



HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

P.O. Box 1153, Hagerstown, MD 21741

www.hagerstownaa.org

Answering Service: 301-733-1109

July 2013 Newsletter

HAIG INFORMATION

Monthly Meeting:

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

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Officers:

Chairperson: Wayne G.
chair@hagerstownaa.org

Treasurer: Mark F.
treasurer@hagerstownaa.org

Secretary: Wayne B.
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: Open

newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Public Information: Open

Website: Wayne G.
website@hagerstownaa.org

Where & When: Carol W.

Corrections:

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

Submit anniversaries, articles, etc.:
newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Deadline for submissions is the 4th
Sunday of each month.

Step Seven:

Humbly asked Him to
remove our
shortcomings.

Tradition Seven:

Every A.A. group ought
to be fully self-
supporting, declining
outside contributions.

Concept VII:

The Conference
recognizes that the
Charter and the Bylaws
of the General Service
Board are legal
instruments: that the
Trustees are thereby
fully empowered to
manage and conduct
all of the world service
affairs of Alcoholics
Anonymous. It is
further understood that
the Conference Charter
itself is not a legal
document: that it relies
instead upon the force
of tradition and the
power of the A.A. purse
for its final
effectiveness.

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Inc.*

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Celebrant	Yrs	Group	Time
1	Sandra M.	11	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
2	Ricky C.	2	Oak Ridge	7:00 pm
7	Charles S.	24	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
10	David L.	11	Maple Avenue	7:30 pm
15	Tom T.	7	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
29	Juana G.	18	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

July 13 - 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.

July 13 – 8:30 am – Area 29 Committee - District 36,
Lexington Park UMC, 21670 Great Mills Road. DCMs
should attend. GSRs and interested members are
welcomed.

July 21 – 5:30 pm District 20 meeting – This meeting
of GSRs takes place every 3rd Sunday at 200 East
Antietam St. (corner of Antietam and Mulberry). All are
welcome.

July 28 – 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.

SPECIAL NOTICE – JULY ONLY!

Please mark your calendars that the following groups will
not meet on the dates indicated due to church activities:

Thursday, July 11 – Recycled Group
Friday, July 12 – Williamsport Group

Summer Campfire Meeting

 Rain or shine, each Friday this summer at 8:30pm
16841 Shinham Rd; Hagerstown, MD

Bring your own chair or a blanket.
There will be coffee and discussion
on a Step each week.

61st Annual West Virginia State Convention July 12 – 14, 2013

Holiday Inn Martinsburg
\$20.00 registration

Friday ~ Speaker (Dave D., Millersville MD) – 8:30 pm

Saturday ~ Speaker (Kathy O., Huntington WV) – 1:30 pm
Speaker (Nick C., Dallas PA) – 8:00 pm
DJ Dance after meeting

Sunday ~ Speaker (April D., Millersville MD) – 10:00 am



FAQ's about A.A.'s History



Q. Does A.A. sponsor spiritual retreats?

A. Based on Tradition Six, A.A. does not sponsor such gatherings.

Q. Why doesn't the General Service Office give me its opinion when I ask for it?

A. The role of the General Service Office is to share the collected experience of A.A., as expressed in our history and the Twelve Traditions. Pertinent information found in correspondence, A.A. literature and G.S.O.'s Archives is shared to help resolve group problems.

Q. Is the Grapevine a part of A.A.?

A. Yes, the A.A. Grapevine and La Vina (Spanish magazine), which are referred to as our "meeting in print," are a part of Alcoholics Anonymous. Both magazines have the full support of the General Service Conference. To affirm the magazine's place in the Fellowship, the 1986 General Service Conference said: "Since each issue of the Grapevine cannot go through the Conference-approved process, the Conference recognizes the A.A. Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous."

Q. Is there such a thing as an A.A. Club?

A. No. Many clubs act as a Landlord for A.A. meetings. A.A. meetings remain autonomous and are not involved in club operations or policy. For information, read [Tradition Six] and A.A. Guidelines on Clubs on aa.org

Q. We are putting on an A.A. roundup, and some A.A. members are saying that since we are charging a registration fee for attendance at an A.A. function, we are not acting in accordance with A.A. Tradition.

