Happy Joyous & Free
Area 48 Newsletter

May 2024

Welcome to May! This may be the prettiest month of the year, the fresh, bright greens of spring light up the landscape. Here in the Catskills, the mountains transform into dense forest from bare trees, the trout are rising in the creeks and annual planting will be starting in our gardens. I hope you have a fantastic month!

Check our flyers, there is one for our May 18 Voting Assembly, although we won't have any proposals to vote on, we do have a full day of presentations. We are really looking forward to our Delegate's report back from the General Service Conference.

So many things going on this spring and summer in our Area 48!!

For Committee Chairs, don't forget the New York State Informational Workshop at the end of July, see the flyer.

In this issue we have Flyers for ongoing and upcoming events, and some important communications from GSO included in this issue, starting on p.14.

Check out PLAIN LANGUAGE BIG BOOK (PLBB) FAQs, all you need to know about this development., on p.19.

See you at the Spring Assembly!!

Love and Service,

Allen V.
newsletter@nenyaa.org

CHAIR REPORTS
Get the latest news on what's happening in NENY from your Area Committee Chairs

UPCOMING EVENTS
Check out all the fliers at the end for the many upcoming events!

PRINCIPLES OF THE MONTH
Our Primary Purpose

UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome to Area 48 NENY

NYSIW July 26-28 Geneva, NY

Spring Assembly May 18, Eastern Cluster (D18)

Principles of the Month | May

Step 5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition 5. Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Tradition #5 Checklist *[from SMF-131, Traditions Checklist from the AA Grapevine]*:

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, “I’m not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn’t apply to me”?
2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the limitations of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

Concept #5 Throughout our world services structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.epresentation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

Concept # 4 Checklist *[from SMF-91, Concepts Checklist]:*

1. Do we encourage the minority opinion, the “Right of Appeal,” to be heard at our home group, district committee meetings, area assemblies and the Conference?
2. What does our group accept as “substantial unanimity”?
3. Has our group experienced the “tyranny of the majority” or the “tyranny of the minority”?
4. Does our group understand the importance of all points ofIn Area 48, all our events are hybrid so that all NENY members can participate in our service structure, be represented, and have a voice.

In Area 48 NENY, all our events are Hybrid, so all members can participate, be represented and have a voice in our service structure.

Delegate Report

Hi all, I can't believe it's May already. Obviously I was privileged to attend the 74th General Service Conference a few weeks ago.

It is still very difficult to describe the event unless you have been there. I will just say amazing, thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

If I can transmit anything, please believe me that AA is still in Our Higher Powers hands,TRUST! The process is not broken! Though many of us have our own viewpoints from around the US and Canada, we all work together to come to the best group conscience for the good of AA.

I am looking forward to meeting and sharing with you all at the Area Assembly on 5/18/24. I hopefully will be able to answer any questions or concerns about what happened at the Conference this year and any upcoming plans for AA in the future.

Yours in Service
A48 Delegate P74 Agenda
Guy K
panel74delegate@nenyaa.org

Chair/Alternate Delegate Report

At long last, May! It seems like a long time coming.

It was good to see so many active AAs at our Spring Fellowship Day hosted by the Central cluster; D4, 8, and 14. We met in Amsterdam on 4/20 and listened to and participated in some relevant and compelling panels focusing on the 12x12x12: our three legacies, Tradition 4 and Resentments. Every time I attend an event, especially a Fellowship Day, in the Central cluster, I am renewed by the love of AA and the experience of the panel presenters. Thanks to you all.

Many new ideas and challenges may or may not be facing AA in the near future. Each one of us can affect what happens. But you and your GSR must be present to give your thoughts to the district, to the Area and to AA, as a whole. After the group conscience of AA, at the Conference, has been reached, my time to complain and argue has passed.
That ship will have sailed for this year. But your thoughts and opinions and ideas are wanted and needed prior to the AA group conscience. That's when we have ALL the power and responsibility. Let's take that power and use it well.

If your GSR is not attending district, and area events and is not bringing information to your home group, please ask your trusted servant why. You have entrusted your voice to the GSR; if your
voice is not being represented, perhaps a discussion needs to be had at your next business meeting.

Our next very important event is the Spring Voting Assembly. This is one of the three very highly suggested/ recommended duties of a GSR. Check to see if your GSR has a plan to attend. If not, will the Alternate GSR be there? Your group is entitled to representation.

