



East Tennessee Intergroup

# UNITY NEWSLETTER

November 2021

Volume 45; Issue 11

## A.A. Oldtimers...On the Eleventh Step

September 1945, Vol. 2 No. 4

*Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.*

IT is often wisely said in A.A. that we should not become over-anxious, should not expect to get the whole program overnight, but should take the steps one at time when we feel that we are ready for them. This means that although we are not ready at a given time to take this step or that one and are, therefore, not then taking it, we should be disposing ourselves toward it. It never means that we should plan on avoiding any of the steps.

Practice of the 11th Step is the surest method of disposing oneself toward all the other steps. It was only through seeking contact with God through meditation and prayer that some of us came to believe in Him and became willing to turn our wills and our lives over to Him. The wish to improve that contact, the searching for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry it out, gives us strength to make amends, to do the things necessary to remake our lives.

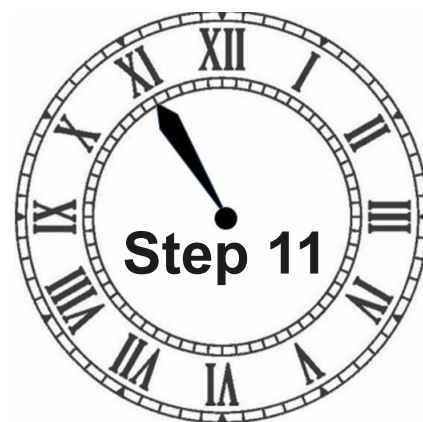
Unless we improve our contact with God we will gradually lose it. There will be a slow return to indifference and we will suffer that let-down that so many experience after a few months in A.A. Gradually old desires return with increasingly great urgency. The alteration in conduct that we have made for a few months has not been sufficiently sustained to lead to a change in character, and the deeper habit patterns reassert themselves. Growth in spiritual understanding alone will dispose us to make the effort to recondition ourselves, to change our emotional attitudes and bring about a true character change.

For specific suggestions for practicing the 11th Step we turn to the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as we do on all A.A. questions, before going ahead on our own. Applying the wisdom we find there, we turn with newly awakened interest and intensity to the practices of our particular religious denomination, if we have one; we sometimes select and memorize a few set prayers; we may study the recorded thoughts of others; but in any event we make it a practice in the morning to ask God to guide us during the day, and thank Him at the day's close for His many blessings. We are careful never to pray for our own selfish ends, but ask especially for freedom from self-will and knowledge of God's will for us.

Some of us have found the following verse helpful on awakening, when all our wishes and hopes for the day rush at us like wild animals; the first thing we must do is shove them all back, and listen to that other voice, letting a calmer, quieter, stronger life flow into us." Every morning rest your arms awhile upon the window-sill of Heaven and gaze upon your Lord, and with that vision in your heart turn strong to meet your day."

All of which, of course, is calculated to keep us from taking that first drink. It works –it really does.

R. D. Garden City, New York



**"Sought through prayer and medication to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out."**

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**Please note: Remaining District 4 meetings** for calendar 2021 are: September 12<sup>th</sup> (special session for picnic prep), October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and December 5<sup>th</sup>. All meetings are held at Double Winners Club, 325 Whitecrest, Maryville, at 2:00PM eastern standard time.

**Want to do Service Work for Intergroup?**

Use the form below, OR sign up online here:

<https://www.etiaa.org/service-work-sign-up/>

**East Tennessee Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous – Gratitude With Service form**

**Return to: ETIAA; 9217 Park West Blvd #B3; Knoxville, TN 37923**

**865-522-9667**

[Manager@etiaa.org](mailto:Manager@etiaa.org)

[www.etiaa.org](http://www.etiaa.org)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ \*First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ \*Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_ \*State \_\_\_\_\_ \*ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required for listing in 12<sup>th</sup> Step List

ETIAA UNITY Newsletter Subscription / Renewal (Free subscription for email issues; \$12/year for mailed issues)

**Volunteer Service Options**

*Check only those you are willing to commit time to:*

**12<sup>th</sup> Step List Volunteer**

☐ Weeknights

☐ Weekends

☐ Weekdays

**Phones Night & Weekend**

☐ Weeknights

☐ Weekends

**Committees of Interest**

*Check only those you are willing to serve on:*

- ☐ Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community
- ☐ Intergroup Representative
- ☐ Office Worker
- ☐ Archives
- ☐ Outreach
- ☐ Spanish Liaison

**Step Eleven:** “Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.”

PRAYER and meditation are our principal means of conscious contact with God.

