

# AA Unity LiveWire AA

577 Broadway Avenue. Lorain, Ohio 44052 Phone 440 246-1800

December Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

2006

[aoloraincounty.org](http://aoloraincounty.org)

## Season's Greetings to All

At this Holiday time, may we be grateful for our sobriety and continue to extend the hand and the love of A.A. to the alcoholic who still suffers. Having left the darkness behind us, may we look toward the light of the future with gratitude and hope, sharing in the fellowship of the spirit. We wish each of you a sober and happy Holiday Season.

*From the Advisory Board, Office Staff, the LiveWire Staff, and all the Committee Members.*

### First Christmas Sober

That dreaded trip home turned out just fine after all

DURING MY first year of sobriety, I had quite a hard time. I didn't drink, but the obsession with alcohol was still in me. I see now that I hadn't turned my drinking and my life over to a Higher Power. I was scared, real scared. To find some sort of spirituality, I visited a new church.

One of the ministers there caught my attention. I hung on his every word for hope. One day, a small group of us were sitting around a table chatting with this minister. In desperation, I asked a general question, trying not to mention anything specific about AA. The minister's answer sounded just like the Fourth Step. Something inside me clicked, and I knew I had to talk to him in private.

I waited alone after the session. I hesitated, too embarrassed to reach out. "What you said to me was extremely meaningful to me," I said.

"I'm glad I could help."

I stammered, "Well . . . what I really mean to say is . . . I'm trying to stay sober. I have almost a year in AA. What you said to me sounded exactly like the Fourth Step. I needed it, since I'm working on it now."

He looked at me with a funny expression. I looked down at my shoes. I guessed he didn't understand what I had said. After all, how many people would?—unless they were in AA themselves. But when I looked at him again, he wore a big grin.

"Do you know what day this is?" he asked.

I wondered if it was some sort of holiday. "No, I don't," I admitted.

Now the expression on his face turned to sheer glee. "Today is my eighth birthday in AA," he said.

Well, you could have knocked me over with a soda straw. I'd had no clue that he was in the Fellowship, too. So that's why I related to everything he said! It was a real awakening for me.

I decided to blurt out the rest. "I'm going home for the holidays, and I'm scared. It's my first Christmas sober." I thought about all of the negativity I would have to face when I went back home.

The minister looked serious. He seemed to have confidence in me, even though my own was minimal. "You'll be all right, just keep the cork in the bottle."

The trip home was as anticipated—no sweet bed of roses. But I got through it sober. Faces and voices of AA friends came flashing into my head. I also found that even my hometown had an AA group, for which I was grateful. When I returned to my own group, everyone noticed a big change in me. I had made a step toward turning my life over to a Higher Power.

Now, it is my own eighth birthday in AA. I will be forever grateful to all the people who have helped me. I am also grateful for those "coincidences" that always seem to occur when I need them. They are a great part of what people mean when they say, "It works!"

Anonymous

Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Monday Night**  
**Lorain**  
**7:30 PM**  
 Zion Lutheran Church  
 5100 Ashland Ave.  
**Lorain (NS)**  
**4th. Jaun O.**  
**11th. Anniv.**  
**18th Dennis M.**  
**25th. Arlen G.**

**Grafton**  
**Wed. Night**  
**8:30 PM**  
 Grafton Fire Station  
 1050 Novak Rd.  
**Grafton (S)**  
**6th. Nora**  
**13th. Mark P.**  
**20th. Stacey**  
**27th. Rita H.**

**Compass**  
**Group**  
**Thurs. 8:00 PM**  
 St. John's Church  
 Rt.57 & Homewood  
**Lorain (NS)**  
**7th. Tim T.**  
**14th. John M.**  
**21st. Ron R.**  
**28th. Deanne S.**

**Fri.Night**  
**Sobriety**  
**8:00 PM**  
 First Merit Bank  
 106 Center St.  
**LaGrange (NS)**  
**1st. Larry S.**  
**8th. Jimmy K.**  
**15th. Herb B.**  
**22nd. Rick R.**  
**29th. Sober A.A.**