Usually, we vote on any proposals related to the business of Area 48. The proposals may address how the area operates budgets or other items. Surprisingly, no proposals were submitted for the Spring Assembly, but that does not make it any less important.

The Finance Committee has prepared and will propose the 2025 Area 48 Area Budget to you for your thoughtful consideration and you will vote to approve it at the October Assembly.

Another highlight of the Spring Assembly will be a presentation on the past, present and future of the Plain Language Big Book offered by a Trustee from the General Service Office. “Inquiring (and open minds) want to know!” Here will be your opportunity to find out what exactly is going on.

The most important agenda item on May 18th will be our Area Delegate’s Report back from Conference. The Report Back is the formal report from a delegate on what was discussed, what was brought up for a vote, what was sent back to committee and what items didn’t make it this year. It may be valuable to know how your voice and votes fared in the process. Guy represented us well. Come and thank him for his service and love of AA.

As you know, we host a monthly Area Check-in on the first Wednesday of the month.
All your service chairs are invited, most attend and are available to guide you in each committee how to fulfill our primary purpose. (BTW....did you know that EACH home group should have a member on each service committee in your district: GVR, treatment rep, corrections rep..... This is how your home group can offer to take action in service. Check out that info in the pamphlet “The Group:where it all begins”.

Please attend these Check Ins, find out what’s going on in your Fellowship.

We had a really good GSR Forum this month, I must say. It was the best attended meeting, thus far-15 GSRs attended, as did some DCMs and other Area trusted servants-there were 25 in total. We reviewed the FAQ found in our most recent Newsletter. The topic was “Some FACTS about the Plain Language Big Book-no rumor, no misinformation, no contempt prior to investigation.”

Post presentation, participants could share their thoughts and opinions. I believe it was enlightening and helped GSRs
and DCMs to be better prepared with the activities in AA. Please join us on the first Sunday of each month. Any and all topics relating to Home groups and GSRs are welcomed for discussion. All AAs are invited.

Hope to see many of you at the Spring Assembly. Bring a friend or two!

Thank you for this opportunity to do service.
Remember- Service is fun!

Dolores K
NENY Area 48 Chair/ Alt Delegate
nenychair@nenyaa.org

Secretary Report

Please find the unapproved minutes from the Area 48 Fellowship Day held on April 20, 2024 on our website. (See below)

Thank you to all who were able to attend in person and online and to the Central cluster for hosting the event.

Please let me know if you have any questions or corrections.

In service,
Dana W.
Area 48 Secretary
secretary@nenyaa.org

All Area minutes can be found at https://nenyaa.org/area-secretary/.
If you need a hard copy, let me know and I will send in mail.

Alt Chair Report

If you want to join the DCMs/Functions Committee, we would love to have you! We meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6 pm. Meeting ID: 952 7302 1180 Passcode: DCMfun

Thank you so much for letting me be of service.
Cathy P.
altnenychair@nenyaa.org

Accessibility Report

Hi everyone
This month in accessibility we had a monthly meeting, 2nd Thursday of every month 82256877420 Pw 353180. 6 pm est. Come join us. I sent out emails to all DCM's requesting their input on the biggest accessibility need in their districts. Accessibility chairs are looking into all facilities such as nursing homes. A few meetings have been started. Also looking into any other facilities in our area that have a need for meetings.
I contacted GSO and we are all in every district trying to get committees such as convention, neraasa, workshops etc.. to have a accessibility chair on their committee when planning events.

If anyone has a accessibility need or any questions please let me know. You can reach me at accessibility@nenyaa.org.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Thank you
Chrissy O'C.

Bridging The Gap Needs You!

Bridging The Gap helps AA members inside a treatment center or correctional facility go right to an AA meeting as soon as they get out. We need help from you to make this work. We need volunteers to bring those members to meetings.

We also really need people to inform those working in the facilities about Bridging TheGap. If they don't know it exists, or don't understand what it means, they can't tell our members about it.

If you'd like to help with this, we'd love to have you! Please join us at our monthly committee meetings.

7:00 pm EST every second Wednesday of the month. (Yes, we will be meeting on Valentine's Day).

Meeting ID: 861 6963 8196 Passcode: 741803

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86169638196?pwd=NXk1cWkvby93ZzEyRzVuZVNwdVY3dz09

If you forget, it's also on the area website under Meetings, Area 48 Virtual Meeting Calendar.

