

October 1, 2011

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AA Principles of the Month

Step 10 - Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

Tradition 10 – Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

Concept 10 - Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.

Tenth Tradition Checklist

- Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Freudianism? Catholicism? Judaism? Agnosticism? Jails? Alcohol? Drinking? Psychiatrists? Other alcoholism agencies? Jungianism? Protestantism? Or. . .
- The Federal or state government? Alcohol education? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Theories of alcoholism? Detoxification centers? Missions? Research into alcohol problems? Paraldehyde? Teen-age drinking? Tax-supported alcoholism programs? Al-Anon? Alateen? The alcoholic beverage industry? Nonalcoholics?
- Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"? How?
- What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
- Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
- What would AA be like if this Tradition were not in effect? Where would I be?
- Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
- How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

Concept X Checklist

- Do we understand "authority" and "responsibility" as they relate to group conscience decisions by G.S.R.s, D.C.M.s and our area delegates?
- Why is delegation of "authority" so important to the overall effectiveness of A.A.? Do we use this concept to define the scope of "authority?"

Area Calendar

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

October 8, 2011 Treatment, Bridging the Gap, and Corrections Service Workshop. 2:00-5:00 p.m. Pine Grove Methodist Church, 1580 Central Ave., Albany, NY. Sponsored by Districts 1, 2, 5, 14, 18. Contact Jetta I (518)495-4135 or (jintelisano.1981@gmail.com) for more information.

October 15 & 22, 2011 Traditions Study hosted by EACYPAA X Host Committee. Three speakers present a workshop covering the 12 Traditions using the book "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions." 12:00-5:00 p.m. Light lunch provided at no charge. Bring a 12 and 12 if you have one. 41 Washington St., Saratoga Springs, NY. Information and RSVP contact Mike (traditions@eacypaax.org).

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 for more information.

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 (2nd 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 (saratogaeacypaabid@gmail.com) for more information.

October 28, 2011 District 18 Halloween Dance. Greenbush Reformed Church, 688 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush. 9:00 p.m.- 12:00 a.m. AA meeting at 8:00 p.m. Contact Howard H (518)727-0612 or (xylanthian@aol.com) for more information.

November 28th, 2011 Original Troy Group is celebrating 67 years of AA service. Please join in celebrating this anniversary at St. John's Episcopal Church, 146 1st St., Troy, NY. Food and Fellowship at 6 p.m., speakers at 8 p.m. Bring dishes to share. For more information, contact Eric Q (518)935-8731.

December 24-25, 2011 District 1 Christmas Alkathon. 24 hours of meetings 6:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve to Christmas Day. Meetings held on the even hours. Al-Anon meetings also available. Food, fellowship, and fun! New Covenant Presbyterian Church, 916 Western Ave., Albany, NY, 12203. Donations made out to "Alkathon" can be sent to HMB District 1, P.O. Box 6042, Albany, NY, 12206. Contact David F (518)446-1962 (nyalkathon1@gmail.com).

December 31-January 1, 2012 District 1 New Year's Eve Alkathon 6:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. New Year's Eve through New Year's Day. See information above.

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HMB AREA 48 ASSEMBLY

HOSTED BY HMB DISTRICT 14

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2011

SCOTIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
201 NORTH TEN BROECK STREET
SCOTIA NEW YORK 12302
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
AGENDA: TBD

FROM SCHENECTADY ROUTE 5 WESTBOUND Cross the Western Gateway Bridge and proceed onto Mohawk Avenue. At No.Ten Broeck Street (traffic light at intersection- firehouse on right) proceed two blocks to the church on left.

From Route 5 Eastbound At No. Ten Broeck Street (traffic light at intersection, Stewarts Shop on left) turn left and proceed two blocks to church on left.

Contact Person: Fred C. 368 7375

HMB AREA FELLOWSHIP DAY

HOSTED BY WESTERN CLUSTER DISTRICTS 9 and 12

November 20 2011

The Dorothy Smith Center for Advocacy at RCIL

Resource Center For Independent Living

1607 Genesee Street

Utica New York 13501

9 AM to 3PM

Directions: Thruway to exit 31 left toward I 790/Rt 8/ Rt 12 bear left toward Genesee Street ramp, bear right onto N Genesee Street to 1607 Genesee Street.

