



# The Link

Issue 627 - February 2023

"NEW SERVICE POSITION -  
GETTING BUSY"

Now that the new rotation has started, what do we do next? We had our first SENY committee meeting, and our first Area assembly is scheduled for February 11. For me, the rest of January is the calm before the storm. Shortly after the Board of Trustees weekend at the end of January, I will receive the final list of Agenda Items for the 73rd General Service Conference. Our next few months will be filled with information gathering and sharing through presentations, discussions, and questionnaires all resulting in an informed group conscious for our Area.

Concept I: "Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship." Why do we have a conference and what is the function of your Delegate? As your delegate, it is my honor and privilege to bring your voices to the conference. You may ask, "how is this done and what's the process?" We have a Delegates Day of Sharing (DDoS) scheduled for March 18th. On that day, there will be presentations on some of the items I think will interest the members in our Area. Afterward, I will ask our Group Service Representatives (GSRs) to go to their groups and discuss the information provided by the

delegate, and get opinions, feedback and hopefully a group conscience. Then the GSR, in turn shares that information by passing it on to me at our Pre-Conference Assembly in early April. Based on the information gathered from the groups by their GSR, I should have a clear understanding of how our Area feels about items of interest on the agenda. Conference week starts on April 23 and ends April 29 and between now and April 23rd we have loads of work to accomplish.

Remembering Tradition Two which states "For our group propose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience, Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern." tells me the group conscience guided by our loving God will help us as we go through this decision making process and I am confident we will all come out on the other side more informed and unified. I ask that when we discuss items among our members, groups, and Area that we are respectful and loving to each other. Everyone has an opinion; I know I certainly do. I must remember to listen like I have no opinion and can all of you remember; we can all agree to disagree, agreeably. Roll up your sleeves everyone. It is time to get busy!

Jo Ann M.

Delegate Area 49 Panel 73

## WHATS INSIDE

- [2023 SENY Registration Forms](#)
- [March's Theme Flyer](#)
- [Available Service Positions](#)

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I have no idea what I'm doing! That's how I feel every time I start a new service position, even after years of serving below the group level. No matter how many times I speak to the person who did the commitment before me, the antsiness is still there. That is because I will, inevitably, screw something up. That is a hard reality for me to face because of two reasons: I love AA and want the best for it, and I want people to think I'm amazing. I know that the second reason is a defect, but it's the truth.

So, I'm now the area chair. I have no idea how I'm allowed to have this responsibility. All I know is that I want to serve and help AA as much as I can because it has completely transformed my life. If it means being antsy about a new service position, I'm sure HP will guide me through, and it will be ok in the end.

Are you nervous about your new position? Do you feel lost? You are not alone. When I feel this way (which is a lot), I turn to that old AA suggestion: ask someone who knows more for help. For me, that's my service sponsor (if you don't know what a service sponsor is, ask our service sponsorship chairs Jess and Matt at [sponsorship@aaseny.org](mailto:sponsorship@aaseny.org)—no question is dumb!). Then, I just get busy. I usually end up learning by doing when it comes to service.



I like to have fun and be creative in service by thinking of what hasn't been done in my position before. Sometimes my ideas work and sometimes they fail, but everything is worth a try. This rotation, I want to try to increase service participation throughout the area. A task like that can seem daunting so it's good for me to temper my own expectations. I know I will make only a small dent, but that small dent still makes a difference in AA as a whole.

Other times, in a service position, I'm just doing the same tried and true things my predecessor has done. Really the only way to go wrong with a service position is to not do anything. As long as I'm getting busy and trying to serve AA, I have succeeded in my primary purpose: to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety.

Paola A., Area 49 Chair



'Tis the season! Cue the anxiety, the self-doubt, and the fear of messing up. Que up your inventory and put your step sponsor and service sponsor on speed dial! Service provides us an ideal opportunity to do inventory and to practice living in the opposites of our defects. This is because new things can be uncomfortable. My default is that I want to be perfect, I want to know how to do things right away, and I don't want to disappoint anyone. I have done enough inventory around these topics that I know where they come from and why they are a sore spot. At this point know what to do when they crop up. I pause, acknowledge it, talk about it, say a prayer, and make a plan of attack.

