

Flint Area Unity Council Newsletter

F.A.U.C. Website: www.geneseecountyaa.org



August 2018
Vol. 3; Issue 11
AA Help Line
(810) 234-0815



August 2018 Flint Area Open Speaker Meetings *

* = Addresses of Locations can be found in the
2018 Flint Area Groups Meeting Book.

** = With a Potluck Dinner.

Thu 2	7 pm Van Slyke
Fri 3	12 noon Arid Club; 8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer
Sat 4	7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's 8 pm St Jude's Fenton & Episcopal Church Owosso
Sun 5	7 pm St Andrews 7:30 pm Arid Club
Fri 10	8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer
Sat 11	7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's 8 pm St Jude's Fenton 8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso
Sun 12	7 pm St Andrews 7:30 pm Arid Club
Wed 15	7:30 pm Thump Day!
Fri 17	8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer
Sat 18	7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's 8 pm St Jude's Fenton 8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso
Sun 19	6 pm Otter Lake 7 pm St Andrews 7:30 pm Arid Club
Fri 24	** 7 pm Durand Group, Durand 8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer
Sat 25	11 am Oak Park ** 7 pm Thetford 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's 8 pm St Jude's Fenton 8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso
Sun 26	7 pm St Andrews 7:30 pm Arid Club
Mon 27	7 pm Montrose HOPE

If your Group wants the Speaker listed then email to farfromtoday@aol.com the Group, Day, Time and Name. Those received will be printed.

For maybe twenty years, she had fought against the appeal of alcohol – and there were intervals of success; I'd not had a lot of contact with her, in recent years, but I know that she joined our groups and participated in these sessions, and that she worked hard to assist other addicts, as well as herself. On the night of 8 May, though, her own struggle reached its final conclusion, and our disease took another victim, as a ruined liver brought to an early end the life of this most extra-ordinary and most human individual. As a wife and a mother beyond comparison, she leaves an absence I can only begin to imagine; as a nurse, too, I know she is remembered – and that she will be always remembered – with love . . . and with a profound sense of loss. And yes, she was an alcoholic, striving to recover – and as one who understood our affliction well, she was generous, in service, to those who suffered likewise, in and outside of this program; I'm sure that her time and attention saved lives. Her departure has not gone without notice – or without great sorrow, of the very most solemn kind.

Summer has brought along the usual blessings; we've known a truly fine July, this year, and – quite conscious of the miracles at work, these days, in my own life – I am seldom without a smile on my face (or a song, as they say, in my heart). Even at the best of times, though, I do remind myself – or I am reminded by the bad news brought around, either on the radio or by folks who take seats in these rooms – that my liberation and my happy condition owe much to both accidental good fortune and the support of others . . . while our problem remains in effect, no less destructive than ever, crushing individuals and communities every single day.

We can't always come to the rescue, but we have to try. Please, let us not forget; let us not fail. Let us maintain a vigilance within our perspective – that we might recognize addiction, whenever it makes an entrance – and let us reach out – with compassion, and with support . . .

As we say, yes, “. . . for that, I am responsible.”

By Drew K.

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The 4th Step



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STEP 8

“We made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.”

“Now we need more action, without which we find that “Faith without works is dead”. Page 76, Big Book.

“We have a list of all persons we have harmed and to whom we are willing to make amends. We made it when we took inventory”. Page 76, Big Book.

This suggestion is to use the 4th Step inventory as the list of people we have harmed. Yet we’ve grown past alcoholic fog; the deadening of senses and memory. “It is being constantly revealed”. Page 48, Big Book. We build upon the 4th Step Inventory list to have a more complete reckoning of those we have harmed.

Step 8 is the beginning of the Amends process in our recovery. As with all the Steps, the impetus must come from within. If the willingness is hard to get to, then we settle in prayer and meditation to gain it through humble means.

