

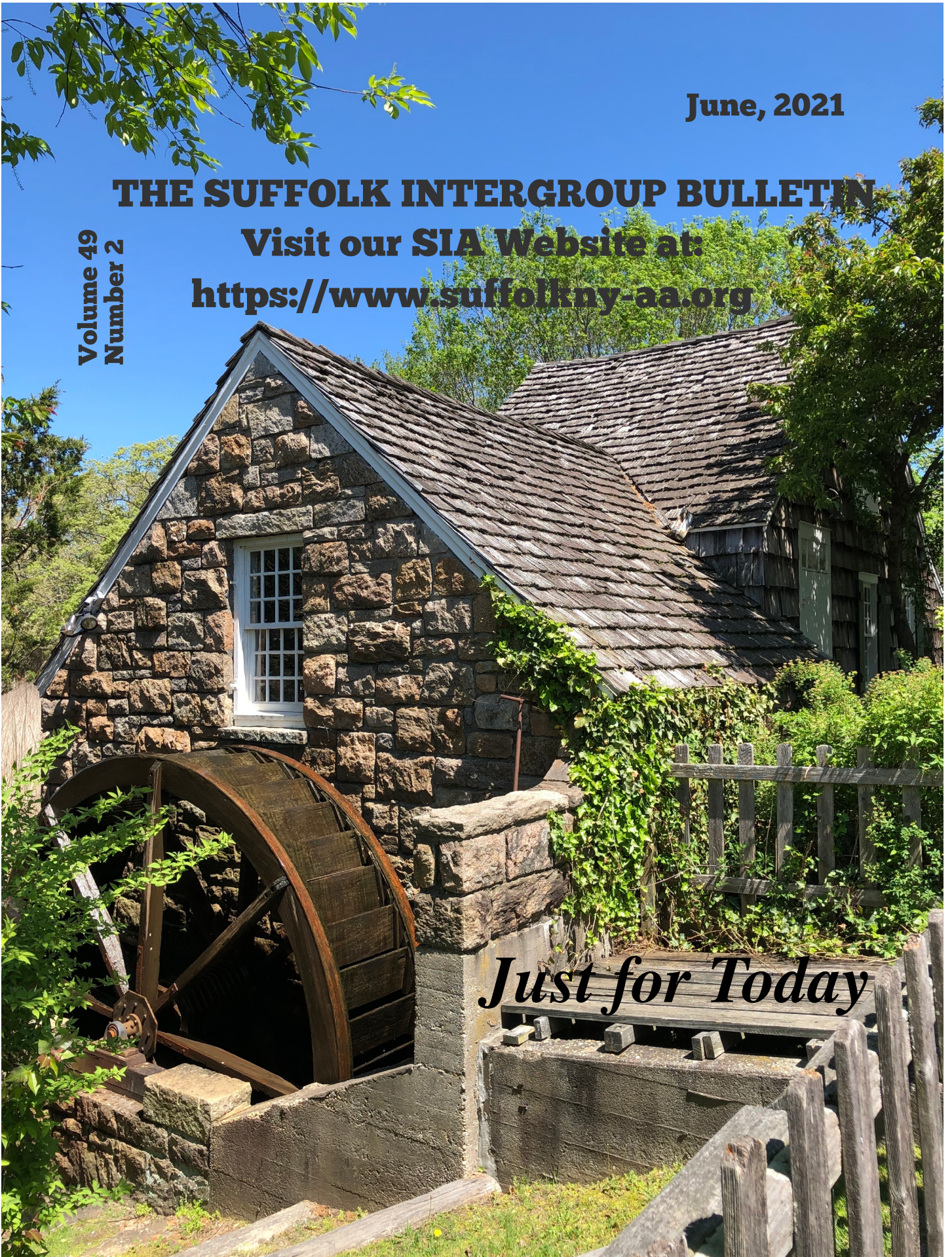
**June, 2021**

**THE SUFFOLK INTERGROUP BULLETIN**

**Volume 49  
Number 2**

**Visit our SIA Website at:  
<https://www.suffolkny-aa.org>**

*Just for Today*





## The Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin

### June Business Meetings

Due to Covid-19 we do not yet know if these meetings will continue to be held either online, in person or both in the form of a HYBRID meeting. For further information visit:

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/groups/sia-general-meeting/>

**LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH**  
Tues. 6/29/21  
**SIA Business Meeting: 8:00 PM**

**Public Information Committee:**  
**LAST THURSDAY OF**  
**THE MONTH**  
Thurs. 6/24/21  
**ONLINE ONLY**

**Institutions Committee:**  
**THIRD TUESDAY OF MONTH**  
Tues. 6/15/21 6:15 PM  
SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave.  
Patchogue

**Corrections**  
**THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH**  
Tues. 6/15/21 7 PM  
SIA Office, 113-8 Bay Ave.  
Patchogue

**Suffolk General Service:**  
**THIRD FRIDAY OF MONTH**  
Fri. 6/18/21 8:00 PM  
New GSR Orientation: 7:00 PM



### **SIA is forming an ad-hoc Web Committee to:**

**Guide future improvements to the SIA Website**

**Research and author any needed updates to SIA's Web Guidelines**

**Research, guide and author SIA's Digital Privacy and Cookie Policy**

**Improve Digital Communication and Outreach to newcomers, groups and members.**

**If you'd like to help with any or all of these areas, please email the Web Chair!!**

**Web Support - David - [websup@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:websup@suffolkny-aa.org)**

## Around the AA Campus

More and more in-person meetings are opening up again. Check the online meeting list or the app. Please read the fine print regarding any conditions there might be like social distancing, face masks, etc. Always remember: we are guests at every meeting place and must abide by the hosts' rules!

The Archives Big Book is back! After quarantining for over a year, it is now available again to be signed. To all Suffolk AAs with 30 or more years of sobriety, we'd love to add your signature to the 670 names already in the book. It will be available at most major Suffolk AA events as well as the One and Only meeting which started meeting again outside every Saturday afternoon at 3:00 in Smithtown (weather permitting).

Thanks to Grateful Bill of West Islip East Does It for helping get a vintage group sign. Thanks also to Sayville New Life Sobriety for graciously donating that sign. The original name of that group was Oldies but Goodies. The 30 year old sign will be displayed at the Suffolk Intergroup office in Patchogue. Think about donating any signs or artifacts you might have that are simply gathering dust in a closet. These are part of our history.

Heard around the rooms

Service work is AA's gift to me

You hit your bottom whenever you stop digging.

The Things We Cannot Change

Ed K. of the Hauppauge Touchstones group passed away in April 2021. Ed had his last drink on 10/6/66. Among his many service contributions, he was the co-founder of the Melville Whitman group. His quiet presence touched many lives. He will be missed.

You can listen here to an interview done with him a few years

ago. <http://suffolkaaarchives.com/AudioStart.aspx> He tells one of the truly great AA stories about him in his early days and the mysterious person who appeared and prevented him from relapsing.



## The Email Addresses of your Intergroup Chairs

Chair - Jean Marie -  
chairperson@suffolkny-aa.org

Alt Chair - Lee - alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org

Treasurer - Laurie -  
treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Corresponding Sec. Stacey -  
recsec@suffolkny-aa.org

Archivist - Bob - archives@suffolkny-aa.org

Bulletin - Fran - bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org

Corrections - Robert -  
correct@suffolkny-aa.org

Grapevine - Jackie -  
grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Institutions - Dawn -  
institutions@suffolkny-aa.org

Literature - Debbie - books@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Public Info - Danny -  
pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org

Office Manager - Michael -  
siaooffice@suffolkny-aa.org

Schools - Phil - schools@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Special Events - VACANT -  
specevent@suffolkny-aa.org

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

Web Support - David -  
websup@suffolkny-aa.org

SIA Volunteers -  
volunteers@suffolkny-A.A.org

# The Suffolk Intergroup Bulletin

## A Message from SIA Web Support

Visit the SIA Website for the latest info on meetings, events and service opportunities.

