

MARGENSER

Fostering Unity and Carrying the A.A. Message in Area 29 MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE

THERE IS A SOLUTION

42nd Annual Area 29 Maryland State Convention, June 14-17, 2012, by Anonymous

In June of 2002, I attended my first Maryland State Convention in Hagerstown. I was encouraged to attend by my friend JP, who had served as the State Convention Chair in 2000. "Don't just go to the convention though, get involved," he had told me. The Convention made a lasting impression on me for many reasons. First and foremost, at only 1-1/2 years sober I had not yet heard the type of powerful speakers we are blessed to hear at conventions. Their stories kept me riveted and emotionally spellbound. I attended all of the speaker meetings, Al-Anon included, and wanted more. I bought the entire set of CDs, and still listen to them today. But despite the fact that their stories have in many ways become a part of my own recovery story, there was something each of the speakers did during their time at the podium that affected me in an even more profound way than their description of victory over alcoholism did. Each speaker spent meaningful time thanking the committee, their hosts, the person who picked them up from the airport, and everyone else who had touched their lives during the weekend. Obviously their gratitude was noteworthy, but what I was really learning during their moments of thankfulness was how many AA members gave of themselves and of their time to put the entire convention together and make it successful. Not only was I now aware of the variety of service opportunities the convention provides, I was actually a part of it, and proud to be. Our home group, Better Way of Life hosted the Saturday morning speaker that year, and I

volunteered to be a greeter at that meeting. Wanting to be more involved, I also worked several shifts behind the soda bar. Admittedly, these were small acts of service compared to those accomplished by the MD State Convention Committee. The committee is overseen by the chair and co-chair, along with a secretary and treasurer. Various sub-committees exist to coordinate pre-registration, on-site registration, coffee and soda, entertainment, workshops, alcathons, public information, and speakers.

It is a large group of people, all working separately, yet at the same time together, utilizing their own special skills and talents to accomplish the same goal...a concept we can certainly relate to. "I felt the principles of the program," said Jeff Mc., Chair of the 2011 MD State Convention.

When asked about his experience he described "having the luck (or God's grace) to have some of the best people who wanted to make this the best event possible." I stood there like a target, listening and watching situations take care of themselves. The only thing I can take credit for was my willingness to try. "JP mimicked a similar message. "I always tell anyone who asks the biggest lesson I learned from my experience as convention chair was how to play well with others. Basically I just did my best to stay out of the way and let the committee members handle what they were supposed to handle. As chair, I may have been in charge, but I wasn't about to be some sort of boss. In an April 1959 Grapevine article, Bill W. wrote, "Somewhere in

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MARGENSER STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Area 29 MARGENSER newsletter is published to foster unity and facilitate communication among AA members, groups, districts, and intergroups within the Maryland General Service Area. The MARGENSER aims to be instrumental in carrying the AA message. This quarterly newsletter seeks to publish AA-related material, including personal stories of experience, strength, and hope. Material will be reviewed by the MARGENSER committee chairperson or by a member of the committee. Nothing published in the MARGENSER should be thought of as a statement of Area 29 or AA policy. Finally, publication shall not constitute endorsement by the newsletter itself, Area 29, intergroups, districts, local groups, or AA as a whole.

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our literature there is a statement to this effect: 'Our leaders do not drive by mandate, they lead by example.'. In effect we are saying to them, 'Act for us, but don't boss us'. " Perhaps those who take the role of convention chair can 'live' this principle because most of them have spent previous years on the committee in various capacities. The current convention chair, Dan D. is no exception. "My sponsor got me involved in the convention my first year sober and I have served on the committee ever since. I have been on the alcathon, workshop, pre-registration, and speaker host committees. Anywhere I could help." I have attended subsequent conventions since my first in 2002, and all have been equally amazing. I always leave the event feeling more a part of Alcoholics Anonymous, more spiritually aware of the principles of the program. I have no doubt those gifts are given to me because of the efforts put forth by each and every person who sacrificed time and gave of themselves to make the convention happen. I asked Dan D. to describe what he has found to be the most rewarding aspect of his role as chair so far: "The people who are involved in the 2012 convention committee have made my responsibilities easy. All of it is rewarding, but the biggest reward we on the committee can get is for everyone to have a great time at the convention." With so many members of our fellowship working together in loving service toward one goal, how could we do anything but have a great time. The 42nd Annual Area 29 Maryland State Convention, with Al-Anon participation, will be held on June 14 - 17, 2012, in Hagerstown, MD at the Clarion Hotel and Hager Hall Conference Center, 901 Dual Highway. In addition to daily open AA speakers meetings, the schedule will include workshops, alcathons, archives, a Saturday night banquet and more. For more information, including cost, and to register, go to www.marylandaa.org/stateconvention. ▲

