

Intergroup Association of Nassau
(Nassau Intergroup)

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)

WEB EDITION

JUNE 2018

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

JUNE 2018

- 6/2— [SENY](#) Post-Conference Assembly, Post Road School, 175 West Post Rd., White Plains, 10606; 8AM-3:15PM
- 6/3— [Nassau General Service Group](#) (NGSG) Unity Breakfast, LI Marriott, 101 James Doolittle Blvd., Uniondale 11553; 8AM-12PM
- 6/6— Institutions Committee, 8PM
- 6/6— Corrections Committee, 9PM
- 6/7— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)
Reps Meeting, 7:30PM
- 6/9— **Intergroup Workshop, Tradition 6**, 9:30AM
- 6/10— AA's 83rd Anniversary
- 6/14— PI/CPC Committee, 7PM
- 6/16— **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.)
- 6/18— NGSB Meeting Orientation, 7PM (Suggested for new DCMs/GSRs.); NGSB Meeting, 7:30PM
- 6/20— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 6/21— **Newsletter deadline** for July
- 6/28— **Steering Committee**, 7:30PM (By invitation.)

JULY 2018

- 7/5— **Reps Orientation**, 7PM (Suggested for new Reps.)
Reps Meeting, 7:30PM
- 7/11— Institutions Committee, 8PM
- 7/11— Corrections Committee, 9PM
- 7/14— **Intergroup Workshop, Tradition 7**, 9:30AM
- 7/15— **NI Picnic**, 8AM-4PM, [Eisenhower Park](#), The Cedars, Parking Field 6A



- 7/16— NGSB Roundtable Workshop, 7PM; Concepts VII and VIII
- 7/18— Website Committee, 7:30PM
- 7/19— **Newsletter deadline** for August
- 7/26— **Steering Committee**, 7:30PM (By invitation.)
- 7/27-29— NY State Informational Workshop, hosted by HMB (Area 48), Mohawk Valley CC, 1101 Sherman Dr., Utica, NY 13501; go to www.aahmbny.org/nysiw/ for more information.

The Only Copy of the "Big Book"

[Next] month Nassau Intergroup hosts its annual picnic in Eisenhower Park. On that occasion Alcoholics Anonymous will be on public display, each of us participating becoming perhaps the only copy of the "Big Book" a given member of the public may see. (Everyone around us may not know who we are, but many certainly will.) Any consideration or courtesy we show other users of the park, our respect for the park itself including how clean we leave the grounds when we go, will reflect on AA as a whole. Similarly, any misbehavior, any foul language we may use, not removing our cars from the grass when asked to, any trash we may leave behind when we go, will also reflect on all of AA.

(Continued, page 4.)

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

As always, we welcome contributions to the newsletter in any form (article, cartoon, poem, announcement, *et cetera*), and on any AA-related topic. Watch also for announcements of upcoming AA events such as our annual picnic July 15 at Eisenhower Park.

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



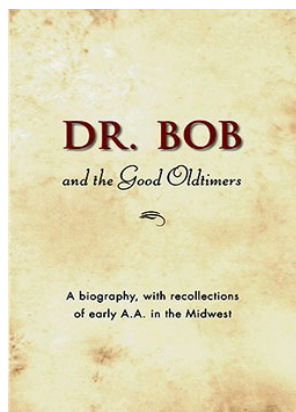
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A Bit of AA History

For those who enjoy a bit of AA history, we offer the following drawn 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 the 10th of June.

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 known 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.

