

**THE 12 STEPS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.
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.
7. Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

**THE 12 TRADITIONS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. 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.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

**ALKATHON/ BIG BOOK MARATHON SCHEDULE**

*Princeton OR Westfield Rooms*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018**

DISTRICT#	ROOM
9:00pm.....	Big Book "Bill's Story" ..... 8..... Princeton
10:00pm.....	Big Book "There Is A Solution" ..... 26..... Westfield
11:00pm.....	Big Book "Into Action" ..... 32..... Princeton

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018**

12:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 37..... Westfield
1:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 38..... Princeton
2:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 27/29..... Westfield
3:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 1/2..... Princeton
4:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 18..... Westfield
5:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 12..... Princeton
6:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 11/33..... Westfield
7:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 15/21..... Princeton
8:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 22..... Westfield
9:00am.....	Big Book "We Agnostics" ..... 19..... Princeton
10:00am.....	Big Book "How It Works" ..... 35..... Westfield
11:00am.....	Big Book "Into Action" (Spanish/English) ..... 42..... Princeton
12:00pm.....	Big Book "Working With Others" ..... 26..... Westfield
1:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 14..... Princeton
2:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 41..... Westfield
3:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 5/7..... Princeton
4:00pm.....	Big Book "Doctor's Opinion" ..... 23..... Westfield
5:00pm.....	Big Book "More About Alcoholism" ..... 3..... Princeton
6:00pm.....	Big Book "A Vision For You" ..... 24..... Westfield
7:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 31..... Princeton
8:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 20..... Westfield
9:00pm.....	Leader's Choice (Spanish/English) ..... 30..... Princeton
10:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 16..... Westfield
11:00pm.....	Leader's Choice ..... 9..... Princeton

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018**

12:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 17..... Westfield
1:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 28..... Princeton
2:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 11/33..... Westfield
3:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 4/6..... Princeton
4:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 34..... Westfield
5:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 24..... Princeton
6:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 32..... Westfield
7:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 31..... Princeton
8:00am.....	Leader's Choice ..... 36..... Ballroom

Welcome to the  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Area 44 Convention**

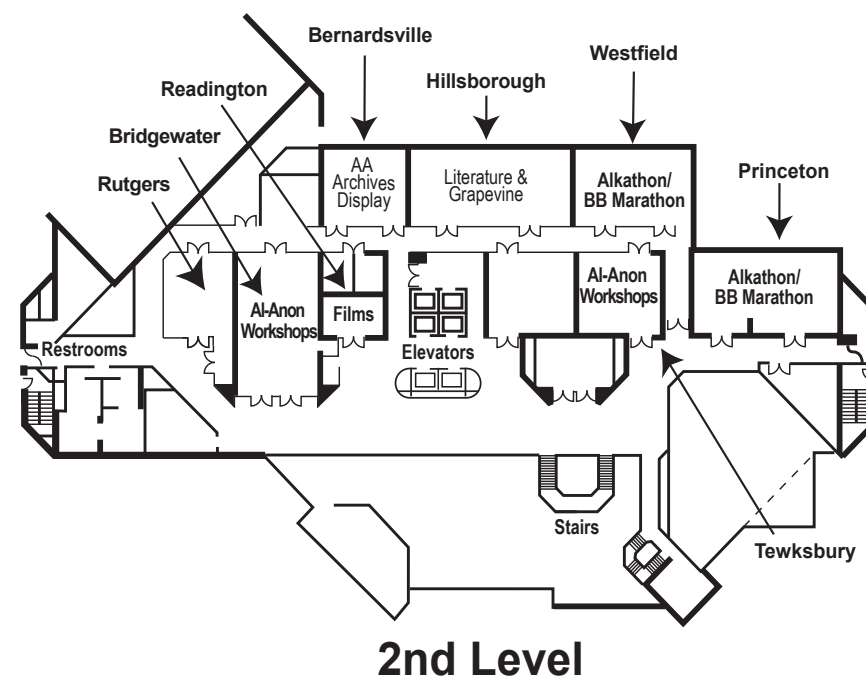


**September 28, 29, & 30<sup>th</sup>  
2018**

*"Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends - this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives."*

