

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 December 2008

No Exceptions

Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. Dec. 1945). Reprinted with permission.

Many AA members create an unnecessary mental hazard for themselves over the approach of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The newcomer, in particular, who has joined an AA group since the last holiday season is prone to spend some unhappy moments worrying about how to refuse a drink, and thus avoid a bender, when family and friends are participating in the Yuletide celebration. The problems often seems very real to him despite all he may have heard or learned about the application of the 24-hour plan. Habit is still a strong factor and his custom has been to get cock-eyed, perhaps without intent, on Christmas Eve and then to continue the binge well through New Year's Day, provided his endurance holds out.

Prolonging the Accounting

Having very likely spoiled Christmas for the entire family, the alcoholic is usually bothered by remorse, but not yet ready to face the unpleasant facts and the only escape seems to be to remain drunk for a few days longer. He rationalizes something in this manner: Isn't it the time of year to celebrate and won't employers be more lenient than usual if the job is neglected? Besides, aren't the members of the family a little intolerant of a chap's right to have fun when others are enjoying the season's good cheer?

The difficulty of coming through the holidays unscathed can be intensified for the new recruit to AA ranks by lack of understanding of the alcoholic illness on the part of relatives or friends. Without realization of the catastrophe they may bring about and often acting from the most hospitable motives, sometimes augmented by the few snorts they have indulged in themselves, these good people occasionally don't accept the AA member's first statement that he is just not drinking. They procedure to give him the insidious argument that Christmas or New Year's only comes around once a year and certainly a drink or two on such an occasion can't possible hurt anyone. Perhaps for a moment his guard is lowered and John Barleycorn, always alert, gets in a swift one.

In my personal experience in AA, which includes four of these holiday seasons, the argument of the special

occasion has been trotted out several times, by people who, I am certain, wish me well and who, furthermore, have good reason to know I have not handled liquor successfully for a long time. (At other seasons of the year it doesn't occur to them to even offer me a drink, much less argue that I should take one). I then have to quietly remind them that I am an alcoholic and that the calendar date has no bearing on the fact. In my experience, this explanation suffices and, still a little puzzled perhaps, they at once become absorbed in their own drinking processes.

No Exceptions

When Pearl Harbor came and, much later, when V-E and E-J day arrived, there were some timid souls who made dire predictions that the effect of such emotional events would be disastrous to the AA membership. Their fears were not well-grounded because the majority of members had so completely adopted the 24-hour plan of living. AT the start of each of these days our minds, by long habit, had been made up not to drink on that particular day just as they had been for many days previously. Why then should we make any exception over war or peace? It is fundamentally as simple as that. In approaching Christmas then, there are, it seems to me, two important ideas to keep constantly before us: (1). We aren't going to have any fun if we take the first drink; and (2) we must make up our minds to refuse that drink before it is even offered to us (preferably at the beginning of each new day). If we adhere to those tow simple principles, we can have a really magnificent time over the holidays.

Certainly there is not need for us to be grim about our inability to hoist a few. For once, we will know what is going on about us and there are always many holiday parties in our groups or with our closest AA friends, where good cheer abounds without the adjunct of the wassail bowl. This year also, it seems, we can all look forward to "Peace on earth" and we, who belong to the great company of AA, should understand better than most the Christmas message, "Good Will Towards Men,"

Abbot T. - Manhattan

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 A. A. 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 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 Hotline
1-800-593-3300



**NH Area Assembly
Service Office**
1330 Hooksett Road
Hooksett, NH 03106

Phone (603)622-6967
Fax #: (603)624-9507

E-Mail:
office@nhaa.mv.com

Office Hours:
Mon. - Fri. - 10AM to 4PM
Saturdays - 10AM to 2PM
Website: www.nhaa.net



Group Information

District

New Groups

- 11 Meredith Friday, 8:00PM 9:15PM 685150 HS
Fight for Your Life Friday Night, Trinity Episcopal Church, 93 Route 25E
- 11 Meredith Friday 8:00 PM 9:15 PM 685150 HS
There is a Solution, So NH Med Center W. Campus, 29 Northwest Blvd.
- 14 Exeter Monday 6:30 PM 7:30 PM 685211 CSD
Exeter Beginner's Meeting, Christ Episcopal Church. 43 Pine St.
- 17 Lancaster Tuesday 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 685252 D
Lancaster Tues. Nite Literature, Faith Presbyterian Church Rectory, Brown house,
rear of church

