



AA Area 73 District 11 Newsletter

July 2023 Volume 102

West Virginia – Wild, Wonderful, and Sober

Grapevine Corner

“In the middle of a difficulty lies opportunity.” - Albert Einstein

“The primary obligation of any prisoner is to escape. Whether that means actually leaving or figuring out a way to handle things so you don’t go crazy is up to you.” - Emmanuel Goldstein

“Prison itself is a tremendous education in the need for patience and perseverance. It is, above all, a test of one’s commitment.” - Nelson Mandela

“Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.” - Mahatma Gandhi

It’s July! and this month is Grapevine Magazine’s annual Free on the Inside edition about incarcerated AA members and other people struggling to stay sober. Five years ago I wrote:

“I’ll never forget what Morgan Freeman’s character, Red, in “Shawshank Redemption” said: “Get busy livin’ or get busy dyin’.” The July issue of Grapevine features stories from alcoholic residents in prisons and jails and their struggles to get and or stay sober. It’s a daunting task, no doubt. I have friends in AA who have been institutionalized and share their stories, some of which are the stuff of nightmares.”

That doesn’t change, but what changes are the people in and out of institutions and their stories. Here are some of their stories in 2023: “A moment of stillness”; “Slice of life”; “Growing stronger”; “Bringing us hope”; “A winning team”; “Gladly out of my way”; and “With pen and hope.” I can’t pick a favorite this month.

Grapevine is developing a smartphone app for both Grapevine and La Viña magazines. They would like your input and thoughts about the app as development progresses. Go to www.aagrapevine.org for more information.

To receive the Grapevine quote of the day, log on to www.aagrapevine.org and provide your email address at the end of the quote. Grapevine has started providing stories of the week in email which is another good reason to sign up. While on the you can subscribe to The Grapevine magazine, order books, and play with the sobriety calculator among other things. Please don’t forget to read At Wit’s End which is near the end of the magazine.

7th Step

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings

7th Tradition

Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

7th Concept

The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

7th Promise

We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows

7th Reward

The respect of others instead of their pity and contempt.

*Also, every Monday is Grapevine's fun half-hour Grapevine Podcast. It features jokes, interviews, and member sharing at www.aagrapevine.org/podcast. Don't forget, you can also follow Grapevine on Instagram at: alcoholicsanonymous_gv.

And Finally:

"If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito." - Dalai Lama

"Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday." - Dale Carnegie

"Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know." - Daniel J. Boorstin

Pat McElroy

AREA NEWS

1. The Agenda Planning Meeting for Fall Assembly 2023 will be Saturday, July 22 at 12:30 on Zoom. Meeting ID is 842 2416 9203 and Password is 05GPHb. Flyer attached. Please print and/or share with your District or Committee.
2. Here is a copy of the District Meeting Notes regarding The Activities Committee: It was discussed to have a large picnic in 2024 combining all picnics in the district into one. Linda W. talked about a game night. Eastern Foundation Recover Foundation is ok with us having this at 118 E. Martin St. Thinking about having it on a Sunday either before the 5:30 meeting or after. Pot Luck and games. The charge would be \$12.50 an hour. Stew suggested the foundation might give us the first 2 game nights for free. Once a month. Many different games can be going on at the same time. The 4 th Sunday of the month EAWFOBW has a business meeting at 630. Thinking 1:30 to 4:30. If you are interested in helping contact Linda W. Looking for small financial support from the district less than \$100.00. Possibly July 16 th will be the first one. Linda, Amanda and Marliene are on the committee. Craft night one month, dance, bowling etc. It was noted that the Berkeley Springs AA members have to travel far to get to Martinsburg. Renting Snyders Bible Church for any of these events. The Berkeley Springs theatre to show recovery films was mentioned. Jeff P. can talk to the movie theatre people and see what can be done. New Years Dance. Linda will get flyers out to everyone when everything is finalized.
3. Here's some info for those wishing to make financial contributions:
 - District 11
Make check payable to
District 11
PO Box 1831, Martinsburg WV 25402
 - Area Contribution:
Make check payable to
Area 73
PO Box 461, Morgantown WV 26507-0461
 - General Service Office contribution:
Make check payable to
GSO
Po Box 459, Grand Central Station. New York, NY 10163

Bulletin Board/Announcements (New Section)

1. Pam W (from the Behind The Star Group) is looking for a female AA buddy to attend the 73rd Annual Area 73 AA Conference with this year in Ridgely, West Virginia. Dates are **August 11-13** Contact her at StairwayPam@gmail.com to discuss.
2. The above event will be held at the Cedar Lakes Conference Center in Ridgely WV and there is an (optional) special with a reduced lodging rate that includes 5 meals! Here's a link to a flyer for more details: <https://aawv11.org/district-events/>
You can register online at <https://www.aawv.org/wvstatecon> or for additional information contact them at: convention@aawv.org Larry C (740) 350-0175 Adrienne B (856) 701 9459
3. Please note that if you'd like to view the monthly newsletter online, you can do so at <https://aawv11.org/>
4. And, if you'd like to have the newsletter delivered to your inbox every month, please send an email request to AAdistrict11@gmail.com
5. **We would like to celebrate YOUR birthday!** Please email your annual birthday information including: First name, last initial, anniversary date, and name of home group to: AA-district11@gmail.com
6. **If YOU have an announcement you want posted here** (sober room for rent, items for sale, looking to carpool to meetings, etc.) please send your announcement to us at AAdistrict11@gmail.com. Deadline for submission in next month's newsletter is the 25th of each month

