

## JANUARY 2021

### A.A. ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Drunks are calling...  
Let's ensure the hand of  
A.A. is there to answer their calls.**

The A.A. hotline, both the daytime phones and the Nightbook, is in dire need of phone volunteers.

Reach out to  
Kenny at officemanager@nassaunya.org or  
Karen at nightbook@nassaunya.org  
for opportunities  
to do service.

*"Each day my friend's simple talk in our kitchen multiplies itself in a widening circle of peace on earth and good will to men."*

Reprinted from the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, p.16, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
SERVICE ASSEMBLY**  
**VIRTUAL**  
**2021 NERAASA**  
February 26, 27, and 28, 2021



- New Years Alkathon Zoom information is as follows:  
<https://zoom.us/j/5546705146>  
Meeting ID: 554 670 5146  
Password: 870607
- SENY Convention (see pg. 4)
- Traditions workshops will be every second Sunday of the month. Zoom information is as follows:  
Meeting ID: 467 421 2768  
Password: 304861
- The Jan. Reps meeting will be on 1/7/21 at 7:30pm. The zoom information is as follows:  
<https://zoom.us/j/5546705146>  
Meeting ID: 554 670 5146  
Password: 870607

### Calendar Of Events:

#### January 2021

1/1/21:  
- New Years Day Alkathon

1/6/21:  
- Institutions Committee Meeting (postponed until further notice)  
- Corrections Committee Meeting (postponed until further notice)

1/7/21:  
- New Representatives Orientation  
- Nassau Intergroup Representatives Meeting

1/10/21:  
- Traditions Workshop

1/13/21:  
- Share-A-Day Planning Committee

1/14/21:  
- Public Information & Cooperation with Professional Community Meeting

1/20/21:  
- Website Committee Meeting

1/28/21:  
- Steering Committee Meeting

#### February 2021

2/3/21:  
- Institutions Committee Meeting (postponed until further notice)  
- Corrections Committee Meeting (postponed until further notice)

2/4/21:  
- New Representatives Orientation  
- Nassau Intergroup Representatives Meeting

2/10/21:  
- Share-A-Day Planning Committee

2/14/21:  
- Traditions Workshop

2/17/21:  
- Website Committee Meeting

2/25/21:  
- Steering Committee Meeting

2/26/21:  
- 30th Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly

2/27/20:  
- 30th Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly

2/28/21:  
- 30th Northeast Regional A.A. Service Assembly

## THE THREE LEGACIES

### Step One

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol- that our lives had become unmanageable.

To admit is to concede and conceding to me, was a weakness. It meant I was admitting I was wrong for which I resisted. It was an observable loss. In this case, it was loss of control over myself and my life. I needed the illusion of control coming from an unstable childhood with two addict parents. Chaos was all I had known, so control was all I sought. I reached the point where I could not control my feelings of fear and insecurity due to the neglect. This affected my self-worth and self-love by the age of 10. The alcohol was a symptom I later in life came to realize. Leading to fear-based choices and further feelings of brokenness. I always had something to prove and nothing was enough. I was a consumer of all things intoxicating and harmful. This was not because I enjoyed it, I was drinking to escape a mental craving beyond my control. I never knew I could not stop because I hadn't wanted to and when I finally did, I couldn't.

When I came to A.A. it was not because I was ready to admit I had a problem I could not solve on my own; it was because my mother dropped dead during Covid. My brother, father and sister-in-law are in the rooms and would log onto zoom meetings. I watched and listened and felt slightly better. Still unwilling to admit I was powerless; I continued the attempt

to control the image and language when I did get involved in meetings. I identified with the types of alcoholics on page 21 but still resisted the reality of myself being of the sort.

