THE SUFFOLK INTERGROUP A.A.

Volume 45 Number 1

Bulletin

Visit your Suffolk County AA Website at: http://www.suffolkny-aa.org

DAY OF HOMECOMING

Bill Wilson

"As sobriety means long life and happiness for the individual, so does unity mean exactly the same thing to our Society as a whole. United we live; disunited we shall perish." Letter, 1949

"We must think deeply of all those sick ones still to come to A.A. As they try to make their return to faith and to life, we want them to find everything in A.A. that we have found, and yet more, if that be possible. No care, no vigilance, no effort to preserve A.A.'s constant effectiveness and spiritual strength will ever be too great to hold us in full readiness for the day of their homecoming."

Talk, 1959

I am responsible.

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there.
And for that I am responsible.

Share-A-Thon 2018

This years Share-A-Thon is tentatively scheduled for Sunday Oct 7, 2018.

Although this is still several months away, we would like the groups to have as much time possible to discuss how involved they wish to be and to consider sponsoring workshops.

Bring up the "Battle of the Home Groups" at your groups business meetings. The purpose of these skits is to show that you believe your Home Group is the best!

I love the Sober me!



Notes from the Chairperson

We still need a Recording Secretary, an Office Manager and a Hotline Chair. Please contact me if you have an interest in any of these positions.

The Hotline books need to be updated and we will be working towards a July deadline at which time we will get new books made up. Please make every effort to get your groups info updated as all of the old lists will be taken out of the books, so if you don't update your group will not be in the new books.

Our committees are hitting their stride, so be on the lookout for some good things to come!

Tommy M.

We Need You!

Online Speaker Exchange:

We are currently in need of a volunteer to help manage this program. If you or someone in your group has a decent grasp of technology this commitment could be a great introduction into SIA service. We will train & assist with the duties entailed.

Contact:

OnlineSpeakerExchange@suffolkny-aa.org

Get your group it's email address:

If your group has not received its email address yet then your group has been missing out on many of the updates from the SIA Chairs regarding everything from Treatments, Meetings, Bulletins, Events and others.

Contact: <u>WebSup@suffolkny-aa.org</u> to get yours today

THIS BULLETIN NEEDS YOUR HELP! We need YOUR participation!

Please help and send in · your articles! · your experiences! · your announcements! · your comments! · your artwork, poems, photos, etc.! Send to Fran at: bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

Notice: SUBMISSION DUE DATE for July's Bulletin is June 18TH!

Send your submissions to Editor at: bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org



May Business Meetings

1st TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
Tues. 5/1/18 8:00pm

True North Community Church

1101 Lakeland Ave. Bohemia

SIA Business Meeting: 8:00 PM

Archives Committee meeting: 7:00 PM

New Group Rep Orientation: 7:00 PM

Share-a-Thon: 7:00 PM

Public Information Committee: 3rd TUESDAY

OF MONTH Tues. 5/15/18 7:00 PM SIA Office,

113-8 Bay Ave. Patchogue

SIA Officers & Chairs: LAST TUESDAY OF MONTH

Tues. 5/29/18 7:00 PM SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave.

Patchogue

Treatment Facilities Committee: 3rd TUESDAY

OF MONTH Tues. 5/18 7:00 PM SIA Office, 113-8

Bay Ave. Patchogue

Suffolk General Service: 3rd FRIDAY OF MONTH

Fri. 5/18/18 8:00 PM

New GSR Orientation: 7:00 PM

True North Community Church

1101 Lakeland Ave. Bohemia

Contact your Intergroup chairs!

