Happy, Joyous & Free Area 48 Necwsletter

Hi everyone!
Happy September! There is a lot to see in this edition, here are some of the highlights,

Delegate and Officer Reports, Page 3
2027 Proposed Budget Page 13
GSO Field Trip Report Page 15
News from GSO Page 19
Frequently asked Questions About 5th Edition BB Page 20
Proposals for October 18 Voting Assembly Page 22
Announcements Page 26

In Every Issue:

- **NENY 2026 Events Calendar Page 17**
- **Meet your Trusted Servants Page 18**

Upcoming Events:

- **Fellowship Day, 9/19/2026 Page 29**
- **Voting Assembly, 10/18/2026 Page 31**
- **NENY Convention, 11/6-8/2026 Page 28**
- **NENY Inventory Day, 11/22/2026 Page 27**

The 5th Edition of the Big Book will be released in February 2027, more about this in Delegate and Officer Reports and News from GSO. Hope to see you at Fellowship Day In September!

Yours in service,

Isabelle A
NENY Newsletter Editor
newsletter@nenyaa.org

Recovery

Unity

Service

And Love...

The AA Principles of the Month

Step 9: . Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Tradition 9: A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

1. Do I try to “boss” things in AA?
2. Do I ever resist formal aspects of AA because I see them as authoritative?
3. Do I try to understand and use all elements of the AA program—even if no one makes me do so—with a sense of personal responsibility?.
4. Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?
5. Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?
6. Why doesn’t every AA group need a constitution and bylaws?

Concept IX: Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

- Do we discuss how we can best strengthen the composition and leadership of our future trusted servants?
- Do we recognize the need for group officers? What is our criteria for election? Do we sometimes give a position to someone “because it would be good for them”?
- Do I set a positive leadership example?

Delegate and Officer Reports

Delegate's Connection

After a rather slow summer, delegate-wise, things are starting to get very busy for Alcoholics Anonymous and Area 48. I hope many of us had a comparatively relaxing summer and are now ready to kickstart our commitment to the Third Legacy!

It is clear that the General Service Office and AA World Services (AAWS) didn't miss a beat in making sure the message of A.A. continues to be carried. This is evident in the number of announcements, documents, and correspondence that Delegates—and many of you—have received throughout the summer.

I'm assuming many of you are aware of the biggest news: the 5th Edition of the Big Book is estimated to be available February 1, 2027! Personally, I am very excited about this. The last edition of the Big Book was published in 2001. Think about all the changes in the world—and in our membership—since then.

The new edition will be hardcover and jacketed, with a list price of $20. Lest we bristle at the cost, I checked a popular online bookseller and found that hardcover books currently range from about $19.95 to $32.00. Paperbacks can be even more expensive!

Another important publication coming our way is the Final Conference Report (FCR). This is the yearly record of what the General Service Conference discussed, decided, and learned. It helps us understand not only what happened at Conference, but why. The FCR will be released digitally on aa.org on August 31, 2026, with print copies expected to follow approximately six weeks later. AAWS has approved a list price of $5.00. Details about ordering will be available on the Delegate's Page of the NENY website.

A.A. Turns 100!

A.A. turns 100 in 2035—and planning is already underway!

The General Service Board's Centennial Ad Hoc Committee is exploring ways for the Fellowship and the professional community to participate in this historic milestone. Ideas include local event toolkits, a Centennial logo contest, documentaries, commemorative stamps, state and provincial A.A. recognition, and even a possible Google Doodle.

Members are invited to share ideas for celebrating 100 years of recovery, unity, and service at years@aa.org.

And this is in addition to the 2035 International Convention, which is expected to be a major highlight of the Centennial year.

The Centennial belongs to all of us. What ideas do you have?

The 77th General Service Conference

The 77th General Service Conference is already in preparation. The initial list of Proposed Agenda Items has been sent to the Delegates. Many of the submissions are duplicates or triplicates and will eventually be consolidated into one proposal.
And remember—you do know that any member of A.A. can submit a Proposed Agenda Item, including you! If there's something you want to see happen, something you believe needs to be changed, or new literature you think is needed, write a proposal. Your idea could make its way to the General Service Conference!

The deadline for submissions is September 30, 2026. If you want information about the process or would like some help writing a proposal, please let the Area Chair, a past Delegate, or me know.

A Trip to GSO

On August 14, about 50 members of Area 48 boarded a bus and headed to the General Service Office in New York City. I had never visited GSO, even though I had lived relatively close to NYC for much of my sobriety. It would certainly have been more convenient than waking up at 3:15 a.m. to be in Albany by 6:00 a.m.!

But no matter the inconvenience, the trip was so worth it.

I asked some of my fellow bus riders to jot down a few thoughts about their experience. I had originally planned to include some of their comments in the Delegate's Report. The pieces I received were so eloquent, heartfelt, and spiritual that I decided instead to compile their reflections and pictures into a special section of this newsletter.

Most importantly, thank you to Sue W. for orchestrating this trip. I don't think I heard one complaint about any part of it!

I can't say enough about the experience of visiting the hub of A.A. publishing and support. GSO does so much of the work that allows us to do our work. I'll let the others tell you about their experience and what the trip meant to them

Delegate's Connection, cont.

What's Coming Up?

I'm looking forward to the next few Area events: Fellowship Day on September 19, the October Voting Assembly on Sunday, October 18, Inventory Day on November 21, and, of course, the always exciting NENY Convention, November 6–9.

The October Voting Assembly is especially important. Please come and your group's voice!

And don't miss the Convention. Saranac Lake? What a beautiful venue for a Convention! Once again, thank you for allowing me to serve you, what a joy this has been.

