

God, Grant me the
Serenity to accept the
things I Cannot change,
the Courage to change the
things I can, and the
Wisdom to know the
difference.



Pipeline



A Publication of NH Area 43 Assembly

July 2005

The True Value of What I Throw In the Basket

As Bob Dylan irreverently sang in one of his "souped-up" songs: "I'm gonna save my money - An' Rip It Up!" Bob was not being literal, of course; but he was saying something about the true value, or nature of money: it is no good unless you use it. And what better cause, or organization, to "use it on" than Alcoholics Anonymous?

When the basket circles round to me, I deposit a quarter, which is all I can afford just now (and anyone in AA should just cheer the twenty-five cent piece - or, why not a penny...? - just as much as any ol' bill that features Washington's great bust). That is to say that I have had a smidgen of self-consciousness when that basket comes around, thinking that my contribution does not cut the mustard. But to analyze this a bit, this awful feeling of undeserved-ness you might say (myself not making a bigger contribution because I am not rich kind of thing); all I say back is: I give what I've got to give and then I keep my mouth shut, for giving is sacred.

Now, what might I mean by that? It is sacred, it is no less than holy, to give - right? No matter the quantity of quality of your coin - right? So give, is what I do, with just my one quarter, at each meeting I go to, because I believe that is the right thing to do.

I come out strong this way 'cause, as great a gift of God as it is to give, contributing my fair share is not to be taken lightly - not even when it comes to money. Indeed, insofar as this ol' rummy

knows, least of all should I concern myself with anything to do with giving my money away, where money (the root of evil) is concerned.

Let's just say that you have yet to come to trust AA as that which will cure your soul well enough to have you give up the drinking (and so much more). Let's just say, for instance, that having just now stepped into the halls your heart concerns itself with monetary gain? Well, I am saying that if that is your concern - money versus sobriety (and I'm not saying it should not be but let's hope it's not) - once you give up the booze, investing monetarily or spiritually in AA to help you do so will make you ever so much money than you thought possible! Whereas, if you just slither past the ol' outward door, never smiling or saying "hi," never raising your (empty) glass to the great organization that

AA is, or never even saying the Serenity Prayer even - you are not so much apt to make the metaphorical million that you will make if only you give - give it away! Your money is merely a symbol for who you are as a person who wants to do the right thing for your sobriety, and for that of so many more.

And so when the "bread" basket comes round your way the very next time, for the love of money, er Mike, I mean... or Pete or St. Christopher, or Andrew and Paul and Bernadette, give, and give some more; give now and forever-more, with all your might.

Rusty J. of Penacook

The Basket: Where Money & Spirituality Mix

In 2005, we will focus on the topics regarding **home groups**, to match the 2005 General Conference theme.

Send submissions to froggyk@netscape.com or snail mail to the Service Office, 1330 Hooksett Road, Hooksett NH 03106.

Tell us about your home group, or write to us regarding an upcoming topic.

August

"One Group, One Vote"

September

*"Carrying the Message Through
Living the Principles in Our Daily Lives"*

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E-mail the Pipeline at
froggyk@netscape.com.
Please put "For Pipeline"
in subject line.

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 A. A. Area 43 as a whole. The opinions expressed by AA members in the Pipeline are those of the writers, and do not imply endorsement by Area 43 or AA 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 A.A. movement it mirrors, the primary purpose of the New Hampshire Pipeline will be to try to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics and practice the A.A. principles in all its affairs.

NH Area Assembly Service Office

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Office Hours:

Mon - Fri 10 AM to 4 PM

Saturdays 10 AM to 2 PM

Website: www.nhaa.net

E-Mail:

office@nhaa.mv.com



Group Information

New Groups

District 9

Derry Tuesday 7:00PM - 8:15PM X
Pathways for Women, Marion Gerrish Community Center, 29 W. Broadway

District 13

Milford Sunday 7:00PM - 8:00PM HCD
Milford Women's Group, Church of Our Savior, Amherst Street
Group reactivated.

Meeting Changes

District 8

Chichester Tues & Thurs 8:30AM - 9:30AM DXB
H.O.W. to Start the Day, Historical Society Building, 49 Main St.
Moved from ADI in Concord.

District 12

Manch. Saturday 7:30PM - 9:00PM HSDX
Living-Loving-Sharing 12 Steps, New Horizons Shelter, 199 Manchester St.
Used to meet 8 - 9:30.

