

NEW YORK SOUTH ASSEMBLY AREA

P.O. Box 30, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10101



Speak-Easy

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Spring 2019 / April - June
al-anonny.org



The Officers and Coordinators of Panel 57

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The *Speak-Easy* will be published four (4) times a year:

The *Spring* edition (April, May and June), will be ready for the AWSC in March, and the Assembly in April.

The *Summer* edition (July, August and September), will be ready for the May AWSC, and the June Assembly.

The *Fall* edition (October, November and December), and will ready for the September AWSC, and the October Assembly.

The *Winter* edition (January, February and March), to be ready for the January AWSC, and the February Assembly.

Dates for 2019:

AWSC = Sunday, January 6 / Sunday, March 3 / Sunday, May 19 / Sunday, September 8

Assembly = Sunday, February 10 / Sunday, April 7 / Sunday, June 1 / Sunday, October 6

**** ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR SUMMER ISSUE ARTICLES = April 7TH, 2019 ****



**** DISCOVERY 2019 ****

Miracles of Discovery
Friday, July 19 – Sunday, July 21



**** TEAM Event 2019 ****

Sunday, June 2



Thoughts From Our Officers**Delegate / Taaj J.**

This spring I am excited to be attending my final World Service Conference. The Panel 57 of Delegates is working on our final skit as well as our three-minute sharings for Conference. I am also on several Committees, one which is super fun, Sharing Area Highlights. This service is allowing me to see the advances and challenges in each of our 67 Areas.

In the New York South Area, we are excited to have done our AWSC (Area World Service Committee) Inventory so as to look at our own strengths as well as areas of possible room for growth.

We are excited to be digitizing so that we can get to more members and more groups. I have written several times to each group and I enjoy the exchange of information that has followed.

Now we are gearing up for the two events- TEAM (together empowering Al-Anon members), a special service seminar, awarded to us by WSO (World Service Office), for June 2, as well as The NY South Area Discovery Convention, from July 19-21.

I am thrilled that we are looking at the Spanish translation that WSC is spearheading, and bringing that option into our Area, as well as the creative way to keep safety in our groups. I am looking forward to a bloom-filled spring.

Alternate Delegate / Emily D-C.***Lighting Up New York South Area's "Dark" Groups and Districts.***

Concept Four states: "Participation is the key to harmony." Our goal is to have every group in our Area participate in the worldwide fellowship of Al-Anon. This will happen when every group is linked up to New York South Area and World Service (WSO) through mailings from our service arms, visits from Area trusted servants, and reports from your Group Representatives (GRs).

The WSO website states that the group is the basic unit in our fellowship, since it is through the group that each member recovers. To be fully connected to the worldwide fellowship, we need to make sure our group has a current mailing address (CMA). This way we'll receive announcements, timely news, and make our voices heard through our GRs in district meetings and Area Assemblies.

What is our Area doing to help "dark" groups and districts reconnect to the Area?

Last year, a dark district thought force was formed to look into ways to help "dark" districts reconnect to the Area. After generating an idea list, we formed a task force to put these ideas into motion. In December 2018, the task force came up with an action plan to provide information and support to districts that don't have a District Rep, to encourage groups to register their current mailing address, and to elect a Group Rep. Eventually, we hope that the GRs in each district will elect a District Rep to sit on the Area World Service Committee (AWSC). Then we will all be connected!

As part of our efforts, you'll find links below to brochures about service at the District and Area levels. (You may paste them into your browser or download them directly from *WSO Member/Resources*: <https://al-anon.org>)

Group Representatives (G-11) <https://al-anon.org/pdf/G11.pdf>

District Meetings (G-15) <https://al-anon.org/pdf/G15.pdf>

District Representatives (G-37) <https://al-anon.org/pdf/G37.pdf>

If you have any questions or you'd like someone from the Area to visit your meeting, AIS, or District to speak about links of service, please e-mail me: nys57altdelegate@gmail.com.

