

## Founders Day during the Pandemic



## Grapevine and La Viña Celebrate Founders' Day with Free Access from May 26 through June 10, 2021.

On June 10, 1935, Dr. Bob had his last drink and that day marks the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous. Since so many meetings are still closed, and groups have limited ability to celebrate our founding, *Grapevine and La Viña will help mark this important date by giving everyone free access to our websites for two weeks.* You'll be able to read stories from current and past issues, access our sobriety calculator, read the daily quote, learn how you can contribute your story, and find ways to serve others using Grapevine and La Viña magazines. (The audio to Grapevine's and La Viña's stories will be available as well, so people can listen to the stories if they like.)

**Please share this news with other members.**

**For free access from May 26 through June 10, 2021 visit:**

**[aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org) | [aalavina.org](http://aalavina.org)**



## Welcome to Akron! (Virtually)

Every year in June, thousands of recovering alcoholics and their friends and families descend on Akron, Ohio, for the annual Founders' Day celebration. The three-day event, filled with meetings, entertainment, bus tours and fellowship, commemorates the anniversary of Dr. Bob's last drink and the birth of Alcoholics Anonymous. This year's program will be held on line due to the Covid pandemic.

Although registration is required, there is no fee to register. Donations are greatly appreciated! The Founders' Day Committee encourages you to click on the schedule of events to view an exciting lineup of speakers, history, and happenings.

**Go to: <https://foundersday.org/> to register.**



## **Pain and Happiness:**

‘When pain comes, we are expected to learn from it willingly, and help others to learn. When happiness comes, we accept it as a gift, and thank God for it.’ (As Bill Sees It, p. 306)

I was declared terminal the first time in 2018. Diagnosed with stage IV cancer and progressive brain disease I became a blind quadriplegic in less than a month. I was 25 years sober. My daughter moved me from Florida to Maryland to be closer to her. My family prepared for the worst.

However, I did not die. Instead, I embarked on an odyssey through nursing homes, hospitals and medical procedures. In the early months I was confused and disoriented. I couldn't even remember my birthday. But spiritual habits developed over years of recovery carried me.

Eventually the experts decided I would benefit from physical therapy. In fact, I regained the ability to swallow, to eat, to speak and to see (one eye), My quality of life depends on my participation in physical therapy.

Rerouting the brain so it can find new ways to walk etc. is slow painful work, so, being a good alcoholic, I resisted; complete with crying, gagging and vomiting. Self-pity yelled ‘I’m too old and too sick to do physical therapy’. Depression sat at my bedside reminding me ‘I’m terminal...what’s the use anyway’.

Someone suggested I apply the sixth and seventh steps to my resistance. I took my problem to my Higher Power and asked for help. I noticed a remarkable change in my attitude and my performance almost immediately. However, I have to keep asking because old ideas/behaviors want to sabotage my efforts.

AA teaches me how to show up for the life I have not the one I wish I had. The tools of the program must be used daily if I am to stay mentally and emotionally sound. Today I do my best, without complaint, and let my Higher Power take care of the outcome.

Yesterday I took four steps on the road of happy destiny.

Katie M., New Way of Living (NWOL) group in Severna Park, MD

## One Step at a Time

- (1) Admitted I was powerless over alcohol -  
That my life had become unmanageable
- (2) Made gratitude a daily practice  
Entertain the idea that a higher power may exist
- (3) Which could restore me to sanity  
so that I may resist the temptation of seeking  
outside of myself for relief  
Take my will from me  
Relieve me of the bondage of self  
as my mind is unwell  
Please save me from this hell  
that I have created  
This sickness of addiction  
had let me live a life I was faking  
I became jaded and hated people of all ages
- (4) So with rigorous honesty  
I started evaluating fearlessly  
my flaws and wrongdoings  
Then admitted them all  
To another human being  
who might actually understand me
- (5) After step five,  
still alive and kicking  
I survived a fearless inventing  
of moral inventory  
My sponsor called to check in  
because she thought I might be on the floor, dead  
since I forgot to text her back  
after going through that step
- (6) Now entirely ready  
to have god remove my defects  
Replace them with peace, love and forgiveness
- (7) Asked to have my shortcomings removed  
Clearly able to see, losing sight of the ruse
- (8) Became willing to apologize

