

# 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

- 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?
- 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?
- Is the "collective conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area?
- Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of A.A.?

**HMB EVENT SCHEDULE - 2008**

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>HOST CLUSTER</u>	<u>DATE</u>
January	HMB Area Inventory Day	Eastern (1,2,18)	Saturday, 1/5/08
February	NERAASA	Atlantic City, NY	2/22/08 - 2/24/08
March	NERD	Killington, VT	3/7/08 - 3/9/08
March	HMB Area Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley (3,7,11,15,16,17)	Sunday, 3/16/08
April	HMB Area Day of Sharing	Adirondack (5,10,13)	Sunday, 4/13/08
May	HMB Area Assembly	Central (4,8,14)	Sunday, 5/18/08
July	NYS Convention	Tarrytown, NY	7/25/08 - 7/27/08
August	NYS Informational Workshop	TBD	8/1/08 - 8/3/08
September	HMB Area Fellowship Day	Eastern (1,2,18)	Sunday, 9/14/08
October	HMB Area Assembly	Central (4,8,14)	Sunday, 10/5/08
Oct/Nov	HMB Area Convention	Eastern (1,2,18)	10/31/08 - 11/2/08
November	HMB Area Fellowship Day	Western (9,12)	Sunday, 11/16/08

**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

**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.

**Monday and Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup> - District 5** – New Years Alkathon - Dec 31<sup>st</sup>-5:00 pm thru Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>-5:00 pm – Salvation Army, 27 Woodlawn Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY - Contact: Lisa S (518) 527-9214

**Friday, January 18th - District 11** - Red Hook Group Silver Anniversary - 5:00pm - The Christ Episcopal Church, Broadway Street Red Hook, NY

**Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> - District 4** - Spiritual Breakfast - 9:00am—The Johnstown Holiday Inn, 308 North Comrie Avenue, Johnstown, NY 12095 - Contacts: Christy T (518) 661-5331

**SAVE THE DATES**

**October 31st - November 2nd - HMB Area Convention 2008**

*Looking forward to seeing you there!!!!*

## **HMB Area Inventory Day**

Saturday, January 5, 2008

St. John's Episcopal Church  
corner of First and Liberty  
Troy, NY

### **Agenda**

**10:00am – 10:15am** - Area Chair, Delegate, Secretary & Treasurer Reports

**10:15am – 11:10am** - Service Chair Meetings (Service Chair Selections & General Disc)

**11:10am – Noon** - DCM Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting, Workshop (Topic: TBD)

**Noon – 1:00pm** - Lunch

**1:00pm – 3:00pm** - Area Inventory

### **Directions**

#### **From South and West**

Take I-787 North to Exit 8 (Green Island)

At bottom of ramp, turn LEFT on 23rd Street

At second light, turn LEFT on Second Avenue (Route 32)

Go two blocks to 19th Street (Route 2), turn LEFT onto Congress Street Bridge

Take right hand exit off Congress Street Bridge

Turn left onto Liberty Street

Turn right on First Street

#### **From North and East**

Take I-787 South to Exit 8 (Green Island)

At bottom of ramp, turn RIGHT on 23rd Street

At second light, turn LEFT on Second Avenue (Route 32)

