

NASSAU INTERGROUP OF AA, INC.

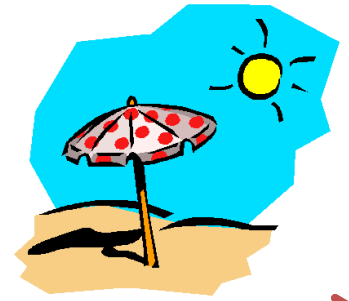
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AUGUST 2017



Literature

Besides the magazines *Grapevine* and *La Viña*, AA Grapevine offers a number of items which are probably familiar to us from our meetings. These include the set of five AA slogans in a bold gothic typeface in red and black as they appeared in the magazine between 1956 and 1957, a similar rendering of the *Serenity Prayer*, and the image of the “Man on the Bed,” AA number three, Bill D. sitting on his Akron hospital bed with Bill W. and Dr. Bob at the bedside.

Also, in addition to the print, audio and digital editions of its many books, Grapevine offers calendars and pocket planners, and facsimile editions of the first issue of the Grapevine (June 1944) and the issues memorializing the co-founders published in honor of Dr. Bob and Bill W. upon their deaths in 1951 and 1971 respectively. Check out the full Grapevine catalogue at www.aagrapevine.org/gvr under “Tools and Resources,” then “Subscriptions & Product Resources.”

Beyond the Grapevine, the recent General Service Conference helped tackle the question of Safety in AA, an important matter long under discussion at all levels of the Fellowship. Watch for changes to the pamphlets *The AA Group* (P-16), *A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous* (P-42), and *Understanding Anonymity* (P-47), along with language touching the subject in any newly developed recovery literature. Expect to see language from the service piece, *Safety and AA: Our Common Welfare* (SMF-209), to be included.

Not a product of the Conference, another service piece on Safety in AA is now available from AAWS/GSO. The new *Safety Card for AA Groups* (the “Yellow Card” F-211) “contains . . . a suggested statement on safety. [It] may be read out loud at AA meetings as part of opening announcements or at the secretary's break.” Copies of the card are available through Intergroup for those members and groups interested.

Hope this is helpful.

Bill C., Literature Committee Chair

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

Live
and Let
Live..

Easy.
Does
...It...

But for
the
Grace
of God.

Think
Think
.... Think

First
Things
First.

AA's Three Legacies for August

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

Tradition Eight- *“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”*

Concept Eight- *“The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.”*

Ode to Early Risers

Before the dark of night turns to dawn
the man setting up the coffee lets out a yawn
The early arrivals will come to pray and read
but many more will come to plant a seed
Soon the room will be filled with laughter and noise
but rarely does someone lose their poise
Come 6:30 the chairman opens the meeting
and on most days there is hardly any seating
Our purpose is to spread the message of hope
and to stay away from booze and dope
We strive to live our lives from day to day
and pray for others who haven't yet learned this way
Trust God, clean house, help others that is our creed
for there are so many people who are in need
7:30 comes, the meeting ends, some are confused others
are wiser
But one thing for sure is, it's great to be an Early Riser!
Fritz W.
Early Risers of Long Beach

Step Eight

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

For me, to take this Step it was told to me that I first needed to forgive myself before I could go out and forgive others. Then by checking my motives and actions, I could make the proper amends and continue to live in peace, having a life beyond my wildest dreams. Of course, this will never be perfect.

“We should, of course, ponder and weigh each instance carefully. We shall want to hold ourselves to the course of admitting the things we have done, meanwhile forgiving the wrongs done us, real or fancied.” “It is the beginning of the end of isolation from our fellows and from God.” (Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Pg. 81- 82)

Kim W., Floral Park Bellerose Group

Tradition Eight

“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”

Freely ye have received, freely ye give, you just can't get paid! The non-professional AA volunteers and also is able to provide 12th Step work. Professional AA's get paid, not to do 12th Step work but to make 12th Step work possible. This includes special workers such as secretaries, janitors, cooks, caretakers, etc.

