

#### Digital NEW REPORTER

Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th Ed, p 77

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

NUMBER 12

December 2025







**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

December 2025

#### **WAIA December 2025 Announcements**

WAIA Executive Committee Elections will be held at the Tuesday, December 10th monthly Board meeting. You must be a current WAIA representative for your group to be eligible for the following positions: Chair, Vice Chair, and At-Large positions. Nominations can be made from the floor on the night of the elections.

Join Zoom Meeting, 8:00 PM

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

Call for Service for Committee Chairs—Please contact Cassandra S. Executive Committee Chair, at chair@aa-dc.org if you're interested. Descriptions of responsibilities for the positions can be found in the WAIA by-laws at <a href="https://aa-dc.org/rules">https://aa-dc.org/rules</a>.

- Office Committee Chair
- Hospitals and Institutions Committee

Email holiday event information that didn't make it in this issue to events@aa-dc.org so we can post them on the events page of our website, <a href="https://aa-dc.org/events">https://aa-dc.org/events</a>

#### Office, Nightwatch and Helpchat Volunteers Needed!

In Person Shifts: Sunday 10 AM-1PM, Sunday 1-4 PM, Sunday 4-7, Thursday 10 AM- 1 PM, Thursday 1-4 PM, Saturday 1-4 PM.

Remote Shift: Tuesday 7-10 PM (1 Year Sobriety Requested)

**Nightwatch Volunteers:** (1 Year Sobriety Requested) Saturday 10 PM-6AM, Monday 6 AM - 10AM, Wednesday 10PM-6AM

**Helpchat** - many shifts. (1 Year Sobriety Requested)

Email help@aa-dc.org for more information or call 202-966-9783 and ask for Luella or Clo'via



**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

r 2025

#### **STEP 12: SERVICE**

The twelfth word on my bedraggled 3" x 5" card was *Service*. My sponsor said while Step 12 incorporated service, there were really three parts to this step. The first part was "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps..." Since I got into A.A., I had always wanted one of those spiritual experiences that Bill W. and many other A.A.'s had experienced and felt disappointed that it didn't happen to me. Under my sponsor's tutelage, I realized I had had the "educational variety" of a spiritual experience by working the steps. While not dramatic, it was a good, solid spiritual awakening and I became grateful.

The second part of Step 12 was, "...we tried to carry this message to alcoholics..." -She said the emphasis was on "tried". We couldn't force anyone to accept our message of recovery and we also couldn't take credit or responsibility for someone else's sobriety. All we could do was share our own experience, strength, and hope. She told me to reread Chapter 7 in the Big Book to learn what being of service is and what it is not. She said once I had completed the twelve steps, I was ready to carry the message and do service work.

In the beginning, my service work was limited to helping set up tables and chairs for meetings, washing coffee cups and ashtrays, mopping floors, and cleaning bathrooms. After I had a year of sobriety, I began sponsoring women, guiding them through the steps. Over the years, I've done all sorts of service work; chairing meetings, being a speaker, finding speakers, being the group treasurer and later the group secretary. I've been an Intergroup Representative and Group Service Representative. I've been a Central Office Volunteer and here in Tucson, I've had a Home Answering Service shift for years. Throughout my sobriety, I have always been a sponsor and this has helped me stay sober and the women I have sponsored have enriched my life. My A.A. birthday is on Christmas Day, so I like to take an extra Home Answering Service shift and then volunteer at the Christmas Alcothon on Christmas Eve.

The third part of Step 12 is "...to practice these principles in all our affairs." I have learned it is not enough to do it just one time and call it good. I've got to bring these principles into every area of my life, all the time, in big things and small. Of course I forget a lot! But, prayer, meditation, meetings and talking with another alcoholic remind me. Sometimes, during times of crisis, I desperately need a spiritual tune up. So, I go back to the steps and rework them from Step 1 through Step 12. This has gotten me through some very difficult times and I know I have awakened spiritually some more.

All I can say is working the steps and practicing the principles has opened my consciousness to the goodness of life and the joy of living. Being sober in **A.A.** has been the best thing that ever happened to me!



**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

December 2025

(Excerpt from The Central Bulletin, "The A.A. Program – Spiritual But Never Religious)

#### **What About This Spiritual Awakening Thing?**

Nevertheless, the phrase "spiritual awakening," found in the Twelfth Step and throughout A.A. literature, remains daunting to many beginners. For some, it conjures up a dramatic "conversion" experience - not an appealing idea to an alcoholic just coming off a drunk. To others, beaten down by years of steady drinking, it seems completely out of reach. But for those who persevere, ongoing sobriety almost invariably brings the realization that - in some wonderful and unexpected way - they have indeed experienced a spiritual change.

Spirituality, A.A. style, is the result of action. Step Twelve begins, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps..." (italics added), and in the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* (page 106), Bill W. describes what happens: "Maybe there are as many definitions of spiritual awakening as there are people who have had them. But certainly each genuine one has something in common with all the others.... When a man or woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being. He has been set on a path which tells him he is really going somewhere, that life is not a dead end, not something to be endured or mastered. In a very real sense he has been transformed, because he has laid hold of a source of strength which, in one way or another, he had hitherto denied himself."

Source - General Service Office, A Newsletter for Professionals, Fall 2003



**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

**December** 

2025

#### **Tradition 12**

Anonymity, as we observe it in AA, is at root a simple expression of humility. When we use the Twelve Steps to recover from alcoholism, we are each trying to achieve real humility, to put our self-respect on a solid base of truth, rather than on fantasies about ourselves. When we use the Twelve Traditions to work together in AA, we are all trying to achieve humility; as individual members, by recognising our true place in AA; as a fellowship, by recognizing AA's true place in the world.

Tradition One reminds each of us that we are not recovering on our own, that we should control our personal desires and ambitions in order to guard the unity of our group and our Fellowship. We ought not (Tradition Two) fancy ourselves as big shots in AA, no matter what office we hold.

All of us are just alcoholics together, and in our groups we are not entitled (Tradition Three) to rule on the qualifications of other alcoholics seeking the same help that we've had. Yes, a group needs humility too. It may make its name public, but in the spirit of anonymity it should see the Whatever Group as merely part of a bigger whole (Tradition Four), careful in every enterprise to consider the welfare of all the other groups that make up AA. In both group and individual activities, we should remember what the full name of our Fellowship is. It does not represent any established religion, nor is it a new religion. We are not evangelists or gurus out to save humanity; we are anonymous alcoholics trying to help other alcoholics (Tradition Five).

In the rising battle against alcoholism, we ought not let our pride in AA mislead us into linking our Fellowship with other agencies, in order to bid for a share in their power, prestige, and funds. If we keep Tradition Six and Seven in mind, we will instead direct all our efforts toward AA's own unique purpose.

When we go on Twelfth Step calls, we should not tell ourselves how noble we are for doing such valuable work without pay. The meaning of Twelfth Step work cannot be measured in money (Tradition Eight), and we have received advance pay for it, in coin of far greater worth—our very lives. In the same Tradition, it's suggested that a service centre maintains AA humility by paying its employees decent wages—rather than considering AA so virtuous an outfit that employment there is a favour.

When we are given special responsibilities within AA, Tradition Nine defines these as opportunities to serve, not titles to flaunt. The humility of the Fellowship itself is safeguarded by Tradition Ten, with the refusal to set ourselves up as general authorities, swinging our collective weight around in the public arena.

We do not want to sell our program as a "surefire remedy" in the extravagant terms of a promotional campaign (Tradition Eleven), or dramatise it by identifying noted people in AA, thereby implying that recovery has been for each of us an individual accomplishment. As Tradition Twelve reminds us, we have something stronger than our human personalities to rely on. Our principles come first—and they are not our own invention. They reflect eternal spiritual values. With this Tradition, both as individuals and as a fellowship, we humbly acknowledge our dependence on a power higher than ourselves.

Reprinted from https://www.twelvetraditionsstudy.org/traditions/tradition-12



#### MAKES ME LAUGH

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

**December 2025** 









3 drunk guys enterd a taxi. The taxi driver knew that they were drunk so he started the engine & turned it off again. Then said, "We have reached your destination". The 1st guy gave him money & the 2nd guy said "Thank you". The 3rd guy slapped the driver. The driver was shocked thinking the 3rd drunk knew what he did. But then he asked "What was that for?". The 3rd guy replied, "Control your speed next time, you nearly killed us!"



#### 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.



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.



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.



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



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.



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



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



*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.



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



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



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.



Worship in your own way.



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



#### NORTHEAST REGIONAL FORUM

2025 Area 61

www.aainri.com www.aa.org/event/2025-northeast-regional-forum

#### WHAT'S A FORUM?

A.A. Regional Forums are hosted by the A.A. General Service Board . They provide unique opportunities for A.A. members in our region to connect with people throughout the A.A. service structure.

#### WHO ATTENDS?

- The General Service Board
- A.A. World Services Inc.
- A.A. Grapevine Inc.
- The General Service Staff and Grapevine Staff
- A.A. Members
- Newcomers to service
- Trusted servants

#### WHY ATTEND?

- 1. Open to all members and registration is free and will be available on www.aa.org
- 2. Attend panels, workshops, presentations; including sharing sessions with time for questions and comments.
- 3. Enhance trust and communication between the General Service Board, staff, directors of GSO and Grapevine, and members of A.A.



#### **WHEN**

December 5th-7th 2025

#### WHERE

Omni Providence Hotel
 1 W Exchange Street
 Providence, RI, 02903

www.omnihotels.com/hotels/provid ence



If you are planning to attend the Forurm and need Spanish, French or ASL interpretation, please reach out to regionalfourms@aa.org so accomodations can be made.

#### Change of Life Group's

## 4 th

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

WHEN: Thursday, December 11, 2025

WHERE: Christ Luthern Church
5101 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20011

TIME: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

**POTLUCK** 

**Bring a dish to share** and join us as we celebrate 44 years!



## oel Ray Club presents...



#### NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

live music by

great food by





Live music 50-50 raffle

6:30 pm doors 7:30 AA Meeting

New Year countdown' Join us for a sober new year's eve party!

TICKETS: \$30 ON EVENTBRITE: tinyurl.com/cs794saj SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT: delrayclub1@comcast.net



Bethesda Presbyterian 7611 Clarendon Road Bethesda, MD 20814 301.718.7769







#### Registration is open

Special Online Forum for Deaf Alcoholics Anonymous Members Saturday, January 17, 2026

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (PDT) 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. (EST)

A Language and Cultural Special Forum for Deaf A.A. Members who use American Sign Language (ASL), Langue des Signes Québécoise (LSQ) & Lengua de Señas Mexicana (LSM)

Panel 1: Deaf A.A. Community Culture & Language

Panel 2: Is A.A. Accessible for Deaf Members?

Panel 3: Interpreters, Safety & Inclusion

Panel 4: Your Connection to the Office/General Service Board

Panel 5: What Resources are Available?

Town Hall: How Can A.A. Improve?

This General Service Office event will be held online and facilitated by Deaf A.A. members.

#### Why attend?

- Fellowship with Deaf A.A. members throughout the U.S./Canada.
- Share your ideas on how we can improve carrying the message to still suffering Deaf alcoholics.
- Learn how the general service structure works.

Together, we will work on solutions to better meet the needs of Deaf members and strengthen the connection between the Deaf community and the wider A.A. Fellowship.



