

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT



### New Year's Eve Party Works

FSC's New Year's Eve party was a big success! About 40 merry-makers enjoyed fellowship, food, games and terrific music provided by Z (banjo and guitar), Casey T. (bass), Tony A. (guitar and harmonica) and Gail L., whose vocalizing was wonderful.

The party showed how well the Board's newly articulated policy of *supporting* but not *initiating* events can work. An FSCer got the ball rolling by requesting and receiving permission to use the Grand Ballroom for the evening. A poster was erected in the lobby. Some like-minded folks pitched in to help. The Board contributed \$50.00 toward refreshments, and -- *voila!* -- a New Year's Eve party was born! Easy!

Next time you think FSC should be celebrating something, remember: *You* can make it happen!

### Mind Your 20 Percent!

You probably know that 80 percent of the basket your group contributes to every day goes to FSC for rent. But do you know how that works? Do you know that the procedure is different for AlAnon than for all other groups?

Except for AlAnon, each group renting a room from FSC removes 20 percent of the day's take from its basket when the money is counted at the end of each meeting. The remaining 80 percent then goes into a donation envelope and is put in the safe where it is collected by designated FSC members and transported the Park Bank. There the bank recounts it and deposits the entire amount into FSC's account.

"Groups handle their remaining 20 percent in a number of ways," says FSC treasurer Casey T. "Some have bank accounts and others just handle it as cash. For AA, there are guidelines for group money and most groups abide by these. Besides buying coins and Big Books for newcomers, groups donate the remainder to MAICO, Area 75, District 20, and the GSO." He adds that some small groups give their entire 100 percent to FSC.

With AlAnon it's different. At the end of each meeting the entire basket is put in a donation envelope and then into the safe. When the safe is opened, all AlAnon envelopes are separated out and, while the other envelopes are on their way to the bank, two designated AlAnon counters are totaling the contents of all their envelopes, computing 80 percent of the total, which they give to FSC, and depositing the remaining 20 percent in AlAnon's bank account. From this account AlAnon supports its District 8, Area 61 and World Services.

**AlAnoners beware!** Be sure you deposit your group's money in an envelope that is *clearly marked* "AlAnon." Otherwise, the envelope will be processed along with all the other programs' envelopes and AlAnon will lose that 20 percent!

### Our Building's Impressive Past

Have you noticed the historical marker mounted on our building on your left as you walk toward the entrance? For many years it was mounted on the front of our building where no one ever saw it. Thanks to Building & Grounds chair Matt K. and FSCer Scott J., permission was received from the Fitchburg Historical Society to move the plaque to a more visible location.

Now members and visitors will know that before FSC bought the building in 1982 it had served as Camp Badger School, built in 1927. (Our Grand Ballroom was originally the gym!) The original Camp Badger School was built on the site in 1857. Pretty neat!

### NA Not Coming to FSC Yet

Opening of FSC's much anticipated Narcotics Anonymous meeting has been postponed due to red tape. Before a new NA meeting can be approved the Badgerland Council requires a GSR rep be appointed and attend a counsel meeting. Potential group rep Dave J. is unable to attend the meeting or to find another interested NAer who is available. Therefore, no NA meeting at FSC. "I hope to recruit active NA members to start a meeting at FSC within the next six months," says Dave.

### FSC's Annual Meeting Next Month

Sunday, February 15, 9 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom is the time and location of this year's Annual Meeting. All FSC members are encouraged to attend.

This is your opportunity to hear from the Board how things are going, both good and bad (mainly good!), and what's in the works for the coming year. And it's your opportunity to ask questions, make comments and let the Board know what you think. The Board wants to know! It is also your opportunity to exercise your right to vote to fill vacancies on the Board. What happens at the Annual Meeting will affect life at FSC in the coming year and beyond! You should attend!

If you aren't an FSC member, there's still time to join. Just pick up a membership envelope on any meeting table and follow directions!

### Start Nominating New Board Members

FSC's Annual Meeting is fast approaching! That means it's time to start nominating candidates to fill the open positions on the Board, one of the major activities of the Annual Meeting.

This year four positions will be open: president, secretary and two directors-at-large. There are ballots in the lobby along with directions for how to use them. You may nominate as many candidates as you like for a position and you may nominate one candidate for more than one position. And don't forget that you may nominate yourself!

The only requirements for a potential candidate are that he or she has been an FSC member in good standing for at least the previous year and is willing to serve if elected.

The only requirement for you to nominate is that you be a member of FSC. If you aren't a member, there's still time to join!

### Board Meetings Move to Wednesdays

Because of a schedule change for a Board member the FSC monthly Board meetings have been changed to the second **Wednesday** of each month, still 6 p.m., still Grand Ballroom.

(Your schedule should never keep you from serving on the Board! An agreeable meeting time can always be found.)

### Ready, Set, Go!

FSC's ACA group will be the second in the country to use a new 4-session program modeled on Back to Basics especially for ACA use: Ready, Set, Go. In four 1½-hour sessions it will take participants through all Twelve Steps. These will be open meetings and should broaden everyone's horizons!

Ready, Set, Go will meet all four Saturdays in February from noon to 1:30 in Room B.

Questions? Dave S: 206-0442 or [davidsisson12@gmail.com](mailto:davidsisson12@gmail.com)

### Moving Right Along...

**Our Christmas party** was terrific as usual. Great food, great fellowship, and an open meeting. About 75 ho-ho-ho-ers attended.

At last count, **Christmas donations** to FSC totaled \$12,265! This is really going to help our bottom line. THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!

Under Dave J's careful supervision, our **coffee shop** continues in the black (no cream or sugar). Please remember to pay for each cup!

**Smokers**, alas, have been slipping. Before the snow fell our yard, especially near the entrance, was littered with way too many butts. They'll be waiting for us come Spring.

Coming soon: **FSC lending library!** It'll contain recovery literature for all the recovery programs that meet at FSC. Get ready to exchange some of your stuff!

If you have a **bookcase** you can contribute to the library, please contact Michael P: 832-6440 or [mpohlman@chorus.net](mailto:mpohlman@chorus.net)

*What's Happening at FSC* is produced monthly as a service to those who use the Fitchburg Serenity Club. **To receive a free email copy of this news page (or to un-receive it), contact Linda M: [linty1@mac.com](mailto:linty1@mac.com) or 608-278-8689.**

