



**A.A. GENERAL SERVICE
OFFICE—GSO**

Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

HMB AREA 48

Area Chair-Pat L.
hmbchair@aahmbny.org

Area Treasurer

Box 114, Route 30
118 Polar Plaza
Amsterdam, NY

HMB DISTRICT 4

PMB 159
61 Elmwood Avenue
Gloversville, NY 12078

TRUSTED SERVANTS:

DCM—Debbie W.
(518) xxx-xxxx
Cell: (518) xxx-xxxx

Alt DCM—Hawk R.

Secretary—Aggie R.

Treasurer—Dave C.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Answering Service—
Debbie W. & Howard W.

Archives—Eric S.

Bridging The Gap—
Marianne B.

Corrections—Kean T
fm.corrections.district4@gmail.
com

CPC/PI—Kirsten P.

Functions—Anne R.

Grapevine—Sandra P.

Newsletter Editor—Bob B.
(518) xxx-xxxx

Records Keeper—
Hawk R.
records.district4@gmail. com

Bulletin Board

March 2013

Monthly Newsletter, Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire Area 48, District 4

District 4 Joins Districts 8 & 14 Hosting May Assembly

Following a great Assembly last year, the 2013 May Assembly will be held at the same place as last year—the Florida Town Hall. Anne R., Functions Chairperson is coordinating the event. The next planning committee meeting is Friday, March 8th. See “Upcoming Events” for details.

GSR, Committee Chair Persons, and ALL members of A.A. are invited to attend this event which goes from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

This is an excellent opportunity to see Service Work at the District Level and expand your A.A. network of friends.



Florida Town Hall



Unexpected Changes by Central Office Leave Phone Service Hanging

There has been an unexpected turn of events with regard to the emergency 24 Hour Hotline Phone Service. Visitors from the Central Office, Marcia and Al informed District 4 at the February GSR Meeting that the Central Office has changed their program such that they will now be providing only one book of materials and training for only one person for the 6-month Night Owl volunteer term of service.

The ramification of this change is that now, one person would be expected by Central Office to serve for 6 months, rather than 6 people serving for one month each. Furthermore the Central Office Representatives announced that the training would be held on Monday night, not Tuesday as originally scheduled.

It was felt by the GSR's at the meeting that these changes are significant and also may adversely affect those persons who had already signed up as Volunteer Night Owls. The GSR's felt that before we move forward, these unilateral changes made by Central Office should be presented to each Home Group for Group Conscious. Also it was felt that each Volunteer Night Owl who has signed up should be given the opportunity to reconsider their decision.

The topic of the Central Office change is scheduled in the Agenda for the March 11th GSR meeting. GSR's are reminded to bring this issue before their groups and be prepared represent their group's collective preferences on Monday Night.

In the meantime incoming hotline calls are being handled by Central Office Volunteers as was initially planned. District 4 Volunteers will become active when the issue of schedules is resolved.



A.A.'s "Helping Hands" at Work:

District 4 Service Committee and GSR Updates:

The last month's GSR Meeting held at St. Mary's Hospital 3rd Floor was called to order by **DCM, Debbie W.** at 7:00 pm, Monday, February 11, 2013.

Two visitors were recognized: **Marcia** and **Alan**, both representing the Central Office Phone Service.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following reports were provided by Committee Chairpersons.

CPC/PI—Kirsten P. reported that she has been visiting area libraries and public schools and distributing pamphlets and other literature. Additional Big Books will be distributed when received.

FUNCTIONS—Anne R. reported that we have secured the location at the Florida Town Hall for our use for the May assembly on May 19th. The first planning committee for the event is scheduled for February 15, 2013 at Club 24. Anne will have flyers to distribute.

MEN'S CORRECTONS—Keen T. reported on Montgomery County Jail. There was a brief discussion about volunteers traveling to the jail and finding that none of the inmates had signed up to attend the meeting.

NEWSLETTER—Bob B. reported that the newsletter was mailed shortly after the 1st of the month. He reminded GSRs that they should be sending in anniversaries and other announcements.

