DOWNEAST INTERGROUP NEWS

Volume VII Issue 1 January 2012

The Downeast InterGroup Committee is a group of AA members coming together in the spirit of fellowship to help carry the AA message by publishing a newsletter, sponsoring AA-oriented social events, and distributing AA literature. We support communication and participation between AA members, groups, and districts. www.downeastintergroup.org

From Our Last Meeting

A spring fling is in the works for the second weekend in March. Join the planning committee by contacting Betsy at functions@downeastintergroup.com

Newcomer packages are coming. Hand-picked AA pamphlets and a meeting list to provide an introduction to AA. A sample will be available for each group; after, cost is 80 cents.

Be part of the intergroup quilt! Any group that wants to contribute a square should contact functions@downeast-intergroup.com. The finished quilt will be passed from group to group on a monthly basis.

District 3 is sponsoring a GSR traditions workshop on Jan. 7 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 pm. At the Congo church on Church St. in Brewer. "This has been in the works for month," said Joe M.

If your meeting information is wrong in the November 2011 list, contact DownEast InterGroup.

Hotline 207-479-1179

Next Meeting: Monday, January 16, 6:30 p.m.
Congregational Church, Ellsworth Falls. Buy literature before the meeting–contribute your ideas–hear intergroup news
February 2012 newsletter cutoff is 1/25/12.

Meeting Spotlight

Northern Bay Big Book
Thursday, 7 p.m., Methodist Church, Route 176, Penobscot

Pete K. passed on the idea of highlighting a different meeting each month. I've heard that no good deed goes unpunished—or is that the squeaky wheel gets the grease? Anyway, Pete & Genie have been opening this meeting forever. The format is a brief qualification followed by a BB chapter read 'round the table and a discussion. Genie nearly always brings something to eat outside of the usual coffee & treats. If she doesn't, then Pete does. A "newcomer package" is offered consisting of a Big Book, a white chip and a cool meeting list created by Pete with maps and GPS coordinates for every meeting. No chip club here, though the anniversary parties rock. Pete (30) and Genie (29) celebrated on December 22, along with the group's GSR Hamilton (2). Lobster chowder was served along with a pot luck. *If you'd like to see your group in the spotlight, send information to editor@downeastintergroup.com.*

InterGroup Treasurer's Report 12/19/2011

BEGINNING BALANCE AS OF 11/30/2011 **$591.31**

CONTRIBUTIONS/DEPOSITS	Current	YTD
All Welcome Group		$0.00
Anonymous Contribution		$0.00
Bangor/Brewer Friendly Group		$147.00
Big Book Meeting - Your Place		$50.00
Blue Hill Friday Night Group		$25.00
Brooklin Bridge to Recovery		$0.00
Bucksport Unity Group		$81.00
Bucksport B.Y.O.B.		$45.00
But For The Grace of God Group		$10.00
Came to Believe Group (District 3)		$0.00
Castine Shipshape Group	***$50.00**	$100.00
Dance - Spring Fling (income at the door $197.50, 7th tradition $54.17)		$251.67
District # 8		$0.00
District # 16		$150.00
District # 21	**$21.00**	$231.00
District # 25		$0.00
Ellsworth Group		$0.00
Frenchman's Bay Group		$50.00
Fresh Start Group		$0.00
Island Serenity Group		$50.00
*Literature Sales Deposit		$984.40
Orland Riverside AA Group		$50.00
Quoddy Head Light Group		$0.00
Serenity by the Bay Group		$100.00
Stark Raving Sober		$105.00
Stonington/Deer Isle Group	**$109.18**	$244.18
Sullivan Harbor Group		$0.00
Tuesday Noontimers		$100.00
Winter Harbor		$100.00
Seventh Tradition		$74.00
*From last month, not included in this month's total		
Total Contributions/Deposits For Month	**$130.18**	**$2,948.25**

OPERATING EXPENSES	Current	YTD
Check Order		$16.55
Stapler Purchase		$0.00
*Literature Expenses		$1,120.55
Literature Fund Contribution		$0.00
Meeting Lists Printing Charges		$315.95
Newsletter + Mailing Expenses		$317.15
US Cellular - Hotline ADJ-DOUBLE DEDUCT LAST STATEMENT	**-$51.90**	$466.65
DEIG EVENTS		$200.00
Rent for Church Space OCT,NOV,DEC	**$30.00**	$100.00
Total Operating Expenses For Month	**-$21.90**	**$2,536.85**

