

STRAIGHT HOPE

The Montgomery Area Newsletter...a meeting in print

\$\$ Priceless \$\$

Volume 107

PO Box 8214 Gaithersburg, MD 20898

JUNE 2026

MASC Annual Timeline	
Month	Description
January	Area Inventory
	Treasury Review
	Program Rep Nomination
February	Program Rep Election
March	Program Rep Start Service Position
	Inventory Ended
April	Treasury Review
	Inventory Report
June	Trusted Servant Nominations
July	Treasury Review
	Trusted Servant Elections
August	Trusted Servants Begin Term
October	Treasury Review
	Review Special Events Funds for Thanksgiving & Holiday Events
November	Special Events \$500 for Thanksgiving
December	Special Events \$500 for Holiday

Montgomery Area Nominations and Elections

Nominations for the annual election of all trusted servants are held **in June** with **elections held in July**. Members must attend MASC meetings when nominated and elected. Elected members will **begin their terms in August**. Attend the **MASC meetings**, held the **1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM**, to get involved!

MASC Zoom info is on page 3!

A Reader Responds...

"It might be best to remember the Third Tradition when planning special interest meetings. A friend of mine attended a Zoom meeting for his first meeting ever and was told by an attendee that it was a woman only meeting and he would have to leave immediately. He felt rejected and wasn't sure he belonged to the program at all."

When I read this in April 2026's issue of Straight Hope, I felt empathy for the person who was removed from the meeting. Nobody should be told they "have to leave immediately." But NA cannot exist in a vacuum. There are realities we must be aware of.

As a man, I can say Women's meetings are necessary. I recount one lady sharing her story about how an older male forcibly tried to kiss her after a meeting. Another young woman spoke about how a man kept showing up at her home group just so he could keep asking her out. This became such an issue, our Area's Policy Subcommittee had to hold a special meeting about harassing behavior, which I attended.

The same principle applies to LGBTQ+ meetings. I remember a celebration speaker upsetting a few people when he used a homophobic slur in his share. He was unapologetic when confronted about it. To be sure, creed, sexual orientation, gender, and political affiliation aren't barriers to membership – nor should they be. And I've heard addicts share about learning tolerance, and I was touched by one member sharing how being around LGBTQ+ addicts taught him to overcome his homophobia. So, we can teach each other to overcome prejudices and tendency toward harassing behavior.

Continued on page 3

Step of the Month

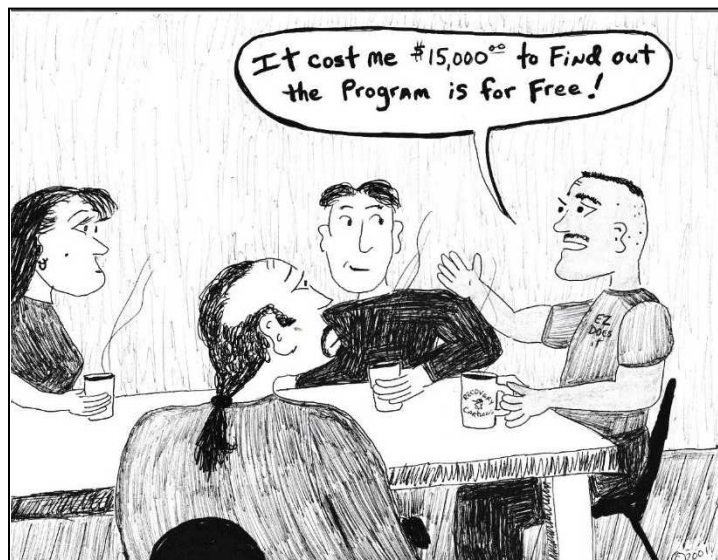
Step 6: *"We were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character."*

God-given drives to eat food, reproduce and be somebody of importance are natural instincts that help us survive. Often while I was using drugs, and sometimes today in recovery, these natural drives can exceed their intended purpose. I still fight between my self-centered desires for these instinctual drives and the God-centered objectives to experience peace and happiness and be of service to others ~ *Ben C.*



