

August 2020

GRATITUDE TIMES

www.chattanooga-aa.com

Chattanooga Area Central Office
5611 Ringgold Road, Suite 130
Chattanooga, TN 37412

Telephone: (423) 499-6003
Fax: (423) 499-3566
Email: chattcentraloffice@gmail.com

Hiring Special Workers

Twelve-step organizations at the national, state, and regional levels may have service centers which serve the fellowships as a whole by printing and distributing literature and meeting schedules, maintaining answering services, and other tasks.

These central offices and service centers many times involve more work than volunteer service workers can provide, so some hire full- and part-time employees to do the necessary labor to keep them running smoothly. Tradition 8, therefore, allows for the "special workers" to be hired and paid a salary to do the work that volunteers cannot cover.

Special workers may be employed to keep the AA message alive around the world through printing, communications, and other technology. This is not paying for 12th-step work but paying for the services needed to support it with literature and outreach. Members understand the difference between paying for support services but not paying for professional counselors.

theverywellmind.com

"With all the Twelfth Step work that goes on throughout the Fellowship — carrying the message into hospitals, prisons, and schools; working with counselors, judges and administrators — it's easy to see how one might think there could be A.A. professionals," the C.P.C. desk observes, "Yet, as much as A.A. members cooperate throughout the alcoholism and treatment fields, they are never paid to carry the message of hope and recovery to another alcoholic. As A.A. members, we cooperate with professionals to help alcoholics and serve as a resource to provide information about A.A."

Even A.A. members who may work in the alcoholism field are not "A.A. professionals," explains much of A.A.'s literature, and while they may refer clients to A.A., they do not wear an "A.A. hat" in their working environment. A.A. is founded on the principle of one alcoholic helping another, sharing freely what has been given to him or her. That person will then pass it on in turn to a newcomer, and so on, creating what A.A. cofounder Bill W. describes as "a chain reaction of sobriety." Overwhelmingly, A.A. members who hold a variety of jobs in the alcoholism world — from social workers, nurses, counselors and those who head national or local programs — agree that it is not A.A. membership but professional skill and experience which qualifies one for professional positions.

"About AA"

Reprinted from "About AA....." A newsletter for Professionals, Spring 2015
Please submit your stories to the editor at GratitudeTimes@hotmail.com. Deadline is the 26th of the month

August 2020

FINANCIAL STATEMENT				
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS		District	Jul-20	YTD
A Vision For You	81	\$35.84	\$132.31	
ABC Group	84	\$10.00	\$212.72	
Early Bird Men's Men	83	\$300.00	\$1,000.00	
East Chattanooga Group	84	\$325.93	\$1,063.31	
Sober at Sunrise	83	\$855.00	\$855.00	
TGIF Group	84	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Together We Can Group	7	\$50.00	\$200.00	
Walden's Ridge Group	81	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Total		\$1,826.77	\$9,709.33	
INCOME		Jul-20	YTD	
District Contributions		\$200.00	\$200.00	
Group Contributions		\$1,826.77	\$9,709.33	
Individual Contributions		\$1,946.45	\$7,476.09	
Sales		\$598.36	\$6,226.19	
TOTAL INCOME		\$4,571.58	\$24,710.61	
EXPENSE	PURPOSE	Jul-20	YTD	
Paypal Fees	Paypal Fees	\$5.68	\$19.34	
Square Fees	Square Fees	\$6.96	\$42.24	
Bright Star	Medallions	\$215.45	\$1,380.25	
C&A Properties	Rent	\$550.00	\$3,850.00	
Chattanooga Gas	Gas	\$28.68	\$617.40	
Crystal Springs	Water for Office	\$37.61	\$157.38	
Dependable Security Systems	Alarm system	\$17.00	\$119.00	
EPB	Electric/internet/phone	\$220.22	\$1,368.27	
LookOut Pest Control	Pest Control	\$35.00	\$175.00	
Payroll Expense	Office Manager	\$775.74	\$5,430.18	
Payroll Taxes	Payroll Tax	\$385.56	\$1,156.68	
Tn Dept Revenue`	Sales Tax	\$77.00	\$624.00	
Various Vendors (Costco, Staples, etc)	Office Supplies	\$20.49	\$143.21	
Website Management	Domain Renewal	\$25.91	\$39.04	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$2,401.30	\$20,229.48	
INCOME VERSUS EXPENSES		\$2,170.28	\$4,481.13	
PRUDENT RESERVE		Jul-20	YTD	
6 months expenses	Needed	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00	
Amount over Prudent Reserve	Excess	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Amount under Prudent Reserve	Shortfall	-\$7,237.69	-\$7,237.69	
CHECKING ACCOUNT		Jul-20	YTD	
Beginning Balance	Starting Balance	\$11,592.03	\$9,281.18	
INCOME		\$4,571.58	\$24,710.61	
EXPENSES		\$2,401.30	\$20,229.48	
Ending Balance	Account Balance	\$13,762.31	\$13,762.31	

