

The Link

Issue 637 - FEBRUARY 2024
A DIVERSE SPECTRUM OF
SERVICE WARRIORS

Area 49 Service Warriors - A Diverse Bunch of People

What can I say about the service warriors in our Area? My experience is we have a large group of people who are passionate about A.A. My homegroup is filled with a bunch of longtimers and over the years I have had the privilege of getting to know all of them, their habits, likes and dislikes and can pretty much predict the outcome of most group votes. Coming outside of your homegroup to do service can be a scary thing but I assure you it will be worth it. No predictability here. Talk about diversity! Not just in creed, culture, gender, etc. I love the diversity in thoughts, opinions, ideas, actions, and concerns. I love fellowshiping with the people in my Area. I cherish the conversations I have with people and really enjoy listening to what they have to say. I have learned a lot about our members, and I am always open to learn more. Service has also allowed me the opportunity to learn more about myself and my purpose.

One thing I think we have in common is our fear of the unknown. I know for me life is like a book and sometimes I wish I could skip to the end of a chapter to see what's going to happen. Fear and anxiety take hold and I find myself having to shake it off and trust my higher power. There is a lot of fear going around A.A. these days where we fear the unknown and treat situations like

the ominous "boogeyman." I was reading the Grapevine Daily Quote right before I started writing this article and want to share it with you because it says a lot about us and our fellowship, and I think Bill hit the nail on the head:

January 24, 2024

"We should always realize that change does not necessarily spell progress. We are sure that each new group of workers in world service will be tempted to try all sorts of innovations that may often produce little more than a painful repetition of earlier mistakes ... And if mistaken departures are nevertheless made, these Concepts may then provide a ready means of safe return to an operating balance that might otherwise take years of floundering to rediscover." *AA Co-Founder, Bill W., published in Grapevine September 1990, "The Twelve Concepts", AA Grapevine*

In a fellowship as diverse in thought and action as A.A., we can always expect the unexpected. There is always room to adjust, regroup, and grow. If we keep an open mind and trust in our higher power all will be well.

Jo Ann M., *Delegate Area 49*



WHATS INSIDE

- [2024 NERAASA Registration Flyer](#)
- [2024 SENY Registration Form](#)
- [Suffolk County Breakfast Flyer](#)

"Excerpts from A.A. literature and current publications (text and graphics) are reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc. and The Grapevine, Inc."

A Diverse Spectrum of Service Warriors

What does service mean as an AA member? What does it mean in my Sobriety? I recall the first time I heard the term and what it meant. It meant volunteering my time to chair a meeting, make a pot of coffee, or greet members at the door. It meant keeping a safe space open, to carry our message of hope. It means giving the message away freely, the way it was given to me.

I cringed on the first day of my chairing commitment; I was around 6 months sober. This meeting is in the Bronx, predominant members being long timers. A mix of people I would normally not mingle with because of how diverse we are. Of course, at first, I said, "I'm not doing this". Then I heard, "if you want what we have, you do what we do". And I so badly wanted the vast years of sobriety these members had. Today, I am aware of what service is and what it does. It keeps me out of my head, quiets the committee in my mind, and most of all, I help someone else.

We come from diverse spectrums of life, however, fight a

common denominator- alcoholism. With service we get to show up for ourselves and others. It makes us Service Warriors without even knowing. We come into this Fellowship unaware of what to expect and end up with a toolbox that helps us deal with life, such as service.

I have been able to do service below the group level with events such as LISTS, Share a Day, and Queens Gratitude Day. This has provided me with an opportunity to work with other Trusted Servants from Intergroup and General Service. I have been able to include my son in these events, showing him what humility looks like and that we can recover. I am blessed to be part of a home group that is big on service because to me, it's about the attraction and practicing of all 36 Principles in all my affairs.

Ellie C., *GSO Office*

Spilled Milk

I just finished setting up the tech for our hybrid meeting when I realized I had to pick up the balloons for our anniversary meeting. As I was running out, the coffee folks asked me to pick up a gallon of milk. I picked up the balloons, ran into the bodega, told the cashier, "No need for a bag. I got it! Gracias!" So here I am with a dozen balloons in one hand and a gallon of milk in the other. As I opened the door to the church, the winter wind whipping past me, I screamed out, "GOD, please DO NOT take the BALOOOOONS!" I walked into the vestibule relieved and BAM! The gallon of milk fell out of my hand, dropped to the floor, and cracked in the most dramatic and artistic fashion.

