





TRADITION 3 – The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking

"You are an AA member if you say so. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out. No matter who you are, no matter how low you've gone, no matter how grave your emotional complications - even your crimes - we still can't deny you A.A. We don't WANT to keep you out. We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be. We just want to be sure that you get the same great chance for sobriety that we've had. So you're an A.A. member the minute you declare yourself."

-12 Steps and 12 Traditions

At first, the original members of A.A. were pretty intolerant because they were afraid of what everyone else in the world they might think, but they weren't being intolerant, they were scared! (Fear is the basis of intolerance) All they were concerned about was A.A.'s reputation!

They didn't know back then that as long as you have breath in your lungs, anyone is capable of making a miraculous recovery!

They found that to take away any alcoholic's full chance was sometimes to pronounce his death sentence, and often to condemn him to endless misery. We had no right to judge these people or be the deciding factor on whether they were allowed to get well or not....SO they came up with Tradition 3...that anyone with a desire to stop drinking can become an A.A. member.

TRADITION OF THE MONTH

Principle: MEMBERSHIP

Overriding Idea:
Desire Is All You
Need



NERASA





General Service Representatives: Roundtables

Six common challenges were discussed.

Responses and group discussion notes will be emailed with Coffee Hour Recap.

Who went? How did it go?

Northeast Regional AA Service Assembly



PRE-CON 2025

MARCH 2025

'WORKING TOGETHER, INCREASING TRUST'







Working Together means being **Active** in ensuring that our program will be here for us all and all those to come.



- Are you a home group member or an active home group member?
 - Do you have a service position within your home group?
 - o Do you attend the business meetings?
 - Are you a member of a service committee for your District or Area?
 - Do you practice the 12 Steps for your own Recovery?
 - Do you sponsor others? Especially newcomers who receive a new Big Book...
- Are you a General Service Representative or are you an *active* General Service Representative?
 - Do you offer Good Short Reports at every business meeting?
 - Do you attend District meetings and Area Assemblies?
 - Do you represent your home group's voice with your vote?
 - Do you attend the Coffee Hour and Agenda Week?
- Are you a member of a meeting or a member of an active home group?
 - Does the group carry a message into the community (treatment centers, jails, libraries, doctors, etc)?
 - Does a group inventory exist?
 - Does your group complete the Delegate's Questionnaire?



The difference of being active, or not, is participation in all three legacies of AA.



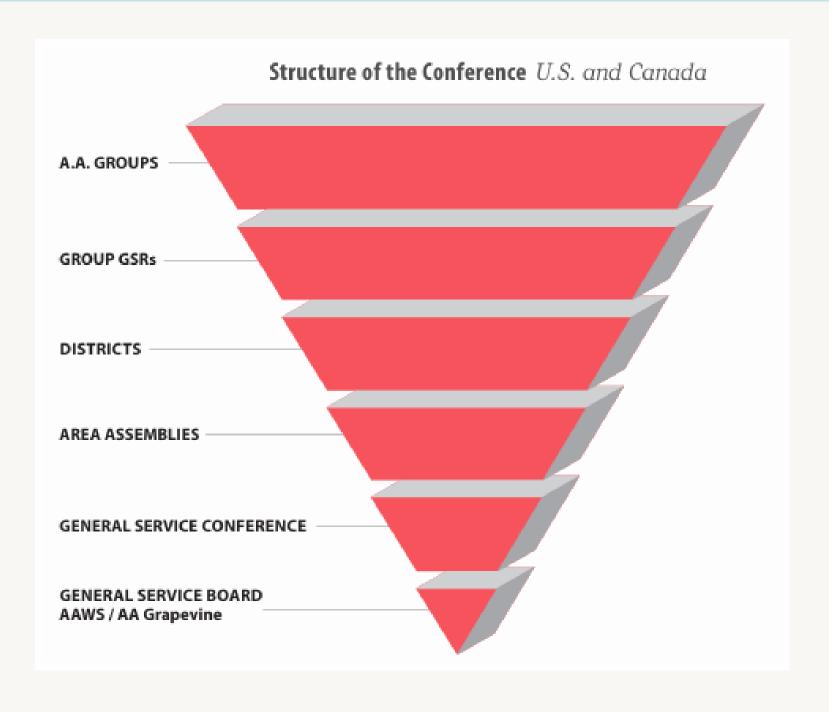
Know your trusted servants!

