

February

“Easy Does It”

Unity LiveWire

577 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

Phone 440 246-1800

• aaneoh.org •

aaloraincounty.org

• aa.org •

2008

“First Things First”

Singleness of Purpose:

In the May 2004 Grapevine, David F. of NY says: Singleness of purpose has become the rallying cry for those who want to ban all talk of drugs at AA meetings, limit how you identify yourself, limit how you name your meeting..., and in general treat drugs and dual addiction as irrelevant "outside issues." It has created deep divisions within the Fellowship and caused AA groups in many parts of the country to become more doctrinaire, less friendly, less attractive, and less helpful.

Those who cry out for a return to our singleness of purpose are concerned that the message may be diluted or subverted by a perceived influx of non-alcoholics into our meetings. In particular they often point to drug addicts believing that somehow by allowing drug addicts into Alcoholics Anonymous we will lose what has been built in the last seventy plus years.

In the Twelve and Twelve Bill uses the phrase singleness of purpose only once, in Tradition Five. The unique ability of each A.A. to identify himself with, and bring recovery to, the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from god, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates A.A.'s all around the globe. There is another reason for this singleness of purpose.

He continues to say that we must give it away to keep it. I understand Bill to be saying that singleness of purpose is what we do - not who we are. We do one thing and one thing only - we carry the message of recovery from alcoholism. Nowhere can I find Bill setting limits on what kind of alcoholic should hear the message.

The earliest reference to singleness of purpose I found was in the January, 1945 edition of the Grapevine. The piece was written by Frank S. of Los Angeles who says, speaking of Bill, He taught us that only those have a right to A.A. who use it with the singleness of purpose for which it was founded and handed to us. He taught us that those whose ideas veer from A.A. ideals get off the beam and, sooner or later, fail in sobriety when they begin using substitutes instead of "practicing A.A. principles in all our affairs."

What Frank and his group learned is simple - carry one message and one message only -recovery from alcoholism through the practice of the twelve steps. Failure to adhere to the steps and traditions, the A.A. ideals Frank refers to, risks a fall from sobriety.

I've never heard a cry to get the AI-Anons out of A.A. or the overeaters and A.C.O.A.s, certainly not the smokers. There's something about those pesky drug addicts - but it's not really that they're drug addicts. Instead, it's that they dare to mention drugs.

And why is that? Apparently it's because drugs and drug addiction are outside issues. A point I won't disagree with. But wait, we, the fellowship, have no opinion on outside issues - or did I mis-read Tradition Ten.

This is not a new issue. In 1987 the General Service Conference approved the blue closed meeting statement which was seen as a compromise. You can be an A.A. member as long as you only discuss alcoholism. It was the first attempt by the Conference to limit what is said at a meeting. The use of the card is optional and it asks that we limit our comments to those issues as they relate to alcoholism. So what's an issue that relates to alcoholism?

Would it be things like relationships, marriage, divorce, employment, money, traffic, kids or parents. Those sound a lot like outside issues to me. None of them are alcoholism but they must relate to the disease because I hear about them all the time. So why are drugs different? Many of us did drugs at one time or another. Certainly I did drugs. And I have to believe that since I drank through my relationships, when driving, at work and while I did drugs, they all must relate to my alcoholism and maybe even to yours. But even if you never did a drug, whose alcoholism do my comments need to relate to - yours or mine?

In 1985, in his closing remarks at the General Service Conference, Bob P, a retiring GSO senior advisor and former general manager, discussed the issue. He said the threat to AA was not from the outside, not from "treatment centers or professionals in the field... or young people or the dually-addicted or even the druggies trying to come to our closed meetings." He said the threat was from within.

"If you were to ask me what is the greatest danger facing Alcoholics Anonymous today, I would have to answer: the growing rigidity that is so apparent to me and many others. The increasing demand for absolute answers to a nit-picking questions, Pressure for GSO to 'enforce' our Traditions, Screening alcoholics at closed meetings..., Laying more and more rules on groups and members."

In the Twelve and Twelve Bill begins his discussion of Tradition Three this way: This Tradition is packed with meaning. For A.A. is really saying to every serious drinker, "You are an A.A. member if you say so. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out. No matter who you are, no matter how low you've gone, no matter how grave your emotional complications - even your crimes - we still can't deny you A.A. We don't want to keep you out. We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be. We just want to be sure that you get the same great chance for sobriety that we've had. So you're an A.A. member the minute you declare yourself."

