

August 1, 2011

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**AA Principles of the Month**

**Step 8** - Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

**Tradition 8** – Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

**Concept 8** - The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

**Eighth Tradition Checklist**

- Is my own AA behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
- Do I know who wrote down each one of my Traditions, and why? What would AA be like without them?
- When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects the others?
- Do I sometimes try to get *some* reward--even if not money--for my personal AA efforts?
- Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on *humility*?
- Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
- In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
- Have I paid enough attention to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*? To the pamphlet *AA Tradition--How It Developed*?

**Concept VIII Checklist**

- Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the A.A. Grapevine) and the General Service Board?
- How can the business term “custodial oversight” apply to the trustees’ relationship to the two corporate service entities?
- Does my home group subscribe to G.S.O.’s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? The A.A.Grapevine? Do I?

## Area Calendar

August	NYS Informational Workshop	Latham	August 19-21
September	Election Assembly	Eastern Cluster (District 18 Host)	September 10
October	Area Assembly	Central Cluster (District 14 Host)	October 15
November	HMB Convention	Hudson Valley Cluster (Fishkill)	November 4-6
	Fellowship Day	Western (TBA)	November 20

**The deadline for the September newsletter is August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011.** Please send submissions to [area48newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area48newsletter@gmail.com). Don't forget that the Area Election Assembly is coming up in September. If you are thinking about standing for a service position, you may want to send a service resume in.

-Area 48 Newsletter Editor

**August 5-7, 2011 HVYPAA Burning Desire Bonfire IV.** Rip Van Winkle Campground, 149 Blue Mountain Rd., Saugerties, NY, 12477. Pre-registration \$15. \$14 a night to camp. \$7 for day passes. For directions and a full list of amenities see the campground website [ripvanwinklecampgrounds.com](http://ripvanwinklecampgrounds.com). For more information contact Robert (845)853-5753, Kelly (845)633-1248, Ellie (845)616-4770, or Mike (845)901-7893.

**August 6<sup>th</sup> 12:00-7:00 p.m. Yonder Hill Group's Annual Picnic** Ushers Park on Route 9L - in Lake George - pavilion closest to the Lake. Hot dogs, hamburgers, etc. & bring a dish to share. AA meeting at 3pm.

**August 16, 2011 7:00 p.m.** The Capital District Central Office (CDCO) asks all groups interested in participating in 12th Step work to attend our monthly business meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM in Rooms 128-130 of the Schuyler Inn, 575 Broadway in Menands. Groups sending representatives will have a voice in how CDCO carries A.A.'s message of hope to the suffering alcoholic. Volunteers are especially needed to answer phones in the office or at home overnight, and to get on the 12th Step lists.

**October 22, 2011 Serenity of the Catskills in the City of the Hills Banquet.** 5pm meet & greet. 6 pm dinner. 7 pm speaker. Northeast Regional Trustee. Holiday Inn. 5206 State Highway 23, Oneonta, NY. Rob B (607)441-3004.

**Ongoing in Area 48 EACYPAA Committee Needs You** Meetings are held Wednesdays at 8:30 pm after the Saratoga YP meeting at 36 Phila Street (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. We are looking for supportive people with all levels of service or for those who are interested in increasing the involvement of YPAA in Area 48 **Contacts:** Maria (518)441-5511; Will (419)215-2907; Tori (518)701-5070, or e-mail [saratogaeacypaabid@gmail.com](mailto:saratogaeacypaabid@gmail.com).

August 1, 2011

## Area Delegate Report

Dear Members of Area 48...

There has not been much activity since my last article a couple of weeks ago. At the Northeast Regional Forum (NERF), I had the opportunity to do a presentation. I would like to take the opportunity this month to share it with you. My best wishes that you are all having a safe, sober and relaxing summer.

*Hello ¡Hola! Bon Jour*

When I started thinking about "How I Hope to Repay My Debt to Alcoholics Anonymous," my first thoughts were drawn to the monetary aspects of the topic. The words "repay" and "debt" seem to steer me in that direction. What is amazing is that after years of recovery, I am still drawn to the non-spiritual side of things. After further reflection and discussion with others, I came somewhat quickly to the realization that in fact, a lot has changed in my thoughts and attitudes.

