

AA HISTORY FOR JANUARY

January 1939— First draft of "Big Book" completed with 400 copies distributed for evaluation. It is suggested the phrases "God as we understand Him" and "Power greater than ourselves" be added to the Steps and basic text.

January 18, 1939— Alcoholic Foundation Board increased from five to seven members with non-alcoholics still outnumbering alcoholics.

January 10, 1940— AA meeting moves from Dr. Bob's home to King School, Akron, Ohio, becoming the first AA meeting not held in a home.

January 18, 1954— Hank P. ("The Unbeliever," *Alcoholics Anonymous*, 1st Ed.) dies, Pennington, NJ.

January 1961— Bill W.–Carl Jung correspondence.

January 24, 1971— Bill W. dies at Miami Beach, Florida.

"Little good can come to any alcoholic who joins AA unless he has first accepted his devastating weakness and all its consequences. Until he so humbles himself, his sobriety—if any—will be precarious."

—From Step 1, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 21.

From the Editor

Our continued thanks to those who have shared an item with our newsletter. Any contribution touching your experience of AA's Three Legacies: Recovery, Unity and Service is welcomed. That could be a poem, a drawing or cartoon, and puzzle, an announcement, an article or almost anything else. The only things that probably won't work well are photos.



Remember our subscription service. An e-subscription option for the newsletter gets you early access to the newsletter with full colour graphics and working hyperlinks. Go to the "Subscription" link under "Current Issue" on our website at www.nassauny-aa.org to sign up. We will also have a terminal at this and subsequent month's Reps meetings so you can sign up.

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

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"Our whole AA program is securely founded on the principle of humility—this is to say, perspective. Which implies . . . that we relate ourselves rightly to God and to our fellows; that we see ourselves as we really are—'a small part of a great whole.' Seeing our fellows thus, we shall enjoy group harmony."

—From, "Tradition One," *AA Grapevine*, December 1947, in *Language of the Heart*, p. 76.

FAQs About AA History from AAWS *

Q.— What is the origin of the Third Step prayer and the Seventh Step prayer found in the Big Book [pp. 63 and 76, respectively]?

A.— As far as we know, Bill wrote the Third and Seventh Step prayers himself. From the first typed manuscript, which Bill completed in 1938, these prayers contained the same wording they do in the book today. We don't know of the prayers' prior presence in any religious movement, though it is likely that their central message—if not their exact wording—might be from the Oxford Group. The Oxford Group was a popular Christian movement to which both Bill and Dr. Bob belonged, and many of AA's spiritual principles were drawn from that movement.

* Edited from, www.aa.org > Archives & History > History and Resources > [FAQs](#).

Who Am I?

I was among the first Bill W. worked with at Towns Hospital in New York who managed to stay sober for any period of time, and attended the early meetings at Lois and Bill's Brooklyn home on Clinton Street. I was a driving force behind the formation of Works Publishing, and the publication of the "Big Book."



(Answer, p. 6.)

"We see in our fellowship a spiritualized society characterized by enough enlightenment, enough responsibility and enough love of man and of God to insure our democracy of world service will work under all conditions."

—From, Concept 1, *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, p. 8.

NASSAU INTERGROUP - EMAIL ADDRESSES

OFFICERS

- Chairperson chair@nassauny-aa.org
- 1st Vice Chair 1stvice@nassauny-aa.org
- 2nd Vice Chair 2ndvice@nassauny-aa.org
- Secretary secretary@nassauny-aa.org
- Treasurer treasurer@nassauny-aa.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

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

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

Does Your Group Have a Current 12th Step Contact List with Intergroup?

The heart and soul of AA activity at Nassau Intergroup (NI) is our ability to connect the still sick and suffering alcoholic with an AA member 24/7 through our Hotline. That only works if we have current contact information on members willing to do that service. For that we need frequently updated "12th Step Contact List" forms from the groups.

