



The Communicator

NOVEMBER | 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)

Staying Afloat

At 10 months, she thought the Bahamas would be easy breezy. But the disease had a different idea

I was sober just 10 months and here I was, literally sitting in paradise. The soft, hot sand was sifting through my feet and the beautiful Bahamian sky was beating on my face. I had just returned from a snorkeling trip. I was fascinated with the underwater world, seeing colorful fish, studying the mysterious, alluring coral. Life was good and I was sober.

We sat on the beach having a barbecue. The restaurant offered a typical barbecue menu: chicken, salad, fruit and unlimited sodas. But they also offered unlimited rum punch.

It didn't bother me that there was alcohol at this island barbecue. I had learned that I was OK to be in situations with alcohol, as long as I had my water bottle. I've learned to carry my own drink. It acts as a shield.

But my mom asked if I'd like a soda. I said, "No thanks, I don't need a soda," because I had my water bottle. Then she asked me again. She was trying to make me feel comfortable. After she asked again, I started to feel "apart" from everyone. I began to feel "different than" the other people drinking. All of a sudden, I began to feel like I had no idea how to navigate the world without alcohol. For a moment, all the fun I had learned to have these past 10 months, all of the tools that had so patiently been taught to me, had completely evaporated.

I knew had to take a break from my mother, even though she was trying to make me feel comfortable. So I went over and sat under a palm tree and grieved the loss of alcohol. All of a sudden, a woman with wild red hair and fake eyelashes walked by. I'm not sure why, but somehow seeing her made me feel safe. I approached her and asked for a hug. She hugged me and I believe that that hug kept me from drinking at that barbecue.

Later that night, I went to an AA meeting. I felt very far from my hometown, and I just wanted to be home. I was missing my friends and the familiar faces that had walked with me the past 10 months. I was struggling and needed them.

As we pulled into the parking area of the meeting, I saw a group of people standing in a circle outside. They were talking, laughing and smoking cigarettes. The scene was so familiar to me. I had experienced this time and time again, before and after meetings. I suddenly felt at home. That's because AA is my home. Even 1,000 miles away.

In the meeting I shared my struggle. I shared how I felt lost without alcohol. The other members put their arms around me. One member, who was just 29 and had two years of sobriety, brought me back to my hotel. We talked about being sober in our 20s, the good things and the hard things too. We talked about watching "Game of Thrones" on TV.

"We stood at the turning point ..." the Big Book says. I believe there are multiple turning points in every recovery. As I stood at this turning point, I remember sobbing at the absence of the drink that had stopped working. I remember knowing that it was time to say goodbye. Saying goodbye can be painful, but in order to stay sober and keep growing, I'd have to say it. And when I did, it was OK.

I'm now sitting here, back at home, having recently celebrated a year of continuous sobriety—nights, weekends and vacations included! My cat is sitting next to me. She's fat and happy. I'm going back to college in two days. And I've got my freedom. I'm grateful that for me, home is wherever I am, with my fellow recovering alcoholics. -- Erica P. Concord, New Hampshire

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

~Dedicated Men Are Needed to Help in Jails~

Are you looking for a rewarding way to do service work?

Join us in bringing men's AA meetings into the Green Bay Corrections Facilities

YOU MUST BE OFF PROBATION or PAROLE - TRAINING & BACKGROUND CHECK PROVIDED

Sean S. SSMITH1205@GMAIL.COM

920-445-9594

SPEAK EASY-WAUPACA INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017
Fellowship 5:00 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Speakers following dinner
Bring a dish to pass
Faith Community Church
N2541 County Road K
Waupaca, WI 54981

HOLIDAY GRATITUDE MEETING

(CLOSED MEETING)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.
218 Club
218 South Oneida Street
Green Bay, WI 54303

APPLETON INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017
Setup 2:00 pm Doors Open 5:00 pm
Dinner 6:00 pm Speakers 7:00 pm
Bring a dish to pass
St. Pius X
500 West Marquette Street
Appleton, WI 54911

AA IN GREEN BAY 77 YEARS STRONG!*

DISTRICT 1 ANNUAL AA INTERGROUP CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018
4:30 p.m. Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Program
Redeemer Lutheran Church
210 South Oneida
Green Bay, WI 54303
The main dish will be provided - Please bring a dish to pass
Friends and Family are welcome
Volunteers needed: Please contact:
Laurie M. 920-336-7698 - Cathy R. 920-619-0971
Tamra D. 920-321-4910



“Heard It Through The Grapevine”

The Grapevine is AA's monthly magazine also known as our “Meeting in Print.”

It includes stories from AAs like you and me. Subscriptions are available online aagrapevine.org or phone 800-631-6025.

