Take time to plant some sober seeds

A few years ago I joined the monthly beginners’ meeting chair rotation at our club. I found a whole new joy in A.A.

I look at it like gardening; I’m planting seeds.

Sometimes the ground is frozen, but sometimes I see that spark — that desire to stop drinking. Each time a sick, sad newcomer cracks a smile or asks a question, I see a flower bloom.

I remember what Dr. Bob said: “I spend a great deal of time passing on what I learned to others who want and need it badly. I do it for four reasons:

1. Sense of duty.
2. It is a pleasure.
3. Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who brought me up with God.
4. Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip.”

Chairing beginners’ meetings is an experience I recommend to everyone who needs some joy!

Thank God for A.A.

— Ann P.

The only requirement

When I got sober in 1998 I was desperate for a solution to my addiction to alcohol. My first sponsor asked, “Are you willing to go to any length to get sober?” I answered, “Yes,” and I meant it. Most of the things my sponsor and others suggested were not a problem. Some of the “God” things were very difficult or impossible for me based on my belief system, but I went through the motions because I was willing to do anything to overcome my alcoholism. I prayed, I turned things over to a God I didn’t believe in, I hit my knees in the morning, I did as I was told and acted “as if” because I was desperate.

I think that as a newcomer, I didn’t bristle at all the God-talk. My mother was a devout Catholic who gave her children no choice as to whether they would attend Catholic school, with church every weekday, as well as church every Sunday. Even as a child I questioned the teachings of that church, and questioned the existence of God, but I did so quietly; I went along. Not going along came at a price with my strict mother.

Similarly, for the first 17 years of my sobriety, I went along with the God parts of A.A. I never openly identified as an Agnostic or an Atheist; I recited the Christian prayer at the end of the meetings. It was evident from the start that not going along with a belief in a higher power, and in some cases a very specific version of a higher power, also had a price in A.A., especially (but not only) if you’re a newcomer.

For most of my sobriety, I just didn’t want to deal with the flack that comes from disagreeing with one of the core beliefs of most of the people in the program. But because I think differently, does that mean I don’t belong? Since coming out as a non-believer, I’ve experienced some very judgmental reactions. I’ve heard A.A.’s speak disparagingly of the

Continued on Page 2.

There are wolves in the A.A. flock

We know that there are only 12 Steps in A.A. We also know that sexual exploitation is nothing new in our fellowship. It’s often called the 13th Step.

The 13th stepper has more time in the Program and has learned how to take advantage of others’ vulnerabilities. The 13th stepper is usually male, but not always; is convinced that the next affair will fix everything; is emotionally unavailable and needy, and has a selective conscience.

The 13th stepper will ask such questions as:

A. “What is wrong with two consenting adults getting together and doing whatever they want?” and B. “Whose business is it?”

A. What’s wrong with it is this: People come to us at the low point of their lives. They are in dire need of help — the outstretched hand of A.A. The worst thing we can do is use them for our own gratification, with no thought for their welfare. We become wolves in the flock.

B. It is the business of the flock. A.A. must protect its members, especially the newest and most helpless, from anyone who would pervert our Fellowship. We have instruments: Sponsorship and the Group Conscience. But until we stop practicing the 13th step, and begin confronting those who do, we are going to have to acknowledge that our hands — and our consciences — are not perfectly clean.

— from the Santa Barbara, Calif., Messenger
Seeking 12th Steppers

Central Office maintains a list of volunteers willing and able to perform 12th Step work. It is recommended that volunteers have at least one year of continuous sobriety and be accessible by phone. Some examples of the work performed include:
1. Talking over the phone to a person in need.
2. Visiting a detox patient who is in a hospital or nursing home.
3. Meeting with someone in person. (Always take someone with you.)

Central Office staff contacts you when there is a request for help. If you are available, you are provided with the details you need to make the call or visit.

To sign-up contact Central Office at 222-2211, or email at centraloffice@aadaytononline.org.

The only requirement

Continued from Page 1.

two We Agnostics meetings we now have in the area, even going so far as to imply that an Agnostic or an Atheist may not actually be a real alcoholic because they did not have to rely on a specific interpretation of a higher power to get sober.

The A.A. literature is very careful to be non-specific as to the concept of a “higher power.” This shows much foresight by the founders being that they were primarily Christian, as was, and is the country A.A. was founded in, and as was the preceding organization to A.A., the Oxford Group. There are many references about the “Power greater than yourself” being open to the interpretation of the individual, yet there are still those who insist on a somewhat specific view of this very important part of the program and steps.

I worry about how judgment, fundamentalism, and self-proclaimed A.A. experts can cause true harm to both the fellowship and to newcomers. I’ve seen it happen! In 2001 my youngest brother was trying to get sober in Charleston, SC. As an atheist, he struggled with the religious tone of the program. When told that he should just get on his knees and “act as if,” that “God would do for him what he couldn’t do for himself,” he gave up on A.A. He left, feeling like a hopeless outsider. My brother took his life after giving up on A.A. I never want another newcomer to think that they have to embrace anyone else’s belief system to get and stay sober.