We A.A.'s are active folk, enjoying the satisfactions of dealing with the realities of life, usually for the first time in our lives, and strenuously trying to help the next alcoholic who comes along. So it isn't surprising that we often tend to slight serious meditation and prayer as something not really necessary. To be sure, we feel it is something that might help us to meet an occasional emergency, but at first many of us are apt to regard it as a somewhat mysterious skill of clergymen, from which we may hope to get a secondhand benefit. Or perhaps we don't believe in these things at all.



### Eleventh Step Prayer

God, as I understand You, I pray to keep my connection with You. Open and clear from me the confusion of daily life. Through my prayers and meditations I ask especially for freedom from self-will, rationalization, and wishful thinking. I pray for the guidance of correct thought and positive action. Your will, not mine, be done

### Tradition Eleven (long form):

Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. should avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better that our friends recommend us.

### Tradition Eleven Checklist:

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?



**Concept XI and Checklist:** The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

- Do we understand how the roles of nontrustee directors and nontrustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system?
- How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional “Right of Participation”?
- Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?

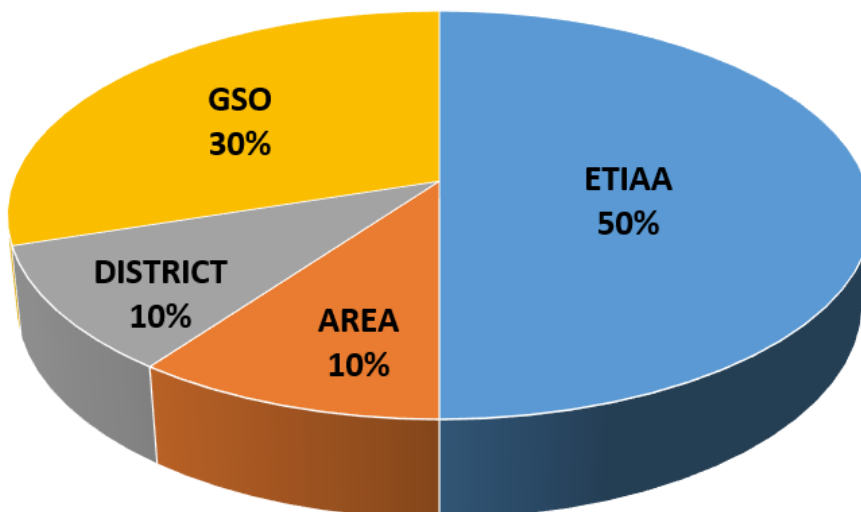
## How can groups participate?

To help support AA's essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the basic group expenses have been taken care of (for example, rent, refreshments, AA literature, Grapevine literature, local meeting lists, GSR travel expenses to attend service functions) and a "prudent reserve" has been set aside to cover any emergency contingencies that might arise, the group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following AA service entities.

- The local district, which communicates directly with the groups, providing the district group conscience for the area assemblies and serving as a link between the area delegates and the GSRs.
- The area committee, which coordinates vital AA activities over a broad geographic area, sends a delegate to the annual General Service Conference, holds area assemblies to determine the needs of the Fellowship, and provides information at all levels of service.
- The local intergroup or central office, which may provide phone service for Twelfth Step calls and other inquiries, coordination of group activities, AA literature sales, institutions work, public information, and cooperation with the professional community activities.
- AA's General Service Office, which functions as a storehouse of AA information, communicating with members and groups around the world, publishes AA literature, and supplies information and experience to professionals and others interested in AA.

