

Happy, Joyous & Free Area 48 Newsletter

My Dear Friends in AA,

I hope you are enjoying your summer. I can't believe it's August already!

Once again, Area 48 has been very busy. District picnics have been well attended, several members participated in the New York State Informational Workshop, and the ongoing Concepts Study continues to provide valuable learning and fellowship. We are also looking forward to our upcoming visit to the General Service Office (GSO) in New York City this August. There are still openings for the GSO trip on August 14. Please join your Area 48 friends for an informative, spiritual, and enjoyable day of fellowship!

The fall brings a variety of exciting events, including Fellowship Day in September, the Voting Assembly in October, and the NENY Area 48 Convention, November 6–8, in Saranac Lake. Information about these upcoming events are in the Announcement section of this Newsletter.

There are three proposals under consideration for the October voting assembly, these are included on pages 15 through 19.

Thank you for letting me be of service as your newsletter editor, and I look forward to seeing you at these events in the fall.

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

Recovery

Unity

Service

And Love...

The AA Principles of the Month

August, 2026

Step 8 : Made A list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.

Tradition 8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

1. Does my own behavior accurately mirror the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward—even if not money—for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?

World Concept 8: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

- Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the AA Grapevine) and the General Service Board.
- How can the business term “custodial oversight” apply to the trustees’ relationship to the two corporate service entities?
- Does my home group subscribe to GSO’s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? AA Grapevine? Do I?

Delegate and Officer Reports

Delegate's Connection

Every Group Has a Voice

One of the comments I hear fairly often as Delegate is, *"They're changing A.A."* Sometimes it's followed by, *"Nobody asked us."*

I understand why it can feel that way. Most of us will never attend the General Service Conference, and few members see the months of discussion that take place before anything reaches the Conference floor. If all we hear is the final outcome, it's easy to assume that's where the conversation began.

What surprised me as I learned more about our Conference process is that many Conference discussions begin with a single A.A. member, a home group, or a trusted servant asking the Fellowship to consider an idea.

That request is called a **Proposed Agenda Item (PAI)**.

A PAI doesn't ask the Conference to change A.A. It simply asks the Fellowship to consider a question, concern, or proposal. Sometimes the answer is yes. Sometimes it's no. Sometimes the response is that more information is needed. Whatever the outcome, every PAI follows the same path of review, discussion, and group conscience.

Another surprise for many members—including me when I first became involved in service—is that **any A.A. member** may submit a Proposed Agenda Item. Home groups, districts, areas, committees, trustees, and boards may do the same.

I find that encouraging. It reminds me that our service structure wasn't designed to work from the top down. It was designed to hear the collective experience of the Fellowship.

That's where our General Service Representatives come in.

A GSR's role isn't to have all the answers. Their responsibility is to help information flow in both directions: bringing Conference information back to the home group, encouraging discussion, listening carefully to the group's conscience, and carrying that conscience forward. Then they return and report what they've learned.

To me, that's one of the quiet strengths of A.A. Our service structure depends less on experts than on informed participation.

Delegate's Connection, cont.

- What experience has shaped our thinking?
- Does this support A.A.'s primary purpose?
- Have we listened to those who see it differently?

Those questions reflect principles found throughout our Concepts for World Service. They remind us that every voice matters, minority opinion has value, and careful discussion usually serves us better than quick conclusions.

If you've ever found yourself thinking, "*I wish A.A. would take a look at this,*" you've already begun the same process that leads to a Proposed Agenda Item.

As we prepare for the 77th General Service Conference, perhaps this is a good time for home groups to have those conversations. Read your Delegate's reports. Attend a District meeting if you're curious. Ask questions. Talk with your GSR. If your group identifies an issue that affects A.A. as a whole, you may decide it's worth submitting a Proposed Agenda Item.

Whether an idea is ultimately adopted isn't really the point. The value is that the Fellowship has the opportunity to consider it together.

One of the things I've come to appreciate most about General Service is that it isn't designed to govern A.A. It's designed to help A.A. listen to itself.

Every home group has a voice. My hope is simply that more of us discover how to use it.

In fellowship,

Dolores K.