What District is my home group in?

https://area50wny.org/district-maps/

Downtown Inset

General Service Representatives work with the District Chair Members



Share Your Voice!

Being an active GSR means to provide home group members an opportunity to share their voice with our Delegate and AA as a whole.



It can be WITH a voice or the LACK of a voice that effects how AA happens around you.



Process of a Conference Agenda Item

The voice of the Groups has a clear path to making an impact on AA as whole through the Conference process.

1

An idea, suggestion, question, concern or subject ("suggested Conference Agenda Item") comes from A.A. members, GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee members, Delegates, Trustees or GSO/GV Staff, and may be shared or discussed at the group, District and Area Assembly* and sent to the...

Conference Coordinator @ GSO

Appropriate Trustee's Committee

The Conference Coordinator sends the idea ("suggested Conference Agenda Item") to GSO / Grapevine Staff to be reviewed and they then forward it onto the...

2

3

That Trustee's Committee may then refer the matter to the...

Appropriate Conference Committee

General Service Conference

The Conference Committee meets during the General Service Conference week and makes **recommendations** that are presented in the Committee Report to the General Service Conference. (On some items, the committee may choose to make no recommendation, or simply to report a suggestion or observation. The committee may also defer an item to the next year's Conference, or seek further information from the Fellowship or the trustees before making a decision at a subsequent Conference.)

4

5

If a Conference Committee **recommendation** is approved by the General Service Conference after a full floor discussion, it then becomes a **Conference Advisory Action**, and is then sent for implementation to the...

General Service Board

"Without Committees, it is doubtful that any Conference would be able to function effectively. Most questions suggested for the Conference agenda are assigned to a Committee, where items can be discussed in a small group before they are forwarded for discussion to the full Conference body." - AA Service Manual

^{*} a suggested conference agenda item does not need to be discussed at the group, District or Area level, but experience suggests that it will carry more depth and weight if it does.







How A Thought of Change Can Become an Agenda Item



Grace L and Her Homegroup From District 7
in Area 06 of California had a problem.
They wanted to better inform the Transgender Community about AA. They thought a pamphlet would help the situation.

They went to the District and the District went to the Area.

Area 6 voted on the Item and it was approve.

The process of submitting it to the

General Service Office Began.









The Trustees thought this might be a good idea and included it as an Agenda Item to discuss at the Conference.





2024 Conference Committee on Corrections

ITEM D: Consider a request to develop a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.*

*2024 EDW distribution

Background Notes:

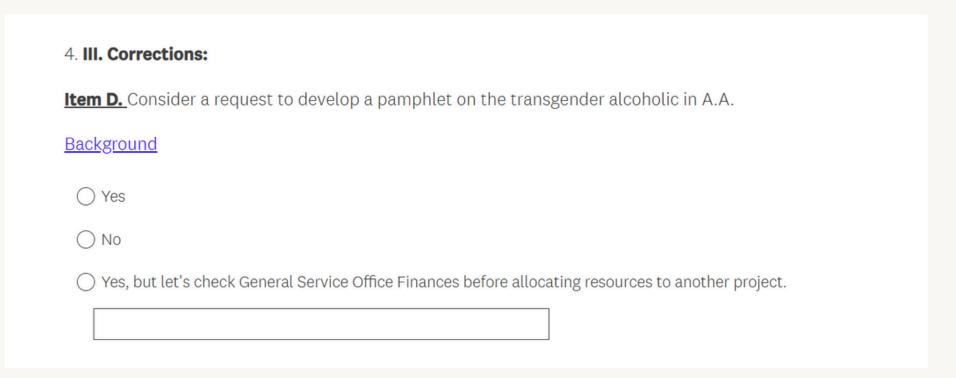
Excerpt from the October 28, 2023, trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

The committee considered a request to develop a pamphlet entitled "Experience, Strength, and Hope: A.A. for the Transgender Alcoholic" and agreed to forward to the 74th General Service Conference.

