

"We have found much of heaven and we have been rocketed into a

FOURTH DIMENSION

Of existence of which we had not even dreamed."

(Big Book, "There is a Solution", page 25.)

Volume XXI, Number 2

Spring 2018

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What are NERD and NERAASA?

Attend enough Area events and you'll likely be bombarded by some very odd acronyms: GSR, DCM, NERF.... Two you hear often early in the year are "NERD" and "NERAASA." First, a couple of definitions. NERAASA is the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. NERD is the Northeast Regional Delegates Convention. But what (or who) is a Nerd? And what's NERAASA? And, most importantly, why should you care? Well, I was lucky enough to attend both this year, and here's some of what I learned about each..

NERD and NERAASA have some similarities. Both NERD and

NERAASA are weekend long events that bring together AA members who share their experience and knowledge with each other to further the overall good of AA. Both have to do with AA as a whole. Both events are held in and for the North East Region of the United States. Both events try to prepare Area delegates to represent their groups at the General Service Conference.

But NERD and NERAASA also have some differences. The purpose of NERAASA is for Representatives (GSR's), District Committee Members (DCM's), Area Officers, Area Committee Members, District Committee Members, and Intergroup/ Central Office Representa-

tives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the areas of the Northeast Region.

The backbone of NERAASA weekend is half a dozen or so "Panels" or sharing sessions. Each Panel consists of three short presentations on various aspects of a topic, followed by an open mike session. For example, this year there was a panel on REDISTRICTING: Setting the Districts Up For Success." The three topics presented were Expanding the Number of Districts, Reducing the Number of Districts, and Fear of Change.

Continued on page 2

ANNOUNCING A NEW BOOK FROM GRAPEVINE!

AA in the Military is a collection of stories, previously published in Grapevine, by members of Alcoholics Anonymous who have served in the military.

The book begins with letters from the troops during World War II, when Grapevine first became a

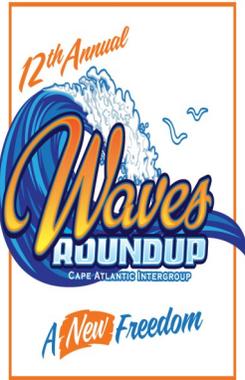
vital tool in keeping soldiers sober and connected to AA.

The chapters that follow are filled with stories of experience, strength and hope—by both men and women—who served their country on land, sea and air. These personal accounts illustrate the chal-

lenges alcoholics in uniform encounter, often under difficult circumstances, far from loved ones.

The book concludes with a powerful selection of stories by our sober veteran members, titled "Coming Home."

NOVEMBER 9TH, 10TH & 11TH



STOCKTON SEAVIEW
HOTEL & GOLF CLUB
GALLOWAY, NJ

WWW.WAVESROUNDUP.NET

NERD and NERAASA *continued from Page 1*

After these presentations there is 15 minutes or so to weigh in. Newcomers to NERAASA are urged to "get to the mike" at some point during the weekend. By contrast, Delegates and their alternates are at NERAASA to hear the voice of AA as a whole and so do not often go to the mike.

While NERAASA is open to all AA members in the North East, NERD is an assembly of a much

more narrow group, one of the smallest clubs in AA. Unless you are a NERD (current Delegate), were a NERD (Past Delegate), or like me, are an Alternate Delegate, then you can't attend. (Alternate Delegates attend because -- God forbid-- they may have to step up in the event of illness.) Past Delegates use this weekend to pass down their experience to the incoming Delegates. Because

a delegate is a two year job, half the delegates have been to one conference already and the other half are new. This helps provide continuity and reduces the loss of institutional knowledge as folks rotate in and out. The NERDS are a pretty tight group, almost like a fraternity or sorority.

At NERD weekend, microphones are less *continued on Page 3*

12th Annual NOVEMBER 9TH, 10TH & 11TH 2018
Registration or for further information visit to website at
WWW.WAVESROUNDUP.NET

Contact us by the website or via: INFO@WAVESROUNDUP.NET
Cape Atlantic InterGroup, 12000 Highway 101, Cape Atlantic InterGroup Office
10150 Hwy 101, Cape Atlantic InterGroup, NJ 08054
Workshops, Marathon Meetings, Entertainment, Meditation Meetings, Food, Fun and Fellowship!

WAVES ROUNDUP HOTEL ROOM RATES
You can book your room by calling the hotel at (855) 894-8698 or online at <http://book.passey.com/event/4963232/room/70099/landing>.
*Rates are per person, double occupancy.

