



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>

Most meetings end with "The Promises." It would be easy to believe that those are the promises of the program. They are not. They are the promises of the 9th step only. I remember hearing them redundantly and feeling cheated. I missed a certain detail. "If we are painstaking about this phase of our development." What phase? The amends phase. Halfway through the 8th step list being amended, I can expect to start experiencing the things I read. Instead, I

thought they meant halfway through the meeting and often felt like taking my dollar back.

It turns out there are promises on more steps than not. Let's take a walk through the literature, and I'll touch on a few, there are more than can fit in a single blog:

Step Two Promises

"We found that as soon as we lay aside prejudice and expressed even a willingness to believe in a power greater than ourselves, we commenced to get results, even though it was impossible for any of us to fully define or comprehend that Power, which is God." (p. 46)

"Much to our relief, we discovered we did not need to consider another's con-

ception of God. Our own conception, however inadequate, was sufficient to make the approach and to effect a contact with Him." (p. 46)

became less and less interested in ourselves, our little plans and designs. More and more we became interested in seeing what we could contribute to life. As we felt



the new power flow in, as we enjoyed peace of mind, as we discovered we could face life successfully, as we became conscious of His presence, we began to lose our fear of today, tomorrow or the hereafter. We were reborn." (p.63)

Step Four Promises

"Just to the extent that we do what we think He would have

"As soon as a man can say that he does believe, or is willing to believe, we emphatically assure him that he is on his way. It has been repeatedly proven among us that upon this simple cornerstone a wonderfully effective spiritual structure can be built." (p.47)

"With this attitude, you cannot fail. The consciousness of your belief is sure to come to you." (p. 55)

Step Three Promises

"When we sincerely took such a position, all sort of remarkable things followed. We had a new Employer. Being all powerful, He provided what we needed, if we kept close to Him and performed His work well. Established on such a footing, we

of us and humbly rely on Him, does He enable us to match calamity with serenity." (p. 68)

"We have begun to learn tolerance, patience and good will toward all men, even our enemies, for we look on them as sick people." (p.70)

Step Five Promises

"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.

(continued on page 2)

(con't) The feeling that the drink problem has disappeared will often come strongly. We feel we are on the Broad Highway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe." (p. 75)

Step Nine Promises

1. If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through.
2. We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.
3. We will not regret the past, nor wish to shut the door on it.
4. We will comprehend the word serenity, and we will know peace.
5. No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others.
6. That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear.
7. We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows.
8. Self-seeking will slip away.
9. Our whole attitude and outlook on life will change.
10. Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave us.
11. We will intuitively know how to handle situations that used to baffle us.
12. We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us – sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly. They will always materialize if we work for them." (p. 83-84)

Step Ten Promise

"And we have ceased fighting anything or anyone even alcohol. For by this time

sanity will have returned. We will seldom be interested in liquor. If tempted, we recoil from it as from a hot flame. We react sanely and normally, and we will find that this has happened automatically." (p. 84)

"We will see that our new attitude toward liquor has been given to us without any thought or effort on our part. It just comes! That is the miracle of it. We are not fighting it, neither are we avoiding



temptation. We feel as though we had been placed in a position of neutrality safe and protected. We have not even sworn off. Instead, the problem has been removed. It does not exist for us. We are neither cocky nor are we afraid. That is our experience. That is how we react so long as we keep in fit spiritual condition." (p. 85)

Step 11 Promises

"What used to be the hunch, or the occasional inspiration gradually becomes a working part of the mind. Nevertheless, we find that our thinking will, as time passes, be more and more on the plane of in-

spiration. We come to rely upon it." (p. 87)

Step 12 Promises

"Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail." (p. 89)

"To watch people, recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to

have a host of friends this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives." (p. 89)

"When we look back, we realize that the things which came to us when we put ourselves in God's hands were better than anything we could have planned." (p. 100)

"Your job now is to be at the place where you may be of maximum helpfulness to others, so never hesitate to go anywhere if you can be helpful. You should not hesitate to visit

the most sordid spot on earth on such an errand. Keep on the firing line of life with these motives and God will keep you unharmed." (p. 102)

There are more promises in the book. If you have any questions about the promises of each step, talk to your sponsor or bring it up in your homegroup. Just as everyone has personal experience with the steps, the same goes for the promises. It's always an interesting discussion to have and the more experience you have with them, the deeper your understanding.

<https://www.gatehousesobercommunity.com/the-promises-of-a-a-more-than-just-the-9th-step-promises/>

Baltimore's 857 Club is home to an [...] in-person meeting for Deaf A.A. members that [...] is part of ongoing efforts to make the program more accessible. The group meets Mondays from 7 to 8 p.m. at 100 S. Haven St. No sign language interpretation is offered. Although many Deaf-accessible and Deaf-only Zoom meetings are available, the "Deaf Maryland A.A." meeting is the first in-person offering in Maryland. It's hosted by Deaf A.A. members from the Maryland Deaf Access Committee.

"What's been really great for the Deaf community in A.A. is Zoom," Cindy B., Chair of the Maryland Deaf Access Committee, said through a sign language interpreter. "There's lots of Deaf meetings in American Sign Language on Zoom of people from all over the world. We have different types of meetings, [like] speaker meetings [and Big Book meetings]. But the only thing is there's no fellowship in person. It's just all virtual."

Cindy, who got sober in early 2020, first tried A.A. in 2011, but she wasn't comfortable going to meetings unless they had ASL interpretation. Few were offered.

"I learned through my substance abuse counselor — the therapist — she encouraged me to go to meetings and gave me resources to find it on the web site," Cindy said. "But I refused to go to meetings without an interpreter. I wouldn't go. Because I grew up in a hearing family, and they would all talk while I sat there. I couldn't [even participate in] family discussions. So I didn't want to go. And I used a church interpreter, and she was lousy. [...]. And I said, 'Nope, I'm not going.'" Attending hearing A.A. meetings is an option, but even with ASL interpreters, it can be frustrating [...].

"With the hearing community, at hearing meetings, they always are very friendly and welcoming. [...] They give you hugs, they ask you to do simple service work like sign court cards or collect books and put them back in the bins, clean the kitchen, that type of stuff. But I lack skills for socializing and fellowship - I'm pretty weak in that. I didn't have enough training growing up. It's a little more awkward in person. I don't blame the hearing people.



