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1971 (January) - Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Nassau Newsletter* distributed to the groups.
This newsletter has been published every month since that time.

December 2010

Happy Holidays!

Alkathon Information Inside

Calendar of Events

All Meetings are held at the Intergroup Office unless otherwise noted

December

- Dec 1 8:00 pm Institutions Committee
Simpson Methodist Church
Locust & Sunset, Amityville
- Dec 2 7:30 pm Intergroup Rep's Orientation
8:00 pm Intergroup Rep's Meeting
Garden City Community Church
Stewart Ave & Whitehall Blvd
- Dec 8 8:00 pm Share-A-Day Planning Committee
- Dec 9 7:00 pm Special Needs Committee
- Dec 12 NGSG Unity Breakfast
Plattduetsche Park Restaurant
132 Hempstead Tpke, Franklin Square
- Dec 14 7:00 pm PI/CPC Committee
- Dec 15 7:30 pm Web Site Committee
- Dec 18 7:30 am Speaker Exchange Meeting
- Dec 20 7:00 pm General Service Rep's Orientation
7:30 pm General Service Rep's Meeting
- Dec 23 **Newsletter Deadline**
- Dec 24 **Holiday Alkathon**
5:00 pm Alkathon Starts
- Dec 2 11:00 pm Alkathon Ends
- Dec 30 7:30 pm Steering Committee
- Dec 31 **New Year's Alkathon**
5:00 pm Alkathon Starts
- Jan 1 11:00 pm Alkathon Ends

January

- Dec 31 **New Year's Alkathon**
5:00 pm Alkathon Starts
- Jan 1 11:00 pm Alkathon Ends
- Jan 5 8:00 pm Institutions Committee
Simpson Methodist Church
Locust & Sunset, Amityville
- Jan 6 7:30 pm Intergroup Rep's Orientation
8:00 pm Intergroup Rep's Meeting
Garden City Community Church
Stewart Ave & Whitehall Blvd
- Jan 11 7:00 pm PI/CPC Committee
- Jan 12 8:00 pm Share-A-Day Planning Committee
- Jan 19 7:30 pm Web Site Committee
- Jan 20 **Newsletter Deadline**
- Jan 27 7:30 pm Steering Committee



WE ONLY LIST AA MEETINGS

MEETING CHANGES

Franklin Square: Gift of Serenity Group now meets at Wesley Methodist Church, 619 Fenworth (off Dogwood) and has changed their Mon 7:30 S to Tue 7:30 S

Garden City: Attitude Adjustment Group meets at 12 noon Mon to Fri. No children

Sea Cliff: Sleepless In Sea Cliff address: The St. Boniface Martyr School, 12 Main Ave 3rd floor. No handicap access

Sea Cliff: Sober Start address: The St. Boniface Martyr School, 12 Main Ave 3rd floor. No handicap access

NEW MEETINGS

East Meadow: Clean And Sober United Methodist Church, 470 East Meadow Ave. Fri. 8:00 pm

Glen Cove: Serenity Together now meets at First Presbyterian Church, 7 North Lane (North School/ Lanes- front left door) Mon 12:00 noon S, last Mon T, Tue 12:00 noon CD, Wed 12:00 noon R, Thu 12:00 noon BB, Fri 12:00 noon B

Seaford: Primary Purpose of Seaford now meets at St Michaels and All Angels Church on Sat 7:00 Open BB

DELETIONS

Manhasset: Are You A Real Alcoholic? No longer meets

SERVICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Nassau County Intergroup is an entirely volunteer organization - there are no paid employees. As a result, volunteers are always needed! Requirements are six months of sobriety and four hours at least once a month. A great way to place Step Twelve into action! For further information, contact the Intergroup Office.

Cooperation with Professional Community - Meets with Professionals explaining A.A.

Meeting List - Update the printed meeting list of all Nassau County A.A. Meetings.

Public Information - Meets with various schools, institutions, and Fairs explaining A.A.

Special Needs - Provides and facilitate meeting information for those with special needs.

Web Site - Collect information for posting, and the maintaining of website.

12th Step List - Updates and maintains file of 12th Step Phone Lists.

