Interviews August 2021

REACHING OUT ITS HAND SINCE 1948

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A MEMBER SHARES... FILLING THE HOLE IN MY HEART

A few years back I heard a statement that made little sense to me at the time. An Alcoholic Anonymous member said "you're going to have a life beyond your wildest dreams". Being broken and hopeless I could not even comprehend what this meant, nor did I believe that this was ever a possibility.

Growing up the middle of seven children, I knew from an early age that I was "different". A shy, sensitive young girl, filled with fear of the world around her. How was I ever going to get through this thing called "life"? Where was my handbook on how to survive in this world?

...Continued on Page 3

Our Special Events Committee would like to

Keep Us Updated!

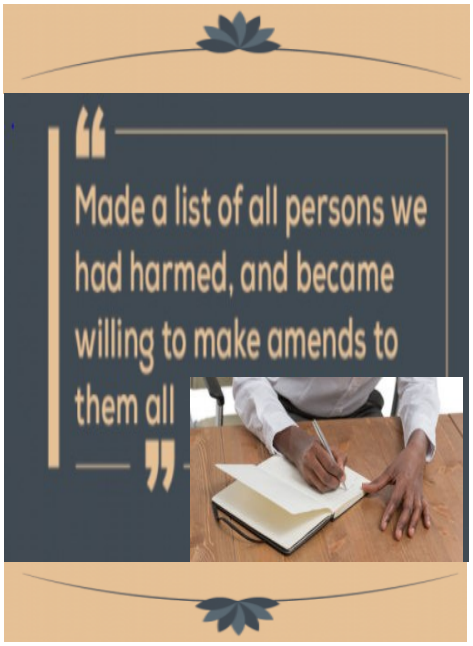
The 2021 SEPIA Round-Up Merchandise has arrived at the Office!

All members who have purchased SEPIA 2021 Round-Up Merchandise will be contacted by our Vice-Chairperson, Larry A., over the next few days. Arrangements will be made, at that time, for you to obtain your apparel.

We thank the fellowship for their patience and understanding!

Step 8

Learning how to live in the greatest peace, partnership, and brotherhood with all men and women, of whatever description, is a moving and fascinating adventure. Every A.A. has found that he can make little headway in this new adventure of living until he first back tracks and really makes an accurate and unsparing survey of the human wreckage he has left in his wake. … Now the time has come when he ought to redouble his efforts to see how many people he has hurt, and in what ways. This reopening of emotional wounds, some old, some perhaps forgotten, and some still painfully festering, will at first look like a purposeless and pointless piece of surgery. But if a willing start is made, then the great advantages of doing this will so quickly reveal themselves that the pain will be lessened as one obstacle after another melts away.



—Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 77—78.

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COVID-19 SUMMER TIME ...

On July 27th, the Centers for Disease Control called for everyone, including vaccinated people, to wear masks at indoor gatherings in areas where COVID transmission is "substantial" or "high", in light of the rapid spread of the new Delta variant of COVID-19. While the five-county area is currently experiencing "moderate" infection rates, this may impact the choices that some local A.A. groups and meetings make in the weeks and months to come.

It is up to each local A.A. group to decide what to do, as each group is autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, as per Tradition Four, However, each group must also abide by the wishes of the their host—be it a church, school, or other facility—as we are their guests.

To keep abreast of this ever-changing situation, see our website for all the latest in-person, online, and phone meeting information: aasepia.org.

If your homegroup has made a change recently, please fill out the **meeting changes** form so we can inform the fellowship right away. We rely on the fellowship's information to keep our meeting lists up to date.

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

Nominees for new SEPIA Steering Committee members 2021-22 are needed now!

We are now seeking active, service-oriented A.A. members for a two-year term beginning November 1st, 2021. Positions available include Vice-Chair, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Directors of the nine service committees—read all about them here: https://aasepia.org/service-committees/sc-reports/steering-committes-job-descriptions/. Those voted in will serve one year in the Assistant role and one year in the main role. Each commitment involves attending a minimum of three service meetings a month and a majority of the SEPIA-organized special events like The Round-Up, the Share-A-Day event with Area 59, and the Unity Picnic.

Nominations are due Friday, August 6th.

If you wish to submit a nomination for yourself, fill out the form and send it in today!

https://aasepia.org/news/nomination/

Other ways to submit forms: Download the Word Doc (below), fill it in and send back by email to manager@aasepia.org.

https://mcusercontent.com/0570c4f7c9eac7cab51!5cbd12/files/458a1369-0b62-0db6-2a7f-ae049411fd49/Blank_Nomination_Info_Sheet_2021_22.docx

You can also print and fill out the PDF format (below) and send the same way.

https://mcusercontent.com/0570c4f7c9eac7cab515cbd12/files/b27d9175-a6fb-b23d-c24f-758eb6017871/Blank_Nomination_Info_Sheet_2021_22.pdf

Lastly, you can mail a form to the SEPIA Office at 1903 South Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 1948-2216 attention "Chairperson".

Join us for some fun and great experiences.

If you have any questions, contact Richard (aka Ricardo) M., SEPIA Chairperson at chairperson@aasepia.org

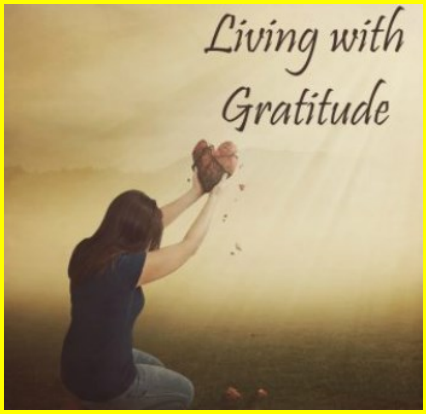
...Continued from Page 1

Fast forward to an early teenager. I discovered something that was going to fix the inner turmoil that I had been battling. The answer was alcohol! When I picked up that first drink it was the solution to what was eating my soul. I became the person I craved so deeply. I was what I call the fabulous "Fs"— fearless, fun and finally fit in. I thought I had finally filled that "hole". Little did I know it would begin the path to a life of hopelessness and unmanageability.

