

May, 2024

Vol. 52 - No. 1



SUFFOLK INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION

Bulletin

**Celebrating 51 years of dedicated service
to AA groups in Suffolk County.**

**Every person
must live their life
as a model for others.**

- Rosa Parks



Visit us at
suffolkny-aa.org

SIA Business Meeting

(NEW LOCATION)

Held last Tuesday of every month

May 28th, starting 8:00 p.m.

New Rep Orientation 7:00 p.m.



IN PERSON

True North Church
1101 Lakeland Ave
Bohemia, NY 11716



VIRTUALLY

(see page 3 for zoom info)

SUFFOLK INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL EVENTS
COMMITTEE

Zoom ID: 941 2170 5886
→ Password: service

Every First Tuesday of The Month
@ 8:30 pm

specialevents@suffolkny-aa.org

SIA Bylaws Committee

Please join us in our quadrennial assignment, to:

- ✓ Review the SIA Bylaws
- ✓ Propose desired changes
- ✓ Publish proposed amendments
- ✓ Report on the anticipated effects
- ✓ Present amendments to the body for approval by substantial unanimity

Your participation and input in this crucial process are highly valued.

The committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month - **May 14th, 6:30 p.m.** at the **SIA Office**.

Email Allison, Alt-Chairperson with any questions
alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org

View Bylaws via QR code or visiting:
<https://suffolkny-aa.org/bylaws>

Scan or click me



for SIA By-laws

CORRECTIONS SERVICE

CARRY THE MESSAGE TO THE **STILL SUFFERING ALCOHOLIC**

CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE
1ST TUESDAY
EVERY MONTH 7 PM
ONLINE ONLY
ZOOM: 941 2170 5886
PW: service

TO GET INVOLVED CONTACT:
Ashley Corrections Chair
CORRECT@SUFFOLKNY-AA.ORG

NO PREVIOUS JAIL TIME REQUIRED

MAY-HEM IS NOT UNITY

When I went through the steps the first few times it became abundantly obvious that I was the "tornado in people's lives". I seemed to be in conflict with everything and everyone. Most of all myself. Wherever I went I took me with me... Occasionally in sobriety I can find myself in that place still. I am not cured. I get a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of my spiritual condition.

The last few years of my drinking career brought me to places that when people saw me they went the other way. This began the road to my isolation. My grand sponsor Clancy would call alcoholism the "disease of separation". That is where my alcoholism brought me. Separated from you: DISUNITY.

If I was "to know a new freedom and a new happiness" as it says in the 9th step promises on page 83 of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, "self-seeking would slip away" I would have to learn how to be in UNITY with you and my fellows as a 'MEMBER' in Alcoholics Anonymous, not just an 'ATTENDER'! I can sit in a chicken coop; that does not make me a chicken...

What I find that separates me from you, is when we bring outside issues into Alcoholics Anonymous. Tradition 5 (The Long Form) states: "Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity HAVING BUT ONE PRIMARY PURPOSE - that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers." This is expanded upon in Tradition 10 (The Long Form) states: "No AA group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate AA, express any opinion on outside controversial issues - particularly those of politics, alcohol reform or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one concerning such matters they can express no views whatever."

There is a lot of politics being brought into Alcoholics Anonymous in contemporary AA. What groups do at a local level to address these issues is their business, so long as they are not trying to bring it to a society level at the District, county (General Service or Intergroup) area, regional or conference structure as a whole. That is why we have all of these specialty pamphlets published to address these issues and help those AT THE GROUP LEVEL. They are not intended to be imposed on all the MEMBERS of our society as a whole to conform to the political views of the outside world. They were developed to improve our 'effectiveness and understanding' as a society. Remember what it says in *Our Common Welfare* statement expressed in our safety card: "Alcoholics Anonymous is a microcosm of the larger society that we exist in. As such, problems found in the outside world can also make their way into the rooms of AA."

