

Northern New England News

Northern New England Regional Service Committee
PO Box 1274, Saco, ME 04072

Granite State Area of NA
PO Box 5171
Manchester, NH 03108
603-645-4777
<http://www.gsana.org>

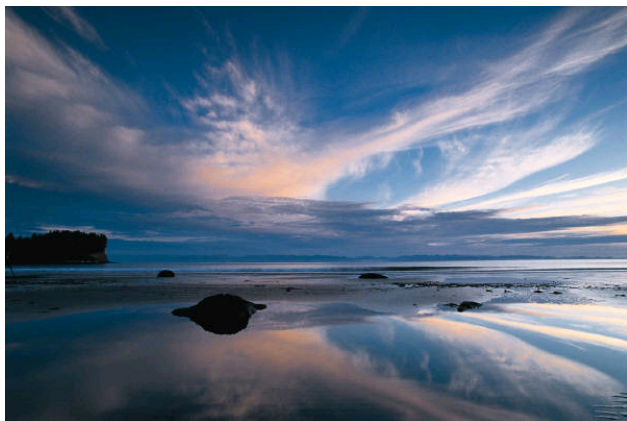
Maine Area of NA
PO Box 5309
Portland, ME 04101
1-800-974-0062
<http://www.namaine.org>

Seacoast Area of NA
PO Box 512
Greenland, NH 03840
603-645-4777
<http://www.gsana.org>

August 2006

nnewsletter@yahoo.com

Issue 16



RSC NEWS

The next Regional Meeting will be hosted by the Granite State Area, September 9th, location TBA.

<http://www.gsana.org/events.html>

Open Positions: Positions open are Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and MRLE Chair. Clean time requirements are: Chairperson - 3 years; Vice Chair - 2 years; Secretary - 2 years; and MRLE Chair - 2 years.

Workshop in Lewiston, Maine on October 21, 2006. Topic is Building Strong Home Groups. Download the flyer here: <http://www.gsana.org/events.html>

Upcoming RSC meetings to be held on:
Nov. 11th and January 13th.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ES&H: 12 Gifts of NA p. 2
ES&H: The Higher the Point... p. 2
ES&H Service: YES p. 3
Meeting Changes p. 3
ES&H: Relapse p. 3
North East Zonal Forum p. 4
World Convention Update p. 4
WSC News p. 4
World Unity Day p. 4
From the Vaults p. 5
Fun Page p. 6
Calendar p. 7

**Subscribe to the NNE News,
It's FREE! Send your request to
nnewsletter@yahoo.com**



DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of NA as a whole, the NNE RSC, or the Newsletter Subcommittee.

Experience, Strength and Hope

12 Gifts of NA, continued

The Fourth Gift...

Through my Sponsor I was given the gift of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. She would be considered today a "hard ass purist" and the new term I think was used back then was tough love. Through writing and sharing the steps the foundation was poured and needed to set so that I could learn how to live life on life's terms.

The 5th Gift...

Was given to me by her through the steps was a Higher Power in my life. A new Goddess who was one that was loving, kind, gentle and forgiving. This gift has become my best friend, lover and confident replacing the diseased spirit.

The 6th Gift...

Through the program of NA and my HP the gift has been given of the removal of the obsession to use. This program works if I choose to be guided by it, to breathe it, to live it. Do I get a thought of using today? Yes, but the obsession has been lifted and I am now able to apply the program and think it through. So that I do not use no matter what one day at a time and relapse has not been a part of my personal story.

(continued next issue)

-Member, Bluebonnet Region

✉ Carry The Message!

"We can only keep what we have by giving it away." This is *your* space to share your experience, strength and hope. We have an open topic forum and a forum emphasizing service work. Poetry and Art are other ways to share your experience strength and hope. Send contributions to nnenewsletter@yahoo.com. Thanks in advance for your participation.

→October Issue Deadline: September 15th←

The Higher the Point of Freedom

In the Basic Text, in the Chapter on the SYMBOL, it talks about "The wider the base the higher the point of freedom" It talks about it in terms of the base becoming wider due to the more people involved with the program. I am inclined to look at it from a different perspective.

I feel that the more information I have about how the Steps work in my life, the stronger my relationship becomes with my Higher Power, the better I become at accepting myself, THE HIGHER THE POINT OF FREEDOM.

