



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

May 2012

Volume 39 Number 1

June Meetings & Events

June 5th SIA Office
7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

June 11th
400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville
8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

June 12th Cleary School for the Deaf,
Ronkonkoma
6:30 PM SIA Orientation
6:30 PM Share-a-Thon
7:30 PM SIA Meeting

June 19th SIA Office
7:00 PM Public Information
**Date has changed from 3rd Wed to 3rd Tues

June 15th Trinity Lutheran Church,
Rocky Point
8:00 PM SGS Meeting

June 27th SIA Office
8:00 PM Archives

Happy Spring!



SIA Special Events Presents:

"Take a walk on the WILD Side" @ Wildwood State Park

Saturday, May 19th at Wildwood State Park
Hulse Landing Road in Wading River

It's time to Explore, it's time to get some Fresh Air, it's time for another "Hike"! There will be an Open Discussion Meeting prior to the Event at 8:30AM with Hike to follow at 10:00AM. Coffee and donuts will be provided for the meeting! Water will be provided also as usual! We will explore this beautiful park with high bluffs overlooking the Long Island Sound! We will be guided through the trails of the "Wildwood State Park" by our friends at the "Greenbelt Trail Conference". We will meet at the main parking lot, near the comfort stations. Please note there may be a parking fee without a NYS Empire Pass.

Directions: Long Island Expressway to Exit 68. Go North on Route 46, to Route 25A East. Turn Left onto Sound Avenue, then Left at the traffic light onto Hulse Landing Road. The park entrance is on the right.

Contact Special Events Chair Paul H. at specevents@suffolkny-aa.org

Special Events will be holding its committee meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm at the SIA Office in Patchogue, 113-8 Bay Ave, (entrance on Terrell St.)

Spanish District 114 is hosting **Bridge to a New Life**, 28th Day of Sharing on Sunday, June 10, 2012 at St. Joseph's College, 155 West Roe Blvd., in Patchogue beginning at 9:00am.

Spanish to English translation will be available. There will be breakfast, lunch, dinner and dancing! For more info, call 631-456-9793, 631-935-4921, or 631-575-1156.



"Catchy Quotes"

"An expectation is just a resentment waiting to happen."

"I came to AA to save my butt, and found that my soul was attached."

Please submit your "catchy quotes" to: bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

"The Bulletin"

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Step Five – Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition Five – Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Concept V – Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

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

SIA Officers & Chair people 2012-2013
631-654-1150 www.suffolkny-aa.org

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Committee Chairs

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Official email address</u>
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General Service	Mike K.	sgso-liason@suffolkny-aa.org
Grapevine	Marty F.	grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org
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Treatment Facilities	Chris W.	treatment@suffolkny-aa.org
Webmaster	Steve W.	webmaster@suffolkny-aa.org

Upcoming Events

Tri-State Round-Up 28th Annual
 "Fellowship on the River"
 May 17 - 20, 2012.

This is an annual Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) event with Al-Anon & Alateen participation held at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort Hotel & Casino. 1650 S Casino Drive, Laughlin, NV. There is a discount for registering online and for registering before April 15th.

For more info, visit:
www.tristate-roundup.com

Alcoholics Anonymous Suffolk County General Service & Intergroup Workshop

Past and current chairs will join you in roundtable discussions. Your questions about Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Jails and Institutions, AA in High Schools, Police Departments and Public Service Announcements (PSA) will be answered.

For more info call 631-651-1150. This free event takes place on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at 293 Buffalo Avenue in Lindenhurst.



FROM THE TREASURER

Thank you so much for your group contributions to Suffolk Intergroup Association. Your contributions help *Carry the Message* in so many ways!

Please include your group's name and town as it appears in the meeting list along with your group mailing address when submitting your contribution.

Vikki B., Treasurer

Are you interested in writing something for the Bulletin?

Do you wish to share your experience, strength, and hope with others?

Is your Home Group having an event you'd like announced?

If so, please email bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

*Please note:
 All submissions must be emailed by the 25th of the previous month.*

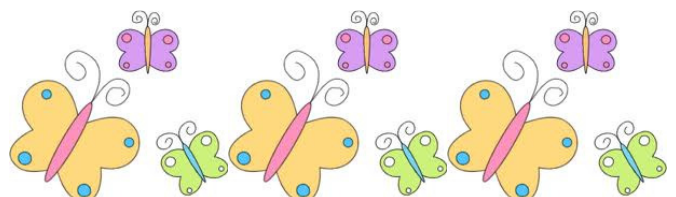


FUN CORNER!

Unscramble the words..... if you can!

1. TOUSILNO _____
2. IEPCXERNEE _____
3. GHRSETTN _____
4. EHOP _____
5. ERVEYCRO _____
6. BEOYSTIR _____

SEE BACK PAGE FOR ANSWERS



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

DOG HOUSE GROUP

VFW Post 8300, 330 N. Dunton Avenue, East Patchogue, NY

Early in 1997 three men, Bobbie E., Ray K., and Vince M., saw the need for another A.A. group.

We had noticed that at many meetings where folks read that some folks had difficulty with some of the words used in the Big Book and Twelve and Twelve. We also noticed that at discussion groups, people only had one chance to share.

After much deliberation we decided on the meeting format and the name for the new group. The name decided upon was DOG House, or God spelled backwards. We wanted the name as the program is founded on a spiritual basis. Also, we wanted the discussion topic to be random, chosen by our Higher Power and not based on anyone's favorite topic.

