



Fifth Month - Fifth Step

A mother offers one to her children

Another UK 50-year+ Alcoholic in recovery

Drunken online purchases . . .

## WAIA May 2023 Announcements

### April 2023, Calls for Service

1. **WAIA Office Committee Chair:** The Office Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Committee/Board regarding office operations and personnel policies for WAIA staff. Current board members, current and past officers and past executive committee members are eligible to serve as chair.
2. **Office and HelpChat Volunteers Needed!** We are still in need of more volunteers willing to come into the WAIA office. Need help on Saturdays 1-4PM and Sunday 1-4 PM to help answer phones. Email [help@aa-dc.org](mailto:help@aa-dc.org) for more information or call 202-966-9783 and ask for Luella or Clo'via.
3. **The WAIA outreach committee** has started to reach out to those groups without a designated Board Member (Rep). If you would be interested in either serving on the committee or in reaching out to 5 local groups to explain why having a rep matters, please contact me, Teresa R. @ [tlkaiser3@aol.com](mailto:tlkaiser3@aol.com) or [outreach@aa-dc.org](mailto:outreach@aa-dc.org).

### Searching for a WAIA Finance Chair

Are you looking for a flexible service position that allows you to do work with the Washington Area Intergroup? Good with numbers, comfortable with Excel? Enjoy helping people understand all the amazing efforts our local intergroup undertakes to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic using the funds provided by the fellowship?

**If any of that sounds appealing, then you may be the alcoholic we are looking for!**

The Finance Chair connects monthly with the WAIA Office Manager, Luella T., and the Treasurer, Will R. as well as has the support of a small but active finance committee. As the finance chair, you'll meet monthly with this dedicated group to review the previous month's financial status and craft a short report reviewing WAIA's financial status for the month using Excel and Word. Templates already exist and the previous finance chair is happy to provide training. You'll also attend the monthly board meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month to present the report in person to the board and provide the occasional special update to the WAIA Finance webpage (<https://aa-dc.org/finance>). The time requirement is 2-3 hours a month.

**Literature Prices are increasing for the first time in 9 years.** AA World Services increased their prices effective April 3, 2023. WAIA will increase our prices effective May 1, 2023. Call the office at 202-966-9783 or email [help@aa-dc.org](mailto:help@aa-dc.org) if you have any questions.

## Are you proud of your homegroup?

Want to brag/share why? The Outreach Committee and the Digital New Reporter would like to showcase various AA groups in our area using the words of their members. We are soliciting essays of 300 words or less about why you love your homegroup for potential publication in a future New Reporter.

Please submit your essays to the Digital New Reporter to:

[newreporter@aa-dc.org](mailto:newreporter@aa-dc.org)

Teresa R., Outreach Committee Chair

### FIFTH STEP

“As I carried the Fourth Step into the next directional action, the Fifth ... I began to gain by pain, to win by losing, to get control by letting go of control. And good feelings poured in from all sides.

I discovered how many words that I had been fond of using were actually traps, setting off negative thinking -- ‘If only...,’ ‘You always...,’ ‘never,’ ‘forever,’ ‘If you would only...,’ and so on. I dug in and tried desperately to change word habits, to share time instead of spending it.”

Pompano Beach, Florida, June 1978, “It Takes What It Takes,” Step By Step

## Release from Fear

**The Fifth Step was a giant step in her progress, taking her farther than she realized.**

I approached the Fifth Step reluctantly. It was like swallowing a bitter pill. I knew that it had to be done, but I didn't know why.

My choice of another person with whom to take the Step would be quite different now, because I feel that I have become a better judge of maturity and mental sobriety. But the person I chose at that time was a dear friend, at least on a superficial level, and we seemed to have much in common. It is true that she made it quite easy for me.

Afterwards, I still didn't know why I had taken the Step. But I had done it! I felt terrific relief, knowing that it was behind me and that it was one Step I could say had been taken. It was finished, I thought.

Then the woman with whom I had taken the Fifth Step seemed to have a relapse. While she didn't drink, she became quite erratic and frantic. All I could see, not having much maturity, was that she was not as pleasant and nice as she had been. One day she threatened me in a veiled way, with the knowledge she had acquired when I took the Fifth Step with her. I could hardly believe it. My husband was present at the time, and all I had to do was glance at him to know that the threat wasn't in my imagination.

My first reaction was disbelief. Then a great sorrow and compassion flowed through me, that a human being could be so desperate for re-assurance.

