

The Lifeline



November, 2008

24 Hour Phone: 651-227-5502

Volume 43, Issue 11

St. Paul Intergroup Board Elections

Tuesday, November 18th

Group Representatives' Meeting

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, just south of I-94

Open positions include Alternate Chair (becomes Board Chair), Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer (becomes Treasurer), Secretary, Two At-large Board Members.



STEP ELEVEN: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

In Order to Receive We Must Give: the Eleventh Step Prayer

'Lord, make me a channel of thy peace—that where there is hatred, I may bring love—that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness—that where there is discord, I may bring harmony—that where there is error, I may bring truth—that where there is doubt, I may bring faith—that where there is despair, I may bring hope—that where there are shadows, I may bring light—that where there is sadness, I may bring joy. Lord grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted—to understand than to be understood—to love than to be loved. For it is by self-forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life. Amen.'

(Reprinted from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* p.99 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

St. Francis meditated on God's will for him and asked that he be given insight into how he could serve others. Only when focusing on God's will and not self-will can we truly serve others and only through conscious contact with our Higher Power can we determine what God's will for us could be. The Eleventh Step is more than prayer and meditation, it's a desire to act with God's will in mind in our day to day lives.

— Liz N., Intergroup staff

St. Paul Intergroup Gratitude Night !

Saturday, November 22

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, 55103



St. Paul Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous®

Web Site: www.aastpaul.org

E-mail: lifeline@aastpaul.org

Fax: 651-290-0209

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday — 9 AM to 6 PM; Tuesday: 9 AM to 8 PM

1600 University Avenue W. Suite 407 St. Paul MN 55104

Tradition Eleven: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and film.

Facts about anonymity in A.A.

- A.A. members may disclose their identity and speak as recovered alcoholics, giving radio, TV and Internet interviews, without violating the Traditions — so long as their A.A. membership is not revealed.
- A.A. members may speak as A.A. members only if their names or faces are not revealed. They speak not for A.A., but as individual members.
- Experience suggests that A.A. members . . . Use last names within the Fellowship, especially for election of group officers and other service jobs.

From the pamphlet *Understanding Anonymity* pp. 10-11, reprinted with permission from AA World Services Inc.

The Twelve Concepts: Concept Eleven

“While the trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.’s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs, and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.”

Concept Eleven is a “nuts and bolts” concept about the way we organize and run the General Service Office in New York, the A.A. Grapevine office, and A.A. World Services (publisher of all A.A.’s literature). It offers principles and suggestions in four areas of our service activities. An excellent summary is available in the pamphlet, *The Twelve Concepts for World Service, Illustrated*. Although the Concepts pertain directly to our General Service organizations, they also provide the basis for the G.S.O. guidelines for Intergroups and Central Offices.

1. The status of executives
2. Paid workers, how compensated
3. Rotation among paid staff workers
4. Full “participation” of paid workers is highly important

— Lifeline Editor

CONTRIBUTE YOUR EXPERIENCE TO THE *LIFELINE*!!

In most issue of the *Lifeline* we reprint articles and essays from A.A. and Grapevine literature, and it works pretty well. But we’d really like to have the St. Paul Intergroup newsletter full of the voices of St. Paul A.A. members. Call the office or email us to learn how to contribute. (651) 227-5502 or lifeline@aastpaul.org

2008 Steering Board

<u>Chair:</u>	Tom S.
<u>Alt. Chair:</u>	Mary Jo N.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Lesli D.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Diane E.
<u>Members at Large 2008:</u>	Steve B. & Jeff H.
<u>Members at Large 2007:</u>	Mark K. & Lisa L.
<u>Advisor to the Board:</u>	Jeff T.
<u>Office Manager:</u>	Tom N.

Office Calls in September

Meeting information	219
Inventory/hours	34
12th step calls	16
Temporary sponsor	27
Speaker request	22
Special events	5
Outside issues	41
Info For Professionals	1
Administrative	110
Other	74
Total Calls	549
Daily average	26.1
Visitors	155

Call tally is for calls taken during office hours only and does not include calls taken during Night Owl shifts.

