



The Communicator

JULY | 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)

HUMILITY TAKES PREPARATION

Every newcomer in Alcoholics Anonymous is told, and soon realizes for himself, that his humble admission of powerlessness over alcohol is his first step toward liberation from its paralyzing grip (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 73). When we have finally admitted without reservation that we are powerless over alcohol [Step One], we are apt to breathe a great sigh of relief, saying, *"Well, thank God that's over! I'll never have to go through that again!"* Then we learn, often to our consternation, that this is only the first milestone on the new road we are walking. This is the barest beginning. A whole lifetime geared to self-centeredness cannot be set in reverse all at once (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 73).

At this stage of our progress we are under heavy pressure and coercion to do the right thing. We are obliged to choose between the pains of trying [to do what is right] and the certain penalties of failing to do so. These initial steps along the road are taken grudgingly, yet we do take them. We may still have no very high opinion of humility as a desirable personal virtue, but we do recognize it as a necessary aid to our survival (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 74).

So it is that we first see humility as a necessity. To get completely away from our aversion to the idea of being humble, to gain a vision of humility as the avenue to true freedom of the human spirit, to be willing to work for humility as something to be desired for itself, takes most of us a long, long time. Humility, as a word and as an ideal, has a very bad time of it in our world. Not only is the idea misunderstood; the word itself is often intensely disliked (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 70).

Why must we take these steps? Before now, when we seemed to be succeeding, we drank to dream still greater dreams. When we were frustrated, even in part, we drank for oblivion. Never was there enough of what we thought we wanted. In all these strivings, so many of them well-intentioned, our crippling handicap had been our lack of humility. We had lacked the perspective to see that character-building and spiritual values had to come first, and that material satisfactions were not the purpose of living (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 71). But when we have taken a square look at some of these defects [Step Four], have discussed them with another [Step Five], and have become willing to have them removed [Step Six], our thinking about humility commences to have a wider meaning. By this time in all probability we have gained some measure of release from our more devastating handicaps. We enjoy moments in which there is something like real peace of mind. To those of us who have hitherto known only excitement, depression, or anxiety—in other words, to all of us—this newfound peace is a priceless gift (Twelve Steps & Twelve Traditions, page 74).

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www.aa.org/twelveandtwelve

"Humbly Asked Him to Remove Our Shortcomings."

TRADITION SEVEN

"Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

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www.aa.org/twelveandtwelve

I can recall when "inside out" meant I had my socks on wrong, or my T-shirt. Thirty years later, after a vast number of years in prison (in and out as a repeater), the term "inside out" means something else; it means I am inside looking out!

I am a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, and I found AA inside prison. In 1968, I said the same words in another prison group. I was released and eventually returned to old haunts and habits. I believed that God (whoever I thought He was then) put me in this world to be a convict. I foolishly prided myself as a "solid people" and a "right-on rounder," plus a "solid ex-con skid-row dude," and some other choice titles.

In late 1975, I had an experience of reality that was like a shock wave. I looked back over the past, and the only time I could remember having any kind of hope was when I was in the AA program.

I'm a proud, full-blood Saulteaux Indian. I wore my hair long and put it in braids. Someone gave me the Big Book and said, "Read it again. Maybe this time you'll change." I left this Big Book lying around in my cell for a few days, and after a while, when wanting something to read, I went to the Big Book. When I opened it, only these few words stood out: "God as we understood Him." Slowly, it dawned on me that I could use my concepts of my traditional God, the Great Spirit, or in my Indian language, Kitchi Munito. I became more aware of what I had previously missed in other AA involvements: a God as I understand Him.

It is fifteen months since that Big Book experience, and as far as I'm concerned, it's been the best fifteen months I've had in jail. I'm not happy I'm in prison. I want out, too! But by and by, I know it will come about, in the course of one day at a time. It's been a good fifteen months, because I am now very spiritually content and getting more spiritual strength through the help of the program. Periodically, I attend street AA meetings from this prison. I learn much and share what I have found in AA thus far.

