

January

“Easy Does It”

• area54.org •
aaloraincounty.org

Unity LiveWire

710 Broadway Avenue Lorain, Ohio 44052

Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM

Phone 440 246-1800

Lorain Inter-Group Central Office email address: intergroup@centurytel.net

2009

“First Things First”

• aa.org •

aaloraincounty.org

■ The Serenity Prayer: ‘So Much A.A. In So Few Words’

For A.A.s everywhere, the beloved Serenity Prayer is a mantra for every conceivable occasion—a cooling breeze on a face flushed with anger, a small song of gratitude for good news, a comforting guide for the bad—and reassurance that the world is unfolding as it is meant to. Says David R. of Oakland, California: “When Route 101 is choked with trailers under a burning sun and a fenderbender has stalled traffic for miles ahead, I start mouthing the Serenity Prayer to ward off road rage, and it works.” Karen M. of Richmond, Virginia, notes that “when I have something nerve-racking to do, like asking my boss for a raise or apologizing for having messed up on an assignment, I repeat the Serenity Prayer several times and it calms me down like magic.” Chicago’s John D. affirms that the prayer “helps me in the up times as well as the down. It comes naturally to my lips when all hell is breaking loose, for sure. But I try to remember to say it as a thank you to God when the good times roll—like my A.A. anniversary or a rare weekend away with my wife.”

A.A. co-founder Bill W. said of the Serenity Prayer, “Never had we seen so much A.A. in so few words.” In *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age* (p. 196), Bill relates that early in 1942 A.A.’s first national secretary, nonalcoholic Ruth Hock, showed him and others in their crowded little New York office a routine New York Herald Tribune obituary that ended with these words:

“God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can, and wisdom to know the difference.”

Someone suggested printing the quatrain on walletsize cards for inclusion in office mailings, and thus the Serenity Prayer was on its way to becoming integral to A.A. life. It has since been translated into the many languages spoken by members around the world, aloud at their meetings and soundlessly in their hearts. For more than half a century now, the prayer has become so closely woven into the very fabric of A.A. philosophy that members have difficulty remembering it did not originate within the A.A. experience itself. Yet despite years of delving by serious researchers and a lot of guesswork by Saturday scholars, the exact origin of the Serenity Prayer remains a mystery. What seems undisputed, though, is the claim of authorship by theologian Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, who told an interviewer that he had written the prayer as a “tag line” to a sermon of his on practical Christianity. But even Dr. Niebuhr admitted to some doubt when he added, “Of course, it may have been spooking around for years, even centuries, but I don’t think so. I honestly do believe that I wrote it myself.” With his permission, the prayer was printed on cards during World War II and distributed to the troops by the U.S.O. By then it had also been reprinted by the National Council of Churches as well as by Alcoholics Anonymous. In suggesting that the prayer may have been “spooking around” for centuries, Dr. Niebuhr appears to have been accurate. “No one can tell for sure who first wrote the Serenity Prayer,” Bill W. noted (*ibid.*). “Some say it came from the early Greeks; others think it was from the pen of an anonymous English poet; still others claim it was written by an American Naval officer. . . .” Other attributions have wandered as far afield as ancient Sanskrit texts and into the distinguished company of Aristotle, St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas and Spinoza. One A.A. member came across the Roman philosopher Cicero’s *Six Mistakes of Man*, one of which reads: “The tendency to worry about things that cannot be changed or corrected.”

No one has actually found the prayer’s text among the writings of these allegedly original sources. What appears to be really ancient, like the above quote of Cicero’s, are the prayer’s themes of acceptance, courage to change what can be changed, and freely letting go of what is beyond one’s ability to change. Certainly the search for origins of the prayer has been like peeling an onion, sometimes having to start the process all over again. For example, in July 1964 the A.A. Grapevine received a clipping of an article from the Paris Herald Tribune in which the writer reported having seen a tablet in a Koblenz, (West) German, hotel that was inscribed: “God give me the detachment to accept those things I cannot alter; the courage to alter those things I can alter; and the wisdom to distinguish the one thing from the other.”