With a new service position a service sponsor can be an invaluable resource. With my current service position as SENY Convention Chair I talk to my service sponsor all the time. She directs me to the literature and shares her experience. If you couldn't guess from my earlier description of myself, I ask a lot of questions. I also reach out to past Chairs and past convention committee members. This is a "we" program and we certainly see this in service! My experience is that most people are so happy to be called upon for help. People love to share their tips and tricks, and how they were most successful.

I will end with the reminder that we are not a glut lot. Service can be so much fun. I have met my favorite people in service; friends I hope to have for life. Business meetings can be dry at times but find the things to get excited about. Use service as an opportunity for connecting with fellows, for advancing your spiritual life, and for enhancing your spiritual life. Ask questions and get involved in committees that make you excited. Being around other people who are excited about what you're excited about makes life so much more joyful. Notice when you are afraid or insecure. Lean into it. Explore it. Talk about it. Use this as an opportunity to get outside of your comfort zone.

Congratulations on your new service commitment! I hope to see you at the SENY Convention, March 24-26th!

Melissa J-M., SENY Convention Chair

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2/11- SENY Area Assembly (HYBRID)

2/11- LYCPAA - Self Love Valentines Dance

2/24-2/26 - NERAASA (North East Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly)

For more events go to [AASENY.org](http://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](mailto:link@aaseny.org)

## NEW SERVICE POSITION - GETTING BUSY

New year, new group, new service position, and the same basic spiritual action plan that has worked since February 2001 at keeping this hopeless alcoholic away from the first drink. Early in this recovery journey, it was impressed on me that I should always maintain a service commitment in AA. The far out feeling of indefinitely having a commitment in AA is like the feeling of first hearing the suggestion to make 90 meetings in 90 days. Then one day led to two, which eventually led to 91, and onto the experience of a sober life. That's also how it is with service in AA. The maintenance of a service commitment is part of the maintenance of my spiritual condition. By the Grace of God, part of the experience of this maintenance is to have committed to service positions with two-year terms. Two years?! Every now and then I stop and think about how remarkable it is that I've gained access to a Power that actually has me planning to be sober for years at a time. And other people trust we will successfully do it too. If that's not a miracle!



Change and rotation ensure that the very real elements of life will remain perpetually new. In the process of rotating into, out of, and on with new service positions in our fellowship, it is a call to action. Now it's time to get busy with this next new service position (group chairperson for my new home group). It would be great to think I will be steadily busy serving the group. It would be preferable not to run hot and cold filling the role. So, my plan is to ask God for help, do my best to understand the role and fill it and continue to attend AA meetings regularly. I remain available to sponsees and anyone that asks for help, and I keep working with my sponsor and service sponsor to see what's next on this enjoyable adventurous spiritual journey.

In Service,

John L.

*Past DMCM, Rockland County*

# AA SERVICE CLASSIFIEDS



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

**ORANGE COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE:**

- CORRECTIONS
- PUBLIC INFORMATION (PI)
- CPC
- SECRETARY
- WEBMASTER
- CONTACT DCMC@ORANGE.ASENY.ORG

**PUTNAM COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE**

- ARCHIVES CHAIR
- CONTACT DCMC@PUTNAM.ASENY.ORG



**NASSAU COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE**

- ACCESSIBILITY
- ARCHIVES
- CPC (COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY)
- CORRECTIONS
- LITERATURE/GRAPEVINE
- PI (PUBLIC INFORMATION)
- TREATMENT FACILITIES
- INTERGROUP LIAISON

**CONTACT CATHY C. (DCMC) -  
NASSAU COUNTY**

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!





