



# The Winner's Circle

West Central Intergroup's Monthly Newsletter



[www.westcentralaa.org](http://www.westcentralaa.org)

September 2011

## WEST CENTRAL INTERGROUP

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### TRUSTED SERVANTS

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Board of Directors: Brigitte F., Bud R.,  
Dick S., Gene L., Jim M.

#### Statement of Purpose:

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to carry the AA message to alcoholics and try to practice the AA principles in all of its affairs. We are mainly accountable to West Central Intergroup as a whole, and hope to provide an open forum for the many diverse views of its members, striving to remain within the bounds of good will and the spirit of service. Articles are not intended to be statements of AA policy nor imply endorsement by AA or this newsletter.

### GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS – JULY

Commuter	175.00
Let Go & Let God	30.00
New Market Antiques	153.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$358.00</b>

### PINK CAN CONTRIBUTIONS – JULY

Commuter	89.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$89.50</b>

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Home Group	Date	Years
Sue M.	To Thine Own Self be True	9/23/86	25
Gary S.	Back Alley	9/15/88	23
Jeanann	To Thine Own Self be True	9/01/90	21
Carolin S.	Monday Night Sober Women	9/19/90	21
Dan M.	Walkin' Thru the Books	9/09/92	19
Jim C.	Early Bird	9/12/94	17
Barry	Jefferson Group	9/11/01	10
Tim H.	Saturday Night Mountain	9/11/02	9
Reenie C.	Early Bird	9/10/02	9
Steve McD.	Red Door @ Noon	9/22/03	8
Barbara S.	To Thine Own Self be True	9/06/06	5
Susan B.	Early Bird	9/20/06	5
Kristin McG.	Monday Night Sober Women	9/03/07	4
Jack A.	Saturday Night Mountain	9/12/09	2
Sally G.	High Noon	9/03/09	2
Bob N.	Early Bird	9/19/09	2
Krystal H.	To Thine Own Self be True	9/22/10	1
Greg M.	High Noon	9/26/10	1
Michelle L.	Early Bird	9/2010	1

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>Sept. 3</b> 8 AM – 8 PM	<b>Soberfest 2011</b> Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds 1520 Crownsville Rd., Crownsville, MD 21032-2308
<b>Sept. 6 – 11</b>	<b>54th Annual Sessions By the Sea</b> Ocean City Convention Center 4001 Coastal Hwy., Ocean City, MD
<b>October 1 – 2</b>	<b>WCI "A Simple Kit of Spiritual Tools" Big Book Study</b> Frederick Elk's Club 289 Willowdale Dr., Frederick, MD 21702  *Tickets for the Big Book Study are available from the WCI office, your Intergroup Rep, or by sending your check, along with a stamped, self addressed envelope to: WCI Activities Chair P.O. Box 1771 Frederick, MD 21702-1771
<b>October 1</b> 9 AM – 3 PM	<b>"Cooperation Through Service" MGS Intergroup Liaison Committee's Day of Sharing</b> College Parkway Baptist Church 301 College Parkway, Arnold, MD 21012
<b>October 8</b>	<b>Hagerstown Group 65 Year Anniversary</b> Bethel United Methodist Church 21006 Twin Springs Dr., Chewsville, MD 21721
<b>October 22</b>	<b>WCI Fall Festival</b> Summer's Farm 5614 Butterfly Lane, Frederick, MD 21703

### Tradition 9

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

## MINUTES FROM INTERGROUP MEETING – JULY 27, 2011

Intergroup Chair Cynthia T. opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with the Serenity Prayer and the Purpose of Intergroup. The following new group reps were welcomed: Michelle from Sunday night Young & Dumb, Brian from Golden Mile Big Book, and Ellie from Tuesday Walkersville. The June meeting minutes were approved.

### **Reports:**

**Chair:** Cynthia T. distributed a handout describing where IG fits in the service structure. She also talked about the need to revise the 12<sup>th</sup> Step Call List and procedure. It was discussed at the steering committee and there will be forms to fill out in August to be returned in September if interested. There will also be 12<sup>th</sup> Step training in the future.

**Vice Chair:** No report

**Treasurer:** No report.

### **Standing Committees:**

**Office:** Kim advised that July 31<sup>st</sup> will be the cut-off date for August calendar. Four-five new volunteers have been trained. She also pointed out that Doug W. changes the schedule on the internet – BIG THANKS! Contact Kim at [wcioandtc@gmail.com](mailto:wcioandtc@gmail.com) or phone 301-418-1403 if you would like training or more information on volunteering at the Office.

**Literature:** Discussed possibility of having literature brought to the IG meeting to make literature more accessible. Many considerations. Tabled to next month. Also, reps should ask groups to give their opinion about credit cards should be used for literature. More discussion next month.

**Where & When's:** Kevin absent. Bud stated that 800 Where & When's were distributed to group at last month's IG meeting. Out of 2500 printed, 800 are left. The possibility of going to a 4 x 9 booklet is being explored.