My home group in early recovery gave me the opportunity to make coffee. While I often refer to it as my first resentment in AA because I could not understand why I need to make coffee for all of you since I did not drink it, and to say the least, things still revolved around me, it was the first sense of belonging I had felt in a long time. That same group instilled early on our primary purpose of carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous. As the Big Books tells us "nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics." An obvious and direct benefit from this is that in trying to help others, we become less selfish – thus many of our problems and excuses for drinking disappear. A very real, but not so obvious benefit is a much greater awareness of and insight into our selves.

As a member of a different home group, I was elected as their Group Service Representative. I did not realize at the time, but the sense of trust that they gave to me in representing the group was a huge lift in the sense of trust I was given. I began to experience a healthy sense of self-respect for myself versus being filled with egotism.

Almost six years ago now, I was given the opportunity to help overcome some apathy or lack of interest in our Area. The opportunity came in the form of putting together and editing our Area's newsletter. I thought this was a chance to twelfth-step some of those A.A. members who still suffer; to encourage more members to get involved in service; and thus to help us overcome some of the shortcomings within AA as a whole. I do not believe that I was very successful at any of these things; however, as with all of my individual Twelfth Step work, I have been helped more than those that I have tried to help.

My sponsor is right about always being able to find ways to repay our debt to Alcoholics Anonymous. Sometimes we do not have to look for them; they are just given to us. As a DCM and an Area Chairperson, when I visited groups and Districts, I was often asked to talk about the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition. I have come to love the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, not only for the message of hope it gave, but also that it is a concrete example of how members help carry the message to those still suffering. Money from the basket has gone over the years to translating the Big Book into more than 61 languages. When I see a translated Big Book, I am continually drawn to the fact that in each translation, you can always find where the fourth step inventory is and where "How it Works" is. This is an example of the Language of the Heart. The message of our fellowship is reaching those I would have never imagined. And that is just one aspect of where our basket money goes.

Repaying my debt to Alcoholics Anonymous allows me to stay in recovery and stay active in Alcoholics Anonymous. Being active in Alcoholics Anonymous is not just about being active in service, but all aspects of the program. I am reminded that we have one level of membership, and it is member.

In Dr. Bob's story, he reflects that he spent a great deal of time passing on what he learned to others who wanted and needed it badly. He did it for four reasons:

1. *Sense of duty*
2. *It is a pleasure*
3. *Because in so doing I am paying my debt to the man who took time to pass it on to me.*
4. *Because every time I do it I take out a little more insurance for myself against a slip.*

I can very much identify with those thoughts. I personally know that I have a huge debt to Alcoholics Anonymous, and paradoxically, the longer I stay sober, the bigger the debt I owe. Repayment is ongoing.

Judging from my past, when I have done so little and received so much, I know I must continue to be involved in Alcoholics Anonymous. Through involvement, I have discovered the joy of helping others. I have found real reliance on God, and I have found freedom and happiness.

Thank you for the opportunity to share.

In love and service,

Deb D.

Panel 60 Area 48 - Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire (Northeast New York) Delegate

August 1, 2011

## Area Chair Report

Dear Fellow Members,

With it being summer the service schedule for Area 48 is light with State wide events taking over. The next big event will be the NYS Informational Workshop hosted by HMB Area 48, August 19- 21<sup>st</sup>. This is an event that if you plan on attending you should register sooner rather than later.

Our next event will be the Election Assembly scheduled for Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be time to elect our Panel 62 Officers and Committee Chair and Alternates. These individuals will be elected by the gathered Assembly. Those positions available will be Area Chair / Alt. Delegate. This service job is a 4 year commitment because you serve 2 years both for Area Chair & Area Delegate. We will also vote an Alternate Chair, Area Secretary and Treasurer. All these positions follow the traditional rotation of 2 years. Also being selected this day will be the Committee Chairs and their Alternates. This procedure will be done by the process of the Committees meeting and selected by their respective members.

In Love & Service, Keith D Panel 60 Area 48 Chair/ Alt. Delegate

## Area Alternate Chair Report

Only a few weeks until the New York State Informational Workshop, hosted by our Area this year! Cutoff for weekend registration and commuter/plus lunch registration is August 10, 2011. After that only on-site registration will be available. It promises to be a good weekend. We have confirmation that our GSO speaker for the Saturday night meeting will be Mary C who as of July 2011 rotates from the CPC assignment at GSO and onto the PI desk. We will benefit from the wealth of knowledge and experience she has in these two assignments. A few members have asked, "Who should attend this?" It is a valuable workshop for any AA member to attend. It is a working weekend, with lots of panels and workshops, as well as roundtables, with input from throughout the State. Hope to see you there!

