

ANONYMOUS SOUTHJERSEY

SOUTH JERSEY INTERGROUP

SEPTEMBER 2019

The Freedom in Step Nine

How free do you want to be?

The last paragraph of Step 9 in the 12 and 12 begins:

“Above all, we should try to be absolutely sure that we are not delaying because we are afraid.”

From the start, Step 9 was the one that struck fear into me.

Steps 1, 2 and 3? I can get on board with them.

Steps 4 and 5? Self-centered alcoholic, I can talk about me all day.

Steps 6 and 7? Sure, I'll muster up the willingness.

Step 8? Fine, I'll make the list.

Step 9? Well, I'm a fear-based individual and now you've gone too far.

So I was told:

Do it afraid.

Do it uncomfortable.

Just take with God with you.

And have no expectations.



Because the easy amends are often more difficult than expected.

And the difficult amends are often easier than expected.

There were no promises of forgiveness.

But there was the promise of freedom.

The kind of freedom no words could do justice.

The kind of freedom I had always craved.

For me, Step 9 is where I finally began to walk free.

Tina O.

Ready... Set... GO !

Save the Date:

July 2nd - 5th, 2020

**Celebrate A.A.'s
85th Anniversary !**

The 2020 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan with the theme

“Love and Tolerance is our Code.”

A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 85th year at this event with big meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Ford Field Stadium. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the COBO Center in downtown Detroit. We know many are excited about the International Convention and eager for detailed information. As the time gets closer, additional information about the Convention and Detroit, our host city, will be provided.

Watch for Convention articles in A.A.'s quarterly news bulletin, Box 4-5-9, which is mailed to the general service representative of every group in the U.S. and Canada listed with G.S.O.

Registration forms will be mailed in August 2019 to all G.S.R.s, Intergroups and Area Service Committees.

Online registration will be available
September 9, 2019.



Advance registration for the convention between Sept. 9, 2019 and April 14, 2020 will be \$115.00 (USD) per attendee. Registration after April 15, 2020 will be \$140.00 (USD) per attendee.

Everyone attending must register. Attendance at this special celebration is voluntary, and, as responsible A.A. members, “we pay our own way.” The International Convention is paid for by the A.A.s who participate in it.



**We hope to see you in Detroit to
celebrate the 85th birthday of
Alcoholics Anonymous.**



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

I can only speak of this tradition right now
in a way that will be obscure
However, I do realize the importance
of what this tradition is for
Just as we cannot stay sober alone
We cannot keep groups in tact
Unless we have someone with some power
To show example of how we're to act
We AA folks are often insecure
Too much power can go to our head
So, therefore, we rotate the leadership roles
To stay vigilant with whom we are led
Our primary purpose is to stay sober
And help others to stay sober too
So it is of utmost importance
What we say: What we think;
What we do.

Anonymous

August 14, 2019

"Let all of us AAs, whether we be trustees, editors, secretaries, janitors, or cooks -- or just members -- ever recall the unimportance of wealth and authority as compared with the vast import of our brotherhood, love, and service."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1947, "Will AA Ever Have a Personal Government?",
The Language of the Heart

Editorial Policy

Anonymous South Jersey is a monthly newsletter published by and for members of South Jersey. Opinions expressed herein are NOT to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of information imply any endorsement by either AA or South Jersey Intergroup. Quotations and artwork from AA literature are printed with permission from AA World Services, Inc., and/or the AA Grapevine, Inc.

Contributions from readers are encouraged—you can write about your experience, strength and hope in general, or you can focus on one of the steps or traditions. You can also write about something that touched you at a meeting, something that bothered you at a meeting, or some service commitment you especially enjoy. Submissions are edited for space and clarity. Contact information is required and anonymity is respected.

Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish flyers for events in this newsletter. However, we are happy to include your gathering in the general list of fellowship announcements.

Please send your submissions to
newsletter@asj.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SJ INTERGROUP:

South Jersey Intergroup Association, Inc.
PO Box 2514
Cherry Hill, NJ 08035
Office / Literature Sales: 1-856-486-4446
Email: Info@asj.org
Website: www.asj.org

24-Hour Hotline: 856-486-4444

SJIG holds its monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at 8 pm at:
St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
1989 Route 70 East, Cherry Hill, NJ



Office Manager : Karen, our office manager has resigned her position. Thank You, Karen, for your creativity and service to SJIG! Therefore, South Jersey Intergroup is accepting resume's for the Part-Time (10 - 12 hrs. / Wk.) position at info@aasj.org and interviewing prospective candidates by appointment.

Answering Service : We currently have three (3) open shifts: Tuesday overnight from 10PM-8AM, Wednesdays from 4-6PM, Thursday overnight from 10PM-8AM

12-step list: Please continue to remind everyone that more volunteers are needed for the 12-step list. We have a signup sheets available for anyone wishing to take a copy to their home groups. Please contact the Answering service committee for more details. If you know anyone who would like to be of service, please have them contact us at answeringservice@aasj.org.

Newsletter: Lyn, our Newsletter Chair has resigned. Thank You, Lyn, for your service to our fellowship! SJIG will need a newsletter chairperson in order to continue producing this publication. Step right up!

Public Information: Public Information is ALWAYS looking for help (mostly daytime) so please email publicinfo@aasj.org if you would like to do service.

Technology: Feeling creative? Know someone creative? It has been discussed that each group / intergroup create a logo to brand where our meeting data on

The Meeting Guide is sourced. If you'd like to create a square SJIG logo, please submit it to tech@aasj.org for consideration. Seeking a simple, clean design.

This Month In A.A. History

September, 1930:

Bill wrote 4th (his last) promise in his family Bible to quit drinking.

September, 1939:

Earl T. helped found the 1st AA group in Chicago.

