

# ILLOWA MESSENGER JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

## January Birthdays



1 Ed P.	'83
1 Butch W.	'89
1 James C.	'94
1 Slick	'02
1 Mary H.	'04
2 Bob F.	'82
4 Christina R.	'98
4 Dawn M.	'08
5 Lynn G.	'02
8 Barb S.	'03
13 Bob P.	'67
15 Jerry E.	'86
16 Chuck L.	'88
16 Michelle N. S.	'93
17 Paul S.	'10
18 Tami H.	'07
23 Erica S.	'00
24 Jeff S.	'07
26 Sara J.	'80
27 Dave L.	'03

**WINTER  
FUN!**



Call the office, 309-764-1016, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month to include birthdays and events in the newsletter.

Flyers and minutes are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month as well.

# January

## EVENTS

Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> – Camden Serenity Group Speaker Meeting and Potluck

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

*Tickets for our anniversary to be held on April 25, 2020 will be on sale after our business meeting in February. Contact your Intergroup rep or the office for tickets. They will NOT be sold at the door.*

*Please be thinking about donating raffle baskets and/or money to purchase coffee. Thank you!!*

*Our lives begin to end  
the day we become  
silent about things  
that matter.*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*



<u>Group Contributions</u>	<u>Nov. 2019</u>	<u>Jan. – Nov. 2019</u>
Aledo	0	150.00
Bettendorf	789.50	3,384.51
Big Book Study	0	937.76
Camden Serenity	25.00	200.00
Central Discussion	0	1,600.00
Cleveland	31.00	31.00
Clinton	75.00	825.00
Courage to Change	0	287.12
DeWitt	0	200.00
Diversity Group	0	30.00
Henry County Group	0	800.00
House Group	0	125.00
H.O.W. Group	0	57.75
La Nueva Vida	0	120.00
Ladies	0	490.37
Last Chance	0	30.00
Marquette	50.00	300.00
Milan Hillcrest	0	320.00
Moline Group	0	2,076.10
Morrison	0	200.00
Port Byron Hilltop Group	0	125.00
Rainbow	0	40.00
Sisters in Sobriety	0	40.00
The Three Legacies	0	375.00
W.E., T.W.O. Women's Meeting	<u>0</u>	<u>103.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>970.50</b>	<b>12,847.61</b>

**Call Counts for Nov. 2019**

12-step – 2      Information – 45  
 Visitors – 44      Alanon – 0

**Illowa Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes**  
**December 2, 2019**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Erica S.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Groups Present:** Present were Big Book Study, Blandine, Camden, Central Discussion, Henry Co, House Group, Last Chance, New Beginnings, Sisters in Sobriety, Three Legacies, West End.

**Officers and Chairs Present:** Chair – Erica S, Co-chair Monique, Secretary – Deb P, Telephone Chair – Julie B, Events-Steve H, District 90 Liaison-Randy C, Office Manager – Lisa W

**Office Manager's Report**

Happy Holidays from the Intergroup Office,

Please keep the Intergroup Office in mind when doing holiday shopping. We have a lot of books and other items in stock and may be able to order some things we don't have. Stop by and check it out! Gift certificates are also available.

Keep in mind that all holiday activities/events that we have received a flyer for are listed on our website at [www.aaquadcities.org](http://www.aaquadcities.org).

I am still looking for volunteers to work in the office periodically. Contact me in the afternoons at 309-764-1016.

I would like to thank once again all the volunteers who devote their time to keep this office running – I couldn't do it without them:

Jim E., Mike P., Richard S., Bill M., Deb C.-P., Bob F., Melanie M., Judi B., Sue O. I really appreciate your dedication.

Call counts for November were 2 12-step, 45 information, and 44 visitors.  
In love and service, Lisa W.

**Treasurers Report:** 2-Dec-19

**INCOME**

Contributions	\$1,016.50
Sales	\$1,622.75
Sales - Other Vendor	\$1.25
Prudent Reserve Interest	\$1.50
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u><u>\$2,642.00</u></u></b>

**EXPENSES**

General	\$2,280.03
Literature	\$997.97
Workmen's Comp	\$191.00
Adjustment to Inventory	(\$4.70)
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u><u>\$3,278.00</u></u></b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME MINUS EXPENSES</b>	<b><u><u>(\$636.00)</u></u></b>

**ACCOUNTS**

Checking	\$4,766.21
Savings (Prudent Reserve)	\$3,750.67
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u><u>\$8,516.88</u></u></b>

### **District 90 Liaison Report**

Hello Everyone, Corrections is always looking for more volunteers. The big was Elections, **DCM-Randall C.**, **Alt. DCM-OPEN**, **Secretary-OPEN**, **PI- Richard S.**, **Treasurer- Gene V.**, **Accessibilities-OPEN**, **Corrections-OPEN**, **Literature- Kelsey C.**, **CPC-OPEN**, **Grapevine-OPEN**, **Treatment- Justin W.**

The 6 OPEN Positions were announced with a flyer on the website and hopefully more Elections tomorrow, 6pm, at the First Southern Baptist Church in Colona.

