

Serving AA in Western North Carolina's Districts 70, 71, and 80 since 1974

The Best I Can Do

A member stays sober through incredible sadness and finds a way to be useful in her grief.

The last time I drank was in April of 1985. I didn't really want to quit drinking, but my desire to die was gone and it seemed the only way I could avoid that was to stop drinking.

At that time, I had no hope for my life to improve. I didn't know how to act; I didn't know who I was. The people in the rooms of AA did their best to support me. They did this despite the fact that I was angry, hurting and reacting negatively to everything anyone said. I felt worthless for not being able to stop drinking by myself. I felt like my life was over.

Quitting drinking was the hardest thing I'd ever done. I struggled to try working the Steps as was suggested. During the process, I discovered I had no power over anything in my life. But I also learned that I could pray to a Higher Power that was not Christian.

I attended meetings every day for two years, put one foot in front of the other, got a sponsor, called people, gradually developed some hope that my life could be different and didn't pick up a drink. I allowed my Higher Power through my defensive walls and discovered that I did not have to be alone unless I chose to be. I became connected to the universe and felt the power running through me when we held hands and you prayed the Lord's Prayer and I didn't. But I knew the power was there because I could literally feel it, like a touch or a tingle. It reassured me that I probably was on the right path. I also felt that power when I climbed a tree.

In 1986, I met a guy named Eddie who came into AA struggling with issues different from mine, but with a similar commitment to get sober. We became good friends. We fell in like, then fell in lust, then fell in love and moved in together for about seven years. We got married in 1994. He taught me that I was worthy of love, that I had more to offer than just sex

Inside:

Page 2	•	NCMCO Profit and Loss NCMCO Operating Accounts
	•	Call and Visitor Log
Page 3	•	Contributions / Special Meetings and
		Events
Dama 4		
Page 4	•	Meeting Updates
	•	The Service Express
Page 5	•	Special Meetings and Events continued
Page 6	•	"The Best I Can Do" continued
Page 7	•	Anniversaries

and that I could love and be loved without someone expecting anything in return. I taught him how to laugh, to be OK with being angry and to express it without fear, to have fun and to quit whining! We both had to learn how to accept love, since we thought it always came with a catch.

We carried the AA message to others by supporting our home group, taking meetings into institutions, doing Twelfth Step calls, sponsoring newcomers and anything else that was asked of us. Our service to the program taught us more about our own love and gave us a foundation to stand on when life became difficult, as it always does.

In August of 2011, after several years of back pain that increased to the point that he could barely walk, Eddie was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. We were devastated. He was afraid that I wouldn't make it without him, knowing how much I loved him and my attitude about suicide. He asked me to promise not to do anything "stupid." I kept trying to build up hope for both of us, but Eddie was ready to die so he could quit hurting.

It was a long goodbye, but we both continued to go to meetings. They were our support and comfort. I didn't know what to pray for. If I prayed he wouldn't die, he would continue to hurt more and more. When I told this to my counselor, she suggested that I pray for the best possible outcomes for Eddie and for myself, whatever those might be. It was so hard, but I prayed (*Continued on page 6*)

New NC Mountain Central Office, Inc. Profit & Loss YTD Comparison

January 2019

	Jan 19
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income Contributions	
Birthday Contributions	66.11
Group Contributions	4,414.19
Individual Contributions	10.00
Subscriptions	12.00
Total Contributions	4,502.30
Interest on Money Market Sales Income	0.94
Literature & merchandise	4,336.15
Shipping charged to groups	30.99
Total Sales Income	4,367.14
Total Income	8,870.38
Cost of Goods Sold	04.00
Freight - vendor shipping	64.09 3 766 16
Literature & merchandise Shipping to groups	3,766.16 31.41
Total COGS	3,861.66
Gross Profit	5,008.72
Expense	
Accountant fees	105.00
Accountant Filing fees for 501c3	405.00 850.00
Total Accountant fees	1,255.00
Copier Rental	157.96
Credit Card Processing	25.90
Editor	135.00
Office Expenses	30.00
Office Supplies	94.96
Payroll Expenses	
Gross Salary (Including Taxes)	1,537.50
Payroll Taxes (Company) Processing (for Direct Deposit)	126.85 5.25
	1,669.60
Total Payroll Expenses	
Rent Stamps/Postage	550.00 146.23
Telephone & Internet	140.20
Answering Service	88.00
Office Telephone/Internet	148.79
Total Telephone & Internet	236.79
Total Expense	4,301.44
Net Ordinary Income	707.28
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense Inventory Adjustment	-0.97
Total Other Expense	-0.97
Net Other Income	0.97
et Income	708.25



March Grapevine is now available!

This month's special section is "What's on Your Mind?" featuring member's thoughts and opinions about everything AA.



www.aagrapevine.org

Cash on Hand as of 1/31/2019 Prudent Reserve (Money Market) \$11,065.13 Operating Account (Checking) \$11,489.03 Rent Deposit \$400.00 Petty Cash \$50.00

Call & Visitor Log

January 2019

12 Step Calls – 6 General Info – 6 Family Help – 1 Meeting Info – 17 Central Office Business – 57 Medical/Detox – 0 Visitors – 104 Answering Service (C fewer than 65 minute



Visitors – 104 Answering Service (Operator-Asst) – fewer than 65 minutes After-hours Hotline Volunteers - 29 calls

Visits to aaNCMCO.org website: Unique Visitors: 697 Unique Visits: 1,313 (1.88 per visitor) Pages: 4,608 (3.5 per visit)

