

ANONYMOUS SOUTH JERSEY

SOUTH JERSEY INTERGROUP

November, 2021

STEP ELEVEN

**SOUGHT THROUGH PRAYER AND
MEDITATION TO IMPROVE OUR CONSCIENCE
CONTACT WITH GOD.**

Step 11, the important pause. It's where I get to sit with my concept of a Higher Power and hear what my intuition sounds like. By now, I have had time to develop a concept of my own Higher Power and it's time to get to know Him. This step is prayer coupled with mediation. I ask then I listen. The combination makes for an unshakable foundation.

When I came to AA I was inundated with many things I did not want to do, only to later find out I was being taught the tools that I would need daily. Today, prayer and mediation is at the top of the list. When I am asked how I stay sober, going to meetings is no longer at the top of the list. I live a very full life, which means that I cannot always get to a meeting everyday, but I can and do, pray and meditate every day. It's my direct line to the Power. I don't always feel an immediate charge after completing this action, but I always feel a calm that no matter what the day brings me, I'll be ok. I won't always be happy or successful, but I'll be ok. And, isn't that what I always wanted?

Every morning, I sit quietly, sometimes with a guided meditation playing and sometimes without. I ask my Higher Power to please prepare me emotionally, physically and spiritually for what the day will bring, to give me the strength to be kind, loving and patient under all conditions of the day. Then I take in all the energy He has to give. I listen and feel. I know when it's enough.

-Anonymous

TRADITION ELEVEN

**OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS POLICY IS BASED ON
ATTRACTION RATHER THAN PROMOTION;
WE NEED ALWAYS MAINTAIN PERSONAL
ANONYMITY AT THE LEVEL OF PRESS, RADIO
AND FILMS.**

Anonymity is a cornerstone element that runs through our program. It keeps us humble and safe. Our recovery is the success given us by our individual Higher Power, not each other. We guide and support each other, but we are not to take the credit for each other's sobriety. Attraction is the biggest promoter we have. People want what I have when they see how I live. That is what they are drawn to when they arrive in AA. That's what I was attracted to. I saw people who had lived the way I had been living and they had been changed. I wanted that too. I couldn't change myself. I had already tried that, so I did what they suggested, and it has worked for many years.

Also, this Tradition does not say we stay anonymous with each other, it means staying anonymous to the outside world. We need to know each other in here. If people outside of AA are curious about how we have become the people we are, we need to pray about what we share. We always want to be able to carry the message to someone who does not know about AA when it will be helpful. But we must be careful we are not bragging or boasting. We must check our motives. When sharing our stories on a public level (press, radio or film) we must always address ourselves as "a member of Alcoholics Anonymous" leaving out our names. This rule has helped AA stand the test of time.

-Anonymous

**Want to get involved, make new friends and
have some fun?**

**2022 AREA 45 CONVENTION
COMMITTEE MEETS EVERY 2ND
SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Meeting Location: 449 Club
6 Pemberton Street
Pemberton, NJ**

Zoom Meeting ID: 810 1861 0818

Password: SNJAA45

EDITORIAL POLICY

Anonymous South Jersey is a monthly newsletter published by and for members of South Jersey Alcoholics Anonymous. 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 sometimes edited for space and clarity. Contact information is required and anonymity is respected.

**PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE IN WORD, PUBLISHER OR A
GOOGLE DOC.**

Artists: Send some original paintings, drawings or photography (no photos of faces please in keeping with tradition.)

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

Please send your submissions to newsletter@asj.org.

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12 STEP LIST AND ANSWERING SERVICE NEED VOLUNTEERS

As meetings begin to open and people willing to meet others one-on-one; please continue to remind everyone that more volunteers are needed for the 12-step list. Areas we need most help: Berlin, Camden, Hammonton, and Salem. We have signup sheets available for anyone wishing to take a copy to their home groups. If you know anyone who would like to be of service, please have them contact us at answeringservice@asj.org or invite us to speak at your home group.

