

Alcoholics Anonymous - Northeast Region
Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48

DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2012 (Website Version)

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We ask Group Chairs or GSR's to bring this Newsletter to their Group Meetings.
Please share the information.



*We are reminded that November is known as "Gratitude Month."
On behalf of District 13, DCM Lou H. Sr. extends thanks to all Group and
Members for their service and support of District 13 AA service efforts.*

HERE IS INFORMATION WORTHY OF YOUR ATTENTION

District 13 publishes its new AA meeting list in March, July and November.

1,500 copies of the new November meeting lists were printed and copies were distributed to all Group representatives and members present at the November 7th District meeting.

There are new meetings, changes in existing meetings and a total of 76 AA meetings each week in District 13. You are encouraged to make copies of the new meeting list. Records Keeper Paul G. can e-mail a printable non-editable PDF copy and we soon expect to have a non-editable printable copy available on our Website. If your Group still needs help in getting additional meeting list copies, contact the Editor (See page 6.)

District 13's NEW WEBSITE has some great AA information. Please check it out!

DCM Lou H. Sr. reminds us the new District 13 website <http://district13.aahmbny.org> is 'up and running.' Please visit the District 13 website to: find AA meetings; view AA and Grapevine literature catalogs; purchase AA & Grapevine literature; find out how to start a new group or change group contact information; make contributions to District 13; Area 48 and GSO; view and print copies of Area 48 and District 13 Newsletters and meeting list; and more! Find it all at our website: <http://district13.aahmbny.org>.

There are some significant AA activities occurring in northern New York in the next few weeks including:

⇒ HMB Area 48 Fellowship Day THIS COMING SUNDAY, November 18th ; and,

⇒ Thanksgiving Alcathon next Thursday 11/22 with breakfast, AA meetings and full turkey dinner.

When was the last time you experienced the wonderful AA fellowship and participated in one of these events? Would you like to help out at the Thanksgiving Day Alcathon - even if just a couple of hours in the morning?

[See the enclosed flyers for all the details and travel directions.]

Editor's Note: As always, we welcome your comments and reactions and especially ask you to **tell us about items you and your Group would like to see included in the Newsletter.** Thank you.

⇒ **NOTE:** A **CONFIDENTIAL VERSION** of the District 13 Newsletter is issued **for inside AA use only.**
This **Public Version** of the District 13 Newsletter is for posting on Area 48 and District 13 Websites.

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The information below is from our November 7th meeting. It includes the October-November Treasurer's Report and information on how we use wonderful Group contributions in our District 13 AA service work. Recent Group contributions to District 13 are listed in this Newsletter; a thank you letter is sent to each Group. And remember, every Group has a vote at District 13 meetings on proposed District expenditures.

Attendance at the November 7th District 13 meeting was good.

DCM, Lou H., Sr. chaired the 11/7 meeting; welcomed all present; and opened with the Serenity Prayer.

Copies of the 9/5 meeting minutes were distributed by Secretary Kristen H, reviewed and approved. Copies of Nov. 7th minutes will be available for review and approval consideration at the next meeting: 1/2/13. All present on 11/7 thanked Kristen for her dedicated AA service as Secretary and for her thorough minutes.

Copies of Tom B's Oct.-Nov. Treasurer's Report were distributed to all present on 11/7. It was reviewed, discussed and approved. [copy included in this Newsletter.] The Report shows an opening balance of \$692.72; income from wonderful Groups' contributions of \$435.11 and expenses of \$619.74 (including telephone hotline; Contact Communications; rent [\$25 Lake George Town Hall District meeting space]; \$152.56 for printing 1,500 copies of the new November District 13 meeting lists; purchase of 'Young Peoples' AA literature and postage for our AA mailing to schools; and postage for newsletters mailings and stamps) leaving a closing balance of \$508.09. Subtracting the District's \$250 prudent reserve, leaves \$258.09 available for further District 13 service work consideration and expenses.

Remember, proposed expenditures are discussed and voted on at District meetings. **Each Group has a vote.** That's just one of the reasons why attendance at District meetings is not only informative but also important.