62nd General Service Conference: Area 29 Delegate's Report-back

Just like your group's GSR, your delegate is a string between two tin cans. The GSR's tin cans are the home group on one end and the District and Area on the other. The delegate's tin cans are, ultimately, the GSRs of the Area and the General Service Conference. At a minimum, the GSRs and delegate form the chain connecting the home groups to AA's group conscience, formulated annually at the General Service Conference (GSC). The Conference is ultimately responsible to the AA groups. The trustees implement the will of the Conference, administering the General Service Office (GSO) and AA Grapevine (AAGV).

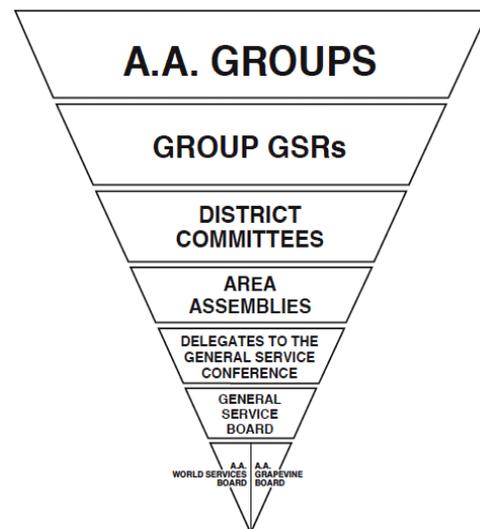
From April 22-28, 2012, I was grateful to serve as your delegate at the 62nd GSC in Rye, New York. There, 93 delegates from the U.S. and Canada met with 39 General Service Board (GSB) trustees, directors and staff from the GSO and Grapevine. This year's Conference had 132 voting members, ages 34 to 75, sober 10 to 39 years.

AAWS and AAGV Status Reports: Monday afternoon, we heard reports from all three corporate boards. Terry Bedient, GSB Treasurer (nonalcoholic), showed that services provided by AAWS would have been fully self-supporting had each member contributed \$6.32 in 2012. The actual amount was \$4.54, so 28% of services came from literature profits. Your delegate will provide Terry's full report upon request. Excerpts useful for discussing Tradition 7 with groups and districts may be downloaded from www.aa.org.

(Late in the week, one delegate voiced his concern that Conference disapproval of several needed projects was apparently due to the contributions shortfall. Suggested discussion topics: "What does self-support really mean?" "With print sales declining industry-wide, is it wise for AA to depend on income from literature to pay for services?")

The Grapevine Report was quite encouraging. AAGV turned a profit in

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE
(U.S. and Canada)



2011, reversing a serious loss in 2010 that was covered by the GSB Reserve Fund. AAGV has made big changes in management, content and format over the past year. In 2011, total circulation increased for the first time in many years with the rollout of "GV Online," a \$20 annual subscription package including electronic delivery of the monthly journal, plus much more.

Conference Committees – Each delegate sits on at least one Conference Committee, which grinds agenda items (submitted by members, groups, districts, areas, trustees or staff) into Committee Recommendations or Additional Considerations. Committee Recommendations are later brought to the assembled Conference as motions for debate and vote.

Committee assignments are by lot, and I had been assigned to the Grapevine Committee. Sunday afternoon, the AAGV Board gave us a detailed report on circulation and finances. Monday and Tuesday, we generated two recommendations and five additional considerations. Finding common ground without compromising our principles was hard but rewarding work. Our committee chair guided us through discussions that were at times contentious but never confrontational.

Committee Reports and Discussion –

These were the business sessions, during which the Conference finalized AA's annual group conscience. After these sessions began on Wednesday, time seemed to accelerate as we debated and voted on recommendation after recommendation. Members addressed issues in their own styles, but all spoke the language of the heart. When I spoke from the mike, I was grateful for the preparation provided by Area 29's Regional Panel/Mini-Conference process.

