



# LIFELINE



*I am responsible when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there, and for that I am responsible.*

**life-line** | \ 'lif-, līn : 1. A rope or line used for life-saving, typically one thrown to rescue someone in difficulties in water. 2. A thing on which someone depends for a means of escape from a difficult situation. <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>

Most of us were born perfect and the slate was clean. From the very first day of our lives we started to experience different emotions (for lack of a better term) and those feelings had a lot to do with the way we evolved into who we are today. Instinctively we responded to the different threats and joys that we were faced with and these were the things that established our strengths and weaknesses. That is true for most of us, but not all of us.

Unfortunately some of us were born with other problems that require medication, such as, A.D.D; Bipolar, and other difficulties that cannot be treated simply by changing our attitudes and behavior. These things, I am not educated enough to discuss, but for the average alcoholic, I believe, our problems can be traced back to that conditioning we experienced as we formed our mental and spiritual makeup.

I often hear it said that alcoholism is a disease of perception. It is a disease of many things, and perception is one of them. The perception we have of ourselves may be likened to a chalkboard containing every experience of our lives. If we can look at it and be satisfied that we had a pretty good track record, we would probably be comfortable with it and lead a relative normal life. If, however, we find ourselves on the negative side of the ledger most of our lives, we may develop abnormal feelings of guilt and shame, for instance, and that may just be the thing that triggers the beginning of the compulsion to drink excessively.

In the beginning we get a temporary relief that tells us that we are just fine, but it only

lasts until we wake up the next morning and find ourselves in an even deeper pit. We reach for the bottle, and again it gives us that temporary buzz, and we repeat this process over and over until, by some tragic occurrence in our lives that drives us to alcoholics anonymous, we are en-



couraged to go through a process that can restore us to a somewhat normal life. Steps One through Four are about surrender, acceptance, and discovery. Step Five is about disclosure.

Step Five, for me, was the gateway to how I was going to live the rest of my life. After two attempts at Step Four, I was faced with the decision as to whether my future was going to be honest and meaningful, or just a meaningless facade. Fortunately, for me, I took a leap of faith and disclosed all those, so called, tormenting ghosts of yesterday, (12x12 pg. 55) and looking back on it now, I realize that, that decision was the hinge pin, for my thoroughness, with the rest of the steps. Had I not cleaned the slate at that time I just don't see how I could have followed the spirit of truth and honesty, with myself and others that would result in the peace of mind that I enjoy today.

My inventory had to deal, mainly, with bad habits which had to be changed by the process suggested in Steps Six and Seven. That was the easy part of Step Five. However, those tormenting ghosts of yesterday were another story. These were not habits, but deeds that I had done as an adolescent kid that seemed unforgivable. No one should ever know, I would take them to the grave with me. Mustering the strength to take that risk may have been the most important step forward I've ever made. My brain had been lying to me, after all; how bad could a thirteen year old kid be? That one decision is what I credit with giving me my life back and if I hadn't done it, I don't see how I could have given a good effort to the rest of the steps from behind that facade that I used to call life.

I often hear members of the program that seem to resist looking deeper into their regrets and seem to build a wall of reasons why they don't need to, and I wonder if they might be caught in the same dilemma that I was in when I took my Fifth step. I wish I could reassure them that it's not worth the mental torment that it puts us through and that it may be a good idea to revisit that step and clean the slate. We can't live alone with them; we have to talk to someone about them. (Even A.A. old-timers, sober for years, often pay dearly for skimming this step. 12x12 pg. 56) If you are that person, I encourage you to try to get the strength to take that risk, and clean the slate; after all, we only live once. Let's not waste the opportunity to live a happy and peaceful life.

<https://www.aacle.org/step-five-clean-slate/>

# MAY 12 1935 — THE FIRST ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETING OCCURS IN AKRON, OHIO

The battle against addiction has taken many forms throughout the centuries, but none has had a more prominent effect in recent times than Alcoholics Anonymous. The twelve-step program centering on building communities of people to overcome the challenges of recovery together had its first unofficial meeting on May 12, 1935. Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith — the two men gathered in Henrietta Sieberling's Akron, Ohio home — would go on to found an organization which helps millions resume productive lives.

The 1920s were good for the United States: despite a ban on the sale of alcohol, beer and spirits flowed liberally through American society in underground clubs and backwater distilleries. For Wilson and many other young men scarred and jaded by the horrors of World War I, liquor became a haven from the stresses of everyday life. Smith, 15 years Wilson's senior, found the temptation to medicate with a drink a much easier alternative as he pushed his way through Rush Medical College and into private practice in Akron. Both men spent much of the decade finding ways to barely hold on to a semblance of a normalcy in order to support families, ably providing shelter and food for their wives and children, if not true companionship and love.

By the dawn of the 1930s, Wilson and Smith were among those perceived by the American public as being of "low moral

character." Despite the stigma associated with addiction, the two diligently pursued solutions to help them manage the process of ending alcohol's grip on their lives by availing themselves of the care available at the time: hospitals, psychiatric institutions or charities. By Smith's own count, he submitted himself to more than a dozen such treatment options over the years, often falling back into drinking within a matter of days — and hiding it as best he could from his wife. Living in New York City during 1934, Wilson fought against his addiction almost continuously. Though given hope by Dr. William Silkworth that he faced a medical condition instead of a mere character flaw, Wilson relapsed over and over while under Silkworth's care at Charles B. Towns Hospital.

A visit from an old friend, Ebby Thacher, ended up giving him the impetus to move forward. Taken aback by Thacher's newfound faith and desire to help him loose the shackles of alcoholism, Wilson searched out his former drinking buddy at the Calvary Rescue Mission run by the Oxford Group, a Christian organization. Immersing himself in the theories of psychologist William James, who proposed the concept of vast positive results from immense personal tragedy, Wilson became convinced the Oxford Group would help him regain control of his life. After meetings with other "Groupers," he gathered with fellow former alcoholics to dis-

cuss how to reach others still battling the desire to drink.



*Bill and Ebby*

Almost by chance, Wilson ended up in Akron on business on May 12, 1935. Feeling the temptation to belly up to a bar and drown himself in beer again, he began calling local ministers in search of an alcoholic to help talk him off the ledge. Connected with Sieberling, an Oxford member who had been pouring herself into Smith with the intent of helping him achieve sobriety, Wilson arrived at her home for a meeting. Smith agreed to sit down with the man from New York City, but only for 15 minutes. The two spoke for more than six hours. Wilson moved into the Smith family home to support the doctor's recovery, joining the husband and wife for morning readings from the biblical book of James. Four weeks later, Smith had his last drink, becoming the first person Wilson helped come to sobriety.

*(continued on page 3)*

(continued from page 2) Once a skeptic, Smith turned into a partner, talking with Wilson about the framework for a simple plan to guide even the worst alcoholics back to a healthy life. The two kept in constant contact over the next two years, forming groups in Akron and New York City to provide a support structure for those seeking to be sober. In 1939, Wilson and Smith wrote *Alcoholics Anonymous*, a book describing the means by which an addict could win the battle to defeat temptation. By knitting together a group of people committed to the Twelve Steps Wilson believed necessary for lasting sobriety, he felt AA was able to achieve a better success rate than the existing systems in place. Even the mention of alcoholism as a disease instead of a moral failing helped

many attack the problem with new vigor.

Following more than 75 years of meetings, AA has helped more than 2 million people face down addiction and spawned similar programs for those enslaved by narcotics and other phenomena. Though some regard its methods as antiquated, the fact remains Wilson and Smith shifted the course of treatment for alcoholism by focusing on psychological factors, paving the way for others to succeed in untold ways.