**ATTENTION:  
ARTICLES NEEDED FOR:  
“THE LINK”**

“ANYONE WHO IS IN SERVICE OR HAS DONE  
SERVICE AT THE GENERAL SERVICE LEVEL”


**MARCH’S THEME:  
“ON THE ROAD –  
THE JOURNEY THROUGH SERVICE”**

(PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES WITH 250-350 WORDS)

**SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES ARE DUE BY: FEBRUARY 19, 2023**

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**PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES TO  
LINK@AASENY.ORG  
CONTACT: GINA D. (347) 285-4700**



3/24/2023- 3/26/2023

Westchester Marriott  
670 White Plains Road  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

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**Hotel registration deadline: February 28th, 2023**

Convention rate: \$137.00 + tax per night / Hotel reservations via phone: 800-882-1042  
To make hotel reservations on-line or to register on-line please visit: [aaseny.org/2023-seny-convention](http://aaseny.org/2023-seny-convention)  
No pets allowed at the Westchester Marriott. The only exceptions are working/on-duty service animals.

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**Convention Pre-Registration deadline: March 10th, 2023**

One form per person registering. Checks or money orders payable to: '2023 SENY Convention'  
Mail payment and registration forms to: 2023 SENY Convention,  
P.O. Box 285, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
Questions? Email: [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org)

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Name on badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
AA \_\_\_ Al-Anon \_\_\_ Home Group \_\_\_\_\_ Sober 25+ years? \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Translation/ASL/Other Accessibilities Request? (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Banquet Information**

Banquet tables seat 10. To be seated together at the banquet, submit all forms together.  
Registration & Saturday Evening Banquet (\$100) \_\_\_ Beef \_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_  
Registration only (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_  
Purchase a Scholarship Registration for someone less fortunate (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_  
We are requesting that Scholarship recipients contribute 1-2 hours of service during the convention weekend. To request a scholarship, contact [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org). Limited number of scholarships available.  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks or money orders payable to: '2023 SENY Convention'  
Mail payment and registration forms to: P.O. Box 285, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
Questions? Email: [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org)



3/24/2023- 3/26/2023

Westchester Marriott  
670 White Plains Road  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

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**Fecha límite para el registro del hotel: 28 de febrero de 2023**

Tarifa de convención: \$137.00 + impuestos por noche / Reservas de hotel por teléfono: 800-882-1042  
Para hacer reservas de hotel en línea o registrarse en línea, visite: [aaseny.org/2023-seny-convention](http://aaseny.org/2023-seny-convention)  
No se permiten mascotas en el Westchester Marriott. Las únicas excepciones son los animales de servicio que trabajan o están de servicio.

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**Fecha límite de preinscripción a la Convención: 10 de Marzo de 2023**

Un formulario por persona que se registra. Cheques o giros postales a nombre de: 'SENY Convention 2023'  
Envíe formularios de pago e inscripción a: SENY Convention 2023,  
P.O. Box 285, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
Questions? Email: [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org)