Dolores K

NENY Area 44 Delegate

Panel 76

Chair/Alternate Delegate Report

The GSO Trip was incredible! Thank you to everyone who joined us and got to experience such a spiritual place! My highlights (too many to pick just one) were – getting to speak at the 1728 AA meeting and lead the Serenity Prayer at the end. That was an unexpected honor! I also really enjoyed the Archives. The exhibits change so it was all new. There was a display with photos of AA's first trustees, which was timely because in studying the history of Tradition 8, I learned about Frank Amos, who was there on the wall! We got to see the brand-new Media Room, where the podcasts are produced. I was surprised to see they kept the mailroom. I thought for sure that since online orders are shipped out of the warehouse, the mailroom would be gone, but they still send out enough literature to need the mailroom. It was fun seeing each of the service offices, the staff desks supporting them, and getting to meet the Tradition 8 workers we employ to help us in each office and who were willing to take a minute to greet us and explain their jobs. Overall, it was a deeply spiritual day and one I'll remember with fondness for a long time.

Inventory Time is coming up! I am super excited that Nikki O. will be facilitating our Area Inventory this November. Harriett will be joining her as the secretary so everybody can participate. In preparation for this, Nikki has asked that everyone in our Area fill out a survey. She said that "the responses will help me better understand everyone's current knowledge and experience so I can focus our time on the most meaningful and useful areas." Please take a moment to fill it out when you can. There are also ones you can print out and mail back if you would prefer to fill it out that way. I'll be reminding you a lot leading up to Inventory Day. The deadline for submissions is October 10th. **Please note these are not for a group to fill out; each member should be filling one out individually.** There is a flyer in the newsletter for you to print out and bring to your group which has the links to the digital and print questionnaire.

To fill the survey out online follow this link:
https://forms.gle/sdX9V9Wd5SeJwxZy7

To print out a form and send it back through the mail, click this link:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/14gjK8SB7NeMGwVsAx9DlECmKTdsxjty6/view?usp=sharing

Concepts Study

We're on Concept 4 this month! Come join us! There's a flyer in this newsletter for the login details. If you want more information, please feel free to send me an email.

NENY Convention

Convention Registration is open! Our Convention this year will be November 6-8 in Saranac Lake at the Hotel Saranac. Rooms are already sold out at the Hotel Saranac. Call the Mountain Lake Inn at (518) 891-1970 use code AREA 48 CONVENTION for a room rate of $139.00 per night.

Area Events Linktree

If you are looking for information about the upcoming Area Event, it can be found in the Linktree. Basically, it's a website that has links to all the information. So minutes, treasurer's reports, agendas, proposals, and anything else that pertains to the next Area Event is there. That information will be there about a week before the event and will stay there until a week before the next event so that you have time to bring the information back to your group. Using Linktree is not an endorsement for them, it's simply the platform we chose to use, just like choosing to use Zoom is not an endorsement for that company.

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

Alternate Chair Report

My participation in the GSO Tour (THANK YOU, Sue W) has inspired my imagination. What a great time, and despite the brief duration, it was an incredibly rich experience. If you have an opportunity to tour GSO, see what service is provided to our fellowship, please take that on! If anyone suggests to me the money our fellowship sends to GSO is somehow misused, or a boon to 'those folks in NYC' simply don't understand how much is provided, on a shoestring budget. We all benefit from the diligence, effectiveness and determination GSO staff bring to providing our fellowship what we collectively request or demand.

Summary below, of our latest DCM Conference, and thanks for all who attended! DCM's, AltDCM's and Function Chairs are welcome to Join, 3rd Sunday monthly, 5 pm.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95273021180?pwd=amdUTmJjWi9HdnZvNCtIcC9iWlVyZz09
Meeting ID: 952 7302 1180 Passcode: DCMfun

The DCM Conference on 16 Aug 2026 reviewed upcoming area events (fellowship day in September, inventory day in late November, voting assembly, and a November convention), discussed event hosting responsibilities and planning, and shared district reports on outreach, service activities, and member engagement. Participants emphasized safety and autonomy for local meetings when addressing disruptive attendees, promoted hybrid/online inclusion for events and meetings, and described inventory and service-improvement efforts at group and district levels. Several districts reported picnic and fellowship events, membership outreach (rides and online access), and plans to staff committees and fill service positions. Actionable items included circulating an inventory template, sharing a 12-step/traditions video, coordinating accessibility/inclusivity efforts and devices, and confirming event logistics such as dates, hybrid links, and room blocks for the convention.
Fall will be in full swing soon, Area Events, the Convention, and many District events still happening, Come join us, as we all trudge that road to Happy Destiny!

Yours in Service,
Vo
(altnenychair@nenyaa.org)

Accessibilities

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! My email contact is accessibility@nenyaa.org

THE MONTHLY ACCESSIBILITIES MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER HAS BEEN CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9th at 6PM FOR THIS MONTH ONLY.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARTICIPATION FROM DISTRICTS WHO HAVE ACCESSIBILITY CHAIRS SO WE KNOW WHAT SERVICES ARE BEING OFFERED THROUGHOUT AREA 48 :)
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)
Meeting ID: 822 5687 7420
Password: 3531803

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's Report

NENY Area Association (Area 48)
Statement of Income and Expense
January - August, 2026

	Jan - Aug, 2026	Jan - Aug, 2025 (PY)	Change
Contributions			
Districts	$2,854	$3,350	-$496
Total Events 7th Tradition	$320	$838	-$518
Groups	$29,854	$34,944	-$5,090
Individuals	$724	$2,230	-$1,506
Total Contributions	$33,752	$41,362	-$7,610
Expenses			
Delegate	$5,500	$5,000	$500
Chairperson	$4,890	$4,000	$890
Officer Allocations	$1,182	$1,222	-$40
Committee Allocations	$6,300	$2,912	$3,388
NERAASA	$5,190	$315	$4,875
NERF	$429	$0	$429
NYS Info Workshop	$2,621	$2,424	$197
NENY Convention	$112	$0	$112
Area 48 Services	$11,136	$11,154	-$19
Area Funded Scholarships	$450	$0	$450
GSO Conference Contributions	$2,200	$3,400	-$1,200
Total Expenses	$40,009	$30,427	$9,582
Net Balance	-$6,257	$10,935	-$17,193

JR
NENY Treasurer
treasurer@nenyaa.org

Public Information

The bus trip to GSO was amazing! Thank you Sue W. for putting this all together for us.

