

# Carrying The Message

South Jersey Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Newsletter

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March 2026



Step 3 • Tradition 3 • Fellowship & Service

# Leaning Into Faith

March invites us to take the next step forward. After honesty helps us see things clearly and hope opens the door to possibility, Step Three asks something deeper of us: a decision. We are asked to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.

For many of us, this is not about having all the answers or perfect belief. It is about willingness. A willingness to loosen our grip, to stop trying to manage everything alone, and to trust that guidance and help are available to us.

Faith is the principle that supports this step. Not blind certainty, but quiet trust. Trust that we are not meant to carry the weight by ourselves. Trust that, one day at a time, we can take the next right action and be cared for along the way.

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*This newsletter is offered as a place to find shared experience, practical information, and support from across our Intergroup.*



*Find this shamrock image hidden somewhere in the Newsletter. The first person to find it and tell me at the monthly intergroup meeting gets a shout-out in April's Newsletter*

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## Intergroup Meetings

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### Public Information Committee Meeting

02/25/2026  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Join Public Information and help share AA's message by distributing literature and resources to the public

South Jersey Intergroup Office  
1000 White Horse Rd #702  
Voorhees, NJ 08043

### South Jersey Intergroup Meeting

03/18/2026  
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

SJAA Intergroup meeting is a monthly business gathering where representatives from local meetings coordinate essential community services—like maintaining the 24-hour hotline and local meeting lists—to ensure the AA message stays available to anyone seeking help.

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
1989 Rt 70 E (Marlton Pike East)  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
Zoom  
ID: 424-122-113, Password: 276748

### H & I Committee Meeting

02/26/26  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The Hospitals & Institutions Committee (H & I) books groups and individuals to fill speaking commitments at hospitals, detox centers, and rehabs as well as providing literature.

South Jersey Intergroup Office  
1000 White Horse Rd #702  
Voorhees, NJ 08043

In All Our Affairs ...



"Sorry lady, it doesn't work that way."

# The Service Spotlight

*The Archives Committee: Safeguarding Our History with Roy C.*

*"Preserving and displaying our history is proof that the program of AA works."*



**M**y name is Roy, and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is September 19, 2015. I came to Alcoholics Anonymous later in life, and once I discovered the gifts found in service, I jumped in with both feet. Before long, I accepted the position of Archives Committee Chair for Area 45. After completing a six-year rotation of service, I became the Archives Committee Chair for SJIG.

Archival service has given me the privilege of learning our Fellowship's rich history and traveling throughout North America representing South Jersey. Through this work, I've seen firsthand that preserving and sharing our history carries a powerful message: this program works.

I am truly blessed. This program saved me from a deadly disease, and yet there are still so many who suffer. By protecting our past, we help ensure hope remains available for those who need it most.

I thank God that I am sober today, and I pray for the gift of sobriety again tomorrow.

## The Service Grid



### The Mission:

We preserve the documents, recordings, and pictures that trace the evolving history of AA in South Jersey. We aim to protect and preserve this history and make it available to the Fellowship.



### The Team (Who's Who):

Chair: Roy C.

Co-Chair: Marcia

Technical Advisor: Michael C.



### Place to Be:

Our goal is to make the Intergroup office a welcoming space for all to enjoy and learn.

## GET INVOLVED!

Help the Archives Committee carry the message by preserving our past. Whether you are interested in history or just want to help the still-suffering alcoholic find proof that AA works, we have a place for you.

### VISIT US:



Every Friday



12:00 PM - 2:00 PM



**Drop by for a cup of coffee!**



SJIG Office

1000 White Horse Rd,  
Voorhees, NJ.



**Questions? Contact Roy at:**  
[archives@asj.org](mailto:archives@asj.org)

# Fellowship & Events



Scan Here for Calendar of Events



## Saturday Big Book Meeting 24th Anniversary

Saturday, February 21st  
9:00am - 10:30am

**Church of St. Charles Borromeo**  
176 Stagecoach Rd,  
Sicklerville, NJ 08081



## Saturday Soul Sisters 5th Anniversary

Saturday, February 21st  
11:00am

**Inside Recovery Club**  
716 Jersey Ave,  
Gloucester City, NJ 08030



## Audubon Friday Night Anniversary Meeting

Friday, February 27th  
7:15pm

**Logan Presbyterian Church, Calvin Hall**  
18 W. Merchant Street,  
Audubon, NJ



## Women of Grace, 35th Anniversary (women only)

Wednesday, March 25th  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Atco United Presbyterian Church**  
2259 Atco Ave,  
Atco, NJ