[Self-Support—Where Money and Spirituality Mix. Go to: [www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/f-3\\_selfsupport.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-3_selfsupport.pdf)]

## 7TH TRADITION SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS



***Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.***

### Contribution Addresses

**ETIAA East Tennessee Intergroup of AA**  
9217 Park West Blvd #B3  
Knoxville, TN 37923  
865-522-9667 [www.etiaa.org](http://www.etiaa.org)

#### **New ways to contribute:**

**Paypal Manager@etiaa.org or 865-320-8649**

**Zelle Manager@etiaa.org or 865-320-8649**

**Venmo @ETIAA**

**General Service Office**  
Grand Central Station  
P.O. Box 459  
New York, NY 10163  
[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

**The GSO prefers online contributions**

**Area 64 Assembly**  
2500 Murfreesboro Pike  
Suite 105 Box 235  
Nashville, TN 37217  
[www.area64assembly.org](http://www.area64assembly.org)

**District 1 Treasurer**  
Richard Ellis  
1302 Chestnut St.  
Kingsport, TN 376604

**District 2 Treasurer**  
PO BOX 1872  
Johnson City, TN 37605

**District 3 Treasurer**  
John H.  
1466 Darbee Dr.  
Morristown, TN 37814

**District 4 Treasurer**  
P.O. Box 6642  
Maryville, TN 37802

**District 6 Treasurer**  
Richard B.  
105 Mariner Point  
Clinton, TN 37716

#### **NEW ADDRESSES**

**AA District 50/51 Treasurer**  
9217 Park West Blvd  
Suite B-3 (ETIAA)  
Knoxville, TN 37923

Please mail all District 50/51 contributions to the Intergroup Office. Specify on the check AND on the outside of the envelope that it is for district 50/51.

**District 4 Treasurer**  
P.O. Box 6642  
Maryville, TN 37802

*Please be sure to include your Group Name and Number.*

# Intergroup Financial / Contributions Report

East Tennessee Intergroup of AA fiscal year is July 1 -June 30

GROUPS DONATING	Jul 20—	
	Sep 21	Sep 21
1ST THINGS 1ST KNOXVILLE 719412	600.00	700.00
4-WAY GROUP		50.00
4TH DIMENSION		330.00
AREA 64 HOST COMMITTEE		60.00
BACK TO BASICS- OAK RIDGE	50.00	53.00
BIG BOOK RECOVERY	25.00	25.00
BREAKFAST CLUB	90.00	110.00
CARING AND SHARING	17.32	17.32
COLONIAL GROUP	100.00	100.00
COLONIAL HEIGHTS 99658/120932		35.00
CONCORD GROUP		150.50
CONTRIBUTION JAR	34.15	65.61
COOKIE GROUP		120.00
DANDRIDGE UNITY 638213		64.00
Dist 4 PICNIC	18.00	18.00
DISTRICT 50/51	30.00	90.00
DOWN ON THE RIVER		480.00
FOUNTAIN CITY SERENITY		150.00
GROUP WITH NO NAME	500.00	1,000.00
HAPPY HOUR	100.00	1,645.00
HIGH NOON ROGERSVILLE 713957		64.00
HIGH NOONERS-P40		750.00
Individual	50.00	297.04
KEEP LEANING FORWARD		92.58
KODAK HWY 66		150.00
LAFOLLETTE-THERE IS HOPE	20.00	60.00
LUNCH BUNCH- GREENEVILLE	47.99	252.45
MARYVILLE 12 STEP	300.00	300.00
MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S 112569		200.00
MORRISTOWN GROUP		200.00
NORRIS CLINTON GROUP	13.00	41.00
NORTH GATLINBURG 157790		341.24
ONLINE LUNCH BUNCH	74.50	164.50
PHOENIX GROUP		369.00
PRIMARY PURPOSE- OAK RIDGE		240.00
ROANE COUNTY UNITY 112631		450.00
SATURDAY MORNING BIG BOOK STUDY		384.00
SERENITY IMPROVEMENT		800.00
SEYMOUR SHARING		154.81
SOBRIETY AND BEYOND		258.25
SOBRIETY SOCIETY- SO-SO 709581		400.00
TCYPAA		0.70
TELLICO VILLAGE		60.00
TURNIP PATCH		136.03
UNKNOWN GROUP	310.00	310.00
WEST KNOXVILLE GROUP 112647	115.50	115.50
WORKING WITH OTHERS		117.00
TOTALS	2,495.46	11,971.53

**Mail all District 50/51 contributions** to the Intergroup Office. Please make sure you are specifying on the check AND on the outside of the envelope that is for District. 50/51.

