



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

February 2011

Volume 37 Number 10

March Meetings & Events

March 1st SIA Office
7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

March 3rd SIA Office
7:00 PM Archives

March 8th Cleary School for the Deaf in Ronkonkoma
7:00 PM SIA Orientation
8:00 PM SIA Meeting

March 12th SCCC, Parking Field #7
8:00 AM Speaker Exchange

March 12th S.I.A. Office
9:00 AM Treatment Facilities

March 14th
400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville
8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

March 16th SIA Office
7:00 PM Public Information

March 18th Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point
8:00 PM GSO Meeting



Suffolk Intergroup Association

SPECIAL EVENTS INVITES YOU TO

AA Q&A!

A fun afternoon of
Alcoholics Anonymous trivia Questions and Answers

QUESTION: When?

ANSWER: Saturday, February 26, 2011

QUESTION: What Time?

ANSWER: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

QUESTION: Where?

ANSWER: Suffolk Intergroup Office
113-8 Bay Ave, Patchogue, NY

Please RSVP by Saturday, February 19th
by Emailing Special Events Chair Joanne Z. specevent@suffolkny-aa.org
or Calling Suffolk Intergroup Association 631-654-1150



This is a FREE event

Coffee and snacks will be served



If you have any questions about this event you can call Suffolk Intergroup Association 631-654-1150 or Visit www.suffolkny-aa.org or Email Special Events Chair Joanne Z. specevent@suffolkny-aa.org

"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.

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. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Concept II – 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.

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 March's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by February 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.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change; the courage to change the one I can; and the wisdom to know that it's me.

The One and Only Meeting of Smithtown will be re-locating temporarily to the Parish House of St. Thomas of Canterbury while renovations are being done to the church basement. The church is installing an elevator which will make this meeting wheelchair accessible. We meet every Saturday afternoon at 3:15. Come join us!

DID YOU KNOW?

That the YP in LICYPAA, ICYPAA or any other acronym containing YPAA has nothing to do with chronological age? That's correct. Young People means Room to Grow! It's just that LICRTGAA doesn't flow as easily from the tongue as LICYPAA does.

February Archives Notice

Snow is on the ground, yellowing in spots. Mountains of black ice abound. Birds and beasts bicker round the half empty feeders. The squirrels hang upside down guzzling the last bit of seed. Dropping temperatures slick any residual melt. Taxes loom. Kids' college applications tick, time bombs of financial doom. Ain't no carnival to cut through the mid-winter gloom. What's a soul to do? Have a drink? Nah, that's over, done and dead. So how 'bout service to brighten up the dark? Yes, that's Service with a capital S.

Be part of a Team, a Band of Brothers and Sisters collecting the stories of the sober passage of time. Come on, breaks the regular meeting-makers-meeting drudge. No drunkalogs, literature readings or rant. Just archivists gathered together sorting, filing, photographing, writing and designing sober histories for the web.

Every first Thursday of the month at 7:00 P.M. on Terrell Street in Patchogue is the meeting of the Suffolk Archivists. If you're curious check the website at: www.suffolkaaarchives.com.

Be an Architeer! Best way not to repeat yours is to know and read the history of the groups of Alcoholic Anonymous. Join us. We got 'em. Hot off the press. Remember what Santayana said about history, "Those who don't know it are doomed to repeat it." ~ Lucinda K.

Thanks for supporting the Grapevine and A.A. Literature in Suffolk County.
 Grapevine sales last year were \$1,095.00 and Literature sales were \$30,000.
 We couldn't do it without you. Thanks for buying and spreading the A.A. message in print.

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

MELVILLE GROUP, King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2601 New York Avenue, Melville

According to co-founder Ray, the original people responsible for getting this group up and running were Tony Z., Mary U., and Jim J., most of whom were from the Huntington Group. There were no meetings on a Saturday evening and this group was created to fill that void. The only Saturday night meeting in the immediate area was in East Northport. The Melville Group started in 1982.

The format decided upon was novel at that time. The focus of the meeting would be the Alcoholics Anonymous magazine *The Grapevine*. Ray believed there were no other meetings like this to be found in Suffolk County at the time. The group would use the current issue of the *Grapevine* and the leader would pick an article from that issue — so every meeting had its own different topic each week. Every *Grapevine* has a theme each month which made it easier for the speaker. The articles are usually very short and to the point which also made it easier. After the leader reads a paragraph the reading continues around the room. After the speaker shares it is open up for others to share also.

