



PIPELINE

A Publication of NH Area 43 Assembly

August 2016

ATTENTION ALL AA MEMBERS! **NH Area 43 August Assembly, August 27, 2016** **Hosted by District 14, Kittery Lions Club,** **117 State Road, Kittery, Maine** **8:00 am – 4:00 pm**

We hope to see many of you at our August Assembly in Kittery, Maine. We know it's hard to take time out of a busy summer to attend a Saturday assembly, but we need to make sure that this program is here for ourselves and newcomers to A.A. And there is no greater way to do that than to come to the Assembly and share back in your individual groups the goings on at GSO in New York, at the NH

Area Office in Hooksett, NH, and at all of our districts in Area 43 from throughout the state of NH and parts of Maine.

The summer is a great time to be sober. Let's show our support to those GSRs and Area Committee members and all trusted servants by participating in one of the most important aspects of our Fellowship, our Assemblies.



NH AREA 43 CHALLENGE

**\$7.14
Per member
Per Year***

*** The cost for GSO is \$7.14 per member per year. Please bring this message back to your group. Perhaps organize a special contribution.**

SEE FLIER ON LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND FEEL FREE TO COPY AND PASS AROUND!

\$7.14 is a spiritual way to shake the hand of the incoming alcoholic locally, and worldwide.



“ God grant us the serenity to accept the things we can not control, Courage to allow ourselves to grow, And wisdom to let thy will be done.”

— Version by Bill P.



Tradition Eight
“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”

Freedom & Trust

Many of my childhood memories bring me sorrow. It's not because my parents divorced when I was 3 years old. Growing up in a single parent household was the norm for me. It's the memories of the extreme anxiety that was a constant in my life. One particular memory is of me, at five years old, in the back seat of my father's car, sitting outside of the hospital, with tears streaming down my face, while I am rocking myself and shaking the car, trying to ease and calm my anxiety. Long before I picked up the booze, I was a relief seeking-missile. Many may argue that the lack of the second parent in my household may have made things more difficult. Although, I am convinced that regardless of my situation, my emotional state of being would have been the same. My parents did the best they could and I was afforded a good life. Looking back on it now, I can see how I was a difficult child that required a lot of attention. Long before the drinking problem, I had a thinking problem.

When I picked up a drink of alcohol at fifteen, all the anxiety and fears disappeared. I felt that during my times of intoxication, I was free and uninhibited. I used alcohol as a relief from my sorrows, worries, anxiety and fears. Even though life became more complicated when I started using alcohol, I associated alcohol with emotional stability. Prior to picking up alcohol I was a straight 'A' student, and within six months after taking my first drink,

I was in a truancy class and administration was threatening to kick me out of the third top science school in NYC that I had prepared myself for since the second grade. In turn, my parents decided to move me to the greater state of New Hampshire.

I found sobriety at the ripe age of thirty-three. I came into AA seeking material values. I wanted a career and a significant other. I thought those things would bring me happiness. In turn, I prioritized the material. Once I started to realize that I was doing the same things over and over again expecting different results, I had to put those priorities on hold. My relationship with God grew stronger. I accepted that my moral values are more important than the material wants I believed would bring me happiness.

At the beginning, I believed in a power greater than myself. AA has developed my relationship with that higher power. I had no trust in my higher power, needless to say, I had no idea that it could restore me to sanity. Nowadays, I count on that higher power to sort out all of my daily affairs. My relationship with my higher power continues to grow and strengthen. Most importantly, the serenity and peace of mind I feel gets better every day. My relationships with others have improved and I now have freedom from the sorrow and extreme anxiety.

Jen A.
Area 43



Alcoholics

Anonymous® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

◦ The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.

◦ A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

◦ Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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Spirituality and Money

“IS MY CONTRIBUTION AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE AND SERVICE, OR HAS IT BECOME JUST A HABIT?”

I would like to thank Eva and Andrew for my loving invitation to share on this topic. It’s a critical topic, whether I consider it from the vantage point of a grateful, sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous, or from that of a Trustee of the General Service Board with fiduciary and leadership responsibilities. From both places, the admixture of spirituality and money are a function of, and yield: gratitude, service, and responsibility.