Only later did it occur to me that there was absolutely no fear within me because of what she knew about me or might possibly reveal. The mere fact of having taken the Step had washed away the hidden fear and the secret, exaggerated guilts I had lived with. I realized that simply by taking the Fifth Step my inability to see anything outside myself had been removed. I now was able to think in terms of another person.

Then I started to understand what this Step means: release from fear, in order that we may begin. For until this release from fear is effected we can't possibly find the freedom that is vital for progress in our new way of life. The Fifth Step isn't, after all, an ending. It is the beginning --of truth, of reality, of living in the present, rather than in the night-marish past or frightening future.

-- J. V., Malawi, Africa

## **The Best Mom I Could Be: Under the dictatorship of alcohol . . .**

Alcohol is a dictator. It told me when, where, and how I could drink and took me to places I didn't want to go. I was born the youngest of six girls on a tobacco farm in Southern Ontario, Canada. When I was three years old, my father passed away. My mother sold the farm and we moved to a small village. Mom never drank, smoked, or remarried, and she went to Mass every morning. There was no action at our house!

Then my oldest sister married, and her husband brought over a case of beer. My aunts and uncles came over and everyone began laughing and joking. I thought, I want a little bit of that! So I stole two bottles of beer, left the house, and went to my girlfriend's place. She got a couple of cigarettes, and we jumped on our bikes and went down the road to drink the beer. Well, I liked the buzz from the booze but threw up and blamed it on the cigarettes.

Sometime later, I met a young man. When I finished hairdressing school, we got married. We had one daughter and four sons, and when they started going to school full time, I opened up a hairdressing salon in our home. More money meant more booze! Then, when one of our sons got cancer and died, my drinking became unbearable. All I wanted to do was argue with everyone I came across. If I saw a customer coming down the street, I would yell 'Curl your own damn hair!' and close the door.

And once, I cooked a chicken in so much wine that we drank the gravy and threw the chicken out. It was a terrible period in the life of our family.

I kept calling Father Hurley, complaining about my husband's drinking, yet he kept asking me about my own. I always responded that I only drank a couple of beers, but he always said, 'Then it won't be hard to quit!' One day Father Hurley told me about a fellowship of women and men who share their experience, strength and hope with one another. When I was ready to call them, he would give me a phone number, he said.

The turning point came one New Year's Day when our daughter invited us for dinner. My husband and I had

been drinking throughout the holidays and fighting to such an extent that he and my oldest son refused to go to our daughter's home with us.

During the ride to my daughter's, I kept saying to my boys that I was going to join something called A.A. because Father Hurley had said, 'If you join, then you don't have to drink anymore.' Thirty minutes later, I pulled over and threw all of the booze I had into a ditch. That was January 2, 1972, and I haven't had a drink since. It certainly hasn't been easy, but it's been possible. I pray to my Higher Power that I never allow alcohol to dictate to me again.

When I had been sober a year and a half, my daughter came home one summer day and I made my amends to her. We had a wonderful day riding our bikes, eating hamburgers, and lighting a bonfire at the cottage. That evening, on her way back home, her car was hit by a drunk driver, and she died some days later. Thanks to A.A., I didn't have to drink during that ordeal.

Now, there is something else that I would like to share with you, which shows how kind, loving and incredibly gracious my Higher Power is. When I was sixteen years old, I had a child who was put up for adoption at birth. Sixteen years ago, I received a telephone call from an agency stating that my daughter had found me. How on earth was I going to tell my three sons, my daughters-in-law, and my grandchildren? I simply called my sons, and they came immediately. Through lots of fear and tears I told the simple truth of that short, yet dramatic, period of my life. After listening to me explain the situation, my sons said they knew about it all along because every time I got drunk, I cried, 'Who stole my baby?'

I once heard a speaker describe a stained glass window showing the Lord standing before a door with no handle. 'The handle was on the other side, the only way to open the door was to search for the key of willingness,' he said. Only then does my Higher Power take over. Today I know I was forgiven because I have told those I dearly love that I was the best mother my disease would allow me to be. My Higher Power has taken all the broken dreams of my life and has made me whole again.