Here at last seemed concrete evidence—complete with quote, author, date—of the Serenity Prayer’s source. But, no, it failed to stand the test of time. Fifteen years later, in 1979, Peter T. of Berlin told Beth K., then a staff member of the General Service Office, that the first form of the prayer had originated with Boethius, a Roman philosopher (480-524 A.D.) and author of *Consolations of Philosophy*. There are still more claims, and undoubtedly further “sightings” will continue to be reported for years to come. Meantime a thought expressed by many is that the Serenity Prayer, whatever its ancient or modern origin, seems to have been born out of an ancient perception and a wisdom born of suffering. Except for the Lord’s Prayer and the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, no other quotation or concept, at once practical yet spiritual, has been felt in the minds and hearts of so many A.A. Members on their journey in sobriety to a new way of living. Bill W. alluded to this phenomenon years ago. In thanking an A.A. friend for a plaque on which the prayer was inscribed, he said, “In creating A.A. the Serenity Prayer has been a most valuable building block—indeed, a cornerstone.”

Faith is our greatest gift. Sharing it with others is our greatest responsibility.

Mon. Night

Lorain

7:30 PM

Zion Lutheran Church
5100 Ashland Ave.

5th. Theresa B.

12th. Steve R.

19th. Sandy P.

26th. Arlen G.

LaPorte

Tues. Group

8:00 PM

Christian Church
301 Washington Ave.

6th. Rick B.

13th. Karen H.

20th. Mark M.

27th. Liz F.

Fri. Night

Faith Group

11:00 PM

1741 N Ridge Rd.

2nd. Step One

9th. Gary K.

16th. Disc.

23th. Trinidad M.

30th. Sandy W.

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.

The Lorain Inter-Group 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, Be Active)

Advisory Board Meeting: The meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd. Wednesday of the month, at the Inter-Group Office.

Notice to the Lorain A.A. Community:

November and December's GSR/DCM 11:00 meeting has picked up a couple more GSR's in the past months, but far from the 120 meetings we have in Lorain county.

Here is a LIST of AA group's that have a GSR in Lorain County.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Amherst Saturday | Avon Sat. Morn. Survivor |
| Blue Monday | Thur. Compass Group |
| Elyria Mon. Closed Disc. | Mon. Morn. Live Disc. |
| LaGrange Monday Night | St. Agnes Thurs. Night |
| Sheffield Tuesday Men's | Fri. Night Avon Lake Group |
| Serenity Hall Saturday | Oberlin Breakfast Group |
| Saturday Night AMH | Mon. Oberlin Women's |
| Elyria Mon. Closed Disc. | Sun. Lorain Consolidated |
| Early Morning Disc. | Mon. New Life Women's Disc. |

If your group is not on this list, discuss this with your Home Group and elect a GSR for your Group. We meet the first Sunday of every month at 11:00 AM.

Thought for Today: Living in the Present

One day at a time, this is enough. Do not look back and grieve over the past. For it is gone. . . and do not be troubled about the future. For it has not yet come. Live in the present, and make it so beautiful. That it will be worth remembering.

Highway to Humility: As I thus get down to my right size and stature, my self-concern and importance become amusing. Then faith grows that I do have a place on this Highway; that I can advance upon it with deepening peace and confidence. . . This is a great gift, this knowledge that I do have a destiny.

Concepts 1: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Step 1: We admitted we were powerless over alcohol, that our lives had become unmanageable.

Promise 1: We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.

Tradition 1: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. Unity.

PEOPLE NEEDED to speak to the patients at Elyria Memorial Hospitals psychiatric unit on Thursday at 4:00PM. Call Mike Heller 440-309-7983

Lorain Inter-Group would like to thank the girls from the Key for decorating the office for the holidays. As always, just a great job.

Prayer for the Day: I pray that God will guide me one day at a time in the New Year. I pray that for each day, God will supply the wisdom and the strength that I need, so I may be there for others.

Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle Winner: Sid S., \$80.50 was Sold by Smiley Joe. Just another way that you can Help support the Lorain Inter-Group. Buy a TICKET from any Advisory Board Member. Be A Winner

Need A.A. Volunteers to Speak, Lead and or Assist at the Lake Point Nursing Home on Monday's 7 PM. Contact Coretta Farley. 308-1714

Note from Lorain Inter-Group office; Anyone Not Wanting their Full name listed in the LiveWire please contact: Central Office 440 246-1800 or Jim Parks 440 385-5687 Thank You

MOVED: Rainbow Group, Monday at 7:30 PM; 6th. and Washington, Lorain. THE GROUP NEEDS OUR SUPPORT.

LORAIN COUNTY CA MEETING: For more Information Contact: JENNIFER 440-310-0470; ED F. 440-3090551 LARRY C. 440-667-5492; EDWIN T. 440-989-0362

*To submit information for the news letter please contact: Jim Parks 440 385-5687 or Bobbi Matear 440 537-4280 via: Call, *email or leave the information at the Inter-Group Office before the 25th. of each month.

In need of help! The Key

Get active and help someone! The key is in need of female volunteers to help girls with rides, sponsorship, big book study and many other tasks. So if your program is getting stagnant or you are not sponsoring right now. Think about giving back to the place that has given to so many. It would be nice if you had one year of sobriety but if not we are sure they could find something for you to do.

We all know the best way to stay sober is to give back. So let's show some love for our treatment centers and show the new person how people in A.A. take care of each other.

New from the Grapevine (Box 4-5-9, Holiday Issue 2008)

Beginners' Book—Getting and Staying Sober (GV-20) is a recently released collection of over forty stories where A.A. members share what helped them to stay sober when they were newcomers. These members' experiences in their early days of sobriety provide insights and solutions to problems common to the newly sober. Plus the experience, strength and hope of A.A. members in going forward to find a life full of vitality and joy.

To read a sample selection, or to order go to www.aagrapevine.org; you may also call 1-800-640-8781. \$8.95 each; 5 or more copies \$8.50 each.

HELP NEEDED

A.A. Men & Women
to carry the message to
other Alcoholics that are
incarcerated in Jail or Prison
in Lorain County. There is also
a correspondence program in
place for those who would
like to write to
inmates.

Requirements:

1 yr. Sobriety
(if you would like to help)

Please Call:

Eddie Logan
440 829-7541
Joel (Gypsy) T.
330 646-3490

Arid Fellowship Center

Needs Volunteers to
be part of the
Entertainment
Committee to help in
the planing and setup
of events throughout
the year.

If interested Contact:
Arid Club (440 233-4801)
Jerry (440 452-1600)
Bobbie M. (440 537-4280)
Trini (440 670-2563)
Leave a message
Thank you

Every AA meeting is a payment on your sobriety.

We would like to thank all the groups that helped to make this years kids Christmas party A success. Thanks to your support we will be able to show our love to 270 kids. we would like to thank St. Anthony's group for another great job on the dance. It took a lot of work thanks! The 50/50 was \$ 1510 K.J. from Avon Tuesday was the lucky winner. The winning ticket was sold by Steve Smith. thanks to the A.A. Community for all you have done for buying dance tickets, for buying 50/50 tickets, for volunteering and for just being who you are.

I'm sure that Russ would be proud of the way you all pitched in. We would like to give Russ, Gerry, and the whole Harkins family our deepest love and appreciation for all they have given to this party, to the kids, to this fellowship and to us. We love you! With love Brenda, Patti and Troy Smith

Arid Fellowship Center

"Dance the Cold Away"

*Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge Rd.,
Sheffield Township*

January 17th. 2009

Time: 8:00 til 12:00 PM

Covered Dish Appreciated

Cost: \$8.00 Couples

\$5.00 Singles

(Under 10 Free)

Food for Sale

Phone Line Report:

Month of December, 2008

12 Step Calls.....	5
Sponsorship.....	2
Al-A-Non.....	2
Meeting Info.....	123
General Info.....	82
Total:.....	214

Easy Does It

• January Anniversaries •

Jan.1th. Greg R. 14yrs.

