



# Interviews November 2023



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### A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS

## November is Gratitude Month

For many decades now, we in the Fellowship have formally carved out November as a time to express our collective gratitude for our individual sobriety. Interestingly, no one is exactly sure why that month was originally chosen, though its connection with Thanksgiving seems obvious. A.A. co-founder, Bill W. thought, for a while, that his sobriety had begun in November, but later calculations established the date of his new beginnings as December 11. Misty origins notwithstanding, Gratitude Month has, since the 1940s, been November and our shared thankfulness over the years has taken many forms and will continue to do so as our membership widens. The General Service Board began giving small gratitude dinners in the 1940s. These were precursors to the much larger Gratitude Luncheons that were orchestrated during the 1960s as a Public Information effort of G.S.O.

A.A. Traditions were the undeniable anchor of our new sober life, Bill W. thought when he wrote, "What then could be more appropriate than to set aside Thanksgiving week for discussion of the practical and spiritual values to be discovered in our Traditions?" The Tradition, he wrote in November 1949, "are a distillate of our experience of living and working together. They apply the spirit of the Twelve recovery Steps to our group life and security." (*The Language of the Heart*, p. 96) The first sealed and approved, official recognition of A.A. "Gratitude Week" to be specifically designated to coincide with **...Cont'd on Page 4**



On anvils of experience, the structure of our Society was hammered out. Thus has it been with A.A. By faith and by works we have been able to build upon the lessons of an incredible experience. They live today in the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous, which—God willing—shall sustain us in unity for so long as He may need us. —*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 131

# STEERING

## COMMITTEE

### ELECTION RESULTS

The results are in! Thank you to all of those who stood for the positions and were elected at the last Zone meeting. Please see the updated contact list on **page 13** for the names and email addresses of your new representatives!

#### **STEP ELEVEN**

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

#### Principle of the Step: Awareness

It was suggested in Step Ten that we continue to look at ourselves and our missteps in the maintenance of our spiritual condition, all of this in an effort to become more alert to the causes and conditions that continue to cause our failure on any given day. "After making our review, we ask God's forgiveness and inquire what corrective measure can be taken." (Big Book, pg 86.)

This "ask" is done through prayer, and the response to our "inquiry" comes to us in meditation. It's been said that the simple definition of **prayer is "talking to God"** and **meditation is "listening to God."** At days end, we look at where we've been resentful, selfish, dishonest or afraid. We determine if we owe an apology to someone and make sure that it is not just kept to ourselves.

We've determined if we were kind and loving toward all, or if we were thinking of ourselves most of the time instead of thinking how we could be helpful to others. We take any discrepancies in our daily spiritual work to God and ask that we be forgiven for them. Then we get quiet, get still and listen for God's direction for us on what our corrective measures should be.

Now about meditation: Many members of A.A. believe that God is found in the stillness – in the quiet. It's hard for us to be able to hear God's direction for us if our minds are running 90 miles an hour. Quietening the noise that lives between our ears is part of the work we do to begin to listen (in meditation) for our corrective measures. Meditation has a hard time of it for many of us. But it's really quite simple. Just get still! We can do that anywhere. It doesn't have to be on a mountain top with our legs crossed and our fingers in the "ohm" position. It doesn't have to be with candles burning, soft music playing and silence all around us.

For many, this knowledge comes in the form of a "gut instinct," that deep inside knowing. Many an alcoholic has been led astray by following their heart and head, but have found great release when following their gut. Deep inside we know the direction God wants us to go, and when we listen to that direction, great events will come to pass for us. –from *takethe12.org*





# A.A. Group Sound-Off!

**Does your home group have news it wishes to share with the fellowship?**

**Any group events, milestones, meeting format changes or A.A. birthdays of home group members?**

**Or do you just want to put in a plug for your home group?**

**If so, send us your group news and we will publish in an upcoming issue of “Interviews”.**

**Email us at [manager@aasepia.org](mailto:manager@aasepia.org),  
[kevinb@aasepia.org](mailto:kevinb@aasepia.org) or [krish@aasepia.org](mailto:krish@aasepia.org)**



Happy Holidays!

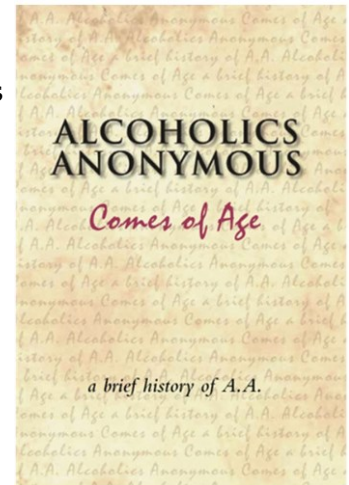


We wish you all much joy and serenity in the upcoming holiday season! Celebrations outside the rooms of A.A. go hand-in-hand with the holidays. Of course, many of these celebrations include alcohol. As the Big Book reminds us, we need not avoid places where there is drinking, provided that we have a legitimate reason for being there and that we are on solid spiritual ground. (Chapter 7, pp. 101, 102). That still does not mean the thought of a drink might not arise. For some tips heard in the rooms of A.A. on how to navigate holiday events, take a moment to review the page *Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous* in this newsletter. And remember, you're not alone. If you need to talk, give us a call anytime at 215-923-7900.