WHAT IF YOU WANTED TO GET SOBER — BUT YOU COULDN'T HEAR?

You know, they're not exposed to Deaf A.A. members. Not enough anyway. The Deaf community is not exposed to other hearing people. So I don't expect the hearing community to fit in with the Deaf A.A. But we need to go to A.A. meetings, get a sponsor, do our Step work, and keep things simple. KISS. Keep it simple, stupid!"

The Maryland Deaf Access Committee, formed in 2023 as a stand-alone A.A. service committee, seeks 7th-Tradition contributions from A.A. groups to help fund ASL interpretation for specific meetings, selected by Deaf members. The MDAC committee, [...] made up of alcoholics and provides services for alcoholics, only accepts funds from A.A. groups and members. It adheres to A.A.'s 12 Traditions. Currently, the Agape-Towson hybrid meeting Tuesdays at 7 p.m. offers ASL interpretation on the first and third Tuesdays.

Interpreters are expensive. MDAC pays an ASL interpreter a \$130 flat fee for a one-hour in-person A.A. meeting. The interpreter is available for 15 minutes before and after the meeting for fellowship, and 30 minutes is granted for travel compensation.

"To reinforce how crucial the interpreter is, Cindy could have possibly gotten sober in 2011, but she didn't have the communication key," said Kathi K., Chair of the Area 29 Public Information Committee. She previously served on the Area Accessibilities Committee, which helped start MDAC.

"So it took her like another nine years to get to A.A.," Kathi said. "And still, even

now, the impact for the whole meeting is contingent on the (quality of) the ASL interpreter. That's the kind of information we're trying to convey to the Fellowship. We're not fundraising. We're asking for 7th tradition contributions."

[Cindy explains that] interpreters who aren't familiar with A.A. can be difficult to follow.

"Let's say it's not a regular interpreter, they don't know the A.A. lingo — the Preamble, the Promises, the Traditions, the Steps. And they get all these terms wrong. [...] For me, I'm going to be honest. It depends on the interpreter's signing skills. If the interpreters aren't good, I don't get a lot out of the meeting."

MDAC circulates yellow cans at A.A. groups that are willing to consider giving some of their 7th-Tradition collection to support access for Deaf members. Technology such as transcription services can help make a hearing meeting accessible, [...] but it's not a perfect tool.

"If the meeting is in a huge room, some people are all the way in the back, or they speak very low because maybe they're shy, or they're almost whispering — the Transcribe app doesn't pick that up," Cindy [clarified]. "Or maybe somebody is sitting next to me and they're talking, but they keep moving around, fidgeting. Their folding chairs are making noise, or their cups. That can be very frustrating. It's nice to have transcribe as a backup, [...] I just wish there [were] more meetings with interpreters. But I know the cost can be an issue. I'm in understanding with that, and I'm in acceptance with that."

<https://www.marylandaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/OCW-Spring-2025.pdf>

THIS PROGRAM NEEDS SUPPORT



<http://mdacAA.org>

Contribute via **Paypal:**

@MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com

or by **Venmo** @MDAC-2023

The Sign Language Fund

Supporting A.A. Groups and
Members in Carrying the
A.A. Message to Deaf and
Hard of Hearing Alcoholics

"When anyone, anywhere reaches
out for help, I want the hand of AA
always to be there, and for that,
I am responsible."

MDAC Deaf Access
@MDAC-2023



**PLEASE
ANNOUNCE AT
HOME GROUPS
AND MEETINGS**

Alcoholics Anonymous
Deaf Access Outreach
Maryland Deaf Access Committee (MDAC)



MDAC would like to let the Deaf
community in Western Maryland
know that we are available to help
coordinate ASL interpretation for
AA meetings.

If you think you may have a problem
with alcohol and are interested in
attending an Alcoholics Anonymous
(AA) meeting, please reach out to the
Maryland Deaf Access Committee
(MDAC)

Maryland Deaf Access Committee
Website <https://www.mdacaa.org/>

Or attend our monthly business
meeting - 2nd Sunday of the Month
at 4:30 p.m. EST
Meeting ID: 86723924758
Passcode: 514472

Contact: MarylandDeafAccess@gmail.com



AGAPE-TOWSON HYBRID



**MEETS WEEKLY
WITH ASL INTERPRETATION**

**TUESDAYS
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM EDT**

effective September 2025
ASL Interpretation every Tuesday
with inperson interpreter only
on 1st & 3rd Tuesday

Sheppard Pratt Hospital, Gibson Bldg.
1 Friends Ln, 3rd Floor, Towson, MD 21204



**Zoom Meeting ID:
120 784 691**

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

WWW.MDACAA.ORG

In taking the Steps, I have found it essential to do so with the guidance of a sponsor, never more so than with Steps 8 and 9. My first experience of Step 9 came very early in sobriety. I had accumulated a huge amount of debt in active alcoholism, and my creditors' next move was going to be a house call to my parents, with whom I was living. I called my sponsor, fully expecting him to give me a loan to keep the wolf from the door. I didn't get the loan. Instead, he suggested I write a list of all my creditors, contact them, and admit my debt. With extreme trepidation, I did just that. To my surprise, all they wanted was their money back. With the help of a charity, I drew up a budget and made a plan to repay them monthly.

When I later reached Steps 8 and 9, I started with a very short list of people I thought I had harmed. It wasn't everyone — only those I believed making amends to would make *my* life easier. Within a

couple of years, I was consumed with resentment. Going back through the Steps, I made a thorough list of *all* the people I had harmed and became clear on exactly what those harms were. Step 8 straightened out my thinking. One of the hardest amends was to my ex-wife. Although we had regular contact for custody purposes, our relationship had deteriorated to the point where we could not hold a conversation for longer than 30 seconds. I chose to write a letter. I was careful not to include any "new information" that might have harmed her further. Instead, I frankly admitted the wrongs I had done and expressed sincere regret. I also offered her the chance to share anything else I had overlooked.

A week later, I received a phone call from her. In that conversation, I learnt a great deal about how my behaviour had affected others. Much of the call was focused on the welfare of our daughter and what I could do to be of service. Placing

my misgivings in God's hands, I could not have imagined the outcome. Today we are able to communicate with mutual respect, with our daughter's welfare at the heart of our conversations. Step 9 taught me that amends are not simply about clearing my conscience or getting a pleasant response, they are about setting right the wrongs of the past as best I can, with God's help. In doing so, I discovered a freedom I had never known before.