<https://www.mapsofworld.com/amp/on-this-day/may-12-1935-the-first-alcoholics-anonymous-meeting-occurs-in-akron-ohio/>



# THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE

When we first come into the program of Alcoholics Anonymous we are introduced to the practical aspects of service such as, making coffee, reading chapter 5 at the meeting, leading the meeting, and eventually becoming secretary of the group, and for the person who has had “fear of responsibility”, when that 6 month obligation comes to an end, they are all too happy to give it up.

We alcoholics have spent a lifetime neglecting those little informal acts of service and as the result, there’s not too much to like about ourselves. It cost us nothing to open a door or to make our bed or to return a shopping cart back to the rack, and what is to stop us from doing these things? You got it: Our Ego. Alcoholics Anonymous is often referred to as an education in the art of living. The things we learn in the program are meant to be taken with us out into the community at large. As the result of the early service commitments, that we are encouraged to perform, our confidence is restored, if only a little at a time, and we can face the risks and challenges that we used to avoid.

These little preliminary responsibilities are just like training wheels and somewhere down the road we ask that same person to take that job again, and things aren’t nearly as scary as the first time. These little activities are a veiled approach to taking that person out of his comfort zone and show them that they had nothing to fear in the first place.

Service commitments and gestures are what I see as, the first step toward healing our conscience and the more selfless we become, the more our self esteem is restored and most of us become strong enough to take on those formal service commitments that we used to shy away from. A lifetime of neglect has left us without much to like about ourselves but I can tell you from experience that the sack of rocks we hear mention of, in AA meetings, is not so full of rocks as it is full of pebbles depicting all of the little responsibilities that we selfishly neglected in the past that weighs on our conscience and produces the negative vision that we have of ourselves. We didn’t get that way over night and it will take time to establish a track record of unselfishness of the spirit.

The next thing I see when we take on service commitments is that our Ego does not want us doing these things. It wants us to make up excuses for why we can’t do it and seems to have something to do with “fear of commitment”. A new person must be assured that they can’t mess up an AA meeting and there is nothing to be afraid of; they always have a room full of people willing to help for they have been there themselves. This all helps us begin the process of taking our lives back from our Ego and that guy doesn’t give up easily. Service doesn’t always come by way of a formal commitment but neither does neglect; a word I seldom ever hear being used in the rooms of AA. We know how to open a door for someone and how a gesture like that can warm our hearts ever so slightly and we never regret that we did it.

One by one, as we recognize them, we must replace those deeds, that we selfishly ignored in the past, with unselfish actions, one pebble at a time, without expecting anything in return. As we replace one negative habit with one kind habit we will feel an overwhelming surge of warmth inside that no amount of material gain could ever produce.

Unselfishness heals the spirit and the only one that is on the losing end of this level of service is my Ego. This is the true spirit of Alcoholics Anonymous. What more can I say?

<https://www.aacle.org/the-spirit-of-service/>

When I first came into the program, I heard a fellow member (and now dear friend) say that you must be 'in' AA, not just 'around' AA, and it's true.

I was in the program for about 6 months when my sponsor suggested that I begin doing some type of service work. Of course, still being new to sobriety, I was unsure of how I would be able to be of service. Low and behold, shortly thereafter, the chair position became available for the Sunday night Sober by the Bay meeting. With nervousness, I took the position and began my service work journey. This position gave me such confidence in the program. Not only was it keeping me sober, it was

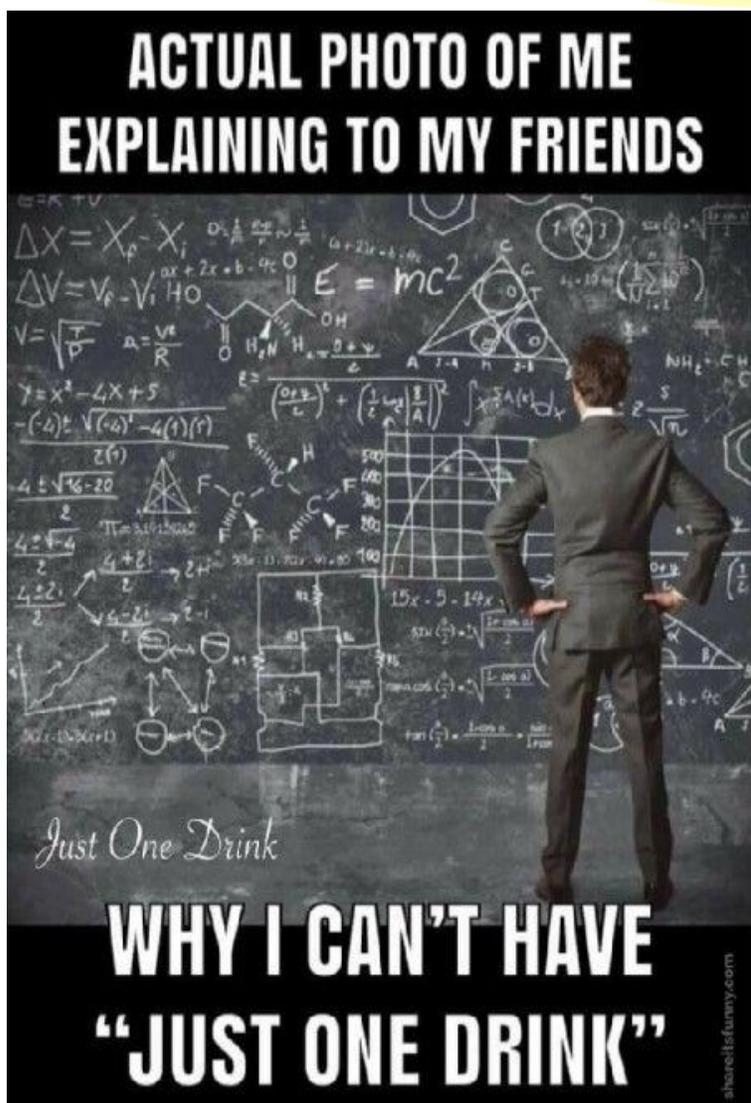
helping others stay sober too. 

I have since taken different service roles and am currently chairing the Wednesday night Grateful Alive meeting as well as serving as a Board member for the SMIA.

To me, service work is one of the things that keeps me grounded in AA. Without being in these service positions, how would the program continue for the newcomer? I am forever grateful that Alcoholics Anonymous was established in 1935 and saved my life; and I am honored to be of service to those newly walking through the doors.

## SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

Rebecca B. - Grateful Alive Group - Huntingtown



**ACTUAL PHOTO OF ME EXPLAINING TO MY FRIENDS**

*Just One Drink*

**WHY I CAN'T HAVE "JUST ONE DRINK"**

shanelisfunny.com

An Irishman walked into a bar in downtown Toronto and ordered a drink.

Noticing his accent, the bartender asks him **"What brings you to Canada?"**

The Irishman replies: **"I was in a pub in Dublin and the coaster under my glass said 'drink Canada dry' and I thought - I'll give it a go!"**



# MAY 2023

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

Good Job!

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2

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6



James, 25 yrs, Smoke Free Sobriety

Tressie F., 39 yrs, Harmony

Jim T., 16 yrs, Patrick D, 9 yrs, and Scott A, 2 yrs, Basic Text

Taylor C., 2 yrs, Helping Others

Guy W., 39 yrs, Greg G., 17 yrs, and Mike S., 15 yrs, North Beach

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Berry, 8 yrs, Inspiration

Mike E., 11 yrs, Poplar Hill

Marc T., 10 yrs, Cove Point

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Chris, 8 yrs, 12 Step Home

Russell D., 3 yrs, Blue Top Noon

Rebecca B., 4 yrs, Grateful Alive

Carol, 4 yrs, Grapevine

Justin, 4 yrs, Charlotte Hall

Jose L., 4 yrs, Early Bird

21

22

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Rob, 6 yrs, Home Group

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# JUNE 2023

SUN

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**Kevin S.,  
2 yrs,  
Kingston  
Creek**

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**Karen  
L., 1 yr,  
Sunday  
Morning  
Sobriety**

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*All Committee and Assembly meetings will continue to be offered via Hybrid for foreseeable future.*

May 20 Area Assembly: Delegate Report Back from GSC, **hosted by District 22**  
Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Rd., Severna Park, MD

July 15 Area Committee, **hosted by District 10**  
St. John's Lutheran Church, 8808 Harford Road, Parkville, MD 21234

August 19	Area Assembly, <i>host District needed</i> Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Rd., Severna Park, MD
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September Area Committee will be scheduled if necessary.

