



Summer Newsletter 2025 Ohio Valley Intergroup



Editor's Corner

Here we are in summer with some days that have provided more heat and humidity than we have seen in a while. Despite some rain showers now and then helping with the heat index, we may find ourselves performing outdoor chores mostly in the morning along with our choice of exercise. There is no end to the productive or fun things we can engage in outside if we apply some tanning lotion to prevent the pain of too much sun and not enough protection.

In the meantime, the Ohio Valley Intergroup is busy working on many things over the summer including planning for fall activities. So here is a summary of all those items to get us started:

- As always, we like to “gently” ask for those who do not donate to the ISO via Lifeline Partners to consider doing so. To make things easier, we have now added more information regarding how both personal and group donations can be accomplished.
- Next, we begin to inform the OVIG fellowship that a Fall Retreat is in the works currently with more details coming later.
- After the short note about the retreat, please read about the recent request from the ISO regarding the writing of new stories for the Green Book. Consider this your big chance to offer your experience, strength, and hope to the future Green Book reader and note that your anonymity will be preserved.
- In this edition, we present the first of two parts concerning SAA literature for outreach purposes. In this edition we talk about the SAA document “Introducing SAA to the Professional Community.”
- Next, you will read about a great outer circle opportunity with this year’s SOBERFEST celebration.
- Last, we present the usual list of highlights for the Ohio Valley Intergroup.

Read On!

The OVIG Newsletter Team

ISO Note

Donating to Lifeline Partners – A Little More “How to”

We're back as usual to say that donating to the ISO via Lifeline Partners is the best way to support the SAA fellowship. As we mentioned before, your donation is automatically and safely given from your credit card or debit card as a monthly transaction as funds that the ISO can count on. You can sign up to make a personal donation of as little as \$3 per month or as much as you feel moved to give.

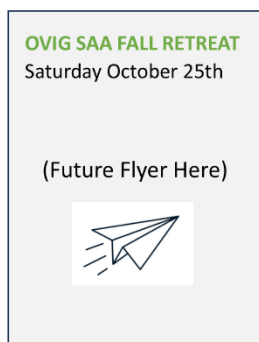
As far as group donations are concerned, a treasurer can use “basket” donations to give a set amount each month that is determined by a group conscience. There is an easy way to do this.

To make a monthly LifeLine Partners donation as a group, do the following: from a smartphone text “GHAVG” to 91999. You will receive a responding text with a link to donate at a secure website. Alternately, you can donate from a laptop or desktop PC at <https://igfn.us/form/F4xgSw>.

As always, becoming a Lifeline Partner is easy.

Just go to <https://saa-store.org/7thTradition> to find information on how to become a Lifeline Partner.

2025 SAA Fall Retreat



The upcoming OVIG SAA Fall Retreat is currently in planning. The date decided upon is Saturday, October 26th, 2025, at 8:30 A.M.

The location is still up for grabs but could be either Church of the Master in Westerville or Maple Grove United Methodist at the intersection of High Street and Henderson Road.

More information will be available in the upcoming retreat flyer and in the Fall newsletter.

Why not Write Your Story?

We feel that writing your story for the Green Book is such a good idea that we are sending another reminder that SAA is looking for new stories to include in the Fourth Edition of the Green Book.

We said it in the last newsletter, and we'll say it again: this is your Big Chance!

If you have experience, strength, and hope, or feel you have something to share about your recovery that you are comfortable sharing with others in a publication, please consider writing your story.

Should you choose to do so, please review the following specifications from the ISO.

- As always, anonymity is the spiritual foundation. Your name, meeting location or any personal descriptions will not appear in the story.
- The length should be between 1000 to 3000 words with 2000 to 2500 being typical.
- A majority of the story (typically the last 2/3) should be positive stuff such as how your meetings, sponsor, service work, etc. have helped you. The story should tell of your experience, strength, and hope growing in your journey.
- The new story can reflect the changing technology over the last twenty years (i.e. effects of the internet, smartphones, and more).
- These stories can help the newcomer struggling with *today's* issues.
- To submit your story, go to the following site: <https://saa-recovery.org/gbstories>

Perhaps someday you'll see your story in a future edition of the Green Book. It's your chance to carry the message to the sex addict who still suffers.

