

ILLOWA MESSENGER DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Happy Birthday

5	Carol J.	'77
9	Sue H.	'91
14	Terry L.	'89
15	Greg B.	'03
16	Patrick G.	'01
19	John M.	'99
20	Nikki L.	'11
22	Hank T.	'92
22	Trish B.	'01
25	Tim T.	'84
27	Dee R.	'92



The office is open by appointment only – call Lisa at 309-764-1016 to make arrangements. We accept cash or check only and masks are required. Thank you!

EVENTS

Dec. 20th – Christmas Potluck at Blandine

Dec. 25th – Bettendorf Group open all day between meetings

Dec. 31st – New Year's Eve at Bettendorf



Happy Holidays from your Illowa Intergroup staff and volunteers:

Office manager - Lisa W., ***Volunteers***- Mel M., Mike P., Richard S., Bill M., Deb C.-P., Bob F., Judi B., and the Webmaster, Randy C.



And the officers and chairpersons:

Monique M. – Chair
Mike C. – Alternate Chair
Al B. – Treasurer
Deb P. - Secretary
Julie B. – Telephone Chair
Beth E. – Newsletter Chair
Steve H. – Events Chair
OPEN – District 90 Liaison
Allison R. – District 9 Liaison

Illowa Intergroup Group Contributions
October 2020

	<u>Oct. 20</u>	<u>Jan. – Oct. 20</u>
Aledo	0	53.00
Bettendorf	0	3,104.50
Big Book Study	367.50	1,305.78
Blandine	0	50.00
Cabin Fever Speaker Banquet	0	100.00
Camden Serenity Group	0	25.00
Central Discussion	800.00	1,600.00
Clinton	75.00	750.00
Courage to Change	0	511.38
DeWitt	100.00	300.00
District 90	0	175.00
Henry County Group	100.00	450.00
House Group	0	75.00
Inclusive Serenity	0	55.25
La Nueva Vida	0	80.00
Ladies Night	0	317.00
Last Chance	0	25.00
Marquette	0	350.00
Milan Hillcrest	25.00	100.00
Morrison	0	300.00
North Scott	0	500.00
Port Byron Hilltop Group	0	175.00
Sisters in Sobriety	0	50.00
<u>The Three Legacies</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>450.00</u>
Total	1,467.50	10,901.91

Call Counts for October 2020

12-Step – 1

Information – 49

Visitors - 16

Illowa Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2020

Web Meeting called to order by Monique

ATTENDANCE:

Groups Present: Present were, Bettendorf, Big Book Study, Blandine, De Witt, Henry Co, Last Chance, Marquette, New Beginnings, Three Legacies, West End.

Officers and Chairs Present: Chair – Monique, Co-Chair Mike C, Secretary Deb, Treasurer - Al B, Telephone Chair Julie B, Office Manager – Lisa W, Web Guy, Randy C., District 90 Liaison open position.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to accept October minutes.

Treasurer's Report 11/2/2020

INCOME

Contributions	\$2,193.59
Sales	\$1,400.05
Events	\$0.00
Prudent Reserve Interest	\$0.99
Totals	<u><u>\$3,594.63</u></u>

EXPENSES

General	\$2,183.31
Events	\$0.00
Literature	\$972.58
Workman's comp insurance	\$0.00
Totals	<u><u>\$3,155.89</u></u>

TOTAL INCOME MINUS EXPENSES **\$438.74**

ACCOUNTS

Checking	\$681.52
Savings (Prudent Reserve)	\$4,956.55
	\$0.00
Totals	<u><u>\$5,638.07</u></u>

Office Manager's Report Nov 2, 2020:

Hello everyone, the office continues to remain closed until further notice. Anyone needing literature or chips can call me at 309-764-1016 to set up a time for pickup. I have been going in on Friday afternoons, but please call ahead to make sure I will be there. Masks are required and we accept cash or check only. The treasurer and I sent in the quarterly payroll taxes and quarterly reports this month. Total contributions for our Birthday Donation Challenge were \$1,069.42. We are grateful to everyone who participated. If you didn't get a chance to send your donation in, we will still be happy to accept it though it won't be counted towards your group's total. Please be sure to send any meeting information to illowaintergroup@yahoo.com or to the webmaster, Randy. We do have paper schedules available in the office but they do not reflect online meetings, so be sure to check www.aquadcities.org for the most updated meeting information. Call counts for October were 1 12-step, 49 information, 16 visitors, and 10 texts. Our business meetings will continue to be held online/by phone until further notice. Information on how to join is on our website. Our next business meeting will be December 7, 2020.