Nassau Intergroup

presents an

AA Traditions Workshop

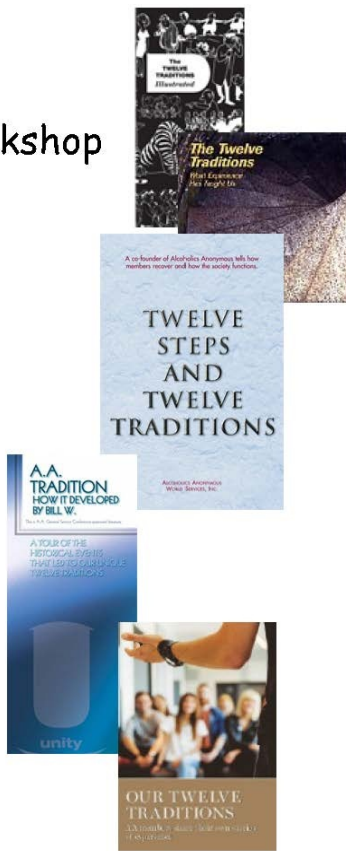
Second Saturday monthly 2018

at

Nassau Intergroup
361 Hempstead Turnpike
West Hempstead, NY 11552

9:30-11AM

- Tradition One — January 13
- Tradition Two — February 10
- Tradition Three — March 10
- Tradition Four — April 14
- Tradition Five — May 12
- Tradition Six — June 9
- Tradition Seven — July 14
- Tradition Eight — August 11
- Tradition Nine — September 8
- Tradition Ten — October 13
- Tradition Eleven — November 10
- Tradition Twelve — December 8



Light refreshment and lively discussion.

The Decision Group of West Hempstead (Co-sponsored with General Service)

Presents

“Three Legacies” Poetry Night

UNITY ~ RECOVERY ~ SERVICE

An open event for all! Come enjoy and support our readers as they share their experience on these three important topics through the spoken word

June 16th, 2018

7:00p – 9:30p

St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church
54 Nassau Blvd
West Hempstead, NY 11552

LIVE MUSIC ~ FELLOWSHIP

For anyone interested in submitting original poetry, please email Curtis L. dcm202216@gmail.com.

All poetry submissions are due no later than June 1st.

Intergroup Picnic

Nassau County Parks & Recreation Rules
No pets, vehicles in picnic area, for sale items, open fires or bottled gas grills, amplified music or tents.



**Eisenhower Park, The Cedars
East Meadow, 11554
(Parking Field 6A)**

**Sunday, July 15, 8AM-5PM
(Rain or shine)**

Water & soda provided.

LONG ISLAND SPIRITUALITY THROUGH SERVICE 2018

The Long Island Spirituality Through Service (“L.I.S.T.S.”) Workshop aspires to reaffirm the strong spiritual benefits of service to recovering alcoholics.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 AM)

**ST FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
260 EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN 11225**

Sponsored by the General Services of Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties and the Hispanic Districts. Hosted by Brooklyn County.



- Exhibits
- Lunch and Refreshments
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Workshops and Big Meeting
- Meditation ASL (if requested in advance)
- English and Spanish Translation

“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.

The Only Copy of the "Big Book" (Continued from page 1.)

Please keep this in mind as you enjoy yourself at our picnic. If we each mind our behavior and police our space before we leave (if you brought it in, either bring it out or place it in a proper trash receptacle when you leave), AA will be well represented.

The same holds true for how we handle ourselves in and around our local meeting places. I've been on hand as members cursed up a storm within earshot of a Rectory bedroom window, disturbed church neighbors, and when we left a trail of cigarette butts or coffee cups to mark our comings and goings. Groups have been asked to leave their meeting spaces, even after many years in a location, because of similar problem behavior. But it doesn't just reflect on those individuals or those meetings or groups. It reflects on AA as a whole because non-AAs do not distinguish between individual members—who we understand may still have recovery work to do—or our groups, or the fellowship as a whole or the program of AA. We reflect our principles in action or we do not. How AA is seen publicly impacts our ability to help the drunk who still suffers.



A version of this article first appeared in the July 2011 issue of this newsletter.

From the Nightbook: Thanks to our volunteers our rooms stay full

Nassau County Intergroup has been using a nighttime phone answering service since 1965. This service has provided a vital link between the AA program and those suffering alcoholics needing help who may be reaching out to us for the first time via our phone service. We have two shifts available each day for this purpose. Every day, except in cases of inclement weather, our daytime hotline is answered at our office at 361 Hempstead Turnpike in West Hempstead, 9:00AM until 5:00PM.



