



PIPELINE

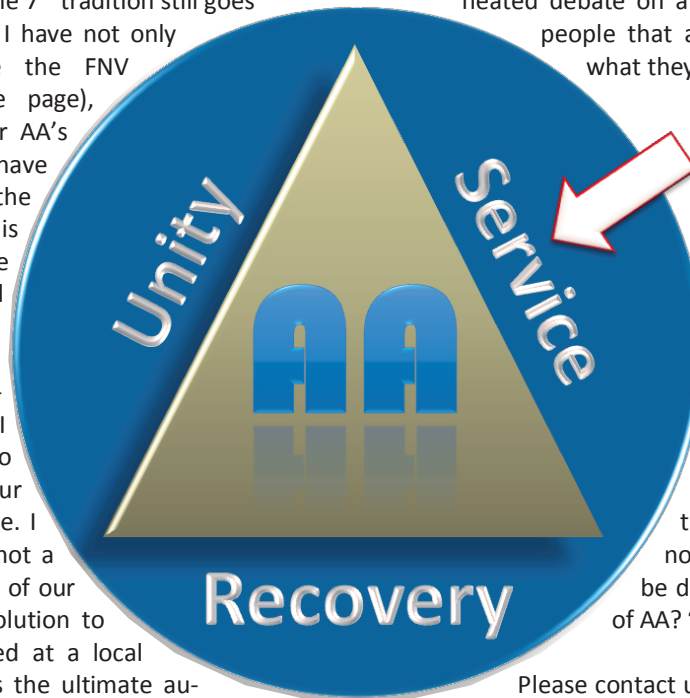


A Different Perspective

Having taken the position as Area 43 Registrar, I have the opportunity to see AA from a larger perspective than I could have by just going to meetings and working with a sponsor. The average AA sees that their home group is still functioning and the coffee is made and the 7th tradition still goes around the room. As Registrar, I have not only had the opportunity to see the FNV (Fellowship New Vision home page), which is where all the data for AA's trusted servants is located, I have also had the opportunity to see the gaps in the Area as a whole. This includes which Districts are strong, which need help and which are non-existent.

I have always taken our responsibility statement seriously and I feel it would be irresponsible to say nothing. There are gaps in our service structure across the state. I have been assured that this is not a local problem, however because of our unique service structure, the solution to this problem must be addressed at a local level. With group conscience as the ultimate authority, the solution must start there. A large majority of groups don't have GSRs and a large number don't even have a contact person. There are numerous District Committees that have no chair people and a majority of committees that do have no committee members.

The amount of people doing service has always been a small percent. Should we just accept it or speak out about it? We need to speak out because the myths about service being all politics and arguing are just that – myths. When I hear a heated debate on a District or Area floor, I hear people that are passionate about AA and what they think and hope is best for it.



I only ask that we look inside and apply the same honesty, open mindedness and willingness toward unity and service that we do when we are participating in our own recovery by doing the steps and attending meetings. Ask yourself, "What have I done to insure AA's future - or am I leaving that to chance?" We may have to trust our Higher Power but is he not trusting us to do what must be done for the growth and future of AA? "Faith without action is dead."

Please contact us to find out how you can get more involved in your District or in the NH Area. Not sure who to call? Contact our Service Office at 603.622.6967 or office@nhaa.net.

- Yours in Service, Dan P., Area 43 Registrar

It Works if You Work It

When I first came into Alcoholics Anonymous, I really thought I was some special case of a social drinker that occasionally got into trouble when drinking. I thought I was "terminally unique," as long-timers used to call me. I later learned I was not unique at all.

I thought because I had made it look so good on the outside - still had good credit and owned a home - that I couldn't possibly be an alcoholic. But on the inside I was sicker than most. I spent the first few months of my AA meetings comparing my insides

Pipeline

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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 AA 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 AA movement it mirrors, the primary purpose of the New Hampshire Pipeline will be to try to carry the AA message to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all its affairs.