District 14

N. Hamptn. Friday 10:00AM - 11:00AM HDS
Kitchen Table Group, United Church of Christ, Jct Atlantic & Post Rds
Type change: Speaker added.

District 15

Rochester Tuesday 7:30PM - 8:45PM HS
Rochester Original, Rochester Community Center, 150 Wakefield St
Time change from 8 to 9pm.

Disbanded Meetings

District 12

Manch. Monday 11:30AM - 1:00PM
Downtown Group, Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell & Pine Streets

Manch.

Tuesday 11:30AM - 1:00PM
Grace 12 & 12, Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell & Pine Streets

Manch.

Thursday 10:00AM - 11:00AM
Road To Recovery, Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell & Pine Streets

Manch.

Friday 11:30AM - 12:30PM
H.O.W. Group, Grace Episcopal Church, 106 Lowell & Pine Streets

District 19

Keene Friday 9:00PM - 10:00PM
New Fri Nite Candlelight Meeting, 64 Beaver Street



Greetings From Your Service Office

This month you'll notice several changes to our order form. As announced in last month's Pipeline, the prices of most World Services books have gone up by about \$1 each, with the exception of the Big Book. GSO in New York has raised their prices; our new prices reflect our added expense.

In the Grapevine section, you'll notice some new items: **I Am Responsible** (\$7.95) is a collection of stories on our Responsibility Statement, and has been released in commemoration of the 2005 International Convention; **Best of Bill** (\$4.95) is now available in a **large-print** format at the same price as the regular soft-cover; **The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA** (\$4.95) is now available in a **second edition**, with new stories on the topic of the home group (the first edition is still available for \$3.25 while supplies last, as well as being our July walk-in special); and **A Guide to the AA Grapevine** (\$2) is a workbook detailing the history of the Grapevine as well as providing suggestions on being a GvR. Additionally, the price of **AA Around the World** is now \$4.95.

Please use the new order forms when placing your orders with us! Each July Pipeline packet included a new form (in yellow), but the office would be happy to mail you copies as well—just call us at 622-6967 or email us at office@nhaa.mv.com. Alternatively, you can download the new list off the Area 43 website at www.nhaa.net.

We're also working on the next version of the statewide meeting book. Please send us any group changes that you're aware of—your help and support is deeply appreciated!

We'd like to thank Geri F. of Candia and Cynthia R. of Manchester for their help this month.

In grateful service, Karen, Mary Anne and Ingrid

Homebound, and Can't Get to Meetings? No Problem!

If you can't get to meetings, there are other ways of participating in Alcoholics Anonymous:

1. LIM - a correspondence group via mail or email by GSO for homebound AA members as well as those living in places with no meetings (including sea-going AA's).
2. World Hello - another correspondence group for any AA member who is interested.
3. Meeting by Telephone - registered with GSO, this group meets by conference call on Sunday nights for one hour (long distance charges will apply) - they are a Big Book Study.
4. Online AA - there are several registered online AA groups with formats including chat, bulletin boards or email.
5. Radio AA - streaming online at <http://www.live365.com/stations/312363?play> - With real AA speakers taped at meetings, and the ability to log onto a comment page to participate.

All of these groups operate within our traditions. For more information, please call your Service Office at 622-6967.

Subscribe to your Pipling!

We need at least one hundred group subscriptions to make our minimum for bulk mailing, and we've been short. If just one more group in each district ordered, we'd be all set! Already subscribe? How about donating a subscription to a treatment center, halfway house, or correctional facility in your community? Your support is greatly appreciated!

Group Number: _____

Group Name: _____

Send to: _____

if for group, please use your GSR for the addressee

Address: _____

Town/State/Zip: _____

Send \$6 for each group subscription (10 copies/mo annually) or \$3.50 for each individual subscription (2 copies) to NHA, 1330 Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, NH 03106. Thank you for your support!

May Donations THANK YOU!

