

THE JOURNEY AT THE BEACH

M A Y 2 0 1 9

Tradition Five - "Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 150

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

"To thine own self be true"

| NAME | YEARS | SOBRIETY DATE | CELEBRATING | WHERE | WHEN |
|---------|-------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Butch A | 16 | 05/08/03 | Acknowledged | Proud To Have Served • Atlantic Club | 6 pm |
| Susan S | 10 | 05/14/09 | 05/18/19 | Positive Attitude • Berlin | 7 pm |
| Tom S | 20 | 05/09/99 | 05/11/19 | Happy Risers • Atlantic Club | 9 am |
| Judy B | 29 | 5/28/90 | 06/08/19 | Happy Risers • Atlantic Club | 9 am |

Please submit all anniversary information to carlo@carlahackley.com by the 28th of the preceding month of the anniversary. Include your name, sobriety date, celebration date, where and when. The newsletter is printed on the first Tuesday of every month, so if your sobriety date falls early in the month, we may put your announcement in the prior month's newsletter. Thanks!

Step Five • "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 55

Fifth Step Prayer • "Higher Power, Thank you for helping me complete my housecleaning. I can now look the world in the eye. I can be alone at perfect peace and ease. My fears have fallen from me. I have begun to feel your nearness. I have begun to have a spiritual experience. I feel I am on the BroadHighway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe."

based on Alcoholics Anonymous, page 75

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News and Events

District 32 and the **Ocean City Area Fellowship Intergroup** meet every **first Tuesday of the month** at the Atlantic Club, 11827 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, MD 21843 (Route 50 Westbound). All are welcome to attend.

Next meeting is **June 4th**

District Reps **5:30 pm**

Intergroup Reps **6:00 pm**

Participation in Service Work • There are many ways to participate in service work in your AA community. Answering services, Correctional Facilities visits, and volunteering at Workshops and Events are just a few. Please speak to your Intergroup Rep before or after a meeting to learn more. We are grateful for your participation in helping to carry the message of AA!

Would you consider Hosting a Workshop? • The Area 29 Workshop Committee's purpose is to assist local groups, districts, and inter groups who wish to present workshops on various topics related to AA. Contact workshop@marylandaa.org with questions.

AA Books • Literature is available for purchase online at www.aa.org and at the Atlantic Club. See someone at the front desk for assistance.

Website • Visit Ocean City Fellowship Intergroup of AA's website at www.ocaa.org.

Grapevine • Founded in 1944, the AA Grapevine® is the monthly, international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous in print, digital and audio. Often referred to as our "meeting in print," A.A. Grapevine communicates the experience, strength, and hope of its contributors and reflects a broad geographic spectrum of current A.A. experience with recovery, unity, and service. For more information, visit www.e-aa.org.

Help Wanted

Participation by Intergroup Representatives in monthly meetings. The average attendance at our monthly meetings has been 7-10. There are 24 meeting groups in District 32. If you have volunteered to be an Intergroup Rep, please resolve to attend meetings in 2019 to help keep the traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous strong.

Bridging the Gap Committee Chair • This committee helps people just being released from jail get into recovery. If interested, please attend an Intergroup meeting for more information.

OCAA Phone Schedule 410-600-5219

Dawn is the chair of the OCAA phone committee.

May - Action Group June - Fresh Air July - Happy Hour August - Positive Attitude

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Big Book Turns 80

In May 1938, when Bill W. began work on the first draft of what is now the Big Book Alcoholics Anonymous, in New York City and Newark, New Jersey, he had been sober about three and a half years. Dr. Bob was sober a few months less than three years, and the other 100 early members who contributed in one way or another to the writing of the book had been sober for periods ranging from a couple of years to a couple of months. The early members realized the book would need a “story” section. “We would have to produce evidence in the form of living proof, written testimonials of our membership itself. It was felt also that the story section could identify us with the distant reader in a way that the text itself might not.” Dr. Bob and the members in Akron, Ohio, led this effort. One member of the Akron Group was a former newspaperman with two years of sobriety, named Jim. He and Dr. Bob “went after all the Akronites who had substantial sobriety records for testimonial material. In most cases Jim interviewed the prospects and wrote their stories for them. Dr. Bob wrote his own.” By January, the Akron Group had come up with 18 stories.

In New York, where there was no one with writing expertise, they decided that each member with substantial sobriety would write his own story. When Bill and a fellow member turned to edit these “amateur attempts,” there were objections. “Who were we, said the writers, to edit their stories? That was a good question, but still we did edit them. The cries of the anguished edited tale-tellers finally subsided and the story section of the book was complete in the latter part of January 1939. So, at last, was the text.”

