# intergroup

# NEWSLETTER

Intergroup Association of Nassau, Inc. 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552-1342

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# **APRIL 2021**

#### A.A. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The April Reps. meeting will be on 4/1/21 at 7:30 PM. The Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 554 670 5146 Passcode: 870607. There is a New Reps. Orientation Meeting beforehand at 7:00 pm same Meeting ID and Passcode.
- The H&I Meeting is being held on 4/7/21 at 7:30 PM. The Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 554 670 5146 Passcode: 870607
- The Technology Committee will be meeting on 4/21/21 at 7:00 pm. The Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 861 6828 0466 Passcode: techc
- The Nassau General Service workshop on Concepts 5 & 6 will be on 5/17/21 at 7:30 pm. The Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 922 8787 8377 Passcode: 12345
- Traditions workshops will be every second Sunday of the month at 10 AM. Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 554 670 5146 Passcode: 870607
- There are service opportunities with the Nightbook/Daybook (see pg. 8)
- The office is open with restricted access, please call ahead (516-292-3045) to verify if someone is available. Masks and social distancing is required.

#### Calendar Of Events:

May 2021

- SENY Committee Meeting 7:30pm

- Institutions Committee Meeting

- Corrections Committee Meeting

- New Representatives Orientation

- Nassau Intergroup Representatives

- Traditions Workshop 10:00am

Share-A-Day Planning Committee

- Public Information & Cooperation

- Nassau General Service 12 Concepts

- Tech./Website Committee Meeting

Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm

with the Professional Community Committee Meeting 7:30pm

5/3/21:

5/5/21:

7:30pm

8:30pm

5/6/21:

7:00pm

5/9/21:

5/12/21:

7:00pm

5/13/21:

5/17/21:

5/19/21:

5/27/21:

(by invitation)

Workshop 7:30pm

Meeting 7:30pm

#### April 2021

4/1/21: New Representatives Orientation 7:00pm Nassau Intergroup Representatives Meeting 7:30pm

4/5/21: - SENY Committee Meeting 7:30pm

4/7/21: - Institutions Committee Meeting 7:30pm - Corrections Committee Meeting 8:30pm

4/10/21: - SENY Pre-conference Assembly 8:30am

4/11/21: - Traditions Workshop 10:00am

4/14/21: Share-A-Day Planning Committee 7:00pm

4/18/21: - GSO Conference

4/19/21: - GSO Conference Nassau General Service Representatives Meeting 7:30pm (New Reps. Orientation at 7:00pm)

<u>4/20/21:</u> - GSO Conference

4/21/21: **GSO** Conference Tech./Website Committee Meeting

4/22/21: GSO Conference

4/23/21:

4/24/21:

4/29/21: Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm (by invitation)

For detailed information regarding each meeting, please refer to the Nassau Intergroup Calendar of Events website, which can be found here.

Drunks are calling... Let's ensure the hand of A.A. is there to answer their calls. The A.A. hotline, both the daytime phones and

the Nightbook, is in dire need of phone volunteers.

Reach out to Kenny at officemanager@nassaunyaa.org or Karen at nightbook@nassaunyaa.org for opportunities to do service.

"Each day my friend's simple talk in our kitchen multiplies itself in a widening circle of peace on earth and good will to men."

Reprinted from the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, p.16, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

7:00pm

GSO Conference

GSO Conference

# **Step Four**

This is it, this is the start of the clearing of the wreckage of my past. The spiritual artery that I have between me and my Higher Power is clogged with resentment and fear, and I need to clean it out to get closer to Him. Once I gave over my will to my Higher Power, I was ready to do my 4th step. I knew the only way my Higher Power would grant me a daily reprieve from alcohol, as the big book says, is by maintaining and constantly growing my spiritual plane. I was also promised that I would feel true happiness and freedom, once I went through steps 4-9, and I was craving that so much.

I remember my first time that I wrote inventory. It was very emotional for me. Here I was, writing down all my resentments, fears, and sex inventories. It was bringing back all these memories that I had buried over the years. I am grateful for my sponsor at the

# **STEP FOUR**

# Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 59, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

I'm resentful at	: The Cause	Affects my:
Mr. Brown	His attention to my wife.	Sex relations. Self-esteem (fear
	Told my wife of my mistress.	Sex relations. Self-esteem (feat
	Brown may get my job at the office.	Security. Self-esteem (fear
Mrs. Jones	She's a nut—she snubbed me. She committed her hus- band for drinking. He's my friend. She's a gossip.	Personal relation- ship. Self-esteen (fear)
My employer	Unreasonable—Unjust — Overbearing — Threatens to fire me for drinking and padding my ex- pense account.	Self-esteem (fear Security.
My wife	Misunderstands and nags. Likes Brown. Wants house put in her name.	

