



# Unity

# LIVEWIRE



January 1999

Published by the Lorain County Central Office

### Central Offices

Co-Chair                    Jim Buchanan  
 Co-Chair                    Bob Patton  
 Treasurer                 Millie Herrmann  
 Secretary                 George Sheridan

### Committee Chairs

#### Unity Livewire

Gregg R..... 77-7349  
 Donna McCauley..... 288-3495  
 E-mail — dmccauley@centuryinter.net

#### Literature

Jack Smith .....323-6500

#### Phone Lines

Dee Carter .....288-8435

#### Schools

Ellen B. ....322-5306

### District Committees

#### District #19

19A Mike Tomlin.....949-5664  
 19B George Schmidt.288-6288

#### District #20

Yolanda Arimont..... 284-1015  
 Diana L. Sammut (Alt)...323-8408

### Advisory Board

Jim Buchanan .....949-5813  
 George Sheridan.....647-4654  
 Jack Smith .....323-6500  
 Karen Nickoli.....365-2896  
 Millie Herrmann..... 324-3572  
 Fred Koons .....323-9330  
 Bob Patton .....965-7786  
 Tom Coughlin.....366-5330  
 Jan O'Hem.....244-6681  
 Don Klier.....647-6472  
 Jackie Klier.....647-6472  
 Bob Oswalt .....245-2151

### Central Office Notes

The Lorain County Central Office of Alcoholics Anonymous is located at 577 Broadway in downtown Lorain. The office will be open from 9 AM - 5 PM weekdays. The phone number is 246-1800. Please send all donations for the Central Office to:  
 P.O. Box 563, Lorain, OH 44052

### GSR Meeting

District 19 and District 20 hold a combined meeting every second Saturday of the month, 6 PM at the Arid Fellowship Center in Elyria. All are welcome to attend. The next meeting is January 9<sup>th</sup>

### Central Office Meeting

The next Central Office meeting will be on Sunday, February 7, 12:30 PM at the Central Office. All are welcome to attend.

December Central Office 50/50 Raffle winner: Liz Frazier

### Advisory Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

### Newsletter Update

The Lorain Central Office for the AA community of Lorain County publishes the Unity Livewire. We encourage individuals and groups to participate in the sharing of ideas and information in the Livewire. Any newsworthy material can be dropped off at the Central Office by Monday before the next Central Office meeting. Phone calls will be accepted. You may call the office or one of the committee members listed. This is your voice, Use it!

### Phone Line Report

12 Step.....19	Sponsorship.....01
Al-A-Non .....15	Meeting Info.....134
General Info ..180	<b>Total                    349</b>

Includes Answering service calls

### New Year's Eve Dance

The dance committee wishes to extend their thanks for all the help & donations from area groups that helped the dance get started and be the success it was. Lots of food, fun, & fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. See you next year!

### Annual Children's Christmas Party

The committee members, Wendy, Patty, & Dennis would like to thank all of the groups around the county and all the private individuals for all of their donations and help to once again make this past Christmas Party a great success for the children & AA families. Wishing all of you a Happy, Sober, & Prosperous New Year.

### AA Meeting News

A new open discussion meeting will be held at Ark Ministries 1039 Bridge Drive, Lorain, OH (off E. Erie Ave.). Tuesday's at 7PM.

A meeting room is available Monday through Friday evenings at the Delaware United Methodist Church, 658 E. Erie Avenue Lorain (Non-smoking, only) Call Reverend Richard Reid at 288-3239.

### Central Office Phone Lines

The answering service needs our help. Home Groups need to update their contact list. When we are called we need to pass the message to the still suffering alcoholic. "I Am Available"

### Central Office Holidays

With the extended hours through the holidays there was an unusual amount of 12<sup>th</sup> Stepping and fellowship going on at Central Office. But, does it have to stop just because the holidays are over? The office could always use extra help with the phones, clean up, etc. (Don't forget about taking down the Christmas decorations.) It is a very fulfilling feeling to answer the phone and be able to share a solution to our common problem and share our experience, strength, and hope with a suffering alcoholic.

### Detox

Now that the holidays are over there is still a lot of 12<sup>th</sup> stepping anticipated, so we will be running this article through January 1999. Please remember that Community Health Partners does not have detox services. There is a daytime procedure for indigent patients in need of detox and Lorain County AA Central Office does have this information. However, we did compile a list of the nearest detox facilities out of Lorain County for after hours & emergency detox: Please call the hospital or facility before you attempt to take someone for detox.