At 5:00PM, the office operator turns the phone over to a “Night Book” volunteer who answers the phone from his or her home. The number is call-forwarded. This person is on from 5:00PM until 9:00AM the next morning. He or she is provided with a briefcase that has everything someone calling AA for information would need; lists of detoxes, rehab centers, and most importantly a list of meetings in all areas of Nassau County. As you can see, this is a most valuable service, and it “extends that helping hand” to anyone seeking recovery.

We have all been shown by our sponsors and through the reading of our literature, that service is vital not only to the recovery of other Alcoholics, but in large measure to ourselves. We in AA know that doing service in recovery is a spiritual principle, showing humility, brought about by our concept of anonymity. It places principles over personalities, and thus leads us away from those defects in our characters which enabled our disease to flourish unchecked.

So, if such a vital service as our AA Hotline and the Night Book is a wonderful way of giving back what we were freely taught, and in addition helps us, then why don't more people sign up for it? There are many reasons for this.

The first one is an “old acquaintance” to many alcoholics called “fear.” People may be afraid that they'll get a difficult call they can't handle, and what shall they do? Remember that our hotline, whether it be the Night Book or day time from our office, has a single purpose: To help the sick and suffering Alcoholic out there who is curious

about AA, wants to go to a meeting or go to a detox hospital or an alcohol rehab center. Let me clarify three things.

The Night Book runs from 5:00PM until 9:00AM the next morning. The phones are transferred from the person at the office, OR in case the office is closed, then they are remotely transferred to the Night Book volunteer's phone either by myself or by our Intergroup office manager.

The second point is this: THE MINIMUM SOBER TIME TO TAKE THE NIGHT BOOK COMMITMENT FOR ONE NIGHT IS 6-MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS SOBRIETY.

Lastly, you may be confronted by a situation with a caller that is difficult, for example, someone is calling on behalf of a family member who needs AA, or perhaps Law Enforcement, and this individual is tearing up the house in the meantime. In a situation such as that you would call ME, the Night Book Chair, and I will help you resolve it one way or another. I take my commitment very seriously, the logic being that “two heads are better than one.” The point is that you, the volunteer are never alone.

The next reason someone may be reluctant to take the Night Book is perhaps that it is intrusive on their time. Let's think about this in the meantime. If you needed a bottle badly enough, wouldn't you find the time to go out and find one? Next month we'll delve into some other aspects of this GREAT service!

Now, I would like to thank the groups who performed the Night Book Service for the month of May:

- EXTRAVAGANT PROMISES, Massapequa
- MERRICK-BELLMORE GROUP, Merrick
- NEW LIFE GROUP, Bethpage
- PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP, Lattingtown
- ROCKVILLE CENTRE GROUP, Rockville Centre

With You In Trusted Service,
Steve S., Night Book Chair
"Service is Gratitude in Action"



I WANT YOUR GROUP
TO TAKE THE
((☎))!!NIGHT BOOK!!((☎))

Institutions Committee

To all the groups and individuals who have responded to the request of the Institutions Committee for donations, please accept our appreciation.

As I write this, the dogwoods and cherry blossoms are blooming in our part of the world, and the trees are starting to bud leaves. Spring is gearing up, and by the time you are reading this newsletter, it should be in full swing. The season is all too brief, a constant reminder to stop and smell the roses, to live in the day, to be fully in the present. It occurs to me that things were not always this way. Back in the day, I hardly noticed how beautiful reality could be, and spent most of my waking hours trying to blot it out. When that behavior failed, as it inevitably does, I found myself in a detox. I couldn't come to live with reality, so reality came to live with me. I regretted the past, and dreaded the future. Fortunately, AA members came to that detox (as they still do to the detoxes in our area), and delivered a message of hope. They told me there was a way out. I could choose to practice a simple set of principles in all my affairs. I made a half hearted decision to give it a try. The longest winter of my life came to an end. By the way, it just happened to be Spring.

