

HMB AREA 48 NEWSLETTER



AA Principles of the Month

Step 7 - Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition 7 – Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Concept 7 - The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purpose for final effectiveness.

Tradition Seven Checklist

1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom?
2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
3. If GSO runs short of funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

Concept Seven Checklist

- Do we act responsibly regarding the "power of the purse?"
- Do we realize that the practical and spiritual power of the Conference will nearly always be superior to the legal

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

HMB EVENT SCHEDULE- 2007

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>HOST CLUSTER</u>	<u>DATE</u>
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)	Saturday, 9/8/07
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 June 1st to be published in the July, August & September Newsletters.*

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.

Saturday, July 7, 2007 - District 3 - 16th Annual Sober Picnic 10:00am - 6:00pm, CD Lane Park, Maplecrest, NY - Contact Number: (518) 821-2259

Saturday, July 7, 2007 - District 18 - Annual Independence Day Picnic 12:00pm - 6:00pm, North Greenbush Town Park @ Snyder's Lake - Contact: Karl D (518) 733-9236

Sunday, July 15th - District 5 – Summer Sober B-B-Q – 11:00am - 7:00pm – Saratoga State Park - Columbia Pavilion, Saratoga Springs, NY - Contacts: Lisa S (518) 584-6567 or Bruce (518) 587-6254

Saturday, August 4, 2007– District 18 - Annual Serenity Cruise 7:00pm - 10:00pm, Dutch Apple Cruises, Albany, NY. Contact: Pat K (518) 286-6712

Sunday, August 19th - District 14 – Unity Day – 11:00am - 5:00pm – Central Park Pavilion, Schenectady, NY. Contacts: Ken S (518) 355-2398 or Joel T (518) 346-2620

Sunday, August 26th - District 16 – District 16 - Annual Picnic - 10:00am - 6:00pm, Cantine Field, Saugerties, NY. Contact: Bob L (845) 679-4642

KEY DATES FOR 2007 NEWSLETTERS:

Submissions for the newsletter are due no later than 5pm on the dates specified below.

In order for items to appear in the newsletter for three months, the following items need to be available by the dates specified:

August Edition - 7/6/2007

7/6/07 – October HMB Assembly flyer

September Edition - 8/3/2007

7/6/07 – Proposals for the October HMB Assembly (including the 2008 Proposed budget) needs to be available

October Edition - 9/7/2007

8/3/07 – November Fellowship Day flyer

November Edition - 10/5/2007

10/5/07 – January Inventory/Fellowship Day Flyer

December Edition - 11/2/2007

12/7/07 – March Delegates Day Flyer

January Edition - 12/7/2007

"THE SUMMER PLACE TO BE"

39th NYS AA Convention

**MEETINGS & PANELS
WORKSHOPS
ENTERTAINMENT
FELLOWSHIP FOR
AA & AL-ANON**

Hosted by
HMB Area 48

This Year's Theme

***"Our 12 step
responsibility -
are we going to any
length"***

**JULY 20-22, 2007
QUEENSBURY HOTEL**

88 Ridge Street
Glens Falls NY
518-792-1121

➤ **ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE HOTEL**

\$129.00 + tax per room per night
Maximum 4-person occupancy

➤ **Hotel Room Reservation Cutoff June 1st, 2007**

Call 518-792-1121 for reservations
Mention NYS AA Convention

1st - 115 rooms will be @ The Queensbury
Additional Rooms @ The Ramada Inn

tear here-----tear
here

**** SPECIAL NEEDS: ___Meals ___Handicapped ___Other ****

Convention Reservation for:
(one reservation form per individual)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

____ Years in Program
 ___ AA ___ Al-Anon

_____ \$ 20.00 Registration Fee

_____ \$ Meal Choice total

_____ Total enclosed

Individual Meal Option (all buffets except Saturday Banquet)

(Check box for choice)

- Friday Dinner **\$25.00**
- Saturday Breakfast **\$16.00**
- Saturday Lunch **\$22.00**
- Sunday Breakfast **\$16.00**

Package Meal Option \$70.50
❖ *Does not include Saturday Banquet*

Includes:
Friday Dinner
Saturday & Sunday Breakfast
Saturday Lunch

❖ **BANQUET LIMITED TO FIRST 300 RESERVATIONS**

- Saturday Banquet \$25.00**
- Roast Beef
- Chicken
- Fish
- Vegetarian

ALL PRICES INCLUDE GRATUITY

DETACH & MAIL FORM WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO:
NYS Convention 2007
PO Box 1095
New Paltz, NY 12561

2007
28th Annual
New York State Informational Workshop

August 3, 4 and 5

Hosted by Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire Area 48

Please join us as we share our experience in carrying the AA message with each of the four Delegate Areas of Alcoholics Anonymous in New York State: Area 49 (SENY), Area 50 (Western), Area 47 (Central) and Area 48 (HMB)

Sage College Albany Campus
140 New Scotland Avenue
Albany, New York 12208



Workshop Discussion Topics Will Be:

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC); Public Information (PI); Treatment Facilities (TF); Correction Facilities (CFC) with Bridging The Gap (BTG); The Grapevine/La Vina (GvC) & Literature; Special Needs (SNC); A.A. Archives
This event will also include a special panel from Young People in AA Service, plus a Delegate's Ask-it-basket Discussion.