**District 50/51; C/O. East TN Intergroup; 9217 Park West Boulevard #B3; Knoxville, TN 37923**

Make checks out to District5051. This will help the office staff maintain separation between Intergroup and District donations.

Thank you for your support! Also, if you have questions or concerns, the District 50/51 treasurer may be contacted at 865.599.5288. Initially, texting will be the fastest option for contact.



The Intergroup Committee would like you all to spread the word that we need service workers for the office. We need Service Workers all week for all shifts but next month, October, we may have to close the office on Saturdays going forward.

You may remember we cut hours earlier this year. So please make announcements in your meetings. Workers can work as often as they like. Most work weekly but some work every other week or once a month.

We have set hours but we will take any availability you have during those hours. Requirements are 1 year of sobriety, a sponsor and have worked the 12 steps with a sponsor. If you are interested and don't have a year, come do service work with us until you do.

Thanks,

Rebekah R.

Office Manager

East Tennessee Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

9217 Park West Blvd #B3

Knoxville, TN 37923

865-522-9667 24/7 Hotline

865-320-8649 Voicemail

[Manager@etiaa.org](mailto:Manager@etiaa.org)

[Etiaa.org](http://Etiaa.org)



## Unity Newsletter

is a monthly publication of East Tennessee Intergroup about, by and for members of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Opinions herein are not to be attributed to AA. Except when indicated, this publication does not imply endorsement by either AA or the Newsletter. Delegates to the General Service Conference on April 24, 1972 agreed that the use of full names and addresses could improve communication within the Fellowship. Consequently, we may use full names for AA service members. To ensure anonymity, it is requested that the Newsletter be kept within the Fellowship.

## Submissions

Is your group celebrating Birthdays/Anniversaries? Are you? Do you have AA-related questions or myths that Intergroup of East Tennessee Alcoholics Anonymous (ETIAA) can answer for you? Is there an "In Memory" group member to be recognized?

We encourage all appropriate submissions by sending them to: Newsletter Coordinator, managr@etiaa.org

## Around East Tennessee

### AA Birthdays:

#### 1st things first! Group:

Eddie P. 21 years 10/28/2000

#### Monday Night Men's Group; Erin Presbyterian Church:

Michael P.	3 years
Jack T.	35 years
Bill R.	37 years

Please use the following format: **first full name; last name initial; birthday month; number of years sober.**



**Electronic Big Book Study on YouTube.... And FREE!**

**Entire Back To Basics 12 week, 12 Steps of AA Recovery**

<https://app.getresponse.com/click.html?x=a62b&lc=S9qvEA&mc=CK&s=9JD00&u=T5K&z=EQEVCxT&>

**\*\*Effective Immediately\*\***

**05/15/2021**

**New Mailing Address for District 4:**

**District 4 Treasurer**

**P.O. Box 6642**

**Maryville, TN 37802**

## October 2021 Intergroup Meeting Minutes

Open with Serenity Prayer and monthly Tradition at 6:30.

Present via Zoom: - Tami D, Rebekah R., Kellie M., Marian G., Scott S., Barbara S., Beth C., Dave S., Fawn L., Claudia L., Rhonda

Groups Represented: Happy Destiny II Group, First Things First Group., TN Group, Happy Hour Group, Morristown Group.

Previous minutes were accepted as is motion Rebekah R., seconded by Fawn L., all in favor.

### Manager's Report – Rebekah R.

- Welcome new IGRs – Rebekah welcomed new reps to the meeting.
- Remind – Rebekah again asked for anyone wanting to be added to the Remind App for staying up-to-date with announcements and updates to add their contact information in the Zoom chat box.
- District 4 Picnic held 09/26/21, Susi M worked and made \$360.00
- ICOAA convention held virtually 09/29-10/02/21. Dave S and Rebekah R attended. Rebekah stated there was a great deal of conversation about representation for Intergroups and Central Offices at GSO. There have been several changes made at GSO concerning Intergroups and Central Offices without any representation from those entities. Hawaii sending a motion to GSO to create a Intergroup/Central Office committee at GSO.