Tradition of the Month

Tradition 6: *"An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."*



Living Miracles

- 6/1 Ernestine 46 yrs NA at Noon
- 6/5 Matt M. 1 yr Live and Let Live
- 6/7 Amy C. 2 yrs Let It Shine
- 6/8 Maurice 1 yr Illness in Recovery
- 6/9 Mica M 2 yrs Choose Life
- 6/9 Terrence T. 18yrs All About Change
- 6/12 Tommy S. 1 yr Live and Let Live
- 6/13 Betsy S. 38 yrs Off the Beaten Path
- 6/13 Gerry P. 39 yrs Off the Beaten Path
- 6/13 Hughie M. 56 yrs Fire, Faith, & Fellowship
- 6/15 Jamal 1 yr Illness in Recovery
- 6/15 Trisha T. 16 yrs Steps at Glenmont
- 6/18 Bill H. 33 yrs Crossroads
- 6/19 Lauren 1 yr Live and Let Live
- 6/21 Dave V. 41 yrs Talking Heads
- 6/23 Eric S. 24 yrs All About Change
- 6/25 James W. 35 yrs Serenity/Park
- 6/27 Beth S. 21 yrs Off the Beaten Path
- 6/28 Shelby P. 1 yr Talking Heads
- 6/28 Danny C. 1 yr Today's Recovery
- 6/29 Morgan S. 3yrs Oasis
- 6/30 Joe P. 1yr All About Change
- 7/6 Roy W. 6 yrs Freedom/Village Noon
- 7/13 Val G. 38 yrs Monday Miracles
- 7/14 Ari K. 2 yrs Freedom/Village Noon
- 7/16 Todd S. 39 yrs Making A Difference
- 7/19 Patricia 41 yrs Talking Heads
- 7/19 Mary M. 18 yrs Talking Heads
- 7/19 Glenn B. 41 yrs Talking Heads
- 7/23 Lissa H. 35 yrs Spiritual Awakening

Hospitals, recovery houses, treatment centers, and parole and probation officials should not endorse, finance, or be allowed to use the NA's name. It might be attractive for customers for treatment centers or hospitals to advertise that their clients will be involved with the NA program, but they should be reminded not to specifically identify Narcotics Anonymous as connected in any way to their facility. ~ *Ben C.*

NA-Related Announcements

Montgomery Area Service Positions: ALL SERVICE POSITIONS ARE OPEN FOR NOMINATION/ELECTION! Come to the next ASC & volunteer! **Elections: Tuesday, July 7, 7:30 pm.**

See Area minutes for the list of nominees.

Positions that need a nominee are: **Vice-Treasurer, H&I Chair, Policy Chair, Phoneline Liaison.**

GSR Orientations are held from **7-7:30 PM** right before the ASC!

All on the MASC Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083; P/C: 749698

6/6: Dope Fiend Olympics! Saturday, June 6, 11 AM - 7 PM, Monocacy Village Park, 409 Delaware Rd., Frederick, MD 21701

6/13: Regional Service Committee Meeting Hosted by Frederick Area! Saturday, June 13, Subcommittees: 10 am – 12 Noon; RSC 1 PM – 5 PM, Trinity United Methodist Church, 703 W Patrick St., Frederick, MD 21710

6/26-6/28: MANA Camping! Friday, June 26-Sunday June 28, Izaak Walton League, 8721 Snouffer School Road, Gaithersburg, MD

6/27: Speakeasy Old Timer Speaker Jam! Saturday, June 27, 7-8:30 pm. The event is catered, so come hungry! Flyer on page 4!

How to Make Area Donations

Zelle: MONTGOMERY AREA SERVICE COMMITTEE, mascdonation

CashApp: \$MASCdonate; Name is the MASC's Treasurer's

Send Check by US Mail: MASC, PO Box 8214, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8214

Make sure to include your Group's Name!



CPRCNA Logo Contest!

Share your design or concept for our next convention's theme, "Brought Forward from Darkness to Light"

One design will be presented as our Main Theme for 2027 and will be displayed side by side with all 40 years of our past historical banners.

Deadline for Logo Contest Submissions is July 31, 2026

Email designs and/or concepts based on our theme to:

ArtsAndGraphics@cprcna.org

Continued from Page 1: "A Reader Responds"

However, such growth tends to happen over a period of months and years, and typically with the support of a trusted sponsor and/or network. It doesn't help the woman or LGBTQ+ newcomer with eight days clean who's experiencing harassment or heard such a slur, which may result in them relapsing, and, quite possibly, dying. They usually don't have the tools those of us with years have developed.

Having said that, there are variations in delivery, many of which can keep the newcomer coming back. "You have to leave immediately" lands in a much harsher way than "this is a meeting space for women; we encourage you to check one out that's open to all genders. Here's a meeting list." The latter preserves the safety of the space and gives the newcomer options.

The Third Tradition protects membership in NA, but special interest meetings can protect access to recovery for people who might otherwise not stay long enough to recover. We just need to deliver that message in a loving way.

