



HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

P.O. Box 1153 ♦ Hagerstown, MD 21741

www.hagerstownaa.org ♦ Answering Service: (240) 850-2677

December 2023 Newsletter

HAIG INFORMATION

Monthly Meeting:

4th Sunday each month – 3:30 pm
December meeting will be held on the 17th due to the holiday.
 6 N. Mulberry St., Hagerstown, MD

TRUSTED SERVANTS

Officers:

Chairperson: Cindy C.
 chair@hagerstownaa.org
Treasurer: Craig T.
 treasurer@hagerstownaa.org
Secretary: Jeanette M.
 secretary@hagerstownaa.org

Committee Chairs:

Activities: Charles C.
 activities@hagerstownaa.org
Answering Service: Julie S.
 answering.service@hagerstownaa.org
District 20 DCM: Karin S.
 district20.dcm@hagerstownaa.org
Finance: Vacant
 finance@hagerstownaa.org
Grapevine: Vacant
 grapevine@hagerstownaa.org
Outreach: Hailee M.
 outreach@hagerstownaa.org
Newsletter: Vacant
 newsletter@hagerstownaa.org
Public Information: Erica G.
 public.information@hagerstownaa.org
Treatment: Vacant
 treatment@hagerstownaa.org
Website: Mike E.
 website@hagerstownaa.org
Where & When: Nancy B.
 meetings@hagerstownaa.org
Corrections:
 womenscorrections@hagerstownaa.org
 rg
 WCDC Women Margaret K.
 menscorrections@hagerstownaa.org
 WCDC Men Steve B.
 MCTC Bob B.
Bylaws (ad hoc): Nancy B.
 nancehome@msn.com
Technology (ad hoc): Vacant
 technology@hagerstownaa.org
Workshops: Maggie R.
 workshop@hagerstownaa.org

Step 12: Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Tradition 12: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Concept XII: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

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GSRs should attend. Interested A.A. members are welcome.

December 17 – HAIG Meeting. Fellowship Hall 3:30pm. All Intergroup Reps and Committee Chairs should attend.

December Anniversary Celebrations

Date	Celebrant	Yrs.	Group	Time
12/1	Michelle R.	1	Fellowship Hall	9:30am
12/2	Julie S.	6	Dry Bridge	8:00pm
12/8	Dave S.	39	Williamsport	8:00pm
12/10	Jackie C.	16	New Paths	6:00pm
12/11	Mark E.	10	Summit Avenue	7:00pm
12/15	Juan M.	1	Fellowship Hall	6:00pm
12/15	Tom M.	42	Williamsport	8:00pm
12/16	Shakur	1	On Awakening	6:45am
12/21	Hailee M.	1	Boonsboro ABSI	7:00pm
12/23	Stephen H.	1	On Awakening	6:45am

HAIG Minutes of November 19, 2023

Cindy C. opened the meeting at 3:30pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Officers in attendance included: Cindy C., Craig T., and Jeanette M. Chairs present included: Charlie C., Activities; Margaret K., Women's Corrections & Pink Can; Steve B. & Bob B., Men's Corrections; Rashid W. (for Erica G.), Public Information; and Nancy B, Where & When and ad hoc Bylaws.

9 Intergroup reps were present and 2 visitors.

Secretary Report: Jeanette M. read a synopsis of the October 22, 2023, minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Craig T. submitted and read the following report.

Beginning Balance: 10/22/23		\$3,714.00
Contributions:		
Firehouse	300	\$300.00
Hagerstown Group	918, 928, 935	\$299.10
Total Contributions:		\$599.10
Total Funds Available:		\$4,313.10
Expenditures:		
Workshop	2010	\$100.00
US Postal Service -Annual PO Box fee		\$248.00
Answering Service – November	Auto	\$23.37
Fellowship Hall 4 th Qtr Room Use	2011	\$45.00
Grapevine Subscrip. Renewal (3)		\$86.91
Total Expenditures:		\$503.28
Ending Balance:		\$3,809.82
Prudent Reserve:		(\$900.00)
Total Funds Available: 11/19/23		\$2,909.82

Committee Reports: If a committee report is missing, the chair was not present.