Rita T.  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Courtesy of the *Grapevine*



## *They Kept Coming Back: # 11*

*After leading a meeting in England, your intrepid editor was offered the work of John M., archivist, South East Region, UK. He offers a book that consists of interviews with 16 A.A. members in the UK who have reached 50 years of sobriety. The twelfth interview was with Margot, whose sobriety date was January 1966.*

### **Margot, New York and London**

I suppose I took my first drink of alcohol – it was given to me – actually, when I was a baby. . . I was teething at the time and it was give to me by my nanny. We had nannies in those days. She rubbed it on my gums. It never occurred to me to take a drink of alcohol when I was growing up. Then, much later, when I was in the Air Force and the girls and I went out on a Saturday night and, of course, the girls all had a drink. I think it was beer and I tried that and I said, “What foul stuff.’ I’m not drinking that again.” The next time I took a drink, I was twenty-one. It was my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday and I was with my mother and my brother, Lloyd, who happened to be in a wheel chair. We were travelling in the south of France and we stopped somewhere in Switzerland for a meal. We were going by car, and a the meal, wine was ordered,. I don’t know why wine was ordered because I don’t remember saying that I wanted wine. Anyway, the bottle came and my mother had a small amount, brother had a sip and said “Oh, I don’t like that,” and I finished the rest of the bottle.

We went down to the South of France where, eventually, we all went to live. When I discovered that, among everyone I became friendly with, they all drank alcohol from lunchtime onwards. It was a done thing to have wine with your meals. It never occurred to me that that wasn’t what everyone did in every country. So when I went out with friends we always had wine and then **I was introduced to whisky and that was it! That was my drink because it gave me the buzz that I was looking for.**

In growing up I had been very unhappy and yet happy at the same time because during The War we lived on a farm in Buckinghamshire. I had all the animals and I could go riding and I was with people who were kind to me. It was fine until my father died. That was during The War, and after that, I don’t know why, but my mother seemed to turn on me. It was as if she resented me because I was so much like my father, not just in looks but in the way I behaved, whatever it was.

The first thing that happened when I went to America was that a friend of mine in New York, a theatrical lawyer, gave me a bottle of whisky. This was at 8 o’clock in the morning and by 6 o’clock in the evening I had finished that bottle. I hadn’t realized what I was doing and I went out to dinner with him and I seemed to drink myself sober. At least that was the impression I got. I found in America no one took any notice of what you drank. I wasn’t working because, apart from the newspaper in Monaco, I hadn’t had another job since. My joy is in the theatre. I had trained as a ballet dancer and in the theatrical world and, again, this was against my mother’s wishes but because my father had left me some money, I was able to walk away.

Now, I should say that before I went to America, I was sitting on the beach in Monte Carlo reading a magazine that told me all about A.A. but I didn’t join A.A. until thirteen years later.

*Editor’s paraphrase of the next part of Margot’s story, which led her to A.A.:* Margot met a man who didn’t drink, but that didn’t stop her from drinking. They had a child and one night they had a fight and the man hit her. She was advised by her American friends that she should divorce him and she went to Mexico to secure a divorce. Upon her return, she learned that her husband had taken the child. When her husband finally appeared with their child, “He said ‘What are you going to do about your drinking?’ and I really have to say that is the only thing I should be grateful to Bob for; that somebody said the right words. If someone had said, ‘You should stop drinking,’ if wouldn’t have worked.

## ***They Kept Coming Back: # 11—Margot of New York and London, cont'd)***

**I said, 'Call A.A.' So he did that but there was no one there. It was too late at night. Bob got me into a taxi and took me to a hospital where I was put into a ward with people who had other illnesses and we were all sleeping on the floor. It was absolutely horrendous.**

*Editor's summary, again:* Margot finally started going to meetings in New York City. She got sober and after some time in a half-way house, she travelled back to England and started going to meetings in London. She also attended meetings in Israel and Australia. She has had 12<sup>th</sup>-Step experiences along the way and describes several instances. She provides info about how different meetings handled children in the rooms.

**In the group I go to, we had these girls come in and they would be talking on their mobiles and the Secretary wouldn't do anything and eventually the group got together and said 'That's out. Leave your mobiles outside.' And I wrote big notices, 'leave your mobiles in the car.' These girls left the group.**

Of course, I've seen changes. In the early days I would go to meetings and I would be the only woman there. But now, thank goodness, there are so many of us. Of course, the problem was that most of the women were married and had children and therefore they couldn't get to meetings. Then again, in some meetings I go to some of the women bring their children in pushcarts and prams which, personally I don't like. I don't think you should bring babies into a meeting – we had four- and five-year olds running around – and I said so. I got into trouble for that.

