

# Intergroup Concerns



Quarterly Newsletter

Spring Edition 2023: March, April, May

## Peoria Area Intergroup

329 East Lake St., #4

Peoria, IL 61614

Aapeoria.org

[peoriaintergroup@sbcglobal](mailto:peoriaintergroup@sbcglobal.net)

[.net](http://peoriaintergroup.net)

## 24-Hour Hotline

**(309)687-1329**

## Office Hours:

Mon – Fri, 9am to 5pm

Sat – 9am to noon

Sun – closed

Closed Holidays

Holiday Closings:

May 29 Memorial Day

*Our hours may fluctuate.*

*Please call for updates.*

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On behalf of the PAIA Board and Steering Committee, I would like to thank Jane P for her many years of service as Office Manager and also for serving as Fundraising Committee Chairperson for the last few years. She always brought a smile to the office and was ready to help in any way she could. She did a great job working with her committees and transforming into nights of great fun celebrating ongoing recovery. On a personal note, I want to thank Jane for her patience and general guidance and making my role easier on a daily basis. If you see Jane around please take the time to thank her for all she has done for Intergroup.

I would like to extend a thank you from the PAIA Board and Steering Committee to the volunteers on the "A Vision for you" Committee and specifically Jane P.

A thank you to all others that assisted in any way and attended the fundraiser.

Make a point to reach out and say Hello to our new Office Manager Toni G. We are excited to have her join the office officially starting on January 30, 2023. Toni brings with her many years in recovery, as well as many years in business and customer service. She is ready to get off the ground running as Office Manager.

**Yours in Service, Matt B.**

## From the Desk of Peoria Area Intergroup:

It's a God thing!

I retired in October 2022 and before too long I felt that I needed a purpose. I have always worked and it was weird not to. I was looking to do something NOT related to my career....something of service. I looked and looked to no avail so I decided I would call Intergroup to volunteer until I found something. Jane politely told me "not right now but I'll put you on the list". As I hung up I wondered what she did at Intergroup as I really didn't know. I shrugged my shoulders and let it go. The next day Jane called me back. She asked me if I would be interested in her job? (this is the God thing) Well, it depends....I said. Just what do you do? Her job was just what I was looking for. I went through the process, resume, interview, board approval, official job offer.

I started January 30<sup>th</sup> and soon realized I had big shoes to fill! Jane P. has done a wonderful job for Intergroup keeping it as one of the only fully functioning Intergroups in Illinois. She kept things running through the pandemic helping to establish the Zoom meetings and keep the phone service functioning. She helped keep Peoria AA alive during that time. Thank her the next time you see her!

I work 3 afternoons a week in the office so stop in and say Hi!

Yours in Service,

Toni G.



"No, it hasn't been a year, but he has potential!"

## AA Intergroup Association Preamble

In solemn affirmation of the letter and spirit of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and placing all our activities under the guidance of a Higher Power, the various groups of Alcoholics Anonymous hereby establish an Intergroup Association.

The purposes of the Association are:

1. To perform those functions which are common to the aims of all groups of Alcoholics Anonymous.
2. To assist in the education of the general public concerning the disease alcoholism and the role of A.A. in combating the disease.
3. To assist alcoholics and their families.
4. To maintain a conveniently located office in which paid workers and volunteers are available to carry the A.A. message.
5. To act as a clearing house for the circulation and exchange of information among all the A.A. groups of the Association.
6. To receive inquiries from those seeking help and refer them to the appropriate group where sponsorship can be arranged, or to other appropriate organizations and agencies.
7. To publish and distribute, at regular intervals, up-to-date list of meetings and other information about local A.A. services.

### I Am Responsible

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that:

### I Am Responsible

#### Elected Board Members

**Chairman of the Board:** Matt B.

**Vice Chairman:** Bob B.

**Treasurer:** Pam R.

**Secretary:** vacant

**Director at Large:** Larry S.

**Director at Large:** Bob B.

**Director at Large:** Bill C.

**Director at Large:** Darren D.

**Director at Large:** Steve R.

**Office Manager:** Toni G.

#### Office Volunteers:

Bob B., Mark R., Julie G., Judy L., Steve R., Larry S., Aaron F., George Pu., Heather S., Melanie and Fred L.

