Happy, Joyous & Free Area 48 Newsletter

Recovery

Unity

Service

And Love...

July, 2026

My dear friends in AA,
Summer is here, and I thought this would be a light issue of Happy Joyous and Free. Was I wrong! This issue is packed with information:Self Support, Much News from GSO, Area 48 proposals for voting assembly in October, many activities coming up in the near future, and much more.
Have a good summer, I think this is a really good beach read, so try it out!

Yours in service,
Isabelle A.
Newsletter Editor
newsletter@nenyaa.org

The AA Principles of the Month

July, 2026

Step 7: Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition Seven: Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new person who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when drunk in a barroom?
2. How do I (or my group) support our International Journals of Alcoholics Anonymous, Grapevine and La Viña?
3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be OK to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
4. Is it more important for a group to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
6. Does my group have a "prudent reserve"? If yes, do I know what that amount is?
7. If a family member, work colleague or close friend who is not an AA member wants to make a financial contribution to my group, should the group accept it? What if my group is short on funds?

Concept VII: **T**he Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.
• Do we act responsibly regarding the "power of the purse"?
• Do we realize that the practical and spiritual power of the Conference will nearly always be superior to the legal power of the GSB?

Delegate and Officer Reports

“ Delegates Connection

Self-Support: Why Do We Keep Talking About Money?
“Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world. But this leaves us with one responsibility... Our groups, our areas, and A.A. as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.”
— Bill W., The Language of the Heart, November 1957
I know what some members are thinking.
“Why is A.A. always talking about money?”
It’s a fair question.
The truth is, we don’t spend much time talking about money in A.A. Most meetings never discuss it beyond passing the basket. When the topic does come up, it can feel uncomfortable—or even sound as though someone is asking for more.
That isn’t my purpose here.
As Delegate, part of my responsibility is to help members understand how our service structure works. That includes explaining how it is funded and why financial reports occasionally become part of the conversation.
Many members never use most of the services provided by the General Service Office or A.A. World Services. If you don’t read Box 4-5-9, visit aa.org, serve in corrections, call GSO, purchase literature, or interact with professionals referred to A.A., it is reasonable to wonder, “What exactly does GSO do?”
That’s an information gap—not a character flaw.
The services provided by GSO are largely invisible until we need them. They include publishing and translating literature, supporting corrections and treatment work, maintaining aa.org, responding to thousands of requests for information each year, helping new and struggling groups, serving members in remote communities, and coordinating the work that allows A.A. to function throughout the United States and Canada.
These services are not funded by outside donations. They are supported by A.A. members and A.A. groups.
Recently, those financial reports have shown that the General Service Board’s Reserve Fund remains below its long-term target. That isn’t a crisis, but it is information worth sharing because it helps explain why self-support continues to be discussed.
The same is true here in Area 48.
We currently list 688 active groups. According to GSO contribution records, 197 groups contributed during the reporting period—about 29%.
Those numbers do not tell us why the remaining groups did not contribute. Some may no longer be active. Some may contribute irregularly. Some may have decided not to contribute. Others may simply have never had a group discussion about it.
We don’t know.
What we do know is that every group deserves accurate information before it reaches a group conscience.
To me, that is the real issue.

Delegate's Connection, cont.

This is not about encouraging every group to give more money. It is about making sure every group understands what services exist, how they are funded, and then allowing each group to decide what participation looks like.
One thought continues to stay with me:
Perhaps the question isn't whether groups are willing to contribute. Perhaps the question is whether they have been given enough information to make an informed decision.
That conversation belongs in our groups—not because someone is asking for money, but because informed group conscience has always been the foundation of A.A.'s service structure.
Dolores K.
Area 48 Panel 76
Delegate

Area 48 Members: Your Voice Matters

Do you have an idea that could strengthen A.A. or help us better carry the message? If so, consider submitting a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) for the 77th General Service Conference. A PAI is simply a suggestion, question, concern, or proposal for the General Service Conference to consider. Many important improvements in A.A. began with one member who cared enough to speak up.

Any member of Alcoholics Anonymous can submit a PAI. You do not need to be a GSR, DCM, Delegate, or Area Officer. If you are an A.A. member, you have a voice in our Fellowship's future.

If you have an idea but aren't sure how to write it, help is available. Reach out to your GSR, DCM, Area Committee Member, Area Officer, or Delegate. We'd be happy to help. The submission deadline for the 77th General Service Conference is September 30,2026 https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019b70257ee777059e71b1b147c106ecb Interested in more information? Attend the Delegate's Connection on July 2nd, 2026 @ 7 PM.

Delegate's Connection, cont.

Financial Challenges

Based on the reports from the General Service Board, AAWS, and Conference committees, the primary financial challenges facing GSO and AAWS right now are:

1.Contributions Are Not Keeping Pace with Expenses

- Contributions remain below what is needed to fully support services.
- Inflation has increased the cost of nearly everything: salaries, benefits, printing, shipping, technology, and building operations.
- More groups are contributing, but participation is still relatively low compared to the total number of groups.

2. Reserve Fund Below the Desired Level

- The target Reserve Fund is 9–12 months of operating expenses.
- Recent reports placed the Reserve Fund at roughly 4.8- 5.5 months, well below the target.
- AAWS and the GSB have authorized draws from the Reserve Fund to support operations while longer-term solutions are developed.

3. Literature Sales Can No Longer Be Counted On as Before

- Historically, literature sales helped offset operating expenses.
- More members are using digital resources, online content, and shared literature.
- Printing and distribution costs continue to rise.
- This means literature revenue is becoming less predictable.

4. Rising Technology Costs

- Members expect modern digital services:
    - aa.org
    - Meeting Guide'
    - Apps and online resources
    - Security and infrastructure upgrade
    - These services require ongoing investment and specialized staff.

Delegates Connection, cont.

5. Maintaining Services While Managing Costs

- GSO is working to maintain support for:
    - Corrections
    - Treatment
    - Public Information
    - CPC
    - International service
    - Translation and accessibility projects

The challenge is balancing service needs with available income.

6. One-Time Capital Projects

- The GSO building retrofit and modernization projects have required significant investment.
- While generally funded separately from day-to-day operations, these projects still affect overall financial planning.

A Summary:

The challenge is not that A.A. is broke. The challenge is that expenses are rising faster than contributions, and the Reserve Fund is below its target level. The goal is to make sure A.A. can continue providing services today while remaining financially strong for the alcoholic who will need A.A. tomorrow..

Chair/Alt Delegate Report

Our Corrections Chair has stepped down. **This is a critical position.** If you would like to fill this role, please email me at nenychair@nenyaa.org. The expectations for someone in this position are on page 22 of our Area's Service Manual.

I enjoyed the Joy of Service Day that the Central Cluster hosted in June. Thank you! Our next event together is the New York State Informational Workshop (NYSIW). It's July 10-12 and Area 49, Southeast New York (SENY) is hosting us. This should be an awesome weekend! We'll be at Stony Point Center, 17 Cricketown Rd, Stony Point, NY 10980. The program and the flyer are in this newsletter.

Concepts Study

We began our Concepts study last month and had a great discussion about Concept 1! It exceeded my expectations and I really enjoyed it. We'll learn about Concept 2 on July 3. There's a flyer in this newsletter for the login details. If you want more information, please feel free to send me an email.

