

The Link

Issue 639 - APRIL 2024
REACHING THE HEART OF
A.A. THROUGH SERVICE

What a ride it has been! This year is flying by, and the General Service Conference is right around the corner. During this rotation and more specifically from January until now, I have had the honor of hearing the heart of A.A. through the sharing in our Area. There is one thing I am sure of is that the members of Area 49 love A.A. We have been discussing the founders' writings, making A.A. as accessibly as it can be and agenda items. The questions, comments and suggestions during these sharing sessions show me that we have a unique love that is universal. I have heard sharing from GSRs, DCMs, Committee Chairs, and members. I even got to hear from people who live in other Areas. How cool is that?! We serve together for the good of A.A. and we guard our fellowship so it will be available for those who have not yet made it here. Our twelfth step; "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

As your Delegate, it is my responsibility to have an open mind and to share with others the spiritual aspects of our program, especially as it relates to service. My goal is to make service attractive and encourage others to stand and serve. I have learned so much in my service journey about myself and members in our Area. I already know I don't know everything, but more importantly I can learn from

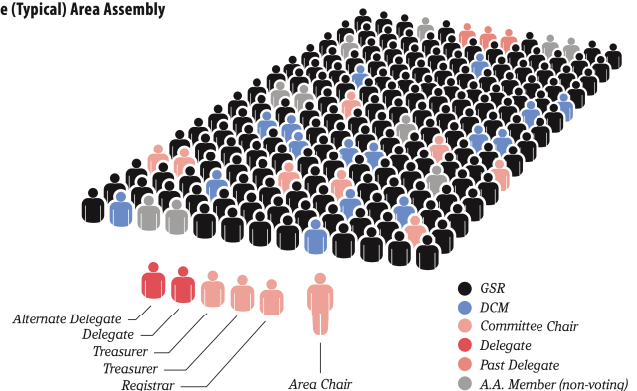
anyone. Service gives me opportunities to grow in ways I never imagined. Learning to be one of many in keeping this movement going has been a blessing.

Service allows us to connect with people we may otherwise never meet. We spread our wings throughout our Area and share the good news of sobriety and fellowship. This year's Convention was amazing! So many came out to spend time and give service. From our Convention committee and volunteers to the panelists who shared experience, strength, and hope with many they didn't know. The hospitality room was always packed, and the smiles really warmed my heart. We had night owls staying up until all hours and early birds attending the morning spiritual meetings. What a mix of folks who would not normally mix. Thanks to all for all of your Service to our Fellowship and for reaching the Heart of A.A. since that is our ultimate goal.

For those of you who may not know the value of service, let me enlighten you, it is priceless!

Jo Ann M., *Delegate Area 49*

The (Typical) Area Assembly



WHATS INSIDE

- [Eastern Area YPAA Summit Flyer](#)
- [NY Inter-Group 89th Big Meeting Flyer](#)
- [District 620 Workshop Flyer](#)

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People doing service get people together. Sobriety ensues!

Does the person who got up the earliest today *really* have “the most sobriety?” To me time counts for a lot. It means something when you have a few 24 hours, you’re doing service, and you’ve lived long enough to how to get along with others. You become a “long timer,” and you have more of a story to share.

As Archives Committee Chair for Queens County General Service, I proposed a 2024 Archives workshop featuring long timers telling their stories. “History Comes Alive!” on April 13 will feature a panel of “living history”—Queens County AAs with 45-plus years.

I didn’t have any experience putting together a workshop. I *did* have people around me who could help make this workshop possible.

A friend was able to secure a location where his home group met. Another friend with a club card offered to go shopping with me. The SENY Archives Committee said they could do a presentation about how to create your group’s history. (If you’re thinking about getting your group’s history written—this is for you!)

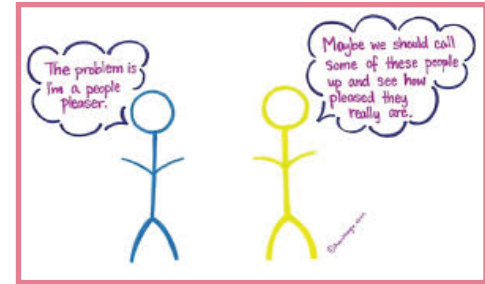
Even though I tend to worry, my friends at Queens County General Service told me this workshop was possible, and they would help me make it happen.

