

# MARGENSER

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

## Action Jackson


By Calvin J.  
Chairperson, Maryland General Service

I'll never forget the time I showed up at a meeting and told my friend Joe that I should be home watching the basketball playoffs. A dear sweet lady named Betty was knitting, and it seemed to me at the time that she was not paying much attention to this young lad. During the open discussion portion of the meeting, however, Betty had an opportunity to speak. And it appeared to me that she was looking directly at me when she said, "You can't help another drunk sitting at home looking at TV."

Sometime later, when I repeated that story in Betty's presence, she told me that she was not directing her comment at me. Well, I had perceived her words to have been just for me. Today, I'm grateful that what I heard moved from my ears to my feet, through my heart.

Now I understand what they mean when they say, "There's more to this thing than just going to meetings." To reap the benefits of Alcoholics Anonymous, I must become "part of." In other words, part of what makes Alcoholics Anonymous Alcoholics Anonymous. In most organizations I'm familiar with, others can tell you're a member by your membership card. In Alcoholics Anonymous, we show our membership by what we do. If no one made coffee or opened the meeting, took care of the chairs and tables, or carried the message to the new person, (the list goes on and on) there would be no Alcoholics Anonymous as we know it. Our co-founder, Bill W, referred to Alcoholics Anonymous as "a society of drunks in actions."

Our sponsors, at some point hopefully, suggested that we become part of Alcoholics Anonymous, that we begin to share our God-given talents with others to demonstrate our gratitude for all that we have received and to become a life preserver that would keep the new person afloat. The dividends received for this kind of life are riches "beyond our wildest dreams."

Remember that Alcoholics Anonymous is made up of servants serving one another. Your talent is needed beyond your home group if you're willing to serve. Maryland General Service can provide an opportunity to be a servant within any of our standing committees: Treatment, Corrections, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, etc. Talk with your Group Service Representative (GSR) or contact the Area 29 Chairperson at [chairperson@marylandaa.org](mailto:chairperson@marylandaa.org). 

## A Delegate's Journey at the General Service Conference

Nancy K.  
Area 29 Panel 54 Delegate

Although my journey to the General Service Conference began long before April 17, 2004, I wanted to share a little bit of my experience, emotions, and the personal side of attending the conference.

Steve and I arrived about 4:00 and got settled into our room. Then, with our daughter, Kourtney, we went to Dinner at a very cool Brazilian Restaurant. It seemed that the premise of the restaurant was to eat absolutely as much as you could in the two hours given. Although I couldn't stay the entire two hours, Steve outdid everyone and clearly could have stayed over the two-hour limit without any issues.

As I left Steve at the dinner table to attend the Delegates-only meeting, nervousness settled in and the realization that I was in New York to represent an Area that saved my life began to get caught in my throat. Once in the meeting, I realized I was not alone in these feelings. It was great to get a chance to put faces with names as we each introduced ourselves and provided our Area names and numbers. I got to meet my "Delegate buddy" for the first time in person and to meet some of the committee members I'd be working with. We also got an overview of the week ahead, reviewed some of the conference process and voting procedures, and held a brief question/answer session. Then I got what was to be my last chance to hang out with Kourtney and Steve for a while.

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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.

## Action Was the Key

By Pamm W.  
Winner's Circle

Drinking was never my problem. I thought I did it quite well. Certainly there was no lack of practice. (Non-alcoholic) observers applauded my tolerance. My keen intellectual mind rationalized away any basis for criticism or concern. I was single and lived alone. There was no one to hurt. My drinking was my business; I was entitled to drink. Didn't everybody drink more than one glass of alcohol a day if they had the opportunity? The 22-question test was obviously a very silly test. Of course I answered yes; didn't everyone, at least if they were being honest? Apparently not.

By the time I was admitted to a rehab, the glue that I thought had held me together for years was rapidly drying out. By God's grace I had reached a point of desperation at which I was willing to accept help and follow direction. The craving for alcohol was removed and I was able to admit for the first time that I was an alcoholic. I was introduced to the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and began work on the steps. Upon leaving the rehab I found a sponsor and a home group and completed my first working of the steps. After the fifth step, willpower and convenience dictated I was to sponsor myself with miserable results.

