

**Nassau Intergroup of AA, Inc.**

**361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552-1342**

**www.nassauny-aa.org intergroup@nassauny-aa.org**

**516.292.3040 (24/7 Hotline) 516.292.3045 (Business)**

**WORLD WIDE WED EDITION**

# SEPTEMBER 2015

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All meetings are Intergroup events held at 361 Hempstead Turnpike unless otherwise noted.



### SEPTEMBER 2015

- 9/2— Institutions Committee, 8PM, Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave. (off Sunset Ave. from County Line Rd.), Amityville 11701
- 9/3— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)  
**Reps Meeting**, 7:30PM
- 9/9— Share-A-Day Committee, 7PM (2016 kick-off meeting.)
- 9/10— PI/CPC Committee, 7:30PM (Meets every other month.)
- 9/16— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 9/16-20— 30<sup>th</sup> AAWS-AAGV-Intergroup-Central Office Seminar, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida (For info go to help@aabroward.org.)
- 9/17— **Newsletter deadline** for October
- 9/19— **Exchange Meeting**, 7-9AM, Nassau Community College, 1 Education Dr. (Stewart Ave. to Lifetime Brands Blvd.), Cluster F, Room 127, Garden City 11530 (Park in East 2.)
- 9/21— Nassau General Service Committee (NGSC) Workshop, 7PM, Concepts IX and X.
- 9/24— **Steering Committee**, 7:30PM (By invitation.)
- 9/26— **NI Open House**, 11AM-5PM, Food, Fellowship, Fun

### OCTOBER 2015

- 10/1— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)  
**Reps Meeting**, 7:30PM
- 10/2-4— National AA Technology Workshop, St. Louis, Missouri (For info go to www.naatw.org or info@naatw.org.)
- 10/7— Institutions Committee, 8PM (See 9/2 above for location.)
- 10/10— Intergroup/SENY Workshop, "What's the Difference? Intergroup and General Service Explained;" 10AM-4PM; Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1734 Williamsbridge Rd., Bronx 10461 (For details, contact intergroup@aaseny.org.)
- 10/14— Share-A-Day Committee, 7PM
- 10/19— NGSC Meeting Orientation, 6:30PM (Suggested for new DCMs/GSRs.) NGSC Meeting, 7:30PM

## From the Chair

Greetings. Here we are in September with the holidays just around the corner as are your Intergroup's Alkathons.

The Alkathon meetings open at 5PM the evening before each of the following holidays: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. There is a meeting every hour on the hour with the last meeting ending 11PM on each holiday. Since most AA groups meet in churches, our regular meetings are sometimes cancelled for holidays making the Alkathons all the more valuable. (If your home group is closed any holiday, please call and let us know, 516-292-3045.)

I have a few AA friends whose first meeting was at an Alkathon. I certainly have enjoyed a cup of coffee and many wonderful meetings at Alkathons over the years. My family was grateful for the Alkathon meetings as well. They provided me an Attitude Adjustment, and an opportunity to do service.

Any individuals or groups interested in getting involved with this wonderful event, come to the Intergroup Reps meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup> or contact me.

LaRaine A., Chair  
516-292-3045 or chair@nassauny-aa.org

### AA'S THREE LEGACIES FOR SEPTEMBER

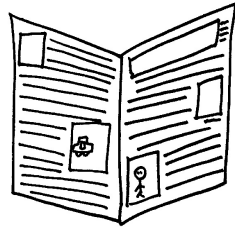
**Step 9**— Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

**Tradition 9**— AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

**Concept 9**— Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

**From the Editor**

We continue to seek newsletter content submitted by members, anything reflecting your experience of AA's Three Legacies, Recovery, Unity and Service. Almost any format can be adapted for publication in the newsletter, an article, poem, cartoon, puzzle, announcement or acknowledgment.



In Service,

Bill C., Editor, NI Newsletter  
516-292-3045 or news@nassauny-aa.org

NB— Alcoholics Anonymous and AA are registered ® trademarks of AAWS, Inc. Quotes and other items from AA literature or other AA sources are copyright © AAWS, Inc. or AA Grapevine, Inc., and are used with permission or under fair use provisions.

