

# SOBER NEWS

Inter-Group Association of A.A. of N.Y. • 307 7th Avenue, (28th Street), Room 201, New York, N.Y. 10001 • Phone 212-647-1680  
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March/April 2005

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## *A Letter From:*

### **The Chair of the Group Relations Committee**

I wasn't really sure I wanted this job. I kind of jumped in blind – like most of my AA experiences. I was given this responsibility because I showed up and volunteered, not really having done any service beyond the group level.

I'm not naturally a "joiner." Left to my own devices, I'd rather be alone in front of the T.V. Without my meetings and the service I do, I'd be incapable of showing up to work consistently; working with other people effectively; considering myself and others equally important; compromising; or thinking before I speak. Today, I have a daily reprieve which allows me the potential to do all of these things. I'm consciously grateful for this miracle.

I've been doing this job for about six months now, and I can honestly say that I feel my circle expanding. I am beginning to see that I am a part of this AA community. I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage the active members of AA to take a chance and give yourselves this opportunity for growth. By "active members" I mean those AAs who are already in the habit of volunteering to make the coffee, chair meetings, reach out to new comers, share their experience at meetings, etc... Believe me, getting active in 12th Step Service beyond the group level can afford a whole new set of opportunities for growth.

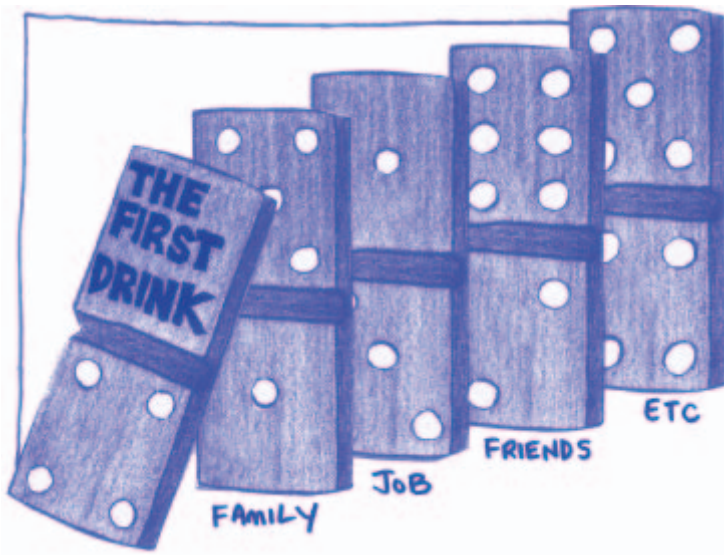
A great way to get started is to volunteer to be your home group's Inter-Group Delegate. New York Inter-Group Delegates attend quarterly Area Forums (dates and times on page 3 & 4 of this issue) and act as liaison between the individual AA group and New York Inter-Group.

You can find out more about this service by attending your Area Forum or by attending the Inter-Group Delegates' and Group Officers' Workshop. The next workshop will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 12th at P.S. 41, Sixth Ave & 11th St., NYC 10011.

Best Regards,

**Kevin S.**





## Do you have an article you'd like to submit to Sober News?

We would love to hear from you!  
Look below to see how to reach us.

## N.Y. Inter-Group Events

### The Big Meeting

- An open three-speaker meeting that celebrates the 70th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous' founding date, June 10th, 1935 (the date of A.A.'s co-founder Dr. Bob's last drink).

Sunday June 12th, 2005, 1PM – 3PM. There is no admission fee and no tickets are necessary. A 7th Tradition collection will be taken. Location: NY Hilton Hotel, Avenue of the Americas between 53rd & 54th streets, Manhattan, 3rd floor Grand Ballroom.

### The Bill W. Table Lottery

- Wednesday June 15th, 2005, 6PM @ NY Hilton Hotel, Ave of the Americas btwn 53rd & 54th St, Manhattan, 3rd Fl Rendezvous Trianon Suite.

