

Nassau Intergroup of AA, Inc.

361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552-1342

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

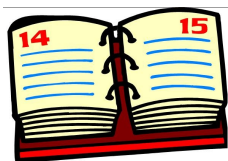
516.292.3040 (24/7 Hotline) 516.292.3045 (Business)

WORLD WIDE WED EDITION

JUNE 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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



Open House

Nassau Intergroup

361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead

Saturday, June 18, 11AM-5PM (Article page 4.)

Visit your Intergroup office: Literature • Handouts • Barbecue Fellowship • Meet the Steering Committee • More

JUNE 2016

- 6/1— Institutions Committee, 8PM, Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave. (off Sunset Ave. from County Line Rd.), Amityville 11701
- 6/2— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)
Reps Meeting, 7:30PM
- 6/5— Nassau General Service Committee (NGSC) Unity Breakfast, LI Marriott, 101 James Doolittle Blvd., Uniondale 11553; 9AM-1PM (Announcement, page 6.)
- 6/7— NGSC Corrections Committee, 7PM
- 6/15— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 6/18— **Open House**, 11AM-5PM (See above, and page 4.)
- 6/18— **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.)
- 6/20— NGSC Meeting Orientation, 6:30PM (Suggested for new DCMs/GSRs.); NGSC Meeting, 7:30PM
- 6/23— **Newsletter deadline** for July
- 6/30— **Steering Committee**, 7:30PM (By invitation.)

JULY 2016

- 7/6— Institutions Committee, 8PM (See 6/1 above for location.)
- 7/7— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)

Reps Meeting, 7:30PM

- 7/10— **NI Picnic**, 8AM-4PM, Eisenhower Park, The Cedars, Parking Field 6A (See announcement page 6.)
- 7/14— PI Committee, 7:30PM
- 7/20— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 7/18— Nassau General Service Committee (NGSC) Roundtable Workshop, 7PM; Concepts VII and VIII.
- 7/21— **Newsletter deadline** for August

From the Chair

I'm constantly struck by the value of service to recovery. Service offers a proving ground, a place where I either hone my character defects or learn to rise above them. Just look at a typical group (or Intergroup) business meeting if you doubt it. AA's Three Legacies (Recovery, Unity and Service) stand together, three inseparable sides of the AA triangle in the old circle and triangle AA logo.

Speaking of service, kudos to Steve K. and the General Service crew for the recent AA Grapevine/La Viña workshop. It was great hearing about the rich history of our magazines, and the role they continue to play in the life of the Fellowship today.

Service=Gratitude in Action, LaRaine A., Chair
516-292-3045 or chair@nassauny-aa.org

AA'S THREE LEGACIES FOR JUNE

Step 6— Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition 6— An AA group ought never endorse, finance or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept 6— The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

From the Editor

We continue this month with the column “Practice These Principles.” Thanks to the members who stepped up for the column in May. This month we’re exploring Step 6, Tradition 6 and Concept 6. What’s your experience? We’re hoping you’ll consider making a contribution to the column.

As always, we welcome contributions to the newsletter in any form (article, cartoon, poem, announcement, *et cetera*), and on any AA-related topic. Come to the June 18 Open House if you’d like to talk about the newsletter or making a contribution.

Remember too the option for getting this newsletter through an e-subscription. (To opt in or out, go to www.nassauny-aa.org > Newsletters > Current Issue, and scroll down to the subscription form below the “pdf” of the current month’s issue.)

Thanks for your contributions, and for helping with the distribution of our newsletter.

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



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A Bit More AA History

For those who have been following and enjoyed the column “FAQ’s About AA History from AAWS” which was drawn from the “Archives and History” section of the AA website, www.aa.org, we’ve exhausted that material. So, beginning this month and running through the end of the year when this service rotation ends, we will be picking up on bits of AA history from a range of sources. This means that some of what we publish may not be “official” AA history. We will site the sources so you may judge it for yourself.