Delegate, Area 48, Panel 76
Northeastern New York

Chair/Alt Delegate Report

We have a new Corrections Chair! Please welcome Cici B. to the position! She was elected last night and will be settling in. I'm excited to have her in this role and I think she'll do great.

The New York State Informational Workshop was awesome! Area 48 was well-represented! I received compliments on our participation, so thank you to everyone who attended! I learned a lot and had a great time. I'm already looking forward to next year's workshop in Western NY.

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.

To print out a form and send it back through the mail, click this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14gjK8SB7NeMGwVsAx9DIECmKTdsxjty6/view?usp=sharing>

Concepts Study

We're on Concept 3 this month! This is the first Concept I ever heard about (though I didn't know it was a Concept). 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

GSO Tour

We have about 10 seats left on the bus. 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.

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.

meet on July 30 followed by a weekend long (Fri – Mon) meeting of the GSB so I expect to have new reports for you by next month.

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. This month we'll have our Area Public Information Chair, Susan, joining us. We'll also discuss the survey for the Area Inventory.

Yours in Service,
Sue W.

Area Chair/Alternate Delegate

nenychair@nenyaa.org

Alternate Chair Report

All right are going toHi everyone,

The DCMs met in July and agreed to a tentative schedule for next year. It is attached to the right. Let me know if you have any comments or concerns.

DCM's, please join us on the next Zoom call, the DCM Conference, August 16,2026 at 5pm,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/95273021180?pwd=amdUTmJiWi9HdnZvNCtlcC9iWlVyZz09>

Meeting ID: 952 7302 1180 Passcode: DCMfun

Yours in Service,

Vo (altnenychair@nenyaa.org)

NENY Tentative 2027 Schedule of Events

2027 area events

Event	Month	Date	Host District	Host Cluster	Location
Orientation	Jan	09/ 10	D8	Central	
NERAASA	Feb	2/26 -28		A49	Tarrytown
NERD	March	11-14		A70	Burlington, VT
Delegates	March	20/ 21	D1	Eastern	
GSC	April	11-17			
Fellowship	April	10 or 24	D20 (/D12)	Western	
Voting	May	15/ 16	D11	HV	
NERF	May	20-23		A50	Buffalo
Joy of Service	June	12/ 13	D10	ADK	
NYSIW	July		A50	WNY	
	August				
Election	Septem ber	11/ 12	D14	Central	
Voting	October	9/ 10	D2	Eastern	
Convention	Nov	5/ 6/ 7		HV	
Fellowship	Nov.	20 / 21	D9	Western	

Accessabilities

Hi Everyone! My name is Amy M and I am the Area 48 Accessabilities 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 Accessabilities 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

Accessabilities 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

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 J
secretary@nenyaa.org
www.nenyaa.org

Public Information

I hope everyone is enjoying summer. NYSIW hosted by SENY was amazing, as always. Unity, service and recovery. I was able to spend some time with Area 49 (SENY) PI Chair, Kevin F. He had a great display - with brochures and information boards about PI. as well as a laptop running downloaded PSA's. I spoke to him about speaking at a future CPC/PI meeting to discuss a workshop he did with mock speakers to educate us on how to talk to the public.

Our CPC/PI monthly meeting was Thursday July 23rd.

Thank you to the districts that attended - 11,13,14,16 and 17.

We continued to discuss the various ways to spread the message. Facebook, Spotify, libraries, office of the aging, EAP. Importance of networking when attending health fairs and county fairs - it was suggested to introduce yourself to the other people who have tables there. I hope to have someone from Area 47, after the 2026 New York State Fair, talk to us about how they represented AA there. Kelley C, GSO Staff member on the Public Information desk will be speaking at our 10/22 meeting.

Please join us (CPC/PI) every 4th Thursday of the month at 6:30PM. August 27th 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 Everyone,

As I always do, I enjoyed the New York State Informational Workshop (NYSIW) this year, the information and the Fellowship was fantastic. Even the food was great! I sat in on all of the workshops to get an idea on what's happening all over the State. Good news is, we are all working together towards the same goal. It is always a great weekend to catch up with and meet other Service Enthusiasts.

The same question keeps coming up about when the 5th Edition 'Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book' is coming out, the word is they are hoping for January 2027. This is NOT a promise.