I took the suggestions of getting a sponsor, making 90 in 90 and getting a commitment. I jumped into the step work and sounded great during shares. That is who I was, anything I needed to be to facilitate the façade that outwardly I appeared opposite of how I felt inwardly. I agreed to the step 1 proposition out of requirement, but I never conceded to my innermost self that I was powerless, and this powerlessness made my life unmanageable. As I gripped harder for control on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of my sobriety, I was shown what powerlessness meant. I was brought to my knees overwhelmed by the feelings of hopelessness and despair. I didn't want another meeting, the Fellowship or to share! I wanted to pick up. If I picked up, I feared I would die. I feared death because where would my soul go? I didn't believe in God and I didn't have a faith. I believed I was a decent person who mastered how to suffer in silence. As I looked up at the ceiling, tears streaming down my face, I remember saying aloud and angrily, "if there's a God then You won't let me pick up, if I stay sober until tomorrow will do anything, I will carry your message, I will do this step work, I will do anything, just don't let me pick up".

I had a war raging in me that night, I cried more in that moment when I conceded to my innermost

### STEP ONE

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol- that our lives had become unmanageable.

self what I resisted to acknowledge for 25 years. I was powerless over alcoholism and my self-reliance failed me. Every time. My will power, while strong in other respects was outmatched. My life was unmanageable because I had lost the power of choice and I was not in control. That was the night my entire life changed. I wouldn't alter that spiritual experience, painful indeed but that fear keeps me in humility.

Now being armed with the facts about myself, I've found comfort to exist in a state of gray. The state of "I don't know" is where I have peace and serenity. This prevents me from taking my will back and trying to regain the delusion of control that caused collusion with the world around me.

- Dina from the All Lit Up Again group in Plainview

## THE THREE LEGACIES CONTINUED...

### Tradition One

For me, my experience with this tradition is that it right sized me and my ego and that its not all about me. It really hit home that I was just a small part of this wonderful whole, which helped me to see people equally, that were all equal members of Alcoholics Anonymous. No one is better or worse, we are all fives. It also helped me not to separate myself.

What I think about is living in the isolation that comes with alcoholism, either active or dry, I die in that. I need others and I cannot live peacefully without the unity of the program. The first tradition also keeps it safe from me without God, the person who wants to be right or share when I don't need to share. When I am apart from God it is not my true self, it is the ego talking. I thought that "principles before personalities" always

meant the other persons personality but I've come to learn that its about mine as well. I have to stop looking at everyone else and look at me and my behaviors for the safety of A.A. Its part of our responsibility as members of Alcoholics Anonymous to keep it a safe place and to share the love of god to ensure that the doors stay open for the newcomer and for those still suffering and yet come.

-Barbara from The Primary Purpose Group in Lynbrook

### TRADITION ONE

Our common welfare comes first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.



## THE THREE LEGACIES CONTINUED...

### Concept One

“What the bleep are [The Twelve Concepts](#)?”

That’s the question I asked my sponsor back in 2005 that led to a new awakening about how big spiritual principles could be, and how broadly they could be applied in A.A. and in my life. That sponsor led me through Bill W.’s essays on the Concepts that can be found in [The A.A. Service Manual](#), and invited me to begin practicing these principles in all my affairs as well.

Before I jump into my experience with Concept 1, I’ll share the overarching idea with which my sponsor began. In Tradition Two, we have the principle of the “group conscience” as a vehicle through which a loving God can guide us. This principle works great for my home group, for our intergroup, for our district and area committees.

But HOW can such a principle work when the “group” is a Conference structure that includes more than 1.2 million members in the U.S. and Canada, and that Conference is supposed to provide the spiritual compass for a corporate structure that operates a professional office and a publishing business? We

can’t get them ALL together for a discussion and vote (imagine the coffee pots we’d need!), so how can THAT chunk of A.A. hope to operate by “group conscience?”

The Twelve Concepts, my sponsor explained, are the answer to that very question.

Just as the Steps show a drunk how to survive alcoholism and the Traditions show our groups how to survive a bunch of alcoholics, our Concepts lay out principles for how we can reach group conscience for the large matters of policy and practice our Fellowship frequently needs to have settled.