### Treasurer's Report – Fawn L. – not present

- Only 1/3 of area meetings are currently contributing to Intergroup.
- Fawn reported all accounts are healthy.
- September P&L \$1842.07
- Year to Date P&L \$4923.24
- Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Barb S., seconded by Kellie M., all in favor.

### Hotline – Susi M. – not present

- Rebekah reported Susi still learning the new system and they have been mailing out hard copies of the updated Hotline packet. If you need one let Rebekah or Susi know.

### Service Workers – Dave S.

- Dave reported we still need for more service workers for the office. While we have all shifts covered, there is still a need for people who can fill in in the event a regular shift person is out.

### Archives – open

### Website – Sterling – open

- Rebekah stated there was a serious issue with the website last weekend, however the issues have been resolved.

### Accessibilities – Carole W. – not present

### Spanish Liaison – open

### CPC/PI – open

### Treatment – Beth C.

- Nothing new to report other than she will be attending District meetings with Marian to educate others about Treatment service work opportunities and the need for Treatment committees in each District.

## **October 2021 Intergroup Meeting Minutes (cont.)**

### **Corrections – Marian G.**

- Marian advised Knox County jail has suspended meetings until January at this time.
- Robin G asked Marian to do a workshop for District 50/51 about Corrections and Marian is working out the details for the event.
- Marian will be attending the Corrections Convention in New Orleans next month.
- Marian also requested the dates of the Area District meetings as most of them were not published in the Unity Newsletter.
- Marian is starting back to work on recruiting people for corrections volunteers.

### **Outreach - open**

### **Events – SuZanne A. – not present**

### **Mobile Intergroup – open**

### **Old Business:**

- Office furniture and equipment – update not provided on the needed items.
- Office Hour Revisions – Dave S. stated Monday – Saturday shifts are covered and the office will remain open for all shifts at this time.
- Rebekah to attend District Meetings to discuss Intergroup and let people know about the need for more volunteers at Intergroup.
- Square/Quickbooks/Regions Integrations – Rebekah reported they are moving forward on this project and have hired Todd W (accountant) to assist with this process.

### **New Business:**

- Volunteer Christmas Gifts – Rebekah stated she would like to do gifts for volunteers again this year. Kellie M made a motion to allocate \$15 per person and Barb S seconded the motion, all were in favor.
- Office Manager Evaluation Due – Rebekah's evaluation is due in November. Committee for completing the evaluation consists of Fawn L, Dave S, Barb S and Rhonda.
- Intergroup Meeting for December moved to December 13th due to the Holidays. Motion made by Barb S and seconded by Fawn L. All in favor.
- Elections – the following positions will be up for nominations and elections in December: We will start nominations/elections in October and November and elections will be held in December.
  - Meeting Chair – Rhonda agreed to be nominated for the position.
  - Treasurer – Fawn L nominated Dave S and Rhonda seconded the nomination. However, if Dave S is elected to this position, he is unable to remain Office Service Workers chair due to By-Law restrictions.
  - Website Coordinator
  - CPC/PI Chair
  - Corrections Chair – Rebekah nominated Marian G to remain in this position for another term.
  - Office Service Workers Chair
  - Spanish Speaking Liaison
- Prudent Reserve – Rebekah stated GSO recommends 1-12 months of expenses be held in prudent reserve. Current amount in Prudent Reserve is \$18,190.20. Based on expenses from January – September (\$27,777.84 / \$3086.00 a month) we currently have 6 months of expenses in our Prudent Reserve. Beth C made a motion to increase the Prudent Reserve to 6 months. Seconded by Dave S. All in favor.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm, motion made by Rebekah R. and seconded by Fawn L. All in favor, none opposed.**

