

Flint Area Unity Council Newsletter

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



June 2019
Vol. 4; Issue 9
AA Help Line
(810) 234-0815



June 2019 Flint Area Open Speaker Meetings *

* = Addresses of Locations can be found in the 2019 Flint Area Groups Meeting Book. (Page #).

- Thu 2 7 pm Van Slyke (19).
Fri 3 12 noon, Eye Opener, Arid Club (21).
8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
Sat 4 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
Sun 5 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
Fri 10 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
Sat 11 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
Sun 12 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
Wed 15 7:30 pm Thump Day! (15).
Fri 17 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
Sat 18 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
Sun 19 6 pm Otter Lake (7).
7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
Fri 24 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:30 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
Sat 25 11 am Oak Park (24).
7 pm Thetford (25). (With a POTLUCK).
7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
Sun 26 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
Mon 27 7 pm Montrose HOPE (11).

Group wants the Speaker listed? email to farfromtoday@aol.com the details.

THANK YOU!!!

The Flint Area Unity Council would like to post the following notice.

“**Thank you** to all the **Groups** for the donations to the F.A.U.C., Area32, and the GSO. It is with gratitude of the work you do that allows the Council to more fully follow Tradition Five, “Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.” 12 X 12, pg 150, reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

A Muse on Tradition SIX

Tradition Six has three main problems that we are suggested to avoid: money, property, and, prestige.

Let's look at the last one. One opposite of Prestige is Humility.

Using this as a rule of thumb, Humility then also refers to a Power greater than ourselves. Humility is having love, the essence of putting another before us. That's also the meaning of sacrifice. What do we do for others, just to do it, and with no expectations of reward? And by putting others first, we are in the practice of being humble as we gain humility through action.

Also it is suggested we not endorse, finance, or lend the name of A.A. to any outside enterprise. In endorsing an outside facility, we've put effort into something that draws us away from our primary purpose, carrying the message of A.A. recovery. No one can carry the message of A.A. except A.A. Others may promise 'recovery', but in truth, it is a catch phrase to garner money for their enterprise of 'recovery'. Many of us have been in such a place, the first thing we are suggested to do when released is go to A.A. and build a support system. Only A.A. has the Tradition of only having a desire to stop drinking to be a member. Either you will pay, or your insurance will pay, but your desire to stop drinking won't even get you in the door if you can't pay or aren't covered. So its obvious we don't endorse, finance, or lend the name of A.A. to an enterprise that does not have the same principle. First, we have a desire, second, we are self supporting. How is financing an enterprise being self supporting on their end? Ah, but you see, the bottom line of a profit margin is for the enterprise, not for A.A.

**Tradition Six
Tradition Short Form**

“An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.” (Tradition Six, page 561).

Tradition Long Form

Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A. such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one. (562).

Alcoholics Anonymous quotes pages 561 and 562 reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

Promises of the Sixth Tradition

“...implanted a deep-rooted conviction that in no circumstances could we endorse any related enterprise, no matter how good” (157).

“We of Alcoholics Anonymous could not be all things to all men, nor should we try” (157).

“We saw as never before that we could not lend the A.A. name to any cause other than our own. (159)

The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions quotes on pages 157, 59 reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

