

# GSR News

## Coffee Hour Recap

### September 2023

*I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,  
I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.*



### Area 50 Panel 74 Elections

By the time you are reading this newsletter, the elections on September 16th will most likely already have taken place. We will have elected candidates for many of the officers and committee chairs but there may still be some positions that have not been filled. Please attend the November 4th General Service Assembly and listen for announcements to see which positions may still be open. Even if you are not comfortable running for one of the Area 50 positions, please remember that the districts are electing new



District Committee Members and many of them will need new officers such as secretary, treasurer and service committee chairs. Many of these committees will also need members to help carry out the service in our Area to reach the alcoholic who still suffers.

In this edition of the newsletter, a few of the Area Committee members share their experience with general service to give an idea of what we can offer as trusted servants, but also what we gain by serving.

*~Contributed by Amy H.*

### Next Coffee Hour:

October 2, 7 pm

819 8956 5200

Password: service

### Resources:

- [Area50WNY.org](http://Area50WNY.org)
- [AA.org](http://AA.org)
- [Service Manual](#)
- [Buffalo Intergroup](http://BuffaloIntergroup.org)
- [BuffaloAAny.org](http://BuffaloAAny.org)
- [Gen-Wyoming](#)
- [genesee-wyomingcountyaa.org](http://genesee-wyomingcountyaa.org)
- [Niagara Falls Intergroup](http://NiagaraFallsIntergroup.com)
- [niagarafallsnyaa.meetings.com](http://niagarafallsnyaa.meetings.com)

### Serving the Districts

For GSRs just getting familiar with the AA Service structure, service in the District is an excellent starting point. At the District level, the GSR attends a monthly district meeting with the other GSRs from the 18 – 25 groups close to the GSR's home group. In addition, most of the District's offer GSR's or actually any AA member from a group within the District, the opportunity to participate in outreach activities to schools, places of worship, treatment or correction facilities, hospitals and professional workplaces.

Because our districts in Area 50 are generally smaller in size, much of the work that has to be done is within walking distance or easily accessible by public transportation. Working in

pairs, GSRs can effectively carry the message to all those who don't know that AA exists – alcoholics and non-alcoholics alike.

Most of the active districts in Area 50 encourage the GSRs, as part of their commitment, to serve as the District's representative on the Area's Corresponding Service Committees – Accessibility, Archives, CPC, Corrections, Finance, Grapevine, PIC, Treatment and Website. In this way, the GSRs not only learn about service at the Area Level but also inform their District of the ideas and activities of the Service Committees at the Area level and the other districts in Area 50. The District is a great training ground for service at the Area level.

*~Contributed by Sue B.,  
District 4 Committee Member*

***“The District is a great training ground for service at the Area level.”***

### Next General Assembly:

**Saturday November 4th,**

**10 am– 2 pm**

**UU Church of Amherst**

**6320 Main St., 14221**

## General Service Changed Me

As with so many things in AA, my life changed when God made me able and willing, to first stand for Area Service in 2015. My first service sponsor told me that in discussing General Service, its not what “I did” that is important – it is how God has made it possible for General Service to change me, that is important.

Participating in General Service has taught me vision, flexibility, tolerance and prudence. It has taught me the absolute necessity of balancing what has worked, with new ideas that might be better (not allowing good to be the enemy of great)! It has taught me the importance of showing up, speaking up when necessary, and quietly yielding when appropriate. It has solidified for me that God can and will remove my resentments, fear, selfishness, self-seeking and dishonesty. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the change that God, through General Service, has made in my life.

**“My hope is that this is an attractive enough set of promises that might encourage you to continue your own General Service willingness”**

My hope is that this is an attractive enough set of promises that might encourage you to continue your own General Service willingness. Thank you to the GSR Education Committee for all of your service work, particularly around the election. If you have any remaining questions, please feel free to contact me. AA and Area 50 need you! Thank you, thank you.

~Contributed by Denise M.

[P72delegate@area50wny.org](mailto:P72delegate@area50wny.org)

## Upcoming Topics:

- Area Committees—What are they and how can you or your group get involved?
- What are the goals of our Area moving into Panel 74?
- Anything any GSR is interested in learning more about!

**CONTACT ME:** Amy H. GSR Education Chair

**P72GSREducation@Area50WNY.org**

## Worth it! Telling others about A.A.

I am grateful to AA for giving my life meaning again, when before my purpose in life was how, when, and where I was going to get my next drink. It was suggested to me in early sobriety that I should give back to others what was freely given to me. Service in AA does just that and has been largely responsible for the maintenance of my sobriety. I was and still am so grateful to be sober that I seek to tell others about this program. Thus, my interest in public information.

I've been privileged to serve as Area 50's Public Information Chairperson for the past two years. Our PI Committee meets virtually every second Wednesday of each month and consists of 4-6 active members. During this time, our members have been manning AA literature tables at various colleges and health fairs in the area. We are currently reaching out to high schools and elementary schools to place AA literature in their health and guidance offices and continue to distribute literature to other agencies as well. As our PI activities will be expanding, we will require more manpower to accomplish our goals. In this regard, we have been soliciting support from home groups to assist in these efforts.

The PI Committee has engaged in digital outreach on the internet for several months this past spring. There was positive feedback as a result of this form

of outreach. Unfortunately, these efforts were halted due to recent NYS advertising regulations regarding addiction. However, I believe this venture could be revisited in the future.

A continuing effort is the airing of AA public service announcements (PSAs) on local radio stations. To date, there are about 6 stations that either read a live AA script or utilize one of the audio PSA (public service announcement) recordings posted in the aa.org's Media Library.

Another effort our committee has been engaged in is having “bus tails” posted on the rear of NFTA buses in the Buffalo area. This campaign has been running daily since September 5<sup>th</sup> and will run through December 25<sup>th</sup>. Other outreach modalities we have used are public service announcements in newspapers, on billboards, and in Buffalo's metro rail system.

In closing, if our efforts result in even one person getting sober, then everything we are doing is worth it.

~Contributed by Ann J., Public Information Chair

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And for that:

**I Am Responsible.**