**Amherst Sat.**  
**Group**  
**8:30 PM**  
 Church of the Nazarene  
 210 Cooper-Foster Rd.  
**Amherst (NS)**  
**2nd. Alex W.**  
**9th. Joe S.**  
**16th. Jim H.**  
**23rd. Jeff B.**  
**30th. Amy**

**Mid- Night**  
**Elyria Group**  
**Sat. 12:00 PM**  
 St Mary's Church  
 4th & Middle Ave.  
**Elyria (NS)**  
**2nd. Christine C.**  
**9th. Mary Valka**  
**16th. Johnny C.**  
**23th. Corretta**  
**30th. Brenda S.**

**Central Office Holiday Hours**

The Office will be open from Noon, Sunday December 24, 2006, to 9 p.m.. Monday, December 25, 2006 and if you wish to volunteer to help keep the Office open please call Donna Lawson 440-574-3464 or call the central Office managers and let them know what hours you will be able to work. The Office will also be open from Noon, Sunday, December 31, 2006, till Monday, January 1, 2007 at 9p.m.. You can also contact Donna at [Queendlawson@yahoo.com](mailto:Queendlawson@yahoo.com) Please call as soon as you read this to volunteer, so that we will be able to make a schedule. Check the [aaloraincounty.org](http://aaloraincounty.org) website to see the schedule and if extra meetings will be held during the Holiday.

**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. **(Jan. 7th., 2007)**

**The Lorain Central Office 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, Get Active) **(Jan. 7th., 2007)**

**Advisory Board Meeting:** The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd. Thursday of the month, at the **Central Office.** **(Dec. 21st., 2006)**

**Items on Sale at Lorain Central Office:**  
 Auto Visor Clips\*\*New Throws\*\*Calendar Books\*\*Beverage Cups\*\*Double Book Covers for Your Big Book & 12X12\*\*  
**Bumper Stickers\*\*Anniversary and Recovery Coins. Come in Soon, do your Christmas Shopping at the Lorain Central Office!**

**Concepts 12:** The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. Tradition, taking care that it never becomes the perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

**Step 12:** Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

**Tradition 12:** Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

**Promise 12:** We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

**Anniversary**

• 27 years •

**December 11th.**

**Monday Night**

**Lorain**

**7:30 PM**

Zion Lutheran Church  
 5100 Ashland Ave.

**Lead: Father&Son**  
**Warner&Clyde**

- Door Prizes • Pizza •
- Fellowship •

**Phone Line Report:**

for the month of Nov., 2006

**12 Step Calls... 18**

**Sponsorship.... 8**

**Al-A-Non..... 15**

**Meeting Info... 167**

**General Info.... 98**

**Total:..... 306**

**EASY DOES IT**

Lorain Central Office 50/50 Raffle Winner: Sue K. \$105.50. Just another way you can Help support the Central Office. Buy a **TICKET** from any Advisory Board Member.

• *The Word of God Is Power Over Fear.* •

**Have You Visited the Lorain County website???**

Lorain County AA has its own website it started on Nov. 1, 2006. The address is [aaloraincounty.org](http://aaloraincounty.org) check it out. **Mike Smeck is our Webmaster**, he has done a wonderful job, but he would like your input so check out the web site and let him know how you like it, send messages to [WebMaster@aaloraincounty.org](mailto:WebMaster@aaloraincounty.org) Meeting schedule, calendar, other AA web sites, and much more. Come Visit **Your Site!**

• *List Your Anniversaries* •  
**Dec.9th. Mark McConnell 24yrs.**  
**Dec.11th. Bill Clemmons 49yrs**  
**Dec.27th. Lisa Piscola 6yrs.**  
**Dec.27th. Maria M. 4yrs.**

**Websites to visit:**

<http://www.aaloraincounty.org>  
<http://www.aaneoh.org>  
<http://sobervibes.org>  
<http://www.cyberrecovery.net>  
<http://www.aa.org>  
<http://www.dickb.com>  
<http://www.sober.org>  
<http://www.silkworth.net>  
<http://www.aagrapevine.org/>  
<http://www.dailythought@aaonline.org>  
<http://www.dailythought@verizon.net>  
<http://www.compass-house.org>

