



The Communicator

MARCH | 2017

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)

"Lives We Change"

In a small-town church, a man arrives to thank his daughter's home group for the love they gave her

In March of 2013, I was sitting in our local church meeting room, waiting for our small-town, Friday night open-discussion meeting to begin, as I have for many years.

After the usual Serenity Prayer and Preamble had been read, an elderly man walked into our meeting dressed as if he had just stepped out of the 1940s. He sat down at the table, which held about 12 people.

After the readings were finished, the chairperson introduced herself and as the basket was passed, we each introduced ourselves. When we got to the elderly man, he looked up and spoke for several minutes. "My name is Hershel," he said. "I came here to thank Alcoholics Anonymous for saving my stepdaughter 22 years ago from a horrible life as an alcoholic. Her name is Linda L. She is on her deathbed from cancer right now. I just wanted to thank you all for the years she learned how to stay sober and how much this means to her mother and me."

The chairperson, who has over 20 years of sobriety, said she remembered Linda. I remembered her too, along with some of her early struggles in sobriety.

The chairperson explained to Hershel that there is a format that AA follows and if he wanted to speak with us after the meeting, we would be glad to listen.

Hershel had hearing aids in both ears and told us he was 87. It was apparent that he did not hear what the chairperson had just said. So I took Hershel by the hand and walked him into the next room, which was the church's kitchen.

I listened to him for a while. He told me about the turmoil and sadness Linda's drinking had caused the family all those years before she found AA. I reached over to hold his hand, since he was now tearing up as he explained how sad he felt that Linda was only 53 years old and the doctors told them she only had a few more days before she would pass on.

I handed Hershel a box of tissues and continued to listen. He shared all of the wonderful times that Linda had with us during those 22 years of her sobriety. He told me he was sure that God had answered their prayers when Linda found AA and that he really thought he should take the time to thank our home group.

I asked him for Linda's address, which he gladly gave me, also giving me his business card. I hugged him. Hershel hung onto me as if he was afraid to let go. I asked him if he would like to say the "Our Father" with me. I explained that is how we closed our AA meetings. Hershel's face brightened as he replied, "Oh, yes, will you please?"

Hershel and I joined hands and bowed our heads. I began to pray and he immediately joined in. I felt such a strong feeling of the power of AA during this moment. I felt so grateful that my Higher Power, whom I call God, allowed me to be Hershel's AA contact that night. This experience reminded me of many years ago when I first got sober in Cincinnati, Ohio, and how all the old-timers would drag us newcomers to in-home Twelfth Step calls, since there weren't as many treatment centers back then.

After a while, I walked Hershel to the door and told him goodbye. When the meeting was over, the chairperson thanked me for handling the situation. I told her that I needed to thank God for this amazing opportunity.

The next day I sent a card to Linda L. I signed it "Hillsboro AA" and I also sent Hershel a card to thank him for letting us know about Linda and how much AA had touched their family.

The cards were mailed on March 3. On March 17, I received a card back from from Hershel. This is what it said:

"AA, I had to send you this message to tell you how nice it was of you to send Linda a card. She died Thursday, March 14 at 5:30 in the evening at her home. Let the good Lord take a liking to you. My sincere thanks, Hershel."

This is the core of AA. I want the hand of AA always to be there. -- Beth S. Hillsboro, Ohio

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

NEW OPEN AA MEETING-THE 3RD TRADITION GROUP

THURSDAY EVENINGS 6:00 P.M.
Green Bay West Goodwill Store
Community Room in back of store
1660 West Mason St
Green Bay, WI 54303

DISTRICT 10 AA WORKSHOP*

SPRING BACK TO BASICS

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017
9:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Potluck luncheon - Main dish provided
First United Methodist Church
724 Arbutus St
Rhineland, WI 54501

PRE-DELEGATE WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017
10:00 - 4:40 p.m.
Will Break for Lunch
Genesis Club
1213 Appleton St
Appleton, WI 54911

HOW TO CHAIR A MEETING WORKSHOP

CHAIRPERSON PANEL

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2017
6:30 p.m.
218 Club
218 South Oneida St
Green Bay, WI 54303

AREA 74 DELEGATE'S WORKSHOP &

AREA COMMITTEE MEETING*

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2017
9:00 - 1:00 p.m. Workshop
Area Committee Meeting to follow
Reiter Center
1858 South Michigan St
Three Lakes, WI 54562

ST PATRICK'S DAY DANCE*

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2017
9:00 - Midnite
DJ - Door Prizes
\$4.00 Donation at door
Bring a snack to pass
218 Club
218 South Oneida St
Green Bay, WI 54303

