



# Interviews

## April

## 2021



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### A MEMBER SHARES...

### A.A. OLDTIMERS ... ON THE FOURTH STEP

A.A. Grapevine, February 1945. Vol. 1 No. 9

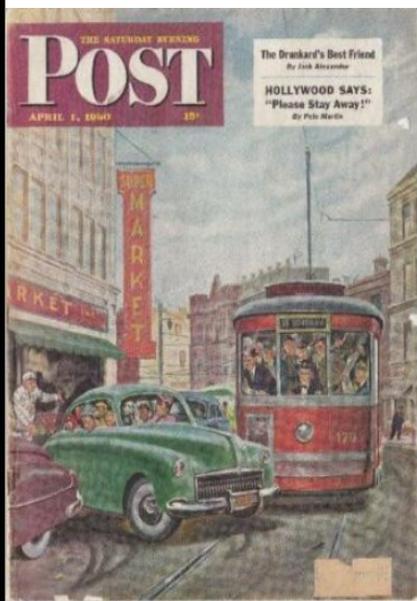
*"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."*

Since I cannot speak for anyone else, I'll have to make my experience with the 4th step autobiographical. Before Alcoholics Anonymous, I tried almost daily to stop drinking. I hated myself constantly. I could not understand why such a wonderful person as I was would do the things I did. I was in a constant state of mental turmoil and misery, and I knew that I could not handle liquor.



*...Continued on Page 3*

After the wildly successful 1941 *Saturday Evening Post* article by Jack Alexander, Bill W. wrote to Jack with a request — Bill W. was interested in a follow-up article and was hoping Alexander would write one.



*Nine Years after the 1941 article — "Alcoholics Anonymous Freed Slaves of Drink, now they Free Others" came the April 1, 1950 follow-up ...*

### "The Drunkard's Best Friend".

On June 9, Jack Alexander replied that he had always thought about writing a follow-up but had never gotten around to it. He also writes that there is trouble with the idea and says:

*There is basic trouble about it, though; I don't see, offhand, where there is enough new material to justify a second look. True, the number of AA's has ballooned enormously, but that in itself is merely statistical. The basic story—the psychology of drinkers, how the AA's work on them, the steps towards arresting the habit—remains unchanged; or so it seems to me.*

On December 13, 1949 Bill W. wrote to Jack Alexander outlining the major turning points in the AA movement which included the decision to leave the Oxford Group, about Rockefeller insisting they did not need money, the formation of the Alcoholic Foundation, and the first two chapters of the Big Book.

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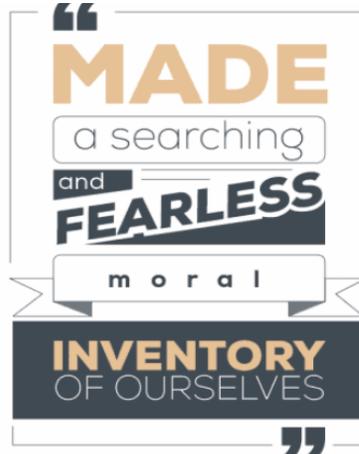
# Step 4

Creation gave us instincts for a purpose. Without them we wouldn't be complete human beings.

Yet these instincts, so necessary for our existence, often far exceed their proper functions. Powerfully, blindly, many times subtly, they drive us, dominate us, and insist upon ruling our lives.

We want to find exactly how, when, and where our natural desires have warped us. We wish to look squarely at the unhappiness this has caused others and ourselves. By discovering what our emotional deformities are, we can move toward their correction. Without a willing and persistent effort to do this, there can be little sobriety or contentment for us. Without a searching and fearless moral inventory, most of us have found that the faith which really works in daily living is still out of reach.

—*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, pp. 42-43.  
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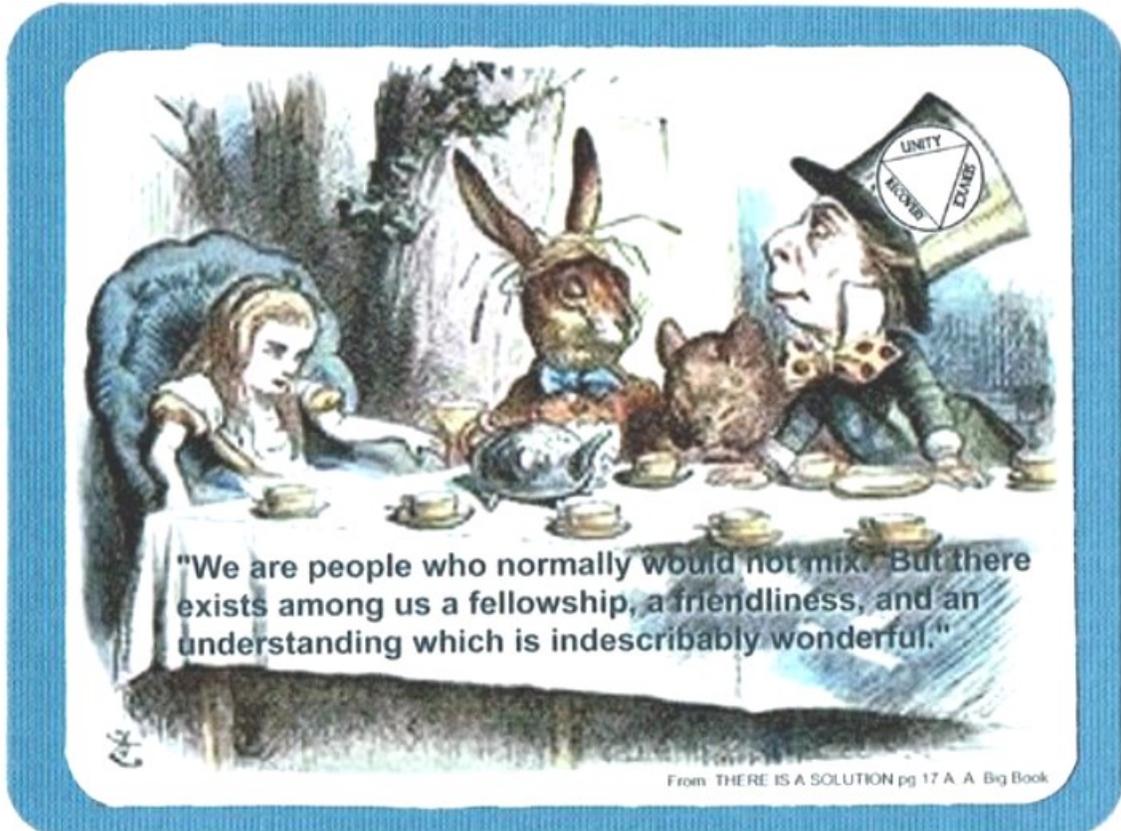
## COVID-19 ONE YEAR LATER ...

The news on the COVID-19 pandemic front is decidedly mixed. The State of Pennsylvania has announced that it will declare all adults eligible for the vaccine on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Philadelphia is on a slightly slower timeline and will open up vaccinations to all adults by May 1<sup>st</sup>. However, cases of new infections are on the rise again in Pennsylvania, and several new variants have been detected which are more contagious than the original. All of this means it is still unclear when restrictions on public gatherings will be eased, and thus the fate of many five-county A.A. meetings that have temporarily closed remain in limbo.



See our website for all the latest in-person, online, and phone meeting information: [aasepia.org](http://aasepia.org). We reply on the fellowship to keep our meeting lists up to date. If your homegroup has made a change recently, please fill out the [meeting changes](#) form

***Our hotline remains open  
24 hours a day for any alcoholic  
wishing to talk: 215-923-7900.***

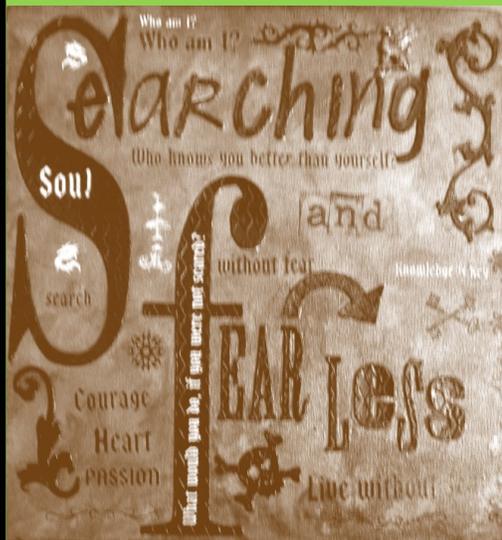


"We are people who normally would not mix. But there exists among us a fellowship, a friendliness, and an understanding which is indescribably wonderful."

From THERE IS A SOLUTION pg 17 A. A. Big Book

*...Continued from Page 1*

On coming into A.A., I had already taken the 1st step, but the 2nd and 3rd steps were discouraging, as I had no faith in a Higher Power. I tried to believe, and would have gladly forced myself to do so, were that possible, because I really wanted to succeed with the A.A. program. However, I skipped over these for the moment, as I was advised to do, and went on to the 4th step. . . .



I tried to make a “searching and fearless moral inventory,” and discovered that it was difficult to push my pride and egotism aside sufficiently to get a better view of myself. My first attempt was neither searching nor fearless, but it was a very important start, and I developed and revised it over many months. During this time, I began to see myself as a person who was riddled with resentments, selfishly expecting life to treat me well; a super-sensitive person always inclined to feel hurt about everything that was not to my liking, and intolerant of any opinion differing from my own. I began to see that my thinking was based on fear and vague worries. I saw more. I realized that this very special person I had imagined myself to be could do nothing directly against the power of alcohol. But I began to see how the person I was beginning to understand could outflank old John and attack the cause of the drinking.

For years, I had wanted desperately to do something about my drinking. This, I knew, was impossible. But the 4th step taught me that I could do something about the cause of my drinking. By trying to do something about myself, I found that I did not need to drink. The 4th step showed me what was needed to be done. Without this knowledge, I doubt if sobriety would have been possible for me. The 4th step is just that important.

***Richard S., A.A. Member***

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**Attention all A.A. members in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties!**

***Check your meeting listings posted on the SEPIA website and with the nicer weather and longer days PLEASE inform us of any updates to outdoor meetings as well. Newcomers rely on us to find meetings and we need you to provide us the information!***



## TRADITION FOUR

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole

As always, freedom brings responsibility. Because each group *is* autonomous, it's up to each group to avoid any action that might harm A.A. And there *have* been such actions, or this Tradition would be unnecessary. "Implicit throughout A.A.'s Traditions," Bill W. wrote, "is the confession that our Fellowship has its sins. We admit that we have character defects as a society and these defects threatens us continually."

Blown up to multiple size, the Big Ego may inspire one group to take over all the public information work for its area, without consulting any of the other local groups. Once the group has decided, "We have all the answers," the lid's off. The group may then decide that, let's say, the Eleventh Tradition is an outdated technicality: "This is a competitive age! We're going to come right out and give A.A. some good, vigorous promoting!" To the general public, this one conspicuous group *is* A.A. Its antics reflect, not only on the ignored neighboring groups, but on the entire Fellowship.

—*The Twelve Traditions Illustrated* Copyright © 1971 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.



## Seek and Find Autonomy

C L U H U R Y Y Y W Y E H L O  
 P S E H C T B X M T E X N R F  
 L R S C R R C G E Y B P O F I  
 R I I E N O O I E F Y E I O N  
 F T B N U E R M K R Y R T N D  
 W I U R C B I M U P K I A N E  
 L M A P O I X C Y H R E I H P  
 K G S S B Q P Q S T U N L S E  
 E H T M W S G L N N U C I F N  
 B G R O N T U J E G O E F W D  
 L A U D I V I D N I I C F D E  
 K P A E Z W S U R V I V A L N  
 S E R E N I T Y X W V K N L T  
 E B D R Y T I L I M U H O C H  
 Z V W F S H B Q S K I I N S S

Find the Tradition Four words in the puzzle.  
 Words may read across, up and down,  
 or diagonally.