At 20 years old I began a career that was always my dream. Full of talent and potential, alcohol was about to take all these dreams away. Little by little I experienced what happens when alcohol controls your life. Career advancement and great achievements were no longer in the picture. I thought I had a handle on it, but the things that happened, the poor decisions I made, and the unmanageability created by alcohol became a part of my everyday life. The job I was in made it even easier to forego some of the consequences that should have resulted due to my drinking.

I got married to a wonderful man, had 4 beautiful children and on the outside I should have had what you call an "amazing" life. On the inside I couldn't figure out what was wrong with me! I kept chasing anything that would fill the hole in my heart. I thought I had "control" until the day I crossed the line. At this point there was no turning back. I was to experience the most horrible existence for years to come. The unimaginable things that happened, people that I hurt, would eat away at me. All due to the effects of "king alcohol". Nothing or nobody could stop the progression any longer. I had lost control. I was insane, alone and unable to live this way any longer.

On March 27, 2017, I came out of my hole waving that flag wholeheartedly. I truly wanted help and was immediately led to A.A. I humbly admitted that I was an alcoholic. That began my spiritual journey of hope and recovery. I finally listened to suggestions. I was gifted an amazing sponsor and stuck close to anyone who had what I wanted — peace and serenity! By working the Twelve Steps and practicing these principles in "all my affairs", my life gradually improved. The most important thing I found in A.A. was spirituality. When I was willing to let God into my heart that void was finally filled.



Today I live life full of gratitude. I have a family that loves and trusts me. I am present for all in my life, and have friends I never imagined. I have ultimate faith that God and this fellowship will carry me through any situation without alcohol. It is my duty to be the best example of this program. I've been blessed with a gift that keeps on giving and service is the key! I pay my debt by speaking at rehabs, prisons and working with other alcoholics. By doing so I'm guaranteed another day of sobriety and am so busy that there's no time to think about "me". Thanks to A.A. I've been given the handbook for life and for that I get to live a life beyond my wildest dreams!

A Grateful Alcoholic

— Carolyn C., Warrington Friday Night 3 and 11

Tradition 8:

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

… Books and literature do not package and channel themselves all over the world. Sacks of letters on every conceivable A.A. problem ranging from a lonely-heart Eskimo to the growing pains of thousands of groups must be answered by people who *know.* Right contacts with the world outside have to be maintained. So we hire A.A. staff members. We pay them well and they earn what they get. They are [professionals], but they are not professional A.A.'s.

—*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions,* p. 169. Copyright © 1981 by AA Grapevine, Inc., and Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Seek and Find
Become Willing

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

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

ACTIONS
AMENDS
DEFECTS
EFFORTS
FORGIVENESS
HARMS
INSIGHT
ISOLATION
JUDGMENTS
LIST
MOTIVES
PRAYER
REFLECTION
RELATIONS
RESENTMENTS
RESTITUTION
REVIEW
SURVEY
UNSPARING
WRECKAGE

Concept VIII

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of those entities.

—The Twelve Concepts Illustrated. Copyright © 1986 by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

In the Spotlight

Change or Die Group

We meet at the Malvern Center

225 Lancaster Ave, Frazer PA

Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8-9

Forgiveness is not an occasional act, it is a permanent *attitude*

- Martin Luther King Jr. -

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

Friday and Saturday, August 6 and 7—28th Annual Pennsylvania State Convention: **Any Lengths Necessary (Online)**. Speakers and nightly entertainment. More details to come. For updates visit www.aapastateconvention.com. All A.A. members are welcome to attend.

Sunday, August 8—Party at the Pool & Taco Bar hosted by Montgomery County Bid for PENNSCYPAA. $15 includes swimming, food, and door prize entry. Plymouth Swim Club, 1724 Gallagher Rd, Plymouth Meeting 19462 1 pm to 5 pm. Contact montcobid@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 10—SAVE THE DATE — **Gratitude Breakfast** at The Brookside Manor, Feasterville-Trevose. More details to come. Tickets are $20 and are on sale now!

Saturday, October 16—Hardcore Group's 35th Anniversary. Speaker meeting, food, fun, fellowship begins at 5 pm. Knights of Columbus Hall, 1195 Haverford Rod, Crum Lynne, 19022.

Online Meetings are being held in August, 2021.

Become an Intergroup Rep (IGR)!

Contact your Zone Liaison or the SEPIA Office.

MONTHLY ZONE MEETINGS

FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 9TH AT 7:00 PM

SEE PAGE 17 FOR ONLINE VIDEO INFORMATION

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

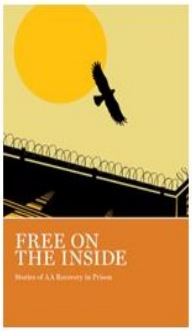
The **Montgomery County Zone** meets at:
Church of the Messiah, 1001 DeKalb Pike (Rt. 202), Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002
Online Video Conference

The **Philadelphia County Zone** meets at:
St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, 817 North 7th Street, Philadelphia (19123)
Online Video Conference

What's New For August 2021

Grapevine
Current Issue Spotlight:
This month's Featured Section is **"Seniors in AA."** AA members share powerful stories about the joys and challenges of getting older in sobriety. Issue includes resources for seniors. Also included are stories of hope by members during the current COVID-19 crisis.

Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:
- **Adversity in Sobriety** — Tell us how you got through a tough time in sobriety. What AA tools did you use? How did your sponsor, the fellowship or prayer help? Share how you got through it. (stories due August 15, 2021)
- **Emotional Sobriety** — Over time, how have you learned to use the tools of AA to gain serenity and peace? Share some wonderful examples of emotional sobriety in your life today. (stories due Sept 15, 2021)
- **Important:** We're looking for stories of experience with each Step and each Tradition! (Pick a Step or pick a Tradition and write about your experience!)



Just published!

FREE ON THE INSIDE
Stories of AA Recovery in Prison

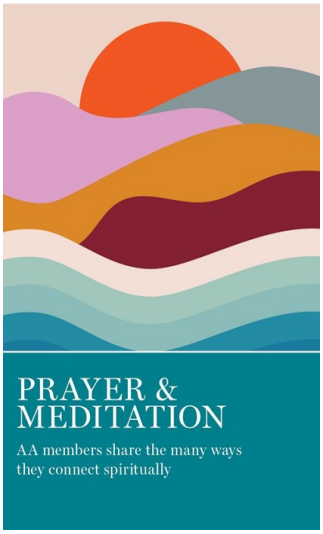
One day at a time
Un día a la vez
Un jour à la fois

Pocket Calendar available now!

