

HMB Area 48 Newsletter

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible.

AA Principles of the Month

Step 2 - Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition 2 - For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority — a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Concept II - The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.



Tradition Two Checklist:

(These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971.)

1. Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
2. Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with any AA Twelfth Step job or other AA responsibility?
3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
4. Do I have to save face in group discussions, or can I yield in good spirit to the group consensus and work cheerfully along with it?
5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

Concept II Checklist:

(Some of these discussion points were originally developed by an A.A. group and further developed by the trustees' Literature Committee to be distributed by the General Service Office.)

1. Do we have an understanding of the history of the General Service Conference (the "Conference")?
2. What is a Conference Advisory Action? Does our home group's G.S.R., D.C.M., Area Delegate report back to the group on the highlights of the Conference and Conference Advisory Actions?
3. Is our group meeting its wider Seventh Tradition responsibilities?

HMB Area 48 – Northeastern NY 2014 Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Host
February 21-23, 2014	NERAASA	Warwick, RI
March 7-9, 2014	NERD (Delegates and Alternates)	Freeport, ME
March 15, 2014	Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley Cluster District (3, 7, 11, 15, 16, 17)
April 12, 2014	Delegate's Day of Sharing	Adirondack Cluster District (5, 10, 13, 19)
May 18, 2014	Area Assembly	Central Cluster District (4, 8, 14)
June 14 or 15, 2014	Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley District (3,7, 11, 15, 16, 17)
August 1-3, 2014	NYS Informational Workshop	HMB Area 48 Albany, NY
September 13 or 14, 2014	Fellowship Day	Eastern Cluster District (1, 2, 18)
October 11 or 12, 2014	Area Assembly	Central Cluster District (4, 8, 14)
Oct 31-Nov 2, 2014	HMB Convention	Eastern Cluster District (1, 2, 18)
November 15 or 16, 2014	Fellowship Day	Western Cluster District (9,12)

For the most current HMB Area 48 Calendar of Events, as well as directions and maps of upcoming events, please see the Area website: www.aahmbny.org

or email the Alternate Area Chair - althmbchair@aahmbny.org

District 5 is hosting a pasta dinner fundraiser Sat., March 15th at the Saratoga United Methodist Church, 175 Fifth Ave, Saratoga Springs. Dinner served from 3- 6pm with an open speaker meeting at 6:30. Adults \$10 / children 10 and under \$5.

ESCYPAA I: The Young People of Alcoholics Anonymous will be hosting their first Empire State Convention August 15 - 17, 2014 at the Ramada Hotel, 542 Rte 9, Fishkill, NY. Pre-register online @ www.escypaai.org. Contacts are Jeff registration@escypaai.org; Danielle outreach@escypaai.org; and Martial chair@escypaai.org.

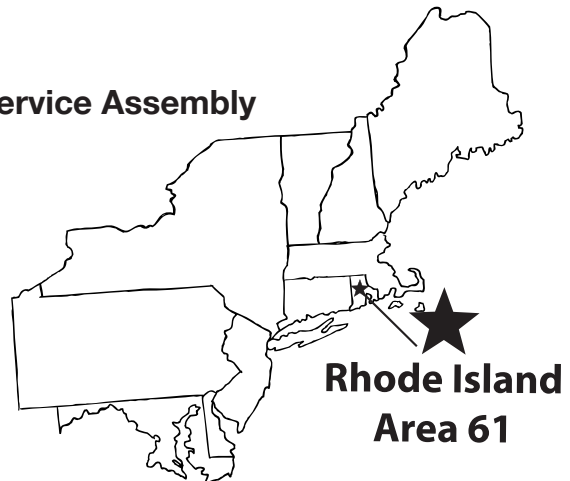
NERAASA 2014

Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly

Rhode Island – Area 61

Warwick, RI 02886-6832

February 21-23, 2014



Communicating Our Legacies — Vital in a Changing World

Purpose Statement: NERAASA is for General Service Representatives (GSRs), District Committee Members (DCMs), Area Officers, Area Committee Members & Intergroup/Central Office Representatives of the Northeast Region to discuss General Service Conference related issues and concerns affecting AA as a whole, as well as pertinent aspects of recovery, unity, and service common to the areas of the Northeast Region.

