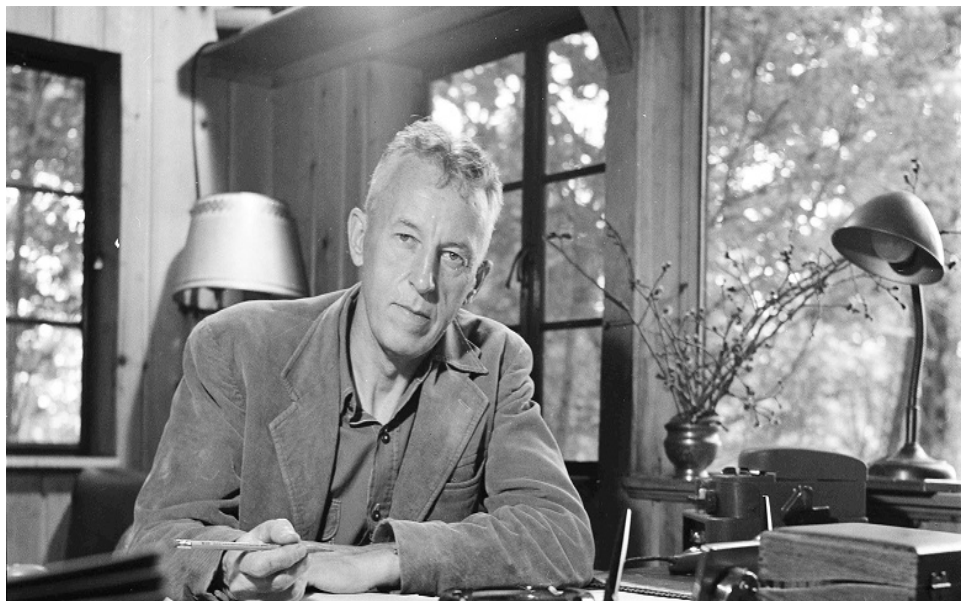


Bill W Said,
Colin, Will
You Pass It on
to Scotland?



'PASS IT ON'



*The Story of Bill Wilson
and how the A.A. message
reached the world*

Another story from *They Kept Coming Back*, and a report on the Seventh Tradition during the Coronavirus Pandemic

WAIA July 2022 - Calls for Service & Support

Please share this print out/script with all your groups!

Update from the Finance Committee:

The Washington Area Intergroup Association (WAIA) needs our support. Contributions this year are 20% below budget. Please help ensure that the office can continue to serve as AA's DC headquarters; answering calls 24/7, maintaining a current record of all meetings in the area, and providing other essential services to the still sick and suffering alcoholic. You can make a contribution directly on the WAIA website aa-dc.org, or via Venmo to @WAIA.

Office Volunteers: The available open slots for answering phones in the office are Saturday 1p-4p, Sunday 10a-1p and Sunday 1p-4p (other slots open up frequently). Call 202-966-9783 and ask for Clo'via or Luella for more information or email help@aa-dc.org

Nightwatch : There are 2 open slots, Friday 6a—10a & Thursday 10p-6a. Email: nightwatch@aa-dc.org

WAIA Chair Openings:

Rules Chair - The Rules Committee maintains and interprets the WAIA bylaws.

Accessibility Chair - This committee's purpose is to help make AA accessible to every member who desires it by raising awareness within the AA community of the challenges faced by those with special needs such as mobility, vision, hearing etc.

Sponsorship Conference - we need a chair to plan content and logistics for the conference as well as volunteers.

Please attend the WAIA board meeting July 12th if you are interested in learning more or volunteering! You can also email us at help@aa-dc.org.