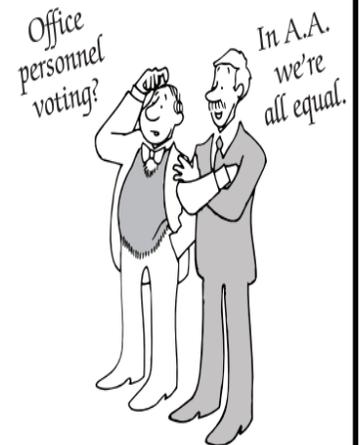
- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| CONSCIENCE  | INDIVIDUAL     |
| COURAGE     | LIBERTY        |
| EXPERIENCE  | NONAFFILIATION |
| FREEDOM     | PRINCIPLE      |
| HUMILITY    | SERENITY       |
| HUMOR       | SOBRIETY       |
| INDEPENDENT | SURVIVAL       |

## Concept IV

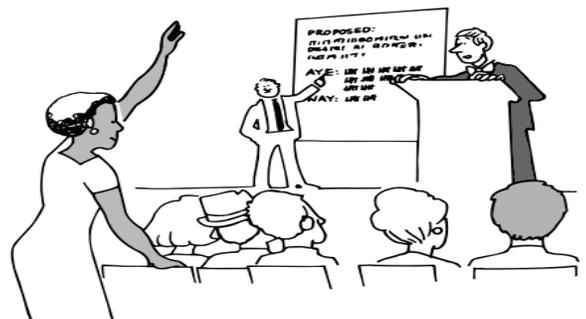
### "Right of Participation"

Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

... There is a spiritual reason for the "Right of Participation." All of us desire to belong. In A.A., no members are "second class." The "Right of Participation" therefore reinforces Tradition Two, that no member is placed in "ultimate authority" over another. We perform our service tasks better "when we are sure we belong—when our 'participation' assures us we are truly the 'trusted servants' described in Tradition Two."



—*The Twelve Concepts Illustrated*. Copyright © 2017 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.



...Continued from Page 1

## The Drunkard's Best Friend

by Jack Alexander

*Nine year's ago the Post reported on the then-obscure group known as Alcoholics Anonymous. Since that time these self-rehabilitated men-and women-have sobered up an astonishing number of America's heaviest drinkers. This is how they do it ...*

When a farmer in Aroostook County, Maine, announces that he is going to bake a cake, he is speaking figuratively. What he means is that he is bored with the loneliness of Aroostook's vast reaches, with the county's most famous product, potatoes, and with life in general; and that, to relieve his boredom, he is going on a vanilla-extract bender. In order to buy liquor he might have to drive as much as a hundred miles, over drifted or rutted roads, to reach a town uninhibited by local option. He tipsles on vanilla, which is rich in alcohol, because it is easily and legally obtainable, in quantity, at the nearest grocery store. Grocers in local-option towns ordinarily do a thriving vanilla business with alcoholically inclined agrarians, but of late the strange society known as Alcoholics Anonymous has taken root in Aroostook and a disturbing effect on the vanilla turnover has been observed.

"You wouldn't believe it, Ned," one storekeeper lamented to a drummer on a gray day last November, "but my vanilla sales is almost down to normal."

The impact of Alcoholics Anonymous upon a community is not always that striking, but it is doing quite well at its self-appointed task, which, as almost everyone knows by now, is that of helping confirmed drunks to quit drinking. The help is provided solely by alcoholics who, through adhering to a specified program of living, have managed to arrest their own disastrous drinking habits. (AA members never call themselves ex-alcoholics, regardless of the length of their sobriety, the theory being that they are ineradicably alcoholics by temperament, and are therefore always vulnerable to a relapse.)



Alcoholism is a mysterious and repellent malady, with perhaps as many as a million victims in this country.

During the past few years Alcoholics Anonymous has extended its influence overseas, and one of its more dedicated workers is the honorable secretary of the Dublin group. A Sandhurst graduate and a veteran of twenty-six years in the British Army, he is still remembered in some portions of the Middle East for his inspired work with the bottle. Now an abstainer, he lives off his major's pension and the profits of a small retail business. Like all faithful members of AA, he spends much of his spare time in shepherding other luses toward total abstinence, lest he revert to the pot himself.

The honorable secretary is a man of few spoken words, but he carries on a large correspondence within the fraternity. His letters, which are notable for their eloquent understatement, are prized by fellow AAs in this country and are passed around at meetings. One of his more fascinating communiqués, received here in October, described a missionary trip to Cork, in company with another AA gentleman. The purpose of the trip was to bring the glad tidings of freedom to any Corkonians who might happen to be besotted and unshriven, and to stimulate the local group, which was showing small promise.

This was the honorable secretary's chronological report:

- **8 p.m.** The chairman and myself sat alone.
- **8:05** One lady arrived, a nonalcoholic
- **8:15** One man arrived
- **8:20** A County Cork member arrived to say he couldn't stay, as his children had just developed measles.



**Jack Alexander**

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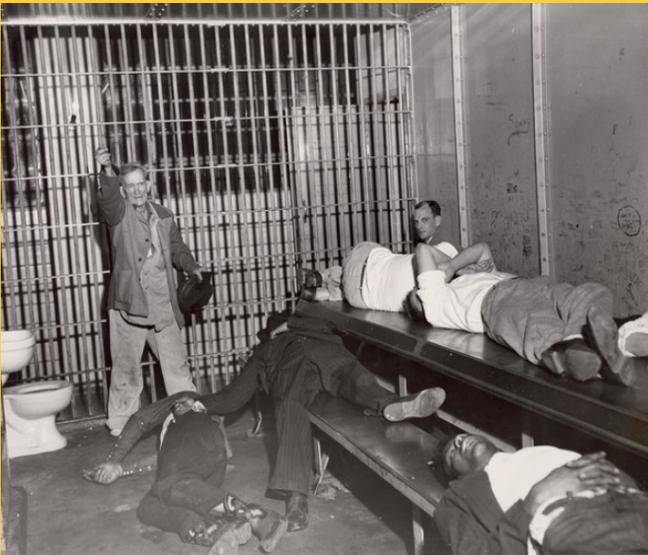
- 8:25 The lone lady departed.
- 8:30 Two more men arrived.
- 8:40 One more man arrived, and I decided to make a start.
- 8:45 The first man arrival stated that he had to go out and have a drink.
- 8:50 He came back.
- 8:55 Three more arrived.
- 9:10 Another lady, propped up by a companion, arrived, gazed glassily around, collected some literature and departed unsteadily.
- 9:30 The chairman and I had finished speaking.
- 9:45 We reluctantly said good night to the new members, who seemed very interested.

In summing up, the secretary said: "A night of horror at first, developing quite well. I think they have good prospects, once the thing is launched."

To a skeptic, the honorable secretary's happy prognosis in the face of initial discouragement may sound foolishly hopeful. To those already within the fraternity and familiar with the sluggardly and chaotic character of AA local-group growth in its early stages, he was merely voicing justifiable optimism. For some years after its inception, in 1935, the Alcoholics Anonymous movement itself made slow progress. As the work of salvaging other drunks is essential to maintaining the sobriety of the already-salvaged brethren, the earnest handful of early salvagees spent some worrisome months. Hundreds of thousands of toppers were prowling about in full alcoholic cry, but few would pause long enough to listen.

Six years after it all began, when this magazine first examined the small but encouraging phenomenon (*Post*, March 1, 1941), the band could count 2,000 members, by scraping hard, and some of these were still giving off residual fumes. In the nine years which have intervened since that report, the small phenomenon has become a relatively large one. Today its listed membership exceeds 90,000. Just how many of these have substantial sobriety records is a matter of conjecture, as the movement, which has no control at the top and is constantly ridden by maverick tendencies, operates in a four-alarm-fire atmosphere, and no one has the time to check up. A reasonable guess would be that about two thirds have been sober for anywhere from six months to fifteen years, and that the rest have stretched out their periods of sobriety between twisters to the point where they are at least able to keep their jobs.

The intake of shaky-fingered newcomers, now at its highest in AA history, is running at the rate of around 20,000 a year. The number that will stick is, again, a matter of conjecture. If experience repeats, according to AA old-timers, about one half will stay sober from the start, and one fourth will achieve sobriety after a few skids; the other one fourth will remain problem drinkers. A problem drinker, by definition, is one who takes a drink for some compulsive reason he cannot identify and, having taken it, is unable to stop until he is drunk and acting like a lunatic.



**1950's Drunk Tank**



**Women account for 15% of Alcoholics Anonymous's membership which now exceeds 90,000 and is increasing at a rate of 20,000 a year. A decade ago there were fewer than 2,000 members.**

## **How Many of the Four Million Will Join?**

It is tempting to become over sanguine about the success of Alcoholics Anonymous to date. Ninety thousand persons, roaring drunk or roaring sober, are but a drop in the human puddle, and they represent only a generous dip out of the human alcoholic puddle. According to varying estimates, between 750,000 and 1,000,000 problem drinkers are still on the loose in the United States alone. Their numbers will inevitably be swelled in future years by recruits from the ranks of between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000 Americans who, by medical standards, drink too much for their own good. Some of these millions will taper off or quit when they reach the age at which the miseries of a hangover seem too great a price to pay for an evening of artificially induced elation; but some will slosh over into the compulsive-drinker class.

*...Continued on Page 8*

**We Are NOT  
a Glum Lot!**

## FIVE-COUNTY AREA

Visit our website for the most up-to-date information: <https://aasepia.org/news/event-flyers/>.

**Saturday, April 3rd** — The Last Stop is hosting a FREE A.A. dance after the 8:00 pm meeting. 1810 East Somerset Street, Philadelphia. DJ, Food, Fun and Fellowship. Donations accepted. Put on your dancing shoes and join us!

**Thursday, April 8th The Philly Speaker Group** (Online) 8:00 pm EST. Dial In: 1-646-558-8656, ID: 993 656 056, Password: 023214.

**Friday, April 16 through Sunday, April 18** —SEPIA 54th Annual Round-Up (Online). The Virtual Round-Up will be back and even better than last year's! See page 21 for more details. Tee Shirts, Pullovers and Hoodies will be available to order online soon.

## VIRTUAL and LIVE

*"Just like being there!"*

Online Meetings are being held in April 2021.  
**Become an Intergroup Rep (IGR)!**  
Contact your Zone Liaison or the SEPIA Office.