ALL A.A. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

Panel Presentations/Floor Discussions
Northeast Regional Trustee Report
Saturday Banquet and AA Speaker
Roundtable Sharing Sessions

Location: Crowne Plaza
801 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, RI
401-732-6000 or 800-227-6963
Email: Book@ProvidenceRI.CrownePlaza.com
www.crownehotelwarwick.com

DEADLINE: Hotel & Event Pre-Registration: January 21, 2014

Chair2014@neraasa.org Registrar2014@neraasa.org Treasurer2014@neraasa.org

If you are interested in helping: Volunteer2014@neraasa.org

NERAASA 2014 February 21-23, 2014

Roundtable/Sharing Sessions

- Archives
- Area Chairpersons
- Cooperation with Professional Community
- Corrections / Treatment /Bridging the Gap
- Delegates
- DCMs
- Grapevine/La Viña
- GSRs
- Intergroups/Central Offices
- Public Information/Newsletters
- Registrars
- Secretaries
- Special Needs
- Treasurers/Finance
- Website/InformationTechnology
- Young People

Some roundtables will have Spanish translation

Onsite Registration
Begins 1:00 PM
Friday, February 21

Kickoff Redball Meeting:
Thursday, February 20 @
8:00 pm

First Panel:
Friday, February 21 @
3:00 pm

Crowne Plaza
801 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886-6832
401-732-6000 or 800-227-6963
Email: Book@ProvidenceRI.CrownePlaza.com
www.crownehotelwarwick.com
***Hotel reservations must be made
through the hotel.***

Directions to Crowne Plaza:

From North: Take 95 South to Route 113/East Avenue via exit 12A in Rhode Island . Bear right off the exit. Take your first right onto Greenwich Avenue/Route 5. The Crowne Plaza Hotel will be almost immediately on your right.

From South: Take 95 North to Route 113/East Avenue via exit 12 in Rhode Island toward Route 5/ Warwick. Turn slight right off the exit. Turn slight right into Greenwich Avenue/Route 5. The Crowne Plaza Hotel will be almost immediately on your right.

From West: Take Massachusetts Turnpike (Route 90 East) to exit 10A (US 20/Worcester/Route 146/ Providence) Turn right on Route 20. Merge onto route 146 south toward Millbury/Providence. Then merge onto route 295 south toward Warwick . Merge onto route 113W/East Avenue via exit 1. Make a U-turn onto Route 113 east. Turn slight right onto Greenwich Avenue/Route 5. The Crowne Plaza Hotel will be almost immediately on your right.

Amtrak travels from Virginia to Providence (1-800-872-7245), Amtrak Acela travels from D.C. to Providence. Commuter Train (1-617-222-3200) from Downtown Providence to TF Green Airport Warwick, RI. Shuttle is available from the TF Green Airport to the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Taxi service is also available. TF Green Airport in Warwick, RI is served by commuter trains of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority known as the "T" from Providence/Warwick and Boston. Crowne Plaza Shuttle service is available from TF Green Airport. (401-732-6000)

NERAASA 2014 PRE-REGISTRATION FORM:

Pre-registration is now CLOSED

Forms may be copied. Please use one form for each person registering. Credit cards will be accepted for online registration only. Online Registration and Mail-in Registration is \$20.00

Pre-registration is now CLOSED

HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE IS Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Hotel prices (\$119.00 per night single, double, triple and quad plus tax) are guaranteed until Jan 21st OR until room blocks are filled. Please use the group code "NER" when making a reservation. Hotel reservation must be made directly through the hotel.