Beginning Balance & Contributions/Deposits for month $721.49

Operating Expenses for Month **-$21.90**

Actual Ending Account Balance: **$743.39**

Account Bal less prudent reserve $140.00 less Lit reserve $368.79

LITERATURE ACCOUNT	Current	YTD
Beginning Balance	**$234.60**	
Contribution from General Fund		
*Literature Sales (donation from the BH Group)		$1,141.40
*Literature Expenses		$1,120.55
Ending Balance	**$234.60**	$20.85

Heard by Joe M: An alcoholic is a drunk who drives into a tree, and blames the tree for being there

District 16 News

We had a good district meeting, good attendance. It was good to have a group to show up for elections. The district service are as follows: DCM Linda B., Alt. DCMs Drew S. and Michael S., Treasurer Tami Mc., Secretary Jessica M. Corrections and literature, Greg M.

We would like to thank all who stood for positions. Also a big thank you to Greg M., outgoing DMC, and everyone else who had a district position. Well done. Now groups need to kick our GSRs in the butt, and attend your district meeting.

As you read this, the Off The Wall Group will have had its gratitude tree lighting night, with a pot luck. It always has been a great meeting.

Anniversaries for the month were Nan, Sam and Tami. Jan. 30 in Brooks will have 30 years for Hilton H.

Calendar

Jan. 8: Maine Area Committee Meeting (MACM), Standing Committee ,9 a.m.; MACM 10 a.m. Waterville Grand Hotel, 375 Main St.

Feb. 5: MACM, same schedule, Waterville

Feb. 26: Pre-conference forum, same as above, Waterville

Mar. 2-4: NERAASA, Albany, NY. Bus trip with stop in East Dorset, Vermont, leaves Mar. 1. See Spencer for info.

Mar. 30-Apr. 1: Spring Assembly in Bucksport. More info available after Jan. 8.

Anniversaries

Jan. 7 Sat. Blue Hill	David K. 30 years
Stonington	Doug H. 13 years
Jan. 10 Tues. Castine	Henry E. 18 years
Jan. 11 Wed. Bucksport	Steve L. 13 years
	Chris S., 1year
	Drew T.1 year
Jan. 14 Sat. Stonington	Bill B. 34 years
potluck at 6 p.m.	Susan H. 29 years
	Jessica N. 7 years
	possibly Carl 5 years
Jan. 21 Sat. Blue Hill	Ed M. 1 year
Jan. 25 Thurs. Brooklin	Kathy B. 16 years
Potluck at 6 p.m.	

Meeting List Update

Castine Ship Shape has moved: Tues. 7 p.m. Unitarian Church, Town Common, Court St. Park along Common or on Court Street

How Does It Work

AA is a fellowship designed and administered by a bunch of ex-drunks whose only qualifications for membership is that they can't hold their liquor and don't want to learn how. It has no laws, no dues or fees or anything else that any sensible organization seems to require. At meetings the speaker starts on one subject and winds up talking about something entirely different and concludes by saying he doesn't know anything except that it works. The groups are always broke, yet always seem to have enough money. The groups are always losing members but always seem to grow. They claim AA is a selfish program, but always seem to be doing something for others. Every group passes guidelines, rules, edicts and pronouncements which everyone blithely ignores; and has members who walk out in a huff when they disagree with anything, quitting forever, only to return the next day as though nothing happened and are greeted accordingly. In AA things are rarely planned more than 24 hours ahead, yet great projects are born and survive magnificently. How can it survive? We may not know much about how it works, but we know it does.

(By Anonymous, contributed by Hamilton C.)

From the Editor

Happy New Year to everyone. With a new year comes a new editor. If you would like to add to the InterGroup Newsletter, let me know. I'd love to include news from all the districts. Anne B.

Heard by Joe M.: *A cheeseburger walks into a bar and orders a beer. "Sorry," says the bartender. "We don't serve food."*

Contact Information

Please send articles, events, corrections, anniversaries, and other group or district news to Newsletter Editor, 11 Schoolhouse Lane, Castine, ME 04421 or e-mail editor@downeastintergroup.org . You can also write to Intergroup Secretary, PO Box 333, Bucksport, ME 04416. Please mail contributions to support this intergroup to Intergroup Treasurer, PO Box 1633, Ellsworth, ME 04605. We ask for your name and AA job title from all who contribute any items printed in this newsletter. Events listed are for your information, and are not necessarily sponsored or endorsed by AA or this intergroup.