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/>

Please direct any comments, updates, corrections, or suggestions to the Web Chair

[websup@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:websup@suffolkny-aa.org)

### Re-Opening Meetings

Suffolk has over 350 IN PERSON meetings and almost as many VIRTUAL meetings a week. Whether you are looking to find an IN PERSON meeting or your group is discussing reopening, please find useful information and resources on this critical topic here:

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/reopen/>

### Hybrid Meetings

HYBRID MEETING is the term used when a group opts to hold a regular face to face meeting and an online meeting simultaneously as one single blended or HYBRID meeting. For more information on finding and holding Hybrid meeting, visit:

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/reopen/#hybrid>

### Virtual Speaker Exchange

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/virtual-speaker-exchange/>

**Find Speakers and Outgoing Speaking Commitments for your Group.**

The exchange is held the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9 am

The exchange is for ONLINE MEETINGS ONLY. Visit the [Virtual Speaker Exchange](#) page to REGISTER your group and learn more.

### Your Group and the Meeting List

It is unlikely that we'll have a Printed Meeting List in the foreseeable future. The Online Meeting List is updated daily and is the best place to get the most current information. However, we can't keep the Meeting List current without your help!!

To find out more on how you can help keep your group's info up to date, visit

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/meeting-list/#updates>

### Upcoming Area Events

Check the events calendar for all upcoming events in the County and in the SENY area.

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/calendar>

### Service Opportunities in SIA

Learn more about how you can contribute your time and talent in helping SIA help others.

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/service/>

### Online Contributions to SIA

Learn more about the why and the how continued 7th Tradition Contributions are necessary for SIA to continue its mission of helping groups carry the message.

We can now accept Online Contributions by Credit Card, Debit Card, PayPal and ACH Bank



**Greenbelt Rec Group  
VFW  
32 Edwards Street  
Patchogue, NY 11772**



The coronavirus shut down meeting place after meeting place. One casualty was the Greenbelt Recreation Center where Holbrook Love N' Share met. This is a municipal building and the odds of it re-opening soon were nil. That didn't stop many members at all. Pop up meetings began. One met outside at Genesis Church in Medford and another in the parking lot of their old meeting place in Holbrook. They would bring a cup of coffee, a beach chair and the desire to stay sober.

For a while it worked nicely. Reality is that fall and winter months bring cold weather and the need for indoor digs became necessary. Many of the regular attendees were wary of computer generated meetings so a search for a shelter was started. Ray K. found the VFW hall in Patchogue and negotiated a rental agreement including insurance. All systems were set, the first meeting scheduled for Tuesday November 3, 2020. However that turned out to be Election Day and the VFW Hall is a polling place. So by default the inaugural date was moved to November 10. As a tribute to their old home group they named themselves after their old meeting place, not knowing if or when they might return there.

According to Ray they were "flying by the seat of his pants." By all accounts those pants held up rather well. Everything went smoothly without a hitch. Peter R was the first speaker. There were 31 in attendance including 28 men and 3 ladies. Social distancing was observed, all chairs were wiped down with disinfectant afterwards and this first meeting went into the record book.

As of this writing, things are still uncertain. At one point there was talk of starting a day meeting but that is on hold right now. Holbrook Love N' Share found a new home in the interim at Abundant Life Church as well as on Zoom. Greenbelt Rec still plugs away every Tuesday at 7:00 PM, offering another option during these trying times.

**S.I.A. Archives Committee**

**February 8, 2021**

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

## Covid Couldn't Stop Us

Nearing the end of my drinking  
I chose complete isolation  
Darkness, dread and despair  
My once Zest for life – DONE

As I moved through recovery  
It was a hard habit to break  
I'd make excuses to be alone  
Wore a happy face – I was a fake

Slowly, it started to get better  
And WHAM! Covid hit  
Wasn't much of a change for me  
I returned to my pit

But my sobriety was in jeopardy  
For it's a Program of Action  
And sobriety meant everything  
To me, to my daughter, my son

Those church basements were closed  
We couldn't get our medicine  
Slipped back into my bed  
Where I'd be safe, again

Then God decided he'd take over  
And gave us alchies Zoom  
We could attend meetings everywhere  
In every country – we had our rooms

Some found it awkward  
And missed the comradery  
But I saw it as a precious gift  
And, no doubt, my computer saved me

We also made more phone calls  
That took on a new value  
We expressed what we were feeling  
A strong suggestion we once knew

I started writing again  
In the quiet of nowhere to go  
We had to just be with ourselves  
For me, there was much I'd come to know

We were terribly frightened  
A battle to stay in today  
The racing thoughts of the future  
Was this new world here to stay?

