

# District 13 Newsletter

Volume 14 Issue 03

March 2009

## Statement of Purpose

The primary purpose of this newsletter will be to carry the message to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all its affairs. This newsletter's goal is to create a more informed community within AA as it serves District 13. The opinions expressed are those of the contributor, not necessarily that of District 13 or AA as a whole.

## **Tradition Three**

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

## **Step Three**

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.

## **Concept Three**

To ensure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.— the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives - with a traditional "Right of Decision."

## **CHANGE WE CAN BELIEVE IN?**

Earlier this month I took place in a District 13 Inventory held on February 7th at the Merrimack YMCA. In the days leading up to the event I was both anxious and nervous about what would happen at the event. Would people even bother to attend? After all, it was being held on a Saturday. We're all busy. Every one of us. Would an event of this nature be perceived as important enough that those who have flexible schedules might rearrange them to attend and participate?

Much to my relief, more than twenty others who volunteer their time and service for District 13 attended and engaged in powerful and pointed discussions about how we can collectively raise the productivity of our District and how we conduct our responsibilities and meetings.

Prior to the event many of us had engaged in lengthy discussions at our monthly District meetings about our current effectiveness and what we could possibly do about it. Our first collective achievement was coming to a group conclusion that we could all be a part of making our District a stronger organization and that *change was indeed possible*.

Like any personal inventory we took stock in the good and the bad. Faced with that information we concluded that *not only was change possible, but that it was absolutely necessary!*

Using loose outline of basic questions to guide us through discussion we collectively agreed on several areas of focus:

Our greatest achievement may very well have been a renewed enthusi-

1. Returning our focus to what our primary purpose is - as a collective body known as District 13 and also as Group Representatives and Service Position volunteers for District 13.
2. Continuing to actively engage in communication with groups not currently represented at the District Level and embarking on education for first time service volunteers to bring them up to speed on their new opportunities for service and growth.
3. Creating a format and forum for those engaged in District Sub-committees to promote their progress and achievements to foster a greater collective awareness and also participating where possible to offer support for District related events.
4. The creation of Bylaws or Guidelines to facilitate a smooth transition between incoming and outgoing service members.

asm to determine our own level of effectiveness. It's an exciting time to be a part of District 13. If you are interested, please join us. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the Merrimack YMCA. All are welcome.

Yours in service,

*Andy L.*

## THE TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

### From the AA Grapevine

...(Continued from the February issue of the District 13 Newsletter.) These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion.

#### **Tradition Three: The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.**

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 had been to AA before? What his other problems are?

## NH AREA 43's 43rd ANNUAL CONVENTION ***LOVE & TOLERANCE - THE PATH TO UNITY***

April 3rd, 4th, and 5th  
The Courtyard by Marriot , Nashua

Please see next months issue of the District 13 Newsletter for more information.

Registration forms can be found online at: [http://www.nhaa.net/events/2009\\_NHAA\\_Conv\\_RegForm.pdf](http://www.nhaa.net/events/2009_NHAA_Conv_RegForm.pdf)

*The District 13 Function Committee presents*

*1<sup>st</sup> Annual*  

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*WORKSHOP FOR MEN!*

*FEBRUARY 28, 2009*

*9:30 am – 3:00 pm*

*Unitarian Universalist Church*

*Nashua, NH*

*The workshop you have been  
waiting for!*

*There will be the usual refreshments.  
In addition, bagged lunches will be available  
for purchase for 3\$  
Bottled water 1\$*

*THIS AN AN OPEN MEETING OF  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS*

**Dates To Remember**

**District 13 Function Committee**

Thursday Nights @  
Good Shepherd Church  
Nashua 6-7pm

**District 13 GSR Meeting**  
Wednesday February, 18th  
7pm Merrimack YMCA

**NERAASA 2009**  
February 20th - 22nd  
Hosted by District 28  
(Portland, Maine)

**District 13 GSR Meeting**  
Wednesday March 18th  
7pm Merrimack YMCA

**Area Assembly -  
Pre-conference Assembly**  
March 28th 8am - 4pm  
Hosted by District 12

**New Hampshire Area Convention**  
April 3rd - 5th  
Courtyard Marriot - Nashua

**District 13 Hotline Committee Needs Your Help!**

**Is answering a call from a stranger in need 12th Step Work? You bet it is!**

**If you're interested in adding your contact information to the District 13 Phone List please give your information to your GSR.**

**1-2 years of sobriety suggested.**

**Newsletter Contributions are Welcome**

This is YOUR Newsletter. If you would like to contribute an article or personal experience for publication or advertise an upcoming event for your group, please send the information to:

District 13 News  
P.O. Box 3513  
Nashua, NH 03061  
Or Email us at:  
newsletter@nhaa13.org

**Deadline For Next Issue —  
March 13th 2009**

**MERRIMACK  
MONDAY  
NIGHT GROUP  
34TH  
ANNIVERSARY**

**MONDAY  
MARCH 16TH  
MERRIMACK  
YMCA**

**8 HENRY  
CLAY  
DRIVE  
DW -HW**

**7:00 TO 8:00  
DINNER  
POT LUCK**

**8:00 TO 9:00  
MEETING**

**OPEN POSITIONS FOR  
DISTRICT 13**

**DISTRICT 13 IS LOOKNG FOR  
ANY GRATEFUL MEMBERS  
WHO ARE INTERESTED IN  
ADDING ANOTHER LEVEL OF  
SERVICE TO THEIR INDIVID-  
UAL PROGRAMS:**

**AVAILABILITY FOR:  
CORRECTIONS CHAIR  
AA GRAPEVINE**

**PLEASE CONTACT ANDY (603)  
305-0910 FOR DETAILS**