Alistair



<https://alcoholics-anonymous.eu/general-post/made-direct-amends-step-9/>

"We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves." (p. 76) By the time I got to Step Nine, I had been shown that living on self-will did not work. I recoiled when I saw the exact nature of my wrongs and how I had harmed others. I need a relationship with God, and while the channel had started to be cleared by taking the preceding Steps, it was still blocked by unmade amends and guilt. Relationships were damaged. I wanted to avoid certain places in case I bumped into people. I owed money. I was still engaging in some weird behaviors around my finances because I hadn't faced my creditors.

It's now time for me to repair the damage from the past, so that I could live freely and usefully, fitting myself to be of maximum service to God and others. I

took the list I had made in Step Eight of those I had harmed. In prayer, with guidance from a sponsor, and using the general principles outlined in the Big Book, I considered how best to approach them. The amends took various forms. Some I made in person. For some, because sensitivity, relationship, or the time that 's passed, a letter was more appropriate. I returned the things I had "borrowed" and never returned. I started paying back the money; I couldn't afford to do this all at once, so I approached my creditors and set up payment plans.

In the amends, I acknowledged what I did, recognized the impact, apologized, and rectified the harm. With family in particular, this was the beginning of a long period of reconstruction. There have been a few tough times along the way, but as I continue showing up sober and practicing

spiritual principles, relationships are healing... My mum told me she can see she really has got her daughter back. My sister told me she trusts me to look after my nephew. I thank God for these moments. I still have amends to make, and there have been times I have been frightened and tried to avoid doing them. During these times, I reminded myself that I said I was willing to go to any lengths to stay sober and have a spiritual experience, and therefore need to make all the amends. I asked God for the strength and direction to do the right thing. And the promise came true: suddenly I realized God is doing for me what I could do not for myself. As I made amends, the sense of separation began to disappear. I started to wake up to being in a loving God's hands as I went out to try to carry the message. — **Cara**

<https://alcoholics-anonymous.eu/general-post/made-direct-amends-step-9/>

When Tradition Nine was first written, it said that “Alcoholics Anonymous needs the least possible organization.” In years since then, we have changed our minds about that. Today, we are able to say with assurance that Alcoholics Anonymous—A.A. as a whole—should never be organized at all. Then, in seeming contradiction, we proceed to create special service boards and committees which in themselves are organized. How, then, can we have an unorganized movement which can and does create a service organization for itself? Scanning this puzzler, people say, “What do they mean, no organization?”

Did anyone ever hear of a nation, a church, a political party, even a benevolent association that had no membership rules? Did anyone ever hear of a society which couldn't somehow discipline its members and enforce obedience to necessary rules and regulations? Doesn't nearly every society on earth give authority to some of its members to impose obedience upon the rest and to punish or expel offenders? Therefore, every form of society, has to be a government administered by human beings. Power to direct or govern is the essence of organization everywhere.

Yet Alcoholics Anonymous is an exception. It does not conform to this pattern. Neither its General Service Conference, its Foundation Board,* nor the humblest group committee can issue a single directive to an A.A. member and make it stick, let alone mete out any punishment. We've tried it lots of times, but utter failure is always the result. Groups have tried to expel members, but the banished have come back to sit in the meeting place, saying, “This is life for us; you can't keep us out.” Committees have instructed many an A.A. to stop working on a chronic backslider, only to be told: “How I do my Twelfth Step work is my business. Who are you to judge?” This doesn't mean an A.A. won't take advice or suggestions from more experienced members, but he

surely won't take orders. Who is more unpopular than the old-time A.A., full of wisdom, who moves to another area and tries to tell the group there how to run its business? He and all like him who “view with alarm for the good of A.A.” meet the most stubborn resistance or, worse still, laughter.

TRADITION 9



A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

You might think A.A.'s headquarters in New York would be an exception. Surely, the people there would have to have some authority. But long ago, trustees and staff members alike found they could do no more than make suggestions, and very mild ones at that. They even had to coin a couple of sentences which still go into half the letters they write: “Of course, you are at perfect liberty to handle this matter any way you please. But the majority experience in A.A. does seem to suggest . . .” Now, that attitude is far removed from central government, isn't it? We recognize that alcoholics can't be dictated to—individually or collectively.

At this juncture, we can hear a churchman exclaim, “They are making disobedience a virtue!” He is joined by a psychiatrist who says, “Defiant brats! They won't grow up and conform to social usage!” The man in the street says, “I don't understand it. They must be nuts!” But all these observers have overlooked something unique in Alcoholics Anonymous. Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve Steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant. His drunkenness and

dissolution are not penalties inflicted by people in authority; they result from his personal disobedience to spiritual principles.

The same stern threat applies to the group itself. Unless there is approximate conformity to A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, the group, too, can deteriorate and die. So we of A.A. do obey spiritual principles, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are A.A.'s disciplinarians; we need no others. It is clear now that we ought never to name boards to govern us, but it is equally clear that we shall always need to authorize workers to serve us. It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes

poles apart. It is in this spirit of service that we elect the A.A. group's informal rotating committee, the intergroup association for the area, and the General Service Conferences of Alcoholics Anonymous for A.A. as a whole. Even our Foundation, once an independent board, is today directly accountable to our Fellowship. Its trustees are the caretakers and expeditors of our world services.

Just as the aim of each A.A. member is personal sobriety, the aim of our services is to bring sobriety within reach of all who want it. If nobody does the group's chores, if the area's telephone rings unanswered, if we do not reply to our mail, then A.A. as we know it would stop. Our communications lines with those who need our help would be broken.

A.A. has to function, but at the same time it must avoid those dangers of great wealth, prestige, and entrenched power which necessarily tempt other societies. Though Tradition Nine at first sight seems to deal with a purely practical matter, in its actual operation it discloses a society without organization, animated only by the spirit of service — a true fellowship.

<https://www.twelvetraditionsstudy.org/traditions/tradition-9>

The Origin of the Four Absolutes in AA History

I was asked to research the origin of the Four Absolutes and the pamphlet by that same name published by our office. We have scant local resources for research of this kind, so I reached out to the Archives Department at our General Service Office. It was assigned to Associate Archivist Steven D'Avria who spent considerable time and careful effort on this task. Thank you so much, Steven! I blended his research with ours.