A group member grabbed the balloons to finish decorating as I ran to the sink with the milk. Coffee Person #1 grabbed it to transfer it into a container. Coffee Person #2 was already grabbing paper towels. Another group member was getting the mop and bucket. We started mopping the floor and wiping down the walls when the inevitable happened. People started to arrive for the meeting. "What happened to the milk?!" I laughed and said, "The gallon of milk fell out of my hand and splat. No need to cry over spilled milk."

As the evening went on, I realized that I did not lose my cool. I did not spiral. I did not obsess. Hmm, what was different this time? My higher power presented itself through my group. Our goal was to finish setting up the anniversary meeting. I have had the privilege to serve on committees within my group and below the group level. Unexpected things occur which need handling without hesitation. The promises say we intuitively know how to handle things that used to baffle us. Imagine that promise guiding a group of people in a single moment. I never have to cry over spilled milk because I do none of this alone.

Malini M., *Queens County Recording Secretary*

UPCOMING EVENTS

2/3 - A.A. Movie Night (flyer attached)

2/5 - SENY Area Committee Meeting

2/22 - 2/25 - NERAASA Northeast Regional Service Assembly

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

A Diverse Spectrum of Service Warriors

Why are we talking about diversity in an AA newsletter? Isn't that an outside issue? Well, no. AA is made up of "people who normally would not mix." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 17) Diversity in service benefits AA for the basic reason that more diversity in service means more AA members' viewpoints being represented.

In tradition 2, it tells us that we want to strive to have an informed group conscience. We want everyone represented in that group conscience. Our viewpoints are usually shaped by our life experience. Someone from rural NY may have a differing viewpoint than someone from urban NY. A young person may have a differing viewpoint than an older person. A transgender person may have a differing viewpoint than a cisgender person. The same applies to people in different social classes or with different incomes, people with different sexual orientations, people of different races and ethnicities, different religions, different cultures, etc. Each group represents different life experiences

united by the same thing: the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. In service, we all unite to do what we think is best for AA; to help it thrive and reach the most alcoholics out there. Like mentioned, the best for AA can only be achieved through one method — the informed group conscience.

We are part of a wonderful program that values the individual deeply. It is so beautiful that, no matter if you're the majority or the minority, we want to hear what you have to say. It is the only way to properly reach a group conscience. It is only through the informed group conscience that we can lay aside our personal differences and put the unity of AA first. So, if you feel like your voice isn't being heard, if you feel that you aren't being represented, come join us in general service. We want to hear from you and want you to join our diverse spectrum of service warriors.

Paola A., Area 49 Chair

Archives Alert

Your SENY Archivists have collected thousands of documents and other items reflecting our area participation in the life of A.A. Our Digital Archive is a work in progress with older documents being added as we digitize them, and current materials being included as THEY ARE COLLECTED.

SENY Area 49 could not have had the success without our members contributing their personal archival material. We preserve our history past, present, and future by documenting the "Path of AA History". We have created a "Guidelines for Preserving Area 49, Cataloging Material" and a "Deed of Gift".

A History Promise: We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.

Contact us at: archives@aaseny.org



www.aasenyhistory.org

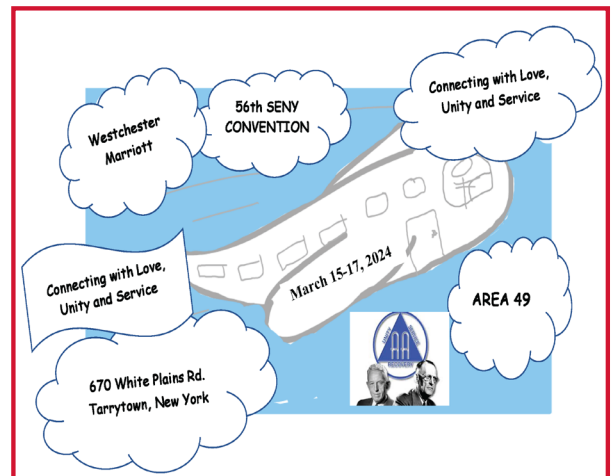
My group elected me as their new "GSR" ...



WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

"The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the group and with the general service representative (G.S.R.) the group elects. I cannot emphasize too strongly the G.S.R.'s importance."

-Bill W.



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!



Alcoholics Anonymous Historical Book Club is back--Sunday Nights at 7:00 pm on Zoom!

