



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

December, 2008

Volume 35 Number 8

January Meetings & Events

January 6th SIA office
7:30 PM *SIA Officers' &
Chairpersons' Meeting

January 1st SIA Office
6:00 PM Archives

January 12th
90 Higbie La, W. Islip,
7:45 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

January 13th Cleary School,
Ronkonkoma
7:00 PM SIA Orientation
8:00 PM SIA Meeting

January 15th Trinity Lutheran
Church, Rocky Point
8:00 PM GSO Meeting

January 21st SIA Office
7:00 PM Public Information Mtg.

January 28th SIA Office
7:00 PM Treatment Facilities

"The Bulletin"

Is published monthly by the Suffolk Intergroup Association of Alcoholics Anonymous. PO Box 659 Patchogue, NY 11772. "Alcoholics Anonymous" and "AA" are registered trademarks of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Quotes from AAWS literature and AA Grapevine are used with permission and gratitude.

Warm wishes for a Sober, Happy, Joyous and Free Holiday Season

Please send in your stories, Miracles and announcements and we will publish them in this Bulletin, Perhaps there's someone who needs to read what you have to write... Thanks, Chris W.

From the Archives

One of the most sought after items for our Archives has been the first issue of the SIA Bulletin. We have issue number three but not one and two --- the coveted number one has been elusive...up until now. We are happy to report thanks to our friends at SENY, we now have obtained a copy of our very first Bulletin. SENY sponsored an Archives Day in Staten Island and this beauty was uncovered. It was agreed that it served a far better purpose out here in Suffolk. So it has returned home!

Continued on page 3

A message from the 2008 Share-A-Thon Co-chairs

The 2008 Share-A-Thon was indeed a great success. Al and I would like to thank, of course, all the volunteers who dedicated much time in making it a real success. The kudos also go to all those that supported it in any way, shape or form and lastly but not least to all those who attended the day and really made it a success. Next year's

Share-A-Thon will be co-chaired by Brian J (coffee commitment guy) and Joe L (hospitality desk guy). We thanked them in advance and we both pledge our help to both of them as I am sure we all will.

Al and Lee (2008 Share-A-Thon Co-chairs)

113-8 Bay Ave. / P.O. Box 659, Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 654-1150

SIA Officers & Chair people 2008-2009
631-654-1150 www.suffolk-aa.org

Office	Name	Official email address
Chairperson	Janet O	Chairman@suffolkny-aa.org
Alt Chairperson	Cathy S	alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org
Treasurer	Jim C	treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org
Corresponding Secretary		corsec@suffolkny-aa.org
Recording Secretary	Liz T	recsec@suffolkny-aa.org

Committee Chairs

Office	Name	Official email address
Archives	Bob R	archives@suffolkny-aa.org
Bulletin	Chris W	bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org
General Service Liaison	John	sgso-liason@suffolkny-aa.org
Grapevine	Debbie P	grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org
Literature	Richie N	books@suffolkny-aa.org
Meeting List	Dennis	meetings@suffolkny-aa.org
Public Information	Richard W	pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org
Schools	Teddy T	schools@suffolkny-aa.org
Share-a-thon	Open	share@suffolkny-aa.org
SIA Office Manager	Tom L	siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org
Special Events	Lisa	specevent@suffolkny-aa.org
Telephone Hotline	Ted	phones@suffolkny-aa.org
Third Legacy	Brian C	thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org
Treatment Facilities	Kathy	treatment@suffolkny-aa.org
Webmaster	Steve W	webmaster@suffolkny-aa.org
Webmaster-Alt	Jack M.	altwebsup@suffolkny-aa.org

From the Archives

Continued from page 1

Our first Bulletin was issued in May 1973. It was a two-sided sheet of paper with all sorts of great information. The first officers of our spanking new Intergroup are mentioned: Chairman:Dot P (Greenlawn-Huntington Station), Co-Chairman Martin F. (Commack), Secretary: Carol C. (St. James) and Treasurer: Ruth C. (Westhampton). Are any of these people still around?

The Exchange meeting was held at Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on the corner of Brooksite and Nesconset Highway in Hauppauge AND it was listed as for both Nassau and Suffolk counties. There were five new groups listed: 1) Guys and Dolls in Selden which had a closed meeting at 9:00pm on Fridays, 2) Lincoln and Lee in Wainscott which listed an "open house" meeting every Monday at 9:00pm, 3) Blue Point which offered two meetings at Our Lady of Snow Church---closed meeting Tuesday at 8:00pm and open meeting 8:30 Saturday, 4) East Setauket with a closed meeting at 9:00pm at the Methodist Church and 5) Live Again which announced an afternoon meeting at 1:00pm at St. Lukes on Wicks Road in Brentwood. It is great to note that all five of these meetings are still going strong after 35 years, although one has moved and several have had time changes.