* Please note the Crowne Plaza is sold out. View overflow hotel information on page immediately following flyer.*

NAME: _____ AREA #: _____

ADDRESS: _____ NAME ON BADGE: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE #: _____

<p>Current Service Commitment:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> GSR or Alt GSR</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DCM or Alt DCM</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DCMC or Alt DCMC</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> District Committee</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Central Officer or Intergroup</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Area Committee</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Delegate or Alt Delegate Panel _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	<p>Past Delegates:</p> <p>Area # _____ Panel # _____</p> <p>Conference Committee _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would be interested in moderating a round table session</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would like to participate in a panel</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would like to record a round table</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have attended NERAASA before</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> As a presenter</p>
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I have Special Needs (Please specify) _____

Translation request: ASL Spanish French Other: _____

I would like my weekend agenda material to be in Spanish

EVENT REGISTRATION

\$ \$20.00 NERAASA Registration

\$ _____ **\$38.00** Saturday Night Banquet (Choose ONE, deadline February 14)

Prime Rib Stuffed Chicken Breast Pasta Primavera

\$ _____ **\$25.00** Delegate's Luncheon (Current, Alt. & Past Delegates only)

\$ _____ **Total Enclosed** Check/Money Order made payable to: NERAASA 2014

Mail completed form with full payment to: NERAASA 2014
4 Winchester Avenue
North Smithfield, RI 02896

Updates from the NERAASA Host Committee Chair:

The Crowne Plaza (the main hotel) is sold out;

- The Overflow Hotel is the Sheraton-Providence Airport, 1850 Post Road, Warwick RI 02886 For reservations call 1-800-325-3535 and mention Group Code "NERAASA"(the overflow hotel has a room rate of \$99 plus tax, per night; this hotel is available until it either sells out or until February 14)
- **Pre-registration** -- both online and postal mail via the registration flyer is **now closed**. In person registration will begin Friday, February 21st, at NERAASA 2014.
- **Banquet Reservations:** A note on the 2014 registration flyer states that banquet reservations are available until February 14 - that was a typographical error - no more banquets are available; however, if you wish to be put on the wait list email the Host Committee Registrar: registrar2014@neraasa.org.

Some General Information about NERAASA:

- ***What is the purpose of NERAASA?***

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

- ***What happens at NERAASA?***

NERAASA is a weekend of Panel Presentations and Floor Discussions on Issues Affecting A.A. Today; the Northeast Regional Trustee's Report; Saturday Dinner followed by an A.A. Speaker Meeting. In addition, there are several RoundTable Sharing Sessions throughout the weekend. They include (but are not limited too); General Service Representatives (GSR's), District Committee Members (DCM's), Archives, Cooperation With The Professional Community (CPC), Public Information (PI), Correctional & Treatment Facilities (CTF), Grapevine, Area/Panel Officers, Central Office/Intergroups, Website, Alternate & Area Delegates.

- ***When and where is NERAASA held?***

NERAASA is scheduled for the last full weekend of February each year, rotating throughout the different Delegate Area's of the Northeast Region.

- ***Who should attend NERAASA?***

ALL A.A. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

HMB AREA 48 FELLOWSHIP DAY

Hosted by the Hudson Valley Cluster

Districts (3, 7, 11, 15, 16, 17)

Saturday, March 15, 2014

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Senior Residence Auditorium, Benedictine Hospital

105 Marys Avenue

Kingston, NY 12401

AGENDA

09:00 am - 10:00 am

Registration / Meet & Greet

09:15 am – 09:45am

GSR Orientation / Workshop

09:15 am – 09:45am

DCM Orientation / Workshop

10:00 am – 10:10 am

Introductions & The Day Ahead

10:15 am – 11:05 am

Mutual Respect & Love

10:15 am – 11:05 am

How We Got Here – Part 1

11:10 am – 12:00 pm

Sober – Now What?

11:10 am – 12:00 pm

How We Got Here – Part 2

12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

Lunch

12:50 pm – 01:30 pm

Service Committee Round Tables

CPC/PI/SN/CF/BTG/Treatment

Finance/Archives

12:50 pm – 01:30 pm

What is a Service Committee?

1:30 pm – 03:00 pm

Area Business Meeting

ALL AA MEMBERS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

Additionally, come visit the AREA ARCHIVES which will be on display!!!!

Directions and map on back of flyer.

