

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 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Treasurer Workshop

Co-Hosted by Nassau Intergroup & Nassau General Service
361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead 11552



Saturday, September 24, 10:30AM-1PM

SEPTEMBER 2016

- 9/1— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.) **Reps Meeting**, 7:30PM; Nominations for NI Officers open.
- 9/7— Institutions Committee, 8PM, Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave. (off Sunset Ave. from County Line Rd.), Amityville 11701.
- 9/8— PI/CPC Committee, 7:30PM
- 9/8-11— National AA Archives Workshop, Concord CA; hosted by Area 6; Go to www.naaaw2016.org for info.
- 9/14— Share-A-Day Committee, kick-off for 2017, 7:30PM
- 9/15— Nassau General Service Committee (NGSC) Accessibility/Special Needs Committee, 7:30PM
- 9/17— **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.)
- 9/19— NGSC Roundtable Workshop, 7PM; Concepts IX and X.
- 9/21— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 9/22— **Newsletter deadline** for October
- 9/24— **Treasurer Workshop**, 10:30AM-1PM (See above and announcement page 6.)
- 9/29— **Steering Committee**, 7:30PM (By invitation.)



OCTOBER 2016

- 10/5— Institutions Committee, 8PM (See 9/7 for location.)
- 10/6— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.) **Reps Meeting**, 7:30PM; Election of NI officers for 2017-2018.
- 10/12— Share-A-Day Committee, 7:30PM
- 10/15— LI Spirituality through Service (LISTS), hosted by Suffolk General Services; True North Community Church, 1101 Lakeland Ave., Bohemia 11716; 9:30AM-4PM; Go to www.aasuffolkgs-ny.org > "Events" for info.

From the Chair— Elections! Elections! Elections!

Have I mentioned Intergroup elections are coming up?

This month we open nominations for the positions of chair, first and second vice chairs, secretary and treasurer. Nominations will stay open up to the elections next month for two year terms of office beginning in January 2017.

Last month, this month and next, our newsletter is carrying details on the election: Last month, excerpts from our by-laws on the elections; this month, officer qualifications and job descriptions, and next, the "Third Legacy Procedure" which will guide the election.

(Continued page 3.)

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

Please follow our special features including, "Practicing These Principles" which is exploring member experiences with AA's Three Legacies as reflected in the Steps (Recovery), Traditions (Unity) and Concepts (Service), and the column on Intergroup's upcoming elections, this month with the second of three installments. Watch also for "Service Opportunities Beyond the Home Group" which each month lists open service commitments with Intergroup.

With the end of this year too comes the end of the current two year service rotation with Intergroup for some of the standing committees, and additional chances for service will open up. The incoming chair will appoint or re-appoint most standing committee chairs with the consent of the Reps meeting, so let him or her know if you are interested in filling an opening.

Remember our [e-subscription](#) option. Opt in or out at our website, www.nassauny-aa.org, just below the "Current Issue" pdf icon.

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 this column, we ran through all the FAQs from AAWS a month or so ago, and are now offering bits of AA history drawn from a variety of sources.

Hope you find it interesting.

AA & the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism

Following a period of study in alcoholism at the newly formed Yale School of Alcohol Studies, Marty M., one of the first women to sustain any significant period of sobriety through AA, felt she had found a calling in alcoholism education. In 1944 she formed the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism (NCEA) to help change public attitudes toward alcoholism and alcoholics enlisting the support of both Bill W. and Dr. Bob whose names appeared on early NCEA letterhead.