Thanksgiving week, dates back to 1956. That year, at the Sixth General Service Conference, delegates approved a motion to that affect, stipulating that “this action be noted in the annual pre-Thanksgiving appeals to the groups for funds to help support A.A.’s worldwide services.” Carrying the message, expressing gratitude, as well as wanting to make a gesture of appreciation for the numerous published articles, books, and radio and TV interviews to A.A. that year, were what motivated a number of Gratitude Luncheons. These were held, always in November, during the 1960s at New York City’s Roosevelt Hotel—where, incidentally, members of the media might care to have a drink, were assured, in the invitation by General Service Board chairman (nonalcoholic) Dr. John I. Norris, that “cocktails will be served at 12:15 p.m. Library, and the luncheon will end promptly at 2:00 pm.”

Well-attended functions, these luncheons drew a sizeable, wide-range representation from the media, and served a double purpose: to thank the writers and commentators who attended for their contributions to A.A. in the preceding year and to, in the words of a G.S.O. memo written at the time, “advance A.A.’s public relations by bringing editors, publishers, writers and broadcasters in personal contact with sources of reliable information on the movement.” A typical list of invitees to the 1965 luncheon, who had published articles and books on the Fellowship, were from The New York Times, Medical World News, McCall’s Magazine, Macmillan Publishing Company, The Christian Science Monitor, and many other news and publishing organizations.

Bill W. always addressed the gatherings, as did Dr. Norris, and, in addition to a question and answer period at the end of the proceedings, there was always plenty of A.A. literature available for the guests to take along. In 1965, Bill sent an autographed copy of the newly-released *A.A. Comes of Age* to each guest. Although those who came to the luncheons found them helpful and informative, the board thought they were too expensive a way to say thank you, when a letter from Bill, after an article or TV production was completed, would have been enough. Other voiced the opinion that more cooperation offered on articles or TV spots might have been more helpful. In any event, the luncheons were discontinued in 1968.—*Box 459 VOL. 40, No. 5 OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1994*



Grapevine Annual Wall Calendar.

Full of beautiful color photographs shot by AA members, accompanied by brief inspiring quotes selected from published Grapevine articles. The quotes aren't directly related to AA or alcoholism, so the calendar can be displayed anonymously. Trilingual (English/ Spanish/French)

The open Wall Calendar measures 8 3/8" by 16 3/4".

MS08 -\$10.50

## Tradition Eleven (Long Form)

Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

### Principle of Tradition 11 – Attraction

Bill W. once said, “We had no public relations policy except for a fear of public relations. Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity.”

Good public relations are A.A. lifelines reaching out to the fellow alcoholic who still does not know us. For years to come, our growth is sure to depend upon the strength and number of these lifelines.

Conversely, think about this: **Should we identify ourselves by our first and last name when we speak at closed meetings of A.A? Does this violate the Eleventh Tradition?**

**Of course not. We are only anonymous at the level of press, radio, and films.** The press has not attended any closed meetings I have spoken at, so I am free to use my whole name. The final paragraph on page 37 of the pamphlet *“Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”* states: *“It should also be noted that within A.A., at A.A. meetings and amongst themselves, A.A. members are not anonymous.”*

#### *Step-Tradition Parallel*

The Eleventh Step is related to the Eleventh Tradition: by praying only for knowledge of His will for me and the power to carry that out, I become a source of attraction to God and give Him all credit for my wonderful life. The Eleventh Step poses the question, “How can we improve our conscious contact?” The Eleventh Tradition answers that question by pointing out that when we do not take credit for the good we do, we become closer to God in our prayer. —from *TakeThe12.org*

## Concept Eleven (Long Form)

The Trustees Cannot Do It Alone

While the Trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.’s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs, and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.

### Principle of Concept 11 – Respect

The success of our Trustees relies heavily on those they work with to get the job done. Whether it is:

- Non-Trustee committee members,
- Our corporation’s directors (A.A. World Services, Inc. / A.A. Grapevine, Inc.),
- Executives or Staff Members at the General Service Office (GSO)...

Our Board of Trustees needs a strong dedication and quality of work to fulfill the actions given them by A.A. Groups (via the General Service Conference) in the U.S. and Canada.—from *TakeThe12.org*

**Intergroup meetings are being held online and/or in-person in November, depending on the county.**

**—Become an Intergroup Rep (IGR)!—**

**Contact your Zone Liaison or the SEPIA Office for info.**

## **MONTHLY ZONE MEETINGS**

**WILL BE HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AT 7:00 PM**

**Bucks County Zone** meets in person:

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
877 Street Road (at Churchville Road)  
Southampton 18966

**Chester County Zone** meets online:

**Zoom 892 2781 6366 password 266565**

**Delaware County Zone** meets in person:

HMB Ukrainian Church  
900 Fairview Road  
Swarthmore 19081

**Montgomery County Zone** meets in person:

Sanctuary United Methodist Church  
1346 East Prospect Ave  
North Wales 19454

**Philadelphia County Zone** meets in person:

Philadelphia Kroc Center Salvation Army  
4200 Wissahickon Ave  
Philadelphia 19129

A promotional graphic for a convention. The background is a photograph of a paved road winding through a forest with trees in autumn foliage. The text is overlaid on the image. At the top left, it says "You won't want to miss the". In the center, "66th annual" is written in large, bold, white letters with a drop shadow. To the right of "66th", the word "annual" is in a smaller font. Below that, "Eastern Pennsylvania General Service Convention & Assembly" is written in white. At the bottom left, a white box contains the text "Nov. 10-12, 2023". At the bottom right, another white box contains the text "Wyndham Lancaster Resort & Convention Center" and "2300 Lincoln Highway East • Lancaster, PA 17602".