Exciting news: the Saratoga Young People in AA bid committee was awarded the bid to host the EACYPAA X conference in the spring of 2012! The bid committee was dissolved and the EACYPAA X host committee has been formed. So far 2012 is shaping up to be "Huge" for our Area! NERAASA, which is a regional conference, and the New York State Convention will be hosted by our Area. Both will be held in Albany NY. EACYPAA X encompasses all of the states east of the Mississippi River. 2012 will be the "triple crown of AA" for our Area!

Each of these events will also be great opportunity for service.

Respectfully submitted

Pat L

Area 48 Alternate Chair

August 1, 2011

## Area Treatment Chair Report

Hi all:

It was a very exciting and exhausting month to say the least.

I spoke at Saint Mary's Rehab Facility on July 19th. I went up and spoke at Tully Hill Rehab Center in Tully, NY on July 22nd. Tully Hill, for those of you who don't know, is about 30 miles south of Syracuse. It was over 350 miles round trip from my house. I spoke to about 120 patients there. I was well-accepted and brought back two BTG names. I also brought back a speeding ticket. Great souvenirs. LOL.

I attended the NY State Convention at Tarrytown. Another great time mingling with friends from all over the State and attending some fabulous workshops. I always come away from these functions with a head full of knowledge. I wish I could say my batteries charged, but age is catching me fast. My spirituality batteries couldn't be fuller though. I want to thank everyone for giving me this opportunity to serve you.

I will be rotating out in January, and even though I would love to continue on, my hips and legs won't give me permission. Besides, after 29 years of service, I think it's time to walk away for good and for you young people to stop being like sponges (absorbing everything only) and give back with some new and crisp ideas. I will still be in the background if anyone wants me for anything. I may not know it all but I might be able to help.

Also on that note, I would like to nominate Jetta I. for the Area Treatment Chair position. I have worked closely with Jetta over the past months, as well as he with me. There has never been anything that I asked of him that he didn't fulfill. He has been the Treatment Chair for well over a year in District I. Has handled around 8 Treatment meetings and is an active member in the Young People's movement. He will truly be an asset to the HMB Area. Please get behind him and give him all your support.

I personally will be at the September election assembly, so, I will congratulate the new officers and committee members in advance. Also, keep up the good work with the reports.

Love in service-Bill C.

## Area YPAA Report

Hello my fellow AA's,

I would like to formally introduce myself and the EACYPAA X Host committee. We need your fellowship and support to put on this amazing conference in the spring of 2012. Although it seems far away, much is needed to put on such a task and time will fly by and before you know it spring will be here.

I am the Host Committee's Service Liaison so it is my committee's task to help inspire the service spirit and recruit some help in this conference, but also as a recovered Alcoholic I understand the great necessity for my own sobriety to be of service to other Alcoholics and AA as a whole. The EACYPAA X Host committee understands this as well. So we are all very willing to be of service where we are needed as well. So if we as a committee can help your group, convention, or district in some upcoming events please let me know.

Yours in love and Service,

Jetta I EACYPAA Service Liaison

August 1, 2011

# SMART – ATTRACTIVE – YOUNG WELL-LIKED – OPTIMISTIC DEAD


**A few words that describe 9,000 teenagers who drank and drove last year**

This poster was circulating in the rooms of AA a while back. Tragic? Yes! Totally preventable? Sadly, No! Much is being done but **much more needs to be done** to lessen this tragedy. **And where does AA fit in?**

**Each District Committee** on Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) **can do simple things.**

**That are effective! That work!** Here are **two suggestions** from Area CPC folks. **Please consider them:**

The new school year is not far off; **school guidance counselors** will soon be preparing for students' return.