Using the names of Bill and Bob in that way however gave the impression that NCEA and AA were affiliated, and to make matters

AA HISTORY FOR SEPTEMBER

- September 17, 1934— Bill W.'s third admission to Towns Hospital for alcoholism. Dr. Silkworth pronounces him "hopeless."
- September 21, 1938— Works Publishing Co. is formed.
- September 30, 1939— *Liberty* magazine publishes "Alcoholics and God" about AA generating some early interest in the Fellowship.
- September 1946— Bill W. and Dr. Bob endorse the National Committee for Education on Alcoholism formed by Marty M.
- September 1952— Al-Anon adopts AA's "Twelve Traditions."
- September 17, 1954— Bill D., AA Number Three, dies in Cleveland, Ohio.
- September 17, 1975— Jack Alexander, author of "Alcoholics Anonymous" in the *Saturday Evening Post*, dies, St. Petersburg, Florida.

more confusing, Marty often broke her anonymity as an AA member when publicly promoting NCEA including most notably in a 1944 piece on the committee in *Time* magazine. The confusion reached a peak in 1946 when the committee sent out a public appeal for funds using in part an AA group mailing list.

These experiences led both Bill and Bob to withdraw from involvement with NCEA, and helped further lead Bill in the development of some of the thinking he would push as the "Twelve Traditions" in a campaign in the *AA Grapevine* and beyond. (See, "Who Am I?", *Nassau Intergroup News*, August 2016.)

Marty eventually stopped publicly identifying herself as an AA member. NCEA became the National Council on Alcoholism (1950) which today is the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence ([NCADD](#)).

(See, *Pass It On*, pp. 310 and 319-320.)

"Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. If we haven't the will to do this, we ask until it comes."

—From "Step Nine," *Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 76.

Who Am I?

Hank P., one of the early members of AA in New York, and Bill W. helped me get my start with AA. It was my job to support the publication of what would become the "Big Book," *Alcoholics Anonymous*. My start was shaky with many members unsure of me and my grounding unfirm even through the release of the book in April 1939, but without me, the book would never have been published.



(Answer on page 6.)

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.

“AA has always violently resisted the idea of any general organization. Yet, paradoxically, we have ever stoutly insisted upon organizing certain *special services*, mostly those absolutely necessary to effective and plentiful Twelfth Step work,”

—“Tradition Nine,” *AA Grapevine*, August 1948, in *The Language of the Heart*, p. 88.

AA Grapevine Highlights for September

September Issue— “Young and Sober.”

Books— *New, Forming True Partnerships* (GV34). Also, *The Language of the Heart* audio book 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.

Go online to www.aagrapevine.org for more info or to get an AA Grapevine [catalogue](#).



From the Chair (Continued)

Interested in possibly standing for office? Curious about the elections process? Any questions about the elections at all? Let us know.

Be sure your group has a voice when we select our trusted servants by fielding a Rep to the October 6 election meeting.

Service=Gratitude in Action,

LaRaine A., Chair

516-292-3045 or chair@nassaunya-aa.org

More on the Intergroup Elections

Next month Nassau Intergroup will hold its biennial election of officers. Here are some more things we would like you to know.

Part 2—

Officer Qualifications

Candidates must be a current Intergroup Rep, or a chair of an Intergroup standing committee, or an officer other than the current chairperson, or be nominated to an office by the Nominating Committee. A minimum of two years sobriety is suggested prior to standing for office. Beyond that, a good candidate may benefit from some experience with service beyond the home group, and, depending on the position being sought, some experience serving with Nassau Intergroup.

Before the election, candidates for office will be invited to offer a brief service qualification or resume so that the voting members may have a better basis for deciding their votes.

Officer Job Descriptions

Chair

Officiates at both the Steering Committee and Reps meeting. Is available to help all other committee chairs with their jobs. Appoints most standing committee chairs with

the consent of the Reps meeting. Is available with other committee members to help groups with inventories, workshops and any other events, when asked or invited. Has signatory authority for all Intergroup accounts, and signs leases, contracts, etc.

First Vice Chair

Officiates at Intergroup meetings in the absence of the Chairperson. Available to help the Chair as needed. Signatory on the Intergroup accounts. If Chair becomes vacant, automatically succeeds to that position.