Does your group have a current contact list with NI, ideally one updated within the last six to 12 months? If you're not sure, please pass around a copy of the "[12th Step Contact List](#)" form (available at the office, on-line at www.nassauny-aa.org > "Group Services" > "12th Step List", or on the next page of this newsletter) at your next business meeting, and return it completed to the office. Or you can email the information to the address below.

Marty K.
12th Step contact List Chair
516-292-3045 or 12thstep@nassauny-aa.org



Special Needs

As to Special Needs for Nassau County, I love the service and it is dear to my heart having a handicapped son with a lot of disabilities. I am experiencing new things along the way. So far, I have brought meetings to eight people, three who were in the hospital and five homebound. I see the difference it is making, that's what service in this program is all about. One person I brought a meeting to in the hospital came up to me weeks later, and hugged me and thanked me so much for coming.

I want to thank all who have helped me so far, but I could use more help to build a committee. So if you can, come on January 21 at 7:30pm to Intergroup in West Hempstead for a Special Needs Committee meeting. We also need six

members to help with Share-A-Day. Please get involved so we can pass it on to others.

Thank you Arthur, Suzanne, Lavon and Dana for helping thus far.

A blessed member of AA,
Donna S., GSR/Special Needs Chair, Nassau General Service

From the Chair (Continued)—

The Nassau Intergroup website provides a calendar of AA events including sponsored activities. There is also a meeting search engine allowing you to tailor a meeting list by location or distance, day of the week, time of day, open or closed, format, special interest and/or wheelchair access. From the website you can print a meeting list as well as forms such as the 12 Step Contact List and Meeting List Changes forms. But much depends on you, the Reps, to keep this information current and accurate.

So again, thank you to the Intergroup Reps.

A special thank you too to Karrie K. who is stepping down as our Recording Secretary after two years service. Thanks.

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

"stairs"

By: Curtis L.

When you finally accept the end of your run;
You have come to that point of step **one**

Coming to realize is the essence of number **two**;
Calming our insanity requires strength greater than you

Turning the keys over to something not seen or heard;
Is a rigorous discipline rooted in the **third**

Four is facing the mirror getting honest with its reflection;
Strong enough to trace our deepest imperfections

Confession without fear provides humility and truth;
Asking honest forgiveness is where **five** has proof

It is a lifetime job seeking spiritual growth;
Progress over perfection is our **sixth** oath

Seven is when we ask for his love and support;
In all those areas we come up short

Sketching a list willing to set the record straight;
Tough to face just have faith in number **Eight**

Nine challenges to mend what was once broken;
Actions of integrity always deliver when chosen

Ten says to review our daily decisions;
When wrong make right with no contradiction

Eleven seeks his courage to see it thru;
Turning a hunch into his assurance in you

Giving what was freely given is the privilege of **twelve**;
Love and service to others keeps us from ourselves

This is a path offered to a select few;
Rarely will we fail if given to that guy upstairs from you.

AA Grapevine Highlights for January

January Issue— With a Special Section, "Beginners."

Books— New, *Forming True Partnerships* (GV34). Also, *The Language of the Heart* audiobook now available.

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.

Consider a *Grapevine* or *La Viña* subscription or one of the many other AA Grapevine publications as a gift for that special AA friend.

For more info or to get an AA Grapevine [catalogue](http://www.aagrapevine.org), go online to www.aagrapevine.org.



Night Book

When the Nassau Intergroup office closes at 5PM each day, the Night Book allows us to continue to connect the still sick and suffering alcoholic with a member of Alcoholics Anonymous 24/7. This is a fairly unique capacity not offered by all Intergroup/Central Offices throughout the fellowship.

Intergroup would like to thank the following groups for covering the Night Book in December:

- Gratitude Group, Malverne
- Oyster Bay/Sagamore Group
- Pace Group, Bellmore
- Serenity Seekers Group

Thank you for your service.