We now have two Agnostic meetings in the Dayton area. The We Agnostics Group (closed meeting) is celebrating its third year in March and meets at the Southside Club on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. The We Agnostics Too Group (open meeting) will celebrate its first year in March, and meets at The Center for Spiritual Living at 4100 Benfield Drive in Kettering, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

No one is prohibited from discussing anything spiritual at these meetings. All beliefs are freely discussed. The only thing that is prohibited is promoting your beliefs as being superior to someone else’s. The primary difference between the Agnostic meetings and the regular A.A. meetings is that we don’t pray. We do, however, read the “We are Responsible” statement, which reminds us that “When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there, and for that: I am responsible.” Nowhere in that statement or the 3rd tradition (which lists the requirement for A.A. membership) does it require a belief in anything. As a reminder, the 3rd Tradition is: “The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.”

— Patty B.
### Step 3

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

Now that we have a “power greater than ourselves” what are we to do with it? Realizing that there is a power greater than ourselves is the essence of God consciousness. As we become aware of the realm of the spirit our lives change.

The first two steps didn’t require action; they required only acceptance. (12&12, pg. 34)

Step Three calls for affirmative action. Making the decision is not enough. You can make a decision to go to an A.A. meeting but until you leave the house, put the keys in the car, and drive there, all you have done is made a decision.

Don’t ask God to guide your steps if you’re not willing to move your feet.

So what is God’s will? How do we know it’s God’s will and not our own? The first requirement is that we be convinced that any life run on self-will can hardly be a success. (Big Book, pg.60)

We all have self-will, however, it’s when it runs riot that we find ourselves in trouble. Living in your head not only creates havoc for you, but also those around you. It’s time to “Let Go & Let God.” When doing the next right thing, living by the Golden Rule, and telling yourself “Thy will, not mine, be done,” you will most likely be doing God’s will. Ask yourself whether you would rather be right or be happy.

Willingness is not just the key, but the hinges on which the door of sobriety opens. It is the keystone of the new and triumphant arch through which we passed to freedom. (B.B., pg.62) Willingness is easy when things are going well. When times are tough you must have faith. Faith is the absence of fear. Worry stops where faith begins but remember, “Faith without works is dead.” (B.B., pg.76)

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### Tradition 3

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

If you were or are anything like I was when I got here the only thing you had left was a heart that beat on its own and a desire to stop drinking.

I had drunk away marriages, family, friends, jobs, homes, and memberships in numerous clubs and organizations.

I had been told “Hope is found here,” many time as a result of countless twelfth-step calls before I got here.

One of my earliest feelings of that type of hope came when I heard those words: The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Having been around here a little while I could attempt to describe why I got that feeling. However I cannot think of a better way to describe than this excerpt from a 1948 Grapevine article by Bill W.

Even in self-protection, we do not wish to erect the slightest barrier between ourselves and the fellow alcoholic who still suffers. We know that society has been demanding that he conform to its laws and conventions. But the essence of his alcoholic malady is the fact that he has been unable or unwilling to conform to either the laws of man or God. If he is anything, the sick alcoholic is a rebellious nonconformist. How well we understand that; every member of Alcoholics Anonymous was once a rebel himself. Hence we cannot offer to meet him at any halfway mark.

We must enter the dark cave where he is and show him that we understand. We realize that he is altogether too weak and confused to jump hurdles. If we raise obstacles, he might stay away and perish. He might be denied this priceless opportunity.

So when he asks, "Are there any conditions?" We joyfully reply, "No, not a one." When skeptically he comes back saying, "But certainly there must be things that I have to do and believe," we quickly answer, "In Alcoholics Anonymous there are no musts.”

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### Concept 3

To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. — the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives — with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

Here is a concept that has upset many members of our fellowship. Delegates spend a large amount of time discussing the various items on the agenda of the General Service Conference and listening to the recommendations and suggestions of the Fellowship on those items.

For me, I had copious notes on the opinions of not only Area 56, but also those I had gathered during my attendance at the three other Ohio Area Mini Conferences. Now, I thought I had a very good sense of the thoughts of members of Area 56, and I was ready to vote in accordance with those thoughts.

The problems I experienced were in a few areas. First, our Area opinion was not always unified on some issues. In one case, that of giving permission to our General Service Board to develop a plan to possibly reorganize the corporate structure of the Grapevine, I was sent with no clear direction as to how our area felt on the issue.

Here, I had to then listen to the discussion at the Conference and decide, based on what I heard and understood to be the best choice for the fellowship.

The other big challenge for me was when I heard ideas at the Conference, which reversed the opinions voiced by our Area. I had to change my vote based on what we lovingly call an informed group conscience.

The Delegate’s job is to listen to all sides, gather as much information as possible and then make the best decision based on all of the information available.

I am fond of saying that I’m an alcoholic and more is better and this even applies to information and thoughts from others.

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— Troy A., Liberty Twp.
(Reprinted from March 2013 Unity)

— Garwood F., Piqua
(Reprinted from March 2013 Unity)

— Mark E., Lebanon, OH
(Reprinted from March 2013 Unity)
BIG BOOK QUIZ
By Twila W.
1. We looked askance at many individuals who claimed to be ___(p.46)
2. When we retire at night, we ___(p.86) review our day.
3. In the midst of such____(p.106) they may have rushed out threatening to live with the other woman forever.
4. To conclude that others were ___(p.66) was as far as most of us ever got.
5. He does not need a bodyguard nor is he ___(p.26).
6. Then, like a ___(p.56), a great thought came.
7. You are sure to find someone ___(p.96) enough to accept with eagerness what you offer.
8. But it was a silly idea that we were too good to need ___(p.116).
9. We have emphasized ___(p.76) as being indispensable.
10. Here was the threat of commitment, the loss of family and ___(36), to say nothing of that intense mental and physical suffering which drinking always caused him.

