



# THE BROOKLYN JUNCTION

**Tradition 9**

*"AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."*

September 2015

## Willingness

As an untreated alcoholic, I had an amazing amount of willingness to find the next drink so I could continue my escape from reality and responsibility. I set aside all other priorities in favor of that one self-destructive goal, and the costs were high.

When I came to the program, I learned that I had to turn it over, set aside the drinking so I could face the reality and responsibilities I had so long avoided. By admitting my problems, using faith and the fellowship to support me when I felt I couldn't go on anymore, I found the willingness to become something different, new. To be the human being I had always dreamed I could be, that everyone expected me to be.

I had to set aside my selfish, childish notions and look to the simple satisfactions of sobriety, serenity and the sense of security that comes from knowing that my painful past can be someone else's life preserver. To be willing to have my defects of character removed, I had to see the good in going down the road less traveled, taking things one step at a time, knowing I will never be alone as I trudge the road of happy destiny.

## Cooperation, not Affiliation

Every day I am given the opportunity to walk the delicate line between working with others to share a solution for alcoholism, and becoming embroiled in other people's priorities. My path to recovery starts with, and must go no further than, sharing my experience, strength and hope so that I may stay sober and that someone else may hear the message of hope, of recovery from this disease.

As a volunteer serving in A.A.'s general service structure, I need to maintain a clear sense of our primary purpose when interacting with addiction treatment and other medical facilities, correctional institutions and other centers of detention, and all the various commercial businesses I interact with in the commission of my service.

To cross or blur the lines of cooperation and affiliation is to jeopardize all that eighty years worth of one alcoholic talking to another has done for the still suffering people afflicted with this disease. It could result in A.A. winding up as the Washingtonians and the Oxford Group did, a mere footnote in history. Too many have sacrificed much, and so many more still waiting stand to gain from this program.

By keeping it simple, we allow the miracles to happen, and let outside enterprises to function in their own way, without tying us in a bind. It works, it really does.

Love in service,  
Chris House, DCM 412

## Safety In the Rooms Questionnaire

Brooklyn County voted to develop a pamphlet, called *Safety In the Rooms*, to address concerns about safety within the fellowship of Brooklyn AA. Toward that end, a questionnaire has been posted on [www.brooklynaa.org](http://www.brooklynaa.org), and distributed to the District Committee Chairs (DCMs) seeking input from all Brooklyn AA groups about their experiences where the issue of safety came into play.

For those of you who aren't able to access an online copy of the questionnaire, here is that questionnaire below. Please bring this questionnaire to your group's next business meeting and if the group has experienced any of these safety issues we would love to know what happened, how the group handled it, and how well that solution worked.

A) *Illegal Activity - Illegal activity includes any criminal or illegal acts, including but not limited to selling drugs in a meeting, selling illegal DVDs, etc.*

A.1 What happened (brief summary)?

A.2 What did the group do?

A.3 What was the outcome?

A.4 Other suggestions on the topic.

These questions will also apply to the next three topics (B, C and D).

B) *Disruptive or Disorderly Conduct - Intimidating or threatening behavior that disrupts the meeting.*

C) *Bullying, Harassment or Discrimination - Including verbal abuse, sexual harassment, bullying by exclusion, discrimination of any kind, etc.*

D) *"13th stepping" - Inappropriate behavior toward vulnerable members, including but not limited to newcomers.*

E) *Newcomer Safety Suggestions: What steps does your group take to ensure the safety of newcomers when they're in the rooms or at fellowship?*

*(continued next page)*

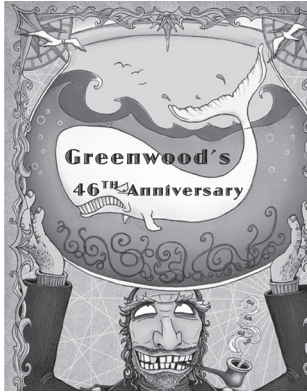
## Safety..., (continued)

Example: make sure newcomers going to fellowship are with a group.

