

SOBER CONNECTIONS

The Official Newsletter of
Queens County General Service Assembly

FEBRUARY 2021 | VOLUME 1

"It Started With The Group"

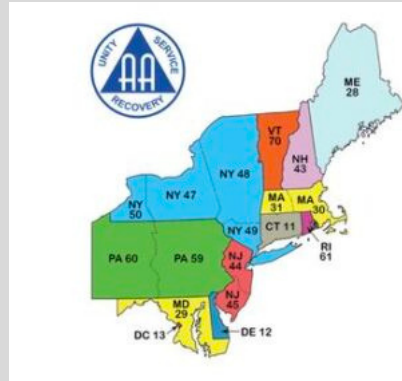
It started with my home group, Serenity at Lefrak. I was asked by my sponsor to help set up the chairs for the meeting, and while we were setting up those chairs, my sponsor pointed to the "I am responsible" statement. "When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible." I guess that's when my service began because from setting up the chairs I became the coffee maker and then the chairperson, treasurer, and program chair for the exchange meeting which was in Manhattan, Queens intergroup had not opened up yet. My sponsor then took me to an Assembly in Brooklyn preparing me for Group Service Representative (GSR). Family, I must tell you, that most of the time I didn't know what was going on, however, learning to serve others without looking for something in return help to release that selfishness-self-centeredness that caused me to ignore my responsibilities to others. Since my beginning with just setting up the chairs for my homegroup, I have been involved in service ever since, and I can honestly say it helps my sobriety. Always remembering that I, Bert L., am but a small part of a great whole. Peace and blessings my brothers and sisters.

Bert L your new DCMC for Queens County. Let's get the party started.

Virtual Calendar of Events

Feb. 22 @ 7:00-9:00pm
Queens County General Service Assembly

Feb. 26-28 @ WEEKEND EVENT
NORTHEAST REGIONAL A.A. SERVICE ASSEMBLY (NERAASA)
Feb. 28 @ 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm



Mar 5-7 WEEKEND EVENT
53rd Annual SENY/Area 49 Convention



Mar 20 @ 9:00 am – 4:15 pm
SENY Delegates Day of Sharing

Apr 26 @ 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Queens County General Service Assembly @ Virtual Platform

Find more events and details @
<http://qcgsa.org/>

QUEENS COUNTY 2021-2022

STEERING COMMITTEE

DCMC Bert L.

dcmc@qcgisa.org

Alt-DCMC Adina C.

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Registrar Maura Z.

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Treasurer Jan A.

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Secretary Cheryl R.

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Archives Chair Pepper

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Newsletter Chair Patty H.

newsletter@queens.aaseny.org

Treatment Chair Liam N.

treatment@queens.aaseny.org

Meeting Place Chair (new)

Santiago G.

mtgplace@queens.aaseny.org

Share-A-Day Chair Cheryl R.

QSAD@queens.aaseny.org

Literature Chair Power P.

literature@queens.aaseny.org

Public Information Chair Emily F.

publicinfo@queens.aaseny.org

**LOOKING TO DO SERVICE BELOW
YOUR HOME GROUP?**

POSITIONS ARE STILL OPEN

Accessibilities Chair

Corrections Chair

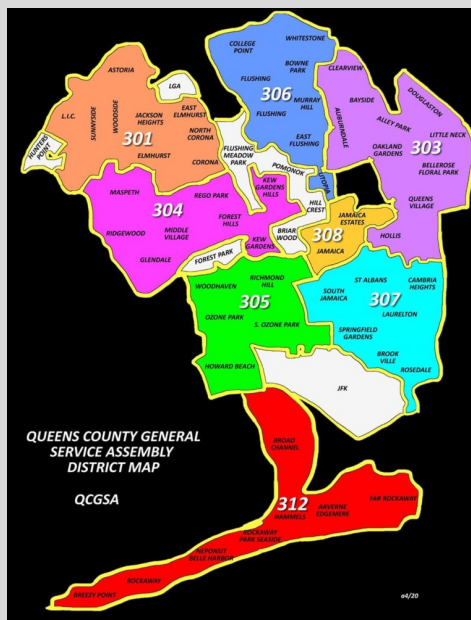
Website Chair

Grapevine Chair

CPC Chair

Service Sponsorship Chair

Contact dcmc@qcgisa.org :D



**Dormant
Districts:**

303

304

306

307

308

**Seeking District
Committee
Members (DCM)
Let your voice be
heard**

*Help
needed!*

Important News from NY Intergroup:

Groups using the New York Intergroup Zoom license to conduct their virtual meetings will need to transition to their own account by February 28, 2021. Follow the link below to find out how:

TRANSITION for ZOOM MEETINGS

Want to do service?