Contact: Becky 315 813 0908

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Area Delegate Report

Dear Members,

There is a lot going on in and out of our fellowship.

First, I would so thank you to all who made themselves available for the Area Elected Positions. Your Panel 62 Trusted Servants include:

Delegate – Keith D – from District 7

Area Chair & Alternate Delegate – Pat L – from District 1

Alternate Area Chair – Tad J – from District 18

Area Secretary – Thea H – from District 7

Area Treasurer – Chris S – from District 14

Additionally, we had a number of folks make themselves available for our Area Service Committees positions that are opening up in January. Those who will be servicing us are:

CPC Chair – John D – from District 13

Alternate CPC Chair – Mike S – from District 5

Alternate CPC Chair – Brenda O – from District 12

Treatment Chair – Jetta I – from District 5

Alternate Treatment Chair – Guy K – from District 7

Correction Chair – Don S – from District 19

Alternate Corrections – Gary L – from District 11

Special Needs Chair – Dawn M – from District 9

Alternate Special Needs Chair – Tom B – from District 9

Congratulations to ALL!!

As you are aware, HMB Area 48 was impacted by the recent Hurricane “Irene”. Many members, families and friends have lost homes, personal belongings, and above all peace of mind. Some groups have been displaced. My prayers (and those of countless others) go out to all those who have been affected.

The HMB Area itself was not without impact. As discussed at the September Area Assembly, the storage unit that was housing the Archives incurred at least a foot of flooding. As a result, we ranged from having some items destroyed to items that were not impacted at all. We have removed all items from the storage unit. Those items that were not salvageable were disposed of. The remaining are in the process of being dried, inventoried and placed in temporary storage. Of note, the First Edition Big Books in the possession of HMB survived. As soon as there is a more accurate accounting of what remains, a communication will go out to the fellowship.

Below is a summary of items regarding A.A. as a whole that I thought would be of interest to everyone.

- At the General Service Conference this past year, it was approved to do the 2011 Membership Survey. About 700 groups were randomly selected to participate in the U.S. and Canada. In HMB Area we had 9 groups selected for participation and I would like to extend my thanks to the groups and members. A draft of the pamphlet will be reviewed at the 2012 General Service Conference and hopefully approved for printing.
- The 2010 Conference approve television Public Service Announcement (P.S.A.), “My World”, is getting terrific airplay. As of the end of June, the P.S.A. was ranked in the top 5% of approximately 1,300 active P.S.A.s. As a

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Area Delegate Report (cont.)

reminder to all local Public Information Committees, there is still plenty of time to place the P.S.A, with local and cable TV states.

- The General Service Board continues to welcome A.A. Videos for Young People submissions. The submissions need to originate from within the boundaries of the U.S. and Canada A.A. service structure. The project guidelines are available upon request via email to publicinfo@aa.org or on the www.aa.org website.
- On July 11, the G.S.O. staff rotation took place. Additionally, Tracey O, a new staff member, began her assignment on the Corrections Desk in August.
- A.A.W.S. recently requested an unauthorized source to stop posting *Daily Reflections* online without permission and to refrain from emailing daily excerpts to subscribers because this infringed on the copyright of the book, and they have complied. G.S.O. subsequently received over 800 emails and calls from users of this service protesting the A.A.W.S action. A number of these emails indicated that GSO might post this book and provide the service they received from the website. A.A.W.S. is considering this.
- The new pamphlet titled "A.A. for the Alcoholic with Special Needs" is now available.
- The pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" has been updated and is now available.
- The A.A. Guidelines for Treatment Committees has been update and is available online at www.aa.org
- The 2011 General Service Conference Reports are now available. Please ask your DCMs for a copy if you are interested.
- eBook versions of the Fourth Edition Big Book and the *Twelve steps and Twelve Traditions* will be available for purchase on G.S.O.'s online store in English, Spanish and French in November 2011. Stay tuned for more information as this is rolled out to all members.
- The revised Catalog of Conference-Approved Literature and Other Service Material is now available. For the first time, the catalog will include items from the A.A. Grapevine.

