

HIGHER GROUND

District 10 Newsletter

NENY Area 48
September 2021



Just a little North Country resident getting some rays

AA Preamble

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

©AA Grapevine, Inc

This month in AA History

Sept 11, 2001 – 30 Vesey St, New York. Location of AA's first office destroyed during the World Trade Center Attack.

Sept 13, 1937 – Florence R, first female in AA ("A Feminine Victory" -1st edition Big Book) in NY.

Sept 17, 1954 - Bill D. AA #3 dies

Sept 19, 1975 – Jack Alexander, author of the original Saturday Evening Post article, dies.

Sept 21, 1938 - Bill W. & Hank P. form Works Publishing Co.

Group Anniversaries

Sept 6, 1953 – Plattsburgh Trinity Group

Sept 6, 1977 – Chazy Friday Night Group

Sept 14, 1972 – Ausable Forks Thursday Night Group

Sept 17, 1965 – Lake Placid Paradox

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For Your Information

A message from our District 10 Secretary

If you or your group would like to be on the District 10 AA mailing list to receive important AA updates such as the monthly newsletter, minutes, and treasurer's report please send an email to: Amy M. at: district10secretary@aahmbny.org.

District 10 Monthly Meetings on ZOOM

(all are welcome to attend!!)

2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm

Zoom ID: **895 8996 2911**

Password: **212057**

District 10 Contributions

There is a new way to contribute to District 10. Individuals and groups can now contribute using PayPal by sending contributions to:

District10treasurer@aahmbny.org

District 10 New Website: with Local Meeting Updates, Meeting Minutes, and More:

www.District10.aahmbny.org

Area 48 Website: with local meeting information, event calendar, Area Newsletters, and helpful links for the recovering alcoholic: www.aahmbny.org

AA General Service Office Website: www.aa.org

District 10 AA Hotline: (518) 561-8444

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((SUPPORT FOR CORRECTIONS NEEDED))

Are you looking to keep it green? Are you looking to do some service? The district 10 area is looking for people to carry the message of recovery into correctional facilities. It is a great way to be reminded of what can happen to people who continue to drink or drug. Currently, there is a very real need for people, both men and women, to do this type of service work. If you have any interest at all or any questions, please send an email to:

Pete M. at: District10corrections@aahmbny.org

would like to visit this historic site go to:

WWW.STEPPINGSTONES.ORG

Stepping Stones

The historic home of Alcoholics Anonymous co-founder Bill Wilson and his wife Lois Wilson, located in Bedford Hills, New York
If you are interested in a schedule events and would like to visit this historic site go to:

WWW.STEPPINGSTONES.ORG

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A message from our district 10 Records Keeper (Sue W.) on how to get *meeting change information* to her:

Hi District 10!

My name is Sue and I'm an alcoholic and I'm honored to serve as your district records keeper! I keep track of the records for all the trusted servants and meetings (both online and in person) within our district.

You can help! If possible, when something about your meeting or group changes, for example: a meeting goes back to meeting in person, changes location, or the online password gets changed, please let me know so that I can keep the records accurate and up to date. When I make changes, they change for the area meeting finder at aahmbny.org and also on the Meeting Finder App.

The best and easiest way to let me know is to go our area's website: aahmbny.org and fill out the "Group Change & New Group Form". It's in the quick links on the main page. Here is the exact url: <https://aahmbny.org/new-group-form-group-change-form/>

Once you fill out the change that your meeting or group is making and submit the form, it goes to my district email. I check that email every couple days and as soon as I get the form that you sent, I change your group's record. The area website is only refreshed once a week, so it might take a little while to show up.

I also share files I made of the online meetings in our district and the ones happening in person with the GSR's and district committee; Vern, who creates our district newsletter; Matt H, who is coordinating our hotline answering service; and in two secret, private, local AA Facebook Groups.

You can always send me an email at district10records@aahmbny.org Yours
in service, Sue W.

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WANT TO HELP ANOTHER ALCOHOLIC?

2021
CARRY THE
MESSAGE
PROJECT



GRAPEVINE & LA VIÑA are Great Twelfth Step Tools!

Give a gift subscription to an alcoholic who needs it. Great for:

- Sponsees
- Newcomers
- Prisons
- Detoxes
- Doctor's Offices
- Group Celebrations
- District and Area Events
- Giveaways

Get your group, district, area or AA friends to join in.

Carry the Message, it's easy!

Go to aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message to get started and see our new Carry the Message video at www.youtube.com/c/AAGrapevine

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EVEN BETTER!

Get a year's GV or LV subscription from D10

Become a GrapeVineRep for your homegroup!