For more information email althmbchair@aahmbny.org

HMB AREA 48 NORTHEASTERN NY

DELEGATES DAY OF SHARING

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 12, 2014
9:00AM—3:00PM**



**SARATOGA SPRINGS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
175 FIFTH AVENUE
(FIFTH AVE. & HENNING RD.)
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY 12866**

Open to AA Members from HMB Area 48

*Learn how Area, Districts and Groups function
cooperatively within Alcoholics Anonymous*

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES ~ FELLOWSHIP ~ ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROVIDED**

*Donations of Breakfast Items and Desserts will be accepted or
if you are interested in being of service at this event please contact
the District 5 Functions Committee at D5Functions@gmail.com*



**HOSTED BY THE ADIRONDACK CLUSTER
DISTRICTS 5, 10, 13 & 19**

DIRECTIONS

From the I-87 Northway, take Exit 14, and follow Route 9P towards Saratoga Springs. At the first traffic light, turn right on Henning Road, follow approximately 1 mile to Fifth Avenue. Turn left on to Fifth Avenue, and then take an immediate right into the church driveway. The church is located directly at the corner of Fifth Avenue & Henning Road.



**HMB Area 48 May Assembly
Sunday, May 18, 2014
9AM – 3PM
Hosted By Districts 4, 8, & 14**

**Location: Florida Town Hall
167 Fort Hunter Road
Amsterdam, NY 12010**

Lunch will be provided

Directions- From Exit 27 NYS Thruway

Turn Left on NY Rt. 30S and go 1.8 mi.

Straight on NY Rt. 161W (Mill Point Rd) and go 0.9 mi.

Left on Fort Hunter Road travel and go 0.8 mi.

Hall will be on Right

**Hall is in same location as Town Highway Dept.
Garage**

Contact Information: district4dcm@aahmbny.org

Please continue to support your Area and General Service Office by sending contributions to:



HMB Area Association
Route 30, #114
118 Polar Plaza
Amsterdam, NY 12010

General Service Office
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163

HMB Area 48	
Monthly Treasury Report	
November 2013	
Beginning Balance	\$15,183.25
Income	
Area Contributions	3,481.10
Total Income	\$3,481.10
Expense	
Alternate Chairperson	125.30
Secretary	162.40
Alternate Secretary/Registrar	415.45
Alternate Treasurer	134.40
Archivist	230.47
Bridging The Gap	134.40
Cooperation with Prof Community	61.60
Grapevine	203.64
Newsletter Editor	8.07
HMB Convention	2,381.78
Archive Storage Fees	76.50
Mail Box Service	31.90
Newsletter Postage	92.00
Newsletter Printing	170.00
Total Expense	\$4,227.91
Net Income	-\$746.81
Balance	\$14,436.44
Prudent Reserve	-\$7,000.00
Available Funds	\$7,436.44

*Prepared by Pat C.
treasurer@aaahmbny.org*

HMB Area 48	
Monthly Treasury Report	
December 2013	
Beginning Balance	\$14,436.44
Income	
Area Contributions	3,331.80
Advances Ret	2,266.00
Total Income	\$5,597.80
Expense	
Delegate	34.96
HMB Convention	299.89
Area Assemblies	176.63
Mail Box Service	32.16
Meeting Books for Com. Chairs	1,632.00
Total Expense	\$2,175.64
Net Income	\$3,422.16
Balance	\$17,858.60
Prudent Reserve	-\$7,000.00
Available Funds	\$10,858.60