Our CPC/PI monthly meeting was Thursday August 27th. Thank you Michele for hosting, I was only able to attend for a few minutes due to a storm with tornado warnings. Marcia proposed CPC/PI District 1 be combined and it was approved. She also carried the message at 3 health fairs.

Kevin F., Area 49 (SENY) PI Chair, with be presenting at our September 24th meeting.
Kelley C., GSO Staff member on the Public Information desk will be speaking at our October 24th meeting.
Due to holidays we will not be meeting in November or December.

Please join us (CPC/PI) every 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30PM. September 24th 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

Literature

Hi All,

I was delighted to have gone to the General Service Office (GSO) last month. We were a lively group! We had a wonderful tour guide who talked us through each staff committee. The staff at GSO were inviting, and let us explore the archives & take pictures there. One of the highlights for me was walking into the Literature store room, all neatly stacked books and other items. They are still putting everything in place, since the new retrofit, a daunting task to be sure! We rounded up the tour with an A.A. meeting, it was a perfect end to our tour. The office is warm and inviting, if you ever have the chance to go, I highly recommend it.
Literature last month was quiet, no events to attend to, so, I'm excited for our upcoming September 19th Area Fellowship Day to bring our stock of books and items for you.

In August, we had a lively combined online Grapevine/LaViña & Literature Committee meeting.

We had 2 districts attend. It was a wonderful meeting! Great questions, Scott and I were able to share links to GV/LV rep resources, answer questions about both Literature & GV/LV and how to connect with both aagrapevine.org and aa.org
We hope both Grapevine/LaViña and Literature District chairs will join us, online on Thursday September 17th at 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting 6:30pm (est)
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84064855953?pwd=Lzl2ZUxFaU9qQndTZmpQaU83Q2RQUT09

Meeting ID: 840 6485 5953
Passcode: 394275

In Service,
Sally K.

Literature@nenyaa.org

Treatment

"Happy Labor Day"

Hello Everyone, hope that you all had a great Summer. Looking forward to seeing you at the Fellowship Day coming up on the 19th.

For any District that has a need for the TREATMENT Handbook which also is a helpful tool for Bridging the Gap since there is not a specific handbook for them, I have (11) available. I plan on being at the Fellowship Day event and will have them with me.

I wish to invite all District Treatment Chair or DCM's and anyone interested, to our next Treatment/ Bridging the Gap (BTG) online meeting **Sept. 9th 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 it 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 you there.

Howard W
NENY Treatment Char
treatment@nenyaa.org

Webmaster

Technology Committee preparations are underway for several upcoming Area events. For Fellowship Day on September 19, we are reviewing our hybrid setup, including to in-person audio and microphone coverage. Volunteers will be supporting both the in-person and online portions of the event.

Planning is also underway for the October Voting Assembly and the Area Convention. Current discussion includes additional Zoom support, online greeters, fellowship breakout rooms, and possibly a library of informational videos to use during breaks.

On the website side, a broken link to the Area 48 event hosting guidelines was identified and will be reposted. We are also actively assisting districts with website updates, maintenance, and migrations from older sites. Districts that need help are encouraged to reach out.

The committee is also exploring the use of Google Shared Drives to improve long-term access, continuity, and shared ownership of Area files.

Thank you!

Zac P

NENY Webmaster

webmaster@nenyaa.org

Corrections

Hello NENY,

My name is Cici B and I am privileged to serve as Area 48 Corrections Chair.
I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and invite anyone interested in corrections service to join us at our monthly meeting on the 4th Monday of the month on Zoom at 6:30pm.

Meeting ID: 86712133948
PW :A48Correct

Please come say hi to me at the NENY convention in November and we can talk about all the exciting corrections service happening in our area!
Feell free to email me or call with any questions.

In Service,
Cici B
Area 48 Corrections Chair
Corrections@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

Grapevine/La Vina

Hello everyone hope y'all are having a great summer. Make sure to check out flyers in the Announcements. 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

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

NENY Area 48
Proposed Budget 2027

2027 NENYAA Budget Proposal

		Expense Allocation	NERAASA 2027 Tarrytown, NY	NERF 2027 Buffalo NY	NYSIW Area50	NENY 2027 Convention Hudson Valley	Position Total
Area Officer Allocations	Area Delegate	$3,200	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$5,600**
	Area Chairperson	$2,200	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$4,600**
	Alternate Area Chair	$700	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,100**
	Secretary	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Treasurer	$1,200	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,600**
	Registrar	$400	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,800**
	Alternate Treasurer	$400	$600		$600	$600	**$2,200**
	Alternate Registrar	$400	$600		$600	$600	**$2,200**
	Sub-Total	*$9,000*	*$4,800*	*$3,600*	*$4,800*	*$4,800*	***$27,000***
Committee Chair Allocations	Accessibilities	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Bridging-the-Gap	$600	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,000**
	Cooperation w/ Professional Comm.	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Corrections	$600	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,000**
	Grapevine/LaViña	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Hybrid	$1,000	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,400**
	Inclusivity	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Literature	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Public Information	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Technology	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Treatment Facilities	$600	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,000**
	Sub-Total	*$6,300*	*$6,600*	*$6,600*	*$6,600*	*$6,600*	***$32,700***
Other Position Allocations	Archivist	$700	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$3,100**
	Newsletter Editor	$500	$600	$600	$600	$600	**$2,900**
	Finance Committee Past Delegate	$500	$600			$600	**$1,700**
	Finance Committee Past DCM	$500	$600			$600	**$1,700**
	Sub-Total	*$2,200*	*$2,400*	*$1,200*	*$1,200*	*$2,400*	***$9,400***
	Total for Position Allocations	$17,500	$13,800	$11,400	$12,600	$13,800	**$69,100**