**My favorite literature, apart from the Big Book, and, by the way, have the First Edition, is the Just for Today card. It is easy, Just for Today and it hits the mark. I don't memorize the card because I believe that if you memorize something, it loses its impact.**

As you know, I am Jewish and many people are under the impression that alcohol is not a problem in the Jewish faith but I have to tell you that this is a huge problem but it is kept hidden. When my son was training to be a Rabbi I met all the other trainee Rabbis and the older Rabbis as well and I told one of my friendly Rabbis that I was a recovering alcoholic and he said, 'I don't believe you, Margot' that sort of an attitude. I asked him, 'What do you do with the people who have this problem in your congregation?' He said, 'What do you mean?' I said, 'Well, I think there are may be certain members of your congregation who might have a problem and you are the only one who can talk to them about it.' He said, 'OK. We'll see what happens.' He came back and said, 'You are quite right. They do have problems. What can I do about it?' I said, 'Send them to A.A.' and I gave him an A.A. pamphlet and it worked. He spread it around most of the Rabbis. Some Rabbis rejected it. Others said 'Just don't drink.' But many Rabbis sent people to A.A.

Do you know who was the first alcoholic? Well, it was Noah. During the time before the flood Noah was with his family and he was lying down under a tree, naked. His son came along and covered him and the second son was also there and they realized that Noah was under the influence of alcohol. This account is actually in the Bible and I remember when they were reading and translating. It's true and this is the first mention anywhere of someone being under the influence of alcohol.

Interviewed by John M., 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014

## **According to the Daily Mail, “Americans Spent \$14 Billion ‘drunk shopping’ last year”**

Will Potter reports that: “Booze-loving shoppers have revealed their weirdest online drunk purchases – after it was found that Americans have splashed over \$14 billion in the last year while buying while under the influence.

From five-pound bags of Sour Patch Kids to rubber ducks and Tamagotchis, those who are prone to drunk shopping admitted that their ‘inner child comes to life.’

A surprising 17 percent of Americans admit they shopped while drunk last year, spending an average of \$309 each on intoxicated purchases, according to the Finder’s Drunk Shopping Survey. But while huge sums are enough to send anyone’s head spinning, it pales in comparison to 2020, when \$44.9 billion was spent during the Covid-19 pandemic as drunk consumers were stuck inside.

Yet, while some say they ‘aren’t proud of it,’ TikTok users in the millions watch along to discover the real-time what their favorite creators have mysteriously bought. Amid the millions of people who like to shop after downing a few drinks, some go a step further and reveal their ill-thought-out purchases to millions of viewers.

From wacky Spartan-esque body armor, tasers and even mini-T-Rex arms for baby chicks, people have flocked to watch influencers open packages they have no memory of picking out.

Lawshawna McNeal, an artist who has racked up over a million likes on her @lipsietipsie account, said she saw her viewership shoot up after starting a new segment called ‘Things I bought when I was drunk’.

‘I showed my friends my drunk shopping gifts once, and they all said they are hilarious and I should share them online,’ she told DailyMail.com.

The TikTok fanatic, whose hilarious videos regularly feature a glass of wine as she talks through her purchases, is seen in one video bizarrely unwrapping a pair of MMA-style gloves.

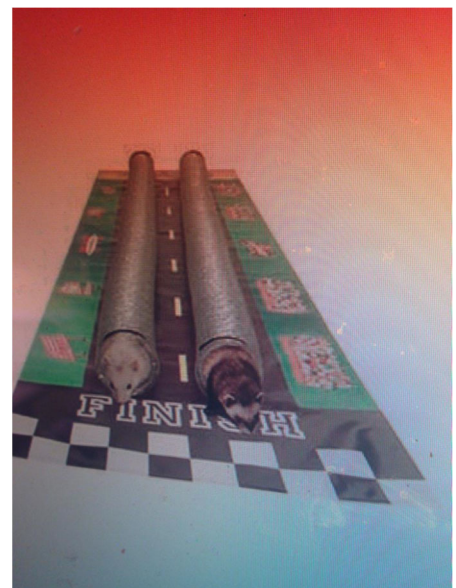
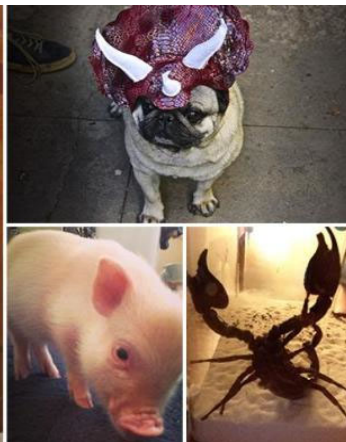
‘I also got a wig for my dog – when you are drunk, that is so funny,’ added mom-of-two. ‘Drunk shopping is so easy now, with Amazon, its so quick. They you forget about it!’”