The safety issue is addressing UNITY in the spirit of Tradition 5. If we do not stay unified as a society, the message of hope and recovery found here in Alcoholics Anonymous will not be here for generations to come. This is what happened to the Washingtonian Movement in the 1840s... (Politics). It created MAY-HEM at a society level. It separates you from me - DISUNITY.

Love and Service Peace and Blessings,

Jim S., SIA Chair

Panel 74,

Area 49 South Eastern NY

May Calendar

May 7 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Corrections Committee Meeting
(virtual)

May 7 @ 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Special Events Committee Mtg
(virtual)

May 10 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Treatment Committee Meeting
(virtual + SIA Office)

May 14 @ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Bylaws Committee Meeting
(SIA Office)

May 14 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Archives Committee Meeting
(virtual)

May 16 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Web Committee Meeting
(virtual)

May 17 @ 8:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Suffolk General Service Meeting
(virtual + Emanuel Lutheran
Church Patchogue NY)

May 28 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Share-A-Thon Cmte Meeting
(virtual + True North)

Treatment Committee Meeting
(virtual + True North)

New Intergroup Rep Orientation
(virtual + True North)

May 28 @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
SIA Business Meeting
(virtual + True North)

**SIA Virtual
Meeting Space**



Zoom ID 941 2170 5886

Passcode service

Tel Dial-In (929) 205-6099

Around the AA Campus

Group Updates

Zooming into Sobriety

New online meeting: Zooming into Sobriety meets every Wednesday at 8:00 PM. Zoom ID: 466 650 1565 Passcode: 595631



Root & Branch


Another new listing Root and Branch meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church 497 Pulaski Road Greenlawn (see photos)


Women in the Solution

Women in the Solution, which met online Thursday at 6:30 PM has decided to stop meeting.

Fellowship of People

Correction: Fellowship of People has a split meeting schedule.

 Tuesday 7:00 PM is an online meeting. Zoom ID 941 5197 3947 Passcode 198843

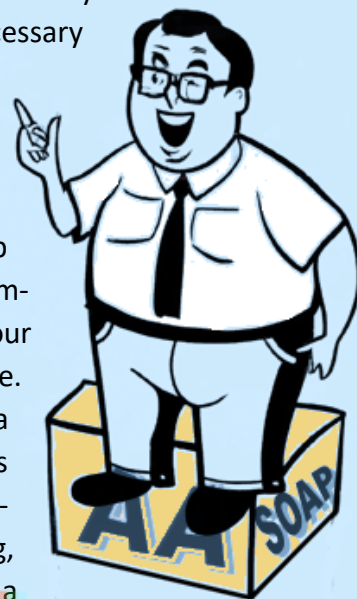
 Friday is an in-person meeting also at 7:00 PM Sound Beach Community Church 4 Great River Road Sound Beach. The Friday meeting had been accidentally listed as online.



Other News...

Soap Box Time

Recently, Intergroup received an email from an AA, who had tried to attend a meeting and found no one when he got there. He did the right thing and reported it. Inaccurate meeting information helps no one! Several people tried to ascertain whether or not this meeting still existed. The email and phone number of the contact person turned out to be out of date. Other messages were sent out to past contacts for this meeting. They had no answers. Finally — after much unnecessary extra work — word came back that the meeting had shut down for the winter. No one told Intergroup about this. It is so important to keep our meeting list up to date. We don't ever want a newcomer, who has finally gotten the courage to attend a meeting, to show up for a meeting that isn't there.



Things We Can Not Change

Norman N of West Islip (Date of sobriety 6/10/1976) passed away. He will be missed.



Happy Hour in Hampton Bays — Group History

St. Rosalie RC Church
31 East Montauk Highway
Hampton Bays, NY 11946



Steps at Noon, as it was known back then, was started between 1981 and 1983 by Alice C and Peggy H. Both of them were mothers of youngsters and could not attend evening meetings. Hampton

Bays Afternoon was already meeting and they decided another day meeting was needed. Alice attended for many years, but became uncomfortable when the meeting began to be called “the Alice Meeting” and she moved on to other meetings. By then, her children had grown up.