Contributions

J	JAN 20
At Wit's End Group	\$31
Big Town Group 671-200	\$164
Black Mountain Group 117-117	\$40
Cashiers Valley Grp 122-589	\$257
Conscious Contact Group - Asheville	\$450
Cullowhee Valley Group 118-129	\$75
Daily Decisions 643-869	\$415
Day by Day Group 159-058	\$404
Downtown Serenity Group 702-463	\$42
Early Bird Group 612-780	\$80
Good Livers 666-360	\$50
Joy of Living - Brevard 669-820	\$75
Last Chance Group - Men's First Step Farm	\$14
Maggie Valley Group 158-950	\$66
Midday Grp (Hendersonville) 143-420	\$112
Monday 6:00 Open Meeting	\$81
Mountain View Grp (Highlands) 110-598	\$209
Musicians' Meeting	\$50
New Freedom Group 700-124	\$80
Newland Serenity (Linville Mtg.)	\$75
Recovery at 6	\$135
Saturday Morning Men's Meeting	\$75
Serenity Now 670-803	\$75
Serenity Service Group 110-498	\$25
Speed Bump Group 512-851	\$75
The Meeting	\$50
Waynesville Grace Group 110-692	\$700
Total Crown Contributional	
Total Group Contributions:	\$4,414
Individual Contributions:	
In Memory of B.G.	\$10
Total Individual Contributions:	\$10
Birthday Contributions:	
Anonymous	34
Eva T.	\$32
Total Birthday Contributions:	\$66
	ΨΟ
Mountain Doin's Subscriptions:	\$12

Grand Total:

Note: If you think there is a contribution missing from your group total, please let us know. Though we try our best to get donations listed correctly, we do make mistakes sometimes and list a donation under the wrong group. As always, we thank you for your generous support!



Special Meetings and Events

JAN 2019 \$31.00	<i>Library Group – Tradition Study.</i> Sunday at 7:00pm. Starting March 3, they will be having a Tradition Study, reading and discussing one tradition a week for 12 weeks. All interested AA members
\$164.84 \$40.00 \$257.35	are invited to participate. Swannanoa Library, 101 W. Charleston Ave, Swannanoa 28778
\$450.00 \$75.00 \$415.01 \$404.72	EACYPAA XVII – Recovery. Service. Unity. March 7-10. Bally's Atlantic City Hotel, 1900 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ. For more information, visit website: <u>www.NJYPAA.org</u>
\$42.25 \$80.00 \$50.00 \$75.00 \$14.00 \$66.80 \$112.00	United with Hope Group's 3rd Anniversary Celebration. Friday, March 8. Complimentary Breakfast at 9:00am (feel free to bring something to share); Speaker Meeting at 10:00am (speaker will be Mary M from Brevard Serenity Group). Hope United Method- ist Church (Fellowship Hall) 2443 Spartanburg Hwy, E. Flat Rock, 28726
\$81.00 \$209.81 \$50.00	31st Annual "Freedom from Bondage" – Area 51 AA Cor- rections Conference. March 8-10. Hampton Inn & Suites, 200
\$80.00 \$75.00 \$135.41 \$75.00 \$75.00	Columbus Dr, Aberdeen, NC 28315 (Just off US 15-501 Hwy) Room reservations: 910-693-4330 or online: <u>https://hamptoninn.hilton.</u> <u>com/en/hp/groups/personalized/S/SNPNCHX-FFB-20190308/index.</u> <u>jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG</u> (Room Code: "FFB") For more information, email: corrections@aanorthcarolina.org or call 305-972-7979
\$25.00 \$75.00 \$50.00	NCCYPAA Host Committee St. Patrick's Day Potluck. Saturday, March 16. Potluck dinner at 5:30pm (Please bring a dish to share!);
\$700.00 \$4,414.19	Speaker Meeting at 6:30pm; Pie-In-The-Face Auction at 7:30pm. Acton United Methodist Church, 171 Sandhill School Rd, Asheville 28806. For more information, visit website: <u>www.NCCYPAA2019.org</u>
\$10.00 \$10.00	Pot o' Gold St Patrick's Day Potluck - hosted by Asheville 12 Step Club. Sunday, March 17. Potluck meal 3:00 to 5:00pm (Please bring a dish to share.); Speakers and "Pot o' Gold" countdown 5:00 to 7:00pm. Asheville 12 Step Club, 22B New Leicester Hwy, Ashe- ville 28806
34.11 \$32.00 \$66.11	Appalachian Regional Roundup. "Rocketed into a Fourth Di- mension" March 22-24. Meadowview Conference Resort & Con-
\$12.00 \$4,502.30	vention Center, 1901 Meadowview Parkway, Kingsport TN 37660. For more information, visit website: <u>www.appalachianregionalround-up.com</u>
ψ 4 ,302.30	Roundtable Group - Old-Timers Panel, Sunday March 31

Roundtable Group - Old-Timers Panel. Sunday March 31. 8:00pm. At least 60 years of collective sobriety on every Panel. A great meeting for everybody, especially family and new friends of Bill W. They will see how the A.A. program works! Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church, 2606 Chimney Rock Road (Hwy 64E - just past the Ingles at Howard Gap Road) Hendersonville, NC 28792. Church is on the right.

Wet Hot American YPAA. Hosted by Piedmont-Triad Young People of AA. April 25-28. Laurel Ridge Camp. For more information, visit website: www.ptypaa.com or email: events@ptypaa.com

Area 51 Western Pre-Conference. Saturday, April 27, 12:30-4:30pm. First United Methodist Church, 311 3rd Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28601. Meet the Area 51 Panel 69 Delegate and learn about issues to be discussed at the upcoming 69th General Service Conference. For more information, contact: Debbie G. at <u>dcm@ncd12aa</u>. org or Marty M. at <u>webmaster@ncd12aa.org</u>

West Asheville Eatin' Meetin'. Saturday, April 27. Doors open at 6:30pm; Potluck Dinner at 7:00pm (Please bring a dish to share.); Speaker Meeting at 8:00pm. Celebrate recovery and enjoy food and fellowship together! Abernethy United Methodist Church, 1418 Patton Ave, Asheville 28806

(continued on page 5)

MEETING UPDATES: Districts 70 • 71 • 80

New Meetings:

Asheville: There Is A Solution Group: Monday 7:00pm (C,SS/BB) Morningside Baptist Church, 14 Mineral Springs Rd, Asheville 28805

Sylva: Practicing Principles Group – Sylva Ladies: Monday 6:00pm (W,O,D) Beginning March 4. St John's Episcopal Church, 18 Jackson St, Sylva 28779

Meeting Changes:

Asheville: Day by Day Group: Tuesday 5:30pm. First Baptist Church, 5 Oak Street, Asheville 28801. Meeting format has been changed from "Closed, Beginners" to "Open, Discussion".