Activities: Charlie C. reported that the Activities committee is looking to hold the New Years event at Hub City Vineyard and may need to place a deposit. He will be contacting the venue after the meeting to confirm. The event will have a DJ, 50/50 raffle, and possibly a speaker. **He made a motion for \$350.00 seed money for the event and the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Corrections (Men): Bob B. attended the National Corrections Conference in Oklahoma City and indicated it went well. The conference had a Zoom component which also allowed for some to attend from Australia and Europe. Next year's conference will be in Charlotte, North Carolina. He learned that the tablets that prisoners have can get A.A. World Services and A.A. Grapevine literature, but the prison must request it to be added. He will be contacting Michelle at the prison about getting this literature for the prisoners.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

December 4 - Area 29 Intergroup Liaison Committee Meeting. Join Zoom Meeting @ 6:30pm **Spanish Translation provided.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81005298663?pwd=cnNGNjg4TGvYVmpcVR4OGlZZytUZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 0529 8663, Passcode: 473809
 Dial in - 301 715 8592 US (Maryland)

December 9 - Mountain Breakfast: Old Germantown Church of God, 16924 Raven Rock Road, Cascade, MD. Doors open at 9:00am, breakfast at 10:00am, speaker at 11:00. An awesome buffet breakfast is served for a \$10.00 donation.

December 17 – District 20 Meeting. Please note: This is the 3rd Sunday of the month. Fellowship Hall 5:00pm. All

If interested in getting involved with meetings in correctional facilities, please contact Steve B. or Bob B. at menscorrections@hagerstownnaa.org.

Corrections (Women): Margaret K. reported that Sgt. Pryor said we could add literature to the library at the Detention Center. She took books over to be added. There was a discussion as to whether this is the same library as the men use. They believe it is separate. Steve B. said he would find out if this is the case and if so, if he can find out if books can be brought in for the men also.

Pink Can Report: Provided by Margaret K.

Beginning Balance as of 10/22/23		\$1,859.87
Fellowship Hall		\$80.00
Firehouse		\$39.19
On Awakening		\$85.20
Summit		\$7.70
Mountain Group		\$9.00
Total Deposit		\$221.09
Total Expenses		\$0.00
New Balance 11/19/23		\$2,080.96

Finance: Craig T. presented the proposed 2024 budget to be published in the December newsletter and voted on in December.

Newsletter: This chair position is open. Please contact Cindy C. if you are interested.

Outreach: Hailee M expressed interest in serving as the Outreach Committee chair and was appointed by Cindy C.

Public Information: Rashid W. received supplies from Margaret K. He also filled a request from Hagerstown Community College for materials that will be placed where students have access to them. The houses in the area have requested materials, which he is not filling as he wants to encourage them to come to meetings and receive information that way. It was suggested that Where & Whens should be provided, so they know where to go.

Treatment: Denise K. has resigned as Treatment Chair. Cindy indicated that Meritus Crisis Center is interested in speakers/meetings. Mary E. volunteered to call Meritus and find out what their need is. Jeanette M. will be speaking with a lady who is currently assisting with bringing meetings into True Healings to see if she would be interested in serving as the Treatment Chair.

Where & When: Nancy B. reported that the Live and Let Live Group has closed. She received an email from Mel Y. and confirmed this. The meeting has been removed from the Meeting Guide App and will be removed from the Where & When after today's meeting along with any other changes needed. Please let Nancy B. know of any changes to your group or meeting at meetings@hagerstownnaa.org.

Bylaws (ad hoc): Nancy B. reported the ad hoc HAIG Bylaws Committee met November 14th to complete the work on the amended bylaws document. To date they have corrected grammatical and punctuation errors and simplified the format and numbering for ease of future reference.

Intergroup Rep Reports: If you do not see your group on this list, the IGR was not present, or your group does not have an IGR.

Boonsboro ABSI: Hailee M. reported a \$20.00 Pink Can donation and 1 anniversary.

Courage to Change: Jeanette M. reported on behalf of Rena C., a \$12.71 Pink Can donation.

Fellowship Hall: Ed L. reported 2 anniversaries and a \$15 Pink Can donation.

Fire House: Mary E. reported a \$28.16 Pink Can donation.

Hagerstown Group: Sandra M. reported 1 anniversary and a \$9.00 donation to the Pink Can.

Maple Avenue: Charlie C. reported no December anniversaries and the group could use support.

Mountain Group: Nancy B. reported on behalf of Mose, there will be no Mountain Group Breakfast in January or February. The Mountain Group Breakfast for December will be held on December 9th.