**Public Information:** Doug stated that the PI Committee currently has only one member and Doug would really like other members to join to assist with taking literature to appropriate public venues. Fred is disseminating information to Frederick County libraries but it's necessary to keep checking them to keep them restocked. As always, please send web requests/events to [wciplibinfo@gmail.com](mailto:wciplibinfo@gmail.com).

**Institutions:** Johnnie B. reported that we have a new volunteer. Cynthia reported for Ursula that a volunteer is needed to take on another meeting at Marcy's Choice – Frederick County Detention Center.

**Activities:** Kirsten reported that the next event will be held Sat/Sun, October 1-2 and it will be a Big Book workshop with two outside speakers. It will be at the Elks Lodge and tickets for both sessions cost \$10 and will be available at the August and September IG meetings. The Fall Festival will be held on Oct. 22 at Summers Farm. Flyers are available. Anyone interested in getting involved in Activities please email [wciactivities@gmail.com](mailto:wciactivities@gmail.com).

**Newsletter:** PLEASE send articles of interest and A.A. anniversaries (for the following month) to Carolyn at [wcinewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:wcinewsletter@gmail.com). Deadline for submission is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**CPC:** Jim S. Will speak to a class at FCC on Alcoholism. Suggested that there's a need to convene an ad hoc group consisting of CPC & PI & districts to discuss how to divide labor. Wants to invite past & present chairs of these committees. Will be discussed further at August meeting.

### **Other Reports:**

**District 40:** No report.

**District 41:** Alternate DCM Mike reported that the workshop on the Home Group & AA Service Structure had a very small turnout. The district puts on three workshops a year.

**Intergroup Liaison Report:** Doug reported on an IG Liaison Committee July 23<sup>rd</sup> workshop where the importance and value of websites were discussed. It's critical to have a central repository for information. May be able to have the 12<sup>th</sup> step list on the web – private, available only to certain parties. He would also like to make WCI website more interactive.

Doug advised that there will be a day of sharing to be held on October 1<sup>st</sup> in Severna Park for Committee Chairs of all Maryland Intergroups to get together to discuss how to best fulfill their service function. Each of the service positions will talk in a roundtable discussion in the PM. Flyers out in August. ALL ARE WELCOMED.

**Maryland Bid for ICYPAA:** No report.

### **Old Business:**

- None

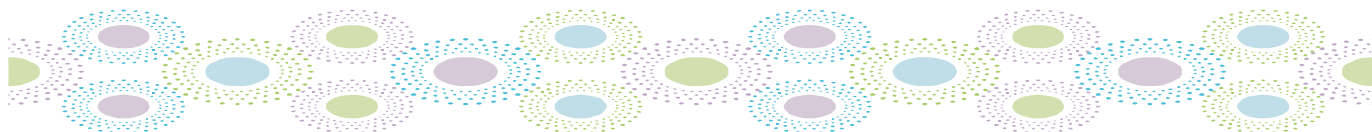
### **New business:**

- Kirsten reported that All Saints Episcopal Church at 106 W. Church Street is available as a meeting place for IG. We would meet in the facility adjacent to the church. There are 50 parking spaces available. The expected donation is similar to the current one. Motion approved to move to this new venue starting with the September IG meeting. Directions (enter off Patrick St.) and parking info in August.

- Red Door meeting representative Laurie stated that they're ordering receptacles for cigarettes and said that anyone interested in getting in on a group order should speak with her.
- ANNAPOLIS AREA IG Activities Chair Dan talked about three events they are putting on and stated that information about these is on their and WCI website. The first is SoberFest at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds Sat. Sept 3, 2011 8am-8pm with a cost of \$10. 2<sup>nd</sup> is a Gratitude Dinner, CMUC on November 19, 2011 at a cost of \$20. The 3<sup>rd</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Annapolis Area IG Convention to be held January 13-15, 2012.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Kathryn N.*



### CELEBRATING MILESTONES

**Name:** Jim B.

**Home group:** 8:00 PM Thursday Night Back Alley Group. The best darn group in Frederick!

**Sobriety Date:** July 19, 1992

**First meeting or introduction to A.A.:** Independence Club, Annandale, VA. Sometime in 1986/87, cannot really remember date, as I was not a first-nighter.

**Service Positions held and favorite(s):** All kinds, but my favorite is coffee maker because it was my first (if you want to stay sober, become your group's coffee maker). It kept me sober and it was a way to get to know "you guys", and it still works today!

**Most unusual meeting you've ever attended:** What's unusual in A.A.? Two were different that most: St. Pete's Beach, FL; the group gave out toys (small ones) instead of chips for anniversaries, that was kind of cool. You could see the Gulf from meeting house. Second: The Westover Group in Arlington, VA, my hometown and my brother's home group for a number of years; a lot of good sobriety, a lot of good cross-talk (not for everyone). I am not sure if it is the same today, maybe I need to go check it out. There was always candy flying around the room

**Biggest challenges met in sobriety:** Parenthood. I became a father in sobriety (my sober wife, Angela, and I have two boys, Jimmy, 10 and Joey, 9). I love being a father, but being a parent is hard at times; it gives me the biggest joy in life, along with the tough responsibilities of being a parent.

**Favorite Slogan or A.A. literature quote:** One day at a time. If I choose to live one day at a time, life is much easier.