So we gathered at online meetings  
Took solace in familiar faces  
We shared our fears and struggles  
And Zoomed our way to many places

Soon there were workshops  
AA events of all kinds  
Meetings around the clock  
Meetings that eased our frazzled minds

Many found a new dependence  
On our beloved Big Book  
AA was stronger than ever  
Replacing all that Covid took  
As for me, I did all these things

Stayed sober a day at a time  
There was no stopping this force  
God was IMMUNE we would surely find

Even newcomers were getting sober  
Across computer screens  
Our primary purpose prevailed  
We had found the vehicle, the means

WE are now getting closer  
To "getting closer" for real  
For we are an ARMY - And AA is the REAL  
DEAL

Joni M. New Soil Group





Bill W.

Dr. Bob



CONNECT THE DOTS GROUP OF  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS PRESENTS  
**5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
BIRTHDAY BRUNCH**

**Celebrating 86 years of carrying the message  
to the alcoholic that still suffers.**

**June 20**  
9:00am - 12:00pm

Doors will open at 8:00am  
REGISTRATION / SEATING / SERVICE FAIR

Brunch will be served at 9:00am  
CONSISTS OF REGULAAR BREAKFAST  
ITEMS (KIELBASA INCLUDED)

Program starts at 9:30am

**MAIN SPEAKERS**

**Paul McQ.**     **Bob D.**  
ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY     LAS VEGAS, NV

**LOCATION**

**Polish Hall of Riverhead**  
214 MARCY AVE • RIVERHEAD • NY • 11901

**TICKET COST: \$30.00**

For tickets or more information, please contact Jim S. [ctdliny@gmail.com](mailto:ctdliny@gmail.com)

\* Seating is limited, tickets will be sold on a first-come-first-serve basis. All guests must wear masks per CDC requirement. (except when eating)

**SUFFOLK INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION OF  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS'**  
*Invites you to join us in celebrating*  
**86 YEARS OF CARRYING THE MESSAGE TO THE  
ALCOHOLIC THAT STILL SUFFERS.**

**OUR FIRST LEGACY: RECOVERY**

*A Journey Through All of Our 12 Steps*  
with **PAUL MC.Q. / ROCKAWAY BEACH, NY** **BOB D. / LAS VEGAS, NV**

**F R I D A Y**

**06.18.21**

**6:00PM-8:30PM**

*Steps 1 & 2*

WITH PAUL MC Q. AND BOB D.

**8:30PM-9:30PM**

*Open Speaker Meeting*

MAIN SPEAKER: PAUL MC Q.

*\* Doors Open at 5:00pm*

**S A T U R D A Y**

**06.19.21**

**9:00AM-5:00PM**

*Steps 3-12*

*\* Lunch will be served*

**7:45PM-9:00PM**

*Open Speaker Meeting*

MAIN SPEAKER: BOB D.

*\* Doors Open at 8:00am and 6:00pm*

*This event is free and is sponsored by Suffolk County  
Intergroup Association of Alcoholics Anonymous*

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO **REGISTER** FOR THE EVENT, VISIT:

<https://suffolkny-aa.org/1st-legacy>

QUESTIONS?

Please email Jim S., Third Legacy Chair at  
[thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org)



*All above Program Located at:*

**TRUE NORTH CHURCH**

1101 LAKELAND AVENUE • BOHEMIA • NY • 11716

*\* Seating is limited. All guests must wear masks per CDC requirement. (except when eating)*