There are two ways that groups can support the work of carrying the AA message into institutions in Nassau. The first is by sending an institutions representative to the monthly meeting (first Wednesday of the month 8PM) at the Nassau Intergroup office in West Hempstead. This rep can then book speaking commitments at the institutions we support. (See the back of the meeting list.)

Second, 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 the 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 (by specifying on the check or checking the box on the envelope), 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. Donations of literature (books, Grapevines etc.) no longer needed can also be made. Contact institutions@nassauny-aa.org for information.

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, 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 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.

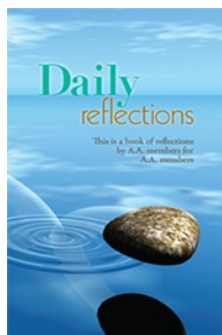
By the way, we owe a debt of gratitude to the AA members who chair the various institution meetings and arrange for speakers, as well as to those AA members who go to those institutions to share their experience, strength, and hope. In particular, the service of Jim G., our departing co-chair, is much appreciated.

Mike F., Institutions Committee Chair
516-292-3045
Serenity by the Sea, Pt. Lookout

Literature— Daily Reflections

The *Daily Reflections* subtitle tells it all, "A book of reflections by AA members for AA members."

A 1987 Conference Advisory Action directed the development of an AA day book.



(To that point AA had no such book, and members turned to any of a number of non-AA sources to meet the need.)

Each day's reading begins with a brief quote from some piece of AA literature touching one or another of AA's Three

Legacies. It is followed by a personal reflection by an AA member on the quotation. (In the development of this volume, over 1300 submissions were received. It might also be noted, SENY's delegate Boyce B. was on the

committee that helped develop this book.)

Many an AA starts his or her day with a reading from *Daily Reflections*. In the forward to *As Bill Sees It*, Bill W. wrote that he hoped his writings might "become an aid to individual meditation and a stimulant to group discussion, and . . . lead to still wider reading of our literature." With a re-designed cover coming soon, *Daily Reflections* helps capture that hope.

Next month we expect to be able to review the outcomes of this year's General Service Conference as they touch our literature.

Bill C., Literature Committee Chair
516-292-3045 or
literature@nassauny-aa.org

Haiku

Bill and Dr. Bob
Our AA Co-founders, yes!
Paved the way for us.

by Brenda P.

12th Step Contact List

The most important service Nassau Intergroup provides is fielding AA members to respond to calls for help from the alcoholic who still suffers. This is the essence of our "Twelfth Step" and "Fifth Tradition" in action. To do this effectively, Intergroup needs current contact information from every active AA group in the county.

Does your group have a current (completed within the last six to 12 months) contact list with us? If not, at your next group business meeting please pass around the [12th Step Contact List](#) form on page four of this newsletter and return it to the office. (The form is also available from our website at www.nassauny-aa.org > [Group Forms](#) > [12th Step Contact List](#).)

Thank you for your service.



"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.

PI/CPC

HELP WANTED

My term as Public Information Chair of Nassau Intergroup is almost at its end. I'm very grateful for the opportunity the position has given me to carry the message to the alcoholic that still suffers. Intergroup is seeking a new PI Chair, no experience necessary. I had none when I started, and with help found my way.

With the help of the PI Committee members as well as a good number of speakers, we were able to fill 42 commitments last year. I will be happy to help you get started and answer any questions about position. Please call me, or email me at publciinfo@nassauny-aa.org.

Steven S., PI/CPC Chair
516-292-3045

Practice These Principles

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

Hello, my name is Henry and I'm an alcoholic. It took me a long time to admit this to myself and do something about it. I blamed everyone else for my terrible choices and lies in my life back then. I had to ask myself if I was really ready to have all my defects removed. It was a hard process to accept because some of them I truly loved and it helped me to survive. Step 6 to me is a willingness to let go of my character defects through my higher power I call God.

