

# SOUTH JERSEY INTERGROUP NEWSLETTER

Carrying The Message

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*April 2026*



## Inside This Issue

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- Step, Concept, & Tradition 4 ... Page 6
  - Spotlight on: Bookers Committee ... Page 5
  - Fellowship, Upcoming AA Events ... Page 4
- 

## Welcome To April

Spring invites light into places long hidden. As we move into Step Four, we are asked to bring that same light to ourselves through a searching and fearless moral inventory. This month, we explore the courage it takes to look within and the freedom found in 'earning our seat' through service.

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# Member Spotlight

## *My First Seat in AA*

When I was new, Bill M. decided to help me—whether I wanted it or not! My first job was setup and cleanup for the Moorestown Barber Group. Back in 1984, these were big, smokey meetings of 100+ people. My job was cleaning ashtrays, wiping tables, and coffee help. I was a non-smoker who didn't drink coffee or even like the people making the mess (I didn't like anyone).

I did it because Bill explained that I didn't earn my seat in AA with what I did before I got here; I earn it with what I do in AA. He told me if I wasn't in service, I was still "stealing" my seat. The cost of my next drink was my daughter, and I wasn't giving up my seat for anything so I did that job and every other job he gave me.

I didn't get into service for a spiritual experience, to make friends, or feel a part of, but over time, all those things happened. I've had a service job ever since, and I've never had to give up my seat.

— Joanne M., from "How It Works" Audubon, NJ

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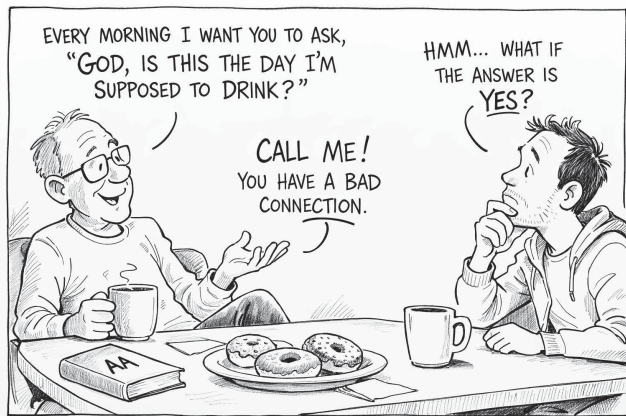
*This newsletter is offered as a place to find shared experience, practical information, and support from across our Intergroup.*



*Find this egg bunny icon image hidden somewhere in the Newsletter. The first person to find it and tell Chelsea (Newsletter Chair) or Nathan (Newsletter Co-Chair) at the monthly intergroup meeting gets a shout-out in May's Newsletter*

# Table of Contents

- 02 Member Spotlight  
-"My First Seat in AA"
- 03 TOC & Intergroup Meetings
- 04 Fellowship & Events
- 05 The Service  
Spotlight (Bookers Committee)
- 06 Step, Concept, &  
Tradition 4/A Lesson  
in Group Autonomy
- 07 AA Humor, Just For  
Today, Step 4 Prayer,  
Slogan of the Month,  
Connection Corner
- 08 Help Wanted/  
Literature Coupon /  
Newsletter  
Submissions
- 09 Meeting  
Updates/New  
Meetings, Crossword  
Puzzle



## Intergroup Meetings

### Public Information Committee Meeting

03/25/2026 & 04/29/26  
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

04/15/2026  
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

03/26/26 & 04/30/26  
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

# FELLOWSHIP & EVENTS

For a full list of events



Scan Here



## Women of Grace, 35th Anniversary (Women Only)

Wednesday, March 25th

6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Atco United Presbyterian Church**

2259 Atco Ave, Atco, NJ



## 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



## 3rd Step Candlelight Group of AA - Monthly Fellowship Dinner

First Sunday of the Month

7:00pm

**Shore Diner:**

6710 Tilton Road, Egg Harbor Twp.



## SJIG Sober Rollers Night!

Sunday, March 29th

12:00pm - 2:00pm

**Lucky Strike**

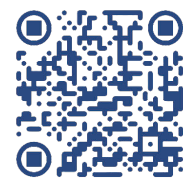
1536 Kings Hwy N, Cherry Hill Township, NJ