New Paths: Cindy C. reported for Daniel S., 1 anniversary.

On Awakening: Vicky C. reported 2 anniversaries and a \$79.11 Pink Can donation.

Serenity: Rashid W. had nothing to report.

Summit Avenue: Mary E. reported a \$2.00 Pink Can donation and 1 anniversary.

Williamsport Group: Daniel B. reported 2 anniversaries.

Old Business:

Nancy B. restated from last month that per Bylaws Article IX – Amendments, we agreed to bring any revisions which may require a change in policy to the intergroup for discussion and vote before a final draft of the bylaws is presented for approval.

The ad hoc HAIG Bylaws Committee therefore moves that, Article V – Officers and Elections, Section 5. And Section 6. Of the HAIG Bylaws be revised by removing: “The slate of officers will be posted in the May and June Newsletters. A nominee’s name in the newsletter will be proof of said individual’s acceptance of the nomination.”

The committee requested removal of these sentences because it appears political and can discourage people from standing. Experience has shown us that individuals who might consider standing for positions will often withdraw their nomination prior to the election when they know in advance that another person is standing.

This motion was made and seconded at the September HAIG meeting and was published as listed above in the October and November newsletter. ***The motion was voted on today and passed unanimously.***

New Business:

Amended Bylaws: In anticipation of a decision on the bylaws motion today, Nancy presented for approval the amended 2023 Bylaws with text removed as just approved above. Each IGR and Committee chair present was provided with a copy of the amended bylaws. It will be sent electronically to the fellowship with the December and January newsletters and posted with the newsletter on our website. The vote on the amended bylaws will be held at the HAIG meeting in January 2024.

Since the final Amended Bylaws document has been presented for publication and approval, the ad hoc Bylaws Committee requested permission from the HAIG Chairperson to continue their work as the ad hoc Handbook Committee to create a document to house the Job Descriptions that were removed from the bylaws. If appointed, they will continue to meet monthly starting in January. The Chairperson agreed to the creation of this new ad hoc committee.

Meeting closed at 4:36pm with the Responsibility Pledge.

The next HAIG Meeting will be on December 17, 2023, at 3:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Hagerstown Intergroup P.O. Box 1153 Hagerstown, MD 21741	Maryland General Service, Inc. P.O. Box 207 Benson, MD 21018
General Service Board P.O. Box 2407 James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407	District 20 Committee P.O. Box 1951 Hagerstown, MD 21742

**HAIG 2024 Propsoed Budget
11/19/2023**

		Thru 11/19/23	PROPOSED
INCOME	2023 Budget	2023 Income Year to Date	2024 Budget
	\$ 3,400.00	2,312.70	\$ 2,500.00

Committee/Account	2023 Budget	2023 Expenses Year to Date	2024 Budget
1. Activities	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 673.67	\$ 1,000.00
2. Answering Service	\$ 400.00	\$ 319.83	\$ 400.00
3. Corrections	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
4. General Administration	\$ 430.00	\$ 428.00	\$ 430.00
a. Rent	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00
b. PO Box	\$ 250.00	\$ 248.00	\$ 250.00
c. Checks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
5. Grapevine	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ -
6. Newsletter	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ -
7. Public Information	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
8. Outreach	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ -
9. Treatment	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
10. Website	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00
11. Where & When	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
12. Other Total	\$ 90.00	\$ 86.91	\$ 90.00
a. Grapevine Subscriptions	\$ 90.00	\$ 86.91	\$ 90.00
b. Stamps	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
13. Workshop	\$ 600.00	\$ 363.46	\$ 600.00
Expenses Totals	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 1,871.87	\$ 3,670.00
Balance(-Deficit)	\$ (20.00)	\$ 440.83	\$ (1,170.00)

BYLAWS OF HAGERSTOWN AREA INTERGROUP

ARTICLE I -NAME AND SCOPE

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Hagerstown Area Intergroup (HAIG).

Section 2. The address of Hagerstown Area Intergroup is
P.O. Box 1153, Hagerstown, Maryland 21741.