### The Institutions & Corrections Committee Literature Fund Dinner

- The committee's annual and only fundraiser event, the net proceeds are used solely to purchase A.A. Conference approved literature that is distributed in the institutions and correctional facilities it services.

Saturday July 23rd, 2005, 8PM. Location: Antun's Restaurant, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY (718) 468-6400.

### The Bill W. Dinner

- This event celebrates the 71st anniversary of A.A.'s co-founder Bill W.'s sobriety date (December 11th, 1934). It is New York Inter-Group's only annual fundraiser and the net proceeds help keep the doors open, phones answered, etc.

Saturday October 29th, 2005, Afternoon Program (Free) 1PM – 4PM, The Bill W. Dinner (tickets needed) begins promptly at 7:00pm. Location: NY Hilton Hotel, Avenue of the Americas between 53rd & 54th St, Manhattan, 3rd Fl Grand Ballroom.

## Keeping In Touch With N.Y. Inter-Group...

Please note, as with all other communication (either written or verbal) with the New York Inter-Group office, all correspondence via e-mail will be held in the strictest confidence. No information will be shared unless New York Inter-Group is given permission to do so (as in the publication of "Sober News" articles, etc.). As always, the staff at New York Inter-Group can be reached Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm at (212) 647-1680.

**[bigmeetinginfo@nyintergroup.org](mailto:bigmeetinginfo@nyintergroup.org)** • For questions and comments about "The Big Meeting", N.Y. Inter-Group's annual celebration of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous. Meeting to be held Sunday, June 12th, 2005 @ 1 PM - 3 PM at the NY Hilton Hotel (Ave of Americas btwn 53rd & 54th St).

**[billwdinnerinfo@nyintergroup.org](mailto:billwdinnerinfo@nyintergroup.org)** • For questions and comments about The Bill W. Dinner, New York Inter-Group's annual celebration of co-founder Bill W.'s sobriety date. Afternoon Meeting to be held October 29th, 2005 @ 1 PM - 4 PM followed by the Dinner @ 7 PM at the NY Hilton Hotel (Ave of Americas btwn 53rd & 54th St).

**[generalinformation@nyintergroup.org](mailto:generalinformation@nyintergroup.org)** • For questions & comments about the various services N.Y. Inter-Group provides, and how to volunteer at N.Y. Inter-Group.

**[meetingbookinfo@nyintergroup.org](mailto:meetingbookinfo@nyintergroup.org)** • For questions and comments about New York Inter-Group's bi-annual (June & December) publication of meetings in the Greater N.Y. Area, and how to update your group's meeting(s) information.

**[sobernews@nyintergroup.org](mailto:sobernews@nyintergroup.org)** • For any questions and comments about (and submittal of articles to, etc.) the "Sober News" Newsletter, New York Inter-Group's bi-monthly newsletter.

**[steeringcommchair@nyintergroup.org](mailto:steeringcommchair@nyintergroup.org)** • For comments, questions and concerns about any aspect of New York Inter-Group's services, volunteers, events or staff, etc. Access to correspondence sent to this e-mail address is limited to the current chair person of N.Y. Inter-Group's Steering Committee.



# What is...?

An in-depth look at the topics that relate to your sobriety...



## What is a Group Update Sheet?



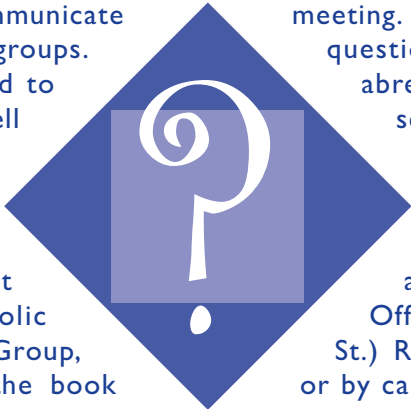
The Group Update Sheet is the basic form N.Y. Inter-Group uses to communicate with individual AA groups.

The group's information is used to update the Meeting Book as well as the books used by the telephone volunteers at N.Y. Inter-Group.