GSO Tour

Our bus is filling upt! The last day to register is July 10th. This is going to be a fun trip! We'll get a tour of the Office (and hopefully the Grapevine and the Archives), go to the 1728 AA meeting, eat lunch and head back. There's a flyer in the newsletter and on our website so you can share this with your home group members. I'm really excited for this!

NENY Convention

Our Convention this year will be in Saranac Lake at the Hotel Saranac. Rooms are available at a discounted rate and the Convention Registration is open! The convention will be from November 6-8.

GSO Communication
A message to the Fellowship about the Everything AA App was sent out last week. Also, here are links to the latest communication from the Self Support desk, latest activity update from the Self-Support desk, the latest AA World Services (AAWS) Highlights and the Quarterly Report from our General Service Office.

GSR Forum

Just a reminder that all AA members (GSR and not a GSR) are invited to the monthly GSR Forum on the first Sunday of each month. The Flyer is in the Newsletter and on our website.

Yours in Service,
Sue W.
Area Chair/Alternate Delegate
nenychair@nenyaa.org

Alternate Chair Report

Hello Everyone,
This newsletter includes two proposals for the October 17,202 Proposal Voting Assembly. They are included beginning on Page 18 Two very important Issues are being considered including Fellowship and Joy of Sservice days, island the Area Scholarship. Please take a look at them, and if you are able to vote please do so!
Thanks so much,
Vo

altchair@nenyaa.org

Secretary Report

If you have not signed up to receive the Area Minutes and would like to, please email me to get you on the mailing list.

Yours in Service,
Lindsey B
Area 48 Secretary]
secretary@nenyaa.org
www.nenyaa.org

Treasurer Report

The Income & Expense Statement for May follows this; it was presented and approved at the Joy of Service Day on June 13th. The monthly treasurer meetings will continue through the summer. In our last meeting we were able to have a broad discussion of the responsibilities and opportunities for group and district treasurers. As we go on, we will continue that discussion, and we will move ahead with planning for a pair of Seventh Tradition workshops at the end of the year. In the monthly meetings, or individually any time, we can also discuss any questions you have about the Area Budget proposal (or about building a district budget proposal). Finally, I intend to be present at the Area meetings hosted by the Delegate, Chair, and Alternate Chair, to answer any budget or treasury questions that come up. You can always reach me at treasurer@nenyaa.org.

I hope you all have a tremendous Fourth of July!

JR B.

Treasurer@nenyaa.org

NENY Area Association Area 48
Income & Expense Report
May 2026

Starting Balance	$24,920
Income	
Groups	$2,609
Districts & Individuals	$375
Total Income	$2,984
Expenses	
Committees	
Registrar	$338
Bridging The Gap Chair	$365
CPC Chair	$365
Literature Chair	$457
Treatment Facility Chair	$79
Hybrid Chair	$408
Area Events - Hosting	
Voting Assembly	$612
Administrative Expenses	
Mail Box Service	$32
Computer & Software - MS365	$11
Computer & Software - Quickbooks	$80
Airtable Software	$126
JotForm Software	$26
Digital Ocean	$6
PayPal Contribution Fees	$16
Total Expenses	$3,157
Net Income	-$173
Net Balance	$24,747
Prudent Reserve	$7,000
Available Balance	**$17,747**

Accessabilities

HI Everyone! My name is Amy M and I am the Area 48 Accessibilities Chair. I am grateful to be serving with such wonderful fellows in accessibility service! I am looking forward to being on the Accessibility Panel at the NYSIW July 10-12! My email contact is accessibility@nenyaa.org

Please join us for our July committee meeting to discuss specific ways in which your meeting can become more accessible and give some insight for the NYSIW Accessibility Panel!

Accessibility challenges apply to all alcoholics who have difficulty participating in Alcoholics Anonymous, whether those are mental, physical, geographic, cultural, or other factors that vary among people. Some of these alcoholics may experience barriers to accessing the A.A. message, including the literature, meetings, sponsorship, Twelfth Step work, and the service structure. Whatever the access barrier may be, the goal of our members and especially those who serve on Accessibilities Committees, is to find solutions to help ensure every alcoholic can participate in A.A. meetings, Twelfth Step work, and A.A. service

Join us every month

Accessibilities Committee Monthly Service Meeting Time: 6:00pm Eastern Time (US and Canada) Every month on the Second Thursday

Meeting ID: 822 5687 7420

Password: 353180

Public Information/Cooperation with the Professional Community

My friend Michelle (Area CPC Chair) and I hosted our June CPC/PI monthly meeting on Thursday June 26th. Thank you to the districts that attended - 1, 11, 14, 16 and 17.

OLD BUSINESS

- ➢ We reviewed the Read To Recovery Program presentation from May by Emily Martin, Adult Service Librarian at Saratoga Spring Public Library.
- ➢ We will be having GSO CPC and GSO PI representatives at a future meeting, date to be determined.
- ➢ PI cards for 2026 have been received and are available - please contact me if you need any. I was able to distribute them to some districts on Joy of Service Day. ➢ Discussed the need for district emails to be set up and used.
- ➢ CPC/PI table will be at all future Area events - please stop by and see what tools are available to help carry the message.

DISTRICT REPORTS

Many things already happening or in the works:

- ➢ Literature to Libraries
- ➢ Beginners Bags for newcomers
- ➢ Tables at Public Events

Plans for future:

- ➢ Ways to reach the older alcoholic
- ➢ PSA use through newspapers, radio and television
- ➢ Virtual Reality (VR) AA meetings

Public Information cont

NEW BUSINESS

- ➢ Discussed NYSIW, GSO Tour and NENY convention.
- ➢ Discussed QR Codes and who has access to this information.
- ➢ Discussed meeting in person as well as online
- ➢ Discussed adding the meeting link to email to make access easier and less chance of human error when typing. I have sent information adding or omitting numbers on multiple occasions. Oops!

Please join us (CPC/PI) every 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30PM. July 23rd will be our next meeting. 868 7177 3923 PW 080625. Everyone is welcome!

Reach out anytime,

Susan S.
Area 48 Public Information Chair
pi@nenyaa.org
518-742-0337

Literature

Hi Everyone,

I hope you're all enjoying this season.
Last month we enjoyed an informative and fun, 'Joy of Service Day' together. The event was well attended and we heard many members sharing their journeys into and through their service work.
I placed a literature order this month and was able to assist two Districts with their orders.
I am excited to be getting ready for the 'New York State Informational Workshop' (NYSIW) coming right up on July 10th through the 12th.
I am looking forward to hearing how Literature continues to pass our message throughout the State. To hear how they approach their commitment, in sharing the literature in their Areas. To hear what has worked and what has not in all of our committees is something that I always look forward to.

Our District 20, has a combined Grapevine/LaViña & Literature committee. They have started a pamphlet study. They started reading the pamphlet, 'The A.A. Group - Where it all Begins'. Eleven members attended, they took turns reading and sharing, then, there was a robust discussion.

Literature, cont.

The members there were interested in continuing to meet and study together. I hope they do more of these workshops, I will let you know.
I'm not wishing the Summer away, but I look forward to meeting with you all at our next Area event on September 19th, in East Greenbush, for a fun 'Fellowship Day'.