Thank you to all those listed above. We also wish to thank all the intergroup representatives for your service to PAIA and tending to the needs of Alcoholics Anonymous.

## Service Opportunities in District 6

**Archives:** Have an interest in AA history and the idea of preserving our history? George Pu. has plenty of opportunities for volunteers! (309) 643-0092.

**Corrections:** Do you have a desire to help with corrections? Contact (309)687-1329.

**Grapevine:** Darren D. is the chairperson. AA's International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous is our connection to the world of AA. Call (309) 360-8186 to find out more.

**Hospitals & Institutions Committee:** Kevin H. chairs this committee and has been working hard at connecting local AA with treatment centers during the pandemic.

**Intergroup** is looking for volunteers! Call Toni G. at (309) 687-1329.

**Public Outreach:** Call intergroup for more information.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community:** does not have a chairperson. If you are interested in helping connect AA with the professional community, we need you!

**Unity & Fellowship** needs your help. They are looking for volunteers to put together events in District 6 that would involve members of all AA clubs and meetings.

**Workshops Committee:** a chairperson is needed to put on informative, fun workshops for the community.

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## Schedule of Service Meetings 2023

### **Peoria Area Intergroup at 329 E. Lake Street, #4, Peoria**

Steering Committee Meeting: March 16, 2023, at 6pm

Board Meeting: April 20, 2023, at 6pm

Steering Committee Meeting: May 18, 2023, at 6pm

**Unity & Fellowship:** Meeting held the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm at 329 E. Lake Street, #4, Peoria.

**District '6' Meetings:** First Thursday by zoom at 7:00 pm except when there are Area meetings. Zoom info on website.

**Southern Illinois Area 21:** March, June, September, and December. Locations, dates, and times to be announced.

## Peoria Area Intergroup After Hours Coverage

*The following groups have volunteered to take care of the 24-hour AA hotline when the intergroup office is closed:*

Pioneer .....	April 6 – April 12
Pekin Celestial .....	April 13– April 19
New Beginnings.....	April 20 – April 26
Sunnyland Phoenix.....	April 27 – May 3
Chillicothe Riverside.....	May 4 – May 10
Lakers .....	May 11 – May 17
Morton Stone Jug.....	May 18 - May 24
Wake Up Call .....	May 25 – May 31
Share Clean Air.....	June 1 – June 7
Alano Valley.....	June 8 - 14
Hilltop .....	June 15 – 21
Pioneer.....	June 22 – June 28
Pekin Celestial.....	June 29 – July 5

*After signing up, be sure you have the most recent copy of the 12-step volunteer list and a current AA meeting list.*

***Thank you for being the “face” of AA when our office is not open.*** We are so lucky to have volunteers available to answer our phones 24/7. When anyone calls for help, the hand of AA is there to answer the call.

*When you see the sign-up sheet at your group, please volunteer. You never know how much it can help the still suffering alcoholic.*



### *Last Quarter Intergroup Activity:*

Dec	
Visitors	78
Phone Calls	61
E-Mails	179
12-Step Calls	2
Jan	
Visitors	117
Phone Calls	79
E-Mails	182
12-Step Calls	7
Feb	
Visitors	94
Phone Calls	82
E-Mails	119
12-Step Calls	4
TOTAL	
Visitors	289
Phone Calls	222
E-Mails	480
12-Step Calls	13