Like the Steps and Traditions, the Concepts are also laid out in a way that begins with a problem and then charts a path of solutions. The Steps offer a solution to the Step One problem of being “powerless.” The Traditions offer principles that address the Tradition One need for “unity.” And the Concepts guide our Fellowship in its quest for a balanced relationship between the principles of “responsibility” and “authority” prominently named in Concept One.

So let’s take a look at Concept One...

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A.

world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

The balance between responsibility and authority are incredibly important. My sponsor helped me understand this balance by asking me about my experience with these things without balance between them.

Have you ever known someone who likes to flaunt their authority, but the minute there is a problem s/he disappears? That’s authority without responsibility. Have you ever been held responsible for getting something done, but you didn’t have the authority or resources to do it? That’s responsibility without authority.

Imagine a delegate who had the right to vote at the General Service Conference, but felt no responsibility to consider how the groups back home might feel. Or imagine a coffee maker who is told to make coffee for 50 drunks, but isn’t given the financial authority to buy supplies, or a key to get into the building?

Authority and responsibility must walk hand in hand, or we will end up with autocrats who serve themselves, or trusted servants who can’t serve at all.

## THE THREE LEGACIES CONTINUED...

The other vital piece of this Concept is that authority and responsibility reside in our whole Fellowship. At the county level, just like at the Conference level, this makes good sense. If the financial responsibility of supporting our Intergroup office is shouldered by all the groups, the burden would be easy for everyone to bear. And if all groups take the responsibility of sending a representative to the monthly intergroup meeting (and delegate the authority to discuss and vote on their behalf) the service work of Nassau County A.A. would thrive like never before.

Examples of the need for balance between authority and responsibility can be seen everywhere. Parents are responsible for their kids behavior, so they assume the authority of setting boundaries and consequences. Teachers are responsible for delivering instruction and conducting assessments, so they are given the power to plan lessons and assign work. If a doctor is to take responsibility for our health care, they must first have authority delegated to them via a consent form.

Like the spiritual principles of the Steps and Traditions, the principles that underlie our Concepts weren't invented by us. They were already operating in God's universe. We're just blessed to have recognized their truth, and to have the opportunity to practice them on the Road of Happy Destiny.

If you would like to learn more about the Concepts, I will be talking on the Concepts as part of the Nassau General Service meetings. The first meeting is 1/18/21 at 7:30 pm. The Zoom information is as follows:

Meeting ID: 441 970 4071  
Password: 13570

Jim M.

### CONCEPT ONE

Final responsibility  
and ultimate  
authority for A.A.  
world services  
should always  
reside in the  
collective  
conscience of our  
whole Fellowship.

### DECLARATION OF UNITY

This we owe to A.A.'s future:  
To keep our common welfare first;  
To keep our fellowship united.  
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,  
And the lives of those to come.

## MEET THE NEW COMMITTEE CHAIRS..

### Public Information

My name is Doreen and I am an Alcoholic. I am grateful to be Sober today!

I got honest with my Sponsor in September 2019 after a downward spiral. I had been going to AA meetings and drinking after every single meeting for over 2 years. I knew it would not last, but I kept coming because of the slogans and Tradition 3. "The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking." I had the desire, but I couldn't stop drinking. I believe that my Higher Power intervened and brought me to my bottom. I was fortunate to have a wonderful support group of beautiful people who never gave up on me! My Sponsor told me that she was waiting for me to get honest and come clean. I have been blessed, due to the Pandemic, to work through my Steps this year via Zoom. I am grateful to be a sober Mom to my children. I am very grateful for the Zoom AA meeting that I started in March with my amazing supportive sober boyfriend. We have been blessed to help so many newcomers who had no place to go when the churches shut down due to the Pandemic.