That seem pretty clear to me. [continued on pg. 2](#)

Mon. Night

Lorain

7:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church
5100 Ashland Ave.

Feb. 4th. Bobby C.

Feb. 11th. Kristi

Feb. 18th. Jim B.

Feb. 25th. Bear

Fri. Night

Faith Group

11:00 PM

1741 N Ridge Rd.

Feb. 1st. Brittany M.

Feb. 8th. James J.

Feb. 15th. Lois R.

Feb. 22th. Terri F.

Feb. 29th. Jeff K.

Mid-Night

Elyria Group

Sat. 12:00 PM

St Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.

Feb. 2nd. Greg R.

Feb. 9th. Ask it

Feb. 16th. Ally

Feb. 23th. Bobbi M.

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.

Continued from pg.1

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That seem pretty clear to me.

Larry S. Panel 56, Area 20 Singleness of Purpose

Thank You All

Once again the A.A. community has come through for the kids. It was blizzard conditions and still the volunteers showed up. We gave 181 kids toy, treats, and a Christmas they might not have had. That is not including the 31 kids at various shelters. So in all we helped 212 kids. That is something we think Lorain county A.A. can be proud of. We have over \$ 3,500 to start buying toys, crafts and pass out toys for next year. That is great!!! All we can say to you is thank you. The 50/50 was \$1,659 this year. Thanks to all who sold tickets. Thanks to the groups for there donations and all there help.

We Love You All For What You Do

Brenda, Patti & Troy Smith

Concepts 2: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

Step 2: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Promise 2: We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.

Tradition 2: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority-a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. Personal recovery depends upon A.A. Unity.

Grafton

Wed. Night

8:30 PM

Grafton Fire Sta.
1050 Novak Rd.

Feb. 6th. Mike H.

Feb. 13th. Mickey J.

Feb. 20th. Sharon L.

Feb. 27th. Bert

Lorain

Consolidated

Sun. 2:30 PM

577 Broadway

Feb. 3rd. Evelyn P.

Anniversary Leads

Feb. 10th. John N.

Feb. 17th. Reno T.

Feb. 24th. Iris M.

*"Tough
Times Never
Last,
But Tough
People Do!"*

25th. Anniversary

LaPorte Tues. Group

Christian Church

301 Washington Ave., Elyria

February 19th.

Spaghetti Dinner

Door Opens @ 6:00 PM

Lead: @ 8:00 PM

Rodney S.

**F
A
I
T
H**

• List Your Anniversaries •

Feb. 8th. Yolanda A. 18yrs.

Feb. 10th. Keith S. 5yrs.

Feb. 10th. Earl E. 2yrs.

Feb. 12th. Terry S. 9yrs.

Feb. 12th. Tom O. 11yrs.

Feb. 16th. Jessica 8yrs.

Feb. 17th. Kim C. 6yrs.

Feb. 21th. Gregg R. 14yrs

Feb. 24th. Bruce W. 26yrs.

Feb. 25th. Ed L. 3yrs.

The Grafton Wed Night Meeting has CHANGED the Time to an 8 PM Meeting and that it will be an OPEN Discussion Meeting as of MARCH, 2008.

Notice: To all alumni and concerned members of the recovery community, Compass House desperately needs your financial support. Donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated. For more information please Call Craig R. Caire Executive Director 440-246-5111 (craigc@compass-house.org)

God, help me to do my part, to stay sober and to help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

Prayer for the Day: Higher Power, help me know this gentle truth that my life matters. Help me set goals that I can grow toward, one step at a time.

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle Winner: John B. \$91.00 , Sold by Little Joe. Just another way you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET from any Advisory Board Member.

Area 54 Northeast Ohio
Is Hosting
The Ohio State and East Central
Regional Conventions.

July 25th - 27th, 2008

At the Holiday Inn Westlake
We need the support of the
Home Groups to host the Hospi-
tality Room during the Conven-
tion. We are asking that your
Group volunteer to be responsi-
ble for a Time slot of Your choice
during the Convention.

