



# PIPELINE



## 61st General Service Conference Overview

Attend Area 43 Post-Conference Assembly on June 18th to Learn More!

Hi everyone! I will soon be sharing my experience at The 61st General Service Conference including a report on what happened and the advisories that came out of the event. *Our Post-Conference Assembly will be held in District 9 at Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main Street, Hampstead on June 18th from 9am to 4pm – all are welcome and we encourage your participation!*

**Here's a preview of what we'll be covering on the 18th at the Post-Conference Assembly:**

### AA Preamble & Big Book

NH Area 43 put forth an agenda item suggesting that the AA Preamble be added to the next edition of the Big Book. The item made it out of the literature committee and was recommended, but did not receive substantial unanimity and failed. More details to follow at the Post-Conference Assembly.

### Grapevine

I participated in the Grapevine Committee and we produced some unbelievable action that may just turn things around for the Grapevine. Learn more in Hampstead at the Assembly on June 18th!

### AA Literature

For years, AA literature has been sold through non-AA outlets. This is all about to stop! We will soon have the opportunity to buy our literature through AA to support our seventh tradition of self-support. I'll talk more about this – and the upcoming online options for obtaining AA literature – at the Post-Conference Assembly.

### New Pamphlet

There is a proposed new pamphlet on Spirituality which includes stories from Atheists and Agnostics. The piece reminds us that AA is not exclusive; we welcome all to AA that have a desire to stop drinking, regardless of their view of or belief in "God."

It was heavily debated and my interest was deeply personal. One side of the argument was that AA is a program based on spirituality and that you cannot be an Atheist or Agnostic and succeed in the program. The opposing side's position was that many come into AA with no "God" (like me), while others have their own concept of a power greater than themselves and have successfully stayed sober.

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## Reminders From the Area 43 Service Office

### Donate Old Grapevines

The *Grapevine* is in high demand at NH's jails and prisons. Please drop off your old copies at the Area 43 Service Office and we'll be sure to pass along to the Corrections Committee.

### Get Your Forms on

[www.nhaa.net/index-forms.html](http://www.nhaa.net/index-forms.html)

### New Parking Rules at Hooksett Office

These new rules apply to committee members who come to the office for their meetings: Please park in front of the building and come downstairs. The back parking lot gets too full with our cars during meetings and we have to observe our neighbor's wishes. There is also open parking in the Shaw's parking lot.

## 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 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**



#### **NH Area Assembly Service Office**

1330 Hooksett Road  
Hooksett, NH 03106

Phone: 603.622.6967  
Fax: 603.624.9507

Email: office@nhaa.net  
Website: www.nhaa.net

#### Office Hours:

Mon-Fri: 10am—4pm  
Sat: 10am—2pm

## ...61st General Service Conference

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The debate raged for two hours. At one point, a Delegate referred to Atheists and Agnostics as “those people.” That’s when I knew where I stood. When I came into AA, I was one of “those people.” I told my sponsor I did not believe in God, and he said to me, “Be glad he does not feel the same way about you!” As I worked through the steps, I believed in a power greater than myself – but not “God” in the traditional sense. I found my higher power in my AA group and in the goodness of other people. I have since found a God that is beyond my dreams, and those that know me hear me talk of his grace with great frequency – I ask for help every day.

After I left the microphone, another person shared that he, too, was one of “those people.” A gay man, he came to AA a drunk and an Agnostic, yet he found his version of god in AA.

Finally, the last person shared that she was a fallen woman who was welcomed into AA. She found her sobriety, her soul and her God - but if she had not been so unconditionally loved in AA regardless of her beliefs, she felt she never would have made it.

The vote to approve the new pamphlet passed with substantial unanimity. At that moment, I felt God in the room and knew that AA would last for my grandchildren and yours.

Let me leave you with Dr. Bob’s essay, “On Cultivating Tolerance,” and I hope to see you all at the post conference June 18th to hear your thoughts.

*Yours in Service, Rich P. Delegate 60/43, New Hampshire*

## On Cultivating Tolerance

During nine years in A.A. I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal, not only maintain sobriety, but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in educational advantages, and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own. I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes.

To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined

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## Area 43 Chair Report

Compared to the first third of this year, May has been a relatively slow month. I have assumed the role of interim Hotline Chair. Once we finish organizing all the details since Marybeth's passing, we can determine what she was working on and continue to improve the information flow with the Districts regarding their Hotline usage so we can keep costs to a minimum where possible. Based on this experience, it's become evident that it is important to have multiple people active on our various Committees. This way, when Chairpersons rotate out or are unable to complete their terms, the Committee's work and information flow do not get interrupted. This is something that we should be addressing now so AA's services can function effectively on a continual basis.

