

The Fresh Peel

Your Orange County General Service Newsletter



October 2026, Issue 10

Principles of the Month

Tradition Ten: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an “AA opinion” on doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? Prescribed medications? Other drugs? Other 12-Step programs? Vitamins? Al-Anon? The federal or state government?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression that I’m stating the “AA opinion”?

Concept X: Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

1. Do we understand “authority” and “responsibility” as they relate to group conscience decisions by GSRs, DCMs and our area delegates?
2. Why is delegation of “authority” so important to the overall effectiveness of A.A.? Do we use this concept to define the scope of “authority”?

Greetings Fellow Travelers,

October and the rest of the season is a great time to fall into service. Attended our Intergroup Share-A-Day last month and mingled with service enthusiasts and heard the message of passing it on to keep it going. Spotted our own Vanessa with a Grapevine table, great new publications, and right across was Mike and a literature display. Heard digital 2026 Final Conference reports available now at aa.org. Speaking of which, if you're like me and still want a copy of the nondigital 2026 Final Conference Report you can hold, the printed report will cost \$5. It was expected about six weeks after the August 31 digital release. Once it's available, you can order it through the A.A. online literature store-or Mike!. The report includes the 2026 Conference Advisory Actions and Committee Considerations, plus presentations and other reports. You don't have to read it cover to cover! Look through the table of contents and pick something that interests you. It's a good way to see what happened at the Conference and what may be talked about in A.A. over the coming year. And maybe in the coming year, OCGS will host another Fall Into Service Workshop! I see our last year's service speaker from the Bronx, Shawn K., is now our incoming SENY Area Chair-exciting! See all the new SENY officers and trusted servants below in Area news, what's up locally in OC and updates from the GSO on our Big Book and a PO Box 459 excerpt.

Submissions welcome here to **The Fresh Peel (voted in by your County last month as newsletter name!) for November by 11/1.**

**Thank you for letting me serve as your Newsletter Editor,
Jeannie S.**

In this edition:

- **OCGS service committee openings and upcoming November elections**
- **SENY Area 49 new slate of trusted servants and NERAASA update**
- **General Service Office (GSO) Big Book and PO Box 459 newsletter**

Open Orange County General Service positions: Chairs and committees for Public Information, Special Needs/Accessibility Committee, Treatment, Cooperation with Professional Community and Corrections. Alt-DCM Millie recently sent out

descriptions of open service positions-these descriptions can also be found under the General Service tab at orangeaany.org You can find the newsletter tab there too under General Service! Your next OCGS meeting will be 10/20 at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church 142 Stage Road, Monroe. Thanks to OC Intergroup and its webhost supporting Orange County General Service on their website. And looks like their Corrections committee will be taking in a women's meeting to OCJ this month! If you're interested in carrying the message behind the walls, contact Myron at mprietser2015@gmail.com or myself at jeannies468@gmail.com

Here's a roundup from our OCGS meeting on 9/15 and Election Assembly at our Area 49, SENY on 9/19 from our **OCGS Alt DCM Millie K.:**

...First and foremost, it was proposed at the Sept. 15th meeting to move the Orange County GSO Elections from October as stated in the By-Laws to December in hopes of gathering more participation. This was proposed under New Business. The discussion included why they were previously held in October and we learned that in the past the county felt that by electing in October, this gave the new candidates time to fully prepare and be ready to step into their new roles in January. Through thoughtful discussion, it was proposed, and a motion was made to hold the elections in November. The motion passed and the vote was unanimously passed to hold the OCGS elections in November. This will allow time for GSRs to spread the word at their homegroups, while also leaving for the new candidates to feel fully prepared for their new roles in January. All positions and brief descriptions have been shared with the GSRS, and reminder that one does not have to be a GSR to stand for a position.

A few notes from the Assembly on Sept. 19th:

Our new officers for Panel 77 will be as follows:

Jeannie B.- Delegate

Justin K.- Alt Delegate

Shawn K- Chair

Treasurer- Mike O.