 **So why not...**

**Send a letter to the Guidance Counselors' Office of every junior high & high school in your District** enclosing copies of your District's AA **meeting list** and AA '**young peoples**' literature especially the pamphlet "**A Message to Teenagers**" **[as many of these as you need are FREE from GSO!]**. And how about the great new, multi-color **Young People's Poster** [available for **just \$1** from GSO!] – and put your District's **hotline** phone number & message in space provided on the poster! **Better yet,** call & make an appointment to **meet** the Guidance Counselors **at the school;** and **bring the letter, literature and poster with you!**

Some Districts already do this but when is the last time your District did it? **Isn't now a really good time?**

**Sample letters** to School Guidance offices are available in GSO's CPC Workbook [publication M-41] or **we'll e-mail them to you. Just ask.** Without wishing to intrude into your District's CPC efforts, Area CPC folks can even prepare these letters **pre-addressed** to each school in your District for you to use if helpful. [See HMB Area 48 CPC contact information below]

 **And why not...**

**Work to get an 'AA Notice' on every school's web-site in your District?**

**Every school** - primary, secondary, middle school, jr. high and high school and college **has a web-site.**

The '**AA Notice**' could be as simple as this: [similar to back-side of the 'Doctors Card' in last month's Newsletter]

***Think you may be having a problem with alcohol? Help is available if you want it. Did you know:***

***Alcoholics Anonymous maintains a 24 hour per day, 7 days per week, telephone 'Hotline' providing AA meeting locations, days and times and providing an opportunity for anyone struggling with alcohol to talk directly and anonymously with a recovering sober member of AA.***

***The Telephone Hotline Number is \_\_\_\_\_. It's there for you. Why not use it?***

Can Area 48 CPC folks help? call Brenda O. 315 337 7746 or John D. 518 494 7432 or email [hmb48cpc@sprynet.com](mailto:hmb48cpc@sprynet.com)

AREA 48 NEWSLETTER

August 1, 2011

# Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 2012 Proposed Budget May 2011

**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 disbursed when requested, and only when an accounting of the previous allocation has been made. Eligible expenses include mileage at \$0.35 per mile, tolls, postage, supplies, telephone, printing, copies and other. Receipts and mileage details are required.

The funded amount for various events is based on hotel costs, registration costs, and mileage to the 2011 event and estimated costs to the 2012 event. 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. Allocations are for the specific event only and cannot be utilized for another event. **As always, those funded are asked to share expenses whenever possible.**

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>Position Total</u>	<u>Expense Allocation</u>	<u>NERAASA-Albany</u>	<u>NERF (Not Held in 2012)</u>	<u>NYS Convention - HMB</u>	<u>NYSIW-Western</u>	<u>HMB CONV (Not Held in 2012)</u>
<b>Area Officer Allocations:</b>							
Area Delegate	\$ 4,750.00	\$ 4,750.00		Event costs are included in allocation			
Area Chairperson	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00		Event costs are included in allocation			
Alternate Area Chairperson	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 600.00	\$350.00		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Secretary	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Alternate Treasurer	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00		\$300.00		\$0.00
Registrar/Alt. Secretary	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 800.00	\$350.00		\$300.00		\$0.00
Treasurer	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 800.00	\$350.00		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
<b>Committee Chairs and Others Allocations:</b>							
TF Committee Chair	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 500.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
CF Committee Chair	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 500.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
BTG Committee Chair	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 500.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
PI Committee Chair	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
CPC Committee Chair	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
SN Committee Chair	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Grapevine Chair	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Archivist	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Newsletter Editor	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Website Committee Chair	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 400.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
HMB Convention Chair	\$ -	\$ -					
<b>Sub-Totals</b>	<b>\$ 29,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 15,800.00</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,900.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Other Expenses**

GSO Conference Contribution	\$ 2,000.00
Newsletter Printing	\$ 2,500.00
Newsletter Postage	\$ 3,500.00
Area Inventory Day	\$ 450.00
Day of Sharing/Delegates Day	\$ 450.00
Area Assemblies (2)	\$ 900.00
Fellowship Days (4)	\$ 1,800.00
Insurance Costs	\$ 500.00
Website Expenses	\$ 400.00
Grapevine Materials, AA Service Manuals (Seed Money)	\$ 400.00
HMB Service Manual Updates	\$ 200.00
HMB Meeting Books for Committee Chairs	\$ 400.00
HMB Convention 2012 (Seed Money)	\$ -
NYS Info Workshop 2012 (Seed Money)	\$ -

