

Open – Serenity Prayer

Welcome & Introduce Visitors: Glenn & Liam District 15 DCMs, Jim for Prodigal Sons

Monthly Traditions & Concepts Alt-DCM read Tradition & Concept 12

MOTION: November/December 2019 meeting minutes APPROVED

District 16 Officer Reports

DCM Report 20200121 APPROVED: Hello, and welcome to our District 16 Monthly Meeting. Welcome to all new GSR's and Committee members and all who have done service here before. As we start our new service rotation, I want to thank those who have previously done service for our District, and those who have stepped up to new positions. I am looking forward to working together to improve our outreach to any alcoholic who needs our program. As we state in the AA Preamble, our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. Let's do it!

On Saturday Jan 18, I attended the Area 48 Orientation day in Rome, NY. All our districts came together to meet and introduce new trusted servants, to discuss and learn about our new service positions. There was a review of what is on the AAHMBNY.ORG website, Roundtable discussions of service positions with past committee chairs, a DCM roundtable for new DCM's to meet and discuss future service events and issues, and a service spotlight presentation on Grapevine and Literature. The event was well attended considering the impending snowstorm due in the early afternoon.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

1. **Ulster Districts Meeting lists**
 - a. **Available now;** Take home a bunch for your home group
 - b. Who is willing to bring a batch to the dark groups?
2. **NEWSLETTERS: Current Newsletters can be found at:**
 - a. Area 48 Happy Joyous & Free. aahmbny.org/hmb-newsletters/
 - b. District 7-15-16 aahmbny.org/district-newsletters/ or ulsterdistricts.aahmbny.org/district_7_15_16_newsletter/
3. **NEXT EVENTS**
 - a. **SUGGEST ATTEND: February 21-23, 2020 NERAASA 2020 (ask your home groups for financial support):** Hosted by Area 43 New Hampshire at Radisson Hotel Nashua, NH www.nerassa.org
4. **AAWS (AA World Service)**
 - a. **July 2-5, 2020: AA International Convention, Love & Tolerance is Our Code, Detroit, \$115 preregistration through April 15, 2020;** www.aa.org/pages/en_US/international-convention-2020
 - b. Sign up for **AA YouTube Channel**
5. **OPPORTUNITY TO DO SERVICE:**
 - a. **DISTRICT 16 POSITIONS OPEN NOW:**
 - i. Treatment/Accessibility, BTG/Corrections, Newsletter/Webmaster, Functions, Public Information
 - ii. All District 16 committees can use support and service volunteers to be on the answering service list, bring meetings into the home, man a festival table, stuff envelopes, etc.

DISTRICT 16 MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2020 **APPROVED 2-18-2020**

REMINDERS:

- **At 6:30p on the third Tuesday of the month** (one half hour before the monthly District meeting aka THIS meeting), we will be here to meet with anyone who has questions about service. We can review the Service Manual, move Committee work forward. All are welcome: GSRs, AA group members, sponsees, newcomers! Find out what it means to “Do Service” by coming early each week.
- It is suggested that GSRs attend all District Meetings and all Area meetings. **If a GSR cannot attend, please send the Alternate GSR or someone from your group.**
- Speak up during AA Announcements at any meeting you attend. **Share three items of business you hear here.**
- Not sure what to mention in a **GSR Report to District?**
 - Share member & group anniversaries and any special service work your group is doing
 - Note which Group positions are open
 - Ask for help with Group concerns that you need suggestions, experience, strength & hope for other groups here to bring back to your Group
- Not sure what to mention in your **GSR Report back to your Group**
 - Opportunities to carry the message (aka 12th Step Work, Service) at District & Area levels
 - Upcoming District & Area events
 - Other group & member anniversaries
 - Requests from District & Areas for your Group Conscience

This is a “WE” Program, we do this together. Our lives depend on it. As DCM, I am open to hear your thoughts and suggestions for improvement either at this meeting or 1-on-1 – call/text/email 718 309 1137 district16dcm@aahmbny.org -- Smiling in Service, Allen V.

Alt DCM Report 1/21/20 APPROVED

I attended the Area Orientation Day in Rome on January 18. Despite the snow storm, there were over 80 people in attendance. There was an orientation session for DCMs and alternates and we made contact with other (alt)DCMs in our cluster. We discussed the upcoming Fellowship day in Poughkeepsie on March 8. Each district in the cluster will provide some part of the day's service. District 16 will be bringing beverages. I am working with Allen to figure out what our duties are, and I'm looking forward to this new adventure in service.

