

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT



FSC's New Schedule Pamphlet

FSC has a new schedule -- not that the times of meetings are different, but the format has changed.

On the schedule side of the pamphlet, meetings are now listed first by *kind* of meeting, eg, AA, AlAnon, etc, and then within that grouping the meetings are listed by day and time. No more scanning all 80-plus meetings to find one of two GA meetings: Simply find "GA Meetings" (the kinds of meetings are listed alphabetically) and view all GA possibilities in one place. All Spanish-speaking meetings are together in a box.

The reverse side of the pamphlet has been seriously fine-tuned. The difference between 12-step recovery groups and the Fitchburg Serenity Club is explained and a basic description of the functions of each is given. How to become an FSC member and the benefits of membership are described. Useful contact info has been clarified. There are more lines for listing phone numbers.

The section previously called "Fitchburg Serenity Club, INC" is now called "House Rules," in keeping with that addition to FSC's new Bylaws. The rules are pretty much the same as before, except that the rule prohibiting putting notices on our entrance doors has been removed, and encouragement of and guidelines for participating at Board meetings has been added.

The new schedule is already available on our website. The printed schedule should be available soon. Watch for it!

Revised Bylaws and Procedures for Sanction in Print

FSC's revised Bylaws, which were accepted at the Annual Meeting last February, have been printed and bound and are available for viewing in the lobby. A copy of the booklet is hanging from the FSC bulletin board, and anyone is welcome to pick it up and read it in the lobby. Or, if you would like to have your own copy, the booklet may be purchased for \$3.00. To obtain one, ask any Board member or Harold S. or Linda M.

Included in the same booklet are FSC's Procedures for Sanction, which were passed by the Board in July 2013.

It is hoped that having these two documents readily accessible to all FSC attenders will mitigate the misunderstandings that occasionally plague our clubhouse. Don't forget to use them!

The Board Tightens Its Belt

While it is asking 12-steppers to put a couple of bucks in their basket, if possible, the FSC Board is taking as few bucks out of *its* basket as possible.

At its most recent meeting (July 23) the Board voted unanimously to fund only the expenses necessary to keep FSC up and running (everything from electricity to toilet paper) or to meet an immediate, serious need (back-up thermostats for our temperamental HVAC system, for instance).

More improvements to our back yard, among other projects, are going to have to wait.

Please Pay for Your Coffee!

A year ago at this time, our coffee shop was a modest money-maker. Now it loses about \$150 a month! Careful study of the situation shows that the reason for this is that people aren't paying for their coffee.

It's easy to grab a cup of joe intending to pay for it the next time you have the time or money. Unfortunately, it's also easy to forget to do this.

Please don't help yourself to coffee unless you pay for it then!

Recovery Today Is Missing

The second issue of *Recovery Today* was supposed to be attached to this issue of *What's Happening*, but due to lack of interest, *RT* seems to have gone belly up.

If you are interested in trying to help revive it, please contact Linda M: linty1@mac.com or 608-278-8689.

If there is something you would like to contribute to a possible future *RT* -- prose, poetry, art, whatever -- please email it to the above address. Be sure to include your contact info.

Spoke and Sprocket Drives

These are the names that have been chosen for the new public roads that will soon connect McKee Rd. with Verona Rd. by going through the Arrowhead Neighborhood. Arrowhead is where FSC is located, and Spoke Drive is the now-private road that is our only access to FSC's parking lots. Building of the new roads is part of the Arrowhead Development Project, which will make the area more accessible to commercial and light industrial development over the next 25 years.

The project is due to start on July 28 with a target completion date of November 18. It'll involve *widening* Spoke Drive and building Sprocket from scratch to connect with the frontage road that parallels Verona. In addition, a traffic light will be installed at the Spoke Drive-McKee Rd. intersection.

This transformation may inconvenience FSCers somewhat during construction, but when it's completed we'll have a way to come and go from Verona Rd. that won't involve dealing with the Verona-McKee overpass construction site, and we'll have a traffic light to help us get on McKee in one piece. Worth being patient for!

For more info and a map, see the display on the FSC bulletin board.

FSC ≠ AA!

September is Join FSC Month, and before it kicks off there's something we need to get straight: **FSC and AA are not the same!**

The Fitchburg Serenity Club is a non-profit corporation that owns our building and is responsible for its upkeep and for the safety of its tenants. Its tenants are the various 12-step recovery groups that hold meetings there and the members of those groups.

People who attend those 12-step meetings are members of those groups *if they feel they are*. **That does not make them members of FSC.**

To be a member of FSC the 12-stepper must *join* FSC. That means filling out a membership envelope and pledging to pay dues every month. Members of FSC receive certain benefits, foremost of which are the right to attend the Annual Meeting and to nominate and vote for the FSC Board of Directors (and, after a year, to run for the Board).

On behalf of the members, the FSC Board does a lot of work: It's responsible for the routine maintenance and operation of the building and grounds, for which there is a budget of about \$7,000 a month. It's responsible for deciding what major expenditures are or are not appropriate (eg, replacing a HVAC unit), and it's responsible for insuring the safety of all who attend FSC and of the building and grounds themselves.

Each 12-step group is basically autonomous. Each group decides what principles and behaviors are acceptable to it, and each is responsible for how it implements those decisions.

Recovery is the job of each group. Keeping the lights on and the vandals away is the job of the FSC Board.

Dave J. Joins the Board

Dave Johnson, otherwise known as Coffee Dave, has been appointed by FSC president Mary F. (and confirmed by the rest of the FSC Board) to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Fritz M. Dave will serve until our next Annual Meeting in February, at which time an FSC member will be nominated and elected by the membership to serve the final year of Fritz's term.

Before a career change kept him from devoting so much day time to FSC service, Dave was chair of the Hospitality Committee and something of a fixture behind the coffee shop counter. In those capacities he attended many Board meetings and served FSC well, so he should fit right into his new role.

Best wishes, Dave!

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 or 608-278-8689.**