

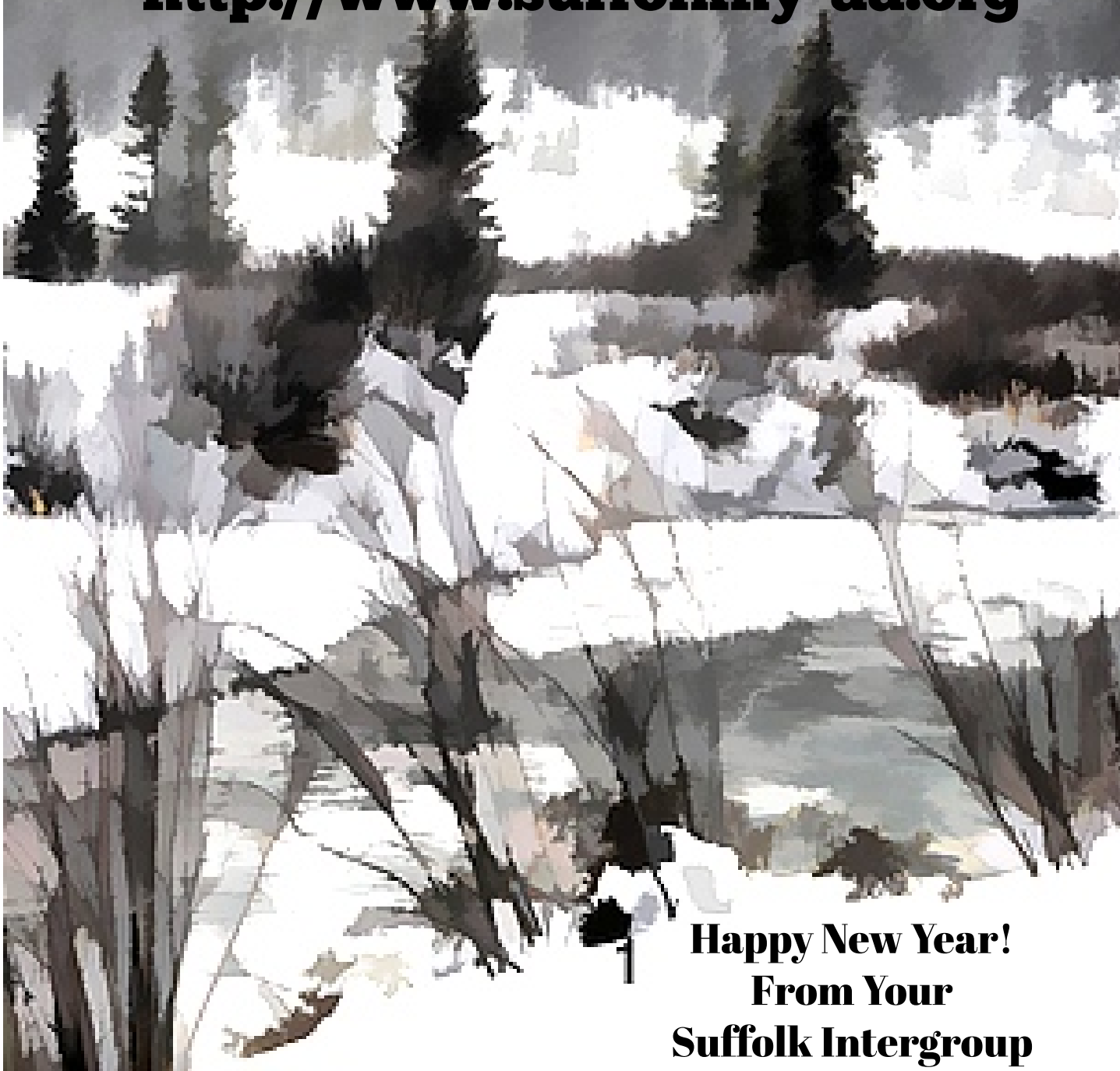
THE SUFFOLK INTERGROUP

January, 2018

**Volume 46
Number 9**

Bulletin

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



**Happy New Year!
From Your
Suffolk Intergroup**



The Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin

Notice

The Peace Of Mind Group in Deer Park weekly Big Book Meeting, which was closed for several months, has reopened.