## Images of items people have bought drunk:



Let's all take a minute to appreciate this drunk Amazon purchase



## NIH Study finds that slower brain growth puts boys at higher addiction risk

Sean Salai of the Washington Times reports that “Boys are more likely than girls to develop addictions because of slower brain development starting at age 9, two scientists from the National Institutes of Health found in a [study](#).”

Dardo Tomasi and Nora Volkow of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism studied brain scans of 8,961 children ages 9-11, recorded from August 2017 to November 2018.

Girls had “higher functional connectivity density” than boys in a part of the brain responsible for emotions, social behavior, attention, learning and motivation, the lab scientists reported in their study.

Published Tuesday in JAMA Network Open, the study also found that girls had superior development in key white matter pathways linked to self-regulation of nerve impulses.

“Boys are much more likely to engage in risky behaviors such as drug experimentation than girls and are more prone to impulsive behaviors, including truancy [or] driving while intoxicated,” Ms. Volkow told The Washington Times. “It is likely that this vulnerability reflects in part the slower development of brain regions necessary for self-regulation.”

None of the children in the study was addicted to drugs or alcohol, but Ms. Volkow said the findings can predict “alcohol and marijuana use among teenagers, which we expect will be increasing in the next few years.”

Although the human brain reaches 90% of its adult size by age 6, its gray and white matter volumes continue to change throughout adolescence, the study said. White matter consists of nerve fibers linking different parts of the brain. Gray matter comprises cell bodies responsible for perceiving movement and sensation.

After age 8, white matter density grew faster in girls while “regressive [gray matter] pruning” accelerated for boys, the study found.

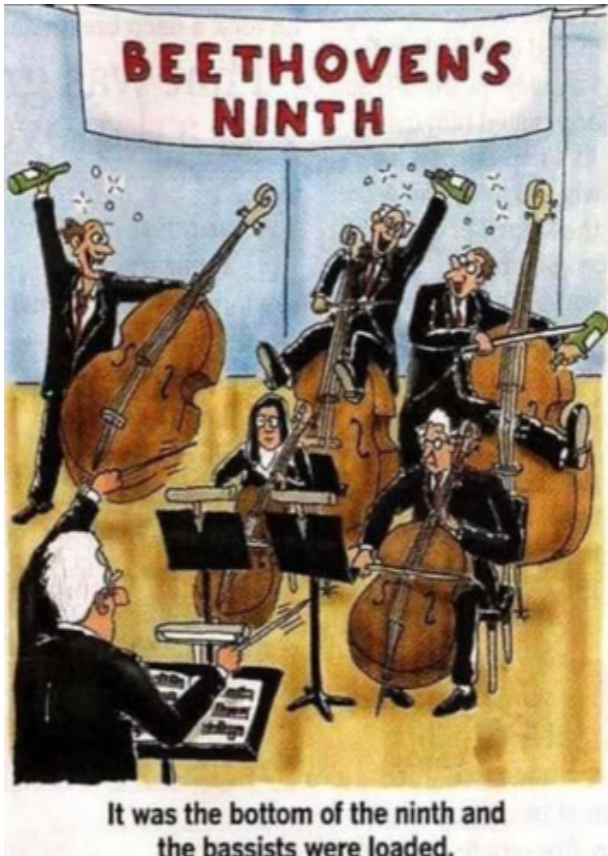
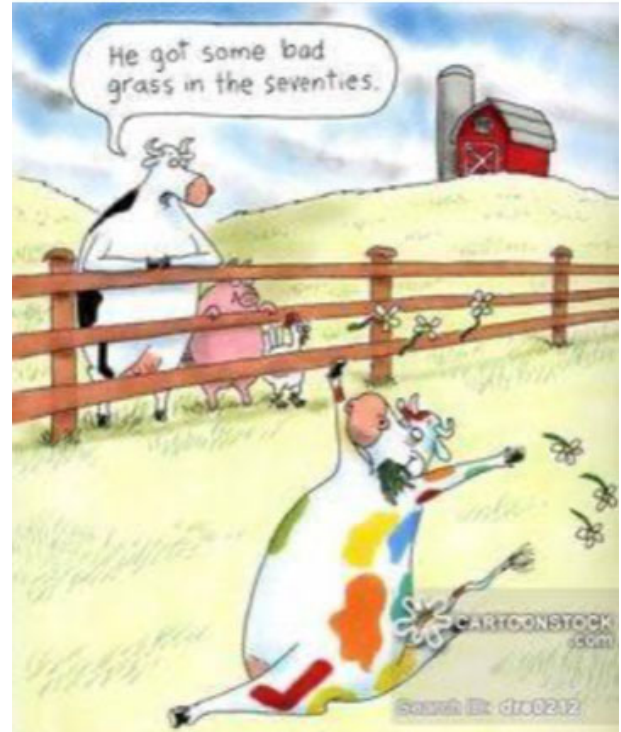
“The faster cortical development in girls than boys and their associated higher cognitive performance indicate that at this age girls are better able to learn academic tasks than boys due to an earlier development of their brains,” Mr. Tomasi said. “This has implications for how schools teach children and indicates that interventions tailored to the brain developmental stage might facilitate learning and performance.”

