



The Communicator

OCTOBER | 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)

SOMETHING TO LEARN

Laid off and feeling desperate, an AA asks for help and finds more than just a job

Having become unemployed when the company I was working for was absorbed into its parent company, I sent out my resume to over 700 firms. I got only one response, which was for a part-time job across town. I interviewed but was not selected. I didn't know what to do next.

There were only two weeks left on my unemployment payments and I had no idea where we were going to get the money to live on. My wife worked, but her salary was not enough to support us.

I was at my wit's end. Pacing my basement, I was trying to see where I had overlooked another job-finding approach that I might take or an opportunity I had missed. I just couldn't find any sense of hope in my situation.

One day, as I was pacing around, the thought struck me: God reduces to nothing that which he would use to his own purpose. I tried to force that idea from my mind, but it just kept returning as I paced. Finally, I stood absolutely still and said out loud, "OK, God, if that's what you want, I'm in. Let's do it." Nothing happened, no flash of light or insight. No new avenue to travel down. However, I felt a bit more at peace. That night I went to bed and slept well.

The following day, I was again at it, trying to come up with anything I had overlooked in my job search. The phone rang and I answered. A woman asked if she could do a job interview over the phone with me. She said she worked for a company that was a competitor of a previous company where I had worked. I had purposely not sent that company my resume, nor had I applied online for any of their positions. How she got my name or resume I do not know.

I told her it would be fine to do the interview, even though I did not know what position I was interviewing for. Of course, with a drunk like me, that kind of information is not vital, as I had experience faking my way through any circumstance. So we did the interview.

When she was done asking questions, she mentioned that while I had a good skill base, it wasn't deep enough in the areas she was looking for. But she said she would submit my name anyway. I thanked her for doing the interview (genuinely, as I thought it was a good "trial run" for me) and went about my business.

The following day, I received a call to come in for a face-to-face interview. I did that interview and then interviewed with several folks, including the fellow I would replace. I felt completely at ease during the meetings. Odd, since everything was on the line. I had never been that comfortable in an interview before in my life.

Several days later, I received a call from the same woman and she wanted to send me a job offer. She asked what I was looking for as far as a salary. I replied with a number that I thought would be a good salary. "Well, I suppose you would like a million dollars too," she said. "If you have it lying around, I'd take it off your hands," I replied, which was totally out of character for me to say. "Not quite," she answered, referring to the million dollars. But then she asked me if I would accept a salary that was twice the amount I had asked for.

After a pause, I said, simply, "Yes." But that's not the end of the story. I went to work for the company and, as we drunks do, after a couple of weeks I got to thinking how I really deserved a new "toy," now that I was doing so well. I began to ponder what I would buy with my newfound windfall. My imagination went far and wide in the next week or two, trying to arrive at just the right thing with which to reward myself. Of course, I would reward myself. Hadn't I done a lot of work? At that point, the exasperated comment I had made to God in my basement was far from my mind.

Before I could settle on just the right reward for myself, I found out my daughter and her son were moving in with us. Well, that took care of any extra money that was lying around. I slowly realized the whole thing wasn't about getting me a job, more money or a new toy. It was about me being able to provide what was needed in the lives of people I loved. Isn't it always true that we aren't able to truly see the full path until we have already traversed it?

That day in my basement I had in fact manifested a prayer that I have often recommended to others. The folks I sponsor call it the "most dangerous prayer in the world." It goes like this: "God, do not let me out of this situation until I learn what you would have me learn." Apparently I had something to learn. What I learned from this was that when my Higher Power is involved and I am not working on my needs (God already has those covered), I am better prepared to see to the needs of those around me.

I guess you could make a case that this is what the Twelve Steps are about. Once I decide to be "willing to go to any lengths," then the Steps become the means by which I become of service to others. The Steps aren't about making me happy, comfortable and content. They are about me becoming an effective instrument in the lives of others. My happiness, comfort, serenity and joy are merely the by-products of that. ~Anonymous Farmington, Minnesota

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

THE BRIDGE FELLOWSHIP CHILI DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2018
5:00 p.m. Fellowship
6:00 p.m. Chili Dinner with all the Fixings
Open Speakers to Follow
The Bridge
2514 Jenny Lane
Green Bay, WI 54311

4TH AND 5TH STEP FALL RETREAT*

OCTOBER 12-14, 2018
Time: Friday night to Sunday noon
Cost: \$150 - includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, and refreshments
Registration deadline: September 28, 2018
St Norbert Center for Spirituality
1016 N. Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115

KAUKAUNA INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018
5:00 p.m. Social, 6:00 p.m. Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Speakers
(Please bring a dish to pass)
St. Katherine Drexel
119 W. 7th Street
Kaukauna, WI 54130

AA WOMEN TO WOMEN MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018

(Women's Closed Meeting)
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 - Registration will close at the first 200
Call Joy S. 262-215-7513 or Karlyn P. 414-975-6701
The Pass It On Club
6229 W. Forest Home Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53220