*You won't want to miss the*

# **66<sup>th</sup> annual**

**Eastern Pennsylvania General Service  
Convention & Assembly**

**Nov. 10-12, 2023**

**Wyndham Lancaster Resort & Convention Center**  
2300 Lincoln Highway East • Lancaster, PA 17602

**PROGRAM = People Relying On God Relaying A Message**

## COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC)

The CPC Committee recently took several medical, nursing, and/or psychology students from Drexel to A.A. meetings so that the students could learn what A.A. is, what it is not, and what it does, so that they can better help suffering alcoholics when they graduate. As part of their class assignment, the students wrote essays about what they learned. Here is one that was shared with us.

### *What I Learned in A.A.*

Coming into this experience I had very little knowledge of the workings of A.A. meetings or the people that attended them. I have known several people in my life who struggle with substance abuse and have seen the benefits of getting help. Having said that, actually attending meetings and seeing the inner workings of the program has been an illuminating experience.

Personally, attending A.A. meetings allowed me to reflect on and assess my own relationship with alcohol. I am grateful that I can responsibly enjoy alcohol in social settings but also recognize the importance of ensuring that relationship remains healthy. What I am most thankful for is the realization that we are all more alike than different and have the capacity to find encouragement through community and the support of others.

Alcoholism is a nonselective disease affecting people from all races, creeds, and classes. There is no “good picture” of an alcoholic. They are people first and deserve love and understanding in finding support for their afflictions. I met people from all walks of life, and their stories were both heartbreaking and inspiring.

I will never forget my first meeting, seeing a 22 year-old woman introducing herself as an alcoholic with 48 hours sobriety. It takes a lot of courage to bare your soul and struggles to an audience of strangers. I gathered from her story that this wasn't her first relapse, and it was incredibly moving to see her at a meeting two weeks later, and then several months later. Her continued sobriety taught me that as a future physician patience and empathy can save lives.

Something that I struggled with throughout this experience was the realization that as bad as you can want someone to get better, the outcome is out of your control. Your job, as both a physician and a human being, is to show up every day with love and empathy, and to keep showing up ready to help your patient continue to take steps forward. –Auteri

Cooperation  
with the  
Professional  
Community

The CPC  
Committee meets  
the 1st Monday of  
the month on  
Zoom at 7 pm.  
See link on SEPIA  
Calendar.



## NEW MEETINGS & CHANGES

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

**NEW “Joe and Charlie” Format Meeting Every Wednesday at 7:30 pm** East Falls Presbyterian Church 3800 Vaux Street Philadelphia 19125. Broken up into 34 weeks. Please feel free to take notes, and bring your own Big Book.

**Conscious Contact Women’s Meeting Saturdays at 11:45 am ONLINE:** Zoom Meeting ID: 835 8315 6319 PW: 576504

**Voices of Women in A.A.: Sundays at 6 pm ONLINE** Zoom Meeting ID: 814 25223102 PW: 37592

**New Meeting! 4021 Club Sundays at 12 pm** 4021 Walnut St. Philadelphia 19104. Speaker/Discussion.

**Meeting Needs Support! Wissinoming PM Fridays @ 8 pm** Wissinoming Presbyterian Church 5817 Torresdale Ave Philadelphia 19135. Entrance at Torresdale Ave and Powell St.

## EVENTS WITHIN THE FIVE-COUNTY AREA

**Thursday November 2—WEST OAK LANE GROUP ANNUAL GRATITUDE MEETING** Reformation Lutheran Church 1215 East Vernon Road (at Rugby St) Philadelphia 19150. OR via Zoom: Meeting ID: 683 571 0660- No password required. 7:30 to 9 pm.

**Friday November 3—SASSY SISTERS SEEKING SERENITY** Presents “HOW IT WORKS THROUGH SPONSORSHIP” an open online meeting about sponsorship, geared toward women seeking sponsors and first-time sponsors. A panel of 3-4 women will be available to answer questions. 6:30 pm to 8 pm Zoom Meeting ID 826 8622 7495 Passcode 012089.

**Saturday November 4—TOP OF THE HILL GROUP 33rd ANNIVERSARY** at St Martin-in-the-Field Church 8000 St. Martin’s Lane Philadelphia 19118. Potluck brunch. Bring a dish and/or your appetite! 9:00 am-12:00 pm Topic: God as I understand God. Two A.A. speakers and One Al-anon speaker.

**Friday November 10 at ANDREWS HALL 73rd ANNIVERSARY** Andrews Hall Gym Doylestown Presbyterian Church 125 Mechanics St, Doylestown 18901.

**Saturday November 18—NEW BEGINNINGS 45th ANNIVERSARY** 1020 S. 10th St Philadelphia 19147 (10th & Carpenter). Come celebrate with food, fun & fellowship. Doors 6 pm **Speaker Meeting 7 pm** Food 8 pm.

**Sunday, November 19—SUNSHINE GROUP 44TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING AND CELEBRATION** St Luke’s Episcopal Church 5421 Germantown Ave Philadelphia 19144 3 pm.

**Thursday November 23—THANKSGIVING DAY ALCATHON** Midday Miracles and Chesco PENNSCYPAA Bid Committee Presents: A Thanksgiving Day Alcathon. First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 415 W. State, Kennett Square 19348. See flyer in this newsletter for times and hybrid information.

## OUT OF AREA EVENTS

**Friday-Sunday November 10-12: 66th ANNUAL EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL SERVICE CONVENTION & ASSEMBLY (EPGSA)** Wyndham Lancaster Resort & Convention Center 2300 Lincoln Highway East Lancaster 17602. Info at: <https://area59aa.org/>.

**SAVE THE DATE: 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION:** Wednesday-Saturday July 3-6, 2025 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Vancouver will welcome 48,000 A.A. members from around the world! Info at: <https://www.aa.org/international-convention>.