For all the times in the past I had lied  
not just to others, but to myself  
Breaking free from that spell I was under

(9) Made amends to people I've harmed  
Because I know now that my motives were flawed  
Humbled by the reactions of old ex-friends  
Rekindling relationships as a direct result of these  
amends

(10) Fending off my ego when I am mistaken  
Practicing patience can be excruciating  
Admitting when I'm wrong is humbling enough  
Now I don't delay apologies, I just step it up

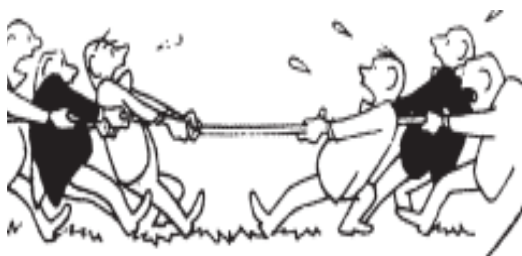
(11) Praying and meditating for conscious contact  
I know that if I do my best daily,  
My god will pick up the slack  
She will gift me what I lack  
which was once desperation

(12) Now elated with sobriety  
I am finally happy, joyous and free  
Ready and willing  
to offer my experience to potential sponsees  
I have waited too long to be of use  
Today, I have a choice  
and on this day I choose  
the gift of sobriety  
because I know now  
that a higher power  
is all I'll ever need...  
in addition, of course, to this amazing community  
Liza R., Red House 7:30 a.m. meeting,  
Annapolis, MD



## TRADITION SIX PROTECTS AA

*“An AA Group ought never endorse, finance or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”*



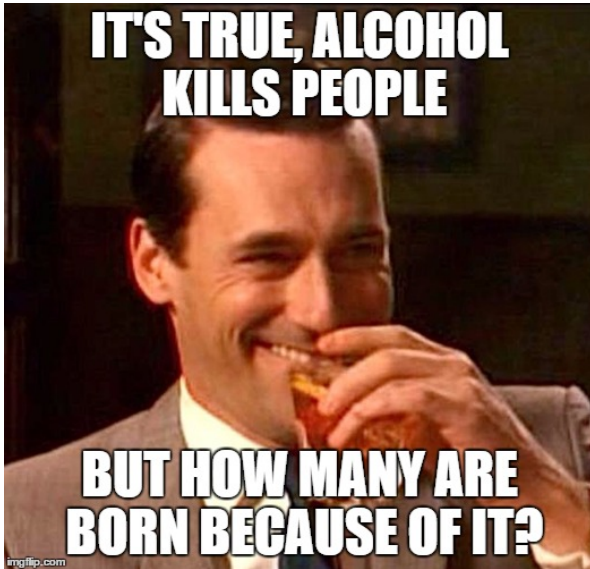
I find it tempting to praise all sorts of political and, religious activities that I have been involved with through the years. I believe it does not violate the spirit of Tradition Six to mention them—even by name—during an AA meeting. However, if I find myself trying to convince other AA members that they should join my church or political party, I have then gone a bridge too far. The same goes for a treatment center where I once worked. I believe competition is fine in the outside world, but it does not belong in AA rooms. Such is sure to provoke friction.

As for finances, I believe all money placed in the AA basket belongs to AA and nowhere else! Donations should support *only* the **Intergroup; District; Area** or **GSO**. Recovery clubs are considered as “*outside enterprises*” as well as detox centers and hospitals. Of course, according to Tradition Eight, a group can pay for services rendered, such as printing informational flyers, and like that. I also believe finances from the group’s prudent reserves are approved for group picnics, conferences, and gas money for out-of-town speakers, etc.

What if the treasurer of a group donates the group’s funds to outside enterprises? Well, is there no retribution? Page xix from the FOREWORD TO THE SECOND EDITION, states: “*None of these principles have the force of rules or laws.*” Of course, there will be rotation and elections. But what if the entire group decides to donate some of its prudent reserve funds to an outside enterprise? This violates the First, Fourth and Sixth Tradition. What to do? Maybe nothing. However, I *have* seen one instance where the Intergroup Office refrained from listing an AA group that stood in violation of Tradition Three.