**Next meeting to be held Monday November 22nd at 6:30p.**



## **District 50/51 Meeting Minutes: September 13, 2021**

Attendance in-person: David T, Rick B, Robin G, Sandy H, David C, Erica J, Jacque H, Suzanne ([Suzanne.axt@outlook.com](mailto:Suzanne.axt@outlook.com)), Louise (Alt GSR-First. 164 group), Jessica B. ([ryanandjess2019@gmail.com](mailto:ryanandjess2019@gmail.com))

- No one signed in virtually.
- Opened @6:32 with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer
- Introductions were made around the room.
- Jeff T. made motion at accept minutes from last month. Robin G.. 2nd

### **Robin G-Area 51**

#### **Assembly:**

- Tentative bid 3rd Qrt. No communication with hotel
- 4th Qrt vote will be virtual-October 22-24

### **Jacque H-Area 50**

- 3rd Qrt Assembly Recap: No changes to first 164, Change to preamble, 12 x 12 changes, vote for
- 5th edition of Big Book, plain edition Big Book
- COVID Safety Ad Hoc committee established for 4th Qrt Assembly in person consideration.
- Preface disclaimer in 5th edition for sexism verbiage.
- Blue card explaining "open meetings".

#### **Treasurer ( David T.)**

- Balance= \$7,268.64
- Considering idea of Google document (read-only) for bookkeeping transparency.

#### **CPC/PI (Trey M.)**

No report

#### **Treatment (Robin G)**

- Committee meeting 2nd Thursday @7 @ Park 40
- Meeting needs chair/speaker for meeting every other Tuesday @ 8:00-Jacque volunteered
- Cornerstone now requires vaccine.

#### **Corrections (Open): No Report**

#### **Grapevine (open): No report**

#### **Bridging the Gap (David T): No report**

#### **Events (Erica J)**

- Christmas party is still tentative
- Pancake breakfast is considered for fundraising.

#### **Archives (open): No report**

#### **Group news**

- Rick B. Picnic hosted by Saturday morning Big Book was a success.
- Jessica B. extended invite to Jacque H. To visit First 164 group.

#### **Old Business: None**

#### **New Business**

- Motion (Jessica B.) for firm bid 3rd Qrt , 2022-Proposed dates July 22-24. Louise 2nd. Passed Unanimously.
- Discussion of \$100 donation for Cost Co. Gift. Card. Jeff J. Retains for hospitality.
- If groups would like to support proposals for rebuttals/rescind literature changes passed at GSC, contact
- Jessica B. ([ryanandjess2019@gmail.com](mailto:ryanandjess2019@gmail.com))
- Motion (David T) to pay Intergroup rent \$ 30.00 Jeff J. 2nd

Motion to close (Jacque H.) Jeff J. 2nd.

Close with the Lords Prayer.

**Next meeting October 4th at 6:30 in person (no virtual option) at Intergroup Office.**

## District 50/51 Meeting Minutes — October 4, 2021

Attendance: Pam S., David T., Jacque H., Jessica B., Jeff J. Erica J., Suzanne . , Ruth (ruhogate@aol.com)  
Opened @ 6:32 with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.  
Jeff J. made motion to accept minutes from last month. David T. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### District 51 (Robin G.): Absent

(Jacque H.) Version of contract was submitted for Q3 '22

### District 50 (Jacque H.)

Visited First 164 meeting.

4Q Assembly will be voting. Zoom information will be sent.

### Treasurer (David T.)

Account Balance: \$ 7, 238.04

Pending-three checks (pending balance \$7,758.58)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Opening Balance			\$7,758.57	
	\$30.00	ETIAA Rent	7,728.57	Chk 1294
8/13/21	\$36.00	Serenity Contribution	7,764.57	Chk 995011
8/13/21	\$293.00	BBS Contribution	8,057.57	Chk 1052
8/13/21	\$60.00	Cookie Contribution	8,117.57	Chk 402906

### CPC/PI (Trey M.): Absent-No Report

### Treatment (Robin G.): Absent-no report

### Corrections (open): No Report

### Bridge the Gap (David T.)

One call asking about leaving a half-way house and needing assistance. Couldn't help.

### Events (Erica J.)

Christmas Party Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> (tentative). Need to get speaker. Ask Joe Valentino (865-307-6408) if willing to be Santa.