# Sober Anniversaries



## December 2022:

Ross .....4 yrs  
 Bruce .....5 yrs  
 Randy C.....8 yrs  
 Brian H.....10 yrs  
 Dan G - AZ.....27 yrs  
 Theresa AM .....32 yrs  
 Vern D.....1 yrs  
 Mike McN.....39 yrs  
 Mike C.....28 yrs  
 Jeff N.....18 yrs  
 Russ W .....34 yrs  
 Ross K .....4 yrs  
 Adam R .....10 yrs  
 Zach R .....1 yrs  
 Randy A.....1 yrs  
 Steve P.....22 yrs  
 Ben C.....4 yrs  
 Mark R .....25 yrs  
 Bobbie S.....40 yrs  
 John M.....35 yrs  
 Rich B.....20 yrs  
 Stan B.....4 yrs  
 Tony W .....4 yrs  
 Ray E .....41 yrs  
 Sandy .....27 yrs  
 Larry A .....4 yrs  
 Andrew M.....4 yrs  
 Teresa R.....18 yrs  
 Kim L.....6 yrs  
 Debbie H.....8 yrs  
 Kat S.....5 yrs  
 Melissa .....5 yrs  
 John B .....3 yrs  
 Dan N.....1 yrs  
 Mike M .....1 yrs  
 Jeff .....10 yrs

## December 2022:

Shawna..... 1 yrs  
 Smitty ..... 40 yrs  
 Chuck..... 30 yrs  
 Joyce..... 30 yrs  
 Doug K ..... 24 yrs  
 Ben Y..... 12 yrs  
 Jim M..... 33 yrs  
 Heather ..... 2 yrs  
 Ed C..... 40 yrs  
 Debbie ..... 8 yrs  
 Jane P ..... 23 yrs  
 Jim ..... 7 yrs  
 Angela..... 5 yrs  
 Dan C ..... 19 yrs

## January 2023:

Blair ..... 5 yrs  
 Karen ..... 1 yrs  
 Melinda ..... 22 yrs  
 Tim W ..... 5 yrs  
 Joe U..... 20 yrs  
 Greg W ..... 34 yrs  
 Angie ..... 1 yrs  
 Paul C..... 10 yrs  
 Dave S..... 15 yrs  
 Will R ..... 6 yrs  
 Pat S..... 1 yrs  
 Nancy L..... 4 yrs  
 Matt B..... 1 yrs  
 Karen C..... 1 yrs  
 Angie ..... 1 yrs  
 Jeff G..... 3 yrs  
 Nancy S..... 17 yrs  
 Tom B ..... 34 yrs  
 Don H..... 26 yrs

## January 2023:

Jack H..... 32 yrs  
 Michael R..... 21 yrs  
 Jack C..... 22 yrs  
 Kaylin..... 1 yrs  
 Carrie C..... 9 yrs  
 Julie F..... 31 yrs  
 Mike G ..... 31 yrs  
 Dan G..... 30 yrs  
 Larry S..... 29 yrs  
 Lee W..... 21 yrs  
 Dennis C..... 19 yrs  
 Matt T..... 2 yrs  
 Lonnie U ..... 13 yrs  
 Alicia B..... 4 yrs  
 Marty A..... 39 yrs  
 Nick H ..... 10 yrs  
 Kermit..... 48 yrs  
 Todd B ..... 8 yrs  
 Bill A..... 6 yrs  
 Carol V..... 3 yrs  
 Jerry F ..... 15 yrs





# Sober Anniversaries



## February 2023:

Jason B .....4 yrs  
 Lori G .....4 yrs  
 Bill M .....8 yrs  
 Kevin R.....2 yrs  
 Lynette .....1 yrs  
 Terry P.....37 yrs  
 Keri C.....8 yrs  
 TC .....20 yrs  
 Jan H.....32 yrs  
 Jerry H.....29 yrs  
 Ryan S.....8 yrs  
 Carolyn C .....29 yrs  
 Tammy M .....3 yrs  
 Julie Mc .....36 yrs  
 Josh Y.....2 yrs  
 Dee V.....7 yrs  
 John S .....21 yrs  
 Rob W.....23 yrs  
 Lauron Y .....9 yrs

## February 2023:

Patrick H ..... 10 yrs  
 Darren D ..... 11 yrs  
 Britany C..... 1 yrs  
 Kevin S ..... 1 yrs  
 Bob K ..... 40 yrs  
 Merry Sue W .. 18 yrs  
 Carol Jean P ..... 1 yrs  
 Kevin R..... 2 yrs  
 Stacia ..... 13 yrs  
 JT ..... 1 yrs  
 Virgil C ..... 51 yrs  
 Doug A..... 44 yrs  
 Mike B..... 13 yrs  
 Steve B..... 20 yrs  
 Dan B ..... 32 yrs  
 Lynette ..... 1 yrs  
 Dave C..... 42yrs  
 Ron T ..... 26 yrs  
 Darren D ..... 11 yrs  
 Jared C..... 7 yrs



Celebrating Years of Sobriety	
December	753
January	601
February	628
<b>TOTAL YEARS</b>	<b>1,982</b>

The First Beginners Chip



Congratulations!