Happy birthday to YOU!
Most of us enjoy celebrating our sober birthday by receiving a token on our anniversary. Another tradition is to donate money to mark the date and show gratitude to the fellowship.
With gratitude in mind, Central Office had established the Birthday Club. A donation on your anniversary is a simple way of giving back to the program that has given so much to you.
Members will be invited to share in a cake served once each quarter at Central Office and will receive a free bronze anniversary token if they bring their contribution to the office in person.
For more information or to have an enrollment brochure mailed to you, contact Central Office at (937) 222-2211.
—Kim G.

Birthday Club members for February
Ann P. 2-1-88 Lee G. 3-25-88

“A.A. — A Solution for All Generations”
Mini-Conference 2018 Southwest Ohio Area 56 March 16-18
Dayton Marriott, 1414 Patterson Blvd. Dayton OH 45409
Telephone: (937) 223-1000 www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dayoh-dayton-marriott/
Hotel registration not required to attend or participate. Hotel cost is $115.00/night plus tax.
To make hotel reservations, call (800) MARRIOTT; mention the Area 56 Mini-Conference.
Cut-off date for hotel reservation: Feb. 16.
MINI-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS FREE
On-site registration begins at 3 p.m. Friday
Pre-registration helps us plan – Please clip and mail

Name ______________________ Phone________________ Email ______________________
Address ______________________ City________________ State, Zip ____________
Name on Badge __________________________ Home Group ______________________

Do you have an Accessibility/Special Need? Please Describe: ______________________

Do you want an Electronic Copy of the Follow-up Report on the Mini Conference? _________

We will have a Mid-Western Style Dinner Banquet Saturday Evening.
Buffet includes: Grilled bratwurst, pulled pork, fried chicken, salads, side dishes and dessert.
___ Banquet tickets x $35 per ticket = ______ Hospitality donation = ______ Total = ______

Make Checks for banquet payable to: Southwest Ohio General Service Area 56 Mail Registration and checks: Area 56 Mini-Conference, P.O. Box 684 Dayton, OH 45401 — You do not have to purchase meal to participate in conference. —
For more information, call Jenny C. (513) 289-7657, Dave L. (937) 572-9139, Laura G. (937) 405-5241 or email miniconference@aaarea56.org www.aaarea56.org

Program Highlights
Hot topics to be discussed at the upcoming General Service Conference
Small group discussions • Friday and Saturday night leads
GSO Staff Member & East Central Regional Trustee
Fabulous hospitality room and Saturday night ice cream social
3 p.m. Friday — On-site registration opens
7 p.m. Friday - Mini-Conference opens
9 a.m. Saturday - Conference Assembly opens

Doc John’s 37th Annual Memorial Day Picnic
Family-Friendly Event. Bring a covered dish & something to cook on the grill.
Indian Riffle Park is off Stroop Road, Kettering, OH.
Come to the shelter closest to the road. Rain or shine.
Cooking begins at noon, May 28
Questions: daleeaman@yahoo.com
Al-Anon & A.A. Lead Meeting
begins at 3 p.m.
Sobriety Countdown

Our 21st Celebration of Recovery
2018 Miami Valley Winter Conference
Saturday, March 3
The Irish Club, 6555 Dog Leg Road, Dayton 45414
Joint AA/Al-Anon Conference
Still only $30
Doors open at 8:30 a.m. for registration.
First speaker about 9:30 a.m.
Info: Robin S. (937) 609-0659 or Carl G. (937) 271-0152
Register with form below or online at www.winterconference.com
Register by mail by Feb. 23 and get lunch included.
Make checks payable to MVWC, mail to MVWC, P.O. Box 292434, Dayton, OH 45429

Name ____________________________________________ Meal choice (check one)
Address ____________________________________________ non-vegetarian
______________________________________________________ vegetarian
Phone ___________________ email _____________________

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Meetings seeking support

Have you started a new meeting? Does your meeting need support? Has your group changed location, time or format? Let Unity know!

Sunday, 7:30 p.m., Forest Park Group, O-L, Crossroads Club, 5235 Main St., Dayton. NEEDS SUPPORT

Monday through Friday, 6 a.m., Upon Awakening Group, O-D based on Daily Reflection reading Southside Club. 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Monday, 7 p.m., Monday Eve’s Group C-D (Women) Fairmont Presbyterian Church, 3705 Far Hills Ave, Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Monday, 7:30 p.m., How It Works Group (ticket meeting) Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1541 S. Smithville Rd., Dayton. NEEDS SUPPORT

Monday, 5 p.m., Hilltop Group, St. Mark's Lutheran Church 100 E. Main St., Fairborn. NEEDS SUPPORT

Monday, 8 p.m., Bellbrook O-D, Centerbrook Church 4030 W. Franklin St., (Ohio 725) Bellbrook. NEEDS SUPPORT

Tuesday, 4 p.m., O-BB Study at Southside Club. 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Tuesday 7 p.m., We Agnostics Too, O-D Meeting, Center for Spiritual Living, 4100 Benfield Dr., Kettering, OH NEW MEETING

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., O-D Meeting Springboro Franklin Club, 778 West Central, Springboro. NEEDS SUPPORT

Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Sober and Grateful Group O-D, One Elizabeth Place, Cincinnati and Albany Sts., Dayton, Room 135. NEEDS SUPPORT

Wednesday, 7 p.m., Dunks and Donuts O.D., 15 S. St. Clair St., Dayton, OH 45402 NEEDS SUPPORT

Wednesday 7:30 p.m., O-L Trinity Lakeside Group has NEEDS SUPPORT to the Westside Club, 3359 W. Second St., Dayton.