Allocations to clusters for Area functions will be \$450 per function. Amount allocated should be sufficient to cover event costs— if clusters need assistance staying within budget, they should contact the Alternate Area Chair and/or seek guidance from experienced members. If the cost of the event should exceed the amount allocated, plus the 7th Tradition contributions, Districts within the host Cluster should arrange to divide costs over the allocated amount. The reimbursement of expenses exceeding the allocated amount will be considered by the Finance Committee if requested. Any 7th Tradition donations collected in excess of the expenses shall be returned to the Area. There are two Area Assemblies in even-numbered years (May and October). There are three Area Assemblies in odd-number years including the Area Election Assembly held in September.

[www.ny-aa.org](http://www.ny-aa.org) and [www.aahmbny.org](http://www.aahmbny.org)

Committees receiving HMB Meeting Schedules are PI, CPC, TF, BTG, and SN.

There is no HMB Convention in 2012. HMB hosts the NYS Convention in July 2012

The 2012 NYS Informational Workshop will be hosted by Western New York

August 1, 2011

# Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 2012 Proposed Budget May 2011

**Other Expenses (cont)**

3000 Additional HMB Meeting Schedule Books (Seed Money)	\$ 1,000.00
HMB Corrections Connection Workshop	\$ 300.00
Mail Box Service	\$ 600.00
Computer Costs	\$ 400.00
Archive Storage Fees	\$ 800.00
Tax Preparation	\$ 600.00
Prior Year Expenses	\$ 500.00
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,700.00</b>

\$1,000.00 is allocated as seed money for additional HMB meeting books to fulfill orders received after approved deadline; books are to be distributed as needed by the Alternate Area Treasurer. HMB Area will pay cost of shipping and recover the cost of the schedules if all books are sold. (Estimated at \$900.00)

**Total Expenses: \$ 47,150.00**

**Income:**

HMB 2011 Convention (Seed Money Returned)	\$ 2,000.00
HMB 2011 Convention (Overage)	-
NYSIW (Seed Money Returned)	\$ -
Grapevine Materials, AA Service Manuals (Seed Money Returned)	\$ 400.00
Projected Group Contributions	\$ 33,850.00
Estimated Checkbook Carryover on 1/1/12	\$ 10,000.00
Extra HMB Meeting Books (Seed Money Returned)	\$ 900.00
<b>Total Income Needed:</b>	<b>\$ 47,150.00</b>

**Misc Information:**

Prudent Reserve	\$ 7,000.00
Mileage Rate	\$ 0.35

**Notes:**

The Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (NERAASA) is an 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 2012 event will be held in Albany, NY.

Additional items may be funded at the discretion of the HMB Finance Committee.

## District and Group Treasurers

### Send donations to these addresses:

HMB AREA ASSOCIATON  
RTE. 30, #114  
118 POLAR PLAZA  
AMSTERDAM, NY 12010

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE  
PO BOX 459  
GRAND CENTRAL STATION  
NEW YORK, NY 10163



August 1, 2011

<b>HMB Area 48 Monthly Treasury Report July 2011</b>	
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$6,931.65</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Area Contributions	\$1,717.15
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,717.15</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Alternate Chairperson	\$234.18
Treasurer	\$125.93
NYS Convention	\$371.91
Mail Box Service	\$46.47
Website	\$23.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$801.49</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$915.66</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$7,847.31</b>
Prudent Reserve	-\$7,000.00
<b>Available Funds</b>	<b>\$847.31</b>

Prepared by Chris S  
[Treasurer@aaahmbny.org](mailto:Treasurer@aaahmbny.org)

7/30/2011

August 1, 2011

## Service Resumes

I respectfully make myself available for the position of HMB Area Chairperson/Alternate delegate. My sobriety date is January 8, 1981, and I have had a home group and a sponsor throughout my sobriety. My home group is the Original Colonie Group. I have a service sponsor. I have held every position in my home group over the years. After serving as GSR of my group, I was elected DCM of District I. As Area 48's first Area Treatment Chair, I traveled throughout the entire Area visiting treatment facilities and I currently bring a meeting into the Capital District Psychiatric Center weekly. I have been involved in Corrections facilities, Treatment facilities, and CPC and PI events. In 2006 I became District I Special Needs chair and was elected Area Special Needs Chair and served in that position until January 2010. At that time I became Area 48 Alternate Chairperson serving until the present. In this position as Functions chair I am chairperson of the NYS Informational Workshop 2011 and I support districts in scheduling Fellowship Days and Assemblies, as well as facilitating DCM workshops at Fellowship Days. I have served as Chairperson of two HMB Area Conventions as well as the NYSIW 2011. I sponsor women in recovery and also am a service sponsor. I am most grateful for the spiritual benefits of doing service in HMB Area 48.

