



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 | \ 'līf- 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>

I recently started working with a few new sponsees. Experience tells me most will fade away around the Fourth Step—but for those who make it this far, something extraordinary awaits. The Fifth Step isn't just another task to check off. It's where we finally cast out the character defects we've been carrying, where honesty becomes our foundation, and where God removes what we could never eliminate ourselves.

Why are resentments both futile and fatal? When I hear a Fifth Step, my Big Book and my sponsee's are open to page 70. We read the paragraph in first person together:

"If I have been thorough about my personal inventory, I've written down a lot. I have listed and analyzed my resentments. I have begun to comprehend their futility and their fatality." Let me explain why those words matter so much.

Why are resentments futile?

Resentments are always about something external—another person, an institution, or a principle. We have no control over another human being, institution, or principle. That's why they're futile.

What's the fatality of resentments?

The Big Book tells us resentments block us from the sunlight of the spirit—the power of God. Many believe we're separate from everybody and everything. But what if the truth is that everything is connected? When I harbor resentment, I block myself from God. And when I'm blocked from God, I go to that strange

mental blank spot where I drink.

We don't have the luxury of relapse because we can't afford to be blocked from God. That's why resentment is fatal. We put this all down on paper.

The Big Book is clear: "Resentment is the 'number one' offender. It destroys more alcoholics than anything

however this requires action. When completed, I've admitted to God, to myself, and to another human being the exact nature of my defects.

The Big Book warns, "If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 72). Trying to avoid this humbling experience, they turned to



else." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 64) Our relapses mostly traces back to resentments. Some folks in the rooms are emotionally dry—they're packed full of resentments, which means they're blocked from God.

The Line That Changes Everything - On page 72, this line separates spiritual experience from therapy: "Now these are about to be cast out." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 72). In my experience, they truly are cast out,

easier methods. Almost invariably, they got drunk. Why? "They never completed their housecleaning. They took inventory all right, but hung on to some of the worst items in stock. ." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 73)

The Double Life We Lead

The Book describes our condition perfectly: "More than most people, the alcoholic leads a double life. He is very much the actor. To the outer world he presents his stage character. (continued on page 2)

(con't) This is the one he likes his fellows to see. He wants to enjoy a certain reputation, but knows in his heart he doesn't deserve it." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 73)

Here's the connection between honesty and recovery: "We must be entirely honest with somebody if we expect to live long or happily in this world." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 73)

How to Hear a Fifth Step - When someone reads an inventory to me, we start with the resentment column. They read the name and explain the reason for the grudge. The third column shows the seven areas of self that were hurt, threatened, or interfered with. The third column is where pride shows up. Pride is how others see us. Ambition is what I want—respect, validation, and control. Security is what I need to be okay. Personal relations reveal my belief systems about how people should treat me.

Here's what I've learned: in your third column, you can see where you're playing God. The Big Book says, "Selfishness—self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 62) The fourth column reveals the truth. Once I see where my actions were selfish, self-centered, dishonest, or afraid, I realize the truth: My troubles are of my own making.

The Fear That Steals Everything -

On page 67, we read: "It was an evil and corroding thread; the fabric of our existence was shot through with it. It set in motion trains of circumstances which brought us misfortune we felt we didn't deserve. But did not we, ourselves, set the ball rolling?" (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 67-68)

Fear causes more trouble than almost anything else. Have you ever stolen something without thinking about it first? No—we always think about it. The same is true with fear. Anytime we're in fear and stay in fear, we're making a conscious choice, and fear is always about self-reliance. Look for the reason for your

fears. The answer most always comes back to failed self-reliance. "Self-reliance was good as far as it went, but it didn't go far enough." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 68)

The Formula for Courage - "Perhaps there is a better way—we think so. For we are now on a different basis; the basis of trusting and relying upon God. We trust infinite God rather than our finite selves." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 68)

I'm here to play the role God assigns—not the role I choose. Just to the extent that I do as I believe God would have me, does God enable me to match calamity with serenity.

Here's the definition of courage: "The verdict of the ages is that faith means courage. All men of faith have courage. They trust their God." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 68)

The next instructions are clear, "We ask Him to remove our fear and direct our attention to what He would have us be." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 68) Notice it says what I'm supposed to **be**, not **do**.

The promise? "At once, we commence to outgrow fear." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 68) For years, I struggled with the words- outgrow fear. I missed the word "commence," which means to start. Once I understood that, I began to see changes. I'd thought I could outgrow fear simply by asking God, without taking any action.

What Happens After - "Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted. We can look the world in the eye. We can be alone at perfect peace and ease. Our fears fall from us. We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator. We may have had certain spiritual beliefs, but now

we begin to have a spiritual experience." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 75)

When finished, I ask my sponsee to go home and find a place to be quiet for an hour. He carefully reviews what has been done, turns to page 59 in the Book, and carefully reads the first five Steps, asking God if he omitted anything. (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 75) If so, he needs to call me and we work through it.

Putting It Into Practice - If you're working with someone on their Fifth Step, teach them what you were taught. Make sure they understand the futility and fatality of resentments. Help them see where they played God in their third column. Walk them through the fear inventory and the solution on page 68.

In my experience, the worst items in stock are often tied to the sex inventory. When I pick up on fear, I address it head-on. I share from my own inventory, and they usually smile and say, "Mine isn't anywhere close to yours." They relax. Then we can continue. There isn't anything that you've done that hasn't been done already by another. It's not unique to you - you can let go of that now. The Fifth Step is where secrets lose their power. It's where we stop leading double lives and God begins to work through us. If you're tired of the life you're living, do this work. Watch what happens. Let God demonstrate to you what God can do.

<https://aascv.org/the-fifth-step-where-secrets-lose-their-power/>





In 1939, Bill Wilson made a pivotal phone call from a hotel lobby instead of visiting the hotel bar. That call connected him with Henrietta Seiberling and eventually Bob Smith. Together, they found a solution that prevented Bill from taking a drink that evening. This moment perfectly illustrates our primary purpose: carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. While carrying the message was likely far more challenging in those early days, the mission remains the same today.

Today, hotlines are managed locally by volunteer members, serving as a primary point of contact for individuals seeking recovery.

While the phone is still a very important resource for carrying the message and hearing a message, these days we have online resources, zoom meetings which can be found outside of our area and at any hour of the day.