Chair - Tom....chairman@suffolkny-aa.org

Alt Chair - Jean Marie

alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org

Treasurer - Lee....treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org

Corr. Sec. - Zoe corsec@suffolkny-aa.org

Recording Sec. - Vacant....recsec@suffolkny-aa.org

Answering Service....phones@suffolkny-aa.org

Archives Jack....archives@suffolkny-aa.org

Bulletin - Fran....bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

Corrections - Mary....correct@suffolkny-aa.org

Grapevine- Kevin....grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org

Hot Line - Jimmy G.....phones@suffolkny-aa.org

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Literature - Ed....books@suffolkny-aa.org

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Schools - Mike ... schools@suffolkny-aa.org

Share A Thon Ronnie.... share@suffolkny-aa.org

Special Events - Irene L.....

specevent@suffolkny-aa.org

Third Legacy - Dawn.... thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org

Webmaster - Steven websup@suffolkny-aa.org

Notice

The Lake Grove group will be closing it's doors after 28 years due to declining membership and lack of support. The last meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 9th.



Treatment Facilities Committee

We are looking for contributions for our Treatment Facilities......so what can you give?

AA books (New or Used)
Literature (New or Used)
Grapevines (New or Used)
AA Bulletins (New or Used)
AA Meeting Lists

If your group is interested in making a monetary contribution to purchase books for facilities please reach out to institutions@suffolkny-aa.org

Give all books and literature to your SIA rep or drop off at the SIA office located at 113-8 Bay Ave.

Patchogue

Treatment Chairs Wanted

We need your help bringing the message of

AA into Treatment Facilities

Does your group have a

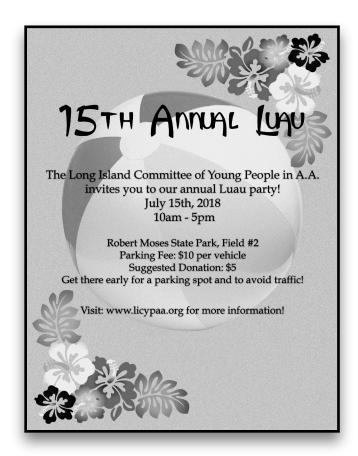
Treatments/Institutions Rep?

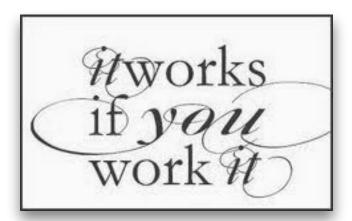
Get your group involved and take a commitment at one of our facilities as a whole group!

Meetings are held at the SIA office on the 3rd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm.

1 year sobriety required to chair a meeting at a facility.

If you'd like to speak at a facility please let me know. We have plenty of openings!







Neighborhood Sobriety St. Andrews Church 250 Neighborhood Road Mastic Beach, N.Y. 11951

In October 2005, the group's founder, Tommy Tile and another long-time AA, Bobby W were interviewed. Thanks to the two of them we have this history.

A notice about a new group, Neighborhood Sobriety, first appeared in the May 1991 Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin. St. Andrews was two doors down from where Tommy was living at the time. He thought it would be a great idea to get a meeting going on Wednesday since there wasn't one available in the area. He contacted David, a worker at the church, who enthusiastically welcomed the idea. They worked out a very liberal rental rate ("whatever we wanted to contribute would be fine").

Tommy took an old coffee pot and battered 12 and 12 shades from the Mastic Beach 12 and 12 meeting at Grace Lutheran Church. He repaired the shades with some glue and two pieces of Masonite. A girl by the name of Peggy made all the slogan signs that are set up at the meetings.

Neighborhood Sobriety expanded to twice weekly in 1992, with the addition of a Sunday 7:30 P.M. beginner meeting. That continues today. A 1994 experiment with a Friday 11:00 P.M. open meeting was very short-lived. It may have been the only 11:00 P.M. meeting in Suffolk A.A. history or at the very least one of the very few.

The West End Group had a Friday evening meeting at St. Jude's, so N.S. was asked by the church not to continue theirs. A Friday 10:00 P.M. closed discussion has since been added ---West End shut down years ago.