NAVARINO'S OPEN SPEAKER MEETING/SPAGHETTI FEED

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018

Dinner 6:00 p.m. - Speaker 7:00 p.m.
Please bring side dish/dessert to pass
Ascension Lutheran Church
6106 Navarino Rd.
Shiocton, WI 54170

HALLOWEEN DANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

9:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.
DJ / Dancing - Costume Contest
50/50 Raffle - Bring a snack
\$4.00 Donation at the Door
218 Club
218 S. Oneida St.
Green Bay, WI 54303

COMBINED LOCKS INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Speakers at 7:00 p.m.
Please bring side dish/dessert to pass!
St Paul's Church
410 Wallace St.
Combined Locks, WI 54113

GREEN BAY AREA CENTRAL OFFICE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER:

BOOYAH BLOWOUT

Saturday, November 10, 2018
5:00 pm Booyah & Fellowship - 6:30 pm Open Speaker Meeting
8:00 pm Candlelite Meeting
Bring a dish to share - with \$5 donation take some booyah home
BYOC (container)
The Bridge
2514 Jenny Lane
Green Bay, WI 54311

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE

MAY 17-19, 2019
Hosted by District 02
Save the Date - See District 02 Website for more information
Liberty Hall and Conference Center
800 Eisenhower Dr.
Kimberly, WI 54136

WELCOME TO THE TATTOO CONVENTION

How an amends for a little white lie led to a surprising encounter with Arizona AA history

Last year, during our state's Young People's convention, an elegant woman in one of the elevators made positive comments about my tattoos and we engaged in discussion. Eventually, she saw my YPAA (Young People in AA) badge and asked what kind of convention was being held at the hotel.

Always mindful of breaking the anonymity of everyone wearing a badge, I thought about saying "spiritually like-minded people." Then I remembered the inside joke that some of us YPAAs call ourselves: a tattoo convention. So, that's what I told her. We were a tattoo convention. (Continued on page 4)

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

September 13, 2018

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

DCM Report: Hello District Chairs and GSRs, On August 11th I attended the Area Committee Meeting in Three Lakes. Sometimes I get to be pleasantly surprised by the outcome of these meetings. This was definitely one of those occasions. There was no discussion of any reprimands for the board for the mistake made regarding the 2019 General Service Conference. That being said our delegate will be in New York while we are having our spring conference, so I'm pretty sure there will be no delegate's report during our conference. We will be holding an additional Area Committee Meeting to receive the Delegates report, but it will be available to us within a month or so of the delegate returning from the conference. Also the agenda items listed below were addressed. Yours in service. Matt B., DCM 01.

1. Tabled motion from Dist. 02 on making the Now & Then Co-Editors 2 year rotational positions. Motion withdrawn.
2. Tabled Motion form CPC. To change the Now & Then newsletter to a primarily electronic distribution. Motion withdrawn and to be resubmitted at upcoming fall conference in a more precise form.
3. Tabled Motion from PI to direct the Area 74 Webmaster to publish the Now & Then Newsletter in the password secure area of the Area 74 website. Motion passed to be voted on in upcoming conference.
4. Motion from Treatment/Accessibilities committee to provide ASL sign language interpreter for all Area 74 Service events. Will be presented for discussion at upcoming fall conference.

Secretary, Marty S. (for Theresa D.) The August 2018 minutes were reviewed by those present. One change is noted. Under New Business, second paragraph, the third sentence is changed to read: "District 01 supports this change and will make local date changes as necessary." A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

Accessibilities, Joe H.[Absent: Submitted via email] Accessibility committee recommends that an ASL (American Sign Language) interpreter be made available at district meetings and events (intergroup, speakers and panels) as needed. The estimated cost of having interpreter \$50.00 per hour. We respectfully request that all members remember the responsibility statement when considering this recommendation. *I am Responsible...When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help. I want the hand of A.A. to always be there. And that I am Responsible.*

Archives, Bill D. The history of A A in our district could be better kept by recording interviews of our members.

Bridging the Gap, Marian K. Bridging the Gap is going well.

Central Office Coordinator to the District, Pat T. C. The Central Office is low on funds. We are looking to sponsor an Indian Taco and speaker fund raiser.

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

Corrections - Men, Adam B. A Google app is being used to coordinate and schedule the correction meetings. Please help with this service.

Corrections - Women, Theresa D. No report available.

District Events Co-Chairs, Tamra D. and Lloyd Z. \$30 of receipts for decorations was received after the event finances were closed. A motion was made and seconded to reimburse from our Treasury \$30 for these decorations. The motion passed. District 01 Outing Scramble on September 23, 2018 is half full.

Grapevine, Mary B. No report available.

Newsletter, Ronald M. Going well.

