



HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

P.O. Box 1153, Hagerstown, MD 21741

www.hagerstownaa.org

Answering Service: 301-733-1109

May 2013 Newsletter

HAIG INFORMATION

Monthly Meeting:

4th Sunday each month - 4 pm
223 N. Prospect St; Hagerstown

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Officers:

Chairperson: Jack B.
chair@hagerstownaa.org
Treasurer: Henry R.
treasurer@hagerstownaa.org
Secretary: Angel Z.
secretary@hagerstownaa.org

Committee Chairs:

Activities: Beth S. and Liz M.
activities@hagerstownaa.org
Answering Service: Skeeter H.
District 20 DCM: Jan T.
Grapevine: Rick C.
Newsletter: Nancy B.
newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Public Information: **Open**
Website: Wayne G.
website@hagerstownaa.org
Where & When: Carol W.

Corrections:

corrections@hagerstownaa.org
WCDC Women: Carol B.
WCDC Men: John B.
MCTC – Bob B. and David L.

Submit anniversaries, articles, etc to:
newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Deadline for submissions is the 4th
Sunday of each month. Use of
submitted articles is at the discretion
of the Newsletter Committee.

Step Five: Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Concept V: Throughout our world services structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

HEADS UP!

43rd Annual MD
State Convention
June 13 - 16, 2013
Hager Hall
Convention Center
Hagerstown MD

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Celebrant	Yrs	Group	Time
1	Karen B.	7	Maple Avenue	7:30 pm
3	Stefanie	3	Fellowship Hall	6:00 pm
5	Eric Y.	5	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
9	John C.	12	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00 pm
10	Erica F.	4	Fellowship Hall	6:00 pm
11	Carol B.	12	Hagerstown Group	8:00 pm
11	Michelle B.	11	Hagerstown Group	8:00 pm
16	Paul K.	23	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00 pm
16	Robin R.	9	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00 pm
17	Corrie B.	1	Fellowship Hall	6:00 pm
22	Keely W.	1	Maple Avenue	7:30 pm
23	Vicki F.	5	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00 pm
23	Kate C.	7	Recycled Group	7:30 pm
27	Liz M.	2	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
30	Jerry B.	4	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00 pm
June 3	Ira C.	1	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
June 9	Ali S.	1	ARG	1:00 pm
June 10	Mike A.	9	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

May 4 – HAIG Round Robin Dinner – see first column

May 4 – Mountain Group Annual Picnic - Pen Mar Park, Fort Ritchie, Cascade, MD. Picnic-1:00 pm, Speaker- 2:00 pm. Pork, Chicken, Beverages and condiments provided. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share. All welcome!



May 4 – Area 29 Assembly – Delegate's report back from the General Service Conference – 8:30 am at Janes UMC, 213 N. Walnut Street, Rising Sun, MD. See DCM, Jan T. or your group's GSR for information.

May 11 - 9:00 am to Noon Mountain Breakfast – Old Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Road; Cascade, MD – Fellowship at 9:00, Breakfast at 10:00, Speaker at 11:00 – \$5.00 donation. Bring someone with you! Questions? See Carole H., Beth M., or Dave S.

May 19 – 5:30 pm District 20 meeting – This meeting of GSRs takes place every 3rd Sunday at 200 E. Antietam St. (corner of Antietam and Mulberry). All are welcome.

June 2 (May meeting) – 4:00 pm Hagerstown Area Intergroup meets at 223 N. Prospect Street; Hagerstown. All Intergroup Reps, Officers, and Committee Chairs should attend. All are welcome.



HAIG Round Robin Dinner Saturday, May 4th

St. John's Episcopal Church (Drybridge)
101 S. Prospect St; Hagerstown, MD.
2 pm Coffee & Fellowship,
3 pm Dinner, 4 pm Speakers

All are welcome! Chicken and beverages provided.
Admission is FREE, but please bring a covered
dish, salad, or dessert to share.



FAQ's about A.A.'s History



Q. What is the origin of the Serenity Prayer?

A. "This prayer has been credited to almost every theologian, philosopher and saint known to man. It was actually written around 1932 by Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr of the Union theological Seminary in New York City, as the ending to a longer prayer. In 1934, the doctor's friend and neighbor, Dr. Howard Robbins, asked permission to use this part of the longer prayer in a compilation he was making at the time. It was published in that year in Dr. Robbins' book of prayers.

The prayer came to the attention of an early member of A.A. in 1940 when he read it in an obituary in the New York Herald Tribune. He liked it so much he brought it to the General Service Office for Bill W. to read. When Bill and the staff read the little prayer they felt that it particularly suited the needs of A.A. Cards were printed and passed around. Thus has this simple little prayer become a part of A.A. literature."

Reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. from the July, 1961 A.A. Exchange Bulletin

Acronyms and Definitions

Third Legacy – Recovery is A.A.'s first legacy, Unity its second, and Service is the third legacy. In this sense, service is the sum total of A.A.'s services, from a Twelfth Step call, to A.A.'s coast-to-coast and worldwide service activities of carrying the message of recovery and hope.

FNV – "Fellowship New Vision" is the name of the database used by the General Service Office to record information pertaining to groups, their GSRs and DCMs. The MD General Service Registrar has access to this database to make requested changes without the need to send the request to New York. Give any group changes to your group's GSR, or bring them with you to the MD State Convention in June where you can meet the Registrar.

NOTICE!!

THE MAY MEETING OF HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL SUNDAY, JUNE 2, AT 4:00 PM DUE TO THE MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY. THE JUNE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 4TH SUNDAY OF JUNE, AS USUAL.

ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE FIRST WEEK IN JUNE WILL BE SENT TO EVERYONE ON THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION FOLLOWING THE JUNE 2ND MEETING.

Intergroup Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2013

Chairman, Jack B. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Other Officers in attendance were: Henry R., Treasurer; Angel Z., Secretary. There were 20 in attendance with 10 of 21 groups represented.

Secretary's Report – The March minutes were accepted without reading.

Treasurer's Report – read and accepted as follows:

Balance available on	3/24/13	\$ 1,128.56
Contributions:		
Boonsboro ABSI	300.00	
Hagerstown Group	160.00	
Maple Avenue Group	88.00	
Recycled Group	50.00	
Summit Ave Group	269.00	
Total		\$ 867.00
Expenses:		
Antietam Call Center	168.25	
Verizon	40.81	
Nancy B.- Newsletter-Apr	49.98	
Beth S.–Seed/Round Robin	250.00	
Rick C. – Grapevine	100.00	
Total		\$ 609.04
Ending Balance		\$ 1,386.52
Less Prudent Reserve		- 300.00
Total Funds Available	4/28/13	\$ 1,086.52

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Beth S. reported that the Round Robin dinner will be held May 4th. See more info on page 1.

Volunteers are needed to help at Drybridge at 11:30 am. Groups are asked to make a book donation to be raffled off. Books may be given to Beth S. or brought to the event on Saturday. Beth also reported that one of the coffee pots had to be repaired and it is not known how long it will last.

Answering Service: Skeeter H. reported that 35 calls were received in April; 10 were inquiries for the upcoming MD State Convention; 13 were individuals seeking help and the remainder needed directions to meetings.

Men's Corrections: John B. reported that volunteers are still needed to carry the message into the WCDC. Coverage is needed at 7pm Wednesdays and 8pm Sundays. Contact John B. if interested. Volunteers are also needed at MCTC. Contact David L. or Bob B. John also has information for the Corrections Correspondence

program for anyone who would like to write to someone who is incarcerated in another state.

Women's Corrections: Carol B. reported that the women's meetings at WCDC currently have full coverage for the Tuesday night meetings. The next committee meeting will be held on June 22, 2013 at 10:00 am – 13216 Fountain Head Plaza. All women currently taking meetings into the jail are encouraged to attend, as well as, women who have sent in applications recently. Angels in Recovery, New Visions, Hagerstown Group, ABSI and Summit Avenue handed in Pink Can donations last month bringing the total to \$339.83.

District 20: Jan T. absent

Grapevine – Rick C. reported that he set up the Grapevine display at the Mountain Breakfast this month and plans to also set up at the Round Robin Dinner. Also...check out page 41 of the May issue of the Grapevine Magazine. Congratulations to Celeste D. of the Summit Avenue Group for having an article published

Newsletter: Nancy B. reported that the newsletter committee continues to meet the Tuesday before the monthly Intergroup meeting. There are two new members of the committee and anyone is welcome to join the committee. See Nancy or write to newsletter@hagerstownaa.org if you would like to write an article, have ideas or questions, would like to help create the newsletter, or would like to receive the newsletter electronically.

Public Information Committee – Open

Website: Wayne G. reported that he paid \$34.25 to Go Daddy for the HAIG domain name registration for a two year period. The new expiration date is April 2015.

Where & When: Carol W., absent, no report

INTERGROUP REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

(If you do not see your group listed here, a representative was not in attendance):

Big Book Study Group – Wayne B., no report

Boonsboro ABSI – Maureen B. donated money to the Pink Can and submitted anniversaries by e-mail.

Chewsville – Jim T., Wednesday meeting at 7pm needs support.

Fellowship Hall – Mike S. (Alt) reported that the Wednesday and Saturday 8:30pm candlelight meetings are going well. All 8:30 meetings are open meetings.

Hagerstown Group – Karen S. is the new IGR and Barry E. is the new Alt. Welcome to both! Karen reported that the Hagerstown group expressed the opinion that money given to IG should be used for local events and services. Since her group contributes to GSO, it is like they are contributing twice if HAIG also sends funds to GSO.

