

August

“Easy Does It”

• area54.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Unity LiveWire

710 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM Phone 440 246-1800
Lorain Inter-Group Central Office email address: lorainaa@live.com

2010

“First Things First”

• aa.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Step Eight: the Years That the Locust Hath Eaten

(AA Grapevine, August 2005, Vol. 621, No. 3)

Neither our literature nor the most enlightened of old-timers can fully explain or define the meaning of "forgiveness," the powerful concept at the heart of the Eighth Step. Like everything else in our spiritual program of Alcoholics Anonymous, forgiveness has entered my life through my heart and not through my mind. In my first year of sobriety, I listened with a kind of puzzled yearning at meetings where it was being discussed. To this day, I find Eighth Step meetings particularly poignant. The men and women in my regular Friday night Step meeting are so simple and direct when they speak of how they have hurt others and how, in almost all cases, relationships have healed. There's no room for posturing as we speak up about our recklessness, self-centeredness, dishonesty, lost or soured marriages and families, and violence of various kinds. More than a mere chronicle of bottles and blackouts, these stories of "twisted and tangled relations" with other people bring home the lonely tragedy of alcoholism and the miracle of our all sitting peaceably there on folding chairs with the Twelve Step shades on the wall above our heads. Sometimes as I sit listening to these tales told in the language of the heart, I remember a quotation from the Book of Joel: "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten." Individual pain and guilt has been alchemized into something very grand that makes us collectively well. As a group, we are at our most human in those Eighth Step evenings. And we seem to be held most closely by our Higher Power.

My own drinking days were all mixed in with my marriage to a man who, when I met him, was only recently married to another of his several wives. I was young, scared, and thirsty; I can see now that I never would have fallen for him if I hadn't been an alcoholic and if I hadn't liked the way he fixed my glass of scotch. The wife before me was a very nice person who worked in the same office as I did. As I got involved with her husband, I didn't stop to think about the pain I was causing her. I ducked into a doorway if I saw her coming down the hall. I had the worm of conscience, I'm sure of it, but I stilled it with another drink. After he and I had lived and drunk together for some years, he left me in turn for someone else. In a karmic way, I felt just how the wife before me had suffered because now I suffered the same myself. She wasn't alcoholic; in the years of my own marriage, she had absorbed the blow and moved on with her life. But for years and years after I was alone again, I got stuck in whiskey-soaked self-pity, tormented by an obsessive hatred of that man. This almost killed me; it made me hit my bottom, and I am eternally grateful to him for that.

I can see this story now, but for the first few years of my sobriety, I was in an awful fog. I got smart feet, though. I was going to meetings, getting active, sponsoring and being sponsored--doing the right things. I had been brought up in England in a rather ladylike way. Without the scotch inside me, at first I couldn't tell whether I was angry or not. I would study that yellow booklet called Living Sober, Which had many interesting pointers in it, including "shapes and colors" that anger might possibly come in: cynicism, rigidity, snobbishness, and sarcasm were on a list that helped me to see that rage didn't necessarily mean shouting obscenities or knocking people down. I realized that I was mad at my poor little mother and at my sister, as well. (Honestly, I can't quite remember what that was all about, and today I think that I am very lucky to have these ladies in my life.) I did a Forth and Fifth Step, and still I kept on getting upset. My skin was very thin, and I was tormented by the "bondage of self." I got mad at people in AA all the time. They rearranged "my" cookies; they would wound me to the quick by going off after the meeting arm-in-arm with some other friend. In the rooms, it seemed there was always someone glaring at me, or I would be glaring at them. (I'm happy to report that this is also not a problem today at all.) The idea that for us alcoholics there can be no such thing as a "justifiable resentment" is a concept that has come home to me as slowly and through as much painful experience as the concept of forgiveness, its twin. "Where other people are concerned, we have to drop the word 'blame' from our speech and thought;" it says in the "Twelve and Twelve." I was still at sea and ill at ease in my relations with other people when an old-timer, hearing me share, asked me whether I had got round to making my Eighth Step list.

Glad that there was an action that might relieve me of my discomfort, I dug out my index card of "cringes"--people whom, for a variety of reasons, I would feel embarrassed to see again. Then I transferred some of the still-smoldering resentments from my Fourth Step. After the time that I had taken that inventory, I had run into my ex-husband on the street after many years without a glimpse. Something told me to give him a hug, and m glad I did because he died not long after that. I put the name of the ex-wife on my list, also, but it took several years for me to become willing to make amends to her.