After some years of physical sobriety with 4-5 meetings a week, service work, and several hostage sponsees, I was again restless, irritable, and discontent. Unemployment, bankruptcy, and depression were my lot. Where was the "happy, joyous and free" of the promises? The program wasn't working!

I was again searching for something to fill the yawning, searing void inside me. Again I was blessed with the gifts of desperation and humility. I found folks who had what I wanted – an ease and comfort with their lives, despite pain and suffering of all kinds and all degrees. They welcomed me and emphasized that they were enjoying the results of working the steps. I could have what they had if I did what they did, and that meant doing the program of Alcoholics Anonymous by the Book. Action was the key. Their experience was that thoughts and feelings, however interesting or profound, did not generate results. However, they said, actions would have a profound impact on my thoughts and feelings. And so they have.

I did the steps again, by the book, with a sponsor. I found that when I did what the book said to do, the way it said to do it, I got what was promised. Fears have indeed fallen from me and I can look the world in the eye, usually. Daily reading and use of the 10th and 11th steps have transformed my life and my personal interactions. By the grace of a loving God and the program of AA, I have found a power by which to live and a purpose to live for. I have ceased trying to fix me or anybody else, most times. I don't understand the power, and I don't know the specifics of the purpose, but I don't need to. My job is to be willing and available to do what God wants and trust that He will show me. So far if I do, He has. You don't have to believe me. Read the book; do what it says and enjoy the results. ▲

## Fitz M. – "Our Southern Friend"

Compiled by Nancy O.

Fitz M., that southern blueblood, raised in Maryland, was probably the second after Hank P. to get sober in New York. The son of an Episcopal clergyman, he later rebelled at what he thought was an overdose of religious education. Like many others, he lost a good career during the Great Depression. A boyhood friend (believed to be Jim B.) gave him part of a farm in Cumberstone, Maryland.

Fitz tried to enlist during World War I but was turned down for being under weight. This just added to his sense of inferiority, incompetence, and unworthiness. He was eventually accepted but did not have to report until November 13, 1918 – two days after the war ended. Fitz became bitter and depressed. Finally, serious alcoholism, impending mental and physical collapse, brought him to near self-destruction.

In the fall of 1935, he heard about the work going on at Towns Hospital in New York. He there met Bill W. and the journey began. Fitz was instrumental on the pro-religion side of the battle over religion in the Big Book. After heated discussions with the pro-Agnostic faction, led by Hank P. and Jim B., the compromise "God as we understand Him" emerged. When the early AA members were at a standstill over a name for the new book, they sent Fitz to the Library of Congress in Washington. There he found 25 books called *The Way Out*, 12 titled *The Way*, but none titled *Alcoholics Anonymous*. The rest is history. When AA needed money to help get the Big Book published, his sister loaned AA \$1,000.

Fitz, along with Jim B., helped start AA in Philadelphia; Baltimore; Washington, DC; Georgetown; Chevy Chase; Silver Spring; Bethesda; Rockville; and Colmar Manor. They were also instrumental in AA's beginnings in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls Church, VA.

He developed excellent relationships with hospitals and gained AA access to the workhouses, where drunks were sent by the DC Courts. You could say he was one of the first to advocate correctional and treatment facility work. He joined the army in World War II; however, he was diagnosed with cancer and died on October 4, 1943 – eight years after he got sober. Fitz M. is buried on the grounds of Christ Episcopal Church in Owensville, MD, where his father was once a Pastor. His grave is a few short yards from that of his lifelong friend, Jim B. ▲

Sources: *Alcoholics Anonymous, Pass It On*, Bill W. by Francis Hartigan, and "Alcoholics Anonymous in Maryland" from the Website of the West Baltimore Group.

### 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. Send all correspondence to Margenser Catonsville, MD 21228 or via email to [margenser@marylandaa.org](mailto:margenser@marylandaa.org). The submission deadline for the next issue is November 26.

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Sunday morning, I was up bright and early to attend the Remote Communities meeting. The presentations were powerful and brought to reality once again how geographically blessed we are here in Maryland. I came away from the meeting more hopeful than ever that AAs around the globe are confronting and overcoming the obstacles in the path of carrying the message to the still suffering.

I thought Saturday night, heading to the Delegates meeting, was emotionally tough, but I found that picking up my badge was an experience in itself. When I looked down at my badge and saw my name, I was overwhelmed. I pulled myself together and got to the Delegate Orientation.