District

Meeting Changes

- 8 Pittsfield Wednesday 7:30 PM 9:00 PM 677996 HDS
Full of Bologna Young People's Meeting, Daddy O's, 8 Depot Street, *Location change*
- 12 Manchester Saturday 8:00 PM 9:15 PM 138551 HDS
New Life Group, Elliott Hospital Dining Rm., 1 Elliott Way, *Location clarified.*
- 13 Nashua Saturday 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 177113 HD
Out to Lunch Bunch, So NH Med Center W. Campus, 29 Northwest Blvd.,
New Saturday meeting added.
- 9 Hampstead Monday 7:00 PM 8:15 PM 175175 CX
Women's Joy of Living, St Christopher's Church, 187 East Rd.
End time changed from 8pm and location for church clarified.
- 17 Littleton Sunday 6:15 PM 7:00 PM 126022 D
Littleton Beginner's Meeting, St. Rose of Lima, High Street, *Group name changed*
- 12 Manchester Saturday 9:00AM 10:30:AM 642978 SB
Manchester Big Book Step Study, Birthright Center, 307 Kelly St., *Addr clarified.*
- 15 Dover Friday 11:00 PM 12:00AM 176705 HDS
Friday Night-Late Night, Triangle Club, 120 Broadway
Time changed from midnight. Name changed from Friday Midnight Grp.

District

Disbanded Meetings

- 8 Pittsfield Thursday 7:30 PM 9:00 PM 166924 HDX
Pittsfield 12 & 12, Community Center Basement, 68 Main St-Cnr Broadway
Disbanded per District 8 DCM
- 12 Manchester Friday 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 679399 SD
Let's Talk About it, 657B Chestnut St.
Disbanded per GSR

A Spaghetti Dinner is held the first Saturday of every month at the Saturday Night Original Group in Plymouth, which meets from 8 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the Plymouth Congregational Church, on the Commons

We need your help!

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 NHAA, 1330 Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, NH 03106. Thank you for your support!

October Donations

Thank You!

ALTON
BEDFORD
BERLIN
BERLIN
BERLIN
BRADFORD
BRISTOL
COLEBROOK
CONCORD
CONCORD
DERRY
DOVER
DOVER
DOVER
EPPING
EXETER
EXETER
EXETER
EXETER
FARMINGTON
FRANKLIN
GONIC
GREENFIELD
HAMPSTEAD
HAMPTON
HAMPTON
HAMPTON
HAMPTON
HUDSON
KEENE
KEENE
KINGSTON
KITTERY
KITTERY
LACONIA
LACONIA
LACONIA
LEBANON
LEE
LITTLETON
LITTLETON
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER
MEREDITH
MEREDITH
MERRIMACK
MILFORD
MILFORD
MILFORD

GATEWAY TO SOBRIETY
HOW TO 12 & 12
BERLIN GROUP
DEALER'S CHOICE
KEEP IT GREEN
SAT MORNING STEP MTG
NEWFOUND LAKE GRP
LIVE LAUGH LOVE GROUP
MON. NITE STEP
SUNDAY AM BEGINNERS
DERRY ORIGINAL GROUP
AFTER WORK GROUP
RESURRECTION GROUP
SAT. NITE COMMITMENT
AMETHYST 12 & 12 GROUP
EXETER BIG BOOK
EXETER MONDAY NIGHT
EXETER SERENITY
WOMEN'S SUNDAY SERENITY
FARMINGTON STEP GRP
LIVING SOBER
WOMEN IN NEED OF SOBRIETY
END OF THE ROAD
HAMPSTEAD BIG BOOK
HAMPTON BEGINNERS GRP
HAMPTON BIG BOOK
MONDAY AT THREE
WORKING THE STEPS
GET IT TOGETHER GROUP
BIG BOOK STEP STUDY
KEENE ORIGINAL
KINGSTON MEN'S GROUP
DRY DOCK #29
KITTERY SEASIDE GROUP
FIRST STEPPERS
FRIDAY NITE MEN'S
WOMEN'S STEPPING UP GRP
ORDINARY WHOOPEE PARTY
LEE DISCUSSION GROUP
ORIGINAL SUNDAY NITE GRP
OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH
STEPPING BACK TO BASICS
AMOSKEAG FALLS BB
HEARD THRU THE GRAPEVINE
LADIES NITE OUT
LAKE MASSABESIC
NEW LIFE GROUP
NORTH END GROUP
QUEEN CITY GROUP
SUNDAY SERENITY
INTERLAKES BEGINNERS
SUNDAY MORNING GROUP
B & M HONESTY
LETS TALK ABOUT IT MENS
MILFORD NO-NAME GROUP
SOUHEGAN SUNRISE

MOULTONBORO
N. CONWAY
N. CONWAY
NASHUA
NASHUA
NASHUA
NASHUA
NASHUA
NEWPORT
NEWPORT
NORTHWOOD
NOTTINGHAM
PLAISTOW
PLYMOUTH
PORTSMOUTH
PORTSMOUTH
PORTSMOUTH
SALEM
STRATHAM
TILTON
WARNER
WARREN
WOLFEBORO FALLS