From our General Service Board:

- The Board had received three communications – one letter, a minority report on the selection of Grapevine directors that will be kept on file and two letters related to the Grapevine's link to social media sites. Note, that the links have since been removed from the Grapevines website. The Board recommended that a study be undertaken that addresses the issue of possible "Tradition Violations" by the use of various forms of "Social Media/alignment and utilization of networking/media. The chairman of the Board will appoint a subcommittee.
- It was agreed to forward to the 2012 Conference Committee on Corrections a request that the pamphlet "A Message to Correctional Professionals" be revised to include information on the benefits of the A.A. program of recover to alcoholics both during and after incarceration.
- The Board recommended that the General Service Board establish a subcommittee to examine options for restructuring General Service Board ownership of the Grapevine magazine and for possible abandonment of the current corporate and operating structure. As more information is available of this, I will make it available to members.

From the A.A. Grapevine:

- Two new books are available for purchase. The titles are "Step by Step" and "Emotional Sobriety II".
- The 2012 One Day At A Time calendar and pocket planners are now available for order.
- To order, visit aa.grapevine.org or call (800)-631-6025.

In love and service,

Deb Domack

Panel 60, Area 48 Delegate

October 1, 2011

Area Chair Report

On Saturday September 10th the Area held elections for Panel 62 Officers and Committee Chairs and Alternates. I want to thank everyone who stood for a position whether you made it or not. The point is that people made themselves available for our 3rd Legacy of Service and that is what matters most. It was great to see the turn out for the open positions. I am confident that our Area remains in good hands and hearts. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

I will say that I greatly enjoyed the day as I was not part of the voting process and was completely relaxed (lol). I have been through 3 Area elections and it can be bit stressful but a rewarding experience nonetheless. As most of you know I automatically rotate down to the Delegate's position on January 1st and can hardly wait, but first things first. We still have a couple of Area events plus our Convention to take care of.

To start off with on Saturday October 15th we have the Budget Assembly. The Budget was proposed back in May and had been available for reviewing by everyone via the Newsletter. I sincerely hope that all of our Groups have been taking a look at it and the GSRs will show up so we can get a "true area conscious vote" on it this year. So if you want your voice to be heard make sure that your Group's GSR attends this event. Also on the Agenda that day will be four proposals to be voted on, so the thought here applies. **Those who can vote are: All Area Officers, Committee Chairs or their Alternates, DCMs or their Alternates, GSRs or their Alternates, & last but not least Past Delegates.**

The next event after that will be our very own HMB Convention being held this year at the Ramada Conference Center Fishkill November 4th – 6th. It is our yearly get-together and is a lot of fun for all. Please plan on attending. The registration flyer for the event is in this Newsletter.

The last event will be Fellowship Day out in Utica on Sunday November 20th. This will be the last event for the Panel 60s as they rotate out of their current positions. On that day we will say goodbye and thanks to our Delegate Deb D who will complete her 4 years of serving as Area Chair and then Delegate. In Area 48 when you are elected it is not for the normal 2 year term but 4, as here you automatically rotate to Delegate to finish your term of Service. It is a unique way of doing this but seems to work well for the HMB Area, as I believe our Past Delegates would attest to. Also on that day I will perform the ceremonial handing over of the 'gavel & timer' to the Panel 62 Chair/ Alt. Delegate Pat L. It will be my pleasure to hand off, so to speak, the Area to a wonderful individual who has given so much back to our Fellowship. As I said above "We are in Good Hands." Best of luck Pat and to all of Panel 62. I very much look forward to serving with all of you. It truly is a wonderful privilege for this alcoholic.

In Love & Service,

Keith D

Panel 60 Area Chair/ Alt. Delegate

P.S. "Service is the Secret"☺

Let us reemphasize that this reluctance to fight one another or anybody else is not counted as some special virtue which makes us feel superior to other people. Nor does it mean that the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, now restored as citizens of the world, are going to back away from their individual responsibilities to act as they see the right upon issues of our time. But when it comes to A.A. as a whole, that's quite a different matter. In this respect, we do not enter into public controversy, because we know that our Society will perish if it does. We conceive the survival and spread of Alcoholics Anonymous to be something of far greater importance than the weight we could collectively throw back of any other cause. Since recovery from alcoholism is life itself to us, it is imperative that we preserve in full strength our means of survival.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions (p. 177)

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HMB Area 48 Newsletter

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COOPERATION WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY (CPC) REPORT

Several Items worth mentioning...

