

# Newsletter

## Nassau Intergroup

of Alcoholics Anonymous

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**World Wide Web Edition**

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## MARCH 2012

### **NASSAU INTERGROUP PRESENTS DINNER AND COMEDY SHOW**



With DJ, Music & Dancing

Details Inside

Calendar of Events

**All Meetings are held at the Intergroup Office unless otherwise note**

### MARCH

Mar 1	7:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation
	7:30 pm	Intergroup Rep's Meeting
Mar 7	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee Simpson Methodist Church Locust & Sunset, Amityville
Mar 8	7:00 pm	Special Needs Committee
Mar 10	7:00 pm	<b>Dinner and Comedy Show</b> Ariana Waterfall 79 Hempstead Tpke, W Hempstead
Mar 12	8:15 pm	LICYPAA Committee South Oaks Chapel 400 Sunrise Hgwy, Amityville
Mar 13	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee
Mar 14	8:00 pm	Share-A-Day Committee
Mar 17	7:30 am	Speakers Exchange Meeting Nassau Community College 1 Education Dr, Cluster F
Mar 21	7:30 pm	Web Site Committee
Mar 22		<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
Mar 29	7:30 pm	Steering Committee

### APRIL

Apr 4	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee Simpson Methodist Church Locust & Sunset, Amityville
Apr 5	7:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation
	7:30 pm	Intergroup Rep's Meeting
Apr 9	8:15 pm	LICYPAA Committee South Oaks Chapel 400 Sunrise Hgwy, Amityville
Apr 10	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee
Apr 11	8:00 pm	Share-A-Day Committee
Apr 14	7:30 am	<b>Share-A-Day XXXV</b> St Joseph's Church 1346 Broadway, Hewlett
Apr 16	7:00 pm	New GSR Orientation
	7:30 pm	Nassau General Service Meeting
Apr 18	7:30 pm	Web Site Committee
Apr 19		<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
Apr 26	7:30 pm	Steering Committee

## WE ONLY LIST AA MEETINGS

### MEETING CHANGES

**Baldwin:** Over 40 Discussion Group has changed their name to Over the Hill Group

**Bellmore:** There Is A Light has changed the Sun 7:00 S to 6:30

**East Meadow:** Clean and Sober has changed their name to Clean and Sober Men's Meeting

**Malverne:** Gratitude Group has changed the Tue 7:00 S to 7:30 with last Tue a Trad

**Manhasset:** Good Morning God Group has changed the Thu 10:00am C to 10:30am

**Sea Cliff:** Sleepless in Sea Cliff had changed the Sat 6:30 am Daily Reflections to a CD

**Seaford:** Time Group has changed their Sun 7:00 S to 4:00 with the last Sun a Trad

**West Hempstead:** Decision Group has changed their Tue 7:00 S to a BB with the 1<sup>st</sup> Tue a Trad, & 2<sup>nd</sup> a Step

### NEW MEETINGS

**East Meadow:** The East Meadow Group has added a Sun CD at 7:00 am through Apr 1<sup>st</sup>

**Glen Cove:** Into Action Group meets at St Paul's Epis Ch, 28 Highland Rd on Sat for a 7:30 O

**Glen Cove:** No Excuses Group meets at Trinity Luth Ch, 74 Forest Ave on Mon for a 7:30 CD with the last Mon an Open

**Long Beach:** Young By The Beach meets at St Ignatius Martyr, 721 W Broadway on Sat 6:15 YPBC, 7:30 O

**Malverne:** Gratitude Group has added a Tue 7:30 S Last Tue Tradition and designated the last Thu 7:30 CD for Anniversaries

**Manhasset:** Good Morning God meets at St Ignatius Retreat House (rear), 251 Seeringtown Rd on Thu 10:30am C

**Melville:** Sweet Air Group has added a Mon 8:00 YP, Thu 6:30 BB and 6:30 CD

**New Hyde Park:** Conscious Contact meets at Christ Luth Ch, 300 Hillside Ave S on Wed 8:00 for a CD 11<sup>th</sup> Step Meditation

**North Bellmore:** Miracles starting Nov 4<sup>th</sup> has an 8:30 am BB CD

**West Hempstead:** Here & Now Group now meets at Project Outreach, 600 Hempstead Tpke. on Thurs 12 Noon B

### DELETIONS

**Garden City:** Garden City Group has dropped their Tue 7:30 Women's Step meeting

## From The Chair -

### The Group Conscience

*The AA Group* pamphlet suggests, "The group conscience is the collective conscience of the group membership and thus represents substantial unanimity on an issue before definitive actions is taken." (p. 26).

Just how might this play out in practice? Well, it begins when a question comes before the group, usually in a business meeting. Simple questions such as Folgers versus Maxwell House may be disposed of relatively easily and quickly, but on more sensitive and substantive matters it becomes important to the effective resolution of any question that we allow adequate time for discussion, reflection and perhaps prayer.

Do we need to settle this today? If we can afford the time to allow our process of consideration to come full round, we are more likely to be happy with the outcome. The group conscience then ideally should not be rushed. Although there may from time to time be some urgency to the prompt resolution of an important question, this is usually not the case. We can and should take the time to gather and share information, to consider what we have heard, and then to move to a vote. We avoid the interplay of personalities or accepting the dominant voice until we are satisfied our process has adequately run its course. In time, the collective view will emerge, that view well informed by objective information.

What about that "minority voice"? A well informed group conscience has taken the time to listen to all points of view, including those which might not in the moment enjoy much support. It is part of the assertion of a well informed group conscience that we consider all points of view before we decide.

