



Knox Knews

District 15 Happenings

Showing it Works! September Anniversaries

Judy R, 2 yrs
Pen Bay, Rockport
Sunday, Sept 10

Stuart, 4 yrs
Rd to Recovery,
Thomaston,
Wednesday, Sept 13

Gary O, 10 yrs
Brownbag, Rockland
Monday, Sept. 18

Denise H, 16 yrs
Karen Ann A, 11 yrs
It's In the Book, Camden
Wednesday, Sept. 27
Potluck, 5:30 pm

John A, 10 yrs.
Camden 12-Step
Monday, Oct. 2

QUERY CORNER: Why are there so few anniversaries in September? These celebrants are clearly pretty special people.

What makes them so special? Write us with your ideas, thoughts and theories for a special feature in the October issue.

A Taste of District History

by Mary C.

Have you ever wondered "What are the Archives?" and "How do I see them?" Well, I wondered exactly the same things. So a few of us took some action!

Bob C., Dot (our new Archives Chair), and I decided to take a field trip. Andy Y. is our Archivist. Hmmm, what is an Archivist exactly? An Archivist is simply the person that holds the Archives.

We contacted Andy and were quickly able to establish a time that all four of us could meet – a couple of days later. We were excited. I personally had never seen the archives.

When we arrived in Lincolnville, Andy directed us to the fireproof filing cabinet where the archives are stored. We found such things as group histories, business meeting minutes (both from groups and district), financial reports, tape recordings of members, etc.

Our archives are comprised of six or seven members' donations. They unfortunately only date back to approximately 1989.

We took out most of the piles and eventually

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Freedom From Bondage

Camden, October 14

To inform and inspire AA members about carrying the message in jail and prison, the sixth annual Freedom From Bondage conference will be held October 14 at the Camden Congregational Church on Free Street, concluding with a special guest speaker who will share from his many years of carrying AA behind the walls and bars. Everyone interested in AA in prisons and jails is invited and encouraged to attend.

The daylong event will bring together AA volunteers, current inmates, former inmates, and corrections professionals, to share their experience of carrying AA's message behind the walls of correctional facilities in a series of panels and short presentations. There will also be ample time for informal conversations and sharing over lunch and a lobster dinner.

The program will begin at 9 am and the guest speaker will talk after dinner. Registration is \$20 if you want to have lunch and lobster dinner. Registration will begin at 8.

This event is sponsored by the district 15 corrections committee and the love and service committee. Jeremiah M. is chairing the planning committee for the event. For more information and to volunteer to help, call 691-7070.

Calendar

The next **District 15 meeting** will be held on Sunday, September 17, at the UU Church on Broadway, Rockland, 5 pm. The meeting has been shifted to the third Sunday this month because of conflicts created by the Labor Day weekend.

Area 28 Fall Assembly will be held in Millinocket, October 20, 21, 22, 2006. Group GSR's are encouraged to make their plans soon. There will be extensive car-pooling for the 3 hour trip.

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

From the archives:

Did you know?

- The first Rockland group was started in 1947. It was held in a member's home where they talked and read the Big Book.
- In the early 80's there were only four districts in the state of Maine.
- Our District used to include towns from Damariscotta to Farmington and from the Western Mountains up to Jackman and down to Waldo County.
- There was a regular 10 am Tuesday Open Discussion Meeting in Rockland called the "Stitch 'N Bitch."
- The 1989 AA volunteer Hotline list included 41 people and was combined with Al-Anon volunteers as well

We plan to make this sort of historical information a regular feature of the KnoxKnews. **Please** tell us the stories you know or have heard. We would like to know where this great gift of a program came from.

Help Wanted

KnoxKnews needs your help. We will be meeting **Saturday, September 9**, at 9am at St. Peters in Rockland. YOU are invited.

Can you help? Or suggest what you would like to see? Is there news or a feature you would like to include? **Contributions are very welcome.**

We are in the process of developing guidelines and policies for the newsletter and need your ideas and suggestions. Please come to our meeting or share your ideas with Bob C. or Peter L.

Archives *(Continued from page 1)*

arrived upstairs at a table with Andy filling us in on the gaps with historical facts and stories. What a wealth of information!

If you would like to discover more for yourself or would like to donate items, please call Andy Y. at 323-1334. If you would like to get involved with the Archives Committee and find history and recording history quite interesting, please contact Dot at our next District business meeting.

Do you know some of our local history OR know someone who does? Do you have any documents such as minutes, meeting lists, announcements, or flyers? Would you be willing to be interviewed about your experiences? Please contact Dot as soon as possible. She is committed to making the Archives more complete and valuable to us all.

Spotlight: District Chair

The District chair has responsibility to set the agenda for the monthly business meeting; maintain order and flow in the meeting and ensure that District business is attended to; see that District services are provided to the groups and members in the District; and to report District business and needs to the Area at Area Committee meetings (6X per year) and at Area Assemblies (2X per year).

The current District Chair is Bob C. He got sober in 1994 in Manchester, NH, and has held various service positions at group and district levels. His home group is *It's in the Book* in Camden. He is also very active in AA prison outreach at both the Maine State Prison and Bolduc Correctional Facility.

Ed. Note: In an effort to inform you about who your trusted servants are and what they do, we are planning to make this Spotlight feature a regular part of the newsletter.

Around our Area:

Be Someone For Someone

is the theme of the District 4 Round-Up, September 29-30, in Edmundston, New Brunswick. Admission is FREE and all are welcome.

Meetings will be in both English and French. There will be Al-Anon participation.

The Round-Up will be held at the Quality Inn, 919 Canada Road, Edmundston, NB (Tel+ 1-800-424-6423) For information, call JR B at (207)316-4917.

Please get **meeting list** changes to John K by September 10.

Friday Camden Speakers: 9/1, George C; 9/8 Jan S; 9/15 Bolduc

KnoxKnews is published monthly by the District 15 ad hoc Newsletter Committee, Peter L, acting editor. Send information, ideas, suggestions and contributions to editor@knoxknews.org or talk to members of the ad hoc newsletter committee: Mary C., Bob C, Eric M, and Debbie W.

First Behind-the-Walls Workshop

On Saturday, September 16, The Ledge Group of AA, at the Maine State Prison in Warren, will host the first ever day-long workshop with Group members and outside volunteers. This event will take place inside the prison, and workshop topics may include: transition, sponsorship, and living sober comfortably. It is hoped that this ground-breaking program will set the stage for others. See a member of the District 15 corrections committee about possible future events.