We were usually as definite as this example:

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 65, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

time who had me slow down. He reminded me that this is a lifelong process so I don't need to do it all in one day, just like how I didn't become an alcoholic in one

day either. As I was trudging through it, I started learning a lot about myself. I realized that most of what I thought were selfless acts on my part were really selfish. Due to the fact that I was looking for everyone's appreciation and when I didn't get it, that was another resentment in the books. This was one of the many realizations I had while writing my inventory. When I finished my inventory, I

was already starting to feel the freedom. More and more freedom came as I continued through the steps. The greatest thing to learn is that this step, along with all the 12 steps, is now part of the tools for living my life one day at a time. Anytime I have resentment, or fear, I can immediately write an inventory, share about it, make amends if needed, and immediately feel better and have that serenity again. That is the miracle of my Higher Power and this program, and for that I am eternally grateful!

C.M.

## **Tradition Four**

The founder referred to autonomy as a "ten-dollar" word. What catches the eye is that in his original article, on this tradition, is the "right to be wrong" in quotes. I think this use of punctuation gives autonomy a zero value when a group or individual does not adhere to the other traditions, or runs on "sheer license".

I believe that the only way a group, or individual, can exercise true autonomy is by adhering to the other traditions. Although, my observation is that this is always a work in progress based on the experience of the group or individual. The remaining traditions and an "informed group conscience" being the healthful model.

I always keep in mind that if both my group and I deviate from any A.A. tradition, we create disunity and thereby violate the First Tradition. Unification comes by an organization rallying around a single purpose, we cannot be in *unison* by doing two things or violating the other traditions.

I have experienced and learned A.A. tradition by seeing these principles violated and corrected over and over. Participation has enabled me to see the wisdom of these spiritual principles and continue to grow along spiritual lines by subjugating the self for the greater good of my group and our collective fellowship. One recent example of members, or groups, deviating from this principle is starting a meeting on the Zoom platform the same time and day a pre-existing group has their meeting.

We cannot not have a negative impact or perpetuate any sort of wrongness and say we are autonomous. My ninth step instructed me to right the wrong, not continue it. Similar to my individual practice, I believe that a group will always be in a state of "approximate conformity" moving toward a healthy autonomy if that group tries not to violate any of the other traditions and considers all concerned.

A personal inventory question I try to ask; Is what I am doing or saying going to affect another member, group, or A.A. as a whole and have I consulted with all before deciding and taking deliberative action? A group conscience can ask the same, or are we truly autonomous if we violate any other tradition and impact the surrounding groups or A.A. as a whole in a negative way?

Derrick H.

# TRADITION FOUR

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p.139, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

## TRADITION FOUR CHECKLIST

1. Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?

2. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?

3. Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?

- 4. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
  - 5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths—his lengths, not mine—to stay sober?
- 6. Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?

# **Concept Four** : <u>The Right of Participation</u>

Moving deeper into the spiritual principles of the Twelve Concepts, we now explore the issue of participation. Concept III helped us see that our trusted servants must have a certain amount of authority delegated to them to make decisions on our behalf. But who gets to be a trusted servant? Who gets to elect them? And who gets to join the conversations that (hopefully) precede elections, decisions, and actions?

Like so many things in AA, the Right of Participation is not an all-or-nothing matter. The qualifying phrase "at all responsible levels" is the first guard rail to keep us on the road. Many of us have seen the consequences of appointing a relative newcomer to a service position for which they're not ready. We may also be acquainted with a "service junkie" who takes on job after job in AA and not only spreads themselves too thin, but also hinders the ability of others to participate. The right of participation "at all responsible levels" means we should avoid both the overly simplistic anyone-can-do-it attitude (such as when looking for an Intergroup webmaster or a group treasurer) and the self-centered I'll-do-it-all attitude (which is obviously contrary to the A.A. spirit of humble, grateful service).

Concept IV also addresses the idea of voting representation. In our home groups, one vote per person is the general rule. At the local service level, such as at Intergroup, the basic principle is one vote per group. And at our annual general service conference, all 93 service areas are allowed to send one voting delegate, to join with trustees, non-trustee directors, and a handful of GSO staff members, to make decisions for the good of AA as a whole.