I currently serve as the Chair for the AA Hotline, a service position within SMIA serving the tri-county area. The AA Hotline provides a toll-free number where individuals can reach out for help, get answers, and find resources. Most importantly, it offers the opportunity to speak with another alcoholic, which can prevent a relapse and help someone find their way into a sober solution.

I first took on this role in 2019, just before my one-year sobriety anniversary. I learned early on that staying active in service and helping others was essential to my own recovery. During the height of the pandemic, ensuring the hotline ran smoothly was critical as meeting availability changed rapidly and many struggled with isolation.

We are now looking for a new Telephone Chair to fill this position. The role requires a minimal time commitment and involves the following responsibilities:

ties:

- Maintaining and updating our list of volunteers.
- Using the "GoToConnect" cloud system to assign the monthly volunteer.
- Providing the scheduled volunteer with a brief overview of what to expect, available resources, and a simple explanation of the process.

The Chair position actually requires minimal time commitment and is a very rewarding opportunity. It is truly an opportunity to save lives and carry the message. If you are interested in this opportunity, adequate training, preparation, and resources will be provided to make your time in this service position successful. If you are unable to commit to the chair position, you are welcome to volunteer to answer phones instead. You can apply by completing the volunteer request form on the SMIA website.

This role requires a one-month commitment at a time. On average, we receive approximately seven calls per county each month. While most calls occur between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m., occasional calls may come in late at night or early in the morning. Typical inquiries involve meeting times, how meetings are conducted, and what to expect at a first meeting. Sometimes the caller may be a family member or friend seeking help or advice.

Every call—whether it's about meeting times, transportation, or helping a loved one—represents an opportunity to offer clarity, compassion, and hope.

The AA hotline may seem like a simple resource, but its impact is anything but small. It is a doorway—open at all hours—to support, understanding, and change. For those seeking sobriety, it offers guidance and hope. For volunteers, it provides purpose and connection. And for the community, it represents a commitment to care, compassion, and recovery.

If you are interested in being part of this service opportunity please reach out to the SMIA board or myself directly at smia.telephone@somdaa.org.

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: somdlifeline@gmail.com

“Tea & Coffee” Service

When I'd finally had enough and made the decision to throw in the towel, my sponsor gave me a short list of suggestions to follow, it had worked for him and others before him. One of those suggestions was – get a home group, and get a service position at that group. He told me service is where alcoholics repay AA for what it's so freely given to them – it's where we “pay our rent”. In return for which, AA freely gives a solution to our lifelong problem, along with unconditional love, patience and tolerance. And service keeps us included and gives us purpose. The quality of my recovery is directly proportional to my attitude towards recovery. If I selfishly want to stay sober, I have to unselfishly help others. The home group is the first place I began to make this

change. I learned some service positions are open to anyone. Greeters welcome anyone new to the meeting, ensuring newcomers and visitors feel included. At the same time, these greeters (the one at my home group is 6 weeks sober) are reinforcing their own sobriety. They help themselves to feel included and help themselves to feel they have a purpose. When I first put the drink down, I found myself in an awkward phase where sobriety felt fragile. My home group invited me into “Tea & Coffee” service, which is actually brilliant service – I got to speak to everyone, which I would otherwise have been reticent to do. All I had to do was bring milk, unpack tea and biscuits from a box, serve up, and pack away at the end. Not a big ask. Pride became an issue for a moment, my huge plans for the kitchen area were not well received – teaching me the humbling lesson of “getting over my-

self”. My pride was further deflated when it was explained each position is for a fixed length of time (it may be 3 months, it may be 2 years). When your time is up – move on and find a new group with open service positions. This practice of moving on helps everyone : Others get an opportunity, We learn to stick to our guns, we state we'll finish on a given date and we step aside on that date – our egos remain right-sized, we don't see ourselves as indispensable. Moving on stops things feeling stale We sponsor the next position holder into the service position, and we see that someone will always be available to sponsor us into our next one There's always more service to be done. And if it works, then why wouldn't I be in service? For example, if the greeter doesn't turn up one day, I can go and help out. I can put the chairs away, or pick up litter. I need to remember, *(continued on page 5)*



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY!

SMIA needs a Treasurer.

Requirements:

- Residence in Calvert, Charles or St Mary's county - Calvert county preferred.
- Minimum of 2 years of continuous sobriety.
- This is a 2 year term.

Duties:

- Pay all obligations incurred by the membership
- Manage all funds, securities, receipts, disbursements for SMIA
- Serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee.

This is an excellent opportunity to be of service at the District level.

Please join us at the next SMIA meeting, Saturday April 11 at 10am

Immaculate Conception Church,

28297 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Or via Zoom @

<https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?pwd=QzVLcUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09>

(con't) I am paying my rent for my wonderful life, and in return I get included and get a purpose. And this ensures what was available for me continues to be available for those to come. I am taught humility. This helps keep me sober. It is a component of being freed of the bondage of self. My life is immeasurably better ...

<https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/intergroups/potteries-district-intergroup/service-share-of-the-month/>

RESPONSIBLE FOR MY ACTIONS

I am responsible for my actions. I am not responsible for my thinking. My very best thinking got me drunk. My very best thinking almost cost me my marriage, my job, and my life. My very best thinking got me into loneliness, no self-respect, and loss of dignity. I can't even take credit for finding Alcoholics Anonymous.

That day, that moment, when everything between me and me died. I still had two choices. Die or seek help. Doctors couldn't help me. I had been there. Psychiatrist couldn't help me. I had tried. My wife couldn't help me. I had used and abused her for too long. I had all but killed any love or trust that was once there. It was a drunk that didn't drink, I sought. He had been where I was and wasn't there anymore. He knew me, when I didn't know myself. I took the action to ask for help for I was God guided. He made a suggestion for God was working through him. I took the action and found AA by way of a hospital. I wanted to be locked up for I was a drunk and insane.

I just gave up. Gave up trying to think my way out of this situation one more time. I was beaten. I was finished. I had it.

I surrendered. I started looking for God in those first days sober and couldn't find God. I was told to quit looking for God, and just pray to God and maybe God could find me. I prayed to God and I found peace.

Maybe I started to get too well too quick. When I started eating regular, sleeping regular, and the body starting feeling good. I tried to take control of my life again. But I had heard too many things that made sense. I had seen too many people living fun and productive lives. I didn't know how to be honest in my head and I wanted to be honest. I didn't know that by living honest my thinking would change.

