

Flint Area Unity Council Newsletter

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



November 2019
Vol. 5; Issue 2
AA Help Line
(810) 234-0815

**No! The Flint Weather Coney
Ball cannot predict weather
phenomena, nor the best**

Flint Coney Dog.

Submit your
favorite to
[farfromtoday
@aol.com](mailto:farfromtoday@aol.com).
Highest Voted
Coney Dog
published in
December.



November 2019 Flint Area Open Speaker Meetings *

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

- Sun 3 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Thu 7 7 pm Van Slyke (19).
- Fri 8 12 noon, Eye Opener, Arid Club (21).
8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
- Sat 9 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
- Sun 10 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Fri 15 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
- Sat 16 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
- Sun 17 7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Fri 22 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
- Sat 23 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (24).
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (23).
8 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (25).
- Sun 24 6 pm Otter Lake (7).
7 pm St Andrews (6).
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Mon 25 7 pm Montrose HOPE (11).
- Fri 29 8 pm, Fenton Alano.
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (22).
- Sat 30 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).

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

Attraction rather than Promotion

We are well aware of the pitfalls of promoting the message of A.A. instead of relying on attraction. But do we seek to make attraction attractive?

From: <http://aa-riviera.org/index.html>
(A.A. of South France).

“If you seem to be having trouble with your drinking, or if your drinking has reached the point where it worries you, you may be interested to know something about Alcoholics Anonymous and the A.A. programme of recovery from alcoholism. After reading this brief outline, you may decide that A.A. has nothing to offer you. Should this be the case, we suggest only that you keep an open mind on the subject. Consider your drinking carefully in the light of what you learn from this website. Determine for yourself, whether or not alcohol has truly become a problem for you. And remember that you will always be most welcome to join the thousands of men and women who have put their drinking problems behind them and now lead “normal” lives of constructive day-by-day sobriety.”

From: <https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/about-AA> (A.A. of United Kingdom -England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.).

AA Fact File Introduction - Some Information About Alcoholics Anonymous.

“This file has been prepared to help provide basic informational material on the AA Fellowship, and in response to requests for data in a format suitable for filing and ready reference.

Millions of men and women have heard or read about the unique Fellowship called Alcoholics Anonymous since its founding in 1935. Of these, more than 2,000,000 now call themselves members. People who once drank to excess, they finally acknowledged that they could not handle alcohol, and now live a new way of life without it.”

**Tradition Eleven
Tradition Short Form**

“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.” (561).

Tradition Eleven Long Form

“Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. should avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better that our friends recommend us. (564 & 565).

Alcoholics Anonymous quotes pages 561 and 564& 565 reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

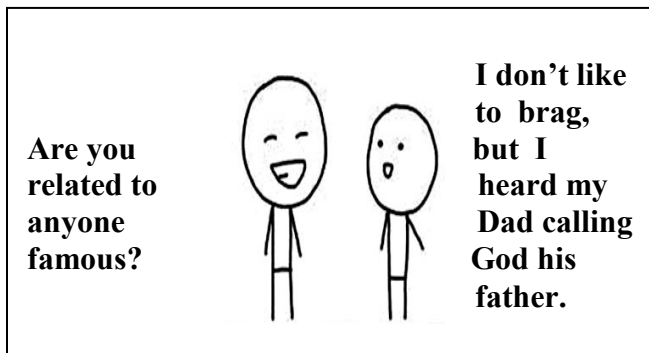
Promises of the Eleventh Tradition

“We found that we had to rely upon the principle of attraction rather than of promotion.” (181).

“...we knew we had to exercise self-restraint.”(181)

“...This Tradition is a constant and practical reminder that personal ambition has no place in A.A.” (183)

The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions quotes on pages 181, 183, are reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.



**Eleventh Tradition Principle
NEUTRALITY**

“Here, I began to understand that as an AA member, I owed certain disciplines, obligations, and responsibilities to AA as a whole. I could speak out as an individual on any matter with which I was concerned; but as an AA member, I had to operate within certain limits, try to "engage the mind before opening the mouth." From the website; http://silkworth.net/downloads/pdf/spiritual_principles_of_the_12_traditions.pdf

**TRADITIONS CHECKLIST
from the A.A. Grapevine**

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

Tradition Eleven: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission from the Pamphlet SMF-131.