The key factor in how we determine voting representation is captured in the phrase "reasonable proportion." Simply put, the greater the burden of responsibility, the greater the proportion of votes. So our Intergroup steering committee, while enjoying the "Right of Participation" of a couple dozen votes, should always be far outweighed by the voting power of the 300+ AA groups in Nassau County. This balance of power is justifiably skewed toward the groups, since (as we saw in Concept I) final responsibility and ultimate authority should reside in the collective conscience of our fellowship - not in a handful of members of a steering committee. By the same token, the General Service Board trustees, AAWS and AAGV non-trustee directors, and the staff members of the General Service Office all have voting rights at the annual General Service Conference, but even if they all voted together they'd still be outweighed by the 93 Area delegates representing more than 1.2 million members in the U.S. and Canada.

We should also keep in mind that the right of participation also carries a responsibility to participate. A.A. is not run by "them." It's ours. Because of this, each of us -- from the coffeemaker and greeter at our home group, to our Area delegate to the Conference -- has the opportunity to experience one of the greatest gifts of sobriety: the joy of participation!

Jim M.

# CONCEPT FOUR

At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

Reprinted from Service Material from the General Service Office, p.1, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

# CONCEPT FOUR CHECKLIST

1. Do we understand the spiritual principles underlying the "Right of Participation"?

2. What does "in reasonable proportion" mean? Do we understand when it is appropriate for A.A. paid staff to have a vote at the General Service Conference or in our local service structure?

3. Do we expect that, because we are A.A. members, we should be allowed to vote at any group, even if we are not active members of that group?

Reprinted from Service Material from the General Service Office, p.2, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

# We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace.

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 84-85, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.



According to the dictionary, the word peace is defined as "freedom from disturbance; tranquility." Serenity. Peace. Freedom. Tranquility. All simple words, yet substantial concepts that I had never truly understood or experienced firsthand before getting sober.

I remember waking up one morning, in sobriety, and NOT feeling anxious or worried. At first, I was confused by this unfamiliar feeling-- by the stillness of it all. During my drinking days, I was so consumed by a world of chaos that my mornings were often clouded by thoughts of regret, remorse, and anxiety. What was happening here? I later came to realize that this "unfamiliar feeling" was peace that I was experiencing for the first time.

Through the 12 steps of A.A., I have come to find a Higher Power and experienced firsthand a newfound freedom that is beyond anything that I could have envisioned. Today, I continue to wake up each morning and feel peace. I am at peace with my decisions and I am at peace with my own self. I feel freedom. I am free from alcohol and substances. I have freedom from bondage of self. Most importantly though, I feel freedom to trust in a Power greater than myself to guide me along the way as I continue on this peaceful journey called life.

Kourtney W.

On awakening let us think about the twenty-four hours ahead. We consider our plans for the day. Before we begin, we ask God to direct our thinking, especially asking that it be divorced from self-pity, dishonest, or self-seeking motives. Under these conditions we can employ our mental faculties with assurance, for after all God gave us brains to use. Our thought-life will be placed on a much higher plane when our thinking is cleared of wrong motives. In thinking about our day we may face indecision. We may not be able to determine which course to take. Here we ask God for inspiration, an intuitive thought or decision.

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, p.86, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

When I wake up in the morning, I make a cup of coffee, get comfortable, and spend time with my Higher Power. I open up the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, to page 86, and I read this prayer. Before I begin the day, I must ask God to direct all of me. I can try with all of my will to control my sick and selfish thinking, but the power is not there. I must tap into the power of God and allow Him to do for me what I cannot do for myself.

When I am consumed with self pity, dishonest, and self-seeking motives, I cannot be of any use to God or His children. I am faced with the third step every morning when I wake up. Will I stay stuck in self today, or will I take the time to tap into the power of God and ask Him for help?

The first three steps apply to my life everyday- I can't, He can, so let him. Every morning, I must remember to surrender. It is only then that I am able to live on the plane of inspiration, having only one motive to live by. That motive being, "God what else would you have me do today"?

Jillian F.

"HAVING ONLY ONE MOTIVE TO LIVE BY: GOD WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO TODAY?"

#### **2020 Clarified Our Vision**

Spring is around the corner. New beginnings. New opportunities to be useful. I bet we're all looking forward to that, right? As this pandemic begins to recede, as our lives begin to reform and reopen, it's a wonderful feeling to have a renewed sense of hope. Most of our friends outside of AA are more than happy to put 2020 in the rear view mirror, and it can be tempting for us to do the same.

But our A.A. experience has shown us we need not "regret the past, nor wish to shut the door on it." Our A.A. experience has taught us that even in the darkest moments behind us we can find valuable experiences.

So let's take a look back at 2020. Not to wallow, but to wonder. Not to stew, but to study.

We learned that we're not a particular room, or a box of books, or a coffee pot, because all those things were stripped from us -- and we're still here.

We learned that the spiritual entities we call our homegroups are able to adapt and adjust to preserve our unity -- because we're still here.