Tradition Six allows A.A. to remain autonomously free from outside influence or domination, but we must remain aware of consequences if not followed.

Bob S, Richmond, Indiana



## June 4-6, 2021

### 2021 NORTHEAST VIRTUAL REGIONAL FORUM REGISTRATION

As with traditional Regional Forums, the weekend will include workshops, presentations, Q&As, General Sharing, information about our Class A trustees and much, much more!

*\*Spanish, French, and ASL interpretation available.*

**All members are invited, so get on the virtual bus! Bring a newcomer!**

**To register, go to: [https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/regional-and-local-forums](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/regional-and-local-forums)**

*First time registrants, please select the “**New Registration**” button. If you need to make changes to your current registration, please select the “**Modify Registration**” button.*



# Back **TO** Basics

**WELCOME**

**Alcoholics Anonymous  
Beginners' Meetings**

*"Here are the steps we took . . ."*  
**in Four One-Hour  
Sessions**

**10AM Saturday**  
**June 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th**

*Laurel Recovery*  
**368 Main Street Laurel MD 20707**  
*laurelrecovery.org*

AREA 13 DISTRICTS 1 & 2 PRESENT:

## AA REOPENING Q&A

Do you have questions about going back to in-person meetings?

Do you want to keep Zoom meetings but don't know what that will look like?

Are you a newcomer who has never attended an in-person meeting?

Do you want to discuss how we can continue to carry the message in this changing time?

**JOIN US ONLINE!**

**Sunday, June 6, 2021**

**3:30 - 5:00 PM**

**Zoom Meeting ID - 867 8723 9282**

**Passcode - 061035**

*Get answers from trusted AA servants from District 1 & 2 and talk with your peers about what reopening looks like to you.*



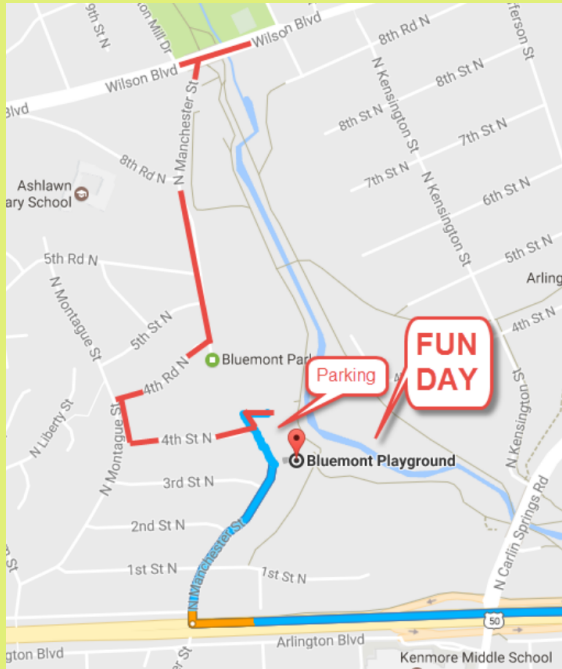
Join Arlington District 2  
Celebrate its 26th Annual

# **FUN DAY!**

Fellowship, Food & Games  
June 12, 1 pm - 4 pm  
Bluemont Park 329 N. Manchester St

**SPEAKER KELLY W. FROM BALTIMORE**

**CONTACT CAROLANNE W. FOR SERVICE 571-499-1481**



District 2, Arlington, will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. 7th tradition and food/drink contributions from groups are encouraged. Coordinate with Carolanne.

An Atheist, an Agnostic, and Others walk into an AA Meeting...

# Living a Spiritual Program from Different Perspectives



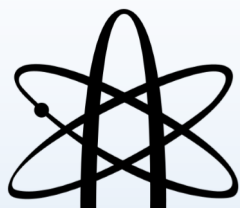
Co-hosted by:

Springfield District 21 and Fairfax District 5



SATURDAY,  
JUNE 26TH, 2021  
ZOOM MEETING  
3:00PM - 5:00PM

"It must never be forgotten that the purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous is to sober up alcoholics. There is no religious or spiritual requirement for membership. No demands are made on anyone. An experience is offered which members may accept or reject. That is up to them." —Bill W.



