



# 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.

<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>

**life-line** | \ 'lif-, lin : 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.

The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous arguably devotes an entire chapter to Step Two. Though there is no official subject header for Step 2 in the book, Chapter Four, "We Agnostics," has been considered the Step Two chapter because it precedes the list of the twelve steps at the opening of Chapter Five. Since taking Step 3 is considered making a decision to work on the rest of the Steps, we arrive at Step 3 when we reach the list of steps in Chapter Five, "How it Works." If you have no idea what I'm talking about, let's rewind.

"Alcoholics Anonymous," the book—aka The Big Book—was written in 1936 by AA co-founder Bill Wilson and 100 or so recovering alcoholics, with a collaborative drafting process occurring between Akron, OH, where AA co-founder Dr. Bob and his early AA group met, and New York, NY where Bill W's group met. This book pioneered what is now popularly known as the 12-step program.

## Steps in the Big Book

What's kind of confusing is that the book does not contain, even in its Table of Contents, any mention of the twelve steps. There are not 12 chapters. Chapter Five has a list of the Twelve Steps and after that list one italicized sentence that reads, "Now we were at Step Three." In the rest of the chapter, we have more italicized sentences—"Now we were at Step Four,"

"Now we were at Step Five," etc. This continues through the following Chapter Six until we conclude that chapter with "The next chapter is entirely devoted to Step Twelve," before Chapter Seven then closes us out.

# Step 2

# COME TO

# BELIEVE

But there is no sentence in the Big Book that reads, "Now we were at Step Two." This is because the first step and second steps have been unofficially labeled by sponsors who pass this on to their sponsees. The readings on Step One have been considered the Introduction, Prefaces, and Bill's Story. And Step 2 is Chapter Four, "We Agnostics." Later, of course, when Bill W wrote "The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions," the 12-step program was further codified. But many continue to work the Steps of AA using

this Big Book method.

## Sponsorship

A note before continuing: There can be different results in working the steps in different ways—there is no best method. A good idea recommended by many AA members is to find a good sponsor. The guidance of the sponsor is arguably the best part of the fellowship of AA and distinguishes the AA method from an addiction treatment center, holistic addiction treatment, detox programs, outpatient programs, or other kinds of support groups around addiction.

A sponsor is not an authority figure but another recovering alcoholic who shares their own problems and the new life they found by working the steps of AA. The only thing required of the sponsor and sponsee relationship is that they agree to work the 12 steps together. Usually, a

sponsor takes a sponsee through the steps the same way they were taken through the steps the first time. There is no contract signed or formal agreement made, but a commitment and a desire to stop drinking on both the part of the sponsor and the sponsee—because it is in helping the sponsee that the sponsor says sober. It is in learning new ideas and the spiritual program of AA that the sponsee is able to receive the long-term solution to their problem of addiction, - to negative thoughts, (continued on page 2)

(con't) alcohol, or any other substances.

In Chapter Four of the Big Book, Bill W summarizes all varieties of opinions about this concept of a Higher Power that various alcoholics and addicts come into twelve-step recovery rooms possessing. The most important emphasis in the thread connecting all the assumptions is that those who kept an open mind found a concept of a higher power and a way of living along spiritual principles that relieved them from their mental obsession with the disease of alcoholism and addiction.

They attested that the only thing that enabled this psychic change was a power greater than themselves. We read of an alcoholic who could not believe in a supreme being and saw so many arguments against it until a thunderbolt of a short question opened his mind to new ideas: "Who are you to say there is no God?" (BB, pg. 56). This is the best part about Step Two in AA. A higher power can be anything greater than you.

In AA, the higher power is not a religious figure, a Christian god, or anyone else's image of god. The goal of the second step is for one to come to believe that there is a power greater than them—whether they consider this a concept of god or a concept of a higher power does not matter. It has been said that if one's "best thinking" led them to destructive behavior that resulted in an alcoholic bottom that led them to AA, then it made logical sense to suspend belief in that thinking and replace it with experimental belief in something else. Spiritual growth, or spiritual awakening, can happen in many different ways.

Some consider their higher power the recovery meeting itself—simply by mathe-

matical standards, this anonymous meeting of strangers is a greater body than their individual self. Many such people choose to make one meeting their "home group," which can act as a more personal variation of the group-as-higher-power model.

Others embrace the spiritual terms in Step Two and have fun imagining what an effective spiritual structure could look like—one that brings peace and soundness of mind and shows up in our daily lives. One for whom mental illness is no barrier to reaching and healing our minds, that always has our best intentions in mind, and is constantly seeking us out to lead us into a better life.

The unconscious mind is a treasure trove of information. Spending time in one's own life trying to connect with a higher power may awaken what could feel like moments of insanity. But for those of us who used drugs and alcohol as a way to transcend reality, this is not new territory. The difference between drugs and this higher power we were coming to believe in is that this power actually worked in giving us what we sought from drugs and alcohol—connection, delight, freedom, peace in the body, and access to joy.

As with all the steps, there is no right or wrong way to work Step Two. Your sponsor will usually tell you when you can move onto Step 3, but the measure of this is usually if you have arrived at a conception of a higher power whose protection and care you would be willing to turn your life and will over to because this is the higher power that is going to carry and lead you through the rest of the Twelve Steps.

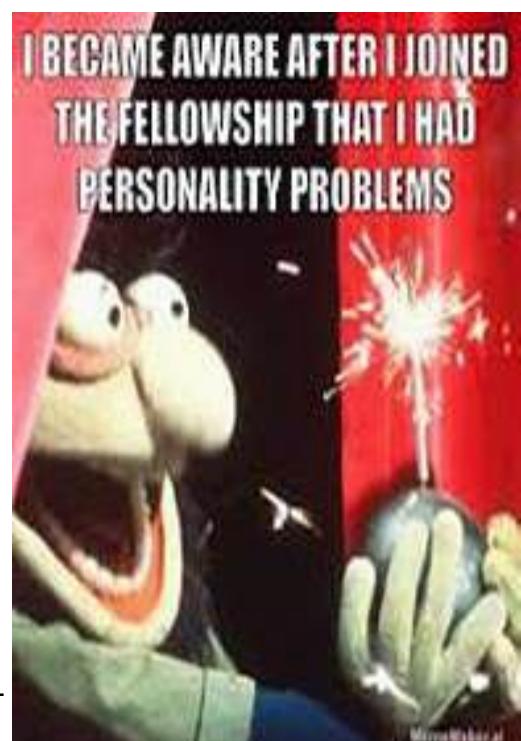
Step Two can be a spiritual touchstone to return to as you continue your step jour-

ney to renew your hope in the process of the 12-steps and help remind you that the power you seek to make conscious contact with is the power that knows the exact nature of your wrongs before you even write your personal inventory. The hope of remembering that you cannot work any of the steps without a higher power is insurance that your process of working the steps will end better than your drinking and drugging did.

