



Step 8: Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Below we have a few words on Step Eight by the Reverend Samuel Shoemaker, a friend of A.A. co-founder Bill W. and an early friend of A.A. Bill W. had this to say about Shoemaker:

"It was from him that Dr. Bob and I in the beginning had absorbed most of the principles that were afterward embodied in the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, steps that express the heart of A.A.'s way of life. Dr. Silkworth gave us the needed knowledge of our illness, but Sam Shoemaker had given us the concrete knowledge of what we could do about it. One showed us the mysteries of the lock that held us in prison; the other passed on the spiritual keys by which we were liberated."

From *A.A. Comes of Age*, pages 38-39, reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services.

Reverend Sam Shoemaker on Step Eight:

In some ways, it is easier to straighten things out with God than with other people. He fully understands everything; we can count on his forgiveness; we talk to him, as it were, in private. But it is not enough to be right with him; we must also be right with other people. How well do I remember that, from my first moment of fresh conviction. There was a letter I had to write to someone in the family, toward whom I held a long-standing resentment. It was one of the first things I had to do after my decision.

You see, we want to get clear, to begin anew, to start life all over again. This Step calls for definiteness, and it calls for willingness: "Made a list" and "became willing." How many strained and broken human relationships drag on through years, unresolved, unhealed, unmended. Nobody will make the break and say the two great words of renewal, "I'm sorry." We are willing to tell God of our repentance and desire for new life; we are not willing to tell others. This can hold us back at the first, and it can trip us way down the line.

The laws governing human relations are as ironclad as those that uphold the stars. Individualize the persons whom we have wronged and those who have wronged us. Don't forget the wise adage that "It is harder to forgive those whom we have wronged than those who have wronged us." Get willing to go to them in honesty and humility. It may be the hardest thing you ever did in your life but it will be one of the most rewarding. We shall need to do it in the beginning of our new life; we shall have to do it, perhaps often, in the after-stages of it.

From *The Best of the Grapevine*, Volume 2, page 131, reprinted with permission of the A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

NOTICE: BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Board member nominations will be accepted in October, at the Intergroup Representatives' Meeting or at the office. The election will be held at the November 20th Representatives' Meeting. Positions begin in January, 2008. Interested members are encouraged to attend the Representatives' meetings from August through December.

St. Paul Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous®

Tradition Eight: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

A.A. members who visit the Intergroup office are sometimes surprised to find that the office staff are not volunteers, but are paid employees of an A.A. service entity. "Are we paying A.A. members to do Twelfth Step work?" That's a good question, and the members and groups who support Intergroup are entitled to an answer. Below are two passages from A.A. literature that explain what a Tradition Eight "special worker" is, and how these positions should be handled. (Tom N., Office manager)

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pp. 167-169.

When we had agreed that the Twelfth couldn't be sold for money, we had been wise. But when we declared that our Fellowship couldn't hire service workers nor could any A.A. member carry our knowledge into other fields, we were taking the counsel of fear, fear which today has been largely dispelled in the light of experience.

Take the case of the club janitor and cook. If a club is going to function, it has to be habitable and hospitable. We tried volunteers, who were quickly disenchanted with sweeping floors and brewing coffee seven days a week. They just didn't show up. Even more important, an empty club couldn't answer its telephone, but it was an open invitation to a drunk on a binge who possessed a spare key. So somebody had to look after the place full time. If we hired an alcoholic, he'd receive only what we'd have to pay a non-alcoholic for the same job. The job was not to do Twelfth Step work; it was to make Twelfth Step work possible. It was a service proposition, pure and simple.

Neither could A.A. itself function without full-time workers. At the Foundation (In 1954, the name of the Alcoholic Foundation, Inc., was changed to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc. and the Foundation office is now the General Service Office) and intergroup offices, we couldn't employ nonalcoholics as secretaries; we had to have people who knew the A.A. pitch. But the minute we hired them, the ultraconservative and fearful ones shrieked, "Professionalism!" At one period, the status of these faithful servants was almost unbearable. They weren't asked to speak at A.A. meetings because they were "making money out of A.A." At times, they were actually shunned by fellow members. Even the charitably disposed described them as "a necessary evil". Committees took full advantage of this attitude to depress their salaries. They could regain some measure of virtue, it was thought, if they worked for A.A. real cheap. These notions persisted for years. Then we saw that if a hardworking secretary answered the phone dozens of times a day, listened to twenty wailing wives, arranged hospitalization and got sponsorship for ten newcomers, and was gently diplomatic with the irate drunk who complained about the job she was doing and how she was overpaid, then such a person could surely not be called a professional A.A. She was not professionalizing the Twelfth 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.

STAFFING THE INTERGROUP — from "A.A. Guidelines: Central or Intergroup Offices"

Most A.A. central offices now employ at least one paid full-time secretary or manager, as well as A.A. volunteers—members who respond to Twelfth Step calls at the office, answer the telephone, and often carry out other service office duties. Large offices may also have paid clerical workers on the staff to assist the full-time person.

