

District Meeting is THIS WEDNESDAY, May 2nd - 7PM in Lake George.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous - Northeast Region
Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48

DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2012

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⇒ **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 – or if there is something you or your Group would like to see included in upcoming District 13 or Area 48 Newsletters, just contact the Newsletter Editor – see page 4.)

⇒ **HERE IS INFORMATION REALLY WORTHY OF YOUR ATTENTION**

⇒ **Next District Meeting - this Wednesday, May 2nd - 7pm. Town Center, Old Post Road, Lake George.**
Hear some really good and timely AA Information - in just one hour - Hope to see you!

As you read this Newsletter, you will see **this year many eastern U. S. and State-wide AA events are occurring in upstate New York locations. That's rare** - and a great opportunity for us to participate. **Consider attending!!**

The AA Group is the most important part of AA. District 13 DCM Lou H., Sr. reminds us these broader AA work events are aimed at helping, and are patterned after, efforts of AA Groups in their own business/conscience efforts.

AA has really grown over the past 77 years with almost 1.4 million members just in the United States and Canada. AA members are devoted to AA service - in their Home Groups and in working to ensure that AA world-wide stays strong and able to carry its message of hope to all who 'come through the AA doors' in the years ahead.

That's why **once each year**, the **elected AA Delegates** from throughout the U.S. and Canada hold an intensive week-long **AA conscience work session** called the **General Service Conference** on issues vital to AA's survival.

Did you know...this year's General Service Conference is underway **this week** in Rye Brook, New York?

Our elected Area 48 Delegate, Keith D. is one of only ~100 Delegates U.S. and Canada-wide. Keith not only represents our vast New York State Area 48 'at Conference,' he joins all Delegate's in working for AA's future.

Keith D. will **'report back'** to us on the **results of this year's Conference** at the **May 20th Area 48 Assembly.**

Why not attend on 5/20 and hear his report? See the AA Activities and Events List on page 4 for details.

District 13 DCM Lou H. Sr. also reminds us that **AA service outside the Group level is aimed at efforts that usually are beyond the ability of any single AA Group to handle.** Last year, we prepared a **small pamphlet describing District 13 service efforts.** **A copy of that pamphlet is enclosed.** [printed at no cost to District 13]

⇒ 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 almost 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

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Copies of District 13's new March 2012 Meeting list were distributed to all present at our 3/7 District meeting. There are **changes and new meetings**. [Please destroy the old lists.]

Some extra copies of the new list will be available at this Wednesday's 5/2 District Meeting.

Some copies of HMB Area 48's Year 2012 meetings book [over **1,000** AA meetings each week] also will be available at the 5/2 meeting [30 cents each] along with info on how to order extras while supplies last.

Since there was no District meeting in April, there are no meeting Minutes or Treasurer's Report this month. Copies of the 3/7 District meeting Minutes and April-May Treasurer's Report will be available at the 5/2 meeting.

Here is some other information worth sharing...

On Saturday **April 14th**, HMB Area 48 held its **Annual Fellowship Day** at Sacred Heart Church in **Lake George**. The event was sponsored by AA's Adirondack Cluster (Districts 5, 10, 13 & 19) with our District 13 coordinating as the host location. More than 80 AA members attended. As has been the case in the past, the event seemed to be a real success from the standpoint of AA communication and fellowship.

Those present discussed AA-conscience and business matters including protecting anonymity in the electronic age. HMB Area 48 Delegate, Keith D. pointed out that the timely **theme** of this year's General Service Conference is: **"Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age."** As previously mentioned, Keith will **'report back'** on results of this year's Conference at the **May 20th Area 48 Assembly**. **Attend; hear about this & much more!**

Our DCM Lou H., Sr. offered thanks to all members who helped plan for and worked at the 4/14 Fellowship Day. In addition to volunteers from District 13, Lou especially thanked: District 5 for providing soda; District 10 and its DCM, Ken who provided and set-up lunch; and, District 19 including DCM Bob M. and Don S. who provided breakfast and also helped with early morning set-up and clean-up after the event.

We note with sadness, the recent passing of Chestertown Group member, Dave. His memorial/burial service was April 21st at Brant Lake Cemetery. Please keep Dave in your prayers.

We offer **congratulations to the Corinth Group** which **this month celebrates its 50-Years AA Anniversary**.

We note the upcoming **June 16th Glens Falls Original Group's 74-Years AA Anniversary**. [see details on page 4]

Did you know AA's General Service Office prepares an **Annual Anonymity Letter** and distributes it to newspapers, radio, TV and other electronic media throughout the United States and beyond. The letter explains AA anonymity protection in news articles [even in obituaries when referring to a deceased member's friends who may be in AA].

Does your Group or individual members have a question about AA, its Traditions, Sponsorship and more?