I feel that stages/levels of freedom come with heightened awareness of what the program and life is all about. I also believe that the point of freedom I identify is not the ultimate point. I don't think of Freedom as having a ceiling. I now understand what they're talking about when they talk about "tapping into the limitless freedom" available to us all in the program.

Freedom ain't free: it requires working on myself; it requires commitment to this thing called recovery; it requires a desire to improve my spiritual condition; it requires willingness to do STEP WORK.

-Member, Greater New York Region



Experience Strength & Hope Service

YES

Early in my recovery, I was sitting in on a PI presentation and there was a need for a position to be filled. I had no intention of stepping up, but my Higher Power seemed to have other plans. When the question was asked if there were any willing addicts, a bounding and affirmative YES came out of my mouth. It was a few weeks after taking on that position that I started to understand it when I would hear, "We can only keep what we have by giving it away". It became clearer everyday. The more times I could help the still suffering addict, the more confidence in my own recovery I seemed to have. I built on that strength and made it a solid part of my recovery's foundation.

Since coming into the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous, service work has always been a priority in my recovery. Everything from opening a meeting, GSR, group secretary and service at the Area and Regional levels have helped me in one way or another to stay clean. By doing service work, it helps to keep me fresh. The primary purpose of carrying the message to the still suffering addict is very important. There were many addicts helping me in the beginning to understand that no matter what, I never had to use again. It was given so freely and without expectations to me, it is my responsibility as an addict to do the same in return.

Today, I understand and believe that this is a We program. Not a day goes by that I do not thank my Higher Power for putting service work in my life. I have met many wonderful addicts who have taught me how to build on my foundation and to help other addicts to build on theirs.

-Member, Maine Area

Meeting Updates

CLOSED MEETINGS

MAINE – Wednesday, Augusta. All Will Be Well. Closed July 7th.

NEW MEETINGS!!!

GRANITE STATE – Wednesday, Franconia. "A New Beginning" meets 7PM – 8:15PM, at Franconia Community Church, Church St., Exit 38 off 93.

GRANITE STATE – Saturday, Manchester. "Saturday Sanity Group" meets 8-9AM, at the YMCA on Mechanic Street.

FORMAT CHANGE

GRANITE STATE – Tuesday night, Manchester. The format has changed to "varied".

Relapse

Last week
the instructor slowed me down enough

to consider the
lowly raisin

(Breath by meditated
Breath)

in all its majestic sunergized

wrinkledness

a sun sponge

This morning an equally endowed apple is

wolfed down

mindlessly...

-Member, Northern New England Region

NORTH EAST ZONAL FORUM

The dates for the next few next NEZFs are:

January 19, 20, 21 2007

Northern New Jersey Region – Location TBA

The topic selected for January 2007 is the “Area Planning Tool”

July 27, 28, 29 2007

Northern New York Region

NEZF is in conjunction with the NNYRCNA Promise of Freedom XVI.

Double Tree Hotel

111 Jefferson Road

Rochester, NY 14623

Early Registration for the Convention is 9/29/06

January 25, 26, 27 2008

potentially in Western NY

The NEZF ad-hoc on Zone Wide Workshops will come to the January 07 meeting with a specific proposal to put on a Zone Wide Workshop. Most likely Regional Delegates will be voting on this proposal, so submit feedback or ask questions!

Elections were held and we selected a new NEZF Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary

An ad-hoc Committee was formed to research the feasibility of a NEZF website. Along with this, 2 separate email groups were formed to help facilitate communication between meetings. The first email group is for the ad-hoc Committee and the second is for all of the members of the NEZF.

World Convention Update

WCNA-32: 29 Aug–2 Sept 2007 in San Antonio, Texas

WCNA-33: 20–23 August 2009 in Barcelona, Spain

WCNA-34: 1–5 Sept 2011 in San Diego, California

WCNA-35: 29 August to 1 September 2013 in Philadelphia, PA

WSC NEWS

Basic Text Project Update Sept 2006–Mar 2007: Fellowship review and input period. Anyone can participate in this. For current info about this project and to sign up to receive the review and input draft of the 6th Edition Basic Text go to:

www.na.org/conference/bt/index.htm

WCNA is coming up in August 29 to September 2, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas. Want to get involved? We are looking for speakers, speaker tape evaluators, and other volunteers.

