



The Communicator

OCTOBER | 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)

WHO SAYS THERE IS NO SUCH THING!

We hear much said by various speakers about "slips." Some people are of the opinion that there is no such thing as a slip; that taking another drink is a deliberate act. With the latter part of that statement this writer agrees: the taking of a drink is a deliberate act. However, in my opinion, I cannot agree with the statement that there is no such thing as a slip.

I have found that in my own case the taking of a drink after being in A.A. was not the slip itself, but rather the result of a slip that started anywhere from an hour to a week or more prior to taking that drink. In looking back and thinking over each slip that I have had, a definite pattern was noticed in connection with each one: The slip always came when I was physically or mentally tired, or both; it was always preceded by a nervous irritation which eventually got out of control; prior to the nervous irritation I was critical of the shortcomings of my fellow workers; I was intolerant of the other man because he disagreed with me or could not comprehend my feelings--that old "egotism" sprouting out again! And, if I go back far enough, to the very beginning of the slip, it usually disclosed the fact that I was missing a meeting here or there; I was not continuing to take the moral inventory as suggested in the 10th Step; I was not practicing and living the A.A. Program, but instead I was putting one or two nights a week aside for this purpose, provided nothing else came up.

This pattern, with some slight deviations, was so consistent on each slip that it was worth while thinking about it to pull myself in check once and for all so as to be able to recognize the next potential slip when it first starts. If I can recognize that first apparently insignificant but tremendously important deviation from "Route A.A.," pulling back on the main highway before getting lost on some side road will not be too difficult. To me, the ability to recognize this first indication of a slip, and thereby avoid the processes of alcoholic thinking which it brings, is as important as avoiding the first drink which always brings on a drunk. My mind has been so used to following the road of least resistance that if something is not done to pull in at the very first sign of a deviation and if some real effort is not made to get back on the right road I know I will follow the old course to the first drink and finally to who-knows-how-much trouble.

The remedy is not too difficult, once you get used to it. It is simply to apply the 10th Step; put it into practice. The 10th Step does not say, "Take another moral inventory;" it says "continue to take a moral inventory." To me it merely means check over your life within the recent past. Do not go back to some of the things you did while on a binge; that is covered by the 4th Step. Merely continue to check your current past to see if you have improved in your normal living, in your dealings with others, and in your dealings with yourself. If you are not honest and fair and square with yourself you cannot be so with others.

I, as an alcoholic, cannot stand still in life: I must either progress or slide back. If I want to progress I must work at it; otherwise I know I will eventually slip. I try to make this progress by applying the 10th Step every time my mind becomes idle and I momentarily have nothing to do; or when things begin to "pile up" and seem to be getting out of control. I find it takes only a split second to swerve off the highway and start down the wrong road. It is then that our little slogans help me a lot: Easy Does It; First Things First. If I find myself getting worked up over something and ready to "fly off the handle," I pray for the wisdom to know whether or not I can do anything to remedy the situation at hand, and if I can, for the courage to do so, and if not, for the serenity to accept it. Then I try to relax, do the best I can, and leave the rest to God, asking Him to help me and let me know what He wants me to do.

I have found that this has helped me tremendously in my fight with John Barleycorn. I know I cannot lick the Old Man, but with the help of God and A.A. I can keep him from licking me.

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www.aagrapevine.org

"Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it."

~Tradition Ten~

Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

4TH & 5TH STEP FALL RETREAT*

OCTOBER 10-12, 2014

AA and AI-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@yahoo.com

THE BRIDGE CHILI DINNER AND FUND RAISER*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014

4:30-6:00 pm

2514 Jenny Lane, Green Bay, WI

Open Speaker Meeting 6:30 pm

All persons welcome to attend

Any donations go toward The Bridge new roof
(no fees required)

218 CLUB HALLOWEEN DANCE*

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1ST, 2014

9:00 - Midnight

218 S Oneida St, Green Bay, WI

DJ / Dancing - Costume Contest

50/50 Raffle - Bring a snack

\$4.00 Donation at the Door

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.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN AA

(WICYPAA)

JANUARY 9-11, 2015

The Plaza Hotel and Suites

1202 W. Clairemont Ave

Eau Claire, WI

Conference Info & Registration: www.wicypaa.org

Hotel reservations (715) 834-3181

2015 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS*

JULY 2-5, 2015 - Atlanta, Georgia

With the theme "80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free."

