



SOBER DAZE

April – June 2023

A 12TH District Publication

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Editor Thoughts

Georgia State Service Assembly

The Georgia State Service Assembly will be held in Dublin from May 19 -May 21. This is an especially important meeting.

There will be a round table discussion about if and how to modify or change the words of AA Founders. Another discussion item will be to make the GSSA meeting available by computer.

There is also expected to be discussion on the recent changes to the Preamble

These are very important issues that, to date, have resulted in strong and fervent discussions in Groups. Our GSRs need to be fully informed through Group Consciences of items and issues to discuss.

Please use April and May to prepare for the upcoming GSSA meeting.

David J. (Editor)

If you have a topic, story, article, or ideas for Sober Daze , please send it in. This is a We program and we have a lot of recovery between us.

View AA Videos at:

http://www.augustaaa.org/public_service_announcement_videos.html
https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/videos-and-audios

According to
chemistry, alcohol
is a solution.
Unknown

Read Sober Daze anytime by visiting
http://www.augustaaa.org/sober_daze.html



Important Dates in A.A. History

(Details from http://www.a-1associates.com/aa/HISTORY_PAGE/dates.htm and was collected & assembled by Nancy O. of Virginia. This is a Maryland AA History site.)

April 1, 1939 - *Alcoholics Anonymous* AA's Big Book was published.

April 7, 1941 - Ruth Hock reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help, as a result of the Saturday Evening Post Article by Jack Alexander.

April 11, 1939 - Marty Mann attended her first meeting at the home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Brooklyn.

April 26, 1939 - Bill & Lois Wilson moved in with Hank Parkhurst after the bank foreclosed on 182 Clinton St. This was the first of over 50 moves before they acquired Stepping Stones.

April 1958 - The word "honest" was dropped from "an honest desire to stop drinking," in the AA Preamble.

May 4, 1946 - Marty Mann explained Alcoholics Anonymous and the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism on the "We the People" radio show.

May 6, 1939: Clarence S of Cleveland told Dr. Bob, his sponsor, he would not be back to Oxford Group meetings in Akron and would start an "AA" meeting in Cleveland.

May 11, 1935 - From the Mayflower Hotel, Bill Wilson called Walter Tunks who referred him to Henrietta Seiberling who introduced Bill to Dr. Bob.

May 12, 1935 - Mothers' Day - Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith met for the first time in Akron, Ohio, at the home of Henrietta Seiberling.

June 10, 1935 - The date that is celebrated as Dr. Bob's last drink and the official founding date of AA. There is some evidence that the founders, in trying to reconstruct the history, got the date wrong and it was actually June 17.

June 26, 1935 - Bill Dotson. (AA #3) entered Akron's City Hospital for his last detox and his first day of sobriety.

June 28, 1935 - Dr. Bob and Bill Wilson visited Bill Dotson at Akron's City Hospital.

A.A. Biography

Marty Mann

Marty Mann (October 15, 1904 – July 22, 1980) is considered by some to be the first woman with long-term sobriety in A.A. It is reported that A.A. co-founder Bill Wilson was Marty's sponsor. Marty wrote her Story "Women Suffer Too" in the Story Section of second through fourth editions of the Big Book.

Mann's father, died of alcoholism. Marty worked as a magazine editor, art critic, and photojournalist for renowned magazines such as Vogue, Harpers, and Tattler. However, she had alcoholism – and it progressed to the point where she was no longer able to hold a job, drifting in and out of homelessness while living abroad in London.

Her alcoholism escalated and she spent 6 months in a London Hospital after a second suicide attempt. She was encouraged to return home to America by her friends. In 1936, she returned to her family in the United States and sought help from doctors. She quickly became a charity patient at Bellevue Hospital in New York City. She eventually transferred to Blythewood Sanitarium in Greenwich, Connecticut.

In 1939, her psychiatrist Dr. Harry Tiebout gave her a pre-publication manuscript of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, and persuaded her to attend her first AA meeting. This meeting took place at the home of Lois and Bill Wilson at 182 Clinton Street in Brooklyn, New York.