Candler: Sojourners' Home Group: Wednesday 7:00pm (formerly listed at 7:15pm by mistake) (O,D) First Christian Church, 470 Enka Lake Rd, Candler 28715

Hendersonville: Orchard Group: Saturday 2:00pm (O,D) St Paul's Episcopal Church, 1659 St Paul's Rd, Hendersonville 28792 (Edneyville 28727) The group will NOT be meeting on Saturday March 16.

Penland: Penland School of Crafts Meeting: Tuesday (O,D) Was meeting at 5:30pm during winter; time will change to 7:00pm as of March 12. Penland School of Crafts, Conley Ridge Rd, Building 38, Bakersville 28705

Swannanoa: Library Group: Sunday 7:00pm (O,LS,D) Swannanoa Library, 101 W. Charleston Ave, Swannanoa 28778. Starting March 3, they will be having a Tradition Study, reading and discussing one tradition a week for 12 weeks. All interested AA members are invited to participate.

Discontinued Meeting:

Black Mountain: 11-11-11 Meeting: Sunday 11:00am (O,MT,D) Carver Community Center, 101 Carver Ave, Black Mountain. Meeting will be discontinued in March. Last meeting will be Sunday February 24.

Hendersonville: Plan B Group: Balfour United Methodist Church, 2567 Asheville Hwy, Hendersonville 28791. The group is discontinuing the Tuesday 5:30pm meeting, however the Friday 5:30pm (O,SS,BB) and Saturday 5:30pm (O,D) meetings are ongoing.

The SERVICE EXPRESS

April newsletter deadline for sending in announcements is March 15th.

District 70:

GSR Business Meeting – normally held the 2nd Sunday of the month. The next meeting will be Sunday, March 10, 2:30pm, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 219 Chunns Cove Rd, Asheville 28805.

The final version of the new District 70 By-laws has been sent out to all GSRs and will be posted soon on the District 70 website: <u>www.ashevilleaa.org</u>

District Service Committees – If you are interested in volunteering for a committee or have questions, please attend the next GSR Business Meeting (see above). You can also reach out to District Service Committee Chairs (listed under each committee) to find out how you can be of service.

Treatment Facilities Committee – Ian O. and Zack are Committee Chairs. Contact them at <u>treatment@</u> <u>ashevilleaa.org</u> to volunteer for service at ADATC, Neil Dobbins, Montford Hall, Copestone, Pavillon Treatment Center and the Veteran's Administration. It's all about bringing the message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment facilities and to set up means of "bridging the gap" from the facility to an A.A. group. Here is a link for the Treatment Committee flyer: <u>http://ashevilleaa.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/09/Treatment-Flyer.pdf</u>

"**Bridging the Gap**" (with treatment facilities) – If you are interested in this service, please contact the BTG Chair, Kathleen, at <u>bridgingthegap@ashevilleaa.org</u>.

A new "Treatment Facilities Service Display" is in the works. For information on Bridging the Gap, visit the website: <u>www.btgww.org</u>

Corrections Committee – Women's Chairs are Denise J. and Casey - contact at <u>women_corrections@</u> <u>ashevilleaa.org</u>. Men's Chair is David J. – contact at <u>mens_corrections@ashevilleaa.org</u>. Volunteers are needed for carrying the message of recovery to alcoholics behind the walls. Here is a link for the Corrections Committee flyer: <u>http://ashevilleaa.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/09/Corrections-Flyer.pdf</u>

The Buncombe County Detention Facility has varying needs of support for meetings inside the jail. Here is a new application for volunteering at BCDF: <u>http://aancmco.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Volunteer-App-12-18-17.pdf</u> Any AA member wanting to volunteer at BCDF needs to be referred or recommended to service by a local Corrections Chairperson or current jail volunteer. This will provide an umbrella of order and accountability with whomever enters the building with the organization. Applications, with the above identified references/recommendations named on the application, can be sent directly to Sarah Regala, Program Director at BCDF: <u>Sarah.Regala@buncombecounty.org</u>. AA members new to town need to connect with District Corrections Chairpersons/meetings/volunteers for referrals.

Volunteers are needed for daytime A.A. meetings at Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women (SCCW). The meetings are Fridays from 12:15-1:30pm; males may attend but must be accompanied by females. Text Denise for more details: 401-450-6487.

CPC/PI Committee – Joe T. is the Chairperson. Contact him at <u>cpc_pi@ashevilleaa.org</u>. These are two separate service committees – "Cooperation with the Professional Community" and "Public Information". The CPC committee visits schools, businesses and community meetings to speak about AA. Volunteers for area events are needed for health clinics and DUI classes to name a few. The PI committee provides accurate A.A. information to the public and media when requested. Here is a link for the CPC/PI Committee flyer: <u>http://ashevilleaa.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/09/CPC-PI-Flyer.pdf</u> Volunteers are needed for upcoming area events; please contact Joe.

Literature and Grapevine Committee – Debra J. is the chairperson. Contact her at <u>literature@ashevilleaa.org</u> to volunteer. The focus is to assure that A.A. literature and Grapevines are available to all groups, service meetings, and other A.A. events. Through displays, supplies of A.A. catalogs and order forms, and A.A. workshops, these volunteers help A.A. members and other committees to carry the A.A. message through our literature.

District 71:

GSR Meeting – held the 2nd Saturday of the month. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 9, 9:30am. 1624 Willow Rd, Hendersonville, 28739. The Corrections Committee now meets in conjunction with the GSR meeting.

Submitted by Terry G., DCM:

"By the Grace of God, with the increase in AA members who are willing to serve, we have filled the positions of CPC/PI, Corrections, Grapevine and Events Chairpersons. We still need Chairperson for Treatment Committee. Anyone who is interested in this service position please come to the GSR Meeting on March 9 or contact Terry through Central Office – 828-254-8539.

"The Corrections Committee is in need of men and women volunteers to take A.A. meetings into the Transylvania County Jail and the Henderson County Detention Center. All who are interested in participating in this vital service please call/email Central Office – 828-254-8539; info@ncmco.net – for contact information."