#### **Cleveland:**

Stella Maris (216) 781-0550  
Harbor Lights (216) 781-2121  
St John's West Shore

Elyria 323-1164  
Lorain 933-4363

Insurance & Medicare only  
(adolescent, adult, & psychiatric)

#### **Sandusky:**

Providence Hospital(419)621-7000  
Firelands Hospital (800) 342-1177

#### **Akron:**

St Thomas Hospital(330) 375-3000  
Indigent Patients

A.D.M. (330) 996-7730

The Davenport Center has closed. We will update the community as soon as we get new information regarding their treatment programs.

#### **Veterans only**

V. A. Center Lorain 960-3545 or 246-0043 Counselors will make arrangements to get veterans detoxed at the Wade Park V. A. Hospital. After hours call Wade Park VA Hospital directly at: (216) 791-3800

#### **Men's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual "Steps to Recovery"**

January 29-30-31

St. Joseph's Christian Life Center  
18485 Lakeshore Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio 44119

Cost \$105

(Payment plans can be arranged)  
Call for registration & information:

Mike Fekete (440) 327-6232  
Tom Corrigan (440) 835-3989  
Hal Schichtel (440) 236-3759

### January Speakers

#### **Sunday Sheffield Civic Center**

- 1-3 Rob Sebastian (Akron)
- 1-10 George S.
- 1-17 "Bashful Frank" McGuire (Cleveland)
- 1-24 Gerard Pinkas (Bay Village)
- 1-31 Tina Hobson (Cleveland)

#### **Lorain Monday Night Ashland Ave.**

- 1-4 Joyce P.
- 1-11 Bill W.
- 1-18 Gregg D.
- 1-25 Discussion

#### **Tuesday Lorain Central**

- 1-5 Laura Danials
- 1-12 Frank Hennig
- 1-19 Todd Butcher
- 1-26 Roxanne Edminston

#### **Wednesday Night Sheffield St. Thomas**

- 1-6 Chris Reddinger
- 1-13 Bill Bringman
- 1-20 Jim Pluta
- 1-27 Wally Russell

#### **Saturday Night St Mary's New Beginnings**

- 1-2 John P.
- 1-9 Clyde M.
- 1-16 Discussion
- 1-23 Marshel
- 1-30 Andy

#### **Arid Fellowship Center Inc**

Saturday February 13, 1999 7PM til 1AM the annual "Sweetheart's Ball" will be held. Tickets are \$5.00. Fliers & tickets are available. 50/50 raffle. (Winner need not be present.)

#### **Anonymity Pros and Cons**

After a few rousing sessions on the concepts of anonymity in the rooms I did some research and found a few thoughts right from the mouth of Bill Wilson, himself. In "Word of Mouth" As Bill Sees It (p 120) from a letter written in 1962, Bill gives some leeway on anonymity, but remains firm on the public level. An article in the Dec. 1998 issues of The Grapevine (P. 27) reaffirms his ideas on anonymity, also.

Word of Mouth

In my view, there isn't the slightest objection to groups who wish to remain anonymous, or to people who think they would not like their membership in A.A. known at all. That is their business, and this is a very natural reaction.

However, most people find that anonymity to this degree is not necessary, or even desirable. Once one is fairly sober, and sure of this, there seems no reason for failing to talk about A.A. membership in the right places. This has a tendency to bring in other people. Word of mouth is one of our most important communications.

So we should criticize neither the people who wish to remain silent, nor even the people who wish to talk too much about belonging to A.A., provided they do not do so at the public level and thus compromise our whole Society.

## Bill's Last Message

My dear friends,

Recently an AA member sent me an unusual greeting which I would like to extend to you. He told me it was an ancient Arabian salutation. Perhaps we have no Arabian groups, but it still seems a fitting expression of how I feel for each of you. It says, "I salute you and thank you for your life."



My thoughts are much occupied these days with gratitude to our Fellowship and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God's Grace.

If I were asked which of these blessings I felt was most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our continuity, I would say the "Concept of Anonymity."

Anonymity has two attributes essential to our individual and collective survival; the spiritual and the practical.

On the spiritual level, anonymity demands the greatest discipline of which we are capable; on the practical level, anonymity has brought protection for the newcomer, respect and support of the world outside, and security from those of us who would use AA for sick and selfish purposes.

AA must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we, turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God's Grace.

And so — once more, I salute you in that spirit and again I thank you for your lives.

May God bless us all now, and forever.

*Ever Yours  
Bill*

Each day we learn new and wonderful ways to maintain our sobriety, but it always goes back to what our founders put on paper that began the first steps to sobriety. The new ideas and words might be different, but the meaning is still the same.

**Tradition Twelve**

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