

AA Unity LiveWire AA

577 Broadway Avenue. Lorain, Ohio 44052 Phone 440 246-1800

August

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

2006

www.aaneoh.org

Guest Editorial: Do We Make Too Much of Anniversaries?

They Can Boomerang--and Often Do

CELEBRATING anniversaries is an old American custom and no one should be surprised that it is being perpetuated in A.A.

Unfortunately, however, anniversaries in A.A., or particularly the emphasis put on them, can boomerang--and often do--into

something far more serious than the harmless birthday fetes held elsewhere. There's dynamite in A.A. anniversaries.

To begin with, the celebration of anniversaries runs contrary to several of the fundamentals of A.A. philosophy. One of these is the idea embodied in "the 24 hour plan" that we should not try to look ahead of the present in measuring our sobriety. We do not set out to stay sober one year, three or a lifetime. Our goal is just 24 hours--just the present--and if necessary we break the 24 hours into even smaller units of time.

CELEBRATION of the personal anniversary inevitably turns thoughts not only backwards but ahead to the next anniversary, again setting up the psychological yardstick which the founders of A.A. found they did best without.

Another bit of A.A. philosophy which the personal anniversary contradicts is expressed in the wise observation that it's not the length but "the quality of your sobriety that counts." How often that has been proved! Over and over, again and again, events have demonstrated, sometimes tragically, sometimes happily, that the test of security in sobriety is not how long in A.A. but how well founded in A.A. Everyone knows of those unfortunate cases of the "oldtimer" who has been in several years and then has a slip. He knows, too, on the other hand, of "newcomers" who in a shorter span of time have progressed much farther along the road of personal recovery.

CELEBRATION of anniversaries also tends to build up an "aristocracy of oldtimers," a kind of class system by which one is supposed to move up from the ranks of the herd into a more select group whose prestige depends on the number of years they have been around. That certainly is inconsistent with the democracy of A.A. Likewise, the implication that through this "aging" process one is graduated from pupil to master does not jibe with the premise that one does not arrest alcoholism by himself. The whole curative fundamental of A.A. is that he must get help. So how can he become master, ever? It doesn't make sense.

Celebration of personal anniversaries puts an emphasis on time that is not justified by A.A. experience. Rare is the new one in A.A. who does not start counting years for himself when he attends a meeting at which some member's fourth, fifth or X anniversary is being celebrated by the group with figurative trumpets, orchids and fanfare. Rare, too, is the old one in A.A. who, when he finds himself deferred to and looked up to as an "oldtimer," does not begin to get at least a suspicion that maybe he does know more, maybe he is a little apart from the herd. From that point it's not a long step to a recurrence of ego-itis, the same old disease that had a grip on all of us.

WHAT good purpose is served by celebrating personal anniversaries? Does any member who is really participating in the opportunities of A.A. and enjoying the blessings of sobriety need to have others bring him bouquets for a thing from which he himself benefits, first, and which he undertook for himself, first? We think not--not if there is anything to A.A.'s "unselfish selfishness."

The observation that it's not the years but the "quality of your sobriety" that counts is solidly founded on the record of experience.

AAGrapevine (May 1949 Vol. 5 No. 12)

**Monday Night
Lorain
7:30 PM**

Zion Lutheran Church
5100 Ashland Ave.
Lorain (NS)
7th. Pat Chavez
14th. Stanley Wilson
21st. Tony Risge
28th. John Kurta

**Mid- Night
Elvria Group
Sat. 12:00 PM**

St Mary's Church
4th & Middle Ave.
Elvria (NS)
5th. John J.
12th. Troy S.
19th. Steve S.
26th. Mari

**Amherst
Sat. Group
Sat. 8:00 PM**

Amherst Church of the
Nazarene.
Amherst (NS)
5th. John M.
12th. Ray G.
19th. Jeanne F.
26th. Jerry

**Grafton Wed.
Night 8:30 PM**

Grafton Fire Station
1050 Novak Rd.
Grafton (S)
2nd. Juan O.
9th. Tom W.
16th. Jason T.
23rd. John C.
30th. Jack G.

**Serenity Hall
Sat. 8:30 PM**

St. Ladislaus, 1412
29th. St. & Wood Ave.
Lorain (NS)
5th. Deborah T.
12th. Mike H.
19th. Amy C.
26rd. Sue M.