Second Vice Chair

Officiates in the absence of the Chair and First Vice Chair at Intergroup meetings. Coordinates the efforts of the Zone Coordinators. If Chair becomes vacant, and First Vice is unable to assume the Chair, automatically succeeds to Chair. Signatory on the Intergroup accounts.

Recording Secretary

Takes, edits and disseminates minutes for all Intergroup Steering Committee and Reps meetings. Ensures copies of all minutes are placed in Archives. Facility with word processing is helpful.

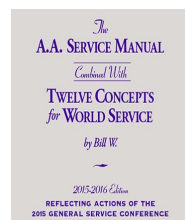
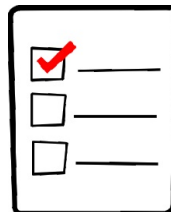
Treasurer

Maintains all financial records of Intergroup. Arranges periodic deposits to the General Account (reflecting any earmarks), and for transfers to or from the Reserve Account as required. Arranges for payment of Intergroup obligations. Reports on financial activities at monthly Steering Committee and Reps meetings. Works with the Financial Review Committee, especially in preparing the annual budget. Works with the accountant on special reports and filings as needed. Signatory on all Intergroup accounts. Facility with QuickBooks and Excel, our recording and reporting formats, is helpful.

All officers are expected to attend the monthly Reps and Steering Committee meetings, and to support any Intergroup special activities and events.

In “Part 3” next month, we will look at the “Third Legacy Procedure” which guides the election. (If you want to read ahead, go to, [The AA Service Manual](#), pp. S21-S22.)

“Part 1” appeared in last month’s [newsletter](#) (still available on-line at www.nassaunya-aa.org, and as hard copy in the office), and looked at the provisions for electing officers as set out in Intergroup’s [by-laws](#) (also available on line).



“We AAs sometimes cherish the thought that we can do without any leadership at all. We are apt to wrap the traditional idea of ‘principles before personalities’ around to such a point that there would be no ‘personality’ in leadership whatever.”

—From, “Concept IX,” *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, p. 38.

Leadership in AA: An Ever Vital Need by Bill W.

Somewhere in our literature there is a statement to this effect: “Our leaders do not drive by mandate: they lead by example.” In effect, we are saying to them, “Act for us, but don’t boss us.” . . .

Therefore, a leader in AA service is 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. When a leader power-drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly becomes an order-taker and he exercises no judgment of his own—well, he really isn’t a leader at all

Good leadership originates plans, policies, and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its service. But in new and important matters, it will nevertheless consult widely before taking decisions and actions. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source

Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can obtain, sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and puts them into action forthwith, provided, of course, that such action be within the framework of its defined authority and responsibility

Another qualification for leadership is give-and-take, the ability to compromise cheerfully whenever a proper compromise can cause a situation to progress in what appears to be the right direction. Compromise comes hard to us all-or-nothing drunks. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a series of improving compromises. We cannot, however, compromise always. Now and then, it is truly necessary to stick flatfooted to one’s conviction about an issue until it is settled. These are situations for keen timing and careful discrimination as to which course to take

Leadership is often called upon to face heavy and sometimes long-continued criticism. This is an acid test. There are always the constructive

critics, our friends indeed. We ought never fail to give them a careful hearing. We should be willing to let them modify our opinions or change them completely. Often, too, we shall have to disagree and then stand fast without losing their friendship.

(Excerpts from Bill W.’s article in the April 1959 *Grapevine*. See Concept IX, [Twelve Concepts for World Service](#), pp. 36-40 or *Language of the Heart*, pp. 287-292 for the full article. Copyright © AA Grapevine, Inc.)

We continue to offer a listing of opportunities for service with Nassau Intergroup. Interested? Leave a message at the NI office during business hours (9AM-5PM daily) at 516-292-3045 or send an email to the addresses below.

