

• Digital NEW REPORTER

Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th Ed, p 77

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

NUMBER 9 •

September 2024

JULY 3-6, 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

REGISTRATION AND HOUSING PROCESSES OPEN SEPTEMBER 10, 2024, NOON EASTERN TIME

AA.ORG/INTERNATIONAL-CONVENTION





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WAIA September 2024 Announcements

Registration and Housing Processes open - September 10, 2024, Noon EDT for the July 3-6, 2025 International AA Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. aa.org/international-convention. See pages 11-16 for more information.

September WAIA monthly Board Meeting, 9/10/2024—8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434? pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09

Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434

Passcode: 819862

From the Finance Committee on the 7th Trdition. Please help ensure that the office can continue to serve as DC;'s Central Office; 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 https://aa-dc.org/contribute or via Venmo to @WAIA-DC. You can now set up recurring payments on the website. Join our growing group of "Faithful Fivers• who are AA members who commit to contributing at least \$5.00 a month toward the support of WAIA. You can set up monthly recurring donations by checking the "Make this donation monthly" when contributing as an individual.

Calls for Service

OFFICE and HELPCHAT Volunteers Needed!

Available In Person Shifts: Sunday 1-4, Tuesday 1-4, Wednesday 4-7 PM, Saturday 1-4 PM. Email help@aa-dc.org for more information or call 202-966-9783; ask for Luella or Clo'via

NIGHTWATCH Volunteers Needed! (1 Year Sobriety Requested) - email Nightwatch@aa-dc.org to volunteer.

Pease share these announcements with your group and encourage people to sign up for the New Reporter to receive local AA news directly!



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From the *Grapevine*:

Trudging in Korea

(Editor's note: Your editor met James M. at a meeting in Annapolis. He informed me that he had a story published in the Grapevine. Here is his piece, which he was so generous to offer.)



My first week at Camp Casey in Dongducheon, South Korea, was in the late days of November 2020. There I stood outside of the dark stone chapel, hoping that the 7:00 P.M. Thursday night A.A. meeting posted on flyers around the post would happen as planned. It didn't. I thought, 'Why bother with the meeting? After all, I'm three years sober and I have online meetings.'

That's when I remembered one of the first speaker meeting I had ever attended in A.A. It was at the Liberty Group in Hinesville, Georgia, where I heard a man share his story of trying to stay sober in Korea back in the 1990s.

I couldn't remember the man's name, but I remembered his story vividly: He had to take a post bus to a chapel where there was supposedly an A.A. meeting. He stayed there the whole hour waiting for someone to open the church and lead the meeting, but no one showed up. He stood outside for the whole hour reading his Big Book and then he got back on the bus and went home to his barracks.

The next week he got on the bus, he went back to the meeting, found there was no meeting, stayed the whole hour, got back on the bus and went home. He, did this for three months straight. At one point, he lost hope. He told himself, 'Look, I can stay in my room and read the Big Book for an hour if this is what it's going to be like.' But, again, he rode the bus over anyway and stayed the whole hour. And then that day, just as he was about to board the bus, a guy jumped off and said, "I'm about to leave Korea next week and I need to pass off the key for the AA meeting." The guy opened the door to the meeting room and showed him where all the A.A. supplies were and then he left.

So, this man took over. By the time he completed his tour, there were a dozen members who met a few times a week at the meeting. They even shared meals and went bowling together. As I stood outside the chapel in the dark waiting and thinking about that man's story, I was filled with hope. Someone had done this before. Someone had waited and waited, and that waiting was not in vain. So, I kept going back. I also reached out to the chaplains and the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP) and found the A.A. meeting supplies—and coffee. The books and meeting guide had "A.A. Trudgers" written on them. And truly whoever goes to Korea to get sober must trudge!

(continued on the next page)



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Trudging in Korea -continued

Through the chaplains, I got to host meetings in the Diamond Den on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At the same time, I had also contacted the English-speaking A.A. Intergroup and met Jeff S. and Frank C., two wonderful A.A. members in Korea. They suggested I host a hybrid meeting online in connection with Camp Humphreys, a base farther south of Seoul, which was holding hybrid meetings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Even from that first Tuesday hybrid meeting, rarely was I alone. By the time I left, we had six regulars. Meetings at army posts overseas ebb and flow, and sometimes when the main person leaves the group disbands. I wanted the meeting to continue after I left, so I began praying for God to send someone to Korea to keep carrying the message in Dongducheon. Two months before I was to head back to Fort Stewart, Georgia, a miracle happened. Dennis A., with 35 years of sobriety, showed up at our A.A. meeting. He had just arrived and willingly agreed to keep the Trudgers going.

But really, I should not have been surprised by God's answer to my prayers. A Higher Power, after all, knows what he's doing and how each of us come into other's lives almost miraculously.

Perhaps the biggest miracle happened when I got back to the states. I was staying with my sponsor, Bob, for a few months before I moved to my next duty station. Bob would have been great at Camp Casey because he loves little A.A. meetings in the middle of nowhere. And he dragged me all around Southeast Georgia to find them. One of these was in a little town, Eulonia, off I-95, a 40-minute drive for us, but that was OK because we got to go eat at a seafood restaurant before the meeting!

As we were sharing the meal together with A.A. friends, I told the table about my adventures in Korea and all about the Camp Casey Trudgers. And I also got to tell the story that inspired me to lead the meeting there—the one about the man who kept riding the bus to the meeting until someone jumped off the bus and handed him the key—and as I told the story, one of the men at the table looked at me and said, "James, that was me. That's my story!"