**AA HISTORY FOR SEPTEMBER**

- September 17, 1934— Bill W.'s third admission to Towns Hospital for alcoholism. Dr. Silkworth pronounces him "hopeless."
- September 30, 1939— *Liberty Magazine* publishes "Alcoholics and God" about AA generating some early interest in the Fellowship.
- September 1952— Al-Anon adopts AA's "Twelve Traditions."
- September 17, 1954— Bill D., AA Number Three, dies in Cleveland, Ohio.

**FAQs About AA History from AAWS \***

**Q.**— Who wrote AA's Preamble? And when was the word "honest" dropped from it (i.e., "honest desire to stop drinking"), and why?

**A.**— The Preamble first appeared in the *Grapevine* in June 1947, and was written by Tom Y., the Grapevine Editor serving at that time. Its intent was to inform the public as to what AA is and what it is not. Shortly thereafter, the Preamble began appearing in each monthly issue of the Grapevine, and later on in much of our AA Conference-approved literature. In 1992 the *Grapevine* published a short history of the Preamble.

In the 1947 version of the Preamble, it contained the wording, ". . . an honest desire to stop drinking . . ." as printed in the foreword to the first edition of the Big Book. However, since the adoption of the short form of the Traditions in 1950, the Third Tradition has always read, "The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking" and this form was used by Bill in writing the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

In 1958 the expression "honest desire" was discussed at great length at the General Service Conference. It was felt that it was impossible to determine what constitutes an "honest" desire to stop drinking, thus the word was dropped. The "new" version of the Preamble, without the word "honest," first appeared in the September 1958 issue of the *Grapevine*.

There have been other versions of the Preamble, written by AA members for their local groups' use, which were then circulated around AA; for example: the "Texas Preamble," the "Wilmington Preamble," etc. Many AA members find these interesting, but they have never been adopted by the Fellowship as a whole.

\* From, [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) > Archives & History > History and Resources > FAQs.

**Who Am I?**

I was intimately involved in AA's early history, and witnessed AA co-founder Bill W.'s seeking treatment for his alcoholism on four separate occasions. I was there when Dr. Silkworth pronounced Bill "hopeless" and suggested he be committed. I also witnessed Bill's "white light" experience, and the beginning of his long-term sobriety.



(Answer on page 6.)

**AA Grapevine Highlights for September**

**September Issue**— "Anonymity," with a Special Section on AA and Technology.

**Books**— *Grapevine Daily Quote Book* (GV32). *The Language of the Heart* audiobook now available.

**Subscription Challenge 2015**— Join the challenge to increase new subscriptions to the *Grapevine* and *La Viña*.

**Sobriety Calculator**— It's fun to count your years, days, hours or minutes in recovery.

**The Laugh's On Us**— Submit a caption for a *Grapevine* cartoon.

**Daily Quote Subscription**— Sign up to receive an inspirational daily quote from the *Grapevine* via email.



Go on-line to [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org) for more info.

**NASSAU INTERGROUP - EMAIL ADDRESSES**

**OFFICERS**

- Chairperson [chair@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:chair@nassauny-aa.org)
- 1st Vice Chair [1stvice@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:1stvice@nassauny-aa.org)
- 2nd Vice Chair [2ndvice@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:2ndvice@nassauny-aa.org)
- Secretary [secretary@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:secretary@nassauny-aa.org)
- Treasurer [treasurer@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:treasurer@nassauny-aa.org)

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

- Archives [archives@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:archives@nassauny-aa.org)
- Coop. Pro. Comm. (CPC) [cpc@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:cpc@nassauny-aa.org)
- Corrections [corrections@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:corrections@nassauny-aa.org)
- Financial Review [finance@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:finance@nassauny-aa.org)
- Institutions (H&I) [institutions@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:institutions@nassauny-aa.org)
- Literature [literature@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:literature@nassauny-aa.org)
- Meeting List [meetinglist@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:meetinglist@nassauny-aa.org)
- Newsletter [news@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:news@nassauny-aa.org)
- Night Book [nightbook@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:nightbook@nassauny-aa.org)
- Officer Coordinator (Mgr.) [officemanager@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:officemanager@nassauny-aa.org)
- Program Chair/Secretary [seclist@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:seclist@nassauny-aa.org)
- Public Information (PI) [publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org)
- Share-a-Day (SAD) [shareaday@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:shareaday@nassauny-aa.org)
- Speakers Exchange [speakersexchange@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:speakersexchange@nassauny-aa.org)
- Special Needs [specneeds@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:specneeds@nassauny-aa.org)
- 12<sup>th</sup> Step List [12thstep@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:12thstep@nassauny-aa.org)
- Website [webcommittee@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:webcommittee@nassauny-aa.org)