October 21	Area Assembly: Area Elections, <i>host District needed</i> Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Rd., Severna Park, MD
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November 18 Area Committee, **hosted by District 20**  
Otterbein United Methodist Church, 108 East Franklin St., Hagerstown, MD

December 16 Area Assembly, **hosted by District 40**  
Trinity United Methodist Church, 703 West Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21701

**IMPORTANT: NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR DECEMBER MEETING!!**

- Zoom link for Hybrid option will be included in emailed meeting invitation each month
  - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Coffee, donuts, and fellowshiping
  - 8:20 a.m. Orientation for new GSRs and DCMs
  - Attendees will be asked to provide your own lunch.
- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Business Meeting (meeting ends when business is concluded).
- Meetings may be subject to COVID restrictions as determined by the facility. These will be communicated via email prior to that meeting

# Service Opportunities!

**SERENITY  
BREAKFAST  
CHAIR**

**GRATITUDE  
DINNER  
CHAIR**

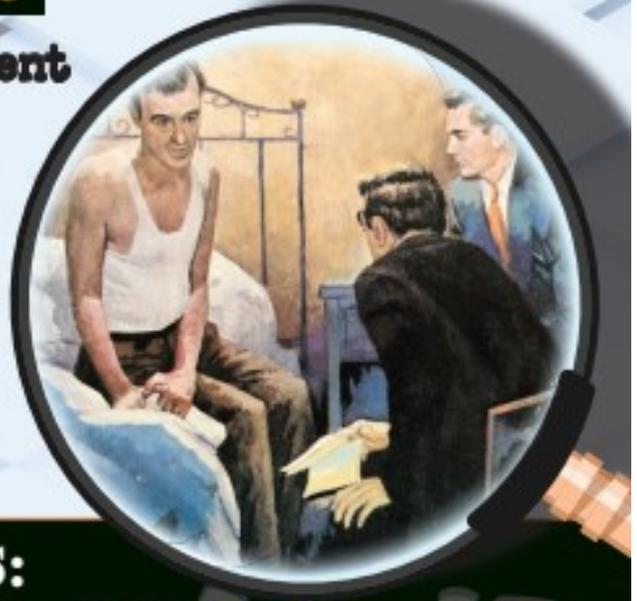
If you are interested in any of these positions or you know a suitable candidate, please complete the form below and be sure that you or the person you are nominating attends in person or joins the Zoom meeting.

# 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROUND-UP

May 5-7, 2023

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department  
Hollywood, Maryland

# SERVICE IS THE SECRET



## SPEAKERS:

Christina G. Brecksville, OH    Jane L. Tallahassee, FL  
Karl M. Covina, CA    Edith P. Omaha, NE  
Les B. North Port, FL    Marty C. Hamilton, ONT  
Mike F. Aurora, CO    Hosea M. Washington, DC



## -PRICING-

Early registration fee of \$35 per person includes all Workshops, Speakers, and Fellowship for the three day program. Tickets for Banquet Dinner (\$30) sold separately.

Starting April 1st, the registration fee is \$40  
Register online at:

[www.southernmarylandroundup.org](http://www.southernmarylandroundup.org)

Register by mail by May 1st. Make check or money order payable to:  
Southern Maryland Round-Up

Mail to: P.O. Box 427, Dunkirk, Md 20754

After May 1st, check the website for registration availability.

All registrations FINAL. No refunds - pass it on to a friend of Bill's if unable to attend.

Outstanding Speakers!  
Fellowship!  
AA & Al-Anon Workshops & Meetings!  
Sobriety Countdown!  
Hospitality Corner!  
On-site Recovery Store! T-shirts!  
AND MORE!



## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROUND-UP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs:    Yes    No

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration:    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet:    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitality Donation:    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lend a hand to those unable to pay the Registration Fee:    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2023**  
**SERVICE IS**  
**THE SECRET**

For conference and lodging information, please visit

[www.southernmarylandroundup.org](http://www.southernmarylandroundup.org)

or email: [info@somdroundup.com](mailto:info@somdroundup.com)

## CARRYING THE MESSAGE INTO TREATMENT FACILITIES

Saturday, May 6th from 11:00 to 2:00pm  
 South Shore Recovery Club  
 1199 Generals Hwy  
 Crownsville, MD 21032

You are invited to attend a workshop hosted by Maryland General Service (MGS) Treatment Committee in collaboration with District 42.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!



- 11:00 am Welcome- Diane F., Area 29 Treatment Committee Chair
- 11:15 am Bringing an AA meeting into a Treatment Facility
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 12:30 pm Treatment Facility Speaker
- 1:15 pm Bridging the Gap (BTG) and Q&A Session
- 2:00 pm Close with Responsibility Statement



# General Service Representative

*What does a GSR do?  
 How can you help your home group and the still suffering Alcoholic?*

Join us for a Zoom  
 GSR Discussion /  
 Q&A

2nd Saturday of each month, 10 am  
 Meeting ID: 818 6222 7157  
 No PW  
 + Special guests

Hosted by Area 29



**AREA 29**  
 MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE, INC.

Hosted by District 22

May Assembly  
 May 20, 2023

### Who should attend:

All GSRs, Alt-GSRs, DCMs, Alt-DCMs, District Officers, Committee Chairs, Alt-Committee Chairs, and Area Officers...AND of course EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.

GSR/DCM Orientation 8:20 a.m.

Assembly is called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Come in person or  
 join virtually!**

SEVERNA PARK UNITED  
 METHODIST CHURCH  
 731 BENFIELD ROAD  
 SEVERNA PARK, MD 21146

VIRTUAL MEETING  
 INFORMATION:  
 MEETING ID: 873 0539 6886  
 PASSCODE: 077854  
 MOBILE (301) 715-8592

### *Delegate Report Back*

Area 29 Delegate Kurt W. will report back on the 73rd General Service Conference. Learn the outcome of some of the agenda items presented at the CARCs and Mini-Conference.

### Contact us:

If you need a copy of the monthly financials, meeting agenda or district/committee report forms, please email [secretary@marylandaa.org](mailto:secretary@marylandaa.org)

If you want to be added to the Area 29 email list, please email [registrar@marylandaa.org](mailto:registrar@marylandaa.org)  
[www.marylandaa.org](http://www.marylandaa.org)



Area 29 Accessibilities  
 Invites you to a  
 presentation on:

Creating a  
 Deaf Access  
 Committee

**ALCOHOLICS  
 ANONYMOUS**



**SUNDAY  
 MAY 21, 2023  
 @ 3 P.M. EDT**

**ID: 841 2499  
 3206**

**PW: 326186**

ASL INTERPRETED  
 \*ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIRED  
 FOR SPANISH  
 INTERPRETATION  
 CONTACT:

[Accessibilities@MarylandAA.org](mailto:Accessibilities@MarylandAA.org)

**Area 29**  
Maryland State Convention



**51<sup>st</sup> Annual Area 29**  
Maryland State Convention  
August 4-6, 2023

Hosted by Maryland General Service, Inc. with  
Al-Anon Participation

Held at the Delta Hotel by Marriott—Hunt Valley  
245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031