Doing service on one level can lead to doing service on another level, which leads to newcomers learning about service and jumping in. It gives you a better shot at staying sober. Yes, it keeps AA going, but also keeps it fun, attractive, and appealing to new people.

Why come to an AA workshop? For the speakers, partly. But the heart of it all, I think, and the best thing for me is ... *getting together*. The heart of a share-a-Day, spiritual breakfast, or area convention is the joy of seeing people you haven’t seen in a while and meeting new people. And I can’t speak for everyone, but I have fun.

I hope to see some of you at the “History Comes Alive!” workshop on Saturday, April 13, from 1-3 pm.

Jan A., *Queens County Archives Chairperson*



“Connecting with Love, Unity and Service”: I wonder how we could possibly connect in any other way, honestly.

In meditating on how Love, Unity, and Service represent our three legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service, I’m reminded that the three sides of the triangle representing our 36 principles in the Steps, Traditions and Concepts are within a circle which goes round and round, never ending. Those corners of the triangle are rounded, and not hard angles for me. I have plenty of opportunities to practice the Traditions and Concepts throughout my life, and heaven knows with any service rendered I’d best be practicing the Steps. I’m supposed to be thinking of others, after all.

Our Panel 63 (2013-2014) SENY Delegate came back from the General Service Conference (GSC) and shared that all 93 delegates discussed how good it would be if all AA entities used that year’s GSC theme for their events, be it Group, District, County, or Area. She [our Delegate] informed us how proud of SENY she was and informed them our SENY Convention consistently uses the current year’s Conference Theme. Can you imagine what would happen if we all were talking about one theme in any given year? Imagine! I’m imagining unity and new ideas. Unity means that *when* we disagree, we do so with love, I listen to you like I have no opinion.

Another thought involves all the “rights” we alkie love so much. I remember that each right is matched with a responsibility. The right of participation, for example, has the responsibility of participation. For the group’s voice to be heard at the General Service Conference, the responsibility is for the GSR to attend 5 Assemblies and one Delegate’s Day of Sharing each year. How important is your group?

I’ve embraced “practice these principles in all our affairs” as best I can, with fond memories of the day I grasped the word *practice*. Except for the First Step, I didn’t have to do any of them perfectly, but I’d best keep *practicing*.

Jane E. (She/Her) *Panel 69/Area 49*

UPCOMING EVENTS

4/6 - SENY Assembly (Pre-Conference Assembly)

4/14 - 4/20 - A.A. 74th General Service Conference

4/13 - Queens County Archives Workshop

For more events go to AASENY.org

LET'S Link UP!

Sharing is caring... Write an article about your experience, strength, and hope in AA service. Please limit your article to 350 words, and email it to link@aaseny.org

Before becoming a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, everything was ALWAYS about me. If "I" did a great job, it was because "I" can accomplish great things. How could a program that suggests that I am not perfect, ever help me to halt drinking in 1000 lifetimes?! How does a program like this work for so many people? Surely, it will never work for me! After going through the steps with my sponsor, things started to make sense.

One of the things that Step 12 suggests us to try is to carry the message to other alcoholics. Though I had already begun doing service at the group level around 90 days, I simply chalked it up as one of my sponsor's many suggestions. Originally, I believed that taking a service position at my home group was just to keep me out of trouble and away from a drink. With less than a year of sobriety this was true, but is that really all to it?

After almost a year of sobriety, something changed. I would start going to meetings at my home group and seeing new faces. I could not stop thinking about my first days in the rooms and how much I needed help. If it were not for the members of my home group keeping the meeting open, I would have never found the solution. It became clear that I must try my best to do any service position to help keep the meeting open for our fellow alcoholic. Service is the glue that holds A.A. together. How does a program like this work for so many people? I've realized that is the true beauty and heart of A.A.; service is what gives A.A. it's pulse.

By the time you are reading this, God willing, I will have 2 years of sobriety. Service is one of the best ways to stay connected and in the solution. It has given this selfish egomaniac his heart back. Who knew the heart of A.A. is really genuinely wanting to be of service? Service has taught me two important things. That WE must keep the heart of A.A. pumping and that WE can accomplish great things together.

