

GAA ZETTE

Our meeting in print.

About MAICO

The mission of MAICO (Madison Area Intergroup Central Office) is to help A.A. groups within its service area (South Central Wisconsin) carry the A.A. message. MAICO helps coordinate and facilitate communication and cooperation among individual A.A. groups, area 12-step and other committees, and components of the A.A. service structure. MAICO provides needed services that are beyond the scope and ability of any individual A.A. group, and is at all times responsible to the groups it serves.

So That's A Spiritual Experience

I can remember, early in my sobriety, feeling depressed because I had not had a spiritual experience. I was sure that I alone had not undergone a sudden change of heart.

This impression came from listening to some other members describe their spiritual awakenings. They described them simply and honestly. There had been, they said, no flashing lights, no burning bushes. But there had been a moment when they experienced total surrender, a sudden change of attitude. It was, they said, an experience that immediately changed their lives.

I assumed (erroneously, I later found) that all AA members had undergone a similar experience. I was sure that those who did not speak of their moment of truth were too modest to describe it. And I was also sure that I was the only one, even among the new members, who had not experienced an instantaneous change.

I believed that my entry into AA had been different. I had come in reluctantly, and had stayed reluctant for as long as possible. Only gradually, over a period of

months, did I realize that I had no place else to go. There was never any sudden, joyful acceptance of recovery. There was, instead, a gradual, sad admission that I could choose AA or die. Not what I would have called a "spiritual" experience.

Fortunately, there was a small group of us who were all new to the program and very close. It was among them that I made a series of discoveries.

First, I discovered that I was not alone. All of us agreed that, whatever a spiritual experience might be, we certainly hadn't had one. We had all been waiting for it to happen, and by now, most of us were convinced that it probably never would. We were different. Unlike the older members, we had been too "sinful" in the past and were too secular in the present to be worthy of anything "spiritual."

Our second discovery was more exciting. We discovered that most of the other members had not undergone an instantaneous change, either. We learned, by listening at meetings and talking to our sponsors, that the majority of those we admired had undergone, like us, a gradual

change. So we weren't inferior. We were with the majority.

The third discovery was a blockbuster. One of us read Bill W.'s discussion of the Twelfth Step in *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*. There, he explains that there are many kinds of spiritual experience. Some are like the conversions of the great religious leaders of the past; others seem purely psychological. Some are sudden or instantaneous; others are a gradual learning experience. But all of them, whatever form they take, have one effect: They make a person capable of doing something he could not do before.

As Bill puts it, "When a man or a woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone.

For all of us, this was an important discovery. I was now capable of doing things that had been impossible for me before; I could not deny it. The obvious example was staying sober – by this time, I had been dry for several consecutive months. Before AA, several consecutive days had been impossible.

In other words, I had been undergoing a spiritual experience without knowing it. My confused questioning about a Higher Power, my changed mental attitude, and even my physical recovery had all been part of a spiritual awakening. Without knowing it, I had been in contact with the source of life, whatever or Whoever that might be.

Paradoxically, the realization that even I had experienced something spiritual was in itself a spiritual experience, and I am only slowly understanding its implications. What happened in the past, without my knowledge, is probably continuing now. And in the future, when tomorrow becomes today, it can go on and on. All that is required is a desire to stop drinking, and to stay stopped.

Ed O. – York, PA.

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The Seventh Step is where we make the change in our attitude which permits us, with humility as our guide, to move out of ourselves toward others and toward God. The whole emphasis of Step Seven is on humility. It is really saying to us that we now ought to be willing to try humility in seeking the removal of our other shortcomings just as we did when we admitted that we were powerless over alcohol, and came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

The Eighth Step

Learning how to live in the greatest peace, partnership, and brotherhood with all men and women, of whatever description, is a moving and fascinating adventure. Every AA has found that he can make little headway in this new adventure of living until he first backtracks and really makes an accurate and unsparing survey of the human wreckage he has left in his wake. Step Eight is the beginning of the end of isolation from our fellows and from God.