For more Information:

Please contact:

Calvin L. (216-334-4594)

Klaus K. (216-441-5804)

GSR/DCM Workshop
2pm, February 17, 2008
At 12 Step Recovery Club
1480 Pearl Road
(in Brunswick Plaza),
Brunswick OH 44212

(Bring a dish to Share)

Group Service Representative (GSR)
District Committee Member (DCM)
The Workshop will concentrate on the
duties of GSR's and DCM's and how to
carry them out. Some personal insights
will be shared and discussed. This is a
great opportunity for you to also share
your concerns, get support and discuss
solutions. All A.A. members that want to
learn more about service please attend
this meeting.

For Information Contact:

Bob Denihan @ 216.408.9020 or

Christine McGill @ 330.876.0258

33rd ANNUAL
AREA 54 NORTHEAST OHIO
GENERAL SERVICE
MINI-CONFERENCE

April 11-13, 2008

*"Communication and Participation -
The Key to Unity and Self-Support"*

*(All AA members are encouraged
to attend this conference)*

Holiday Inn Westlake

\$72 per night

(Plus State & Local Tax)

reserve by March 11, 2008

Phone:(440)871-6000 (800)426-0122

Make reference to:

Northeast Ohio

Mini-Conference

Free parking for hotel guests and local
participants.

**Compass House Alumni
& Friends Breakfast**

Last Saturday
of the month.

St. Ladislaus

1412 29th St. &

Wood Ave.

Breakfast @ 9:00 am

Lead @ 10:00 am

Cost Only \$4.00

• FOOD •

• FUN •

• & FELLOWSHIP •

L
O
V
E

Arid Fellowship
Center

Space Available

30 x 30 Bldg.

Meeting Rooms

For More Info.

Contact:

Mark Weaver

440 225-3031



Is One-Third of Your Program
Missing? SERVICE is the Most
Rewarding and Happiest Work
you can do for your own
GROWTH, But don't take our
word for it-Prove it for Yourself!!

Northern Ohio
Recovery Assoc.

"Crack's"

The Big Book

Wed. & Thurs

10 am. to Noon

4642 Oberlin Ave.

Suite 205

More Info Call:

Joyce Pleasant

282-1800

To Check for

Transportation Eligibility

Arid Fellowship
Center

Needs Volunteers to
start a Entertainment
Committee to help in
the planing and setup of
events throughout the year.

If interested

Contact; Kim C.,

Little Nikki or

Bobbie M.

Leave a message at:

Arid Club (440 233-4801)

Bobbie M. (440 537-4280)

HELP NEEDED

A.A. Men & Women

To carry the

message to other

Alcoholics in the Lorain

County Prisons

& Jails:

Mondays thru

Thursdays

Requirements:

1 yr. Sobriety

(if you would like to help)

Please Call:

Russ Walker

440 668-6650

Survivors List:

Groups in need of

Support to stay afloat Please

Attend, Contribute,

Be Active, Help Chair,

Be a Secretary,

Be Responsible

Women's Big Book Study

Sat. 11:00 AM

Sat. Young Person's Gp.

Sat. 2:00 PM

Elyria St. Mary's

Sun. 8:00 PM

Tues. Lunch Break

Tues. 12:00 Noon

Friday Night Faith

Fri. 11:00 PM

Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge Rd.,

Sheffield Township

UAW Big Book Study

Thurs. 10:00 AM

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

523 E. Broad St. & Winckles St.

Elyria

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT the groups.

Need A. A. Volunteers to Speak, Lead and or Assist at the Lake Point Nursing Home
on Monday's 7 PM. Contact Coretta Farley. 308-1714

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

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire Committee

Russ W.327-1308
 *e mail russ8859@aol.com
 Jim P.385-5687
 *e mail jbparks2542@yahoo.com

Reporter

Bobbi M.537-4280

Internet Committee (aaloraincounty.org)

Mike S.522-2163
 e mail webmaster@aaloraincounty.org
 Donna L.574-3464
 e mail queendlawson@yahoo.com

Schools

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

Archives Committee

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

Correctional Committee

Russ W.327-1308
 e mail russ8859@aol.com
 Coretta F.308-1714

District Committee

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

DCM. MaryAnn S.453-4115
 e mail maschulz@oh.rr.com

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

Vacant

District #20a Vacant. (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle)
 DCM.Judy S.322-2619