Saturday Night Keynote Speaker: Gayle R. of the GSO Staff

Weekend registration includes lodging with Friday dinner thru Sunday Breakfast \$145.00.

All rooms are double occupancy.

Day attendees welcome: Registration: \$10.00

two meals and day registration: \$25.00

(Day-Attendees, if you are planning to eat, you must pre-register.)

Registration & money must be received by 7/13/07 for weekenders & day-attendees with meals

For information email questions to: hmbarea48registrar@gmail.com



NYS Informational Workshop Registration Form
One Form Per Person - Registration deadline is July 13, 2007

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Tel: _____

Service Responsibility _____

Special Needs: _____

If you would like to share a room with someone, please enter their name:

Please check one:

Day Registration - \$ 10.00
(No Meals)

Day Registration - \$ 25.00
(Including Saturday lunch & dinner)

Weekend Registration- \$145.00
(2 nights , Friday dinner thru Sunday Breakfast)

Special Diet: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: **HMB Area Association**
Mail checks & registration form(s) to:

NYS Informational Workshop
50 W. Main St., Apt 4D
Milford, NY 13807

HMB Election Assembly - Directions to the Blooming Grove Reformed Church

706 Blooming Grove Drive
Rensselaer, NY 12144

From the North and West:

Get off the Thruway/Northway at Exit 24. Get on I-90 East (Albany-Boston).

Exit I-90 at Exit 8.

Turn right on Washington Ave at the first light.

Turn right on Blooming Grove Drive at the Stop sign.

The church is almost immediately on your right.

Parking is behind the church (limited) or across the street in the CDTA Park & Ride.

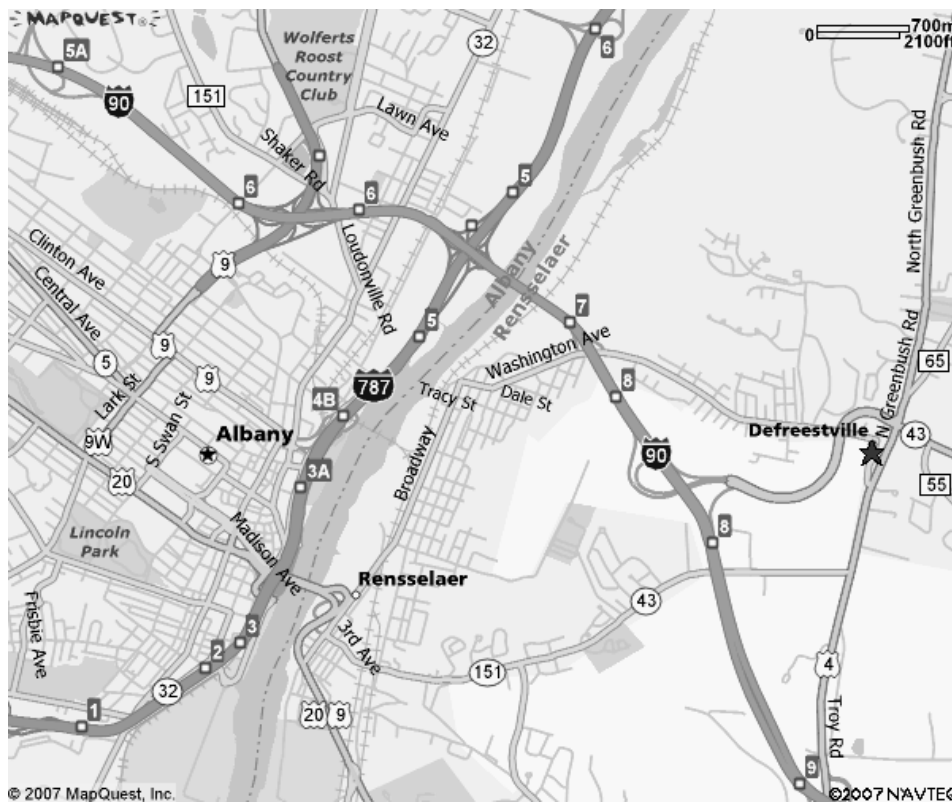
From the South:

Exit the Thruway at Exit 23. Get on I-787 North. Take Exit 5 for I-90 East.

Follow the directions above.

From the East:

You're local – good luck!



Contacts:

Tad J. - 518-366-5631
William T. - 518-320-0875
Jim McG. - 518-326-5186

Service Resumes for the September Election Assembly

It is an honor and privilege to make myself available for the Panel 58 Area Chair/Alternate Delegate position.