If your group is interested in helping out with the Night Book for one week or even just part of one week any time in the future, or if you would like to know more about how the Night Book works, please contact the Night Book and leave a message.

Night Book
516-292-3045 or
nightbook@nassauny-aa.org

Tradition One

Celebrating another year with the gift of sobriety affords me the opportunity to reflect on all of my good fortune as a sober alcoholic in AA. It began for me 23 years ago with the admission and acceptance that I was alcoholic, and that without help I could not stop. That First Step is the foundation of a life free of alcohol, and beyond anything I could have ever dreamed of. I also reflect on the idea that the love, fellowship and the path to my own freedom is firmly grounded in AA's First Tradition. My sobriety was not possible without the loving guidance of those who came before and demonstrated the principal of AA unity.

When I arrived, the doors were open, the coffee pots were hot, and there was an outstretched hand and a welcoming smile, all the ingredients needed to help this troubled soul find some relief from the obsession of alcoholic drinking. It is so important to get that First Step, and now, as I have attained all of the gifts, it is equally important to remember what came before: Two or more alcoholics sharing the language of the heart, and welcoming all who seek sobriety offering that same opportunity for recovery.

As an AA member, it is my responsibility and a key to my own sobriety to carry this Tradition in my participation in meetings, my

home group, and all activities of AA service. The Steps have transformed me as a person, and the spiritual principles of AA's Traditions allow me to carry on the primary purpose of AA.

Nassau Intergroup and Nassau General Service will co-chair a workshop on "The AA Group Inventory," Feb 20th at the Intergroup office. It is my hope that all the groups in Nassau participate in this event, and learn more about the group inventory process and how it can help strengthen the bond of AA's primary purpose—personal recovery, carrying the message and AA unity.

In Service,
Elise M, 1st Vice Chair
516-292-3045 or
vicechairs@nassauny-aa.org

Share-A-Day 2016

I hope everyone had a beautiful sober holiday. Whatever your observance, it is a spiritual time of year. May peace prevail on earth. We on the Share-A-Day Committee send out our best AA love.



Maybe one of your New Year's resolutions is to do more service! Our committee meets just after the New Year

on Jan 13. We would love to see some newcomers wanting to get involved in Share-A-Day. We'll welcome you at the Intergroup office at 7PM.

Many hands make light work.
Humbly Grateful,
Marie M. S., SAD 2016 Chair
516-292-3045 or
shareaday@nassauny-aa.org

NERAASA

NERAASA is the Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly.

Since its first meeting in 1992, NERAASA's purpose has been for trusted servants "of the Northeast Region [to come together] to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting AA as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the areas of the Northeast Region."

This popular weekend event includes, "Panel Presentations and Floor Discussions on Issues Affecting AA Today; the Northeast Regional Trustee's Report; Saturday Dinner followed by an AA Speaker Meeting. In addition, there are several Round Table

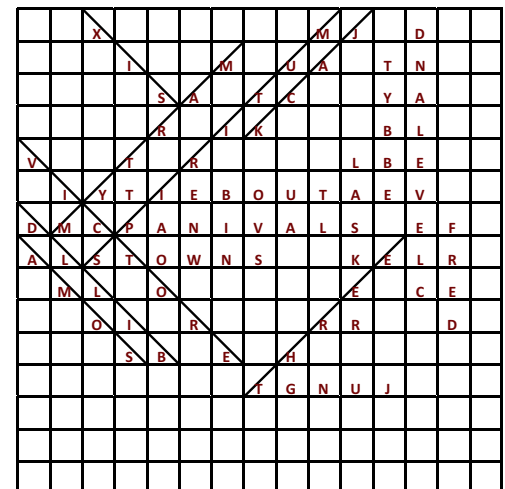
Sharing Sessions [organized by service area such as PI, CPC, Intergroup] throughout the weekend."