Or phone 516-292-3045 business hours and leave a message.

"At the moment we are trying to put our lives in order. But this is not an end in itself. Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us."

—From Step 9, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 77.

### Step Nine

In the beginning, my sponsor told me that you do the best you can with the Steps. We can't do them perfectly. I wanted to do them perfectly. I worked hard on them. The Fourth and Fifth Steps were a challenging undertaking. I left nothing out, nothing that I knew of anyway. More will be revealed was what I was told. Being new, I took it for what I thought it was worth. As we moved through the proposals, we looked at Step Six and Seven out of the "Big Book," moved to Step Eight, and had that list from my Fourth Step.

I discussed the list with my sponsor, and we removed some touchy people who didn't need to be on the list. Everyone that I could think of was on it, personal, financial. We went over the list on a Monday. Tuesday night, my sponsor and I and a few guys went on a road trip to the city. We had our usual great meeting before the meeting. As we drove up to the hospital where he was speaking, it was like a lightning bolt hit me. I took one look at the hospital and remembered an old friend who I haven't seen in some time. He was a man that should have been on that list, right on top of the list.

Everything my sponsor told me about not doing the Steps perfectly, more will come to you as you proceed with the Steps, came into clarity with that lightning bolt in that car. I began to trust that life will reveal itself slowly. That I will always be working these Steps, especially the Ninth, as long as I always remain willing.

Greg E., High Noon West End Group, Long Beach

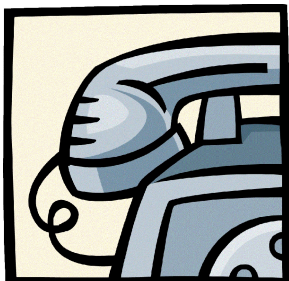
### Call Ahead If Coming to the Intergroup Office

Save a wasted trip and possible frustration. Please call ahead on the Business line (516-292-3045) before coming to the office. (If no answer, the office is closed.) This is a good practice at any time since we do need to close the office on short notice from time to time, and we don't always know when office volunteers aren't able to get in.

Intergroup's office is currently closed on Sunday mornings and Thursday afternoons for lack of volunteers during those shifts. Additionally, the office may also be closed the first three Saturdays in September only. Call ahead.

### Giving Back with the Night Book

Early on in my sobriety, my sponsor told me, as many others have been told, that "To keep it, you have to give it away." He was referring of course to doing Service. For this alcoholic, the type of Service that has had the most profound and lasting effect on me and those I come into contact with in the course of doing it is the Night Book.



As the Intergroup Rep for my home-group, I am the planner of the Night Book service for the group. At least three times a year, I

make the announcement that, "Volunteers are needed!" And seven trustworthy and grateful alcoholics from my group come forward to spend a night answering from their homes our Nassau County Hotline, one of the few AA Hotlines that is staffed 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

However, for me, it isn't enough. I also make myself available as an "Emergency Night Book Phone Volunteer." Whenever the scheduled Night Book person cannot do it for one reason or another, I may be asked to do it. Many times I have been called at 4:45PM, with just 15 minutes to go until the Hotline "goes live."

Doing the Night Book gives me a most satisfying feeling that I am using my experience, strength and hope to "Make A Difference," whether it is guiding an existing AA'er to a meeting, providing information on AA to a prospective newcomer or family, or helping a caller late at night who is in desperate trouble and very close to picking up. A few times I have guided a troubled soul to their first AA meeting, and in so doing, maybe, just maybe, helped make a new member of our fellowship who will in turn help others.