Service Opportunity: WAIA Hospital and Institutions Committee

The Hospital's and Institutions Committee (H & I) mission is to bring the AA message to those in treatment and correctional facilities. H&I meetings have been the backbone of WAIA for decades. It is my own experience as a 5 year old little girl, having a meeting brought into the facility my family member was in, and then a couple decades later having a meeting brought into the facility I was in. H & I has seen major changes, as many meetings in the area have shut down in the last couple years. Currently there are a few facilities that allow in-person meetings and a few that allow on-line, we are hopeful we will soon be able to bring many more meetings into the facilities as they slowly open back up. Along with meetings, we also provide literature (both pamphlets and Big Books) to facilities to share with residents; so now my plug for donations- your donations help ensure we can provide literature to the facilities. If you would like more information please e-mail me. the chairperson of the H&I Committee at hni@aa-dc.org

Board Minutes: You can find the June 2022 draft minutes agenda and previous months approved minutes at <https://aa-dc.org/board-minutes>

Grace phoned her doctor and he came over and said 'You're in a bad way' and I said I was but I would be alright tomorrow and he said 'No you won't.' I would be going to the County Asylum, the Craig Ainalm Hospital, which is a mental hospital, and I didn't like that but I went there and they were all in their white coats when I arrived. There was this guy there, Jimmy, The Piper, who I knew, and I said to him 'Good God, have you been locked up?' and he said 'No, no. I am here to see you!' He was with David and David was wearing plus fours. I found these plus fours very funny. David was an auctioneer and Jimmy and David said they were there to help me. They would come to the hospital meeting, which was held on Wednesdays. At that meeting there were only four people there. Three of us and a lady called Catherine. I went to that first meeting in pajamas and a dressing gown. I really didn't know where I was going or what I was doing but they were kind of folk and they knew my problem. I got hope from listening to David and Jimmy sharing. These two became my sponsors and remained my dear friends until they both passed away.



The first convention I went to was in Dunblane Hydro Hotel and I went there for many years. Dunblane was the top convention in Scotland which started in 1957. Then I started to go to as many conventions as I could. It was a great joy to me when I went on to the Board of A.A. I went to all kinds of A.A. events.

I went to my first World Convention in Toronto in 1965 and that's when I shook Bill W's hand. My friend Jack told me I had to go up on the platform with the rest of the Board. I had to walk down through all of these people and Bill spoke to me and put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'My name is Bill and I'm an alcoholic.' and he asked me, 'Colin, Will you pass it on to Scotland?' I took the 'I am Responsible' oath for Scotland with Bill W. then. That memory keeps coming back to me all the time.

A Full Heart

Tonight he left the hospital concerned, exhausted and grief-stricken. But most of all, he felt joy.

One evening a while back, A sponsee of mine relapsed. In spite of all his efforts, he was unable to stay sober. As things worsened and he was going in and out of consciousness, his family took him to the emergency room. Once he was medically stable, he was admitted into the hospital to detox.



Unfortunately, I was unable to be there with him and his family because my grandfather had passed away the day before and I had to leave town. I kept my sponsor and other group members informed as my sponsee's situation changed.

When I was heading back to town, my sponsor and I made plans to visit my sponsee. It was his third day of detox. My sponsor also mentioned that several group members might join us. As we would be visiting him late on a Sunday evening, I didn't anticipate many members showing up.

The weekend had been long and difficult, especially after burying my last grandparent. After I got back, I dropped my wife at home and drove to the hospital. On the way there, I was overcome with deep gratitude for the opportunity to see my friend. My Grandpa had lived a full life of 91 years and undoubtedly touched more lives than just mine. And it made me think that as members of A.A., we have been given the gift of sharing our experience and having the ability to touch life after life.

I pulled into the hospital, parked and walked into the waiting room. As I turned the corner, to my surprise I was met by 11—11!—of my fellow home group members. I was speechless. We all rode the elevator up, and after getting a few suspicious looks from the staff we were allowed in. A staff person told us that no patient had ever received so many visitors at once.

Our beaten-up friend was sitting alone at the back of the room. When he saw me round the corner, he stood up to greet me. Then the rest of our group began to enter and our friend was overcome with emotion. Speechless, he wept on my shoulder. Each home group member then began to share the hopelessness and suffering they endured, but also the unending peace and joy they've been given through A.A.