AA has a wide range of pamphlets [many are free] that most often can help answer those questions! When was the last time you or your Group looked at the **AA Catalog**? Anyone can get a free current copy by calling AA World Services at **212 870 3312** or access a copy on-line at **www.aa.org**.

Grapevine also has some great AA literature beyond its monthly on-line and mailed magazine subscriptions. Get a **free Grapevine Catalog** by calling **800 631 6025** or access a copy on-line at **www.grapevine.org**.

More **Grapevine 'good news:'** AA has just announced availability of a **Daily Reflections page** on AA website **www.aa.org**. This page **updates daily**, so visitors can share in the reading for that calendar day. We hope you find this access inviting and easy to use for daily reading. The new page can be reached by **clicking on the "Daily Reflections" link** on the upper left corner of the AA home page: **www.aa.org**. Do you have any other Grapevine questions? Just contact **District 13 Grapevine Chairman Peter R.** See Page 4 for contact info.

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AA Traditions guide us: We are self-supporting through our own contributions...

Yes, times are tough – but please consider this when ‘the basket comes round’ at the next AA meeting:

<u>1970</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>2012</u>
\$0.21	Bread	\$2.19
\$0.91	Pound of Coffee	\$4.00 to 12.00
\$0.06	Postage Stamp	\$.45
\$0.50	Gallon of Gas	\$4.19
\$1.99	Carton of Cigarettes	\$72.00
<u>\$1.00</u>	<u>Typical AA Meeting Contribution</u>	<u>\$1.00</u>

AA's Co-Founder Bill W. wrote (see Grapevine-published book The Language of the Heart, page 221):

"Our groups, our areas, and AA as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid. When we are generous with the hat we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

Even if you can't spare a dime, keep coming - but if you can spare more than one dollar, it really does matter!

District 13 is deeply grateful to the Groups and members whose **financial contributions** are so vital to District 13 service work including **the 24-hour Telephone Hotline**.

We send a contribution acknowledgement letter to each Group & publish it in the next month's Treasurer's Report.

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

The need for your 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.**

⇒ Folks, as we've been saying, *it costs money to mail our District 13 Newsletters to you by U.S.P.S.*
May we send the Newsletter to you by e-mail instead? Just contact the Newsletter Editor. [see page 4]

DCM Lou H., Sr. asks each of us to carry the message to Groups we attend about **opportunities for AA service**.

The District was blessed to fill several AA service positions recently but still has **three important positions open: Bridging the Gap, Corrections** and **Special Needs**. It is a lot easier to help than you may think. Why not come to this Wednesday's May 2nd District Meeting; **we'll show you just how easy - and how important - your help is!**

AA members are especially needed to help bring AA meetings into correctional facilities. These include the New York State facilities in Comstock as well as the Warren County and Washington County Jails. Please contact Don B. for additional information on helping in AA Corrections service work. [see page 4 for contact info]

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Need to talk to someone at District 13? Committee Chairs [and contact information] are as follows:

<u>Committee:</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
• DCM	Lou H.
• Alternate DCM	Steven S. [elected 3/7/12]
• Secretary	Kristen H.
• Treasurer	Tom B.
• Records	Paul G.
• Bridging the Gap	* Vacant * [Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• Corrections	* Vacant * [in interim call Don B] [Please consider this service opportunity]
• CPC/PI	Natalie N. [elected 3/7/12]
• Treatment	Jesse E. [elected 1/4/12]
• Newsletter Editor	John D. [elected 1/4/12]
• Grapevine	Peter R.
• Archives	Jenny H.
• Special Needs	* Vacant * [Please consider this AA service opportunity]

⇒ REMEMBER: A CONFIDENTIAL VERSION of the District 13 Newsletter is issued for inside AA use only. This Public Newsletter version without phone numbers and e-mail data is for posting on the HMB Area 48 website.

UPCOMING AA ACTIVITIES and EVENTS

For Area 48 details, see the HMB Area 48 Newsletter (hard copy) or on-line at: www.aahmbny.org. AA members can receive a free copy of Area 48's Newsletter by e-mail request to newsletter@aahmbny.org. Get a free copy of District 13 Newsletters by request to John D. at e-mail: district13newsletter@sprynet.com.

