



## Suffolk Intergroup Association

# Bulletin

February 2010

Volume 36 Number 10

### March Meetings & Events

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> SIA Office**  
**7:30 PM** SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

**March 4<sup>th</sup> SIA Office**  
**7:00 PM** Archives

**March 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville**  
**8:15 PM** L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

**March 9<sup>th</sup> Cleary School,**  
**Lake Ronkonkoma**  
**7:00 PM** SIA Orientation  
**7:00 PM** Share-A-Thon Meeting  
**8:00 PM** SIA Meeting

**March 13<sup>th</sup> SCCC**  
**8:00AM** Speaker Exchange

**March 13<sup>th</sup> SIA Office**  
**\*9:00 AM** Treatment Facilities

**March 17<sup>th</sup> SIA Office**  
**7:00 PM** Public Information

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Trinity Lutheran Church,**  
**Rocky Point**  
**8:00 PM** GSO Meeting

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

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### Welcome

First let me start by apologizing for the absence of a January Bulletin. I'm new to this commitment and I dropped the ball. It will not happen again. I am happy to serve as the Bulletin Chairperson and will keep you apprised of various goings on within Suffolk County A.A.

I implore you all to send me announcements, stories, thoughts, personal anecdotes, events, and anything else that concerns Alcoholics Anonymous.

I will be at the SIA Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, at which time you can give me your submissions for the Bulletin; or you can e-mail me at [bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org).

The deadline for submissions for the following month is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the previous month. (i.e., for March's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by February 25<sup>th</sup>)

*Glad to be in/of service. - Debbie P.*

*Step Two* – Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

*Tradition Two* – For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.

*Concept Two* – The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

**All of the above are the "Short Forms" of the respective Steps, Traditions, and Concepts.**

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**SIA Officers & Chair people 2009-2010**  
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**New Meetings!**

Beginner's Meeting  
 Temple Beth El  
 45 Oak Street, Patchogue  
 Thursdays at noon

**Meeting Changes!**

The Brookhaven Women's  
 Group Tuesday night  
 meeting start time  
 has been changed from  
 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

**\*Treatment Facilities  
 Meeting Time Change  
 (for this quarter only)**

The next meeting will be held  
 on Saturday, March 13th at  
 9:00 a.m. at the SIA Office in  
 Patchogue. Coffee and bagels  
 will be served. Institutional reps,  
 chairpersons, and speakers are  
 all invited.

**From the Archives**

*Each month I will be printing a group history sent to me by the Archives Chair. It is strictly his and his committee that will choose which one to send in. This is something that will perhaps spark some interest in neighboring groups and some interest in the Archives mission as well.*

**HUNTINGTON SUNDAY AFTERNOON**

Episcopal Church, Prospect Avenue and 25A, Huntington, NY

The Huntington Sunday Afternoon group began in the late 1970's in the Village of Lloyd Harbor. Barbara M., Artie, Jim C., Frank V., Ellen B., Scott S., Jim K., and Kathy K. were among the first early members. It met at Friends World College off School Lane in the library of a house along the harbor with a circular driveway. Inside were fancy couches and chairs that created an intimate atmosphere where there was serious sharing. It was a closed meeting. After four years they moved to a new, simpler location in the basement of St. John's Episcopal Church, next to the school building. Smoking was permitted then as it was in all groups at the time. The meeting was open. In the mid 1990's a Big Book study started for a few years.

In 2001, the group merged with the Monday night meeting at the same location. The new group was the Huntington Happy, Joyous and Free Group that exists today. The Sunday Afternoon meeting still meets upstairs and serves a great need. In the 1980's and 1990's people strolled down Main Street to the Huntington Village Diner afterwards for a bite to eat.

*Compiled by Jim C. 2004, SIA Archives Committee*

## HUNTINGTON HAPPY JOYOUS AND FREE GROUP UPDATE:

On December 19th, 2009, the Huntington Happy Joyous and Free Group celebrated a pre-Christmas Holiday Meeting. There were two hundred participants who enjoyed the chance to be among friends and fellow alcoholics to share warmth and love that for many had been lost in earlier seasons overshadowed by addiction and alcoholism.