Section 3. Its primary objective will be the implementation of the Responsibility Statement by providing services and communications to individuals and groups in Hagerstown and Washington County, Maryland who seek to arrest the disease of alcoholism through the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Section 4. In carrying out this objective, the A.A.® *Guidelines for Central or Intergroup Offices* from the General Service Office, the “Twelve Traditions,” and the “Twelve Concepts for World Service” will be followed.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING

Section 1. Only A.A. Groups as defined by the General Service Office and the long form of Tradition 3 can be members of the Intergroup. The long form of Tradition 3 states in part: “Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.”

Section 2. Membership in the Hagerstown Area Intergroup is available to any A.A. group within Washington County or listed in District 20 of Area 29. The procedure for group membership is for groups to advise the HAIG chairperson of their decision to join by identifying their Intergroup Representative (IGR).

Section 3. It is suggested each group elect an Intergroup Representative to serve for a period of one (1) year. It is suggested Intergroup Representatives, and their alternates have at least one (1) year of sobriety and commit to attending the monthly Intergroup meetings.

Section 4. Intergroup members include the IGRs named by the groups (see Article II, Section 2), elected officers, appointed committee chairpersons, and ad hoc committee chairpersons.

Section 5. Any member of the Intergroup may participate and bring motions to the floor for discussion. However, voting on any issue will be on a one vote per group basis cast by identified IGRs (see Article II, Section 2), or their Alternate if the IGR is absent. IGRs can represent only one group and have one vote.

Section 6. One third of the total HAIG groups must be represented at any duly called meeting to constitute a quorum for voting.

ARTICLE III – INTERGROUP MEETINGS

Section 1. The regular meeting of the Intergroup will be held monthly at a time and place to be selected by the officers. The notice of the date, time, and location of the monthly meeting will be published in the prior month's newsletter. The Intergroup Chairperson will conduct meetings under an abbreviated form of Roberts Rules of Order, a copy of which will be available at each meeting.

Section 2. The suggested order of business at meetings will be as follows:

- A. Approval of the minutes of previous meeting
- B. Approval of Treasurer's Report
- C. Report of Committee and ad hoc Committee Chairpersons
- D. Report of Intergroup Representatives
- E. Old Business
- F. New Business
- G. Adjournment

ARTICLE IV – SERVICE TO GROUPS

Section 1. Service to all member groups will be to promote Recovery, Unity, and Service by:

- A. Publishing a monthly newsletter to all member groups
- B. Maintaining a directory of meeting locations, days, and times
- C. Maintaining a telephone answering service for those reaching out to A.A.
- D. Maintaining a website to provide information
- E. Coordinating activities that enhance recovery and are of interest to individuals and groups (e.g., an annual Round Robin Dinner, annual Gratitude Breakfast, annual Picnic, Workshops, etc.)
- F. Providing information on the disease of alcoholism, the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, and our principles and traditions to the public, medical professionals, schools, and others
- G. Establishing through active committees, a means whereby the hand of A.A. is made available to those in prisons, hospitals, and treatment facilities

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. The officers are the Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer, forming the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The Secretary or Treasurer will serve in the absence of the Chairperson and perform other duties as assigned by the Chairperson.

Section 3. The officers will be elected annually in June from among A.A. members sober at least one year by vote of Intergroup Representatives.

Section 4. Elected officers may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive one-year terms.

Section 5. An ad hoc nominating committee will be appointed by the Intergroup Chairperson in March, three months prior to the June meeting. The nominating committee will present a slate of officers at the June meeting, at which time additional nominations will be accepted.

Section 6. Nominees must be present at the June meeting during voting. This requirement can be waived on election day by a vote of the Intergroup Representatives if a nominee with a compelling reason contacts the Intergroup Chairperson prior to the meeting.

Section 7. At the June meeting the election will be held by a vote of Intergroup Representatives. The person receiving a majority of the votes will be declared the winner of each elected office. In the event of an election tie there will be three additional votes, and if still tied, names will be placed in a hat and the name drawn will be declared the winner of that elected office.

Section 8. The Executive Committee will appoint officers to fill vacancies which may occur, and the appointees will hold office until the next annual election.

