

## WESTERN NEW YORK OA INTERGROUP Minutes of September 19, 2015 Meeting

Chairperson: Vicky H.

Treasurer: Paulette H.

Secretary: Peter H.

Region 6 & WSO Delegate: **position open**

Hotline: Judy G.

Meeting List: Carol S.

Public Information: **position open**

Flutterby: **position open**

Special Events: Sally H. (sallybeachoak@gmail.com)

Literature: Janet M.

❖ Contact **Carol S. 716-462-0776 (wnyoacalendar@gmail.com)** with meeting changes.

❖ Contact **Janet M. 716-418-9465 (shortred55@hotmail.com)** for literature.

**NEXT INTERGROUP MEETING: 10/24/2015 9:00 AM at St. Stephen's, 750 Wehrle, 14225  
Note date is one week "later" than usual due to the Fall Retreat on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend**

Janet M. opened the meeting at 9:05 am with the Serenity Prayer. Victoria A. read the 12 Steps; Sue M. read the 12 Traditions; 12 Concepts of Service not available to read.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Janet M. (Literature); Peter H. (Wednesday Kenmore & IG Sec'y); Sally H. (Special Events & Mon. South Buffalo); Liz O. (Friday night, Fall Retreat Co-Chair); Sarah J. (Friday & Sunday night); Sue M. (Saturday morning); Victoria A. (Tuesday Amherst); Carol S. (Meeting List); Judy G. (Hotline, Designated Downloader, Mailbox) (7 voting members)

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Peter H. passed out copies of the August 15, 2015 minutes. Judy G. moved to accept; Sarah J. seconded; report accepted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Victoria A. reported for Paulette H.

Month	Total Income	Total Expenses	Net Income (Loss)	Bank Balance
January 2015	\$232.55	\$230.86	\$1.69	\$293.96
February 2015	\$310.63	\$257.30	\$53.33	\$429.96
March 2015	\$182.57	\$194.87	(\$12.30)	\$398.76
April 2015	\$189.00	\$264.93	(\$75.93)	\$366.12
May 2015	\$175.93	\$226.74	(\$50.81)	\$239.37
June 2015	\$327.00	\$245.35	\$81.65	\$245.35
July 2015	\$206.49	\$193.09	\$13.40	\$325.99
August 2015	\$137.50	\$306.41	(168.91)	\$288.93

We had the four usual monthly expenses: \$9.26 to print meeting lists, \$10 for rent, \$50 for AnswerNet (answering service), and \$36.56 for the dedicated telephone line. The main reason for the monthly loss was one-time per year \$130 for Buffalo Web Services (for www.oawny.org). Sarah J. moved to accept; Liz O. seconded; report accepted.

**LITERATURE REPORT:** Janet M reported on a new OA book Taste of Lifeline (\$12.70) which has new stories following up on the old Lifeline Sampler. Peter H. will bring literature (including "Taste") to the retreat. Bank Balance is \$684.57. Janet M. will conduct an inventory after the retreat.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT:** Position still open. No report. 100 glossy posters ("Is your eating out of control?") purchased from WSO were passed out. The tear-offs at the bottom direct one to "Take the quiz! [www.oaquiz.org](http://www.oaquiz.org)" There is a ½ inch by 8 inch space on the poster labeled "FOR LOCAL MEETING INFORMATION:" where we could put our local web address [www.oawny.org](http://www.oawny.org) or our local hotline number, currently 716-694-4848

**REGION 6 / WSO:** Paulette H. will attend Region 6

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** Sally H. reminded everyone that this Fall 2015 the retreat will be, as usual, at Christ the King (CTK) in East Aurora; next spring, April 15-17, 2016 we will be at the Columban Center, 6892 Lakeshore Road in Derby, NY, 14047, then back to CTK in the Fall of 2016.

Thirty three members attended “**A Plan of Eating and Abstinence Workshop**” Saturday September 12 at St. Luke’s Church on Maryvale at Union based on the following OA program <https://www.aa.org/membersgroups/group-support/#abplan>. Revenues were \$173 from which the \$50 rent and cost of packets will be deducted.

Discussion followed how in the future “days of sharing” could be focused on a topic, such as a tool, as opposed to open sharing. WNY Intergroup should suggest topics to groups. WSO can provide topics, too. Judy G. moved to create a committee to develop topics for days of sharing. Carol S. seconded. Carried. Volunteers came forward: Janet M.; Judy G., Carol S. Sue M.

### **Upcoming Special Events:**

**Fall Retreat at Christ the King** October 16-19, 2015 (**Paulette H. & Liz O.** are the co-chairs)

### **Rochester Share-A-Thon 2015 “Walking the Steps Together”**

Saturday November 21, 2015 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. First Baptist Church, 175 Allens Creek Road  
Price: \$18 pre-register, \$20 at the door, Lunch on your own

For more information: <http://www.rochesteraa.org/2015-share-a-thon-save-the-date/>

(Secretary’s note: This date is the third Saturday and conflicts with our IG meeting)

### **MEETING LIST:**

Sunday 5:30 PM contact has been changed from Judy G. to Carol S. (716-462-0776)

Wednesday 6:30 PM Fredonia meeting has been canceled

(NOTE: the Friday 3:30 PM meeting in Dunkirk is still open for Fredonia people.)