Saint Paul AA Intergroup Representatives' Meeting Minutes, September 16, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 (see attendees below); The Primary Purpose of Intergroup was read by Barb H.

August minutes were approved and accepted as is.

Treasurer's Report. Diane E. A) - Diane E reported 'Faithful Fivers' contributions were down; August contributions were \$4060; Sales were \$8134 – both above budget for the year.

Office Report -- Tom N. A) We're in need of more volunteers, especially for NightOwl 12-step list. Please bring the 'pink' volunteer forms to your meetings. B) An updated 'twelve-step list' was distributed, along with a 'Letter to 12-step Volunteers' (for NightOwl). C) AAWS has discounted the 'Experience, Strength, & Hope' book to \$8. This is a compilation of stories from 1st-3rd Editions and makes a great gift.

Website Report – The Google map functions showing meeting locations is working great! Remember to send in new meeting and event info to the office (lifeline@aastpaul.org).

Outreach Program – Tom N. reported that Jeff C. could use more volunteers; the committee has visited with 23 meetings over that last couple of months.

Night Owl Report – Patti M. A) RNC had little impact on phone activity in September. B) New 12-step lists distributed by Tom N at meeting. C) Only 1 regular open shift is open; still need backups. If interested, please get info to Tom N at the office. D) Meeting NightOwl coordinators are urged to keep their contact info up-to-date by contacting nightowl@aastpaul.org or calling Patti M. Orientation is 3rd Saturday or scheduled by appointment.

Intergroup Events.

- Ice Cream Social/Oldtimers' Recognition Sept 20. Lesli D/Tom S. This Saturday... speakers/volunteers lined up. Members are encouraged to attend.
- Step Workshop-Step 6, October 14th. Steve B is coordinating; has 4 speakers lined up. 7 PM. Volunteer sign-up sheet was distributed at meeting.
- Gratitude Night – Nov 22nd 7 PM. Speakers are set; flyers distributed at meeting.
- New Year's Eve – December 31st. We are in the planning stages and hope to get a band. Speakers will be announced next month.

Old Business.

- By-Laws Committee – Committee will be meeting next Tuesday; Lawyer is reviewing by-laws. After Board approval, the By-Laws will be presented to the Reps for approval.

New Business.

- Nominations will be held at October rep meeting for openings (At-large, Sec'y, Treas, Alt. Chair). Nomination requirement is Reps who've attended 6 meetings in last 12 months; exceptions will be accepted if necessary.

Group Announcements- 1st Anniv celebration for Back-to-basics mtg 10/23; Angela speaking at SOS 10/5; Firing Line anniversary potluck 9/27; Basic Text mtg distributed flyers; James is the new 3rd EditionBB rep; Firing Line has workshops 2 Thursdays (www.thefiringlineaa.org)

Concept Review – David did a wonderful job presenting Concept IX; Jeff Th. volunteered for Concept X for October.

Mock Report – Great job, Val! Angela volunteered for next month.

Closed with the Responsibility Statement and Lord's Prayer.

Attendees:

Adam H -Students of Life	James L - 3rd Edition	Mark K - Board At-Large	Tom N.-Office Manager
Angela S - Midway	Jeff Th - FiringLine?	Matt H - OMD	Tom S - Board Chair
Barb H - Highland #11	Jess N - Uptown	Patti M-Night Owl Co-coord	Val L-Back to Basics, Brnsvl
Diane E-Board Treasurer	Julie M - Basic Txt	Steve S - West End	Walter - Como BB
Ellen H-Mahtomedi 12x12/Amigos III	Lesli D - Secretary	Tom C - Shrvw 12x12	

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 21. Same place, same time (7:30 PM)

**7th Tradition
Suggestions for Groups**

“Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

The Conference-approved pamphlet: “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality mix” offers the following suggestion for the distribution of group funds “after group expenses” have been paid.