Resentments and selfishness are two of my worst character defects. I didn't know how to live a happy, joyous, and free life so I lashed out at people that were successful and trying to better themselves. The person I hurt the most was myself. I couldn't deal with reality and eventually I drank more and more to numb the pain. I resented people who were responsible and true to themselves. Every flaw that I saw in a person would make me feel much better about myself because misery loves company. Instead of accepting people as they are, I look-

ed for the negativity in them. What I was truly feeling was the hatred I had of myself. I now practice on a daily basis to accept, respect, and to show love to people no matter who they are. I rely on progress not perfection! Thank God for this program because I believe my higher power speaks through people, people like my sponsor who taught me to pray for others happiness and well being so I can be resentment free. Look on page 552 in the "Big Book" and it will guide you on this important action of praying for others and freeing ourselves, it has helped me tremendously.

Growing up in Astoria, Queens, I always thought by making sure I'm getting what I wanted no matter who I hurt was a good thing. In the neighborhood I was raised in, if I didn't do that, I was seen as weak and a sucker. I used a lot of people to get me high and drunk. Since becoming sober and working this program I realized how selfish I really am. I say am because I can still think selfishly but now I have the tools to help me be there for others. I can do this by having awareness and a conscience to tell me I have stinking thinking. My God wants me to do the next right thing. I do this by picking up the phone, having commitments, showing up, and simply listening to what my friends have to say. By doing these actions I get out of my head and it feels good to help others, a feeling I would never have had if I didn't join this program.

AA has really improved my relationship with my higher power to finally accept and let my God remove my character defects. I have to let him be in the driver's seat and when I do that, my life becomes much better not only for others but for myself.

Hugo R., There Is A Light Group

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

(Reprinted from June 2016.)

Concept VI—

Concept VI (Short Form): "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."

"Someone Take the Wheel!"

To understand the heart of Concept VI -- captured best, I think, in the words "chief initiative and activity responsibility" -- imagine you're going on a road trip with three close friends. Everybody has packed their bags, you load up the trunk, and hit the road. Now imagine that a few miles down the road an argument breaks out: everyone

(Continued next page.)



Practice These Principles, Concept VI (Continued from page 7.)

in the car had a different destination in mind. One wanted to go to Florida. Another wanted to go skiing. The third friend was just hoping for a country drive and expected to be home by dinner. And you, the driver, figured everyone wanted to go to Vegas!

Obviously such a silly misunderstanding would have been easily avoided by conversations and decisions before anyone dragged out their suitcases. For our AA purposes, Concepts III, IV and V illustrate how such conversations can best invite and involve everyone before major decisions are made. The Fellowship of AA, through the year-round communication between GSRs, DCMs, and delegates (culminating each spring at the weeklong General Service Conference) determines where we stand on large matters of policy and principle. For our road trip analogy, these “large matters” are similar to the destination for any road trips we take with our friends.

Even the most ideal democratic process, however, must consider practical questions of application if it wishes to be more than just idealistic. Just like that road trip, in order for our Conference process to be truly functional (so we can get where we want to go) we must delegate someone (or in our case, a “group of someones”) to sit behind the wheel. Someone has to steer. That ‘someone’ is the General Service Board.

Like all unpaid service workers in AA, a great deal of trust is necessary for them to do their job. Our trustees need our trust for things like initiative (taking the actions necessary to carry out the “group conscience” of our annual Conference) and responsibility (shouldering the burden of making decisions along the way to ensure we arrive at our agreed-upon destinations).

Imagine if every little decision the driver needs to make is constantly questioned by the passengers. Why did you take this road? Why are you in this lane? Could you go a little slower? Red light! Hurry up and pass that guy! Or what if the driver had to get a group conscience to change lanes or turn on the windshield wipers? Clearly, ample authority must be delegated to those behind the wheel. Of course, there are limits to this authority. If the driver decides on his own to change the destination, or started doing something unsafe, like texting while driving or otherwise endangering the welfare of his fellow travelers, the other folks in the car would certainly have the right to say, “Pull

over! This is not what we agreed on!”