Want to help support AA literature?

Want to help the newcomer?

Buy literature from the GSO

<https://onlineliterature.aa.org/new-to-aa>

<https://store.aagrapevine.org/subscriptions>



"Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age"

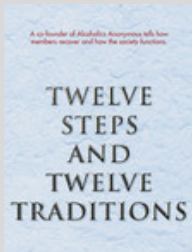
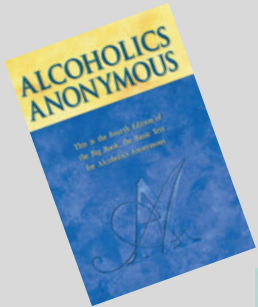
February 1938

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. contacted.
Gives, \$5,000. Refuses to give more. Saves A.A. from professionalism.
(pg. 147-8)

February 1940

Rockefeller Dinner
(pg. 182-3)

God, I pray that you will help me to set aside all that I think I know about you, God, Alcoholics Anonymous, about me, about the 12 steps, the 12 traditions, and the 12 concepts in order that I might have a new experience with you God, with Alcoholics Anonymous, with me, with the 12 steps, the 12 traditions, and the 12 concepts.



The Virtual Basket

The Importance of Our Seventh Tradition During a Pandemic

In March of 2020 COVID 19 was ravaging the world's population. AA Groups in Queens County and throughout the United States adapted by shifting their meetings to virtual platforms. Alcoholics Anonymous members again showed our resiliency in the most trying of circumstances. New members joined and stayed despite all of the challenges that we face.

In these new and challenging times, how can we assure that the program and fellowship that saved our lives is available for both the immediate and distant future? How can we assure that we still have the services that are so vital to AA's survival? The virtual basket is critical to maintaining our infrastructure. While group expenses may be down at this time, other services still move along.

Our literature is still produced and distributed, the GSO service desks continue to perform their functions in dealing with hospitals and institutions, incarcerated members, our Trustees need to do their business and the Grapevine still needs our support. Many of these services are still being facilitated at the Area, County, and District Level as well.

The phones are still ringing at our local intergroups. In order that we may be there when anyone, anywhere reaches out; phone bills and rents must be paid. The vital 12th step work that we do has become increasingly challenging. COVID has made navigating the hospital and detox system more difficult, so a greater effort is required to link a sick and suffering alcoholic to a bed.

While some expenses may be down, other expenses have remained the same or gone up. We can remain self-supporting through the virtual basket. Most groups and AA services have set up virtual contribution options such as Venmo or Paypal but I have personally received envelopes of cash contributions from group members not yet comfortable with the virtual exchange of money. While some of us may be struggling to put food on the table, many of us still have the ability to put some dollars in the virtual basket. I want the hand of AA always to be there.

Mike H
Past DCMC
QCGSA



STEPS = RECOVERY
TRADITIONS = UNITY
CONCEPTS = SERVICE

**Would you like to submit a
story to the newsletter?**
Send an email to
newsletter@queens.aaseny.org

7th Tradition Addresses

Queens County General Service Assembly (QCGSA) P.O. Box 670533 Flushing, N.Y. 11367	General Service Office (GSO) Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, N.Y. 10163	Area 49 of AA (South Eastern New York -SENY) PO Box 571 New York, N.Y. 10116	Queens Intergroup (QIAA) P.O. Box 754088 Forest Hills Station Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375- 9088	New York Intergroup 307 Seventh Avenue Suite 201 New York, N.Y. 10001
QUEENS SHARE A DAY (QSAD) Same address. Please be sure to mark envelope and check for QSAD				