It was Ken, from Eulonia, Georgia, whom I had heard speak two years earlier and who had inspired me to be of service. Two years later, it was Ken who gave me my four-year coin last February.

My fourth year of sobriety was filled with rocky moments of despair and loneliness, as well serendipitous opportunities in sobriety I'd never have imagined possible. I needed that service commitment in Korea to stay sober.

I just completed my fifth year, and I'm now up in Anne Arundel, Maryland, still serving my country, still sober and still trying to be of service however God wants me to be. I never thought joining the Army and going to Korea would be my path to sobriety, but I shouldn't be surprised it happened that way. After all, my Higher Power knows what he's doing.



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Gorski on the 9th Step

(From *Understanding the Twelve Steps*)

Step Nine tells people in recovery to make direct amends to others except when to do so would injure them or others. Notice that it doesn't say, "when to do so would injure me." The primary goal of making amends is not to feel better about yourself. It is to repair the damage caused by your addiction and to repay the debts that you owe to the people you have hurt.

There is no such thing as a "Free Lunch" in life. Either you will pay now or you'll pay later, with interest. Psychologically, the interest you pay is guilt and shame. Until you repair past damage, it eats away at your insides. Not only do you figure out what you broke and what you have to do to fix it, you also fix it.

You don't have to make amends. If you have unfinished business from your addiction, you have three choices: You can make amends and try to repair the relationship; you can lie to yourself and pretend that it isn't your problem; or you can end the relationship by acknowledging that the damage is too severe to fix and letting it go. It's important to think seriously before ending relationships. Amends may be difficult, but the process often works in saving valuable relationships. However, if you do your best to try to fix it and you can't you need to turn it over and let it go. You don't have to live with it the rest of your life. You can pay the price and be done with it.

The wreckage of your addictive past is like a pile of garbage in your back yard. You can choose to live with it, you can pretend it isn't there, or you can hire someone to haul it away. Each approach carries a price. In the long run, it is less expensive to clean up the mess and to haul it away once and for all. You pay the price once. You don't keep paying later with interest. The longer you putt it off, the more interest you owe.

People can get into serious trouble trying to make amends before thoroughly completing the first six Steps. Suppose you did only s superficial Step Four; you lied, conned and hustled through Step Five; and then you rationalized Steps Six and Seven. When you went to through Steps Eight and Nine, you would walk away from the process empty. You would not be healed. Instead, you would feel shattered and resentful. That's why these Steps are in order. And that's why you are told to be fearless and thorough from the start: "Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path." Thoroughly following the path means working each Step thoroughly to the best of your ability in the correct order.

You don't make amends simply to avoid pain. The goal is to pay the price necessary to get free of the past so you can live to the fullest capacity. It takes courage to work the the amends Steps. It is hard work. But it is worth it. If you don't face the wreckage of the past and clean it up, you die a little bit every day. If you face the past and deal with it, you can put it behind you once and for all.

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PREPARING FOR THE NINTH TRADITION

(Read pp. 172-175 of the "12 & 12") THE NINTH TRADITION:

"A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

The two words that describe the ninth tradition in my life are "divine order". When I let go and stop trying to do the organizing and let God show me what to do, "divine order" takes over in my life. Let us ask ourselves the following questions about order in our lives as we prepare for next week:

- 1. What is the state of my divine order? Do I try to organize myself and others? Do I give orders, or am I suggestive? Am I rigid and over-controlled, or do I allow myself to be spontaneous.
- 2. Do I try to control order, or am I willing to surrender to God's divine order which is beyond my control and understanding? Can I afford to be spontaneous since God is in charge?
- 3. Do I try to organize God within the limits of my understandings? Am I open to seemingly unorganized direction if it is God's will for me?
- 4. Am I driven by a desire to be in control or a desire to give service?



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PROMISES

The Promises after the 9th Step

We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness

We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it

We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace

We will see how our experience can benefit others

That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear

We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows

Self-seeking will slip away

Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change

Fear of people will leave us

Fear of economic insecurity will leave us

We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us

We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves

PROMISES IN REVERSE

If we are **NOT** painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be drunk before we leave the parking lot

We are going to know new pain and a new misery

We will regret our deeds and repeat them over and over again

We will comprehend the word chaos and we will know calamity

No matter how far down the road we stagger, we will still wonder where we are going

That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will intensify

We will lose interesting things and gain relations with strange fellow

Self-seeking will be constant

Our whole attitude will be on the lookout for the cops

Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave un – homeless

We will intuitively know how to stay drunk with little or no money

We will suddenly begin to think that God does not exist

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How Much Alcohol Is Too Much for You?

BY SUMATHI REDDY, Wall Street Journal

How much drinking is bad for you? Though more people are calling themselves sober-curious or are trying zero-proof replacements for alcohol, drinking is a regular part of social life for most of us. Yet scientists' warnings about the potential health problems of even small amounts of alcohol are growing more dire.



For moderate drinkers, it can be hard to know what's actually OK to consume: Is two-a-day that much worse than one? Are two drinks over a week the same as two in a day? Averaging no more than about one drink a day is relatively low risk, according to scientists who study alcohol. They warn the risk of cancer rises significantly when you exceed that. Studies have suggested that alcohol contributes to about half-a-dozen types of cancers, including breast and colorectal, as well as heart and liver disease.

The only way to completely avoid related health problems is to stop drinking alcohol. Plenty of people do cut it out entirely, but for many others, that's a nonstarter. A U.S. federal dietary committee is currently evaluating alcohol consumption guidelines, which recommend that men consume no more than two drinks a day and, for women, no more than one. In 2020 a federal committee proposed lowering the recommendations for men in line with the women's guideline, but it wasn't ultimately adopted.