PLEASE CALL (516) 292.3045

From The Chair - SERVICE

Service is about helping others to succeed. It is showing concern for others and helping to educate with kindness and support. At Nassau Intergroup, we have office and nightbook volunteers who answer the phone providing help to those seeking meetings and information about A.A. We publish meeting lists, a newsletter, and have a web site to keep people informed of meetings, meeting changes, events in Nassau County, and links to other intergroups throughout the world. We seek to inform both those inside and outside the A.A. Program what services Alcoholics Anonymous does and does not provide. I now wish to thank all who helped to keep the lights burning this past year; all the Groups and their Rep's, the Phone Volunteers, Office Managers-, Joe, Tom, Mark, Artie, Officers - Bill C, Tony T, LaRaine A, Mark S, Debbie F, Cory, Dave, Ed, John, Bill, John, Brian, Denis, Hurricane Bob, Debbie L, Herb, Teri, Jay, Elise, Al, Jeff, Jack, and DCMC Kevin. Thank you to all who have volunteered at the various events throughout the year. Let's all help to keep the lights burning. It has been an honor to serve as Intergroup Chair and if I have offended anyone, I ask your forgiveness. Please HELP by VOLUNTEERING.

NIAA Chairperson

chair@nassauny-aa(dot)org

From the First Vice Chair - CHILDREN AT MEETINGS

Intergroup recently received a complaint from a member about an apparently out of control child at a local meeting questioning why Intergroup didn't impose restrictions on such things. While the member clearly misunderstood the relationship between Intergroup and the meetings/groups in the county, some important questions were raised.

Tradition Four guarantees all AA entities full functional autonomy. We work together in the spirit of Tradition Five which suggests we work to stay sober and to carry the message to the still suffering drunk. That relationship is one of voluntary cooperation, not governance. It means each AA group is responsible for itself making its own decisions for better or worse. Intergroup has no authority to impose anything at the meeting/group level although it can decline to list meetings/groups which fail to honor AA's Traditions.

Any individual seeking recovery from alcoholism should be able to find a place in AA (Tradition Three). That having been said, we understand that in practice some of us have greater difficulty finding that place than others. Some may have additional "grave emotional and mental disorders," some may find the physical act of getting to a meeting challenging while some experience other unusual barriers.

Parents with young children may experience an unusual barrier when they find they have no choice but to

bring their child along to a meeting. Some meetings are quite "child friendly," usual attendees have little or no problem with one or more or many perhaps very active children in the meetings. Other meetings are quite intolerant of any disruption.

Our Traditions suggest every AA group owes it to the individual seeking recovery from drinking to make their meeting in every way accessible. At the same time, Tradition One ("common welfare comes first") suggests the group has an obligation to avoid disruptive or divisive influences so our message can be delivered.

To me, all of this means our meetings/groups should be supportive, patient and tolerant of the special needs of all who come to us remembering "but for the Grace of God." At the same time, the parent of a child in this case should do all they can to monitor their child while at a meeting to minimize any disruption the child may present. Some parents bring toys or games to help engage the child, or will walk a disruptive child out for a few minutes. Some groups and individual members are prepared to help the parents of young children with some respite support during a meeting understanding that doing so imposes unusual responsibilities on the non-parent care giver.

This does not begin to consider the other question that comes up with children at meetings: When does a child become old enough for us to question are they oblivious to or will they hold in confidence who and what they see and hear in meetings?

Hope this is helpful.

In service,
First Vice Chair
1stvice@nassauny-aa(dot)org

From District 208-209 - Into Action

Group Inventories - oh, that dreaded process of self-examination! Yet, in October of 2009, Brenda P, SENY Chair and Bill C, Nassau County InterGroup 1st Vice facilitated such a process for six members of District 208 on a Sunday afternoon. This small meeting initiated the ground work of service for the whole of 2010 for the district. The results?

A year later, at our October, 2010 district meeting, we needed to get another table and many more chairs to accommodate all our members. Being of service seems to attract AA folks and so we have clustered with District 209 this year.

So, while meeting lists are being distributed to local hotels, motels, and inns by two of our Alternate GSRs, Casey T of Sober Start Group and Carlos from Glen Head Group, a preliminary letter is being drafted by Warren, the Sober Start GSR to accompany AA Conference-approved pamphlets which will be mailed to local physicians.

On the Public Information front, with the support of SENY, two exciting projects are coming to fruition during

the 2010 holiday season. Acting on the idea of doing a PSA with Cablevision from one of our more quiet members, GSR for Women's Discussion Group Linda S, the district welcomed SENY PI Chair Linda McG. at their September meeting for a Public Information presentation. Upon viewing all the Conference-approved Public Service Announcements, the group made an informed decision in choosing the Testimonials PSA for submission to Cablevision. Brenda P, SENY Chair wrote a letter on behalf of SENY supporting this project which accompanied our disk to Cablevision. Cablevision is graciously adding the Suffolk (631) 669-1124 and Nassau County (516) 292-3040 hotlines to the PSA which will air from November 29, 2010 through December 26, 2010!

