



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

August 2011

Volume 38 Number 4

September Meetings & Events

September 6th SIA Office

7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

September 10th Babylon Student Center, Parking Field #7, SCCC, Selden

8:00 AM Speaker Exchange*

September 10th SIA Office

9:00 AM Treatment Facilities Meeting*

September 12th

400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville

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

September 13th Cleary School in Ronkonkoma

7:00 PM SIA Orientation

7:00 PM Share-a-thon

7:00 PM Hotline Captains Meeting*

8:00 PM SIA Meeting

September 16th Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point

8:00 PM SGS Meeting

September 21st SIA Office

7:00 PM Public Information

September 28th SIA Office

8:00 PM Archives

*denotes that committee meets quarterly

Something I heard at a meeting –
“A.A. opened the gates of hell and let me out.”

“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.

Celebrating
Sobriety through Service

Open to the Public
 Sobriety Countdown
 Professionals Welcome
 Food, Fun and Fellowship
 Learn How AA Works In The Community

Alcoholics Anonymous
 SIA / SGS

presenting
THE Big Meeting

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
 Saturday - August 13, 2011

True North Community Church
 1101 Lakeland Avenue Bohemia NY
 Contact Joanne/Tom 631-447-9230

Step Eight – Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

Tradition Eight – Twelfth Step works should always be nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Concept VIII – The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

SIA Officers & Chair people 2010-2011
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	Ed L.	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
Big Meeting	Joanne & Tom C.	bigmeeting@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
Hotline/Answering Serv.	Janet O.	phones@suffolkny-aa.org
Literature	Rose	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	George C.	share@suffolkny-aa.org
SIA Office Manager	Mike F.	siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org
Special Events	Joanne Z.	specevent@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

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 September's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by August 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.

**Just For Today Group
in North Babylon is
celebrating their
25th Group
Anniversary on
Thursday,
September 15, 2011.
Food & fellowship at
7:00 p.m.; speakers at
8:00 p.m. Please join
in the celebration.**

HELP WANTED

SIA LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Call (631) 654-1150 or email books@suffolkny-aa.org

Be part of the solution! Learn more about A.A. books, pamphlets, AV and service material. Join the SIA Literature Committee! Our literature is focused on the three legacies assure that our primary purpose remains the focus for successful A.A. groups and members.

“Recovery, Unity, Service- these are the Three Legacies given to the whole membership of A.A. by its founders and their fellow old timers.” (A.A.’s Legacy of Service, Bill W., 1969)

A.A. LITERATURE- “Let literature carry the message, too!”

The Suffolk County Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous cooperates with the General Service Office to offer groups AA literature at cost. Literature can be purchased at the Suffolk Intergroup office during normal business hours; 9-3 Mon – Fri and 9-1 Sat. Call (631) 654-1150 or email books@suffolkny-aa.org to place your order or check availability. We accept cash or checks. Most items can be purchased at each monthly SIA meeting on a first come- first served basis. **Advance notice on book orders is appreciated and usually accommodated!**

Suffolk County Intergroup stocks Big Books, Step Books, Living Sober, Daily Reflections and much more. Most books are available in large print, pocket sized and foreign languages. We have all pamphlets as well as signage, audio/visual materials, committee workbooks, regional directories, and other service resources.

Your home group’s literature representative makes certain that A.A. Conference-approved books and pamphlets are on hand for meetings and properly displayed. A literature rep can obtain more information on their responsibilities by writing to the literature coordinator at G.S.O. If you are the literature representative for your group, make sure you have a copy of the latest AA Conference approved literature catalog, which can be viewed at http://www.aa.org/lang/en/en_pdfs/aacatalog.pdf. If your group does not have a literature representative, consider volunteering!

-Love & Service, Rose

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

Port Jefferson, Mather Memorial Hospital, 75 N. Country Road, Port Jefferson

The group originally met at the Infant Jesus church. The first meeting place was the boiler room and the room had dripping pipes.

The founder of the group may have been Frank X. McF. According to a long time member, Bill, he was known to one and all as Two Fingers Frank, because he was once a demolition man. At least he was the original contact person for the group when it registered in 1981. The meeting first listed in the Suffolk County meeting list in February 1981.

Bill discussed other early members: "Jesus Joe", he used to get up in the front of the room and exhort "if you don't get God, you're going to drink". There was a fellow who was part of the Kennedy White House -a very intellectual person -a professor. His job was to get the cake for anniversaries and he came back with a rum cake. It was discovered in time, so no one's sobriety was compromised. There was another guy who was about 85 years old and used to tell stories about how he still went out caribou hunting.

The group left the original meeting place at Infant Jesus church because of parking problems. If there was an event at the church, you couldn't find a parking spot any place in the area. Then there were these little benches we sat on in the cafeteria. It was like sitting on a grate.

We moved over to Christ Church on Barnum Avenue around November 1999 and it turned out to be a disaster, due to a conflict with church personnel. One by one the old timers started to drop out of the group.

For the last few years the group has been meeting at Mather Hospital. Usually they meet in the conference room, but that is no guarantee.

