



# HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

P.O. Box 1153, Hagerstown, MD 21741

www.hagerstownaa.org

Answering Service: 301-733-1109

## August 2013 Newsletter

### HAIG INFORMATION

#### Monthly Meeting:

4<sup>th</sup> 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:** Barb C.  
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](mailto:newsletter@hagerstownaa.org)  
Deadline for submissions is the 4th  
Sunday of each month.

#### Step Eight:

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

#### Tradition Eight:

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

#### Concept VIII:

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise

through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

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### 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.

### AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Date	Celebrant	Yrs	Group	Time
2	Jeff W.	10	Fellowship	6:00 pm
7	Ed S.	2	ARG	9:00 am
8	Anne B.	8	New Vision	7:00 pm
9	Gus B.	28	Fellowship	9:30 am
9	Beverly M.	8	Fellowship	6:00 pm
11	Nelson D.	27	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
13	Barbara C.	14	Summit Avenue	7:00 pm
14	Mike W.	1	West End	7:00 pm
16	Kandy H.	5	Fellowship	6:00 pm
16	John H.	5	Fellowship	6:00 pm
23	Greg D.	1	Fellowship	6:00 pm
25	Mary B.	15	Leitersburg	7:00 pm
30	Burger Jon	2	Fellowship	6:00 pm
30	Charlie B.	13	Williamsport	8:00 pm

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

**August 10 - 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.

**August 18 – 5:30 pm District 20 meeting** – This meeting of GSRs takes place every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 200 East Antietam St. (corner of Antietam and Mulberry). All are welcome.

**August 25 – 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.

#### Area 29

#### Maryland General Service Area Assembly

Hosted by District 31  
August 10, 2013

#### St Martin's in-the-Field Church

375 Benfield Rd  
Severna Park, MD 21146  
8:30 until 1:00 p.m.

DCMs, Alt. DCMs, GSRs,  
Alt. GSRs, Area committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, Officers and all member of the fellowship are invited. \$6.00 donation per person

## 2014 State Convention

The 2014 Area 29 State Convention committee will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning in September, 2013.

Meeting location      The Serenity Center  
9650 Basket Ring Rd.  
Columbia, MD 21045

Time:                      2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact the 2014 State Convention Committee.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual District 31 Camping Trip

21843 National Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713  
Phone: (301) 791-4767

August 16 thru Sunday August 18, 2013

*Activities:* Swimming (sandy beach access), Canoeing, Hiking, Picnicking, Fishing (42 acre freshwater lake stocked with trout, largemouth bass and bluegill, age 16 and up require a MD angler's license to fish)

DON'T FORGET THE NEW YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
MEETING  
AT ARG AT 10 PM ON SATURDAYS!!



## Intergroup Meeting Minutes July 28, 2013

Mark F., opened the meeting for Wayne G (absent) with the Serenity Prayer. Other Officers in attendance were: Mark F., Treasurer, and Wayne B., Secretary. There were 17 in attendance with 13 of 21 groups represented.

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

## Treasurer's Report – read and accepted as follows

Beginning Balance:		\$940.83
<b>Contributions:</b>		
Leitersburg Group	75.00	
Maple Avenue Group	78.00	
Recycle Group	50.00	
Summit Avenue Group	101.29	
Total Donations		\$304.29
Total Funds Available		\$1, 245.12
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Antietam Call Center	119.50	
Verizon	38.78	
Nancy B.- Newsletter-July	49.98	
Verizon	39.63	
Total Expenditures		\$247.89
Ending Balance		997.23
Less Prudent Reserve		-300.00
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>7/28/13</b>	<b>697.23</b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Activities:** Beth S., Liz. M.- absent. Volunteers are needed to fill position of Activities Chair.

**Answering Service:** Skeeter H. - absent, no report

**Corrections-Men:** John B. reported that pink can everything good.

**Corrections-Women:** Celeste D. reported that the Pink Can balance is \$480.84, plus a deposit that Carol B. is putting in the bank on Saturday. Carol is transitioning all things to her, due to Celeste being on vacation

**District 20:** Craig T. reported as Alternate DCM 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 has decided on a topic on How to Conduct the Answering Service. Date, place and time to be determined.

**Grapevine** – Rick C. – no report

**Newsletter:** According to the by-laws The Executive Committee, appointed Barb C. as the new Newsletter Chair.

**Public Information** – Open

**Website:** Wayne G. – absent, no report

**Where & When:** Carol W. reported that she has held position for some time, and would like to step down. She is willing to hold position until the position can be filled.