Volunteers are needed for the Answering Service. Where else can you do 12th step service from the comfort of your home or even from your bedroom. Please consider volunteering so the desperate alcoholic can speak to a live person when reaching out.

Group Histories

Do you know your group's history? Your group's history is an important part of the growth of AA in southern New Jersey. The Archive Committee of South Jersey Intergroup is collecting the histories of the groups in our area. Why not download our group history questionnaire located at <https://asj.org/resources-page/archives/> and submit it to Archives@asj.org.

The Archive Committee organizes and stores historic materials regarding the South Jersey Intergroup. We gather histories of the groups and Old-timers for our area. If you have historic documents/literature to donate or would like to be interviewed about your group's story or your own personal story, please email us at archives@asj.org

Inside This Issue:

Step Eleven-Tradition Eleven

News and Events

Members' Articles

Letter from General Service Office

**SERVICE: A GREAT WAY OF
“GIVING BACK WHAT HAS BEEN
SO FREELY GIVEN...”**

We come into A.A. and hear about the 7th Tradition, that each Group is self supporting and all that, but what about the Intergroup, and the local Area Panel? Self-support means more than putting a buck in the basket. It also means giving of ourselves, our talents, experiences, and knowledge. Most of us do so at the Group level, by helping to set up the chairs and rearrange the tables, making coffee (pre-pandemic), or leading the meeting. Others of us take a commitment to speak at another Group’s meeting, or at a hospital. Still others run up to Intergroup to buy pamphlets and books. Thus our Group functions carries the message to the newcomer. “Is that all there is?” one might ask.

Not hardly. There is another whole level of Service to our Fellowship out there. It exists at the Intergroup and Area level. Most of you are probably familiar with so many things that we take for granted in this day and age. We pick up a meeting list (remember those?) at a meeting to see what other meetings are out there, (Meeting List Committee) or jump on the web to search out new meetings. (Tech Committee) We call the Hotline to get directions to a meeting we’re not familiar with, or to refer someone to. (Answering Service Committee) We greet newcomers at our meeting because the rehab gave

them information about us prior to them leaving the facility. (Hospital & Institutions Committee) All of these things are possible because someone (maybe you?) stepped up and said “I can help with that.” Most of the things we do require very little skill, but all require a level of commitment.

Please reach deep down inside yourself, think about the services YOU used the day you decided to reach out for help, and perhaps step up to help the next sick and suffering alcoholic? If you’ve been around the rooms for a while, you’ve probably heard of the “spirit of rotation”. It means that we don’t take on a responsibility in A.A. and become its lifetime czar. We look to pass on what we’ve learned to someone else, just as Bill & Bob did as they aged. They knew that they wouldn’t be around forever, and for the Fellowship to survive, they needed some new blood coming in to continue the work to be done. Oops! There goes that word “work” again. We read in the Foreword to the 1st Edition in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous that our A.A. work is but an avocation, giving back what has been so freely given. Step up and reap the many untold rewards of getting involved in Service above the group level. I can tell you that you will not regret it.

Peace... Andy E. :-)

Please direct all
communications to:

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

October 15, 2021

Dear A.A. Friends,

It is with much gratitude and joy that I share my first communication with you as General Manager of the General Service Office. By way of introduction for those who don't know me, my name is Bob and I'm an alcoholic! I have crossed paths with many of you throughout my years of service to our Fellowship and I am overjoyed to continue the many friendships I have forged and look forward to many more.

As your General Manager, my primary focus is service — service to all of you: our members, your groups, our boards and all the employees of the General Service Office. As I contemplate the word service and what it means to me, I am reminded of what I was taught early on in A.A. "It's not so much *what* we do but *how* we do it." The spirit of that philosophy is my vision for the office and a guide for me in how I desire to serve; with kindness, patience, tolerance and love — rooted in our principles.