Reprinted with permission from A.A.W.S. –
Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions

MAICO - Income Statement For the Five Months ending May 31, 2011

Revenues	Current Month		Year to Date	
Donations	2030.98	22.65	7,231.12	28.03
MAICO 2011 Winter Event	0.00	0.00	344.50	1.34
Individual Donations	3.00	0.03	178.00	0.69
Donations/Answering Service	10.00	0.11	270.00	1.05
Donations - Gratitude Month	0.00	0.00	1,006.39	3.90
Conference Literature	3,572.80	39.85	7,821.38	30.32
Grapevine Literature	89.70	1.00	466.50	1.81
NonConference Literature	1,071.80	11.95	2,877.76	11.16
NonConference Merchandise	1,845.90	20.59	4,915.18	19.05
Faithful Fivers	34.00	0.38	101.00	0.39
Directories	198.00	2.21	346.00	1.34
Newsletter Subscriptions	5.00	0.06	10.00	0.04
Investment Income	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	25.41	0.10
Other Income - copies	7.80	0.09	9.80	0.04
Shipping Charges Reimbursed	87.70	0.98	181.84	0.70
Sales Tax Discount	10.00	0.11	10.00	0.04
Total Revenues	8,966.68	100.00	25,795.82	100.00
Cost of Sales				
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	1,669.10	18.61	5,299.08	20.54
Inventory Exp.-Grapevine Lit.	328.50	3.66	328.50	1.27
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	1,086.09	12.11	2,487.82	9.64
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	1,417.73	15.81	3,872.21	15.01
Total Cost of Sales	4,501.42	50.20	11,987.61	46.47
Gross Profit	4,465.26	49.80	13,808.21	53.53
Expenses				
Wages Expense	2,703.21	30.15	8,332.47	32.30
Payroll Tax Expense	206.80	2.31	637.45	2.47
License and fees Expenses	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.04
Supplies Expense	317.65	3.54	608.67	2.36
Office Expense	8.98	0.10	100.14	0.39
Newsletter Expense	94.79	1.06	94.79	0.37
Telephone Expense	112.55	1.26	339.57	1.32
Answering Service Expense	441.30	4.92	1,376.04	5.33
Advertising in Phone Book	88.50	0.99	265.50	1.03
Postage and Shipping Expense	84.71	0.94	242.00	0.94
Occupancy Expense	765.26	8.53	2,295.78	8.90
Insurance Expense	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.02
MAICO Reps Winter Event	0.00	0.00	177.00	0.69
MAICO Reps Picnic 2011	58.00	0.65	58.00	0.22
Meetings Expense – Steering & Reps	25.00	0.28	75.00	0.29
Miscellaneous Expense	9.23	0.10	9.23	0.04
Total Expenses	4,915.98	54.82	14,627.64	56.71
Net Income	(450.72)	(5.03)	(819.43)	(3.18)

Upcoming Events 2011

Some event flyers on www.aamadisonwi.org or www.area75.org
Any district or group AA event can be posted on the Area 75 calendar by going to www.area75.org, click "get your event posted here", be aware that info & flyers go on internet, mindful of anonymity, names on flyers etc

- Jul 1-3 – Ontario Campout, 2 miles North of Ontario on State Hwy 131, contact: 608-337-4588**
- Jul 7-10 – 15th Annual "Keep It Simple" Washington Island Camping Retreat, 745 East Side Rd, Washington Island, WI. AA & Al-Anon speakers. Info at www.washingtonislandcamping.com Email: campingretreat@yahoo.com Pre-registration is \$15, on sight registration is \$20, registration fee does not include costs for ferry, meals, lodging and camping.**
- Jul 9 – Campfire Meeting, Platteville, Grills hot at 6pm, meeting at 8pm, Ed & Jeanna M., 747 Badland Rd., Home: 608-348-9062 Cells: 608-778-7437 or 778-4887.**
- Jul 16 – "Why" and "How" they found "Fun" in Sobriety, Pass It On Club, 6229 W. Forest Home Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Panels 2pm-4:30pm, 5pm Speaker: Timmy M. Pittsburg, PA.**
- Jul 16 – WICYPAA, Battle of the Boozers, Karaoke Competition, Picnic & Speaker Meeting, Token Creek Cty Park, Shelter #2, Bring a lawn chair & your talent, \$5 suggested donation. Brian 608-446-0916**
- Jul 17 – 3rd Annual Breakfast, Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1 North Main St., Fond du Lac, AA Speaker: Jo Mc. 10am Breakfast, 11am Speaker, Buffet & beverages \$9.00, Children under 12 \$4.50. Just coffee \$1.50 Just meeting \$0.00.**
- Jul 17 – Foxhall Recovery Grp Picnic, 1950's Social, Token Creek, Shelter #1, 11am-3pm. Contact: Sunshine, 608-513-9771**
- Aug 13 – 6th Annual MAICO Reps Picnic, Swan City Park – Mill St. Shelter, Beaver Dam, WI. Speakers at 2:00pm, AA & Al-Anon, possibly Alateen, 1:00pm lunch, sloppy joes, hot dogs, beverages Please bring a dessert or salad, lawn chairs, sporting equipment, "your fellowship."**
- Aug 20 – Campfire Meeting, Platteville, Grills hot at 6pm, meeting at 8pm, Ed & Jeanna M., 747 Badland Rd., Home: 608-348-9062 Cells: 608-778-7437 or 778-4887.**
- Aug 19-21 – 31st Annual Green Lake Roundup, Green Lake Conference Center, Green Lake, WI. AA & Al-Anon speakers. www.greenlakeroundup.com**
- Aug 18-21 – 34th Annual Cornhusker Roundup, Omaha, NE. www.AA-Cornhusker.org**
- Aug 21 – Richland Center Group Picnic, Krouskop Park – Retrum Shelter, Group will supply meat, please bring a dish to pass. Eat at Noon. Parks Dept allows no pets. Speaker: Andrea (Andy) C., Platteville**
- Nov 5 – 15th Annual MAICO Reps Youngtimers/Oldtimers Workshop, Trinity Lutheran Ch., 1904 Winnebago St., Madison, WI. 10am – 3pm.**
- Jan 2012 – WICYPAA XIX in Madison, WI. Wisconsin Conference of Young People of AA, Early registration: \$15. www.wicypaa.org or email chair2012@wicypaa.org**