I reached out to Nassau Intergroup in April to help with the nightbook/phones during the lock down. It has been a privilege to be a part of Intergroup and to be more involved in keeping the doors of AA open and helping the

alcoholic who still suffers. I love AA and I am forever grateful for the amazing beautiful people I met this year! I consider all my fellow AA members my Family! I was blessed with the opportunity to meet members of Intergroup and I was asked to take on the PI position because of my enthusiasm for Alcoholics Anonymous. I could never give back what has been so freely given to me! I have a beautiful sober life today and I am truly looking forward to chairing this PI for 2021! I hope you will volunteer and join the winning team!

### Newsletter Editor

My name is Kyla and I am grateful for the opportunity to do service. I was always involved in my homegroups, had H&I commitments, and tried my best to work with others. However, when the pandemic hit, I realized that I needed to broaden my horizon of service work. During the beginning of the pandemic, I asked a woman to take me through the traditions. We met every week over FaceTime until we finished reading and discussing Tradition 12. Thus I began taking other women through the Traditions. After reading that first night I had reached out to a fellow homegroup member to see how they were doing. Long story short we talked and God presented me with another opportunity to help A.A. by becoming the Newsletter Editor.

## OPEN SERVICE POSITIONS

Literature Chair

Accessibilities Chair

Twelve Step List Chair

CPC Chair

Member-at-Large

Anyone interested should contact Jim via email  
[chair@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:chair@nassauny-aa.org)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

The Newsletter can be contacted at  
[news@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:news@nassauny-aa.org)

Public Information can be contacted at  
[publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org)

## CHAIR'S CORNER

Welcome -- and welcome back!

It feels good to put 2020 in the rearview mirror, but as our Big Book reminds us on page 117 “many of the old problems will still be with [us]. This is as it should be...”

The year ahead will no doubt bring recurrences of old problems, and will likely bring new ones.

Because our A.A. mission is a focused one with a primary purpose, all our problems boil down to the same question: How can we best help those who are recovering, or wish to recover, from a drinking problem?

The answer to that question is always found in the participation of A.A. members at our home groups and in our service work. If the hand of A.A. is going to be there, we'll need your hand. Simply put, A.A. doesn't work because 'someone else' carries the message. It's up to all of us. So let's get to work!

I'm going to assume if you're reading this that you're interested in helping the growth and unity of A.A. here in Nassau County. Check out the sidebar for a list of things you can do today to help make sure A.A. is available to any alcoholic in our community looking for help.

Thanks for all you do to help alcoholics in Nassau County. Please let me know how your intergroup office can be helpful.

Jim M.

Chair - Nassau Intergroup

### Chair Report from your outgoing Chair 2019-2020

Welcome to the New Year in print from our Nassau Intergroup Newsletter.

We will be in for another tough year with the Covid Virus, I hope everyone has been tested and if possible Vaccinated!

We will be continuing to run our office at its best with live Phone Reps, Literature sales, Speaker Exchange coordination, Website, and Live meetings, Hybrid, and Virtual Meeting posting.

When you want Literature call first to make sure there is a rep in the office or set up a pickup with the literature@nassauny-aa.org

We ask that all new Reps contact John M., our 1st vice chair, to make sure we have their contact information. John can be reached at 1stvice@nassauny-aa.org. This would help us to keep the communication lines up between Intergroup and our over 300 groups. It has been my pleasure to serve you for last 2 year as your chair.

In Service

Kevin McH

### GET INTO ACTION HELPING US GROW AND UNIFY A.A.!

1. Check your group's meeting info by searching our list [here](#), and if it's not correct, fill out [this form](#) and email it to [webmaster@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:webmaster@nassauny-aa.org).
2. Reach out to Kenny, our office manager, to find out what daytime slots are open for phone volunteers (some members even do this work remotely!) Kenny can be reached at [officemanager@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:officemanager@nassauny-aa.org).
3. Reach out to Karen, our Nightbook chair, to find out how (and when) your group can help cover the phones between 5pm and 9am. Karen can be reached at [nightbook@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:nightbook@nassauny-aa.org).
4. Ask your fellow homegroup members if your group has an Intergroup Rep. If yes, ask if they have checked with John, our 1st Vice Chair, to insure their contact info is up to date. ([1stVice@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:1stVice@nassauny-aa.org)). If no, ask your group if YOU can be the Intergroup Rep, then reach out to John yourself to get involved.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need to get in touch with the Nassau Intergroup Chair please send an email to [chair@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:chair@nassauny-aa.org)

