

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

April 2008

Our A.A. Experience Has Taught Us That:

Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as tradition. That process still goes on and we hope it never stops. Should we ever harden too much the letter might crush the spirit. We could victimize ourselves by petty rules and prohibitions; we could imagine that we had said the last word. We might even be asking alcoholics to accept our rigid ideas or stay away. May we never stifle progress like that!

Yet the lessons of our experience count for a great deal - a very great deal, we are each convinced. The first written record of A.A. experience was the book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*. It was addressed to the heart of our foremost problem —release from the alcohol obsession. It contained personal experiences of drinking and recovery and a statement of those divine but ancient principles which have brought us a miraculous regeneration. Since publication of *Alcoholics Anonymous* in 1939 we have grown from 100 to 24,000 members. Seven years have passed; seven years of vast experience with our next greatest undertaking —the problem of living and working together. This is today our main concern. If we can succeed in this adventure —and keep succeeding - then, and only then, will our future be secure.

Since personal calamity holds us in bondage no more, our most challenging concern has become the future of Alcoholics Anonymous; how to preserve among us A.A.s such a powerful unity that neither weakness of persons nor the strain and strife of these troubled times can harm our common cause. We know that *Alcoholics Anonymous* must continue to live. Else, save few exceptions, we and our brother alcoholics throughout the world will surely resume the hopeless journey to oblivion.

Almost any A.A. can tell you what our group problems are. Fundamentally they have to do with our relations, one with the other, and with the world outside. They involve relations of the A.A. to his group, the relation of his group to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, and the

place of Alcoholics Anonymous in that troubled sea called Modern Society, where all of humankind must presently shipwreck or find haven. Terribly relevant is the problem of our basic structure and our attitude toward those ever pressing questions of leadership, money and authority. The future may well depend on how we feel and act about things that are controversial and how we regard our public relations. Our final destiny will surely hang upon what we presently decide to do with these danger-fraught issues!

Now comes the crux of our discussion. It is this: Have we yet acquired sufficient experience to state clear-cut policies on these, our chief concerns? Can we now declare general principles which could grow into vital traditions —traditions sustained in the heart of each A.A. by his own deep conviction and by the common consent of his fellows? That is the question. Though full answer to all our perplexities may never be found, I'm sure we have come at last to a vantage point whence we can discern the main outlines of a body of tradition; which God willing, can stand as an effective guard against all the ravages of time and circumstance.

Acting upon the persistent urge of old A.A. friends, and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members is now possible, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for *An Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations —Twelve Points to Assure Our Future: (see The Twelve Traditions – Long Form)*.

May it be urged that while these principles have been stated in rather positive language they are still only suggestions for our future. We of Alcoholics Anonymous have never enthusiastically responded to any assumption of personal authority. Perhaps it is well for A.A. that this is true. So I offer these suggestions neither as one man's dictum nor as a creed of any kind, but rather as a first attempt to portray that group ideal toward which we have assuredly been led by a Higher Power these ten years past.

P.S. To help free discussion I would like to amplify the *Twelve points of Tradition* in future Grapevine pieces. Bill W.

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Pipeline

A publication of the
NH Area 43 Assembly of
Alcoholics Anonymous

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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 Assembly Service Office

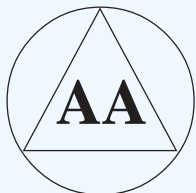
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Mon. - Fri. - 10AM to 4PM
Saturdays - 10AM to 2PM
Website: www.nhaa.net



Group Information

New Groups

District 9

| | | | | | |
|-------|---------|----------------|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Derry | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | PMT270 | |
| | | Back to Basics | 1st Parish Cong. | | 47 E. Derry Rd |

District 11

| | | | | | |
|----------|---------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|
| Franklin | Thursday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | PMT271 | DX |
| | Thursday Night Ride | | Holy Cross Road | | Last House on Left |

District 15

| | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|---------|--------------------|--------|---------|
| Dover | Sunday | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | PMT269 | B |
| | Primary Purpose Big Book Study | | Dover Unity Church | | 2nd St. |

District 16

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------|--------|----------------|
| Wolfeboro | Sunday | 6:00 PM | 7:00 PM | PMT272 | |
| | Wolfeboro Topic Meeting | | All Saints Church | | South Main St. |

District 17

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Woodsville | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | PMT273 | HDB |
| | Woodsville Wonders | | St. Luke's Parrish Hall | | 121 Central St. |

Meeting Changes

District 15

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Northwood | Tuesday | 7:30 PM | 8:45 PM | PMCDS | |
| | Living Hope Group | | St Joseph's Catholic Church | | Route 4 |

Disbanded Meetings

District 11

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------|---------|-------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Laconia | Saturday | 6:30 PM | 8:00 PM | 663145 | |
| | Big Book Step Study | | Good Shepherd Lutheran Church | | 2238 Parade Road |

District 15

| | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Rochester | Sunday | 7:00 PM | 8:00 PM | PMT240 | |
| | New Directions Group | | United Methodist Church | | 24 Main St. |

District 21

| | | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| Canaan | Saturday | 7:30 PM | 8:45 PM | 7665957 | |
| | Canaan Sat. Night AA 12 Step | | United Methodist Church | | US Route 4 (Main St) |

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!

