



STEP SIX:

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

I am a Work in Progress

When I did my Fourth Step, I had no more fears or reservations. What I found out was that I was afraid of being who I wanted to be, and all the defects of character came to the surface. When I reached the Sixth Step I remained there for an entire year. I hadn't realized how many defects I had, but I was ready to do the work, because I truly would like to be a better person.

Some of my defects didn't show themselves until I got sober. I feel that God put those defects there for a reason. The life-threatening situations I got myself into when I was out there, I must admit some of those defects helped in saving my life.

I don't feel they will be removed, but by my continuing to work the steps, I can keep them arrested. One of the promises has come true: I now know how to handle *in a positive way* situations which used to baffle me. That's one of the things that makes it ok today.

Thanks to Angela L.S., Midway Club

Bill W. from the "Twelve & Twelve"

Many will at once ask, "How *can* we accept the entire implication of Step Six? Why — that is *perfection!*" This sounds like a hard question, but practically speaking, it isn't. Only Step One, where we made the 100 percent admission we were powerless over alcohol, can be practiced with absolute perfection. The remaining eleven Steps state perfect ideals. They are goals toward which we look, and the measuring sticks by which we estimate our progress. Seen in this light, Step Six is still difficult, but not at all impossible. The only urgent thing is that we make a beginning, and keep trying.

Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc., from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 68.



ST. PAUL INTERGROUP OPEN HOUSE 2009
Come join us in sharing the message of Alcoholics Anonymous, dogs and burgers. Meet the staff, learn about the function of Intergroup, and most of all have a little fun. Hope to see you there!

SATURDAY JUNE 20TH, 11:00AM—3:00PM

On the top level of the parking garage at Spruce Tree Centre, St. Paul Intergroup
1600 University Ave., #407 St. Paul, MN 55104- (651) 227-5502

St. Paul Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous®

Web Site: www.aastpaul.org

E-mail: lifeline@aastpaul.org

Fax: 651-290-0209

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday — 9 AM to 6 PM; Tuesday: 9 AM to 8 PM

1600 University Avenue W. Suite 407 St. Paul MN 55104

The Twelve Traditions: Tradition Six:

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.

“... almost any opinion can be heard among our groups. Generally speaking there are three schools of thought: the ‘do everything’ school; the ‘do something’ school; and the ‘do nothing’ school.”

— From the pamphlet, “A.A. Tradition: How It Developed” (p. 20)

“Before I understood even dimly what A.A. was I was sure I could improve it.”

— *The Best of the Grapevine: Vol. 1* (p. 250)

One thing that the A.A. program shows this alcoholic is my patterns of behavior. It is not surprising that I can, at times, believe that my presence and opinion can influence and alter the orbit of almost anything. I also tend to let my ideas ‘run riot’, particularly my self will. The main course of action that the A.A. program teaches me routinely is to separate spirituality and materialism as they are not synonymous — though for a long time I believed they were. Tradition Six helps me in my macro view of the world and those which inhabit it, as well as my micro view of my daily decisions. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of our program. How do I match myself with all around me? How do I tap into the harmony and balance in the universe? A.A. helps me in my micro view and my daily discourse to make the macro and micro view of others a little more pleasant. I pray I should not begin to think that this evolution of my mind is due to my own thinking. Therefore, I need to follow the traditions as well as the steps. I need to keep my perspective in the architecture of the program where the swimming is ‘safe.’ If I choose to lose my life jacket and map of humility, I am sure to be lost and sinking in a flood of alcohol. When left to my own devices this is what ultimately happens; so goes the insanity.

Thanks to Lee C., Office Volunteer.

The Twelve Concepts: Concept Six

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

“Why should our Trustees be given this very wide latitude of judgment and action? The answer is that we A.A.’s are holding them mainly responsible for all our service activities . . . They are the active guardians of our Twelve Traditions.”

— Reprinted from *Twelve Concepts for World Service* p. 27, with permission from A.A. World Services Inc.

