

STRAIGHT HOPE

The Montgomery Area Newsletter...a meeting in print

\$\$ Priceless \$\$

Volume 79

PO Box 8214 Gaithersburg, MD 20898

FEBRUARY 2024



The spirit of love that we express in NA is the most powerful thing we have. The Basic Text describes it as "the flow of life energy from one person to another" and we see this in action when we watch an addict come back to life in the rooms. The hugs we give are an instrumental part of our method and our experience. NA is all about love.

- Living Clean, p. 254

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER!!!

"Straight Hope" is the newsletter of Montgomery Area NA. This is YOUR newsletter. If you have:

- * *Ideas* * *Articles* * *Poetry* * *Cartoons*
- * *Humor* * *Acronyms* *
- * *Questions of the Month* *
- * *Letters to the Editor* *
- * *Any Grievance or Issues to Air to the Area* *

We Want to Hear from You!

There is NO clean time requirement – all we require is a desire and an opinion. If you have any ideas for improvement or any ideas at all – contact any member of the committee email us, or pop into our Zoom meetings.

We need support! We currently do not have a Newsletter Chair and have **few members**. If you're interested in helping out, want to learn how to create a newsletter, or have a desire to be the Chair, **Please Let Us Know!**



Email Art, Articles, Anniversaries & NA Announcements to:
straighthope@cprna.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH!

We meet on the 4th Sunday @8pm on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 876 1298 6083 PW:749698

Straight Hope Newsletter Archive:

<https://www.cprna.org/our-areas/news/montgomery-area/>

Straight Hope Contributors

Anne E. - Layout/Content Ben C. - Step & Traditions Jalal B. - Graphics Galen T. - Member



KEEP
CALM
and
CALL YOUR
SPONSOR

Step of the Month

Step 2: "We came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

My experience of Step 2 is that the restoration of my sanity has been a gradual process. First, I came (to meetings), then I came to (woke up), then I came to believe (in a Power greater than myself). This belief was founded on the reassurance that I was finally on the right path and that the circumstances in my life were drastically improving. I have felt myself maturing and gaining more and more sanity as I continued along in recovery. As I began writing about Step 2 and discussing it with my sponsor, I noticed how excited I was becoming about my life, and I felt good about all the love and support I was receiving. I noticed coincidences and miracles happening in my life as I became open to the possibility that a Higher Power was guiding me in my recovery. These coincidences and miracles included surviving my active addiction and viewing the circumstances that led me to recover in a new light. At the time, I thought the intervention leading to the hospital and treatment was the worst day of my life, but now I view it as the best thing that could have happened to me, the beginning of my new life in recovery.

- Ben C.

