



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

December 2010

Volume 37 Number 8

January Meetings & Events

January 6th SIA Office

7:00 PM Archives

January 4th SIA Office

7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

January 10th

400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville

8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

January 11th Cornell Cooperative

Extension in Riverhead

7:00 PM SIA Orientation

8:00 PM SIA Meeting

January 20th SIA Office

7:00 PM Public Information

January 15th Trinity Lutheran

Church, Rocky Point

8:00 PM GSO Meeting



Something I heard at a meeting – *"I come to this meeting to learn from others who have come before me, how to become a woman of Grace and Dignity."*

"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.

Dear Readers,

The SIA office has all AA Literature for sale, at cost. Office hours are 9-3 Mon – Fri and 9-1 Sat. Call (631) 654-1150 or email books@suffolkny-aa.org to place your order (Cash or Check only). If you wish to place an order, please do so by emailing or calling 2 weeks before the monthly SIA meeting and I will do my best to accommodate. Otherwise you can pick up your order at the Suffolk Intergroup office during normal business hours. We have Big Books, Step Books, Living Sober, Daily Reflections and much more. Most books are available in large print, pocket sized and foreign languages. We stock all pamphlets and also have signage, regional directories, and other service resources. If your group doesn't have a literature chairperson, get one!

New Items from AA World Services:

Alcoholics Anonymous- Fourth Edition (Abridged- first 164 pages) Audio CD

Price: \$18.00 each

2010 Souvenir Book- AA Comes of Age, 75 years- San Antonio- Soft Cover

Price: \$7.00 each

2010-2011 Edition, AA Service Manual/12 Concepts for World Service

Price: \$3.55 each

60th General Service Conference Report- 2010 Final Report

Price: \$2.00 each

"Let literature carry the message, too!"

Love & Service, Rose (Literature Chairperson)

Let's welcome Ed L., the new Corresponding Secretary, to our happy A.A. home.

Step Twelve – Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Tradition Twelve – Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Concept XII – The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

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

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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 January's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by December 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.

Looking for additional support during the holidays? Or maybe you just want to give back. Remember these can be tough times for some. You don't have to do this alone! The One and Only in Smithtown will be meeting on both Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

We meet every Saturday afternoon at 3:15 at the St. Thomas of Canterbury Church on Brooksite Drive (across the street from St. Andrews where Smithtown Serenity meets.)

How about checking it out and give this meeting some support!

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

- 1934, December – Bill & Lois start attending Oxford Group meetings.
- 1934, December 11 – Bill admitted to Towns Hospital for the 4th and last time.
- 1934, December 12 – Bill has Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital.
- 1934, December to May 1935 – Bill works with alcoholics, but fails to sober any of them. Lois reminds him that HE is sober.
- 1938, December – Twelve Steps written.
- 1939, December – First A.A. group in mental institution, Rockland State Hospital in New York.
- 1939, December – First home meeting in Los Angeles at Kaye M.'s house.
- 1939, December 19 – Los Angeles holds its first A.A. meeting.
- 1940, December – First A.A. group formed in St. Louis, Missouri.
- 1940, December – Cleveland has about 30 A.A. groups.
- 1940, December 1 – Chicago Daily Tribune begins a series of articles on A.A.
- 1941, December 11 – Dallas Morning News reports first A.A. group formed in Dallas.
- 1950, December – Grapevine article signed by both Bill and Dr. Bob recommend establishing A.A. General Service Conference.
- 1955, December – 'Man on the Bed' painting by Robert M. first appeared in Grapevine. Painting originally called 'Came to Believe'.
- 1975, December 10 – Birds of a Feather A.A. group for pilots is formed.
- 1985, December 5 – Dave B, founder of Montreal Group dies weeks before 50th anniversary. His story was added to the 4th Edition Big Book.

NECYPAA XXI in MAINE

New England Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous December 31, 2010 – January 2, 2011 - Preregistration is \$15.00.

Please visit www.suffolkny-aa.org/events/aaevents.php for additional information and flyer.

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

AMITYVILLE FRIENDLY GROUP, 1ST Methodist Church, 30 Broadway, Amityville

The Amityville Friendly Group was started sometime in the mid to late 1940s. The group first met in Amityville at a women's house. The address of the house is lost to history, as well as the women's name.

This information was learned in 1960 when the group wanted to hold a group anniversary and didn't know how many years it was celebrating. A member named Henry D. was assigned the task of investigating. Henry called Alcoholics Anonymous World Services in New York. They found a letter from a woman dated February 1945 stating that she had started or wanted to start an A.A. group and they could meet or were meeting in her home. This is the basis of the group's foundation date.

Henry told me that the group then moved to Massapequa Park's Village Hall and met there for several years. A member of the group named Hal, who was a mover and shaker in the town of Amityville and a member of the 1st Methodist Church, was instrumental in the group's moving to the 1st Methodist Church at 30 Broadway in Amityville. The group has met at this location ever since or at least to the date of this writing.

In January of 2006, I went to the offices of A.A. World Services in New York, seeking to verify Henry's information and to learn any other facts to add to this history. I was unable to find the letter that Henry referred to but I was unable to go into the "locked room" where they keep the oldest records. A clerk looked for me but was unable to find it.

They did however, have a folder with a few scrapes of paper pertaining to our group. I was not allowed to copy them, due to our anonymity rule. The earliest date was January 19, 1948; listing our meeting at the Massapequa Village Hall: Wednesday 8:30 Closed and Saturday 8:30 Open. There was another paper dated January 3, 1950 with the same information. The paperwork then skips to 1987, listing Tom G. as Chairman and Rufus M. as Secretary. As of this writing, Tom G. is still an active member of the Friendly Group and Rufus M. is active in another group. (Archives Committee note: Rufus passed away a year ago or so). It would seem that our information is fairly accurate. The group was started in the 1940s, in Amityville, moved to Massapequa Park prior to 1948 and moved to the First Methodist Church sometime between 1950 and 1955.

