



The Communicator

FEBRUARY | 2019

Green Bay Area 74 District 01
newsletter@greenbayaa.org
www.greenbayaa.org
HOTLINE - 920-432-2600

"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible." 30th Anniversary Alcoholics Anonymous International Convention-Toronto, Canada (July 1965)

MANY POWERS GREATER THAN ME

"Although she's unsure, she just keeps praying. Something seems to be working"

Step two: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

When I came into AA, I was a nonbeliever, or so I thought. I struggled all my life with the concept of God. I believe in the existence of God so I know I'm not an atheist. I know from my own experiences that the existence of God is knowable so I'm not agnostic either. I'm not sure what I am ... and I'm not sure it really matters. But I knew I needed a Higher Power to work the Steps and stay sober.

I tried using the group as my Higher Power, but I found that I couldn't pray to my group. My sponsor wanted me to take certain actions, whether I believed in them or not, and one of those actions was praying. So I got on my knees every morning and asked something to help me stay sober and I thanked that something every night.

I learned over time, with the help of my sponsor, that I wasn't really a nonbeliever. I was just very angry with God because my daddy died when I was a little girl. I chose to stop believing in God because things just happened, there was no one to blame and no reasons to search for. It was easier not to believe.

My sponsor pointed out that I couldn't be angry at something that didn't exist. That was a light bulb moment and it opened my eyes and my mind to be willing to believe.

With some time and personal experience, that anger began to fade. As I stayed sober and life got better, I began to believe that that "something" I prayed to was God. I felt God much more in my head than in my heart.

It was suggested that I try to seek God in order to develop the sort of personal relationship I wanted with God and had heard other AA members talking about. I worked hard trying to do that. I looked for him in nature. I looked for him in those small coincidences, and I went to church for the first three years of my sobriety.

The God they talked about in church was different from the God I heard about in meetings. Church ended up provoking more questions than it provided answers. I had the belief, but very little, or no, faith. I still didn't know if God heard or answered my prayers. I didn't know what God did or didn't do. I didn't know what his part was and what part was mine. But I did know that God brought me to AA. I knew he wanted me to stay here and that he gave me the strength I needed to stay.

Even though I'm not sure he hears or answers my prayers, I keep praying. I keep taking the actions. I talk to him all day. I ask him for help. I bring him my fears and concerns and I ask him to give me strength. I even share my doubts with him. Just taking the actions without faith calms my fears, provides relief and brings some peace.

I know God loves me even though I may never be able to feel that in my heart. My lack of faith has kept me up at night wondering if what I do have is good enough to keep me sober. I learned I don't have to have all the answers, but I have found a way that works for me.

To me, depending on a Higher Power just means I have a source outside of myself that I can go to, depend on and trust more than I trust myself. I need to acknowledge that I can't do this alone, that I need help to stay sober and to make my life manageable. So, I pray to God.

I have a sponsor who I can see, hear and trust. I have friends to help me through the rough times and to share the good times. I need all of them to stay sober and they are all powers greater than me. I have five years of sobriety now so I know it works. And I believe it will continue to work one day at a time, as long as I know that I am not God and that I can't do this deal alone.

~Judy E. Orland Park, Illinois

Stories reprinted with permission AA Grapevine: The Int'l. Journal Alcoholics Anonymous
www.aagrapevine.org

Unity

* Indicates an online detailed flyer or registration form at www.greenbayaa.org

OPEN SPEAKER MEETING (weekly)

WEDNESDAYS 8:00 P.M.

The 218 Club
218 S Oneida Street
Green Bay, WI 54303

DISTRICT 01 MEETING (monthly)

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
6:30 p.m.

All Alcoholics Anonymous members are Welcome
Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office
1270 Main Street #102
Green Bay, WI 54301

CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD MEETINGS (monthly)

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
6:30 p.m.

(CENTRAL OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)
Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office
1270 Main Street #102
Green Bay, WI 54301
For details: 920-432-2600