www.na.org/WCNA32/index.htm



World Unity Day 2006

World Unity Day is Sunday, September 3rd, 2006. The Worldwide Serenity Prayer will be at 1:00 PM Northern New England time. <http://www.na.org/WCNA32/UnityDay2006.pdf>

The Vision of Hope Group is celebrating its 15-year anniversary on Unity Day. The picnic starts at noon, at Bronstein Park, Manchester, NH. (Please bring a dish to share.) There will be a meeting from 1 - 2PM, and another at 199 Manchester St. at 6PM. More information at:

<http://www.gsana.org/events.html>

FROM THE VAULTS

Here is a brief look at what the Northern New England Region was up to way back in September of 1993. We met in Wayne, Maine with 17 addicts present.

From the RSR Report - I would like to propose we have a regionally sponsored GSR Forum in the beginning of next year, (maybe Feb?). All the GSR's from our Area's could meet, work on the inventory, and CAR. For those of you who would like to see more unity and participation...I think this will work and maybe we could have a dance/fun evening for a fund raiser after the Forum.

From the RSR-A Report - My report will focus on the North East Zonal Forum meeting of July 31st at Clifton, N.J. Eight Regions participated. Connecticut, Greater New York, Mid Atlantic, New Jersey, No. New Jersey, New England, Tri-State(greater Pittsburg). The issues discussed were: Area Conventions and their effect on the Region, Incorporation and area convention committees, service committees, Phone-lines.

From Hospitals and Institutions: We had a meeting this morning with five addicts in attendance. Reports were read from: Central Maine, Granite State, WSC H&I External Affairs. Reports were missing from: Seacoast, Southern Maine and Northern Serenity.

From Activities: We met with 3 addicts in attendance. We discussed the NNER Anniversary set for next Saturday, September 25, 1993. It is suggested that we make local phone calls in our Area's to remind people that we need support for our annual fund raising event.

From Public Information: This sub committee met today with two Area's in attendance. Southern Maine and Granite State Area's were represented. They talked about traveling to the groups to do workshops for the phoneline. They are also discussing the possibility of airing another PSA on television in their Area.

From Outreach: We compiled a list of those sample guidelines. We are submitting our guidelines today. We are registering this committee with the WSC ad-hoc on Outreach.

From Seacoast Area: I did write a report asking for a response on the \$1600 reserve for this Region. No response was given. I heard some talk of an ad-hoc committee forming. This committee is to look into the Seacoast Area joining up with another Area. I do not have first hand knowledge of this subject so I can go no further.

From Central Area of Maine: Our Area is currently revising our guidelines and we are nearly finished. The biggest change has been in our decision-making and election process. We are hopeful that our new guidelines will help make Area Service meetings a more spiritual place.

From Granite State Area: Our policy committee has finished all our Area guidelines. Our campout was a great success, both financially and spiritually. We have an H&I-P.I. Professional Day, October 23 at the V.A. Hospital, and a Tradition and Concepts Learning Day on November 13th at the same place. We have a 40th anniversary on October 9 at Bow Lake.

From Southern Maine Area: Someone is going to contact the Northern Serenity Area of Maine to see what meetings are happening in this Area and then bring it back to this meeting. It is also requested that if there are meetings still happening to contact us so that the meetings can be put into the new meeting list.

From Old Business: An ad-hoc chair was appointed to look into a way to incorporate how funds are allocated to the RSR and RSR-A travel to the WSC.

From New Business: Motion 2: To financially and spiritually support the attendance of the RSR and RSR-A at the North East Zonal Forums. Twice a year the RSR and RSR-A will submit gas and toll receipts, not lodging or food. To be evaluated September of 1994.

Intent: To continue this dialogue with our neighboring Regions.

Motion passes by a vote of 6.

From Open Forum: It was brought up that we have to discuss the old treasurer and treasury. A verbal motion was made that said: This body is no longer to pursue the issue of the past treasury relating to lost funds and records.



