

## Delegate's Link...

70th General Service Conference April 19-25, 2020  
 Theme- 2020: A Clear Vision for You  
 Presentation/Discussion Topic- Service: Keeping AA Relevant

When I saw this topic of "Keeping AA Relevant," my thoughts rushed to the spring of 2014. The Panel 65 SENY Chair asked me to serve as the 2015 SENY Convention Chair. I had excuses why I couldn't take the commitment, but our Chair was persuasive. So, I took the commitment.

As the months progressed, I realized that although I worked on a computer all day, shopped online and flirted with social media, I wasn't digitally fluent. There was an entire language that I didn't speak properly, but I had a commitment in AA which required that I learn. What I knew was okay for me, but not good enough for those I served.

When I need help, I know I should ask for it. So, when HP placed an AA member in my life who happened to be a technology wizard with outstanding teaching skills and was versed in our 36 spiritual principles, I asked if I could come over and learn "how to do some things." My mentor had been our Webchair and was now Area Registrar. To say that my questions were beneath his skill set is a vast understatement. I started to call him my "tech sponsor" and slowly started to speak a new language, one that the vast majority of newcomers were using. I call it the "digital dialect."

For six months, he answered my calls and texts, sent links, and encouraged me. On six months and a day, when I texted him, he replied: "That's a good google question, Jane." I got excited because I realized I could figure out a tech question for myself by searching online. I had new tools in my toolkit! The realization reminded me of how in my first months of sobriety our Book gave me new tools to stay sober and carry the message!

When I think of "Keeping AA relevant," my thoughts also turn to the Tenth Step and checking my part. Am I speaking in a language that carries this message in today's world? Would Bill W. use a pay phone today? What mode would he communicate in? Am I acting responsibly when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help?

Our program which is a spiritual plan for recovery will always be relevant. But the fellowship will constantly change as will the best way to carry this message. And, since AA is still relevant, I think I had better communicate relevantly, too. I hope to constantly evolve and grow to be of maximum service whatever my AA commitment is.

This digital dialect has proven to be indispensable in my current commitment. There is no way I could serve as delegate without being fluent digitally. I'm incredibly grateful for the love and tolerance shown by my first tech sponsor, other AA "techperts," and all AA members.

Thank you for my life,  
 Jane E.  
 Delegate, Area 49, Southeastern NY (SENY), Panel 69 (2019-2020)

### 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 300 words, and email it to [link@aaseny.org](mailto:link@aaseny.org) or mail it c/o **The Link Editor, P.O. Box 571, NY, NY 10116. Thanks!**

### Your SENY Office

**Visit:** 1231 Lafayette Ave. Suite L2 Bronx, NY, 10474

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

**General inquiries:** [info@aaseny.org](mailto:info@aaseny.org)

**Call:** 718-665-1253

## An Aspect of Service – the Group Inventory

I've facilitated quite a few group inventories this past year, and participated in several more as either a note-taker or spiritual timekeeper. It has become one of the most rewarding and satisfying aspects of the things I do in my current service commitment, and I learn more every time I serve in this capacity.

Sometimes, as I prepare for one, I think back to my own Fourth Step inventory over a decade ago. I was nearly done in by my own Armageddon (i.e, my struggle with Step Three); yet after that the rest of the Steps were nowhere near as frightening, so I went into my written inventory with a will. And as the columns both lengthened and expanded out to the right, I was able to start acknowledging what I had done, and more importantly what I needed to do going forward.

The overall principle in a group inventory is the same, with one significant difference, at least in my experience: I have yet to see a group on the verge of collapse ask for an inventory. I needed to do my inventory (and all the rest of the Steps) for sheer survival; but groups that participate in group inventories are on a mission – that mission is Tradition Five.

So, as I learned from my beloved service sponsor years ago, I share what I believe is the guiding standard of a group inventory: "What are we already doing well, and what can we do better?" I make sure that each group member has a chance to speak before anyone speaks a second time, because all AA members should have a voice; and then I watch rigorous honesty and love take over.

