

HMB AREA 48 NEWSLETTER



AA Principles of the Month

Step 1 - We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.

Tradition 1 – Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

Concept 1 - Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our fellowship.

Tradition One Checklist

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into arguments?
3. Am I gentle with alcoholics who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

Concept One Checklist

1. Does our group have a general service representative (G.S.R.)? Do we feel that our home group is part of A.A. as a whole and do our group's decisions and actions reflect that?
2. Do we hold regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we pass that conscience on to the district, area, or the local intergroup meetings?
3. Is the "collective conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area?
4. Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of A.A.?
5. Are we willing to do what it takes to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions?

HMB EVENT SCHEDULE- 2007

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>HOST CLUSTER</u>	<u>DATE</u>
January	HMB Inventory/Fellowship Day	Eastern (1,2,18)	Sunday, 1/7/07
February	NERAASA 2007	Hunt Valley, Maryland	2/23/07 - 2/25/07
March	NERD	Mystic, CT	3/9/07 - 3/11/07
March	HMB Area Day of Sharing (Delegate's Day)	Hudson Valley Cluster (3,7,11,15,16,17)	Saturday, 3/31/07
April	HMB Area Fellowship Day	Adirondack Cluster (5,10,13)	Sunday, 4/29/07
May	HMB Area Assembly	Central (4,8,14)	Sunday, 5/20/07
June	Northeastern Regional Forum	Lancaster, PA	6/1/07 - 6/3/07
July	NYS Convention	Glens Falls, NY (Hosted by HMB)	7/20/07 - 7/22/07
August	NYS Information Workshop	Russell Sage College Albany, NY	8/3/07 - 8/5/07
September	HMB Area Election Assembly	Eastern (1,2,18)	Sunday, 9/9/07
October	HMB Area Assembly	Central (4,8,14)	Sunday, 10/14/07
November	HMB Area Fellowship Day	Western (9,12)	Sunday, 11/11/07

- *Flyers for Area Events should be submitted 3 months in advance if possible.*
- *Please consider those who have special needs in selecting your meeting site.*
- *Always include on the flyer a contact phone number & street address of the meeting site.*
- *Submit Biographies for Elected Positions to the Newsletter Editor by July to be published in the August & September Newsletters.*

DISTRICT AND GROUP TREASURERS—below are the addresses in which to send contributions....

HMB AREA ASSOCIATION RTE. 30, #114 118 POLAR PLAZA AMSTERDAM, NY 12010		GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE PO BOX 459 GRAND CENTRAL STATION NEW YORK, NY 10163
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INVENTORY DAY/FELLOWSHIP DAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2007

(Sponsored by Eastern Cluster Districts 1, 2, 18)

*A Declaration of Unity**

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

9:00 a.m.	Registration & Coffee
10:00 a.m.	GSR/DCM Orientation & Traditions 10, 11 & 12
12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–3:00 p.m.	HMB Area 48 Inventory

**Leonardo da Vinci Lodge of the Capital District
320 Broadway
Rensselaer, NY 12144**

FROM THE SOUTH (NYS Thruway, I-87): Exit the Thruway at Exit 23 and take I-787 North Exit I-787 at Dunn Memorial Bridge, following signs for Route 9 South/Route 20 East) Cross Hudson River at Dunn Memorial Bridge, follow sign for “Rail Station – Broadway.” At bottom of ramp, turn right onto Broadway. Leonardo da Vinci is on the left-hand side of the street. You may park on Broadway, or in the lot BEHIND the meeting hall, on Academy Street.

FROM THE WEST (I-90): Take I-90 to Exit 5 (I-787) Take I-787 south (downtown Albany on your right) Exit I-787 at Dunn Memorial Bridge, following signs for Route 9 South/Route 20 East) Cross Hudson River at Dunn Memorial Bridge, follow sign for “Rail Station – Broadway.” At bottom of ramp, turn right onto Broadway. Leonardo da Vinci is on the left-hand side of the street. You may park on Broadway, or in the lot BEHIND the meeting hall, on Academy Street.

FROM THE NORTH (Adirondack Northway I-87): Exit Northway at Exit 1 (I-90 East) Take I-90 to Exit 5 (I-787) Take I-787 south (downtown Albany on your right) Exit I-787 at Dunn Memorial Bridge, following signs for Route 9 South/Route 20 East) Cross Hudson River at Dunn Memorial Bridge, follow sign for “Rail Station – Broadway.” At bottom of ramp, turn right onto Broadway. Leonardo da Vinci is on the left-hand side of the street. You may park on Broadway, or in the lot BEHIND the meeting hall, on Academy Street.