WOMEN'S RECOVERY WORKSHOP* SELF-ACCEPTANCE AND SELF-ESTEEM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2019

12:00 to 4:00 PM
The Bridge
2514 Jenny Lane
Green Bay, 54311

AN EVENING OF 'GOD TALK' WITH FATHER BILL

FEBRUARY 26, 2019

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Group Discussion

Strengthening Spirituality

Donations accepted to the 4th & 5th step retreat

Questions &/ Reservations -> Email or Call

5thstepretreat@gmail.com

Therese H. 920-336-3023 Judy G. 920-737-2330

Val E. 920-680-7730 or Tim S 920-360-3869

St Norbert Center for Spirituality

1016 N Broadway

De Pere, WI 54115

TH AND 5TH STEP SPRING RETREAT*

MARCH 8-10, 2019

Friday night to Sunday noon

\$150 - includes 2 nights/5 meals

Registration deadline is... Feb 22, 2019

Questions? Call 920-737-2330

St Norbert Center for Spirituality

1016 N Broadway, De Pere, WI 54115

ST PATRICK'S DAY DANCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2019

9 PM to Midnight

DJ Dancing 50/50 Raffle

Water and coffee provided, please bring a snack to pass

\$4.00 Donation at the door

The 218 Club

218 S Oneida St

Green Bay, WI 54303

THE 12 TRADITIONS SKIT & WORKSHOP

MARCH 16, 2019

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

District 09 is putting on a Traditions Skit. Then a panel on 12 Traditions along with a question and answer period. This is on how the 12 Traditions keep the group healthy.

Sloppy Joes provided. Please bring dish to pass.

Sponsor grab your Sponsees for this workshop and get them into service.

First American Lutheran Church

511 Madison St.

Oconto, WI 54153

Dan L. 715-851-1970 or Paul Y. 920-590-0406

THE BRIDGE SPRING BBO FELLOWSHIP DINNER

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

Fellowship: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Open Speaker Meeting to Follow

Bring a dish to pass

Donations are appreciated

The Bridge

2514 Jenny Lane

Green Bay, WI 54311

ANNUAL MOOSE AND GOOSE* CORRECTIONS LITERATURE FUND RAISER

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2019

5:00 PM Set up & social time

6:00 PM Dinner (Bring a dish to pass)

7:30 PM Speakers

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

349 N Main Street

Seymour, WI 54165

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE

MAY 17-19, 2019

Hosted by District 02

Save the Date - See District 02 Website for more information

Liberty Hall and Conference Center

800 Eisenhower Dr.

Kimberly, WI 54136

Service

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE HELP NEEDED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED HOSPITALITY, REGISTRATION,
GREETERS, AND SO MUCH MORE.

Consider donating food items, beverages, or paper and plastic supplies.

This can be done individually or from your group. A cash donation is also a good idea. Watch for a sign-up sheet to appear at your group's meeting shortly.

CONTACT: MISSY P. PIETERSM30@GMAIL.COM

GREEN BAY AREA CENTRAL OFFICE

It is time for our AA community members to help save the Green Bay Area Central Office (GBACO) from closing.

The GBACO is suffering from the lack of individual and group volunteers who aid in its daily operations.

We are also suffering from a decline in financial support.

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

January 10, 2019

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

DCM Report: Matt B. passed out a flyer stating that The Now & Then, Area74's newsletter, will be starting electronic distribution with the February 2019 issue. Please get the information out to all the groups and members in your Districts and help us to collect email addresses of your GSR's and/or other group members who want to receive the digital version of the newsletter. Email to area74newsletter@gmail.com. GSRs should also send the Area 74 Registrar their email address to have the database updated. Please include the group number and group name to: registrar@area74.org

Asst. Secretary, Marty S. The December 2018 minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.

Accessibilities, Joe H. A flyer was passed out -- "Accessibility Volunteers Needed!" Volunteers needed to bring the AA message to the homebound, hospitalized or other members who would like a meeting but can't get to one. To volunteer or for more information contact: Joe H. accessibility@greenbayaa.org

Archives, Bill D. There will be an "Old Timer" Panel held at the 218 Club on March 9TH from 1-4:00 PM. **(Old Timer Panel has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict)**

Bridging the Gap, Marian K. Bridging the Gap continues to run smoothly. (Notes received via email)

Cooperation with the Professional Community, Vacancy-No report available.

Corrections - Men, Adam B. One new person has signed up for meetings in the jail.

Corrections - Women, Theresa D. No report available.

District Events Co-Chairs, Tamra D. and Lloyd Z. They are considering a 50/50 raffle for an event and would like to get feedback from the groups thinking that gambling may be a trigger for some in our Fellowship.

Grapevine, Vacancy-No report available.

Newsletter, Ronald M. Nothing to report.

Public Information Chair, Pat. T.C. She needs to order pamphlets. Asking for help to collate and distribute them.

Webmaster, Debbie P. & Sam J. No report available.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the January 2019 Meeting
Starting Balance \$5,873.19

Deposits		Expenses		Ending Balance December 31, 2018	\$6,049.77
Pulaski Monday Night	51.30	Total Expenses:	\$0.00	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
DigiCopy (reimb)	125.28			Total Funds Available	\$4,749.77
Total Deposits:	\$176.58				
Subtotal:	\$6,049.77				

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the December 2018 Treasurer's Report.