Bradley B., *Secretary 2024 SENY Convention*

Reaching the Heart of AA through Service

What is the heart of AA? It's one alcoholic helping another. That is how this program started and what is at its core. So how am I reaching the heart of AA through service? Isn't this just about sponsoring? No, there are many ways to help another alcoholic.

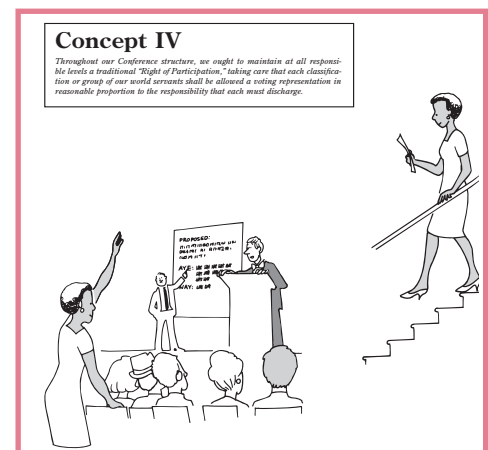
Don't get me wrong, I love sponsoring. I try to always be taking someone through the Big Book. However, I've learned that I can help an untold number of alcoholics by participating in General Service.

The main point of General Service is for the voices and opinions of the group to be linked to the General Service Conference, where changes to AA as a whole happen. It is through General Service that one person's or one group's idea of a positive change to AA can become a reality. Through General Service, you get a voice and a vote (depending on your position) as to whether to support these changes to AA or not. Those changes affect every single alcoholic in AA plus countless alcoholics that haven't reached AA yet. Imagine! By participating in General Service, you are helping millions of alcoholics!

Plus, General Service also has tons of committees that help alcoholics in and out of AA. Cooperation with the Professional Community gets the AA message to doctors, therapists, and other professionals so they can suggest AA to someone they think is alcoholic. The Treatment and Corrections committees get the AA message into treatment and correctional facilities to give people hope, and they connect people to us once they have left their institution. Public Information makes information about AA easily found by the alcoholic who needs it. The Accessibilities committee makes sure that no one feels that they can't receive this message or be a part of our community. What amazing ways to help endless alcoholics.

So, if you want to get to the heart of AA, help other alcoholics. Give one on one AND give to all. An easy way to start is to join General Service. We'd love to have you.

Paola A., Area 49 Chair
she/her



AA SERVICE CLASSIFIEDS



OPEN SERVICE POSITION IN YOUR DISTRICT, COUNTY, OR AREA?
OUR NEW SERVICE CLASSIFIEDS CAN HELP!

ORANGE COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE:

- CORRECTIONS
 - ACCESSIBILITIES
- CONTACT DCMC@ORANGE.ASENY.ORG

SUFFOLK COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE

- ACCESSIBILITY
 - ARCHIVES
 - LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE/LA VINA
 - CPC
 - TREATMENT FACILITIES
 - HISPANIC LIAISON
- CONTACT DCMC@AASUFFOLKGS-NY.ORG

NASSAU COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE

- CORRECTIONS
 - PI (PUBLIC INFORMATION)
 - TREATMENT FACILITIES
 - SERVICE SPONSORSHIP
- CONTACT DCMC@NASSAU.ASENY.ORG



Send a brief description of the position, any sober time/other requirements involved, and a contact email, and we'll post your "ad" here where other AA's eager to do service can find it!





EASTERN AREA YPAA SUMMIT

04.13.2024

A VIRTUAL GATHERING OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOCUSED ON RECOVERY, UNITY, AND SERVICE



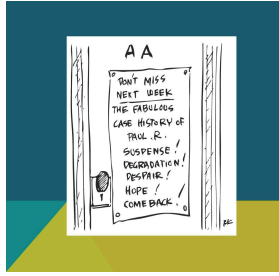
www.ypaasummit.wixsite.com/home

Queens County General Service Presents:

History Comes Alive!

