

HAPPY  
*Holidays!*



**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.**

## WAIA December 2023 Announcements

### Calls for Service

**Office and HelpChat Volunteers Needed!** Available In Person Shifts Saturday 1-4 PM, Tuesday 1-4 PM, Thursday 1-4 PM, Thursday 7-10PM (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).

1. **Gala Chair.** We are looking for someone with a passion for events to lead a team in arranging for the 2024 WAIA Gala. Please email [gala@aa-dc.org](mailto:gala@aa-dc.org) if you are interested in chairing or joining the committee.

2. **Assist with Outreach:** The WAIA outreach committee has started to reach out to those groups without a designated Board Member (Rep). We have many meetings that could benefit from a spanish speaking visitor as well. If you would be interested in either serving on the committee or in reaching out to a local group to explain why having a rep matters, please contact [outreach@aa-dc.org](mailto:outreach@aa-dc.org).

**WAIA Board Election** scheduled for Tuesday December 12. Please submit your name for the ballot by the December 1, to the Elections Chair, Jackie M, or to volunteer to help on the elections committee, email [Jackie.m@aa-dc.org](mailto:Jackie.m@aa-dc.org). You must be a current WAIA representative for your group to be eligible for the Chair, Vice Chair and At-Large positions. If you miss the December 1 deadline, nominations can still be made from the floor on the night of the meeting.

## Terence Gorski on the 12<sup>th</sup> Step

*From Understanding the Twelve Steps, by Terence T. Gorski, 1989*

Remember that A.A. is a selfish program. Members help others because it helps them. They are there to help themselves first. Why? Because if they don't help themselves first, they can't help anyone else. It ties back to into that first Tradition: "Our common welfare should come first." It's another of the many paradoxes of the program. If A.A. is not there to help them, sober people can't survive. But if they don't help themselves first, A.A. can't survive either.

Before you can effectively work the Twelfth Step and help others, you have to have that spiritual awakening. You have to recognize that a spiritual awakening has occurred and that it didn't happen by magic.

Here again, my rational side comes out. If spirituality is real, it is governed by laws and principles. If you learn what to do and activate those laws and principles, it will happen to you. The modeling process ensures that continuation of the program. Your sponsor models positive behavior for you, in turn, model for others.

**You recognize that a spiritual awakening has occurred as a result of practicing the previous eleven Steps. You carry the message of hope and recovery to other suffering alcoholics.**

**You provide service to others with no expectation of personal reward or compensation.**

**You participate in the ongoing recover process with other alcoholics by attending A.A. meetings and sharing your experience, strength and hope.**

**You practice Twelve Step principles in all your affairs by bringing the spirit of love and tolerance into all aspects of your life.**

**You continue to grow spiritually while recognizing that you can make progress but never achieve perfection.**

When you are ready to die, the ultimate question is, "Is the world a better place because you were here?" Will your death be a tribute to the belief that there's nothing but chaos and disorder in the world or a tribute to the fact that there is a meaning and purpose for us?

We all are going to die, and, to a large extent, we can choose our deaths by making careful decisions about how we live. People who live courageously die courageously. People who live violent lives tend to die violent deaths. People who surround themselves with others who love them in life tend to die surrounded by people who love them.

The Twelve Steps are designed to open you up to life, to teach you how to live effectively, and ultimately to give you a spiritual awakening so you can carry the message to alcoholics and practice these principles in all of your affairs.

## Bill W. Turns Down Honorary Degree over 12th Tradition

*Editor's Note: In 1953/54, Yale was considering an Honorary Doctorate of Laws to Bill W., A.A.'s co-founder. Bill's response is provided below, from Language of the Heart, pp. 207-208:*

Dear Mr. Holden,

This is to express my deepest thanks to the members of the Yale Corporation for considering me as one suitable for the degree of Doctor of Laws.

It is only after most careful consultation with friends, and with my conscience, that I now feel obligated to decline such a mark of distinction.

Were I to accept, the near-term benefit to Alcoholics Anonymous and to legions who still suffer our malady would, no doubt, be worldwide and considerable. I am sure that such a potent endorsement would greatly hasten public approval of A.A. everywhere. Therefore, none but the most compelling of reasons could prompt my decision to deny Alcoholics Anonymous an opportunity of this dimension.

Now this is the reason: The Tradition of Alcoholics Anonymous – our only means of self-government – entreats each member to avoid all that particular kind of personal publicity or distinction which might link his name with our Society in the general public mind. A.A.'s Tradition Twelve reads as follows: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

Because we have already had much practical experience with this vital principle, it is today the view of every thoughtful A.A. member that if, over the years ahead, we practice this anonymity *absolutely*, it will guarantee our effectiveness and unity by heavily restraining those to whom public honors and distinctions are but the natural stepping stones to dominance and personal power.

Like other men and women, we A.A.'s look with deep apprehension upon the vast power struggle about us, a struggle in myriad forms that invades every level, tearing society apart. I think we A.A.'s are fortunate to be acutely aware that such forces must never be ruling among us, lest we perish together.

The Tradition of personal anonymity and no honors is our protective shield. We dare not meet the power temptation naked.

Of course, we quite understand the high value of honors outside our Fellowship. We always find inspiration when these are deservedly bestowed and humbly received as the hallmarks of distinguished attainment or service. We say only that in our special circumstances it would be imprudent for us to accept them for A.A. achievement.

True, the splendid citation you propose, which describes me as 'W.W.', does protect my anonymity for the time being. Nevertheless, it would surely appear on the later historical record that I had taken an L.L.D. The public would then know the fact. So, while I might accept the degree within the letter of A.A.'s Tradition as of today, I would surely be setting the stage for a violation of its spirit tomorrow. This would be, I am certain, a perilous precedent to set.

