



The Augustine Fellowship of SLAA - Greater Delaware Valley Intergroup (GDVI)
I will ask and become willing to have Higher Power heal my character defects – A State of Grace p.19

Headline News

February 2018

Please print and share in meetings Feb. 2018/Mar. 2018

For information go to SLAADVI.ORG

GDVI serves the SLAA fellowship in the following important ways:

MEETING LISTS

Updates and distributes a comprehensive list of all Intergroup meetings

LITERATURE

Supplies Intergroup meetings with SLAA pamphlets and Basic Texts

WEBSITE

Maintains an up-to-date online news, information and guidance book for Intergroup at SLAADVI.ORG.

INFORMATION LINE

Operates a telephone information line for newcomers seeking information on SLAA and local meetings.

Call 609-621-SLAA(7522).

INSPIRATION LINE

Offers strength and hope messages daily to all who are seeking help – 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

Call 215-574-2120.

DAILY INSPIRATIONAL TEXT

Sends out a daily Inspirational Text to mobile phone subscribers. To sign up for the daily message go to WWW.SLAADVI.ORG/INSPIRATIONAL-TEXT-SIGN-UP.HTML.

INSPIRATION STORY LINE

Offers a weekly Inspirational Story where those in recovery share their stories to a worldwide audience – 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

Call 215-574-2121

Recovery Retreats

Sponsors annual retreats each year that provide enrichment and support to the women and men of Intergroup and others in SLAA.

Community Outreach

Works with other organizations to promote recovery from addiction.

Grace means all your mistakes now serve *a purpose* instead of serving *shame*.

14th Annual GDVI - SLAA Spirituality Weekend

"From Shame to Grace"

at Daylesford Abbey

March 9-11, 2018

- Retreat registration opens at 3 p.m., Fri., March 9.
- Retreat begins at 5 p.m. on Friday and closes on Sunday at 11 a.m.
- Daylesford Abbey is located at 220 South Valley Rd., Paoli, PA 19301

\$315 – Full Registration

Includes workshops, single room lodging for 2 nights, all meals from Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast

\$215 – Commuter Registration

Includes all workshops and meals for 3 days

- Registration forms and more workshop information and Pay Pal payment is available on the GDVI website: www.slaadvi.org
- Accommodations are single room only with shared bathrooms.
- Bed and bath linens are provided.
- For more information regarding scholarship considerations, special needs and dietary requirements or to volunteer during the retreat, please contact the retreat coordinator at: dviRetreatCoordinator@slaadvi.org

This is a sober event and sobriety during the event is expected of all who attend.

Spiritual Retreat Program

Retreat leaders offer a broad range of activities

This Spiritual Retreat is a series of workshops, seminars and activities modeled to enhance your recovery skills in SLAA. The workshop topics will include

- Sponsorship
- Healthy dating
- Love addiction/love avoidance
- Emotional sobriety
- Trauma
- Informed yoga
- Sound healing

Also several 12 Step meetings will be held, at which personal recovery stories will be shared.

Couples Meeting

On Friday evening, at 7-8:30, there will be a meeting focusing on Couples in Recovery, which will be open to spouses and partners of attending retreat participants. Notification deadline for bringing a guest is Feb. 28, 2018.

After dinner on Saturday, March 10, there will be a 12 Step meeting at 7-8:30 open to all SLAA members.

Talent Show Alert!!

Following the meeting on March 10 the annual Spirituality Retreat. Talent Show will be held from 9 to 11. The talent show is open to all members of the SLAA community whether or not they are registered for the Retreat.

Call the
Inspiration Line
215-574-2120

Insights & Reflections

2018 – A Year of Service and Reward

In keeping with GDVI's dedication of 2018 as a Year of Service Awareness for all of our community, Headline News will be dedicating this space each month throughout the year to share ideas and voices from our local community on the giving back to the SLAA community through service. Headline News thanks those who have contributed articles so far, including the following articles on doing service at meetings.

Active Participation

As many among us know, actively participating at an SLAA meeting takes just a little effort, but it rewards us in ways that aid our recovery.

Whenever we attend a meeting, our lending a helping hand makes a difference for us and our fellows in recovery, for by sharing ourselves we always make ourselves and our groups stronger in fellowship and sobriety.

Even the simple acts of helping set up and put away chairs or putting out the literature is a gift to others that adds to our own purpose for being there. It could happen that our stepping forward to volunteer encourages another fellow to offer service.

Every time we open up and share our recovery journey by addressing the meeting's topic or we simply get current at a meeting, we perform a service to our community. Maybe we feel more comfortable listening to others than telling others where we are at that time in our recovery, but as we never know whose share will have a big impact on us at a meeting, we should never underestimate how what we are going through can give strength and inspiration to others at the meeting.