GVRs and RLVs act as advocates for Grapevine and La Viña at the group and district level, alerting their groups to the use of the magazines as recovery tools. It is, many say, the best service job they've ever had. Originally GVRs focused on Grapevine, and RLVs on La Viña. But as awareness of the needs of Spanish-speaking AAs throughout the United States has grown, some reps have begun to work with both magazines and refer to themselves as GVR/RLVs. What Do GVRs and RLVs Do? Group GVRs and RLVs:

- make sure that copies of the magazines are available and displayed at meetings
- announce the arrival of each new issue
- encourage members to visit aagrapevine.org and aagrapevine.org/español
- share about articles in the magazines or the websites
- encourage individual subscriptions
- encourage the group to buy subscriptions in the group's name

CONTACT: Your D10 GV rep Arthur W. @

district10grapevine@aahmb.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION!

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MONTHLY GSR FORUM

AREA 48
Monthly GSR Forum
Virtual Platform via Zoom
Meeting ID: 870 0168 1934
Password: gsr
1st Sunday of every month
7:00PM EST

WELCOME ABOARD!

If you're not involved in General Service,
you may have missed the boat.



You do not have to be a GSR to attend.
You do not have to be a member of Area 48 to attend.

These monthly interactive forums are designed to promote unity and be the life line needed for GSRs new and old to bring topics of discussion, questions and their personal experience, strength and hope for anyone interested in learning more about Group Life, being a GSR and General Service.

In Bill W's own words:

“The strength of our whole AA service structure starts with the group and with the general service representative (GSR) the group elects. We cannot emphasize too strongly the GSR's importance.”

For more information contact: hmbchair@aahmbny.org

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The Meeting Guide App

To locate meetings, meeting information, anywhere, anytime, simply download and install the Meeting Guide App onto any device.

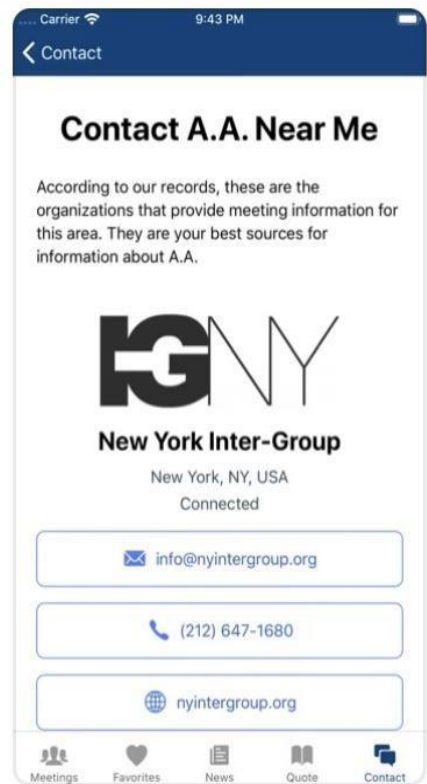
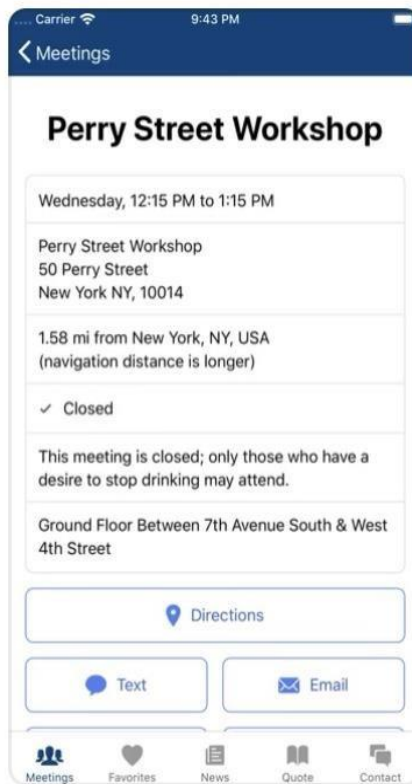
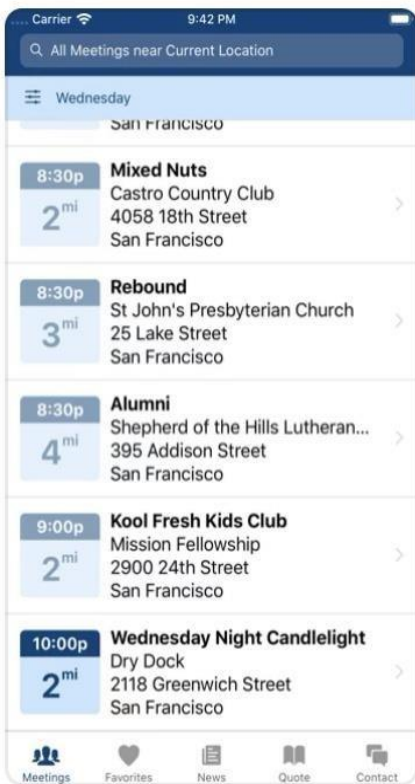


Meeting Guide

A.A. World Services

★★★★☆ 448

OPEN



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Biography:

“A Feminine Victory”

Florence R., New York City.