2027 NENYAA Budget Proposal

Area Event Allocations

Delegate's Day	$750
Area Assemblies (3)	$2,250
Fellowship Days (2)	$1,500
Joy of Service Day (2)	$1,500
Orientation Day	$750
Total Event Allocations	*$6,750*

Administrative Expenses

Mail Box Service	$750
Insurance Costs	$2,250
Technology Expenses	$1,500
Computer Maintenance & Equipment	$1,500
Zoom Software	$300
Malware Software	$200
iDrive Software	$750
AirTable Software	$1,550
JotForm Software	$350
Digital Ocean	$95
Siteground (Website, WordPress)	$1,250
Quickbooks Software	$100
Bank Fees	$250
Tax Preparation Fees	$1,100
Paypal Fees	$300
Prior Year Expenses	$500
Total Administrative Expenses	*$12,745*

Service Expenses

General Service Conference Allocation	$4,000
Travel Expenses to Area Events	$750
Newsletter Postage & Printing	$2,900
Archive Storage Fees	$1,100
NENY Service Manual Updates	$200
Service Literature for Area Officers/Committees	$1,000
NENY Tri-fold Pamphlets (printing & postage)	$1,250
Convention Seed Money	$2,500
5th Tradition/Corrections Workshops (2)	$1,500
Public Information Cards	$450
Total Service Expenses	*$15,650*

Subtotals

Area Officer Allocations	$27,000
Committee Chair Allocations	$32,700
Other Position Allocations	$9,400
Area Event Allocations	$6,750
Administrative Expenses	$12,745
Service Expenses	$15,650
Total Allocations & Expenses	**$104,245**

Did You Know? GSO

More Than an Office Building

The General Service Office and A.A. Grapevine are housed at 475 Riverside Drive in New York City. But GSO is more than an office building. It is a working center of service that helps A.A. groups carry the message throughout the U.S. and Canada.

The General Service Board studied whether A.A. should leave New York City. After comparing costs and practical considerations, the Board decided to stay, give up the 8th floor, and consolidate operations onto the 11th floor - about 35,370 square feet.

The new lease is for 10 years, with total occupancy costs projected at about $11.2 million. A planned renovation was scaled back from an initial estimate of $2.4 million to approximately $1.4 million by choosing a more limited refit.

What happens at GSO?

AAWS, Grapevine, GSO staff, Archives, Finance, Communications, Literature, Group Records, International Services, Conference support, and many other functions work from there in support of the Fellowship.

The next time someone asks what GSO actually does, remember: a whole lot of the work that allows A.A. groups to carry the message happens behind those doors.

The Literature stockroom.

For Area 48 members who visited on August 14, GSO became less abstract. The tour connected practical service - books being packed, emails answered, group records maintained - with the spiritual purpose that gives all of that work meaning.

General Service Office, A.A. World Services, Inc.

In the literature room, visitors saw the books that are filled, packed, and sent into the world in many languages. In Archives, history came alive. At service desks, staffers shared how they help the Fellowship one phone call, one email, and one request at a time.

The visit also made clear that GSO is a humble, compact place - not large or flashy - where people work diligently and warmly on behalf of A.A.

Service, Unity, Recovery

The day offered a living picture of the A.A. triangle: the unity of the bus ride and meeting, the recovery carried in the literature and sharing, and the service that makes the whole Fellowship possible.

Area 48 Reflections

A GSO Visit to Remember

Members described a day of laughter, fellowship, history, and renewed gratitude for the trusted servants who make the service structure personal.

Gloria G.

"It was wonderful to be experiencing rather than reminiscing." In the literature room, the miracle of A.A. became visible: books in many languages heading out to carry the message and save lives.
- Fort George Group

Vo N.

The ordinary business of printers, calls, and technical issues was "woven in a spiritual fabric" of practicing these principles in all our affairs - Steps, Traditions, and Concepts together.
- Broadalbin Group

Clara D.

The most deeply spiritual things can be found in a setting as mundane as a business office - because this is the business of sharing the lifesaving message of recovery through the Twelve Steps.
- Area 48 visitor

Susan S.

The welcome of the staff, the compact podcast room, and the Serenity Prayer in 26 languages - including Braille - made the visit especially moving.
- Any Lengths Group

Cait N.

Archives, sitting on the couch from Bill W.'s office, and the anonymous photo from Life Row showed that the program works, even in the hardest places.
- Any Lengths Group

What we carried home

A humble environment. Friendly and down-to-earth staff. The history of A.A. made present. New friends and old friends on the bus. And a deeper appreciation for the Seventh Tradition and the service structure that supports A.A. as a whole.
- Area 48

Archives and A.A. history: reminders of the message carried forward.

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- Cici 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

Fifth Edition of the Big Book to be released February, 2027

To: GSRs, DCMs, Trustees, Non-trustee Directors, Area Officers & Committee Chairs, Delegates, Appointed Committee Members, Intergroups and Central Offices, Group Contacts, GSO and Grapevine Employees
August 26, 2026

Dear A.A. Friends:
We are writing to provide an update regarding the forthcoming publication of the much-anticipated fifth edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous*. At the July 30 meeting of the A.A. World Services Board, the Publishing Committee recommended, and the full board approved, that the fifth edition hardcover be produced with a removable dust jacket and that a list price of $20 USD be adopted. We are on track with the production process to publish the hardcover of the fifth edition, updated with 26 new stories of recovery, in February 2027.
We share the Fellowship's excitement about the fifth edition of our beloved Big Book—coming more than 25 years after the publication of the fourth edition. More information about the publication of the fifth edition will follow this fall.

Warmly,
John W.
Chair, AAWS Board

Bob W.
General Manager, G.S.O.