Background:

- 1. Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form PAI 30
- 2. Presentation to Area 06 assembly (2019)
- 3. "LGBTQ Alcoholics in A.A." pamphlet

Our Delegate added it to the Area 50 Questionnaire

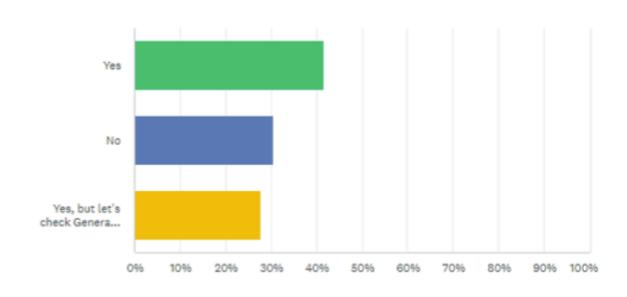




A presentation was made during Agenda Week. This is how Area 50 voted.

Q4: Corrections: Item D. Consider a request to develop a pamphlet on the transgender alcoholic in A.A.

Responses	
Yes	15
No	11
Yes, but let's check General Service Office Finances before allocating resources to another project.	10





Our Delegate voted at the General Service Conference, along with all the other Delegates and Trusted Servants. This was the outcome!

Pamphlet for the Transgender Alcoholic

Trusting a collective Higher Power

Cost of pamphlets, staff over-work, and turning points in discussion

 The General Service Conference recommended (by substantial unanimity) that a pamphlet for the Transgender alcoholic be produced – approved

AGENDA WEEK!

Seven items selected by our delegate and alternate delegate

Conference Committee: Item

*Agenda: I

Finance: C

Policy Admissions: E

Public Information: A

*Public Information: B

Report and Charter: B

Treatment & Accessibilities: E

Background Info:
www.area50wny.org →
Delegate's News → protected
file password is...

Volunteers Selected: 5

Volunteers Needed: 2

Remaining Items Needing Volunteers

 Agenda Committee: Item I Volunteer -

> Consider the request to suspend oral presentations of all Area Service Highlights and continue printing highlights in the final report. (PAIs 20 and 32)

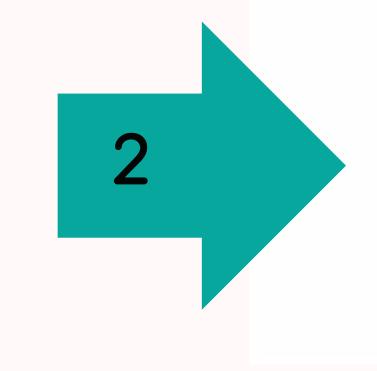
> > Background Info from Agenda Committee: Pages 107 - 113

1 ghts



- B. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
 - Review the 2025 report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Audio and Video PSAs."
 - Review plan for evaluating Spanish and French language PSAs.
 - Review progress report on the Mesmerize Point PSA distribution channel.
 - Consider suggestion to develop new video PSA. (New Item)
 - Review report and tracking of distribution of PSAs.

Background Info from Public Information Committee: Pages 44-100





Volunteers will Inform the Membership 3/17 - 3/21 @ 7p

ALL ARE WELCOME

AGENDA WEEK 2025

Unravelling an Agenda Item

ASK YOURSELF ABOUT EACH ITEM:

- 1. Where did the item originate?
- 2. What portion of AA is supporting this?
- 3. Is there a wide spread need?
- 4. Is this an already existing agenda item or a new one?
- 5. Who is this item helping?
- 6. What Tradition or Concept is this supporting?
- 7. What is the cost and resources to do this?
- 8. What is our group doing with this discussion currently?



REMAIN NEUTRAL & UNBIASED



DELEGATE'S QUESTIONNAIRE!



Agenda Weeks helps GSR's inform their home group members about the item(s) that our delegate will vote on.

The group conscience is formed and used to complete the Delegate's Questionnaire.

Our delegate represents your home group's, your district's and your area's VOICE at the General Service Conference in NYC.





