

SOUTHERN MARYLAND INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

MARCH 8, 2025 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Opening:

Buddy F. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Board Members Present: Buddy F. – Chair, Lorraine J. - Vice-Chair, Bruce O. – Treasurer, Paul S. - Parliamentarian and Kristi P. – Secretary

New Member(s): Sharra W. – Bedouin Group, Pattie S. – Beach Beacon Group,

Groups & Committees Represented:

Bill L.–Harmony Group/Web/Bookstall, Nathan H. – Waldorf Group, Todd M. – St. Charles Step Group, Emme J. – O.D.A.A.T, Keith H. – Almost Normal/Lifeline, Andy X. – Keeping it Green, Cathy T. – 12 & 12 for Serenity, Pat P. – Where and When, Roy B. – Solomon's Group; Lisa T. – Awakening Group, Sharra W. – Bedouin Group, Pattie S. – Beach Beacon Group, John L. – Turn it Over, Zee S. – Sunday Morning Sobriety, Faye S. – We Are Saints

SMIA Chair Report: Buddy F. reported he attended the Area 29 Intergroup Liaison on March 3rd. BC Dave was the host from the Worldwide Virtual Intergroup. They've been doing online groups since 1985. Topics discussed were how to irradicate zoom bombers and having online GSO districts. Our district does not currently have one. CARC II was to be held today, but Buddy was unable to attend due to SMIA meeting. Buddy discussed the Delegate Report which can be found on www.marylandaa.org. Topics included the Plain Language Big Book, Archives, Corrections and Accessibilities for Veterans. US Veterans are offered the opportunity to share their experiences by visiting militaryoutreach@aa.org. Buddy F. read Lorraine J.'s Spotlight on Service article. This was an excellent article explaining the support that SMIA provides to share the message. The General Services highlights according to committee members they need AA members who have strong experience in the fields subject trustee's literature committee. Deadline is April 15th. Committee will serve as a leader of a working group for pamphlet development for Asian American Alcoholic's in AA and Transgender alcoholics in AA.

Vice-Chair Report: Lorraine would ask that people share the Spotlight on Service article with their groups to highlight the support that SMIA provides.

Secretary Report: Kristi P. read the February meeting minutes. Motion and second to accept minutes as read, all in favor.

Treasurer Report: Bruce O. provided monthly treasurer report. Bruce shared that monthly contributions have significantly increased. **Note–this fiscal year's budgets for each district's Corrections and Treatment and PI/CPC need to be spent by the end of the fiscal year (April 30, 2025). Budget resets on May 1st.** Motion and second to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, all in favor.

Committee Reports

Bookstall Report: Bill L. reported there were 929 visits to the Bookstall this month. There were 7 orders for a total of \$324.00. Purchases from AA World Services totaled \$652.85. The current remaining budget for district literature is; Calvert C&T - \$375, Calvert PI - \$140, Charles C&T - \$60, Charles PI - \$250. St. Mary's C&T - \$191.50, St. Mary's PI - \$134.50

Web/Technology: Total visitors 2,671 (up 17%). Most frequently visited pages: Home Page, Where and When Calendar, Online Meetings, Where and When Search, Al-Anon Information. Site updates and changes: Minor form changes to improve navigation. Site Updates and Changes: There were no significant changes to the site this month. Meeting Change Information: The Harmony Group meeting time changed to 7:00 PM for both Monday and Thursday. The Tuesday Evening North Beach meeting format was changed to a Big Book meeting that focuses on the stories. Meeting Status: Currently there are 132 meetings in our service area; 123 meetings are in-person, 6 meetings are hybrid, 8 meetings are on-line only. Document Posts and Updates: Lifeline posted – 03/02/25, Finance Page updated – 03/02/25, Where and When PDF updated – 03/02/25, SMIA Minutes – 03/02/25:

Gratitude Dinner: Looking for a volunteer to chair.

Corrections and Treatment: Calvert –everything is going fine, orientations may be this month. There is a possible volunteer to coordinate meetings going into institutions. Charles – meetings going into the jail, RCA, ALPAS and Jude House. St. Mary's – Roy B. reported they have been taking meetings into jail on Wednesdays at 7 pm. Receiving good participation (average 12 inmates per meeting). Actively seeking men with 1 year of sobriety to share their experience, strength and hope, so they aren't bringing in the same speakers each week. The library at the jail contacted Roy requesting books for their library. Roy also said they are seeking volunteers for sponsorship for the inmates. Inmates call the sponsor from the jail.

Lifeline/Archives: Keith H. reported everything is going well. Looking for submissions or articles. Keith thanked Lorraine for her article. Keith passed around a sheet to provide emails for a monthly email distribution of the Lifeline. All names and emails would remain anonymous.

Picnic: Buddy volunteered to chair the picnic. Buddy is going to try to reserve the pavilion at Lettie Dent which provides electricity, playground, etc. For families. Possible date for picnic is June 22nd, depending on availability of the pavilion. Buddy will hold a meeting after next month's SMIA meeting to discuss the picnic.

PI/CPC: Calvert – Lorraine J. reported no changes. Charles – No report. St. Mary's – No report.

Telephone: No report.

Serenity Breakfast: Breakfast will be held at Immaculate Conception on April 26th, Time: 9 am-12 pm. Tickets are available. Need volunteers on 4/25 at 6 pm for set up and 4/26 for breakdown. Please contact 301-481-2090 with any questions.

Where and When: Pat is looking for a new printer for the Where and When's in this area.

Workshops: None.

Old Business: Reminder that elections will be held in March for the Chair and Secretary positions. Optimally the Chair position rotates through the three counties so the next chair should be from Charles County. The Secretary position does not require rotation. Nomination form on the SMIA website.

New Business: Buddy stated two positions were up for election (Chair and Secretary). Lisa T. was nominated for Secretary. Kristi P. motioned to elect Lisa T. Motion was seconded and accepted. Todd M. was nominated for Chair. Kristi P. motioned to elect Todd M. as Chair. Motion was seconded and accepted. Buddy is looking for new ways to fundraise through raffles. Suggested possibly doing a raffle for hotel rooms for winner for the Roundup and Sessions. Members were asked to take back to their groups. Buddy F. and Kristi P. were thanked for their service in their positions.

For the Good of the Order: Bruce will celebrate 11 years on March 8th at Waldorf Group. On March 23rd, Lorraine J. will celebrate 45 years, Jean C. 8 years and Danny L. 9 years at Bedouin. District 36 is having a NoTalent Show on May 17th at 7 pm. If you wish to participate in the talent show, please reach out to Melissa W. or Mary F. Zee S. reported that beginning March 30th, Sunday Morning Sobriety will begin having their meetings at Timberlake Park.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge and the Lord's Prayer