

# Newsletter

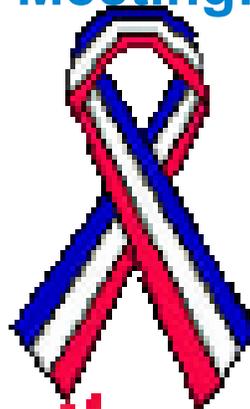
## Nassau Intergroup

### of Alcoholics Anonymous

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# SEPTEMBER 2012

October Rep's Meeting: Oct 4, 7:30pm



## Election Day

### AT NASSAU INTERGROUP

#### Calendar of Events

All Meetings are held at the Intergroup Office unless otherwise noted

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>				<u>OCTOBER</u>			
Sep 5	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee		Oct 3	8:00 pm	Institutions Committee	
		Simpson Methodist Church				Simpson Methodist Church	
		Locust & Sunset, Amityville				Locust & Sunset, Amityville	
Sep 6	7:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation		Oct 4	7:00 pm	Intergroup Rep's Orientation	
	7:30 pm	Intergroup Rep's Meeting			7:30 pm	Nassau Intergroup Elections	
Sep 10	8:15 pm	LICYPAA Committee		Oct 9	8:15 pm	LICYPAA Committee	
		South Oaks Chapel				South Oaks Chapel	
		400 Sunrise Hgwy, Amityville				400 Sunrise Hgwy, Amityville	
Sep 11	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee		Oct 9	7:00 pm	PI/CPC Committee	
Sep 12	8:00 pm	Share-a-Day Committee		Oct 10	8:00 pm	Share-a-Day Committee	
Sep 13	7:00 pm	Special Needs Committee		Oct 11	7:00 pm	Special Needs Committee	
Sep 15	7:30 am	<b>Speakers Exchange Meeting</b>		Oct 15	7:00 pm	New GSR Orientation	
		Nassau Community College			7:30 pm	Nassau General Service Elections	
		1 Education Dr, Cluster F		Oct 17	7:30 p	Web Site Committee	
Sep 17	7:00 pm	GSR Roundtable		Oct 18		<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	
Sep 19	7:30 pm	Web Site Committee		Oct 25	7:30 p	Steering Commit	
Sep 20		<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>					
Sep 24	7:00 pm	GSR "101" Workshop					
Sep 27	7:30 p	Steering Committee					

# WE ONLY LIST AA MEETINGS

## MEETING CHANGES

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

## NEW MEETINGS

**Garden City:** Joy of Good Living meets at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Central Nassau, 233 Stewart Ave on Thu for a 7:30 OB

**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

**Rockville Centre:** Serenity Now meets at 30 Hempstead Ave., Suite H6 in basement on Thu 10:00 am CD

**Rockville Centre:** Veterans In Recovery meets at 30 Hempstead Ave, Suite H6 on Sun 7:30

## DELETIONS

**Long Beach:** Keep the Faith

**Seaford:** Primary Purpose

**Syosset:** Deliverance Group Fri 7:30 CD

## **CEDARHURST HEWLETT'S**

### **58<sup>RD</sup> GROUP ANNIVERSARY**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2012**

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

**1346 BROADWAY**

**HEWLETT, NY 11557**

**SPEAKER AT 8PM**

**FOOD/MUSIC/FUN**

## **FROM THE CHAIR - SERVICE AND RECOVERY**

Every alcoholic who comes to AA is introduced to the "Twelve Steps" guiding recovery, understood to be the foundation of the AA program. Many also find out something about the "Twelve Traditions," the principles supporting our fellowship's unity. A smaller number still learn something about the "Twelve Concepts" which underpin our practice of service. These three sets of ideas are AA's "Three Legacies." My own experience has been that the practice of the Legacies offers a complete program which those who approach AA cafeteria style are not getting.

Service in AA offers a special opportunity to further my recovery in the supportive and forgiving context of my home or service group. It's part of the genius of AA which recognizes my challenges, my need for guidance, for a chance to practice responsibility, and my need to hone my interpersonal skills before I go out into the world at large which is always less forgiving than my AA circle.

Every AA job offers this chance to become more whole. Consider for instance the job of coffee maker for a newcomer. I need to show up reliably, do some work, and then accept the likely outcome that however conscientious I am, someone will complain about my coffee. This offers several small lessons in life in a dose not likely to exceed my probably shaky sense of self in early recovery. I then move on to another AA job offering a bit more challenge and a further chance to practice being a more confident and capable person, to move ahead with work on my recovery within the structure of the "Twelve Steps" and the support of the fellowship.

If I continue to accept the challenges of more and more responsible and demanding AA-based jobs over time, I can progressively grow in confidence and ease, things I clearly lacked when drinking. The skills and capacity I gain can then be carried into the rest of my life where my program suggests I "practice these principles in all [my] affairs."

What more could I ask for, a structured program, a chance to risk, learn and grow in a forgiving setting, support from my peers as I do so, and a place to come back to when I suffer the inevitable knocks life on life's terms will provide?

I've come to view AA's "Three Legacies" as inextricably linked, like three legs supporting a chair. With all three in place, the chair provides sound support. Take any one away, and the chair teeters under me at best. Do I have a firm foundation in recovery, or do I take AA cafeteria style?

Next month we'll talk a bit about Unity and Recovery.