About the AA program, the thing I like best is knowing that there is "spiritual progress rather than spiritual perfection." To me, that means it's a life-long learning school in order to maintain a life of sobriety, even if I am viewing my future "inside out."

www.aagrapevine.org

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Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report

Prepared for the June 12, 2014 GSR Meeting

Starting Balance as of 05/07/2014	\$2,584.63
Expenses	
Color Master - Newsletters	\$143.50
The Bridge - rent	\$15.00
City of Green Bay - Bus adds	\$84.00
Tom Younger-Reimb Assmbly	\$90.00
Total Expenses-	-\$332.50
Deposits:	
May 10, 2014 7th Trad	\$15.00
218 Club	\$103.43
Never on Sunday	\$60.00
Wed Am Grapevine	\$25.00
Sisters in Sobriety	\$34.00
Total Deposits+	+\$237.46
Ending Balance June 10, 2014	\$2,489.59
(\$1,300.00 for prudent reserve)	\$1,300.00
Total Funds Available to spend	\$1,189.59

Resources Online

"Keep Recovery in Your Head"

Alcoholics Anonymous World Org: www.aa.org

Recovery Short Stories (print/audio): www.aagrapevine.org

AA Speakers Online/Download: www.aaspeakers.org

Adult and Teenage Family & Friends of Alcoholic: www.al-anon.alateen.org

Al-Anon's monthly magazine-*The Forum*: www.al-anon.alateen.org

Historical Resources of Alcoholics Anonymous: www.silkworth.net



"So tell me, do I come here often?"

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From an AA of North American Indian Heritage:

I have come to know and to cherish many of the ways of my ancestors. They, too, lived without "firewater." They, also, guided by their "Great Spirit of the Universe," lived by a set of principles similar to our Twelve Steps.

One of the prayers of a great chief of my people has been handed down through generations. It has been a source of guidance and inspiration to me and I would like to share it with my AA brothers and sisters.

O! GREAT SPIRIT! Whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me! I come before you, one of your many children. I am small and weak; I need your strength and wisdom!

Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things you have made; my ears sharp to hear your voice. Make me wise so that I may know the things you have taught my people--the lesson you have hidden in leaf and rock.

I seek strength not to be superior to my brothers, but to be able to fight my greatest enemy--myself. Make me ever ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes, so that when my life fades, as a fading sunset, my Spirit may come to you without shame.

www.aagrapevine.org

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RECOVERY ON THE LAKE-CAMPOUT

JULY 11-13, 2014

Mawacehseneyah Comm. Cultural & Language Cntr.
W2266 CTY HWY VV, Keshena, WI 54135
Camping - Sacred Fire - Wellbriety Circles for all ages
ARM Ice Cream Social - Children Activities
24-hour Coffee Pot - Port-a-Pots
Registration: \$10 p/person
Send to: Recovery on the Lake c/o David Miller
PO Box 892, Keshena, WI 54135
Bonnie (920) 445-6759
Boobie (715) 444-1150 Davey (715) 799-4319

CIRCLE CITY ROUND UP*

JULY 18-20, 2014

Indianapolis Marriott East
7202 East 21st Street
Indianapolis IN 56219
Celebrate Recovery - Unity & Service with the Fellowship
Sobriety Countdown - Banquet - Speakers

24TH ANNUAL NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN AA CONVENTION*

SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20, 21, 2014

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Radisson Fort McDowell Resort & Casino
10438 N. Fort McDowell Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85264
Registration Form: www.nai-aa.com
(855) 99-NAIAA

57TH CHILTON INTERGROUP

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014

Good Shepherd Parish Hall
54 E. Main Street, Chilton, WI 53014
Doors Open 5:15 pm Potluck 6:00 pm Meeting 7:00 pm
Please bring a dish to pass. Beverages and sandwiches provided
AA Speaker: Area 75 Delegate Randy R., Brookfield, WI
Al-Anon Speaker: Kathy B., Brownsville, WI

