



The Communicator

JANUARY | 2018

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)

Following Jack

Amazing things can happen when you start asking your sponsor a bunch of questions about service?

My sponsor Jack was very active in service and he helped me get into treatment and corrections work. One day when I had about three years sober, I became curious about what he did each second Sunday of the month, so asked him about it. He told me that he went to something called the area assembly.

From Jack's description, it sounded to me as if the assembly was experiencing some controversy. He said that there was some of that. "I don't like controversy," I said, knowing that I had a history of getting angry when other people disagreed with my views. He replied that maybe general service was not for me.

Shortly thereafter, my home group had its business meeting. The group needed an alternate general service representative (GSR). When a request for a volunteer was made, no one responded. All of a sudden, I felt as if all the eyes in the room were on me. I looked at Jack. He looked at me. I raised my hand and volunteered for the job. I really had no idea what I was getting myself into.

I went to several area assemblies as the replacement for our GSR, who soon moved from our area. Next thing I knew, I was the GSR. That was 1990, and I've been involved in general service ever since.

Soon, the time came for me to report to my home group's business meeting what had taken place at our area assembly. When my turn came to report, I went blank. Finally I said, "I don't remember." Nobody took me to task. They just told me to take notes next time.

The trips to and from our area assemblies were really something. Jack and I had wonderful "meetings before the meeting" and "meetings after the meeting," riding in his jeep.

During my second year as GSR, I went to our district meeting and was surprised when I was nominated to stand as a DCM. I volunteered because I heard at meetings that I ought never say no to an opportunity to help in AA. Of course, I also knew it would please Jack.

During my term as DCM, our area redistricted and I became the first DCM elected from our newly redistricted city. Later, in my second year as DCM, the proposal to produce the fourth edition of the Big Book came up. We had quite a discussion at the assembly that year.

I worked very hard at building up our district. At the end of my term, there was a GSR in every group in our district. My sponsor Jack had a way of putting things that always seemed to make things interesting. I learned so much from him. He helped me learn how to recruit other GSRs.

When I rotated out as DCM, I decided to stand for area office, but I lost both elections. As the next term approached, I put my name in for area treatment chair. That job I got. I spent two years in that position and learned a great deal about treatment work. I got a real appreciation for the many ways that AA saves people's lives.

At some point, I began to leave it up to my Higher Power what service I would do in the area. Over time, I ended up serving as registrar and then area chair, alternate delegate and then delegate. The memory of the day I was chosen delegate remains etched in my mind. Words can't describe how challenging my two years as delegate were. It was indeed quite a ride in general service.

I can't express enough thanks to my sponsor Jack and all the people who helped me learn to do service. And I'm so grateful that I "caught the bug" of general service.

Jack always wanted me to show my gratitude. I continue to do that by being of service when I can as a past delegate of our area. Jack has passed on now and I will always remember the example he set for me. I try to be an elder statesman in AA if I can. I know Jack is looking down on me and smiling. His favorite topic at an AA meeting was "service as gratitude in action." I try to live that. Paul W. Rochester, New York

GREEN BAY CENTRAL OFFICE

The Central Office is getting a new look! We would like to thank all of our fellow AA members who donated their time, skills and materials including new flooring and paint. We will be open by the first week in January. We would love to have you stop by!

The formal open house will be March 17, 2018. More details to follow.

Thanks again for all who were involved.

Happy New Year

DISTRICT 01 - INTERGROUP CELEBRATION*

JANUARY 20, 2018

FELLOWSHIP 4:30 P.M.

DINNER 5:30 P.M.

SPEAKERS 6:30 P.M.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

210 SOUTH ONEIDA ST

GREEN BAY, WI 54303

AN EVENING OF "GOD TALK" WITH FATHER BILL*

PRESENTATION & GROUP DISCUSSION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018

5:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

ADMISSION IS FREE: DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR

4TH & 5TH STEP RETREAT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SAINT NORBERT CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY (MIRIAM ROOM)

1016 NORTH BROADWAY

DE PERE, WI 54115

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY EMAILING 5THSTEPRETREAT@GMAIL.COM

QUESTIONS AND RESERVATION CAN ALSO BE COMPLETED BY CALLING:

THERESE H. 920-336-3023; JUDY G. 920-737-2330

VAL E. 920-680-7730; OR TIM S. 920-360-3869*

6TH ANNUAL WOMAN'S RECOVERY WORKSHOP

"The Ins and Outs of Sponsorship"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Refreshments Provided

Panel Discussions, Speakers, Handouts, and Comradery

The Bridge

2514 Jenny Lane

Green Bay, WI 54303

Tamera R 920-222-1415

Laurie M 920-336-7698

13TH ANNUAL SPRING FLING

SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2018

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

2901 13th Street

Menominee, MI 49858

Downstairs Fellowship Hall

Parking Front and Back - Elev in back

5:00 Fellowship

6:00 Pot luck (Main Entrée provided)