Ascension Lutheran Church
33 Bay Shore Road

Institutions Open Commitments

Morning Star - Dix Hills - Womens
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays if the month

@ 6:30 pm

Seafield - Westhamptons

1st, 3rd and 5th Monday of the month

@ 6:30 pm

St. Charles - Port Jefferson

3rd Wednesday of the month

@ 7:30 pm

2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays @ 1:30 pm

Mental Health Facility - Brentwood

4th Monday and Wednesday and

3rd Thursday of the month

@ 6:30 pm

Catholic Charities - Commack

1st and 5th Monday of the month

@ 11:00 am

Next Chairperson meeting

Tuesday, 1/15/19

(weather permitting)

Email : Institutions@Suffolk-aa.org

A Society of Alcoholics In Action

*“Our Twelfth Step –
carrying the message – is
the basic service that the
A.A. Fellowship gives. This
is our principle aim and
the main reason for our
existence.” Bill W.*

Corrections Open Commitments

Looking for COMMITTED Chairpeople and
Speakers for the following:

YAPHANK Women's DWI

Mon, Tues, Wed 7pm Sunday 10am

YAPHANK Women's General (new)

Mon – Friday 6pm or 7pm

Sat or Sunday 10am

YAPHANK or RIVERHEAD Men's DWI &
General

Various dates/times available

PLEASE CONTACT Mary M. at:

Email: correct@suffolkny-aa.org

This Bulletin needs your participation! Please send in your articles, experiences,
announcements, comments, artwork, photos etc. to

Fran at: bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

The submission due date for the
February, 2019 issue is January 21st

February Business Meetings

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

Tues. 2/5/19

SIA Business Meeting: 8:00 PM

Archives Committee meeting: 7:00 PM

New Group Rep Orientation: 7:00 PM

True North Community Church

1101 Lakeland Ave. Bohemia

Public Information Committee:

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF MONTH

Wed. 2/20/19 7:00 PM

SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave. Patchogue

SIA Officers & Chairs:

LAST TUESDAY OF MONTH

Tues. 2/26/19 7:00 PM

SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave. Patchogue

Treatment Facilities Committee:

THIRD TUESDAY OF MONTH

Tues. 2/19/19 7:00 PM SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave. Patchogue

Suffolk General Service:

THIRD FRIDAY OF MONTH

Fri. 2/15/19 8:00 PM

New GSR Orientation: 7:00 PM

True North Community Church

1101 Lakeland Ave. Bohemia

Contact your Intergroup Chairs!

Chair - Tomchairman@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.

Christy....recsec@suffolkny-aa.org

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

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

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

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Hot Line VACANT.....phones@suffolkny-aa.org

Institutions -

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

Meeting List -

VACANT....meetings@suffolkny-aa.org

Public Info - Christy ..

pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org

Office Manager -

Michael....siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Share A Thon Ronnie....

share@suffolkny-aa.org

Special Events - VACANT.....

specevent@suffolkny-aa.org

Third Legacy - Dawn....

thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org

Webmaster - Steven websup@suffolkny-aa.org

Service Keeps You Sober



The Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin

Thoughts On The Tenth Step

**Continued to take personal inventory
and when we were wrong promptly
admitted it.**

The 10th step requires that we practice self-appraisal on a regular basis and reminds us that this self-searching must be done every day.

A new year is a good time to take stock of ourselves as a whole.

Are we conscientious about how we treat others and do we recognize when we haven't? Do we then make amends when we can?

Have we treated ourselves well? Do we chastise and berate ourselves for conduct that we're ashamed of or that is unacceptable? Or do we simply admonish ourselves for our transgressions and strive to do better in the future?

The personal inventory of our Tenth Step asks us to look hard at all of our new mistakes as we go along as a new way of life. We began this way of living as we cleaned up the debris of our past.

Our next responsibility is to grow in understanding and effectiveness. And develop this mindset throughout our lifetimes.

Our work is never done.

Fran H.

Around the AA Campus

Wishing a speedy recovery to Brian C. of Stony Brook's Freethinkers

December was a rollicking group anniversary month with Smithtown Serenity, Deer Park Home for Dinner and East Northport Serenity all celebrating

Friendly reminder that the Archives Committee is interviewing Suffolk AAs with thirty or more years sobriety.

Qualified? Contact Intergroup

(631) 654-1150.

Interested in helping (and boy do they need help) call that same number.

Heard at meetings: "Keep your beak out of other birdhouses"

Here's wishing you the best new year ever. May this be the year all your dreams come true and if not, be grateful you still have dreams.

*We will want the good that is in us all, even in the worst of us, to flower and to grow.*¹⁰

~ AS BILL SEES IT, p.10

Meditation on Gratitude

.... Every pain, every strife

I am leaving behind

And I sift through my life

With the sieve of my mind.

And my judgment is swift:

All was perfect, except...

Every day was a gift,

That I wouldn't accept.

Ever asking for more,

Never getting the gist:

On the final score,

It's a gift – to exist.

Every stink for a smell,

Every screech for a sound,

Every shout, every yell,

Every b..ch, every bastard around,

Every time I bled,

Every poisonous dish,

Every stone for bread,

Every snake for a fish –

Each of them was a gift,

Which I didn't perceive

as a gift...

So I sift

With my merciless sieve.

Alex V.



**Sayville West
St. Lawrence the Martyr
27 Handsome Avenue
Sayville, N.Y. 11782**

When Sayville West started around May 1983, the original Sayville Group met east of it at St. Anne's. Sayville long ago moved to the Reformed Church location on Rollstone Avenue. So Sayville is now west of Sayville West. Somehow that fits nicely. West has always had a reputation of being slightly eccentric. For years it not only allowed cross-talk, it condoned it. Many a guest speaker was taken aback with the flurry of chatter in the background.