- As a result of the September 10th Elections Assembly, the following members will serve Area 48 CPC for two-year terms in 2012 - 2013: John D. [District 13] Chair; Brenda O. [District 12] Alternate Chair; and, Mike S. [District 5] Alternate Chair. The three of us look forward to working with you in the time ahead. Please don't hesitate to tell us how we may be helpful;
- In the August Area 48 Newsletter, we suggested that each District send a **letter to the Guidance Counselors' Office of every junior high school and 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 copies of that pamphlet as you need are **FREE from GSO!**];

We offered Area 48 help to each District in preparing that 'school letters package' including individually pre-addressed letters, envelopes and school website text.

➡ **So far, seven Districts: 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 have asked for that help.**

➡ **If your District is preparing its own schools mailing, bravo to you. However, if your District wants Area 48 help, just let us know. We can and will do it - by preparing the complete set of letters for your District to issue. Just let us know at hmb48cpc@sprynet.com or by calling John D. at 518 494 7432.**

- At the **New York State Informational Workshop held in Latham on 8/19-8/21**, we learned of some really good work other Areas have underway with medical schools and nursing schools. We are now talking with Area 49 [SENY] about this. Look for more to come on this important subject;
- At invitation of several Districts, we have had presentations/discussions on CPC. Some others are being scheduled. These discussions have been rewarding to the Area and we believe to the Districts. We would love to share about CPC at one of your District meetings. Please, just let us know; and,
- Lastly, we've been e-mailing Area 48 CPC information to District CPC Chairs and to other members who ask for it. If you're not getting this information and want it, again, please just let us know.

We look forward to being with you at HMB Area 48's Assembly Saturday October 15.

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Area 48 Election Assembly

DRAFT MINUTES

Saturday, September 10, 2011 Blooming Grove Reformed Church, Defreestville, NY

Agenda **attached**.

Attendance: 58 (Sign-in sheet **attached**.)

Keith D., Area Chair, called meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. General announcements, order of today's program. Turned over meeting to Deb D., Area Delegate.

Elections for Panel 62 (2012-13) Area 48 Officers

Deb asked for first-time Area event attendees and distributed orientation packets. Deb reviewed the Third Legacy procedures, from the A.A. Service Manual, for electing the four Area officers – Area Chair, Area Alternate Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Those eligible to vote at today's Election Assembly are: past delegates; Area officers; Area service committee chairs, GSRs (or their alternates); and DCMs (or their alternates). Those ineligible to vote were asked to help collect and tally ballots during the voting.

Nominations for Area Chair

Pat L. (nominated by Tammie E./Dave S.) – accepted by nominee

Wally M. (nominated by Mike S./Maria E.) – accepted by nominee

Pat L. and Wally M. presented qualifications, past & current service positions. Paper ballots distributed and collected, with the following results -- Pat L.: 45; Wally M.: 7. Two-thirds majority achieved; Pat L. elected Area Chair.

Nominations for Area Alternate Chair

Tad J. (nominated by William T./Dave S.) – accepted by nominee

Mike S. (nominated by Jetta I./Eric) – accepted by nominee

Tad J. and Mike S. presented qualifications, past & present service positions etc. Paper ballots distributed and collected, with the following results – Tad J.: 41; Mike S.: 11. Two-thirds majority achieved; Tad J. elected Area Alternate Chair.

Nominations for Secretary

Thea H. (nominated by Kevin B./Bill G.) – accepted by nominee.

There being only one nomination, a single vote was cast by William T., Area Secretary. Thea H. elected Area Secretary.

Nominations for Treasurer

Chris S. (nominated by Keith D./Dave S.) – accepted by nominee.

There being only one nomination, a single vote was cast by William T., Area Secretary. Chris S. elected Area Secretary.

Area Officers for Panel 62 (2012-13) presented to Assembly: Keith D., Area Delegate; Pat L., Area Chair; Tad J., Alternate Area Chair; Thea H., Area Secretary; and Chris S., Area Treasurer.

Selection for the following Panel 62 (2012-13) Committee Chairs & Alternates:

Cooperation with the Professional Community; Corrections; Special Needs; and Treatment.

Keith D., Area Chair, asked that the above committees convene and select a chair for the 2012-13 term. DCMs will meet in the back room, convened by Pat L., Alternate Area Chair.