Though it might be a novel departure, I'm wondering if the Yale Corporation could consider giving A.A. itself the entire citation, omitting the degree to me. In such an event, I will gladly appear at any time to receive it on behalf of our Society. Should a discussion of this possibility seem desirable to you, I'll come to New Haven at once.

Gratefully yours,  
William G. W----

February 8, 1954



## From the Grapevine: “Words Matter”

*This past year, at the annual Remote Communities meeting that meets before each General Service Conference, Jane E., delegate for Area 49 (Southeastern New York) spoke. She encouraged the Fellowship to include A.A.’s transgender community as a remote community. Here are some things she had to say:*

The Third Tradition comes to mind when thinking about the transgender alcoholic, who is becoming more visible in our area’s A.A. community. I’d like to share some thoughts and experience.

According to a recent study, nearly 1.5 million American adults identify as transgender. New York State might be expected to have an especially high percentage of transgender people relative to its population, but that’s not the case. We rank 29<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states. As with many marginalized communities, transgender people have a high rate of alcohol abuse. Research suggests that it could be 2.5 times higher than for the general population.

When meeting a transgender alcoholic, the vocabulary may be unfamiliar to many A.A.’s. *Transgender* is an “umbrella” term for people whose gender identity differs from the sex that they were assigned at birth. They may also describe themselves as *trans*, *non-binary* or *gender-nonconforming*. Some A.A.’s find themselves feeling un-certain, anxious even, about which transgender names and pronouns to use. Here are some suggestions: Use the member’s chosen name. If you knew them by one name. but now they go by another, they prefer if their chosen name is respected.

When a member identifies as a certain gender, use the pronouns appropriate for that gender. If you’re not certain which pronoun to use, ask: “What pronouns do you use?” If there is need to use a pronoun, and it’s not possible to ask a member which pronoun they prefer, consider using they/them in place of her/him or she/her. Some transgender alcoholics met with resistance when they come into the rooms of A.A. seeking our help. Here we can practice Traditions Three and Five.

A transgender member’s gender history is personal and it’s up to them to share it with others. Be patient with a member who is questioning their gender identity.

Some also encounter resistance to allowing them to participate fully in our program, including taking service commitments in groups or general service, and being welcome at fellowship activities. The principle embodied in Concept IV is especially helpful here.

In Area 49, transgender A.A.’s are being elected GSR. At our 2019 Delegate’s Day of Sharing, two transgender GSRs felt welcome enough to pose questions ‘at the mic.’ At the recent Area 49 convention, a transgender woman served as Volunteer Coordinator and read the Preamble at the opening meeting. The planning committee had also worked with the hotel to designate a gender-neutral restroom.

The transgender alcoholic may feel more anxious than most about acceptance in the rooms of A.A. Providing reassurance seems especially important. Fortunately, we A.A.s already know how to do that:

“Welcome to A.A.”

“Is this your first meeting?”

“What’s your name?”

“Can I introduce you to a few people?”

“Can I help you find a seat?”

Jane E.  
Kings Park, NY

## ***“The Spiritual Awakening of Selflessness...”***

(reprinted from the P.O.S.T., the northern central Florida Intergroup)

It was on the wall: “Trust God, Clean House, Help Others.” Those three simple ideas are absolutely counter-intuitive to most of us when we get here. I was always plagued by the *why* questions. Why do we have to trust God (*we need faith to be effective*), why do we need to clean house (*we need quiet minds to efficiently let God into our lives*), and why do we help others (*to get an open heart and to let God flow through us*). The chapter “Into Action” fires off 7 steps in 16 pages and stops abruptly after step 11, only to leave “Working with Others” as the crowning glory of the steps; a whole chapter devoted to the selfless pursuit of service. How could this be so important?

New in recover, I was very confused about all of the steps, especially that last one. The 12<sup>th</sup> step looked like a top shelf extra credit step for over-achievers. Over time I realized that the altruistic attitude of service is the result of that psychic change that Carl Jung talked about. What is needed for each step, if you think about it, is willingness and humility and, for me, that was especially true when helping others. I need to be willing to put other’s needs before mine (compassion), and I need to be humble enough to put myself in their shoes (empathy). Step 12 states “having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps.” This suggests that, by this time, I have had that psychic change sufficient to “relieve me of the bondage of self.”

The 12 & 12 says of step 12: “here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives so that we and those about us may

find emotional sobriety.” When I first read that line I believed that this emotional stability and maturity was not even vaguely possible in my life. The old timers assured me that not only was it possible, but also a matter of life and death. I cannot tell you how many times I’ve been quoted page 20 from the Big Book: “Our very lives, as ex-problem drinkers, depend upon the constant thought of others and how we may help meet their needs.”

Another way that it has been put to me is the notion that “to whom much is given, much shall be required.” I was told early on that if I was enjoying being sober that maybe I could show that gratitude in my actions towards service to others. Fortunately, we have ample guidance on how to get busy in service. It was strongly suggested that my service can begin by becoming active in my home group, by sponsoring other men, joining various committees, bringing meetings to underserved areas (i.e. detox), etc. The social attachment and bonding that results from unselfish concern for others is, in my opinion, that special spark that God has given us to spread His love.

For me, there is a special feeling of redemption when I can be a useful member of society, especially helping another alcoholic! After all, Dr. Bob’s parting comment to Bill was that it’s all about love and service, and they both knew that our sobriety and, therefore, our survival, depends on it. As Sandy B always said “the highest pay grade in sobriety is to become a humble servant.” I cannot be grateful enough that people were there for me when I got here; thank God for their service! Perhaps I can pay it forward.