There will be so many times in the step journey that this reminder will come in handy—so many times when the mind will say "This is not going to work, this is a stupid idea, why do I have to do this" (especially perhaps in making direct amends). But this is why a good Step Two can remind us that new ideas may do us good, especially considering where our best thinking originally took us. So, come to believe it is something, anything! And if you can't, borrow the effective spiritual structure of the group and wait for your own higher power to find you.

We promise you they are searching for you right now.

<https://soberspeak.com/step-2-of-alcoholics-anonymous-coming-to-believe/>



Each year, Alcoholics Anonymous holds the General Service Conference in New York during the first week of May. That meeting is the culmination of a year-long process, and there are opportunities for A.A. members to learn about and take part in that work before the Conference meets.

That work centers on Conference agenda items. These are specific pieces of business that affect A.A. as a whole. Agenda items can include topics such as A.A. literature, public information, accessibility and treatment, finances, and how A.A. services are delivered.

Before the Conference meets, agenda items are reviewed in Area 29 (Maryland) through **Conference Agenda Review Committees (CARCs)**. Once the agenda is released in February, items are assigned to review meetings held across Area 29 in the weeks leading up to the Area Mini-Conference. That review process takes place in the spring, before the General Service Conference meets in May.

I went to my first CARC meeting not quite sure what to expect. What I found was a space where I could listen, ask questions, and start to understand how Conference decisions actually take shape. It was one of the first times the service structure

## Learn How Conference Agenda Review Committees (CARCs) Work — and How You Can Participate

felt real and directly connected to my own experience in A.A.

These meetings are open to any A.A. member. You don't need a service position to attend. Agenda items are introduced with short presentations to explain what's being proposed, followed by open sharing. Members are invited to share their experience, questions, concerns, or support related to each item.

The Area Delegate, Lori McP., attends these meetings, listening and participating. While informed by what is shared during the review process, the Delegate is not a proxy for the Area. At the General Service Conference, the Delegate votes an informed conscience, shaped by what she has heard, for the good of A.A. as a whole.

Conference Agenda Review Committees provide a practical way for A.A. members in Area 29 to learn about Conference business and take part in the process before decisions are made. You don't need a service position to participate. If you're interested in learning more or attending a Conference Agenda Review Committee meeting, please email Joe R. at [altdelegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:altdelegate@marylandaa.org).

Joe R., Alternate Delegate | Panel 76  
Area 29 – Maryland General Service

## The Spiritual Principle for Step Two is HOPE

After working the first step and realizing that I truly was powerless over my alcoholism and my life had become COMPLETELY unmanageable, I was humbled . For some reason I had a feeling of finality . I was hoping that there was something, somewhere that could provide me relief, and give me some "rails to run on".

When I worked the second step is it then I feel I embarked upon my "spiritual experience" and journey into a different life.

Power... that is what I lacked! I needed a Power that could provide me a safety net from the first drink which would AGAIN lead me to a place I didn't want to return to. I "came to believe" that no human power could provide me a defense from the first drink. I began to accept with an open mind that this defense might come from a

Higher Power of my choice.

There is a solution. I love how AA works. My first higher power was my home group. I was safe there from the first drink.. I kept coming back and I started to feel safe in the outside world. I saw first hand how this belief in a Higher Power was working in others lives . I watched people mend relationships, families come back together, peoples lives were actually changing right before my eyes! That's when I decided "I WANTED WHAT THESE PEOPLE HAD".

Sanity is a legal term denoting that an individual is of sound mind and therefore can bear legal responsibility for his or her actions. I didn't feel very sane when I entered the rooms of AA. My life was on that downward spiral . Part of my insanity was for years and years I didn't care.

INSANITY!

The final hurdles. Defiance, self-righteousness, ego, loss of faith and hope, intellectualism, relying on self, and many more. I had to let go of these in order to get what these people in AA had.

I opened my mind, I became willing . That's when it all began to happen. It felt good to have a power to rely on. I had a new friend. One that I could share openly with and HONESTLY with. A power that knew me better than I knew myself. I began to have a feeling of spirituality and I am returning to a more sane state of mind.

The thing that I find incredible is ...the life I wanted and was chasing while I was out there "researching" I have found beyond my wildest dreams in recovery.

<https://coigaa.org/the-spiritual-principle-for-step-two-is-hope/>



# It Happened IN February

**February 1:** 1918: Original Dates set for Bill Wilson's marriage to Lois Burnham. The date was moved up because of the war. 1942: Ruth Hock, AA's 1st paid secretary, resigns to get married

**February 2:** 1942: Bill Wilson paid tribute to Ruth Hock, AA's first paid secretary, who resigned to get married. She had written approximately 15,000 letters to people asking for help

**February 5:** 1941: Pittsburgh Telegram ran a story on the first AA group's Friday night meeting of a dozen "former hopeless drunks."

**February 8:** 1940: Bill W., Dr. Bob, and six other AA's asked 60 rich friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr., for money at the Union Club, NY. They got \$2,000. 1940: Houston Press ran first of 6 anonymous articles on A.A. by Larry J.

**February 9:** 2002: Sue Smith Windows, Dr. Bob's daughter died.

**February 10:** 1922: Harold E. Hughes was born on a farm near Ida Grove, Iowa. After his recovery from alcoholism, he became Governor of Iowa, a United States Senator, and the leading dark horse for the Presidential Democratic nomination in 1972, until he announced he would not run. He authored the legislation which cre-

ated the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and other legislation to help alcoholics and addicts.

**February 11:** 1938: Clarence Snyder ("Home Brewmeister" in 1st, 2nd & 3rd editions) had his last drink.

**February 12:** 1945: World War II paper shortage forced reduction in size of the Big Book.

**February 13:** 1937: Oxford Groups "Alcoholic Squadron" met at the home of Hank Parkhurst ("The Unbeliever" in the 1st edition of the Big Book) in New Jersey. 1940: With about two years of sobriety, Jim Burwell ("The Vicious Cycle") moved to the Philadelphia area and started the first Philadelphia A.A. group.

**February 14:** 1971: AA groups worldwide held a memorial service for Bill Wilson. 2000: William Y., "California Bill" died in Winston Salem, NC.

**February 15:** 1918: Sue Smith Windows, Dr. Bob's adopted daughter, was born. 1941: Baltimore Sunday Sun reported that the city's first AA group, begun in June 1940, had grown from 3 to 40 members. 1946: AA Tribune, Des Moines, IA, reported 36 new members since Marty Mann had been there.