Newer guidelines from others suggest being even more conservative than that. After assessing a range of studies, an influential group of Canadian researchers last year looked at how the risk of dying from anything alcohol-related—including cancer, heart disease and accidents—changes depending on how heavily people drink. They deemed the risks with two drinks or less a week to be low; three to six drinks as moderate; and seven or more "increasingly high."

"At seven standard drinks per week [the risk] goes up much steeper, rises exponentially," says Dr. Peter Butt, a clinical associate professor at the University of Saskatchewan and cochairman of the committee that developed the Canada group's 2023 guidance on alcohol and health. Canada and the U.S. define a standard drink as 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine, or 1.5 ounces of spirits, which are equivalent to typical servings. When it comes to things you can do to lower your individual risk of developing cancer, cutting alcohol is high on the list. A new study in the American Cancer Society's journal looked at so-called modifiable cancer risks, or ones that you can influence through behavior changes. It found that alcohol is the third strongest risk factor for women, behind cigarettes and excess body weight. It was the fourth strongest for men, after cigarettes, UV radiation and excess weight.



MAKES ME LAUGH

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MAKES ME LAUGH

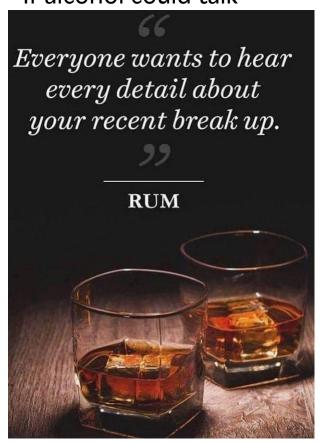
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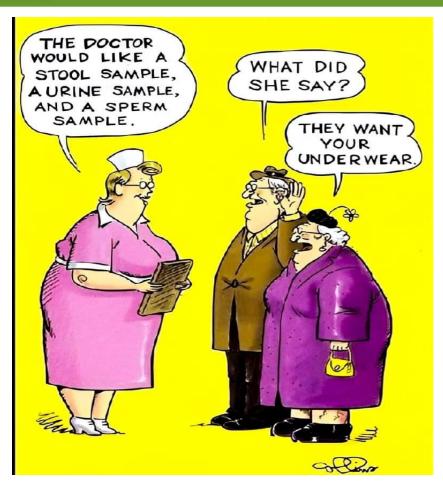
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If alcohol could talk





I did not know this . . .

When you drink vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure,
When you drink rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink whiskey over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently, ice is really bad for you. Warn all your friends.





INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 3-6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

August 9, 2024

Dear A.A. Friends,

This is an exciting time in the planning of our 2025 International Convention. The *Registration and Housing Processes* will open on September 10, 2024, at Noon, Eastern Time. This memo includes information on the two ways to register and obtain housing, if needed.

ONLINE REGISTRATION AND HOUSING PROCESS

Attendees planning to register and book housing online through our vendor, Showcare, **should use the Online Registration and Housing Process**. In the online portal, attendees can register, as well as add on our exciting product offerings, Once the online registration is complete, attendees seeking housing will be guided to book an option.

Attendees can access the Online Registration and Housing Process via a link on our website at https://www.aa.org/international-convention. Additionally, the attached Registration Brochure is filled with information about the 2025 International Convention you want to review.

PRINT FORM REGISTRATION PROCESS

Due to security and privacy guidelines, we no longer allow attendees to provide their credit or debit card information on our Print Registration Form. The *Print Form Registration Process* will allow attendees to pay for the registration fee and our additional product offerings by <u>check or money order only</u>. If your print registration form arrives by mail to Showcare before registration opens, it will not be processed until September 10, 2024.

HOW TO REQUEST HOUSING USING THE PRINT REGISTRATION FORM

In the *housing section* of the print registration form, attendees can indicate they want to "reserve housing." Individual members will be able to indicate a preferred housing dollar range and book up to two (2) rooms. We require attendees to provide a *valid email address* to complete the booking of a housing reservation. *You must have a credit card to reserve a hotel room*.

NOTE: YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER SHOULD INCLUDE THE TOTAL OF THE REGISTRATION FEE AND ALL SELECTED PRODUCT OFFERINGS. PLEASE DO NOT ADD IN A HOUSING DEPOSIT WITH YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

We will do our best to match you to your requested housing range, but if not available, we will search for a housing option at the closest available rate. A link to the housing system will be emailed to you with your confirmation so you may provide your *credit card information* to complete the reservation. Please read the entire *Print Registration Form* for all details regarding the process.

UNABLE TO ATTEND THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN PERSON? WE HAVE NEW OPTIONS FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE.

You can use the Online Registration or Print Registration Form to:

- Register for a <u>Virtual Session Program Track</u>. This is a two-day 8 session virtual program track. The sessions will be live streamed as they are taking place and will not be available for purchase after the Convention. Cost is \$35 (USD).
- Purchase the <u>2025 International Convention Three Big Meetings Video Product.</u>
 It will be an anonymity-protected video recording available for viewing after the Convention is over. Cost is \$60 (USD)

Registration and housing questions? Call (514) 380-9375. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: 2025IC@showcare.com.

Warm regards,

Patrick C. 2025 International Convention Coordinator 2025ic@aa.org





DISCOVER VANCOUVER

Vancouver is located on the unceded traditional territories of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔł (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples, who have lived on this land for thousands of years. In 2014, Vancouver was designated a City of Reconciliation, embarking on a sustained relationship of mutual respect with local First Nations.