WINNIE'S WOMENS GRP
FRIDAY NIGHT GROUP
LIVING SOBER GROUP
EARLY BIRD GROUP
OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH
SO NASHUA TODAY GROUP
THERE IS A SOLUTION
TUESDAY NITE TRADITIONS
HAPPY HOUR BB MTG
LOOK IT UP BIG BOOK
SAT. BIG BOOK MEETING
NOTTINGHAM ORIGINAL
FRIDAY NITE LIVE
WOMEN'S MEETING
GOOD MORN. PORTSMOUTH
PORTS. ORIGINAL GRP
SUN MORNING DAYBREAK
PEACE OF MIND
STRATHAM BIG BOOK
TUESDAY TILTON SOBRIETY
WARNER GROUP
LIVING SOBER GROUP
NOONTIME GROUP

Rule 62

Nearly everything has a warning on it these days.

Following are just a few warnings that could be put on alcohol products.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause you to think you can sing.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may make you think you are whispering when you are not.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may lead you to believe that former lovers are really dying for you to telephone them at four in the morning.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may lead you to think people are laughing WITH you.

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may cause pregnancy.

12 tips for a sober holiday

Surviving the holidays without alcohol may seem either dreary or impossible for some new members of AA. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober.

Here are some tips for a sober and joyous holiday season:

1. Line up extra AA activities – meetings, speaking commitments.
2. Entertain AA friends, especially newcomers.
3. Keep AA phone numbers with you at all times – and use them.
4. Find out about special holiday parties, meetings or other events at groups in your area and go. If you're shy, take a newer member.
5. Skip drinking occasions you're nervous about. Remember your drinking talent for making excuses? Put it to work for you in sobriety.
6. If you must attend a drinking part and can't find a fellow AA to come with you, keep some candy handy.
7. You don't have to stay at a party late. Plan for an "important date."
8. Go to church. Any church!
9. Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on reading, letters, walks.
10. Remember, one day at a time. Don't start now to worry about all those "holiday temptations."
11. If you can't give material gifts this year, you can give love.
12. "Having had a..." You already know the Twelfth Step!

Greetings from your Service Office

Have you ever heard of the Birthday Plan?

The Birthday Plan was initiated in Oklahoma in order to provide financial support to the General Service Headquarters. In 1954, the Oklahoma Delegate made a suggestion of starting a voluntary individual birthday contribution supporting the New York Office.

The original "Oklahoma Plan" – also called "the Anniversary Fund Plan" – wanted to bring back old-times who are no longer active and seldom went to AA meetings to make a regular contribution.

By 1956, sixteen areas were using the Birthday Plan.

In 1970 the Conference suggested that Groups might use the Birthday Plan as well.

Today many people use the "Birthday Plan" to celebrate their AA Anniversary in addition to the regular support they offer at their home group and other groups they visit.

As World Services describes the program, "Birthday contributions are a way for individual members to celebrate sobriety, and to help pass on the gifts each of us has received. Support of G.S.O.'s services assures that the AA message continues to reach the alcoholic stumbling in the dark."

With this month's Pipeline, you'll see that we've included a Birthday envelope for you and your group. Its distinctive balloons immediately indicate that it's a birthday contribution.

As always, if you have an extra meeting list book, pass it on.

Thanks to Geri for her help in the office.

In grateful service,
Ingrid and Mary Anne

Holiday Alcathons

District 12

District 12 will sponsor a 24 Hour Alcathon from December 24th at 6 p.m. through December 25th at 6 p.m. at: Springfield College, School of Human Services, 500 Commercial St., Manchester, NH

Bring your Pot Luck Food Dishes Cook it... Bring it... We'll serve it. Turkey, Hams, Side Dishes, Casseroles, Salads, Desserts, Breakfast fixin's, Pastry, etc. Microwaves, warming dishes, and outlets for crock pots are available. **Questions? Contact: Chris P. 668-7059; Jeannie B. 627-6801; Chris B. 672-5036**

District 13

23rd Annual District 13 Alcathon will be held Wednesday, December 24th at 12 p.m. through Thursday,

December 25th at 9 p.m. at Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudon, NH. 33 hours of continuous meetings, fellowship and food.

A dinner will be held December 24th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and a breakfast will be held December 25th at 7:30 a.m. Donations are welcome. Need a ride? Call Deb 598-3564

District 15

District 15 will sponsor Christmas and New Year's Alcathons at The Triangle Clun, 120 Broadway, Dover, NH.

Christmas dates: Dec. 24 at 9 p.m. through December 25th at 7 p.m.. New Year's dates: Dec. 31st at 9p.m. through January 1st at 7 p.m.