When an alcoholic reaches out and contacts another alcoholic manning the phones at Inter-Group, the phone volunteer checks the book

to find the nearest meeting and offers to have someone meet the newcomer at the meeting. This only works if the group in question has kept N.Y. Inter-Group abreast of any changes in its meeting schedule and 12th Step volunteers.

When was the last time your group sent in their Group Update Sheet? The forms are available at the Inter-Group Office – 307, 7th Ave (27th & 28th St.) Room 201, Manhattan, NY 10001 or by calling (212) 647-1680. ❄



## Opportunities for • GROWTH

The calendar of upcoming New York Inter-Group events

Office Telephone and Call Forwarding and Volunteer Orientation, 6 P.M., New York Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Avenue, (@ 27th & 28th Streets), Room 201, Manhattan, N.Y. 10001. (Orientations are held any Monday morning between 9 A.M. and 1:30 P.M., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 6 P.M. and 9 P.M. and any Saturday afternoon between 1:30 P.M. and 6 P.M. No appointment necessary. Or call an Inter-Group staff member to arrange a convenient orientation time.) One-year continuous sobriety is required to answer phones.

### March 12th

- Exchange Meeting, 7:30 AM – P.S.41, Sixth Av & 11th St, Manhattan, NY 10011. Meeting is held 2nd Saturday in March, June, Sept. & Dec. same time & location.
- 9 AM–Institutions & Corrections Info / Orientation Workshop
- 10 AM–Inter-Group Delegates' and Group Officers Workshop
- 11 AM–Public Info Orientation Workshop
- Noon–Inter-Group Delegates' Meeting
- Institutions and Corrections Literature Packing, 10 A.M., N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Av, (@ 27th & 28th Streets), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001. (Literature packing is done on the 2nd Saturday of each month, same time and location. Newcomers always welcome.)

- Spanish Language Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 PM, Spanish Intergroup Office, (Oficina Central Hispania de A.A.), 237 East 115th St, (Btwn 2nd & 3rd Aves), Manhattan, NY 10029. (Meeting is held 2nd Saturday each month, same time and location.)

### March 15th

- Queens Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 PM, Our Lady of the Cenacle School Cafeteria 87-25 136th Street, Hillside Ave & Van Wyck Expressway), Richmond Hill, NY 11418. (Meeting is held the 2nd Tuesday each month, same time and location.)

### March 17th

- Manhattan Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM,

N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, Rm 201, (@ 27th & 28th Streets), Manhattan, NY 10001. (Meeting is held 3rd Thursday each month, same time and location.)

### March 18th

- Bronx Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 8:30 P.M., St. Nicholas of Tolentine, (@ Fordham Rd & Andrews Ave, University Heights group meeting place), Bronx, NY 10468 (Meeting is held the 3rd Friday each month, same time and location.)
- Queens Area Forum 7:30 PM, St. James Parish House, 84-07 Broadway (new location, 2 blocks north of old location), Elmhurst, NY 11373. (Meeting held 3rd Friday every other month, same time and location.)

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# NEW YORK INTER-GROUP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 12th, 2005 – April 30th, 2005

## March 19th

• Bill W. Dinner Committee Meeting, 2:00 PM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, @ 27th & 28th Streets), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001)

• Bronx Area Forum, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM, Bedford Park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Ave, (Gunhill group meeting place.), Bronx, NY 10458. (Meeting is held 3rd Saturday every other month, same time and location.)

• Brooklyn Area Forum, 2:00 PM, Queen of All Saints Church, 300 Vanderbilt Av, (between Lafayette Av & Dekalb Av), Brooklyn, NY 11205. (Army Plaza group meeting place.) (Meeting is held 3rd Saturday every other month, same time and location.)

• Westchester Area Forum, 9:30 AM, First Baptist Church, in the Wilson House, Bryant Av and North St, (enter parking lot on Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605.

## March 26th

• Brooklyn Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 1 PM, 103 Quincy St, (Btwn Franklin & Classon Ave, Bsmt. (Daily Reflection Workshop group meeting place), Brooklyn, NY 11238. (Meeting held last Saturday each month, same time and location.)