**February 16:** 1941: Baltimore Sunday Sun reported city's first AA group begun in 1940 had grown from 3 to 40 members, with five being women.

**February 18:** 1943: AA's were granted

the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases, despite gas rationing.

**February 19:**

1967: Father "John Doe" (Ralph Pfau), 1st Catholic Priest in AA, died.

**February 20:** 1941: The Toledo Blade published first of three articles on AA by Seymour Rothman.

**February 21:** 1939: 400 copies of the Big Book manuscript were sent to doctors, judges, psychiatrists, and others for comment. This was the "multilith" Big Book.

**February 22:** 1842: Abe Lincoln addressed the Washington Temperance Society in Springfield, IL.

**February 23:** 1959: AA granted "Recording for the Blind" permission to tape the Big Book.

**February 24:** 2002: Hal Marley, "Dr. Attitude of Gratitude," died. He had 37 years of sobriety. Hal testified, anonymously, before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse on December 3, 1970.

**February 28:** 1940: First organization meeting of Philadelphia AA was held at McCready Huston's room at 2209 Delancy Street.

<https://toledoaameetings.com/important-dates-in-alcoholics-anonymous/>

## District 36 EVENTS Committee

Is looking for a Co-Chair

Contact Your Home Group GSR or Mary F. (maryfearns82@gmail.com) for information



**TRADITION TWO: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants, they do not govern."**

In a relationship based upon the Traditions there is no such thing as individual authority. All decisions are arrived at by a majority agreement, reached after all elements of the problem or situation have been considered and a Higher Power has been contacted for guidance in the making of the decisions (an informed group conscience). Unfortunately, however, many times our relationships are unhealthy due to the dominance of one person or the other. The uninformed often times feels he/she has the ability to "know best" for its individual participants and tries to impose this attitude of "playing God" in the relationship.

All my life I feared authority. I had a very strange idea about it. I didn't like anybody else's authority. I only liked my own authority. Maybe it is not so strange if you're a sick alcoholic like me. But I certainly did not have any respectful attitude for authority.

My first successful experience in not being fearful of authority was in A.A.. I did not fear my sponsor but relied on him. I saw my sponsor as the expression of a

## Elder Statesman vs. Bleeding Deacon

1. Looks for God in the Room
2. Talks Slow & Listens Fast
3. Embodies Humility
4. Leads by Example



1. Looks for Validation in the Room
2. Talks Fast & Listens Slow
3. Embodies Ego
4. Leads Through Intimidation

loving God. My second experience in not being fearful was when I started listening to the group conscience. The more I followed what I heard in A.A. through the group conscience, the better my life became. Gradually I have extended this trust in the group in A.A. to that of the world. Tradition 2 encourages me to listen in order to have good relationships with you and to trust you as part of the group conscience. God may, just may, be speaking through you.

Life forces me to become an elder statesman or a bleeding deacon. The group conscience will correct me if I am out of line and I have a choice to complain like a bleeding deacon or lead by humble example like an elder statesman.

### Step-Tradition Parallel

Each tradition answers the question raised by the parallel step. The second step raises the question of how I can come to believe and what is sanity. I came to believe by trusting the group conscience in A.A., and then I began to trust God and eventually the world. The experience of trusting A.A. to keep me

sober is the experience that gave me confidence in God and in you. This is how the second tradition helped me to come to believe.

As it states at the top of this page, the 12 Traditions were created to help each A.A. group maintain unity and relate better to the world about us. With that in mind, they have been widely used in helping us learn how to be in better relationships with everyone in our life. Below is a snapshot inventory you can take to see how well you are honoring the spiritual principle found in this Tradition (in and out of the rooms of A.A.). The foundation of this inventory is from the A.A. Tradition's Checklist first published in the A.A. Grapevine.

<https://takethe12.org/t2>

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Long-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?
7. Why is it necessary that a healthy relationship be one in which the members are equals?
8. How do you feel and react when someone tries to or dominates in your relationships?
9. Do you have an inherent tendency to dominate people around you? How can you correct his defect of character?
10. Are you someone who is always willing to allow someone else to take control and then complains because you don't like what was done, yet were unable to make a decision yourself?
11. What is the difference between suggestions, advice, and guidance?
12. Is God or a Higher Power the only authority in your relationships? How does this Higher Power express Himself to you when making any decisions?
13. Why is it necessary to give the minority opinion an open-minded evaluation in a group conscience?
14. Why is humility a necessary ingredient in applying Tradition II to your relationships?

# What Are AA Conventions and Conferences, and How Do They Help?

## What Are AA Conventions and Conferences, and How They Help Your Sobriety and Recovery

The journey of recovery from alcoholism is both challenging and rewarding. For those who've chosen this path, AA conventions and conferences can serve as a lighthouse, illuminating the way and keeping them connected to the core principles of recovery. Let's delve deeper into these significant gatherings, shedding light on their history, structure, and their profound impact on sobriety.

### 1. Introduction to AA and its Principles

**Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)** is a global mutual aid fellowship that has been assisting alcoholics in their journey to sobriety since its inception in 1935. Its ethos revolves around the **Twelve Steps** and **Twelve Traditions**, frameworks that provide both a structured method for recovery and guidelines for group functioning.

- **The Twelve Steps:** This is a program of personal recovery. The steps cover admissions of powerlessness over alcohol, making amends for wrongs done, and connecting to a higher power.

- **The Twelve Traditions:** These provide guidelines for group governance in AA, emphasizing the importance of unity and anonymity.

### 2. The Significance of AA Conventions and Conferences

## What Are AA Conventions and Conferences

These events are pivotal in the calendar of AA members. They're much more than ordinary meetings. Taking place over several days, these events can be regional, national, or even international.

### Key Attributes:

- **Unity and Solidarity:** These events bring together diverse groups of AA members, from the newcomer to the individual celebrating decades of sobriety. This confluence underscores the unity and strength of the AA community.

- **Education and Knowledge Sharing:** Speakers from different parts of the world, workshops, panel discussions, and literature displays offer attendees a wide range of learning opportunities.

- **Celebration:** Beyond the learning, these events celebrate the shared journey of recovery. They acknowledge the challenges faced and milestones achieved.

### 3. Different Types of AA Gatherings

#### AA events vary in scale and reach:

- **Local Conventions:** Often city or county-based, these smaller conventions foster closer ties within the local AA community.

- **Regional Conventions:** Spanning larger geographical areas, these conventions attract a more diverse group of attendees and usually offer a broader range of activities and speakers.

- **International Conventions:** Held every five years, they commemorate the founding of AA. Thousands of members from around the world converge to celebrate sobriety, making it a grand event.