	1 SINGLE	2 DOUBLE	3 TRIPLE	4 QUAD
OUTSIDE PERSON	\$143.35	\$74.92	\$52.12	\$40.71

Please visit the website for all of the hotel amenities WWW.STOCKTONSEAVIEW.COM.
STOCKTON SEAVIEW RESORT AND HOTEL 401 South New York Road, Galloway, NJ 08054
HOTEL ROOM REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1ST, 2018

*Hotel Registration engine and logo online at WWW.WAVESROUNDUP.COM

WAVES ROUNDUP MAIL IN REGISTRATION FORM

AA Registration (1 - Guest) - enter # of attendees, each @ \$100 _____ x \$100 = \$ _____
 All Area Registration (1 - Guest) - enter # of attendees, each @ \$100 _____ x \$100 = \$ _____
 Scholarship Donation _____ \$ _____
 REGISTRATION OPTIONS:
 Friday Night, November 10th @ 6pm - enter # of attendees, each @ \$100 _____ x \$100 = \$ _____
 Saturday Night, November 11th @ 6pm - enter # of attendees, each @ \$100 _____ x \$100 = \$ _____
 *Total there are no payment C.C. fees @ \$200 per person. TOTAL REGISTRATION \$ _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Badge Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____ Phone _____ Show Group _____

Form for mail-in registration. Please do not use for online registration. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 1ST, 2018
 Make checks payable to: Cape Atlantic InterGroup and mail to: WavesUp, 31219 Hwy Road, Box 195, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08024
 We look forward to having you join us for the 12th Annual Waves AroundUp!

What's New with the Area 45 Convention for 2018?

If you have been to past Area 45 conventions you may recall the paper registration forms. That is no longer the case as the committee is going paperless! All registrations will be done online once the site opens! Other opportunities will be available to those who may not have access to their own smart phone, computer or technology.

There is also a new location, just down the road and actually closer to the highway! The Hotel ML Mt. Laurel is hosting the event. At 915 NJ-73, Mt Laurel, NJ 08054 All hotel reservations will be done by the hotel with a Group Discount Code for Area 45. The new location has an added attraction-CoCo Key Indoor Water Park! If

you plan on going you have to make certain to register early since space is limited at this location. There will be NO walk-ins permitted. Stay tuned at your meetings and intergroup for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

Southern New Jersey

Area 45 54th Annual

General Services

Convention Dates

have been changed to

October 26, 27, 28,

2018

[https://](https://area45.convention.org)

area45.convention.org

Do Service for the Convention!

Putting together an event such as the Area 45 Annual General Services Convention requires an extreme amount of work. The committee meets on the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 pm. They meet at the

Hammonton Presbyterian Church
326 Bellevue Avenue
Hammonton, NJ 08037

The committee is still looking for volunteers who wish to get involved. Feel free to show up and you will find the job that fits you just right. No experience necessary, just enthusiasm and commitment. We are not a glum lot! Contact a committee member ahead of time if you have questions or wish to

know more. 609-791-9312. After all, the theme of Panel 68 is "Participation is the key to harmony." (taken from 12 Concepts TOC page vii.)

GSO's Frequently Asked Questions

as taken from Box 4-5-9, Spring 2011
Vol. 57, No. 1

https://www.aa.org/newsletters/en_US/en_box459_spring11.pdf

Q. Q. We are putting on an A.A. roundup, and some A.A. members are saying that since we are charging a registration fee for attendance at an A.A. function, we are not acting in accordance with A.A. Traditions. A. There is a big difference between "no dues or fees for A.A. membership" and a registration fee for an A.A. roundup. The word "fee" is a strange one in a self-supporting Fellowship, but someone has to pay the bills! There are many, many A.A. roundups, conventions, and conferences (see the Bulletin Board Section of Box 4-5-9 or the Calendar of Events in the Grapevine) and in most cases, registration fees are charged to cover the expenses of the event. Often a special event, such as a banquet, is put on for the purpose of raising additional funds to support a central office or the work of an institutions committee. Depending on the situation, and in the judgment of the planning committee, sometimes special arrangements are made for A.A.s who would like to attend but cannot afford to. There are also events, such as a banquet, which only ticket holders attend, but after the meal the room is opened up to everyone, with or without a ticket, to hear the speaker.