Sue W.
btg@nenyaa.org
Bridging The Gap Chair
Area 48 • Northeast New York

Corrections Report

Hi my name is Theresa M and I am the new Corrections Chair for Area 48. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm. The ID is 867 1213 3948. And the Password is: A48Correct

We met last month and discussed trying to motivate more AA members to carry the message into the jails. The majority of the incarcerated look forward to the meetings we do bring in, but we need more AA members to get involved.

The process of working with BTG and the process of Pre-release forms being sent to GSO was also discussed.

I am looking forward to more idea's and input from all district chairs. I hope to meet more of you at the next meeting May 15th.

Theresa M.
Corrections Chair corrections@nenyaa.org

Public Information Report

My name is Amy M and I have been elected and begun serving as the new Area48 Public Information Chairperson.

My most recent service position was as DCM of District 10 which comprises Plattsburgh, Elizabethtown, and Saranac Lake NY.

I am humbled and very grateful to have the opportunity to serve in this capacity at Area.

I would like to extend an invitation to all those serving with Public Information (PI) or Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) throughout our area to attend our monthly PI/CPC zoom call which is held the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. All AA members are welcomed and encouraged to attend.
This is a place for us to share ideas and to help each other in carrying the message of our AA program to the public (media, schools, organizations,etc)

PI/CPC Zoom Call Meeting ID 868 7177 3923 Passcode: 080625
My contact information is PI@nenyaa.org. If you have any questions or ideas to share please feel free to reach out to me!

Yours in service
Amy M
Area 48 PI Chair

Literature Report

Book Nerds Welcome!!! Come read Literature with me!!

Hot news off the press - 'How It Works' and the pamphlet 'Is A.A. for Me?' are now available in Haitian Creole translation. They both can be purchased from the online bookstore (onlineliterature.aa.org).

Upcoming in 2024!!! - The new 2024 Publishing Catalogue featuring dozens of General Conference approved items of A.A. literature and new formats and other materials. First online, and then in print format, completely redesigned and refreshed since the last Publishing Catalogue in 2020, this version will be the comprehensive updated listing of all available A.A. publications.

Come join The Grapevine/La Vina-Literature Monthly Committee meeting to stay up to date with all the newest information, get your questions answered and fellowship with other members of AA. We meet monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 6:30pm.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84064855953?pwd=Lzl2ZUxFaU9qQndTZmpQaU83Q2RQUT09v

Meeting ID: 840 6485 5953 Passcode: 394275

Check out all the details on the NENY Literature homepage at https://nenyaa.org/literature/

Feel free to email if you have any questions or need any help with literature at literature@nenyaa.org

Yours in Service

Lindsey B
literature@nenyaa.org

Treasurer Report - March 2024

NENY Area 48 **Monthly Treasury Report** March 2024 - Approved	
Beginning Balance	**$18,809.25**
Income	
Area Contributions	
Group	$2,600.28
Individual	$25.00
Total Income	**$2,625.28**
Expense	
Hybrid Chair	$72.00
Newsletter Editor	$113.30
PI Chair	$221.00
Technology Chair	$76.50
NERAASA	$3,876.78
Adirondack Cluster Scholarship - NERAASA	$500.00
Central Cluster Scholarship - NERAASA	$212.60
Western Cluster Scholarship - NERAASA	$500.00
Tri-Fold Pamphlet Printing	$1,701.00
Tri-Fold Pamphlet Shipping	$834.00
Newsletter Postage	$55.68
Newsletter Printing	$193.34
iDrive (annual fee)	$99.50
Mail Service	$75.91
Archive Storage Fees	$90.00
JotForm	$26.46
AirTable	$133.72
Digital Ocean	$6.00
Zoom (Annual Fee)	$159.90
Mobile Beacon (annual hotspot contract)	$129.00
PayPal Contribution Fees	$15.73
Total Expenses	**$9,092.42**
Net Income	-$6,467.14
Beginning Balance	**$18,809.25**
Ending Balance	**$12,342.11**
Prudent Reserve	-$7,000.00
Available Funds	**$5,342.11**
Prepared by Linda A. treasurer@nenyaa.org	

Note: All checks for Donations are to be made out to:
NENY Area Association.

Treasurer Report

Please note our Treasurer Linda A. has prepared additional reports for your review, and due to layout constraints, we will post a link to our website where they will be available to review.

