
The MAICO GA.A.ZETTE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2007

RECOVERY – “We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.” – Step One.

“Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.” – Step Two

UNITY –“Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.” – Tradition One

“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.” -- Tradition Two

SERVICE –“Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.” – Concept I

“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.” – Concept II

A.A.’s Service Legacy

I have perhaps the least A.A. tenure here, having been at the General Service Office for only forty-some days. But I hope to be here to assist A.A. in celebrating its centennial, 29 years from now. At the moment I’m just trying to get up to speed.

I’d like to speak briefly of my own history with A.A. The organization has been a big part of my life, as my father, his father, and his brother, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins have all been A.A.s. This Fellowship, along with Al-Anon, saved my family. The Goldsmith Lane Group, which meets Wednesday nights in Louisville, Kentucky, has been full of Filatreas since 1963, and is still like a weekly family reunion.

I grew up immersed in A.A. I attended my first open meeting, one of my father’s birthday meetings, when I was about twelve years old. I knew well all the men my father was sponsoring. They were like family. I knew he would be gone every Wednesday evening and sometimes twice more each week at meetings, and I knew that every year he would be attending the 2:00am Christmas Eve meeting, trying like so many others to stay sober during that difficult time. Occasionally he would have to leave abruptly to go pick someone up at the jail or at the hospital. I witnessed the good he has done, and how he does it—quietly and without desire for recompense or acknowledgement. These acts moved me just as much as his sobriety. A.A.s not only help fellow alcoholics; in many ways they show the rest of us how to live, too.

This activity takes place all over the world, every day, and has since A.A.’s founding. Service and sponsorship—themes of this Conference—are played out as one human helping another, driving him or her to meetings, giving him or her an option not to drink. Answering the phone. This is how A.A.’s history is made; individuals deciding to serve and sponsor.

Very few organizations value their history the way A.A. does. I’ve served as archivist for many organizations and corporations, and I’ve never seen a place that so consistently and unabashedly looks to its past, its founders and founding principles, for guidance in addressing the future. Usually, historians and archivists are begging their institutions’ leaders to remember the past, clamoring to get people to use wisdom gathered through hard experience. But, to be frank, we are usually completely ignored.

In too many organizations, the past is considered dusty and useless, and is cast aside in search of something new, jazzy, and gaudy. Few individuals consult history to make sure they aren’t repeating mistakes. Archivists have to work to prove the relevance of history, though their efforts are too often to no avail. It can be a frustrating experience.

From what I have seen in my time here, A.A. is exactly the opposite. It is a beautiful thing for an archivist. The history is vital and living. Individual members all over the world revere the history and study it carefully. You actively participate in it by preserving records in your area, ensuring that the records of today will survive to become the history of tomorrow. A.A. seems to understand that history is not, by definition, *old*. It is being made right here and in your local groups today.

Bill and Dr. Bob both understood the value of the history of Alcoholics Anonymous and endeavored to capture it before it faded. Bill, though, had hesitated before sitting down to write *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, feeling that other demands on his time would prevent him from doing as good a job as the task merited. As he later wrote in a letter around the time of the book’s publication: “I am sending you a copy of ‘A.A. Comes of Age.’ As you see, it is a sort of symposium which adds up to a make-shift history of A.A.—the best that I could do. I was reluctant to even try this, but concluded that something direct

from me to A.A. was better than nothing at all. It has been better received, however, than I thought it might be.

Bill understood, too, that there was a need not only for published histories, but for oral and video recordings of A.A. members and events. He said, "It isn't hard to prepare a fact sheet of what happened...the hard thing to lay hold of is the atmosphere of the whole proceedings and anecdotal material that will make the early experience live."

The G.S.O. Archives is fortunate to have thousands of audio and video recordings, many of them recorded speeches and words of Bill W. and the early events of the Fellowship. Most of these recordings were made on cassette or reel-to-reel tape, and were deteriorating quickly. Thankfully, we have been able to preserve these, converting them to digital recordings on high-quality archival CDs.