### 4. The Akron Founders' Day Conference

Akron, Ohio, holds a special place in AA's history. It's the birthplace of AA, where co-founders Bill W. and Dr. Bob met in 1935.

#### Akron's Founders' Day Conference Features:

- **Historical Tours:** These tours take attendees to key landmarks, such as Dr. Bob's home, where early AA meetings took place.

- **Meetings:** Reflecting AA's core activity, these meetings often have a historical theme, drawing parallels between the challenges faced by early AA members and those of today.

- **Fellowship:** Beyond the formal events, attendees can network, forming new friendships and strengthening existing ones. More info can be found here on Founders Day: [Founders' Day \(foundersday.org\)](http://foundersday.org).

### 5. Benefits for Your Recovery and Sobriety

Attending AA conventions and conferences can profoundly impact one's recovery journey: *(continued on page 7)*

(con't) • **Connection with a Broader Community:** The experience of connecting with someone who's walked a similar path can be deeply affirming.

• **Renewed Motivation:** Being amidst a sea of individuals, all committed to sobriety, can reignite one's own commitment.

• **Learning Opportunities:** Every attendee's story provides new insights, coping strategies, and perspectives.

• **Spiritual Growth:** For many, these conventions are a spiritual retreat, strengthening their faith and resolve in the recovery process.

#### 6. Tips to Prepare for an AA Convention

To make the most of these conventions:

- **Set Clear Intentions:** Reflect on what

you hope to achieve, be it networking, learning, or simply soaking in the experience.

- **Plan Ahead:** Research the event schedule, book accommodations early, and if possible, familiarize yourself with the venue.

- **Stay Open:** While you may have a plan, be open to serendipitous moments.

- **Engage Ahead of Time:** Many conventions have pre-event online forums. This can help set the tone and provide networking opportunities.

- **Prioritize Self-Care:** Given the intense nature of the event, ensure you take time for yourself.

AA conventions and conferences offer a rich tapestry of experiences, learning, and connections. They serve as a potent

reminder of the strength of the AA community and the boundless possibilities of recovery. For those walking the path of sobriety, these events can be transformative, ushering in deeper insights, stronger connections, and renewed zeal for the journey ahead.

In the end, whether you're new to AA or have been a member for years, there's always something new to discover, learn, and celebrate. So, consider diving into this experience - it might just be the boost your journey needs.

<https://newcomerskeepcoming.org/f/what-are-area-conventions-and-conferences-and-how-they-help>



# NERAASA 2026

## *NorthEast Regional A.A. Service Assembly*

**All A.A. members are welcome! #ComeMeetMaine! Area 28**

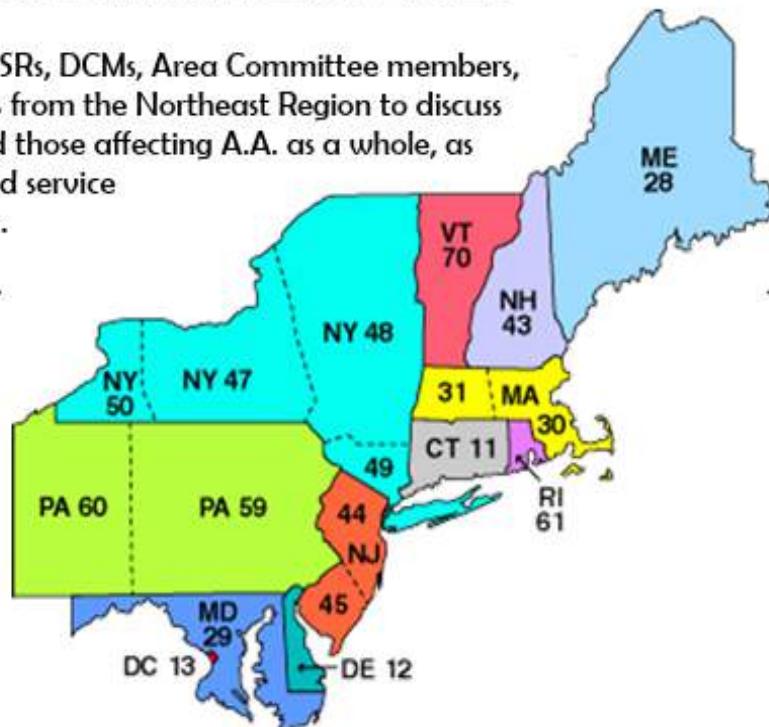


**PURPOSE:** The purpose of NERAASA is for GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee members, and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives from the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference- related issues and those affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity, and service common to the Areas of the Northeast Region.

**February 20-22, 2026**

**Holiday Inn By the Bay**  
88 Spring St  
Portland, ME 04101

**Deadline for hotel registrations 1/19/2026**



# FEBRUARY

# 2026



| SUN   | MON  | TUE   | WED  | THU   | FRI   | SAT   |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| 1<br>Gordon M.,<br>44 yrs,<br>KISS            | 2<br>Jimmy S.,<br>20 yrs,<br>Monday<br>Nite AA<br><br>David D., 17<br>yrs, KISS                            | 3<br>Kim S., 30<br>yrs,<br>Leonardtown<br>Big Book<br><br>Cynthia C., 3<br>yrs, Emotion-<br>al Sobriety | 4<br>Fran C., 3<br>yrs, Battled<br>and Rattled | 5<br>RC, 7 yrs,<br>Patuxent<br>River  | 6<br>Antoine M.,<br>6 yrs, 231              | 7<br>Jamie Q., 8<br>yrs, Laurel<br>Grove<br><br>Jamie R., 5<br>yrs, North<br>Beach<br><br>Walter B., 39<br>yrs, Happy<br>Hour |
| 8   | 9  | 10<br>Denise S., 1<br>yr, Blue Top<br>at Noon   | 11   | 12<br>Elmer, 1 yr,<br>Charlotte<br>Hall   | 13  | 14<br>John V., 1 yr,<br>Laurel Grove  |
| 15<br>Bobby L,<br>29 yrs, Nev-<br>er Too Late | 16<br>Eric S., 2 yrs,<br>Monday Nite<br>Traditions<br><br>Michelle T., 12<br>yrs, More Will<br>Be Revealed | 17  | 18   | 19<br>Bob M., 7 yrs,<br>Back to Basics<br><br>Dave M., 12<br>yrs, Harmony<br><br>Bruce O., 12<br>yrs, Waldorf | 20  | 21  |
| 22  | 23   | 24  | 25<br>Laura P.,<br>13 yrs,<br>Step<br>Sisters  | 26<br>Dickie R., 41<br>yrs, Old Neil,<br>37 yrs and<br>Pat S., 13 yrs,<br>Poplar Hill                         | 27<br>Brian B.,<br>18 yrs,<br>Cove<br>Point | 28<br>Dennis B.,<br>50 yrs, King-<br>ston Creek<br><br>Beth M.,<br>23 yrs,<br>Early Ris-<br>ers                               |