Lost? Call: William T. (518) 320-0875

*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.*

* (Reprinted from *The A.A. Service Manual, 2005-2006*, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.)

HMB AREA INVENTORY

January 7, 2007

SHARING SESSIONS

In a sharing session, everyone has chance to use their experience, strength and hope to contribute ideas and opinions about the welfare of A.A. It can be anywhere for any group of people, and is especially useful for assemblies and district meetings. Its format is aimed at drawing out the ideas of even the shyest participant, and keeps the more articulate from dominating the meeting. Each person offers an opinion, and never need to defend it. The chairperson or leader functions more as a timekeeper than as a participant.

*Reprinted from the **A.A. Service Manual**, 2006-2007 Edition, Page S37, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

1. The purpose of the Area structure is to provide communication and connection between the General Service Office and the groups. In what ways are we fulfilling this purpose? In what ways can we improve?
2. In what ways do we share our experiences of the duties/responsibilities to our trusted servants (GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee Chairs and Officers)?? In what ways can we improve?
3. Discuss the importance of the principle of rotation. Why is this so important in AA? How can we assure its continued place of importance?
4. Are there any other ideas or suggestions?

It is our personal responsibility to actively participate in A.A.'s three legacies – Recovery, Unity and Service.



NERAASA '07

Sixteenth Annual Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

2007 General Service Conference Theme
 “Our 12th Step Responsibility - Are We Going To Any Length?”

Hunt Valley, Maryland
 February 23rd, 24th and 25th, 2007

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is for GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee Members and Intergroup/Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting A.A. as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity and service common to the areas of the Northeast Region.

ALL A.A. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

LOCATION:

Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Maryland
 Hosted by Area 29 - Maryland

DEADLINES:

- Hotel Reservation** February 2, 2007
- Meal Registration** February 15, 2007
- NERAASA Registration** February 15, 2007 by mail, otherwise on-site

ON-SITE REGISTRATION:

Begins at 5:00 pm
 Thursday, February 22, 2007

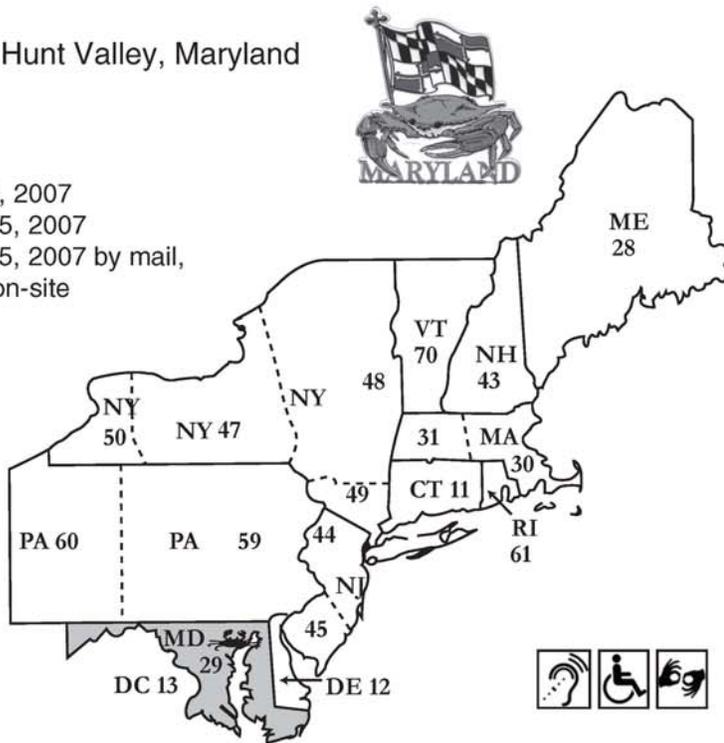
FIRST PANEL:

Begins at 3:00 pm
 Friday, February 23, 2007

ICE BREAKER AA MEETING:

Thursday Evening
 February 22, 2007

www.marylandaa.org/neraasa.htm



NERAASA 2007 ~ February 23 - 25, 2007
Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn
 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD 21031 Tel: 410-785-7000



NERAASA '07

Hotel Reservation Information:

Check In: 3:00 pm **Check Out:** 11:00 am

Guarantee Policy: Mandatory credit card or advance deposit on all reservations.

Wheelchair Accessible: There are a limited number of wheelchair accessible rooms available.

Smoking: Will only be allowed outside as the hotel is a non-smoking hotel.

