

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 20, 2019

DISTRICT#	ROOM
9:00PM	Princeton
10:00PM	Westfield
11:00PM	Princeton

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

12:00AM	19	Westfield
1:00AM	8	Princeton
2:00AM	12	Westfield
3:00AM	28	Princeton
4:00AM	1/2	Westfield
5:00AM	10	Princeton
6:00AM	16	Westfield
7:00AM	17	Princeton
8:00AM	4/6	Westfield
9:00AM	26	Princeton
10:00AM	42	Westfield
11:00AM	38	Princeton
12:00PM	36	Westfield
1:00PM	22	Princeton
2:00PM	25	Westfield
3:00PM	13	Princeton
4:00PM	35	Westfield
5:00PM	15/21	Princeton
6:00PM	3	Westfield
7:00PM	41	Princeton
8:00PM	30	Westfield
9:00PM	37	Princeton
10:00PM	34	Westfield
11:00PM	18	Princeton

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

12:00AM	11/33	Westfield
1:00AM	24	Princeton
2:00AM	27/29	Westfield
3:00AM	23	Princeton
4:00AM	14	Westfield
5:00AM	20	Princeton
6:00AM	39	Westfield
7:00AM	28	Princeton
8:00AM	32	Ballroom

Welcome to the
**63rd Annual
Area 44 Convention**

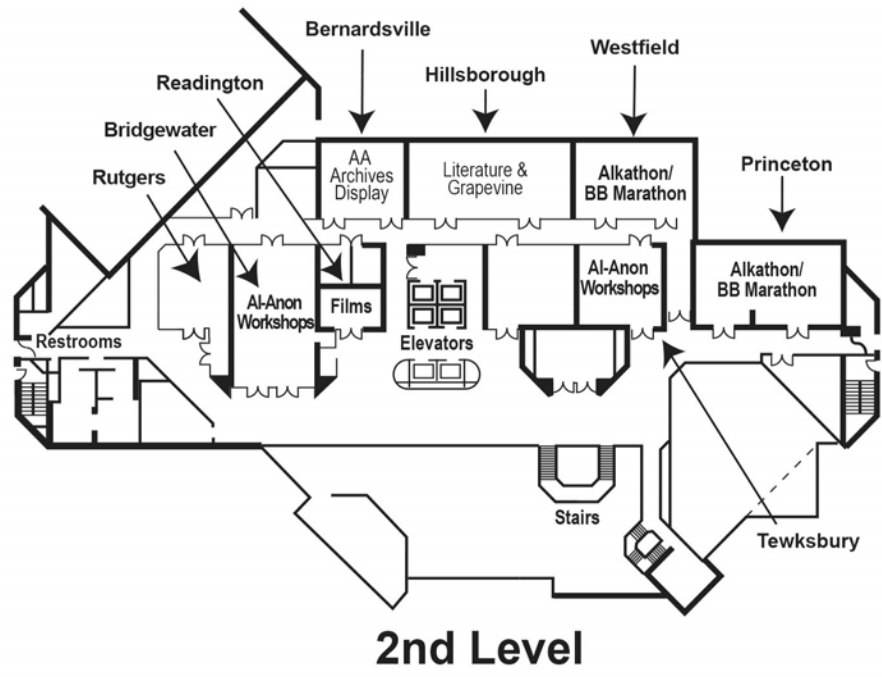
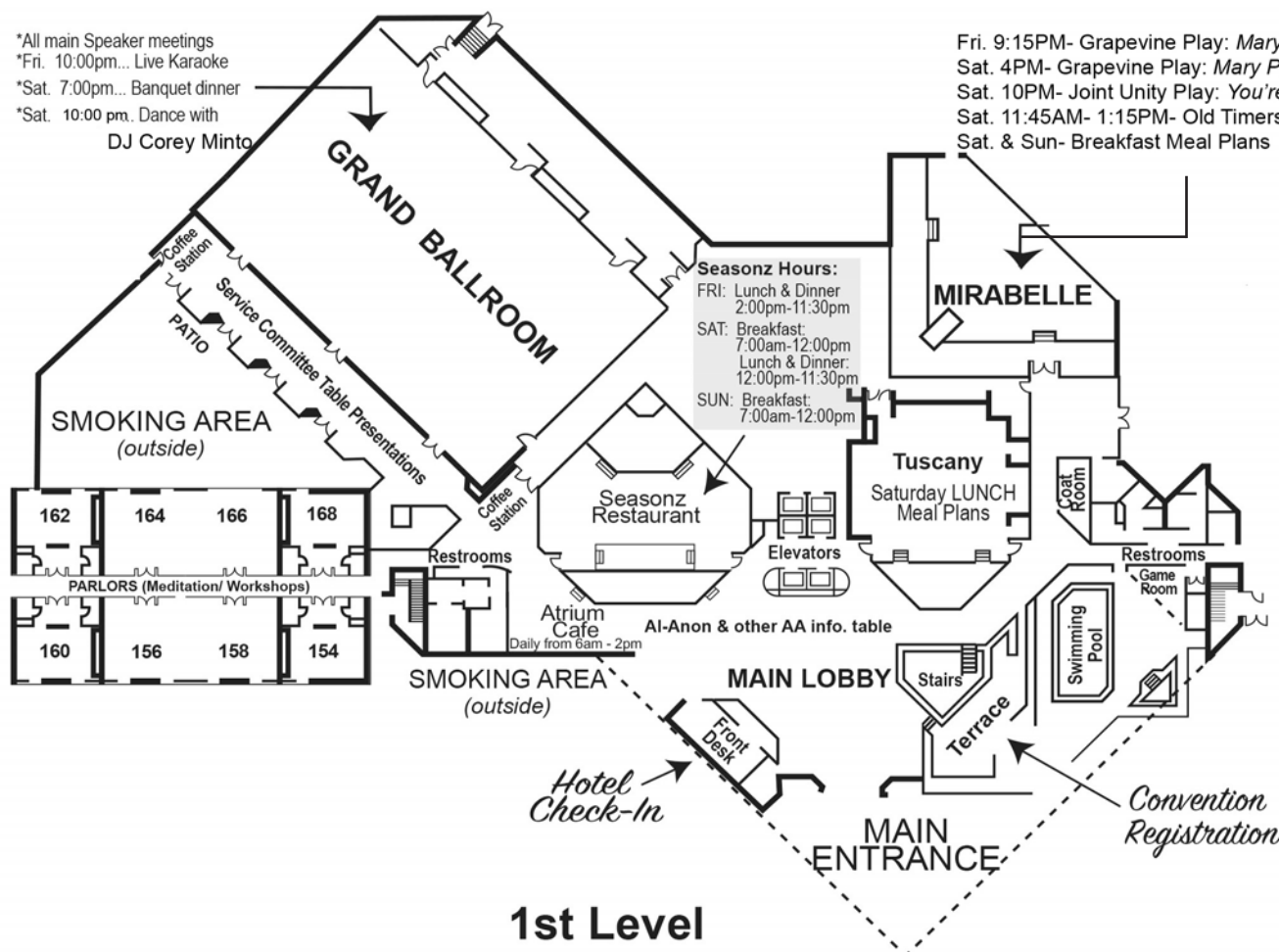


