



“Our Big Book - 80 Years, 71 Languages”

From the SENY Delegate - Panel 67

At the 68th General Service Conference this past April we adopted the theme for next year’s Conference - “Our Big Book - 80 Years, 71 Languages” - a recognition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous.

The Navajo language Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous* (an audiobook in 14 CDs) will be available via the aa.org online stores June 1, 2018 at a list price of \$9.10. It’s only available as an audio recording because Navajo is a spoken language. This edition was many years in the making.

I had the privilege to listen to the first three Steps being spoken in Navajo at the recent Conference. Michelle Grinberg, Class A Trustee and chair of the General Service Board presented an advance copy at a ceremony held at the Red Road Convention in Albuquerque, NM in early May.

Bill’s goal of carrying the message of recovery might have had a rocky start in 1939, but with the new publication of the Navajo language Big Book (in CD format), *Alcoholics Anonymous* is now available in 70 approved translations (71 languages total, including the original English.) Thirty-four language versions are printed and distributed by A.A.W.S., Inc., and 37 language versions are licensed to be printed and distributed by local entities abroad (with 22 printed by both A.A.W.S., Inc. and international A.A. entities). There are twenty Big Book translations pending, at various stages of completion; thirteen of these are new translations, and seven are revisions.

I hope your home groups, districts, and counties will adopt this theme and join in the celebration of the Big Book’s 80th anniversary in the coming year. It’s a fitting tribute to the book that started it all, providing the fundamental basics that have saved the lives of millions of fellow sufferers around the globe.

Yours in service,

John W.



Your voice in *The Link*

Are you willing to share your experience, strength and hope about your service in A.A. at the group, district, county or area level? **The Link** is published ten times per year and welcomes articles from all AAs in our area. Please limit your article to 275 words, and email it to link@aaseny.org or mail it c/o The Link Editor, P.O. Box 571, NY, NY 10116. Thanks!

Your SENY Office

Visit: 199 Lincoln Ave., Suite 302 Bronx, NY 10454

Send mail: P.O. Box 571, New York, NY 10116

General inquiries: info@aaseny.org

Call: 718-665-1253

“A.A. — A Solution for All Generations.”

Theme of AA’s 2018 General Service Conference

Notes From A Past GSR From the SENY Area Chair

Today, when our delegate reports on the 68th General Service Conference, I know I'll get chills. Our co-founders realized they were mortal and had to make sure AA would be here for me and countless other drunks. Our book, "AA Comes Age" widened my perspective (HOW — honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness).

My first area assembly was in Suffolk. By the next area assembly, my group decided to allow me to serve as alternate general service representative. Suffolk didn't have a bus in 1989, and the DCM picked me up and we talked all the way to the area assembly. I told him that our GSR worked Saturdays (there were no Sunday assemblies then) and I worked Friday nights when Suffolk holds their county and district meetings, so we had them "all covered".

District Committee Member John told me that both the primary and alternate general service representative should go to area, county and district meetings together, but if that really can't happen, then this could work so my group gets the information they need and has a voice at all levels. Then he said the magic words: "you really have the more important commitment, Jane; at area assemblies, your group's voice is heard by the whole of AA." I hadn't yet learned that every commitment in AA is equally important, and I wanted to have the most important one! John explained that although he always went to area assemblies, he didn't speak for my group; his job was to represent the district, and the DCMC didn't represent my group, that his job was to represent the county, and since the final responsibility and ultimate authority for AA world service should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship, that it was critical that my group, who I represent at area assemblies, should be heard.

He didn't call it the first concept; he was teaching it to me.

What I think isn't really important, but what my group thinks is, as is what your group thinks, after gaining an informed conscience from you, the general service representative.

AA belongs to the groups. Let the groups be heard, through you, the general service representative, the link between your group and AA as a whole.

In love with service, and grateful for your service...

Jane E.

Carrying The Message Behind Bars From the SENY Corrections Committee Chair

One thing that has impressed me so much about corrections service is how much it seems like the early 12th Step work described in our AA literature: a small group of men and women connecting with a prison administration to carry the message inside to the alcoholic in need. Unlike the seemingly well-trodden path of bringing meetings into hospitals and rehabs, prison meetings face an entirely different set of obstacles. The rules for each prison are constantly changing--and our area has a total of nine state prisons!