Respectfully submitted on May 15, 2011

Pat L

It is an honor and a privilege to make myself available for the position of HMB Alternate Area Chairperson. My home group is the East Greenbush Caring and Sharing Group. My sobriety date is 12/10/2001. Group and District Activities: 2001: Coffee maker – Castleton Step Group. 2001-2002: Alternate GSR - East Greenbush Caring & Sharing Group. 2002-2003: Nassau Tuesday Night Step Group Treasurer. 2003-2006: GSR - East Greenbush Caring & Sharing Group/Backup coffee maker. 2003-2004: District 18 Treasurer. 2005-2006: Alternate DCM - District 18. 2007-2008: DCM - District 18. 2009-2010: Treatment Chair - District 18. Additionally, I have always helped where needed in the groups I regularly attend and with District events. HMB Area 48 Activities: 2008 HMB Convention Committee Registration Co-Chair. 2009-2011 HMB Alternate Area Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair. 2010 Chaired ad-hoc Area committee to solicit bids for 2011-2013 HMB Meeting Schedule printing. 2012 NYS Convention Co-Chair. I have participated in numerous workshops and panels at HMB events on topics including the Traditions, the Steps, and Finance. I will be a panel participant at the 2011 NYS Convention. I have a sponsor and a service sponsor and sponsor other men. I am grateful to have served Alcoholics Anonymous thus far and hope to continue to be able to do so. Service has brought a dimension to my recovery that I never could have imagined.

Yours in service,

Tad J.

I understand that the position of area secretary will be available next year and I would like to present myself as a candidate. I had my last drink and went to my first AA meeting on July 26, 1991. I got my first GSR commitment at about 6 months. I moved quite a bit in early recovery and have served as GSR in 6 different districts in 3 states. I served as a GSR and then secretary for District 15 for several years. For the last two years I have been the treasurer of District 7. I am also secretary for the Convention Committee, and on our district CPC/PI committee. I was taught early that you are not really in AA unless you are doing service. One of the reasons that I have sought out district and area level service opportunities is because that's where I find the people who are working the traditions and steps in their lives. It helps my recovery to help AA. I also want to make sure that AA is there for the next person who needs it. Also, I type really fast and have my own laptop. If it's the group's conscience that I would be of use as the area secretary, I would be happy to serve.

Sincerely,

Thea H.

August 1, 2011

## Proposals for October Assembly

Several years ago, we voted to have the “Corrections Connection” every year in our Area. It has been a successful venture, but attendance has gone down each year. Southeast New York (SENY) will be hosting their “Corrections Connection” in the Spring of 2012, and suggested we alternate hosting it with them. The proposal is to have the Corrections Connection in our Area every other year, and participate in SENY’s the year they have it.

-Pat L

Propose to amend the name of the Special Needs Committee to Special Needs/Accessibility Committee to better address the needs of districts groups and individuals in our Area. This reflects the name change GSO has instituted as well as many of the other Areas.

-Pat L

The Ad Hoc Functions Committee was asked by the Area Chairperson to review how the Area organizes events and to make any updates and clarifications so that the next HMB Service manual would properly reflect what is being done in the Clusters. These issues were also discussed at the DCM meetings in March and June 2011.

First issue to consider: Should we continue the present policy of the May and October voting assemblies to be held on Sundays, and the other functions to be scheduled on Saturdays? Consensus was that we should follow this plan as it is working well.

Second issue: Presently we have rotated the non-assembly days within the clusters. Could we decide to have one ideal central location per cluster? One that meets the needs of the Area, and is also available for approximately \$100 for the day? CONSENSUS: that the districts within the cluster decide how to rotate the events within the clusters: the host district within the cluster will take responsibility for choosing a topic and panelists for a workshop to be held at the Fellowship Days.