“We, in our turn, sought the same escape with all the desperation of drowning men. What seemed at first a flimsy reed, has proved to be the loving and powerful hand of God. A new life has been given us, or if you prefer, “a design for living” that really works”. Page 28, Big Book. Other Willingness quotes on pages 12, 13, 46, 47, 57, 60, 76, 118, 124, 163.

“Half measures availed us nothing. We stood at the turning point”. Page 59, Big Book.

“In meditation, we ask God what we should do about each specific matter. The right answer will come if we want it”. Page 69, Big Book.

Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous) quotes used with permission of A.A.W.S.

STEP 8 Promises

“If that degree of humility could enable us to find the grace by which such a deadly obsession could be banished, then there must be hope of the same result respecting any other problem we could possibly have”. Page 76, 12 Steps & 12 Traditions.

“Let us be reassured”. Page 76, Big Book.

“Deepening insight results from thoroughness”. Page 7, 12 Steps & 12 Traditions.

“But if a willing start is made, then the great advantages of doing this will so quickly reveal themselves that the pain will be lessened as one obstacle after another melts away”.

Pages 77 & 78, 12 Steps & 12 Traditions.

“If we haven’t the will to do this, we ask until it comes”. Page 76, Big Book.

“But this is not an end in itself. Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us”. Page 77, Big Book.

We have encountered humility, reassurance, greater insight (to ourselves), willingness, and purpose to life service. How we respond is different to each and every individual. However, the Promise of “...we soon became as open minded on spiritual matters as we had tried to be on other questions”, (Page 48, Big Book), gives passage to willingness for the 8th Step.

Big Book (Alcoholics Anonymous), 12 Steps & 12 Traditions quotes used with permission of A.A.W.S.

FLINT AREA UNITY COUNCIL AIMS AND PURPOSES

1. To promote Unity among Flint Area A.A., and harmony with Al-Anon and Ala-teen groups.
- ...
9. The Council will create service committees and be financially responsible for them.

The **F.A.U.C. Aims and Purposes with Election Procedures** is on the website www.geneseecountyaa.org.

“Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other A.A. material.”

From “The A.A. SERVICE MANUAL Combined With the TWELVE CONCEPTS for WORLD SERVICE” by Bill W. page S41, reprinted by permission of A.A.W.S.

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Corrections Committee

Purpose of the Committee.

“The purpose of a corrections committee is to coordinate the work of individual A.A. members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics behind the walls, and to set up means of smoothing the way from the facility to the larger A.A. community through prerelease contacts.

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“BASIC FUNCTIONS OF CORRECTIONS COMMITTEES

The basic functions of corrections committees are elaborated on in the Corrections Workbook. However, here are highlights of major headings. Corrections committees, when allowed to do so, take A.A. meetings into facilities within their area. They encourage “outside” group participation in this kind of Twelfth Step work. In some areas, each group has a group corrections representative. The committee provides a liaison between the correctional facilities groups and meetings and groups on the outside, and also coordinates prerelease contact. The relationship with prison authorities is discussed in the workbook to ensure a positive reciprocal working relationship with administrators and staff. A.A. members wishing to carry our message to alcoholics behind the walls of correctional facilities should understand that we always do so within the regulations of such facilities.”

“PRERELEASE/BRIDGING THE GAP/RE-ENTRY TEMPORARY CONTACTS, ETC.

This A.A. service is a way for outside A.A.s to meet up with inside A.A.s getting released from prison/jail and trying to find their way to local A.A. meetings after their release. A.A. members on the outside agree to meet ex-inmate A.A.s to accompany them to their first few local meetings. This is essentially an extended Twelfth Step call. It is not intended to become a long-term A.A. relationship, but simply to help ease the newly-released member’s transition to outside A.A. and to help get them started on the road to sobriety in their home community.”

The above quotes are from G.S.O. Guideline MG-06 and are reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

Contact George W. at 810-624-2772 to volunteer for the Flint Area Unity Council A.A. Correction Committee.

Hello,

I’m George W and I am the District 12/Area 32 Corrections Chairman. I hope everyone is enjoying this great summer we are having.