2009 Steering Board

<u>Chair:</u>	Mary Jo N.
<u>Alt. Chair:</u>	Julie M.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Jeff T.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Michael K.
<u>Members at Large 2009:</u>	John D. & Jeff C.
<u>Members at Large 2008:</u>	Lisa L. & Mark K.
<u>Advisor to the Board:</u>	Tom S.
<u>Office Manager:</u>	Tom N.

Office Calls in April

Meeting information	210
Inventory/hours	16
12th Step calls	18
Temporary sponsor	38
Speaker request	32
Special events	2
Outside issues	29
Info for professionals	5
Administrative	150
Other	11
Total Calls	562
Daily average	25.6
Visitors	210

Call tally is for calls taken during office hours only and does not include calls taken during Night Owl shifts.

St. Paul A.A. Intergroup Representatives' Meeting Minutes, April, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm (see Attendees below).

Open with the serenity prayer and Introductions.

Reading of the Primary Purpose – skipped.

Approval of last month's minutes – motion to approve, seconded, motion passes.

Treasurer's Report - Diane E.

Reviewed the Treasurer's report. Clarified questions on the budget.

Office Manager Report – Tom N.

Announced the part time job posting, asked reps to announce in their groups. There is a 1 year sobriety requirement. Job description handout available at the meeting. CD's of Warren M and Patty M from St. Pat's day on sale.

Website Report – Jonathan reported that site use has been static.

Reminded groups they can send him their group events and he will post them on the web site. Please check your group's web posting and contact office with corrections. Also requested folks call the office if they attended a meeting and it was not there. He explained the web stats on the website report.

Outreach Program– Jeff C. absent, no report

Night Owl Report – Patti M. Two open shifts: 3rd Wed of the month 5:30 p.m. – 10 p.m. and 5th Tues of the month.

Any new board members who do not have a Night Owl packet contact her or office to get one. Group Night Owl coordinators, please make sure all members who volunteer have a packet. If not, please get one at office or download from www.aastpaul.org. Call the office and as for the user name and password.

Intergroup Events

April 25th, is the TGIS Event. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Speakers to follow, Alanon Speaker Linda B, AA Speaker Bill C.

Dance at 9:00 p.m. A group volunteered to help move chairs between the dinner and the meeting.

June 20th Intergroup Open House in the Parking Ramp 11:00 – 3:00 BBQ. Please see event sheet for more info.

Tom S is still looking for AA members with 25+ years of sobriety for the Ice Cream Social

October 17th Fall Step Workshop

November 21st Gratitude Night – Speaker

December 31st New Year's Eve Speaker and Dance

Reminder to please talk with your groups and see which events they would like to help out at.

Old Business

Bylaws Committee met. They've hired an attorney with non profit experience. Will report progress at each meeting.

New Business

A rep asked about Intergroup hosting a hospitality suite at Gopher State Roundup. It is too late for this year, but next year is possible. The price of the suite varies by what floor the room is on. The groups would host the room as well as provide food. Fall is the time to begin preparation if the groups are interested in doing this.

N.E. Intergroup will be selling literature this year at Gopher State Roundup.

Group Announcements

Midway Club Rummage Sale June 12-13

St. Paul Speaker Meeting Moved to St. Joe's Hospital. Parking is Free

3 Amigos Pancake Breakfast – August 29th. Time TBD

Look for more information on the Intergroup Web Site.

Concept Review for April – Concept 4 **Tom N.** filled in for Michael K. Volunteer for May, Concept V - **Jennifer S**

Mock Rep Report – **Dan W.** Volunteer for May Report - **Joe S**

XIV. Close with the Responsibility Statement.

Attendance:

Angela S.-Midway	Bob Z—Amigos	Charlie S-NTLP	Chris McG-Maplewood
Garth M.-Defogged Mens	James L-3 rd Edition	Joe B OMD	Joe S HJF, BTB 12x12
Julie M Alt Board Chair	Lisa L.-Board at Large	Julie T-Summit Women's BB	Jennifer S-Back to Basics
Deb M-Great Tidings	Jonathan L.-Web Servant	Tonya, St. Paul SM	Dan W—TFL
John D—Boart At-Large	Tom N—Office manager	Tom S—Board Advisor	
Julie M—Alt Chair	Mark K-Board At-Large		
Diane E-Board Treas Advisor	Mary Jo N—Board Chair	Shelly S-Mon Night Woman's 12x12	Diane D-Apple Valley Wed Ladies Group

**7th Tradition
Suggestions for Groups**

“Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

The Conference-approved pamphlet: “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality mix” offers the following suggestions for the distribution of group funds “after group expenses” have been paid.

50% St. Paul Intergroup

Spruce Tree Center
1600 University Ave. #407
St. Paul, MN 55104

30% General Service Office

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

10% Southern MN Area 36

Area Assembly
P.O. Box 2812
Mpls., MN 55402

10% District Committee

Ramsey County:
District 8, P.O. Box 2267
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dakota County:
District 19, P.O. Box 1466
Burnsville, MN 55337

Washington County:
District 15, P.O. Box 181
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

SE Ramsey County:
District 26, P.O. Box 75980
St. Paul, MN 55175

BE A NIGHT OWL !!

Night Owls are often the first A.A. contact for the newcomer! A Night Owl shift is a once-a-month commitment to answer Intergroup phones after hours. Some shifts can be done in the office; all can be done from home. The commitment can be filled by an individual or a group. **If you can help, call the office or go to our website: www.aastpaul.org**

District Meetings

District 8 (Ramsey Co.)

Fairview Community Center
1910 Co. Rd B, Rm 203, Roseville
3rd Wed., 7:30 PM

District 15 (Wash. Co.)

Christ Lutheran Church
11194 N. 36th St., Lake Elmo
4th Mon., 7:00 PM

District 19 (Dakota Co.)

Rosemount Community Center
13885 South Robert Trail
2nd Wed., 7:00 PM

District 26 (SE Ramsey Co.)

1099 Payne Ave. St. Paul
2nd Fri., 6:00 PM
www.district26-area36.org

Thanks to all the terrific volunteers who helped in the Office during April!

AJ, Andy B., Brian, Brian O., Cameron, Chris S., CJ, Crysil, Deb M., Emily E., Frank D., Gary G., Jaclyn B., Jake, Jan B., Jane, Jane B., Jeff R., Jenni J., Joe M., John W., Josh C., Julianna, Kelly G., Larry, Laura M., Lee C., Lindsey B., Max S., Meghan, Michael F., Nate R., Nate W., Neil L., Peter, Renee, Rick D., Ritta, Sam W., Scott M., Steph, Tierney, Travis V.

Thanks to all the Night Owl volunteers and groups as well!



APRIL CONTRIBUTIONS

Number of Group Contributors: 36
Total Group Contributions: \$3086
Number of Faithful Fivers: 14
Total from Faithful Fivers: \$255

“Thanks!” to the groups that contributed in April:

- Amigo's III
- Cliffhangers I Thurs PM
- Daily Reflections Women's Group
- Dakota Alano Friday 6PM
- Dakota Alano Wed. Roosters
- Day By Day—Coon Rapids
- Forest Lake Tues Men's
- Gratitude in Action
- Happy Hour 12 & 12 Group
- Highland Park Groups
- Highway 96'ers White Bear Twnshp
- Hole in the Donut Group
- Hugo Groups
- Live & Let Live Group
- Maplewood Groups
- Midway Groups
- Mon. AM Apple Valley Women's AA
- Monday Night Hope - Lakeville
- North Dale Group
- North Hamline Group
- Oakdale Group (Transfiguration)
- Oakdale Thursday Group
- Oasis Group
- Outright Mental Defectives
- Pine City Thursday Night
- Primary Purpose Woodbury
- Rosemount Groups
- Roseville Wednesday Night Group
- Sat As Bill Sees It Dakota Alano
- Serenity Group
- Stillwater Trinity Groups
- Thurs Night Lake Elmo Group
- Uptown Groups
- Valley Creek Monday Group
- Wednesday Stillwater Step
- White Bear Wed AM Women's

