

Berkshire Intergroup News

August 2022

Anniversaries:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Southern Berkshire Group | August 26 | Kevin (12 yrs), Laura D (20 yrs), Kate K (31 yrs), George (35 yrs), Margot T (38 yrs) |
| Keep It Simple Group (Zoom) | August 27 | Nicole (1 yr), Cara C (2 yrs), Ani B (10 yrs) |
| Keep It Simple Group | August 27 | Joe D (18 yrs), George P (35 yrs) Mike K (35 yrs), Mark C (39 yrs) |
| SOS (Sober on Saturday) | August 27 | Aruni F (36 yrs), Paul S (38 yrs) |

Recent meeting changes*

Virtual

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| In Focus Step Group | Tuesday 7-8 pm | Closed Step |
| Zoom ID: 679 497 3352, Passcode: 27W615 | | |
| Phone: (646) 931-3860, (929) 205-6099 code 878913 | | |

* A meeting's status and guidelines are likely to be contingent on what is determined by the CDC, state and locally. To be able to make meeting listings as accurate as possible, fill out the group change form on the berkshireaintergroup.org website.

Events:

Great Barrington Men's Group Picnic

August 21, 12:00 to 5:00. All are welcome. Sheffield Town Park, 21 Depot Square off of Miller Ave, Sheffield. Food, softball, volleyball and a meeting at 4:00. Donations of treats and beverages will be welcomed.

Western MA Intergroup Family Picnic

August 28, 11:00 to 5:00. Moose Family Center, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee. Live music, bounce house, face painting, horseshoes and food available for a nominal cost.

The Broad Highway of the 11th Step: A One Day Retreat

September 24, 10:00 to 4:00 (doors open at 9), Christ Trinity Church, 180 Main Street, Sheffield. Lunch will be provided. No charge. Due to limited space, pre-registration will be required. Scroll under Events on the Berkshire Intergroup website to find the link to register.

Join your fellows and Dr. Stephen Dansiger for a day of retreat, recovery, and rejuvenation. Through prayer, meditation, writing and discussion we will give ourselves that rare opportunity to intensively practice our current understanding of the 11th step, while also discovering new possible pathways of practice. Our hope is that we can cultivate and deepen the spirit of a personal relationship to a Higher Power of our own understanding, one that makes sense to us as the unique individual we are.

The retreat agenda will include:

- Meditation and meditation instructions
- Talks on the 11th step
- Opportunities for contemplative prayer
- Small group discussion
- Writing
- Time for silent reflection
- A personalized plan for post-retreat 11th step practice

Dr. Steve Dansiger is a therapist, educator and mindfulness teacher that has authored 6 books on Buddhist Mindfulness, anger management, trauma recovery, and the 12 steps. He has taught and led retreats for over 30 years.

Organizers are committed to ensuring accessibility for all who wish to attend -- please email berkshireaaintergroup@gmail.com if accommodations or other services would be helpful

Film Matinee

October 23, 1:00. Images Cinema, 50 Spring Street, Williamstown, MA. No admission fee. Masks will be required and vaccination status checked. A screening of a documentary about Bill W. and the beginning of A.A.

MA State Convention

November 11-13 Theme: "A.A.'s Three Legacies—Our Common Solution"
Next hybrid planning meeting: July 26, 7 pm. Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA or on Zoom: ID 833 4526 2186, Passcode 164112 mastateconv@area31aa.org. Rooms are now available for \$127+tax. Reservations can be made by calling (508) 347-7393. Please contact the hotel directly so the convention can get credit toward its room block commitment.

Deadlines:

AA Literature

There are requests for stories for the:

5th Edition of the Big Book. Write 5BBStory@aa.org with questions, or go to aa.org/submit-bigbook-english-5th to submit by October 31, 2022. A link is also on the homepage of area31aa.org.

4th Edition Spanish Big Book. Write 4LGHistorias@aa.org with questions, subject line "Fourth Edition Spanish." The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2022.

Pamphlet "AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic." Write to pamphletstories@aa.org, subject line "AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic." Deadline is October 31, 2022

Conference Agenda Proposals

The deadline for proposals for agenda items to be considered in 2023 is September 15.

Ongoing:

District 3 Traditions Meeting:

2nd Sunday at 7:00 pm. Zoom ID: 842 7414 8976, Passcode: 816033

Links to recordings of past speakers can be obtained by writing district3@area31aa.org.

Area 31 Meetings:

What a Concept; 1st Thursday at 7:30 pm. Zoom ID: 868 1280 7456, Passcode: 184722

Service Manual; 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm. Zoom ID 859 5422 7161, Passcode: 940161

For more information on these and other hybrid committee meetings, go to area31aa.org.

Area 31 Public Information Committee

Radio program on Sundays at 5:30 am. "Friends Helping Friends" WHLL 98.1 FM

Opportunities for Service:

Berkshire Intergroup is in need of a new office manager. Training provided! After many years of service to Intergroup for which we are very grateful, Larry B will be stepping down at the end of the year. Thank you Larry!

Berkshire Intergroup Office Manager

Requirement: 2 years of continuous sobriety

Part-time Volunteer position

Suggested term: 3-5 years

Duties:

Train volunteer staff

Coordinate volunteer schedules

Work with treasurer and keep track of inventory

Order literature, coins and medallions

Buy office supplies

Maintain working relationship with landlord/maintenance staff, McFarlane Office Supplies and Berkshire Communicators

Attend monthly Berkshire Intergroup meetings

Other positions opening up in January: Treasurer and Co-chair. New reps are always welcome.

Next meeting: September 13, 7 pm. Zoom ID 876 1377 6813, Passcode: 306885

District 3

A new DCM will be needed in January. Other open positions: Co-DCM and LCM. GSRs are always welcome.

Next meeting: September 16, 7 pm.

Google Meet joining info: Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/ubj-rjkh-muc>

(link is external) Or dial: (US) +1 956-520-3575 PIN: 676 307 586# (This link can also be found on the area31aa.org website.)

Berkshire Institutions

There are opportunities to bring meetings to CSS, McGee and an institution in South County.

For more information go to: <https://sites.google.com/view/berkshireinstitutions>

Intergroup Office:

The Intergroup office is now open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 1:30 to 4:00.

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, September 13.