



Syracuse



Meeting Times: Digital edition

## SPONSORSHIP

### Life Goes On

*He lovingly recalls the wisdom and kindness his sponsor gave him to reach out and pass on to others*

This morning I read the Prayer of St. Francis, my sponsor Jack's favorite prayer. He helped me get into that prayer throughout our sponsor and sponsee relationship. About five months ago, I separated from my first wife and today I planned to wrap up the quitclaim to the house on my lunch hour. I also planned to deposit the Seventh Tradition collection from our previous day's Tuesday Noon Downtown AA meeting.

After getting my quitclaim deed notarized, I wanted some chocolate something fierce, but the thought came to me to rely on something from inside me (this alcoholic first looks outside himself to feel better). I stopped walking and leaned against the trunk of a tree and faced the sun. Downtown was pretty busy I noticed. The tree supported me, the sun warmed my cheeks. I thanked God for Jack helping me through my recent personal turmoil. I didn't have time to make the bank deposit, as my lunch hour had waned to a halt, so I double-timed back to the office.

At about 3:30 while working at my desk, I got a phone call. It was Jack's daughter. She called to tell me that Jack had died around 1:00 p.m. that day. She gave me the time and place for the funeral. After I hung up the phone, I realized that I had been at the notary public finishing my quitclaim to the deed when he died. I shook my head and grinned at yet another strange synchronicity I've experienced more than once in my sober life. Jack quitclaimed his body right when I was quitclaiming my deed.

Jack was just another drunk like me, but he drank for three times as many decades as I did. Jack had 11 years of sobriety, and after our last AA meeting together he told me he didn't expect to live much longer. Jack was close to 80 and his body was beaten down from diabetes and a lifetime of active alcoholism. But he sure lived the spirit of sobriety.

In our last phone conversation three days ago, Jack told me some AA pals got him to the noon speaker's meeting. One of the guys had the same physical limitations as Jack, confined to a wheelchair, and it was that man who whipped up the posse to round up Jack for the meeting. After a pause, I confessed a resentment I had to Jack, and after a short silence, he said, "They're just people. It shows you're human."

"Yes I am, Jack," I replied. "I am human, and I really am not that much different than my fellow 'earth pedalers,' except for that one teeny, tiny admission in our First Step." After another pause, I reminded him not to pick up a drink. He agreed. It's always good for me to be told that by a friend, for what's good for this alcoholic might be good for another drunk like me.

Usually at the end of our phone calls we would plan for me to pick Jack up for a meeting, but this time we made no plan, and our last talk ended with his calm, assured and thoughtful tone, guiding me. "Take care of yourself," he said. "Don't step on your own tongue." That was such a Jack thing to say.

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# Syracuse Meeting Times: Digital edition

## SPONSORSHIP

### Life Goes On- cont'd

In the office after the call from Jack's daughter, my thoughts went to our meeting's Seventh Tradition cash in my pocket. My thought went something like...Well, Jack is dead now. I lost my sponsor. Maybe I can take a break and buy chocolate and coffee with this money. I'll pay it back.

Wow, I'm treading on dangerous ground, I thought. I can go to jail for embezzlement! For sure our AA group will take away my privilege to serve. I might even drink! None of those options were acceptable. The Big Book says that "fear and tension...makes for more drinking." I'm sober today only by living by our AA principles.

My sponsor died today. He showed me by his actions that we can live useful happy lives. We do not have to die drunk. In our last phone conversation, Jack told me that the speaker at the meeting his pals had taken him to was celebrating 40 years of sobriety. Jack then relayed a story to me about an AA member who, driving his car to a meeting to celebrate his 25th year, accidentally struck and killed a child. I sat there and wondered if he joined the meeting in God's Realm on time or late? You get there when you get there, I said to myself.