It took a second bottom, thanks to God a sober bottom, when I surrendered again. The miracle of this program was when another drunk loved me when I couldn't love myself and I allowed him to love me. It was in the love in this program I found peace of mind. I found that I am responsible for my actions. I am not responsible for my thinking nor do I accept the responsibility for having this disease. I am responsible for loving other alcoholics, yet I cannot take responsibility for their actions or feelings or their getting better or not getting better. For me, love is action. Caring is an action. Listening is an action. Patience is an action. Understanding is an action. Willingness is an action.

I watched as love returned to a marriage when I took the action to contribute. I watched as trust returned when I was trustful. I watched loneliness disappear from my life when I let others know me. Today, I surrender each morning. The day will turn out whatever way it is suppose to turn out. By surrendering it usually turns out better than I could have thought of.

Today this program is working in my life and I hope it is working in yours. I take the action to work it and God takes care of the rest.

<https://aa-intergroup.org/stories/responsible-for-my-actions/>



WHAT PEOPLE THINK

SOBRIETY IS:

- Not drinking alcohol

WHAT SOBRIETY ACTUALLY IS:

- Showing up for life
- Rebuilding self trust
- Choosing growth over comfort
- Learning to process emotions
- Healing your nervous system
- Raising your personal standards
- Creating genuine connections
- Handling stress in healthy ways
- Discovering who you are without the mask
- Building a life that you don't want to escape

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/2337377856745647>

Serenity Prayer in AA

If you've spent any time in Alcoholics Anonymous, you've probably heard the Serenity Prayer more times than you can count. Many meetings open or close with it. Some members say it quietly to themselves during the day. Others keep it on a card in a wallet or taped to a refrigerator. The words are simple and familiar:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

For many of us, this prayer becomes more than something we say at the end of a meeting. It becomes a way to live.

How the Serenity Prayer Found Its Way Into AA - The Serenity Prayer was written in the early 1930s by theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. In the early 1940s, a member of AA came across the prayer in print and shared it with others in the fellowship.

The message struck a chord right away. Here was something that captured an important spiritual idea in just a few lines. Soon, copies were being printed and shared among groups, and before long the prayer became a regular part of AA

meetings. Over time, it simply became part of the fabric of the fellowship.

Why It Means So Much in Recovery

Many alcoholics spent years trying to control everything—other people, circumstances, and the way life unfolded. When things didn't go our way, we reacted with anger, resentment, or despair. The Serenity Prayer offers a different way.

Serenity reminds us that some things are simply beyond our control. The past cannot be changed. Other people will do what they do. Learning acceptance brings a kind of peace many of us never knew before coming to AA.

Courage reminds us that recovery is not passive. We can change our attitudes, our actions, and the direction of our lives. The Twelve Steps ask us to look honestly at ourselves and make changes where needed.

Wisdom helps us learn the difference between the two. That difference can be hard to see sometimes, but over time—

through meetings, sponsorship, and the Steps - it becomes clearer.

A Prayer for Everyday Life - Many members find themselves turning to the Serenity Prayer outside of meetings as well.

It might come up when facing a difficult conversation, dealing with a problem at work, or feeling overwhelmed by something that can't be fixed right away. Sometimes simply pausing and remembering those words can change the way we approach a situation.

Instead of reacting, we take a moment to ask: *Is this something I need to accept, or something I can change?* That small pause can make a big difference.

One Day at a Time - The Serenity Prayer continues to be one of the most widely shared parts of the AA program. It's short, easy to remember, and speaks to something at the heart of recovery: learning to live life on life's terms.

For many of us, it becomes a daily reminder that we don't have to fight everything anymore. With a little serenity, some courage, and a bit of wisdom, we can face whatever the day brings - **one day at a time.**

<https://www.aacle.org/serenity-prayer-in-aa/>

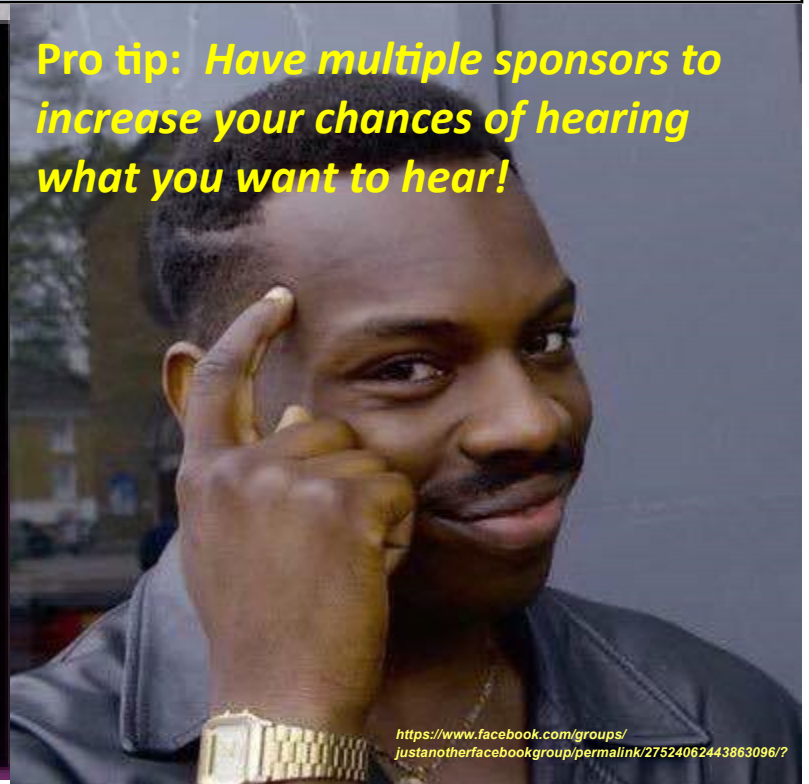
**THIS TOO
SHALL PASS.**

**IT MIGHT PASS
LIKE A KIDNEY
STONE.**

but it will pass.

AGIRLANDAGLLEGUN.COM

Pro tip: Have multiple sponsors to increase your chances of hearing what you want to hear!



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/justanotherfacebookgroup/permalink/27524062443863096/?>

CONSTANTS

I have been attending a book study workshop for years and soon we will be finishing up our in-depth study of the 12 Traditions. Each time we have gone through the Twelve and Twelve we go a little deeper and since it is basically the same group of women, I get to witness our maturity in sobriety as it takes place.