**Price:** \$25/person (Includes shoes, pizza & soda) • 35-person limit • First come, first served • No walk-ins

**Venmo Note:** Please include "Bowling," your name, and guest count.



Scan QR Code to Pay



**venmo**

@SouthJersey-Intergroup



## 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:

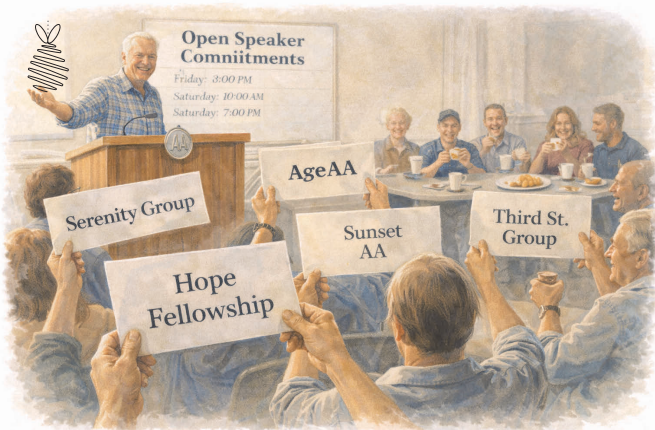


AREA45CONVENTION.ORG

# The Service Spotlight

*The Bookers Committee: Exchanging the Message with Nilda N.*

*"We often get over 200 speaking commitments booked in just under an hour. It's incredible."*



Originally, my home group (Tuesday Night Maple Shade) gave me the commitment to book speakers. I immediately fell in love with the 'auction-like' atmosphere of the Bookers Meeting. I watched for quarters as the previous chairs looked to 'pass the baton.' One day, I finally found the courage to step up.

I was nervous, but they guided me through the process. Today, Amy S. and I make a great team and we often get over 200 speaking commitments booked in just under an hour. It's incredible. I absolutely love being part of it, knowing that groups all over South Jersey get to have wonderful speakers come out to share their experience, strength, and hope. I'm grateful for being allowed to be in service to AA.

## The Service Grid



### The Mission:

To provide groups with an organized and reliable way to exchange speakers. It ensures the "language of the heart" is heard across South Jersey, helping members relate to the lived experiences of the program.



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

Chair: Nilda N.  
Co-Chair: Amy S.



### The Vibe:

High energy, fast-paced, and vital for group health

## JOIN THE BOOKERS EXCHANGE!

**Help your home group stay vibrant by swapping speakers with other groups across South Jersey!**

### WHAT TO BRING:



Your group's calendar and open dates.



A **BIG SIGN** with your group's name.



A spirit of cooperation (and an appetite for donuts!).

### VISIT US:



**Quarterly:** 1st Wednesday of Feb, May, Aug, Nov.



**7:00 PM** (Arrive at 6:45 PM to help set up!)



**St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** 1989 Marlton Pike East (Route 70), Cherry Hill

## Step 4 *“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”*

### Principle of Step 1: **COURAGE**

In the Big Book, Step 4 is compared to a business inventory—a “fact-finding and fact-facing process” to identify truth. Just as a business removes unsalable goods to make room for assets, we search out the flaws in our make-up to identify the causes of our failure.

This process isn't meant to tear you down; it's about facing yourself to gain newfound confidence. By identifying our liabilities, we clear the way to start the next chapter as sober, better versions of ourselves.

## Tradition 4

*“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.”*

### Principle of Tradition 4: **AUTONOMY**

Tradition Four grants every A.A. group the autonomy to manage its own affairs and the “right to be wrong,” provided its actions do not harm the Fellowship as a whole. While groups are free to learn through trial and error, this tradition reminds us to stay focused on our primary purpose of sobriety and to maintain the humility of “Rule #62”: Don't take yourself too damn seriously.

#### **Tradition 4 Personal Inventory**

*Adapted from the A.A. Grapevine*

1. Do I insist there are only a few “right” ways of doing things in A.A.?
2. Does my group consider the welfare of other nearby groups and A.A. as a whole?
3. Do I judge other members' behavior when it differs from mine, or do I learn from it?
4. Do I remember that my actions may represent the entire Fellowship to outsiders?
5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to *their* lengths--not mine--to stay sober?
6. Does “autonomy” ever justify my own improper behavior?

## Concept 4

### Principle of Concept 4: **PARTICIPATION**

Concept 4 basically tells us that there should always be a right to vote and debate (discuss) by certain world-trusted servants equal to the job they perform.

The idea of “participation” can usually stop the misapplication, or misuse of final authority, while reminding us at the same time that the “spiritual corporation” of A.A. should never include any members who are regarded as “second class.”

*At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.*

### **Who Gets What?**

#### *A Lesson in Group Autonomy*

Ever since I started in AA, I have been “voluntold” into service—from cleaning ashtrays to serving as a GSR. Over time, I came to love the Traditions and how they safeguard our recovery. One day, a member from another group asked for my help on how to disburse their Seventh Tradition funds. I proudly guided them toward the “Self-Support” pamphlet and provided a specific breakdown of addresses and percentages.

