on my spiritual growth (as the Big Book says), that AA principles must continually be worked on, and that I must remember to put Joe second, then and only then can I replace my egotism with compassion and understanding.



## 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*





*November is Gratitude Month*

*Our Chance to Say "Thank You!" to **MAICO***

*Your Contribution Allows Us To  
"Carry The Message To The Alcoholic Who Still Suffers".*



*Sponsored By*

**Madison Area Intergroup Central Office (MAICO)  
2000 Engel St., Suite 104, Madison, WI. 53713  
608-222-8989**

[info@aamadisonwi.org](mailto:info@aamadisonwi.org)

[www.aamadisonwi.org](http://www.aamadisonwi.org)

**\*Print this and next page for your group envelope and letter  
or obtain one from the MAICO office.**

# *November is Gratitude Month*

## *Our Chance to Say "Thank You!"*

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 still 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.

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# Twelve Tips: Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A. s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober – an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.

Box 4-5-9, 2013



**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.



Madison Area Intergroup  
Office: [www.aamadisonwi.org](http://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](http://www.aamadisonwi.org)  
Meetings online &  
in person & Events

[www.aa-intergroup.org](http://www.aa-intergroup.org)  
AA Online Intergroup  
Meetings & Events

Event flyers are on The MAICO website  
[www.aamadisonwi.org](http://www.aamadisonwi.org)  
or [www.area75.org](http://www.area75.org)

Any district or group AA event can  
be posted on the Area 75 calendar at  
[www.area75.org](http://www.area75.org)

Be mindful of anonymity with names,  
flyers and information on the internet.  
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**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](mailto:info@aamadisonwi.org)

Fill out this form and mail to:  
MAICO, 2000 Engel St., Suite 104,  
Madison, WI. 53713

# CONTACT INFO & WEBSITES

UPCOMING EVENTS OCT – DEC 2022

EVENT	DATE	TIME	DETAILS
Area 75 Conference and Assembly	Friday November 4 - 6		Chula Vista Resort 1000 Chula Vista Wisconsin Dells, WI
26 <sup>th</sup> Youngtimers/Oldtimers Workshop	November 12	8:00 am – 1:00 pm	Trinity Lutheran Church 1904 Winnebago St. Madison, WI
<b>*Download event flyers online <a href="http://www.aamadisonwi.org">www.aamadisonwi.org</a></b>			

**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 10

## GROUP DONATIONS

1728 Grp  
511 Step Grp  
A Few Simple Rules Grp  
A Way of Life Grp  
Any Lengths Grp  
Beaver Dam Sunday Serenity Grp  
Belmont Thursday Grp  
Berlin Sunday Night Grp  
Brodhead Thursday Night Big Book Grp  
Brodhead Tues Sister Blandine Grp  
Chicks at 6 Grp  
Clear Cut Directions Grp  
Come and Get It Grp  
Conscious Contact Grp  
Darlington Grp  
DeForest Progress Grp  
District 30  
Early Risers Grp  
Easy Breathers  
Easy Does It But Do It Grp  
Family Afterwards Grp  
Family Afterwards Grp donation to MAICO picnic  
Feet to the Fire Grp  
Forever Strong Woman's Grp  
Foxhall Recovery Grp  
Free Thinkers  
Friday Night Lights Grp  
Ft. Atkinson Tuesday Night Big Book  
Green Lake One Day at a Time  
Group with no name  
In the Middle  
It's A God Thing Grp  
Lake Mills Our Group Wednesday  
Living Sober Grp  
Mauston Friday Night Fellowship Grp  
Middleton Young at Heart Grp  
Monroe Early Birds Grp