Spanish & ASL Interpretation will be provided  
with additional accommodations for the hard of hearing

AA Speakers	Friday, August 4th	Saturday, August 5th
Amalia C.—Farmington, CT (Friday, 1 pm)	7:00 am Registration Opens	7:00 am Registration Opens
Stephanie L.—Eastampton, NJ (Friday, 4 pm)	8:15 am Prayer and Meditation	8:15 am Prayer and Meditation
Barclay R.—Nashville, TN (Friday, 7:30 pm)	10:00 am Workshops	9:00 am AA Speaker Meeting
Greg T.—South Deerfield, MA (Saturday, 9 am)	11:30 am Lunch on your own	10:30 am Al-Anon Speaker Meeting
Jimmy A.—Spring Lake Heights, NJ (Saturday, 7:30 pm)	11:30 am Workshops/Delegate Report	12:00 pm Lunch A La Carte
Sara V.—Frederick, MD (Sunday, 10 am)	1:00 pm AA Speaker Meeting	1:00 pm Old Timers Panel
<b>Al-Anon Speaker</b> Katie C.—Frederick, MD (Saturday, 10:30 am)	2:30 pm Workshops	2:30 pm Workshops
<b>Open AA and Al-Anon Meetings</b> at intervals each day	4:00 pm AA Speaker Meeting	4:00 pm Delegate Report
<b>Evening Activities</b> Ice Cream Socials (\$5 each night) Live Music and Talent Show	6:00 pm Dinner on your own	5:30 pm Dinner Banquet
	7:30 pm AA Speaker Meeting	7:00 pm Meet Area 29 Officers and Sobriety Countdown
	9:00 pm Ice Cream Social with Live Music	7:30 pm AA Speaker Meeting
	10:00 pm AA History Presentation: Founding Moments	9:00 pm Ice Cream Social/Live Music
		10:00 pm Recovery Talent Show
	<b>Pre-Registration Gift!</b> Limit 600 See Back	<b>Sunday, August 6th</b>
		9:15 am Prayer and Meditation
		10:00 am AA Speaker Meeting

Convention Hotel Room Rate: \$124/per night + tax  
Hotel reservations must be made by Sunday, July 9, 2023  
For hotel reservations, call 844-781-7404  
(Code: MGS 2023 State Convention)

For online hotel reservations click on—  
[Book your group rate for MGS 2023 State Convention](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1666295673654&key=GRP&app=resvlink)

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1666295673654&key=GRP&app=resvlink>



**Area 29**  
Maryland State Convention



**51a Reunión Anual Área 29**  
Convención Estatal de Maryland  
Del 4-6 de agosto del 2023

A cargo de Maryland General Service, Inc. con  
la participación de Al-Anon

Celebrada en el Hotel Delta de Marriott—Hunt Valley  
245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031

Se proporcionará interpretación en español y  
lenguaje americano de señas con adaptaciones adicionales  
para personas con problemas de audición

Oradores AA	Viernes 4 de agosto	Sábado 5 de agosto
Amalia C.—Farmington, CT (Viernes, 1 pm)	7:00 am Se abre el registro	7:00 am Se abre el registro
Stephanie L.—Eastampton, NJ (Viernes, 4 pm)	8:15 am Oración y meditación	8:15 am Oración y meditación
Barclay R.—Nashville, TN (Viernes, 7:30 pm)	10:00 am Talleres	9:00 am Reunión con orador AA
Greg T.—South Deerfield, MA (Sábado, 9 am)	11:30 am Almuerzo por su cuenta	10:30 am Reunión con orador Al-Anon
Jimmy A.—Spring Lake Heights, NJ (Sábado, 7:30 pm)	11:30 am Talleres/Informe del delegado	12:00 pm Almuerzo a la carta
Sara V.—Frederick, MD (Domingo, 10 am)	1:00 pm Reunión con orador de AA	1:00 pm Panel de veteranos
<b>Al-Anon Orador</b> Katie C.—Frederick, MD (Sábado, 10:30 am)	2:30 pm Talleres	2:30 pm Talleres
<b>Aperura de reuniones</b> AA y Al-Anon a intervalos cada día	4:00 pm Reunión con orador de AA	4:00 pm Reporte del delegado
<b>Actividades nocturnas</b> Convivencia con helado (\$5 cada noche) Música en vivo y espectáculo de talentos	6:00 pm Cena por su cuenta	5:30 pm Cena Banquete
	7:30 pm Reunión con orador de AA	7:00 pm Conozca a los oficiales de Área 29 y de Sobriety Countdown
	9:00 pm Convivencia con helado y música en vivo	7:30 pm Reunión con orador de AA
	10:00 pm Presentación de la historia de AA: Momentos de su fundación	9:00 pm Convivencia con helado y música en vivo
		10:00 pm Espectáculo de talento en recuperación
	<b>¡Regalo de pre-registro!</b> Limitado a 600 Ver el reverso	<b>Domingo 6 de agosto</b>
		9:15 am Oración y meditación
		10:00 am Reunión con orador de AA

Tarifa del Hotel por cuarto para la convención: \$124/por noche + impuestos  
Las reservaciones del Hotel deben hacerse antes del domingo 9 de julio de 2023

Reserve al: 844-781-7404

(Código: MGS2023 Convención estatal)

Para reservar en línea ingrese a:

[Book your group rate for MGS 2023 State Convention](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1666295673654&key=GRP&app=resvlink)

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1666295673654&key=GRP&app=resvlink>



Pre-Registration Gift—51st MGS Convention Pin—First 600 pre-registrations!  
**51<sup>st</sup> Annual Area 29 Maryland State Convention**

**Registration and Meal Selection**

Register online at <http://www.marylandaa.org/state-convention>  
Online registration payment by credit card or PayPal is \$38, including a \$2 convenience fee.  
Registration payment by check is \$36. Make check payable to MGS State Convention.

Mailing address for hardcopy/check registration is:

MGS Convention  
P.O. Box 9879  
Towson, MD 21284



First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me regarding Service Opportunities at the Convention:  Yes Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

I require accessibility accommodations at the Convention. Please list: \_\_\_\_\_



**Registration Options**

Registration Options	Cost	# of Registrants	Subtotal
AA Registrants	\$36/person	X _____	= \$ _____
Al-Anon Registrants	\$36/person	X _____	= \$ _____

**Saturday Lunch—A La Carte** \$34.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Rotisserie style chicken served with warm rolls & butter, classic Caesar salad, au gratin scalloped potatoes, seasonal vegetables, New York style cheesecake, premium coffee, tea, and iced tea.

**Saturday Banquet—Seating limited to 200—(Must Specify Meal Option 1-4 Below)**  
Plated meals served with warm rolls & butter, mixed green salad, New York style cheesecake, premium coffee, tea, and iced tea.

**Option 1:** Chicken piccata with lemon caper sauce, Yukon gold smashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables. \$51.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 2:** White fish Veracruz with capers, olives, peppers sauteed, Saffron cilantro rice, seasonal vegetables. \$54.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 3:** Roasted pork tenderloin with mushroom marsala demi glaze, parley fingerling potatoes, seasonal vegetables. \$55.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 4:** Vegetarian lasagna, seasonal vegetables. \$49.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Due:** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

¡Regalo de pre registro—Broche conmemorativo 51st MGS—Primeros 600 pre-registros!  
**51a Convención Estatal Anual en Maryland de Área 29**

**Registro y selección de comidas**

Registro en línea: <http://www.marylandaa.org/state-convention>  
Pago de registro en línea con tarjeta de crédito o PayPal es de \$38,  
incluye \$2 como tarifa de conveniencia.