Dr. Bob’s Last Drink and the Founding of AA

Following his encounter with Bill W., a newly sober Dr. Bob attended an AMA meeting in Atlantic City, NJ. There he gets drunk. The date of his last drink following those events is celebrated as June 10, 1935, the date Dr. Bob himself reports in his “Big Book” story, “Dr. Bob’s Nightmare.” But records of the AMA reflect the meeting did not begin until Monday, June 10, 1935 (JAMA, June 22, 1935, Vol. 104, No. 25, Page 2258), also the date of the dinner Dr. Bob reports attending.

AA HISTORY FOR JUNE

- June 10, 1935— Celebrated as the date of Dr. Bob’s last drink, the founding date for Alcoholics Anonymous.
- June 28, 1935— Bill W. and Dr. Bob meet, Bill D., AA Number 3, “The Man on the Bed,” at Akron City Hospital.
- June 18, 1940— First AA Clubhouse at 334½ W. 24th Street, NYC.
- June 30, 1941— Ruth Hock introduces Bill W. to the “Serenity Prayer.”
- June 21, 1944,— *AA Grapevine* is first published.
- June 11, 1945— 2,500 attend AA’s 10th Anniversary, Cleveland, Ohio.
- June 1947— “AA Preamble” first appears in the *AA Grapevine*.
- June 1953— *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* is published.

In his story (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 179), Dr. Bob talks of getting drunk on the train going there and at the hotel on the Sunday of his trip. He also talks of not drinking until attending the Monday dinner after which he again gets drunk. He reports checking out of his hotel on Tuesday, and continuing his drinking on the way to his train home. He remembers nothing more until waking up at a friend’s house near his home. Bill W. collects him from there, and in *Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers* (pp. 73-74) there is a note that “there was a three day sobering up period” that followed. His last drink would have had to have been after these events.

More on the Serenity Prayer

A copy of the prayer from a June 1941 obituary in the *Herald-Tribune* newspaper came to the attention of Ruth Hoch who was by then AA’s secretary at the Vesey Street office. Impressed, she was to use it in correspondence with groups and loners. Through this channel, it became widely know and used within AA. (See, *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, p. 196, and *Pass It On*, pp. 252 and 258n.)

While earlier text expressing similar sentiments may be found, the “Serenity Prayer” as we know it is commonly attributed to the American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr (1892–1971) who used it as early as the 1930’s, and published it in 1951 (See, “Serenity Prayer” at www.Wikipedia.org). AA commonly recites only the first section of what is a longer prayer.

“Are we now ready to let God remove from us all the things which we have admitted are objectionable? Can He now take them all—every one? If we still cling to something we will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing.”

—From Step Six, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 76.

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.

“The accumulation of money, property, and the unwanted personal authority so often generated by material wealth comprise a cluster of serious hazards against which an AA group must ever be on guard.

Tradition Six also enjoins the group never to go into business nor ever lend the AA name or money credit to any ‘outside’ enterprise”

—From “Tradition Six,” *AA Grapevine*, May 1948, in *The Language of the Heart*, p. 83.

From the Night Book: The Eleventh Hour Miracle

I had a discussion the other day with one of my Night Book Captains about getting people to sign up to take the phones. He proceeded to tell me about his group's experience. Let's call this guy “Bill.” Bill told me that his group is one of the bigger and more diverse groups in Nassau, with both extremes of age present, and likewise, years of sobriety at opposite ends of the spectrum. The group functions well; honoring outgoing and hosting incoming speaking commitments. They have well-structured business meetings, and group officers who really do a good job. They have an Intergroup Rep (the same “Bill”), and also a General Services Rep.

Newcomers are welcomed and “double-teamed” by greeters at every meeting. The coffee is pretty good by AA standards; plenty of cookies and treats are laid out, every manner of AA approved book and pamphlet is there for sale, also Grapevines, anniversary coins, the ubiquitous wicker basket that gets passed around; and a good set of shades, the “Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions” hanging in the front of the room. Bill said that if he was to give his group a rating, it would be like a nine out of ten; and you couldn't really expect more . . . or could you? Hummm . . . It sounds like a mystery unfolding - what else could there be?