Hotel reservations MUST be made directly with Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn

- ▲ Send the form on the facing page along with \$100 deposit
- ▲ Call 1-800-228-9290 group code:
 - ▼ "NRSNRSA" for single or double
 - ▼ "NRSNRSB" for triple or quad
- ▲ Go online at www.marriotthuntvalley.com

After February 2, 2007 hotel rooms and rates are based on availability.

BY AIR OR RAIL:

PLEASE REVIEW THE "TRANSPORTATION" LINK AT WWW.MARYLANDAA.ORG/NERAASA.HTM FOR CRITICAL INFORMATION REGARDING TRANSPORTATION FOR THOSE TRAVELING BY TRAIN OR PLANE

BY CAR:

From the South

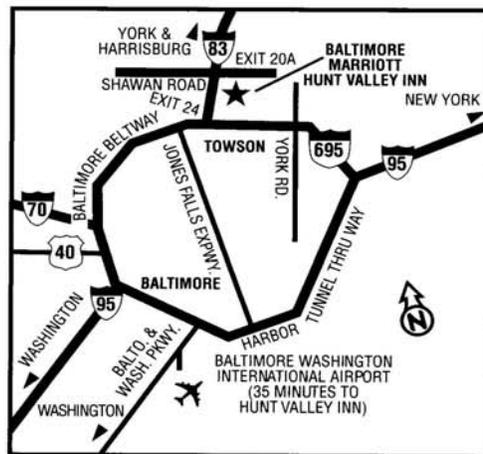
I-95 North towards Baltimore. Merge into I-695 E / Baltimore Beltway Inner Loop toward Towson. Merge onto I-83 N via Exit 24 toward Timonium/York, PA. Take Shawan Rd East Exit 20-A toward Cockeysville. Turn slight right onto Shawan Rd. The hotel is immediately on your right.

From the North

I-95 South towards Baltimore (portions toll) (crossing in to Maryland). Merge onto I-695 W / Baltimore Beltway Outer Loop toward Towson. Merge onto I-83 N via Exit 24 toward Timonium/York, PA. Take the Shawan Rd. East exit-Exit 20A - toward Cockeysville. Turn slight right onto Shawan Rd. The hotel is immediately on your right.

From the East or West

It is recommended that you do an Internet map search for directions to the hotel from your location.



Panel Presentations / Floor Discussions on Issues Affecting A.A. Today
Northeast Regional Trustee's Report
 Saturday Dinner followed by an A.A. Speaker Meeting / Round Table Sharing Sessions:

▲ District Committee Members	▲ Treatment Facilities	▲ Area Delegates and Alternate Delegates
▲ General Service Representatives	▲ Correctional Facilities	▲ Area / District Registrars
▲ A.A. Literature	▲ Grapevine/La Viña	▲ Area/District/Group Secretaries
▲ Archives	▲ Area / District Chairpersons	▲ Area/District/Group Treasurers
▲ Cooperation With The Professional Community	▲ Central Office/Intergroup	▲ Young Peoples
▲ Public Information	▲ Special Needs/Remote Communities	
▲ Hispanic Community (La Comunidad Hispánica)		

For more info visit www.marylandaa.org/neraasa.htm, or call a NERAASA 2007 Committee Member:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| Nancy K., Chair - 410-799-8746
(c) 410-935-6225 | Earl H., Program - 410-719-2271 | WHAT TO BRING:
Your A.A. Service Manual
2006 Final Conference Report
Note Taking Material |
| Linda J., Registration - 410-721-7874 | Nancy B., Registration - 301-797-1964 | |

Forms may be copied. Please use one registration form per person.

NERAASA Registration Deadline: February 15, 2007 by mail otherwise on-site
 Meals Registration Deadline: February 15, 2007 - **NOT AVAILABLE ON SITE**



NERAASA '07

EVENT REGISTRATION AND MEAL SELECTION FORM



Send this portion to: NERAASA 07, P.O. Box 731, Dunkirk, MD 20754

General Information:

Name: _____ A.A. Area #: _____ (see front page map)
 Address: _____ E-Mail: _____
 City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone (Day): _____ Phone (Evening): _____

<input type="checkbox"/> GSR or Alt GSR <input type="checkbox"/> DCM or Alt DCM <input type="checkbox"/> District Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Central Office or Intergroup <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate or Alt Delegate, Panel _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Area Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Area Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Trustee/Director <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Past Delegate, Panel _____ Conference committee _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I would be interested in moderating a round table session
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Other Information:

I have been to NERAASA before As a presenter
 I would like to _____ participate in a panel presentation or _____ moderate/record a round table session.
 I will arrive (Day) _____ (Date) _____ (Time) _____
 I have special needs (please specify): _____

Event Registration and Meal Selection:

\$ _____ NERAASA Registration \$20.00
 \$ _____ Delegate's Luncheon \$22.50 ♦
 (Current, Alt. & Past Delegates only)
 \$ _____ Friday Night Dinner Buffet \$24.00 ♦

\$ _____ Saturday Breakfast Buffet \$16.50 ♦
 \$ _____ Saturday Night Banquet Buffet \$36.00 ♦
 \$ _____ Sunday Breakfast Buffet \$17.00 ♦

♦ Meal prices include tax and gratuities
 Meal registration - NOT AVAILABLE ON SITE

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed** (Check or Money Order Payable to: NERAASA 2007)



HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Send this portion to: Marriott Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD 21031

NERAASA 2007 FEBRUARY 23 - 25, 2007
 NERAASA Hotel Reservation Deadline: February 2, 2007
Marriott Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn
 245 Shawan Rd., Hunt Valley, MD 21031
 Tel. 410-785-7000



Advance deposit in the amount of \$100 must accompany your reservation.

Please send this form to hotel no later than February 3, 2007
 Personal checks must have complete name, address, and phone number. Deposits are refundable with cancellation notice received by February 15.

Arrival Day _____ Date _____
 Depart Day _____ Date _____
 Full Name _____
 Address _____
 City/Town/State/Zip _____
 Phone Day _____
 Name(s) of people sharing room (each person here must also be registered with NERAASA to attend meetings)

Advanced deposit enclosed (Payable to Marriott Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn)
 Check Money Order
 AMEX Discover MasterCard VISA
 Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature: _____
 Rates: Single - \$100, Double - \$109, Triple - \$119, Quad - \$129
 Rates do not include tax. Room and rates are based on availability.
 Call 1-800-228-9290 or go to www.marriotthuntvalley.com
 NERAASA Group Code: "NRSNRSA" for single or double
 "NRSNRSB" for triple or quad

Single Double Triple Quad
 Special Accommodations



Overflow Hotel Information: Overflow hotel is directly across the street from the Marriott
 Embassy Suites Hotel Baltimore North-Hunt Valley, 213 International Circle, Hunt Valley, MD 21030, 410-584-1400

Lutheran Redeemer Church
90 Route 32 South
New Paltz, NY 12561

Contact Person: Deb D - 845-242-3479

**HMB AREA
DELEGATE'S DAY
Saturday, 3/31/07**

Agenda:

- 9:00am - 10:00am Registration
- 10:00am - 12:15pm Round Table Discussions
on Conference Agenda Items
- 12:15pm - 1:00pm Lunch (provided)
- 1:00pm - 3:00pm Round Table Feedback

Hosted by Area 48, District 15

Open to all AA Members

Directions:

Take NY State Thruway (I-87) to New Paltz, Exit 18. At the end of the exit, turn LEFT onto Route 299 West (Main Street). Proceed 9/10 mile. At traffic light, turn left onto Route 32 South. The Redeemer Lutheran Church will be approximately 6/10 of a mile on the left hand side.

Note: Church is across from SUNY New Paltz.



AREA REPORTS

Delegates Report -

Hi everyone this is Bob F YOUR HMB Area Delegate. I just got back from the State Planning Convention meeting in Queensbury. The hotel is gorgeous and we all had to run the gauntlet Friday night as some company had their Christmas party there and there was over 800 drunks...LOL All four areas of NY were represented there and with a bunch of hard work by all we have planned a GREAT Convention. There will be the usual workshops and panels and a bunch of new and exciting things also. So if you can make it, PLEASE attend this convention because we don't have an HMB convention when the State Convention is in our area. The hotel package and the meal plans are great. Be sure to be looking for the convention flyer shortly.

The next day I went to Utica for the Area Meeting. I was celebrating 18 years that day and as Joan introduced me and I walked to the podium I tripped...someone yelled out 18 years and he is still staggering. A lot was accomplished that day also and it seemed to me to have a real nice feeling seeing everyone enjoying themselves and laughing.

Don't forget to get your HMB Area Schedule order form into Al as soon as possible so he isn't bombarded with orders like usually happens. Tentative date for delivery is middle to late January.

It was an honor and privilege to be asked to be the speaker in Cooperstown on December 25 at their Christmas meeting. Yup even on holidays AA doesn't rest.