2022

La Viña
Current Issue Spotlight:
This month's Special Section is "La Viña's 25th Anniversary."

Submit Your Story for Upcoming Issues:
- **Acceptance** — (Stories due July 30, 2021)
- **Newcomer issue** — (stories due September 30, 2021)
- **The Three Legacies** — (stories due by October 17, 2021)
- **Important:** We are always looking for stories on individual steps and traditions!



Coming September 2021

Prayer & Meditation features powerful stories by members of Alcoholics Anonymous about the many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives. The stories in this book show how members begin to pray and meditate and then branch out to develop very personal, and often creative, ways to practice. Chapters include: daily routines, traditional religious practices, activities and exercise, personal techniques, the Serenity Prayer, and connecting with nature and the universe. All stories were previously published in Grapevine, the International Journal of AA. Great for people in recovery or those who want to explore prayer and meditation.

Visit the SEPIA website to place your Grapevine Book orders or call 215-923-7900
https://sepialiterature.info/

A.A. Oldtimers…On the Eighth Step

A.A. Grapevine, June 1945, Vol. 2 No. 1

Editorial: On the 8th Step . . .

"Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all."

It was characteristic of many of us as alcoholics to at least attempt to perform in the grandiose manner. And in harming others we usually succeeded magnificently. So, to say that the first phase of the Eighth Step is a large order is to indulge in understatement which matches our bombastic style.

And yet, however extended be the list of those we have harmed, the fulfillment of this step's admonition need not be a tedious nor a burdensome undertaking. In the first place, let's examine the meaning of the verb: Amend.

Webster's New International Dictionary defines it thus –"To make better, especially in character; to repair, restore; to free from faults, put right, correct, rectify. . ."

There is the credo to which we of A.A. subscribe; the goal we hope to achieve through sobriety. It is both the manifestation of our adherence to the other 11 Steps and our performance of the Eighth itself.

The definition continues:

". . . to change or modify in any way for the better; to recover from illness."

It was written for us!

We have often heard that our sobriety should be founded on "unselfish selfishness", that we should strive to avoid a lapse into drinking for the benefits we, personally, derive from abstinence. It's not sound, we have been told, to try to stay dry for the sake of a wife or a sweetheart or someone else dear to us.

When we first heard that plan of action outlined, we revolted mildly because it didn't seem to meet the specifications of true altruism. Many of us, as we entered A.A., still yearned for that mystic power to "handle" alcohol and it seemed then that the step we were taking was at least in part –a gesture of devotion to some loved one. Without altruism there didn't seem to be much motive to propel us.

Of course, we soon discovered that "unselfish selfishness" was the firmest foundation for our recovery. We found, in the same way, that we try to help others, not solely through altruistic impulse, but so that we may gain strength.

The principle of "unselfish selfishness" is applicable again in the Eighth Step. We seek to identify all those we have harmed and we assume a willingness to make amends so that –recalling the definition of the word –we may "change . . . for the better" and "recover from illness."

The alternative is retrogression. If we fail to "repair", we can only impair.

— L. J.

Outside the Five-County Area

Friday through Sunday, August 20 to 22—PENNSCYPAA (Pennsylvania State Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous: A New World Came Into View. Lancaster, PA. For more information visit: https://lancypaa.com/.

Thursday, August 26—ICYPAA (International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous) 62nd Annual Event: Let the Good Times Roll. New Orleans. For more information visit: https://62nd.icypaa.org/. ICYPAA provides an opportunity for the young--and young at heart--from all over the world to come together and share their experience, strength, and hope as members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Friday through Sunday, September 17 to 19—National A.A. Technology Workshop (NAATW) (Online): A.A. and Technology in a Time of Change. For more information visit: https://naatw.org/2021-online-workshop/.

Friday through Sunday, October 8 to 10—Biarritz International (Online): "Keep It Simple". An A.A. Fellowship Event with Al-Anon and YPAA Participation. English-speaking. For more information visit: https://aaconventionbiarritz.com/.

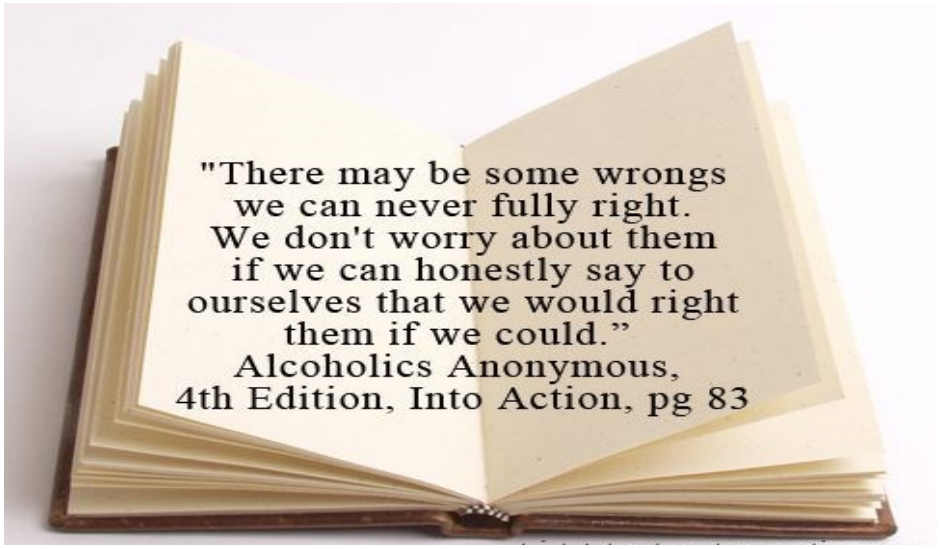
The Difference Between Open and Closed A.A. Meetings

The purpose of all A.A. group meetings, as the Preamble states, is for A.A. members to "share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism." Toward this end, A.A. groups have both open and closed meetings.

Closed meetings are for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking."