I seek neither recognition nor reward. For in doing my Service, I am remembering the slogan of "Principles, not personalities."

So, if your home group has NOT taken the Night Book recently, ask your Intergroup Rep, "Why not?" The only requirement to be part of it are that you have at least one year of sobriety.

I especially like to offer the opportunity to people in my home group who have recently celebrated their one year anniversary.

I can think of no better introduction to Service than this, and none more gratifying. The "Responsibility Declaration" is what guides us: "Whenever anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA to be there. And for that, I am responsible."

So give it a shot!

Steve S., Albertson/Searingtown Group

"It is clear now that we ought never name boards to govern us, but it is equally clear that we shall need to authorize workers to serve us."

—From Tradition 9, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 174.

### Dear Trusted Servants

Hope your summer was happy, joyous and free.

Nassau County General Service is seeking a few good members to join the service to others by sacrificing some of their time "to help another alcoholic stay sober." I often hear members say how grateful they are to AA for their sobriety. Performing service is an honest way of showing others by our example how grateful we truly are.

If your home group does not have a General Service Representative (GSR), your group cannot be involved in voting the group's conscience in matters affecting AA, whether it be at the county level

*(Continued, Page 4, Column 1.)*

"A leader in AA service is therefore a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job."

—From Concept 9, *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, p. 39.

## Dear Trusted Servants (Continued)—

or at the national level.

While doing service, I have never found it necessary to pick up a drink. In addition, I have met many wonderful members who enjoy doing service as I do. Please do not miss this opportunity to "enlarge your spirituality." For an alcoholic, service is our way out.

Our next General Service meeting is listed on the front of this newsletter. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting. For additional information, see the pamphlet General Service Representative or call me at 516-297-5497.

"No one can do everything, but everyone can do something."

Steve K., DCMC

Nassau County General Service Committee

nassau@aaseny.org

## Share-A-Day

The Kick-Off meeting for Share A Day XXXIX- 2016 is Sept 9<sup>th</sup>. We meet here at the office at 7PM. If you'd like to be part of organizing this event, we'd love to see you there. Many hands make light work!

Marie M. S., Chair, SAD Committee 2016

516-292-3045 or shareaday@nassauny-aa.org

## Service Animals at Meetings

We're all familiar with service animals, usually mid-size dogs bearing perhaps a harness or identifying jacket. Seeing-eye dogs come quickly to mind. But service animals come in all shapes and sizes, with or without identifying equipment, may not be dogs at all, and help individuals with a range of disabilities, not just visual problems.

### Service Animals Welcome

In an FAQ on service animals, the US Justice Department notes, "The ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] defines a service animal as any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability." Service animals are not pets, and must be allowed in all places of "public accommodation" without question beyond "is this a service animal?" Users of service animals are not required to carry confirming documentation, nor are they required to explain their disability. Additional information on the ADA is available from the USDOJ at: [www.ada.gov/](http://www.ada.gov/), or by phone, 800-514-0301 (voice), 800-514-0383 (TTY).



Service animals should be welcomed into AA meetings. An unfortunate exception to this is if the meeting is held in a place of worship (places of worship are exempt from compliance with the ADA) and the church or other facility has a "no animals" policy.

In the spirit of trying to make AA accessible to all who suffer, a meeting in a place of worship with a no animals policy might inquire of the facility if it is willing to make an exception for service animals. Hopefully, they will if the situation is explained. If not, making clear it's the facility's call, not the meeting's, members might make some one-on-one time available to the new person outside the meeting space. Providing member phone numbers might be helpful too if the meeting legitimately cannot welcome a service animal. The meeting might also have available a list of other local meetings where service

animals are welcome. Remember how tough it was to go to your first meeting, and imagine being turned away.

I'm reminded, "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible."

*This article first appeared in the March 2010 issue of this newsletter.*

## Some additional information about service animals

Where service animals must be or are allowed:

- Generally, a service animal must be harnessed or tethered.
- A user of a service animals must be responsible for the behavior of their animal. This means the animal must be under the person's control, and may not be threatening or disruptive. The animal must also be housebroken. That someone else is simply afraid of or allergic to the animal does not mean the animal is threatening or disruptive.
- The user of a service animal may only be asked, 1) "Is the animal required because of a disability?", and, 2) "What work is the animal trained to do?" Inquiry about the person's disability is not allowed, nor may documentation of any kind be demanded nor a demonstration of the animal's service.
- Emotional and comfort support animals are generally not considered to be service animals.
- The following may also be good resources for information about service animals.