The reports are:

- Jan-Mar 2024 Income and Expense Report
- Q1 2024 Quarterly District Contribution Report by Month
- Q1 2024 Quarterly Group Contribution Report

Click here to see these reports on our website.

Or go to nenyaa.org/finance/

Linda A. - treasurer@nenyaa.org

Meet Your Trusted Servants, NENY Area 48, Panel 74

Area Officers

Delegate- Guy K. panel74delegate@nenyaa.org
Area Chair /Alt Delegate- Dolores K. nenychair@nenyaa.org
Alt Area Chair/ Functions Chair- Cathy P. altnenychair@nenyaa.org
Secretary- Dana W. secretary@nenyaa.org
Treasurer- Linda A. treasurer@nenyaa.org
Alt Treasurer/ Finance Committee Chair- Dave F. alttreasurer@nenyaa.org
Alt Registrar- Kevin H-B. altrecords@nenyaa.org
Alt Secretary/ Registrar- Matt E. records@nenyaa.org

The Area Committee

Hybrid Chair- Vo N. hybrid@nenyaa.org
Technology/ Webmaster- Bobby H. webmaster@nenyaa.org
Newsletter- Allen V. newsletter@nenyaa.org
Accessibility- Chrissy O'C. accessibility@nenyaa.org
Inclusivity- Andy P. inclusivity@nenyaa.org
Bridging The Gap BTG- Sue W. btg@nenyaa.org
Corrections- Theresa M. corrections@nenyaa.org
Treatment -Liz C. treatment@nenyaa.org
Cooperation with the Professional Community CPC- Howard W. cpc@nenyaa.org
Public Information PI- Amy M. pi@nenyaa.org
Archives- Mark Q. archives@nenyaa.org
Grapevine/LaVina- Michelle M. grapevine@nenyaa.org
Literature- Lindsey B. literature@nenyaa.org
Finance Committee Past DCM- Kelly M. finance@nenyaa.org
Finance Committee Past Delegate- Don S finance@nenyaa.org
Convention 2024 chair- Trish McB. conventionchair@nenyaa.org

What's Happening in...

Area 48

- Unity Day | **Saturday May 4 D16 presents..more info to come, check website**
- GSR Workshop **| Wed. May 8 5:30-8:30…D7 Presents**
- May Voting Assembly | **May 18 or 19** *(date to be determined)*
- Joy of Service Day| **Saturday June 15**

Area 48 Recurring Events

- GSR (General Service Rep) Forum | **1st Sundays** @ 7pm
  Open to any member of AA! You do not have to be a GSR or a member of Area 48 to attend.
- Monthly Check-in | **1st Wednesdays** @ 6:30pm
- Grapevine Story Hour | **2nd Tuesdays** @ 7pm
- Your Delegate Connection | **last Mondays** @ 7pm

Area 48 Committee Meetings

- Accessibilities | 2nd Sundays @ 2pm | ID: 459 479 4411, Passcode: 731508
- Bridging the Gap (BTG)/Treatment | 2nd Wednesdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 861 6963 8196, Passcode: 741803
- Corrections | 3rd Wednesday at 6:30pm | 867 1213 3948, Passcode: A48Correct
- Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) & PI (Public Information) | 4th Thursdays @ 6:30pm | 868 7177 3923, Passcode: 070625 Join Meeting **Click Here**
- DCMs & Alt DCMs + Functions 3rd Sundays @ 6pm | ID: 952 7302 1180, Passcode: DCMfun
- Grapevine & Literature | 3rd Thursdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 885 5335 7701, Passcode:394275
- Inclusivity | 3rd Tuesdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 840 6485 5953, Passcode: 353180
- Technology | 4th Wednesdays @ 7pm | 829 5229 5872, Passcode: Techteam48

Click here for the full 2024 Area 48 Calendar

Outside the Area

- https://www.unityandserviceconference.org/ October 11 & 12 2024
- https://www.aa.org/international-convention-2025-faqs

Want your event included in the newsletter & on the Area 48 website?
Send it to newsletter@aahmbny.org & webmaster@aahmbny.org.

