



The Communicator

MARCH | 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)

SMARTY PANTS

"This longtime member prefers to keep it personal. There's a time and place for analyzing our literature"

Very early in my sobriety, I went to a group I'd not attended before. I still recall a couple of members there referring to the subject under discussion. One said, "Bill says this," and another said, "Bill says that." I was impressed with this Bill's wisdom and wanted to meet him. I wondered what meetings he attended.

Fortunately, I kept quiet and only later realized they were talking about our cofounder. I was shocked. I might be wrong, but I'm thinking Bill probably would have replied to those members by saying, "Never mind what I said. That's a long time ago. What do you have to say about it right now?"

He might have followed by explaining that all his writings and all AA literature are meant to be guidelines to get members thinking and on the right track. They're not rules to be memorized word for word, and it's alright to slightly tweak them to fit our particular situation. Certainly they're not meant to be the bulk of an AA talk.

Since then, in 43 years of continuous contented sobriety, I've attended many meetings and wondered if some members are shortchanging themselves. Some who tell their stories at speaker meetings bring along all sorts of AA literature to quote from, often word for word, including "The Doctor's Opinion" and documents about the history of AA. Often, they include information about Bill and Dr. Bob's history.

This is all good stuff and important to know, but it's not of much help to newcomers or those still suffering. When speakers don't tell us much about themselves, they may not be helping us as much as they believe. They may also be engaged in an unconscious cop-out to avoid coming to terms with painful memories. They should be telling us in their own words how they feel about and how they went about coming to grips with the program. Being an authority on AA literature is not nearly as important as being an authority on ourselves. Like John, an 80-year-old member of our group (now deceased) used to say, "It's better to have the program in your heart than in your head."

Using AA literature as a guideline to look deeply into ourselves will, I believe, help us come to understand the program and ourselves, as well as the human race. We have study sessions to read and analyze the Big Book.

We have the "Twelve and Twelve" to study at Step-discussion meetings and Tradition meetings.

Often at a chairman's choice, in meetings we read from and discuss various segments of AA literature, including Grapevine. In all meetings, as I see it, the discussion topic serves to "prime the pump." It gets us to engage our brains in the task of delving into the areas of our lives that continue to cause us trouble.

For me, and probably most others, the meat of the program is in hearing, in their own words, how other members came to understand and implement the AA program in their lives. And we often learn from members who are having problems, who honestly and painfully tell us how they failed to work the program and have come back, which may help us from following that same path.

We could memorize all the AA literature and, on taking a test on the material, score 100 percent. But we might not be able to stay sober, despite our perfect test score. It's easy to memorize literature. What's not so easy is looking honestly and deeply into ourselves and then telling fellow members what it was like, what happened and what it's like now.

~Ron B. Winnipeg, Manitoba

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

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 Street
Green Bay, WI 54303

THE 12 TRADITIONS SKIT & WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, 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 Street

Oconto, WI 54153

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

CHAIRPERSON WORKSHOP

SATURDAY MARCH 30, 2019

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Come and learn more about chairing AA meetings

The 218 Club
218 S. Oneida Street
Green Bay, WI 54304

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 13, 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

ANNUAL 218 CLUB CHILI COOK-OFF

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019

Noon till 4:00 p.m.

Contest starts at 1:00 p.m. Judging at 2:00 p.m.

Sign up at the 218 Club - traveling trophy for best chili

Not cooking? Come and vote for your favorite chili

\$4.00 suggested donation

The 218 Club

218 S. Oneida Street

Green Bay, WI 54304

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE

MAY 17-19, 2019

Hosted by District 02

Liberty Hall and Conference Center

800 Eisenhower Drive

Kimberly, WI 54136

Event Details and Conference Registration:

WWW.DISTRICT02AA.ORG/11785.HTML

MEMORIAL DAY GRATITUDE MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019

(CLOSED MEETING)

10:00 a.m.

The 218 Club

218 S. Oneida St.

Green Bay, WI 54304

JULY 4TH GRATITUDE MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019

(CLOSED MEETING)

10:00 a.m.

The 218 Club

218 S. Oneida St.

Green Bay, WI 54304

Service

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE HELP NEEDED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

February 14, 2019

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

DCM Report: Greetings GSR's and Chairpersons,

My mailbox has been busy and I have much to forward to you all from our Delegate and other Area Officers. First off I will mention that one email is from Jeff C the "Now and Then" co-editor regarding correcting minutes from one of our previous meetings where I did not correctly state how the electronic version is implemented. Without going into too much detail (as he covers it quite thoroughly), I will simply state that I gave the impression that any group can receive the N&T free by requesting as much. The only instance for that is if the group members have no access to it electronically.

Moving on from there I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued service and support. Our fellowship needs trusted servants to remain intact in this ever changing world we live in.

With another year comes another conference and so I will be off to the Delegates Workshop on Saturday March 9th, to begin the cycle of service once again. I have received and will be forwarding to you the agenda items for the upcoming conference.

I am testing out a new app for group emails so please feel free to send me confirmation that you have received this.

