



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

October 2011

Volume 38 Number 6

November Meetings & Events

November 1st SIA Office

7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

November 14th

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

November 8th Cleary School for the Deaf in Ronkonkoma

6:30 PM SIA Orientation

6:30 PM Share-a-thon

7:30 PM SIA Meeting

November 18th Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point

8:00 PM SGS Meeting

November 16th SIA Office

7:00 PM Public Information

November 23rd SIA Office

8:00 PM Archives



Something I heard at a meeting – “Detachment doesn’t mean denying compassion.”

(Thought for the Day 8/30/11)

“The Bulletin”

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WANTED

Energetic members of A.A. willing to serve. Should have knowledge of the 12 Steps and Traditions and also may consider their application in your life. Elections for the officers in S.I.A are to be held in November of this year. The pay is that A.A. might continue to grow and serve the alcoholics in and out of A.A. in our county. I have heard that this is something that we are responsible for. Come one, come all, and join us as we trudge the road to happy destiny. From the Chair, Richie N.



SUFFOLK INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

Special Events

INVITES YOU TO AN Autumn Nature Walk

Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 9:00am

With meeting to follow around 11:00am

(Rain date: Sunday, October 23, 2011 9:00am!)

At Blydenburgh County Park ~ Smithtown, NY

Enter on the north side of Veterans Memorial Highway

Opposite the H. Lee Dennison Building. Follow signs to

Boat Rental area ~ this is where we will begin & end the walk

This is a FREE event! You can bring a picnic lunch if you like



Questions about this event?
Call Suffolk Intergroup Association 631-654-1150 or
Visit www.suffolkny-aa.org or
Email Special Events Chair Joanne Z. specevent@suffolkny-aa.org

Step Ten – Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Tradition Ten – Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Concept X – Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

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

SIA Officers & Chair people 2010-2011
631-654-1150 www.suffolkny-aa.org

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Committee Chairs

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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 November's Bulletin, you would have to get the information to me by October 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.

Someone once said...

"There comes a time in your life, when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it.

You surround yourself with people who make you laugh. Forget the bad, and focus on the good.

Love the people who treat you right, avoid the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy.

Falling down is a part of life, getting back up is living."

DON'T FORGET THE SHARE-A-THON ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE IN PATCHOGUE! IT'S ALL DAY SO MAKE IT AN ALL-DAY AFFAIR.

Looking for a service commitment?

There are open Hotline Captain positions for the following Districts:

District 100 - Centereach, Coram, Farmingville, Medford, Selden, and Terryville.

District 200 - Cutchogue, Greenport, Mattituck, Orient, Southhold, and Aquebogue.

Please contact Janet at phones@suffolkny-aa.org if you are interested.

Save the date!

There will be a Literature Workshop/Brunch at Cornell Co-op on Sunday, Nov. 20th. This will be joint event with S.I.A Third Legacy and Suffolk G.S. Service Participation Chair. We will have literature presentations from Rose, the S.I.A. Literature Chair, and the G.S. Literature Chair. 10:00 a.m. - fellowship and Literature DVDs; 11:00-12:30 Workshop.

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

West Islip Day by Day Group, Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church, 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip

This group was founded on March 17, 1973 by a group of nine men and one woman from the Candlewood Group in Brentwood. That group was a splinter from the original Brentwood Group which then had over 200 members. It is first listed in the Suffolk meeting list in August 1974. The nine men were from West Islip, North Babylon and Deer Park areas.

The group originally met for a few meetings in the home of member Jack F. Jack was active in his parish church (Our Lady of Lourdes) and was mentored by a Sister Diane in the CCD program. Sister Diane initiated the idea of using the basement room of the convent as a possible meeting place if the pastor agreed. After discussion, Jack and Joe L. approached the pastor to ask his permission to bring A.A. to his church. He gave his permission.

They began operations with an open meeting on Tuesday and a closed step meeting on Saturday night. It was made a closed step so as not to compete with the Islip Group's big Saturday night open meeting. Shortly after, a 7pm beginner's step was added and today that is often standing room only filled with young A.A.'s. Recently, the Monday night Big Book switched places with the Saturday step meetings.

The group has evolved as it grew to 40/50 members. They have a steering committee that rotated leadership of officers and chair people to teach the job requirements. Over the years, members left and formed the Easy Does It Group of W. Islip, the 12 Steps of Peace in Central Islip, the 12 Steps of Hope in Brightwaters and the Babylon Main Street group.