What else is new and exciting is constantly coming out in the Meeting Guide app under the 'News' tab. Just open the App and touch on the word 'News' on the bottom, you can find there the two new powerful Public Service Announcements (PSAs) available on aa.org they are now also available in French, English and Spanish. There are many Young People Shorts; Season 2 of Our Primary Purpose Podcasts; A message to the Fellowship about the 'Everything A.A.' App; A.A.W.S. Highlights Jan/March 2026; the latest Box 459, and so much more. Big news for me to share, is that the 'Plain Language Big Book' - Audiobook Edition is now on sale. The list price is \$13.99, the runtime is 32 tracks, totaling 8 hours and 41 minutes. Have you seen the new "The Twelve Concepts for World Service Video" yet? You can find it for viewing on aa.org

Grapevine/LaVina & Literature host a combined online committee meeting every Third Thursday of each month at 6:30pm (est). We hope to see you there to discuss what's new and interesting to bring back to your Districts and Home Groups.

Join Zoom Meeting 6:30pm (est)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84064855953?pwd=Lzl2ZUxFaU9qQndTZmpQaU83Q2RQUT09>

Meeting ID: 840 6485 5953

Passcode: 394275

Yours in Service,
Sally K.
NENY A-48 Literature
literature@nenyaa.org

Treatment

Hello everyone from the Treatment Chair.

"Happy Summer"

Hello everyone and Here's my wish that all of you are having a very enjoyable summer. While you are out there enjoying the sun and warm weather give a little thought to those that are struggling with the inability to get out of their surroundings and enjoy the freedom we have.

Think for a minute what can I/we do to help those that are in assisted living facilities, nursing homes and rehabilitation centers as well as those behind bars to learn how to enjoy the serenity and peace of living a sober life. How can we carry the message to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Bringing a meeting or materials into a facility or just visiting someone in need in a nursing home or detox can go a long way in planting the seed to a new life free from the bonds of this disease of Alcoholism. Every little bit helps.

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 a dozen (12) available.

I wish to invite all District Treatment Chair or DCM's and anyone interested, to our next Treatment/ Bridging the Gap (BTG) online meeting Aug. 12th 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, Yours in Service, NENY Area 48
Treatment Chair

Corrections

Welcome to our new Corrections Chair Cici B! Cici can be reached at corrections@nenyaa.org.

Corrections Monthly Meeting Details

Date: First Monday of the month

Time: 6:30 PM

Platform: Zoom

Meeting ID: 867 1213 3948

Password: A48Correct

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](#)

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 <i>This one or one in Oct. needs to be on a Sunday. (Agenda set by Area Chair)</i>	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 <i>This one or one in May needs to be on a Sunday. (Agenda set by Area Chair)</i>	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: alinenychair@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 | 3rd Mondays @ 6:30pm | Meeting ID: 814 0888 4467 Passcode: 472485

News From GSO

From: Dolores K., Delegate, Area 48, Panel 76, Northeastern New York

Check out the GV Open Meeting on Wednesday August 12@ noon. I'm very excited to have been invited to be one of the two speakers that day. I want to share the experience with you Area 48.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/sites/default/files/2026-02/GV-open-meeting.pdf?srltid=AfmBOoqntT3PgbavUaKJVEWJm9KqTLfT74FLkNxneZeAjXMeSlcJtbi>

This flyer may serve as a gentle reminder of why our groups take our responsibility to AA seriously. We do good work!

A.A.'s Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." This means that only A.A. members contribute financially to A.A. – and even A.A. members are limited in the amount they can contribute. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose — to help the alcoholic who still suffers. The amount of the contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.

<https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/aa-contributions-equals-service-en.pdf>

The **AAWS** Board recently recommended that a monthly communication be sent regarding matters related to self-support:

This month, we are pleased to share reflections from two trusted servants who recently completed their service as Panel 75 Delegates to the General Service Conference: Joel C., Area 85 Northwest Ontario, and Jay T., Area 27 Louisiana. Coming from Areas that are about as far apart as two delegates can be while still serving within the U.S./Canada Conference structure, they nevertheless shared a common commitment to carrying the message through service.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W7wn41yb3oPZBbjYoGQ0luwgg2vx9W-S/view?usp=drivesdk>

Have you seen the most recent PSAs on YouTube? You may find them helpful in your 12 Step work and/or at your District meetings. Here's a link:

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/YMgqCns2eOU>

From Sue WAr,, ea Chair/Alternate Delegate

[A message to the Fellowship about the Everything AA App](#) was sent out last month. 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. The AAWS Board is scheduled to meet on July 30 followed by a weekend long (Fri – Mon) meeting of the GSB so I expect to have new reports for you by next month.