## H&I CHAIR'S CORNER



Hi, I'm Archie, addict and alcoholic. I'm the H&I Chair for Nassau County Intergroup. I have been for the past 2 years and it was decided by the committee, that I will continue in this position for the next 2 years.

Our last meeting was in Sept 2020. And before that was March 2020. In September, we distributed literature to a variety of hospitals, institutions, rehabs and crisis centers.

Just recently, literature was given to Paul L. to distribute in the jails and literature was also given to the Northport VA.

At the moment, there are only 2 in person meetings taking place:

1. South Oaks Hospital
2. Salvation Army.

I've been in contact with NUMC about bringing an online meeting into them, but I've lost contact with them 2 weeks ago. The last conversation

was they were working on getting a laptop and

clearance based upon

HIPPA laws. I will reach out to them the first Monday of January 2021.

As for the other hospitals and institutions and facilities, my last contact with them was during the first week of December 2020, and no plans for them to reopen for in-person meetings and they have no desire for online meetings. Some people just have not returned my phone call.

Plans for 2021 are to re-establish communications with all facilities and eventually get in-person meetings again. Till that time, we will be distributing literature as needed. No exact plans for a committee meeting as of yet.

Archie N  
H&I  
Chairperson  
IAN

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need to get in touch with the Nassau H&I please send an email to [institutions@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:institutions@nassauny-aa.org)



## What is a Convention?

Excerpts from the AA guidelines:

“As one member puts it, the best A.A. convention is ‘just a darned good A.A. meeting blown up big.’ Just watch enthusiastic members at any A.A. convention and you’ll get what he means. The atmosphere alone is worth the trip. Here you’ll find fellowship, laughter, warmth, and understanding—‘heaped up, pressed down, and running over.’”

“The weekend convention. This is an ideal form for a state, provincial, or regional convention. Members often arrive for an opening meeting session or “coffee & conversation” on Friday evening. Additional meetings and workshops—as well as other activities—continue through Saturday and even into Sunday afternoon. The

convention may include a banquet, luncheons, special breakfasts, Saturday-night dancing and entertainment, and perhaps a spiritual meeting on Sunday morning.”

The SENY convention has it all! This year transportation, hotel and food costs have been eliminated. The 2021 SENY Convention will be a virtual event. The objective of the area convention is to provide meetings and workshops on recovery, unity, and service but most of all to provide an atmosphere for all participants to have fun and fellowship.

The convention theme is: “AA IN A TIME OF CHANGE”.

There will be:

5 special meetings with interpretation including:

- Friday night Welcome with a speaker from the General Service Office and an Al-Anon speaker
- Saturday afternoon long-timers meeting
- Saturday afternoon Panel on AA IN A TIME OF CHANGE
- Saturday evening sobriety countdown and Keynote speaker
- Sunday morning Spiritual meeting
- 5 Entertainment slots
- Alkathon meetings

15 Theme meetings, from the counties including:

- Practicing AA Spiritual
- Principles in a Changing AA World
- Recovery Public Information
- Unity AA literature
- Service Cooperation with the
- Professional Community
- Diversity Accessibilities