A yearly subscription is \$28.97 or two years is \$54.

Even if it saves your life only once this year, you still get eleven more issues!

The Grapevine's Wall Calendar and Pocket Planner both make great gifts for a Sponsor or Sponsee.

Available through contacts above.

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

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

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

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

October 12, 2017

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

DCM Report: I was pleased to be able to attend the Area 74 fall conference in Eau Claire last month. Our district was respectfully represented by several GSR's & Board members who took part in the voting privilege to elect new Area officers. I have a copy of those elected if anyone would like to see. I learned a great deal more on how the Area functions and I feel lucky to have participated. Some of the things I learned are as follows:

- *Despite our frustrations about the apathy we feel in our district, we are doing quite well. Most districts in MI were not present. District 03 has one GSR & a DCM period. In District 09 no one stepped up at elections, the Treasurer agreed to stay on in position. District 13 has four active members. District 21 stated that they "don't have elections, only volunteer's." I don't report this to shame other districts. I just wish to keep our frustration in perspective. My highest respect goes out to the members of those Districts who doggedly work their positions so AA can continue to serve alcoholics in those parts of the state.
- *The Area is in need of more cash flow; please ask your groups to cut them a larger check at your next disbursement.
- *The Area would like to tighten up an accurate account of registered groups. In Loving Service, Jennifer A. Alt. DCM, District 01

Secretary, The September 2017 minutes were reviewed by those present. It was noted that the Treasurer's Report should read that they were prepared for the September, 2017 meeting and not August, 2017. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed. ~Theresa D.

Archives, He will be setting up the Archives display at the 2018 Spring Conference. He plans on scheduling time with Bruce K. in order to be updated on the current status of archives and to coordinate the scheduling of the monthly conference call. He has been reading the AA guidelines online related to this position. ~ Bill D.

Corrections-Men, co-Chair. There is an ongoing need for men to conduct the jail meetings. He has a candidate for the men's co-Chair position for Corrections for the upcoming 2-year term. The person is from Menasha and not in District 01, but Sean has checked the by-laws and did not see anything that might prevent this from happening. ~Sean S.

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

District Events,

1. Checking account is set up with \$1000 seed money. We are able to utilize checks and Debit Card
2. Online registration is up and running. still a few questions to iron out about how the money is deposited into the account – updated registration forms are now available
3. A new logo was created and Posters were made and will be printed for distribution to other districts along with registration forms.
4. The Eau Claire conference passed on lots of hospitality stuff for us (cups, coffee, plastic silver ware, napkins etc.). A schedule for food donations and shifts was created and it is reported groups are eager to donate food and fill the time slots
5. A tentative schedule for panels was created. Topics to include will be: Spiritual Diversity, Anonymity and Social Media, Sexual Overhauling, Can we really have fun Sober? New comer Q&A, Making amends/forgiveness, God's Will versus My Will, Love and tolerance of myself. We are hoping to involve members of the Oneida Tribal Nation on the panels since they too are dealing with an overwhelming problem with addiction right now.
6. Skit will be repeated from 2015 conference - all people are reported to be involved and will start practicing soon
7. We still need the following Chairpersons: Entertainment, Panel Coordinator, Greeter and also the Online Registration person would like to step down, but is willing to stay on until someone comes forward and gets trained.
8. Grapevine, Literature and Archives will be combined and materials have been ordered
9. All main speakers are secured – Sara P the new delegate on Friday (Derek T will introduce), Jeff C on Saturday night (Kimberly S will introduce) and Jeff G (Judy G will introduce) on Sunday morning.

Jill V., co-Chair for the Spring Conference provided a sign-up sheet to the GSR's soliciting nominations for individuals to speak on the panel topics that have been selected. Jennifer A. said that she may have found an Alanon speaker for Saturday afternoon. Violet B. said that she would be interested in coordinating with the Oneidas to perhaps open the Conference with a prayers/blessing in accordance with their Native American customs. ~Tamera D.

Grapevine, My goal is to increase Grapevine subscriptions with individuals and in the groups of District 01, and to have a Grapevine Representative in as many groups as possible. That is part of my duties. So far, Sunday 7:30am Early Birds in Back Room at the 218 Club gets 8 subscriptions. One comes to the meeting, and 7 goes to each of the libraries in the Green Bay vicinity. Bill L. is the Grapevine Representative of that meeting. Also, Sunday 7:30am Early Birds in Front Room at the 218 Club now has a Grapevine Representative, Bill D. Their magazine subscription is pending. And, Monday 8:30am Big Book Group at the 218 Club now has a Grapevine Representative, Tim T, and has a magazine subscription on order. Tim plans to give a short report when it comes in, and pass it around for members to take turns reading then pass it on to corrections. I have one person, Bill D, on my committee so far. ~Mary B.

