

NY State Fair 2016 Report

As I reported at the April 2nd AWSC meeting we have been accepted as an exhibitor at the 2016 New York State Fair. The Fair will run from Thursday, August 25th through Monday, September 5th.

A big change this year is our location. We will be located in the Science and Industry Building this year. This should be a much better location and should allow for many more visitors to the booth.

The fair committee met prior to the AWSC meeting. We are in pretty good shape at this point. We have all the materials we will need for those who visit our booth.

Last year we asked the AISs and Districts to provide copies of their schedules. We are asking you to do so again this year but instead of giving you a specific number the committee is asking you to provide what you think is appropriate. We did ask for too many last year. We will also have information so that visitors can access meeting info at either the NYN website or from the WSO. Schedules can either be mailed to me or brought to the August AWSC meeting.

The most important part of being at the State Fair will be the volunteers who man the booth. This will be the first contact with Al-Anon that many of our visitors will have had.

As I said before the fair will run for 12 days. The booth needs to be manned from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily. There will be 4 shifts per day. They are each 3 hours long and 2 people per shift will be needed. The shifts are:

- 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Each volunteer will receive an entrance ticket after they have completed the signup.

You will be able to sign up by going to the NYN website. On the homepage, just below the heading you will find “NY State Fair Booth Information” Click on this link and it will take you the State Fair page. This page will explain about our presence at the fair, dates, times, number of people needed per shift and location. After all this information there will be a button to click on that will take you to the sign up page. You will need to provide your name, address and phone number. Follow directions on that page to complete your sign up.

You will be able to change dates and shifts if needed at a later date. The site will show when a shift is full. While you will enter your address and phone number this information will only be available on the back end. (Not seen by others visiting this site) This will be used to mail your entrance ticket and remind you of your shift.

We will need a group of volunteers who will be able to cover a shift at the last minute. If you are able to do this please email your name and contact information to me at ipd@nynafg.com. If you need to purchase an entrance ticket NYN will reimburse you. It is very important that our booth is manned the whole time the buildings are open.

The online signup will be available starting Friday, June 3rd. Please try to complete your sign up before August 1st. We want to make sure all shifts are filled and all volunteers have their tickets.

The last thing I want to mention is the financial support NYN will need from the groups, the districts and from individuals. This will be a costly public outreach project. NYN will need your financial support to make this possible. You can send donations to NYN Area Assembly. The address is the same, PO Box 398, Morrisonville, NY 12962.

I am even more excited about this project than I was last year. I know that this is a great public outreach project. Who knows how many people we will touch by being at the fair?

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth S.