**Best change in sobriety:** Growing up (although I still feel like a teenager at times)! Learning to have honest relationships with my fellows while being a responsible member of society!

**Something your higher power has done for you that you never could have done for yourself:** Learning to live one day at a time – comfortable in my own skin (most of the time), without drinking!

**Greatest joys in sobriety:** The birth of our two boys!

## Literature Corner

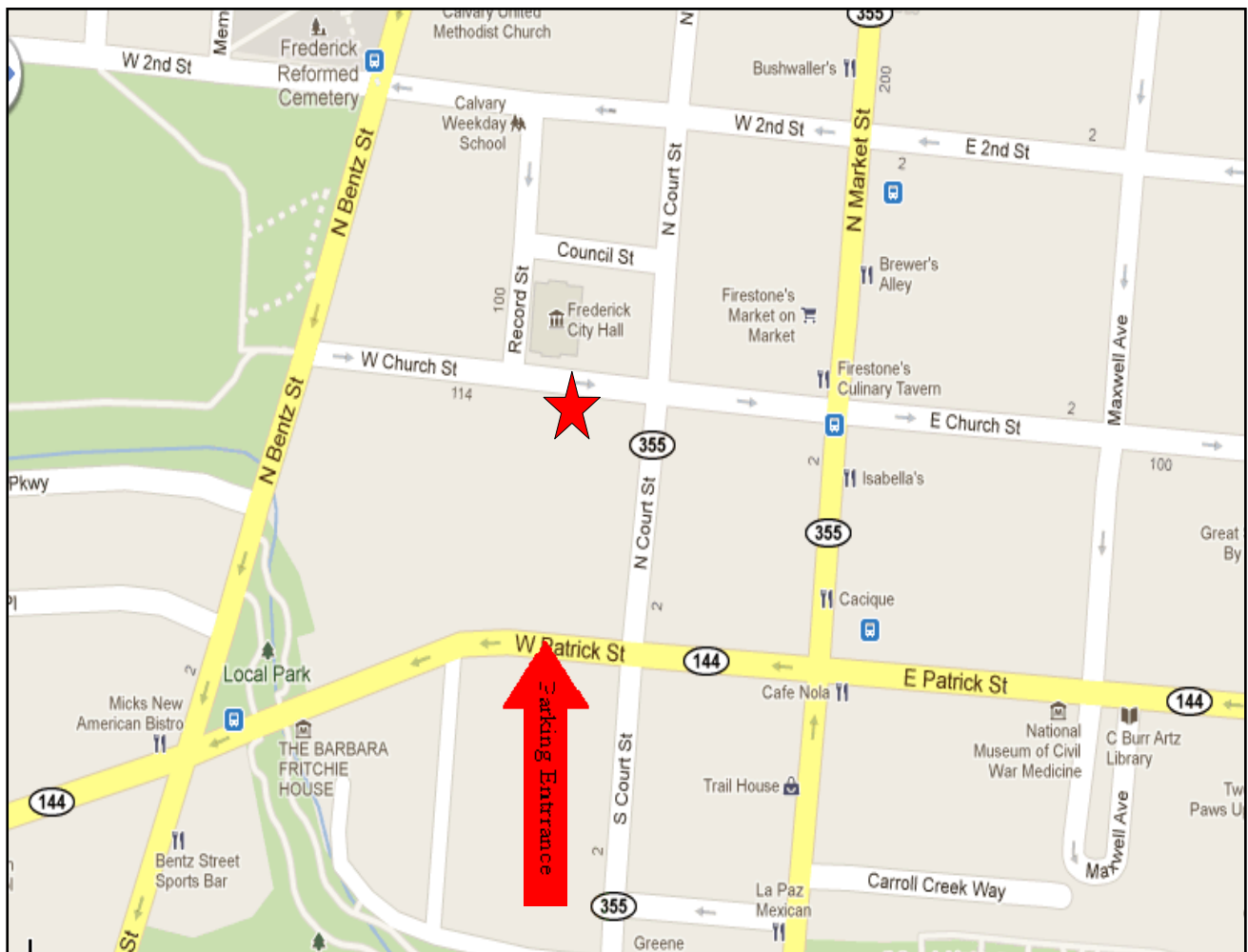
Your West Central Intergroup Literature Room is fully stocked and awaits your visit.  
We are open for your convenience on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.  
Please come and visit us!

Chapters 1 - 11 Alcoholics Anonymous (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) 6 tapes  
Living Sober on 4 CDs \* The Three Legacies by Bill Wilson on CD  
\* History of Service Vols. 1&2 on CD  
Alcoholics Anonymous 4<sup>th</sup> Edition 16 CDs

**West Central Intergroup's  
monthly meetings  
(last Wednesday of the month at 7pm)  
will now be held at –**

**The Parish Hall  
All Saints' Episcopal Church  
106 W. Church Street, Frederick MD 21701**

**Car parking available behind the building  
entrance, after 121 W. Patrick Street  
Black Horse Square**



*For more info contact [wciactivities@gmail.com](mailto:wciactivities@gmail.com) or call Cynthia T. at 240-344-7970.*