In love and service,
Lisa W.

Telephone Chair Report 11/2/2020:

Hello everyone! There isn't much to report in general, however I have some updates in the way of *feedback* regarding other options for how we handle our after-hours phone service. Once again, I want to remind everyone there is no motion on the table at this time. Also, I have an additional option to present!

Feedback

From Groups: 5 were undecided/leave it as-is, 1 for VM, 1 for answering service

From Individuals who are currently on the phone rotation and take the after-hours phone: 6 said leave it as-is, 5 for Answering Service, 3 were open/no preference

- **From individuals whose input was to leave it as-is, here are some comments:** having someone answer the phone is a life and death matter, our helpline in its current format is a valuable service based on one alcoholic sharing with another which is the whole premise of AA, self-sacrifice and service to others is the basis of our recovery program, being part of the phone answering keeps me sober, I'd hate to see somebody call in desperation and get VM or an answering service, I feel very strongly we need to have a drunk picking up the phone and talking to another drunk 24/7 365 days a year, if we save just one life a year it's worth the effort regardless of how many calls came in, this is a spiritual endeavor and nothing's more important than the hand of AA to be there when someone reaches out, we do this service work because our lives and future members' lives are at stake and not because it's convenient or comfortable.
- **From individuals whose input was in favor of an answering service:** if we can afford it or perhaps each group could help pay for it, the 24 hour helpline is no longer needed, after hearing other areas use it I think it's a fantastic idea, agree that the 24 hour

helpline no longer merits the time and effort but if a call goes to VM or answering service there should be a message directing them to get immediate help for true crisis situations.

Reminder: I brought up exploring other options to the Intergroup body because although the service we provide is valuable and needed, I have concerns as the Telephone chair I felt needed recognized. That said, if a feasible and more practical option is out there, and we can all, or mostly all agree, I think we should consider making changes. Also, as a side note, I feel the telephone chair position might be easier to fill if the responsibilities, especially on weekends, wasn't so demanding.

I came across another option called **SimulRing** - This service is offered by our current phone company (Vonage) at no additional charge. Choosing this feature directs an incoming call to ring the Vonage phone number (Intergroup#) and up to five other phone numbers at the same time. In other words, we choose (up to) 5 people/phone #s to be 'on alert' and if/when a call comes in, all 5 phones will ring, whoever is available would answer. The details and logistics would need to be worked out, and I have some concerns and questions to ask a Vonage rep. If it works the way I hope, I believe it could potentially solve the problem of missing calls and could reduce the Telephone chair's work on weekends. I will update the flyer on the website in the next few days with more information on this.
In love and service, Julie B

Webmaster Report:

Hello Everyone, we had 2,270 users total but 1,337 actual users that were on the site for more than 30sec. The Meeting Guide Page was the most visited page. The Virtual Meetings Page was the 2nd most visited page. The Challenge Page came in at 3rd with the Service Page jumping up to 4th. The 24-hour phone service flyer had 89 views, which is much better than the 40 from last month. That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randy C.

