



*South Eastern New York General Service - Area 49 of Alcoholics Anonymous*

### November is gratitude month!

“I’m a grateful alcoholic...” is how I start my shares; what I am is more important than who I am, or my name. I remember in my first year of sobriety how I felt “a part of” when the basket came around and I was able to drop a contribution in. Now that most groups have started to use a virtual basket, my heart sings for the newcomers who are like I was, feeling separate from, and less than. A virtual basket is any way a group chooses to collect the Seventh Tradition at online meetings.

Did you know that if you are an AA member, you can make recurring contributions on [aa.org](http://aa.org) starting at five dollars a month (as long as it totals no more than \$5000/year)? The contribution limit is decided on by the General Service Conference, where the voice of the groups with an active GSR are heard. There is no limit as to what an AA group may contribute.

One question that’s been coming my way via GSRs is the question, “Is the \$5000/year limit still a realistic one?” I invite you to click on the [From the Delegate page](#) and see the Financial Update where you can become more informed, for example, one dollar in 1935 was the equivalent of \$18.84 in 2019.

Some AA members who are able to, choose to express their gratitude in the basket; others who have more time and less money choose to express their gratitude with time; probably most choose to express their gratitude through a combination of these. Bill reminds us in the Ninth Tradition, “How I do my Twelfth Step work is my business. Who are you to judge?” (Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 173).

Since the pandemic began, 4.5 million dollars was withdrawn from the prudent reserve to continue operations for AA as a whole (US/Canada) in 2020. When physical meetings stopped, our literature sales dropped significantly. The result is a gap between our income and our costs of roughly \$700,000 each month. We have never been fully self-supporting through our own contributions. Is it time for us to stop relying on the sale of literature to make up the shortfall? Additional questions come to mind: “Will we embrace ‘I am responsible’ and finally become fully self-supporting through our own contributions? Will members grow in love and tolerance of those members who cannot give of time, but can give generously of dollars? Will COVID 19 hold us accountable to our Seventh Tradition? Is there a silver lining here?”

I’m a grateful alcoholic, my name is Jane.

Thank you for my life.

October 14, 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@aaeny.org](mailto:link@aaeny.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@aaeny.org](mailto:info@aaeny.org)

**Call:** 718-665-1253

## An Aspect of Service – the Area Inventory

Hello, fellow A.A. Members! One of the things that remains of paramount importance during our service journey, whether in the group or below it, is to remember that our foundation in Alcoholics Anonymous is ultimately based on our 12 Steps. With that in mind, page 64 of our Big Book says that an “inventory is a fact-finding and a fact-facing process.” Two paragraphs later we find a vital sentence concerning resentments. Please, bear with me.

On Saturday November 14th, SENY will hold its final Assembly of the Panel 69 rotation. As is our tradition, part of the Assembly will be devoted to our Area Inventory. One of my duties for the past two years has been to serve as Area 49’s “steward” of our last inventory, which occurred two years ago on 11/4/2018. Simply put, it has been my responsibility in this rotation to consider how responsive we (the SENY Committee members and officers) have been to the thoughts and wishes of the groups, as brought forth by their GSRs.

You are reading this article (written on October 13) in our November Link. By this time, I will have prepared and posted my stewardship thoughts and observations to our SENY website, using that same “fact-finding... fact-facing process”. I will be considering the Questions, Record and Recurring Themes of that last inventory – these three items can be found at <https://www.aaseny.org> under Resources / SENY-Specific. And yes: it will be in the context of the pandemic.

Finally, as I spend time in 11th Step discernment around our 2018 inventory, I will have an overarching, two-part question in front of me: “Have we made participation in general service both attractive and important to the groups (via their GSRs) over the past two years? And if not, have we created resentments against service, thereby impacting that participation?”

Please, PLEASE attend the Area Inventory on November 14th – your participation will help us be the best trusted servants possible to you and the groups going forward.