**MONTHLY ZONE MEETINGS**  
**FOR MONDAY, APRIL 12TH AT 7:00 PM**  
**SEE PAGE 23 FOR ONLINE VIDEO INFORMATION**

### INTERGROUPS



#### **Bucks County Zone** meets at:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
877 Street Road (at Churchville),  
Southampton, PA 18966

**Online Video Conference**

#### **Chester County Zone** meets at:

307 Clubhouse, 700 S. Bradford Avenue,  
West Chester, PA 19382

**Online Video Conference**

#### **Delaware County Zone** meets at:

The Tree of Life Church  
933 Baltimore Pike, Springfield (19064)

**Online Video Conference**

#### The **Montgomery County Zone** meets at:

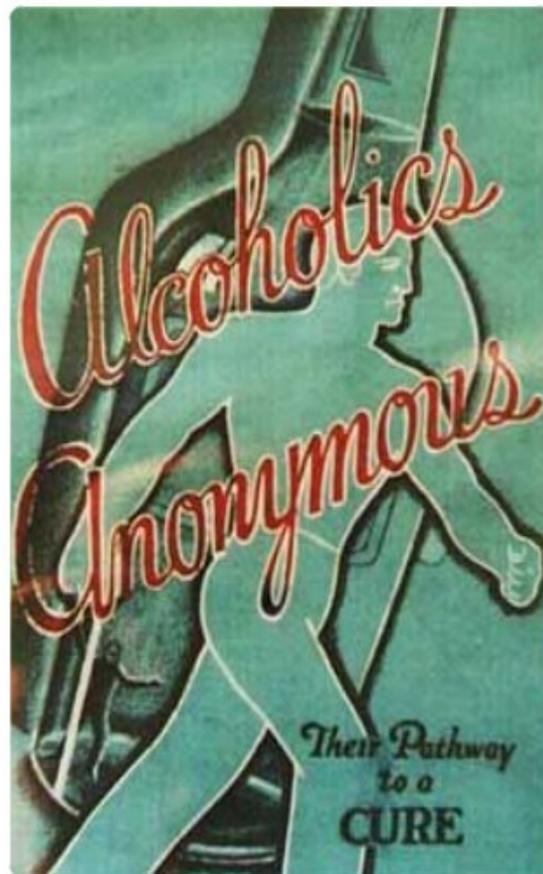
Church of the Messiah, 1001 DeKalb Pike (Rt. 202), Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

**Online Video Conference**

#### The **Philadelphia County Zone** meets at:

St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, 817 North 7th Street, Philadelphia (19123)

**Online Video Conference**



***One of the suggested titles and cover for our Big Book in the early days.***

**...Continued from Page 6**

The origins of alcoholism, which is now being widely treated as a major public-health problem, are as mysterious as those of cancer. They are perhaps even harder to pin down, because they involve psychic as well as physical elements. Currently, the physical aspect is being investigated by universities and hospitals, and by publicly and privately financed foundations. Some large business and industrial firms, concerned about reduced productivity and absenteeism, are providing medical and psychiatric aid to alcoholic employees. The firms' physicians are also digging into the alcoholic

puzzle. The most plausible tentative explanation that any of these investigative efforts has come up with is that alcoholism is a sickness resembling that caused by various allergies.

Psychiatry has its own approach to the problem; it is successful in only a small percentage of cases. Clergymen, using a spiritual appeal, and the beset relatives of alcoholics, using everything from moral suasion to a simple bat in the jaw, manage to persuade a few chronics to become unchronic. So does one school of institutional treatment, which insists that alcoholism is solely the result of "twisted thinking" and aims at unraveling the mental quirks.

But the Alcoholics Anonymous approach — which leans on medicine, uses a few elementary principles of psychiatry and employs a strong spiritual weapon — is the only one which has done anything resembling a mop-up job. Whatever one's attitude toward AA may be, and a

***"Duffy's Tavern" is part of the drying-out ward at Manhattan's Knickerbocker Hospital, where alcoholics go through a five-day rebuilding course that includes medical care and a high-vitamin diet.***

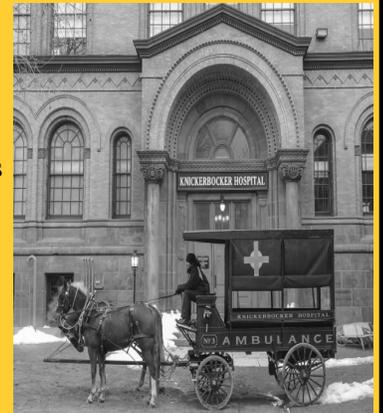
lot of people are annoyed by its sometimes ludicrous strivings and its deadpan thumping of the sobriety tub, one can scarcely ignore its palpable results. To anyone who has ever been a drunk or who has had to endure the alcoholic cruelties of a drunk—and that would embrace a large portion of the human family — 90,000 alcoholics reconverted into working citizens represent a massive dose of pure gain. In human terms, the achievements of Alcoholics Anonymous stand out as one of the few encouraging developments of a rather grim and destructive half-century.

Drunks are prolific of excuses for their excessive drinking, and the most frequent alibi is that no one really understands what a struggle they have. With more than 3,000 AA groups at work in the United States, and every member a veteran of the struggle, this excuse is beginning to lose its validity, if it ever had any validity. In most cities of any size the fraternity has a telephone listed in its own name. A nickel call will bring a volunteer worker who won't talk down to a drunk, as the average nonalcoholic has a way of doing, but will talk convincingly in the jargon of the drunk. The worker won't do any urging; he will describe the Alcoholics Anonymous program in abbreviated form and depart. The drunk is invited to telephone again if he is serious about wanting to become sober. Or a drunk, on his own initiative or in tow of a relative, may drop in at the AA office, where he will receive the same non-evangelistic treatment. In the larger cities the offices do a rushing trade, especially after weekends or legal holidays. Many small-town and village groups maintain clubrooms over the bank or feed store; in one Canadian town the AAs share quarters with a handbook operator, using it by night after the bookie has gone home. Some of these groups carry a standing classified advertisement in the daily or weekly newspaper. If they don't, a small amount of inquiry will disclose the meeting place of the nearest group; a local doctor, or clergyman, or policeman will know.



***1950's A drunk man passed out on the streets of the UK.***

To some extent, the same easy availability obtains in the twenty-six foreign countries where AA has gained a foothold. This is especially true of the nations of the British Commonwealth, particularly Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which together list more AA members than the whole movement could boast nine years ago; and of the Scandinavian countries, where membership is fairly strong. At a recent AA banquet in Oslo, Norway, 400 members celebrated their deliverance, drinking nothing stronger than water. Throughout Scandinavia the members bolster the program by using Antibuse, the new European aversion drug. This practice is deplored by some AA members as showing a lack of faith in the standard AA program, but, of course, nothing is done, or can be done, about it, since the program is free to anyone who thinks he needs it and he may adapt it in any way that suits him.



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More often than not, though, disregard of the standard admonitions backfires. A bibulous Scottish baronet found this out when, returning from London, where he caught the spark from a local group, he set out ambitiously to dry up Edinburgh, a hard-drinking town. But he tried it by remote control, so to speak, hiring a visiting American AA to do the heavy work. This violated the principle that the arrested drunk must do drunk-rescuing work himself in order to remain sober. Besides, the Scottish drunks wouldn't listen to a hired foreign pleader. In no time at all, and without getting a convert, the baronet and his hireling were swacked to the eyeballs and crying on each other's shoulders. After the American had gone home the baronet stiffened up, abandoned the traditions of his class and started all over again, cruising the gutters himself, visiting drunks in their homes and in hospitals and prisons. Edinburgh is now in the of win column, and there are also groups in Glasgow, Dundee, Perth and Campbeltown, all offshoots of Edinburgh.

Alcoholism on a large scale seems to be most common in highly complex civilizations. These tend to breed the neuroses of which uncontrolled drinking is just one outward expression. A man in a more primitive setting, bound closely to earthy tasks and the constant battle with Nature, is apt to again. It is treat his frustrations by ignoring them or by working them off.

Alcoholics Anonymous has nevertheless caught on in some out-of-the-way places. A liquor salesman for a British firm, who was seduced by his own merchandise, started a group in Cape Town, South Africa, which now has ninety members. There are also groups in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Durban and East London, and in Salisbury and Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. The group at Anchorage, Alaska, which started in a blizzard, has a dozen members, including one slightly puzzled Eskimo, and there are small groups in Palmer and Ketchikan. There is a small group in the leper colony at Molokai, nurtured by AAs from Honolulu, who fly there occasionally and conduct meetings.

The figures perhaps give too rosy a picture of the turbulent little world of Alcoholics Anonymous. Most of the members of any standing seem to be exceptionally happy people, with more the serenity of manner than most non-alcoholics are able to muster these jittery days; it is difficult to believe that they ever lived in the drunk's bewitched world. But some are still vaguely unhappy, though sober, and feel as if they were walking a tight wire. Treasurers occasionally disappear with funds and wind up, boiled, in another town. After this had happened a few times, groups were advised to keep the kitty low, and the practice now is to spend any appreciable surplus on a cake-and-coffee festival or picnic. This advice does not always work out; last year the members of a fresh and vigorous French-Canadian unit in Northern Maine, taking the advice to heart, debated so violently about how to spend their fifty-four dollars that all hands were drunk within 24 whole series of rebuffs. It is difficult at first for the recruit to achieve serenity.

As most groups are mixtures of men and women, a certain number of unconventional love affairs occur. More than one group has been thrown into a maelstrom of gossip and disorder by a determined lady whose alcoholism was complicated by an aggressive romantic instinct. Such complications are no more frequent than they are at the average country club; they merely stand out more baldly, and do more harm, in an emotionally explosive society. Special AA groups in 66 prisons around the nation are constantly trickling out graduates into the civilian groups. The ex-convicts are welcomed and are, for some reason, usually models of good behavior. A sanitarium or mental hospital background causes no more stir in an AA group than a string of college degrees would at the University Club; the majority of AAs are alumni of anywhere from one to fifty such institutions. Thus Alcoholics Anonymous is something of a Grand Hotel.

The ability of the arrested drunk to talk the active drunk's language convincingly is the one revolutionary aspect of the AA technique, and it does much to explain why the approach so often succeeds after other have failed. The rest of the technique is a synthesis of already existing ideas, some of which are centuries old. Once a community of language and experience has been established, it acts as a bridge over which the rest of the AA message can be conveyed, provided the subject is receptive.



when one alcoholic talks with another alcoholic.

**Keep talking!**



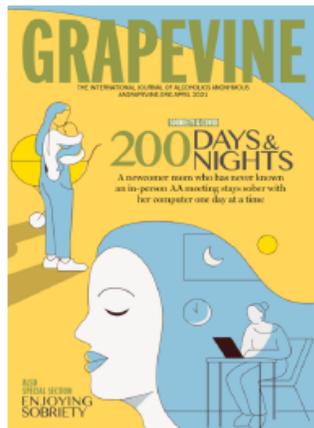
**Local Pub in Edinburgh**

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# GRAPEVINE News

Pass  
It  
Along!

## What's New For April 2021



### Grapevine

#### Current Issue Spotlight:

This month's Featured Section is "Fun in Sobriety." AA members share stories about diving into life, enjoying sobriety and having some fun. Also included are powerful stories of hope by members during the current COVID-19 crisis.

#### Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:

- **Cooperation With Professionals (CPC)** — Do you have experience with CPC service (providing doctors, therapists, clergy, lawyers, parole officers and other professionals information about AA)? Did you find out about AA because of this service? (stories due April 15, 2021)
- **Remote Communities & Sober Holidays** — Do you live in a remote community? Do you have challenges getting to AA? Do you serve on a remote communities committee? Share with us. Also how do you stay sober through the holidays? (stories due June 15, 2021)
- **We're always looking for stories of experience with each Step and each Tradition!**



### La Viña

#### Current Issue Spotlight:

This month's Special Section is "The Newcomer issue."

#### Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:

- **The family and AA** — (Stories due May 30, 2021)
- **Acceptance** — (Stories due July 30, 2021)
- **Newcomer issue** — (Stories due September 30, 2021)
- **We are always looking for stories on individual steps and traditions!**

### Coming Soon - In Late April 2 New Books!

Free on the Inside: Stories of AA  
Recovery in Prison.  
Women in AA (Spanish-language).



Visit the SEPIA website to place your  
Grapevine Book orders or call 215-923-7900

<https://sepialiterature.info/>

**...Continued from Page 9**

Across the bridge and inside the active alcoholics' mind lies an exquisitely tortured microcosm, and a steady member of Alcoholics Anonymous gets a shudder every time he looks into it again. It is a rat-cage world, kept hot by alcohol flame, and within it lives, or dances, a peculiarly touchy, defiant, and grandiose personality.



