



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

October 2005

Why Is Good Leadership Important?

How do you know what good AA leadership at all levels is? I asked myself this question and this is the answer I came up with was: I didn't know what good AA leadership was until I started learning the traditions: learning what AA was and was not and why things should and should not be done in a certain way.

I also asked myself why is it indispensable for our future functioning and safety to have good leadership at all levels. The answer I came up with was simple: because I want this program to be there for the next alcoholic who wants to find a better life than the one they are living, just as I had that opportunity.

Why did I come to the answers I did and how can you also learn why these things are important? Well I'll tell you how I did it.

Even in early sobriety I started to question different things - why one group did one thing and another something else - but not knowing any different I said and did nothing. After starting to read and learn the traditions I started to realize that a lot of groups were not following the traditions. The groups that followed the traditions had a core group of members that knew the traditions and informed the group why things had to be a certain way and the tradition the situation fell under. This core group usually had a GSR that attends all the district meetings and they knew their traditions. Also, there was often a secretary or chairperson who knew their traditions.

At the District level the people who are GSRs or AAers that attend the district meeting every month learned what is going on in AA and learned the traditions. These are the ones that when District elections happen every two years they stand for the District positions and bring their knowledge to the next two years. The people who make good District officers and chairs are the ones who then start to learn and want to

learn more about AA and bring that information back to the GSRs and AAers in their District, so that all the members in their District are informed.

At the Area level the DCM's, District and Area Officers, and District and Area Chairs who have been learning and growing in service then stand for the Area positions. When they stand for the Area position they would like to fill, a great thing happens: the GSRs get to vote or not vote for that person and if they have been following through with their GSR position then they will be able to make an informed decision that will benefit their group and AA as a whole.

It then goes on from there. But it all starts back at the group. Groups need members to step up to the plate to become GSRs and to learn the traditions and how AA works and to inform their groups about this stuff. These GSRs will more than likely than move up in service and to help AA to continue.

Why is it indispensable for our future functioning and safety to have good leadership at all levels? It again goes back to the group. Having the group be solid and having people in that group who believe in that group and AA as a whole and they educate themselves about the AA traditions and show up every week teaches a newcomer what

AA is and is not. When that newcomer is ready to get involved there will be people to guide him or her through our service structure.

WE ARE AA with traditions and history that insure that we will be there for the next alcoholic. If we follow both our traditions and history and those who have learned our traditions and history pass it along to the next person then AA will be here in the future.

We can only destroy ourselves and we will if we don't learn what AA is and is not through the traditions and our history.

Amy W. of Concord

**Concept Nine:
Leadership
and
Responsibility
for AA's
Future**

"God puts some in places of leadership to shoulder responsibility, not to enjoy privileges."

- Anonymous

(reprinted from The Sober Times, Area 48 District 12 newsletter, September 2005)

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.

November

*"Service in Our Home Group:
An Expression of Gratitude"*

December

"Do I Carry the AA Message or My Own?"

Pipeline

A Publication of the
NH Area 43 Assembly of
Alcoholics Anonymous

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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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Mon - Fri 10 AM to 4 PM

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Group Information

New Groups

District 12

Manch. Tuesday/Thursday 6:30PM - 7:30PM HD
Living Sober Today, Liberty House, 75 W. Baker Street

District 14

Exeter Sunday 9:00AM - 10:15AM HD CS
Women's Sunday Serenity 3rd Fl. Conference Room, 10 Buzell Ave
Group erroneously reported as disbanded.

Hampton

Thursday 7:00AM - 8:00AM HD
Thursday Beginners Group, United Methodist Church, 525 Lafayette Rd

Hampton

Tuesday 7:00AM - 8:00AM HD
Tuesday Beginners Group, United Methodist Church, 525 Lafayette Rd

District 19

Keene Tuesday 6:30PM CDB
Come Back Big Book, The Newman Center, 232 Main Street
Group restarted.

Meeting Changes

District 7

Rindge Tues/Thurs 7:00PM - 8:00PM XC
Rindge Original, Franklin Pierce College, Mtn View Comm Room
End time changed from 8:30PM.

