

# **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.*

## **That Old Sinking Feeling**

**March 1990**

I guess all alcoholics are familiar with it: that sudden sinking feeling in the pit of the stomach, a sense of apprehension, an inner voice of impending doom.

A lot of things can trigger it.

A phone ringing in the middle of the night.

A letter from the IRS.

The flashing red lights of a police car appearing suddenly in your rear-view mirror.

But since I put the cork back in the bottle, a moment of rational thought generally replaces the unreasoning fear. The phone calls turns out to be a wrong number, the letter from the IRS is a routine notice, and the police car speeds by on some other errand. Besides, I have little to fear these days. My financial affairs are in honest, if not good, shape. Were I to get pulled over for exceeding the speed limit by a mile or two, I wouldn't have to worry about my breath.

The other day, however, something out of the ordinary happened and that old sinking feeling momentarily came back. I've been thinking about it every since.

I had arrived for one of my regular meetings, a noontime one, and after parking my car I walked briskly to the side of the church where it is held. I was feeling better already because just the anticipation of a cup of coffee with AA friends followed by an hour of sharing is enough to brighten up the rest of my day.

I put my hand on the door knob and pulled. The door didn't give.

I was sure it opened out but since I probably haven't cleared up completely, I tried pushing.

Nothing. So I pulled again.

It was locked.

I ratted it, banged on it, but nobody came and I started to act with the old emotional knee-jerk reactions of panic.

Did I have the wrong day? Was my watch wrong? Had the group moved? Was there some reason for no meeting today? Maybe the church needed the room? Why hadn't they announced it? Why hadn't somebody at least put a notice on the door?

The I realized there was, indeed, something on the door; the familiar AA sign proclaiming that there was a meeting today.

Reason returned. Obviously the door had somehow been accidentally locked behind the last person to enter.

And I went around to one of the basement windows. I could see people inside, drinking their coffee, talking, and laughing. I rapped on the glass and someone looked up and waved, wondering why I was peering in like a peeping Tom. Once they understood my plight they went around and opened the door.

Everybody, of course, had a good laugh. During the discussion meeting that followed, several people good-naturedly expressed the hope that being locked out hadn't given me a resentment.

As I said, however, I've been thinking about it since.

What if the doors to AA could really be locked against me? What if it was possible to take away my membership? Maybe because I hadn't paid my dues, or because I didn't meet some ethical or ethnic standards, or maybe because I "broke the rules" by going out and getting drunk, as I have a few times during my long association with the Fellowship?

But then I recall the Preamble, and the Third Tradition, those words I so often hear without really listening, like the Lord's Prayer or the Pledge of Allegiance.

"The only requirement for AA membership," it says, "is a desire to stop drinking."

Since I meet that requirement, the doors of AA will always be opened to me. I need never be on the outside looking in through a basement window at the happy faces within.

And thank God—and Bob and Bill and everyone who makes the coffee and opens the meeting rooms and hangs the AA signs on the door—for that. Because without AA I know the only other antidote for those fears, imagined and real, would be the anesthesia that comes in a bottle. And that's what brought me to AA on my knees in the first place.

Ed F., Park Ridge, N.J. Reprinted with permission from AA Grapevine, The Home Group

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## The Ninth Step

Good Judgment, a careful sense of timing, courage, and prudence—these are the qualities we shall need when we take Step Nine.

For the readiness to take the full consequences of our past acts, and to take responsibility for the well-being of others at the same time, is the very spirit of Step Nine.

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## The Tenth Step

When we approach Step Ten we commence to put our A.A. way of living to practical use, day by day, in fair weather or foul. Then comes the acid test: can we stay sober, keep in emotional balance, and live to good purpose under all conditions?

An honest regret for harms done, a genuine gratitude for blessings received, and a willingness to try for better things tomorrow will be the permanent assets we shall seek. Having so considered our day, not omitting to take due note of things well done, and having searched our hearts with neither fear nor favor, we can truly thank God for the blessings we have received and sleep in good conscience.

