

# Syracuse Meeting Times



MARCH 2026

SYRACUSE INTERGROUP | SERVICE CENTER | 2513 JAMES ST. | 13206-2824 | [AASYRACUSE.ORG](http://AASYRACUSE.ORG) | 315-463-5011

## What's With the Dress Code?

***Are the local small-t traditions at our meetings the same as our Twelve Traditions? A member shares his thoughts***

**Tradition Three:** *The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.*

When I came into AA in the mid-1980s, there were a number of local customs that were rarely spoken of in the present tense. These usually took the form of recollections and perhaps remonstrances from the speaker about the way things used to be.

Where I went to meetings, I'd hear people say, "We were taught that when you sober up, you should clean up." A jacket and tie for the men, skirt and stockings for the women. That was the expected dress code when one led a meeting. And most emphatically, profanity was not tolerated. These recollections may have been a commentary on the changing times, as people flooded into meetings fresh out of 28 days of treatment back then. AA was changing and the oldtimers were concerned.

Thus, a kindly elder statesman explained to me the difference between AA's Twelve Traditions and local meeting traditions. Every AA group has its customs and culture. These are the local traditions with a lower-case "t." These customs varied from group to group, city to city, country to country. They might include the meeting format, specific readings and prayers recited and sponsorship practices. It even included whether and how the group participated in the local AA service structure and how group funds were allocated to support vital AA services of the local central office, district, area, AA Grapevine and the General Service Office.

All these things, this oldtimer continued, were the result of the group conscience, which is outlined in Tradition Two. It's not surprising then that the local AA small "t" traditions can and will change over time with an informed group conscience.

But are we placing more emphasis on tradition and custom than on our Twelve Traditions? I can't say for certain because AAs tend to vote with their feet. Don't like a meeting? Go to another. Try as many as you like until you feel comfortable. Get out of your

zip code once in a while to see how others are doing it. Think they are doing it all wrong? Well, people are getting sober there. How bad could it be?

There's a wonderful cross-pollination of ideas that occurs when I attend an AA meeting in another part of the country, and the recent impact of virtual meetings cannot be overstated. The ability to attend a meeting in London, Paris or Mexico City will show differing customs, but one primary purpose—to carry the AA message to the still-suffering alcoholic. AA has no secondary purpose.

Let's say that you are asked to lead a meeting or share your story. The group conscience stipulates that men are to wear a tie and jacket at the podium. If you're not the jacket and tie kind of guy, there arises a dilemma. It occasionally roars to life as a topic of local debate. Do you wear the tie or refuse the invitation? If you show up without a tie, some groups will provide you with one. Is it more important to honor the local custom or stand on your personal principles? More importantly, how is the new person served by this tempest in a teacup? What is your motivation in accepting the invitation to speak? The Big Book tells us that, "Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us."

To the traditionalists who think form is more important than function, I would offer this spiritual principle. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking (Third Tradition). The "long form" of this Tradition is more enlightening: "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence, we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money or conformity." Everything else is subject to a well-informed group conscience.

How well informed am I?

*Jeff Y. | Cleveland Heights, Ohio*

The Syracuse Intergroup serves the AA groups in and around Syracuse, NY—districts in the 300s and 400s. Intergroup Representatives, Committee Chairs, and Intergroup Officers meet once a month on the **third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.** at the Service Center, 2513 James St. All are welcome.

### **NEW** Service Center Hours

Monday	8:30 – 4:30
Tuesday	8:30 – 6:00
Wednesday	8:30 – 6:00
Thursday	8:30 – 4:30

**NEW** Closed 12:30 – 1:30 for lunch

## What's Inside

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## Syracuse Meeting Times

is published monthly by the Syracuse Intergroup. If you would like to be on the mailing list or removed from it, please email [syracuseservicecenter@gmail.com](mailto:syracuseservicecenter@gmail.com) and put "Newsletter" in the subject line. If your group information needs to be updated, please see page 6.

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

**Members:**

Jason D.	12/31/2026
Andrew M.	12/31/0227
Jeff K.	12/31/2027
Chris P.	12/31/2027
Andy C.	12/31/2027
Colleen K.	12/31/2027

**Non Rotating Positions:**

Accountant: Debi C.  
Office Manager: Lee P.

The Steering Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Service Center.