Group Reports:

Bettendorf Group:

Since the October meeting, the Bettendorf group learned the City of Bettendorf is planning to sell the Bettendorf Community Center, where our meeting site is annexed. Our lease with the City is up in December. We have been meeting with them to secure a short-term lease; discussions are ongoing. The group has formed a committee to look at other sites that would accommodate our volume and meeting frequency. Once the group moves to a new location, our expenses are going to be significantly higher than our present situation, which will affect how much we can donate to Intergroup. The group is now deliberating on whether to change our prudent reserve in anticipation of these expenses. I will continue to update Intergroup as we learn more. Love and service, Frank

Last Chance:

Hi, I'm Jonathan from the Last Chance Group Meetings are still in person every day at 11am and 5:30 pm. Currently we are not holding any speaker meetings or potlucks. We will have 11am and 5:30pm meetings on Thanksgiving but we will not be having a Thanksgiving dinner. At our last business meeting we passed a motion to send a second contribution

basket around on the first Sunday of the month at both morning and evening meetings. The money collected from the 2n basket at both meetings will be split evenly and half will go to Intergroup and half to District. This was done to ensure The Last Chance Group continues to contribute and support both Intergroup and District.

New Beginnings:

Hello Everyone, the Stutsman Lodge is still closed to the public and have been dealing with some staff and residents having the virus. Please keep them in your prayers. That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randy C.

Three Legacies:

3 Legacies continues to have 3 virtual/zoom meetings Tuesday 8-9 pm, Thursday 6:30-7:30 speaker meeting and Saturday 8-9 am. All can be found on www.aaquadcities.com

October 15, 2020 Three Legacies had business meeting:

We voted to disburse \$200.00 to Intergroup. It passed.

New group positions for 2021:

Chair - Rebecca N

Secretary - Darcy D

Treasurer - Joy P

GSR - Rachel B

Alt GSR - open

Intergroup Rep - Katie

Zoom Coordinator - Sheryl F

Grapevine - Christina G

Discussion was had on 24hr hotline with three options, and wish to thank Julie B. for giving us firsthand information on each. (Can be found on www.aaquadcities.org). Three Legacies seemed to be 50/50 with stay the same to/answering service. This was not on table for voting but to get ideas from the different groups and will take back to Three Legacies when it is a motion.

Average participation on Thursday's is 30 people. Are having great speakers.

Nothing else new, come join us!!

Love and Service

Joy P.

Old Business:

District 90 Liaison position is still open.

Options for Phone rotation and what to do with after-hours phone answering: Julie will summarize the information provided in her report and have it posted to the website. Reps are encouraged to share the information with their groups and bring back any questions and feedback to the next Intergroup business meeting again in December.

New Business: Office Manger Lisa encourages reps to bring back to the groups that donations to Intergroup are needed.

Meeting adjourned.

The next business meeting will be held Monday, December 7, 2020 at 6pm.

District 9 Monthly Meeting

Attendance:

Chairs: DCM; ALT. DCM; TREASURER; ARCHIVES; CORRECTIONS; CPC; GRAPEVINE; SECRETARY; TREATMENT

Groups: BETTENDORF; BIG BOOK STUDY; BLANDINE; DEWITT; THE THREE LEGACIES

Chair Reports:

Special Meeting – Area 24 Delegate report out by Dan G.

Treasurer: Beginning Balance: \$5827.90; Total Income: \$572.50; Total Expenses: \$83.00; Ending Balance: \$6,317.40; Operating Balance: \$5,717.40.;