I just want to talk a little bit about what it is we do, we as A.A. Corrections volunteers going into the Genesee County Jail and the Thumb Correctional Facilities. We carry the A.A. 12 Step message and program of recovery to the inmates and incarcerated men and women who otherwise have no chance of hearing the opportunity to recover. We are supported by our Unity Council and we find this work very challenging and rewarding, and it gives us not only an opportunity to help others, but it helps us too! It gives us a sense of service, responsibility and most importantly, purpose!!!

At the present time we have our prison facilities meetings mostly covered, but we are in need of men and women who are well grounded in recovery who have over a year sobriety, haven’t been involved or have out of the justice system at least three years, no pending warrants, (we want to make sure you’re able to go home after you go in!) and that one has the time and can really dedicate themselves to this service!

We also pen pal and answer letters and set ups for upcoming prison and jail released inmates and we try to help find a foundation and structure into the program after their release.

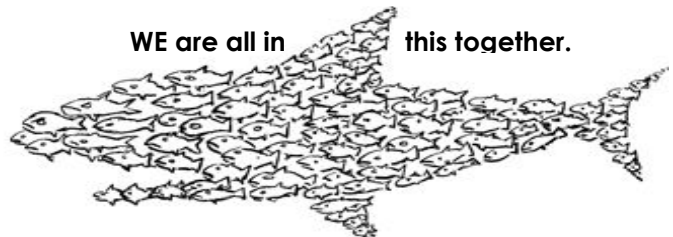
We need men and women volunteers and are urgently in need of qualified women at this time to carry this message.

This is my second term as the Corrections Chairman, I was nominated and accepted the position with a little over one year sobriety and it helped me early in my first five years of sobriety. Now almost 20 years later I find myself doing it again, and it has been an honor and a privilege to serve this area and this cause!

If you are interested and would like to apply, please contact me and I can have you fill out an application, and if its approved, we can get you going!!! My number is 810-624-2772, my email is george48529@yahoo.com.

Thank you, George W,
Corrections Chairman, Flint Area Unity Council.

WE are all in this together.



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F.A.U.C. Committees

Committee Chairs with names & contact info.

Al-Anon Liaison: Brad S. 810-516-8449

Accessibility for All Alcoholics:

Chair – Kamesha M. 810-449-5242

A.A. Answering Service;

Chair - Wayne T. 810-875-2939

CPC- Cooperation with the Professional Community;

Chair – Richard B. 810-938-9755

Corrections; Chair – George W. 810-624-2772

Grapevine; Chair – Greg S. 810-493-3959

Literature/Meeting Books:

Chair – James P. 313-613-3703

PI-Public Information:

Chair – Moe M. 810-908-3449

Treatment; Chair – Ben J. 810-513-9899

Young People; Chair - **OPEN**

Website; Chair – Katrina H. 810-347-2330

F.A.U.C. Newsletter; Want to Help? Contact

Editor – Doug G, 810-410-7458, farfromtoday@aol.com.

Co-Editor – Drew K. 810-441-5541,

akeast75@protonmail.com.

Newsletter Distributors: Tim B, Tony B. Carl D,

Doug G Gordon G Drew K James P Bob W

CORRECTIONS to the 2018 Flint Area Group Meeting Book.

The **Lapeer Clover School** Group meets at 10 am Saturdays, not 11:30 am as listed.

The **Hogarth Group** meets at 7 pm Thursdays, not 7:30 pm as listed.

The **North Branch** Meeting at 7 pm Wednesdays was listed on the website at 8 pm, it has been corrected by the Webmaster.



Sure grateful for no hole in our end!



A.A. Meetings:
Come as you are,
Change inside.



Here's the fellowship list for the tri-county area, all of 'em just as naughty as they want to be,

If you'd like to receive the Newsletter via email, email request to the Editor or Co-editor, emails listed above.

A.A Treasurer's addresses:



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C.M.I.A. 32, % Cindy Rowley, 2903 Ronan St. Apt 2, Midland MI 48642

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Pass The Hat Association, Inc.