**Delma Elaine Gaisey** served Panel 59 as Delegate to the General Service Conference in 2009 and 2010, for Area 13, which is made up of the District of Columbia, Maryland's two most populous counties, and three linguistic districts, which include Spanish-speaking groups in the DC, Maryland, and Virginia. She served on the Corrections Committee and also was Alternate Chairperson for the International Conventions/A.A. Regional Forums Committee.

In an email she sent to our former Northeast Regional Trustees, Elaine wrote: "There are two things that I never get tired of talking about: the amazing and wonderful Grace of God and the changes that have happened in my life because of the 36 Principles of RECOVERY, UNITY, AND SERVICE!"

In 2007 or 2008, Elaine called me because she had a lot of literature that had been passed on to her and that she wanted to share. She brought two boxes of literature and said, "Please share these books with the ladies in the Transitional Living Program." For several of the women, it was the first time they owned their own 12 and 12 and Big Book, and they expressed their gratitude to Elaine when she came back to visit them at Samaritan Inns.

One of the things I remember about Elaine is she ended her emails by saying: "*We are continuously presented with opportunities for growth that are disguised as insurmountable problems.*" She said: "*I try to pass on the program as it was so lovingly passed on to me!*"

This year when I was leaving the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Service Conference, I ran into our interim Chair. He said: "Please make sure to tell Elaine I said hello. We served together on Panel 59, and we had a ball!" That's one thing I will remember about Elaine: she believed in having fun. There was no way you could forget how she used to laugh, and she had a way of making others laugh too!

It took a while for me to really understand and appreciate Elaine. She didn't have a problem sharing exactly how she felt about things, but I learned a lot from her. I remember when I responded to an email that she sent me, and I asked her how Jasmine was doing. She said: "Jasmine is still here and I haven't put her out yet; so it's working well. Thanks for asking about her because she definitely runs the house!" When Horatia called me to tell me that Elaine passed away, I asked how she was doing and I also asked how "her daughter Jasmine" was doing because she often put "Love from Elaine and Jasmine" at the end of her cards and emails. Horatia laughed for a while and said "Lynette, Jasmine is her cat." Horatia and I got a good laugh at that!

Elaine loved reading and sharing about our history. She passed on things that she learned from her predecessors and often shared what she was taught by John S. and Sandy C. In 2010, she was asked to share on the topic: "Communication: The Key to an Informed Decision." She wrote: "When first given the invitation from our Conference Coordinator to write on this topic, my initial reaction was, 'It's such a long topic, where do I begin?'" She wrote: "Today, the tools of technology have expanded our capacity to communicate with each other instantly. Have you ever received a reply to an email that included 92 other people? Have you ever pushed the send button and later regretted it? Have you ever been in a meeting and were busy thinking of what you were going to share once the speaker was finished? Communication is a two-way street that also involves listening. I need to listen before I reply so that I will make an informed decision on the information being presented. This has not always been the case, as I have had to make amends for nonrestraint of tongue and pen. Before a decision of mine is 'informed,' I need to listen."

I think we can all learn something from the words of Elaine. Our lives, our city, our Fellowship, and the world as a whole is blessed because of the life, the words, and the legacy of Delma Elaine Gaisey.

**(Respectfully submitted – Lynette D., Delegate Panel 73, Area 13)**

Please direct all  
communications to:  
P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
Fax: (212) 870-3003

November 17, 2023

To: GSB Trustees, AAWS Board, AA Grapevine Board, Trustees Emeriti, Appointed Committee Members, Current Delegates, Past Delegates, Past Trustees, All Conference Members, IGCs: U.S. and Canada, International GSOs, GSRs, DCMs, Area Officers, Area Registrars, GSO/AA Grapevine Employees

Dear A.A. Friends:

As a Fellowship, we celebrate and recognize November as Gratitude Month. This is a time when we A.A.s reflect on the many gifts and blessings sobriety has given us. The program of Alcoholics Anonymous encompasses many facets: our home groups, sponsorship, the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Fellowship among each other, service on many levels, and many more. As the General Manager of the General Service Office (GSO), I'm grateful to see firsthand the many services GSO provides that support the spiritual purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous – carrying the message of sobriety to the alcoholic who still suffers. These services assist the many facets of the A.A. program.

With the spirit of Gratitude Month in mind, I write today to share with you the difficult news related to the current financial health of Alcoholics Anonymous and the potential continued challenges ahead as we strive to fulfill our spiritual purpose. I hope this letter will be met with understanding, and that the honesty and sincerity in my heart are apparent throughout. The last four years have been very challenging for A.A. in many respects. This began with the worldwide shutdown in early 2020 due to the pandemic, which immediately forced nearly all A.A. groups to close their physical doors and either stop meeting altogether or find other means of gathering. This was followed by a slow return of groups meeting in person, an economy filled with uncertainty, and a workplace that changed in many ways. During this time, GSO and our Boards, like other organizations and businesses, were forced to change dramatically. We quickly transitioned to working 100% virtual to continue serving the Fellowship.

The office, along with the A.A. World Services (AAWS) and General Service Boards (GSB), have worked hard to manage our finances through these last four years with the hope that many of the challenges we faced would subside and return to pre-pandemic conditions. It is apparent now that the financial challenges we face cannot continue to be met with the deferral of essential projects and office development that are necessary to carry out Advisory Actions of the General Service Conference and support the vital services GSO provides.

Our tradition of self-support has always been vital to the health and future of the Fellowship and been our main source of income. However, there has always been a need for additional support from the sale of our literature. When the pandemic hit in early 2020, the initial impact on our revenue was significant, with a steep decrease in contributions. Income from sales of A.A. literature was also significantly reduced as sales came to an almost complete halt. The Fellowship responded with tremendous generosity, resulting in contributions reaching record levels. That continued in 2021, and contributions in 2022 nearly matched the 2021 level. This year to date, we are on pace to reach similar levels to the last three years. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and heartwarming.