District 80:

GSR District Meeting will be <u>Sunday</u>, <u>April 21</u>, 1:30pm, at Jackson County Family Resource Center, 1528 Webster Rd., Webster 28788. They will be looking for a new Corrections Chairperson. All interested A.A. members are welcome to attend.

There is a concern about the lack of 12-Step Call Volunteers, especially in some of the more remote parts of Western NC. The Murphy Central Office only covers a small area. And while the NC Mountain Central Office covers all of Districts 70, 71 and 80 there is a shortage of volunteers on the 12-Step Call list in the counties within District 80. All who are interested in this service are encouraged to call Central Office – 828-254-8539 – or check the website: www.aaNCMCO.org

Matt C., the coordinator for meetings taken into the Appalachian Community Services Center located at 91 Timberlane Rd in Balsam, said they need volunteers to take AA meetings into the facility. The meetings are every Monday and Wednesday at 6 pm and every other Saturday at 5:30. If you are interested in participating in this service please contact Matt by calling or emailing Central Office.

The next quarterly combined COR/NCMCO Board meeting will be Thursday, March 14, 6:00pm, 70 Woodfin Place, Suite 212 (just down the hall from Central Office), Asheville 28801.

Our wonderful 12-Step Call Volunteer Coordinator, Hope, has moved to Florida. So, we are in need of a new person to fill the position. If you are interested it being of service, please attend the next COR/Board meeting in March and/ or contact Pam at Central Office: 828-254-8539; info@ ncmco.net

Here are the responsibilities:

12-Step Call Coordinator

- 1. Has responsibility for maintaining the 12-Step phone call volunteer list, with help from the Office Manager.
- 2. Recruits new volunteers.
- Interacts with the Answering Service to update its volunteer list with Central Office's 12-Step call list. Shares responsibility with NCMCO to ensure appropriate rotation of calls to 12-Step volunteers.
- 4. Attends Board meetings as a voting member.

Special Meetings and Events

(Continued from page 3)

Oak Island Lighthouse Retreat – Fellowship and Serenity by the Sea. May 10-12. Fort Caswell, 100 Caswell Beach Rd, Oak Island, NC 28465. For more information, visit website: <u>www.lighthouse-retreat.com</u>

Girlstock International – A journey Through the Steps. May 31-June 2. Hilton Atlanta Airport, 1031 Virginia Ave, Atlanta, GA 30354. For room reservations, call: 404-767-9000 (Room block is under "Girlstock International") For more information, visit website: <u>www.girlstockinternational.</u> <u>com</u>

Area 51 Spring Committee and Assembly Meeting.

June 21-23. Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh 27609. For room reservation call: 919-872-2323 or 800-445-8667 (Group Code: "A51") For more information, visit website: <u>www.aanorthcarolina.org</u> or email Area Chair: chair@aanorthcarolina.org

72nd North Carolina State Convention. July 11-14. Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh 27609. For room reservation call: 919-872-2323 or 800-445-8667 (Group Code: "NCST") For more information, visit website: www.aancconvention.com or email: aancconvention@gmail.com

NCCYPAA Host Committee Summer Campout. July 19-21. Briar Bottom Group Campground, Asheville (Burnsville) NC. For more information, visit website: <u>www.NCCY-</u> <u>PAA2019.org</u>

44th Atlanta Roundup. August 1-4. The Westin Perimeter North, 7 Concourse Pkwy, Atlanta, GA 30328. For room reservation call: 770-395-3900. For more information, visit website: <u>www.atlantaroundup.com</u>

NCCYPAA XXIII – The Road to Happy Destiny. September 19-22. DoubleTree by Hilton, 115 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville 28803. For room reservation call hotel: 828-274-1800 (mention NCCYPAA – Group Code: "YPA") For questions, email: <u>chair@NCCYPAA2019.org</u> or visit website: <u>www.NCCYPAA2019.org</u>

NC Area 51 Conferences and Events: <u>www.aanorthcaro-lina.org</u>

GSO in New York: www.aa.org

For events around the country and the world, as well as great articles and information, go to: <u>www.aa.org</u> and Box 4-5-9 Bulletin Board: <u>www.aa.org/newsletters/en_US/</u> en box459 holiday18.pdf

(continued from page 1)

every morning and every night and thanked my Higher Power each night for helping me stay sober, just as I had been doing for over 26 years.

In January of 2012, Eddie died at home, with his little sister, our best friend Michael, the dog and me sitting with him. I'm so grateful that I could be there, showing my love to the last, something I could never have done while drinking. AA gave us that.

His death was terrible, but the aftermath was truly shattering. I wanted to die and planned to. I cried most of the time, but I went to my home group. Those people and AA supported me no matter how much I expressed my anger in meetings. I talked about how similar getting through this was to getting sober, that the things I was told in the beginning were the things I had to follow to survive the pain: put one foot in front of the other, talk to people and ask for help. Most of the time my prayers were simple: Help me!

One of the worst things was that, in my grief, I had lost that feeling that my Higher Power was with me, despite knowing she was. That scared me, but I saw evidence of her presence in my life and I know she was there. In fact, one of the only things that kept me going was the knowledge of many years of her presence and help whether I could feel the power or not.

I felt like I should have done more, I felt like a failure because I could not keep Eddie alive and make him not hurt. Eventually I realized the arrogance in that. Who was I to think I could stop death?

For years I had gone to meetings and sponsored people, taking them through the Steps. As Eddie got sicker, I was not asked to sponsor people. But three months after his death, I got a call from a treatment center saying that they had a woman who was being discharged who did not have a driver's license and who lived in Swannanoa. Since I was the only AA person listed in the area, they called me to ask if I could help her get to meetings, I wanted to say, "Hell no, my husband just died." But I said yes, believing there was a reason for the call.

And there was. I went to more meetings. I focused on her and I inadvertently showed other alcoholics how to survive tragedy and grief without drinking. I did it with little grace, reacting angrily when people whined about trivialities in meetings or said things that they thought were supportive but hurt tremendously. I will never say again, "This too shall pass." My love for Eddie and my pain will never pass, but I knew the pain would change. And it did. When people with the best of intentions asked how I was doing, I would tell them I felt awful. And they told me they loved me and to keep coming back, just like in the beginning.