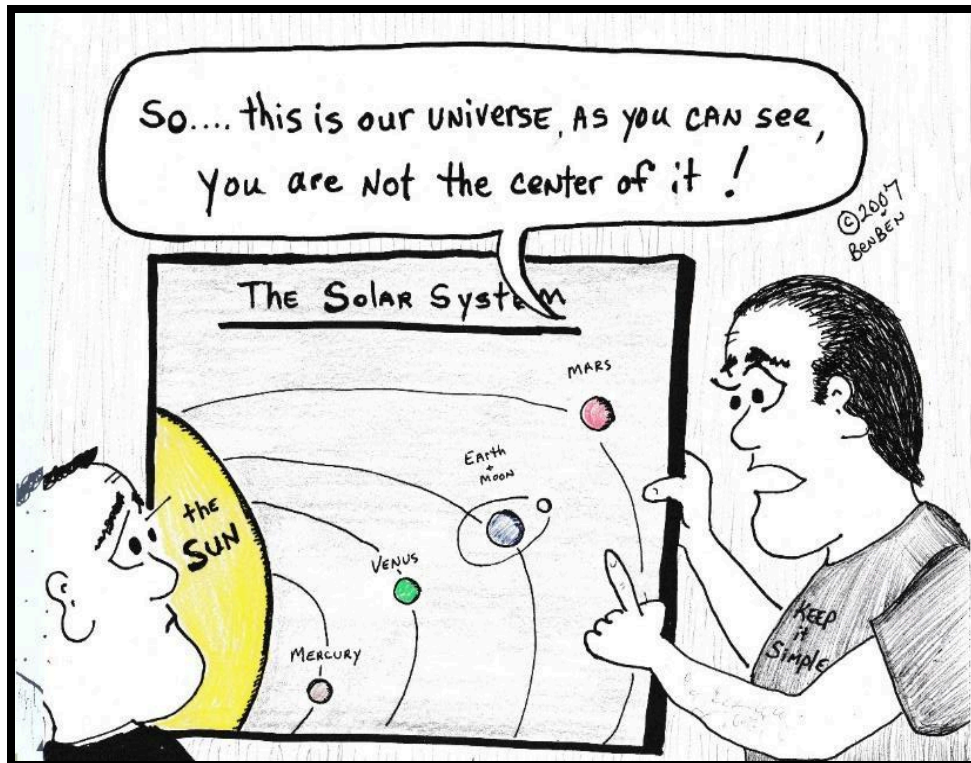


Tradition of the Month

Tradition 2: “For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority— a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.”

There is a big difference between group conscience and group opinion. The democracy of the group might be in danger of being dictated by personalities and the popularity of a few outspoken members. Leadership should never be a position of authority but focused on leading by example, promoting unity and service. I need to keep these points in mind as I have had the same home group for over twenty years now and sometimes feel like it is my group. Manipulation and control of our group decisions should be avoided, beginning by inviting a loving God to represent the ultimate authority of the group. We recite The Serenity Prayer to begin our group conscious meetings as a way to set the tone - *God, grant me the serenity to accept things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.* The Serenity Prayer helps put the group in the right frame of mind before beginning the group-conscious meetings where we discuss the business of the group and make decisions. When we collectively ask God to guide us prior to discussing the business of the group, we are more likely to practice unity and trust the outcome of group decisions. We can disagree without putting each other down and try to be open to new solutions rather than committed to being right and winning arguments.

- Ben C.



Announcements



Thank
you

DONATIONS TO AREA CAN NOW GO ELECTRONICALLY!

Our groups pass a basket during each meeting so “Every NA group ought to be...”. With many of our groups being online, many members “forget” to donate.

Group and Personal Donations can now be sent using three methods:

CashApp: \$MASCdonate, Name of account is MASC Treasurer

Venmo: @MASCdonate, Name of account is Tammy K, last 4 digits of phone# is 3233

Mail donations to: **MASC, PO Box 8214, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8214.**

Please make sure to include your **GROUP'S NAME** on your group donations!

Group Announcements

MASC Annual Inventory - The Montgomery Area Service Committee (MASC) is performing its annual inventory. Each GSR and/or Group is being asked to complete a questionnaire of 21 quick questions **prior to 3/5/24 MASC.** [Click here to access 2024 Montgomery Area Inventory](#)

Area Meeting Lists can be mailed to you by requesting them from na-montgomery@cprna.org or may be obtained from Danny O. when you make a literature order. Regional Meetings Lists will be made available when received.

BINGO! February 17th 5-10pm at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church (Freedom in the Village church) in Montgomery Village. Pizza and snacks provided soda and chips for \$.50

Spoiler Alert! Special Events is also planning a **St. Patrick's Day Speaker Jam** on March 16th. More information to

All About Change is having its 32 years Group Anniversary on 2/13!

The Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Convention (CPRCNA) is in Ocean City, MD **April 11, 12, & 13.** Register online at www.cprcna.org

Note: Although this newsletter is posted online BEFORE Area Service (1st Tuesday of the month), the list is updated typically 2 or 3 days AFTER Area when we get more ANNOUNCEMENTS. So....**KEEP COMING BACK!**

UPDATED



Question of the Month:

“When was your first World?”

Let us know when you first attended an NA World Convention. 2nd? 3rd? Any memories you want to share? Haven't gone yet? Will your “first” be in Washington, DC in 2024?