DCM: No Report

Alt. DCM: Here are some highlights from the area 24 fall conference 2020 virtual meeting. Dan G area 24 delegate. Panel 69 and Panel 70 delegates as well as Class A and B trustees and some staff from GSO were involved in a discussion via Zoom where we had the chance to visit about the GSB strategic planning initiative. I felt the discussion was meaningful and insightful. I believe the biggest thing that I took away from this opportunity was to recognize how poorly we utilize the Class A trustees in our area. In my time in the Area 24 service structure I don't recall ever inviting a Class A trustee to the Area. I was reminded how much they can offer Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole and the wealth of knowledge they can offer. If for some reason Area 24 continues to host assemblies and other events via zoom I would encourage the planning committees and or the Area committee to consider contacting a Class A trustee to be involved. I don't think you will be disappointed. The West Central Regional Delegates met on 9/14/2020 via zoom. We were informed that the contributions continue to be on the rise however literature sales are down. As a result, AAWS did recalculate their budget and I believe that was shared via an email I sent out earlier. The Grapevine board however did not need to recalculate their budget. It was reported that subscriptions are up over all and that it is believed that Grapevine is in good shape. However, that doesn't mean you should cancel your subscriptions as a matter of fact if you don't have a subscription please consider signing up for one. The E.R.P (Enterprise Resource Platform) continues to struggle getting implemented. The hope is all the bugs will be worked out and completely up and running by December. Currently there are 2 Areas that are testing it out to help address the bugs and getting them corrected. I also want to report that there will be 8 trustee's that will be rotating after the 71st GSC, 2 regional trustees, Trustee at Large US, 2 General Service Trustees and 3 Class A trustees. That is 33% of the General Service Board. The General Service Board Chair is also rotating and there is currently a non-alcoholic and 2 alcoholics being considered for the Board Chair position. If one of the alcoholic candidates is chosen, the Board will expand by one member to replace the alcoholic if selected. In addition, 2 NTD's will rotate, plus the one left over from the 70th GSC. So, there will be a lot of new faces on the GSB coming up. Grapevine is considering 6 candidates for their NTD openings. Additionally, there will potentially be several changes

with staff at GSO due to early retirement incentive program being offered to approximately 25 staff. I currently do not have the information regarding if anyone has chosen to take up that offer. As we often say “more will be revealed” later. I do however know that there very well could be different staff desk assignments coming in the near future with these early retirements. Currently the WCRSC is still being planned as if it will be in person but it will be discussed further when the new rotation of Panel 71 Delegates are present at the WCR Delegates meeting which will be in December. Dave G area 24 alt delegate Since my last report I have been working hard to keep the Area 24 Directory as accurate as possible—thank you to all of the DCMs and GSRs who have provided me with updates. The directory is current through October 8, 2020 and is in the Area 24 shared Dropbox folder. Now, an update on our new national database called Netsuite. The records department at the General Service Office has been sending Excel file updates of our Area 24 group and service chair information regularly this past month. I have been using this to confirm the changes sent to GSO. At this time the records office is nearly completely caught up with group changes to date. Area registrars still do not have access to the database and are unable to add or modify records. We do not know when we will get access to the database. Consequently, we will continue to be required to forward all changes to the records office for them to enter. All changes you send to me are immediately forwarded to GSO and I keep track of those changes. I will continue to monitor all updates I send to GSO to assure the changes are made. A reminder that as a result of switching to the new system, each group has been assigned a new number. The old group number is still valid and is now called the legacy number, so please don't be confused or alarmed. All groups that were in existence before mid-October 2019 now have two numbers. New groups after mid-October 2019 only have one number. For group changes going forward please go to the Area 24 website and enter all group and service chair change information there. When you have your group elections this fall, or have any other changes (e.g. location, time, GSR, alternate GSR, email, etc.), please do not use the old group change forms. Instead, please go to aa-iowa.org, our Area 24 website, and you will find three links on the home page: 1) A link for new groups, 2) A link for change of information for existing groups, and 3) change in service chair information for district and area officers and service chairs. Please enter all changes in this manner. This new method will streamline the gathering of information that will be sent to the GSO records office, to our Area 24 Directory and to our website meeting list. If you have any questions about this process, please contact me. Motions made: A) Motion that Area 24 create a Conference Committee with elected Chair to plan all Spring and Fall Conferences to held at a central accessible location Area Committee meeting would remain as is. Motion submitted by Julie S., seconded by Hayley W. Vote taken. Motion fails. B) Motion that the following items to be added to the Area 24 Conference Bid Form with the Conference Guidelines: “1. The Accessibility Checklist is completed. 2. All items were met/The following items were not met.” Motions submitted by Nancy N., seconded by Nate W Vote taken. Motion passes. c) Motion to submit \$5000 to GSO Motion submitted by Dave G., seconded by Terry C. Vote taken. Motion passes. Webmaster report for November 2020 Hello Everyone, we had 2,270 users total but 1,337 actual users that were on the site for more than 30 sec. The Meeting Guide Page was the most visited page. The Virtual Meetings Page was the 2nd most visited page. The Challenge Page came in at 3rd with the Service Page jumping up to 4th. The 24-hour phone service flyer had 89 views, which is much better than the 40 from last month. That's all I have until next month. In Love and Service Randy C. Love and service, Lee C. ALT DCM