One night, several months later, as I stood at my bedroom window talking to my HP under a full moon, I told her this overwhelming desire to not want to live was hurting my dog and my roommate. I asked her to remove it and she did. I was slightly stunned, but that experience reinforced my old belief that I was not alone. I came to realize that just not taking a drink was the best I could do at the time and that was enough.

Eventually I started practicing the Steps again, first realizing that I had done everything I possibly could for Eddie. I knew that my HP was there and wanted me to live. So I started practicing putting all of the pain, the anger, the fear, the confusion and the grief in her hands. I still didn't know who I was. But I endured.

After a couple of years, I worked the Fourth Step, looking at the resentments that had built up for so long and my part in them. Unfortunately, I continued to focus on how much more I believed I should have done. I found a woman in Asheville to hear my Fifth Step and realized again that I wasn't that powerful. At the Sixth Step, I was entirely ready to have the pain removed and asked humbly for that to be done.

Now, three years after Eddie's death, I'm sponsoring people, telling my story, taking phone calls from suffering drunks and doing the things I used to do to stay sober. I use my experience to show that no matter how terrible life gets, drinking will only make things worse. I still cry, but that happens less and less. I still have fear and loneliness, but it doesn't last as long.

I've decided that isolation isn't good for me, so I'm making an effort to get involved in life. It doesn't always work, but the important thing is that I make the effort. And I am learning to live rather than endure. Most importantly, I am gaining hope that life can be better, and I can finally feel my Higher Power again. I haven't had a drink today, thanks to AA, so I'm a success even if I don't feel like it sometimes. Things will continue to change and I can look forward to seeing them with clear eyes and a clear conscience, knowing I have done the best I can do.

Lucy B.

Swannanoa, NC

(Written and submitted to AA Grapevine Inc. in 2015; published in September 2018 issue. Reprinted with permission.)



2nd Chance Gro	oup - Cheroke	e	Daily Decisions Group			
Carol L.	3-12-2007	12 yrs	Kelly H.	3-02-2016	3 yrs	
Acceptance Gro	up		John B.	3-07-1982	37 yrs	
Susan L. Tadd Rich W.	3-01-2009 3-10-2018 3-23-2015 3-28-1994 3-29-1987	10 yrs 1 yr 4 yrs 25 yrs 32 yrs	Fellowship Grou John Q. Julie D. Gary O. Chris S.	3-07-1989 3-08-1991 3-10-2010 3-16-2018	30 yrs 28 yrs 9 yrs 1 yr	
Around the Room	m Group		Debra V. James B.	3-17-1987 3-20-2018	32 yrs 1 yr	
Bruce A.			Patti F-E. Robbie L.	3-21-2013 3-28-2016	6 yrs 3 yrs	
At Wit's End Gro	oup		Chris V.	3-29-2009	10 yrs	
Jacob L.	3-07-2015 3-07-2007 3-11-2014	4 yrs 12 yrs 5 yrs	Good Livers Gro	3-01-2018	1 yr	
Back to Basics (Group	-	Lauren F. Linda W.	3-01-2017 3-01-2006	2 yrs 13 yrs	
Christopher C. Wally H. Dave G. Ken P. Stephen M.	3-04-2017 3-22-1994 3-25-1996 3-27-1986 3-27-1983 3-28-2014	2 yrs 25 yrs 23 yrs 33 yrs 36 yrs 5 yrs	Shana R. Grace Group Weston B. Shari S. Tim B.	3-15-2017 3-03-2015 3-08-2002 3-10-2017	2 ýrs 4 yrs 17 yrs 2 yrs	
Brevard Serenity		0 9.0	Tim F. Betsy C.	3-12-2013 3-13-1995	6 yrs 24 yrs	
-	3-23-2018	1 yr	Alan D. Dick J.	3-15-2012 3-15-2081	7 yrs 38 yrs	
Candlelight Grou	up	-	Wesley M. Dave G.	3-15-2081 3-17-2017 3-25-1996	2 yrs 23 yrs	
Dani B. Katherine F. Todd Z.	3-05-2016 3-06-2016 3-06-2016	3 yrs 3 yrs 3 yrs	Happy Hour Grou		20 yrs	
Candler K.I.S.S.	Group		Hendersonville G			
Bruce R.	3-21-1998	21 yrs	Richard R.	3-12-1986	33 yrs	
Conscious Cont	act Group		Ashley S. Terry G.	3-21-2016 3-26-1979	3 ýrs 40 yrs	
Ken B. James K.	3-17-2017 3-27-2016	2 yrs 3 yrs	Leicester Group			
Cumberland Gro	oup		Ed M.	3-17-1974	45 yrs	
Bob G. George B.	3-21-2015 3-21-2017	4 yrs 2 yrs	Marshall Group	0 47 4074	45	
Scott B.	3-29-2017	2 yrs	Ed M. Stephen M.	3-17-1974 3-27-1983	45 yrs 36 yrs	

Mars Hill Group

Gary R. Ray C. Ed M. Stephen M.	3-05-2000 3-11-2016 3-17-1974 3-27-1983	19 yrs 3 yrs 45 yrs 36 yrs
Midday Group		
Marty M.	3-01-2018	1 yr
Phoenix Group		
Bob C.	3-26-1996	23 yrs
Riverside Group		
Benjamin	3-03-2017	2 yrs
Serenity Now Gro	pup	
Brad M. Doug Steve J.	3-08-1983 2-23-2000 3-26-1986	36 yrs 19 yrs 33 yrs
Serenity Seekers	Group - Marie	on
John L. Billy S.	3-01-2002 3-27-2014	17 yrs 5 yrs
Total Surrender C	Group	
Joseph L. John Q. Matt P. Cathy C. Michael R. Pam W. Sherry N. Robbie L. Kelsey	3-04-2018 3-07-1989 3-08-2018 3-20-1993 3-20-2014 3-25-2013 3-27-2011 3-28-2016 3-29-2016	1 yr 30 yrs 1 yr 26 yrs 5 yrs 6 yrs 8 yrs 3 yrs 2 yrs
Traditional Group)	
Michael C.	3-04-2016	3 yrs
Waynesville Grad	e Group	
Leslie B. Shirley D. Jimbo C. Charlie S.	3-01-2010 3-05-2017 3-10-1994 3-21-1993	9 yrs 2 yrs 25 yrs 26 yrs
Women of Grace	Group	
Jane Y. Kristin G.	3-28-2001 3-28-2015	18 yrs 4 yrs

Need to update your Group's anniversary list?

