

The Bottom Line

Volume 6 Number 3
May, 1990

In Higher Power We Trust

A monthly newsletter published by:
Debtors Anonymous of Greater New York
314 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019.
(this is a mailing address only)

Step Four Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition Four Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or D. A. as a whole.

"...Like other compulsives, I am compulsive to hide from myself, from a higher power, from my feelings. I'll work till I drop and then I'll do it some more the next day and I won't ever have to say hello to Jack...to what's inside of me, to my dreams. The saddest thing is that dreams die when you're too busy to have them."

Jack M.

"Here's some handy information for your next DA Business Meeting. This information applies to the election of officers for any DA meeting: Term of office for all officers is three months. Requirements for all officers of any DA meeting are: ninety days solvency and at least two pressure meetings. Officers include: chairperson, co-chairs, treasurer, literature representative, business chair, and secretary."

A reminder that in accordance with the twelve Traditions, each group is autonomous and may elect to waive the requirements by conducting a group conscience."

Dee Dee F.

Intergroup Notes

New York Intergroup is sponsoring a pressure group workshop on May 12, 1990 at Brookdale Health Science Center
425 East 25th Street at First Avenue
On Saturday May 12th
From 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

The day draws near! Volunteers are needed to work on reception for hour-long intervals during the big day. There is no solvency requirement for this type of service, and it is urgently needed. You can sign up at 7:00 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 109 East 50th Street, in room 52. Then you can go to the Visions meeting. Or go to the BODA meeting first and sign up for service after the meeting is over.

NY Intergroup *still* needs a Parliamentarian who will preside at their monthly meetings as an advisor on parliamentary procedures and on Robert's Rules of Order. If you are interested in providing this service, please come to the next Intergroup meeting on April 25 at St. Thomas Church Parish House, 1 East 53rd Street, at 7 p.m.

VITAL STATISTICS: Jay B. reports the following Officers and Representatives attended the March 28, 1990 NY Intergroup Meeting.

George C.	- Chairperson	Robert O.	- Steps to Solvency
Jay B.	- Recording Secretary	Ziporah Z.	- Integrity
Arline S.	- Treasurer	Cyndi F.	- Wed. Matinee Group
Wynne V	- Vice Chairperson	Diana T.	- Steps to Solvency
Jane P.	- "The Bottom Line" Editor	Robert Y.	- Bellmore
John M.	- Meeting List Producer		
Judy G.	- GSR Representative		
Catherine M.	- Metuchen New Beginnings		
Nicholas Y.	- Monday Business Owners Meeting		
Mary Anne D.	- Abundance North at New Paltz		

Contributions: The new treasurer, Cathy M., reports the following contributions for the month of April: DA Metuchen \$6.79 ** SOS Saturday \$11.14** Freedom Group \$36.72**T Lamb's Noon \$20.54**Thursday Arts &Entertainment \$12.60**Friday St. Luke's Self Employed \$90.23**DA Integrity \$39.57** She will make a more formal presentation next month. She will also present a report of last year's Share-A-Day expenses and income.

Suggested Procedure for Treasurers: 1) pay rent, 2) establish a literature fund, 3) hold one month's rent in reserve, 4) distribute the remainder of the funds as follows, 5) mail 60% of the remainder in check or money order made out to "Intergroup D.A." to Debtors Anonymous of Greater New York, 314 West 53rd Street, New York, NY 10019, 6) mail 30% of the remainder in check or money order made out to "D.A. General Service Board", at P.O. Box 20322, New York, NY 10025-9992, 7) keep 10% of the remainder for your meeting's own use.

Reporting Meeting Changes. Each group's elected Secretary informs NY Intergroup of any changes in the meeting time or place by writing to NY Intergroup. Other DA members may pass along changes to NY Intergroup so that they can be verified. In either case, please supply your phone number along with the meeting change information.

Obtaining DA Literature. Individual DA members purchase literature from their group's Literature Person. Elected Literature Persons purchase literature from NY Intergroup, either Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at St. Ignatius' Undercroft Room, 980 Park Avenue (84th Street,) or on the last Wednesday of each month (except for December, when the day moves to the first Wednesday in January,) from 6:30 to 7:00 pm at St. Thomas Church Parish House, 1 West 53rd Street. Literature Persons may exchange any unsold, outdated meeting lists for new ones, and get free replacements for any meeting lists which were given to newcomers.

BASICS OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE FOR THE SMALL ASSEMBLY

MAIN MOTION To conduct business there must be a main motion. This is a proposal introducing a principal subject or proposition before the assembly. (Called Main or Principal Motion.)

HOW TO MAKE A MOTION State: "I move that..." and the proposition to be moved. A motion should contain the following clarifying elements.

1. What. Define clearly what you wish to accomplish.
2. Who. State what person(s) will be responsible to accomplish the proposition.
3. When. State when (date or time period) the proposition would be accomplished.
4. Money. If expenditure is involved, state the amount proposed or requested.

EXAMPLE: "I move that [who] a committee consisting of Jill and Sally [what] plan a fun DA group party [when] to be given May 1 [money] at a cost of not more than \$100.00."

The Real Prize

When I was around 10 years old, I won a game in a sweepstakes. The game was boring to play, but winning it in the sweepstakes was thrilling.

When I got older, I played the number 18 on a carnival roulette wheel and won a toy airplane. For years afterward, I made bets on number 18, but it never won for me again.

When I was in my teens, I had my biggest win. A New York City radio station announced a contest they called "Name-Droppers". If you won, they put your name into an original jingle, which they played at various times throughout the day for one week. After one of the airings, you called and claimed a prize.

I mailed in a bunch of postcards, and one Monday morning, a little song was being broadcast over the tri-state area that went, "River Edge, New Jersey, is proud of Adam S____!"

I bided my time in claiming the prize, to savor the celebrity that I would soon receive. For the first time in my life, it seemed that I would get recognition. However, by mid-week it was becoming clear that none of my schoolmates had even heard the jingle. Two social unknowns had heard it, but I wanted to impress the popular kids.

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As one day followed another without the student body hoisting me onto its collective shoulders, I gave up my dream of glory, and sought consolation in claiming the prize. With one of our cheap cassette recorders recording the event, my family gathered around me as I called the station. For a moment I was on the air with the disc jockey. When he told me what my prize was, I said "Great," although I hadn't really heard what he said.

For the rest of the week, the jingle played on anti-climatically, while I listened to it alone in my car. Sunday night rolled around, and my ordinary life resumed. Some time later, UPS delivered my prize: a \$39.95 tape recorder.

Since joining DA, I've stopped entering contests. One day at a time, I don't play the lottery or the office pool. They're all attempts to get something for nothing. When I pin my hopes on winning, I neglect to focus my energies on earning. Earning may be unspectacular, but I can depend upon it. What a nice prize that is.

Adam S.

Items of Interest

[America's \$175 Billion a year interest on the national debt is] the one cost of government we cannot reduce by a penny, the cost we must pay in full and on time. And it is useless. It doesn't educate even one child, build a house for a single homeless family, provide medical assistance to save one human life or a dime's worth of environmental protection or national defense.

from a letter by former Senator
William Proxmire to the New York Times, April 2, 1990

Editor's note: The second time is easier than the first.

Keep your cards and letters coming!! Send articles, poems, cartoons, etc. about your experience, strength, and hope; the tools, or the steps and traditions (up to 700 words) to:

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