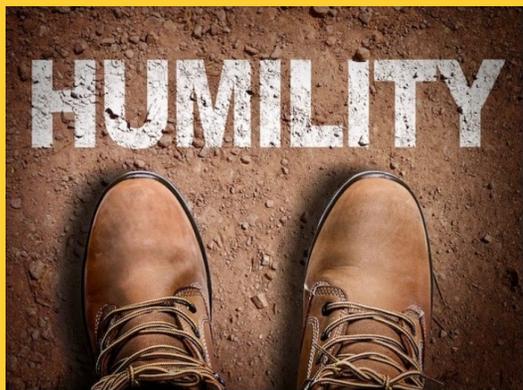
There is a sage saying in AA that “an alcoholic is just like a normal person, only more so.” He is egotistical, childish, resentful, and intolerant to an exaggerated degree. How he gets that way is endlessly debated, but a certain rough pattern is discernible in most cases. Many of those who ultimately become alcoholics start off as an only child, or as the youngest child in a family, or as a child with too solicitous a mother, or a father with an over-severe concept of discipline. When such a child begins getting his lumps from society, his ego begins to swell disproportionately – either from too easy triumphs or, as compensation, from being rebuffed in his attempts to win the approval of his contemporaries.

He develops an intense power drive, a feverish struggle to gain acceptance of himself at his own evaluation. A few of the power-drive boys meet with enough frustrations to send them into problem drinking while still in college or even while in high school. More often, on entering adult life, the prospective alcoholic is outwardly just about like anyone else his age, except that he is probably a little more cocky and aggressive, a little more hipped on the exhibitionistic charm routine, a little more plausible. He becomes a social drinker – that is, one who can stop after a few cocktails and enjoy the experience.

But at some place along the line his power drive meets up with an obstacle it cannot surmount – someone he loves refuses to love him, someone whose admiration he covets rejects him, some business or professional ambition is thwarted. Or he may encounter a whole series of rebuffs. The turning point may come quickly or it may be delayed for as long as 40 or 50 years. He begins to take his drinks in gulps, and before he realizes it he is off on a reeler. He loses jobs through drunkenness, embarrasses his family and alienates his friends. His world begins to shrink. He encounters the horrors of the “black-out,” the dawn experience of being unable to remember what he did the night before— how many checks he wrote and how large they were, whom he insulted, where he parked his car, whether or not he ran down someone on the way home. In the alcoholic world a nice distinction is made between the “black-out” and the simple “pass-out,” the latter being the relatively innocuous act of falling asleep from taking too much liquor. He jumps nervously whenever the doorbell or telephone rings, fearing that it may be a saloonkeeper with a rubber check, or a damage-suit lawyer, or the police.

He is frustrated and fearful, but is only vaguely conscious that his will, which is strong in most crises, fails him where liquor is concerned, although this is apparent to anyone who knows him. He nurses a vision of sobriety and tries all kind of self-rationing systems, none of which works for long. The great paradox of his personality is that in the midst of his troubles, his already oversize ego tends to expand; failure goes to his head. He continues, as the old saying has it, to rage through life calling for the headwaiter. In his dreams he is likely to see himself alone on a high mountain, masterfully surveying the world below. This dream, or some variant of it, will come to him whether he is sleeping in his own bed, or in a twenty-five-dollar-a-day hotel suite, or on a park bench, or in a psychopathic ward.

If he applies to Alcoholics Anonymous for help, he has taken an important step toward arresting his drink habit; he has at least admitted that alcohol has whipped him. This in itself is an act of humility, and his life thereafter must be a continuing effort to acquire more of this ancient virtue. Should he need hospitalization, his new friends will see that he gets it, if a local hospital will take him. Understandably, many hospitals are reluctant to accept alcoholic patients, because so many of them are disorderly. With this sad fact in mind, the society has persuaded several hospitals to set up separate alcoholic corridors and is helping to supervise the patients through supplying volunteer workers.

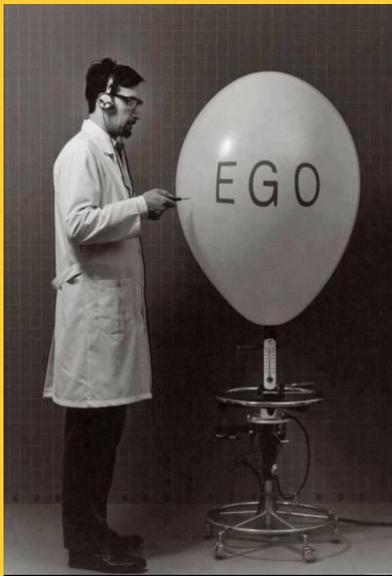


To the satisfaction of all concerned, including the hospital managements, which find the supervised corridors peaceful, more than 10,000 patients have gone through five-day rebuilding courses. The hospitals involved in this successful experiment are: St. Thomas' (Catholic) in Akron, St. John's (Episcopal) in Brooklyn and Knickerbocker (nonsectarian) in Manhattan.

They have set a pattern which the society would like to see adopted by the numerous hospitals which now accept alcoholics on a more restricted basis.

**...Continued on Page 12**

**...Continued on Page 11**



Early in the game the newcomer is subjected to a merciful but thorough deflating of his ego. It is brought home to him forcefully that if he continues his uncontrolled drinking—the only kind he is capable of—he will die prematurely, or go insane from brain impairment, or both. He is encouraged to apologize to persons he has injured through his drunken behavior; this is a further step in the ego-deflation process and is often as painful to the recipient of the apology as it is to the neophyte AA. He is further instructed that unless he will acknowledge the existence of a power greater than himself and continually ask this power for help, his campaign for sobriety will probably fail. This is the much-discussed spiritual element in Alcoholics Anonymous. Most members refer to this power as God; some agnostic members prefer to call it Nature, or the Cosmic Power, or by some other label. In any case, it is the key of the AA program, and it must be taken not on a basis of mere acceptance or acknowledgment, but of complete surrender.

This surrender is described by a psychiatrist, Dr. Harry M. Tiebout, of Greenwich, Connecticut, as a “conversion” experience, “a psychological event in which there is a major shift in personality manifestation.” He adds: “The changes which take place in the conversion process may be summed up by saying that the person who has achieved the positive frame of mind has lost his tense, aggressive, demanding, conscience-ridden self which feels isolated and at odds with the world, and has become, instead, a relaxed, natural, more realistic individual who can dwell in the world on a live-and-let-live basis.”

The personality change wrought by surrender is far from complete, at first. Elated by a few weeks of sobriety, the new member often enters what is known as the “Chautauqua phase” — he is always making speeches at business meetings on what is wrong with the society and how these defects can be remedied. Senior members let him talk himself out of this stage of behavior; if that doesn’t work, he may break away and form a group of his own. If he does this, he gradually becomes a quiet veteran himself and other Chautauqua-phase boys either oust him from leadership of his own group or break away themselves and form a new group. By this and other processes of fission the movement spreads. It can stand a lot of outstanding foolishness and still grow.

Drunks, as such, are too individualistic to be organized, and there is no top command in Alcoholics Anonymous to excommunicate, fine or otherwise penalize irrational behavior. However, services—such as publishing meeting bulletins, distributing literature, arranging for hospitalization, and so on — are organized in the larger centers. The local offices, which are operated and financed by the groups thereabouts, are autonomous. They are governed by representatives elected by the neighborhood groups to a rotating body called the Inter-group. There are no dues; all local expenses are met by a simple passing of the hat at group meetings.

A certain body of operational traditions has grown up over the years, and charged with maintaining them— by exhortation only — is something called the Alcoholic Foundation, which has offices at 415 Lexington Avenue, New York City. For a foundation it acts queerly about money; much of its time is consumed in turning down proffered donations and bequests. One tradition is that AA must be kept poor, as money represents power and the society prefers to avoid the temptations which power brings. As a check on the foundation itself, the list of trustees is weighted against the alcoholics by eight to seven. The nonalcoholic members are two doctors, a sociologist, a magazine editor, a newspaper editor, a penologist, an international lawyer and a retired businessman.

Preserving the principle of anonymity is one of the more touchy tasks of the foundation. Members are not supposed to be anonymous among their friends or business acquaintances, but they are when appearing before the public—in print or on radio or television, for example—as members of Alcoholics Anonymous. This limited anonymity is considered important to the welfare of the movement, primarily because it encourages members to subordinate their personalities to the principles of AA. There is also the danger that if a member becomes publicized as a salvaged alcoholic he may stage a spectacular skid and injure the prestige of the society. Actually, anonymity has been breached only a few dozen times since the movement began, which isn’t a bad showing, considering the exhibitionistic nature of the average alcoholic.



**Dr. Harry M. Tiebout  
with Dr. Bob and Bill W.**

**...Continued on Page 13**

## OUTSIDE THE FIVE-COUNTY AREA

**Saturday, April 10th — Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community Workshop**

(Online): *Ensuring A.A. Is Found By Those Who Need It*. Noon Pacific Time. Dial In: 1-646-558-8656, ID: 878 0311 3474, Password: 411. Contact: picpceastbay@gmail.com.

**Saturday, April 24th — Area 17 Treatment Committee Bridging The Gap Workshop (Online):**

Dial In: 1-646-876-9923, ID: 940 7483 5877, Passcode: 336 058 771.

**Friday, April 30th through Sunday, May 2nd —Bill & Bob's Boardwalk Sessions—Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center, 1 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, 19971.** Contact hotel and mention Boardwalk and #10028 for the discounted rate: 302-227-2511. See flyer for all the details:

[https://aasepia.org/docs/285/2021\\_Bill\\_and\\_Bobs\\_Boardwalk\\_Sessions\\_24\\_hours\\_a\\_day\\_Apr\\_30\\_-\\_May\\_2\\_2021.pdf](https://aasepia.org/docs/285/2021_Bill_and_Bobs_Boardwalk_Sessions_24_hours_a_day_Apr_30_-_May_2_2021.pdf)

### **...Continued from Page 12**

By one of the many paradoxes which have characterized its growth, Alcoholics Anonymous absorbed the “keep it poor” principle from one of the world’s wealthiest men, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. The society was formed in 1935 after a fortuitous meeting in Akron between a Wall Street broker and an Akron surgeon, both alcoholics of long standing. The broker, who was in Akron on a business mission, had kept sober for several months by jawing drunks — unsuccessfully — but his business mission had fallen through and he was aching for a drink. The surgeon, at the time they got together, was quite blotto. Together, over a period of a few weeks, they kept sober and worked out the basic AA technique. By 1937, when they had about fifty converts they began thinking, as all new AAs will, of tremendous plans—for vast new alcoholic hospitals, squadrons of paid field workers and the literature of mercy pouring off immense presses. Being completely broke themselves, and being promoters at heart, as most alcoholics are, they set their sights on the Rockefeller jack pot.

Rockefeller sent an emissary to Akron to look into the phenomenon at work there, and, receiving a favorable report, granted an audience to a committee of eager-eyed alcoholics. He listened to their personal sagas of resurrection from the gutter and was deeply moved; in fact, he was ready to agree that the AAs had John Barleycorn by the throat. The visitors relaxed and visualized millions dropping into the till. Then the man with the big money bags punctured the vision. He said that too much money might be the ruination of any great moral movement and that he didn’t want to be a party to ruining this one. However, he did make a small contribution—small for Rockefeller — to tide it over for a few years, and he got some of his friends to contribute a few thousand more. When the Rockefeller money ran out, AA was self-supporting, and it has remained so ever since.

Although AA remains in essence what it has always been, many changes have come along in late years. For one thing, the average age of members has dropped from about forty-seven to thirty-five. The society is no longer, as it was originally, merely a haven for the “last gaspers.” Because of widespread publicity about alcoholism, alcoholics are discovering earlier what their trouble is.

As AA has achieved wider social acceptance, more women are coming in than ever before. Around the country they average 15 per cent of total membership; in New York, where social considerations never did count for much, the AAs are 30 per cent women. The unmarried woman alcoholic is slow to join, as she generally gets more coddling and protection from her family than a man does; she is what is known in alcoholic circles as a “bedroom drinker.” The married-woman alcoholic has a tougher row to hoe. The wife of an alcoholic, for temperamental and economic reasons, will ordinarily stick by her erring husband to the bitter end. The husband of an alcoholic wife, on the other hand, is usually less; a few years of suffering are enough to drive him to the divorce court, with the children in tow. Thus the divorced-woman AA is a special problem, and her progress in sobriety depends heavily upon the kindness shown her by the other AA women. For divorcees, and for other women who may be timid about speaking out in mixed meetings, special female auxiliary groups have been formed in some communities. They work out better than a cynic might think.