Charlie S., February 22, 2006 (as told to me in part, by Henry D., now residing in Hobe Sound, Florida.)

SIA Archives Committee Update April 2009

December Archives Notice

Wondering if this monthly archival notice is going to go its usual way? Wry, spritely and tart? Well, that last adjective – hmmm...it could, but won't. Christmas is a time of year that used to sag. The glitter of the trinkets, lighted branches, the dream of snow and Ho-ho-ho: No, I'd say. But things change. My third sober Christmas and I feel better about the whole ordeal – it's only a day, they say. One day a time, they say too. And you don't have to do it Alone. Look back, but don't stare, and reach out to another who may be stuck in the muck of the past. So what the solution?

December 2, 2010 at Seven of the clock on Terrell Street in Patchogue, the Archivists are having a party. Come and join the fun and fizzy drinks [without the gas] and food. The A.A. archives gave this writer her foothold into sobriety her first year when she desperately needed something to do. [Nice how I slipped into 3rd Person] And, boy-oh-boy did they have work! It was just what I needed and maybe you, too. Gathering, sorting, filing, photographing, writing histories of the sober world can take your mind off yours!

Join up. Every first Thursday of the month on Terrell Street the Archivists await You. If you're curious check the website at: www.suffolkaaarchives.com.

Be an Architeer! Best thing I ever did. And remember what Santayana said about history: "Those who don't know it are doomed to repeat it."

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.**

Suffolk Intergroup Association
PROPOSED 2011 Operating Budget

| | Actual YTD | 2010 Projected | 2010 Budget Total | 2011 Proposed |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| <u>INCOME</u> | | | | |
| Collections | \$ 540 | \$ 719 | \$ - | \$ 740 |
| Grapevine | \$ 730 | \$ 973 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 1,020 |
| Group Contributions | \$ 45,790 | \$ 61,053 | \$ 65,750 | \$ 62,180 |
| Literature | \$ 20,514 | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 | \$ 31,500 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 59 | \$ 79 | \$ 500 | \$ 80 |
| Total Income | \$ 67,633 | \$ 92,825 | \$ 99,250 | \$ 95,520 |
| <u>EXPENSES</u> | | | | |
| SIA Operating Expenses | | | | |
| Cablevision | \$ 522 | \$ 696 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 840 |
| Computer | \$ 430 | \$ 573 | \$ 950 | \$ 600 |
| Insurance | \$ 51 | \$ 68 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 1,890 |
| Leased Equipment | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,320 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | \$ 1,425 | \$ 1,900 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,000 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 366 | \$ 488 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 510 |
| Officer Expense | \$ 396 | \$ 528 | \$ 300 | \$ 550 |
| Postage | \$ 198 | \$ 264 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 1,200 |
| Rent - Cleary School | \$ 350 | \$ 467 | \$ 600 | \$ 630 |
| Rent - Office | \$ 9,500 | \$ 12,667 | \$ 14,000 | \$ 13,000 |
| Supplies | \$ 729 | \$ 972 | \$ 700 | \$ 1,020 |
| Service Contracts | \$ 60 | \$ 80 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 250 |
| Telephone | \$ 549 | \$ 732 | \$ 1,000 | \$ 840 |
| Utilities | \$ 3,079 | \$ 4,106 | \$ 4,000 | \$ 4,400 |
| Total Operating Expenses | \$ 17,656 | \$ 23,541 | \$ 30,150 | \$ 29,050 |
| Committees | | | | |
| Hot Line/Answering Service | | | | |
| Telephone | \$ 694 | \$ 925 | \$ 800 | \$ 960 |
| Supplies | \$ 562 | \$ 749 | \$ 800 | \$ 700 |
| Bulletin | \$ 3,020 | \$ 4,027 | \$ 4,500 | \$ 4,200 |
| Meeting List | \$ 9,954 | \$ 13,272 | \$ 16,000 | \$ 14,400 |
| Archives | \$ 1,756 | \$ 2,341 | \$ 2,200 | \$ 2,300 |
| Big Meeting (See Note) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,000 |
| Bylaws | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 300 | \$ 1,000 |
| Conventions | \$ - | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,100 |
| Grapevine | \$ 372 | \$ 495 | \$ 3,000 | \$ 1,000 |
| Corrections | \$ 1,522 | \$ 2,030 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,500 |
| Literature | \$ 25,682 | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 | \$ 31,500 |
| Public Information | \$ 501 | \$ 668 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 700 |
| Schools | \$ 27 | \$ 35 | \$ 300 | \$ 40 |
| Share-A-Thon | \$ 50 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,000 | \$ 2,630 |
| Special Events | \$ 74 | \$ 99 | \$ 500 | \$ 600 |
| Special Needs | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 100 |
| Third Legacy | \$ 69 | \$ 92 | \$ 300 | \$ 100 |
| Treatment Facilities | \$ 338 | \$ 451 | \$ 1,200 | \$ 470 |
| Webmaster | \$ 119 | \$ 159 | \$ 200 | \$ 170 |
| Total Committee Expenses | \$ 44,740 | \$ 59,843 | \$ 69,100 | \$ 66,470 |
| Gifts and tips | \$ 35 | \$ 47 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Late Fees & Interest | \$ 54 | \$ 73 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Sales Taxes Paid | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Grand Total Expenses | \$ 62,485 | \$ 83,385 | \$ 99,250 | \$ 95,520 |

NOTE: SIA hosts the Big Meeting every other year.