For decades, our trustees have largely kept us on the roads we’ve chosen. They’ve made mistakes (this is AA, remember? We do that sometimes) but Concept VI reminds us that none of us gets anywhere without trust in each other and in the AA process. Even with the occasional flat tires, detours and potholes, the road ahead is still far better than the ones most of us have left behind!

Jim M., One Day at a Time Group, Oceanside

Share-A-Day 2018

I want to thank Jim C., the Share A Day Chair for the opportunity to serve as the 2018 Share A Day Food Chair. Thanks too for all the help from all the volunteers. Share A Day was a wonderful event this year and was well attended. Participation was about 200 to 250 members.

I was so fortunate to have such valiant members of AA who wanted to help me out with the food. That included Tom from Oceanside who helped to get all the coffee and supplies from Costco and the Intergroup office in his truck on the Friday before, and who helped bring everything back to the office afterwards; Augie who made the par-faits; John and Renee from Malverne’s Sobriety Without End Group who helped set up and arrange the food. Lastly, the lunch heroes, wraps, and deserts were catered by Mike.

Looking ahead, I can always use anyone to volunteer help with the Intergroup Picnic, July 15 at Eisenhower Park, Parking lot 6A, the Cedars. I love AA, and would love to see everyone at the picnic this summer. Come by. I hope to have hot dogs, cheeseburgers, my barbeque chicken, and hopefully ribs and steak. The soda and water will be supplied by Nassau Intergroup.

Kevin McH., Intergroup 1st Vice Chair

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 5/24/2018.)

- 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—

- Bethpage 11714
Principles Before Personalities, New Apostolic Church, 600-620 Broadway; Mon. 7PM C (1st & 3rd, S; 2nd & 4th, T), Wed. 7PM C (Daily Reflections), Fri. 8PM, B.
- East Rockaway 11518
Sobriety First, VFW Post # 3350, 164 Main St.; Mon. 7PM B, 8:15PM O.
- Levittown 11756
Courage to Change, Good Shepard Lutheran Church, 3434 Hempstead Tpk.; Mon. 7PM C.
- Malverne 11565
Tuesday Morning Reflections, Church of the Intercessor, 50 St. Thomas Pl.; Tue. 10:45AM Daily Reflections.
- Seaford 11783
The Rainbow Room, St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 2197 Jackson Ave. (Main building); 7:30PM, 1st & 3rd Tue. CD (Sober and Out book), 2nd Tue. C (Meditation), Last Tue., O (Anniversary); LGBTQ.
- Wantagh 11793
Lady Clique, St Frances de Chantal School, 1309 Wantagh Ave., Room 23; Sat. 8:30PM CD.
- Westbury 11590
AA Beyond Belief, Life Lutheran Church, 1 Old Westbury Rd. (Parking in rear); Wed. 8PM CD..



CHANGES—

- Baldwin
New Look on Life, First Church Baldwin, 881 Merrick Rd.; Tue. 7:30PM OB is now B; no other changes.
- Bethpage 11714
Acceptance Group, St. Martin of Tours (new location), 40 Seamen Ave. Church; no other changes.
- Levittown 11756
Acceptance Is the Key, Presbyterian Church, 474 Wantagh Ave.; Sat. 7:30 O changed to C; no other changes.
- Manhasset 11030
Big Book Experience, Shelter Rock Church, 626 Plandome Rd.; Fri. BB moved to Sat. 11AM; WC.

CLOSED GROUPS—

- Malverne
12 Step Fever, Church of the Intercessor, 50 St. Thomas Place.

Announcements

**Baldwin Group
73rd Anniversary**
Saturday, June 16, 6:30-11PM
First Presbyterian Church
717 St. Luke’s Place, Baldwin 11510
Food • Speakers • Music • Dancing • Raffles

15TH ANNUAL LUAU

The Long Island Committee of Young People in A.A. invites you to our annual Luau party!
 July 15th, 2018
 10am - 5pm

Robert Moses State Park, Field #2
 Parking Fee: \$10 per vehicle
 Suggested Donation: \$5
 Get there early for a parking spot and to avoid traffic!

Visit: www.licypaa.org for more information!