EATIN' MEETIN' INTERGROUP*

MARCH 18, 2017
5:00 p.m. - Doors Open
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Speakers at 7:00 p.m.
Please bring a dish to pass
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
140 South Green Bay Rd
Neenah, WI 54956

CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP-18TH ANNIVERSARY*

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017
Speaker & Potluck Dinner
Potluck starts at 6:00 p.m.
Speakers at 7:00 p.m.
Please bring a dish to pass-Main dish provided
St. Stephen's Church
512 McClellan St
Wausau, WI 54403

MOOSE AND GOOSE*

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

Speaker Potluck Dinner
5:00 p.m. - Social + Set Up
6:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:30 p.m. - Speakers
Please bring a dish to pass!!
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
349 North Main St
Seymour, WI 54165

4TH AND 5TH STEP SPRING RETREAT*

MAY 12-14, 2017
(AA and AI-Anon)
Friday night to Sunday noon
Cost: \$140 - includes 2 nights/5 meals
(Snacks and beverages provided throughout retreat)
St Norbert Center for Spirituality
1016 N Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE*

MAY 19-21, 2017
Friday night to Sunday noon
Panels, Speakers, Fellowship, Hospitality, Literature
Saturday night banquet - DJ/Dance
Ice Cream Social
Alger Park and Recreation
413 Maple St
Munising, MI 49862

GREEN BAY AREA CENTRAL OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CONTACT FOR DETAILS
920-432-2600

Typical Shifts: Mon-Fri: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm; 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm, and Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: 1270 Main St. #102 Green Bay, WI 54302

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

February 9, 2017

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Secretary, The January 12, 2017 minutes were reviewed by those present A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.
~Theresa D.

Bridging the Gap, Nothing to report. ~Christina M.

Corrections-Women, co-Chair. There was an evening security training for A/A Corrections volunteers on Monday Feb 13, 2017 at the Curry Lane facility. Currently there are five women approved to go and four women with applications turned in awaiting background checks. Our goal before the end of the year is to expand the women's meetings in each jail to two or more a week. Interested Women can contact Laurie M. @ 920-336-7698 or email: LaurieAnn74@aol.com for more details. ~Laurie M.

Corrections-Men, co-Chair. Nothing to report. ~Sean S.

District Events, The recent Intergroup was a huge success. It was attended by approximately 176 people and collected around \$787. The results of the sign-up sheets questioning areas of interest for events, showed positive results in the categories of having a Brewer Bus going to a game, a golf outing and paintball. Lloyd will look into the logistics of organizing a bus to a Brewer game.
~Missy F., Lloyd Z.

Grapevine, She had a booth set up at Intergroup. She is going to look into providing issues of the Grapevine in certain waiting rooms and in corrections. ~Angela P.

Newsletter, Unfortunately, we have no Communicators to distribute to the individual groups at this time. The printing company we were using changed ownership, and the new owner has dropped the ball. Ron will look into getting bids to find a new printing company for our newsletter. A motion was made and carried to this effect. ~Ronald M.

Public Information, Meeting list and other literatures are going out to different attorneys private and public, most hotels (general managers) for their employees or guest and also surrounding businesses will mostly receive just a meeting list ~Paul K.

Webmaster, Renewed the contract with Ready Hosting for 3 more years at the discounted price. Spent some time working on the website's security looking for vulnerabilities in the site and fixing any I find. Otherwise nothing new and everything is going well.
~Debbie P./Sam J.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the February 9, 2017 Meeting

Starting Balance as of 1/1/2017 \$4,574.19

Deposits

Women in the Present	203.00
Saturday Eye Opener	113.56
Sisters in Sobriety	28.28
Letting Go	19.50
Wed. Night Big Book Group	50.00
Promise Seekers	237.57
Early Birds	70.00
Flintville Early Risers	180.00
<u>Total Deposits:</u>	<u>901.91</u>

Expenses

Green Bay Metro (PI)	504.00
<u>Debbie P., Webmaster</u>	<u>237.94</u>
Total Expenses	741.94
Ending Balance January 31, 2017	\$4,734.16
<u>Prudent Reserve</u>	<u>-\$1,300.00</u>
Total Funds Available	\$3,434.16

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

Old Business: Renae S. would like an answer from the District as to if there would be interest in sponsoring an event, a seminar called Our Common Welfare Workshop. She is to get in contact with the co-Chairs for District Events to further discuss this. With regard to the AA hotline, Tom M., who is currently working with the hotline at the Central office, provided us with some fabulous news -- the phone lines now have the capability to be transferred mobility. There is also a monthly calendar that has been completed that shows quite clearly who is taking the phones and when. This calendar should clear up a lot of past issues dealing with this. The list of hotline participants, both at the Tier 1 and Tier 2 levels needs to be updated, and this is a priority.

