

Berkshire Intergroup News

July 2021

Anniversaries:

Watch Your Step	July 18	Dee Dee A. (27 yrs)
Sheffield 12 & 12	July 28	Mark M. (35 yrs)
Lenox Big Book Step	July 29	Glenn B. (10 yrs)
Southern Berkshire Group	July 30	Ilene M. (2 yrs), Jaryn (3 yrs), Kathy G. (11 yrs), Karen L. (26 yrs), Donna M.(34 yrs), Tim McC.(36 yrs),
Keep it Simple Group (virtual)	July 31	Mark M. (5 yrs), Joe M. (9 yrs), Michael S. (18 yrs), Mark M. (35 yrs)
Sober on Saturday (SOS)	July 31	Jenney M. (3 yrs), Paul S. (37 yrs)

Recent meeting changes:*

In person:

Lenox Big Book Step Trinity Church, 88 Walker Street, Lenox	Th 7:00 pm	No restrictions
Wed Night West Stockbridge West Stockbridge Congregational Church, 45 Main Street, West Stockbridge	Wed 7:30 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks
Step Group Recovery St. John's Church, 35 Park Street, Williamstown	Th 7:00 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks
Serenity and Peace St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 67 East Street (Allen Street entrance), Pittsfield	Mon 6:30 pm	Must bring a mask
Living Sober St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 67 East Street (Allen Street entrance), Pittsfield	Fri 6:30 pm	Wear masks, no coffee
Valley Group First Congregational Church, 134 Main Street (Summer Street entrance), North Adams	Mon 7:00 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks
Keep an Open Mind (Big Book) First Congregational Church, 134 Main Street (Summer Street entrance), North Adams	Tues 7:00 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks

Hybrid:

Thursday Night Women's Group Claire Teague Senior Center, 915 South Main Street, Great Barrington or Zoom ID: 955 6506 8322, Password: womensmtg	Thurs 7:00 pm	Unvaccinated wear masks
Southern Berkshire (begins 8/6) Claire Teague Senior Center, 915 South Main Street, Great Barrington or Zoom ID: 103 612 886, no password	Fri 8:00 pm	Current CDC guidelines

Virtual:

Discontinued: SOS (phone)	Tues/Wed 6:45 pm
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* Meeting status contingent on current CDC and state guidelines. Continue to check the berkshireaaintergroup.org website for current information and meeting changes. Meetings can be updated by filling out the google form found on the Intergroup website home page.

Intergroup Office:

The Intergroup office is now open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 1:30 to 4:00. Many thanks go to volunteers Andy S., Heidi S. and Gail R. along with office manager Larry B. who are helping the office stay open.

Revisions to the 12 & 12 approved at the 2021 General Service Conference:

The revision to page 117, will replace the phrase “opposite sex” with the word “partner.” A footnote will be added to provide context to the change as it relates to inclusivity.

The sentence which includes the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66, be revised to refer to the Seven Deadly Sins without specific mention of examples that are severe in nature, and that a footnote be added to provide context as to the basis for the change.

2022 General Service Conference:

The deadline for Proposed Agenda Item submissions by any individual, group, area, etc. is September 15, 2021. This provides an opportunity to make suggestions for the betterment of A.A. A NEW standardized submission form has been sent as a separate pdf attachment. It is available in English, French or Spanish.

Area 31 General Service Committee

All area committee meetings will now be held in a hybrid format. People can attend in person at 474 Pleasant Street in Holyoke or on Zoom. Meeting IDs and passwords can be found on the area31aa.org website.

Did you know?

You can now follow the Grapevine and LaVina on Instagram at addresses: @alcoholicsanonymous_gv and @alcoholicsanonymous_lv

Events:

Western MA Intergroup Picnic

There will be a picnic at the Moose Family Center on 244 Fuller Road in Chicopee on August 22 from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. The picnic will be family oriented and food can be purchased there. A flyer can be found at westernmassaa.org.

MA State Convention, which will take place November 13-14, will be virtual this year. The planning committee will be meeting on July 27th at 7:00 pm. Write Mike B. at altdelegate@area31aa.org or call him at (###) ###-#### for more information on the planning and program committees along with what kind of support is needed from our area.

Opportunities for service:

District 3

A secretary is needed to take notes at district meetings on the third Friday of the month at 7:00 pm (Zoom ID: 830 1582 5561 Password: 043735).

Call for Intergroup Reps

The role of an Intergroup rep is to bring group concerns, questions or changes to Intergroup meetings and relay information from Intergroup back to the group. With current changes taking place regarding meeting times, places and formats, it's more important than ever for as many groups as possible to have representation. Intergroup meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm (Zoom ID: 876 1377 6813 Password: 306885).

Volunteers for the 12th step call list

Intergroup is looking for people willing to accept calls from the Hotline. A Hotline operator would contact you with the name and number of the person looking for help. Your name and information is NEVER given out to the caller. The operators do their best to match gender and location of the caller with that of the A.A. member. (Please remember the A.A. suggestion is to always bring another sober alcoholic along with you if you are going to meet a caller in person.) If you are interested, leave your name and number with the Berkshire Intergroup office so someone can help you sign up. Intergroup will ask for your name, gender, location and times you are available to accept calls.

Berkshire Institutions Committee

To find open commitments, go to the Berkshire Institutions Committee website: <https://sites.google.com/view/berkshireinstitutions>. (A link can be found on the Intergroup website.) For more information, email berkshireinstitutionscommittee@gmail.com.

Intergroup office phone number: (413) 448-2382.

Website: berkshireaaintergroup.org

Email address: berkshireaaintergroup@gmail.com

Physical address: 152 North Street, Suite 30C, Pittsfield, MA 01201

Berkshire County AA Hotline number: (413) 443-0212.

News and announcements can be sent to berkshireintergroupnews@gmail.com.

For the next issue, please send news and announcements by Monday, August 9.