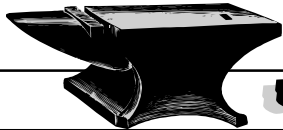


God, Grant me the Serenity to accept the things I Cannot change, the Courage to change the things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference.



Pipeline



A Publication of NH Area 43 Assembly November 2005

The Anvil of Experience from the October 1994 Grapevine

"When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible." The first time I read those words they brought tears to my eyes. They have come to have real meaning to me.

I wasn't sober long before I wanted to know everything about this wonderful Fellowship—the Steps, Traditions, history—everything. I was hungry for anything that AA had to offer—still am. About the time of my first AA anniversary, I attended a general service workshop that was sponsored by my district. The weather was bad and it was poorly attended, and the man who was chairing the gratitude meeting said, "I hear people in meetings talk about how grateful they are but the people here tonight are the ones who are truly grateful." I knew him; we were members of the same group. This man soon became my second sponsor. One of the first things he told me to do was to shut up and learn to listen so that I could listen to learn. It was one of the most powerful suggestions I have ever taken in AA. I realized that, at a year sober, I had no clue how to live sober. Alcoholics Anonymous didn't need me but I desperately needed Alcoholics Anonymous.

I had been active at the group level from the time I was three months sober—first coffeemaker, then secretary, then treasurer. Now my sponsor suggested that I become active in general service. I became a GSR (General Service Representative) for my group. I attended district and area meetings, assemblies and conferences, and it took a good year before I was able to actually hear what was going on.

My sponsor now took on a new dimension, and became my service sponsor. In order to serve my group responsibly as a trusted servant, I needed guidance and direction in the Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts for World Service. I trusted that my sponsor's experience in service would provide that. It did and still does. We talk

weekly, we write to each other, and we constantly exchange AA information.

When I was three years sober I moved back here to the San Francisco Bay area to be near my family. I continue to be active and serve as delegate to the central office for my home group. Each time I attend a delegate's meeting, I have to ask myself if I am acting responsibly for my group. Do I have the group conscience in mind or do I have my own agenda? If I have my own agenda I cease to be a trusted servant. When I am at my home group I ask myself if we are acting in accordance with the Traditions.

That is our responsibility as an AA group.

I found out early on that I couldn't trust my own thinking. I had to become willing to surrender my thinking and replace my ideas and beliefs with the spiritual principles of Alcoholics Anonymous. I am responsible as a trusted servant to be informed—my group expects and deserves that. This responsibility requires me to take action, to do some reading, and to find out what the principles say—not what I think.

Simple, not easy. The beautiful thing about AA is that we don't have to reinvent the wheel. We have directions and guidelines that we can follow; they were hammered out on the anvil of experience by those who have gone before us.

I am a free woman today—free from booze. It is my individual responsibility to continue to grow, with the help of a Higher Power, a sponsor, and the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is our responsibility—both individually and collectively—to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous (especially the message embodied in the first 164 pages of our Big Book) and to give back that which has so freely been given to us.

I recently said to my sponsor, "How do you pay back something that can't really be repaid?"

"Pass it on," he said, "and help keep this thing together."

Lee J, of San Carlos, CA

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Service in Our Home Group: An Expression of Gratitude

In 2005, we have focussed on 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.

December

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

Pipeline

A Publication of the
NH Area 43 Assembly of
Alcoholics Anonymous

Pipeline Chair:

Karen S. 623-8252

Distribution Chair:

Jay J. 783-4620

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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Phone (603) 622-6967

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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:

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Group Information

New Groups

- District 12**
Manchstr. Sundays 4:00PM
Grupo Nueva Vida, St. Augustin Church, 383 S. Beech Street
In Spanish!
- District 15**
Dover Fridays 7:00PM - 8:30PM SDX
Open Women's Amends Meeting, Unity of the Seacoast, 10 Second Street
- District 18**
Charlestrn. Saturdays 8:00PM SDH
Living Sober, Anglican Church, Summer Street
- New Lndn. Wednesdays 5:00PM - 6:00PM SDH
Young People's Group, Colby Sawyer College, Baird Health Ctr., Seamans Rd.