Basket fundraiser for assembly. Announce to groups.

Christmas tree decorating contest?!

### Archives (open): No report

### Group News:

Tennessee Group anniversary celebration in January. More info. TBD

### Old Business

Place firm bid to host 3Q '22 Assembly.

### New Business

Motion (Jessica B.) to sponsor Alkathon Christmas Eve. Details to follow. Pam S. 2<sup>nd</sup>

If interested, contact Jacque H. or Jessica B.

Motion (David T.) to pay Intergroup \$30.00 rent. Jeff J. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous vote.

Motion to close (Jeff J.). David T. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Close with Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT MEETING NOV. 1, 2021 @ 6:30 AT INTERGROUP OFFICE.**

# SSAASA 6

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## EVENT INFORMATION

November 19th-21st, 2021

The SSAASA 6 Committee would like to thank everyone for their participation with early registration, volunteering, scholarships, and overall involvement with SSAASA 6. We would also like to thank everyone that took part in our SSAASA 6 survey.

After reviewing the survey results and other data, the SSAASA steering committee unanimously agreed it would be best to make SSAASA 6 a virtual event. We feel this will maximize participation and allow those who, at this time, are not comfortable traveling or being around others in order to join in this event. The Tampa Airport Marriot has agreed to let us out of our contract penalty free. They will be sending out cancelation notifications for all who have room reservations.

Many of our registered guests have asked if they are getting a refund for their registration. Yes, we will be sending refunds with no additional charges for the merchant fees. SSAASA 6 will still have expenses for the virtual event. If you would like to contribute your registration fee to the cost of the virtual event, we will gratefully accept your contribution. Either way, we need for you to let us know REFUND or CONTRIBUTION. Please contact our Registration Chair JoAnn at [register.ssaasa6@gmail.com](mailto:register.ssaasa6@gmail.com) by October 30, 2021.

Please keep checking the SSAASA 6 website [ssaasa6.org](http://ssaasa6.org) and your email for updates. Everyone attending the virtual event will need to be registered. We will be working on this over the next month up until the event date. The SSAASA 6 event will still take place November 19th-21st, 2021, so please share this information with your Area's, District's, Groups, and members. We are sorry for the inconvenience but also very grateful that we can host a virtual event for all to attend. Thank you for your patience.

SSAASA 6 Steering Committee

*Registration is Required and it's Free*  
Go to [SSAASA6.org](http://SSAASA6.org)

JoAnn B. [register.SSAASA6@gmail.com](mailto:register.SSAASA6@gmail.com) Annie C. [A15GS@bellsouth.net](mailto:A15GS@bellsouth.net) David G. [SSAASA6cochair@gmail.com](mailto:SSAASA6cochair@gmail.com)



*On the lighter side....*



My hobbies include drinking  
and hanging out with my  
parrot

**IF IT'S CALLED ALCOHOLICS  
ANONYMOUS**



**WHY DO YOU START BY TELLING  
EVERYBODY YOUR NAME?**



Was ready to quit alcohol ..then i saw  
how happy it was to see me. How can i  
leave that smile 🥰❤️



# The Lord's Prayer

AA Grapevine October 1955

## A Perfect Convocation

THE AA meeting was coming to a close. The group discussion had ended and the informal chatting was only a murmur. The chairman, with a nod of his head to the group, said "We'll close the meeting in the regular manner."

Reverently heads were lowered, eyes were closed. The dramatic impact of that Sermon on the Mount 2000 years ago was upon us, at our meeting.

*"Our father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. . . ."*

That fellow standing ahead, and to the left of me (it's his first meeting) shuffles his feet in worn shoes. He's embarrassed, ill at ease. But he is praying. Good! I remember a remark he made before the meeting opened. "I've absolutely no control over my drinking anymore. The stuff is killing me; my life's a mess."

Well, I thought now, he had taken the First Step with that admission. The expression on his face might be a clue to his thoughts. Grim, yet pleading.