Email your response to straighthope@cprna.org or look for the question being asked at your local meeting. Stay tuned next month for the Fellowships' response to this **Question of the Month!**

World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous

Recovery Celebration Tour

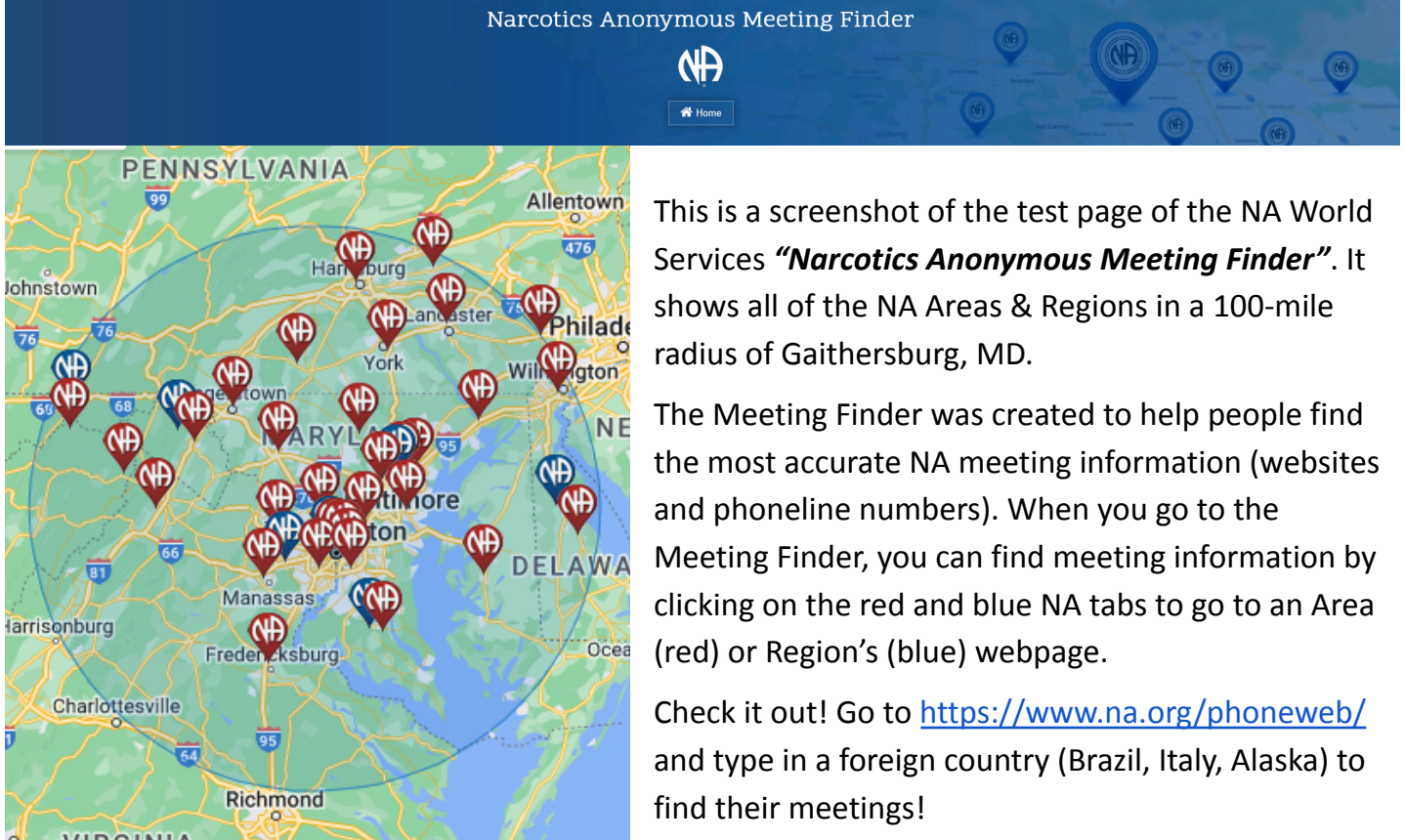
#	Year	Location	Theme
1	1971	La Mirada, California, USA	Combined WCNA And NA World Business
2	1972	North Hollywood, California, USA	Personal Recovery Depends On NA Unity
3	1973	San Jose, California, USA	
4	1974	Anaheim, California, USA	Just for Today
5	1975	Santa Rosa, California, USA	We Came to Believe
6	1976	Ventura, California, USA	Coming Together
7	1977	San Francisco, California, USA	Now We Are Thousands
8	1978	Houston, Texas, USA	Carry the Message
9	1979	Atlanta, Georgia, USA	I Can't, We Can
10	1980	Wichita, Kansas, USA	The Ties that Bind Us Together
11	1981	Miami, Florida, USA	Together More than Ever
12	1982	Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA	Our Gratitude Speaks
13	1983	New York City, New York, USA	The Impossible Dream
14	1984	Chicago, Illinois, USA	Miracles Happen
15	1985	Washington, DC, USA	Unified and Staying Alive
16	1986	London, England	Live from London
17	1987	New Orleans, Louisiana, USA	Live Your Dreams
18	1988	Anaheim, California, USA	Once a Dream, Now a Reality
19	1989	Orlando, Florida, USA	The Magic Is Real
20	1990	Portland, Oregon, USA	Recovery; The Journey Continues
21	1991	Sydney, Australia	The Gift
22	1992	Toronto, Ontario, Canada	Imagine the Freedom
23	1993	Chicago, Illinois, USA	The Sky Is the Limit
24	1994	Baltimore, Maryland, USA	The Message Is Hope
25	1995	Paris, France	Une Nouvelle Vision de la Vie – A New Vision for Life
26	1996	St. Louis, Missouri, USA	Show Me How to Live
27	1998	San Jose, California, USA	Our Diversity Is Our Strength
28	2000	Cartagena de Indias, Colombia	Nuestra Esperanza De Vide – Our Hope of Life
29	2002	Atlanta, Georgia, USA	Freedom to Live Our Dreams
30	2003	San Diego, California, USA	A Simple Way Has Been Proving Itself
31	2005	Honolulu, Hawaii, USA	One Fellowship, Many Friends
32	2007	San Antonio, Texas, USA	Our Message HOPE, Our Promise FREEDOM
33	2009	Barcelona, Spain	Amor sin Fronteras – Love without Borders
34	2011	San Diego, California, USA	In the Spirit of Unity
35	2013	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA	The Journey Continues
36	2015	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	O Presente e a Liberdade (The Gift Is Freedom)
37	2018	Orlando, Florida, USA	The Magic Is Still Real
38	2024	Washington, DC, USA	The Power of Love



