

The Lifeline



November, 2006

24 Hour Phone: 651-227-5502

Volume 41, Issue 11

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.

“ . . . [A]lmost inevitably we become dissatisfied; we have to admit we have hit an uncomfortable and maybe a very painful sticking point.

Twelfth-stepping, talking at meetings, recitals of drinking histories, confessions of our defects and what progress we have made with them no longer provide us with the released and abundant life. Our lack of growth is often revealed by an unexpected calamity or a big emotional upset. Perhaps we hit the financial jack pot and are surprised that this solves almost nothing; that we are still bored and miserable, notwithstanding.

As we usually don't get drunk on these occasions, our bright-eyed friends tell us how well we are doing.

But inside, we know better. We know we aren't doing well enough. We still can't handle life, as life is. There must be a serious flaw somewhere in our spiritual practice and development.

What, then, is it?

The chances are better than even that we shall locate our trouble in our misunderstanding or neglect of AA's Step Eleven — prayer, meditation, and the guidance of God. The other Steps can keep most of us sober and somehow functioning. But Step Eleven can keep us growing, if we try hard and work at it continually. If we expend even five percent of the time on Step Eleven that we habitually (and rightly) lavish on Step Twelve, the results can be wonderfully far-reaching. That is an almost uniform experience of those who constantly practice Step Eleven.”

- From *The Language of the Heart: Bill W's Grapevine Writings*, p. 240. Copyright © 1988, The AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission.

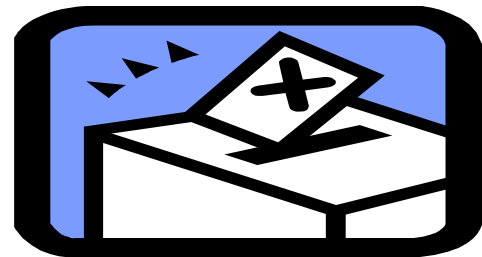
St. Paul AA Intergroup Board Elections

Tuesday Nov 21st at the Intergroup Representatives' Meeting

Nominations accepted at Oct. 17th or Nov 21st Reps' meetings.

**Open positions include Alternate Chair,
Secretary, Treasurer & Member-at-large.**

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 N. Dale St. (Dale & Iglehart)
Turn right 1 1/2 blocks South of I-94.



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

The Twelve Concepts: Concept XI

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.

The longtime success of our General Service Board will rest not only on the capabilities of the Trustees themselves; it will depend quite as much upon the competent leadership and harmonious association of those non-Trustee committee members, corporate service directors, executives, and staff members who must actively carry on A.A.'s world services. Their quality and dedication, or their lack of these characteristics, will make or break our structure of service. Our final dependency on them will always be great indeed.

Far more than most of the Trustees, these servants will be in direct contact with A.A. world-wide, and their performance will be constantly on view. They will perform most of the routine labor. They will carry on most of our services. They will travel widely and will receive most visitors at the Headquarters. They will often originate new plans and policies. Some of them will eventually become Trustees. Because this group will form the visible image of world service, most A.A.'s will measure our service values by what they see and feel in them. Members of this group will not only *support* the world leadership of the Trustees; in the nature of the case they will be bound to *share* world leadership with them.

— Reprinted from *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, with permission from AA World Services Inc.

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.

2006 Steering Board

<u>Chair:</u>	Marty M.
<u>Alt. Chair:</u>	Jeff T.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Eric H.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mary Jo N.
<u>Members at Large 2006:</u>	Alfred K. and Roxi S.
<u>Members at Large 2005:</u>	Tom S. and Patty M.
<u>Advisor to the Board:</u>	Renee B.
<u>Office Manager:</u>	Tom N.

Office Calls in September*

Meeting information	220
Inventory hours	19
12th step calls	17
Temporary sponsor	9
Speaker request	15
Special events	4
Outside issues	35
Administrative	56
Other	63
Total Calls	438
Daily average	21.9
Visitors	71

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

ST PAUL AA INTERGROUP: Minutes from September 19, 2006 Main Body Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30. The primary purpose of Intergroup was read.