The three prisons in Westchester (Sing-Sing, Bedford Hills and Taconic) have regular AA meetings and are receiving literature. Our committee has been working with NY InterGoup to get meetings into Manhattan's two work-release prisons (Lincoln and Edgecombe). At the administration's request, someone has been bringing meetings into Queensboro prison but has not had success with inmates showing up (yet). Orange County has been working hard to connect with AAs bringing meetings into Otisville prison, and are hoping to do a corrections workshop later this year. Sullivan County's Woodbourne and Sullivan prisons have groups thriving within them, but we are not in contact with the AAs bringing meetings into these facilities. My hope is that by the end of this rotation, each county will be supporting inmates in their prisons with either meetings or literature.

People are always asking me what the SENY Corrections Committee does and how it is any different from what local Intergroups do. Our job as the area's Corrections Committee is to support AA's in correctional facilities, to support AAs going into correctional facilities, and to encourage participation in the services G.S.O offers to inmates (Corrections Correspondence and the Pre-Release program). We are very lucky in our area in that we have robust intergroups who have done a great job tirelessly bringing meetings into the various county jails and Rykers Island. The SENY Corrections Committee, on the other hand, has been primarily focused on state prisons rather than jails. Lately, we've been cooperating with intergroups to see how we can help inform people who are in jail about the services available to them if they are eventually sent to prison. We're finding great value in cooperating with local intergroups: they're a vital resource for 12th Step work in corrections. It doesn't matter who is doing this work, as long as it's getting done!

Contact me if you'd like to get involved in this wonderful service.

Mike D.

Do The Scary Things From the Alternate DCM, District 111

Doing service below the group level has been a first step towards regularly doing the scary things which may seem too uncomfortable; or acting with courage; or moving outside of my comfort zone. I know. I say courage and you think someone running into a burning building, but that is not what I mean. I'm talking about seemingly small actions that seem scary in the moment. Examples could include asking questions when your ego doesn't want you to, extending a hand to someone new and confused, speaking up when Robert's Rules of Order aren't being followed or a newer member is not familiar with a group conscience.

When I was taught about leadership in AA, it was explained to me that something as simple as raising my hand for a vote is considered leadership because some newer member can observe my decision (notably in the case of an "unpopular" choice); or something as simple as continuing to show up each month, even if I do nothing other than vote, take notes and go home--since in these moments I am acting as a power of example.

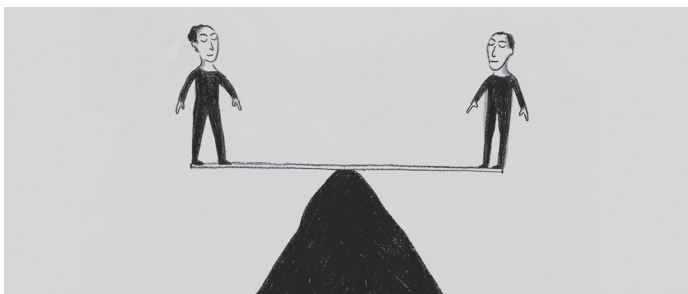
Sometimes our personal lives throw us curveballs and just getting out of bed becomes an act of courage. An example of courage within my home group is sharing when I am not okay. This is not always easy when you've got a few years because shouldn't I be better already?!

Such small acts of courage have leaked into my personal life. Seemingly, all of a sudden, I have felt better equipped to stand up for myself in my personal relationships, as well as at work. I have been more willing and confident to stand up for the things I have felt were important--in all of my affairs.

Learning about leadership in AA has taught me about leadership in other areas of my life. The woman I am today is very different than the one who walked into her first county meeting almost four years ago.

Life is short. It's worth walking through the fear and being courageous.

Melissa J.



"I Am Responsible..." From the District 620 Web Chair

My second time around in AA, a member suggested that I do the ABCs (Ashtrays, Brooms, and Chairs), which was my introduction to service and being responsible in AA. Since then, I've served as a chairperson, secretary, program chair, treasurer, general service representative and web chairperson for my district.

I've been taught in AA that "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible." Over time I've become more and more willing to give back what has been so freely given to me.



This March I was elected by my district to serve as the program chairperson for our 12th Annual Service Workshop. With help from the district committee member, the general service representative, the groups in District 620, committee members, other districts, Area 49, NY Inter-Group and Manhattan County, I was well on my way and willing to do service.

For our workshop, the district voted to use the theme from the 2018 General Service Conference: "AA -- A Solution for All Generations," with the following topics:

1. Understanding the Service Structure - the Upside-Down Triangle
2. Anonymity in the Age of Social Media
3. Safety in the Home Group

On the day of the workshop, the three panels shared their experience on the topics with well-versed information from our 36 Principles, conference-approved literature, and the AA Service Manual, followed by a Q & A, which allowed participating AA members to have a voice to share with their groups. The workshop was well attended in the spirit of our Declaration of Unity. The workshop also had a two-part play that focused on safety in the rooms. The play had a lot of humor and a clear message on Tradition One.