*Prepared by Pat C.,
treasurer@aaahmbny.org*

HMB Area 48	
Year-End Treasury Report	
January - December 2013	
Beginning Balance	\$15,817.62
Income	
Area Contributions	33,699.54
Bank Fee Reimbursement	20.00
Advances Ret	2,404.62
Total Income	\$36,124.16
Expense	
Delegate	2,789.63
Chairperson	3,035.98
Alternate Chairperson	289.80
Secretary	316.56
Alternate Secretary/Registrar	751.22
Treasurer	841.62
Alternate Treasurer	633.92
Archivist	1,023.75
Bridging The Gap	1,040.63
Corrections Facility	890.96
Cooperation with Prof Community	304.04
Grapevine	434.84
HMB Convention Chair	221.17
Newsletter Editor	17.06
Treatment Facilities	49.70
HMB Convention	2,681.67
NERAASA	3,328.01
NERF	1,018.30
NYS Info Workshop	1,069.20
NYADTCP	650.00
Area Assemblies	431.07
Area Delegates Day	405.09
Area Inventory Day	325.56
Area Fellowship Days	1,316.10
Corrections Connection	300.00
Additional HMB Mtg Schedules	350.00
Archive Storage Fees	841.50
GSO Conference Contribution	2,000.00
Insurance Costs	397.00
Mail Box Service	409.27
Meeting Books for Com. Chairs	1,632.00
Newsletter Postage	871.00
Newsletter Printing	1,671.88
Prior Year Expenses	530.71
Tax Preparation	600.00
AA World Services	319.95
Checking Account Adjustment	20.00
Computer & Software	273.99
Total Expense	\$34,083.18
Net Income	\$2,040.98
Balance	\$17,858.60
Prudent Reserve	-\$7,000.00
Available Funds	\$10,858.60

*Prepared by Pat C.,
HMB Area Treasurer
treasurer@aaahmbny.org*

Area Committee Chair Reports

Delegate's Report

Cold and snowy Greetings to all in the HMB Area,

Last year some Delegates from another Area told me that being Area Chairperson was the hardest "job" and that serving as a Delegate would be a breeze!! Not so...just the sheer paperwork and emails alone are daunting and there's more to come!!

I received my Committee Assignment for Conference...and it is the Literature Committee, which is a great assignment for me. (Well, I know how to read and I LIKE to read.. and there's going to be lots to read).

I also have my assignment for the Inventory we will be doing at Conference. They have sent the list of questions my committee will be entrusted with.

The General Service Conference Coordinator sent a list of workshop topics that will be presented at Conference. Also sent was a request for our Area Highlights, summing up everything notable about our Area and must be presented in less than 2 minutes.

You may have noticed on the home page of our Area Website that there is now a "Delegate's" page. This contains items of interest sent from GSO and a few announcements from other Areas.

I attended the Spiritual Breakfast in District 4 on February 1st. It was a great morning as always, good fellowship, a great speaker, and lots of art work as table prizes. A lot of effort went into this successful day!

The main and overflow hotels, and banquets have been sold out for NERAASA. There will be onsite registration beginning February 21st, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick R.I. There are several motels and hotels close by for anyone wanting to go at the last minute.

After NERAASA I will be off to Maine the second week in March for NERD, which is a gathering of Northeast Regional Delegates. The Panel 64 Delegates will get to meet each other for the first time and also meet the Panel 63 Delegates, who are now experienced second year delegates. Area Chair/Alt Delegate Bill W. will also be attending.

In March we will be in Kingston for Fellowship Day, which promises to be a full day. Please plan to attend the April "Pre-conference Day of Sharing" also known as "Delegate's Day," being held in Saratoga. We will preview the issues that will come before the Conference in April.

If anyone has a proposal for the May Assembly be sure to submit it in time for the March issue of the Area Newsletter so it can run 3 months before the May Assembly.

In service,

Pat L
HMB Area 48 Delegate
Literature Committee

Area 48 Alternate Secretary/Registrar Report

Hi Folks!

By now most of you should be receiving your 2014 HMB Area Meeting Books. I hope you can put them to good use. I emailed a PDF version to each of the Service Committee Chairs for their service work. If you need one in PDF, please email me, and I will send it to you.

I would like to thank Kate O., our Area Web Committee Chair, who put lots of hours into formatting this edition. I would also like to thank those of you who sent updates to me. (before the deadline) :-). Please note that the number of pages is the same as last year, but we did not forget to put the center map page in this time. :-P The number of pages is actually larger than stated in the bid specs, so this will need to be updated for next year's printing.

There are still a number of Districts who have not sent me their updates to their Panel 64 Officers and Service Committee Chairs. It's important that I register your new folks as soon as possible, because all of the service support mail, from GSO and the Area, is now going to the last Panel rotation officers. I need full names and addresses to enter them into the database.