In attendance: Eric H. (secretary), Jonathan L., (web servant), Renee B. (advisor), Jeff T. (alt. chair), Tom S. (board member), Marty M. (chair), Tom N. (office mgr), Roxi S. (board member), Patti M. (board member), Mary Jo (treasurer), Alfred K. (board member), Paul T. (Midway groups), Ken D. (St. Pascal's Wed), Ed M. (411 Main St.), John F. (Shoreview 12 x 12), Judith F. (Macalester Plymouth), Mary J. (Back to Basics Burnsville), Jon C. (3rd Edition), Peggy J. (Just for Today, New Brighton Women's), Suzanne B. (Mendota Sat AM), David A. (Rosemount Groups), Greg M. (OMD), Karen V. (Fireside Women's 12&12), Frank W. (St. John's in the Wilderness), Jim L. (Happy, Joyous & Free, Mahtomedi), J.T. (St. Anthony Park groups), Diane E. (Profound Alterations), Lisa L. (No Time Like the Present), Hope L. (Summit Women's group), Patrick M. (Applied Serenity 101), Jeri L (Stillwater Amigos 3), Judy (Uptown Thursday 4L).

The September minutes were approved pending the change of the date at the top of the page.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Jo presented the treasurer's report for August. Contributions for August were 22% below budget. Salaries are higher than budget due to 3 pay periods vs. equal monthly budgeted amount (32,000/12) Contributions (Group, Faithful Fivers, and Special) \$2,936 - 39.8% of Income. August Sales 4,445 - 60.2% of Income. Although total expenses are below budget we have had 2 consecutive months with substantial losses. Our YTD contributions (had we not received the special contribution) and Office Sales are \$7,000 below budget. This is a trend we do not want to see continue. Office supplies are up because the purchase of paper for meeting directories has not been broken out yet. Night owl expense is high due to printing and mailing of new packets. Expense for conferences is for air fare for Office Manager to attend Intergroup Managers conference in Ohio. Manager did not attend last year so budget was not set up.

The Office Report: Tom delivered the office report for August. The staff has been in transition with our newest employee, Matt. Tom will visit Akron, OH where he will attend a seminar for Intergroup office managers. He is thankful for being sent. As always, there are a plethora of service opportunities available at the office.

Website Report: Jonathan presented the September website report. He's added a tagline: "A Local Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous" to the header of all pages on the site. He's kept the *Lifeline* updated throughout the month and added a meeting statistics page to the site.

Outreach: Alfred presented the September Outreach report. A number of volunteers are helping to reach more area meetings. Make sure to thank Jerry, Greg, Mary J, Val, and Charlie as well as Alfred for carrying the message.

Night Owl Report: Dianne presented the September night owl report. We have three shifts open now. Dianne will be promoted to Night Owl Coordinator at the end of the year and will need a new assistant. Night Owl holds an orientation for new operators on the third Saturday of every month in the Intergroup office.

Vote on Non Conference Literature Tonight was the final vote on whether or not to include non-conference literature in the office. It took five ballots to decide, with few changes on each round. The final vote was that we would not be incorporating materials and literature that are not approved by the general service conference. We would like to thank the groups of Saint Paul for their interest and involvement in this debate. It's the groups we serve who make it possible for us to run Intergroup.

Upcoming Events:

Fall Workshop – Renee B. Tuesday, October 3 7PM—The fourth step is the topic. 4 people will speak.

Gratitude Night – Jeff T. Saturday November 18, 7:30 PM—A male speaker with one year is still needed

New Years' Eve – Marty M. December 31—We are looking for a DJ for the event.

Board Elections – Nominations for Intergroup board will be taken at the Reps' meetings in Oct and Nov.

Old Business:

Old Timers' Recognition & Ice Cream Social – Tom S. Saturday September 16 2 PM—The meeting was thoroughly enjoyed though two criticisms were offered. It was lengthy and there were few toppings available.