## From The Ashes Group-12 Step Workshop

Saturday, February 28th, 2026  
10:00am-2:00pm

**Cultivate Church**  
2303 Evesham Road  
Voorhees, NJ

- Lunch will be provided!
- Please bring your own Big Book, notebook, highlighter, and pen



## The Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly

February 20-22  
2:00pm

**Holiday Inn By the Bay**  
88 Spring St  
Portland, ME 04101

To learn more or to register visit:  
[www.NERAASA.com](http://www.NERAASA.com)



## The Power of We - Cape May Round Up 2026

March 6 @ 12:00pm - March 8 @ 12:00pm  
\$40.00 - \$65.00

**The Grand Hotel Cape May**  
1045 Beach Ave.  
Cape May, NJ 08204

To learn more or to register visit:  
[aasepia.org/event/round-up-2026/](http://aasepia.org/event/round-up-2026/)



## We Were Reborn - EACYCAA Young People's Convention 2026

March 26 - March 29, 2026  
\$40.00 Pre-Registration

**Harrah's Resort**  
777 Harrah's Blvd.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

To learn more or to register visit:  
[njypaa.org](http://njypaa.org)  
Contact: Ben C. (973) 224-6726



## Monthly Fellowship Dinner

First Sunday of the Month  
7:00pm

**3rd Step Candlelight Group of AA**  
**Shore Diner:** 6710 Tilton Road, Egg Harbor Twp.

# Fellowship & Events (Cont.)



## Atlantic City 60th Area 45 General Service Convention

Fri, March 20 - Sun, March 22, 2026

\$45

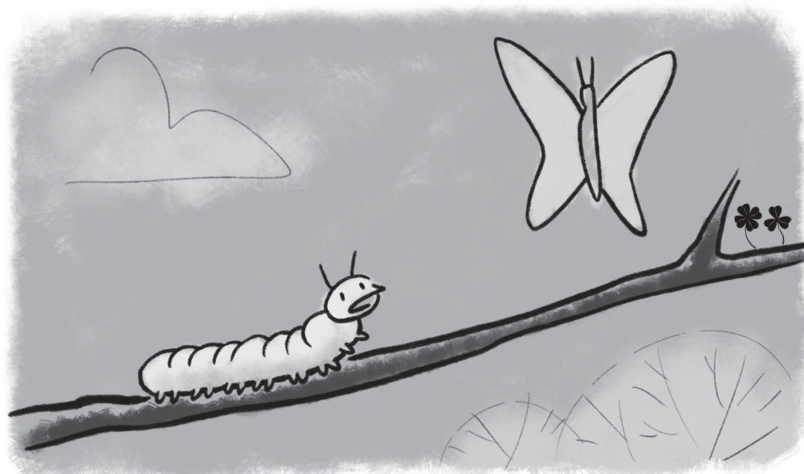
**Bally's Conf. Center**

1900 Pacific Av.

**TO LEARN MORE or REGISTER:**



[AREA45CONVENTION.ORG](http://AREA45CONVENTION.ORG)



*"My sponsor says I shouldn't make any major changes in my first year."*



## Member Spotlight

*Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help others to achieve sobriety. In this new monthly spotlight, we share the Experience, Strength, and Hope of our local members. This month, we look back at the courage it took to walk through the doors for the very first time.*

**W**hen I walked into my first AA meeting, I remember the utter defeat I felt. My scorecards read zero and there was a vast emptiness that lived inside me. Alcohol was my solution for many years and slowly, over time it stopped working and in fact it turned on me. I was at a cross road. My brother was in the program and I remember seeing the light that turned on inside him. One day, I asked him to take me. I walked in and the emotion I had stuffed down for so long began pouring out. I listened to him read the preamble and cried.

I don't remember much of what I heard, but what I do remember are the feelings, the relief. For the first time in a long time I felt like maybe there was hope. Even though I couldn't say much I knew what everyone was saying. It was like they were talking directly to me (even though they weren't) and they definitely knew the pain that was inside me. But these people were happy; they were free. I knew just then I needed to figure out what they had.

Everyone smiled, they offered me coffee, literature. After the meeting women approached me. I felt a sense of genuine care and understanding. That same day, a women offered to take me through the steps. I said yes. She became my sponsor and showed me the program of AA that has since changed my life. I am forever grateful for the moment of clarity that led me into the doors of AA and for the willingness that allowed me to regain my life back, one step at a time.