**Children's Christmas Party**

**December 17th.**  
**9:00am. Transporting**  
**15704 Trinter**  
**10:00am. Setup meet at**  
**St. John's Hall**  
**12:00pm. Costume people at**  
**St. John's Hall**  
**1:00pm. Party Starts**  
**4:00pm. Clean up**  
**5:00pm. Transport Stuff**  
**back to 15704 Trinter**

**Dec.1st. Dance at St. Anthony's**  
**Dec.3rd. Pickup Tickets after CO**  
**meeting**  
**Dec.3rd. Go to Sam's and Lorain**  
**Novelty**  
**Dec.10 1:00pm. Stocking Stuffing**  
**15704 Trinter, Vermillion**  
**Dec.11th. Order Pizza**

**During this holiday season,**  
**a time to be with family and**  
**Friends we give thanks for the**  
**healing power of love and**  
**sobriety in the Fellowship of**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**

**New Year's Eve Dance.**

Sponsored by  
 Sunday Night St. Jude's Group  
 Tickets are \$15.00 each and include  
 dinner, door prizes, DJ with music  
 of the 60's, 70's, & 80's.  
 No sales at the door.  
 Doors open at 7:00 & Dinner at 8:00

**New Russia Township Hall**  
**46268 Butternut Ridge Rd.**  
**Oberlin, OH**  
 for tickets contact:  
**Karen Cole 440-458-5720**  
**Kathy Currence 440-365-1925**  
**Patty McMullen 440-365-3778**

**FIRST THINGS FIRST**

**Notice: The Lorain Central Office,** is having a survey, on the Office hours of the Central Office Literature Department. Presently the Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Monday thru Friday. We would like your input on evening hours one or two nights a week open till 8 p.m.. Or would you like the Office to be open on Saturdays or Sundays at certain times. Please call one of the Advisory Board members or the Central Office Managers. All numbers are listed in the Livewire. Thank You in advance for your help in this matter.  
**The Advisory Board**

**Gift. . . the best Christmas present . . .**

**FROM THE TIME** I was two or three years old, holidays meant fights and being surrounded by drunks. I dreaded Christmas with a terrible fear. I hated this time of celebration and resented the people who were able to buy gifts. I had no gifts. I didn't buy presents or share that joy.  
 When I found sobriety in AA, I had peace, and I lived for the meetings. But as Christmas approached, the old fear returned. Where would I go and what would I do? I had been sober several months and was staying with my mother. Earnings from odd jobs went for clothing. I got her a card, and it was a cheap one at that!  
 Then my brothers and sisters arrived with electric toasters and big, expensive gifts for our mother. I was the only one who couldn't get her a present. Ashamed and embarrassed, I gave my mother the card and told her I was sorry I hadn't bought her a gift.  
 My mother said, "If you only knew how many sleepless nights I've worried whether you were dead or alive and prayed that God would either sober you up or take you! Son, you being sober is the best Christmas present I could have." That was the first time I realized you don't always have to do anything to make some amends. Just stay sober, and the hurts stop.  
 I had spent ten years on skid row and twelve years in the penitentiary before AA. Now, I'm off heroin and alcohol. With seven years' sobriety, I'm not eating from garbage cans anymore. I've worked in construction during most of my sobriety. But that Christmas was the best of all, when I was just trying to do God's will. I am grateful for the love and fellowship of AA.



*Arid Fellowship Center  
 Annual Children's  
 Christmas Party  
 1741 N. Ridge Rd. E.  
 Lorain, OH  
 Sunday, December 10, 2006  
 1PM until 4PM*

***A Visit from Santa!***

*Hot Dogs Chips  
 Fruit Drinks Candy  
 Children 12 & Under  
 The Whole Family is  
 Welcome*

*Donations of food, gifts (new or  
 lightly used) & candy.*

*Children of AA Member Only, Please*

## Committee Chairs

### Unity LiveWire

Russ Walker.....327-1308  
\*e mail russ8859@aol.com

Jim Parks.....385-5687  
\*e mail parksphoto@adelphia.net

### WebMaster (aaloraincounty.org)

Mike Smeck.....522-2163  
e mail WebMaster@aaloraincounty.org

### Archives Committee

Kevin Sexton.....323-9217  
e mail bigbook@alltel.net

### Schools

Ellen B.....322-5306  
e mail irishmimi1@comcast.net

## Correctional Committee

DCM.Russ Walker.....327-1308  
e mail russ8859@aol.com

Maureen Leach.....967-6305  
Coretta Farley.....308-1714

## District Committee

District #19a (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Avon, N.Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton Meetings)