At the end of the play we had a sobriety count down. I was so spiritually overwhelmed that I had to be reminded to use our Declaration of Responsibility when closing the workshop.

Royce G.

Don't Miss The Road Trip To Service From the SENY Grapevine/La Viña Chair

My past travels when I was drinking were usually with a group of friends. There were times I ventured out by myself. Summertime was the Hamptons and winter was Hunter Mountain. Driving to these location, I would think about which happy hours or clubs had the best deals for drinking. When I became sober my traveling was with an entourage of sober friends having a great time going to conventions, dances and social gatherings. These last couple of years I traveled with my husband and sons, always having fun and hearing several times: "Are we there yet?"

Deciding to attend NERAASA for the first time this year was a difficult decision to make since it was held the weekend of my wedding anniversary. I didn't know if I had made the right decision, and wondered if I was capable of making the trip on my own. As expected, I had God on my side so off I went for a weekend of new beginnings. I could feel the excitement and positive energy as I entered the hotel lobby, where I bumped into people from Area 49. Right away I felt at home.

Each night the ballroom was full of people from around the Northeast region. I met new friends and old friends. The topics presented varied from "Abuse of Authority: Traditions Two and Nine," to "Reaching the Alcoholic Women," to "Is God a requirement for membership in AA?" All of the presenters were articulate and had researched each of their topics well. I was very impressed with their presentations. Being a good student, I began to take notes on each topic and was happy to know that the service assembly was being recorded. So I decided to just listen and buy a tape of the weekend later on.

Attending this assembly has enriched my sobriety and has helped me grow in my recovery. I would encourage everyone to attend a NERAASA weekend. I want to thank the SENY officers who encouraged me to attend; the SENY Committee who budgeted the money for me to attend; my family who gives me support, encouragement and understanding when I feel doubtful; and of course God for giving me the precious gift of sobriety.

Always remember to pass it on.

Laura G.

The Building Blocks Of Service From a Member of *The Link* Editorial Committee

As my AA celebration neared this May, I felt a need to make a conscious recommitment to my program. Over time it had somehow become unseated from its number one spot by my very busy life. So with my sponsor's help, I put down in bulleted format how I envision that recommitment to take place. Here's what I came up with:

- Starting immediately, I will call my sponsor no fewer than 4 times per week. The idea is to re-learn to check-in, which will help me utilize my sponsor when I need to rather than allowing my screwed-up brain to manipulate me into scenarios that mostly don't exist.
- Starting immediately, I will review my day with a written inventory no fewer than 5 times per week.
- Starting next week, I will get back to a weekly Big Book study with my sponsor.
- Starting this month, I will (to the extent my work schedule permits) take part in the monthly step study that my sponsor provides to all of his sponsees.
- Starting immediately, I will share in every meeting that I attend.
- Starting immediately, I will practice, practice, practice, the continuing of my journey towards becoming a person of integrity.
- And lastly, starting immediately, I will trust in two things: one, that God is, and always has been, He who has had my back, and two, that my sponsor can, and will, hold me accountable to these bulleted proclamations.

The common denominator throughout this exercise is the understanding that these acts, though they may be small, are the building blocks upon which service is created. In one case, I am utilizing my sponsor who provides service for us both. In another example I am getting my hand up to share which directly correlates to the second part of Step Twelve. And finally, I am acknowledging that I am not running the show and am aware of what can happen if I take my will back.

Service can be a monumental effort, but it doesn't need to be. Those of us in AA practice little acts of kindness every day. These acts of kindness are the seeds of service.

Avi R.



Upcoming Events & Workshops

Nassau County General Service
Presents

34th Unity Breakfast



83 Years of AA
"AA - A Solution for all Generations"

June 3, 2018 • 9am to 12pm
(Service Fair begins at 8am)

Long Island Marriott
101 James Doolittle Blvd., Uniondale, NY 11553
516-794-3800

Tickets: \$30.00 per person • Doors open at 8am

Ticket Info: Annabel B. (516) 776-7030 or Ann G. (516) 457-8371

Support Your Sobriety Through Service

Brooklyn Inter Group (B.I.G.) Presents...