Webmaster, Debbie P. & Sam J. Going well.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the August 2018 Meeting

Starting Balance as of 7/1/2018 \$5,206.71

Deposits		Expenses		Ending Balance August 31, 2018	\$6,958.94
Never On Sunday	\$ 200.00	Marian K. (Corrections)	\$ 50.00	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
Pulaski Monday Night	\$ 56.70	DigCopy (Newsletter)	\$ 125.28	Total Funds Available	\$5,658.94
Flintville Early Risers	\$ 180.00	Total Expenses:	\$175.28		
218 Club	\$ 120.63				
Golf Trip (Events)	\$ 120.00				
Total Deposits:	\$ 677.33				
Subtotal:	\$ 7,134.22				

Bruce K. asked, "How much funds should our District carry? Should some money be dispersed to avoid accumulating too much?" Matt B. said, "I'll make an agenda item for our next meeting to discuss recommendations for dispersion of funds."

A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 2018 Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Is it possible for the District 01 to fund an ASL interpreter? No budget is set up. After a discussion this item is tabled till next meeting.

New Business:

The Hot Line is not being transferred from and to the Central Office. Matt B. talked to Eric S. about an app which can transfer the hot line. Matt B. will attend the next Central Office board meeting to discuss this issue.

Area 74 has two positions vacant. They are the Now and Then co-chair and the Archive Chair.

GSR Reports:

- Anne Marie K. GSR, Walk With Us, 9:30 am, Thursday, The Bridge Going well.
- Amy J. GSR, Letting Go, 1:00 pm, Thursday, 218 Club. Going great.
- Bruce K. GSR, Never On Sunday, 9:30 am, Sunday, The Bridge Things are going well.
- CJ D. Alt GSR, Women in the Present, 7:00 pm, Thursday, St. Norbert Abbey Meetings going great. Well attended.
- Dave S. GSR, Fisherman's Paradise, 8:00 pm, Tuesday, St. John the Baptist Church Going well.
- Gary L. GSR, It's in the Book 7:30 pm, DC/DC Devine Center Despite the weather, our Labor Day picnic was a success. Still had over 62 people attend.
- Gwen J. GSR, Road to Recovery, 5:30 pm, Monday, 218 Club Meetings going well.
- Kathy B. GSR, Early Birds, 7:30 am, Sunday, 218 Club Going great.
- Pat T. C. Alt GSR, Early Birds, 7:30 am, Sunday, 210 Club Well attended.
- Sean S. Flintville Early Risers, 8:00 am, Saturday, St. Edward & Isidore Church Meetings well attended.
- Tammie F. GSR, Serenity Now, Noon, Mon-Wed- Fri, Calvary Lutheran Church Large attendance. Always growing.
- Tamra D. GSR, Eye Opener, 10:00 am, Saturday, St. Matthew's Church Going well.
- Tim D. GSR, Promise Seekers, 9:00 am, Friday, Resurrection Lutheran Church Meetings well attended.
- Tom D., Alt-GSR, Promise Seekers, 9:00 a.m., Friday, Resurrection Lutheran Church. Going well.
- Violet B. Alt GSR, Sisters in Sobriety, 1:00 pm, Tuesday, 218 Club Meetings going well.

WELCOME TO THE TATTOO CONVENTION

(Continued from page 2)

I felt pretty satisfied with my answer until the next morning when this woman and I were seated at adjacent tables in the restaurant for breakfast, both waiting for the rest of our parties. She politely engaged me in conversation. She asked me to consult with her on some ideas for a tattoo she wanted to have done. While I could have offered opinions, I am not a tattoo artist and was forced to admit my lie. By then, some of my friends showed up and encouraged me to tell her the truth.

So, we told her that we generally don't admit to being AA members in public places because of the multiple reasons for personal anonymity, such as staying humble, not looking for recognition for something we should be doing anyway, and not influencing another's perception of AA based on the activities of any one member or any group of members.

I acknowledged that while I thought my intentions were noble, I hadn't been honest or honorable and I had treated her with disrespect. I said I regretted my actions, not because I got caught, but because I was wrong. She accepted my amends, agreed not to judge the rest of AA based on my misconduct, and said she'd keep the true meaning of the badges from her friends also staying in the hotel.

Then she shared something with me. She knew nothing of AA, what it was about or what we do, but she knew of its existence because her grandfather was a sober member of AA in the 1940s. He moved to that city from the East Coast and her grandparents wrote letters to AA in New York so they could locate AA meetings in Arizona.

Later that day, our area archivist made a small presentation in a side room where she showed us letters from the first AA members in our state. These were people who started AA in Arizona when they moved to Phoenix from the East Coast and asked the AA foundation in New York to help them find people in Arizona to get sober.

That's how I learned I had been speaking to the granddaughter of the woman who wrote the letters that brought AA to my city and sobered up the people who created the Fellowship that saved my life.

And thanks to that woman, I also learned a valuable lesson about integrity. ~Terra V. Tempe, Arizona

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		Tim K. 920-737-1959	
Corrections Chairperson	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Adam B. 920-680-9496 (Men)		Mary B. 920-771-0124	
Theresa D. 920-490-7889 (Women)		Coop with Prof. Comm.	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Meetings List	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	
Treasurer	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Tamera D. 920-321-4910	
Patrick H. 920-819-5284		Webmasters	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Debbie P. 920-676-7585	
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Accessibility	accessibility@greenbayaa.org
Hotline		Joe H. 920-569-2053	
Tom M. 920-562-2689			