

→ **The next District 13 meeting will be Wednesday, September 7th**

Alcoholics Anonymous - Northeast Region
Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48

24 hour District 13
AA Hot-Line
518 - 793-1113

DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2011

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→ **Want details on over 70 meetings every week in District 13? Just see the meeting list!**

→ **We ask Group Chairs or GSR's to bring this Newsletter to their Group Meetings. Please share the information.**
(If you want extra copies for use at your meetings, just contact the Newsletter Editor – see page 4.)

Reminder: District 13 meets on the First Wednesday of Every Other Month. There are only two meetings left in 2011: September 7th and November 2nd @ 7:00PM at the Town Center, Old Post Rd, Lake George.

The next District Meeting is **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011 at 7PM**

→ **Isn't taking just one hour in two months - to hear so much about AA - a good move?**
All AA members are welcome to attend. Why not mark September 7th on your calendar.

Information from the last [July] District meeting was included in the District's July Newsletter. Minutes of that July District meeting will be available for review and approval at the September 7th meeting. Since there was no August District meeting, there are no meeting results to report. **This does, however, give us a chance to share information on several other important AA items:**

We are updating the District 13 Telephone Hotline Volunteers List. This hasn't been done in some time so, if you would like to help take calls from people seeking AA Hotline help, **please tell our Records Keeper, Paul G.**

We're doing a **complete update** so **even if you already are on the Hotline Volunteer List, please let Paul know you still want to do it.**

Taking Hotline calls is easier than you think – and it can be life-saving to someone really in need of AA's help.

Here are some main points on '**How it Works:**' **[A member typically get only a couple of calls per month.]**

- Our Hotline operator takes incoming calls; then looks at the **volunteers' list** to find an AA volunteer's name & phone # – in the 'day/time slot' for this call;
- The operator [**not** the caller] then calls the volunteer's phone # [caller does **not** hear this] and, if volunteer answers, **operator asks the volunteer if he or she can take a call from [first name];**
- If the volunteer says **no**, I can't take the call now, then, the operator calls the next volunteer on the list in the 'day/time slot' until an available volunteer is found;
- If the volunteer says **yes**, then the operator puts the caller through to the volunteer.
[The caller never gets the volunteer's phone #].

Group GSR's and Chairs: please bring the simple **sign-up list printed in this Newsletter** to your Groups so members can sign up; then please get the information to Paul. **All that's needed is a member's first name and the phone number where he or she wants to take calls.** **Thank you for your help in this vital AA service.**

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We said last month, it costs money to mail our Newsletters to you by U. S. Postal Service. Can we send it to you by e-mail instead?

Please let us know by contacting Newsletter Editor, Larry T.

Need to talk to someone at District 13? See the Committee Chairs - contact information on page 4.

Have information about your Group to include in the Newsletter? See 'Newsletter Editor' on Page 4.

Here are a few other updated and new AA information items:

DISTRICT 13 AA MEETING LISTS are printed three times each year, now showing over 70 meetings each week.

Copies of the July 2011 District meeting list have been widely distributed. If your Group needs extra copies of that July list, contact Tom B or John D [see page 4 for contact info].

District 13 meeting lists also are regularly provided at request of other entities, for example, Glens Falls Hospital, Hudson Headwaters Health Network, North Country Ministry and several Halfway Houses, just to name a few.

Do you know a location that could use copies of our District 13 AA meeting list? Tell us and we'll provide them.

Records Keeper Paul G asks all Groups to inform him of any changes in Group meeting locations, days or times and GSR/contact information as soon as they occur so these can be included in District, Area & GSO records - and so that **free AA literature issued periodically gets to each Group in a timely manner.**

We are grateful to Don B who has been coordinating our District's Corrections' efforts at New York State facilities. **We also are grateful to Faye M.** who has been coordinating our efforts at Warren and Washington County Jails. Don says he's recovering well from recent surgery & Faye has started a recovery process from very recent surgery. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. The District expects to have an updated status report on corrections activity at the September 7th District meeting.

DCM Lou H. reminds us of the vacant or soon to be vacant District 13 service positions. These members have completed two-year service terms. We thank them for their service - and AA's important tradition of 'rotation' says it's time for someone else to help out. **PLEASE consider helping in one of the following service positions:**

Alternate DCM; Committee Chairs for: BTG; Treatment; Corrections; Special Needs; Grapevine; and CPC/PI and the Newsletter Editor position.

AA service not only helps those who really need it, it is a remarkable gift we give to our own sobriety!

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Members from District 13 participated in the [Annual New York State-wide AA Convention in Tarrytown 7/29-7/31](#) and worked at the [New York State-wide AA Informational Workshop held in Latham on 8/19-8/21](#). We expect to have some good report-back information on these events at the September 7th District meeting.

District 13 keeps a very low 'Prudent Reserve' of funds - \$250, which barely covers two months of District expenses including for the 24 hour/7 days per week **Telephone Hotline**. District members discussed this again on 7/6 and further discussion will occur on the process for voting on expenditures when funds exceed \$250. This discussion also will include possible District contributions to Area 48 and the GSO - not done in quite a while.

A copy of the approved June - July Treasurer's Report was included in our July Newsletter. Treasurer Tom B's report for August - September will be distributed for review at the September 7th District meeting. Each Report lists Groups that have made recent contributions to the District. **We are deeply grateful to these Groups and to AA members whose support is so vital to District service work** such as **the 24-hour Telephone Hotline**.

In the worth repeating category...