## ★ 2021 SENY CONVENTION ★ A.A. IN A TIME OF CHANGE



MARCH 5 - 7

• HISTORIC 53RD VIRTUAL CELEBRATION ON ZOOM •

- \* A.A. \* AL-ANON \* ALATEEN \* YOUNG PEOPLE IN A.A. \*
- \* SPEAKER MEETINGS \* 15 WORKSHOPS \* ALKATHONS \*
- \* SPANISH LANGUAGE MEETINGS \* SPANISH TRANSLATION \*
- \* UNITY \* INCLUSIVITY \* DIVERSITY \* ACCESSIBILITY \*
- \* BOX LUNCH + DINNER GUEST HOSPITALITY \*
- \* 12 STEPS \* 12 TRADITIONS \* 12 CONCEPTS \*
- \* FUN \* GAMES \* ENTERTAINMENT \*

## ★ LET'S GET THE PARTY STARTED ★



REGISTER ONLINE @ [AASENY.ORG](http://AASENY.ORG)  
REGISTER BY MAIL :  
SENY CONVENTION 2021  
PO BOX 571  
NEW YORK, NY 10116  
REGISTRATION FEE : \$20.00

★ INFORM - COMMUNICATE \* INVOLVE - ACT \* INSPIRE - ATTRACT ★

### What is a Convention?

- Safety Archives
- Technology Sponsorship
- Outreach 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition
- 4 or 5 Al-Anon and Alateen meetings
- 5 Spanish meetings
- 2 or 3 Young Peoples meetings

Hospitality will be “Box Lunch” and “Dinner” at the table with people you might want to engage in Q&A

So, as you can see there is something for everyone!

You can now register for the 2021 Convention at [www.aaseny.org](http://www.aaseny.org) The cost is \$20 and you will need to register to receive the meeting ID’s and passwords. Please bring that message back to your districts and groups.

# 2021 SENY CONVENTION A.A. IN A TIME OF CHANGE



## TECH VOLUNTEERS

THE 2021 SENY CONVENTION NEEDS YOUR TALENT  
TO HELP FACILITATE MAIN SESSIONS + WORKSHOPS

Since our 2021 Convention will be held virtually March 5 - 7 using the Zoom platform, we are looking for volunteers with experience using Zoom's host controls or experience acting as a host or co-host in a large (>20 participants) meeting. Volunteers should be proficient in managing the waiting room, muting and unmuting participants, removing unwanted participants from the meeting, and other participant management tasks. Volunteers should also be familiar with common Zoom settings, and have an understanding of basic user functionality to be able to assist participants who are accessing the meeting space with either a smartphone, a computer, or dialing in with a phone.

Each workshop will require at least 2 volunteers : a primary Host and a Co-Host. If enough volunteers are available, we would like 1 or 2 additional volunteers to act as Spiritual Ushers / Time Keepers and help with monitoring for unwanted disruptions, especially in the larger sessions. The Tech Committee will provide training and rehearsal.

HOST : Primarily responsible that the workshop is running smoothly and on time.  
CO - HOST : Assists host with room/participant management duties.  
SPIRITUAL USHERS / TIMEKEEPERS : Monitors for disruptions and takes appropriate action.

★ LET'S GET THE PARTY STARTED! ★



TO VOLUNTEER : [CLICK HERE](#) OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT  
JOHN L.  
2021 SENY CONVENTION  
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR  
JPLIVZ@YAHOO.COM

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## ★ 2021 SENY CONVENTION ★ A.A. IN A TIME OF CHANGE MARCH 5 - 7

### ★ REGISTRATION FORM ★

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Must Provide Email Address To Receive Meeting IDs And Passwords \***

AA \_\_\_ Al-Anon \_\_\_ Other ( Please Specify ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Sober 25+ years? Sobriety Date : \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_  
Translation/ASL/Accessibilities Request? ( Please Specify ) \_\_\_\_\_

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Registration : \$20 Per Person  
Number of Registrations \_\_\_\_\_ Total : \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\* All Attendees At The Convention Will Need To Register  
To Have Access To Meeting IDs And Passwords \***

Checks or Money Orders Payable to : SENY Convention  
2021 Mail Payment and Registration Form to:  
SENY Convention 2021  
PO Box 571  
New York, NY 10116  
Questions? Email : [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org)

★ INFORM - COMMUNICATE ★ INVOLVE - ACT ★ INSPIRE - ATTRACT ★



## Financial Review

Welcome to all new and returning trusted servants at the Intergroup Association of Nassau, Inc., Nassau Intergroup (NI). Know that any of the more experienced members will be willing to offer you information and support. You just need to ask.