There is a very special gift in doing this kind of service, because when the deeper challenges make their way out (often after a few minutes, or even halfway through the inventory), I can feel that almost-magical change in the room: members start thinking in the solution. After all, isn't that what our Program of Recovery is all about?

In Love and Service,

Tom B., Alternate Delegate

Area 49, Panel 69, SENY

## Step, Tradition, and Concept of the Month

**Step One** - We admitted we were powerless over alcohol- that our lives had become unmanageable.

**Tradition One** - Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

**Concept I** - Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. World Services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

We A.A.'s are active folk, enjoying the satisfactions of dealing with the realities of life, usually for the first time in our lives, and strenuously trying to help the next alcoholic that comes along. So it isn't surprising that we often tend to slight serious meditation and prayer as something not really necessary. To be sure, we feel that it is something that might help us to meet an occasional emergency, but at first many of us are apt to regard it as a somewhat mysterious skill of clergymen, from which we may hope to get a second-hand benefit.

Perhaps one of the greatest rewards of meditation and prayer is the sense of belonging that comes to us. We no longer live in a completely hostile world. We are no longer lost and frightened and purposeless. The moment we catch a glimpse of God's Will, the moment we begin to see truth, justice, and love as the real and eternal things in life, we are no longer disturbed by all the seeming evidence to the contrary that surrounds us in purely human affairs. We know that God lovingly watches over us. We know that when we turn to Him, all will be well with us, here and hereafter.

Reprinted from the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pages 96 and 103.

(With permission of A.A. World services).

At my Home Group on Sunday mornings (The Conscious Contact Group on Staten Island ), we are a Third and Eleventh Step group; we read these two paragraphs every other week and they always stand out to me. The first paragraph is our "Apprehensions and Doubts" and the second paragraph at the end is "The Promises and Results."

Bill W. often said that the other Steps can keep us sober, but the Eleventh Step can keep us growing.

### **Wanted:**

- **SENY Translation Chair** to form committees for translating and interpreting.

- **Graphic designer** to assist in the production of *The Link*.

" Pass It On"

Jerry R.

SENY Chair

## Donations? Contributions?

### What's the Difference

I was giving a presentation at a Seventh Tradition workshop hosted by District 305 a few weeks ago. During my presentation, in reference to the Seventh Tradition we participate in, I used the word "donation" then said, excuse me I mean "contribution," When the presentation was complete, there was a question and answer session. Of course, someone asked me why I corrected myself regarding these two words. (They were listening, YAY!) I explained, after a discussion with the Delegate regarding what we received from groups and individuals, that the appropriate word is contribution.

Later that night, I received a text from Ben L. who is the Queens County Archives Chair, and was also on the panel. His interpretation went like this; "Donation refers to a gift to a charitable organization whereas a contribution is generally associated with a gift to a common fund or collection." I kinda explained it like that but his explanation was much clearer.

Later on, I was trying to retrieve the exact wording but couldn't locate it. I made the mistake of reaching out to Tom, our Alt-Delegate thinking he was the one who texted me. It was an honest mistake because he was also on the panel at the workshop. He couldn't find what I thought he wrote to me; however, he sent another description/definition which in my opinion is well worth repeating. "Contributions" is the term used in all our service literature, including the AA Guidelines on Finance. I think the basic distinction is that "donations" cover the needs of others (i.e. those that can't help themselves); whereas we, as a Fellowship contribute to our own well-being." Nicely said by both!

I also have the honor of serving as the Queens Intergroup Webmaster and during our recent Group Representative meeting, I listened to our treasury report. After the report I raised my hand and made a motion to change the word "donations" to "contributions" and read aloud what our Alt-Delegate wrote. The motion was seconded and with substantial unanimity, passed. I think it is important for us to be consistent and persistent when it comes to our cherished Seventh Tradition. Practicing our Seventh Tradition allows us all to contribute to our own well-being and the well-being of our Fellowship as a whole.