Two positions were not filled: TCO- Technology & Registration chairs

There was a motion made to allow non committee or past committee members to stand for positions. After much discussion, there was a vote which was not in favor, and the motion did not pass. This means a person who may have the experience needed to fulfill the obligations and perform the duties of the position cannot stand if they are not a current committee member. There will be more discussion of this at our next Assembly, we encourage all GSRS to attend and be part of the process!

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your service! 😊

Millie K.

Alt-DCMC, Orange County alt-dcmc@orange.aaseny.org

SENY Area 49 hosting the North East Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) February 26-27 2027 at the Westchester Marriott Tarrytown. Registration is now open! The Committee has also organized Stepping Stones tours for the weekend as part of the registration package! Click on neraasa.com to check out the weekend of service, service, service, hosting all of the Northeast Areas! Interested in being of service? Greeter, Hospitality, Registration? Or joining the NERAASA 2027 Planning Committee? Please reach out to Jo Ann M. for the next meeting at area49panel73@gmail.com or jump on the next meeting from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm (Second Sunday of every month) on Zoom. Meeting ID: 857 6635 6458 Passcode: 377710

If you're headed to the Adirondacks in November, stop by or stay for the weekend at the NorthEast NY (NENY) Area 48 Convention. Registration is open! [2026 Area 48](#)

[Convention: Home](#) Convention this year will be November 6-8 in Saranac Lake at the Hotel Saranac. Rooms are already sold out at the Hotel Saranac, but you can still stay at the Mountain Lake Inn at (518) 891-1970 use code AREA 48 CONVENTION for a room rate of \$139.00 per night

GSO Update on the Big Book 5th Edition:

To: GSRs, DCMs, Trustees, Non-trustee Directors, Area Officers & Committee Chairs, Delegates, Appointed Committee Members, Intergroups and Central Offices, Group Contacts, GSO and Grapevine Employees

August 26, 2026

Dear A.A. Friends:

We are writing to provide an update regarding the forthcoming publication of the much-anticipated fifth edition of Alcoholics Anonymous.

At the July 30 meeting of the A.A. World Services Board, the Publishing Committee recommended, and the full board approved, that the fifth edition hardcover be produced with a removable dust jacket and that a list price of \$20 USD be adopted. We are on track with the production process to publish the hardcover of the fifth edition, updated with 26 new stories of recovery, in February 2027.

We share the Fellowship's excitement about the fifth edition of our beloved Big Book—coming more than 25 years after the publication of

the fourth edition. More information about the publication of the fifth edition will follow this fall.

Warmly,

John W. Chair, AAWS Board

Bob W. General Manager, G.S.O.

P.O. Box 459-News and Notes from the General Service Office of A.A.®, your quarterly publication from the General Service Office begins its Summer Issue 2026 as follows:

The 76th General Service Conference: 'Humility in Action'

"The 76th General Service Conference was held April 26–May 2, 2026, at the New York Hilton Midtown hotel. Guided by the theme of "Humility in Action," 136 Conference members gathered at the week-long event in the spirit of unity, fellowship and service, prepared to address 70 agenda items critical to the future of A.A. throughout the United States and Canada. The General Service Conference is both a stage for a year's worth of work coming to fruition through spirited deliberation and voting from the Conference body, as well as an opportunity to identify new paths to forge for carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. The week kicked off Sunday morning with opening remarks from General Service Board Chair Scott H., who set the tone for the week ahead — highlighting the importance of detaching from personal differences and uniting in service to inform the work to be done throughout the Conference. This was followed by a lively roll call of all Conference

members conducted by General Service Office General Manager Bob W..."

Want more? Click on [Box 459 - Alcoholics Anonymous](#) to read the article and full issue and sign up to get it delivered quarterly in your email.

Exit Laughing...

Why did the ghost go to the AA meeting?

He wanted to give up the boos.