There are a number of people who are not receiving mail from GSO who should be. The folks who should be getting mail from GSO are:

- GSRs or Primary Mail Contacts
- District and Area Service Committee Chairs
- DCMs
- Area Officers including Past Delegates

There are also a number of folks who are getting mail, who should not. If you are one of these people, please contact your DCM and/or Records Keeper, to make the updates to the records.

For all Area communications, minutes are emailed before each Area event. Newsletters are snail-mailed to GSRs, Primary Contacts, District Officers, and Service Committee chairs, who do not have an email address in the database. All those with email addresses, including secondary contacts, and alternate GSRs, will receive a newsletter by email. Please be aware that the newsletter and minutes come as an attachment. If your email server does not allow attachments, your email address will be removed from the database, until a new one, which allows attachments, is sent to us.

Thank you for the Honor and Privilege to serve you!

Kevin H-B
records@aaahmbny.org

Area 48 CPC Report

Happy New Year Area 48,

Thank you for selecting me to serve as your CPC Committee Chair. I look forward to working with you for the next 2 years. I have spent the past month or so educating myself in general about CPC and would like information from each District Chair about local efforts to carry the message about AA to concerned professionals.

Yours in service,
Don S.

Area 48 Archivist Report

Unfortunately I was not able to make the event in District 5. Life just got in the way. The Archivist Position gives me much pleasure and it is a great privilege to serve the HMB Area. Missing a commitment is not taken lightly, hopefully there will be another opportunity in the future.

A large display was shown at the Original Troy Group's Anniversary. It was well received. Some long time members were able to reminisce the earlier days. One member found his father's name in one of the group's ledgers

The trip to Troy also included a trip to Ebby Thacher's grave site at Albany Rural Cemetery. A new display has been developed on Ebby. The display and research has given me a new understanding of his importance in early AA. Remember, not all of us enjoy long term sobriety, but all of us contribute to the strength of our fellowship

Yours in Sobriety,

Charlie C.
archives@aahmbny.org

Area 48 Corrections Report

As the incoming Area Corrections Chair, I know that Don S. will be a tough act to follow, but I am grateful to have the opportunity to try to do my best. Don has shared with me a wealth of information, and I am amazed at all that he has accomplished in establishing a structure for AA meetings to be held in many state prisons. My experience has been with county facilities, but I am eager to get familiar with the state prison system. I am passionate about carrying the message into any/all correctional facilities, and as Tradition Five reminds us, we have one primary purpose...to carry the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

I would like to mention that Franklin Correctional Center with the AA Group Sons of Sobriety would like to host a speaker jam. The date for this event will be in May but has not yet been firmed up. However, since any speakers would have to go through the lengthy application and clearance process for the prison, we would like to begin to gather a list of volunteers who are willing to attend and share their experience, strength and hope at this event. Please feel free to contact me at corrections@aahmbny.org if you are interested and/or have any suggestions.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Corrections Chair. I hope to see many of you at NERAASA later this month.

In love and service,

Kathy R.



A Note from your Newsletter Editor

I am honored to have been chosen for this wonderful, inspiring and daunting job. I should have known something was up when our new Area Chair sauntered over and positioned himself next to me at the table during our last 2013 Area Event in Plattsburgh. You will notice different formatting and placement of items while I try to master this art. I hope you enjoy this as much as I do (at times).

Next part is getting this Newsletter to all of you wonderful AA'ers. Kevin, our Area Registrar, has already covered many points. Please contact me at newsletter@aahmbny.org if you should be receiving the newsletter and have not gotten it via your contact method: postal mail or email. Either you were not on the list or there was an error on my part. Kevin and I are working together to set this straight (as it can be).

This is YOUR Newsletter!! I would love to hear from anyone about local time related historical events (such as in Feb. 1967 our group needed to move from our location due to a fire...), an experience in AA in your service position, or submit a crossword puzzle or joke. It will be submitted to the Newsletter Committee for review. I would love to hear from you in HMB Area 48! We are all fortunate to be living in sobriety here.

