

# 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

July 2-5, 2015 • Atlanta, Georgia Coordinated by A.A. World Services, Inc. 8O YEARS - HAPPY, JOYOUS AND FREE

### **DISCOVER ATLANTA**

Atlanta gleams amid glass and steel towers, but the heart of the South's largest city is its people. Visitors are likely to be greeted with a big helping of "How y'all doing" hospitality. Atlanta may have birthed Gone with the Wind, yet today's big, bustling city is more New South than old. This diverse population of 4 million residents is decidedly youthful – younger than the U.S. population and more racially diverse. You're more than likely to meet people who came for a weekend and decided to stay a lifetime.

Many visitors enjoy the restaurants serving ethnic cuisine, as well as traditional eateries specializing in southern dining. You may want to take a tour bus upon arrival and then decide which of Atlanta's historic and cultural sites to visit – be it the Chattahoochee Nature Center, the Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta Botanical Gardens and much more.

It's easy to see why Atlanta, Georgia is one of the most popular destinations in the Southeast to visit.

## MEETINGS, MEETINGS AND MORE MEETINGS!

Beginning Thursday at midnight through early Sunday, Marathon A.A. meetings will be held in English and Spanish. A.A. topic meetings, workshops, panels, special interest meetings, and regional meeting will be held Friday and Saturday at the Georgia World Congress Center. Sharing with members from around the world will energize you to Carry the Message back home!

#### A SOUTHERN TASTE OF EVENTS

Centennial Olympic Park, located next to the Georgia World Congress Center will host Thursday evening's "Party in the Park." Friday night we all join forces in the Georgia Dome for the Flag Ceremony and Opening A.A. Meeting in the Georgia World Congress Center; Saturday night an Old-timers A.A. Meeting; and Sunday morning the Closing A.A. Meeting. There will be more dancing and fellowship opportunities at the Georgia World Congress Center after the Friday and Saturday night A.A. Meetings.

#### **AL-ANON AND ALATEEN ACTIVITIES**

A variety of daytime activities, including meetings and workshops for Al-Anon and Alateen are scheduled at the Marriott Marquis. There will be meetings offered in Spanish, along with the English program. And, of course, Al-Anons and Alateens will join the festivities at the Thursday night "Party in the Park," the Big Meetings and more.

## 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SOUVENIR BOOK

The special 2015 International Convention souvenir book, *Alcoholics* Anonymous: 80 Years—Happy, Joyous and Free, celebrates the phenomenon of A.A.'s growth around the world and the meaning of our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service.

In addition to the early history of A.A. and the Big Book, which has recently celebrated its 75th birthday, this special book will take you through A.A.'s journey from the earliest days through the country-by-country growth of our Fellowship. It is a story that we never get tired of telling—and of hearing from others—in words and pictures that will inform and inspire the reader.

There will also be pages at the back of the book offering space to record the names and addresses of your newly discovered friends from the International Convention, many of whom may come from around the world.

If you preorder the International Convention souvenir book when you register, a copy will be waiting for you when you check in at the Convention.

## GRAPEVINE'S 2015 CONVENTION COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

To celebrate the theme of the 2015 International Convention, AA Grapevine has published a special commemorative edition of the book entitled Happy, Joyous and Free. This collection of stories from Grapevine shows how, in recovery, AAs have learned to laugh. It's full of light and humorous stories about our early mistakes, navigating drinking events, funny things sponsors say, interesting Twelfth-Step calls, holiday adventures and more. Getting sober can be painful and amazing, but it also can be pretty darn amusing. This book reminds us to not take ourselves too seriously and to always aim to be "happy, joyous & free." You can reserve copy(ies) when you register for the Convention. Your book(s) will be waiting for you when you check in at the Registration Hall.

### **CONVENTION APP**

New to the 2015 International Convention experience will be a convention app available for download for mobile devices. This will give attendees instant access to the convention program, schedule changes, maps of the Convention Center and Atlanta area, updates and alerts, and more. Print programs will still be available for attendees.



## 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION • ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

#### PHYSICALLY-CHALLENGED GUESTS

Every effort has been made to assure your participation, as well as to be in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Special transportation will be available to you in Atlanta, if required. Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to be contacted regarding your needs for transportation and/or housing. Wheelchairs and companion assistance are not provided-you will need to make your own arrangement.