We’ve heard a great deal about gratitude, and I will continue that focus, but I also want to talk about this concept of habit. Then I want to talk about the power of example, unity, and finally about communication and transparency—and how these too might intermingle for a positive outcome.

So first, the posed question: *gratitude and service versus habit*. Of course early on I was taught that participating in the 7th tradition is an expression of my gratitude, which is immense. I know that when I put money in the basket I am expressing that gratitude and participating in service, as Bill W. defines it on the first page of the service manual as “anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer,” in my support of the service structure across my

group, district, area, and GSB. This gratitude for and responsibility for our own lives and the lives of future alcoholics, is expressed through that contribution each time it is made.

But yes, sometimes when the basket passes, and I throw in my few bucks or my five, it is a function of *habit*. I do it because I’ve been doing it for decades, and it’s part of the routine.

But really, is that so bad? A habit is “an acquired behavior pattern regularly followed,” “customary practice,” “a dominant or regular disposition or tendency.” This means that a habit is something I do regularly, that it has become routine, it is a regular tendency. I think these are good things, as long as the performance of the action does not negate or eradicate the purpose of the action. Just because something is regular does not mean it is not meaningful. We learn in AA to pray every day . . . Does regular prayer, or conscience contact once it has become a working part of the mind, mean that the prayer or contact is not effective, meaningful, or critical to sobriety? Of course not. It is only when the prayer no longer finds meaning in the words, his/her heart in the contact, his/her direction in the stillness, does the habit become ineffective.

So habits practiced can be good. Habits practiced with meaning are even better. I think, looking at our fellowship as a whole, that the issue is really about helping those that don’t practice this spiritual expression to understand why

they might consider doing so. So let’s now turn to talking about *the power of example, unity, and communication and transparency*.

In AA, we tend not to be order takers. We don’t like to be told to do things and we don’t impress easily. Far more than what they say, what people *do* has substance and weight. Thus, *the power of example*. We learn a great deal from that old-timer putting in a folded five, just as we do the bunch of guys serving a group by painting its walls. These examples are everywhere. The homeless member who puts in a quarter, the member who sets aside some of his meager take home pay to support his group—in fact, just recently a friend of mine was one of these examples. I had forgotten my cash and when the basket came around, he saw that I had no money and he said “I got you” and kicked in extra. The following week when I said “I got you” while having my bills at the ready to return the gesture, he took a greater spiritual step and replied “don’t worry about it, AA needs the money” and kicked in his cash in addition to mine. This isn’t just about the small we; it’s about the whole WE.

So this brings me to the next concept, namely, *unity*. I know we are talking about the 7th tradition, but humor me for a moment and consider the 1st tradition, the one that states that our common welfare comes first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity. In the essay on this in the *Twelve and Twelve*,

Bill writes about how the sober member comes to understand that “Neither he nor anybody else can survive unless he carries the AA message . . . Realization dawns that he is but a small part of a great whole; that no personal sacrifice is too great for preservation of the fellowship.” So often we learn about the great liberties we have in AA, as long as our choices do not impact the whole. When we realize that we are a part of a whole, and that we have responsibility to the whole, this is when we can exercise autonomy and delight in our unity and strongly support “preservation of the fellowship.” What we have to impress upon our members is that the spiritual gain of giving is not just personal; it sustains our whole society in action carrying the message.

And so here I come to the last idea I wanted to discuss, that of *communication and transparency*. In a 1952 *Grapevine* article, Bill wrote: “There was another reason for our collective poverty . . . alcoholics have a terrific aversion to dropping money into a meeting-place hat for group purposes. We were astounded to find that we were as tight as the bark on a tree.” Later in 1962, in the essay on Warranty Two of Concept XII, Bill again wrote about our reluctance to contribute, stating that to address this we need only make clear “the real need for a given AA service . . .” that it “is simply a matter of right information and education . . . simply portray what the giver’s dollar really brings in terms of steering alcoholics to