The study found that boys lagged behind girls in developing the cognitive processes for language and analytical thinking, as well as the emotional maturity for self-reflection and self-regulation.

“Boys tend to catch up in their early 20s, but we don’t know enough of why the process is slower in boys,” Mr. Tomasi added in an email.



You will never leave the house drunk again...



# -PRICING-

Early registration fee of \$35 per person includes all Workshops, Speakers, and Fellowship for the three day program. Tickets for Banquet Dinner (\$30) sold separately.

Starting April 1st, the registration fee is \$40

Register online at:

[www.southernmarylandroundup.org](http://www.southernmarylandroundup.org)

Register by mail by May 1st. Make check or money order payable to:

Southern Maryland Round-Up

Mail to: P.O. Box 427, Dunkirk, Md 20754

After May 1st, check the website for registration availability.

All registrations FINAL. No refunds - pass it on to a friend of Bill's if unable to attend.



## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROUND-UP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs:      Yes      No

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitality Donation:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lend a hand to those unable  
to pay the Registration Fee:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Outstanding Speakers!  
Fellowship!  
AA & AI-Anon Workshops & Meetings!  
Society Countdown!  
Hospitality Corner!  
On-site Recovery Store! T-shirts!  
AND MORE!



2023  
SERVICE IS  
THE SECRET

For conference and lodging information, please visit

[www.southernmarylandroundup.org](http://www.southernmarylandroundup.org)

or email: [Info@somdroundup.com](mailto:Info@somdroundup.com)





# **AA WOMEN'S THANKSGIVING RETREAT**

**May 19-21, 2023**

**Loyola On the Potomac Retreat House—A Jesuit Retreat House in  
Falkner, MD**

## **Theme: Walking with the Women**

**A weekend full of talks, discussions, private reflection, fellowship and time for rest will make this a very good way to spend a weekend.**

**Retreat Leader: Sister Elise with over 25 years of experience**

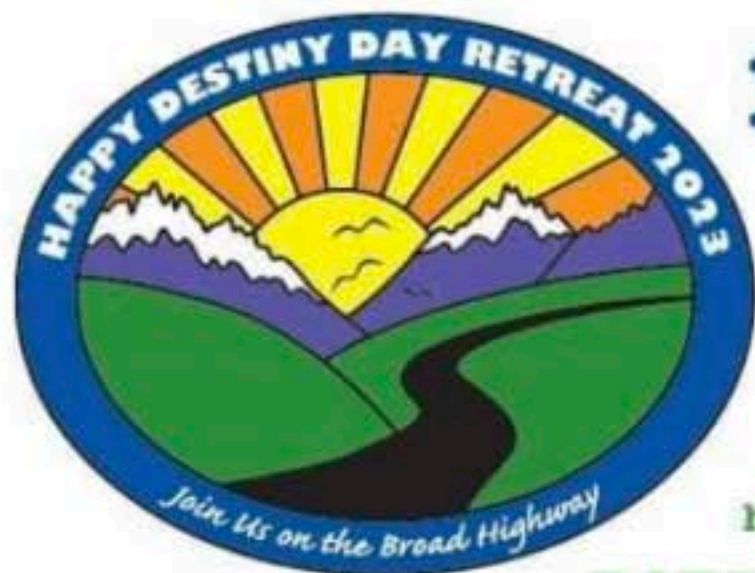
**Cost: \$245 (can make a deposit of \$115); includes private room with ½ bath, 2 nights and 5 meals**

**Registration: [Outside Retreat Registration | Loyola on the Potomac – A Jesuit Retreat House in Falkner, MD](#)**

**Retreat Captain: Jess P. [Jessica.poulin89@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.poulin89@gmail.com) 843-855-7285**







# Happy Destiny DAY Retreat

Saturday, May 20, 2023 • 1:00-9:30 pm

Pilgrim Hills Park  
1615 East Randolph Rd  
Colesville, MD 20904

<https://montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/pilgrim-hills-local-park/>

**PARKING IS LIMITED, Ample Parking Across the Street at Valley Mill Park - Please Consider Carpooling**

Service  
Opportunities  
Available

**REGISTER EARLY**

Space is Limited!