That's all I have until next month.  
In Love and Service Randy C.

### **Events Report**

Speaker for the April 25, 2020 Anniversary dinner will be Mark L from Waukesha WI. He is familiar to quite a few members of the fellowship in eastern Iowa and we are looking forward to hosting him that evening. Now our attention will turn to forming committees for decoration as well as items to be offered for raffles.

### **Telephone Chair report / Dec-2-2019**

**Phone rotation:** Several months ago, I noted 5 people had 2 shifts on the phone rotation. I reached out to each of them and asked which shift they wanted to keep and then began trying to fill the other shift with a new volunteer. I'm happy to report the phone rotation has several **new volunteers** and no one is left having 2 shifts. Thank you to those who volunteered!

**12-step list:** Progress is still being made on updating the 12-step list, but it is not complete. My goal is to have this done by Jan-1. Many updates have been made already and Lisa at Intergroup has been sent all the changes. Once it is 100% updated, I hope to get it distributed quickly to everyone on the phone rotation.

**Reps:** Please be sure to take a flyer from the desk and make announcements at your group. If you took a flyer last month, please replace it with this updated one. Anyone wanting to be added to the 12-step list should contact me via the Intergroup office.

Thank you! In love and service, Julie B.

### **Webmaster Report 12/2/19**

Hello Everyone, we had 2,647 users total but 1,014 actual users that were on the site for more than 30 sec. We are up 150 from last month but that may have been people checking out the new look. I added a Service Page and a Literature Page based on last month's discussions. I made some minimal changes to the Meeting List to try and get it to match our websites look, however, the program itself has very few customizable features but at least it's not just a plain white background anymore. I still have some minor adjustments to do but I think the new look is pretty much complete. That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randy C.

**GROUP REPORTS:**

**Big Book Study Group**

Elections were held and all positions were filled. The new officers and chairs will take on their new role starting January 2020. Attendance is steady and the group seems to be growing in membership. It's a fun group, if you're not busy on Tuesday nights at 6:30 stop by!

**House Group Report**

Attendance is medium to mediocre. Therefore, contributions are down; hard to make ends meet. Next Potluck Speaker Meeting will be Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, doors open at 5pm; Food and Fellowship until 6:30, speaker is Joe C.

Big New Year's Eve Party: doors open at 5pm, potluck – meat will be provided. Food, Fun, Fellowship. Open Meeting, 50/50, Light and donated items Drawings; Bingo. We decorated the House Group for Christmas on Friday after Thanksgiving.  
In Love and Service, Mel M.

**New Beginnings Report**

Everyone, attendance has been really good lately for all the meetings. The big thing is we have 4 men and 3 women who are looking for sponsors. Movement to outside meetings is very limited until which makes it hard to get to outside meetings and find a sponsor. So, if you or you know someone looking to be a sponsor let me know or if you have to contact Lisa to get in contact with me please do so. Finally, we are always looking for Speakers, Sponsors and rides...

That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randy C.

**3 Legacies Report**

The Three Legacies continues to have good attendance at our Thursday night speaker meeting (6:30-7:30) We offer daycare, requesting at \$5 donation per child. We will continue to have our regularly scheduled meetings through the holidays. Anyone interested in becoming a home group member is encouraged to join us for our next business meeting, Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.  
Love and service, Erin B

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Motion was made by Randy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AI, to approve change per year to ten vacation days for Office Manager. Motion passed, zero opposed.
- District 9 Liaison position is open. Lisa nominated Kevin K, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Kevin gave service background info. Motion passed, zero opposed.
- Email for DCM's was tabled.
- Book price list now holds conference approved and other literature noted as such.
- Service Webpage was added.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

District Corrections numbers – tabled until January meeting.

**The next Intergroup meeting will be held Monday, January 6, 2020**

**District 9 Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**December 1st, 2019**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Chairs:** DCM: MaryBeth P. Alt DCM: Lee C. Secretary: Kiersten C. Archives: Ronna B. Corrections: Jaclyn M. CPC: Park P. Grapevine: Jeremy W. Literature: Kristin C. Treasurer: Sheryl F.