September 1946:

Bill W & Dr. Bob both publicly endorsed the National Committee Education Alcoholism just founded by Marty M.

September, 1949:

1st issue of Grapevine published in "pocket-book" size.

September 17: 1954:

Bill D, AA #3 dies.

(Brought to you by the Archives Committee)



September Trivia:

Who began giving alcoholics the very first "Sobriety Medallions" ?

Last Month's Answer: January 24, 1918

Hospitals & Institutions

SPEAKING COMMITMENTS

Contact Frank or Debbie at handi@asaj.org
to book a speaking commitment

Sunday

Inspira (Underwood) Psych Unit - 4-5 pm – 9/29

Maryville Men's - 2-3 pm – 9/22, 9/29

Monday

Kingsway Recovery – 8-9pm – 9/2, 9/30

Maryville Men's Post House - 8-9 pm – 9/9

Tuesday

Delaware House - 2-3 pm - 8/27, 9/3, 9/17, 9/24

Recovery Centers Of America Voorhees – 12-1 pm –
9/17, 9/24

Solstice Counseling Services - 7-8 pm - 8/27, 9/3, 9/10

Virtua Psych Unit Mt. Holly – 8:30-9:30 – 9/17

Wednesday

Jefferson (JFK) Psych Unit - 7:45-8:45 pm – 8/28

Jefferson MICA Unit - 11-12 pm – 9/4

Unity Place (Adult MICA) - 12:40-1:30 pm - 8/28,
9/4, 9/18, 9/25

Solstice Counseling Services 12-1 pm - 8/28, 9/18, 9/25

Northbrook MICA Unit - 8-9 pm - 8/28

If your Group has a “Standing” Commitment and
you have not been to the H & I Meeting recently,
PLEASE Contact the H & I Committee ASAP
to avoid “Double Bookings”

Thursday

Ancora State Hospital Chapel – 7-8 pm –8/22, 8/29,
9/19, 9/26

Lourdes Psych Unit Willingboro - 8-9 pm - 8/22

Unity Place II - 10-11 am - 8/22, 8/29,
9/12, 9/19, 9/26

Daybreak MICA - 10:30 am-12:00 pm - 8/29,
9/12, 9/19, 9/26

Pinelands Recovery Medford (New Building) - 7-8 pm –
9/5

Friday

Pinelands Recovery Medford - 7-8 pm – 9/20

Maryville Post House Men's Pemberton - 8-9 pm – 8/30,
9/13, 9/20, 9/27

Saturday

Inspira (Underwood) Psych Unit – 4-5 pm – 8/31,
9/21

Cooper Psych Unit Camden – 10:30-11:30 am – 8/31,
9/7

Maryville Men's Williamstown - 7-8 pm - 8/31,
9/7, 9/21, 9/28

Fellowship Announcements & Things to do...

Sun. Aug. 25 - District 14 will have a picnic @ Parvin State Park 855 Parvins Mill Rd. Pittsgrove from 11am - 4pm - \$8/\$10 door - more info call Anthony: 455-0416.

Sun. Aug. 25 - Haddonfield "12 & 12" will celebrate their 49th anniversary. Christ The King Church - Hopkins Ave. & Wood Lane Haddonfield, NJ FFF starts at 1pm followed by a mtg. - SJIG Literature Road Show in attendance.

Mon. Sept. 9 - Hainesport Serenity Group celebrates their 36th anniversary with a desert meetin' St. Paul's Lutheran Church - 910 Marne Hwy. - Hainesport - Speaker is Lee C. from Maple Shade. Meeting at 8pm. Desserts after. SJIG Literature Road Show in attendance.

Sun. Sept. 29 - Cape Atlantic Breakfast \$27. Cape May Grand Hotel 1045 Beach Ave. Cape May. Eat 9am followed by speaker. mail reg. to CAIG, PO Box 266 Pomona, NJ (no tix at door)

Sat. Oct. 5 - "Grapefest" Everything Grapevine from 10am - 1pm. Ocean Acres Community Center. 1361 Rte. 72W, Manahawkin.

Sat. Oct 12 – Woodstown & Area 45 will sponsor a correctional workshop. Woodstown Presbyterian Hall, 46 Auburn Rd.

Sat. Oct 19th 2019 Day Of Sharing 9am to Noon, Carlslake Community Center 207 Crosswicks Rd. Bordentown. All AA's welcome, brunch provided.

2019 DAY OF SHARING



SAT., OCT. 19, 2019
8:30 A.M. TO NOON

Carlslake Community Center
207 Crosswicks Rd.,
Bordentown, New Jersey

COMMITTEES FROM THREE SOUTH JERSEY
INTERGROUPS AND AREA 45 DISCUSS
THEIR COMMON SUCCESSES, PITFALLS, AND
SOLUTIONS!

PLEASE COME OUT AND SHARE YOUR
EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE AS
IT RELATES TO A.A. SERVICE!
EVERYONE WELCOME!
BRUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

Practice These Principles...
In our 12 SJIG Committees.

- Answer the Hotline Phones! Or sign up for the 12 Step List, for Answering Service
- Intergroup... all of us! Step up to bat on the 2020 Intergroup team with the Unity Committee
- Take it on the road with the Bookers Committee
- Carry the message *inside* with the H & I Committee
- Balance the funds with the Budget & Finance Committee
- Surf for solutions with the Technology Committee Visit www.aasi.org
- Help plan Fellowship Fun with Social Events Committee
- Sell & Stock Literature with the Literature Committee
- Help out with the Newsletter Committee
- Help the public understand AA, by speaking at Public Information Commitments
- Dig into Intergroup History with the Archives Committee

Service work for everyone ~~~ Get involved ~~~ Contact Intergroup.