Upcoming Events & Meetings: (Flyers are/will be available for all events)

1. **NERAASA** February 21-23, 2020 Radisson Nashua 11 Tara Blvd, Nashua, NH 03062
<http://www.neraasa.org/neraasa-2020.html>
2. **Fellowship Day** Sunday March 8, 9:00am-3:00pm
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
161 Mansion St., Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 Agenda TBD
3. **Delegate's Day of Sharing**, April 4, 9:00am-3:00pm
Saratoga UMC, 5th & Henning, Saratoga Springs

Open District Positions:

Public Information | Corrections/BTG | Accessibility/Treatment | Web/Newsletter | Functions

DISTRICT 16 MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2020 APPROVED 2-18-2020

District Traditions and Concept Review & Discussion: As per our consensus, here is this month's Tradition and Concept on which we can reflect and comment.

Tradition One: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members' inventories?
2. Am I a peacemaker? Or do I, with pious preludes such as "just for the sake of discussion," plunge into argument?
3. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
4. Do I make competitive AA remarks, such as comparing one group with another or contrasting AA in one place with AA in another?
5. Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
6. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can, AA as a whole, or just the parts I understand and approve of?
7. Am I as considerate of AA members as I want them to be of me?
8. Do I spout platitudes about love while indulging in and secretly justifying behavior that bristles with hostility?
9. Do I go to enough AA meetings or read enough AA literature to really keep in touch?
10. Do I share with AA all of me, the bad and the good, accepting as well as giving the help of fellowship?

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

1. Does our group have a general service representative (G.S.R.)? Do we feel that our home group is part of A.A. as a whole and do our group's decisions and actions reflect that?
2. Do we hold regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we pass that conscience on to the district, area, or the local intergroup meetings?
3. Is the "collective conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area?
4. Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of A.A.?
5. Are we willing to do what it takes to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions?

Yours in Service, Thea H-B Alt DCM, District 16

Treasurer Report 1/21/20: APPROVED

Harvested mail, got on bank account, learning the budget and monthly reports

Opening balance \$2143.23

Income (4 groups) \$905

Other income \$531

Expenses \$2039.14

Bill B., District 16 treasurer

Secretary Report 1/21/20

DISTRICT 16 MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2020 **APPROVED 2-18-2020**

Thanks to outgoing D16 Secretary Shira for her organizational skills and stewardship of D16 records & administrative needs. Learning her system will take time, so please bear with me.

I have custody of both D16 emails (secretary and records) and am working on securing access to AirTable through Area.

I have access to the shared Ulster Districts website and will post agenda and minutes to <https://ulsterdistricts.aahmbny.org/meeting-minutes/> for easy access in the future. I'll also update anniversaries <https://ulsterdistricts.aahmbny.org/anniversaries/>. If you see changes needed to the website, please email district16secretary@aahmbny.org

Please update the Blue Binder with Home Group updates and GSR changes. Also sign in and indicate any upcoming anniversaries. Also, submit committee chair reports and officer reports by the 2nd Friday before the 3rd Tuesday District meeting. Yours in Service, Tara C., D16 Secretary-Recordskeeper

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Group Reports

12 on the Green (Gherard): healthy daily meetings (Sunday at 1p); 4 celebrants Lolly 1, Marsha 9, Janet 25, , Gherard 34, group celebration 5 last Friday of month

As Bill Sees It:

Blue Mountain Mens:

Breathing Easy:

By the Book:

Home Free:

If Nothing Changes (Ryan): going well

Katsbaan Big Book Study:

Look to This Day (Sam): beginner meeting, all positions filled, please bring newcomers!

Living in the Solution:

Main Connection (Lorraine): strong attendance, Abel House attending, two meetings weekly

Meditation in Action (Tara): consistent, GSR position is open, improving relationship with monastery, heated room

Midday Live (David): meets every day at noon/Sunday 3p (**Play at Your Own Risk**), needing chair people, group is addressing shifting room location, 20-25 people attend daily, DISCUSSION: members going to newspapers and complaining brings group & AA into public information, using GSO Public Information to speak with newspaper, consider making big changes to meeting locations & formats discussed over three meetings

New Beginnings (Bill B.): moderate attendance, all invited to come

Parents in Recovery: no longer meeting

Phoenicia Beginners (Marse): all good, Monday night beginner, Living Sober book

Prodigal Sons (Jim): well attended, mix of newcomers and long-timers, all positions filled, taking meetings into Ulster County jail but volunteers welcome, last Saturday Larry D. 13

The 5th Tradition (Kevin H-B): 4 nights a week, looking for speakers for Saturday night, new service position=cleaner, last Monday anniversaries Lolly 1, Lisa S> 22, Doreen 32, Gina 15; going to actively ask for sponsors at beginning of meeting

What's Shakin' Shandaken:

Woodbine:

Woodstock Group (Shira): double speaker meeting, all good,

Woodstock Women's Group

Woodstock Workshop

Committee Reports

Accessibility/Treatment Chair Report January 21, 2020

Never Alone TC - 20 Croft Road Hurley NY

If you are interested in bringing a meeting to the male clients you can call Roland at +18456163087. The meeting time is at 6:00 PM. Currently, each Wednesday is covered, but the 5th Wednesdays are open.

