

ANONYMOUS

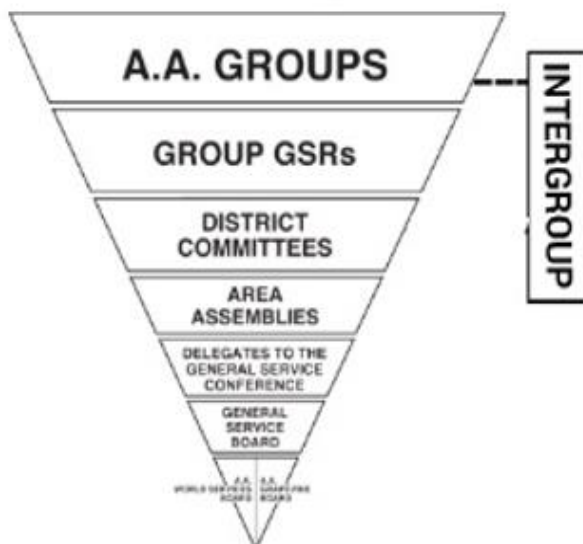
SOUTH JERSEY INTERGROUP

JULY 2022

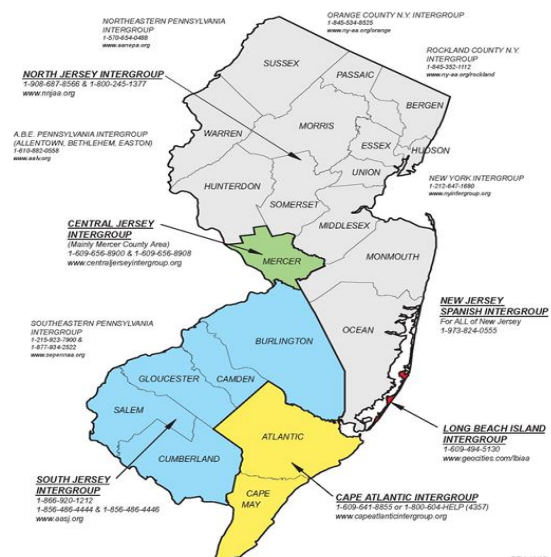
WHAT IS SOUTH JERSEY INTERGROUP?

A friend gave me a call after they attended a recent Area 45 Spring Assembly in Elmer. At first, they were sharing their positive experience and thoughts about the informative assembly, but soon more directed questions were being asked. It still wasn't clear to this person how AA service is structured. After a brief conversation regarding how Area 45 and South Jersey Intergroup (SJIG) perform different functions. SJIG provides local services while Area 45 maintains the link between the all of Southern New Jersey's AA groups and the AA General Service Board by means of sending the Delegate to the Conference. So these two separate but vital service structures coexist in mutual cooperation and harmony. Still they were puzzled, "You didn't mention what Intergroup does."

I can understand the confusion. The diagram below is intended to explain the 'upside-down pyramid' service-structure of AA. It seems puzzling enough but Intergroups are only connected to the groups and nothing else- what gives? Well this will take a bit more space than the cover page to explain. First, let me show you the geographic area of **South Jersey Intergroup on the map of New Jersey below in BLUE**. (Continued on back page) B



NEW JERSEY & SURROUNDING A.A. INTERGROUPS



INSIDE OUR JULY ISSUE

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- 10) What's the Difference between Area 45 & SJIG?



The **North Wildwood Beach Group** is hosting a spectacular day at the **Cape May County Park Zoo**

pavilion #4

- Celebrate Dad..bring the whole family
- Kids under 12 attend for FREE!
- Food/Dessert donations are needed..bring your favorite
- Limited capacity, Tickets recommended. \$15 donation is suggested per person.
- See group members or contact Ed **609-685-8108** to pre-purchase tickets and to sign up to Help/Volunteer. Some tickets available at the event.

➔ **PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE GROUP'S KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY**



PREPARE TO BE...

ROCKETED INTO THE FOURTH DIMENSION

THIS FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND

Volleyball
Cornhole
Fireworks
Music
Fireworks!



Rain Location:
St. Johns by Sea, Ventnor

Brought to you by CAYPAA and NJYPAA
Come for Hotdogs, Burgers, Fellowship, and Fun!