Have you read a copy of the **Grapevine** recently? Known as '**AA's Meeting in print**,' **Grapevine** is a treasure of wonderful **personal stories** of recovery from active alcoholism - and of a sober life in AA. **Where do you think these true stories come from? From you, from me, from each of us in the Fellowship who takes a little time to share our stories in the journey of recovery.** How do you go about sharing a story with **Grapevine**? It's a lot easier than you think! Just go to www.aagrapevine.org/share to read more about upcoming special Grapevine topics and how to submit stories. **Grapevine** is accepting submissions for Oct., Nov. & Dec. issues.

If you haven't seen a copy of the **Grapevine** recently, maybe your Group could consider buying a subscription and passing copies around at meetings. Packages of past issues of **Grapevine** can also be purchased at a special reduced price. Please consider it! Grapevine also has a catalog of other wonderful AA-related material.

Did you know: Bill W. was Grapevine's most prolific contributor, writing over 150 articles, from his first in June 1944 to his last in December 1970. You can read these in a great hard-cover volume called [Language of the Heart](#). Where can you get it? From the Grapevine office: www.aagrapevine.org or call **212 870-3018**.

Did you know: As of January 2011, AA's General Service Office (GSO) estimates there are almost **63,000 AA Groups** and almost **1.4 million AA members** in the U.S. & Canada. GSO last conducted its **U.S-wide & Canada anonymous membership survey in 2007**. For interesting facts from the survey, go to www.aa.org and in the **search** box, type in **P-48. A new survey is underway this month** [August] among 8,000+ AA Groups picked to yield a valid sample of AA membership. We'll keep you posted when the new survey results are available. **We AA's are not alone!** Just imagine at your next home group meeting, how many of our fellows are at AA meetings!

Exciting news: the Saratoga Young People in AA bid committee was awarded the right to host the **Eastern Area Conference of Young People in AA [EACYPAA]** - 'young in spirit' not 'age' and open to all AA members - to be held in **Spring 2012 in Saratoga!** EACYPAA X encompasses **all** of the States east of the Mississippi River. **Bravo to the tireless workers who made this happen.** Year 2012 is shaping up to be 'huge' for our HMB Area 48! **NERAASA**, which is a northeastern U. S. regional conference and the **New York State-wide AA Convention** will be hosted by our Area 48 - both to be held in Albany. **If you want to join thousands of AA members in action,** Year 2012 will be a 'triple crown of AA' for our Area 48! And, yes, we will need volunteers - more on that next month.

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Need to talk to someone at District 13? Committee Chairs are as follows:

<u>Committee:</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
• DCM	Lou H.
• Alternate DCM	*Vacant * [was Lou H.] [Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• Secretary	Kristen H.
• Treasurer	Tom B.
• Records	Paul G.
• Bridging the Gap	Charles W [*2-year term ended] [Please consider this service opportunity]
• Corrections	*Vacant * [in interim call Don B] [Please consider this service opportunity]
• CPC/PI	John D. [*2-year term ended] [Please consider this service opportunity]
• Treatment	Kevin A. [*2-year term ended] [Please consider this service opportunity]
• Newsletter Editor	Larry T. [Larry's Editor two-year term has ended. A replacement is needed]
• Grapevine	*Vacant * [Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• Archives	*Jenny H.* [may be filling this position]
• Special Needs	*Vacant * [Please consider this AA service opportunity]

Remember that our District 13 maintains a [24 hours/7 days a week telephone 'hotline'](#) where any individual may call anonymously and talk with a sober alcoholic about any problem or question that individual may have about alcohol/alcohol abuse and also find locations of the more than 70 AA meetings each week in our District 13 area.

[The hotline telephone number is \(518\) 793-1113 Don't hesitate to give out this phone number!](#)

District 13 is deeply grateful to the Groups and Members who have contributed to our AA service work.

As a possible help to members and Groups, it was voted at a prior District meeting to include the addresses for mail and contributions in newsletters & meeting lists. An historical contribution share has been 60% District; 30% Area & 10% GSO.

The addresses are: District 13 P. O. Box 4335, Queensbury, NY 12804;
HMB Area 48 118 Polar Plaza #114, Route 30, Amsterdam, NY 12010; and
General Service Office (GSO) P. O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

New information: GSO contributions also can now be made on-line at: www.aa.org & click on 'contributions' icon.

The need for this financial support continues to be very real so we respectfully request, if your Group hasn't helped out recently, that you please consider a much-needed early contribution to District 13 in any amount your Group conscience considers appropriate. **Thank You.**

UPCOMING AA ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

For details, see the HMB Area 48 Newsletter (hard copy) or on-line at: www.aahmbny.org or at our 9/7 District 13 meeting. AA members can receive a free copy of Area 48's Newsletter by e-mail request to area48newsletter@gmail.com. District 13 AA members can receive a free copy of District 13's Newsletter by request to Editor, Larry T.

- 9/7 Wednesday **District 13 Meeting**, 7:00pm [1 hour] **Lake George Town Center, Old Post Rd, Lake George**
- 9/10 - Saturday **HMB Area 48 Election Assembly** Defreestville, NY **each Group has a vote**. Plan to be there.
- 10/1 -Saturday **Homeless Veterans Health & Wellness Day** Latham NY-500 veterans get help-AA table & members
- 10/15 - Saturday **HMB Area 48 Voting Assembly** inc'l Year 2012 Budget **each Group has a vote**. " " " "
- 11/2 - Wednesday **District 13 Meeting**, 7:00pm [1 hour] **Lake George Town Center, Old Post Rd, Lake George**
- 11/4-11/6 **HMB Area 48 Annual Convention** Fishkill, NY. Remember the spirit of 500 AA's at Lake Placid last year! Recapture that spirit again this year in Fishkill.
(Friday-Sunday)

Want to see your Group event in our next District 13 and Area 48 Newsletters? Just contact Editor Larry T.