RECORD KEEPER—Hawk R. is continuing his work to update District 4 records but the task is difficult because often he has no forwarding contact information.

SPECIAL NEEDS—Steve S. reported that he is working with Bob B. (newsletter) to compile a list of handicap accessible meetings. According to the HMB Area 48 schedule book, there are very few places registered as handicap accessible.

TREASURER'S REPORT—Dave C. gave the year end report and monthly Treasurer Reports. Corrections were noted on the year-end report dates, changing from 2011 to 2012. With this minor change, the Treasurer's reports were accepted.

TREATMENT—Dave C. reported that he needs to find someone to go into inpatient on the 2nd Thursday of every month. Kirsten P. volunteered to take responsibility for covering that meeting on that date each month.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HOTLINE PHONE SERVICE: **Marcia** and **Al** from the Central Office informed District 4 that they will be training one person, not several for a 6-month shift as Night Owl Training will offered on Monday night, not Tuesday as previously announced. There was much controversy these changes. This was different than the information that District 4 originally received and therefore the issue should be brought back to the individual groups. The Central Office phone number is now listed in the schedule book for District 4. (518) xxx-xxxx

The web site for the Central Office is: www.aaalbany.org.

OLD BUSINESS

Marcia, the Chairperson for the Central Office Phonebook and **Alan**, the night owl coordinator presented information about the new phone service and explained the suggested guidelines for 12-step calls and night owl volunteers. The Central Office is looking for volunteers and monetary donations from individual groups. Kate C. from the Central office provided packets of information and copies of the Central Office Newsletter (The Broken Bottle) which were distributed at the GSR Meeting.

The Central Office is looking for 8-9 people for 12-step calls and 3-4 people for night owl duty. **Howard W.** and **Debbie W.** are working together to enlist volunteers. Training dates will be established and announced soon. The Central Office will continue sending a liaison to each District 4 GSR Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

New Treasurer Elected: **Joe K.** was nominated and unanimously elected to replace **Dave C.** as District Treasurer. Dave presented the year end reports he had prepared. Joe is continuing training and will be accepting the reigns of the Treasurer's Office in March.

The Treasurers Corner Period Ended February 28, 2013

Group Donations to District 4

Happy Noon Hour—\$100.00
Saturday Night Into Action Group—\$50.00
Drunks of the Roundtable—\$10.00

Celebration Donations

Cathy P. Congrats, 25 Years—\$25.00
Come on, Folks. Celebrate the Celebrants.

**Thank you for your contributions. HMB
District 4 is very grateful for your help
Carrying the A.A. message.**

Joe K. Treasurer HMB District 4

A Message from Your DCM-Debbie W.

We are now approaching the 3rd month of 2013 and I am glad to say that not much snow has come down so far. I look forward to the small pleasures that make my life simple and easier. A.A. and it's tools have and continue to make life simpler and easier if we know where to find them and know how to use them.

From time to time I have encountered many questions like: “How do I start a A.A. group?”; “Where and how does the money get split up and donated to the District?”; “What is the “Area” and what is the “GSO”?”; “How do we handle signing the court papers?”; “How do we guard our anonymity while on social media sites?”; and “What are the guidelines when we go into a treatment facility?” These and many other questions can be answered by getting and reading the A.A. Guidelines that are put out by the General Service Office in New York, NY.



GSO Guidelines cover topics like A.A. Answering Services, Archives, Central or Intergroup Offices, Clubs, Cooperating with Court, D.W.I and Similar Programs, Correctional Facilities Committees, Public Information, Relationship between A.A. and Al-Anon, Literature Committees, Guidelines for A.A Members Employed in the Alcoholism Field, Cooperation With the Professional Community, Carrying the A.A Message to the Deaf Alcoholic, Treatment Facilities Committees, Finance, Serving Alcoholics With Special Needs, Archives and Internet. These A.A. Guidelines represent the collective Group Conscience arising from shared experience of A.A. members and groups throughout the service areas in the United States and Canada. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada).

