



The Communicator

MARCH | 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)

HIGHER POWER, GODDESS, CREATOR, OR THE AA FELLOWSHIP

By now the chances are that [we have] become convinced that [we have] more problems than alcohol, and that some of these refuse to be solved by all the sheer personal determination and courage [we] can muster. They simply will not budge; they make [us] desperately unhappy and threaten [our] new-found sobriety. [We are] still victimized by remorse and guilt when [we] think of yesterday. Bitterness still overpowers [us] when [we] brood upon those [we] still envy or hate. [Our] financial insecurity worries [us] sick, and panic takes over when [we] think of all the bridges to safety that alcohol burned behind [us]. And how shall [we] ever straighten out that awful jam that cost [us] the affection of [our] family and separated [us] from them? [Our] lone courage and unaided will cannot do it. Surely [we] must now depend upon Somebody or Something else (12&12, pg 39).

Selfishness—self-centeredness! That, we think, is the root of our troubles. Driven by a hundred forms of fear, self-delusion, self-seeking, and self-pity, we step on the toes of our fellows and they retaliate. Sometimes they hurt us, seemingly without provocation, but we invariably find that at some time in the past we have made decisions based on self which later placed us in a position to be hurt (AA Big Book, pg 62).

So our troubles, we think, are basically of our own making. They arise out of ourselves, and the alcoholic is an extreme example of self-will run riot, though he usually doesn't think so. Above everything, we alcoholics must be rid of this selfishness. We must, or it kills us! God makes that possible. And there often seems no way of entirely getting rid of self without His aid. Many of us had moral and philosophical convictions galore, but we could not live up to them even though we would have liked to. Neither could we reduce our self-centeredness much by wishing or trying on our own power. We had to have God's help (pg 62).

Like all the remaining Steps, Step Three calls for affirmative action, for it is only by action that we can cut away the self-will which has always blocked the entry of God—or, if you like, a Higher Power—into our lives. Faith, to be sure, is necessary, but faith alone can avail nothing (12&12, pg 34). In fact, the effectiveness of the whole A.A. program will rest upon how well and earnestly we have tried to come to "a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him" (12&12, pg 34-35).

It is when we try to make our will conform with God's that we begin to use it rightly. To all of us, this was a most wonderful revelation. Our whole trouble had been the misuse of willpower. We had tried to bombard our problems with it instead of attempting to bring it into agreement with God's intention for us. To make this increasingly possible is the purpose of A.A.'s Twelve Steps, and Step Three opens the door (12&12, pg 40).

Once we have come into agreement with these ideas, it is really easy to begin the practice of Step Three (12&12, pg 40). Most good ideas are simple, and this concept was the keystone of the new and triumphant arch through which we passed to freedom (AA Big Book, pg 62). In all times of emotional disturbance or indecision, we can pause, ask for quiet, and in the stillness simply say: "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference. Thy will, not mine, be done." (12&12, pg 40-41).

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www.aa.org/bigbookonline / www.aa.org/twelveandtwelve

*"Made a Decision to Turn Our Will and Our Lives Over to the Care of God
As We Understood Him."*

TRADITION THREE

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

This Tradition is packed with meaning. For A.A. is really saying to every serious drinker, "You are an A.A. member if you say so. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out. No matter who you are, no matter how low you've gone, no matter how grave your emotional complications—even your crimes—we still can't deny you A.A. We don't want to keep you out. We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be. We just want to be sure that you get the same great chance for sobriety that we've had. So you're an A.A. member the minute you declare yourself." (12&12, pg 139).

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www.aa.org/twelveandtwelve

"When I took the Third Step I put myself under NEW MANAGEMENT."

~Heard at a Meeting. www.aagrapevine.org

Recovery

“The Bonfire Meeting, Rain or Shine “

A season of summer thunderstorms threatens to disrupt this meeting, but a few AAs keep it going

On the last Saturday of the month between May and September, my home group, the Southside Special, has an AA Bonfire meeting at 8:00 p.m. on the bank of the Knik River about 30 miles north of Anchorage, Alaska. This has been a wetter-than-usual summer in Anchorage, and Saturday, July 26, was no exception. It was pouring rain! Nevertheless, I have a commitment to make coffee for the Bonfire Meeting, and I am trying desperately to talk myself out of going. The torrential rain seems like a reasonable excuse to stay indoors and skip out of my commitment.