# MARCH 2026

| SUN | MON   | TUE | WED | THU  | FRI | SAT   |
|-----|---|-----|-----|--|-----|---|
| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5  | 6   | 7   |
| 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14  |
| 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19   | 20  | <b>Jason R.,<br/>4 yrs, Not<br/>Quite<br/>Right</b> |
| 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26   | 27  | 28  |
| 29  | <b>Lorraine<br/>J., 46 yrs,<br/>Bedouin</b> | 30  | 31  |  <b>Congratulations!</b> |     |   |

# SMIA

## BOOKSTALL BINGO AND VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

Saturday, 02/14/26 from 4:30 PM to 11:00 PM

Bingo starts at 4:30 PM and the dance begins at 6:30 PM

Immaculate Conception Church  
28297 Old Village Road  
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

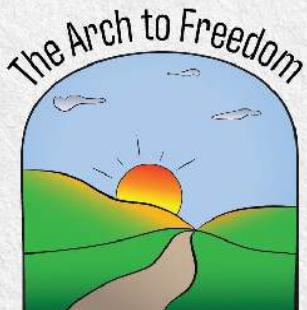
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[bookstall@somdaa.org](mailto:bookstall@somdaa.org)

## MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE, INC SAVE THE DATE



### 52nd Maryland State Convention

June 19-21, 2026

Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel, Towson, Maryland

Register at:

**[www.marylandaa.org](http://www.marylandaa.org)**

Early Bird Registration January 30 - May 18: \$40 online, \$38 mail in

Regular Registration May 19 - June 12: \$47 online, \$45 mail in

**Join us for:**

Speakers  
Workshops  
Alcatrons  
Old Timers Panel  
Meditation  
Delegate Report

AA Play  
History Presentations  
AA & Al Anon Literature  
Speaker recordings for sale  
Banquet Dinner  
Ice Cream Social

Hospitality Suite  
DJ Dance  
Game Room  
Song Circle  
Coffee

District 36

## Sunday Covered Dish and Speaker Jam

March 1st

1 PM - 4 PM

**FIRST SAINTS  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

25550 POINT LOOKOUT RD  
LEONARDTOWN, MD 20650

*Bring a dish and  
Join us for fun!*



### Speakers

John B., Prince Frederick  
Dawn R., Annapolis  
Sara S., Lusby

Contact Mary F for information

[piscesbaby82mf@gmail.com](mailto:piscesbaby82mf@gmail.com)

## REGISTER

FOR THE  
2026 VAC CONVENTION



DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
Richmond - Midlothian  
1021 Koger Center Blvd,  
Richmond, VA 23235  
Friday, August 14 through  
Sunday, August 16, 2026

Hosted by VAC District 29 and  
surrounding Richmond Districts

\$20 until 12/31, \$25 1/1-8/13

\$35 registration at the door

Rooms \$135 a night until 7/15/26



Registration &  
Scholarships



Hotel  
Booking

[2026VACconvention@gmail.com](mailto:2026VACconvention@gmail.com)



# GROUPS CHANGING THEIR LOCATION

Beginners At Noon

Drunks Are Us

Lexington Park Big Book

Monday Nite Group

Not Quite Right

46940 SOUTH SHANGRI LA DR.

SUITE 12

LEXINGTON PARK, MARYLAND 20653

**Starting December First**



AA Women's Group

Bedouin Women – Language of the Heart

Thursdays – Starting November 6, 2025

7:00 p.m.

Phillips House  
37 Duke Street Prince Frederick



JOIN US

Need Support!!!



Calvert County Grapevine Meeting

7:00 PM Tuesdays  
St. John Vianney  
105 Vianney Lane  
Prince Frederick, Maryland



Paula S., Treasurer - (443) 684-4576



**What kind of  
"Event" would you like  
the District to host ???**

**Provide suggestions to:**

- Your Home Group GSR
- The Events Committed Chair:  
Mary F. / maryfearns82@gmail.com
- Attend a District 36 Committee Meeting  
2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm, Hollywood Rescue Squad

# "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!

# 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!*



## THE WHAT'S THE POINT GROUP!!

COME OUT AND CHECK US OUT AT OUR

IMPROVED NEW LOCATION

THE CALLAWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

20960 POINT LOOKOUT RD.

THURSDAY EVENING 8:00PM.

WE NOW HAVE

AIR CONDITIONING!!!



# 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

# Service Opportunities!

## GSR ORIENTATION

Area 29 • Maryland General Service

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH

7:30 PM – 8:30 PM (ET)

ZOOM ID- 892 1762 3074

PASSCODE-GSR

### You Are Invited

New to General Service? Want to learn more or get a refresher?

All new General Service Representatives (GSRs) in Area 29 — and any member of Alcoholics Anonymous — are welcome to attend this monthly orientation session.

### What Does a GSR Do?

A General Service Representative (GSR) is the link between an A.A. group and A.A. as a whole. GSRs represent their home group, carry the group conscience into the service structure, and share information from the district, Area 29, and the General Service Office.

Serving as a GSR is one of the clearest ways to participate in A.A.'s Unity and Service.

Hosted by Area 29 • Panel 78

Questions? [altdelegate@marylandaa.org](mailto:altdelegate@marylandaa.org)

## Alcoholics Anonymous

### Maryland Deaf Access Committee (MDAC)

Created to organize the foundation of funding and scheduling in-person AA meetings interpreted in American Sign Language (ASL) in Area 29



#### Who We Are

The Maryland Deaf Access Committee (MDAC) is a group of AA members who work in cooperation with our local area districts and home groups to help ensure we can carry the message to ALL those seeking recovery.

#### Focus

Our main focus is providing ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters at in-person AA meetings in Area 29 to make the fellowship more accessible to the Deaf and hard of hearing community

#### AA Traditions

We follow AA's 12 Traditions and are not affiliated with any outside organization. More information will be provided on our website soon. Also see our FAQs.

#### Contributions

We rely on contributions from AA members and groups to pay for ASL interpreters. We encourage people to remember that when we're discussing having ASL interpreters at meetings, we're discussing providing language access to AA.