I'd like to suggest we put a call out for Pipeline contributions that focus on our experiences as a result of taking twelfth step calls from the Hotline and dedicate the issue to Marybeth. This would be a fitting tribute to Marybeth in thanks for her service. If you have a Hotline call experience to share, please send your articles to [pipeline@nhaa.net](mailto:pipeline@nhaa.net), or call Jen S. at 603.232.3234 to make other arrangements for submitting your story.

As you've read in Rich's article, our Delegate survived a grueling week at the 61st General Service Conference - he has informed me he has his presentation ready for the Post-Conference Assembly. I'd like to thank Rich for his tireless efforts in representing us at all the different meetings he is required to attend, and for all he does for us back home in NH.

I have been working on the 2012 calendar. There are still several Districts that I and the other Area Officers have not yet visited, but we look forward to doing so in the coming months.

*Yours In Service, Mike M., Area 43 Panel 60 Chair  
chairperson@nhaa.net*

### Area 43 Post-Conference Assembly Delegate's Report from 61st General Service Conference

**June 18, 2011: 9am - 4pm**  
Hampstead Congregational Church  
61 Main Street, Hampstead, NH  
Contact: Marlene (603.339.8502)

Continental Breakfast, Lunch & Desserts available  
Lunch donations (edible as well as financial) are welcomed!

## Group Info.

### New Groups

D14, Portsmouth  
Sunday, 6-7pm  
Conscious Contact, SDX  
Karnon House/South Church, 21 Court St.

D15, Somersworth  
Wednesday, 12-1pm  
As Bill Sees It, D  
Lion's Club, 135 W High St.

### Group Changes

D9, Chester  
Wednesday, 8-9:30pm  
Chester Big Book, B  
Stevens Memorial Hall, 2 Chester Rd  
Group name change from Just Steps Big Book.  
End time changed from 9pm. Type changes:  
removed H, C & X

D13, Nashua  
Sunday, 6-7pm  
Sunday Nite Beginners, SD  
United Methodist Church, 154 Main St.  
Moved from Harbor Homes

D14, Portsmouth  
Friday, 8-9pm  
Faith Group, SH  
United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave.  
Moved from Salvation Army, 15 Middle St.,  
name changed, end time changed from 9:15

D14, Portsmouth  
Saturday, 2-3pm  
Afternoon Delight, HDS  
United Methodist Church, 129 Miller Ave.  
Moved from Salvation Army, 15 Middle St.

D18, Newport  
Friday, 12-1pm  
Bank On It Group, HDX  
Methodist Church, 11 Park St.  
Moved from Sugar River Savings Bank  
in Newport

D21, Grafton  
Monday, 7:30-8:30pm  
Monday Nite Step Group, HDX  
Millbrook Christian Fellowship, 201 Main St.  
Moved from Grafton Congregational Church

## ...On Cultivating Tolerance

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to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance we might tend to become a bit smug or superior--which of course is not helpful to the person we are trying to help, and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything which might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another--and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words it often promotes an open-mindedness which is vastly important--in fact a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

*Dr. Bob, Akron, OH*

## ...Group Changes

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### Disbanded Groups

D15, Durham  
Saturday, 8-9pm  
Durham Speakers Group  
St George Episcopal Church, 1 Park St.

D18, New London  
Monday, 7-8pm  
Woman's Way Thru the 12 Steps  
Kearsarge Comm Presbyterian  
Church, 82 King Hill Rd (Rt 11)

D17, Berlin  
Tuesday, 10-11am  
Women's Big Book Step  
St Barnabas Church, 2 High St.

D18, New London  
Wednesday, 6-7pm  
Young People's Group  
First Baptist Church, 461 Main St.

D17, Berlin  
Saturday, 10-11am  
HHADAD  
St Barnabas Church, 2 High St.

D10, Plaistow  
Thursday, 7-8:30pm  
Stepping Stones  
1st Baptist Church, 122 Main St.

## 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

This newsletter is by and for alcoholics. Material may be edited for clarity and length. This newsletter and earlier issues can be printed from the Area 43 website: [www.nhaa.net](http://www.nhaa.net).

This is an honest fellowship; we presume all submissions are original or in the public domain. Following publication, all copyrights revert to the authors.

## Support Pipeline - Subscribe Today!

We need at least one hundred subscriptions to make our minimum for bulk mailing and we've been coming up short. If just one more group from each district ordered Pipeline, we'll be at our goal!

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 #: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: \_\_\_\_\_

*(if for group, please use GSR for the address)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$6 for each group subscription (10 copies/month for 1 year) or \$3.50 for each individual subscription (2 copies/month for 1 year) to NHAA, 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!