Self Support

The AAWS Board recently recommended that a monthly communication be sent regarding matters related to self-support. This communication is a continuation of that series.
Nick S.
Self Support and Finance GSO Staff Member
General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous
selfsupportfinance@aa.org
www.aa.org

Frequently Asked Questions: The 5th Edition of the Big Book

Why is A.A. publishing a 5th Edition, and how often does this happen? There is no regular schedule for new editions of the Big Book. It was first published in 1939, with major editions following in 1955, 1976, and 2001. The 5th Edition will come approximately 26 years after the Fourth Edition. As A.A. grows and the Fellowship changes, a new edition provides an opportunity to update personal stories and historical or informational material while preserving the basic program of recovery.

What are the major changes in the 5th Edition?
Personal stories will be updated to better reflect today's Fellowship. Some existing stories will be removed, some changed or updated, and new stories added. Other confirmed changes include updates to **"The Medical View on A.A.," "The Religious View on A.A.," the Lasker Award section, and "How to Get in Touch With A.A."** A **new Foreword** will also be included.

Are the Twelve Steps or the basic program of recovery being changed? No. The fundamental program of recovery remains the heart of the Big Book. As with previous editions, portions of the book can be updated while the basic message and principles of recovery remain.

Why are some stories being removed or changed?
The personal stories are intended to help readers identify with other alcoholics. As the Fellowship changes and grows, updating the stories provides an opportunity for more members to see their own experiences reflected in the book.

Why are the Medical and Religious View sections being updated?
These sections contain historical perspectives on A.A. Updating them allows the material to remain relevant while preserving their place in the history of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Why is "How to Get in Touch With A.A." being updated?
The ways people contact and find A.A. have changed considerably since the earlier editions. Updating this information helps ensure that people looking for A.A. can find current and useful information.

Why is there a new Foreword?
The Foreword introduces the new edition and provides an opportunity to place it in the continuing history and growth of A.A.

Why does the new Big Book cost $20?
The 5th Edition will be a **hardcover, jacketed book**, which costs more to produce than a paperback. The $20 list price reflects the printing, binding, jacket, and other production and distribution costs of the new edition. Literature sales also help support A.A. World Services and the work of carrying the A.A. message. For comparison, $20 is not unusual for a new hardcover book today.

Do I have to buy the 5th Edition?
No. Individual members and groups can decide what A.A. literature they want to purchase and use. Owning a Fourth Edition does not make it obsolete—and a new edition certainly does not mean a new A.A. program.

Why should I care about the 5th Edition?
The last edition was published in 2001. A.A. and the world have changed considerably since then. The 5th Edition gives us an opportunity to see how the Fellowship continues to grow while also seeing what has remained constant.

Bottom Line

The Big Book is being updated—but the message of recovery remains. Stories change. Historical material can be updated. New information can be added. But the Twelve Steps and the basic principles of recovery remain at the heart of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Proposal 1
Change Fellowship Days to Committee Work Days

Prior to the pandemic, Area service committees regularly met in person during Fellowship Days. In addition, committees reported directly to the Area, allowing DCMs, GSRs, and other trusted servants to stay informed about committee activities and to ask questions and engage in discussion.

Since the pandemic, many committees have transitioned to virtual meetings. This has provided increased accessibility and flexibility and has been beneficial in many ways. However, committee reports are no longer regularly included on Area in-person meeting agendas. While reports are published in the newsletter and posted on the Area website, these formats do not provide opportunities for direct interaction, questions, or discussion. As a result, Area members have fewer opportunities to learn about the work of our committees and how they carry the message throughout Northeastern New York.

Area 48 currently holds four annual Fellowship/Joy of Service Days at which little or no Area business is conducted. By dedicating these gatherings to committee work, committee reporting, and service education, we can make fuller use of them in support of our service structure.

Many trusted servants travel several hours to attend Fellowship Days. Focusing the Spring and Fall Fellowship Days on committee work and committee sharing ensures that members receive greater value from their participation while strengthening communication throughout the Area.

We have a responsibility to use our resources wisely and to ensure that our in-person gatherings provide meaningful opportunities for service, communication, and participation.

Therefore, I propose that the Fall (September) and Spring (March) Fellowship Days be devoted primarily to Area committee work and committee sharing.

> A possible agenda might be:
>
> 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. — Area committees meet in person. This gives members who are not able to attend online a chance to participate, as well as members who don't consider themselves to be part of a committee to attend committee meetings without any commitment.
>
> 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. — Committee reports to the Area. With eleven standing committees, plus the Convention Committee, allotting five minutes to each committee would allow all committees to report within approximately one hour.

The afternoon session could feature informational panels composed of committee members. If approximately half of the committees participated in the Fall and the remaining committees in the Spring, Area members would receive in-depth exposure to every committee over the course of the year.

These presentations could include sharing about how committees carry the message, demonstrations of committee resources, discussion of challenges and solutions, presentations of best practices, or examples of how the Traditions guide committee work.

By strengthening the visibility of Area committees, we can help DCMs and GSRs better inform their districts about committee activities and foster greater participation in service. In addition, members will gain a clearer understanding of how their Seventh Tradition contributions support Twelfth Step work throughout Area 48.

Submitted by: Thea HB, NENY Hybrid Chair

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.

Submitted by: JR, NENY Treasurer

Proposal 3
For Consideration, at the Area Fall Voting Assembly

Proposal : To Eliminate Joy of Service Day and Fellowship Days from the Area 48 Events Calendar.

Joy of Service Day was created to encourage participation in service by sharing our experience through workshops on how we integrate the steps, traditions, and concepts in doing service work. Fellowship days were created to have a dual focus on service and fellowship. In the past these were also used to conduct committee meetings, these are now held online monthly. These events have primarily been attended by people already involved in service. A feeling of “preaching to the choir” and complaining about who is not attending has become the focus, rather than considering what we can change to become more accessible, welcoming, and inclusive. Not everyone can attend an all day event.

