

New York State Fair 2017 Report Spring Assembly

This will be our third year as an exhibitor at the Great New York State Fair. Things should be even more exciting this year with some of the changes to the fair. For us one big change is that the fair will now be 13 days long instead of 12 days. The fair will run from Wednesday, August 23rd through Monday September 4th.

We will be located in the Science and Industry Building again this year. It was a great move for us last year as the number of visitors to our booth went from 596 in 2015 to 1353 in 2016. With an additional day who knows how many people will visit the booth!

After feedback from the volunteers at the booth the past 2 years the committee has made a couple of changes. We have a new banner this year. I think we have hit on a design that will draw people to us but is not confusing. I think it looks great.

We will have the same pamphlets that we have had in the past but there will also be a supply of Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2017. Again this was a suggestion from many volunteers.

As in the past we are asking AISs and Districts to provide copies of their schedules for the booth. Rather than asking for a specific number of copies the committee is asking that you provide what you think is appropriate. Think about what you gave last year, what you got back after the fair and then make your decision. It is great to have that meeting information for visitors. The booth will also have information about websites for meeting info and QR codes to link to the WSO.

Of course the biggest part of our participation at the fair is the volunteers who man the booth. Again we will have two volunteers per shift, 4 shifts per day. They will be 10:00-1:00, 1:00-4:00, 4:00-7:00 and 7:00-10:00. Each volunteer will receive an entrance ticket to the fair. The past 2 years we have needed 96 volunteers to man the booth for the run of the fair, this year with the extra day we will need 104 volunteers.

Signups will be the same as last year. You will visit the NYN website. On the homepage will be a link “NY State Fair Booth Information”. Click on this link, it will take you to State Fair page, where you will find instructions. At the bottom of the page is the link to signup.

When signing up you’ll need to provide your name, phone number and address. It is important that you fill in all information so that your ticket can be mailed to you. Your address and phone number are only available at the backend so others visiting the site will not see them.

You will be able to change dates and shifts if needed. The site will show you when a shift is full.

Also hoping for a group of people who are willing to cover a shift at the last moment. If you are able to do this please send me your contact information at ipd@nynafg.com. If you have to purchase an entrance ticket you will be reimbursed. It is very important that the booth is manned the whole time the buildings are open.

Signups will begin on June 1st. Please try to complete signups by August 1st so the tickets can be mailed out timely.

As in the past I just want to remind you all that our participation in the fair does cost NYN. This is the most costly public outreach project for NYN. While funds cannot be earmarked for the fair your group, district etc can increase their donation to the Area to help with the expenses.

I am as excited about this year’s fair as I have been the past 2 years. I know we are reaching people who are suffering with the affects of alcoholism. Who knows how many we will touch by being at the fair?

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth S.