We just had our combined Grapevine/LaViña/Literature committee meeting, it is always nice to connect with the Fellowship. You all are welcome to attend our meeting, to share what is happening in your Districts. Come curious, bring your questions …
Join Us On Our Combined Meeting on the Zoom Platform

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84064855953?pwd=LzI2ZUxFaU9qQndTZmpQaU83Q2R QUT09

Meeting ID: 840 6485 5953
Passcode: 394275

In Service,

Sally K.
Area 48 Literature Chair
literature@nenyaa.org

Happening this way

Corrections

The Corrections Position is currently open. If you are interested, in this very important please contact Sue, NENY Chair at chair@nenyaa.org.

Treatment

Hello everyone from the Treatment Chair.

"Happy 4th of July"

Be safe and enjoy everybody. AS we celebrate our Nation's Independence, let's also celebrate our own Independence from the bonds of Alcoholism that held us hostage for so long and remember those that are still held captive by this disease. Our ability to do service to help them to enjoy the Freedom we do starts with each of us.

I wish to invite all District Treatment Chairs to our next Treatment/ Bridging the Gap (BTG) online meeting **June 10th at 6:30. The Id is :861 6963 8196 and the passcode is: 741803.**

This meeting is every month on the second Wednesday of the month same time same place. The meeting is informal and we try to keep is as a short check-in to see what is happening in your Districts and answer any questions and concerns you may have.

Anyone is welcome to attend and see what Treatment and BTG are doing. Please Try to have someone from your District attend the meeting so that we can discuss ways to improve our outreach services of AA to different facilities. DCM's you are encouraged to attend if you don't yet have a Treatment or BTG Chair for your District. Hope to see youthere!

Howard W,

Yours in Service,

NENY Area 48 Treatment Chair
treatment@nenyaa.org

Grapevine/La Vina

Hello everyone hope y'all are having a great summer. Make sure to check out flyers is bottom. I can't wait to see everybody at NYSIW. Also be sure to check you the grapevine story hour next month. Monthly meeting, third Thursday, 6:30 pm.

ID: 840 6485 5953
Passcode: 394275
Scott S
La Vina / Grapevine Chair
Grapevine@nenyaa.org

Inclusivity

Monthly Meeting, Third Tuesday, 6:30 pm
ID: 898 3966 8615
Passcode: 947900

Yours in Service
Diane R
A48 Inclusivity Chair
inclusivity@nenyaa.org

Bridging the Gap

We need our BTG Committee Chairs to please show up the 2nd Wed of the month 6:30pm Meeting ID 86169638196 pw 741803. We are trying to reach all our treatment centers and Correctional Facilities with Bridging the Gap services. Thank you
Yours in service,
Chrissy O
btg@nenyaa.org
Bridging The Gap Chair
Area 48 • Northeast New York

Looking to expand your Service Commitment?

Consider becoming involved in **Area 48 District Service** and discover new ways to give back. An AA District is a local service unit within the structure of Alcoholics Anonymous. Its purpose is to connect individual AA groups to the larger AA service structure at the area, regional, and national levels.
District service can be incredibly rewarding. Not only can it strengthen your own sobriety, but it also helps reach more people in your community who are suffering from alcoholism. We encourage you to attend a local District meeting to learn more and see if District service is right for you.

Find a list of District meetings here.
District Meeting Locations | NENY | Area 48

"Free" Doesn't Mean Free to Produce

Everything shown here is free for A.A. members to enjoy—but it isn't free to create, publish, or maintain.

Unlike many A.A. services, Grapevine and La Viña receive no 7th Tradition contributions from A.A. groups. Their work is funded almost entirely through subscriptions, book sales, and member purchases.

Every podcast, audio story, video, article, magazine, and digital resource is made possible because members choose to subscribe. If Grapevine or La Viña has ever informed, inspired, or strengthened your recovery, consider supporting these services with a subscription. Your subscription helps ensure that stories of hope and recovery remain available—for today's members and for those still seeking the A.A. message.

APPROVED – 2026 AREA 48 NENY EVENTS CALENDER
Revised 1/17/2026

DATE	EVENT	HOST
Dec. 2025 - January 2026	Convention Committee begins work on November 2026 Convention	Adirondack Cluster
January 10, 2026	Orientation Day *(Agenda set by Area Chair)*	Eastern Cluster – D2 Lead
February 20-22, 2026	Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA)	Portland, ME – Area 28
March 13-15, 2026	Northeast Regional Delegates' Reunion (NERD)	Delegates and Past Delegates Only
March 28, 2026	Delegate's Day of Sharing *(Agenda set by Delegate and Area Chair)*	HV Cluster – D3 Lead
April 26-May 2, 2026	General Service Conference	Delegates Only – NYC
May 16 or 17, 2026	Spring Voting Proposal Assembly *This one or one in Oct. needs to be on a Sunday. (Agenda set by Area Chair)*	ADK Cluster – D5 Lead
June 13 or 14, 2026	Joy of Service Day *(Agenda set by Cluster)*	Central Cluster – D4 Lead
July 10-12, 2026	NYS Informational Workshop	Stony Point, NY - Area 49
September 19 or 20, 2026	Fellowship Day *(Agenda set by Cluster)*	Eastern Cluster – D18 Lead
October 17 or 18, 2026	Fall Voting Proposal Assembly *This one or one in May needs to be on a Sunday. (Agenda set by Area Chair)*	Western Cluster – D12 Lead
November 6-8, 2026	Area 48 Convention	ADK Cluster
November 21 or 22, 2026	Area 48 Inventory Day *(Agenda set by Area Chair)*	HV Cluster – D7 Lead
December 2026		

Clusters

Adirondack (ADK)..... D5, D10, D13, D19
Central..... D4, D8, D14

Eastern..... D1, D2, D18

Western..... D9, D12, 20
For more info: altnenychair@nenyaa.org

Meet Your Trusted Servants, NENY Area 48, Panel 76

Area Officers

Delegate- Dolores K. panel76delegate@nenyaa.org
Area Chair /Alt Delegate- Sue W. nenychair@nenyaa.org
Alt Area Chair/ Functions Chair- Vo N. altnenychair@nenyaa.org
Secretary- Lindsey B. secretary@nenyaa.org
Treasurer- J.R. treasurer@nenyaa.org
Alt Treasurer/ Finance Committee Chair- David P. alttreasurer@nenyaa.org
Alt Registrar- Marcy M. altrecords@nenyaa.org
Alt Secretary/ Registrar- Kevin HB records@nenyaa.org

The Area Committee

Hybrid Chair-Thea HB. hybrid@nenyaa.org
Technology/ Webmaster-Zak P. webmaster@nenyaa.org
Newsletter- Isabelle A. newsletter@nenyaa.org
Accessibility- Amy M. accessibility@nenyaa.org
Inclusivity- Diane R. inclusivity@nenyaa.org
Bridging The Gap BTG- Chrissy O. btg@nenyaa.org
Corrections- Phil. B corrections@nenyaa.org
Treatment -Howard W. treatment@nenyaa.org
Cooperation with the Professional Community CPC- Michelle M. cpc@nenyaa.org
Public Information PI- Susan C pi@nenyaa.org
Archives- TBD. archives@nenyaa.org
Grapevine/LaVina-Scott grapevine@nenyaa.org
Literature- Sally K. literature@nenyaa.org
Finance Committee Past DCM- Kimi finance@nenyaa.org
Finance Committee Past Delegate- Don S finance@nenyaa.org

https://nenyaa.org/area-48-committee-monthly-meetings.