With the information Linda brought to us, another GSR, Ceil M of Pass It On Group, has taken on the task of having a Newspaper PSA inserted in the Long Island Newsday and the Pennysaver, in both English and Spanish during Christmas week.

The Big Payoff will be in welcoming newcomers to our meetings, and that privilege belongs to all of us!

DCM,
District 208-209

From the Incoming First Vice Chair

I would like to take this few moments to say hello.

It has been an honor & a privilege to serve you as 12 Step List Chair. I'm looking forward to serving all the groups in Nassau County as well as working with Bill, La Rain and the rest of the Steering committee. So here is hoping that as a community we can work together in making our fellowship a healthy & working being.

Yours in service,
1st Vice Chair
1stvice@nassauny-aa

From the Nightbook Chair - NIGHTBOOK

Around this time of year a friend of mine would always remind me that this is a threefold disease...Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years, (Thanks Tom). I used these holidays as excuses for me to drink more, act out and as I called it a party. I remember waking and feeling terrible almost every day. I would dread having to go to work knowing that even though it was only 6 am I'd have to stop on my way to buy two tall boys just to put me on my feet. It was only after getting sober that I came to realize that I had been drinking myself to death. I will be forever grateful to the members of AA who answered that phone when I needed help, who comforted me when I needed it the most. I know that all of us are busy with family, wives, husbands, jobs and everything else and if I could have but one prayer answered it would be this.... I pray that all of us can stay sober a day at a time so as we can embrace what this program teaches us and pay it forward...we can't keep it unless we give it away. Please take the time to get busy, get involved, reach out and

help. The best gift you can give someone is your time, your understanding, your patience, kindness, and love.

May God bless you all with a long, peaceful and happy sobriety!!!!

I'd like to thank the following groups for volunteering and taking the Nightbook-

- Baldwin Group
- Seaford Gratitude Group
- East Meadow...It Can Be Done Group
- Glen Head Group
- Early Birds

Nightbook Chair
nightbook@nassauny-aa(dot)org

**County Line Group
Christmas Eve Alkathon
15th Year**

**When: Start: December 24th, 7:30 pm
End: December 25th, 7:00 am
Where: Simpson United Meth Church
30 Locust Avenue, (Off Sunset)
Amityville**

**Glen Head Group
Old Timer's Panel**

**When: Tues, December 7 6:45 Food
7:30 4 Speakers
8:30 Sharing
Where: Glen Head Youth Center
200 Glen Head Rd
Glen Head**

**The Garden City Group
AA Holiday Extravaganza
Anniversary Party**

**When: Friday, Dec. 17
Food at 7 pm
Speaker at 8,
DJ and dancing 9 till Midnight
Where: Garden City Community Church
245 Stewart Ave
(corner of Stewart Ave & Whitehall St)**

**From DCMC -
AA SERVICE**

It has been my good fortune to have been the Alt DCMC for 2½ years from June 2006 and the DCMC for the last 2 years. There was a lot of grateful service work

over that time and I have been very privileged to have a good service sponsor and a lot of help with every facet from fellow members. Good luck to our new Nassau General Service Group Officers Pauline DCMC, Ira Alt DCMC, Linda Treasurer, and Rose Secretary. Any good trusted servant has to know when to ask questions and for help, for we all need each other for our personal recovery which we gain by service to others. I am now moving to another 2 year commitment as Nassau Intergroup Treasurer so with a lot of help and support from others, service will continue to be the most important part of my recovery. Learning a new commitment is not always easy and usually you are best at your job as you are ready to rotate out. With all that said I will do my best and thank you all for letting me serve AA. I hope to see you all at the Nassau County General Service Group's Unity Breakfast on December 12, 2010. Doors open at 8:30 AM, two speakers and Breakfast located at the Plattdeutsche Park Restaurant 1132 Hempstead Turnpike, Franklin Square NY 11010. Our last Nassau County General Service Group Meeting is going to take place at Intergroup office on December 20, 2010. Orientation for new GSR's at 7PM and meeting at 7:30 PM.

Kevin McH
DCMC NGSG

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