In Love and Service,

Tom B., Alternate Delegate

Area 49-SENY, Panel 69

## Concept of the Month- Concept 11

*“The Trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, inductive procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.”*

### November AA History

**November 1, 1963** - Reverend Sam Shoemaker dies.

**November 11, 1934** - Bill W’s final drunk begins on Veterans Day and last about a month.

**November 13, 1939** - Bill wants to go back to work, NY drunks want him to stay on as head of the movement.

**November 16, 1950** - Dr Bob S. dies in Akron, Ohio

**November 26, 1895** - William Griffith Wilson born in East Dorset, Vermont.

**November 26, 1939** - Hank P. writes Bill advocating autonomy for all AA groups.

**November 28, 1934** - Ebby T. carries the message to Bill.

**November 28, 1936** - Fitz M. leaves the Townes Hospital to become AA # 3 in New York with Bill W and Hank P.

**November 28, 1939** - Akron groups withdraw from association with the Oxford group. Meetings moved to Dr. Bob’s and other member’s homes.

**November, 1986** - *The Big Book “Alcoholics Anonymous”* is published in paperback.

### Chair’s Report

#### Thanksgiving Week - November 2020

As we approach the month of November, it has been suggested making Thanksgiving Week in November a time for meetings and meditation on the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous. I use that week to share and get a more personal experience of the glue that holds us together in unity. The longer I am sober the more valuable it is for me to appreciate and be grateful for our 12 Traditions. ( Twelve Points to Assure our Future ).

#### Blackouts, Bruises, and Blame.

I don’t know what it was till this day that I always went on some of my worst and most shameful and guilt ridden escapades with drinking the week of Thanksgiving.

Possibly that I had lost my desire to be part of the family structure and unable to give any sign of being a part of. The night before was always lost in a blackout and knowing that I had a huge impact on the Holiday for those that I would say I loved.

The first meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous that I was to go to was an experience that I hope that I will never forget. Inside the door of the hospital room where the meeting was held stood a man that I had drunk with for years and the speaker that night was a man that I worked with. The two things that stood out that I couldn’t ignore was that he said he was sober for four years, and he talked about the blessings of enjoying the smells of the turkey, the welcoming of company that day, food and family that he cherishes on Holidays especially Thanksgiving. It had been years since I could enjoy either.

Because of the Power and the Love of this fellowship and people like you, I am able to cherish the same gifts and joys that my friend Freddie shared about that night at Staten Island Hospital on March 16, 1984. God Bless A.A.

“Pass It On”

Jerry R. Area 49 Chair

## TREASURE

### 1st Virtual SENY Convention

As you may or may not know, the 2021 SENY Convention will be virtual. Virtual events have expenses including accessibilities, printing, licensing, and related technical costs. We are planning an event that will be fun, engaging, and of the quality SENY has come to enjoy. To do this there are a few things we ask of you, the members of AA in South Eastern New York. These include your time, talents, and treasures. A treasured gift that sobriety has allowed me, is mentioned in the Ninth Step. Fear of financial insecurity has left me.

The SENY Convention has historically been a self-supporting event. I have faith that we can depend on your contributions to hold this event in a financially responsible manner. The opportunity to make contributions that will offset the costs associated with it, will be available November 1st on the SENY website. Go to [aaseny.org](http://aaseny.org) then over in the top right you will see a “hamburger”. Click on that, go to “Events” then “SENY Convention.” You can make a financial contribution there. Over the next few months, we will also be asking for your time and talents.

We hope you will come and enjoy the fellowship.  
2021 SENY Convention Chair, Kathleen W.

### WHY WE PAY

There are many AA conferences and conventions held around the world. One of the most common misconceptions of these gatherings is that they are AA meetings and since there are no dues or fees for AA membership, there should be no fees to attend. Conventions and conferences are special events - not regular meetings. They require months of planning, preparations, and money to present. Since most events are held in hotels or conference centers, there is a charge for the use of some facilities. Other expenses include travel and lodging for speakers, printing of fliers, schedules and programs, postage, supplies, and entertainment. A large event requires a substantial amount of money.