The 25th Annual NERAASA will be hosted the weekend of February 26 by General Service Area 31, Western Massachusetts, at the Sheraton Monarch Place, 1 Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144. Go to www.neraasa.org or www.neraasa2016.org for more information.

(Quotes from, www.neraasa.org.)



Correction— December AA Word Search Answers



- Rockefeller associate, Frank Amos.
- Bill W.'s sponsor: Ebby T.
- Psychiatrist who corresponded with Bill W.: [Dr. Carl] Jung
- Author, "Women Suffer Too": Marty M.
- Cartoon drunk finds recovery: Victor E.
- [AA's] Three Legacies.
- Did LSD with Bill W.: Fr. Ed [Dowling].
- The Man on the Bed: Bill D.
- Six Warranties [Article 12 of the Conference Charter.]
- American Public Health Association award given to AA, 1951: Lasker [Award].
- Bill W.'s shrink: [Dr. Harry] Tiebout.
- "*Spiritus contra spiritum*."
- Site of First International [Convention]: Cleveland.
- Spanish language edition of the AA *Grapevine*: La Viña.
- Author, "The Drunkard's Best Friend," *Saturday Evening Post*, 1950: Jack [Alexander].
- Man and hospital: [Charles B.] Towns.

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.

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., 2nd 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.

—Malverne 11565

Spiritually Fit Group, Bridge Church, 1 Norwood Ave. (rear entrance); Wed. 7:30PM BB.

—Plainview 11803

Plainview Promises Group, Plainview Reformed Church, 560 Old Bethpage Rd.; Thur. CD 7:30PM.

—Rockville Centre 11570

Joy of Living Group, St. Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Pl. (Dominic Room, basement rear); Sat. 9AM BB; beginning January 2.

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

Gift of Serenity Group, Wesley United Methodist Church, 619 Fenworth Blvd.; Sun. 6:30PM B (formerly 6:15P), 8PM O (added), Thurs. 7:30PM CD (formerly O); no changes Tues. or Sat.

Road to Recovery Group, Ascension Lutheran Church, 145 Franklin Ave.; Wed. 7:15PM CD (“Promises,” 3rd Wed., Tradition, 4th Wed.) added.

—Garden City 11530

Freedom Seekers Group (formerly, Open Hearts Group), Ethical Humanist Society of LI, 38 Old Country Road; Tues. 8PM BB (added), Thurs. 8PM B.

Garden City Group, Garden City Community Church, 245 Stewart Ave.; Tues. 7:30PM, C (Men’s), C (Topic), and CD; Tues. S and C (Women’s topic) dropped.

—Glen Cove 11542

Closed Discussion Group, North Shore University Hospital Glen Cove, 101 St Andrew’s La.; Wed. 8PM B now BB.

—Jones Beach

Sunrise Meeting, Jones Beach, West End 2; reminder, \$10 NYS parking fee after 6AM; no changes to meeting.

—Kings Point 11024

Great Neck-Kings Point Group (formerly the Kings Point Group); Merchant Marine Academy, Steam Boat Rd.; Thurs. 8PM C.

—Levittown 11756

Instrument Group, Levittown Community Church, 100 Periwinkle Rd. (new entrance at west end of building); Tues. 7PM B, Fri. 7PM OD unchanged.

—Locust Valley 11560

Choices Group, Reformed Church of Locust Valley, 115 Ryefield Rd. (entrance at rear); add Tues. 5PM C (Promises).

—Long Beach 11561

New Beginnings Group, Long Beach Ice Arena, 150 West Bay Dr.; WC accessible; no change to meetings.

—Melville 11747

Sweet Air Group, Sweet Hollow Presbyterian Church, 95 Old

Country Rd.; Thurs. 7:45 Meditation added.

—Rosedale 11422

Sunrise Beginners, Throop Memorial Presbyterian Church, 140-17 243rd St.; Thurs. 7:15PM O/S/T Meditation added; Sat. 9AM B now 9:30AM S.

