



## Suffolk Intergroup Association

# Bulletin

December, 2009

Volume 36 Number 8

### January Meetings & Events

**January 5<sup>th</sup> SIA office-7:30 PM\***SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

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

**January 11<sup>th</sup> 8:15PM**  
(400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville)  
LI Committee of Young People in AA

**January 12<sup>th</sup> Cornell Cooperative, Riverhead**  
**7:00 PM** SIA Orientation  
**8:00 PM** SIA Meeting

**January 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point-8:00 PM** GSO Meeting

**January 20<sup>th</sup> SIA Office 7:00 PM**  
Public Information Mtg.

**January 27<sup>th</sup> 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.*

### Take a Commitment

Thank you for allowing me to serve. It was 2 years ago that I took this commitment to be the Publisher for the SIA Bulletin. In that time I've truly learned how Service plays such a powerful role in Sobriety. I can honestly say that there where a couple of times that I nearly gave up but didn't and for that I'm so Grateful. After this December publication I will rotate out of this Commitment along with my fellow SIA Committee Chairs and Officers. I sincerely hope to find another commitment in Our Fellowship that will be as fulfilling as this one has been. I encourage anyone who would like a Commitment in AA to attend the next SIA Meeting: January 12<sup>th</sup> at the: Cornell Cooperative in Riverhead.

I know I'll be there...Thank you and God Bless

*Chris W.*

## 82

That's the number of groups that never responded. 13 groups told us that they would be meeting on Thanksgiving. 4 groups called to say their meeting was cancelled. When you needed a meeting that day- Did you go to one of those 82?

Please don't let this happen on Christmas and New Year's. Call the Intergroup office if you meet on a Thursday or Friday.  
(631) 654-1150

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

**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...***

**From the Archives**

On December 11, 1934, Bill Wilson bought four bottles of beer which he drank on the way to Towns Hospital. That was the last drinks he would ever have. A few days later on the 14<sup>th</sup>, in a deep dark depression, Bill cried out in agony for God to reveal himself. It was then that he had this profound spiritual experience. He met with his doctor, Dr. William Silkworth, thinking surely he had lost his mind. But the good Doctor told him that whatever had happened had changed Bill and to stick with it. Bill stuck with it and by the time he discharged from Towns on the 18<sup>th</sup> he was already carrying the message to drunks in New York. And the message he carried was carried to others who carried it to others right down to us today and we, in turn have the responsibility of carrying it others.

What a wonderful story. Why not help us save the history of Alcoholics Anonymous here in Suffolk County. Contact the Archives Committee today. One of the stories you help save today could very well help save someone's life someday...maybe yours. Have a blessed, sober holiday.

## Concept XII

***General Warranties of the Conference: in all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principal; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or as an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and actions.***

This is important stuff. We won't be ruled or governed by our conference, we'll be responsible with our money, we won't have any "bosses", decisions will be made by discussion and vote, we'll keep to ourselves concerning outside issues and we'll remain democratic and treat each other with love and respect.

"No penalties to be inflicted for nonconformity to A.A. principals; no fees or dues to be levied – voluntary contributions only; no member to be expelled from A.A. – membership to always be the choice of the individual; each A.A. group to conduct it's internal affairs as it wishes – it being merely requested to abstain from acts that might injure A.A. as a whole; and finally that any group of alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group provided that, as a group, they have no other purpose or affiliation." \*\*

What we're talking about here are the enormous freedoms we have as a society. Great lengths were taken to ensure the freedom and voice of all members through this concept. A lot of members refer to the Traditions as "rules" by which the groups survive but when we spell them out as in the paragraph above, we see that in reality, they are the great freedoms given to us to survive.

"The sum of these several attitudes and practices is, in our view, the very essence of democracy – in action and spirit. Freedom under God to grow in His likeness and image will ever be the quest of Alcoholics Anonymous. May our General Service Conference be always seen as a chief symbol of this cherished liberty. To a man, we of A.A. believe that our freedom to serve is truly the freedom by which we live – the freedom in which we have our being." \*\*

\*\* Reprinted from *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, with permission from AA World Services Inc.

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.**

**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

## **Amityville County Line Group**

Will be holding its annual Holiday Meeting Marathon with a meeting each hour beginning at 7 pm Thursday December 24th with the last meeting kicking off at 7 am Christmas morning.

The County Line meeting place is:  
Simpson Methodist Church  
30 Locust Avenue in Amityville, NY.

Take County Line Rd. to Sunset (immediately north of Sunrise Highway);  
take Sunset around bend to the church.

### **New meeting**

**401 Main Street, Islip  
10AM Group**

**Saturday morning at--- you guessed it 10AM**

**This new Meeting will alternate between the Big Book and As Bill Sees It**