Jo Ann M., Treasurer  
SENY Area 49 Treasurer  
Panel 69

## 2020 S.E.N.Y. Calendar

### Assemblies

Sunday- February 9, 2020- Nassau County

Saturday- March 7, 2020- (DDOS) -  
Westchester County

Saturday- April 4, 2020- Pre Conference -  
Queens County

Saturday- June 13, 2020- Post Conference  
Suffolk County

Saturday- September 12, 2020- Elections -  
Manhattan County

Saturday- November 14, 2020-  
Area Inventory - Putnam County

### Committee Meetings

All committee meetings are at the Church  
of the Holy Family, 2158 Watson Ave,  
Bronx N.Y. 10472, 7:30- 9:30

Monday January 6, 2020

Monday March 2, 2020

Monday May 4, 2020

Monday June 1, 2020

Monday October 5, 2020

Monday November 2, 2020

Monday December 7, 2020

### Other Important Dates- 2020

February 21-23, 2020- NERAASA

March 13-15, 2020 NERD

March 27-29, 2020- S.E.N.Y. Convention

April 19-25, 2020

General Service Conference

# 52<sup>nd</sup> SENY Convention

Start: March 27, 2020 @ 5:00 pm

Ends: March 29, 2020 @ 12:00 pm



*81 Years  
One Day at a Time  
&  
A Clear Vision  
for You*

## Westchester Marriott

670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591

Speaker Meetings • Workshops & Panels • Alkathon • Banquet • Archive  
Literature & Service Tables • AA Videos • Spanish Translation  
Entertainment • Al-Anon • Much More

### GET INVOLVED

With the Upcoming 2020 Convention Planning Committee meetings

#### Sundays

Dec. 15, 2019 @ 11:00 am / Program Sub-Committee at 9:00 am

Jan. 12, 2020 @ 9:00 am

Feb 02, 2020 @ 9:00 am / at the Westchester Marriott Hotel

Mar 08, 2020 @ 9:00 am

At the new SENY Office

1231 Lafayette Ave, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bronx, NY 10474

use Garrison Ave entrance

Any questions please email Richie N.: [convention@aa-seny.org](mailto:convention@aa-seny.org)





# Save the Date!

## NERAASA 2020

29<sup>th</sup> Annual

Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020



**Hosted by Area 43 New Hampshire**

**Radisson Hotel Nashua**

**11 Tara Blvd, Nashua, NH**

**For More info: [www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org)**

**Save the Date!**  
**March 7, 2020**  
**Delegate's Day of**  
**Sharing**  
**8:30-3:15**

**What: Background Information for the delegate's questionnaire presented by AA members; there will be no business conducted. All AA members are invited!**

**Continental Breakfast & Lunch  
will be served**

**Westchester County General Service to host this Area 49  
SENY event No registration fee. 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition "Hat" will be  
passed**



## **SOUTHEASTERN NEW YORK (SENY) AREA 49 TREATMENT FACILITIES COMMITTEE PRESENTS**

A Comprehensive Workshop on Service in Treatment Facilities.  
With an emphasis on Traditions 3 and 5, Bridging the Gap, and  
Safety in this area of service.

Saturday January 25, 2020 - 12:00pm until 2:30pm

SENY Office - 1231 Lafayette Ave, Bronx NY 10474

Entrance in rear on Garrison Ave – Parking Available - Wheelchair Accessible

Spanish Translation Available

Subway #6 Hunts Point Station

Please join us for a light lunch and a meaningful discussion on  
service in Treatment Facilities.



(Reprinted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.)

If you have a question, please contact Ed M. at 646-288-3559.