7:00 AA & Al-Anon Speakers

Prizes and Food and Fun and Friends

4TH AND 5TH STEP RETREAT*

MAY 11-13, 2018

Friday night to Sunday noon

Cost \$150 - includes 2 nights lodging and 5 meals

Snacks and beverages provided throughout retreat

St Norbert Center for Spirituality

1016 North Broadway

De Pere, WI 54115

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE*

MAY 18-20, 2018

Friday Night - Skit/Speaker

Saturday - Panels/Banquet/Speaker

Sunday - Area 74 Meeting/Speaker

Radisson Hotel & Conference Center

2040 Airport Drive

Green Bay, WI 54313

To register for this event online:

Area 74 2018 Spring Conference Online Registration

www.greenbayaa.org/events.html

AREA 74 FALL CONFERENCE*

SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2018

Plaza Hotel & Suites

201 North 17th Ave

Wausau, WI 54401

For more information: District 08 Website

www.aawausauwi.org

"Heard It Through The Grapevine"

The AA Grapevine is the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous which includes stories written by AA members.

A subscription includes twelve issues yearly for \$28.97.

You can order online: aagrapevine.org or by calling 1-800-631-6025.

The Grapevine catalog has many items that make great gifts for a Sponsor or Sponsee. There are books, CDs, calendars, co-founder's memorial issues, Serenity Prayer and the Grapevine is AA's monthly magazine also known as our

"Meeting in Print."

All available through the contacts above.

Mary B – District 01 Grapevine Chair, rosivr49@new.rr.com

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

December 14, 2017

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

DCM Report: I am grateful to have served you as the District 01 DCM for the last 8 months. It was a pleasure working with such a great group of AA's. We accomplished some things. Got new people stepping up when others had to step out. A lot of great events were held. The coming year with the Spring Conference and other events will be great. Thanks for making my role as DCM an easy one. Yours in service, Bruce K. DCM District 01 *Thank you, Bruce, for your service!!!*

Secretary, The November 2017 minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed. ~Theresa D.

Accessibilities Chair, Joe H.

- An accessibility need is anything that hinders an alcoholic from receiving the message of AA.
- Explores ways to make sure the AA message is available to anyone who is reaching for it but may have obstacles.
- Informs the groups within the district of the different issues alcoholics with accessibility needs may face when attempting to attend meetings.
- Maintains an Accessibility Committee display for use at District events.
- Attends Area Assembly and Area Committee meetings. Cooperates with the Area 74 Special Needs chair.

Archives, Bill D. He will be setting up the Archives display at Intergroup in January. He will be contacting Area 74 to see if they want to participate in the Spring Conference in May.

Bridging the Gap, Marion K. My committee now consists of 3 men and 5 women which I think will be an efficient group. I am keeping in touch with Adam, the corrections chairperson, as my materials from GSO tell me BTG is part of corrections.

Cooperation with the Professional Community, Amy G. Nothing new to report.

District Events Co-Chair, Tamra D.

- Kinks in the online Registration seems to be worked out and will be live shortly
- All Chair positions are filled. Chairpersons are reminded of their responsibilities of finding their own volunteers and setting up separate meetings as needed – A task sheet was distributed to them
- Jill handed out 45 posters at the assembly
- Rooms we have in our contract have been assigned and registration area has been established. Publicity chair is working on a color coded map of the premises to put in the registration packet, and is also contacting Grapevine and 459 to distribute conference info. We are also looking into possibly creating a magnet with the conference logo on it depending on budget
- A preliminary program has been written up
- A professional comedian friend of Linda S has been booked for the entertainment on Saturday night – Dan Diebert. They will start practicing for the skit after the holidays. Also planning movie and game night on Friday night in hospitality suite. Would like to add some sort of music venue to Friday night after the skit but our budget is at zero for this..possibly look within in the program for volunteers to do this
- A GSR Panel is planned during the Area committee meeting on Sunday morning
- Paul's Pantry is donating water and coffee
- Will have a table at the intergroup with registration forms and sign-up sheets

Grapevine, Mary. B. I plan to set up the Grapevine display at the Green Bay Intergroup on January 20th. I will have a Grapevine Subscription ready to raffle at the event. I'm still waiting to receive my latest order of Grapevine materials from the Grapevine Office.

Men's Corrections, Adam B. He has recruited four new men to assist with the jail meetings. The next safety training session will be December 18th from 5:30 - 8:30 at the Curry Lane jail.