A cosmopolitan city right on the edge of nature, Vancouver makes it easy to combine an urban getaway with outdoor adventure. From family-friendly fun to thrill-seeking exploits; from marine exploring to mountaintop luxury, you'll find plenty of things to do in Vancouver. Vancouverites know their city's culinary scene. They know where to find the best tower of fresh seafood, the finest house-made charcuterie, and the most delicious taco truck!

Now, close your eyes and breathe in deep. As the earthy, cedar-scented air fills your lungs, listen to the birds twittering, wind rustling through leaves, and evergreen needles crunching underfoot as you wander the forest's carpeted path. As you round the corner, Stanley Park's Lost Lagoon comes into view. Just a few minutes past are the towers and skyscrapers of downtown Vancouver. This is what inspires Vancouverites every day.

MEETINGS, MEETINGS AND MORE MEETINGS

Beginning Thursday at midnight through early Sunday, marathon A.A. meetings will be held in English, French and Spanish. A.A. topic meetings, workshops, panels, special interest meetings, and regional meetings will be held Friday and Saturday at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Sharing with members from around the world will energize you to carry the message back home!

NEW FOR 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

WE ARE OFFERING A VIRTUAL SESSION

PROGRAM TRACK: Attendees who are unable to attend the 2025 International Convention in person can register for a two-day 8 session virtual program track. The sessions will be live streamed as they are taking place and not available for purchase after the Convention.

A.A. EVENTS IN VANCOUVER!

Vancouver Convention Centre is located at the downtown waterfront and where on Thursday evening we will hold a Block Party at venues around the Convention Campus. Friday night we all come together in the BC Place Stadium for the Flag Ceremony and Opening A.A. Meeting; Saturday night for an Oldtimers A.A. Meeting; and Sunday morning for the Closing A.A. Meeting. There will be more fellowship opportunities outside the BC Place Stadium after the Friday and Saturday night A.A. Meetings.

AL-ANON AND ALATEEN ACTIVITIES

A variety of daytime activities, including meetings and workshops for Al-Anon and Alateen, are scheduled at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver. There will be meetings offered in French and Spanish, along with the English program. And, of course, Al-Anons and Alateens will join the festivities at the Thursday night Block Party near the waterfront and at venues around the Convention Campus, the Big Meetings and more.

2025 INTERNATIONAL A.A. CONVENTION SOUVENIR BOOK

The 2025 International Convention Souvenir book, "A BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP: 90 Years of Love & Service" is a lavishly illustrated celebration of our Fellowship, its vibrant history, and A.A. around the world today. In these full-color pages, you'll read the inspiring stories of Bill W., Dr. Bob, and the early A.A. s who spread the word of Alcoholics Anonymous, one alcoholic to another, in ever-widening circles. A treasure trove of archival and new material, this autograph book-size volume brings to vivid life the message of Recovery, Service and Unity that lies at the very heart of our program. Including blank pages for notes and autographs, "A BOOK OF FELLOWSHIP: 90 Years of Love & Service" will make a one-of-a-kind keepsake of the 2025 Vancouver Convention.

If you preorder the International Convention souvenir book when you register prior to May 9, 2025, you will receive the book in the mail. If registering after May 9, 2025, the book will be available for pick-up at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

GRAPEVINE'S "LANGUAGE OF THE HEART" SOUVENIR JOURNAL

To help celebrate the 2025 International Convention, collect your memories, thoughts, ideas, prayers, jokes, stories, and the signatures of friends and people you meet in this beautiful journal from AA Grapevine. Keep track of a wonderful weekend of sober celebration in Vancouver with fellows from around the world, and then use it for years to come. The journal features wonderful quotes from our cofounder Bill W.'s collected writings from Grapevine's most popular book, *The Language of the Heart*, the theme of the 2025 Convention.

If you preorder the Grapevine's "Language of the Heart" souvenir journal when you register prior to May 9, 2025, you will receive the journal in the mail. If registering after May 9, 2025, the journal will be available for pick-up at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

CONVENTION APP

A 2025 International Convention app will be available for download for mobile devices. This will give attendees instant access to the convention program, schedule changes, maps of the Convention Center and Vancouver area, updates and alerts, and more. Print programs will still be available for attendees.



2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

INDIVIDUALS WITH ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS

Many efforts have been made to assure your participation, as well as compliance with the Canadians With Disabilities Act. Transportation will be available to you in Vancouver, if required. Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to be contacted regarding your needs for transportation and/or housing. Wheelchairs will be available to rent. You will need to make your own arrangements through our vendor.

WEATHER

Daily high temperatures in July in Vancouver are around 70° F, rarely falling below 55° F or exceeding 85° F. The highest daily average high temperature for July is 75° F. As warm as the summer temperatures can be outdoors, be prepared for cool temperatures indoors — the air conditioning will be on!

TRAVELING TO CANADA

The U.S. and Canada each have restrictions and regulations that apply to citizens and visitors who travel from one country to the other. U.S. citizens need a valid U.S. passport to travel to Canada. Citizens from other countries need to view Canadian Visa Requirements. Border crossing into Canada has significantly changed, particularly in the last two years. For more information: access links to Canada Border Services Agency website:

https://ircc.canada.ca/english/visit/visas.asp

It is suggested that those who believe they have some past legal incident, such as a DUI or felony that could inhibit their ability to cross the border to attend the 2025 International Convention, seek assistance/information by accessing the Canada Border Services Agency link:

https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugeescitizenship/services/immigrate-canada/inadmissibility/ overcome-criminal-convictions.html

OTHER LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ASL

As a truly international gathering, meetings in multiple languages—including American Sign Language (ASL), French, Spanish and more — will be available Friday and Saturday. Additionally, the Big Meetings in the BC Place Stadium will be simultaneously interpreted into several languages based on need and cost. ASL interpretation will be provided at the Big Meetings; look for the seating section to be set aside for this purpose.

TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

AIR TRAVEL*

You may wish to take advantage of airline flight discounts available through one of our partners. SkyTeam comprises 19 international airlines: Aerolíneas Argentinas, Aeroméxico, Air Europa, Air France, China Airlines, China Eastern, Czech Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Garuda Indonesia, ITA Airways, Kenya Airways, KLM, Korean Air, Middle East Airlines, Saudia, TAROM, Vietnam Airlines, Virgin Atlantic, and Xiamen Air. To book your travel now, visit skyteam.com/GlobalMeetings, click on Attend Your Event in the left bar and enter Event ID **4860S**.

AirCanada is also providing our group with discounted travel. To book visit **aircanada.com** and enter the Promotion Code **RF4VA681**.

CAR RENTAL*

As with airlines and hotels, car rentals are available at standard discount rates.

Budget: Contact either www.budget.com or 1 (800) 842-5628

reference BCD #**Z727996**

Avis: Contact either <u>www.avis.com</u> or 1 (800) 331-1600

reference AWD number X227399.

CONVENTION TRANSPORTATION

We have hotel rooms throughout the Vancouver area! No door-to-door shuttle bus service will be available. During registration you will be able to purchase a three-day TransLink Compass Card. This card will be sent to you with your badge for those who register prior to May 9, 2025 will allow you to use public transit throughout Metro Vancouver for three days. This includes SkyTrain, Bus Service, and SeaBus. If you are staying in the area longer, these cards will be reloadable for you to add additional days.

SAFETY TIPS

The staff and volunteers of the 2025IC are committed to the safety and security of our guests throughout the entire event. Here are some recommendations to ensure that the 2025IC experience is a pleasant and safe one.

- Know Your Surroundings
- Carry Important Documents
- Use The Buddy System
- Be Discreet
- Use the 2025IC Resources, such as our Mobile App.
- Be Medically Prepared
- See Something, Say Something

GROUND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORT AND HOTEL

TAXIOPTIONS

Fares range from \$35-\$45 CAD based on traffic conditions from the airport (both terminals) to downtown Vancouver.

All taxis are first come first serve basis from one of our two taxi stands at YVR. Taxi stands are located on International Arrivals Level 2 and Domestic Arrivals Level 2 and are served by licensed taxi operators. For South Terminal passengers, the taxi stand is located right outside the terminal – only Richmond Taxi, Garden City Cabs, and Kimber Cabs operate there.

RIDE APP SERVICES

Ride App services have arrived at YVR and are committed to providing their passengers with reliable and diverse transportation options. Lyft, Uber and KABU are authorized providers of Ride App services at YVR.

Getting Picked Up at YVR

For the safety, security and efficiency of the operations, Ride App services at YVR are highly regulated. To ensure they deliver on their commitment to provide an exceptional airport experience for their customers, there are three pick up areas:

- International Arrivals, Level 2
- Domestic Arrivals, Level 2
- South Terminal

AA 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION July 3-6, 2025 | Vancouver, British Columbia 2 WAYS TO REGISTER • ONLINE: www.aa.org • MAIL: PO Box 7032, Lancaster, PA 17604

A. REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

• No badge required for children 12 years and younger • Both sides of this form may be duplicated • See reverse side for cancellation policy.

REGISTRATION OPENS **SEPTEMBER 10, 2024** ADVANCED DEADLINE IS: **APRIL 15, 2025**

MAIN ATTENDEE (All fields are reque	ested)					
LAST NAME	FIRS	T NAME	NAME ON BADGE			
ADDRESS			APT #			
СІТУ	ST/P	ROV	ZIP/POSTAL CODE COUNTRY			
EMAIL (*REQUIRED FIELD) TELEPHONE						
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1.	2. AL-ANON	3. ☐ ALATEEN 4. ☐ FRIEND/SPOUSE			
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. SPANISH	2. FRENCH	3. AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 4. OTHER			
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. 🗌 YES	2. NO				
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. LESS THAN 1 YR.	2. 🗌 1-3 3. 🗌 4-10	4. ☐ 11-20 5. ☐ 20-35 6. ☐ 35-50 7. ☐ 50-55 8. ☐ 55-60 9. ☐ OVER			
AGE GROUP	1. 🗌 13-15	2. 16-25	3. 26-39 4. 40-55 5. 56-65 6. OVER			
ACCESSIBILITY ASSISTANCE O	ON-SITE YES, PLEASE	COMMUNICATE WITH ME (N ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT AVAILABLE			
EMERGENCY CONTACT		TE	LEPHONE			
☐ I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE HOUSING	☐ 1 R00M		PRICE RANGE: \$200-\$300 CAD (~\$145-\$218 US			
	2 ROOMS	ARRIVAL DATE	DEPARTURE DATE \$300-\$400 CAD (~\$218-\$290 US			
☐ I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL	. COMMUNICATIONS FROM	AAWS, INC. AND AA GRAF	EVINE, INC. AFTER THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION			
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE (All fiel	lds are requested)					
LAST NAME	FIRS	T NAME	NAME ON BADGE			
ADDRESS			APT #			
CITY	ST/P	ROV	ZIP/POSTAL CODE COUNTRY			
EMAIL (*REQUIRED FIELD)		TE	LEPHONE			
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1.	2. AL-ANON	3. ALATEEN 4. FRIEND/SPOUSE			
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. SPANISH	2. FRENCH	3. AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 4. OTHER			
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. ☐ YES	2. NO				
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. LESS THAN 1 YR.	2. 🗌 1-3 3. 🔲 4-10	4. 11-20 5. 20-35 6. 35-50 7. 50-55 8. 55-60 9. OVER			
AGE GROUP	1. 13-15	2. 16-25	3. 26-39 4. 40-55 5. 56-65 6. OVER			
♠ ₺ Ø ACCESSIBILITY ASSISTANCE	ON-SITE YES, PLEASE	COMMUNICATE WITH ME	ON ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORT AVAILABLE			
B. PAYMENT (PLEASE PRINT CLE	EARLY)					
Advanced Registration Fee is: \$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc			Grapevine one-year print subscription - English only (OPTIONAL) \$36 USD \$49 CAD (check) \$49 USD International QUANTITY TOTALING \$ Grapevine one-year digital subscription - Online and app (OPTION. \$29.99 USD (ALL except Canadian check) \$40 CAD (check) TOTALING \$			
A live two-day 8 session virtual track for people who ar \$35 USD \$\$47 CAD\$ 3-Day TransLink Pass (OPTIONAL)		ational Convention in person. ALING \$	Grapevine one-year Complete subscription - Print, online and ap (OPTIONAL) □ \$56 USD □ \$76 CAD (check)			
	ASS 2 PASSES TOTA	ALING \$	See use International QUANTITY TOTALING \$			
2025 International Convention Souvenir Book (OPTIONAL) \$15 USD PER PRE-ORDER BOOK (includes shipping) \$20 CAD PER PRE-ORDER BOOK			La Viña one-year print subscription - Spanish only (OPTIONAL) \$\begin{array}{c} \\$14.45 USD & \Boxed{\text{ \chick}} \\$21 USD International \qu			
QUANTITY:ENGLISHFRENCHSPANISH TOTALING \$			La Viña one-year digital subscription - Online and app (OPTIONAL) \$14.99 USD (ALL except Canadian check) \$20 CAD (check) TOTALING \$ La Viña one-year Complete subscription - Print, online and app			
			(OPTIONAL)			
	QUANTITY: TOTA	ALING \$	SUBSCRIBERS MUST INCLUDE ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE AND INCLUDE EMAIL ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER.			
I will be responsible for fees that may be charged by financial institutions due to a stop-payment or insufficient-funds check.						
	CHECK/N	MONEY ORDER (PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH)			
			USD/CAD. Checks/Money Orders made payable to			

WE SUGGEST DUPLICATING BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM.

2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION | ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

REGISTRATION BY WEB OR MAIL

Before you provide us with your personal information, check how we use it, with whom we share it, and how we protect it. Go to www.aa.org/privacy or www.aagrapevine.org/website-policy.

Registration opens September 10, 2024.

Advanced Registration Fees (prior to April 15, 2025): \$160 USD or \$216 CAD (Canadian residents only if paying by CAD check or money order).

Payable by: Check, Money Order, or Credit Card

International checks and money orders (except Canadian) must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. NOTE: We cannot accept travel agency checks for multiple registrations.

You may register online through **www.aa.org**. Look for the logo with International Convention information, including the link to registration.

Or fill out and mail the registration form with full payment to:

Mail: 2025 International Convention

(check or money order)

PO Box 7032

Lancaster, PA 17604

Once registered, your confirmation will be emailed to you. A valid email address is required for registration. Your registration form will not be processed if it does not contain a valid email.

The registration fees after April 15, 2025 will be \$185 USD or \$250 CAD. All attendees who register either via mail or online by May 9, 2025, will receive their badge and purchases in the mail prior to the International Convention.

Registration forms sent via mail and received after May 9, 2025, may not be processed. Please plan to check in at the Onsite Registration Counters at the Vancouver Convention Centre. We encourage you to register by May 9 to avoid long lines.

After May 9, 2025, online registration will remain open, and we urge attendees to pre-register before arriving in Vancouver. Badges and purchases for these attendees only must be picked up at Vancouver Convention Centre when you arrive at the 2025 International Convention.

If you have questions regarding the status of your mailed-in registration, please contact (514) 380-9375.

The Registration Hall opens Wednesday morning.

CANCELLATIONS

All cancellations must be made in writing to <u>2025IC@showcare.com</u>. Refunds will be made only upon receipt of your written request and if received by May 9, 2025. No exceptions. There is a \$15 USD administrative processing fee for cancellations, which will be deducted from the refund. All ancillary items/products are non-refundable.

Cancellations requested prior to May 9 will be processed on a rolling basis.



HOUSING/HOTEL INFORMATION

Hotel reservation information, including the Housing Bureau's contact information, will be part of the registration process. Housing for the 2025 International Convention will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are planning to book housing, we highly recommend registering online rather than via mail. Any housing cancelled after October 31, 2024 will be charged for one-night stay.

If you register by mail and select that you want to obtain housing, you will be placed based on your selected dollar range preference if space is available. A link to the housing system will be emailed to you with your confirmation so you may provide your credit card information. If you are not able to provide your credit card number within 48 hours this housing will be cancelled.

DO NOT SEND A HOUSING DEPOSIT WITH YOUR REGISTRATION CHECK OR MONEY ORDER.

Individual members will be able to book up to two (2) rooms.

While we are trying to meet everyone's needs, we attempt to ensure fairness for the entire Fellowship so that single attendees and attendees traveling in a group have equal access to hotel arrangements for the Convention.

REGISTRATION POLICIES

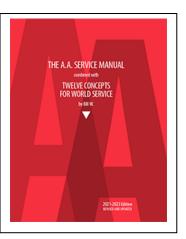
- 1. Registration payment must accompany all mailed registration forms.
- Mailed preregistration forms must be postmarked by April 15, 2025. After that date, the rate of \$185 USD or \$250 CAD (if paying with Canadian check) must be included.
- Any changes to registration information already processed must be made in writing before April 15, 2025, or onsite.
 All changes must be made by the current registrant on file.
 No charges will be assessed for corrections to badge information excluding substitutions (see below).
- 4. Substitutions made on or before April 15, 2025, will be subject to a \$5 USD / \$7 CAD processing fee.
- 5. Substitutions after April 15, 2025, must be made onsite and will be subject to a \$15 USD / \$20 CAD processing fee.
 - Note: You must have the original attendee's badge to make onsite substitutions.
- 6. Your badge will be mailed to you. Remember to bring it with you to Vancouver. Replacement of lost or forgotten badges will be subject to a \$15 USD / \$20 CAD reprint fee.
- Registration questions? Call (514) 380-9375. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: 2025IC@showcare.com.
- 8. Convention-related questions? Call G.S.O. at (212) 870-2025.

Convention Dates: July 3 – 6, 2025
Advanced Registration Deadline: April 15, 2025,
Registration & Housing Opens: September 10, 2024

Fall 2024 CONTRA Study

September 10, 2024 through December 17, 2024 Tuesdays from 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM Eastern Time (US/Canada)

Moderated by Trusted Servants from Areas 13 (DC), 29 (Maryland) & 45 (Southern New Jersey)



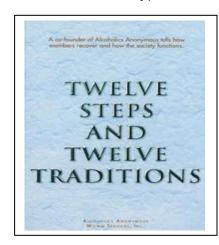
Zoom Meeting ID: 847 4641 4040 Passcode: 330331

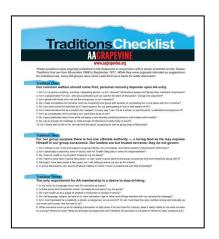
Dial-in number for phone callers: +1 (301) 715-8592

We invite all A.A. members to this virtual study of the *CONcepts*, *TRAditions* & *The A.A. Service Manual*

Sep 10, 2024 – Registration & Orientation Sep 17, 2024 – Traditions 1, 2 & 3 Sep 24, 2024 – Traditions 4, 5 & 6 Oct 1, 2024 – Traditions 7, 8 & 9 Oct 8, 2024 – Traditions 10, 11 & 12

Oct 15, 2024 – Service Manual, pp. I-VIII, 1-6, 85-104
Oct 22, 2024 – Svc Man Ch 1 2 3 & pp 105-14, 160-2
Oct 29, 2024 – Svc Man, Chapters 4 5 6 & pp 164-8
Nov 5, 2024 – Svc Man, Chapters 7 8 9 & pp 169-73
Nov 12, 2024 – Svc Man Ch 10 11 12 & pp 155-9, 163
Nov 19, 2024 – Service Manual, pp. 115-154
Nov 26, 2024 – Concepts pp I-VIII, C1-C2, Con 1 2 3
Dec 3, 2024 – Concepts 4, 5 & 6
Dec 10, 2024 – Concepts 7, 8 & 9
Dec 17, 2024 – Concepts 10,11 & 12





concepts and responsibility and distinute authority for A.A world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship. The collective conscience of our whole Fellowship. Do we had regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we had regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we had regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we had regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we shold regular group conscience who we will be a similar to the distinct, was, or the local intergroup meeting? **Is the "collective consciences" of Aschalics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area? **Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of AA.2* Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.2 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.2 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.2 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.2 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.3 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the upside-down frampe of AA.3 * Are we willing to do what it takes to how the fit in the down of the fit in the down of the fit in the fit

erial from the General Service Office

CONTRA Study Materials (provided via email following registration):

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, B-2 (free participant download at www.aa.org)
The A.A. Service Manual combined with The Twelve Concepts for World Service, BM-31, 2021-2023 edition
AA Grapevine Traditions Checklist, July 2018 revision
Fall 2024 Contra Study Service Manual Questions
A.A.W.S. Concepts Checklist, SMF-91, 08/18 edition

We will cover approximately three chapters of reading material per week, with associated questions.

Only those who have read the assignment and have written answers to the weekly questions will be invited to read their answers to the group. All others are welcome to join the meeting and listen.

Presented by Trusted Servants from Areas 13 (DC), 29 (Maryland) & 45 (Southern New Jersey) For more information, contact: 2024contrastudy@gmail.com RAIN OR SHINE

ALL FELLOWSHIPS WELCOME

7) Triangle Club

FOOD | GAMES | RAFFLE PRIZES

ROCK CREEK PARK PICKIC GROVE 13



Laurel Recovery Cookout Sunday September 15 12PM - 3PM

Laurel Lakes Pavilion A

Laurel Recovery provides
Hot Dogs and Hamburgers
50/50 Raffle

Family Friendly Event with Playground

Bring a Dish

Bring a Friend

Face Painting by Loida for Children and Adults



2024 MONTHLY

April 12-14 (MD) Milburn Landing SP

May 10-12 (PA) Caledonia SP

June 21-23 (VA) Westmoreland SP

July 26-28. (MD) Susquehanna SP August 16-18. (MD) Tuckahoe SP

September 20-22 (MD) Greenbriar SP

October 18-20 (MD) Shad Landing SP

Wm. G. 717.504.5833 Elkton, MD

Tom E. 301.602.8680 Georgerown, MD

Jim W. 717.858.5617 Fredrick, MD

Each campground has Modern Bathrooms and Electric Sites
This group was origionally started in 1970's - many many good memories!!
We encourage all new and experienced travelers to join us
Bring the kids, fishing poles, bug spray, tp., tent., RV, (homemade bread?)

"We Absolutely Insist on Maving Fun"



CALENDAR DIGITAL REPORTER

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

NUMBER 9

September 2024

Area 13 WAGSA

Monday, September 11th, 2024 6:00 PM —9:00 PM

In Person

5656a 3rd St NE, Washington, DC 20011

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83565638123? pwd=SS9uZVVjdkRwSFhnMXRJQWhOeDVQUT09

Meeting ID: 835 6563 8123

Passcode: 6970mc

For more info: area13aa.org or email: chair@area13aa.org

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.

WAIABoard Meeting

September 10th, 2024—8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434? pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09

Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434

Passcode: 819862



CONTRIBUTIONS •

January 01, 2024 - August 20, ,2024

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

300 Potomac High Noon

NUMBER 9

September 2024

8000	8AM Men'sBig Book	1356	Greenbelt Step Club
1049	9:30 Club Online	153	Growing Group
180	180 Degree Club	878	Grupo Virtual Wasingtoniano
120	14 Promises	895	Haven At Last
150	As Bill Sees It NW	207	Heliotrope Men's Stag
66	Anacostia Group	60	High Sobriety
766	Andrew Armed Forces	234	How It Works, G'town
225	Any Lengths	44	Hyattsville Hope Live
179	Aspen Hill 5th Chapter	124	Hyattsville Hope Online
165	Aspen Hill Phoenix Fri	444	Informed Group
187	Attitude & Action	172	Kid Friendly TP Women
604	Back to Basics	100	Last Stop Group
60	Beginners R Winners-Live	53	Lawyers Group
400	Bethesda Youth	_	Let Go Let God
660	Broad Highway	190	Leisure World Noon
1305	Burtonsville Big Book		Lit Hoppers
550	B.Y.O.L.	264	Lit Womxn
800	BYOL Non-Smokers	50	Make It Happen
2203	Capitol Hill Group	20	Men's Adhoc Group
380	Cedar Lane Women	217	Men in Recovery
60	Chinatown Big Book	256	Merry Miracles
113	Chinatown Men's	660	Messengers
100	Cigar Smokers	94	Mideast
125	Clinton 6:30	1458	Midtown
30	Clinton Day	30	Monday Winners Online
50	Clinton Sun Nite	100	Montgomery Cty Women
80	Coffee & Donuts		Montrose Gay
100	Colesville Sun Night	527	More Peace of Mind
	Cosmopolitan Group	400	<u> </u>
	Daily Reflection-UP	84	
	Darnestown Men's	269	•
	Darnestown Men's Online	90	Never Walk Alone
	Downtown Sil Spring	84	New Beginners
	DCC 9:30 Club	100	New Unity Gay
_	DC Men's Adhoc	453	Norbeck Women Fri
	DCC Noon Group	200	
	Deanwood Step Group	125	
	Deanwood Women Rap	359	•
	District 2	20	Old Fashion Group
	Double Recovery	38	•
	Dunrobbin Group	1800	/
	Easy Does It	300	•
	Epiphanies		Olney Stag Rap
	Foggy Bottom Group	200	•
	Free Spirits	50	
	Georgetown Group	90	
	Glen Echo Group	606	P Street
200	Goldsboro Group	42	Pit Stop

MBER '	9 • September 2024
295	Potomac Oaks
576	Progress Not Perfection
174	Prospect Group
191	Quince Orchard
690	Radicals
500	
120	-
600	-
245	
29	<u>*</u>
240	
120	•
100	
184	-
210	Serious Business
	Sheepherders
	Sil Spring Beginners BB
1400	
90	Simply Sober
100	Singleness of Purpose
457	Six & Seven Step
390	Sober Living Group
312	St. Barnabas Women
1330	St. Francis Group
1386	Sun Morn Breakfast Club
321	Sun. Morn Break'f Outdoors
200	, ,
1414	
	Sunrise Sobriety
	Sunrise Zoom
	Takoma Pk Necessity
	Terrapin Thanksgiving B'fast
131	T.G.I.F.
166	Tenely-Keep Coming Back
610	Thursday Night Men's BS
20	The Way Group
251	Triangle Club
350	Twelve Point Bucks
285	Uptown Group
400	Victory Lights
159	Village Idiots
28	Virtually Sober
443	We Are All Beginners
300	We Care
543	Westmoreland Women
453	Westside Women
448	Westside Club

Digital New Reporter

220 Good News Beginners

Page 22

200 What's Happening Now



CONTRIBUTIONS

January 01, 2024 – August 20, 2024

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

NUMBER 9

September 2024

125 Women's AA Meeting

215 Women's Grapevine

84 Women's Happier Hour

240 Women Living Sober

1200 Yacht Club

250 Birthday

800 Faithful Fivers

24889 Individuals

100 Memorial



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WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

NUMBER 9

September 2024

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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







CELEBRATING

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 61

NUMBER 9

September 2024

Day

September 21 Linda W. Andrew's Armed Forces Group 38 years September 21 Ernest aka "Boss" Andrew's Armed Forces Group 38 years

THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

Bob Greenbank June 9, 2024, Aspen Hill 5th Chapter, 31 years sober Bob Williams, June 18, 2024, Friday Night Phoenix, 31 years sober

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.

Guess who it really Helps?

Call 202-966-9783



SEPTEMBER 2024