We learned that even when our office was closed around the clock, our hotline could be still answered by daytime and nighttime volunteers, so newcomers can find sobriety in AA.

We learned that our website is truly a vital, life-giving source of connection.

We learned that we can recognize the pain in the eyes of a newcomer even when they're sandwiched into a grid of boxes on a computer screen -- and that a phone number in the chat is just as good as one written on the back of a meeting book.

We learned we can help a drunk get to a meeting by shooting them a link and a kind word.

We learned that we can visit A.A. groups in Europe, Asia, South America -- and find people just like us.

We learned that the medium and the mechanism doesn't change the message.

We learned that even when we can't join hands in a closing prayer, we're

#### I am responsible...

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Reprinted from A.A.'s Legacy of Service, p-44, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

still joined in the Fellowship of the Spirit.

The novel Coronavirus has had devastating effects on so many lives -but it has not been able to permanently derail our common journey. And it has not dampened our enthusiasm for the great work of A.A.

2020 Vision? Thanks to this past year we can see even more clearly the Broad Highway. Come join us. Volunteer to be your home group's Intergroup Rep. Join a service committee and share that great idea you have for bringing our message to still more alcoholics. Answer phones for the Nightbook. Bring your tech savvy to our new Tech Committee. We're a society of alcoholics in action, even when we're sitting with our laptops and phones! We're a spiritual entity -- and you're a vital part of it.

Jim M.-Chair

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to get in touch with the Nassau Intergroup Chair, please send an email to chair@nassauny-aa.org.

#### NIGHTBOOK CHAIR'S CORNER



# THE NIGHTBOOK IS STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO ANSWER THE PHONES!!

How many times can I say it? SERVICE, SERVICE, SERVICE! Doing service in A.A. can help you to stay sober one day at a time. By helping out with the hotline you might just save a life! All you need is 6 months of sobriety, and a telephone. I ask that one person commit to getting 7 people for the week as the coordinator. I would then send a virtual nightbook to that person who would forward to those 7 people to assist with answering the phones.

How many ways can I say it? SERVICE, SOBRIETY, SANITY!

I want to acknowledge the groups/people that have helped with the phones last month.

New Life Group, Moonlight Group, Bottom Line Group, and Ms. Tova and friends. You all have contributed to a successful hot-line! Your service is greatly appreciated. If your group, or group of friends wish to commit to a week of answering the phones between 5 pm and 9 am, please contact me at <u>nightbook@nassauny-aa.org</u>. Please leave me your name, and a phone number so I can contact you directly.

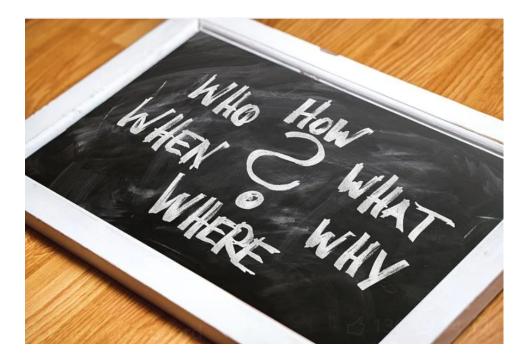
Any questions, feel free to contact me!!

Yours in service, Karen- Nightbook Chair

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to get in touch with the Nassau Intergroup Nightbook Chair, please send an email to **nightbook@nassauny-aa.org**.

#### SHARE-A-DAY CHAIR'S CORNER



The Share A Day Committee met on the Intergroup Zoom link Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00 PM. Some members were not able to access via the phone call-in option. We are looking into possible in-person meeting places.

We want to try and have a live in-person event and are exploring our options. We will also be discussing options of serving food as part of the event. We need feedback from the groups on how to best proceed. Come to the next Reps. meeting, or better yet come to the next Share A Day Committee meeting, to help finalize the event details.

Do you think we should have food at an event as Attraction not promotion? I have always been able to show a newcomer how it works over a plate of food at an in-person Event. The Idea of one alcoholic helping another in our fellowship! If the event is held in a park, it may allow 150 persons at the present Park regulations. How do we want to limit participation if we get more than that? Is the budget enough for 150 people. The past Share a Day we were prepared for 100 to 200 participants.

We also need a Program Chair, I can do this since I have in the past but we need more participation on committee, as well as Tech volunteers if at last minute for a Virtual event which changes the format as it did last year. The budget for a live event may need to increase on the fact of participation and food concerns.

Being able to hold a live event was not able to be done last year at our Virtual Share A Week. If we do end up deciding on a virtual event, I will need Volunteers for each night. We will need a tech person each night and you cannot have multiple meetings at same time as in live Event.

The next Share A Day Committee meeting is Wednesday, 7:00 PM, April 14th. Contact me for details since we are looking at a live location.

