



# PIPELINE



## Monthly Area 43 Chair Report

It is with great sadness that I must inform you of the passing of our Area Hotline Chair, Marybeth L. on Monday, April 11th. She attended the Area Convention that weekend and was in great spirits; her passing came as a surprise to everyone. She will be missed by many. I am grateful for her service to her District and our Area - and for the opportunity to have known her. Our hearts go out to her family. I will be filling in to help the Hotline Committee on an interim basis until we can find someone willing and capable to take over the position. We also lost the wife of former delegate Tom K. on April 3rd. Our condolences to Tom and his family in their time of sorrow.

In addition to attending the Pre-Conference Assembly and several Committee meetings over the past few weeks, I also attended the Area Convention in North Conway. Many thanks to



our delegate, Rich P., for getting us the background material for the Pre-Conference far enough in advance to have an informed Group Conscience on the material. Also, thanks to District 12 and all those who contributed to what was one of the best Pre-Conference Assemblies I have attended. Hats off to the Functions Committee for a wonderfully planned and executed Convention, and thank you to ALL who pitched in to help make it a very special weekend in North Conway. I speak for many when I say I certainly enjoyed myself, learned a lot, and really appreciate all the hard work that went into putting on this event. We have many more upcoming events throughout the Area so please check the Pipeline Calendar and the Area website regularly for dates and locations.

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

## The Rewards of Service

On Saturday during the NH Area Convention, I received a call from the AA Answering Service. A woman needed help from a volunteer - she wanted to stop drinking. I called her and she was very sick, frightened, and going into withdrawal. My friend Jeannie was with me so we both helped calm her down and told her to call a friend and get to the emergency room. I called later in the night and she didn't answer the phone. When I called again Sunday morning, she answered the phone and was much better. Jeannie lives in the same town as the woman and is now her temporary sponsor; they will be going to meetings together.

During dinner at the convention on Saturday night, a couple were looking for a place to sit. We had two extra chairs at our table. The young lady had 6 months sobriety and was struggling to stay sober. Jeannie and I gave her our phone numbers and spent quite a bit of time just offering her reassurance as AA's "responsibility statement" was being upheld.

Service in AA can mean so much. Being on the list for the Hotline lets me give back to the program. Hearing the change in a voice from fear to relief is just awesome!

*Marybeth L., Area 43 Hotline Chair*

*As mentioned in the Area Chair Report above, Marybeth, our Area Hotline Chair, passed away suddenly Monday, April 11th, after attending the Area 43 Convention. She had finished up her cancer treatments and was given a clean bill of health. She looked healthier and happier than we had seen her in a long time.*

*She truly loved being of service and was really enthusiastic about the Hotline. It's such a sad but beautiful story: she truly was basking in the sun at the Convention, and now she's another of our sunlit spirits helping us from beyond and leading through her example. In fact, she wrote her article for Pipeline just the day before she passed away. She will be missed. - Mike M.*

**e-Commerce Survey:** Area 43 is currently evaluating the efficiency of certain processes to see if a more robust, online e-commerce website would benefit AA members and groups in NH. Please visit [www.nhaa.net](http://www.nhaa.net) to take the survey by June 30, 2011!

## 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**

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Website: www.nhaa.net

#### Office Hours:

Mon-Fri: 10am—4pm  
Sat: 10am—2pm

## The Promises are Real

I am an alcoholic and my name is Sharon. I am also Holland Dutch, which would not be significant to this story except for the fact that I was brought up in a series of moves from one small Dutch community to another. There were always the local kids against the Dutch Kids, so early on I never felt that I fit in anywhere. I always wanted to be one of the local kids. I don't know why I never tried to fit in with any of the Dutch kids – I was always wanting to be somebody that I wasn't.

I was raised in a Dutch Reformed Church with Heidelberg Doctrine and very strict parents. I greatly feared God and was pretty sure that I was going to Hell when I died. I tried hard, but I just couldn't get perfect - or even good enough to feel things were ok between me and God.

