



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

July 2010

Volume 37 Number 3

August Meetings & Events

August 5th SIA Office
7:00 PM Archives

August 3rd SIA Office
7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

August 10th Cleary School, Lake Ronkonkoma
7:00 PM SIA Orientation
7:00 PM Share-A-Thon Meeting
8:00 PM SIA Meeting

August 9th
400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville
8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

August 20th Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point
8:00 PM GSO Meeting

August 18th SIA Office
7:00 PM Public Information

Congrats to the Archives Committee for throwing such a wonderful bash on Saturday, June 19.
Food was absolutely delicious and the fun and fellowship were a-plenty.

"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.

The Share-a-thon theme is
Living in the Solution.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 17, 2010 to attend the Share-a-thon at St. Joseph's College in Patchogue.

If your group doesn't have a Share-a-thon Rep, please encourage someone to come to the meetings (second Tuesday of every month directly before the S.I.A. Meeting) to represent your group.

If there is anything you want printed in the Bulletin, the deadline for submissions for the following month is the 25th of the previous month. (i.e., for August's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by July 25th). You can e-mail me at bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org or call the office and leave me a message. Thanks.

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

Vic F. of the Port Jefferson Group passed away on June 5. He celebrated 46 years in April. This AA will be sorely missed.

Did the A.A. Hotline save your life?

Do you, or someone you know, have an inspiring 'Hotline Story' you'd like to share with us? You can either send it directly to me, or to Janet (Answering Service Chair). See Page 2 for contact info.

31st Annual New York State Informational Workshop will be held August 6, 7, & 8, 2010 at Graymoor Spiritual Life Center. Check the website for further details. <http://www.aa.suffolkgs-ny.org>

Step Seven – Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition Seven – Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Concept VII – The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

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

SIA Officers & Chair people 2010-2012
631-654-1150 www.suffolkny-aa.org

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Official email address</u>
Chairperson	Richie N.	Chairman@suffolkny-aa.org
Alt Chairperson	Liz T.	alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org
Treasurer	Maria C.	treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org
Corresponding Sec	Lisa M	corsec@suffolkny-aa.org
Recording Sec	Vikki B.	recsec@suffolkny-aa.org

Committee Chairs

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Official email address</u>
Archives	John C.	archives@suffolkny-aa.org
Bulletin	Debbie P.	bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org
Corrections	Raymond	correct@suffolkny-aa.org
General Service	LC	sgso-liason@suffolkny-aa.org
Grapevine	Richard W.	grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org
Literature	Rosemarie S.	books@suffolkny-aa.org
Meeting List	Norbert M.	meetings@suffolkny-aa.org
Public Information	Bob W.	pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org
Schools	Krista K.	schools@suffolkny-aa.org
Share-a-thon	Chris W.	share@suffolkny-aa.org
SIA Office Manager	Mike F.	siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org
Special Events	Dorothy F.	specevent@suffolkny-aa.org
Telephone Hotline	Janet O.	phones@suffolkny-aa.org
Third Legacy	Dean J.	thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org
Treatment Facilities	Karen D.	treatment@suffolkny-aa.org
Webmaster	Steve W	webmaster@suffolkny-aa.org

Port Jefferson Big Book is pleased to announce the June celebrations of Kay McD-21 years and Tom C-11 years on Thursday, June 17th.

We will also be celebrating Dolores K's first anniversary on July 8th as well as the anniversaries of Glenn H.- 25 years, Pete V.-13 years, Elizabeth H. -4 years, and Nat - 48 years on July 15th. All celebrations will be held at 8 PM at Mather Hospital Conference Room 3. Please join us in this wonderful blessing.

Does your group have any extra Grapevines lying around? The AAs in jail enjoy reading them despite how old they are. The stories and the messages of hope for a new beginning are relevant no matter what decade they were printed. Drop them off at the S.I.A. Office for Ray, or bring them to the S.I.A. Meeting the second Tuesday of the month.