Alton Bay Group	Alton Bay
Living Sober Group	Andover
Barnstead Original	Barnstead
How To 12&12	Bedford
Pass It On Group	Bedford
Berlin Group	Berlin
Guardian Angel Big Book	Berlin
Daily Reflections	Concord
Monday Nite Step	Concord
Monday AM Think	Concord
Keep It Simple Beg	Conway Village
Derry Original Group	Derry
Spacetown	Derry
Unity Group	Derry
Half & Half Group	Dover
Morning Reflections	Dover
Resurrection Group	Dover
Sat. Nite Commitment	Dover
Sunday Noon	Dover
Dublin Hill Top Group	Dublin
Exeter Big Book	Exeter
Exeter Serenity	Exeter
Primary Purpose Group	Franklin
Rock & Rye	Hampton
Wednesday Big Book Grp	Hampton
Hollis 12 Step	Hollis
Get It Together Group	Hudson
Jackson Steps Group	Jackson
Jaffrey Group	Jaffrey
What's Good About Today	Kittery
Tues Nite 12 Step Group	Laconia
Primary Purpose Group	Lincoln
Amoskeag Falls Big Book	Manchester
Beech Street Big Book	Manchester
First Light Of Day	Manchester
Happy Hour East	Manchester
Joy Of Living	Manchester
Queen City Group	Manchester
Sunday Serenity	Manchester
Women Back To Basics	Manchester
B & M Honesty	Merrimack
B & M Freedom Group	Merrimack
Souhegan Sunrise	Milford
Winnie's Womens Group	Moultonboro
Downtown Group	Nashua
Early Bird Group	Nashua
Good Shepherd	Nashua
TSDD Men's Peace Of Mind	Nashua
Fireside Group	New Durham
Tuesday Nite Beginners	New London
Sat AM BB Step Study	Newington
Monday Night Big Book	North Conway
Living Hope	Northwood
12 Step Women's Group	Pelham
Our Town Group	Peterborough
Reborn Group	Portsmouth
Women's Step Meeting	Portsmouth
Courage To Change	Raymond
Raymond Recovery	Raymond
Rindge Original Step Mtg	Rindge
Rochester Friday Nite	Rochester
Genesis 12 Step Group	Salem
Hopeful-Helpful-Grateful	Salem
Bow Lake Group	Strafford
Coffee And Doughnuts	Wolfeboro
Sat. 12 & 12 Discussion	Wolfeboro



Your... Roving Reporter

Each month our roving reporter (and his trusty notebook!) visits an AA function to ask AA questions. We'll publish as many answers as we can. He appeared in Bethlehem at the May Area Assembly and asked:

What do you tell the newcomer when the Seventh Tradition basket is passed?

We are self-supporting through our own contributions. Our donations pay for rent, coffee, goodies, pamphlets, meeting lists, and donations to District 8, Area 43 and our GSO in New York City.

Phil H. of the Happy Hour Group in Concord

We are self-supporting. The money is for rent, coffee and 12th Step work.

Anonymous

Give if you can. Take if you need. Absolutely.

Anonymous

We have a voluntary collection to help pay for rent, coffee and so on. Contribute if you can, but don't worry about it if you can't.

Anonymous

I would first explain that all contributions are voluntary. If they need I would explain what voluntary means. If they were really worried I would point out that they could always contribute by helping out in other ways: pick up chairs, set up, clean up or whatever other service is needed at that time. I would leave them with what I was told when I first came in. "If you got some leave it. If you don't, don't worry about it."

Bert K., DCM of District 8

Exactly agree!

Constance L. of District 9

We are alcoholics, and we wish to pay our own way for coffee, rent, etc. Since we pay our rent, we do not have to listen to our "meeting place" goals and objectives. This is something we set ourselves, we control ourselves.

Gary V. of the Courage to Change Group

Give what you can, take some if you need it. Leave the rest.

Bill of the Berlin Friday Night Group

If you can and want to, put something in the basket. You're welcome anyway.

Dale K.

It's a voluntary contribution, when we can. We pay our own way.

John K.

Put in \$2!

Anonymous

You don't have to give if you don't want or can't afford to, but this is to help meetings to run, have coffee and stuff like that.

Randy P.

We have traditions and it is a good idea to learn them and know them, so when a newcomer is in the room and has a question about the seventh tradition or anything else, you can give them an informed answer that follows the traditions. Thus the newcomer becomes another well-informed member of AA and can be there for the next newcomer.

Amy W. of Concord

I tell them what the seventh tradition states and that money goes to coffee, literature, rent and group services. And if he or she has it – give it. If they don't have it, don't worry about it!

Jay B. of the Laconia Original Group

Now that we are sober, we learn to be self-sufficient, meaning we pay our own way. The money is for rent, coffee and to support GSO (AA's main office) to help other alcoholics. If you don't have any money now, don't worry. Just pay it when you can in the future.

Anonymous of Exeter

No need to contribute until your third meeting or when you decide you're a member.

Anonymous

Put a dollar in if you have one. If not, bring one to your next meeting.