Area 48 Recurring Events

• GSR (Gen Service Rep) Forum | 1st Sundays @ 7pm (see Announcements)
Open to any member of AA! You do not have to be a GSR or a member of Area 48 to attend.
• District Committee Members Meeting | 3rd Sunday @ 5:00pm
* Grapevine Story Hour | 2nd Tuesdays @ 7pm (see Announcements)
• Your Delegate Connection | First Thursday@ 7:30pm (See Announcements)
• Treasury Committee | 3rd Monday @ 6:30pm

Area 48 Committee Meetings

• Accessibilities | 2nd Thursday @ 6:00 pm | ID: 822 5687 7420, Passcode: 353180
• Bridging the Gap (BTG)/Treatment | 2nd Wednesdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 861 6963 8196, Passcode: 741803
• Corrections | 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 | 867 1213 3948, Passcode: A48Correct
• Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) & PI (Public Information) | 4th Thursdays @ 6:30pm | 868 7177 3923, Passcode: 080625
• DCMs & Alt DCMs + Functions 3rd Sundays @ 5pm | ID: 952 7302 1180, Passcode: DCMfun
• Grapevine & Literature | 3rd Thursdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 840 6485 5953, Passcode:394275
• Inclusivity | 3rd Tuesdays @ 6:30pm | ID: 898 3966 8615 Passcode: 974900
• Technology | 4th Wednesdays @ 7pm | 829 5229 5872, Passcode: Techteam48
• Treasury I 3rd Mondays @ 6:30pm I Meeting ID: 814 0888 4467 Passcode: 472485

News From GSO

On Sale Now!
***Plain Language Big Book* – Audiobook Edition**
A tool for understanding the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*
New from A.A. World Services, Inc., the *Plain Language Big Book* audiobook is intended to help listeners better understand the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* — fondly called “the Big Book” by generations of A.A. members and considered the basic text of the A.A. program of recovery. This new format describes A.A.’s Twelve Step program in simpler language than the original Big Book, which was first published in 1939.
Upon publication, the audiobook will be available at **https://onlineliterature.aa.org/audiobooks** for purchase

AA World Services Highlights

Interested in what is happening in your Fellowship? So much more than most of us are aware happens.

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/newsletters/AAWS_Highlights_Jan_March_2026.pdf

Sign up for Box 4-5-9 at AA.org

. Expand your AA world… You may be amazed. I attended the 1st Regional Forum for the Deaf that is included in this edition of Box 4-5-9. There were so many Deaf members in attendance and they were very clear about the needs of their community. It seemed that the General Manager of GSO, Bob, W. as well as the GSB Chair, Scott H. sure had their awareness and consciousness raised and seemed grateful for that.
AA has developed many service pieces for the Deaf Community. Check them out on YouTube. There is a Big Book translated into American Sign Language. This forum has opened the door to more awareness of a very large part of the Fellowship.
“Box 4-5-9”
https://drive.google.com/file/d/12LEMsXB_Rbgi8GO3rxyRY1uKT3LqOjD7/view?usp=drivesdk

Self Support

July, as you know, is the 7th month of the year and many groups touch on the 7th tradition at meetings. Here are a few good pieces of info you may want to share at your groups. Again- all financial information is shared as FYIs.

As I remain in service, I learn more and more about what services we have from AAWS and Grapevine and LaVina, that are “FREE” for us…..but are very costly to produce and disseminate Consider that the next time the basket comes around.

June_AAWS_Monthly_Comm_Self_Support.pdf

Self support 6.11.26-1.pdf

Why-is-Self-Support-important.pdf

“Self-support: When Money and SpiritualityMix”
https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/f-3_selfsupport.pdf
“Services Provided by GSO/ AAWS”
https://aaws.widen.net/content/uyslxv1rre/pdf/smf-176_services_provided_by_gso.pdf

Everything AA

I hope the news that AA has acquired the “Everything AA” app has been shared with you by your GSR and/or your DCM. These letters will probably answer a lot of the questions you have. If you have more, I am always available panel76delegate@nenyaa.org

Everything AA App can be downloaded from your phone’s App store.

International Convention

***Call Out for Theme Suggestions* for the 2030 International Convention in St. Louis, Missouri July 4-7, 2030 - Deadline 10/9/26**

Believe it or not, it’s time to start thinking about a theme for the 2030 International Convention celebration of A.A.’s 95th Anniversary in St. Louis, Missouri July 4-7, 2030. We invite you to send in suggestions which will be reviewed and selected by the trustees’ International Conventions/Regional Forums Committee. To provide inspiration, the themes of past A.A. International Conventions have been: 1965 “I Am Responsible”; 1970 “Unity”; 1975 “Let It Begin With Me”; 1980 “The Joy of Living”; 1985 “Fifty Years With Gratitude”; 1990 “Fifty-Five Years — One Day At a Time”; 1995 “A.A. Everywhere — Anywhere”; 2000 “Pass It On – Into the 21st Century”; 2005 “I Am Responsible”; 2010 “A Vision for You”; 2015 “80 Years — Happy, Joyous and Free”;
2020 “Love and Tolerance is Our Code”; and “Language of the Heart”

in 2025. Please send your ideas to 2030ictheme@aa.org by

October 9, 2026.

Proposal 2: Discontinue the Area 48 Annual Service Scholarship Program

The Proposal

That Area 48 discontinue the annual Service Scholarship Program, which currently provides one $500 scholarship per cluster (total annual budget: $2,500) for members to attend NERAASA, NERF, the NENY Convention, or similar weekend service events.

What Problem Does This Proposal Address?

The scholarship program was created to encourage greater participation in General Service by helping members attend service events. This was certainly a worthwhile goal, rooted in Tradition One, which reminds us that our common welfare comes first and that A.A. unity depends on active, informed trusted servants. While well intentioned, the program is not meeting that goal.

Participation has steadily declined, with many districts submitting no applicants. The selection process is cumbersome and inequitable: each cluster receives one scholarship regardless of the number of districts or applicants, which is inconsistent with the spirit of Tradition Two, where our group conscience, which is expressed proportionally through our structure, guides decisions. There are no established criteria for selecting recipients or evaluating the program's success.

Recipients are not expected to share what they learned or continue in service, making it difficult to determine whether the program is developing future trusted servants as envisioned in Tradition Nine; that is, that A.A. service structures exist for service, not for their own perpetuation. In many cases, scholarship recipients do not remain active in Area service, suggesting the investment is not fulfilling its intended purpose.

Background

Area 48 budgets $2,500 annually for this program. Tradition Seven calls on every A.A. group and service entity to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. This Tradition also carries a deeper principle: that we are responsible stewards of the funds our Fellowship entrusts to us. While the cost is modest, all Seventh Tradition funds should be periodically evaluated to ensure they are being used effectively to support our primary purpose.

This proposal is not a criticism of those who created or benefited from the scholarship program. Rather, consistent with Tradition Five, that each group, (and by extension each service body), has but one primary purpose, it is made in recognition that this program is not continuing to serve that purpose effectively. Good intentions alone are not sufficient justification for continuing any expenditure of A.A. funds.

Intended Outcome
If approved, the scholarship program would be discontinued and the budget eliminated.

