

# THE BROOKLYN JUNCTION

November 2018

"Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films." — *Tradition 11* 

# 'Service is gratitude in action': A farewell note from outgoing **SENY Panel 67 Delegate John W.**

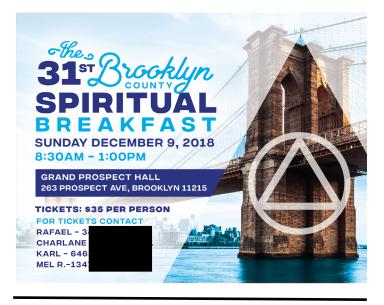
When I first came around the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, an old-timer would tell me that my life would get as big as the program I was willing to work. That's still true for me today — but it always requires action — and I want to take a moment to thank my home group for allowing me to do service.

For you see, after many years of being an active and engaged member of AA, I slowly found myself orbiting out just a little further and further from the program as time went on. I still went to meetings and called my sponsor, but I just wasn't feeling all that connected. Another old-timer, back when I first got sober, used to say this disease was cunning, baffling, powerful, and INSIDIOUS! He'd then thunder out the definition of insidious from the dictionary: "SLY! TREACHEROUS! TEMPTING TO ENSARE!"



For me, the insidiousness manifested itself in that somehow it became okay to not feel connected to AA. I had things under control and, besides, I was busy leading my rich, full, sober life - right? It was only after someone I loved slipped did I fully see where I was spiritually. As a friend is fond of saying, if you're coasting, you're going downhill.

I recommitted to my program and immediately benefited from this renewal. The more I gave, the more I got. The more service I did, the more grateful I felt. I like to say that there's opportunity for rapid career advancement in AA! I've gone from Alt GSR to GSR, from Alt DCM to DCM, from DCMC for Manhattan County to Alternate Delegate. As I complete my time as the Panel 67 Delegate, I can tell you that being a part of the SENY service structure has been incredibly rewarding — my life feels a hundred times bigger. And it all started with my renewed willingness at my home group. — John W.



# Spiritual Breakfast tickets on sale

BROOKLYN - Tickets are still available for the 31st annual Brooklyn County Spiritual Breakfast, to be held Sunday, Dec. 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This year, the event moves from longtime venue Dyker Beach Golf Course to The Grand Prospect Hall, familiar to many from its campy TV commercials.



Entrance is priced at \$35 per person, and the event features unsurprisingly — a breakfast spread with beverages, plus a sobriety countdown, speakers and literature tables.

The Grand Prospect Hall is located at 263 Prospect Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215. Visit www.grandprospecthall.com or call (718) 788-077 for more venue information. For tickets and event details, email spiritualbreakfast@brooklynaa.org. Or, call Rafael at (XXX) XXX-XXXX; Charlane at (XXX) XXX-XXXX; Karl at (XXX) XXX-XXXX; or Mel R. at (XXX) XXX-XXXX. See you at Grand Prospect Hall, "where your dreams come true!" — Ken К.



#### HOW GROUPS CAN CHIP IN!

Does your group collection basket runneth over? Make a group 7th Tradition donation to Brooklyn County. Send contributions to: AA Brooklyn County General Service, PO Box 170582, Brooklyn, NY 11217. (Make checks and money orders payable to AA Brooklyn County General Service.)

## **New county officers 'elected'**

BROOKLYN — In what amounted more to a show of volunteer spirit and sense of duty rather than an exercise in participative democracy, a new slate of officers for Brooklyn County were "elected," so to speak, to the 2019-2020 term at the Sept. 26 county meeting at St. Francis College here.



In stark contrast to the last election, in 2016, no candidates stood for office for any of the five available officer positions. Indefatigable SENY Chair Jane E., who presided over the elections, was undeterred by the apparent lack of civic-mindedness on the part of those in attendance and regaled the room with a mix of service stories and appeals to conscience until a series of volunteers fell, like proverbial dominoes, before her oratory charms and hesitantly raised their hands to sign up for the coming two-year term.

As a result, the incoming officers for Brooklyn County are:

- **DCMC**: Colleen V. of Old Park Slope Caton (Current Service Sponsorship Chair).
- **Alt DCMC:** Ken K., GSR of Into Action, District 404 Treasurer (Current Brooklyn Junction Editor).
- **Secretary:** Stacey L., GSR of Lafayette-Clinton.
- **Treasurer:** Deborah (Bay Ridge), DCM for Districts 407-409.
- **Registrar:** Richard L., GSR of Slope Open. Ken K.

# District 404 incorporates as non-profit, easing group 7th Tradition donation process

BROOKLYN — AA groups in Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Bushwick and northern Clinton Hill and Bedford-Stuyvesant will have an easier time making 7th Tradition donations to District 404, now that the district has incorporated as a non-profit organization with both New York State and the federal government.

Thanks to the new status, the district was able to open a bank account and can now accept not only cash but check and money order donations, as well. Going forward, checks and money orders should be made payable to: *District 404 North Brooklyn Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.* Donations can also be made via PayPal using *district404treasury@gmail.com*.

Groups interested in the non-profit registration and account opening process can email questions or requests for more information at district404treasury@gmail.com.

—Ken K.

#### **Incoming Brooklyn County Officer Contacts**

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
DCMC	Colleen V.	dcmc@brooklynaa.org	
ALT. DCMC	Ken K.	altdcmc@brooklynaa.org	
TREASURER	Deborah	treasurer@brooklynaa.org	
SECRETARY	Stacy L.	secretary@brooklynaa.org	
REGISTRAR	Richard L.	registrar@brooklynaa.org	

Have something to announce or say? Questions or comments? E-mail brooklynjunction@brooklynaa.org.

### What's new on the SENY scene?

#### **SENY Area 49 Committee Meetings**

Dec. 3 — 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Venue: Church of the Holy Family, Mechler Hall

2158 Watson Ave., Bronx, NY 10472

Note: New DCM Orientation at 7 p.m.

## **Meetings News/Updates**

- <u>NEW WOMEN'S MEETING!</u> Park Church Women's group meets Mondays @ 7 p.m. at The Park Church Co-op, 129 Russell Street, Brooklyn NY 11222 (Open; trans-inclusive; child-/pet-friendly.) *Note: No meetings 12/3 or 12/18.*
- NORTHSIDE LOCATION CHANGE: Northside now meets in the basement of the Msgr. Vetro Parish Center @ St. Nicholas R.C. Church, 26 Olive Street. Brooklyn, NY 11211. Mtg. times: Sundays @ 7 pm (O); Fridays @ 8pm (O).

# **Grapevine publishes 'One Big Tent' volume for secular AAs**

Extract from GSO's Box 459 newsletter:

Atheists, agnostics, nonbelievers and secular alcoholics have been members of the AA Fellowship since its earliest days, making significant contributions to the development of the program, helping to swing the doors of AA ever-wider. But finding their path has not always been easy.



This is a collection of stories, originally published in Grapevine, which represent the shared experience of secular AA members who have struggled with alcoholism, yet ultimately found a common solution in AA. These members share how they found their place in AA, work the program, do service and sponsor others. To order this book, visit us at AAGrapevine.org or call (800) 631-6025 US/Canada, (818) 487-2091 International, or fax us at (818) 487-4550. Price: \$11.50; \$10.99 for five or more copies.