Archives: No Report

Corrections: Hello all, Nothing new to report. RCF has resumed a meeting on Tuesday night and asked that we bring back meetings. Tom from the west end has been coordinating those. I have been asked to speak on a corrections panel by our area corrections chair for this years area panel on Nov 14th via zoom. 605 and Scott county jail as still being suspended until further notice. In love and service, Jaclyn M.

CPC: I attended the Area 24 Conference October 9th. The committee presented to Blackhawk and St. Ambrose nursing students October 21, 22, 23, 29, and 30th. Our new CPC Chair, Shawna, was able to attend one of the sessions. We also presented to the East Moline/Silvis Rotary Club October 29th. In love and service, Park

Grapevine: No Report

Intergroup Liaison: No Report

Literature: In October, I took pamphlets and schedules to the Abbey. I will go to Cads, Country Oaks and 605 in November. Love and Service, Kristin

Treatment: No Report; PI: No Report; Treatment: No Report

Webmaster: No Report

Group Reports:

Blandine: Blandine Business Meeting 10/25/2020: Treasurer report Starting balance \$631.09 receipts \$90.97, \$59.47, Expenses -\$28.97, -33.75. -14.00 ending bal \$702.82. Intergroup Donation challenge participation discussed. Blandine members committed to sending in checks. Blandine Intergroup Rep needed starting January. Discussion newcomer not seeing any identifying of AA downstairs or on outside of building. Room agreed to AAWS signs by both doors. Discussion on donations for furniture. Room approved. GSR asked how to get information back to members in rooms. All bulletin boards except 1 for AA. Two people that attend meetings at the Blandine location have tested positive for Covid19. 1 person was at a meeting 10/10 and found out 10/11 she was COVID19 positive. 1 is currently hospitalized with COVID19 as of last night 10/31. In service, Christy

DeWitt: DeWitt Group is still holding in person meetings and 1 online meeting on Sunday's at 8am. Flyer for that is on the Illowa Intergroup website. We will have a Holiday meeting on Thanksgiving Day at 10am and also the regularly scheduled meeting at 7pm. In love and service Shelly B.

Marquette: 1st Item of Business: Treasury Report, as of Sept. 30th, Beginning bal. in Checking Beginning 10/01 \$3,885.17 Income for Sept.: \$632.53 Expense \$385.35 Checking Ending 10/26/20 \$4,132.35 Prudent reserve ending Oct. 30th \$5,013.14 Bank isn't open in lobby to make Trustee chg. 2nd Item of Business Purchaser report Don,

program chair said that he has everything covered for Nov. He has been asked if we can split the 12 into smaller segments, Don said he will leave it to the chairperson wants to do it. 3rd Item of Business Purchaser report. We discussed the Intergroup answering system, and the need for volunteers at Intergroup office. After discussing the options, we voted for the Free Answering Service, Jennifer will take to Intergroup. 4th Item of Business Intergroup report. Ranae asked what plans we have for Thanksgiving. She said that our 11AM holiday meeting in Venue 1 5th Item of Business GSR report. We discussed the Saturday's after Thanksgiving & Christmas potluck we usually have will be canceled this year because of Covid-19 6th Item of Business P.C report Don made a motion to extend the 4PM for a six month trail because 1month isn't a fair evaluation period. Adjourn; 6:55 Next Meeting Nov. 30th, 2020 Love and Service, Jim D. – GSR/Secretary