Chattanooga Central Office is a 501 (c)3 Charitable Organization

August 2020

CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS/EVENTS

Central Office/Intergroup Board Meeting

The second Monday of the month

Meeting via Zoom. Contact ChattanoogaCOBoard@gmail.com for details

Next meeting **Aug 10**

All are welcome to attend

CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD

6:00 PM

District Representatives are your voting members

INTERGROUP BOARD

7:00 PM

Group and District Intergroup representatives are voting members

INTERGROUP NEWS/EVENTS

(sponsored by the Groups & Districts serviced by Central Office)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The Intergroup Events Committee needs members from each district to help plan the fellowship events. Currently this includes the Club Crawl (March), Founders Day Picnic (June), and the Creepy Crawl (Oct). Contact Central Office for meeting days and time.

Greater Chattanooga A.A. Corrections Committee Meetings

Second Sunday of the Month

2:00PM at

Meeting via Zoom – check website for details

To become involved with one of the Standing Committees, contact your DCM or Central Office for ways to volunteer.

- Archives
- Cooperation With the Professional Community (CPC)
- Corrections
- Grapevine / La Vina
- Public Information (PI)
- Treatment

DISTRICT & GROUP HAPPENINGS

If you would like to have your group, district or intergroup activity listed in the Gratitude Times, please send information to the editor at gratitudetimes@hotmail.com by the 26th of the previous month

District Meeting & DCM info

District 7: Bryan C Aug 27

Meets at 6:30 PM on the 4th Thursday.

District 15A: Stewart S Aug 2 / Sep 6

Meets 1st Sunday at 9:00 AM at Hamilton Hospital

District 80: Vacant Aug 5 / Sep 2

Meets First Wednesday at 7:00 PM at New Way Club

District 81: Rick P. Aug 31

Meets Last Monday at 7:30 PM at Hixon Serenity Club

District 82: Vacant

Meets 3rd Saturday at 6:30 PM at Downtown Fellowship Club

District 83: Linda W. Aug 17

Meets 3rd Monday at 7:00 PM at Suburban Club

District 84: Carol H. Aug 20

Meets 3rd Thursday at 6:30 PM at ~~East Brainerd Club~~. Jun meeting via Zoom ID: 593 109 523

Step 8

- Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Tradition 8

- Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Concept 8

- The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

August 2020

LOOK WHO'S TALKING

Send your meeting's speaker information to gratitudetimes@hotmail.com

Sponsorship Group Speakers

Suburban Club
Saturday @8:00pm
Meeting via Zoom
Zoom meeting ID: 859 8891 3717
Password 679515

The Sponsorship Group is looking for chairperson each month. If you would like to chair a month, contact Tom H. 423-490-5724.

Last Saturday is Birthday Nite.
Desserts @7:30, Speaker @8:00

East Ridge Serenity Group

Speaker Meeting
Where: Suburban Club
When: Sunday Night
Time: 8PM

Vision For You

HIXSON SERENITY CLUB
FRIDAY – 8 PM
FAMILY & FRIENDS WELCOME –
Come Early & Stay Late

1515 Group Speakers

Suburban Club
Friday @8:00pm

How they did it! One Day at a Time

Please check the website
(www.chattanooga-aa.com) or
Central Office to ensure
meetings are being held

High Nooners

Speaker Meeting and Birthday
Celebration is the last Friday of each
month East Brainerd Club@ Noon

Happy Hour

SUPER SUNDAYSPEAKER MEETING
Where: Downtown Fellowship Club
When: Sunday At 5:15 PM

“What we used to be like, what happened
and what we are like now.”