The Area commits financial resources and volunteer efforts to plan and conduct these events. Each one is budgeted at $750.00, with mileage also being paid to Area Officers and Committee Chairs, as attending is part of their responsibilities. Background materials include; Area 48 Service Manual Updated October 2024 and Area 48 Budget.

If approved, Joy of Service Day and Fellowship Days would be discontinued as Area sponsored events. Potential outcomes include: Reduced Area expense, more efficient use of Area resources, greater opportunity for districts and clusters to develop local service workshops, and redirecting funds and efforts towards activities more directly supporting AA’s primary purpose.

This proposal is not intended to diminish the importance of service, but to evaluate whether the current format is the most effective way to encourage participation in service.

Submitted by: Susan S. Area 48 Public Information Chair pi@nenyaa.org

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!

HEY AA,

SAVE THIS DATE:

Sunday November 22nd, 2026

NENY Area Inventory Day

Rosendale Recreation Center

1055 NY 32
Rosendale, NY
12472

Take the pre-inventory survey!

Every member is encouraged to participate!

Inventory Day is November 22 and to better gauge where Area 48 stands, the facilitator has asked that everyone fill out a General Service Knowledge Questionnaire before the actual inventory happens.

You can fill it out online: https://forms.gle/oSau8vdw8UHYLWDv8

Online

Or you can print it out and mail it back:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/14gjK8SB7NeMGwVsAx9DlECmKTdsxjty6/view

Print to Mail

Surveys are due by October 10th

Then Join us on November 22nd for Inventory Day!
Rosendale Rec Center
1055 NY-32
Rosendale, NY 12472

Announcements

Have an Idea for A.A.?

If you have an idea to strengthen A.A. or improve how we carry the message, consider submitting a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) for the 77th General Service Conference. A PAI is a suggestion, question, concern, or proposal for Conference consideration. Many important A.A. improvements began with one member's idea.

Who can submit?

Any A.A. member.

No service position is required—every member has a voice.

Need help?

You don't have to do it alone. Your GSR, DCM, Area Committee Member, Area Officer, or Area Delegate can help you develop and submit your idea.

Deadline: September 30, 2026

How to access PAI Forms: To access the PAI form, please contact your Area Delegate, panel76delegate@nenyaa.org or contact the Conference desk: paisubmissions@aa.org https://www.aa.org/proposed-agenda-item-information