PS: If you do make any changes to your group, CMA or GR, please fill out a Group Change form with our Area Group Records Coordinator at an Area Assembly, or go to the WSO website: <https://al-anon.org> Member/Group Records where Group Change forms can be filled out electronically and sent directly to WSO :-)

Area Chairperson / Ellen D.

One more year and my term as Area Chair will come to a close, amazing. I remember thinking early on in Al-Anon, if I only did what I was comfortable doing I probably would not do much. Daily I am reminded how true that statement is. The other side of stretching my outreach is being able to know my limitations; it is not responsible or realistic to try and do it all alone.

Service to Al-Anon has allowed me a multiplicity of opportunities to practice the spiritual principles embodied in the Traditions and Concepts. Lois W. knew as Al-Anon expanded there would be a need to have some guiding principles and that has certainly proven to be true. She also knew all we can really do, as Al-Anon members, is ask our trusted servants to abide by those unenforceable principles. Lois believed, as do I, that the greater group conscience of Al-Anon will always prevail no matter any appearance to the contrary.

2019 is proving to be another action-packed year for New York South with TEAM coming together for June, Discovery Convention in July, and our election assembly in October. I hope you will join us for all these events. Perhaps the TEAM event will be an energizing experience and an encouragement to step up for service to our Area.

I am looking forward to this final leg of my journey as your Area Chair and praying for the wisdom to know the next steps in my own service to Al-Anon in New York South.

Area Secretary / Sue V.

We the members of “Panel 57” of New York South (Area 40) have officially entered our last year of service. It has been a tremendous opportunity to serve as Area Secretary and I am so very grateful for the wherewithal to do this service in addition to my responsibilities as the District 24 Rep. I encourage each and every one of you to *Keep an Open Mind* about serving on the Area level and to explore our service positions (Officers, Coordinators and Liaisons) to see if any appeal to you. No doubt - your time spent doing service will only strengthen your recovery and lift your spirits. Remember...*To keep it, you have to give it away!!!*

Around the Area**TEAM EVENT 2019 / Tracey S.**

June 2, 2019

Westchester Marriott, 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown NY 10591

Cost: \$40.00 - light breakfast & lunch included

8:00am - 8:45am light breakfast & registration

9:00am Begins – 4:30pm Closes

TEAM - Together Empowering Al-anon Members is a very special event, it is being organized in partnership with World Service Office staff (WSO), World Service Conference Trustees (WSC) and members of NY South Area Al-Anon.

Our Area had the honor of being selected to host TEAM, as 1 of only 9 TEAM events held annually across the United States.

Come join us in celebrating and demystifying Al-Anon service work done by staff and volunteers at all levels of this wonderful organization. In selecting workshop topics, our goal is to spread seeds that will ultimately take root through deeper study and discussion at future workshops in our local districts and groups. We hope that by participating in the TEAM event you will find inspiration and enthusiasm for integrating further growth & service into your Al-Anon program of Recovery.

TEAM is a very special event, the time to attend is NOW! REGISTER online at www.nysaafg.org; click on EVENTS and scroll down to “TEAM EVENT or download a registration form to mail.

Any questions or enquires email: nysteam2019@gmail.com



Around the Area / Continued



Discovery Coordinator 2019 / Terry L.

Hi, my name is Terry, and I am your 2019 Discovery Convention Coordinator. I have served on many committees since I have been an Al-Anon member, and someone mentioned to me that it was about time that I became the next coordinator.

With the assistance of my Food Chairperson, we were able to reduce the banquet price to \$70.00, and I am confident that we will have more people attending the banquet and staying to enjoy the Keynote speakers at our Convention in July.

Our Saturday night Keynote Speaker has been in program since Alateen and continued her journey in Al-Anon. She has now become a Delegate.

We still have open positions on the committee, which are Publicity and Raffles. If there is anyone out here who would like to serve on the Discovery Committee or know of someone who might be interested, please contact me at discovery2019@yahoo.com.