**SAVE THE DATE: THE NORTHEAST REGIONAL A.A. SERVICE ASSEMBLY (NERAASA)** is coming to Area 59 in 2024! Thursday-Sunday February 22-25, 2024 in Hershey, PA. Info at: <https://www.neraasa.org/>.





## November Literature Spotlight



# A.A.® Guidelines

Internet

from G.S.O., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

A.A. Guidelines are compiled from the shared experience of A.A. members in various service areas. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada). In keeping with our Tradition of autonomy, except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist in reaching an *informed* group conscience.

This helpful guide covers the application of Tradition Eleven in the modern Internet era, from how to set up an A.A. website, what to consider when posting speaker talks online, what to do about posting personal phone numbers on flyers, and much more! Here is just some of what this guideline has to say about the thorny issue of how to talk about one's sobriety on SOCIAL MEDIA without breaking your or any other member's anonymity.

### GENERAL SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

Facebook and other social networking websites are public in nature. Though users create accounts and utilize usernames and passwords, once on the site, it is a public medium where A.A. members and non-A.A.s mingle. The platforms in and of themselves do not infringe on our principles. It is the actions of the individual that may cause harm to themselves, to others, or to A.A. as a whole. For that we are, each of us, individually responsible to our fellowship, to ourselves and to our personal higher powers.

Individual members can take clear steps to safeguard their own anonymity. For example, an individual or group might create an entirely anonymous social media account without use of their full name or face and for sharing about recovery only. Others may choose to use their names but not photographs of themselves. Both the letter and the spirit of the Eleventh Tradition are clear guideposts for our fellowship in this respect.

As long as individuals do not identify themselves as A.A. members, there is no conflict of interest. However, someone identifying themselves as an A.A. member using their full name and/or a likeness, such as a full-face photograph, would be contrary to the spirit of the Eleventh Tradition, which states in the Long Form that, "...our [last] names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed or publicly printed."

Experience suggests that it is in keeping with the Eleventh Tradition to not disclose A.A. membership on social networking sites as well as on any other website, blog, electronic bulletin board, etc., unless composed solely of A.A. members and password protected.

Websites and social networking offer individuals the chance to post a great deal of personal information about themselves (and others). Our experience suggests that some A.A.

members do not post anything that is "A.A. jargon" on their personal profiles and in "status updates," while others feel it is alright to do so as long as A.A. or Alcoholics Anonymous is not mentioned. —MG-18 A.A. Guidelines on Internet §.15



# THIS MONTH IN A.A. HISTORY

## \*\*\* NOVEMBER \*\*\*

**November 1, 1963:** Reverend Sam Shoemaker, spiritual advisor to Bill W., died.

**November 3, 2001:** J. P. Miller who wrote the 1962 screenplay for *The Days of Wine and Roses*, an unflinching look about at a young couple dealing with alcoholism, died.

**November 9, 1966:** President Johnson appoints Marty M., one of the first women to get sober in A.A., to the First National Advisory Committee on Alcoholism.

**November 11, 1934:** Armistice Day (now known as Veterans Day): Bill W. started drinking again after a dry spell, beginning his last drunk. He would go on to have a spiritual experience in the hospital that change everything for him.

**November 13, 1939:** Bill W. wanted to go to work at Towns Hospital where he had his first spiritual experience; NY drunks wanted him to stay on as head of the fledgling A.A. movement. A.A. won.

**November 14, 1940:** The Alcoholic Foundation (now A.A. World Services) publishes the first *AA Bulletin*.

**November 15, 1949:** Bill W. suggests that groups devote Thanksgiving week to discussions of the Twelve Traditions.

**November 16, 1950:** Dr. Bob S., co-founder of A.A., died in Akron, Ohio after 15 years of continuous sobriety.

**November 18, 1946:** The first Dublin, Ireland group met.

**November 26, 1895:** Bill W. was born in East Dorsett, VT.

**November 28, 1939:** Hank P., early A.A. member, wrote to Bill W. advocating autonomy for all A.A. groups. This suggestion would become enshrined in Tradition Four.

**November 28, 1943:** Bill W. was the guest speaker at San Quentin Penitentiary (sometimes dated Dec 2, 1943). **November 1934:** Ebby T., who got sober in the Oxford Group, carried the message to Bill W.

### Other events in November for which we have no exact date:

**November 1936:** Fitz M. left Towns Hospital to become 'A.A. #3 in New York', with Bill W. and Hank P.

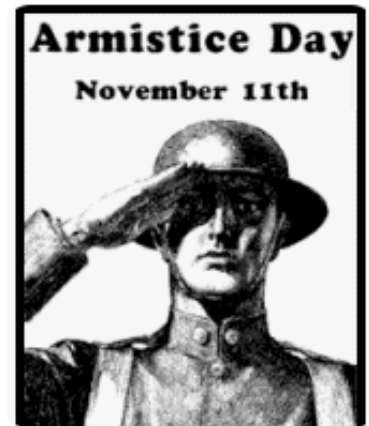
**November 1937:** Bill W. and Dr. Bob compare notes in Akron. They count forty cases staying sober. The Akron group meets to consider Bill's ideas for how to expand the movement: a book, A.A. hospitals, paid missionaries. Only the book idea gets approved.

**November/Dec 1939:** The Akron group withdrawals from association with Oxford Group. Meetings moved from T. Henry & Clarence Williams homes to Dr Bob's and other members' homes.

**November 1945:** Bill's article called *Those Goof Balls*, about the "Sleeping Pills Menace" was published in *AA Grapevine*.

**November 1986:** Big Book published in paperback.

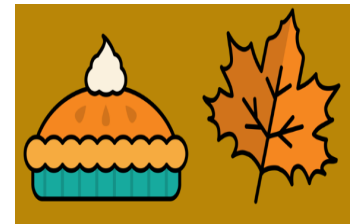
**November, 2001:** First of 400,000 Fourth Edition Big Books arrives in the mail.



