



Anonymity, the greatest safeguard AA will ever have, during the Flying Blind Period 2.0

AA will come out of COVID-19 better than ever, as long as we work our 36 spiritual principles, but we are in a second flying blind period as large segments of AA find their way for the first time in the digital world. Despite the pandemic, which SENY is the epicenter of right now, groups are sending me their completed Delegate’s Questionnaires! AA groups are putting into action their love and enthusiasm for Alcoholics Anonymous.

The General Service Conference will be held virtually for the first time ever! The deadline for the Delegate’s Questionnaire has been extended to May 10. The General Service Conference has been postponed to Saturday, May 16-Tuesday, May 19, 2020 for essential business, defined as the voting, by substantial unanimity for the completed slates of members of the General Service Board and the directors of the two corporate boards, A.A. World Services, Inc. and AA Grapevine, Inc. In addition, the Conference will hold the trustee elections, review board and finance reports and receive the reports of the Conference committees. The schedule will also include a general sharing session, an area delegates only meeting and member connection activities. The Conference Committees will be meeting in pre-Conference sessions from April 29 through May 13 to make decisions on reducing agenda workload using guidelines that will be developed by the trustees’ Committee on the General Service Conference. These sessions will be scheduled by the Conference Committee secretaries.

Our International Conference is cancelled, but we have a crucial part of it, its theme: “Love and Tolerance is our Code”, a timely reminder because we are quite sure to make mistakes during this time. We will learn (hopefully) from those mistakes and become even better at carrying this message.

One concern that has been brought to my attention is anonymity breaks at the public level: press radio, film, and as the 2013 General Service conference determined, the Internet. All our Traditions, including 11 & 12, are spiritual. Bill W., and others, wrote beautifully about the spirituality inherent in our Traditions. Our principle of anonymity is not really so much about preventing our members from being shamed; it’s about more about humility and putting AA’s greater good ahead of ourselves. I encourage you to read page 43 in “Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age”. This passage was written from the perspective of a member who was at the first ever International Convention in Cleveland, where the Traditions were adopted, and when it was decided to give the General Service Conference a try.

The General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous turned out to be a pretty great idea. I wonder what we’ll decide to give a try next.

Virtual Hugs,

Jane E.

<https://www.aaseny.org/from-the-delegate>

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 or mail it c/o **The Link Editor, P.O. Box 571, NY, NY 10116. Thanks!**

Your SENY Office

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Call: 718-665-1253

An Aspect of Service – Flexibility

Hello, members of A.A. and friends in service. It has been a long, challenging, and in many cases devastating several months – for our fellowship, the country, and the entire world. The majority of us have been touched by the loss of jobs, friends, and our familiar day to day lives. Additionally, we in Alcoholics Anonymous have been deprived of one of our most important tools – our meetings, particularly the meetings of our home groups.

In the same way that both staying sober and 12th Step work were affected, so too was our legacy of service. Both General Service and the Intergroups were impacted in their abilities to function effectively, both monetarily and in the ability to give their many-layered support to the groups. By the second week of March, SENY (at the national epicenter of the pandemic) and its 2,000 groups were scrambling to figure out how to stay healthy and sober at the same time.

And so, we AAs – who traditionally dislike change – started to change. Many groups began holding online meetings. Committees came to rely more on texts, emails, and conference calls. Our Area (and many others) held its first virtual Assembly. Further down the triangle, the General Service Board began meeting on a virtual platform, and this year's General Service Conference will be conducted across the same medium, for the very first time.

*Has it been a seamless transition? Hardly. Z***bombers, anonymity breaks, and unstable internet connections sometimes seem like the norm. Do members like it better? Almost all of us miss the intimacy and fellowship of a “real” meeting. Are the groups and the service entities hurting financially? Yes, they are, so PLEASE don't forget the 7th Tradition. Perhaps most importantly, do we have a new way to keep our sobriety intact, at least for the short haul? Yes, we do.*

We have a brand-new set of tools for our toolbox; the next time disaster hits the world around us, once again we will be ready to extend the hand of A.A. To all the new pioneers of Alcoholics Anonymous: thank you!

In Love and Service,

Tom B., Alternate Delegate

Area 49, Panel 69

Concept of the Month - Concept V

Throughout our structure, a traditional “ Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration. Detroit, Michigan 2020 - “Here we come.” Love and Tolerance is our Code”

We Made SENY History

On April 4, 2020, We had our first Virtual Area Assembly using zoom.