At age 18, my parents arranged my first marriage with a Holland Dutchman ten years older than I was and I spent 26 years of my life in a loveless marriage. He never even pretended any kind of love. Out of that marriage, by the grace of God, came three beautiful daughters that I love with all of my heart. He eventually divorced me for another woman. Having not been on the dating scene for over 26 years, I felt awkward, unwanted and discarded.

Finally, I began to open up and tried dating. The very first experience taught me that having drinks before dinner seemed to be the ordinary, normal thing to do. I was so ignorant of drink ingredients that I just said, "I'll have the same as him," which raised a few eyebrows.

Well, I swallowed that first drink and suddenly there was a whole new world. One that made me feel clever and as though I "fit in" for the first time in my life. Thus began my drinking career. I began to keep a bottle of brandy in the house so I could feel "ok" anytime that I wished. It was a world of magic to me. When I drank, the whole world seemed wonderful. I began to believe that I could do anything as long as there was booze available.

I had always wanted to sail and crew on larger sailboats. I began to work evenings and weekends sewing curtains for boats (after my day job). I soon learned that it was common to have brandy in morning coffee and to drink throughout the day when I was invited along sailing. That led to four years of drinking and sailing every weekend. Though my drinking got out of control, I still thought that I could control it if I wanted to.

After several years of bad choices, by the grace of God, I met and married my current husband. He was 2 years younger than me and quite handsome. He was from a foreign country and it was common for him to have a drink with most meals, which made me comfortable when meeting his family. We drank together for two years after we were married and then I hit my bottom. I had my first black out - and it was a lu-lu! It attracted two fire rescues, two highway patrols and an ambulance - and about 200 of the local townspeople out in the field by our house. That led to me consenting to go to a 28-day rehab. While I was there something happened inside me and I found myself planning to get a sponsor even though I didn't want one of those either. I now believe that was the beginning of my spiritual awakening.

While I was there, I called my husband and told him that I could never EVER drink again! His immediate response was, "Honey if you can't, I won't." He has kept his promise and by the grace of God, we both now have 22+ years of sobriety. We have been married for 24 years - happy, sober years!

*(continued on page 3)*

## Pass It On: NH Area Convention a Success!

Nearly 400 members and friends of Alcoholics Anonymous gathered in North Conway on the weekend of April 8-10, 2011 for the 45th State Convention at the North Conway Grand Hotel. The theme of this year's convention, "Pass It On," was experienced by those in attendance as the program featured such workshops as *Passing on the Three Legacies*, a Grapevine workshop entitled *Pass It On and On*, and *Young People Passing It on Too*. Our speakers for the convention included Paul McQ. from NY who delivered his

AA story on Friday night with Irish wit and a strong message of recovery, Colleen G. from Peterborough, NH who inspired us to work the steps and find a God that is more powerful than our disease, Billy N. from NJ who reminded us that no matter what, we just don't drink, and Jerry (AA) and Celine J. (AI-Anon) from Manchester, NH who put a face to what it is like to practice these principles in all our affairs in our closing meeting on Sunday morning.



In addition to the workshops and speakers, marathon meetings were held, a Friday night coffeehouse was held for the first time, meditation and yoga took place in the "meditation cave," and hospitality abounded from the front door of the hotel to the hospitality room and beyond! Conventions

are a wonderful place to reunite with friends from all over the state. This writer was privileged to witness the connection that happens when one alcoholic speaks the language of the heart to another alcoholic in the hallways and rooms of the 45th NH State Convention. We hope you enjoyed yourself if you were there and if you could not join us this year, we hope you will come next year.

The Function Committee has openings for members to join and be a part of the planning for next year's convention. If you are interested, please plan on attending our monthly meetings which occur the first Wednesday of the month at the Service Office. In May, we will recap this past convention and start the ball rolling for next year! Please consult the Pipeline calendar for Function Committee meeting times and feel free to email the committee through the Area website with questions or more information.