Go two blocks to 19th Street (Route 2), turn LEFT onto Congress Street Bridge

Take right hand exit off Congress Street Bridge

Turn left onto Liberty Street

Turn right on First Street

Contacts: Jim M 518-268-8487; William T 518-320-0875

### ***AREA 48 Takes Its Inventory***

- 1. What is the primary purpose of our Area?*
- 2. What more can the Area do to “carry the message”?*
- 3. Are we acting as guardians of the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts?*
- 4. Are we seeing a good cross-section of our community? Is the Area attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds?*
- 5. Do new trusted servants stick with us, or does the turnover seem excessive? If so, why? What can we do as an Area to keep trusted servants active?*
- 6. Do we emphasize the importance of sponsoring people into service? How can we be more effective in sponsoring people into service?*
- 7. Are all members given the opportunity to speak at Area meetings and participate in Area activities?*
- 8. Mindful that holding office is a great responsibility not to be viewed as the outcome of a popularity contest, are we choosing our officers with care?*
- 9. Does the Area do its fair share toward participating in the purpose of AA as it relates to our three legacies: Recovery, Unity, and Service?*
- 10. What has the Area done to bring the AA message to the attention of professionals into the community (such as clergy, physicians, court officials, educators) who are the first to see alcoholics in need of help?*
- 11. How is the Area fulfilling its responsibilities to the 7th Tradition?*
- 12. How are the DCM’s and officers upholding their service commitment?*

### ***Suggested Guidelines for Participation in the Area 48 Inventory***

- Members agree to keep AA’s primary purpose uppermost in their minds at all times*
- The Area Inventory is not a business meeting*
- The Area Inventory is an open communications forum: no decisions will be made*
- The Area agrees to keep the facilitator in their role as facilitator*
- Check your titles at the door*
- All members agree to work together to complete the agenda*
- Members agree to not interrupt others when they are speaking*
- Members agree to be recognized by forming a line at the front of the room and will be limited to 2 minutes (timed).*
- Members agree that there is no such thing as a bad suggestion*
- Members agree to treat differing opinions and people with dignity and respect*



# NERAASA '08

## 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

NORTHEAST REGIONAL ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS SERVICE ASSEMBLY

2008 GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE THEME

“COMMUNICATION AND PARTICIPATION – THE KEY TO UNITY AND SELF-SUPPORT”

WEST ATLANTIC CITY, SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 23<sup>RD</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2008

**PURPOSE:**

*The purpose of the Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is for GSR's, DCM's, Area Committee Members and Intergroup and 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:**

**CLARION HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER**

6821 Black Horse Pike, Atlantic City West, EHT, NJ 08234

**DEADLINES:**

Hotel Registration - January 24, 2008

Event & Meal Registration - February 10, 2008

Registration available on-site

**ON SITE REGISTRATION:**

Begins at 1:00 pm

Friday, February 22, 2008

**FIRST PANEL:**

Begins at 3:00 pm

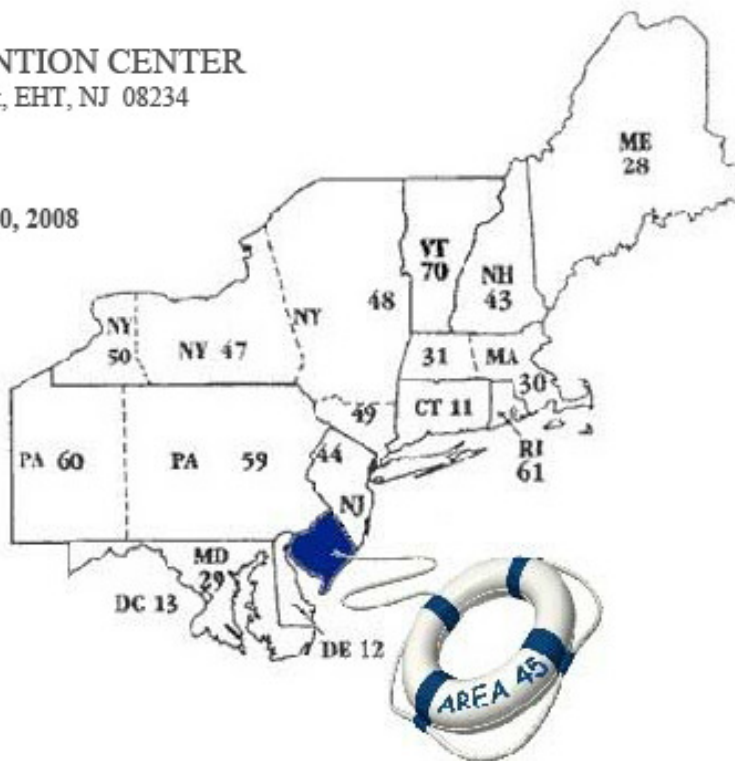
Friday, February 22, 2008

**ICE BREAKER AA MEETING:**

Thursday Evening at 8:00pm

February 21, 2008

[www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org)