NH Area Hotline
1-800-593-3300



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Sat: 10am—2pm

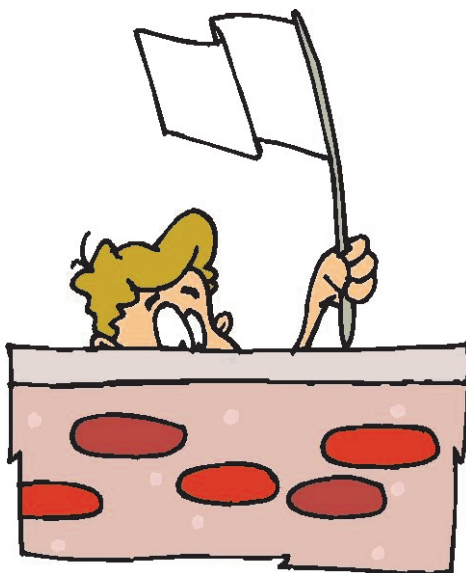
It Works if You Work It

(Continued from page 1)

to others' outsides instead of relating (I try not to do that anymore). I was consumed with self and lacked the true humility to have any big-picture thinking or perspective to see a situation from somebody else's shoes. Because of this, I was constantly being disowned by family members and people generally didn't want me around.

I had quit drinking many times before on my own but was never able to stay stopped. I always had to congratulate myself and celebrate the days without booze by drinking. I had become very depressed and suicide was starting to look like a pretty viable option and certainly the easier way out. I tried AA only half-willingly as it seemed just slightly better than death. I was sure I'd never have fun again.

As I look back now, I see that I took Step 1 in two pieces and that in the meantime, God did for me what I could not do for myself. My life was definitely unmanageable and I knew that from day one. What I could not stomach was the powerless piece. I was a control freak who felt I had power over everybody and everything and that intellect could conquer all.



Months into my sobriety, I had to be broken and force-fed humble pie before I became willing to surrender to the program and to try and find a higher power that would work for me. It was not a pretty scene and it was very painful, but I eventually did get the part of critical surrender and reached the point of departure where I was completely willing to do whatever it

took to stay sober. It can be a very slow process for some of us, but I thank God I finally got it; we can still make it if we keep showing up at meetings and connect with other alcoholics.

Since then, I have realized that my sobriety has to be my number one priority. For months, I was a prime example of what half-measure will avail and I know firsthand how it won't work if you don't work it – and it will work if you do. I understand that this is a program of action and that I need to find and use all the tools in my toolkit to maintain my daily reprieve which is based on my spiritual condition. I can't use yesterdays sobriety to stay sober today.

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It Works if You Work It

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I cannot stand motionless in my recovery program; I need to keep working on maintaining emotional sobriety and a good solid connection with my higher power. I try to hang out with the winners in AA - the ones who seem to have faith and be positive no matter how many bad things happen in their lives; the ones that seem to be at peace more often than not. And I have learned that it has nothing to do with the quantity of sobriety, rather the quality of their program.

I am no longer ashamed to say that AA is the most important thing in my life. God has shown me a life that is better and more filled with purpose than I could have imagined in my wildest dreams. Once I started sincerely working the

steps, the promises began to reveal themselves in my life. And it is so worth the work. I didn't get sober to be dry and miserable and whiney. I work hard each day at calling my sponsor, going to meetings, sponsoring others, exercising and praying - even listening

to spiritually-oriented music. All of it helps me keep this life I've done nothing to deserve. I am so grateful for this gift and the least I can do is to pass it on; it hardly seems like enough for all the blessings that have been given to me.

I'm so grateful to be an alcoholic in recovery because the steps and the program have showed me how to live and I never would've figured it out on my own.

- Jen M, Gilmanton NH



Group Info.

New Groups

**D12, Manchester
Friday, 12-1pm**

The Educational Variety Group, D
Springfield College, 500 Commercial St., Room 6 (enter in rear - elevator to 2nd floor)

**D16, Wolfeboro
M,T,W,Th,F, 7:30-8:30am**

Wolfeboro Morning Group, D
All Saints Episcopal Church, 5
Main St (Rte 28)

**D17, Haverhill/Pike
Sunday, 11-Noon**

Oliverian Serenity, SDB
Oliverian School, 28 Becket Dr.

