

**September 2007**

**SPEAKERS EXCHANGE MEETING**

NEW LOCATION: GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

STEWART AVE. AT WHITEHALL BLVD., GARDEN CITY

TIME AND DATE ARE THE SAME:

8AM ON SEPT. 15, 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings are held at the Intergroup Office unless otherwise noted

<b>September</b>				<b>October</b>			
Sep	5	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee Simpson Methodist Church Locust and Sunset, Amityville	Oct	3	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee Simpson Methodist Church Locust and Sunset, Amityville
Sep	6	7:30 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation	Oct	4	7:30 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation
		8:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Meeting			8:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Meeting
Sep	8	9:00 am	NGSC Service Workshop	Oct	9	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee Meeting
Sep	11	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee Meeting	Oct	10	8:00 pm	Share-A-Day Committee
Sep	12	8:00 pm	Share-A-Day Committee	Oct	15		Nassau General Service Committee
Sep	15	8:00 am	Speaker's Exchange Meeting Garden City Community Church Stewart & Whitehall, GC			7:00 pm	GSR Orientation
						7:30 pm	GSR Meeting
Sep	16	1:00 pm	Special Needs Committee	Oct	17	7:30 pm	WebSite Committee
Sep	19	7:30 pm	WebSite Committee	Oct	18		<b>Newsletter DeadLine</b>
Sep	20		<b>Newsletter DeadLine</b>	Oct	21	1:00 pm	Special Needs Committee
Sep	27	7:30 pm	Steering committee	Oct	25	7:30 pm	Steering committee

**Nassau GSRs will not meet in September**

# WE LIST ONLY AA MEETINGS

## MEETING CHANGES

**Bellerose:** See Floral Park entry below.

**Bethpage: New Life Group's** Tue 7:30pm meeting is now a Closed Discussion. St Paul's Luth Ch, 449 Stewart Ave

**Floral Park: Floral Park/Bellerose Group** has moved to a new location, Holy Spirit RC Ch (basement), Jericho Tpke and S 5<sup>th</sup> St, New Hyde Park. No changes to days and times of meetings. Parking lot is at S 5<sup>th</sup> and First Ave.

**New Hyde Park:** See Floral Park entry above.

**Sea Cliff: Sober Start Group's** Tue 6:30am Topic meeting has been changed to a "Living Sober" Beginner's meeting. All other group details unchanged.

**Syosset: Syosset Midnight Group** has changed its name to **Syosset Friday Night Group**. It now meets at 10:30pm (Open Discussion meeting; lasts 1 ½ hours max). In good weather, the group meets outside under the stars. St Edward's Ch, 205 Jackson Ave.

**West Hempstead: Came to Believe Group's** 8:00pm Closed Discussion meeting on Fri meets at St Thomas Rectory Meeting Room (basement), 24 Westminster Rd./Hempstead Tpke.

## NEW MEETINGS

**Massapequa: A Step Forward** meets Thu at 7:30pm (Closed Discussion meeting). St Rose of Lima RC Church, Father Graham Center, 4704 Merrick Rd

**Massapequa: Sobriety in the Park Group** meets at 7:00pm on Tue (Closed Discussion meeting). Marjorie Post Park, Unqua Road.

**North Woodmere: Gratitude Group** has added a Closed Discussion meeting on Thu at 7pm. N Woodmere Park, Branch Blvd (Admin Bldg).

**Seaford: Seaford at Wantagh Group** has added a Sun Step meeting at 7:30pm. Other group details unchanged.

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## NIGHTBOOK

When the next sick and suffering alcoholic reaches out for help, we want the hand of A.A. to be there... for that, we are responsible! By being responsible, we ensure our own sobriety. Another one of those A.A paradoxes; and the more opportunities we get to do that, the better we feel... More is better!

Thank you to the following groups for taking the nightbook in the month of August:

- ✓ *The Massapequa Park Group*
- ✓ *The North Belmore Group*
- ✓ *Early Cup of Sobriety Group* - Manhasset
- ✓ *New Life Group* - Bethpage

Yours in Love and Service,

Nightbook Chair

nightbook@nassauny-aa(dot)org

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### PHONE VOLUNTEERS:

Anyone with 6 months sobriety,  
who is interested in answering the phones,

CONTACT: the Office Coordinator: (516) 292-3045

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## *From the Chair*

Dear Friends:

As the summer *slowly* draws to an end, I hope you all have been blessed with some learning experiences, also known as growing pains (good or not so good), which will help encourage someone else along their way (I know I certainly have). Everything I GROW through is just a little more experience I have to share with someone else God will place in my path.