Kevin McH Share A Day Chair <u>shareaday@nassauny-aa.org</u>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to get in touch with the Share-A-Day Chair please send an email to shareaday@nassauny-aa.org.

#### DCMC Desk

The North East Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly was held virtually & had 1800 registrants. The North East Region has 18 Areas in it and many of the 93 Areas in the U.S. and Canada were represented. Our Area is 49, South Eastern New York. I encourage you all to go to NERAASA Pittsburgh 2022 in-person. It's only a 1 and half hours drive to Akron, Ohio. There you can visit A.A.'s roots, Dr. Bob's Home, the Mayflower Hotel and plenty more!

We found found out that the host city for the 90th International Convention will be Vancouver, British Columbia in 2025!!!!!!!!

As a follow up to the March article "71st General Service Conference: A.A. In A Time Of Change". The most common question is, "what is a panel"? The first General Service Conference was held in 1951. That was called Panel 1 and this years panel is 71. The Theme: A.A. In A Time Of Change. Tom B. is our Area Delegate for Panel 71.

I hope that you had an experience at the Delegates Day of Sharing & brought back the\_Delegates Questionnaire to hold an informed group conscience on these items. This article is to remind

the G.S.R.'s & Alternates, if your group is so fortunate to have, to hold a seperate group conscience meeting just for the Delegates Questionnaire. The www.aaseny.org homepage has the General Service Conference Agenda. Further down will be the DDOS Final Agenda. The Questionnaire is also available. Before April 10th, reach out to the Delegate Tom B. with any questions. The Delegates email is delegate@aaseny.org. April 10th is the Pre-Conference Assembly, a G.S.R.'s group might still need more information from the Delegate on agenda items or a G.S.R. can discuss how the group came to their decision.

April 19th is our next Nassau General Service Reps meeting and Orientation for new reps at 7:00 pm with the Reps meeting followng at 7:30 pm. These meetings will be held virtually through Zoom. The meeting ID and passcode are as follows: Meeting ID: 922 8787 8377 Passcode: 12345

Marty K. Serving as your County DCMC-AAIOU

# **G.S.R.** General Service Representative

Your group's link to A.A. as a whole

This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

#### YOU CAN READ THE FULL PAMPHLET HERE

# CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to get in touch with the DCMC please send an email to DCMC@aanassaugs-ny.org.

#### **APRIL FINANCIAL REVIEW**

## Finance at the 71st Conference

This year's General Service Conference (April 18-24) will consider the following finance related items among others.

- 1. "Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities" in the pamphlet, <u>Self-Support:</u> <u>Where Money and</u> <u>Spirituality</u> <u>Mix(F-3). —Item</u> #IV, A, 1
- "Discuss Concept XII, Warranty Two and the practice of 'selling of our books at cost or less.'" —Item #IV, D
- 3. Review the Conferenceapproved limits of \$10,000 for individual bequests, and \$5,000 for individual member contributions. —Items #IV, F and G
- 4. "Review the 'Google Grants and the Seventh Tradition Report.'" —Item #IV, H

These are just a few of the agenda items for Finance. (See the full 71st Conference agenda, Finance and beyond, <u>here</u>.)

Keeping in mind that I don't have the background materials which provide context for agenda items, here's my take on these few items.

The "contribution percentages" refers to the "Samples of Group Contributions" at the back of the pamphlet,<u>Self-Support(page 13)</u>. Suggestions for changes to these samples including their entire removal from the pamphlet are a near perennial item (including last year) with resulting changes every few years. —Item #IV, A, 1



Warranty Two tells us that, "Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample Reserve, shall be its [the Conference's] prudent financial principle." (AA Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, page 62.) In his essay on Concept XII touching Warranty Two (page 65), Bill W. presents "the question of whether AA as a whole should go in for what amounts to a money charity ... via the selling of our books at cost or less." His answer, "There seems no really good reason why AA services should supply

everybody with cheap books. . . ." Should this be our approach if we are able to provide our books at cost or less? —Item #IV, D

On the next item, not to far back, the Conference increased the allowable contribution levels for member bequests and for those from living individual members to \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. [These limits on