Join us in
Washington, DC
29 Aug – 1 Sep!

A New Way to Find a Meeting!

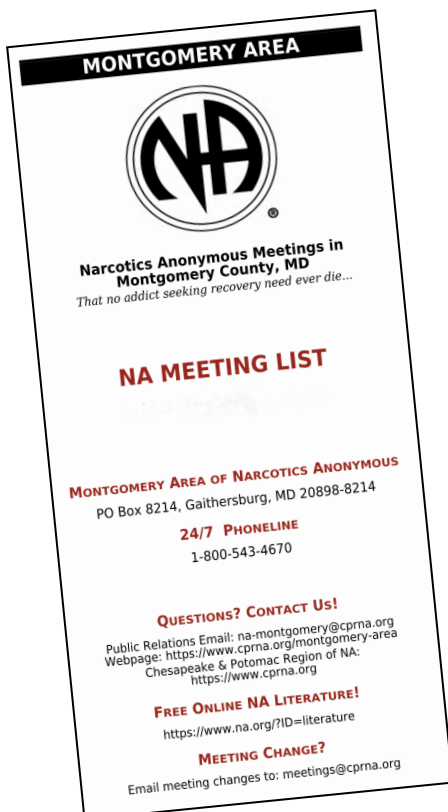
Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Finder



This is a screenshot of the test page of the NA World Services ***"Narcotics Anonymous Meeting Finder"***. It shows all of the NA Areas & Regions in a 100-mile radius of Gaithersburg, MD.

The Meeting Finder was created to help people find the most accurate NA meeting information (websites and phonenumber numbers). When you go to the Meeting Finder, you can find meeting information by clicking on the red and blue NA tabs to go to an Area (red) or Region's (blue) webpage.