Bill said that at the Intergroup Reps meeting, when I stand in front of the room and ask for groups to volunteer to “take the Night Book,” and he raises his hand to accept a week commitment, he gets a bad case of butterflies. Why should this be so? When you look at all of the positive attributes of Bill's group, you would think that filling a commitment like the Night Book, keeping our AA Hotline up and running for a full day, seven days a week, would be a cinch. Alas, it is NOT always the case.

For just as a car may be complete with all of its mechanical parts and bells, whistles and whirlmagigs, it won't start without a patent electrical system, and a good set of spark plugs. You get the idea: to be a complete and functioning AA group, it isn't enough to have the things mentioned above by our friend Bill; the group needs SPIRIT. The group has to live The Fifth Tradition which states that “For each AA group there is but one primary purpose - to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers;” and what better way to carry the Message than the Night Book?

So Bill goes back to his home group, the day after the Rep meeting, and the room is packed as usual. He makes the announcement that the group has the Night Book for such and such a week, and a sheet will be passed around for volunteers to put their names down for a night, seven volunteers in all. He gets the sheet back after the meeting, and not one person has put their name down. He gets a little anxious: “What am I going to do now? Do I ask the Night Book Chair for help? After all, the commitment is two weeks away!”

Bill tries a new tactic: He asks individual members if they would like to volunteer. “C'mon,” he says. “Don't you remember what it was like to be hopeless and scared, and feel like there could be no end to this vicious cycle of drink and abstinence; drunkenness followed by an uneasy sobriety?” He shows his friend one of those 8" x 11" signs in the front of the room that says, “But For The Grace Of God.” It serves as an ominous warning. It means that we are the lucky ones. We have found the answer to this hell of the disease of Alcoholism, and if we don't “pass on the solution,” we could be doomed to repeat the existence we had before AA. Gradually, the idea gains hold. Bill's friend tells his sponsees, and they in turn tell their friends in the group. In about a week's time, Bill is able to present a complete sheet of volunteers ready to do Service. It seems like an

eleventh hour miracle.

So you see friends, as Bill discovered and passed along, Recovery is a living, breathing thing, and it's life's blood is carried over the air-waves of cell phones, land lines, and “whirlmagigs” to that one lonely desperate alcoholic out there . . . BY US! When your group Rep comes to you and announces the Night Book commitment is open - grab it and do it. The life you save may be your own.

For the month of May, “Nassau and Suffolk Hotline Awareness Month,” I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the following individuals and groups: CREATIVELY SOBER GROUP, PORT WASHINGTON GROUP, SEAFORD SERENITY GROUP, ALBERTSON- SEARINGTOWN AFTERNOON DISCUSSION GROUP, and, “assorted emergency volunteers,” our unsung heroes of the night.

Till next month!

Yours In Fellowship and Service, Steve S.

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

Who Am I?

I came to AA in 1944 seeking to connect with all groups and loner members in the armed services. I've witnessed several important developments in AA history including the first presentation of the “Twelve Suggested Points for AA Tradition” by Bill W., and the advent of the AA Preamble. The image of “The Man on the Bed,” AA #3, came through me. I also first brought you several of the personal stories found in the “Big Book.” In 1996 I learned to speak Spanish. I'm still around.

(Answer on page 6.)



Keep an Open Mind

Hi, my name is Cynthia, and I am the new Nassau County District Rep Al-Anon Liaison to AA. I have been an active member of Al-Anon for over five years, attending a meeting almost every day. In addition, I attend many AA open meetings and annual anniversary AA and Al-Anon celebrations, and have learned so much about the disease of alcoholism and its affects.

(Continued on page 5.)

“Nobody but the Trustees . . . could possibly pass judgment upon and handle the very large number of transactions now involved in our total world service operation. In view of this very large responsibility, they must therefore be given a correspondingly large grant of authority and leadership”

—From, “Concept VI,” *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, p. 27.



Practice These Principles

Step 6— Entirely ready to have God, not Marty, remove these defects of Character.

God is positioned in Step 6 perfectly in the center of the shade. The book is as much spiritual as it is moral. Spiritual means: Draw nearer to God, and God will draw nearer to you. I tried to be moral, and I tried to be philosophical. I tried to reduce my self-centeredness. I have to have God's help.