> contributions are binding only on the AA General Service Board (GSB) and AA World Services (AAWS)/GSO—AA Grapevine accepts no contributions and is supported solely by the sale of the magazines and related items—but are commonly adopted voluntarily by other levels of Fellowship service. Intergroup accepts these limits although the

question of such relatively large contributions rarely if ever comes up for us in practice.] Do these limits remain consistent with current financial realities, or can they be increased without compromising the spirit and traditional practice of Tradition Seven? The Long Form of Tradition Seven suggests, "Acceptance of large gifts fromany[emphasis added] source . . . is unwise,"<u>Twelve Steps and</u> Twelve Traditions, page 190. What is a large gift today? See also, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pages 163 (from the

last paragraph)-165. —Items #IV, F and G

Concerning the Google Grants item, Google Ad Grants is an in-kind program offering non-profits free access to Google business tools, and \$10,000 per month in free advertising on their Google Ads platform. Many members will not be aware that there was a 2019 Conference Advisory Action for AAWS to apply for Google Ad Grants "for the purpose of providing information about AA to the public." (2020 Conference Report, page 45 under PI.) The Conference is following up on that decision including further consideration of how use of the program squares with our Seventh Tradition. —Item #IV, H

Additional references to inform your consideration of the above and other matters of finance in AA may be found on the Intergroup <u>website</u> under "<u>Contributions</u>."

In our area, groups can have their say on the full Conference agenda at the area's <u>pre-Conference</u> <u>Assembly</u>, April 10. We look ahead to our delegate, Tom B., reporting back to us on the Conference at the <u>post-Conference</u> <u>Assembly</u>, June 12. Go to the "<u>From the Delegate</u>" page at <u>SENY</u> for more information as it becomes available. Finally on finance in AA, at this year's Northeast **Regional AA Service** Assembly (NERAASA), our trustee, Francis G., informed us that the Fellowship had stepped up readily with about \$10.3 million in contributions to the GSB/AAWS in 2020 (2019 contributions were almost \$8.9 million) in response to the financial distress inflicted on that level of AA by the COVID pandemic and the resulting \$4.5 million 2020 draw down from the reserve fund, a fine illustration of the fact that when AA makes a need known to the Fellowship, the Fellowship responds generously.

COVID-19 remains a concern. Stay vigilant and patient. Keep safe and keep others safe, stay positive and stay connected. Hope this is helpful.

Bill C., Financial Review Committee 516-292-3045 or <u>finance@nassauny-aa.org</u>

#### **SELF-SUPPORT:**

Where

ALL MANNESS

Money

This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

#### YOU CAN READ THE FULL PAMPHLET HERE

# REAL

Spirituality

12

#### Literature at the 71st Conference

This year's General Service Conference (April 18-24) will consider the following literature related items among many others. (See the full Conference agenda <u>here</u>.)

- Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous adding text from <u>The AA Group</u> pamphlet as an appendix, and for revisions to the first 164 pages. —Item #VI, B
- 2. "Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution." —Item #VI, U
- Consider proposals related to a possible Fifth Edition of the "Big Book." —Item #VI, W
- 4. Consider proposed revisions to <u>Twelve Steps</u> <u>and Twelve Traditions</u> in Steps Six and Twelve. —Item #VI, E
- 5. "Review suggested gender-neutral language options for changes to the <u>AA Preamble</u>." —Item #V, E

Without access to most of the background materials which provide context for agenda items, this is my take on the above.

It is proposed to add pages 3-41 from <u>The AA Group</u> pamphlet (P-16) as an appendix in the "Big Book." Changes to the first 164 pages have also been suggested similar to some of those proposed under Item #VI, U (see below) along with the suggestion for an overall "audit" for contemporary relevance, especially the chapters "To Wives" and "The Family Afterward." —Item #VI, B

Through last year's Conference numerous suggestions and requests have been received concerning making the "Big Book" more accessible including updating language to be simpler, gender neutral and the elimination or explanation of now archaic terms and references along with translation and format considerations among other ideas. It remains to be seen what "common solution" might address all those matters. —Item #VI, U

The "Big Book" has had a new edition (after the 1939 first edition mainly with stories in the back added or dropped) every 16-25 years (1955, 1976 and 2001). Keeping in mind it will take a few years to develop a next edition, it is suggested the time has come to start development of a Fifth Edition with stories more reflective of the face of AA today. (Publication of a Fifth Edition would probably significantly bog down if taken in tandem with a recommendation to amend any part of the first 164 pages of the book.) —Item #VI, E Language in Steps Six and Twelve would be reconsidered under this item. Specifically, the proposals

are to reconsider use of the phrase "lustful enough to rape" in paragraph one on page 66 in "Step Six," and to remove the phrase "opposite sex" from paragraph two on page 117 in "Step Twelve." —Item #VI, E

Last year's Conference Grapevine Committee was challenged to consider a request to make the opening of the Preamble (AA **Preamble: Background** Information) gender-neutral ("a Fellowship of people. . ."). The Committee "took no action" on the request, but asked that the "Grapevine Board consider developing examples of generalized language options," and return a progress report or draft versions to be considered this year (2020 Conference Report, page 55). —Item #V, E

In our area, groups can have their say on the full Conference agenda at the area's <u>pre-Conference</u> <u>Assembly</u>, April 10. Our delegate, Tom B., will be reporting back to us on the Conference at the <u>post-Conference Assembly</u>, June 12. Go to the "<u>From the Delegate</u>" page at <u>SENY</u> for more information as it becomes available. Closer to home, routine sales of AA literature and related items remain available through the Intergroup office daily, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, but call ahead (516-292-3045) before coming in as we don't always have the volunteers on hand we need to keep the office open.