As I always put in the newsletter if any group or district would like me to come to their meeting please contact me , so for now I hope you all have a sober and festive holiday season and will see you in January at the Inventory Day.

Love & Service
Bobby

Area Chair Report -

By the time this article is read, members of HMB will begin celebrating, as he or she chooses, the holidays with family and friends. It is my hope we will also celebrate the precious gift of sobriety. First of all let me say what a privilege it is to serve Alcoholics Anonymous in any capacity. If you are new to service I offer you a special welcome. For me, being willing to be of service in the General Service structure has added another dimension to my sobriety. I know from my experience of being willing to serve, as you are now, you may soon be headed on a journey that will take you beyond your wildest dreams.

We have an abundance of men and women whose dedication, stability, vision and special skills make them capable of dealing with every possible service assignment. We have only to seek these folks out and trust them to serve us.

(From the Language of the Heart, Page 287 - Reprinted with permission of The A.A. World Services, Inc.)

I would like to thank the Area for the opportunity to serve this past year, whether it was to speak at a district service workshop, Third Legacy breakfast, a spiritual breakfast, a state convention, moderate an inventory or at NERAASA, or to share my own experience, strength and hope. I am experiencing spiritual growth opportunities of which I am eternally grateful. Also, I am thankful to many of you for your constructive criticism, encouragement, guidance, love and support during the year. I am most grateful to my Higher Power for the experience and the opportunity and pray that I will continue to grow.

There are a number of exciting events in HMB for 2007. On January 7, we will host our Area Inventory/Fellowship Day. In addition to the Inventory, there will be an orientation for new GSR's and DCM's and ALL interested members are encouraged to attend. We will also discuss Traditions 10, 11 & 12 in the morning. The Area Inventory will begin after lunch and I encourage EVERYONE to participate. Please come and share your experience, strength, hope, ideas and opinions.

NERAASA 2007 will be held on February 23- 25 in Hunt Valley, MD. Many HMB members are deciding the mode of transporta-

tion – air, train, bus or automobile. Please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. The Delegate's Day will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2007 and will be hosted by District 15. As always, ALL members are encouraged and welcomed to attend.

In Unity & Service,

Joan R

Alternate Area Chair Report -

We have reached the end of 2006. Our last event was our December Fellowship Day, which was very well attended. Thanks to Districts 9&12 for a great job. It was nice to see so many new faces, and lots of old friends, too.

Our first HMB Event for 2007 is Inventory Day hosted by the Eastern Cluster (1,2,18). The date is January 7th and the flyer should be in this newsletter.

Happy Holidays to all. See you at Inventory Day!!

Dave J

HMB Alt. Chair

Secretary Report -

Secretary's Minutes – December 3, 2006 Fellowship Day – Utica
Hosted by the Eastern Cluster of HMB Area

Opened by Area Chair Joan R. at 1:20 PM with the Declaration of Unity

Chairperson's Report: Joan welcomed the new GSRs and people at their first Area meeting. The next Area function will be in Albany, and encouraged people to come. Joan reported that on this day our Delegate, Bobby F celebrates his 18th Anniversary.

Delegate's Report: Bobby reported that he would like people to send in their order forms for the meeting books early this year. The order forms are in the newsletter. He attended a planning meeting in Queensbury for the 2007 NYS Convention, which will be held at the Queensbury Hotel, on July 20, 21, and 22nd 2007. He reminded us of the GSO Anniversary Plan. He will be speaking on Christmas Day in Cooperstown. Lots of mail is coming in from GSO. He receives all of the New Group Forms from GSO before they go to the Area Registrar, to be included in the records. Information about the General Service Conference will be available at the Delegate's Day.

Alt Chair Report: Dave J. reports that the January event will be held in district 1, hosted by the Central Cluster. HMB Event Schedules were distributed in hard copy, and can be found in the newsletter each month. The March Delegate's Day of Sharing will be Hosted by the Hudson Valley Cluster, District 15, this year, and the April Area event will be a Fellowship Day on April 29th in the Adirondack Cluster.

Alt Secretary Report: Kevin B. reports that all record updates verification sheets are in envelopes for each District to give to their Record Keepers. Over 200 updates have been made since the last Area meeting. The meeting book draft is available to view. The meeting book will be very accurate, thanks to the cooperation of each of the Districts this year. GSO is requesting that the AdProg update disks be sent in to them no later than December 15th this year. The Access database program will be phased out to implement their new program called "Fellowship New Vision" which will allow updates from Area Registrars via a web portal through the GSO website. This will allow real-time updates. The new system is supposed to be functional in the early Spring of 2007.