The meetings here had a rough and tumble reputation. Fist fights were not unheard of, in fact so commonplace, that speakers wouldn't even stop speaking when one started. Tommy and Bobby both admitted they would be in the midst of brawls themselves.

Alcoholism affects everyone it comes in touch with, as does recovery. Tommy had two dogs, Bingo and Whitey, who would attend the meetings. They would go to the meetings even when Tommy didn't. They knew what time they were and would head over, get their cookies and sit in the corner. Both dogs have long since gone to the Great Meeting in the Sky but their memory lingers on. That's how things were in the Old Neighborhood while great new sober memories are being made in the New Neighborhood.

S.I.A. Archives Committee

January 24, 2018

The Archives Committee is always looking for volunteers to help save our Alcoholics Anonymous history. Contact the SIA Office at 654-1150.







GLASS HOUSES

Individuals residing in crystalline edifices should refrain from the prodigious projection of geological fragments.

You will readily determine that what is in italics above is simply a "fancy schmanzy" way of spouting the age-old aphorism, "People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones."

Biblically it was stated this way: "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

Someone wisely suggested, "Judging others is a dishonest way of praising yourself." I understand that because usually when I denigrate another it's because

I'm not feeling too good about myself at that particular moment and in my own mind I am seeking to move myself up a notch on some imaginary scale.

My experience has demonstrated to me that in spite of my having taken a personal inventory, I do not necessarily know myself in great depth. How, then, can I possibly think I'm in a position to judge another? Yet I may catch myself doing it.

In program I've heard, "Whenever you cock your

index finger and point it at another person there are three other fingers on that same hand pointing back at yourself."

It's ironic how many times I've used the phrase "Live and let live" and yet have had little acceptance of its full meaning. It means, of course, to live my life to its fullest but it also means recognizing that I must allow the other guy to do the same. It certainly means, at least, not condemning anyone.

If I want peace in my life, I must want it for everyone else also. In denying it to one other person I rob myself of it. Imagine thinking, "Yes, I want peace for everyone except the SOB who did such and such to me." That very thought robs me of the peace I'm seeking. It is incumbent upon me to "Live and let live" without condemnation or judgment.

With each passing day in AA I'm learning more and more about forgiveness.

An ancient adage sums it up:
There's so much good in the worst of us,
And so much bad in the best of us,
It little behooves any of us
To speak evil of the rest of us.
Ed H.



Benjamin Franklin





Around the AA Campus

Whenever a meeting shuts down, it is a great loss. It's even sadder when we are talking about long established ones. Since the last Bulletin, both Lake Grove and Southampton have shut their doors for good.

Lake Grove was a mainstay for about 27 years, offering hope to all every Wednesday.

Southampton was one of the original groups in Suffolk County, founded in 1947. As other groups opted to start earlier and earlier, Southampton held out, hanging on to its Friday 9:00 P.M. meeting time. It is impossible to calculate how many alcoholics were helped during its long existence. So after a truly magnificent run of 71 years, Southampton bids us all a fond adieu.

We also say farewell to the West End's Red who left us in May. With over 50 years sobriety under his belt, his powerful presence will be missed..

If there are sad endings, there must be joyful beginnings, too. And our AA ladies are on a roll with not just one but two new women's meetings.

<u>Grace and Dignity</u> meets every Tuesday at 10:30 A.M. at the Congregational Church 95 East Main Street in Patchogue.

By the Fire meets every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. at Soulshine America 571 Mill Road in Coram

Why not offer your support and check them out?



Latest Addition to the Archives Collection

Thanks to Marian K for donating this sign from the Friends of the First 100 Group, Friends met at St. Pauls in Northport around 2011. Although it stopped meeting years ago, it provided a safe haven to explore the Big Book and helped many. The sign now hangs in the SIA Office in Patchogue.

Perhaps you are holding on to a piece of AA history and wondering what to do with it. You can share it with others in AA. Contact the Archives Committee email Archives@SuffolkNY-AA.Org or leave a message at (631) 654-1150



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.

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