Roll call in the opening session was an awe-inspiring moment for me. Sitting in the conference room, hearing the names of all the Conference participants called out, each responding with Present or Here, I could feel my emotions welling up, and I wanted to run out the door and hide. I was overcome with amazement at where my journey began, finding it hard to believe that I was about to become part of the process that keeps our fellowship alive and well. I heard Nancy K., Area 29, Maryland. I stood and was barely able to choke out the word Present. Each person at my table was ready with handkerchief in hand! I got it together about 5 minutes later.

Immediately following the roll call, committee meetings, where the work of the Conference takes place, got underway. The committees meet separately then report their work to the entire Conference, where decisions are made based on the work presented. Our committee met for three four-hour sessions. The whole process was spiritual and enlightening. I was stuck by how those of us from very different backgrounds and walks of life all came together with the same goal in mind – to serve AA as a whole. I learned a long time ago through my Area service activities that its not just about me, its not just about my home group, rather it is about AA as a whole. This rang so very true for me as we considered each agenda item.

The committees met in the morning, and general sharing sessions and Staff reports were held in the afternoon. During the afternoon sharing sessions, I was once again struck by how AAs from Washington State to Antigua face the same issues and discuss the same things we do here in Maryland. How do we get more GSRs involved? What do you do to get districts active that have gone dormant? What can we do to stick to our Primary Purpose without offending or scaring away those who have problems other than alcoholism?

The Archivist, Judit, gave a presentation during one of the sharing sessions that I particularly enjoyed. She played a couple of recently digitized recordings of Bill W. One was a 1950 wire conversation Bill had with a gentleman in Texas regarding the beginning of the Conference. The second was made in 1947 of Dorothy

B., Bill, Lois, Ann, and Bob. Judit noted it is one of the few recordings with Bobs wife, Ann. You could have heard a pin drop in the room. It was pretty intense hearing our co-founders and realizing why we were there. It was as though they were there with us.

At one point, the Conference broke into 10 groups and discussed the Conference topic, Our Primary Purpose. I once again found the same concerns and issues we talk about in Maryland: Our Primary Purpose – stay sober and help others; the need to help others understand our Primary Purpose and singleness of purpose, gently and with love; working more with professionals, who can influence the people coming in, explaining what AA is and what AA isnt rather than blaming them for the and-a issue.

Friday night brought the end of all committee reports and debate on all the issues the committees brought forward. I knew that we had worked hard all week, and I had a sense that we had done AAs business and made some good decisions. I reflected on just how awesome the week had been. I also felt a sadness that it would soon be over.

On our last day, we took a trip to Stepping Stones, Bill and Lois home. Putting into words what the Stepping Stones experience was like is too great a challenge. My husband was touched to his soul as he sat at Bills kitchen table, and I knew at that moment that he knew what I felt when I picked up my name badge. I dont think I could ever be the same person. The week had been such an amazing experience for me. One of the wives of a 911 victim said it better than I ever could when she said, Life is not made up of the number of breaths we take; rather it is made up of the moments that take our breath away. This experience certainly took my breath away more than once. ▲

## Just Around The Corner: The West Baltimore Group

*Compiled by Al W.*

The West Baltimore Group was started on May 9, 1947, and was the first Baltimore Neighborhood Group in the city. It started in the home of a local man, Charles C., who lived on Mallow Hill Road in what was then postal zone 29.

One of the members approached Dr. Turek, who was in charge of the state mental institutions, and gained permission to bring alcoholic patients to the meetings in Charlie C.'s home. A few short months later, the West Baltimore Group established a meeting on the Spring Grove Hospital grounds, thereby starting institutional commitments in Maryland.

The Meeting grew and was moved to Pioneer Hall, a \$2-a-month rented room atop a bar/liquor store. To enter the meeting, you had to pass through the bar and up the steps to the second floor. These folks really wanted sobriety.