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

## MAICO - Income Statement For the Seven Months ending July 31, 2011

Revenues	Current Month		Year to Date	
Donations	4,546.74	47.67	20,123.90	31.78
MAICO 2011 Winter Event	0.00	0.00	344.50	0.54
Individual Donations	100.00	1.05	645.30	1.02
Donations/Answering Service	0.00	0.00	320.00	0.51
Donations - Gratitude Month	0.00	0.00	1,191.31	1.88
Conference Literature	2,317.39	24.30	17,554.82	27.72
Grapevine Literature	68.80	0.72	887.29	1.40
NonConference Literature	528.33	5.54	6,354.34	10.04
NonConference Merchandise	1,606.44	16.84	11,023.57	17.41
Faithful Fivers	34.00	.36	237.00	0.37
Directories	253.60	2.66	965.10	1.52
Newsletter Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.05
Investment Income	0.00	0.00	2.01	0.00
Inventory Adjustment – 6/30/11	0.00	0.00	3,101.36	4.90
Miscellaneous Income	0.40	0.00	26.25	0.04
MAICO Rep Picnic 2011	25.00	0.26	25.00	0.04
Other Income - copies	14.50	0.15	24.90	0.04
Shipping Charges Reimbursed	43.01	0.45	431.86	0.68
Sales Tax Discount	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.05
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>9,538.21</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>63,318.51</b>	<b>100.00</b>
 <b>Cost of Sales</b>				
Inventory Exp.-Conference Lit.	1,481.90	15.54	11,091.27	17.52
Inventory Exp.- Grapevine Lit.	0.00	0.00	499.00	0.79
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Lit.	213.43	2.24	4,364.68	6.89
Inventory Exp.-NonConfer Mer.	521.06	5.46	7,036.21	11.11
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>2,216.39</b>	<b>23.24</b>	<b>22,991.16</b>	<b>36.31</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>7,321.82</b>	<b>76.76</b>	<b>40,327.35</b>	<b>63.69</b>
 <b>Expenses</b>				
Auto Expense	0.00	0.00	82.28	0.13
Wages Expense	3,415.36	35.81	20,669.83	32.64
Payroll Tax Expense	261.28	2.74	1,581.29	2.50
License and fees Expenses	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.02
Supplies Expense	94.06	0.99	1,285.27	2.03
Office Expense	16.30	0.17	182.22	0.29
Newsletter Expense	0.00	0.00	94.79	0.15
Telephone Expense	112.45	1.18	791.65	1.25
Answering Service Expense	467.38	4.90	3,604.96	5.69
Advertising in Phone Book	88.50	0.93	619.50	0.98
Postage and Shipping Expense	100.11	1.05	637.40	1.01
Occupancy Expense	765.26	8.02	5,356.82	8.46
Insurance Expense	0.00	0.00	381.00	0.60
Directory Expense	0.00	0.00	1,598.00	2.52
Intergrp/C.O. Seminar 2011	25.00	0.26	25.00	0.04
MAICO Reps Winter Event	0.00	0.00	177.00	0.28
MAICO Reps Picnic 2011	0.00	0.00	58.00	0.09
Meetings Expense – Steering & Reps	25.00	0.26	175.00	0.28

Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	9.23	0.01
Other Expense	0.00	0.00	170.94	0.27
Total Expenses	\$5,370.70	56.31	\$37,510.18	59.24
Net Income	\$1,951.12	20.46	\$2,817.17	4.45

## Upcoming Events 2011

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

**Sept. 2 – 5 – 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Serenity Campout, Camp Indian Trails, Janesville, Contact Ray E. for more info 608-290-4821**

**Sept. 9 – Finger Food Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, Appetizers 6:30pm, Speaker 7pm, United Methodist Ch., 1804 New Pinery Rd., Portage, WI.**

**Sept. 9 – District 35 (Green County) restructuring Meeting, 8:00pm, (following 12 & 12 meeting), Zwingli United Church of Christ, 416 E. Lake Ave., Monticello. Everyone Welcome. Electing a DCM.**

**Sept. 10 – MAICO Open House, 9am to Noon, 2000 Engel St., Suite 104, Madison, WI. – Donuts, Coffee & Fellowship, Merchandise Sales**

**Sept. 17 – Greater Milwaukee Central Office 41<sup>st</sup> Annual City Wide Jamboree 2011, Milwaukee County Zoo, Peck Welcome Center, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee. Hospitality: 5pm, Dinner: 6pm, Speaker: Mildred F./Toronto 7pm. Tickets: \$25.00, pay by check or credit card.**

**Sept. 17 – Campfire Meeting, Platteville, WI. Ed & Jeanna M. 747 Badland Rd., h-608-348-9062 c-608-778-7437 or 778-4887. Grills hot 6pm, meeting 8pm, Bring food to grill & dish to pass.**

**Sept. 17 – Dist. 31 Workshop, "Recovery, Unity & Service", Poynette –DeKorra Lutheran Ch., Hwy CS & Smith Rd., Poynette, starts at 8:30am**

**Oct. 8 – New Glarus Sobrietyfest 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Mini-Conference, "Our Primary Purpose", 8:30am-3:00pm, Panels, Lunch provided, Salads & Desserts are welcome. Shepherd of the Hills Ch., 506 Twelfth Ave., New Glarus, Raffle**

**Oct. 8 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "A.A. at the V.A." Mini-Conference, Al-anon participation, Clement J. Zablocki V.A. Hospital Center, 5000 West National Ave., Milwaukee, WI. Suggested Donation: \$5.00**

**Oct. 20 – Dist. 20 Mini-Conference, Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Madison**

**Oct. 22 – Women to Women, Closed AA meeting, The Pass It On Club, 6229 W. Forest Ave., Milwaukee, WI. 414-541-6923. 9am to 2:30pm. Registration: \$10 in advance, \$15 at door, includes Lunch Buffet, coffee & donuts.**

Oct. 29 – Dist. 30 Mini-Conference, “Faith Without Works is Dead”, Trinity Episcopal. Ch., Janesville, WI.  
Nov. 5 – 15<sup>th</sup> Annual MAICO Reps Youngtimers/Oldtimers Workshop, Trinity Lutheran Ch., 1904  
Winnebago St., Madison, WI. 10am – 3pm.