Imagine sitting with 132 people, all willing to discuss an issue for hours to be sure we made the best decision, not just a good one! For me, the business sessions were transformative: I had expected frustration, but found myself transfixed. From late Wednesday through Friday night, we spent about 23 hours in debate and discussion. As Ward Ewing, GSB Chair (nonalcoholic), summarized: "It was tough sometimes, but never controversial." That statement reflects the tone of this year's Conference: People worked hard but respectfully, producing a sound set of projects for the coming year. What a beautiful thing to work with such a group, of which over 90% was once afflicted with "a hopeless state of mind and body."

Your DCM or delegate will gladly provide a complete list of Conference Actions and Additional Considerations upon request. The *Box 459 Conference Edition* is available at www.aa.org. Here are selected results, reflecting interest expressed in Area 29:

- 11th Tradition language: No action; further Area sharing requested.
- AA Facebook presence: No action.
- Approved updated/revised pamphlets: "2011 Membership Survey," "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell," "A Message to Corrections Professionals," "AA in Correctional Facilities," "AA and the Armed Services."
- *Living Sober* revision: Approved.
- CPC/Corrections pamphlets: Revised to state, "Nonalcoholics may attend open AA meetings as observers."

- Project to update "Circles of Love and Service": Approved.
- Spirituality pamphlet: No action; under continued development.
- Big Book – Changes to dust jacket and addition of Preamble: No action on either item.
- Addition of stories of alcoholics with mental illness to pamphlets: Disapproved.
- Revision of video, "It Sure Beats Sitting in a Cell": Disapproved.
- AA's first Hispanic video Public Service Announcement, "Tengo Esperanza": Approved.
- Proposed Self-Support Kit: No action.
- Limit on annual individual member contribution to GSO: No action (remains unchanged).
- Limit on one-time member bequest to GSO: Increased to \$5,000 (floor action).
- Area delegate contribution for GSC: Increased to \$1,600.
- Proposal to combine GvR and GSR jobs: No action.
- Proposal to enable members to record their Grapevine stories by phone in their own voices: Approved.
- Approved: "The General Service Conference supports the General Service Board's development of a plan to restructure the current AAWS, Inc. and AAGV, Inc. corporate and governance structure.... The plan will be submitted to the 63rd General Service Conference for approval prior to implementation."

Opportunities for Communication –

Forums built into Conference week to promote communication include the Remote Communities meeting, General Sharing Sessions, Presentation/Discussion Sessions, Workshops, the Archives presentation, Area Highlights and even meals.

The *Remote Communities meeting* challenged me to reach out to Hispanic and hearing impaired groups not currently represented at Area 29 Assemblies. *Area Highlights* are two-minute presentations by first-year dele-

gates describing activity in their Areas, and are useful for getting ideas for our own. In the two-hour *Workshop*, we met in small groups. In our group, I distributed copies of the "Safety in AA" sub-topics generated by Area 29's Workshop Committee for our March Assembly workshop. These were *extremely* well received. *Meals* are a time for actively sharing and learning how AAs in different areas solve problems. There I made what I'm sure will be lifelong friends with a wide range of AA experience, especially concerning treatment, corrections and cultural diversity.

At lunch Sunday and Wednesday, delegates and regional trustees met by region. The Northeast Region used this time to hear bids for future gatherings. We selected Somerset, NJ for NERAASA 2015 (February 20-22); Albany, NY for NERF 2015 (May 29-31); and Freeport, ME for NERD 2014 (March 7-9).

Saturday morning, I sat with Lucky, the "Sick Sikh" (his term!) who serves as PI Chair for AA India. Lucky related how one can't walk down the street in Mumbai without stepping over wet drunks. With over 1 billion people, India has only 1,100 groups, 25,000 members, and 30 women. Next January, over 200 female AAs are coming from Australia to Mumbai to 12-step female alcoholics in the streets. Lucky says, "I would like to invite each one of you to come to India. Please inform well in advance as we are a small fellowship with very few in service. We will make the best possible arrangements for your comfortable stay." Lucky's e-mail address is luckydaler@yahoo.co.uk.

I am unspeakably grateful for this opportunity to serve. Now, I look forward to visiting our districts to report back on the Conference, and to listening as you develop agenda items in our Regional Panels this summer and fall.

Bob C., Panel 62/Area 29 Delegate
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delegate@marylandaa.org ▲

Regional Panel 3 Report

By Kim G, Regional Panel 3 Leader

Regional Panel 3, comprised of Maryland General Service (Area 29) Districts 4, 10, 11, 15, 28, 29, 30, and 33, reviewed two General Service Conference Agenda Items—Literature, and Report & Charter—to help prepare our Delegate for General Service Conference Committees meetings last April.

