



Quarterly Newsletter January 2005 Installment 1

I am Responsible

The new year is a great time to rotate group responsibilities. AA recommends that individuals hold positions for a maximum of 2 years. Who is representing your group at Intergroup Meetings? District Meetings?

Intergroup meets the third Sunday of each month. Meetings are held at 12:30 in Fellowship Circle. Join us for fellowship, refreshments, and service. We think that it's a hard combination to beat.

Mark your calendar:
February 20
March 20
April 17

Happy New Year!

East Central Illinois Intergruop is off to an exciting start for the new year. We are looking forward to a year of continuing service in our local AA community. These responsibilities include maintaining an answering service, providing meeting lists, making literature available locally, and working with local institutions. We will also be continuing to support our very successful web page located at www.aa-eci.org. In addition, there will be several changes in 2005 that we think contribute to making ECII a valuable, thriving component of our AA community.

If you are reading this, you have already noticed our new quarterly newsletter. Behind the scenes, we have a new slate of service volunteers chairing each committee. However, we still need your help. We would like to do more with our website, literature, newsletter, and local activities to spread the AA message. However, we are in desperate need of your help. There are many things that we would like to do, but we need more group representatives to help. Few groups are represented at the Intergroup Meetings. This is an excellent way for your group's voice to be heard and to do some service work.

Does your group need an Intergroup representative? Most do. Keep us in mind at your next group conscience meeting or the next time your sponsee is on a pity pot and needs an assignment. Thank you to our outgoing volunteers. Congratulations to our new slate of Intergroup service volunteers.

Upcoming Events

FEB 10 - 13 2005
International
AA Womens Conference

MAR 4 - 6 2005
March Roundup 2005

MAR 4 - 6 2005 2005
NIA Spring Conference

Position <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name <input type="checkbox"/>	Phone
Chairperson <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay S. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-721-7419
Phone Services / Hotline <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Larry M. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-356-3794
Treasurer <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Position Open <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Secretary <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura O. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-344-1921
Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	T.J. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-359-3457
Meeting List <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Frank G. <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Website (design) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jay S. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-721-7419
Website (programming) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew S. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-419-4199
Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kay S. <input type="checkbox"/>	217-355-9210
Corrections: Male /Female <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Position Open <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Public Information <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Position Open <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Intergroup Committe News

You are welcome to participate in Intergroup through these or any of our other commites

Intergroup Expense Summary 2004

Answering
Service
(AA hotline)
\$1,590.54

Telephone
\$355.40

Rent charged
by Fellowship
Circle
\$550.00

Meeting Lists
(printing)
\$421.60

Web Page
\$119.40

Miscellaneous
Bank: \$14.
Stamps: \$7.40
Mailbox: \$38.

Literature: As always, literature from AA World Service Organization is immediately available locally. Call T.J. (359-3457). He has books, pamphlets, and newcomer's packets. Because Intergroup buys books in bulk at a slightly lower price, your group has the potential of saving a few dollars by ordering locally.

Corrections: This is an area in need of more support. The men meet on Tuesday and Wednesday at 7. Currently, no AA meetings are being held for women in the local corrections facility. Let's work to change this in 2005. Please attend the February intergroup meeting if you are interested in doing service in this area. It would be nice to have several women involved so that we can rotate visits. This would enable the inmates to see some consistent faces, yet not overburden one or two people. Call Kay S. for more information (355-9210). This is among the most rewarding service experiences.

Web Site: The intergroup web site serves several hundred unique visitors each month. Visitors will find the current meeting list, recently updated to provide directions to each meeting. The site is continually updated with an events calendar and currently has 'speaker tapes' which were recorded at Soberfest 2004 available for free download.

Treasury: A grateful thank you to the groups that respect our seventh tradition and adhere to AA World Service recommendations for contributing financial support. The list on the last page of this newsletter was taken from the regional directory that lists all groups that have registered with Alcoholics Anonymous World Service Organization. A big thanks also goes out to those meetings whose contributions are being used help extend the hand of AA locally.

Intergroup depends on financial support from local meetings
Mail group donations to: E.C.I Intergroup
P.O. Box 3293 Champaign, IL 61826-3293

Commonly asked questions

What is the difference between a meeting and a group?