New Business: (none recorded)



Judith F presented concept IX

Judy H volunteered to present Concept X in October

Jeff H presented the September 19 mock rep report

Mary J volunteered to present the October mock rep report

Closed with the Responsibility Statement and the Lord's Prayer

<p align="center">7th Tradition Suggestions for Groups</p> <p>“Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”</p> <p>Your group can make an informed decision regarding contributions with information from A.A. World Services. The information below is a suggestion taken from the pamphlet: “Self-Support: Where money and spirituality mix.”</p> <p>50% <u>St. Paul Intergroup</u> Spruce Tree Center 1600 University Ave. #407 St. Paul, MN 55104</p> <p>30 % <u>General Service Office</u> P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163</p> <p>10% <u>Southern MN Area 36</u> Area Assembly P.O. Box 2812 Mpls., MN 55402</p> <p>10% <u>District Committee</u> 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</p>	<p align="center">BE A NIGHT OWL !!</p> <p>Night Owls are often the first AA 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 Matt at the office or go to our website at www.aastpaul.org .</p> <p align="center">District Meetings</p> <p>District 8 (Ramsey Co.) Fairview Community Center 1910 Co. Rd B, Rm 203, Roseville 3rd Wed., 7:30 PM</p> <p>District 15 (Wash. Co.) Christ Lutheran Church 11194 N. 36th St., Lake Elmo 4th Mon., 7:00 PM</p> <p>District 19 (Dakota Co.) Rosemount Community Center 13885 South Robert Trail 2nd Wed., 7:00 PM</p> <p>District 26 (SE Ramsey Co.) 1099 Payne Ave. St. Paul 2nd Fri., 6:00 PM www.district26-area36.org</p> <p align="center">Thanks to all the terrific volunteers who helped in the Office during September!</p> <p>A.J., Adam, Brigham M., Cara, Charisma, Dave, Donald, Eliot, Gary, Gil J., Hau, Jim H., Joshua, Julie S., Karri C., Larry T., Lisa, Lynette, Matt, Mike A., Mike C., Pat L., Patrick, Patrick K., Paul W., Sasha, Steve H., Val.</p> <p>Thanks to all the Night Owl volunteers and groups as well!</p> 	<p align="center">INTERGROUP INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER</p> <p>Number Groups Contributing: 41 Total Group Contributions: \$3778.47 Number of Faithful Fivers: 25 Total from Faithful Fivers: \$425.00</p> <p align="center">“Thanks!” to the groups that contributed in September:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Amigo's III</td> <td>Peace & Serenity group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Apple Valley Fri Night</td> <td>Primary Purpose</td> </tr> <tr> <td>As Bill W. Sees It</td> <td>Primary Purpose Burnsville</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Back To Basics BB Study</td> <td>Profound Alteration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Book of Hope gorups</td> <td>Ridge Runners I</td> </tr> <tr> <td>City Center groups</td> <td>Ridge Runners II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cottage Grove groups</td> <td>River Rats</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dakota Alano Th AM,</td> <td>St. Luke Sat. group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Downtown Alano groups</td> <td>St. Paul Speakers Mtg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Side AA</td> <td>Uptown groups</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East Side Squad 6</td> <td>Vadnais Hgths Tues Night</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Forest Lake Men's Tues</td> <td>Valley Creek Mon group</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friends of Bill W.</td> <td>Weekend Jumpstart II</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gopher State Roundup</td> <td>Woodbury Serenity Sisters</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gratitude group</td> <td>Woodbury Wed Step Study</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Happy Joyous & Free</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hazelwood groups</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highland Park groups</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hillside Buck Hill group</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hugo groups</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Meeting of the Waters</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Merriam Park groups</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Midway groups</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday Meeting</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Dale group</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oakdale - Woodbury group</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 	Amigo's III	Peace & Serenity group	Apple Valley Fri Night	Primary Purpose	As Bill W. Sees It	Primary Purpose Burnsville	Back To Basics BB Study	Profound Alteration	Book of Hope gorups	Ridge Runners I	City Center groups	Ridge Runners II	Cottage Grove groups	River Rats	Dakota Alano Th AM,	St. Luke Sat. group	Downtown Alano groups	St. Paul Speakers Mtg	East Side AA	Uptown groups	East Side Squad 6	Vadnais Hgths Tues Night	Forest Lake Men's Tues	Valley Creek Mon group	Friends of Bill W.	Weekend Jumpstart II	Gopher State Roundup	Woodbury Serenity Sisters	Gratitude group	Woodbury Wed Step Study	Happy Joyous & Free		Hazelwood groups		Highland Park groups		Hillside Buck Hill group		Hugo groups		Meeting of the Waters		Merriam Park groups		Midway groups		Monday Meeting		North Dale group		Oakdale - Woodbury group	
Amigo's III	Peace & Serenity group																																																					
Apple Valley Fri Night	Primary Purpose																																																					
As Bill W. Sees It	Primary Purpose Burnsville																																																					
Back To Basics BB Study	Profound Alteration																																																					
Book of Hope gorups	Ridge Runners I																																																					
City Center groups	Ridge Runners II																																																					
Cottage Grove groups	River Rats																																																					
Dakota Alano Th AM,	St. Luke Sat. group																																																					
Downtown Alano groups	St. Paul Speakers Mtg																																																					
East Side AA	Uptown groups																																																					
East Side Squad 6	Vadnais Hgths Tues Night																																																					
Forest Lake Men's Tues	Valley Creek Mon group																																																					
Friends of Bill W.	Weekend Jumpstart II																																																					
Gopher State Roundup	Woodbury Serenity Sisters																																																					
Gratitude group	Woodbury Wed Step Study																																																					
Happy Joyous & Free																																																						
Hazelwood groups																																																						
Highland Park groups																																																						
Hillside Buck Hill group																																																						
Hugo groups																																																						
Meeting of the Waters																																																						
Merriam Park groups																																																						
Midway groups																																																						
Monday Meeting																																																						
North Dale group																																																						
Oakdale - Woodbury group																																																						