AREA 50 WNY

DELEGATE'S QUESTIONNAIRE IS NOW AVAILABLE

GO TO
DELEGATE'S
NEWS
PROTECTED FILES









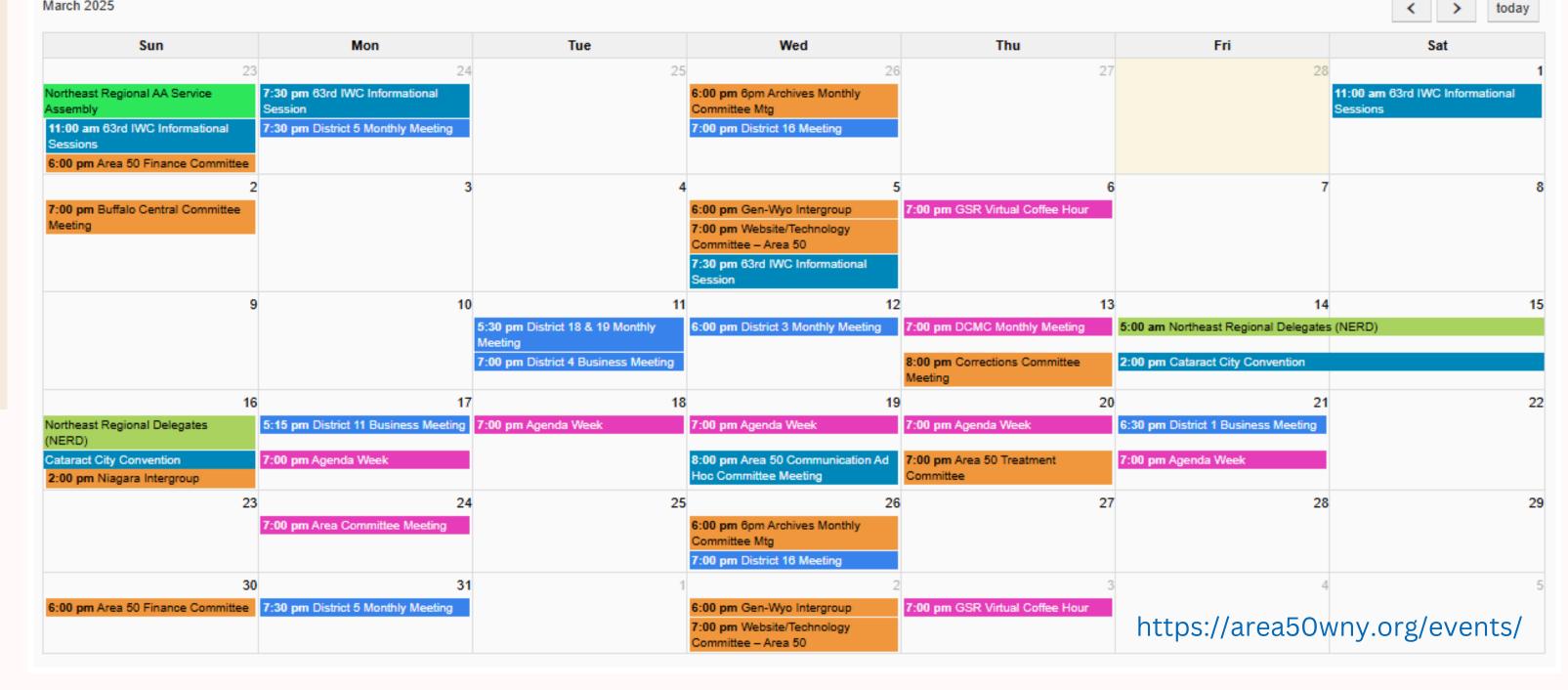
Your **Next District** Meeting

Events

Panel 74 Area Meetings | Printable 2025 Schedule | View them on the Calendar | How to Add Events to the Calendar



March 2025





Coming Up...!

17th Annual Cataract City Convention "Humility – Tradition 12"

What:

Niagara Intergroup of AA

Info:

https://niagarafallsnyaameetings.com/convention

When:

March 14-16, 2025

Where:

Sheraton at the Falls 300 Third St, Niagara Falls



MARCH 14-16

Sheraton at the Falls Niagara Falls, NY 14303

CATARACT CITY CONVENTION

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles 12 before personalities.