Districts and clusters would remain free to support members' participation in service events through local initiatives, in keeping with the autonomy affirmed in Tradition Four.
The Area could also consider redirecting these funds toward service education, mentoring, or other efforts that encourage long-term participation in General Service rather than a one-time event. These are all approaches more likely to develop the informed, committed trusted servants that Tradition Nine envisions as the backbone of our service structure.
This proposal reflects good stewardship and the ongoing responsibility, rooted in Tradition Seven, to evaluate periodically whether Area resources are producing the greatest benefit in carrying A.A.'s message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

in Alcoholics Anonymous

Why is Self Support Important?

UNITY SERVICE AA RECOVERY

Have you ever...

- Read the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*
- Thought about the millions of people throughout the world that can also read it in 73 languages
- Given a copy of the Big Book to a newcomer?
- Read the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions
- Listened to audio interviews of Military Members and Veterans
- Felt grateful and connected to the whole of AA while contributing to and passing the basket
- Listened to an AA podcast
- Read or shared an AA pamphlet
- Been in Jail and benefited from a meeting. The Corrections Service links inside and outside participants
- Been in a treatment center and learned about AA? The Treatment Assignment communicates with about 585 Bridging the Gap members.
- Heard about Loners International? Benefited by it
- Had a doctor, psychiatrist, dentist or therapist know about AA and suggest that it might help you? The Cooperation with the Professional Community Assignment creates resources and participates in professional conferances in the US and Canada
- Needed a meeting in another country? Our worldwide trustee has carried the message to those in need in Bulgaria, Bolivia, and Kenya in the last 12 months.

When your Group contributes to "GSO," purchases AA Conference Approved Literature or subscribes to the *AA Grapevine/ LaVina* you are helping to continue this work of providing the message of recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous to people throughout the world.

Make a contribution today

GSO 2025 Stats

- **23,120** e-mails responded
- **22,139** literature orders
- **25,473** front desk calls
- **2,405** Translation requests
- **15 million** website views (aa.org)
- **2 million** Meeting Guide users

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS CARRY THE MESSAGE.
Thank you for supporting our Fellowship!

Self support through our own contributions has always been the spiritual foundation of Alcoholics Anonymous.
WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!

Did You Know? Area 48 Groups & Self-Support

1. Did you know that not every active A.A. group contributes financially through the service structure?
Yes. A group can be active, hold regular meetings, and carry the message without making financial contributions. Contributing is a group conscience decision.

2. Did you know that Area 48 currently has about 688 active groups? That's right. These are groups that are listed as currently meeting and functioning in the Area's records.

3. Did you know that only about 197 of those groups are contributing financially? That means about **29% of active groups** are currently contributing through the service structure.

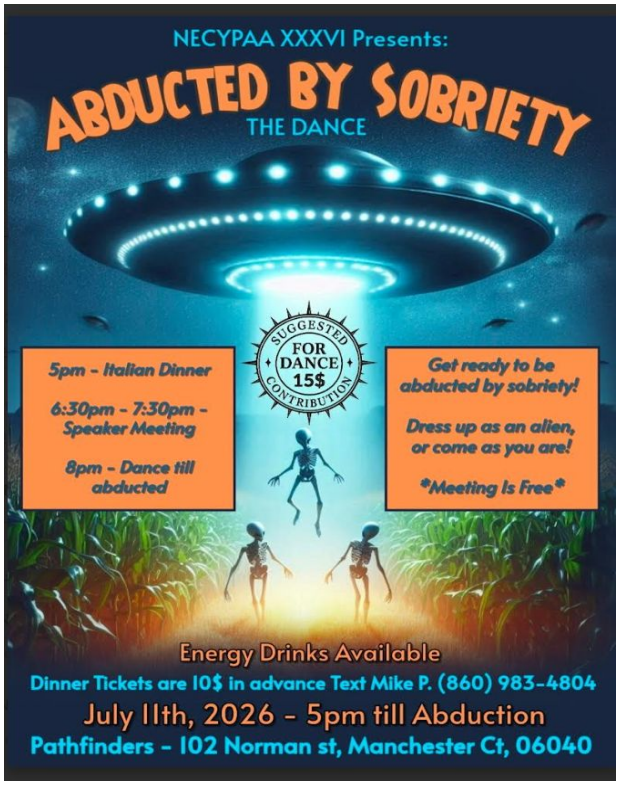
4. Did you know that approximately 491 active groups are not contributing? That's about **71% of active groups**. This isn't a criticism—just a snapshot of where we are today.

5. Did you know that some groups listed as "active" may no longer be meeting? It happens. Sometimes groups close, merge, or fade away without their records being updated. Districts and Area Registrars work together to keep the records as accurate as possible.

6. Did you know that contributions help carry A.A.'s message far beyond our home groups?
Group contributions help support services such as literature, corrections correspondence, public information, websites, translation, archives, treatment outreach, and services to remote communities. Most members never see these services directly—but many alcoholics find A.A. because they exist.

Bottom Line:
Area 48 has hundreds of active groups carrying the message every day. Financial contributions are just one way groups participate in that effort. The goal isn't guilt—it's awareness, gratitude, and informed group conscience.

Come BBQ with us!
It's gonna be a Luau!!
Hosted by District 11
Games and Crafts
Splash Pad
Playground
3rd Legacy Tables
50/50 Raffle
Sober Countdown
Saturday August 22nd, 2026
12:00pm to 4:00pm
Speaker Meeting at 3:00pm
Fellowship, Food and Fun
Pavilion 5
Bowdoin Park
85 Sheafe Rd
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
Please contact district11events@nenyaa.org if you would like to volunteer to do service or if you have any questions.


NECYPAA XXXVI Presents:
ABDUCTED BY SOBRIETY
THE DANCE
SUGGESTED FOR DANCE 15$ CONTRIBUTION
5pm - Italian Dinner
6:30pm - 7:30pm - Speaker Meeting
8pm - Dance till abducted
Get ready to be abducted by sobriety!
Dress up as an alien, or come as you are!
Meeting is Free
Energy Drinks Available
Dinner Tickets are 10$ in advance Text Mike P. (860) 983-4804
July 11th, 2026 - 5pm till Abduction
Pathfinders - 102 Norman st, Manchester Ct, 06040

NECYPAA XXXVI
ESCAPING THE MAD REALM
VÍSPERA DE AÑO NUEVO
31/12/2026 – 03/01/2027
CONVENCIÓN DE 4 DÍAS
Ubicación:
EN EL HARTFORD MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN
RESERVA TU HABITACIÓN AHORA Y PAGA DESPUÉS
PRE-REGÍSTRATE POR $40
www.NECYPAACT.com
PARTICIPACIÓN DE AL-ANON

NECYPAA XXXVI
ESCAPING THE MAD REALM
NEW YEAR'S EVE!!!
12/31/2026 - 01/03/2027
4-DAY CONVENTION
Location:
The Hartford Marriott Downtown
Book your rooms now & pay later
Pre-Register for $40
www.NECYPAACT.com
Al-Anon Participation

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE

12th Annual

National AA Technology Workshop

Hybrid Format

September 11-13, 2026

San Francisco Bay Area

Concord, California

CO-HOSTED BY
AREA 06 TECH COMMITTEE
AND SF/MARIN INTERGROUP

FOR MORE INFO VISIT NAATW.ORG

New York State Informational Workshop

July 10 — 12, 2026

hosted by Area 49
Southeastern New York (SENY)

STONY POINT
an open space...