Third issue: Identify ways to contain the remaining costs over and above the “rent” to hold the costs within the \$400 the Area budgets for the 1 day events. CONSENSUS: that the clusters/districts find a location that can be rented for approximately \$100 for the day, and hold the breakfast/lunch/beverage costs within the remaining \$300. (Some suggestions were to reduce the breakfast foods served, and simplify the lunch offerings.)

Fourth issue: Should we clarify that the districts within the host cluster can decide how to rotate responsibilities when they host an Area one day event? (Covered in issues 2 and 3)

Fifth issue: How can we best maximize the time allocated for each event, so that we can cover all the business scheduled? Do we need a longer time frame, or can we do it within the 9-3 time frame by making some adjustments? CONSENSUS: not to make the day longer. Reduce the meet and greet time to ½ hour, and reduce the lunch time to 45 minutes. This allows an additional 45 minutes for Area business, workshops, committee meetings.

Respectfully submitted

Pat L. Area 48 Alternate Chair/Functions Chair

August 1, 2011

**Proposal to change voting at Assemblies to include District Service Committee Chairs:**

Whereas: Area 48 expects each District to elect/appoint one Service Committee Chair parallel to the Service Committees in the Area, (ie: TFC, CFC, BTG, PI, SNC, GvC, CPC.) and Whereas: Area 48 expects each of these District Service Committee Chairs to attend the Area events, especially the NYS Informational Workshop, and NERAASA, And Whereas: Each of these Service Committee Chairs, with their Committees are doing the grassroots work needed to help the next suffering Alcoholic for the Area, District and A.A.'s primary Purpose, And Whereas: Only the Area Service Committee Chairs are allowed to vote at our Assemblies, I propose that: Each District Service Committee Chair be given the Right to Participation and the Right to Voice in the Area General Service Assemblies, and Area Committee Meetings with a recognized vote in the Area Assembly meetings, just as the GSRs are allowed.

Comments on the proposal:

Currently many of the District Service Committees are not structured, and often times not filled and not functioning. We, as an Area should encourage this work by allowing these Trusted Servants the Right to Vote and participate. They currently have no vote in our Assemblies. If someone serves in this capacity, policy is being set for their service work, and they have no right to vote on it. This is contrary to our 4th Concept: "At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional "Right of Participation," allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge."

Service at the Grassroots level through this Committee work in Area 48 has been long overshadowed by event planning and functions such as Conventions. Service Committee work is neglected as the result. We seem to cater to the A.A. members who have already found the solution, rather than to those whom are still in need of our help. More time and focus should be put into this Service work, and less focus on picnics, parties and dances, and social events for fellowshiping. Our Assemblies often have more Past Delegates at the microphone, than new GSRs and people we need to step into Service. The Right to Participation is neglected when those who Served in the Past won't step aside. It may be better to listen to what someone has to say who has been doing the grassroots A.A. work lately, than from those who may have never done it at all, or some years ago in the past. In other Areas, some of these Service jobs are being done by Central Offices and Intergroups. If our Area does not do the work, an actual Service void will necessitate the creation of Intergroups and Central Offices to fill these jobs in our Area. The alternative is that the void will not be filled, and the newcomer suffers. Allowing more participation in our Area to the Service Committees to function will allow for more of the work to be done in our Area.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin B.

TFC Dutchess County A.A.

treatment@dutchessaa.org

(845)240-4272

**Interested in NERAASA 2012 service?**

**Please contact the following:**

REGISTRATION

Tammie E. [tamster1962@roadrunner.com](mailto:tamster1962@roadrunner.com)

Don S. [dstrachan@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dstrachan@twcny.rr.com)

HOSPITALITY

Smoking Faye F. [fallonfaye@yahoo.com](mailto:fallonfaye@yahoo.com)

Non-smoking Fred F. [neraasa2012@gmail.com](mailto:neraasa2012@gmail.com)

GREETERS

Keith D. & Debbie D [neraasa2012greeters@hvc.rr.com](mailto:neraasa2012greeters@hvc.rr.com)

August 1, 2011

**32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL NEWYORK STATE INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP**

August 19, 20, 21, 2011

Carondelet Hospitality Center

385 Watervliet Shaker Road

Latham, NY, 12110

**“We are responsible for A.A.’s future: let it begin with us”**

Panels, Workshops, Roundtables: P.I., CPC, Treatment, Corrections, Special Needs

Displays: Archives, Grapevine, Literature

Speaker meetings, Ask-it basket, Lots of coffee and fellowship; hospitality room

Friday August 19, 2011 4:00 PM ---- Sunday August 21, 2011 12:00

Full Weekend accommodations \$175.00. Includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals (single occupancy only) and registration. Registration only \$15.00; no lodging or meals. Add \$8.50 for Saturday lunch. Please preregister for full weekend accommodations and registration plus Saturday lunch.