By committing to three personal inventories of my past, they did self-reveal and fully disclose character flaws. I was ready, but no action. To let go and let God, I had to have God's help. This is the how and why of it. The how, "I had to quit playing God." The why, "It doesn't work."

I asked someone to take me through the personal house cleaning, again. We searched out the flaws which caused my failure, lack of spiritual progress. Progress means growth, and all growth starts on a foundation of willingness. We discussed pride, self-centeredness, self-seeking, fear and self-pity. The letter "I" in pride needing decreasing. I, thinking too high of myself. I, self-pity, thinking too low of myself.

I was now entirely ready, willing to be convicted of these character flaws. Being ready before asking in Step 7 to contemplate becoming God-centered, and God-willed.

Thy will, not Marty's, will be done!
Marty K., Baldwin Group,
By the Grace of a Loving God

Tradition 6— Carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose. AA pledge to remain poor. It is dangerous for groups to accumulate money, property and unwanted personal authority which generates from material wealth, and may divert us from our primary purpose and lose focus on the drunk.

If we lend the AA name to outside organizations, they may sooner or later want something which we cannot give them which may potentially jeopardize the group and AA as a whole. The Traditions suggest that we must separate the material from the spiritual, and not lend the AA name to any cause other than our own. The founders know from experience, it is best not to get involved. I feel secure knowing that the AA program is not about making money, but rather helping alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

We cannot be all things to all men, and we should not try. "The more AA sticks to its primary purpose, the greater will be its helpful influence everywhere." (Bill W., *AA Comes of Age*, p.109.)

"The core of our AA procedure is one alcoholic talking to another, whether that be sitting on a curbstone or at a meeting." It is the message, not the place; it's the talk, not the alms that does the work." (Bill W., *AA Grapevine*, May 1948, in, *The Language of the Heart*, p. 84.)

If I let financial difficulties, dominate my thoughts, I am not able to focus on carrying the message to another alcoholic. It is the attraction and not the promotion that helps my sobriety. The more I concentrate on carrying the message and helping another sick and suffering alcoholic, the less I focus on my material problems and realize that as long as I am doing God's will, he will take care of my needs.

Geralda L.
Elmont/Belmont Give It a Try Group

Concept VI— A Spiritual Handshake

The long form of Concept VI reads: "On behalf of AA as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous." (*Twelve Concepts for World Service*, p. 26.)

That's a mouth full! One way to break it down is to think about the function of the General Service Conference. They (the 130+ members) gather in New York for one week each year to discuss, vote, and seek substantial unanimity on a variety of important matters of policy and finance that are relevant to AA world services as a whole. Many AA members will recognize some of these matters as the items that appear on the Delegate's Questionnaire that's shared throughout our Area each spring and on which we get to share our group's conscience.

How can the Conference get everything completed and implemented in one week? It can't. So the Conference recognizes that the Trustees (who are themselves members of

the Conference) will carry out those responsibilities over the course of the year as they act in their role as the legal custodians of the organization. I heard our North East Regional Trustee once describe this particular act of turning-it-over as a "spiritual handshake". We must trust our trusted servants at all levels to do what's best for our fellowship.

John W., Alternate Delegate
Panel 65, SENY, Area 49

Intergroup Open House

Many members have never visited the Nassau Intergroup office.

Intergroup is holding its second Open House at the office, 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead 11552 on Saturday, June 18, 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 barbecue going out back too for some modest AA chow, and there'll always be a waiting cup of coffee.

Why Is An Open Meeting So Important?

From the start of my sobriety, in the Fellowship of AA, I've made a habit to attend our annual Share-A-Day event. I find that it helps me to remember that the Fellowship of AA releases barriers that cannot be released elsewhere. SAD has helped me to understand not only our common purpose but also to overcome my personal biases.

This year, a question was asked of the Old Timers panel at SAD: "Why are there fewer open meetings in the County?" "Can't Nassau Intergroup do something about it?"

(Continued on page 5.)

Sobriety with Hope Group
mourns the loss of
Al M. & Harry W., May 2016

Keep an Open Mind (Continued)

I notice that at the annual AA anniversary celebrations there are no Al-Anon speakers. With many families of the alcoholics attending these celebrations, I feel there may be a benefit to adding an Al-Anon speaker to the anniversary celebration, perhaps to speak for a shorter time than the AA speaker.