(OM, p. 217 in 1st edition.)

Florence was the first woman to get sober in A.A., even for a short time. She came to A.A. in New York in March of 1937. She had several slips but was sober over a year when she wrote her story for the Big Book.

It must have been difficult for Florence being the only woman. She prayed for inspiration to tell her story in a manner that would give other women courage to seek the help that she had been given.

She was the ex-wife of a man Bill W. had known on Wall Street. She thought the cause of her drinking would be removed when she and her husband were divorced. But it was her ex-husband who took Lois W. to visit her at Bellevue. Bill and Lois got her out of Bellevue and she stayed in their home for a time. After she left their home, she stayed with other members of the fellowship.

In part, due to Florence having been sober more than a year, “One Hundred Men” was discarded as the name for the Big Book.

She moved to Washington, D.C. and tried to help Fitz M. (“Our Southern Friend”), who after sobering up in New York started A.A. in Washington, D.C. She married an alcoholic she met there, who unfortunately did not get sober. Eventually Florence started drinking again and disappeared. Fitz M. found her in the morgue. She had committed suicide.

Despite her relapse and death from alcoholism, Florence helped pave the way for the many women who followed. She was in Washington by the time Marty M. (“Women Suffer Too”), the next woman to arrive in A.A. in New York, entered the program. Marty only met her once or twice, but her story in the Big Book no doubt encouraged Marty.

(From Silkworth.net)

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Biography:

“Alcoholics Anonymous Number Three”

“The Man on the Bed”

Bill Dotson of Akron, Ohio.

(p. 182 in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th editions.)

Pioneers of A.A.

“Pioneer member of Akron’s Group No. 1, the first A.A. group in the world. He kept the faith, therefore, he and countless others found a new life.”

Bill’s date of sobriety was the date he entered Akron’s City Hospital for his last detox, June 26, 1935, where Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob visited him on June 28. His wife, Henrietta, recalled years later that she had asked her pastor to try to help him, and had prayed with another that someone who could help would visit him at the hospital.

He was a prominent lawyer, had been a city councilman, and was a well-adjusted family man and active in his church. Nonetheless, he had been hospitalized eight times in the past six months because of his alcoholism and got drunk even before he got home. When admitted this time he had DTs and had blacked the eyes of two nurses before they managed to strap him down. A nurse commented that he was a grand chap “when sober.”

He walked out of that hospital on July 4, never to drink again. A.A.’s first group dates from that day. Within a week, he was back in court, sober, and arguing a case. The message had been successfully shared a second time. Dr. Bob was no fluke, and apparently you did not have to be indoctrinated by the Oxford Group before the message could take hold.

He immediately began working with Dr. Bob and Bill, and went with them to visit Ernie Galbraith (“The Seven Month Slip” in the 1st edition) and others.

Oldtimers in Akron said he was indeed a grand chap, when sober, one of the most engaging people they ever knew. One said: “I thought I was a real big shot because I took Bill Dotson to meetings.”

Another noted that, though Bill Dotson was influential, he was not an ambitious man in A.A., just a good A.A. If you went to him for help, he would help you. He never drove a car, but he went to meetings every night, standing around with his thumbs in his vest like a Kentucky colonel.

A.A.’s first documented court case was one Phil S., who was released to the care of Dr. Bob through the efforts of Bill Dotson, who talked with the judge who agreed to release him.

Bill never submitted his story for the 1st edition. Various theories include (1) he wanted to be paid for the story, (2) he was too prominent a person, (3) he was too humble to have his story appear. But in 1952 he told an interviewer that he hadn’t been much interested in the project or perhaps thought it unnecessary. He added that Bill Wilson had come to Akron to record his story, which would appear in the next edition of the book. Perhaps by 1952 he was embarrassed that he’d originally wanted to be paid for the story so didn’t mention it. But apparently, he cooperated to have it appear in the 2nd edition.

Bill Dotson died September 17, 1954, in Akron. Bill Wilson wrote, “That is, people say he died, but he really didn’t. His spirit and works are today alive in the hearts of uncounted A.A.s, and who can doubt that Bill already dwells in one of those many mansions in the great beyond. The force of the great example that Bill set in our pioneering time will last as long as A.A. itself.”

(From Silkworth.net)