Wednesday, 8 p.m., Pass It On Group, O-CC First Presbyterian Church 1130 Highview, Fairborn. NEEDS SUPPORT

Thursday, 4 p.m., Drop the Rock (Women’s) book study, Southside Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Thursday, 5:30 p.m., O-D You Are Not Alone, at South Side Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Friday, 5:30 p.m., O-D Joe and Charlie, Southside Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Friday, 7 p.m., O-D Come As You Are, St. Paul United Methodist Church, 301 E. Main St., New Paris, OH 45347 NEW MEETING

Friday, 7 p.m., O-D Friday Night Sobriety, Southside Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEW NAME — NEEDS SUPPORT

Friday, 7:30 p.m., I Can Group at Miami Valley Hospital. NEEDS SUPPORT

Friday, 8 p.m., SOS Group Step meeting 12&1 Friday, Sponsorship last Friday, Traditions & Steps in between. Englewood United Methodist Church 107 N. Walnut St., Englewood. NEEDS SUPPORT

Saturday, Noon, Before Saturday Night Group at Crossroads Club, 5235 N. Main St., Dayton. NEEDS SUPPORT

Saturday, 12:30 p.m., C-Step Study at South Side Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Saturday, 1 p.m., La Luz Group at 427 Steele Ave., Dayton. St. Mary’s Center behind the church. It’s open to all and is a Big Book CD study in Spanish. NEEDS SUPPORT

Saturday, 4 p.m., O-D Self Worth Group, Southside Club, 3040 Valleywood Dr., Kettering. NEEDS SUPPORT

Saturday, 7 p.m., Saturday Night’s Special Group Epiphany Lutheran Church, 6430 Far Hills Ave., Centerville.

Saturday, 7 p.m., Drop the Rock, C-D, NEW MEETING, Crossroads Club, 5235 N. Main St., Dayton.

Saturday, 7 p.m., Page Manor Group Joe and Charlie, Northside Fellowship Club. 7079 E. Taylorsville Rd., Huber Heights, NEW TIME

Service meetings

If your group doesn’t have an Intergroup Representative and a General Service Representative VOLUNTEER! Service keeps us sober!

March 8 — Dayton Area Intergroup Meeting, NEW TIME: 7 p.m. NEW LOCATION: St. John Lutheran Church, 141 S. Ludlow St., at the corner of Fifth and Ludlow Sts. Parking behind the church.

Area 56 meetings — Important dates for 2018:
March 16, 17, & 18 — Area 56 Mini-Conference See Page 4 for more information.
April 22 - 28 — General Service Conference, New York
May 19 — Area Assembly (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Unity Day)
Sept. 15 — Area Assembly (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inventory)

Alco-Aides Club 2206 E. Third St., Dayton, OH

- Breakfast on Sundays, 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., before the 10 a.m. lead meeting. $5 buys eggs, home fries, bacon or sausage, toast or biscuits, juice and small coffee.
- Artists wanted to display artwork in our card room. Call Terry at 254-0067.
- Volunteers needed to work at our food counter. Must be at least 30 days sober. Earn cash by the tips that you make. Call Terry or Miranda at 254-0067 or stop in and apply.
- Alco-Aides houses the Dayton Area Intergroup Archives.
- Monday Breakfast Club 8 a.m. until noon. All-you-can-eat-pancakes $2.50+ tax.
- You can rent the card room for as little a $10 for your event.
- Saturday, March 3, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Traditions Chili Cook-off. Judging starts at 6 p.m., lead at 7 p.m., dance after lead. $5 per person, $9 per couple.
- Saturday, March 10, 8 p.m. KARAOKE with DJ Gonzo Dave. Free event. Family friendly.
- Saturday, March 17, 8 p.m. St. Patrick’s Day Dance. DJ is Gonzo Dave. Admission is $5 for non-members, $3 for members, $1 for children. Door prize and 50/50 raffle.
- Saturday, March 31, 1 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children 0-12. Bring your own basket. Easter bunny will make a visit. Stuffed animal give-away.

The Four Absolutes: A Spiritual Retreat for A.A. Women at Maria Stein April 20-22

Please do not arrive before 5 p.m.

Check-in opens at 6 p.m. Friday. Retreat ends Sunday at noon.

Location: Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, 2365 St. John’s Road, Maria, Stein, OH Cost: $135.00, paid in full (no refunds)

Deadline for reservations by check Friday, April 6. Cash only after that date. Make checks payable to: WOMEN’S RECOVERY RETREATS

Send name, phone and email to: Judy Burton, 912 Kent Ln., Troy, OH 45373

For more information, call: Judy Burton (937) 339-1966 jleeburton@woh.rr.com

Bring personal items, alarm clock, notebook and your favorite snack to share for Friday night fellowship.

MW2 A.A. Men’s Workshop at Butler Springs March 16-18

Registration limited to 165. Bring bedding, towels, pillows and toiletries. Cost for the weekend, which includes meals, lodging and refreshments, is $90. There are 4 hookups at the same cost of $90. Tent Campers or RV Campers welcomed at same cost of $90. Non-Smoking. Registration $30 non-refundable with the remaining $60 due on arrival.