Our Registration form is in the process of being translated into Spanish with the assistance of Tim F.

Also, our Registration form is now on line on our website (al-anonny.org) and you can register on line with a credit card. Go to **Meetings and Event Calendar**. Scroll down to **Discovery 2019 Convention – “Miracles of Discovery”**, and *Click here to Register (in red)*. Discovery 2019 Convention information is after the Team Event information.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Discovery 2019 Convention.



Alateens
looking
for a
meeting

Alateen Coordinator / Gerry L.:

Much has been happening in the Alateen world of late. Training sessions for recertification, as well as new AMIAS, saw 19 Alateen sponsors become recertified and 2 new ones become certified.

The NYC AMIAS group held its quarterly meeting in February to discuss how to attract and bring on board new AMIAS, attract teens to meetings, and always be in compliance with both WSO and Area Safety and Behavioral Guidelines. This means that in our area, two (2) certified, background-checked AMIAS MUST be present at every Alateen meeting. If there is only one AMIAS present, an Alateen meeting cannot take place. Teens can go to a Beginner's Meeting if there is one, or the regular Al-Anon meeting, as Alateen is Al-Anon. It is for this reason, that it is strongly suggested that Alateen meetings take place, to the greatest extent possible, simultaneously with a regular Al-Anon meeting.

We discussed Concept 10 and how it applies to Alateen service, avoiding “double-headed” management, and that all things Alateen must flow through the Alateen Coordinator.

Upcoming AMIAS training sessions will take place in **Saturday, March 30th** at St. Vincent's Hospital, Harrison with recertification from 11am-1pm; new training, 2-4pm. **Sunday, June 9th** in Nassau Country (location and time TBD,) for both recertification and new training. This will be the last training date before the July 1 WSO compliance deadline. That means that an up-to-date Current Mailing Address (CMA,) and two (2) certified AMIAS must be assigned to every Alateen meeting.

While the yearly AFA makes no mention of Alateen, the monthly Forum magazine is seeking Alateen sponsor articles. they should be around 300 words on the following topics:

What have been the most significant benefits of this work for you?

What challenges have you encountered?

How has sponsoring an Alateen group influenced your recovery as an Alateen member?

Please submit your sharings to: The Forum, 1600 corporate landing parkway, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-5617 or via email to wso@al-anon.org with “forum submission” in the subject line.

Archives / Tracey S.:

Progress not perfection!

A reel-to-reel tape was discovered in the storage unit:

Al-Anon Speaks for Itself – reel-to-reel tape has been gratefully received by WSO

The content can be viewed online by following the links below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDQCE2de494>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GP93dlbjouE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6gRAoafJJ0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5w3SmEmgc8>

**Archives is on the move**

Space has been acquired in White Plains, a ten-minute ride from St Vincent's.

Easier access for AWSC meetings & Discovery & longer access hours.

Considerations for NYS Archives

Discovery banners are stored in plastic tubs - how are these utilized, are they needed for any future displays? Can they be photographed, is it productive keeping items which are costing money to be stored?

Out of date electrical equipment, for example - overhead Projector and screen, are these of use or can these be let go and again reduce the cost of the storage area.

Old accounting papers will be removed and shredded.

Coffee/Tea/Water Urns & electrical cables are being stored for use once a year at Discovery.

(additional urns are also loaned by AA)

Projects for 2019

Display of Archive items at TEAM Event & Discovery is planned.

Reduce paperwork/perishables/paper-goods.

Create smaller lighter/boxes & store items on shelves to reduce storage area, then cost.

Future possibilities

Digitalize - preserve on iCloud storage. HELP NEEDED

Adding memorabilia to web site - there is a tab.

Provide flash drives of memorabilia for groups to share at workshops.

Remembrance Book.

Form a sub-committee to carry out the above.

CAN YOU HELP?

NYS Area 40 needs support in documenting reports, images & items.

Some volunteers are needed to help reduce and organize stored items and storage area.