The Three Legacies: Hello and happy Sunday. 3 legacies meetings are still being held virtually and will continue to do so until The Church opens back up to us. The link to that virtual meeting is on the Intergroup website with a link and a password. 3 legacies did hold elections which were so much fun and amazing. Those minutes have not been submitted but we did fill all positions except ALT GSR. There was much conversation about different ideas and options for intergroup phones, such as live people taking phones VS an answering service. I hope you have the greatest of days. Love and service, Shawna

DISTRICT 90 minutes
November 3, 2020 @ 6pm Virtual ZOOM Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/6591910636>

Welcome – Serenity Prayer –

Attendance: DCM: Randy C., DCM ALT: Craig, Treasurer: Gene, PI: Richard, Literature: Kelsey.

AA Birthdays – Minutes Approval gene makes a motion to approve craig seconds, min approved

Officers' Reports:

DCM: Randy C. no report

Alt. DCM: Craig K. no report

Treasurer: Gene V.

Beginning Balance: \$481.27, Deposits: \$25.00, Debits: \$14.00, Set Aside Monies (debit) \$161.25, New Balance/Available Funds: \$331.02, Savings/Prudent Reserve: \$449.48

Secretary: Kelsey C. no report

Committee Reports:

Corrections: Brandon S. absent

Treatment: Justin W. absent

P.I.: Richard S. got to all the libraries that he could and gave books. Going to wait until covid settles down to get out there more to different places like schools and hotels

Literature: Kelsey C.

Accessibilities: OPEN

Grapevine: OPEN

C.P.C.: Tom B.

Archives: Aaron M.

Intergroup Liaison: intergroup needs money. Sobriety challenge did raise 1,000. Please keep them in mind.

GSR Reports:

Geneseo: We have elections this month and will also be allocating some money at this month's business meeting. We have been having monthly business meetings and plan to continue with them on monthly. Have our first speaker meeting since the COVID shutdown earlier this year. Speaker will be Justin W from last chance group.

Last Chance: None

House Group: None

Henry County: still self-supporting, still restricted, good attendance

Milan Hillcrest:

Camden:

New Beginnings: Randy C. Hello Everyone, the Stutsman Lodge is still closed to the public and have been dealing with some staff and residents having the virus. They did stop having meetings for a couple weeks due to the Virus but have resumed. Please keep them in your prayers.

Old Business:

-Open Positions • Accessibilities • Grapevine

New Business:

Kelsey: Has member from the Geneseo group interested in service positions. Asked if they could come on one of our virtual meeting anytime to check it out. Group said yes its always open.

NEXT MEETING Dec. 8, 2020 via ZOOM

The Intergroup Office continues to remain closed until further notice due to record high numbers of COVID-19 cases in our area. Our website at www.aaquadcities.org and our 24-hour phone line are still active. Please stay safe, and call if you have any questions.
Thank you.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS AT BLANDINE
117 Perry St.
Davenport, IA

Thanksgiving Potluck cancelled due to COVID-19

December 20, 2020 after the 11:00 a.m. Meeting
CHRISTMAS POTLUCK



Please bring a dish to share, and your families. It's a great time for fellowship and sharing it with your families.



**BETTENDORF GROUP
OPEN ALL DAY
CHRISTMAS**

Friday, December 25th

6:00 AM to 11:00 PM

Meetings at 6:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM and
10PM

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN

Merry Christmas



Feel free to bring snacks to share.

Come by for fellowship and fun.

Bettendorf Community Center - 2204 Grant Street - Bettendorf, IA 52722





**AT
BETTENDORF
GROUP!**

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31st

5:30 PM to 1:00 AM

Meetings at 5:30 PM and MIDNIGHT

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1st

7:30 AM to 11 PM

Meetings at 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM and
10 PM

ALL MEETINGS BOTH DAYS ARE OPEN

Feel free to bring snacks to share.
Come by for fellowship and fun.

Bettendorf Community Center
2204 Grant Street - Bettendorf, IA 52722



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

Address Service
Requested



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Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Anniversary Date: _____ Contribution amount: _____

**EXTRA! EXTRA! www.aaquadcities.org is live!!

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