Unfortunately, literature profits have not rebounded back to pre-pandemic levels. In addition to the slow return of sales, inflation has resulted in substantial increases in the cost to produce and distribute literature. Conscious of the challenges facing groups and members, the AAWS board held literature prices steady for as long as possible until earlier this year, when it became apparent the costs to produce and distribute were not going to return to pre-pandemic levels. Despite increased contributions after the pandemic, the loss in literature revenue has left our total revenue short by approximately \$1,000,000 compared with pre-pandemic times.



Please direct all  
communications to:  
P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
Fax: (212) 870-3003

The pandemic has also had a significant impact on virtually all our expenses. Of note are increased costs related to meetings, events, and travel, which are a key necessity to support the Regional Forums, board meetings, and the General Service Conference. However, we have managed to reduce total operating expenses to an average of \$15,768,000 compared with pre-pandemic levels of \$16,258,000. Reducing total expenses below pre-pandemic levels truly illustrates the diligence the office and the boards applied to the budget and operations to offset losses.

Because of the significant decline in literature sales and revenue and the large cash outlay needed to continue printing and distributing our literature, we have also experienced a very tight cash position. Our reforecast budget for this year estimates a loss of \$997,000, after depreciation and the GSB support of *La Viña*.

The office and all three boards have worked diligently to address these financial challenges. A systematic and dedicated approach to budgeting has been developed over recent years and allows for the most informed group conscience possible. Throughout, budget managers and the AAWS Board work together to find the most effective ways to prioritize and execute services, maximizing the use of each A.A. dollar. In addition to the annual budget process, a reforecast is done mid-year to adapt to the direction brought forth by the April General Service Conference and other factors impacting original estimates.

As difficult as this letter is to write, I'm hopeful and optimistic for A.A.'s future. Together we can overcome the challenges we're facing. We need your help to continue to adjust to and plan for the reality of current economic conditions and changes in our Fellowship. As members we often say that when A.A. needs money, the Fellowship will respond. This is one of those times. Your generosity has sustained us through very difficult times in the past. If your group is able, in the spirit of Gratitude Month, please consider a special contribution to the General Service Board. You can make a contribution through [aa.org](http://aa.org) by clicking [here](#) or by mail.

Make your check payable to the General Service Board to:

General Service Office  
P.O. Box 2407  
James A. Farley Station  
New York, NY 10116-2407

