



Suffolk Intergroup Association

Bulletin

June 2012

Volume 39 Number 2

July Meetings & Events

July 3rd SIA Office
7:30 PM SIA Officers' & Chairpersons' Meeting

July 9th
400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville
8:15 PM L.I.C.Y.P.A.A.

July 10th Cornell Cooperative Extension, Riverhead
6:30 PM SIA Orientation
6:30 PM Share-a-Thon
7:30 PM SIA Meeting

July 17th SIA Office
7:00 PM Public Information
**Date has changed from 3rd Wed to 3rd Tues

July 20th Trinity Lutheran Church, Rocky Point
8:00 PM SGS Meeting

July 25th SIA Office
8:00 PM Archives

Special Events is hosting 2 activities this month!



Are you looking to deepen your spiritual practice in AA? Then join us for a relaxing and restorative evening at our "11th Step Meditation Workshop" which will be held on Sunday, June 17th from 8:00 to 9:00pm at Embrace Yoga, 84 West Main Street, East Islip, NY (Between Harrison Ave. & William Ave. on the south side of the road) All are welcome to attend. There is NO charge for this event. Beginners are welcome!! Please RSVP 631-859-9642.

Last hike until September (taking a break for summer) on Saturday, June 23rd at 9:30am. Our monthly "Hike" series will be Exploring Fire Island with a tour starting at Parking Field # 5 at Robert Moses State Park. We will follow the scenic boardwalk to the Fire Island Lighthouse, through the neighboring community of Kismet, and then back along the beach - and of course since you're already there, enjoy the rest of your day relaxing in the sun. Bottled water will be provided. There may be a fee for parking unless you have an Empire Pass. Other than that it's a free event!



"Catchy Quotes"

"Eventually you'll stop drinking. Hopefully you'll be alive when it happens."

"Check yourself before you wreck yourself."

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

"The Bulletin"

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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.



Step Six – Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition Six – Our groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept VI – The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

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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ANNOUNCING...



Port Jefferson Big Book will be celebrating its 31st Group Anniversary on Thursday, June 14th from 7:00 to 10:00pm at Mather Hospital in Conference Room 1 & 2.

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.

A POEM

TWELVE STEPS

I stumbled going down the steps
 Of the ever narrowing tunnel ahead.
 Tried to turn aside but couldn't
 Trapped by gloom and sickness of soul.

Tripped and fell through jobs and marriage
 Crushing friends and values as I passed
 Bleeding and bruised I crashed through barriers
 Until I hit the bottom at last..

A hospital bed and a smiling face
 With a book of directions to guide the way
 Offered hope and help to bind my wounds
 With stories and steps and friendly hands.

I stumbled going up the steps
 Toward the open sky I saw above
 But a sponsors voice broke my fall
 And surrounded by friends I continue my climb.

Dedicated to Smithtown Serenity Group of AA
 By Louella M. March 2, 2012

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

East Northport Serenity

The Evangelical Covenant Church, 203 Cedar Road, East Northport, NY

Tuesday @ 7:00PM [Beginners] Thursday @ 7:00PM [Step] Friday @ 7:00PM [Closed]

The East Northport Serenity group is twenty-three years old. It began in September or October of 1986. Anita was one of the founders. The group was made up of former East Northport Valley Group members who wanted a non smoking meeting: thus it was born.

This meeting had a number of geographical relocations. The first home was at the Assembly of God Church at Elwood and Fifth Avenue which lasted for approximately two years. They moved because the church wanted them to sign paperwork regarding legal responsibility in case of injury. The next location was at the Salvation Army building at Larkfield Road and Clay Pitts Road, again lasting several years. Next, they traveled to Christ Lutheran Church on Burr Road but had to seek another home when the Church was undergoing major reconstruction.

Presently, the East Northport Group meets at the Evangelical Covenant Church on Cedar Road, East Northport where they have been for the last decade. Beginners meetings turn out large numbers of attendees and their Step meeting has remained smaller but consistent to this day.

SIA Archives

Reported by former group member Sue S. December 9, 2009

Ronkonkoma Breakfast Club

939 Johnson Ave., Ronkonkoma, NY

The Breakfast Club group of Alcoholics Anonymous was first named the "Clubhouse of Suffolk". The group was started in October 1998 by Don A. with the help of Brian D. who was also instrumental in starting the Hope House group in Port Jefferson. The name changed from Clubhouse to Breakfast Club because Traditions guidelines state a group ought not be affiliated with any outside facility.