The Four Absolutes come from the Oxford Group, a precursor of AA. Both Bill W and Dr. Bob attended their meetings before starting AA and for a few years thereafter. We were originally the

"drunk squads" of that organization. The book "What is the Oxford Group" presents these four moral principles (Honesty, Unselfishness, Love, Purity) in great detail but offers no advice from whence they came. The book "The Oxford Group: Its History and Significance" describes these as: "The ethical program of the [Oxford] Group is epitomized in the counsel of moral perfection defined by the Four Absolutes." It further details much of the sources of the OG's tenets and suggested that the Four Absolutes themselves originated from the works of Presbyterian Min-

ister Robert E. Speers.

When asked why the Absolutes were omitted from the Big Book, Bill stated "The Four Absolutes... are expressed or implied in the Twelve Steps. Bill W also opined that their "moral perfection" was too lofty a goal for most alcoholics; "We claim spiritual progress rather than spiritu-

first appeared as a 16-page booklet in April 1963 but the oldest copy we have in the office archives was printed after 1974. I and others, facing indecision, rely on these as a touchstone of God's will for me—the moral path to pursue. Dr. Bob spoke of this at length in his last major talk in 1948. *By Bob McK, Cleveland District Office Archivist, December 2017*



The Four Absolutes – Excerpt

Taken from Dr. Bob's Last Major Talk, Detroit, December 1948

"The four absolutes, as we called them, were the only yardsticks we had in the early days, before the Steps. I think the absolutes still hold good and can be extremely helpful. I have found at times that a question arises, and I want to

al perfection." Bill also strongly wanted to differentiate AA from the OG. The OG had experienced some public controversy which we needed to avoid.

Nonetheless many AA members hereabouts found and find these principles of such universal usefulness that Lloyd H, co-editor of Cleveland's Central Bulletin, wrote essays on these principles as they apply to AA members. They were published in serial form in the January to June 1960 issues. These received such wide acclaim that in October 1962 we decided to publish them in pamphlet form. They

do the right thing, but the answer is not obvious. Almost always, if I measure my decision carefully by the yardsticks of absolute honesty, absolute unselfishness, absolute purity, and absolute love, and it checks up pretty well with those four, then my answer can't be very far out of the way. If, however, I do that and I'm still not too satisfied with the answer, I usually consult with some friend whose judgment, in this particular case, would be very much better than mine. But usually the absolutes can help you to reach your own personal decision without bothering your friends.

(continued on page 8)

(con't) "Suppose we have trouble taking the First Step; we can't get quite honest enough to admit that John Barleycorn really has bested us. The lack of absolute purity is involved here – purity of ideas, purity of motives. Absolute unselfishness includes the kind of service I have been taking about – not the dime or two bits to the bum, but actually giving of yourself.

"As you well know, absolute love incorporates all else. It's very difficult to have absolute love. I don't think any of us will ever get it, but that doesn't mean we can't try to get it. It was extremely difficult for me to love my fellow man. I didn't dislike

him, but I didn't love him, either. Unless there was some special reason for caring, I was just indifferent to him. I would be willing to give him a little bit—it didn't require much effort. I never would injure him at all. But love him? For a long time, I just couldn't do it.

"I think I overcame this problem to some extent when I was forced to do it, because I had to either love this fellow or attempt to be helpful to him, or I would probably get drunk again. Well, you could say that was just a manifestation of selfishness, and you'd be quite correct. I was selfish to the extent of not wanting Bob

hurt; so, to keep from getting Bob hurt, I would go through the motions of trying to be helpful to the other fellow. Debate it any way you want to, but the fact remains that the average individual can never acquire absolute love. I suspect there are a few people who do; I think maybe I know some who come pretty close to it. But I could count them on the fingers of one hand. I don't say that in any disparaging manner; I have some wonderful friends. But I'm talking about the final aspects of absolute love, particularly as it applies to A.A."

<https://www.aacle.org/four-absolutes-history/>

In 1986 I was alone for a few days in a cheap hotel in Detroit. I'd been betrayed and was despondent, distrustful, and depressed. Looking through my luggage I realized I'd forgotten to pack, of all things, a toothbrush. No problem, I thought. There was a drugstore on the corner. But upon entering it, I learned that Michigan drugstores double as liquor stores.

I was 1½ years sober but not yet far enough into the last few of the 12 Steps. So, I found myself staring at a wall of old friends and asking myself that too-often fatal question, "Who's to know?" I contemplated drinking for a couple days, sobering up, and not telling anyone about it.

My quiet quandary was broken by someone loudly arguing with the pharmacist about refilling a mood-altering drug before the refill date. This brought me back to reality. I grabbed a toothbrush, paid quickly, and got out of there.

A week later I thought Cleveland's *Central Bulletin* might be interested in this story, so I wrote it up. The editor, Imogene Z., told me she loved it and she published it. In that process, the *Central Bulletin* became our *Central Bulletin*, or even my *Central Bulletin*.

Years later I wrote a couple of articles for the AA *Grapevine* and got two of the nicest, sweetest letters of rejection that it has been my pleasure to receive. The articles I submitted were on a service topic, and I knew *Grapevine* articles were mostly about recovery topics, so I was not too surprised.

THE RITE OF WRITING



My third article was on recovery. It was not only published but was the one article in that issue which the editors chose to have an actor read and to make available as an MP3. And thus, the *Grapevine* became my *Grapevine*.