A week later, I checked in. The member told me they sent the money to several places, but none of them were the ones I suggested. I was miffed. “That’s not what I suggested,” I said. “Why did you send it there?”

“Because we could,” he answered.

I realized then that he was right. Tradition 4 tells us that each group should be autonomous. They had every right to conduct their business as they saw fit. It was a powerful lesson in letting go and trusting the process of a group's own journey.

*-Condensed from an article by Irving M., Washington D.C. (April 2021 Grapevine).*

# AA Humor

## The Wrong House

Harry's nightly routine always ended with him stumbling home inebriated to a scolding wife. Seeking a change, his wife decided to try "the loving approach."

That night, she met him at the door with a kiss, led him to his favorite chair, and pampered him. As she leaned in and whispered, "It's getting late, dear... why don't we go upstairs to bed?"

Harry replied, "I guess we might as well. I'm going to be in a lot of trouble when I get home anyway!"



Condensed from an article by Dave C. | Ft. Washington, Maryland (April, 2012)

## Words, words, words

I recently read that consuming alcohol can lead to bad decisions, ill health and various legal problems. Right then and there, I decided I would have to give up—reading.

—Ellen C., Hewitt, N.J.

## My Kind of Alkie

AA says that we are people who normally would not mix.

Well, that's sure true for me. I drank mine straight up.

—David L., Columbus, Ohio

## The Fourth Step Prayer

*God, when a person offends me, help me to remember this is a sick person. Help me show the same tolerance, pity, and patience that I would cheerfully grant a sick friend. Show me how can I help them. Save me from being angry. Thy will be done.*

*Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 67*



## Slogan of The Month

### "Courage to Change"

Step 4 is where we develop the courage to face the truth. It isn't about shame; it's about the freedom that comes from knowing exactly who we are, so we can become who we want to be.

### *Just for Today*

*Just for today, I will be unafraid. I will focus on my own inventory, trust my Higher Power, and remember that I am never alone in this journey. One day at a time is how the miracle happens.*

## The Connection Corner



### [LOCAL] Save the Date! The Bookers Exchange

Wednesday, May 6th @ 7:00 PM

SJIG Office (New Beginnings)

**Bring:** Your group's dates & a **BIG SIGN!**  
(Donuts at 6:45 PM)



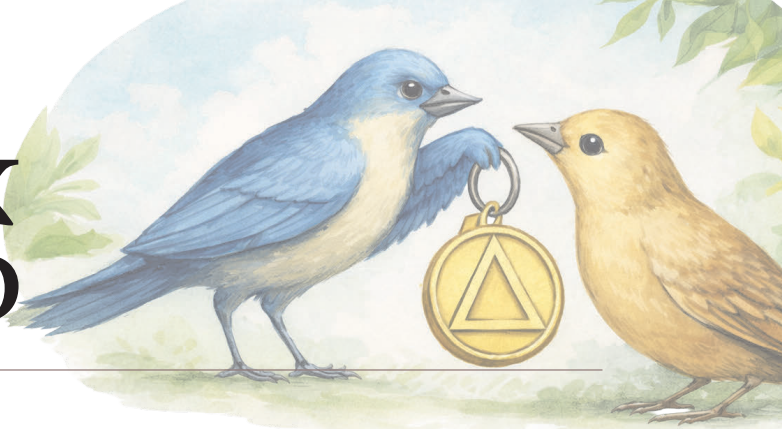
### [GLOBAL] Weekly Open AA Meeting Hosted by the AA Grapevine

Wednesdays @ 12:00 PM (Eastern)

**Zoom ID:** 871 2036 8287

**Passcode:** 238047

# 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

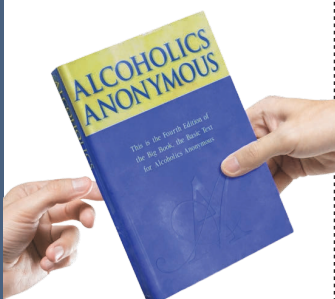
### In need of AA Literature?