The power of the Fellowship in the room that night consumed each one of us. We were able to be instruments of our loving God, offering the hand that we were once offered ourselves. The experience was incredibly moving. I had a cry ball in my throat and had to fight back tears.

I walked out of the hospital alone because I stayed a bit longer than everyone else. As the cold night air hit my face, my tears began to flow. My heart was full that night. Even though I had laid my grandfather to rest that morning, by evening, I had participated in a rebirth.

Joe. R.

North Little Rock, AR, from the *Grapevine*

Courtesy of the *Grapevine*

A.A. Group Inventory for the COVID-19 Era

Many groups periodically hold a “group inventory meeting” to evaluate how well they are fulfilling their primary purpose to help alcoholics recover through A.A.’s suggested Twelve Steps of recovery.

In the COVID-19 era, many groups quickly transitioned to virtual (online) meetings and may now wish to step back and evaluate how they’re doing. Groups that have not returned to any form of in person meeting may need an inventory to reflect their current situation.

Here, the San Jose, CA offers a set of group inventory questions adapted to the COVID-19 era. (Based, in part, on questions in “The A.A. Group” pamphlet.)

Here are some suggested questions that your group could ask itself:

1. What is the basic purpose of our group?
2. How well is our group carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic?
3. How well is our group serving members who were present before the pandemic? Who has been ‘left behind’?
4. Have we reached out to help members who are not ‘tech savvy’ get connected? Is a phone or an e-mail contact list available to members?
5. Is our group attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross-section of our community, including those with accessibility issues? What kind of alcoholics are we not seeing at our meeting?
6. Are we getting many visitors from outside our area? How are we welcoming them to our group?
7. Do we effectively emphasize and facilitate sponsorship in the virtual environment? How can we do better?
8. Since going virtual, how have our group chores/responsibilities changed? Have we let any important functions go unfulfilled?
9. Do we need to modify our group’s format to better suit meeting virtually? Who or why not?
10. How are we conducting our virtual elections for service positions? Despite being virtual, are we still practicing the spirit of rotation?
11. What measures are we taking to ensure safety in our meetings, both against trolls/bombers and with respect to existing members?
12. Are we recording our meeting? Why or why not? If so, what precautions are we taking to ensure anonymity?
13. Is our group continuing to do its fair share toward participating in our Three Legacies – Recovery, Unity, and Service?
14. How is our group fulfilling its responsibility to the Seventh Tradition? Are we meeting our expenses and maintaining a prudent reserve? Are we providing both digital and non-digital ways to contribute? [Why or why not?](#)

From Box 459: “A.A. at Its Best” New Approaches to the Seventh Tradition

In mid-March of this year (2020), at the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, the lights went dark at the General Service Office as G.S.O.’s workforce dispersed to their homes to continue helping members carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. As the days went on, A.A.’s many central offices strove to remain open to fulfill their essential function, and A.A. groups turned to virtual platforms to ensure that alcoholics everywhere could meet and stay sober. Over the last number of months, a situation without precedent in the lifetime of A.A. has been faced with fortitude, hard work and creativity.

“The amazing thing,” says Leslie Backus, Class A (nonalcoholic) treasurer of the General Service Board, pictured nearby, “is that whether the local, the area, or the intergroup level, A.A.’s have found a way to continue carrying the message. Our primary purpose is going strong. It is an awesome and humbling thing to watch.”

Suffering alcoholics have been turning to A.A. for 85 years, and the need for Alcoholics Anonymous has never been greater. Despite the physical separation of its employees, G.S.O. General Manager Greg T. wrote in a June (2020) letter to the Fellowship, “G.S.O. in New York is continuing to support all levels of service. Literature still needs to be published and distributed, calls need to be answered, online platforms still need to be updated, and support operations sustained.”

