



Knox Knews

District 15 Happenings

NEW
Camden Women's meeting, Fridays, 6pm,
St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 33 Chestnut St.
in Camden.

Showing it Works! February Anniversaries

Rosalie, 35 yrs
Road to Recovery
Wednesday, Feb 7

Jim P, 12 yrs
Pen Bay
Sunday, Feb. 11

Karen S, 1 yr
Cornerstone
Thursday, Feb 15

Bob B, 16 yrs
Pen Bay
Sunday, Feb 18

Cynthia, 20 yrs
Dry-Dock
Monday, Feb 19

Michael S, 7 Yrs
Brown Bag
Saturday, Feb 24

JoAnn A, 2 yrs.
Safe Harbor
Tuesday, Feb 27

John K, 14 yrs

Frank R, 14 yrs
It's in the Book
Wednesday Feb. 28

Bird B, 18 yrs

Anne J, 18 yrs
Mountain View
Sunday, March 4

Camden 12-Step Friday Night Speakers Meeting

Feb 2—Michelle J.

Feb 9—David L.

Feb 16—Bolduc

Feb 23—Casey H

Fits Like A Glove

In the midst of all the holiday confusion, (I had been working on a very special church festival) it was time to celebrate my anniversary on Jan 3rd. It so happens that Jan. 1st is my anniv. date for AA and my wedding anniv. as well! That in itself seemed as if there was just too much detail to fit in yet another celebration. However long it takes, fixing the refreshments, forks, napkins etc., all of a sudden it began to take on a real meaning for me—one that spells out the program to perfection.

There, as usual, were the special people who boost me up, sustain me, encourage me, humor me, pray for me, teach me, critique me, and in general allow me to be the human-being - not the human-doing I sometimes become when I'm not looking. Then there was the flu bug running rampant in my partner of 30 years, so the New Years dance seemed a bit far fetched; the speaker was well worth the trip to Owl's Head town office and the hearty laughter so badly needed, along with the dear friends and ensuing conversation, food and rest from the commitments hanging over my head. So much happens inside us when we least expect it, and for me it fit like a glove.

Thanks, I needed that. Happy New Year to you all.
signe g.

Dancing the New Year In

I was at the New Year's Eve dance and it was a success. Please don't mention my name as I try to stay humble, anonymous etc....but I had a blast. There were over 100 people at the speaker's meeting and about the same at the dance. Bruce B. was a riot. WE danced until 12:00 and made enough for the deposit on the spring fling dance which is tentatively scheduled for May at Watt's Hall in Thomaston.

I cannot stress enough the importance of the many District 15's people that helped set up, sell tickets, raffle tickets, and came out to support the dance, thank you! We raffled off 30 items, cribbage boards, lobster, etc. and it was a lot of fun!! Thanks to all the AA members that donated for the raffle as well! If you are looking for a fun way to provide service work, get involved with the Events committee. We meet twice a month and it is fun! Thanks!

Correction: Last month's KnoxKnews suggested that the NEFOTS conference and the Tanglewood weekend are non-AA programs or conferences. I have been assured that this is not the case. Apologies. pl

Dear AA Peoples...

re: The moments of silence for the alcoholic who still suffers in and out of these Halls...

well ... A bizillion moments were responsible for getting me here...

And

A Bizillion more were had, and me brother Mike has been sober for about a month... UnFreekenBelievable...

Thank you...

Keep those moments, prayers, thoughts, hopes etc coming...

Ya never know whos gonna get it...

The fact that either of us are here, is a good indication IT works...

and

That We are both here today is Proof...

ThankQ

Peace, Robbie H

There will be a Training Session for AA volunteers carrying the message into the PARC Unit (and jails and prisons) February 10, at the UU Church in Rockland, from 10am until noon.

Arrogant, Self-Centered, Grandiose while carrying the message

Opinions about treatment options, treatment faculties, medications, and therapeutic insights are not AA and not the message of AA. The PARC unit has complained. There have been similar complaints from the jail and the prison in the past.