After all, I am sure they would understand. Try as I might, I just cannot get comfortable with the idea of NOT being there to do my part. The thought of “what if someone shows up and there is no coffee” keeps buzzing around in my mind. So, off I go. I gather all the bonfire coffee-making supplies into my car, and head out in the driving rain to the river.

I get to the river about 7:15. This leaves me plenty of time to get the coffee campfire going, or wait out the rain, whichever comes first. I keep watching the rain pelting down on my car, and thinking to myself, “There is no way I’m going to get a fire going in this weather.” I am just watching and waiting. Then I see it: our port-a-potty is in the river! I am not quite sure in that first moment whether to laugh or get angry. I laugh. This gets me out of my misery and me at being out here in the hammering rain all alone. This also gets me out of my car.

As strange as it may sound, as soon as I got out of my car, the rain begins to stop. At this point, I am standing at the edge of the water (tidal pool really), amazed at the new location of our port-a-potty and think to myself, “I am really glad I don’t have to use that thing!” Again, I laugh aloud and for some reason, it just seemed perfect. My second thought was of coffee. I turned and marched toward my car like a woman on a mission, and started the process of setting up for campfire coffee. By this time, the rain had settled into a quite comfortable drizzle. I soon had the fire going and the coffee percolating. It is now close to 8:00, the meeting ought to be starting yet I am still alone out here. So I poured myself a cup of coffee, grabbed my Big Book, and waited.

I received a few phone calls inquiring about the weather conditions at the bonfire site. I advised them to stay home unless they wanted to get drenched. I did assure them that there was coffee on in case they decided to come anyway. I was determined to stay out here for whoever might show up for the Bonfire Meeting. You never know, there are those who are willing to go to any length to get to a meeting, rain or shine. And then they came. At first just one, then another, then two more, and then the last one. There were six of us at the Bonfire Meeting that night.

Mind you, there was no bonfire, although it was not for lack of trying. The first one to show up was Mike with a truck full of wood. Cameron came next, and helped Mike unload the wood out of his truck. They attempted to get the pile of soaking wet wood to light. Rodney showed up next, and decided to help the guys. Two more folks showed up, poured themselves cups of coffee, and watched the show. The guys tried lighting the fire with motor oil, lighter fluid, rags, and even a flare. Finally, they surrendered. We stood there for a time, drinking our AA campfire coffee and talking about how grand life is in spite of the rain.

So, overall, the meeting was a success because when the fellowship showed up, the coffee was on and the doors were open (so to speak). Those of us who did brave the rain, got to share a few isolated moments of grandeur in God’s country surrounded by mountains, trees, the river, and the company of other recovering alcoholics. We had a good laugh over the location of our port-a-potty and we had campfire coffee all because we continue to go to any length for our recovery. “The age of miracles is still upon us, our own recovery proves it.” Thanks AA.

—Lori M., Anchorage, AL

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Unity

4TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF*

SATURDAY MARCH 15, 2014

218 Club

218 South Oneida St, Green Bay, WI

Doors Open 4:00 pm Event Begins 5:00 pm

1st and 2nd Place Prizes

Sign-up at 218 Club to Enter

\$4.00 donation

Bring dessert, condiments, and snack to pass

EATIN’ MEETIN’ POTLUCK DINNER &

SPEAKER MEETING

Fox Valley AA Central Office

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2014

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church

809 South Commercial St. Neenah, Wisconsin

Doors Open 5 pm - Dinner 6 pm

AA and AlAnon Speakers at 7 pm

AREA 74 DELEGATE’S WORKSHOP*

MARCH 29-30, 2014

REITER CENTER

1858 S. Michigan St., Three Lakes, WI

38TH ANNUAL BADGER INTERGROUP*

Speaker: Clancy I. (Los Angeles, CA)

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2014

Waukesha Expo Center

5:30 PM Social Hour - 6:30 PM Dinner - 8:00 pm Speaker

Dance to Follow

\$25 Tickets (pre-purchase only)

Contact: Mike Korducki, (920) 397-7464

1379 O’Leary Ct, Hartford, WI 53027

ANNUAL MOOSE & GOOSE

CORRECTIONS LITERATURE FUND RAISER*

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014

Ascension Lutheran Church

Exit Hwy 47 at Rt 156 go West of Navarino 3 miles

5:00 PM Social Time

6:00 PM Dinner (Bring a dish to pass)