Open meetings are available to anyone interested in Alcoholics Anonymous' program of recovery from alcoholism. Nonalcoholics may attend open meetings **as observers.**

Reprinted from The A.A. Group... Where It All Begins, p. 11, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

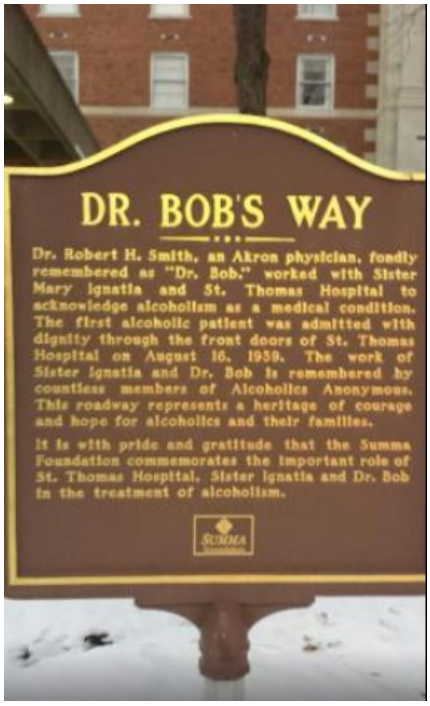


This month in A.A. History

*** August ***

- **August 3, 1954 —** Brinkley S. gets sober at Towns Hospital after 50th detox.
- **August 8, 1879**—Dr. Bob born in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.
- **August 11, 1938—**Akron, Ohio and New York, New York members begin writing stories for the first edition of the Big Book.
- **August 16, 1939**—Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia admit first the alcoholic to St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio, the first hospital-based unit in the country dedicated to the treatment of alcoholism.
- **August Aug 26, 1941**—Bill writes Dr. Bob to tell him Works Publishing, which had been founded to finance the publishing of the Big Book by selling stock, has been incorporated,
- **August 28, 1954—***24 Hours a Day* is published by Richmond W.
- **August 1934—**(exact date not known) Rowland H. and Cebra persuade court to parole Ebby T. to them.
- **August 1981—**Sales of the Big Book pass 3 million copies.

Young Dr. Bob



Sister Mary Ignatia

Urgent! Urgent! Urgent!

All Groups in the SEPIA Area

Please make sure that your meeting information is accurate on the SEPIA website.

Meetings (aasepia.org)

Please contact the SEPIA office with any changes

215-923-7900

SEPIA Office will be reopening to our committees, volunteers and visitors starting Wednesday, September 1, 2021

TEMPORARILY CLOSED
Friday Noon Intergroup Meeting until further notice.

Committee Meetings for the month of August 2021 are online.

See Page 17 for all the details and share with your IGRs and other interested A.A. members.

Archives 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 – August 10th 7:00 pm Saturday – August 21st 9:00 am Preservation
Cooperation With The Professional Community (CPC) Helps police, medical, and other professionals understand what A.A. is and how it can help their clients.	Monday – August 2nd 7:00 pm
Finance Makes recommendations to the Steering Committee and SEPIA office how best to spend Seventh Tradition donations.	Thursday – August 19th 7:00 pm
Interphones and Helping Unite the Sick, Shut-in, Hospitalized and Homebound (HUSSHH) 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 – August 25th (Meets the last Wednesday of even months at 7:00 pm)
Prisons and Temporary Contact 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 – August 3rd 6:00 pm
Public Information (PI) Conveys information about A.A. to the general public through flyers, mailings, radio spots, heath fairs, etc.	Wednesday – August 18th 7:00 pm
Special Events Plans the annual spring Round-Up, the February Share-A-Day event, and more.	Monday – August 30th 7:00 pm
Treatment Facilities (TF) and Bridging the Gap Treatment establishes and oversees A.A. meetings at detoxes and rehabs. Bridging the Gap connects members leaving facilities to meetings in their area.	Monday – August 16th 7:00 pm
Unity Provides information about service opportunities outside the homegroup to groups when invited; plans summer picnic and fall workshop.	Tuesday – August 17th 7:00 pm
Web/Tech Ad Hoc Committee An offshoot of Public Information (PI), Web/Tech programs and manages the website, and provides tech advice and IT support for the office.	Wednesday – August 4th 5:30 pm

Committee Corner

UNITY

The Unity Committee, when invited, travels to meetings in the Philadelphia five-county area to provide a **Unity Pitch** with information about service opportunities outside of the home group and to get you fired up about giving back to A.A. as a whole. Hence, we're sometimes called "the traveling roadshow."

In most cases, once the meeting format and announcements have been read, we generally provide a Unity Pitch which includes sprinkling of Unity, Recovery and a lot of Service, which takes about 20-30 minutes (depending on how many questions we get). Included in the Unity Pitch is a brief history of the SEPIA office and its many functions, and Service opportunities through each of the SEPIA 12-step committees (e.g., Interphones, Special Events, Public Information, Website/Technology, CPC, Treatment, Prison, Archives, Finance and Unity).

Although the Unity Committee is traveling "virtually" for the time-being, we would still love to buckle up our seatbelts and visit your home group. If nothing else, it's almost like inviting the Big Book to speak at your meeting, where it reads: "*When, therefore, we were approached by those in whom the problem had been solved, there was nothing left for us but to pick up the simple kit of spiritual tools laid at our feet. We have found much of heaven and we have been rocketed into a fourth dimension of existence of which we had not even dreamed.*" —*Alcoholics Anonymous* Page 25.

When was the last time your group had a Unity Pitch? If it's been a while, maybe now is a good time to muster a Group Conscience to see if your group would like invite guest speakers from the Unity Committee to provide a Unity Pitch. If interested, feel free to contact us at the SEPIA website https://aasepia.org/service-committees/unity/ or by calling the SEPIA office at (215) 923-7900.

In addition to providing Unity Pitches, the Unity Committee is also responsible for coordinating the Unity Picnic every summer; generally held at Neshaminy State Park. A.A. meeting, coffee pot, 300 hot dogs, 250 hamburgers, soda-pop, swimming, fishing and sunshine of the spirit. What more can you ask for?

If interested in joining the traveling roadshow, there are no time requirements to join the Unity Committee. All we ask is that you show up sober and ready to provide a message of Unity, Service and Recovery from heart.