An interesting point about this meeting and its original name. The group didn’t meet at noon. It met at 12:30 PM which may have caused some confusion and contributed to people not showing up or showing up at the wrong time.

One longtime member shared that the group was moved around quite a bit. They met first in the basement. Three long tables were lined up and the speaker sat at the opposite end of one. Then they were moved to the gym. For about six months, they relocated to the Lutheran Church, probably because construction was going on. When they returned, they were moved to the basement of the new administration building. Here they had to contend with weird acoustics, which made the slightest noise much louder. In addition, the room was sterile, with no carpet, photos, or even much air.

When a new priest came on board, their next move wasn’t much better. They now met in the enormous gym. There was little privacy and even less warmth. The heating system would need to be cranked up hours before the meeting for any relief from the constant cold. Finally, they got a nice cozy room in the administration building. Through many of the various moves, Ted ran the meeting. (Note – the photo accompanying this history was taken in 2005. The Archives Committee would appreciate it if someone could send a more recent photo of the meeting room.)

In the July 2016 Suffolk meeting list, a time adjustment was made to 1:00 PM and the name was changed to Happy Hour in the Hamptons. They shut down during the pandemic. When they reopened and were put back on the meeting list, the name was simplified to Happy Hour. But they were finally meeting at noon. It only took them thirty years to get there

S.I.A. Archives Committee
Original history written 2005
Updated October 15, 2023

SIA Committee Meeting Schedule

Archives (virtual)
2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm

Bylaws (SIA Office)
2nd Tuesday 6:30 pm

Corrections (virtual)
1st Tuesday 7:00 pm

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

Special Events (virtual)
1st Tuesday 8:30 pm

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

Treatment (virtual + True North)
last Tuesday 7:00 pm

Web (virtual)
2nd Thursday 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
Tel Dial-In (929) 205-6099

Archives Committee

The Archives Committee is always looking for volunteers to help save our Alcoholics Anonymous history.

Contact the SIA Office at
(631) 654-1150

The AA Hotline Needs You

Email: phones@suffolkny-aa.org



Join Us Today!

Help Others Find Sobriety and Support.

The AA Hotline needs YOU and especially your group to sign up to answer the phones.

With a whopping 300+ AA groups, Suffolk County has a thriving AA community. There are no doubt thousands if not tens of thousands AA members who understand the importance of the 5th tradition.

If only a small fraction of the groups and their members raised their hands and volunteered their service, the AA hotline would have the entire year fully covered.

Instead, in the first four months of 2024, a mere SIX GROUPS and fewer than 20 individual volunteers shouldered the load for the entire county.

Even if your group can't fill all 14 shifts in a week, you can lend a hand! The hotline chair is happy to work with you to fill all remaining slots.

To sign up as a group or for any other inquiries, email 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 and access all pertinent forms scan or click the QR code to the left or visit :



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

“Out of Darkness into the Light”

Darkness rests in many corners.
It waits, breathes, looms, and grows.
In that fateful hour it strikes.
Unknowingly, I absorb the blow.

I am consumed by its power.
Now it owns me.
Now it owns my heart and soul.
This precious life, no longer mine.



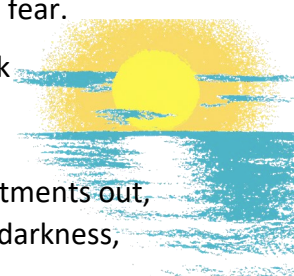
Darkness rests in many corners.
It waits, breathes, looms, and grows.
It deceptively strikes with little warning.

But only lands a glancing blow.

The storm floods within my mind.
The choice is now to let it go.
To live in Faith, and Strength, and Love.
To trust my life to my Higher Power
whom I call God.

My one and perfect choice is clear.
Live my life, release the fear.