The fruits of these labors are clear—we now have cataloged hundreds of early recordings, clearly articulating the Steps, Traditions, and the Three Legacies. Many of these recordings address the themes of this Conference—Service, Sponsorship and Self-Support. These are powerful recordings, wonderful to hear.

In a letter in 1959, Bill wrote to Estelle Silverton, whose husband Hal had just died. Hal and Estelle were A.A. pioneers who started groups in San Diego back in 1940. He wrote: "As you know, there is a singular, a unique bond between us old times. We shall be gone from the scene and I trust that history will record we left something worthwhile behind us."

In the spirit of the theme of Service, and with these remarks from Bill in mind, I would like to play for you an excerpt from a recording that illustrates his thought process surrounding these issue, as A.A. was growing up. Bill gave this talk in 1954 in front of a group of A.As in Forth Worth, Texas. He spoke at length about A.A. history, and specifically, of the development of the Third Legacy:

...So there was a long discussion, in which I had a sad falling out with a good many of my friends, some of whom had been trustees, and it was quite a bitter and harrowing chapter in our affairs, which none of you know about.

This struggle, to see whether this movement would always be headed by a self-perpetuating hierarchy of oldtimers, or whether these affairs, so vital to the welfare of A.A. all over the world, should be turned over to you.

And finally, after six years of hassling about it, I finally got the consent of the Board of Trustees to come out to you, and tell you this story, and to say:

"Here is a means, which in an experimental form, we have put in a pamphlet marked "The Third Legacy."

"Here is a means by which you can get some delegates and state committeemen, and send folks up to New York, to take charge and to take over what is now your business.

"And so why don't you come up there and look this deal over, and the trustees will agree to make themselves responsible to you instead of to nobody.

"And you look it over and see what you think about it, and if at the end of four years you like the way that it's temporarily laid out, then we'll drive a plug in this thing, then we oldtimers up there, including yours truly, will say, "Look folks, these vital services are yours, to have and to hold."

"This Conference of delegates shall hereafter be the custodians and the guardians of our Traditions. This is yours. This is the remainder of your Third Legacy. Will you accept it?"

So, since 1951 we have been holding yearly Conferences, to see whether this movement was interested enough, was responsible enough, felt those services were worthwhile enough, to maintain so long as God will n3edd this society.

And I think it's the conclusion of every delegate who has been there that yes, we should take these things over.

So, in 1955 we purpose to hold an International Convention, at which time, on behalf of the oldtimers, and of Smitty and me, we shall say to you, here is the remainder of your Third Legacy.

This Conference shall become our successor.

To you we hand the last torch. Carry on. Face your destiny with surety and courage, and God love you.

His words demonstrate that men and women like you are shaping Alcoholics Anonymous, past, present and future. You make the history of A.A. by your actions each day and your service to the Fellowship.

I look forward to continuing the monumental efforts of my predecessors, the archivists who came

before me, and the archivists working at the local level, to gather the history you have made. Together

MAICO Business

MAICO Web Site:

Upcoming Events If you would like your AA event listed, please email an electronic flyer to maico@tds.net Thanks.

Districts in our Service Area: If you would like your district minutes on the MAICO web site, just send minutes electronically to maico@tds.net

12 Step List

We need men and women for our 12 Step List, especially women available during the day. Call MAICO office to volunteer.

FYI: MAICO is a 501C3 non-profit corporation so your donations are tax deductible. Limit is \$2,000 per AA member per year.

MAICO Merchandise Catalog

Now available on the web site and/or mailed when requested.

MAICO Reps sponsoring a Big Book Study

Friday, January 12 & Saturday January 13, 2007

Please pre-register so we know how many will be attending.

Trinity Lutheran Church
1904 Winnebago St.
Madison, WI.

Facilitated by Bruce E. & Dave R. from Eau Claire
Friday – 7pm to 9pmish
Saturday – 9am to 4:30ish

Cost: \$15.00
Coffee & soda provided, meals on your own.