Another development is the growth of the sponsor system. A new member gets a sponsor immediately, and it is the function of the sponsor to accompany him to meetings, to see that he gets all the help he needs and to be on call at any time for emergencies. As an emergency usually amounts only to an onset of that old feeling for a bottle, it is customarily resolved by a telephone conversation, although it may involve an after-midnight trip to Ernie’s gin mill, whither the neophyte has been shanghaied by a couple of unregenerate old drinking companions. As the membership of AA cuts through all social, occupational and economic classes, it is possible to match the sponsor with the sponsored, and this seems to speed up the arrestive process.

During the past decade or so, the society, whose original growth was in large cities, has strongly infiltrated the grass-roots country. Its arrival in this sector was delayed largely because of the greater stigma, which attaches to alcoholism in the small town. Because of this stigma and the effect it has on his business, professional or social standing, the small-town alcoholic, reveling in his delusion that nobody knows about his drinking—when actually it is the gossip of Main Street — takes frequent “vacations” or “business trips” if he can afford it. He or she — the banker, the storekeeper, the lawyer, the madam president of the garden club, sometimes even the clergyman — is actually headed for a receptive hospital or clinic in the nearest large city, where no one will recognize him.

**...continued on Page 16**

# THIS MONTH IN A.A. HISTORY

\*\*\* APRIL \*\*\*

**April 1935:** Dr. Silkworth (author of "The Doctor's Opinion") advises Bill W. to stop preaching at drunks, and instead explain about the mental obsession and allergy of the body they suffer from.

**April 1950:** The *Saturday Evening Post* publishes a second article about A.A., "The Drunkard's Best Friend", by Jack Alexander.

**April 1958:** The word "honest" was dropped from the A.A. *Preamble*; "an honest desire to stop drinking".

**April 1970:** The General Service Office (GSO) moved to 468 Park Avenue South, New York, NY.

**April 1, 1939:** Publication date of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, A.A.'s Big Book.

**April 1, 1966:** Sister Ignatia (born 1889), who worked closely with Dr. Bob to admit and treat alcoholics at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, OH, died.

**April 7, 1941:** Ruth Hock, A.A.'s secretary, reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help as a result of the first *Saturday Evening Post* Article by Jack Alexander, published the previous month.

**April 10, 1939:** The first ten copies of the Big Book arrived at the office Bill W. and Hank P shared.



**Dr. William D. Silkworth**



**Sister Ignatia**



**Hank P.**



**Ruth Hock**

**April 11, 1941:** Bill and Lois move into their new home, Stepping Stones in Katonah, New York.

**April 16, 1973:** Dr. Jack Norris, Chairman of the A.A. General Service Board, presented President Nixon with the one-millionth copy of the Big Book.

**April 19, 1940:** The first A.A. group in Little Rock, Arkansas, was formed. It was the first so-called 'mail order' group, run entirely using literature that came through the mail.

**April 24, 1940:** The first A.A. pamphlet, "AA", was published.

**April 25, 1951:** A.A.'s first General Service Conference was held at the Commodore Hotel in New York, NY. The theme was "Not to Govern—But to Serve."

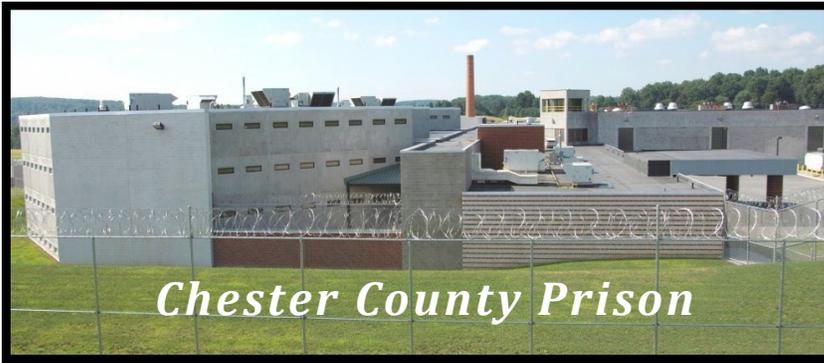
**April 30, 1989:** The film "My Name is Bill W.", a Hallmark presentation, was broadcast on ABC TV.



**Stepping Stones  
Bill and Lois Wilson**



**President Nixon  
and Dr. Jack Norris**



# Committee Corner

## Prison Committee

*What? No Third Legacy?  
Where would we be without our mission to carry the  
Alcoholics Anonymous message to  
ALL behind the walls in our five-county area?*

### Committee Meetings for the month of April 2021 are online.

See Page 22 for all the details and share with your IGRs and other interested A.A. Members.

<b>Archives</b> Archives preserves documents, assembles group histories, tapes the stories of members with 20+ years, and makes presentations to groups about the history of A.A. in Philadelphia.	Tuesday – April 13th 7:00 pm  Saturday – April 17th 9:00 am Preservation
<b>Cooperation With The Professional Community (CPC)</b> Helps police, medical, and other professionals understand what A.A. is and how it can help their clients.	Monday – April 5th 7:00 pm
<b>Finance</b> Makes recommendations to the Steering Committee and SEPIA office how best to spend Seventh Tradition donations.	Thursday – April 22nd 7:00 pm
<b>Interphones and Helping Unite the Sick, Shut-in, Hospitalized and Homebound (HUSSHH)</b> Interphones ensures that A.A. is always there by taking calls when the office is closed. HUSSHH takes meetings to those unable to attend them.	Wednesday—April 28th (Meets last Wednesday of even months)
<b>Prisons and Temporary Contact</b> Prisons takes A.A. meetings behind the walls. Temporary Contact introduces new A.A.'s coming out of prison to our program and escorts them to meetings.	Thursday – April 1st 6:00 pm
<b>Public Information (PI)</b> Conveys information about A.A. to the general public through flyers, mailings, radio spots, health fairs, etc.	Wednesday – April 21st 7:00 pm
<b>Special Events</b> Plans the annual spring Round-Up, the February Share-A-Day event, and more.	Monday – April 26th 7:00 pm
<b>Treatment Facilities (TF) and Bridging the Gap</b> Treatment establishes and oversees A.A. meetings at detoxes and rehabs. Bridging the Gap connects members leaving facilities to meetings in their area.	Monday – April 19th 7:00 pm
<b>Unity</b> Provides information about service opportunities outside the homegroup to groups when invited; plans summer picnic and fall workshop.	Tuesday – April 20th 7:00 pm
<b>Web/Tech Ad Hoc Committee</b> An offshoot of Public Information (PI), Web/Tech programs and manages the website, and provides tech advice and IT support for the office.	Wednesday – April 7th 5:30 pm

Our dedicated Prison Committee members focus on the most difficult to reach; planting the seeds of hope and recovery, and carrying the message wherever we can. We offer a SOLUTION! It all began in 1940, when A.A. in Philadelphia was founded by Jimmy B. There was evidence indicating that excessive use of alcohol was the root of many social issues and the causes of many incarcerations. For the past 80 years, A.A. members have continued to carry the message into the House of Corrections, making this the longest-standing prison commitment in the history of A.A.



Recent uncontrollable circumstances (COVID-19) have forced us to make many changes to how we reach behind the walls. Through the perseverance of our committee members and fellow A.A.'s, we continue to advance our message by writing pen pal letters, by holding online A.A. meetings (with approved guidelines), and by sending A.A. literature and *Grapevines* to those desiring change. We seek to reassure those incarcerated that “no one who wants A.A. will be left behind”. The A.A. presence inside the walls continues to be known to all covered by SEPIA.

The odds of an alcoholic making a successful transition from lockup back into the community increases with the support of the Temporary Contact Subcommittee. It assists individuals in getting to meetings upon their release. While still incarcerated, the individual completes a form, providing their contact information upon release and their release date. If the individual is released to one of the five counties SEPIA covers, we provide their information to a local trusted servant who takes them to several meetings to acclimate them to the area and establish a good foundation.

If you would like to participate by being a Temporary Contact, or assist in the Temporary Pen Pal program, contact us at [prisondirector@aasepia.org](mailto:prisondirector@aasepia.org) or [prisonasstdirector@aasepia.org](mailto:prisonasstdirector@aasepia.org) for more information.

The Prison Committee meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm. All are welcome! There is a Prison Workshop scheduled for May 1st. See the SEPIA website for more details: <https://www.aasepia.org/news/event-flyers/>.

**Reminder: Successful assistance requires the service and support of us all—especially right now...**

— Anne Marie S-G.—Prison Director for SEPIA  
 — Carolyn C.—Assistant Prison Director for SEPIA

...Continued from Page 13

The pattern of small-town growth begins when the questing small-towner seeks out the big-city AA outfit and its message catches on with him. To his surprise, he finds that half a dozen drinkers in towns near his own have also been to the fount. On returning to his home, he gets in touch with them and they form an inter-town group; or there may be enough drinkers in his own town to begin a group. Though there is a stigma even to getting sober in small towns, it is less virulent than the souse stigma, and word of the movement spreads throughout the county and into adjoining counties. The churches and newspapers take it up and beat the drum for it; relatives of drunks, and doctors who find themselves unable to help their alcoholic patients, gladly unload the problem cases on AA, or AA is glad to get them. The usually intra-fellowship quarrel over who is going to run the thing inevitably develops and there are factional splits, but the splits help to spread the movement, too, and all the big quarrels soon become little ones, and then disappear.



Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous carried on with more enthusiasm than in Los Angeles. Unlike most localities, which try to keep separate group membership small, for easier handling, Los Angeles likes the theatrical mass meeting setting, with 1000 or more present. The Los Angeles AAs carry their membership as if it were a social cachet and go in strongly for square dances of their own. Jewelry bearing the AA monogram, though frowned upon elsewhere, is popular on the Coast. After three months of certified sobriety a member receives a bronze pin; after one year he is entitled to have a ruby chip inserted in the pin and, after three years, a diamond chip. Rings bearing the AA letters are widely worn, as well as similarly embellished compacts, watch fobs and pocket pieces.

Texas takes AA with enthusiasm too. In the ranch sector, members drive or fly hundreds of miles to attend AA square dances and barbecues, bringing their families. In metropolitan areas, such as Dallas-Fort Worth — there are upwards of a dozen oil-millionaire members here — fancy club quarters have been established in old mansions and the brethren and large families rejoice, dance, and drink coffee, and soda pop amid expensive furnishings. One Southwestern group recently got its governor to release a life-terminer from the state penitentiary for a weekend, so that he could be the guest of honor of the group. “We have a large open meeting,” a local member wrote a friend elsewhere in the country, “and many state and country officials attended in order to hear from Herman (the lifer) had to tell about AA within the walls. They were deeply impressed and very interested. The next night I gave a lawn party and buffet supper in Herman’s honor, with about 50 AAs present. This was the first occasion of this kind in the state and to our knowledge the first in the United States.”

Some AAs believe that this group carried the joy business too far. Others think that each section of the country ought to manifest spirit in its own way; anyway, that is the way it usually works out. The Midwest is businesslike and serious. In the Deep South the AAs do a certain amount of Bible reading and hymn singing. The Northwest and the upper Pacific Coast help support their gathering places with the proceeds from slot machines. New York, a catchall for screwballs and semi-screwballs from all over, is pious about gambling, and won’t have it around the place. New England is temperate in its approach, and its spirit is characterized by the remark of one Yankee who, writing a fellow AA about a lake cottage he had just bought, said, “The serenity hangs in great gobs from the trees.”

The serene mind is what AAs the world over are driving toward, and an epigrammatic expression of their goal is embodied in a quotation which members carry on cards in their wallets and plaster up on the walls of their meeting rooms: “God grant me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, courage to change things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.”