Meeting Changes

- District 8**
Concord T/Th/Friday 6:30AM - 7:30AM
Bring Your Own Coffee Group, So Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St.
Meeting on Friday Added.
- District 9**
Hampstead Tuesdays 7:30PM - 9:00PM SH*
Hampstead Tuesday Nite Group, Hampstead Hospital, East Road
Used to meet 8:30 - 10:00.
- District 12**
Manchstr. 3rd Sunday 6:00PM - 7:00PM
Monthly GSR Meeting, St. Raphael Hall, Ferry Street (off South Main St.)
Moved from American Red Cross.
- District 13**
Merrimack 3rd Wednesday 7:00PM
Monthly GSR Meeting, Merrimack YMCA, 6 Henry Clay Drive
Meeting used to start at 6:30.
- District 14**
Portsmouth Tuesday/Thursday 7:00AM - 8:00AM
Good Morning Group, Kaman House, 206 Court St.
New meeting added on Thursday morning.
- District 16**
Tamworth Sat/Tuesday 8:00PM - 9:00 PM
BAIGIS Group, St Andrews in the Valley, Whittier Road
New meeting added on Tuesday (it was formerly Tamworth 12 Step Grp).
- District 19**
Keene Tuesday 6:30PM DB
Come Back Big Book, 463 Washington St.
Location change from Newman Ctr, Type change: meeting now Open.

Disbanded Meetings

- District 8**
Chichester Tuesday/Thursday 8:30AM - 9:30AM
H.O.W. to Start the Day, Historical Society, 49 Main Street
- Concord Friday 6:30AM - 7:30AM
6:30AM Mens Step Meeting, So. Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St.
Group disbanded, meeting merged with Bring Your Own Coffee Group.
- District 10**
Hvrhll. MA 1st Thursday 7:00PM - 9:00PM
The Dinner Meeting, Mr Mike's Restaurant, Route 125
- District 11**
Plymouth Saturday 8:00PM - 9:00 PM
Covered Bridge Group, St. Matthew's Parish Hall, School Street
Thursday night meeting disbanded.
- Plymouth Thursday 7:00PM - 8:00PM
Covered Bridge PM, St. Matthew's Parish Hall, School Street
Saturday night meeting disbanded.
- District 16**
Tamworth Tuesday 8:00PM - 9:15PM
Tamworth 12 Step Group, St. Andrews in the Valley, Old Rte 25
Group disbanded, but meeting continues as part of BAIGIS Group.



Greetings From Your Service Office

Have you recently been elected to a new service position in your home group, your district, or even the Area? Do you have questions about your new responsibilities?

Many groups hold annual elections at this time of year, and in the autumn of odd years Area 43 (including districts within the Area) rotates its leadership as well. The principle of rotation prevents our service positions from becoming stale, but it also provides us opportunities to continue to grow in our recovery through learning more about AA. If you've taken on a new service position chances are you're not entirely familiar with what is expected of you.

The Service Office has many resources that may help guide you in fulfilling your new responsibilities. The **Service Manual** is a great resource for most AA positions – whether at the group, district or area levels. The 2005-2006 edition has just come in and the Service Office now carries it in the original size as well as large-print. The pamphlet **The AA Group** identifies many group positions and the common expectations associated with them. **GSR: May Be the Most Important Job in AA** explains how the GSR connects his/her group with AA as a whole. The **set of yellow AA Guidelines** can be useful in determining how to approach service work, particularly for committees. We also carry **service material** including **binders and workbooks** for Corrections, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment and Grapevine work. **The New Hampshire Area 43 General Service Assembly Service Handbook** is an excellent tool for those in service, and it's free!

Your Service Office staff is available to help you determine what material can help you in your endeavors – please stop by or call us at 622-6967 if we can be of assistance.

We'd like to thank Dale K. of Woodsville, and Cynthia R. of Manchester and Geri F. of Candia for their help in the office.