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

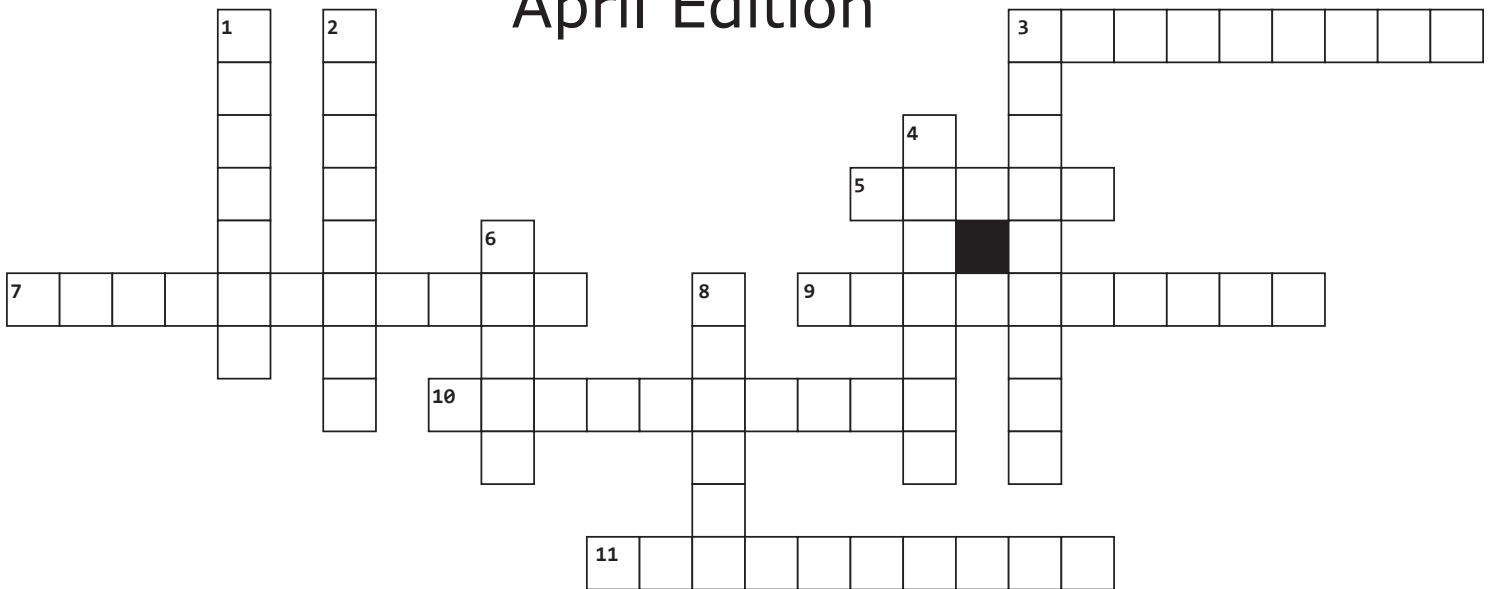
**\$2.00**  
off

any in-stock literature  
available at the AASJ Literature Office

**February 2026 Meeting Updates**

Change Type	Meeting Name	Meeting day	Meeting Time	Location	Type
<i>New location</i>	<b>Millville Sunday Night</b>	Sunday	8:00 PM	Millville	Open
<i>New Meeting!</i>	<b>Sole Purpose Group</b>	Thursday	7:00 PM	Hainesport	Literature, Big Book
<i>New Meeting!</i>	<b>Atcoholics</b>	Wednesday	8:00 PM	Atco	Open
<i>New meeting space</i>	<b>Grace of God Big Book Meeting</b>	Sunday	6:30 PM	Beverly	Big Book
<i>New time</i>	<b>Chew's Landing Step</b>	Thursday	7:00 PM	Chew's Landing	Step

## Crossword Puzzle AA April Edition



**Across**

- 3. The "searching and fearless" list we make in Step 4.
- 5. "The \_\_\_\_\_ shall set you free," often associated with the honesty of Step 4.
- 7. The trusted servant leading the Intergroup (In Jan/Feb, it was Gina H.).
- 9. Tradition 4 states that each group should be \_\_\_\_\_, except in matters affecting other groups.
- 10. The town where Nilda's original home group meets (mentioned in her spotlight).
- 11. Referred to in the Big Book as the "number one offender" (p. 64).

**Down**

- 1. The SJIG committee that swaps speakers (The feature for April!).
- 2. The quality of courage needed to complete a thorough 4th Step.
- 3. The "natural" drives that, when out of balance, cause us trouble (Step 4 in 12&12).
- 4. The way we are suggested to take our inventory; it's not just in our heads!
- 5. The type of inventory we are suggested to take.
- 6. In Step 4, we look for our liabilities, but we also discover our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Word Bank:** ASSETS, AUTONOMOUS, BOOKERS, CHAIRPERSON, FEARLESS, INSTINCTS, INVENTORY, MAPLESHADE, MORAL, RESENTMENT, TRUTH, WRITTEN