# Show Us Your Meeting Room!



Send pictures of your meeting room (no people in the photos, please!) to: [manager@aasepia.org](mailto:manager@aasepia.org). Your home group's room might be featured in a future issue!



**Hardcore - Alcoholics Anonymous - St. Rose of Lima Church**  
 1901 Chester Pike, Eddystone, PA – Sun 8:30 AM  
 Mon 5:00 PM, Wed 5:30 PM, Fri 6:00 PM, Sat 7:00 PM

Our Public Information (PI) Committee has been busy doing lots of events lately! This committee carries the message to the general public by explaining the facts about Alcoholics Anonymous. They speak at schools, health fairs, service groups, assisted living homes, and more. They supply libraries with Big Books as well as provide literature to other public service entities to explain what A.A. is, what it does, and what it does not do.



# SEPIA's Committee Meetings are open to all interested A.A. Members!

## Get involved and make a difference!



**Committee Meetings for the month of November 2023 are in-person and/or online depending on the group conscience of the committee.**

<p><b>Archives</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Tuesday – November 14 at 7 pm</p> <p>Saturday – November 18 at 9 am for Preservation Work</p>
<p><b>Cooperation With The Professional Community (CPC)</b></p> <p>Helps police, medical, and other professionals understand what A.A. is and how it can help their clients.</p>	<p>Monday – November 6 at 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>Makes recommendations to the Steering Committee and SEPIA office how best to spend Seventh Tradition donations.</p>	<p>Thursday – November 16 at 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Interphones and Helping Unite the Sick, Shut-in, Hospitalized and Homebound (HUSSHH) (Meets even months only)</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>No meeting this month (Meets last Wednesday of even months at 7 pm)</p>
<p><b>Prisons and Temporary Contact</b></p> <p>Members take A.A. meetings behind the walls to inmates. Temporary Contact introduces new A.A.'s coming out of prison to our program and escorts them to meetings.</p>	<p>Thursday – November 2 7 pm (note new time!)</p>
<p><b>Public Information (PI)</b></p> <p>Conveys information about A.A. to the general public through flyers, mailings, radio spots, health fairs, etc.</p>	<p>Wednesday – November 15 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Special Events</b></p> <p>Plans the annual spring Round-Up, the Share-A-Day event, Breakfasts and more.</p>	<p>Monday–November 27 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Treatment Facilities (TF) and Bridging the Gap</b></p> <p>Treatment committee members establish and oversee A.A. meetings at detoxes and rehabs. Bridging the Gap connects members leaving facilities to meetings in their area.</p>	<p>Monday – December 20 (meets in person every 3 months) 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Unity</b></p> <p>Provides information about service opportunities outside the homegroup to groups when invited; plans summer picnic and fall workshop.</p>	<p>Tuesday – November 21 7 pm</p>
<p><b>Web/Tech Ad Hoc Committee</b></p> <p>An offshoot of Public Information (PI), Web/Tech programs and manages the website, and provides tech advice and IT support for the SEPIA office.</p>	<p>Wednesday – November 8 5:30 pm</p>

# Your 2023-2024 Steering Committee Contact List

**Chair—Jay F:** [chair@aasepia.org](mailto:chair@aasepia.org)

**Vice-Chair—Tiara T:** [vicechair@aasepia.org](mailto:vicechair@aasepia.org)

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**Assistant Treasurer—Greg O:** [assistanttreasurer@aasepia.org](mailto:assistanttreasurer@aasepia.org)

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**Public Information Director—Sam H:** [publicinfodirector@aasepia.org](mailto:publicinfodirector@aasepia.org)

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## SEPIA Staff

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## Zone Coordinators

**Bucks Zone Coordinator—Lindsay B:** [bczcoordinator@aasepia.org](mailto:bczcoordinator@aasepia.org)

**Chester Zone Coordinator—Eileen:** [cczcoordinator@aasepia.org](mailto:cczcoordinator@aasepia.org)

**Delaware Zone Coordinator—Jim B:** [dczcoordinator@aasepia.org](mailto:dczcoordinator@aasepia.org)

**Montgomery Zone Coordinator—Joe M:** [mczcoordinator@aasepia.org](mailto:mczcoordinator@aasepia.org)

**Philadelphia Zone Coordinator—Maggie H:** [pczcoordinator@aasepia.org](mailto:pczcoordinator@aasepia.org)



# November 2023



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 Temporary Contact & Prison Committees 7 PM	3 SEPIA Noon Meeting 12 PM	4
5	6 CPC Committee 7 PM	7	8 Website Tech 5:30 PM Steering 7 PM (closed)	9	10 SEPIA Noon Meeting 12 PM	11
12	13 All Five County Zone Meetings 7 PM (see below for locations)	14 Archives Committee 7 PM	15 PI Committee 7 PM	16 Finance Committee 7 PM	17 SEPIA Noon Meeting 12 PM	18 Archives Preservation 9 AM
19	20 Treatment & Bridging The Gap Committees 7 PM	21 Unity Committee 7 PM	22	23	24 SEPIA Noon Meeting 12 PM	25
26	27 Special Events Committee 7 PM	28	29	30		

**Bucks County:** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 877 Street Rd (& Churchville/Knowles), Southampton, PA 18966