To accomplish this we would use the book "As Bill Sees It" to find a topic. We also felt that it would get folks more comfortable using the Big Book and 12 and 12. The random part would be selecting topics using poker chips. The page numbers in "As Bill Sees It" that referenced articles in the Big Book or the Twelve and Twelve would be written on poker chips. The topic would be based on the chip selected. We provided several copies of all three books so that everyone could read the topic and see which book it came from. The meeting Chairperson qualified by saying he or she was an alcoholic. No "drunkalog" was wanted. We encouraged folks to talk about what the topic means to them no matter how much time they had in the program.

During his time going to meetings, Vince M. started writing down words folk were having difficulty with along with book title and page number. Other members were invited to do the same. In short order we had 150 words. These words were put in a basket. At the beginning of the meeting two words were selected. The words were looked up in the appropriate books and a dictionary. The purpose was to discover the meaning of the word as used in the text. We felt this would lead to a better understanding of the program. Business meetings during the first year were very informal. It was decided that anyone present at the meeting was a group member. Any problems encountered would be brought up at meetings, discussed and resolved to become part of the Group Conscience. In 2000, the group felt it was large enough to have a "regular" business meeting. The same policy held - if you came to the meeting you were a group member and could vote on any issues brought up. The Chairperson of the Business meeting would be the meeting Chairperson. A secretary, treasurer, and literature person were selected.

In 2000, the decision was made to start a beginners meeting. We sent for the appropriate literature and decided to stick as close to that outline as possible. Old timers who attended the beginners meeting have told us that we were running the meetings as General Services recommended and were probably the only beginners meeting running that way.

Current trusted servants are: Hugh M. - Chairperson GSO, John C. - Treasurer, Lynn S. - Secretary, Gene - Grapevine (also SIA), Joe C. - Literature.
Vince M., 2006, SIA



FROM THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

First of all, let me take a moment to say it is good to be back in NY and thank the Archive Committee for all the hard work they have continued to do in my absence. I was certain that my absence would not hinder the committee because they are a cohesive group of people dedicated to preserving AA history in Suffolk County, and they proved that I was right... they continued to gather group histories and post them on the SIA Archive website, attend the Unity Breakfast and display Archives and hold monthly meetings. I am excited to start actually being a presence on the committee!

The GSO Guidelines for Archives, commonly referred to as the "yellow sheets" provides a basic outline for local archive committees to begin their own archive collections. The Scope of the Collection is a vital component for developing an archive collection that is reflective of the local area and also continues to support our primary purpose of carrying the AA message through the archive collection. Over the next few meetings, I am hopeful that the committee will come up with a group conscience on what the scope of the SIA Archives will collect.

Additionally, the other vital component to a collection is the preservation of the material that is collected. The GSO has also put out guidelines on preservation (not in the yellow sheet format) which I will discuss in a later article. In preparation for this vital work that we need to be doing as a committee, there will be a Preservation Workshop during the May Archive meeting on the 4th Wednesday of the month, May 23, 2012 at 7pm at the SIA Office. If you are interested in Archives, or in learning how to protect and preserve your vital documents for the future, come down to the SIA Office. Please note that the time is one hour earlier than the normal Archive meeting. We look forward to seeing you!

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.***





FROM THE LITERATURE CHAIR

Hello Friends,

I want to thank you all for your patience and support while I get going with my new commitment as Literature Chairman. I want you to know that we are not just about Books. Please ask your SIA Reps for our free Literature Catalogs. I guarantee that you will be surprised and possibly amazed by the variety of material and items available to us. You can also visit our AA World Services Online Store at <http://aa.org>. You can place orders with your SIA Rep or contact me, Pete H. at books@suffolkny-aa.org and pick up your order at the next SIA Meeting or at our fully stocked office in Patchogue. Always call before coming down. Address and info are on the Meeting Lists. I also welcome questions and comments.

With gratitude,
Pete H.



FROM THE AA HOTLINE

SIA Hotline Request

Many of the numbers that we are using for our 12 Step Volunteer list to accept calls from the Hotline are inoperative numbers.

At the present time our books have over 2,500 names. Many have been carried over for too long and need to be corrected. We will be sending each group new sign-up papers with the monthly SIA mailing. District Captains will be bringing them to groups when they go to fill out sign-up sheets for assigned weeks also.

Last year many groups either didn't mail them back in time or at all. This year we are starting over with **ONLY** the lists sent back to the office.

If the new book has only 200 numbers than those are the numbers we will use. It is important that the groups mail them or fax them **no later than June 25th**. Our intent is to print the new lists in July with an early August distribution.

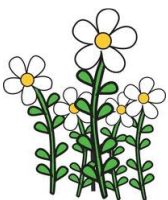
Thank you for taking the time to read this,

Hotline Chair

Meeting list corrections:

The Westhampton Group was incorrectly listed in the new meeting list.
Please note the correct dates/times are as follows:
Wednesday 7:30pm (CD, B)
Sunday 8pm (CD, S & BB - on tape)

The Little Rascals group was incorrectly listed in the new meeting list.
Please note the correct dates/times are as follows:
Mondays & Fridays at 1:00pm
Middle Country Library (Downstairs)
101 Eastwood Blvd.
Centereach, NY 11720



Please remember, we aim for *progress not perfection!*