—Seaford 11783

Seaford at Wantagh Group, St. Gregory Orthodox Church, 1100 Hicksville Rd. (Rt. 107); Sun. 7:30PM, S is now OS.

—Westbury 11590

Advent Group, Church of the Advent, Winthrop Hall, Advent St.; address correction only, no changes to meetings.

We Care Too Group, United Methodist Church, 265 Asbury Ave.; Sat. 1PM B. (Group restarted.)



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 at the Reach Center.)

CLOSED GROUPS

—Hicksville 11801

Ever Vigilant Group, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 130 Jerusalem Ave.

—Roosevelt 11575

Women Caring for Women Group, First United Methodist Church of Roosevelt, 30 Union Pl.

—Syosset 11791

Friday Night Group, St. Edward’s Church, 205 Jackson Ave.

—Williston Park 11596

Friends of Bill and Bob Group, St. John’s Lutheran Church, 47 Winthrop St.

Answer to Who Am I?

Henry (“Hank”) P. (1895-1954) may be one individual without whom the “Big Book” might never have been written or published. Hank had been an executive with Standard Oil of NJ, a position he lost due to his drinking. Bill W. met him at Towns Hospital, and offered the “solution” that had worked for him. An agnostic, Hank reluctantly accepted Bill’s suggestions becoming the fifth member of Alcoholics Anonymous (the second in New York). Bill W. worked as a salesman for Hank out of Hank’s Newark office at a business offering automotive supplies, a business which never really took off. This site would effectively become AA’s first office. Hank was, by some accounts, instrumental in helping Bill keep his focus on writing the book that would become *Alcoholics Anonymous*. He developed and implemented a funding plan for the book including the establishment of Works Publishing. Hank is credited with writing Chapter 10, “To Employers.” Together with Jim B. (“The Vicious Cycle”), Hank is also credited with helping early AA soften its tone on God endorsing the phrases, “*God as we understood Him*” and “a Power greater than ourselves,” a choice of wording which has probably made AA accessible to many more alcoholics than it might otherwise be. When Bill and Lois lost their Brooklyn home in April 1939, they initially moved in with Hank and his wife Kathleen. The meetings of what would become the first AA group in New Jersey took

place in Hank’s and Kathleen’s home. In the summer of 1939, Hank and Bill had a falling out, and by the fall of that year Hank had returned to drinking. He would have only periods of sobriety on and off thereafter until his death in January 1954. Hank P. is referred to by Dr. Silkworth in “The Doctor’s Opinion” as the hopeless man who “has lost everything in life and was only living . . . to drink,” who accepts AA’s suggestions and presents himself to the doctor a year later a changed man for the better. He is again mentioned in “A Vision for You” as the member who brings AA to his community (Upper Montclair, NJ). Hank’s story, “The Unbeliever,” was in the first edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. (See, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, pp. xxix and 163; *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, pp. 161, 162, 191, 194-196, 199, 200, 204-205, 213, 216, 228-231, 235-236 and 243n; *Experience, Strength & Hope*, pp. 5-15; and, *Pass It On*, pp. 11, 16-17, 74, 154-157, 159, 163, 167, 169-170 and 179.)

Announcements

EACYPAA XIV

Eastern Area Convention of Young People in AA

“From Darkness Into Light”

February 19-21

Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York

Panels • Meetings • Speakers
 Meditation • Yoga • Food • Fun • More

Go to, www.eacypaanyc.org
 to sign up or for more info.

Group Inventory Workshop

Saturday, February 20, 10AM

at

Nassau Intergroup
 361 Hempstead Turnpike
 West Hempstead 11552

Co-hosted by Nassau Intergroup & Nassau General Service

48th SENY Convention
 “Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions & Concepts”

Westchester Marriott Hotel
 670 White Plains Road
 Tarrytown 10591

March 18-20, 2016

www.aaseny.org/seny-convention-convention@aaseny.org