—US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, [www.ada.gov/](http://www.ada.gov/)

—ADA National Network (funded by the US Department of Health and Human Services), [www.adata.org/](http://www.adata.org/)

In the end, it is hoped that the spirit of inclusiveness in AA will prevail, that we will find ways to welcome all who suffer at our meetings. We should try to be sympathetic to the special needs of any individual reaching out for AA help whether we are required to do so by law or not.

## Intergroup Open House September 26

It's remarkable how many members either don't know Nassau Intergroup has an office, have not visited the office, or, having visited the office (usually to pick up meeting lists and such), don't realize the great range of AA services nested there.

With that in mind, Nassau Intergroup is holding an Open House at the office, 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead 11552 on Saturday, September 26, from 11AM to 5PM. Parking is available in front of and behind the building, and on the nearby streets.

Join us at that time. Meet some of the office volunteers and see how we set up Twelfth Step contacts and provide other information related to AA's Three Legacies: Recovery, Unity and Service. Also meet some of the Intergroup officers and members of the Steering Committee. Find out what your Intergroup does. You may be surprised. We'll have a barbeque going out back too for some modest AA chow, and there'll always be a waiting cup of coffee.



Hope to see you then.

Open House Planning Committee

## Children at Meetings

Intergroup recently received a complaint from a member about an apparently out of control child at a local meeting questioning why Intergroup didn't impose restrictions on such things. While the member clearly misunderstood the relationship between Intergroup and the meetings/groups in the county, some important questions were raised.

Tradition Four guarantees all AA entities full functional autonomy. We work together in the spirit of Tradition Five which suggests we work to stay sober and to carry the message to the still suffering drunk. That relationship is one of voluntary cooperation, not governance. It means each AA group is responsible for itself making its own decisions for better or worse. Intergroup has no authority to impose anything at the meeting/group level although it can decline to list meetings/groups which fail to honor AA's Traditions.

Any individual seeking recovery from alcoholism should be able to find a place in AA (Tradition Three). That having been said, we understand that in practice some of us have greater difficulty finding that place than others. Some may have additional "grave emotional and mental disorders," some may find the physical act of getting to a meeting challenging while some experience other unusual barriers.

Parents with young children may experience an unusual barrier when they find they have no choice but to bring their child along to a meeting. Some meetings are quite "child friendly," usual attendees have little or no problem with one or more or many perhaps very active children in the meetings. Other meetings are quite intolerant of any disruption [the presence of children may represent].

Our Traditions suggest every AA group owes it to the individual seeking recovery from drinking to make their meeting in every way accessible. At the same time, Tradition One ("common welfare comes first") suggests the group has an obligation to avoid disruptive or divisive influences so our message can be delivered.

To me, all this means our meetings/groups should be supportive, patient and tolerant of the special needs of all who come to us remembering "but for the Grace of God." At the same time, the parent of a child in this case should do all they can to monitor their child while at a meeting to minimize any disruption the child may present. Some parents bring toys or games to help engage the child, or will walk a disruptive child out for a few minutes. Some groups and individual members are prepared to help the parents of young children with some respite support during a meeting understanding that doing so imposes unusual responsibilities on the non-parent care giver.

This does not begin to consider the other question that comes up with children at meetings: When does a child become old enough for us to question are they oblivious to or will they hold in confidence who and what they see and hear in meetings?

*This article first appeared in the December 2010 issue of this newsletter.*



## Welcoming the Newcomer

There is a good article from the March 1991 AA *Grapevine* titled, "Who's Sitting Next to You?" (You can find it in *The Best of the Grapevine, Vol. 5*, pp. 69-72.) It's a reflection by a member with a few years of recovery who finds herself a bit out of sorts (hungry, lonely and tired) and in need of a meeting as she travels away from home. She visits a random local AA group.