*~Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 89*

The Doubletree Hotel  
Somerset, New Jersey



\*All main Speaker meetings  
 \*Fri. 10:00pm... Live Karaoke  
 \*Sat. 7:00pm... Banquet dinner  
 \*Sat. 11:00pm... Dance with LIVE BAND

Fri. 9:15 pm .... "HAIR ...of the Dog" play  
 Saturday 4:00 pm.... "HAIR ...of the Dog" play encore  
 Saturday 10:00 pm.... "The Sponsoring Game" play  
 \*Sat. 11:45am-1:15pm... Oldtimers' luncheon  
 \*Sat. & Sun. BREAKFAST meal plans

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual NNJGS Area 44 Convention

September 28, 29, & 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### Welcome!

Your badge is your admission to all Convention events. Please display prominently. NO BADGE, NO ENTRY!

### Recordings & Photography:

There is no digital recording of any kind permitted. Professional tapes of the Speakers and Old Timer's meetings will be available. In order to protect the anonymity of all attendees, please refrain from taking photographs or videos at the Convention.

### CD Sales:

Will be inside the Grand Ballroom area Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Speakers and Old Timer's CD orders will be taken starting after 8:00pm on Friday evening.

### Breakfast & Lunch Meal Plans:

Will be available in the Mirabelle (breakfast) and Tuscany (lunch) Rooms. In order to ensure there is enough room, please adhere to the schedule and attend the seating time indicated on your ticket.

*Breakfast:* Continuous, within the hours indicated in the program.

*Lunch:* There are two seatings: EARLY.....11:45 am to 12:30 pm  
LATE.....12:30 pm to 1:15 pm

### Banquet:

Doors will open at 6:45pm. If you are not attending the Banquet, you may watch the Speaker simulcast in the Mirabelle Room.

### Other Dining Options:

*Atrium Cafe:* Open daily for light snacks from 6:00am to 6:00pm

*Seasonz Restaurant:* Open daily for full service dining:

FRIDAY:	Lunch & Dinner:	2:00pm to 1:30am
SATURDAY:	Breakfast:	7:00am to 12:00pm
	Lunch & Dinner:	12:00pm to 1:30am
SUNDAY:	Breakfast:	7:00am to 12:00pm

### Smoking & Vaping:

Smoking or vaping of any kind, including e-cigarettes, is not permitted **ANYWHERE** inside the hotel. Please smoke **ONLY** in the designated smoking areas outside.

### Sign Language Interpreters:

Will be provided at all Speaker Meetings, and at select additional meetings upon request. See any committee member for information.

### Literature and Grapevine Sales:

Will be located in the Hillsborough Room on Friday from 3:00pm to 10:00pm; Saturday from 8:00am to 8:00pm; and Sunday from 8:00am to 11:00am.

### Archives Displays:

AA Archives will be on display in the Bernardsville Room.

### Films:

Continuous AA films will be shown on Saturday from 9:00am to 5:00pm, in the Readington Room.

### Translation:

Please be aware that translation will be occurring in some meetings. A sign will be posted by the entrance of meetings where translation is taking place.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**3pm-12:00am** Hotel Check In  
*Main Lobby* Registration Desk Opens  
*Terrace Lounge, 1st Fl.*

**5pm-6pm** Early Bird Meeting *Grand Ballroom*  
Leader: Melissa P., Atlantic Highlands, NJ  
Preamble: Sara T., Newark, NJ  
12 Steps: Mike P., Toms River, NJ  
12 Traditions: Cathy G., Livingston, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Jimmy F., Neptune, NJ

**6pm-8pm** **DINNER** — **O N Y O U R O W N**  
(not included in meal plans)

**6:15-7:15pm** Young People Speaker Meeting *Grand Ballroom*  
Leader: Luke H., Allendale, NJ  
Preamble: Erin P., Maplewood, NJ  
12 Steps: Jack L., Neptune NJ  
12 Traditions: Anita C., Newark, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Tracy C., Mountainside, NJ  
**Speaker: Talia M., West Orange, NJ**