Another benefit of having an Al-Anon speaker is to perhaps open up a whole new awareness to the recovering alcoholic. Maybe a recovering alcoholic will realize that they were raised in an alcoholic home, or it may be he/she has a sibling or friend who is suffering from the disease of alcoholism.

There are many tools of Al-Anon that are the same as AA (slogans, Steps, Traditions, the 3 A's, etc.). There may also be many tools that are different and can be added to the AA toolbox. (Have you heard of the 3 C's?)

All of the Al-Anon meetings are OPEN to AA members. We are ALL in the "same boat," "two sides to the same coin."

At the next Repts. meeting in Hempstead, I'm hoping to offer a list of Al-Anon speakers who can speak at your annual anniversary celebration, at a holiday party, or a special event.

See you soon.

Cynthia S., Al-Anon Liaison

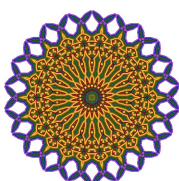
More from the Share-A-Day Wrap Up

Our wrap up meeting for the 2016 SAD Committee was May 11. Over some pizza the committee reviewed the day's events and discussed what might be improved, changed, etc. for next year. Our 40th SAD will have a new chair and committee, but we are available for any help and to share with them our collected experience.

The kick off meeting to begin preparation for SAD 2017 will be held September 14, 2016. If you get involved, you'll see firsthand how this great day comes together.

Thanks to all for this opportunity. In the end, it was the planning committee and all the participating groups that made SAD 2016 work. By the way, we had a few lost and found items. Missing something that day? Email me or phone the office.

Marie M. S., SAD 2016 Chair
shareaday@nassauny-aa.org or
 516-292-3045



Why Is An Open Meeting So Important? (Continued)

I participated in this discussion, and it was suggested to me that the topic would make a great article for our newsletter. Nassau Intergroup cannot dictate to groups the types of meetings they conduct.

An open meeting, offers anyone and everyone an opportunity to quietly sit and listen to speakers share their experience, strength and hope in AA and affords that individual to identify OR not.

On the Nassau Intergroup website, there are 700 meetings a week taking place in our county, of which 104 are open meetings, only 15% of all meetings.

It is interesting to note that in the infancy of AA, in *Dr. Bob and The Good Oldtimers*, meetings were attended by alcoholics and their families. As AA evolved, closed meetings were added to afford the alcoholic the privacy to share among themselves. Since that time, an array of various types of meetings have sprung.

As always, we, alcoholics, tend to complicate things, besides Open, Closed, Big Book and Step meetings, we have added: As Bill Sees It, Living Sober, Men Only, Women Only, Topic and Solutions Based meetings, etc. to our repertoire. Sure it is important for us to discuss various ailments we face as alcoholics in sobriety, but what about the person who is still unsure he/she is an alcoholic. AA's primary purpose states that we, as members of AA, are responsible to pass on the message to those still sick and suffering. My experience in AA has taught me that an opening meeting does just that. An open meeting is a great way to pass on the message AND keeps it simple.

Let's remember that during the month of June, we celebrate the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous. How much have we prospered and grown from our Fellowship? With that let's "Keep It Simple" for those alcoholics looking for help.

Yours in Service,

Regine V., 2nd Vice Chair

516-292-3045 or 2ndvice@nassauny-aa.org

Nassau General Service

How has Nassau County General Service been trying to communicate the message of recovery to those who still suffer?

Some of our recent efforts have been to make our clusters (16 districts have been temporarily reduced to six clusters and the Spanish district) more available to the local groups. A committee has been formed to study methods that can accomplish this very important task. On Saturday, May 14th, we hosted a Grapevine/LaViña Workshop to help support our "meetings in print." The workshop gave the attendees a dynamic insight into the magazines history and present day message. Our presenters, including Bill C., Al Z., Irene (editor of LaViña) and our translator Eddie, who has been published twice in LaViña, were well organized and delivered extremely powerful messages. Thank you all for your service. We will be looking for a Grapevine/LaViña Representative at our next General Service meeting on June 20th.

