



Knox news

District 15 Happenings

District Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 8

5-6:30 pm

GSR Roundtable and
committees, 4-5 pm

UU Church, Broadway,
Rockland

Showing it Works! February Anniversaries

Rosalie, 37 yrs

Pen Bay
Sunday, Feb. 8

Bob B, 19 yrs

Camden 12 Step
Tuesday, Feb. 24

Michael S, 9 yrs

Cynthia, 22 yrs

Brown Bag
Tuesday, Feb 24

John K, 16 yrs

Frank R, 16 yrs

It's In the Book
Wednesday, Feb. 25

Karen S, 3 yrs

Cornerstone
Thursday, Feb. 26

Our Chance to Meet People and Learn: AA as a State, National and Worldwide Fellowship

Northeast Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly will be in Portland the weekend of February 20-22, 2009. It's a weekend of panel presentations and floor discussions on issues affecting AA today and a great chance to meet people from the rest of the northeast—stretching to Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania—and to meet the people from the general service office in New York. All AA members are encouraged to attend.

In addition, attend Roundtable sharing sessions on ■ AA literature ■ general service representatives (GSR's) ■ district committee members (DCM's) ■ archives ■ cooperation with the professional community (CPC) ■ public information (PI) ■ correctional & treatment facilities (CTF) ■ newsletter ■ grapevine ■ various area and district officer positions (e.g. secretary and treasurer) ■ website ■ alternate & area delegates ■ treatment facilities ■ bridging the gap.

For more information visit www.neraasa.org or talk to your GSR.

What about Crosstalk at meetings?

Just what is this thing called "crosstalk"? Why are concerned A.A.s writing to the General Service Office for clarification about it? And, bottom line, what does it have to do with our primary purpose: "to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety"?

The word has been with us at least since 1887. Webster's 10th Edition defines crosstalk as "unwanted signals in a communication channel caused by transference of energy from another circuit"—as when, for instance, two members sitting side by side at an A.A. meeting carry on a private, yet not so quiet, conversation or when one member interrupts another rudely or inappropriately. But this is not the kind of crosstalk that members are asking about; specifically, it is traceable to a list of guidelines for behavior at A-A. meetings --erroneously attributed to "World Service"—that appears in 1992 in a central office newsletter and has since been re-

printed and circulated more widely.

The guidelines state, in part, that "Any comments, negative or positive, about another's share, experience, life, program or remarks are crosstalk—that is interference."... "The only appropriate comment about anyone else's share—a speaker's or another member's—is 'Thank you for your share.'" "A member may talk about his or her own experience as it relates directly or indirectly to another's share, but should not refer to that per-

Newsletter Editor(s) needed

One person or a team.
Same format or a
change. Monthly or ...

Group News

New Meeting, Friday evenings, 7-8 pm, Rockland Rec Center. Beginning February 6, this meeting will begin exploring a format, finding a name, and becoming a functioning group. ALL are welcome to come and join this new beginning.

Camden Attitude Adjustment Group has moved its meetings to the John Street Methodist Church at 98 John St. (corner of John St. and Simonton Rd) in Camden. They will continue to hold meetings six mornings a week, Monday through Saturday, at 7 am. The group's attendance has outgrown the old space.

Dry Dock Group, Mondays in Thomaston, is now a Beginners meeting, focusing on the first three Steps.

Camden Friday night Speakers: Feb,6, Kathy R; Feb 13 Arthur H; Feb 20, Mark Z; Feb 27, Judy R.

Port Clyde Step Meeting, Monday, 7:30 pm, in the church across from the Post Office.

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Northeast Fellowship of the Spirit (NEFOTS)

March 6-8,

Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland

This is the 10th annual Northeast Fellowship of the Spirit Conference to be held in Maine. This conference is committed to carrying the message of Recovery from alcoholism through the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as outlined in the Big Book and is open to all who seek recovery. Panels of AA and Al-Anon members discuss each of the 12 Steps and there will be national AA and Al-Anon speakers.

Hotel reservations are always scarce and you are encouraged to make reservations early.

See flyers at your meeting or visit www.NEFOTS.org.

Tradition Two

For our group purpose 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.

- ◆ Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?
- ◆ Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?
- ◆ Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?
- ◆ Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?
- ◆ Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?
- ◆ In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

Concept Two

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

John A. in Houma, LA misses all and says hi! Aiieee!



32nd Maine Area Round-Up

July 17–19, 2009

Fellowship with 1000 AA and Al-Anon friends. Speakers from Vermont, California, Maryland, and Maine. Workshops and even dancing to the Big Luv Band. Sugarloaf will begin taking reservations March 1. www.Roundup.Area28aa.org

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Crosstalk (Continued from page 1)

son's share. Even comments such as 'When you talk about... it reminded me of my own experience...' are possibly inappropriate."

The so-called guidelines did not emanate from the General Service Office.

Looking at the subject from an AA's point of view, a G.S.O. staff member says, "Comparing notes, many of us realized that nonjudgmental suggestions we had received in meetings in response to something we had shared, was very beneficial to our recovery. It is how we learn, and that's what 'sharing experience, strength and hope' is all about. Also, there is a thin line between guidelines and rules; and experience suggests that in A.A.'s 'benign anarchy,' rules, rigidity and attempts to control don't work very well."

Whether an individual A.A. group chooses to include the crosstalk 'guidelines' in its meeting format is entirely up to its group conscience to determine, of course. But please do not say that such guidelines came from the General Service Office.

Box 459, 2006