Call Central Office - 828-254-8539 - or send a new list to: info@ncmco.net

April newsletter deadline for sending in anniversaries and announcements is March 15.

UNITED WITH HOPE 10:00 am GROUP

Proudly Announces Our THIRD ANNIVERSARY

Come Celebrate With Us!

Friday, March 8th

Complimentary Breakfast 9:00 am - Scrambled eggs, bacon, etc. If you want something special feel free to bring and share.

> Speaker Meeting at 10:00 am (Mary M. from Brevard Serenity Group)

Hope United Methodist Church (in Fellowship Hall – not Choir Room) 2443 Spartanburg Hwy, E. Flat Rock 28726

31st Annual "FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE" Area 51 AA Corrections Conference

March 8, 9, & 10, 2019

Hampton Inn & Suites 200 Columbus Dr. Aberdeen, NC 28315 (Just off US 15 501 Hwy)

Pre-registration for conference

\$15.00 per person before February 22, 2019 \$18.00 at the door

Hotel registration

Hampton Inn & Suites 200 Columbus Dr. Aberdeen, NC 28315 Room reservations: (910) 693-4330 -or- online at: <u>https://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups</u> /personalized/S/SNPNCHX-FFB-20190308/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Code: **FFB** Rate: \$102-Standard Room, \$112-Studio Suite Cut-off for special rate: February 22, 2019

-----(Cut here)------

<u>Agenda</u>
Speakers
Panels
Workshops
Fellowship
All the coffee you can drink!
✓ "Sweet Treats"

For more information

E-mail: <u>corrections@aanorthcarolina.org</u> 305-972-7979

	Make checks payable to: CFC and mail to CFC P.O. Box 1201 Mebane, NC 27302	
Name:	Name on Badge:	
Name:	Name on Badge:	
Address:	City:State:	Zip:
Telephone: () - E-mail:	
# of AA's:		

NCCYPAA HOST COMMITTEE ST. PATRICK'S DAY POTLUCK Please bring a dish SATURDAY

PIE-IN-THE-FACE AUCTION @ 7:30pm

NNER @ 5:30pm

MEETING @ 6:30pm hodist Church

MARCH 16TH 2019 🛃

lle, NC, 28806

to share!

FOR MORE INFO VISI NCCYPAA2019.0RG







Sobriety is a Pot o' Gold! Come celebrate the gift!



Pot luck meal 3:00 to 5:00 (Please bring a dish to share) Speakers and "Pot o' Gold" countdown 5:00 to 7:00



APPALACHIAN REGIONAL ROUNDUP

"ROCKETED INTO A FOURTH DIMENSION" MARCH 22-24 2019 KINGSPORT, TN

Meadowview Conference Resort & Convention Center 1901 Meadowview Parkway Kingsport, TN 37660

Room Rate \$115.00 Rate Cut Off Date Feb 28, 2019 Call Or Visit Our Website To Book 423-578-6600 Use Phrase "Appalachian Regional Roundup" To Receive Discounted Room Rate

Join us for a golf outing on Friday! Starts at 10AM. 9 holes for \$23 or 18 holes for \$38

Make check or money order payable to Appalachain Regional Roundup & mail to: P.O. Box 7494 1001 N. Eastman Rd Kingsport, Tn 37664

Pre-registration is \$25.00 & \$30.00 at the door Online pre-registration is available at www.appalachianregionalroundup.com

SPEAKERS BILL C from CA CANDICE M from CA CHARLIE P from TX CHRIS R from TX EARL H from AZ JENNIFER H-K from TX KATIE P from TX LARCENE G from CA : AL-ANON

Roundup T-Shirts are \$12.00 or two for \$20.00 & will be available for pickup upon arrival. Sizes may be limited on site.

For more information, contact Ryan K at 862-268-4579 or visit our website at www.appalachianregionalroundup.com

2ND ANNUAL APPALACHIAN REGIONAL ROUNDUP

NAME:		I L	NAME:	
ADDRESS:			ADDRESS:	
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:	CITY: STATE: ZIP:	
PHONE:		and the second s	PHONE:	
EMAIL:	Ĩ		EMAIL:	
NAME ON BADGE			NAME ON BADGE:	
NUMBER OF T-SH	IRTS: SIZ	(E(S):	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS: TOTAL: \$	
SCHOLARSHIP CO	NTRIBUTION: \$		Lend a hand to those unable to pay the registration fee	

Roundtable Group of AA Presents

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Old-Timers Panel – Sunday, March 31st

At least 60 years of collective sobriety on every Panel. A great meeting for everybody, especially family and new friends of Bill W. They will see how the A.A. program works!

Where & When:

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church 2606 Chimney Rock Road (Hwy 64E) (just past the Ingles at Howard Gap Road) Hendersonville, NC 28792

Church is on the right.

Usual starting time of 8:00pm

Area 51 Spring Committee & Assembly Meeting June 21-23, 2019

THE HILTON NORTH RALEIGH/MIDTOWN

3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609

ADVANCE HOTEL INFORMATION

Deadline for Reservations: Thursday, May 23, 2019 Group Code: A51 Group Name: Area 51, General Service Spring Assembly Room Rates: \$125.00 Single/Double, \$130.00 Triple, \$135.00 Quad Phone: 919-872-2323 or 800-445-8667 [1-800-HILTONS] Internet: Link for direct reservations: https://tinyurl.com/y9eucgwa Internet: Link for hotel information: www.northraleigh.hilton.com

For Best Results:

- Reserve as soon as possible and definitely before the deadline. Please note, once the rooms in our block sell out, it's unlikely there will be other rooms left in the hotel.
- Using the direct reservation link will ensure the contracted rate and apply to the room block.
- PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY!
- If you reserve by phone, be sure to specify the group code "A51" and the group name "Area 51 General Service Spring Assembly."
- If possible, call the Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown directly at 919-872-2323 during business hours Monday through Friday. This gives you the best chance to speak with a reservations clerk at the hotel. At other times - when the hotel clerks are busy -- calls to this number may be transferred to a regional reservations center.
- Always be sure to get a confirmation number.
- If you have ANY trouble with room rate or availability, please contact the Area Chair at <u>chair@aanorthcarolina.org</u>.