Stony Point Center
17 Cricketown Rd
Stony Point, NY 10980

Pricing	
Single Occupancy (Private room + all meals)	$495
Double Occupancy (Shared room with another attendee + all meals)	$365
Commuter Rates	
Full Weekend (all meals)	$250
Friday commuter (with dinner)	$80
Saturday commuter (with 3 meals)	$100
Sunday commuter (with 2 meals)	$80
Zoom Participants	$25

Please note: there is no price reduction for participants who choose to provide their own meals.
With the exception of virtual registration, all registration options include meals.

June 12, 2026
Registration Deadline

Schedule Includes:

Service Committee Panels • AA Meetings • Area Chairs' Panel • Delegates' Panel • Intergroup Participation • Meditation Meetings • Grapevine/La Viña • Fellowship • Sobriety Skit • Nature Walk • Scavenger Hunt • Labyrinth Walk • Sing-A-Long • Bonfire • and much more

For more information, visit **NYSIW.org** or email **nysiw2026@aaseny.org**

Register at NYISW.org

2026 New York State Informational Workshop (NYSIW)
Stony Point Retreat Center - Stony Point, NY
July 10-12, 2026

Friday, July 10, 2026		Saturday, July 11, 2026		Sunday, July 12, 2026	
3:30 - 4:30p	**Afternoon AA Meeting** *(Maple Room B) CHAIR: Area 48*	7:00 - 8:00a	**Early Bird AA Meeting** *(Maple Room B) CHAIR: Area 47*	7:00 - 8:00a	**Early Bird AA Meeting** *(Magnolia Lounge) CHAIR: Area 49*
3:30 - 4:30p	**Trail Walk-Brian B/50** (Meet outside Meditation Center at 3:30)	7:00 - 8:00a	**Meditation Meeting** *(Meditation Center) CHAIR: Hank G, Area 49*	7:00 - 8:00a	**Meditation Meeting** *(Meditation Center) CHAIR: Area 50-Amy*
5:00 - 5:10p	**Welcome** (Hybrid) NYSIW Chair Annabel B & Area 49 Chair Raj	8:00 - 9:00a	**Breakfast** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*	8:00 - 9:00a	**Breakfast** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*
5:10 - 6:00p	**Grapevine/La Viña** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	9:00 - 9:45a	**Accessibilities/Inclusivity** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	9:00 - 9:55a	**Archives** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*
6:00 - 7:00p	**Dinner** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*	9:45 - 10:30a	**Technology** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	10:00 - 10:50a	**Delegate's Panel** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*
7:15 - 8:15p	**Area Chairs Panel** (Hybrid) Orientation for People New to Service and Q&A *(Evergreen A/B)*	10:30 - 11:15a	**Corrections** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	10:50 - 11:00a	**Scavenger Hunt Results** *(Evergreen A/B)*
8:15 – 9:15p	**Literature** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	11:15 - 12:00p	**Treatment** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*	11:00- 11:15a	**Closing Remarks** Annabel B, NYSIW Chair *(Evergreen A/B)*
9:30p	**Bonfire** Led by JR *(Magnolia Firepit)*	12:00 - 1:00p	**Lunch** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*	12:00 - 1:00p	**Lunch** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*
		1:00 - 1:50p	**Cooperation with Professional Community** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*		
		2:00 - 2:50p	**Public Information** (Hybrid) *(Evergreen A/B)*		
		2:50 – 3:50p	**Intergroup Panel (Hybrid) (Evergreen A/B)**		
		4:00 – 4:30p	**SOBER SKIT** *(Evergreen Auditorium)*		
		4:35 - 5:00p	**Labyrinth Walk (near Meditation Center)**		
		6:00 - 7:15p	**Dinner** *(Evergreen Dining Room)*		
		7:30 - 8:30p	**Keynote Speaker** Theresa Q. (Hybrid) (Evergreen A/B)		
		8:30p	**Bonfire and Sing-along** led by Heather K *(Magnolia Firepit)*		

Keep it GREEN through service!!

"FLEX SPACE" Game Room Saturday 3-6pm

FOR HYBRID / ONLINE PARTICIPANTS	
Zoom Link:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84684710612?pwd=btpcubrr9Ek8OuXFB1LshhWLE1SIEO.1
Meeting ID:	846 8471 0612 Passcode: 275137
Join Instructions:	https://us... UcBLRdzPRIVtnZy-o4nGZPv...

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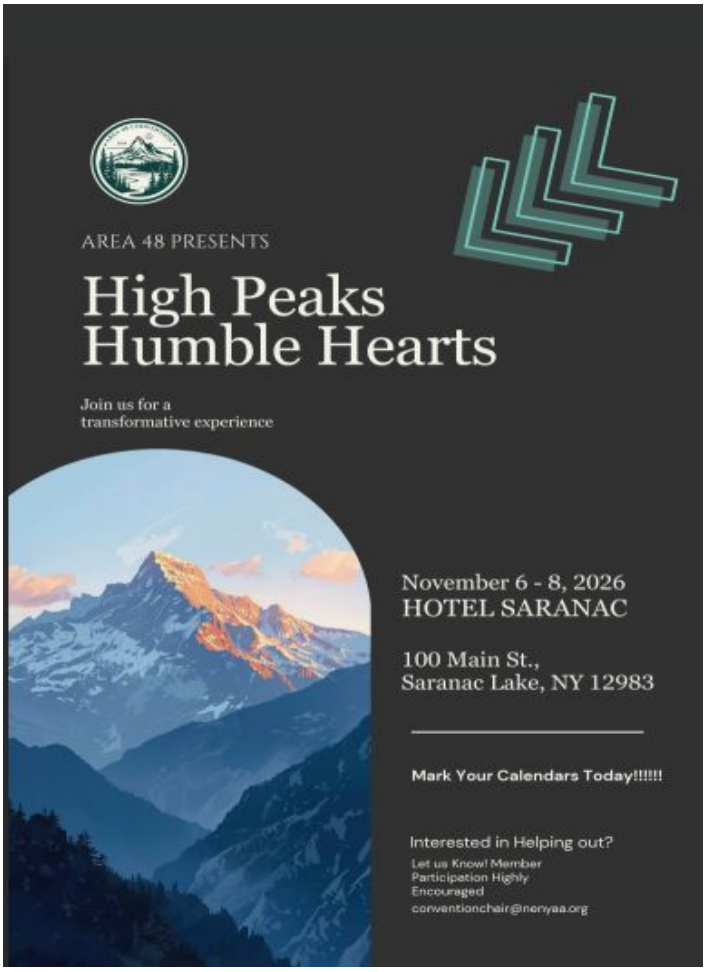
Announcements