In Service,
Debbie W. DCM,
HMB Area 48, District 4

Request Your Free Monthly Email Copy of the District 4 Newsletter



**Get your own personal copy
Board.”**

**Email your request to Bob B. at
district4.newsletter@gmail.com or call (518) xxx-
xxxx. We will be happy to put you on the monthly
distribution list...and it's free!**

**This is a good way to keep abreast of what's
happening!**

District 4 Shines at NERASSA:

A Message from Your Area Chair-Pat L.

NERAASA 2013 was held in Lancaster PA the weekend of February 22-24, 2013. If you've never been to NERAASA before, try and attend next year in Rhode Island!! You'll be glad you did! NERAASA stands for Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly. It focuses on General Service Conference issues and related concerns affecting A.A. as a whole.

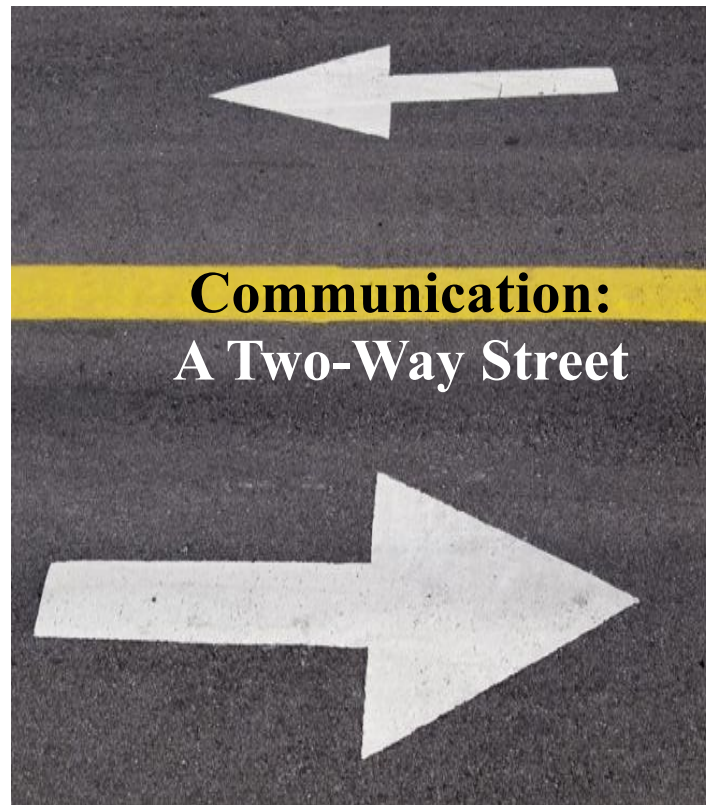
District 4 was well represented at NERAASA, which saw a total attendance of 960. Alternate DCM William R. (Hawk) participated in a panel on *"The Conference as the Conscience of A.A. as a Whole"*, with Hawk's sub-topic: "Communication a Two Way Street". It was a well done presentation...obviously Hawk was well prepared and also responded well to questions at the end of the panel.

The Northeast Regional Trustee gave his report on Saturday morning, and his topic was what is becoming known as "the Plan"... a restructuring of GSO and Grapevine. There will be lots more information about this topic, and it will be on the agenda for Delegate's Day so please consider attending this important event.

Other topics which were addressed throughout the weekend were "the General Service Conference takes its Inventory", "Spirit of Rotation"; and a panel on A.A. and Technology.

Respectfully Submitted,
February 25 2013

In service.
Pat L. HMB Area Chair/Alternate Delegate



**Is your Group's
mail going to the
wrong person?**

**If your group has changed
GSR's or other trusted
servants, please be sure to
notify Hawk at (518) xxx-
xxxx, (518) xxx-xxxx or
records.district4
@gmail.com**



Upcoming Events:

Planning Committee: - HMB Area 48 MAY Assembly: (Friday, March 8th, 6:00 PM) This planning committee meeting will be held at Club 24, located at 218 Kingsboro Avenue, Gloversville, NY.