"God, I'm licked. I've sworn off, gone on the wagon and switched drinks. Always with the same dreary results. Another drunk! I've tried everything--on my own hook. Nothing helped. So, here I am, God. With shabby shoes and screaming nerves, I stand before you, my Father. I don't deserve your help. But I can't go on without it. Will you help me now? Please!"

My fellow alcoholic was not concerned at that moment with our Twelve Step program. He probably didn't know it existed. But he was praying. He had come to believe that a Power greater than himself could restore him to sanity. He was turning over his will and his life to the care of God as he understood Him. He had taken Steps Two and Three in the first ten words of the Lord's Prayer!

*"Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. . . ."*

Some of the grim quality was leaving the face of that man. The tell-tale liquor blotches stood high on his cheek bones but in his eyes, now open, was a softer light. Was hope beginning to replace despair?

"All of this is new to me, God. . . but these fellows here tell me it isn't new to You. For more years than I care to remember, it has always been my will, my whims, my desires. To what end? Regrets, remorse, shame and suffering. Now I want you to take over. Let thy will be done. I know that you are the Master Planner, if I allow you to be. And I know that in your plans there can be only good for me. Teach me, then, to trust in you."

The shuffling feet were still. The eyes again were closed. The form ahead of me was relaxing. Confession is good for the soul. Had not this distraught man just admitted to God, and to himself, the exact nature of his wrongs? Was he not subjecting himself and his will to that of God's--God as he understood Him? Was he not making a fearless inventory of himself? Of course he was! Here was Step Three again, and Steps Four and Five too!

*(Continued on p. 15)*

*"Give us this day, our daily bread. . ."*

There were twenty-five people in that room. Some had known sobriety for years, some for only months. To the man ahead of me it had been a companion for only a few brief hours. But here in seven short words was the unbelievably powerful supplication that could secure it for a life-time, one day at a time!

"Divine master, the Bread we ask for this day's needs is sobriety. The emptiness of yesterday is gone; the demands of tomorrow we know not. Guide us then, this day. Let this day be expiation for the lost yesterdays, a strengthening for the tomorrows. Give us the courage to live out this one day as Thou wouldst will it."

Perhaps I imagined it. Or did our new friend actually rush into the next phrase as if eager to purge himself completely of all that was behind him?

*"And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. . ."*

"Forgive me. Father! Forgive the lies, the treachery and the deceit wrought in drunken moments. Erase from my soul the stain of petty thievery, of precious time wasted. Forgive me for the heartache and anguish I've authored. Remove from me forever, the bitterness I've harbored against those who have chastised me, and supplant it with love. Strike from my heart the resentment and rancor with which I have lived so long."

He seemed to be growing in stature this man with the shabby shoes. The shoulders were squaring as if a great weight had been taken from them. And that is exactly what had taken place. For, in seeking forgiveness, he had forgiven. He had proved his willingness and readiness to have God remove his character defects. In humility, he had asked Him to remove his shortcomings. And though the compilation of a list of all people he had harmed would require time, he was willing to make amends.

Still without conscious realization of it, our new member was encompassing steps Six, Seven and Eight. And again it had been done in two phrases--thirteen words--of the "Our Father"!

*"And lead us not into temptation. . ."*

Oh, yes, there will be temptation. In the early stages of our new-found sobriety will come the urge to take "just one" drink. And as our sobriety continues, there may come the belief once again that our problem has been eliminated, that we have mastered it.

"But"--and the man ahead of me may be whispering it now--"there'll be no graduation exercises for me, God. Never permit me to feel that I have completed my course. For, O Lord, in not feeling that, I will not be led into temptation. Give me always the humility to know myself. In that will be my strength."

*"For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen."*

The prayer was ended. The owner of the shabby shoes walked slowly to the rear of the room. The liquor blotches still stood in high relief on his cheek bones. Nervous perspiration shone on his forehead. But in his carriage there was determination; in his eyes there was hope; in his heart there was the knowledge that he had enlisted an Omnipotent Ally.

In the final words of the "Our Father" he had paid true homage to the Almighty Power, the Supernatural Glory and the Everlasting Kingdom of God. In his quiet "Amen" he had pronounced a solemn "So be it" to the power-packed supplications of the *Pater Noster*.





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