Speaking of our principles, my vision for our office is not really mine, it's ours. It was defined for us years ago by our co-founders and is memorialized in the Three Legacies. My focus and priority is to infuse the spiritual principles (embodied particularly in our Twelve Concepts, but also in our Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions) into the daily operations of the office. With this in mind, efforts are in motion to establish a monthly "1728 Meeting" for all employees of GSO and the trustees and directors of our boards. The name "1728" is taken from the meeting established by our Class A (nonalcoholic) trustees many years ago. It's still held during each Board Weekend, for the purpose of broadening their understanding of our Steps, Traditions and Concepts (12x12x12=1728). The meeting format will give all in attendance the opportunity to learn about and apply our principles to current projects and issues. We will also be including presentations of our principles during all employee and department meetings. With the support and unity of all three of our boards, we are restructuring the General Sharing Session, which is held during our Board Weekends, and reinstating the "town hall" style meeting. This will prove to be very effective in the infusion of our principles; not only in the office operations, but also the working relationships with the boards. It will provide a great opportunity for discussion of current issues and topics within the office, committees, boards, and the Fellowship. The spirit of this meeting will allow for wide participation with no fear of reprisal.

Covid has been difficult on our groups, families, and our lives in general. It's been a long road for the employees of GSO as well, who moved to a virtual work environment in March of 2020. I'm very happy to announce that we have returned to the office at 475 Riverside Drive on October 1. Our primary focus is the health and safety of all our employees. To this end, most employees will have a hybrid schedule allowing them to continue to work from home a few days per week. Unfortunately, we will have to continue our current visitor policy and will not be able to entertain outside visitors to the office. Welcoming visitors to GSO has always been an important part of our history and it is my hope that we will be able to reinstitute office visits and tours after the first of the year.

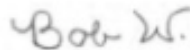
With the shift to a virtual work environment, many of our processes were forced to change and we lost access to some of the tools that helped us with our work. I realize some of these changes have caused challenges for some of you when interacting with the office. I want to express my gratitude for your candor in letting us know the details of your experiences. This is helpful. The services provided by the General Service Office are the reason why we are here. Before coming to GSO, I enjoyed a 35-plus-year career in customer service. My commitment to each and every one of you is that the office provide you all with a high level of service.

I know many of us were disappointed with the cancellation of our International Convention last year. Recently, I travelled to Vancouver, British Columbia, to participate in the beginning of our preparations for the 2025 Convention. I returned filled with hope. The enthusiasm of the membership and friends from Western Canada was infectious, and we couldn't ask for a more beautiful venue for our celebration. Please begin your early planning thoughts now. It will be here before you know it. It will prove to be an enormous and enthusiastic renewal for our Fellowship around the world!

In closing, in my short three months serving in this role, I have been touched in so many ways. The dedication of each and every employee of the General Service Office is inspiring. With the challenges of working remotely, preparing to return to the office, and navigating our first in person/hybrid Board Weekend in October, the office continues to carry out its mission with humility, unity, and good spirits.

I look forward to keeping in touch with all of you regularly and seeing many of you in person very soon.

Thank you for the privilege to serve you.



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

ANNOUNCING GRAPEVINE'S NEW PODCAST

Starting on October 4, 2021 with a new episode each Monday.

Each week Don and Sam will interview a different member about their experience, strength and hope, in a casual “meeting after the meeting” manner. Special features will enhance each episode.

A new podcast episode will be available in English every Monday.

To hear the podcasts go to aagrapevine.org/podcast



The views and opinions expressed herein are those of each individual and do not necessarily represent the opinions or policy of South Jersey Intergroup or AA as a whole.