## GROUP DONATIONS

Monroe New Beginnings Grp  
Monticello 12 & 12 Grp  
Mt. Horeb Saturday Morning Grp  
New Glarus Sobrietyfest Grp  
Orfordville Friday Night Promises Grp  
Platteville Noon Meeting  
Prairie Dock Grp  
Precisely How We Recovered Grp  
Renegade Women  
Richland Center Grp  
Rock River Grp  
Room to Grow Grp  
Saturday Morning On-Timers Grp  
Sauk Prairie Grp  
Serendipity Women's Grp  
Serenity Seekers 10:10am  
Sisters in Sobriety Grp  
Slip Nots Grp  
Spiritual Program of Action  
Spring Green Read n Lead  
St. Andy's 7am Grp  
St. Dunstons Beginners Grp  
Stoughton Grp  
Sun Prairie Half Measures  
Sun Prairie Phoenix Grp  
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp  
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp donation to MAICO Picnic  
Sunrise Serenity  
Sunrisers 7:30am Grp  
The Way Out Grp  
Thursday Off the Shelf Grp  
Tuesday Night Workshop  
Viroqua Big Book Grp  
Watertown One Day at a Time Grp  
Watertown Sunday Night 6:30pm Grp  
Waupun HOW Grp  
What's Good About Today Grp  
Wisconsin Dells Happy Hour Grp  
Woman's Grp  
Working Step Grp

# DONATIONS

Continued from pg. 9

## GROUP & INDIVIDUALS

Traditions Grp

Tuesday Morning Closed AA

Tuesday Night Workshop

What's Good about Today

White River Study Grp

Windsor Grp

Woman's Grp

## MAICO CORRECTIONS/ TREATMENT FUND

Early Risers Grp

Living Sober Grp

## INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Anonymous AA members

Amelia L.

Ben B.

Chris M.

Chris W.

Dennis G.

Georgia G memorial Red C.

Laurie M.

Lucas B.

Mary C.

Mary S.

Megan W.

Michael Z.

Patrick M.

Phinn M.

Richard P.

Sally J.

Sue M.

Tom S.



# INCOME STATEMENT

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Jan-Aug 2022</b>	<b>Jan-Aug 2021</b>
Donations – Groups	28,922.24	24,801.68
Donations – Events	757.50	100.00
Donations - Individual	10,259.25	8,245.07
Donations – Answering Service	125.00	125.00
Donations - Gratitude Month	282.25	78.83
Conference Literature	17,671.60	12,571.39
Non-Conference Literature	5,224.34	4,372.07
Non-Conference Merchandise	6,779.41	8,805.31
Grapevine Literature	1,594.46	737.35
Faithful Fivers	75.00	220.00
Directories	-27.45	0.00
Savings Account Income	1.61	2.44
Other Income	121.86	477.95
Sales Tax Discount	80.00	60.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>71,867.07</b>	<b>60,597.09</b>
<b>COST OF GOODS SOLD</b>		
Inventory Expense Conference Literature	9,893.50	8,150.61
Inventory Expense Non-Conference Literature	3,046.31	2,547.96
Inventory Expense Non-Conference Merchandise	4,752.21	5,483.02
Inventory Expense Grapevine Literature	1,544.50	538.45
Physical Inventory Adjustments	1,861.54	0.00
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>21,098.06</b>	<b>16,720.04</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>50,769.01</b>	<b>43,877.05</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Wages Expense	29,701.56	28,705.10
Employee Medical Reimbursement	1,280.00	1,280.00
Payroll Tax Expense	2,272.17	2,195.94
Credit Card Processing Costs	779.69	559.71
License and Fees Expense	194.02	166.55
Office Supplies/Expense	1,412.57	450.92
Computer Maintenance Expense	2,800.00	2,600.00
Computer-Software/Hardware	1,234.28	476.36
Telephone/Internet Expense	1,306.74	1,439.98
Answering Service Expense	3,994.11	3,948.87
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-0.28	-0.99
Postage and Shipping Expense	68.83	-2.24
Occupancy Expense	7,056.00	6,848.00
Insurance Expense	1,226.00	997.00
Printing Expense	0.00	531.00
Travel Expense	452.06	0.00
Conference Expense	383.36	169.00
MAICO Representatives Events Expense	175.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>54,336.11</b>	<b>50,365.20</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>-3,567.10</b>	<b>-6,488.15</b>