GROUP AND DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

1990-1999 a broad range of group and district service positions that include: coffee maker, greeter, secretary, literature chair, and program chair; 1999-2000 GSR (Kingston Original Group), Records Chair District 7; 2001-2002 DCM District 7; 2002-2003 Treasurer (Kingston Original Group), Newsletter Editor District 7; 2006-2007 Records Chair District 15.

AREA 48 – HMB ACTIVITIES

2001-2005 Finance Committee member; 2004-2005 Treasurer; 2005 Area Convention Committee - Treasurer & Registration Co-Chair of the 55th HMB Area Convention; 2006 Area Convention Service Table Chair; 2006 Panel Member at November Fellowship Day on Traditions 7, 8 & 9 Workshop; 2007 HMB Area Day of Sharing Event Chair; Presently: HMB Area 48's Newsletter Editor and Newsletter Committee Chair, HMB Area 48 Website Ad Hoc Committee, 39th NYS Convention Treasurer and Registration Co-Chair.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

I currently sponsor women in recovery and service; I am honored to be an active member of the New Leaf Group and to take my turn greeting the newcomers, visitors and all who attend the meeting; in March 2006, I participate in as a Panel Participant at District 11 3rd Legacy Spiritual Breakfast; in March 2007, I participated as a speaker at the District 11 3rd Legacy Spiritual Breakfast; in May 2007, I participated as a speaker at the 47th Delaware State Convention.

I am grateful for the past, current and future opportunities to serve HMB - Area 48 and AA as a whole.

In love and service,

Deb D.

My name is Bob L; I am an alcoholic and am currently serving as your Area 48 Secretary. My sobriety date is March 2, 1976 and my home group is the New Beginnings Group of Woodstock, NY. I am respectfully submitting my name for consideration for the job of Alternate Chairperson. In my 31 years I have performed service on all levels, from coffee maker on up to DCM. I believe that the experience that I have gained as Area Secretary will prove valuable in performing the duties of the Alternate Chair and in assisting the Area Chair when required. Thank you for allowing me to be a Trusted Servant for the past two years. I am looking forward to continuing service on whatever level I am called upon. Yours in service, Bob L

I am writing to make myself available for the position of Secretary for HMB Area 48, at the upcoming Area Elections on September 8, 2007.

Biography:

Home Group: Lambda Group, Albany, Dist 1 HMB
Sobriety Date: April 4, 1995
Service: Coffee maker, Slingerlands Midday Step Group, 1995-96
Coffee maker, Lambda Group, 1996-97
GSR, Lambda Group, 1997-99
Dist 1 Treatment Chair, 2000-02
GSR, How It Works Group, Albany, 2003-05
DCM, Dist 1 HMB, 2005-present

In love & service, William T.

It is an honor and privilege to make myself available for the Panel 58 Area Secretary position.

GROUP AND DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

1993-2004 a range of group and district service positions that include: treasurer, coffee maker as well as greeter and meeting leader. 1997-1998 Group Treasurer -Lakeville Group, 4/2001- 11/2001 GSR- Ancramdale Men's Group, 11/2001 – 12/2002 District 17 Newsletter Editor, 2003-2004 DCM District 17. 1/2007- Present District 15 Answering Service Rep.

AREA 48 - HMB ACTIVITIES

2004- Present Finance Committee member, 2005 Area Convention Committee Treasurer and Registration Co-Chair of the 55th HMB Convention. Presently: serving as HMB Area 48 Treasurer and this year 39th NYS Convention Treasurer and Registration Co-Chair.

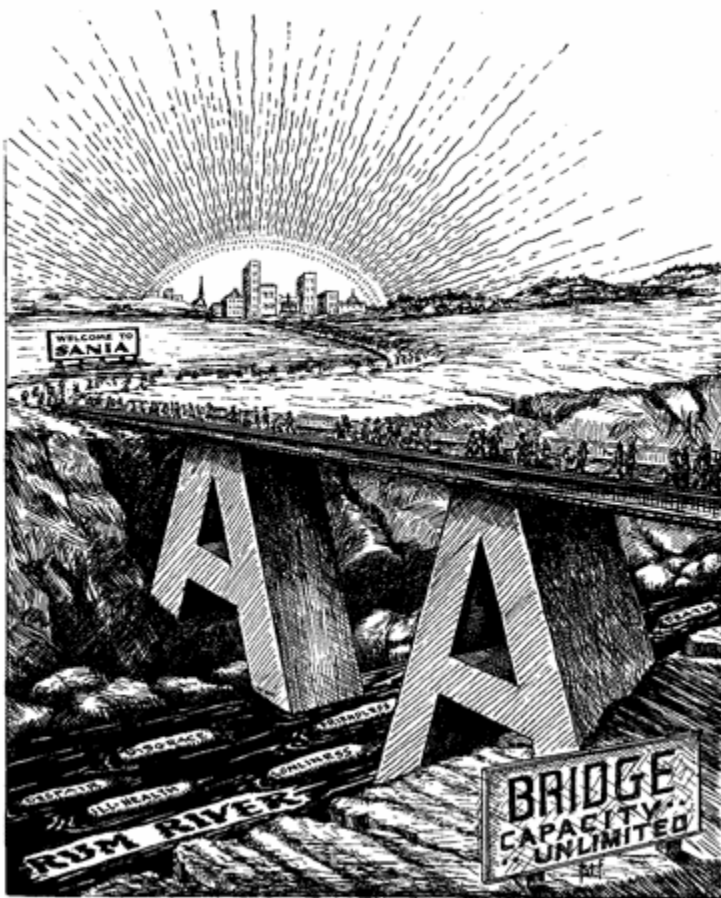
I currently sponsor men in recovery and find it most helpful and rewarding in my own recovery.

