



SOBER DAZE

July - September 2023 A 12TH District Publication

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He who has a fifth on the fourth may not come forth on the fifth...

Editor Thoughts

Hot Summer Days



A.A. has many warnings around Thanksgiving, Christmas Year's Eve about temptations and slips. However, he also have their temptations.

I couldn't mow the lawn for a couple of years because the smell of freshly mown grass was a trigger. The same can be said for the smell of BBQ or the smell of Clark's Hill Lake.

This reminder is that we have a *daily* reprieve from alcohol. Thankfully, we have a daily program that helps us to keep our sobriety.

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

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.)

- July 2, 2000 – 20 Millionth Big Book given to Al-Anon in Minneapolis
- July 2-3, 1955 – Bill W turns “the fellowship over to the fellowship” at 4:00 PM, 5000 attend 20th Anniversary at our St Louis Convention
- July 5, 1985 – AA gives Ruth Hock 5,000,000th Big Book during 50th AA Anniversary in Montreal, Canada
- July 5, 1990 – AA gives Nell Wing 10,000,000th Big Book during 55th AA Anniversary in Seattle, WA
- July 7, 1940 – Bill attends 1st Summer Session at School of Alcohol Studies at Yale
- July 14, 1939 – Blythewood Sanitarium Dr Harry Tiebout gives Big Book to Marty M., who promptly throws it back at him
- July 14, 1979 – Dr. Ernest Kurtz publishes NOT-GOD, History of AA
- July 23, 1940 – Philly AA’s send 10% of kitty to Alcoholic Foundation, sets precedent
- July 28-30, 1950 – 1st AA Convention celebrates 15th anniversary of AA in Cleveland
- August 1, 1946 – Washington Times-Herald (DC) reports on AA clubhouse, to protect members anonymity, withholds address
- August 3, 1954 – Brinkley S. gets sober at Towns Hosp after 50th detox
- August 11, 1938 – Akron & NY members begin writing stories for Big Book
- August 16, 1939 - Dr Bob and Sister Ignatia admit 1st alcoholic to St Thomas Hospital, Akron
- August 25, 1943 - AA group donates Big Book to public library in Quincy, MA
- August 26, 1941 – Bill writes Dr Bob to tell him Works Publishing has been incorporated
- August 1934 - Rowland H and Cebra persuade court to parole Ebby T. to them.
- September 12, 1942 – U.S. Assist. Surgeon General Kolb speaks at dinner for Bill and Dr. Bob
- September 30, 1939 – Morris Markey runs story on AA, Alcoholics and God in Liberty Magazine

A.A. Biography

Jack Alexander

The March 1, 1941 story “Alcoholics Anonymous” by Jack Alexander is an important part of A.A. history. Let us look a little closer at the chain of events.

First, in 1939, the owner of The Saturday Evening Post, Judge Curtis Bok, learned of A.A. from two friends. He was interested in having the Post tell the story of the organization and called upon his ‘hard-nosed’ and well-known journalist Jack Alexander, to do so. Bill W., eager to publicize the A.A. message, met with Alexander. He gave Alexander access to records, a tour of significant A.A. sights, and set up interviews with both nonalcoholic trustees of the General Service Board and A.A.s. During his research, Jack did meet several newspapermen.

Being a newspaperman, he could really talk to these men. His turning point was in St. Louis, his hometown. There he met a number of old friends who were A.A.s, ‘Once rollicking rumpots, they were now sober. It didn't seem possible, but there it was.’ Following the March 1, 1941 release of the article, inquiries began to flood in. On March 12, 1941, Ruth Hock, first non-alcoholic secretary of A.A., wrote to Dr. Bob, A.A. co founder, to update him on what was going on in New York. She said that the office had become swamped, 918 inquiries in 12 days as a direct response to the article.

The offices of The Saturday Evening Post also received many inquiries as well. This included the branch offices of the magazine. Eight years after the release of the wildly successful 1941 Saturday Evening Post article Bill W. wrote to Jack Alexander with a request for another article. After discussions, “The Drunkard’s Best Friend” was published in the April 1, 1950 issue of The Saturday Evening Post. The Alcoholics Anonymous Board had non-alcoholic members for stability reasons and for their ability to interact with the ‘outside world.’ In a November 1951 AA Grapevine article, Jack Alexander was introduced as a non-alcoholic Trustee. Jack Alexander died at his home in St. Petersburg, Florida at 73 after retiring from The Saturday Evening Post in 1964 as senior editor.

Changes to the A.A. Big Book

There remains great interest in changes being proposed for the 5th Edition of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and pamphlets. This comes after the recent change to the Alcoholics Anonymous Preamble.

The Alcoholics Anonymous web site provides the following meetings where literature changes might be discussed.

July 27	A.A.W.S. Board Meeting	New York
July 28–31	General Service Board Weekend	New York
September 8	A.A.W.S. Strategic Planning Session	TBD
October 27	A.A.W.S. Board Meeting	New York
October 27-30	General Service Board Weekend	New York
December 7	A.A.W.S. Strategic Planning Session	TBD
December 8	A.A.W.S. Board Meeting	NYC

Your Group GSR and your District Committee Member should be fully informed our your Group Conscience regarding literature changes before these meetings and our upcoming Service Assembly

September 2023 Assembly

The next Georgia Service Assembly is September 15-17, 2023 in Dublin, Georgia. There is no Agenda published yet.