The convention is self-supporting. No group monies are used to pay for the event. The cost of the event is paid through registration fees. No baskets are passed. Donations are encouraged to pay for the hospitality room coffee and food. The ideal of any committee is to break even; therefore, the registration fee is nominal compared to a weekend’s worth of entertainment anywhere else. Attendance is voluntary and as responsible AA members, we now “pay our own way.” developed in Area 30 – Eastern Massachusetts

December 19, 2020 @ 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm America/New York Timezone

Will be held virtually

Regina C  
Email  
BIG MEETING



The Big Meeting will be held virtually on December 19th, 2020 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

The Big Meeting is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Suffolk County General Service Big Meeting  
Time: Dec 19, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

[Link to join meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 566 767 2972  
Passcode: 688973  
One tap mobile  
+19292056099,,5667672972#,,,,,0#,,688973# US (New York)  
+13017158592,,5667672972#,,,,,0#,,688973# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location  
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
Meeting ID: 566 767 2972  
Passcode: 688973  
Find your local number: [Find your local number](#)

NORTHEAST REGIONAL  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
SERVICE ASSEMBLY

VIRTUAL  
2021 NERAASA

February 26, 27, and 28, 2021



South Eastern New York Area 49 of Alcoholics Anonymous

Mark Your Calendar

53<sup>rd</sup> SENY Convention

Start: March 05, 2021 @ 5:00 pm      Ends: March 07, 2021 @ 12:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous  
53<sup>rd</sup> SENY CONVENTION AREA 49 - 2021



AA IN A TIME OF CHANGE

Convention Highlights

Speaker Meetings • Dynamic Panels and Workshops • Alkathon Meetings •  
AA Videos Workshops in Spanish • All main Meetings Will be Translated into  
Spanish • Long-Timer’s Meeting • Entertainment • LGBTQ+ • Al-Anon / Alateen  
Young People in AA • Hospitality room • Much more



**Please be advised of the following LINK publication  
deadline schedule of submissions for the balance of 2020:**

**1. 11/18/2020 produced at the December 7th committee meeting.**

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

<b>Bronx-Upper Manhattan</b> (2nd Wed. every other even mn.)	Bedford park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	7:00 pm
<b>Brooklyn</b> (3rd Wednesday, monthly)	St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201	7:30 pm
<b>Hispanic Districts</b> (3rd Sunday, monthly)	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</b> (3rd Tuesday, every other month)	Seafarer's House, 123 East 15th Street, New York, NY 10003	6:30 pm
<b>Nassau</b> (3rd Monday, every other month)	Nassau Intergroup Office, 361 Hempstead Turnpike, West Hempstead, NY 11552	7:30 pm
<b>Orange</b> (3rd Tuesday, monthly)	First Presbyterian Church, Campbell Hall, Rte. 207, Campbell Hall, NY 10916	7:00 pm
<b>Putnam</b> (2nd Tuesday, monthly)	Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 76 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel, NY 10512	7:00 pm
<b>Queens</b> (last Monday, every other month)	Saint Mary Gate of Heaven Church, 101-18 104th St., Queens, NY 11416	7:30 pm
<b>Rockland</b> (3rd Wednesday, monthly)	Room #107, #25 Smith Street, Nanuet, NY 10954	7:30 pm
<b>Staten Island</b> (2nd Sun.; no meeting May)	Oakwood Heights Community Church, 345 Guyon Ave, Staten Island, NY 10306	7:00 pm
<b>Suffolk</b> (3rd Friday, monthly)	True North Community Church, 1101 Lakeland Avenue, Bohemia, NY 11716	8:00 pm
<b>Sullivan</b> (3rd Sunday, monthly except July & August)	Sullivan County Community College, 112 College Road, Loch Sheldrake, NY 12759	3:00 pm
<b>Westchester</b> (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](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</b> (3rd Saturday, monthly)	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</b> (last Sunday, monthly)	SENY Office, 1231 Lafayette Avenue, Suite L2, Bronx, NY 10474	10:30 am
<b>12 Concepts of World Service Workshop</b> (1st Wed., monthly)	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

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\*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)