The Unity Committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

As Doctor Bob stated: "*I spend a great deal of time passing on what I learned to others who want and need it badly. I do it for four reasons:*

1. *Sense of duty*
2. *It is a pleasure*
3. *Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me.*
4. *Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a possible slip.*" — *Alcoholics Anonymous* Pages 180-181.

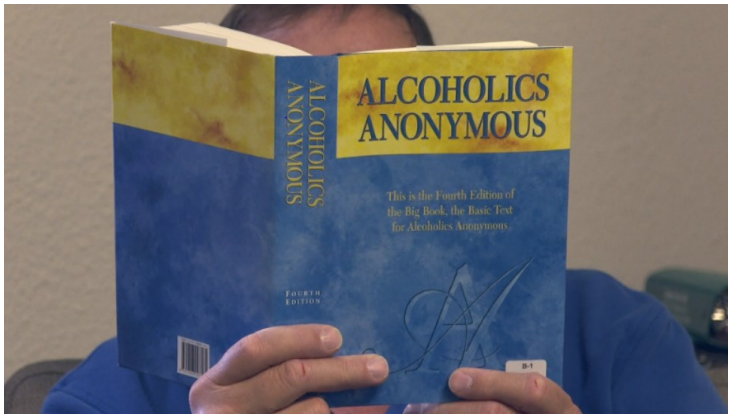
Chip D., Unity Director
Steve Mc., Unity Committee Member

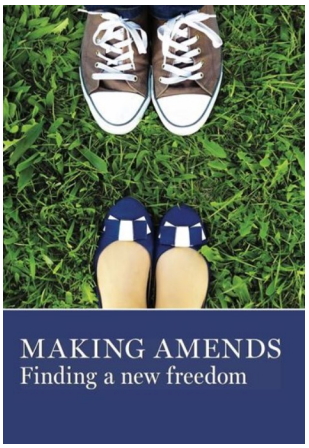
Curbside PICK UP

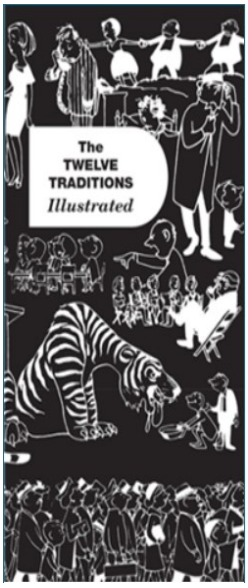
Visit the SEPIA website to place your order or call 215-923-7900
https://sepialiterature.info/

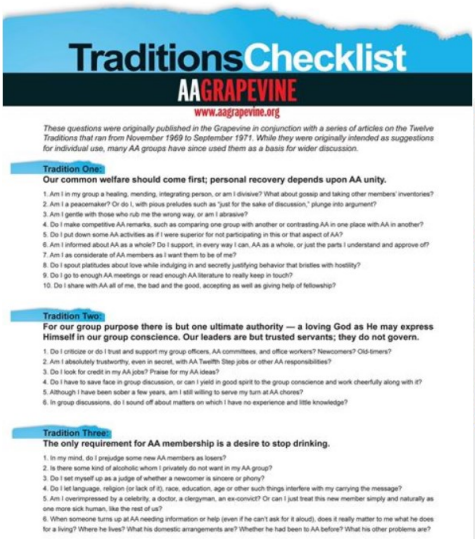
Square

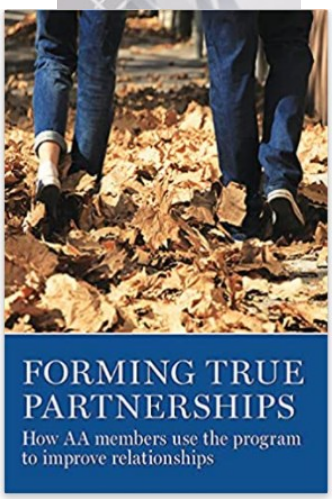
VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER CASH CHECK PayPal

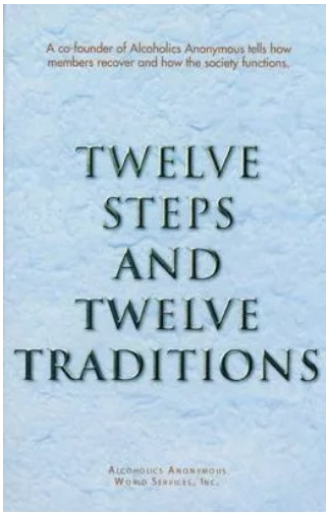












Humor in Sobriety

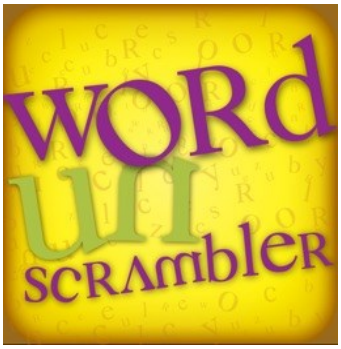
Recent Website Upgrades

In order to make it easier to see at a glance whether a meeting is being conducted in person, online and/or over the phone, or is currently not meeting, the website team has rolled out a color-coded system.

- **In-person meetings will have a green box around their address.**
- **Online and phone meetings will have a blue box around the name of the online provider and/or the word "phone", that will take you directly into the meeting.**
- **Meetings that are currently not meeting will have a red box around the word "Inactive".**

See the screenshot below, and then check aasepia.org to see if your meeting information is up-to-date. Please let us know if you need any changes made.

5:30 pm Monday	Malvern Happy Hour Wheelchair	Malvern Center (D30)	225 Lancaster Ave Zoom Phone	Malvern
5:30 pm Monday	Phoenixville AA Temp	/ GSO #112174	Inactive	Phoenixville
5:30 pm Monday	Pottstown Cherry Street	St John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church (D38)	301 Cherry St	Pottstown
5:30 pm Monday	Sober B's Women		Zoom Phone	Philadelphia



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

2 letter words (16 words)
3 letter words (34 words)
4 letter words (39 words)
5 letter words (23 words)
6 letter words (3 words)

Total Words Found: 115

Eighth Step Prayer

Higher Power,
I ask Your help in making my list of all those
I have harmed.
I will take responsibility for my mistakes &
Be forgiving to others as
You are forgiving to me.
Grant me the willingness to begin my
restitution. This I pray.