**Spanish Amer.
Fri. 8:30 PM**

St. Ladislaus, 1412
29th. St. & Wood Ave.
Lorain (NS)
4th. Mary Beth.
11th. Ray L.
18th. Leon
26rd. Larry H.

G.S.R./D.C.M. Meeting: The Multi-District meeting is held at 11 AM on the **1st Sunday** of the month. This meeting is for the General Service Rep's. (G.S.R.) of each Group and the District Committee Member's (D.C.M.). If you want to learn more about service attend this meeting. **(Sept. 3rd., 2006)**

The Lorain Central Office Meeting is the **1st. Sunday** of the month at **12:30 PM**. It is very **Important** that all the **Secretaries** of each **Group** attend this meeting. **We urge your Attendance** (Be Informed, Get Active) **(Sept. 3rd., 2006)**

Notice to All Group Secarities: When I became a secretary of my Home Group I was told that I had to attend the Lorain Central Office Meeting the first Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM at the Central Office. So that I would be aware of what was going on in Alcoholics Anonymous in Lorain County. I did that for the three years, that I was secretary of the group. We have 112 groups in Lorain County and at the meetings we only get about 3 secretaries or group members at each meeting. When you attend this meeting you can purchase the literature for your group, get the latest meeting schedule, get copies of the LiveWire, help with your advice on solving some of the problems effecting A.A. in Lorain County. If you are the secretary of your group please attend the meeting yourself or send a representative from your home group to the meeting. We hope to see you at the next Central Office Meeting or someone from your home group.

CLOSED:
ARK Big Book Disc.(O) Wed.,7:00 PM Central Office, 577 Broadway, Lorain

"You Have Already Succeeded When You Dared To Try"

June Central Office 50/50 Raffle Winner: Patty Doran \$120.00. Just another way you can Help support the Central Office. Buy a **TICKET** from any Advisory Board Member.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of the members of Alcoholics Anonymous for there kindness and spiritual support through my sorrow. May God Bless You All.
Sincerely Bobbie Matear

Concepts 8: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

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

Promise 8: Self-seeking will slip away.

Tradition 8: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

- **List Your • Anniversaries •**
Aug. 15th. *Jess Cook* 9yrs.
Aug. 17th. *Linda Hemlinger* 26yrs.
Aug. 26th. *Denise Moore* 23yrs.
Aug 28th. *Charlie Pitts* 32yrs.

*Easy
Does
It*

**• List Your •
Group Anniversaries • Leads • Special Events
Make the LiveWire your News Media**

August Issue of the Grapevine:

Acceptance by any other name would be called "Life on Life's Terms" - the subject of the August Special Section of the Grapevine. Six different authors talk about finding the courage to change the things they can and discovering the wisdom to know the difference.

Read or listen to one of these stories, "In the Eyes of the Beholder:"

<http://www.aagrapevine.org/gv/current>

A Shaky Newcomer Feels the Chill, June 2003

I have a little over thirty days in the program and I'm sampling a lot of meetings. Until last night, all had been very welcoming, which is good because I haven't gotten my sea legs yet. But last night I went to a new meeting where no one said a word to me. There were a lot of inside jokes being swapped, a lot of allusions to old stories, and a lot of laughs. All good if you're in on the meeting, but it made me feel as if I were in the wrong room. If that had been my first AA meeting, it might have been my last! I felt invisible. It taught me to look for people I don't recognize and go over and welcome them. One may be a shaky newcomer in need.

Anonymous

If you think that is an eye-opener, read the story from the August issue that we selected for the online discussion topic: "Who's Saving the Seat for the Newcomer?"

<http://www.aagrapevine.org/topics.php>

*It's Time for St. Jude's
Sunday Breakfast in the Park*

Join us at
Cascade Park in Elyria
West River Road Entrance
9:00 Breakfast

Aug. 20th.

10:00 Lead

Sober Alcoholic

Breakfast includes:
Scrambled Eggs, Chezy Potatoes

Bacon, Sausage, Toast,
Juice, Coffee and Deserts.

Breakfast cost: \$3.00

Friends of Porky P.