Area 29's Panel 3 committee reviewed 17 topics in two categories—Literature, and Report & Charter—to help our Delegate, Bob C, prepare to participate in committee assignments at this year's General Service Conference in New York last April. Ten of the 17 topics remain unchanged and need no further action because these works are being approved by The Trustee's Committee on Literature at present.

The committee agreed to and suggested:

- o revising the Pamphlet "Circles of Love and Service";
- o keeping the dust jacket text from the third to fourth edition of the AA Big Book unchanged;
- o adding the Preamble to the front, blank page of the AA Big Book;
- o adding a short form of the "Twelve Concepts" to the book As Bill Sees It ; and
- o that the "Structure Of The Conference " in the AA Service Manual illustration remain "as is".

The suggestion to revise and clarify the term "panels" in the text, on "Conference Panels," page S107 of The AA Service Manual is still being considered. We discussed the pro's and cons: Pro... It provides additional info in Appendix D bringing it into conformance with generally recognized standards of writing regarding use or appendices; and it clarifies the

use of the word "panel," eliminating the need to refer to the main text for users of the Service Manual that do not read the Legacy of Service chapter. Cons: Additional text would require an additional page if current formatting is used, increasing publishing costs. Another con is that this may discourage some members involved in service from reading the chapter entitled AA's Legacy of Service and AA comes of Age, thus resulting in reduced knowledge about AA history and the reasons why AA's service structure is set up as is.

Also currently being considered is the suggestion to add a "Spirit of Rotation" section to the AA Services Manual. The consensus was to use the AA group pamphlet as a basis for a new section. Also, it was suggested that perhaps a footnote would suffice.

A wonderful, heartfelt, warm thanks to our panel 3 members for their support, cooperation, and persistence on these Agenda Items! 🙏

THE MARGENSER IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

The Margenser Committee welcomes submissions. We are here to serve you. Submissions should be no more than 750 words and about service or recovery. Please include your first name, last initial and home group. Email all correspondence to Margenser@marylandAA.org or mail to Maryland General Services, PO Box 20177, Baltimore, MD 21284-0177. The submission deadline for the next issue is July 23, 2012.

REACHING OUT TO THE "DARK DISTRICTS"

Many of our neighbors do not actively participate in Area 29, nor are their voices heard within AA as a whole. We encourage you to reach out to those districts without active GSRs or DCMs, sharing your experience of service beyond the home group and carrying the message one-on-one. Area 29 welcomes your ideas on how we can best do this and offers our support.

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO...

In accordance with the 7th Tradition and abiding by the group conscience of your home group, you may send contributions in support of Area 29 to:

Maryland General Service, Inc.
PO Box 20177
Baltimore, MD 21284-0177

General Service Matters

By Dan B., Happy Risers Group, Ocean City, MD

Almost every A.A. member has seen the circle and triangle logo. It was adopted as an official symbol of Alcoholics Anonymous at the 1955 International Convention in St. Louis, where co-founder Bill W. stated: "Above us floats a banner on which is inscribed the new symbol for A.A., a circle enclosing a triangle. The circle stands for the whole world of A.A., and the triangle stands for A.A.'s Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service." (*A.A. Comes of Age*, p. 139)

But what in the "whole world of A.A." did Bill mean? At the base of the triangle is Recovery, represented by the 12 Steps. This is our foundation of personal powerlessness, our cornerstone of hope, the new and triumphant arch through which we pass to freedom from our enslavement to alcohol, from self-will, from short-sighted objectives, from alcoholic insanity. The 12 Steps are "a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole." (*12 Steps and 12 Traditions*, p. 15) Upon these twelve spiritual principles rests the entire program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Without recovery, we have nothing.

The left arm of the triangle is Unity, represented by the 12 Traditions, which "outline the means by which A.A. maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows." (*12 Steps and 12 Traditions*, p. 15) Without unity, we would have no Fellowship; without the support of the A.A. Fellowship, we would have no recovery. As Tradition One states, in part, "personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity." Unity through the 12 Traditions is our only guarantee that a loving God may express Himself through our group conscience. Unity protects us from self-destruction and affords us the privilege of continuing to practice our primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers. In the words of our Declaration of Unity, "This we owe to A.A.'s future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellow-

ship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come."