CONTACT US

Southeastern Pennsylvania Intergroup Association SEPIA
1903 South Broad Street - 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19148-2216
Phone 215-923-7900

Alcoholics Anonymous®
www.aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

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

Date: June 29, 2021

Re: Name That Theme: 2025 International Convention

Warmest greetings to all!

Time seems to fly so quickly, yet there is so much to look forward to especially as we begin to imagine themes for the 2025 International Convention celebration of A.A.'s 90th Anniversary in Vancouver, B.C., on July 3-6, 2025. Your creative ideas are vital and will be presented to and selected by the Trustees' International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee. With the October 15, 2021, deadline right around the corner we ask you to quickly forward your ideas.

Here is a flashback of previous International Convention themes:

1965 "I Am Responsible"
1970 "Unity"
1975 "Let It Begin with Me"
1980 "The Joy of Living"
1985 "Fifty Years with Gratitude".
1990 "Fifty-Five Years — One Day at a Time"
1995 "A.A. Everywhere — Anywhere"
2000 "Pass It on – Into the 21st Century"
2005 "I Am Responsible"; 2010 "A Vision for You"
2015 "80 Years — Happy, Joyous and Free"; and
2020 "Love and Tolerance is Our Code."

Send your ideas to the International Conventions Assignment, P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163, or email 2025ictheme@aa.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

See you in Vancouver!!

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

Committee Name	Day	Date	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode	Link	Dial-In #
CPC COMMITTEE	Monday	8-2-2021	7:00 PM	869 6733 4672 (Zoom)	SEPIA1903	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86967334672?pwd=ZkwvOHYvZ3M3a2NoaHMrSGNGK1duZz09	1-646-558-8656
WEB/TECH COMMITTEE	Wednesday	8-4-2021	5:30 PM	215 1234 215	580960	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021793007?pwd=SGdERXBndTIzVkhpTitEVzRqVEVrdz09	1-646-558-8656
PRISON COMMITTEE	Thursday	8-3-2021	6:00 PM	897 4545 6774 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745456774?pwd=MEVuVzRiRlR1SmxLMlF3a2FLa3VuUT09	1-646-558-8656
BUCKS COUNTY ZONE	Monday	8-9-2021	7:00 PM	833 9712 5709 (Zoom)	722722	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83397125709?pwd=Ykh4T0s3alNPUklrRGpWNWE1bHJKZz09	1-301-715-8592
CHESTER COUNTY ZONE	Monday	8-9-2021	7:00 PM	892 2781 6366 (Zoom)	266565	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89227816366?pwd=SzBhR0pZUlJVekIzT21HZDRKRkhnZz09	1-646-558-8656
DELAWARE COUNTY	Monday	8-9-2021	7:00 PM	893 8092 9799 (Zoom)	451451	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89380929799?pwd=UDRCUU9FRjY1ZEZSbHdQRG5ndkd5QT09	1-646-558-8656
MONTGOMERY COUNTY	Monday	8-9-2021	7:00 PM	829 0440 1504 (Zoom)	351351	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82904401504?pwd=N0l6Zm54S1dKMEczdHJwY3F2Ukx4Zz09	1-646-558-8656
PHILADELPHIA ZONE	Monday	8-9-2021	7:00 PM	846 4472 6194 (Zoom)	224224	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84644726194?pwd=TkVVWnAwNm41elJ1aGhwL1hjQjArZz09	1-646-558-8656
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE	Tuesday	8-10-2021	7:00 PM	832 4414 8913 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244148913?pwd=b2JqbmIzQ0dBOVJuRjlLMDNRYy9lQT09	1-646-558-8656
INTERPHONES	Wednesday	8-25-2021	7:00 PM	822 1987 3872 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82219873872?pwd=UG5VR0lvMHJTRXAvUm5OQXE4Q0tNQT09	1-646-558-8656
PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)	Wednesday	8-18-2021	7:00 PM	882 5844 9206 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88258449206?pwd=cWlPd2ZSUllvWHcvbndyeXA4SFAwUT09	1-646-558-8656
TREATMENT FACILITIES	Monday	8-16-2021	7:00 PM	881 4239 6509 (Zoom)	805478	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88142396509?pwd=ZU00WmFMWnRjSWt5VXJUQ3NBdExtdz09	1-646-558-8656
UNITY COMMITTEE	Tuesday	8-17-2021	7:00 PM	896 4619 2235 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89646192235?pwd=VTRHdXRnNjNKZmxHZXJPeTltaGZNUT09	1-646-558-8656
FINANCE	Thursday	8-19-2021	7:00 PM	842 4075 5543 (Zoom)	SEPIA	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84240755543?pwd=ejJlZEFMTjlENDR6cHUxVmF1ci9DZz09	1-646-558-8656
SPECIAL EVENTS	Monday	8-30-2021	7:00 PM	834 2923 8954 (Zoom)	797795	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429238954?pwd=c2I2N05jbGFGMFpXQTl5TTdjU0FMUT09	1-646-558-8656

August 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
1	*2* **CPC COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*3*	*4* **Website Tech 5:30 pm** **STEERING COMMITTEE 7:00 pm (closed)**	*5* **TEMPORARY CONTACT and PRISON COMMITTEE 6:00 pm**	*6* ***Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting*** *(suspended)*	*7*
8	*9* **ALL FIVE COUNTY ZONE MEETINGS 7:00 pm** *(see below for locations)*	*10* **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*11*	*12*	*13* ***Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting*** *(suspended)*	*14*
15	*16* **TREATMENT and BRIDGING THE GAP COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*17* **UNITY COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*18* **PUBLIC INFO COMMITTEE 7:00 pm** **Nomination Committee Meeting 7:00 pm (closed)**	*19* **FINANCE COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*20* ***Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting*** *(suspended)*	*21* **ARCHIVES PRESERVATION 9:00 am**
22	*23*	*24*	*25* **INTERPHONES AND HUSSHH COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*26*	*27* ***Intergroup Noon A.A. Meeting*** *(suspended)*	*28*
29	*30* **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE 7:00 pm**	*31*	**Committee meetings are open to all A.A. members unless listed as "closed".**			