~ Anonymous

Chesapeake & Potomac Regional Cookout Coming Soon!

Each One Teach One!

**SATURDAY
AUG 29, 2026**

Lansburgh Park
1098 Delaware Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20024

Narcotics Anonymous Unity Day & Speaker Jam!

NA Events * NA Events * NA Events * NA Events

More NA events can be found at <https://www.cprna.org/event/>



IZAIAK WALTON LEAGUE
8721 SNOUFFER SCHOOL RD. GAITHERSBURG, MD 20879
JUNE 26TH TO THE 28TH

DIRECTIONS: AT THE STOP LIGHT ON SNOUFFER SCHOOL RD, TURN ONTO TURKEY THICKET DR. FOLLOW TURKEY THICKET DR. UNTIL YOU SEE THE TRAINING FACILITY ON THE LEFT, TAKE THE GRAVEL ROAD ON THE RIGHT, TURN LEFT AT THE FIRST CORNER, FOLLOW DIRECTIONAL SIGNS TO THE PAVILION & PARKING LOT.
\$20 PER PERSON FOR 1 NIGHT OR \$30 FOR BOTH NIGHTS
MONTGOMERY AREA SPECIAL EVENTS HAS A LARGE CABIN TENT FOR ANYONE THAT WANTS TO SPEND THE NIGHT BUT DOES NOT HAVE A TENT. BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR & A FOOD DISH TO SHARE IF YOU CAN!
GAMES TO PLAY ALL DAY INCLUDING HORSESHOES, VOLLEYBALL, BADMINTON & BOARD GAMES!

EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY JUNE 26TH:

1:00 PM - CAMP SET UP
6:00 PM - POT LUCK DINNER + GRILL & CAMP STOVE AVAILABLE

SATURDAY JUNE 27TH:

9:00 TO 11:00 AM - BREAKFAST
12:00PM TO 2:00 PM - NATURE HIKE
6:00 TO 8:00 PM - DINNER + HOTDOGS & HAMBURGERS
8:00 TO 9:00 PM - SPEAKER MEETING (NO PURCHASE NECESSARY)
9:00 PM - SMORE'S & FELLOWSHIP!

SUNDAY JUNE 28TH

CAMP BREAK DOWN

WANT TO VOLUNTEER? NEED MORE INFORMATION?
CONTACT BRAD S. (540) 272-8899 OR ANDREW G. (240) 739-0632
DONATE TO MONTGOMERY AREA SPECIAL EVENTS



<https://www.cprna.org/event/mana-camping/>

GSR Orientation 1st Tuesdays @ 7 PM

Montgomery Area Service PR offers a GSR Orientation before every Area Service meeting.

Zoom ID: 876 1298 6083

P/C: 749698



Our **MASC Google Drive** also has information for GSRs and their Groups. Scan the QR code and go straight to the **GSR & Groups folder** — everything you need to get started is in there!

Questions?

Email na-montgomery@cprna.org

S P E A K E A S Y

Old Timers Speaker Jam

100 PLUS YEARS OF EXPERIENCE STRENGTH & HOPE
FOOD - FUN

SATURDAY JUNE 27TH

INFORMATION CALL
AJ 301-728-5760
CHARLENE 301-273-5160
ALI 301-456-4272

8900 GEORGIA AVE | 8900 GEORGIA AVE
SILVER SPRING MD 20910 | SILVER SPRING MD 20910

TIME
7-8:30PM

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

<https://www.cprna.org/event/speakeasy-speaker-jam/>

ECCNA 29 Awakening The Spirit June 19-21, 2026

Young Harris College
Young Harris, Georgia 30582

An entire weekend of fun, fellowship, and recovery in the North Georgia Mountains, with all profits going to purchase Basic Texts for incarcerated addicts who need our message more than ever!

Unlike other conventions...

...the East Coast Convention of NA is held in a different state each year on a college campus - and the registration fee includes dormitory housing and meals. If you have ever attended an ECCNA convention, you KNOW how different and GREAT they are! **Join us this year!**

DORM ROOMS + 5 MEALS FOR THE WEEKEND START AT \$295

DAY PASSES ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$35

(FEE APPLY FOR ONLINE PURCHASES)

Scan the QR code to register online. For more information, contact Cheryl H.

<https://www.cprna.org/event/eccna-29/>

Straight Hope Contributors: Anne E. - Layout/Content
Galen T. - Layout
Ben C. - Steps/Traditions

Heard It In a Meeting: **Each One Teach One**

Get
Straight
Hope
Online