Assembly reconvened at 11:35 a.m. Keith D. announced the following chairs/alternate chairs, to take office starting Jan. 1, 2012, Panel 62.

Cooperation with the Professional Committee Chair: John D.; Alternate Chairs: Brenda O., Mike S.,

Corrections Committee Chair: Don S.; Alternate Chair: Garry

Special Needs Committee Chair: Dawn M.; Alternate Chair: Tom B.

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Area 48 Election Assembly

DRAFT MINUTES (cont.)

Treatment Committee Chair: Jetta I.; Alternate Chair: Guy K.

Deb D., Area Delegate, reported that the four NYS delegates and four Area chairs met in Tarrytown to discuss the future of the state convention. **Background:** The 2009 state convention lost \$12,000 (a \$3,000 loss to each Area); the P&L for the 2011 State Convention is not in yet – it may or may not break even. There was no Convention in 2010. Participation has been declining, and the chairs and delegates recommend that the New York State convention be discontinued starting in 2013. The individual Areas are considering the question. It was noted that increased meetings and conventions at the Area, District, regional and ICYPAA levels, and the economy, have contributed to the lower participation. Area 50 (Western New York) has already voted to not participate in future conventions.

Motion made and seconded (Dave S./Mike S.): “Area 48 will no longer support a state convention after 2012.”

Discussion: If the NYS Convention were eliminated, Area and State guidelines would have to be updated; the Area 48 budget from 2013 would have to be adjusted. A friendly amendment was made to put the motion before the Assembly on October 15, 2011, and to include language to update the guidelines. The amended motion was approved unanimously.

Wally M. announced that the Eastern Area Convention of Young People in AA (**EACYPAA X**) is scheduled for March 30 – April 1, 2012 in Saratoga Springs. Registration information can be found at www.EACYPAA10.org or www.EACYPAAAX.org Pre-registration is \$15 and goes to \$20 after Jan. 1, 2012

Joan R. announced that **NERAASA 2012** is scheduled for March 2-4, 2012 in Albany, NY. Registration form **attached** and at <http://www.neraasa2012.org>

Area Business Meeting

Area Delegate Report Deb D., Area Delegate, reported that the General Service Office 2011 Membership survey has been approved; the results of the survey will be published next year after the General Service Conference approved the pamphlet proof. Last year's new Public Service Announcement, “My World,” has been getting good airplay, in the top five percent of 1,300 PSAs. The General Service Office has made its biannual rotation of the service staff. Tracy O., the newest staff member, has recently begun work at GSO, starting on the Corrections Desk. A.A. World Service is considering a daily e-mail distribution of the *Daily Reflections*. E-book versions of the Big Book and the 12 & 12 are coming out soon, possibly in the November 2011 timeframe. The HMB Area 48 Archives were damaged by recent flooding at their storage site in Catskill, NY. Everything has been removed from the storage unit; boxes of old Temperance literature had to be thrown out, as well as archived issues of *The Grapevine*. There was no insurance. Other archives are now being dried out and inventoried.

Area Chair Report (attached) Keith D, Area Chair, reminded the Assembly of the issues to be voted on at the October 15, 2011 Assembly (flyer **attached**), including the 2012 budget; future participation in the State Convention; plus several proposals. The last event of the year is a Fellowship Day on Sunday, November 20, 2011 in Utica, NY (flyer **attached**). The day will include a DCM meeting and Area business meeting.

Alternate Area Chair Report (attached) Pat L., Alternate Area Chair, presented her report, highlights of which include a report on the Aug. 19-21 New York State Informational Workshop in Latham. Also included is a list of tentative dates of Area 48 events in 2012 (**attached**).

Secretary Report William T., Area Secretary, reported that the minutes of both the June 18, 2011 Fellowship Day and today's Election Assembly will be presented for the Assembly's review and approval at the October 15, 2011 Assembly.

Alternate Secretary Report (attached) Kevin B., Alternate Secretary asked members to please send changes in group/meeting information to Area48registrar@gmail.com. He is putting together a template for an Area Confidential Directory for distribution at the October 15 Assembly. Kevin B. is also program chair for the HMB Convention (Nov. 4-6, 2011, Fishkill) He is looking for volunteer from each of the 18 Districts to participate in panels. Please e-mail him at treatment@dutchessaa.org

Treasurer Report (attached) Chris S., Area Treasurer, presented the attached monthly treasury report for August 2011, plus the monthly transaction report. Motion (Rob B./Tom B.) to accept Treasurer report as read, approved unanimously.