When it all seemed dark
I saw a light flicker on
I put down the bottle,
And tossed those resentments out,
So now I am out of the darkness,
And I am free at last.



- Zoie S.

All Creatures Great and Small

Every day is a good time to practice our sobriety but spring seems to be the best. The days are longer. There is more light in the world. Things are new. Things are growing. Our spirits are brighter. It's a time when things come to life. Flowers and trees, birds and bees, all living things. We remember that ...

“ All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
The Lord God made them all.
— Cecil F Alexander 1848



- Fran H.

SIA Officers & Chairpersons			2024 – 2026		
Chairperson	Jim S.	chairperson@suffolkny-aa.org			
Alt Chairperson	Allison M.	alt-chair@suffolkny-aa.org			
Treasurer	Tom B.	treasurer@suffolkny-aa.org			
Corresponding Sec.	Zoie S.	corsec@suffolkny-aa.org			
Recording Sec.	Tiffany W.	recsec@suffolkny-aa.org			
Archives	Evan H.	archives@suffolkny-aa.org			
Archivist	Bob R.	archives@suffolkny-aa.org			
Bulletin	David V.	bulletins@suffolkny-aa.org			
Corrections	Ashley O-W.	correct@suffolkny-aa.org			
Grapevine	Mike A.	grapevine@suffolkny-aa.org			
Hot Line	Howie L.	phones@suffolkny-aa.org			
Treatment Facilities	Rob M.	treatment@suffolkny-aa.org			
Literature	Charlie D.	literature@suffolkny-aa.org			
Meeting List	Kit C.	meetings@suffolkny-aa.org			
Printed Meeting List	Rob S.	printedmeetinglist@suffolkny-aa.org			
Public Info	Laurie A.	pubinfo@suffolkny-aa.org			
Office Manager	Meredith F.	siaoffice@suffolkny-aa.org			
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Special Events	Heather W.	specialevents@suffolkny-aa.org			
Third Legacy	Ed A.	thirdleg@suffolkny-aa.org			
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Spanish Liaison	Jose R.	SpanishRep@suffolkny-aa.org			
Al-Anon Liaison	Maureen P.	AAliaison@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org			
Alateen Liaison	Ed O.	AlateenChair@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org			
YPAA Liaison	Caroline N.	Info.eacypaaxx@gmail.com			

AA History – May

May 11, 1935 - Alone in the lobby of the Mayflower Hotel in Akron in between the bar & the pay phone, Bill W. calls Walter Tunks who refers him to Henrietta Seiberling who introduces Bill to Dr. Bob.

May 12, 1935 @ 5pm - Mother's Day Bill W. and Dr. Bob meet for the first time at the Seiberling home.

May 1, 1939 - Bank forecloses on 182 Clinton Street.

May 6, 1939 - Clarence S. tells Dr. Bob, his sponsor, he won't be back to Oxford Group meetings in Akron. Instead starts first "AA" meetings in Cleveland.

May 11, 1939 - first group to officially call itself "Alcoholics Anonymous" meets at Abby G's house in Cleveland.

1940 - Rollie H., Cleveland Indians, first anonymity break on national level.

1950 - Shortly before his death, Dr. Bob tells Bill, "I reckon we ought to be buried like other folks."

1951 - Al-Anon founded by Lois W. and Anne B.