Pre-registration deadline: May 12, 2015

Pre-registration fee: \$100

For more information: www.aa.org

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

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

Volunteers Needed Serving Brown County Jail*

Help Carry the Message Behind Bars!

Corrections Volunteers Urgently Needed

For Authorization Forms

Contact: Tim T. (920) 227-3156 or totoepel@aol.com

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

Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report

Prepared for the September 11, 2014 GSR Meeting

Starting Balance as of 08/12/2014 \$2,542.05

Expenses	
Color Master - Newsletters	\$143.50
The Bridge - rent	\$15.00
Total Expenses-	-\$158.50

Deposits:	
August 14, 2014 7th Tradition	\$20.00
Early Bird	\$100.00
Sisters in Sobriety	\$34.00
Total Deposits+	+\$154.00

Ending Balance September 11, 2014	\$2,537.55
(\$1,300.00 for prudent reserve)	\$1,300.00
Total Funds Available to spend	\$1,237.55

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 Tim T. 920-227-3156	Corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine CJ D. 920-221-5443	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Meeting List Changes Ronald M. 920-593-2915	MeetingList@greenbayaa.org	Coop with Prof. Comm. (CPC) Amy G.	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

Recovery

Behind the Scenes

That meeting book in his hand did not magically appear

As my life got increasingly unmanageable during the last years of drinking, I withdrew more and more and became isolated from meaningful interactions with others. That this was happening in midtown Manhattan made life all the more lonely. So it was with amazement that in early sobriety I discovered AA's meeting book for our greater metropolitan area.

While it was as confusing as a train schedule at first, I was like a kid with a new-found toy, running around town to meetings in a great many unlikely places at all hours of the day and night. Here was a listing that said a particular sort of AA meeting would be held at a certain time and place, and behold, there it was—and run by drunks that I would guess hadn't always been reliable for keeping commitments. This world was a radically different place from where I'd so recently lived and drunk. A whole different set of principles were guiding these mostly sober folks who, while they seemed pretty laid back and casual, were well enough organized to be there when the meeting book said they would be.

A couple years later when doing a weekly stint as a telephone answering volunteer at our intergroup office, I was able to see how the information was gathered, updated and regularly published. The meeting lists hadn't just happened miraculously. They were the result of well-organized effort and just plain hard work. At last I came to understand that while AA itself must never be organized, there were some jobs in AA that need to be well-planned.

As a member of our general service area, I found myself working on the planning committee for our annual area convention, and saw how AA members find strength in getting together to enjoy the broadest community aspects of our Fellowship. So our convention has become an annual custom that provides much joy in living and sharing. It needs a lot of careful planning and organizing to make it happen and to provide for the needs of an unbelievably diverse range of tastes, spirits and temperaments. The going was not always as smooth as we planned as we did the necessary tasks, but the results were beyond our wildest dreams. And we all stayed sober right through the Sunday morning meeting that closed the event. We had created a committee directly responsible to those who need our services.

—Boyce B., Brooklyn, N.Y.
www.aagrapevine.org/feature/36441

Hi. Sunday can be a hard time for us alkie and I love starting/ending the week with a Alcoholics Anonymous lesson. Could you put in a request for support for the **7:00 Sunday evening 12 and 12 meeting at The Bridge** (2514 Jenny Ln)? This meeting focuses on steps and traditions. It is a great format; 2-3 paragraphs at a time with discussions about what has been read. Thanks much, Janis

Football Fans

*Sports teams can be as divisive as politics and religion.
Should we leave our loyalties at the door?*

"I was excited to see so many loyal and sober football fans sharing in the excitement as football is a big sport in our city."

Recently, a situation occurred at a meeting, that was previously my home group for 20 years, that has deeply troubled me. At this meeting, everyone was dressed in apparel that was supportive to our football team.

I was excited to see so many loyal and sober football fans sharing in the excitement as football is a big sport in our city. My excitement faded into sorrow and sadness when I saw the speaker's table draped with a promotional materials from the team.

I shared concerns with a few of my closest home group friends. I mentioned the importance of singleness of purpose, but my concerns were treated with indifference, and the cloth article stayed on the table.

Quietly, I left before the meeting started, disappointed by the lack of concern. On the way home, I asked myself these questions; how would a non-sports new comer feel? What other NON-AA promotional item (however worthy) might be put on the table in the future? and what does this article of cloth have to do with AA?