Registration forms available at the MAICO office or on MAICO web site at www.aamadisonwi.org

Thank You – Groups and Individuals who contributed to MAICO- 10/31/06-12/15/06

General Fund

Beloit Thurs. Big Book Study Grp
Beloit Thurs. Night Grp
Caring & Sharing Grp
Dells Delton Grp
Dist. 20

we can continue to preserve these works and make them accessible to the Fellowship.

Amy Filatreau, G.S.O. archivist, *reprinted with permission AAWS*
Dist. 30

Easy Breathers Grp
Ft. Atkinson Tues. Big Book Grp
Ft. Atkinson Mon Wed Fri Morning Grp
Grace Lunch Grp
Live at Five Grp
Lodi Lifeliners Grp
Monona Serenity Grp
Monroe No Butts Grp
Montello Grps
New Beginnings Grp
Portage 207 Grp
Rock River Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp
Sunrisers Grp
Sunshine Grp
Working Step Grp

Birthday Donations

Faithful Fiver

Larry L.

Answering Service donation

Beloit Thurs. Big Book Study Grp
Dells Delton Grp
Easy Breathers Grp
Freedom Grp
Lonny S.
Mary M.
Sauk Prairie Grp.

Service is Gratitude In Action

Area 75 Southern Wisconsin

Web Site: www.area75.org

Area 75 Agenda Planning – Jan. 21, 2007, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Madison, 9am

Upcoming Area 75 Conferences:

May 18-20, 2007 –56th Annual Spring Conference, Our Three Legacies, Marriott Madison West, Middleton

5 State Regional/Fall 2007- Manitowoc
Spring 2008 – Olympia Village, Oconomowoc
Fall 2008 – Holiday Inn, Fond du Lac

Area 74 North Wisconsin/Upper Pennisula

Michigan

Web site: www.area74.org

Pass it On" Upcoming Events for 2006 & 2007

December 31, 2006 – Barneveld AA Group hosting New Year's Eve Dinner, Turkey Dinner with all the fixings, brings dish to pass, dinner at 6pm, open speaker meeting to follow, United Church of Christ basement, 104 S. Jones St., rear entrance. (by the bank) contact: Greg 608-574-4873.

January 12 & 13, 2007 - Big Book Study hosted by MAICO Reps, Trinity Lutheran Church, 1904 Winnebago St., Madison, Friday, Jan. 12 7pm to 9pmish, Saturday, Jan 13 9am – 4:30pmish. Facilitated by Bruce E. & Dave R. from Eau Claire, Cost \$15.00. Registration forms on MAICO web site or stop by the office. **Please pre-register so we can have an idea of how many people will be attending.**

Jan. 21, 2007, Area 75 Agenda Planning, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Madison, 9am

January 19-21, 2007 – WICYPAA XIV, Wisconsin Conference for Young People in Alcoholics

Anonymous, Quality Inn & Suites, 2969 Cahill Main, Madison, WI. Information: Thom at 608-577-8157 or Becky K. 608-628-7483 look for updates at <http://wicypaa.org> "Young" defined as anyone with room to grow.

February 15-18 – 43rd International A.A. Women's Conference, Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, IAAWC mailing address, 43rd IAAWC, P.O. Box 2053, Southfield, MI. 48037-2053. Website:

www.iaawc.org

March 30-April 1 – 20th International A.A. Men's Conference, Riviera Hotel and Casino, website:

www.iaamcvegas.org or information call Bill T (702) 233-9038 or Frank G. (702) 247-1908

Group Changes as of 12/15/06:

Baraboo, delete, Fri 8pm, Young People, St. Clare Hospital, 707 14th St.

Beloit, change, Mon. 8pm, Fel-O-Ship, 412 Pleasant starts at 8:15pm and is a Big Book Study not Step

Beloit, change, Tues Noon, 5:30pm, Thurs Noon, 5:30pm, changed to Open meeting, Fel-O-Ship, 412 Pleasant

Beloit, change, Thurs 7pm, Calvary Luth. Ch., 1992 Shopiere, moved to New Hope United Meth., 2345 Prairie Ave.