***MAICO is moving on August 6
To 2000 Engel St., Suite 103
Madison, WI. 53713***

We need your help:
Call the MAICO office to volunteer: 608-222-8989

***Thank You's
April 29- June 24, 2011***

General Fund

511 Step Grp
Belleville Grp
Berlin Fri. Night Grp
DeForest Grps
District 20
Early Risers Grp
Grace Lunch Grp
Into Action Grp
It's a God Thing Grp
Language of the Heart Grp
Living Sober Grp
Mauston Wed. Afternoon
Monona Serenity Grp
Monroe No Butts Grp
Monticello Grp
Not a Glum Lot Grp
Our Primary Purpose Grp
Out to Lunch Grp
Portage 207 Grp
Prairie du Chien Into Action Grp
Richland Center Grp
Rock River Grp
Sat. Keep It Simple Grp
Sat. On Timers Grp
Sauk Prairie Grps
Serenity at Six Grp
St. Andy's Grp
Suburban Sobriety Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp

Sunrise Serenity Grp
Thurs. Good Morning Grp
Thurs. Women's Grp
Waunakee Wauna Meeting
Westfield 12 & 12 Grp

Answering Service

Kathy W.

Faithful Fivers

Larry L.

Individual Donations

Anonymous Donations – 6

MAICO Corrections/Treatment

Fund

Capital Steps Grp
Early Risers Grp
Living Sober Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp
Waunakee Wauna Meeting

Gratitude Month

Cross Plains Unity Grp

Dane County Jail Meetings

Need Women to volunteer to take a meeting into the jail:
Call Mary at 312-320-2406 or
Email: map4mc@yahoo.com
Sun 1pm & Tues 7pm. 1 year of sobriety & must get clearance.

**2011-12 South Central
Wisconsin Directories are
here, \$1.00 ea:**

Changes to the new directory:
Delete: **Madison**, Tues 6:30pm & 8:00pm, Highland Manor, 10 Malibu
Add: **Adams**, Thurs. 7:30pm, Open, Women's Grp, Adams-Friendship Club, 1093 Cty Trunk M East
Add: **Spring Green**, Tues. 10:00am, Closed, Christ Lutheran Ch., 237 E. Daly St. Conference Room
Change: **Prairie du Chien**, Sat. 10am, moved from Family Resource Center to Crawford County Jail, 224 N. Beaumont, upstairs
Delete: **Watertown**, Fri. 7:30pm, St. Paul's Episcopal Ch., 413 S. 2nd St.
Last meeting on 6/24/11

**For This,
We Are Responsible**

We need your help and cooperation if we are to keep up to date about meetings and groups in the area we serve. Please let us know of any changes to the meetings you attend or to your group so we can pass the information along to our readers. Call MAICO with any changes that you know of or fill out this form and send it to MAICO, 6033 Monona Drive, Suite 204, Madison, WI 53716-3963.

Provide as much of the following information as is possible

New___ Change___ Help___ Discontinued___

Group name (if any)_____ Open___ Closed___

Signed___ Handicap Accessible___ Format_____

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_____

MAICO

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