COVID-related precautions and practices remain in effect in the office including the need to wear a mask and to maintain social distancing.

Also, at last month's Reps meeting we opened a discussion on the possibility of the office carrying anniversary medallions. To date, we've only carried materials developed by AAWS, AAGV and a few of our own publications. As of this writing, that conversation was still developing although a decision could come as early as the April 1st Reps meeting, but more likely not before May.

Finally, Literature had a new trusted servant approved at the March Reps meeting, Karen G. who has served as our Night Book chair. We will be working together in the coming weeks to get her up and running on the ins and outs of literature service at Intergroup with an expected full hand-off well before the summer.

COVID-19 remains a concern, and along with that the restrictions on our activities also remain. Stay vigilant and patient. Keep safe and keep others safe, stay positive, use the literature and stay connected. Hope this is helpful.

Bill C., Acting Literature Committee Chair

516-292-3045 or <u>literature@nassauny-aa.org</u>

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

"Sales of A.A. literature and related items remain available through the Intergroup office daily, 9am to 5pm, but call ahead (516-292-3045) before coming in"

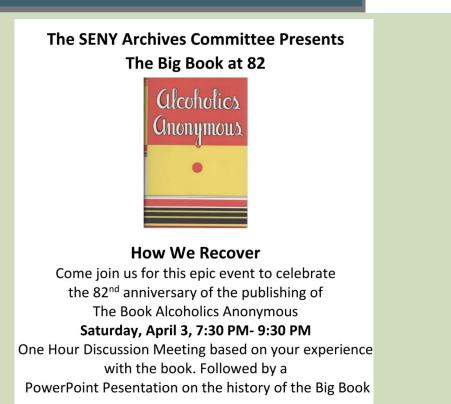
The A.A. Group

...where it all begins

How a group functions. How to get started.

This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature.

#### YOU CAN READ THE FULL PAMPHLET HERE



Zoom meeting ID: 998 938 7641 Passcode: 714921

# Nassau General Services is proud to present: ~A Workshop~

**"OUR TWELVE CONCEPTS OF WORLD SERVICE:"** AA'S Spiritual Principles of Recovery



This will be a series of six lectures per year; every other month, covering all Twelve Concepts Of Service ~ PRESENTED IN A RELAXED, DISCUSSION FORMAT

#### On Zoom- ID: 922-8787-8377 Password: 12345 All workshops begin at 7:30 pm and end at 8:30 pm

March 15th - Concepts III & IV May 17th - Concepts V & VI July 19th - Concepts VII & VIII Sept 20th - Concepts IX & X Nov 15th - Concepts XI & XII

#### 24th National A.A. Archives Workshop "Today is Tomorrow's History"

September 30th -- October 3rd, 2021 San Antonio, Texas



Home of the Alamo, S.A. Missions World Heritage Site, and Riverwalk www.2021NAAAW.org

Hilton, San Antonio Airport Hotel 611 N.W. Loop 410, San Antonio, TX 78216 Phone: (210) 340-6060

Thursday City Tours:

Queen-size beds, Single or Double occupancy Rates available from Sep 26 thru Oct 6 Reservations: Phone: (866) 238-4218 Free covered parking Free Shuttle to/from airport and in Online: Hilton.com Booking Code: "NAAAW" 3-mi radius

Special Room Rate: \$110, per night

City Tours Available. Program includes GSO Archives Workbook contents, speakers, hands-on workshops, and expert presentations. Hospitality Room.

REGISTRATION FORM (Sign up early for discount. Please Print Clearly.)			
Name:	Registration:		
Name on Badge:	- Prior Jan 1, 2021 @ \$40		
Street Address:	- After Jan 1, 2021 @ \$45		
City: State/Province:	Banquet dinner @ \$50.		
Zip Code/Postal Code: Full Breakfas	t & lunch @ \$35. (per day)		
Service Position: Hospital	Hospitality & Coffee Contribution		
Telephone: ( ) Email:	_ Ice Cream Social @ \$15.		
Special Needs:	Total Enclosed: \$		
Mail form with check to: 2021 NAAAW Workshop,	P.O. Box 17991, San Antonio, TX 78217		

For more information, contact:

#### IAN Monthly Tradition Workshops



Are you intimidated by or just not necessarily interested when talk in the rooms turns to the Traditions of AA ? Or maybe just unfamiliar with their meaning and purpose within our Fellowship ? Many of us have felt the same way. As important as they are to AA's continued efforts, discussion of them can often seem technical or "dry".