Originally thought in Alcoholics Anonymous to have been written by St. Francis of Assisi, it turned out, on recent research, to have been the work of another eminent non-alcoholic. Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary. Dr. Niebuhr was amused on being told of the use to which his prayer was being put. Asked if it was original with him, he said he thought it was, but added, “Of course, it may have been spooking around for centuries.”

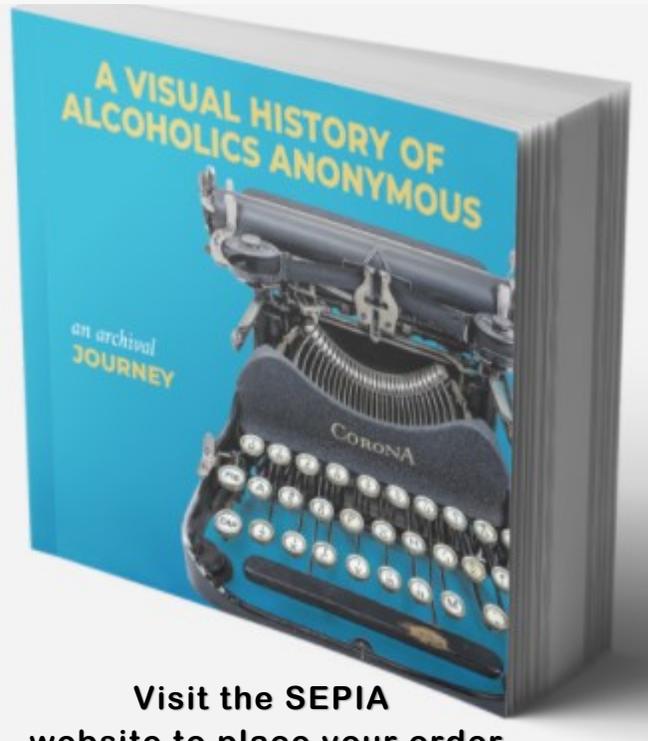
Alcoholics Anonymous seized upon it in 1940, after it had been used as a quotation in the *New York Herald Tribune*. The fellowship was late in catching up with it; and it will probably spook around a good deal longer before the rest of the world catches up with it.



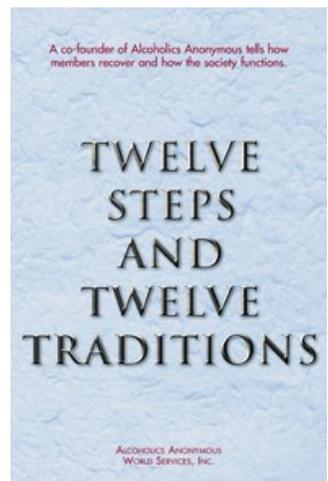
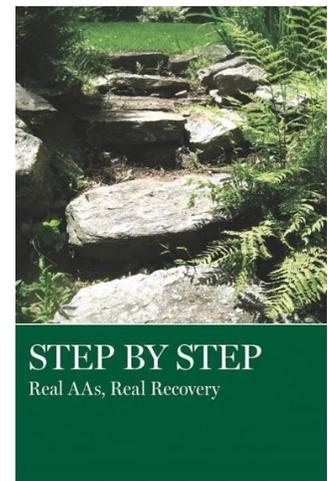
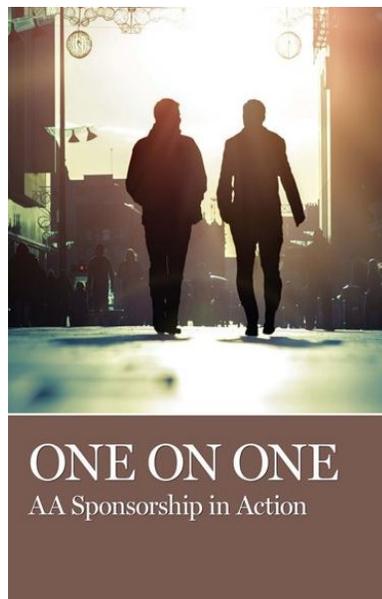
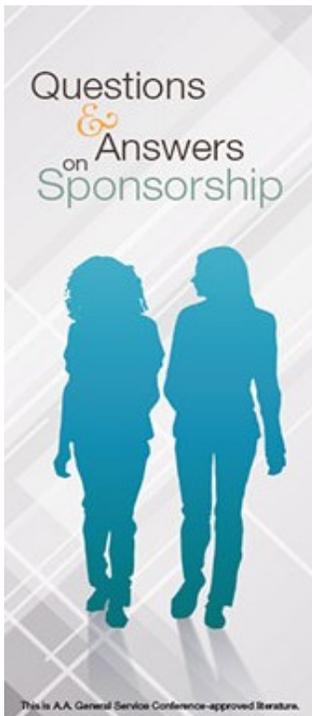
“The Drunkard’s Best Friend” by Jack Alexander, *The Saturday Evening Post*, April 1, 1950

# A Visual History of Alcoholics Anonymous: An Archival Journey

Lavishly illustrated, this lively tour through A.A.'s history is told in hundreds of iconic images never before published in one volume. Illuminating descriptions walk us through powerful moments in our shared history — from the people, places and things integral to A.A.'s early growth, and forward to today's vibrant, international Fellowship. Includes a special focus on Detroit in A.A.'s history and updated coverage of recent innovations in A.A. group life.



Visit the **SEPIA** website to place your order or call 215-923-7900 <https://sepialiterature.info/>



**Curbside**  
**PICK UP**



# 2021 SEPIA Virtual Round-Up

# Long-timers Panel

***Do you have  
20 years or more of sobriety?***

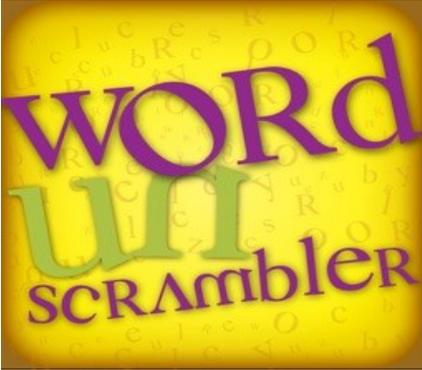
**SEPIA is gearing up for our  
April Round-Up and we need speakers for  
the Long-timers Panel.**

**If you are interested,  
send your name, sobriety date,  
Home Group and phone number to  
the [archivesdirector@aasepia.org](mailto:archivesdirector@aasepia.org).**



**We will be pulling names  
out of the hat  
as we did last year.**

**DEADLINE Monday, April 12th  
Great service opportunity!**



Go ahead and challenge yourself!  
How many words can you come up with?

2 letter words (13 words)

5 letter words (15 words)

3 letter words (45 words)

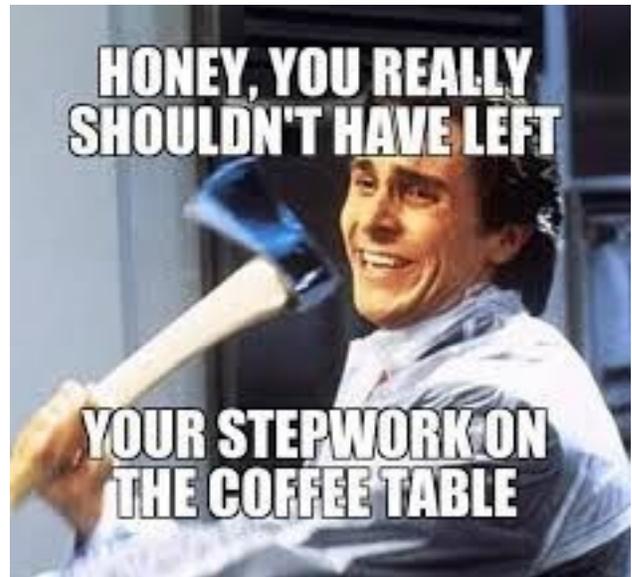
6 letter words (2 words)

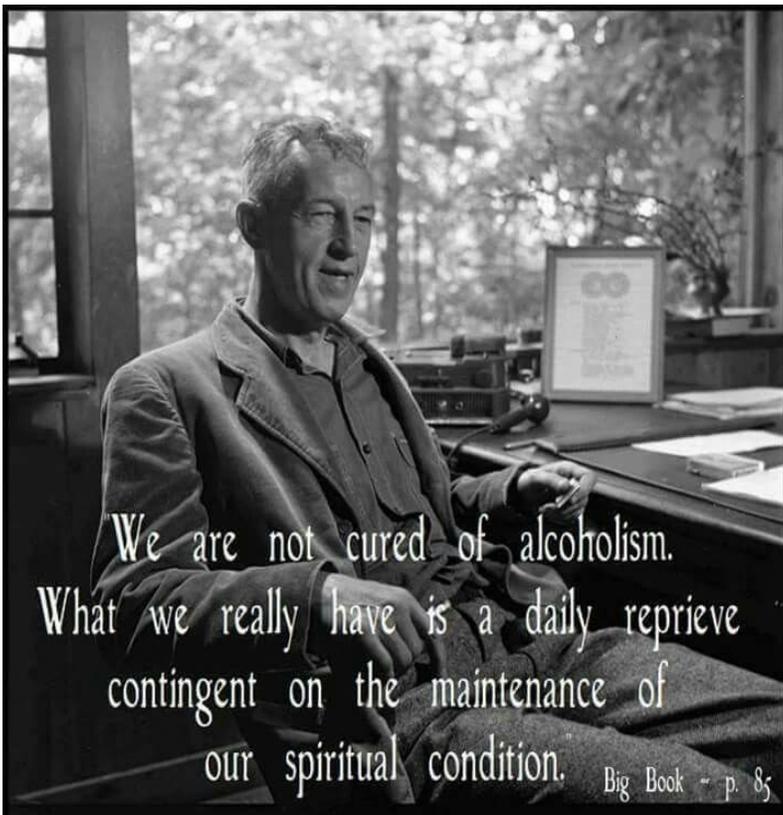
4 letter words (37 words)



Total Words Found: 112

# Humor in Sobriety





We are not cured of alcoholism.  
 What we really have is a daily reprieve  
 contingent on the maintenance of  
 our spiritual condition. Big Book - p. 85

## MY DAILY MORAL INVENTORY

### LIABILITIES

### ASSETS

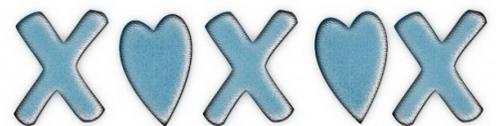
<b>Watch For:</b> .....	<b>Strive For:</b>
Anger .....	Self-Control
Self-Pity .....	Self-Forgiveness
Self-Justification .....	Integrity
Self-Importance .....	Modesty
Self-Condensation .....	Self-Esteem
Dishonesty .....	Honesty
Impatience .....	Patience
Hate .....	Love
Resentment .....	Forgiveness
False Pride .....	Humility
Jealousy .....	Trust
Envy .....	Generosity
Laziness .....	Activity
Procrastination .....	Promptness
Insincerity .....	Straightforwardness
Negative Thinking . . . .	Positive Thinking
Criticizing .....	Look For The Good
Fear .....	Faith



# Pet of the Month Hershey

He is five years old and loves me unconditionally! Hershey was rescued from a bad situation, but honestly, he has rescued me. He helps me stay sober one day at a time!

—Chuck R., A.A. Member and SEPIA Volunteer



# SEPIA 2021 Round-Up

**VIRTUAL and LIVE**

*“Just like being there!”*

Friday, April 16th through Sunday, April 18th

**Theme for Event**



Phone: 1-646-558-8656

Meeting ID: 870 8256 9491

Password: 417417

Hyperlink

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87082569491?pwd=ajVkJzBTbXJTRWdyYTNNT3M5Qy8zZz09>

## All A.A. Members Welcome!

*The Round-Up is FREE...but donations are more than welcome!*

Help SEPIA carry the A.A. message and to offset the operating revenues lost due to COVID-19 and canceling the Cape May in-person event: <https://aasepia.org/donate/>

### *2021 Round-Up Clothing Available Online!*

“Acceptance is the Answer” tee shirts, pullovers, or zip-up hoodies.