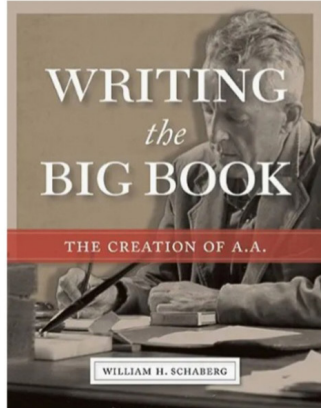
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We will be reading

Writing the Big Book, by William H. Schaberg

We read the chapter in advance & discuss at the book club meeting. A weekly schedule of the chapters can be found on brooklynnaa.org."

The book club runs for 31 weeks from July 16, 2023 to March 10, 2024, but will be off for holidays on September 3, November 26, December 24, and December 31.



For more information contact dcmc@brooklynnaa.org or (917) 865-9551

2024 SUFFOLK COUNTY GENERAL SERVICE UNITY BREAKFAST
THE SOLUTION REVOLUTION
AL-ANON PARTICIPATION

Sunday
 March 10, 2024
 9am - 1pm

East Wind Long Island
 5720 NY-25A, Wading River, NY

Tickets to be purchased at aasuffolks-ny.org
 or
 Scan the QR Code to purchase tickets

A.A. Then & A.A. Now

“How to Preserve Elder Statespersons’ Stories”

What:

- Hear first hand including a panel discussion of what A.A. was like many years past
- Presentation by the Archives Committee for preserving elder statespersons’ stories

When: February 24th, 2024

- Open at noon, lunch at 12:15
- Bring a dessert to share!
- Presentations from 1pm to 3pm

Where: Niles Family Center
 987 Civic Center Dr.
 Niles, IL 60714
 -Zoom-
 Meeting ID: **850 5589 0001**
 Passcode: **635345**

ADA Accessible Building

Literature table & Cash Book Sales

Brought to you by District 18/19 and Chicago Area Archives Committee

New York City Deaf Access Committee
Helping ensure we carry the message to all those seeking recovery

NYC Deaf Access Committee of AA
 Available Service Positions

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreter Co-Coordinator
 Suggested Sobriety Requirement: 1 year
 Length of Commitment: 6 months (January 1 thru June 30, July 1 thru Dec 31)
 Note: You do not need to know ASL – just have good organizational and communication skills

Duties:

- Work with the other ASL Interpreter Co-Coordinator to book ASL interpreters for NYC meetings/events and maintain the interpreter schedule.
- Maintain interpreter bookings for regular meetings at least 2 weeks in advance - communicate any scheduling issues to Deaf fellows and Committee Chair ASAP.
- Act as point person for Deaf people requesting interpreters and respond to all requests in a timely manner.
- Maintain list of contact info for our roster of interpreters - including email, cell, and payment information (Venmo, Zelle, PayPal).
- Work with other committee members on interpreter outreach, to continue growing our network.
- Stay in contact with Committee Treasurer to ensure we have the funds to book interpreters and that interpreters are getting paid in a timely manner.

Communications Chair
 Suggested Sobriety Requirement: 1 year
 Length of Commitment: 1 year (January 1 thru Dec 31)

Duties:

- Make sure Committee members remain informed about important upcoming events – especially business meetings, district/area meetings.
- Coordinate Committee member attendance at these events, to make sure at least 1 member is attending, so that we maintain good relations with other AA bodies.

For more info, email info@nycdaca.org or visit www.nycdaca.org

Connecting with Love, Unity & Service

SCAN ME

2024 AREA 49
56TH SENY CONVENTION
March 15-17, 2024
Westchester Marriott

Conectando con Amor, Unidad y Servicio

SCAN ME

2024 ÁREA 49
56ª CONVENCIÓN DEL SENY
15-17 de Marzo de 2024
Marriott Westchester

2024 AREA 49
56TH SENY CONVENTION
March 15-17, 2024

Westchester Marriott
670 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Connecting with Love, Unity & Service

HOTEL Registration Deadline: February 22nd, 2024

Convention rate: \$159.00 - tax per night / Hotel reservations via phone: 1-800-883-1042
To make hotel reservations on-line or to register on-line please visit: aaseny.org/2024-seny-convention

No pets allowed at the Westchester Marriott. The only exceptions are working on-duty service animals.

MENTION SENY WHEN BOOKING ROOMS
CODIGO PARA CAMA KING: SENSNYA
CODIGO FOR QUEEN ROOM: SENSNYB

CONVENTION Pre registration Deadline: February 29th, 2024

One form per person registering. Questions? Email: 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 Accessibility Request? (Please specify) _____

Registration only is \$27.00 _____
 Saturday Evening Banquet \$98.00 _____
 Totals: Regular Banquet: Registration: \$125.00 ___ Kosher Banquet: Registration: \$176.00 ___
 Banquet tables seat 10. To be seated together at the banquet, submit all forms together.