50% St. Paul Intergroup

Spruce Tree Center
1600 University Ave. #407
St. Paul, MN 55104

30% General Service Office

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

10% Southern MN Area 36

Area Assembly
P.O. Box 2812
Mpls., MN 55402

10% District Committee

Ramsey County:

District 8, P.O. Box 2267
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dakota County:

District 19, P.O. Box 1466
Burnsville, MN 55337

Washington County:

District 15, P.O. Box 181
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

SE Ramsey County:

District 26, P.O. Box 75980
St. Paul, MN 55175

BE A NIGHT OWL !!

Night Owls are often the first A.A. contact for the newcomer! A Night Owl shift is a once-a-month commitment to answer Intergroup phones after hours. Some shifts can be done in the office; all can be done from home. The commitment can be filled by an individual or a group. **If you can help, call the office or go to our website: www.aastpaul.org**

District Meetings

District 8 (Ramsey Co.)

Fairview Community Center
1910 Co. Rd B, Rm 203, Roseville
3rd Wed., 7:30 PM

District 15 (Wash. Co.)

Christ Lutheran Church
11194 N. 36th St., Lake Elmo
4th Mon., 7:00 PM

District 19 (Dakota Co.)

Rosemount Community Center
13885 South Robert Trail
2nd Wed., 7:00 PM

District 26 (SE Ramsey Co.)

1099 Payne Ave. St. Paul
2nd Fri., 6:00 PM
www.district26-area36.org

Thanks to all the terrific volunteers who helped in the Office during September!

Adam, Andrew, Andy B., Bill, Brian M., Cameron, Chris B., Dan, Dan S., Dennis, Gil, Helena, Jack R., Jaclyn B., Jason, Jeff H., John D., Julie, Karri, Kelly B., Matt C., Maya, Mike B., Neal, Neil, Racquel, Sandy, Steve B., Steve C., Tony R., Wes M, and Zak.

Thanks to all the Night Owl volunteers and groups as well!



INTERGROUP INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER

Number of Group Contributions: 39
Total Group Contributions: \$6844.27
Number of Faithful Fivers: 15
Total from Faithful Fivers: \$295.00
Special Contributions \$2633.74

“Thanks!” to the groups that contributed in September:

- Apple Valley Friday Night Group
- Apple Valley Monday AM Women’s
- As Bill W. Sees It
- Cliffhangers I Thurs. PM
- Como Area 12 & 12
- Como Park Big Book Study
- Cottage Grove Groups
- CRC Friends of Bill W.
- Dakota Alano Thursday AM
- Dakota Alano Wed. Roosters
- Friends of Bill W.
- Gopher State Roundup
- Great Reality North End AA
- Grover’s Group
- Highland Park Groups
- Island Lake AA
- Mendota Sat. 10:30 AA
- Midway Groups
- Mon. AM Apple Valley Women’s Group
- New Brighton Squad 8
- New Brighton Squad 15
- Outright Mental Defectives
- Peace & Serenity Group
- Primary Purpose Burnsville
- Ridge Runners II
- Rosemount Groups
- Shoreview Big Book Plus
- SOS Groups
- St. Anthony Park AA
- St. Paul Speakers Mtg.
- St. Stephen’s Fri Women’s Group
- Stories Group
- Summit Hill Group
- TGIF Macalester
- Uptown Groups
- Vadnais Heights Tues Night AA
- Valley Step Group
- White Bear Groups
- White Bear Women’s Wed. AM
- Worthwhile Women’s Wed. Group

The Lifeline: Purpose Statement

The Lifeline is the monthly newsletter of the St. Paul and Suburban Area Intergroup Association office of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by, and for members of the A.A. Fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or Intergroup. (Exception: Quotations from A.A. books or pamphlets are reprinted with permission from A.A. World Services, Inc.) We welcome articles of opinion or descriptions of personal experience, which should be sent to Lifeline Editor, St. Paul Intergroup, 1600 University Avenue #407, St. Paul MN 55104. Materials or articles cannot be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Intergroup reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, language, length and content that might violate A.A.’s Traditions, etc. The deadline is the 13th of the preceding month (i.e., submit a Tenth Step essay by the ninth month, September.)

UPCOMING A.A. EVENTS!!