AA and in terms of our overall unity and effectiveness.” Here, now 60-70 years later, we find ourselves still having to do the same. As instructed then, we need to continually rely upon our GSRs, DCMs, and Delegates to make the connection between the change in the basket to our worldwide reach, our worldwide presence, and our effectiveness. To that end, we need effective *communication and transparency* to arm our service workers with the information necessary to be able to discuss those connections in a sensible way. Do we in this room have a good sense of what we spend on Conference, Service Desks, the World Service Meeting, Publications? Maybe, maybe not. Some of you teased me recently when I had a not very graceful reaction to learning that we have only 140 members signed up for recurring monthly contributions. Again I wonder, how well have we *communicated* about the connections between supporting the whole and ways of participating in this? WE in this room knowing these things is insufficient. It is the greater WE that needs to understand. Our prudent financial principles underpin our survival: self-support, corporate poverty, sufficient operating funds and an ample reserve. But the fact that we still (after the better portion of a century) struggle to ‘inform and educate’ our members about the practical and spiritual practice of supporting the whole, including our vital worldwide services, makes me wonder if perhaps we need to better communicate this message,

or alternatively, the possibility that maybe the struggle is a part of what keeps us small, poor, humble, responsible, and free.

In closing, I believe that God’s Grace does not have a price-tag on it. It is given when we ask for it and need it. I for one have had a great life because of Alcoholics Anonymous. I am grateful for my own personal successes, but I am far more grateful for the spiritual community that I am but one member of. It is out of gratitude for my life, for the impact on my family that AA has had, for the community to which I belong that I practice the “spiritual habit” of giving with gratitude. I hope I am an example in my actions, and that we in this room are responsible stewards of the finances that support our worldwide work, and that we help each other become effective in communicating our shared unity, responsibility, and gratitude. 📖

Yours in Service,

Rich P.
Northeast Regional Trustee

Presented at a General Service Board Sharing Session in New York City last February.



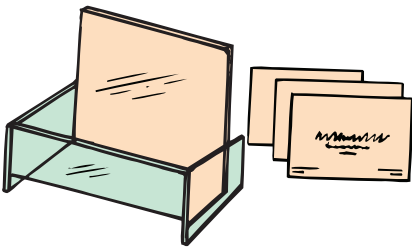
SUMMER FUN!

FUN IN THE SUN - 8/20/2016
Festival at Franklin Pierce Lake
MANAHAN BEACH
732 W Main St.
Hillsborough, NH

SEE FLYER
AT THE END
OF THIS
NEWSLETTER!

NEW MEETING
Safe Harbor Recovery Center
865 Islington Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Thursdays 1:30–2:30pm

Do you love ACRONYMS?



C Call your sponsor
A Ask for help from HP
R Read the big book
D Do the steps
S Stay active in your group

Published in *Grapevine* in 1993—By Bill P.

Area 43 2015–2016 Officers & Committee Chairs:

Officers

Pete V. Chairperson • Gary C. Alt-Chairperson •
B. S. Secretary • Joe S. Treasurer • Dale R. Delegate •
Jim M. Alt-Delegate • Benny, Registrar.

Committee Chairs

Kevin S. Archives • Artie D. Corrections • Jeff S. Finance • Mary B. Functions • Sue W.
Grapevine & Literature • Hotline • 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.

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.

NH Area Assembly Service Office
1330 Hooksett Road
Hooksett, NH 03106
Phone: 603.622.6967
Fax: 603.624.9507

Email: office@nhaa.net
Website: www.nhaa.net

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

PLEASE NOTE: Saturday,
September 3rd and Monday,
September 5th the office is closed
for the Labor Day Holiday.

Get Your Events Listed on the Area Website!

If you're planning a Group, District, or Area event and would like to spread the word, you can submit your event information online at www.nhaa.net/submit-event

Get Your Group on the NH Area Website Meeting List!

If you are starting a new group or need to make changes to the information of an existing meeting, you can do this easily by submitting the information online:

- **New Group Form:** <http://www.nhaa.net/new-group>
- **Group Change Form:** <http://www.nhaa.net/group-change>