**D16, Freedom
Wednesday, 12-1pm**

Program of Recovery, D
1st Christian Church of Freedom, 12 Elm St.

**D21, Canaan
Thursday, 11-Noon**

Canaan Thursday Morning, XD
United Methodist Church,
Route 4

Meeting Changes

**D8, Concord
Sunday, 7-8pm**

Concord Original Group, HS
West Congregational Church,
499 North State St.
*End time changed from 8:15pm
to 8:00pm*

D9, Pelham

Thursday, 7-8:30pm

Pelham Men's 12 & 12 Group, CX
St Patrick's Church, Main St.
*Group name changed from St.
Pat's Men's 12 Step Grp.*

**D14, Kittery, ME
Sunday, 8-9am**

Sunday Morning Daybreak, HS
Kittery Lions Club, Rte 1, Kittery
*Moved from Portsmouth at the
Frank Jones Ctr.*

D17, Berlin

Tuesday, 10-11am

Women's Big Book Step, HBX
St. Barnabas Church, 2 High St.
*Location changed from St. Ann's
All*

D18, Wilmot

Monday, 7-8:30pm

Wilmot Big Book Step
Study, DBSX
Wilmot Community Center,
Village Rd. next to Post Office
Start and End times changed.

D18, Bradford

Saturday, 8:30-9:30am

Sat Morning Step Mtg, XHD
First Baptist Church Hall,
88 W Main St.
*End time changed from 9:45 am
to 9:30am.*

Disbanded Meetings

D12, Manchester

Sunday, 4-5pm

Nueva Vida - Spanish,
St Augustine Church, 383 Beech St.

New Grapevine Book: Spiritual Awakenings II

Available for \$10.75 - Contact the Area 43 Service Office: 603.622.6967

...the Courage to Change the Things I Can, and the Wisdom to Know the Difference.

'Tis the Season to be Grateful!

As I write this article, I am reminded of the many reasons I have to be grateful today! One of those reasons is the participation of many members of our AA fellowship in the Al-Anon Convention in November. We had wonderful speakers, enlightening workshops, spirit-filled meetings and hilarious skits! Who knew NHAAs had so much talent? Words can only begin to express the gratitude I have for that experience. I only wish I had enough room in this article to name all the people who helped to carry the message in a positive, hope-filled manner. Well you know who you are and let me simply say, you carried it well.

Now we move onto our own AA Convention. As you hopefully realize by now, there are just a few weeks remaining to get your raffle tickets for the chance to win an all-expense paid weekend for two to the Area 43 convention being held in North Conway next April. All tickets and money must be turned in by the December committee meeting in Hooksett. Paul S. will be contacting you to remind you if he gave you tickets in these past few months. The Function Committee will be drawing a winner at the January committee meeting so stay tuned for that announcement in an upcoming issue Pipeline.

You can now register for the convention by obtaining a registration form on www.nhaa.net. If you have attended the convention in recent years, you will get a form in the mail in January, but there is no need to wait if you'd like to register early.

Stay tuned in January for the results of our Roving Reporter survey question – "What does the phrase Pass it On" mean to you? And in the meantime, have a happy, sober, joy-filled holiday season!

- Cheryl L. Alternate Delegate, Area 43, Panel 60

Contributions – Thank You!

Thank you to all the groups that contributed! Your contributions are critical to the continued success of AA in our Area as we carry the message to fellow alcoholics. We'll be publishing the donation list quarterly and greatly need your continued support, especially now while donations to the Area have been tapering due to the tight economy — **thank you!**

Contribute to Pipeline

- Report AA-related news from your district or the Area — round-ups, social functions, assemblies, calendar items, requests for volunteers, etc.
- Share your Experience, Strength & Hope

Send Contributions & Feedback to:

- **Email to:** pipeline@nhaa.net, or
- **Mail to:** NH Assembly Office, 1330 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, NH 03106, Attn: Pipeline

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Your support is greatly appreciated!

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

Functions, Events and More!



See the enclosed calendar for all the details on what's happening in the Area!