December 2009

Happy Holidays!
Alkathon Information Inside

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
All Meetings are held at the Intergroup Office unless otherwise noted

December

Dec 2  8:00 pm Institutions Committee
      Simpson Methodist Church
      Locust & Sunset, Amityville

Dec 3  7:30 pm Intergroup Rep’s Orientation
      8:00 pm Intergroup Rep’s Meeting
      Garden City Community Church
      Stewart Ave & Whitehall Blvd

Dec 8  7:00 pm PI/CPC Committee

Dec 9  8:00 pm Share-A-Day Committee

Dec 10 7:00 pm Special Needs Committee

Dec 10 **Newsletter Deadline**

Dec 13 7:30 pm Web Site Committee

Dec 17 7:30 pm Steering Committee

Dec 19 7:30 am **Speaker Exchange**
      Garden City Community Church
      Stewart Ave & Whitehall Blvd

Dec 21 7:00 pm General Service Rep’s Orientation
      7:30 pm General Service Rep’s Meeting

Dec 24 **Holiday Alkathon**
      5:00 pm Alkathon Starts
      Meetings every hour, on the hour, round the clock

Dec 25 11:00 pm Alkathon Ends

Dec 31 **New Years Alkathon**
      5:00 pm Alkathon Starts

January

Jan 1 **New Years Alkathon**
      Meetings every hour, on the hour, round the clock
      11:00 pm Alkathon Ends

Jan 6 8:00 pm Institutions Committee
      Simpson Methodist Church
      Locust & Sunset, Amityville

Jan 7 7:30 pm Intergroup Rep’s Orientation
      8:00 pm Intergroup Rep’s Meeting
      Garden City Community Church
      Stewart Ave & Whitehall Blvd

Jan 12 7:00 pm PI/CPC Committee

Jan 13 8:00 pm Share-A-Day Committee

Jan 20 7:30 pm Web Site Committee

Jan 21 **Newsletter Deadline**

Jan 28 7:30 pm Steering Committee
WE LIST ONLY AA MEETINGS

MEETING CHANGES

Freeport: Freeport II has moved to the Church of the Transfiguration, 69 S Long Beach Rd/Pine St. The Mon 8:00 mtg is now an OD, and the Fri 8:00 B is no longer meeting.

Lawrence: Tell it like it is has changed the time to their Tue 7:30 C to 6:30 and Thu 7:30 O to a 6:30 C.

Oyster Bay: Oyster Bay/Sagamore has changed the times of their Sun 7:30 O and 7:30 S to a 8:30S and a 8:30 O and their Wed 7:30 CD and their 7:30 B to a 8:30 CD and a 8:30 B.

NEW MEETINGS

Amityville: Doing it Young Group now meets for a Mon 7:00 O at South Oaks Hosp/Chapel 400 Sunrise Hwy, Amityville.

Long Beach: Primary Purpose Group now meets for a 6:00 B at St James Epis. 230 W Penn St/Magnolia, Long Beach.

Long Beach: Women of All Ages now meet for a Tue 6:00 Woman's Topic Meeting at St John's Luth, 75 E Olive & Riverside Blvd.

Lynbrook: Spiritual Progress now meets on Mon at 7:30 for a Womans BB at Cong Beth David, 188 Vincent Ave, Lynbrook.

Deletions

Syosset: Berry Hill Group no longer meets for their Sun. 9:15AM woman's CD.

Valley Stream: We Can Do It group has cancelled their Wed 1:00 CD.

From the Chair

As we enter the colder months it is easier to stay inside and isolate. I have to be careful because it may always seem to be too hot or too cold, depending on my spiritual condition.

Coming up are the Holiday Alkathons. They meet every hour on the hour (see insert).

VOLUNTEERS are still needed for these committees:
- Special Needs
- Web Site
- Newsletter
- Corrections Correspondence

As our lives change, sometimes our ability to fulfill a commitment changes; it is called LIFE. Pauline, our Intergroup Secretary, will need to resign as of December 31, 2009. We all thank her for her service to Nassau Inter-group.

In service,
NIAA Chairperson
chair@nassauny-aa(dot)org

Baldwin Group

Christmas Celebration
December 25th
12 - 4 pm
717 St. Lukes Place
Baldwin

MEETINGS at
12, 1, 2 and 3 pm upstairs

FOOD and FUN downstairs
friends and family welcome downstairs

Big Book Quote

"Remember that we deal with alcohol, cunning, baffling, powerful! Without help it is too much for us. But there is One who has all power that One is God. May you find Him now!"

