

GAL-AA

GaL-AA Winter Newsletter

Jan/Feb/Mar 2018

GaL-AA 2018 Election Results

Greetings and Happy New Year,

We have received one service resume for each of the open positions during our election timeline. These positions are Deputy Chair, Secretary and Advisor II. They were received from the current incumbents Carol N., Mark P. and Eric W., respectively. According to our Bylaws and election process, no voting need take place should there not be more than one nomination. Therefore, I say congratulations to the three incumbents and thank them for their continued service to our organization. I would, however, like to encourage future participation in our organization. If you have any interest or talents that you feel would be useful to our organization, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Denise Robinson

Chairperson, GaL-AA

Statement of Inclusion

GaL-AA (Gays and Lesbians in AA) was established to serve and have the involvement of lesbians, gay men, and others in Alcoholics Anonymous, regardless of how they choose to identify themselves. In selecting the name, careful consideration was given to a variety of combinations. While the name only directly reflects gays and lesbians, we embrace all LGBT+ members of the AA fellowship.

Newsletter Contributors

We need your help! Are you interested in contributing to the quarterly newsletter? Do you have any AA-related news from your area you would like to share with others around the GaL-AA community? Do you have ideas and suggestions for improving our communications with this rest of the community? Then, please let us know today!

We're looking for other LGBT+ editorial contributors from around the US or abroad that would be interested in helping us compile important news to share with the AA community.

For more information or if you have questions, please email:

Eric W.: eric@gal-aa.org

Contact Us

GaL-AA

9450 SW Gemini Dr. #45287
Beaverton, OR 97008

Email us: support@gal-aa.org

Visit us on the web: gal-aa.org

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Contributing to GaL-AA

7th Tradition: Self-Support and 12th Step Work

We received inquiries from members on our committee's use of funds. Like all groups in our fellowship, GaL-AA is self-supporting and relies on contributions from groups and individuals. In keeping with the 7th Tradition, we do not accept contributions from non-AA sources. Groups (regularly, some sporadically) send monies to GaL-AA from meeting collections. We also receive contributions from AA round-up committees, and individual AA members send contributions as a way of giving back to the fellowship - in short, GaL-AA's operating funds come from you.

What we do with contributions? We maintain an internet website, operate hospitality suites at AA's International Conventions, distribute literature, sponsor registrations for round-up attendees that lack resources, maintain databases of LGBT+ meetings and roundups, mass mail communications about and from GaL-AA to AA members, and pay fees to service providers necessary for our operations. None of our committee members are compensated with contributions (each donates his or her time freely). We do not use funds for travel expenses (other than hotel accommodations for limited in-person meetings annually), and we meet monthly online so we do not have normal rental expense. Although different from home groups', our expenses are necessary in performing 12-Step work. A summary of contributions from groups/sources is below. Is your group contributing or should it consider contributing? There is an AA world outside any home group that includes special purpose groups (other

groups similar to GaL-AA with individuals from distinct backgrounds: International Doctors in AA, International Lawyers in AA, "Birds of a Feather"/airline pilots and aviation professionals in AA, International Conference of Young People in AA, etc.), the fellowship's General Service Office (GSO), regional intergroups, district and area committees. No matter what their composition, special purpose groups have the same primary purpose as any AA group: carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers. We are united in the first tradition with one another as it states our common welfare comes first with personal recovery depending upon unity. What a great tradition that binds us.

AA's GSO has suggested guidance on the 7th Tradition and financial matters groups should consider in adhering to the traditions and upholding the concepts for AA service. GSO's guidelines remind groups to consider distributing excess funds for 12-Step work. Naturally, the home group's expenses (rent, literature, coffee/snacks, other supplies) are paid before any distributions outside. The guidance recommends groups consider a plan of distribution (a matter for your group's own conscience) for funds in order to further carry out the 5th Tradition and 12th Step work. Many group treasurers are familiar with the percentage plan for sending monies to GSO, intergroup/central office, district and area. If your group doesn't already contribute to GaL-AA, ask your group members to consider us as another AA service entity that relies on your support to carry the message. We are grateful to the groups and individuals for their continuous support. See the website and newsletter for more information on ways to contribute. Those interested in GSO's guidance may find it in the AA pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix": aa.org/assets/en_US/f-3_selfsupport.pdf.

Sober & Out

In keeping with our mission to support LGBT+ in AA, we will supply the book Sober & Out (LGBT stories from the AA Grapevine) to Hospitals and Institutions (H&I) groups upon request to Jim A.:

jim@gal-aa.org

Contribute to GaL-AA

We heard your voice and have made available two alternate ways to send your contribution. You can go to the web or download the mobile apps for each of Venmo or Square Cash:

Venmo: venmo.com/GaLAAContribution

Square Cash: [cash.me/\\$GaLAAContribution](https://cash.me/$GaLAAContribution)

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Email us: support@gal-aa.org

