

June 2026

Vol. 54 - No. 02



SUFFOLK INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

# Bulletin

**“How dark it is before the dawn! ...**

**I was to know happiness,  
peace, and usefulness...”**

**– Alcoholics Anonymous pg 8**



**Visit us at  
[suffolkny-aa.org](http://suffolkny-aa.org)  
tel : (631) 654-1150**

# SIA Business Meeting

Held last Tuesday of every month

**June 30<sup>th</sup>, starting 8:00 p.m.**

New Rep Orientation 7:00 p.m.



## IN PERSON

**True North Church  
1101 Lakeland Ave  
Bohemia, NY 11716**



## VIRTUALLY

**Zoom ID**      941 2170 5886  
**Passcode**    service  
**Tel Dial-In**   (929) 205-6099



**Temporary Contacts** needed from all over Suffolk County — especially in **Coram, Riverhead, Mastic, Shirley.**

To learn more about service opportunities w/ Treatment Facilities Committee scan or click QR code, or visit:

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



**Calling All AAs  
The Bulletin  
needs your  
Voice !!**

Have a story to tell? A lesson learned? Share your **articles, artwork, photographs, poetry, prose, comments, announcements, or anything else** that could educate, inform or inspire your fellow members.

Send your contributions to [bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org).

**We can't wait to see what you've got!**

# WE ARE RESPONSIBLE

## Share-A-Thon Planning Committee

This year we are celebrating **50 years** of the Share-A-Thon here in Suffolk County.

Be of service and **join the planning committee** starting in May.

Last Tuesday of the month at **7:00 pm** — **virtually and in person** immediately before the SIA Meeting. **See details above.**



## HOTLINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

*It's not difficult to work the Hotline*

- ✓ calls are automatically forwarded to your phone
- ✓ no one will see YOUR phone number
- ✓ most callers are looking for help finding a meeting or to be connected with a 12 Step Volunteer



We will show you how to take calls and provide you with all the necessary tools.

To sign up as a group or for any other inquiries, email [phones@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:phones@suffolkny-aa.org)

To sign up as an individual, scan or click the QR code to the right :



To learn more about the hotline, scan or click the QR code to the right or visit :

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



## The Spirit of Service

Good Day, Friends in A.A. While I have only been doing direct service in Suffolk Intergroup since 2024 (last rotation as your Treasurer, and this rotation to date as your Chair), I have been visiting SIA meetings and working with a number of your trusted servants behind the scenes for the last decade. My background in “supporting the Groups” goes back to my second year of sobriety, for the most part in General Service. Nonetheless, we’re all called to do service in Alcoholics Anonymous: one on one, at the Group level, or below the groups, no matter what form that service takes. Bill W. and Dr. Bob were both unequivocal on that point.

And yet, over the past 18 years, I’ve watched the pool of “new blood” coming into service in support of the Groups go from healthy to “meh” to almost anemic. Certainly, Covid-19 exacerbated the problem – but it didn’t cause it. It was already happening, and the pandemic just added grease to the slide. How have we in “servant leadership” in A.A. tried to handle it? We give service workshops, we talk up service at service meetings, we try to make service appealing through newsletters and flyers, and we reach out to people who often have all kinds of reasons why they can’t take a commitment (many of them valid). It rarely works.



To me, the most ominous aspect of this drop-off in willingness is that the same people who have been serving on committees, as officers, etc. are the only ones who are standing in the next rotation as well. Yes, those who serve rotation after rotation, year after year are invaluable – but is The Principle of Rotation (A.A. Service Manual, Appendix E, page 111) being honored if we don’t somehow get new A.A. Members involved in serving the Groups. Do we never change the oil and fluids in our vehicles because they’re all familiar with how the gears work?

Please don’t hear that I am laying the blame for this on anyone – I’m not. It may just be that we live in a world of apathy, dismay and resignation, and that it carries over into our Fellowship. I often hear people say they’re put off by the “politics” of service, from the Group’s business meeting all the way down the service triangle; but if that’s the case, why don’t you bring your new, fresh, steadying thoughts and ideas into the arena? Or maybe we’re all just too busy, that the additional time requirement is inconvenient (although as much as I’ve poured through A.A. literature, I have yet to hear anyone, including our co-founders, say that service should be “convenient”.)