Start of a tradition:

We had this group member who was a very prestigious, famous scientist and he struggled with the concept of a higher power. He never let it stop him from his quest for sobriety and serenity though. He would share about it often, and I think he finally resolved this seeming paradox with the idea that in science, the proof is in the pudding so to speak. I tried it, it works; hypothesis is proved. Anyway, several months before his tenth A.A. anniversary, he died after a protracted battle with prostate cancer. He died sober.

At the wake, our group's tradition of passing down coins from one member to another came alive. A group member had recently celebrated 11 years, and had that tenth year coin in her purse. Why not? We conferred, and the group conscience led us to slip the coin into our friend's coat pocket. And we sent him off with a fitting tribute to his sobriety.

Phone interviews with Bill June 10, 2006 and
February 14, 2007
With Update April 2009
SIA Archives Committee



FROM THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

Ever stop to think and reflect? What if two alcoholics had not come together on the eventful day on May 11, 1935 when Bill W. reached a cross roads and found himself craving a drink while on a business trip in Akron, Ohio?

What if the original meeting of Dr. Bob and Bill lasted fifteen minutes as proposed by Dr. Bill rather than the hours that went by at that first meeting, eventually leading to the formation of Alcoholics Anonymous as we know it to be this day?

Have you ever thought of recovery in these terms; as it applies to you and your own home group? What if that hall was not down the street? What if that man had not reached out his hand to me as I walked through this door?

Chances are we would be back in the bar or some unlit room, hidden in shame and guilt, removed from the guiding light of sober thinking, passed down to us by those who came before. We know this to be true as someone or somebody took the time to 'take notes' to record these occasions. We learn so as not to repeat the past.

Please help us in our attempt at enriching and preserving the wealth of accumulated knowledge found here in the rooms of Suffolk County A.A. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. at the SIA Office in Patchogue. Give what you can and as a result feel 'part of'. Come share with us and all those who seek clarity in their life of recovery.

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.

Is the history of your group waiting to be told, and immortalized for the rest of the world to know?

In an effort to complete our collection of Suffolk A.A. histories, members of the Suffolk County Archives Committee are reaching out for your support and contributions enabling us to preserve your groups' histories for present and future members of A.A. Each month we will publish a list of home groups, based on zones, whose history has yet to be recorded. (This means we have no history of those groups that are being printed.) We hope you will add to our collection by calling us at 631-654-1110 or emailing us at histories@suffolkaaarchives.com. After an initial contact from your home group, we will then make arrangements to collect your history and publish your information to our website located at www.suffolkaaarchives.com. Thanks for your cooperation. - The Archives Committee

ZONE 5: AMAGANSETT – Amagansett Group, Indian Wells, Men Of Value, Summer Only: **BRIDGEHAMPTON** - Keep It Simple, Sharing Sober and Free, Women's Literature Study: **EAST HAMPTON** - Keep It Green, Sober Women's East, Springs Fireplace, Women's Step: **SOUTHAMPTON** – Big Book, Hill Street Blues, Southampton Group, Wednesday Night Step: **WAINSCOTT** – Lincoln and Lee - Active: **WATER MILL** – Keep it Simple, Watermill Beainners.

**Happy,
joyous
& free**

Suffolk Intergroup Association (SIA)
Hosts
2011 share-a-thon
St. Joseph College Patchogue NY
Sunday - October 16, 2011
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Directions: 124 West 2nd Street, Patchogue, NY 11772
FROM THE EAST - Travel west on Sunrise Highway (Route 27) to East 52 - Turn left at the first light onto Waverly Avenue, over the overpass, then turn left again at the next light onto the Sunrise Highway service road. The College entrance and parking facilities are located 1,000 feet to the right.
FROM THE WEST - Travel east on Sunrise Highway (Route 27) to East 52 - Waverly Avenue. Continue on the Sunrise Highway service road. The College entrance and parking facilities are located 1,000 feet beyond the traffic light, past Waverly Avenue. Veterans Highway, Patchogue Harbour Road and Terrace Road are the best routes from the north shore of Long Island via the Long Island Expressway (I-495).

Suffolk Intergroup Association • Special Events

FELLOWSHIP FUNDAY

Sunday, August 14, 2011 @ 11am

WILDWOOD STATE PARK
North Wading River Road, Wading River, NY 11792

Bring your own food... Meeting @ 2pm

We will provide *bbq *charcoal *water

*ketchup *mustard *paper goods

Rain date 8-21-11



To RSVP or ask questions about this event
Call Suffolk Intergroup Association 631-654-1150 or
Visit www.suffolkny-aa.org or
Email Special Events Chair Joanne Z. specerevt@suffolkny-aa.org
This is a FREE EVENT, however Wildwood charges \$10 per car
to park unless you have a state park pass

If your group doesn't have a Share-a-thon Rep. the good news is that it's not too late. Send them to the next meeting on 9/13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cleary School in Ronkonkoma. The bad news is that if you don't have a rep., your group will be left out of being a part of the most fellowshiping event of the year!