Thank you for your service and support of Area 51. See you at the Spring 2019 Committee and Assembly!

LAUREL RIDGE CAMP April 25-28

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PTYPA

Register at: www.ptypaa.com Email: events@ptypaa.com

Pre-Registration: \$40

Price Increases to \$50 after February 3rd

2019 Area 51 Western Pre-

Conference

April 27, 2019 12:30pm – 4:30pm First United Methodist Church in Hickory, NC 311 3rd Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28601

Introduction: 12:30 – 1:00 Lunch Provided: 1:00 – 1:45 Breakout Sessions: 2:00 – 3:15 Report Out & Delegate Session: 3:30-4:30

Come meet our Area 51 Panel 69 Delegate! Learn about the issues to be discussed at the upcoming 2019 69th General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, and let your voice be heard!

For more information please contact: Debbie G at <u>dcm@ncd12aa.org</u> or Marty M at <u>webmaster@ncd12aa.org</u>

West Asheville Eatin' Meetin' Let's celebrate recovery! Enjoy food and fellowship together. **Saturday, April 27th** @ Abernethy UMC 1418 Patton Ave, Asheville 28806

6:30pm - Doors Open 7:00pm - Pot Luck Dinner 8:00pm - Speaker Meeting

Please bring a covered dish with something in it to share!



quest: (Roommate, 1 st floor, etc.)	Tag:		Phone	CitySTZIP(Address /	Name 1 M F 1	Oak Island Lig	Cut	Mail	After April 15. 2019 Late registration/	Speakers: Katy H Sanford - AA (Friday pm.) • Lebi Crockett H Columbia, SC - AA (Saturday pm) • Mike	& functions for the weekend	No Meals • Includes all meetings	Day Registration • \$35.00 per person					Oak Island Lighth
Special Request: (Roommate, 1 st floor, etc.)	Name Tag:	Email	Phone	CitySTZIP	Address	Name 2 M F	Oak Island Lighthouse Retreat, PO Box 235, Oak Island, NC 28465	Cut form below and mail (with payment) to	Mail In Registration - Fill out for EACH person.	After April 15. 2019 Late registration/room call Charlie 910.512.0970 • Online assistance call Sara 914.417.7009	Speakers: Katy H Sanford - AA (Friday pm.) • Lebra N Charlotte - AFG (Saturday am) ockett H Columbia, SC - AA (Saturday pm) • Mike B Myrtle Beach, SC - AA (Sunday a	Al-Anon Speaker meeting • All ot	Includes 5 meals • 3 /	Overnight Registration • \$182.00	Register and Pay Online at <u>www.lighthouse-retreat.com</u>	Fort Caswell - 100 Caswell Beach Road, Oak Island, NC 28465	May 10, 11	Fellowship and Serenity by the Sea	
Lodging is motel-style. Friday check-in - 4 p.m. Dinner - 6 p.m. First meeting - 8 p.m. Deposits are non-refundable after May 1. Make Checks Payable to: Oak Island Retreat.	Total Enclosed:	\$35 per person	Day Registration	\$92 Deposit p.p. OR	Overnight: \$182 per person OR	Registration Type	nd, NC 28465	Б	ion.	ne assistance call S	ra N Charlotte - AFG (Saturday am) B Myrtle Beach, SC - AA (Sunday am)	ing •All other meetings • Ice Cream Social	neals • 3 AA Speaker meetings	• \$182.00 per person • Double Occupancy Only	ww.lighthouse-r	ch Road, Oak Island	10, 11, 12, 2019	erenity by	ouse Retreat
day check-in - 4 p.m. Dinn . Deposits are non-refunc Payable to: Oak Island Re						#Persons \$Amt				ara 914.417.700	urday am) (Sunday am)	ce Cream Soci	tings	e Occupancy C	<u>etreat.com</u>	d, NC 28465		the Sea	reat
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Girlstock International

H Journey Through The Steps

Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2, 2019

Hilton Atlanta Airport • 1031 Virginia Ave., Atlanta, GA 30354 Located 5 minutes from Hartsfield Jackson International Airport. Free shuttle from and to airport.

Call 404-767-9000 for reservations.

Room block is under "Girlstock International"

Hotel rate is \$113.00* *Rate is also good for one day before and one day after event. *Reserve your room by May 13, 2019 for this rate. Complimentary self-parking. Pets allowed with additional deposit. Coffee in every room.

Featuring 8 Wonderful Speakers:

Friday Saturday

Sunday

Be Filled with Love & Joy

> Al-Anon Participation

Sonia L., Nashville, TN, Entertainment Amanda B., Montgomery, AL, The Voice 7:00 p.m. Amy D., Louisville, KY ~ "Steps 1 & 2" Theresa F., Van Nuys, CA ~ "Step 3" 9:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Sharon C., Los Angeles, CA ~ "Steps 4 & 5" Angie B., Destin, FL (AFG) ~ "Alanon" 10:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m. Beth H., Cary, NC ~ "Steps 6 & 7" Tami P., Chatsworth, CA ~ "Steps 8 & 9" 4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. Speaker Panel Carla R., Tujunga, CA ~ "Steps 10 & 11" 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Debra V., Jacksonville, FL ~ "Step 12"

For additional information call:

Amanda B., 334-300-2501(Alabama) • Nita C., 901-210-1562(Tennessee) Suzanne S., 678-231-6510(Georgia) • Kristi G., 501-615-5943(Arkansas) Ann P., 407-371-1575 (Florida)

> **Event Registration \$30 Before April 30th.** *After April 30th and at the Door is \$35.*

Register by PayPal at *http://girlstockinternational.com*

or make check or money order payable to "Special Events" and mail to: c/o Kristi Gray (gray.krist@gmail.com), PO Box 241324, Little Rock, AR 72223

Girlstock International - A Journey Through The Steps 2019

Name		Name
Address		
City		
	Zip	
Phone		Phone
Email		Email
Name on Badge		Name on Badge
	Sponsorship Contribution \$	Lend a hand to those unable to pay the registration fee.