Webmaster, Debbie P. There is a need to have a co-Chair for this position. She suggested that Sam be re-instated as co-Chair. He will need to be present at the next meeting to be voted in.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the December 2017 Meeting

Starting Balance as of 11/1//2017 \$5,659.86

Deposits		Expenses			
Pulaksi Monday Night	49.00	Debbie P., Webmaster	12.95	Ending Balance November 30, 2017	5,923.50
Central Office	113.00	DigiCopy (Newsletter)	238.88	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
(picnic proceeds)		Total Expenses	\$251.83	Total Funds Available	\$4,623.50
Serenity Now	250.00				
The 218 Club	103.47				
Total Deposits:	515.47				
Subtotal:	\$6,175.33				

A motion was made and seconded to accept the November 2017 Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Old Business: Chair positions still open include Women's Corrections and Public Information.

New Business: Alternate DCM: Jill V. is no longer able to act at alt-DCM. Henrietta D. was nominated for this position, she accepted, and was elected as our new alt-DCM by the group. Thank you, Henrietta!! Lloyd Z. agreed to another term as District Events Co-Chair. All were in agreement. Thank you, Lloyd!! Volunteers are still needed to man the hot-line at the Central Office.

GSR Reports:

- Early Birds, James R. James announced that he will no longer be the group's GSR and hopefully a new one will be selected at their elections next month.
- Flintville Early Risers, Matt B. Meetings going well. Took collections for Gratitude Month.
- Letting Go, Pat T.C. The group is doing well. Collections were made and donated for Gratitude Month.
- Never on Sunday, Bruce K. Bruce announced that he will be the group's new GSR. The group is in the process of having elections.
- Promise Seekers, Tim D. Everything is going great. Group elections were held.
- Serenity Now, Theresa D. Everything is going very well.
- Sisters in Sobriety, Sue C. Well attended, going great.
- Walk with Us, Henrietta D. The meetings are well attended and doing fine. The Group collected donations of \$44.95 to "November Gratitude Month" to help the Central Office.
- Women in the Present, Jill V. Renae S. has been elected as the new GSR. During elections, all other positions were filled with the exception of an alt-GSR.

A Tough Pull

I am twelve years sober and thirty-one years old, so most of my adult life has been spent in recovery. Over the years, life has had its ups and downs but drinking has not yet been an option and with God's help, one day at a time, it never will. Two years ago I was a reservist flying medical air evacuation missions from Bosnia to Germany. On my return to the States, I decided to end my nomadic lifestyle. Little did I realize how dramatic--and traumatic--that would be.

I began dating and fell madly in love. I got a good job and felt my life was really on track, that I was being rewarded for a life well lived. I had forgotten the old saying that "everything we have is on loan from God." The first argument I had with my girlfriend was our last. Two weeks later I was involved in a head-on car accident. Because of that, I lost my flight wings. Three weeks later, just before Christmas, I was downsized and lost my job. I spent the next four months unemployed and unemployable, receiving no wages or benefits.

Through all this I went to meetings and shared, trudging along on a path through the woods I called my trail of tears. I would go walking, cry, and ask God to take away the physical and emotional pain. I barely kept the house from foreclosure and when I was just getting back on my feet, almost a year to the day of the accident, my barn burned down. I wasn't insured and lost almost everything. Six months later a brush fire sparked the garage and I lost the rest.

It has been difficult for me to accept myself and some of my decisions. I always want to be a perfect superhuman. But I've done the best I can with the information available, even if it might not be someone else's best.

Since all this began, several friends in AA have gone back out to do research. Several will never return. I've had to realize all over again that my past sobriety is not a ticket to future sobriety. I have to pay that fare and make the decision to recover daily. I don't want the living hell I had when I was drinking.

Recovery gives me hope for brighter days. I'd like to tell you that everything I've lost has been returned tenfold but I cannot. My loved one is still gone, my body still hurts, I'm still grounded, my possessions are still ashes, and my pockets are still empty, but I am also still sober. I know today who and what I am and what is important. It is easy to tell everyone how great recovery is when things are going your way; I guess my job is to tell you how great recovery is when it is a tough pull. Had it not been for a solid sponsor and friends in AA being a keel for me when I was adrift in despair, I don't know where I would be now. I know that the sun can't shine every day but if I can stand the rain, I'll see the sun again, if I stay sober. ~Scott R. Bennettville, Minnesota

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

www.aagrapevine.org

District 01 Committee Contact Information

District 01 Chairperson	dcmdistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives	archives@greenbayaa.org
Bruce K. 920-495-7250		Bill D. 920-621-1258	
Alternate District Chairperson	altdcm@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap	bridging@greenbayaa.org
Jennifer A. 920-265-9053		Marian K. 920-366-5950	
Newsletter	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info	PI@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Paul K. 920-676-2901	
Corrections Chairperson	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Adam B. 920-680-9496 (Men)		Mary B. 920-771-0124	
Meeting List Changes	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm.	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Amy G. 920-857-6162	
Treasurer	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Patrick H. 920-819-5284		Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Tamera D. 920-321-4910	
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Webmasters	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Hotline		Debbie P. 920-676-7585	
Tom M. 920-562-2689		Accessibility	
		Joe H. 920-569-2053	