Alternate Treasurer Report Tad J., Alternate Treasurer, announced the distribution of 2012 HMB Area Meeting Schedule order forms (**attached**). He especially noted the earlier ordering deadline of Dec. 1, 2011 this year, with the goal of getting the schedules delivered in January 2012. Tad J. also reminded the Assembly of the upcoming vote on October 15 on the proposed 2012 Area budget, presented at the May 2011 Assembly and published in the Area newsletter.

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Area 48 Election Assembly

DRAFT MINUTES (cont.)

Committee Chair Reports:

Archives Report Mike L., Archives chair, put out request to any and all individuals, groups and districts to bring their own archival materials to the HMB Area Convention in November, as a way to supplement the Area Archives and gain an investment in them. The Area Archives Committee cannot know what is going on in all the Districts; it depends on outside contributions of time and materials.

Bridging the Gap Report (attached) Erin D., BTG Chair, gave updates on Committee activity, including new bridges from St. Mary's (Troy) Rehab, and from Conifer Park, Glenville.

Cooperation with the Professional Report (attached) John D., CPC chair, said how grateful he is for the opportunity to service for the next two years as HMB Area 48 CPC chair, alongside co-Alternate chairs Brenda O. and Mike S. A CPC session was held at Visiting Nurses Home Care [VNHC] offices in Queensbury [District 13 with Area 48 CPC help] for VNHC professional staff to hear how AA can be a resource to some of their troubled clients - and that, since VNHC has offices in six other Area 48 Districts, a 'report-back' on that Queensbury VNHC meeting was e-mailed to all six other Districts for their possible use & follow-up with those other VNHC offices (**attached**). Also, I remind everyone about the Area 48 "Challenge" to all 18 Area 48 Districts to write to Jr. High Schools and High Schools in their Districts about AA help available to young people including students [as cited in 1st page of attached printed CPC Report]. I also reminded all present that Area 48 CPC even offered to prepare the complete mailing package for issuance by each District and said that, as of today 9/10, five Districts have asked for that Area 48 assistance. Copies of a sample letter [this one from District 1 to twenty-four District 1 schools] were available for all present on 9/10 [extra copy of that sample letter is **attached**.] I also remind all present of the upcoming Saturday 10/1 Veterans' event in Latham, NY tending to the needs of over 500 Veterans - many of them homeless - and that HMB Area 48 would have an AA resource table and sober AA members present to meet and talk with those veterans who need - and want - AA's help - and to contact Bill C. to 'sign-on' to help on 10/1. On Saturday 9/10, we provided 50 copies of the details sheet [including travel directions] for this 10/1 Veterans event/AA presence [extra copy of that Veterans/AA sheet is **attached**.]

Corrections Report Bill G., Corrections chair, reported that he had a committee meeting today, attended by members from five Districts. Main thrust of committee now is to improve communications with institutions.

Grapevine Report (attached) Maria E., Grapevine chair, promoted The Grapevine magazine, our "Meeting in Print", as helpful in finding out how AA works and as a guide to good sobriety, and serenity. Currently restocking inventory. The Area has \$850 in cash and stock of Grapevine publications and materials. Am taking advantage of Grapevine's 20 percent bulk-order policy. Making myself available at as many events, workshops, etc., as I can. Thanks for giving me the opportunity to serve!

Public Information Report (attached) Cindy DeP., PI Chair, reported on ongoing efforts to improve communication with Districts, find out who Districts' Public Information chairs are.

Special Needs Report (attached) Dawn M., SN chair, said the Special Needs panel at the New York State Informational Workshop was a well-attended success. The importance of Special Needs assessments of meeting rooms, meeting places. Difference between "handicap accessible" and "wheelchair accessible." Different degrees of accessibility. Registrars need to be updated on the Special Needs assets of individual meeting places.

I am looking for SN chairs from each of the Districts.

Treatment, Website committee chairs not present.