I am grateful for my past service to HMB Area 48 and look forward to what ever opportunities my "Higher Power" has in store for me.

Grateful to serve, Keith D.

Proposal for October

Area Assembly



WHERE AS, the HMB Area Approved Newsletter Guidelines in October 2006, the guidelines did not specifically address submissions from the CDCO.

BE IT RESOLVED that the HMB Area Newsletter Guidelines be amended to include the following:

- Event submissions from the CDCO can be included in the section on district events as one line info.
- The CDCO can submit an article or report once a quarter, to be no longer than a ½ page in the HMB Area Newsletter, and must following the same guidelines as other submissions.

Respectfully Submitted by the Newsletter Committee

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Budget Proposal for October Area Assembly

PROPOSED HMB 2008 Budget

Expenses:

Delegate	\$3,500
GSO Conference Donation	\$2,000
Chairperson	\$2,500

Stipends:

Alternate Area Chairperson	\$500	
Secretary	\$500	
Alternate Secretary	\$850	
Treasurer	\$850	
Alternate Treasurer	\$500	
Sub-Total		\$3,200

Committee Chairs and Others Stipends:

PI Committee Chair	\$350	
CPC Committee Chair	\$350	
TF Committee Chair	\$500	
CF Committee Chair	\$500	
SN Committee Chair	\$350	
BTG Committee Chair	\$350	
Grapevine Chair	\$350	
Archivist	\$350	
Newsletter Editor	\$350	
Web Chair	\$350	
Sub-Total		\$3,800

NERAASA 2008	\$3,750
HMB Convention seed money for 2009	\$2,000
NYS Convention 2008	\$800
NYS Information Workshop 2008	\$3,000
Newsletter Printing	\$3,000
Newsletter Postage	\$4,500
Service Manual Updates	\$200
Area Inventory Day	\$400
Day of Sharing/Delegates Days	\$400

Area Assemblies	\$800
Fellowship Days	\$800
Insurance Costs	\$600
Website	\$400
NYS Info Workshop Seed Money 2008	\$0
Mail Box Service	\$300
Archive Storage Fees	\$800
Meeting Books for Committee Chairs	\$500
Tax Preparation	\$350
Prior Year Expenses	\$500
NE Regional Forum	\$0
Total Expenses:	\$38,100

Income:

WebSite Contributions	\$200
HMB Convention (Seed Money Returned from 2008)	\$0
Projected Group Contributions	\$27,900
Estimated Checkbook Carryover on 1/1/07	\$10,000
Total Income Needed:	\$38,100

Misc Information:

Prudent Reserve	\$7,000
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PROPOSED HMB AREA ASSOCIATION BUDGET NARRATIVE FOR 2008

1. Amounts allocated are the maximum allowable expenditures for each category. Actual expenditures must be reported in writing and documented with receipts. Reports are due by April 15th, July 15th, October 15th and December 15th. The Finance Committee must review all reports past due before any payments are made. Stipend expenses are allotted when requested, and only when an accounting of the previous allotment has been made. Stipend allowances include mileage at \$.30 per mile, tolls, postage, supplies, telephone, printing, copies and other. Receipts and mileage details are required.
2. The Delegate's and Area Chairperson's allocations include funds for expenses to all Area, State and Regional events. The Delegate and Chairperson are asked to balance their activities as close to the amount allocated as possible.
3. Allocations for Secretary, Treasurer, Alternate Area Chairperson, Alternate Secretary, Alternate Treasurer include: Expenses up to \$500, the Treasurer and Alternate Secretary is allocated an additional \$350 to cover supplies, printing and postage.

