



JULY 2020

# Manassas District News

MANASSAS DISTRICT WEBSITE  
[aamanassas.info/](http://aamanassas.info/)

## Monthly District Meeting

Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. **NOW ON ZOOM!!**  
All are Welcome!

## WE CELEBRATE!! - ANNIVERSARIES - JUNE/JULY 2020

Name	Year(s)
Dottie C.	1
Sammy G.	12
Trish N.	15
John J.	19
Cheryl B.	35
Mary S.	35
Sara J.	35
Allen K.	44

### District Officers 2019-20

DCM: John J.  
ADCM: OPEN  
Treasurer: Pati J.  
Secretary: Kenzie L.  
Intergroup: Kenzie L.

### Committee Chairs

Archives: Steve M.  
CPC/PI: Yvette G.  
Corrections (M): Cameron F./  
Corrections (F): Sarah S.  
Literature/GV: Katie R.  
Newsletter: Sara J.  
Treatment Ctrs: Sarah S.  
Website: John W.

Hi all — If you want your anniversary posted in the newsletter and you don't see it here, just let me know! Email me or your DCM. We'd love to celebrate with YOU!! — *The Editor*

*If you don't drink, you won't get drunk  
Thank you for allowing us to serve!!*

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR DCM

### Dear Friends!

July - WHEW! In this article, as we are in the seventh month, I will be discussing Step 7, Tradition 7, and Concept 7. Step 7 talks about humility; Tradition 7 is about self support, and Concept 7 bears these two out when it mentions that it "relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness." More on that below. I will also talk about our Summer Meeting that took place in July.

As your DCM, the weekend of 10-11 July, I attended the online (Zoom) version of the Virginia Area Committee Summer Meeting, a session at a time. It took many hours of online sessions to prepare for the Virginia Area Fall Assembly in Roanoke, 9-11 October, which is still slated to occur as scheduled.

When our Delegate, Barb D., gave her report at the VAC Summer Meeting on July 11, she was very thorough at enlightening us as to what is going on with the General Service Office (GSO), and what came out of the General Service Conference (GSC). She attended many Zoom meetings for many hours over many days at the GSC. One



of the big things to come out of GSO is that, in spite of personnel forced to work from home as the NY office was closed, over 5,500 pieces of mail were received and processed (in the first two months of COVID-19 restrictions), which included 90 responses to media/public outlets about how AA has adapted to virtual meeting space/5th Tradition online efforts, and 150 AA-related articles published so far around the world during COVID-19.

To me, the more stark reality is what is going on with GSO finances. And it's not a pretty picture. Here is a working demonstration of our 7<sup>th</sup> tradition. The normal operating expenses for GSO add up to \$1.4M per month. Half of this amount comes from member/group contributions, and half comes from literature sales. The shortfall due to COVID-19 is half of what it needs to be to keep the office running (\$700k), and for them to continue to do all they do for the fellowship. If the staff is staying home, how can they process literature requests and sales? This issue is difficult at best, and may continue to be like this for the next 3-4 months.

To this end, as we are in the seventh month, when we consider the Seventh Tradition of A.A., I quote from our literature the long form of this Tradition: "The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by



Alcoholics Anonymous  
Grand Central Station  
P.O. Box 459  
New York NY 10163  
[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

Northern Virginia Intergroup  
10400 Eaton Place #140  
Fairfax, VA 22030-2225  
[www.nvintergroup.org](http://www.nvintergroup.org)

STARTING JAN 2019:  
Virginia Area Committee (VAC)  
VAC Treasurer  
P.O. Box 8624  
Virginia Beach, VA 23450  
[treasurer@aavirginia.org](mailto:treasurer@aavirginia.org)

Manassas District #33  
P.O. Box 1705  
Manassas VA  
20108-1705  
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### DCM Report (cont'd from page 1)

the voluntary contributions of their own members. . . . Then, too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that *nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.*"

In an October 1967 Grapevine, Bill W., in speaking about finances in A.A in relation to Tradition 7 concerning GSO and business offices related to AA, said, "Though not costly, these service agencies are absolutely essential to our continued expansion — to our survival as a Fellowship. Their costs are a collective obligation that rests squarely upon all of us. Our support of services actually amounts to recognition on our part that A.A. must everywhere function in full strength - and that, under our Tradition of self-support, we are all going to foot the bill."

As one of the previous delegates pointed out at a GSC sharing session, the first folding money - one dollar - to show up in a 7th tradition basket at a group meeting was in 1943. That comes out to \$15.21 in 2020 dollars. Yet some folks in the rooms are not even giving \$1.00, which doesn't go very far these days as far as supporting our service agencies. Barb gave a couple of other comparisons: the cost of a drink for Bill & Dr. Bob in 1935 was \$0.15; in 2019 that came to \$2.80. The cost of a \$2.00 drink in 1994 would be \$3.45 in 2019. Expenses were much different in 1935 when AA started than they are in 2020.

Many folks coming into AA can't even contribute today's \$1. Once footing has been gained and a member truly realizes and embraces the gift of sobriety, should not a grateful heart be more generous?

And from our Self-support Card (the Green Card): ". . . But the Seventh Tradition is more than simply paying for rent and other group expenses. It is both a privilege and a responsibility of individual groups and members to ensure that our organization, at every level, remains forever self-supporting and free of outside influences



### Step Seven

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

### Tradition Seven

Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions

### Concept Seven for World Service

The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

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that might divert us from our primary purpose. The monetary amount of each contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that joins us in unity with A.A. groups around the world. • Currently about 43.7% of groups contribute to the General Service Office. • Costs of Services provided by G.S.O. (as of 2018) cost approximately \$7.40 per member per year."

Our Responsibility Statement says, "I am responsible. . . ."

Does your group know that contributions may be made online at AA.org? At aavirginia.org? At nvintergroup.org? At aamanassas.info? For yourself and the group? Please give what you can, and ask yourself: What is the value of your sobriety?

Be safe, stay healthy, stay sober, thank you for the service you do -  
And Thank you for letting me be of service!

*John J.*, DCM , [jj26june@earthlink.net](mailto:jj26june@earthlink.net)

**Please check church websites, Northern Virginia Intergroup, or [AAVirginia.org](http://AAVirginia.org) for additional guidance.**

### LIST OF ONLINE & PHONE MEETINGS:

Northern VA Intergroup LIST

<https://nvintergroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/TEMPORARILY-CANCELED-MEETINGS-AS-OF-4-4-20.pdf>

Virtual meetings

<https://nvintergroup.org/>

PHONE-ONLY MEETINGS (WAIA)

<https://aa-dc.org/phone-meeting-list>

ONLINE MEETINGS (WAIA)

<https://aa-dc.org/meetings?tsml-time=upcoming&tsml-type=ONL>

Online meetings thru GSO

<https://beta.aa-intergroup.org/>

<https://beta.aa-intergroup.org/oiaa/meetings/>

As of Thursday, April 23, 2020

**I**n these uncertain times, while the pandemic is raging, please let's all be considerate of each other.

WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING!!

We ALL want to get through this!



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Fairfax, VA 22030-2225

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Office Mgr.: 703-293-9757



**INTERGROUP NEEDS PHONE VOLUNTEERS!**

Northern Virginia Intergroup Needs Phone Volunteers. If you have a year or more sobriety and could volunteer for as little as three hours a month, please call. Monthly training.

The Manassas District A.A. Newsletter is published monthly. Send items you wish to publish to Manassas District # 33, P.O. Box 1705, Manassas, VA 20108-1705 or email [hdsara@earthlink.net](mailto:hdsara@earthlink.net)