Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 www.aahmbny.org MARCH 2018 EDITION

The Happy Joyous & Free Press

In this Issue…….

P. 2 Calendar of Events: Area & District ……
p. 3 upcoming district events and the Area Chair Report

p. 4 Alt Chair Report /Alt Treasurer Report / Secretary Report……
p 5 Meeting Schedule order Form…….
p. 6 Delegate Report and 2018 NYSIW program chair report ……

P. 7 2018 NYSIW Flyer ……..

Pp. 8-13 Conference Agenda Items ……..……
p 14 Delegates day of Sharing flyer save the date ……..
p. 15 Spring Assembly Flyer …… ……..

Grapevine Report:
Hi my name is Chrissy O. and as I'm still figuring out everything. I'm making a good beginning. I attended district 4 spiritual breakfast. Sold $170 worth of grapevine material. I have did a inventory after the sales.
I am asking All DCMs to email me they're Grapevine Representatives information so I can connect with them as soon as possible. I will not be at NERAASA However I will be at area day if anyone needs subscriptions. I look forward to setting up displays in many events... Let me know.

AA Principles of the Month

Step 3 - Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

Tradition 3 (long form) - Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

Concept III (long form) - As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Tradition 3 Checklist:

1. In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?
2. Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?
3. Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?
4. Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?
5. Am I over impressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
6. When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he has been to AA before? What his other problems are?

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Concept III Checklist:

1. Do we understand what is meant by the "Right of Decision?" Do we grant it at all levels of service or do we "instruct?"
2. Do we trust our trusted servants — G.S.R., D.C.M., area delegate, the Conference itself?

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HMB Area 48 – Northeastern NY
2018 Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Host
January 13, 2018	HMB Orientation Day	Eastern Cluster Albany, NY
February 23-25, 2018	NERAASA	Area 11 Cromwell, CT
March 3 or 4, 2018	HMB Fellowship Day	Hudson Valley Cluster
March 9-11, 2018	NERD	Area 49 SENY Tarrytown, NY
April 7, 2018	HMB Delegate's Day Of Sharing	Western Cluster Utica, NY
May 12 or 13, 2018	HMB Area Assembly	Central Cluster
June 9 or 10, 2018	HMB Joy of Service Day	Hudson Valley Cluster
July 27-29, 2018	NYS Informational Workshop	HMB Area 48
September 8 or 9, 2018	HMB Fellowship Day	Eastern Cluster
October 13, or 14, 2018	HMB Area Assembly	Central Cluster
October , 26-28, 2018	HMB Area Convention	Western Cluster Utica, NY
November 10, 2018	HMB Inventory Day	Adirondack Cluster

HMB Area Clusters	
Adirondack Cluster	Districts 5, 10, 13, & 19
Central Cluster	Districts 4, 8, & 14
Eastern Cluster	Districts 1, 2, & 18
Hudson Valley Cluster	Districts 3, 7, 11, 15, 16, & 17
Western Cluster	Districts 9 & 12

Subject to change – updates will appear as events are finalized
For more information contact: althmbchair@aahmbny.org

12/2017

Your Upcoming District Events

District 14 Cabin Fever Reliever Saturday March 17, 5-545 Check-in /register ,6pm dinner 7pm speakers For more information there is a flyer Scotia First Methodist Church 201N Ten Broeck Ave Scotia

District 12 Spiritual Breakfast Saturday May 5th 9-12 $16 per ticket No sales at the door Beeches Resturaunt 7900 Turin Rd. Rome NY 13440

District 18 Ebby Thatcher Spiritual Breakfast Sat April 21 8:30 –noon Greenbush Reformed Church 688 Columbia Turnpike E Greenbush, NY Please bring a breakfast dish to share Trip to Ebby's grave after noon RSVP MJMNOTE@gmail.com or text 518-209-0725 you may just come if you miss the RSVP

ATTN all DCM's or District Functions Chairs If you would like your event listed in the upcoming district events please send me and email with the information to newsletter@aahmbny.org

Flyers will not be posted for district events in the Newsletter

Area Chair Report March 2018

I am pleased to report that the rescheduled Orientation Day went off smoothly and, in my humble opinion, was a great success. Attendance was estimated to be about 100 people. We gave out almost 100 AA Service Manuals and the same number of HMB Service manuals to those attending. Tammie also provided 18 newcomer packets to those attending an Area function for the first time!