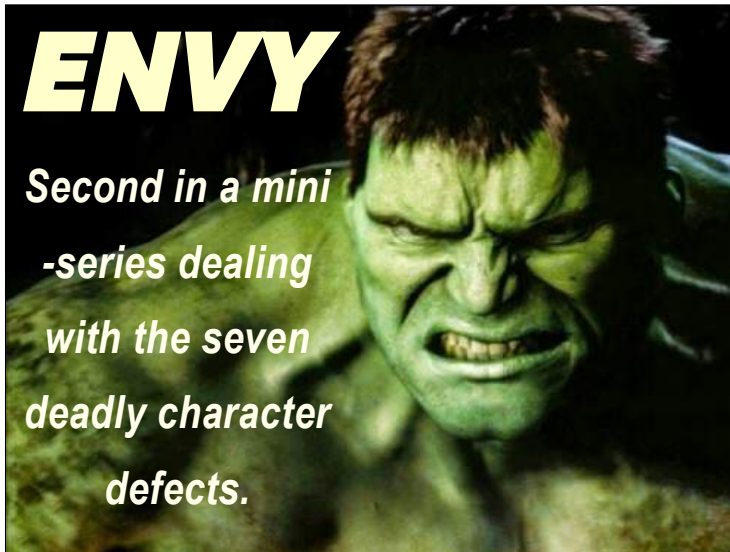
Years later, the publication asked me for another copyright release. I thanked them but said I hadn't sent them an article recently. They replied with the title of the second rejected article and said they wanted to add it to the "web exclusives"—articles published online but not printed. Part of the rejection had said, "We will keep this on file." It was true!

Throughout my service commitments, I've had small parts in many other AA publications. And each one makes me feel a part of it and AA. These are opportunities you should not miss. Not good at spelling or grammar? That's fine. We have great editors. Where might you start? Perhaps start like I did—*The Central Bulletin*.

<https://www.aacle.org/the-rite-of-writing/>

ENVY

**Second in a mini
-series dealing
with the seven
deadly character
defects.**



No one would argue if you said at a meeting that resentments are among our worst enemies. But resentments, like alcoholism, are a symptom. When you go looking for the cause, envy will often be dug out of the woodwork. Yet most people think of envy as a mild flaw, easily skipped over in the Fourth Step.

The truth is that envy has long since earned a high pace among character defects. Like many an insidious foe, it has a way of throwing sliders that can fool anyone. As long as our defects go unrecognized, they have a way of growing; they aren't likely to fade away and get lost without real effort by the victim. And envy can sour the thinking process like sauerkraut in a milk-shake. The victim would never admit this. (Guilty ones rarely confess anything. Ask any judge, lawyer, or jury.)

To envy means "to feel annoyed or aggrieved at the superior possessions or advantages of another person." Any time an alcoholic gets annoyed in this way, there is danger ahead. What shows first as irritation grows quickly into resentment. Emotions can merely simmer; but as in a kettle with the lid jammed on, pressure rises, and resentment can burst into rage.

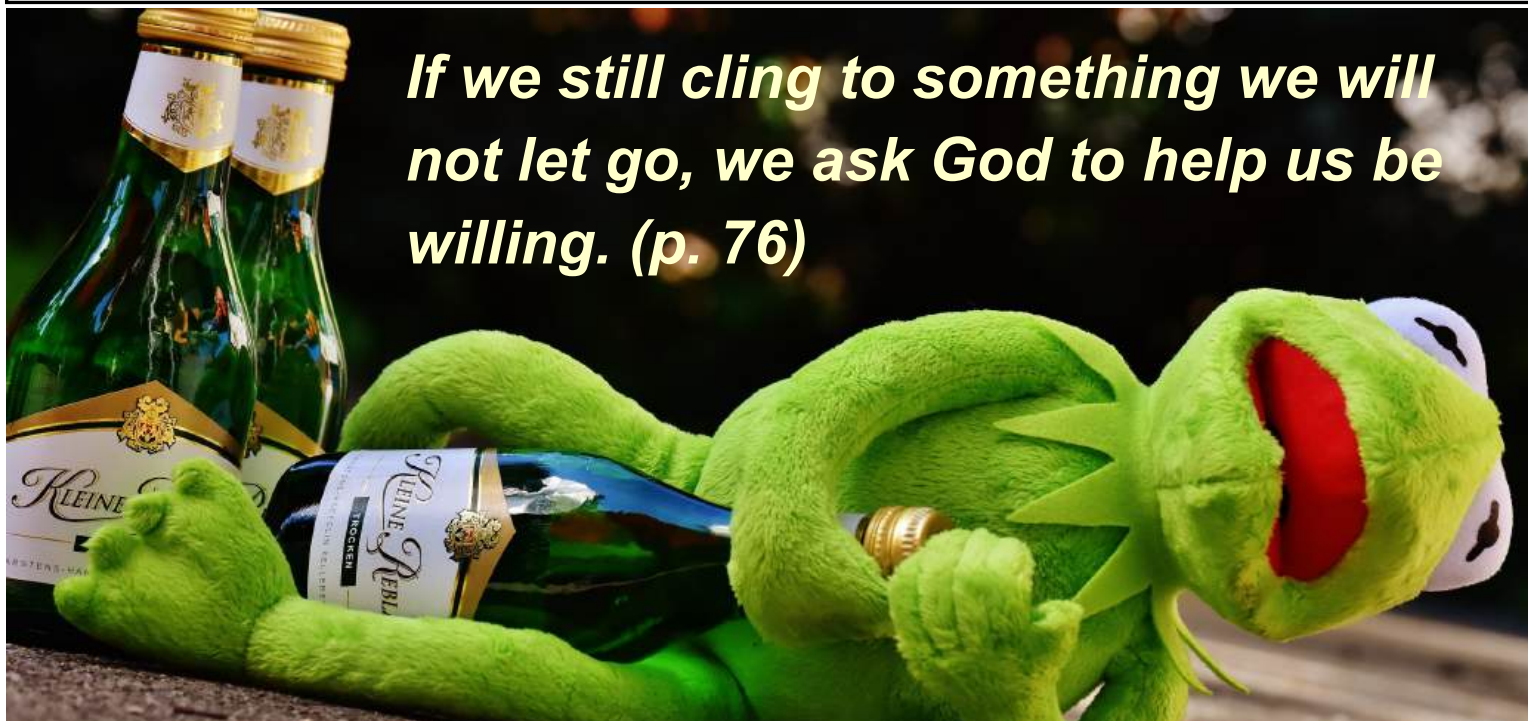
So what started as a touch of mild envy may eventually boil into something lethal and end in tragedy (which to us means a drink). Suppose someone remarks here, "Why worry about it? Remember, Easy Does It." There is a strong answer. It comes from Bill W., AA's co-founder, who noted in the Grapevine (November 1960) that alcoholics have three choices in seeking sobriety: (1) "A rebellious refusal to work upon our glaring defects can be an almost certain ticket to destruction"; (2) for a time, we can stay sober with a minimum of self-improvement and settle our selves into a comfortable but often dangerous mediocrity; or (3) "we can continuously try hard for those sterling qualities that can add up to fineness of spirit and action – true and lasting freedom under God."