No word yet on the female clients.

Ellenville Renaissance/Samaritan Daytop

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All meetings on Wednesday evenings are being covered by the Stone Ridge Men's Group on the 1st Weds, Dan on the second Weds, Patrick on the 3rd Weds, and Michael on the 4th. When there is a 5th Weds I cover it. If anyone would like to share there please let me know. The meetings are at 7:00 PM.

Benedictine Detox

The calendar in Google Docs was passed on to Pattie M, the new District 7 Treatment Chair. If anyone needs to cancel or would like to volunteer, please contact Pattie, or myself. I will pass on the contact info at request. Please contact me if you would like to share at one of these meetings. I still cover the third Wednesdays at 6:45 PM.

Literature status

I still have dozens of 2019 meeting schedules that were passed on to me at the District meeting. I hate to recycle them if anyone could use them. I have 200 copies from the Area of the new meeting booklet for the Treatment Facilities, so we do not need them. Please let me know if your group would like them.

Events

In February I will be attending NERAASA in New Hampshire. My participation will be funded by the Area.

I was not able to attend the Area Orientation Day in Rome last Saturday, as my work schedule would not allow. I have rotated into the Area position for Treatment, and have contacted each of the Districts to find out what their needs are. I was given Service Materials and Literature that the Area Treatment Committee had available to Distribute to each District. I am available to any Group or District that would like a presentation/report, or service workshop. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

The District 16 Treatment Committee Position is available if anyone would like to serve.

In Grateful Service, Kevin

District 16 Treatment district16treatment@aahmbny.org

Treatment Area 48 Treatment@aahmbny.org

Answering Service: Allen

- **Status –We received the December call status sheet from Family. The Hotline received approx. 25 calls since Thanksgiving.Lots of questions about where are meetings.**
- **New meeting lists (1st qtr 2020) were delivered to Family of Woodstock.**

Bridging the Gap/Corrections: OPEN

CPC: I am very much looking forward to learning the service position of CPC in District 16. I have an old copy of the CPC binder, and am working on getting the more current one back from the last CPC person. I have been thinking hard about where to begin. Needless to say the obvious occurs to me: Mental Health, Physicians, Police, Sheriff, Clergy, Lawyers, Legal Aid, Community Centers, etc. In my opinion first place to begin, are places where we already have connections, seems simple in words, not always in deed. Some of the people I would like to begin chatting with are:

- Guy: talk to him about his connections at the jail and with the Sheriff's Office
- Joe DeFino-has many connections through Hope Rocks
- The Samadhi people- I met them last summer- will make a proper connection, will arrange a meeting.
- ????- the psych person who wanted to help with CPC
- Any suggestions would be most welcomed, please

One of the situations that I would like to bring up for discussion both on the CPC/PI Teleconference and here, at district meeting, perhaps in the hour before the 7pm meeting, is the fact that all the attention right now is being focused on the opioid crisis and yet people are dying daily "still" from alcoholism. How do we as messengers of AA share this message. How do we get people to see what a critical piece of the addiction puzzle alcohol plays. Perhaps, even leaving all of that information out, how do we let them know we are here ? That there is a solution that we have found in AA. These are beginners' questions, coming from a beginner's mind. Which is just where I should be right now, as this is the beginning of this work. More will be revealed. Marcy

Functions: OPEN

Grapevine/Literature: Bill W. Deliveries made, 4 service manuals available if a GSR needs one, taking orders from group,

HVYPAA: OPEN

Newsletter/Website: OPEN

DISTRICT 16 MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2020 **APPROVED 2-18-2020**

D16 Secretary will post agenda, minutes, anniversaries and flyers to <https://ulsterdistricts.aahmbny.org/> until this service position is filled. Liam from District 15 is doing website and newsletter; district15newsletter@aahmbny.org

Public Information (PI): December was busy, mostly with things other than PI work, like Snow-ga !!! We held our final CPC/PI teleconference of the year. Sally will take on Area CPC chair, I look forward to working with her, hopefully we can continue the CPC/PI calls. I find them very useful, informative, instructional and inspirational.