Info: (937) 866-3245 www.MW2workshop.com

Make checks payable to: MW2 Workshop

Mail to: 1104 Sherwood Forest Drive West Carrollton, OH 45449

Name ____________________________ Phone ____________________________

Address __________________________________________________

City __________________ State ______ ZIP _________

$30.00 (registration) enclosed

_ $90.00 (total) enclosed

_ Check here if tent camping or RV camping

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Feb. 8 Dayton Intergroup minutes

CHAIR: Kathy H. khassig@gmail.com
SECRETARY: Ann P. gr8asm0@gmail.com
VICE CHAIR: Tony H. ahuguel@gmail.com
TREASURER: Jim T. intobett@gmail.com

Welcome: Kathy H. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer and read the Preamble and Howie H. read the Twelve Traditions.

Announcements: • Glenn S. apologized for not being able to find the coffee for the meeting until too late.
• Carl G. brought flyers for the Miami Valley Winter Conference. Deadline to register with lunch is Feb 23.
• Chuck R. brought flyers for the MW2 men’s workshop at Butler Springs March 16-18.
• Kim G. announced the Northside Fellowship Club Spaghetti Dinner April 7.
• Michael brought flyers for the OYPAA State Conference Sept. 14 - 16 at Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, OH.

January Birthdays: Ann P. 30 years, Angie J. 17 years, Dan 12 years.


Secretary’s Report: Minutes were to have been emailed to all reps but were not received so Kim printed copies for those at the meeting. Andri was not present.

Treasurer’s Report:
Opening balance.......................... $23,622.49
Deposits..................................... $567.23
Total Checks (Service Charge) .......... $4.00
Closing balance.......................... $24,185.72
Big Change from Small Balance Balance.... $3,385.02
CD Balance................................ $5,450.64

Big Change from Small Change Contributions
NOTE: Anyone taking meetings into correctional facilities may contact Central Office or the corrections chair for information on how to access this fund for literature.

Group Name January YTD
Darin’s Can................................ $172.00 .......................... $172.00
No Name Grp- Yellow Springs .... $67.63 .......................... $67.63
Ontario Group............................... $81.00 .......................... $81.00
Sisters in Sobriety – NWC. .......... $3.50 .......................... $3.50
S.M.A.R.T. Group – CRC. .............. $43.00 .......................... $43.00
Spiritual Maintenance – CRC. ...... $63.75 .......................... $63.75
Trinity East ................................ $61.00 .......................... $61.00
Trowood .................................... $28.25 .......................... $28.25
Vandalia Thurs. AM ..................... $21.10 .......................... $21.10
Zippo ......................................... $20.00 .......................... $20.00
Checks written ................................ $0.00
Monthly Balance........................... $541.23
Ending Balance............................ $3,385.02

Central Office Report: Kim G.
Full report on Page 7.

Archives: Tom M.
• Archives is looking for anything useful which would like to add to archives located at Alco-Aides Club.

Unity: Ann P. daytonunity@gmail.com
• Please send all contributions by the 15th of the month through the link at aadaytonline.org or directly to daytonunity@gmail.com.

Public Information & Cooperation with Professional Community: Warren G. warren1aa@gmail.com
• Need help to distribute literature to area library branches.
• Volunteers of America Resource Fair Monday, Feb 26, 1 to 4 p.m. Need volunteers for this residental Re-entry program.

Access Hospital Dayton, needs responsible A.A.s to meet for a request for a weekly meeting on Sundays at 7 p.m. Must be able to go through a background check. Located at 2611 Wayne Ave. across from Belmont High School.

Need additional responsible A.A.s to be part of our 5-week rotation team at Morningstar in-patient treatment center, 136 Held Ave. Meeting every Friday at 1 p.m.
• St. Vincent de Paul Homeless Shelters seeking help to establish a weekly A.A. meetings at the men’s and women’s shelters on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.
• KBMC Kettering Behavior Medical Center, 5350 Lamme Rd. Moraine, OH 45439, seeking help to establish a weekly A.A. meeting on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Orientation required by hospital staff.
• Genesis New Lebanon Center seeking help to establish a monthly A.A. meeting at this secure Mental Health & Recovery Unit, 101 Mills Place, New Lebanon, OH 45435
• Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services, Child Support at the Job Center — Contact information to reach caseworkers about their initiative to assist parents in active recovery to reduce the difficulties of meeting the responsibilities associated with providing child support. DeAnna Daniel (937) 234-6666 and Jessica Valentine (937) 496-7256 E-mail: CSEA-treatment-programs@fs.ohio.gov

• A.A.s interested in any of these opportunities should contact Warren G. at warren1aa@gmail.com or call (937) 409-7500.

Corrections: Brian H. bdh495253@gmail.com
Leads are needed for Mondays night Dayton VOA meeting and at the Lebanon Correctional Institution.
• Also A.A. members are always needed to take meetings into the Greene and Montgomery County Jails, the Women’s correctional facility and VOA.
• A.A. members are needed to work with inmates by mail. Contact Brian for more information.

Outreach: No report

Special Events: Phil B. pbayley@wohh rr.com
Mary Anne from Cincinnati will be our speaker at the May 5th Intergroup Banquet. Tickets and flyers will be out soon. Price is still $25.

Web: No report.