**NERAASA 2008 ~ February 22 – 24, 2008**  
**Clarion Hotel & Convention Center Atlantic City**  
 6821 Black Horse Pike  
 Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234  
 Phone: (609) 272-0200 Toll-Free: (800) 782-9237  
 Web contact: clarionacwest@comcast.net



**NERAASA '08**  
 SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY  
 AREA45

**Hotel Reservation Information:**

**Check In:** 4:00pm **Check Out:** 12:00pm

**Wheel chair Accessible:** Handicap accessible rooms are available.

**Smoking:** Smoking is allowed in a limited number of smoking guest rooms (or outside designated areas)

**Hotel reservations MUST be made directly with NERAASA '08 for rates quoted.**

- ❖ Send the form on the facing page along full payment or credit card information – or –
- ❖ Go online at [www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org) (click on NERAASA 2008, then Registration - starting 10-20-07)
- ❖ Confirmation of your reservations is through the NERAASA '08 Committee (not the hotel)
- ❖ **Credit cards can ONLY be used for pre-registration**
- ❖ Walk-in Registration: cash/check/money order

**BY AIR OR RAIL:**

Please review the "Directions" link at <http://www.neraasa.org/neraasa/direction.html> for information regarding transportation & directions:

- ❖ Hotel(s) provides shuttle service from Atlantic City Airport
- ❖ For those in need; the NERAASA Committee may be able to assist with some transportation

**BY CAR:**

**From Philadelphia & West**

Walt Whitman Bridge to Route 42 South to Atlantic City Expressway toward Atlantic City, to exit 7S Garden State Parkway South, to exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East. Hotel is on right.

**From the Northeast**

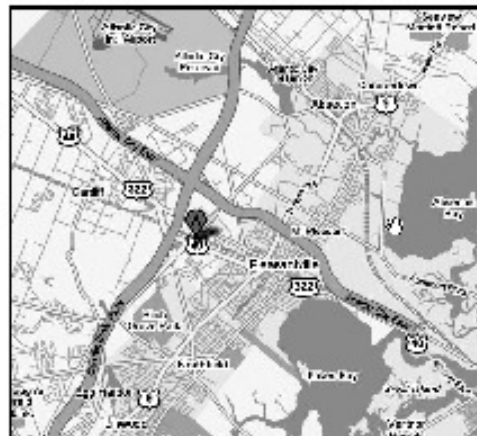
Garden State Parkway South to Exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East. Hotel is on right.

**From the Northwest**

It is recommended that you do an Internet map search for directions to the hotel from your location or to Philadelphia and follow directions *From Philadelphia*

**From the South (including Philadelphia Airport)**

Interstate I-95 North to Philadelphia, Walt Whitman Bridge to Route 42 South to Atlantic City Expressway toward Atlantic City, to exit 7S Garden State Parkway South, to exit 37 toward US-40/Pleasantville/US-322/Atlantic City. Turn left at W Washington Ave. Turn right at Fire Rd. Turn left at Black Horse Pike/US-322 E/US-40 East, Hotel is on right.