February Donations **THANK YOU!**

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| BARNSTEAD | OPEN SPEAKER MTG |
| BARRINGTON | BARRINGTON GROUP |
| BEDFORD | PASS IT ON GROUP |
| BERLIN | DERBY DISCUSSION |
| CONCORD | BIG BOOK 12 STEP STUDY |
| CONCORD | FRI NOON ACCEPTANCE |
| CONCORD | AS BILL SEES IT |
| CONCORD | MON. NITE STEP |
| DERRY | BACK TO BASICS |
| DERRY | DERRY ORIGINAL GROUP |
| DERRY | NO FRILLS GROUP |
| DOVER | TUESDAY NOONTIME GROUP |
| DOVER | WEDNESDAY NOON GROUP |
| DOVER | DOVER ORIGINAL |
| DURHAM | WOMEN IN DIGNITY |
| ENFIELD | FRIDAY NIGHT GROUP |
| EXETER | GRAPEFULLY SOBER |
| EXETER | EXETER SERENITY |
| GONIC | WOMEN IN NEED OF SOBRIETY |
| HAMPTON | THE LUNCH BUNCH |
| HUDSON | GET IT TOGETHER GROUP |
| KITTERY | KITTERY ORIGINAL |
| LACONIA | FRIDAY NITE MEN'S |
| LINCOLN | PRIMARY PURPOSE GRP |
| LISBON | LISBON GROUP |
| LITTLETON | OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH |
| LITTLETON | AS BILL SEES IT |
| MANCHESTER | HEARD THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE |
| MANCHESTER | HAPPY HOUR EAST |
| MANCHESTER | SUNDAY SERENITY |
| MANCHESTER | HARD HAT GROUP |
| MANCHESTER | PRECISE METHOD |
| MANCHESTER | FREE AT LAST |
| MEREDITH | SUNDAY MORNING GROUP |
| MILFORD | SOUHEGAN SUNRISE |
| N CONWAY | FRIDAY NIGHT GROUP |
| NASHUA | SOBER AND FREE |
| NASHUA | PECULIAR MENTAL TWISTS |
| NASHUA | SUNDAY NITE BEGINNERS |
| NASHUA | OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH |
| NASHUA | EARLY BIRD GROUP |
| NASHUA | R4D MEN'S MEETING |
| NASHUA | DOWNTOWN GROUP |
| N. CONWAY | LIVING SOBER GROUP |
| NEW LONDON | TUES NITE BEGINNERS |
| PETERBOROUGH | SATURDAY NITE LIVE |
| PETERBOROUGH | OUR TOWN GROUP |
| PLYMOUTH | COVERED BRIDGE GROUP |
| PORTSMOUTH | GOOD MORN. PORTSMOUTH |
| PORTSMOUTH | EYE-OPENER GROUP |
| PORTSMOUTH | REBORN GROUP |
| RINDGE | RINDGE ORIGINAL STEP MTG |
| ROCHESTER | STEP INTO THE WEEKEND |
| RYE | 3-7-11 STEP GROUP |
| RYE | RYE RECOVERY |
| SALEM | SAFE HARBOR WOMEN'S BEG |
| SANBORNVILLE | SANBORNVILLE GROUP |
| WOLFEBORO FALLS | NOONTIME GROUP |
| | DISTRICT 13 |
| | DISTRICT 17 |

Greetings from Your Service Office

Lots of product news from your Services Office this month. Your group will want to take advantage of the new items and some of the discontinued tapes before they are gone.

First the good news, many AAs have been waiting for this. World Services has recently introduced another of the most popular and helpful AA books in an affordable CD format.

You can now buy *Living Sober* on CD. There are four CDs in the package and the entire reading is a little more than four hours long. The cost is only \$10. We think this is an item that so many of us will want to have in the car. Don't forget to order M85 *Living Sober* on CD.