Treasurer's Report: Keith D. distributed a hardcopy of this years report, and it's available in the Newsletter as well. The ending balance, after an "un-signed" check gets cleared, will be \$13,000. even. All contributions are needed and very much appreciated.

Alt. Treasurer's Report: Al M. reported that his job was to handle the orders for the meeting schedule books. He distributed order forms. Let everyone know that he has been getting lots of large orders from Institutions. He requests that each of the Area Service people, who receive a Stipend, to please give him an idea of how much money will be needed so he can put together the next proposed budget to present to the Spring Assembly.

CPC Report: Lori W. reported that she has attended a convention for professionals, and was welcomed by them. They requested a meeting, which the Hotel Staff accommodated a room for them. Over 80 people attended.

PI Report: Jim M. reports that he is aware of a Treatment professional's website who has linked to the GSO website, which is viewed by lots of professionals each day. Jim has a schedule set up for the upcoming year of the service areas he is planning to work on. He will be requesting to put on presentations with other committee chairs. He plans to implement a literature display for the Area PI, to bring to events. He is now serving on an ad-hoc committee to get a website up for the Area, other than the meeting listings on the current Area funded site. This will be a place to distribute information, for both Area Service, and the public.

Newsletter Editor's Report: Debbie D. reported that December 13th is the deadline for the Newsletter. She is the Chairperson for the March event in District 15th. She is also serving as the Treasurer for the State Convention in July, and Keith is the Chair. Debbie reminded us that this *is* our HMB Convention this year, because we don't have our Area Convention when we host the State Convention. Debbie is making the Newsletter available by email, for those who would like it this way. This is saving the Area a considerable amount in postage fees.

2006 Convention Report: Tom R. reported that there were 398 people registered, and 278 people served for the Banquet. The Hotel Staff had an excellent relationship with them. The seed money from the Eastern Cluster Districts will be returned, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the seed money from the Area will be returned as well. A full report will be given at the Area Assembly.

DCM Reports were given from the following Districts: 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15. There were a few DCMs which were giving their last report at Area meetings, and introduced their replacements.

The meeting closed with the Responsibility Pledge.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin B., Alt. Secretary, standing in for our Area Secretary, Bob L.

Alternate Secretary / Area Registrar Report -

I attended the December Fellowship Day in Utica, hosted by the Eastern Cluster. I drove up with my Home Group's GSR Tony, who attended the GSR Workshop. I was asked to facilitate the DCM Workshop, which was a great success. Some of the people weren't sure about taking this position, will now have a better understanding of the job, and will be less reluctant to serve their Districts in this capacity. There were a number of people who attended who were DCMs in their first and second years who added their experience to the workshop. The DCM position was one of the most rewarding service jobs that I have had the honor of doing for my District, and the Area. It allowed me the opportunity to meet folks with great sobriety from all over the HMB Area, and opened a whole new world of Service to me at the Area level.

At the Area meeting I distributed envelopes for each District. If your District didn't attend, I will be mailing your Records Keeper one. In each District's envelope are verification sheets for all changes since the Area Assembly. These pages can replace the hard copy in your records. I print these updates on a different color so they will stand out from your records pages which haven't been changed. They are three-hole punched for a binder. If you need a fresh set of your records printed out, let me know, and I will be happy to do this for you. Please make all changes on hard copies legible and in a bold, bright colored (preferably red) pen, so I can make the changes without any mystery involved.

As always, all records transactions can be done completely via email by sending them to: area48registrar@gmail.com. I encourage this way of updating to save time, paper, and postage. I can send you full sets of records, and confidential directories in a digital PDF format as well.

I was contacted by GSO regarding the new database software program that will be implemented early next year. The new database is called: "Fellowship- New Vision", and will allow Area Registrars to do "real time" updates via a web portal through the GSO

website. This system will replace the old AdProg MS Access software which we use now. It will eliminate the need to send discs, and hard copies to, and from GSO. It will allow Groups and GSRs to get their kits in a more timely fashion.