District 8

Penacook Thursday 7:30PM - 8:45PM SHD
D.D.I.S., Brown house, behind senior center
Group name change from Young at Heart Peoples Group.

Concord

Wednesday 5:30PM - 6:45PM HDB
Happy Hour Big Book, So. Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St
Group name corrected from Happy Hour Group.

District 13

Milford Monday 8:00PM - 9:15PM SH
New Horizons Group, Congregational Church, Union Street
Moved from Utd. Methodist Church on Mt. Vernon St.

Merrimack

Wednesday 6:30PM
District GSR Meeting, Merrimack YMCA, 6 Henry Clay Road
Used to meet on 3rd Sunday of the month at Friendship Club.

District 17

Colebrook Wednesday 6:30PM - 7:30PM X
Step Sisters. Trinity Unity Methodist Church, Bridge Street
Moved from St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

Berlin

Friday 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Berlin Friday Night Group, St. Anne's Hall
End time change from 8:00 pm.

District 21

WRJ, VT Wednesday 7:15PM - 8:15PM SHD
Free & Sober Group, Turning Point Club, 37 N. Main St
Time change from 8 to 9PM.

Disbanded Meetings

District 19

Hinsdale Thursday 7:30PM DX
Thursday Night Step Group, 1st Congregational Church, 36 Main Street



Greetings From Your Service Office

The mission statement for your Service Office claims that we serve as "a clearing house for Alcoholics Anonymous" in New Hampshire. Not only do we process literature orders and maintain the Area 43 meeting database, we also field your questions regarding AA. A newcomer may ask the difference between open and closed meetings; someone might need directions to an AA function; or a member might call because a newcomer in their group only speaks Spanish. We're here to help you find answers and solutions for your AA concerns!

One common question is from newly elected group treasurers: **How do I open a checking account for my group?** The best way to establish a checking account is to get a TIN (Tax Identification Number) for your group. As a nonprofit, your group should not pay any monthly bank fees on a checking account, nor should this new account be tied to any one group member. (Banks will require a TIN for the account; for individuals this is a Social Security Number.)

You will need to fill out Form SS-4 from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). You can download this form from <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-fill/fss4.pdf> or by calling the IRS directly at 1-877-829-5500. When you've filled out the appropriate sections of the form (see page 2 for the instructions for "Opened a bank account"), have your group treasurer call the IRS at 1-877-829-5500. Once connected to a live person, they should be able to assign your group a TIN right over the phone. You can then proceed to the bank of your choice and ask to open a non-profit checking account using your group's TIN.

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

In grateful service, Karen, Mary Anne and Amy

District 13 GSR Meeting Finds New Home

District 13, which lost their meeting location over the summer, has relocated their GSR meeting to the Merrimack YMCA, 6 Henry Clay Road, in Merrimack.

They'll now be meeting at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Please come - GSRs vote!

Subscribe to your Pipeline!

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!

August Donations THANK YOU!

