

Chair-Susan S. Vice-Chair & Asst. Acting Treasurer-Janet B. Corr. Sec-Bonnie Acting Intergroup Sec-Paul O Rec Sec-Theresa Oasis: MaryAnn C Web: Bonnie F. Public Info/Outreach: Sam Media/Flyers: Region 7 Delegates: Ronni S/ Bonnie F/ Carl F/ Christine/ Paul World Service Reps: Bonnie F/ Carl F/ Ruth H/ Ronnie

7:30 PM Opening

- Serenity Prayer- All 12 Steps-Valerie 12 Traditions-Jill Concept of the Month 1-Barbara
- Introductions/Roll Call: Susan S., Chair; Fran, Treasurer; Bonnie (Call In), Event Chair & Corresponding Secty; Ronnie, Reg 7 & World Service Delegate; Carl (Call In), Reg 7 Delegate; Barbara, Recording Secty; MaryAnn, OASIS; Chris, Mon. Paramus Rep.; Valerie, Hillsdale Rep.; Shari, Saddle Brook Rep; Susan, Belleville Rep.; Judy, Dumont; Angela, Sat. Paramus Rep.; Lorraine; Fran, Lodi; John, Belleville; Ellen H, Secaucus Rep., Ann Marie, Hackensack Rep., Sonta H., Bloomfield Rep., Christine W., Ret. Chair; Jill, Ridgewood Rep.; Sam, Public Info.; Vanessa; Frank C.; Kerri M., rec. secretary covering for Theresa
- Minutes of Previous Meeting –MaryAnn C. Motion to Accept-Fran S. Second-Susan S.
- Susan S. introduced herself to the group, passed around sign-in sheets for email list and service positions, and reviewed flyer contents of business meeting folder (2020 events, service positions, responsibility pledge, intergroup info. sheet, intergroup rep. sheet, service structure, call 5 and keep them alive). Going forward, information will be emailed rather than printed out.

7:45 PM Committee Reports

- **TREASURY: Fran S. reporting for Janet:** Fran distributed bank reconciliation form (see form for more details re: year-end breakdown). About \$6,000 in prudent reserve. CD rolled over into money market reserve. 4th quarterly donation to World Service will be made this month.
- **OASIS: MaryAnn-** Spring Oasis will be in the mail March 21st. March 1st is the deadline for submissions. Beni added a submission about the New Year's Day event. There is always a need for submissions. Members are encouraged to submit stories.
- **INFO LINE: Susan-**Receiving 20 to 30 calls a month.
- **WEBSITE: Bonnie/Carl-**Old website is now crashed and forwards the user to the new website. Thanks to our consultant for assisting in the back end editing.
Bonnie/Carl/Bill Kelly-technical issues; **Mary M.-**uploads meeting minutes, treasury reports, event fliers and meeting info; **Barbara M.-** uploads event page
- **PUBLIC INFORMATION/OUTREACH: Sam**
Sam will post OA events on the NorthJersey.com event page at <http://events.northjersey.com>. She is also waiting on dates from StreetFairs.org. A table can be set up for \$60.00 for each fair. She will volunteer for a few of the fairs once the dates are available, but needs more volunteers. Please spread the word.
Barbara M. will be posting events on the Comcast Community Boards (Channels 6-9), which covers Hudson, Bergen, Union, Essex, and Passaic counties. **ONLINE Bulletin boards — NJIOAPublicInfo@gmail.com**
- **MEMBERSHIP SURVEY: Barbara M.**
A link to the survey was mailed out to everyone in the meeting. Aim of the survey was to identify barriers to intergroup meeting attendance. Barbara collected the raw data gleaned from the survey and shared it with the group. She offered to email the results to anyone who would like a copy. 62 people responded, which accounts for approximately 15-25% of the fellowship in the area. The estimated range of area members is 250-400. Survey indicated that most people want to do service. Results also identified reasons for not attending, how members found out about intergroup meetings, and changes they would like to see in the future. Barbara proposed forming a committee to review the data and brainstorm how to address it. She is looking for volunteers.