The purpose of this workshop is to explore the different ways that AA members participate in a spiritual life. Panelists will share their spiritual journey from variety of perspectives. For example – atheism, agnosticism, prayer warrior, and non-religious believer. The workshop will also explore different forms of conscious contact - through prayer, mediation, or however that manifests for each person. The workshop will conclude with a question-and-answer session.

## Zoom Meeting Information

Meeting ID: 834 4164 9387

Passcode: 394677

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

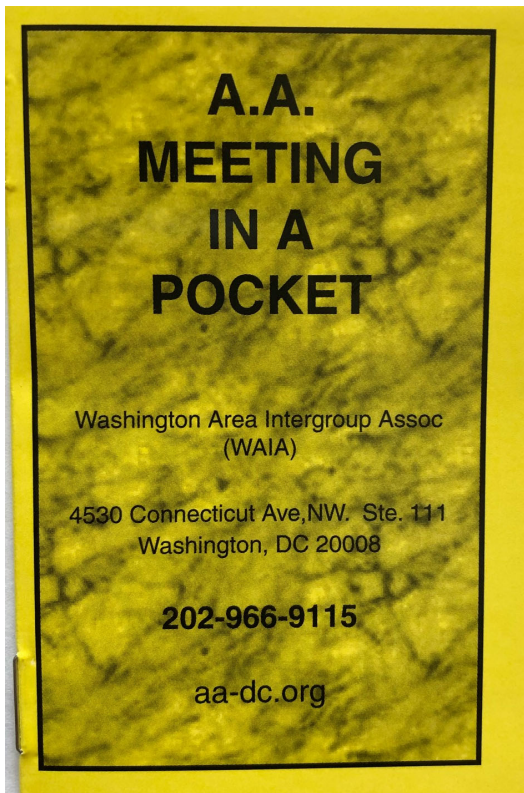
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

## ***LOOK WHAT'S NEW AT WAIA!***

On Sale Now for only \$1.00

Call the Office at 202-966-9115 or email [orders@aa-dc.org](mailto:orders@aa-dc.org) to get yours

**The Meeting in a Pocket** is a small pocket-sized booklet (2.5 x 4 inches) containing all you need to have a meeting: The Preamble, How It Works, the 12 Steps/Traditions and various prayers and excerpts from the Big Book and 12 & 12. In addition there's the Doctor's Opinion, Responsibility Pledge and meeting topics and more.



Includes:

- Serenity Prayer
- AA Preamble
- How It Works
- Twelve Steps
- Twelve Traditions
- The Promises
- More About Alcoholism
- AA Slogans
- The A.A. Paradoxes
- Acceptance
- ABC of Meeting topics
- The Doctor's Opinion
- Responsibility Pledge
- Anonymity Statement
- And More...

### WAGSA Area Committee Meeting

**June 14, 2021—7:00 PM** 2nd Monday of the month except July

6:00 pm - Orientation for new GSRs and DCMs (OPTIONAL)  
7:00 pm - Area Meeting Begins

For more information, please visit: [area13aa.org](http://area13aa.org) Email: [chair@area13aa.org](mailto:chair@area13aa.org)

Zoom Meeting and Passcode: 84124400416; 6970mc

Dial-in number (301) 715-8592, Meeting ID: #84124400416,  
Phone Passcode: 732344

### Into Action Group Back to Basics

Saturday, June 5, 2021

8:15PM—9:15PM

Back to Basics meeting starting back up.

Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/2021090100>

Dial-in number: (301) 715-8592

### WAIA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

**June 8, 2021—8:00 PM** 2nd Tuesday of the month except August

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?  
pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83460598434?pwd=VVBEK2FNSzcxS3VXZDFVOXhMa1oxZz09)

Meeting ID: 834 6059 8434

Passcode: 819862

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,83460598434# US (Washington DC)

### CHECK OUT OUR EVENTS CALENDAR

Events are updated regularly!