For those interest in the current literature situation, there is a vacancy for a Non-Trustee Director of AA Grapevine Board in 2024.

To quote the aa.org web site:

“All interested AA members may apply; however, a General Service Conference Delegate is not eligible to apply until one year after their last Conference i.e. only Panel 71 Delegates and prior panels will be considered for this opening. Please use this link to a resume form that should be completed by all applicants for this vacancy www.aagrapevine.org/Vacancy-NTD-AAGV and return the completed form via email to resumes@aagrapevine.org, or print and mail to the attention of Janet Bryan, Director of Operations, AAGV, Inc., 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10115 by Friday, September 15, 2023.”

More information can be found at: <https://www.aa.org/news-and-announcements>.

Questions about the status of literature changes can be directed to the Area 16 Delegate at: delegate@aageorgia.org

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:

.....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	12/6/2014				

Group

Events of Interest to District 12

August 13, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
September 10, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
September 15-17, 2023	GSSA Service Assembly, Oconee Fall Line Tech College, Dublin
October 8, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
October 12-14, 2023	Atlanta Men’s Workshop @ Rock Eagle
October 20-22, 2023	Georgia Prepaid Convention, Augusta
November 12, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting
December 10, 2023	District 12 Business Meeting

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 was June 10 th !	Calls to Answering Service	870	73	219
The funding goal for 2024 is	AA Calls to Central Office	662	55	162
\$1,300 (including a \$300 Prudent	Al-Anon Calls to Central Office	25	2	7
Reserve). Donations are needed	Other Calls to Central Office	24	2	6
now to make purchases. <u>Your</u>	Visitors to the Central Office	832	69	209
<u>Group or Individual support is</u>	Total Central Office Contacts	2,413	201	603
<u>requested for the \$1,300 needed.</u>	AA Literature/Items Sales	\$10,616.05	\$884.67	\$2,266.02
<u>Small contributions today helps</u>	Other Literature/Items Sales	\$10,115.07	\$847.97	\$2,889.28
<u>make easy planning in 2023.</u>	Total Central Office Sales	\$20,731.12	\$1,727.59	\$5,155.27
	Web Site Activity			
GOAL:	Web Site Visits	39,736	3,311	10,782
\$ 1,300	Search Hits	162,133	13,511	42,538

Please consider a contribution—
the sooner we meet our goal, the

easier planning will be.

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		Gratitude Group		Thomson Group	
Annmarie K	07/11/16	Terisa H.	07/01/72	Brandy S	07/04/20
Linda D	07/14/07	Sylvester H	08/06/12	Trish J	07/19/13
Neal T	07/23/02	Paul L	08/25/74	Michelle Y	07/31/21
Starr S	07/25/15	Debbie D	09/05/05	Chuck B	08/04/17
Amanda J	08/15/15	Glenn L	09/24/87	Dottie T	08/04/17
Nick T	08/07/17			Grace B	08/10/21
Tasha E	08/03/00			Vanessa N	08/10/18
Wendy M	08/04/09			Ryn K	08/13/20
Curt M	09/29/15			Michelle P	08/31/18
Janine R	09/09/21			Terrence T	09/24/21
Lynn B	09/15/20				
Marilyn B	09/22/96				
Tonya L	09/18/21				

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.)

Diamond Pearl

A pearl in a shell,
a diamond in the rough,
Then there was a shift,
I was absolutely astonished.
I was convinced my soul and mind
had been completely abolished.
Picked up and published,

any confusion admonished.
In retrospect I had some clarity
even with blindfolds and affliction.
Chrissy W., The Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin

I know my life could end up
with desired depictions.
There is a requisite to rid oneself
From a life that was tarnished.
Live in truth, abandon the thought
And the need to be varnished.
That is my story, I surpassed

My own expectations.
I am that diamond, I am that pearl,
I possess zero limitations.

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 – The Progression of God (Reprint)

Recovery often brings changes of perception—from worst to first.. Taken from AA Acronyms:

10. GOD Grant Our Desires

9. GOD Gulp Our Drugs
8. GOD Grant Our Deaths
7. GOD Gift of Desperation
6. GOD Group of Drunks
5. GOD Good Orderly Direction
4. GOD Get Out Devil!
3. GOD Good Others Do
2. GOD Go On Dreaming
1. GOD Good Ole Dude!

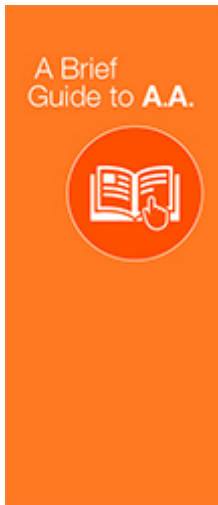
Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC)

This committee covers a vast area of concerns in our community including schools, professionals, physicians, lawyers, judges, courts, police departments, clergy, press and other media. We are currently working on establishing a speaker bureau. If you enjoy talking about AA and what the program has to offer, to someone who may still be suffering, please come join us!!

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-42 A Brief Guide to A.A.

Using simple language, this pamphlet offers general information on Alcoholics Anonymous, covering topics such as symptoms of alcoholism, the Twelve Steps (A.A.'s program of recovery), the function of A.A. meetings, and more. For public information purposes.

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!!

Linda S
Last Call Group
Gene/Judy T
Sara R
Frank W
Al K
Ranscine R
Margie S
Lumpkin Fellow. 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**