**Panel Presentations / Floor Discussions on Issues Affecting A.A. Today**  
**Northeast Regional Trustee's Report**

Saturday Banquet followed by an A.A. Speaker Meeting / Round Table Sharing Sessions on:

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

For more information visit [www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org), or call a NERAASA 2008 Committee Member:

Laurie E., Chair	609-425-4941	Joe M., or Elaine M. Registration	856-939-8979
Fred E., Co-Chair	856-784-4728	Steve G., Transportation	609-501-4785
Jimmy S., Program	609-731-4302		

**WHAT TO BRING:**  
 You A.A Service Manual  
 2007 Final Conference Report  
 Note Taking Material

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Forms may be copied. Please use one form for each person registering**

*In order for those without on-line access to stay in the Main Hotel; On-line registration will begin October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Mail-in & On-line Registration will be processed starting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2007.*

**NERAASA Hotel Registration Deadline (mail & online): January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008**  
 (Hotel prices are guaranteed until January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008 or until room blocks are filled)  
**Event & Meal Registration Deadline (mail & online) - February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Please complete the form below and mail to: NERAASA 08, P.O. Box 75, Runnemede, NJ 08078**  
**Or go to: [www.neraasa.org](http://www.neraasa.org) beginning on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ A.A. Area # \_\_\_\_\_ (see front page map)  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Day): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Evening/Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

- GSR or Alt GSR
- DCM or Alt DCM
- District Committee
- Central Office or Intergroup
- Delegate or Alt Delegate, Panel \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Area Committee
- Area Officer
- Trustee/Director

- Past Delegate, Panel \_\_\_\_\_
- Conference Committee \_\_\_\_\_
- I would be interested in moderating a round table session.

I have been to a NERAASA before? Yes No As a presenter? Yes No  
 I would like to participate in a panel presentation Yes No -or- record a round table session Yes No.  
 Arrival date: \_\_\_\_\_ (Time) \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I have special needs (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENT REGISTRATION, MEALS & ROOM SELECTION:**

**Event Registration & Meals (tax/gratuity included)**

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ NERAASA Registration \$20
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Delegate's Luncheon \$22  
 (Delegates, Current Alt. & Past Delegates only)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Friday Night Buffet \$30
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Night Banquet \$35  
 Prime Rib  Chicken  Vegetarian

*Please note: When staying at the hotel (Clarion or Holiday Inn Express), breakfast is included*  
 ❖ Meal registration is not available on site

**Hotel (tax included)**

- \$105 per night, double occupancy
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ For 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> persons in one room
- Add \$25 per person, per night
- Single  Double  Triple  Quad
- Smoking room (if available)
- King -or-  2 Double beds

To insure your reservation is made correctly, please provide us the name(s) of your roommates.

Roommate: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
First and last name First and last name First and last name

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Enclosed (Check, Money Order Payable to: NERAASA 2008)**

Or Credit Card Info:  American Express  Visa  Master Card  Discover (No Code)  
 Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please charge my credit card: Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_  
*Your signature authorizes your credit card to be charged for the total amount due.*

**\*\*\*NO CREDIT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER FEBRUARY 10, 2008 -OR- FOR WALK-IN REGISTRATIONS\*\*\***

# HMB Area 48 Delegates' Day

(All AA Members are welcome and encouraged to participate in this important day)

**United Methodist Church  
175 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Henning Road  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**



**Saturday, April 5, 2008**

### AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Registration & Coffee

#### **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.

DETAILED MORNING SCHEDULE  
BEING FINALIZED

12:00-1:00 LUNCH (Provided)

DETAILED AFTERNOON SCHEDULE  
BEING FINALIZED

#### **Responsibility Declaration**

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.



**Directions:** Take 'Northway' I-87 to Exit 14; turn right at end of ramp & go to traffic light;  
Turn right at traffic light onto Henning Road; go approx ¼ mile on Henning to 175 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
United Methodist Church is on left side – across from John Meyers BOCES Center.  
  
Questions? Contact Bob B. D5 DCM 518 580 0838 or John D. D13 DCM 518 494 7432

(Sponsored by Adirondack Cluster - Districts 5, 10 & 13)



## AREA REPORTS

### **Delegates Report -**

Welcome to all the new GSRs, alternate GSRs, DCM's and alternate DCM's who have just rotated into service. Welcome back to those of you who have new positions in Area 48 Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire (HMB). It is a privilege as I begin my two year commitment to serving Area 48 and Alcoholics Anonymous. Please pray for guidance for all!!