**Chester County:** Online currently. - ID: 89227816366 - PW: 266565

**Delaware County:** HMB Ukranian Church 900 Fairview Rd, Swarthmore Pa 19081

**Montgomery County:** Sanctuary United Methodist Church , 1346 East Prospect Ave., North Wales 19454

**Philadelphia County:** Phila Kroc Center Salvation Army—4200 Wissahickon Ave Philadelphia, PA 19129

## SEPIA Online Committee and Zone Meetings - November 1, 2022 - October 31, 2023

Committee Name	Day	Date	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode	Link	Dial-In #
CPC COMMITTEE (Hybrid)	Monday	11-6-2023	7:00 PM	869 6733 4672 (Zoom)	SEPIA1903	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86967334672?pwd=ZkwvOHYvZ3M3a2NoaHMrsGNGK1duZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86967334672?pwd=ZkwvOHYvZ3M3a2NoaHMrsGNGK1duZz09</a>	646-558-8656
WEB/TECH COMMITTEE (Hybrid)	Wednesday	11-8-2023	5:30 PM	215 1234 215	580960	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021793007?pwd=SGdERXBndTlzVkhpTitEVzRqVEVrdz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021793007?pwd=SGdERXBndTlzVkhpTitEVzRqVEVrdz09</a>	646-558-8656
PRISON COMMITTEE (Hybrid)	Thursday	11-2-2023	7:00 PM	897 4545 6774 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745456774?pwd=MEVuVzRiRiR1SmxLMIF3a2FLa3VuUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89745456774?pwd=MEVuVzRiRiR1SmxLMIF3a2FLa3VuUT09</a>	646-558-8656
BUCKS COUNTY ZONE	Monday	11-13-2023	7:00 PM	In Person		<b>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 877 Street Rd (&amp; Churchville/Knowles), Southampton 18966</b>	
CHESTER COUNTY ZONE	Monday	11-13-2023	7:00 PM	892 2781 6366 (Zoom)	266565	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89227816366?pwd=SzBhR0pZUJjVekIzT21HZDRKRkhnZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89227816366?pwd=SzBhR0pZUJjVekIzT21HZDRKRkhnZz09</a>	646-558-8656
DELAWARE COUNTY	Monday	11-13-2023	7:00 PM	In Person		<b>Hmb Ukranian Church, 900 Fairview Rd, Swarthmore, 19081</b>	
MONTGOMERY COUNTY	Monday	11-13-2023	7:00 PM	In Person		<b>Sanctuary United Methodist Church, 1346 East Prospect Ave, North Wales 19454</b>	
PHILADELPHIA ZONE	Monday	11-13-2023	7:00 PM	In Person		<b>Philadelphia Kroc Center Salvation Army 4200 Wissahickon Ave Philadelphia 19129</b>	
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE (Hybrid)	Tuesday	11-14-2023	7:00 PM	832 4414 8913 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244148913?pwd=b2JqbmlzQ0dBOVJURjILMDNRYy9lQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244148913?pwd=b2JqbmlzQ0dBOVJURjILMDNRYy9lQT09</a>	646-558-8656
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE	Saturday	11-18-2023	9:00am	In Person		<b>SEPIA Office 1903 South Broad Street 2nd Floor Philadelphia 19148</b>	
INTERPHONES	Wednesday	12-27-2023	7:00 PM	822 1987 3872 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82219873872?pwd=UG5VR0lvMHJTRXAvUm50QXE4Q0tNQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82219873872?pwd=UG5VR0lvMHJTRXAvUm50QXE4Q0tNQT09</a>	646-558-8656
PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)	Wednesday	11-15-2023	7:00 PM	882 5844 9206 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88258449206?pwd=cWIPd2ZSUllvWHcvbndyeXA4SFAwUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88258449206?pwd=cWIPd2ZSUllvWHcvbndyeXA4SFAwUT09</a>	646-558-8656
TREATMENT FACILITIES (Hybrid)	Monday	11-20-2023	7:00 PM	881 4239 6509 (Zoom)	805478	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88142396509?pwd=ZU00WmFMWnRjSWt5VXJUU3NBdExtZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88142396509?pwd=ZU00WmFMWnRjSWt5VXJUU3NBdExtZz09</a>	646-558-8656
UNITY COMMITTEE	Tuesday	11-21-2023	7:00 PM	896 4619 2235 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89646192235?pwd=VTRHdXRnNjNKZmxHZXJPeTitaGZNUt09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89646192235?pwd=VTRHdXRnNjNKZmxHZXJPeTitaGZNUt09</a>	646-558-8656
FINANCE	Thursday	11-16-2023	7:00 PM	842 4075 5543 (Zoom)	SEPIA	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84240755543?pwd=ejJIZEFMTjIEndR6cHUxVmF1ci9DZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84240755543?pwd=ejJIZEFMTjIEndR6cHUxVmF1ci9DZz09</a>	646-558-8656
SPECIAL EVENTS	Monday	11-27-2023	7:00 PM	834 2923 8954 (Zoom)	797795	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429238954?pwd=c2l2N05jbGFGMFPxQTi5TTdjU0FMUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429238954?pwd=c2l2N05jbGFGMFPxQTi5TTdjU0FMUT09</a>	646-558-8656

