

→2020, the year of the COVID-19 pandemic's start: What have we learned? Many of us have learned about virtual AA meetings. They're not Zoom meeting. They're AA meetings that happen to meet on Zoom, and in this way, we practice Tradition 6 (no endorsement). We've learned to pass a virtual basket for Tradition 7, because even though our group may not be paying for coffee, snacks, or rent, there are still expenses. Virtual events are not free. For example, the group's Zoom license incurs a cost, and we have our great responsibility to contribute "down the triangle" so the "Big Book" can be translated into a 72nd language, so emails can be answered at the General Service Office, and so countless other services General Service provides for the groups happen. We learned about the draw down of 4.5 million dollars from General Service's prudent reserve because contributions and literature sales went down. Info on the virtual basket is [here](#).

We embraced the [AA Safety Card](#), acknowledged that the law of the land does not end at the door of the meeting, and when we were allowed to reopen meetings, did so by complying with the public health mandates of social distancing, hand washing, masks, and [contact tracing](#).

Some of the groups instituted hybrid meetings. A hybrid meeting is a face to face meeting held simultaneously with a virtual meeting, and we found information about how various groups did so on the [Technology in AA site](#). We discovered meetings that have been online for decades at [the AA Online Intergroup](#).

We cancelled the SENY Convention, held our first ever virtual SENY Assembly in April, our first ever virtual SENY Committee meeting in May, then the first ever virtual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous followed. Thank you for allowing me to be a "pandemic pioneer" serving as your SENY delegate for that historic event!

The International Convention, and all of the Regional Forums were cancelled for 2020, so we had a virtual celebration all Summer for the International on [aa.org](#), where now one can find info on [the first virtual US/Canada Forums](#) December 5 and 19. On February 26-28, [the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly](#) (NERAASA) will be virtual for the first time ever.

On January 1, our new officers, and those higher on the upside-down triangle, all the way up to GSRs, start their new 2-year rotation. On January 1, I will step away from the Area (not AA!) and return for the post conference Assembly in June when we'll hear Tom's report back from the 2021 General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. The annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous is the reason we exist as an Area. It's important to hear the voice of the groups at the five annual Area Assemblies, through the GSR of each group.

I ask that you continue being you, SENY, showing loving support for our officers-elect, Tom, JoAnn, Nisaa, Mike and Rich, those higher on the triangle, and for each other.

SENY is in good hands.

Serving as your delegate this rotation has taken me beyond my wildest dreams. You've given me opportunities to grow, change, and practice the Steps in new ways. You've been incredibly supportive to your delegate. I love you, SENY.

Thank you for my life.

Jane E., Delegate, Area 49, SENY, Panel 69 (2019-2020) [Please check out the delegate's page](#)

This LINK article is written in loving memory of the SENY members we lost to COVID-19.

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

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

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

General inquiries: info@aaseny.org

Call: 718-665-1253

Aspects of Service – Rotation and Participation

Hello, members and friends! Here we are in the final month of Panel 69 in SENY, and I want to offer my deep thanks to all who have served in this rotation. I am especially grateful to the GSRs who have held true to their own Primary Purpose: to let the voices of the groups be heard (from the Area right down to the General Service Conference), and to carry information back to those same groups.

Now it is time for most of us to rotate on in service. The *AA Service Manual* has a wonderful passage to help us with this sometimes bittersweet transition. It can be found on page S-24, titled “The Principle of Rotation,” and this principle even refers back to our 36 Spiritual Principles of AA.” In the spirit of Tradition Twelve, it ever reminds us “to place principles before personalities.”

This short passage touches on a number of values found in active rotation. It mentions sharing, growth, humility, and permission to “forego personal prestige.” It also ends with an ego-deflating yet uplifting sentence: “With no AA status’ at stake, we needn’t compete for titles or praise – we have complete freedom to serve as we are needed.”

The one word that is not mentioned in the passage is “participation,” yet in many ways it is the underlying gift of both service and rotation. When we learn the Steps with our sponsors, we participate in our own recovery. When we take commitments in our home group, we participate in its health and wellbeing; and when we participate as a GSR, a DCM, a committee member or beyond, then we support Tradition Five, and AA as a whole.

Here’s the ultimate reward I have received: in steady participation in service, and in rotating on to different positions, I am better able to understand the fullness of AA, the spiritual reward of helping an alcoholic on many different levels, and of truly appreciating the incredible gift of my own sobriety. So I thank you for letting me live in those three most important words:

I am responsible.

In Love and Service,

Tom B., Alternate Delegate

Area 49-SENY, Panel 69

December Milestones and Concept XII

Concept of the Month- Concept XII

“The conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. Tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform any acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.”