DCM Lou H. recapped the subject of printing our District meeting lists, pointing out that the District historically had 1,500 copies of our meeting lists printed commercially, usually at Staples but in past year, District had authorized Tom B. to print the lists on his home laser printer with reimbursement only for paper and toner. We thanked Tom for this service which saved the District some money but it had become a really onerous task for Tom to print way over 1,000 copies - especially as demand for the meeting lists continued to increase. So, after thoughtful discussion by all present at the 9/5 District meeting, motion was made, voted on and approved to obtain competitive price quotes from reliable printers including Staples in time to make a decision for printing our new [November] meeting lists. Competitive bids were obtained from three printers with the result that 1,500 copies of the new November meeting list were printed by low bidder, Brennan's Printing, at a cost substantially below prior Staples costs. The new November meeting lists were distributed to all present at the 11/7 District meeting. All present thanked those who helped in this successful, cost-saving effort including Records Keeper Paul G. for preparing the master document and getting the lists printed.

Reports were given by, or on behalf of, Committee Chairs at the 11/7 meeting. Pertinent information is summarized on the following pages.

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In addition to his work on producing the new District 13 meeting list, **Records Keeper** Paul G. reported that AA's General Service Office [GSO] in New York City has been slowed down somewhat because of Hurricane Sandy but that all changes in our District list have been provided to HMB Area 48 for inclusion in its annual [Year 2013] Meeting Book and for updating Area and GSO records. Paul asks that you continue to let him know promptly of any new meetings or changes to existing meetings. He also has reminded us that answering AA hotline calls is very important and it is easy. Contact Paul to learn how. [See page 6 for Paul's contact info]

→ The annual HMB Area 48 Meeting Book lists over 1,200 AA meetings every week in our portion of New York. Deadline to order Year 2013 edition is December 1st; copies are just 30 cents each. Each Group orders its own copies directly from Area 48. **An Order Form is enclosed with this Newsletter.**

Treatment: Although only-recently elected, Steve S. announced on 11/7 that he must step down from the Treatment Chair position effective immediately. Therefore, this position again is vacant and DCM Lou H. asks that each of us consider this important opportunity for AA service. Also, if you know of a treatment facility that needs AA literature or if you have AA literature not being used, please tell Lou so it can be put to good use. [See page 6 for Lou's contact info.]

Corrections: Chair position still is vacant. **Please consider this important AA service opportunity.** Don B. continues his long-time-help in corrections' service and reports that Ethel H. and Pat W. are faithfully bringing women's meeting into Washington County Jail but there is a **desperate need** for AA members to carry the AA message into Washington County Jail [men's meeting], Warren County Jail and NY State medium and maximum security prisons in Comstock. **Won't you help? Even if it's just once a month?** It is not hard to do and Don can help you get started. Please contact Don to learn how.

District 13 Newsletters continue to be issued monthly. **Editor John D.** reminds us all that it saves the District money if newsletters are sent via e-mail rather than USPS mail. Please contact him if you or your Group has an AA item or event you would like to see included in the Newsletter. John said this confidential version of the Newsletter [including contact e-mail & phone #'s] is for inside-AA use only and an anonymity-protected public version is posted on the District 13 and Area 48 websites. Those serving in District service Chair positions can have anonymity-protected email addresses for use on the websites. [see page 6]

Cooperation with the Professional Community/Public Information (CPC/PI): The Chair position continues vacant so DCM Lou H. asks that each of us **consider this important AA service opportunity.** It was reported that, as authorized at the September District meeting, the mailing was completed to Guidance Counselors of 43 high schools, jr. high schools and colleges in our District's geographic area. That mailing had copies of our meeting list and AA literature for teenagers as well as AA information for professionals. We've already heard from a school SADD chapter faculty advisor requesting an AA presentation for students.