Many thanks to the Eastern Cluster for hosting and to the people who were willing to step up and share on their experience in various service positions. Their enthusiasm, insight, and passion was inspiring.

As you read this, NERAASA 2018 will be in the books. I'm sure I will be both exhausted and energized by it. Always a great weekend – if you've never been, put it on your calendar for next year. The 2019 event will be held in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Time for an AA road trip!

Our first Fellowship Day of the year is March 3 in Cairo – a day for our committees to meet for the first time this year, have our first Area business meeting for 2018, and enjoy a panel put on by the Hudson Valley cluster, our hosts for the event. Hope to see you there!

And then I'm off to NERD (NorthEast Regional Delegates) weekend in my role as your Alternate Delegate, to tune in on what's happening at the General Service Conference this year

In friendship, fellowship, and service,

Tad J.

HMB Area Chair

Alternate Chair Report

March 2018

Orientation Day, after a hiccup from Mother Nature, was (in my opinion) a huge success. Thanks to all who contributed and to all who attended. I was happy to finally be able to meet many of the DCM's I had previously been in contact with via email. It was nice to be able to put faces with some of the names.

The afternoon meeting was productive. There were many suggestions regarding the monthly conference calls and how to make them a little less confusing. Out of that came the idea of an agenda to follow. Allen (Alt DCM 16) volunteered to put something together. True to his word, a few days later it came through and was shared with the rest of the committee via email. Enthusiasm and reliability like that makes my job all the easier. Thanks Allen! Hopefully it will keep things a little more orderly for the February call.

The event schedule for the year is almost complete. I will be sending an updated version to the website soon and will have updated copies for distribution at the March Fellowship Day.

The committee for the NYSIW is beginning to take shape. Jeanne S has graciously volunteered to work on the program. Tara C, Cathy P, Peggy P and John L have also offered their services. I am hoping to have an official committee meeting at the March Fellowship Day, probably over lunch. Don S sent the registration forms out to the delegates of the other three areas and I have had some response back from them.

I am super charged for NERAASA this weekend – as any good "NERAASA Junkie" should be.

And as always – I am grateful to be of service in Area 48.

In love & service,

Tammie E

HMB Area 48 Alternate Chair

NYSIW Chair

Dear Friends in the Fellowship,

Greetings from your newly appointed alt. treasurer! As some of you may know already, I have the privilege of keeping track of meeting schedule orders and budget in addition to helping out with yearly budget on our finance committee. Currently, we have extra HMB meeting schedules available to any and all interested folks. The updated order form with NEW P.O. address can be found in this edition of the newsletter and should be on website. So, if your group or district would like a bunch, please fill out order form completely and send to P.O. address. Some people have emailed me for requests and that's fine too-I will be at the March fellowship Day and can have your order ready—if you've got the money, honey and the all-important form! Please make checks payable to HMB Meeting Schedules—I appreciate the personal checks for the retirement fund, but hey, I'm working an honest program these daysJ

Any questions about the meeting schedules, you can reach me at alttreasurer@aahmbny.org
And yes, if you see me struggling with cartons, I do need help!

IL&S,

Jeannie S.

Alt Area Treasurer

Secretary's Report - I attended my first NERAASA on Feb. 23-25. It was full of great information and fellowship. I attended the Secretary's Round-table; there were about 24 present. I felt great to be part of HMB Area 48 because there were some issues in other Areas. We received an email back from the facilitator (a past delegate) of our group, with a list of the names and contact info of all secretary's present so we can network at a later time. I look forward to going to Maryland next year, but somebody please remind me that I need to take a nap during the day.

HMB Area 48

2018 Meeting Schedule Order Form

Hudson Mohawk Berkshire Area 48 of Alcoholics Anonymous

Inquiries to: alttreasurer@aahmbny.org

No Shipping to PO Boxes

Schedules are $.40 ea.

(Minimum order 10)

Shipping Costs*:

10-100	$12.00	601- 900	$40.00
101-200	$15.00	901-1200	$50.00
201-300	$20.00	1201-1500	$60.00
301-600	$30.00	1501-1800	$70.00

For every additional 100 over 1800 add $4.00

***Due to the high price of shipping, it is recommended that groups with small orders combine with other small order groups to maximize savings.**

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:_____ Group or Organization: _____

Street Address:_____

City/Town:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Contact Person:_____ Email: _____

Phone: (____)_____

Quantity: _____ x $.40 = $_____

Shipping & Handling (see box above): $_____

Total Enclosed: $_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE AND MAIL ORDERS TO:

HMB MEETING SCHEDULES
PO BOX 585
HIGHLAND, NY 12528

Your - not always so humble - humble servant was completely floored with the awesome experience of this years NERAASA. Over 1100 fellow alcoholics joined together for panels and round table discussions. As a first year delegate it was an eye opener.