**FEBRUARY 2026**

**Service Center Report**

**Service Center Office Statistics:**

- ▶ 59 total calls
- ▶ 100 total office visits
- ▶ 77 email replies
- ▶ 6 after-hours calls
- ▶ The book sale will be winding down this month, the new prices have been in effect for anything not on sale.
- ▶ **Four committees meet at the Service Center monthly:**
  - ESCYPAA** (formerly SYRYPAA)—2nd and 4th Tuesdays
  - Intergroup**—3rd Wednesday
  - Salt City Mid-Winter Roundup**—1st Wednesday
  - Steering Committee**—2nd Thursday

# Steering Committee Minutes

**FEBRUARY 12, 2026 | JASON D. OPENED 5:35 PM**

**Present were:** Jeff K, Chris P, Lee P

**Via Zoom:** Andrew M, Jason D, Tom K, Colleen K

**Also Present:** Matt S, Hugh B

**Minutes:** Motion to approve with corrections made by Chris P. Seconded by Jeff K.

**Committee Reports**

**Financial Report:** Tom K (see attached, page 3)

**Service Center:** Lee P (see below)

**Intergroup:** Andrew M (separate document)

**Old Business**

- Steering Committee Group Inventory on hold.

**New Business**

- Roundup requested key for storage room, deemed unnecessary.
- Chris: subcommittee is going to meet to address boosting group participation @ IG
- Bank signatures needed for Chair, and Vice Chair- will reach out to Key Bank again.

**Close:** Andrew M (motion) Jeff (second) @ 6:13 pm

**Next Meeting:** March 12, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

# Monthly Financial Narrative

**FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

**Current Month:**

Checking, savings, and Credit Card accounts are reconciled. Total cash as of 2/28/26 is \$77,533 net of \$1,424 Sales tax Liability and \$2,787 leaving \$73,645 of available cash at 2/26/2026.

Monthly revenues were \$4,953 slightly above average and monthly expenses were \$3,883 resulting in a gain of \$1,070.

**Comparison Year to Date February 2026 vs February 2025:**

Group Contributions	<b>down \$680</b>	
Sales of Literature and chips	<b>down \$10</b>	
Other Revenue	<b>no change</b>	
Reduction in Revenue		(690)
Payroll	<b>up (101)</b>	
Utilities	<b>down \$494</b>	
Office Supplies	<b>down \$4</b>	
Inventory Purchase	<b>down \$1,828</b>	
Other expenses are	<b>down \$1,050</b>	
<b>Decrease in expenses.</b>		<b>\$3,275</b>
<b>Increase in net Income</b>		<b>2,585</b>

*By Bill W. in Language of the Heart* (p. 221)

"But this leaves us with a responsibility — one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skimp when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.

When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

# Syracuse Intergroup, Inc.

BALANCE SHEET | FEBRUARY 28, 2026

## ASSETS

### CURRENT ASSETS

#### Bank Accounts

Key Checking	7,871.37
Key Savings	69,571.63
Cash Fund	90.00

**Total for Bank Accounts \$77,533.00**

### OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

Undeposited Funds	100.80
Inventory	21,725.83
Inventory Asset	1,230.82
<b>Total for Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$23,057.45</b>
<b>Total for Current Assets</b>	<b>\$100,590.45</b>

**Total for Assets \$100,590.45**

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

### LIABILITIES

#### CURRENT LIABILITIES

##### CREDIT CARDS

Key Bank - Mastercard	2,787.61
<b>Total for Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$2,787.61</b>

##### OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

Sales Tax Payable	1,275.94
STRIPE Refund Payable	3.96
<b>Total for Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,279.90</b>
<b>Total for Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$4,067.51</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$4,067.51</b>

### EQUITY

Retained Earnings	98,355.49
Net Income	-1,832.55
<b>Total for Equity</b>	<b>\$96,522.94</b>

**Total Liabilities and Equity \$100,590.45**

## PROFIT AND LOSS | FEBRUARY 2026

### INCOME

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

##### Group Contributions

Early Birds	387.48
Early Birds Zoom	431.86
Happy Hour	59.0
Live & Let Live	72.00
Oak Hill Group	35.00
OCS Group	0.60
Out to Lunch Bunch	28.19
Pioneer Group	32.00
Sixty Minutes	5.00
Sobriety First	10.00

Sunrise Sobriety (Zoom)	161.00
Sunrise Sobriety	166.53
There is a Way Out	200.00
Tool Box	10.00
Village Group	328.09
Young at Heart	319.00

**Total Group Contributions \$2,245.75**

Individual Contributions	198.25
State Fair Donations	500.00

**Total Contributions \$2,944.00**

### SALES

Literature Sales	1,785.20
Chip Sales	192.25
Schedule Sales	1.40
Misc. Literature Sales	29.75