Tony Z. was a member of King of Kings Lutheran Church and spoke to the pastor about using the church for a meeting. They had a bet that if Tony beat the pastor at golf, he could start the meeting there. Since the group meets at the church, it's fair to see who won the golf game although the meeting would have probably met there anyway.

The church board, however, was a bit apprehensive about letting the meeting start. "We also had a member on the board" who, while keeping his anonymity, helped tip the vote in favor of the group; "he was our secret weapon".

The group first started on Saturday night and within six months added a Monday night meeting. Then they branched out to two meetings on Tuesday night. For quite a while there was a core of 5 or 6 people attending the meeting as others would come and go. But over time beginners came in and adopted the group. So as they say, the rest is history.

In 2009, they added a young people's meetings on Saturday. Young people in the group were looking for a place to socialize and bring other young A.A. people in the area. "We definitely recognized the need...and it has been very successful".

The Melville Group meeting room has a nice collection of handmade signs, each of which has its own story. The sign that seems to be a favorite of the group says "It just keeps getting better". It came from a newspaper advertisement for Jaguar (the car) and "we just decided to hang it up because we liked the saying". Another sign made by co-founder Tony got a little ragged over the years and has since been laminated. There is a collection of slogan signs donated by Mary U. who has become a legend of sorts in the Huntington area. She helped many people over the years stay sober and although she has since passed away, she will always be known affectionately as Black Mary.

Interview with co-founder Ray, November 2009

The Suffolk General Service Archive Committee is actively seeking materials from previously held Unity Breakfasts held in Suffolk County. If you have any of the following items and would care to add them to our Unity Breakfast Archive, please contact Cyndy F. at archives@asuffolkgs-ny.org.

Flyers from the 2nd, 7th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 13th Unity Breakfast

Tickets from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th Unity Breakfast

Bookmarks from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 10th Unity Breakfast

Place Setting Programs from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th Unity Breakfast

Thank you in advance for your efforts to complete our Archives!

In love and service,

Cyndy F.

SGS Archive Chairperson

Does your group have an S.I.A. Representative? If not, please send one to the next S.I.A. Meeting, which is held the second Tuesday of every month. Check out the website for more information. <http://www.suffolkny-aa.org/>

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.



Something he heard at a meeting – *“If you see a turtle on top of a fence post, you know he’s had help.”*

NHSCYPAA XII will be held Friday, Feb. 25, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. through Sunday, Feb. 27, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at the Courtyard Marriott in Nashua, New Hampshire. Check out website for more details: www.nhscypaa.org or www.suffolkny-aa.org/ .

What’s Your Message

What did I hear when I first came to A.A.?

You have a disease that is incurable.

The disease will progress and lead you to jail, mental institutions, or death.

We stay sober one day at a time.

We should join a home group and get a sponsor.

We must do the 12 steps.

We must find a relationship with a Higher Power.

We must get involved in service to others.

Bill W. told us that we have a daily reprieve based on our spiritual condition.

Why did Bill W. and the early members of A.A. tell us we need to serve others?

Early A.A. members suggested that we serve others so we can take the focus off ourselves. By doing service and working with other alcoholics, we can consider it an honor anytime God places a still suffering alcoholic in our path.

Don H., Amherst Snyder Group, from New Frontiers

Suffolk General Service of Alcoholics Anonymous presents the **14th Annual Unity Breakfast** on Sunday, March 6, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at East Wind Inn & Spa Grand Ballroom. 5720 25A Wading River, New York. (Breakfast Buffet for \$19/person.) For additional information please call LC at 516-903-1550 or Rob M. 516-633-0999, or visit www.aasuffolkgs-ny.org .

LICYPAA presents LASER TAG

Saturday, February 19, 2011

9:30 PM - MIDNIGHT

L. I. Laser Bounce

2710 Hempstead Turnpike • Levittown

Join us for just pizza & soda for \$3

\$12 per person includes:

3 games laser tag and 20 arcade tokens

Check out licypaa.org or call/text: Events Chair - Vinny @ 516-426-4976 or Events Co-Chair - Alison @ 516-974-7740 for more information.