Never bothered the Westerns.

The group started when two members of the Sayville Group defected. Of course, some long since forgotten resentment was behind the move. Terry and Bob M had less than three years sobriety when they took the plunge. For most of its 35 year history it has met in a classroom at St. Lawrence the Martyr. Those of us who attended a parochial school know the layout well. Not much has changed in Catholic school design.

The initial line up was on Saturday at 8:00 discussion followed a year or so later by a Thursday open discussion. Formats and

years to find that magic combination that suits everyone---if such a thing would ever be possible.

Sayville West can boast that it has always been in the forefront of service work. Three members have been Suffolk Intergroup Chairpersons and one has a similar position with Suffolk General Services. This is in addition to the various committee positions held.

When the original background information was provided back in 2005, the pride was also obvious when the group reported never canceling a group. Whether there was inclement weather or holidays like Thanksgiving, power outages or what-have-you, the meetings go on! That is an amazing accomplishment however you look at it. You would be hard pressed to find many groups that can say that, and you can look either east or west to try.

S.I.A. Archives Committee

November 8, 2018

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



That God Thing

When I made a doghouse, my dog did not understand the function of nails and saw.

She didn't, because she couldn't. Her inability to understand did not diminish what she is a dog.

If the gap of understanding between me and my dog is so vast, the gap between me and my creator must be infinite! I was never meant to understand my HP, or His Plan. "*Of my own understanding*" certainly falls into the category of "*Progress*". Any "Perfection" in understanding a HP, is completely impossible, and does not diminish what I am, a human. My present understanding of a HP evolved from: "it" did exist, to a judgmental god, to a loving god. And then I tried to go further with how this loving Power could be just and merciful with me, at the same time. I couldn't do it. In my world, doesn't more "mercy shown" indicate less "justice done"?

I now accept my human limitation that my god concept was never meant to be complete. It is only important that I go as far as I can with my understanding, and then accept the limitations for today. My acceptance will avoid any confusion and frustration. Certainly I am not frustrated by the Theory of Relativity since I do not expect to understand it. Einstein was more frustrated than I could ever be. Confusion and frustration will come if I expect to understand the "HP", or even his gifts to us. I no longer see "Free Will" as a defect of God, or a defective gift from God, but as a defect in my species to willfully, and frequently, make bad choices. Evil in the world no longer proves anything to me about god's existence, only about the existence of human selfishness, in the exercising of our free will.

"Our concepts of a Higher Power and God—as we understand Him—afford everyone a nearly unlimited choice of spiritual belief and action."

Bill W. AA Grapevine, 1961

Perhaps the word "*Surrender*" could also be applied to simply being comfortable with having gone as far as I could today, in my understanding of my HP, or the surrender to the thought that a Power greater than me might actually exist. Any relationship I might have to a HP shouldn't lead to frustration. How could it? Unless I expect to achieve the understanding of a God, or his Plan.

"As I understand him" leaves out so much about Him, and this is the limitation of being human. AA has never told me what the quality nor quantity of what my belief should be.

"As I understand him" covers the AA spectrum of a punishing god, or a loving power, or merciful, or just, or both at once, and even a belief that it does not exist at all, which is still an understanding, and therefore, is acceptable to AA. If I created a problem with this hp concept, I was expecting too much knowledge about him or his plan. Maybe I am better off if I say, "I will try to understand the things that *I am capable of understanding*, to accept the concepts that *I am not able to understand*, and to have the wisdom to know the difference."

"*I understand Him*" is Perfection. "*As I understand Him*" is Progress. Rick

Unity, Our Second Legacy

Save the date.

51st SENY Convention “Our Big Book 80 Years 71 Languages”



March 22-24, 2019

Westchester Marriott Hotel

670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591

Speaker Meetings • Workshops & Panels • Alkathon • Banquet • Archives
Literature & Service Tables • AA Videos • Spanish Translation
Entertainment • Al-Anon • Much More

Get involved. Upcoming Convention Planning Committee meetings are
October 28 & November 17, 2018, 12PM, Program Sub-Committee, 11AM.
(At NY Intergroup, 307 Seventh Avenue, Room 201, NYC 10001.) Submit
logo artwork for our theme.

convention@aaseny.org



Suffolk County General Service
22nd Annual Unity Breakfast
“Always to be there”
Sunday March 3, 2019

East Wind Catering Hall
5720 Rte. 25
Wading River NY
9:00 AM till 1:00 PM

“Full Buffet \$32.00”

Fellowship, Service Fair,
Sobriety Countdown, Keynote Speakers

Tickets will be available online:
<https://aasuffolkgs-ny.org> or from your GSR

Tickets go on sale November 16th, 2018 at
True North Church, Bohemia
Suffolk General Service Meeting

Contact- unitybreakfast@aasuffolkgs-ny.org