



PIPELINE

A Publication of NH Area 43 Assembly

April 2016

My Story

I fit all the characteristics of the middle child. Always thought my siblings got more than me or were better at just about everything. That's just how my brain functions. It was all me, all in my head, and I'm almost certain that is exactly where it all began. The "stinking thinking".

As far back as I can remember, there was booze and beer present in our home. My parents always drank. I thought that was normal. I don't recall ever seeing mom and dad drunk or maybe they were and I was too naive to notice. There I go again, living in "Amanda-land" where everything is perfect, including me. Back to reality, I have a twin brother and older sister. My older sister, my best friend, is the first person I ever took a drink with, 12 years old I believe, 3 Doors Down concert. It was also the first time I tried smoking weed. Fast forward a couple years and bring high school into the picture. I excelled in athletics, my whole family did. We were jocks, everyone liked us, we went to all the parties, ya know, did what jocks do.

I can't say I remember my first drunk but I do remember that experiencing what being drunk was, I couldn't get enough. All through

high school we drank, everyone I knew drank or smoked or experimented with other drugs. I always said I wouldn't get involved in drugs, I have never been so wrong in my entire life. I did well in school, had lots of friends, one boyfriend throughout all of high school, became captain of softball as a junior. Summer of senior year, I got picked up at a party for underage drinking. I lost that captain position quicker than I earned it. First big loss which lead to many. That was when I first encountered Alcoholics Anonymous.

Once I lost my leadership role with softball, that's when the rebellious stage started. I moved out before I graduated because I was defiant and disrespectful. I wanted to be on my own so I worked two jobs the week after graduation. I thought I was doing well. I had an apartment with my boyfriend, partying every night, working every day. I was wrong, once again. Summer ended and so did my seasonal job that paid really well. I got arrested for fighting in my hometown, not good. I started bartending and staying out all night, sometimes not returning home for days. I picked up using oxycontin and smoking crack. I no longer needed a physical companion, I found everything I ever needed with drugs and alcohol.

Summer after my 20th, I decided I didn't need a job. I worked hard enough for my money and I should be able to party all summer long and do whatever I want to! That fall, I got picked up for possession of marijuana and pills. Shortly after that, I rolled my truck. I chased the high and loved the escape drugs brought me. Throughout those short lived years, I lost jobs, friends, love interests, cars, money and respect for myself.

I aspired to be a hair stylist, figured it was time to embark on that dream. I was accepted in beauty school, not only by the admissions director, but by colleagues and new friends to drink and drug with! That went well for over a year. I maintained my regimen of drinking nightly, going to school Monday-Friday and continuing my selfishness. I graduated top of my class, but was heading nowhere fast. I soon landed a job at the NH State Liquor Commission, working in one of their retail stores. Working with liquor and having it as a main part of my life, my drinking grew heavily into a major problem. That problem got me a D.U.I. Which took two years of my life, my privilege to operate a vehicle and I lost hope.

One night working at the liquor store, I was reintroduced to

a gentleman. We exchanged numbers and just as rapidly as my drinking spiraled out of control, so did our relationship. Next thing I knew we were moving in together. That escalated quickly! We spent just over three years together officially. Three years of drug and alcohol fused love. We were destined to get married and spend the rest of our messed up lives together. We had moved at least a dozen times, sold and ruined numerous vehicles, rifled through friends, became homeless, lost all hope and eventually each other. We tried rehab, counseling and working things out ourselves, but nothing worked. In the end, I lost my mental sanity and went crazy. There's only so much stress one can endure. One final arrest and we had chosen to go separate ways.

My last failed attempt at doing things my way was just as unsuccessful as the other attempts. I drank all day every day and even starting using heroin on a daily basis. All

these unfortunate events which I can hardly recall is not exactly how I pictured my life or anywhere to close the life I imagined. I drank heavily and used so often, I became very ill and landed in the E.R. I had pancreatitis and acute liver damage. I spent four lonely days in the hospital. I had to make a choice to leave that life behind and start a new life. That is exactly what I did. I gave up alcohol, drugs and smoking cigarettes. I have since gained so much more than I could have imagined. I have my health, a job that pays well, and a beautiful family. I have gained back respect and trust from those who mean the most to me. I thank my higher power daily and I try not to take anything for granted. This is truly a wonderful life, being sober and clean.

—Amanda B.



WANTED ... Your Story for the Pipeline

We even have a new submission button on our website!

Please submit online or mail to: NH Assembly Office, 1330 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, NH 03106, Attn: Pipeline.



NH Area Hotline
1-800-593-3300

email: hotline@nhaa.net
to volunteer to take calls
in your area!