Old Business:

Contributions to GSO and recruiting GSRs from Inactive groups. Every two years the General Service Office sends us a list of registered groups with the amount of donations sent to the GSO. Matt B. read through the list of registered groups asking which were active or inactive. Groups are requested to register with the GSO and have a current GSR representative. Further discussion will be on next month's agenda.

A Meeting Guide App from General Service Office is available to our district with no subscription fee. Appleton has subscribed and can access local meetings by phone. More discussion next month.

New Business:

The question was asked if the District can accept designated donations to the Accessibility budget.

The Accessibility chair has a budget of \$600 for use in our District. Receiving designated donations to the District would be a confusing precedent. A motion was made and seconded that: Donations given to District 01 be put in the general fund and distributed through our budget process to the committees of our District.

GSR Reports:

- Promise Seekers, Tom D. He is the new GSR. Meetings are going well.
- Road to Recovery, Gwen J. Meetings are going well.
- Never on Sunday, Bruce K. They are having a White Elephant sale on Sunday.
- Serenity Now, Tammie F. The meetings are going strong and well attended.
- Flintville Early Risers, Sean S. The Flintville group is going strong. attendance is consistent. Just a reminder that the group is putting on a panel discussion on Saturday, January 12th from 9:30 - 12:30. there will be donuts, refreshments, and pizza. The 4 person panel will be discussing their experiences as to how they Came, Came to, and Came to Believe. There will be time for questions or discussion after each speaker.
- Sisters in Sobriety, Sue C. Meetings are going well.
- Early Birds, Kathy B. The meeting on Sunday will include a business meeting.
- Letting Go, Donna Y. Nothing new to report.
- Women in the Present, Renae S.
 - Treasurer confirmed the percentages to distribute 2018 funds:
 - o 30% - Area; 30% - District; 30% - Central Office; 10% - GSO
 - Discussed support for the new meeting at Libertas Treatment Center on Wednesdays at 6pm
 - o Suggest 3-4 women from WITP to attend and help carry the message. Currently this is being announced at each meeting to generate interest. Committing to one Wednesday of each month will be discussed further at next meeting
 - Group agreed to join Meeting App Guide if it's free so WITP can be included in local meetings list
 - Passed around a sign-up sheet for the Paintin' Pottery outing on February 23 to determine how many people will be attending

EARLY WARNING

The first time I got drunk, I was 8. It was at a Halloween party and I poured straight whisky into a tall tumbler. I couldn't drink the whole glass so I poured the excess into a potted plant. In the morning, the plant was dead. It was an ominous warning as to what would happen to me years later.

When I was 11, my dad got cancer and died two years later. I stuffed the emotions and drank and drugged through school. I got my first DUI in college and the second one the year after graduation. I had no job and no car and I was living at home with the curtains closed—drinking. That's when I called AA.

The poor guy who answered the phone got an earful of the guilt and shame I had stuffed for years. But I didn't go to my first AA meeting until a judge forced me. For two weeks I went to meetings all week, then drank on Friday. The difference between these drunks and the ones before is that I remembered what I was told at meetings and the things I had read in the Big Book.

One night, I had what was my final drink. I remember going home and doing Steps One, Two and Three at my bedside with alcohol in my system. I'd just turned 25. I was so lucky to be alive because when I drank I drove and when I drank I blacked out.

The next day I accidentally went to a women's meeting and they welcomed me with open arms anyway. After that, I never turned back. Meetings, sponsorship, service work, prayer and meditation are the foundation of my sobriety.

Having fun and keeping things fresh has made my trip in sobriety worthwhile. In the early years I'd attend all of the AA potlucks, picnics, dances and assemblies—anything to get me out rubbing elbows with other fellows like me. Later on came the career-building, job changes, marriages, divorces, houses, children and travel.

Through it all, I am happy to have lived and experienced all that life has to offer—sober. I'm going on 32 years of sobriety now. I'm in my mid 50s and enjoying my work, home life, friends and family. And yes, I'm still doing the basics of AA, keeping on keeping on in love and service. ~Joe F. Loveland, Colorado

District 01 Committee Contact Information

District 01 Chairperson	dcmdistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives	archives@greenbayaa.org
Matt B. 920-217-6864		Bill D. 920-621-1258	
Alternate District Chairperson	altDCM@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap	bridging@greenbayaa.org
Henrietta D. 920-530-3297		Marian K. 920-366-5950	
Newsletter	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info	PI@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Pat TC 920-301-3436	
Corrections Chairperson	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Adam B. 920-680-9496 (Men)		Coop with Prof. Comm.	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889 (Women)		Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Meetings List	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Tamera D. 920-321-4910	
Treasurer	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Webmasters	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Patrick H. 920-819-5284		Debbie P. 920-676-7585	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Accessibility	accessibility@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Joe H. 920-569-2053	
Hotline			
Tom M. 920-562-2689			