# October Contributions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10/25/2023	707 Literature	570.00	10/04/2023	Midvale Miracles	850.00
10/30/2023	A New Freedom	445.17	10/25/2023	Morning Miracles	708.50
10/25/2023	A Vision For You	250.00	10/30/2023	Never Too Late	400.00
10/18/2023	AA Kindergarten	150.00	10/25/2023	Newtown Winners	83.00
10/02/2023	Amazing Grace - 8744 Club	80.00	10/13/2023	ODAAT	600.00
10/30/2023	Arcadia Beginners	25.00	10/02/2023	Oreland Beginners	240.00
10/02/2023	As Bill Sees It- 8744	75.00	10/25/2023	Paoli Group	527.00
10/13/2023	Berwyn Beginners	500.00	10/02/2023	Penndel Serenity	160.00
10/25/2023	Bryn Athyn Saturday Morning	300.00	10/25/2023	Penndel Serenity	115.00
10/13/2023	Came To Believe -Havertown	100.00	10/04/2023	Pottstown Group	150.00
10/02/2023	Cedars Group	500.00	10/04/2023	Prospect	500.00
10/13/2023	Clifton Big Book Breakdown	300.00	09/25/2023	Renaissance Group	621.00
10/13/2023	Design for Living- Wayne	298.50	10/02/2023	Riverside Group	200.00
10/25/2023	Devon Sat Morning	388.00	10/25/2023	Riverside Group	200.00
10/03/2023	Downingtown BBSS	202.50	10/11/2023	Rosetree Step Study	60.00
10/11/2023	Doylestown Friday Noon Step	110.55	10/11/2023	Roslyn Thursday Night	360.00
10/18/2023	Drexel Hill Big Book	350.00	10/04/2023	Rule 62	175.00
10/18/2023	Early am group	345.00	10/11/2023	Saturday Serenity	500.00
10/18/2023	Early am group	227.00	10/02/2023	Schwenksville Basic AA	599.92
10/25/2023	East Falls Big Book	318.21	10/02/2023	Set Aside	100.00
10/02/2023	First Day Big Book	100.00	10/18/2023	Simple at Seven	150.00
10/18/2023	Flourtown 830	150.00	10/30/2023	Sober at Six	400.00
10/18/2023	Flourtown Six	150.00	10/30/2023	Sobriety at 7	300.00
10/18/2023	Flourtown Womens	150.00	10/30/2023	SOS Ladies	196.09
10/09/2023	Franklinton	200.00	10/06/2023	Souderton BBSS	33.00
10/02/2023	Freedom Through the Steps	258.00	10/03/2023	Springfield Monday Night	50.00
10/18/2023	Gas Works	200.00	10/11/2023	Staying Sober	50.00
10/09/2023	God Box	40.00	10/30/2023	This is Not a Dress Rehearsal	101.00
10/02/2023	Greater Northeast	100.00	10/04/2023	Top of the Hill	644.53
10/18/2023	Greater Northeast	50.00	10/11/2023	Vernon Park	47.00
10/30/2023	Hair of the Dog	500.00	10/11/2023	Wakeup	280.00
10/18/2023	Happy Hour Bucks County	100.00	10/18/2023	Weekenders-Flourtown	150.00
10/11/2023	It Works It Really Does-2	475.00	10/11/2023	West Avenue Group	100.00
10/18/2023	Keep It Green	150.00	10/20/2023	West Oak Lane	384.00
10/13/2023	Keep It Simple	50.00	10/25/2023	Why Me	300.00
10/25/2023	Langhorne Sunrisers	140.50	10/30/2023	Women in Friendship	53.09
10/25/2023	Language of the Heart / Doylestown	86.00	10/11/2023	Women In Recovery Doylestown	80.00
10/02/2023	Life or Death	100.00	10/30/2023	Wyndmoor Noon	25.00
10/11/2023	Louise Parker	47.46	10/18/2023	Yardley Noon Step	86.25
10/02/2023	Malvern Center	800.00	10/18/2023	Yardley Noon Step	86.25
10/19/2023	Malvern Men's	60.00	10/06/2023	Young Men's Northeast	125.00
10/11/2023	Marshallton Group	150.00	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20,786.55</b>
09/27/2023	Mid Day Miracles Group	258.40			
10/18/2023	Mid Day Miracles Group	145.63			



**SEPIA**  
**Custom Summary Report**  
**September 2023**

	Sep 23
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Interest Income	0.34
<b>Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy</b>	
<b>Breakfast-Philadelphia County</b>	
Gift Baskets	-800.00
Tickets	5,005.00
<b>Total Breakfast-Philadelphia County</b>	4,205.00
<b>Total Breakfasts/Dinner Dance/Comedy</b>	4,205.00
<b>RU Income</b>	
RU Tees	6.00
RU Hoodies	10.00
<b>Total RU Income</b>	16.00
<b>Contributions</b>	
Merchant fees - indiv contr	-3.50
Merchant fees - group contr	-55.92
Group Contributions	15,194.88
Individual Contributions	408.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	15,543.46
<b>Literature</b>	
Shipping charged to customers	478.82
Literature - Other	10,008.55
<b>Total Literature</b>	10,487.37
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>	
Other Revenue	399.65
Miscellaneous Income - Other	0.00
<b>Total Miscellaneous Income</b>	399.65
<b>Total Income</b>	30,651.82
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
<b>Special Events costs</b>	
Merchant Services Fees	15.67
Round Up expenses	
RU Entertainment	1,951.75
<b>Total Round Up expenses</b>	1,951.75
<b>Breakfast Expenses</b>	
<b>Breakfast Expense-Philadelphia</b>	
Philadelphia Speaker Gift	40.25
Philadelphia Printing	41.43
Philadelphia Facility	6,616.80
<b>Total Breakfast Expense-Philadelphia</b>	6,698.48
<b>Total Breakfast Expenses</b>	6,698.48
<b>Total Special Events costs</b>	8,665.90
<b>50000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Discounts & Allowances	0.01
Literature Expenses	
Merchant fees	354.53
Postage for Literature	1,032.39
<b>Total Literature Expenses</b>	1,386.92