Belleville, Add, Sun. 7pm, C,NS, Big Book Study, Grace Methodist Ch., 326 W. Pearl

Boscobel, time change, Wed/Sat. 6:30pm, Boscobel Hosp. changed to Tuesday & Thursday at 7pm

Boscobel, Add, Sunday, 7pm, Open, Non-Smoking, Boscobel Hospital, Mental Health Unit, Church St. entrance

Brodhead, address change, Tues. 8pm, Congregational United Church of Christ, E. 201 23rd St.

Brodhead, address & time change, Thurs. 8pm, Congregational United Church of Christ, E. 201 23rd, meets at 7:00pm now

Columbus, time change & location, Tues 8pm to 7pm, First Presbyterian Ch. rectory building, 321 W. Mill St.

Cross Plains, moved, Tues. 8pm, now at Cross Plains Library, 2107 Julius St.

DeForest, delete, Fri. 8pm, Moravian Ch., 805 E. Holum

Dickeyville, change, Tues & Sun, 8pm & 6:30pm, moved to 500 East Ave., by Fire Dept

Dodgeville, add, Wed. 7:00pm, C,NS,W, Dodgeville Serenity Club, 401 N. Union

Dodgeville, add, Thurs. 8pm, C,NS, Grace Lutheran Ch., 1105 N. Bequette St. – basement entrance

Dodgeville, change, Mon, Thurs & Sat, 8pm now 7:00pm, Dodgeville Serenity Club, 401 N. Union

Evansville, Add, Tues. 7pm, C,NS,H, United Methodist meeting disbanded, starting new group at St. John's Luth. Ch., 312 S. 3rd, library

Fennimore, Add, Sat. 7pm, C,NS, Candlelight, Bethany Alliance Ch. Annex, 980 12th St. (Hwy 18) use Jackson St. entrance

Janesville, add, Fri. 8pm, O, NS, Speaker, First Presbyterian Ch., 17 N. Jackson

Janesville, delete, Mon, Thurs & Fri 7:30am & Wed & Sun 8am, Wesley Alano, 1833 Wesley Ave.

Janesville, Add, Sun, 8am, C,NS, United Way Building, 405 N. Main

Juneau, change, Wed. 7:30pm, Unified Services moved to Dodge Cty Human Service Bldg., 143 E. Center St., non-smoking

Madison, add back, Mon. 7:30pm, Eastside Alano, 1017 Northport Dr.

Madison, moved, Mon. 7:30pm, Midvale Luth. To Community of Hope Ch., 7118 Old Sauk Rd., west of Gammon

Madison, moved, Wed. 7:00pm, Meriter Hosp to V.A. Hospital, 2500 Overlook Ter., 2nd Flr, Room A2002

Madison, Add, 10pm, Mon to Sun, Fitchburg Serenity Club, 6048 McKee Rd., split for non-smokers

Madison, Mon & Thurs, 5:30pm, Fitchburg Serenity, 6048 McKee Rd., basement meeting moved to first floor, handicap accessible

Madison, add, Thurs. 7pm, Westwood Christian Ch., 5210 Odana Rd., additional meeting – Back to Basics Beginners Grp (Steps 1,2,3)

Madison, delete, Spanish meetings on Wed & Sat 7pm, Monona Serenity, Sunday 7pm still going

Madison, Add, Mon to Fri, 7am, C,NS, St. Andrew's Newell House, 1825 Regent St.

Mayville, change, Mon. 7:30pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Ch., 16 S. Walnut, add Non-smoking
 Middleton, delete, Tues. 7:30pm, St. Luke's Lutheran Ch., 7337 Hubbard Ave. Closed, Non-Smoking
 Sun Prairie, delete, Tues. 6:30pm, United Methodist Ch., 702 North St. women's
 Viola, delete, Sat. 8pm, First National Bank, 102 W. Commercial St.