**8pm-9pm** Ice Breaker Speaker Meeting *Grand Ballroom*  
Leader: Mike K., Asbury Park, NJ  
Preamble: Angela S., Toms River, NJ  
12 Steps: Caitlin B., Asbury Park, NJ  
12 Traditions: Steve M., Atlantic Highlands, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Mike P., Toms River, NJ  
**Speaker: Diana M., Largo, FL**

**9pm** Alkathon/Big Book Marathon begins *Princeton/*  
*(see schedule on back)* *or Westfield*

### GRAPEVINE PLAY

**9:15pm** “HAIR...of the dog” *Mirabelle*  
Starring the Area 44 Grapevine Committee

**10pm-2:00am** Live Karaoke *Grand Ballroom*  
Host: Joe “KJ Joey” A., Caldwell, NJ

*Alkathon continues* *Princeton or Westfield*

### Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**6am-9:00am** BREAKFAST *Mirabelle*

**7:30-8:15am** Guided Meditation *Parlor 164-166*

*(so as to not disturb the meditation, doors will close promptly at 7:25am - no admittance after that time)*

**8:00am** Registration Desk Opens *Terrace Lounge, 1st Fl.*

**9am-10am** Young Timer/ Old Timer Meeting *Grand Ballroom*

Leader: Jenny C., Neptune, NJ  
Preamble: Jimmy F., Neptune, NJ  
12 Steps: Michelle H., Allendale, NJ  
12 Traditions: Emil F., Toms River, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Keira H., Montclair, NJ  
**Speaker: Beau B., Shark River Hills, NJ**

**9am-5:00pm** Continuous AA FILMS *Readington*

**10:15-11:15am** Al-Anon Speaker Meeting *Grand Ballroom*  
Leader: Billy H., Shrewsbury, NJ  
Preamble: Kathy B., Rockaway, NJ  
12 Steps: Sowjanya M., Perth Amboy, NJ  
12 Traditions: Kalpana K., Fanwood, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Kathy M., Plainfield, NJ  
**Speaker: Aaron J., Charlotte, NC**

### WORKSHOPS

**11:30-12:30pm** Is my Triangle Balanced? *Parlor 168*  
– District 25

Safety: Are we all Guardians? *Parlor 166*  
– District 28

Power of Prayer Meditation & Surrender *Parlor 162*  
– District 34

**11:30-12:30pm** Why EACYPAA? *Rutgers*

**11:45-12:30pm** EARLY LUNCH *Tuscany*

**11:45-1:15pm** Old Timer's Lunch *Mirabelle*  
(pre-registered Old Timers only)

### WORKSHOPS

**12:30-1:30pm** Group Conscience: Where God may express himself *Parlor 154*  
– District 10

Attraction not Promotion: Are we all Inclusive? *Parlor 158*  
– District 13

Desperate Alone and Afraid *Parlor 160*  
– District 20

**12:30-1:15pm** LATE LUNCH *Tuscany*

### OLD TIMER'S MEETING

**1:30-3:30pm** **Old Timer's Meeting** *Grand Ballroom*  
Followed by the Sobriety Countdown

Leader: Anita C., Newark, NJ  
Preamble: Dave C., Freehold, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Marcheta B., Plainfield, NJ

**2:45-3:45pm** **LGBTQ AA Meeting** *Tuscany*

**4pm- 5:00pm** Polish-Speaking AA Meeting *Parlor 166*

### GRAPEVINE PLAY (encore)

**4pm-5pm** “HAIR...of the dog” *Mirabelle*  
*Starring the Area 44 Grapevine Committee*

### ARCHIVES PRESENTATION

**4pm-5pm** “Early A A - The Women” *Grand Ballroom*  
  
Presented by the History & Archives Committee

**6:45pm** Banquet Doors Open *Grand Ballroom*  
**7:15pm** BANQUET DINNER BEGINS

**8:00- 9:30pm** **Banquet Speaker Meeting**

Leader: Marybeth A., Convention Chair  
Invocation: Sister Bruni., Mantoloking, NJ  
Welcome: Jim A., Area 44 Chair  
Comments: Lester G., Area 44 Delegate  
Preamble: Karen C., Livingston, NJ  
12 Steps: Chris L., Atlantic Highlands, NJ  
12 Traditions: Audrey R., Wall, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Billy H., Shrewsbury, NJ