If you would like to submit an event, send an email to [events@aa-dc.org](mailto:events@aa-dc.org). A pdf flyer may be attached

930 Club	720	Cosmopolitan	Glenarden
AA at CUA		Crapshooters	Glen Echo
AA & Family Issues		Creative Arts	172 Goldsboro
Addison Road		Crossroads of Recovery	30 Good News Beginners
Adams Morgan Meditation		Daily Reflections, NW	Good Shepard
All Are Welcome	99	Daily Reflections, SW	1545 Greenbelt Step
Anacostia		Daily Reflections, UnityPI	30 Growing Group
780 Andrews Armed Forces		Darn Good Big Book	Happy, Joyous & Free
250 As Bill Sees It, NW	532	Darnestown Men	Help Wanted
320 As We Understood Him		Day by Day	High Noon
300 Aspen Hill 5th Chapter		Deanwood Women Rap	High on the Hill
Aspen Hill Phoenix Mon.		Double Dippers	60 High Sobriety
20 Aspen Hill Phoenix Fri.	44	Double Recovery	Hill Lunch
750 Attitude & Action		Dupont Circle Club	Hope Fellowship
Attitude Adjusters		DC Young People	30 Hope/Oxon Hill
Back to Basics	100	DCC Noon	How It Works G'burg
Barnesville	57	DCC Women Fri.	Hyattsville Discussion
Beginner Basics (DCC/Wed)	90	DCC Tues. 6PM	Hyattsville Hope
Beginners & Winners	1780	DCC—930 Club	Informed Group
Beginners are Winners		Del Ray Acceptance	1800 Into Action, Germantown
Beltsville		Del Ray club	Investment
60 Brightwood		District 2	Irreverent Women
Brookland		Divine Intervention	Jaywalkers
Broad Highway		Dunn Drinking	30 Just Before Noon
900 BYOL		Dunrobbin	Just For Today
BYOL (NonSmoke)		8AM Men's Big Book	Kensington YP Step Study
447 Burtonsville Big Book		Early Times	47 Keys to Kingdom
Campus Noon	826	Epiphanies	Kid Friendly Big Book
Capitol Heights		Ex Libris	Kingman Park
1105 Capital Hill		Faith Fellowship	Language of the Heart
Carmody Hill Group		Faith Group	Landover Discussion
100 Casey Barns		52 Pick-Up	Lanham-Seabrook
Cedar Lane Women		Fireside Spirituality	Laurel Recovery
Change of Life	65	Foggy Bottom	Leisure World Noon
Cheltenham		Fogliffers	Leisure World Big Book
Chestnut Lodge Outreach		Forestville Primary Purpose	Let Go Let God
Chevy Chase Group		14 Promises	Life Is Good
Chinatown Big Book		Fourth Dimension	Little House
212 Chinatown Men's		Free Spirits	29 Lit Womxn
Clarksburg AA		Friday Night Fun Too	Living Sober by the Book
Cleveland Park		Friday Night Big Book	Living Sober Unity Place
Clinton 45 Plus		Friendly Bunch	May Day
Clinton Day	600	Friendship	Meance to Serenity
Clinton 6:30		Gaithersburg Beginners	600 Men of Dupont
Clinton Sunday Night		Gateway	Men In Recovery
160 Coffee & Donuts		Gateway/Wednesday	Men's BS Session
Colesville Sunday Nite		Gay 18 New Castle	79 Merry Miracles
College Park		Gay Group	Messengers
	100	Georgetown	198 Mideast