Contributions can be made by

[Venmo@ MDAC-2023](https://venmo.com/MDAC-2023) or

[PayPal@ MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com](mailto:PayPal@MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com)

Please share our website: [www.mdacAA.org](http://www.mdacAA.org)

[MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com](mailto:MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com)

### REVIEW OF THE 2025 FINAL CONFERENCE REPORT



Working Together,  
Increasing Trust

THE 75TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE  
OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Sundays @ 7 pm EST

| Date    | Presentations  | Presenters | Position                |
|---------|--|------------|-------------------------|
| 1.04.26 | Conference Committee Grapevine and La Viña                   | Courtney S | Delegate Area 72        |
| 1.11.26 | Conference Committee Report and Charter                      | Jimmy W    | Delegate Area 64        |
| 1.11.26 | General Service Conference Inventory                         | Jimmy W    | Delegate Area 64        |
| 1.18.26 | International Committee and World Service Meeting Highlights | Robert L   | Trustee At Large Canada |
| 1.18.26 | A.A. Around the World and Meeting of the Americas (REDELA)   | Jennifer B | Trustee At Large US     |
| 1.25.26 | General Service Board  | Pending    | Pending                 |

ID: 812 3740 8344 PW: FCRR

Dial In 301-715-8592



Spanish  
Interpretation  
provided

### REVISIÓN DEL 2025 INFORME FINAL DE LA CONFERENCIA



Trabajar Conjuntamente  
para Aumentar  
la Confianza



LA 75.ª REUNIÓN ANUAL DE LA  
CONFERENCIA DE SERVICIOS GENERALES  
DE ALCOHÓLICOS ANÓNIMOS

Domingos @ 7 pm EST

| Fecha    | Presentaciones  | Presentador | Posición                |
|----------|---|-------------|-------------------------|
| 04.01.26 | Comité de Conferencia Grapevine y La Viña   | Courtney S  | Delegada Área 72        |
| 11.01.26 | Comité de Conferencia Informes y Carta Constitutiva   | Jimmy W     | Delegado Área 64        |
| 11.01.26 | Inventario de la Conferencia Servicios Generales  | Jimmy W     | Delegado Área 64        |
| 18.01.26 | Comité de Custodios Internacionales y Puntos Destacados de la Reunión de Servicio Mundial (RSM) | Robert L    | Custodio General Canadá |
| 18.01.26 | A.A. En El Mundo y Reunión de las Américas (REDELA)   | Jennifer B  | Custodia General EE.UU  |
| 25.01.26 | Junta de Servicios Generales  | Pendiente   | Pendiente               |

ID: 812 3740 8344 PW: FCRR

Marcar 301-715-8592



Proporciona  
interpretación  
al español

**SOUTHERN MARYLAND  
INTERGROUP  
ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES  
1/10/26**

**Opening:** Todd M opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. **Board Members Present:** Todd M – Chair; Lorraine J - Vice-Chair; Bruce O – Treasurer; and Paul S – Parliamentarian. **New Member(s):** None **Groups & Committees Represented:** Buddy F – Bookstall Chair; Chris B – Monday Night Traditions; Dan W - St. Charles Step; Emme J – ODAAT; Faye S – We Are Not Saints; Jaimie R – North Beach; Janine G – End of the World; Jeanine W – St. Charles Step; Keith H – Lifeline Chair; Michelle H -- Monday Night Traditions; Roy B – Solomon’s Group. **Online participants:** Bill L – Webmaster; Cindy – Awakenings; Bill – Freedom from Bondage. **Guest:** Joe R, Area 29 Alternate Delegate to share information about upcoming Conference Agenda Review Committee (CARC) activities.

**SMIA Chair Report:** The 52nd Maryland State Convention will be held June 19-21, 2026, at the Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel, Towson, MD. The flyer is available on the SMIA website. • Provided flyers for the Final Conference Report Review (FCRR) along with the 2026 Calendar for Area 29 MD General Service, Inc. All Committee and Assembly meetings will be offered in hybrid format.

• As of January 1, 2026, the NEW mailing address for contributions to Area 29, Maryland General Services, Inc. is: Maryland General Service, Inc. P.O. Box 234 Crownsville, MD 21032

**Vice-Chair Report:** Lorraine J is filling in as secretary for this meeting and wished everyone a happy and sober 2026. **Secretary Report:** Motion and second to accept December 2025, minutes as posted online and, in the Lifeline, all in favor.

**Treasurer Report:** Bruce O reported monthly contributions were \$570.85 and shared highlights on this months and year-to-date expenses that are detailed in the January 2026 Treasurer’s Report as it appears in the Lifeline. Motion and second to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented, all in favor.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS Corrections and Treatment:** Calvert –Lorraine J reported that volunteers are taking meetings into the Detention Center and into Avenues Treatment Center. Charles – Jeanine W reported for Allison B that they need more female volunteers to bring meetings into the detention center. Eight male volunteers are in the process of being approved for a new men’s meet-

ing. St. Mary’s – Roy B. reported 12 to 15 men attending weekly, with 25 men on the waiting list. Currently only 15 are allowed in at a time. Men are participating in discussions and bringing their Big Books. There is a lot of interest in the donated Grapevine magazines. More volunteers are always needed. Approval for access to the St. Mary’s Detention Center is good for 5 years. Need at least 3 more solid AAs with 1-year continuous sobriety in order to be able to start a second men’s group. Brandi T, District 36 Women’s Corrections Chair, and Roy B are planning a hybrid corrections workshop in April. PI/CPC: Calvert – Lorraine J. reported that Kenny G continues to do an amazing job. Charles – No report. St. Mary’s – Melissa W is the new PI/PCP Chair. Look forward to hearing more from her in the future.

**Telephone:** Melissa W reported via email that during the period from December 13 to January 10, there were 25 calls; Duration 1 hour and 15 minutes. Calvert – 7 calls, Charles – 6 calls, St. Mary’s – 1 calls, 11 callers did not specify a county. Melissa will step down as Telephone Chair in March. She selected March to ensure a smooth transition for the next phone chair. Her goal is to finalize the coordination for the GoToConnect system and update all resource and volunteer lists. Because the transition was difficult when she took over during the pandemic, she wants to make sure things are more organized this time. She will review the iCloud program with her successor. She will revamp the outgoing message so that there is an option for people who may need to talk, ask questions, need resources or just basic information in order to capture data on the callers that do not choose a specific area, possibly because they are not from the tri-county area. She hopes to attend next month in person to announce her replacement. She has someone in mind who has experience.

**Where and Whens:** There are 1,000 copies available. We will try to distribute them in a responsible manner.

**Lifeline/Archives:** Keith H reported all is going well and noted new material is always welcome. The deadline for the following month’s newsletter is the 27th of the current month.