I wish I knew the answer. I don’t. I want to hear new ideas, fresh approaches; I want to know when I’m off base, or flat-out wrong. Here’s what I DO know: when I went through the steps, my spirit started to grow. When I served my group, my ability to relate to others started to grow. And when I started doing service below the group, my life got bigger and better than I ever thought possible. Please consider finding this out for yourself.

In Grateful Service,

- Tom B.

## June Calendar

**June 2 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Bylaws Committee Meeting  
(SIA Office)

**June 4 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Treatment / Bridging The Gap  
Outreach Subcommittee (virtual)

**June 5 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Third Legacy Chairperson’s  
12 Traditions Workshop (virtual)

**June 9 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Web Committee Meeting  
(virtual)

**June 9 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
Archives Committee Meeting  
(virtual)

**June 12 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Bridging the Gap Committee  
Meeting (virtual + SIA Office)

**June 13 @ 7:00 am - 8:30 am**  
Speaker Exchange  
(True North Church)

**June 18 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
Treatment / Bridging The Gap  
Outreach Subcommittee (virtual)

**June 19 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**  
Suffolk General Service Meeting  
(virtual + Emanuel Lutheran  
Church Patchogue NY)

**June 23 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
SIA Officers & Chairs Meeting  
(virtual + SIA Office)

**June 30 @ 6:30 pm - 7:40 pm**  
Treatment Committee Meeting  
(virtual + True North)

**June 30 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
New Intergroup Rep Orientation  
(virtual + True North)

Share-A-Thon Committee Mtg  
(virtual + True North)

**June 30 @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
SIA Business Meeting  
(virtual + True North)

# Around the A.A. Campus

## Group Updates

### **\*\*NEW\*\* Amagansett Online**

New virtual meeting called Amagansett Online. You can find it seven days a week Monday to Friday 7:30 AM and Saturday at 8:30 AM. Zoom ID 655 405 6699 No passcode. Or phone in at 929 436-2899 Passcode: 655 405 6699#

### **\*\*NEW\*\* Ladies Night at the Pit**

New Group happening in Bay Shore. Ladies Night at the Pit, a Thursday 6:00 PM meets at the United Methodist Church 107 East Main Street. Ladies, come out and support the new kid on the block. (See photo below).

### **Cutchogue Step**

It was time for a time change. Cutchogue Step has lowered its starting time from 7:30 PM to 7:00 PM. The meeting is held on Tuesdays at Church of God in Christ 15025 County Road 45

### **Stony Brook Freethinkers**

Both Stony Brook Freethinkers meetings (Wednesday and Friday) are now 7:30 PM Open meetings. The group meets at the Universalist Unitarian Fellowship 380 Nicolls Road Setauket-East Setauket. Also on Zoom. ID: 843 5088 8563 Passcode: 297082

### **No Matter What Club!**

The No Matter What Club! has sent word that member anniversaries will be held the last meeting of each month. Also, bring your own coffee or tea. This men's group meets upstairs each Monday at 7:30 PM, 755 Waverly Avenue Holtsville.

### **Hampton Bays Women's Group**

The Hampton Bays Women's Group has stopped meeting. The ladies had this group going since 2007.

### **North Babylon Senior Center**

Three groups in North Babylon—**Sunrise 12+12** (Tuesday 6:30 PM, Friday 7:00 PM and Saturday 9:30 AM), **Phelps Lane** (Wednesday 6:30 PM and Sunday 3:00 PM) and **Just For Today** (Thursday 7:30 PM and Monday 7:30 PM) are all back home after about a month relocation. Find them all at the Senior Center 281 Phelps Lane across from the Town Hall Annex.