*By our Twelve Steps we have recovered, by our Twelve Traditions we have unified, and through our Third Legacy – Service – we shall carry the A.A. message down through all the corridors of time to come. Of this, I am happily confident.*

*(From The Language of the Heart, page 134 - Reprinted with permission of The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.)*

On November 30, the New York State Convention Planning meeting was held in Tarrytown, NY at the Westchester Marriott. The 40<sup>th</sup> NYS Convention will be held on July 25, 26 and 27, 2008 and will be hosted by Area 49 Southeast New York (SENY). Your participation is important, whether it will be your first NYS Convention or you're a seasoned attendee. As always, speakers will be needed – if you have an interest, please feel free to contact me.

The NYS Convention theme will be the same as the 2008 General Service Conference theme, “*Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity & Self-Support*”. Within a few weeks, I will receive the preliminary Conference agenda. It is hoped we will then begin discussions to consider, carefully and thoughtfully, the issues that will be before the 58<sup>th</sup> General Service Conference the week of April 26 – May 3, 2008.

I pray that all groups in Area 48 continue to participate by attending the upcoming general service events where your group's voice on issues of importance to AA as a whole can be heard. It is every Delegate's hope that the DCM's are able to get information to all of their respective groups so that we can acquire the broadest voice of Area 48 HMB on important issues and/or proposed changes that will affect AA around the world.

Attached are discussion topics for the 58<sup>th</sup> Conference, which may also serve as good discussion topics throughout this Area, and A.A. as a whole, include:

### **Presentations**

#### Communication and Participation

- Sharing the Message of Service
- Our Key to Keeping A.A. Strong
- Leadership in A.A.: Building Communication

#### Unity

- Our Common Welfare Should Come First
- Principles Before Personalities
- Diversity: Reaching Out to All Alcoholics

Self-Support

- Self-Supporting Through Members' Voluntary Contributions Only
- Responsibility to Communicate and Participate
- Contempt Prior to Investigation

**Workshop**

"Love and Tolerance, Now More Than Ever"

In Unity & Service,

Joan R - Area 48 Delegate Panel 58 - hmbdelegatepanel58@gmail.com

**Area Chair Report -**

Happy New Year to everyone. With January 1st approaching, I am mixed with excitement and anxiousness. The spirit of rotation is a wonderful gift: just when you learn a service position, you move onto the next one and start the process over. Thank you for entrusting me as your Area Chairperson. I will be looking to the guidance of those that have gone before me and the conscience of the Area over the next two years.

In December, 2007, Joan and I attended the NYS Convention Planning meeting. It was a very productive planning session. We have an agenda set for the Convention and will be looking for people to participate in workshops, panels and roundtables. The weekend will be around the theme of the 58th General Service Conference which is "Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity & Self-Support". Flyers should be available by around the NERAASA timeframe..

Within the HMB Area, we will start the year off with the HMB Area Inventory and Fellowship Day. At that meeting, the service committees will be selecting their service chairs for the next two years. I would like to encourage all those willing to serve to make themselves available. Additionally, we will conduct an inventory in the afternoon and will have a couple of other topics scheduled. Please consider the theme of "Communication and Participation—The Key to Unity & Self-Support" as you, your groups and districts reflect over the inventory questions which are included in the newsletter.

I look forward to all your participation.

In love and service,

Deb D - HMBAreaChair@hvc.rr.com

**Treasurer's Report -**

Beginning Checkbook Balance 11/1/07:	\$ 12,143.24
Contributions:	\$ 2,359.50
Expenses:	\$ 1,068.34
Ending Checkbook Balance 11/30/07:	\$ 13,434.40
<b>Available Funds (minus \$7,000 prudent reserve):</b>	<b>\$ 6,434.40</b>

**Secretary Report -**

October 21, 2007

Area Fellowship Day, Utica, NY

10 AM, Meeting called to order by Area Chair Joan R. with the Serenity Prayer.

Joan invited all members who were attending for the first time to identify themselves.