A friend of one of the members, Rev. McGowan, then offered a room at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, where we stayed until 1996. Then we moved to our present location at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 929 Ingleside Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, 21228. Meetings are on Wednesday nights at 08:00 p.m. We celebrated our 50th Anniversary on May 14, 1997. This makes the West Baltimore Group one of the first 460 groups in existence. Sonny S. from the 857 Club was the last of the original founding members. ▲

## Committee Reports (as reported May 15, 2004)

### 2004 MD STATE CONVENTION JUNE 24–27, 2003 (BRIAN D., CHAIR)

To date, we have 360 pre-registrations, 14% more than the same time last year. Committee will not meet on June 8 or June 22 as posted on Website. The last meeting will be held on June 19 at 1:00 pm at the home of Victor and Karen L. This meeting also a packing party. We have met or exceeded our room block at the Clarion Hotel. All budget info to date has been passed on the MGS officers.

### 2004 MD FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 28–31, 2004 (SKEETER H.)

Next meeting June 6, 2:00 pm at the Alano Club in Columbia. Meeting with hotel staff on June 26. Flyers will be out on June 29.

### ARCHIVES (BILL H.)

Attended Mini-Conference and had full display set up. Attended EACYPAA in Baltimore with sponsor Bill M. Received from Mike B. various items that Ed B. left to AA. Bought 3 new easels; have 2 new poster boards, 2 tape recorders, 1500 copies of Home Group history worksheet, and 1,000 copies of Don't Throw it Away. Will be at Archives Conference in Pennsylvania on June 5. Will be set up at State Convention.

### AUDIO REPORT (J.J.)

Audio Committee needs help. J.J. will be out of town and needs a volunteer.

### COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY REPORT (JOHN B.)

Request from Frederick Parole and Probation for a literature rack. Things are going well. Looking for Co-chair.

### FINANCE REPORT (DENNIS B., CO-CHAIR)

Finance Committee hasn't done much yet. Brian has agreed to act as co-chair beginning in June, when finished with State Convention. Will present a summary of the financial report from the General Service Conference and a similar one from Area 29 at next Area Committee meeting. What is our theme? What are we doing as an Area? Is our money going where we want it to go to do what we want it to do?

### GRAPEVINE

Received inventory from Debbie O. Set up a table at EACY-PAA. Looking for a co-chair.

### HOST REPORT (NANCI B.)

Thanks to Sue A. and District 35 for the wonderful lunch. When hosting a meeting, Districts need to submit expense voucher for reimbursement. Nancy will email expense voucher to contact person prior to meeting so it can be completed and reimbursement can be made on day of meeting. Need a Co-chair.

### INTERGROUP LIASON (DAN W. FOR BILL L.)

Sunday May 16, will chair workshop hosted by Annapolis Intergroup in effort to increase number of DCMs GSRs, as well as increase participation from Annapolis in Area 29. James M. and J.J. have invited me to their Intergroup meeting on June 12. Plan to attend Hagerstown business meeting last Sunday of May.

### LITERATURE REPORT (TOM H.)

Look forward to selling literature at the Convention.

### MARGENSER REPORT (EARL H., CHAIR)

Updated Area 29 Handbooks available. 2nd quarter Margensers available today. Next issue available on August 21. Deadline for submission for 3rd quarter is August 6. Added pages to most recent two issues to help cover amount of content submitted. As long as the Area feels we are helping carry the message and keeping the group conscience of the home group informed, we see additional space as a good thing. Because this drives up printing costs and because we also recently reprinted Handbooks, the Committee will review budget at next meeting. Please report any glaring errors in the updated Handbook to us. It has come a long way in the past two years and we would like to see its usefulness continue to improve.

### PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT (JERRY F.)

Literature rack will be placed in Howard County Court House. District 7 will maintain the rack. Thanks to Steve K. for establishing communication with District 7. The May 12 PI meeting cancelled; will attempt to reschedule in June. My telephone number is 301-261-5265.

### REGISTRAR REPORT (BARBARA B. FOR NANCY B.)

5 of 5 Officers, 3 past Delegates, 13 Committee chairs, 2 Co-chairs representing 22 committees, 14 DCMs and Alt. DCMs representing 47 Districts, 43 GSRs and Alt GSRs representing 1643 groups, and 3 visitors.

## District Reports

### DISTRICT 1 (BOB M.)

The District will welcome the Area Delegate for report on the GSO Conference.

### DISTRICT 6 (GARY P.)

The last District meeting held April 18 with 4 in attendance. Primary topic of discussion involved inviting participation to form Ad-Hoc committee. Next District meeting scheduled for May 16 at 3:30 pm at Davidsonville U.M.C.