7:30 PM Speakers

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE*

“Trudging the Road of Happy Destiny”

MAY 16-18, 2014

Best Western Premier Bridgewood Resort

Registration/Banquet: \$42 - Registration Only: \$17

Ice Cream Social (w/live music): \$5

Checks Payable: “2014 Spring Conference”

PO Box 42, Appleton, WI 54912

Contact: Jen F. (920) 850-2549

dcm@district02aa.org

4TH & 5TH STEP SPRING RETREAT*

APRIL 25-27, 2014

ST NORBERT CENTER FOR SPIRITUALITY

\$140 – includes 2 nights/5 meals

(Snacks and beverages provided throughout retreat)

Registration Deposit Deadline: April 11, 2014

(limited scholarships available)

*6 months sobriety/active recovery suggested

Send \$40 deposit to - Step Retreats

PO Box 574, Green Bay WI 54305

Contact: Therese (920) 336-3023 or (920) 639-0360

Service

BACK TO BASICS SEMINAR*

Take all 12 Steps in four 2-hour sessions
 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, & 4TH THURSDAYS OF THE MONTH
 6:00 – 8:00 pm
 HOUSE OF TAWÉT - HEALING GROUNDS
 601 North Broadway, Green Bay, WI.
 Seminar fee: \$20 includes - Back to Basics by Wally P.
 and bottomless cup of coffee.
 Or \$7 and use the seminar's book and bottomless cup.

19TH ANNUAL AA WISCONSIN/UP MICHIGAN

CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE

JUNE 7, 2014
 1st Presbyterian Church
 1225 4th St. Fond Du Lac, WI
 Contact: Nancy Gusner (608) 843-2265
 nancyt43@charter.net

6TH ANNUAL NORTHEAST WISCONSIN TRI-STATE ROUND UP

JUNE 13-15, 2014
 Round Up Registration: \$15 After June 1st \$20
 Saturday Dinner at 5:30 pm (\$25-Meal Price)
 NEW Tri-State Round Up
 Registration, Payment, Information
 PO Box 22533
 Green Bay, WI 54305
 (920) 492-1269
 Lodging Information: Radisson Hotel and Conference Center
 2040 Airport Drive
 Green Bay, WI 54313

14TH ANNUAL MIDWEST MOTORCYCLE ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

CONVENTION*

Hosted by the Freedom, Faith, and Fellowship AA Group
 JUNE 20-22, 2014
 Pearl City, IL 61062
 WWW.MMAAC.ORG

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

P.O. Box 84 Paradise, MI 49768
 www.area74.org

AA GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE (GSO)

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

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

Volunteer Responsibilities Include:
 Process the purchase of literature, mugs, and stickers
 Answer phone including AA Hotline - Refer hotline calls to trained
 volunteers

2014 Area 74 Spring Conference

Kimberly S. 920-592-9337
 Volunteers needed for conference planning committee

Bridging the Gap*

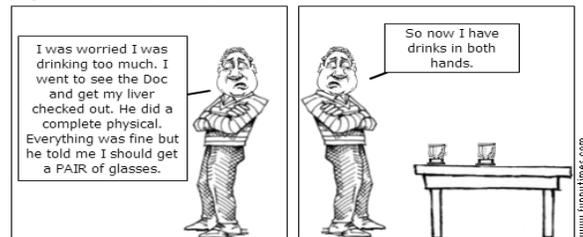
1270 Main Street #102
 Green Bay, WI 54302
 bridging@greenbayaa.org
 www.greenbayaa.org/service.html

Introduce newly released inmates to AA
 Volunteers with minimum one-year sobriety & sponsor

Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report

Starting Balance as of 12/12/2013 \$2,303.64
Expenses
 Color Master – Newsletters -\$ 108.00
 Gary K - 3 Lakes Convention -\$ 25.00
 Bridge-rent -\$ 15.00
 Blackstone -\$ 275.00
 Total Expenses -\$ 423.00
Donations
 December District Meeting \$ 22.25
 December Total \$1902.89
 January 2014
 Redeemer Lutheran -\$ 184.00
 Green Bay Bus Ads -\$ 84.00
 Color Master – Newsletters -\$ 127.50
 Bridge - Jan & Feb rent -\$ 30.00
 Total Expenses -\$ 425.50
Donations
 Meet& Eat \$ 487.28
 Woman in the Present \$ 147.00
 Flintville \$ 135.00
 New Hope \$ 100.00
 Friends of Bill \$ 150.00
 Total Donations \$1,019.28
 Total Cash on Hand 02/13/14 \$2,496.67

