

District 13 Newsletter

April 2010

Serving the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Hudson, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Nashua. Available online at District 13 web page: www.nhaa13.org

NH AA Hotline:
1-800-593-3330

Area 43 Service Office-Call for Books, chips, meeting lists, etc... (603) 622-6967

District 13 Web
www.nhaa13.org

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to carry the message of recovery to alcoholics and practice the AA principles in all it's affairs. This newsletter's goal is to support a more informed community within AA as it serves District 13.

Tradition 4

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."

Spiritual Workshop Report

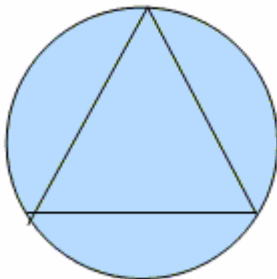
By John N

I was fortunate to be able to attend the Spirituality Workshop held by District 13 Function Committee on Saturday February 21 from 1-4pm at the Universal Unitarian Church in Nashua. It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon, and I had the windows rolled down on the way over. Inhaling the breeze, it felt like Winter was finally losing its grip, and Spring was about to take over.

I heard the Workshop would include a panel discussion about spirituality and I was intrigued because I am on my own journey of discovery. Alcohol brought me to a place where I avoided contact with a Higher Power. AA has brought me back to a kind of spiritual kindergarten, where I am willing to be open-minded about such matters. For me, that is major progress.

I was rewarded at the workshop by an unexpected twist. The facilitator passed around a bowl containing folded up paper. We were each to choose one if we wanted, and not read it until instructed. We were told we could read our paper and consider what was on each during a prolonged moment of silence. The silence lasted about 3 minutes where the room got quiet and I could hear the traffic moving outside the Church. Then we spent an hour and a half allowing those who wished to share describe how they related to the spiritual message on their particular slip of paper.

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Next District 13 Meeting – Wednesday April 21, 7pm at the Merrimack YMCA

Area Assembly -- Area Assembly -- PRE-CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

Hosted by District 19 Swanzey Community House
18 Old Richmond Road
Swanzey, NH 603 355-3262
Contact: Sam 449-1751

This is our newsletter. Please send comments or submissions to the Newsletter to newsletter@district13.org

The deadline for April Edition will be March 12, 2009.

Spiritual Workshop...continued from page 1

I was able to listen and feel the language of the heart from those who shared. Eventually, I took a turn and shared about my reading and how it related to my journey. It occurred to me that the fact that I could sit in a room of almost fifty people and participate in a Spirituality Workshop was a miracle in itself.

After a snack break to enjoy the bountiful goodies and beverages provided by the Function Committee and talk with fellow attendees, we resumed with a series of questions about personal Higher Power that were put to the panel of four volunteers. These volunteers answered candidly about their spiritual experiences. I respect them for their courage to share something so personal to the group. It helped me to hear that many of us in AA are really seeking answers to ultimate questions like “why am I here?”, “who am I?” and “what is the meaning of life?”

If you missed this Workshop, the messages on the paper I described are reprinted below for your use and enjoyment. Thanks to those who attended and the dedicated folks on the Function Committee who made this event possible. It was an experience that has made my life richer.

Best Regards,
John

Spiritual Thoughts to Ponder – from Workshop

My higher power is like a warm blanket on a cold morning.

Doubt is part of all religion. All the religious thinkers were doubters.

If I had to choose a religion, the sun as the universal giver of life would be my god.

Human beings must be known to be loved; but Divine beings must be loved to be known.

Man is what he believes.

In the spiritual realm, what one believes to be true either is true or becomes true.

Unless you believe, you will not understand.

Treat the other man's faith gently; it is all he has to believe with. His mind was created for his own thoughts, not yours or mine.

Desire, ask, believe, receive.

Pray as if everything depended upon God and work as if everything depended upon man.

A higher power who let us prove his existence would be an idol.

Trust in Allah, but tie up your camel.

My higher Power can only do for me what He can do through me.

My higher power hears no more than the heart speaks; and if the heart be dumb, my higher power will certainly be deaf.

When the right time comes for us to move on to other things - my higher power withdraws from us the sense of her presence in order to strengthen our faith.

You can act your way into the right thinking, but you can't think your way into the right action.

"God has a plan for you...and what it is is none of your business."

A higher power defined - is a higher power confined.

I know my higher power won't give me anything I can't handle, I just wish she didn't trust me so much.

If you understand, things are just as they are;
if you do not understand, things are just as they are.

If you want to make your higher power laugh, tell him your plans.

When I turned myself over to my higher power, I took my life out of the hands of an idiot

Why indeed must God be a noun? Why not a verb -- the most active and dynamic of all.

Do You *Just* Belong? Author Unknown, submitted by Jeanne L, DCM

Are you an active member
The kind that you would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings and
Mingle with the flock?
Or do you just stay at home
To criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
To help the work along?
Or are you satisfied
To only just belong?

Do you work with your committee
And get right in and mix?
Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about the "CLIQUEs"?

Think this over MEMBER _____
You know right from wrong!
Are you an active member
Or DO YOU JUST BELONG?"

The Back Page Flyer, Put Your AA Event Here!!! email event info to newsletter@nhaa13.org or call John 603 930 3047

Rocketed into the Fourth Dimension
NH AREA 43 44TH ANNUAL AA CONVENTION
April 16, 17, and 18, 2010
Courtyard Marriott-Nashua, NH
Registration of \$22 in advance/\$25 walk
in
More info:
http://www.nhaa.net/events/2010_Convention.pdf

Note: District 13 will be hosting the Hospitality Suite, see Function Committee info below to find out how you can be of service!!!

District 13 Function March 27-1-4 p.m.
***** **GAMES AFTERNOON** *****

At the UU Church on Canal Street, Nashua
Among other games will be Monopoly, Skip-Bo, chess, Janga, Apples to Apples and, of course, CRIBBAGE.

If you'd like to bring baked goods of some kind, that would be great, but you don't need to bring anything but a good attitude and perhaps a friend or two.
If you'd like to help set up or clean up, give Keith a call at (603)557-1989 or contact any function committee member.

Area Committee Meeting-monthly business meeting

Hooksett Area Office April 25 from 1-4pm Open to all AA members.

NEW D12 MEETING – STARTED JANUARY 2010!
WE STOPPED IN TIME-YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING

Sundays 8:00PM-9:30PM
1850 Elm Street, Manchester (Park in Back)

Speaker-Discussion

75th AA Anniversary to be celebrated July 1-4 in San Antonio, Texas
With the theme “A Vision for You.” A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.’s 75th year at this event with big meetings held Friday and Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Alamodome.
More info: Google: aa 75th convention

Pack Monadnock Mountaintop Meeting
Starting up again April thru October of 2010 rain or shine on the First Sunday of each Month at 5 pm. Allow 1 hour if you plan to walk up. Speaker discussion meeting on Step 11. Take 101 West to Miller State Park in Temple NH.

60TH GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE

April 18-24, 2010 – Rye Brook, New York
Area 43 Delegate, Richard P., will represent NH at this year’s

General Service Conference.
THEME: Practicing A.A.’s Principles – the Pathway to Unity.

TOPICS INCLUDE:
- Practicing these Principals in all our Service Affairs
- Unity through Inventory
- GSC Agenda Selection Process