Why do we seek "substantial unanimity" on important questions? Why not a simple majority? If our process has played out well, we should find a substantial majority (usually  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members voting "yes" or "no" on the question) have come to share the same point of view. A simple majority could easily have tipped the other way with only one or two different members having been present that day. Such a decision might readily be overturned at the next business meeting. If a substantial number of the members support an outcome, we probably have an enduring resolve on the question at hand.

When an adequate process is allowed to play out on a question, most members are likely to be satisfied with the outcome, even when their personal point of view does not prevail. We feel we have been heard and have been allowed to participate fully. Questions can also be later reconsidered, but when

a thoughtful deliberative process has been allowed, in the absence of new information, the question at hand is pretty much settled.

Interestingly, I recently fielded a complaint from a member about some decision taken by Intergroup. The complaint included the notice that the member would be removing our information on the matter from his group. Certainly we respect and support the right of individual members and groups to disagree with Intergroup. I wondered however if this member was reflecting his group's conscience on the matter or simply his own, and whether his group had a representative present when the matter had been discussed and decided at the Intergroup Reps meeting?

In other matters, we are in a period of transition bringing on board our new treasurer. We are however significantly behind in acknowledging group and individual contributions, probably back somewhere in November. All contributions will be individually acknowledged as in the past. Please be patient with us while we play catch up.

Upcoming events for Nassau Intergroup include NERAASA the first weekend in March, the Dinner Event at the Ariana Waterfall in West Hempstead on March 10, our quarterly Exchange Meeting March 17 at Nassau Community College, and our annual Share-A-Day on April 14 at St. Joseph's in Hewlett. Check our website ([www.nassauny-aa.org](http://www.nassauny-aa.org)) and this newsletter for more information.

Hope this is helpful.

NIAA Chairperson,  
[chair@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:chair@nassauny-aa(dot)org)

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## **From the First Vice Chair -** **The Spirit of Cooperation**

On February 7<sup>th</sup> I attended the Alison Board Meeting (Al-Anon Intergroup for LI). It reminded me of my early days with NIG.

Our Al-Anon friends are looking forward to take part in our Share-A-Day. I offer our friends any help we can give them. I will be at their next meeting in March.

I hope to see many of you at the next exchange on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Nassau Community College; we are looking for some feed back as to the new meeting location, keeping in mind that the steering committee asks for suggestions for meeting place in about 1 year. Remember that the rent is a lot less then what we were paying.

Yours In Service,

1st Vice Chair,  
[1stvice@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:1stvice@nassauny-aa(dot)org)

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## **From the Editor -** **The Home Group**

Traditionally, most AA members through the years have found it important to belong to one group which they call their "Home Group." This is the group where they accept service responsibilities and try to sustain friendships. And although all AA members are usually welcome at all groups and feels at home at any of these meetings, the concept of the "Home Group" has still remained the strongest bond between the AA member and the Fellowship.

With membership comes the right to vote upon issues that might affect the group and might also affect AA as a whole - a process that forms the very cornerstone of AA's service structure. As with all group-conscience matters, each AA member has one vote; and this, ideally, is voiced through the home group.

Over the years, the very essence of AA strength has remained with our home group, which, for many members, becomes our extended family. Once isolated by our drinking, we find in the home group a solid, continuing support system, friends and, very often, a sponsor. We also learn firsthand, through the group's workings, how to place "principles before personalities" in the interest of carrying the AA message.

Talking about her own group, a member says: "Part of my commitment is to show up at my home- \*group meetings, greet newcomers at the door, and be available to them—not only for them but for me. My fellow group members are the people who know me, listen to me, and steer me straight when I am off in left field. They give me their experience, strength, and AA love, enabling me to 'pass it on' to the alcoholic who still suffers."

There's a certain language used around AA rooms. I used to get really irritated by people saying "it's not like that today". Don't know why... I wasn't a very tolerant person when I first came in! If you hang around, you'll start using it too.

You will get out of your home group what you put into it.

In Love and Service,  
Newsletter Chair and Editor,  
[newsletter@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:newsletter@nassauny-aa(dot)org)

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**NASSAU**  
**INTERGROUP**  
**PRESENTS**  
**DINNER**  
**&**  
**COMEDY**  
**SHOW**

**With DJ, Music, and Dancing**

**Where:**

Ariana Waterfall,  
79 Hempstead Turnpike,  
West Hempstead

**When:**

Saturday,  
March 10,  
7 pm to 12 Midnight

**Doors open at 6:30 pm**

**\$60 per person**

Tickets are available.

Friends and family  
are welcome.

For more information

contact:  
292.3045

**From the Institutions Chair -**  
**The Institutions Committee**

The Intergroup Institutions Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month 8:00 pm at Simpson United Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave., Amityville (County Line Group Meeting place). If you want to stay sober and help your fellow alcoholic consider this service opportunity. The committee brings meetings to hospitals, the Correction Center, and many other institutions throughout Nassau County. Opportunities to chair meetings, speak at meetings, or to represent your group are available to any AA who wishes to do so. Any literature such as old Grapevines, 12 & 12, and Big Books can be donated through your group's GIR (Group Institutions Representative) or by bringing them to the Committee Meeting. If you wish to learn more come to the next meeting, Mar 7th at 8:00 pm. Any Spanish language participation ( lit. & speakers) will be much appreciated.

These meetings stick to the business at hand and rarely go longer than 30 minutes. I'll look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

In Love & Service,

Institutions Committee Chair

[institutions@nassauny-aa\(dot\)org](mailto:institutions@nassauny-aa(dot)org)

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