Of those 1100, several were from Area 48 which was, as usual, well represented by our cast of trusted servants.

I was asked by some of them to state an intention to bid on behalf of Area 48 to host NERAASA in 2021. As it turned out I was so caught up in a conversation I almost missed the opportunity. At the last second I got to the mike and followed through with that request.

I have made arrangements with Tori for access to the Conference Background material. I sent the background for each committee agenda item to each Area Committee Chair. DCMs will have access if they are using the Area 48 email portal sing with me now aahmbny.org !!!! Other requests for access may be addressed as we move forward.

I will hand out the Agenda Items on March 3 Fellowship Day giving time for DCMs to review in their districts and bring folks to discuss on April 11 for Delegates Day of Sharing. Agenda Items are available on the Delegates page as well.

See you on Saturday March 3 in Cairo

In Fellowship and In Service,
Don S.
Delegate
Panel 68, Area 48
HMB

Dear Friends in the Fellowship,

Greetings from NYSIW Program Chair! Writing to you today to extend invitation to share your experience in service in your current position on a panel for the NYSIW being held July 27-29 at Mohawk Community College in Utica N.Y.

We are pleased to have available a “smart classroom” at your disposal which means access to media tools for your presentations on service work. How fun and interesting it might be to present a power point, video, audio as part of your presentation! Presenters will be speaking for approx. 10-12 minutes with time afterward for Q&A. Attached is the NYSIW registration form. Online registration will be available very soon and I will notify you as it is available. You have the option now to register by snail mail and, of course, the earlier the better for the Committee.

Please let me know ASAP if you will be part of the panel so we can move on the agenda and have it to you early. Thank you in advance to all who will be attending and presenting and we look forward to seeing and hearing from you at 2018 NYSIW.

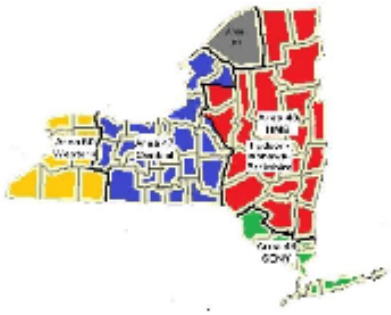
Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions you may have.

In love, fellowship and service,

Jeannie S.

Program Chair NYSIW 2018

39th Annual
New York State Informational Workshop
July 27-29, 2018



Hosted by HMB Area 48
At
Mohawk Valley Community College
1101 Sherman Drive, Utica, NY

Pre-Registration deadlines online or by mail:
July 13 – Weekend package
July 20 – No lodging, registration & meals only

Online registration available February 1
Go to aahmbny.org
And follow the links for NYSIW

On-Site Registration begins Friday, July 27 at 3pm

What is the NYSIW?
A service weekend each summer that rotates between the 4 service areas (47, 48, 49 & 50) in NYS where trusted servants and committee chairs can meet to exchange information and ideas on how to effectively carry the message to the still sick and suffering alcoholic.

Anyone in service, whether at the group, district or area level, as well as anyone interested in learning more about service is welcome to attend.

Friday & Saturday 8:00p
Speaker Meetings open to all members
A 7th Tradition basket will be provided for Non-registrants

Weekend package includes registration, 2 nights lodging*, Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch & dinner, Sunday breakfast
*Lodging is suite style; each suite has a common area, 1 shared bathroom, 1 single bedroom and 2 double bedrooms each with 2 single beds.

$180 – single occupancy
$170 – double occupancy

Please specify suite mates and/or roommate preferences, if any

Spanish Translation will be available upon request

A la carte meals are also available for day registrants
All meals are buffet/cafeteria style – Saturday night dinner is barbecue themed
A full menu can be viewed online at aahmby.org
Questions: email nysiw@aahmbny.org

Weekend Package:		
Single Occupancy	$180	_____
Double Occupancy	$170	_____
Registration & Meals (No lodging):	$90	_____
Or A la carte:		
Weekend Registration	$20	_____
Saturday only	$15	_____
Friday Dinner	$20	_____
Saturday Breakfast	$10	_____
Saturday Lunch	$15	_____
Saturday Dinner	$20	_____
Sunday Breakfast	$10	_____
Total Enclosed:	$	_____

Name: _____ Phone_____

Address: _____ State____ Zip_____

Email: _____
(please print clearly to receive a receipt)

Service Position: _____ District ____ Area____

Badge Name Preference: _____

Dietary or Accessibility needs: _____

*Lodging Preferences: _____

Make check or money order payable to "HMB Area Association"
Mail with registration form to:
NYS Informational Workshop
PO Box 91
New Hartford, NY 13413

English/Anglais/inglés

68th General Service Conference Committees

Agenda Items

I. **Agenda**

A. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2019 General Service Conference.

B. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.

C. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2019 General Service Conference.

D. Conference Evaluation:

1. Review summary of the 2017 General Service Conference evaluations.

2. Review General Service Conference Evaluation Form.

E. Discuss report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

II. **Cooperation with the Professional Community**

A. Review the trustees' committee report regarding LinkedIn as a platform for reaching professionals.

B. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A.A. as a Resource for the Health Care Professional."

C. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "Members of the Clergy Ask About Alcoholics Anonymous."

D. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "If You Are a Professional..."

E. Review contents of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.

III. **Corrections**

A. Consider request to create a pamphlet for inmates who are to be released after long term incarceration.

B. Review contents of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

IV. **Finance**

A. Consider developing a method to standardize increases to the limits or individual contributions and bequests to the General Service Board.

B. Review Self-Support Packet.

English/Anglais/Inglés

V. **Grapevine**

A. Review social media report regarding Instagram, Facebook and Google for Nonprofits.

B. Review Audio Strategy status update.

C. Review report on 2004 Conference Advisory Action on Outside Sales.

D. Reconsider the 2014 Conference Advisory Action regarding La Viña.

E. Review revised text of the pamphlet "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña: Our Meetings in Print."

F. Consider list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2019 and later.

G. Review Grapevine Workbook.

VI. **Literature**

A. Consider proposed revisions to *Alcoholics Anonymous*:

1. Request to add an appendix reflecting recognition received from the Library of Congress.

2. Request to add the A.A. Preamble and Responsibility Statement.

3. Request to add an endnote to Bill W.'s story acknowledging co-founder, Bob S.

B. Consider request that A.A. (U.S./Canada) publish "The God Word" (a pamphlet currently published by the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Great Britain).

C. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet for atheist and agnostic members.

D. Consider request for the development of a pamphlet based upon A.A.'s Three Legacies.

E. Review report and suggestions on the inclusion of language related to safety in A.A. literature.

F. Review revised draft pamphlet "A.A. for the Woman."

G. Review revised draft pamphlet "A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic."

H. Review draft pamphlet "A.A. for Alcoholics with Mental Health Issues."

I. Review revised draft pamphlet "Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Services."

J. Review progress report and draft revised text for the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated."

English/Anglais/Inglés

K. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Too Young?"

L. Review progress report on the update to the pamphlet "Young People and A.A."

M. Consider request for revision to *Living Sober*.

N. Consider request for the development of a new book combining *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* with *Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

O. Consider request to update the video "Your A.A. General Service Office, the Grapevine and the General Service Structure."

P. Consider request to change the subtitle of the pamphlet "G.S.R. General Service Representative: May Be the Most Important Job in A.A."

Q. Consider request for the development of a new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women alcoholics.

R. Consider request to add a section on anonymity to the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship."

S. Review matrix of A.A. recovery literature.

VII. Policy/Admissions

A. Approve request for one observer from A.A. in India to attend the 2018 General Service Conference.

B. Review dates for the 2021 General Service Conference.

C. Review report on the process, implementation and status on the site selection of the General Service Conference.

D. Review draft process for polling the General Service Conference between annual Conference meetings.

E. Review progress report on options for equitable distribution of the workload of Conference committees.

F. Consider request to develop a policy for the use of the Conference dashboard.

G. Discuss the following question from the trustees' International Committee: "Does the U.S./Canada have a role/responsibility in assisting in the development of A.A. structures around the world through sponsoring other countries via direct invitations to observe our General Service Conference."

VIII. Public Information

A. Review 2017 annual report from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.

B. Review 2018 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan

English/Anglais/Inglés

C. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):

1. Consider approving the proposed video PSA "Changes."
2. Consider centralized distribution, tracking and evaluation of the proposed video PSA "Changes," at a cost not to exceed $42,000, in addition to the work of local public information committees.
3. Review the 2017 Report on the Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements.