Asst. Secretary, Theresa D. The January 2019 minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.

Accessibilities, Joe H. Absent, but report via email: Working on getting ASL interpreters for the district meetings. High demand for ASL interpreters in this area. Have to really reserve an ASL interpreter far advance. I do have a small list of volunteers for carrying the message to the hospitals, home bound and rides to meetings. Still can use more volunteers. I do know one person is homebound. All I can say is, "Can I be of service by bringing a meeting?" It's that person responsibility to contact me if they want to have a meeting brought to them.

Archives, Bill D. No report available.

Bridging the Gap, Marian K. Absent, but report via email: BTG continues to run smoothly.

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

Corrections - Men, Adam B. We need volunteers for Curry Lane, Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

Corrections - Women, Theresa D. The jail meetings are going really well. They received one new application which will be processed and hopefully accepted.

District Events Co-Chairs, Tamra D. and Lloyd Z. Absent, but report via email: Intergroup made \$451 after expenses. We had approximately 160 attend - I am curious at what the groups decided about the 50/50 raffle since it had the most raffle tickets in it - 268

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. Things are going well with the website. Sam J. has offered to take on the webmaster duties as he has been helping with the maintenance of the site for the past few months. We will finalize the transition at a future district meeting.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the February 2019 Meeting

Starting Balance \$ 6,049.47

Deposits		Expenses		Ending Balance January 31, 2019	\$6,617.32
Never on Sunday	175.00	Total Expenses:	\$0.00	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
Early Birds	119.50			Total Funds Available	\$5,317.32
Letting Go	15.00				
Saturday Eye Opener	108.35				
Misc. Donations	150.00				
Total Deposits:	\$567.85				
Subtotal:	\$6,049.77				

Dale E. raised a question as to why the treasury balance in the account was so high. It was explained that being the first of the year, the allocated budgets for each Chair position have not yet been utilized. Also, throughout the year the District expends funds for many events.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the January 2019 Treasurer's Report.

Old Business:

Contributions to GSO and recruiting GSRs from Inactive groups. Discussion was had as to how to approach groups that are registered and not shown as making donations to the GSO. This topic was tabled until next month’s meeting. The “Old-Timer’s Panel” has not yet been rescheduled.

New Business:

Lengthy discussion held regarding holding 50/50 raffles at District sponsored AA events. Concern was expressed for those individuals who also may have a gambling addiction feeling uncomfortable in attending such an event where these raffles are held. Renae S. (Women in the Present) said that their group did not feel the need to eliminate the raffle. Kathy B. (Early Birds) indicated that she was approached by individuals not going to intergroup because of the 50/50 raffle. Bruce K’s personal opinion is that it should be left alone. Sean S. (Flintville) mentioned that we should be looking at cross-addictions. This item will be tabled until the Feb. meeting so that GSR’s have more time to approach their groups on this topic. Theresa D. will send an email to all GSR’s reminding them to bring this to their meetings.

Patrick is in the process of finding out more about District/Chairperson I.D. numbers.

GSR Reports:

- Road to Recovery, Dale He is their new GSR. Attendance has been lagging.
- Never on Sunday, Bruce K. The meeting is still large and growing.
- Serenity Now, Mark P. He is the Alt-GSR for the group. The meetings are going good and well attended.
- Flintville Early Risers, Sean S. Meetings are going well -- quite large.
- Sisters in Sobriety, Sue C. Meetings are going well.
- Early Birds, Kathy B. They will be making their quarterly distribution soon. The meetings are going well.
- Letting Go, Donna Y. Attendance has been slight.
- Eye Opener/St. Matt’s, William W. The meetings are doing well.
- Women in the Present, Renae S. - Women’s Outing at Paintin’ Pottery has been scheduled for February 23rd. 25 people have signed up so far and \$74 has been collected for scholarships for those who cannot attend due to financial constraints
 - Group voted not to eliminate 50/50 raffle as a fundraiser at future Intergroups
 - Service/sponsor topics will be included quarterly
 - Will discuss getting commitment from women to attend the Libertas meeting at next month’s business meeting
- Promise Seekers, Tom D. Meetings are going well. The Big Book was used at their last meeting.

HEAD-SPINNING PROGRAM

AA is not easy. It takes a lot of work. And it can be very confusing...

We have to surrender to win. We have to give it away in order to keep it. They tell us to hang on, but let go! It’s an anonymous program, but we state our name before we share. We shouldn’t judge others, but stick with the winners. Get a sponsor and find a Higher Power, but no new relationships in your first year! We stop drinking because we have to change or die, but then they tell us “no major changes” in our first year. Half measures avail us nothing, but we’ll be amazed before we’re halfway through.

And then we have the numbers...

The 12 & 12... 90 in 90... the first three Steps... the five things... do a Fourth or drink a fifth... one day at a time... the first 164... the Four Horsemen... the seven deadly sins... and 449 has now become 417!

And you know when this all makes sense? After a few 24s!

~Tom K. South Salem, New York

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			