



Spring Newsletter 2022

Ohio Valley Intergroup



Editor's Corner

Spring is in the air and so are a lot of great recovery opportunities such as the annual SAA Convention coming up Memorial Day weekend and our spring retreat on May 7th. In fact, that one is in the mirror that says, "Objects are closer than they appear!"

If you haven't sent in your intent to attend along with selections for workshops, please do so as soon as possible. The information below in "Save the Date!" now has the final updates to workshop content.

Once more, information about the upcoming SAA Convention in Atlanta is presented with a few added details.

And for this quarter, let's look at all the hard work that went into the SAA "Getting a Sponsor" pamphlet which was the first one written by the Authors Group. The long journey for this piece of literature is both impressive and somewhat sad.

Read on!
(The OVIG Newsletter Team)

Save the Date! Attend the OVIG Saturday Retreat & Workshop!

Here is the updated information on the OVIG Spring Retreat and Workshop:

One: Saturday May 7th at the Linworth Road Church (5400 Linworth Rd. Columbus, OH)

Two: The Planned Schedule is –

- 8:00 to 9:15 A.M. Sign In & Fellowship
- 9:15 to 9:30 A.M. Welcome and Updates
- 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. (SAA Meeting / Women's Perspective in Recovery)
- 10:30 15 Minute Break
- 10:45 to 11:45 A.M. (Lessons Learned from Relapse / Recovery in Motion with Poetry)
- 11:45 A.M. to 1:00 Lunch and Fellowship
- 1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. (What if I Don't Believe in God? / Making a "God Box" Art Project)
- 2:00 P.M. 15 Minute Break
- 2:15 P.M. to 3:15 P.M. (What is Healthy Sexuality? / Drum Circle Healing)
- 3:15 to 4:00 Closing and Clean Up

Three: Food and beverages will be provided at breakfast and lunch time.

Four: If you haven't yet, please let us know which workshops you plan to attend by calling (740)-707-7686 or sending an email to joecatania@msn.com or ohiovalleysaa@gmail.com

Five: Don't forget to have fun, learn, and grow your recovery on May 7th!

Important Fellowship Items

Special Needs

Are you looking for information or for specific meetings such as Offender meetings, LGBT, Women's meetings, or on-line meetings? The ISO website is a good place to start. Just use the URL below.

<https://saa-recovery.org/>

When the site appears, click on one of the rectangular buttons at the top or select one of the menu headings in the black runner below the buttons.

It's Steps of Courage in Atlanta

The 2022 SAA Convention "Steps of Courage" takes place in Atlanta. It will be the first "face-to-face" convention since Houston in 2019.

Below, you will find the link to the convention website, user-name, and password needed to safely access the site.

(Note: you may have to enter the password twice.)

When the familiar logo like the one below pops up, use the "Register" button to register for the convention on-line, or download a brochure to use or share with your group by clicking on the "Download Brochure" button at the bottom. Be sure to register on-line on or before May 13. After that registration will be in person.

Also note that the Convention takes place at the Westin Buckhead hotel. Should you choose to stay there during the convention, you can register on-line at the convention website by clicking on "Reserve Hotel Room" and following the instructions. You may also call (404)-365-0065 to make a reservation.

Web: www.saa-convention.org/2022

Username: steps

PW: courage



Getting a Sponsor: Pamphlet and Journey

I can still recall a discussion at the 2005 SAA Convention where Literature Committee members were talking about the enormous effort required to finally make the Green Book a reality. Most memorable was a quip made by one LitCom member when he said, "Literature doesn't just pop out of rocks!"

So, what does it take to have a new piece of literature appear? Consider the pamphlet "Getting a Sponsor". Below is a chronological list to highlight its journey from idea to published piece.

May 2010 – Four Literature Committee members attending the 2010 SAA Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico decide to form a group that specifically creates literature and calls it the Authors Group.

June 2010 – Discussions about what should be the first product of the AG ensues at the first-ever teleconference of the Authors Group. It is decided that a pamphlet about sponsorship should be first since nothing like it existed as a document separate from the Green Book.

July 2010 – Discussions led to the formation of a Sponsorship Work Group to begin creating the pamphlet. One of the group members is a professional writer and he works on the first draft.

August 2010 to May 2011 – Several revisions of the sponsorship pamphlet are completed as the AG deepens into an eclectic mix of hard work, creative discussions, and light talk that adds fun to the process. This model for working within the Authors Group survives to this day.

May 2011 – The Authors Group decides to distribute copies of “Getting a Sponsor” at the 2011 SAA Convention in Houston. The version of the pamphlet was “11B” by that time and was marked “Draft” and “Non-SAA Literature” since it did not have Literature Committee approval at that time. A moderate amount of feedback was obtained from those who picked up a copy and read it.

September 2011 – Draft 17 of the pamphlet was sent to Literature Committee for a more formal review.

October 2011 – Danny S. volunteers to be the lead of the newly formed Sponsorship Pamphlet Subcommittee of the Literature Committee. This is followed by the first of many monthly working teleconferences.

March 2012 – “Getting a Sponsor” was sent back to Authors Group twice for editing and returned to LitCom after work was completed. The pamphlet slowly improved over time.

June 2012 – At draft 23, the pamphlet had been renamed “How Sponsorship Supports Recovery”.

July 2012 – The preferred name “Getting a Sponsor” is once again applied to the work as it reaches Draft 26 with the phrase “A Guide for New Members of SAA” added to the title page.

September 2012 - Danny S. presents Draft 28 of the pamphlet to Literature Committee.

October 2012 – Literature Committee performs a major review of the pamphlet and some edits at a business retreat in Houston. This is where the pamphlet begins to take its final form.

November 2012 – Several things occur this month. Two versions of “Getting a Sponsor” are brought to LitCom from the subcommittee, one is the original with all the edits and the second one is a combination of the original with a newer one from the author. The newer one is ultimately voted down. After this, the pamphlet was headed to a “capable editor” (perhaps Don S.) for final work.

December 2012 – Draft 30 of the pamphlet is reviewed by several members of LitCom. Also, Danny S. communicates that he will need “time off” as his health has not been good.

April 2013 – Sadly, LitCom and Authors Group members are informed that Danny S. passed away peacefully under the care of hospice. He left a legacy of being the first subcommittee Chair to work on literature produced by the Authors Group. He also just missed being able to hold a finished copy of that pamphlet in his hands.

July 2013 – Draft 33 of the pamphlet had the final editing touches needed and at that time it finally received approval from Literature Committee. Shortly thereafter, it was up for sale on the SAA website.

October 2019 – About six years after the first publication of “Getting a Sponsor”, the pamphlet receives more rework by the Pamphlet Review Subcommittee of Literature Committee. The subtitle “A Guide for New Members of SAA” is removed since experienced members of the fellowship who may have lost a sponsor may also find the pamphlet useful.

So, when you consider the long journey for this single, quad-fold pamphlet, you may agree with the one LitCom member long ago in 2005. Literature doesn’t just pop out of rocks.

– Chris J.