Although the principles involving certain paid employees of A.A. service centers are now widely known in A.A., it is still helpful to review the appropriate A.A. Tradition at the time of opening a new service office. As it states in Tradition Eight: "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers." It should be clear from this that the paid secretary functions as a paid employee of the central office—not as an A.A. member—during duty hours and is hired largely on the basis of professional skill.

Regarding compensation for paid workers, Bill W. writes in "Twelve Concepts for World Service" as follows: "We believe that each paid executive, staff member, or consultant should be recompensed in reasonable relation to the value of his or her similar services or abilities in the commercial world." Also, Social Security and certain insurance benefits are provided, as well as sick leave and vacations.

It is suggested that the central office full-time secretary also be accorded a vote as well as a voice on the steering committee. This policy is successfully followed by A.A. World Services, Inc.: The staff coordinator—a paid employee as well as an A.A. member — also serves as a director and thus has a vote on policy matters.

2007 Steering Board

<u>Chair:</u>	Jeff T.
<u>Alt. Chair:</u>	Tom S.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Lesli D.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mary Jo N.
<u>Members at Large 2007:</u>	Alfred K. and Roxi S.
<u>Member at Large 2008:</u>	Jeff H.
<u>Advisor to the Board:</u>	Marty M.
<u>Office Manager:</u>	Tom N.

Office Calls in June

Meeting information	227
Inventory hours	29
12th step calls	9
Temporary sponsor	13
Speaker request	19
Special events	1
Outside issues	26
Info for Professionals	2
Administrative	79
Other	41
Total Calls	446
Daily average	15.4
Visitors	139

**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, June 19, 2007

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 (see attendees below)
- II. The Primary Purpose of Intergroup was read.
- III. May 15th minutes approved with 1 correction: Item XII: "Hazelwood", not Maplewood, moving March'08.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** – May Contributions \$2,497– 23.9% of Income. Group contributions (\$2,017, 568 meetings listed) were slightly under budget. Faithful fivers (\$440) were greater than budget bringing contributions close to the budgeted amount. Activities income budget amount is off because last year Spring Fling was in May and this year in April. May Sales \$4,602– 43.5% of Income, slightly above the budgeted amount. We also had Gopher State literature sales this year giving which was 32.6% of sales. Expenses for May were over budget. This in part due to the unemployment expense that was not known of before budget was done. We also had not budgeted for new listing in the telephone directory. Income was slightly lower than budget due in part to ordering of inventory for Gopher State which has not been sold. Future months' income should make up for this as stock sells off. Some of the Office expenses are over budget due to printing of our own inventory and not being accounted for correctly. We are waiting for entry information from CPAs.
- V. **Office Report** -- Tom N. A) THANKS to all volunteers who helped at Gopher State literature table!; B) Summer is slow for our '7th Tradition' – consider AA History literature...available for sale at the office.
- VI. **Website Report** – Jonathan L. Please check out new website at aastpaul.org/index-test.php and send feedback.
- VII. **Outreach Program** – Alfred K. working with Lee B., visiting Cottage Grove, Eagan, Roseville, Spanish meetings.
- VIII. **Night Owl Report** – Matt. Many open shifts; Please sign up as the backup list is low. Orientations are 3rd Sat of the month – call the office for more details or email nightowl@aastpaul.org. If user/ password info for Night Owl website is forgotten—please contact the Office. It was requested that a 'Open shift' list be brought to the next Rep meeting, so reps can share w/ groups, Matt to bring that. Reminder - replace directories over 6 months old.
- IX. **Upcoming Events.**
- 3rd Annual Open House / Grill Out, June 9th. Marty M., chair. GREAT time had by all; lots of people; Thanks to Downtown Alano club for donated chairs; and thanks to Brynden for donation of cheese & chili.
 - Ice Cream Social Sept 15th. Tom S. will bring sign-up volunteer sheets next month. This event recognizes our local Old-Timers, those folks with 25+ Years of sobriety, so come one, come all, to help Intergroup honor them.
- X. **Old Business.**
- At Large position: Jeff T. stated that this will be filled by next month's meeting.
- By-Laws Committee: Marty M. A) Draft is almost complete and hope to have for Board/Rep meeting presentation by July/August meetings. After presentation, these by-laws will be voted on at the next Rep's meeting and require 2/3 vote to pass. B) Current by-laws state that, to be nominated for Intergroup Steering Committee, a rep must have attended 6 Rep meetings in the prior calendar year to be eligible.
- XI. **New Business.** None.
- XII. **Group Announcements or Concerns.** Lee B asked "Do we visit remote/new communities?" Tom N. stated that District 8 and Area 36 have outreach & public information committees that provide that AA service. Alfred K. sends a reminder to the group— AA's with bilingual/trilingual skills...please contact the office and get on the list. Reminder: June 24, St. Paul speakers' meeting 25th anniversary pot luck. Keep checking the website for AA commitment needs.
- XIII. **Concept Review** (VI) -- Thanks to Val L. for great presentation! Lee B. volunteered for June, Concept VII
- XIV. **Mock Rep Report.** Thanks, Cookie J. for 6/19 report! John volunteered for July.
- XV. Closed with the Responsibility Statement and Lord's Prayer.