The Lifeline: Purpose Statement

The Lifeline is the monthly newsletter of the St. Paul and Suburban Area Intergroup Association office of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by, and for members of the A.A. Fellowship. Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either A.A. or Intergroup. (Exception: Quotations from A.A. books or pamphlets are reprinted with permission from A.A. World Services, Inc.) We welcome articles of opinion or descriptions of personal experience, which should be sent to Lifeline Editor, St. Paul Intergroup, 1600 University Avenue #407, St. Paul MN 55104. Materials or articles cannot be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Intergroup reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity, language, length and content that might violate A.A.'s Traditions, etc. The deadline is the 13th of the preceding month (i.e., submit a Tenth Step essay by the ninth month, September).

UPCOMING A.A. EVENTS!!

St. Paul AA Intergroup Open House

Saturday, June 20th

Come for barbeque, fellowship and fun!

Minneapolis Intergroup Service Workshop Communicating Our Message Outside the Rooms of A.A.

Saturday, June 27, 6pm

Union Congregational Church
3700 Alabama Ave, St. Louis Park, MN

TWIN CITIES ROUND-UP LGBT & Friends A.A. & AI-Anon

Van Cleve Recreation Center
901-15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN
www.twincitiesroundup.com
June 12, 13 & 14

West Central Regional Forum w/ the A.A. General Service Board St. Cloud, MN — Holiday Inn September 11, 12 & 13

64th Annual Duluth Round-up

Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center
September 11, 12 & 13
www.duluthroundup.org

19th Annual Heartland Round-up Park Rapids, MN — Northern Pines Assembly Ground September 11, 12 & 13



Cartoon reprinted with permission of the A.A. Grapevine, Inc. June, 1968.

Dear Bill W,

Sometimes I feel like I don't know whether I am coming or going; whether I am "trudging the Road of Happy Destiny," or beating my own path. What is the essential thing I need to find my way to a life that is "happy, joyous and free?"

— An Anonymous Drunk

"You are asking yourself, as all of us must: 'Who am I?'... 'Where am I?'... 'Whence do I go?' The process of enlightenment is usually slow. But, in the end, our seeking always brings a finding. These great mysteries are, after all, enshrined in complete simplicity. The willingness to grow is the essence of all spiritual development."

As *Bill Sees It*, p.171, reprinted by permission.
of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Is your meeting represented at Intergroup?

The June Representatives' meeting will be held Tuesday, June 19th, 7:30 pm,
at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 285 N. Dale St., St. Paul, 55103.

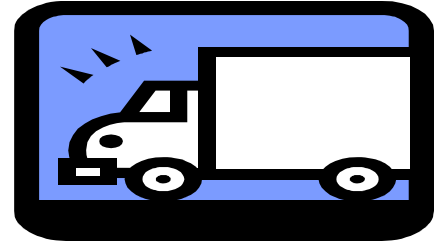
The church is located just south of I-94. For parking, turn west on Iglehart from Dale.

St. Paul Intergroup
Spruce Tree Center
1600 University Ave. W. Ste. 407
St. Paul, MN 55104

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
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St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 7451

Please let us know if your address changes one month ahead of time. It saves us the cost of return postage and enables you to get each issue of *The Lifeline*. Our mailing permit does not provide for mail forwarding. Thank you!



St. Paul Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form

Faithful Fivers contribute \$5.00 to St. Paul Intergroup each month to enable us to continue to carry our life-saving message. Your contribution entitles you to a one-year subscription to *The Lifeline*. You may also contribute annually, quarterly, etc.

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please send this form and a check to:

St. Paul Intergroup, 1600 University Avenue W., Ste. 407, St. Paul, MN 55104

I would like to receive *The Lifeline* every month by email, not postal mail. My email address is:

(please print clearly) _____