# Peoria Area Intergroup Association

## ASSETS (as of 28 February 2023)

Checking .....	\$11,000
Prudent Reserve.....	\$8,780
Accounts Receivable .....	\$756
Inventory .....	\$7709
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$28,246</b>

## LIABILITIES (as of 28 Feb 2023)

Credit Card .....	\$222
Vendors .....	\$517
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$739</b>

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## 2023 Total Year to Date (as of 28 February 2023)

### INCOME

Group Contributions .....	\$1,236
Walk in & Misc. Contributions .....	\$1,402
District 6 Rent.....	\$150
Dividend Income .....	\$0
Spring & Fall Event Revenue .....	\$13,765
Literature / Merchandise Income .....	\$3,295
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$19,848</b>

### EXPENSES

Advertising .....	(49)
Bank Charges.....	(42)
Credit Card Fees .....	(131)
Miscellaneous .....	53
Spring & Fall Event Expense .....	(4,726)
Illinois Sales Tax.....	(179)
Insurance.....	(0)
Literature Expense .....	(2,386)
Office Supplies / Newsletter .....	(183)
Contract Labor .....	(3,000)
Postage.....	(0)
Rent.....	(960)
Phone / Comcast.....	(263)
Tax Prep.....	(50)
Website .....	(0)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$11,916)</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$7,932</b>



# Peoria Area Intergroup 2023 Budget

Even though Intergroup has their own fundraiser once a year, they still rely heavily on group donations to balance the budget and serve AA members in the community. Without group contributions, the Intergroup office would experience a shortfall each year.

## Annual

### INCOME

Group Donations.....	\$12,000
District 6 Rent .....	\$600
Fundraiser Revenue .....	\$12,000
Gross Literature Income Group .....	\$9,000
Gross Literature Income Walk-In .....	\$11,000
Miscellaneous .....	\$2,100

**Total Income \$47,700**

### EXPENSES

Literature Expense & Sales Tax.....	\$16,000
Fundraiser Expenses .....	\$2,500
Fixed Costs .....	\$21,340
Variable Costs .....	\$2,250

**Total Expenses \$45,300**

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“Self-support begins with me because I am part of us—the group. We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and A.A. literature. We support our central office, our area committee, and our General Service Office. If it were not for those entities, many new people would never discover the miracles of A.A.”

Twelfth Step work is the lifeblood of Alcoholics Anonymous – carrying the message to the next suffering alcoholic. Without it, the Fellowship would wither and die. Yet, even at its simplest level this vital contact between one alcoholic and another involves an investment of time and money.

*(From the pamphlet: “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Work*



## Spiritual Experience

What is a spiritual experience? Are you open to possibilities?

During a lull at my job, torn with vast life problems for which I had no solutions I reached out —so easily distress can dominate other activities. The many dilemmas included family, health, finances, ongoing fear and anxiety and inability to get out of a somewhat static state regardless of prayer, meditation, meetings, work, exercise, sponsors, distractions.

I reached out — to the God of my understanding or the Universe or however you term it — and received words — I immediately wrote down.

“You don’t have to fight this. I’m fighting it for you.” That’s not the still small voice of God. I am trustworthy of that still small voice. My God does not address me that way.

It felt like my father — and never have I had this connection before. I read and reread what I had written — and felt heard, comforted, connected, relieved and stupefied....who can I tell this to and feel ok about it?

Several days later I was contacted by Rita D., who lives in a nearby city. In her long recovery she had lived in cities miles away and had several address changes. When her grandfather died, she had the responsibility of emptying his house and finding homes for furniture and belongings. She had been storing many boxes of undetermined contents. Among the boxes was a collection of photos and postcards. These boxes have moved with her 5 times in 20 years.

She was again going through boxes deciding what to do with all of these personal items that belonged to no one. It didn’t feel right to just throw them away. There was no history or explanation of the photos and postcards. She stopped when she noticed a bundle of these cards addressed possibly to my maiden name, St. Louis, Mo. where I lived for many years. She took a photo of the handwritten address and emailed it to me — asking? Is this you?

There are several postcards in my father’s hand writing sent to me at my childhood home from a family trip to California many years ago. How? Where? Who?

Continued on pg. 12

# OUR GROUPS

P P U O R G R E T N I A L C O H O L I C S A N O N Y M O U S I  
Y S O L Q E G A R U O C Z T O H W U S F E D O B L L E V N Z M  
S J T H T W J Y R E A X K P G E F K R O W F V T L E N Q F W J  
H R A R T G M B C C N N E E A T O L E M R V D Q W V W E K U A  
A A C C E P T A N C E D B R Z L U Z N C T L H P Y N L J E G O  
R T N G V A C L C S A E E L B A W I W E J W P M S L E E T N A  
E E Z S Q Q T U T L F N V L C K F M O P H A L J O Q P W M R I  
C D Q J Z T C M E O O Y A Z T E F I T W I H D W P F A Q P P U  
L U T B P V F H E T E I Q K F R X N N V I O S P L S Q L V M A  
E T M V M F O P S N T M C M J S T I W C P H C U H S S U R P E  
A I M L A P P A I S T X G V Y X E E O W I B T I T E H Q G Y D  
N T S A E K I P E E A C L W V W P R D P M T N W L R B O G B I  
A A P E N N Y L U P X K E C L J F M N Y Y G D I D E G Z A S S  
I R B O T T E Y W O A V K N P E X A O S T G S S I N I X T E R  
R G K S T C U B T B R S J U T I E S T O N O R D A I Z U E D E  
Y U W V N L Y P X I N G R K N E P H N X W F P O P T V I W I V  
O V T I J E L N L J N L Y E T E R V A H Q E V M R Y P E A S I  
V U K J A S L I D L A E O A K T A P C R T N D A I T Q Y Y E R  
O E B E S X P R H K A H R I D L C X O U X D F L M N L W T E E  
P C K N M S X G L L P H N B L D I Y C B W E A W A E L R O R H  
R E E N O I P O Z D S S S E O U I R E X H I U N R W A M S H T  
Q V N P K C P H N P E B Y R U S V M P N H H D O Y B C R E T O  
J M Y Y H Z S A Y R E F M F A G E F B T R J Q Z P E P Y R L C  
O B U C X H L Q E W O P A P X M F L H M V U R H U G U D E L I  
X O T C P Y K N Z R C C N Y A L E U L M O T O P R I E T N A L  
S X U Z N Y I R G K Y U G B B T Q A F I H C I J P N K D I H L  
B N O N O T S E W Y E L L A V O N A L A V P A H O N A R T U I  
X K U R Y Y R I P G U X U A E T C Q A G G N D M S I W X Y P H  
W S X I O D C O M M U N I T Y H O U S E I L A C E N E Y N Y C  
T X W S E A R I H L U N O T S I W E L H C N U R O G H F N F L  
J Y V B F G U J E N O T S N O T R O M F I Z N K G S T N I N D

WISDOM  
TREATMENT CENTER  
COMMUNITY HOUSE  
CANTON DOWNTOWNERS  
WE ARE NOT SAINTS  
JOURNEY  
PEKIN CELESTIAL  
NEW BEGINNINGS  
FELLOWSHIP