## March 28th

• Staten Island Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM, Spring Bldg, 1034 Targee St, Rm 104, (1st Fl Conference Rm), Staten Island, NY 10304. (Meeting held 4th Monday each month, same time and location.)

## April 7th

• Manhattan Area Forum, 7 PM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, @ 27th & 28th Streets), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001. Meeting is held every other month, same time and location.)

## April 9th

• Institutions & Corrections Literature Packing, 10 AM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, (@ 27th & 28th Streets), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001. (Literature packing is done on the 2nd Saturday of each month, same time and location. Newcomers always welcome.)

• Spanish Language Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 PM, Spanish Intergroup Office, (Oficina Central Hispania de A.A.), 237 East 115th St, (Btwn 2nd & 3rd Aves), Manhattan, NY 10029. (Meeting held 2nd Saturday each month, same time and location.)

## April 12th

• Queens Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 PM, Our Lady of the Cenacle School Cafeteria 87-25 136th St, Hillside Ave & Van Wyck Expressway), Richmond Hill, 11418. (Meeting is held the 2nd Tuesday each month, same time and location.)

## April 14th

• Westchester Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 PM, St. Matthew's Church, 3 Carhart Ave, Rm 201, (White Plains How It Works group meeting place). White Plains, NY 10605. (Meeting is held 2nd Thursday each month same time and location.)

## April 15th

• Bronx Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 8:30 PM, St. Nicholas of Tolentine @ Fordham Rd & Andrews Ave (University Heights group meeting place), Bronx, NY 10468 (Meeting held the 3rd Friday each month, same time and location.)

## April 16th

• Bill W. Dinner Committee Meeting, 2 PM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, @ 27th & 28th Streets), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001)

• Staten Island Forum, 11 AM, Traditions House, 6581 Hylan Blvd, (Church side), enter at Cunningham Rd, on the grounds of Mt. Loretto, Staten Island, NY 10312.

## April 17th

• Big Meeting Committee Meeting, 2 PM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, @ 27th & 28th St), Rm 201, Manhattan, NY 10001)

## April 21st

• Manhattan Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM, N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Ave, Rm 201, (@ 27th & 28th Streets), Manhattan, NY 10001. (Meeting held 3rd Thursday each month, same time and location.)

## April 25th

• Staten Island Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM, Spring Building, 1034 Targee St, Rm 104, (1st Fl Conference Rm), Staten Island, NY 10304. (Meeting is held 4th Monday each month.)

## April 30th

• Brooklyn Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 1 PM, 103 Quincy St, (Btwn Franklin & Classon Ave, Bsmt. (Daily Reflection Workshop group meeting place), Brooklyn, NY 11238. (Meeting held last Saturday each month, same time and location.)



## Share Your SOBER NEWS

For more information contact:  
Inter-Group Association of Alcoholics  
Anonymous of New York, Inc.  
Attn: Sober News

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Room 201, N.Y., N.Y. 10001-6007

PH: 212-647-1680; 914-949-1200  
FX: 212-647-1648 Telecom Device  
For Deaf Only: 212-647-1649

<http://www.nyintergroup.org>  
E-mail: [sobernews@nyintergroup.org](mailto:sobernews@nyintergroup.org)

Use the voice phone numbers above for A.A. meeting information in the Greater New York City/Westchester County areas and for help with a problem with alcohol. A.A. members are available in the office from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M., daily including weekends and holidays. Visitors welcome. Between 10:00 P.M. and 2:00 A.M. daily and all night on weekends phone calls to New York Inter-Group are taken by members in their homes. At other times messages can be left on New York Inter-Group's answering machine for return calls the next day.

Inter-Group's Literature Room is open weekdays, 9:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. and Saturdays from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. No literature sales on legal holidays. Most A.A. General Service Conference approved literature is available for sale in English and Spanish. Meeting List Books are available for sale at \$1.00 each. Inter-Group does not sell chips or medallions.