Date: July 2nd

Time: Noon until Boom

Location: Beach on Bartram Ave in Atlantic City

City

\$10 Suggested Donation

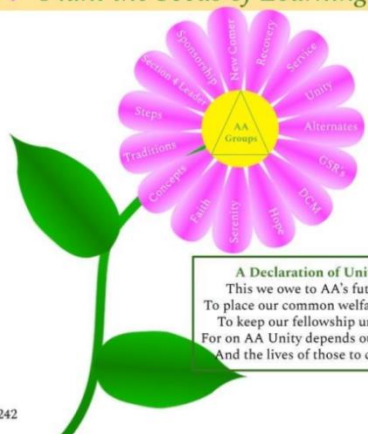


Alcoholics Anonymous District 19 Spring Unity Event * "Plant the Seeds of Learning"

Enjoy
• Food
• Fun
• Fellowship
• Music by Eddie M.

Saturday, June 25, 2022
12 pm - 3 pm
North Wildwood
2nd & Surf Ave. • Amphitheater

For questions or directions contact:
DCM Sandy M. 609.551.8528
ALT DCM John S. 609.780.7742



A Declaration of Unity
This we owe to AA's future
To place our common welfare first
To keep our fellowship united
For on AA Unity depends our lives;
And the lives of those to come.

Donations to: PO Box 452 Rio Grande, NJ 08242

You are cordially invited to help celebrate
the **29th Anniversary**
of the

8 O'CLOCK AT WAYNE GROUP OF A.A.



FRIDAY, JULY 15th, 2022
7 PM FOOD – 8 PM MEETING

At

**St. Katharine of Siena
Parish Hall
Aberdeen & Midland Avenues
Wayne, PA 19087**

Food, Fun and Fellowship. Donations gratefully accepted. All are welcome.

NJYPAA
New Jersey Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous

Virtual Business Meeting
10:30 AM
3rd Sunday of the Month

ZOOM Meeting ID: 264-995-272
Password: service

Fellowship Things to Do

Sat. June 19– 3:00- 6:30pm BINGO, 400 CLUB, 42 Berlin Rd., Clementon Lake Plaza, Clementon, NJ

Sun. July 10- 9:00- 10:00am Area 45 2023 Convention Meeting Pemberton 449 Club 6 Pemberton St, Pemberton, NJ Fun & fellowship while doing AA Service!

Sun. July 10- Noon - 5:pm SEPIA Unity Picnic, Neshaminy State Park, Pavilion #1, Visit aasepia.org 'Events Fliers' for more info.

Tues. July 19- Bergen County Young Peoples 52 Anniv. Celebration, FFF at 7:00pm Speaker at 8:30pm The Summit Church, 720 Summit Ave., Hackensack, NJ

Mon. July 25- 6:30- 7:30pm HEART OF THE FELLOWSHIP, WHAT MAKES IT BEAT? CARRYING THE MESSAGE! District 15 would like to encourage our fellow AA Groups to come check out what District is all about. DCM Kevin H will be our host the Zoom meeting -Meeting ID: 857 3656 1093

Sun. July 31 11:00- 3:00pm Flourtown Annual Summer 'Potluck' Cookout, Ft. Washington (Day Use Area), 44 w Mill Rd., Flourtown, Pa.

Stories Needed

Archives is looking to continue collecting information and stories about our South Jersey groups and individuals. archives@aasj.org. **Personal Histories, Homegroup Histories, COVID Adaptation Stories**

The next Bookers Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 8 PM at St. Bart's, 1989 Route 70, Cherry Hill, NJ.



"To Be" is here and there

racing through the day
obligations and commitments
doing things to achieve
a success which can never be reached
reaching for the moon
once reached... it isn't good enough
now the stars are the goal
but... what happens when
that destiny is found

can't being "here" be OK
do we really need to get over "there"
more we do... more we achieve
that "there" becomes "here"
and we chase a new "there"
a new level of success
only to be found by doing
somewhere along the way
we lose who we are

no longer can we exist
with just being at ease
we forgotten the innocence
of just... being
there is a reason why
we're called human beings
and not human doings
maybe its time to quit doing
and just start... being



Trivia Question :

What is the name of the physician who wrote the "Doctor's Opinion" in the A.A. Big Book?

(Answer is in this issue)



Editorial Policy

Anonymous South Jersey is a monthly newsletter published by and for members of South Jersey Intergroup. 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. Trivia Question Answer: Dr. William Silkworth. Contact info. is required, 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 1-856-486-4444

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

InterGroup Steering Committee: consists of the panel of elected InterGroup Officers, InterGroup Committee Chairpersons/Co-Chairpersons, and a Representative from the Board of Trustees. Our monthly meeting is held on the second Wednesday of each month at the InterGroup Office in Pennsauken and is open to all members of the A.A. Fellowship.