At the same time, according to G.S.O. acting Chief Financial Officer Bob W., there were challenges: “In the immediate aftermath of COVID-19, a G.S.O. experienced a sharp decline in contributions and literature sales.” The precipitous fall in both of these funding levels – because people could neither contribute in the same way at meetings nor buy books from the group’s literature table or at their local intergroup office – forced A.A. to take a \$3 million drawdown from its Reserve Fund at the end of April (2020).

Fortunately, since then, there has been a dramatic increase in contributions from A.A. groups and members, culminating in \$1.1 million for

the month of July (2020) – an extraordinary response. Leslie Backus, who reported on A.A.’s financial situation at A.A.’s virtual 70th General Service Conference and who was also featured in a video released to the Fellowship entitled “Covid-19 & the Seventh Tradition” (<https://vimeo.com/430834698>), says of the response from Fellowship, “It was the spiritual nature of the Seventh Tradition in Practice, one person stepping up to help other members over and over.”

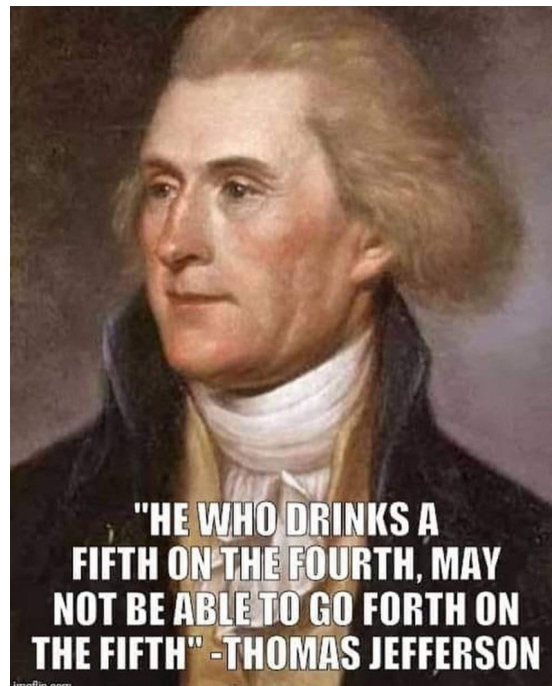


Bob W. adds, “More than the actual dollars themselves, it is about participation, and that is what gets me emotional. That principle of participation is rooted in our Fourth Concept and the Seventh Tradition. Money and spirituality mix in the basket.”

Literature sales, meanwhile, have risen only slightly from April, according to Bob, and are nowhere near their average monthly sales levels pre-pandemic. And while some of the \$1.1 million in contributions came from groups, many others were made by individuals via [a.a.org](https://contributions.aa.org) (<https://contributions.aa.org>). Greg T. considers this a sign of unprecedented times, when “individuals perhaps feel a level of responsibility in a different way, under the circumstances.”

As many in A.A. know, however, even in the best of times, only 40 percent of groups send a portion of their Seventh Tradition basket to help support the General Service Office. This is nothing new. Bill W. made note of it in a 1966 letter to the Fellowship in which he stated, “We cannot depend on A.A. book and pamphlet income year after year to make up for lack of Group contributions.” But the situation we are currently in is new – a global pandemic, an age of transformative technology – and finding solutions to the lack of group contributions that Bill refers to is a conversation that presents itself with some urgency.