December AA History

December 1934 - Bill and Lois start attending Oxford group meetings.

December 2, 1943 - Bill Speaks to 300 at San Quentin Prison.

December 10, 1934 - Bill admitted to Towns Hospital, fourth time (fall of 33, '34' in summer, midsummer and final admittance).

December 12, 1934 - Bill has his Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital.

December 12, 1937 - Bill meets with the Rockefeller Foundation and tries to get money.

December 13, 1934 - Ebby T. visits Bill at the hospital, brought him William James’s book “Varieties of Religious Experience.”

December 13, 1937 - Rockland State Mental Hospital takes patients to a meeting in New Jersey.

December 1938 - Using the Oxford Groups principles, Bill closes the loopholes and changes the Six Steps into Twelve.

December 1948 - Dr. Bob’s last major talk, in Detroit.

When we were given these service opportunities in late December 2018, no one knew what we were to experience in our two year commitments. I want to thank all the members who helped me to get started on January 1, 2019 as your Area Chair. Many thanks to our SENY Delegate Jane E. who was the Chair of Panel 67 and passed on all her experience to me. Panel 69 has had a fabulous group of officers. Tom B. Alt-Delegate and our Panel 71 Delegate. Joann M. our Treasurer soon to be Alt-Delegate for Panel 71 and Mike D. our Technology and Communications Officer - we all learned much from him and his committee.

Next, I would like to thank all the committee chairs for SENY that went beyond time and again to make sure that their committee message was carried by workshops, phone meetings, monthly or bi-monthly gatherings at different locations, and adjusting to the virtual platform as we all have had the opportunity to do.

I believe that S.E.N.Y. is in good hands and will thrive in continuing to carry our message thru the next two years with the help from all of you including Nissa A, Mike O, and Rich S, and the New Committee Chairs, and D.C.M.C s.

It has been an honor to have met and served with you and as Nell Wing AA.s first Archivist said “I am grateful to have been here”.

Jerry R. Area 49 Chair

7th Tradition?!?!?

As your Area Treasurer, I felt compelled to write this article due to numerous emails and phone calls to me requesting guidance on contributions. As we are all aware, this pandemic has had a significant impact on all our lives in many ways. What you may not be aware of is the impact this pandemic has had on our Service Entities below the Group level. Contributions to SENY have dropped sharply over the last three quarters compared to last year during these same periods. Since the pandemic and subsequent shut down of our Area, SENY's expenses have also dropped considerably. We have not had to dip into our prudent reserve to meet our expenses. This is due in part to lowered reimbursable expenses from our Officers and Committee Chairs and switching to the Virtual Platform to conduct business. It is also due most importantly to the Groups and Individuals who have continued to support SENY through 7th Tradition Contributions. My sincere Thanks to All of You!

My desire to inform everyone has more to do with our most prized service entity, The General Service Office and AA World Services. Our 7th Tradition Contributions to The GSO help carrying Our message of Recovery Worldwide. The GSO employs Special Workers whose job is to keep this thing going. The GSO has overhead expenses which must be paid as with any other business entity. The fact that the GSO had to draw money from their prudent reserve not once but twice in the last few months totaling 4.5 Million is alarming to me.

So, We ask "what can We as Groups and Individuals do?! I will tell you. Many Groups use the Pie Chart to determine what percentage each entity will receive. I suggest changing that pie chart and give a larger share to the GSO. No, the Pie chart is not set in stone and can be adjusted. Many Groups have not set up Virtual Baskets and the ones that have may not get the contributions needed to send out. The 2020 Final Conference Report states that it costs on average \$8.16 to service each A.A. member per year. If each individual A.A. Member contributed just \$8.16 to the GSO per year the GSO would not need to depend on literature sales to cover the difference. Last year's challenge was \$8.06 per member! Literature sales have plummeted since the Pandemic hit and have not yet recovered. Literature sales normally cover the shortage not contributed by Us. The shortfall is \$700,000 per month. Spread the word to your Groups and fellow A.A. Members that we must be fully self-supporting. What say You?

Jo Ann M. Area 49 Panel 69 Treasurer

How to be an Effective Member of an Effective Committee

We need you to suit up and show up. The DCMC has the responsibility and authority to find the right people for our county's many service tasks. Our future effectiveness must depend upon both our standing committee chairs and GSRs to communicate our Primary Purpose as stated in our Fifth Tradition, using the principles set forth in our Second Tradition: leadership by example and not governance. Each committee, regardless of its job, must have a singular vision: to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Be a part of a committee's vision. As a trusted servant, create enthusiasm and make the committee members eager to achieve success. As a DCMC, I endeavor to inspire support before our new rotations commence. I am now going to list our county's standing committees: Accessibilities, Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC), Corrections, The AA Grapevine, and Public Information (PI).