The group has had many unforgettable characters. One, a President of a local union, was a dynamic personality and generous with his time, energy and money. He found jobs for many once unemployable newcomers. When he died, sober, he was honored with a plaque placed on the wall which was the start of a tradition. Those members who died sober are so honored.

The group anniversary has grown big enough to be held in the school cafeteria where 200 to 400 people attend. We have a good speaker, home cooked food and dancing with a DJ till midnight. Traditionally they handed out a wallet size card with the promises, the 3rd and 7th step prayer and the Serenity prayer to all who attend.

There are three original members left with only one who attends regularly. Several have died and others joined different groups. Slowly numbers are up with a total of 44 present members. Four meetings are held a week with exchange speakers coming in and our members going out three times a month. Not enough members are available to man the phones but there is always hope. The plaque on the wall behind the speaker's table states: "Whenever anyone anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. to be there." The group has been faithful to the best of its ability to do exactly that.

Submitted to the S.I.A. Archives Committee, 2004



FROM THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

The Lord's Prayer is often attributed to the teaching of Jesus and finds "Biblical Reference" in the Gospels of both Mathew and Luke. Clearly its origins are Christian based. Yet in many AA meetings, the Lord's Prayer is often recited either at the beginning of each meeting or closes each meeting with resound.

So then, how can a program of recovery that teaches tolerance, define its spiritual base in the beliefs of one Christian Document?

According to Bill Wilson, in a letter written in 1959, "the Lord's Prayer" was considered a "custom" that was practiced at the close of each meeting of the Oxford Group. In time, this benediction was adopted by newly formed AA groups whose reliance on a Higher Power could be found in this type of ritual.

As Archivists we find this type of knowledge not only to be useful but intricate in the daily maintenance of sobriety as practiced by Alcoholics Anonymous.

If you feel as we do come, join us and become a member of SIA's Archives committee.

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at eight o'clock at the SIA building in Patchogue.

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.

LITERATURE

COMING SOON- A.A. DIGITAL APPS



**For the BIG Book and Twelve & Twelve,
In English, French and Spanish,
For iPhone and Android users!!!**

As some of you know or may even have in your possession, there are AA Apps being sold online that are NOT authorized by AAWS. The distribution of these “**bootleg Apps**” is potentially detrimental to our fellowship. This is stolen material, plagiarized from our basic text and someone is out there making a profit on it. Income from the sale of Conference-Approved books has always been an important factor in the support of our General Service Office, frequently insuring the continuation of those services when contributions from local groups were inadequate. If what you’re reading is not “AA General Service Conference Approved Literature” Alcoholics Anonymous has not reviewed the content. It could be a false, distorted, inappropriate representation of our principles.

The 61st General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in the United States and Canada met in May 2011, right here in New York City. The theme was “**We Are Responsible for A.A.’s Future—Let It Begin with Us.**” The 61st General Service Conference Report is now available and will have copies for sale at the office for \$2 each in 1-2 weeks. Your group’s GSR may already have one. This year we have moved towards the production of our own **digital Apps** so that we may provide the Fellowship with a portable, electronic version of the Big Book and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. At the present time, we can view the Big Book and the Twelve & Twelve in English, Spanish and French at aa.org. There is an option to view the books in an interactive format, or to view/save PDF files of each chapter in each book. <http://www.aa.org/bigbookonline/>.

As the Literature Rep for Suffolk Intergroup, I cooperate w/the General Service Office to offer your groups AA literature at cost. Literature is available for sale at here at our monthly SIA meeting on a first come- first served basis. Advance notice on orders is appreciated and usually accommodated. Please contact me at least 1 week before the monthly meeting if you want to pick up a large quantity of books, and allow 2 weeks to pick up special items. Literature can be purchased at the **SIA office** during normal business hours; **9-3 Mon – Fri and 9-1 Sat. Please call (631) 654-1150** or email books@suffolkny-aa.org to place your order, to check availability and to make sure the office is staffed with volunteers before you travel. We accept cash or checks. If you need to purchase books with a credit card you can do so directly with AA World Services; the form is inside the literature catalog which you can get at SIA, or at aa.org.

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. Currently, the Big Book has been translated into **61 languages**. We have all pamphlets as well as signage, audio/visual materials, committee workbooks, regional directories, and other service resources. If you are the literature representative for your group, make sure you have a copy of the latest AA Conference approved literature catalog. The 2012 catalog will be available for you at the next SIA meeting. If your group does not have a literature representative, consider volunteering!

In Love & Service,
Rose

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