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 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.

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.

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.

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

in Alcoholics Anonymous Why is **Self Support** Important?



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 conferences 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	 2,405 Translation requests
 22,139 literature orders	 15 million website views (aa.org)
 25,473 front desk calls	 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!



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
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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



2026
AREA 48 CONVENTION
HIGH PEAKS HUMBLE HEARTS

Join Us for a Transformative Experience!

NOVEMBER 6 – NOVEMBER 8, 2026 | **HOTEL SARANAC**
100 MAIN STREET
SARANAC LAKE, NY 12983

WHAT TO EXPECT

- INSPIRING SPEAKERS
- FELLOWSHIP & CONNECTION
- WORKSHOPS AND PANELS
- OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE
- SHARED RECOVERY EXPERIENCE

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
A convention badge is required to attend sessions.
➔ REGISTER TODAY! ⬅
convention.nenyaa.org
Visit the official site to register and for updates.

BE OF SERVICE! Volunteer Opportunities
Many ways to help make our convention a success!
➔ SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER! ⬅
convention.nenyaa.org
Visit the official site to sign up and learn more.

If you have any questions feel free to contact us – conventionchair@nenyaa.org
Together We Recover

Area 48 Convention 2026 – Hospitality Suite Hosts Needed

Saranac Lake, NY • November 6–8, 2026

We are seeking groups to host a time slot in the Hospitality Suite.

Available Time Slots:

- Friday Night
- Saturday Morning
- Saturday Afternoon
- Saturday Night
- Sunday Morning

Groups are encouraged to providing some snacks, and goodies for their slot.

To sign up or for more info,
please contact: **Bridget M. 516.408.8615**





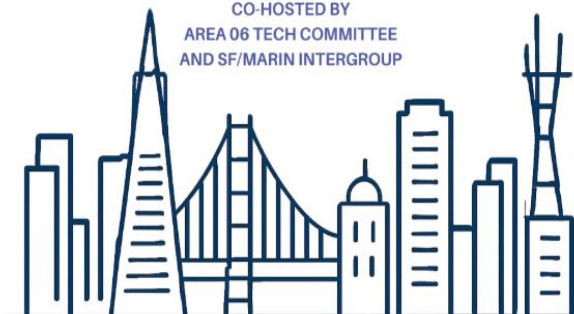
SAVE THE DATE
12th Annual



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

Does it 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>

Save the date!

Fellowship Day

Hosted by Eastern Cluster

Saturday,
September 19th
9am-3pm

**Fellowship, fun, and
lunch at midday! More
activities to come**

First United Methodist
Church of East Greenbush
1 Gilligan Rd
East Greenbush,
NY 12061

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!



AREA 48 PRESENTS

High Peaks Humble Hearts

Join us for a
transformative experience



November 6 - 8, 2026
HOTEL SARANAC

100 Main St.,
Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Mark Your Calendars Today!!!!!!

Interested in Helping out?
Let us Know! Member
Participation Highly
Encouraged
conventionchair@nenyaa.org

