



The Communicator

APRIL | 2014

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)

NEW MEMBERS CONCLUDE ALCOHOL IS THE PROBLEM: LIQUOR WAS BUT A SYMPTOM

Resentment is the "number one" offender. It destroys more alcoholics than anything else. From it stem all forms of spiritual disease, for we have been not only mentally and physically ill, we have been spiritually sick (Alcoholics Anonymous, p 64). It is plain that a life which includes deep resentment leads only to futility and unhappiness. To the precise extent that we permit these, do we squander the hours that might have been worthwhile. But with the alcoholic, whose hope is the maintenance and growth of a spiritual experience, this business of resentment is infinitely grave. We found that it is fatal (Alcoholics Anonymous, p 66). There is hope.

When the spiritual malady is overcome, we straighten out mentally and physically. In dealing with resentments, we set them on paper. We listed people, institutions or principles with whom we were angry. We asked ourselves why we were angry. In most cases it was found that our self-esteem, our pocketbooks, our ambitions, our personal relationships (including sex) were hurt or threatened. So we were sore. We were "burned up." (Alcoholics Anonymous, p 64-65). Throughout the recovery experience, but especially now, sponsorship is vital.

Alcoholics Anonymous began with sponsorship. When Bill W., only a few months sober, was stricken with a powerful urge to drink, this thought came to him: "You need another alcoholic to talk to. You need another alcoholic just as much as he needs you!" He found Dr. Bob, who had been trying desperately and unsuccessfully to stop drinking, and out of their common need A.A. was born. The word "sponsor" was not used then; the Twelve Steps had not been written; but Bill carried the message to Dr. Bob, who in turn safeguarded his own sobriety by sponsoring countless other alcoholics. Through sharing, both of our co-founders discovered, their own sober lives could be enriched beyond measure (Questions & Answers on Sponsorship brochure, p 7).

What does A.A. mean by sponsorship? In A.A., sponsor and sponsored meet as equals, just as Bill and Dr. Bob did. Essentially, the process of sponsorship is this: An alcoholic who has made some progress in the recovery program shares that experience on a continuous, individual basis with another alcoholic who is attempting to attain or maintain sobriety through A.A. When we first begin to attend A.A. meetings, we may feel confused and sick and apprehensive. Although people at meetings respond to our questions willingly, that alone isn't enough. Many other questions occur to us between meetings; we find that we need constant, close support as we begin learning how to "live sober." So we select an A.A. member with whom we can feel comfortable, someone with whom we can talk freely and confidentially, and we ask that person to be our sponsor (Questions & Answers on Sponsorship brochure, p 7).

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www.aa.org/bigbookonline & http://aa.org/pdf/products/p-15_Q&AonSpon.pdf

"Made a Searching and Fearless Moral Inventory of Ourselves"

TRADITION FOUR

"Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."

With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

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www.aa.org/bigbookonline/en_appendice1.cfm

"My name is Johnny and I don't have a problem with alcohol I have a problem with Johnny."

~Heard at a Meeting. www.aagrapevine.org

Recovery

“Gold Is Where You Find It- He realized that every meeting had a message worth hearing”

As I approach the end of my fifth year of sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous, I find that I probably need to revisit my attitude and my approach to AA Meetings. Attending meetings on a regular basis is critical to my continuing recovery and I cannot afford to take these meetings casually or become comfortable with my level of knowledge. After all, it was my sense of “self” and ego that conveniently masked my fears and laid the cornerstone for my alcoholism.

First and foremost, I have to remind myself that these meetings aren't held for my personal benefit alone and I am not the director. I already know what happens when I do things my way—I have a lifetime of research in that area. Everyone is at the meeting for essentially the same reason and every person who is sharing will inevitably bring a helpful thought or idea for me provided I'm willing to listen and be receptive. I also have to learn to leave “John the Critic” and “John the Cynic” at home—they have been my lifelong companions but they really have no place in my new life ... besides, they never approved of AA anyway.