Please contact our Webmaster if you need any help at
webmaster@nhaa.net

JULY 2016 Group Changes

JULY 2016 Group Changes for AUGUST Pipeline										
Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
20	Conway	Mon & Wed	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	709573	DH	Conway Noontime Group	St Margaret's Ch Basement	85 Pleasant St	Mon & Wed meetings erroneously disbanded but ARE ACTIVE
8	Henniker	Tuesday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	718400	DH	Sisters in Sobriety	St. Theresas Catholic Ch	158 Old West Hopkinton Rd	T461 Added GSO and moved from Old Grange Hall on Western Ave
9	Londonderry	Wednesday	7:00 PM	8:30 PM	682559	CD	Men's Fireside Barn Mtg	Orchard Christian Fellowship Ch Bldg	136 Pillsbury Rd	Moved from Robie House on Mammoth
9	Londonderry	Tuesday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	T452	X	Tuesday Night It's All Right	Orchard Christian Fellowship Ch Bldg	136 Pillsbury Rd	Moved from Robie House on Mammoth
14	Kittery, ME	All	All	All			All	Kittery Lions Club	117 State Road (Rte 1)	Changed from 17 State Rd
8	Hopkinton	Thursday	7:30pm	8:30pm	122146	SDH	One Day At A Time Group	St Andrews Episc Ch	354 Main St	Time changed from 8-9pm
16	Sanborville	Tuesday	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	706916	D	Burleyville Group	St. John's Episc Church	118 High St	Moved from Faith Ch on 1892 Province Lake Rd in Wakefield

New Groups										
Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
19	Keene	Tuesday	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	T474	CK	Step Sisters	Keene Unitarian	69 Washington St	
14	Portsmouth	Thursday	1:30 PM	2:30 pm	T475	DH	Sober at Safe Harbor	Safe Harbor Recovery Ctr	865 Islington St	

DISBANDED GROUPS										
Dist	Town	Day	Start	End	Grp #	Code	Group Name	Meeting Location	Address	Notes
7	Peterborough	Thursday	12:00	1:00pm	174197		Noon Timers Big Book	Episcopal Ch Annex	51 Concord St	

WANTED



... Stories for the PIPELINE

As always, we would love to receive submissions for *Pipeline* articles from our members. Share your Experience, Strength & Hope. We'd like to hear what inspires you to keep at this recovery journey day in and day out. Do not feel like you have to be a great writer to send something in. We have people to help with editing. **We even have a new submission button on our website!** Please submit articles of under 500 words to Pipeline@nhaa.net or mail to: NH Assembly Office, 1330 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, NH 03106, Attn: Pipeline. This is an honest fellowship; we presume all submissions are original or in the public domain. Following publication, all copyrights revert to the authors.

Report AA-related news from your district—round-ups, social functions, assemblies, calendar items, requests for volunteers, etc.

This newsletter is by and for alcoholics. Material may be edited for clarity and length. This newsletter and earlier issues can be printed from the Area 43 website:

www.nhaa.net.



NH Area Hotline
1-800-593-3300

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

See the monthly
calendars for
August &
September, 2016
at nhaa.net

The Service Office
Committee (SOC)
is looking for
members.
Please email
soc@nhaa.net or
chairperson
@nhaa.net
if interested.



8/20/2016

FUN IN THE SUN

Festival at Franklin Pierce Lake

District 8 Functions Committee Hosts Fun in the Sun, to include a picnic, meeting, live music, swimming, field games, boating, fishing and swimming!!! This is a picnic gathering district 8 will provide limited finger sandwiches, chips and drinks. Meet us at the pavilion.



Sat. Aug. 20th
11am-3pm

**1pm Gratitude
Meeting**

**Live Music by
Musicians in AA
before and after
the meeting.**

**Leashed pets are
welcome!!**

\$2 Donation

MANAHAN BEACH

732 W Main St.
Hillsborough, NH

www.nhaa.net

Call for more info.
603-491-8842

NH AREA 43 CHALLENGE



2015

Number of Members 1,348,072
GSO Services Cost \$9,629,499

\$7.14
Per member
per year

A yellow starburst graphic with multiple points is located on the right side of the page. Inside the starburst, the text 'Per member per year \$7.14' is written in black, with '\$7.14' in a larger, bold font.

**The cost for GSO is \$7.14/per member per year.
Please bring this message back to your group.
Perhaps organize a special group contribution.**

Groups and individuals can send contributions to GSO online at aa.org;
or mail to GSO, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

**\$7.14 is a spiritual way to shake the hand of
the incoming alcoholic locally and worldwide.**

***GSO expects an operating loss in 2016. Only 23.37% of all NH groups contribute to GSO.**