



# Suffolk Intergroup Association Of Alcoholics Anonymous Bulletin

June, 2007

Volume 34 Number 2

## Meetings & Events In July

**07/05**

**Archives Committee 6:00 P.M.**  
SIA Office

**07/10**

**Cornell Cooperative  
Extension - Riverhead**  
\* **Share-a-thon 7:00 P.M.**  
\* **SIA Orientation - New Reps  
7:00 P.M.**  
\* **SIA Meeting 8:00 PM**

**07/18**

\***Public Information Mtg.**  
7:30 PM – SIA Office

**07/20**

**Trinity Lutheran Church,  
Rocky Point**  
\* **GSO Orientation 7:30 P.M.**  
\* **Suffolk GSO Mtg. 8:00P.M.**

**07/25**

\* **SIA Treatment Facilities Mtg.**  
7:30 P.M. – SIA office



### From the Editor: Concept III

*“As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional “Right of Decision”.”*

\*  
Concepts 3 through 5 describe those pivotal principles that can be found in the Traditions and Steps. This Concept makes me think about a couple of important principles. The first one is the care we must take in choosing our trusted servants and the second one being trust. This Concept gives our trusted servants, whether it is our group’s GSR, our Area delegate or a Conference Committee, the right to decide on the

Continued on page 3

113 – 8 Bay Avenue / PO Box 659 / Patchogue, NY 11772  
(631) 654 – 1150 Fax (631) 654 – 1110  
website: [www.suffolkny-aa.org](http://www.suffolkny-aa.org)

## The Murky Origins of '90 Meetings in 90 Days'

No one can speak with any certainty about the roots of “90 meetings in 90 days”. Certainly, no one at the General Service Office can pinpoint the source of this bit of counseling heard in some A.A. meetings. No such suggestion appears in the Big Book or in the Twelve and Twelve. In the 1950s, though, mention of 90 days or three months as a milestone in sobriety was appearing in the Grapevine. An article in the January 1959 issue, which was one of a series on conducting talks at beginners meetings, is headed “90-Day Trial”.

In the article, it was pointed out that one approach to newcomers might be : “I’d like to suggest that for a period of three months you decide to stay away from a drink twenty-four hours at a time, and also decide to attend many meetings – every night if possible. Surely you can spare ninety day from your life. They might prove to be the most useful ninety days in your entire lifetime. You may learn whether or not you are an alcoholic, and that’s a good thing to know.”

For some in the Fellowship it makes obvious sense to suggest to newcomers that they immerse themselves in A.A.’s program for the first few months. Someone new to the rooms following this suggestion is relieved of the burden of deciding on a daily basis whether to attend a meeting.

Some, though, believe that the concept of 90 meetings in 90 days runs counter to A.A.’s focus on a day at a time, and that to suggest to newcomers that they plan three months ahead is asking too much of them. One letter-writer to the Grapevine in the March 1988 issue asserts: “If I had been required to do anything for more than a twenty-four-hour period, I probably would have walked out.”

Also, some A.A. members with years of sobriety can be heard announcing that they are doing “90-in-90” to give their program a boost.

In general, A.A. members and groups have shown solid instincts for finding what works for staying sober. There are no rules on how many meetings anyone has to attend, of course. It comes down to what works for the individual.

Reprinted with permission, Box 4-5-9, April/May 2007, AAWS

Submitted by Michael F

**I tried to teach my child with books; He gave me only puzzled looks.  
I tried to teach my child with words; They passed him by often unheard.  
Despairingly, I turned aside; "How shall I teach this child?" I cried.  
Into my hands he put the key, "Come," he said, "Play with me."**

**~ Anonymous**

## **A few things to think about.....**

- God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
- Dear God, I have a problem....it's Me.
- Growing old is inevitable ... growing UP is optional.
- There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
- Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted.
- Do the math ... count your blessings.
- Faith is the ability not to panic.
- Laugh every day, it's like inner jogging.
- If you worry, you didn't pray...If you pray, don't worry.
- As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home every day.
- Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.
- The most important things in your house are the people.
- When we get tangled up in our problems, be still. God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.

Yours in love & service,  
Terry L.

## **From the Editor – continued from page 1**

issues at hand, on their own, even if that means going against an informed group conscience. We need to know that these people will always act on the behalf of what's best for Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. We need to place our informed group conscience and our trust in their hands and know that they will make right decisions.

*“Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other.” \**

Concept III checklist:

- Do we understand what is meant by the “Right of Decision”? Do we grant it at all levels of service or do we “instruct”?
- Do we trust our trusted servants – G.S.R., D.C.M., area delegate, the conference itself?