(Continued on next page....)

Friday Nite

Haven

7:00 PM

Haven Center
1536 E. 30th St.,
Lorain
5th Kim S.
12th Little Kelly R.
19th Dave L.
26th Dave R.

**Friday Night
Sobriety Group**

8:00 PM

First Merit Bank
106 Center St.,
Lagrange
6th Charlie Pitts
13th Johnny Cash
20th Walt P.
27th Jayson T.

**Midnight
Elyria Group**

12:00 AM

St. Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.
7th Dell M.
14th Don F.
21st Keith S.
28th Long John
(free dinner)

Monday Night

Lorain

7:30 PM

1741 N Ridge Rd.
Zion Lutheran
Church
5100 Ashland Ave.
2nd Sam
9th Bill G.
16th Doc
23rd MaryAnn S.
30th David

*Trust God.
Clean house.
Help others.*



**Amherst
Saturday
Group**

8:00 PM

Church of the
Nazarene
210 Cooper Foster
Park Rd.,
7th Rita S.
14th Karen L.
21st Frank C.
28th Gene B.

Phone Line Report:

Month of July 2010

12 Step Calls.....	4
Sponsorship.....	4
Al-A-Non.....	9
Meeting Info.....	108
General Info.....	58
Phone Service.....	89

Total:.....272..

Lorain Industrial Group
has moved to the Lorain
Senior Center, 3361
Garfield Blvd., Lorain on
Wednesdays at 8:00 PM.

*I Can't
God Can
Let Him*

G.S.R./D.C.M. Meeting: The Multi-District meeting is held at 11 AM on the 1st. Sunday of the month. This meeting is for the General Service Rep's. (G.S.R.) of each Group and the District Committee Member's (D.C.M.). If you want to learn more about service attend this meeting.

The Lorain Inter-Group Meeting is the 1st. Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. It is very Important that all the Secretaries of each Group attend this meeting. We urge your Attendance (Be Informed, Be Active)

Advisory Board Meeting: The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month, at the Inter-Group Office.

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle Winner: Dawn S., \$69.50 sold by Smiley Joe. Just another way that you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET . Be A Winner.

Thought for the month: It's not making a mistake that will kill me. It's defending it that does the damage.

Step 8: Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Promise 8: Self-seeking will slip away.

Tradition 8: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Concepts 8: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

Thought to Consider: At first, I thought the "God thing" was a crutch. Turns out to be stilts.

(continued from page 1)

We had gone on working in the same office without speaking to each other. I was walking down the hall one day, carrying my briefcase, which contained my Eighth Step list--by now a ruffled and creased piece of paper I had often unfolded to cross off names of people I had made amends to in various ways. I had been asked to lead a meeting on the topic later that day, and I wanted to take the list along. I noticed that the door of the woman's office was open. I stepped over the threshold as if pushed from behind by an invisible hand. I told her I was sorry for the pain I had caused her; she was gentle and more than generous with me. We talked at length about the man who had betrayed each of us--and whose life was not improved by the way I hated him and drank at him for years. I understood things about my life with him that I could only have understood from talking to her. I felt profound compassion for his demon-haunted life. I went off to lead my meeting and I spoke about that encounter. One of my women friends was sitting nearby; she was nearing the end of a pregnancy and her belly was enormous. Soon she and her AA husband would be blessed with the arrival of a baby boy. Sitting next to her was another friend--a man who had gotten very thin. I was shocked to see him, for I could see that he had started to die of AIDS; in a month or so, we would be taking meetings to his hospital bed. I felt privileged to be at the meeting, to be alive, to be a sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous. At the end, I held the hands of these two friends as the group stood saying the Serenity Prayer. In my bones, I felt the promise of the Steps: that it is the beginning of the end of isolation from our fellows and from God. As for that ex-wife, I am happy to count her among my friends today.

Elyria Sunday Night Group

St. Jude's

Breakfast in the Park

Join us at

High Meadows Park, Ford Road in
Elyria

(behind Elyria Wal-Mart near Midway
Mall)

Breakfast: 9:00 a.m.

Lead: 10:00 a.m.