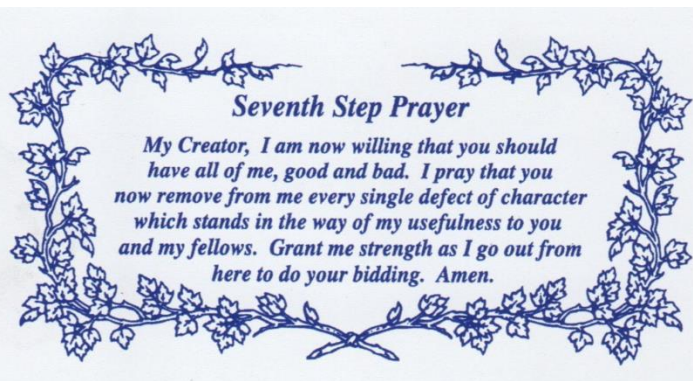
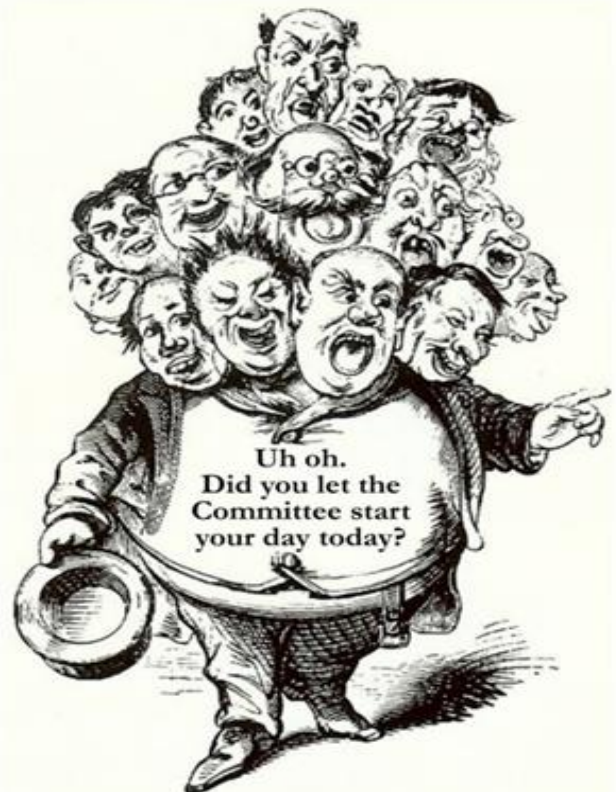
TELEPHONE
ANSWERING SERVICE



Get Involved!



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CHANGE
EVERYTHING**



What is an Intergroup Rep?

So You're Thinking Of Becoming An Intergroup Rep For Your Home Group...

Serving as an Intergroup Representative (IGR) offers you a rewarding opportunity to share in Alcoholics Anonymous' Third Legacy – Service

Intergroup Rep (IGR) ~ Handling A.A. services at the local level-from Circles of Love & Service

SJIG provides vital local services and Twelfth Step opportunities. While General Service Representatives, District Committee Members, Area 45 Committees, Area 45 Assemblies, and the General Service Conference are concerned with matters affecting A.A. as a whole, SJIG fill a different need. SJIG handles local services only—such as manning the answering services and coordinating local Twelfth Step calls, providing meeting lists, and providing public information speakers for non-A.A. groups and for A.A. meetings in hospitals & institutions.

SJIG and Area 45 are complementary, rather than competitive. Both exist to help ensure A.A. unity and to fulfill A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

“What is the Role of an Intergroup Representative?” you ask? Great question!

Here's how it works. The IGR is elected by his or her group. They then attend the monthly Intergroup Business Meeting. To this meeting you bring any suggestions, comments or opinions your group may have. The IGR or alternate casts their group's vote on all matters requiring a group conscience and represents their home group. You are the point of contact for SJIG should it wish to communicate in any way with you home group and are the conduit for any information, concerns, ideas, and anything that your home group may want to send to SJIG.

As the IGR you are also the link in the chain connecting the AA group to those who are elected to maintain the operation of SJIG. This allows the Intergroup to better serve its members — which is the reason for its existence as provided for in the 9th Tradition which says “AA as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve”.

On the 3rd Wednesday of each month IGRs and alternates participate in the Intergroup business meeting and this meeting is also attended by the officers and committee chairpersons. Each group represented has one vote (1 group, 1 vote, if there are multiple persons from the same group).