If we take the third course, we'll begin with a "searching and fearless" look into ourselves. Do I envy John or Jane Doe, recently promoted while I sat still? Or their new car while mine is old and rusty? Or the fact that his son made MIT while mine took a low-level job? The list will be long; for each, it will vary; but honesty will show that envy warps countless minds.

Envy has a long arm; its fingers touch many sides of our thinking and therefore influence our actions. Is this a human frailty that can't be helped? No! Once anyone uses the Fourth Step without reserve and begins to see exactly what is wrong, a start can be made. Only that is needed. Perfection isn't in reach. But willingness will open many gates, and the road ahead can be upward, if we so choose, one day at a time.

<https://silkworth.net/alcoholics-anonymous/envy/>

***If we still cling to something we will
not let go, we ask God to help us be
willing. (p. 76)***



SIGNS OF SOBRIETY

Copyright © Ottawa Area Intergroup,
December 2001

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GROWING IN SOBRIETY WHEN:

1. You spend a lot more time being grateful than you once did.
2. You are far less frequently disturbed, angry, or annoyed.
3. When you think about the past, it's mostly in the context of today's recovery and tomorrow's promise.
- 4.. There are a lot more people in your life – and not only people in the Fellowship. You enjoy your day to day activities and associations.
5. The mention of God or religion no longer makes you uncomfortable. Instead of agonizing about the big issues or debating the existence of a Supreme Being, you are discovering a quiet assurance that you are loved and that life is a precious gift.

6. Others tell you that you are a lot more tolerant than you used to be; you are more able to allow others to say, do, and be what they wish without affecting you. Very infrequently do you allow someone else to rent space in your head!

7. Gradually, you seem to be discovering real communion with others and with God. Sometimes, at meetings, it's as if God were speaking through these other, very human men and women who are sharing the wonder of recovery

8. Bit by bit, you have been learning that you can be helpful to others – in AA, to be sure, but also in your family and a larger circle of acquaintances.

9. When you occasionally get off-course and seem to be sliding back, you have resources quickly available to diagnose and resolve the problem. You have people you trust who understand and care about you, and you have those twelve wonderful Steps to more abundant life in the miracle that is Alcoholics Anonymous.

<https://silkworth.net/alcoholics-anonymous/signs-of-sobriety/>

It Happened IN September



September 1: 1939 – 1st

AA group founded in Chicago

September 5: 1907 – Nancy Flynn, author of "Independent Blond" born

September 11: 2001 – 30 Vesey St, New York, AA's first Office is damaged during the World Trade Center attack

2001 – Father Mychal J., September 15, 1979 Died sober in the World Trade Center attack

September 12: 1942 – U.S. Assist. Surgeon General Kolb speaks at dinner for Bill and Dr. Bob

September 13: 1937 – Florence R., 1st female in AA in NY

September 13: 1941 – WHJP in Jacksonville, FL airs Spotlight on AA

September 17: 1954: Bill D., AA #3 dies.

September 18: 1947 – Dallas Central Office opens its doors

September 19: 1965: The Saturday Evening Post publishes article

"Alcoholics Can Be Cured – Despite AA" 1975 – Jack Alexander, author of Saturday Evening Post article, dies

September 21: 1938 – Bill W. & Hank P. form Works Publishing Co

September 24: 1940 – Bill 12 steps Bobbie V. who replaced Ruth Hock as his secretary in NY

September 30: 1939 – Morris Markey runs story on AA, Alcoholics and God in Liberty Magazine

September 30: 1975 – *Bill W.* a biography by Robert T. is published

September 30: 2003 – Searcy W. died today, sober 20,962 days in a row

Other significant events in September for which we have no specific dates:

1930: Bill wrote 4th (last) promise in family Bible to quit drinking.

1939: Group started by Earl T. in Chicago.

1940: AA group started in Toledo by Duke P. & others.

1940: Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases gives Big Book unfavorable review.

1946: Bill & Dr. Bob both publicly endorsed National Committee Education Alcoholism founded by Marty M.

1946: 1st A.A. group in Mexico.

1948: Bob writes article for Grapevine on AA "Fundamentals – In Retrospect".

1948: 1st issue of Grapevine published in "pocketbook" size

1946 – 1st AA group in Mexico City is formed

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

Service Opportunities!

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 & Responsibilities:

The Treasurer maintains Southern Maryland Intergroup Association's (SMIA) corporate financial records, tax returns, detailed accounting of receipts and disbursements; and provides summaries and reports to the Intergroup at least quarterly. The Treasurer works with the Finance Committee to prepare the annual budget and present it to the Member Assembly for a vote. The Treasurer receives contributions and maintains SMIA's funds in an account in the name of SMIA. With approval of the Board, the Treasurer oversees and maintains any financial professional services.

Eligibility & Preferred Qualifications:

- A sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous
- Organizational skills for good record-keeping; accounting or bookkeeping experience
- Computer skills appropriate for the duties of the position, especially working with spreadsheets
- Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- A sound understanding and appreciation of applying the Steps, the Traditions and the Concepts of Alcoholics Anonymous, along with a willingness to consult with others who have gained experience through applying these guiding principles successfully to problems.

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

Please join us at the next SMIA meeting, *Saturday September 12 at 10am*

Immaculate Conception Church,

28297 Old Village Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Or via Zoom @

<https://zoom.us/j/99982597908?>

[pwd=QzVLcUZrVHdacFlrYUNZN21tdkluQT09](#)

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Dana S., 1 yr, Emo- tional So- briety	2	3 Tony S., 43 yrs, Almost Normal Carolyn P., 18 yrs, Basic Text	4 Michelle M., 4 yrs, Not Quite Right	5
6	7	8 Bob W., 8 yrs, Holly- wood	9	10	11 Dave M., 3 yrs, Cove Point	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Dave C., 36 yrs, Laurel Grove
20	21	22	23	24 Pete D., 8 yrs, Pop- lar Hill	25	26 Lynne B., 11 yrs, Early Risers Abel J., 20 yrs, Happy Hour
27	28 Linda M., 26 yrs, Chris B., 14 yrs, and Jerry K., 1 yr, Monday Nite Traditions	29 Cory D., 1 yr, Laurel Grove	30			

OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Melissa W., 7 yrs, Basic Text	2 Keith H., 6 yrs, Begin- ner's at Noon	3 Holly H., 1 yr, Early Bird
4	5 Jayson W., 1 yr, Monday Nite Mike B., 6 yrs, More Will Be Revealed	6 Will F., 2 yrs, Leonardtown Big Book	7	8	9	10
11 Roy B., 6 yrs, Solomons Jim M., 28 yrs, Private Celebration	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Jackie F., 1 yr, Monday Nite	20	21	22	23 Andy H., 8 yrs, Not Quite Right	24
25	26	27	28	29 Dan S., 18 yrs Poplar Hill	30	31 Guy A., 20 yrs, Early Bird

DISTRICT 36

BARBECUE

Cook-Off & Fall Picnic

BRING YOUR BEST RIBS!