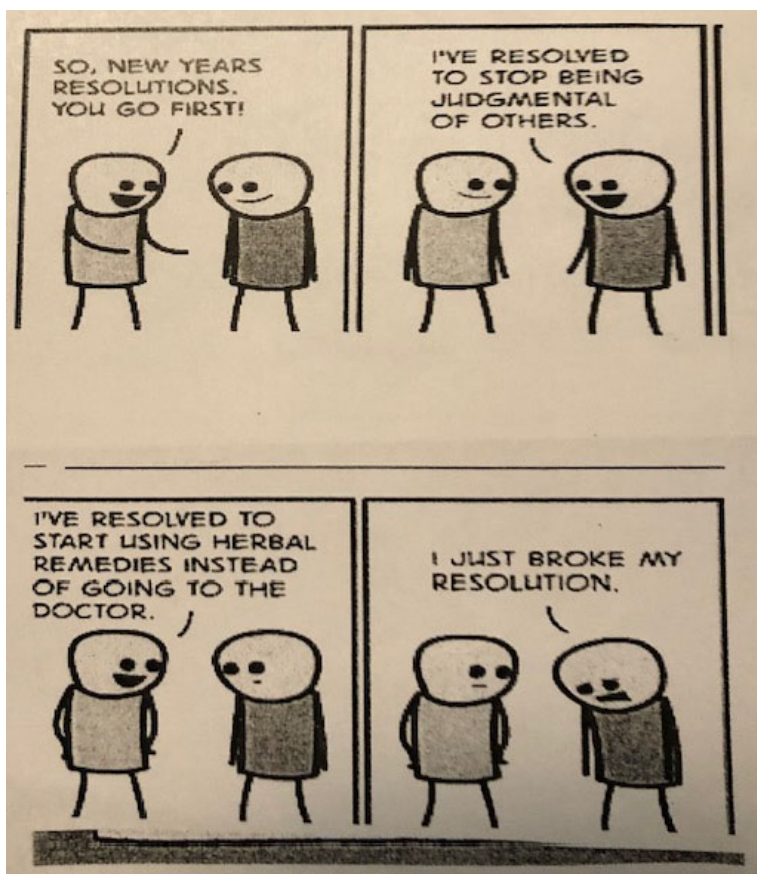
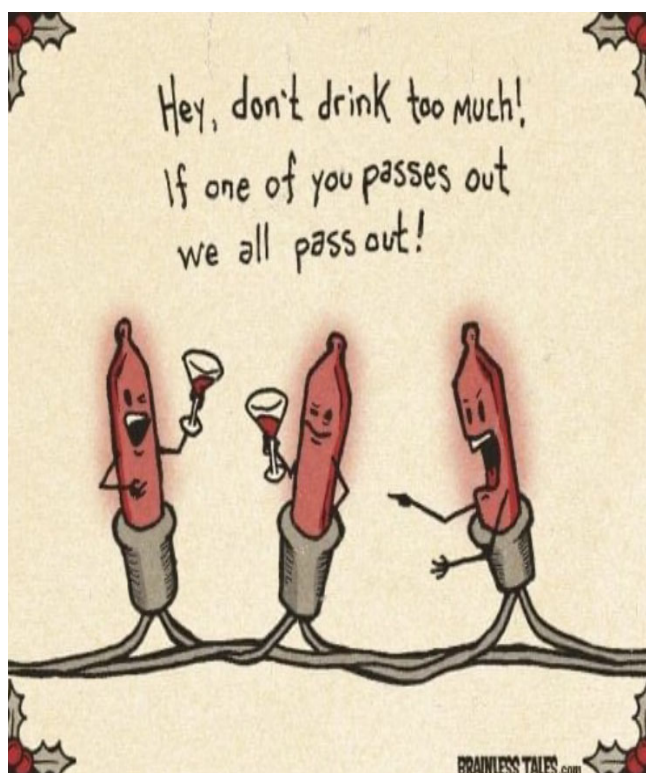
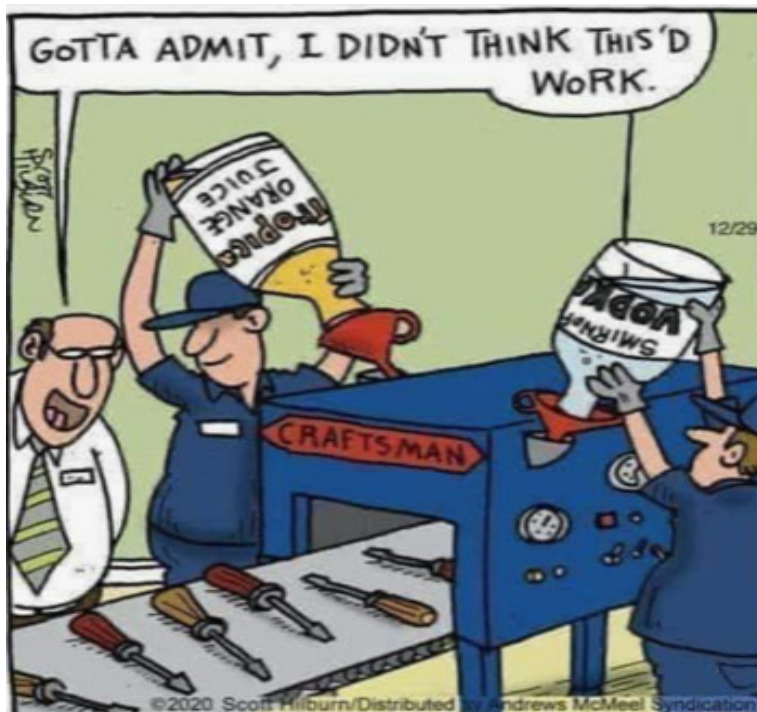
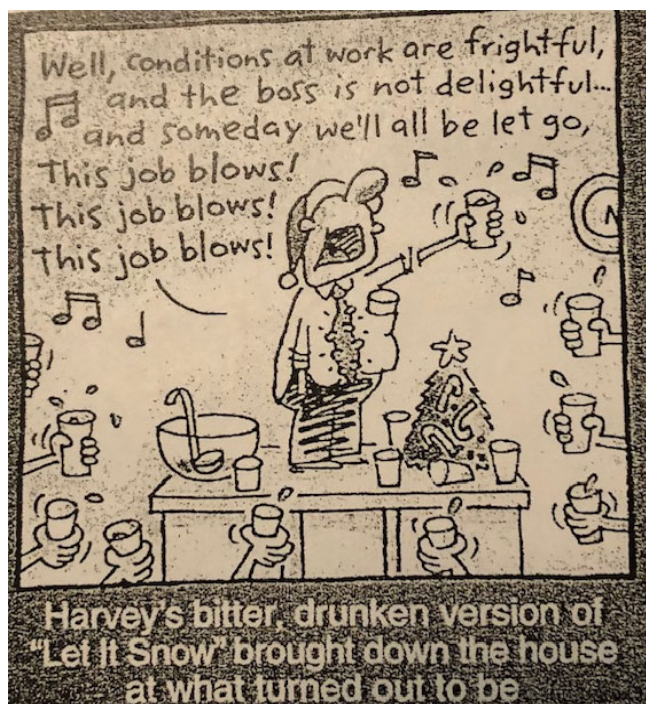
Moving forward, more frequent, and incremental contributions would be much appreciated as the office incurs many of its expenses during certain parts of the year. In particular, many of our more significant expenses are incurred from January to May, due to planning, preparation, and operation of the General Service Conference each April.

[Attached to this letter](#) you will find a summary of the operations of GSO and details of many of the vital services GSO provides. I hope this information gives you a greater understanding of the vital work and services your contributions help to support. Thank you so much for everything each of you do for Alcoholics Anonymous.

With gratitude for all the sacrifices you make for A.A.,

Bob W.  
General Manager, GSO





# Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous



Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober — an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



**1** *Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.*



**2** *Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.*



**3** *Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes — postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.*



**4** *Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.*



**5** *Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.*



**6** *If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.*



**7** *Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.*



**8** *Worship in your own way.*



**9** *Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.*



**10** *Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember — "one day at a time."*



**11** *Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts — but this year, you can give love.*



**12** *"Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.*





# **Laurel Recovery**

*1st Annual*

**Holiday Dinner & Dance**  
**Saturday December 16, 2023**

**7PM - 11PM**

**8521 Corridor Rd.**  
**Savage, MD 20763**



**Speaker**

**50/50 Raffle**

**Countdown**

**Selfie Booth**

**Tickets \$20**





*Join us at the Del Ray Club for a*

# **HOLIDAY SINGALONG!**

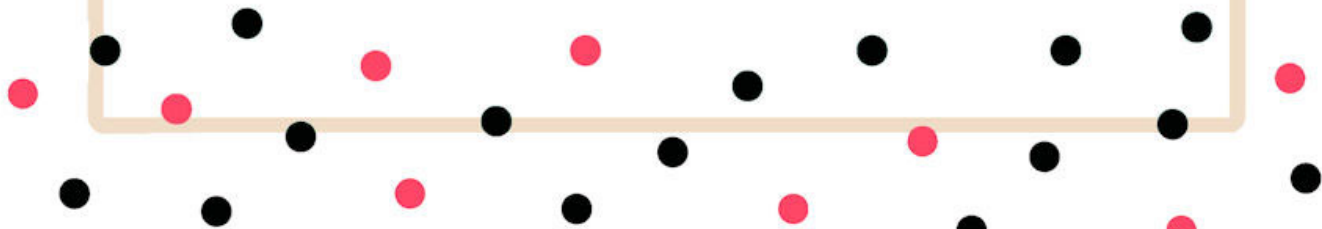
songbooks | fellowship | delicious food

**Saturday, December 16 at 7 pm**

**BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE**

GET IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT!