In Grateful Service,
Kevin B

Treasurer's Report -

HMB AREA ASSOCIATION Treasury Report November 2006

Check Book Balance 11/1/06:		\$13,853.72	
Income:			
Group Contributions	\$1,228.33		
<u>Total Income:</u>	\$1,228.33	(+)	\$1,228.33
Total Assets:		\$15,082.05	
Expenses:			
Newsletter Printing	\$98.24		
Newsletter Postage	\$234.00		
Mailbox	\$25.61		
Alt. Chair HMB Conv.	\$365.80		
BTG	\$124.28		
BTG HMB Conv.	\$18.00		
CFC HMB Conv.	\$150.60		
Area Delegate	\$505.52		
Secretary	\$142.20		
Treasurer	\$83.98		
Treasurer HMB Conv.	\$226.91		
Newsletter HMB Conv.	\$226.91		
<u>Total Expense:</u>	\$2,202.05	(-)	\$2,202.05
Checkbook Balance 11/30/06:		\$12,880.00	
Prudent Reserve:		(-)	\$5,000.00
Total Available Cash:		\$7,880.00	

Alternate Treasurer's Report -

As of December 3rd, there were 4586 HMB 2007 Meeting book orders placed. Please ensure that your orders are in by December 31st.

We need to begin the 2008 budget process. I would like each Area service chair to submit an estimated budget for your service position. Please send it to me.

Thanks. Al M—alf@together.net

Bridging the Gap -

Hi Everyone,

The December fellowship Day in Utica was a success. Just to let everyone know I am trying to set up a meeting with: BTG, Corrections, Treatment, CPC and PI, so we can all try to work together to get BTG and other information to all the facilities. We are hoping for a meeting of some sort on January 7th. BTG has been slow but I have been busy. I am in the process of sending out to all BTG district chairs a list of treatment centers in there district and ask if they would contact these centers about BTG. I also, have made up a BTG pre-release form for the county facilities. I am hoping we can now use all three. I will be bringing them to Inventory Day. Also, I received an e-mail from Raleigh N.C. Area 51 Ad Hoc Committee about sending information on starting a BTG Committee in that Area. I have sent that out to the New BTG area Chair. I really believed that I have been blessed by God in this program and all the people in it. I have learned so many things over the years and especially in this position. I am asking all BTG District Chairs to please try to make it to Inventory Day on Jan. 7th. It would be a great start to the new year.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Yours in Service,

Cindy D. Area BTG Chair

Cooperation with the Professional Community Report -

I hope everyone had a happy holiday!! It is hard to believe that the new year is upon us. What an amazing year in service this has been for me! I have met so many amazing people in and affiliated with our program. It has been a pleasure to serve as your HMB CPC Chair! My Higher Power, whom I choose to call God, has bestowed on me some phenomenal gifts. The gifts of fellowship, friendship and continued sobriety; one day at a time. Gratitude is such a small word with such a large meaning to me. I could write pages of items for which I am grateful for, most of them material "things." But the abundance of spirituality that my life is blessed with today has been enhanced by my ability to do service work. I knew service work was gratifying, but I never dreamed that it would help enhance my sobriety the ways it has. The ability to do service work is God's way of allowing me to give back what was so freely given to me. Even in hard times, God's presence in my life and my commitment to service has granted me the serenity that I had seeked all my life in the bottom of a bottle. And for that I am eternally grateful!

I am hoping that in this new year, we can be even more productive in carrying the message. Whether it is within the rooms, our fellow professionals, through PI, TF, BTG, CF, etc. Whatever I can do to be of service to my fellow CPC District Chairs, or fellow HMB Area Chairs, please feel free to contact me. If you have questions, need a speaker, need clarification on CPC responsibilities. I am available.

In love & sobriety, Lori W.

Corrections Report -

Another month has passed. I received a packet of information from Deborah Henry, the Assistant Direct of Family and Volunteer Services for NYS Department of Correctional Services. In it were many contact personnel and their phone numbers for the different parts of the service. This will enable me to contact the right personnel should the situation arise. I regretted not being able to attend the most recent fellowship day. I am the treasurer for a local organization call The Friends of Recovery for Delaware and Otsego Counties. This organization is set up to assist individuals and family members with a variety of items that people are exposed and troubled with relating to addictions. We currently are renovating a house in Oneonta that's use was donated by a church. I have been somewhat busy helping with the renovation. I look forward to its completion and the breadth of services we will be able to provide to the community. I hope that everyone enjoys the holidays and see you January 7th.

Rob B.

Newsletter Editor Report -

Hello. All is going well with the newsletter. If you have any interest in writing an article for the newsletter, please submit it to HMBAreaNewsletter@hvc.rr.com or call and we can make other arrangements for getting your article to me. At the end of 2007, I will rotate out as the Newsletter Editor. If you have any interest in this service position, please let me know. It has been a rewarding experience so far and has given me opportunity to learn more about our fellowship.