Pago de registro con cheque es de \$36 Girar el cheque a nombre de MGS State Convention.  
La dirección para el registro de cheques/copia impresa es

MGS Convention  
Apartado Postal 9879  
Towson, MD 21284



Nombre: \_\_\_\_\_ Apellido: \_\_\_\_\_

Dirección: \_\_\_\_\_ Correo Electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

Ciudad: \_\_\_\_\_ Estado: \_\_\_\_\_ Código postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Comuníquese con nosotros respecto a oportunidades de servicio en la Convención:  Sí Teléfono #: \_\_\_\_\_

Requiero adaptaciones de accesibilidad en la convención. Enumérelas: \_\_\_\_\_



**Opciones de registro**

Opciones de registro	Cost	# Participantes	Subtotal
Participantes de AA	\$36/persona	X _____	= \$ _____
Participantes de Al-Anon	\$36/persona	X _____	= \$ _____

**Almuerzo sábado—A la carta** \$34.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Pollo asado servido con panecillos calientes y mantequilla, ensalada clásica César, papas gratinadas, vegetales de la temporada, pastel de queso estilo New York, café premium, té y té helado.

**Banquete sábado—Asientos limitados a 200—(Debe especificar las opciones de comida 1-4 a continuación)**  
Platos servidos con panecillos tibios y mantequilla, ensalada verde mixta, pastel de queso al estilo Nueva York, café premium, té, té helado.

**Opción 1:** Pollo piccata con salsa de alcaparras al limón, puré de patatas Yukon, vegetales de temporada. \$51.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Opción 2:** Pescado blanco Veracruz con alcaparras, aceitunas, chiles, salteados, arroz con azafrán y cilantro, vegetales de temporada. \$54.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Opción 3:** Lomo de cerdo asado con demi glaseado de hongos marsala, Bastones de papas con perejil, vegetales de temporada. \$55.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Opción 4:** Lasaña vegetariana, vegetales de la temporada \$49.00 X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Cantidad Total:** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**66<sup>th</sup> Annual Sessions By-The-Sea**  
**September 5-10, 2023**

*Hotel Information*

For your convenience, "Sessions" rates have been offered by hotels and motels listed below. It is your responsibility to select a place to stay during the week and make your own reservations. To obtain "Sessions" rates, you must inform the hotel you will be attending Sessions By-The-Sea. Locations and phone numbers are listed for each hotel. Ask the hotel about other items such as room tax, minimum nights required to make reservations, weekday and weekend rates, and any other items they have to offer or require. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. More information can be obtained by contacting the Ocean City Hotel-Motel Association at 1-800-OC-OCEAN.

COURTYARD MARRIOTT	15TH STREET	410-289-5005
FLAGSHIP OCEAN FRONT	2600 N. BALTIMORE AVE	410-289-3384
HARRISON HALL HOTEL	1409 ATLANTIC AVE	410-289-6222
HOLIDAY INN OCEANFRONT	6600 COASTAL HWY	410-524-1600
PLIM PLAZA HOTEL	109 N. ATLANTIC AVE	410-289-6181
QUALITY INN BOARDWALK	1601 ATLANTIC AVE	410-289-4401
QUALITY INN OCEAN FRONT	54TH STREET	410-524-7200
SEABONAY MOTEL	2711 ATLANTIC AVE	410-289-9194

**22nd Annual Halloween**

# GRATITUDE CRUISE

**October 29-November 5, 2023**  
**WONDER OF THE SEAS**



**BY ROYAL CARIBBEAN**

*More food than you can eat, more coffee, iced tea & lemonade than you drink included, plus nightly shows!*

**BEST NEW SHIP**  
 WONDER OF THE SEAS®  
 2022 Travel Weekly Readers' Choice Awards

**PRIVATE COSTUME CONTEST:**  
**2023 Rule #2 Them: DRESS AS A SONG!**  
 (must play the song for judges on your phone)  
**Rock & Roll, Country, Jazz, Hip Hop, Blues, etc.**  
**SOBER SCAVENGER HUNT Nov. 3!**

For the best sober party of the year, call  
**561-702-2312**

**EXCLUSIVELY FOR GRATITUDE CRUISE GUESTS, MALE & FEMALE**

Daily 12 Step Meetings, Keynote Speakers:  
**Chip B. & Alanon Angie B.**



*Cococay is a private island*



Date	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun. Oct. 29	Orlando, (Port Canaveral) FL		4:30 pm
Mon. Oct. 30	Perfect Day at Cococay, Bahamas	7:00 am	4:00 pm
Tues. Oct. 31	Cruising		
Wed. Nov. 1	Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas	1:00 pm	8:00 pm
Thurs. Nov. 2	Phillipsburg, St. Maarten	8:00 am	6:00 pm
Fri. Nov. 3	Cruising		
Sat. Nov. 4	Cruising		
Sun. Nov. 5	Orlando, (Port Canaveral), FL	6:00 am	

**While they last...Rates are per person, double occupancy for week. Add \$193.45 to your choice of:**  
**Balcony: \$1,197.**  
**OB. Oceanview: \$1,116.**  
**Interior: \$900.**