An Archives Committee workshop on the past and present of Queens AA

Featuring a panel of Queens AA longtimers (45+ years) and a SENY Archives presentation on **How to Create Your Group's History**



Saturday, April 13, 2024
1 to 3 pm at

First Presbyterian Church of Whitestone
15-43 149th Street
Flushing, NY 11357

Parking available
Refreshments served
Fun, fellowship, & history

Bring a Friend! Bring a Sponsee! Bring a Sponsor!

Please email Archives@queens.aaseny.org or call **347-613-6943** if you would like to do service or have any questions.

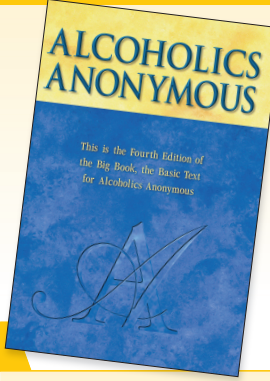
THE 4TH ANNUAL ISLAND OF ENTHUSIASM AA CONFERENCE

• • • • • LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK • • • • •

FRIDAY, APRIL 19 • 6PM-9:30PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 20 • 9AM-9:30PM
Doors open one hour early for check in and fellowship.

Take a journey through The Alcoholics Anonymous program of recovery with:

- **Billy N.** - Palm Beach Gardens, FL
- **Paul McQ.** - Rockaway Beach, NY
- **Larry T.** - Seal Beach, CA
- **Cia F.** - Los Angeles, CA
- **Bob D.** - Las Vegas, NV



\$60 REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

Continental breakfast Saturday morning at 8am, dinner Saturday night and coffee & snacks throughout.

- • • Registration and hotel information at: Islandofenthusiasm.org • • •

Please register early as space is limited.

The conference is presented by The Island of Enthusiasm AA Group and will be held at True North Community Church, 1101 Lakeland Ave, Bohemia, NY 11716

For all inquires please email: islandofenthusiasm@gmail.com



EASTERN AREA CONVENTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN AA

APRIL 25-28TH HUNTINGTON HILTON MELVILLE, NY

4 DAY CONVENTION, 1000+ AA'S (YOUNG OR YOUNG AT HEART) CELEBRATING SOBRIETY!

ROCKET INTO THE 4TH DIMENSION

CONNECT WITH AN AA UNIVERSE BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS



WITH AL ANON PARTICIPATION

USE CODE EACY TO GET DISCOUNTED ROOM RATES!

WWW.EACYPAAXX.ORG

District 620 Workshop Presents

Theme



SERVICE In District 620

GET CONNECTED WITH THE WAYS THAT YOU CAN USE AA SERVICE TO TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE AND OTHERS

JOIN US

April 27, 2024 FROM 9AM-3PM @

St, Philips Church
204 West 134th St
New York NY 10030

TO FIND OUT HOW AA SERVICE CAN ENHANCE YOUR LIFE

District 620 Service Opportunities

Accessibilities, Homebound, Archives, Website, Workshops,

CPC/PI, X-Mas Alcathon

www.aadistrict620.org



The Story of AA in South Eastern New York

Read or download a complimentary copy.
Scan the following code with your phone.



www.aasenyhistory.org

Save The Date

New York Inter-Group
Invites You to Celebrate
A.A.'s 89th Birthday



Our Founder's Day Meeting
Saturday, June 1, 2024
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

All Souls Church
1157 Lexington Ave.
(@ East 80th Street)
New York, NY 10075

- ◆ Three-Speaker Open Meeting ◆
 - ❖ **Must Pre-register to attend, seating is limited** ❖
 - ❖ More Information to follow ❖
- Speaker nomination forms are available!

New York Inter-Group
307 Seventh Avenue, (28th Street), Room 303, New York, N.Y. 10001
Phone: (212) 647-1647 / Website: www.nyintergroup.org

LONG ISLAND ESPIRITUALIDAD EN EL SERVICIO 2024

“Conectándose con Amor, Unidad Y Servicio”

SABADO MAYO 11, 2024
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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

El Taller de Espiritualidad en el Servicio de Long Island (“L.I.S.T.S.”) aspira a reafirmar los fuertes beneficios espirituales del servicio a los alcohólicos en recuperación. Patrocinado por los Servicios Generales de Brooklyn, Queens, Condados de Nassau y Suffolk, Y Los Distritos Hispánicos. Organizado por el Condado de Brooklyn.