Intergroup Association of Nassau hosts a monthly Traditions Workshop that not only spends an hour or more discussing the Tradition for the given month, but since its pre-virtual-era inception has done so in a significantly lighter, but no less serious way.

Instead of just "going around the room" reading the tradition from the "12 and 12", we've chosen to use the Illustrated Traditions pamphlet, which is more concise and features artwork and captions which are informative and "humorous" at the same time.

This approach lends itself to livelier, somewhat more informal

sessions than many of the

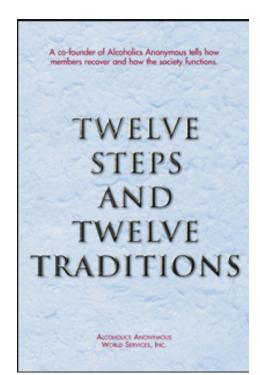
Tradition "Meetings" we may have been accustomed to. Those meetings are extremely valuable and encouraged. These monthly Workshops are designed to enhance our understanding of the Traditions and supplement what we learn about the Traditions throughout our journeys.

It is our hope that attendees, especially those less familiar with the Traditions, come away from these workshops with new understanding and increased enthusiasm toward them (the traditions.)

The Workshops are held (virtually for now) on the second Sunday of each month, starting at 10 am.

The Zoom information is as follows: Meeting ID: 554 670 5146 Passcode: 870607

#### Michael F.



#### NASSAU INTERGROUP - EMAIL ADDRESSES

#### **OFFICERS**

Chairperson <u>chair@nassauny-aa.org</u> 1st Vice Chair <u>1stvice@nassauny-aa.org</u> 2nd Vice Chair <u>2ndvice@nassauny-aa.org</u> Secretary <u>secretary@nassauny-aa.org</u> Treasurer <u>treasurer@nassauny-aa.org</u> Nassau General Service District Committee Member Chair (DCMC) dcmc@aanassaugs-ny.org

#### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

Archives archives@nassauny-aa.org Coop. Pro. Comm. (CPC) cpc@nassauny-aa.org Corrections corrections@nassauny-aa.org Financial Review <u>finance@nassauny-aa.org</u> Institutions (H&I) institutions@nassauny-aa.org Literature literature@nassauny-aa.org Meeting List meetinglist@nassauny-aa.org Newsletter news@nassauny-aa.org Night Book nightbook@nassauny-aa.org Officer Coordinator (Mgr.) officemanager@nassauny-aa.org Public Information (PI) publicinfo@nassauny-aa.org Share-a-Day (SAD) <u>shareaday@nassauny-aa.org</u> Speakers Exchange <a href="mailto:speakerexchange@nassauny-aa.org">speakerexchange@nassauny-aa.org</a> Special Needs specneeds@nassauny-aa.org 12th Step List <u>12thstep@nassauny-aa.org</u> Website webcommittee@nassauny-aa.org

#### Our Purpose

As we say in our meeting books (and more formally in our ByLaws):

Declaration of Purpose:

Nassau InterGroup of Alcoholics Anonymous is an all volunteer organization formed by the AA groups in Nassau County to serve all groups and meetings in Nassau county.

In order to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still sick and suffering alcoholic, both in and out of the fellowship, Nassau InterGroup, in accordance with AA's 12 Steps, Traditions, and Concepts of World Service, has as its primary purpose:

- to have all telephone inquiries answered by a recovering alcoholic. The Nassau InterGroup HotLine number will be listed in the Nassau telephone directory. Meeting information and 12 step referrals will be made from all Nassau area groups that have provided up-to-date information.
- publish and distribute at regular intervals up-to-date directories of group meetings in Nassau county.
- publish and distribute a monthly newsletter.
- provide for quarterly group exchange meetings at which groups may exchange meetings with other groups.
- provide for monthly institutions committee meetings at which groups may arrange to participate in "inside" meetings.
- conduct monthly business meetings to address any group concerns and intergroup business.

Yours in love and service, Nassau InterGroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

# Meeting List Changes:

Due to the nature of the current situation, please refer to the meeting list on the Intergroup website. The meeting finder can be found here. It will reflect the most accurate information. Please help to keep the meeting lists current and correct by submitting a "Meeting List Changes Form" whenever your meeting details change. That form can be found here.

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