What's happening in Area 48...continued

The Wells Solution Group is now meeting on Sundays at 6pm, starting May 5, 2024.
We are still meeting at the Methodist Church, 1372 State Route 30 Wells, NY 12190

District 4 is looking for any members interested in service, business meeting is second Monday of the month, 7pm.
218 Kingsboro Ave, Gloversville NY

AREA 48 NENY EVENTS 2024 – Revised 041324		
Date	**Event**	**Host**
January 20, 2024	NENY Orientation Day	Hudson Valley Cluster (D17) First Reformed Church 52 Green St Hudson, NY
February 23-25, 2024	Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA)	Hershey, PA
March 8-10, 2024	Northeast Regional Delegates' Reunion (NERD)	Area 48 NENY (delegates and past delegates)
March 16, 2024	NENY Delegate's Day of Sharing	Adirondack Cluster (D13) Christ Church United Methodist 54 Bay Street, Glens Falls, NY
April 20, 2024	NENY Fellowship Day	Central Cluster (D4) Second Presbyterian Church, 25 Church Street, Amsterdam, NY
April 14-20, 2024	General Service Conference (for our Delegate only)	NYC
May 18, 2024	NENY Spring Voting Assembly	Eastern Cluster (D18) St. Mary's of the Nativity 26 Church Street, Nassau, NY
June 15, 2024	NENY Joy of Service Day	Cross Pointe Church 317 Oriskany Church Whitesboro, NY
July 26-28, 2024	NYS Informational Workshop	Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY Area 47
September 21 or 22, 2024	NENY Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley Cluster (D7)
October 19 or 20, 2024	NENY Fall Voting Assembly	Adirondack Cluster (D19)
November 1-3, 2024	NENY Convention	Marriott Albany, Albany, NY Eastern Cluster
November 16 or 17, 2024	NENY Inventory Day	Central Cluster (D8)

Cluster ADK D5,D10,D13,D19 Central D4,D8,D14 Eastern D1,D2,D18
Western D9,D12,D20 Hudson Valley D3,D7,D11,D15,D16,D17 041324

From GSO:

Hello, Box 4-5-9 readers!

We want to hear from you. We're taking a fresh look at the Box 4-5-9 newsletter and need your help to learn more about how this publication can better serve the Fellowship.

The survey takes less than 5 minutes. Your responses are anonymous, and the survey results are only viewed in aggregate – no personally identifiable information will be collected.

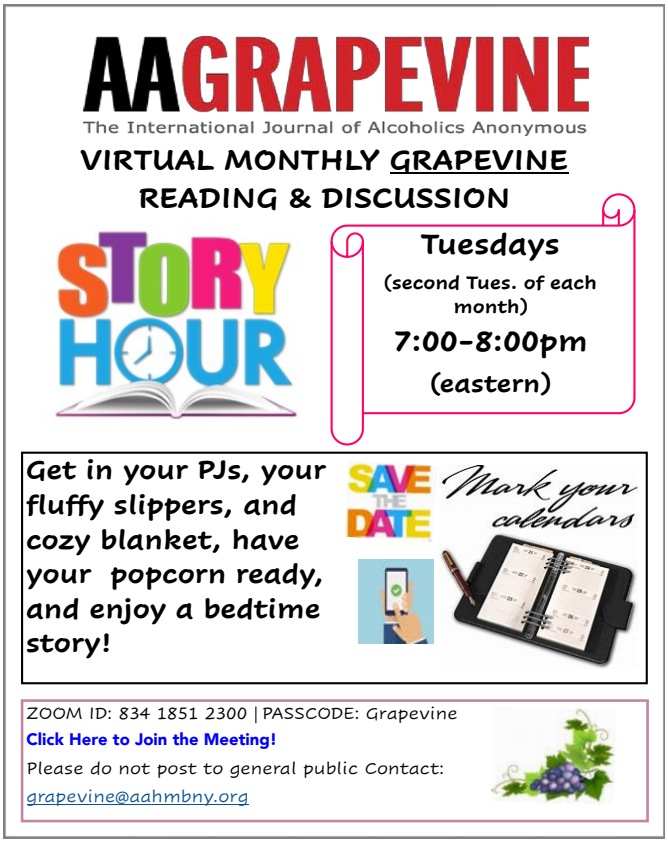
Click here to access the survey.

We appreciate your participation in the survey!

In Fellowship,
Communication Services Department
commservices@aa.org

Grapevine Price Announcement-

Click here for the entire message.



Online District Roundtable

Monthly on the Third Sunday

8:00 PM Eastern & 5:00 PM Pacific

Purpose

This is an informal meeting to share ESH with the only other online District in North America! Anyone can attend!