I recently was speaking with a woman that has over 15 years in the rooms of AA about the Area Newsletter. Her comment was: "We have a newsletter?" I was shocked. I thought everyone knew about the newsletter and service outside of the rooms. My first sponsor had me working at a Convention with a few months sobriety (and I had no idea what was going on). She told me I needed to always have a service position if I wanted to stay connected and experience sobriety at its best (she did neglect to tell me how difficult sobriety can be and that I would always have to work at it). In my first Home Group the GSR would pull out his clipboard, read upcoming event announcements, advise when the next District Business meeting was and then pass around the clipboard with Area Newsletter and Box 459 attached. This was my first introduction into how big AA really is. I feel blessed that this was my experience. It seems since email and the web have become the "best" way to communicate, it is rare to spot event flyers, Box 459 or the Area Newsletter in any meetings. I urge GSR's to print and circulate these for current and future HMB A.A.

I am asking anyone who has proposals or any submissions for the March Edition of the Area Newsletter to please get them to me no later than Feb. 24th. Thank you for your patience in this new endeavor.

Yours in Grateful Service,
Linda A.

UPDATED NEWS FROM GSO!!

Please view our Area Website to see the 2014 Staff Assignment Sheet in 3 languages. This will be located on the Delegates Page.

Some AA Historical Facts for the Month of February

- Feb 05, 1941** - Pittsburgh Telegram ran a story on the first A.A. group's Friday night meeting of a dozen "former hopeless drunks."
- Feb 08, 1940** - Houston Press ran first of 6 anonymous articles on A.A. by Larry J.
- Feb 12, 1945** - World War II paper shortage forced reduction in size of the Big Book.
- Feb 15, 1946** - AA Tribune, Des Moines, IA, reported 36 new members since Marty M. had been there.
- Feb 16, 1941** - Baltimore Sunday Sun reported city's first AA group begun in 1940 had grown from 3 to 40 members, with five being women.
- Feb 18, 1943** - AA's were granted the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases, despite gas rationing.
- Feb 22, 1842** - Abe Lincoln addressed the Washington Temperance Society in Springfield, IL.
- Feb 24, 2002** - Hal M., "Dr. Attitude of Gratitude," died. He had 37 years of sobriety. Hal testified, anonymously, before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse on Dec. 3, 1970
- 1939** - Dr. Harry Tiebout endorsed AA, the first psychiatrist to do so.
- 1938** - Rockefeller gave \$5,000 to AA.
- 1943** - San Francisco Bulletin reporter Marsh Masline interviewed Ricardo, a San Quentin Prison AA group member.
- 1946** - Pueblo, Colorado, had a second group, composed of alcoholic State Hospital patients.
- 1959** - AA granted "Recording for the Blind" permission to tape the Big Book.
- 1981** - 1st issue of "Markings," AA Archives Newsletter, was published, "to give the Fellowship a sense of its own past and the opportunity to study it."

Dr. Harry M. Tiebout

Dr. Harry M. Tiebout wrote a paper titled "The Ego Factors in Surrender in Alcoholism" which referenced his understanding of the nature of alcoholism after 15 years and the influence in which Alcoholics Anonymous has had in this insight.

He found that "the presence of an apparently unconquerable ego became evident. It was this ego which had to become humble." This ego he explains as: "a pompous, self-important, strutting individual whose inferiorities are masked by a surface assurance. Such a person appears thick-skinned, insensitive, nearly impervious to the existence of others, a completely self-centered individual who plows unthinkingly through life, intent on gathering unto himself all the comforts and satisfactions available. He is generally considered the epitome of selfishness." "... Alcoholics Anonymous stresses humility. The opposite of impatience is the ability to take things in stride, to make an inner reality of the slogan, "Easy does it." The opposite of drive is staying in one position where one can be open-minded, receptive and responsive." In the alcoholic the capacity of the Ego to bypass experience is astounding and would be humorous were it not so tragic in their consequences. Once down to size, the result is a task never completely accomplished. The possibility of a return of his Ego must be faced by every alcoholic. If it does return, he may refrain from drinking, but he will surely go on a "dry drunk," with all the old feelings and attitudes once more asserting themselves and making sobriety a shambles of discontent and restlessness. Not until the ego is decisively retired can peace and quiet again prevail. Mere man alone all too often seems powerless to stay the force of his Ego. He needs assistance and needs it urgently.

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