Think you have the best ribs? Let's find out!

COMPETITORS

★ **MAKE THEM AT HOME** ★

Prepare your best ribs at home using your favorite recipe.

★ **BRING THEM TO THE FALL PICNIC FOR JUDGING!**

Bring your cooked ribs to the picnic ready for judging. Ribs will be judged on taste, tenderness & overall appeal!

JUDGING STARTS PROMPTLY AT 12:30

TO SIGN UP TO COMPETE OR FOR QUESTIONS, SEE **KIM S** OR **MARY F**

JUDGES NEEDED!

★ **WE ARE LOOKING FOR JUDGES** ★

to help us decide who has the best ribs!

★ **BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE!**

All side dishes and desserts are welcome and appreciated!

HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS

will be provided!

★ **SUNDAY SEP 13** ★

12:00 - 4:00

Little Dent (5th District) Park
37840 New Market-Turner Rd
Mechanicsville, MD 20659

QUESTIONS OR MORE INFO? SEE KIM S OR MARY F

Call or Text:
Mary F 240-237-2954
Kim S 301-481-7098

GRAND PRIZE FOR BEST RECIPE!!

GREAT FOOD! GREAT FUN!

GOOD PEOPLE! GREAT TIMES!

SMIA

Temporary Events Guidelines Committee

Virtual Meeting Series

Help develop recommended guidelines to support future SMIA event planning and fundraising activities.

Any A.A. member may participate.

Meetings will be held via Zoom
VIRTUAL ONLY

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Saturday, August 22, 2026
Saturday, September 26, 2026
Saturday, October 24, 2026 (if necessary)

Zoom Information: _____

Seeking Past Event Materials

We welcome any documents, after-action reports, planning notes, flyers, budgets, checklists, timelines, or lessons learned from previous SMIA events. There have been many events over the years, and we hope to learn from that experience. If you have materials or insights to share, we would be grateful to hear from you.

Interested in participating and able to commit to three meetings?
Contact John W @ 760-622-4792 for the Zoom info.

Guided by unity, service, and shared experience.

VAC AA

CORRECTIONS WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
6320 Hanover Avenue Springfield, VA 22150

About the Event

- Panels featuring previously incarcerated AA members & Corrections professionals from across VA
- Live call from a member of AA who is currently in jail and has been incarcerated for 38 years
- Lunch will be served

THIS IS A HYBRID EVENT - EMAIL DCMS FOR ZOOM LINK

DCM1@aavirginia.org DCM21@aavirginia.org www.aavirginia.org

The Area 29 Corrections Committee is proudly announcing the ...

Third Annual Corrections Day of Sharing!

All are welcome!

- Panels
- Discussions
- Information
- Institutional Knowledge relating to Corrections and A.A involvement in helping those inside the walls
- Fellowship with Members from Across Area 29

Where: Severna Park United Methodist Church.
731 Benfield Rd.
Severna Park, MD

When: Saturday, October 10, 2026

Time: 9:00 A.M. until 2 P.M.

For more information or to volunteer please contact Jerry C. : corrections@marylandaa.org.

**SOUTHERN MARYLAND
INTERGROUP
ASSOCIATION MEETING
MINUTES 8/8/26**

OPENING - The Serenity Prayer

Board Members Present: Todd M – Chair/Acting Treasurer; Emme J, Vice Chair, Keith T, Parliamentarian; Shaara W, Secretary. **Groups & Committees Represented:** Buddy F – Archives Chair/Bookstall; Bill L – Web (remotely); Keith H – Lifeline; Brandi T - St. Mary's County Corrections (remotely); Faye S, We Are Not Saints; Cindy C, Awakenings; Jamie R, North Beach; Rob A, Poplar Hill; Duke R, Basic Text; Suzi L, Never Too Late; Mary F, Leonardtown; Michelle C, Leonardtown; Michele H, Monday Night Tradition; and Jeff G, Laurel Grove.

SMIA Chair Report: Next month's meeting we will have current Area Intergroup Chair, Bridget, to talk about her committee and how they can help the various intergroups. We now have access to the P.O. Box and the bank account so everything will be retrieved and/or deposited. He asks that donations include group name and number. Area Assembly is meeting in Severna Park on August 15. Area 29 Corrections Committee is having their 3rd annual corrections day of sharing at the same church on August 10.

Vice-Chair Report: Nothing to report.

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

Treasurer Report (corrections/additions): This position is still vacant. Todd M, Chair, is still working with the former Treasurer. The backlog of deposits and payments has been resolved so there is more in contributions and payments than usual. Motion to accept the August 2026 report. Second. All in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Corrections/

Treatment/Public information/PCP

Calvert: Cindy reported that members of her home group are taking meetings to Avenues. Peggy K is taking meetings to Avenues on Mondays and Thursdays and is taking names of volunteers. **Charles:** Things are going well.

St. Mary's: Roy B. reported things are going well. The men have 7 volunteers with another approved; looking for volunteers to carry a second men's meeting. Brandi T. reported that things on the women's side are going well.

Telephone: Still need a chair for this. Faye S. has been taking the calls since June 1 and will do it until the position is filled. No report. Another article was published in the Lifeline about the vacancy of this position. Minimum of 2 years sobriety.

Where & When: No report. There are plenty for distribution.

Lifeline: Keith H reported that things are going well. Materials due by the 27th of the month. Looking for Home Group Histories.

Events: Ad Hoc Events Committee: Set up a series of virtual meetings on 8/22, 9/26, 10/24, at 10-11 a.m. Seeking participants and past events materials.