In spite of oncoming blizzard conditions, the doors were open at six o'clock, the tables set with Holiday ornaments, and the food was served to the spirited attendees. The menu was Italian delicacies: trays of sausage, chicken, ziti, salads and the table went on and on with no one left to hunger. Dinner was followed by deserts: cakes, endless trays of cookies, crème brûlées, and of course, the obligatory, never ending pot of coffee would follow.

Not a glum face was seen in spite of the cancellation of the guest speaker. Moods were light with laughter punctuating sentences. A sense of relief hovered about, as friends talked to friends, not a care in the world, because on this night all were sober, sane and with the help of God and each other. This feeling of togetherness lasted well into the morning, buoying spirits with hope and joy for the rest of the Holiday season.

Rich from Long Beach stepped to the podium to fill in for the missing speaker. He spoke from the heart about the memories which brought him to his knees some thirty three years ago. He spoke freely, sharing his journey which showed that no one has to be alone in the fight against addiction. He spoke of communal problems that we all share and that none of us were condemned to a life run dry, when the bottle is empty if we fight our addictions together. The meeting ended at eight thirty. The blizzard winds were screaming in fury. Snow swirled onto the streets already covered in three inches of snow. The attendees left knowing that the weather would cease to rage, the ground be cleared, and a sober, white Christmas was on the way. It felt like that promise made to you as a child, except tonight it was remarkably close to coming true.

And so it goes.

Thank you for your contribution Huntington Joyous and Free!

This history and others like it can be viewed at [www.suffolkaaarchives.com](http://www.suffolkaaarchives.com)

*John C., Archives Chair*

## ARCHIVES CALLING

Archives Calling to the tune of Vienna Calling by Falco. Remember him, the Austrian pop star who did Rock Me Amadeus? Set it to any tune you like. We're calling. Photographers, researchers, typists, filers, interviewers, organizers and anyone and everyone who's no longer partying like it's 1999. Oh, wait...that's Prince. Any and all who are sober members of our great collective; the spirited bunch of Alcoholics Anonymous who desire to give some service to our community – yes, that's you in Kings Park, Rocky Point, Commack, West Neck, Malverne – East End or West, North or South of ol' Long Island, New York. We need You desperately!

Are you interested in history? Do you love listening to the stories in the rooms? The stories are the people, and you are a part of your group's history. So, help keep you, and your group alive! We need records and updates of what's happening in your neck o' de woods of Sob Ri of ty. In fact, if you have any memories about your group or any other Suffolk County group that you could send to us, please do and keep A.A.'s wonderful history current and happening. Also, we need photos of the Friends World College and many other meeting places.

So, join us at our monthly Archives Committee Meeting, the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the SIA Office on Terrell Street in Patchogue. We'll be waiting there on Electric Avenue, where we're gonna take it higher. For Tee totaling History!

*By Lucinda K.*

**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.**

**Treatment Facilities Open Commitments:**

John J. Foley Center in Yaphank - Friday at 3:00 p.m.

Pilgrim State in Brentwood - Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (MICA population)

**HUMILITY - On his desk in Akron, Dr. Bob kept a plaque that defined *humility*:  
"Perpetual Quietness of Heart"**

It is to have no trouble.

It is never to be fretted or vexed, irritable or sore.

To wonder at nothing that is done to me.

It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised.

It is to have a blessed home in myself where I can go in and shut the door

and kneel to my Father in secret, and be at peace, as in a deep sea of calmness

when all around and about it seemingly trouble.

**Grapevine News**

**Newest Grapevine Book Available – A Rabbit Walks into a Bar - \$9.95 each**

A collection of the best jokes and cartoons over the decades that have appeared in Grapevine. With chapters that cover topics from "The Drinking Life" and "Newcomer in AA" to "Life in AA" and "AA Wit and Wisdom," readers will find plenty to laugh about. Plus, a special chapter is devoted entirely to Victor E., Grapevine's classic and lovable recovering alcoholic character. Guaranteed to tickle your funny bone, alcoholic or not.

**Call for Articles**

**The AA Grapevine** is your meeting in print. If you would like to share a story with them please keep in mind that they need to receive it at least three months prior to publication. The Grapevine welcomes articles on every aspect of recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous. They are always glad to get stories about helping others and working with professionals. In addition, they 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

Does your group need any literature? Why not come to the SIA Meeting to take care of all of your literature needs? Big Books, Step Books, and everything else that is A.A.W.S. approved can be purchased there.

Need any Grapevine materials? You can also purchase those at the SIA Meeting.