2nd ANNUAL PIG ROAST AUGUST 19th 2PM-11PM
SCOTT'S LAKE PARK
ROUTE 58 BETWEEN RUSSIA ROAD AND BUTTERNUT RIDGE
ROAD
TICKETS ARE 10\$
FOR INFORMATION CALL CENTRAL OFFICE OR AN
ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER
CENTRAL OFFICE-440-246-1800
TROY SMITH-440-365-9018

Come and have some fun!!

MUSIC, FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP, RAFFLES
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND--THE HALF MEASURES!!!
AND MORE LIVE MUSIC TO BE ANNOUNCED...
• EAT AT 4PM MUST HAVE TICKET
• PIG COOKED BY JUAN ORTIZ
• HOT DOGS FOR KIDS AT NO CHARGE

Pitch in and get active!!!

GROUP DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED
VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME



Burgers & Que

Arid Fellowship Center
1741 N. Ridge Rd
Lorain, OH

Beginning Friday, May 12th we will be
serving hamburgers, bar-b-que chicken,
bar-b-que pork, & potato or macaroni salad
every other Friday. On the alternate Fridays
we will be serving tacos

Tacos	\$1.50
Hamburgers	\$1.50
Cheese Burgers	\$1.75
Piece of chicken	\$1
Bar-B-Que Pork	\$1

Potato Salad	.75
Macaroni Salad	.75

6:30PM until 11PM
Every Friday



Survivors List:

Groups in need of Support to stay afloat
please contact:

Lorain County Central Office.
Call 440 246-1800

Arid Lunch Break (C)

Tues., 12:00 Noon Arid Club,
1741 N. Ridge Rd.,
Sheffield Township (NS)

MICA House

1049 Infirmary Road, Elyria
Friday 6:00 PM Open Meeting

St Agnes Thurs.Night

Sheffield Township
1741 N. Ridge Rd.
Thurs. 8:00 PM Open Meeting

"Go to Other Meetings,
Here's a few suggested"
We Need You!!

Don't let them Close HELP
SUPPORT the groups.

Giving Something in Return!

Good Solid Recovery!

Gratitude Strengthens Responsibility!



Does any of these interest You?

Join us for fellowship, food and fun as We
share our Experience, Strength, and Hope

GSR Workshop!!

Come to the Twelve Step
Club in Brunswick

August 20th, 2006 @ 2:00 PM

Covered dishes are welcome.

Bring the body, and the mind will follow!

BILL FINDLEY DAY

AUGUST 26, 2006

AT: OAKWOOD PARK

TIME: 1 PM TILL ?

LEAD AT 5 PM

LARRY SHULLER

FUN!!

PLEASE BRING A

COVERED DISH

FUN!!

50/50 RAFFLE

MUSIC AND DANCING

FUN!!

HOT DOGS AND BURGERS

PROVIDED

**Dancing • Dancing
Dancing!!**

**Arid Fellowship Center
every other Saturday!!!!**

- Sober Fun •
- DJ Big Shawn •
- 50/50 Raffle •

Cost:\$3.00Couples:\$5.00

**Call:Donna or Stan
440 233-4801**

Anniversary

• 35 years •

August 11th.

Spanish American

Held @ Puska's

Open @ 6:00 PM

2493 N. Ridge Rd.

Dinner: @ 7:00 PM

Lead: @ 8:00 PM

Ray L. 38 yrs.

Come Join Us !!!

Thought to Ponder . . . We can't control the
ocean, but we can learn to ride the waves.

AA Thought for the Day: Control

How powerless something bothering me
really was, I realized, was more important
than how powerless I was over it. The need
to control, or be helpless, was fading away. I
might not have a lot of control over things in
my life, but many of those things shouldn't
have control over me, either. Life wasn't out
to get me, any more than it was there to
serve me. It just was.