**Total Sales \$2,008.60**

Area 47 Storage Rental	270.00
Interest Income	103.32

**Total Income \$4,952.60**

**GROSS PROFIT \$4,952.60**

### EXPENSES

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

##### Disbursements

Payroll and Related	
Salaries and Wages	2,931.64

**Total Payroll and Related \$2,931.64**

Office Utilities	406.13
Technology-Related Expense	21.59
Merchant Service Fees	84.25
Office Supplies	32.37
Telephone	60.48
Janitorial	140.00
Accounting Services	150.00

##### Purchases

Literature Purchases	35.00
Chip Purchases	14.00

**Total Purchases \$49.00**

Postage	7.47
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**Total Disbursements \$3,882.93**

**Total Expenses \$3,882.93**

**Net Operating Income \$1,069.67**

**Net Income \$1,069.67**

# Syracuse Intergroup Minutes: February

Meeting Date:	02/18/2026
Chairperson:	Andrew M
Vice Chair:	Hugh B
Secretary:	Matt S
Meeting Opened With:	Serenity Prayer, traditions read by Andrew M

## Announcements

- Saturday Matinee group having 55 year anniversary on March 21
- ESCYPAA holding Pi Day event on March 14 at Open House

## New Intergroup Reps

- Jake—New Freedom
- Emily C—Young at Heart

## Monthly Reports

- **Finance Report (open position) Report emailed to members and read by Andrew M**
  - ▲ Monthly revenues were right at the average (\$6,545) and monthly expenses were significantly greater than average (\$9,372) mainly due to a three payroll period month.
- **District Liaison / Area Report:**
  - ▲ District Liaison — (open position) no District 340 meeting in December

## Standing Committee Reports

- **Corrections—Jeff T**
  - ▲ There are no changes since January. I have responded to the Justice Center's requests for information concerning the status of current and past members of the corrections team. Presently new applications continue to be on hold.
  - ▲ There are currently four men bringing AA meetings into the Justice Center, in teams of 2, on Monday nights at 7 pm, rotating between approximately 5 pods.
  - ▲ On the second Monday of each month, one or two women bring AA meetings into the women's pod at the Justice Center.
  - ▲ Two men are bringing weekly meetings into Jamesville Correctional every Wednesday at 10 AM. They call the group "Breaking Free." Meeting attendance fluctuates between 4 and 8 attendees.
  - ▲ Currently, due to personal schedule changes, one woman is bringing monthly AA meetings into the women at Jamesville Correctional, at 10 AM on the third Thursday of every month.
  - ▲ We are consistently looking for donations of the *Grapevine* to give to the inmates.

- **Treatment: Jason D.**

- ▲ Committee is asking groups to sponsor a month of bringing meetings into local treatment centers, Helio Elements, Helio Willows, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Center, VanDuyn Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing. The committee has created a grid to coordinate these commitments and circulated on the Service Center mailing list. If a group is interested in sponsoring a month or have any questions please reach out to the treatment committee Jason D (Deckerj24@gmail.com), Ethan L (emlivings@gmail.com), Bruce L (Bjlitter@verizon.net) and/or attend the monthly Intergroup meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6pm.

- **PI / CPC (open position):**

- ▲ No Report

- **Literature / Grapevine (open position):**

- ▲ No Report

- **Technology (open position):**

- ▲ Bruce L (acting chair) reported that he completed some meeting change requests

- **Archives (Ben B.):**

- ▲ No report

## Steering Committee Report:

- ▲ Total contacts in 2026 is 221, compared to 340 for the same time period in 2025 (difference of -35%)
- ▲ Sale of books has increased traffic over the last half of the month
- ▲ Volunteers are flowing in for after-hours phone service
- ▲ Literature prices have been updated to reflect \$3/book and 15%/pamphlet increase
- ▲ New Accountant has begun working towards transitioning
- **Ad Hoc Committee Intergroup Handbook—Hugh B.**
  - ▲ No report
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Intergroup Participation & Outreach**
  - ▲ Will be chaired by Christian C

## Voter Eligibility

- 15 eligible voters

## Approval of Previous Minutes

- ▲ Approval of previous minutes — Tim G motioned, Sean S seconded
- ▲ Approved, 15 yeas / 0 nays

**Old Business**

- ▲ Justin K motioned to reintroduce tabled motion regarding reinstating Syracuse group to the meeting schedule, seconded by Larry - **9 yeas / 2 nays / 1 abstained (motion passed)**
- ▲ Discussion raised questions about whether anything had changed since the last vote. Jake (New Freedom) pointed out that the absence of a path to redemption seemed inconsistent with AA values. Several members suggested alternatives such as a clearly defined set of criteria for reinstatement and bringing the case directly to the groups that remained opposed
- ▲ **Vote: 5 yeas / 7 nays / 2 abstained (motion not passed)**

**New Business**

- ▲ Sean S made a motion that Intergroup clarify Syracuse Group's ability to participate in taking commitments to bring meetings into treatment centers, seconded by Jake - **10 yeas / 0 nays / 0 abstained (motion passed)**
  - Discussion indicated that Intergroup was generally in favor of the Syracuse Group taking service commitments
- ▲ Tim G made a motion to close the meeting; seconded by Alec V

**Meeting adjourned**

- ▲ Closed with the Declaration of Unity led by Andrew M.