Nov. 18-20 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual McHenry’s Soberfest, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI.

[www.soberfest.org](http://www.soberfest.org)

Nov. 11-13 – 2011 East Central Regional Forum, Holiday Inn Dayton Mall, 31 Prestige Plaza Dr.,  
Miamisburg, OH. 45342. No registration fee. This forum is put on by AA General Service Board & is open  
to A.A. members or to anyone interested in A.A.

Jan. 27-29, 2012 – WICYCAA XIX, Madison Concourse Hotel, in Madison, WI. Wisconsin Conference of  
Young People of AA, Early registration: \$15 until 12/5. [www.wicypaa.org](http://www.wicypaa.org) or email [chair2012@wicypaa.org](mailto:chair2012@wicypaa.org)

*Thank You's*  
*July 1 to August 19, 2011*

**General Fund**

207 Grp  
Barney’s Grp  
Beaver Dam Mon. 6pm Grp  
Blue Mon/Sat 2pm Grp  
Caring & Sharing Grp  
Daily Reflections Grp  
Dells-Delton Tues Grp  
Early Risers Grp  
Experience, Strength & Hope Grp  
Fel-O-Ship Grp  
Foxhall Recovery Grp  
Freedom Grp  
Going After Your Sobriety Grp  
Grace Lunch Grp  
Hwy. 21 Tuesday Night Grp  
Into Action Grp  
Lodi Lifeliners Grp  
Mauston Wed. Afternoon Grp  
Mid Morning Grp  
Monona Serenity Grp  
Morning After Grp  
Neshkoro Side Door Recovery Grp  
New Freedom Grp  
New Glarus Sobrietyfest Grp  
No Butts Grp  
Poynette DeKorra Grp  
Richland Center Primitive Grp  
Recovery By the Book Grp  
Rock River Grp  
Saturday Night Live Grp  
Sauk Prairie Grp

Slip Nots Grp  
Sober Sunrise Grp  
Steps to Success Grp  
Sundowners Grp  
Sunlight of the Spirit Grp  
Sun Prairie Mon/Thurs Grps  
Sunrise Serenity Grp  
Sunrisers Grp  
Sunshine Grp  
The Phoenix Grp  
Town & Country Grp  
Village Grp  
Waupun Tues. Night Grp  
Wautoma Friday Night Grp  
Wautoma Thurs Morning Grp  
Wed. Night Schooners Grp  
WI. Dells Happy Hour Grp

**Answering Service**

Kathy W.

**Faithful Fivers**

Larry L.

**Individual Donations**

Anonymous – 3  
Claire K.  
Ernestina P. for MAICO picnic

**MAICO Corrections/Treatment**

**Fund**

Sunlight of the Spirit Grp

**Changes to 2011-12 South  
Central Wisconsin Directories**

**Adams** – add, Thurs. 7:30pm, O,  
Women, 1093 County Trunk M East  
**Lancaster** – change, Thurs 7pm,  
Seventh Day Adventist Ch., 200 E.  
Alona Lane, This is an Open meeting  
**Madison** – delete – Tues. 6:30pm &  
8pm, Highland Manor Mobile Park,  
10 Malibu Dr.  
**Madison** – add – Thurs, 5:30pm, C,  
Bethel Luth. Ch., 312 Wisconsin Ave.,  
Room 205, Emotional Sobriety  
**Madison** – add – Fri. 8:30pm, O,  
Westwood Christian Ch., 5210 Odana  
Rd., Candlelight  
**Madison** – add – Sun. 7pm, C,  
Fitchburg Serenity, 6048 McKee Rd.,  
Big Book Study  
**Prairie du Chien** – change – Sat.  
10am, Family Resource Center moved  
to Crawford Cty. Jail, 224 N.  
Beaumont, upstairs  
**Spring Green** – add – Tues. 10am, C,  
Christ Luth. Ch., 237 E. Daly St.  
(Conference Room)  
**Watertown** – delete – Fri. 7:30pm, St.  
Paul’s Episcopal. 413 2<sup>nd</sup> St.  
**Wisc. Dells** – change – Thurs. 7pm,  
Presbyterian Ch.. 730 Cedar St. This is  
a Big Book Study

**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, 2000 Engel Street, Suite 104, Madison, WI 53713

**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**

Madison Area Intergroup Central Office  
2000 Engel Street, Suite 104  
Madison, WI 53713

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