

GRATITUDE TIMES

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www.chattanooga-aa.com

Chattanooga Area Central Office
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Step Two

“Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity”

THE moment they read Step Two, most A.A. newcomers are confronted with a dilemma, sometimes a serious one. How often have we heard them cry out, “Look what you people have done to us! You have convinced us that we are alcoholics and that our lives are unmanageable. Having reduced us to a state of absolute helplessness, you now declare that none but a Higher Power can remove our obsession. Some of us won’t believe in God, others can’t, and still others who do believe that God exists have no faith whatever He will perform this miracle. Yes, you’ve got us over the barrel, all right—but where do we go from here? ¹

The 12x12 goes on to tell us:

Few indeed are the practicing alcoholics who have any idea how irrational they are, or seeing their irrationality, can bear to face it. Some will be willing to term themselves “problem drinkers,” but cannot endure the suggestion that they are in fact mentally ill. They are abetted in this blindness by a world which does not understand the difference between sane drinking and alcoholism. “Sanity” is defined as “soundness of mind.” Yet no alcoholic, soberly analyzing his destructive behavior, whether the destruction fell on the dining-room furniture or his own moral fiber, can claim “soundness of mind” for himself.

Therefore, Step Two is the rallying point for all of us. Whether agnostic, atheist, or former believer, we can stand together on this Step. True humility and an open mind can lead us to faith, and every A.A. meeting is an assurance that God will restore us to sanity if we rightly relate ourselves to Him. ¹

¹ Reprinted from TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS pages 25 and 33 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. Please submit your stories to the editor at GratitudeTimes@hotmail.com. Deadline is the 26th of the month

February 2021

FINANCIAL STATEMENT			
GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS	District	Jan-21	YTD
1515 Group	83	\$360.00	\$360.00
ABC Group	84	\$74.50	\$74.50
Calhoun Group	15A	\$10.00	\$10.00
Carry the Message	84	\$423.46	\$423.46
East Chattanooga Group	84	\$120.00	\$120.00
Lookout Valley Group	82	\$215.57	\$215.57
Sisters in Sobriety 15A	15A	\$50.00	
Young at Heart Group	81	\$7.70	\$7.70
Total		\$1,261.23	\$1,211.23
INCOME		Jan-21	YTD
Group Contributions		\$1,261.23	\$1,261.23
Individual Contributions		\$580.00	\$580.00
Sales		\$829.38	\$829.38
TOTAL INCOME		\$2,670.61	\$2,670.61
EXPENSE	PURPOSE	Jan-21	YTD
AA World Services	Literature	\$467.50	\$467.50
Zoom Video Conference	Intergroup/ Board Mtg	\$16.38	\$16.38
Paypal Fees	Paypal Fees	\$24.61	\$24.61
Square Fees	Square Fees	\$8.74	\$8.74
C&A Properties	Rent	\$550.00	\$550.00
Chattanooga Gas	Gas	\$160.31	\$160.31
Crystal Springs	Water for Office	\$75.25	\$75.25
Dependable Security Systems	Alarm system	\$17.00	\$17.00
EPB	Electric/internet/phone	\$193.23	\$193.23
LookOut Pest Control	Pest Control	\$70.00	\$70.00
Payroll Expense	Office Manager	\$775.74	\$775.74
Payroll Taxes	Payroll Tax	\$385.56	\$385.56
Tennessee Secretary	Annual Report	\$20.95	\$20.95
TN Dept Revenue	Business License Tax	\$44.00	\$44.00
Tn Dept Revenue`	Sales Tax	\$149.00	\$149.00
Website Management	Website Maintenance	\$120.00	\$120.00
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$3,078.27	\$3,078.27
INCOME VERSUS EXPENSES		Jan-21	YTD
		-407.66	-\$407.66
PRUDENT RESERVE		Jan-21	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	-\$9,938.55	-\$9,938.55
CHECKING ACCOUNT		Jan-21	YTD
Beginning Balance	Starting Balance	\$11,469.11	\$11,469.11
INCOME		\$2,670.61	\$2,670.61
EXPENSES		\$3,078.27	\$3,078.27
Ending Balance	Account Balance	\$11,061.45	\$11,061.45

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

February 2021

CENTRAL OFFICE NEWS/EVENTS

Central Office/Intergroup Board Meeting

The second Monday of the month

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

Next meeting **Feb 8**

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 Feb 25
Meets at 6:30 PM on the 4th Thursday via Zoom ID 861 778 6420. Password: serenity

District 15A: Stewart S Feb 7 / Mar 7
Meets 1st Sunday at 9:00 AM at Hamilton Hospital

District 80: Vacant Feb 3 / Mar 3
Meets First Wednesday at 7:00 PM at New Way Club

District 81: Rick P. Feb 22
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. Feb 15
Meets 3rd Monday at 7:00 PM at Suburban Club

District 84: Carol H. Feb 18
Meets 3rd Thursday at 6:30 PM at East Brainerd Club. Meeting via Zoom ID: 593 109 523

MEETING UPDATES

*** Please check the website for the latest updates. ***

Step 2

- Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity

Tradition 2

- For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern

Concept 2

- When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference — excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter — the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

February 2021

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.”

February 2021

AREA 64 EVENTS

Virtual Assembly Mar 26-28. See www.area64assembly.org for details

OTHER / HAPPENINGS

None submitted

We needed to ask ourselves but one short question. "Do I now believe, or am I even willing to believe, that there is a Power greater than myself?" As soon as a man can say that he does believe, or is willing to believe, we emphatically assure him that he is on his way.

— ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 47

"The minute I stopped arguing, I could begin to see and feel. Right there, Step Two gently and very gradually began to infiltrate my life. I can't say upon what occasion or upon what day I came to believe in a Power greater than myself, but I certainly have that belief now. To acquire it, I had only to stop fighting and practice the rest of A.A.'s program as enthusiastically as I could."

— TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, p. 27

A.A. is no success story in the ordinary sense of the word. It is a story of suffering transmuted, under grace, into spiritual progress.

— AS BILL SEES IT, p. 35

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACTS

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Chair:	Bryan C.
Vice-Chair:	TBD
Treasurer:	Gus S.
Secretary:	Myra W.
At Large:	Carol H.
At Large:	Pauly L
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: \$ _____

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