Meeting Info

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82660463055?pwd=dmxLcWpaYjR5MWQ4dEtYeXI2UVhidz09

Meeting ID: 826 6046 3055
Passcode: remoteD

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,82660463055# US (New York)

+13126266799,,82660463055# US (Chicago)

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbz6vgHbyA

Organizer: Cathy P - district20dcm@aahmbny.org

From GSO:

PLAIN LANGUAGE BIG BOOK (PLBB) FAQs

1. **How did the PLBB come about?**

The development of a plain language Big Book can be traced back to an agenda topic in 2016, at which time the General Service Conference began the assessment of the need for plain language literature. Following lots of in-depth research and reports, in 2021 the Conference as a whole requested:
*"That a draft version of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, be translated into **plain** and **simple** language and be developed in a way that is **accessible** and **relatable** to as wide of an audience as possible and that a progress report or draft be brought back to the 2022 Conference Literature Committee."*

2. Will the PLBB replace the Big Book?

No. The intent was and remains for the PLBB to be a tool to access original text and be a companion piece. The original Big Book is not going away and will remain in publication.

3. Is this the first time A.A. has developed plain language literature?

No. Most of our pamphlets are in plain language. Also, at the time the Big Book was first published, Dr. Bob was concerned that the language was beyond the capability of blue-collar members to grasp and, as a result, 5 pamphlets (still available and known as *The Akron Pamphlets*) were written by Evan W. at the request of Dr. Bob during the 1940s.

4. What is Plain Language?

Plain language is a style of writing designed for word choice, sentence structure, and layout to improve readability and increase understanding.

5. Is it a word-for-word translation?

No. It is a rewrite into plain language that also reflects the scope of the task assigned to ensure that the draft "*be developed in a way that is **accessible** and **relatable** to as wide of an audience as possible."*

6. Will it be available in Spanish and French?

We will address this question if and when the PLBB is published. However, we understand that English Plain Language is an approach not a language and so any simplified French or Spanish versions will need to spring from the original translations into French and Spanish.

7. What reading level will the PLBB be at?

5th Grade

8. Why is the draft confidential to Conference Members only and why can't I see a draft?

Historically, whenever the Conference reviews new or significantly revised books or pamphlets, only the Conference Literature Committee (or whichever Committee is reviewing the item) is provided with copies of the new or revised literature before Conference begins. In the case of pamphlets, all other Conference members have been required to sign out copies of the new or revised pamphlet(s) sometime during Conference and have been given a limited time to review the literature. In the case of books, Conference members, other than those on the reviewing committees, have not been given any opportunity to review the manuscripts and have, therefore, had to base their votes entirely on the recommendation of the committee. The reasons for operating in this way are as follows:
1) In order to retain the copyright of A.A.'s literature assets, we have to be able to assert that they were not "at large," shared widely in whole or in part within the Fellowship or shared on social media, prior to being published.

2) It usually takes several years to complete a piece of A.A. literature. During that time, multiple versions of the piece are shared with the reviewing Conference Committee. If shared widely, it would be possible for the Fellowship and the public to become

confused about what is in revision, what is the current revision and what is "Conference Approved."

When circumstances such as these require that we trust the Conference process explicitly, it may be helpful to remember that Tradition 2 asserts that God's will is expressed through the group conscience and that Concept 2 states that the Conference has become "the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs."

9. **What is being translated?**

Five things:
1. The Doctor's Opinion
2. The first 164 pages of the original
3. Dr. Bob's Nightmare
4. The Appendices
5. Forewords from the first 4 editions (which, together, are now a new Appendix VIII in the translation)

There will also be a new Preface, a new Foreword, and a Glossary.
The stories (other than *Chapter 1 – Bill's Story* and *Dr. Bob's Nightmare*) are not being translated.

10. Does that mean the Steps, Traditions, and Warranties are being changed?

No. As laid out in the Conference Charter, only a ¾ vote of all the groups in the world responding to a proposal has the authority to do that.
The Steps and Traditions will be printed in their current form. However, alongside those items, an explanation in plain language will be included.

11. What will be the title of the PLBB?

Subject to the draft being approved for publication and the views of the General Service Conference, the working title is: Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading *Alcoholics Anonymous.*

12. How much has this cost?

The hard costs are $100,000 for the writer and approximately $40,000 in publishing-related expenses. $140,000 to date.