Newsletter Committee Report (attached) E-mail is now default method of delivery. If you don't have email address with Area, you'll get postal print version as default. Every month's newsletter is on the Area Web site. September's is already up. If you don't have an Area email, contact Kevin B., Area registrar, at Area48registrar@gmail.com. Before the new e-mail-as-default policy, Area was printing & mailing 560 copies per month; now the number is at 455 per month.

DCM Reports:

Tom E., District 1 (attached): Alkathon Committee is meeting for Dec./Jan. Alkathon. District One has changed the election date to five months earlier. From December to September.

Gene S., District 2: Some service positions still open. Corrections, Treatment, PI. Upcoming events etc. How to maintain energy and enthusiasm. Thank you for ideas, support.

Lori, Dist. 3 (not present)

Les, Dist. 4 (not present)

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Area 48 Election Assembly

DRAFT MINUTES (cont.)

Wally, Dist 5 (not present)

Thea H., District 7 secretary: Still recovering from storms. We've split up elections, officer and committee chairs in alternating years.

Rob Baum, Dist. 8 (attached) Going through a lot of changes. Very little response to call for committee chairs. I've been getting to outlying groups that we don't hear from, start selling the positions. I've got flyers for Serenity of the Catskills (**attached**). Registration deadline is October 8. My phone number is on the back. \$25/ea. Italian buffet.

Tammie E. Dist. 9 (attached) Busy late summer in the District. A committee has formed to look into a District Web site. Two open service positions in the District. Attendance at District meetings continues to rise. We have extra 2011 meeting books; will bring them to next Area event in October. District has formed ad hoc workshop committee on meeting chairing and etiquette, to help new members, esp. those in treatment facilities.

Dist 10 (not present)

Kevin B., Dist 11 Kevin B., Treatment Facility Chair (DCM not here): Booking meeting, exchange meeting. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wednesday, Sept. 14. District is trying to reduce expense of answering service. Check out www.Dutchessaa.org. Host District for Area convention 2011, Fishkill. Hope to see you there.

Brenda O., Dist. 12 District working to fill vacant service positions.

John D., Dist. 13 (attached) (for Lou H., Sr., DCM, not here-due to work commitment-sends best wishes): We meet every two months. 44 groups, 70 meetings, five counties. 25 attendees at 9/7 District meeting. Good service activity, but we have some rotating out. All meetings going into Warren County Jail are suspended for now, not because of anything related to District 13. Efforts to correct are underway. Low budget. Distribution of flyers/information/ contacts continue. Encourage everyone to attend veterans stand down in Latham on October 1, 2011.

Dist. 14 (Kathy not present)

Dist. 15 (not present)

Dist 16 (Bill W. in Bob's place) All positions filled. Participation in the District is much higher. Candlelight meetings in Phoenicia. But they are all running. Spiritual luncheon. Recruiting candidates for upcoming

Dist 17 (not present)

Dist 18 (Joanne) First time giving a report. Thank you for coming today. Two meetings have joined our District this year. We're getting ready for our Halloween dance in E. Greenbush. Flyers on table. October 28, Friday. Then after that we'll be getting ready for Thanksgiving Alkathon, held at Blooming Grove Reformed Church. 24 hours. Working on having a District service manual.

Dist. 19 (Bob) We have our regular District picnic in August. We're a very rural district. Don S. and I are an hour apart. New Year's Eve function. Great distances. District meetings are picking up. Gratitude and service work. Come and see us – District is alive and well.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William T., Area 48 Secretary

It is easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do, for alcohol is a subtle foe. We are not cured of alcoholism. What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition. Every day is a day when we must carry the vision of God's will into all of our activities." How can I best serve Thee—Thy will (not mine) be done." These are thoughts which must go with us constantly. We can exercise our will power along this line all we wish. It is the proper use of the will.

Alcoholics Anonymous (p. 85)

AREA 48 NEWSLETTER

October 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>	Position Total	Expense Allocation	NERAASA- Albany	NERF (Not Held in 2012)	NYS Convention - HMB	NYSIW- Western	HMB CONV (Not Held in 2012)
<u>Area Officer Allocations:</u>							
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
<u>Committee Chairs and Others Allocations:</u>							
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	\$ -	\$ -					
Sub-Totals	\$ 29,450.00	\$ 15,800.00	\$5,250.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,900.00	\$0.00

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 and 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

October 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
Sub-Total	\$ 17,700.00

\$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
Total Income Needed:	\$ 47,150.00

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

October 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

October 1, 2011

Proposals for October Assembly

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

October 1, 2011

Meeting Leaders Needed

The HMB 2011 Convention is being held Nov 4-6, 2011 at The Ramada Inn in Fishkill New York. On both evenings, from 9:30 pm through 1:30am, there will be continuous AA meetings.