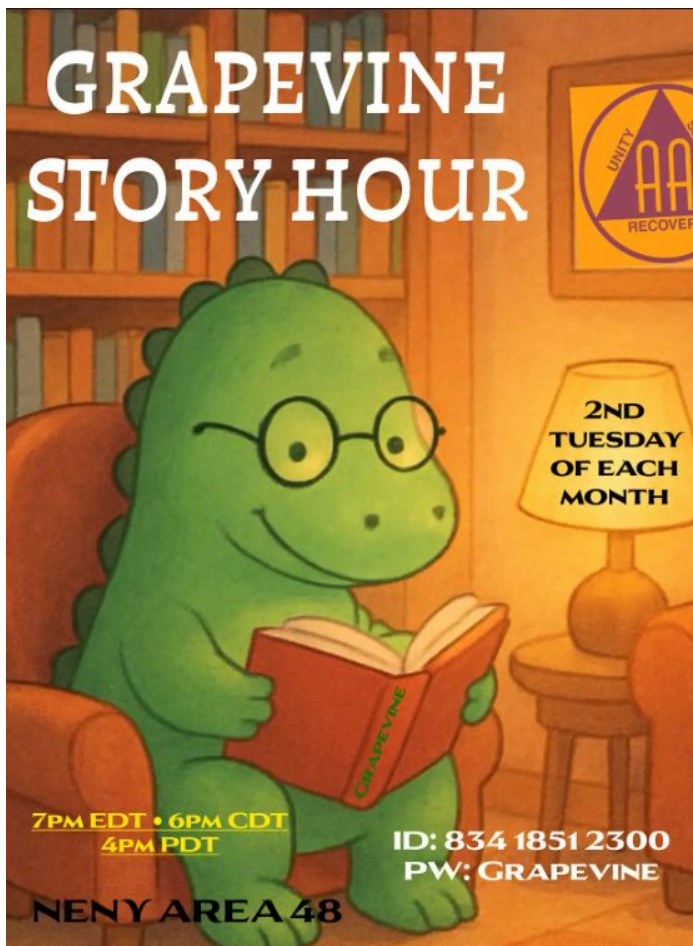
**AREA 48
INCLUSIVITY
COMMITTEE
MEETS MONTHLY
3RD TUESDAY
6:30PM EST**

**ZOOM INFO
898 3966 8615 ID
974900 PW**

Delegate's Connection
Area 48 Panel 76



**Monthly
1st Thursday 7 PM
Meeting ID: 880 5504 0596
Passcode: Service**



AVAILABLE NOW!

**THE NEW
GRAPEVINE
& LA VIÑA
APPS!**

- Read or listen to every issue
- Search our vast GV/LV Archives
- Keep track of your sobriety and spiritual practices
- Listen to our podcast
- Share AA stories and area events with friends
- Find meetings and connect to aa.org

EASY TO USE!
Take GV & LV wherever you go!

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

For more information visit:
www.aagrapevine.org/apps

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

The 63rd Annual INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE of AA

at the Buffalo Convention Center
153 Franklin St, Buffalo, NY 14202

February 11-14, 2027

REGISTRATION

In Person – \$68

Online – \$30

Scholarships available

Register here:

www.internationalwomensconference.org

MEAL INFORMATION

- Friday night banquet & entertainment – \$75
- Saturday night banquet & entertainment – \$85
- Sunday morning brunch – \$45
- Bundle price for all three meals – \$175

TOURS

Explore Niagara Falls,
Buffalo architecture,
and local museums

Souvenirs will be available for purchase.

For questions contact:

info63IWC@gmail.com



THE 63RD ANNUAL

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 11-14, 2027

ONLINE REGISTRATION - \$30

Register here:

www.internationalwomensconference.org

For questions contact: info63IWC@gmail.com



We believe cost should never be
a barrier to participation.

A flexible pricing option
of \$15 is available.

Contact

IWC63Scholarship@gmail.com

for more information.