On numerous occasions, I have caught myself tuning out people whom I have heard before and whose story I think I can repeat verbatim. Once again my self-involved ego steps in and I forget that the speaker may need to share, no matter the topic, in order to maintain his or her path within the program. How ironic that, in my tavern days, I would sit and listen for hours on end to the same tales of woe and the same old stale jokes from the same people in the same seats every single night—talk about misplaced loyalties! I was a captive audience. Alcohol was king.

Now I have the opportunity to be at a meeting with people who share a genuine fellowship, based on hope and honesty, without the presence of alcohol to set the stage. I am with people who will gladly share their experiences—real ones—without me humoring them or “sending over a drink.”

I have to constantly remind myself how lucky I am to have found the rooms of AA and be thankful to God that he has positioned these speakers in my life so that they can share their messages with me. If a message is repeated, I have to remind myself that there is a higher power at work and that everything happens for a reason. I easily could have missed something. Sitting and listening to others, no matter how repetitive the message may seem, is an incredibly small price to pay for the priceless gifts that I have received. As a responsible member of AA, I also have to know and understand that one of the many ways to “give it away” is to be there for others and to listen as they share.

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings will generally have a wide variety of people. The attendees range in age, occupation, faith, and ethnicity. There are no social classes and there is no hierarchy. Every person in attendance at an AA Meeting is important.

I think that Tim, one of the veteran members of our group, said it best: “This isn't a union—time means nothing here. I'm here for the same reason as the next guy. I don't want to drink.”

The meeting is the “beating heart” of AA. As Dave, another deeply dedicated member often says at our Big Book meetings, “this is where the miracle happens.” That miracle cannot continue to happen for me unless I constantly remind myself to listen and hear when every person shares; somewhere in the words is a message for me if I am willing to look for it. After all, gold is where you find it.

—John C., Holbrook, N.Y.

Reprinted from AA Grapevine with permission (aagrapevine.org)

Unity

OPEN AA SPEAKER MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 7 PM
Janssen Center Building
1617 West Pine Street, Appleton WI
(Behind Xavier High School)

OPEN AA SPEAKER MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 8 PM
Peace United Methodist
2300 Wisconsin Avenue, Kaukauna
WI

OPEN AA SPEAKER MEETING

(Dave H.)
APRIL 23, 2014 7:00 PM
Alano Club
2218 13th St, Menominee MI

OPEN AA SPEAKER MEETING

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 8 PM
Ascension Lutheran Church, 3 miles
west of Navarino
Corner of Hwy 156 & McDonald Rd

ANNUAL CLINTONVILLE INTERGROUP*

SATURDAY APRIL 26TH, 2014
Place: Christus Lutheran Church
120 North Main Street Clintonville, WI
Registration at 5:00 PM / Dinner at 6:00 PM
Alanon and A.A. speakers to follow Sandwiches and
beverages will be provided.
Please bring a dish to pass

4TH & 5TH STEP SPRING RETREAT*

APRIL 25-27, 2014
ST NORBERT CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY
\$140 – includes 2 nights/5 meals
(Snacks and beverages provided throughout retreat)
Registration Deposit Deadline: April 11, 2014
(limited scholarships available)
*6 months sobriety/active recovery suggested
Send \$40 deposit to - Step Retreats
PO Box 574, Green Bay WI 54305
Contact: Therese
(920) 336-3023 or (920) 639-0360

ANNUAL MOOSE & GOOSE CORRECTIONS LITERATURE FUND

RAISER*

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014
Ascension Lutheran Church
Exit Hwy 47 at Rt 156 go West of Navarino 3 miles
5:00 PM Social Time
6:00 PM Dinner (Bring a dish to pass)
7:30 PM Speakers

DISTRICT 09 SPRING WORKSHOP*

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2011 10AM TO 2 PM
First Presbyterian Church
300 Block, South Main Street Shawano, WI
Corner of Main and Presbyterian Street
Topic: The Home Group “Key to Continuing
Sobriety”

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE*

“Trudging the Road of Happy Destiny”
MAY 16-18, 2014
Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort
Registration/Banquet: \$42 - Registration Only: \$17
Ice Cream Social (w/live music): \$5
Checks Payable: “2014 Spring Conference”
PO Box 42, Appleton, WI 54912
Contact: Jen F. (920) 850-2549 dcm@district02aa.org

Unity(cont.)