8:05 PM NJIOA Event Reports:

- **New Year's Day Event:** Mary Ann read Beni's report. January 1, 2020 Theme: Abstinence...Just for Today. 60+ people attended. Activities: attendees chose 1 of 3 quotes about abstinence and shared about them. They also participated in writing activities about abstinence. The feedback was positive. Attendees said it went perfectly and were able to leave the event identifying specific actions they could take to maintain abstinence. This event has been held for three years, and the organizers would like to continue with it every year moving forward.
- **Newcomer Marathon:** Judy/Sam - Saturday January 11th 9:30am-3pm. Kessler Institute, Saddle Brook. Judy and Mary Ann went to storage and picked up materials to put envelopes together for newcomers. 20 envelopes have been set up. Everyone who volunteered to speak should have received an email. The event is listed on Comcast. Hopefully, flyers have been distributed at meetings. Encouraged members to promote the event. There will be a 50 minute break for lunch. The cafeteria will be closed, but Judy and Sam created a list of area restaurants to give to attendees.
- **Star Lake Lodge Retreat:** Bonnie /Jill / Mary Ann / Fran – January 24-26, 2020.
Bonnie: Slightly behind pace of 2019 pace of rooms committed. Ordered giveaways which are at Jill's house. She will bring them to the retreat. Bonnie also sent Susan a certificate of insurance and the menu head count. She asked that someone be reminded to bring the karaoke machine. Suggested setting up a sponsor/sponsee gift table with chachkies from storage in order to make room for new stuff.
Mary Ann: 76 people (8 singles and 68 doubles) are registered. Last year, we had 85 people. This year we need 42 rooms. Last year we needed 53. Jill and Pam are dealing with room assignments and special accommodations. There is still time to register, but Mary Ann can no longer accept checks. Payments must be made in cash.
Bonnie: Another group would like to rent the space at the same time next year. Would we consider paying an extra \$10 to move next year's retreat from January to March of 2021? Fran will discuss with Vicki at the retreat and ask her for a proposal. Discussion about this will be on February's agenda. Bonnie suggested launching a membership survey regarding the possible date change.
- **Unity Day:** Christine W. – Christine will give check for \$150.00 to Our Lady of Consolation. Sam will have fliers announcing details of the event available for the Newcomer Marathon. The event starts at 12:00 and will be run the same way it was last year. At 2:00 PM, the group will pray with OA members around the world. 3:00 PM close. Speakers are needed for the event. Please contact Christine if interested. West Jersey and Central Jersey have been invited to participate. Rockland County may join us as well. Please spread the word.
- **Firelight Meeting:** Grace committed to running this event again. Time and place to be determined.

8:20 PM NJIOA Executive Business:

- Carl is the NJIOA parliamentarian and Susan S. asked for his help off and on regarding procedures.
- Bonnie is sending in the non-profit tax exemption forms.
- Bonnie – Updated NJIOA policy procedure manual in accordance with World Service Organization template. . Once edits have been reviewed, the final document will be posted with the bylaws on the website. Copies will be also be sent to everyone on the board.
- Minutes will be sent out after each meeting to be reviewed for anything that is missing.
- **World Service Convention – Aug 20-22, 2020, Sea World, Orlando. Open to ALL**

8:25 PM New Business:

- Susan – would like volunteers to organize Region 7 events. There are 4 different events. One is “Be a Better You”, which focuses on the 12 traditions. More information about events will be discussed at the next meeting. She also proposed forming new committees to increase involvement. Needs volunteers.
- Angela – suggested creating a survey to be distributed at Star Lake concerning the possible date change for next year’s retreat.
- Barbara – Reminded everyone she would like to set up a committee to review findings of the intergroup meeting survey and create a task force to address the findings.
- Ellen – Reminded everyone to spread the word about the new step meeting in Secaucus, Mondays from 12PM – 1PM at the First Reform Church at 51 Centre Ave.
- Susan – proposed not reading minutes aloud at the beginning of meetings. Put proposal on the agenda for the next meeting.

Reminders:

- 12th of every month is Ring 5 Keep Them Alive.
- Tax exemption at Office Depot and non-profit exemption anywhere they honor it (contact Mary Ann).
- Insurance waiver is available for meetings/events (contact Christine).
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8:35 PM Closing Motion to Close- Fran S. Second - Christine W.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:30 pm