For September and beyond, the service opportunities include:

- **Public Information**— Speaking at schools, colleges and other venues; commitment of one hour a month. Contact: publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org.
- **Institutions (H&I)**— Many opportunities for speaking at institutions. Come to the H&I meeting (first Wednesday monthly, see the Calendar of Events) or, Contact: institutions@nassauny-aa.org.
- **Intergroup Office**— Volunteers needed to answer phones and handle literature questions, any day, 9AM-1PM or 1-5PM. Contact: officemanager@nassauny-aa.org.

Practice These Principles

Step 8—

“Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.”

With our heads hung low and tails between our legs (because we now are aware of our defects) we had to make a list of those people we hurt. Some emotionally, some physically, and some psychologically. The list would be long... As if feeling so low and awful about the damaging tornado winds of our drinking was not punishment enough, I had to write it all down. I would need a comfortable writing pen or at the very least, a new box of pencils (with erasers).

But since I am a new comer, I follow the “suggestions” and we AA’s know the suggestions you don’t take, you pay for (dearly).

So write I did.

I stole from people at work, BUT the petty cash box was never locked!

I stole business connections, BUT the list of accounts was faxed to me in error!

I lied to my friends and family BUT they weren’t honest with me!

I lied to my children BUT they always lie to me!

I cheated and wasn’t loyal BUT my marriage was in shambles anyway!

OK OK

Obviously I must keep coming back

Now willing to make amends to them all? ? ?

Are they kidding?

Wait a minute. I’m not even sure I am willing to do any of this AA stuff.

But I feel so horrid and empty. I have to get better.

If this will make me better, I WILL DO IT.

Especially when I think and feel the guilt.

And then I realize, finally and overwhelming so.

I cheated myself out of a good clean honest life for too many years

Gail K.

Service Opportunities Beyond the Home Group



Dream Catcher

Practice These Principles (Continued)

Step 9—

“Made direct amends to such people whenever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

THAT NIGHT!

I was drinking heavily with a friend in a community I grew up in. I was 19 years old, and I had adopted two puppies that I named Bonnie and Clyde. I was told the next morning in the oral surgeon’s office by friends who came to give me moral support that apparently when I was in a “discussion,” I didn’t want to go back to my apartment to tend to the puppies. My friend wanted me to. I was told friends heard screaming, and that my friend opened my driver side door and kicked my front tooth loose. I am now coherent and listening to these friends, and I don’t remember any of the events. In AA I was to name these as blackouts. Of course, I quickly distanced myself, and bitterness grew into resentment as the days grew into years.

In 1987 in a rehab, “I asked God to relieve me of the mental obsession.” I did this for two days, and it was taken away. I submitted to God as I understand him to be as much as I was able to, and as my day count grew, my sponsor got me into the Third Legacy through service at the home group.

I started sponsoring men. The old resentment came up every time, and I did a Fifth Step. I was asked to read and believe the resentment prayer on page 449 of the 3rd Edition “Big Book.” I refused and continued to be bitter. I didn’t tell sponsees or discuss it at meetings.



Now I am 12 years sober, now married, a child on the way, in a new community, and I was introduced to “Big Book” meetings and the text of the program. I started attending, and asked Howard to take me through the Steps. He gave me the resentment sheet. My tormentor now had a name, “Paul.” I now had empathy, where in other resentments I use to justify and felt bitterness. I had known this spiritual experience, and again I experienced freedom, forgiveness and love. Not soon after putting the Eighth Step list together, once again I experienced the harms I had done, and “asked God for

the willingness.” Also now, I utilized the prayers on page 67 and page 449. Wow! God makes all things possible.

Paul was an inmate in the Florida Department of Corrections. About four years before making my amends, he was involved while intoxicated in a double vehicular homicide. I started writing regularly to him before he was released to New York. I made arrangements to meet up with him, and it went so well that I went with him and my family to a water park.

We speak on a regular basis. From my tormentor (I was sore, threatened, hurt), he became my fellow sufferer. I am free. Where I once had a phenomenon of craving, I am a phenomena.