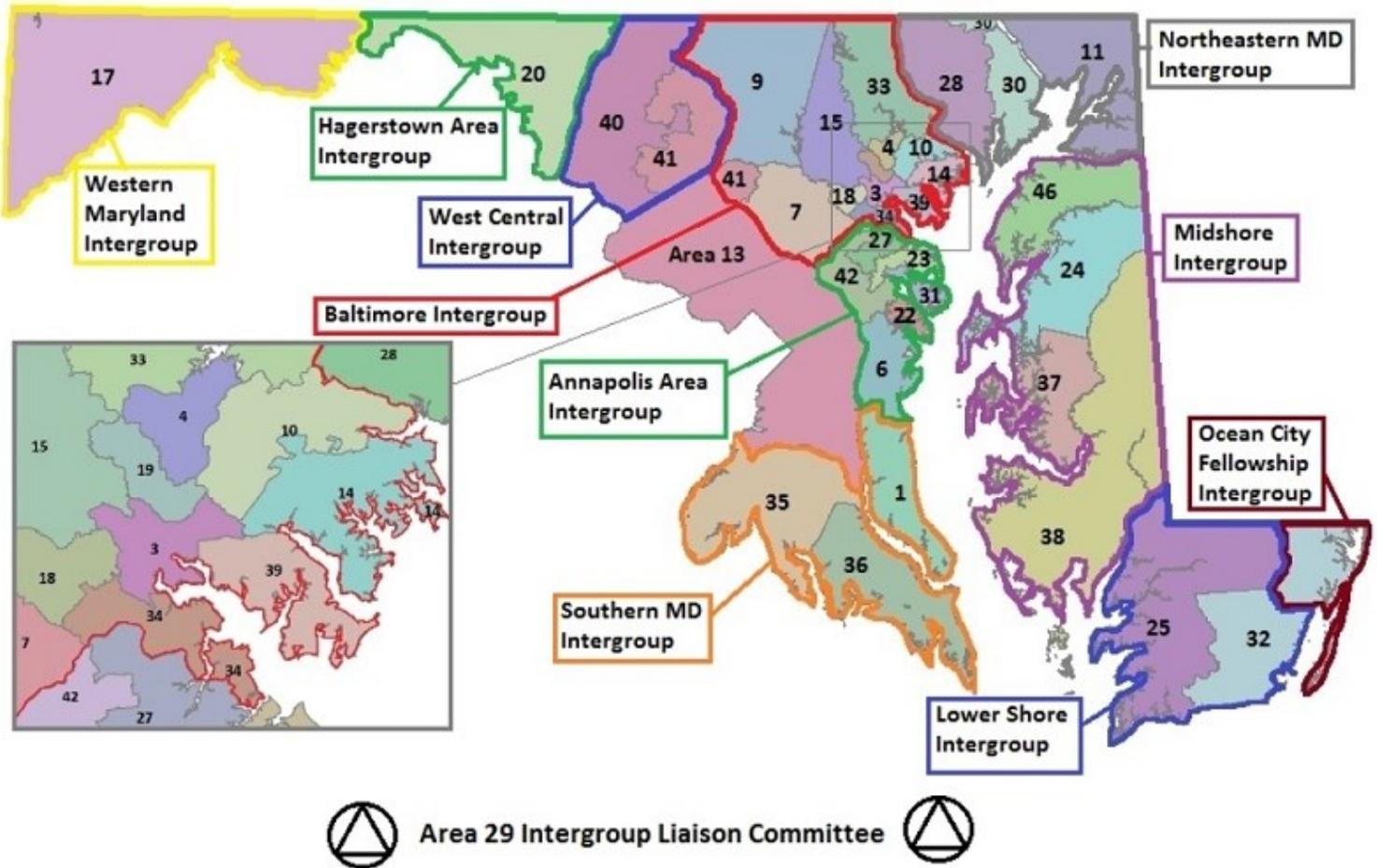





**Features:** The largest ship in the world has 7 neighborhoods, 4 pools plus Adult only Retreat; 10 whirlpools, Flow Rider Surfing Machines, Rock Climbing Walls, Casino Royale, 20 Dining options, Abyss Slide, Water Slides, Ice Shows, Vegas & Broadway Nightly Full Production, Vitality Spa, Fitness Center, Mini golf course, full sized basketball court and more on this 236,857 ton ship, the largest #livekeyoumeanit

**Royal Caribbean INTERNATIONAL**

[www.sobereceptions.com](http://www.sobereceptions.com), *fellowship vacations since 2001*



# NOT QUITE RIGHT

The Not Quite Right Group

8:00pm. Friday Nights

Good Samaritan Lutheran Church

20850 Langley Rd. (Middle Building)

Lexington Park, Md.

Is in need of Support

and Home Group Members

# CLEAN AIR GROUP

The Clean Air Group

Is in need of support

And home group members

Come on out and check us out

Friday nights 6:30pm.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church

44078 St. Andrews Church Rd.

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL GROUPS!!!**

# "BLUE TOP @ NOON"

Lexington Park United Methodist Church

21760 Great Mills Road

12:00 noon

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Tuesday will be the Daily Reflections

Wednesday will be the Big Book

Thursday will be a Step/Tradition meeting

Come check us out and join our group!



**THE "WHAT'S THE POINT!"**

**A.A. MEETING**

BIG BOOK  
AS BILL SEES IT  
GRAPEVINE  
TWELVE  
&  
TWELVE



ALL MEETINGS  
ARE  
LITERATURE  
BASED  
EACH WEEK IS  
DIFFERENT  
A.A. APPROVED  
LITERATURE

**COME OUT AND CHECK US OUT**

**GOOD SAMARITAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

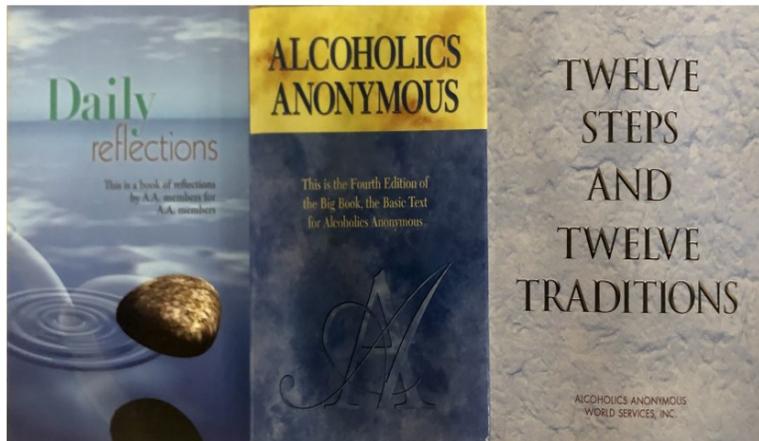
**20850 LANGLEY RD. LEXINGTON PARK**

**THURSDAY EVENINGS 8:00 PM.**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR HOME GROUP MEMBERS**

**WE HAVE SERVICE POSITIONS TO BE FILLED**

**COME OUT AND FIND OUT  
WHAT'S THE POINT! OF LIVING  
THIS LIFE OF RECOVERY  
AND HOW WE DO THIS  
"ONE DAY AT A TIME."**



# SMIA MEETING MINUTES 4/8/23

Opening: Buddy F. opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Board Members present: Buddy F. - Chair, Rebecca B. – Treasurer, Rob A. – Parliamentarian and Tressie F. - Secretary

Groups & Committees Represented: John Z. – 12x12 for Serenity/ Archives, Paul S. – Cove Point, Bill L – Sunderland/ Bookstall, Todd M. - St. Charles Step, Craig W. – Waldorf, Nathan H. – Waldorf, Scott T. – Grapevine, Scott A. – Basic Text, Jamie R. – North Beach, Roy B. – Solomons, Lorraine J. – Bedouin, Amanda W. – ODDAT, George W. – Inspiration, Robert W. – Saturday Morning Breakfast, Kristi P. – Never too Late, Chuck M. – Sobriety First, Rob A. – Popular Hill, Melissa W. – Phone

SMIA Chair Report: Buddy F. – transitioned Bookstall duties. Plan to attend District meetings over the next few months; however, was unable to attend IGLC meeting.

Vice-Chair Report: Katherine L. – not available.

Secretary Report: Read by Tressie F. – March 2023 minutes were accepted as read with corrections.

Treasurer Report: Rebecca B. – 2/25/23 – 3/24/23 report provided. Total assets \$16118. 98 with \$125 in contributions. The next report will close out this year's budget and the annual budget will be presented next month. The Treasurer's Report is available on-line at <https://somdintergroup.org/finance.html>

Committee Reports Archives: John Z. – would like photographs of SMIA founders. Anonymity of deceased members is not perceived to be an issue.

By-Laws Committee: Rob A. Parliamentarian. The establishment of this committee occurred (motioned, seconded, and passed) due to issues discussed under Old Business concerning SMIA funds and the distribution of such funds for initiatives

and projects. Members include Rob, Buddy, Melissa, Keith, Rebecca, Craig, George, and Lorraine. The Bylaws will be reviewed and edited for presentation to the SMIA membership for consideration, discussion, and modification.

Lifeline: Keith – asked John to provide an Archives feature for the Lifeline. Looking for volunteers to provide service articles.

Phone Report: Melissa – received 18 calls (2 St. Mary's, 3 Calvert, 10 Charles) with 3 from the Charles County Health Dept.

Serenity Breakfast: Buddy – no chairperson and no facility.

Gratitude Dinner: Buddy – no chairperson and no location as of yet.

Corrections and Treatment: Charles County – Todd per Brandy meetings are being held at Jude House at 8:30 on Sundays. St. Mary's – Meetings going into Anchor every Wednesday and Compass every Monday. The Anchor would like a meeting brought in the 5th Tuesday of the month. Calvert – Lorraine reports on behalf of Dan S. (Corrections) and Mark B. (Treatment). Meetings are being held at Barstow and 20 people have attended the orientation. Meetings are 1st and 3rd Wednesday for men and 2nd and 4th for women.

PI/CPC: St. Mary's – in good shape. Calvert – Lorraine delivered Big Books and 12x12 to libraries. John – Brenda provided information to the Health Department and will be setting up a table for them.

Bookstall: Bill L. reported - There were 680 visits to the On-Line Bookstall since the March meeting. There were 18 orders since the last meeting; 8 are processing, 4 are on hold, and 6 were completed. Completed orders totaled \$271.50. Processing orders totaled \$477.55. On-Hold orders totaled \$216.00 AA World Services literature purchases totaled \$1123.24. I will update the inventory database upon receipt of the physical inventory conducted by Buddy. The total inventory asset value

will be forwarded to Rebecca and Buddy when completed.