In other matters, a reminder that next month Intergroup holds its biennial election of officers. I'm hopeful every group will raise its rightful voice in this process by fielding a Rep to place its vote. I'm hopeful too that several of you will accept the challenge to grow through service, and offer yourselves as candidates for office. While all Intergroup Reps and most current Steering Committee members are eligible to stand for office, you don't need a service history with Intergroup to stand, just willingness to take on a challenge and to grow through the experience. Please contact me if you have questions about the election process or standing for office.

Hope this is helpful.

Chair  
chair@nassauny-aa(dot)org

## Leadership in A.A.: Ever a Vital Need

*(Excerpts from Bill W.'s article in the April 1959 Grapevine. See Concept IX, page 38 of "Twelve Concepts for World Service" for the full article)*

Somewhere in our literature there is a statement to this effect: "Our leaders do not drive by mandate: they lead by example." In effect, we are saying to them, "Act for us, but don't boss us."...

Therefore, a leader in AA service is a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job. When a leader power-drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly be-

comes an order-taker and he exercises no judgment of his own — well, he really isn't a leader at all....

Good leadership originates plans, policies, and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its service. But in new and important matters, it will nevertheless consult widely before taking decisions and actions. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source....

Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can obtain, sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and puts them into action forthwith, provided, of course, that such action be within the framework of its defined authority and responsibility....

Another qualification for leadership is give-and-take, the ability to compromise cheerfully whenever a proper compromise can cause a situation to progress in what appears to be the right direction. Compromise comes hard to us all-or-nothing drunks. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a series of improving compromises. We cannot, however, compromise always. Now and then, it is truly necessary to stick flatfooted to one's conviction about an issue until it is settled. These are situations for keen timing and careful discrimination as to which course to take....

Leadership is often called upon to face heavy and sometimes long-continued criticism. This is an acid test. There are always the constructive critics, our friends indeed. We ought never to fail to give them a careful hearing. We should be willing to let them modify our opinions or change them completely. Often, too, we shall have to disagree and then stand fast without losing their friendship.

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## From the Institutions Chair- NYS Informational Workshop

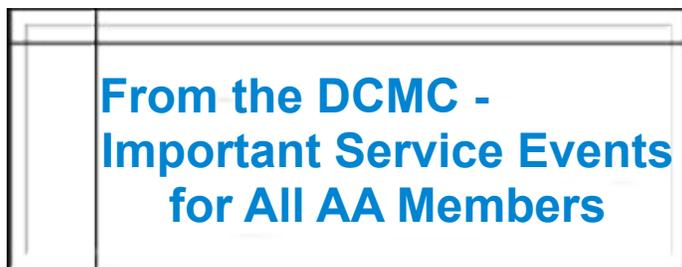
The workshop is divided into panels and each is given a topic to address. Some of the panels were more "up my alley" than others, all were in-

teresting. The panel on Young People enlightened me as to the origins of YP groups in the areas. It was pointed out by this panel that young people are AA's first and foremost. The energy brought by young people is praiseworthy, Some beefs about older AA's were saying, "your so cute", " I spilled more than you drank", and one I've used, "Your lucky to get this so young". The general consensus was Young People's Meetings can help with identification.

I'll be covering more at the Intergroup Reps Meeting on Thursday Sep 5th, at 7:30 pm along with Kevin McH who also was in attendance.

The Institutions Committee invites any interested AA's to our next meeting Wednesday Sep 5th at 8:00 PM. You'll find us at Simpson Methodist Church, 30 Locust Ave, Amityville, (County Line Group meeting place). If you or someone you know is interested in speaking at one of Nassau's treatment facilities in October come on down, We'll help you to help us to stay sober.

Love & Service,  
Institutions Chair  
institutions@nassauny-aa(dot)org



Interested in learning more about how you can contribute to AA's 5th Tradition & 12th Step? Please join us at:

▲ **September 22: Area 49 (South East New York Election Assembly)** – Every two years, representatives from groups (GSRs, or General Service Representatives) throughout the 12 counties of SENY elect a new Delegate for 2013-2014 to represent our informed group consciences as a voting member of AA's General Services Conference, which decides important issues on behalf of AA as a whole. We'll also elect new SENY trusted servants. All AA members are welcome at this event, which is an opportunity to see the power of our fellowship practiced through the Third Legacy election procedure, which is from 9:30 am – 4 pm at Rockland Community College, 145 College Road, Suffern, NY 10901.

▲ **September 24: 'GSR 101' Workshop**, for

new General Service Representatives & Alternates, and any AA member interested in learning about "the most important role in AA", 7 - 9 pm, Nassau Intergroup Office, conducted by AA Area 49 Alternate Delegate Linda McG.

▲ **October 6: District 215 Workshop: Our 12th Step, Suit-up & Show-up!**, including speakers, service exhibits, food, & fellowship -- 6 – 10 pm, New Hyde Park Group, 16 South 9th Street, New Hyde Park NY 11040

▲ **October 13: Long Island Spirituality Through Service Workshop**, 12 pm - 5 pm, PS 49, 7915 Penelope Avenue, Flushing NY – the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual half-day of roundtables, speakers, meditation, food, & fellowship for all AA. members & friends, sponsored by service groups in Nassau, Suffolk, Brooklyn, & Queens

▲ **October 15: Nassau General Service Elections** -- 2013/2014, 7 – 9 pm, Nassau Intergroup Office

In Love And Service,  
Nassau DCMC,  
nassau@aaseny(dot)org

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