There is one word that keeps going through my head as we finish up, “constants.” Constants are the reliable, unchangeable elements in our lives that provide stability, support, and security. When I first began noticing them in AA I felt an overwhelming feeling of being safe. That of all the changes and unmanageability in my life that was one place I could go, and the message was always the same.

Those early days my “constants” were The Rafter, AA, and Tiny Naylor. Pretty much in that order. The Rafter – the minute you started up those stairs, got your first whiff of smoke and brewing coffee, then heard the laughter... the umpire called you safe at home. The meeting would start, chapter 3, 5 and the 12 Traditions would be read (at every meeting no less), chips would be given, and then the meat of the meeting – everyone sharing their experience, strength and hope. Discussion would take place on “let go and let God,” “first things first,” “easy does it.” I had absolutely no idea how these trite sayings were going to help me find a job much less explain why I quit the job I had in the first place. The meeting would close with the Lord’s Prayer and we would all traipse up to Tiny Naylor for more coffee. “CONSTANTS.” It was no different if it was Wednesday or Saturday.

Then they closed Tiny Naylor and tore it down. Do you

have any idea what that does to a group of people who rely on “constants” for their stability and safety? Where were we going to find a place that would get used to this motley crew and allow us to pour our own coffee? Of course, the Saugus Café! Not any further down the road and they stayed open late because of the bar. We had found a new home.

I smile when I think of that time in my sobriety. A number of those people I sat with at meetings and then in those booths are no longer with us but their “constants” remain with me. I had no idea what they were preparing me for. They are no longer here, just as the Rafter building is gone, Tiny Naylor and even the Saugus Cafe may or may not be closed.

What I have seen through all these years is the resilience of Alcoholics Anonymous and the fellowship. Oh, its gone through its growth spurts and other really whacky times, but it is resilient. I just have to pick up *Language of the Heart* and read any of



Bill’s writings. He prepared for this resilience in the 12 Traditions, the General Service Conference and the General Service Board.

I go back to my original definition of “constants” – unchangeable elements in our lives that provide stability. Nothing has changed yet everything has. My new haunt is

Lily’s Café. I go in frequently by myself, and surprise, surprise run into people I know having a cup of coffee and working with a newcomer or sponsee.

As I have learned just recently, the most important constant in my life today is a loving God as I understand Him. In trusting Him I learned that I would just have to drive a little further down the street to My Rafter AA Group. The outside was different but inside where the people were was the same. In trusting him I was going to be able to walk thru some of the scariest moments of my life, have people holding me up but in that moment it was just him and me.

<https://aascv.org/constants/>

It Happened in May

May 1: 1939 – Lois and Bill Wilson left their home at 182 Clinton St., Brooklyn.

May 5: 1940 – Washington, DC, Sunday Star reported formation of first AA group in the District of Columbia.

May 6: 1946: The long form of the “Twelve Traditions” was published in the AA Grapevine.

May 10: 1939: Clarence S announced to the Akron Oxford Group members that the Cleveland members were starting a meeting and calling it Alcoholics Anonymous.

May 11: 1935 – From the Mayflower Hotel, Bill Wilson called Walter Tunks who referred him to Henrietta Seiberling who introduced Bill to Dr. Bob.

May 12: 1935 – Mothers’ Day – Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith met for the first time in Akron, Ohio, at the home of Henri-

etta Seiberling.

May 19: 2000 – Dr. Paul Ohliger died at the age of 83. His story, “Doctor, Alcoholic, Addict,” was retitled “Acceptance Was the Answer,” in the 4th edition.

May 29: 1980 – “Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers,” a history of early Midwest AA, was published.

May 31: 1938 – Bill and other AA’s began writing the Big Book. 1951 – Al-Anon was founded by Lois Wilson and Anne B.

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

“Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.”

From the Foreword of the 12 & 12: “A.A.’s Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the Fellowship itself. They outline the means by which A.A. maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.”

We Only Have One Purpose - It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. This Tradition delineates pretty clearly our individual primary purpose, as well as the group’s. Each of us is but a small part of the whole, but by joining AA’s primary purpose to our own, we become something bigger than our individual selves.

Am I willing to surrender my old primary purposes? To work this tradition means that I am willing to say “yes” to this question and rearrange the rest of my priorities. Devoting myself to a new primary purpose means that I am willing to let go of many old ideas. I have many thinking patterns that are automatic that I need to change in order to consecrate myself to a new primary purpose.

TRADITION FIVE Step - Tradition Parallel

Step-Tradition Parallel

The relationship of the fifth step to the Fifth Tradition is that the Fifth Step taught me the exact nature of my wrongs, “I’m not in charge.” In the Fifth Tradition I learned just the opposite, I learned what my exact nature should be: my talent to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers, my primary purpose.

In the Fifth Step I learned what’s wrong about me and in the Fifth Tradition I learned what’s right about me. What’s right about me is my ability to carry the message when no one else can because of the experiences that I have had which were transformed into a message of hope in the Fifth Step. My alcoholism is my greatest talent, not my talents as a husband, father, son, or my job. I can fulfill my primary purpose for being born by carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

*(Excerpts from the text above come from the Traditions Study developed by the **Unity Insures Recovery Through Service A.A. Group**, Los Angeles, CA.)*

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.).

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, “I’m not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn’t apply to me”?
2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
5. Do I let fear get in my way by not addressing issues in my home group when members are disrupting meetings and getting in the way of our group carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic?
6. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
7. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

<https://takethe12.org/t5>



MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	
3	4 Tony N., 8 yrs, Monday Nite Traditions	5	6 Gloria D., 34 yrs, Patuxent River Larry L., 31 yrs, and Jennifer S., 10 yrs, Awakenings	7 Joyce S., 10 yrs, Almost Normal Tressie F., 42 yrs, Harmony Jim T., 19 yrs, Patrick D., 12 yrs, and Scott A., 6 yrs, Basic Text	8	9 Guy, 42 yrs, Mike C., 37 yrs, Greg G., 20 yrs, and Mike S., 18 yrs, North Beach
10	11	12	13	14 Denise N., 1 Yr, Blue Top	15	16
17	18	19 Russel, 6 yrs, Blue Top at Noon	20 Joe M., 2 yrs, Patuxent River	21 Justin C., 7 yrs, Doug D., 4 yrs, and Rob M., 3 yrs, Charlotte Hall	22	23 Chuck D., 11 yrs, Saturday AM Breakfast Pete R., 33 yrs, Laurel Grove
24 Paul F., 2 yrs, Never Too Late	25 Gina J., 8 yrs, Today	26 Sherry S., 37 yrs, Emotional Sobriety	27 Rebecca B., 7 yrs, Grateful Alive (Huntingtown)	28 Taylor G., 5 yrs and Kat B., 3 yrs, Poplar Hill	29	30 Troy T., 20 yrs, Laurel Grove Aaron R., 1 yr, Kingston Creek

31



JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Kevin S., 5 yrs , Never Too Late	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 David Y., 10 yrs, Sat- urday AM Breakfast
28	29	30				



SMIA SERENITY BREAKFAST

May 16, 2026

9AM - NOON (Doors Open at 8:30)

BUFFET-STYLE BREAKFAST

Patuxent Presbyterian Church
23421 Kingston Creek Rd. California, MD 20619



ENJOY A DELICIOUS VARIETY OF BREAKFAST FARE, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN. FANTASTIC AA SPEAKERS, DOOR PRIZES, BASKET RAFFLES AND A 50/50 TOO!