Concerning finance, last month we passed our budget for 2021, a challenging undertaking given the past year and the uncertainty for the year ahead, all driven by the COVID-19 crisis. The budget will serve as a guide and control on our spending, a guide which should be understood and respected, but a guide which can be revised if needed by consent of the Reps meeting in the light of new information as it becomes available.

The next task for the Reps meeting is consideration of the proposed changes to the Intergroup ByLaws, Article VIII concerning finance. Those proposals touch three essential items in the first three sections: 1- Managing our Prudent Reserve; 2- Capping our Operating Fund; and, 3- Helping settle the responsibilities and authority of

the Assistant Treasurer. Some additional clarification is also offered in next section concerning the structure and function of the Financial Review Committee. We've had two months to consider these matters, and may now decide how we want to proceed. Let's look at those first three.

First, concerning the Prudent Reserve, the existing bylaws place a ceiling of one year's operating expenses on the reserve but no floor. The suggested amendment would set the reserve at about six months operating expenses providing both a ceiling and a floor.

Next, lest we "accumulate funds for no stated AA purpose," in tandem with the item setting the reserve level, the suggested amended language clarifies what is the operating fund and maintains the cap on it at 25% of the annual operating budget.

"Concept X" in the long form suggests, "Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority—the scope of such authority . . . well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by . . . bylaws." The suggested amendment to our bylaws in this instance seeks to provide a grounding for the Assistant Treasure in our bylaws. Hopefully too we

will extend whatever understanding we reach with some further definition, perhaps in a job description.

Finance participated in the ad hoc bylaws workgroup and the Steering Committee meetings which moved forward the proposed amendment language, in the discussions at the past two Reps meetings, and will participate in the discussion and possible vote this month.

The next task for Financial Review will be to recruit members for the new term (we need a past NI Treasurer or similarly experienced member and two Reps), and to prepare a summary of last year's finances in the form of an income and expense report. That report will be due next month. Please watch for it.

As of this writing, COVID-19 unfortunately remains a concern. Many things in AA have not been able to return to their pre-COVID norms, and the future is unclear. I continue to encourage vigilance and patience as we look ahead to what we all hope is a better spring.

Stay safe, stay positive, and stay connected. Hope this is helpful.

Bill C., Financial Review Committee

516-292-3045 or

[finance@nassauny-aa.org](mailto:finance@nassauny-aa.org)

## HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE MEMBER OF AN EFFECTIVE COMMITTEE...

We need you to suit up and show up!!!!!!

DCMC has the responsibility and authority to find the right people for our counties many service tasks. Since our future effectiveness must thus depend upon both on our Standing Committee chairs and GSR's to communicate the principles of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tradition; purpose, group conscious, trusted servants, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Tradition; our primary purpose.

Be a part of a committee's vision. Based on principles ,plans and policies that the rest of us want to back up that committee and help that committee carry out there vision.

As the DCMC, I inspire to give thought of support before our new rotations commence. I am going to list the Standing Committees ;Accessibilities , Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Corrections, Grapevine, and Public Information.

To be an effective committee the Committee Chair relies on a participation and a cooperation with the elected GSR's within that county or GSR's within that district.

Our county meetings, might not grow by leaps and bounds. We know men and women who participate have dedication, willingness, responsibility and this brings a collection of ideas.

Bill Wilson in the 9<sup>th</sup> Concept , "VISION is I think, the ability to make good estimates, for the immediate and for the more distant future."

Are you ready? I am looking towards where we are led!!!!

Marty K. DCMC  
NASSAU COUNTY

"BE APART OF A  
COMMITTEE'S VISION."