### DISTRICT 7 (MARSHALL)

Last meeting was May 13 at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church from 7-8:00pm in Columbia, MD. Approximately 10 people attended and discussed: Lack of Treasurer's attendance at District, proposed topics for Workshops, Regional Panel meetings and ways of making them less stressful and more enjoyable for participants and presenters. Next meeting June 10 at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**DISTRICT 9 (DAN W.)**

3rd Annual Service Breakfast was a wonderful event with 75 tickets sold, serving 65 to 70 breakfasts. At last meeting, discussed forming CPC and Treatment committees. Dinner is being planned to get to know Professional Community within District better. Cost approximately \$7. Next meeting will be May 18 at 7:30 pm at Senior Center in Westminster, MD.

**DISTRICT 10 (DAVID R.)**

Last meeting held May 1 with 10 attending, representing 6 groups. Discussed participating in MGS, reaching out to groups without active GSRs, Singleness of Purpose, and the Follow Your Dollar Workshop. We eagerly anticipate Finance Report from GSO Conference for inclusion in our workshop. Anyone who can provide contact information for various Intergroup Treasurers within Area 29 will be appreciated. Intend to coordinate efforts with the Area Finance Committee and invite constructive input from anyone who can balance a checkbook.

**DISTRICT 11 (VERONICA M.)**

Last meeting held May 3 with 10 in attendance. Discussed putting on a play titled "Snow White and the Seven Character Defects" in the fall. Will host Area 29 Committee meeting on June 12h at United Methodist Church in Northeast. Next meeting will be June 7 at United Methodist Church in Northeast.

**DISTRICT 20 (NANCE B.)**

Last meeting held May 2 with 5 people representing 2 groups out of 15. Lively discussion of Concepts IV and V regarding "Right of Participation" and minority opinion. Decided to hold District meetings every other month. Created calendar and sent to all GSRs. Letter to all inactive groups discussed. Letter will be fine-tuned and presented to each group to encourage them to elect a GSR and make sure the group's voice is heard. Next District meeting is scheduled for July 11 at the Serenity Group.

**DISTRICT 21 (TAMMIE F.)**

At last meeting, discussed anonymity breaks in our District and asked GSRs to discuss this in their groups. Asked that when assisting family of deceased AA member, request they do not list AA in the obituary in the newspaper. We are working on improving Grapevine awareness and will have a Grapevine display at next workshop to be held June 6 on Sponsorship. Will be performing a play "Will You be My Sponsor?" Cookout at 2:00, play at 2:45 at Asbury Church in Salisbury. Tickets \$1 and will enter you in drawing for door prize for a Grapevine or La Vina subscription. Intergroup is holding spaghetti dinner May 22 at 5:00 in Parsonsburg, MD for \$3. Bring pot of sauce or desert. Will be AA and Alanon speaker.

**DISTRICT 35 (SUE A.)**

Last met May 6 with 11 GSRs and 3 visitors from SMIA (Southern Maryland Intergroup Association). Finalized plans for setting up, food and clean up for hosting May 15 Area Assembly. Also discussed date for AA History Night. Tentative date will be July 10. Will look into reserving church for 6 - 8 pm on that date. Southern Maryland Intergroup Association asked that each GSR go back to their home groups and make sure that their groups are following the guidelines for group contributions.

**DISTRICT 36 (DEBBIE S.)**

Has met 3 times since March 6. Preparing to host August 21 Area Assembly to be held at Lexington Park United Methodist Church in Lexington Park, MD. Susan H. volunteered to head committee to make preparations. Debbie reported 2 new groups: Aurora's Children, M-F at 7:00 am at LPUMC, and Pink Cloud 11th Step meeting on Saturdays at 10:00 pm at the Church of the Nazarene in Leonardtown. At last meeting, 21 people present, representing 15 of 31 groups. Discussed: GSRs who attend District meetings would carry the message of the importance of service work to the groups with little to no attendance at District. Report back from the GSRs not encouraging. Some groups feel this is all "political;" others don't really care one way or the other. - Apathy. Conclusion: All we can do is give information, what groups choose to do with it is up to them. The District welcomed 2 new GSRs, Bill J. of Poplar Hill and Bill B. of Tuesday Night Big Book. Gloria D. is new PI/CPC chair, and Elisa S. is new Grapevine chair. District 36 thanked Area 29 for the privilege to serve as host for Regional Panel 2, a very rewarding and educational experience. Next District meeting will be June 8 at 6:30 pm at Placid Harbor, California, MD.