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, contact: Emme (301) 653-4249 or via email at maryellen.jones@gmail.com

This event is entirely funded by ticket sales. Any residual funds will be returned to SMIA to support the Tri-County groups in carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

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.



SERENITY IMPROVEMENT GROUP
May 2026 Tuesday VIRTUAL SPEAKERS
8 pm Eastern Time Zoom Meeting ID: 285 801 921

- May 5 Devaldis S Chicago IL
- May 12 Lovey R Bermuda
- May 19 Gerry F Nales FL
- May 26 Mike K Madison, OH

Speaker recordings at: <https://tinyurl.com/SIGspeakers>

7TH Tradition: PayPal: SIG.Serenity@gmail.com

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,285801921# US (New York)
+13126266799,,285801921# US (Chicago)



SERENITY IMPROVEMENT GROUP
May 2026 Saturday
VIRTUAL SPEAKERS
8 pm Eastern Time Zoom Meeting ID: 285 801 921

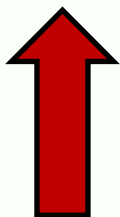
- May 2 Alex G Wilmington NC
- May 9 Susan S Beverly Hills FL
- May 16 Jon R Lawrence KS
- May 23 Rasa M Hot Springs AR
- May 30 Jerry P Olivehurst CA

RECORDINGS: <https://tinyurl.com/SIGspeakers>

7TH Tradition: PayPal: SIG.Serenity@gmail.com

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,285801921# US (New York)
+13126266799,,285801921# US (Chicago)



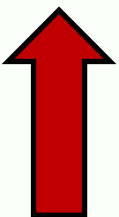
SERENITY IMPROVEMENT GROUP

VIRTUAL SPEAKERS - ZOOM

TUESDAYS & SUNDAYS 8 PM EST

MEETING ID: 285 801 921

NO PASSWORD REQUIRED





**Interested in Service?
Want to Get Involved in Service But Don't Know Where to Start?**

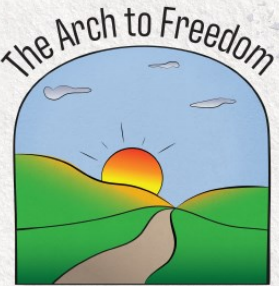
Consider being on the Welcoming Committee at the Maryland State Convention!!

Friday June 19, 2026 - Sunday June 21, 2026
Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel
Towson, Maryland

We are looking for members of the fellowship who want to welcome people from all over the state, region and country to our state convention. Smile, say hello, shake a hand, give a hug or give directions. This is a great way to stay sober and meet people that share in our common solution.

If you are interested in being part of the committee, please reach out to Whitney N. at whitneyabury@gmail.com

Your commitment can be an hour or 12 hours! Whatever you choose. We just need some friendly faces to welcome people to our state convention.




52nd Maryland State Convention
June 19-21, 2026
Hosted by Maryland General Service, Inc
with Al-Anon and Alateen Participation

Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel
903 Dulaney Valley Road Towson, Maryland 21204

MGS Room Rate:
\$129 per night plus tax
King or two Double Beds

More Doubles available as holds are released


Book rooms at the MGS Group Rate!



You may cancel your reservation for no charge 2 days before arrival, June 16, 2026

<https://bit.ly/MDStateConvention>
Free Parking Garage Validation for all Convention Registrants

Full schedule available on our Mobile App

FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
7 AM	Registration Opens Hospitality Suite Opens Committee Displays Coffee Alcahthon Meetings (7am - Midnight)	7 AM	Registration Hospitality Suite Coffee Alcahthon Meetings (7am - Midnight)	7:00 AM	Rise & Shine! Coffee Hospitality Alcahthons (until 9AM)
8:30 AM	AA Speaker (Steps 1 - 3): Gina T, Pennidel, PA	8:30 AM	Joe & Charlie Steps 10 - 12 Workshop	8:30 AM	Workshops
10 AM - 5 PM	AA, Al-Anon & Spanish Workshops	10 AM	Al-Anon Speaker: Michele G., Charleston, WV	10:00 AM	AA Speaker (Steps 10 - 12): Robert H., Lexington, SC
10 AM & 2:30 PM	Joe & Charlie Steps 1 - 3 & Steps 4-9 Workshops	10 - 5:45 PM	Workshops	11:15 AM	Committee Farewells
11:30 AM	Delegate's Report	11:30 AM	Delegate's Report	11:59 AM	Convention Ends
12:30 - 2:30 PM	Lunch Buffet	11:30 - 1:30 PM	Lunch Buffet	<p>Coffee & Beverage Service (\$10 per person for entire weekend): Daily 7:00-10:00 AM, 2:30-5:30 PM & 8:00-11:00 PM. Also included with meal purchases.</p> 	
4 PM	AA Speaker (Steps 4 & 5): Lance B, Parkville, MD	3 PM	Old Timers Panel		
5:45 - 7:45 PM	Plated Dinner	6:15 PM	Banquet Seating Opens		
7:30 PM	AA Play "The Coffee Pot Zone"	7:30 PM	Doors Open for Non-Banquet Seating		
8:45 PM	AA Speaker (Steps 6 & 7): Linda K-K., Piscataway, NJ	7:45 PM	MGS Introductions & Gratitude		
10:15 PM	Ice Cream Social or AA History Workshop	8:00 PM	Sobriety Countdown		
11:59 PM	Alcahthons End & Hospitality Suite Closes	8:30 PM	AA Speaker (Steps 8 & 9): Jim W., Charleston, WV		
		10:00 PM	DJ Dance Ice Cream Social Joyful Noise Song Circle Game Room		
		11:59 PM	Good Night!		

