

GAAZETTE

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.

Did You Know Intergroups/Central Offices?

It's in Conference-Approved Literature

PURPOSE and RELATIONSHIP within SERVICE STRUCTURE

The following statements are from, "AA Guidelines: Intergroups and Central Offices," which are "compiled from the shared experience of AA members throughout the US and Canada to assist in reaching an informed group conscience."

"Nearly 1000 Intergroups/Central Offices worldwide perform vital AA services, constituting a network of service outlets and AA contacts to help carry the AA message."

Intergroups...

"Exist to aid the groups in their common purpose of carrying the Alcoholics Anonymous message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Intergroups are...

"Established to carry out functions which are best handled by a central office."

Intergroups are...

"An AA service office that involves partnership among groups in a community—just as AA groups themselves are partnerships of individuals."

Intergroups in relation to the General Service Office:

"Direct group contact with GSO doesn't take the place of services provided by a local service office, but helps GSO to keep in closer touch with all groups."

Intergroups in relation to the General Service Structure:

"In 1990 the General Service Conference stressed the importance of communication and recommended that delegates establish and maintain contact with offices in their areas to share Conference information and assure that Intergroups/Central Offices have a voice in the Fellowship through their existing service structure."

"It is not important who does the work (the General Service Committee or the Central Office or Intergroup Committee in your area) but that the work gets done—that help is there for the next alcoholic who needs us and our Fellowship."

"Central Offices and General Service Area Committees are complementary, rather than competitive, AA operations. Both exist to help insure AA unity and fulfill AA's primary purpose of carrying the message."

"In general service areas where P.I. (Public Information) and C.P.C. (Cooperation with the Professional Community) committees are under the auspices of a General Service Committee, the central office works in close cooperation with these committees."

Suggested methods for financing an Intergroup include...

1. Group Contributions
2. Special Contributions
3. Sale of Literature—

It is also possible to buy books from your Intergroup Office at the retail price, the small profit going to support the central office.

4. Special Events

The following statements are from, "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," in which "a cofounder of Alcoholics Anonymous tells how members recover and how the society functions."

From page 168 and 169

"Neither could AA itself function without full-time workers. ...At Intergroup offices, we couldn't employ nonalcoholics as secretaries; we had to have people who knew the AA pitch."

"[A secretary*] was not professionalizing the 12th Step; she was just making it possible. She was helping to give the man coming in the door the break he ought to have. Volunteer committeemen and assistants could be of great help, but they could not be expected to carry this load day in and day out."

"...Books and literature do not package and channel themselves all over the world. ...Letters on every conceivable AA problem...must be answered.

Right contacts with the world outside have to be maintained. AA lifelines have to be tended. So we hire AA staff members. They are professional[s], but they certainly are not professional AA's."

And from page 191, Traditions – Long Form

"Nine – Each AA group needs the least possible organization...and the groups of a large metropolitan area [may elect] their central or Intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary.*"

*Note: In the early beginnings the term secretary was used, today most Central Offices employ a full time office manager

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE From, AA Comes of Age

"As AA in Chicago slowly grew and prospered...when the Saturday Evening Post article appeared in 1941...the traffic became very heavy...something had to be done...to direct the stream of applicants for Twelfth Step attention, hospitalization, or other help...This was AA's first organized local service center, the forerunner of many Intergroup Associations we maintain in large cities nowadays."

-page 23

"Unable to reach AA on the phone, alcoholics and their families got discouraged as they tried to contact us...This caused needless suffering and sometimes loss of life...goaded by the sheer necessity of the situation, responsible old-timers in such areas would often hire a small office and a paid secretary...out of this long travail and struggle, AA's present Intergroup or area Central Office have emerged...In scores of cities they are doing a vitally necessary job."

-page 143

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE-APPROVED LITERATURE

With INTERGROUP/CENTRAL OFFICE REFERENCES

BM-33 The AA Service Manual 2008-09 Editions, p. S41-S42

"[Intergroups]/Central Offices provide local services; general service committees maintain the link between the AA groups and the AA General Service Board by means of the Conference. So these two separate but vital service structures co-exist in many areas in mutual cooperation and harmony."

P-45 "Circles of Love and Service"

"[Intergroups/Central Offices] are different because they fill a different need."

P-16 "The AA Group...Where It All Begins"

"Your Intergroup, or Central Office, is often where the still-suffering alcoholic first calls or shows up for AA help."

F-3 "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix"

"...the group may decide to further carry the AA message by sending money to the following AA service entities [including] the local Intergroup or Central Office..."

F-96 The AA Group Treasurer

"...the group can participate in the financial support of the Fellowship as a whole by sending money to various AA service entities [including] their local Intergroup or Central Office..."

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*Gratitude Month – November.....
Our Chance to Help "Carry the Message to Those
Who Still Suffer"*

One of the most satisfying things we receive in AA is humble gratitude that slowly fills our hearts as we continue, day-by-day, to live our program of recovery. Our return is rich. The seed we have planted is small -- merely a willingness to be helped and in turn to help others. Our useless lives become useful. Our fears give way to serenity. Confusion is replaced with purpose. Wishes become actions. Existence becomes a daily adventure in living.

Maintenance of our Madison Area Intergroup Central Office (MAICO) is costly. There are many expenses connected with running this office -- so that MAICO can continue to provide a service to those in need. Even with ongoing donations received from area AA groups, MAICO has difficulty meeting its operational expenses.

Gratitude Month - Was first officially recognized in 1956. As Bill W. urged in a letter, "Gratitude should go forward, rather than backward.....if you carry the message to still others, you will be making the best possible repayment for the help given to you."