Coming Events *(Please see your local secretary for more information)*

1. **District 13 is having a picnic** on Saturday, August 26 at Hampshire Park. Flyer attached.
2. **The "Behind The Star" group is going to be meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month** (in July that's on the 11th) for coffee and fellowship directly after our noon meeting. So, please mark your calendars to join us at 1:00pm at **LIGHTHOUSE LATTE** 114 N. Mercer Street, Berkeley Springs. In June, we'll ne meeting on the 14th. See you there!
3. **Early After Work Group will be hosting a picnic on August 26**, War Memorial Park, Creak Pavilion.
4. **Eye Opener Group picnic is scheduled** for October 21st in the main pavilion in War Memorial Park.

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5. **Lesli N. (behind The Star Group)** has everything needed for District 11 to host a **Jeopardy Game Night** featuring AA related categories (Big Book, Important Dates, Steps, Traditions. Concepts. etc.) She's purchased a 70" monitor and can set up the squares and categories etc. She did a test run in June with a group and it was loads of fun! Could be held any time.....All suggestions, comments, volunteers etc., please send an email to: AAdistrict11@gmail.com, or contact Linda W of the Eye-opener Group The event could conceivably be held at the First United Methodist Church – 48 S Green Street- Berkeley Springs as they already have all the needed equipment.

For more detailed information, please speak with your group's GSR.

District 11 Meetings On-line

According to the latest Where and When published June 2021, all groups are meeting in person or have a hybrid meeting format except for the following which are on-line.

Daily at 7:30am- Eye Opener Group Hybrid

<https://www.gotomeet.me/EyeOpenerGroup>

Dial in at [\(646\) 749-3122](tel:6467493122)

Access Code: 604-461-373

Daily at 5:30pm - Early After Work Friends of Bill W. Group

Zoom Meeting ID 671-314-2769

Password: 118

Daily at 7:00pm - Doomsdayers Group

Join Zoom Meeting ID 942-899-066

Password 049396

Sundays at 2:00pm - Women On A Journey Group

Join Zoom Meeting ID 274-008-239

Password: woaj

Wednesday at 7:00pm – Wednesday Night Men's Group Hybrid

<https://www.gotomeet.me/EyeOpenerGroup>

Dial in: [+1 \(646\) 749-3122](tel:+16467493122) Access Code 604-461-373

Let's Celebrate

Anniversaries for July and the first week of August. As of March 1st the district has 4,099 year of sobriety with an average of 14.4 years per member.

Name	Anniversary	Years	Group	year
Christa C	7/9/2016	7	11th Step Group	2016
Johnathan H	7/14/2013	10	11th Step Group	2013
Ollie T	7/15/2017	6	11th Step Group	2017
Jimmy P.	7/5/2014	9	Behind the Star	2014
Charles S	7/13/1975	48	Berkeley Springs	1975
Dan K	7/13/1984	39	Camp Fire	1984
AJ.K	7/17/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
BRYAN.H	7/15/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
CHRISTA.G	7/8/2016	7	Eye Opener	2016
DENNIS.B	7/9/2009	14	Eye Opener	2009
EVELYN.J	7/1/2008	15	Eye Opener	2008
FRED	7/11/2005	18	Eye Opener	2005
GARY.G	7/8/2013	10	Eye Opener	2013
JAMES.E	7/17/1993	30	Eye Opener	1993
JILL	7/31/1988	35	Eye Opener	1988
JOHNNY.H	7/5/2014	9	Eye Opener	2014
KIMBERLY.P	7/15/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
LYLE.P	7/27/2013	10	Eye Opener	2013
MIKE.A	7/18/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
NICOLE.S	7/8/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
PRESTON.C	7/7/2008	15	Eye Opener	2008
SHAWN.F	7/13/2013	10	Eye Opener	2013
DEBBIE.L	7/2/2012	11	Good Orderly Direction	2012
KENT.C	7/1/2021	2	Good Orderly Direction	2021
Mariam T	7/1/1995	28	HOW	1995
Melissa T	7/12/1991	32	HOW	1991
TERRY.B	7/3/1996	27	Manassas	1996
Stacey M	7/15/2008	15		2008
David S	8/3/2011	12	Berkeley Springs	2011
Kelly W	8/8/1988	35	Berkeley Springs	1988
CANDACE.F	8/6/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
JONATHAN.P	8/2/2017	6	Eye Opener	2017
STEVE.W	8/6/2014	9	Eye Opener	2014
TERRANCE.F	8/7/2007	16	Eye Opener	2007
TERRI.B	8/4/2012	11	Eye Opener	2012
NATE.H	8/7/2014	9	Good Orderly Direction	2014
Bob H	8/2/2015	8	HOW	2015

CALL FOR NEWSETTER CONTRIBUTIONS.....

Anyone wishing to submit an announcement, or story for the newsletter is encouraged to do so by emailing Pam Washington at AAdistrict11@gmail.com