BIARRITZ (FRANCE) INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL A.A. CONVENTION

A WEEKEND EVENT - 21- 23 JANUARY 2022
(IN ENGLISH)

HUMILITY & TOLERANCE

The attainment of greater humility is the foundation principle of each A.A.'s Twelve Steps.
For without some degree of humility, no alcoholic can stay sober at all. --As Bill Sees It

Register & receive the Zoom login URL/Password

ALL SPEAKERS; EXPERIENCED LONG-TIME AA MEMBERS,

Andrew B. (SG) Andy S. (IRL), Diane C (WLS) Bill C. (USA), Brendan JM (IRL),
Pat M. (IRL), Michael O-R (BE) John C. (IRL/USA)
Jay C (USA), James S-F (USA) & Others

Special Guest Speakers: George K. (USA), Ken R (USA), Matt W (USA),
Anne de-L. (USA), Steve T (USA)

AL-Anon & YPAA, Participation

RECOVERY AND ECONOMY

NO TRAVEL! NO HOTEL! NO RESTAURANT!

'NO EXPENSE!'

WEBSITE: <https://aavirtualconventionbiarritz.com>
CONTACT & INFO: babanglophonegroup@gmail.com



GUIDELINES

ROOM #1 is for AA meetings

ROOM #2 is for Al-Anon meetings

- 1, WHERE DO THE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE?** See <https://aavirtualconventionbiarritz.com/programme>
- 2, WHAT TIME/S ARE SPECIFIC MEETINGS AT?** See <https://aavirtualconventionbiarritz.com/programme>
- 3, WHAT TIME IS THAT IN MY LOCAL TIME ZONE?**
See Time-zone converter [available here](#)
- 4, WHAT ARE THE LOGIN/PASSWORDS FOR THE ROOMS?** See Logins & Passwords Page [available here](#)
- 5, VOLUNTEER TECH-HOSTS AND CO-HOSTS WELCOMED**
Contact email: babanglophonegroup@gmail.com
- 6, OPENING CEREMONY & PANEL / 17:00 21 JANUARY 2022**
CLOSING CEREMONY & PANEL / 11:00 AM 23 JANUARY 2022
- 7, OTHER QUESTIONS, GENERAL IN NATURE.**
Contact email: babanglophonegroup@gmail.com

We look forward to meeting you at the event, and hope you enjoy a great time with us all.

USE YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT OR CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS TO REGISTER

Biarritz Virtual Convention committee, Email: babanglophonegroup@gmail.com

ANONYMOUS SOUTH JERSEY

PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY

AREA 45 FALL 
Virtual ASSEMBLY

Meeting ID: 853 6102 7607

Passcode: a45nov

Nov 21, 2021

Virtual doors open at 830

New GSR/DCM Orientation starts at 845

Panel Officer Elections at 10am

Assembly and Committee meetings follow



Attend 58th International Women's Conference - Virtually!



We invite women from all over the world to attend the 58th International Women's Conference virtually. The virtual conference will run simultaneously to the in-person event and will include opportunities to connect with the women attending in person in the host city of Santa Fe, NM. Four days of A.A. meetings, fun and fellowship!

February 2022

10-13

What is included in a virtual ticket:

- **Main speakers** in Santa Fe broadcast virtually straight to you.
- **Live entertainment** on Friday and Saturday night broadcast virtually straight to you.
- **Hospitality Connection** – women physically attending in Santa Fe will be able to connect with women attending virtually from around the world.
- **Hybrid Panels** – virtually attend select panels happening live in Santa Fe at the convention center.
- **Exclusive virtual panels and workshops!**
- **Opportunities to be of service!**
- **Opportunity to purchase souvenirs** on our [website](#) (U.S. and Canada only).

\$10.00

Virtual Registration Fee
International Credit Cards Accepted

[Register Now](#)

Attendees confirmed for the in-person conference in Santa Fe, will also have access to the virtual conference.*