September kind of marks a new beginning, the start of a new season, the preparation of moving into action (doing something differently). As I was looking for direction with this month's article, I found the following excerpt, which comes from the book *Emotional Sobriety: The Next Frontier*, page 63, titled **A Program of Action**.

*"It is easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do, for alcohol is a subtle foe. We are not cured of alcoholism. What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition."* - Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 85.

Saying that AA is a program of action is perhaps another way of saying it's a program of solutions. Of course we have problems – all human beings do – but we've been given a practical toolkit to help us stay sober in the face of all sorts of challenges. We take action by going to meetings and giving service, by putting the Steps to work in our lives, by reaching out to our fellow AA members, by healing relationships with family and friends, and by connecting with a higher power of our understanding. In these ways, we begin to look for solutions rather than focusing on problems and find we can live peacefully, happily, and to good purpose in the world.

If you need to recommit yourself to AA, TODAY is your day to TAKE ACTION. Don't wait! Come on; be an ACTIVE member of Alcoholics Anonymous... there truly is a difference.

Happy Anniversary to all of our September celebrants! Fortunately for me, because of God's Grace, I am one of the September celebrants celebrating 15 ACTIVE years of sobriety. Thank you all for showing me the way.

Blessed to Serve,  
Intergroup Chairperson  
chair@nassauny-aa(dot)org

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## **From the 12<sup>th</sup> Step Lists Chairperson**

Please remember to update the 12th Step List for your home group – it may be of vital importance to an alcoholic reaching out for help. Stop by the Intergroup office to pick up forms, if you need them.

12<sup>th</sup> Step Chairperson  
12thstep@nassauny-aa(dot)org

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## **From the Treasurer:**

### **When a Treasurer Runs Off With the Money**

If you stick around AA long enough, eventually you will hear a story about a group or service group treasurer, probably under some personal financial stress, succumbing to the temptation and walking off with the group's money. What to do?

The group of course can take legal action against the member, although that is not the usual course. On this, we are reminded that "Concept XII" — from *Twelve Concepts for World Service*, Bill W.'s series of essays suggesting guidelines for our service activities — recommends we avoid actions which may be "personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy." There is often compassion for the erring member. Experience suggests, too, that the purloining member often will seek to later return the funds, to make restitution of sorts. Whether or not that happens, how might the group begin to recover from this experience?

The most useful approach may be to hold a group conscience meeting. The group conscience meeting invites an outside member to come in to moderate a group listening session. (Trusted servants from both Intergroup and General Service are available for this.) Each group member takes a turn saying what is on his or her mind, hopefully offering some positive suggestions about how the group may move forward. In the session, the group may want to consider: how officers are selected; how the treasurer is supported by other group members; what shared experience already may be out there to guide the group and its treasurer; whether the group is holding its treasurer accountable to regular and full reports, and providing member access to treasury records; and whether the group has been holding on to excess funds. No decisions are made, and there is no actual discussion, just listening in these sessions. The fruits of the meeting may be picked up at later business meetings, where the group conscience may then be formed on the group's future financial practices.

Earlier articles in this series have talked about some issues related to the above topic. In March, for instance, we discussed the prudent reserve; in April, contributions to the service structure to avoid amassing excess funds; in June, resources (sources of information and support); in July, how we actually hold and manage our funds; and in August, the long form of "Tradition 7." (All back articles are available either on request or on our web site, [www.nassauny-aa.org](http://www.nassauny-aa.org).) Next month, we will examine record-keeping and reports.

Hope this is helpful.

Feel free to contact me with questions.

In service,  
Treasurer  
treasurer@nassauny-aa(dot)org

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## **From the Newsletter Editor**

### **Submissions welcome**

Nassau Intergroup AA News is open to submissions from AA members on topics consistent with the AA Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. If you would like your article to be considered for publication, please email it to [newsletter@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:newsletter@nassauny-aa(dot)org) or send a query first. Submissions also may be sent by regular mail to the Intergroup office at 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552.

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## **From Ed, the Literature Guy**

We have a small selection of Large Print books for sale at Nassau Intergroup, including *The Big Book*, *The 12 & 12*, *Daily Reflections*, and a few others.

Please have the exact amount ready when you purchase books, since the phone reps do not carry change for literature sales.

Nassau Intergroup does not take phone orders. The office is open 9am-4:30pm for the sale of books.

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## **Sharing the Message:**

### **Thank You**

When my wife died in July after fighting breast cancer for 15½ years, I did not pick up a drink. I picked up the phone and called my sponsor. He picked me up and brought me to the hospital to see her one last time. Within the hour, three other AA's were with us in the parking lot of the hospital, where we had one of those informal "meetings" that, in my humble opinion, are the heart of the program.