I stood up. I stuffed my hand into my pocket bulging with cash from our AA meeting, and I squeezed my fingers around the cash. I let go. I closed my eyes and in the silence I gave thanks. Then my hand left my pocket and dialed the phone number of my new temporary sponsor. I left a message and got back to work.

**BY: ALAN S. | WEST LINN, OREGON**

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<https://www.aagrapevine.org/contact-us>

# AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous



Syracuse Intergroup Steering Committee Minutes  
December 14th, 2023

**Thaddeus L** opened the meeting at 5:30 PM.

**Present: Thaddeus L, Sally C, Tim G, Tom H, Tom K, Will M**

**Last Month's minutes:** The committee reviewed November minutes. **Will** made a motion to approve, **Thaddeus** seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**Financial Report:**

**Tom K** presented the November financial report:

	<u>10/31/2023</u>	<u>11/30/2023</u>	<u>Net Change</u>
Beginning Cash	\$ 72,668.12	\$ 74,897.35	\$ 2,229.23
Less Sales Tax Payables	(\$ 1,094.07)	(\$ 1,205.80)	(\$ 111.73)
Available Funds	\$ 71,574.05	\$ 73,691.55	\$ 2,117.50

**Current Month:** Checking and savings accounts are reconciled – total cash as of 11.30.23 is \$74,898 net of \$1,206 of sales tax leaves \$73,692 of available cash at 11.30.23. Monthly revenues were \$8,064 (higher than average – Noon Fellowship annual contribution) and monthly expenses were \$5,946 (lower than average – literature purchases small, no office supplies) resulting in net income of \$2,118. Contributions were \$5,745 (above average) and literature sales were \$1,397 (below average).

**Year to Date:** As of November 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, with the year 91.67% complete, total revenues are \$84,341 which is 106.32% of the budgeted amount. Total contributions are at 105.17% of the budgeted amount, group contributions are at 100.83% of the budgeted amount and individual contributions are at 76.79% of the budgeted amount. Literature sales are at 101.15% of the budgeted amount. Interest revenue is \$1,142 vs a budget amount of \$10 and miscellaneous revenue is \$430 vs a budget amount of \$0. The year-to-date expenses are \$76,030, which is 95.49% a little above the budgeted amount. The year-to-date net income is \$8,310 vs the year-to-date net income of \$2,245 as of 11.30.22 – a significant increase in net income.

**Comparison Year to Date November 2023 vs November 2022:**

The year-to-date revenues are up 19.77% as compared to last year - \$84,341 vs. \$70,419. The year-to-date expenses are up 11.52% as compared to last year - \$76,030 vs. \$68,175.

**Service Center:** There were 112 total calls in November, down 19% from October and 85 total office visits, down 25% from the previous month. Service Center staff responded to 77 email inquiries, down 24% from October. It should be noted that October was generally higher than normal, and November numbers represent a return to more normal levels. Between office visits, phone calls and email responses, Service Center staff have managed a total of 3,620 contacts in the first 11 months of this year. (See graph below.)

**Intergroup:** Tom H summarized the November Intergroup meeting: Jason D was nominated and elected Intergroup Vice Chair for 2024 and Andrew M was elected as Recording Secretary. Colleen K from District 360 requested \$650 to purchase either more bus shelter signs or PSA spots on K-Rock. The group expressed a preference for the PSAs. Tim mentioned that he's heard the PSA and it was excellent. Also, the proposed 2024 budget was distributed to IRs and will be voted on at the December Intergroup meeting.