OPEN AA SPEAKER MEETING

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014 - 10:00 am

St. Elizabeth Hospital-Helen Fowler Conference Center
1506 South Oneida Street, Appleton, WI 54915

OPEN AA SPEAKER AND POTLUCK

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2014 - 6:00 pm

Genesis Club
1213 Appleton Street, Appleton WI 54911
(Bring a dish to pass)

218 CLUB SUMMER PICNIC*

SATURDAY, AUG 23, 2014

Murphy Park
1627 Dousman St, Green Bay, WI
11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Food - Activities for all ages
Bring a Dish to Pass

BONDUEL-SHAWANO INTERGROUP*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014

St James Lutheran Church
324 S Andrews St Shawano WI 54166
5:00 pm Fellowship 6:00 pm Dinner 7:15 pm
AA and Al-Anon Speakers
Please bring a dish to pass

4TH & 5TH STEP SPRING RETREAT*

OCTOBER 10-12, 2014

AA and Al-Anon
St. Norbert Center for Spirituality
1016 N. Broadway, De Pere, WI 54115
Cost: \$140 – includes lodging, meals, & snacks
Therese (920) 336-3023 or (920) 639-0360
Tim S. timsiebers@sbcglobal.net

SOBRIETY UNDER THE STARS CAMPOUT*

AUG 29-SEPT 1, 2014

Christian Harbor Youth Camp
Holcombe, WI
Cabins and Tents Only, No RVs
Registration Fee Required
Fran Jarstad (715) 532-5370

AA - AREA 74 FALL CONFERENCE*

“Recovery, Unity, Service - Our Three Legacies”

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2014

The Plaza Hotel and Suites
1202 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI
Contact: Cheryl L. (715) 210-2262

BACK TO BASICS SEMINAR

All 12 Steps in four sessions
EACH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
6:30 pm

Green Bay Area Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office
1270 Main St, Green Bay, WI

Suggested Text:

Back to Basics - Alcoholics Anonymous Beginners' Meetings
by Wally P.

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

1270 Main St, Green Bay, WI 54302

Volunteer Responsibilities Include:

Process the purchase of literature, mugs, and stickers

Answer phone including AA Hotline - Refer hotline calls to trained volunteers

2015 Area 74 Spring Conference

Kimberly S. (920) 592-9337

Committee Chairs & Volunteers needed

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

PO Box 84 Paradise, MI 49768
www.area74.org

AA GENERAL SERVICE

OFFICE (GSO)

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

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

June 12, 2014

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Dear Friends:

In May I attended the Spring Conference and Assembly in Neenah along with some of our GSRs. The highlight of the assembly was hearing our Delegate Mary Jo give her report on the 64th General Service Conference. Mary Jo spoke of how she brought the group conscience of Area 74 to New York. As DCM I have the honor to serve our district on the Area 74 Committee. The committee is made up of the area officers, committee chairs and DCMs from all the other Districts. Each month the DCMs have a conference call. One reoccurring theme on the call is the lack of participation of GSRs at District meetings and Area 74 assemblies. Ask your GSR if they are attending district meetings or if your group doesn't have a GSR please step forward and become one. The District is only as strong as its groups. If you are thinking about becoming a GSR please come to the next district meeting or contact one of the District committee members and we will help you get registered. Serving others has helped millions of AAs stay sober over the years. It has brought the joy of long lasting friendships and the satisfaction of giving back to a program that has given us so much.

In loving service,

Tom Y. DCM

Secretary: The minutes of the May 8th meeting were reviewed by all present. Two corrections were noted. Under Secretary, Marty S., first sentence, "8th" should be deleted and in the second sentence, May 8th should be changed to April 10th. A motion was made and seconded to accept the April 10th meeting minutes. Passed. Thank you for the emailed and written reports I have received to include in the minutes. ~Marty S.

Corrections: Nothing to report. ~Ron O.

Newsletter: Nothing to report. ~Ronald M.