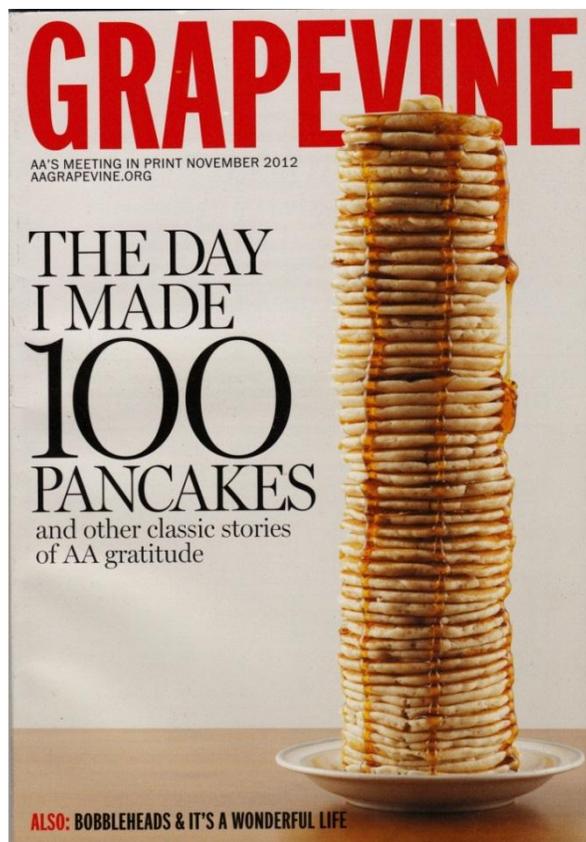
This schools' mailing, our annual hotels/motels mailing and our 24 hour/7 days a week telephone hotline are just a few examples of AA service work beyond the ability of a single AA Group to handle - but made possible by your Group and member contributions to District 13.

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Grapevine: Chairman Peter R. was not present. Lou H., Sr. pointed out that, in addition to the wonderful monthly Grapevine Magazine - AA's Meeting in Print, some wonderful books are available from Grapevine including an inspiring one "In Our Own Words - Stories of Young AA's in Recovery." You can find these and many other wonderful items in the Grapevine catalog viewable on-line by a link on the District's website.

And when was the last time you read a copy of The Grapevine? Here's the cover of this month's issue:



At the risk of 'all-time corniness,' doesn't it make you just a little hungry to read the Grapevine again? Subscriptions are available by mail and on-line. See our District 13 website for a link to the Grapevine.

Bridging the Gap [BTG] – New **Chairman John W.** reported he received GSO's treatment committee kit which has BTG info; has made contact with Area 48 BTG Chair, Ernest L; and has contacted other Districts to see any information they may have. He's been announcing BTG service at meetings; is using AA pamphlets and has started outreach to organizations likely receptive to the Bridging the Gap program for their clients. John can tell you more about the BTG program and how easily you can help. [See page 6 for contact info.]

Archives: Chair Jenny H. was not present so there was no report. If any of you have really old 'historic' Grapevines or Grapevine articles, why not let Jenny know so we can include them in future Newsletters.

Special Needs: Chair position still is vacant; **please consider this important AA service opportunity**

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DCM Report: Lou H., Sr. said agenda items were well covered [as reported above] and emphasized the upcoming AA events: Fellowship Day on Sunday November 18th and the Thanksgiving Day Alcathon on 11/22.

Lou distributed flyers for both events [extra copies enclosed with this Newsletter] and offered the remaining copies of the confidential Year 2012 General Service Conference Report to members present. He pointed out it has a wealth of information on work of the Delegates from throughout the U. S. and Canada on behalf of the more than 65,000 AA Groups and over 1.4 million AA members in the U.S. and Canada. Lou has a few of the Conference Reports left including a Spanish-language edition for anyone needing one.

In response to a question about contributions to AA's District 13, Area 48 and the General Service Office, Lou said historic share has been 60% District, 30% Area & 10% GSO but each Group makes its own decision. Paul G. pointed out that total contributions to GSO last year were equal to only **16 cents per AA member!** **Times are tough but AA really could use the help!!** Lou also said all contributions are acknowledged by letters from District 13, Area 48 and GSO so put your Group's AA ID # on the check or money order. Paul G. can give you the Group ID # if you're unsure of it. District 13 also lists contributions in its Treasurer's Report.

And remember, unlike many Districts, our District 13 members pay for all expenses, including travel, for their participation [not only in Area and State Conventions but also for Area and State service workshops and even NERAASA] - **out of their own pockets** - with no District 13 reimbursement. Importantly, this means **all contributions from Groups and members to District 13 go directly to AA service work.**

HMB DISTRICT 13 TREASURER'S REPORT – November 7, 2012

(Note: A copy of the October-November District 13 Treasurer's Report is included in the confidential version of District 13's Newsletter issued to AA members. It is not included in this public version.)