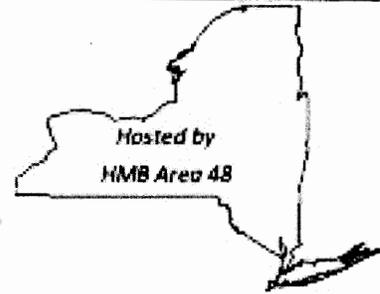
Below are a few upcoming AA activities/events of special interest to District 13 members and Groups:

- ⇒ **May 2nd** District 13 Meeting 7:00pm [1 hour] at Lake George Town Center, Old Post Rd, Lake George **(this Wednesday)** Every AA member is welcome to attend.
- May 5th** District 5 – Dinner, Dance and AA Meeting – American Legion Hall - Saratoga Springs (Saturday) 6 PM – 34 West Avenue – suggested \$10 contribution [More info at 5/2 District meeting]
- May 20th** HMB Area 48 Assembly in Amsterdam – This is an important day: Area 48 Delegate Keith D will provide a 'Report Back' on this Year's General Service Conference where AA Delegates from throughout the entire U. S. and Canada worked on matters vital to AA - now and in our future. [flyer at 5/2 District meeting] (Sunday)
- ⇒ **June 16th** Glens Falls Original Group – 74-Years Group Anniversary How wonderful! Plan to attend! **6 PM Food and 8 PM – Great Open Speakers AA meeting.** [More info at 5/2 District meeting] (Saturday)
- July 20th** New York State-wide Annual AA Convention in Albany. to July 22nd This major weekend will see up to a thousand AA members gathered in the spirit of fellowship. (Friday-Sunday) Probably last time Convention will be held in our Area. Why not attend! [flyer at 5/2 District meeting]
- August 19th** to **August 21st** 33rd Annual New York State Informational Workshop in Lewiston, NY This is a hard-work weekend where members in different AA service activities share information on how each Group, District and AA Area can do a better job of carrying AA's message to those in and out of the rooms. (Fri.-Sun.)

Do you or your Group have an AA item to share in the District 13 or Area 48 Newsletters?
Please let us know by contacting John D. at e-mail: district13newsletter@sprynet.com.

The 43rd New York State Convention
July 20th - 22nd, 2012

"Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age"



The Albany Marriott

189 Wolf Road

Albany, NY 12205

Convention Room Rate: \$114.00 plus tax per night

Deadline for room reservations: June 28, 2012

There is NO SMOKING anywhere within the hotel. Designated smoking areas are conveniently located near the exits on all sides of the hotel.

Hotel Reservations

Online: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/albny-albany-marriott/>

Direct Phone Number: (518) 458-8444

Toll Free: (800) 443-8952

When reserving rooms, use code "HAAHAAA" for Convention Rate.

Friday - 7/20/12

- Early Bird Meeting (4:00pm)
- Speaker Meeting
- Entertainment

Saturday - 7/21/12

- Panels and Workshops
- Old Timers Meeting
- Speaker Meeting
- Entertainment

Sunday - 7/22/12

- Spiritual Speaker Meeting

Note: Al Anon Participation; Alcazhan Meetings throughout the weekend

HMB Area 48
May Assembly

Sunday, May 20, 2012
9AM - 3PM

Hosted By Districts 4, 8, & 14

Location: Florida Town Hall
167 Fort Hunter Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Lunch will be provided

Directions- From Exit 27 NYS Thruway

- Turn Left on NY Rt. 30S and go 1.8 mi.
- Straight on NY Rt. 161W (Mill Point Rd) and go 0.9 mi.
- Turn Left on Fort Hunter Road and travel and go 0.8 mi.
- Town Hall will be on the Right

Hall is located by the Town Highway Dept. Garage

Contact Information: Les B. (518) 378-2417

AA's District 13...

- Provides a regularly updated list of almost 70 AA meetings every week in many towns in our Adirondacks District including Lake George, Glens Falls, Queensbury & far beyond. See all town names inside. Free meeting lists at any AA meeting...
- Maintains a 24 hour, 7 days a week AA telephone **Hotline: 518 793 1113** providing AA meeting locations & help in dealing with alcohol and alcoholism...

Through dedicated committee volunteers:

- Serves as an information resource for almost 50 AA Groups in our large multi-County District 13 'Adirondacks' area ...
- brings AA meetings to those in need in correctional and treatment facilities...
- Helps 'bridge the gap' for those leaving correctional and treatment facilities to link them to AA members & meetings in their home areas...
- provides information to organizations, schools, professional community & others about the deadly disease of alcoholism and knowledge that recovery is possible...
- provides AA meeting lists to hotels, motels for use by guests of the lodging facilities...
- Ensures the information from AA nationwide, in New York, and in AA's HMB Area 48 is made available to District 13 AA Groups & that District data is correctly reported...

All AA members are welcome to share in this District 13 service work & your help is needed. See inside this pamphlet on how you can help.

A.A. - It Works - One Day at a Time

The Twelve Steps of A.A.

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 a result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

District 13 works to conduct its affairs ever mindful of AA's Twelve Traditions.

I am responsible...
when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there.
And for that: I am responsible.