4. Allocations for Newsletter Editor, Public Information (PI), Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC), Special Needs (SN), Bridging the Gap (BTG), Grapevine (GV), Archives and Web Committees are budgeted for \$350. They may exceed the budgeted amount to a maximum of \$500 with Finance Committee approval. Allocations for Treatment Facilities (TF) and Correctional Facilities (CF) Committees are budgeted for \$500. They may exceed the budgeted amount to a maximum of \$750 with Finance Committee approval.
5. Expenses to attend 2008 NERAASA will be a maximum of \$300 per area committee member. The budgeted amount of \$3,750 should not be exceeded. Members funded include all Area officers and committee chairs. NERAASA is a service assembly for GSR's, DCM's and Area Committee Members of the Northeast Region to discuss issues and concerns affecting AA as whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity, and service common to the Northeast Region. The 2008 event will be in Atlantic City, NJ.
6. Expenses to attend the NYS Convention are \$400 per area committee member. Members funded are the Secretary and Alternate Area Chairperson. Officers attending must be providing a service function for the convention to be funded and provide a report on the conference. The NYS Convention will be hosted by the Western Cluster and will be hosted by SENY.
7. Expenses to attend the NYS Informational Workshop are \$200 per area committee member. The budgeted amount of \$3000 should not be exceeded. Members funded include all Area officers and committee chairs. 2008 NYS Informational Workshop will be hosted by WNY.
8. Exceptions: Chairpersons and Officers living within 25 miles of a funded event will be reimbursed for mileage and registration only, unless handicapped. Banquet and meal costs are not funded. Funding covers lodging, registration, mileage at \$.30 per mile and tolls. As always, those funded are asked to share expenses whenever possible.
9. \$400 is allocated for each Area function. Six functions in 2008. The functions are: Inventory Day, Delegates Day/Day of Sharing, two Fellowship Days and two Assemblies. Note: There are two Area Assemblies in even-numbered years. There are three Area Assemblies in odd-number years and includes Area Election Assembly held in September.
10. \$400 is allocated to maintain the Area Website. This expense is the same as any other not-for-profit organization would pay to maintain a Website.
11. \$200 for service manual updates; the estimated cost of printing update pages. To be done once a year after the October Assembly.
12. \$500 for HMB Meeting schedules to Standing Committee Chairs. These include PI Chairperson, CPC Chairperson, TF Chairperson, CF Chairperson and BTG Chairperson.
13. \$2000 is allocated for the 2009 HMB convention.
14. Regarding area events sponsored by clusters: any expenses exceeding the budgeted amount of the stipend must be approved by the Finance Committee; any monies collected in excess of the expenses shall be returned to the Area.
15. **Should contributions exceed the budget requirements, additional items may be funded at the discretion of the Finance Committee, reviewed quarterly.**

Notes:

- Expenses vary from year to year. The funding amount is based on hotel costs, registration costs, and mileage to the 2008 event (not a fixed amount). An estimate of the number of attending is based on previous years. It is hoped that this method will help bring the budget closer to the actual expenses and give all those who want to serve the HMB Area an equal opportunity. As always, those funded are asked to share expenses whenever possible.

- Expense reports are due by April 15th, July 15th, October 15th, and December 15th. Late reports will not be paid until reviewed by the Finance Committee.

AREA REPORTS

Delegates Report -

Hiya everyone this is Bobby F, YOUR HMB Area Delegate. I am getting tons of information from GSO after the Conference. I have gotten a new listing of the TV stations running the PSA's and will be giving that to our PI Chair Jim. I have gotten information on the group survey that they will be doing. I don't know how many groups in our area will be surveyed but PLEASE if your group is selected please fill out the questionnaire and send it back to GSO. I am supposed to receive the survey on or about June 10th and will be sending them out the next day. They need to be completed and in the hands of GSO NO later than August 1-14.

Also from the Grapevine, they have finally published a young people's book called In Our Own Words. The book contains 50 stories of young people in AA. The June edition of the Grapevine will have some stories in it. Please feel free to contact the Grapevine and let them know your feelings on this. OK, while I was down at Conference the Grapevine came up with a challenge to make it fully self-supporting. If every Area bought 100 subscriptions through their membership, then the Grapevine would be fully self-supporting. I know we have OVER 12,000 members in our area, so let's make this challenge happen and get 100 new members from our area to take out a subscription to the Grapevine.

GSO will have a Class A (Amateur) Trustee vacancy since Vince O'Keefe is rotating out as GSO's Treasurer. I had the great pleasure of working with Vince on the Finance Committee during my 2 years at Conference. If you know anyone from our Area that would like to consider being available for become a Class A Trustee, let me know and I can get you the information on how to send the resume down to GSO.

I will be in Lancaster, Pa for the weekend at NERF and hope to see a lot of our area members there.

I also want to thank the Districts for putting on the May Assembly. You did a great job. Thanks also goes into all the hard work for the people who brought proposals forward and now the Area has an informed group conscience on which direction to take now.

Until then if anyone, group or district would like me to come to their meeting please feel free to contact me at HMBAreaChair@aol.com.

Love & Service

Bobby

Area Chair Report -

Summer is finally here!! Many members are making plans for a variety of activities for us and our families – picnics, vacations, retreats, hikes, boat rides, tours, etc. Let us remember to keep our selves, groups, districts and area strong as we have a safe and sober summer!! Thanks to the members of Districts 4, 8 and 14 for hosting the May Assembly. Our Delegate gave his final Conference report - thanks Bobby for your service to HMB! All the proposals were discussed and voted on - one was withdrawn and will be presented later this year. Thanks to all the members who attended and participated.

Good communication is of vital importance. In personal Twelfth Step work, there is no end to communication. The sponsor talks with the drunk; speakers share their experience; we share with each other. But when it comes to general service work, communication has a tendency to break down.