If you are interested in doing service in this area, please email nys.area.archives@gmail.com

P.O. Box / Arthur S.:

I have improved my visitation rate somewhat since my last update, and am now visiting 2 - 3 times per month. I hope to be back to near weekly visits shortly. I continue to use my Post Office visits as an excuse to attend a Thursday night meeting at St. Stephen's on the Upper West Side. As a reminder, the Area CMA is still:

NYS [or New York South]

PO Box 30

Radio City Station

New York, NY 10101

Keep those donations rolling in! I love mail!





Website / Marcy E.:

By now everyone should have had a chance to take a look at our beautiful second-generation website located at www.nysaafg.org

The main features of the site are now well established. There are links for Area Events announcements, including AMIAS trainings, DISCOVERY 2019 and the upcoming TEAM event. There is also a calendar that includes all of the Area Committee and Assembly meetings for the year.

Area Information and Related Links connect our Area to surrounding service branches in New York and the tri-state region with one click.

And be sure to check out “For Members,” where you’ll find important service literature, like the Area and Discovery Guidelines, the most recent Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual, the 2018 World Service Conference Manual, the 2018 WSO Membership Survey results as well as free literature downloads from WSO.

Coming soon will be a link to the Area’s Archives, now in development.

Be sure to check back to the website often to keep up with the latest Area information.



District 18-19 / District Representative / Arthur S.:

The last meeting of Districts 18/19 Manhattan took place on Jan. 9 at the NY Intergroup Office. We voted to actively support District 21 in hosting their upcoming District Event on March 24, which will feature dramatic readings from Conference Approved Literature, as well as sharing and fellowship. More information will be forthcoming shortly.

After that meeting, we were notified that we would no longer be able meet at our accustomed Wednesday meeting time because a meeting that had lost its space was given preference. We fully support this decision - individual group meetings are the fundamental unit of the fellowship - but we will have to find a new meeting time. We trust this will be a manageable change.

We have also ordered 200 of the 2020 AFA's to aid in our District's outreach efforts.

District 24 / District Representative / Sue V.:



Greetings to all,

District 24 is working hard to “*Pass it on!*” First, we are planning a workshop for Saturday, March 9, 2019. The theme is “*Expect A Miracle.*” It will take place from 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Lincoln Park, St. Paul the Apostle School Cafeteria, 602 McLean Ave., Yonkers, NY (enter on Lee Ave.) Our Workshop Chair, Theresa G., is working hard to organize this event. We hope you can make it!!

Second, District 24 has arranged for an AMIAS training with the Area Alateen Coordinator, Gerry L. The training will take place at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Harrison, NY on Saturday, March 30, 2019: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for Recertifications and 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. for new Certifications. We thank Gerry L. for his time and his service. All are welcome!

Third, our District meetings are picking up! We now have four new GRs from groups that previously did not have GRs! These four have been a wonderful addition to our Committee and one of them stepped right up to Chair our workshop!

We are still working on supporting the county’s first institutional meeting for women inmates at a correctional facility in northern Westchester (District 25.) Since the prison is located outside our District we have been collaborating with District 25/26 and our Westchester-Putnam AIS to explore how we can all work together to get this meeting off the ground. So far, we have one firm commitment from a member in District 24 to chair the meeting. We need one more person and then we need to get all the prison requirements in place. Stay tuned...*to be continued!*

The Steps, Traditions, and Concepts

April [4] / May [5] / June [6]



Steps:

4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Traditions:

4. Each group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as a whole.
5. Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics. We do this by practicing the Twelve Steps of AA *ourselves*, by encouraging and understanding our alcoholic relatives, and by welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics.
6. Our Family Groups ought never endorse, finance or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary spiritual aim. Although a separate entity, we should always co-operate with Alcoholics Anonymous.

Concepts:

4. Participation is the key to harmony.
5. The rights of appeal and petition protect minorities and insure that they be heard.
6. The Conference acknowledges the primary administrative responsibility of the Trustees.



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