**EVENTS** Serenity Breakfast: Still need a chair for the catered event which typically takes place in May or June. Picnic: Buddy F will be chairing this event. He has nothing to report at this time. Gratitude Dinner: Michelle H reported that 170 tickets were sold and the feedback from attendees has been positive. She expressed gratitude for the SMIA board’s participation. The food cost about

\$1,000 more than expected. Total profit to come back to SMIA is \$860. Bruce O, Treasurer, advised he will need an accounting, with receipts, so he can complete the audit required by the SMIA bylaws. Michelle also noted that the cook, John, suggested that his church located just before the Thomas Johnson Bridge on the St. Mary’s side of the river (site of the Kingston Creek meeting) has a hall that will accommodate 300 people and a large kitchen so we might want to consider holding next year’s Gratitude Dinner there. **Workshops:** Nothing to report

**Bookstall Report:** Buddy F reported there were no literature purchases this month. There were 12 orders for a total of \$315.80 in sales. District budgets are as follows: Calvert - C&T \$275; PI/CPC \$31; Charles – C&T \$375; PI/PCP \$250; St. Mary’s – C&T \$99; PI/PCP \$18.60. There is a new book, “Book of Fellowship” that will be available as Item B-86. New York has announced a \$3 price increase on all books. SMIA will continue to sell previously purchased books at cost. Buddy F has moved forward with the “Bookstall Bingo” fundraiser and dance. It will be held on February 14th from 4:30 to 11:00 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church. The flyer can be downloaded on the SMIA website. Contact Buddy F for details at [bookstall@somdaa.org](mailto:bookstall@somdaa.org).

**Web/Technology:** Bill L reported that for the period 12/13/25-1/10/26 Main site total visitors were up 2.5% (initial visit); Bookstall site was up 17%. Most frequently visited pages: Home page – 2968; Where & When Calendar – 270; Announcements – 191; On-Line Meetings – 133 and Al-Anon Information – 127. Site Updates and Changes- Changed the header, footer, and background to reflect the new year. Trusted servants for District 36 were updated on the District Information Page. All 2024 Lifeline, Financial information, and meeting minutes were archived. They can be accessed by requesting archived documents on the Archived Material Request page at <https://somdintergroup.org/amr.html>.

Meeting Change Information - The Sunday Morning Sobriety Meeting moved back to The Great Recovery Lounge for the Winter. Meeting Status - Currently there are 136 meetings in our service area; 127 in person, 6 hybrid, 8 on-line only, and 1 is suspended. Document Posts and Updates - Lifeline posted – 1/1/26; Finance Page updated – 1/1/26; SMIA Minutes posted – 12/22/25. Note - It is important to note that SMIA is not responsible for the accuracy of online or physical meeting information. This is the responsibility of the groups or districts that provide the information.

*(continued on page 15)*

(con't) **Old Business:** None

**New Business:** 1. CARC 101--Joe R, Area 29  
Alternate Delegate provided an overview of the CARC (Conference Agenda Review Committee) process. CARC is your voice in Alcoholics Anonymous! Although Area Delegates attend the General Service Conference in the spring of each year, the agenda items to be discussed and voted on are part of a year-long process that allows AA members, groups, districts, and Areas to submit ideas and concerns (proposed agenda items) to the General Service Office (GSO). These may include topics such as changes to Conference-approved literature and Public Information or social media policies. GSO staff and trustees review all submissions, eliminate duplicates, and determine which items are appropriate for inclusion on the annual General Service Conference agenda. Once the list of Conference agenda items is finalized, usually in February, it is distributed to individual Areas in the United States and Canada.\* In Area 29 (Maryland), five CARC (Conference Agenda Review Committee) events are held to provide opportunities for members to discuss items and share group conscience; the Southern Maryland region participates in CARC II. Each CARC is assigned approximately seven items unique to that CARC, along with about three items that are shared across all five CARCs. Area delegates bring the input produced at these CARCs to the

General Service Conference, where committees make recommendations that are discussed and voted on by the full Conference, with actions requiring a two-thirds vote to become advisory actions. A WhatsApp group has been created for members who wish to participate in CARC II activities. CARC II leaders plan to hold two meetings: the first, likely in March, may be held virtually and will provide an overview of the CARC process. Attendees will volunteer to research an item and create a presentation to be presented at the second CARC meeting, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 4. For more information or questions, members may contact James M., CARC II Leader, at [jamesmelnick4@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmelnick4@gmail.com). Information about CARCs can also be obtained on the MGS website at <https://www.marylandaa.org>. There is a Mini Conference held on April 11th in Severna Park, MD, where agenda items from all the CARCs are presented and discussed. \*The CARC and General Service Conference process applies to AA service Areas in the United States and Canada; AA service structures in other countries operate independently through their own general service conferences. 2. Serenity Breakfast – Catered vs. Self-Prepared Menu. Group This event if often held at the Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship in Piney Point and they do an excel-

lent job of providing a tasty breakfast for a reasonable price, less than it would cost us to purchase and prepare the food. This event is a fundraiser. SMIA volunteers are still responsible for creating marketing materials, for ticket sales and for coordinating the silent auction. Historically, the silent auction has offered a broad selection of quality items (artwork, collectibles, etc.)

The question was asked, does a board decision in favor of a catered event interfere with the autonomy of the event Chair. The consensus was that it simply provides a framework for the event coordinator and simplifies the scope of the project. If we are able to identify a Serenity Breakfast Chair, they would still have the option of researching and identifying an alternate venue/caterer, possibly one that is more centrally located. Motion and second for the Serenity Breakfast to be a catered event, all in favor.

**For the Good of the Order:** Paul S will celebrate 7 years at Cove Point on January 24th. Jaimie R will celebrate 5 years at North Beach on February 7th at 10:30 a.m.; Bruce O will celebrate 12 years at the Waldorf Group on January 31st. Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.

***The Hollywood Group  
is changing location  
and meeting time.  
Starting March 2026***

***New Location:  
Church of The Nazarene  
24710 Sotterley Road  
Hollywood, Maryland  
Tuesday 8:00pm***



# February 2026

## Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc

### Treasury Report

#### Monthly Contributions:

**\$813.72**

[www.somdintergroup.org/contribute](http://www.somdintergroup.org/contribute)

SMIA, PO Box 767, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

**Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc**  
**Monthly Statement of Financial Position**  
**December 25, 2025 - January 24, 2026**

| Assets                    |                  |  |  |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Primary Business Checking | \$ 3,542.18      |  |  |
| Prudent Reserve           | \$ 4,301.00      |  |  |
| PayPal                    | \$ 972.00        |  |  |
| Bookstall Cash on hand    | \$ 100.00        |  |  |
| <b>Total Assets</b>       | <b>10,915.18</b> |  |  |

| This Month's Expenses                 |                    |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Bookstall Purchases                   | \$ -               |  |  |
| Liability Insurance                   | \$ -               |  |  |
| Lifeline Printing                     | \$ (42.33)         |  |  |
| Misc                                  | \$ -               |  |  |
| Phone Answering Service/1-800#        | \$ (61.63)         |  |  |
| Post Office Box                       | \$ -               |  |  |
| Rent                                  | \$ (150.00)        |  |  |
| Webmaster                             | \$ -               |  |  |
| Website                               | \$ (139.66)        |  |  |
| Where & When                          | \$ -               |  |  |
| Picnic                                | \$ -               |  |  |
| Travel                                | \$ -               |  |  |
| Workshops                             | \$ -               |  |  |
| SMIA Archives                         | \$ -               |  |  |
| Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing) | \$ (14.00)         |  |  |
| Bank Charges and Fees                 | \$ (16.00)         |  |  |
| Other - Tax Filings                   | \$ -               |  |  |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                 | <b>\$ (423.82)</b> |  |  |

**Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc**  
**Yearly Statement of Activity**  
**April 25, 2025 - April 24, 2026**

| Year to Date Income      |                 | BUDGET<br>Shortfall |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Contributions            | \$ 6,116.50     | 32%                 |
| Bookstall Sales          | \$ 1,396.45     | 54%                 |
| Gratitude Dinner         | \$ -            | 100%                |
| Serenity Breakfast       | \$ -            | 100%                |
| <b>Total 2025 Income</b> | <b>7,712.95</b> | <b>47%</b>          |

| Year to Date Expenses                 |                      | BUDGET<br>Left to Use |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bookstall Purchases                   | \$ (1,317.76)        | 67%                   |
| Liability Insurance                   | \$ (351.00)          | -29%                  |
| Lifeline Printing                     | \$ (1,053.99)        | -10%                  |
| Misc                                  | \$ (104.74)          | 0%                    |
| Phone Answering Service/1-800#        | \$ (343.04)          | -67%                  |
| Post Office Box                       | \$ (120.00)          | 0%                    |
| Rent                                  | \$ (1,350.00)        | 25%                   |
| Webmaster                             | \$ (1,026.00)        | 67%                   |
| Website                               | \$ (783.76)          | 8%                    |
| Where & When                          | \$ -                 | 100%                  |
| Picnic                                | \$ (773.22)          | 23%                   |
| Travel                                | \$ -                 | 100%                  |
| Workshops                             | \$ -                 | 100%                  |
| SMIA Archives                         | \$ -                 | 100%                  |
| Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing) | \$ (162.00)          | 10%                   |
| Bank Charges and Fees                 | \$ (128.00)          | -28%                  |
| Other - Tax Filings                   | \$ -                 | 0%                    |
| <b>Total 2025 Expenses</b>            | <b>\$ (7,715.51)</b> | <b>57%</b>            |

Total of Checking and PayPal Allows us a financial Runway of **4.39** Months  
Number of Months of Fiscal Year Remaining **3** Months  
For our 2024-2025 planned expenses, we currently have a **\$ 2,061.18** Excess

| Remaining Service Committee Budgets      |           | C&T       | PI/CPC    |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Budget Year 2024 (01May2025 - 30Apr2026) | Calvert   | \$ 275.00 | \$ 31.00  |
| As of 12DEC2025                          | Charles   | \$ 375.00 | \$ 250.00 |
|  | St.Mary's | \$ 99.00  | \$ 18.60  |

**THANK  
YOU FOR  
YOUR  
CONTRI-  
BUTIONS:**

|             |           |             |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Waldorf     | Never Too | Inspiration |
| Sunday      | Late      | 131609      |
| Eye Openers | Step Free | 659720      |
|             | Beacon of |             |
| Poplar Hill | Hope      |             |

Please include your current group number when submitting correspondence or contributions to the SMIA. You can find your current group number at <https://somdintergroup.org/wwwsearch.html#gnlf>. If your group does not have a current group number, contact the Area 29 Registrar at [registrar@marylandaa.org](mailto:registrar@marylandaa.org).

# 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**  
PO BOX 1834  
Frederick, MD 21702

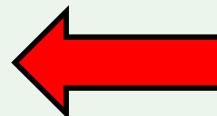
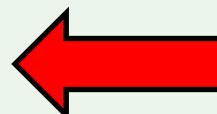
**Southern Maryland Intergroup (SMIA)**  
P.O. Box 767  
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

**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

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



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

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

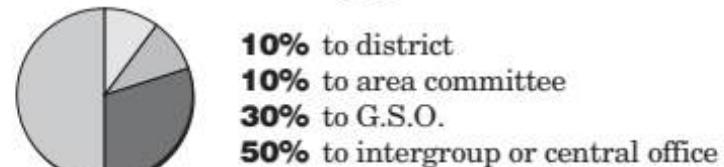
Your Group Service # \_\_\_\_\_

(Be sure to write group name and service # on all contributions.)



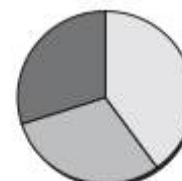
\_\_\_% to district  
\_\_\_% to area committee  
\_\_\_% to G.S.O.  
\_\_\_% to intergroup or central office  
\_\_\_% other A.A. service entities  
\_\_\_% other A.A. service entities

OR



OR

If you have no intergroup/central office.



Chair: Todd M.  
Vice Chair: Lorraine J.  
Secretary: Shaara W.  
Treasurer: Bruce O.  
Parliamentarian: Paul S.  
Web: Bill L.  
Bookstall: Buddy F.  
Lifeline/Archives: Keith H.  
Telephone: Sheri R.  
Where & When: Pat P.

## SMIA SERVICE TEAM:

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

## DISTRICT 35 CHARLES COUNTY

Please join us at our next District Meeting  
the first Thursday of the month @ 7pm

Peace Lutheran Church  
401 Smallwood Drive  
Waldorf, MD

Or via ZOOM  
Meeting ID: 85795899259  
Password: D35!2025  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 1981, La Plata, MD 20646

## NEW BOOKSTALL HOURS:

First and Third Thursday of the  
month 6:00pm - 6:45pm

Second Saturday of the month 9am - 10am



## DISTRICT 1 CALVERT COUNTY

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Accessibilities Chair

Men's Institutions Chair

Bridging the Gap Chair

District Meeting:  
7 PM, 3rd Monday  
St. Paul's Episc. Church  
25 Church St.  
Prince Frederick, MD  
20678

District 1 Trust Fund  
PO Box 234  
Barstow, MD 20610  
[www.calvertaa.org](http://www.calvertaa.org)

**SERVICE KEEPS  
US SOBER**

## DISTRICT 36

### ST. MARY'S COUNTY

PO Box 1334, California, MD 20619

[www.district36mdaa.org](http://www.district36mdaa.org)



**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.**

# DISTRICT NOTES

The next SMIA Meeting will be held on

**Saturday, March 14 at 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)