

# STRAIGHT HOPE

The Montgomery Area Newsletter...a meeting in print

\$\$ Priceless \$\$

Volume 98

PO Box 8214 Gaithersburg, MD 20898

SEPTEMBER 2025



## ***Carrying Our Message:*** **Recap of the NA Booth at the Montgomery County Fair**

The Montgomery Area PR Subcommittee hosted an NA booth at the Montgomery County Fair this summer for **9 days!** This was by far the largest NA endeavor our Area OR our Region has ever attempted. The 2nd largest PR event was done in 2001 at a 2-day NA booth at the HFStival, an Alternative Rock Concert.

As with all NA booths, we had a variety of "clients." We handed out NA cards, meeting lists, NA flyers, and literature to adults and teenagers. We had potential members ask us for information as well as non-addicts such as counselors, concerned parents and friends, teachers, an EMT, police, clergy, and one irate neighbor! A 10 year-old came up, and with downcast eyes, asked for some literature for his older brother. I told him he was a great brother to care so much!

**Our stats:** We filled **81 shifts** (nine days, three 4-hour shifts a day, three members per shift), with **53 volunteers (35 were new to PR!)**, from **6 Areas**. Our volunteers ranged from **2 months clean to 40+ years**. It was wonderful to have such a variety of members come out to play to carry the message - **THANK YOU!!!**

Since the fair, we have had several of those new members help out with our booths at the Seneca Valley HS Back-to-School Night and the Montgomery County Overdose Awareness events. Inspired by our work, South Potomac and Central MD Areas have combined efforts to host an **NA booth at the Prince George's County Fair, September 4th-7th.**

To top things off, at the fair, NA won the ribbon for the **Best Non-Profit Exhibit!** One man said we had a fantastic booth because we *"Came early, stayed late, and always had members ready to help"*. I thought, *"Of course...that's just what we have been taught to do!"*

The purpose behind this and all PR work is to carry the message of NA Recovery so that members can find us and lives can be saved. I truly believe we met that goal. I don't know how long it may take, but one day, I am hoping to hear, *"I was at this fair, and someone gave me this card. I decided to call NA and get some help!"* ~ Anne E. ♦ ♥ ♦ ♥ ♦



## Step of the Month

**Step 9: “We made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”**

The purpose of Step 9 is to free us from the past and become better able to live in the present. I can do this by attempting to right the wrongs I have committed by trying to repair the damage I’ve done to others. While using, I wreaked havoc in the lives of most of those who loved and cared about me. I also had some individuals on my Eighth Step list that I had harmed while completely clean. Some of these incidents from my past occurred even before I ever picked up drugs. I have now met with many of those on my Eighth Step list and made formal amends with Step 9. ~ Ben C.



## Living Miracles

9/2 Barry R. 1 yr Today's Recovery  
9/3 Crevante' 10 yrs Never Alone  
9/3 Ms. Nancy 41 yrs Aging in Recovery  
9/4 Gavin O. 12 yrs Stepping Free  
9/4 Kosal S. 7 yrs Stepping Free  
9/5 Mitch 41 yrs Freedom in the Village  
7:30 AM  
9/5 Barry S. 40 yrs Freedom in the Village Noon  
9/7 Dave K. 40 yrs Today's Recovery  
9/10 Rita S. 8 yrs People's Recovery  
9/12 Morgan W. 4 yrs Freedom Noon  
9/13 Chip L. 16 yrs Hope Fiends  
9/14 Andrea L. 40 yrs The Alternative  
9/15 Shawn G. 3 yrs Oasis  
9/15 Shirley S. 27 yrs Illness in Recovery  
9/16 Christian W. 7 yrs Life on Life's Terms  
9/17 Jay G. 10 yrs Gentleman's Club  
9/17 Chris M. 8 yrs. Gentleman's Club  
9/19 Geoff K. 10 yrs Live and Let Live  
9/20 Eugene 2 yrs Never Alone  
9/20 Ann S. 26 yrs Ladies in Recovery  
9/26 Sophie L. 2 yrs Live and Let Live  
9/27 Stephanie S. 2 yrs Ladies in Recovery  
10/5 Carol S. 3 yrs Let it Shine  
10/5 Iman S. 7 yrs Talking Heads

## Tradition of the Month

**Tradition 9: “NA, as such, ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”**

Tradition 9 addresses specialized volunteer service work that members perform, usually on a rotating basis. 12-Step boards and committees are organized for the groups to be able to communicate with each other, provide services to members and the community, and make decisions together. ~ Ben C.



## NA Related Announcements

### GROUP & MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Ad Hoc Subcommittee for predatory and/or disruptive behavior** needs short personal experiences for possible inclusion in the material being prepared. Send to [bethcanha@gmail.com](mailto:bethcanha@gmail.com) and/or [jimi\\_13@msn.com](mailto:jimi_13@msn.com).

**Béisbol (Persona, Dios, Sociedad, Servicio)** needs support. Mondays @ 6 PM (Hybrid). Emory Grove UMC, 8200 Emory Grove Rd., Gaithersburg, MD, 20877 and **Zoom ID:** 831 7185 1799; **P/C:** 152608

**Donations to Area** can be sent using two methods. **CashApp:** \$MASCdonate, Name: MASC Treasurer or by **US Mail:** MASC, PO Box 8214, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8214

**Sep 6 - World Unity Day 24-hour celebration!** Join addicts around-the-clock from around-the-world to celebrate the miracle of recovery. **9/6 midnight to 9/7 midnight.** On **Saturday, 9/6 @ 12 noon - Join in or just say a World-Wide Serenity Prayer!**

For more information go to <https://na.org/naws-events/annual-events/> **Zoom ID:** 845 6246 1309

**Oct 7 - Montgomery Area Service is in need of the following service positions:** Special Events Chair, Area Liaisons. Come to the next ASC & volunteer! **7:30 pm, Zoom ID:** 876 1298 6083; **P/C:** 749698

**Oct 11 -** Our next Regional will be **Saturday, October 11** hosted by the Central MD Area in Greenbelt, MD. Subcommittees 10 AM, Lunch Noon, Regional 1 PM.