Directions: From Northway (I-87) exit 5 onto Watervliet-Shaker Road (Rt 155) go east, crossing Rt. 9 and Old Loudon Rd. Continue straight about 1.3 mi.. on left is St Joseph’s Provincial House Carondelet Hospitality Center. Turn in and proceed to farthest parking lot and follow signs “HMB/NYSIW”

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Onsite: \$20.00 no meals

Weekend lodging and 5 meals and registration: \$175.00

Commuter Special: \$15 registration plus \$8.50 for Saturday lunch

Registration cut-off: August 10, 2011

**Checks payable to NYSIW2011. Send to NYSIW, 20 Twiller St., Albany, NY, 12209.**

August 1, 2011

## **HMB AREA ELECTION ASSEMBLY**

September 10, 2011

Blooming Grove Methodist Church

706 Blooming Grove Drive

Defreestville, NY

9:00 AM- 3:00 p.m.

**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:**

West on I-90 to Exit 9, go north on Rt 4 past Home Depot about ¼ mile. The CDTA Park and Ride is on your left.

Contact: Joanne (518)674-1717

***NERAASA 2012~March 2-March 4***

**CROWNE PLAZA Albany [www.cpalbany.com](http://www.cpalbany.com)**

**Group Code: DNI**

**Toll free number: 877-462-4441**

**Rate \$115 plus tax**

**Hosted by HMB-Hudson-Mohawk-Berkshire Area 48**

**Questions: [NERAASA2012@gmail.com](mailto:NERAASA2012@gmail.com)**

August 1, 2011



# HMB 2011 Convention

## November 4-6, 2011

**“We are Responsible for A.A.’s Future  
- Let it Begin With Us”**

### Ramada Conference Center Fishkill

542 Route 9  
Fishkill, NY 12524  
(845) 896-6281

*Single Rooms: \$89 per night (plus taxes) / Double Rooms: \$109 per night (plus taxes)*

*Hotel Reservations should be made directly with the hotel.*

*Please use Group Code "HMB".*

*Hotel Reservations MUST be secured by October 4, 2011*

### Friends • Fellowship • Meetings & Speakers • Panels & Workshops

*Pre-Registrations  
will Receive an Extra  
Free Bottle Thank You  
on Arrival Night!*

**Entertainment Friday & Saturday Night**  
**Saturday Night Banquet**  
**Hosted by the Hudson Valley Cluster**  
**(Districts 3, 7, 11, 15, 16, 17)**

*Pre-Registrations  
will Receive an Extra  
Free Bottle Thank You  
on Arrival Night!*

For More Information: Lori W. (518)397-1985/ Deb D. (845)331-4213

### Convention Registration Form

**One Person Per Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Years In Program

\_\_\_\_\_ A. A. \_\_\_\_\_ Al Anon \_\_\_\_\_ Alateen

Special Needs? (Ex. Hearing...) \_\_\_\_\_

**Detach & Mail with Check or Money Order Payable to:**

HMB Convention 2011  
385 Dewitt Mills Rd.  
Kingston, NY 12401

**Saturday Banquet: \$30.00 per plate**  
**Includes: Salad, Beverage, & Dessert**

**Please Indicate Choice:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Chicken

\_\_\_\_\_ Pork

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

\_\_\_\_\_ Dietary needs?

**Banquet Reservations MUST be Received by:**  
**October 26, 2011**

**\$27.00 Registration Fee**

\_\_\_\_\_ Banquet

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed

**Walk In Fee for Saturday Evening Activities**  
**will be \$12.00 (including Banquet)**

HMB AREA ASSOCIATION  
RTE 30, #114  
118 POLAR PLAZA  
AMSTERDAM, NY 12010