Membership: Angie J. thanked Ann P. and Tony H. for cookies and welcomed new intergroup rep, Pat.

GSR: Open position. Interested persons should contact Central Office.
• Registrations for the Mini-Conference March 16-18 are available at Central Office.

Grapevine: Robin S. will have a table at the MWVC.
• Go to http://www.aagrapevine.org to explore what online Grapevine offers.

Young People: Liaison for OYPAA, Michael, says the state conference Sept. 14-16 will need lots of volunteers.

Old Business: None.

New Business: $25/month rent approved for use of the conference March 16-18 will need lots of volunteers.

Next Intergroup meeting: March 8 at 7 p.m.
• St. John Lutheran Church, Fifth and Ludlow Streets, downtown. Free parking behind church.

New Meeting Schedules are in at Central Office! Still only 35 cents!

Area 56 news

As your Area 56 delegate to the General Service Conference in New York in April, the preparations are underway! Upon returning from the East Central Regional Conference of Delegates Past and Present consisting of the five adjoining states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, we gathered to prepare in several ways. On the first evening of the conference, newly elected delegates gave a two-minute presentation to introduce themselves and describe area highlights. Another important method of preparation involves a Mock Conference Committee Meeting where we were given a topic and background material to read and discuss followed by a committee vote on the results of the topic to be presented at the Mock Conference Session.

Each person brings their own perspective and experience to the table which creates a unique and rich discussion. Our East Central Regional Trustee Chairperson was Mark E., former past delegate of Area 56. This is also a time for regional delegates to gather, talk and exchange information to prepare for the trip to New York.

The Ohio delegates and their alternates also had the opportunity to meet and discuss the Ohio State Convention which is scheduled to be held in Area 55, in Toledo this year.

The General Service Conference Theme is “A.A. – A Solution for all Generations.” The Area 56 Mini-Conference is scheduled for the weekend of March 16 – 18 at the Dayton Marriot on Patterson Boulevard in Dayton, Ohio. Your thoughts, your voice, your vote count! There will be a hospitality room with coffee, food, and an Ice Cream Social on Saturday night. Registration begins at 3 p.m. on Friday, and the Mini-Conference opens at 7 p.m. Friday evening. The Conference Assembly opens at 9 a.m. Saturday morning. Each attendee becomes a delegate for the day as they receive a folder with their committee selection and a set of background materials for their committee topics. Information on discussion and voting is important to this delegate in order to be able to best represent Southwest Ohio at the Conference in New York, which consists of 93 delegates from the United States and Canada.

This delegate will be serving on the Agenda Committee as my assignment for this two-year rotation. It will be important for me to read the background material and be familiar with all the topics in other committees, and this is where I rely on the voices and vote of our area. I will also be attending the other mini-conferences in Ohio, Area 53 in Columbus, Area 54 in Cleveland and Area 55 in Toledo all during the month of March.

Area 56 continues to remain actively involved throughout the area, as well as the state and region. Please feel free to reach out to the Area 56 Panel at www.aaaarea56.org for any assistance and support with events and activities in your city or town.

— Jenny C.
Central Office January Report

TELEPHONE ACTIVITY
A.A. Related Calls ........................................... 356
Twelve Step Calls ........................................... 9
Al-Anon & Narcotics Anonymous .................... 5
Nite Owl ..................................................... 35
Emails ....................................................... 15
Miscellaneous ............................................ 0
Total Calls ................................................ 414

FINANCIAL SUMMARY
BEGINNING BALANCE .................................. $1,149.43
INCOME
Group Contributions (includes Birthday Club) .... $5,037.05
Literature Sales ............................................ $4,990.62
Tax Refund ................................................... $335.71
* Total monthly income ................................ $10,363.38
TOTAL ......................................................... $10,363.38

EXPENSES
Rent and Utilities .......................................... $385.00
Phone, listing, Internet- includes Night Owl ...... $207.80
Parking ...................................................... $135.00
Wages ....................................................... $2,358.17
Printing Expense .......................................... $- 
Office Supplies and Expenses ......................... $287.98
Literature Purchases ...................................... $3,192.99
Postage-Freight ........................................... $112.99
Accounting Service & Legal Fees ..................... $137.50
Taxes-WH-State-Local-Sales Tax-BWC ............... $1,647.67
Merchant Services Expense ............................ $62.85
Adjustment to balance ................................... $-
* Total monthly expenses ............................... $8,527.95
MONTH END BALANCE ................................. $1,835.43

* NOTE: January income did cover January expenses. If your group does not support Central Office, Area 56 and GSO, ask why!

Dayton Area Central Office
120 W. 2nd St., Liberty Tower, Suite 211
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 222-2211
http://aadaytononline.org
centraloffice@aadaytononline.org

Credit cards are accepted!
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to Noon
Books, CDs, tokens, jewelry, book covers

Help wanted to start meetings
St. Vincent de Paul is seeking A.A. members to start meetings at the Men’s Shelter at 1921 S. Gettysburg Ave. Dayton, OH 45417, and the Gateway Women’s Shelter at 120 W. Apple St., Dayton, OH 45402. These meetings are tentatively scheduled for Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Contact Warren G. (937) 409-7560 or warreng1aa@gmail.com for information.

Kettering Behavioral Medical Center (KBMC) at 5350 Lamme Lane, Moraine, OH 45439 on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Contact Doug M. (937) 534-4648. Orientation will be given.