In the past, every time members tried to professionalize AA, the result was the destruction of our singleness of purpose. As learned in the previous Traditions, we cannot mix money and spirituality, however, special workers may be employed if we are to make 12th Step work possible. As you can see, this Tradition states that we may hire such special people.

Kelly R., Friday Night Rainbow Group, Asbury Park



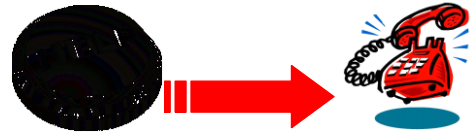
CONCEPTS VII AND VIII

This month we are playing catch-up since I missed the accelerated deadline in June and am covering Concepts VII and VIII. Not a bad thing since they are somewhat related and deal with the roll of the General Service Board and how it relates to the General Service Conference.

Concept VII – The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the Trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

How can this seemingly contradictory arrangement ever possibly work? While the Trustees have absolute legal authority to say no to the Conference, they are not compelled by anything to use that veto power and are always able to say yes and to accept advice or direction from anyone at all. In the 50's when all of this was being worked out many alternatives were considered. The Conference itself was almost incorporated to give it complete legal authority over the General Service Board. This was rejected because it would be too cumbersome, since all Conference members would have to have legal status. Country wide elections of Trustees were also considered, but this would have produced political shambles instead of the top flight managerial talent the Board had to have. So far this has worked well through harmonious cooperation to resolve all of our issues both grave and small.

Concept VIII – The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.



When an alcoholic is released from jail/prison and reaches out for help, the HAND OF AA is often holding a PHONE!

ARE YOU WILLING to have that PHONE and that HAND be YOURS?

**SIGN UP FOR
NASSAU COUNTY'S
A.A. CORRECTIONS HOTLINE!**

**Your contact info will not be shared.
Calls will be automatically forwarded
during days/times that YOU specify.**

**To learn more
Email corrections@nassauny-aa.org**

BE THAT HAND!

And so, as far as the day to day operations, our two operating corporations, A.A. World Services, Inc. and The A.A. Grapevine, Inc. are responsible with The General Service Board providing custodial oversight through election of the Directors of these two operating corporations. In short, the General Service Board delegates their executive responsibilities to the operating company directors and functions as a holding company with planning and managing responsibility in the critical areas of policy, finance, group and public relations and leadership. It is important to also remember that our current structure evolved over time, learning from experience and mistakes. A further consideration is the avoidance of financial and executive concentration in one place by placing our reserves with the Trustees and by dividing total working capital between A.A. World Services, Inc. and A.A. Grapevine, Inc., each entity having its separate executive.

John M., North Bellmore Group

From the Night Book-Aug., 2017

Let's close up the "Black Holes" in Service

August is like a "transitional month". Technically, it's still summertime, with barbeques, picnics, parties and vacations; and it's also the month where students begin to prepare for school, work, etc. At night, a chill in the air starts to appear; a reminder that autumn is not far away.

I had trepidations in the springtime about whether or not I would fill all the weeks with groups who would take the Night Book. Happily, I saw that my fears were unfounded – the calendar was filled in droves, with groups anxious to get their name on the list. In addition, people just call me to put down their names as emergency contacts which I am ALWAYS grateful to have! I can never have too many volunteers.

After doing this a while, however, this month being about the midpoint of my term of service, I see the same groups signing up every time. Once in a while, new groups sign up for the first time, which I am glad to see; but there is a large gap, or what I call a "black hole" in group sign ups. Why is that? There are approximately 372 AA groups in Nassau County, yet only about 65 send reps to the Intergroup Reps Meeting and of those, about 35 are regular Night Book takers. This is where the Intergroup Rep plays a crucial role.

I've come into contact with groups that are by and large a decent size, yet they *do not have either* an Intergroup Rep or a General Service Rep. For all intents and purposes, they are cut off from AA as a whole, both on the County level and the Area level; we being part of SENY Area 49. Additionally, these groups deny service opportunities to members who may be interested in doing service outside the group. This problem accounts for many gaps in service, *especially* with the Night Book, and is a threat to AA Unity; our 2nd Tradition of Service.