Districts 8 & 18 Workshop A.A.'s Legacy in Service

November 8th, 9am to 1:30pm
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 North Dale Street (just south of I-94)

Founder's Day Weekend

Friday, November 28th – Sunday, November 30th
Doubletree Park Place Hotel - Saint Louis Park, MN

<http://www.foundersdaymn.org/>

St. Paul Intergroup New Year's Meeting & Dance!

December 31st, 2008
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 North Dale Street (just south of I-94)

Southern Minnesota Area 36 Recovery, Unity & Service Conference January 9 - 11, 2009

Jackpot Junction Hotel & Casino - Morton, MN
Room Reservations 1-800-946-2274, ext. 2

Wild Rice Round-Up January 23 - 25, 2009

Shooting Star Hotel, Mahnomon, MN
More Info, Fred 208-935-5007
Or email drgrain@arvig.net

45th International Women's Conference February 12 - 15, 2009

Salt Lake City, Utah
www.internationalwomensconference.org

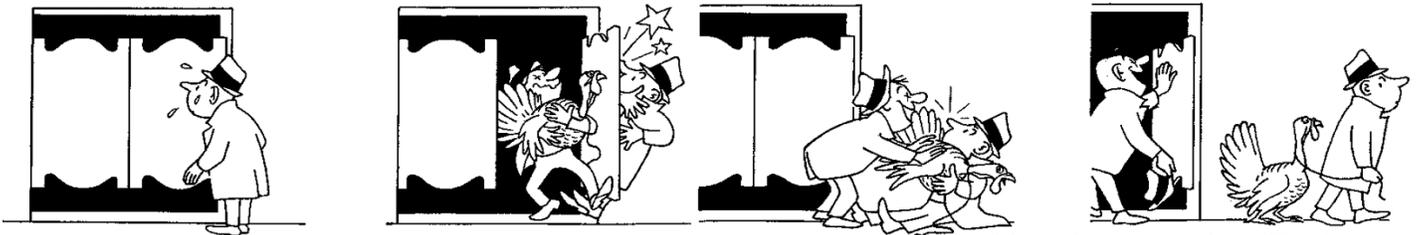
Dear Bill W.,

I find myself thinking, "Well, maybe after I get a good job and a decent place to live I could reward myself with just one drink . . ." I've been too embarrassed to tell anyone I have this thought.

— An Anonymous Drunk

Who cares to admit complete defeat? Practically no one, of course. Every natural instinct cries out against the idea of personal powerlessness. It is truly awful to admit that, glass in hand, we have warped our minds into such an obsession for destructive drinking that only an act of Providence can remove it from us.

From *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 21, reprinted with permission of AA World Services, Inc.



Cartoon reprinted by permission from the July, 2003 A.A. Grapevine.

Is your meeting represented at Intergroup?

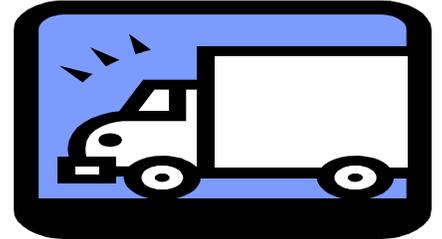
The November Representatives' meeting will be held November 18th, 7:30 pm,
at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, 55103.
The church is located just south of I-94; from Dale turn west on Iglehart to park.

St. Paul Intergroup
Spruce Tree Center
1600 University Ave. W., Suite #407
St. Paul, MN 55104

Change Service Requested

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Please let us know if your address changes one month ahead of time. It saves us the cost of return postage and enables you to get each issue of the *Lifeline*. Our mailing permit does not provide for mail forwarding. Thank you!



St. Paul Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form

Faithful Fivers contribute five dollars to St. Paul Intergroup each month to enable us to continue to carry our life-saving message. Your contribution entitles you to a one-year subscription to the *Lifeline*. You may also contribute annually, quarterly, etc.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please send this form and a check to:

St. Paul Intergroup, 1600 University Avenue W. #407, St. Paul MN 55104

I would like to receive the *Lifeline* every month by email, not postal mail. My email address is:

(please print clearly) _____