**Groups:** Bettendorf: Tim T. Dewitt: Bill M, Marquette: Jim D.

**New Business:**

- Discussion around Blandine and the needs of that meeting. No motion made was informational only.
- Discussion around the new time of the District meeting. No motion made as attendance was below the needed amount to make a decision. This discussion will continue in the January meeting, as long as needed representation is in attendance.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning Balance: 6,069.12; Total Income: 904.50; Total Expenses: 891.92; Balance: 6,081.70; Seed: 300.00; Prudent Reserve: 300.00; Operating Balance: 5,481.70.

**DCM:** I wanted to say Thank you for the great support for the Corrections workshop held in November. Wonderful to see so many District members and others from the fellowship. We will be during the District Mini even in February 2020. Jacklyn M. is spearheading the even this year.

**Upcoming dates** – Jan 11 & 12, 2020 – Marshalltown – Best Western. March 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020, - Marshalltown – Best Western. June 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>-Buena Vista College – Storm Lake IA. October 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> ,2020 – The Fall Conference – Coralville, Iowa City

**ALT DCM:** Greetings district 9 from you ALT DCM. Randy our district webmaster has reported 2487 users total on our website. 969 actual users that were on the site for more than 30 seconds. We are up 100 from last month but that could be from people checking out the new look. Randy added a service page and a literature page. I will be contacting Randy to participate in the website meetings per the SOP's for our district. Love and service, Lee C ALT DCM

**Archives:** Hi all! Organizing the archives room continues. We are continuing to make toward getting caught up. We are making progress. The archives committee will be meeting next Sunday. In love and service, Ronna

**Corrections:** Greetings all! Thank you to everyone who came out to the corrections workshop. We had about 15 people including Lance with Area 24 and Jennifer Rice with the Scott Co jail. It was a great time filled with lots of information for all who attended. There were several topics of conversation about volunteers and different ways that people are chairing the meetings. We also discussed a new corrections phone list that will be available at intergroup for those leaving jail wishing to connect with a correctional workshop volunteer. We also will begin having a mail correspondence program where AA members who are interested in writing people in jail/prison will have the ability to do so. We will be using intergroup's mailing address as of now. The AA books will begin to be purchased so that they can be used in the jails again. Also, I have met with both 605 and RCF and delivered books as well as my information for those who are the liaison for AA. 605 will

be getting a meeting together with AA to discuss some of the issues. Per 605 they have recently had a discussion with the ladies about their behavior at the meetings. Thanks! In love and service Jaclyn M

**CPC:** We presented to Blackhawk, St Ambrose, & Trinity in November. It was between 80-85 students. All three schools have committed to having us back next year. The committee will be meeting in January to prepare for 2020. I will be going to Marshalltown in January. In love and service, Park

**Grapevine:** There isn't much new to report from Grapevine. I'll be reaching out to our Spanish-speaking group(s) to see if their members have any interest in getting La Vina subscriptions. Please remind your groups that Grapevine or La Vina subscriptions make great stocking stuffer holiday gifts. In love and service, Jeremy W.

**GROUP REPORTS:**

**Courage to Change:** Hello everyone, Courage to change will have our regular meeting on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve at 6:30pm-7:30pm. We will be having new board members starting in January. Happy Holidays from everyone at Courage to Change. In love and serve Nosa

**DeWitt:** Hi from DeWitt Group We had a great Thanksgiving meeting. Tough time of year were letting everyone know to hit extra meetings and reach out for each other. On a sad note our friend Dale from Hale went to Heaven to see his wife and friends we will miss Dale. We will have our business meeting on 12/14 after our 1000 meeting. Love and Service Bill

**Marquette:** Some notes from Marquette business meeting. 1. The Marquette group as a whole was disappointed with District's decision to changing the mtg time during when most people are at church. 2. We ended the discussion about changing the Thursday afternoon 5:30pm CD Mtg. 3. We are preparing a flyer to indicate we will be closing the Saturday night 7:00 p.m. meeting in one month if there isn't a better interest in that meeting. 4. Christmas party has been scheduled for Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> Love and Service Jim D.

**Three Legacies:** Good morning and Happy Sunday. 3 Legacies is going great. We have childcare available with a 5\$ fee per child. This is to finance the staff that comes to care for our littles so parent can attend an AA meeting. If you or someone you know have questions about childcare, please see one of our homegroup members. The next business meeting is Thursday, January 16th directly following the speaker meeting. Love and service, Shawna

District 90 Minutes  
December 3, 2019

Meeting held at First Southern Baptist Church in Colona, opened at 6:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Richard S., Craig K., Randy C., Kelsey C., Pete B., Gene V., Joyce E., Rick F. & Brandon S.