Mann organized the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism (NCEA) in 1944, which later became the National Council on Alcoholism (NCA), and then

the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), to address concern with other drugs. She traveled across the U.S. educating medical professionals legislators, businessmen and the public to the importance of treatment and education of the fatal disease of alcoholism.

Marty Mann wrote the following books: Primer on Alcoholism, Marty Mann's New Primer on Alcoholism, Marty Mann Answers Your Questions about Alcoholism.

Changes to the A.A. Big Book

There are discussions and actions begin taken at this time regarding adopting the fifth edition of Alcoholics Anonymous. This activity is generating great levels of discussion. Taken from the A.A. Advisory Actions Relevant to the Conference Literature Committee document (M-39 online document 7/22):

1997 It was recommended that:

A draft Fourth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed and a progress report be brought to the 1998 Conference Literature Committee, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that:

“The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare,’ and the Appendices remain as is.”

A publication of stories dropped from the First, Second and Third Editions of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed, and a progress report be brought to the 1998 Conference Literature Committee.

2021 It was recommended that:

A Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, be developed, including an update of stories to better reflect current membership, keeping in mind the 1995 Advisory Action that:

“The first 164 pages of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Preface, the Forewords, ‘The Doctor’s Opinion,’ ‘Dr. Bob’s Nightmare,’ and the Appendices

remain as is,” and that a progress report be brought back to the 2022 Conference Committee on Literature.

Pending its development, the draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book would include a new foreword, an updated preface and updates to expand on existing ideas in Appendices III and V.”

There are also specific changes proposed for page 117.

May 2023 Assembly – GSR Workshop

During the May 2023 GSSA meeting, there will be a Round-Robin Discussion regarding:

“LITERATURE ITEMS SUGGESTED TO BE FORWARDED TO AREAS FOR WIDER DISCUSSION LOOKING TOWARD SETTING A POLICY ON HOW AND WHETHER TO EDIT A.A. FOUNDER’S WORDS IN OUR CURRENT LITERATURE.”

At the print date, there are no details available to Sober Daze.

Also during the May GSSA Assembly, further discussion regarding the possibility of a hybrid Assembly – physical presence and ZOOM attendance.

“Area 16 to consider making the Assembly available in a hybrid format to all who wish to participate regardless of limitations due to health or a group’s ability to fund the assembly participation of their trusted servants.

The presentation discussed “Consider 3 levels of hybrid format. Level 1 is view only, level 2 is a view and comment experience format. The level 3 would be a full participation model.”

Comments included: “How can we increase in personal participation? Zoom was used for necessity not for convenience. There is a difference between the assembly weekend and the business meeting. Members will lose out on what they receive from the assembly. The opportunity could save time. People who finally got a chance to see what this was like

wanted to be here. He says nothing matters more to our future welfare than the manner in which we use the colossus of modern communication. Used unselfishly and well it can produce results surpassing our present imagination. Will reduce sales at the grapevine table. Some delegates have stated that it did reduce attendance. We will be able to reach those with disabilities. AA saved my life. Service changed it. The energy of in-person service attracts more service. Zoom will dilute participation.

The majority has voted to approve the communications committee to proceed with hybrid meetings research

Interested in District 12 History?

Contact the Archives Committee to learn more about our District 12 history, how to make contributions, or how to volunteer:
 12thdistrictcentraloffice@comcast.net

.....Group Meetings Come Celebrate with Us!

If you are in need for a fun time with great friends, visit with a District Group and celebrate the miracles of recovery.