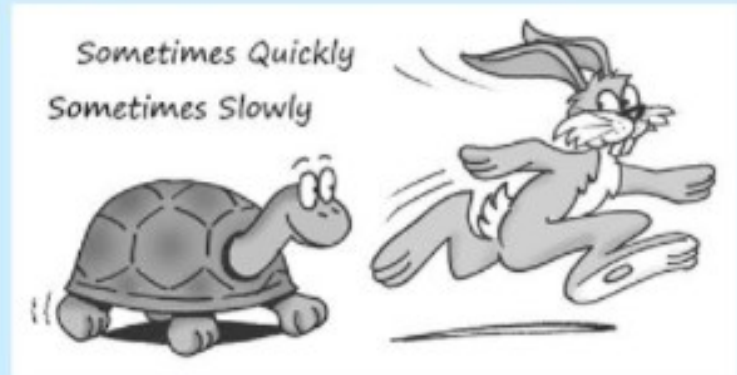
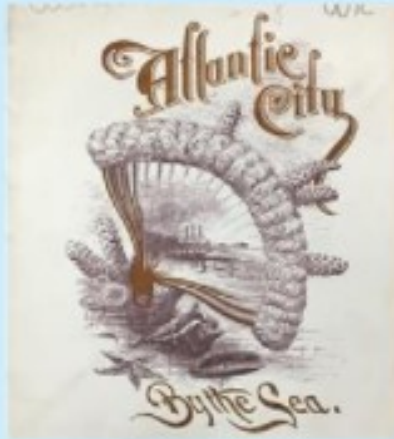
The 58th International Women's Conference in Santa Fe is sold out for our in-person conference.

* Confirmed attendees are those that have paid the \$60 registration fee for the 58th IWC. Not sure if you are confirmed for in-person? [Email us.](#)

56th Area 45 General Service Convention

LIVE "Sometimes Quickly, Sometimes Slowly"

VIRTUAL (Key Events only)



March 18-19-20, 2022

The Claridge Hotel

123 S. Indiana Ave
Atlantic City, NJ

[No On-Site Casino]



You must request an ASL Interpreter in your Registration



AA Speakers
Al-Anon Speakers
Roaring 20's Banquet & Dance
Sobriety Count Down
Marathon Meetings
Al-Anon Skit (TBD)
Entertainment
Selfie Stations
AA's Got Talent (Open Mic)
Karaoke

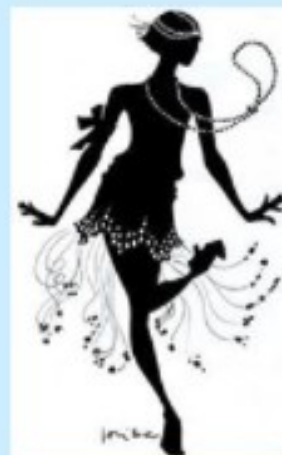
More to come on the website

Hotel Amenities

Great Hotel Stay Discount

* Arcade * Gym *

*Indoor Pool * Starbucks *



<https://area45convention.org/>

See website for: information, sign-ups, events, activities, etc registration opens in Nov 2021

Fwd: Announcing Digital Version of 71st General Service Conference-approved A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023

 SJ Intergroup <sjintergroup@verizon.net>

11/10/2021 1:46

To: committees@aaaj.org, trustees@aaaj.org

Reply Forward Delete 

-----Original Message-----

From: Groupservices <groupservices@aa.org>

To: Groupservices <groupservices@aa.org>

Cc: GroupservicesSA <groupservicesaa@aa.org>

Sent: Tue, Nov 9, 2021 11:23 am

Subject: Announcing Digital Version of 71st General Service Conference-approved A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023

Dear Intergroup/Central Office Friends,

Some of your offices may have already heard, but in case you have not, we are excited to announce our much-anticipated, newly revised, redesigned and updated 71st General Service Conference-approved **A.A. Service Manual 2021-2023 in digital-first format** is completed in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#) and is now posted via an announcement on [What's New](#) on [aa.org](#) today.

Print copies off press are due to ship from the printer to our warehouses by **November 17**, and according to an update received today, the books are on press at the printer ahead of schedule.

With an Attitude of Gratitude,

Craig Weidner

G.S.O. Staff- Groupservices Coordinator

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10115

(212) 870-3287

[www.aa.org](#)

If you need help with a drinking problem, want to know more about Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.), or want to find

A.A. near you, resources are provided at:

https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/need-help-with-a-drinking-problem