Del Ray Club  
7611 Clarendon Road  
Bethesda MD 20814  
[delrayclub.org](http://delrayclub.org)







PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

# *Holiday* DINNER

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24TH  
12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

*The Westside Club*

1341 WISCONSIN AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON,  
DC

HOSTED BY THE WESTSIDE CLUB AND DISTRICTS 1 &  
2

*Just top by for dinner and fellowship*

RSVP'S (HELPFUL BUT NOT NEEDED) TO  
ATTITUDEACTIONGROUP@GMAIL.COM BY 12/16



# 2024

# 60th International Women's Conference

**ONLINE!**

INTERNATIONALWOMENSCONFERENCE.ORG



**February 8-11, 2024**  
Live from Portland, Maine

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS** broadcast to you from Portland, Maine  
**ENTERTAINMENT** and fellowship Friday and Saturday nights  
**HYBRID PANELS:** Attend select panels as they happen live  
**EXCLUSIVE** online panels & workshops for attendees  
**OPPORTUNITIES** to be of service to other sober women

**\$15**  
Registration

Questions? [IWCPORTLAND24@GMAIL.COM](mailto:IWCPORTLAND24@GMAIL.COM)

“Into Action”

**PLEASE REGISTER  
EARLY**



**THE WYNDHAM HOTEL**  
5700 ATLANTIC AVENUE  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23451

**FEBRUARY 16, 17, & 18, 2024**

**EARLY BIRD MEETING**

For those who wish to arrive early, there will be an Early Bird meeting at the hotel,  
Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Mariner Room.

**All scheduled conference speaker meetings will be held in the Atlantic Ballroom.**

<b>FRIDAY</b>	8:30 p.m. .... Nicholas G Deming, NM..... AA Meeting
<b>SATURDAY</b>	9:30 a.m. .... Azell M. Atlanta, GA ..... AA Meeting
	11:00 a.m. .... Catherine K. Dallas-FW, TX..... Al-Anon Meeting
	1:00 p.m. .... Larry W. Baltimore, MD ..... AA Workshop (Into Action Workshop)
	3:00 p.m. .... Red Ball Meeting
	3:00 p.m. .... Al-Anon Meeting
	8:00 p.m. .... Polly P. Jacksonville, FL ..... AA Meeting

*Saturday Dance Following Speaker*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:00 a.m. .... Larry W. Baltimore, MD ..... AA Meeting
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*Smoking / Vaping In Designated Areas Only*

**REGISTRATION OPENS 2:00 P.M. FRIDAY**

**\* Use Registration Form on Back**

Please send check for  
Oceanfront Conference fee of \$30 to:  
REGISTRAR  
P.O. Box 66173  
Virginia Beach, VA 23466  
[www.oceanfrontconference.org](http://www.oceanfrontconference.org)

**\*Registration at the Conference**

**Cash or Check Only, No Electronic Payment Available**

Please send Hotel deposit of \$83 plus taxes to:  
THE WYNDHAM HOTEL  
5700 Atlantic Ave.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451  
Call 757-428-7025  
Hotel Room Rate Cut-off January 16, 2024

# NERAASA 2024

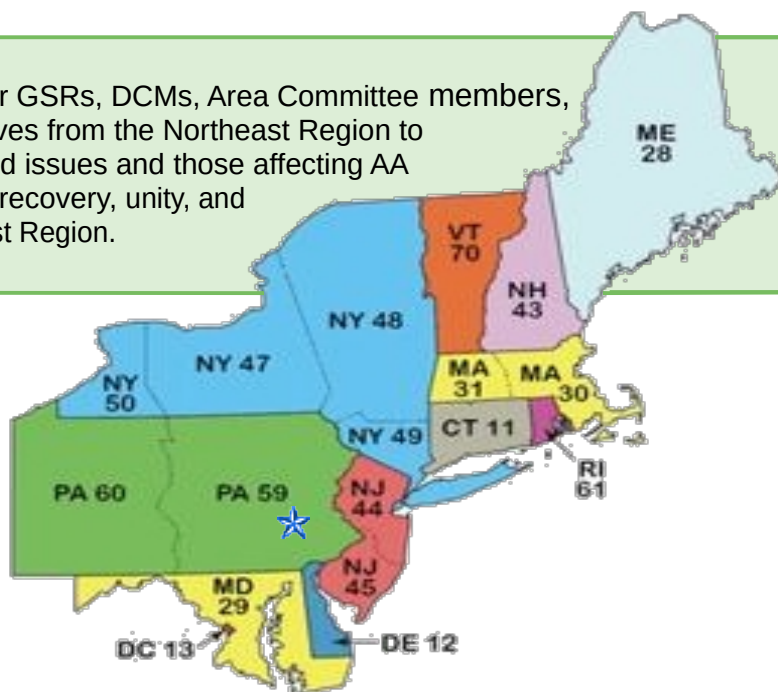
## NorthEast Regional A.A. Service Assembly

**PURPOSE** The purpose of NERAASA is for GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee members, and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives from the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference-related issues and those affecting AA as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity, and service common to the Areas of the Northeast Region.