Due to the corona virus we could not meet physically in Queens for our Pre- Conference Assembly. This was a new and unprecedented venture for us, but with the help of many we were able to get a condensed assembly completed.

Mike D., Our newly appointed Technology Chair and Ray W. our Web Chair were instrumental in setting up the event.

The day started at 9 A.M. with the SENY Committee Chairs and the Area D.C.M.Cs giving their reports to the body virtually, along with the Convention Chair.

At 10.A.M. we opened the Assembly for the groups questionnaire responses to our Delegate Jane E. During the day there were more than 200 people on the zoom site. I believe the top number was 213. We passed the Virtual basket twice and our Treasurer had the info on the screen often during the day. Many of them read their groups consciences until 12:15 when we took a 15 minute break and went back to the groups until 1:45 where the SENY Officers gave their reports and we closed out our first virtual Assembly at 2:30 with the Declaration of Unity.

Considering it was our first, it went off pretty well and we will get better and more effective as we go along until we can meet again face to face, but it showed what We can do when we work together and stay willing to carry the message.

Upcoming Events

May 9, 2020-Joy of service workshop - Putnam County

Monday June 1, 2020- Committee Meeting (Probably Virtual)

Saturday June 13, 2020- Post Conference Assembly (Probably Virtual) or in Suffolk County

Pass It On

Jerry R.- SENY Chair

2020 National Workshops, Conference and Seminars

New York State Informational Workshop

Hosted by Area 50 Amherst, N.Y. July 31-August 2
Location TBA

Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend 2020

September 11-13 Rock Island, Illinois
@ Holiday Inn Rock Island, IL

2020 National AA Technology Workshop (NAATW)

September 11-13 Seattle, Washington
Sheraton Bellevue Hotel
newsletter: naatw.org

2020 Intergroup Seminar

Hosted by Area 24, District 7 Des Moines, Iowa
September 18-20
Flyer Info Coming Soon

4th National Corrections Conference

November 13-15 Chicago, Illinois
Info on-line

2020 Area 49 Convencion Hispania

Manhattan Hosting
November 7-8
Cancelled

XLVIII Convencion Hispana De Alcoholicos Anonimos

Estados Unidos Y Canada, Sede , Chicago, Illinois
4, 5 & 6 De Septiembre 2020
convencionhispanadeaausaycanada.com

2020 S.E.N.Y. Calendar

Assemblies

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 June 1, 2020

Monday October 5, 2020

Monday November 2, 2020

Monday December 7, 2020

County General Service Meetings Please visit www.aaseny.org for the most up-to-date information

Bronx-Upper Manhattan (2nd Wed. every other even mn.)	Bedford park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	7:00 pm
Brooklyn (3rd Wednesday, monthly)	St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201	7:30 pm
Hispanic Districts (3rd Sunday, monthly)	Location rotates - please see aaseny.org or aacdhseny49.org each month	9:30 am
Manhattan (3rd Tuesday, every other month)	Seafarer's House, 123 East 15th Street, New York, NY 10003	6:30 pm
Nassau (3rd Monday, every other month)	Nassau Intergroup Office, 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552	7:30 pm
Orange (3rd Tuesday, monthly)	First Presbyterian Church, Campbell Hall, Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916	7:00 pm
Putnam (2nd Tuesday, monthly)	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 76 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, NY 10512	7:00 pm
Queens (last Monday, every other month)	Saint Mary Gate of Heaven Church, 101-18 104th St., Queens, NY 11416	7:30 pm
Rockland (3rd Wednesday, monthly)	Room #107, #25 Smith Street, Nanuet, NY 10954	7:30 pm
Staten Island (2nd Sun.; no meeting May)	Oakwood Heights Community Church, 345 Guyon Ave, Staten Island, NY 10306	7:00 pm
Suffolk (3rd Friday, monthly)	True North Community Church, 1101 Lakeland Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716	8:00 pm
Sullivan (3rd Sunday, monthly except July & August)	Sullivan County Community College, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759	3:00 pm
Westchester (3rd Wednesday, monthly)	Memorial Methodist Church, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605	7:30 pm

Standing Committee Meetings & Workshops Please visit www.aaseny.org for the most up-to-date information

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

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

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*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)