Jan.4th. Hal S. 25yrs.

Jan.4th. Rick B. 3yrs.

Jan.9th. Linda S. 11yrs.

Jan.10th. Ken C. 12yrs

Jan.10th. Irvin R. 7yrs.

Jan.12th. Iris M. 13yrs.

Jan.16th. Kevin S. 16yrs.

Jan.16th. Tracey H. 1 yr.

Jan.17th. John N. 25yrs.

Jan. 20 Opal A. 2yrs.

Jan. 20 Nicole D. 2yrs.

Jan.24th. Mark W. 20yrs.

Jan.29th. Don F. 25yrs.

GOD
Good
Orderly
Direction

Survivors List:

Groups in need of
Support to stay afloat Please
Attend, Contribute,
Be Active, Help Chair,

Be a Secretary,

Be Responsible

Blue Monday

Mon. 10:30 AM

Serenity Hall

"The Gould"

Sat.8:30pm

710 Broadway Ave. Lorain

Thursday Morning

Big Book Study

10.30 AM

Pilgrim Church

Broad and Winkles

Elyria, Oh

Haven Center

Fri. 7:00 PM

Haven Shelter

Sisters of Sobriety

Wed. 7:30 PM

Firstmerit Bank

Center Ridge Road

North Ridgeville

Rainbow Group

Mon. 7:30 PM

6th. & Washington

Lorain

St Agnes Thurs. Gp.

Thurs. 8:00 PM

St. John's Luthern Church

W. River Road

Sun. Night Serenity

Sun. 8:00 PM

Tues. Lunch Break

Tues. 12:00 Noon

Friday Night Faith

Fri. 11:00 PM

Arid Club, 1741 N. Ridge Rd.,

Sheffield Township

We Need Your Help!!

Don't let them Close

HELP SUPPORT

THE GROUPS.

We need volunteers from our Lorain County A.A. Community to help on all these various Committees listed, if anyone is interested please contact one or more of the chairperson and **VOLUNTEER!!!!**
Help Make A Difference

Committee Chairs

Unity LiveWire Committee

Jim Parks.....440 385-5687

*e mail jbparks2542@yahoo.com

Internet Committee (aaloraincounty.org)

Mike.....440 670-9910

e mail webmaster@aaloraincounty.org

Cooperation with the Professionals Committee

Alan Revercomb440 541-2473

Correctional Committee

Eddie Logan.....440 829-7541

Archives Committee

Mary Ann Schulz.....440 453-4115

Young Peoples Committee

John Flores.....440 308-5421

Treatment Facilities Committee

Edwin Torres.....440 989-0362

Picnic Committee

Sue Prosser.....440 309-0491

Finance Committee

Mark Potter.....440 452-5946

Pig Roast Committee

Troy Smith.....440 365-9018

Special Needs Committee

Maggie Middleton.....440 775-1274

Memorial Day Breakfast Committee

Terry Poznako.....440 225-6897

Grapevine Committee

Sarah Lamb.....440 787-7520

District Committee

District 19A (Sheffield Lake, Avon Lake, Sheffield, Avon, N. Ridgeville, Eaton, Columbia, Grafton DCM. James Barker..... 440 233-4992

District 19B (Lorain City Meetings and some in Vermilion)

DCM. Yolanda Anderson.....440 654-3429

District 20A (All of Elyria City Meetings a Carlisle)

DCM. Judy Sexton.....440 322-2619

District 20B (All Meetings at ARID Club)

DCM. Kevin Snodgrass440 241-7166

District 20C(LaGrange, Penfield, Brownhelm

Tnsp., Amherst, Henrietta Tnsp., S. Amherst,

Kipton, Oberlin, Camden Twsp., Pittsfield Twsp.,

Brighton Twsp., Wellington Meetings)

DCM. MaryAnn S.440 453-4115

e mail maschulz@oh.rr.com

Alt. DCM.Donna L.440 574-3464

Financial Report

Listed below are the Profit & Loss spread sheet, the group donations and the rents for the month of November, 2008.