August 2020

MEETING UPDATES

None reported – Please check the website and the latest updates.

AREA 64 EVENTS

None at this time

OTHER / HAPPENINGS

Want To Help Another Alcoholic?

Join Us In Our

2020 Carry The Message Project

Give Grapevine or La Viña To An Alcoholic In Need

2 EASY WAYS!

1. If you know the full name and the mailing address of the recipient:

Give a Gift Subscription to a friend, a sponsee, doctor's offices or for giveaways at anniversaries or events at your homegroup, district, or area level.

Follow these steps: |

- Go to store.aagrapevine.org.
- Click on the Gift Subscriptions box.
- Click on the Red Gift Bag icon for the type of gift subscription you want to give.
- Click on "Go to the products page."
- Click on the number of Gift subscriptions you want to purchase (1 gift or 2).
- Enter your information, the recipient's information and your payment information.
- Click on the Process Order button. You're done!

Note: The first renewal notices will be sent to you and if there is no response, the last ones will be sent to the recipient.

2. If you do not know full name and the mailing address of the recipient and want Grapevine to select an alcoholic in need from the requests we have received.

Give a Carry the Message Gift Certificate to someone you do not know (such as an alcoholic in prison).

Follow these steps:

- Go to store.aagrapevine.org.
- Click on the Gift Certificate box.
- Click the Buy button of the appropriate Carry the Message Gift Certificate option and you will be taken to a page showing our quantity discounts (at the bottom).
- Enter the number of gift certificates that you want and click the Buy button. (For multiple gift certificates, the discount will automatically be applied).
- Click Checkout and enter your order and payment information.
- When you click the Confirm button, you will get an order confirmation email and the gift certificate will be sent to you as an individual email.
- Forward the gift certificate to nherron@aagrapevine.org and we will redeem it for someone who has requested a subscription but can't afford one. (If you have purchased multiple gift certificates, select all of them and use the Forward as Attachment option, so you only have to send us one email).

Note: Your information will not be connected to the subscription record and all renewal notices will be sent directly to the recipient.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACTS

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Chair: Bryan C.
Vice-Chair: TBD
Treasurer: Gus S.
Secretary: Myra W.
At Large: Carol H.
At Large: TBD
Office Manager: Christy L.

Where Money and Spirituality Mix

“The paradox of A.A. is that the financial independence and the support of our Fellowship by alcoholics and alcoholics alone not only enhances A.A.s importance to each of us, but stimulates our engagement in our own recovery...A.A. is ‘our thing’ from our groups treasury to the balance sheet at the General Service Office.”

Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities



10% to district
10% to area committee
30% to G.S.O.
50% to intergroup or central office

OR

If you have no intergroup/central office.



40% to district
30% to area
30% to G.S.O.

Reprinted from **Self Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix** with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

If you need a sober ear, feel free to call the central office.

The phone is answered 24/7 by a recovering alcoholic who may be able to help.

(423) 499-6003

Your Central Office is open from 9AM – 5PM Monday – Friday and is currently closed on Saturday’s. Stop by for your personal or group supply needs.

To get your FREE copy of the Gratitude Times, send an email with a message of “Add me to the distribution list” to GratitudeTimes@hotmail.com. Paper copies are still available for \$10/year through the address on the cover page of this newsletter.

Note: Inclusion of articles and announcements in Gratitude Times does not constitute A.A or Chattanooga Central Office endorsement. Rather, members of the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous have been encouraged to share their experience, strength and hope through this humble periodical. Opinions expressed are those of the writer unless otherwise noted. Chattanooga Central Office makes these announcements solely as a service to the reader, not as an endorsement.

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IS IT TIME TO RENEW???

An annual minimum donation of \$10.00 is suggested to help defray the costs of producing and mailing the Gratitude Times. Check the expiration date on your mailing label.

Detach this section and mail with payment to:

5611 Ringgold Road, Suite 130; Chattanooga, TN 37412

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to "Chattanooga Central Office"