(From the A.A. Service Manual, page S22, 2006-2007 Edition - Reprinted with permission of The A.A. World Services, Inc.)

Our next event is the NYS Convention which will be held the weekend of July 20 – July 22. HMB is the host area and members from the Northeast Region will be in Glens Falls for the 39th NYS Convention. Let's be there to welcome all our friends to HMB! We are also the host area for the NYS Informational Workshop. Members from across the state will be in Albany the weekend of August 3 – August 5. Please attend to share your experiences with others.

As always, ALL members are welcomed and encouraged to attend and participate in another phase of our new lives – general service. Let's give back what was so freely given to us!!

In Unity & Service,

Joan R

Secretary Report -

HMB Area Assembly, May 20, 2007, Cobleskill, NY, 100 members in attendance. 10 AM: Meeting called to order by Area Chair, Joan Ramsey with the Unity Pledge. Bobby F., our Area Delegate commented on the motion tabled at the October Assembly regarding the Area Meeting Book. The Area Meeting Book will remain as is, meetings listed by District and not counties. At this point the question is moot since the 2007 book has already been printed. The Delegate's Report is printed and available for all to read. He reported changing his vote, as is his prerogative, on the question of adding the shipping cost to the price of literature and awarding a discount for large orders. The new Northeast Regional Trustee is John J. Kane, Jr. Committee Reports: Alternate Chair: Dave J. The September Election Assembly date has been changed to Saturday 9/8/07 at the request of the host District. He is working on the 2008 calendar.

Secretary: Bob L. Report is printed in the Area newsletter. No additions or corrections. Alternate Secretary: Kevin B. Working on putting the Area records on a disc. Confidential Directories and folders were available for all Districts. Questions regarding guidelines were answered.

Treasurer: Keith D. See printed Treasurer's Report. He is still missing reimbursement requests from some Area Chairs. The treasury has been audited by committee led by Past Delegate, Charlie C. There were no discrepancies, see attached report.

Treatment: Brenda O. Will be sending out information packets this week. She is available to all Districts if help is needed. Bridging the Gap: Cindy D. Has had many prerelease contacts in the past month. She has been working with various District Corrections Chairs whenever needed. Special Needs: Glen H. Guidelines for Homebound, Hospitals, Hospice, and Nursing Homes is in the process of printing. Literature in Braille will be available at the NYSIW and the NYS Convention. This will take up the bulk of the yearly stipend for SN. It would be appreciated if more District Special Needs Chairs attended the Assemblies.

Newsletter: Deb D. Submitted minutes from last Newsletter Committee meeting. The issues of including information regarding the Central Office and the Area Map were brought up. It is requested that any feedback be directed to the Editor or committee members. The deadline for the next newsletter is 6/1/07. Web Chair: Tom E. HMB Area web site is ny-aa.org. NYS meeting lists can be accessed at ny-aa.org/meetings/. Our Area newsletter is now on the web site at ny-aa.org/hmb/members. All articles to the newsletter should be "web ready". Last names or phone numbers will not be included unless appropriate.

Archives: Jim K. At the NYS Convention other Area archivists have been invited to display, as well as three District archivists. It is hoped that District archivists can attend the NYSIW. Work continues on changing the 1930's archives from suitcases to wood and plexi glass cases. Area Achieves can be reached at irishjimk@verizon.net or 518-943-6020. NYS Convention: Tom & Gene. The hotel is almost full. If calling for reservations, mention the convention or you will be told that the hotel is full. Get registrations in ASAP, the banquet is limited to the first 300 registries. DCMs were requested to chair meetings. There has been no response from Districts 7, 8, 12, 14, & 17. A scholarship program has been established for 5 people. They will work handling recyclables with the money going back to the convention committee. Contributions to the Hospitality Suite will be greatly appreciated. Convention info can be accessed at ny-aa.org/events. NYS Informational Workshop: Gail. The cost for attending the workshop from Fri. to Sun is \$145. This includes lodging and 5 meals. A day rate of \$10 is available, \$25 would include lunch and dinner. Area Committee Chairs are required to attend or provide a replacement. The Friday night barbecue is limited to 88 people, a vegetarian menu is available. The Chair then requested that the proposals be read, with out discussion or comment. They will be discussed and voted on in the afternoon session. Alternate Treasurer: Al M. read the proposed budget for 2008. Alternate Secretary: Kevin B. read proposals #1 & #2. Web Chair: Tom E. read proposal #3.

Steve: read proposal #4.

Charlie C: read proposals #5 & #6.

11:35 A.M. Meeting adjourned for lunch.

12:30 P.M. Meeting reconvened.