We should keep in mind that as members of a fellowship, we all depend on each other for experience, strength and hope. And by offering our service at meetings our rewards in the program grow. – *Lindsey B.*

Doing a Lick of Service

For a bunch of reasons, I didn't do a lick of service for a over a year after I entered SLAA. It didn't matter to me then that I wasn't doing service because I was getting so much from the meetings I stayed focused on that and didn't really think about doing service or that doing service would make any difference. *Continued on page 3*

GDVI 2017 Year End Financial Report

Our Seventh Tradition states: "Every SLAA Group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." We are pleased to report that we have honored and maintained that Tradition in 2017.

It has not been an easy task. However, Through group conscience and Higher Power's guidance, GDVI has been able to maintain another year of "financial sobriety."

On December 31st 2016, our regular checking account had a closing balance of \$4,286.05 .

On December 31st 2016, our savings account (prudent reserve) had a closing balance of \$2,496.24

On December 31st 2017, our regular checking account had a closing balance of \$4,653.20 .

On December 31st 2017, our savings account (prudent reserve) had a closing balance of \$2,501.25

You might ask, "How does Intergroup get this money and where does it go?" "What exactly does Intergroup do with our donations?"

Tradition Nine reads: "SLAA as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve." Intergroup is a service Board directly responsible to you, the members of SLAA.

Over the years our members have asked for Literature, Retreats, Social Events, Recovery Events, and by sending Representatives to the FWS Annual Business Meetings. GDVI has responded to the membership by financially supporting all of the above.

In 2017 GDVI hosted two retreats at a cost of over \$8000.00. In 2017 GDVI also purchased over \$2400.00 in Basic Texts and Pamphlets from Fellowship Wide Services. We now have enough stock to last for the next three years. Buying in bulk from FWS allows us to resell the literature to our meetings at a lower cost than the meetings would incur if buying on their own. It also allows us to provide all the literature used at the retreats and Recovery events.

Intergroup spent approximately \$400.00 in 2017 on Social Events namely the GDVI Picnic and the New Year's Day Sober Event. The Recovery Walk at Penn's Landing cost about \$200.00 in printing costs. In addition, GDVI sent three Delegates to the Annual Business Meeting in Boston at a cost of \$4,885.00. *Continued on page 3*

2017 GDVI Financial Report

Continued from page 2

We are anticipating only two Delegates will be sent to the Annual Business Meeting in San Antonio, Texas in 2018 at a cost of \$ 3200.00

GDVI has been asked on many occasions to help meetings who are failing or new meetings who need of start-up literature. We also get requests for scholarships to the Retreats. We have always complied with these requests. We've given away approximately \$200.00 worth of literature to the meetings and approximately \$2000.00 in scholarship money for Retreats in 2017.

Lastly, Intergroup is now funding three phone services: our Information Line, the Inspiration Line and the Inspirational Story Line. The three phone services cost less than \$70.00 per month. We believe these services have helped thousands of people and therefore we will continue to offer them.

So the question still remains, "Where do these funds come from?"

Here are the answers:

- 1) In 2017, meetings contributed over \$4000.00 in 7th Tradition contributions
- 2) New Members increase our 7th Tradition donations and what can be donated GDVI and FWS
- 3) New Meetings increase our 7th Tradition Donations
- 4) Offering Scholarships invites Scholarship Donations
- 5) Recovery Walks produce New Members
- 6) Literature Sales produce income.
- 7) Social Events usually break even or show a tiny profit
- 8) Well attended Retreats produce income.
- 9) One anonymous grateful recovering individual donated \$1500.00 to our Scholarship Fund

We have been asked: "What are some of your other expenses?"

Answers:

- 1) Rent for 444 N. 3rd Street (for Intergroup Meetings) \$300.00 per year
- 2) Phone lines \$720.00 per year
- 3) Rent for the New Years Day Event \$ 200.00
- 4) Reservation/Registration at the park for the Summer Picnic \$ 65.00
- 5) Miscellaneous Printing, postage and shipping \$983.00
- 6) Website and Website Maintenance \$132.00
- 7) Post Office Box \$120.00 yearly

*Respectfully submitted,
Michael S.
GDVI Treasurer*



A Lick of Service

Continued from page 2.

My view changed when I started attending a different meeting. At this meeting many members contributed to setting up and breaking down the meeting space and handling the literature. In no time I was unfolding and folding or stacking chairs, moving tables, laying out pamphlets and tidying up the space before leaving. What I hadn't imagined before I began doing this minimal service for the good of the meeting and its members was how much it would enhance my own experience in the program. By arriving a little early and helping set up, I already had a stake in the meeting. It was as though the act of doing made me want to do more, whether it was reading the Preamble or being more attentive to the sharing of others or being more ready and willing to share myself.

I view the meeting now as a time of cooperative activity and a time for me to give back to the program like so many have done before and so many still do; and I know that my service, as small as it is, makes fellowship a greater experience for me. – *Name withheld by request*

UPCOMING EVENTS

GDVI Spring Retreat
"From Shame to Grace"
March 9 - 11, 2018
See contact info on page 1.

New Inspiration Story Line

Hear recovery stories from recovering sex and love addicts.

Call 215-574 2121