In fact, it gave me an even better life, one in the fourth dimension that I couldn't have ever even dreamed of.

Nicole

-New Jersey (SJIG Member)

# Step 3

*“Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.”*

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## Principle of Step 1: FAITH

Decisions are powerful. A decision means “making up one’s own mind,” and it helps resolve inner conflict. For many of us, the struggle between drinking and not wanting to drink made it easier to turn that problem over to God as we understood God. Letting go of other parts of our lives, however, often takes more willingness.

Step Three shifts us from reflection into taking action. The first two steps prepare us through honesty and belief; this step asks us to live that belief. It is where faith becomes trust.

In the Third Step Prayer, we “offer ourselves to Thee” so our Higher Power can “build with us and do with us as it will.” We ask to be “relieved of the bondage of self” so that “we may better do God’s will,” and to “take away our difficulties” so that “victory over them may bear witness” to others. Each request is about becoming useful and available for service.

One member compared Step Three to taking a car to a mechanic. We hand it over, trusting it will be returned in better working order. The mechanic doesn’t keep the car — they help us move forward. Turning our will and our lives over is much the same.

As our text reminds us, “the spiritual life is not a theory — we must live it.” And faith may not remove every struggle, but it promises, “I’m here with you and we can walk through this together.”

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## Tradition 3

*“The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.”*

### Principle of Tradition 3: INCLUSIVITY (MEMBERSHIP)

**"DESIRE IS ALL YOU NEED"**. Tradition 3 ensures that no individual can be barred from the fellowship based on their past, their beliefs, or the severity of their problems. By setting aside our prejudices and allowing anyone to join based solely on their desire to get well, we establish that A.A. belongs to anyone who says they are a member, ensuring that the door remains open for even the most marginalized or "undesirable" individuals to find sobriety.



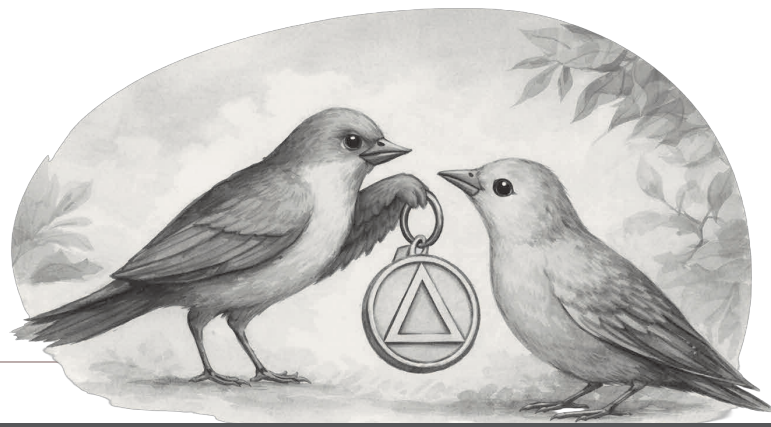
## Concept 3

*“To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”*

### Principle of Concept 1: MUTUAL TRUST

Concept 3 centers on the "Right of Decision," which empowers every trusted servant and A.A. entity to interpret and apply their authority to specific situations as they arise. This principle requires the Fellowship to maintain mutual trust in its servants; without it, service bodies like the area conference or the General Service Conference become hamstrung by rigid instructions rather than being allowed to vote based on their best judgment and conscience. Similarly, this right protects staff members from micromanagement that could lead to demoralization and a loss of initiative. While this authority must not be used as an excuse to avoid reporting or consulting on important matters, the entire program ultimately rests on the principle of mutual trust between God, A.A., and its members.

# Service & Help Wanted



## LITERATURE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**Roles:** Help with inventory, sales, and organization



**Shifts Available:** Make your own hours



**Hours of Operation:** Monday & Tuesday 10am-3pm & 6pm-8pm | Wednesday - Friday 10am-3pm



**Contact to Volunteer:** literature@asj.org | 856-486-4446



**Literature Office Location:** 1000 White Horse Road, Suite 702 Voorhees, NJ 08043

### Newsletter Submission Info:

#### Share Your Experience:

We welcome articles, event info, and announcements to inform our local groups.