Visit us on the web at: gal-aa.org

Aug-Nov 2017 Contributions

Group/Individual	Contribution
Friday Nite Group @ St. Andrews, Ann Arbor, MI	60.00
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition, Palm Springs, CA	24.92
Lambda Galveston Group, Galveston, TX	24.90
Live & Let Live (Group 150), St. Louis, MO (yes!)	300.00
Rose City Men's Group (Morgan D.), Portland, OR	11.35
808 LGBTQI Group, Brattleboro, VT	16.30
Lambda Group, Durham, NC	64.59
GALIS, Winchester, MA	37.50
Live & Let Live AA, Saint Paul, MN	20.00
Lambda Group of AA, Dallas, TX	15.00
UTC Group, Warrington, PA	55.00
Eureka Valley Topic, San Francisco, CA	70.72
Primary Purpose Group, Washington, DC (yes!) (Charles H.)	177.60
Bell Book and Candle, Atlanta, GA	50.00
Lunch Bunch Groups, Portland, OR	50.00
Primary Purpose, Columbia, SC (yes!)	121.80
Lambda Group of AA, Dallas, TX	15.00
Friday Nite Lambda Group, Albany, NY	10.00
Live & Let Live AA, Saint Paul, MN	29.70
G&L AA, Des Moines, IA	25.00
Thomas R., Washington, DC	100.00
Sunny Dunes 5th Tradition, Palm Springs, CA	35.27
Lambda Group of AA, Dallas, TX	15.00
Live and Let Live, Oklahoma City, OK	50.00
Wednesday Big Book, Montclair, NJ	22.60
GALIS, Winchester, MA	31.00
Naples, FL Free 2 Be	13.69
LGBT Group of RI	45.00
Eric M., Eureka Springs, AR	10.00
Philip L.	50.00
AA Speaker Meetings at San Diego Feeling Good Round-Up	68.85
GLBTQ Sober Sunday, Portland Maine (Victor H.) (yes!)	150.00
Jim A. (CA)	100.00
Vicki W.	20.00
LGBT in Recovery Sunday, Escondido, CA	100.00
Total	1,990.79

GaL-AA Fundraisers

In addition to our regular contributions at the individual, group and area level, GaL-AA needs your help in support to raise additional funds for the International AA Convention. When the committee met in March, we decided to open the ideas up to our membership and community. We are asking you if you'd like to help contribute to GaL-AA by hosting an event of your choice, anywhere around the world, to help support us. Some

example ideas include: hosting a party at your house, spaghetti dinner with speaker, drag bingo night, etc. The possibilities are endless!

Let us know your ideas and we'd love to share information about your event with the rest of the community. You can even write up an article and we'll feature it in a future newsletter or on our website.

You can email us at: Support@gal-aa.org

Executive Committee

Chairperson

Denise R.
deniser@gal-aa.org
Attleboro, MA
DOS: 10/24/1989

Deputy Chair

Carol N.
carol@gal-aa.org
Stoneham, MA
DOS: 2/9/1980

Secretary

Mark P.
markp@gal-aa.org
Beverly, MA
DOS: 4/21/2005

Treasurer

Pierre B.
pierre@gal-aa.org
Atlanta, GA
DOS: 1/4/1994

Advisor I

Jim A.
jim@gal-aa.org
Los Angeles, CA
DOS: 9/25/1982

Advisor II

Eric W.
eric@gal-aa.org
St. Louis, MO
DOS: 1/4/2005

Advisor III

Randall R.
randall@gal-aa.org
Dearborn, MI
DOS: 4/26/2002

Technical Liaison

Rob F.
robfg@gal-aa.org
Columbus, OH
DOS: 12/25/2008

The Steps...

Step 1: We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.

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

Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, *as we understood Him*.

Tradition 1: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

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.

Tradition 3: The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

...The Traditions

Upcoming Roundups around the US and Canada

If you see a roundup missing, please email eric@gal-aa.org with the information..

City	Roundup Name	Website	Start Date	End Date
Rehoboth	Spirit by the Sea	rehobothroundup.org	2/16/2018	2/18/2018
SEMRU	Southeastern Massachusetts	semru.org	2/16/2018	2/19/2018
South Carolina	Quest Roundup	questcarolinaroundup.org	2/23/2018	2/25/2018
Honolulu	Aloha Roundup	aloharoundup.com	2/23/2018	2/25/2018
Miami	Florida Roundup	floridaroundup.org	3/14/2018	3/18/2018
Detroit	Together We Can	twcdetroit.com	3/23/2018	3/25/2018
Vancouver	Celebrate Sobriety	celebratesobriety.ca	3/30/2018	4/1/2018
Atlanta	The Highlands Retreat by Hotlanta Roundup	thehighlandsretreat.com	5/4/2018	5/6/2018
San Jose	Sober & Free	soberandfree.org	5/5/2018	5/5/2018
Long Island	Fire Island Round Up (Long Island Ru Presents)	longislandroundup.org	5/10/2018	5/13/2018
Palm Springs	Sober in the Sun	soberinthesun.net	5/17/2018	5/20/2018
Phoenix	AZ Spring Break	azspringbreak.org	5/18/2018	5/20/2018
Los Angeles	AALA	aalaroundup.org	5/25/2018	5/27/2018
Dallas	Big D Roundup	bigdroundup.com	5/25/2018	5/28/2018
New Mexico	New Mexico Roundup	nmroundup.org	5/28/2018	5/26/2018
New York	Big Apple Roundup	bigappleroundup.org	6/23/2018	6/24/2018
New Orleans	New Orleans Roundup	nolaroundup.com	6/29/2018	7/1/2018
Austin	Austin Roundup	austinroundup.com	7/20/2018	7/22/2018
Halifax	Courage Roundup	courageroundup.ca	8/10/2018	8/12/2018
Chicago	Chicago Roundup	chicagoroundup.org	8/24/2018	8/26/2018
Ohio	Ohio Roundup	ohioroundup.org	8/24/2018	8/26/2018
San Antonio	San Antonio Roundup	sanantonioundup.com	8/31/2018	9/2/2018
Tacoma	Lakeshore Retreat	lakeshoreretreat.org	9/28/2018	9/30/2018
Provincetown	Serenity by the Sea	provincetownroundup.org	10/17/2018	10/21/2018

Contact Us:

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Beaverton, OR 97008

Visit us on the web at:

gal-aa.org

On our website you can:

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And a whole lot more!