**DISTRICT 42 (FRANK Z.)**

14 of 25 groups registered with GSO. Held first District meeting in several years with 3 of 9 GSRs present. Discussed responsibilities of GSRs and DCMs at the group and Area levels and the importance of attending MGS Assemblies. In the process of planning workshop to be held this summer. Asked GSRs to meet with their groups to suggest topics related to Service. Will ask groups to help cover expenses since we have no budget. Next meeting scheduled for June 8h at 7:00 pm. 3 GSRs from our District at today's meeting.

**2004 MARYLAND GENERAL SERVICE CALENDAR**

AUGUST 21	Area 29 Assembly	District 36, Lexington Park, MD
SEPTEMBER 18	Area 29 Committee	District 20
OCTOBER 1 - 3	NERC	Pittsburgh, PA
OCTOBER 9	Area 29 Assembly	District 21
OCTOBER 28 - 31	Area 29 Fall Conference	Hagerstown, MD
NOVEMBER 20	Area 29 Committee	District 32
DECEMBER 11	Area 29 Assembly	District 9

**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.  
P.O. Box 832  
Arnold, MD 21012

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

PLEASE PRINT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Attending:  A.A.  Al-Anon  Alateen  Other

(1) **REGISTRATION** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(2) **GOLF TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION**  
\_\_\_\_\_ x \$68.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### (3) MEAL

Saturday Banquet Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet choices must be made with the reservation. Please purchase banquet tickets in advance. Limited number of tickets available at the conference.**

(Please choose one entree)  Prime Rib  Crab Cakes  Pasta Primavera

**\*\* TOTAL ENCLOSED (1, 2, & 3)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Please make checks payable to:**

MGS Fall Conference

**Mail to:** P.O. Box 1484

Ellicott City, MD 21041-1484

Please contact Skeeter with any questions or concerns:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### LODGING INFORMATION

Contact the *Clarion Hotel* directly to reserve your room (301/733-5100). All rooms reserved on a first-come, first-served basis at \$72.00 flat rate per night, per room.

*Other Hotels in the Area:*

*Comfort Suites* (301) 791-8100 *Quality Inn* (301) 733-2700

*Days Inn* (800) 422-2754 *Venice Inn* (800) 283-6423 (Pet Friendly)



Saturday, October 30, 2004 • 9:00 am

**Location:** Black Rock Golf Course  
20025 Mt. Aetna Road  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
240-313-2816

**First Tee Time:** 9:48 am

**Price:** \$68.00 per Golfer  
(Price includes Greens Fees, Cart, Awards, & Box Lunch)

**Format:** Best Ball, Captain's Choice  
Sign up as a team or join with other golfers at the course

**Awards:** Closest to the Pin (4); Longest Drive(4) 2 men/2 women; 1st Place Team; Last Place Team; Lottery Drawing  
Awards Presented at Saturday Night Banquet

**Golf Contact Info:** Ron F.

### Conference Registration Confirmation

Will Be Mailed Upon Receipt of the Above Form and Payment

**Saturday - Banquet Dinner \$30.00**

Prime Rib **or** Crab Cakes **or** Pasta Primavera

Red Roasted Potatoes

Vegetable Medley

Rolls

Chocolate Chip Cannoli **or** Hot Apple Dumpling

### Other Available Activities

Swimming

Pool

Health Spa

Putting Green

Shuffle Board

Hagerstown Area Points of Interest

Please see the Hospitality table for local restaurants and area activities

### AREA 29 COMMITTEES NEED PEOPLE

Have an interest in a new service direction? Join us. Area 29 Maryland General Service has service positions to meet you at the level of your needs. No prior experience necessary. No resume needed. Just a willingness to offer Love and Service. Contact the Area Chairperson at chairperson@marylandaa.org.