Group	Founded	Celebrates	Group	Founded	Celebrates
Alpha Group	2/27/1973		Live and Let Live Group	4/13/2022	
Back to Basics			Lumpkin Road	12/6/2014	
Downtown Club	8/31/2009		Martinez	7/31/1980	
Early Bird Group	1/1/2015		Men's Group	7/31/1980	
Evans	2/3/1995	Every Thursday	Mid Day Group	6/1/2001	
First Step	3/25/1974		National Hills	11/18/1985	
Forest Hills	9/6/1963		New Beginning	12/17/1982	Celebrant Chooses
Gratitude Group	1/16/2006	Last Friday @ Noon	New Perceptions	3/ /2002	Last Friday: @ 7:00, Meeting
Grovetown Fellowship			No Nipping Nooners	12/13/1989	Celebrant Chooses
Happy Hour	8/31/1988	First Saturday at 8:00 P.M.	Path to Freedom	3/ /2002	Last Friday: Chips @ 7:45, Meeting @ 8:00

Harlem	10/1/1989		S.H.E. Group	1/ /1989	
Hephzibah	12/1/1989	Last Friday @ Noon	Sunlight of the Spirit	7/12/2009	
Hill	12/27/1966	First Saturday at 8:00 P.M.	Thomson Group	9/6/1949	Last Saturday 7:00 Eating / 8:00 Mtg
In Step	2/5/1991		Too Sleepy to Drink	4/1/2008	
Just for Today	12/1/1989		Warrenton		
Last Call Group	3/6/2002		Washington	5/1/1982	Person Picks: 6:00 Eating / 7:00 Meeting
Leah Group	8/25/2009		West Town AA Group	4/1/2008	
Liberty Street Group	12/6/2014				

Events of Interest to District 12

April 9, 2023	District Business Meeting at 2:00 P.M.
April 15, 2023	Deadline-Mid-Sobriety Challenges AA Grapevine Stories
May 14, 2023	District Business Meeting at 2:00 P.M.
May 19-21, 2023	GSSA Service Assembly, Oconee Fall Line Tech Coll, Dublin
June 10, 2023	Founders Day Picnic, 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
June 15, 2023	Deadline for Remote Communities Experiences & Staying Sober through the Holidays AA Grapevine Stories
September 15-17, 2023	GSSA Service Assembly, Oconee Fall Line Tech Coll, Dublin
October 12-14, 2023	Atlanta Men’s Workshop @ Rock Eagle

Recovery Center Update

At this time, Serenity Behavioral Health Center is not allowing A.A. meetings at the facility. This action has ended a Service opportunity for many Groups. However, there are many recovery facilities located in the Augusta area. Please contact Contact Tyrone at 917-860-8773 for questions and to volunteer.

Founders Day Celebration 2023	12th District Central Office Activities			
	Central Office Activity	Past 12 Months Total	Monthly Average	Last 3 Months Total
Founders Day is June 10 th	Calls to Answering Service	870	73	219

The funding goal for 2023 is \$1,300 (including a \$300 Prudent Reserve). Donations are needed now to make purchases. *Your Group or Individual support is requested for the \$1,300 needed. Small contributions today helps make easy planning in 2023.*

GOAL: \$ 1,300

Please consider a contribution—the sooner we meet our goal, the easier planning will be.

AA Calls to Central Office	662	55	162
Al-Anon Calls to Central Office	25	2	7
Other Calls to Central Office	24	2	6
Visitors to the Central Office	832	69	209
Total Central Office Contacts	2,413	201	603
AA Literature/Items Sales	\$10,616.05	\$884.67	\$2,266.02
Other Literature/Items Sales	\$10,115.07	\$847.97	\$2,889.28
Total Central Office Sales	\$20,731.12	\$1,727.59	\$5,155.27
Web Site Activity			
Web Site Visits	39,736	3,311	10,782
Search Hits	162,133	13,511	42,538

Announcement on Anniversaries

The Editor has worked, since assuming the position, to highlight sobriety celebrations in District 12. This takes assistance from District 12 Groups to provide sobriety date information. Upcoming Anniversaries are listed below.