September 20, 21, & 22nd
2019

"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. 10:00 pm. Dance with DJ Corey Minto

Fri. 9:15PM- Grapevine Play: *Mary Poppins Says She's Stoppin'*
 Sat. 4PM- Grapevine Play: *Mary Poppins Says She's Stoppin'* Encore
 Sat. 10PM- Joint Unity Play: *You're An Alcoholic Charlie Brown*
 Sat. 11:45AM- 1:15PM- Old Timers' Luncheon
 Sat. & Sun- Breakfast Meal Plans

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 63rd Annual NNJGS Area 44 Convention

September 20, 21, & 22nd, 2019

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 and AI-Anon 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 20th, 2019

3PM-12AM Hotel Check In *Main Lobby*
Registration Desk Opens *Terrace Lounge, 1st Fl.*

5PM-6PM Early Bird Meeting *Grand Ballroom*
Leader: Steve M., Middletown, NJ
Preamble: Audrey R., Brielle, NJ
12 Steps: James F., Oakhurst, NJ
12 Traditions: Stacey S., Fair Haven, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Anita C., Newark, 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: Sara T., Livingston, NJ
Preamble: Sean F., Spring Lake Heights, NJ
12 Steps: Allison R., Jersey City, NJ
12 Traditions: Luke H., Fair Lawn, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Mellisa H., Atlantic Highlands, NJ
Speaker: **Josh K., Hoboken, NJ**

8PM-9PM Ice Breaker Speaker Meeting *Grand Ballroom*
Leader: Dan K., Asbury Park, NJ
Preamble: Beth E., Atlantic Highlands, NJ
12 Steps: Mike M., Neptune, NJ
12 Traditions: Luanne D., Lebanon, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Melissa P., Atlantic Highlands, NJ
Speaker: **Butch M., Toronto, Canada**

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

9:15PM **GRAPEVINE PLAY**
"Mary Poppins Says She's Stoppin"
Starring the Area 44 Grapevine Committee *Mirabelle*

10PM-2:00AM **LIVE KARAOKE**
Host: Joe "KJ Joey" A., Caldwell, NJ *Grand Ballroom*