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Phone Volunteers**

If you have at least 6 months of sobriety and are interested in answering phones at Nassau Intergroup, please contact the office manager at (516) 292-3045

**Night Book**

Happy Holidays to all! Thanks to all for your gratitude and service. That's really what this program is all about and keeps the spirituality in it.

We need groups that haven't signed up for the Night Book in a while. Please call Intergroup (516) 292-3045.

**Thanks for service on hotline in November:**
- Syosset-Berry Hill Group
- Baldwin-Sober Living Group
- East Williston-Serenity Seekers Group
- West Hempstead-New Life Group

Happy Holidays,
NightBook Chair
nightbook@nassauny-aa(dot)org

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From the First Vice Chair—

Public Information

What is Public Information (PI)? PI is the carrying of information about AA to the general public. The AA Guideline: Public Information suggests:

In all public relationships, AA’s sole objective is to help the still suffering alcoholic. Always mindful of the importance of personal anonymity, we believe this can be done by making known to the still suffering alcoholics, and to those who may be interested in their problem, our own experience as individuals and as a fellowship in learning to live without alcohol.

This work is not promotional, but informational.

The publication in 1938 of the book Alcoholics Anonymous was a first foray by AA into the realm of public information. In the following years an article in Liberty magazine (1939), the Jack Alexander article in the Saturday Evening Post (1941), and an article in Readers Digest (1944) each gave a boost to the public awareness of the fledgling AA fellowship. Bill W. himself was actively involved in these and later PI efforts. We are not a secret society. Since the beginning, it has been essential AA not shy away from public awareness, a point sometimes missed or misunderstood by AAs who may see public interaction as affiliation, promotion or a violation of the principle of personal anonymity. Experience has shown us how to avoid those pitfalls.

The effect? The 2007 AA membership survey points out that a significant proportion of AA members found their way to us through a non-AA third party or source of information (physician, clergy, newspaper or radio piece, etc.). Those channels were opened up through AA’s public information work.

Nassau Intergroup has a PI committee whose job it is to provide information about AA locally. It does so by fielding members to speak at non-AA meetings such as school assemblies, by providing informational tables at health fairs, by offering public service announcements (PSAs) to local television and radio outlets, and more.

If you are interested in this type of AA service work or want to know more, please come to the PI committee which meets jointly with our Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) committee the second Tuesday of each month at the West Hempstead office.

In service,
First Vice Chair
1stvice@nassauny-aa(dot)org
The following is a Christmas greeting from Bill W and others in 1944.

TO ALL MEMBERS Greetings On Our 10th Christmas 1944.

Yes, it's in the air! The spirit of Christmas once more warms this poor distraught world. Over the whole globe millions are looking forward to that one day when strife can be forgotten, when it will be remembered that all human beings, even the least are loved by God, when men will hope for the coming of the Prince of Peace as they never hoped before.

But there is another world which is not poor. Neither is it distraught. It is the world of Alcoholics Anonymous, where thousands dwell happily and secure. Secure because each of us, in his own way, knows a greater power who is love, who is just, and who can be trusted. Nor can men and women of AA ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough humility to enter the portals of that New World.

How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weakness, that humiliation goes before resurrection; that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth. Knowing it's full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity where there was poverty, peace and joy have sprung out of the very midst of chaos. Great indeed, our blessings!

And so,— Merry Christmas to you all from the Trustees, from Bobbie and from Lois and me.

Bill Wilson

Trad 12: And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of Anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.
“WE GROW THROUGH SERVICE”

Nassau Intergroup 2009
Holiday Season
ALKATHONS
at the
Nassau Intergroup Office
361 Hempstead Tpke
W Hempstead, NY 11552

DATES AND TIMES

Christmas
5:00 pm Thursday, December 24 through 11:00 pm Friday, December 25, 2009

New Years
5:00 pm Thursday, December 31 through 11:00 pm Friday, January 1, 2010

Alkathon meetings run around the clock every hour on the hour

PLEASE DO NOT BRING HOT FOOD

“I am responsible when anyone anywhere reaches out for help I want the hand of AA always to be there and for that I am responsible”.

For more information contact NIAA at (516) 292-3045
Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.

1. Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.

2. Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don’t have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.

3. Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you’ve called an A.A.

4. Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations given by groups in your area, and go. If you’re timid, take someone newer than you are.

5. Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.

6. If you have to go to a drinking party and can’t take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.

7. Don’t think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an “important date” you have to keep.

8. Worship in your own way.

9. Don’t sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.

10. Don’t start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—“one day at a time.”

11. Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.

12. “Having had a . . .” No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.