Marty K., Baldwin Group
By the Grace of a Loving God
and this Fellowship, I Am Free

Tradition 9—

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



“It is clear now that we ought never to name boards to govern us, but it is equally clear that we shall always need to authorize workers to serve us. It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes poles apart. It is in the spirit of service that we elect the AA group’s informal rotating committee, the intergroup association for the area, and the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous for AA as a whole. Even our Foundation, once an independent board, is today directly accountable to our Fellowship. Its trustees are the caretakers and expeditors of our world services.

Just as the aim of each AA member is personal sobriety, the aim of our services is to bring sobriety within reach of all who want it. If nobody does the group’s chores, if the area’s telephone rings unanswered, if we do not reply to our mail, the AA as we know it would stop. Our communications lines with those who need our help would be broken.

AA has to function, but at the same time it must avoid those dangers of great wealth,

prestige, and entrenched power which necessarily tempt other societies. Though Tradition Nine at first sight seems to deal with a purely practical matter, in its actual operation it discloses a society without organization, animated only by the spirit of service—a true fellowship.”

(From, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pp. 174-175, © AAWS, Inc.)

Concept IX—

“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.”

One of the fascinating things about the “[Twelve Concepts for World Service](#)” is that they extend far beyond the stated scope of providing a framework for the bottom of the AA pyramid. They are an important part of the fabric of our Fellowship, and yet (perhaps because they seem highly structured and overly legal-sounding at first glance) they are viewed as difficult, arcane or not relevant to the average AA member. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. If the Steps ultimately provide individual Change, and the Traditions support our Primary Purpose, then I will suggest the Concepts might represent Balance.

Concept IX is all about leadership. When Bill W. wrote the Concepts in 1962, there was a pressing need to continue a smooth transition from Founders-based to Trustees-based leadership, and to reinforce the Trustees-Conference relationship discussed in Concepts VI, VII and VIII. Bill clarifies the importance of that relationship, as well as the reasons for—and the pitfalls of not—seeking the best possible leaders available for Trustees. He recounts the importance of Third Legacy procedures in voting, and once again stresses the importance of the GSR as being the voice of the group, and therefore the ultimate voice of AA.

On that last point, he writes three short sentences that are as important—and as challenging—today as when he wrote them: “Groups who name no GSRs should be encouraged to do so. *In this area a degree of weakness tends to persist.* The needed improvement seems to be a matter of increased care, responsibility and education.” (Italics are mine.) And then Bill does some thing that is unique to this Concept. He

(Continued page 6.)

Practice These Principles

Concept IX (Continued)—

inserts an AA Grapevine article from 1959 to delineate the nature of true leadership. In "Leadership in AA: Ever a Vital Need" the article speaks of "dedicated and effective action," taking responsibility, using one's own best judgment, weathering criticism, and "the all-important attribute of vision." Read this Concept, and the insert on Leadership, and see if it doesn't ring true on the virtue of Balance, both in our fellowship and in our own lives.

I am only aware of a handful of Concept meetings and workshops on Long Island, or in all of SENY for that matter. That's a shame. Consider the Steps, Traditions and Concepts. Consider Recovery, Unity and Service. Perhaps the Twelfth Step is even more powerful than Bill and Dr. Bob knew: "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics (Traditions), and to practice these principles in all our affairs (Concepts)." Is that too liberal an interpretation?

Perhaps. Perhaps not...
In Service,
Tom B., Alternate DCMC
Suffolk County

Accessibility/Special Needs (A/SN)

The A/SN Committee seeks to support our carrying the AA message to those with special needs or accessibility challenges, those who need special help to access AA.

Some resources include: Able Ride (516-228-4000 or 516-228-4002 TTY), a paratransit bus service for people with mobility challenges; ASL training, Lexington School for the Deaf (718-350-3300) and LaGuardia Community College (718-482-5313).

We also have a member able and willing to help with hearing challenged individuals. Contact me if you would like to know more.

Our next A/SN meeting is at Nassau Intergroup, Thursday, September 15 at 7:30PM.