**SEPIA**  
**Custom Summary Report**  
**September 2023**

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	Sep 23
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold - Other	6,650.79
Total 50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	8,037.72
Total COGS	16,703.62
Gross Profit	13,948.20
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Comittees &amp; Zones</b>	
Bucks County Zone	385.00
Delaware County Zone	300.00
Philadelphia County Zone	330.00
Interphones Committee	334.32
Prisons Committee	2,066.40
Public Information Committee	86.72
Unity Committee	1,044.71
Total Comittees & Zones	4,547.15
<b>Office Expenses</b>	
Office Manager Cell Phone	33.01
Cleaning	300.00
Computer/Fax Equipment	60.00
Copier Lease Service Supplies	703.61
Office Supplies	842.73
Parking & Transportation	306.00
66000 · Payroll Service Fee	130.00
Telephone/Internet	186.33
Web Hosting/Storage	255.03
Total Office Expenses	2,816.71
<b>Salary and Benefits</b>	
Compensation	6,862.84
Employee Benefits	3,143.58
Employer Taxes	672.25
Total Salary and Benefits	10,678.67
Total Expense	18,042.53
Net Ordinary Income	-4,094.33
Net Income	<b>-4,094.33</b>

Sassy Sisters Seeking Serenity  
Women's Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous

# “How It Works Through Sponsorship” Meeting

Friday, November 3, 2023

6:30 -8:00 PM EST

Zoom Meeting ID 826 8622 7495

Passcode 012089

This open online women's meeting will revolve around learning more about sponsorship, especially beneficial for women seeking sponsors and first-time sponsors. Our panel of 3-4 women will be available to answer questions on sponsorship.



**Chesco Bid Committee  
Presents:**

# Festive for the Mess-of-us: Potluck, White Elephant, Ugly Sweater Extravaganza

COHOSTED WITH DELCO BID COMMITTEE, HARRISBURG BID  
COMMITTEE, & MONTCO PENNSCYPAA HOST COMMITTEE

**DECEMBER 9TH  
5PM**

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
730 S NEW ST. WEST CHESTER

Red Ball meeting at 6PM,  
Followed by a White  
Elephant gift exchange,  
and ugly sweater  
contest.

Bring a wrapped gift of up  
to a \$10 value, if you want  
to participate in the White  
Elephant!

Ugliest Sweater wins two  
PENNSCYPAA XXXV registrations!



**Top of the Hill Meeting**  
**Happy 33rd Anniversary!**

Saturday, November 4, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

St. Martin-in-the-Field Church

8000 St. Martins Lane

Philadelphia, PA 19118

It's a Potluck Brunch!

Please bring a dish to share.

If you can't bring a dish, just bring your appetite!

Delicious Food!

Fantastic Fun and Community!

Topic: "God, As I Understand God"

Two AA Speakers

One Al-Anon Speaker

# ALL AREA'S OPEN MEETING FOR ANY

## ACCESSIBILITY



## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Topics and Solutions for our A.A. Members who cannot find our rooms due to an Accessibility or Remote challenge.*

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup>

MONDAY of the MONTH

7pm - 8:30pm EST (4-5:30 pm PST)

ASL Interpreter provided

Zoom ID: 690-393-7306

PW: AAC2020

(An open meeting to all Group, District, Area and Intergroup, Accessibility Committee members and Area Panel Officers)

More info: [area47aacontact@gmail.com](mailto:area47aacontact@gmail.com)

# ANDREWS HALL

# 73<sup>rd</sup>

# Anniversary

## Nov 10, 2023

Food & Fellowship 7:00 PM

Speakers meeting starts at 8:00!

### THREE SPEAKERS

- 1st with a few months
- 2nd with a few years
- 3rd with a few decades

## 50/50

to benefit the Memorial Day Picnic

*We all enjoy when you bring a covered dish, appetizer, dessert or water to share!*

*Midday Miracles &  
Chesco Pennscypaa Bid  
Committee Presents:*

# *Thanksgiving Day Alcathon*

## Meeting times:

*10 am*

*12pm* (Hybrid) ID: 802-618-468  
p/w: 299077

*2pm*

*4pm*

*6pm*

*8pm*

*10pm*

\*All meetings will be held in-person.  
12pm will be the ONLY hybrid  
meeting\*

**Thursday, November 23, 2023**

**First Baptist Church  
Fellowship Hall**

**415 W State St.  
Kennett Sq. PA 19348**

**Come out for food,  
fun, fellowship and  
service!**

**Potluck!**

**Bring your favorite dish  
to share!!!**



# WISSINOMING PM MEETING



Wissinoming Presbyterian Church  
Torresdale Avenue and Howell Street  
Open Meeting on Friday at 8:00 pm

## Needs Support

Enter Church Basement on Howell Street

## Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



**1** Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.



**2** Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.



**3** Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.



**4** Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations

given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.



**5** Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.



**6** If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.



**7** Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.



**8** Worship in your own way.



**9** Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.



**10** Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—"one day at a time."



**11** Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.



**12** "Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.

# SAVE THE DATE!

## SEPIA's 57<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ROUND-UP

will be held

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

at the

**Grand Hotel of Cape May**

1045 Beach Avenue

Cape May, NJ

## Registration begins in early 2024

Hope to see  
you there!



**THE CONSCIOUS CONTACT SPEAKER  
GROUP OF DOYLESTOWN PA**

**PRESENTS**

**THE DECEMBER TO REMEMBER  
SPIRITUAL BANQUET CONFERENCE**

**9AM TO 9:30PM  
SATURDAY 12-9-23**

**ALL 12-STEPS**

**PETER M. FLORIDA**

**MARIAN W/M FLORIDA**

**JIMMY A. NJ**

**SARAH I PA**

**FREDDIE M. NJ**

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
301 N. MAIN ST. DOYLESTOWN, PA**

**100% Free! Donation Supported  
Open AA Meeting**