Evento Gratuito
Se pasara la “Canasta”
honrado nuestra 7a
Tradicón

Paneles / Mesas de Trabajo / Reunion Grande / Feria de Servicios / Liger Desayuno y Almuerzo
Accesibilidad para silla de ruedas / Interpretacion en Español / Estacionamiento disponible
Para más información, contactar a Eddie D. alidcm@brooklynnaa.org

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 Tradicion

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 alidcm@brooklynnaa.org

LOCATION CHANGE!

PRAYERS AND PROMISES FROM THE BIG BOOK

HOSTED BY DISTRICT 208, 209, 211

Saturday, April 27th, 2024
Shelter Rock Church (Syosset)
178 Cold Spring Rd. Syosset, NY
9:30AM - 5:00PM
Doors Open at 8:15am
Lunch & Coffee Served

GUEST SPEAKERS:
CHRIS S - NJ
PETER M - FLA
JIMMY A - NJ
MARION M - FLA

CAMBIO DE UBICACION

REZOS Y PROMESAS DEL LIBRO GRANDE

PRESENTADO POR DISTRITO 208,209,211

Sábado 27 de Abril 2024
Shelter Rock Church (Syosset)
178 Cold Spring Rd. Syosset, NY
9:30AM - 5:00PM
Servicio de Café y Lunch

ORADORES INVITADOS:
CHRIS S - NJ
PETER M - FLA
JIMMY A - NJ
MARION M - FLA

UPCOMING GENERAL SERVICE MEETINGS			To add or update email: agenda@aaseny.org
SENY Technology & Communications Comm. Meeting	4/2	7:30p	Zoom ID: 894 0024 2856, Password: 033597
SENY (Pre-Conference Assembly) (HYBRID)	4/6	10:00a	TBD
Service Sponsorship Committee Meeting	4/9	8:15p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
BXUM General Service Meeting	4/10	7:00p	Zoom ID: 429 704 8123, Password: Serenity
SENY Archives Committee Meeting	4/11	7:30p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
Nassau County General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	4/15	7:00p	Contact: dcmc@aanassaugs-ny.org
Orange County General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	4/16	7:00p	Zoom ID: 999 6809 5777, Password: Acceptance
Rockland County General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	4/17	7:30p	Zoom ID: 859 3872 9240, Password: 406571
Suffolk County General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	4/19	7:00p	Zoom ID: 932 6450 5176, Password: 713704
SENY Corrections Committee Meeting	4/20	3:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 71492
SENY - Intergroup Liaison Meeting	4/21	2:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
CPC Monthly Committee Meeting	4/24	6:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921

SENY Officers				SENY Standing / Ad Hoc Committee Chairs			
Delegate	Jo Ann M.		delegate@aaseny.org	Accessibilities	Moses H.		access@aaseny.org
Alt. Delegate	Nisaa A.		altdelegate@aaseny.org	Agenda	Sherry P.		agenda@aaseny.org
Chair	Paola A.		chair@aaseny.org	Archives	Marty K.		archives@aaseny.org
Treasurer	Kimbley G.		treasurer@aaseny.org	Convention 2024	Saadi H.		convention@aaseny.org
Technology & Communications	Ray W.		tco@aaseny.org	Corrections	Eddie D.		corrections@aaseny.org
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Staten Island	Dan S.		dcmc@statenilandaa.org	Service Sponsorship*	Matt F.		sponsorship@aaseny.org
Suffolk	Kimberly L.		dcmc@asuffolkgs-ny.org	Translation	Andrew F.		translation@aaseny.org
Sullivan	Jeff P.		dcmc@sullivan.aaseny.org	Treatment Facilities	Hugo P.		tf@aaseny.org
Westchester	Peter C.		dcmc@westchester.aaseny.org	Web Chair	Joseph C.		web@aaseny.org
				AIAnon Liaison*	VACANT		alanonliaison@aaseny.org
				Ad Hoc Finance	Larry W.		finance@aaseny.org
				YPAA Liaison*	Nisaa A.		altdelegate@aaseny.org

*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)