LOVE



SERVICE

# The 20th Annual Area 29 Fall Conference

Hosted by Maryland General Service

October 28 - 31, 2004 • Hagerstown, Maryland

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center (Formerly Ramada Inn)

## A.A. with Al-Anon and Alateen Participation

### A.A. Speakers

Thursday	4:00 PM	Pat P.	Three Rivers, MA
Thursday	8:00 PM	Jim B.	Laurel, DE
Friday	9:30 AM	Ray J.	Salisbury, MD
Friday	8:00 PM	Stash P.	Three Rivers, MA
Saturday	9:30 AM	April D.	Millersville, MD
Saturday	8:00 PM	Tom K.	Nashua, NH
Sunday	10:00 AM	Joanie M.	Houston, TX

### Al-Anon Speakers

Friday	11:00 AM	Diane H.	Pinetop, NC
Saturday	11:00 AM	Don C.	Port St. Lucie, FL

## Conference Activities

- Thursday Night at the Movies
- Friday Afternoon Kids Movies plus Arts & Crafts
- Friday Night at the Movies
- Friday Night Children's Costume Party
- Friday Night Costume Party with Contest Awards
- Saturday Afternoon Kids Movies plus Arts & Crafts
- Saturday Night at the Movies
- Saturday Night Theme Party (Love & Service)

## Second Annual Fall Conference Golf Tournament

(Reverse for Details)

### Thursday, October 28

- 12:00 pm Registration Opens  
Hospitality Room Opens  
MGS Room Opens
- 4:00 pm A.A. Early Bird Meeting
- 5:00 pm A.A. Alcathon Begins
- 8:00 pm A.A. Speaker Meeting
- 9:30 pm Thursday Night at the Movies  
Ice Cream Station  
(Cash Sales)

[Note: A.A. Alcathons are open discussion meetings which run continuously throughout the Conference (with 2-hour breaks for the A.A. Speaker Meetings). Meetings are 50 minutes in length, and begin on the hour.]

### Friday, October 29

- 8:00 am Registration
- 9:30 am A.A. Speaker Meeting
- 11:00 am Al-Anon Speaker Meeting
- 1:30 pm Al-Anon Workshop
- 1:30 pm Friday Afternoon Kids Movies plus Arts & Crafts \*
- 1:30 pm A.A. Workshop
- 2:45 pm A.A. Workshop
- 2:45 pm Al-Anon Workshop
- 4:00 pm A.A. Workshop
- 8:00 pm A.A. Speaker Meeting
- 8:00 pm Friday Night Children's Costume Party \*
- 9:30 pm Ice Cream Station  
(Cash Sales)
- 9:30 pm Friday Night at the Movies
- 10:00 pm Friday Night Costume Party with Contest Awards

### Saturday, October 30

- 8:00 am Registration
- 9:00 am **Second Annual Fall Conference Golf Tournament**
- 9:30 am A.A. Speaker Meeting
- 11:00 am Al-Anon Speaker Meeting
- 1:30 pm A.A. Workshop
- 1:30 pm Al-Anon Workshop
- 1:30 pm Saturday Afternoon Kids Movies plus Arts & Crafts \*
- 2:45 pm Al-Anon Workshop
- 4:00 pm A.A. Workshop
- 6:00 pm Conference Banquet Dinner
- 7:00 pm MGS Presentation
- 8:00 pm A.A. Speaker Meeting
- 9:30 pm Ice Cream Station  
(Cash Sales)
- 9:30 pm Saturday Night at the Movies
- 10:00 pm Saturday Night Theme Party (Love & Service)

### Sunday, October 31

- 9:00 am Last Alcathon
  - 10:00 am A.A. Speaker Meeting
  - 11:00 am Conference
- Meeting  
Closing



\* All children's activities require

parental/guardian supervision

**Conference Attendees Are To Register In The Convention Center Lobby Upon Arrival.**

**Admittance To All Conference Functions Requires A Conference Name Badge.**

*Disabled and Wheelchair Accessible*

*Interpretation for the Hearing Impaired*

## 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.

STANDARD RATE  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CLINTON, MD 20735  
Permit No. 4543

Catonsville, MD 21228



## Mailing List Update Form

Send to \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

- |                                |                                     |                                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New   | <input type="checkbox"/> Correction | <input type="checkbox"/> Change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual |                                 |

Mail form to: Margenser  
Catonsville, MD 21228

Or E-Mail to: [margenser@maryland.org](mailto:margenser@maryland.org)