In grateful service, Karen, Mary Anne and Amy

Meeting Space Available In Rochester

Mark Hamilton, pastor of the First Congregational Church in Rochester, has been in touch with the Service Office to offer space for a meeting or two at his church. He has different size rooms available at various times and would like to see at least one meeting in the church. Interested members can contact Pastor Hamilton at 332-1121.

Subscribe to your Pipeline!

Thanks to groups who bought new subscriptions to the Pipeline, we have once again achieved our bulk mail minimums! Your subscriptions help support this Area publication. Already subscribe? How about donating a subscription to a treatment center, halfway house, correctional facility, homeless shelter or school 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!

September Donations THANK YOU!

Alton Bay Group	Alton Bay
Covered Bridge Group	Ashland
Barrington Group	Barrington
How To 12 & 12	Bedford
Colebrook Monday Step	Colebrook
Primary Purpose	Concord
Stepping Into Today	Concord
Derry Original Group	Derry
Derry Women's Group	Derry
No Frills Group	Derry
Spacetown	Derry
Young At Heart	Derry
Dover Original	Dover
Half & Half Group	Dover
Meet Us Halfway	Dover
Morning Reflections	Dover
Sat. Nite Commitment	Dover
Sunday Noon	Dover
Durham Original Group	Durham
Amethyst 12 & 12	Epping
Original Group Of AA	Fitzwilliam
Keep It In AA	Gonic
Hampstead Angels	Hampstead
Saturday Nite Original	Hampstead
Women's Joy Of Living	Hampstead
Eye Opener Group	Hampton
Help Yourself	Hampton
Pass It On	Hampton
Rock & Rye	Hampton
Cheshire Group	Keene
Kittery Original	Kittery
What's Good About Today	Kittery
First Steppers	Laconia
Tues Nite 12 Step Group	Laconia
Sunday Big Book	Lebanon
12 & 12 Step Group	Littleton
Amoskeag Falls BB	Manchester
First Light Of Day	Manchester
Joy Of Living	Manchester
Keep It Simple	Manchester
Mens 12 Step Intro	Manchester
North End Group	Manchester
Over 50 Group	Manchester
Queen City Group	Manchester
Rainbow Big Book	Manchester
Round Robin Group	Manchester
Sunday Serenity	Manchester
There Is A Solution	Manchester
Milford Beginners	Milford
Souhegan Sunrise	Milford
Winnie's Womens Group	Moultonboro
TSDD Men's Peace Of Mind	Nashua
Early Bird Group	Nashua
Peculiar Mental Twists	Nashua
So. Nashua Today Group	Nashua
Tuesday Nite Beginners	New London
Living Sober Group	North Conway
Monday Night Big Book	North Conway
New Sunlight Group	North Conway
Living Hope	Northwood
Sat. Big Book Meeting	Northwood
Friday Nite Live	Plaistow
Stepping Stones	Plaistow
Covered Bridge Group	Plymouth
Fresh Start Beginners Mtg	Portsmouth
Portsmouth Original	Portsmouth
Reborn Group	Portsmouth
Footprints Group	Rochester
Rochester Original	Rochester
Genesis 12 Step Group	Salem
Sanbornville Group	Sanbornville
Fri Night Beginners	Somersworth
Saturday Nite Live	Springfield
Bow Lake Group	Strafford
Wolfeboro Group	Wolfeboro

District 10 GvR Hard at Work

I am pleased to report on much Grapevine and Literature progress in District 10!

Grapevines ordered at the end of June finally started appearing at all listed meetings in District 10. As voted on, D-10 bought a subscription for each listed meeting in our district, in hopes of the magazines being passed and read among our fellowship, inspiring people to order their own subscription, instead of waiting for their turn at their groups Grapevine.

A batch of District 10 Meeting Lists made it back from the printer; the district meeting list seems to be well received by all. We will be sure to print more and get them out to everyone who wants one.

As September is "National Recovery Month", eight literature racks with pamphlets geared towards the newcomer, women and young people were purchased and placed in each of the five town's libraries, each of the districts two high school's guidance offices and one in our one hospital's social workers office.