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



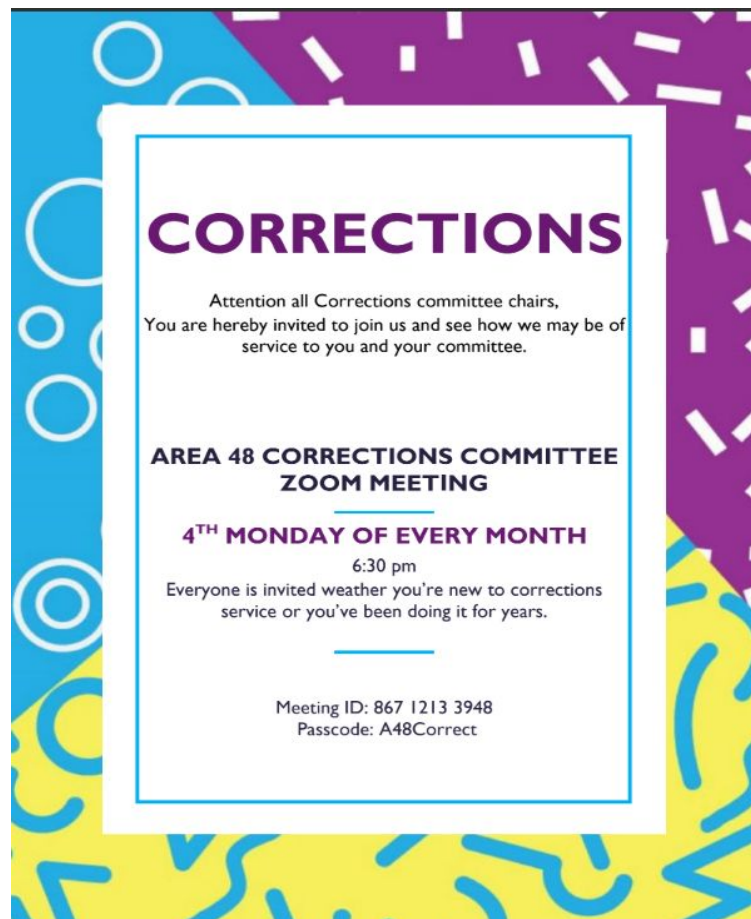
**AA - Living Sober
With Chronic Pain ★**

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 whether you're new to corrections
service or you've been doing it for years.

Meeting ID: 867 1213 3948
Passcode: A48Correct

District 8
ALL GROUPS
Day and Picnic
★ SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH ★
★ RECOVERY, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN ★
 at **GILBERT LAKE**
STATE PARK
BRIGGS SHELTER AND PAVILLION
— 11AM TO 6PM —

SPEAKER/DISCUSSION MEETINGS **1PM AND 4PM**

DISTRICT TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE GRILL AND BEVERAGES.

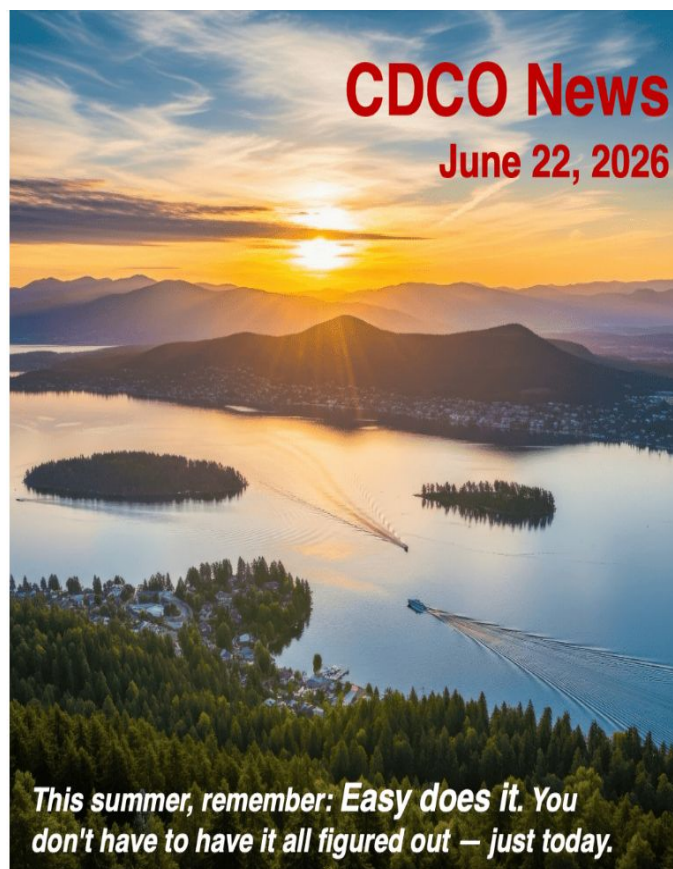
BRING YOUR FAVORITE SUMMER SIDE OR DESSERT.

BRING A LAWN CHAIR.

PLEASE NO DOGS.

\$7 A CARLOAD TO ENTER THE PARK

★ ANY QUESTIONS CALL CATE 607-287 5365 ★



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

Helpline - (518) 463-0906

goAAnow.org

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

To register for the
 Bus Tour:

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



“Free” Doesn’t Mean Free to Produce

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