In order to become an AA group, the members complete the New Group form found at www.aa.org. Click "Services for Members." This entitles a group to have a GSR, in other words, a voice in district, state, and national decision-making. Meetings wishing to become an official AA group need only fill out the New Group form and send it to AA General Service Office. Upon receiving this form, GSO sends newly registered groups free literature and provides wide ranging support.

What does Intergroup do?

(From pp. 44-45 of the pamphlet, The AA Group) Methods and goals vary from one area to another, but generally intergroup's responsibility is to:

1. Respond to phone or walk-in requests for help from sick alcoholics and, when appropriate, arrange for A.A. volunteers (listed with intergroup) to accompany them to an A.A. meeting.
2. Maintain "A.A." listings in local phone directories, handle phone and mail inquiries, and route them to local groups, thus distributing Twelfth-Step work on a geographical basis so that newcomers are assured of help.
3. Distribute up-to-date meeting lists.
4. Stock and sell A.A. literature.
5. Serve as a communications center for participating groups-often issuing regular newsletters or bulletins to keep groups informed about one another.
6. Arrange systems for groups to exchange speakers.
7. Coordinate the efforts of intergroup committees.
8. Sometimes provide information on treatment facilities, hospitals and halfway houses.
9. Handle requests for information about A.A. from local news media, arrange local radio or TV programs about A.A., and furnish speakers for schools and non-A.A. organizations.
10. Cooperate with local, district and area committees. (Some intergroups elect members to serve as area liaisons and welcome their participation in intergroup meetings.)
11. Maintain communication and cooperation- but not affiliation-with the community and helping professionals in the field of alcoholism. (How do you think ECII measures up to local needs regarding these expectations?)

How does it function? Your intergroup, or central office, is often where the sick alcoholic first calls or shows up for A.A. help. Although local intergroups operate independently of A.A.'s worldwide service structure, they are a vital part of the Fellowship. In most areas, any group that so wishes can belong to the local intergroup, which is supported by contributions from its member groups. (The AA Self-Support pamphlet recommends that after a group sets aside a prudent reserve, group monies be disbursed according to the following guide: 50% Intergroup, 30% GSO, 10% Area, 10% District. Many groups do this quarterly or twice a year. How does your group do it?) (continued on next page)

Commonly asked questions

(continued from page 3)

Our group has a G. S. R. Why do we need an Intergroup representative?

General service representative (G.S.R.): Work via the district and area committees, the G.S.R. is the group's link with the General Service Conference, through which U.S. and Canadian groups share their experience and voice A.A.'s collective conscience.

Intergroup representative: In many locations where an intergroup has been formed, each group usually elects an intergroup representative, who participates in business meetings with other such representatives several times a year to share their groups' experience in carrying the A.A. message. The intergroup representative tries to keep the group well-informed about what the local intergroup is doing. (The AA Group, pp. 26-27)

In other words, your G.S.R. is your group's link with the larger General Service Organization at the district, state, and national levels. Your intergroup representative is needed to be a community connection, fulfilling local AA needs.

Groups contributing financially to Intergroup in 2004

Champaign: Booze Busters \$123, Early Bird \$52.50, Flames, First Bird, Friday Night Fellowship, Friends of Bill, Grapevine, Happy Hour, High Noon, Lunch with Bill, Manhattan, Monday Mens, Neil St Welcome, Nitty Gritty, Noon, Noon Bird \$100, Oasis, One Step at a Time \$50, Saturday Night Live, Serenity Sisters, Sunday Night Joy of Living, 3 Guys, Tuesday Newcomers \$50

Charleston: Friday Night, Footprints, Monday. Gibson City: Happy Joyous & Free. Mahomet: Tuesday \$350. Mattoon: Wednesday Night. Paxton: Tuesday / Friday \$175. Rantoul: Lonely Hearts, Noon Brown Baggers, Saturday Night \$130, Sisters in Sobriety \$13.59. Savoy: Tuesday Night \$160.91. Tolono: Closed meeting. Tuscola: Monday Night \$100
Urbana: Cellar Dwellers, Unity Service Recovery

Meetings contributing financially to Intergroup in 2004

Bondville SOS \$240, Friday Happy Hour \$120, Monday Night Men \$459, Rantoul Promises \$25, Tuscola AA \$100