Check it out! Go to <https://www.na.org/phoneweb/> and type in a foreign country (Brazil, Italy, Alaska) to find their meetings!



Psst...there's more than one way to find a Meeting!

[Print Montgomery Area meeting list](#)

[Go to Montgomery Area online meeting list](#)

Email na-montgomery@cprna.org to have a list mailed directly to you

[Find all the meetings in the C&P Region](#)

[Find NA meetings around the World](#)

[Download BMLT App to your Phone](#)

But...the info is only as good as the members who update it...

PLEASE email meeting changes to:
meetings@cprna.org

EVENTS

More events can be found at: <https://www.cprna.org/event-calendar/>,
<https://www.na.org/?ID=events-main> and <https://www.instagram.com/naglobalevents/>

Montgomery Area Special Events Presents:

<<<<< A Fundraising Event >>>>>



BINGO!

Saturday, February 17, 2024
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
9801 Centerway Road, Montgomery Village, MD
Game sessions at 5:30 to 8:30 pm & 8:45 to 10:00 pm.
With New Year Prizes for Each Game!!!

Two Games of Blackout Bingo with Two Winners Per Game
8:45 pm to 10:00 pm for \$25 Gift Cards!

Each Card \$1 or Six Cards for \$5 or 12 Cards for \$10
\$2 for Blackout Bingo.

FREE Pizza & Snacks - 50¢ Sodas and Chips.
Please bring finger food or dessert if possible.

Donate via Venmo to:

@Natalie-Gitelman or Cash App: \$SpecialEvents007

For more information call:

Layla R. at 240-793-6059, Theresa M. at 240-604-6070



The Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Saturday, February 10, 2024

All Regional meetings are on Zoom the 2nd
Saturday of every even month (Feb, Apr, Jun,
Aug, Oct, Dec).

Regional Subcommittees Meeting:
10 AM-12 PM. Zoom ID: 671 727 103;
Passcode: 654321

C&P RSC Meeting: 1PM - 6PM. Zoom ID: 824
5089 4047; Passcode: 12



Florida Service Symposium

3/14/2024 - 03/17/2024

Location:

Sheraton Tampa East Hotel
10221 Princess Palm Ave.
Tampa, FL, 33610

Register:

<https://naflorida.org/>

**Montgomery Area
Special Events
is planning a
St. Patrick's Speaker Jam
on March 16th!
More will be revealed!**

Convention Corner



The 38th World Convention of Narcotics Anonymous (WCNA) is coming to Washington DC August 29th to September 1st, 2024!

REGISTRATION: WCNA 38 registration is up and running! Scan the QR Code to register!



MEMBERS IN NEED OF WCNA ACCESS: NA World Services will grant audio streaming of the main speaker meetings during the World Convention and **Newcomer Badges** to members in Recovery Houses or Treatment Facilities with 30 days or less to attend the convention. Our Regional Public Relations Subcommittee is compiling the facilities list. If you know of a facility, **please provide A GOOD CONTACT NAME & PHONE NUMBER or EMAIL.**

Email facility info to: wcna38@cprna.org

CPRCNA XXXVII
"OUR PRIMARY ACTION IS
SURRENDER"