<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Donations</u>	
1.Rent			
2.Columbia Gas	\$ 650.00	1.....	\$ 852.76
3.All Service Telephone Answering	\$ 272.00	2.....	\$ 239.22
4.Ohio Edison 710 Broadway	\$ 146.53	3.....	\$ 624.07
5.Ohio Edison 577 Broadway	\$ 53.13	4.....	\$ 311.69
6.Century Telephone	\$ 0.00	5.....	\$ 0.00
7. House Managers	\$ 132.61		
8.Pay Cor Fees	\$ 1,444.50		\$ 2,027.74
9.Live Wire Printing	\$ 68.85		
10. Insight Yellow Pages	\$ 64.00		
11.Office Supplies	\$ 19.46		
	\$ 34.87		
	<hr/>		
	\$ 2,885.95		
Donations/Rents	\$2,027.74		
Refund From Columbia Gas	\$1,029.62		
Payment For Door Glass	\$200.00		
Total	\$3,257.36		
Expenses	\$2,885.95		
Total Gain November 2008	\$371.41		

Rents:

Month of November 2008

1. Blue Monday
2. Friday Morning Survivor
3. Mid Week Morning Disc.
4. Never Too Young
5. Saturday Morning Disc.
6. Sharing Our Sobriety
7. Strength In Sobriety
8. Tuesday Night Central
9. We Care Tues. Morn. Disc.

Donations: Month of November, 2008

When making Donations to the Lorain Inter-Group, Area 54, Multi-District, or the General Service Office in New York. PLEASE put your Groups General Service number on the Donation. You can find your Groups General Service number in the meeting schedule or on the internet at aaloraincounty.org under A.A. Meetings. Please put your Area & District numbers on the donation, it also helps to identify your Group. If you don't have a General Service number under your Groups information in the meeting schedule you can contact your District Committee person listed in the LiveWire to help you get registered.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Amherst Saturday | 12. Mid-Week Morning Disc. |
| 2. Amherst "Who Me" | 13. Monday Night Lorain |
| 3. As Bill Sees It | 14. North Ridgeville Men's |
| 4. Blue Monday | 15. Oberlin Group |
| 5. Early Morning Discussion | 16. Oberlin Tuesday Noon Disc. |
| 6. Elyria Women's Discussion | 17. Sheffield Lake Civic Center Group |
| 7. Halloween Dance Avon Lake | 18. Spanish American |
| 8. LaPorte Tuesday Group | 19. Stepping Into Sobriety |
| 9. Lorain Consolidated | 20. Tuesday Night Central |
| 10. Lorain Inter-Group 50/50 Raffle | 21. Vermilion Monday Night |
| 11. Lorain Wednesday Group | 22. We Care Tuesday Morning Disc. |

Abundant Hope: For the New Year

Hopelessness has been replaced by abundant hope and sincere faith. . . I find joy in my daily life, in being of service, in simply being. . . The things that I have learned from my own experience, from the Big Book, and from my friends in AA -- patience, acceptance, honesty, humility, and true faith in a Power greater than myself -- are the tools I use today to live my life, this precious life.

Board Of Directors

Chairperson	Tom Ortiz.....315-8600
Vice-Chairperson	Troy Smith.....365-9018
Treasurer	Bill Post.....933-4153
Secretary	Mark Potter.....452-5946
Office Managers	Sam Hensley.....288-4942
	Tom Niemiec.....258-7286
	Keith Shagie.....258-1159

Advisory Board Members

Tom Banks.....	309-3226
Bill Jackson.....	935-3251
Terri Poznako.....	225-6897
Nikki Lustek.....	387-7347
Donna Lawson	574-3464
Ken Cain	322-2496
Jaci Cline.....	984-1288