January 2018 Central Office Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SALES</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTIONS</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
<th>COMBINED</th>
<th>%CHANGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$4,990.62</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
<td>$5,037.05</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>$10,027.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$5,531.13</td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,859.13</td>
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<td>$10,390.26</td>
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Central Office started the year strong in contributions with a 3.5% change from 2017. However, sales were down by almost 11% giving us an overall month with a negative change of 3.6% for our combined score.

We are still seeking people to serve on the 12-Step list to make calls or visit with people in need of a start to recovery. Please talk with one of the Central Office staff if you are willing to be on the 12-Step list. We would also appreciate it if you could take this information back to your groups. We are seeking people from all over the Area 56 region. Anyone who is interested can call (937) 222-2211.

The new directories were delivered Feb. 15. The old directories have been purchased so there aren’t any free leftovers this year. The new directories have a light blue cover, and as usual, a colored insert. This did not affect the price. We will be selling them for 35 cents each again this year.

Please continue to support YOUR Central Office by continuing to purchase your literature with us and by making contributions. We appreciate your support.

– Kim Galloway – Manager, Central Office

Good buys

Central Office of Dayton, Inc. has various types of literature and recovery related items for sale. Whether it’s reading material, meeting guides, tokens, or gifts, your Central Office has a great selection of items for sale. Stop by soon and shop local!

➢ A.A. Conference approved literature
➢ A variety of recovery related literature
➢ Lead CDs and Joe & Charlie CD sets
➢ Recovery related gift items that include key tags, bracelets, token holders and lapel pins, tokens both fancy and plain.

41st Dayton Area Intergroup Banquet
Saturday, May 5

Fellowship: 6 p.m. • Buffet: 7 p.m.
Lead: 8 p.m. • Speaker: Mary Anne L., Cincinnati
Where: Ponitz Center, Building 12, at 4th and Perry Streets downtown
Parking: Free in Ponitz Center’s underground garage
Tickets: from Central Office, 120 W. 2nd St., Liberty Tower, Suite 211, Dayton, OH 45402 • (937) 222-2211 • $25 each, or $200 for a table for 8
All ticket sales will be handled through Central Office.
Tickets reserved in advance must be paid for or returned by Tuesday, April 24. Remaining tickets will be sold first-come, first-served at Central Office.
Final day of ticket sales is Tuesday, May 1.
January Contributions
NOTE: Groups that did not contribute in the past 12 months will not be listed until they contribute.