**ME PREPPING FOR THE
PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE**



**"HE WHO DRINKS A
FIFTH ON THE FOURTH, MAY
NOT BE ABLE TO GO FORTH ON
THE FIFTH" -THOMAS JEFFERSON**

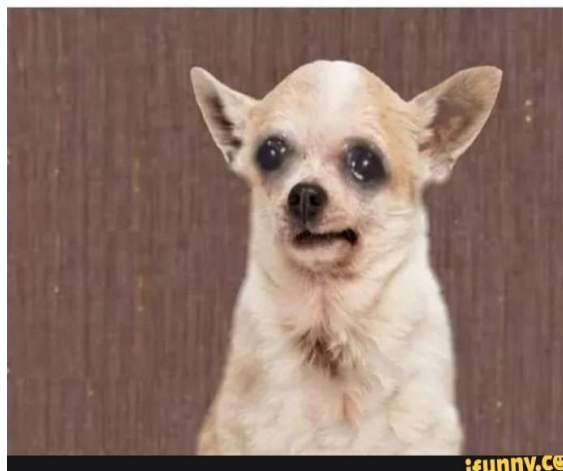
**DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS
AFTER 6 TEQUILA SHOTS?**



.....NOBODY DOES

Today's theme: TEQUILA!

-Hello, I'm here for a job interview.
-Great, and do you have experience?
-Yes, this is my 20th interview.



JULY 8 - 10, 2022

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SPEAKERS

LINDA CHEZEM

CLASS A TRUSTEE, GSB CHAIR

JIMMY D.

AA MEMBER RIGHTS &
RESPONSIBILITIES
Dallas, TX

CHUCK & BETH H.

3 LEGACIES IN RELATIONSHIPS
Destin, FL

REILLY K.

12 CONCEPTS
Winston, OR

KAREN C.

SPONSORSHIP
Oakland, CA

ANDREW S.

HELPING OR HURTING AA?
The Importance of How We Are Recommended
Marin, CA

ANJANA G.

INSPIRED BY YPAA - FUTURE
LEADERS OF AA
Antioch, CA

WITH AL-ANON
PARTICIPATION

More speakers to be announced...

Presented by
the Love & Service Group of A.A.



ARGENTINA

SAVE THE DATE



CANADA

*“Beyond Language,
Culture and Geography:
Sobriety Within
Everybody’s Reach.”*

Alcoholics Anonymous®

North/South Connections Virtual Special Forum — A.A. in Remote Communities

Saturday, July 16, 2022 – 11am-7pm EDT

Members from the service structures of Argentina, Canada, Chile and the United States will share their experience, strength and hope in extending the hand of A.A. to Remote Communities.

All sessions will be interpreted into American Sign Language (ASL) and English, French and Spanish.

The event is open to all members!

Registration and program will be available June 13, 2022, at www.aa.org.

**If you have any questions, please contact the Regional Forums desk at G.S.O.:
northsouthconnections@aa.org or (212) 870-3400**

UNITED STATES



CHILE



AA Men's Meditation Retreat

Friday, July 15 – Sunday, July 17, 2022

Loyola Retreat House
9270 Loyola Retreat Road
Newburg (Faulkner), Maryland 20664



Come join the Sunday Men's Step Meeting at its ninth annual **AA Men's Meditation Retreat** at the **Loyola Retreat House**, located on the banks of the Potomac River. The Retreat offers opportunities to meet and share your experience, strength, and hope with old friends, and establish new friendships that may help sustain your own recovery for years to come. This retreat will be conducted within the guidelines set by the CDC, local government, and the Loyola Retreat Center with regard to measures required to protect all attendees health against the Covid 19 virus, i.e., vaccination requirements, wearing of masks, etc.

The total cost for the Retreat is \$250. This includes your room and all meals at the Retreat House. The fee is due from all attendees by July 1, 2022. Payments and deposits are non-refundable. Anyone who attends for any period of time/for any part of the retreat is required to pay the full cost of \$250 for the weekend. Attendance is limited and available on a first come/first served basis. You can reserve your place with a check payable to: **Silver Spring AA Mens Retreat**. Please include your email address or phone number on your check or money order so we can confirm your payment and reservation. Send you check to:

**Mens Meditation Retreat
8112 Flower Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912**

You may also pay using **Venmo**, **Zelle**, or **PayPal**:

PayPal: sjmcgarr@gmail.com

Venmo: @mens-retreat

Zelle: Stephen McGarry 301 922 3557

65TH ANNUAL A.A.