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

JULY GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM 7/1/2021 TO 7/31/2021

GSO #	GROUP NAME	DONATION
161837	562 GROUP	$933.00
626489	BIG BOOK 101	$100.00
713353	BLACK HORSE	$50.00
141652	BROOKHAVEN	$300.00
605440	BUSTLETON	$140.00
127105	CHARITY	$125.00
161425	DAYLESFORD ABBEY	$237.50
650190	FOREVER YOUNG	$25.00
692217	FREEDOM IN THE PARK	$183.33
128913	FULLNESS OF LIFE	$200.22
112232	GOYA	$75.00
645736	HAIR OF THE DOG	$500.00
676709	HIGHLAND PARK	$100.00
725521	HOPE GROUP	$50.00
718548	KEEP IT SIMPLE	$50.00
682547	LANGUAGE OF THE HEART	$50.00
137687	LIFE OR DEATH	$750.00
172596	MID-DAY MIRACLES	$1,023.10
163433	MORNING MIRACLES	$250.00
123649	MORRISVILLE THURSDAY NOON	$0.00
130080	NARBERTH MIDDAY	$750.00
691433	PERKASIE BEGINNERS GROUP	$300.00
161692	PROMISES/AS BILL SEES IT	$100.00
606116	ROLLING HILLS SOBRIETY	$125.00
169681	ROSLYN THURSDAY NIGHTERS	$180.00
162893	S.O.S. Ladies	$91.00
610841	SISTERS IN SOBRIETY	$75.00
603122	SOBRIETY AT SEVEN	$750.00
628446	STEP ON IN	$100.00
689893	STEP UP	$50.00
605211	THIS IS NOT A DRESS REHEARSAL	$83.00
127074	TIME ON OUR SIDE	$150.00
600690	WAKE UP	$360.00
112295	WAYNE	$200.00
699032	WOMEN OF GRACE	$162.50
161216	YARDLEY NOON STEP	$209.00
607993	YOUNG MEN'S	$125.00

JULY GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

FROM 7/1/2021 TO 7/31/2021

GSO #	GROUP NAME	DONATION
	Total from 7/1/2021 to 7/31/2021:	**$8,952.65**

SEPIA
Balance Sheet
As of July 31, 2021

	Jul 31, 21	
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
FrankIn Mint		202,969.29
Petty Cash		466.20
PNC-General Checking		40,637.88
PNC-Money Market		10,000.00
PPayPal		-980.89
Total Checking/Savings		253,092.48
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable		6,418.95
Total Accounts Receivable		6,418.95
Other Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable Offset		-130.17
Inventory Asset		59,434.87
Undeposited Funds		1,646.98
Total Other Current Assets		60,951.68
Total Current Assets		320,463.11
Fixed Assets		
Accumulated Depreciation		-11,065.87
Computer Upgrades - 2012		11,065.87
Fixed Assets		
Accumulated Depreciation	-15,505.00	
Office Equipment	15,505.00	
Total Fixed Assets		0.00
Total Fixed Assets		0.00
TOTAL ASSETS		**320,463.11**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Accounts Payable		2,451.76
Total Accounts Payable		2,451.76
Other Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable Offset		1,122.35
Sales Tax Payable		1,290.29
Total Other Current Liabilities		2,412.64
Total Current Liabilities		4,864.40
Total Liabilities		4,864.40
Equity		
Opening Bal Equity		132,085.00
Unrestricted Net Assets		106,514.29
Net Income		76,999.42
Total Equity		315,598.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		**320,463.11**

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

	Nov '20 - Jul 21	Budget	$ Over Bud...	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy				
Dinner Dance/Comedy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Breakfast-Bucks County				
Donations	0.00	749.97	-749.97	0.0%
Breakfast-Bucks County - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Breakfast-Bucks County	0.00	749.97	-749.97	0.0%
Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy	0.00	749.97	-749.97	0.0%
RU Income				
RU Registrations	0.00	12,500.00	-12,500.00	0.0%
RU Tees	1,014.00			
RU Hoodies	2,049.00			
RU Prison lit big book donation	815.00			
RU Extra donation to SEPIA	2,671.00			
RU Income - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total RU Income	6,549.00	12,500.00	-5,951.00	52.4%
Contributions				
BB & Literature for Prisons	937.00	187.47	749.53	499.8%
Group Contributions	137,261.52	135,847.26	1,414.26	101.0%
Individual Contributions	26,814.76	27,163.71	-348.95	98.7%
Other Contributions	2,549.65	1,223.37	1,326.28	208.4%
Contributions - Other	1,995.83			
Total Contributions	169,558.76	164,421.81	5,136.95	103.1%
Literature	67,352.97	63,885.60	3,467.37	105.4%
Miscellaneous Income				
Interest Income	560.98	1,125.00	-564.02	49.9%
Interviews	760.00	375.03	384.97	202.7%
Other Revenue	0.00	375.03	-375.03	0.0%
Miscellaneous Income - Other	5,525.73			
Total Miscellaneous Income	6,846.71	1,875.06	4,971.65	365.1%
Total Income	250,307.44	243,432.44	6,875.00	102.8%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Cost of Goods Sold				
Discounts & Allowances	0.84			
Inventory Adjustment	-1,769.49			
Literature Expenses				
AAWS and GPV	377.08			
Postage for Literature	2,016.45	1,125.00	891.45	179.2%
Literature Expenses - Other	91.64			
Total Literature Expenses	2,485.17	1,125.00	1,360.17	220.9%
Cost of Goods Sold - Other	50,516.59	51,454.80	-938.21	98.2%
Total Cost of Goods Sold	51,233.11	52,579.80	-1,346.69	97.4%
Total COGS	51,233.11	52,579.80	-1,346.69	97.4%
Gross Profit	199,074.33	190,852.64	8,221.69	104.3%
Expense				
Uncategorized Expenses	341.93			
Breakfast Expenses				
Breakfast Expense-Bucks				
Facility	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%