**Oct 24-26 - Northeast Zonal Forum**, Embassy Suites, 909 Parsippany Blvd, Parsippany-Troy Hills, NJ 07054. The Northeast Zonal Forum is a collection of 15 regions that get together periodically to report on activity, deliver services, and conduct workshops. <https://www.nezf.org>

**Nov 1 - Service with a Slice**, an interactive service learning day will include **Phoneline Training**, 10 AM-6 PM, Trinity Lutheran Church 6600 Laurel-Bowie Road, Bowie, MD 20715

**CPRCNA • XXXIX**  
COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
OCEAN CITY, MD — APRIL 10-12, 2026  
**'THE STEPS ARE OUR SOLUTION'**

HOST COMMITTEE	ALL SUBCOMMITTEES
<b>2ND THURSDAY, 7:00 PM</b> <b>Zoom ID: 849 1472 8396</b> <b>PW: 123456</b>	<b>MEET MONTHLY &amp; VIRTUALLY (EST)</b>
<b>Additional Needs</b> 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 pm Zoom ID: 862 4318 3984 PW: 123456	<b>Arts &amp; Graphics</b> 1st Saturday, 3:30 pm Zoom ID: 874 2297 1591 PW: 123456
<b>Convention Information</b> 3rd Sunday, 5:00 pm Zoom ID: 844 6042 6116 PW: 4636	<b>Hospitality</b> 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm Zoom ID: 848 1458 7421 PW: 092666
<b>Merchandise</b> 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM Zoom ID: 891 0131 6962 PW: 123456	<b>Registration</b> 2nd Saturday, 6:00 pm Zoom ID: 822 4047 6200 PW: 123456
<b>Entertainment</b> 2nd Sunday, 4:00 pm Zoom ID: 893 9698 2557 PW: 123456	<b>Program</b> 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 pm Zoom ID: 864 4944 6940 PW: 123456

For Additional Information go to [CPRCNA.Org](http://CPRCNA.Org)

Convention site: <https://www.cprcna.org>

### Attraction vs. Promotion

In *It Works: How and Why*, **promotion** is described as “fanfare, overblown claims, [and] celebrity endorsements.”

In PR service, all we are charged with doing is informing the public that we are a credible program of recovery. We must be visible in order to be **attractive**.

The still-suffering addict cannot hear our message if they don't know where to find us.

- PR Basics

**Seen around town...  
... at a grocery store near YOU!**



# UNITY Area Pot Luck



**SEPT. 7TH  
3:00PM-4:45PM**

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
10047 NOKESVILLE ROAD, MANASSAS



3:00-3:30  
FELLOWSHIP  
3:30-3:35  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
+ HAPPENINGS  
3:45-3:50  
SPEAKER  
3:50+  
Q&A TIME

<https://www.cprna.org/event/unity-area-potluck/>

## NA in DelRay Annual Cookout!

September 21 @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Free!**

**10am-Meeting  
Speaker 2pm**

Zoom ID: 873 44463412  
P/C:: 1991

**Alcova Heights Park  
901 S George Mason Dr.  
Arlington, VA 22204**

**Food! Fun! Fellowship!  
Limited Parking!!**

<https://www.cprna.org/event/na-in-delray-annual-cookout/>

**SATURDAY • 6 SEPTEMBER 2025 • 9:00 am PDT (16:00 GMT)**  
Serenity Prayer



# WORLD UNITY Day

No matter what conflicts are unfolding in the world at large,  
we aspire to an ideal of unity: Our common welfare should come first.

Basic Text, Preface

Every year, we come  
together to say the Serenity  
Prayer for the addict who  
still suffers and to

Around the clock,  
from around the world!



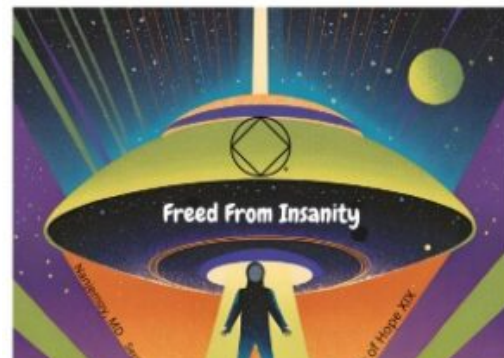
9:00 pm 5 September – 9:00 pm 6 September

**Around-the-Clock meeting: September 6,  
midnight - September 7, midnight!**

**Saturday, 9/6, 12 noon: Stop to say a  
World-Wide Serenity Prayer!**

Schedule can be found at:

<https://na.org/news-events/annual-events/>



**Tri-County Area Unity Retreat**

**A River of Hope XIX**

**“Freed from Insanity”**

**September 26, 27, & 28, 2025**

**Lions Camp Merrick  
3650 Rick Hamilton Pl,  
Nanjemoy, MD 20662**

Register at:

<https://www.tcaur.org/>

**Straight Hope Contributors:** Anne E. - Layout/Content Galen T. - Layout  
Ben C. - Steps/Traditions **Email Us!** [straighthope@cprna.org](mailto:straighthope@cprna.org)

**Scan the QR Code to get Straight Hope Online or go to:**

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