#### TRAVEL VISA

Persons visiting from countries outside of the United States must have a valid passport and may require other documentation such as visas. Check with the nearest U.S. Consulate well in advance of travel. For more information, please visit the U.S. State Department website: travel.state.gov/visa/visa\_1750.html

#### **WEATHER!**

The climate of Georgia is typical of a humid subtropical climate with hot and humid summers. On average, July is one of the warmer months with average highs around 88° degrees Fahrenheit and lows around 70° Fahrenheit. The Convention will make its best effort to provide plenty of shade and water for attendees. As hot as it is outdoors, be prepared for cool temperatures indoors-the air conditioning will be on!

#### OTHER LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ASL

As a truly international gathering, meetings in languages, including American Sign Language(ASL), French, Japanese, Spanish and more, will be available Friday and Saturday. Additionally, the Big Meetings in the Georgia Dome will be simultaneously interpreted into several languages based on need and cost. ASL interpretation will be provided at the Big Meetings; look for the seating section set aside for this purpose.

#### TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

#### AIR TRAVEL\*

You may wish to take advantage of airline flight discounts available through SkyTeam (participating Alliance Network for our event), which is offering special Conference fares from around the world. SkyTeam comprises 20 international airlines: Aeroflot, Aerolíneas Argentinas, Aeroméxico, Air Europa, Air France, Alitalia, China Airlines, China Eastern, China Southern, Czech Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Garuda Indonesia, Kenya Airways, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Korean Air, Middle East Airlines, Saudia, TAROM, Vietnam Airlines and Xiamen Air.

To book your travel now, visit www.skyteam.com/GlobalMeetings, click on Attend Your Event in the left bar and enter your Event ID, 2663S.

#### CAR RENTAL\*

As with airlines and hotels, car rentals are available at standard discount rates.

Budget: Contact either www.budget.com or

1-800-842-5628 reference ID # U006677

National: Contact either www.nationalcar.com or (800) RENTACAR

reference rate code XZ03W11

#### **TRAINS\***

Amtrak offers a 10% discount off the lowest available rail fare to Atlanta, GA for Convention attendees. To book your reservation call Amtrak at (800) 872-7245. Check the IC2015 website for the discount code. Refer to this code when making your reservations. For more information the Amtrak Convention Letter is available to download at www.aa.org. Offer is not valid through the Internet.

#### CONVENTION TRANSPORTATION/MARTA

We have more hotel rooms than ever before within walking distance of the Georgia World Congress Center and the Georgia Dome!

However, there are also many hotel rooms in Midtown Atlanta and by the Airport. In order to keep the registration fee affordable, no doorto-door shuttle bus service will be available (except for our special needs attendees). MARTA is Atlanta's Metro system that services all of the downtown (including stops at the Georgia World Congress Center/Georgia Dome), mid-town and the Airport. It is the ideal way to move around Atlanta and to and from the airport. A discounted MARTA Convention Pass is available only through the IC2015 registration process, either online or on the registration form. This Pass would enable you to travel throughout the Atlanta region and back to the airport on your way home. MARTA passes will be mailed out with your badges. To ensure that you receive your conference materials, complete and return your registrations by May 12th. For more MARTA information regarding schedules and stations go to www.itsmarta.com

## GROUND TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORT AND HOTEL

MARTA runs from the airport to within a block or two of every hotel we are using downtown or in midtown booked through the International Convention Housing System. Regularly priced passes can be purchased at the airport and information is available online at www.itsmarta.com. Discounted MARTA passes can be purchased through the IC2015 registration process only. For hotels booked though the International Convention Housing System that are in the airport area, many have free shuttle service. Once you have your housing assignment you can check on line with your hotel for their instructions for using their airport shuttles.

**Taxi:** Taxicab service is located in the Yellow Bus aisle. Fares originating from a business and concluding at a business within the zone of downtown, Buckhead and Midtown are at a rate of \$8 (\$2 for each additional person). The flat rate zone to and from the airport include Downtown \$30, Buckhead \$40, and Midtown \$32.