On Monday, May 16th, Terry F. came to the Intergroup Office from Manhattan, and spoke on Concepts V and VI. As usual, his message was delivered in a simple way, but helped us to understand the meaning of these two Concepts. On June 5th, the Unity Breakfast will be celebrated at the Marriott in Uniondale. It should be another wonderful spiritual event hosted by our county General Service.

We have Committees performing work "out in the field," getting the message to those who still need it. All of our members are volunteers, not paid for their service work, and giving without strings. I am very grateful to AA, and can never repay it in full. A member states in the Daily Reflection, page 149, "On a day-at-a-time basis, I am confident I can stay away from a drink for one day. So I set out with confidence. At the end of the day, I have the reward of achievement. Achievement feels good and makes me want more!"

If your home group does not have a General Service Representative, please approach the chairperson or attend the business meeting and find someone to help serve our members through Nassau County General Service. Back in the day of the Selective

(Continued on page 6.)

Nassau General Service (Cont.)

Service when the military draft was in effect, a picture of Uncle Sam had the attached quote, "Uncle Sam Needs (or Wants) You." This also applies to us in Nassau County General Service. We need your help. And please remember, "No one can do everything, but everyone can do something."

Steve K., DCMC, Nassau County

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 meeting details change.

(Changes received as of 5/26/2016.)

- BEGINNERS = B BIG BOOK = BB CLOSED = C
- CLOSED DISCUSSION = CD OPEN = O
- OPEN DISCUSSION = OD STEP = S TRADITION = T
- WC = WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE YP = YOUNG PEOPLE
- NON-ALCOHOLICS ARE WELCOME AT "OPEN" MEETINGS.

NEW GROUPS

- Freeport 11520
- Thursdays As Bill Sees It Group**, Freeport Community Church of the Nazarene, 301 Atlantic Ave.; Thur. 7PM C "As Bill Sees It."
- Glen Cove 11542
- Melillo Center**, 113 Glen Cove Ave.; Tues. 7PM Restricted (Institutional Meeting).
- Levittown 11756
- Serenity Night Live Group**, Good Shepard Lutheran Church, 3434 Hempstead Tpk.; Sat. 6:30PM CD.
- Malverne 11565
- Big Book Fever Group**, Church of the Intercessor, 50 St. Thomas Pl.; Sun. 8PM BB.
- Rockville Centre 11570
- Joy of Living Group**, St. Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Pl. (Dominic Room, basement rear); Sat. 9AM BB.
- Wantagh 11793
- Peace Within 11th Step Meditation Group**, 3050 Merrick Rd.; Sun. 7:30PM O.
- West Hempstead 11552
- Creatively Sober Group**, 482 Hempstead Ave.; Mon. 8AM CD, Sat. 7PM B; WC.

CHANGES

- Baldwin 11510
- Over the Hill Group**, Baldwin Lutheran Church, 1375 N. Grand Ave.; Thurs. CD 8PM.
- Freeport 11520
- Freeport I Group**, Church of the Transfiguration, 69 S. Long Beach Ave. (Address correction); Tues. 7:45PM B (Last Tues. O).
- Inwood 11696
- We Can Do It Group**, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 200 Redwood Ave.; no changes to meetings.
- Long Beach 11561
- High Noon/West end Group**, West End Community Center, 91 Maryland Ave.; Add, Sat. 10AM B.
- Lynbrook 11563
- Lynbrook Group**, Christ Episcopal church, 49 Blake Ave.; Sun. 7PM CD ("Promises").
- Malverne 11565
- Gratitude Group**, Community Presbyterian Church, 12 Nottingham Rd.; Mon. 7:30PM B, Tues. 7:30PM S, Thurs. 7:30PM C (Anniversary last Thurs.).
- Manhasset 11030
- Good Morning God Group**, Temple Judea. 333 Seeringtown Rd.; Sun. 9:30AM CD only.
- New Hyde Park 11040
- Floral Park/Bellrose Group**, Holy Spirit RC Church, 500 Jericho Tpk.; Mon. 7:15PM B and C (2nd Mon. "Promises" CD, 8:30PM BB



- (2nd Mon.OD) and C, Thurs. 7:15PM S Last Thurs. T), 8:30PM C.
- Plainview 11803
- Plainview Promises Group**, Plainview Reformed Church, 560 Old Bethpage Rd.; Thurs. 7:30PM S.
- Rosedale 11422
- Sobriety with Love Group**, St. Clare's Church, 137-35 Brookville Blvd. (at 241st St.; formerly in the Rectory); Sun. 6PM, 1st week B, 2nd S, 3rd T, 4th C, 5th BB; 7:30PM CD dropped.