## \$50 Registration Fee Includes:

- Beverages, Snacks, and Dinner
- Activities and Workshops  
(Details are on our website)
- Sober Fellowship
- Open AA Meeting
- Al-Anon Participation
- T-Shirt - Tie Dye is back by popular demand



## Register Online OR Mail Form Below

To register and pay online (Small Service Fee)  
visit [www.happydestinyretreat.org](http://www.happydestinyretreat.org)

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### One Registrant's Name and Information Per Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size: ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ XXXL

T-Shirt Style: ☐ Men's ☐ Women's

Dietary Preferences - Check All That Apply\*

☐ Gluten-Free ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Vegan

### If Mailing:

Make Check Payable to:  
Happy Destiny Retreat

And Mail This Form To:  
Michael Krieg  
13014 Turkey Branch Pkwy  
Rockville MD 20853

### For more information:

Web:  
[www.happydestinyretreat.org](http://www.happydestinyretreat.org)

Email:  
[happydestinyretreat@gmail.com](mailto:happydestinyretreat@gmail.com)

**No Pets Allowed • Must Register in Advance • Only Registered Participants May Attend**

\* While we strive to accommodate a variety of food preferences, if you have allergies, or a specialized diet, you are welcome to bring your own food in a cooler. We do not have storage space. Please contact us if you have any questions.



# Founders' Day Registration Form | online at [www.akronaa.org](http://www.akronaa.org)

Everyone must be registered, including children. All registrations must be postmarked by May 15, 2023. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Name (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* If you provide an e-mail address, you will get confirmation via e-mail only!

☐ Check for special needs - handicapped.  
Handicapped parking will be strictly enforced.

☐ Hearing Impaired- ASL Interpreter Requested

All beds are at a fixed height of 42 inches. The University of Akron **CANNOT** adjust bed height.

**\*INDIVIDUAL FORMS  
REQUIRED FOR EACH  
PACKAGE PLAN\***

Onsite registration closes at 6:00 pm Saturday, NO EXCEPTIONS!

Registration \$35 x QTY = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

(Registration will be \$35 on site conference weekend)

**MUST** have a picture I.D. for pickup.

**Package Plan A** \$275 = \$ ONE ONLY

Sex: M ☐ F ☐

Includes admission to all meetings, meals, room, registration and bus tour.

Report directly to designated dormitory to pick up weekend package and room key.

You must have a picture I.D. to pick up your reservation package.

All rooms and buildings at the university are non-smoking.

**Package Plan B** \$200 = \$ ONE ONLY

Sex: M ☐ F ☐

Includes all items in Package Plan A *except* meals.

Rooming with: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEALS

## QTY

## TOTAL

### SATURDAY

Breakfast

\$20 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch

\$25 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner

\$35 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### SUNDAY

Breakfast

\$20 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS — ☐ Diabetic ☐ Vegan ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten-Free

## MOTORHOME SITE FEES

## QTY

## TOTAL

NO TENT CAMPING!

RV Site Tag

(no hook-ups available)

\$40 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

per site/whole weekend

Each RV must have a **Site Tag** to set up.

**ABSOLUTELY NO PETS OR FIRES!**

**REGISTRATION TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENTS MUST BE IN U.S.  
DOLLARS ONLY. MAKE CHECKS /  
MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO:**

Akron Intergroup  
PO Box 12  
Akron, OH 44309-0012

REFUNDS requested in writing only by  
mail or email and postmarked / received  
prior to May 15, 2023. [treasurerfd@akronaa.org](mailto:treasurerfd@akronaa.org)

**PAYMENT METHODS FOR MAIL IN  
REGISTRATION:**

☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER

All Credit Card payments must be made online  
at [www.akronaa.org](http://www.akronaa.org). Click on the Founders' Day link  
and follow the instructions.