### **High Noon in Melville**

Melville's High Noon meets six days a week at 2011 New York Avenue. On Sunday, the meeting is held online Zoom. ID: 996 2149 2360 Passcode: letmein. Anniversaries will now all be held in person on the last Friday of the month. Of course, the meetings are held at noon.

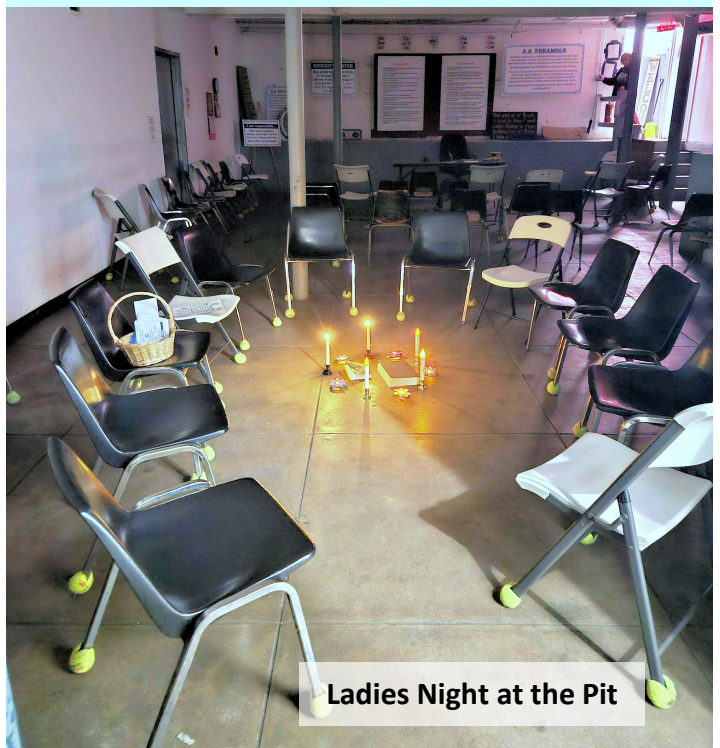
### **HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN...**

When was the last time you double checked your group's meeting listing on the SIA website or the Meeting Guide App?

One group found out recently that its listing still read "bring your own coffee." That policy ended about five years ago. Another had a Beginners meeting listed that was no longer a Beginners. It switched its format a long time before. Maybe a good time to take a look and update things.

### **CORRECTION**

In last month's Bulletin, the wrong date was given for the first Sharathon. It didn't happen in 1975, but rather on October 10, 1976



**Ladies Night at the Pit**

## Fort Salonga Workshop Group History

St. Joseph's School  
59 Church Street  
Kings Park, NY 11754

When Carolyn H. was newly sober, she and her sponsor, Betty K., were driving along Route 25A. As they passed the Church of the Abiding Presence, both agreed that spot would make a great place for an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. That thought never left Carolyn's mind. Shortly after her third anniversary, she said: "I think I am going to start that meeting." She met with the pastor and he shared the same sentiment. He had been "waiting for someone to ask," The final hurdle was to go around and square things with other groups in the area. When she stopped by Charlie Murphy's, a rest home in Northport, she was told by the owner, he was soon going to start daily afternoon meetings. This is how Fort Salonga Workshop became a morning meeting.

"It was a humble beginning with only three showing up for the first meeting." She registered the group on December 1, 1976. It met only on Tuesday at 10:00 AM. By 1977, the group expanded and added a Friday, also at 10:00 AM. Then in 1981, they expanded to a Tuesday evening at 8:00 PM and the Tuesday meeting moved to Monday. The evening meeting had a short run. The nearby Kings Park Group also met at that same time.

When Abiding Presence started a day school, they moved to an interim home at North Shore Baptist Church in Kings Park. Finally, they moved to St. Joseph's in November 1991, where they have held court ever since. With the move, they now met three days a week.

During coronavirus, St. Joseph was one of the few meeting places that allowed people to keep using its facility. Fort Salonga trudged along. The numbers were small, but they opened up an online meeting thanks to two ladies. That virtual meeting still meets.