The meeting then broke up into groups representing various committees as well as a workshop for DCMs and GSRs.

12:55 PM Meeting reconvened following lunch with the following reports:

**DELEGATE:** This was Bobby F's final report. He announced that he had order forms for NERAASA and suggested people start planning on attending. He then decided to forgo his written report and instead expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to do service. He reminisced about his progression through various service positions and how it afforded him, as an AA member, to grow in the fellowship. Bobby was then presented with a token of appreciation from the membership for his dedication to service.

**SECRETARY:** Bob L. reminded all that the minutes for the previous meeting were printed in the November newsletter. There were no additions or corrections.

**TREASURER:** Keith D. submitted a written report. He will have a final report for the January Assembly.

**Committee Reports**

**BRIDGING THE GAP:** Cindy D. Everything quiet this month but she has been getting a lot of requests for 2008.

**COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY:** Lori W. Submitted a written report. Although she is rotating out at the end of the year, she is grateful for having this job. She remains open to other service positions if needed. She attended the Health & Welfare event at the Great Meadows Correctional Facility. Requests are coming in for CPC to be at upcoming conferences.

**NEWSLETTER:** Deb D. Submitted written report. She thanked her newsletter committee and all those who have helped her for the past two years. She then answered members questions regarding the newsletter.

The following DCMs submitted written reports: District 1, District 3, District 9, District 12, District 13, & District 15. Oral reports were given by District 4, District 8, & District 14.

Joan R. gave her Chairperson report: HMB Area does not have a Corrections Chair. The Department of Corrections is looking for AA members to bring meetings into more facilities. Volunteers are needed in Columbia, Clinton, Dutchess, Essex, Greene, Franklin, Ulster, and Washington counties to bring meetings into facilities. Joan explained some rules for members bringing meetings into correction facilities. AA members bringing meetings into facilities may not correspond with inmates. They are not allowed to sponsor inmates. Regarding the questions about the selection process for choosing the printing company for the Area Meeting Book, she referred to page 22 of the HMB Area 48 Service Manual. The guidelines were not followed, and as a result the selection system is suspect. Apologies were made to Bobby F. Joan thanked the assembly for allowing her the opportunity to be chairperson for the past two years. She will now move down to the position of Area Delegate. She requested that all records being sent to the Area Records Keeper be cc'd to her (the Delegate).

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 PM with the Responsibility Pledge.

Respectfully submitted by Bob L. Area Secretary.

**Newsletter Editor NEEDED -**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING YOURSELF AVAILBLE FOR THE SERVICE POSITION OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PLEASE CONTACT DEB D - [HMBAreaChair@aol.com](mailto:HMBAreaChair@aol.com)

NOTE: This will be the last edition until a new newsletter editor is appointed.

*NEW ULSTER COUNTY ANSWERING SERVICE NUMBER*

*845 - 943 - 5151*

**Website Chair**

Cuss-cuss:

I was trying to load some data into my PC from an external device. It was going slower than I thought it should so I interrupted it. Bad idea! I spent the rest of the day working to recover from a "Windows Protection Error" whatever the heck that means. I re-learned a little. A) Maybe I will learn patience. B) Never let a machine know you are depending on it. C) I'm way too busy to drink any more.

Update on Cuss-cuss:

That above was the last paragraph of my newsletter article last month. Being tied up with the computer problem, I was delayed in uploading a meeting update for [www.ny-aa.org/](http://www.ny-aa.org/) that Kevin had sent me. By the time I got things working again, Kevin told me that the change I hadn't done yet was wrong anyhow. I guess I can add: D) God works in mysterious ways his wonders to perform.

A.A. Phone Numbers:

It helps to have A.A. phone numbers with you on a trip. If you have access to a computer, start at the General Service Office web site: [www.aa.org/](http://www.aa.org/) and click on the link "How to Find A.A. Meetings." On the left of that web page, click on "Central Offices, Inter-groups and Answering Services (U.S. and Canada)." Selecting "New York" gets you to the web page: [www.aa.org/US\\_CtrOffice/ny.html](http://www.aa.org/US_CtrOffice/ny.html) That is a list of A.A. phone numbers around the state. You can do the same for any U.S. state or Canadian province.

