



## Suffolk Intergroup Association

# Bulletin

July, 2009

Volume 36 Number 3

### August Meetings & Events

**August 4<sup>th</sup> SIA office-7:30 PM\***SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

**August 6<sup>th</sup> SIA Office-7:00 PM**  
Archives

**August 10<sup>th</sup>-90 Higbie La, W. Islip**  
**7:45 PM** LI Committee of Young People in AA

**August 11<sup>th</sup> Cleary School, Ronkonkoma**  
**7:00 PM** SIA Orientation  
**7:00 PM** Share-A-Thon Meeting  
**8:00 PM** SIA Meeting

**August 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point-8:00 PM** GSO Meeting

**August 19<sup>th</sup> SIA Office 7:00 PM**  
Public Information Mtg.

**August 26<sup>th</sup> SIA Office 7:00 PM**  
Treatment Facilities

#### ***"The Bulletin"***

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### **We're always looking for stories and announcements**

It's just one of those Miracles in AA to say or write something that someone else needs to hear.

Please keep them coming and they will appear in "Our Bulletin".  
Thanks, *Chris W*

### **The SIA Archives is now online.**

Come check out our site [SuffolkAAArchives.Com](http://SuffolkAAArchives.Com) We welcome all comments. Please keep in mind that this is a work in progress and much more needs to go up there, so we extend an invitation for help out there. We are in particular need for people who are handy with website design, editing etc. A truly great way to do service.

As you check out the website you may see that your group is missing a history or photos. In some cases we haven't yet uploaded a group's information but in most cases we never received anything from your group at all. If you are procrastinating maybe now is the time to act.

In June, the Archives sponsored the annual open house at the SIA Office in Patchogue. Between 40-50 people strolled in and out throughout the day and it made for gr4at fellowship. Our speaker Lonnie from Westhampton Beach carried a fine message for our noon time gratitude meetings. The unveiling of the Archives website became official. Several longtimers came down specifically to sign our 1951 Big Book. All in all a great day. The general sentiment was that none20of us realized how great sobriety could be and that more would be revealed. There's no place like sobriety, Auntie Em!

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

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***Please send in  
your Story, a  
Miracle or an  
Announcement  
and it will  
published in  
this Bulletin.  
Perhaps  
there's  
someone who  
needs to read  
what you have  
to write...***

**The difference between your sponsor and a therapist:**

1. Your sponsor isn't all that interested in the "reasons" you used.
2. Your therapist thinks your root problem is your lack of self-esteem, negative self-image, and your poor self-concept. Your sponsor thinks your problem is a 3-letter word with no hyphens.
3. Your therapist wants you to pamper your "inner child". Your sponsor thinks it ought to be spanked.
4. Your sponsor thinks your inventory should be about you, not your parents.
5. Speaking of your parents, your sponsor tells you not to confront them, but to make amends to them.
6. The only time your sponsor uses the word "closure" is before the word "mouth."
7. Your sponsor thinks "boundaries" are things you need to take down not build up.
8. Your therapist wants you to love yourself first; your sponsor wants you to love others first.
9. Your therapist prescribes caretaking and medication. Your sponsor prescribes prayer making and meditation.
10. Your sponsor thinks "anger management skills" are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.
11. Now that you haven't used in six months, your therapist thinks you should make a list of your goals and objectives for the next five years, starting with finishing up that college degree. Your sponsor thinks you should start today by cleaning the coffeepots, helping him carry a heavy box of literature to the jail, and making your bed.
12. Your sponsor won't lose their license to practice if they talk about God.

## Concept VII

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

This concept deals with the balance of power. Our Board of Trustees is incorporated in the state of New York. They have the legal authority to carry out the affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Our Conference Charter isn't a legal document meaning that all our General Service Conference can do is make advisory actions. Our Board can veto these advisory actions if they feel the need to do so. So where's the balance?

Are you getting nervous yet? It really is a delicate balance of power because we have to remember that the "ultimate authority" of our world service affairs is the groups themselves as our Second Tradition and our First Concept remind us. Alcoholics Anonymous is self supporting through its own contributions. We hold the purse strings and a board has very little to manage if there's nothing there to fund it. Without the support of the groups, nothing can happen.

If, therefore, in the years ahead, the Conference will always bear in mind the actual rights, duties, responsibilities, and legal status of the General Service Board, and if the Trustees in their deliberations will constantly realize that the Conference is the real seat of ultimate service authority, we may be sure that neither will be seriously tempted to make a "rubber stamp" out of the other. We may expect that in this way grave issues will always be resolved and harmonious cooperation will be the general rule.

Yours in service,  
Terry L

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*The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated*

**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.**

**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](mailto: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 or 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

**Events**

**The Big Meeting** :Saturday August 22nd 2009

At The New Village Recreation Center 20 Wireless Road Centereach, NY

**2009 Share-A-Thon:** Sunday October 25th 2009 - St. Joseph's CollegePatchogue, NY

**Third Legacy Committee**

InterGroup's Third Legacy Committee was formed to promote service work beyond the group level. We have brought together several former Intergroup Chairs, General Service DCMCs and service committee chairs to take commitments to speak at 12<sup>th</sup> Step meetings, Traditions meetings or group business meetings. These speakers bring a wealth of experience of service work and of applying the principles of our Fellowship in the outside world.

If you are responsible for booking these types of meetings for your group, see us at the exchange meeting, call the SIA office at 654-1150 and leave a message for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legacy Chair, or reach us on the Internet: [thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org)

**Note:** Suffolk General Service maintains a separate list of Traditions speakers which can be obtained at the monthly meeting in Rocky Point

**Meeting changes**

**The Stony Brook Women's Step Meeting** that meets at the Stony Brook Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Nicholls Road on Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m. is sad to announce the group will be disbanding and the meeting will be closing.

**The Greenlawn Village Group** that meets at: Bethany Presb Church in Huntington Station has changed the group name to: Huntington Station Bethany Group.

**The Greenlawn Huntington Station Group** That meets at the Knights of Columbus On Boulevard Ave in Greenlawn has added a step meeting on Friday Afternoons at 1:30PM

**The Patchogue group** that meets at St. Joseph the Worker church in E Patchogue has changed it's Saturday Meeting time from 2:00 PM to 1:00PM