When I take a speaking commitment, especially at a beginner's meeting, I always explain what I believe AA to be by telling them to read the first phrase of our Preamble: "AA is a fellowship of men and women..." and to stop there. That, to me, is the essence of AA. Without the

fellowship there would be no meetings, no Big Book, no Steps, no sobriety, nothing.

I don't have the right words to express my gratitude to the fellowship. Marian was my biggest supporter in all things, but most importantly in quietly encouraging me to get sober. She stood with me despite the emotional hell I created around me. She took me to detoxes and rehabs, and visited me while I was there. When I started to make my final amends a week before she died, she told me not to bother; she didn't think about those times at all, just how happy she was that I am sober.

The fellowship did not leave my side for two solid weeks after her funeral, making sure that I was OK and sharing their love and support. Finally, I know that I will never be alone again. For that, and for your continued prayers and support, I thank you.

David N,  
Levittown Group

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## **General Service News**

Last month, Farmingdale's *Sunday at the Park Group* and the *New Hyde Park Group* on South 9<sup>th</sup> Street participated in the **2007 Alcoholics Anonymous Membership Survey**. They were randomly selected by the General Service Office, along with 698 other registered groups throughout the US and Canada, to complete the survey questionnaire. Anyone who happened to be at one of these group's meetings when this survey was voluntarily and anonymously conducted should know they have done a special service for AA. Thanks to GSR's John A and Joseph M for taking your groups through this process. Members can expect to see the new Membership Survey pamphlet some time in 2008/2009. But the next time you visit the Intergroup office, take a look at the 2004 Membership Survey up on the wall, or, better yet, grab a copy of the survey pamphlet.

We are looking forward to seeing interested members at our "Communication and Participation – the Key to Unity and Self-Support" workshop, on Saturday, September 8, at the Intergroup office from 9:00am-1:00pm. Joseph M, Workshop Chair, and his planning committee have been busy organizing this four-hour event with a great line-up of local and out-of-town speakers. So we hope you will come on down and participate in the discussion, ask questions, offer your experience, and maybe enjoy a bagel with coffee or tea.

All of our Unity Breakfast tickets are now out in circulation. Groups or individuals who missed their

opportunity to get tickets will now have to wait for returned tickets. This means being put on a waiting list, and it will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Any questions, please contact our UB Chair, John O'S, at [dcm213@aaseny\(dot\)org](mailto:dcm213@aaseny(dot)org).

Hopefully, some time this month, Nassau General Service Group (NGSG) will receive copies of this year's **Annual General Service Conference Report** for distribution to GSRs/DCMs. I had a sneak peek at one sent to our Past SENY Delegate. Everything you wanted to know about AA's finances, Conference advisory actions, AA's business, and more can be found in this report.

Finally, if you have any **questions** about General Service or would like a NGSG officer to help facilitate a **group inventory**, please let me know.

Together We Can,  
DCMC Nassau,  
[nassau@aaseny\(dot\)org](mailto:nassau@aaseny(dot)org)

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## **Service Opportunities:**

### **Help a Homebound Alcoholic**

**Homebound Alcoholic:** Any Female AA interested in bringing a meeting to a homebound female alcoholic, contact Special Needs Chairperson: [specialneeds@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:specialneeds@nassauny-aa(dot)org).

**Handicapped Alcoholic:** A woman in a nursing home in Freeport, would appreciate calls, visits, or being taken to meetings.

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## **Literature Donations to Institutions**

If your group would like to contribute literature to an institution, please contact the Nassau Intergroup Institutions Chairperson at [institutions@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:institutions@nassauny-aa(dot)org) or call Nassau Intergroup for assistance and to ensure that donations are coordinated.

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## **Sober In The Sun**

### **The 5th Annual AA Picnic in Sea Cliff**

**Tappen Beach Park, Sea Cliff**  
**Sunday, Sept. 9...Noon to 6pm**  
*Fun, Food, Sports, Live Music*  
*and*

*Speakers at 1pm, 3pm, and 5pm!*

Food and Drink for a day of fun in the sun  
BBQ cooking available  
Kids welcome  
Playground  
Plenty of free parking

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## **2008 Grapevine Calendar and Planner**

Redesigned "one day at a time" wall calendars and pocket planners for 2008 are available from the AA Grapevine. Items are trilingual and do not mention AA or alcoholism directly.

Contact: [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org) or 1-800-631-6025.

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