**Old Business:** None

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Syracuse Intergroup Steering Committee Minutes - cont'd  
December 14th, 2023

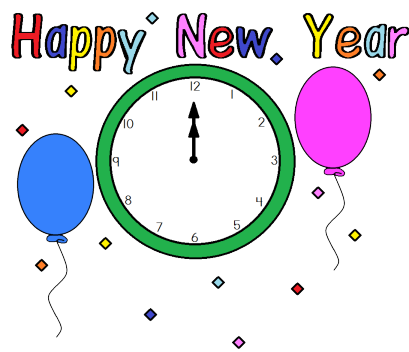
**New Business:**

The committee discussed member rotation in 2024: **Tim G, Thaddeus L** and **Will M** will rotate off the Steering Committee next year, and no replacements have been appointed yet. **Tim** and **Will** volunteered to continue to serve in 2024 until replacements can be found. Finally, the committee expressed their sincere thanks to **Thaddeus** for his service as Steering Committee Chair in 2023 and wished him the best. He will be missed!

**Will** made a motion to close, which was seconded by **Tim**; meeting adjourned at 6:08 PM.

**Next meeting: Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 5:30 PM** at the Service Center. All are welcome!

In Service: **Irene, Becky, James, Jim** and **Sally**



Steering Committee Member	Intergroup Officer Position	Paid Position	Term Expires
Thaddeus L	No	No	12/31/2023
Tom H	Yes – Intergroup Chair	No	12/31/2024
Tim G	No	No	12/31/2023
Will M	Yes – Financial Chair	No	12/31/2023
Josh C	Yes – Technology Chair	No	12/31/2024
Sally C	No	Yes	Non-rotating
Tom K (Accountant)	No	Yes	Non-rotating

Syracuse Intergroup Minutes

December 20th, 2023

Intergroup Chair : Tom H.. opened the meeting with the Serenity prayer at 6:03 PM.

Vice Chair Brandy C. read the 12 Traditions.

**New intergroup representatives:**

**John C., (West End Group)**

**Financial Report: (Will M.)**

**Current Month:** Checking and savings accounts are reconciled – total cash as of 11.30.23 is \$74,898 net of \$1,206 of sales tax leaves \$73,692 of available cash at 11.30.23. Monthly revenues were \$8,064 (higher than average – Noon Fellowship annual contribution) and monthly expenses were \$5,946 (lower than average – literature purchases small, no office supplies) resulting in net income of \$2,118. Contributions were \$5,745 (above average) and literature sales were \$1,397 (below average).

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**Comparison Year to Date November 2023 vs November 2022:** The year-to-date revenues are up 19.77% as compared to last year - \$84,341 vs. \$70,419. The year-to-date expenses are up 11.52% as compared to last year - \$76,030 vs. \$68,175.

**District / Area:** N/A No Report.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Corrections: Andrew M.**

We have been bringing Big Books of AA into the Justice Center and continuing to bring meetings once a week in each pod, male and female. We are continuing to look for men and women to participate in bringing meetings to the Justice Center.

**Treatment: Andy C.** continuing meetings at Elements on Mondays at 6 pm. We are looking for home groups to hold the commitments of bringing meetings to Elements on Mondays at 6 pm for a month at a time.

**Archives:** Ben B. Archives did meet and could use some support as it is currently a group of one, our Archives chair. Ben went through the Archives and is creating a new display for the Service Center.

**Grapevine:** Tom B. Last month the Rise and Shine group in Baldwinsville hosted the Grapevine Chair, Tom B., to share information regarding the Grapevine. We are looking for a new Grapevine Chair.

**PI / CPC: (Phil L)** No Report.

**Literature: (No chair)** No Report.

**Technology: (Josh C.)** No Report.

**Picnic: (Stacey H.)** No Report

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Syracuse Intergroup Minutes continued  
December 20th, 2023

**Steering Committee Report: (Sally C.)**

The Steering Committee met on December 14, 2023. **Thaddeus L** opened the meeting at 5:30 PM. November minutes were unanimously approved.