Gateway To Sobriety	Alton
Sunday 12 & 12	Atkinson
Barrington Group	Barrington
How To 12 & 12	Bedford
Friday Nite Group	Berlin
Newfound Lake Group	Bristol
Back To Basics	Center Ossipee
Daily Reflections	Concord
Friday Noon Acceptance	Concord
Sat Men's 12 Step Group	Concord
Keep It Simple	Contoocook
Keep It Simple Beginners	Conway Village
As Bill Sees It	Derry
Derry Original Group	Derry
Derry Women's Group	Derry
Saturday Nite Live	Derry
Spacetown	Derry
Young At Heart	Derry
Grateful Hearts Group	Dover
Resurrection Group	Dover
Sat. Nite Commitment	Dover
Tuesday Noontime Group	Dover
Living By The Book	Epping
Exeter Serenity	Exeter
Keep It Simple	Exeter
Women In Need Of Sobriety	Gonic
Pass It On	Hampton
One Day At A Time	Hopkinton
A Spiritual Nature	Hudson
Get It Together Group	Hudson
Came To Believe Group	Keene
Keene Original	Keene
Saturday Night Alternative	Kittery
Thursday Night Original	Laconia
Back To Basics	Lebanon
Sun Morning Reflections	Lebanon
Lee Discussion Group	Lee
Original Sunday Nite Group	Littleton
Thursday Step Group	Littleton
Live And Let Live	Londonderry
Beech Street Big Book	Manchester
Big Book Step Study	Manchester
First Light Of Day	Manchester
Free At Last	Manchester
Hard Hat Group	Manchester
Original Happy Hour West	Manchester
Queen City Group	Manchester
Women Back To Basics	Manchester
Women's Daytime Group	Manchester
B&M Freedom Group	Merrimack
Merrimack Group	Merrimack
Milford No-Name Group	Milford
Souhegan Sunrise	Milford
Friday Night Group	N. Conway
Big Book 12 Step Study	Nashua
Remember When Group	Nashua
Slogan Group	Nashua
So Nashua Today Group	Nashua
Sober Grateful & Free	Nashua
Sat. Big Book Meeting	Northwood
Nottingham Original	Nottingham
Come Share	Ossipee
12 Step Group	Peterborough
Friday Nite Live	Plaistow
Stepping Stones	Plaistow
Reborn Group	Portsmouth
Sun Morning Daybreak	Portsmouth
Rindge Original Step Mtg	Rindge
South Hampton Big Book	S. Hampton
Peace Of Mind	Salem
Sanbornville Group	Sanbornville
Saturday Nite Live	Springfield
BAIGIS Group	Tamworth
Wolfeboro Fri Nite Big Book	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. In September he went to a young people's meeting and asked:

Does Your Age Matter in AA? Why or why not?

Yes. Being in the program and being young, it is hard to relate with older members. You can't really hang out with them so they can't join your new "sober friend crowd."

Anonymous, Age 23

No. I think anybody can be an alcoholic, it should not matter what age. Everybody should be able to get the help they need, no matter where they are in life.

Timmy, of Crazy in AA, Age 26

No. AA is for everyone. I've heard young speakers and old ones – they both relay a great message. I relate to everyone and have made friends that are much older and much younger. You just have to have an open mind.

Dave, of Crazy in AA, Age 34

No. If you're a drunk, you're a drunk – if you're done, you're done. Cancer doesn't care how old you are and neither does this illness.

Anonymous

No. Anyone with a drinking problem who wants to stop – or who may have been in a family of drinkers and has seen the effects, thinks they're headed there too and doesn't want to end up like that – should be welcome.

Dan, Age 26

No. You can become alcoholic at any age. One of the most important things is to realize it's time to reach out for help.

Bobbie, Age 28

No. Age does not matter. If the person is here that's the first step. I feel that if the person wants help he can still relate to older members/younger members or any newcomer's story. He still has the competence to understand!

Kinne, Age 31

No. Alcoholism is an indiscriminate disease – it doesn't matter, race, sex or age. It can affect anyone.

Kevin G., Age 28

Yes. My age matters because I came here at 19. I couldn't legally drink or buy alcohol. That was a big deal! For me there were times when knowing I was only 19 or 20 kept me sober. Now at 21 I like knowing I got sober and stayed sober through my 21st birthday. Basically I'm growing up in sobriety! That really matters.

Nicholas J., Age 21

Sort of. I was 18 when I got sober and I had to learn to relate to older people. Like when people talked about losing their house, I had to think of getting kicked out by my parents – it was the same issue. But some people in AA treated me different because I was usually the youngest one at a meeting; some people thought I was too young to be a real alcoholic, while others treated me like an AA mascot. I think it would have been easier to feel like I really belonged if older members had related to me as just another drunk.

Karen., of the Courage to Change Group, Age 34

Carry the Message to Alcoholic Veterans

AA members are needed to expand the number of meetings at the Veterans Victory Farm on Pierce Road in Fitzwilliam. Currently a meeting is brought in on Friday nights; the facility would love to have members bring another meeting in on Wednesdays. If you can help, call Steve at the Farm at 585-9427.