	Midtown		Pool'ville Pot Luck		Tenley Circle
	Monday Winners	30	Potomac Group	60	There is a Solution-Women
	Mo.Co. Women		Potomac Eye Openers		TGIF
80	Monday Nite Women	360	Primary Purpose Gay		Thurs. Morn. Reset
202	More Peace of Mind	147	Progress Not Perfection		Triangle Club
	Montrose Gay		Potomac Oaks		Twelve Point Bucks
	Moving into the Solution		Promises Promises		Unity Noon
	Mt. Rainer	480	Queer Women	120	Unlovely Creatures
	Nativity		Quince Orchard		Upper Marlboro Step
	Navy Yard Nooners		Radicals	329	Uptown
72	Neelsville Beginner	60	Read & Speak		User Friendly
73	New Hope	120	Riderwood Bills	129	VA Hospital Ctr
	N.E. New Hope		Room with a View		Victory Lights
	NE Sunrise	160	Sat.Afternoon/2PM/UP	95	Virtually Sober
	Never Too Late		Saturday Morning Steps		Vision for You
	Never Walk Alone		Saturday Night Happy Hour	110	Waters Landing
	New Avenue		Saturday Night Special		We Care
250	New Beginnings NW	60	Scaggsville		Wednesday Nite Winners
	New Beginnings/Pool'ville		Second Chance		Welcome Group
	New Beginners SW		Serendipity	285	Westmoreland Women
	New Beginnings-Women		Serenity House	50	West Side Men
	New Stomping Ground	120	Shepherders	31	Westside Women
	New Unity Gay		Silver Spring Beginners BB	127	What's Happening Now
	No Exclusion		Silver Spring		When All Else Fails
	No Hard Terms		Simplicity		White Oak Steps &Traditions
	Norbeck Women Fri		Simply Sober	218	Women's Lit (180 Club)
171	Norbeck Women Wed		Singleness of Purpose	2301	Yacht Club
	Norbeck Step		Six & Seventh Step	200	Yeas & Nays
185	NW Metro		Soapstone		
	Nuts & Bolts	240	Sober & Alive		
	Oasis Women's BB		Spiritual Hilltop		
	Old Fashion Group	75	Sobriety Sister		
	Olney Farm		Southern Sobriety		
	On the Circle	2000	Spiritual Awakening	49	Birthday
	Olney Stag Rap		St. Barnabas Womens wrap	150	Faithful Fivers
	One Day at a Time		St. Camillus	17771	Individuals
	One Day at a Time/R'ville		St. Mary's Gay	400	Memorial
	One Day at a Time/G'burg		St. Francis		
	One Day at a Time/Lanham		Starting Over Gaithersburg		
	One Hour Back		Step II Group		
125	Out of the Woods	95	Sunday Men's Step		
	180 Group	190	Sunday Morning Breakfast		
	Open Arms		Sunday Morning Joy		
	Path to Healing		Sun. Morning Reflections-UP		
1400	P Street	6000	Sunrise Sobriety		
	Palisades Mon. Nite	190	Sunshine, G'burg		
	Petworth		Sursum Corda		
	Phoenix Group/DC	360	Takoma Park Necessity		
			Takoma Rush Hour		

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**Mail to:** WAIA  
4530 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 111  
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**<https://aa-dc.org/new-reporter>**

To receive an email with the link each month, sign up using this form :  
**<http://eepurl.com/U30BT>** or email **[newreporter@aa-dc.org](mailto:newreporter@aa-dc.org)**



**Have a story about your recovery in AA? Tell us your stories about how you're saying sober in these difficult times.**

Why not share it with all of us? If you'd like to contribute to the *New Reporter*, please send in your material to:

**[newreporter@aa-dc.org](mailto:newreporter@aa-dc.org)**



Day			Years
May 6	Tony E.	Serenity House	35 Years
June 8	Gwen J.	NW Metro	29 Years
June 9	Willie O.	Faith Group—Clinton	44 Years
June 14	Joan P.	Language of the Heart	49 Years
June 23	Charles M.	Capitol Heights	51 Years
June 26	Lynette D.	Saturday Morning Steps	24 Years
June 27	Omar	180 Degree Group	28 Years

## THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

Happy Harold, May 2021, over 52 years sober, many Home Groups

***Anniversaries should be called into WAIA (202) 966-9783 as early as possible, by the 15th of the preceding month at the latest.***

The **NEW REPORTER** is a monthly publication of the W.A.I.A., Inc., 4530 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008. Printed Subscriptions are \$15.00 per year and Digital Subscriptions are **FREE**. Articles and event information are encouraged from members of the Fellowship and its friends.

## VOLUNTEER

**Guess who it really  
Helps?  
Call 202-966-9783**

***Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Washington Area Intergroup Association or A.A. as a whole.***

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# JUNE 2021