The First Annual
DR. BOB-EQUE



Sunday * JUNE 10, 2018 * 9am-8pm

At Ft. Tilden section of Gateway Nat Park



- ◆ FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP ALL DAY LONG!
- ◆ TWO MEETINGS - ONE MIDDAY AND ONE AT 7PM
- ◆ FOOD DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!
- ◆ SUGGESTED \$5 DONATION
- ◆ FOR MORE INFORMATION: CALL 718.851.3039 or E-MAIL: brooklynintergroupAA@gmail.com

Take Flatbush Ave. south toward Kings Plaza. Keep going on Flatbush. Go over the Marine Parkway (GI Hodges) Bridge. Stay right. At the end of the bridge you will see the exit on the right for Fort Tilden (Bryce Point). Follow the exit and make a left at the second traffic light (about 300 yards). You're now driving straight into Fort Tilden towards a chapel. Make a left at the chapel and look for parking on the right. Look for picnic tables and a pagoda behind the parking lot. Go have fun!!!

Gratitude Cookout

Fellowship Food • Fun

Fellowship Food • Fun

ANNUAL DISTRICT 620 OUTING

SAT. JULY 14, 2018
12:00 NOON - 7:00 PM

MORNINGSIDE PARK
123rd Street & Morningside Ave.
(Behind Handball Court)

BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS
WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME FROM MEMBERS!

Questions: aadistrict620@gmail.com District Website: www.aadistrict620.org

Nassau County General Service
presents:

Twelve Concepts for World Service
2018 Round Table Discussion Series

Speaker

John W., SENY's Panel 67 Delegate

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Nassau Intergroup Office
361 Hempstead Tpke.
West Hempstead, NY 11552

Bring a friend, everyone is welcome!!

Concepts I & II - January 15, 2018
Concepts III & IV - March 19, 2018
Concepts V & VI - May 21, 2018
Concepts VII & VIII - July 16, 2018
Concepts IX & X - September 17, 2018
Concepts XI & XII - November 19, 2018

Please bring your "AA Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service" - we will also have some available for purchase or loan.

For more information, please contact dcnc@nassau.aaseny.org

LONG ISLAND SPIRITUALITY THROUGH SERVICE 2018

The Long Island Spirituality Through Service ("L.I.S.T.S.") Workshop
aspires to reaffirm the strong spiritual benefits of service
to recovering alcoholics.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 8:30 AM)

ST FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
260 EASTERN PARKWAY, BROOKLYN 11225

sponsored by the General Services of Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and
Holk Counties and the Hispanic Districts. Hosted by Brooklyn County.



Exhibits
Lunch and Refreshments
Wheelchair Accessible
Workshops and Big Meeting
Mediation ASL (if requested in advance)
English and Spanish Translation

4TH ANNUAL QUEENS COUNTY

Spiritual Breakfast

"A.A. - A Solution for All Generations"

October 7, 2018

The Immaculate Conception Center
7200 Douglaston Parkway ♦ Little Neck, NY 11362

9:30 am to 1:00 pm
(Doors open at 9:00 am)

Tickets are \$30.00 ♦ Seating is limited!

What to Expect:

- Breakfast
- Speakers
- Fellowship

How to Purchase:

- Ask your GSR
- Via Email
- Attend the QCGS Assembly

Info: spiritualbreakfast2018@gmail.com

Hosted By Queens County General Service

Upcoming deadlines for submission of articles and flyers to *The Link*:

Sunday, September 16 (distribution at the October 1 Area Committee meeting)

Sunday, October 21 (distribution at the November 4 Area Assembly)

Wednesday, November 14 (distribution at the December 3 Area Committee meeting)

Sunday, December 30 (distribution at the January Area Committee meeting)

Upcoming 2018 Area Committee Meetings and Assemblies

06/04/18	7:30 pm	Area Committee	Church of the Holy Family, 2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472
09/15/18	8:00 am	Elections Assembly	Bronx-Upper Manhattan: location TBD
10/01/18	7:30 pm	Area Committee	Church of the Holy Family, 2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472
11/04/18	8:00 am	Area Assembly	Sullivan: location TBD
12/03/19	7:30 pm	Area Committee	Church of the Holy Family, 2158 Watson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472