**NO REFUNDS FOR BASIC REGISTRATION.  
\$35.00 FEE FOR ALL PACKAGE PLAN CANCELLATIONS!**





# **Laurel Recovery Group 50th Anniversary**

**Dinner | Dance | Speaker**

**50/50 | Countdown**

**Italian Dinner 6:30 - 7:30 PM**

**Speaker 7:30 - 8:30 PM**

**Countdown 8:30 - 9PM**

**Dance 9PM - 11:30 PM**

**Saturday June 17th, 2023**

**Tickets \$20**

**5700 Rowanberry Dr. Elkridge, MD 21075  
Elkridge VFD Hall**



SIXTY FIFTH ANNUAL  
*Sessions*  
*by the Sea*



**OCEAN CITY MARYLAND**

**SEPTEMBER 5-10, 2023**

**REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 9, 2023**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY!**

**REGISTER ONLINE ONLY – [www.sessionsbythesea.com](http://www.sessionsbythesea.com)**

### Area 13 WAGSA Spring Assembly

**May 27, 2023**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83565638123>**

**Passcode: 6970mc**

**Delegate Report Back from the General Service Conference**

For more information, please visit: [area13aa.org](http://area13aa.org) or email:  
[chair@area13aa.org](mailto:chair@area13aa.org)

### WAIA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

**May 9, 2023—8:00 PM** 2nd Tuesday of the month except August

Join Zoom Meeting:

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?pwd=VVBEEK2FNSZcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09)**  
**[pwd=VVBEEK2FNSZcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?pwd=VVBEEK2FNSZcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09)**

**Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434**

**Passcode: 819862**

**One tap mobile**

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

### CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Events are updated  
regularly!

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



60	14 Promises	2770	Olney Farm Group		Birthday
634	9:30 Club Online	120	Olney Women	120	Faithful Fivers
100	Anacostia Group	19	On Awakening	8232	Individuals
300	Andrew's Armed Forces	10	Open Arms		Memorial
163	As Bill Sees It NW	84	Out to Lunch		
300	Aspen Hill 5th Chapter	726	P Street		
84	Aspen Hill Phoenix Fri	185	Pillars in the Park		
1100	B.Y.O.L (103154)	50	Potomac Eye Opener		
300	Back to Basics (CB)	190	Potomac Oaks		
300	Bethesda Youth	100	Potomac Speakers		
481	Burtonsville Big Book	400	Potomac Women		
160	Capitol Heights Group	628	Progress Not Perfection		
185	Capitol Hill Remainers	150	Prospect Group		
70	Chinatown Men	154	Quince Orchard		
25	Clinton Day	2141	Radicals		
95	Coffee & Donuts	50	Read & Speak		
1886	Cosmopolitan	50	Rockville Metro Club		
109	Darn Good Big Book	94	Sat. Afternoon UP		
474	Darnestown Men	96	Sat. Morn. Fire Barrel		
50	DCC Friday Women	180	Sat. Night Happy Hour		
88	Deanwood Step	287	Serenity Speakers		
100	Deanwood Women Rap	404	Serious Business		
3000	Downtown Noon	700	Silver Spring Group		
130	Dupont Circle Club	608	Six & Seventh Step		
700	Epiphanies	157	Sober Sat. Matinee		
800	Fireside Spirituality	275	Southern Sobriety		
700	Foggy Bottom	1000	Spiritual Awakening		
100	Gaithersburg Beginners	600	St. Francis Group		
244	Grapevine Women	276	St. Mary's Gay		
82	Grupo Virtual Wash.	130	Sunday in the Park		
74	High Sobriety	25	Sun. Morn. Reflections		
82	Informed Group	900	Sunrise Zoom		
3212	Into Action	519	Sunshine Group G'burg		
198	Kid Friendly Big Book	217	Takoma Park Necessity		
25	Leisure World Noon	230	Tenley Circle Men		
42	Lit Hoppers	10	There Is A Solution		
100	Lit Womxn	240	Twelve Point Bucks		
211	Men's Adhoc Group	161	Uptown		
300	Messengers	330	Village Idiots		
3098	Midtown	75	Virtually Sober		
52	Mideast	173	We Are All Beginners		
1150	Monday Men's	240	We Care		
50	Neareast Group	720	Westmoreland Women		
77	New Hope 123	276	Westside Club		
300	New Unity Gay	180	West Side Men		
69	No Hard Terms				
238	Oasis Women's BB				
100	Old Fashion				

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**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](mailto:newreporter@aa-dc.org)**



Day

Years

May 25

Simon

Progress not Perfection

45 years

## THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

Veronica Munson, April 1, 2023, Serenity House, 35 Years Sober

Jerry Hoskins, April 4, 2023, Potomac Village, 35 Years Sober

Lee Drott, April 17, 2023, Lewes, DE, 48 Years Sober  
(Lee was WAIA's Office Administrator from 1984—2007)

The **NEW REPORTER** is a monthly publication of the WAIA 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.

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

# MAY 2023