Each individual group determines the qualifications and period of service for its IGR. Experience shows that the elected group representatives can function best when they are elected and are able to attend the next meeting in the company of the outgoing rep and become better oriented and more knowledgeable regarding SJIG business meeting and the duties of the IGR.

There are a number of things you can do to become a better trusted servant of your group and SJIG;

- Point of Contact ~
You and if you also have an Alternate, will serve as the conduit between your home group and SJIG to communicate any news, concerns or information and ideas your home group may want to send to SJIG
- Visit the SJIG Office ~
Introduce yourself, and meet the office manager- plan the visit at sjintergroup@verizon.net
- Attend SJIG Meetings Regularly ~
SJIG holds monthly meetings open to any members. This is a great opportunity to hear current discussions and voice your opinion, even if you don't have a vote. You can also weigh in on giving ideas for AA activities, listening to committee reports. Inviting other members of your group is encouraged as a way of learning how else to carry AA's message to other alcoholics.
- Know the AA Service Literature ~
Knowing the AA literature and each of its contents is essential in being able to know which literature to recommend to better serve your group.
- Sign Up Volunteers as a way to "Carry the Message" ~
As the IGR your responsibility brings you information with overall activities such as 24 hour hotline, 12th step calls, volunteers in the office and any of the SJIG's committees. You are the conduit who communicates these opportunities and more to your home group members.
- Help Keep AA Effective & Self-Supporting ~
One of the most important ways an IGR can serve is to encourage the group to regularly contribute to the operations of the SJIG Office. Keep members aware, on every level, that AA is fully self-supporting through our own contributions.
- Keep Your Group Information Up-To-Date ~
Verify with SJIG that your group's meeting time, location and day are all up to date. Check in with the Meeting List Committee at least annually to make sure their information mirrors your meeting information. Notify SJIG if change in names, addresses, and phone numbers of your group's officers.
- Inform your Group Members ~
Take a few moments at every meeting to make any new SJIG announcements and throughout AA as a whole. Make a quick commentary with interesting information "Here is some important information shared at the SJIG meeting..."
- Finances ~
Become familiar with the Intergroup finances. Keep members informed of the monthly balance sheet. Explain how the money is used to support various activities of SJIG and the Committees.
- Our Newsletter ~
Encourage your group members to become readers of this newsletter. Provide the office with news and items of interest about your group for possible publication, such as a member's experience with the AA program.
- SJIG Events ~
Announce and encourage members to participate in SJIG Events and Committees. The Steering Committee Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each Month at the SJIG Office at 7:30pm at 50590 Central Ave., Pennsauken, NJ. Consider attending these functions with group members to better understand how SJIG function and provide Twelfth Step opportunities. Announce upcoming activities at every meeting!

[SJIG Steering Committee](#)

The Intergroup Representatives elect as their trusted servants a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, and such other officers as they deem necessary. The Regular Intergroup Meeting is on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm, at: St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 1989 Rt.70 East Cherry Hill, PLEASE! ENTER FRONT DOOR ONLY! If you would like to get involved in service, please contact the Office or the Committee Chair. The functions of the officers are as follows:

Intergroup Officers

Chairperson – chairperson@aaaj.org The Chairperson coordinates activities of the other Officers and Committee heads. He or she presides at Intergroup meetings, expressing no opinions either for or against any Motion on the floor while occupying the chair; voting only in the necessity of a tied-vote. The Chairperson may preside at Steering Committee meetings in the absence of the Vice-Chairperson.

Vice-Chairperson – vchairperson@aaaj.org The Vice-Chairperson presides as Chairperson of the Steering Committee. In the event of the absence of the Chairperson, he or she presides as Chairperson at Intergroup meetings.

Treasurer – treasurer@aaaj.org The Treasurer keeps accurate account of Intergroup financial affairs, reporting same to Intergroup.

Secretary – secretary@aaaj.org The Secretary takes minutes at InterGroup meetings and sees that minutes are distributed to InterGroup Representatives. He or she also performs any such duties as may be assigned.

Assistant Secretary – asecretary@aaaj.org The Assistant Secretary is the Secretary for the Steering Committee. The duties of Secretary and Assistant Secretary may be performed by one person in the absence of the other.

InterGroup Steering Committee

The Steering Committee consists of the panel of elected Intergroup Officers, Intergroup Committee Chairpersons/Co-Chairpersons, and a Representative from the Board of Trustees. Our monthly meeting is held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Intergroup Office at 5090 Central Ave., in Pennsauken and is open to all members of the A.A. Fellowship.