Newsletter, Color copies were made of the flyer, "Love and Tolerance" for the 2108 Spring Conference. The invoice will be submitted to the Treasurer on the Conference Committee, Dan G., for reimbursement. ~Ronald M.

Public Information, Nothing new to report.. ~Paul K

Webmaster, Everything is going well. Monthly Statistics for September 2017: Total Hits 137,591 ; Total Files 41,155; Total Pages 24,386 Total Visits 9,924 ; Total KBytes 27008 ~Debbie P.

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

Starting Balance as of 9/1/2017	\$5,501.83		
Deposits	Expenses	Ending Balance September 30, 2017	5,776.83
Never on Sunday 150.00	None	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
Early Birds 125.00	Total Expenses \$0	Total Funds Available	\$4,476.83
Total Deposits: 275.00			
Subtotal: \$5,776.83			

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

Old Business: Jennifer A. encouraged the GSR's to remind their groups of the upcoming "Panel Service Structure of AA" to be held this Saturday and also to announce it at meetings that do not have a GSR.

Preparations are still ongoing for the District 1 "Intergroup Celebration" to be held on Sat., Jan. 20, 2018 at Redeemer Lutheran Church. A handout was provided at September's District 01 meeting to the GSR's to circulate at their meetings seeking individuals to sign up for the various tasks involved in organizing such an event.

New Business: Joe H. was nominated for and accepted the Chair for Accessibility. Thank you, Joe! Kelly K. will provide him with the information she has in her possession.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that Jennifer A., alt-DCM, will be reimbursed by the District for 50% of the cost for her attendance at the recent conference in Eau Claire. The Flintville Early Risers Group contributed the initial 50%.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to change the month of the annual elections to the District meeting in November. Upcoming elections were discussed. The term of an elected Chair is 2 years. Matt B. is under consideration to become the new DCM. Those individuals who have indicated that they are willing to stay on for an addition term are: Patrick H. (Treasurer); Theresa D. (Secretary); Amy G (CPC); Deb P. (Webmaster); Ronald M. (Newsletter); Tamra D. (co-Chair, Events). Bill D. (Archives) and Mary B. (Grapevine) have been newly elected and will remain for the new term. Positions available include Alt-DCM, the Public Information Chair, and co-Chairs for both men and women's Corrections. The Bridging the Gap Chair was open, but interest from a potential candidate was noted.

Regarding the upcoming 2018 Spring Conference, Bill D. (Conference Hospitality Chair) provided handouts to be circulated showing time slots where hospitality volunteers are needed. Two of the eight slots have been filled.

Jill V. indicated that GSR's should take donation baskets from the Central Office for circulation in November -- "Gratitude Month." A handout from Central Office was circulated stating their projected new hours and looking for volunteers. The new hours would be: M, W, F: 10 am-5pm; T, TH: Noon to 6:30pm and Sat: 10am-1pm.

GSR Reports:

- Sisters in Sobriety, Sue C. Well attended, going great.
- Flintville Early Risers, Matt B. They are having a AA/Alanon/Ala-teen discussion panel called "AA Recovery - A Family Affair" on November 4th from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.
- Women in the Present, Jill V. Going good. They are voting to decide that if the group is larger than 20 if they should be split off to smaller groups. The group is interested in covering Hospitality for Friday evening at the upcoming 2018 Spring Conference.
- DC/DC Divine Center, Gary M. Going well.
- Promise Seekers, Tim D. Attendance has been great. Are interested in working with Hospitality for the 2018 Spring Conference. Group elections are on deck.
- Promise Seekers, Tim D. Everything is going great.
- Walk with Us, Henrietta D. The meetings are well attended and doing fine.
- St. Matthew's, Tamra D. Doing well.
- Early Birds, James R. "Swell" !
- Serenity Now, Kelly K. Going well.
- Letting Go, Mary B. Attendance is good and the meetings are going well.

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		Public Info	PI@greenbayaa.org
Newsletter	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Paul K. 920-676-2901	
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Corrections Chairperson	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Mary B. 920-771-0124	
Sean S. 920-468-9283 (Men)		Coop with Prof. Comm.	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Meeting List Changes	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Amy G. 920-857-6162	
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Treasurer	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	
Patrick H. 920-819-5284		Tamera D. 920-321-4910	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Webmasters	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Debbie P. 920-676-7585	
Hotline Tom M. 920-562-2689		Accessibility Joe H. 920-569-2053	