DCM.Russ Walker.....327-1308  
e mail russ8859@aol.com

District #19b (Lorain City Meetings and some in Vermilion )

DCM.Craig Warren.....cell# 440 989-2786

District #20c (LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm Tnsp., Amherst, Henrietta Tnsp., S. Amherst, Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Twp., Pittsfield Twp., Brithton Twp., Wellington Meetings)

DCM.Donna Lawson.....cell# 440 574-3464

District #20b (All Meetings at ARID Club)

DCM.Judy Sexton.....322-2619  
Alt.Marilyn Oliver.....284-9834

District #20a Vacant. (All of Elyria City Meetings and Carlisle)

## Board Of Directors

Co-Chairperson Terri Poznako.....225-6897  
Co-Chairperson Tom Ortiz.....315-8600  
Treasurer Bill Post.....933-4153  
Secretary BobPaton.....965-7786  
Office Managers George Schmidt.....288-8935  
Sam Hensley.....288-4942

## Advisory Board Members

Russ Walker.....327-1308  
Tom Banks.....309-3226  
Troy Smith.....365-9018  
Donna Lawson.....574-3464

## Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the month of October, 2006.

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations</u>	
1. Rent	\$ 675.00	1.....	\$ 1,502.81
2. Columbia Gas	459.00	2.....	222.29
3. All Service Telephone	122.63	3.....	385.00
4. Ohio Edison	152.48	4.....	1,082.50
5. Century Telephone	121.36		\$ 3,192.60
6. House Manager's	1,574.30		
7. PayCor Fee	53.41		
8. Live Wire Printing	30.00	<u>Donations/Rent</u>	\$ 3,192.60
9. Windstream Yellow Pgs.	18.30	<u>Expenses</u>	\$ 3,206.48
	\$ 3,206.48	<u>Loss</u>	\$ -13.88

When making Donations Please include General Service # and Phone # if you know it, if not look on the internet at [aaloraincounty.org](http://aaloraincounty.org) under A.A. Meetings, if your group is registered the General Service # will be listed. Thank You!!

### One Day At A Time

October 2006 Donations (28)  
October 2006 Rents (7)

### John Ott's Passing:

John Ott passed away at 6:45 am. Nov. 13, 2006 at the Bellevue Hospital, in Bellevue after a long battle with cancer. John, was my sponsor, my fellow Coworker with the New London campout, and my best friend. John sponsored me for 12 years in alcoholics anonymous, after the death of Jack Draves my first sponsor. John will be greatly missed in the AA community, for his work and support. Also John's passing will leave a void in the Huron County community for his years of service, on various boards. I certainly will miss him and all the help that he's given to me and so many others The Apostle Paul said, I have fought a good fight, I've kept the faith now henceforth their is a crown laid up for me, but not only for me but for everyone that loves and serves GOD. Please pray for Mary and their 3 sons, Kevin, David, and Chris.  
Basil "Bas " Elliott

**The Lorain County Central Office is seeking Group Volunteers to decorate the front windows. (Holiday's and Seasonal displays) Sign-up your group for the New Year 2007 Now. Your chance to be Creative, and service your A.A.community!!!**

*Charlie Crawford resigned from the Advisory Board, The Lorain Central Office and the A.A. Fellowship would like to thank Charlie Crawford for his service. He will be missed*

**We need Members of the A.A. Community that have at least Three (3) years of Sobriety and are Interested in Serving on the Central Office Advisory Board to Send a letter explaining why they would like to Serve on the Board to the Central Office at 577 Broadway Ave, Lorain, OH. 44052. Addressed to the Advisory Board. Thank You, Your Central Office Committee.**

\*To submit information for the news letter please contact: **Russ Walker** or **Jim Parks** via: **Call**, \***email** or leave the information at the **Central Office** before the **25th.** of each month.