Answering Service/12 Step Committee – answeringservice@aaaj.org This committee manages and fills the time slots with responsible AA members who volunteer to answer the phone at Intergroup office and at home by Centrex. Training sessions are available for 1st time telephone volunteers. The 12th step list is a list of committed AA members available to take the still suffering alcoholic, when they ask, to a meeting, detox, etc. For more information or to volunteer, please call the Answering Service/12 Step Committee at 856-486-4446. This line has a message tape. Your call will be passed to the Committee Chairperson.

Archive Committee – archives@aaaj.org The Archive Committee is responsible for the organization and storage of historic materials regarding the South Jersey Intergroup. We gather oral and written 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 personal story, please email us.

Bookers Committee – bookers@aaaj.org Bookers are representatives from AA home groups who book speakers from other AA home groups to speak at their meeting and book speakers from their group to go out to other AA meetings to speak. Bookers Meeting Exchange meets at St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 1989 Marlton Pike East (Route 70), Cherry Hill @ 8:00 pm on the First Thursday of February, May, August & November.

Budget & Finance Committee – budget@aaaj.org The Budget and Finance Committee of South Jersey Intergroup is an internal committee that assists the Steering Committee in preparation of its annual budget, is

available to help committee chairmen with financial questions, and annually examines the treasurer's records and stewardship of money entrusted to Intergroup by contributing AA groups.

Hospitals and Institutions Committee – HandI@aasj.org The Hospitals & Institutions Committee (H & I) books groups and individuals to fill speaking commitments at hospitals, detox centers, and rehabs. Also provides them with literature. Individuals are always welcome to book H&I speaking commitments either in person, via phone, or by email. The Hospitals & Institutions Booking Meeting takes place at the Intergroup Office in Pennsauken at 7:00pm on the last Monday of each month.

The need for literature/donations is ever present. Has your home group donated literature lately? Speakers are needed everywhere (90 days sobriety required). Please call 856-486-4446. This line has a message tape. Your call will be passed to the Committee Chairperson.

Literature Committee – literature@aasj.org This committee is responsible for ordering and disbursing AA literature at the Intergroup office in Pennsauken. Literature Store Hours listed on our [Literature Page](#). The Literature Committee has opportunities for Sales volunteers who would be available to fill in as substitutes when needed and to help out with "Literature Road Shows" where we bring literature to events and home group meetings. Contact [literature](mailto:literature@aasj.org) for more details.

You can place an order by calling 856-486-4446 anytime. This line is covered by an answering machine. You can leave your order on the machine or email. We suggest that you call to verify that someone is in the office, or will be in the office when you come to pick up your order. We will have your order ready to go when you arrive. Special Orders will take up to two weeks.

Meeting List Committee – meetinglist@aasj.org Lists all AA meeting days, times, locations and types of meetings. Updated and reprinted when necessary. Call Intergroup to report a change in your meeting. You can also download a Meeting List Update Form or use the Online Update Form.

Newsletter Committee – newsletter@aasj.org The Intergroup newsletter, Anonymous South Jersey, is published monthly and contains articles written by our own AA members as well as Intergroup news and announcements. To volunteer for this committee or to submit an article or other announcement, please call the Intergroup Office or email the committee. Your participation and submissions are always welcome.

Public Information Committee – publicinfo@aasj.org The Public Information Committee provides AA speakers to schools and other organizations when requested. To have the Public Information Committee provide a presentation to your organization call the Intergroup Office or send email.

Social Events Committee – socialevents@aasj.org Plans social activities such as dances, dinners & family outings. Fun camaraderie for the Fellowship of AA! If you have any questions or ideas for social events, or would like to volunteer to work on the committee, please call or send email.

Tech Committee – tech@aasj.org Develops and maintains this website, an ever progressing important activity.

Unity Committee – unity@aasj.org Ever wonder HOW the Traditions impact our meetings? Need a job (one third of the triangle is service) in Intergroup but you aren't sure what you want? OR are you tired of hearing your sponsor tell you to GET A JOB? Get answers to these and other questions. Have Unity give a presentation at your home group!

Trustees- trustees@aasj.org SJIG also has elected trustees, these elder statesmen of local AA share their experience, strength and hope in the hope of avoiding past pitfalls or creating new ones.

Concept VII: The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

- Do we act responsibly regarding the "power of the purse"?
- Do we realize that the practical and spiritual power of the Conference will nearly always be superior to the legal power of the G.S.B.?