OCEAN CITY, MD ~ APRIL 12-14, 2024

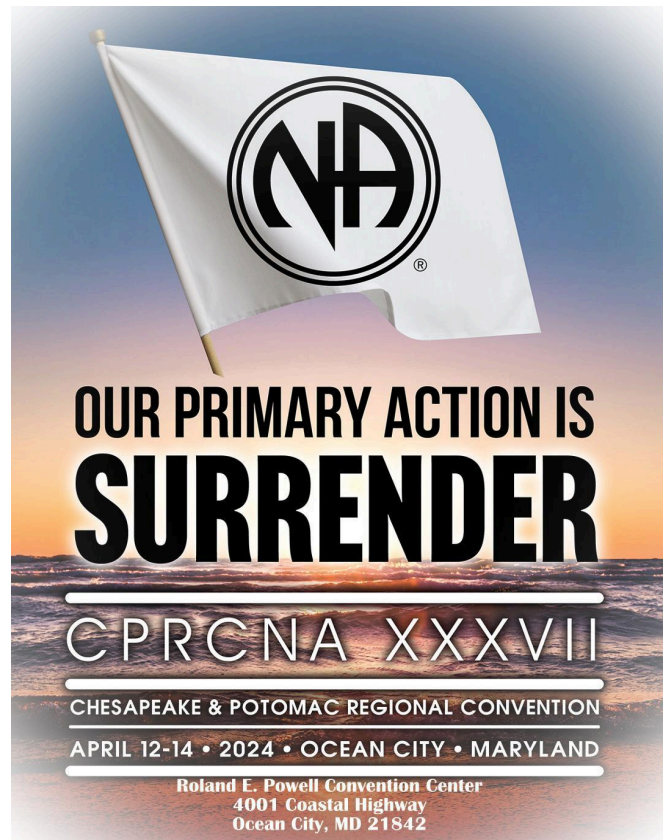
Early registration (\$30) ends at midnight on 2/12/24. After 2/12/24, registration increases to \$40!

Save Money! Register In Advance: Take advantage of early registration! Besides saving \$10, when members register and buy event tickets early, we can better plan to meet your needs at the convention.

Registration Information: Mail-in registrations must be postmarked by March 13, 2024. Online registration is available through April 5, 2024. After April 5th, only on-site registrations will be taken beginning at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 12, 2024 at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center.

Register online at www.cprcna.org

Questions? Contact the Registration Subcommittee: registration@cprcna.org



OUR PRIMARY ACTION IS
SURRENDER

CPRCNA XXXVII

CHESAPEAKE & POTOMAC REGIONAL CONVENTION
APRIL 12-14 • 2024 • OCEAN CITY • MARYLAND

Roland E. Powell Convention Center
4001 Coastal Highway
Ocean City, MD 21842

Living Miracles

Note: Although this newsletter is posted online BEFORE Area Service (1st Tuesday of the month), the list is updated typically 2 or 3 days AFTER Area when we get more anniversaries. So....**KEEP COMING BACK!**



Date	Name	Group	Years
2/7	Shahab	Fresh Air	21 yrs
2/8	Kyle P.	Stepping Free	13 yrs
2/8	Alex L.	Stepping Free	14 yrs
2/8	Dave D.	Crossroads	29 yrs
2/9	Tim L.	Older Toddlers	4 yrs
2/9	Diane L.	Older Toddlers	12 yrs
2/10	Debbie G.	Ladies in Recovery	37 yrs
2/10	Linda D.	The Women's Meeting	40 yrs
2/11	Alex C.	Progress in NA	5 yrs
2/12	Joe W.	Illness in Recovery	3 yrs
2/13	All About Change Group Anniversary		32 yrs
2/14	Mark	Wednesday Willingness	1 yr
2/16	Ellen C.	One Step at a Time	34 yrs
2/18	Mark B.	Living Proof	45 yrs
2/18	Beth C.	The Alternative	39 yrs
2/18	Dave M.	The Alternative	39 yrs
2/19	Mirieli G.	Illness in Recovery	10 yrs
2/21	Katie W.	Wednesday Willingness	4 yrs
2/23	Ryan E.	Older Toddlers	9 yrs
2/23	Francis P.	Upcounty NA	2 yrs
2/24	Teresa S.	Gut Bucket	34 yrs
2/24	Dwight S.	Gut Bucket	34 yrs
2/25	Natalie	Talking Heads	13 yrs
2/25	Bill H.	Talking Heads	38 yrs
2/25	Bill W.	Talking Heads	38 yrs
2/25	Barry R.	Today's Recovery	2 yrs
2/25	Toya G.	Progress in NA	27 yrs
2/25	Kevin F.	Progress in NA	26 yrs
2/27	Brenda E.	Carrying the Message	1 yr
2/28	Jack L.	Gentlemen's Club	7 yrs
3/2	Al G.	Share on Saturday	7 yrs
3/3	Jeff B.	Today's Recovery	1 yr
3/3	Justin M.	Alternative	3 yrs
3/3	Missy L.	Squeaky Clean	10 yrs
3/8	Jimi S.	Get Down Group	36 yrs
3/8	Brie S.	Live and Let Live	27 yrs
3/10	Tom M.	Today's Recovery	14 yrs
3/13	Bunny	Wednesday Willingness	26 yrs
3/19	Eileen S.	Carrying the Message	38 yrs
3/22	Rich M.	Live and Let Live	23 yrs
3/23	Cyndi R-W.	Good Deal Group	38 yrs
3/24	Maryana	Talking Heads	19 yrs
3/25	Perry G.	Illness in Recovery	20 yrs