Alkathon continues *Princeton or Westfield*

Saturday, September 21st, 2019

6AM-9AM **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)

8AM Registration Desk Opens *Terrace Lounge, 1st Fl.*

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

Leader: Michelle H., Fair Lawn, NJ
Preamble: Loren S., Fair Haven, NJ
12 Steps: Caitlin B., Wall, NJ
12 Traditions: Mike K., Bedminster, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Angie S., Seaside Park, NJ
Speaker: **Pat K., Toms River, NJ**

9AM-5PM Continuous AA & AI-Anon FILMS *Readington*

10:15-11:15AM AI-Anon Speaker Meeting *Grand Ballroom*
Leader: Bobby B., Wall, NJ
Preamble: Kalpana K., Fanwood, NJ
12 Steps: Gayle N., Woodbridge, NJ
12 Traditions: Joanne P., South River, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Sandy B., Woodbridge, NJ
Speaker: **Angie B., Destin, FL**

WORKSHOPS

11:30-12:30PM Acceptance is the Answer-It Still Is and Always Will Be!
-District 11/33 *Parlor 168*

Why don't you choose your own conception of God?
- District 14 *Parlor 166*

The Making of the Big Book- What a Story!
- District 24 *Parlor 164*

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

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

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

WORKSHOPS

12:30-1:30PM Are We Effectively Carrying the Message?
Membership the Same Since 2001
- District 12 *Parlor 154*

Faith Must Work 24 Hours a Day In & Through us or We Perish
- District 23 *Parlor 158*

Yes, I Believe This Can Work For Me Too.
Are We Examples of Recovery?
- District 26 *Parlor 160*

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: Dave C., Freehold, NJ
Preamble: Alyssa P., Belmar, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Anita C., NJ

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

4PM- 5PM Polish-Speaking AA Meeting *Parlor 166*

4PM-5PM **GRAPEVINE PLAY *encore***
"Mary Poppins Says She's Stoppin"
Starring the Area 44 Grapevine Committee *Mirabelle*

ARCHIVES PRESENTATION

4PM-5PM The Books Behind The Book:
Where Did The Book Come From?
Presented by the History & Archives Committee
Located in the Grand Ballroom

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

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

Leader: Marcheta B., Convention Chair
Invocation: Sister Bruni, Mantoloking, NJ
Welcome: Maureen R., Area 44 Chair
Comments: Jeff B., Area 44 Delegate
Preamble: Marybeth A., Spring Lake Heights, NJ
12 Steps: Jen C., Neptune, NJ
12 Traditions: Billy H., Shrewsbury, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Keira H., West Orange NJ
Speaker: **Georgia B., Montrose, CA**

NOTE:The Banquet Speaker will be Simulcast in the *Mirabelle Room*.

JOINT UNITY PLAY

10PM "You're An Alcoholic Charlie Brown" *Mirabelle*
A joint presentation by your Area 44 and Northern New Jersey Intergroup Officers

10PM-2AM Dance with DJ Corey Minto *Grand Ballroom*

Alkathon continues *Princeton or Westfield*

Sunday, September 22nd, 2019

7-9:30AM **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 32

9:30AM **Spirituality Meeting** *Grand Ballroom*
Leader: Mike K., Asbury Park, NJ
Preamble: Chris L., Atlantic Highlands, NJ
12 Steps: Martha R., Union, NJ
12 Traditions: Sara T., Livingston, NJ
Anonymity Statement: Gillian B., Brick, NJ
Speakers: **Danielle M., Keyport, NJ**
Mike D., Mountainside, NJ
Toni D., West Orange, NJ

Closing Ceremonies *Grand Ballroom*
Marcheta B., Convention Chairperson
Bobby B., Alternate Convention Chairperson

AL-ANON/ALATEEN WORKSHOP SCHEDULES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

7:00PM **Alcoholism - The Disease** *Bridgewater*

7:00PM **Grief** *Tewksbury*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

9:00AM **Intimacy** *Bridgewater*

9:00AM **Surrender** *Tewksbury*

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

11:30AM **Relationships** *Bridgewater*

11:30AM **Spiritual Awakenings** *Tewksbury*

1:00PM **Love** *Bridgewater*

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

2:15PM **Joy** *Bridgewater*

2:15PM **AI-Anon, God, & the Agnostic** *Tewksbury*

3:30PM **Honesty** *Bridgewater*

3:30PM **Recovery Process** *Tewksbury*

4:45PM **Connections** *Bridgewater*

4:45PM **Compassion** *Tewksbury*

6:00PM **Happiness** *Bridgewater*

6:00PM **Perception** *Tewksbury*

NOTE: Except where noted otherwise, this AI-Anon section is open to all in attendance at the convention; and convention meetings are open to AI-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