Open Mic by Greg Fitze



District 01 Committee Contact Information

District 01 Chairperson Tom Y. 920-471-3502	dcmdistrict01@greenbayaa.org	Archives Bruce K.	archives@greenbayaa.org
Alternate District Chairperson Gary K. 920-362-0206	altDCM@greenbayaa.org	Bridging the Gap Mary S. 920-217-3550	Bridging@greenbayaa.org
Newsletter Keely J. 920-412-1217	newsletter@greenbayaa.org	Public Info Paul K. 920-676-2901	PI@greenbayaa.org
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Marian K. 920-366-5950	
Corrections Chairperson Ron O. 920-321-1072	Corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine CJ D. 920-819-3796	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Meeting List Changes Ronald M. 920-593-2915	MeetingList@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm. (CPC) Jennifer A. 920-265-9053	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Treasurer Pat H. 920-362-1241	Treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Events Jason P. 920-412-3733	events@greenbayaa.org
Secretary Marty S. 920-465-1401	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Josiah P. 920-264-2107	
		Webmaster Jack S. 414-477-3843	webmaster@greenbayaa.org

District 01 Meetings List Online - www.greenbayaa.org

* - Detailed flyer or registration form at www.greenbayaa.org

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

February 13, 2014

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Dear Friends;

Last month we had the opportunity to get together, to share a meal and fellowship with the AA Family, a family with members that spanned between three days and over thirty years of sobriety. I would like to personally thank all the volunteers that made the Meet and Eat a great success. I would also like to thank the people who put on the Women's Recovery Workshop. The event was very well attended and will need a larger venue next year. Events like these just go to show what can be accomplished when we work together. If you or your group have ideas for workshops please bring them to the districts attention. The more activities we have the more opportunities there are to serve others and to grow in our sobriety. When I first came into AA my sponsor made it very simple for me. He said "the secret of staying sober is to not drink, work the steps and to serve other people."

In loving service, Tom Y. DCM

Secretary: The minutes of the January 9th meeting were reviewed by all present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the January 9th meeting minutes. Passed. Thank you for the emailed and written reports I have received to include in the minutes. ~Marty S.

Newsletter: Nothing to report. ~Ronald M.

Grapevine: The poster did well at Intergroup and is now on display at the Central Office. Reimbursement was made for materials. ~CJ D.

Webmaster: As your website administrator it is my job to maintain and organize your web site to represent Alcoholics Anonymous in District 01 and to reflect all its members. To help me accomplish this I am asking any members from District 01 to let me know if there is ever any mistakes on our web site. If you notice any mistakes to the posted meeting list, please email me at webmaster@greenbayaa.org. I will continue to create and manage the information contained in our website to the best of my ability. I will strive to examine and analyze the sites traffic. On the sheet that I sent all of you I have put a chart that shows you the traffic for the last year on our website. I have also, included a short description of the meaning of each column. You will notice that the traffic on our website is quite active. Some months are slower than others but over all we have a lot of visitors looking for information about AA in Green Bay. I added the Hot Line phone number to the website. Jack gave to all present a report of website usage information titled "Summary Period: Last 12 Months" (Feb 2013 – Jan 2014). ~Jack S.

Corrections: People wanting to volunteer to bring AA into the prison call: Ron O. 920-321-1072 or the volunteer coordinator at the prison. Absent from illness and submitted this report: ~Ron O.

District Events: January 18th Green Bay Inter-group

Attendance was roughly between 150 to 200 people. The event went off exponentially. We had several people show up before the event to help with the setup and preparing of the coffee. There were booths in the back of the room for the Grapevine, and Central Office. Several different items were donated from different groups and the Central Office which were "raffled" off. We would like to thank Paul W. and Gloria for their inspiring stories of how alcoholism has affected their lives. We had lots of left over sloppy joe's and other foods which we donated to St. Johns Homeless Shelter, the Women's Recovery House, and the Oxford House. Clean up went pretty well. Lots of people stayed after to help with the effort and a handful stayed until we locked the doors. We would like to thank the district for allowing us to set up and be of service with this event. Currently we are working on a dance in Spring. ~Jason P. and Josiah P.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: Since the last meeting I have done the following:

-received permission from the Central Office to use their information on my business card. This gives me extra contact information to pass along. The cards look great and I can't wait for you to see them!