The book still lacked a title. “The Akron and New York groups had been voting for months on possible titles. This had become an after-the-meeting form of amusement and interest. The title ‘Alcoholics Anonymous’ had appeared very early in the discussion....

We do not know who first used these words. After we New Yorkers had left the Oxford Groups in 1937 we often described ourselves as a ‘nameless bunch of

alcoholics.’ From this phrase it was only a step to the idea of ‘Alcoholics Anonymous.’”

More than 100 titles were considered, but in the end, it came down to Alcoholics Anonymous or The Way Out, and when the two groups voted, The Way Out received a slight majority. At this point, one of the A.A.s visited the Library of Congress to research the number of books titled The Way Out versus those called Alcoholics Anonymous. There were 12 with the former title, none with the latter, and since nobody wanted to make the book the 13th Way Out, the problem was solved. “That is how we got the title for our book, and that is how our society got its name.”

So, this somewhat shaky, often fearful group of men and women somehow brought to publication, on April 10, 1939, the book Alcoholics Anonymous. This book became a blueprint for recovery from alcoholism that has been followed successfully for nearly 80 years - and something of a publishing phenomenon. The Big Book has been translated into 69 languages and is read by millions of people in approximately 180 countries around the world. Approximately 35 million copies of the first four editions of the Big Book (in English) have been distributed. It sells about one million copies per year, worldwide.

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/aa-literature/f-166-a-brief-history-of-the-big-book



My sponsor wanted me to go back to basics, I just didn't know how far back he wanted me to go.

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OCEAN CITY AREA FELLOWSHIP INTERGROUP

| CHAIR - Tom M | | ALT CHAIR - Dave H | | SECRETARY - Allison K | | TREASURER - Bradley S | |
|---|----------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| GROUP | INTERGROUP REP | LOCATION | ADDRESS | DAY & TIME | | | |
| Action Group | Bradley S | Holy Savior Catholic Church | 17 th & Philadelphia Ocean City | Friday 8 PM | | | |
| Assateague Group - Living Sober | Kenny G | Bethany United Methodist Church | 6848 RT 611 Berlin | Sunday 6 PM | | | |
| Beginner's Big Book | Joe P | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Monday 6:30 PM | | | |
| Berlin 101 Women's (CLOSED) | Patricia G | St. Paul's Episcopal Church | 3 Church Street Berlin | Saturday 9 AM | | | |
| Berlin Friendship | VACANT | Friendship United Methodist Church | Friendship Road Berlin | Monday 8 PM | | | |
| Come As You Are | Jennie R. | Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce | 11031 Cathell Rd Berlin | Tuesday 6 PM | | | |
| Entirely Ready | Robin D | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Friday 6 PM | | | |
| Free To Be Women's | Nancy C | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Wednesday 8 PM | | | |
| Fresh Air | Allison K | Crossway Church | 11811 RT 50 West Ocean City | Tuesday 8 PM | | | |
| Happy Hour | VACANT | Community Church at Ocean Pines | 11227 Race Track RD Ocean Pines | Monday 6 PM | | | |
| Happy, Joyous & Free Women's Step Study | Carla H/Gail G | Community Church at Ocean Pines | 11227 Race Track RD Ocean Pines | Friday 10 AM | | | |
| Happy Risers | Paul B | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | M thru F 7:30AM S & S 9 AM | | | |
| Joy of Living | Diane H | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | M thru Sat Noon | | | |
| Men's 12&12 Step | Jeff S / Eck S | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Wednesday 8 PM | | | |
| Not A Glum Lot | Jerome N | All Hallows Episcopal Church | 109 West Market Street Snow Hill | M/W/F 7:30 PM | | | |
| One Step At A Time | Martha J | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Saturday 6 PM | | | |
| Positive Attitude | Rob A | Stevenson United Methodist Church | 123 N Main Street Berlin | Saturday 7 PM | | | |
| Primary Purpose | VACANT | St Peter's Lutheran Church | 10301 Coastal Hwy Ocean City | Thursday 7 PM | | | |
| Proud To Have Served | John M | Atlantic Club | 11827 RT 50 West Ocean City | Wednesday 6 PM | | | |
| Seaside Group | Ellen O | St Peter's Lutheran Church | 10301 Coastal Hwy Ocean City | Wednesday 6 PM | | | |
| Serenity Group | Ellen O | St Peter's Lutheran Church | 10301 Coastal Hwy Ocean City | Wednesday Noon | | | |
| Serenity & Sand | Angie P | On the Beach | at 2nd St • Weather Permitting | Friday 10 PM Mem. Day - Labor Day | | | |
| Uptown Early | VACANT | St Peter's Lutheran Church | 10301 Coastal Hwy Ocean City | Saturday 10 AM | | | |

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