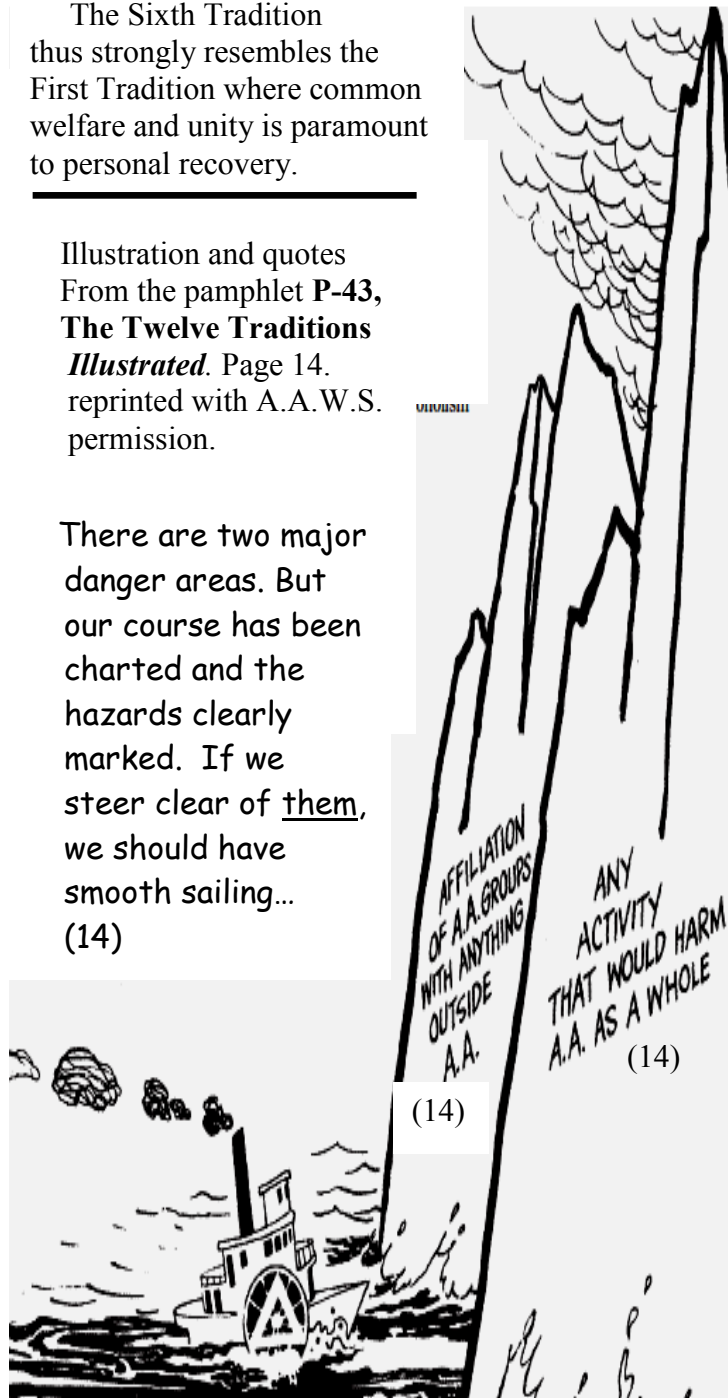
**Sixth Tradition Principle
SOLIDARITY**

Definition: Unity or agreement of feeling or action, especially among individuals with a common interest; mutual support within a group.

The Sixth Tradition thus strongly resembles the First Tradition where common welfare and unity is paramount to personal recovery.

Illustration and quotes From the pamphlet **P-43, The Twelve Traditions Illustrated**. Page 14. reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

There are two major danger areas. But our course has been charted and the hazards clearly marked. If we steer clear of them, we should have smooth sailing... (14)



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.

The Sixth Step and the Sixth Tradition

“Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.” (Step Six, page 59).

“An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.” (Tradition Six, page 561).

Let’s start with the defects as listed in the Sixth Tradition; money, property, and prestige. These defects may, or may not have shown up in our personal list of defects, but as a group, they can become a concern, and hence the caution to avoid them. It is not money that is a problem, everybody needs that. It is our attitude about money that can be a problem. Property is the same way; either we lease it, rent it, or own it. But to hold it above any other is where the problem comes in that leads to the next one; prestige.

Definition of prestige: “widespread respect and admiration felt for someone or something on the basis of a perception of their achievements or quality”. One can see that number one, this sort of attention is very likely to go to our head, namely; our ego is fed. It is also dangerous to anonymity within A.A.

In the long form, the word authority is used versus prestige. We have encountered authority before, as in the Second Tradition, “For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern”. (561).

The goal of the Sixth Tradition is “dividing the material from the spiritual”. (562).

Now on to the Sixth Step and how it applies here. Willingness has never been a problem for us. We were always entirely ready to do what we wanted, when we wanted, with who we wanted (even if it was alone). But our focus is now changed, instead of doing our own will, “...follow the dictates of a Higher Power and you will presently live in a new and wonderful world”. (100).

The similarities are there for us to meditate upon. The core of our effort is willingness to change and leave behind defects of character, whether they apply to an individual, an individual in a group, or the group itself.

The Alcoholics Anonymous quotes on pages 59, 561 & 562 reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.



The three illustrations above are concerned with the three problems of what groups ought to avoid as put forth in the Sixth Tradition.

The top one shows the collision of the pitfall of using group money for its own use versus the integrity of using the money to help carry the message, our *primary purpose*.

The center illustration shows how our valuing of Property of the group can become a destructive activity that leaves the *primary purpose* on the way side in a wreck of differing opinions and emotions.

The bottom depiction shows where prestige is in direct ‘competition’ with humility that leaves the group striving for the *primary purpose*.

When Bill W wrote about “dividing the material from the spiritual”. (562), it reflects back upon Tradition Two where “there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God, as he may express himself in our group conscience”. (561)

The Alcoholics Anonymous quotes on pages 561 & 562 reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

F.A.U.C. Committees; Officers & Chairs.