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

	Nov '20 - Jul 21	Budget	$ Over Bud...	% of Budget
Breakfast Expense-Bucks - Other	140.00			
Total Breakfast Expense-Bucks	140.00	0.00	140.00	100.0%
Total Breakfast Expenses	140.00	0.00	140.00	100.0%
Dinner Dance/Comedy Expenses				
Caterer-Dinner Dance/Comedy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Dinner Dance/Comedy Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Round Up				
RU Merchandise for Sale	-5,453.17			
RU Miscellaneous Expenses	219.10			
Round Up - Other	0.00	6,374.97	-6,374.97	0.0%
Total Round Up	-5,234.07	6,374.97	-11,609.04	-82.1%
Share-A-Day	40.50	1,000.00	-959.50	4.1%
Comittees & Zones				
Bucks County Zone	0.00	420.03	-420.03	0.0%
Chester County Zone	134.00	450.00	-316.00	29.8%
Delaware County Zone	0.00	382.50	-382.50	0.0%
Montgomery County Zone	0.00	448.47	-448.47	0.0%
Philadelphia County Zone	0.00	1,198.53	-1,198.53	0.0%
Archives Committee	0.00	225.00	-225.00	0.0%
Cooperation with Professionals	0.00	74.97	-74.97	0.0%
Interphones Committee	3,273.74	4,124.97	-851.23	79.4%
Prisons Committee	0.00	6,337.80	-6,337.80	0.0%
Public Information Committee	200.73	1,369.98	-1,169.25	14.7%
Treatment Facilities Committee	129.52	2,250.00	-2,120.48	5.8%
Unity Committee	0.00	560.43	-560.43	0.0%
Total Comittees & Zones	3,737.99	17,842.68	-14,104.69	20.9%
Travel & Training				
Nat'l AA Technology Workshop	0.00	1,874.97	-1,874.97	0.0%
Office Manager Seminar	0.00	1,874.97	-1,874.97	0.0%
Travel & Training - Other	21.00	342.00	-321.00	6.1%
Total Travel & Training	21.00	4,091.94	-4,070.94	0.5%
Miscellaneous				
Reconciliation Discrepancies	110.00			
Total Miscellaneous	110.00			
Office Expenses				
Utilities	0.00	749.97	-749.97	0.0%
Square Fee	565.40	562.50	2.90	100.5%
Office Manager Cell Phone	636.64	1,274.49	-637.85	50.0%
Cleaning	3,119.76	2,925.00	194.76	106.7%
Computer Consultant	2,100.00	1,874.97	225.03	112.0%
Computer/Fax Equipment	320.00	2,250.00	-1,930.00	14.2%
Copier Lease Service Supplies	6,251.99	5,818.50	433.49	107.5%
CPA/Professional Services	3,500.00	4,875.03	-1,375.03	71.8%
Insurance-Liability/D&O/WC	3,892.00	5,249.97	-1,357.97	74.1%
Office Rent	20,000.00	22,500.00	-2,500.00	88.9%
Office Supplies	800.09	9,442.80	-8,642.71	8.5%
Parking & Transportation	1,510.50	3,924.00	-2,413.50	38.5%
PayPal Fee	1,171.65	1,858.50	-686.85	63.0%
Payroll Service Fee	1,124.00	592.02	531.98	189.9%
PNC Merchant Interchng	1,294.95	1,231.56	63.39	105.1%
Telephone/Internet	2,133.36	2,250.00	-116.64	94.8%
USPS	210.98	749.97	-538.99	28.1%
Web Hosting/Storage	376.80	494.55	-117.75	76.2%
Office Expenses - Other	1,800.42	385.11	1,415.31	467.5%

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

	Nov '20 - Jul 21	Budget	$ Over Bud...	% of Budget
Total Office Expenses	50,808.54	69,008.94	-18,200.40	73.6%
Salary and Benefits				
Compensation	47,625.10	78,198.03	-30,572.93	60.9%
Employee Benefits	19,434.20	7,200.00	12,234.20	269.9%
Employer Taxes	5,075.08	7,782.12	-2,707.04	65.2%
Total Salary and Benefits	72,134.38	93,180.15	-21,045.77	77.4%
Total Expense	122,100.27	191,498.68	-69,398.41	63.8%
Net Ordinary Income	76,974.06	-646.04	77,620.10	-11,914.8%
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	**76,974.06**	**-646.04**	**77,620.10**	**-11,914.8%**

REACHING OUT ITS HAND SINCE 1948

IS YOUR AA MEETING AWARE OF THE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE OUTSIDE OF THE HOME GROUP?

IF NOT - CONTACT SEPIA'S UNITY COMMITTEE

WE WOULD BE GLAD TO COME OUT TO YOUR GROUP AND EXPLAIN EVERYTHING THAT INTERGROUP DOES

- A Unity Pitch explains how Intergroup works.
- A Pitch describes service opportunities on Intergroup's nine committees, it's subcommittees, and the Intergroup Office.
- Your group decides the length of the pitch.

Your group conscience is required before the Unity Committee accepts a Pitch request.

Would your group like a Unity Pitch? Just call the SEPIA Office at 215-923-7900 or email unitydirector@aasepia.org or unityasstdirector@aasepia.org with the following information: Your Group's Name, the date or approximate date you would like a pitch, your telephone number or email address and best time to call or contact.

The Unity Committee meets at 7 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Intergroup Office, 1903 South Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19148-2216.

Come join us!

Revised 10-2020 SEPIA Unity Committee

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE

AND GO TO DIFFERENT MEETINGS?

CONSIDER JOINING SEPIA'S UNITY COMMITTEE

The Unity Committee talks to AA Groups all over the five county area about the service opportunities available on SEPIA's committees and at the SEPIA office

NO TIME

REQUIREMENT

UNITY PITCHES
ZONE FUN WORKSHOPS
UNITY PICNIC
…AND MORE

TRAVEL

FELLOWSHIP

The Unity Committee meets at 7 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the SEPIA office, 1903 South Broad Street – 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19148-2216.

Email: unitydirector@aasepia.org or unityasstdirector@aasepia.org

OR

Mail to: SEPIA Unity Committee, 1903 S. Broad Street, 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19148 or call (215) 923-7900

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ BEST TIME TO CALL: _____

HOME GROUP: _____

EMAIL: _____

Revised 9-25-2020