Travis M, our treatment chair, reports that he has received recent complaints from the PARC unit about AA volunteers "sharing about opinions on medication, or [giving] psychological disorder advice." We are there, he explains, "to share our experience, strength and hope around our alcoholism" and carry the AA message.

To share our own opinions on other matters is arrogant, grandiose and self-centered, Travis points out. "No one appointed us god and no one brought us in for a clinical consultation. We are there to represent AA. Period."

AA "does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes." These other opinions are controversial and, in fact, have become "causes" for some people. When AA volunteers are at the PARC unit, jail or prison, they **are** AA, identified as AA, and must not "engage in any controversy."

Actually, the Tenth Tradition specifically prohibits this: "Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A. A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

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Thank you, Dist. 15

My name is Ruth, I'm an alcoholic. My home group is the Off the Wall Group in District 16. During the Area 28 meeting in October, while talking with Judy, the GSR-Secretary of the **Sunday Pen Bay Group**, we discovered that Judy's home group was the **first AA meeting I attended.**

There I was given an AA Big Book by the person who won the raffle. That was in 1983. AA and my higher power have graced me with continuous sobriety and I am growing still. I have immense gratitude for the love, acceptance and firm AA foundation I received in District 15. I also see that this same commitment to carrying the message continues. Thank you. (Ruth is the alternate secretary of Area 28.)

Dist. 15 Contact List

- District Chair, Bob C., 354-7016, bobbycleav@verizon.net
- Treasurer, Wendy M., 594-8269, wendymacdougall@adelphia.net
- DCM I, Rose V., 594-3031, rosemv31@msn.com
- DCM III, Rich B, 594-2372, dbratt61@msn.com
- Corrections, Robbie H., 785-5221, hinch@mail.com
- CPC, Kevin J., 594-6373, mainelysoba@yahoo.com
- Bridging the Gap, Casey H, 691-8494, c.hallowell@hotmail.com
- Treatment, Travis M. 594-8269
- Meeting List, John K., 354-3614

We also have an Area 28 officer in the district who has asked to be included:
Chris F, Area Registrar, 372-6273, lcf@midcoast.com

For a list of Area officers and committee chairs, go to www.area28.aamaine.org

District Inventory

The District Inventory was held on January 14. More than 30 people were there and most groups in District 15 were represented. The inventory was facilitated by Spencer R. Most attendees seemed pleased with the process and outcomes. Here are the only two comments the KnoxKnews has received:

I did enjoy the group inventory. I thought a lot of good points came up, although I only had one previous experience to compare it to and in that one a question was brought up and then there was a lot of time for the group members to share. This one was done in such a way that I was able to see that we are all newcomers and could have something to learn so sit down and listen. Anyway overall It was a beneficial experience. It really helped me to see where I needed to be more effective and not always sit back and let others do all the work, which I am often so very comfortable with. Thanks to everyone who participated, and made it their responsibility to help me grow in understanding and effectiveness. Casey H

I thought the inventory stunk we were suppose to learn about the problems with-in our district. That was not discussed. I think the problem was that Spencer didn't know what he was doing. I really appreciate him taking his time to do this but it really didn't help the district any. Rose V

Jail Orientation Scheduled

Saturday, Feb. 10, at 7:00 pm Lt Cynthia Gardner will provide an Orientation for volunteers at the Knox County Jail. You do NOT have to be cleared to attend—this may be a good chance to find out more. If you are interested in volunteering now or think you may be interested within the coming year, please attend this orientation.

Be at The **Knox County Jail** between
6:30 and 7:00PM
Saturday, Feb. 10

No Reservations Necessary!!!

So **JUST** show UP

KnoxKnews is published monthly by the District 15 *ad hoc* Newsletter Committee, Peter L, acting editor. Send your stories, information, ideas, suggestions and contributions to editor@KnoxKnews.org or call Peter L. at 542-1486..