"NA It Works Index"

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Service Works!

Our Area webpage got a facelift! Check it out below!

<https://www.cprna.org/our-areas/info/montgomery-area/>

Montgomery Area of Narcotics Anonymous

NA Meetings located in Montgomery County Maryland

Contact Montgomery Area NA

PO Box 8214, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8214

na-montgomery@cprna.org

Montgomery Area Service Committee

Montgomery Area Service Committee (MASC)

1st Tuesday @ 7:30 PM

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; Password: 749698

[Click here to join the MASC](#)

Chair: Galen T. * Vice Chair: Tasha G. * Secretary: Anne E.

* Vice Secretary Kim M.: masc@cprna.org

Area Subcommittee Meetings

Hospitals & Institutions – 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; Password: 749698

[Click here to join H&I meeting](#)

Chair: Jack L.: montgomeryareahandi@gmail.com

Literature – Email requests for orders:

Chair: Danny O.: obdanny722@gmail.com

Meetings – 1st Tuesday @ 5:30 PM

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; Password: 749698

[Click here to join Meetings meeting](#)

Chair: Al G. aguzman106@gmail.com

Newsletter – 4th Sunday @ 8 pm

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; Password: 749698

[Click here to join Newsletter meeting](#)

Chair: Melissa M. straighthope@cprna.org

Policy – OPEN

Public Relations & Phonenumber – 1st Tuesday @ 6:30 PM

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; Password: 749698

[Click here to join PR meeting](#)

Chair: Shelley M. na-montgomery@cprna.org

Special Events – 1st Wednesday @ 7:30 pm

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 9801 Centerway Rd.,
Montgomery Village, MD. Walk through the Sanctuary
and go to the back room on the left.

Chair: Suzanne W. slwieber@gmail.com

Meeting Change? Email meetings@cprna.org

Donations can now be sent using three methods

CashApp: \$MASCdonate, Name: MASC Treasurer

Venmo: @MASCdonate, Name: Tammy K./3233

Mail: MASC, PO Box 8214, Gaithersburg, MD
20898-8214

Put your **GROUP'S NAME** on your donations!

MASC Resources

*** 2024 ANNUAL INVENTORY ***

[MASC Google Drive](#)

[MASC Minutes Archive](#)

[2023 MASC Policy](#)

[Literature Order Form](#)

[Motion Form](#)

[NA Handbooks](#)

[Straight Hope Newsletter Archive](#)

STRAIGHT HOPE

The Montgomery Area Newsletter...a meeting in print

SS Priceless SS

Find a Meeting!

[Montgomery Area Meetings Page](#)

[Printable Montgomery Area Meeting List](#)

[All C&P Region Meetings](#)

[QR Code Meetings Flyer](#)

SCAN QR CODE TO FIND NA MEETINGS IN THE DMV!



← QR Code

NA Meetings in Washington DC, Maryland, & Northern Virginia

NA 24/7 Phonenumber 1-800-561-4670

www.cprna.org na-montgomery@cprna.org

PLEASE DO NOT TAKE SO OTHERS CAN SCAN IT!

Provided by Montgomery Area of NA Public Relations Subcommittee

Helpful NA Information

24/7/365 Phonenumber 1-800-543-4670

[NA Events](#)

[CPRCNA: C&P Regional Convention](#)

[FREE Online NA Literature](#)

[NA World Services](#)

Questions? Email us! na-montgomery@cprna.org