Dates:

Aug. 15

Breakfast includes:

Scrambled eggs, Cheesy hash brown potatoes,
bacon, sausage, toast, juice, and coffee.

Breakfast Cost: \$3.00

Recovering Souls Family Picnic

Saturday, September 18, 2010

1-6 pm

St. Lads Picnic Grounds

4221 Clinton Ave, Lorain

Plenty of food, games and friends

Adults \$10

Ages 13-18: \$8

Ages 6-12: \$5

Ages 5 and under free

50/50, Quick 50's, Chinese Raffle

Proceeds benefit the Haven Center in Lorain

Please come out and support

• August Anniversary •

1st. Jesse T. 12 yrs.

10th. Jamie W 1 yr.

10th. Nikki T. 5 yrs.

14th. Jeff K. 1 yr.

14th. Rick M. 20 yrs.

18th. Lexie B. 5 yrs.

22nd. Rick W. 33 yrs.

23rd. David R. 4 yrs.

John L. 5yrs

Guy C. 3yrs.

A S A P = Always Say A Prayer

*To submit information for the news
letter please contact: Vicki T. 440
225-1314, Jim Parks 440 385-5687,
Bobbi Matear 440 537-4280, Opal A.
440 670-6619, Donna L. 440 574-3464,
Amy D. 440 714-7444, via: Call, email
or leave the information at the Inter-
Group Office before the 25th. of each
month.

Friends of Porky P. 6th Annual Pig Roast

August 14th

2pm-11pm

Scotts Lake Park

Route 58 between Russia Rd.
and Butternut Ridge Rd.

Tickets are \$10.00

for more Info Contact:

Inter-group Office

Advisory Board Member

InterGroup 440-246-1800

Troy Smith 440-365-9018

Come and have Some Fun!!!

Tickets Available NOW

Music, Food, Fun, Fellowship, Raffles

**Back by popular demand the Half
Measures!!**

**And more live music to be
announced.. ..**

Eat at 4 PM must have ticket

Pig cooked by Juan Ortiz

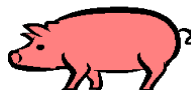
**Hot dogs for kids 12 and under at no
charge**

Pitch in and get active !!!

Group donations are appreciated

Volunteers are Welcome

No Coolers, please!



Survivors List:

*Groups in need of
Support to stay afloat . Please
Attend, Contribute,
Be Active, Help Chair,
Be a Secretary,
Be Responsible*

Tuesday Night Haven

7:00 p.m.

Haven Center

1536 E. 30th Street, Lorain

Friday Nite Haven

7:00 p.m.

Haven Center

1536 E. 30th St., Lorain

Sat. Young Person's Group

Sat. 2:00 PM

Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge
Rd.,

Sheffield Township

Midnight Elyria Group

12:00 AM

St. Mary's Church

4th & Middle Ave.

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT

THE GROUPS.

Come Celebrate With Us

*****52nd Anniversary*****

Birmingham Sunday Night

Twilight Group

Sunday, Sept. 19, 2010

Methodist Youth Center

South St., Birmingham

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Lead

Lead: Larry Nagy

Covered Dish Appreciated

Serenity isn't freedom from the storm; it is peace within the storm.

For information on Cocaine Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous or Al-Anon meetings, please contact the Intergroup office at 440-246-1800.

ATTENTION: Lorain County A.A. Community - help needed on various Committees! If interested, please contact one of the Advisory Board Members and VOLUNTEER!!!! Help Make A Difference!!

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire Committee

Vicki Tomlinson..... 440 225-1314
 *e mail vickitom@oh.rr.com
 Jim Parks.....440 385-5687
 *e mail jbparks2542@yahoo.com

Internet Committee (aaloraincounty.org)

Mike.....440 670-9910
 e mail webmaster@aaloraincounty.org

Cooperation with the Professionals Committee

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Correctional Committee

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Archives Committee

Linda S.440 240-1189

Young Peoples Committee

John Flores.....440 308-5421

Picnic Committee

Art C.....440 773-9474
 Sue Koons.....440 309-0491

Treatment Facilities Committee

Chairperson needed NEED VOLUNTEERS

Pig Roast Committee

Troy Smith.....440 365-9018

Memorial Day Breakfast Committee

Donna Lawson.....440 574-3464

Grapevine Committee

Linda S.440 240-1189
 Coretta Farley440 308-1714

District Committee

District 19A (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Avon, N. Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton DCM Ellen Winson.440 327-8812