TEMPORARY CHANGES

- Cambria Heights (formerly Elmont) 11411
- Elmont/Belmont Give It A Try Group**, Deliverance Baptist Church, 227-11 Linden Blvd. (temporary move from Cambria Heights Community Church); Mon. 7PM S and Thurs. 7:15PM B (last Thurs. O anniversary).

CLOSED GROUPS

- Bellrose 11001
- Daily Reprieve Group**, House of Hope United Presbyterian Church, 84-54 248th St.
- Glen Cove 11542
- N. Shore Univ. Hospital**, St. Andrews La. (Institutional Meeting).
- Malverne 11565
- Spiritually Fit Group**, Bridge Church, 1 Norwood Ave.
- Long Beach 11561
- Living Sober Group**, St. John's Lutheran Church, 75 E. Olive St.
- West Hempstead 11552
- Here and Now Group**, Project Outreach, 600 Hempstead Tpk.

Answer to Who Am I?

The AA Grapevine— Created by a group of six members as a three column newsletter, the first issue of the AA Grapevine was sent to the then about 300 AA groups and to all known AA members in the armed services overseas in June 1944 with the goal of providing news of the young Fellowship and program at a time when communication among members and groups was quite limited. (It was those members in the armed services who took to calling it their "meeting in print," a tile which stuck.) Two years later in 1946, AA co-founder Bill W. noted, "The Grapevine will be the voice of the Alcoholics Anonymous movement." He further observed, "With in the bounds of friendliness and good taste, the Grapevine will enjoy perfect freedom of speech. . . . The Grapevine will try to carry the AA message to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all its affairs." The history of the Grapevine mirrors the history of



AA. The "Twelve Traditions" were first introduced to the Fellowship by Bill W. in an April 1946 article entitled, "Twelve Suggested Points for AA Tradition." The "AA Preamble" was written by a Grapevine editor and first published in June 1947. Other fixtures of contemporary AA got their start in the pages



of the Grapevine including the now ubiquitous gothic lettering printings of the AA slogans, and the image of "The Man on the Bed," AA #3, Bill D. meeting with Bill W. and Dr. Bob. The "Serenity Prayer" also came to greater prominence and broader use through the Grapevine. AA's "Responsibility Declaration" was written by a Grapevine editor and trustee, and many of the personal stories which are found in the second, third and fourth editions of the "Big Book" were first published in the AA Grapevine. In 1996, the Grapevine launched La Viña, the Spanish language edition of the magazine. A separate bi-monthly publication, La Viña reflects the growth of AA in the Spanish speaking world. Today the AA Grapevine reflects both the history and the current face of the Fellowship through its two magazines, books of collected articles including The Language of the Heart: Bill W.'s Grapevine Writings, its website and its many audio and digital offerings.

(See, www.aagrapevine.org > "About Us," and, *AA Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meetings in Print*, P-52.)

Announcements

**Nassau General Service
Unity Breakfast
"Celebrating Our Spiritual
Way of Life: Steps, Traditions
and Concepts"**
Sunday, June 5, 9AM-1PM
Long Island Marriott
101 James Doolittle Boulevard
Uniondale 11553
Tickets \$30

**Baldwin Group
71st Anniversary**
Saturday, June 11, 6:30-11PM
First Presbyterian Church
717 St. Luke's Place, Baldwin 11510
Food • Speakers • Music • Dancing • Raffles

Intergroup Picnic



**Eisenhower Park, The Cedars
(Parking Field 6A)**
Sunday, July 10, 8AM-4PM
Water & soda provided
No loud music or for sale items please