## NASSAU COUNTY A.A. HISTORY DURING COVID-19

At the closing address of The July, 1955 AA Convention, held at the Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis at precisely four O'clock in the afternoon; Bill delivered a stirring address in which he handed the responsibility of AA's Services over to us, in the form of The General Service Convention. This is all laid out nicely in the book AA Comes Of Age, by AAWS. In his address to the convention, he was confident that we, as trusted servants, would be able to serve AA's needs in both good times, and times of crises.

The Covid-19 Pandemic of 2020 was one of those times; in fact it was the biggest worldwide crisis for AA since The Second World War. Suddenly, with the rest of society, we were thrust into a new and frightening world. The Internet, with all the tools of social media, had been slowly incorporated into AA's life previously. The AA GRAPEVINE had its own YOUTUBE channel, and aa.org was already in full swing, as were websites of all of our service entities from the groups down to the GSO.

Now, however, the leisurely pace at which the Internet became incorporated into AA jumped into hyperspace. Businesses, public gatherings, and even houses of worship were shut down in March. The implications for AA were obvious, and to be taken very seriously. It was time for our trusted servants to spring into action.

Nassau County was no different. Faced with church closings, our groups suddenly found themselves with no places to meet. Calls came into our Intergroup Office by an

overwhelming amount. The Steering Committee's Exec Board decided to close our office in March, until further notice. This affected both the daytime hotlines and also our nighttime hotline - The Nightbook. All phones had to be answered remotely by volunteers. The Nightbook made a valiant effort to keep the lines open, and we did, again with the help of volunteers.

A social media tool, Zoom, became widely used as a source whereby online meetings could go on. There was a learning curve, but "the Hand of AA" was there to help those people who had a tough go at it. All of our events, both county wide, area wide, and even regionally were all handled by Zoom. In Nassau, the Big Meeting went off very smoothly online, as well as a couple of workshops and all three holiday Alkathons.

In June, it was decided by our Exec Committee to resume the sale of literature, carefully following the health guidelines put forward by the state. It was modeled after the "curbside pick-up" method in us by retail businesses in the area.

The Nassau County Newsletter did an excellent job of keeping all of our members informed of happenings countywide. The print editions ceased, and the Newsletter, together with the help of our webmaster was like a "virtual meeting place" and news hub for all things AA, as well as health updates on the pandemic admirably done by our literature chair. Our webmaster worked very hard and successfully posted a list of all the virtual meetings in Nassau

County, which took the place of the actual groups whose meeting places were closed.

Over the summer, some groups elected to have outdoor meetings, in parks, etc. Moving into the fall, some churches opened up and the AA groups were allowed back in provided they followed the state guidelines for safety precautions; masks, limits on attendees, and social distancing.

Thus began the phenomenon of "hybrid meetings" where people were in attendance, and a laptop was set up on the front desk, so the moderator could call on the Zoom attendees as well as the actual physical audience.

At this writing, two vaccines reached the market, and we are hopeful that sooner rather than later, we will be back to some semblance of normalcy. The questions of what will happen to the meetings that opened as "Zoom only" have yet to be decided. As of now, they are listed on our website, and considered "official AA groups." Through it all, it looks like Nassau County fulfilled Bill's vision, voiced in 1955, of an AA that most certainly has "come of age."

-Steve

"In any meeting, anywhere, A.A.'s share experience, strength, and hope with each other, in order to stay sober and help other alcoholics. Modem-to-modem or face-to-face, A.A.'s speak the language of the heart in all its power and simplicity."

## NASSAU INTERGROUP - EMAIL ADDRESSES

### OFFICERS

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### Meeting List Changes:

Due to the nature of the current situation, please refer to the meeting list on the Intergroup website. The meeting finder can be found here. It will reflect the most accurate information. Please help to keep the meeting lists current and correct by submitting a "Meeting List Changes Form" whenever your meeting details change. That form can be found here.

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