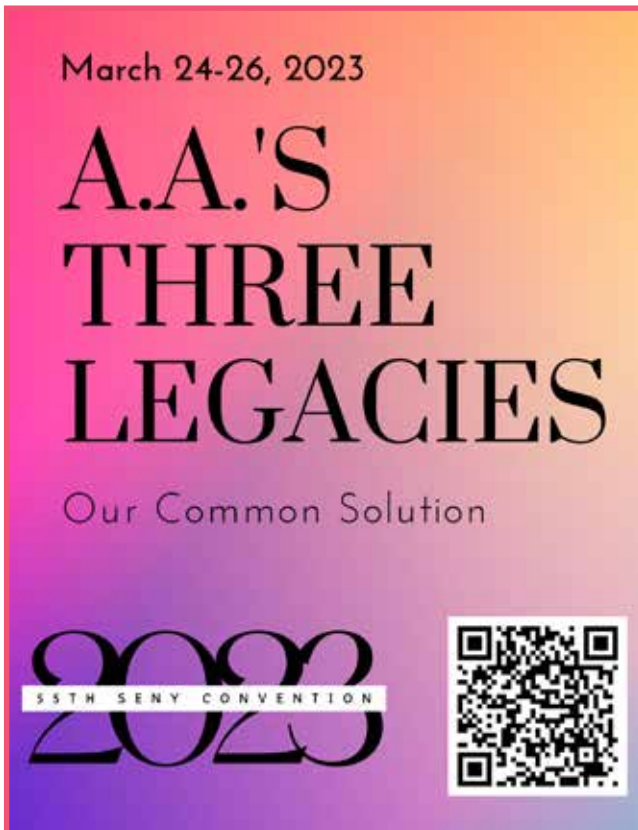
Nombre completo \_\_\_\_\_ Nombre en el  
gafete \_\_\_\_\_ Dirección \_\_\_\_\_  
Ciudad/Estado/Código postal \_\_\_\_\_ Teléfono \_\_\_\_\_  
Dirección de correo electrónico \_\_\_\_\_ AA \_\_\_ Al-Anon \_\_\_  
Grupo base \_\_\_\_\_ ¿Más de 25 años de sobriedad? \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
¿Solicitud de traducción/ASL/accesibilidades? (Por favor especifica) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Información del Banquete**

Las mesas del banquete tienen capacidad para 10. Para sentarse juntos en el banquete, envíe todos los formularios juntos. Inscripción y banquete del sábado por la noche (\$100) \_\_\_ Res \_\_\_ Pollo \_\_\_  
Pescado \_\_\_ Vegetariano \_\_\_  
Registro solamente (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_  
Compre un registro de beca para alguien menos afortunado (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_  
Solicitamos que los beneficiarios de las becas contribuyan con 1 o 2 horas de servicio durante el fin de semana de la convención. Para solicitar una beca, contacte [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org). Número limitado de becas disponibles.  
TOTAL ADJUNTO \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques o giros postales a nombre de: '2023 SENY Convention'  
Envíe por correo los formularios de pago y registro a: P.O. Box 285, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779  
¿Preguntas? Escriba a: [convention@aaseny.org](mailto:convention@aaseny.org)



### The Second Tradition

*For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority... a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants... they do not govern.*

"Now that I've been elected Secretary, I'll show this group some real leadership!"

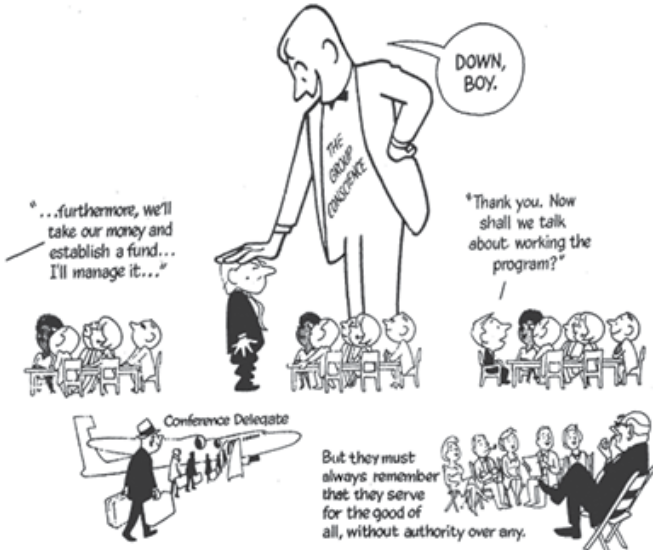
"There's only one way to do it and I'll tell you what it is..."

Members of A.A. may be chosen to serve in many ways...



AA is both a democracy and, in Bill W's words, "a benign anarchy." A group elects its own officers—who have no power to *order* anybody to do anything. In most groups, most of the slate rotates out of office at the end of six months, and new officers are elected.