13. What printing options will be available if this book gets published?

As with other A.A. Conference approved literature, hardcover softcover and large print are options that will be decided if the Conference approves publication.

14. How was the writer chosen and are they an A.A. member?

Alcoholic Committee Members chose the best writer for the task through a Request For Proposal (RFI) process. Proposals were received from A.A. members and non-A.A. members. The writer who was eventually chosen is not an A.A. member. Alcoholics have been reviewing the work of the writer at all stages and making changes to ensure that the intent (as expressed in the RFI) that it "**must capture the welcoming and inclusive spirit** of Alcoholics Anonymous and **inspire a sense of belonging and hope** in the alcoholic seeking help" is followed.

15. Was AI (ChatGPT or similar) used in the plain language big book development?

No AI or text generator was used in the plain language draft.

16. Were any Non-Alcoholics on the Tools to Access the Big Book (TABB) or Plain Language Big Book (PLBB) subcommittees?

No. All members were alcoholics.

17. How will the PLBB address gender and God?

The gender of named individuals will not be changed, but where the example given is of an archetype, e.g. the Jaywalker, we will switch up things so that there is a broader representation of both men and women. The original Big Book contains about 250 he/him/his to about 50 she/her/hers. The plain language big book will be more balanced.
Where God is mentioned, and will continue to be mentioned, this is sometimes paired with 'Higher Power."

18. When the 2023 General Service Conference got to review the work in progress, i.e., the draft of the first 6 chapters, what did the Conference think?

The response was overwhelmingly positive. Even those who initially expressed concerns liked the plain language BB after reviewing it.

19. If published, who will own the copyright?

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

20. What happens next?

The 74th General Service Conference will review the complete draft at the Conference. Possible outcomes include:
Approving the draft for publication as presented
Approving the draft with minor changes as may be suggested by the Conference Committee on Literature or the Conference floor
Sending the draft back for more work, indicating the issues to be addressed
Halting the project

This Day In AA History

May 11, (AGAA says May 10) Bill W, in poor spirits, and tempted to enter the Mayflower Hotel bar, realized he needed another alcoholic. He telephoned members of the clergy listed on the lobby directory. He reached the Rev Walter Tunks who referred him to Norman Sheppard who then referred him to Henrietta Sieberling (47 years old and an Oxford Group adherent). Bill introduced himself as “a member of the OG and a rum hound from NY.” Henrietta met with Bill at her gatehouse (Stan Hywet Hall) on the Sieberling estate. She arranged a dinner meeting the next day with Dr Bob and Anne. Note: some stories (AACOA 67) say that when Henrietta called Anne, Dr Bob was passed out under the kitchen table. He was upstairs in bed (re Dr. Bob’s Nightmare 179 4th ed).

NENY24
Save THE Date
NOV
1 - 3
2024
Northeast New York (NENY)
2024 CONVENTION
Theme: Connecting with Love, Unity, & Service
Registration & hotel booking to follow!
Please check www.convention.nenyaa.org for updates.
Albany Marriott | 189 Wolf Road | Albany, NY

ONE DAY AT A TIME AT THE STATE FAIR

WHO: Area 47's Public Information Committee in cooperation with Syracuse Intergroup and District 340 Public Information Committee has submitted the application for an exhibit at the New York State Fair this year.

WHAT: Alcoholics Anonymous Public Information Exhibit at the New York State Fair

WHEN: **August 21 – September 2, 2024 • 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

WHERE: Science & Industry Building

WHY: More than 900,000 visitors attended the New York State Fair in 2023. An A.A. P.I. exhibit located in the Science and Technology Building alongside health and wellness exhibitors has the potential to reach hundreds if not thousands of visitors each day. It's a big opportunity to share information about the availability of A.A. in communities across the state.

HOW: With support from all four Areas in New York State—financial and most importantly staffing. The exhibit must be staffed for 12 hours a day—all 13 days of the fair.

Because the fair lasts for 13 days. We need **13 dedicated volunteers** to coordinate their committee or home group's participation for **one full day**.

Each coordinator will be responsible to assemble a group of AA members who will staff the exhibit for two-, three-, or four-hour shifts. Coordinators will receive orientation on how to perform Public Information service in a health fair setting and on how to get into and around the fair.