The 48 Musts of N.A. As Found in the Basic Text of Narcotics Anonymous (part 2)

25. We *must* be constantly on guard that our _____ are truly an expression of God's will. (pg. 61)
26. An atmosphere of recovery in our groups is one of the most valued assets, and we *must* guard is carefully, lest we lose it to _____ and _____. (pg. 61)
27. We *must* remember that officers have been placed in trust that we are trusted servants, and that at no time do any of us _____ (pg.61)
28. Our sixth tradition tells us some of the things we *must* do to _____ and protect our primary purpose. (pg. 66)
29. We *must* first _____ what N.A. is. Narcotics Anonymous is addicts who have the _____ to stop using, and have joined together to do so. (pg. 70)
30. In order to achieve our _____ aim Narcotics Anonymous *must* be known and _____. (pg. 71)
31. To improve ourselves takes effort and since there is no way in the world to graft a new idea on a _____ mind, an opening *must* be made somehow. (pg. 75)
32. We *must* relearn many things that we have forgotten and develop a new _____ to life if we are to survive. (pg. 77)
33. We _____ we *must* do something. (pg. 78)
34. When we feel the old _____ come over us, we _____ there *must* be something wrong with us, and that other people in Narcotics Anonymous couldn't possibly understand. (pg. 79)
35. We come here powerless and the power that we seek comes to us through other _____ in Narcotics Anonymous, but we *must* _____ out for it. (pg. 79)
36. Recovery found in Narcotics Anonymous *must* come from _____, and no one stays clean for anyone but themselves. (pg. 80)
37. If we have relapsed it is important to keep in mind that we *must* get back to _____ as soon as possible. (pg. 80)
38. We *must* totally _____ ourselves to the program. (pg. 81)
39. We *must* use what we learn or we will lose it in a _____. (pg.81)
40. We *must* use what we learn or we will lost it, no matter how long we have been _____. (pg. 82)
41. Eventually we are shown that we *must* get _____ or we will use again. (pg. 82)
42. We *must* _____ the illusion that we can do it alone. (pg. 82)
43. Staying clean *must* always come _____. (pg. 82)
44. Some things we *must* _____, others we can change. (pg. 92)
45. We *must* be willing to do whatever is _____ to recover. (pg. 93)
46. We never know when the time will come when we *must* put forth all the _____ and _____ we have just to stay clean. (pg. 93)
47. No matter how painful life's _____ can be for us, on thing is clear, we *must* not use no matter what. (pg. 98)
48. In order to receive we *must* be willing to _____. (pg. 102)

Submitted by an addict from the Western Reserve Area, Buckeye Region

Northern New England Region of NA—August 2006

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
	1	2	3	4	5 Softball & Outdoor Potluck noon - 4PM, Douglass Street Field, Portland, ME. Bring bats and gloves if you've got 'em.	6 Seacoast ASC noon - 4pm, Wentworth-Douglas Hospital, Salmon Falls Room, 789 Central Ave., Dover, NH.
					4 th Bi-Annual Granite State Area Convention Nashua, NH http://www.gsana.org/events.html	
7	8	9	10	11	12 Peak's Island Retreat Ferry Departs Portland ME at 3:15PM, beach meeting at 7PM.	13 Granite State ASC 1:45pm, Manchester VA Medical Center 718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH.
14	15	16	17	18	19 Resentment Bonfire St. Gregory's Campground, ME. http://namaine.org/activities/schedule.shtml	20 Baseball/Kickball/Volleyball Noon - 5PM. Prescott Park, behind Narrow Gauge Cinemas, Farmington, ME. Cold potluck.
21	22	23	24	25	26 Maine ASC noon, 10:30am Literature purchases. 9 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME.	27
28	29	30	31			

Northern New England Region of NA—September 2006

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
				1	2	3 Seacoast ASC noon - 4pm, Wentworth-Douglas Hospital, Salmon Falls Room, 789 Central Ave., Dover, NH. World Unity Day "Serenity Prayer" at 1PM EST Vision of Hope Group 15 year Anniversary Picnic (potluck) noon - 4PM, Bronstein Park, Manchester, NH.
4 Labor Day Cookout noon-6PM, Contoocook, NH. Food, softball & Swimming.	5	6	7	8	9 RSC	10 Granite State ASC 1:45pm, Manchester VA Medical Center 718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Maine ASC noon, 10:30am Literature purchases. 9 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME.
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

To submit an event for the Calendar, email the information along with
the name of your Area to nnenewsletter@yahoo.com