A blessed member of AA,
Donna S., GSR/Special Needs Chair, NGSC
c/o news@nassauny-aa.org



NIAA Institutions Committee

The founders of AA were visionaries, particularly in their characterization of alcoholism as a disease. This was a revolutionary idea at the time, rather than the prevailing view that alcoholics were simply bad people. The notion helped transform the modern view that alcoholics are gravely ill people, but people who can get well.

As you probably know, the NIAA Institutions Committee brings AA meetings into institutions throughout the county. (It is the longest existing standing committee of NIAA.) As you probably also know, these days most of us find our way to AA through an institution of some sort. The goal of the committee is a simple one and in support of our primary purpose: We try to make sure that whenever someone in a detox, rehab or psych ward reaches out for help, the hand of AA is there. Beyond that, while these institutions provide treatment for the acute symptoms of the disease of alcoholism, we can provide the information and introduction to the broader AA community necessary to help people get well, and stay well.

If you think you might be interested in supporting this kind of service, or would like to learn more about it, please attend a meeting of the Institutions Committee held the first Wednesday of each month at 8PM at the Simpson Methodist Church, 30 Locust Avenue, Amityville, right across Sunrise Highway from South Oaks Hospital. If you can't make it, feel free to contact me at institutions@nassauny-aa.org. If you or your group has any literature that is no longer needed, or that you would like to contribute, please let me know too. We'll pass it on to the various institutions we support..

Mike F., Institutions Committee Chair
Serenity by the Sea, Point Lookout
516-292-3045 or
institutions@nassauny-aa.org

From the Nightbook: Fulfilling Our Primary Purpose

I've said before how proud I am of our Night Book Service, and especially of our NASSAU AA's who answer the call, and reinforce the last part of our preamble: "Our Primary Purpose is to stay sober, and to help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety." To help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. This can take many forms of service from leading a meeting, sponsorship, making coffee, and doing anything to make a strug-

gling alcoholic feel at home at an AA meeting.

But very few forms of service can yield the instant gratification that comes from our Night Book; answering the phone in the middle of the night to quell fears, instill hope, vanish despair, and perhaps start someone on the road to Recovery (as happened with me, way back when, when I first got sober). Volunteerism is an essential part of many facets of society, but it is only in AA that it takes on a spiritual quality. The emphasis on spirituality, derives from our anonymity, and ultimately from our sense of humility. That is why when we answer the phone, and create a bond between ourselves and the caller, they naturally may ask our names. As a Night Book volunteer we can answer with total assurance:



"My name is Alcoholics Anonymous - I speak for ALL of us." This is what we mean by principles, not personalities.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you a compelling story of one of our volunteers, with the hope that this will move you to ask your Intergroup Representative: "I'd like our group to take the Night Book. Can you please sign us up?"

A few weeks ago, Kathleen from the Baldwin Group had the Night Book on a Friday night. Her husband happens to be an AA member as well. She got a phone call from a close family member of someone who needed help. After speaking to the caller for a while, Kathleen knew that the subject of the call needed to go to a detox center for medical intervention.

It was very late at night, and there were few viable options. The caller and her son (who needed help) lived very close to Kathleen and her husband. Acting on instinct with good judgement, Kathleen's husband went to the caller's house in the middle of the night and took her son to New Hope Rehabilitation facility! Now, I am NOT advocating for Night Book volunteers to do what Kathleen and her husband did, for this is a very unusual case. Still, it shows caring and Service at its BEST! It was a highly meritorious act, but Kathleen just shrugged and said "It's nothing that we haven't been shown before by those who came before us." This is our Third Legacy of Service at its finest.

The point of all this is: You can do tremendous Service, and also help your own Sobriety greatly by volunteering to get in-

(Continued page 7.)

From the Nightbook (Continued)

Involved with this most wonderful program of ours!