What can we, the united and connected groups in Nassau do about this? For starters, we have to get the word out to these groups about the benefits of AA unity, and how lack of service imperils AA's existence for the future problem drinkers who would seek our help. Sometimes bringing a stack of Newsletters to these groups is helpful, and may get them thinking about the meaning of Fellowship, the "AA way". Also supplying these groups with AA World Service pamphlets like "The AA Group", "Inside AA", and copies of "The AA Grapevine" is a big help. We can attend the business meetings of these groups and in a helpful spirit, make suggestions and let them know about opportunities for doing service. It is up to us to be creative and take the initiative. "Each AA group is autonomous", to paraphrase the 4th Tradition, but that does not mean that we sit by passively and not try to help these groups get involved and close up "The Black Hole".

I am not just thinking of the Night Book as I write this, but of our entire service structure. Let's get the "ball of involvement" rolling. Remember: "*The buck stops with US!*"

(Continued on pg. 5)

ROUGH SEAS

They say it takes
A million mistakes
To arrive at a shore that's sublime.
I guess that's why I've always kept hope
Of a normal family in mind.
Often I've dreamed
Of possessing the power
To keep our flawed ship together.
Yet, I remained disillusioned
With fear and angst
Thinking I could control bad weather.
But then something happened.
I let go and let God be captain.
It's not my seat
To navigate four hearts to peace.
Through the storms of sobriety
the sea is so deep.
But with God, I'll stick with my family...
FOREVER...FOR KEEPS

Christina M. (June 2016)



Young People by the Beach

Group Anniversary

August 26th 5pm - 10pm

Meeting @ 7pm



Pig Roast, BBQ

Sobriety Countdown, DJ

St. Ignatius Church

721 West Broadway

Long Beach

NIAA Institutions Committee

FYI: At the last Institutions Committee meeting on July 5, there were numerous meeting chairs in attendance, but only 3 institution reps. In short, this means that some of the institutions speaking commitments were not covered. As you may be aware, if a speaker does not show up at an institution to cover a meeting, there is no meeting, unlike a standard AA meeting where anyone in attendance could be asked to speak if the speaker does not show up. If your group does not have an institutions rep, please bring that up at the next business meeting, or volunteer yourself. You'll be glad you did. Please be aware as well that donations to Nassau Intergroup do not make their way to the Institutions Committee literature fund (for literature distributed to patients/inmates) unless a separate check is sent to the NIAA treasurer, or the group specifically earmarks a percentage/amount of the total donation for Institutions. The Institutions Committee recommendation is that 5% of a group's donations should be earmarked for Institutions. So for example, if your group follows General Service guidelines (see pie chart at http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/mg-15_finance.pdf) and donates 50% of total donations to intergroup, 5% could be earmarked for institutions, with 45% to intergroup (and the remainder to other service entities). Obviously, it's up to each group to determine the appropriate amount for them.

Occasionally, AA members will ask what's involved in institutions work, so it might be of value to describe this work and its components. We're now reviewing each of the institutions that Nassau Intergroup supports, covering them alphabetically, and we are now up to the New Hope facility in Freeport.

New Hope is a 30-bed medically monitored crisis center that offers protective care to individuals who are in a situational crisis as a result of alcohol or substance abuse problems. It is located at **150 Buffalo Ave, Freeport N.Y.** The unit is designed for individuals who present with uncomplicated withdrawal symptoms that do not require medical detoxification. The unit also accepts clients from hospital detoxification programs who have completed medical detoxification and are awaiting placement in an inpatient drug or alcohol treatment program. Additionally referrals are accepted from hospital emergency rooms, outpatient and inpatient treatment programs, legal systems that include police departments, parole, probation, legal aid, TASC, Bail Bonds, self-referrals, and walk-ins.

The Nassau Intergroup H & I Committee sponsors a number of meetings at the center on Monday evening and Friday afternoon and evening. 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 perception was transformed to the modern view that alcoholics are gravely ill people—and 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 standing committee of NIAA). 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 wars 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 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, or if you know of an institution interested in having AA meetings, please attend the meetings of the *Institutions Committee held the first Wednesday of each month at 8P at the Simpson Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave., Amityville*, which is 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. We'll pass it on to the various institutions we support.