District 36 presents

The 2nd Annual NO Talent Show


Sign Up TODAY!

FREE ADMISION

July 18, 2026

Patuxent Presbyterian Church Hall
23421 Kingston Creek Rd.
California, MD 20619

Door Open at 6:30 pm
Refreshments Provided
Desserts Welcome
POC: Mary F.
piscesbaby82mf@gmail.com




52.ª Convención Estatal de Maryland
19-21 de Junio de 2026
Organizado por Maryland General Service, Inc.
con la participación de Al-Anon y Alateen

Hotel Sheraton Baltimore North
903 Dulaney Valley Road Towson, Maryland 21204

Tarifa de habitación MGS:
\$129 por noche más impuestos Cama King o dos camas dobles

Más dobles disponibles a medida que se liberan las reservas


¡Reserva habitaciones con tarifa grupal MGS!



Puede cancelar su reserva sin cargo 2 días antes de la llegada, 16 de junio de 2026

<https://bit.ly/MDStateConvention>
Validación de estacionamiento gratuito para todos los inscritos en la Convención 2 días antes de la llegada, 16 de junio de 2026

Horario completo disponible en nuestra aplicación móvil

VIERNES		SÁBADO		DOMINGO	
7 AM	Inscripciones abiertas Apertura de la sala de hospitalidad Exhibiciones de comités Café Reuniones del Alcahthon (7:00 a. m. a medianoche)	7 AM	Registro Sala de recepción Exhibiciones de comités Café Reuniones del Alcahthon (7:00 a. m. a medianoche)	7:00 AM	Arriba y bríllal! Café Hospitalidad Alcahthons (hasta las 9 a. m.)
8:30 AM	Orador de AA (Pasos 1 a 3): Gina T., Pennidel, PA	8:30 AM	Taller de Joe y Charlie, pasos 10-12	8:30 AM	Talleres
10 AM - 5 PM	Talleres de AA, Al-Anon y en español	10 AM	Oradora de Al-Anon: Michele G., Charleston, Virginia Occidental	10:00 AM	Orador de AA (Pasos 10-12): Robert H., Lexington, SC
10 AM & 2:30 PM	Talleres de Joe y Charlie, pasos 1 a 3 y pasos 4 a 9	10 - 5:45 PM	Talleres	11:15 AM	Despedidas del Comité
11:30 AM	Informe del delegado	11:30 AM	Informe del delegado	11:59 AM	La convención termina
12:30 - 2:30 PM	Almuerzo buffet	11:30 - 1:30 PM	Almuerzo buffet	<p>Servicio de café y bebidas (\$10 por persona durante todo el fin de semana): Todos los días de 7:00 a 10:00, de 14:30 a 17:30 y de 20:00 a 23:00. También incluido en la compra de comidas.</p> 	
4 PM	AA Speaker (Steps 4 & 5): Lance B, Parkville, MD	3 PM	Panel de veteranos		
5:45 - 7:45 PM	Cena en plato	6:15 PM	Se abren los asientos del banquete		
7:30 PM	AA Play "La Zona de la Cafetera"	7:30 PM	Fuertas abiertas para asientos que no sean de banquete		
8:45 PM	Orador de AA (Pasos 6 y 7): Linda K-K., Piscataway, NJ	7:45 PM	Presentaciones y agradecimientos de MGS		
10:15 PM	Taller de Historia Social de Helados o AA	8:00 PM	Cuenta regresiva para la sobriedad		
11:59 PM	Cierra Alcahthons End y Hospitality Suite	8:30 PM	Orador de AA (Pasos 8 y 9): Jim W., Charleston, WV		
		10:00 PM	DJ Dance Fiesta de helados Circulo musical con ruido alegre Sala de Juegos		
		11:59 PM	¡Buenas noches!		

Spring 2026 CONTRA Study

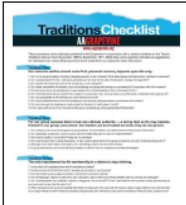
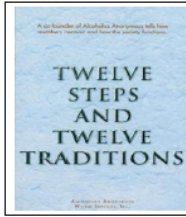
March 5, 2026 through June 11, 2026
 Thursdays from 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM Eastern Time (US/Canada)
 Moderated by Trusted Servants from
 the Northeast Region of Alcoholics Anonymous



Zoom Meeting ID: 847 4641 4040
 Passcode: 330331
 Dial-in number for phone callers: +1 (301) 715-8592

We invite all A.A. members to this virtual study of the
CONcepts, TRAditions & The A.A. Service Manual.
No Registration Fees!

- Mar 5, 2026 – Registration & Orientation
- Mar 12, 2026 – Traditions 1, 2 & 3
- Mar 19, 2026 – Traditions 4, 5 & 6
- Mar 26, 2026 – Traditions 7, 8 & 9
- Apr 2, 2026 – Traditions 10, 11 & 12
- Apr 9, 2026 – Service Manual, pp. I-VIII, 1-6, 89-108
- Apr 16, 2026 – Svc Man Ch 1 2 3 & pp 109-18, 166-69
- Apr 23, 2026 – Svc Man, Chapters 4 5 6 & pp 171-7
- Apr 30, 2026 – Svc Man, Chaps 7 8 9 & pp 176-180
- May 7, 2026 – Svc Man Ch 10 11 12 & pp 161-5, 170
- May 14, 2026 – Service Manual, pp. 119-159
- May 21, 2026 – Concepts pp I-VII, C1-C2, Con 1, 2, 3
- May 28, 2026 – Concepts 4, 5 & 6
- Jun 4, 2026 – Concepts 7, 8 & 9
- Jun 11, 2026 – Concepts 10, 11 & 12



CONTRA Study Materials
 (provided via email following registration):
 Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, B-2 (free participant download at www.aa.org)
 The A.A. Service Manual combined with The Twelve Concepts for World Service, BM-31, 2024-2026 edition
 AA Grapevine Traditions Checklist, July 2018 revision
 Spring 2026 Contra Study Service Manual Questions
 A.A.W.S. Concepts Checklist, SMF-91, 08/18 edition

We will cover approximately three chapters of reading material per week, with associated questions.
 Only those who have read the assignment and have written answers to the weekly questions will be invited
 to read their answers to the group. All others are welcome to join the meeting and listen.