As you can see these old Bulletins are an incredible source of historical information. If you have been holding on to copies of the old ones, please keep your friendly neighborhood Archives in mind. We are still missing so many. We are also missing many, many volunteers to help us. What a wonderful way to say thanks to Alcoholics Anonymous by giving back. Do you know how to type? Do you know how to take photos? Do you know how to research? Do you know how to file? Do you know how to have fun...because all of us doing Archives work are having a heck of a good time. You could too! Contact the SIA office 631 654-1150 and be prepared to be happily sober--not somber!

Tradition XII

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Let us always remember that anonymity ~ not taking credit for our own or others' recovery ~ is humility at work.

Anonymity, as we observe it in A.A., is a simple expression of humility. When we use the Twelve Steps to recover from alcoholism, we are *each* trying to achieve real humility, to put our self-respect on a solid base of truth, rather than the fantasies about ourselves. When we use the Twelve Traditions to work together in A.A., we are *all* trying to achieve humility; as individual members, by recognizing our true place in A.A.: as a fellowship, by recognizing A.A.'s true place in the world.

Alcoholics Anonymous Traditions admonish us that to preserve harmony and to enhance the survival value of our movement, we should seriously respect the anonymous aspect of the Program.

Anonymity is a potent reminder that we are just one among many, an infinitesimal agent of a great power. It has a very substantial spiritual significance, reminding us to respect the common welfare of the movement ahead of our own.

Anonymity stymies self-glorification and insures the other fellow the right to preserve his own identity. Who you are in A.A. is not important.

Anonymity protects the movement. If someone in the program suddenly reverts to drinking, as sometimes happens, wraps his/her car around a telephone pole, and makes the news, A.A. is left unscathed.

Anonymity fortifies us against political invasion and alignment with religious or other movements. Former movements have been destroyed by the invasion of political speakers and alignment with various sectarian organizations. By remaining strictly nameless, we bypass these and all controversial issues such as the wet and dry question and other promotional projects.

Anonymity insures us against members forming small groups, associating personal names with the Alcoholics Anonymous name, and obtaining credit, loans or gifts for clubs, furnishings, etc., which dangerous procedure has proved disastrous in some places.

Anonymity discourages members from becoming professionals, charging fees for counseling and other services, and prevents personal publicity in all printed material, photographs, radio and television, etc.

Let us all remember that Alcoholics Anonymous is a spiritual entity only. It has nothing to sell and doesn't want to buy anything. It gives away everything and has more for so doing. A.A. belongs to all alcoholics who have a sincere desire to use its principles. Certainly all of us should feel duty bound to preserve its principles and practices, not only for ourselves, but for all the alcoholics yet to come.

Yours in service,
Terry L

Opportunities for some 12th step work:

I Am Responsible...

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Office volunteer needed at the SIA office

People who are committed to service are needed to take shifts at the SIA office in Patchogue. Shifts are available from 9:00 AM to noon & noon to 3:00 PM. Monday through Saturday. Please call Tom at the SIA office. (654-1150)

Telephone Captain needed

for District 90: Bayport, Bluepoint, Bohemia, Oakdale, Patchogue, Sayville areas will be covered by this Capt. If interested please call Ted Phone Chair @ 631-654-1150 or email

phones@suffolkny-aa.org

..... sometimes to fill in when the assigned group can't get enough people to fill their commitment, in which case you will have several days notice.

.....sometimes we will need you to fill in for emergencies or last minute cancellations, in this case you will not have much notice.

.....sometimes it will be for a full 12 hour shift, or sometimes for a few hours

If you are interested, please contact your phone captain, your group rep.

Call for Articles

The AA Grapevine is your meeting. Please feel free to share. If you would like to share a story with us, please keep in mind that we need to receive it at least three months prior to publication. The Grapevine welcomes articles on every aspect of recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous. We are always glad to get stories about helping others and working with professionals. In addition, we always welcome articles about the Traditions and the Twelve Steps.

Suggested manuscript length is three to seven double-spaced pages. Include your full name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. Please keep a copy of your work because manuscripts cannot be returned.

Refer to our Submission Guidelines for more information.

Mail to: Editorial Department, Grapevine 475 Riverside Drive New York, NY 10115

Meeting Changes and announcements.

CHRISTMAS EVE MARATHON AT AMITYVILLE COUNTYLINE GROUP

An AA Meeting Every Hour on the Hour throughout the Night

Good Grub Great Sobriety

First Meeting: 8PM Christmas Eve / Wednesday December 24

Last Meeting: 8 AM Christmas Morning / Thursday December 25

The County Line Group Meets at the Simpson Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave, Amityville.

Directions: Take county line Rd to Sunset (immediately North of Sunrise Hwy) take Sunset around the bend to the church