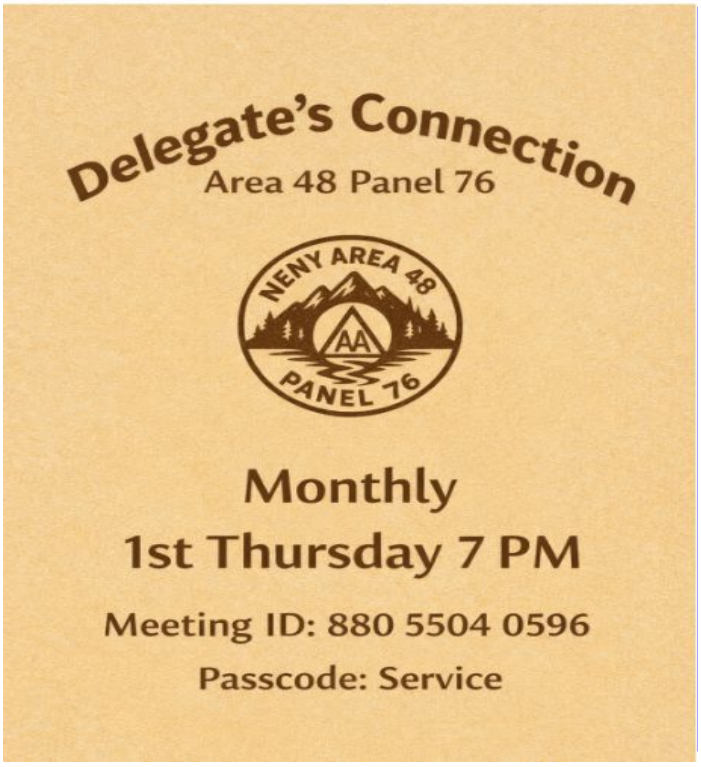
Online District 20 Meeting

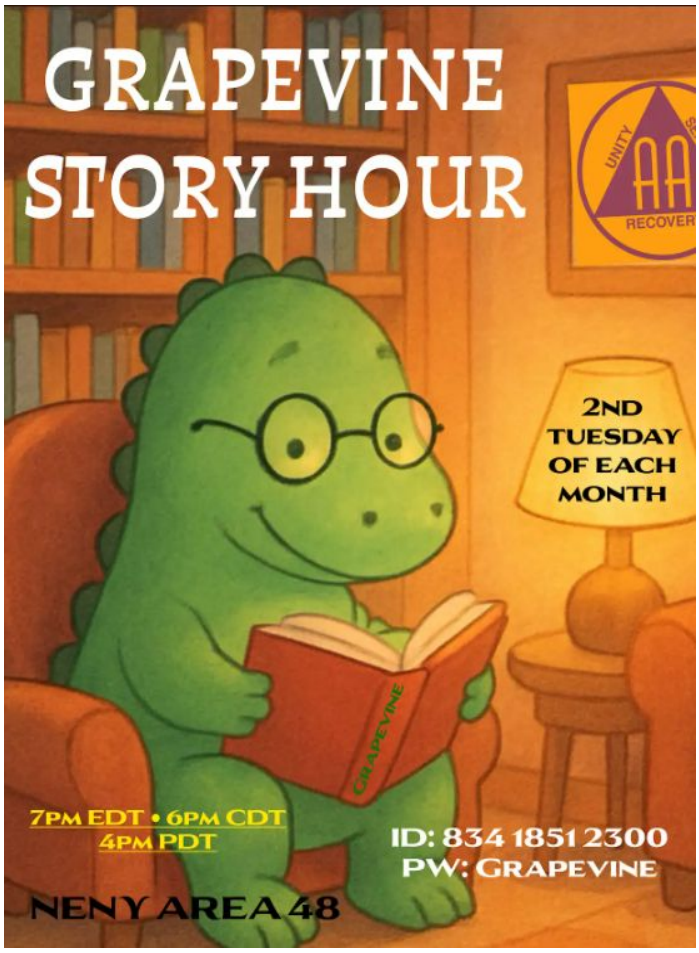
Last Tuesday of the Month
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm ET
Meeting ID: 291 297 7780
Passcode: 011023

Website: district20.nenyaa.org

Questions? Email us at OnlineDistrict20@nenyaa.org
All members of AA are welcomed and encouraged to attend!







Concepts Study

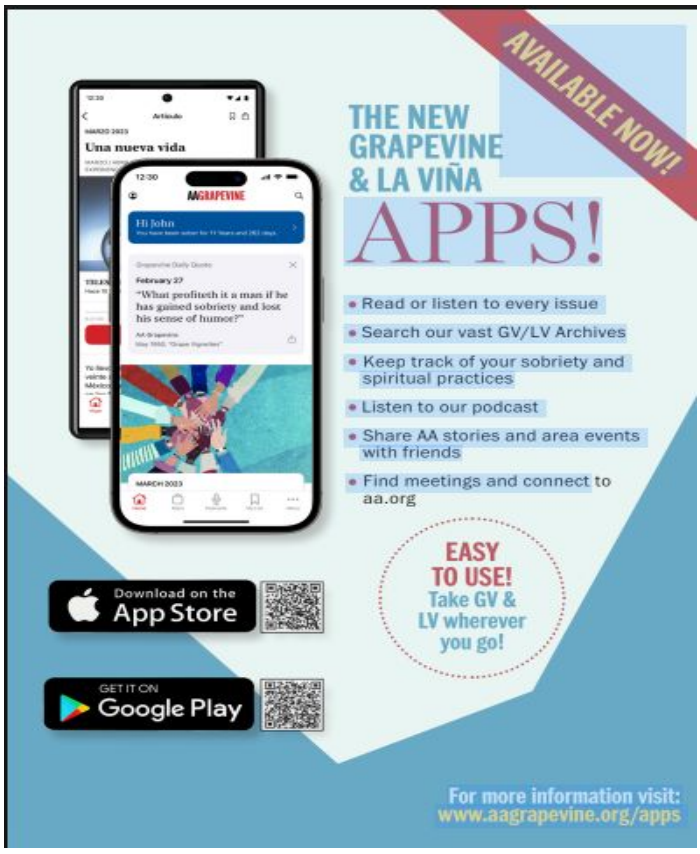
All A.A. members are welcome!

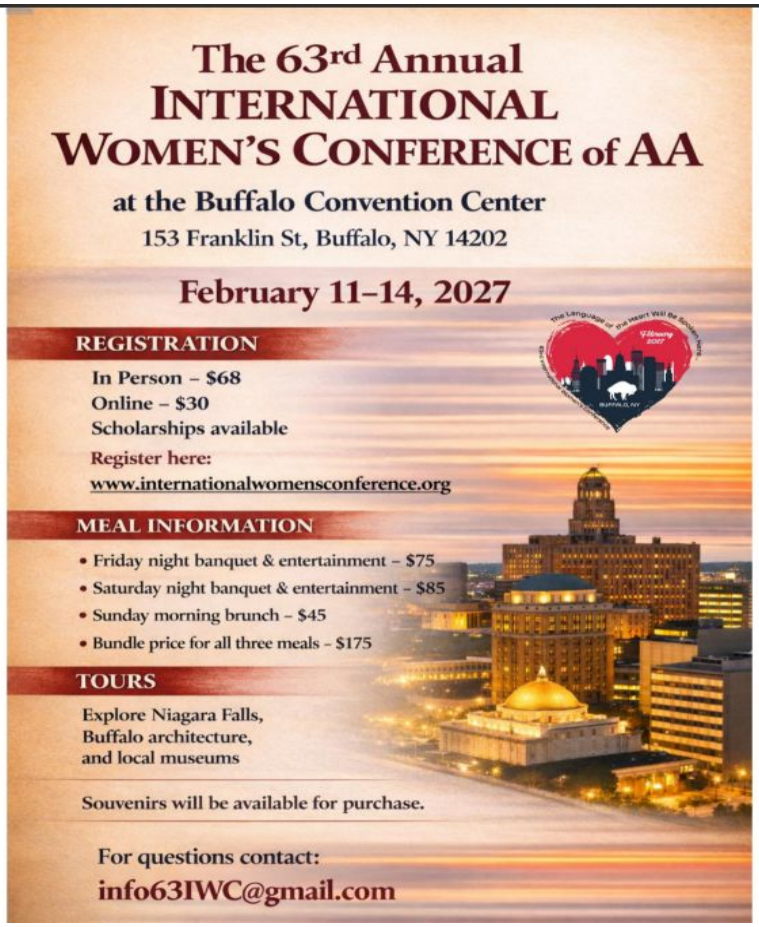
Agenda:
Read the Concept essay out loud together
Presentation
Discussion

Suggested but not required:
Service Manual
Something to highlight or take notes with
Willingness to learn and participate

First Friday of Each Month
Beginning June 2026
7:00 – 8:15 PM Eastern Time
ID: 835 8899 6062
Password: 121212!