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

There are almost 50 Groups in District 13 with some 76 AA meetings each and every week.

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

As possible help to members and Groups, it was voted at prior District meeting to include the addresses for mail and contributions in newsletters & meeting lists. 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 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.**

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

<u>Committee:</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>e-mail address</u> (all lower case)
• DCM	Lou H., Sr.	(e-mail: district13dcm@aahmbny.org)
• Alternate DCM	*Vacant *	Please consider this AA service opportunity
• Secretary	Kristen H.	
• Treasurer	Tom B.	
• Records	Paul G.	(e-mail: district13@nycap.rr.com)
• Bridging the Gap	John W. [elected 9/5]	
• Corrections	*Vacant * [in interim call Don B.]	[Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• CPC/PI	*Vacant *	[Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• Treatment	*Vacant * [Steve S. stepped down 11/7]	Please consider this AA service opportunity]
• Newsletter Editor	John D.	(e-mail: district13newsletter@sprynet.com)
• Grapevine	Peter R.	
• Archives	Jenny H.	
• Special Needs	*Vacant *	[Please consider this AA service opportunity]

A Special Request for AA Groups and Members - From HMB Area 48

On Saturday January 12, 2013, HMB Area 48 will 'Take its Annual Inventory.' All AA members are welcome. Just like a Group Conscience Meeting, on that day, Area 48 will examine what it does well and what it could be doing better in service to members already in our AA Program and for those individuals who have yet to find recovery through the life-saving AA Program.

January may seem a long time away but our Area 48 Chairperson, Pat L., asks each AA member for suggestions or issues we could have on the agenda for that important Inventory Day.

If you have a concern, issue or suggestion, please send it to Pat by e-mail to: hmbchair@aahmbny.org or by U.S. postal mail to: Chairperson, HMB Area 48, Route 30 #114, 118 Polar Plaza, Amsterdam, NY 12010. Thank you.

HMB NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP DAY

When:

Sunday, November 18, 2012

Where:

**Resource Center for Independent Living
1607 Genesee St., Utica, NY**



**Hosted by Districts 9 and 12
(Western Cluster)**

Directions:

Exit 31 (Utica) off the NYS Thruway to Genesee Street South. Travel about 3 miles on Genesee Street. RCIL will be on the left. (Entrance to parking lot is off Scott Street.)

- **Registration, Coffee, and Treats @ 9 AM**
- **Meeting from 10 AM until 3 PM**
- **Seventh Tradition Lunch will be served**

**Come find out what your Area is doing
See some old friends - Meet some new friends**

Contact: hmbaltchair@aahmbny.org

District 5

Thanksgiving Alco-thon

6 am to 6 pm – Thursday Nov. 22nd

United Methodist Church

On the corner of 5th and Henning

Saratoga Springs

Meetings on every even hour

Time For Yourself Group held at 12 pm

Dinner at 1pm after the meeting

Basic staples: Turkey, Ham, Mashed potatoes, Stuffing, and Green Beans
Also there will be coffee, tea, lemonade, and water

If you wish to donate food, Please bring
Breakfast Foods, Pies, Cakes, Cookies, and Breads

We also need volunteer to chair the meetings

Please see Paul O. to sign up to chair

Or call Jeremy

We also appreciate help with cooking, set up, and
clean up

HMB Area 48

2013 Meeting Schedule Order Form

Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 of Alcoholics Anonymous 2013 HMB Meeting Schedule Book Order Form

Pre Order Deadline December 1, 2012

Please Make Checks Payable To: "HMB Meeting Schedules"

Schedules are \$.30 ea. (Minimum order 10)			
Shipping Cost:			
10-50	\$8.00	601-900	\$29.00
51-100	\$8.00	901-1200	\$38.00
101-300	\$10.00	1201-1500	\$47.00
301-600	\$20.00	1501-1800	\$56.00

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID

Mail Orders To:

HMB Meeting Schedules

PO Box 3

Cohoes, NY 12047

Inquiries to: altreas@ahmbny.org



No Shipping to PO Boxes

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: _____ Group or Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

Order Quantity: _____ X \$.30 = \$ _____

Shipping & Handling: _____ = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

2013