Grapevine: Nothing to report. ~CJ D.

Webmaster: This month I would like to point out several new additions to our web site. On the service page you will now find a copy of the Ad-Hoc Suggested Bylaws / Guidelines for District 01. New to the Events page you will find a copy of a Flyer and Registration for the September 26-28 Area 74 – 2014 Fall Conference. The title of the conference this year is "Recovery, Unity, Service" Our Three Legacies. You will also, find a Flyer for Aug 23 2014, 218 Club Summer Picnic at Murphy Park. ~Jack S.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: No report - Absent. ~Jennifer A.

District Events: Planning the District Picnic for either Sat., Sept. 6th or Sat., Sept. 13th at Baird's Creek Triangle Hill (Green Bay). ~Jason P.

Public Information: Looking into radio and television Public Service Announcements (PSAs). ~Paul K.

Bridging the Gap: BTG is doing fine. Adding a lot of new volunteers. Thank you all for your service. Went to the corrections conference and learned a lot. There was a former inmate panel and their message was that when they went to a meeting while incarcerated, a seed was planted. That is our 12th Step at work. ~Mary S.

Archives: No report - Absent. ~Bruce K.

Treasurer's Report: Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report (see page 2) Prepared for the May 08, 2014 GSR Meeting. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed. ~Pat H.

GSR Reports

Fisherman's Paradise: Nothing new to report. ~Ronald M.

It's In The Book: Continues to do well. ~Pat H.

Letting Go Group: This is my first time attending the district meeting. All present gave a hearty welcome and thank you to Donna for her service as GSR. Our meeting has been growing and has applied for being established as a meeting to New York and is awaiting confirmation. ~Donna Y.

New Hope: Going good. ~John C.

Never on Sunday: Nothing to report. ~Paul K.

Red Road: Nothing new to report. ~Marty S.

Road to Recovery: Doing good. No report. ~Mary S. & Chad

Sisters in Sobriety: Our group is doing well. ~CJ D.

Old Business

•Tom Y. passed out to those present a copy of the Minutes of the Spring Assembly held in Neenah WI on May 17th, 2014. He asked that they be reviewed by our District groups.

New Business

•Area 74 Spring Conference 2015 Update Report We are seeking help with filling some of the positions open for the upcoming 2015 conference. Planning has begun for the 2015 Area 74 Spring Conference. Many of the committee chairperson positions have been filled. Positions that need to be filled (Position detailed description online - <http://www.greenbayaa.org/minutes.html> *June Meeting*):

*Secretary *Decorations/Cake/Speaker gifts
*Event Coordinator *Hospitality
*Website *Panels

The next Area 74 Spring Conference planning meeting is July 20, 2014, 4:00 pm - Radisson Hotel, Plaza Club Kimberly S. (chair) & Dean H. (Secretary). Contact Spring Conference planning committee chair: KIMMVSCHUVLER@GMAIL.COM

<u>District 01 Committee Contact Information</u>			
District 01 Chairperson	dcmdistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives	archives@greenbayaa.org
Tom Y. 920-471-3502		Bruce K.	
Alternate District Chairperson	altDCM@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap	Bridging@greenbayaa.org
Gary K. 920-362-0206		Mary S. 920-217-3550	
Newsletter	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info	PI@greenbayaa.org
Keely J. 920-412-1217		Paul K. 920-676-2901	
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Marian K. 920-366-5950	
Corrections Chairperson	Corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Ron O. 920-321-1072		CJ D. 920-221-5443	
Meeting List Changes	MeetingList@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm. (CPC)	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Jennifer A. 920-265-9053	
Treasurer	Treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Pat H. 920-362-1241		Jason P. 920-412-3733	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Josiah P. 920-264-2107	
Marty S. 920-465-1401		Webmaster	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
		Jack S. 414-477-3843	

Monthly GSR Meetings: 6:30 pm, Second Thursday, *The Bridge* 2514 Jenny Lane, Green Bay, WI 54302