This Is Our Appeal – Consider making a special donation to assist our area MAICO office in continuing to provide a service which is so important to our own sobriety and to those still suffering. There are some who can't give at this time. There are others who will be able to give much more. But no matter whether your contribution is large or small, it will be welcomed. And it will give each of us a tangible outlet to show the gratitude welling up in our hearts for the good life we are enjoying.

Each Week During November – An envelope will be circulated at those group meetings who wish to participate in this effort. Please consider making an extra donation for this purpose. Whether your contribution is small or large – it will greatly be appreciated.

You can pick up an envelope at the MAICO office or check with your DCM (District Committee member), envelopes were mailed to the DCM's in MAICO's service area.

Thank You for your continued support of your Central Office



Need that Special Gift

Remember MAICO has a wide selection of conference and nonconference literature, medallions, and gifts for that special someone.

T-Shirts Book Covers Medallions Coffee Cups
Wallet Cards Bookmarks Key Chains DVDs
Literature: AA, Al-Anon, and Grapevine

MAICO, the Madison Area Intergroup Central Office only accepts Cash or Checks

MAICO is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit corporation.
Your donations are tax deductible up to
\$2,000 per AA member per year.

**MAICO Revised By-Laws were approved by the voting groups
on October 14, 2009.**

**Please Note: Steering Committee & MAICO Reps –
Nov. 10th meeting held at St. Stephen's Church
5700 Pheasant Hill Road, Madison 6:00 p.m.--Steering, 7:00 p.m.-- Reps**

*Madison Area Intergroup Central Office (MAICO)
6033 Monona Drive, Madison, WI 53716
(608) 222-8989 www.aamadisonwi.org*

Upcoming Events

Some event flyers on www.aamadisonwi.org or www.area75.org

2009

Nov. 6 – 8 – **58th Area 75 Fall Conference**, Heidel House Resort, Green Lake (Area Inventory)

Nov. 13 – 15 – **2009 East Central Regional Forum, with our U.S./Canada General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous**, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Kalamazoo Ctr., 100 W. Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI.

Register online at www.aa.org

Nov. 14 – 13th **Annual MAICO Reps Youngtimers/Oldtimers Workshop**, Trinity Lutheran Ch., 1904 Winnebago St., Madison. 10am to 3pm.

Nov. 20 – 22 – **McHenry's 20th Annual Soberfest**, Grand Geneva Resort, 7020 Grand Geneva Way, Lake Geneva, WI. They need 300 volunteers. www.soberfest.org

2010

Jan. 24 – **Area 75 Service Winter Service Assembly**, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Madison

Jan. 22 – 24 - **WICYPAA Conference**, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI. www.wicypaa.org

Feb 12 – 14 – **Conference of Delegates Past & Present**,

Feb 11 – 14, 2010 - **46th International Women's Conference**, Language of the Heart, Orlando, Florida
www.internationalwomensconference.org

Mar 21 – **Delegates Workshop**, Madison Senior Center

Apr 10 – **Dist. 9 Mini-Conference**, St. Rose School, Cuba City, WI. Theme: "Go to any Lengths"

Apr 11 – **Area 75 Pre-Conference Assembly**, Madison Senior Center

Apr 18 – **General Service Conference**, New York, New York

Apr 30 – May 2 – **Area 75 Spring Conference**, Olympia Resort, Oconomowoc, WI.

Jul 1 -4 - **AAWS International Convention, San Antonio, TX** – Reg. forms & You can register on line at www.aa.org which opens Sept. 1, 2009 , look for International Convention logo

Aug 26 – 29 – **52nd ICYPAA – International Conference of Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous**, New York, New York www.icypaahost.org

Sept 18 – **Foxhall Recovery Group's 15th Annual Eatin' Meetin'**, Trinity Lutheran Ch., 1904 Winnebago St., Madison, WI. 6:30pm Dinner, 8pm Speaker: Dick M. Bellevue, NE

Please Note Change: District 20 G.S.R meetings are being held at the Monona Community Center, 1011 Nichols Road, Monona, WI, on the last Tuesday of the month. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Thank You's
August 15 to October 23, 2009

General Fund

511 Mon 5:30/Sat 2pm Grp
511 Step Grp
A Vision for You Grp
Back to Basics Grps
Beaver Dam Gut Level Grp
Belleville Grp
Beloit Happy Hour Grp
Caring and Sharing Grp
Daily Reflections Grp
DeForest Progress Grp
Early Risers Grp
Easy Breathers Grp
EDIBDI Grp
Experience, Strength & Hope Grp
Foxhall Recovery Grp
Freedom Grp
Grace Lunch Grp
Into Action Grp
It's a God Thing Grp
Keep It Simple Grp
Lake Wingra Serenity Grp
Learning to Live Grp
Living Sober Grp
Mauston Wednesday Afternoon Meeting
Men in Recovery Grp
Monona Serenity Grp
Mt. Olive Grp
New Glarus Sobrietyfest Grp

No Butts Grp
Open Door Grp
Redgranite Grp
Reflections Grp
Richland Center Grp
Rock River Grp
Rome Sunday Night Grp
Saturday Ontimers Grp
Sauk Prairie Grp
Serenity at 6pm Women's Grp
St. Andy's Grp
St. Dunstan's Beginner's Grp
Suburban Sobriety Grp
Sunlight of the Spirit (SOTS) Grp
Sunrisers Grp
Wednesday Pinehurst Grp

Prudent Reserve

Answering Service
Kathy W. - monthly

Faithful Fivers
Larry L. - monthly

Gratitude Month

Individual Donations
Anonymous
Claire K.
Don G.

**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___

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_____

MAICO

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Madison, WI 53716-3963

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