As the pandemic faded and their numbers rose, Fort Salonga commandeered the basement of St. Joseph's. During the summers, as St. Joseph's hosts a summer camp, and the group relocates for two months to the Knights of Columbus down the block. Bagels are a regular as are two van-loads of residents from Hope House in Port Jefferson. People from that treatment facility are treated as family. In fact, everyone is treated as family. This is one of the most welcoming groups you will ever encounter. And to think, it all started as an idea when Carolyn and Betty went on a road trip so many years ago.

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

Thanks to Carolyn H. and Jim C.

## SIA Committee Meeting Schedule

**Archives** (virtual)  
2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm

**BTG** (virtual + SIA Office)  
2nd Friday 6:00 pm

**BTG Outreach** (virtual)  
1st & 3rd Friday 6:00 pm

**ByLaws** (SIA Office)  
1st Tuesday 7:00 pm

**Share-A-Thon**  
(virtual + True North)  
last Tuesday 7:00 pm

**Treatment** (virtual + True North)  
last Tuesday 6:30 pm

**Web** (virtual)  
2nd Tuesday 6:00 pm

**SIA Business Meeting**  
(virtual + True North)  
last Tuesday 8:00 pm

**SIA Virtual Meeting Space**



**Zoom ID** 941 2170 5886  
**Passcode** service

History Updated December 7, 2025

## Bylaws Committee Update — Group Reps Still Needed

The SIA Bylaws Committee has been meeting regularly and **making steady progress** on proposed updates to the bylaws. We've had **strong participation from SIA Officers and Service Committee Chairpersons**, and we're grateful for the time and thoughtful input being brought to the table.

That said, we have an important concern:

**We still don't have enough participation from Group Representatives.**

This process is intended to be **group-driven**, not "Intergroup-driven." Group Reps are the direct link to the conscience of the groups. Without sufficient Group Rep participation, we risk turning a group process into an "Intergroup insiders" process—something none of us want.

**Bottom line:** we need more **Group Reps and Alternates** to participate to keep this work grounded, balanced, and truly representative of the groups' needs.

**Items currently under consideration (not finalized)**

The committee is discussing several possible updates, including:

- ✓ **Moving Service Committee descriptions into a separate Service Manual** to keep the bylaws focused on governance, while making role descriptions more flexible and easier to update.
- ✓ Adding a **qualification** stating that **SIA officers may not concurrently** hold countywide or area-wide positions in General Service.
- ✓ **Creating a new Technology Committee Chairperson position** to support and augment the current Webmaster role, reflecting the growing technical needs of the association.

These items are still under discussion, and no final language has been drafted. That's exactly why Group Rep participation matters **now**, while proposed changes are still being formed.

The Bylaws Committee will continue meeting on the **first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM** at the **SIA Office** (33 Comac Loop Suite 1A-1, Ronkonkoma). If you absolutely can't make it in person, please join us virtually in the **SIA Virtual Meeting Space** (see pg. 2).

**Questions?** Email David V. (Alternate Chairperson):

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

## Bylaws vs. Group Conscience: What's the Difference?

**Bylaws** set down the structure of our organization—**who we are, what we do, and how we do it**. Because bylaws are meant to be **hard to change**, their scope should stay limited to the Association's essential governance rules (the "framework," not the day-to-day details). Changing the bylaws requires one month's notice in the Bulletin and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of voting members.

**Group Conscience** covers the many day-to-day decisions that guide how SIA operates without needing to "rewrite the constitution" each time. At SIA, these decisions are recorded in the **Group Conscience Book** from meeting records, with voting saved by the Recording Secretary and filed by date and category—making it easier to answer, "Did we vote on this before?"

**In summary:**

**Bylaws:** Our foundation—SIA's governance structure and essential rules.

**Group Conscience Book:** Our operating record—dated decisions, policies/procedures, and precedent.

### **UNDER CONSIDERATION**

**Service Manual / Roles & Procedures Handbook:** a "middle document" for committee descriptions, responsibilities, and guidelines (so the bylaws can stay focused on governance).