\*As with Convention rates at hotels, the Fellowship can take advantage of volume discounts offered as standard business procedure by other vendors. These are participating companies and the business relationship does not imply endorsement.



## A.A. 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 2 - 5, 2015 • ATLANTA, GEORGIA

3 WAYS TO REGISTER \*Online: www.aa.org \*Fax: (508) 743-3605 \*Mail

REGISTRATION OPENS
SEPTEMBER 3, 2014
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS:

MAY 12, 2015

### A. REGISTRATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

<ul> <li>No badge required for children</li> </ul>	12 years and younger. •	Both sides of this form	may be duplicated. • Se	ee reverse side for o	cancellation policy.		
MAIN ATTENDEE (All fields are requested) LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		NICKNAME ON BADGE			
ADDRESS							
CITY		ST/PROV ZIP/POST		AL CODE	COUNTRY		
E-MAIL		PREFERRED METHOD OF COMMUNICATION  General Mail		PHONE:			
BADGE TYPE (CHECK ONE)	1. 🔲 AA	2. AL-ANON	3. ALATEEN	4. TRIEND/S	SPOUSE		
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. SPANISH	2. TRENCH	3. AMERICAN SIGN	LANGUAGE	4. OTHER		
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. YES	2. 🔲 NO					
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. 🔲 1 YR. OR LESS	2. 🔲 1–3	3. 🔲 4–10	4. 🔲 11–20	5. 🔲 OVER 20		
AGE GROUP	1. 🔲 13–15	2. 🔲 16–25	3. 🔲 26–39	4. 🔲 40–55	5. 🔲 56–65	6. OVER 65	
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE ON-SITE  EMERGENCY CONTACT			IEEDS SUPPORT AVAILABLE TELEPHONE				
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE (All fields are requeste LAST NAME		ST NAME			NICKNAME ON BADGE		
CITY	ST/PROV		ZIP/POST	ZIP/POSTAL CODE		COUNTRY	
E-MAIL	PR	EFERRED METHOD OF CO	DMMUNICATION  MAIL	PHONE:			
BADGE TYPE: (CHECK ONE)	1. 🔲 AA	2. AL-ANON	3. ALATEEN	4. TRIEND/S	SPOUSE		
SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION	1. 🔲 SPANISH	2. TRENCH	3. AMERICAN SIGN	LANGUAGE	4. OTHER		
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION	1. 🔲 YES	2. 🔲 NO					
YEARS OF A.A. MEMBERSHIP	1. 🔲 1 YR. OR LESS	2. 🔲 1–3	3. 🔲 4–10	4. 🔲 11–20	5. 🔲 OVER 20		
AGE GROUP	1. 🔲 13–15	2. 🔲 16–25	3. 🔲 26–39	4. 🔲 40–55	5. 🔲 56–65	6. OVER 65	
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE ON-SITE	YES, PLEASE COMMUNICAT	E WITH ME ON SPECIAL	NEEDS SUPPORT AVAILABLE				
Grapevine One Year Online Sub \$34.97 USD ALL La Viña One Year Print Subscrip	\$110 USD AFTER MAY 12TH N CHECKS) PER PERSON X ransportation Rail System - see a# 4 DAY PASSES AT \$16.20 Souvenir Book (Optional) BLISH FRENCH SPA BLISH FRENCH SPA OK (Optional) BLISH FRENCH SPA Cription/English Only (Option/English Only (Option/English Only (Option/Spanish Only (Option/Span	dditional information under  NISH QUANT  NISH QUANT  Informational)  POREIGN QUANT  Optional)  QUANT  QUANT	TOTALING \$	USD/CAI	TRAVEL VISA INFO Persons visiting fro outside of the United have a valid passporequire other docume as visas. Check with U.S. Consulate well in travel. For more please visit the Department website travel.state.gov/visa/vi  *I will be responsible for fee charged by financial institut charged-back credit card pa stop-payment or insufficient  Note: Your credit card stater 2015 International Convention  NE (please include country code)	m countries I States must ort and may entation such the nearest n advance of information, U.S. State : isa_1750.html  s that may be ions due to a yment, or to a -funds check.	
Your signature authorizes your credit card to be char CHECK/MONEY ORDER I/We enclose the following total International Checks/Money Ord	(PLEASE DO NO registration fees \$	T SEND CASH)USD/CAD. (	Checks/Money Orders m	ade payable to "	General Service Board Con		



### 2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION • ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

#### REGISTRATION BY WEB, MAIL OR FAX

Registration opens September 3, 2014.