See you in January! Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season. Yours in service and gratitude,

Deb D

Public Information Report -

Hello HMB Area,

Several of our fellowship have been busy carrying the message via our Public Information work. Some members have helped get our information into newspapers for the general public, and electronic newsletters for the medical community. Literature displays have been set up in public libraries. Bulletin boards have been hung up in treatment centers to let potential AAers know who we are, what we do, and where to find us. Who has done this vital P.I. work? People just like you!

Are you aware of P.I. work in your district? Email or call, and let me help you share your experience with others! Are you *interested* in doing some P.I. work? Again, email or call – or, better yet, come to the January Inventory Day and we can discuss how to harness your energy and willingness. I'll also have a calendar for 2007 available, targeting different areas of P.I. work for different months. This will allow us to track our efforts (and their effectiveness) in the various ways we share our information with the public.

On another note, I've been contacted by Bill D., the P.I. chair for Area 33 (Southeastern Michigan) who is reviving an electronic newsletter called the PI/CPC exchange. He's hoping to facilitate the gathering and sharing of experience from PI and CPC chairs across the country. If you'd like to be on his mailing list, contact him at: picochair@aa-semi.org.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that I'm available to help you with P.I. work in your district. I'll come help you get started – or help you keep going! Let me know what I can do to help.

In service,

Jim M. - P.I. Chair – HMB Area

Special Needs Report -

A year has passed and I am halfway to learning my position as special needs chairperson. I apologize for missing the December fellowship day. We welcome Chris K. of Troy as the new district 3 Special Needs Chairperson. Gayle Solheim Riese of GSO has informed us that the cost of the braille "Big Book" is now in line with the regular edition of "Alcoholics Anonymous" at \$6.00 a copy. As always, keep special needs in mind when choosing a meeting place.

Happy and serene new year's to all!

Glen H

Web Chair Report -**Area Meeting Book**

As the one who consolidates the H-M-B meeting data with that of A.A. intergroups and central offices in other parts of the state, I regularly see the updates that our Alternate Secretary / Area Registrar makes to the database. You folks keep Kevin busy. Last year, the Area Meeting Book listed about 680 groups. This year, it will be closer to 724 groups. Making that fit on the same number of pages is going to be a squeeze.

Meeting Changes

Meeting place or time changed in some way for 336 groups, many of them several times during the year. Some changes were

trivial but many were significant. Counting multiple changes, there were about as many updates as there were listings in the Meeting Book to begin with. This time last year, some people were asking for a list of changes so they could update their books by hand. That would be a fools errand. It makes more sense simply to issue the H-M-B Meeting Book two times a year instead of once so it will be more current.

Local and Web Meeting Lists

The area doesn't have a monopoly on printing meeting schedules. A district or any other AA service entity can print its own local meeting list as often as makes sense. Or the web site <http://ny-aa.org/> is always fairly close to the most recent changes the districts send Kevin. There are many choices of customized meeting list types available for printing by anyone with access to a computer before they travel. And it includes most of (upstate) New York State, not just H-M-B Area 48.

Tom E

District Calendar of Events

Events are listed here as a service to readers of the newsletter and the groups in the Area. For more complete information, please call or e-mail the contact listed for the event.

Sunday thru Monday, December 24-25 -District 1 – Alkathon – 6pm – 6pm – Boys & Girls Club of Albany, 21 Delaware Avenue, Albany, NY - Contact: William T (518) 320-0875

Sunday thru Monday, December 24-25 -District 5 – Christmas Alkathon – 6pm – 6pm – 1st Baptist Church, 45 Washington Street, Saratoga Springs, NY - Contact: Lisa A (518) 584-6567

Sunday thru Monday, December 24-25 -District 7 – Christmas Alkathon – 6pm – 6pm – Benedictine Hospital, SR Residence Center, St Marys Avenue, Kingston - Contact: Chris P - 845-331-2001

Sunday, December 31 - District 7 – New Year's Eve Alkathon – 7:30pm – 2am – Church of the Comforter, Wynkoop Place, Kingston, NY - Contact: Lanette - 845-532-5972

Sunday, December 31 - District 15 – New Year's Eve Sober Event – 6:30pm – 9:30pm – Gardiner Big Book Meeting, St Charles Church Bingo Hall Rte 44/55, Gardiner, NY - Contact: Lillian (845) 255-2881

Sunday, December 31 - Monday, January 1 - District 1 – New Year's Alkathon – 6pm – 6pm – Boys & Girls Club of Albany, 21 Delaware Avenue, Albany, NY - Contact: William T (518) 320-0875

HMB AREA NEWSLETTER (1/2007)

59 Violet Avenue

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*God, Grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And wisdom to know the difference*