[https://aasepia.org/roundup-2020\\_kb/](https://aasepia.org/roundup-2020_kb/)

### *2021 Round-Up Meeting Highlights — see schedule for full details.*

[https://aasepia.org/docs/292/SEPIA\\_2021\\_Round-Up\\_Schedule\\_dTxVcjM.pdf](https://aasepia.org/docs/292/SEPIA_2021_Round-Up_Schedule_dTxVcjM.pdf)

Friday Night A.A. and Al-Anon Speaker Meeting — 8:00 pm

Saturday Afternoon Long-timers’ Panel—3:00 pm

Saturday Night Banquet Speaker Meeting—8:00 pm

Sunday Morning “God As I Understand Him” Panel Speaker Meeting—10:00 am

# SEPIA 2021 Round-Up

## VIRTUAL and LIVE

*“Just like being there!”*

### Meeting Schedule

#### Friday, April 16, 2021

5:00 pm—5:45 pm	Red Ball Meeting
8:00 pm—8:45 pm	Al-Anon and A.A. Speaker Meeting
10:00 pm—10:45 pm	<i>“Just for Today—Green Card”</i>

#### Saturday, April 17, 2021

9:00 am—9:45 am	Beach Meeting <i>“Willingness”</i>
10:30 am—12:00 pm	Intergroup / Unity Pitch Meeting
3:00 pm—4:30 pm	Long-Timers’ Speaker Meeting
5:00 pm—5:45 pm	<i>“Acceptance is the Answer”</i>
6:00 pm—6:45 pm	<i>“Step Eleven”</i>
8:00 pm	A.A. Speaker—Banquet Meeting
10:00 pm—10:45 pm	<i>“Service is the Key”</i>

#### Sunday, April 18, 2021

9:00 am—9:45 am	Beach Meeting <i>“Emotional Sobriety”</i>
10:00 am—10:45 am	<i>“God as I understand Him”</i> Meeting

## SEPIA Online Video 12 Step Committee and Zone Meeting - April 2021 - October 2021

Committee Name	Day	Date	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode	Link	Dial-In #
CPC COMMITTEE	Monday	4-5-2021	7:00 PM	869 6733 4672 (Zoom)	SEPIA1903	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86967334672?pwd=ZkwvOHYvZ3M3a2NoaHMrSGNGK1duZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86967334672?pwd=ZkwvOHYvZ3M3a2NoaHMrSGNGK1duZz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
WEB/TECH COMMITTEE	Wednesday	4-7-2021	5:30 PM	215 1234 215	580960	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021793007?pwd=SGdERXBndTlZVkhpTitEVzRqVfEVrdz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021793007?pwd=SGdERXBndTlZVkhpTitEVzRqVfEVrdz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
PRISON COMMITTEE	Thursday	4-1-2021	6:00 PM	897 4545 6774 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745456774?pwd=MEVvVzRiRiR1SmxLMiF3a2FLa3VuUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745456774?pwd=MEVvVzRiRiR1SmxLMiF3a2FLa3VuUT09</a>	1-646-558-8656
BUCKS COUNTY ZONE	Monday	4-12-2021	7:00 PM	833 9712 5709 (Zoom)	722722	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83397125709?pwd=Ykh4T0s3aINPUkIrRgPWNWE1bHJKZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83397125709?pwd=Ykh4T0s3aINPUkIrRgPWNWE1bHJKZz09</a>	1-301-715-8592
CHESTER COUNTY ZONE	Monday	4-12-2021	7:00 PM	892 2781 6366 (Zoom)	266565	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89227816366?pwd=SzBhR0pZUIVeklzT21HZDRKRkhnZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89227816366?pwd=SzBhR0pZUIVeklzT21HZDRKRkhnZz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
DELAWARE COUNTY	Monday	4-12-2021	7:00 PM	893 8092 9799 (Zoom)	451451	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89380929799?pwd=UDRCUJ9FRjY1ZEZSbHdQRG5ndkd5QT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89380929799?pwd=UDRCUJ9FRjY1ZEZSbHdQRG5ndkd5QT09</a>	1-646-558-8656
MONTGOMERY COUNTY	Monday	4-12-2021	7:00 PM	829 0440 1504 (Zoom)	351351	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82904401504?pwd=N0l6Zm54S1dKMEczdHJwY3F2Ukx4Zz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82904401504?pwd=N0l6Zm54S1dKMEczdHJwY3F2Ukx4Zz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
PHILADELPHIA ZONE	Monday	4-12-2021	7:00 PM	846 4472 6194 (Zoom)	224224	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84644726194?pwd=TkVvVWnAwNm41eJ1aGhwL1hJQjArZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84644726194?pwd=TkVvVWnAwNm41eJ1aGhwL1hJQjArZz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE	Tuesday	4-13-2021	7:00 PM	832 4414 8913 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244148913?pwd=b2JqbmlzQ0dBOVJURjJlMDNRYy9lQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244148913?pwd=b2JqbmlzQ0dBOVJURjJlMDNRYy9lQT09</a>	1-646-558-8656
INTERPHONES	Wednesday	4-28-2021	7:00 PM	822 1987 3872 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82219873872?pwd=UG5VR0lvMHJTRXAvUm5OQXE4Q0tNQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82219873872?pwd=UG5VR0lvMHJTRXAvUm5OQXE4Q0tNQT09</a>	1-646-558-8656
PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)	Wednesday	4-21-2021	7:00 PM	882 5844 9206 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88258449206?pwd=cWIPd2ZSUllvWHcVbndyeXA4SFAwUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88258449206?pwd=cWIPd2ZSUllvWHcVbndyeXA4SFAwUT09</a>	1-646-558-8656
TREATMENT FACILITIES	Monday	4-19-2021	7:00 PM	881 4239 6509 (Zoom)	805478	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88142396509?pwd=ZU00WmFMWnRjSWt5VXJUU3NBdExtZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88142396509?pwd=ZU00WmFMWnRjSWt5VXJUU3NBdExtZz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
UNITY COMMITTEE	Tuesday	4-20-2021	7:00 PM	896 4619 2235 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89646192235?pwd=VTRHdXRnNiNkZmxHZXJPeTltaGZNUt09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89646192235?pwd=VTRHdXRnNiNkZmxHZXJPeTltaGZNUt09</a>	1-646-558-8656
FINANCE	Thursday	4-22-2021	7:00 PM	842 4075 5543 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84240755543?pwd=ejJlZEFMTjEENDR6cHUxVmF1ci9DZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84240755543?pwd=ejJlZEFMTjEENDR6cHUxVmF1ci9DZz09</a>	1-646-558-8656
SPECIAL EVENTS	Monday	4-26-2021	7:00 PM	834 2923 8954 (Zoom)	797795	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429238954?pwd=c2l2N05jbGFGMFpXQTl5TdiU0FMUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429238954?pwd=c2l2N05jbGFGMFpXQTl5TdiU0FMUT09</a>	1-646-558-8656

# April 2021



All A.A. members are encouraged to join a committee and help carry the A.A. message.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Committee meetings are open to all A.A. members unless listed as <b>“closed”</b> .				1 <b>TEMPORARY CONTACT and PRISON COMMITTEE</b> 6:00 pm	2 <i>Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting (suspended)</i>	3
	5 <b>CPC COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	6	7 <b>Website/Tech</b> 5:30 pm <b>STEERING COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm <b>(closed)</b>	8	9 <i>Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting (suspended)</i>	10
11	12 <b>ALL FIVE COUNTY ZONE MEETINGS</b> 7:00 pm <i>(see below for locations)</i>	13 <b>ARCHIVES COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm		15 <b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	16 <i>Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting (suspended)</i>	17 <b>ARCHIVES PRESERVATION</b> 9:00 am
18	19 <b>TREATMENT and BRIDGING THE GAP COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	20 <b>UNITY COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	21 <b>PUBLIC INFO COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	22	23 <i>Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting (suspended)</i>	24
25	26 <b>SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	27	28 <b>INTERPHONES and HUSSHH COMMITTEE</b> 7:00 pm	29	30 <i>Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting (suspended)</i>	

Zone meetings may be cancelled, rescheduled, or moved to phone/web conferencing this month. Contact your Zone liaison or SEPIA.

**Bucks County:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 877 Street Rd (& Churchville/Knowles), Southampton, PA 18966

**Chester County:** 307 Clubhouse, 700 South Bradford Ave, West Chester, PA 19382

**Delaware County:** Tree of Life Church, 933 Baltimore Pike (& Church Rd), Springfield, PA 19064

**Montgomery County:** Church of Messiah, 1001 DeKalb Pike (Rt. 202 south of Sumneytown Pike), Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

**Philadelphia:** St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, 817 North 7th St, Philadelphia, PA 19123

**All Zones Meet at 7:00 pm**



## MARCH GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM 3/1/2021 TO 3/31/2021

GSO #	GROUP NAME	DONATION
0	A.A. KINDERGARTEN	\$200.00
129561	BENSALEM SATURDAY MORNING	\$300.00
626489	BIG BOOK 101	\$100.00
681005	DREXEL HILL AS BILL SEES IT	\$100.00
708023	ELEVENTH STEP MEETING	\$400.00
112104	FIFTH CHAPTER	\$72.17
706417	FIRST CALL	\$50.00
641664	FIRST THINGS FIRST	\$500.00
149870	FLOURTOWN 8:30	\$200.00
111814	FLOURTOWN SIX	\$200.00
694331	FLOURTOWN WOMEN'S	\$200.00
104724	FOGLIFTERS	\$400.00
719107	FOLLOW THE PATH	\$100.00
111808	FOUNDERS' WAY	\$100.00
692217	FREEDOM IN THE PARK	\$120.00
614557	FRESH HOPE	\$84.00
155974	FRIDAY NIGHT FORTUNATES	\$50.00
105885	FRIDAY NIGHT STEPPIN' OUT	\$112.00
134612	GAS WORKS	\$200.00
112232	GOYA	\$50.00
645736	HAIR OF THE DOG	\$500.00
618248	HATBORO FRIDAY NIGHTERS	\$60.00
175633	HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE	\$25.00
302272	JUMP START YOUR DAY	\$400.00
175631	KEEP IT GREEN	\$200.00
718548	KEEP IT SIMPLE	\$50.00
682547	LANGUAGE OF THE HEART	\$70.00
137687	LIFE OR DEATH	\$2,500.00
167635	MANOR OF LIVING	\$30.00
112074	MEDIA WOMEN	\$150.00
163433	MORNING MIRACLES	\$500.00
164832	ORELAND BEGINNERS	\$120.00
0	OXFORD CONSCIOUS CONTACT	\$20.00
112115	PAOLI	\$544.24
156943	PENNDDEL SERENITY	\$150.00
144903	ROOM FOR MIRACLES	\$100.00
160429	SAFARI	\$148.12
764637	SCHWENKSVILLE BASIC A.A.	\$675.00



## MARCH GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM 3/1/2021 TO 3/31/2021

GSO #	GROUP NAME	DONATION
705806	SIMPLE AT SEVEN	\$200.00
147473	SOBER AT SIX	\$100.00
603122	SOBRIETY AT SEVEN	\$1,250.00
120309	SOUTH BROAD STREET	\$75.38
112155	SOUTH PHILADELPHIA	\$80.00
149727	STAIRWAY TO SOBRIETY	\$150.00
111813	STEELWORKERS	\$200.00
140503	TOP OF THE HILL (NW)	\$431.76
143863	TWISTED SISTERS	\$135.86
600690	WAKE UP	\$450.00
144643	WEEKENDERS	\$200.00
112166	WEST OAK LANE	\$600.00
112168	WISTER	\$50.00
139764	WOMEN IN SOBRIETY	\$272.32
614284	WOMEN'S STEPS FOR CHANGE	\$100.00
<b>Total from 3/1/2021 to 3/31/2021:</b>		<b>\$14,075.85</b>