*Greetings,*

Hello, I'm Andrew M and I'm your 2026 Intergroup Chair! My sobriety date is Nov. 6, 2018 and my homegroup is The Tuesday Night Group. I'm looking forward to a productive and exciting year of service and sobriety! I'd like to welcome anyone interested or curious, to join us at Intergroup.

**Some goals I have for this year:**

- To complete an Intergroup Inventory to ensure that we are providing the best level of service we can to the alcoholic that needs our help.
- I'd like to challenge the Intergroup body to come up with some fun and lasting ways to increase our group participation and representation.
- Unite our Intergroup even further under the banner of service and work intensely with our community to survey and discover how we can create that depth of service.

I've created an email account specifically for questions comments and concerns as it relates to the Syracuse Intergroup and how we may improve our service structure and programs. I welcome all feedback and encourage all ideas that you may have. If you just want to rant and need help with something you're welcome to email as well. I will do the best I can to read and respond.

I look forward to working with all of you and I hope all have a happy healthy sober 2026!

Yours in service,  
Andrew M.  
andrewig2026@gmail.com

**SYRACUSE INTERGROUP TRUSTED SERVANTS**

Chair:	<b>Andrew M</b>
Vice Chair:	<b>Hugh B</b>
Recording Secretary:	<b>Matt S</b>
Finance Chair:	

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

PI/CPC:	
Technology/Website:	
Archives/Archivist:	<b>Ben B</b>
Picnic Chair:	
Treatment Chair:	<b>Jason D. &amp; Bruce L.</b>
Corrections Chair:	<b>Jeff T.</b>
Literature/Grapevine:	

*Let us continue to take our inventory as a Fellowship, searching out our flaws and confessing them freely. Let us devote ourselves to the repair of all faulty relations that may exist, whether within or without.*

—AA Co-Founder, Bill W., February 1961, "The Shape of Things to Come", *The Language of the Heart*

# Announcements

## GROUP UPDATES AND EVENTS

### Meeting Updates

#### Bottom of the Hill

7PM | Saturday

Change of Address:

Apulia Methodist Church 6496 NYS Rt 80 Tully NY 13159

### Anniversaries & Events

#### AA CNY Area 47

District 340 will host Area 47's monthly assembly on Sunday, May 17, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 210 Hazel St., Liverpool, NY from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. All are welcome. Come meet our Area 47 Delegate and other Trusted Servants from all over central New York.

**Important Deadline: We have until March 31 to fill the remaining four days at the 2026 NYState Fair Public Information Exhibit (Booth). The days we need staffing for are:**

Tuesday, September 1  
Thursday, September 3  
Friday, September 4  
Sunday, September 6

The rent for the exhibit space must be paid by the first week in April. If we don't have the necessary staffing in place, we will not proceed and there will be no AA booth at the fair this year. If your group or committee would like to sign-up to staff the State Fair AA PI booth for a day, please visit: <https://forms.gle/teidpJp17F8UeKvt6> or scan the QR code. The only way to sign-up is online. For more details, you can [download a .pdf of the flier here](#).



#### Tradition Three in Practice

From the *Traditions Checklist*, a publication of the AA Grapevine—

1. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as those who likely will not make it?
2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately or publicly do not want in my AA group?
3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or not?
4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, sexual identity or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?
5. Am I overimpressed by a celebrity, a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what they do for a living? Where they live? What their domestic arrangements are? Whether they have been to AA before? What their other problems are?

Send announcements to:  
[syracuseservicecenter@gmail.com](mailto:syracuseservicecenter@gmail.com)

Please keep your group's contact and meeting information up-to-date.

For the Syracuse Intergroup:

[www.aasyracuse.org/  
meeting-schedule-update-request/](http://www.aasyracuse.org/meeting-schedule-update-request/)

For AA Central New York Area 47:

<https://www.aacny.org/wordpress/contact/> or email:  
[registrar@aacny.org](mailto:registrar@aacny.org) for more information

#### Step Three

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

#### Tradition Three (Long Form)

Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

#### Tradition Three (Short Form)

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

#### Concept Three (Short Form)

To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional "Right of Decision."