General Service Representatives (GSRs)

It is critical to the vitality of our members that you, an alternate, or group member periodically attend monthly district meetings.

*Second Thursday Monthly, Green Bay Area Central Office
1270 Main St. #102, Green Bay, WI 54302*

Dear Grapevine: PROMISE ON THE PLAYGROUND

Yesterday, I picked my son up from school and was approached by a mother of one of his classmates. She said, "I'd like to share a conversation that your son and I had that touched my heart." When she saw no one was around, she began to tell me that one day at recess, my son Ben had scraped his knee. He sat beside her and she told him, "I don't see any blood, so just dust yourself off and try again." My son replied, "That sounds like something my mom would say." Then he proceeded to ask her if she was religious. "I suppose in my own way," she replied. Ben said, "My mom is religious. She goes to these meetings, and the people there help each other to be better people." The woman said, "I think I know what kind of meetings you're talking about." Ben said "Oh, do you go to those meetings too?" She replied, "Yes. I have been." Then Ben said, "You know, tomorrow my mom is celebrating 4 years, and I am so proud of her. My entire family is proud of her because she turned her life around."

The woman told me, "I wish I had the amount of clarity at the age of 8 that your little boy possesses. I don't even know you, and I'm proud of you too." With tears in my eyes I was able to look her in the eyes and say, "Thank you for sharing that with me." That moment was one of the Promises coming true for me. Thank you, AA. ~Mary B.

GOOD MEDICINE

Thank you, Grapevine, for saving my life. My wife is dying of cancer, and I am on duty all day and night, every day. Sometimes I get a friend or a hospice worker to sit with my wife so I can go to a meeting. I need Grapevines in order to keep me from going insane. I also use the phone.

For some strange reason I kept hesitating to subscribe to Grapevine Online. I get the print version, but I read it in a day or two and then have to wait for another month—not good enough. I need more help! Well, I finally subscribed to Grapevine Online, so now when I get "squirrely," I can read an article or two—or three—right away. It's been a lifesaver. Thank you, thank you, thank you. ~Gordon, Norfolk, Va.

HOPE BEHIND WALLS

I look forward to Grapevine every month. I make sure I pass it on to fellow alcoholics in this prison, once I'm done reading it. It's truly one of the best things I could get in this prison where negativity is forever growing. I'm truly grateful for all your support. Thank you. ~Stephen P., Frackville, Pa.

SOBER SHIPMATES

The October Grapevine was especially meaningful for me. First, the article "Quiet Love" featured a deaf member's life change. My home group sponsors an ASL signer monthly to allow one of our deaf members to attend the meeting. I've also been involved with several Native American tribes of Oregon and really appreciated the article "Native Understanding." It was an excellent message of education and recovery.

Most of all, the story "Head for Shore" took me back many years. The Navy's treatment program saved my life, and my first sober deployment was on an aircraft carrier at Oak Harbor, Wash. When our ship went to the Mediterranean, I was able to see AA in action. There were a few of us new in recovery onboard, and we banded together to help each other stay sober. At the various ports, we were able to find English-speaking AA members to help us find meetings. Wherever we went, AA was there for us. It was a very special time in my early recovery. ~Ray W., Keizer, Ore.

GRAPES AHOY!

We are very, very happy that you printed the photo of our humble Solutions Group meeting room here in Japan in the November Grapevine. We always keep stacks of back issues for members to read or take with them on deployment aboard the aircraft carrier George Washington. Your magazine continues to help save lives. Please keep up the good work. ~Tom D., Atsugi, Japan

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District 01 Committee Contact Information

District 01 Chairperson Nate K. 608-217-7315	dcmdistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives Bruce K. 920-495-7250	archives@greenbayaa.org
Alternate District Chairperson Jennifer A. 920-265-9053	altDCM@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap Christina M. 920-445-3887	bridging@greenbayaa.org
Newsletter Ronald M. 920-593-2915	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info Paul K. 920-676-2901	PI@greenbayaa.org
Corrections Chairperson Sean S. 920-468-9283 (Men) Laurie M. 920-336-7698 (Women)	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine Angela P. 818-267-6557	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Meeting List Changes Ronald M. 920-593-2915	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm. Amy G. 920-857-6162	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Treasurer Patrick H. 920-819-5284	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Events Missy F. 920-562-7296 Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	events@greenbayaa.org
Secretary Theresa D. 920-490-7889	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Webmasters Debbie P. 920-676-7585 Sam J. 920-362-4832	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Hotline Tom M. 920-562-2689			