Evans Group		Thomson Group	
Name	Sobriety Date	Name	Sobriety Date
Cathleen W	04/02/21	Seymour C	4/27/1998
Pam T	04/21/19	Thomas B	5/15/2011
Sara L	04/24/17	Ricky B	5/16/2021
Lindsey D	05/02/21	Connie B	5/26/2020
Mitzi M	05/10/17	Jimmie C	6/1/2019
Jazmine T	05/18/21	Tyler N	6/11/2020
Vicky M	06/02/17		
Marie L	06/04/21		
Eileen L	06/08/87		
Tommy D	06/12/21		
Dectrick J	06/18/21		
Stephanie H	06/20/19		
Emily H	06/23/15		
Jeremy L	06/29/17		

Central Office Volunteer Opportunities are Available in the Central Office. Just call the Central Office at 706-860-8331. Service Committees need great people as well. If you have a special burning desire to be of service, one of our Service Committees has experiences just waiting for you. Call 706-860-8331 for details.

The Poetry and Literature Section

Because, as we find on page xxx **“They are often able, intelligent, friendly people.”** (Editors note: I am, but humility keeps me from bragging about it.)

The Drink

Out of the dark, did you call?

Further and further, I drifted away,

Walking down the hallowed hall?

Your grip, I thought I'd neer stray.

The wine, the beer,
Here's to another empty cheer.
Drowning out my unshed tear.

For I did not know, those sacred steps,
They would show, so I'd change, so I'd grow.

Your gift, one more lie.
My hear, my hands, did you tie,
Yearning only, for the bye and bye.

The gift I found on my way, a place they call AA,
And there is where I'll stay.

Lance B., Josephine County Intergroup Newsletter, January 2019

We all remember talking like that! "But we aren't a glum lot. If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it." pg. 132.

Top Ten List – How to Avoid Your Goals and Dreams

The Big Books says that men and women are physically and mentally different. So, only a few select few may identify with the list below. Thanks to the Desert Lifeline, December 2022 edition as the source for this list.

9. Obsess over what others think of you.
8. Waste time on social media.
7. Don't ask for help or support from friends.
6. Blame everyone instead of looking within.
5. Avoid setting an intention for the day.
4. Spend time with the wrong people.
3. Don't read books that help you level up.
2. Live the life that others expect of you instead of a life true to you!
1. Be hard on yourself all day, every day.

Corrections

The purpose of this committee is to cooperate with all correctional institutions in the Augusta Area, explaining AA's role in assisting the inmates who seek help. The committee helps coordinate AA meetings and other activities in the facilities

within the scope and traditions of the fellowship. The Committee Chair is vacant!
A leader is needed!

For service opportunities, please email: 12thdistrictcentraloffice@comcast.net

I Get by With a Little Help From My AA Pamphlet

The Central Office is one of the few in the nation with full-time staffing and a wide variety of AA approved literature.



P-26 A.A. in Correctional Facilities

For correctional professionals including probation officers, prison administrators, and those in the judicial system who deal with alcoholics, this pamphlet explains how A.A. groups function in prisons and offers institutional opinions recommending A.A. as a helpful ally.

This is an excellent resource for anyone thinking of taking an A.A. meeting into a jail or prison.

General Service Conference-approved.

Faithful Fivers

Thank you for supporting the Central Office!

Denney B
Jim & Billie B
Cathy C
Bruce/Kathy D
David W
Cleveland J
Traylor J
Katy & Fred I
Dan W
Neil T
AVAILABLE!!

Kathryn Z
Jimmy & Tammra H
David J
Pat J
Rosemary M
Tony B
Lisa S
Ellen W
Joe C
Gratitude Group
AVAILABLE!!

Al K
Linda S
Last Call Group
Gene/Judy T
Sara R
Frank W
Ranscine R
Margie S
Lumpkin Fellowship Grp
AVAILABLE!!

Enroll in the Faithful Fivers

“Faithful Fivers” are A.A. members who, in gratitude, contribute five dollars a month toward supporting the 12th District Central Office. With this support, the Central Office pays for the printing of this publication and making it available to the suffering alcoholic. When you enroll as a supporter, each issue will be delivered to your home.

Payment Plan

I agree to pledge, and here is my donation of \$_____ for _____ months.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone Number: _____ **Sobriety Date:** _____

Make checks payable to:

12th District Central Office
113 Camilla Ave.-Martinez
Augusta, GA 30907
(706) 860-8331

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**12th District Central Office
113 Camilla Ave- Martinez
Augusta, GA 30907-3406**