BTW, we owe a debt of gratitude to the AA members who chair the various institution meetings and arrange for speakers, as well as those AA members who go to those institutions to share their experience, strength, and hope.

NOTE: The Suffolk Institutions Committee will be hosting a dinner/dance to raise funds for literature on Thursday September 14 at 7P, at Windows on the Lake, Ronkonkoma. Tickets are \$60 and can be obtained by emailing specevent@suffolkny-aa.org.

Mike F., *Serenity by the Sea, Pt. Lookout*;
institutions@nassauny-aa.org

NASSAU INTERGROUP IS HOSTING ITS OPEN HOUSE BBQ @ 361 Hempstead Tpke., West Hempstead

**Saturday, September 23, 2017
11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
(Rain date – Sun. September 24th)**

Please join us, spend an afternoon and experience the many ways your Intergroup Office supports your AA community in Nassau County. Learn how you can be a part of the Nassau Intergroup Office. We look forward to seeing you.
More info: Nassau Intergroup 516-292-3045

(Continued from pg. 4)

From the Night Book-Aug., 2017

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following groups who have come forward in the month of July to take the Night Book:

**--Mixed Group members in Unity: Alb-Searingtown, Floral Pk., Bellerose, Port Washington, Gift of Serenity
--Moonlight Group of East Meadow
--Bayville Triangle Group
--Extravagant Promises**

Lastly, I would like to close with our

“Responsibility Declaration:”

“Whenever anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the Hand of AA always to be there; and for that, I am responsible.”

In Trusted Service, Steve S., Night Book Chair, NAIL

“Service is Gratitude in Action”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

AUGUST 2017

- 8/2-- Institutions Committee, 8pm, Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave. (off Sunset Ave. from County Line Rd.), Amityville 11701
- 8/3-- **NIG Reps Orientation**, 7:00pm (Suggested for new Reps.) **NIG Reps Meeting**, 7:30pm; **New Printed meeting list deadline**
- 8/4-8/6—NYS Informational Workshop, Roberts Wesleyan College, 2301 Westside Drive, Rochester NY 14624
- 8/10—PI/CPC Committee, 7pm
- 8/16-- Website Committee, 7:30pm
- 8/17-8/20—59th ICYPAA, Hilton Chicago, IL
- 8/17-- **Newsletter Deadline** for September
- 8/17—Special Needs Committee
- 8/17-- Concept Workshop, VII & VIII, 7pm
- 8/21—NGS Reps Meeting, (7pm new Reps), 7:30pm
- 8/31-- **Steering Committee, 7:30pm** (By invitation.)

SEPTEMBER 2017

- 9/6—Institutions Committee, 8pm, Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave., (off Sunset Ave. from County Line Rd.), Amityville 11701
- 9/6—Corrections Committee: 8:30pm, immediately following Institutions at 8:30pm, same address above
- 9/7—**NIG Reps Orientation**, 7:00pm (Suggested for new Reps.) **NIG Reps Meeting**, 7:30pm
- 9/8—National AA Technology Workshop, Sacramento, CA
- 9/14—PI/CPC Committee: 7:30pm
- 9/16—SENY Assembly: 8:30am – 3:15pm
- 9/18—Concept Workshop – IX & X, 7pm
- 9/20--Website Committee, 7:30pm
- 9/21—**Newsletter Deadline** for August
- 9/28—**Steering Committee, 7:30pm** (By invitation.)
- 9/28-9/30—21st Annual National AA Archives Workshop: Concord, CA

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.

BEGINNERS =B BIG BOOK=BB C L O S E D =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

--**Franklin Square 11010**, Brew Crew, Ascension Luth. Church, 145 Franklin Ave. CD 11am

—**Garden City 11530**; **Grupo Tu Si Puedes**, LI Ethical Humanist Society, 38 Old Country Rd.; Wed. 7:30pm Mujer (Women); en Española (in Spanish).