**Birthdays** – None      **Minutes** – Nov. Minutes Approved.

**DCM** – Richard S. No Report

**Alt DCM** – Open

**Treasurer** – Gene V. There was a \$2 mistake that is now corrected, and we have “year-end” money to spend.

**Secretary** – Jesse R. – Absent

**Committee Reports:**

**Corrections** – Craig K. The Woman's Meeting at the Rock Island County Jail is doing Great. Looking to start a Daytime Meeting we need more volunteers, anyone interested please let me know. We now have a new Volunteer Application should speed up approval time. The Men's meeting at Rock Island County Jail is looking to change days from Fridays to a different night, is there anyone out there interested Volunteering? Henry County Jail meetings both men and women are doing well. We are always there every Saturday 9 am. The Kewanee Life Skills Re-entry Center Meetings are going great. We are doing The Primary Purpose Big Book study on Thursdays, it is outstanding. Our Speaker Meeting is on the 2nd Saturday of each month going forward. This month will be Kevin K. from Bettendorf. Also looking for speakers who have served time in a correctional facility willing to come and speak. The East Moline Correctional Facility – is pretty much done, there just isn't anyone volunteering. Also, I would like to thank you All for the privilege of serving as your Corrections Chair these past years the time has come to pass this opportunity on. Please Welcome Brandon S. from the Henry Co. Group as your new Corrections Chair.  
A member in good standing (my opinion only) Craig K.

**PI** – Pete B. This Saturday at the Winter Assembly there will be a vote on a motion that will give money to Districts for Billboard Ads. There have been studies that in certain areas an increase in AA has occurred. We may want to revisit this next year after the vote and we know more on the allowance that will be provided,

**Treatment** – Justin W. – Absent

**Grapevine** – Open

**CPC** – Open

**Accessibilities** – Absent



**Literature – Absent**

**Intergroup Liaison – Randall C.** Hello Everyone, all the phone positions have been filled and Julie is still working on the 12 step list so if you were on it and haven't heard from her or if you want to be on it please contact her through the Intergroup Office. There is a new flyer about this to read at your meetings on the website. Intergroup Speaker has been chosen, Mark L. from Waukesha, WI, (the Milwaukee Area.) His first Sponsor was from the Quad Cities Area and he has a humorous, with a point, message. Committees for Deserts and Raffles etc. will be put together next month and tickets will go on sale in Feb. The Office Manager Additional Vacation Days was passed. Dist. 9 Liaison Position was filled, Kevin K. from Bettendorf. The Website is doing well, we had 2,647 users total but 1,014 actual users that were on the site for more than 30 sec. We are up 150 from last month but that may have been people checking out the new look. I added a Service Page and a Literature Page based on last month's discussions. I made some minimal changes to the Meeting List to try and get it to match our website's look, however, the program itself has very few customizable features but at least it's not just a plain white background anymore. I still have some minor adjustments to do but I think the new look is pretty much complete. That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randall C.

**GSR Reports:**

**Geneseo-** Kelsey C. (GSR) Not much happening. Wed. Night seems to be the biggest meeting. This month's Speaker/Potluck will also include a cookie exchange and there is always a lot of cookies so even if you don't make any cookies, come on over and eat some.

**Henry County-** Rick F. (GSR) Doing fine, Elections filled all but Alt Intergroup Rep. Potluck/Speaker with Marie H.

**Hillcrest-** Pete B. NYE Celebration will take the place on this month's Speaker Meeting but resume in Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition is doing well with a few hiccups but ok.

**House-** Joyce E. (GSR) Potluck this month and a NYE Celebration with meeting and BINGO afterwards. Approved for a rental car for Winter Assembly and let her know if you would like a ride.

**New Beginnings-** Randall C. (GSR) Hello Everyone, attendance has been really good lately for all the meetings. The big thing is we have 4 men and 3 women who are looking for sponsors. Movement to outside meetings is very limited until which makes it hard to get to outside meetings and find a sponsor. So, if you or you know someone looking to be a sponsor let me know or if you have to contact Lisa to get in contact with me please do so. Finally, we are always looking for Speakers, Sponsors and rides... In Love and Service Randall C.

**Old Business: Open Positions: Alt. DCM, Secretary, Accessibilities, Corrections, CPC, Grapevine and Archives.**

Brandon S. from Henry Co. Group was nominated for Corrections, he accepted, and was Elected. Craig K. stood for Alt. DCM, was nominated and Elected. Kelsey C. from Geneseo was nominated for Secretary, she accepted, and was Elected. It should be noted Kelsey was Elected as Literature Chair last month as well.