BACK TO BASICS SEMINAR*

Take all 12 Steps in four 2-hour sessions
 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH
 6:00 – 8:00 pm
 HOUSE OF TAWET - HEALING GROUNDS
 601 North Broadway, Green Bay, WI.
 Seminar fee: \$20 includes - Back to Basics by Wally P.
 and bottomless cup of coffee.
 Or \$7 and use the seminar's book and bottomless cup.

GOPHER STATE ROUND UP*

MAY 23-25, 2014
 DoubleTree Hotel
 Highway 100 & 494
 Bloomington, MN

19TH ANNUAL AA WISCONSIN/UP MICHIGAN

CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE*

JUNE 7, 2014
 1st Presbyterian Church
 1225 4th St. Fond Du Lac, WI
 Contact: Nancy Gusner (608) 843-2265
 nancyt43@charter.net

MEN IN RECOVERY RETREAT*

(Sponsored by Greenville Men's Group)
 JUNE 6-8, 2014
 Jesuit Retreat House
 4800 Fahrwald Road, Oshkosh, WI. 54902
 www.mensretreat2014.com

6TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST WISCONSIN TRI-STATE ROUND UP*

JUNE 13-15, 2014
 Round Up Registration: \$15 After June 1st \$20
 Saturday Dinner at 5:30 pm (\$25-Meal Price)
 NEW Tri-State Round Up
 Registration, Payment, Information
 PO Box 22533
 Green Bay, WI 54305
 (920) 492-1269
 Lodging Information: Radisson Hotel and Conference Center
 2040 Airport Drive
 Green Bay, WI 54313

14TH ANNUAL MIDWEST MOTORCYCLE AA CONVENTION

Hosted by the Freedom, Faith, and Fellowship AA Group
 JUNE 20-22, 2014
 Pearl City, IL 61062
 WWW.MMAAC.ORG

Service

Green Bay Area Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office

Central Office Volunteers Needed:
 Mon-Fri: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm or 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Terry H. at 920-432-2600

Volunteer Responsibilities Include:
 Process the purchase of literature, mugs, and stickers
 Answer phone including AA Hotline - Refer hotline calls to trained volunteers

2014 Area 74 Spring Conference

Kimberly S. 920-592-9337
 Volunteers needed for conference planning committee

Bridging the Gap*

1270 Main Street #102
 Green Bay, WI 54302
 bridging@greenbayaa.org
 www.greenbayaa.org/service.html
 Introduce newly released inmates to AA
 Volunteers with minimum one-year sobriety & sponsor

Donate

GREEN BAY AREA AA CENTRAL OFFICE

PO Box 1791 Green Bay, WI
 54305
 (920) 432-2600
 www.aagreenbay.com

AA DISTRICT 01 TREASURER

PO Box 632 Green Bay, WI 54305

AA AREA 74 TREASURER

P.O. Box 84 Paradise, MI 49768
 www.area74.org

AA GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE (GSO)

Grand Central Station
 P.O. Box 459 New York, NY 10163
 (212) 870-3400
 www.aa.org

Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report

Prepared for the March 13, 2014 GSR Meeting
 Starting Balance as of 03/13/2014 \$2,496.67
 Expenses
 Carolyn D. Intergroup Poster 10.54
 Mary S. Bridging the Gap 18.60
 Color Master-Newsletters 255.00
 The Bridge-rent 15.00
 City of Green Bay-Bus ads 42.00
 City of Green Bay-Bus ads 42.00
 Total Expenses- \$383.14 \$383.14
 Deposits:
 Jan 9, 2014 7th Tradition 10.00
 Feb 13, 2014 7th Tradition 18.00
 Woman in Recovery Workshop 74.50
 Pulaski Mon Night 62.00
 Never on Sunday 100.00
 218 138.65
 Sisters in Sobriety 18.00
 Total Deposits \$421.15 \$421.15
 Ending Balance March 13, 2014 \$2,534.67
 (\$1,300.00 for prudent reserve) -\$1,300.00
 Total Funds Available to spend \$1,234.67

District 01 Committee Contact Information

District 01 Chairperson Tom Y. 920-471-3502	dcmDistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives Bruce K.	archives@greenbayaa.org
Alternate District Chairperson Gary K. 920-362-0206	altDCM@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap Mary S. 920-217-3550	Bridging@greenbayaa.org
Newsletter Keely J. 920-412-1217 Ronald M. 920-593-2915	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info Paul K. 920-676-2901 Marian K. 920-366-5950	PI@greenbayaa.org
Corrections Chairperson Ron O. 920-321-1072	Corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine CJ D. 920-819-3796	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Meeting List Changes Ronald M. 920-593-2915	MeetingList@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm. (CPC) Jennifer A. 920-265-9053	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Treasurer Pat H. 920-362-1241	Treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Events Jason P. 920-412-3733	events@greenbayaa.org
Secretary Marty S. 920-465-1401	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Josiah P. 920-264-2107 Webmaster Jack S. 414-477-3843	webmaster@greenbayaa.org

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

March 13, 2014

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Dear Friends;

It is now March and hopefully we are coming to the end of a very cold winter. We are now coming into a very busy period for our groups. First all groups that have changed leadership must have the group change form into the Area 74 Registrar by the beginning of April. GSO will be updating the North American directories in early May and if your group information is incorrect, it will be incorrect in the new directories for years to come. Secondly the Delegate's Workshop will be held March 29, 2014 with the Area Assembly being held the next day. These events will be held in Three Lakes, Wisconsin and are open to all AA members. The purpose of the Delegate's Workshop is to give our Area 74 Delegate an informed group conscience on the background materials for the General Service Conference held in New York in April. All background materials have been uploaded to the www.greenbayaa.org website under the events tab. Please try and attend this event or if you are unable please give feedback to your GSR or DCM. Remember this is your organization and we are but trusted servants here to serve the needs of the groups.

In loving service, Tom Y. DCM

Secretary: The minutes of the February 11th meeting were reviewed by all present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the February 11th meeting minutes. Passed. Thank you for the emailed and written reports I have received to include in the minutes.~Marty S.

Newsletter: I will accept newsletter suggestions online, in writing, or verbal. Someone suggested that the font size of the newsletter is too small. I have attempted to accommodate, but I realize there is a cost approved by this committee for the newsletter which also dictates number of pages. Events within the newsletter (Unity Section) have a small asterisk near the event title if there is an online flyer or online registration form that can be downloaded from the website (www.greenbayaa.org).~Ronald M.

Grapevine: Nothing new to report. ~CJ D.

Webmaster: Website Request for funds to support our website for the next 3 years and webmaster report .

ReadyHosting OnePlan Windows Hosting 3 yrs	\$250.20
Organization registration/renewal-5 year	\$54.95
Domain Privacy-5 yr	\$49.95
Total Rebates:	-\$83.17
	\$271.93

I have already paid	-\$13.00
Total needed	\$284.93

	\$284.93
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That is less than \$100.00 per year.