D. Consider approving a Young People's Video submission.

E. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "Understanding Anonymity" which expand content on Traditions Eleven and Twelve and adds information related to safety in A.A.

F. Consider revisions to the pamphlet "A Brief Guide to Alcoholics Anonymous" which update language, contact information and information on the prevalence and severity of alcoholism and add information related to safety in A.A.

G. Review a progress report on the A.A.W.S. Google for Nonprofit YouTube channel.

H. Review the 2018 trustees' Public Information Committee Report on the Use of Google AdWords and Google Grants to carry the A.A. message.

I. Review contents of P.I. Kit and Workbook.

IX. Report and Charter

A. *The A.A. Service Manual*, 2018-2020 Edition:

1. Review list of editorial updates.
2. Consider request for changes to chapters 2, 3, and 5.
3. Consider adding "Panel" to the *Glossary of General Service Terms*.
4. Consider adding graphics on page S75, above the section *A.A. World Services, Inc.*, that visually display the positions on each of the three corporate boards.
5. Consider adding text regarding standing committees from "The A.A. Group" pamphlet.
6. Consider removing the following statement from the section *Area Newsletters or Bulletins:* "Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other A.A. material."
7. Consider developing a plan for a revised editorial review process.

B. Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S., Western U.S., and International).

C. General Service Conference *Final Report*.

English/Anglais/Inglés

1. Consider request that Conference committee additional considerations be published in their entirety both in the printed Conference *Final Report* and the anonymity-protected digital version.

X. Treatment and Accessibilities

A. Review the trustees' committee report on Cooperation with Armed Services Exploration Strategies.

B. Review proposed revisions to the pamphlet "Accessibility for All Alcoholics."

C. Discuss ways that remote communities concerns might be addressed by the Conference.

D. Review summary of the Fellowship sharing on the need for additional material to support carrying the A.A. message to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing A.A. members.

E. Review contents of Treatment Kit and Workbook.

F. Review contents of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

XI. Trustees

A. Review resumes of candidates for:

1. Eastern Canada Regional Trustee

2. Pacific Regional Trustee

B. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

C. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.

D. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.

E. Review proposal to censure the General Service Board.

F. Review proposal to reorganize the A.A. World Services and General Service Boards.

G. Review report on the regional geographic service structure.

XII. Archives

A. Review draft of proposed publication, *Our Great Responsibility: Selections of Bill W.'s General Service Conference Talks, 1951-1970.*

B. Consider request from the AA Grapevine Board to post the 2017 General Service Conference presentation, "A.A. Grapevine and La Viña" on AA Grapevine's YouTube channel.

C. Consider developing a policy on distribution of audio recordings of General Service Conference presentations.

English/Anglais/Inglés

D. Review Archives Workbook.

XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums

A. Discuss selection of cities to be considered as a site for the International Convention in 2030.

B. Discuss inviting up to twenty-one non-A.A. speakers to participate in the 2020 International Convention at A.A.'s expense.

C. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

HMB Area 48

Delegate's Day of Sharing

Hosted by Districts 9 and 12

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Concept I:
The final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Come share thoughts with your Delegate on current issues pertinent to AA as a whole.

9:00am – 3:00pm
Our Savior Lutheran Church
1640 Genesee St,
Utica N.Y.13502

Tentative Agenda*

9:00am – 10:00am: Meet & Greet Coffee Hour
10:00am – 10:15am: Welcome, Announcements & General Business
10:15am – 10:45am: Background Information on Conference Agenda Items
10:45am – 12:15pm: Roundtable discussions on

1 - Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community
2 - Trustees
3 - Treatment, Accessibilities & Corrections
4 - Grapevine, Literature & Archives

12:15pm – 1:00pm: 7th Tradition Lunch
1:00pm – 2:00pm: Report backs and recommendations from roundtables
2:00pm – 3:00pm: General Floor Sharing on Agenda Items

*Subject to change

2018 HMB Area 48

Spring Assembly

Saturday, May 12, 2018

9:00am – 3:00pm

Hosted by Central Cluster – Districts 4, 8 & 14

SAVE THE DATE

BEUKENDAAL Temple Association
20 Schonowee Ave
Glenville, NY 12302

STAY TUNED

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

HMB Area Association (3/2018)

Ship and Copy

118 Polar Plaza, #114

Amsterdam NY 12010

Sixteen

Sixteen