Committee chairs in turn rely on the GSRs within each district for support.

Our county meetings might not grow in membership by leaps and bounds, but we know that the men and women who do participate have dedication, willingness, responsibility, which brings a collection of ideas.

Bill Wilson, in writing about Concept IX said: "Vision is, I think, the ability to make good estimates for the immediate and for the more distant future." Are you ready? I am looking forward to seeing where we are led.

In Trusted Service,

Marty K; DCMC Elect - Nassau County

TALENTS

Convention Update:

AA members are our most valuable resource and we need your **talents**. Have you ever hosted a virtual meeting? Have you ever helped with a virtual meeting? We need about 40 host/co-host volunteers and lots of other folks from all over Area 49 to be spiritual ushers, timekeepers, greeters. We will have training and rehearsals to be sure all volunteers have what they need to do the jobs we are asking them to do. If you would like to contribute your talent, there will be a link on the SENY Convention webpage where you can go and “CLICK HERE” to sign up, or contact our volunteer coordinator, John L. from Putnam county at jplivz@yahoo.com.

Our theme for the 2021 convention is “**AA in a Time of Change.**” Since last months Treasurer article, a lot has changed. We have decided that the responsible thing to do, given the expenses we have to provide this event virtually, is to charge a registration fee of \$20.00. We need you to register as soon as convenient so we can do a better job of planning what resources we are going to need.

In Trusted Service,
SENY AREA 49 2021
Convention Committee



South Eastern New York Area 49 of Alcoholics Anonymous

Mark Your Calendar

53rd SENY Convention

Start: March 05, 2021 @ 5:00 pm

Ends: March 07, 2021 @ 12:00 pm



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+ • AI-Anon / Alateen Young People in AA • Hospitality room • Much more



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

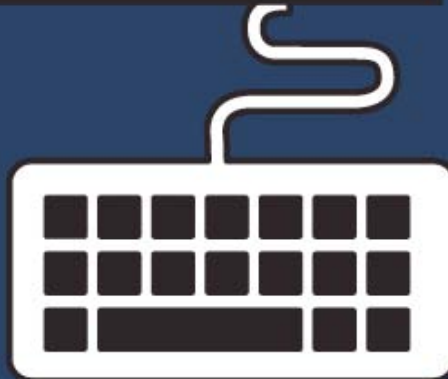
Passcode: 688973

Find your local number: [Find your local number](#)

NORTHEAST REGIONAL
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
SERVICE ASSEMBLY

VIRTUAL
2021^V NERAASA

February 26, 27, and 28, 2021



NERAASA 2021

26, 27 & 28 de febrero

¡La experiencia virtual, Una NERAASA como ninguna otra!

¡Regístrate aquí!

Únete a los muchos que harán historia en la primera virtual
Asamblea de Servicio de la Región Noreste de Alcohólicos Anónimos.

◆ Mesas Redondas ◆ Paneles ◆
◆ Presentación del Custodio Regional del Noreste ◆ Puntos destacados de los delegados ◆ ◆ Diversión & Compañerismo ◆

NERAASA 2021 ofrecerá participación en inglés, español, A.S.L. y C.C.

\$21.00

¡Fin de semana de NERAASA 2021!

¡Todo los miembros de A.A. son bienvenidos y animados a asistir!

¡Estamos haciendo historia!



Preguntas: info@nerassa.org
Visite el sitio web de NERAASA [AQUÍ](#)

¡Regístrate ahora!

NERAASA 2021

February 26, 27 & 28, 2021

The virtual experience, a NERAASA like no other!

Register Here!

Join the many who will make history at the first virtual
Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly.

- ◆ Round Tables ◆ Panels ◆
- ◆ Northeast Regional Trustee Presentation ◆ Delegates' Highlights ◆
- ◆ Fun & Fellowship ◆

NERAASA 2021 will offer participation in English, Spanish, A.S.L. & C.C.

\$21.00

'21 NERAASA weekend!

All A.A. members are both welcome and encouraged to attend!

We are making history!



Questions: info@nerassa.org
Visit the NERAASA website [HERE](#)

Register Now!

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

Delegate	Jane E.	delegate@aaseny.org
Alt. Delegate	Tom B.	altdelegate@aaseny.org
Chair	Jerry R.	chair@aaseny.org
Treasurer	Joann M.	treasurer@aaseny.org
Registrar	Mike D.	registrar@aaseny.org

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Westchester	Rich S.	dcmc@westchester.aaseny.org

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Archives	Hank G.	archives@aaseny.org
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YPAA Liaison*	Tom B.	altdelegate@aaseny.org

*Special committees (neither standing nor adhoc committees)