District 4 GSR Meeting (Monday, March 11, 2013). Meeting begins at 7:00 PM, 3rd Floor, St. Mary's Hospital, 527 Guy Park Ave. Amsterdam, NY. All GSR's should attend or Groups should send an Alternate GSR to represent them. All persons in recovery are welcome and encouraged to attend.

HMB Day of Sharing / Delegate's Day: Saturday, March 23, 2013, First Reformed Church, 52 Green Street, Hudson, NY. Registration & Coffee, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM.; Meeting 10:AM-3:00 PM. Lunch will be served, 7th Tradition will be honored.

HMB Area 48 May Assembly: (Sunday, May 19th 2013 9:00 AM—3:00 PM) WHEEL CHAIR ACCESSIBLE Lunch will be provided. The Assembly is

GROUP ANNIVERSARIES

IN MARCH

Happy Noon Hour Group-Gloversville 3/4/1987	26
Inspiration Group, Amsterdam 3/15/1985	28
Fonda Big Book Group-Fultonville 3/12/1980	33
Canajoharie Up Front Group 3/4/1969	44

Announcements:

NEW/REVISED WEB PAGES— A new, improved website for locating A.A. members has been established by H-M-B Area 48. You are encouraged to check out this website. "meetings.aahmbny.org."

KEEP YOUR GROUP IN THE INFORMATION PIPELINE: Moving? Changes in your group's trusted servants? Please send any changes or registration of new groups to Hawk at records.district4@gmail.com

GET YOUR OWN COPY OF THE DISTRICT 4 NEWSLETTER (Free): Email your request to "district4.newsletter@gmail.com" or send it snail mail to Bob B., 204 Guy Park Ave, Amsterdam, NY. 12010. Phone: (518) xxx-xxxx.

YOUNG PEOPLE IN A.A.: Saratoga On-going in Area 48 (TOGYPA)—Meetings are held Wednesdays at 8:30 P.M. after the Saratoga Young People's Meeting at 36 Phila St. (2nd Floor) Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Maria (518) xxx-xxxx;

NEW GROUP NOT IN 2012 HMB AREA 48 SCHEDULE BOOK: Anonymity First Group - closed discussion meeting Wednesday Evenings, 7:00 PM in first floor storefront at 292 East Main Street, Amsterdam, NY.

GROUPS SEEKING SUPPORT:

- **As Bill Sees It Group:** 9:00 AM Sundays at 218 Kingsboro Ave, Gloversville—Club 24
- **Tuesday Night Rainbow Group:** 8:30 PM, 76 Guy Park Ave., Amsterdam, NY. — Open Discussion
- **Tough Love Group:** Wednesdays 7:30 pm, Amsterdam (Scotch Church United Presbyterian Church, 1331 Sacandaga Rd. W. Charlton, NY) Closed Discussion
- **Saturday Night Speak Up Group:** 7:00 PM, Open Discussion, 76 Guy Park Ave, Amsterdam, NY (Open Discussion: Last week of Month, Speaker's Meeting)

Can't find your name on the anniversary list?

Here's what to do:

- 1) Be sure you are signed up with ONE group as a "Home Group Member."
- 2) Find out who your Group Service Representative (GSR) is. Ask them to be sure to send all anniversaries within the Group to the Newsletter Editor or to Aggie R. Each Month. Email: district4.newsletter@gmail.com

Thank you to **Aggie R.** and **Bev C.** who maintain our list of Celebrants.

Individual

Anniversaries

Celebrant	Years
Ron C.	1
Sue S.	1
Judy E.	3
Frank M.	4
Paul	4
Pauline	4
Bruce	6
Dave C.	6
Floyd	7
Kirsten P.	9
Jerri	11
Ann T.	19
Larry B.	21
Lou P.	24
Bev P.	27
Jay R.	27
Don D.	29
TOTAL	203
Average	11.9

Bob B.
204 Guy Park Avenue
Amsterdam, NY 12010