Beef Chicken Fish Vegetarian Kosher (\$149.00)

Purchase a Scholarship Registration for someone less fortunate: \$27.00
 To request a scholarship, contact convention@aaseny.org. Limited number of scholarships available. We are requesting that Scholarship recipients contribute 1-2 hours of service during the convention weekend.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Checks or money orders payable to: 2024 SENY Convention
 Mail payment and registration forms to: P.O. BOX 125, Patchogue, NY, 11772
 Questions? Email: convention@aaseny.org

2024 ÁREA 49
56ª CONVENCIÓN DEL SENY
15-17 de marzo de 2024

Marriott Westchester
670 White Plains Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Conectando con Amor, Unidad y Servicio

Fecha límite para el registro del HOTEL: 22 de Febrero de 2024

Tarifa de convención: \$159.00 - 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/2024-seny-convention

No se permiten mascotas en el Westchester Marriott. Las únicas excepciones son los animales de servicio que trabajan o están de servicio.

MENTION A SENY AL RESERVAR UNA HABITACION
CODIGO PARA CAMA KING: SENSNYA
CODIGO PARA CAMA QUEEN: SENSNYB

CONVENCIÓN límite para el registro del hotel: 22 de Febrero de 2024

Un formulario por persona que se registra. Preguntas? Correo electrónico: convention@aaseny.org

Nombre completo: _____ Nombre en el gafete: _____
 Dirección: _____ Teléfono: _____
 Ciudad/Estado/Código postal: _____
 Dirección de correo electrónico: _____
 AA: ___ Al-Anon ___ Grupo base: _____
 ¿Más de 25 años de sobriedad? ___/___/___
 (Solicitud de traducción ASL, accesibilidad?) (Por Favor especifica) _____

Sólo la inscripción cuesta \$27.00 _____
 Banquete del Sábado por la Noche: \$98.00 _____
 Totales: Banquete Regular: Inscripciones: \$125.00 ___ Banquete Kosher: Registro: \$176.00 ___
 Las mesas del banquete tienen capacidad para 10 personas. Para sentarse juntos en el banquete, envíen todos los formularios juntos.

Res Pollo Pescado Vegetariano
 Comestible según la ley judía (\$149.00)

Compre un registro de beca para alguien menos afortunado (\$27) _____

Para solicitar una beca, contactar convention@aaseny.org. Número limitado de becas disponibles. Solicitamos que los beneficiarios de las becas contribuyan con 1 o 2 horas de servicio durante el fin de semana de la convención.

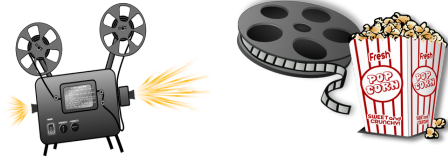
TOTAL ADJUNTOS _____

Cheques o giros postales a nombre de:
2024 SENY Convention
 Envíe por correo los formularios de pago y registro a: P.O. BOX 125, Patchogue, NY, 11772
 ¿Preguntas? Escriba a: convention@aaseny.org

A.A. Movie Night

Bill W. Discusses The 12 Traditions

Presented: By The One Day At A Time Group



Date: 02/03/24 Time: 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 PM

Where: St. Anthony's School
110 Anchor Avenue
Oceanside N.Y. 11572

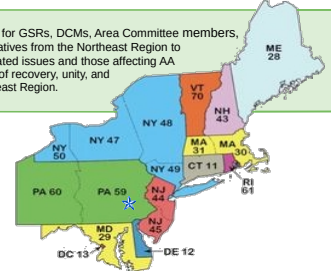


NERAASA 2024



NorthEast Regional A.A. Service Assembly

PURPOSE The purpose of NERAASA is for GSRs, DCMs, Area Committee members, and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives from the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference-related issues and those affecting AA as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity, and service common to the Areas of the Northeast Region.