If your home group or committee would like to participate in this statewide Public Information project, **Scan the QR code and sign up online** or email the following information to **statefair_pi@aacny.org**

- **Full Name**
- **Phone Number**
- **Email Address**
- **Current Service Position (if any)**
- **Home Group or Service Committee**
- **Your Group's Availability and/or Preferred Days to Staff the Booth**

Details will be provided as soon as we hear if our application is approved and as soon as we know if we'll have enough participants to staff the booth.

REV 2 | 031124

HOSTED BY: THE EASTERN CLUSTER AND DISTRICT 18

AREA 48 voting assembly

MAY 18

26 Church St. Nassau, NY
9 AM - 3 PM

ZOOM

ID: 851 2945 7332
PASSWORD: 907792

AGENDA

Meet & Greet	9 AM - 9:30
Area Officer Reports	9:30 - 10 AM
Area 2025 Budget Presentation	10 AM - 10:30
Plain Language Big Book Presentation	10:30 - 12 PM
Lunch	12 PM - 12:45
Area 48 Delegate's Report Back	12:45 - 2:15
Q & A	2:15 - 2:45
Convention 2024 Update	2:45 - 3 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: ALTNENYCHAIR@NENYAA.ORG

https://foundersday.org/ -For more info

International Convention 2025 Information

FROM: Patrick Claymore, 2025 International Convention Coordinator
Tel: (212) 870-2025; Email: 2025ic@aa.org

RE: Non-A.A. Speakers for 2025 International Convention

Historically, A.A. has invited non-A.A. friends to be panel speakers at our International Conventions. In keeping with this custom, the 2023 General Service Conference recommended that “up to twenty-one (21) non-A.A. speakers be invited to attend the 2025 International Convention at A.A.’s expense.”

These panel meetings maintain communication with the professional community, demonstrate Cooperation With the Professional Community work for A.A.s attending, and ensure accurate information about A.A. - the sharing from these panels is often included in our About A.A. newsletter. Customarily, these panels are comprised of two non-A.A. speakers and one A.A. speaker - someone who is experienced in Cooperation With the Professional Community service work in Alcoholics Anonymous or someone who has been a beneficiary of cooperation between A.A. and the professional community. Moderators are most often Class A or B Trustees or A.A.W.S. or Grapevine directors.

Non-A.A. Speaker Suggestion Online Form

Please complete the Non-A.A. Speaker Suggestion Online Form for each speaker you would like to recommend for the 2025 International Convention. You must complete one online form for each speaker suggestion, for which you have up to a maximum of five.

Please fill out the Non-A.A. Speaker Suggestion Form HERE. Please include all of the information requested on the form.

Please respond with your suggestions for non-A.A. speakers to me by Wednesday, May 15, 2024.
We are looking for speakers who would be very comfortable sharing their own professional experience in working with Alcoholics Anonymous. We hope that you might suggest professionals who could also be considered as possible future Class A Trustees. We ask that they not have spoken at any previous International Conventions. From your suggestions, selections will be made by the General Service Board based on recommendations from the trustees’ and Conference International Conventions/ Regional Forums Committees.

Non-A.A. panelists do not receive an honorarium. However, in keeping with our Seventh Tradition, their travel to the International Convention and their hotel and meal expenses are covered.
We would be delighted to speak with you if you have any questions and look forward to receiving your suggestions about this important part of planning for the 2025 International Convention.

From District 3 in Greene County:

Ulster Districts 7, 15, and 16

Unity Day

Speaker

Panel

Potluck

To let us know what food you plan to bring, please use this link.

Meet your Committees

Saturday, May 4, 10am - 1pm

Redeemer Lutheran Church
90 Route 32 South, New Paltz, NY

For more information, please contact district16functions@nenyaa.org

A Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA's future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

AREA 47 PRESENTS

NYSIW

NEW YORK STATE INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

REGISTER ONLINE

WWW.NYSIW.ORG

LIMITED

125

PEOPLE

2024 JUL 26–28

HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES

Gearan Center – Froelich Hall
299 Pulteney St, Geneva, NY 14456
$45–registration **$120**–with meals
$245–with meals and on-site lodging

Highlights:

- Speaker - past trustee and GSO manager
- A weekend full of rotating committee panels and presentations
- Opportunities to network and share with other AAs from Areas 47, 48, 49, 50
- Round table discussion, service oriented events, great food and more!

Please register online:

- Meals and lodging options are available at the college
- Please indicate any special needs you may have
- Direct questions/concerns to **nysiw_2024@aacny.org**
- See our website for more information, including unique places to visit while in Geneva!