Here are just a few interesting facts about Alcoholics Anonymous that happened throughout history during the month of July:

- 1939, July 4 – First A.A. meeting started in Flatbush, New York.
- 1943, July 24 – L.A. press reports formation of all-Mexican A.A. Group.
- 1940, July 8 – First A.A. Group formed in Dayton, Ohio.
- 1940, July 23 – Philly AA's send 10% of kitty to Alcoholic Foundation, sets precedent.
- 1941, July 20 – First A.A. group formed in Seattle, Washington.
- 1950, July 28-30 – First A.A. International Convention held in Cleveland, Ohio. Twelve Traditions adopted. Dr. Bob made last appearance at large A.A. gathering.
- 1965, July 2 – "Best of Bill" and Pocket-Sized "12 and 12" first sold.
- 1965, July 2-4 – 30th Anniversary of A.A. in Toronto. Adopted "I Am Responsible."
- 1975, July 4-6 – 40th Anniversary of A.A. in Denver, Colorado. World's largest coffee server serves ½ million cups a day.
- 1980, July 3-6 – Gay AA's have own program at 40th A.A. Anniversary in New Orleans.
- 1993, July 2 – 50 years of A.A. celebrated in Canada.

ICYPAA- the International Conference of Young People in A.A. is coming to NY!

A New Life- the 52nd ICYPAA will be held in Times Square August 26-29, 2010! The number of young people suffering from alcoholism who turn to A.A. for help is growing, and ICYPAA helps to carry A.A.'s message of recovery to alcoholics of all ages. This meeting provides an opportunity for young A.A.'s from all over the world to come together and share their experience, strength, and hope as members of Alcoholics Anonymous. A.A. members who attend an ICYPAA return home better prepared to receive young people who come to A.A. looking for a better way of life. For more information about the conference visit <http://www.icypaahost.org/>.

From the Archives This history and others like it can be viewed at www.suffolkaaarchives.com.

Wyandanch Group

Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Church Parish Hall 1434 Straight Path

In 1953, Joe M., Joe G., and Leo D. left the Amityville Group. Their goal was to start a new meeting on a different night than the Amityville Group met. Clint F., who came into A.A. in 1948, would lead the first closed meeting in the new group. Jim C., who sobered up in 1970, remembers taking Leo D.'s groceries to his car in the late 1960's. Jim worked in Wyandanch and was in the heyday of his own drinking; much done in Wyandanch.

The group began to grow. It is interesting to note that black A.A. members were scarce in Suffolk County. Wyandanch had a diverse community. In the 1970's, the group consisted of mostly white alcoholics. Jim C. noted this and wondered where all the black alcoholics were. After all, he had seen many blacks drinking while he worked at the grocery store near the tracks on Straight Path.

Well, today the group is made up of mostly black members. Their Sunday night closed meeting still meets. Their Beginners meeting is held on Wednesday at 7:00pm. Their open meeting used to meet on Wednesdays at 9pm, but now meets on Fridays at 7pm. Group Anniversaries include food and dancing.

Information provided 2005 S.I.A.

Joe S. Remembers

I called Joe S, a long time member of the Wyandanch Group, who is currently residing in Largo, Florida, to talk about his years in A.A. He first learned of A.A. in 1961 through another alcoholic and started going to meetings, but didn't believe he was one of "us". He came around for 3 or 4 years, but stayed "on the fringe" sitting in the back, not getting involved, and had several relapses. During that time, he went to meetings in Lindenhurst, Wyandanch and Babylon. He said that Willie Mae started the Babylon meeting in the kitchen of her home. During Christmas of 1963, he had a bad accident (he was a black-out drinker) and finally surrendered and called for help. Doug, Danny and Andy of the Wyandanch Group 12-stepped him and took him to Freeport Hospital for B12 shots. They also took him to meetings. By the grace of God, Joe had his last drink on May 4, 1964 and Doug became his sponsor for the first ten years of his sobriety.

Family members were encouraged to attend Open A.A. meetings and the Wyandanch Group had 35-40 group members at that time. He purchased his first Big Book early in sobriety, but ended up giving it away to another in need. Joe said 12-stepping was big in A.A. in his early years and he often made 3 or 4 calls a week. He had brought prospects to his home, but his wife frowned upon that practice after putting up with him for years. For the most part they made house calls to the prospects, staying with them in shifts, day and night. Some they took to hospitals, but made sure they got to meetings. He misses the 12 step work because it helped him to remember the past.

When Joe started in A.A., he felt that the Traditions were followed more to the letter and had more importance than they do today. He explained that all were welcome at meetings as long as they had a desire to stop drinking, but only problems relating to alcohol were allowed to be discussed at meetings. Joe also said there were no Open Discussion meetings in the early days. For the most part, "how not to drink today" was discussed at meetings. Joe's advice to a newcomer is basic - get a sponsor, home group, and commitment - share and tell your story. Joe feels that God and A.A. saved his life. He still sponsors A.A. members.

We also discussed alcoholism as a disease and Joe remembers that in 1967 or 1968 the AMA recognized it as a disease.