Bonnie of the Littleton Saturday 12 & 12

If we had money to drink we probably have money to support our recovery program. However, as a beginner you may have home or family needs that need more attention at the beginning of your sobriety/recovery. Give only if you can.

Bill P. of District 18

AA members chip in to pay for AA expenses – we take no money from the government and accept no charity. That way we get to run this thing ourselves. Don't give until you decide to join, and then only if you can. (But don't come in with a \$5 jumbo cup of gourmet coffee and then tell me you can't afford to throw something in the basket. Drink our coffee and give a buck or two to AA.)

Anonymous

Bridging the Gap: Helping the Newcomer

Sign Up to Be a Bridging the Gap Contact

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone#: _____

Street or Box: _____

City/Town: _____

State/Zip: _____

Please list other towns for which you are able to be a temporary contact:

Sobriety Date: _____

Home Group: _____

Gender: M _____ F _____ Age: (optional) _____

Please check preference:

Corrections _____ Treatment _____ Either _____

Please mail completed form to:

New Hampshire Area Assembly
attn: Treatment Chair
1330 Hooksett Road
Hooksett, NH 03106

For more information call Jay B. at 494-9425.

If you are currently in a treatment facility, hospital, correctional institution or other residential setting, and wish to have a Bridging the Gap contact when you leave the institution, write to the address above or call Bridging the Gap at **1-800-593-3330**.

AA Trivia Corner

Which AA co-founder had tattoos?
What were they?

Dr. Bob! There was a blue dragon with red fire that wound around the length of his left arm, and a compass on his other arm.

Alcoholics Anonymous in New Hampshire (Area 43) provides a "Bridging The Gap" program to help alcoholics in Correctional & Treatment Facilities who are interested in recovery. Basically, it introduces individuals to Alcoholics Anonymous on the outside. Keep in mind that this is basic 12th Step/5th Tradition work.

You need not have any previous experience with Correctional or Treatment Facilities. Your qualifications are your experiences as an alcoholic and your recovery in A.A. The intent is to provide help to the alcoholic "Bridging The Gap" (BTG). As the program name suggests, it is for a limited time. You are not being asked to permanently sponsor the inmate/patient. That is their/your choice. We suggest that you read the A.A. pamphlet *Bridging The Gap... Between Treatment and A.A. Through Temporary Contact Programs* and the guidelines found in this pamphlet. If you are interested in becoming an outside volunteer temporary contact person, complete the form and mail it to the address indicated, or write your name on one of the sign up sheets.

THIS INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL!!!

Under no circumstances will it ever be given to the patient or inmate with whom we put you in contact... that's your choice. The Bridging the Gap Coordinator will call YOU when a patient or inmate is being released. YOU will be given information about THEM.

Matching is based primarily on gender; geographical location and age are considered, but are not limiting. You are always contacted first and may decline a particular match for any reason without dropping out of the program.

Thanks for investing in this "Sobriety Insurance" program" for, "...nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics".

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR TEMPORARY CONTACTS

1. It is suggested that you read the A.A. pamphlet *Bridging The Gap: Between Treatment and A.A. Through Temporary Contact Programs*. Remember that A.A. offers only sobriety. It does not provide housing, food, clothing, jobs, money, welfare or social services.
2. Remember that you may be the first contact which the inmate/client has with A.A. In order to answer questions that may arise, you should be familiar with A.A.'s Steps, Traditions and Literature.
3. It is suggested that you have at least one year of continuous sobriety.
4. It is strongly suggested that men work with men and women with women.
5. It is suggested that you send the individual an A.A. meeting list. Make arrangements to meet them on the day of their release/discharge and attend a meeting with them. (A meeting on the very day of release is preferable.)
6. DO NOT use your personal address when corresponding unless it is a P.O. Box number. You are welcome to use the address given on the bottom of this form. Call the BTG coordinator for more information.
7. If you meet the inmate/client for the first time outside of an A.A. meeting, take another A.A. member with you, as is suggested for all Twelfth Step work. That member need not have one year of continuous sobriety.
8. Additional suggestions that you may want to do are:
 - Visit the alcoholic before they leave the Facility, if possible.
 - Provide them with A.A. conference approved literature.
 - Take them to a variety of A.A. meetings once they get out.
 - Introduce them to as many A.A. members as possible.
 - Call them.
 - Ensure that they have a list of A.A. phone numbers.
 - Talk with them about sponsorship.
 - Bring them to Area Assemblies, functions and meetings. Someday, they may want to give it back!

After making the initial contact with the new AA please call back the coordinator let then know the bridge has successfully been made!