

SOUTHERN MARYLAND INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 11, 2025 MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Opening:

Todd M opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Board Members Present: Todd M – Chair; Lorraine J - Vice-Chair; Bruce O – Treasurer; and Paul S – Parliamentarian.

New Member(s): None

Groups & Committees Represented:

Bill L– Web/Bookstall; Emme J – O.D.A.A.T; Roy B – Solomon’s Group; Chris B – Traditions; Faye S – We Are Not Saints, Michelle H, Gratitude Dinner Chair.

SMIA Chair Report: Chair Report

Maryland General Service Elections are Oct 18th. On that day elections will be held for officers for Panel 76--Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

An invitation has been extended to all AA members in our Area to attend and participate. Voting members are Group GSR’s, DCM’s, Area Committee Chairs, current Officers, as well as their Alternates if any other voters are not present. But even those without a vote are invited to come and observe our Third Legacy in action. The Election Assembly will be held at Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Rd, Severna Park, MD beginning at 9:00 am (online access available via Marylandaa.org website. Go to calendar events and click on the Oct 18th Area Assembly event link.)

Chairperson Area 29 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Area Business Meeting

Time: October 18, 2025, 9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89990240795?pwd=dzd4Ym84anNINnA4Z2Z0MW1WUEJYZz09>

(<https://marylandaa.us9.list-manage.com/track/click?u=981cd9a14e49728398ac9e3b5&id=c27aebc202&e=d78ae2eafd>)

Meeting ID: 899 9024 0795

Passcode: 519577

Vice-Chair Report: Lorraine advised she was filling in as secretary for this meeting.

Secretary Report: Motion and second to accept September 2025, minutes as posted online and in the Lifeline, all in favor.

Treasurer Report: Contributions have been low for the past six months. There is currently a 3-month reserve. That may drop down to a 2-month reserve if contributions don’t pick up. Todd was invited to attend District 36 meeting to provide information on the supports provided by SMIA. Lorraine expressed interest in attending as well. Lorraine provided a short list of the supports that SMIA provides and encouraged those in attendance to share this information with their Districts and groups.

Motion and second to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, all in favor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Corrections and Treatment: **Calvert** –Lorraine reported these efforts are going well, but Detention Center staff are not as helpful or cooperative as they could be. **Charles** – RCA has meetings 5 days a week. District is always looking for volunteers. **St. Mary's** – Roy B. reported good attendance at the Wednesdays 7 pm jail meetings (between 12-15 inmates). Due to a growing waiting list for AA meetings, the warden requested a second weekly meeting for males. Notable activities include: Distributing Grapevine magazines. When inmates finish reading them they put them on the library cart. Inmates are taking/keeping Big Books and participate in Big Book study meetings that are offered. Volunteers encourage males to have their own Big Book reading groups in between meetings. Brandi T coordinates the Women's meetings. She relayed, through Roy B, that 2 new volunteer applications were approved and they are waiting on 3 more. They are actively seeking new volunteers. Meeting attendance is up and the waiting list for the women's side is growing.

PI/CPC: **Calvert** – Lorraine J. reported that Kenny G continues to do an amazing job. **Charles** – Brenda reported that it is going well. **St. Mary's** – No report.

Telephone: Melissa W emailed a report to Todd. There were 22 calls. Calvert – 4 calls, Charles – 7 calls, St. Mary's – 2 calls, 9 callers did not specify a county.

Where and Whens: Buddy F reported that the last of the Where and Whens were distributed at today's meeting. Group voted at September meeting to place an order for 1,500. Buddy will follow up with Pat.

Lifeline/Archives: Keith H was not present but relayed his report through Todd. All is going well they are always looking for local stories. These can be submitted via the SMIA website.

EVENTS

Serenity Breakfast: Need a chair.

Picnic: Nothing to report at this time.

Gratitude Dinner: Michelle provided a detailed written report which included a detailed timeline along with these highlights:

- Only 10 tickets remaining
- Menu has been finalized. Main Dishes will be served, sides will be self-serve
- Groups have committed to donating 8 pies so far. Additional donations are encouraged and welcomed.
- Drinks will be Coffee, Sweet and Unsweet Tea and Water
- 4 Themed baskets for door prizes: 1) Coffee; 2) Sweets; 3) Game Night; 4) Sour Dough Bread Kit, along with a 50/50 raffle (Seth will sell these tickets).
- Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.; 6:25 to 7:45 p.m. Grace/Dinner; 8:00 to 8:45 p.m. speaker; 9:00 p.m. sobriety countdown (with Big Books for oldest and newest members—SMIA will provide these).

She wants to discourage folks from clearing the tables because that often serves as a queue for people to start leaving. They can use a lot of help with kitchen clean up (pots & pans) and mopping floors.

Workshops: There is nothing firm to report on the 12-step workshop at this time.

Bookstall Report: Buddy F reported a \$575.18 literature purchase—all often-requested items. He processed 14 orders for a total of \$276.00. District budgets are as follows: Calvert - C&T \$375; PI/CPC \$0; Charles – C&T \$375; PI/PCP \$250; St. Mary's – C&T \$99; PI/PCP \$231

Web/Technology: Bill L reported that for the period 9/13/25-10/11/25 Main site total visitors was down 9% (initial visit) was down 9%; Bookstall site was down 7%. Most frequently visited pages: Home page – 4206; Where & When Calendar – 430; Announcements – 324; Where & When search 249, and On-Line Meetings – 238.

Site Updates and Changes - No significant site changes. **Meeting Change Information** - AA 4PM changed their format to Open Discussion. A new meeting will be added on November 13, “The Bedouin Women’s Group” which will meet on Thursday’s at 7:00 PM at the Phillips’ House in Prince Frederick. The information will be added to the SMIA digital platforms and the Meeting Guide App about a week prior to the first meeting. **Meeting Status** - Currently there are 135 meetings in our service area; 126 meetings are in-person, 6 meetings are hybrid, 8 meetings are on-line only. **Document Posts and Updates** - Lifeline posted – 10/2/25; Finance Page updated – 10/2/25; SMIA Minutes posted – 9/27/25 Where & When PDF updated – 9/19/25. **Phishing attempts** - You may receive e-mails that appear to come from IONOS, our domain host. These are phishing attempts. Do not open them, do not forward them, do not click on any content in them. Delete them. Typically, a genuine request from IONOS will only be sent to Bill L, SMIA webmaster. **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: Reminder that elections will be held in March for the Chair and Secretary positions. Optimally the Chair position rotates through the three counties so the next chair should be from Charles County. The Secretary position does not require rotation. Nomination form on the SMIA website.

New Business: Buddy F floated the idea of hosting a “Bookstall Bingo” event as a fundraiser. Immaculate Conception is available. A box of books was donated by a recently deceased person with long-term sobriety. These books could be offered as prizes. Each districts might be willing to donate a Grapevine subscription.

For the Good of the Order: District 36 Chili Cook Off was rescheduled for October 25th. It was noted that this will conflict with Calvert’s Chili Cookoff. Roy B will be celebrating 5 years at the Solomon’s Group tomorrow, October 12th.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Pledge.