Together, these documents help keep Intergroup accountable, consistent, and appropriately flexible—while remaining transparent and responsible to the groups.

## Key Governance & Service Terms

**Bylaws:** The governing rules that define SIA's structure, authority, voting rights, and core procedures. The Bylaws focus on governance and do not attempt to contain detailed service committee role descriptions, which are maintained separately.

**Service Manual (Roles & Procedures Handbook):** A separate document *under consideration* containing service committee descriptions, chairperson role descriptions, and operating procedures. It supports consistent service while remaining easier to update. Changes are adopted by group conscience unless the Bylaws require otherwise.

**Group Conscience:** The collective spiritual judgment of a group or AA service body reached through informed discussion and a vote, seeking unity and the best path forward.

**Group Conscience Book:** The compiled record of SIA's decisions, policies, and precedents that do not require formal bylaw amendments; serves as SIA's historical decision archive.

**Simple Majority:** More than half of the votes cast (50% + 1). Often used for routine decisions unless otherwise specified.

**Two-Thirds Vote / Substantial Unanimity (Supermajority):** An AA principle and voting threshold that seeks broad agreement—typically two-

thirds—so important decisions (such as bylaw changes) reflect unity rather than a narrow majority.

**Quorum:** The minimum number of eligible voting members required to be present to conduct official business and take valid votes.

**Voting Member:** Someone eligible to vote on matters affecting SIA—SIA Group Representatives, SIA Officers, SIA Service Committee Chairpersons, and any other members granted voting rights under the Bylaws.

**Group Representative (SIAR):** The elected voice of an A.A. group at Inter-group; carries the group's conscience and votes on its behalf.

**Alternate Group Representative:** The backup representative who can attend, participate, and vote when the Group Rep is unavailable.

**Officer:** An elected trusted servant of SIA (Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, or Corresponding Secretary) elected by the body to serve a term aligned with SIA's election cycle.

**Service Committee Chairperson:** A trusted servant appointed by the SIA Chairperson (and approved by the Group Representatives) to lead a service committee, attract and direct committee members, report committee activity at regular business meetings.

## Seasonal Meetings

'Tis the season when many groups resume meeting at their summer locations.

There are far too many to list individually, but if your group is back to their summer home, please let the Meeting List Chair know either by using the online update form on the website or by emailing [meetings@suffolkny-aa.org](mailto:meetings@suffolkny-aa.org).



Likewise, if your group has stopped meeting for the season or changed its location, time, format, or accessibility details — please send that along as well. A quick update can save a newcomer a long drive to an empty parking lot.

Keeping our meeting information accurate is one of the simplest and most important ways we help carry the message.

## 2026 — 2027 Officers & Chairpersons

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Tom B.</b> chairperson@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Alt Chairperson</b>	<b>David V.</b> alt-chairperson@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Meredith F.</b> treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Corresponding Sec.</b>	<b>Nancy S.</b> corsec@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Recording Sec.</b>	<b>** VACANT **</b> recsec@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Archives</b>	<b>Evan H.</b> archives@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Bob R.</b> archives@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Bulletin</b>	<b>** VACANT **</b> bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Corrections</b>	<b>Karen C.</b> correct@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Grapevine</b>	<b>Laurie A.</b> grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Hot Line</b>	<b>Tom S.</b> phones@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Literature</b>	<b>Mike R.</b> literature@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Meeting List</b>	<b>Adam B.</b> meetings@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Office Manager</b>	<b>Charlie D.</b> siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Public Info</b>	<b>Ed A.</b> pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Schools</b>	<b>** VACANT **</b> schools@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Share-A-Thon</b>	<b>John V.</b> share@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Special Events</b>	<b>Pete K.</b> specialevents@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Third Legacy</b>	<b>Natalie S.</b> thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Treatment Facilities</b>	<b>Rob M.</b> treatment@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Web Master</b>	<b>David P.</b> webmaster@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>SGS Liaison</b>	<b>Zoie S.</b> SGSLiaison@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Spanish Liaison</b>	<b>Jose R.</b> SpanishRep@suffolkny-aa.org
<b>Al-Anon Liaison</b>	<b>Matt C.</b> Info@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org
<b>Alateen Liaison</b>	<b>Ed O.</b> AlateenChair@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org