If a group wants to be a part of the whole A.A. service structure, it elects a G.S.R. (general service representative, with a two-year term). G.S.R.s elect area committee members and then join them in electing a delegate from their area to the annual General Service Conference. The Conference is about the closest approximation of a government that A.A. has; it produces opinions on important matters of policy; it approves the choice of some trustee nominees for the General Service Board and directly elects others. But nei-



ther the Conference nor the board can give orders to any group or member.

Then who's in charge around here? AA is a spiritual movement, and so the "ultimate authority" is the spiritual concept of the "group conscience." Its voice is heard when a well-informed group gathers to arrive at a decision. The result rests on more than arithmetic, a "yes" and "no" count. Minority ideas get thoughtful attention. What about that annoying character who's always sure she's right. If she's wrong, then she will—if she remembers the First Tradition as well as the Second—go along with the decision of the group conscience. Does this position seem too cloudy? Let's think back to our first meetings. The presence we newcomers felt in those rooms was the same as the group conscience. And it was real—welcoming us in, setting up no barriers of rules...



### 2023 Suffolk County General Service UNITY BREAKFAST

AN EXPERIENCE YOU MUST NOT MISS  
Recovery • Unity • Service

Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am - 1:00pm

East Wind  
5720 NY-25A, Wading River, NY 11792

AI-Anon Participation  
Sales & Ticket Information  
<https://aasuffolkgs-ny.org/>



LICYPAA PRESENTS

## For the Love Of service

20 Years of LICYPAA Service  
Self Love Valentine's Dance

6:00-11:00pm  
AA Meeting at 6pm  
Dance 7-11  
Hybrid Meeting  
ZOOM ID: 658 749 0274  
PW: licypaa

Sat February 11th

Oceanside Lutheran Church  
55 Fairview Ave  
Oceanside, NY  
\$10 Suggested Donation

UPCOMING GENERAL SERVICE MEETINGS		To add or update email: <a href="mailto:agenda@aaseny.org">agenda@aaseny.org</a>	
SENY Convention Planning Meeting	2/5	3:00p	Zoom ID: 840 8275 0418, Password: 313989
Technology & Communications Committee Meeting	2/7	7:30p	Zoom ID: 894 0024 2856, Password: 033597
SENY Area Assembly (HYBRID)	2/11	10:00a	TBD
Rockland County General Service Meeting	2/15	7:30p	Clarkstown Reformed Church, 107 Strawtown Rd., W. Nyack, NY
Brooklyn County General Service Meeting	2/15	7:30p	Zoom ID: 961 9888 5103 , Password: 069497
SENY Public Information (PI) Committee Meeting	2/16	7:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
Suffolk County General Service Meeting	2/17	8:00p	Emanuel Lutheran Church, 179 E. Main St. Patchogue, NY.
SENY Intergroup Liaison Meeting (Virtual)	2/19	2:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
Nassau County General Service Meeting	2/20	7:00p	361 Hempstead Tpke, West Hempstead, NY
Orange County General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	2/21	7:00p	First Presbyterian Church, 142 Stage Rd, Monroe NY
Queens County General Assembly (In Person)	2/27	7:00p	St. Mary Gate of Heaven, 103-12 102st Ave, Ozone Park, NY

SENY Officers		
Delegate	Jo Ann M.	<a href="mailto:delegate@aaseny.org">delegate@aaseny.org</a>
Alt. Delegate	Nisaa A.	<a href="mailto:alt_delegate@aaseny.org">alt_delegate@aaseny.org</a>
Chair	Paola A.	<a href="mailto:chair@aaseny.org">chair@aaseny.org</a>
Treasurer	Kimbley G.	<a href="mailto:treasurer@aaseny.org">treasurer@aaseny.org</a>
Technology & Communications	Vicky B.	<a href="mailto:tco@aaseny.org">tco@aaseny.org</a>