A. There is a big difference between "no dues or fees for A.A. membership" and a registration fee for an A.A. roundup. The word "fee" is a strange one in a self-supporting Fellowship, but someone has to pay the bills! There are many, many A.A. roundups, conventions, and conferences and in most cases, registration fees are charged to cover the expenses of the event.

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Report of Quarterly Contributions to GSO

As of March 20, 2013, 20.08% of the 845 registered groups in Area 29 contributed a total of \$19,820.20 to the General Service Office in New York.

During the same period, 6 groups or 28.57% of the 21 registered groups in Washington County (District 20) contributed to GSO. The full report can be obtained from your GSR or district DCM.



Intergroup Meeting Minutes June 23, 2013

Jack B., opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. Other Officers in attendance were: Henry R., Treasurer and Angel Z., Secretary. There were 17 in attendance with 11 of 21 groups represented.

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

Treasurer's Report – read and accepted as follows:

Balance available on:	6/2/13	\$1,038.20
Contributions:		
Firehouse Group	100.00	
Round Robin Basket	62.90	
Total		162.90
Expenses:		
Antietam Call Center	135.35	
Verizon	38.64	
Nancy B.- Newsletter-June	49.98	
Liz M. – Activities	36.30	
Total		\$260.27
Ending Balance		940.83
Less Prudent Reserve		-300.00
Total Funds Available	6/23/13	640.83

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities: Beth S.- absent, no report

Answering Service: Skeeter H. - absent, no report

Corrections-Men: John B. reported that volunteers are needed to carry the message into the WDCDC. Coverage is needed on Wednesdays at 7pm and Sundays at 8pm. Contact John B. if interested. Volunteers are also needed at MCTC. Contact coordinators Bob B. or David L. Please also consider corresponding with an inmate in a facility somewhere in the U.S. through the General Service Office Corrections Correspondence program. John B. has information.

Corrections-Women: Carol B. reported that Celeste D. has volunteered to chair the Women's Corrections Committee. The committee meeting scheduled for June 22nd was cancelled. The total donations received from the Pink Can in May and June were \$141.01. The total in the Pink Can account deposited with HAIG is \$480.84.

District 20: Craig T. reported that he has accepted the position of Alternate DCM and that Jan T. will continue to serve as DCM through her rotation which ends December 31, 2013. Elections for a new DCM to serve

in 2014/2015 will take place in December 2013. The District is asking for suggestions/topics from members for a workshop. Craig asked Intergroup if they would be interested in cooperating with the District to hold a workshop on the Answering Service. Intergroup asked for more information and tabled the issue for further discussion at the July meeting.

Grapevine – Rick C. – no report

Newsletter: Nancy B. sent an e-mail on June 22nd – “I’m sorry I am unable to attend the June Intergroup meeting due to another commitment. I must also report that I will be stepping down as Newsletter Chairperson after the July edition. I will be happy to help the new Newsletter Committee in any way I can. I want to thank the Intergroup for the opportunity to serve and wish the new panel of officers much luck and productivity in the coming year.”

Public Information – Open

Website: Wayne G. – no report

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

INTERGROUP REP REPORTS

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

ARG – Ali S., no report

Boonsboro ABSI – Maureen B. submitted \$103.01 in Pink Can contributions from the group.

Chewsville – Jim T., no report

Fellowship Hall – Craig T. is the new Intergroup Rep.

Hagerstown Group – Karin S., no report

Leitersburg – Mark F., no report.

Maple Avenue – Luran C. sent an e-mail report received too late to give at the meeting. She provided an anniversary and Maple Avenue’s vote for Option #3 of the by-law change motion. This vote is not included in the tally, and would not change the outcome.

New Paths – Rick C., no report

Summit Avenue – Angel Z. submitted anniversaries and a contribution for the Pink Can.

Thursday Night Big Book Study – Wayne B., no report

West End Group – Michael M., no report

Williamsport – Dave S. reported that there will be no meeting July 12th.

OLD BUSINESS –

A vote was taken for the proposed amendment to the Hagerstown Area Intergroup By-Laws. Option #2 was approved with five (5) votes. There were four (4) votes for Option 1 and two (2) votes for Option 3.