Serenity Breakfast: No report.

Picnic: No report.

Gratitude Dinner: Scheduled for November. Need a chair and committee.

Workshops: District 36 is having a speakers meeting/Big Book Study on August 15 at Mt. Zion Church in Mechanicsville.

Web Report 7/11/26 – 8/8/26 Site Analytics Main Site Total Visitors (initial visit) Bookstall Site 3634 – up 32% 1473 – down 48% 5 Most Frequently visited pages Home Page – 3435 Al-Anon Information Page- 1218 Where and When Calendar - 232 Where and When Search - 205 Announcements - 173 3 Top 10 Visitor locations – Maryland, California, Virginia, Nebraska, West Virginia, New Jer-

sey, Iowa, Delaware, New York, Ohio Site Updates and Changes No significant changes. Meeting Change Information Notes were added for the Laurel Grove Group, that they will not be meeting on 8/29/26 due to a church event Meeting Status Currently there are 135 meetings in our service area; 127 meetings are in-person, 6 meetings are hybrid, 7 meetings are on-line only, and one meeting is suspended. Document Posts and Updates Where and When PDF updated – 8/7/26 Financial page updated – 8/3/26 August Lifeline posted – 8/3/26 2026/2027 Budget posted – 7/20/26 July Minutes posted – 7/20/26 Anniversary Submissions since last meeting St. Mary's County - 17 Calvert County - 2 Charles County - 0 Phishing Attempts These continue, despite my best efforts to block them. 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. As a reminder, if your meetings are located in a separate building or obscure location at the primary address, please send us notes regarding the specific location Bookstall: No. Visits: 10. Total Collected: \$351.30. District 1 Balances: PI/PCP 229.15 Corrections/Treatment 225.00 District 36 Balances: PI/PCP 250.00 Corrections/Treatment 375.00 District 35 Balances: PI/PCP 250.00 Corrections/Treatment 245.00 **OLD BUSINESS:** Keith H reported the transition to Canva, which is free for 501 (c)(3)s, is still in transition.

NEW BUSINESS: Emme J. would like to refine the Primary Purpose (Mission Statement) of SMIA to be in line with that of the GSO.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Solomons has a triple header tomorrow: Bobby U., Willie and Bill – multiple years.

Motion to Adjourn: Second. All in favor.

CLOSING – Responsibility Pledge.

September 2026 Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Treasury Report

Monthly Contributions:

\$1,056.98

www.somdintergroup.org/contribute

SMIA, PO Box 767, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc Monthly Statement of Financial Position July 25, 2026 - August 24, 2026

Assets	
Primary Business Checking	\$ 2,367.00
Prudent Reserve	\$ 3,700.00
PayPal	\$ 513.99
Bookstall Cash on hand	\$ 100.00
Total Assets	6,680.99

This Month's Expenses	
Bookstall Purchases	\$ (657.13)
Liability Insurance	\$ (352.00)
Lifeline Printing	\$ (152.77)
Misc	\$ -
Phone Answering Service/1-800#	\$ (61.38)
Post Office Box	\$ -
Rent	\$ (150.00)
Webmaster	\$ -
Website	\$ (58.68)
Where & When	\$ -
Picnic	\$ (799.00)
Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing)	\$ -
Bank Charges and Fees	\$ (16.00)
Other - Tax Filings	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ (2,246.96)

Southern Maryland Intergroup Association Inc Yearly Statement of Activity April 25, 2026 - April 24, 2027

Year to Date Income		BUDGET Shortfall
Contributions	\$ 1,490.98	89%
Bookstall Sales	\$ 760.70	78%
Gratitude Dinner	\$ -	100%
Serenity Breakfast	\$ (194.00)	139%
Total 2026 Income	2,057.68	89%

Year to Date Expenses		BUDGET Left to Use
Bookstall Purchases	\$ (2,234.77)	44%
Liability Insurance	\$ (352.00)	-17%
Lifeline Printing	\$ (577.39)	62%
Misc	\$ -	0%
Phone Answering Service/1-800#	\$ (245.34)	67%
Post Office Box	\$ (126.00)	-5%
Rent	\$ (600.00)	67%
Webmaster	\$ -	100%
Website	\$ (256.71)	70%
Where & When	\$ -	100%
Picnic	\$ (799.00)	20%
Office sup (coffee, postage & faxing)	\$ -	100%
Bank Charges and Fees	\$ (64.00)	68%
Other - Tax Filings	\$ -	0%
Total 2026-2027 Expenses	\$ (5,255.21)	70%

Total of Checking and PayPal Allows us a financial Runway of 1.99 Months
Number of Months of Fiscal Year Remaining 8 Months
For our 2025-2026 planned expenses, we currently have a \$ (8,719.01) Shortfall

Remaining Service Committee Budgets	Calvert	C&T	PI/CPC
Budget Year 2026 (01May2026 - 30Apr2027)	Charles	\$ -	\$ -
As of 08MAY2026	St.Mary's	\$ -	\$ -

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:

Waldorf Basic Text
Beginners @ Noon New Life
Inspiration Saturday Night Beginners
Beach Beacon Twelve Steps Home
Way of Life

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.

WHERE DO WE SEND OUR CONTRIBUTIONS?

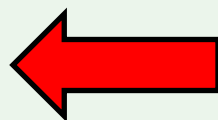
1) All contributions can be made online:

www.somdintergroup.org/donate.php

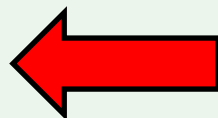
2) Or they can be mailed to the appropriate office location:

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)

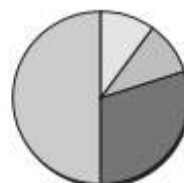
Your Group Service # _____

(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

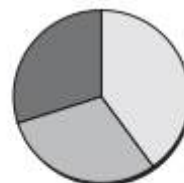
OR



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 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

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: Faye S.

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

Alternate DCM

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)

Please send any
updates for the
Where & When to:

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

Current meeting
guides are availa-
ble at the monthly
SMIA meeting on a
limited basis.

**THE DEAD-
LINE FOR
ALL LIFE-
LINE MATE-
RIALS IS
THE 27th OF
EACH
MONTH.**

The next SMIA Meeting will be held on

Saturday, October 10 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)