1980 - *Dr. Bob and the Good Old-timers* published

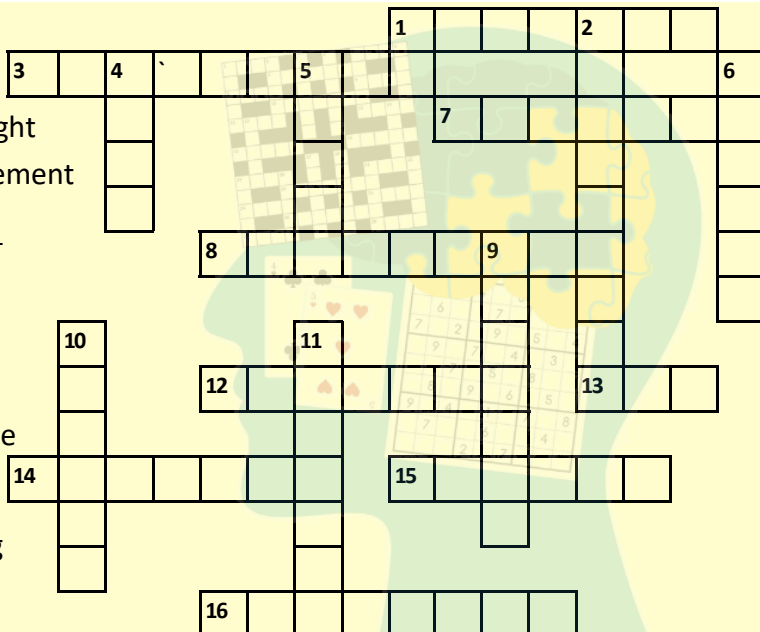
5TH STEP/TRADITION CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Ex-boozers carry this
- 3 Sometimes Ad-hoc
- 7 Of chief importance
- 8 Emotional release
- 12 Offers guidance
- 13 Result unless we let go absolutely
- 14 Raison d'etre
- 15 Communicate, a message or feeling
- 16 Brain center for processing emotions

DOWN

- 1 Self-centered thought
- 2 Act of acknowledgement
- 4 Disease of _____
- 5 Rely on someone's integrity
- 6 Rules governing how SIA operates
- 9 Reciprocal exchange of information
- 10 Final outcome / spiritual awakening
- 11 Candor



Upcoming Events in the Area

LONG ISLAND SPIRITUALITY THROUGH SERVICE 2024

“Connecting with Love, Unity & Service”

SATURDAY MAY 11, 2024
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

ST. FRANCIS de SALES SCHOOL for the DEAF
260 EASTERN PARKWAY
BROOKLYN, NY 11225

*The Long Island Spirituality Through Service (“L.I.S.T.S.”) Workshop aspires to reaffirm the strong spiritual benefits of service to recovering alcoholics.
Sponsored by the General Services of Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and the Hispanic Districts Hosted by Brooklyn County.*



FREE EVENT
The “Basket” will be
passed honoring our
7th Tradition

Panels / Roundtables / Big Meeting / Service Fair / Light Breakfast and Lunch Served
Handicap Accessible / ASL Provided / Free Parking Available
For more information, contact Eddie D. at altdcmc@brooklynnaa.org

ALATEEN

“Alateen, part of the Al-Anon Family Groups, is a fellowship of young people whose lives have been affected by alcoholism in a family member or close friend. Alateens help each other by sharing experience, strength and hope. By applying the Twelve Steps to their lives, they begin to grow mentally, emotionally and spiritually.”

When you're affected by
someone else's drinking

Click or scan QR code

or Email:

AlateenChair@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org



Connect The Dots
Group of Alcoholics Anonymous
District 120 Area 49
presents

CELEBRATING
THE 89TH
BIRTHDAY OF
ALCOHOLICS
ANONYMOUS

TICKETS
\$30

8th Annual
Birthday Brunch

Sunday June 16th, 2024
doors open at 8:30am

Polish Hall

214 Marcy Avenue
Riverhead, NY

for tickets & info. contact John B. at
ctdliny@gmail.com



Suffolk County
Al-Anon in participation with AA
“Let's Talk
Traditions”

This is a QUARTERY workshop focusing on 3 traditions at a
time.

True North Church

1101 Lakeland Avenue
Bohemia, NY 11716

FREE
EVENT

Session 2 (traditions 4-6)

The basket will
be passed
honoring our
7th Tradition

June 29, 2024
10am-2pm

Have
questions?
Put it in the
“Ask It”
Basket!

For information contact:
AAliaison@al-anon-suffolk-ny.org