ARTICLE VI – DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

The Duties of the Officers will include, but not be limited to, the following:

Section 1. The **Chairperson** will:

- A. Provide overall leadership
- B. Preside at Intergroup meetings
- C. Maintain order during the monthly meetings in accordance with an abbreviated version of Robert's Rules of Order
- D. Set the agenda for each Intergroup meeting
- E. Appoint Committee Chairpersons with approval by a majority of the Executive Committee
- F. Remove, with the approval of the Executive Committee, any Committee Chairperson who is not fulfilling his or her responsibilities as defined in the Committee Job Descriptions maintained by HAIG
- G. Form ad hoc committees as necessary, and appoint chairpersons to preside over them
- H. Attend all other HAIG committee meetings as needed or requested
- I. Serve as a member on the Finance Committee
- J. Have check-signing authority with the Treasurer
- K. Develop ways to make Intergroup meetings more informative and useful

Section 2. The Secretary will:

- A. Maintain the care and custody of all HAIG records other than financial
- B. Prepare and report the minutes of each Intergroup meeting
- C. Provide a copy of the Intergroup minutes for the newsletter
- D. Send a reminder notice of the upcoming Intergroup meeting to Intergroup representatives no later than 48 hours prior to the next meeting
- E. Update, maintain, and make available the current list of Intergroup Representatives and Committee Chairs at the Intergroup meeting as a sign-up sheet for attendance
- F. Provide updates of the list of Intergroup Representatives and Committee Chairs to the Outreach Committee
- G. Preside at Intergroup meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, as requested

Section 3. The Treasurer will:

- A. Receive, deposit, and disburse the funds of the Intergroup
- B. Maintain the Intergroup financial records
- C. Pick up the mail from the post office and properly distribute any mail not related to finances
- D. Prepare monthly Treasurer's report of receipts, expenses, and account balances, for distribution at Intergroup meetings
- E. Work with the Finance Committee to prepare the annual operating budget
- F. Have check-signing authority with the Intergroup Chairperson
- G. Preside at Intergroup meetings in the absence of the Chairperson, as requested

ARTICLE VII – REMOVAL OF INTERGROUP OFFICER

Grounds for removal of an Intergroup Officer may include, but not be limited to, conduct detrimental to the interests of the Intergroup, loss of sobriety, unethical conduct, or failure to meet the obligations of the position. Should an issue be brought to the Executive Committee, it will be discussed and presented to the individual in question. Based on its findings, the Executive Committee may make a recommendation to the Intergroup regarding a vote for removal. There must be an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Intergroup Representatives present at the meeting in which said removal is considered, provided there is a quorum (see Article II, Section 6).

ARTICLE VIII –MATTERS OF FINANCE

Section 1. There are no dues or fees for Intergroup membership or participation, but in keeping with our 7th Tradition of being self-supporting; each group is encouraged to contribute to the financial obligations incurred by the Intergroup.

Section 2. The Intergroup is supported by voluntary contributions from member A.A. groups, HAIG events, and special contributions from individual A.A. members.

Section 3. No contributions, money or otherwise, will be accepted from any non-A.A. member, or any non-A.A. related group, in keeping with the 7th Tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Section 4. The Intergroup will limit individual contributions to the amount approved by the General Service Conference at the time of the contribution. This amount also applies to any lump sum bequests in the wills of deceased members of the fellowship.

Section 5. The HAIG treasury is comprised of the General Operating Fund, the Prudent Reserve Fund, and Pink Can contributions designated to purchase literature for local institutions.

- A. The General Operating Fund will be established in a checking account at an insured Financial Institution.
 - 1) There will be two authorized signatures on the checking account: the Treasurer and the Intergroup Chairperson.
 - 2) The Treasurer will draw from the General Fund for the purpose of paying the expenses of HAIG including, but not limited to:
 - a. Post office box rental
 - b. Quarterly meeting space rent
 - c. Monthly answering service
 - d. Website
 - e. Printing as needed
 - f. Other expenses as approved by the Intergroup Representatives
- B. The Prudent Reserve Fund will be established in an amount equal to three (3) months of HAIG activity. Although held in the General Fund checking account, the Prudent Reserve will be reported separately in the Treasurer's Report.
- C. The Pink Can fund consists of contributions from A.A. groups in Washington County designated for the purchase of literature for local institutions. Although held in the General Fund checking account, the Pink Can fund will be reported separately in the Treasurer's Report.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular Intergroup meeting provided notice of intent to amend and content of proposed amendment is reported in the HAIG newsletter at least two months prior to the meeting when the amendments are to be voted upon. Changes proposed must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the Intergroup representatives in attendance provided there is a quorum (see Article II, Section 6).