I would like to request permission to pay the website for the next three years. By doing this we will save a great deal of money. Our budget for this year is \$250.00. But we will not have to budget any money for the next few years. This month has been a busy one for me. On or about March 18, 2014 our website went down. I contacted our web host ReadyHosting to find out what the problem was. They told me that they had updated their server and that our site would be up in 48 hours. After that time our site was still down so I contacted them again. I spent a great deal of time on the phone but was very successful. The lady that helped me let me stay on the phone until she got our site running again. Our site was back on board at about 2:51 pm March 20, 2014. During my conversations with ReadyHosting I found out that we should have a security system installed to prevent virus problems with our site. It will cost us \$48 a year for this. I will look into it further and if I think it is necessary I will pay for the first year of the security system out of my personal funds. After that we can decide as a District if this is something that we should continue. If there is anyone in the program that knows more about this kind of problem, I would love for some advice.~Jack S.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: Absent. Report given by Paul K.

I delivered meeting lists and pamphlets to Libertas Treatment Center, St. John's Homeless Shelter and the Brown County South West Branch Library. Report submitted by Paul K.: ~Jennifer A.

District Events: Currently we are working on a dance in Spring at Calvary Lutheran Church on May 10th. The suggested donation would be \$5 and approximately 80 attending would cover expenses. None would be turned away at the door so this assumes that all 80 would donate \$5. What does the District think? A discussion followed; May not get enough people to cover costs; The expectations are high, would be a substantial risk; Jason P. said, "We are trying to build our recovery community. I don't feel a lot of that. Many leave the meeting and go home. Our youth are not encouraged to get together socially. There isn't a venue to focus on our youth." A motion was made that District 01 host a dance at Calvary Lutheran Church on May 10, 2014, that \$350 be made available to cover its approximate cost. No second was made. No vote occurred.

Public Information: I have received the AA literature and will pass it out.~Paul K.

Bridging the Gap: Lots of inmates requests and lots of help from healthy AA members. Thanks for your service. Where does the District get its printing done? I need to print some forms. ~Mary S.

Archives: Nothing new to report. ~Bruce K.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed (see page 3). ~Pat H.

Corrections: I would like to know the names of volunteers when they go into jails, Huber, or Green Bay Correctional Institution, so I can get an overview of what is what with corrections in our District. You can call and leave a message with my answering machine. My telephone number is 920-321-1072. If there is any problem that I should know about in the institutions, please call. I really want to get a handle on all of the corrections work. If you want to go into the Green Bay Correctional Institution, you need to call Records at 920-432-3372 and say you want to volunteer for AA. They will send you all the forms and information. Don't forget you need at least two years sobriety to attend these meetings. Does your group have a correctional literature donation can? Have a group conscience. We need to help keep literature in the jails and correctional institutions in our District. The Moose and Goose Correctional Literature Fund Raiser will be Friday, May 2, 2014 at Ascension Lutheran Church, Navarino, WI. This event is not Area 74 sponsored. The literature goes to correction facilities in our area. ~Ron O.

Old Business

- District 01 Bylaws. I (Bruce K.) went through the Bylaws (2009) and made the necessary changes to reflect the District 01's current procedures. They are given out at this meeting and can also be reviewed on our District website. <http://www.greenbayaa.org/service.html> GSRs are asked to review them with their groups. Any changes should be given to Bruce K. before our next District 01 meeting on April 10th.
- Tom Y. reminded our District of the upcoming Delegate's Workshop, March 29th, and the Area Assembly March 30th, in Three Lakes, Wisconsin. He encouraged our Districts GSRs to attend and vote. He said that few of our GSRs attend.
- District 01 Game Day, "Beat The Winter Blues" was a quiet success. There was good Fellowship with family and friends. The money left after expenses went to The Bridge.
- The New Group and GSR Change Forms are on the table for pick up. When filled out please return them to Tom Y. DCM at the next District meeting April 10th, at the Bridge.

New Business

- A motion was made and seconded to increase the budget for the Webmaster from \$250 to \$284.93. Passed.
- Presented by Kimberly S., 2015 Area 74 Spring Conference Chair. Area 74 will host the 2015 Area 74 Spring Conference, May 15-17, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, 2040 Airport Drive, Green Bay, WI. Please save this date to attend. Our goal is to have someone from every District attend. Kimberly distributed a flyer with the Conference information.