Year to Date Income Statement: January to November 2006

REVENUES

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Donations | 25,593.28 | 31.27% |
| Individual Donations..... | 2,168.00 | 2.65% |
| Donations/Answering Service..... | 1,115.00 | 1.36% |
| Donations/Move | 615.00 | 0.75% |
| Conf Lit & Merch..... | 21,171.53 | 25.87% |
| Grapevine Lit & Merch..... | 1,371.85 | 1.68% |
| Non-Conf Literature..... | 10,389.75 | 12.69% |
| Non-Conf Merchandise | 14,150.49 | 17.29% |
| Faithful Fivers | 348.07 | 0.43% |
| Directories | 938.81 | 1.15% |
| Newsletter Subscriptions..... | 35.00 | 0.04% |
| Investment Income..... | 219.94 | 0.27% |
| Mid-Winter Mixer 2006..... | 2,190.00 | 2.68% |
| Youngtimers/Oldtimers 2006 | 445.60 | 0.54% |
| Miscellaneous Income..... | 257.77 | 0.31% |
| MAICO Reps Picnic 2006..... | 242.10 | 0.30% |
| Big Book Study 2007..... | 15.00 | 0.02% |
| Other Income (copies) | 26.84 | 0.03% |
| Shipping Charges Reimbursed..... | 409.51 | 0.50% |
| Sales Tax Discount..... | 10.00 | <u>0.01%</u> |

TOTAL REVENUES \$81,843.54 100.0%

COST OF SALES

| | | |
|--|------------|---------|
| Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit..... | 16,026.18 | 19.58% |
| Inventory Exp. Grapevine | 1,509.15 | 1.84 % |
| Inventory Exp. NonConf Literature..... | 7,121.51 | 8.70% |
| Inventory Exp. Non Conf Mer. | 8,047.61 | 9.83 % |
| Inventory Adjustments | (1,585.43) | (1.94)% |

TOTAL COST OF SALES \$31,119.02 38.02%

GROSS PROFIT \$50,724.52 61.98%

EXPENSES

| | | |
|--|-----------|--------|
| Auto Expense (mileage) | 199.59 | 0.24% |
| Wages Expense..... | 28,222.65 | 34.48% |
| Payroll Tax Expense..... | 2,157.99 | 2.64% |
| Peachtree Tax Update..... | 190.00 | 0.23% |
| License and Fees Expenses..... | 20.00 | 0.02% |
| Computer – Software – Peachtree Upgrade..... | 249.95 | 0.31% |
| Supplies Expense..... | 1,240.47 | 1.52% |
| Office Expense..... | 326.64 | 0.40% |
| Newsletter Expense | 380.74 | 0.47% |
| Telephone Expense..... | 1,096.31 | 1.34% |
| Answering Service Expense | 3,816.42 | 4.66% |
| Advertising in Phone Book | 953.00 | 1.16% |
| Postage and Shipping Expense..... | 815.07 | 1.00% |
| Occupancy Expense..... | 5,638.50 | 6.89% |
| Insurance Expense | 722.00 | 0.88% |
| Moving Expense..... | 595.00 | 0.73% |
| Printing Expense..... | 22.31 | 0.03% |
| Directory Expense | 1,522.38 | 1.86% |
| Copier Service Contract | 418.72 | 0.51% |
| Intergrp/C.O Seminar 2006 | 464.72 | 0.57% |
| Youngtimers/Oldtimers 2006 | 150.00 | 0.18% |
| Area 75 Spring Conf 2006..... | 267.76 | 0.33% |
| Mid-Winter Mixer 2006..... | 2,593.65 | 3.17% |
| MAICO Reps Picnic 2006..... | 192.29 | 0.23% |
| Clancy Dinner Conference..... | 35.00 | 0.04% |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 42.37 | 0.05% |

TOTAL EXPENSES \$52,333.53 63.94%
NET INCOME (\$1,609.01)

Provide as much of the following information as is possible

New___ Change___ Help___ Discontinued___
Group name (if any)_____ Open___ Closed___
Smoking___ Non-smoking___ Signed___ Accessible___
Day and time of meeting _____
Location_____

Type of meeting_____

Group contact person_____

Contact's phone number_____

Also, let us know of any changes in your group's contact person(s):

Name_____

Position _____

Phone number_____

Group name (if any)_____

Day and time of meeting_____

Location_____