

THIS DAY

www.nnjaa.org

News & Notes from NNJ General Service Area 44 and Northern New Jersey Intergroup



A message from your Area Chair

Greetings from your Area Chair! Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve you and Area 44.

As we were winding down from the Pre-Conference Reports and taking a breath, my feet were already making their way to our Mini-Conference in Franklin! We had a great turnout with a bunch of enthusiasm, which laid the foundation for some powerful round table discussions. What a fantastic experience this was for me! I couldn't help feeling what a miracle it was that before I was blessed to enter the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous I was a non-functioning drunk, of no real use to anyone, and here I was addressing the fellowship of Northern NJ AA as Area Chair! I know this is by the grace of God and the willingness to demonstrate my gratitude in action. In any event, by the end of the Mini-Conference day, I'm quite

sure that our Delegate had all that she needed to represent our Area with an informed group conscience.

At the June Area Assembly there will be much to report from our Delegate, who recently returned from the General Service Conference. As you probably know, the June Assembly is Area 44's Post-Conference Report Assembly, and it is our responsibility as GSRs, DCMs and members of AA to attend this event and bring this information back to our groups, thus guaranteeing the future of Alcoholics Anonymous! I'm hoping to see you all there.

April 10th of 2014 marks the 75th anniversary of the printing of our Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*! There will be a Joint Day of Sharing with Area 44 General Service and Northern New Jersey Intergroup, hopefully as close to that date as possible. Although early in the planning stages, watch the area calendar on our website, as well as our newsletter *This Day*, for updates on this event as well as other exciting things coming up in Northern NJ.

We will again be looking to host a
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A message from your Area Delegate

It Really Is Your AA

You have heard many Delegates in the past state that the Conference is more than you could ever imagine – and they were right. The privilege you have honored me with was just so humbling and exciting at the same time. I was told I would experience a conference moment – and I did – well actually two. There was an item that came out of committee, (after much discussion), went to the floor, was voted on, (after much discussion), and passed. The process started in committee with our reviewing 45 pages of comments from the groups about the agenda item. Much care was given in our discussions to understand what you were telling us. Putting the wording together for the proposed advisory action and realizing the impact it could have was just an amazing humbling feeling. The

same care was given in the discussion on the floor, and, throughout that discussion, the impact on AA as a whole was never lost. Be assured that AA truly does belong to the groups.

I was honored to serve on two committees – a primary and a secondary, (Public Information and International Conventions/Regional forums), – which gave me even more opportunity to experience and participate in the Conference process. Thanks to the groups who participated in our Pre-Conference and our Mini-Conference sessions. Your Delegate was well informed on how our Area felt on the items we discussed. Our groups were in agreement with the Conference on many items, but there were many more items that came to the floor – some of which we discussed in past years and others new. The discussions that took place both in my committees, and on the floor, reinforced for me, just how important it is for our groups to fully participate and just how much the members of the Conference

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A message from your Intergroup Chair

When we finally take advantage of the fellowship of A.A. many of us go through a process of emerging from isolation to enter into a new relationship with the people around them. This includes rebuilding relationships, making new friends with new actions and new activities.

This renewal can be both joyful and difficult. Finding I was welcome in the rooms of AA was surprising but absolutely essential to my sticking around. Wanting to contribute, meet people, and be there to welcome the next person are central to recovery but meant reaching outside of myself and “giving”.

Joining a Group, participating at meetings and taking on opportunities to contribute by taking positions (e.g., Secretary, Coffee Maker) within a group are fulfilling and contribute to

the feeling of being “a part of.” Many of us have taken the opportunity to act as a group's Delegate to Intergroup. As sobriety takes hold and clarity develops, there are a number of opportunities to join 12th step committees to enhance and broadens the AA experience.

As you know, Northern New Jersey Intergroup takes on the responsibility for meeting books, the website (nnjaa.org), meeting finder, and Nightwatch as well as funding a number of committees jointly with General Service Area 44. Intergroup also maintains an office to provide services to the fellowship. These activities take organizing (for the unorganized) and your Intergroup Delegate drives that organization.

Recently, Intergroup elections took place. There are new Trustees, Treasurer and Recording Secretary to serve you in building a strong AA presence in Northern NJ. Each of the individuals in these positions has found that his or her journey in AA is enhanced with Service. This third leg of our A.A. triangle brings each individual's

program into balance with Sobriety and Unity. It provides a dimension many need to strengthen.

Preaching about A.A. Service can be counterproductive but making the fellowship aware of Service Opportunities is important for many individual recovery programs. It keeps the fellowship strong and reaching out to those who may be in need of what many of us have experienced.

I was introduced to the Intergroup Delegates meeting as a member of the Website Committee for our joint Area/ Intergroup Website. Asked to give a status report to the Intergroup Delegates, I was fascinated to see 80 interested and attentive group representatives working through an agenda of Committee Reports; many taking notes and most collecting handouts to take back to the Group they represented. They had plans to report back to their Group on current events and for input on topics where controversy arose. It was interesting and a window on how AA holds together so many varied interests and activities while

listening to the voice of the Group.

I wanted more and when my Home Group was looking for an Intergroup Delegate I stepped up. As a Delegate I have a voice at the meetings and a vote where needed. I can get up to date about A.A. activities in Northern NJ through verbal reports, handouts and interactions between Delegates and presenters.

Two years ago I stood for Intergroup Trustee at the bi-annual elections. There was a wide field of candidates and I was honored to be elected. The Trustee position offered a wider view of Intergroup activities and much

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A Message from your Area Treasurer



The AA groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated AA purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority." **AA's 7th Tradition Long Form.**

For the first few years of my sobriety I only understood Tradition 7 to be about money, although I had a great respect for the principle of self support, I was unaware of the spiritual nature of this tradition. As I became involved in service my understanding of the traditions grew and I started to understand that this was not just about money but spirituality also. Having now served you as your treasurer for almost five months I can see that this tradition is not about money at all. The 7th Tradition is all about the spiritual aspects of self support. It's about the responsibility of Carrying the Message, about participation, and about gratitude.

In the spirit of the 7th Tradition

we are allowed to participate in our recovery as well as our fellowship. When I contribute as the basket is passed at my home group I participate in keeping the doors of our meeting place open. Whether I can contribute a \$1.00 or \$20.00 is not what is important, the dollar value is not what is important. The \$1.00 is no less significant than the \$20.00. The fact that I am participating gives me the sense that I belong, something I lacked before AA. When my group contributes to the service entities to help provide the services we have asked for, it allows me to be part of something that is worldwide. How wonderful it feels to be able to be responsible for my part in AA continuing to Carry the Message as it was carried to me.

My sponsor taught me early in my journey that gratitude is an action word. When I am allowed to contribute. I have the opportunity to express my gratitude by giving back to the program that has given me a life I couldn't have dreamed of 11 years ago. When I am asked to be generous when the basket is passed it has nothing to do with the bill I drop in, but rather the gratitude I have being allowed to participate in our Primary Purpose, to Carry the Message to the still sick and suffering Alcoholic.

Having served for almost five months as your treasurer, I have truly been learning of the Spirit of the 7th Tradition. I have received contributions from a few dollars to hundreds, each of them equally important. The total allows for the amazing work we do in Area 44: meetings and literature being brought in to jails and treatment facilities; informing the public of the solution available to a friend or

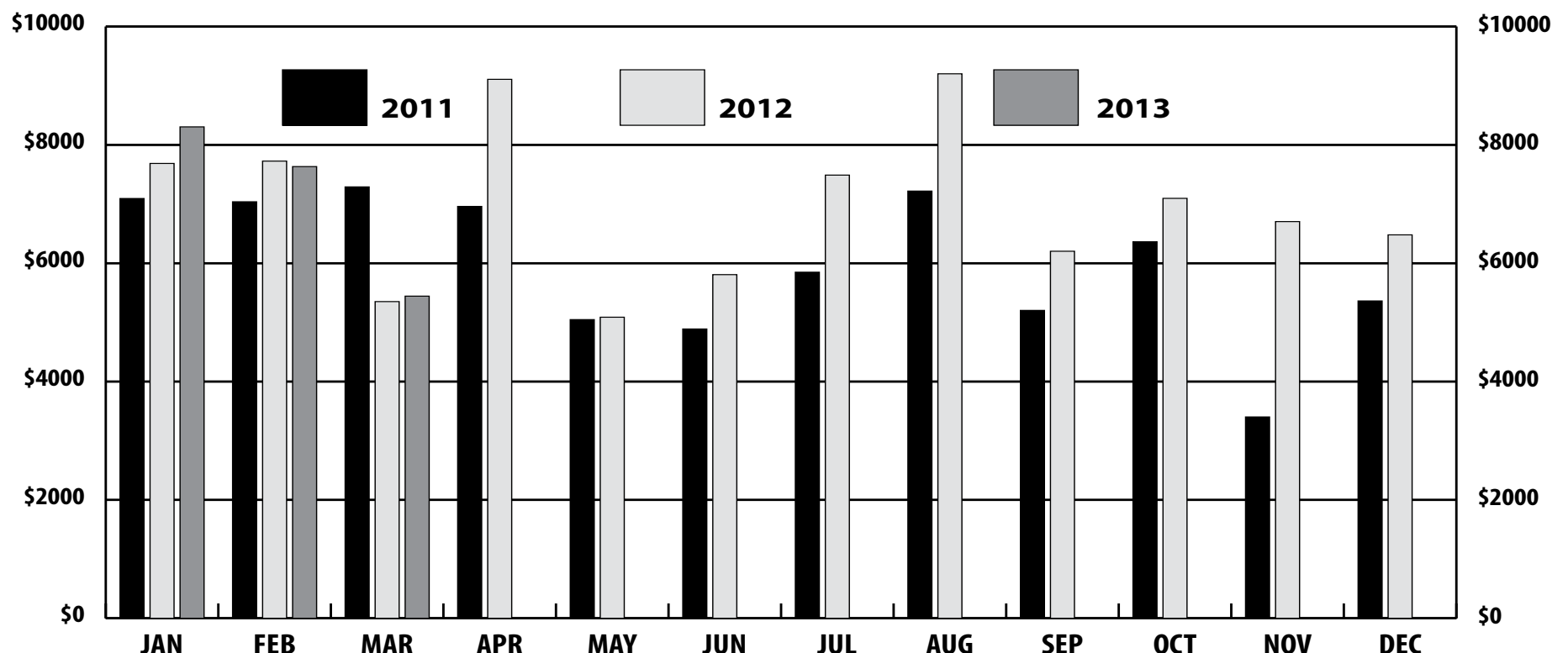
RUS SERVICE CORPORATION T/A NNJGS AREA 44 YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON REPORT: 2012 AND 2013 FOR PERIOD ENDED March 31, 2013		
	<u>2012 - Mar</u>	<u>2013 - Mar</u>
Money Market Account ^(A)		
Balance as of January 1st	\$41,261	\$52,756
Interest Received	10	17
Transfer (To)/From the Checking Account	0	483
Balance as of March 31st	<u>41,272</u>	<u>53,256</u> ^(C)
Checking Account ^(A)		
Balance as of January 1st	\$18,268	\$35,019
Group, Individual, and 7th Tradition Basket Contributions	21,519	21,841
Other Receipts (Intergroup, Literature & Grapevine Sales, etc.)	36,567	37,233
Budgeted Expenses (Standing & Special Committees, Officers, Office, etc.)	(26,725)	(23,308) ^(B)
Non-Budgeted Expenses (Literature, Grapevine, Luncheon, etc.)	(34,015)	(42,396)
Transfer (To) / From the Money Market Account	0	0
Balance March 31st	<u>\$15,614</u>	<u>\$28,389</u> ^(C,D)
Account Balance Over / (Under) Guideline	(\$17,809)	(\$3,279)
Prudent Reserve Funds		
Total Cash In Bank (Not Including Convention Acct)	\$58,886	\$81,645
Designated Funds (Jailbox Funds, etc.)	(765)	(4,307)
Checking Account Guideline (2 months average expenses)	(33,423)	(31,668)
	<u>\$22,698</u>	<u>\$45,670</u>
Prudent Reserve (50% of the prior 12 months Operating Expenses)	<u>\$49,589</u>	<u>\$43,025</u>
Account Balance Over / (Under) Guideline	(\$26,891)	(\$2,645)
FOOTNOTES		
(A) Details of all income and expense items, as well as a comparison of Operating Expenses to the Annual Expense Budget are available from the Treasurer.		
(B) 2013 Expense Budget is \$90,580		
(C) March 31, 2013 Checking and Money Market Balances have been reconciled to the Bank Statements by the Finance Committee.		
(D) March 31, 2013 amount includes Designated Funds of \$4,307 of Jailbox Contributions.		
Summary of Official Approvals / Reviews		
Individual / Group	Action	Completed Through
Treasurer	Approved	Mar., 2013
Alternate Treasurer	Approved	Mar., 2013
Finance Committee	Approved	Mar., 2013
Officers	Reviewed	Mar., 2013
Area Committee Members	Approved	Mar., 2013
Area Assembly	Approved	Jan., 2013

loved one; teaching professionals what services we provide. I have never been more grateful to be a member of A.A. or more proud to be a part of Area 44. I am humbled by the lessons the

groups of Area 44 have allowed me to learn and I look forward to continuing to learn about the Spirit of Tradition 7.

**In Love and Service, Wayne G.
Area 44 Treasurer**

Monthly Group Contributions To Area 44 from January 2011 Through March 2013





Of all of the commitments I can think of, none compares to carrying the message of hope into a place where hope can hardly be found. Jails and prisons are some

of the most dark and negative places I know. A great percentage of the population care nothing of improving their lives, not to say anything of leaving the lifestyle that alcohol can provide.

There is, however, a small percent, sometimes only a tiny percent, of the inmates who are blessed with the need to change - the desperation that's necessary to begin something that will

allow them to live free, happy and productive lives. What would become of them if there was no one to encourage them, to understand them, to walk with them out of the darkness and into the light. The hand of AA was there for me on the outside. I am glad for my opportunity for the hand of AA to reach behind the walls and behind the bars.

Occasionally I have the good fortune

to see the inmate return to the community - to be reunited with society, family, the workplace, and of course, AA. It's a wonderful, fulfilling feeling to know that I was a part of saving a life - maybe two lives - theirs and mine!

Respectfully submitted, Jayson M., District 12 Correction Rep.

The Corrections Committee would like to thank the following groups and districts for their Pink Can and Jail Box contributions



Area Assembly January 2013	District 15/21	Kendall Park, Thurs Nite	Peapack Gladstone Group	Verona, Monday 12:15 C.D.
Area Corrections Conference	District 23 Day of Sharing	Kenilworth Liberty Group	Point Pleasant Beach, Safe Harbor Group	Verona Tuesday Night
Area Mini-Conference	District 36, Edison	Keyport, Keepin it Real	Red Bank Friday Night	Vernon Reflections Group
Baptistown, Speak Ur Peace	Edison, Primary Purpose	Keyport, Road to Recovery Group	Ridgewood 8am	Vineyard Road Group
Belleville, Forest Hills Group	Fair Haven Early Risers	Lincoln Park, BB Wed. Nite	Ringoos, Freedom Through Acceptance Group	Waldwick Sat. Bagle Bash
Belleville, Recovery Hall	527 Beginners Group	Madison, The Cedar	Ringwood, Sky's The Limit	Wantage Big Book
Belleville Thursday Night Grp	Flemington, Serenity Seekers Group	Maplewood Drip Dry	Rockaway, Grapevine Group	Wayne, Daily Reprieve Group
Belvidere, Gift of Sobriety Group	Franklin Friday Guts Group	Mendham, Wake Up and Smell the Coffee	Rumson Sunday Night	Westfield, I Am Responsible
Bloomfield Thursday Night Men's Group	Haledon, On A Different Footing	Metuchen Monday Night	Saddle River 7am	Westfield Wed. 7:30 step
Bogota, Sahara Club	Hampton, Pattenburg Primary Purpose	Millburn 1PM Big Book	South River Friday Night	West Milford, Sky's The Limit
Caldwell Tuesday 6:45 Big Book	Harrington Park, Westwood Morning After Group	Morristown, 3 Legacies Group	Stanhope Group	West Orange, Women's Step Meeting
Clifton, 3 Legacies Group	Highland Park Mon. Nite	Neptune Design for Living	Stockholm, Breakneck Group	Union Hill
Cranford Tuesday Night	Hillsborough Haven of Hope Mon. Nite	Newark, New Ironbound Group	Summit, Dawn Patrol	Union Hill Grapevine
Districts 1/2 Alkathon	Jersey City, Friday Night Candlelight	North Brunswick, Step Up To Sobriety	Three Bridges, Thursday Miracles	Upper Ridgewood Group
District 3, West Milford	Keansburg Thursday Night Winners Group	Oakland, Change is Good Discussion Group	Verona, Hill Street Blues	
Day of Sharing District 13		Ogdensburg, Downtown Serenity Group		



My name is Bill and I am an alcoholic. I am the recording secretary for the Nightwatch Committee. Nightwatch is the committee of Intergroup which coordinates the volunteers who answer the Intergroup 800 number when the Intergroup office is closed. An alcoholic can call the 800 number almost anytime day or night and expect a real live recovering alcoholic to answer the phone. This could not be accomplished without the volunteers who help us. We have Coordinators for different parts of the state. Usually a coordinator procures a group to take a commitment to answer the phones for one week. The week is divided up into different shifts. Three 8-hour shifts each on Saturday and Sunday, (since

the office is closed on weekends), and one shift each weeknight (6pm - 8am Monday thru Thursday, 6pm -9am on Friday). At the beginning of each shift the 800 number is forwarded to a volunteer's phone number. During that shift the volunteer answers the phone when someone calls it. Each volunteer is provided with a Notebook that explains the responsibilities and procedures for handling calls. The majority of calls, from my experience are people looking for a meeting. We use the meeting book or meeting finder on Intergroup website to find out where a meeting is for the caller. This is easy. Some calls are for information. Some calls are actually potential 12 step calls. In the event of a 12 step call, volunteers must remember that their job is to answer the phone. When we get a 12 step call and the caller wants to talk to someone, we get the caller's phone number and find out what part of the state they are in. We tell them we will

try to get a volunteer from their area to call them back. Then we go to the Notebook and look up an appropriate contact for them. The Notebook contains lists of people who have filled out the Nightwatch 12 step contact sheets that are sent to groups indicating when they would be willing to take 12 step calls. We are NEVER to give the caller the phone number of the people listed in the notebook. We give the 12 step contacts in the Notebook the phone number of the caller to call them back. It is a rewarding commitment and a good way to do service work.

One experience I had as a volunteer was a call from a man I will call him "Doug." Although Doug was sober, he was having a rough time. He was disabled so it was hard for him to get out on his own. He had just moved to a different town, so he didn't have any AA contacts in the town where he lived. I suggested to him that if he could get to a meeting he could get

phone numbers of other AA's who might be willing to take him to meetings. He couldn't get there by himself due to his medical problems. I called a 12 step contact in Doug's area and explained his situation. As it happens the person I called was about to go to a meeting and was familiar with the building Doug lived in. The 12 step contact called Doug back and was able to take him to a meeting. Now generally speaking it is not the responsibility of Nightwatch volunteers to procure rides to meetings for callers. We are not dispatchers for a taxi service. However, in this particular case, it did work out. I now think of Doug as a friend.

Nightwatch Committee meetings are at 7:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of every odd month at the Intergroup Office in Union for anyone who wants to get involved.

Yours in service, Bill N., Belford Tues Night Clearview Group



It's an honor to have been given this opportunity to serve as the new Newsletter Chair. Over fourteen years ago my life was so unmanageable I couldn't, and wouldn't, have taken on the responsibility. Thank you to John E., the previous Newsletter Chair, and Bill L., the current Newsletter Editor, as well as all the other folks involved who have kept the Newsletter up and running. As your new Newsletter Chair I hope to continue their work and support the Committee in making *This Day* an informative and interesting read for all!

My experience with the Committee began several years ago when I

played more of a behind the scenes role as a proofreader. However, I had made a commitment to serve as GSR for my home group and was unable to dedicate more time to the Committee. I've learned over the years that it's important to have balance in my life and recovery. It's only recently that my journey brought me to a place where I have the time to focus my service. I have no idea where this

journey will take me but I do know that I have a higher power today who gives me direction, and humility that allows me to ask for help.

We welcome all AAs in Area 44 to join the Committee and see what it's all about. We have lots of great ideas in the works already- be a "roving reporter" for the Area 44 Convention in September, stay behind the scenes as a proofreader for *This Day*

HELP WANTED

This Day Editor – Do you possess writing skills, as well as knowledge of proper English grammar and punctuation? Do you have basic knowledge of AA's Traditions, Concepts, and Warranties? Then you just might be perfectly qualified for the *This Day* Editor's position! If you are interested in serving the area contact us at newsletter@nnjaa.org or come to our monthly meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Area Office.

This Day Alternate Chair – The Alternate Chair's position is also open. If you are interested in helping the current Chair, and possibly stepping in as the next Newsletter Chair two years from now, then this might be the right service position for you!

The Newsletter Committee

prior to publication, and join us on the third Thursday of the month at the Area office and help with ideas to make our Newsletter great!

With Gratitude, Keira H., Newsletter Chair

From the Area Chair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Hospitality Suite at the 2015 International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia! The first planning meeting will be held on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at 7:30 pm at the area office in South Plainfield. If you'd like to get involved, please contact the chair of this Ad Hoc Committee, Paul C., at archives@nnjaa.org.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve, and have a great, sober summer!

In AA Love and Service, Lester G., Area 44 Chairperson



I can't believe it's May already and we're about half way through the first year of our two year commitment. The Literature Committee is beginning to grow... slowly. We have Literature Representatives from Districts 3, 9, 10, 14, 17, 18, 20, 22, 23 and 36.

Does your group or District have a Literature Representative? Why not volunteer to be your District's Literature Representative. Come down to the Area office on the third Monday of each month at 7:30pm and check us out.

Do you know where your group or



Displayed at the May Intergroup Delegates meeting is our "New" Literature Committee Banner. The banner was hand-made by District 8's Literature Representative, RoyAnn B.

district literature is purchased from?

Last year GSO announced at the 62nd General Service Conference that shipping charges for AA literature ordered directly from GSO would be increased. This increased cost went into effect in April. The GSO shipping charges are now as follows:

Amount of Order	Shipping and Warehousing Charge
Up to \$50.....	\$10
\$51 to \$250.....	19% of order (\$9.69-\$47.50)
\$251 to \$500.....	16% of order (\$40-\$80)
\$501 and above.....	No charge

How does this affect me you ask? It doesn't... IF you or your group purchases literature from your local Area 44 Literature Committee. Remember, your Literature Committee purchases literature in bulk so we never pay shipping. Recently I encountered an AA member who "prefers to place an order directly with GSO so it gets shipped to the house." However, in a recent telephone conversation with a GSO Literature Staff person, I learned that GSO prefers that indi-

viduals and groups place small orders with their Area. When you purchase your Literature from the Area, it allows the committee to supply the 12th Step Committees (Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Treatment Facilities and Correctional Facilities) with A.A. literature to help them carry the message.

Will Area 44 Ship Literature to my group? We wish we could, but unfortunately we cannot. We have been working hard to have literature available at the many events around the Area. Since January, we have attended many Days of Sharing, Mid Winter Luncheon, Spaghetti Dinners and District Soberfest picnics. We also attended

the Pre-Conference report locations, Garden State Young People conference in Stillwater and Grapefest. You can always find us at Bookers, Intergroup Delegates meeting, Area Committee meetings, Area Assemblies and other events. We will continue to make literature available wherever possible to everyone around Area 44. If you need literature

just email us at literature@nnjaa.org and we'll find a way to get it to you.

Does Literature Committee sell items other than books? Yes we do. We sell AA Meeting signs for \$7.00, 12 Step & 12 Tradition Shades for your meeting room, Pamphlet Racks, Wallet Cards, Audio CD's (*Living Sober, Big Book, Steps, AA Comes of Age* and more). We sell anything GSO sells, and for the same price too! Visit the Area 44 Website for a link to the Catalog <http://nnjaa.org/area44/lit-committee.htm> You can order anything you may see in this catalogue.

Yours In Service, Maureen R., Literature Chairperson

YET ANOTHER USE FOR OUR MEETING SIGN

Berney J., District 23's Literature Representative used his imagination to create this "AA Clock" using one of our meeting signs.



Area Treatment Facilities Committee



My name is Cole S. D. I am an alcoholic. My sober date is 12/01/08. My home group is the "Harrison 1935 Sober Not Somber Meeting." We meet every Saturday at noon at 15 Frank E. Rodgers Blvd. Please come say hello.

I was introduced almost immediately to service work. At 90 days I was chairing my first meeting. At 6 months I was given the opportunity to be my home group's GSR. I attended my first District meeting and was allowed to become the District 13 Treatment Chair. At my second Area Treatment meeting I became the Area Alternate

Treatment Chair and last January I rotated in as the Area 44 Treatment Chair. It is an incredible honor and privilege to be a part of this grass roots 12 Step work.

Our committee which is comprised of some of the most selfless tireless and loyal people I have ever met is responsible for all treatment facilities having the AA message brought into their programs. We now cover 26 Districts.

If you want to be a part of this wonderful committee, please join us on the second Wednesday of every month at the Area office in South Plainfield at 8:00. I can promise you a rewarding and life-changing experience awaits you in the form of the newcomer whose life you will undoubtedly alter.

*Yours in AA Love and Service,
Cole S. D., Area 44 Treatment Chair*

From your Intergroup Chair CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

insight into the workings of the Intergroup Office as well as organizing for events like the Annual Gratitude Brunch held each November. There were decisions on meeting book format; discussion about Night-watch caller issues; Financial Oversight questions (Northern NJ Intergroup is a not-for-profit corporation) and discussion of concerns voiced by groups.

All in all, my Intergroup experience has been fun, informative and sobriety reinforcing. This May I was fortunate to be elected Intergroup Chair for the next two years -

succeeding Scott K. who has led the Delegates Meetings and kept a keen eye on the Intergroup Office Activities. My hat's off to Scott and I look to his guidance in the months ahead.

Please join us at the next Delegates Meeting; either representing your Group or for your general interest. You'll count it among the highlights of your A.A. "career".

Looking forward to seeing and meeting you...

In Service, Jim S., Intergroup Chair

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY INTERGROUP & AREA 44

Treatment Facilities Workshop



**Saturday, July 27th, 2013
9am - 1pm**

TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

- What AA Is and What AA Is Not
- Remote Communities/ Special Needs
- The AA Message/The AA Messenger
- Sharing with the Care-Givers

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

All AAs interested in carrying AA's message into Treatment Facilities and the professionals from the facilities we serve.
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND A FREE LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
2325 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield - 2nd Floor, Suite 2J

For more information email: tfc@nnjaa.org
or visit us on the web at: www.nnjaa.org



My name is Freddy and I am an alcoholic! I am also your Area 44 Grapevine Chairperson!

On Saturday, May 4th the Grapevine Committee held its Annual Grapefest which is our committee's workshop. It was an amazing event which took place down in the Area Office in South Plainfield. It started promptly at 10am and ended at 12:30pm with an amazing hour of food, fun, & fellowship!

We started the event with two of our presentations from a past GVR and a current GVR who shared their experiences as Grapevine Representatives. Shawna S. and Ann F. were amazing! Then we had our keynote speaker of the morning John W., the Senior Editor of the Grapevine Magazine, who

came to us from the Grapevine Office in NYC. It was a very special treat to hear about the Grapevine from the Grapevine's own Senior Editor. He shared his story before coming into AA and how, after joining AA, little by little he gravitated towards the Grapevine by volunteering his time to help with the editing of articles.

It was really great to hear his story and the inner workings over at the Grapevine Office. After a break we had a question and answer period that was very informative.

Of course throughout the day we informed those in attendance of the amazing catalog of books that are available from the Grapevine especially, the latest book titled *One on One: AA Sponsorship in Action*.

I was proud to be a part of this great event and I wish to thank our Grapefest Committee Chair Marta and all of the dedicated commit-



Area Office decorated for the May 4th Annual Grapevine Grapefest.

tee members who helped make this event a day to remember.

So if you want to be part of all the fun please we have on the Grapevine Committee, come to our next committee meeting. We meet on the first Saturday of every month at 10am at the Area Office in South Plain-

field. I hope to see you all soon.

Oh, by the way we know what our play is going to be this year at the Convention but you have to come to our next meeting to find out! Thank you for allowing me to be the chair of the best committee in AA!

Yours in service, Freddy H., Chair

What Tradition do you think is the most important for doing Service work?

Several years ago, an AA buddy of mine and I headed north for an AA conference typically held the last weekend in September known as "the Incredible Tapestry". The experience was an eye opening one as we learned and discussed how AA's 36 Legacies, (the Steps, Traditions and the Concepts), weave together to form a "tapestry." In a similar vein, a few months back several of my fellow AAers and I met to discuss the following question:

What Tradition do you think is the most important for doing Service work?

In fact, all of the Traditions are important for the service work done within a Group and beyond at the District, Area and General Service levels. However, some are more important than others. When looking at the Traditions, with an eye towards doing service, the following Traditions were the ones which our group felt were the most important:

Tradition 2 – *For our Group conscience, there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience; our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.*

Tradition 9 – *A.A., as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards and committees directly responsible to those they serve.*

Tradition 12 – *Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personality.* Tradition 9 has two important as-

pects pertaining to service work. First, when this Tradition states that AA ought never be organized, this statement is expressing the principle that no one in service is in authority over another nor can someone in service, no matter what the position, issue directives to be obeyed or punishments when they are not. Second, Tradition 9 states that Service boards or committees appointed with the spirit of rotation are necessary for the functioning of AA. Without our Service committees, AA would not be available to the still sick and suffering alcoholic, which is the essence of Tradition 5.

Tradition 12 is based dually on anonymity in the sense of member protection as well as 'subordinating personal aims to the common good.' In relation to the service, the more direct aspect of this tradition is the latter. Keeping AA running as an organization requires a great amount of self-sacrifice. It requires an obvious dedication of time and effort on behalf of the individual members that participate in service committees and act as trusted servant leaders. There are many aspects of AA that help to serve the organization by carrying the message more efficiently and effectively because of these different arms of service all throughout the 'inverted triangle.'

The other type of sacrifice needed for effective AA service is a sacrifice of ego or desires for personal gain. This type of commitment ensures that our trusted servants can focus on doing what is best for AA as a whole to ensure the ability to effectively carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers—now and in the future.

But it also protects the Fellowship from the type of overt publicity or showmanship that could skew the view of AA for many in the public and cause damage to AA as a whole. The Twelfth Tradition brings with it many great personal benefits if service is done in the spirit of anonymity.

While Service boards and committees are essential and anonymity when performing service is important, care must be taken to ensure that those performing these services do not govern; they are not in charge. This is the essence of the second part of Tradition 2: Our leaders are but Trusted servants; they do not govern. To ensure that our Trusted servants

do not govern, we need to rely on the Group conscience as our guiding principle at all levels. Group leaders, DCMs, Committee chairs, Area Officers and General Service Trustees need to rely on the spiritual guidance of their Higher power to achieve a Group conscience in making all decisions.

When the time came to vote, two members of our group felt that the 12th Tradition was the most important for service work while 3 believed that the 2nd Tradition was the most important. What's your opinion? Which Tradition do you think is the most important for service work?

*Jeff B., Friday Bound Brook
Beginner's Meeting*

From your Area Convention Committee

PLEASE NOTE: Old-Timer's Luncheon and Meeting at this year's Annual Convention

Area 44 is unique in honoring its Old-Timers at its Annual Convention with a Luncheon followed by the Old-Timer's Meeting in the Grand Ballroom.

If your sobriety date is September 27, 1988 or before, you are invited to join us at this year's convention at the Doubletree Hotel in Somerset, NJ as a member of the 2013 Area 44 Old-Timers Group.

The membership continues to grow each year. Last year, the luncheon was sold out. As a result, ***we are asking you to submit your registration by no later than September 7, 2013.***

Registrations received after that date will not be considered for attendance at the luncheon.

No walk-in registrants at the convention will be seated at the luncheon.

Another reason for early registration is because we are planning to print the names, home groups, and sobriety dates of all registered Old-Timer in a handout at this year's convention.

There are no seating limitations for the Old-Timers Meeting in the Grand Ballroom, so all are welcome.

*Yours in service, Your Area
44 Convention Committee*

Alcoholics Anonymous	
57th Annual NNJ Area 44 Convention Honoring our Old Timers (25+ Years of Sobriety)	
*** 40+ Years ***	
Area 4	Area 44
Area 5	Area 55
Area 6	Area 66
Area 7	Area 77
Area 8	Area 88
Area 9	Area 99
Area 10	Area 100
Area 11	Area 111
Area 12	Area 122
Area 13	Area 133
Area 14	Area 144
Area 15	Area 155
Area 16	Area 166
Area 17	Area 177
Area 18	Area 188
Area 19	Area 199
Area 20	Area 200

One Day at a Time
One Moment at a Time
One Decision at a Time



NORTHERN NEW JERSEY GENERAL SERVICE

57th Annual NNJ Convention

MEAL REGISTRATION BY MAIL:

1. If you would prefer not to pay in full at this time for the meal packages, you can choose the deposit option of \$60.00 for each person in your party and payment of the balance at the event.

2. Make all checks or money orders payable to:

NNJGS Area 44 Convention

3. Fill out this page of the form and mail to:

NNJGS Convention

PO Box 45

Stanhope, NJ 07874-0679

Send Confirmation to (choose one)

Home address or E-mail indicated below

Last Name First Name

E-Mail Address

Street Address

City State Zip

Telephone

AA Member AI-Anon Member Need an interpreter
 Mail E-mail Future Convention Info to the above address

ALL MAIL-IN PAYMENTS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS:

ROOM RATES:

Single/Double: \$105.00* (Per Night)

Triple/Quad: \$115.00* (Per Night) *Plus 15% Occupancy Tax

These special convention room rates will only be available when identifying attendance at the "A44" group rate.

Reservations must be received on or **before September 12, 2013.** In order to guarantee availability and rate. Cancellations must be received 72 hours prior to your scheduled arrival or the room will be charged.

TWO WAYS TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

1) BY PHONE – Call 1-800-222-8733 and make a reservation with a credit card. The conference name is "A44." You must mention this code, when registering, in order for AA to get credit for the room and to get the special convention room rate.

2) BY THE INTERNET – Go to www.nnjaa.org/convention Here, you will be able to purchase meal packages and there is a link to the hotel for room reservations. The promotion/offer code online is "A44."

Meal Packages, Banquet & Pre-Registration Tickets

* Banquet limited to the first 600 registrants *

MEAL PACKAGE #1

\$132.00 x _____ = \$ _____ Minus \$ _____ = \$ _____
People Deposit Balance Due

This Package includes Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday Banquet,* Sunday Breakfast and Weekend Registration.

MEAL PACKAGE #2:

\$115.00 x _____ = \$ _____ Minus \$ _____ = \$ _____
People Deposit Balance Due

This Package includes Saturday lunch, Saturday Banquet,* Sunday Breakfast and Weekend Registration.

MEAL PACKAGE #3:

\$90.00 x _____ = \$ _____ Minus \$ _____ = \$ _____
People Deposit Balance Due

This Package includes Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Sunday Breakfast and Weekend Registration. (NO BANQUET INCLUDED)

BANQUET PACKAGE #4:

\$71.00 x _____ = \$ _____ Minus \$ _____ = \$ _____
People Deposit Balance Due

This Package includes Saturday Banquet,* and Weekend Registration.

PRE-REGISTRATION PACKAGE ONLY #5:

\$29.00 x _____ = \$ _____
People Total

This Package Weekend Registration.

OLD-TIMERS LUNCHEON ONLY #6:

\$29.00 x _____ = \$ _____
People Total

THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES OLD-TIMERS' LUNCHEON AND WEEKEND REGISTRATION.

PACKAGE #6 OLD-TIMERS' REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Must have 25 years or more of sobriety to attend this luncheon

Attending Luncheon?

YES NO

Name Sobriety Date Home Group

Attending Luncheon?

YES NO

Name Sobriety Date Home Group

MEAL REGISTRATION ONLINE:



1. To register and pay for a meal plan online go to:

www.nnjaa.org/convention

- Follow directions, answer questions, and supply your credit card information.
- Confirmation of your transaction will be emailed to you.
- Upon completion of the payment for any meal plans you will be offered the option of reserving a hotel room by clicking on the button "Reserve a Room." This action will take you to the hotel's web page set up specifically for reserving rooms at our convention.

DEADLINE FOR MEAL AND HOTEL REGISTRATION IS SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

District Service Meetings

District 1&2 - 2nd Tuesday. 7:30pm, Lafayette at the Sunrise House Cafeteria.

District 3 - 3rd Friday 7:00 pm; Hillcrest Community Center, 1810 Macopin Road, West Milford

District 4&6 - 3rd Thur. 7:30 pm, Upper Ridgewood Community Ch, Hillcrest & Fairmount, Ridgewood

District 5&7 - 2nd Thursday, 7pm, St. Mary's Church corner of High and Legion, Closter

District 8 - 2nd Tues. 7:30pm, Panther Valley Ecumenical Ch, Rt 517, Allamuchy

District 9 - 3rd Tues. 7:30 pm, Stanhope United Methodist Ch, Rte 183, Netcong

District 10 - 2nd Tues. 7:00 pm, 1st Presbyterian Church, 513 Birch St, (corner of Church & Birch) Boonton

District 11/33 - 4th Wed. 7:00 pm, Clifton Library, 292 Piaget Ave Rm A

District 12 - 3rd Fri. 7pm, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 113 Engle St Englewood 2nd floor Choir Room

District 13 - 2nd Tue. 7:30 pm, Wesley Meth. Ch., 225 Washington Ave, Belleville

District 14 - Last Tue. 7pm, St. Nicholas School Hall, 122 Ferry Street, Jersey City

District 15/21 - 3rd Mon. 7:30 pm, Hunterdon Medical Center, Employee Cafeteria, Rt. 31 South, Flemington

District 16 - 3rd Mon. 7:30pm Hillsdale Pres. Ch. Ridgedale Ave, Cedar Knolls

District 17 - 3rd Fri. 8 pm, Alanon Assoc., 7th Avenue and 7th Street, Newark

District 18 - 2nd Mon. 7:30 pm, Union Village United Methodist Ch, Mountain Ave. & Hillcrest Rd., Berkeley Heights

District 19 - Last Mon. 7:30 pm, Friendship Hall, New Market Road, Piscataway

District 20 - 2nd Tues 7:00pm, Trinity Episcopal, North & Forest Aves., Cranford

District 22 - 3rd Wed. 7:30 pm, Cook College Extension Center, College Farm Road, New Brunswick

District 23 - 2nd Thur. 7:30 pm, Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church, 9 Jefferie Ave, South River

District 24 - 3rd Mon. 8 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Ryers Lane, Matawan

District 25 - Last Wed. 7:30 pm, Hope Lutheran Church, 21 Elton-Adelphia Road., Freehold

District 26 - 3rd Thur. 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church (Tower Hill), 255 Harding Road, Red Bank

District 27/29 - 3rd Mon. 7:30 pm, Holy Cross Luth. Ch, Hooper Ave, Toms River

District 28 - 1st Tue. 7:30pm, St Margaret's Church, 3rd & Ludlow Avenue, Spring Lake

District 30 - 4th Sunday 12 Noon, 69 Green Street, Newark

District 31 - 2nd Thur. 6:30 pm, Immaculate Heart Of Mary Chapel, 77th Street & Broadway, North Bergen

District 32 - 3rd Thur. 7:00 pm, Bayonne Library, 31st St. & Ave. C., Bayonne

District 34 - 3rd Sat. 9:30am, Our Lady of Sorrows, 217 Prospect St, (Lower Church) South Orange

District 35 - 2nd Tue. 7:30 pm, Good Shepherd Lutheran. Church, North Richard Street and Union Avenue, in Somerville.

District 36 - 3rd Fri. 7:30 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Trinity Lane, Woodbridge

District 37 - 3rd Wed. 7:00 pm, First Lutheran Church 153 Park St (basement), Montclair

District 38 - 3rd Thursday 7:30 pm, Presbyterian Church, 31 Fairfield Avenue, West Caldwell

District 39 - 2nd Tues 7:00pm, Trinity Episcopal, North & Forest Aves., Cranford

District 40 - Last Sunday 10:45am, St. Joseph's Center, 120 Division St., Elizabeth

District 41 - First Thurs 7:00 pm, St. Matthew's Trinity Church, 8th & Washington Sts, Hoboken

District 42 - 2nd & 4th Sunday 9:30am, 52 Throckmorton Street, Freehold

NNJGS Area 44 Office Calendar

JUNE

22	AREA ASSEMBLY (District 13)	9:00 AM
24	Finance Committee	7:30 PM
26	History & Archives	7:30 PM

JULY

1	Remote Communities Com.	7:30 PM
2	Officers & Standing Com	7:30 PM
3	Mailing Committee	6:30 PM
3	Translation Committee	6:30 PM
4	Computer Committee	7:30 PM
4	Website Committee	7:30 PM
5	Policy & Admissions	7:30 PM
6	Grapevine Committee	10:00 AM
8	Convention Subcommittee	8:00 PM
9	Public Information Com	7:30 PM
9	Luncheon Committee	7:30 PM
10	Treatment Committee	8:00 PM
14	Films Committee	11:00 AM
14	AREA COM. MEETING	12 NOON
15	Literature Sales	6:30 PM
15	Literature Committee	7:30 PM
16	CPC Committee	8:00 PM
17	Convention Committee	8:00 PM
18	Newsletter Committee	7:30 PM
20	Corrections Committee	10:00 AM
21	Garden State Young People	2:00 PM
22	Finance Committee	7:30 PM
27	TREATMENT WORKSHOP	9:00 AM
31	History & Archives	7:30 PM

AUGUST

1	Website Committee*	7:30 PM
2	Policy & Admissions	7:30 PM
3	Grapevine Committee	10:00 AM
5	Remote Communities Com.	7:30 PM
6	Officers Meeting & Standing	7:30 PM
7	Mailing Committee	6:30 PM
7	Translation Committee	6:30 PM
8	Int'l Hospitality Committee	7:30 PM
12	Convention Subcommittee	8:00 PM
13	Public Information Com	7:30 PM
13	Luncheon Committee	7:30 PM
14	Treatment Committee	8:00 PM
15	Newsletter Committee	7:30 PM
16	THIS DAY DEADLINE	5:00 PM
18	Garden State Young People	2:00 PM
19	Literature Sales	6:30 PM
19	Literature Committee	7:30 PM
20	CPC Committee	8:00 PM
21	Convention Committee	8:00 PM
26	Finance Committee	7:30 PM
27	Joint Unity Meeting	7:30 PM
28	History & Archives	7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER

2	Remote Communities	7:30 PM
3	Officers Meeting	7:30 PM
4	Mailing Committee	6:30 PM
4	Translation Committee	6:30 PM
5	Website Committee	7:30 PM
5	Computer Committee	7:30 PM
6	Policy & Admissions	7:30 PM
7	Grapevine Committee	9:00 AM
8	Films Committee	11:00 AM
8	AREA COM. MEETING	12 NOON

9	Convention Subcommittee	8:00 PM
10	Public Information Com	7:30 PM
10	Luncheon Committee	7:30 PM
11	Treatment Committee	8:00 PM
15	Garden State Young People	2:00 PM
16	Literature Sales	6:30 PM
16	Literature Committee	7:30 PM
17	CPC Committee	8:00 PM
18	Convention Committee	8:00 PM
19	Newsletter Committee	7:30 PM
21	Corrections Committee	10:00 AM
23	Finance Committee	7:30 PM
25	History & Archives*	7:30 PM
27-29	AREA 44 CONVENTION	3:00 PM

OCTOBER

1	Officers & Standing Com	7:30 PM
2	Mailing Committee	6:30 PM
2	Translation Committee	6:30 PM
3	Website Committee*	7:30 PM
4	Policy & Admissions	7:30 PM

*Intergroup Office, 2400 Morris Ave, Union

Intergroup Calendar

JUNE

3	Delegates Meeting, Clark	8:30 PM
6	Joint Website	7:30 PM
9	Bookers Exchange, Cranford	7:00 AM

JULY

1	Delegates Meeting, Clark	8:30 PM
4	HOLIDAY (OFFICE CLOSED)	
4	Joint Website Committee*	7:30 PM
17	Nightwatch Committee	7:30 PM


AUGUST

1	Joint Website Committee	7:30 PM
5	Delegates Meeting,	8:30 PM
27	Joint Unity Meeting*	7:30 PM

SEPTEMBER

2	HOLIDAY (OFFICE CLOSED) Labor Day	
5	Joint Website Committee*	7:30 PM
8	Bookers Exchange, Cranford	7:00 AM
9	Delegates Meeting, Clark	8:30 PM
18	Nightwatch Committee	7:30 PM

*Area Office, 2325 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield



www.nnjaa.org/members
password:onedayatatime

Contributions are much needed, and always welcome! Make checks payable as indicated and always include your Area, District and Group ID number. Please send group and individual contributions to the addresses below:

NNJGS AREA 44
2325 Plainfield Avenue, Suite 2J
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Payable to "NNJGS Area 44"

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY INTERGROUP
2400 Morris Avenue, Suite 106
Union, NJ 07083-5705
Payable to "Northern NJ Intergroup"

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE
PO Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Payable to "General Service Board"

DISTRICT DOINGS

DISTRICT 1&2 – Our Districts are pretty much doing the same as when we last reported. We have a very steady attendance at our District meetings.

For the last couple of months most of our attention was geared toward hosting the Mini-Conference. What an experience that turned out to be. As usual in this program, you don't see what growth and benefit you will get from service work, until you are finished with it. We had over one hundred volunteers to help pull this off. We were able to include over 50, and encouraged the others to please attend. We had sections of our Districts working together for the first time. There was a spirit that took place throughout preparation for the event. We were moved by the unity of our Districts. As a result of all the volunteers, we decided to put together a contact list of District member's names and e-mail addresses. We have started to go from group to group, letting everyone know that if they are interested in getting e-mails from the District, to please sign the sheet. It has been pretty successful so far. This will form a link between the District and our members, for the flow of information. The more we incorporate everyone in our District's activities, the more we feel they will participate. We will now have contacts to send District information to, especially sections with no GSR representation.

We have recently picked a date for our District picnic, that is July 21st, at The Firemen's Pavilion in Franklin. We are also planning a GSR/DCM workshop, for the beginning of September.

Thanks for letting us host this year's Mini-Conference. We had a great time doing it and we hope you had a great experience attending it. – **In Service, Walter B., DCM**

DISTRICT 23 – Our Annual District Day of Sharing was an amazing day. Many people from the District came and helped to set up before 6am. The crew working in the kitchen did an outstanding job preparing breakfast eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes and pancakes. The set up crew did an amazing job. The tables were set-up with table cloths upon which sat doilies with salt, pepper, butter and syrup. Coffee, decaf and tea stations were setup. The entire set up and kitchen crew met in the kitchen, full of wonderful smells, and prayed before letting everyone in.

Once the doors were opened attendees passed a sign-in table, which also had gift books to sign for the speakers, then they would pass in front of the juice, bagel, donut and danish table. At the back of the hall we had table's set-up for the Grapevine Committee, Corrections committee covered by Sue D. from District 22 and the Literature Committee.

Frank R., GSR from the Sayreville Joy of Living Group, was the leader and he started the day at 8:30am with

continued on page 8

DISTRICT 22

ANNUAL SOBERFEST
"AA Inventory – Surrender to Service"
August 10th 11 am to 5pm
Reichler Park, South Brunswick
Speaker Meeting at 2pm
A day of Unity, Service, and Recovery (as well as Food, Fun, and Fellowship)
Suggested Donation: \$7
children under 12 free
Tickets & information from your GSR or call Alt Chair [redacted]

DISTRICT 1/2

ANNUAL FRIENDS OF BILL W. PICNIC
Firemen's Park Pavilion
(Rain or Shine)
Parker Street, Franklin
Sunday July 21st
Noon to 8pm
Speaker Meeting at 7pm
A day of Unity, Service, and Recovery (as well as Food, Fun, and Fellowship)
Questions?: district1_2@nnjaa.org

DISTRICT 39

MOVIE NIGHT!
Featuring Fr. Martin's Talk on **"THE PROMISES"**
Friday, June 28th
AA Speaker Meeting at 7:00pm
"The Promises" at 8:00pm
The Presbyterian Church
Assembly Hall
140 Mountain Ave., Westfield
Snacks, Coffee, Soda, & Provided
Sobriety Countdown and
Daily Reflections Giveaway
For more information contact the DCM at district39@nnjaa.org
(Note: "The Promises" is not AA Conference-Approved material)

DISTRICT 3

31ST ANNUAL DAY OF SHARING OUR SOLUTION IN ACTION"
Saturday, June 15, 2013,
8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Hillcrest Community Center,
1810 Macopin Road
West Milford, NJ 07480

8:30-9:00	WelcomeCoffee, Bagels and Fellowship
9:00- 9:50	Topic Discussions and AI-Anon Meeting
10:00-10:50	Closed Meetings and AI-Anon Meeting
11:00-11:50	Topic Discussions and AI-Anon Meeting
12:00-12:50	Lunch and Fellowship
12:50 -1:30	Area Com. Presentations
1:30-2:45	Guest Speakers: John C., Hohokus Group AI-Anon: Paul G.
2:45	Sobriety Countdown

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE AUG. 17th NEWSLETTER@NNJAA.ORG

This newsletter is produced four times annually by the Newsletter Committee, a joint committee of Northern New Jersey General Service Area 44 and Northern New Jersey Intergroup.

NOTE: This Newsletter will be published on our web site. The name and last initial of the author will be published unless otherwise requested.

Opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does the publication of any article imply an endorsement by either AA General Services or Intergroup. Comments, questions and articles may be directed to the Newsletter Committee at NNJGS Area 44, Suite 2J, 2325 Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield 07080 or emailed to: newsletter@nnjaa.org.

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Joint News of NNJGS Area 44
and Northern New Jersey Intergroup
2325 Plainfield Ave., Suite 2J
South Plainfield, NJ 07080



Summer 2013



DISTRICT DOINGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

a brief history of the district. Stan B. was acknowledged as being one of the people responsible for forming the districts in Area 44. Bob K., District 23 DCM, was introduced and he thanked everyone for coming and asked that everyone enjoy the meal and the day. Frank concluded with the agenda including the film and the two great speakers.

After a brief technical delay the film "God as we understand Him" was shown. At 9:35am we took an intermission to serve breakfast. After everyone was served we watched the rest of the film. The film portrayed views of a higher power in Alcoholics Anonymous by members from many different religious denominations. The members were shown in the film from the neck down to protect their anonymity.

Frank came back up after the film and spoke a little about his relationship with a higher power before introducing our first speaker Bill W. from the Sayreville Joy of Living Group. Bill shared for about 45 minutes and while nervous did a wonderful job. Frank next introduced Jim A. from the Neptune Design for Living Group. Jim shared for about 45 minutes and had a very moving message.

Frank then brought up Bob K. to present the two great speakers with books signed by all attendees. Bob shared a few words on service and how help is still needed in various areas of service and thanked all involved in the set-up and all persons in attendance. Frank then brought up Sue D. District 22 Corrections committee Chair to say a few things about corrections and service. After Sue shared Frank closed the meeting.

Overall it was a great day. Everyone came together, the message the movie provided, the spectacular meal and our two inspirational speakers. It left you feeling full inside not just from the food either. You left with a gratitude that with a little work, a belief in a higher power and a willingness to help another person can help you live a full and happy life. – ***Yours in Service, Berney J., South River Friday Night Group***

DISTRICT 39 – It has truly been an honor and a privilege to watch District 39 come alive, many thanks to all who have joined in service to help carry the message to the next sick and suffering alcoholic. What a gift to see the eyes of others light up when the hand of AA is continually outstretched and long. I am grateful to be a part of this Fellowship. As many of you know, we have begun a dis-

trict mailing to all the group contacts so we can communicate between District 39 and the groups regarding all the updated events and commitments in the towns surrounding us in Northern New Jersey. On Friday, June 28 at 8pm at the Presbyterian Church, 140 Mountain Ave., Westfield, District 39 is featuring Father Martin's film on "The Promises." All AA members can attend. We are having a sobriety countdown and a Daily Reflections giveaway. Also available are coffee, soda, water, and snacks.

I would also like to announce that since District 39 is an odd numbered district, we would be holding elections in November of the odd year (2013) for new officers to step up as District Committee Member, Secretary, Treasurer, Standing Committee Representatives, and General Service Representatives. Anyone who is interested in learning the ropes for the open service positions, please come to our District 39 business meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. We meet at the Presbyterian Church located at 140 Mountain Avenue Westfield. Any questions, comments, or interest in the open service commitments contact your DCM at district39@nnjaa.org or speak with your group GSR. Have a terrific summer! – ***In Love & Service, Tricia L., DCM District 39***

Area Delegate's Report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
care for our Program by representing you the groups. That can only be done with your participation. The importance of that cannot be stressed enough.

This publication will be distributed at the June Assembly where a full detailed Post-Conference report will be given on all that happened. If you are unable to attend, Box 459 contains a high level summary, but please also check out our members-only website for the detailed results – plus more.

As this article closes, I am reflecting on another rewarding experience at the Northeast Regional Forum. It was great to see a few of you there but would have been even better if more of you could have attended. Please consider attending in 2015. It is a great opportunity to meet your GSO Staff, your Chairman and other Trustees. The workshops, the reports, and the informal conversations with the Staff and Trustees are all invaluable experiences.

Thank you again so much for allowing me to serve you. Please always feel free to reach out to me at delegate@nnjaa.org with any concerns, questions, or if you just want to talk about your AA. I would love to hear from you and absolutely encourage it.

***With Gratitude and AA Love,
Linda KK, Area 44 Delegate, Panel 63***