(from page 1) **I once read that Bill Wilson, as he got older, sought to establish a "Central Office" or "Intergroup" to handle a lot of the functions that keep AA going. Those that might prove too burdensome or too time consuming for an individual group to create, administer, and maintain on their own. c**

Just as an AA group is a partnership of individuals, SJIG is a voluntary partnership among the groups of 5 south-western counties of New Jersey. SJIG derives its legitimate authority from and is responsible to the member groups which it serves. In all its activities, policies, and proceedings, Intergroup observes the practice and spirit of AA's Twelve Traditions and Twelve concepts for World Service, as well as its three legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service.

SJIG performs tasks are common to all member groups — functions that are best handled by a centralized office — and it is maintained, supervised, and supported by the groups in their general interest. It exists to aid the groups in their primary purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

SJIG's purpose is to support the local AA Groups and their members – by teaming up in carrying out various tasks such as but not limited to;

1. Publish and maintain a schedule of meetings held in the 5 Counties of SJIG.
2. Operate a 24-Hour Hotline for callers seeking help or information. Maintain a listing in directories for Alcoholics Anonymous. Maintain a database by geographic area and gender, of members in the Fellowship who are willing to perform Twelfth Step service. Respond to "cries for help" by contacting Twelfth Step volunteers and assigning them to the suffering alcoholics who are reaching out.
3. Organizing and arranging AA's to speak at Hospitals and Institutions.
4. Organizing the exchange of AA Members to speak at each other's Home Group meetings (which we call Bookers)
5. Planning and Organizing Social Events.
6. The Technology Committee maintain the aasj.org website with meeting schedules and other information regarding A.A. in SJIG (Note: the GSO's website is AA.org)
7. Maintain a central office including a supply of approved AA literature and books so individuals & groups do not need to order from the General Services Office in New York.
8. Serve as a communications center for local groups, keeping them informed about A.A. activities through a monthly newsletter and other appropriate means.
9. Public Information Committee to send Speakers out to our local High Schools & local Doctors Offices if they request information and serve as goodwill ambassadors to the local community. c

SJIG purpose includes; perform such other services as the member Groups may direct.

A.A.'s AREA ASSEMBLY AND INTERGROUP OVERVIEW - THE COMMON THREAD IS **SERVICE** TO YOUR GROUP

What's the difference between South Jersey Intergroup and Area 45's General Service Assembly?

From the moment we joined A.A. and got a Homegroup, (you guys did that, right?), we began to learn about Service. All Groups require Service to function as a Group. And all Groups require common Services to effectively serve a local community, or a large area, or an entire State. All these Services are provided by volunteers who choose to "Give Back That Which Was So Freely Given" Some get involved with Intergroups, others with Area Assemblies. Both service structures need OUR ongoing involvement.

Intergroups Provide A Link to Local A.A. Services:

Answering Service: Makes sure that a caller speaks to a fellow A.A. Member to get them to an A.A. meeting.

Bookers Committee: Makes sure that we have live Speakers to share their stories at our Group.

Hospitals & Institutions Committee: Makes sure there are Speakers and Hosts to get the A.A. Message to those in Rehabilitation Facilities and Hospital Wards.

Literature Committee: Makes sure that Groups have A.A. Literature available to help us carry the Message.

Meeting List Committee: Provides a listing of all A.A. Groups and Meetings in our local service community.

Public Information Committee: Makes sure that local Civic and School facilities have Speakers to help the public understand what A.A. is, and what it isn't.

Social Events Committee: Organizes and presents Sober activities for A.A. members to enjoy.

Website or "Tech" Committee: Maintains a public access Website for information about A.A. and our local A.A. services and events.

Area Assemblies Provide A Link to A.A.'s World Service Structure:

Groups send a Group Service Representative to both District and Area Meetings to keep them informed about what is happening in the World Service Structure of A.A. and to voice their Groups opinion.

Districts hold meetings to keep GSR's informed about Area events and agenda items, and to coordinate communication among local Groups.

Area holds Quarterly Assemblies to keep the GSR's and Districts apprised of events and agenda items at The World Service level.

Area Elects a Delegate (and Alternate Delegate) to Send to the General Service Conference to represent Area 45's voice in A.A.'s World Services.

Area holds a Convention where A.A.'s can meet and experience Service in Action by attending Workshops and Speaker events.

Andy A.

SJIG invites you to participate in maintaining and improving the services we provide.