CLUB GROUPS........................................... YTD
ALCO AIDES
Saturday “Early Bird”.......................... $ -
SUNDAY MORNING
Big Book Study Group (Sunday)............. $60.00 ...... $60.00
Forest Park............................................. $90.00 ...... $90.00
It’s In The Book...................................... -
Keep It Simple....................................... -
S.M.A.R.T.............................................. -
Sat. Before Sat. Night............................. -
Spiritual Maintenance........................... $73.07 ...... $73.07
This Is Your Meeting YPAA-DAY.............. -
Thurs. Serenity....................................... -
Time for Joy......................................... -
We Care Group...................................... -
Wed. Night Men..................................... -
Woman To Woman Saturday................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
NORTHSIDE FELLOWSHIP
A Message Of Recovery........................... -
Beginner Meeting................................... -
Bill W. Big Book Disc............................ -
Celebrating Sobriety............................. -
Daily Reprieve Group............................ -
Deeper Reed........................................ -
Discovery Group................................... -
Monday AM......................................... -
New Beginning..................................... -
Page Manor.......................................... -
Sisters In Sobriety............................... -
Steps Tuesday...................................... -
Take The Steps-Elevator’s Broke............... -
SOUTHSIDE
3 M Men’s Discussion......................... $120.00 ...... $120.00
541 Group........................................... $58.00 ...... $58.00
A Way Of Life....................................... -
Beyond Group Wed AM.......................... -
Bigger Than Life Group.......................... -
Bring It ‘Yn Brown Bag........................... -
Chairman’s Choice Thurs........................ -
Gaay Group......................................... -
Happy Hour........................................ -
Joe & Charlie....................................... -
Leating Go.......................................... -
Over The Hump Step............................. -
One Day At A Time............................... -
Self worth Group................................. -
Serenity Sunday Morning...................... -
Newcomers Group................................... -
Sharing Her’s........................................ -
Sister’s Step Study.................................. -
Wednesday Noon Step........................... -
Women’s Sober Connection.................... -
SPRINGBORO/FRANKLIN
Living in the Solution......................... $66.07 ...... $66.07
Mid-Day Sobriety Groups..................... -
WESTSIDE CLUB
A Way Of Life.......................... $45.61 ...... $45.61
Big Book Disc Sunday......................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
Sunday Morning Delphos...................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
NON-CLUB GROUPS.......................... YTD
A Vision For You................................ $310.00 ...... $310.00
Acceptance In The Heights................... $- -
Aley-Beaver Acceptance Thurs.............. $199.24 ...... $199.24
Aloha at the Gate............................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
Back To The Basics............................... -
Beavercreek Wed Night....................... -
Bellbrook Monday Night...................... $15.00 ...... $15.00
Bill’s Bunch........................................ -
Brown Bag CEC................................... $40.00 ...... $40.00
CADD Group........................................ -
Cedarville Village Group...................... -
Coldwater Friday Night....................... -
Complete Abandon.............................. -
Downtowners Gay............................... -
Evering Of Hope.................................. -
Fairborn Flimsy Reed............................ -
Fairborn Group Tues............................. -
Fairborn Hilltop Group......................... $100.00 ...... $100.00
Fairborn Just Us Gals Getting Sober....... $166.50 ...... $166.50
Fairborn Working On It....................... $187.00 ...... $187.00
Fairborn St. Mark’s Tues....................... -
Friday Night Live............................... -
Germantown Group Friday.................... $240.00 ...... $240.00
God Help Us-New Carlisle..................... -
Greenville - Do Not Take So Ser............ -
Greenville - Brown Bag....................... -
Hart Street......................................... $220.20 ...... $220.20
Harvest Of Hope............................... -
Honey Creek NC................................. -
Hot Stove Group................................. -
How It Works...................................... -
Huber Serenity.................................... $62.42 ...... $62.42
Huber True Ambitions......................... $82.50 ...... $82.50
I Can Group........................................ $100.00 ...... $100.00
In the Heart of It All............................ -
Introduction To The Steps.................... -
Kettering Rebels................................. -
Lampighter Spiritual Group.................. $103.11 ...... $103.11
Language Of The Heart........................ -
Lebanon 12X12................................. -
Lebanon Wed. Disc............................. $100.00 ...... $100.00
Lincoln Park....................................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
Maple Grove Group............................. -
Medway Full Measure Group.................. -
Miamisburg Big Book Disc.................... -
Miamisburg Burg Group Sun................. $34.13 ...... $34.13
Miamisburg One Step Closer............... $164.00 ...... $164.00
Middletown Spiritual Maintenance......... -
Minister Down to Earth Group.............. -
Montezuma 12 & 12............................. -
Moon City Wapak............................... -
Needmore Sobriety............................. -
New Lebanon...................................... $120.00 ...... $120.00
Nutt Rd Fri.......................... $- -
Nutt Rd Thurs..................................... -
One Day At A Time ODAT-Kett............. $100.00 ...... $100.00
Ontario Group................................. $181.00 ...... $181.00
PAL Group......................................... -
Pass It On - Fairborn......................... $76.00 ...... $76.00
S Group............................................. -
Saturday A.M. VA Meeting................... -
Saturday’s Special.............................. $125.00 ...... $125.00
Shared Beginnings Oakland............... -
Sidney Noon...................................... -
Sobriety For Lunch Bunch.................. $82.00 ...... $82.00
SOS Group.......................... $186.00 ...... $186.00
St. Francis.......................... $90.00 ...... $90.00
St. Marks Group............................... -
Step Heads........................................ -
Study The Solution............................. -
Sunday Big Book............................... -
Thanks For Being There..................... -
This Chip of a Book............................ -
Tipp City Group................................. -
Trinity East.......................... $42.00 ...... $42.00
Trinity Lakeside............................... -
Trotwood Group............................... -
Troy Green and Growing..................... -
Troy Spiritually Group....................... $90.00 ...... $90.00
Troy Trinity Sunday......................... -
Troy- Saturday Morning Men’s............ -
Troy- Wed. 12 & 12 Group................. -
Troy-The Best Is Yet To Come............. -
Valley Group................................. -
VAMC Group VA Center....................... -
Vandalia Fri Night............................. $150.00 ...... $150.00
Vandalia Thurs AM......................... $230.00 ...... $230.00
Washington Church Road Group........... -
Wed Women Grp, Aldersgate.............. -
Welcome Back Step............................ $205.80 ...... $205.80
West Alex Tues. Noon....................... -
West Carrollton-Living Sober.............. -
West Carrollton Step Tues................... -
West Carrollton Thurs....................... -
West Milton Monday......................... -
Wilmington-Put It together/Keep it together -
Women’s Under Construction.............. $134.40 ...... $134.40
Xenia Early Risers Tue/Thur/Fri........... -
Xenia Grow Up............................... $153.00 ...... $153.00
Xenia Hope Spot............................... $60.00 ...... $60.00
Xenia Turn it over Big Book............... $84.00 ...... $84.00
Yellow Springs No Name..................... -
Yellow Springs Sunday....................... -
Zippo Group..................................... -
Anonymous Contribution................... $51.00 ...... $51.00
TOTAL................................ $5,037.05 ...... $5,037.05

Calling All Nite Owl Volunteers

Central Office has compiled an updated packet of useful information for the Nite Owl Volunteers. It includes a 2018 Directory of Meetings, an index to the Directory, updated club meeting schedules, and the latest phone numbers of helpful resources, such as rehabs and other 12-step programs.

Please contact Central Office at (937) 222-2211 to make arrangements to receive your new information packet.

Thank you for helping provide this vital service.

Northside Fellowship Club
Presents the
32nd Annual
Spaghetti Dinner
April 7, 2018
Sulphur Grove UMC
7505 Taylorsville Rd.
Dayton OH 45424
Fellowship 5 p.m.; Dinner 6 p.m.; Lead Speaker
Brenda A.
Pre-sale tickets end April 1 @ 7 p.m.
NFC Members $12 (limit 2); non-members $15
Doors Sales $17 FOR EVERYONE who pays on
April 7th.
RESERVE A TABLE FOR 8 FOR ONLY $110
Fantastic door prize!
50/50 RAFFLE & Gift Card/Gift basket RAFFLE
For tickets or to reserve a table call:
Bill M. (937) 689-8889 or Kim G. (937) 522-1882

~ 8 ~