CONVENTION **FEATURES**

- 6 SPEAKERS + 5 PANELS THROUGHOUT WEEKEND
- FRIDAY EARLY BIRD SPEAKER 4pm: Mike K.
- SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET AND DANCE
- ARCHIVE DISPLAY, RAFFLES + MUGS FOR SALE
- AL-ANON PARTICIPATION

HOTEL ROOM INFORMATION

CONVENTION RATE: \$109/ NIGHT (STANDARD RM.) EXCL. TAXES AND FEES. RATE CUT OFF DATE 02/21/25

RESERVATION LIASON @ HOTEL: ASHLEY KINNEY (716) 278-2695

716-345-0250 (Registration Chair) or Steve P. @ 716-946-0428 (Co-Chair). Make checks payable to Cataract City Convention (US funds only) and mail to: P.O. Box 734, Niagara Falls, NY, 14304. Registration + Banquet: O\$60 Registration ONLY: O\$30 Banquet ONLY: O\$45 O\$45 O\$45 Souvenir Mua: O\$5

REGISTRATION

NAME ON BADGE



GSR's Needed!

Area50 Communications Ad Hoc Committee

Info:

https://area5Owny.org/events/event/area-5O-communication-ad-hoc-committeemeeting/

Next Meeting:

March 19, 2025

Where:

Zoom, every third Wednesday of the month



Clarify and enhance communication channels within GSO, Area, Districts and Home Groups via phone, emails, websites and more, up and down the triangle.

Every 3rd Wednesday of the Month 8pm

Meeting ID: 896 7618 3157

Passcode: 535358



Coming Up...! SoberJam WNY

Info:

https://niagarafallsnyaameetings.com/event/s ober-jam-winter-2025

When:

March 30, 2025 1-7p

Where:

The Hope Center, 781 Maple Road, Amherst, NY



The Hope Center 781 Maple Road Amherst NY

Sunday March 30th 1:00pm to 7:00pm AA Speaker @4:30 pm

*Giant 50/50 *SoberJam T-shirts

*Kid Friendly *Bands/ Solo Acts
Bring a Dish to Share

Sponsored by Thankful Heart

Contact Matt N. To get involved or Schedule performances

Facebook @ SoberJam WNY



Coming Up...!

Pre-Con General Service Assembly

Info:

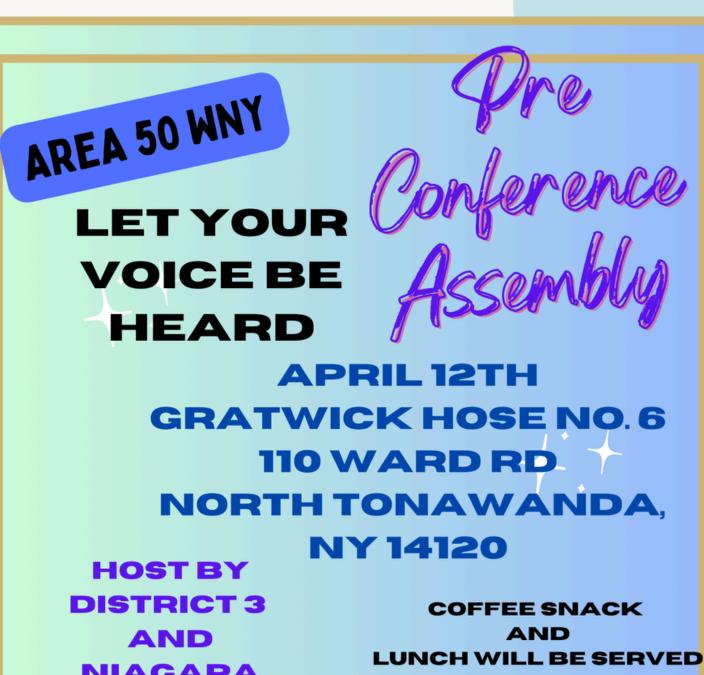
https://area5Owny.org/events

When:

April 12, 2025 9:30a-2p

Where:

Gratwick Fire Hose #6, 110 Ward Rd, North Tonawanda, NY 14120



NIAGARA INTERGROUP





On Line Information Meeting ID: 993 4272 4284 Passcode: 026826

See you there!