County General Service Meetings		Please visit www.aaseny.org for the most up-to-date information	
Bronx-Upper Manhattan (2nd Wed, every other month)	Bedford Park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	6/13/18	7:00 pm
Brooklyn (3d Wednesday, every other month)	St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201	6/20/18	7:30 pm
Hispanic Districts (3d Sunday, monthly)	Location rotates - please see aaseny.org or aacdhseny49.org each month	6/17/18	9:30 am
Manhattan (3d Tuesday, every other month)	Seafarer's House, 123 East 15th Street, New York, NY 10003	6/19/18	6:30 pm
Nassau (3d Monday, every other month)	Nassau Intergroup Office, 361 Hempstead Tpke, West Hempstead, NY 11552	6/18/18	7:30 pm
Orange (3d Tuesday, monthly)	First Presbyterian Church, Campbell Hall, Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916	6/19/18	7:00 pm
Putnam (2nd Tuesday, monthly)	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 76 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, NY 10512	6/12/18	7:00 pm
Queens (last Monday, every other month)	Saint Mary Gate of Heaven Church, 101-18 104th St., Queens, NY 11416	6/25/18	7:30 pm
Rockland (3d Wednesday, monthly)	Elim Alliance Church, 40 Lake Road, Valley Cottage, NY 10989	6/20/18	7:30 pm
Staten Island (2nd Sun; no meetings May, July or August)	Oakwood Heights Community Church, 345 Guyon Ave, Staten Island, NY 10306	6/10/18	7:00 pm
Suffolk (3d Friday, monthly)	True North Church, 1101 Lakeland Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716	6/15/18	8:00 pm
Sullivan (3d Sunday, monthly; except July & August)	Sullivan County Community College, 112 College Rd., Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759	6/24/18	3:00 pm
Westchester (3d Wednesday, monthly)	Memorial Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605	6/20/18	7:30 pm

Standing Committee Meetings & Workshops		Please visit www.aaseny.org for the most up-to-date information	
Accessibility/Special Needs Committee (1st Friday, monthly)	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001	7/6/18	7:00 pm
Archives Committee	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001		
Corrections Committee (3d Saturday, monthly)	SENY Office, 99 Lincoln Ave., Bronx, NY 10454		
PI & CPC Joint Committee Meeting (last Tuesday, monthly)	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001	6/26/18	7:15 pm
Treatment Facilities Committee (last Sunday, monthly)	SENY Office, 99 Lincoln Ave., Bronx, NY 10454	6/24/18	11:30 am
12 Concepts of World Service Workshop (1st Wed, monthly)	Trinity Lower East Side, 602 E 9th St New York, NY 10009	6/6/18	8:15 pm
SENY Service Participation Meeting	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001		
SENY DCMC Meeting	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001		

SENY Officers			
Delegate	John W.		delegate@aaseny.org
Alt. Delegate	Manny A.		altdelegate@aaseny.org
Chair	Jane E.		chair@aaseny.org
Treasurer	Michelle G.		treasurer@aaseny.org
Registrar	Fred M.		registrar@aaseny.org

County DCMCs			
Bronx/U-M	Barbara Ann		dcmc@bxum.aaseny.org
Brooklyn	Mel R.		dcmc@brooklynaa.org
Hispanic	Ramon L.		distritoshispanos@aacdhseny49.org
Manhattan	Scott M.		dcmc@manhattan.aaseny.org
Nassau	Regina T.		dcmc@nassau.aaseny.org
Orange	Sherry A.		sherrya396@gmail.com
Putnam	Rob O.		rko826@gmail.com
Queens	Jo Ann M.		dcmc@qcgsa.org
Rockland	Ray W.		dcmc@aarockland.org
Staten Island	Jerry R.		jerry19521984@gmail.com
Suffolk	Tom B.		dcmc@aasuffolks-ny.org
Sullivan	William D.		dcmc@sullivan.aaseny.org
Westchester	Emma M.		dcmc@westchester.aaseny.org

SENY Standing / Ad Hoc Committee Chairs			
Acc./Special Needs	Nellie P.		asn@aaseny.org
Agenda	Jeanne C.		agenda@aaseny.org
Archives	Richard S.		archives@aaseny.org
Convention 2018	Mike C.		convention@aaseny.org
Corrections	Mike D.		corrections@aaseny.org
CPC	Anthony B.		cpc@aaseny.org
Grapevine/La Viña	Laura G.		grapevine@aaseny.org
Intergroup Liaison	Steve K.		intergroup@aaseny.org
Link Editor	Domi E.		link@aaseny.org
Literature	Brendan G.		literature@aaseny.org
Office Manager	Richie N.		office@aaseny.org
Public Information	Bianca C.		pi@aaseny.org
Recording Secretary	Mike O.		secretary@aaseny.org
Service Participation*	Manny A.		participation@aaseny.org
Service Sponsorship*	Sally B.		sponsorship@aaseny.org
Translation	Eddie D.		translation@aaseny.org
Treatment Facilities	Kathy B.		tf@aaseny.org
Website	Chris N.		web@aaseny.org
AIAnon Liaison	John C.		alanonliaison@aaseny.org
YPAA Liaison			ypaa@aaseny.org

*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)