#### Email Us:

newsletter@asj.org

### South Jersey Intergroup Office Info:

1000 White Horse Road, Suite 702 Voorhees, NJ 08043-4413

Office: 856-486-4446

24 Hour Hotline: 856-486-4444

info@asj.org

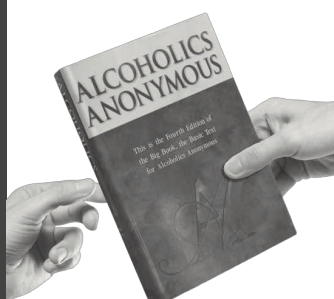
### In need of AA Literature?

Looking for meeting lists, cards, or literature? We've got you covered.

Visit Our Literature Office:

1000 White Horse Rd, Suite 702, Voorhees, NJ 08043

Please call ahead: 856-486-4446



Bring This Coupon During Your Next Visit

**\$2.00**  
off

any in-stock literature available at the AASJ Literature Office

## South Jersey Intergroup MEETING UPDATES

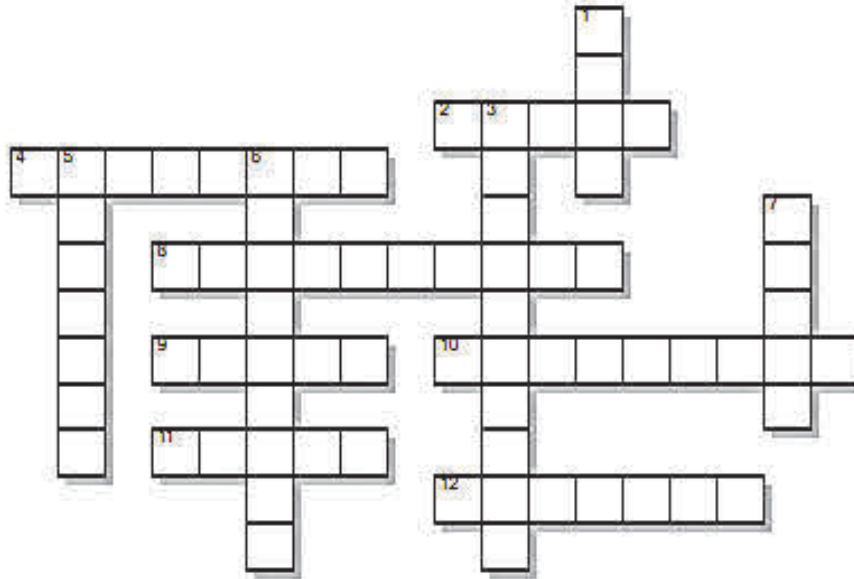
List includes new meetings, and existing meetings which have changed time, day or location

For the most up-to-date meeting information, always visit [aasj.org](http://aasj.org) or use the Meeting Guide app. The meeting list is updated several times per week. For any meeting updates, questions, concerns, etc., please contact [meetinglist@aasj.org](mailto:meetinglist@aasj.org)

| Jan-26                   |             |               |                   |                        |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Meeting Name             | Meeting day | Meeting Time  | Location          | Type                   |
| 703 Men's Meeting        | Mon-Fri     | 7:03AM-8:03AM | Online            | Mens, various formats  |
| Courage to Change Womens | Tuesday     | 7:00 PM       | Riverton/hybrid   | Womens                 |
| Hainesport Serenity      | Monday      | 7:30 PM       | Hainesport/hybrid | Discussion, Literature |
| Big Book Breakdown Group | Tuesday     | 7:00 PM       | Haddonfield       | Big Book               |
| Blue Anchor Group        | Thursday    | 7:00 PM       | Hammonton         | Open                   |

# AASJ Community Crossword

## March Edition



### ACROSS

- 2 The program's guiding actions.
- 4 What we often find is "run amok" before taking the third step.
- 8 The answer to all my problems today.
- 9 Step Three word meaning confidence.
- 10 The patron saint celebrated on the 17th of March.
- 11 Fellowship feeling of togetherness.
- 12 Helping others without pay.

### DOWN

- 1 Belief that change is possible.
- 3 A common three-word phrase for practicing Step Three daily.
- 5 The first day of Spring, occurring in March.
- 6 Tradition Three ensures the program is \_\_\_ and open to all who suffer.
- 7 The month we \_\_\_ forward together.

WORD BANK: ACCEPTANCE, EQUINOX, HOPE, INCLUSIVE, MARCH, SELFWILL, SERVICE, STEPS, STPATRICK, TRUST, TURNITOVER, UNITY