It was agreed to forgo the District reports in favor of allowing more time for discussion on the proposals. Area Chair, Joan R. read the "Purpose of Assembly Debate". She then set the guidelines for debate, limiting each speaker to 2 minutes. Proposal #1: Motion to simplify the procedure for producing the Area Meeting Book, made by Kevin B., 2nd by Tom E. Discussion followed. Friendly amendment to eliminate the word "efforts" from the sentence ... "Meeting Book Committee efforts to get the final approval"... Vote, yes 67 - no 8. Motion passed, there was no minority opinion. Proposal #2: Motion to allow for vendor competition in printing the Area Meeting Book by Kevin B., 2nd by Tom E. Discussion followed. Friendly amendment to add "select a printing company for a

3 year, performance based, contract." Vote, yes 66 - no 13. Minority opinion expressed by Al M. No votes changed, motion passed. Proposal #3: Motion that the HMB Meeting Book should be published twice per year, effective 2008 by Tom E. 2nd by Dan H. Following discussion, vote, yes 5 - no 70. There was no minority opinion, motion denied. Proposal #4: Motion to develop an Area 48 Informational Web site to standardize information flow and enhance communication between the HMB Area 48 Officers, Committees, and fellowship by Steve D. 2nd by Thea H. During the discussion there were 3 amendments proposed. Tom E. made a motion to refer back to the committee to be addressed at the October Assembly. The Ad Hoc committee is to be expanded to include all interested members. Steve withdrew the motion. All interested members were asked to submit their names to the committee. Proposal #5: Motion that the HMB Area adopts a new concise service manual, covering the unique methods used by HMB Area and its officers. The new manual would be smaller in size and would be intended to be used as a supplement to the GSO service manual, by Charlie C. 2nd by Keith D. Following discussion, vote, yes 63 - no 2. There was no minority opinion, motion passed. Proposal #6: Motion that the HMB Area purchase and keep in stock the GSO service manual to be available to members using the HMB service manual. Following discussion, vote, yes 64 - no 4. There was no minority opinion, motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 with the Responsibility Pledge.

Treasurers Report -

Beginning Checkbook Balance 5/1/07:	\$ 9,572.11
Contributions:	\$ 2,196.32
Expenses:	\$ 720.86
Ending Checkbook Balance 5/31/07:	\$11,047.57
Available Funds (minus \$7,000 prudent reserve):	\$ 4,047.57

Hi everyone, I will be rotating out of my service position at the end of this year. First of all I want to thank of all of you in Area 48 for allowing me the privilege of serving as the Area treasurer. I have learned much about the Treasury and the inner workings of our Service structure and the Area for that matter.

So with this being said its time for others to "stand" for the Treasurers position. If you think you are interested I would be more than happy to explain and show you what the job entails. I will also guarantee you that you will not be left high and dry. I will make myself available to help you through the 1st quarter of 2008 and more if needed. I will be responsible for the filling of this year's tax and will show you how we go about it. So give it some thought it is a great way to give back to the program and meet sober people all over. What a wonderful gift!

Keith D.

Treatment Facilities Report -

Hi Everyone.

Can you believe it is already June? I have sent out packets. Anyone wanting information may contact me. If anyone wants me to visit their district, please advise me of this. I am still filling in for district 12 as they do not have a treatment chair. I am attending NERF and I am excited to go. I hope all of you will back me in the fact I would like to get a real chance to do a full 2 years stint. I also would consider taking another area position if I don't get to keep doing treatment chair. Hope this finds you all well and happy. Have a great summer. Don't forget the NYS convention or the NYSIW. We are all here to help each other and to pass the message of sobriety. Please feel free to contact me.

Brenda O

Website Report -

A Question about Al-Anon

The following is my response to a question about what is identified as an "Off-Site Link" from <http://www.ny-aa.org/> to <http://www.al-anon.org/> the main Al-Anon web site. As a result of the conversation, the link was rewritten to include, "Separate but similar fellowship helps families and friends of alcoholics."

An Answer: Relation of A.A. to Al-Anon

Thanks for your interest. According to the General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous, A.A. "enjoys" a "special relationship with the Al-Anon Family Groups." That has been confirmed a number of times including this "Resolution of Gratitude"

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Conference to confirm the relationship between Alcoholics Anonymous and the Al-Anon Family Groups, and

WHEREAS, it is the further desire of this Conference to acknowledge A.A.'s debt of gratitude to the Al-Anon Family Groups, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Alcoholics Anonymous recognize the special relationship which it enjoys with the Al-Anon Family Groups, a separate but similar fellowship. And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Alcoholics Anonymous wishes to recognize, and hereby does recognize, the great contribution which the Al-Anon Family Groups have made and are making in assisting the families of alcoholics everywhere.

Al-Anon contact information is provided two places in the *Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous*. Some A.A. pamphlets such as *Is There an Alcoholic in Your Life?* and some service pieces tell how Al-Anon and Ala-teen can help the family and friends of alcoholics. These pamphlets give contact information for the Al-Anon Family Groups.

More about Al-Anon

There is a tendency for alcoholics to be related to Al-Anon members. As a service to Alcoholics Anonymous members for whom this applies, some districts and other providers of meeting list data flag certain A.A. meetings as "Al-Anon at the same time nearby." This cooperation simply identifies the meetings without giving meeting details for the other fellowship.