See the monthly
calendars for
April &
May, 2016
on nhaa.net

PIPELINE

A publication of
the NH Area 43
Assembly of Alcoholics
Anonymous

Email the Pipeline at
pipeline@nhaa.net

Statement of Purpose:
The New Hampshire Area Pipeline will be the voice of Alcoholics Anonymous within Area 43. Its editors and staff will be primarily accountable to New Hampshire AA Area 43 as a whole. Within the bounds of friendliness and good taste, the Pipeline will enjoy perfect freedom of speech on all matters directly pertaining to Alcoholics Anonymous within Area 43. Like the AA movement it mirrors, the primary purpose of the New Hampshire Pipeline will be to try to carry the AA message to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all its affairs.

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Office Hours:
Mon-Fri: 10am—4pm
Sat: 10am—2pm

Celebrating 50 Years with Gratitude!

50th Annual Area 43 Convention
April 29th, 30th & May 1st, 2016

To pre-register, forms and money must be
postmarked by April 9th, 2016.

Online Registration is Available:

<http://nhaa.net/event/area-43-50th-annual-state-convention/>

If you miss pre-registration, walk-in
registration is available
during the entire weekend
of the convention at the hotel.

North Conway Grand Hotel, 72 Common Court
North Conway, NH 603-356-9300

Area 43 2015–2016 Officers & Committee Chairs:

Officers

Pete V. *Chairperson* • Gary C. *Alt-Chairperson* •
Bethana S. *Secretary* • Dan P. *Treasurer* • Dale R. *Delegate* •
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Janet T. *Pipeline* • Bill P. *Service Office* • Jim O. *Treatment*.

These chairs are here to help the individual district chairs and all AAs. For other open chairs, please email Pete at chairperson@nhaa.net if you are interested. Also, please consider volunteering on a committee and getting to know your chairs. They can all be reached at their NHAA service office email addresses which are posted on the website.



... Contributions Thank You!

Thank you to all
the groups that
contribute to Area 43.
Your contributions
are critical to the
continued success of
AA in our Area as we
carry the message
to fellow alcoholics.
We'll be publishing the
donation list quarterly
and greatly need your
continued support,
especially now in
these challenging
times — thank you!



**BIG BOOKS
NEEDED** at the
Goffstown Prison for
Women. All books can
be dropped off at the
Area Office.

March 2016 Group Changes

March 2016 Group Changes for April Pipeline										
Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
16	Union	Sunday	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	617797		Milton Mills Men's Mtg	Greater Wakefield Resource Ctr	254 Main St	District changed from 15
12	Manchester	M, T, W, Th, F	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	701084		Daylight Sobriety	Hope Recovery Comm. Ctr.	140 Central St	Added three meeting days
13	Nashua	Saturday	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	709575		Sisters in Sobriety	First Ch, 1 Concord St (off 101A)	2nd floor, Rm 15, ring bell	room changed from Fireside Rm
12	Manchester	Saturday	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	108736		Keep It Simple Group	St Raphael Ch	Ferry St	clarified address from 40 4th St
16	Wolfeboro	Monday	6:30 PM		691419		Men's Wanderers' Group	In Homes call	998-2647 or 569-8678	meeting day changed from Tuesday
12	Manchester	Sunday	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	696710		Manchester Young People's Group	St Marie's Bookstore	281 Cartier St	name changed from We Stopped In Thi

New Groups

Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
17	N Haverhill	Thursday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	7459	DX	North Haverhill 12 & 12	United Methodist Church	2900 Dartmouth College Hwy	
13	Hollis	Tuesday	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	7462	SBX	Be The Change 88 Step Study	Hollis Congr Ch, Chapel Rm	3 Monument Sq	
8	Concord	Friday	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	7463	SBX	Concord Women's Big Book Step Study	IBEW Union Hall downstairs	48 Airport Rd	Begins April 1st
15	Dover	Tuesday	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	7464	BH	Women's Big Book Meeting	Triangle Club	120 Broadway Ave	
12	Manchester	Sunday	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	7465	H	Square Peg Group	Hope Recovery Comm Ctr	140 Central St	

DISBANDED GROUPS

Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
13	Nashua	Wednesday	7:00 PM	8:15 PM	176996		There is a Solution	Christ the King Lutheran Ch	Broad St	
13	Nashua	Tuesday	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	709576		Women's Taking a Breath	West Campus	29 Northwest Blvd	
12	Manchester	Tuesday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	710420		The Steps We Take	Cypress Center		
16	Wolfeboro	Wednesday	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	712457		There is a Solution	First Christian Church	83 North Main St	
20	Conway	Monday	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	709573		Conway Noontime Group	St Margarets Ch Basement	85 Pleasant St	