Where and When: Pat P. – a box was provided for the meeting today. There are 5 boxes remaining. No new changes.

Website: Bill L. gave report. Total Visitors (initial visit) 2141– Down 3% 5 Most Frequently visited pages Home Page – 2294 Where and When Calendar- 418 Where and When Search -204 On-Line Meetings - 173 Anniversary Calendar -158 Referring Sites Direct Others Search Engines – Google, DuckDuckGo, Yahoo Site Updates and Changes No significant updates Meeting Change Information No additions, changes, or terminations this month Meeting Status Currently there are 130 meetings in our service area; 120 meetings are in-person, 7 meetings are hybrid, 6 meetings are on-line only, and 4 meetings are reported as suspended. Of those 4, 1 has an on-line presence. Document Posts and Updates Mobile App 2023 4.4 released – 4/3/23 Lifeline posted – 4/2/23 Finance Page updated – 3/27/23 SMIA Minutes posted – 3/15/23

Old Business – Kristi P. volunteered for the Secretary position. A motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the 2 year sobriety requirement. The incumbent Secretary cast one vote to elect. Letters were provided by the Waldorf group (see page 3) and the Inspiration group concerning SMIA use of funds and the requirement for excess funds to be split between World Services and Maryland General Services (60/40). There was a lot of discussion. The SMIA has a responsibility to the recovering community and attempts to follow the spirit of the traditions; however, we are a nonprofit corporation and do not report to Maryland General Services or World Services. Our accountability is to the groups we service in Southern Maryland and the membership.

*(continued on page 13)*

(continued) Basically, since the books were already provided to the Round-Up and the additional \$600 contribution to the church that hosts the SMIA, it was agreed those expenditures would stand rather than attempting to recoup the contributions. In both cases, the contributions were voted for by the attending membership. Some felt the Round-up was an outside entity, but some believed we are providing a service to recovering alcoholics. This was considered a special project; however, the By-Laws Committee will investigate defining special projects and determining the funding that will be set

aside for those items. It was agreed that in the future, these types of items would be bought before the membership to take back to their groups to discuss before a vote is considered. The membership agreed to withdraw the college scholarship and State Convention sponsorship proposals.

New Business – Buddy – The corporate credit card had been compromised, so when purchases for literature from AA World Services were submitted, the charges were invoiced. Therefore, we had in-

voices dated back to August 2022 in the amount of \$2862.66. These have since been reconciled with the new corporate credit card. It should be noted that all invoiced literature was delivered.

For the Good of the Order Mini Conference will be held in Severna Park on April 15th. District 35 4th Step Workshop will be held on April 19th. Rebecca B. (Treasurer) will celebrate 4 years of sobriety at Grateful Alive on May 17th.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Letter from Waldorf group below:

March 27, 2023

To: Southern Maryland Intergroup

From: Waldorf Group

Subject: Southern Maryland Intergroup Spending

The Waldorf Group held its monthly group conscience on Wednesday March 15, 2023, following the Southern Maryland Intergroup (SMIA) meeting on Saturday March 11, 2023. We discussed the spending and proposed spending outline in the intergroup meeting minutes from the February and March 2023 intergroup meeting. The Waldorf Group does not agree with the intergroup spending and proposed spending as stated in the February and March 2023 meeting minutes because spending is not in accordance with AA traditions and SMIA BYLAWS. Based on this the Waldorf Group unanimously voted to suspend donations to the intergroup for the following reasons:

1. \$900 literature donation to the Southern Maryland Round-UP for the Living Sober workshop.

a. Although The Southern Maryland Roundup is organized and ran by AA members it is not affiliated with any Area, District or Group and is not part of the AA General Service

Structure, so it is an outside event/activity and support of it violates Tradition 6 - An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

2. \$600 donation to the Immaculate Conception Church. a. No matter how well intentioned, any donation above the rent paid for the meeting hall is an in-kind contribution to an outside organization and not aimed at our primary purpose. This donation violates both the 5th and 6th Traditions.

3. Spending of excess funds. a. The Waldorf Group believes that SMIA should return to fiscal policy as outlined in the Intergroup By-laws dated May 16 2022 Article 8 Finance paragraph 8T which states "In the event that SMIA funds are greater than the Prudent Reserve, and there is no special projects or planned equipment purchases requiring savings, all funds in excess of the Prudent Reserve shall be sent to World Services and Maryland General Services on a 60/40 percent basis after a vote from the membership". b. If SMIA excess funds are spent as outlined in Article 8 Finance paragraph 8T it would benefit AA as a whole and contribute to lowering the increasing literature prices.

4. A Scholarship for each District to Maryland State Convention.

a. The Waldorf Group does not understand what criteria would be used to pick recipients of this proposed scholarship. There is no justification for singling out certain AA members for cash rewards.

5. \$1000 Scholarship to the child of an alcoholic.

a. We agree this is a slippery slope. Although this proposal was tabled, we believe that before SMIA moves forward on this they should contact Maryland General Services and or AA General services for clarification of this proposal.

In closing I would like to make the following motions on behalf of the Waldorf Group:

1. SMIA should not move forward with spending outline in the February/March 2023 meeting minutes and should return to a fiscal policy in accordance with SMIA BYLAWS dated May 16, 2022, Article 8 Finance, and the AA Traditions.

2. If the Roundup literature donations have already been made, ask that the donation be returned.

Respectfully, Craig W - Waldorf Intergroup Representative



## Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc. Treasury Report

*Thank  
you!*

***For Your Contributions***

**\$315.33**

[www.somdintergroup.org/donate.php](http://www.somdintergroup.org/donate.php)

SMIA, PO Box 767, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

PayPal

Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc.  
Statement of Financial Position  
Mar 25, 2023 - Apr 24, 2023

**Assets**

Primary Business Checking	6,722.63
Prudent Reserve	6,300.44
PayPal	205.81
Bookstall Cash on hand	100.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>13,328.88</b>

**Expenses**

Bookstall	3,656.73
Donation	
Liability Insurance	-
Lifeline Printing	88.53
LogMeIn Communications	24.97
Misc - Gratitude Dinner Exp	
PayPal Fees/Transfers	
PO Box Rental	
Rent	
Webmaster	
Website Maintenance	91.89
Where and When	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,862.12</b>
<b>Monthly Net Assets</b>	<b>(3,862.12)</b>

Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc.  
Yearly Statement of Activity  
May 1, 2022 - Apr 30, 2023

**Revenue**

Contributions	9,107.33
Bookstall	4,357.05
Where & When Contributions	-
Gratitude Dinner	502.00
Serenity Breakfast	1,290.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 15,256.38</b>

**Expenditures**

Bookstall	6,385.32
Donation	600.00
Liability Insurance	267.00
Lifeline Printing	705.56
LogMeIn Communications	303.73
Md State Tax	
PayPal Fees	
PO Box Rental	100.00
Rent	600.00
Phone Answering Service	
Webmaster	1,475.00
Website Maintenance	868.18
Where and When	4,346.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>15,650.79</b>
<b>Yearly Net Assets</b>	<b>(394.41)</b>



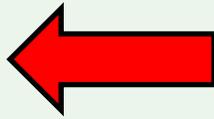
# WHERE DO WE SEND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS?

1) All contributions can be made online:  
[www.somdintergroup.org/donate.php](http://www.somdintergroup.org/donate.php)

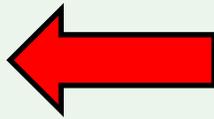
2) Or they can be mailed to the appropriate office location:

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT GSO AND MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE ADDRESSES HAVE CHANGED\*\*\***

**General Service Office  
 Post Office Box 2407  
 James A Farley Station  
 New York, NY 10116-2407**



**Maryland General Service Inc.  
 P.O. Box 207  
 Benson, MD. 21018**



**Southern Maryland Intergroup (SMIA)  
 P.O. Box 767  
 Charlotte Hall, MD 20622**

**District 1 Trust Fund (Calvert)  
 P.O. Box 234  
 Barstow, MD 20610**

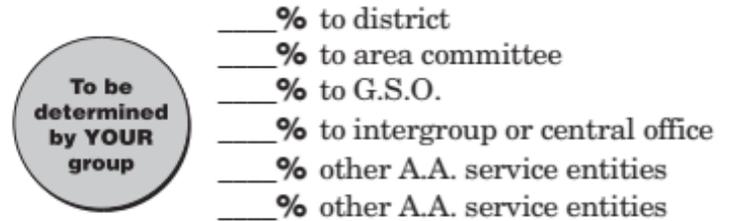
**District 35 (Charles)  
 P.O. Box 1981  
 La Plata, MD 20646**

**District 36 (St. Mary's)  
 P.O. Box 1334  
 California, MD 20619**

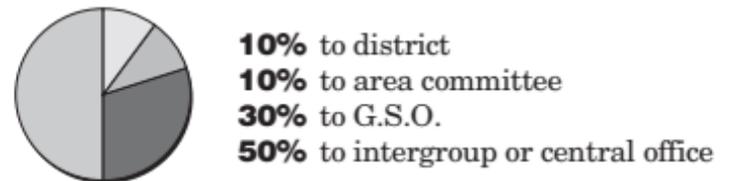
## Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities\*

Distribution Plan of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (YOUR GROUP NAME)

Your Group Service # \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Be sure to write group name and service # on all contributions.)

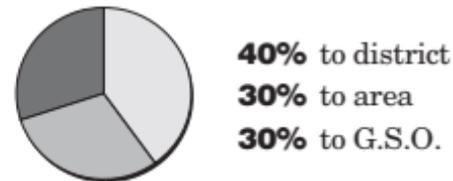


OR



OR

If you have no intergroup/central office.



## ATTENTION GROUP TREASURERS:

***\*Remember to include the 6-digit GSO Group Number on all correspondence to Maryland General Service.***

**DISTRICT 35 - CHARLES CO.**

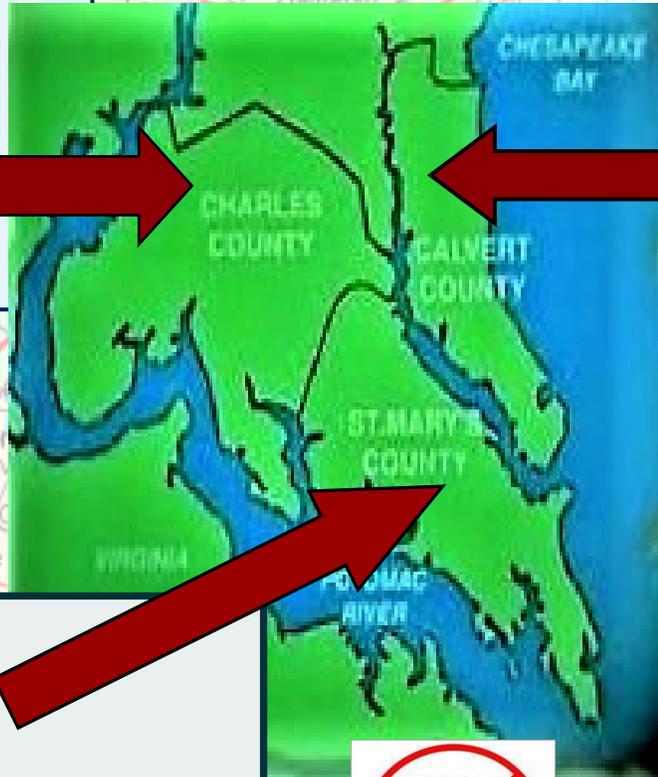
***Please come out and join us at our next District Meeting - the first Thursday of the month @ 7pm***

**Peace Lutheran Church  
11610 Rubina Place  
Waldorf MD 20602**

**Mailing address:  
PO Box 1981, La Plata,  
MD 20646**

***SERVICE KEEPS US  
SOBER***

**THE WORLD  
RECORD  
FOR SOBRIETY  
IS 24 HOURS.**



**DISTRICT 1  
CALVERT COUNTY**

**SERVICE  
OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Accessibility Chair**
- **Grapevine Rep**

**District Meeting:  
7 PM, 3rd Monday  
St. Paul's Episc.  
Church**

**Prince Frederick, MD  
District 1 Trust Fund**

**PO Box 234  
Barstow, MD 20610  
[www.calvertaa.org](http://www.calvertaa.org)**



**DISTRICT 36**

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY**

**PO Box 1334, California, MD 20619**

**[www.district36mdaa.com](http://www.district36mdaa.com)**



# DISTRICT NOTES

**Please send any updates for the Where & When to:**

**[smia.whereandwhen@somdaa.org](mailto:smia.whereandwhen@somdaa.org)**

**Current meeting guides are available at the monthly SMIA meeting on a limited basis.**

**The next SMIA Meeting will be held on**

**Saturday, May 13 10:00 AM**

**Join us in person @**

**Immaculate Conception Church,  
28297 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD  
20659**

**Or via Zoom @**

**[https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?  
pwd=QzVLCUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09](https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?pwd=QzVLCUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09)**

**“Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”**

**THE DEADLINE FOR ALL LIFELINE SUBMISSIONS IS THE 27th OF EACH MONTH.**



The spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice. Because A.A.'s Twelve Traditions repeatedly ask us to give up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit - well symbolized by anonymity - is the foundation of them all. It is A.A.'s proved willingness to make these sacrifices that gives people their high confidence in our future. [https://](https://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie/)

[www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie/](https://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie/)

**“There is, however, a vast amount of fun about it all. I suppose some would be shocked at our seeming worldliness and levity.”**

**RECOVERY COACH BARNEY FIFE**

**LET'S GO OVER OUR RELAPSE PREVENTION PLAN...**

**ARE YOU KEEPING SECRETS? NIP THAT IN THE BUD.**

**ARE YOU ISOLATING? NIP IT IN THE BUD.**

**ARE YOU SKIPPING MEETINGS? NIP IT! NIP IT IN THE BUD.**



LordofLaughs.com

**“Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern.”**

**Our primary purpose is to help the still suffering alcoholic. SMIA is committed to this principle and provides a 24x7 Telephone Service. We need phone volunteers! Go to our website, [www.somdintergroup.org](http://www.somdintergroup.org). Click on the Phone List link, complete the online form - this is a secure method to add your name to the 12-Step Call List. This protected information is only shared with the Phone Committee Chair. You will be amazed before you're half way through.**



It must never be forgotten that the purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous is to sober up alcoholics. There is no religious or spiritual requirement for membership. No demands are made on anyone. An experience is offered which members may accept or reject. That is up to them.

— Bill W. —

QUOTES

**RECOVERY.**

**You must be present to win.**

**SMIA SERVICE TEAM:**

- Chair: Buddy F.
- Vice Chair: Katherine L.
- Secretary: Kristi P.
- Treasurer: Rebecca B.
- Parliamentarian: Rob A.
- Where & When: Pat P.
- Lifeline: Keith H.
- Telephone: Melissa W.
- Digital/Written Media: Bill L.
- Archives: John Z.

**The Lifeline** is an unofficial newsletter published by Southern Maryland Intergroup Association, Inc. Any opinions expressed are those of the writers. They are not endorsed by SMIA, any group or AA as a whole. Group secretaries and individuals are encouraged to send group news, anniversaries and events. Material may be edited for space and content. Please send all *Lifeline* correspondence to: [somdlife-line@gmail.com](mailto:somdlife-line@gmail.com)