I remember how helpful it was to be able to take my wife out to dinner on the way to a building in which her meeting was upstairs and mine was downstairs. Other A.A. members have said the same thing.

One time, we stopped at a restaurant for some dessert after our respective meetings. The waitress was writing down that we each wanted ice tea when my wife said "unsweetened" and I added "with lemon." The confused waitress then realized, "Oh! You mean iced tea ice tea." Then I was confused. In my years of heavy drinking, I had never heard of a Long Island Ice Tea and there I was with my wife ordering one on the way home from an A.A. meeting. Well, the Triple-Chocolate Mousse Cake was good.

Tom E

Audit Committee Report -

The Audit Committee consisting of three past delegates, Charlie C., Dave S. and Steve W. meet with the Area Treasurer at the April Fellowship. All procedures and account practices were found to be in order, easily understood and readily available for review. IRS return was filed in a timely fashion.

The following considerations were forwarded to the Finance Committee.

1. The prudent reserve to be placed in a separate account, making the Area's operating budget more defined. An interest bearing account could be used similar to the GSO prudent reserve.
2. An equipment fund to be set up to cover of future needs. The first purchase to be two lap top computers for the treasury and record keeping, these computers would be the property of the Area and would be passed on to the current treasurer and records keeper.
3. The same accounting program to be used by each treasurer, promoting easier transitions and data accessibility.
4. The out going treasurer be available to assist the incoming treasurer for the first quarter of the new term. Helping with procedures and tax information.

Prepared by Charlie C. Past Delegate

NYS Informational Workshop Update -

New York State Informational Workshop '07 as of 23 May 07 has only 76 spots left for those that wish to apply for the weekend registration. If you have any questions as to how many rooms are left you may contact Rob B. at 607-286-7142. Also, the Hospitality Chair is in need of a few volunteers to assist him during the weekend of the workshop. If you are interested contact William T. at 518-462-0266.

New A.A. Stories Speak Directly to Very Young Alcoholics

For Immediate Release - April 5, 2007 -

• "If I could have stayed cool, I'd still be drinking. Very quickly, though, I started getting into trouble. Going to sixth grade got in the way of my life, which consisted of getting drunk as much as possible." [After rehab] "I was going to A.A. meetings. Everyone was older, even most of the kids at the young people meetings. But I found that alcoholics understand other alcoholics. . . . Regardless of how young or old or 'special' I am, in A.A. I'm just a drunk." **Tina, who joined A.A. at 13**

• "I loved drinking and was as addicted to the lies, the shady people and places as I was to the alcohol. My grades suffered until I stopped going to school altogether. . . . I found myself in places without any idea of how I had gotten there. I overdosed on alcohol." Since coming to A.A., "I have been given an opportunity to grow up with the Twelve Steps in my life. It is with utmost gratitude that I have just celebrated my 19th year of continuous sobriety." **Kevin, who joined A.A. at 14**

NEW YORK CITY—Tina and Kevin are two of the 19 very young alcoholics who relate their experience as recovering alcoholics in a revised pamphlet just released by Alcoholics Anonymous: "Young People and A.A." Eight recollections by early teen and preteen alcoholics are included in the new edition, which also contains most of the original stories by alcoholics 25 and under.

The young A.A.s speak candidly about their preconceived notions of A.A. and what happened when they stepped tentatively into their first meetings. As Nicole, who sobered up at 14, says, "I knew A.A. held the solution to alcoholism. What I didn't know was that anyone old enough to have a problem is old enough to seek help from A.A."

Since the Fellowship began in 1935, the age of new members has constantly dropped. A.A. groups for young people began appearing as early as 1945 in Los Angeles, Cleveland and Philadelphia, and now can be found across the United States and Canada. Today approximately 10 percent of A.A. members are under 30.

In reaching out to young alcoholics, A.A. offers them a variety of special literature and audiovisual material, mainly available in Spanish and French as well as English. The stories help the young newcomer to A.A. understand that an alcoholic can "hit bottom" without going through 20-plus years of drinking, never mind the loss of family, friends and financial stability. Through identification with the recovery stories of people their own age, they learn they never have to feel so alone and frightened again—and can lead comfortable, happy, even exciting lives in sobriety.

Among other A.A. pamphlets that speak directly to young people are three in comic-book format: "Too Young," in which teenagers aged 13 to 18 share their drinking stories; the newly revised "It Happened to Alice," geared to young female alcoholics; and "What Happened to Joe," which tells the story of a young construction worker on the edge of alcoholic self-destruction. A counterpoint to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." is the 28-minute video of the same name in which four young A.A. members tell the stories of their drinking and recovery in A.A., with closed captions for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.

To obtain a copy of the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." or other A.A. literature and service material, call your local A.A. Inter-group or Central Office. For further information about A.A. please contact the Public Information desk at the A.A. General Service Office, (212) 870-3119 or publicinfo@aa.org.

HMB AREA NEWSLETTER (7/2007)

59 Violet Avenue

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED