

District 4

AA in Western New York

Volume 1, Edition 3 News Highlights January, 2024 Winter Events



December

33rd Annual Women's Winter Retreat
Event Details
December 15th 4:00 pm – 17, 2023 12:00 pm
Venue: [Stella Niagara Center](#)

January
General Service Assembly; Kickoff
General Service Assembly Date:
January 6, 2024 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/99342724284> Meeting ID: 993
4272 4284
+19292056099,,99342724284# US (New York)

February

Area Committee Meeting
January 17th 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/99342724284>
Meeting ID: 993 4272 4284 NERAASA;
Hershey, PA 22-25

Quotes from Paul McQ:

- ~The merchant of Venice only wanted a pound of flesh- alcoholism will take a lot more than that
- ~25 years walking into the forest, but only 12 steps to get out!
- ~What did you do with the gift that was given to you?
- ~Rocketed- 4th dimension - time (Einstein) being present- now
- ~If you're going to eat crow- eat it while it's fresh
- ~Ignore 1st thought- move directly to 2nd thought
- ~The hardest step in AA- the doorstep



Love. Grow. Serve.



Contact Us

Visit our website:
www.district4.area50wny.org for
information about activities, groups and
meetings, and service committee
opportunities in the District. If you have
any questions about District 4 please
contact us directly through our website:
p72district4@area50wny.org.

WHY GENERAL SERVICE?

Hello district 4!
I'm looking forward to serving Area 50 as the Panel 74 Delegate!

As we near the conference, next April in NYC (Brooklyn actually), our Delegate Denise continues to keep me informed and updated on the PAI (proposed Agenda Items) list that will be forwarded to the conference or committee for additional consideration. The original list of PAI for the 74th conference was 117, following a call with all the Delegates prior to the Trustee's meeting, they decided to move forward with 104 of those items. Area 50's motion regarding the Delegate Chair selection process was one of those! These in addition to the standing agenda items will compose the Agenda at the next GSC.

Minutes from the Trustee's Weekend, 5 day weekend I'd like to note, will be circulated once they have been translated into Spanish and French and not before. This was voted on by the 73rd Conference. While this is causing some delays and confusion, materials getting out piecemeal..., it is a better way to get everyone the same information.

- As Chuck B discussed at the Area Assembly, Scott H, Panel 66 and 68 Trustee at Large from the great white north, will be the nominee for the Board Chair. This vote will take place at the GSC. I should be receiving my committee assignments by the end of November...I could go on and on as there's lots of stuff.

Yours in Service,
Steve J

DCM's CORNER

To be honest, I was apprehensive about getting involved in General Service. I didn't know how much of a commitment it would entail, I didn't know all the terminology (acronyms) and it took me a while to understand what was going on. What I found out was that as a service newcomer, just like when I was a newcomer to the program, no one laughed at my questions. Everyone was very welcoming, patient with answering or directed me to resources where I could look up what I needed to learn- and many of them were still learning themselves! We help each other in service just like we help each other in recovery. Oh yeah, and it's often pretty fun, too! I've had a chance to attend events and meet amazing sober alcoholics from District 4 and other districts that I probably wouldn't have met if I just stuck with going to the same few meetings and keeping to myself. It doesn't take away from service to my Home Group, it enhances it. Most importantly, General Service was initiated by our District Committee Member (DCM) for District 4 and I know I have big shoes to fill. My goal for the next two years is to get to know the groups and people in District 4 better and encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to be part of this important Tradition so that Alcoholics Anonymous can continue to be ready to welcome sick and suffering alcoholics for many more years to come.

Genie E District 4 DCM



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A word from our past chair:

Hello Area 50!

Reflecting on Panel 72, I am truly grateful to have served with all of you in general service. This position has been so rewarding, but also challenging and humbling for me. But thankfully, I never served in it alone. You and my Higher Power have lifted me up many times over these past two years and have repeatedly demonstrated that A.A. really works, and that A.A. Unity reigns in Area 50. I am ever

learning the true spirit of anonymity, and how to put principles before personalities—all for the benefit of the suffering alcoholic that has yet walked through our doors.

You all have been an inspiration to me in many different ways, but a special note of gratitude goes out to our Delegate, Denise M. She poured her heart and soul into this service position and represented our Area with real love and commitment to the Fellowship and the alcoholics it serves. Denise was a true demonstration of our Three Legacies in action, and it was a wonder to watch and be a part of. Thank you, Denise!

I love you all and truly thank you for your commitment to general service in Area 50. I very much look forward to what we can accomplish together in Panel 74.

Yours in Service,

Ryan L.

Area 50 Chair, Panel 72



District 4 – GSRs

- Acceptance & Welcome GSR:
- Any Age GSR:
- Chapter IX GSR:
- Daily Reflections GSR: Genie E., alt-GSR: Kim S
- Daily Reprieve GSR:
- Easy Does It GSR: Katie L
- Grateful GSR:
- How It Works GSR: Andrew P
- Keep it Coming GSR:
- Kenmore GSR:
- Life Ahead GSR: Mike K.

Living Sober Group GSR:
 Men Who Trudge GSR: John H
 New Destiny Women GSR: Jill K.
 Renaissance GSR: Mary Jo C
 Searching for Serenity GSR:
 Serenity GSR:
 Spiritual Progress GSR: Sue L
 Surrender & Hope GSR:
 We Believe GSR:



Sunday

10:00 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting
 ZOOM ID: 321 960 646
 Passcode: 080713

11:00 am “Serenity”
 Kenmore Mercy Hospital
 2950 Elmwood Ave. 14217 1st fl. conf.

2:00 pm “Daily Reflections”
 Faith United Presbyterian Church
 3150 Elmwood Ave. 14217

Monday

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting
 ZOOM ID: 321 960 646
 Passcode: 080713

6:00 pm “Searching for Serenity”
 Deerhurst Presbyterian Church
 257 Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

6:00 pm “Spiritual Progress” (Women’s)
 Church of the Advent 54 Delaware Rd.
 14217

Tuesday

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting

ZOOM ID: 321 960 646

Passcode: 080713

10:00 am “Acceptance & Welcome”
 Church of the Nativity 1530 Colvin Blvd.
 14150

3:00 pm “Renaissance”

Virtual Meeting:
 ZOOM ID: 857-6674 3532
 Passcode: 690828

5:30 pm “Life Ahead”
 Deerhurst Presbyterian Church 257
 Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

8:00 pm “Chapter IX”
 Deerhurst Presbyterian Church 257
 Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

Wednesday

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting
 ZOOM ID: 321 960 646
 Passcode: 080713

10:00 am “We Believe”
 Faith United Presbyterian Church
 3150 Elmwood Ave. 14217

12:00 pm “Renaissance”
 HYBRID
 ZOOM ID: 857-6674 3532
 Passcode: 690828
 2005 Sheridan Dr., Tonawanda, NY
 14223

6:00 pm “Living Sober Group”
 Kenmore Methodist Church
 110 Westgate Rd. 14217

6:30 pm “Easy Does It”
 Parkside Lutheran Church
 2 Wallace Ave. , Buffalo 14214

7:00 pm “Grateful”
 Church of the Nativity 1530 Colvin Blvd.
 14150

8:00 pm “Any Age”

St. Andrew’s Church 1525 Sheridan Dr.
 14217

Thursday

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting

ZOOM ID: 321 960 646

Passcode: 080713

2:00 pm “Daily Reprieve”

Faith United Presbyterian Church 3150

Elmwood Ave. 14217

5:30 pm “Life Ahead”

Deerhurst Presbyterian Church 257

Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

8:00 pm “Kenmore”

Deerhurst Presbyterian Church 257

Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

Friday

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting

ZOOM ID: 321 960 646

Passcode: 080713

10:00 am “Acceptance & Welcome”

Church of the Nativity

1530 Colvin Blvd. 14150

12:00 pm “Renaissance”

HYBRID

ZOOM ID: 857-6674 3532

Passcode: 690828

2005 Sheridan Dr., Tonawanda, NY

14223

4:00 pm “Keep it Coming”

Faith United Presbyterian Church

3150 Elmwood Ave. 14217

7:00 pm New Destiny

Virtual Meeting

Meeting ID 860 3794 9220

Passcode 6BBS7C

Saturday

7:30 am “How It Works” (Men’s)

Deerhurst Presbyterian Church

257 Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223

7:30 am “Men Who Trudge” (Men’s)

Virtual Meeting

ZOOM ID: 321 960 646

Passcode: 080713

10:00 am “Easy Does It”

Parkside Lutheran Church 2 Wallace

Ave. 14214

6:00 pm “Surrender & Hope”

Deerhurst Presbyterian Church 257

Deerhurst Park Blvd. 14223



A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Thought for Today

"I have learned silence from the talkative; tolerance from the intolerant and kindness from the unkind. I should not be ungrateful to those teachers." --Kahlil Gibran (by way of Stephen T)

TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS

Tradition Nine (pgs 172-173)

“A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

WHEN Tradition Nine was first written, it

said that “Alcoholics Anonymous needs the least possible organization.” In years since then, we have changed our minds about that. Today, we are able to say with assurance that Alcoholics Anonymous—A.A. as a whole—should never be organized at all. Then, in seeming contradiction, we proceed to create special service boards and committees which in themselves are organized. How, then, can we have an unorganized movement which can and does create a service organization for itself? Scanning this puzzler, people say, “What do they mean, no organization?”

Well, let’s see. Did anyone ever hear of a nation, a church, a political party, even a benevolent association that had no membership rules? Did anyone ever hear of a society which couldn’t somehow discipline its members and enforce obedience to necessary rules and regulations? Doesn’t nearly every society on earth give authority to some of its members to impose obedience upon the rest and to punish or expel offenders? Therefore, every nation, in fact every form of society, has to be a government administered by human beings. Power to direct or govern is the essence of organization everywhere.

Yet Alcoholics Anonymous is an exception. It does not conform to this pattern. Neither its General Service Conference, its Foundation Board*, nor the humblest group committee can issue a single directive to an A.A. member and make it stick, let alone mete out any punishment. We’ve tried it lots of times, but utter failure is always the result. Groups have tried to expel members,

but the banished have come back to sit in the meeting place, saying, “This is life for us; you can’t keep us out.” Committees have instructed many an A.A. to stop working on a chronic backslider, only to be told: “How I do my Twelfth Step work is my business. Who are you to judge?” This doesn’t mean an A.A. won’t take advice or suggestions from more experienced members, but he surely won’t take orders. Who is more unpopular than the oldtime A.A., full of wisdom, who moves to another area and tries to tell the group there how to run its business? He and all like him who “view with alarm for the good of A.A.” meet the most stubborn resistance or, worse still, laughter.

* In 1954, the name of the Alcoholic Foundation, Inc., was changed to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc., and the Foundation office is now the General Service Office.