We are looking for volunteers to lead these meetings. Meetings will last one hour each, starting at 9:30pm. If you are interested in this service opportunity, please contact:

Tim J 845-242-4353 tjnappy1@gmail.com

Elaine B 914-204-2144 embruno@aol.com

Thank you!

Interested in NERAASA 2012 service?

Please contact the following:

REGISTRATION

Tammie E. tamster1962@roadrunner.com

Don S. dstrachan@twcny.rr.com

HOSPITALITY

Smoking Faye F. fallonfaye@yahoo.com

Non-smoking Fred F. neraasa2012@gmail.com

GREETERS

Keith D. & Debbie D neraasa2012greeters@hvc.rr.com

NERAASA 2012~March 2-March 4

CROWNE PLAZA Albany 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

October 1, 2011

NERAASA 2012 Registration Form

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

Mail-In and On-line Registration will be processed beginning October 1, 2011.

Credit cards will be accepted for online registration only.

Hotel Registration Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2012

(Hotel prices are guaranteed until Feb 17 or until room blocks are filled.)

Event, Banquet & Meal Pre-registration Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2012

NAME: _____ AA AREA#: _____ (see front page map)

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE # (with area code) _____

Service Commitments:

- _____ GSR or Alt GSR
- _____ DCM or Alt DCM
- _____ DCMC or Alt DCMC
- _____ District Committee
- _____ Central Office or Intergroup
- _____ Area Committee
- _____ Delegate or Alt Delegate
- _____ Panel _____
- _____ Other _____

Past Delegates:

Area #: _____ Panel # _____

Conference Committee _____

_____ I would be interested in moderating a round table session.

_____ I have attended NERAASA before:

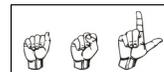
- _____ As a presenter
- _____ I would like to participate in a panel
- _____ I would like to record a round table

_____ I have special needs (please specify):

Translation request:

__ASL __Spanish __French __Other _____

ASL will be provided if a need presents itself through pre-registration.



Comments, Suggestions & Requests (No guarantees, but we will take everything under consideration and do what we can to be accommodating): _____

\$ 20.00 _____ Registration
 _____ Saturday Breakfast \$20
 _____ Saturday Lunch \$30
 _____ Saturday Night Banquet
 _____ Beef _____ Chicken
 _____ Vegetarian \$44
 _____ Sunday Breakfast \$20
 _____ Delegates Luncheon \$30
 (current, past & alts only)

\$ _____ Total Enclosed

****Please indicate each individual meal desired on registration form. Full payment is required at time of registration.****

Make check or money order payable to: NERAASA 2012

(Credit cards will be accepted for online registration only)

Mail completed form with full payment to:
NERAASA 2012
PO BOX 6328
Albany, NY 12206

March 2-4
2012

Please complete the form and mail to:

NERAASA 2012
PO BOX 6328
ALBANY, NY
12206

Or go to:
WWW.NERAASA
2012.ORG
beginning
October 1, 2011

October 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-Registrants
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-Registrants
will Receive an Extra
Free Bottle Thank You
on Arrival Night!*

For More Information: Lori W. (518)397-1925/ Deb D. (845)331-4213

Convention Registration Form

One Person Per Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____ - _____

E-mail: _____

_____ Years In Program

_____ A. A. _____ Al Anon _____ Alismen

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)

October 1, 2011

HMB Area 48 2012 Meeting Schedule Order Form

Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 of Alcoholics Anonymous 2012 HMB Meeting Schedule Book Order Form



Pre Order Deadline December 1, 2011



Please Make Checks Payable To: "HMB Meeting Schedules"

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

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PREPAID



Mail Orders To:
HMB Meeting Schedules
PO Box 74
Castleton, NY 12033



Inquiries to: hmbal treasurer@nycap.rr.com
(518) 366-5631

To Be Shipped January 2012
No Shipping to PO Boxes

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: _____ Group or Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____

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

Shipping & Handling: _____ =\$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

2012

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