Presented by Trusted Servants from
 the Northeast Region
 For more information, contact:
 2026contrastudy@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



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

shutterstock.com - 2027083271

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 A.A.

Contributions can be made by

Venmo@ MDAC-2023 or

PayPal@ MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com

Please share our website: www.mdacAA.org

MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com

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 76
Questions? altdelegate@marylandaa.org

Treatment Center Committee

"The District 36 Treatment Center Committee"

is looking for female fellowship members,
who are willing and have a year
or more of sobriety to bring
in-house A.A. meetings into
the Jude House

Wednesday Evenings 7:00pm.

Please contact this committee at our email:

treatmentcommittee36@gmail.com

This is a very rewarding experience!

Come join up and try it out!

The Committee Contact:

treatmentcommittee36@gmail.com



Does your group, intergroup, or district need accessibility help?

Do you need:

- Large-print, audio, or Braille literature?
- ASL or foreign language interpretation?
- Help finding meeting spaces that can accommodate wheelchair users or service animals?
- Tools for bringing meetings to senior centers and assisted living facilities?
- Ideas for supporting alcoholics in remote areas?



The Area 29 Accessibilities Committee is here for you!

We meet on the first Saturday of the month at noon ET

Zoom ID: 871 6531 6649

Passcode: A29Access



**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

SOUTHERN MARYLAND INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES 4/11/26

OPENING - The Serenity Prayer

Board Members Present: Todd M – Chair/Acting Treasurer; Emme J, Vice Chair; Shaara W - Secretary and Keith T – Parliamentarian.

New Member(s)/Visitor(s) Introduction: Matt B, Olivet; John W, Waldorf Group* (*remotely)

Groups & Committees Represented: Buddy F – Archives Chair; Bill L – Web/Bookstall*; Keith H – Lifeline; Roy B - St. Mary's County Corrections; Faye S, We Are Not Alone; Cindy C, Awakenings; Michelle H -- DCM; Mary F, Leonardtown; Paul S, Cove Point; Roger R, To Each Its Own; Patrick B, Where and When*; Lorraine J, Bedouin*; Keith C, Waldorf*; John W, Waldorf; Melissa – Telephone*; and Suzanne G, Serenity Breakfast.

SMIA Chair Report: Todd welcomed the new Vice Chair, Emme J., and also reported that in the event of a Treasurer vacancy he, as chair, assumes those duties. In the meantime the vacancy should be someone from Calvert County. Motion to waive requirement that Treasurer be a resident of Calvert County and, instead, recruit from Charles and St. Mary's Counties as well. This is just until the 2027 election. Seconded. All approved.

Vice-Chair Report: Emme J reported she's been active in SMIA for about 10 years. She hopes to encourage a spirit of participation during her tenure.

Secretary Report (corrections/additions). Motion to accept the March 2026 Minutes as posted on the Web and in the Lifeline. Second. All in favor.

Treasurer Report (corrections/additions). Motion to accept the April 2026 Treasurer's Report as posted on the Web and in the Lifeline. Second. All in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Corrections/Treatment/Public information/PCP - Calvert: Corrections states everything is going fine. PI requests more Where and Whens. **Charles:** No report.

St. Mary's: Roy B. reported participation has been good; he's still asking for volun-

teers. He is hoping to get a second meeting on the schedule. They are organizing a workshop "Courage to Share: Behind the Walls" regarding service in penal environments. It's scheduled for 4/25 at the Knights of Columbus in Leonardtown. It will likely be hybrid.

Telephone 3/14-4/10/26: Total Calls: 17; Calvert 1; Charles 5; St. Mary's 4; Not specified 7 for a total duration of 43:13.

Where & When: Updated edition is in review. They should be available next month. There are approximately 20 Where & Whens still available. Representatives and DCMs are encouraged to attend the monthly SMIA meeting to get them.

Lifeline: Keith H. reported that things are going good. He welcomes any suggestions, feedback, etc., by the 27th of the month. **Flyer submissions are required in portrait and .pdf or cannot be used.**

Events: Serenity Breakfast: Will be May 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Patuxent Presbyterian Church in California, MD. Tickets are available for \$20. Motion for 2 Big Books and other publications to be specified – not to exceed the amount of past donations to SMIA functions - by the next SMIA meeting to be donated to the Serenity Breakfast. Second. All in favor.

Picnic: Still a long way away. Buddy F. will chair again this year. It will be at Snow Hill Park 12-8. It will be advertised for 12-4. A speaker will be considered.

Gratitude Dinner: Scheduled for November. No discussion.

Workshops: 4/18, Step 4 Workshop at Peace Lutheran Church in Waldorf, 11:30 – 2 p.m.

Bookstall: #Orders 11; Total Collected \$548.70. Planning to buy Big Books. PCP/IP budgeted amounts should be exhausted this month as it is the end of the fiscal year.

Web Report 3/14/26 – 4/11/26

Main Site : Total Visitors (initial visit) 3530– down 16%

Bookstall Site 2745– down 18%

5 Most Frequently visited pages

- Home Page – 3200
- Where and When Calendar- 295

- On-Line Meetings - 236
- Anniversary Calendar - 220
- Al-Anon Info - 183

Top 10 Visitor locations – Maryland, Virginia, California, DC, Illinois, New York, Kansas, West Virginia, Delaware, Ohio

Site Updates and Changes Updated e-mail forwarding and passwords for the Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Parliamentarian.

Meeting Change Information The Beyond Sobriety Group was terminated on 4/9/26. Another request to add a new group was requested for "Keep It Real" and according to the information provided, is an on-line only group, however no on-line meeting information was provided. I sent three follow-up requests for that information, and they only respond with "Best Regards". The meeting will not be listed without that information.

Meeting Status: Currently there are 135 meetings in our service area; 127 are in-person, 6 are hybrid, 7 are on-line only, and one is suspended.

Document Posts and Updates: Lifeline posted – 4/2/26 Financial page updated – 4/2/26 March Minutes posted- 3/18/26

Anniversary Submissions: St. Mary's County - 25 Charles County – 8 Calvert County – 2 Out of Area - 1

Notes: It is important to note that the SMIA is not responsible for the accuracy of on-line or physical meeting information. This is the responsibility of the groups or districts that provide the information.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion to form a temporary committee to determine appropriateness of SMIA events and fundraising guidelines according to the SMIA Bylaws and AA Traditions for requesting donations from local businesses. Second. Discussion. 6 yea, 5 nay, 1 abstention. Motion carries.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Maryland GSO has new address: P.O. Box 234, Crownsville. District 36 is organizing a "No Talent /Talent Show" at Patuxent Presbyterian on 7/18/26 from 6:30-10 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn. Second. All in favor.

CLOSING – Responsibility Pledge

May 2026

Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc

Treasury Report

Monthly Contributions:															
\$200.47															
www.somdintergroup.org/contribute															
SMIA, PO Box 767, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622															
Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc Monthly Statement of Financial Position March 25, 2025 -April 24, 2026		Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc Yearly Statement of Activity April 25, 2025 - April 24, 2026													
Assets Primary Business Checking \$ 3,357.70 Prudent Reserve \$ 4,300.00 PayPal \$ 47.03 Bookstall Cash on hand \$ 100.00 Total Assets <u>7,804.73</u>		Year to Date Income Contributions \$ 7,315.17 19% Bookstall Sales \$ 3,121.45 11% Gratitude Dinner \$ - 100% Serenity Breakfast \$ 860.55 14% Total 2025 Income <u>11,297.17</u> 22%													
This Month's Expenses Bookstall Purchases \$ - Liability Insurance \$ - Lifeline Printing \$ (158.50) Misc \$ - Phone Answering Service/1-800# \$ (61.29) Post Office Box \$ - Rent \$ (150.00) Webmaster \$ - Website \$ (143.12) Where & When \$ - Picnic \$ - Travel \$ - Workshops \$ - SMIA Archives \$ - Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing) \$ - Bank Charges and Fees \$ (16.00) Other - Tax Filings \$ - Total Expenses \$ (528.91)		Year to Date Expenses Bookstall Purchases \$ (2,161.76) 46% Liability Insurance \$ (351.00) -29% Lifeline Printing \$ (1,509.63) -57% Misc \$ (311.41) 0% Phone Answering Service/1-800# \$ (726.91) -124% Post Office Box \$ (120.00) 0% Rent \$ (1,800.00) 0% Webmaster \$ (1,953.00) 37% Website \$ (1,120.84) -32% Where & When \$ (1,526.40) 58% Picnic \$ (773.22) 23% Travel \$ - 100% Workshops \$ - 100% SMIA Archives \$ - 100% Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing) \$ (162.00) 10% Bank Charges and Fees \$ (176.00) -76% Other - Tax Filings \$ - 0% Total 2025 Expenses <u>\$(12,692.17)</u> 29%													
		Total of Checking and PayPal Allows us a financial Runway of 2.29 Months Number of Months of Fiscal Year Remaining 0 Months For our 2024-2025 planned expenses, we currently have a \$ 3,404.73 Excess													
Remaining Service Committee Budgets Budget Year 2025 (01May2025 - 30Apr2026) As of 08MAY2026		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">C&T</th> <th style="text-align: center;">PI/CPC</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Calvert</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 215.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 81.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charles</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 80.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 176.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>St.Mary's</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 99.00</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 18.60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			C&T	PI/CPC	Calvert	\$ 215.00	\$ 81.00	Charles	\$ 80.00	\$ 176.00	St.Mary's	\$ 99.00	\$ 18.60
	C&T	PI/CPC													
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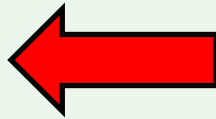
WHERE DO WE SEND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS?

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

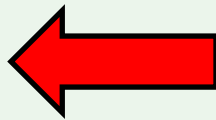
2) Or they can be mailed to the appropriate office location:

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 234
Crownsville, MD 21032



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*

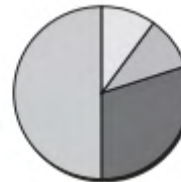
Distribution Plan of _____
 (YOUR GROUP NAME)

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

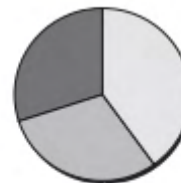
OR



- 10%** to district
- 10%** to area committee
- 30%** to G.S.O.
- 50%** to intergroup or central office

OR

If you have no intergroup/central office.



- 40%** to district
- 30%** to area
- 30%** to G.S.O.

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

SMIA SERVICE TEAM:

- Chair: Todd M.
- Vice Chair: Emme J.
- Secretary: Shaara W.
- Treasurer: VACANT
- Parliamentarian: Keith T.
- Web: Bill L.
- Bookstall: Buddy F.
- Lifeline/Archives: Keith H.
- Telephone: Sheri R.
- Where & When: Pat P.

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

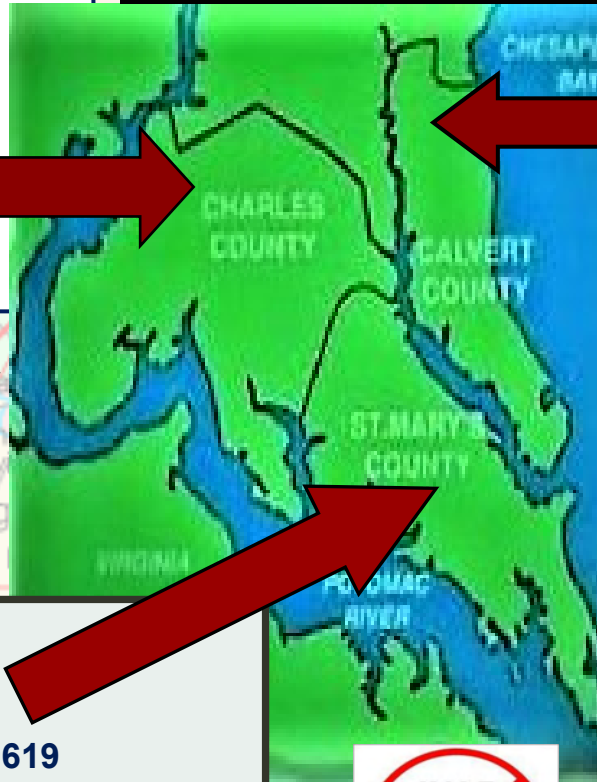
Men's Institutions Chair

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



**SERVICE KEEPS
US SOBER**

DISTRICT 36

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

PO Box 1334, California, MD 20619

[www.marylandaa.org/
organizer/district-36-6](http://www.marylandaa.org/organizer/district-36-6)

**Check out our
NEW WEBSITE!**



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, June 13 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?](https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?pwd=QzVLcUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09)
[pwd=QzVLcUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09](https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?pwd=QzVLcUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09)