-have attended a business meeting of the home group of Paul S.

-have received the CPC manual and kit from the New York office.

-have started the book Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, and am doing a book study with my sponsor of this book.

In the next month I plan to review the CPC Manual/Kit. After some study, I hope to have a plan of action to make contact with professionals in the community. Absent and submitted this report: ~Jennifer A.

Public Information: Am organizing literature packages and have 8-10 places to put them. After a short discussion, a motion was made and seconded to increase the Public Information annual budget from \$600 to \$1000 for literature purchases. Passed. ~Paul K.

Bridging the Gap: BTG is doing well. Lots of inmates filling out contacts. A lot of new women have stepped up to help. Thanks so much. ~Mary S.

Archives: I have reviewed the location of the archives at the Central Office. I would like to propose that the archives be put out into display cases in the front of the office, arranged and rotated to allow more viewing by visitors to the Central office. Bruce was encouraged by all present to do this suggestion. ~Bruce K.

Treasurer's Report: Page 3. ~Pat H.

Old Business

•District 01 Bylaws. Tom Y. asked that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to review the District 01 Bylaws/Guidelines dated July 1st, 2009. Bruce K. offered to serve as Chair and will form the committee.

•Tom Y. announced that the General Service Office is updating its GSR information in the EASTERN U.S. A.A. DIRECTORY and asked our GSRs to email their current group information to Area 74 Secretary/Registrar Scott K. secretary@area74.org or to Tom Y. at dcmtom01@gmail.com.

•Report on the "Women's Recovery Workshop" held at The Bridge on Feb 8, 2014: We considered it a huge success; attendance was "standing room only" estimated at 80-100 people. When asked, the participants were enthusiastic about having another next year—longer than 3 hours and at a larger facility (last year attendance was 30-40).

We neglected to obtain the \$125 seed money from the district, but please receive \$74.50 after all expenses have been paid (that includes rent to the Bridge, printing of hand-outs and day-care costs). Thank you for your support of this function which seems obvious to us is very worthwhile.

Submitted by Marian K. (absent from this district meeting due to a need to be present at "Women in the Present" Thursday night meeting)

•District 01 Game Day, "Beat The Winter Blues" is set for Saturday, March 8th, 2014 1pm-4pm at The Bridge, 2514 Jenny Lane, Green Bay.

An open event for friends and family. Kids are Welcome! You can copy the flyer to pass around at: <http://www.greenbayaa.org/PDF/events/BeatTheWinterBlues.pdf>

•The New Group and GSR Change Forms are available for pick-up during this District 01 meeting.

New Business

•After some discussion and a withdrawn motion to separate the District 01 Event Funds into its own account, a motion was made and seconded to eliminate the separation/designation of District 01 Event Funds in the Treasury and to increase the prudent reserve from \$650 to \$1300. Motion passed.

•Tom Y. announced that on Saturday, March 29, 2014 there will be at the Reiter Center, 1858 S. Michigan St., Three Lakes, WI the Area 74 Delegate's Workshop from 9:00 am to 11:30 am opening with a welcome by the Area Delegate and an Area Standing Committees discussion of the General Service Conference Agenda items.

Then beginning at 3:30 pm the Area Chair will open the Area 74 Area Committee Meeting to approve the December 1, 2013 minutes, receive the Delegates and DCM reports, the Area Committee Meeting (to be held on May 18, 2014 in Neenah, WI. at the Spring Conference), Old Business, the P.I. update on Websites, New Business, and a review of the Agenda for the March 30, 2014 Assembly.

The next day, Sunday, March 30th will be the Area 74 Delegates Workshop Assembly. It will begin at 8:30 am with the new GSR and DCM orientation. At 9:00 am the Open Assembly will begin with a roll call, approval of Assembly Minutes from 10/19/2013, the Officer Reports, the Standing Committee Chair Reports (consisting of the work done the previous day during the Delegates workshop), New Business, and Conference Reports and Bids.

Tom Y and the District 01 GSRs attending will bring back to us the changes and issues for Group discussion. The consensus reached by the Groups will be given to Tom Y. and forwarded to the Area 74 Delegate, Mary Jo R. when she attends the General Service Conference in New York on April 27 to May 3, 2014.

Tom Y. encouraged us to familiarize ourselves with the Service Structure beyond the District level.