SENY Standing/Ad Hoc Committee Chairs		
Accessibilities	Moses H.	<a href="mailto:access@aaseny.org">access@aaseny.org</a>
Agenda	Sherry P.	<a href="mailto:agenda@aaseny.org">agenda@aaseny.org</a>
Archives	VACANT	<a href="mailto:archives@aaseny.org">archives@aaseny.org</a>
Convention 2023	Melissa J.	<a href="mailto:convention@aaseny.org">convention@aaseny.org</a>
Corrections	Toby Y.	<a href="mailto:corrections@aaseny.org">corrections@aaseny.org</a>
Email Update Editor	VACANT	<a href="mailto:email-update@aaseny.org">email-update@aaseny.org</a>
CPC	Devin C.	<a href="mailto:cpc@aaseny.org">cpc@aaseny.org</a>
Grapevine/La Vina	Thomas K.	<a href="mailto:grapevine@aaseny.org">grapevine@aaseny.org</a>
Intergroup Liaison	Kristina F.	<a href="mailto:intergroup@aaseny.org">intergroup@aaseny.org</a>
Link Editor	Gina D.	<a href="mailto:link@aaseny.org">link@aaseny.org</a>
Literature	Eric O.	<a href="mailto:literature@aaseny.org">literature@aaseny.org</a>
Office Manager	Steven W.	<a href="mailto:office@aaseny.org">office@aaseny.org</a>
Public Information	Jeannette K.	<a href="mailto:pi@aaseny.org">pi@aaseny.org</a>
Recording Secretary	Claudia T.	<a href="mailto:secretary@aaseny.org">secretary@aaseny.org</a>
Service Participation*	Nisaa A.	<a href="mailto:altdelegate@aaseny.org">altdelegate@aaseny.org</a>
Service Sponsorship*	Jess V.	<a href="mailto:sponsorship@aaseny.org">sponsorship@aaseny.org</a>
Translation	VACANT	<a href="mailto:translation@aaseny.org">translation@aaseny.org</a>
Treatment Facilities	Hugo P.	<a href="mailto:tf@aaseny.org">tf@aaseny.org</a>
Web Chair	Joseph C.	<a href="mailto:web@aaseny.org">web@aaseny.org</a>
AIAnon Liaison*	VACANT	<a href="mailto:alanonliaison@aaseny.org">alanonliaison@aaseny.org</a>
Ad Hoc Finance	Larry W.	<a href="mailto:finance@aaseny.org">finance@aaseny.org</a>
YPAA Liaison*	Nisaa A.	<a href="mailto:altdelegate@aaseny.org">altdelegate@aaseny.org</a>

County DCMCS		
Bronx / UM	Chris D.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@bxum.aaseny.org">dcmc@bxum.aaseny.org</a>
Hispanic	Nelson	<a href="mailto:distritoshispanos@aacdhsheny49.org">distritoshispanos@aacdhsheny49.org</a>
Brooklyn	Charlene B.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@brooklynaa.org">dcmc@brooklynaa.org</a>
Manhattan	Justin K.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@manhattan.aaseny.org">dcmc@manhattan.aaseny.org</a>
Nassau	Cathy C.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@nassau.aaseny.org">dcmc@nassau.aaseny.org</a>
Orange	Dan M.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@orange.aaseny.org">dcmc@orange.aaseny.org</a>
Putnam	Gregg S.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@putnam.aaseny.org">dcmc@putnam.aaseny.org</a>
Queens	Raj B.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@qcgsa.org">dcmc@qcgsa.org</a>
Rockland	Kevin F.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@aarockland.org">dcmc@aarockland.org</a>
Staten Island	Dan S.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@statenilandaa.org">dcmc@statenilandaa.org</a>
Suffolk	Kimberly L.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@aasuffolks-ny.org">dcmc@aasuffolks-ny.org</a>
Sullivan	Jeff P.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@sullivan.aaseny.org">dcmc@sullivan.aaseny.org</a>
Westchester	Peter C.	<a href="mailto:dcmc@westchester.aaseny.org">dcmc@westchester.aaseny.org</a>

\*Special committees (neither standing, nor adhoc committees)