For New York State, try our web page: [www.ny-aa.org/hotlines/](http://www.ny-aa.org/hotlines/) This links to the GSO list of hotlines but it includes a map of New York showing all of the cities on the list.

Usability:

Not every recovering alcoholic has access to a computer. Of those who do, most don't have the latest model with the latest (programming) software. Part of the design philosophy for [www.ny-aa.org](http://www.ny-aa.org/) is that it should function reasonably well when viewed with older computers using older web browsers (computer program to look at the internet) and older displays.

In recovering from the computer problems I mentioned, I am now using a back-level version of some of the browser software. Some pages of the Area Newsletter at: [www.ny-aa.org/hmb/members/](http://www.ny-aa.org/hmb/members/) are unreadable with it. I guess this means there is a little more work to do. And there must be another spiritual lesson somewhere nearby. E) TBD.

Tom E      [host@ny-aa.org](mailto:host@ny-aa.org)

**Corrections Update****CORRECTIONS VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!**

*Clinton County, Dutchess County, Essex County, Franklin County,*

*St. Lawrence County, Ulster County, Washington County*

DID YOU KNOW?????

For members willing to carry A.A.'s message into the above correctional facilities, your TB test will be paid for by New York State. If you only take one meeting a month into a facility for less than eight (8) hours, you are NOT required to have the test.

"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."

*If anyone has clearance to carry the message into the Columbia/Greene County facilities, please contact*

*Joan R at [hmbdelegatepanel58@gmail.com](mailto:hmbdelegatepanel58@gmail.com)*

**APPROVED 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. Allocated monies are provided when requested, and only when an accounting of the previous allotment has been made. Allocation 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, Alternate Area Chairperson and the Area Archivist. 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 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 seed money is allocated for the 2009 HMB convention.
14. Regarding area events sponsored by clusters: any expenses exceeding the budgeted amount of the allocation must be approved by the Finance Committee; any monies collected in excess of the expenses shall be returned to the Area.
15. \$1,112 is allocated for additional HMB meeting books, to be stored and distributed as needed by an area officer.
16. **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 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, October 15<sup>th</sup>, and December 15<sup>th</sup>. Late reports will not be paid until reviewed by the Finance Committee.

**APPROVED HMB 2008 BUDGET**

**Expenses:**

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

Allocations:

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

Committee Chairs and Others Allocations:

PI Committee Chair	\$350
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**Expenses Continued:**

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
Convention Chair	\$250
Sub-Total	\$4,050

NERAASA 2008	\$3,750
HMB Convention seed money for 2009	\$2,000
NYS Convention 2008 (including \$400 for archivist)	\$1,200
NYS Informational Workshop 2008	\$3,000
Newsletter Printing	\$2,500
Newsletter Postage	\$4,000
Service Manual Updates	\$200
Area Inventory Day	\$400
Day of Sharing/Delegates day	\$400
Area Assemblies	\$800
Fellowship Days	\$800
Insurance Costs	\$600
Website	\$400
NYS Info Workshop Seed Money 2008	\$0
2000 Additional HMB meeting books	\$1,112
Mail Box Service	\$300
Archive Storage Fees	\$800
Meeting Books for Committee Chairs	\$500
Tax Preparation	\$350
Prior Year Expenses	\$500
NE Regional Forum 2008	\$0
Total Expenses:	\$38,862

**Income:**

WebSite Contributions	\$200
HMB Convention (Seed Money Returned from 2008)	\$0
Projected Group Contributions	\$28,662
Estimated Checkbook Carryover on 1/1/08	\$10,000
Total Income Needed:	\$38,862

**Misc Information"**

Prudent Reserve	\$7,000
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