## 2026 FOOTPRINTS IN THE WINTER SAND



TICKETS ONLINE ONLY

REGISTRATION
BEGINS

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2025** 

footprintsinthewintersand.com

HYATT REGENCY RESORT & SPA CAMBRIDGE, MD

JANUARY 30th ~ FEBRUARY 1st 2026

#### FOR MORE INFO AND RESERVATIONS CONTACT JOSH R: 540-878-3970













# 36TH ANNUAL SESSIONS

50% deposit due by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Deposits are non refundable



A WEEKEND OF SKIING, SNOWBOARDING, SOBRIETY, AND FELLOWSHIP IN KILLINGTON, VERMONT

F E B U A R Y 2 2 N D - 2 7 T H 2 0 2 6

\$825 for a Double (rooming with a roommate) \$1320 for a Single room (by yourself)

Price includes 5 days of lodging at Cascades lodge in Killington and 4 day (Mon- Thurs) lift tickets at Killington and Mount Pico

PRICE INCLUDES LODGING AND LIFTPASS. WE WILL NOT REDUCE THE PRICE TO EXCLUDE LIFT-PASSES. PRICE IS SET! SOME 3-4 PERSON ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE AND PRICE CAN BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY. PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION AND MEALS!!

### SOUTHERN MARYLAND'S 15TH ANNUAL ROUNDUP

with Al-Anon Participation

# March 20-22, 2026

DoubleTree by Hilton Annapolis, Maryland





Registration Opens September 1, 2025



To register and for lodging information, visit www.southernmarylandroundup.org Email Questions to

info@southernmarylandroundup.org

## PRICING

Oklahoma City, OK

Ocala, FL

Ginny Q.

CIIF G.

SPEAKERS

Early-Bird Registration through January 31, 2026: \$50

Saturday Buffet Dinner (WILL SELL OUT QUICKLY): \$40

Registration Beginning February 1, 2026:

Oklahoma City, OK

Los Angeles, CA

Ralph W.

Louisville, KY

Amy D.

"WE HAD TO FEARLESSLY FACE THE PROPOSITION THAT EITHER GOD IS EVERTHING OR ELSE HE IS NOTHING."

~ BB, PG. 53



#### • CALENDAR • DIGITAL REPORTER

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

December 2025

#### Area 13 WAGSA Committee Meeting

#### In Person

December 8, 2025

Orientation for GSRs + DCMs 6:00 PM—7:00 PM

WAGSA Committee Meeting - 7:00 PM—9:00 PM

5656a 3rd St NE, Washington, DC 20011

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.

#### WAIA Monthly Board Meeting

WAIA monthly Board meeting—2nd Tuesday of the month (except August)

December 9, 2025-8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**8:00– 9:00 PM**—WAIA monthly business meeting. 2026 Executive Committee Elections tonight

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?

pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09

Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434

Passcode: 819862

Dial-In: 301-715-8592, Passcode: 819862



#### CONTRIBUTIONS

JanJan (01, 2025 + Nov 21, 2025

#### WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

• NUMBER 12

Opecember 2025

492	9:30 Club Online	1260	Epiphanies	240	Mitchellville Group	
97	11th Step Practice	97	Foggy Bottom Young Peeps	175	Monday Winners	
120	14 Promises	940	Free Spirits	235	Montrose Gay	
373	Anacostia Group	1500	Friendship Group	275	Mont. County Women	Online
686	Andrew's Armed Forces	371	Glen Echo Group	701	More Peace of Mind	
351	Any Lengths	250	Glenarden Group	213	Mt. Rainer	
114	As Bill Sees It NW	4788	Greenbelt Step Club	300	Moving Into Solution	
111	Aspen Hill Phoenix-Friday	300	Georgetown Group	950	Navy Yard Big Book	
954	Attitude & Action	300	Goldsboro Group	100	Neareast Group	
101	Beginners are Winners Live	312	Good News Beginners	180	N.E. Sunrise	
426	Beginners R Winners Zoom	350	Goose Hung High	87	Never Walk Alone	
300	Brightwood Live	100	Greenbelt Step Club	465	New Beginnings NW	
757	Broad Highway	12	Growing Group	536	New Beginnings Women	
935	Burtonsville Big Book	146	Grupo Washintoniano	66	New Hope 123	
915	B.Y.O.L.	257	Heliotrope Men's Stag	242	New Unity Gay	
315	B.Y.O.L. (nonsmokers)	75	Hope Fellowship	105	Northeast New Hope	
40	Carmody Hills Group	241	How It Works Germantown	400	N.W. Metro	
984	Capitol Hill Group	157	High Sobriety	503	Norbeck Women Friday	
120	Change of Life	120	Hyattsville Hope Online	100	Norbeck Women-Wedn.	
124	Cedar Lane Women's Group	250	Hyattsville Hope Live	100	Nuts & Bolts	
210	Clinton 6:30	117	Imp'ving Conscious Contact	271	Oasis Women Big Book	
50	Clinton Sun. Night	406	Informed Group	100	Old Fashion Group	
234	Coffee & Donuts	344	Irreverent Women	540	Olney New Times	
320	College Park Group	1800	Into Action	1108	Olney Stag Rap	
575	Corona Vagabond	481	Just 4-2 Day	42	On Awakening	
1622	Cosmopolitan Group	200	Language of the Heart	250	One Day At a time Lanham	
48	Daily Reflections SW	200	Leisure World Noon	174	On the Circle	
105	Daily Reflections UP	10	Let Go Let God	141	Out to Lunch	
73	Darne Good Big Book	145	Liberty Group	100	Out of the Woods	
2168	Darnestown Men's	150	Life Is Good	5352	P Street	
218	Darnestown Men's Online	171	Lifesaver Big Book	14	Pointer Ridge Group	
875	DCC 9:30 Club Live	130	Menace 2 Serenity	60	Petworth Group	
162	Deanwood Step Group	407	Men's Adhoc	220	Potomac High Noon	
260	Deanwood Women's Rap	660	Messengers	808	Potomac Women	
5000	Del Ray Club	368	Mideast Group	443	Progress Not Perfection	
151	District 20	2110	Midtown	107	Queer Wo', Non-B, Trans.	



#### CONTRIBUTIONS

Jan 1, 2025-4 November 21, 2025

#### WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

NUMBER 12

December 2025

414	Quince	Orchard

483 Radicals

244 Redgate

174 Riderwood Bills

480 Room with A View

254 Rosedale Sobriety

191 Saturday Afternoon-UP

440 Saturday Morn. Steps

100 Sat. Night Happy Hour

202 Serenity

405 Serenity House

280 Serious Business

180 Sheepherders

276 Silver Spring Beginners BB

500 Silver Spring Group

122 Simply Sober

625 Six & Seven Step In-Person

240 Six & Seven Step Online

693 Sober Living

254 Southern Sobriety

4957 Spiritual Awakening

272 St. Barnabas Women

52 St. Mary's Gay

425 St. Francis Group

70 Sunday Men's Step

870 Sunday Morning Breakfast

144 Sunday Morning Brunch

200 Sunday Morning Joy

2334 Sunshine G'bura

720 Takoma Pk Necessity

198 T.G.I. 5:30 Online

5 The Way Group

247 Thursday Small Group

800 Twelve Point Bucks

200 Upper Marlboro Step

700 Victory Lights

91 Village Idiots

736 We Are All Beginners

943 We Care

245 Wednesday Night Winners

256 Westmoreland Women

34 Westside Beginners

566 Westside Women

317 What's Happening Now

137 Women's Lit

1036 Women Living Sober

210 Woodridge Pit Stop

1150 Yacht Club

544 Birthday

5751 Faithful Fivers

28843 Individuals

100 Memorial



You can make a contribution directly to WAIA for your Group or as an individual:

https://aa-dc.org/give



#### SUBSCRIBE

WASHINGTON AREA INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

**VOLUME 62** 

**ONUMBER 12** 

**December 2025** 

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

Mail to: WAIA

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

\$15.00 per year, \$28.00 for two years

\$12.00 Group Rate per year

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.

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 62** 

**NUMBER 12** 

**December 2025** 

#### 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.

Guess who it really Helps?

**VOLUNTEER** 

Call 202-966-9783



#### December 2025