Article V - Meetings, Section 3, will now read:

“Meetings are open to all interested A.A. 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.”

NEW BUSINESS – Election of HAIG Officers to serve from July 2013 through June 2014

The following members stood unopposed:

Wayne G. – Chairperson

Mark F. – Treasurer

Wayne B. - Secretary

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



From the Newsletter Committee

Thank you to the outgoing panel of officers: Jack B., Chair, Henry R., Treasurer and Angel Z., Secretary, for your willingness to serve Hagerstown Area Intergroup.

Thank you also to the folks who were willing to serve on the Newsletter Committee for the past seven months: Angel Z., Carole H., Michelle B., Eric S. and Barbara C. A special thanks to Henry R. who helped with distribution and to Ira C. for his Traditions articles.

We hope many will consider getting involved at the Intergroup and District levels of service. There is much to be done in our A.A. community. Please see the new Intergroup Chairperson or the District 20 Committee Member (DCM) to volunteer for the many committees which help to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to serve.

Nancy B.

**Don’t forget the new Young People’s meeting
at ARG at 10 pm on Saturdays!!**

Tradition Seven by Ira C.

“Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

There is probably no tradition better known to the A.A. member than the phrase: fully self-supporting declining outside contributions. This is recited at every meeting as the basket circulates the room.

What's wrong with a non-alcoholic contributing to our program? What's wrong with someone leaving a bequest to A.A.? These questions and others related perplexed and vexed A.A. in its early formation.

As Bill Wilson described in a June 1948 Grapevine article about outside contributions: “(I)t aroused unbelievable controversy. It simply wasn't worth it." In A.A. Comes of Age, actual discussions which became arguments are chronicled . Along with the issues of outside contributions, the use or non use of the A.A. name was revisited yet again, despite it having been addressed and resolved previously (see Tradition.6). Bill Wilson maintained that if each A.A. would simply contribute the cost of one bottle of booze per month to A.A., financial issues would be resolved. It made sense in 1948 . It makes sense in 2013. Am I doing enough to keep A.A. self-supporting through my own contributions?

Estimates of A.A. Groups and Members as of January 1, 2013 ¹

	Groups	Members
United States	59,321	1,295,656
Canada	5,093	93,071
Sub-Total	64,414	1,388,727
Correctional facilities ²	1,499	36,838
Internationalists	3	15
Lone Members	0	67
Total	65,913	1,425,647
Outside U.S. & Canada ³	48,726	705,902
Grand Total	114,642	2,131,549

1. The General Service Office does not keep membership records. The information shown here is based on reports given by groups listed with G.S.O., and does not represent an actual count of those who consider themselves A.A. members.

2. U.S. and Canada only.

3. We are aware of A.A. activity in more than 170 countries, including 63 autonomous general service offices in other lands. Annually we attempt to contact those G.S.O.s and groups that request to be listed in our records. Where current data is lacking we use an earlier year's figure.

12 Symptoms of a Spiritual Awakening

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling
3. Feelings of being connected with others and nature
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation
5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience
6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment
7. A loss of the ability to worry
8. A loss of interest in conflict
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others
10. A loss of interest in judging others
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything in return.

Tried and True Sayings Heard in Meetings

- It is not old behavior if I'm still doing it.
- If drinking is interfering with my work, I may be a problem drinker. If work is interfering with my drinking, I am probably alcoholic.
- I often obsessively pursue feeling good, no matter how bad it makes me feel.
- How come if alcohol kills millions of brain cells; it never killed the ones that made me want to drink?
- If God were small enough to be understood He would not be big enough to be God!
- Resentments are like stray cats; if you do not feed them, they will go away.
- In order to change the way I feel, I need to change the way I act.
- The good news is that I get my emotions back; the bad news is that I get my emotions back.
- I may not be much, but I'm all I think about.
- The answer to much of my life is: "It is none of my business"
- If I hang out in a barber shop long enough, I will probably get a haircut.
- There is no pain in change; there is only pain in the resistance to change.

Send Group 7 th 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