Please consider that.

The OVIG Newsletter Team

Outreach Literature Part I: for Professionals

For starters, one could argue that the first outreach-based pamphlet produced by SAA was "SEX ADDICTS ANONYMOUS who we are" which was featured in the Summer 2024 OVIG Newsletter a year ago.

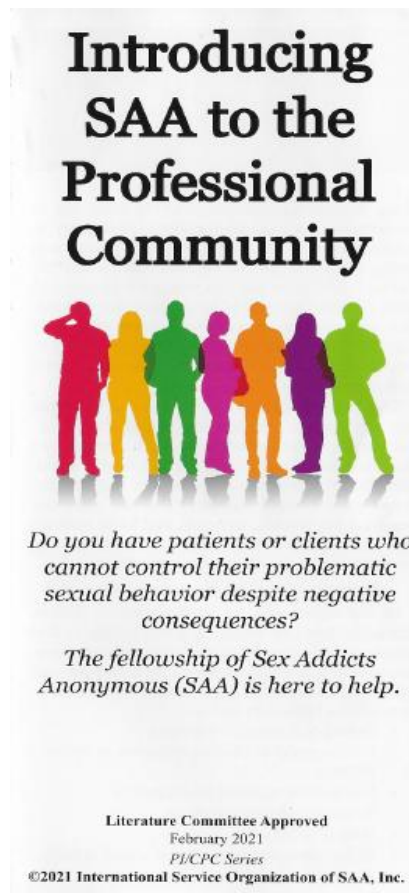
That pamphlet was produced and distributed in the mid 1980's by Twin Cities SAA in Minneapolis, which was the forerunner to the N.S.O. and then the ISO of SAA.

The contents of this pamphlet stood astride two different needs: that of a professional, and the sex addict who still suffers.

Over four decades since that time, SAA has produced about twenty-five recovery-based pamphlets or booklets and about eight service-based pamphlets or booklets. Additionally, there are also four outreach-based pamphlets available from the SAA website. They are "Introducing SAA to the Professional Community", "Are your sexual behaviors causing you problems?", "Hope and Healing for Women", and "What to Expect at Your First SAA Meeting."

These four documents were created through the Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community (PI/CPC) of the ISO and are presented as items in the PI/CPC Series under the Literature tab on the SAA website.

The pamphlet “Introducing SAA to the Professional Community” is primarily a document provided to professionals for information and/or redistribution to clients whose behaviors are causing them problems. This document received Literature Committee approval in February 2021 and is readily available for reading on the SAA website or a copy can be downloaded for free.



So, what is inside this pamphlet that can be an aid to professionals when helping clients with addictive sexual behaviors? Quite a bit. We will give a high-level rundown here. This pamphlet:

- Explains that SAA is dedicated to achieving a common goal with professionals to assist those suffering from addictive sexual behaviors.
- Explains the beliefs of SAA regarding sex addiction as a disease for which there is no cure, but that recovery is possible.
- Gives examples of problematic sexual behavior that addicts have tried to stop themselves without success.
- Lists consequences of untreated sex addiction along with forms of mental anguish that can occur.
- It gives a link to a list of questions that a client can use to determine if they could benefit from the SAA program. (That link is below.)
- Explains how SAA works through the Twelve Steps and how clients can recover from damaging beliefs and attitudes underlying their addiction.
- Describes the importance of anonymity and who can be an SAA member.

- Describes SAA meetings and gives a link to the meetings area of the SAA website.
- Inform the professional that SAA is not a religious organization.
- Explains that the SAA program provides acceptance, understanding, guidance, and tools needed to promote recovery.
- This document also describes what SAA does not do and offers more free resources.