Additionally, eight Big Books and eight 12 & 12's, along with Area 43 meeting lists were given to the above mentioned eight locations. Each rack has the 1-800 NH AA Hotline Number attached to the front of it!

The five libraries responded well and with gratitude; the nurse/social worker at our only hospital thanked us and each of the two high schools guidance offices were glad to get pamphlets, books and lists.

I have to admit, of only calling one library director and one high school guidance office to gauge the reactions at those locations and get a feel for what kind of reception we would receive. After hearing how happy they were to be getting free resource material, I decided to cold call the rest, without issue.

Some of the locations asked if they would have to give the pamphlet racks back, after "National Recovery Month" was over and were pleased to hear that the racks were theirs to keep and that we would be back periodically to keep them filled. I will be requesting more money, for purchasing refill pamphlets for the eight racks.

Dave D., as submitted by Rich P., District 10 DCM

Runaway Grapevines!

Included in your Archives at the Service Office in Hooksett are over 30 years worth of Grapevines. A number of the 2005 Grapevines have turned up missing! Could you help us replace the runaways? We need the January, February, June, August, September and October issues. Thank you!



Your... Roving Reporter

The Roving Reporter was unable to attend any AA events last month, but will return to the Pipeline in the December issue.

Hurricane Katrina: How Can We Help?

from the Oct/Nov 2005 issue of Box 459

The General Service Office has received numerous questions about how to help our AA family in distressed areas. We hope the following questions and answers are helpful.

Q. Do you suggest that we send money and literature directly?

A. In situations such as Hurricane Katrina, the local AA meetings often require very few contributions of money or even complimentary literature. Usually, local AA members are proud and happy to work together to replace any lost literature, etc. Local groups often make whatever repairs are necessary to their meeting places and are grateful to this work with other sober members of their AA community. An example of local help occurred with the tsunami disaster. The affected countries were part of the Asia Oceania Zone and countries like Australia and New Zealand in that zone were able to provide the needed replacement AA material without turning to other General Service Offices worldwide for additional help. Many of the affected areas do not have mail delivery. Our experience is that AA members have helped as private citizens through relief organizations.

Q. What can I do to help the affected members, groups, central offices/ intergroups?

A. GSO's experience shows that it is often difficult to ascertain what is needed. We pray, we don't drink and we go to meetings so that we will be ready to respond to requests for help.

Q. What does GSO plan to do to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina?

A. Just as in the past, the General Service Office is ready to support the efforts of local AA members in all types of disasters, including hurricanes, fires, floods, mudslides, etc. GSO is often called upon to replace lost literature on a complimentary basis. We wait, though, until conditions are stabilized and local AA members have an opportunity to let us know what they need.

Q. So exactly what is the General Service Office doing right now?

A. GSO has contacted and offered its support to intergroups and central offices in cities and towns where thousands of evacuees will be living for the next few months.

Q. Can I send money to GSO and specify that it be used for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts?

A. The General Service Office does not have the means or staff to earmark AA funds that are received at this office. Every AA dollar received at GSO is used on a priority basis to carry AA's message when a need is expressed. This includes responding to literature needs during natural disasters, translating literature for AA members in emerging countries and helping new AA group in the US and Canada.

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Editor's Note: Literature donated by New Hampshire groups was sent by the Service Office to Baton Rouge and Houston during early Katrina efforts in response to early pleas for help. However, their needs were met very quickly and both offices assure us they received more donations than they could use. If you collected literature, there is a LOCAL need in detoxes, jails, homeless shelters, libraries and schools - consider donating literature in your own community!

AA Trivia Corner

Who was Sister Ignatia Gavin, and why is she important to AA history?

Sister Ignatia was an admissions clerk at St. Thomas Hospital. In 1939 Dr. Bob befriended this nun and they worked together to admit alcoholic patients to the hospital for detoxification. This led to the first hospital ward devoted to detoxification. It is estimated that she helped over 10,000 alcoholics get a start on sobriety, helping early AA to grow by leaps and bounds in the Akron area.