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### **INTERGROUP REP REPORTS**

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

**ARG** – Ali S., submitted anniversary

**Angels in Recovery** - absent

**Boonsboro ABSI** – Carol W. reported that she has given pink can contribution to Celeste D.

**Chewsville** – Chris S., no report

**Fellowship Hall** – Craig T. submitted anniversaries.

**Fire House Group** -- absent

**Hagerstown Group** – Karin S., no report

**Hancock Open Door** - absent

**Leitersburg** – Nelson D., submitted anniversaries.

**Maple Avenue** – Luran C., absent

**Mountain Group** - absent

**New Paths** – Rick C., no report

**New Visions** – Mickey W., reported anniversary

**Oakridge** – Donna S., no report

**Recycled** – absent

**Serenity** - absent

**Summit Avenue** – Dicky W. reported that he was elected as the New Intergroup Rep, submitted anniversary.

**The Way Out** - absent

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

**West End Group** – Cliff P., submitted anniversary

**Williamsport** – Ed D., submitted anniversary.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – Positions are open for Activities, Public Information and When and Where Committee

Chairs. Any interested members please see any Intergroup Rep. or attend the next Hagerstown Area Intergroup meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 4 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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### **Tradition Eight** **by Ira C.**

**“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”**

Early on Bill Wilson found the need to separate alcoholics who are doing 12 step work without compensation and those alcoholics who are working with alcoholics for compensation. As recently as July of 1948 Bill admitted that "our thinking about these people is still unclear ". The irony is that the view of these individuals still remains cloudy more than 60 years later. The issue remains complicated. May an individual alcoholic working at a recovery center be compensated when teaching the steps? Where does this intersect with AA's who bring a meeting to the same recovery center. Bill believed that AA workers who are performing only service tasks that volunteers cannot consistently handle should be paid. He believed that these folks are NOT doing 12 step work but are making 12 step work possible. With the growth of recovery centers, halfway houses and other "sober" centers this issue continues to evolve.

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### **I Am Your Disease!**

In case you forgot me,  
I am your disease!  
I hate meetings.  
I hate higher power.  
I hate anyone who has a program.  
To all who come in contact with me,  
I wish you death and I wish you suffering.  
Allow me to introduce myself.  
I am the disease of Alcoholism.

Cunning, baffling, and powerful.  
That's me.  
I have killed millions, and I am pleased.  
I love to catch you with the element of surprise.  
I love pretending I am your friend and lover.  
I have given you comfort, have I not?

Wasn't I there when you were lonely?  
When you wanted to die, didn't you call me?  
I was there.  
I love to make you hurt.

I love to make you cry.  
Better yet, I love when I make you so numb you can  
neither hurt nor cry.  
You can't feel anything at all.  
This is true glory.  
I will give you instant gratification and all I ask of you is  
long term suffering.  
I've been there for you always.  
When things were going right in your life, you invited me.  
You said you didn't deserve these good things and I was  
the only one who would agree with you.  
Together we were able to destroy all the things good in  
your life.

People don't take me seriously.  
They take strokes seriously, heart attacks,  
even diabetes they take seriously - fools that they are.  
They don't know that without my help,  
these things would not be made possible.  
I am such a hated disease.  
And yet, I do not come uninvited.  
You choose to have me.  
So many have chosen me over reality and peace.

More than you hate me,  
I hate all of you who have a 12 step program.  
Your program, your meetings, your higher power:  
All weaken me and I can't function in the manner I am  
accustomed to.

Now I must lie here quietly.  
You don't see me.  
But I am growing, bigger than ever.

When you only exist, I may live.  
When you live, I only exist.  
But I am here. Until we meet again.  
If we meet again, ---  
I wish you death and suffering.

[www.came2believe.freehomepage.com](http://www.came2believe.freehomepage.com)

## **Dr. Bob's Farewell Talk**

**Dr. Bob and Bill W. were co-founders of A.A.**  
My good friends in A.A. and of A.A.,

... I get a big thrill out of looking over a vast sea of  
faces like this with a feeling that possibly some small  
thing I did a number of years ago played an infinitely  
small part in making this meeting possible. I also get  
quite a thrill when I think that we all had the same

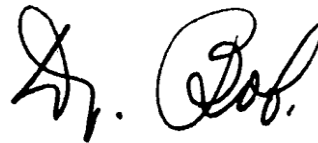
problem. We all did the same things. We all get the  
same results in proportion to our zeal and enthusiasm  
and stick-to-itiveness. If you will pardon the injection of a  
personal note at this time, let me say that I have been in  
bed five of the last seven months and my strength hasn't  
returned as I would like, so my remarks of necessity will  
be very brief.

There are two or three things that flashed into my mind  
on which it would be fitting to lay a little emphasis. One  
is the simplicity of our program. Let's not louse it all up  
with Freudian complexes and things that are interesting  
to the scientific mind, but have very little to do with our  
actual A.A. work. Our Twelve Steps, when simmered  
down to the last, resolve themselves into the words  
"love" and "service." We understand what love is, and we  
understand what service is. So let's bear those two  
things in mind.

Let us also remember to guard that erring member the  
tongue, and if we must use it, let's use it with kindness  
and consideration and tolerance.

And one more thing: None of us would be here today if  
somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to  
give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or  
two, to do numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our  
behalf. So let us never get such a degree of smug  
complacency that we're not willing to extend, or attempt  
to extend, to our less fortunate brothers that help which  
has been so beneficial to us.

Thank you very much.



*\* From Dr. Bob's brief remarks on Sunday, July 3, 1950,  
at the First International A.A. Convention in Cleveland,  
Ohio.*

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