The above bullet list describes the pamphlet contents. For those interested in viewing or downloading a free copy from the SAA website, please use the link below:

<https://saa-recovery.org/literature/introducing-saa-professional-community/>

For those interested in answering the client questions to determine if SAA can help:

<https://saa-recovery.org/am-i-a-sex-addict/self-assessment/>

If you do not have access to the internet, you can contact the ISO of SAA at the phone number or address given below and request a free copy of *Introducing SAA to the Professional Community*.

ISO of SAA
PO Box 70949
Houston TX 77270
Phone: (713) 869-4902
Toll Free: (800) 477-8191

In the fall newsletter we will present the other three PI/CPC pamphlets which focus on introducing the addict who still suffers to SAA and describe to them what it will be like to attend their very first meeting.

Chris J.

Soberfest: A Fun Outer Circle Opportunity



The Pickerington Online site describes SOBERFEST 2025 as a vibrant festival that provides families and individuals with a unique, drug and alcohol-free day filled with fellowship, fun, and resources for the recovery community.

SOBERFEST can also represent a good opportunity for members of the Ohio Valley Intergroup to leave boredom behind and “demonstrate the power of fellowship and support in recovery” as described by SOBERFEST committee member Chris Rice.

Highlights of this event are described as follows:

- **Live Music:** Artists performing a diverse range of genres to keep the energy high and spirits uplifted.
- **Inspiring Speakers:** Sharing personal journeys and insights to motivate and empower others on their recovery paths.
- **Food Trucks:** A selection of tasty treats to satisfy every palate.
- **Kidzone:** Engaging games and activities for children, ensuring family-friendly fun throughout the day.
- **Resource Partners:** Attendees will have access to crucial services and information from an array of local resource organizations.
- **Familiar Faces:** some OVIG members will be present, offering SAA documents and answering questions at the event for those curious about SAA.

Looking for a fun outer circle opportunity? This may very well be what you are looking for.

If interested, please contact OVIG Outreach at ovig.saa@gmail.com.

You can also direct any questions you may have to SOBERFEST committee member Chris Rice at email or phone number below:

soberfestoh@gmail.com

(917)-407-5417

The OVIG Newsletter Team

OVIG Highlights

The Ohio Valley Intergroup (OVIG) is a cohesive assembly of single SAA groups in both Ohio and West Virginia. Our intergroup was formed to share resources, cultivate service talent, and offer activities that single groups may not have the wherewithal to provide.

With that in mind, the bullet list below shows things accomplished as well as future ideas or activities inside or outside the OVIG.

- The 2025 Fall SAA Retreat is now in planning. We have set the date as October 26th.

- The intergroup continues to maintain a supply of literature for outreach purposes or for special needs.
- A Venmo account will continue to be available for making electronic donations to the intergroup. The current account is @GearboxGuy
- Yes, this reminder is still here. Please tell members of your group that Area-14 needs more Group Service Representatives (GSRs). Tell them this work takes no more than an hour or two per month and as with any service work, it helps maintain sobriety.
- Should you need information on just what a GSR does, contact this year's Delegate, Chris J. at crispyj4@gmail.com and he would be happy to supply you with information.
- The 2026 SAA Convention will be in Rochester, New York. More information will be available in future newsletters.
- A scholarship will be available for those needing assistance to attend the convention next year.
- It was recently announced that the Noble Correctional Institution in Caldwell, Ohio has about 800 inmates incarcerated for sexual reasons. Recent meetings at Noble Correctional have had about 15 inmates attending.
- Funds collection continues for professional outreach purposes.
- OVIG has discussed possibly using Homegroup.online for helping group treasurers handle funds and providing ID security.
- Plan to attend this year's SOBERFEST at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Hillard.
- An informational letter was sent to Northern Ohio groups to introduce OVIG and ask if they want to attend the monthly meetings.
- An idea was presented to offer scholarships to people who want to attend the yearly Indiana retreat at PYOCA.