*Secretary’s note: The following has been re-printed from last month’s report:*

**Each** weekly meeting should have the following service positions filled:

- a WSO (World Service Organization) **secretary** who can receive information from WSO
- a meeting **contact** who can answer calls about that meeting (often from newcomers)
- an **Intergroup rep** (who can come to monthly IG meetings)
- a **treasurer** who can handle the weekly donations and coordinate with the IG treasurer.

*Secretary’s note: The following has been re-printed from last month’s report:*

It was interesting to note that weekly meetings are more represented at IG than we think they are. There are eleven (11) meetings in our WNY Intergroup, listed here, with the name of their IG rep listed in parentheses: Sunday 5:30 p.m. (Sarah J. or Carol S.), Monday 10 a.m. (Paulette H.), Monday 6:30 p.m. (Sally H.), Tuesday 7:00 p.m. (Victoria A.), Wednesday 6:30 Kenmore (Peter H.), Wednesday 6:30 Fredonia (Vicky H.), Thursday 7:30 p.m. (Amy K-S), Friday 3:30 p.m. (Vicky H.), Friday 6:00 p.m. ((Liz O.), Saturday 10 a.m. (Sue M.). The only one of the eleven without regular representation at IG meetings is Thursday 5:30 in Cheektowaga. Also, we list Tuesday 10 a.m. Batavia on our meeting list, but is that Rochester IG?

**FLUTTERBY** No report. Position is open

**DESIGNATED DOWNLOADER** Judy G. reported that the World Service Organization (WSO) oa.org hosts a 3pm (Eastern) Podcast on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

The following items on the website were worthy of noting:

A Step 7 Podcast

A “Twelve Stepping a Problem” Pocket Card

A place to sign up for automatic recurring contributions to WSO

A Revised and Expanded “OA Handbook”

Plan now for the WSO convention in Boston, MA Sep. 1-4, 2016.

**HOTLINE** No report (see discussion in Old Business, below, concerning this expense).

**GROUP REP REPORTS** (This is new, following up on a recommendation from Region 6 trustee Karin R. Last month the suggestion was to include it before OLD BUSINESS.)

- Sunday 5:30 PM Sarah J. reports attendance and commitments to service are down, but might improve in the fall
- Monday 10:00 AM Victoria A. wants to share the key more. Discussion: Service rotation is good, but passing the key around has issues, too.
- Monday 6:30 PM Sally H. reports “The ONLY Buffalo meeting” has attendance concerns. She is concerned that people don’t have the concept of a “home group” and that they float around without a commitment to one group.
- Tuesday 7:00 PM Victoria A. reports that they have a steady 5 to 6 person core
- Wednesday 6:30 PM Peter H. reports that because the group conscience is to revert from the usual step study format (January is Step 1, etc.) to a Step 1 meeting if a newcomer arrives or still seems unsteady, that the group is missing out on the higher steps. One suggestion offered was to take 10 minutes at the start to give the basics but then move on.
- Thursday 5:30 PM Carol S. reported attendance issues. Also, because they don’t have a dedicated IG rep, they don’t get the IG handouts (e.g. flyers for days of sharing).
- Thursday 7:30 PM Sally H reported issues with crosstalk
- Friday 3:30 PM Same people lead each week. Suggestion: ask (“Voluntell”) someone to lead
- Cheektowaga 6:00 PM Liz O. reports no issues at this time
- Saturday 10:00 PM Sue M. reported the same problems as elsewhere: attendance, 7<sup>th</sup> tradition basket has fallen off, and not enough rotation of service.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Reminder: October, 2015 Intergroup meeting has been reset to October 24 because October 17 (the third Saturday in the month) conflicts with the Fall Retreat.

The discussion of the hotline expense continued with new information from Paulette H. Currently our monthly expenses are Verizon for the phone line (\$36.55) + AnswerNet to answer the phone (\$50.00) but this seems expensive and Amy K-S has called several times to see what happens and was very disappointed in the response. If we used Verizon to provide voicemail the expenses would be \$36.55 for the phone line (same as now) + \$15.77 for voicemail, for a monthly savings of \$34.23. However, we would need someone to regularly check the voicemail. We would also need a script for the outbound voicemail message. It was stressed that people who call are often in crisis, so that these tasks are important. It was also suggested to call Tompkins County hotline (607-387-8253) to see what they say and do.

Janet M. moved and Peter H. seconded that a committee be formed to make a recommendation, and, if we change then 1. Recommend a date to change and 2. Propose a greeting (e.g. “leave a message and someone will return your call” or “Call so&so at 716-XXX-XXXX” or see what other intergroups do. The motion carried and the committee is: Paulette H., Amy K-S, and Sally H.

Each month, along with the minutes, or included in the minutes, should be an agenda for the next meeting. For the 9/19 meeting:

1. Bring the IG inventory from [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org) and discuss methodology
2. Add Group Rep Reports before **OLD BUSINESS** (How many people in your meeting? Do you have any issues?)
3. Finalize script for answering machine / voicemail
4. Have group secretary send out the minutes long in advance of the next meeting, not on the morning of the meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

Submitted by Peter H.