But again, this decision is made by the planning committee as they are the ones responsible for covering costs.

Q. Are raffles within A.A. Traditions? A. Past General Service Conferences have been asked this question. The Conference has not come forth with a recommendation in regard to raffles. A show of hands usually indicates that about half the delegates think they are all right and about half the delegates think they should be discouraged. So the best we can do when asked is to reply that it is up to the group conscience.

Q. We are planning to hold a roundup in our city, and wonder if it's okay to ask the groups for seed money? A. This can be answered only by the group conscience of the groups concerned. However, if the group agrees to take a collection at its meeting to support the roundup, a separate basket for this specific purpose is often passed for those who wish to give, rather than taking money from the group funds.

Q. Is it okay to hold a dance (no meeting) as a fund raiser for an A.A. function? A. If tickets for the dance are sold within the Fellowship, it's up to the group conscience; if they're sold outside, it's a clear violation of the Seventh Tradition. Dances themselves are a popular feature of A.A. conventions and get-togethers.

NERD and NERAASA *continued from page 2*

common but the discussions among the delegates and past delegates are endless and intense. There is a lot of practical information delegates need in order to prepare for the General Service Conference. In addition to being fully prepared on the issues relating to the committee to which the delegate has been assigned, delegates

must be generally familiar with all of the other issues that the other committees are working on during the conference.

It was an honor for me to be able to attend both NERD and NERAASA this year. Frankly, when I was first coming around AA.service I thought that these events were just a huge waste of

time and money, but as I have grown in service I realize that both these events play a crucial role in preparing our delegates and in carrying the message of recovery.

In love and service,
Rich H.
Alternate Delegate
Area 45 Panel 68

Important Information to Clip & Save

- ♦ **Southern New Jersey Area 45**
Po Box 3724
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
www.snjaa.org
- ♦ **Central Jersey Intergroup**
Po Box 4096
Trenton, NJ 08610
HOTLINE- 609-586-6900
OFFICE- 609-586-6902
www.centraljerseyintergroup.org
- ♦ **South Jersey Intergroup**
Po Box 2514
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
856-486-4444
www.aasj.org
- ♦ **Cape Atlantic Intergroup**
Po Box 905
Pleasantville, NJ 08232
609-641-8855 or 800-604-HELP (4357)
www.capeatlanticaa.org
- ♦ **AA World Services, Inc.**
Po Box 459,
Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163
212-870-3400
www.aa.org

Did you know there was an Online Intergroup?

Do you know it's purpose?

There are Online Meetings for individuals who need them, links for numerous languages to help AA members everywhere!

Any **online** AA group or meeting may be listed in the [directory](#) provided that it subscribes to the Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Read the Guidelines before submitting a meeting..

There are Worldwide Events and information about how to access them.

<http://www.aa-intergroup.org/index.php>

AA is always there.
When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that I am responsible.

The Responsibility Declaration was formally introduced at the fourth International Convention in Toronto by Bill W.

We are on the web!
www.snjaa.org

Southern New Jersey Area General Service Assembly Alcoholics Anonymous SNJ Fourth Dimension area45newsletter@gmail.com

AREA 45 THEME: "Participation is the Key to Harmony"

Editorial Policy: With readership in mind and our limited space, we suggest that article submissions not exceed 500 – 750 words and focus on our shared AA experience, strength, and hope. No specific philosophy or opinion will dominate Fourth Dimension pages, and in determining content, the editors rely on the principles of the Twelve Traditions. The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to edit articles for the purpose of clarity, length, and style.

We will make every effort to include the broadest viewpoint of our membership. Understanding that degree of latitude, the Newsletter Committee will exercise its right to accept or decline submissions with the greatest degree of care possible. Opinions expressed are those of the reader and not necessarily those of the editors or of Area 45 as a whole.

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Southern Area New Jersey-Area 45 Panel 68 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 22-28, 2018	General Service Conference	NY
May 20, 2018	Area 45 Spring Assembly Registration Begins 8:30 am DCM/GSR Orientation 9:00 am Assembly 10:00 am Committee Meeting to follow	Section III Elmer Grange 535 Daretown Rd Elmer, NJ 08318
August 19, 2018	Area 45 Summer Assembly Registration begins 8:30 am DCM/GSR Orientation 9:00 am Assembly 10:00 am Committee Meeting to follow	Section I Check back for location TBD
October 20, 2018	Day of Sharing	Host-Cape Atlantic Intergroup Check back for location