At the meeting there is strong talk of fellowship from the front of the room, but she experiences little. She admits she doesn't put her hand out or identify herself as being from out-of-town to invite a welcome. She's a bit too into herself perhaps. She isn't acknowledged in any way by the locals. She skips the meeting after the meeting and returns alone to her hotel room where she goes on to reflect on, among other things, what it might have been like for her had she been a newcomer and that had been her first meeting, or if she had been a bit more desperate emotionally or spiritually.

Give some thought to how you welcome the newcomer or that occasional other stranger in your home group. He or she may not be willing or able to invite your notice, but, new to AA or a traveling old-timer, needs and deserves our fellowship. Some groups have greeters while others invite first time attendees and travelers to say hello. Whatever the local custom, remember the newcomer or stranger in our midst.

*This article first appeared in the August 2011 issue of this newsletter.*

## Trusting Our Trusted Servants

I've observed that we are generally inclined to allow our officers and chairs to do as they may. At a typical Reps meeting there are few probing or critical questions and fewer still suggestions or requests (particularly with respect to finance). In part, the format of the meetings perhaps restricts broader participation. Also, we have repeatedly been told we need to "trust our trusted servants." Perhaps too, having less experience in service than some may leave a Rep feeling less secure about commenting. (We all started somewhere.) It would be good if we could find a way to be more engaged with each other in our common work.

There are no foolish questions. Reps are fully entitled and expected to probe and prod. If in fact the meeting format is limiting that, perhaps we can change it, or contact us by phone or e-mail. Remember, together we can do what we individually cannot. Also, growth through service is through active participation.

*This article first appeared in the December 2008 issue of this newsletter.*

## Night Book

Greetings. I would like to thank the following groups and individual members for service to the Night Book in August: Reflections Group, Floral Park/Bellrose Group, Triangle Group, Gift of Serenity Group, Road to Recovery Group, Dave I. and Liz B. of the Early Risers Group, Tony G., Mike M., Renee and Beverly.

Thank you for your service.

Yours in Love and Service,  
Mike K., Chair, Night Book  
516-292-3045 or nightbook@nassauny-aa.org



*Correction: Last month's article "Night Book" mistakenly referred to the Baldwin Group's Ken N. as Ken C.*

### Meeting List Changes



Please help NI keep its meeting information current and correct by submitting a "Meeting List Changes" form (available through the office or on-line under "Group Services") whenever your group's meeting details change.

The following reflect only changes not found in the current print edition of the Meeting List, August 2015.

BEGINNERS = B BIG BOOK = BB CLOSED = C  
 CLOSED DISCUSSION = CD OPEN = O  
 OPEN DISCUSSION = OD STEP = S TRADITION = T

NON-ALCOHOLICS ARE WELCOME AT "OPEN" MEETINGS.

#### NEW GROUPS

- Bellmore 11710  
**We Change Together Group**, Pride for Youth Center, 2050 Bellmore Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; Tues. 7PM OD; LGBTQ/Transgender friendly.
- Freeport 11520  
**Thursdays As Bill Sees It Group**, Freeport Community Church of the Nazarene, 301 Atlantic Ave.; Thur. 7PM C As Bill Sees It.
- Hicksville 11801  
**Fourth Dimension Group**, Holy Family Church, 17 Fordham Ave.; Mon. 7PM B, 8:30PM CD, Tues. 7PM BB.
- Plainview 11803  
**Plainview Promises Group**, Plainview Reformed Church, 560 Old Bethpage Rd.; Thur. CD 7:30PM.
- Rockville Centre 11570  
**Rockville Centre Men's Big Book Group**, 30 Hempstead Ave., Suite H6; Wed. 7:30PM BB.