Committee Chairs with names. (Visit the website www.geneseecountyaa.org to email the F.A.U.C.).

F.A.U.C. Chair: Deborah B.

F.A.U.C. Secretary: Aaron B.

Pass The Hat Assoc. Treasurer (PTHA): George W. Al-Anon Liaison; Brad S.

Accessibility for All Alcoholics: Chris R.

A.A. Answering Service: Wayne T.

PI-Public Information: Moe M.

CPC- Cooperation with the Professional Community: Richard B.

Corrections: George W. **Grapevine:** Greg S.

Literature/Meeting Books: James P.

Treatment: Ben J. **Website:** Doug G.

Young People: OPEN

F.A.U.C. Newsletter

Editor: Doug G. Co-Editor: Mercedes M.

Newsletter Distributors

Bob W, Carl D, Chris R, Doug G, Drew K, Gordon G, Jeff G, Kamesha M, James P, Tony B,

The May 2019 Newsletter went to 201 meetings & 67 emails. See note bottom left.



Ned & Jed



Chopper's meeting tonight, Jed.

Will they let me in? ,



Do tell, You're a chopper right?

Yes, but I don't know what it's all about.



No problem; drink the coffee, listen and learn.

If you would like to receive the Newsletter via email, send request to the Editor at farfromittoday@aol.com.



A.A Treasurer's addresses:

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F.A.U.C. 4225 Miller Rd., Suite 119 Flint, MI 48507 Please make checks payable to **Pass The Hat Association, Inc.**

2019 F.A.U.C. Meetings; Date: Place: Group.
Next F.A.U.C. Meeting: Meetings are on the 3rd Saturdays of the month; 11:30 am Committee Meetings with a 12:30 pm General Assembly
June 15: Arid Club/F.A.U.C. **July 20:** Clover School, 3496 Davison Rd Lapeer **August 17:** Eye Opener/Arid Club **September 21:** Otter Lake; St John the Baptist Episcopal Church, 5811 Forest Ave, Otter Lake. **October 19:** Women in A.A., Arid Club. **November 16:** Fenton Alano, 800 North Rd. Fenton **December 21:** Van Slyke Group, Local 659, 4549 Van Slyke Rd. Flint.

Group NEWS

The 67th Michigan State Convention "Service the heart of AA" is Aug. 23, 24, 25, 2019 in Detroit. Further details at www.michiganstateconvention.com.

Summer Celebration Recovery Dance at the Faith Lutheran Church, 12534 Holly Rd. Grand Blanc on Saturday June 22. DJ is Eddie B; \$7 cover charge, children 12 and under \$2. Food, Coffee, Fellowship, Dance, Door Prizes, 50/50 raffle. Food 6-7 pm and 8 – 10 pm/ Open Speaker 7 – 8 pm, Dance 8 – 11?

F.A.U.C. Annual Picnic is July 28th at Bluebell Beach, 11 – 5, Please bring a dish to Pass.

Alano House has a July 4th Celebration at 6 pm.

Oak Parks Annual Picnic is on Aug 3 at Bluebell Beach 8 am to 5 pm with an 11 am meeting.

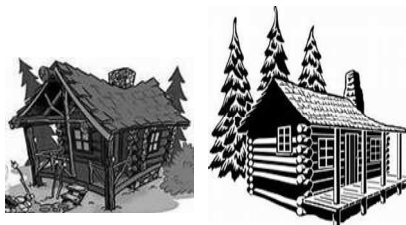
Otter Lake Annual Fellowship Picnic Saturday August 10th 1 - ? at Jim M's, 6175 White Sands Road, Otter Lake on Hemmingway Lake. Please bring a dish to pass. Pontoon, Kayaks, Volleyball, Horseshoes, Fishing (Bring your own gear) and fun!

Group wants a Newsletter announcement? Email farfromittoday@aol.com by the 20th of the month.

The Flint Area Unity Council would like to **Thank Katrina H.** for her years of Service Work to the F.A.U.C.

A very big Thank You to Katrina!

Doug G. is the new Chair of the Website.



"The answers will come, if your own house is in order".

Alcoholics Anonymous, pg 164, reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

May 18 th	Eye Opener	Arid
June 15 th	Montrose?	Debbie O 810 577 3468 Montrose?
July 20 th	Lapeer Group	Clover School
August 17 th	Eye Opener	Arid
September 21 st	Otter lake	St. Johns Otter lake
*October 19 th	Woman in AA	Arid Club
November 16 th	Fenton Alano	Fenton Alano Club
December 21 st	Davison Fellowship	St. Johns Davison