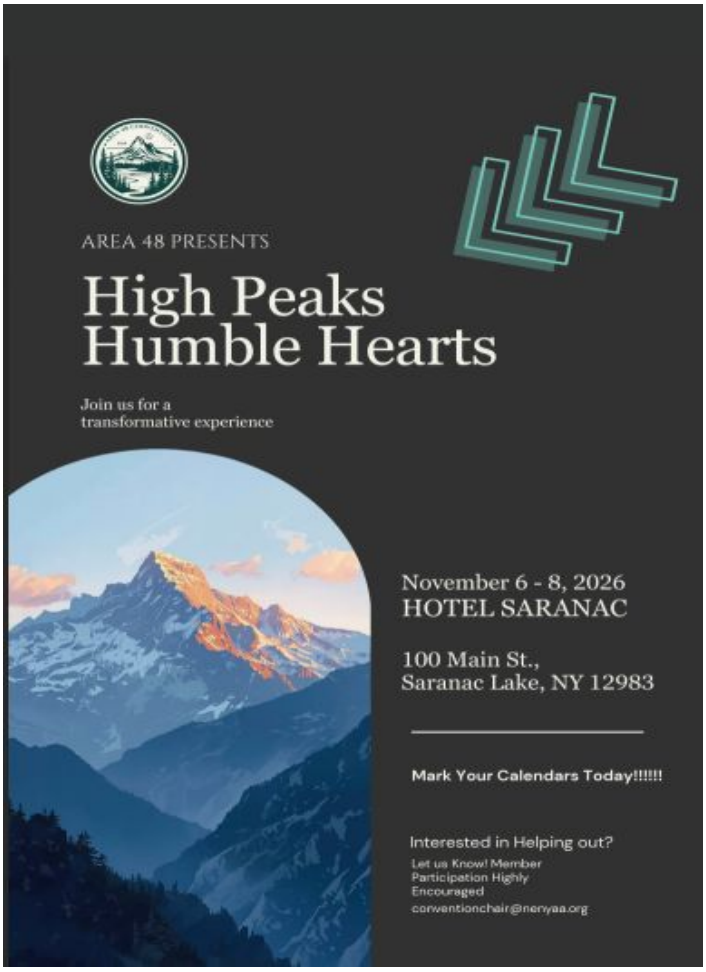
Announcements

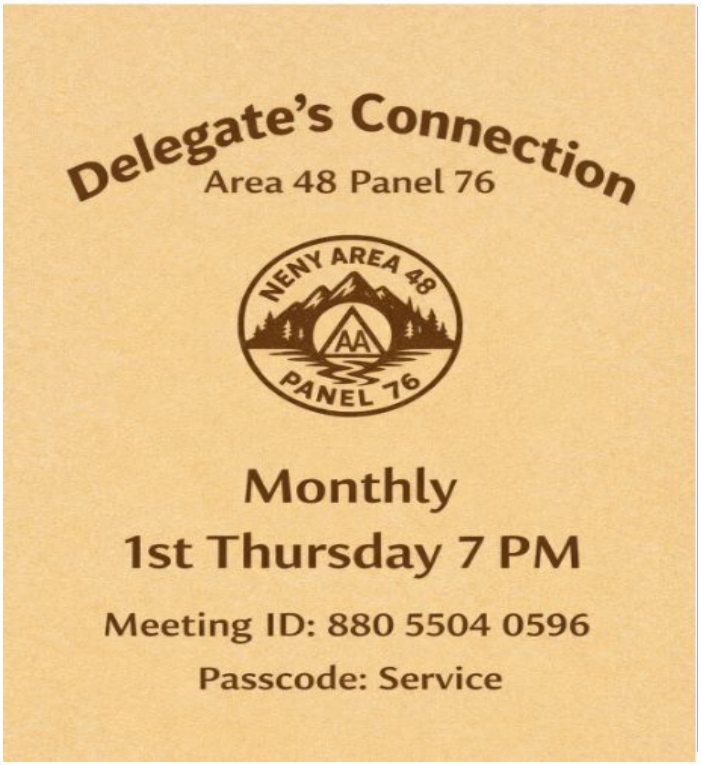
Online District 20 Meeting

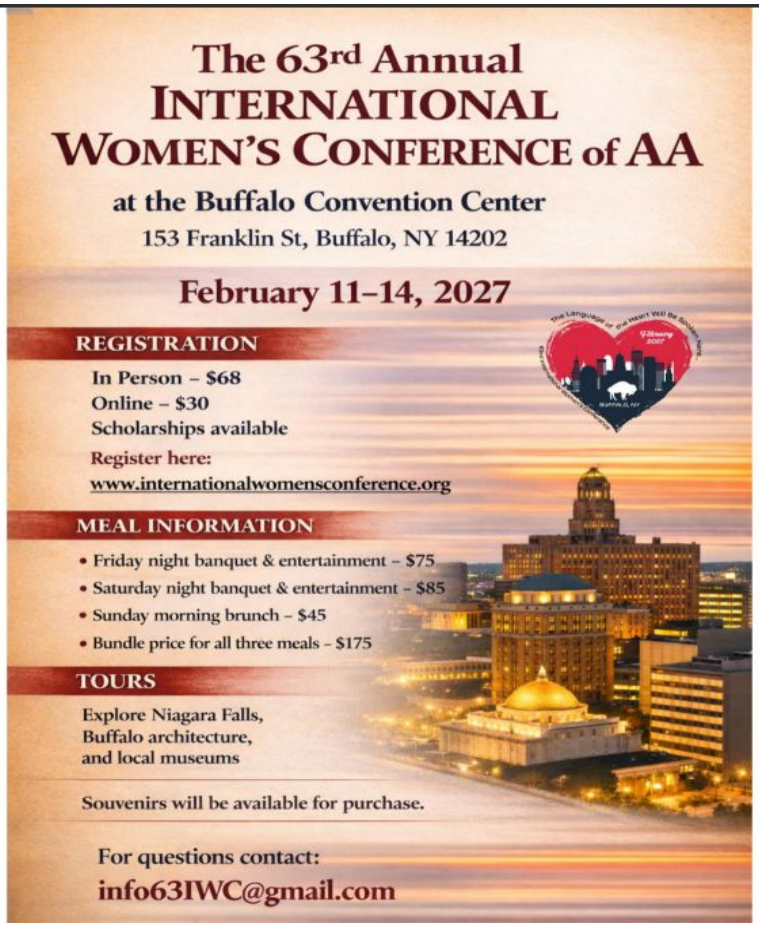
Last Tuesday of the Month
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm ET
Meeting ID: 291 297 7780
Passcode: 011023