F) Group Policy Suggestions - Does your group have any standing policies or procedures to address issues of safety in the rooms (can be any of the topics mentioned above or any other safety-related topic).

Example: our group's secretary announcements includes that the chairperson has the responsibility to ask anyone who's being disruptive to leave the meeting.

## Announcements



**Saturday October 24 2015**

**St. Johns Lutheran Church  
(Prospect Group)**

**283 Prospect Avenue  
Betw 5th & 6th Aves.**

**Meeting 430-530; Food, Fun  
and DJ till 1100**

**Best Male & Female  
Costume Prize**

**Bill W Dinner tickets raffle**

**50/50 raffle**

**... and costume party\* \$5.00 suggested donation**

\* costumes are only a suggestion, but a fun and usually well received one. Service positions still available for the night of the party. Food and monetary donations are welcome.

## What's the Difference?

### Intergroup and General Service Explained

#### SENY Intergroup Liaison Workshop

*An important day of fellowship for all  
AA members new and old*

*Speakers from throughout  
South Eastern New York*

**Lunch & refreshments • Q & A • "Ask-it Basket"**

**October 10, 2015 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church & School  
1734 Williamsbridge Road - The Bronx, 10461**

**It Can Be Done needs support** Closed Discussion meeting Mondays at 7:30 PM at the Marian Heim Senior Citizen Building Cafeteria - 4520 4th Ave 11220 (Between 45th & 46th St)

## The Rotation Motions (to be considered September 16, 2015 at the Brooklyn General Service Meeting)

Motion #1: Do we sync up Brooklyn's General Service rotation with that of SENY and of all the other counties within SENY? If we vote 'no' we're done. If we vote 'yes' we go on to...

Motion #2: Do we extend our current rotation, with the current slate of officers, an additional year? If 'yes' we're done. If we vote 'no' we go on to...

Motion #3: Will a new slate of officers serve for one year? If 'yes,' we're done. If 'no' the new slate of officers will serve for three years.

## Brooklyn County Contacts

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL
DCMC	Richard S.	dcmc@brooklynnaa.org
ALT. DCMC	Mel R.	altdcmc@brooklynnaa.org
TREASURER	Adam S.	treasurer@brooklynnaa.org
SECRETARY	Kimi R.	secretary@brooklynnaa.org
REGISTRAR	Desiree B.	registrar@brooklynnaa.org

Group Contributions to Brooklyn County can be sent to:  
AA Brooklyn County General Service  
PO Box 170582  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

**Old Park Slope Caton Concepts Meeting 7:00 PM**  
**September 21 • October 19 • November 16**

## 28th Annual BROOKLYN SPIRITUAL BREAKFAST

**Sunday, December 6, 2015**

**9:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

**Dyker Beach Golf Course  
1030 86th St & 7th Ave.,  
Brooklyn, NY 11228**

**Tickets: \$30.00**

Free Parking Wheelchair Accessible

For tickets, see your group's G.S.R., your District's DCM, or contact Evelyn R. at [evelynrbklynnaa@gmail.com](mailto:evelynrbklynnaa@gmail.com)

## Alcoholics Anonymous Information Session

for Professionals and Those Seeking to Learn More About AA

**What AA Is and What AA Is Not • Why Anonymity Is  
Important • How AA Cooperates With Professionals**

+

**Q & A**

Refreshments will be served

**Tuesday, October 13th 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

**St Francis College Callahan Center**

**180 Remsen Street, Brooklyn 11201**

Please note that this is NOT an AA meeting. This is an information session. For more info email: [pi@aaseny.org](mailto:pi@aaseny.org)

Contributions to *The Brooklyn Junction*—be they articles, announcements, poems, haiku, drawings, cartoons, favorite quotations, etc.—can be emailed to:

[brooklynjunction@brooklynnaa.org](mailto:brooklynjunction@brooklynnaa.org)