February  
22–25, 2024

Hershey Lodge  
325 University Dr.  
Hershey, PA 17033

*Deadline for registration by mail:  
February 14, 2024*



**ROUNDTABLES:** Area Chairpersons • Archives • Accessibilities • Corrections • Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) • Delegates / Alternates • DCMs / DCMCs / Alternate DCMs • Grapevine / La Viña • GSRs / Alternate GSRs • Intergroups / Central Offices • Literature • Newsletters • Public Information (PI) • Registrars • Secretaries • Technology • Treasurers • Treatment & Bridging the Gap (BTG) • Young People in A.A. (YPAA)

Hotel Rooms: \$175 + 11% tax = \$194.25 per room per night. Room block cut-off date is Feb 1, 2024; rates may be higher after that date. Credit cards are charged one night's advance deposit, including tax, at the time of booking.

Rooms may be reserved by calling Hershey Lodge at (717) 533-3311, 7 days a week, 8AM–8PM (Eastern) only. Ask for the room block for NERAASA 2024 at Hershey Lodge, from Thursday, Feb 22 to Sunday, Feb 25, 2024.

For complete information browse to [www.neraasa.org/register](http://www.neraasa.org/register)



**Questions?** [info@neraasa.org](mailto:info@neraasa.org) | **Information:** [neraasa.org](http://neraasa.org)



# NERAASA 2024 REGISTRATION FORM

Please print clearly using one form for each person registering

Name	_____
Name on badge	_____
Street address	_____
City, State ZIP	_____
Email address	_____
Phone number	_____ Area # _____

<b>Please check ✓ all that apply</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to be a panel moderator or timer.
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to participate in a panel discussion.
<input type="checkbox"/> I have attended NERAASA before.
<input type="checkbox"/> I have been a NERAASA presenter before.
<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in a volunteer opportunity.

<b>Service position</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> GSR / Alternate GSR <input type="checkbox"/> Area Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> DCM / Alternate DCM <input type="checkbox"/> Area Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> DCMC / Alternate DCMC <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate / Alternate
<input type="checkbox"/> District Committee      Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Central Office / Intergroup _____

<b>Accessibility information</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> I have accessibility needs (please specify): _____
Translation requested: <input type="checkbox"/> ASL <input type="checkbox"/> French
<input type="checkbox"/> Russian <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

<b>Event registration and meals</b>		
NERAASA registration	\$35.00	\$35.00
* Fri dinner (Grilled chicken breast, potatoes, mixed salad, dessert)	40.00	_____
* Sat breakfast (Buffet)	24.00	_____
* Sat lunch (Deli Buffet, Soup)	38.00	_____
* Sat banquet (Soup, Salad, Beef Ribeye, Shrimp, Ravioli)	73.00	_____
* Sun breakfast (Buffet)	24.00	_____
All prices include 20% gratuity.		<b>Total enclosed:</b> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> * I have special dietary needs (please specify): _____		
_____		
Please note: Meal prices are fixed regardless of dietary needs		

<b>Roundtables</b>
Which roundtable do you hope to attend?
_____

<b>How would you like to receive your NERAASA documents?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Only (email or QR code)
<input type="checkbox"/> Printed

<b>Past Delegates</b>
Area # _____
Panel # _____
Conference committee(s) _____
Are you willing to moderate a roundtable?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>Payment</b>	
<b>Make checks payable to:</b>	<b>Mail to:</b>
EPGSA	EPGSA Treasurer
	148 E Street Road, #323
	Feasterville-Trevoose, PA
	19053
Note that mailed forms must be postmarked by Feb 14, 2024.	
After that, please register online.	

**Refund policy:** Meal refunds must be requested by Feb 19, 2024. Registration fee refund must be requested before Feb 23, 2024. Full refund from hotel of deposits on room reservations up until 72 hours prior.

### Area 13 WAGSA Special Assembly—HYBRID

**Monday, December 11, 2023**

**6:00 PM New GSR Orientation**

**7:00 Special Assembly**

**Silver Spring United Methodist Church**

8900 Georgia Ave

Silver Spring MD 20910

**Join Zoom Meeting**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83565638123?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83565638123?pwd=SS9uZVVjdkRwSFhnMXRJQWhOeDVQUT09)

[pwd=SS9uZVVjdkRwSFhnMXRJQWhOeDVQUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83565638123?pwd=SS9uZVVjdkRwSFhnMXRJQWhOeDVQUT09)

Meeting ID: 835 6563 8123

Passcode: 6970mc

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

### Rockville Metro Club Game Night

**Every Saturday**

**8:30 PM—9:30 PM—Meeting**

**9:45 PM-10:30 PM—Game Night**

**11:00 PM –12:00 AM—Meeting**

(bonfire weather permitting or  
Vandlelight)