SEPIA  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of March 31, 2021

	Mar 31, 21
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
Frankln Mint	178,776.57
Petty Cash	326.20
PNC-General Checking	41,416.62
PNC-Money Market	10,000.00
PPayPal	-2,031.14
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	228,488.25
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
Accounts Receivable	1,985.93
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	1,985.93
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Prepaid Insurance	3,652.00
Inventory Asset	44,907.75
Undeposited Funds	696.48
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	49,256.23
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	279,730.41
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Accumulated Depreciation	-11,065.87
Computer Upgrades - 2012	11,065.87
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Accumulated Depreciation	-15,505.00
Office Equipment	15,505.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	0.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	0.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>279,730.41</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	-40.90
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	-40.90
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
Sales Tax Payable	1,461.65
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	1,461.65
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	1,420.75
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	1,420.75
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Bal Equity	132,152.22
Unrestricted Net Assets	116,336.72
Net Income	29,820.72
<b>Total Equity</b>	278,309.66
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>279,730.41</b>

**SEPIA**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 November 2020 through March 2021

	Nov '20 - Mar 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy</b>				
Dinner Dance/Comedy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Breakfast-Bucks County</b>				
Donations	0.00	416.65	-416.65	0.0%
Breakfast-Bucks County - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Breakfast-Bucks County</b>	0.00	416.65	-416.65	0.0%
<b>Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy - Other</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy</b>	0.00	416.65	-416.65	0.0%
<b>RU Income</b>				
RU Registrations	0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00	0.0%
RU Income - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total RU Income</b>	0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00	0.0%
<b>Contributions</b>				
BB & Literature for Prisons	530.00	104.15	425.85	508.9%
Group Contributions	80,445.68	75,470.70	4,974.98	106.6%
Individual Contributions	13,683.78	15,090.95	-1,407.17	90.7%
Other Contributions	945.00	679.65	265.35	139.0%
Contributions - Other	41.00			
<b>Total Contributions</b>	95,645.46	91,345.45	4,300.01	104.7%
<b>Literature</b>	30,416.82	35,492.00	-5,075.18	85.7%
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>				
Interest Income	342.93	625.00	-282.07	54.9%
Interviews	635.00	208.35	426.65	304.8%
Other Revenue	0.00	208.35	-208.35	0.0%
Miscellaneous Income - Other	6.97			
<b>Total Miscellaneous Income</b>	984.90	1,041.70	-56.80	94.5%
<b>Total Income</b>	127,047.18	136,295.80	-9,248.62	93.2%
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>				
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>				
Discounts & Allowances	0.30			
Inventory Adjustment	-187.07			
<b>Literature Expenses</b>				
AAWS and GPV	180.78			
Postage for Literature	1,425.85	625.00	800.85	228.1%
Literature Expenses - Other	5,353.43			
<b>Total Literature Expenses</b>	6,960.06	625.00	6,335.06	1,113.6%
<b>Cost of Goods Sold - Other</b>	23,725.42	28,586.00	-4,860.58	83.0%
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	30,498.71	29,211.00	1,287.71	104.4%
<b>Total COGS</b>	30,498.71	29,211.00	1,287.71	104.4%
<b>Gross Profit</b>	96,548.47	107,084.80	-10,536.33	90.2%
<b>Expense</b>				
Uncategorized Expenses	341.93			
<b>Breakfast Expenses</b>				
Breakfast Expense-Bucks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total Breakfast Expenses</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Dinner Dance/Comedy Expenses</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
<b>Round Up</b>				
RU Miscellaneous Expenses	163.50			

**SEPIA**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 November 2020 through March 2021

	Nov '20 - Mar 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Round Up - Other	0.00	3,541.65	-3,541.65	0.0%
<b>Total Round Up</b>	<b>163.50</b>	<b>3,541.65</b>	<b>-3,378.15</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
Share-A-Day	40.50	1,000.00	-959.50	4.1%
<b>Comittees &amp; Zones</b>				
Bucks County Zone	0.00	233.35	-233.35	0.0%
Chester County Zone	134.00	250.00	-116.00	53.6%
Delaware County Zone	0.00	212.50	-212.50	0.0%
Montgomery County Zone	0.00	249.15	-249.15	0.0%
Philadelphia County Zone	0.00	665.85	-665.85	0.0%
Archives Committee	0.00	125.00	-125.00	0.0%
Cooperation with Professionals	0.00	41.65	-41.65	0.0%
Interphones Committee	2,058.50	2,291.65	-233.15	89.8%
Prisons Committee	0.00	3,521.00	-3,521.00	0.0%
Public Information Committee	200.73	761.10	-560.37	26.4%
Treatment Facilities Committee	129.52	1,250.00	-1,120.48	10.4%
Unity Committee	0.00	311.35	-311.35	0.0%
<b>Total Comittees &amp; Zones</b>	<b>2,522.75</b>	<b>9,912.60</b>	<b>-7,389.85</b>	<b>25.4%</b>
<b>Travel &amp; Training</b>				
Nat'l AA Technology Workshop	0.00	1,041.65	-1,041.65	0.0%
Office Manager Seminar	0.00	1,041.65	-1,041.65	0.0%
Travel & Training - Other	21.00	190.00	-169.00	11.1%
<b>Total Travel &amp; Training</b>	<b>21.00</b>	<b>2,273.30</b>	<b>-2,252.30</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Reconciliation Discrepancies	110.00			
Miscellaneous - Other	7.00			
<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>117.00</b>			
<b>Office Expenses</b>				
Utilities	0.00	416.65	-416.65	0.0%
Square Fee	246.11	312.50	-66.39	78.8%
Office Manager Cell Phone	348.17	708.05	-359.88	49.2%
Cleaning	1,775.68	1,625.00	150.68	109.3%
Computer Consultant	0.00	1,041.65	-1,041.65	0.0%
Computer/Fax Equipment	65.00	1,250.00	-1,185.00	5.2%
Copier Lease Service Supplies	3,525.35	3,232.50	292.85	109.1%
CPA/Professional Services	350.00	2,708.35	-2,358.35	12.9%
Insurance-Liability/D&O/WC	2,685.00	2,916.65	-231.65	92.1%
Office Rent	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00	100.0%
Office Supplies	151.98	5,246.00	-5,094.02	2.9%
Parking & Transportation	1,000.50	2,180.00	-1,179.50	45.9%
PayPal Fee	529.31	1,032.50	-503.19	51.3%
Payroll Service Fee	587.74	328.90	258.84	178.7%
PNC Merchant Interchng	539.14	684.20	-145.06	78.8%
Telephone/Internet	961.53	1,250.00	-288.47	76.9%
USPS	210.98	416.65	-205.67	50.6%
Web Hosting/Storage	244.39	274.75	-30.36	88.9%
Office Expenses - Other	1,066.80	213.95	852.85	498.6%
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	<b>26,787.68</b>	<b>38,338.30</b>	<b>-11,550.62</b>	<b>69.9%</b>
<b>Salary and Benefits</b>				
Compensation	22,589.63	43,443.35	-20,853.72	52.0%
Employee Benefits	9,180.86	4,000.00	5,180.86	229.5%
Employer Taxes	2,737.20	4,323.40	-1,586.20	63.3%
Salary and Benefits - Other	2,225.70			
<b>Total Salary and Benefits</b>	<b>36,733.39</b>	<b>51,766.75</b>	<b>-15,033.36</b>	<b>71.0%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>66,727.75</b>	<b>106,832.60</b>	<b>-40,104.85</b>	<b>62.5%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>29,820.72</b>	<b>252.20</b>	<b>29,568.52</b>	<b>11,824.2%</b>

1:51 PM

04/02/21

Accrual Basis

**SEPIA**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
November 2020 through March 2021

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	<u>Nov '20 - Mar 21</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Net Income	<u>29,820.72</u>	<u>252.20</u>	<u>29,568.52</u>	<u>11,824.2%</u>

# Show Off Your Meeting Place



**BILL W. and Dr. BOB**

The Public Information Committee wants to show off your meeting place!

Would you like to show your meeting place on the SEPIA Google Page?

If so, send us a picture and we will include in our rotation.

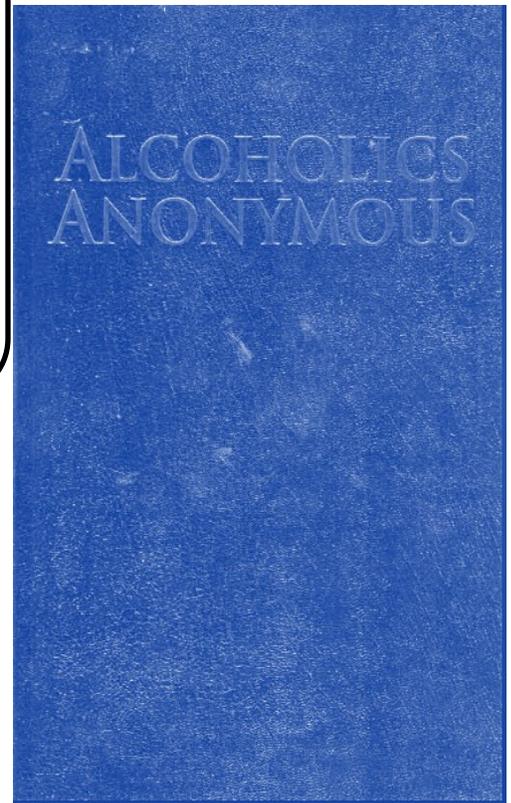
## Two Things:

- 1. Make sure you have a group conscience before sending us a picture!**
- 2. No pictures of people, anything that may identify the location, or lend to affiliation, PLEASE!**

Email pictures to:

[publicinfodirector@aasepia.org](mailto:publicinfodirector@aasepia.org)

**Help us  
 “Carry the Message”  
 of Alcoholics Anonymous  
 to the Inmates  
 behind the Prison walls.  
 Buy them Big Books!**



Our Prison Committee meets on the first Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at the SEPIA Office. Since the first meeting in September 1940, when Alcoholics Anonymous went into the House of Corrections at Holmesburg, we have been successful in assisting many new A.A.’s in the prisons to find sobriety. We also help them to get comfortable in A.A..

Statistics show that approximately 80% of the inmates should be classified as alcoholics and we may be the only opportunity they have to hear the A.A. message.

**Make your check payable to SEPIA and mail to the Prison Committee,  
 1903 South Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19148-2216 or  
 call 215 - 923 - 7900 with your credit card information.**

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Books:** \_\_\_\_\_ **@ \$9.50 each**

**Total Cost:** \_\_\_\_\_

# National P.I. & C.P.C. Working Group

Public

**P.I.**  
Information

# DISCOVERED

Ensuring A.A. Is Found By Those Who Need It

**SAT, APRIL 10, 2021**

**12PM Pacific Time**



Who Is Responsible?

How Are We Reaching Those Still Suffering?

**zoom Mtg ID: 878-0311-3474**

**Password: 411**

Contact: [Picpceastbay@gmail.com](mailto:Picpceastbay@gmail.com)

5

3CYPAA PRESENTS:

7

SOCIALLY DISTANCED

# BINGO

## IN THE PARK

SATURDAY MAY 22ND SPEAKER AT 1PM  
FOLLOWED BY BINGO & PRIZES

HIBERNIA PARK  
4 PARK RD. COATESVILLE, PA  
PAVILION #4

\$2/CARD OR \$10/8 CARDS

PLEASE WEAR A MASK AND  
SOCIAL DISTANCE!

QUESTIONS?  
3CYPAA@GMAIL.COM