OCEAN CITY MARYLAND
SEPTEMBER 6-11, 2022

It is with gratitude and pleasure we inform you that all preparations have been completed for our 65th Annual Sessions by-the-Sea to be held in Ocean City, Maryland on September 6th – September 11th, 2022 at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.

We have A.A speaker meetings every night. Al-Anon meetings are held at 10am on Friday and Saturday. All meetings are held in the 2nd floor ballroom. Name badges and seats will be provided to those who are pre-registered only. Please wear the name badges on the frontal lapel area only.

Our seating capacity is 2,200 seats. When this number is reached we cannot issue any more registrations or seats and your request and check will be mailed back to you. If your request is accepted it will serve as your receipt of registration and we will have it on file at "Sessions". **There will be no walk-up registrations available.**

Seats will be provided for everyone on a first come-first serve basis except for the reserved seats deemed necessary for those who are in need of them. These seats will be determined and identified by "Sessions" ushers one hour prior to meeting start time. Please show respect to these reserved seats and also the people in need of them.

We will continue to ask for courtesy from everyone to prevent any distractions during our meetings. Please try to be seated and ready for the meeting prior to its start time.

Registrations and name badges must be picked up in our registration room at the convention center by the person listed on the registration request form only.

We hope to see you at Sessions in September!

Online Registration: www.sessionsbythesea.com

OR mail registration form with check payable to:
Sessions Registration
P.O. Box 23
Denton, MD 21629

Registration Pickup Hours of Operation

Tuesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday	10:00am – 2:00pm
Thursday	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Friday	10:00am – 2:00pm
Friday	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday	10:00am – 2:00pm
Saturday	6:30pm – 8:00pm

On Tuesday and Wednesday nights, registration badges are not required to be worn to attend those meetings. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, badges are required and should be visibly worn.

SESSIONS 2022 REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM

Name Registered to (first and last) _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Registrations _____ X \$25.00 each = _____ Telephone _____

Check # _____ If your request is accepted it will serve as your receipt and we will have it on file at "Sessions"

Request for a reserved seat. If accepted it will appear on your name badge.

Hearing impaired and desires an interpreter _____ Other _____

Email _____

NO NEED TO MAIL IF REGISTRATION COMPLETED ONLINE

Area 13 WAGSA District Committee Meeting

No meeting in July

Questions? Email: chair@area13aa.org

or

visit www.area13aa.org

Check the Events Page on
WAIA's website for Holiday
Event updates:

<https://aa-dc.org/events>

WAIA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

July 12, 2022—8:00 PM 2nd Tuesday of the month except
August

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?
pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09)

Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434

Passcode: 819862

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,83460598434# US (Washington DC)s

CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS CALENDAR

Events are updated
regularly!

If you would like to
submit an event, send an
email to events@aa-dc.org.
A pdf flyer may be attached