We don't recover just to feel better, to improve our work performance and family life, to gain a new measure of financial security, or even to relate to others in a healthier manner. These may be wonderful side effects of a sober life, but they are far from the true reason we have been granted this miracle. Once we take Step Three, we have "a New Employer." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 63) Not only that, "Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 77) In fact, "Your job now is to be at the place where you may be of maximum helpfulness to others." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 102) Our Basic Text makes it explicitly clear: "Though they knew they must help other alcoholics if they would remain sober, that motive became secondary. It was transcended by the happiness they found in giving themselves for others." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 159)

That's why the triangle has the right arm, our Third Legacy of Service. If we fail to perfect and enlarge our spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, our recovery is useless and guaranteed to fail, our unity is nonexistent, and our faith is dead. "Helping others is the foundation stone of your recovery." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 97) If we do not serve God by helping others, then our foundation of complete willingness crumbles, our hope of maintaining a fit spiritual condition evaporates, and "we shut ourselves off from the sunlight of the Spirit. The insanity of alcohol returns and we drink again. And with us, to drink is to die." (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 66)

Bill W. later expounded upon the principles to support the vitality of our Third Legacy in his essays on the Twelve Concepts for World Service, thus completing the immutable triumvirate of the 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, and 12 Concepts, our Three Legacies essential to ensure the future of Alcoholics Anonymous. We who participate in the General Service structure of A.A. are the guardians of these Three Legacies; it is we who must continue the work started by our beloved co-founders Bill and Dr. Bob in Akron, Ohio, a short 77 years ago. As the Big Book reminds us on page 85, "'How can I best serve Thee -- Thy will (not mine) be done.' These are thoughts which must go with us constantly." ▲

The Lopsided Triangle

By Ron M., Alternate Delegate, Panel 62

Alcoholics Anonymous has long used the triangle to demonstrate and portray ideas and concepts which are vital to the understanding and ongoing longevity of this loving recovery program. By dictionary definition, a triangle is a closed plane figure having three sides and three angles. Although Alcoholics Anonymous utilizes the triangle for other various informational demonstrations, the focus of this article will be the equilateral triangle that is usually and commonly seen when describing "Unity, Service and Recovery".

"BASIC TRIANGLE"



The triangle is positioned on its flat base with its two sides going upward, leaning inward and meeting at a point. The left slanted side is typically labeled "UNITY", and the right slanted side is typically labeled "SERVICE" and finally the base is labeled "RECOVERY". As a package it would appear to be a complete neat formula and arrangement for the desired and ultimate goal of recovery. Basically it is saying let's stick together by staying focused on our common problem of alcoholism, help each other with some service to the organization and the ultimate result, in no time, will be recovery. It all sounds pretty basic, straightforward and easy. The equilateral triangle by its basic design would seem to imply that the three sides and/or parts will fit nicely and the ultimate goal of sobriety results. What, however, really happens? Alcoholics, as a group, are not necessarily known

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for their organizational skills and ability to follow guidelines and or rules. Taking the steps promptly and in order comes to mind as the prime example. What is happening in the real world of Alcoholics Anonymous on a daily basis? What does our triangle really look like? Is it in fact equilateral or some other strange configuration? My personal experience tells me that our real life triangle is a strange looking figure defying an accurate one time definition. The sides are constantly in motion, changing length and direction, leaning to one side or another. Given the premise and understanding that we are dealing with a moving target, let's stabilize the size and position of the base of our triangle. That would then allow us to move the top point to the left or right thereby making the size of either of the sides to lengthen or shorten as the apex of the triangle moves left or right. Given these parameters, the sides labeled unity and service would therefore modify longer or shorter depending upon the activity and involvement of the membership.

It has been my observation over my years in the fellowship that the base, or recovery, of the members moves along at a relatively steady pace and possibly is even slowing in recent years as problems other than alcohol appear on the scene. Certainly the growth of the membership is not what it used to be years ago and there may even be a case for stating that the membership curve is stagnant. In my opinion this pattern has led to the solidification of the remaining and some newly arriving members, thereby, allowing the unity leg of the triangle to lengthen. This situation now creates a situation whereby the service leg of the triangle shortens considerably and presents "The Lopsided Triangle".