Questions: email nenychair@nenyaa.org





Save the Date

When

October 18, 2026

9:00 AM-3:00PM

Why

Fall Voting Assembly

Where

Town Hall

Lee Center, NY 13363

5808 Stokes-Lee Center Rd.

Contact Brenda O., Alt DCM 315-922-0335, Tammie E., Functions 315-240-6188 or Chrissie O., Area BTG 315-335-0559 if there are Questions

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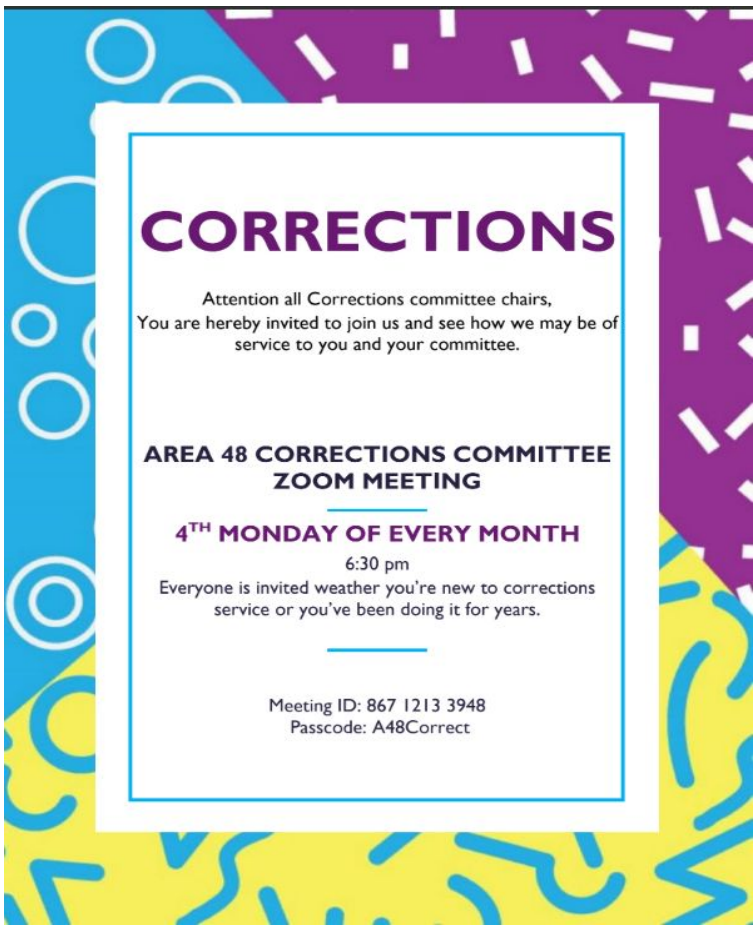
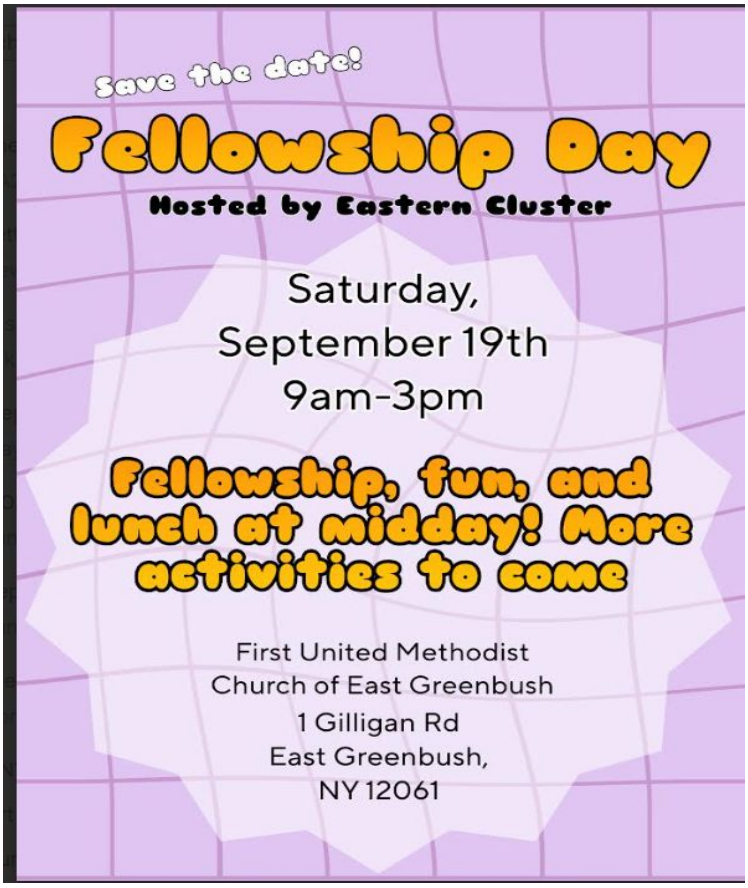
AA - Living Sober
With Chronic Pain ★
8:30 to 9:30 PM EST
Every Tuesday
Zoom ID: 815 4870 0347
No Password
Closed-Topic discussion last Tuesday,
Open speaker
Contact:
livingsoberpain@gmail.com


CORRECTIONS
Attention all Corrections committee chairs,
You are hereby invited to join us and see how we may be of service to you and your committee.
AREA 48 CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING
4TH MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH
6:30 pm
Everyone is invited weather you're new to corrections service or you've been doing it for years.
Meeting ID: 867 1213 3948
Passcode: A48Correct



G.S.O. Tour August 14th

(not our actual bus)

We're going to tour our General Service Office!

$50 per seat Last day to reserve one is 7/10/26

Itinerary
Depart Albany: 6:00 am 709 Central Ave. (Market 32 Lot)
Quick pick up at Kingston Park and Ride: 7:00 am
Arrive at GSO: 9:30ish for check-in
GSO Tour: 10:00 am
1728 A.A. Meeting: 11:00 am
Lunch at cafeteria downstairs (bring money for this)
Depart NYC: 1:00 pm
Kingston drop off: 2:30 pm
Albany: 3:30 pm

https://www.jotform.com/form/261347680387062

Questions? Email nenychair@nenyaa.org

A.A. News for the Capital Region and Northeastern New York

Helpline - (518) 463-0906

goAAnow.org

To register for the Bus Tour: https://www.jotform.com/form/261347680387062