

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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September/October 2005

The Torch of Service Was Lit Within Him

I surrendered to the program of A.A. on May 14, 1992. Exactly seven months later my sponsor suggested that I get more involved in service. I was pretty active at that time in my home group. Hospitality, setting up the chairs, and making coffee kept me pretty busy.

Later that month I found myself at the New York Inter-Group Brooklyn Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting. I sat there listening to what these people were trying to do, listening to them explain why they were trying to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffered. I do not remember exactly what was said but, something that was said that particular day stimulated me.

I was not able to chair an institutional meeting because I did not have the suggested amount of sobriety time needed (one year). However, at this particular meeting there was also another young man who was interested in doing service. It seemed that like me, he lacked the required amount of sober time necessary for the institutional chairperson position.

A committee member suggested that since the young man and I were there at the meeting, willing to do service, perhaps the committee would allow the two of us to chair an institutional meeting together. The suggestion was put in the form of a motion. It was seconded and then approved.

I could not believe it! Somewhere in the God consciousness a knockdown drag out drunk like me was going to be trusted to carry the message to alcoholics who still suffered.

The young man and I carried the message faithfully every Saturday into the Kings County Hospital Detox. When he and I both reached one year of sobriety, we were allowed to carry the message into the detox by ourselves.

I now know that this was the time that the torch of service was lit within me.

I was then, as I am now, proud to be a drunk who is directly responsible to those I serve. God and the good people of this fellowship have given me a life worth living.

Derick D.

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- Contact information for N.Y. Inter-Group activities

Q&A Section

- Can You Lend A Hand?

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Are There Any AA Related Announcements?.....

Can You Lend A Hand?

Deaf Road to Recovery AA meeting held on Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. at New York Society for the Deaf in Manhattan is looking for someone with long term sobriety and fluent American Sign Language skills to run the meeting. If interested, please contact Loretta DeNoie at (212) 366-0066.

Calling Suffolk County...

The Suffolk Intergroup Association Archives Committee is compiling the history of all meetings in Suffolk County and sends out a plea for assistance. Call (631) 654-1150 or write to: SIA Archives, P.O. Box 659, Patchogue, NY 11772.

Moments... An Evening With Bill W.

The Putnam Chapter of the National Council on Alcoholism presents a one man, 90-minute play depicting the life of Bill W. It will be held on Sunday, September 18th at 1:00pm at St. Christopher's Inn at Graymoor in Garrison, NY (Route 9, 1/3 mile south of Route 403). The event is free, but reservations are required. Please call Nathan Liebowitz at (845) 225-4646 to RSVP by September 15th.



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 • For questions and comments about "The Big Meeting", N.Y. Inter-Group's annual celebration of the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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 • For questions and comments about the various services N.Y. Inter-Group provides, and how to volunteer at N.Y. Inter-Group.

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 • For any questions and comments about (article submission, etc.) "Sober News" Newsletter, N.Y. Inter-Group's bi-monthly newsletter.

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.

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.

September 17th

- Bronx Area Forum, 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M., Bedford Park Congregational Church, 3008 Bainbridge Avenue, (Gunhill group meeting place.), Bronx, 10458. (Meeting is held 3rd Saturday every other month, same time and location.)

- Brooklyn Area Forum, 2:00 P.M., Queen of All Saints Church, 300 V&erbilt Avenue, (btwn Lafayette & Dekalb Avenue), Brooklyn, 11205. (Army Plaza group meeting place.) (Meeting held 3rd Saturday every other month, same time and location.)

- Westchester Area Forum, 9:30 A.M., First Baptist Church, in the Wilson House, Bryant Avenue and North Street (enter parking lot on Bryant Avenue, White Plains, N.Y. 10605. (Meeting held 3rd Saturday every other month, same time and location.)

September 20th

- Queens Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 P.M., @ Our Lady of the Cenacle School Cafeteria 87-25 136th Street, Hillside Avenue and Van Wyck Expressway), Richmond Hill, 11418. (Meeting is held the 3rd Tuesday each month, same time and location.)

September 24th

- Brooklyn Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 1 P.M., 103 Quincy St, (Btwn Franklin & Classon Avenue, Basement (Daily Reflection Workshop group meeting place), Brooklyn, 11238. (Meeting is held last Saturday each month, same time and location.)

September 26th

- Staten Island Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 P.M., @ Spring Building, 1034 Targee Street, Room 104, (1st fl. Conference Room), Staten Island, 10304. (Meeting is held 4th Monday each month, same time and location.)

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

- Bill W. Dinner Committee Meeting, New York Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Avenue, @ 27th & 28th Streets) Room 201, Manhattan, 10001. Please contact New York Inter-Group for date and time of meeting, (212) 647-1680 or (914) 949-1200.

October 6th

- Manhattan Area Forum, 7 P.M., N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Avenue, @ 27th and 28th Streets, Room 201, Manhattan 10001. Meeting is held every other month, same time and location.)

October 8th

- Institutions & Corrections Literature Packing, 10 A.M., @ N.Y. Inter-Group Office, 307 7th Av. (@ 27th and 28th Sts) Rm. 201, Manhattan, 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 P.M., @ Spanish Intergroup Office, (Oficina Central Hispania de AA) 237 East 115th Street (between 2nd and 3rd Avenue), Manhattan, 10029. (Meeting held 2nd Saturday each month, same time and location.)

October 11th

- Westchester Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 7:00 P.M., @ Immaculate Conception Church, 199 North Broadway, 2nd floor, (Tarrytown Pocantico Hills (:1) group meeting place), @ College Avenue, Route 9, Sleepy Hollow N.Y. 10591. (Meeting is held 2nd Tuesday each month same time and location.

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NEW YORK INTER-GROUP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September - October 2005

(con't from page 3)

October 15th

• Staten Island Forum, 11:00 A.M., Traditions House, 6581 Hylan Blvd., (Church side), (enter at Cunningham Road, on the grounds of Mt. Loretto, Staten Island, 10312.

October 18th

• Queens Area Institutions & Corrections Committee Meeting, 7 P.M., @ Our Lady of the Cenacle School Cafeteria 87-25 136th Street, Hillside Avenue and Van Wyck Expressway), Richmond Hill, 11418. (Meeting held the 3rd Tuesday each month, same time and location.

October 20th

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

October 21st

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

October 24th

Staten Island Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 6:30 P.M. @ Spring Building, 1034 Targee St, Room 104 (1st floor, Conference Room), Staten Island, 10304. (Meeting held 4th Monday each month, same time and location.)

October 29th

• Bill W. Afternoon Old Timers Meeting 1 P.M. – 3 P.M., New York Hilton Hotel, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, (between 53rd and at 54th Streets) Meeting rooms on 2nd floor. This is a free event, no tickets needed (a 7th Tradition collection will be taken.)

• Bill W. Dinner, Dinner served promptly at 7 P.M. (doors will open at 6:45 P.M.) New York Hilton Hotel, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, (between 53rd and at 54th Streets) Grand Ballroom, 3rd floor. Cost \$100.00 per ticket. For information, please call New York Inter-Group office at (212) 647-1680.

• Brooklyn Area Institutions and Corrections Committee Meeting, 1 P.M., 103 Quincy Street (Between Franklin and Classon Avenues, Basement (Daily Reflection Workshop group meeting place), Brooklyn, 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

307 7th Avenue, (West 28th Street),
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

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.



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