Preregistration Fees: \$100 USD or \$120 CAD (Canadian residents only). Payable by: Check, Money Order, or Credit Card

International checks and money orders (except Canadian) must be in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. NOTE: We cannot accept travel agency checks for multiple registrations.

You may register online through **www.aa.org**. Look for the logo with International Convention information, including the link to registration.

Or fill out and mail or fax the registration form with full payment to:

Fax: (508) 743-3605 (credit card only)
Mail: 2015 International Convention
(check, money order or credit card)
c/o Convention Data Services

107 Waterhouse Road Bourne, MA 02532

Once registered, your confirmation will be emailed to you, along with a link to the Housing Reservation website. If your preferred method of communication is mail, please allow one to two weeks to receive your registration confirmation and housing packet in the mail.

Onsite fees will apply to registrations postmarked or received by fax after May 12; forms received after that date may not be processed, so plan to check in at the On-Site Registration Counters at the Georgia World Congress Center (Preregister to avoid long lines). The onsite registration fee is \$110 USD.

If you register by the May 12, 2015 deadline, your badge(s) will be mailed to you. Bring your badge with you to Atlanta; it is your proof of registration! When you arrive in Atlanta, come to the Georgia World Congress Center to pick up your badge holder and Convention Program. The Registration Hall opens Wednesday morning.

### **CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS**

All cancellations must be made in writing. Refunds will be made only upon receipt of your written request enclosing your badge(s), and if received by May 12, 2015. No exceptions. There is a \$5 USD or \$7 CAD administrative processing fee for cancellations which will be deducted from the refund. Allow 6 weeks for processing. Written requests and badges should be mailed to:

2015 International Convention Refunds c/o Convention Data Services 107 Waterhouse Road Bourne, MA 02532 email: ICAA@xpressreg.net

#### **HOUSING INFORMATION**

Housing reservation information, including the Housing Bureau's contact information, will be included with your registration confirmation. Because of the number of hotel rooms available in Atlanta, housing for the 2015 International Convention will be on a first-come, first-served basis. However, you must be registered for the Convention before you may make your reservations. Once we have received your registration form and payment, you will receive housing information by the same method you sent in your registration. If online, a link to the Housing Reservation Website will be sent to your email address along with your registration confirmation. You will then be able to complete your hotel reservation online.

If you register by mail or fax, housing information will be sent to you by postal mail. Complete your housing and deposit information and send it to the address indicated on the Housing Reservation Form. Your hotel reservation will be processed and a confirmation mailed to you.

#### **REGISTRATION POLICIES**

- Registration payment must accompany all mailed or faxed registration forms.
- 2. Mailed preregistration forms must be postmarked, and faxed forms must be received, by May 12, 2015. After that date, the onsite rate of \$110 USD will be charged.
- 3. Any changes to registration information already processed must be made in writing before May 12, 2015, or onsite. All changes must be made by the current registrant on file. No charges will be assessed for corrections to badge information excluding Substitutions (see below).
- 4. Substitutions made on or before May 12, 2015 will be subject to a \$5 USD / \$7 CAD processing fee.
- 5. Substitutions after May 12, 2015 must be made onsite and will be subject to a \$15 USD processing fee. Note: You must have the original attendee's badge to make onsite substitutions.
- 6. Replacement of lost or forgotten badges will be subject to a \$15 USD reprint fee. Your badge will be mailed to you. Remember to bring it with you to Atlanta.
- Registration questions? Call (508) 743-8507. Press 1 for English, press 2 for Spanish, press 3 for French, or email: ICAA@xpressreg.net
- 8. Convention related questions? Call G.S.O. at (212) 870-2015.

Convention Dates: July 2 – 5, 2015
Pre-Registration Deadline: May 12, 2015
Registration & Housing Bureaus Opens: September 3, 2014