#### CHANGES

- Bellmore 11710  
**No Frills Group**, Bellmore Presbyterian Church, 2740 Martin Ave. (new location); no meeting changes.
- Cold Spring Harbor 11724  
**Discussion Group**, St. John's Episcopal Church, 1670 Route 25A; Wed. 7PM C (Grapevine) added.
- Franklin Square 11010  
**Road to Recovery Group**, Ascension Lutheran Church, 145 Franklin Ave.; Wed. 7:15PM CD ("Promises," 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., Tradition, 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.) added.
- Garden City 11530  
**Garden City Group**, 245 Stewart Ave.; Tues. 7:30PM, C (Men's) and C (Topic) only; Tues. S and C (Women's topic) dropped.
- Jones Beach  
**Sunrise Meeting**, Jones Beach, West End 2; reminder, \$10 NYS parking fee after 6AM; no changes to meeting.

#### TEMPORARY CHANGES

- Roosevelt 11575  
**Sunday Sunrise Group**, meeting at the First United Methodist Church of Roosevelt, 30 Union Pl./Whitehouse Ave.; 8:30AM CD. (Formerly meeting at the Reach Center.)
- Women Caring for Women Group**, meeting at the First United Methodist Church of Roosevelt, 30 Union Pl./Whitehouse Ave.; 1PM Women's Meeting. (Formerly meeting at the Reach Center.)

#### CLOSED GROUPS

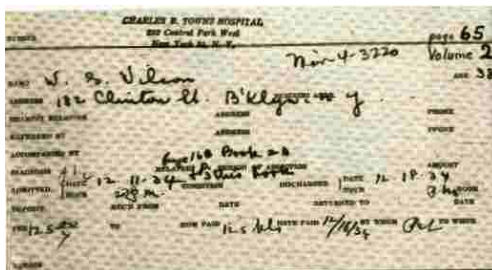
- Williston Park  
 —Friends of Bill and Bob Group, St. John's Lutheran Church, 47 Winthrop St.

### Answer to Who Am I?

**Towns Hospital** (formally, Charles B. Towns Hospital for Drug and Alcohol Addictions, photo right) was founded in 1901 by Charles B. Towns (1862-1947). Moved to 293 Central Park West, the hospital, essentially a drying out facility, specialized in the treatment of well to do alcoholics and other addicts. While the credibility of Towns



himself and some treatments offered at the hospital ultimately declined, Charles Towns and Towns Hospital secured an essential place in the early history of Alcoholics Anonymous. William D. Silkworth, MD (author of "The Doctor's Opinion" in the "Big Book") was on staff at Towns, and became the physician of AA co-founder Bill W. who was admitted there four times between 1933 and 1934. Silkworth championed the idea of alcoholism being an allergy of sorts, a medical, not a moral or willpower problem. During Bill's third admission, Dr. Silkworth pronounced him a "hopeless" case and suggested to Lois that he might need to be committed to an asylum for his safety. It was during Bill's last admission to Towns in late 1934 (admission record below) that Bill had his "white light" spiritual experience, never to drink again. Towns aided in funding the young Fellowship helping make the "Big Book" possible, and offered Bill employment at the hospital, a position Bill ultimately declined. Towns Hospital closed in 1965. (See, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, pp. xxv-xxxii, 7-8, and 13-14; *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, pp. 13-14, and 159; *Pass It On*, pp. 100-104, 106, 108-109, 119-121, 175-177 and 196; and, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, pp. 140-142.)



### Announcements


**Open House**  
**September 26, 11AM-5PM**  
**Nassau Intergroup**  
 361 Hempstead Turnpike  
 West Hempstead 11552



**Fellowship • Meet & Greet**  
**Barbeque**

**General Service Office (GSO)** 475 Riverside Drive, NYC  
**Owing to construction, GSO will be closed to visitors and tours through November 30. Routine business will continue.**

**Intergroup Office Closure**  
**The office will be closed Sunday mornings and Thursday afternoons for lack of volunteers.**  
**The office will also be closed the first three Saturdays in September only.**



**What's the Difference?**  
**Intergroup & General Service Explained**  
**A SENY and Intergroup Workshop**  
**October 10, 10AM-4PM**  
**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
 1734 Williamsbridge Road  
 Bronx 10461  
**For Info Contact:**  
[intergroup@aseny.org](mailto:intergroup@aseny.org)

**Glen Head Group**  
**Old Timers Panel Meeting**  
**October 20, 6:45PM**  
**Glen Head Youth Center**  
 200 Glen Head Road, Glen Head 11545

### VOLUNTEER