# Upcoming Events in the Area

view latest announcements by clicking or scanning the QR code or visiting:

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



**START DATE: February 6th**

## The 2026 Unity In Action 12 Traditions Workshop

- ✓ Q&A sessions
- ✓ Handouts provided
- ✓ Resources to take others through AA's Traditions

First Fridays  
Each Month in 2026  
6pm

ZOOM Meeting ID:  
941 2170 5886  
PWD: service

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
*Comes of Age*  
a brief history of A.A.

THE TWELVE TRADITIONS Illustrated  
AA GRAPHEME

Traditions Checklist  
AA GRAPHEME

Contact Natalie S  
for handouts & info  
Third Legacy Chair  
thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org

# YOUNG WILD & FREE

## 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR ANNIVERSARY

UNITY SERVICE  
TOGETHER WE CAN GIVING BACK, IT WORKS  
RECOVERY  
ONE DAY AT A TIME

FOOD MEETING DJ

**JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>** | 6:30-9:30 PM

5 CAROLINE AVE  
EAST SETAUKET

### KICKING UP YOUR SERVICE EXPERIENCE

**Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026**  
**11 AM - 2 PM** Lunch Provided

Hosted by SENY Intergroup Liaison and Treatment Facilities Committees

Nassau Intergroup Office  
361 Hempstead Tpke  
West Hempstead

Zoom ID 554 670 5146  
Passcode 870607

## New York State Informational Workshop

July 10 — 12, 2026

hosted by Area 49  
Southeastern New York (SENY)

**Stony Point Center**  
17 Cricketown Rd  
Stony Point, NY 10980

June 12, 2026  
Registration Deadline

Schedule Includes:  
Service Committee Panels • AA Meetings • Area Chairs' Panel • Delegates' Panel • Intergroup Participation • Meditation Meetings • Grapevine/La Viña • Fellowship • Sobriety Skit • Nature Walk • Scavenger Hunt • Labyrinth Walk • Sing-A-Long • Bonfire • and much more

For more information, visit [NYSIW.org](http://NYSIW.org) or email [nysiw2026@aaeny.org](mailto:nysiw2026@aaeny.org)

**Register at NYISW.org**

Pricing	
Single Occupancy <small>(Private room + all meals)</small>	\$495
Double Occupancy <small>(Shared room with another attendee + all meals)</small>	\$365
Commuter Rates	
Full Weekend <small>(all meals)</small>	\$250
Friday commuter <small>(with dinner)</small>	\$80
Saturday commuter <small>(with 3 meals)</small>	\$100
Sunday commuter <small>(with 2 meals)</small>	\$80
Zoom Participants	\$25

Please note: there is no price reduction for participants who choose to provide their own meals. With the exception of virtual registration, all registration options include meals.

Join the Long Island Committee of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous

# ANNUAL LICYPAA LUAU

with Al-anon/Alateen participation

BBQ | BEACH | VOLLEYBALL | MUSIC  
GAMES | CRAFTS | MEETING | FELLOWSHIP

**Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**  
Meeting 4:00pm

Robert Moses State Park Field #2  
600 Robert Moses State Park Dr, Babylon, NY 11702  
(Picnic area to the right of the parking lot)  
\$10 Parking per car (carpool!!)

\$10 suggested contribution when you pre-register  
\$15 suggested contribution day of event  
Scholarships available

Scan QR code to Pre-Register!  
  
visit [licypaa.carrd.co](http://licypaa.carrd.co)

ALL ARE WELCOME. YOUNG AT HEART!  
CONTACT INFO: [LICYPAA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LICYPAA@GMAIL.COM) FOR ANY QUESTIONS  
TO BE ADDED TO OUR EMAIL LIST FOR UPCOMING EVENTS,  
EMAIL OUTREACH.LICYPAA@GMAIL.COM