Many thanks to all those who volunteered their time and talent to make this convention a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

*Cheryl L., Area 43 Functions Chair*

### Promises (continued from page 2)

I have never slacked off on meetings. I have always had a sponsor and I sponsor others. AA and God have brought much joy and serenity into our lives. We have traveled to other countries and built a new house. My husband raises beef cattle and I am active in the art world - all as a direct result of sobriety and gratitude for what we are blessed with. I am so grateful to AA and God for the path I've been led down. My life is now truly beyond my wildest dreams! Every day is exciting to me and I look forward to the future. That word was not even in my vocabulary when I drank.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Group Info.

### New Groups

D15, Dover  
Wednesday, 8-9pm  
Wicked Sobba in Dovah, SDH  
Kaleo Coffee, 85 Main St.

### Group Changes

D9, Hampstead  
Tuesday, 7-8pm  
Hampstead Tuesday Nite, HB  
St Christopher's, East Rd.  
Grp now Open

D10, Salem  
Monday, 7:30-8:30pm  
Genesis 12 Step Group, CX  
St David's Episcopal Church  
231 Main St. (Rte 97)  
Grp time changed from 8-9:30

D12, Manchester  
Sunday, 10-11am  
Sunday Round Robin Group, HD  
YMCA - 2nd Flr., 30 Mechanic St.  
End time changed from 11:15 to 11:00

D12, Manchester  
Sunday, 10-11am  
Sunday Serenity, HS  
Elliot Hospital Dining Room  
955 Auburn St.  
End time changed from 11:15 to 11:00

D13, Hudson  
Monday, 7-8:30pm  
A Vision For You, HDC  
Community Church, 19 Central St.  
Address Corrected from 246 Central St.

D13, Nashua  
Sunday, 6:30-7:30am  
Early Birds, D  
United Methodist Church, 154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & code changed from HBX

D13, Nashua  
Monday, 6-7am  
Early Birds, DB  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & removed HX from codes

D13, Nashua  
Tuesday, 6-7am  
Early Birds, DBX  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & added DB to codes

## ...Group Changes

(continued from page 3)

D13, Nashua  
Wednesday, 6-7am  
Early Birds, D  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & removed B from codes

D13, Nashua  
Thursday, 6-7am  
Early Birds, DB  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & added D to codes

D13, Nashua  
Friday, 6-7am  
Early Birds, DB  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & added B to codes

D13, Nashua  
Saturday, 6:30-7:30am  
Early Birds, D  
United Methodist Church  
154 Main St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes & removed H from codes

D13, Nashua  
Thursday, 7:30-9pm  
Terrace Group, SD  
Northeast Counseling & Coaching, 3rd Flr.,  
6 Concord St.  
Grp moved from Harbor Homes

D18, New London  
Friday, 12:15-1:15pm  
GVD Group, HD  
First Baptist Church, 461 Main St., rear  
entrance  
Addr. Clarified-Use rear entrance

D20, Jackson  
Thursday, 6-7pm  
Jackson Step Group, CXH  
Jackson Community Church, Rte 16A,  
Main St.  
Grp now Closed. Address corrected from  
Rte 16B

D20, Madison  
Friday, 8-9pm  
Candle Light Group, SD  
Madison Church, 53 Conway Rd.  
Addr. Clarified: 53 Conway Rd.

### Disbanded Groups

D10, Salem  
Friday, 6-7:15pm  
Safe Harbor Women's Group, DX  
St. David's Church, 231 Main St.

## HELP WANTED: AREA 43 HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

*See Ad on June Calendar Page*

## Promises (continued from page 3)

My lady friends in AA and the women that I sponsor have brought so much love and strength into my life. My sponsor has guided me when I was in fear or had doubts. I experienced many of life's trials in sobriety, but my AA support system was always there for me. I haven't had to face any difficult situation alone since being sober and I know that I will never have to face anything alone again. With my Higher Power, which I choose to call God, and my AA support system, life is not only tolerable, but filled with all the joy that is spoken of in the "Promises." The Promises really do come true!

Sharon L., 5/25/86

## 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](mailto: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).

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**Your support is greatly appreciated!**

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

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

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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!