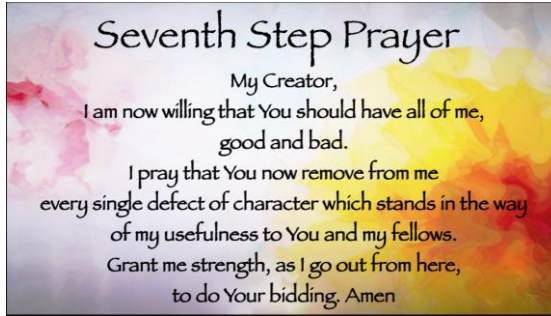
COURAGE  
HOPEDALE HOPE  
MARSHALL PUTNAM  
GATEWAY TO SERENITY  
ALL THREE SIDES  
MORTON STONE JUG  
THE WAKE UP CALL  
PIONEER  
GRATITUDE

ACCEPTANCE  
LEWISTON  
MINIER MASH  
WASHINGTON VALLEY FORGE  
SUNNYLAND PHOENIX  
ALANO VALLEY  
CHILLICOTHE RIVERSIDE  
SHARE CLEAN AIR  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

SERENITY  
GRANVILLE SOBRENITY  
MACOMB MIDDAY GROUP  
LAKERS  
PRIMARY PURPOSE  
PEKIN SERENITY  
HILLTOP  
INTERGROUP

## Volunteer for the 12 Step Call List!

When our volunteers answer our 24-hour phone line, we may have a need to connect the caller with a member of Alcoholics Anonymous for additional help. If you are looking for some service work, please consider being a volunteer for the 12-step call list. Please call (309) 687-1329 for more information.



### Spiritual Experience - cont'd

My father died in 1994. I spent years visiting my parents in my childhood home. I had never seen these scraps of family history. Dad was organized and routinely cleaned out closets, basement, got rid of things no longer in use. When mom died, I helped him remove all her clothing, shoes, bags. How had these cards gotten into the hands of Illinois postcard collectors along the way. I have no further information — and no questions.

Perhaps my father wants me to know I am doing a good job of living. And he is helping me. God. It's all God. Of course.

The childhood memories flooded in — with years of recovery and forgiving my parents and others for what might have been — I was able to recall family gatherings I had long dismissed or just dissed. They are now available and enjoyable. Treasured memories of meals taken, white gravy over chipped beef on toast, cousins' weddings, school picnics. Wise people say it isn't too late to have a happy childhood. Some of the nightmare scenarios continued, some changed or improved, none went away quickly. But went away they all did. Faith overcomes a Higher Power soothes. I know I'm not alone...as I trudge the road of happy destiny. Miracles happen along the way — watch for them.

**Submitted by Jan O.**

## Upcoming Events (more information available at [aapeoria.org](http://aapeoria.org), calendar of events)

### SCA Cards in Sobriety

Sunday, March 19, 2023

SCA Club

2:30 pm doors open

3:00 pm games begin

### Area 21 Service Workshop 2023

Saturday, April 1, 2023

Time: 9am - 3pm

Hybrid Event – O’Fallon, IL

Free to Attend

Fried Chicken Lunch \$10

RSVP if having lunch

### Spring Fling Convention

April 21-23, 2023

Hilton St. Louis Airport

10330 Natural Bridge Road

St. Louis, MO 63134

314-426-5500

### Founders Day

June 9,10,11, 2023

Akron, OH

Birthplace of AA



## District 6 Workshop

*District 6 is holding a workshop explaining the Service Structure. Come find out what District 6 service looks like. The workshop is being held on March 25, 2023 from 1pm – 4pm at Hilltop 115 S. Western Ave.*

*Peoria*

*Zoom ID: 848 2099 0263*

*Passcode: service*



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## Potluck Speaker Meetings:

Canton Downtowners – last Monday of Month

New Beginnings Breakfast Mtg – Every Saturday

New Beginnings Potluck – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Month

Marshall Putnam – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of Month

Pekin Celestial – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of Month

Hilltop – will announce - Saturday of Month

## GREAT PERSONAL SACRIFICE

I wonder in what ways I'm like Bill's wife, Lois. Step 12 reminds us that "Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

When I came to AA, the only thing on my plate was going to an AA meeting at 8 o'clock each night. There were very few noon meetings and certainly not clubs with meetings 3-4 times a day like my current Club. I slept very little and by 9 am I was anxious that my next meeting was 11 hours away. Those 11 hours were truly passed one minute at a time in the early months. Oldtimers talked about their "full plates." They were involved in so many things and living life to the fullest. I couldn't imagine that would ever be me. Over the years, I've reflected back many times.