Website: district20.nenyaa.org

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







Save the Date

When

October 18, 2026

9:00 AM-3:00PM

Why

Fall Voting Assembly

Where

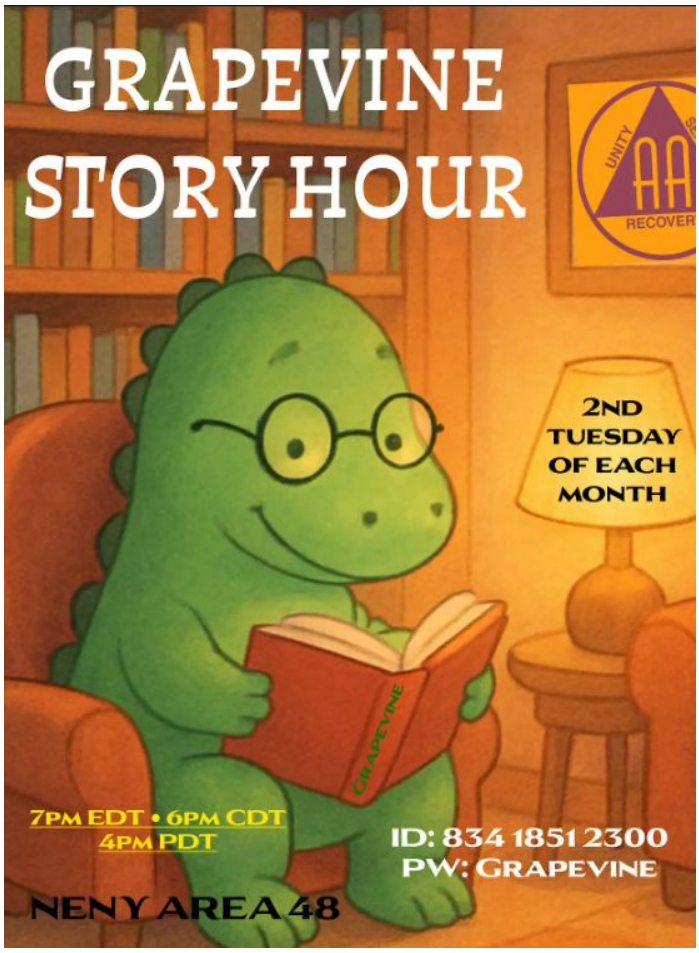
Town Hall

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

Page 1 / 1



Concepts Study

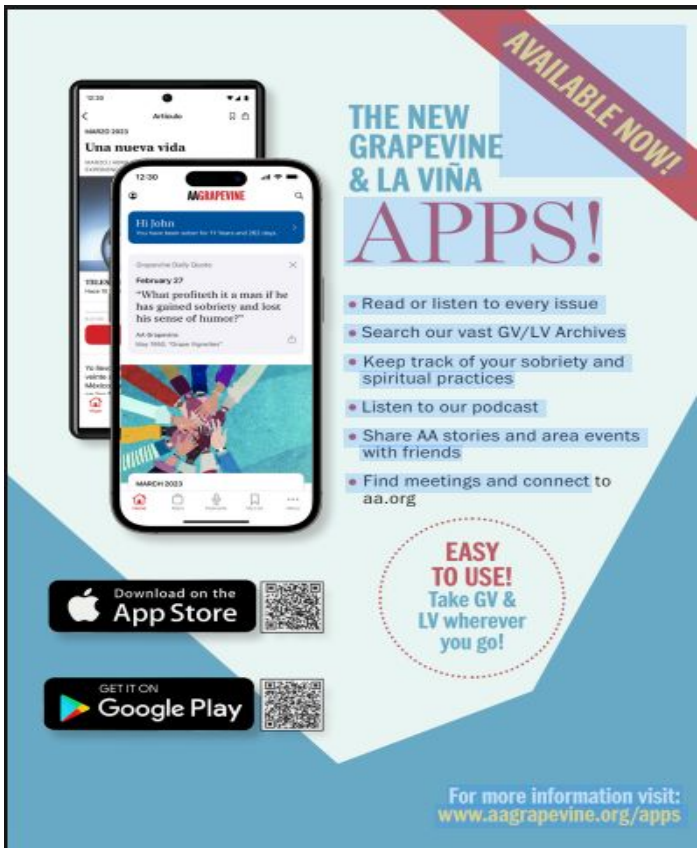
All A.A. members are welcome!

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!

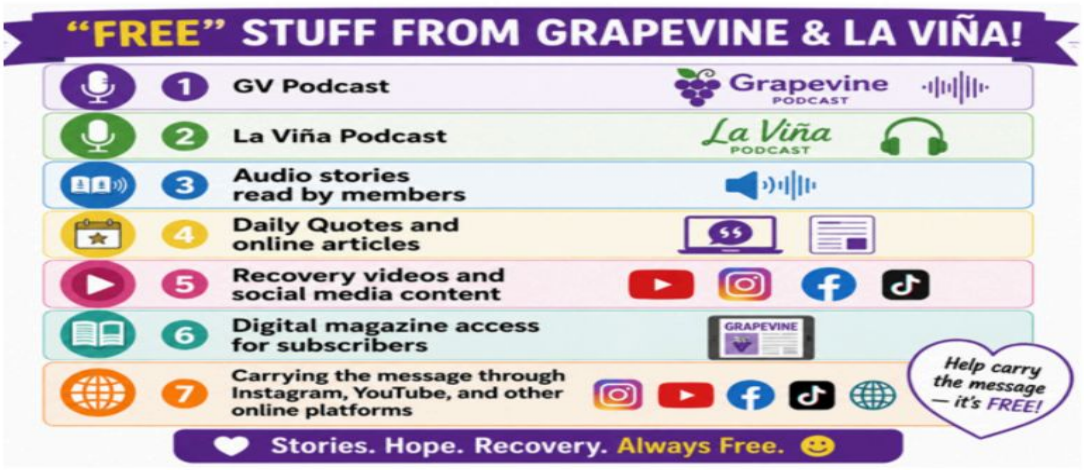
Questions: email nenychair@nenyaa.org



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

Helpline - (518) 463-0906

goAAnow.org



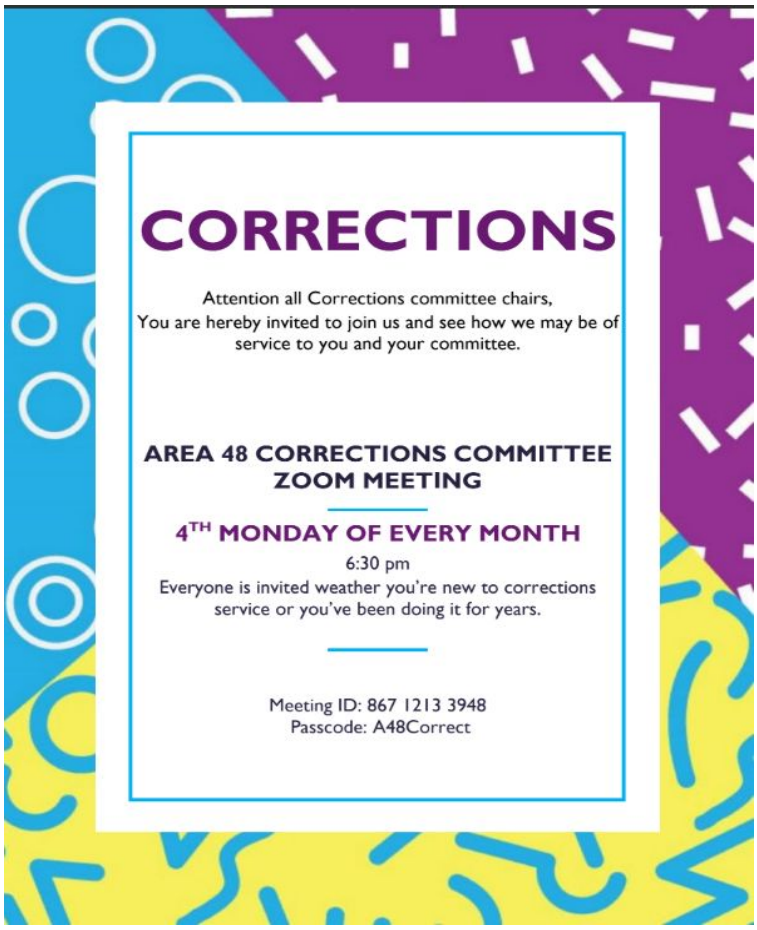
"Free" Doesn't Mean Free to Produce

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.

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

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

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