Groups & Officers in Attendance:

Jason H-Rosemount AA	Tom N – IG Office/Board	Caroline R., St Paul Spkrs	Jon C., 3 rd Edition
Dan B-Uptown	Joe S.-Happy,Joyous,Free	Lee B.-Como BB	Christine P-Mplwd Alano
Alfred K-Board	Tom S-Board	Mark K-Uptown	Brooklyn (John)– W End
Roxi S-Board	Pat C-Fireside Women's	Kristin Y – Basic Text	Tom L-Hzldw;Shoreview
John F.-Highland Sat Step	Brandon F-Men's HappyHour	Cookie J-Macalester/Ply.	Val L-Back to Basic
Russell K-Students of Life	Monty Z-White Bear Lake	Jeff T – Board	Lesli D – Board
Marty M-Board	Jonathan L-Webservant	Matt Z-Roseville Wed	Greg M - OMD
Mary Jo N-Board	Ed M-411 Main	Donald B-Main Idea	Jim H/Phil C-301 S St Paul AA

7th Tradition**Suggestions for Groups**

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

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."

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 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: 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.)

1098 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 June!

Andy, Ann, Anne B, Bill, Bill A, Brian D, Charisma, Donald, Eliot, Frank D, Greta, Helen, Jack, Jack R, John F, Kevin G, Lynette, Mark W, Mike, Nathan, Rhonda, Tom, Wayne



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

INTERGROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JUNE

Number Group Contributions: 30
Total Group Contributions: \$2,185.50
Number of Faithful Fivers: 18
Total from Faithful Fivers: \$350.00

"Thanks!" to the groups that contributed in June:

**11 West Bernard
Cottage Grove Groups
Dakota Alano Monday 6PM
East Side Squad 6
Forest Lake Tuesday Men's
Four Seasons
Highland Park Group
Hillside Buck Hill-Burnsville
Hugo AA
Keep it Simple—Apple Valley
Lakeland AA
Meeting of the Waters
North Branch Thursday Night
Oakdale Woodbury Sun. Group
Pages of Wisdom
Primary Purpose—Woodbury
Shoreview Big Book Plus
Steps by the Lake
St. Anthony Park AA
St. Luke AA
St. Luke's Sat Men's
St. Thomas Becket Group
Third Tradition Northfield
Uptown Club
Weekend Jumpstart II
White Bear Groups
White Bear Wednesday AM
Women's 12x12
Woodbury Serenity Sisters
Woodbury Wednesday Noon**

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!!

Area Committee Meetings

Southern MN Area Committee Meetings
Best Western, Mankato, MN
Saturday, August 11, 2007
9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Cornhusker Round-Up XXX

August 16 - 19, 2007
Omaha, Nebraska
www.AA-Cornhusker.org

17th Annual

HEARTLAND ROUND-UP

September 7 - 9, 2007
Park Rapids, MN
218-573-3520 redg@wcta.net

St. Paul Intergroup

Old-Timers Recognition

and

Ice Cream Social

Saturday, September 15, 2007
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
285 N Dale St., one block south of I-94.

North Dakota State Round-Up

September 28 - 30, 2007
Grand Forks, ND
Contact Roy L. 701-740-9224

19th Annual

Hiawathaland Get-Together

October 19 - 21, 2007
Austin, MN — Holiday Inn
POB 5792, Rochester, MN 55903

The Twelve Concepts: Concept VIII

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

Long experience has proven that the board "must devote itself almost exclusively to the larger question of policy, finance, group relations and leadership....in these matters, it must act with great care and skill *to plan, manage and execute.*"

The board, therefore, must not be distracted or burdened with the details or the endless questions which arise daily in the routine operation of the General Service Office or the publishing operations including the *Grapevine*. "It must *delegate* its executive function" to its subsidiary, operating boards.

-Reprinted from the pamphlet, *The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated*,
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Is your meeting represented at Intergroup?

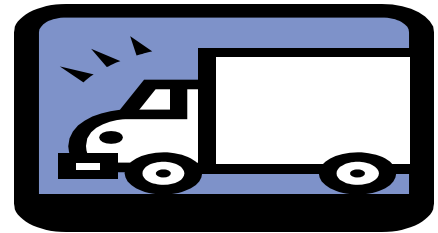
The July Representatives' meeting will be held August 21, 7:30 pm,
at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, 55103.
The church is located just south of I-94; from Dale turn west on Iglehart to park.

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

Change Service Requested

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Organization
U.S. Postage
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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 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