I would sincerely like to thank the following groups who have kept our Night Book running for the month of August:

Early Cup of Sobriety, Oceanside— Mike F.
 Early Risers, Long Beach— Mike
 New Outlook on Life, Baldwin— Thomas
 Oyster Bay/Sagamore, Oyster Bay— Jessica
 Stepping Stones, Oceanside— Denise

Yours in Service,
 Steve S., NIAA Night Book Chair
 516-292-3045 or

nightbook@nassauny-aa.org

FEELINGS ARE NOT FACTS: The Problem and the Solution

Question:

What is this defect of being (not even of character)? I do not want anyone to know the coldness and depths of my ism, addiction, alcoholism runs deep within me, so deep. Even after almost 22 years, I am addicted to drama and chaos! It makes me feel alive. But on the side, God and AA makes me feel alive. That is the truth. Underneath this seething feeling of "feeling alive," through false, very false feelings of fear, I am very much alive because of AA and God.

Is the essence of my compassion what brings me too tears? I feel the tears coming, and I well up. But beneath I want more chaos, more stories, more horror. Wow! That makes me feel alive? No. No. No. Take it away dear God.

Go deep dear God. Go deep and expel it, take away my addiction to the feeling which is only a feeling not a fact. It is unrealistic that I have to feel chaos and drama to feel alive. Give me strength to seek what you dearest God want me to be and where to go, and show me you can rid the roots of my "feeling of Chaos." Bring forth the tears and heal me. Thy will be done.

Answer:

Now, go help a newcomer!
 A Grateful Anonymous Member of AA



Koru

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 8/18/2016.)

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*).
- Garden City 11530
Grupo Tu Si Puedes, LI Ethical Humanist Society, 38 Old Country Rd.; Wed. 7:30PM Mujer (Women); en español (in Spanish).
- 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.
- North Bellmore 11710
Moonlight Group, Walk in for Love Jesus Church, 906 New-bridge Rd.; Mon. 9PM B.
- 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
Baldwin Group, First Presbyterian Church, 717 St. Luke's Place; Wed. 9PM BB dropped. No other changes. WC
- New Look on Life Group**, First Church Baldwin United Methodist, 881 Merrick Ave. (parking in rear); Tues. 7:30PM B, 9PM C, Fri. 6PM CD, 7:30PM S.
- Over the Hill Group**, Baldwin Lutheran Church, 1375 N. Grand Ave.; Thurs. CD 8PM.
- Bellmore 11710
We Change Together Group, Pride for Youth Center, 2050 Bellmore Ave.; Tues. 6:45PM O.
- 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 OD. (Anniversary last Thurs.).
- Sobriety Without End Group**, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 65 Wright Ave. (On Sheehy Pl. between Park Blvd. and Wright Ave.); Wed., 7:30PM OD only, drop 7PM S and 8:15PM OD; no other changes.

- Manhasset 11030
Good Morning God Group, Temple Judea. 333 Searingtown 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.
- Wantagh
Live and Let Live Group, St. Frances de Chantal School, 1309 Wantagh Ave., Room 15; Sun. 7:30PM BB (changed from CD), Fri. 8PM CD.
- Woodmere 11596
Arcade Legends Group, 936 Broadway; Tues. & Thurs. 6:30AM CD (*Daily Reflections*; Men's).

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.
- Garden City 11530
Joy of Good Living Group, Unitarian Universalist Center, 233 Stewart Ave.
- 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.
- Uniondale 11553
Hope of Sobriety Group, 913 Front St.
- West Hempstead 11552
Here and Now Group, Project Outreach, 600 Hempstead Tpk.

Answer to Who Am I?

Works Publishing, Inc. — Pushed by Hank P., one of the early AA members in New York, Works Publishing was created to support the publication of the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, which at the time had yet to be completed. (Works would by-pass another plan to work with Harper Brothers to publish the book, an offer which was based on a review by the publishers of the two chapters Bill W. had completed, an offer supported by the trustees of AA's Alcoholic Foundation.) Hank's vision was to sell shares to the membership in the new company which would publish the book. (600 shares would be floated at a \$25 par value with Bill W. and Hank P. each holding 200 of those shares for their work on the project.) That company Hank called "Works Publishing, Inc.," and Hank appointed himself its president. Bill was not entirely comfortable with Hank's development of the plan, but he went along. Bill and Hank were surprised and disappointed however when none of the New York members would buy shares in Works.