**Tom K** presented the November Finance report, which showed that YTD total income and expenses were both above budget. **Sally C** went over November Service Center statistics and indicated that during the first 11 months of the year, Service Center staff managed a total of 3,620 contacts. **Tom H** reported on the November Intergroup meeting: **Jason D** was nominated and elected Intergroup Vice Chair for 2024 and **Andrew M** was elected as Recording Secretary. **Colleen K** from District 360 requested \$650 to purchase either more bus shelter signs or PSA spots on **K-Rock**. The group expressed a preference for the PSAs. **Tim** mentioned that he's heard the PSA and it was excellent. Also, the proposed 2024 budget was distributed to IRs and will be voted on at the December Intergroup meeting.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, the committee discussed member rotation in 2024: **Tim G**, **Thaddeus L** and **Will M** will rotate off the Steering Committee next year, and no replacements have been appointed yet. **Tim** and **Will** volunteered to continue to serve in 2024 until replacements can be found. Finally, the committee expressed their sincere thanks to **Thaddeus** for his service as Steering Committee Chair in 2023 and wished him the best. He will be missed! The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.

**Ad hoc committee(s):** (None at this time)

**Eligible Votes:** 16 persons eligible to vote.

**Approval of Prior Month's minutes:** **Tim G.** moved to accept the minutes and **Sally C.** 2<sup>nd</sup>. November minutes were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Old Business:**

We discussed the budget for the year 2024 as we head toward a close of 2023 wrapping up this year's finances. **Daniel** made a motion to approve the 2024 budget and **Tim G.** seconded that motion. The motion carried as it was approved unanimously

**New Business:**

**Frank V.** was nominated for Financial Chair. He qualified himself with his sobriety date being April 19th, 2006. He has brought meetings to several inpatient rehabs and a prison. He was a previous treasurer at Serenity Hall. Intergroup voted and was approved unanimously.

**Motion to close Brian A., Sally C.** 2<sup>nd</sup>, All-in-favor. Motion carried.

**Meeting ended with the Declaration of Unity: 6:39PM.**



## Syracuse Intergroup Officers & Standing Committee Chairs

<b><u>2023 Intergroup Servants</u></b>		
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-Mail</b>
Chairperson	<b>Thomas H.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.chair@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.chair@gmail.com</a>
Vice-Chairperson	<b>Brandy C.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.vicechair@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.vicechair@gmail.com</a>
Financial Chair	<b>Will M.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.financialchair@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.financialchair@gmail.com</a>
Recording Secretary	<b>Adina S.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.secretary@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.secretary@gmail.com</a>
Treatment Chair	<b>Andy C.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.treatment.chair@gmail.com">syr.treatment.chair@gmail.com</a>
P.I./C.P.C. Chair *	<b>Phil L.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.picpc@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.picpc@gmail.com</a>
Corrections Chair	<b>Andrew M.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.corrections@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.corrections@gmail.com</a>
Grapevine Chair	<b>Lance C.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.grapevine@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.grapevine@gmail.com</a>
Literature Chair	<b>Robert C.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.literature@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.literature@gmail.com</a>
Web / Technology Chair	<b>Josh C.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.webarchive@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.webarchive@gmail.com</a>
District / Area 47 Liaison		<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.districtarea@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.districtarea@gmail.com</a>
Picnic Chair	<b>Stacey H.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.picnic@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.picnic@gmail.com</a>
Archive Chair	<b>Ben B.</b>	<a href="mailto:syr.intergroup.archive@gmail.com">syr.intergroup.archive@gmail.com</a>

\* *PI / CPC Chair = Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair*



# Syracuse Meeting Times Announcements

PLEASE SEE **AASYRACUSE.ORG** OR THE **MEETING GUIDE APP** FOR THE MOST CURRENT LISTING OF MEETINGS AND THEIR STATUS (IN PERSON, ONLINE/ZOOM).

Please use the online “Request Schedule Update” form on our website ([www.aasyracuse.org](http://www.aasyracuse.org)) to submit any changes to the status of your group/meeting, so we can ensure we’re providing accurate information to our fellowship. We sincerely appreciate your help.