--**Locust Valley 11560**; **Primary Purpose of Lattingtown**, St. Johns of Lattingtown Episcopal Church, 325 Lattingtown Rd.; Tues. OD, 8pm

--**Port Washington 11050**; **Sound Serenity**, *Left off Dec. printing of mtg. list* Sun. 7pm B and S, last Sun. O/Anniv.; Tues. 5:30pm OD; Wed. 7:30pm CD; Fri. 7:30pm BB & CD

—**Rockville Centre 11570**; **Joy of Living Group**, St. Agnes Cathedral, 29 Quealy Pl. (Dominic Room, basement rear); Sat. 9am BB.

CHANGES

--**Amityville 11701**; **Open Door Group**, Hollywood Baptist Church, 3504 Great Neck Rd., Fri. 10 am 2nd Tradition is now a Living Sober mtg.

--**Baldwin 11510**; **New Look on Life**, First Church Baldwin, 881 Merrick Rd., cancelled 6pm CD and “As Bill Sees It” meetings on Friday

--**Bellerose 11426**; **Bellerose Hope Group**, St. Gregory's, 8879 Cross Island Pkwy, Sun. 8pm O will now be held at 7pm

--**Cambria Heights (formerly Elmont) 11411**; **Elmont/Belmont Give it a Try Group**, Deliverance Baptist Church, 227-11 Linden Blvd.; Mon. 7pm S and Thurs. 7:15pm B (last Thurs. O Anniversary)

--**Garden City 11530**; **Easy Does It Group**; Adelphi Univ., Hy Weinburg Ctr. Rm 131 & 132, 158 Cambridge Ave., 7pm YP-C will now be 7pm C.

--**Glen Cove 11542**; **Weekend Serenity**, Northwell Health Hospital St. Andrews Lane; B cancelled

--**Kings Point 11024**; **Great Neck/Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy (Chapel Basement)**, now meeting Thursday 7pm CD

Levittown 11756

God's Will, Presbyterian Church, 474 Wantagh Ave. will now be known as **Acceptance is the Key**. No other changes.

Instrument Group, India Christian Assembly, 100 Periwinkle Rd., Anniversary mtg. moved from last Tues. to last Fri. of month. No other changes.

Good Shepherd Church; 3434 Hemp. Ave.; Sat. CD will now be OD

--**Malverne 11565**; **Sobriety Without End**, Our Lady of Lourdes, Sheehy Pl & Park Blvd; Wed. 7pm S dropped; 8:15pm OD now meeting at 7:30pm; Last Wed TR dropped; Last Fri O dropped

--**Massapequa Pk. 11762**; **How it Works**, St. David's Lutheran Church, 20 Clark Blvd.; Added Wed. C Reflections meeting 8:15p

--**New Hyde Pk. 11040**; **New Spirit Group**, Notre Dame RC Church, 45 Mayfair Rd.; 3rd Sat of month OD will now be Tradition mtg.

--**North Bellmore 11710**; **Moonlight Group**; has moved to Calvary Lutheran Church, 36 Taylor Ave., East Meadow, entrance on North Pine St., no other changes

Rockville Centre 11570

RVC Men's Big Book Meeting, 30 Hemp. Ave.; 7:30p, No longer meeting

Off the Fence Young People The Vineyard Church, 251 Merrick Rd.; Thursday O time change from 6:00pm to 6:30pm, no other changes

Veterans in Recovery new name Sober Company, 30 Hempstead Ave., Ste. H6, 7:30pm CD now meeting at 7pm, last Sun. Reflections meeting

—**Westbury 11590**; **Hand in Hand Group**, Westbury Friends School, 550 Post Ave; Mon. 8:15pm CD dropped. No other changes.

—**West Hempstead 11552**; **Creatively Sober Group**, New address: Trinity Lutheran Church, 260 Chestnut St. Mon. 8am CD, Sat. 7pm B; C.

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:

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Corrections: corrections@nassauny-aa.org
Financial Review: finance@nassauny-aa.org
Institutions (H&I): institutions@nassauny-aa.org
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Website: webcommittee@nassauny-aa.org