"The Lopsided Triangle"



The service side of our triangle is now the shortest, and in my opinion the most susceptible to falling by the wayside and accordingly weakening the entire structure, possibly leading to failure. Trying to determine accurate information regarding membership numbers is virtually impossible because the General Service Office does not keep membership records but rather takes a regular random survey and relies on reports given by groups to GSO. This does not represent an actual count of those who consider themselves members of Alcoholics Anonymous. During the calendar year 2011 a regular periodic survey was taken, however, the resulting tabulation has not as yet been released. The most recent estimated numbers in North America (United States and Canada), reflect that there are approximately 1,412,724 members with 64,435 groups. When taking into consideration the rest of the world the numbers jump to 2,057,672 members and 107,976 groups.

Moving to the local scene, Area 29 has approximately 800+ groups registered with an estimated 200 additional groups not participating in any way. With a conservative number of only 5 home group members per group this would provide a membership number of around 5000 in 47 districts. What "is" known, are the average numbers of attendees at Area Committee and Assembly meetings. The committee meetings should have the Area Officers, Committee Chairs and DCMs giving an anticipated attendance of 100-150. This is close to the actual number, however I would suggest that this is the choir and they are the truly motivated. Moving to the Assembly meetings where, in addition to the foregoing, all of the GSRs are invited, we still only attract less than 200. The third side of our triangle "SERVICE" seems to fall short leaving us with "The Lopsided Triangle" and a tremendous shortfall in service. ▲

Write an Article for MARGENSER Today

Tradition Five—Pass it Along

The "great paradox of A.A." is that "we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away," writes Bill W in Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions ("Tradition Five," p. 151).

Passing along our legacy of suffering and recovery is "our gift from God," Bill writes. Bestowing this gift on others like us is "the one aim that today animates A.A.'s all around the globe."

By writing an article for this newsletter—your *MarGenSer*, the quarterly journal of Maryland General Service—you are helping A.A. further its "primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." Your message of hope in recovery can help other alcoholics get or stay sober. You could save a life.

You may say, "I'm not a writer. I could never pull off a writing assignment like this." Another might say, "I'm not an expert and could never be an authority on A.A."

First, you are an expert in your own legacy of recovery if you're sober in A.A. and practicing one, some or all of A.A.'s 36 principles—Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

Writing is hard work, and if you don't like to write, consider yourself normal (sorry)—while your message of hope is special. Your *MarGenSer* staff is available to help you put your ideas in writing, in your words. Let us help you write. Simply email your personal message of hope, along with a corresponding A.A. principle or reference to a passage in any of A.A.'s conference-approved literature, including pamphlets, plus *The Grapevine* (which is conference-endorsed) to margenser@marylandaa.org. A *MarGenSer* committee member will

gladly help you craft your message of hope.

A.A. newsletters such as *MarGenSer* are valuable forums of sharing, where each of us interprets and writes about A.A.'s message and the A.A. experience. One *MarGenSer* author and subscriber says, "Writing articles has helped me become engaged, connected to others in and outside A.A. who find recovery in our wonderful program."

Another *MarGenSer* author compares article-writing to journal-writing: "I feel as if I'm documenting

A.A. history when I write about my A.A. involvement, whether it's helping to relight a dark district, or simply inspiring others to enrich their own sobriety by performing new kinds of service and reporting about it," she said.

Even if you never write a *MarGenSer* article, you can use articles as discussion topics in your home group. Each personal story of recovery is written for another individual suffering and/or recovering alcoholic in or out of the program.

Yet another way to "carry the

message": help distribute this newsletter to your district and to other home groups. Ask your GSR and DCM to bring back copies for distribution at your regular district and Intergroup meetings. Copies are available free at all Area 29/Maryland General Service meetings where your DCM-District Committee Member carries the voice of your local home groups and your district to Area 29.

Meanwhile, subscribe to *MarGenSer*. It's free. Please see subscription details on the back cover. ♾

MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE, AREA 29 2012 CALENDAR

Area Assembly (Report Back)	June 2	District 11
MD State Convention	June 14 – 17	Hagerstown, MD
Area Committee	July 14	District 41
Area Assembly	August 11	District 22
Area Committee	September 22	District 9
Area Assembly (Inventory)	October 20	_____
Fall Conference	October 25 – 28	Hagerstown, MD
Area Committee	November 17	District 28/29
Area Assembly	December 15	District 32 St. Peter's Lutheran Church 10301 Coastal Highway Ocean City, MD 21842

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