Information provided 2008 S.I.A.

If your group wants to donate coffee to the Share-a-thon, you can drop it off at the S.I.A. Office in Patchogue, or you can bring it to the S.I.A. Meeting the second Tuesday of each month.
Please check the website for location information.

There are still two openings for Alternate Chairs at the Men's Yaphank Jail. They are Monday from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Please contact Raymond (Corrections Chair) if you are interested.
E-mail: correct@suffolkny-aa.org or Phone: 631-654-1150

**LICYPA is having a Luau on July 31 at Robert Moses Field 3.
Arrive early – food all day. Beach meeting at 4:00 p.m.
Join us for fellowship and fun in the sun!**

**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.**

"An AA group, as such, cannot take on all the personal problems of its members, let alone those of nonalcoholics in the world around us. The AA group is not, for example, a mediator of domestic relations, nor does it furnish personal financial aid to anyone. Though a member may sometimes be helped in such matters by his friends in AA, the primary responsibility for the solutions of all his problems of living and growing rests squarely upon the individual himself. Should the AA group attempt this sort of help, its effectiveness and energies would be hopelessly dissipated. This is why sobriety - freedom from alcohol - through the teaching and practice of AA's 12 Steps, is the sole purpose of the group. If we don't stick to this cardinal principle, we shall almost certainly collapse. And if we collapse we cannot help anyone."

(Letter from Bill W dated 1966 and quoted in "As Bill Sees It", page 79)

Meeting changes, updates, and additions that were made to the Meeting List this month:

Zone 1: *Embracing Sobriety* – Embrace Yoga, 84 West Main St., East Islip - Date and time change from Tuesday at 9:15 to Sunday at 7:00. *A Vision for You* – Unitarian Universalist Church, 109 Browns Road, Huntington, Thursday 7:30 S is being removed from the meeting list. *Melville Whitman Group* – St. Elizabeth Center, 175 Wolf Hill Rd., Melville - The 7:00 CD meeting is being removed.

Zone 2: *Rocky Point Unity Group* – Parish Resource Center, 89 Hallock Landing Rd., Rocky Point – Adding 11 a.m. *S (*T on last Sun) on Sunday; Monday 6:30 B and 7:45 CD are being replaced with 7:30 B; Friday 7:45 OD & 9 BB are being replaced with 7:30 BB.

Zone 4: *Mattituck Men's Meeting* – Episcopal Church, 13225 Sound Ave., Mattituck - Adding a 7 MBB* (*S last Fri) on Friday night. *New Beginnings* – Our Lady of the Isle Catholic Church, Shelter Island Heights - Relocating to Shelter Island Presbyterian Church, 32 North Ferry Road, Shelter Island. – Adding a 7 MBB* (*S last Fri) on Friday night.

Please check website for all updated meeting list revisions and additions. Thanks. DP

Keep watching for information on the
6th Annual International
Seniors In Sobriety (S.I.S.) Conference
next year (May 12-15, 2011),
which is being held on
Long Island for the first time.

More will be revealed.

HOW TO FIND A SPONSOR

Eeny, meeny, miny, moe;
I need a sponsor for I am ready to go.
Manny, Moe, or Jack? I guess Moe;
I've had too Manny, and I don't know Jack.

Submitted by Joseph (formerly of Bay Shore)

It's back! The monthly archive notice, that is. Calling all interested writers, photographers, organizers and storytellers. Come join us every first Thursday of the month on Terrell Street in Patchogue at 7 o'clock. Really! The drive's delightful. Music on your radio and the recently revealed New York State license plates in that yellow hue to read if the bumpers get cozy. What's to stop you? Better than a drink. You betcha!

So, we're shouting out to the temperance totting denizens on the Island of Long, in the towns and burbs of Suffolk in the grand old A. of A., to join us. We'll be chatting. About things like our recent Open House. We give good party! And, of course, plans for the Share-A-Thon, and getting more historical news, updates, clarifications, recommendations, certifications and verifications. The last not to be confused with an Affidavit of Service; we ain't that legal, yet.

While you're pondering service [boy, it's the best way to anchor sobriety!], peruse our website at www.suffolkaaarchives.com. There are pictures, histories, a slide show, links, an artifacts' page, and current events as well as information for any history gatherers among you as to how to write one. Sign our guest book or read the Twelve and Twelve.

Join us in our Noble Service Enterprise! So, think about it and remember the first Thursday at 7:00 PM, SIA Office on Terrell Street in Patchogue. *Submitted by Lucinda K.*