AA's District 13

serves AA Groups & Members
in a large, multi-County area of the
Adirondack Region
and provides a 24 hour, 7 days a week

AA Telephone Help Hotline

where any individual may talk anonymously with a sober alcoholic about any problem or any question the individual may have regarding alcohol or alcohol abuse and find locations, days and times of the numerous AA meetings in the area. The 'hotline' number is 518 793 1113

This pamphlet briefly describes District AA services that usually are beyond the ability of any single AA Group to handle.

This pamphlet also is an earnest request to tell us how the District may be of greater help to each Group within District 13.

The A.A. Preamble

"Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety."

R12-04'12

AA's District 13...

Works to provide useful AA information to AA Groups in the District and to correctly report on Group activities to AA beyond the Group.

Provides AA services that usually are beyond the ability of an individual AA Group to handle. Every AA Group has a vote on District activity.

Performs these services through Committees whose chairperson and members strive to ensure that when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, the hand of A.A. always will be there.

District 13 AA Service Committees are:

Bridging the Gap: arranges temporary but very important contacts for individuals during their initial time of transition from correctional, treatment or other facilities into the community by links to sober AA members & AA meetings.

Treatment: Arranges for and coordinates bringing sober AA members into hospitals and related facilities for much-needed AA meetings that otherwise would be unavailable to individuals in these facilities, including for in-patient meetings at Glens Falls Hospital.

Corrections: Arranges for and coordinates bringing sober AA members into correctional facilities for much-needed AA meetings that otherwise would be unavailable to individuals in multiple Counties & State correctional facilities.

Cooperation with Professional Community-Public Information: provides information about AA to the media and to professionals in contact with those dealing with the disease of alcoholism and alcohol problems. This includes visiting, when requested, schools, doctors, community groups, businesses and others, & participating, when requested, at public health fairs and certain professional and community-based meetings.

(continued on inside panel)

District Records:

The District Records Keeper is responsible for ensuring that information on all AA Groups and Group contacts/GSRs is up-to-date in District, Area 48 and national AA records so that the Groups receive key AA information and District, Area and national Meeting Lists are correct.

Please report any changes in meeting date, time, location, type or group contact/GSR promptly to the Records Keeper so all meeting lists are up to date.

District Newsletter:

The Newsletter Editor is responsible for timely issuance of the District's monthly Newsletter to all Groups in the District and for making sure the Newsletter includes useful information and the correct reporting of Group & District activities.

Archives & Special Needs:

Maintains items of AA historical significance and works to serve AA members with special needs, e.g. large-print and Braille AA literature.

District Treasurer & Secretary are responsible, respectively, for monitoring district expenditures & income and proper recording of meeting minutes.

Grapevine: A very helpful periodical in sustaining AA sobriety: by mail or at www.aagrapevine.org.

District 13 members have various lengths of sobriety, some over thirty years. But we are ever-mindful that each of us only has **today**. For, though we're all different distances from the last drink, we're all the same distance to the next drink - one day at a time. And that's the great equalizer in our God-given A.A. fellowship.

District 13 relies on AA members willing to be of service for the good of AA, Groups & members. If you are able to help in these AA service efforts or anonymously help answer Hotline phone calls, please contact your Group Chairperson or the chairpersons listed in our Newsletter or just come to a District meeting. It is easy to start and your own sobriety will be enriched by the experience.

Useful A.A. Information...

AA's District 13

Serves a large Adirondack area with AA Groups in: Bolton Landing; Chestertown; Crown Point; Fort Ann; Fort Edward; Glens Falls; Granville; Hudson Falls; Indian Lake; Lake George; Lake Luzerne; Long Lake; Minerva; Newcomb, Queensbury; Riparius; Schroon Lake; So. Glens Falls; Ticonderoga; Warrensburg and Whitehall.

There are almost 70 AA meetings every week. Get a free District meeting list at any AA meeting.

District 13 is a part of AA's HMB Area 48 which serves the large geographic New York Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire region. Area-wide meeting lists are available at any AA meeting.

On-line, find AA meetings in northern New York at Area 48 website www.aahmbny.org; nation-wide, find meetings at AA's main website www.aa.org.

AA meetings are a celebration of sobriety - of the sure and certain hope and serenity that comes from knowing - that A.A. works.

District 13 meets on the **first Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September & November at 7:00pm** at the Lake George Town Center, Old Post Road, Lake George [1-hour meeting] **All AA members are welcome to attend.**

District 13 has a 24 hour, 7 days a week phone '**Hotline**' providing information on meeting locations, days of the week and times and providing an opportunity **for any individual struggling with alcohol problems to talk anonymously with a sober member of AA.**

Hotline Phone Number: 518 793 1113

District 13 is self supporting solely by contributions from AA Groups and members To help in this work, please send your contributions in any amount to: District 13, P. O. Box 4335, Queensbury, NY 12804