You can also buy several new DVDs at the Service Office. The DVDS are only \$10 each and we have DV4 *Bill's Own Story*, DV5 *Bill Discusses the 12 Traditions*. They're both historically rich. Another new item is DV9 *Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous*.

Second, if you like the tapes that World Services and the Grapevine have sold through the Service Office, be sure to put an order in soon. The Grapevine has discontinued supplying the audio tapes. One at a time they're switching from the audio tapes to the CD format. We have a pretty good inventory of the tapes, but after we sell off the inventory, the tapes will be gone.

Hope you get a chance to stop in to the Service Office in Hooksett this spring. Ingrid and Mary Anne are always happy to meet new faces and make new friends.

In grateful service,
Mary Anne and Ingrid

From Bert K

Why some letters are not printed

I have been hearing a lot of complaining about a certain meeting, also about a certain person in A.A., a person in Service.

I have heard this certain meeting breaks tradition. I can't say yes, I can't say no. I have never attended this meeting. I am writing this as an explanation of what goes into the *Pipeline*.

I received a letter from a member, strongly condemning this meeting. When I refused to put the letter in the *Pipeline* I was accused of being on his side. I am not on this, that, or any side, I am on A.A.'s side.

The meeting may be good, it may not be. As I said, I have not attended it. The reason for not putting the letter in the *Pipeline* was that it had one person's name in it four

Please turn to Page 4 - Letters

Wanted: Volunteers, creative solutions & ideas

Our monthly newsletters have to be prepared for mailing before they can be taken to the post office for distribution. Sadly, over the last several months there have been only a small handful of volunteers to try to get this done.

Horrifying! How many AAs do we have in Area 43? Surely there must be a few more people who would be willing to spend some time doing service work and at the same time, give back to AA. A special thank you to Jack, Vi and the volunteers from Westbridge for their help!

You might ask why they keep at it. Well, one reason is that the newsletter might find its way into the hands of an alcoholic who needs it at that moment – you know...on the way out the door for a drink and there's the mail. Also, let me remind you of our AA Responsibility Statement:

***"I am responsible
When anyone anywhere
Reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA
Always to be there.
And, for that, I am responsible."***

Perhaps if those of you who are still reading this article would carry this message back to your groups, we'd find a few people who are willing to help. Many of our fellowship are not sure what needs to be done, where it's done, and when this needs to happen. The work is easy and if there are 3-4 people working together, it could be done in a couple of hours. You could have a mini meeting! Enjoy the fellowship!

Please tell your groups this:

Pipeline Distribution
Area 43 Service Office
1330 Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, NH 03106
603-622-6967
Last Wed. of every month
10 – 10:30 AM

Now the challenge: If this arrangement doesn't fit your schedule (i.e., you work during the day) then see if you can come up with some creative ideas on how we can accomplish this task each month.

I have one idea: Change the distribution time to an evening and let groups take on one month just like any other commitment.

What do you think? Think about it – if we can get 12 groups, it's only a once a year commitment! I'm hoping we'll get more than 12.

Please call or write to our office and share your opinions. Put your ideas into writing and send it in to be published in the Pipeline.

Lin B.
Service Office Committee Chair
Manchester, NH

Letters _____ **Continued from Page 3**
times. I felt this was a personal attack on this person. We do not print personal attacks, whether we like, dislike, agree, or disagree with the person or the meeting.

If the letter was just about the meeting without names it would have been printed unless it hurt A.A. as a whole. The other thing that cannot be printed is vulgar language or offensive comments about anyone, sect, religion, race, or gender.

Controversy can be printed. I like it. It gets my blood stirring. It can sometimes wake us up. It can help a dull publication. It sure does get people's attention and interest peaked. I will not shy away from controversy, but I will not attack anyone.

Yours in Service,
Bert K.

Convention News from Area 43

As the 2008 Area 43 State Convention approaches, there are a few things we would like to point out that will make your registration process easier.

First of all, remember that there is a deadline of March 14th for hotel reservations to get the group rate. After that date, you will be reserving on a first come - first served basis and you will not be guaranteed the group rate.

Next, when you call to make your hotel reservation, please mention that you are part of the Area 43 State Convention Group. This will assure that you get the group rate and that you are able to reserve a room for either one or two nights. If you make reservations by telephone using a credit card, you do not need to send in the hotel registration form.

Finally, the actual Convention Registration is separate (both the form and the fee). Please mail that form along with your \$20 registration fee to the Area Office. Do not send this to the hotel! We will be sending a confirmation of your registration either by email or by post card up until the preregistration date listed on your form.

Thank you for your support of the Function Committee. We look forward to seeing you at our 41st State Convention in North Conway on the weekend of April 11-13, 2008!