This flyer may be copied for distribution or downloaded from www.leestapesandcds.com • No Vendors Allowed

Area 51 Spring Committee & Assembly Meeting June 21-23, 2019

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3415 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609

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- Always be sure to get a confirmation number.
- If you have ANY trouble with room rate or availability, please contact the Area Chair at <u>chair@aanorthcarolina.org</u>.

Thank you for your service and support of Area 51. See you at the Spring 2019 Committee and Assembly!



72nd North Carolina **State Convention**

July 11-14, 2019

Hilton North Raleigh / Midtown 3415 Wake Forest Road • Raleigh, NC 27609

Register NOW to Support Your **Convention!**

Register online at www.aancconvention.com

Convention Pre-Registration

before June 13, 2019 • per person

\$25.00 per person June 13, 2019 and after. Al-Anons 18 & under - No charge but must register. (No Refunds after June 13, 2019)

Hotel Registration

Mention Group Code: NCST Single & Double: \$125 + taxTriple: \$130 + tax Ouad: \$135 + tax

Phone: (919) 872-2323 - ask for NC State Convention and/or group code "NCST" to make reservations. **Online:** www.NorthRaleigh.Hilton.com - enter group code "NCST" where prompted.

Cut-off for Conference rate: June13, 2019

If you would be interested in a golf tournament at a future convention, please email us at aancconvention@gmail.com

Speakers

	Bob S.	Charlotte, NC	Thurs 8:30 pm
	Kenna F.	Pasadena, CA	Fri 8:00 pm
	Vannoy S. 🛆	Justin, TX	Sat 9:30 am
	Tammy Z.	Humble, TX	Sat 2:30 pm
	George E.	Murrels Inlet, SC	Sat 8:00 pm
	Billy N.	Buford, GA	Sun 10:00 am
/			C 0.20

God as I Understand Him (5 peoples' experience)

Sun 8:30 am

Workshops - Fri 10:30 am & Sat 4:00 pm

- ★ FREE Convention Mug to First 400 Pre-Registrants!
- ★ Old-Timers' Panel, Friday at 3:00 pm
- ★ 'Round the Clock Marathon Meetings
- ★ Open Discussion Meetings
- ★ Saturday Night Dance
- ★ Plenty of FREE Coffee

Consider buying a sponsorship for those less fortunate

For more information	n or for problems w	vith hotel reservati	ons, please contact
Bet	h R. (704) 941-1220 •	Alana E. (980) 230-933	3
	OR Email: aancconv	ention@gmail.com	

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72nd North Carolina **State Convention**

Name
Please print legibly
Address
City, State, Zip
Email
Telephone ()
Name(s) for badge(s)
رلچ Do you have accessibility needs?

\$20.00 Special Rate before June 13, 2019 June 13 and after \$25.00 Al-Anons 18 & under: No charge but must register.

Make checks payable to: **NC Convention Committee** PO Box 41451 • Raleigh NC 27629

Enclosed is \$	
for	registration(s)
Is this a sponsorship?	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
Preferred method of contact:	
If you are willing to be a please check here: \Box	volunteer,

NCCYPAA Host Committee

Summer Gampout

JULY 19TH-21ST, 2019 BRIAR BOTTOM GROUP CAMGROUND ASHEVILLE, NC

MEALS INCLUDED + BONFIRE SPEAKER MEETINGS CAPTURE THE FLAG IN THE DARK + SCAVENGER HUNT HIKE TO MT. MITCHELL + WATERFALL & RIVER ACCESS MAFIA + S'MORES + PUBLIC RESTROOMS & SHOWERS + MORE!

PRE-REGISTRATION COST: \$15 UNTIL MARCH 17 + \$20 UNTIL MAY 28 \$25 UNTIL JULY 18 + \$30 DAY OF

REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT: NCCYPAA2019.ORG



The Roundup is pleased to welcome our 2019 Speakers!

Earl H • Scottsdale, AZ Rich B • Ocean City, MD

Terri K • Woodville, OH Susan B • Tulsa, OK

The Westin Perimeter North Group Rate is Limited—Book Early!! 7 Concourse Pkwy Atlanta 30328 Call 770-395-3900 for Reservations AA, Al-Anon & Alateen Workshops

Big Book Trivia Contest • Meetings Fellowship • Entertainment Hospitality • Home Made Treats

Come and join us for our annual weekend of Fun, Fellowship and Serenity as we celebrate our 44th Roundup! We have a great Program of Speakers, Workshops & Entertainment. Register and sign up to be a Volunteer at: www.atlantaroundup.com or fill out and return the form below.

The Atlanta Roundup Committee is an all volunteer body whose Primary Purpose is to carry the AA message and to unite the Metro Atlanta AA, Al-Anon and Alateen Community in Unity, Service and Recovery.

Name:	Name for Badge:
Home Group:	Phone:
City:	State:

Email (for confirmation and updates):___

Program: AA ____ Al-Anon ____ (Alateen registration is \$1 at the door during Roundup)

Do you want to be a Volunteer? Yes _____ No ____. Registration_____ Greeter_____

Bake cookies for Hospitality? (Must be Homemade): Yes ____ No ____; # of dozens_____

\$35 per person + Scholarship contribution: ______ Total_____

Make out checks to: The Atlanta Roundup, 1111 Canyon Point Circle, Roswell, GA 30076

NCCYPAA XXIII North Carolina Conference of Young People in AA ASHEVILLE The Road of Happy Destin Sept 19th-22nd, 2019 DoubleTree by Hilton • Biltmore Village 115 Hendersonville Rd • Asheville, NC, 28803 Double & King Room Rate: \$125 To book a room by phone, call the hotel directly at (828) 274-1800 and mention NCCYPAA DoubleTree.Hilton.com • Group Code: YPA Questions? Email: chair@NCCYPAA2019.org To pre-register and book a room, please visit: NCCYPAA2019.org