The AA Grapevine, Inc., August 2006, p. 45

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire

Russ Walker.....	327-1308
*e mail russ8859@aol.com	
Jim Parks.....	440 210-1899
*e mail parksphoto@adelphia.net	

Archives Committee

Kevin Sexton.....	323-9217
e mail bigbook@alltel.net	

Schools

Ellen B.....	322-5306
e mail irishmimil@comcast.net	

Correctional Committee

DCM.Russ Walker.....	327-1308
e mail russ8859@aol.com	
Maureen Leach.....	967-6305
Coretta Farley.....	308-1714

District Committee

District #19a	
DCM.Russ Walker.....	327-1308
e mail russ8859@aol.com	

District #19b Vacant. Lorain city meetings and some in Vermilion. *Help Needed*

District #20c	
DCM.Donna Lawson.....	cell# 440 574-3464
Alt.Craig Warren.....	cell# 440 985-3403

District #20b	
DCM.Judy Sexton.....	322-2619
Alt.Marilyn Oliver.....	284-9834

District #20a Vacant. All of Elyria City Meetings
Help Needed

Board Of Directors

Co-Chairperson	Terri Poznako.....	225-6897
Co-Chairperson	Tom Ortiz.....	315-8600
Treasurer	Bill Post.....	933-4153
Secretary	Tom Banks.....	823-5159
Office Managers	George Schmidt.....	288-8935
	Sam Hensley.....	288-4942

Advisory Board Members

Tom Coughlin.....	315-6846
Russ Walker.....	327-1308
Bob Paton.....	965-7786
Troy Smith.....	365-9018
Donna Lawson.....	574-3464
Charlie Crawford.....	988-7061

*To submit information for the news letter please contact: **Russ Walker** or **Jim Parks** via: **Call**, ***email** or leave the information at the **Central Office** before the **25th.** of each month.

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the month of **June, 2006.**

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations</u>	
1. Rent	\$	1.....	835.50
2. All Service Telephone	122.63	2.....	444.25
3. Columbia Gas	457.00	3.....	683.23
4. Ohio Edison	91.01	4.....	559.17
5. Century Telephone	143.75		
6. House Manager's	1,574.30		\$ 2,522.15
7. PayCor Fee	53.41		
8. Live Wire Printing	25.00	<u>Donations</u>	\$ 2,522.15
9. Alltel Pub.Yellow Pgs.	18.30	<u>Expenses</u>	\$ 3,435.40
10. Petty Cash	100.00	<u>Gain</u>	\$ -913.25
11. Advance for Pig Roast	200.00		
	<u>\$ 3,435.40</u>		

The Bottom Line: "Now that we are sober in A.A., the word **"Support"** has to do with sharing, people, self-respect, gratitude, and what we are privileged to give--not take--in material terms."

(Jamie Bailey)

Donations for the month of June, 2006

Please include General Service # if you know it, and Phone # with your donations. Thank You!!

1. Tuesday Night Central	19. Anonymous
2. Midweek Disc.	20. S.I.O.G.A.
3. St Lads- Sat	21. St Lad's Saturday
4. Thurs. Morn. Disc.	22. Rainbow Monday
5. Tues. Central	23. Vermilion Tues. Night Big Book
6. Oberlin Thurs.	24. Lorain Wednesday Night
7. Midweek Morn. Disc.	25. Sheffield Lake Civic Center
8. Wellington Friday	26. Midweek Discussion
9. Elyria Friday Night	27. Wednesday Industrial
10. Grafton Wed. Night	28. St Lad's Serenity Hall
11. Oberlin Breakfast Group	29. Tuesday Central
12. LaGrange Sobriety	30. St Agnes Thursday Night
13. Lorain County 50/50 Raffle	31. Spanish American
14. Elyria Mon. Men's Stag	32. LaGrange Monday Night
15. Sunday Night Sobriety	33. Monday Night Lorain
16. Monday Night Happy Hour	34. Midweek Discussion
17. Elyria Mon. Closed Disc.	35. Serenity Hall
18. Midweek Morning Disc.	36. Oberlin Monday Women's

Phone Line Report:

for the month of July, 2006

12 Step Calls....	10
Sponsorship.....	3
Al-A-Non.....	3
Meeting Info....	138
General Info.....	54
Total:.....	208

Rents:

for the month of June, 2006

1. Saturday Morning Disc.
2. Lorain County Consolidated
3. Monday Night Happy Hour
4. Sharing Our Sobriety
5. Tuesday We Care
6. Friday Morning Survivor
7. Saturday Morning Disc.
8. Tuesday Central

•
*One
Day
At
A
Time*
•