At first, only a few people showed up, but as time went by, more came. Currently, the hall is filled with up to 50 plus people each Saturday morning. The group has several attractive qualities going for it. It is located for easy access to public transportation and is one minute from the Long Island Expressway.

Don A. registered the group with the Suffolk Intergroup Association and it was put on the meeting list. Though meetings are well attended, it continues to struggle with only a small number of core group members who do the grunt work of running the meeting. Though at times it can create a situation where a few people wear many "hats", it has been an honor to share the work of carrying sobriety's message.

The group enjoys meetings full of honest sharing while maintaining a focus on the basics of our step program. On the first Saturday of every month, there is a bagel, juice and coffee breakfast with the sober attendees and their families at the meeting.

Sometime after the above history was written, The Breakfast Club added a Monday 6:00pm Big Book meeting to its roster.

Don A.



FROM THE ARCHIVES CHAIR

Every month, Archive Committee member Dan S. reads through different group histories to choose a history that he "hopes" AA'ers in Suffolk will benefit from reading. Ultimately, as with all committees, the Archive Committee is responsible with carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. Dan has found a unique way in which we can do that by submitting these group histories for publication in the Bulletin each month.

The two group histories Dan chose this month demonstrate the finest qualities that many groups in Suffolk County share. The East Northport Serenity Group celebrates the gift of longevity despite several relocations because they have members who consistently attend their meetings. The newer Ronkonkoma Breakfast Club Group has grown as a result of those core members who keep the meeting going for all the alcoholics who may need a meeting in their area.

I have often heard it said that each of us feels our home group is the best group in Suffolk. While I am sure this is true for each of us, this month, Dan chose two groups who are living up to AA's primary purpose to carry the message. Perhaps, if you are in the area, you might check one these groups out!

For those of you who are wondering what else we do beside group histories, the Archive Committee are hard at work organizing and cataloguing our collection. I am sending out an open invitation to anyone who is interested in learning the history of SIA and the many events we have held in the nearly 40 years we've been in Suffolk, to come down to the SIA Office on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 8pm. Next month we are digging into the files to discover our history. Join us on what is going to an exciting journey. I hope to see you there.

In Love and Service, *Cyndy F.*

Come support a new group!

“Our Journey”
VFW Post 8300
330 N. Dunton Avenue
East Patchogue

Mondays 7:00pm Big Book Meeting.
Tradition Meeting 1st Monday of the month

Fridays 7:00pm Closed Discussion,
Open last Friday of the month for anniversaries

The first meeting will be Monday, June 25th at 7:00pm

Port Jefferson Big Book Group sadly announces the death of one of its founding members Bill Scott. Bill had 33 years of sobriety and was proud to share his experience, strength and hope with many people throughout the years. Until two days before his death, Bill was still attending AA meetings on a regular basis, often in great pain and always with difficulty. One never heard him complain. Bill was fond of saying, "When you walk into a meeting of AA and you hear the laughter, then you know the program is working." His greatest wish was to end the deadly cycle of this disease in his family, and it seems that his wish is coming true, one day at a time. We will miss him.



FROM THE AA HOTLINE

New 12 Step Volunteer List Deadline

Thank you to all the groups who have sent in the new Hotline Volunteer sheets. We have received 14 group forms out of 409 sent out. The new list will include only NEW NUMBERS as all old numbers will be removed from the books. The cut-off date is June 25th. After that date the Hotline Volunteer List will be printed. Please return your list immediately to the SIA Office at 113-8 Bay Avenue in Patchogue or mail them to PO Box 659, Patchogue, NY 11772-0659 or Fax to 631-654-1110 Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to remove all the "dead numbers" so we can better serve those calling the Hotline.

We are proud to announce that for the first time the Spanish Intergroup and Dist #114 covered the SIA Hotline for a couple of days. We look forward to this mutual cooperation in the future as well.

One of our members spent many hours translating the English spelling of the first 10 pages into Spanish to make it easier for those from Dist #114 handling the phones. Thank you Maggie from the Brentwood Gratitude Group for your hard work.

There will be an SIA Hotline Instructional Seminar at the SIA Office on June 20, 2012. The meeting will be at 7pm. Please call the office at 631-654-1150 to reserve a seat.

Yours In Service, 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

The Quogue Mens Tell It Like It Is group was incorrectly listed in the new meeting list.
Please note the correct dates/times are as follows:
Wed: B-6pm & M-CD 7:30pm
Sat: M-Topic 7am & M-CD 9am



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



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.