**General Service Board Speaker: Beau B., Class B Trustee**  
**Speaker: Karl M., Covina CA**

NOTE: the AA Speaker will be Simulcast in the Mirabelle Room.

### JOINT UNITY PLAY

**10:00pm** “The Sponsoring Game” *Mirabelle*  
A joint presentation by your Area 44 and Northern New Jersey Intergroup Officers

**11pm-1am** Dancing to Live Band *Grand Ballroom*  
**Des & The Swagmatics**

*Alkathon continues* *Princeton or Westfield*

### Sunday, September 30, 2018

**7am-9:30am** BREAKFAST *Tuscany*

**7:30-8:15am** Guided Meditation *Parlor 164-166*

*(so as to not disturb the meditation, doors will close promptly at 7:25am - no admittance after that time)*

**8:00am** Last Alkathon Meeting *Grand Ballroom*  
– District 36

**9:30am** **Spirituality Meeting** *Grand Ballroom*  
Leader: Bobby B., Asbury Park, NJ  
Preamble: Mike K., Lakewood, NJ  
12 Steps: Linda K., Toms River, NJ  
12 Traditions: Stacey N., Fair Haven, NJ  
Anonymity Statement: Jenny C., Neptune, NJ  
Speakers: **Kirk D., Atlantic Highlands, NJ**  
**Neha P., New Brunswick, NJ**  
**George L., Denville, NJ**

**Closing Ceremonies** *Grand Ballroom*  
Marybeth A. *Convention Chairperson*  
Billy H. *Alternate Convention Chairperson*

### AL-ANON/ALATEEN WORKSHOP SCHEDULES

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

**7:00pm** **Keep Coming Back** *Bridgewater*

**7:00pm** **3 AA's** *Tewksbury*

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

**9:00am** **Fellowship** *Bridgewater*

**9:00am** **Sponsorship** *Tewksbury*

**10:15am** **AL-ANON SPEAKER MEETING** *Grand Ballroom*

**11:30am** **Gratitude** *Bridgewater*

**11:30am** **Progress Not Perfection** *Tewksbury*

**1:00pm** **Detachment with Love** *Bridgewater*

**1:00pm** **Alateen (closed meeting)** *Tewksbury*

**2:15pm** **Belonging** *Bridgewater*

**2:15pm** **Setting Boundaries** *Tewksbury*

**3:30pm** **Unconditional Love** *Bridgewater*

**3:30pm** **Concept 4** *Tewksbury*

**4:45pm** **Asking For Help** *Bridgewater*

**4:45pm** **Keep An Open Mind** *Tewksbury*

**6:00pm** **Unity** *Bridgewater*

**6:00pm** **Expectations** *Tewksbury*

**NOTE:** Except where noted otherwise, this Al-Anon section is open to all in attendance at the convention; and convention meetings are open to Al-Anon attendees as well.

### *AA Conventions: Why do we have to pay?*

There are many AA conferences/conventions held around the world. One of the most common misconceptions of their gathering is that they are A.A. meetings and since there are no dues or fees for A.A. membership, there should be no fees to attend. Conventions and conferences are special events, not regular A.A. meetings. They require months of planning, preparation and costs.

Since most events are held in hotels/conference centers, there is a charge for the use of some facilities. Other expenses include travel and lodging for the speakers, printing of fliers, schedules, programs, postage, supplies and entertainment. A large event requires a substantial amount of money.

Each conference is self-supporting. No group monies are used to pay for the event. The cost of the event is paid through registration fees. Attendance is voluntary and as responsible AA members, we now “pay our own way.”

*as taken from the 2005 International Program*