February
22-25, 2024

Hershey Lodge
325 University Dr.
Hershey, PA 17033

Deadline for registration by mail:
February 14, 2024

ROUNDTABLES: Area Chairpersons • Archives • Accessibilities • Corrections • Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) • Delegates / Alternates • DCMs / DCMCs / Alternate DCMs • Grapevine / La Viña • GSRs / Alternate GSRs • Intergroups / Central Offices • Literature • Newsletters • Public Information (PI) • Registrars • Secretaries • Technology • Treasurers • Treatment & Bridging the Gap (BTG) • Young People in A.A. (YPAA)

Hotel Rooms: \$175 + 11% tax = \$194.25 per room per night. Room block cut-off date is Feb 1, 2024; rates may be higher after that date. Credit cards are charged one night's advance deposit, including tax, at the time of booking.

Rooms may be reserved by calling Hershey Lodge at (717) 533-3311, 7 days a week, 8AM-8PM (Eastern) only. Ask for the room block for NERAASA 2024 at Hershey Lodge, from Thursday, Feb 22 to Sunday, Feb 25, 2024.

For complete information browse to www.neraasa.org/register



Questions? info@neraasa.org | Information: neraasa.org

Convocatoria de relatos

para el
Folleto de
A.A.



¿Crees que eres diferente?

En cumplimiento de una Acción Recomendable de la Conferencia de 2022, el Comité de Literatura de los custodios está solicitando propuestas de miembros de A.A. con antecedentes diversos a fin de actualizar el folleto de A.A. "¿Crees que eres diferente?" con historias que representen una mayor diversidad.

En particular, se buscan historias de miembros de A.A. que reflejen antecedentes multiculturales, de aquellos que tienen múltiples factores de aislamiento, así como historias de poblaciones más diversas que no se abordan en la literatura actual de A.A..

Formato de los manuscritos: 500-800 palabras, a doble espacio, en letra de 12 puntos.

Manuscritos escritos a mano: deben tener aproximadamente de 5 a 6 páginas.

Fecha límite: 30 de abril de 2024

Enlace de envío: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/5a77c27d179d4856b32eed86b01e3426>

Correo electrónico: pamphletstories@aa.org **Asunto:** "¿Crees que eres diferente?"

Correo postal: Attn. Asignación de Literatura

Oficina de Servicios Generales
Apartado de correos 459, Grand Central Station
Nueva York, NY 10163

Escriba: "Folleto" en el sobre y en la parte superior de la primera página del manuscrito.

Por favor, incluya su nombre completo, dirección e información de correo electrónico/teléfono en la primera página de su manuscrito. Conserve una copia del manuscrito para sus archivos. Se respetará el anonimato de todos los autores, tanto si su relato es seleccionado para la publicación como si no.

UPCOMING GENERAL SERVICE MEETINGS		To add or update email: agenda@aaseny.org	
SENY Area Committee Meeting (VIRTUAL)	2/5	7:30p	TBD
SENY Tech & Comm Committee Meeting	2/6	7:30p	Zoom ID: 894 0024 2856, Password: 033597
SENY Archives Committee Meeting	2/8	7:30p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
2024 SENY Convention Planning Mtg (VIRTUAL)	2/11	2:00p	Zoom ID: 8916 576 4327, Password: 549468
BXUM General Service Assembly (HYBRID)	2/13	7:00p	SEE aa.seny.org calendar (dcmc@bxum.aaseny.org)
Suffolk General Service Meeting (HYBRID)	2/16	7:00p	Zoom ID: 932 6450 5176, Password: 713704
SENY Corrections Committee Meeting	2/17	3:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
SENY Intergroup Liaison Meeting (VIRTUAL)	2/18	2:00p	Zoom ID: 998 938 7641, Password: 714921
SENY Treatment Facilities Committee (VIRTUAL)	2/26	7:00p	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
County DCMCs				Email Update Editor*	VACANT		email-update@aaseny.org
Bronx/UM	Chris D.		dcmc@bxum.aaseny.org	CPC	Devin C.		cpc@aaseny.org
Brooklyn	Charlene B.		dcmc@brooklynaa.org	Grapevine/La Viña	Thomas K.		grapevine@aaseny.org
Hispanic	Nelson		distritoshispanos@aacdhseny49.org	Intergroup Liaison	Kristina F.		intergroup@aaseny.org
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Queens	Raj B.		dcmc@qcgasa.org	Recording Secretary	Claudia T.		secretary@aaseny.org
Rockland	Kevin F.		dcmc@aarockland.org	Service Participation*	Nisaa A.		altdelegate@aaseny.org
Staten Island	Dan S.		dcmc@statenilandaa.org	Service Sponsorship*	Matt F.		sponsorship@aaseny.org
Suffolk	Kimberly L.		dcmc@asuffolkgs-ny.org	Translation	Vacant		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)