Yours in service,  
Terry L.

\*copyright 1986, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.,  
*The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated*

## Endless Nights

For too many years my days were like nights  
Filled with hard drinking and ending in fights.  
It never mattered if you were my friend or my foe  
My friend was straight vodka all else was for show.  
I would booze all night and then I'd be gone  
Lost in a "blackout" until it was dawn.  
Waking up slowly, I'd fall out of bed,  
A cotton dry mouth, my eyes crusty and red.  
I'd stare into space thinking "Never Again"  
With thoughts of a bottle hidden away in the den.  
My behavior was abusive and I didn't really know  
I was losing my family and had nothing to show.  
All I could think of were these questions I share:  
Can I really pull that trigger and will anyone care?  
If not for the "Rooms", the Steps and much more,  
The fate that awaited would be hard to ignore.  
I close with this thought born of some humility:  
I may not be where I want to be,  
But thank God I'm not where I used to be.

Jon G.

October, 2005

Home for Dinner Group, Deer Park



**HELP NEEDED !!**

**12<sup>th</sup> Step Work Available!**

***Our Primary Purpose is to stay sober & help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.***

**Treatment Facilities:**

The Treatment Facilities chairperson still has the following facilities that desperately need people to chair meetings, if only for a month at a time :

**Charlie Murphy's, Northport –**

Monday thru Saturday, 10:30 a.m. – Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.

**Talbot House, Bohemia – Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.**

**St. Charles Hospital, Pt. Jefferson -**

Women's meeting: Wednesday & Thursday, 1:30 p.m.

**V.A. Hospital, Northport – Wednesday, 1:00 – 1:45 p.m.**

**John J. Foley Nursing Home, Yaphank, Thursday, 2:00 p.m.**

**Catholic Charities, Kings Park, Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. & Friday, 1:00 p.m.**

**Corrections:**

The Corrections Chairperson needs speakers for most evenings as well as Chairwomen for the women's DWI facility in Yaphank:

Thursday & Friday, 7 p.m.

**Schools:**

Looking for young people with a minimum of 2 years sobriety to speak at schools.

**If ANYONE plans on speaking at a school, PLEASE call the SIA office at (631) 654 – 1150 for information as well as pamphlets & wallet Hotline cards to bring to the schools.**

**Public Information:**

Public Information work will not make you rich or famous but it could "save someone's life & it will help keep you sober. Service outside the group is very rewarding & can take as little as 1 hour a month. Meets 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month at the SIA office.

**Share-A-Thon**

Needs Group Reps to participate in the planning & implementation of our 2007 Share-A-Thon. Meets 7:00 p.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, before the SIA meeting.

**TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE OPENINGS, PLEASE  
CALL THE SIA OFFICE AT : (631) 654 – 1150 OR  
VISIT THE WEBSITE AT : [www.suffolkny-aa.org](http://www.suffolkny-aa.org)**

# MEETING LIST-GROUP INFORMATION FORM

Please furnish **ALL** information requested. Incomplete forms can not be processed.

Group Name	
<i>Mailing</i> Address	
City, St, Zip	
Contact person	<i>(will remain confidential)</i>
Contact phone	<i>(will remain confidential)</i>

- **Circle ALL that apply**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

NEW GROUP	TIME CHANGE	DAY CHANGE	SPECIAL Instructions
DELETE GROUP	ADDRESS CHANGE	NAME CHANGE	HANDICAP ACCESS

- **OLD listing - AS LISTED on the current meeting list – New Groups leave blank.**

Town						
Group Name						
Meeting Place						
Street						
Special instructions						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

- **NEW listing**

**Effective Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Town						
Group Name						
Meeting Place						
Street						
Special instructions						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT

**Instructions-**

Abbreviations—**O**=Open; **OD**=Open Discussion; **CD**=Closed Discussion; **C**=Closed; **S**=Step; **T**=Tradition; **BB**=Big Book; **B**=Beginners; **M**=Men only; **W**=Women only; **YP**=Young People; **ASL**=Sign Lang Avail; Noon=Noon; Midnight=midnight; **AM** must be indicated; All meetings listed as Non-smoking; No Restricted meetings are listed.

<b><u>Optional questions</u></b>	Y	N
Do you or your group wish to be notified of upcoming special events?		
Do you or your group wish to receive the monthly Bulletin (free) ?		
Does your group have an interest in answering the Hotline?		
Does your group want to be included in the twelve step list?		

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: Suffolk Intergroup Association, PO Box 659, Patchogue, NY 11772