The Lifeline: Purpose Statement

The Lifeline is a 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.; The A.A. Preamble is reprinted with permission of A.A. Grapevine, 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 contents that may violate A.A.'s Traditions, etc. The deadline is the 2nd of the preceding month.

ST. PAUL AA INTERGROUP UPCOMING EVENTS!!

<p style="text-align: center;">The 18th Annual Hiawathaland Get-Together October 20, 21, & 22, 2006 Holiday Inn, Austin, MN Registration forms at Intergroup office.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Southern Minnesota Area 36 GSR & Trusted Servant Leadership School Saturday, November 4th, 2006 St. John's Lutheran Church, 500 3rd St. West Northfield, Minnesota 55057</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul AA Intergroup Board Member Elections Nominations: October 17th and November 21st Election: Tuesday, November 21st, 7:30pm Intergroup Representatives' Meeting Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 285 N. Dale St. (Dale & Iglehart)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul AA Intergroup Gratitude Night Saturday, November 18th, 7:30 PM Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 285 N. Dale St. (Dale & Iglehart)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">61st Annual "Pass It On" Duluth Roundup September 22nd—24th Duluth Entertainment Convention Center</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24th Annual St. Cloud Roundup October 27-29, 2006 St. Cloud Civic Center, 10 Fourth Ave. S.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Founder's Day Weekend, 2006 November 24 – 26 Doubletree Park Place Hotel St. Louis Park, MN www.FoundersDayMN.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul AA New Year's Eve Celebration! December 31st, 2006 Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 285 N. Dale St. (Dale & Iglehart)</p>

Is your meeting represented at Intergroup?

The November Representatives' meeting will be held November 21, 7:30 pm,
at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, 55103.

Elections for Intergroup Board Members will be held at this meeting.

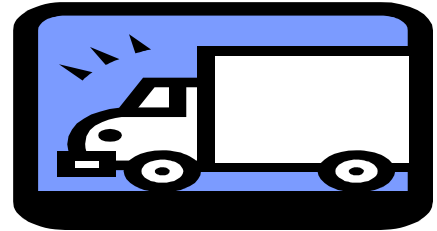
Open positions include Member-at-large, Secretary, Treasurer, and Alternate Chair.

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

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 7451

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 the life-saving message of AA. 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