Sally, Guy, Donna, My Sister and Myself attended the Hope Rocks Christmas Festival at the Community Center in Woodstock. There was no space for setting up booths but I brought along and distributed schedules, both District and Area. There were some young people from different organizations that had prepared some beautiful songs, Mike Farris was the Headliner, he told his story, did a question and answer, and had the whole room rocking and singing.

Joe Defino is a true inspiration, a genuine leader, one can watch how people get inspired to work because of his enthusiasm and dedication to the cause. There is much to be learnt there. The "coach" concept is a familiar one, and a good coach really can get his/her team to work together. I look forward to deepening the AA connection with Hope Rocks in my capacity as D16 CPC person. Marcy

Old Business

- **\$333 holiday ad** with District 7 & 15 in Ulster Publishing four newspapers – not done, but there will be a single residual payment due
 - **\$150 contribution & participate in New Year's Eve Dance with District 7, 15, 16, HVYPAA:** volunteers needed for coffee & chair commitments & rides to event/home: NYEve Recap
 - **\$150 remainder of 2019 rental payment for District 16 storage space** to St. John's Evangelist, Centerville; Treasurer to verify and pay
 - **Budget Discussion & Approval:** bumped to February
1. What are we doing to take **action in correcting items from our District inventory?** See recap of Group inventory in July162019_Mins_Dist16BusinMtg. Can we initiate these items:
 - a. TO DO: Create List of Service Sponsors; connect new GSRs – Sent sheet around now – will reside with Secretary
 - b. TO DO: New GSRs
 - I. TO DO: Assign a Service Sponsor/District Tag Team Buddy: **ACTION:** People interested in a service sponsor can check the sign-up sheet clipboard
 - II. TO DO: Encourage attendance at Area Orientation Day (January 18, 2020 Rome, NY)
 - III. TO DO: Call new GSRs for first 3 months; Establish a Buddy System at District Meeting (new GSR with a veteran), encourage Service Sponsor: **SUGGESTION/ACTION:** Alt DCM will add a Service Sponsor Minute
 - IV. TO DO: Parse this initial information out to new GSRs; don't overload them, give Service Manual, discuss it, give more info at February meeting, etc. **SUGGESTION/ACTION:** DCM will give Lorraine
 - v. TO DO: Provide list of suggested events to attend: **ACTION:** See DCM & AltDCM reports and ulsterdistricts.aahmbny.org for current information
 - c. TO DO: Adopt a group: bring service manual to dark groups/no GSR groups, go to business meetings each month until the GSR shows up. IDENTIFY the Dark Groups? **ACTION:** DCM and we all can visit and encourage the groups who are not regularly attending District meetings. **SUGGESTION:** Bring cake
 - d. TO DO - Hold workshop of service positions/GSR responsibilities **ACTION:** Bump to February
 - a. EXAMPLE: Invite Area Treatment/PI/CPC to talk about member action items
 - b. Conduct this workshop with D7 & D15:
 - e. DOES DISTRICT???: **Did not discuss**
 - a. Make half-page flyers to improve on cost of printing: **ACTION:** Encourage groups to print them off
 - b. Print off newsletters! D15 has a list of people who need a printed copy and will forward that list to D16.
 - c. Print off flyers to bring back to groups **ACTION:** 1. send flyers as PDFs or hyperlinks in monthly GSR Alert email, 2. post flyers at website, 3. Print some flyers for GSRs

DISTRICT 16 MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2020 **APPROVED 2-18-2020**

- f. TO DO: Order Committee binders & workbooks for all Committee Chairs: GSO will send kit when all new committee chairs are registered; Check storage unit for CPC & Public Information workbook kits
- g. TO DO: Send one District email+flyers+reports each month vs. multiple emails **ACTION: YES** limit emails

New Business

- Ryan will take Answering Service Committee Chair
- **TENTATIVE: Shira will take BtG/Corrections Committee Chair**
- **Gherard will take Public Information Committee Chair**
- **\$360 for annual District 16 meeting room rental** to Reservoir UMC, Shokan; **ACTION:** Treasurer to verify and pay
- **\$300 for District 16 storage space January-December 2020** to St John's Evangelist, Centerville; **ACTION:** Treasurer to verify and pay
- **We will have our Area 48 Chair, Tammie E., visiting us next month. As she has just rotated into this position, she is starting to visit all District meeting, and we will be one of the first she visits, she will have a 15 minute or so presentation at our February 18 meeting.**
- **D15 Glenn: D15 service commitments have been filled, share information and hold a workshop on shared service commitments (meeting lists, answering lists, website, newsletter, CPC, PI)**
- **NYEve Recap: \$285 coming back, great attendance, new venue & meeting rooms next year, last year's new person gave person with least time the sobriety countdown Big Book**