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 Eleventh Step and the Eleventh Tradition

“Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.” (59).

“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.” (561).

Parts of our having the “knowledge of His will for us” in the 11th Step are carried out in the 11th Tradition. In the Tradition we are suggested to rely on “attraction rather than promotion.” Also “always maintain anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.”

When the text of Alcoholics Anonymous was written, there was no social media. A ticker tape of the stock market was the only instantaneous information device. It was used from about 1870 to 1970, when it became obsolete.

The telephone was important yes, although mostly it has been replaced by the cell phone and it’s no longer the only means of spreading information. Digitally we have the electronic media in very many forms, from voice mail, a simple text, or a picture sent on our cell phones. And there is the social media platforms (web-based technology), growing at an all time pace. Here are the top 14 in 2019; Facebook, YouTube, Weibo, Instagram, Qzone, Twitter, Reddit, Pinterist, Ask.fm, Tumblr, Flickr, LinkedIn, VK, Odnoklassniki, Meetup. Google had made the list, but is no longer a platform offered.

A.A. members and the International Organization use social platforms all the time, we are only cautioned only on the content we put out there to “always maintain anonymity.”

On the website www.aa.org, there is the following; Content Use Policy which covers, A) Personal Use, B) Educators, C) A.A. Entities, D) The Blue People (The Blue People graphic is a copyrighted design and registered trademark of A.A.W.S., Inc.), and E) Frequently Asked Questions.

On July 5, 1978 the band Who put out a song titled “Who Are You”. Let us keep that spirit of anonymity alive by not telling who you are, where you are, or what you say, but remembering who we are, where we go and what we say.



This A.A. placard is available in two sizes. 11” X 17” (M-77) and 8.5” X 11” (M-78) through either www.aa.org or your local District Literature Committee.

In committee at the Conference last year we talked about the poster some of us saw in the hospitality suite at the Atlanta International Convention, which was originally used in Box 4-5-9. It had social media icons and a smart phone saying, “Anonymity is so FRAGILE, you can break it with one finger!” Some of us wanted to see it used in the design of the new pamphlet on anonymity. I found out it has been tweaked and is available as a PDF poster. It’s a wonderful visual to use. When we see something, we need to step up and have that conversation about how our Tradition of Anonymity isn’t just about being anonymous; it’s about humility.

From: https://www.aa.org/forum-reports/en_US/en_rf_finalrep_WestCan-june8-10-18.pdf

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; OPEN

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: Mike J.

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The October 2019 Newsletter went to 197 meetings & 72 emails. See note bottom left.

Ned & Jed



Jed, do you know about our chopper's public relation policy, attraction rather than promotion?

Can't say that I have.



I worry we spend too much time worrying and not enough on promotion through attraction.

Do tell... You've a ways to go yet, y'know. Keep coming back !!!



Do tell. That's where one practices anonymity and humility.

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.

November 16: Fenton Alano,
800 North Rd. Fenton

December 21: Van Slyke Group, Local 659, 4549
Van Slyke road, Flint.

Group NEWS

The 2020 Michigan Mock Conference will be Saturday March 28, 2020 at the First Presbyterian Church, 400 South Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Pre-Registration begins November 2019.

A.A. International Convention, Detroit, MI, July 2 -5, 2020. Online registration is available on www.aa.org. The Volunteers Kickoff meeting will be on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at TCF Center (formerly COBO Convention Center).

Fenton Alano has a 7 pm Thursday OPEN meeting.

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

Two Plus Two Equals WHAT?

A mathematician, accountant and a public relations person applied for a job. The mathematician was interviewed, "What does two plus two equal?" The mathematician said, "Four." Then the accountant was interviewed. "What does two plus two equal?" The accountant said, "On average, four — give or take 10 percent, but on average, four." Then the interviewer called in the public relations person and again posed the question. The public relations person got up, locked the door, closed the shade, and sat down next to the interviewer whispering, "Whadaya want it to equal?"

A Reasonable Fee?

A man phones a PR consultant and asks, "How much do you charge for answering three simple questions?"

The PR consultant replies, "A thousand dollars."

"A thousand dollars?" questions the man. "That's very expensive isn't it?"

"It certainly is," replies the PR consultant. "Now, what's your third question?"

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.**

If you want a Newsletter via email, send Editor a request to farfromittoday@aol.com.