728	930 Club Online	3000	Midtown	140	Sunday in the Park
100	Anacostia Group	60	Misery is Optional	26	Sunday Men's Step
330	Andrews Armed Forces	120	Mo.Co. Women	193	Sun. Morn. Breakfast Out
400	As We Understood Him	289	More Peace of Mind	240	Sun. Morning Joy
400	Aspen Hill 5th Chapter	283	Moving Into Solution, Women	3510	Sunrise Sobriety Zoom
17	Aspen Hill Phoenix—Mon	240	N.E. Sunrise	268	Sunshine, G'burg
30	Aspen Hill Phoenix-Fri	120	N.W. Metro	180	Takoma Park Necessity
793	Attitude & Action	100	Navy Yard BB	10	The Away Group
249	Beginners Are Winners	408	New Avenue	402	There Is A Solution
1260	B.Y.O.L (103154)	138	New Hope 123	149	Uptown
520	Back to Basics (CB)	290	No Hard Terms	240	Victory Lights
751	Burtonsville Big Book	256	Norbeck Women-Wedn	34	Village Idiots
50	Campus Noon	91	Oasis Women's BB	360	We Are All Beginners
436	Capitol Hill Group	84	Olney Women	98	West Side Women
87	Capital Holl Remainers	208	On Awakening	344	Westmoreland Women
66	Chinatown BB	2975	P Street	75	What's Happening Now
67	Cigar Smokers	360	Palisades Mon. Nite	156	Women's Grapevine
50	Clinton Day	120	Petworth		
160	Coffee & Donuts	180	Pillars in the Park	145	Birthday
100	College Park Group	198	Poolesville Potluck	180	Faithful Fivers
1079	Cosmopolitan	90	Poolesville Beginnings	14273	Individuals
50	Daily Reflections UP	250	Potomac Men BB	250	Memorial
120	Darne Good Big Book	925	Potomac Oaks		
527	Darnestown Men	304	Progress Not Perfection		
524	DCC 930 Club	125	Prospect group		
748	Del Ray Club	174	Quince Orchard		
296	District 2	170	Riderwood Bills		
171	Divine Intervention	120	Room with a View		
540	Epiphanies	575	Rose Park Group		
12	Ex-Libris	100	Rosedale Sobriety		
330	Eye Opener-Potomac	144	Sat. Afternoon 2PM/UP		
883	Fireside Spirituality	240	Saturday Morn Steps		
250	Foggy Bottom	120	Sat. Night Happy Hour		
91	Georgetown Happy Hour	360	Sat. Night Special		
53	Glam Lot Women	120	Serenity House		
60	High Sobriety	588	Serenity Speakers		
30	Hope Group	163	Serious Business		
10	Hyattsville Hope	675	Silver Spring Beginners BB		
67	Informed Group	600	Silver Spring Group		
1200	Into Action	180	Simplicity		
202	Kid Friendly Big Book	454	Six & Seventh Step		
120	Language of the Heart	350	Sober Sat. Matinee		
25	Leisure World Noon	268	Sobriety Sisters		
25	Let Go Let God	436	Southern Sobriety		
72	Lit Hoppers	3000	Spiritual Awakening		
99	Lit Womxn	92	Spiritual Hilltop		
620	Messengers	180	St. Bartholomew		
432	Mideast	450	St. Francis Group		
		1200	Starting Over		

If you would like to receive to the **hard copy** of New Reporter, make check payable to WAIA and

Mail to: WAIA

4530 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 111
Washington, DC 20008

\$15.00 Year
\$28.00 Two Years
\$12.00 Group Rate

A free digital copy of the New Reporter is posted every month to our website at:
<https://aa-dc.org/new-reporter>

To receive an email with the link each month, email **newreporter@aa-dc.org**



Have a story about your recovery in AA? Tell us your stories about how you're saying sober in these difficult times.

Why not share it with all of us? If you'd like to contribute to the *New Reporter*, please send in your material to:

newreporter@aa-dc.org



Day

Years

July 11	Sean A.	Yacht Club	8
July 16	Luella T.	Hyattsville Hope	44
July 19	Ron A.	Zoom Sunrise Group	9
July 28	Jeanine	Cosmopolitan	5
July 30	Clo'via C.	Nativity	14

THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

Paul Molloy, June 11, 2022, over 40 years sober.
Founder of Oxford House movement in Silver Spring

See Washington Post obituary:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/obituaries/2022/06/16/paul-molloy-addiction-recovery-dies/>

The **NEW REPORTER** is a monthly publication of the W.A.I.A., Inc., 4530 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008. Printed Subscriptions are \$15.00 per year and Digital Subscriptions are **FREE**. Articles and event information are encouraged from members of the Fellowship and its friends.

VOLUNTEER

**Guess who it really
Helps?**

Call 202-966-9783

Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Washington Area Intergroup Association or A.A. as a whole.

JULY 2022