Leitersburg – Mark F., one anniversary submitted

Maple Avenue – Absent, anniversaries submitted.

Mountain Group – Marc L., no report. See Annual Picnic information on page 1.

New Paths – Rick C., no report

Summit Avenue – Angel Z., anniversaries submitted

Williamsport – Dave S., no report, Pink Can money donated.

OLD BUSINESS –

A. Voting for the proposed by-law change proposed at the March meeting will take place at the June meeting. All groups are strongly encouraged to carefully consider the options below and have a representative present at the June meeting to vote.

The ad hoc By-Law committee was charged last month with creating an amendment to the By-Laws to address who may make a motion at an Intergroup meeting. Currently the By-Laws do not address this. The committee recommended amending Article V – Meetings, Section 3, which reads: "Meetings are open to all interested AA members, however voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup representatives."

The amended statement will consist of one of the three options listed below. Each group is encouraged to consider these options and have their Intergroup Rep attend the June meeting to vote for one:

1. Meetings are open to all interested AA members; any member present shall be able to present a motion for a vote however voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.
2. Meetings are open to all interested AA members, however only Intergroup Representatives may present a motion for a vote. Voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.
3. Meetings are open to all interested AA Members, however only Intergroup Representatives and Standing Committee Chairpersons may present a motion for a vote. Voting on any issue shall be on a one vote per group basis by the Intergroup Representatives.

In accordance with Article VI – Amendments, Section 1, of the Hagerstown Area Intergroup by-laws, the proposed change shall be published in the HAIG Newsletter during the months of April and May 2013. A vote on these options shall be conducted during the regular June meeting of the HAIG.

B. The Nominating Committee, appointed in March, reported that Wayne G. has volunteered to stand for the position of HAIG Chairperson.

Nominees for the position of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer are still being sought. According to Article IV, Section 3 of the HAIG By-Laws; “The officers shall be elected annually in June from among A.A. members sober at least one year by vote of Intergroup Representatives.” Nominees must be present to stand for the officer positions, and nominations may be made from the floor on the day of the election.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Grapevine Chair, Rick C., requested an additional \$92.55 to pay the Area 29 Grapevine Chair for literature that was loaned for the HAIG display. The motion passed.
2. Due to the Memorial Day holiday, the next Intergroup meeting will be held on Sunday, June 2nd at 4pm.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Tradition Five
by Ira C.

“Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.”

Bill W. knew that one of the greatest liabilities for the future of Alcoholics Anonymous was a tendency of early members to want to allow more than alcoholism in meetings.

It became clear early on that members who came from other groups would unnecessarily introduce different issues into A.A. Bill knew that this introduction could spell an untimely end to this incipient program. Those who suffer alcoholism find recovery to be a matter of life and death. The society of A.A. cannot dare be diverted from its primary purpose ...“to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers”.

The primary purpose is to carry the message to alcoholics, not drug addicts, overeaters, gamblers, sex addicts, etc. We must be vigilant in preserving our primary purpose ... helping other alcoholics.



**History of the
Round Robin Dinner**
by Marty S. – Hagerstown Group

The “Round Robin” began during the 1960’s. Back then, there was only one group in every town surrounding the Hagerstown area. The Round Robin was a way for A.A.’s to get to know each other. There was no MD State Convention then. The first state convention was held in Hagerstown in 1970.

On the third week of every month, starting in April, a different town hosted the Round Robin. It always began in April at the Original Frederick Group. Hagerstown Group came next in May, and the dinner concluded in September at the Cumberland Group.

The groups and towns which participated were Frederick, Hagerstown, Brunswick, Shepherdstown, Chambersburg, and Cumberland. The setting was that of an indoor picnic. The host group would provide a main dish and the Al-Anon community provided all of the covered dishes. There was a high degree of closeness between A.A. and Al-Anon in those days. There were not too many of us and we stayed very close together out of necessity.

As time passed, more and more members joined and more groups sprung up; the State Convention became more popular and the Round Robin began to lose its significance. There was less need to reach out to A.A.s in other districts. One by one towns dropped the Round Robin, until only Hagerstown continues the tradition even though it is not what it once was.

Seeking Nominees for Intergroup Officers

The positions of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer will be open, due to rotation, in June. Candidates should have one year of sobriety to stand for these positions. Please see a member of the Nominating Committee: Dave S. (Williamsport), Luran C. (Maple Ave) or Maureen B. (Boonsboro ABSI) if you would like to be nominated; or attend the May and June Intergroup meetings to make yourself available. Elections will be held at the June Intergroup meeting. All nominees must be in attendance.

Send Group 7th Tradition Contributions to:	
Hagerstown Intergroup P.O. Box 1153 Hagerstown, MD 21741	Maryland General Service P.O. Box 20177 Baltimore, MD 21284-0177
General Service Board General Service Office P.O. Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163	District 20 Committee c/o Bob C. 229 Broadview Court Falling Waters, WV 25419