Before Bill had that conversation with Dr. Bob and decided to put 100% into his recovery, Lois days were likely filled with household chores. Few women worked outside the home in the 1930's and Bill was a successful stockbroker. By the time Bill hit rock bottom and began to gather men in his kitchen for those early nightly meetings, Lois 'days became a whirlwind of activities. The Wilson's were financially drowning in debt and Lois would take a department store job, where she'd stand on her feet for a full day, and then arrive home to quickly cook and straighten before the men would begin to arrive at the house. She would offer them food and drinks, perhaps sew on a button or wash a shirt. Some of the men might have even bathed at the Wilson home. Often their wives would come to the meetings and Lois would talk and entertain them in the kitchen while Bill and the fellows would have a meeting. Lois' plate would become full as she supported Bill's sobriety and the growth of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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Today my life has become full like Lois. Many years ago, Oldtimers said you should never turn down an opportunity for service. I lived by that creed for decades of my sobriety. I've went from carrying a teacup full of responsibilities in early sobriety to juggling a turkey platter full! I've found in the last couple of years I cannot say "yes" to it all. I must try to delegate to others both in and out of the fellowship. When I was told to ask for help, little did I realize at that time how important that tool would become over the years. On that turkey platter, I now have family and friend responsibilities, neighborhood responsibilities, work and volunteering, many social engagements, AA fellowship commitments, sponsorship duties, personal program maintenance such as prayer, meditation, journaling, daily readings, and staying connected with fellowship women, whom I've come to love and treasure!

Step 12 tells us "The joy of living is the theme of AA's Twelfth's Step and action is its key word. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implication, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it." In the documentary *Bill W.* (2012, different from the movie *My Name Is Bill W.*) Bill begins to write the *Big Book*, soon realizing he would not have the money to complete it. He turns to the Rockefellers for financial support. Before it's completion, he and Lois' family home would be foreclosed. This home was also Lois' childhood home. For several years, they would live above a building where AA was held because they could afford nothing else. Lois, over and over, would demonstrate a great gratitude and love for her husband and the AA fellowship. I wonder if I'd go to such lengths of service for such a great sacrifice?

I'm constantly searching for that elusive balance. Demonstrating extreme gratitude for all that has given to me in this path of sobriety, knowing I cannot do it all, asking others to help me along the way, and showing extreme sacrifice without experiencing total exhaustion and emotional ruin to do so. Today I live my life well because of Alcoholic Anonymous.

**Linda E., Member of Share Clean Air  
Sobriety Date: 4/23/85**



## ***Contributions Needed!***

Our newsletter would love your AA related:

- Cover Stories
- Writings, poems
- Jokes, AA Quips
- History/Trivia
- Experience Strength & Hope
- Events, Updates

Please send your contributions to

[peoriaintergroup@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peoriaintergroup@sbcglobal.net)

## ***Meeting Guide App***



For our most up to date meeting list, download the Meeting Guide App for free!

Or visit our website

[www.aapeoria.org/meetings](http://www.aapeoria.org/meetings)

## **Intergroup Fundraising Chairperson Needed!**

The Intergroup Board is looking for a fundraising chairperson for future fundraisers.

I have held this position for a few years and have thoroughly enjoyed my experience. I have met many new people and learned quite a bit.

Working with a committee is great. Everyone has their talents, and we help each other. We figure out what kind of fundraiser party to have, where it will be, what kind of food will we have, and how can we make it even more fun than last year!

It can be a challenge, but it is worthwhile. The money we raise helps the Intergroup keep within their annual budget.

Contact the Intergroup if you have any interest in being the fundraising chair, or if you would like to participate on the fundraising committee. Many of our committee members are planning to participate again next year.

We are not a glum lot!! Keep coming back and thank you for all of your past support.

Jane P.