(Continued page 8.)

Answer to Who Am I? (Continued)

Works Publishing would be at best a precarious enterprise, at times dubiously managed, and often teetering on the brink of bankruptcy. (Hank, for instance, borrowed against the company, which was already in debt to Charles Towns, to fund a direct mail scheme to promote the book to coincide with the appearance of an AA member with a prominent radio broadcaster, and stock certificates were issued in lieu of pay to early AA employee Ruth Hock.) The book was finally published in April 1939, and got a much needed boost with the publication of a positive article about AA in *Liberty* magazine in September of that year. The shares in Works would lead to a falling out between Bill and Hank when the Alcoholic Foundation sought to reclaim the rights to the book for the Fellowship in 1940.

(See, *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, pp. 15, 157-158, 173, 189-190; *Nassau Intergroup News*, "Who Am I?", [October 2015](#) and [January 2016](#); and, *Pass It On*, pp. 193-196, 208, 235-236.)

Announcements

**3rd Annual Movie Night
Bill W. and Dr. Bob**

(the original Off-Broadway Production)
Co-Hosted by the Decision Group
& General Service Cluster 202/216
Saturday, September 10, 7-10PM
St. Andrew's Church
54 Nassau Blvd., W. Hempstead 11552
(Parking behind the church.)
All are welcome.



**Young by the Beach
5th Group Anniversary
September 17, 6-11PM**



St. Ignatius Church
721 West Broadway, Long Beach 11561
(between Grand Blvd. & New York Ave.)
Keynote Speaker: David P.
Westfield, NJ
Pig Roast • Raffle • DJ
Dancing

Treasurer Workshop

Co-hosted by Nassau Intergroup
& Nassau General Service



Saturday, September 24
10:30AM-1PM

at Nassau Intergroup
316 Hempstead Turnpike
West Hempstead 11552

Self Support • Responsibilities
Resources • Reports
Prudent Reserve • Bank Accounts
Insurance • Taxes • More



Tree of Life

**Long Island
Spirituality Through
Service (LISTS)**



Co-Hosted by
Brooklyn, Queens,
Nassau & Suffolk
Counties & the
Hispanic Districts

Saturday, October 15
10AM-4PM

True North
Community Church
1101 Lakeland Avenue
Bohemia 11716

Service Exhibits
Lunch & Refreshments
Workshops & Meetings
Meditation
ASL (with prior request)
Spanish Translation
Wheelchair Accessible

For more info,
www.aasuffolks-ny.org
> Events > October

The Glen Head Group

presents its

**Annual Old Timers
Panel**



Tuesday, October 18
Food, 6:45-7:30PM
Speakers, 7:30-9PM

**North Shore Boys & Girls
Club**

200 Glen Head Road
Glen Head 11545

Four speakers with 25+ years
share their Experience, Strength &
Hope

Info, Karen D., c/o news@nassauny-aa.org

Big Meeting

Co-Hosted by Nassau Intergroup
& Nassau General Service
Sunday, October 23, 1-5PM
LI Ethical Humanist Society
38 Old Country Rd., Garden City 11530

ESCYPAA III

My Anchor in a Sea of Confusion
Empire State Convention of Young
People in AA



October 28-30

Hyatt Regency Hotel
717 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge 11788
www.escypaa3.org
escypaa3@gmail.com

The Joy of Service

SENY Sponsored Workshop
Hosted by Nassau County
General Service

Saturday, November 5
10AM-2PM
(Doors open 9:30AM)

Bishop Molloy Rec Center

15 Parkside Drive
Point Lookout 11569

Light Lunch
For info, www.aanassaugs-ny.org
> Calendar