## New Meetings:

- Wednesday: **Mexico Main St Nooners**, 12:00 PM; First United Methodist Church, 4372 Church St, Mexico 13114; O
- Friday: **THE ORIGINAL Inner Peace Bridgeport Meeting**, 7:00 PM; 7820n NY-298, Bridgeport 13030; O

## Meeting Changes:

- Sunday: **S.O.S. (Serenity on Sunday)**, 9:00 AM, has moved to Ukrainian National Home, 1317 W Fayette St, Syracuse 13204. Second floor, left side, enter main entrance.
- Sunday: **Higher Onondaga**, 9:00 AM, Bishop Ludden High School, 815 Fay Rd, Syracuse 13219 is no longer a hybrid meeting and now meets **in person only**.
- Sunday: **Seneca Knolls Group**, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 210 Hazel St, Liverpool 13088 has changed their meeting time from 1:00 PM to **1:30 PM**
- Sunday: **Sunday Sobriety**, 7:00 PM, Elbridge Village Hall, 210 W Main St, Elbridge is now a HYBRID meeting. Zoom meeting ID is 3156850000; passcode is 001634
- Sunday: **Grapevine Group**, Open House, 1947 W Fayette St, Syracuse 13204 has changed their meeting time from 8:00 PM to **7:00 PM**
- Monday: **New Beginning**, 7:00 PM has moved to Meridian Baptist Church, NY Rt 370, Meridian, NY 13113
- Monday: **Cazenovia Group**, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 10 Mill St Cazenovia, NY 13035 has changed their meeting time from 8:00 PM to **7:30 PM**
- Saturday: **Brothers and Sisters**, 10:00 AM; Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave, Syracuse 13204 has **resumed meeting**.
- Saturday: **Mexico Main St Nooners**, 12:00 PM; First United Methodist Church, 4372 Church St, Rt 69, Mexico 13114 has **resumed meeting**.

*Announcements Continued on next page...*



# Syracuse Meeting Times Announcements

*Continued.....*

## No Longer Meeting:

- Sunday: **Cicero Swamp**, 7:00 PM; United Methodist Church, 377 NY-31, Bridgeport 13030 is **SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**
- Monday: **Big Book Study (ZOOM)**, 7:30 PM **NO LONGER MEETS**
- Saturday: **Oswego Serenity ZOOM**, 12:00 PM; **NO LONGER MEETS**

## Other:

- Download the **free Meeting Guide app** from the App Store or Google Play to your smart phone or tablet, and our meeting schedule will always be as close as your mobile device.
- The Service Center is seeking **Spanish-speaking** and other bilingual members of AA for our 12 Step call list. If interested, please call 315-463-5011 or stop by the Service Center to pick up a 12 Step Call Sign Up Form.

## Is your group looking for a new home? See below for more Information...

☼ **Park Central Presbyterian Church** is looking for an **already established group** wanting to move their meeting location to its church.

This is **NOT FOR ANY newly formed group / meeting, or persons wanting to start a group / meeting.**

Contact **Brian C.**, 315-303-0649 (Pioneer Group member)

Location: Park Central Presbyterian Church @ 504 E. Fayette, Syracuse, 13202

Available meeting time(s):

One or more days, Monday - Friday between 8am-5pm, *preferably @ 12:00 noon.*

Free 25 space parking lot and free on-street parking. Seating capacity is 30-40, kitchen privileges, handicap accessible.

The **Syracuse Intergroup** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm.

***All A.A. members are welcome to attend.***

**2513 James St., Syracuse, 13206**

*Next intergroup meeting is on Wednesday, January 17th - 2024, @ 6PM*

### **Attention!**

Individual members of A.A. may make charitable contributions up to \$5,000 per year, payable to "Syracuse Intergroup, Inc." **All contributions are tax deductible under Federal Code 501(c)(3).**

**You can now donate directly online. Go to: <https://www.aasyracuse.org/>**

***We will provide you with a letter of receipt for the I.R.S.***