Reaching Out to Spanish-Speaking Alcoholics

There is a need for a Spanish Language meeting in New Hampshire, or help for Spanish speaking alcoholics. Several men from Grupo Concepcion in Lawrence, MA, are willing to help if we can get a Spanish meeting started in Manchester. Tim F. in Concord is also willing to give rides to meetings of Grupo Concepcion. If you know anyone who can help or who needs a meeting in Spanish, please call Tim at 228-0048

**The new permanent address of the District 18 website is:
www.nhaadistrict18.org**

Your Area Election Assembly:

We Choose Our Leadership

On Saturday October 22 Area 43 will elect its officers for 2006-2007. Positions include Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar. In true AA fashion, these officers do NOT have power in the usual sense of the word, but do have a role of leadership as they serve New Hampshire AA.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Election Assembly; here's why:

GSRs (or their alternates): True AA power comes from the groups themselves. Through the participation of their elected GSR, each group participates in decisions at the district and area levels. If you want your group to have a voice that counts when we choose our new Area Officers, encourage your GSR to attend. Better yet, offer to come along with them, so you can see for yourself our Third Legacy Procedure.

Current DCMs: DCMs carry the collective wisdom of the groups they serve, and they too vote at Assemblies. By virtue of their service, they also qualify to stand for election to Area Officer positions.

Current Area Officers and Area Standing Committee Chairs: Eligible to vote and eligible to stand for election to positions they have not yet held.

Current Delegate: Runs the election portion of the assembly. Not eligible to stand for Area Officer positions.

Past Delegates: Assist the current delegate in running the election portion of the assembly *(Please come! We need your experience, wisdom and assistance!)*

Past Area Officers and Area Standing Committee Chairs: Eligible to stand for election to positions they have not yet held.

All AA members: Share your voice with Area 43! Your help may also be needed in such tasks as counting votes and passing out voting papers.

So join us on Saturday October 22 at the Wesley United Methodist Church on Clinton Street in Concord. Registration begins at 8 am; the Assembly begins promptly at 9 am. For directions, call the Service Office at 622-6967 or check out the flyer on the Area 43 website at www.nhaa.net.

The Pipeline Carries the Message

AA greetings from Washington State to all of you, who read or get the Pipeline. I get mine from one of your members, Karen S., who writes to me as a Homer. GSO offers this vital AA link to people like me who can't attend meetings because of some limitations and disabilities.

I hope this letter will encourage more of you to write GSO and get a name. We share experience, strength and hope through the mail. It's such a miracle for me that whatever is going on, a letter arrives just when it should – no coincidence, it's a real miracle, and such a blessing in our home to have AA in the mail.

After three major strokes, several major surgeries and 49 days in the hospital; AA is not my whole life, but my way of life. Between Pipelines, Grapevines, letters, God, sponsors and my precious Big Book, 12 & 12 and other AA books, I'm surely blessed.

The hand of AA has truly reached out to us. My friend of 87 has his AA birthday on April 5, 1987; and mine is February 6, 1981. I keep daily prayers simple: keep me teachable and work 1, 2, and 3 daily as well as the others. God bless you all and thank you again for the Pipeline.

Pattie H. of Maple Falls, WA

Editor's note: If you know a member who is no longer able to attend meetings because of poor health, encourage them to write to GSO. The Loners & Internationalists Meeting is a meeting by mail for members who are unable to attend face-to-face meetings. Loners are members that live in locations without meetings, Internationalists are seagoing AAs, and Homers are those whose health confines them to their home. Also included as LIM members are Port Contacts (AAs who live near the sea and serve as contacts to Internationalists traveling to their ports) and Loner Sponsors (who share their meeting experiences with members who can't get to meetings). LIM members stay in touch via letters, emails, and a bimonthly newsletter. For more information, write to GSO - LIM desk, PO Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163.

AA Trivia Corner

**Who was the first
New Hampshire Delegate?**

Chet B., elected in 1952.