District #20b (All Meetings at ARID Club)

DCM.Judy S.322-2619
 Alt.Marilyn O.284-9834

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

DCM.Donna L.574-3464

Board Of Directors

Chairperson Tom Ortiz.....315-8600
 Vice-Chairperson Troy Smith.....365-9018
 Treasurer Bill Post.....933-4153
 Secretary Mark Potter.....452-5946
 Office Managers George Schmidt.....288-8935
 Sam Hensley.....288-4942

Advisory Board Members

Tom Banks.....309-3226
 Bill Jackson.....935-3251
 Terri Poznako.....225-6897
 Russ Walker.....327-1308
 Nikki Lustek225-6036

Lorain Inter-Group Central Office
e mail address: intergroup@centurytel.net

Easy Does It

Rents: Month of Dec., 2007

1. Blue Monday
 2. Tuesday Night Central
 3. Tuesday Early Morning Disc.
 4. Friday Men's Disc.
 5. Saturday Morning Disc.
 6. Strength In Sobriety

Phone Line Report:

Month of Jan., 2008

12 Step Calls..... 10
 Sponsorship..... 63
 Al-A-Non..... 115
 Meeting Info..... 9
 General Info..... 4
Total:..... 201

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the month of December, 2007.

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations</u>
1. Rent	\$ 700.00	1..... \$ 717.95
2. Columbia Gas	\$ 407.00	2..... \$ 868.81
3. All Service Telephone Answering	\$ 140.88	3..... \$ 1,662.05
4. Ohio Edison	\$ 187.65	4..... \$ 1,103.87
5. Century Telephone	\$ 89.37	5..... \$ 60.00
6. House Managers	\$ 1,543.26	
7. Pay Cor Fees	\$ 58.23	\$ 4,412.68
8. Live Wire Printing	\$ 58.00	<u>Donations/Rent</u> \$ 4,412.68
9. Windstream Yellow Pages	\$ 18.86	<u>Expenses</u> \$ 3,332.14
10. Holiday Open House	\$ 100.00	
11. Postage/Envelopes	\$ 9.31	<u>Gain Dec. 2007</u> \$ 1,080.54
12. Door Strips/Flush Lever	\$ 19.58	
	<u>\$ 3,332.14</u>	

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. Make all checks or money orders payable to Lorain Inter-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 for the month of December, 2007

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Alcoholics-R-Us | 18. Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| 2. Amherst Saturday Group | 19. Oberlin Group |
| 3. Blue Monday | 20. Oberlin Women's Closed Group |
| 4. Carlisle Lunch Bunch | 21. S.O.I.G.A. |
| 5. CBS Big Book Step Study | 22. Saturday Morning Survivor's |
| 6. Elyria Men's Stag | 23. Saturday Night Security Group |
| 7. Elyria Monday Closed Disc. | 24. Serenity Hall |
| 8. Elyria Sunday Night Group | 25. Sharing Our Sobriety (S.O.S) |
| 9. Friday Night Sobriety | 26. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 10. Friday Night Amherst | 27. St. Anthony's Friday Night |
| 11. Wellington Group | 28. Stepping Into Sobriety Group |
| 12. Grafton Wednesday Night | 29. Strength In Sobriety |
| 13. LaGrange Monday Night | 30. Sunday Open Men's Disc. |
| 14. Lorain Wednesday Group | 31. Thursday Women's Sobriety Group |
| 15. Mid-Week Morning Disc. | 32. Vermilion Monday Night |
| 16. Monday Night 12 X 12 Disc. | 33. We Care Tuesday Morning Disc. |
| 17. New Beginning Big Book Disc. | 34. Wellington Thursday Night |

THANK YOU: The Inter-Group Office would like to thank ALL of those that Attended the Standing Committee Workshop. We will be calling all those that SIGNED UP to be on a Committee, before February 20, 2008 .so that by March 2, 2008 MEETING of the Inter-Group, we will have some of the Committees Functioning . The next Standing Committee Workshop will be Saturday March 22, 2008, Time 1 P.M. at the Inter-Group Office 577 Broadway Avenue, Lorain , OH. Thank You Again from Your Inter-Group Officers.

Quote of the Week: "The key to my serenity today is directly linked to my ability to stay in the moment—to be in the present."

Thought to Ponder: Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.