**New Business:** Gene V. proposed we spend the end of the year surplus by putting \$128 in the "set aside money" fund giving \$400 to start the next year with and \$175 yet to spend this year. Motion made and Accepted. Randy C. proposed to spend the remaining \$175 to fill Grapevine Subscriptions,

2 for RICCA and 2 for Top of the World, with the rest of the money to go to Intergroup, Motion made and Accepted. Pete B. brought up the idea of thinking about hosting Area assembly(s) in 2021, Craig K. suggested that Kewanee would be a good location since most attendees come from the Chicago area and it was decided to table until next month.

**Next meeting is at First Southern Baptist Church in Colona on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00pm.**



# SPEAKER MEETING

**Sheryl F. from Three  
Legacies Group  
Davenport**

**Saturday, January 4, 2020**

- ◇ **Fellowship at 5:30**
- ◇ **Pot Luck at 6:00, Please  
bring a dish to share**
- ◇ **Raffles at 6:45**
- ◇ **Sheryl will speak at 7:00**

**Camden Serenity Group  
306 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Milan, IL**



**HOUSE GROUP**

**SPEAKER**

**MURRAY H.**

**FROM HOUSE GROUP**

**JANUARY 11, 2020**

POTLUCK

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00

DINNER AT 5:30

SPEAKER AT 7:00



PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE

# **BIG BOOK STUDY GROUP IS TURNING 19!**

**WHEN**  
**Tuesday February 25, 2020**  
**At 5:30 pm**

**WHERE**  
**Asbury Methodist Church**  
**1809 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf IA**

**Enter the church through the 18th Street side entrance**

**DINNER WILL BE  
AT 5:30 PM**

**SPEAKER AT  
6:30 PM**

**Mike M.  
Cedar Rapids, IA**

**BB STUDY  
GROUP WILL  
PROVIDE:**

**Meat  
Table service  
Coffee  
Water  
Cake  
Fun & fellowship!**

**PLEASE BRING:**

**A dish to pass**

46<sup>th</sup> Intergroup Event  
Anniversary

**SPEAKER Mark L.**

Waukesha, WI

Tickets go on sale in February

**Where:** Holiday Inn, Rock Island, IL

**When:** April 25, 2020

**Time:** Doors open at 5:00 p.m.



# The 1st Month and the 1st Step Prayer!

## *First Step Prayer*

*Dear Lord, help me to see and admit that I am powerless over my alcoholism. Help me to understand how my alcoholism has led to unmanageability in my life. Help me this day to understand the true meaning of powerlessness. Remove from me all denial of my alcoholism. (This prayer is developed from the chapter, More About Alcoholism)*

Taken from [http://friendsofbillw.net/twelve\\_step\\_prayers](http://friendsofbillw.net/twelve_step_prayers)





**An alcoholic is sitting at a bar**

He orders two shots. He proceeds to pour out the first one all over the bar, downs the second one and then orders two more. He pours out the first one on the bar, downs the second one and orders two more.

The bartender asks him why he keeps pouring out the first shot all over the bar.

The alcoholic replies with "My AA group said all I need to do is avoid that first drink."

Joke taken from <https://upjoke.com/aa-jokes>



## **I know we have some great writers out there!!**



I'm looking for individuals that would like to write an article for our newsletter!

Some examples of things you could write about are:

- Tell us your story! We've seen so many people's lives change with this program. We read and hear it all the time in the Grapevine about alcoholics whose lives have gotten better with the simple AA program. Most of those stories in the Grapevine come from places we've never even heard of. It would be a blessing if we could hear some of these stories from right here in our own area.
- An experience you had at a conference. One here local, far away or maybe one of the international conferences.
- The history of your home group. All of us here in the quad cities area would enjoy hearing how your home group got started and some of the traditions it carries on with today. Anything AA related would be wonderful.

You can contact me at [bethmelliott07@gmail.com](mailto:bethmelliott07@gmail.com) or simply call the Intergroup office at 309-764-1016!

Love, Peace & Coffee,  
Beth E. - Newsletter Chairperson

**Illowa Messenger**  
1706 Brady St, STE 201  
Davenport, IA 52803

Address Service  
Requested



Time to renew your subscription? If the date on the address label is high-lighted, then it's time to renew! Please renew by sending your name and address along with your \$13.00 subscription fee to the Intergroup Office.

A subscription to the newsletter makes a great gift idea. Use form below to send in renewal, gift subscription, or Faithful Fiver donation!

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution amount: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*EXTRA! EXTRA! [www.aaquadcities.org](http://www.aaquadcities.org) is live!!

\*\* Be sure to check out our new website! \*\*