### **Upcoming LINK Article/Flyer Submission Deadlines:**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>1. 1/22/20 for 2/9/20<br/>Assembly.</b>      | <b>3. 3/22/20 for 4/4/20<br/>Assembly.</b>      | <b>5. 5/17/20 for 6/1/20<br/>Committee Mtg.</b> |
| <b>2. 2/16/20 for 3/2/20<br/>Committee Mtg.</b> | <b>4. 4/19/20 for 5/4/20<br/>Committee Mtg.</b> |   |

### **WANTED:**

**SENY Translation Chair** to form committees for translating and interpreting.

**Graphic designer** to assist in the production of *The Link*.

**County General Service Meetings** Please visit [www.aaseny.org](http://www.aaseny.org) for the most up-to-date information

<b>Bronx-Upper Manhattan (2nd Wed. every other even mn.)</b>	Bedford park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	7:00 pm
<b>Brooklyn (3rd Wednesday, monthly)</b>	St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201	7:30 pm
<b>Hispanic Districts (3rd Sunday, monthly)</b>	Location rotates - please see <a href="http://aaseny.org">aaseny.org</a> or <a href="http://aacdhseny49.org">aacdhseny49.org</a> each month	9:30 am
<b>Manhattan (3rd Tuesday, every other month)</b>	Seafarer's House, 123 East 15th Street, New York, NY 10003	6:30 pm
<b>Nassau (3rd Monday, every other month)</b>	Nassau Intergroup Office, 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552	7:30 pm
<b>Orange (3rd Tuesday, monthly)</b>	First Presbyterian Church, Campbell Hall, Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916	7:00 pm
<b>Putnam (2nd Tuesday, monthly)</b>	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 76 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, NY 10512	7:00 pm
<b>Queens (last Monday, every other month)</b>	Saint Mary Gate of Heaven Church, 101-18 104th St., Queens, NY 11416	7:30 pm
<b>Rockland (3rd Wednesday, monthly)</b>	Elim Alliance Church, 40 Lake Road, Valley Cottage, NY 10989	7:30 pm
<b>Staten Island (2nd Sun.; no meeting May)</b>	Oakwood Heights Community Church, 345 Guyon Ave, Staten Island, NY 10306	7:00 pm
<b>Suffolk (3rd Friday, monthly)</b>	True North Community Church, 1101 Lakeland Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716	8:00 pm
<b>Sullivan (3rd Sunday, monthly except July &amp; August)</b>	Sullivan County Community College, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759	3:00 pm
<b>Westchester (3rd Wednesday, monthly)</b>	Memorial Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605	TBD

**Standing Committee Meetings & Workshops** Please visit [www.aaseny.org](http://www.aaseny.org) for the most up-to-date information

<b>Accessibility/Special Needs Committee</b>	SENY Office, 1231 Lafayette Avenue, Suite L2, Bronx, NY 10474	TBD
<b>Archives Advisory Committee</b>	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave., #201, New York, NY 10001	1:00 pm
<b>Corrections Committee (3rd Saturday, monthly)</b>	SENY Office, 1231 Lafayette Avenue, Suite L2, Bronx, NY 10474	3-5:00 pm
<b>PI &amp; CPC Joint Committee Meeting</b> (Sundays: 10/20/19, 11/17/19, 12/22/19)	SENY Office, 1231 Lafayette Avenue, Suite L2, Bronx, NY 10474	12:00 pm
<b>Treatment Facilities Committee (last Sunday, monthly)</b>	SENY Office, 1231 Lafayette Avenue, Suite L2, Bronx, NY 10474	10:30 am
<b>12 Concepts of World Service Workshop (1st Wed., monthly)</b>	Trinity Lower East Side, 602 E 9th St., New York, NY 10009	8:15 pm
<b>SENY Service Participation Meeting</b>	NY Intergroup Office, 307 7th Ave. #201, New York, NY 10001	7:00 pm
<b>SENY Convention Planning Meeting</b>	TBD	7:00 pm

**SENY Officers** **SENY Standing / Ad Hoc Committee Chairs**

<b>Delegate</b>	Jane E.	<a href="mailto:delegate@aaseny.org">delegate@aaseny.org</a>
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\*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)