**12319 Washington Ave**

**Rockville MD 20852**

## WAIA

### Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

**December 12, 2023—7:00 PM** (2nd Tuesday of the  
month except August)

**Executive Committee Elections tonight**

**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

### CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Events are updated  
regularly!

If you would like to  
submit an event, send an



- |                                 |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 120 14 Promises                 | 500 Friendship Group            | 2770 Olney Farm Group           |
| 2276 9:30 Club Online           | 286 Gaithersburg Beginners      | 483 Olney Stag Rap              |
| 110 All Are Welcome             | 452 Gateway Wedn.               | 240 Olney Women                 |
| 232 Anacostia Group             | 360 Gay Group                   | 31 One Day at a Time. R'ville   |
| 649 Andrew's Armed Forces       | 153 Glen Echo Group             | 19 On Awakening                 |
| 311 Any Lengths                 | 400 Goldsboro Group             | 310 Open Arms                   |
| 247 As Bill Sees It NW          | 632 Grupo Virtual Wash.         | 84 Out to Lunch                 |
| 850 Aspen Hill 5th Chapter      | 202 Happy Joyous & Free         | 726 P Street                    |
| 84 Aspen Hill Phoenix Fri       | 180 High on the Hill            | 180 Petworth Group              |
| 600 Back to Basics (CB)         | 135 High Sobriety               | 185 Pillars in the Park         |
| 232 Beginners are Winners       | 200 How It Works                | 50 Potomac Eye Opener           |
| 90 Beginners are Winners Online | 267 Hyattsville Hope Live       | 360 Potomac High Noon           |
| 600 Bethesda Youth              | 294 Informed Group              | 190 Potomac Oaks                |
| 250 Birds of a Feather          | 800 International AA Men's Conf | 100 Potomac Speakers            |
| 1422 Brightwood                 | 3372 Into Action                | 400 Potomac Women               |
| 600 Broad Highway               | 21 Just Before Noon             | 628 Progress Not Perfection     |
| 1380 Burtonsville Big Book      | 810 Kensington Young Steps      | 150 Prospect Group              |
| 1575 B.Y.O.L (103154)           | 198 Kid Friendly Big Book       | 227 Quince Orchard              |
| 260 Capitol Heights Group       | 17 Landover Discussion          | 2141 Radicals                   |
| 1694 Capitol Hill Group         | 37 Language of the Heart        | 50 Read & Speak                 |
| 185 Capitol Hill Reminders      | 250 Lawyers                     | 195 Renegade Travelers          |
| 180 Chinatown Big Book          | 175 Leisure World Noon          | 300 Riderwood bills             |
| 70 Chinatown Men                | 62 Lifesaver Big book           | 131 Rockville Metro Club        |
| 10 Cigar Smokers                | 42 Lit Hoppers                  | 94 Sat. Afternoon UP            |
| 100 Clinton Day                 | 182 Lit Womxn                   | 96 Sat. Morn. Fire Barrel       |
| 50 Clinton Sun Nite             | 30 Living Spiritual Principles  | 240 Sat. Morning Steps          |
| 255 Coffee & Donuts             | 50 Mayday                       | 360 Sat. Night Happy Hour       |
| 180 College Park Group          | 350 Men's Adhoc Group           | 30 Serenity                     |
| 3744 Cosmopolitan               | 900 Messengers                  | 125 Serenity House              |
| 246 Crossroads/Damascus         | 3098 Midtown                    | 637 Serenity Speakers           |
| 75 Daily Reflections, NW        | 172 Mideast                     | 694 Serious Business            |
| 25 Daily Reflections Bowie      | 1150 Monday Men's               | 120 Shepherders                 |
| 50 Daily Reflections UP         | 655 More Peace of Mind          | 133 Sil Spring Beginners BB     |
| 112 Darn Good Big Book          | 600 Moving Into Solution        | 1600 Silver Spring Group        |
| 1583 Darnestown Men             | 2 Navy Yard BB                  | 960 Simplicity                  |
| 1437 DCC 930 Club               | 150 Neareast Group              | 1266 Six & Seventh Step         |
| 50 DCC Friday Women             | 46 Never Give Up                | 321 Six & Seventh Step Online   |
| 62 Del Ray Club                 | 135 Never Walk Alone            | 157 Sober Sat. Matinee          |
| 88 Deanwood Step                | 174 New Beginners SW            | 220 Sober Squares               |
| 150 Deanwood Women Rap          | 352 New Beginnings NW           | 180 Sobriety Sisters            |
| 3000 Downtown Noon              | 232 New Hope 123                | 517 Southern Sobriety           |
| 360 Downtown Sil Spring         | 300 New Unity Gay               | 3065 Spiritual Awakening        |
| 768 Dun Drinkin                 | 73 No Exclusion Group           | 148 Spiritual Hilltop           |
| 130 Dupont Circle Club          | 69 No Hard Terms                | 1500 St. Francis Group          |
| 360 Dunrobbin Group             | 300 Norbeck Women Friday        | 65 St. Mary's Gay               |
| 1380 Epiphanies                 | 360 NE Sunrise                  | 390 Sunday in the Park          |
| 800 Fireside Spirituality       | 180 NW Metro                    | 200 Sunday Morning Joy          |
| 350 Foggy Bottom                | 307 Oasis Women's BB            | 241 Sun Morn Breakfast Outdoors |
| 446 Free Spirits                | 215 Old Fashion                 |                                 |

50	Sun. Morn. Reflections
133	Sunrise Sobriety
1600	Sunrise Zoom
1467	Sunshine Group G'burg
60	Survivors
397	Takoma Park Necessity
230	Tenley Circle Men
10	There Is A Solution
216	Trusted Servants
840	Twelve Point Bucks
60	Upper Marlboro Big Book
406	Uptown
180	Victory Lights
330	Village Idiots
75	Virtually Sober
471	We Are All Beginners
1260	We Are Not Saints
540	We Care
1200	Westmoreland Women
276	Westside Club
411	West Side Men
72	Westside Women
50	What's Happening Now
244	Women's Grapevine
923	Yacht Club
765	Birthday
830	Faithful Fivers
21689	Individuals
715	Memorial

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

**Mail to:** WAIA

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Washington, DC 20008

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**<https://aa-dc.org/new-reporter>**

To receive an email with the link each month, email **[newreporter@aa-dc.org](mailto: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](mailto:newreporter@aa-dc.org)**



Day

Years

December 1

Gloria B.

Prospect

42

## THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

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.

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

## VOLUNTEER

Guess who it really Helps?  
Call 202-966-9783

202-966-9783

## DECEMBER 2023