District 19B (Lorain City Meetings and some in Vermilion) DCM. Yolanda A.440 541-1671

**District 20A (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle) DCM. Judy Sexton.440 322-2619
 Alt. DCM Patty McMullen.....440 365-3778**

District 20B (All Meetings at ARID Club) DCM. Debbie McConnell.....440 277-0162

**District 20C(LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm Tnsp., Amherst, Henrietta Tnsp., S. Amherst, Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Tnsp., Pittsfield Tnsp., BrightonTnsp., Wellington Meetings) DCM. Patti Rodgers440-284-6677
 Alt DCM Donna Lawson.....440 574-3464**

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the Month of June, 2010.

Expenses

1.Rent	\$650.00
2.Columbia Gas	\$112.56
3. All Service Telecommunications	\$157.07
4.Ohio Edison 710 Broadway	\$170.89
5. Time Warner	\$90.34
6. House Managers	\$1,576.25
7.Pay Cor Fees	\$64.29
8.Live Wire Printing	\$69.00
9. Berry Yellow Pages	\$20.05
10. Fitzgibbons Arnold & Company	\$1,050.00
Liability Insurance Directors & Officers	

\$3,960.45

Donations/Rents

By Week

1.....	\$1,039.82
2.....	\$1,422.23
3.....	\$303.27
4.....	\$462.63
5.....	\$229.00

\$3,456.95

Month of June 2010

Donations/Rents	\$3,456.95
Coca Cola Sales	\$0.00
Total Income	\$3,456.95
Expenses	\$3,960.45

Total Loss June, 2010 (\$503.50)

Rents: Month of June, 2010

1. Lorain County Consolidated Group
2. Mid Week Morning discussion
3. Never Too Young
4. Serenity Hall
5. Strength in Sobriety
6. Strength In Sobriety
7. Unity Hall Discussion

When making Donations to the Lorain Inter-Group, Area 54, Multi-District, or the General Service Office in New York. PLEASE put your Groups General Service number on the Donation. You can find your Groups General Service number in the meeting schedule or on the internet at aaloraincounty.org under A.A. Meetings. Please put your Area & District numbers on the donation, it also helps to identify your Group. If you don't have a General Service number under your Groups information in the meeting schedule you can contact your District Committee person listed in the LiveWire to help you get registered.

Donations

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Amherst Saturday Night | 16. LaGrange Monday Night |
| 2. Anonymus | 17. Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle |
| 3. Avon Lake Monday Discussion | 18. Memorial Day Breakfast |
| 4. Back To Basics Discussion | 19. Mid Week Morning discussion |
| 5. Carlisle Lunch Bunch Discussion | 20. Monday Night Lorain |
| 6. CBS Big Book Step Study | 21. Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| 7. Design For Living | 22. Oberlin Group |
| 8. Elyria Men's Stag | 23. Oberlin Women's Closed Group |
| 9. Elyria Monday Closed Discussion | 24. S.I.O.G.A. |
| 10. Elyria New Way of Life | 25. Saturday Night Security |
| 11. Friday Morning Survivor | 26. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 12. Friday Night Sobriety | 27. Stepping Into Sobriety |
| 13. Grafton Wednesday Night | 28. Strength in Sobriety |
| 14. Harbortown Breakfast-Speaker 10AM | 29. Sunday Night Sobriety |
| 15. Honest Desire Group | 30. Thursday Morning Big Book Study |
| | 31. Vermilion 12 X 12 Discussion |

Board Of Directors

Chairperson	Troy Smith.....365-9018
Vice-Chairperson	Ken Cain..... 322-2496
Treasurer	Bill Post.....933-4153
Secretary	Mark Potter.....452-5946
Office Managers	Sam Hensley.....288-4942
	Tom Niemiec.....258-7286
	Keith Shagie.....258-1159

Advisory Board Members

Tom Ortiz.....	315-8600
Bill Jackson.....	935-3251
Nikki Lustek.....	409-2136
Donna Lawson	574-3464
Alan Revercomb.....	541-2473
Vicki Tomlinson.....	225-1314
Greg Hayes.....	371-3835
Rich Yowler.....	477-1019