At home, I got out my Twelve and Twelve and recalled what previous sponsors had shared with me about the Traditions—especially Traditions Five and Ten. I spent several minutes in reflection and prayer as well as taking a brief Tenth Step inventory of which the results are:

*I can pray for guidance and understanding.

*I can go to another meeting (which I am considering). These people are my friends, and although we may disagree on this situation, it will not change my friendship with them.

*I can be thankful to those long timers for giving me tools to work thru this problem.

—Jerry K., Pittsburgh, Pa.
www.aagrapevine.org/feature/1490

Hello to all people in recovery. My name is Kevin V. - 30 years young and have been sober for 7 years. We are starting a young people's meeting as an effort to encourage recovery from substance abuse within the greater Green Bay area. With the encouragement of the recovery community, we hope to provide young people an environment to grow through the struggles within our journey through healthy recovery. Young people need a meeting space and I hope to get support from all the young people and the older people within the recovery community.

SATURDAY, 3:30 PM
Closed Meeting - Topic Discussion
DarJune Cafe and Recovery Community (meeting room)
1301 South Broadway, Green Bay, WI 54304
Corner of S. Broadway & 9th

Resources Online

"Keep Recovery in Your Head"

Alcoholics Anonymous World Org: www.aa.org

WI Young People in AA (WICYPAA) www.wicypaa.org

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

AA Speakers Online & No Cost 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

Send your short story about recovery to *The Communicator*: newsletter@greenbayaa.org

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

September 11, 2014

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Dear Friends:

Summer is coming to an end and the year seems to be flying by. This coming Saturday we will have the opportunity to get together at our annual district picnic. We will come together in fellowship and the joy of being sober. Remember we are not a glum lot. The fall conference is only a few weeks away. This is a great opportunity to see old friends and to meet a lot of new ones. There will also be an area assembly at the conference. All GSRs should attend. This is your opportunity to bring your groups conscience to the area. We have a good group of GSRs that attend the district meetings but we would love to see a lot more. Less than 25% of the groups in the district are represented at the district meetings. Ask your GSR if they are attending the district meetings? If not encourage them to do so. If your group doesn't have a GSR it is a great service opportunity to become one.

In closing I wish to thank all the people who have made our district successful and look forward to seeing you all at the picnic.

In loving service,

Tom Y. DCM District 01

Secretary: The August 14th minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 14th minutes. Motion passed. ~Marty S.

Archives: Absent. ~Bruce K.

Bridging the Gap: Lots of new volunteers. Need help from men. Trying to incorporate A A members who have been incarcerated. Thanks to all that make this work. ~ Mary S.

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

Corrections: Absent ~Tim T.

District Events: Absent ~Josiah P. and Jason P.

Grapevine: Absent. ~CJ D.

Newsletter: Nothing to report. ~Ronald M.

Public Information: Meeting lists were handed out to pharmacies. Getting a spot with Public TV, WPNE. ~Paul K.

Treasurer's Report: Area 74 District 01 Treasurer's Report (see page 2) Prepared for the September 11, 2014 GSR Meeting. Motion made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed. ~Pat H.

Webmaster: This month you will notice that I have added a new page to our website. It is a page that has AA Literature that can be downloaded. You will also notice some small changes to the Steps, Traditions and Minutes pages. On our home page I have add a video stream Public Service Announcement from World Services. On the service page you will now see a link to download the Jail Volunteer Application Form and some of Our AA Jail Volunteers talking about their experiences chairing meeting in the correctional facilities in our district. Please take a look and let me know what you think. Respectfully submitted. Jack S. Webmaster District 01 ~Jack S.

GSR Reports

Early Birds: Going strong; received the newcomer's packets, they will be ready for next week. ~Don D.

Eye Opener: Our group is doing well. ~Geri L.

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

It's In the Book: Nothing to report. ~ Pat H.

New Hope: Going well. ~ John C.

Red Road: Nothing to report. ~Matt H.

Serenity Now: Nothing to report. ~Jennifer A.

Old Business

• Are there any ideas for workshops? Ronald M. suggested a workshop focusing on the time when we are not new to recovery but struggling with it, like a dry drunk. Each person finds their own particular methods to help with sobriety. These can be shared. Also mentioned as a topic was, "Relationships: Successes and Failures" and "How to carry the Message"

• AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE 2015. Groups are asked to sign up for a time slot to bring eats and drink for the hospitality room. Please contact Kimberly S. to sponsor a slot. kimmvschuyler@gmail.com or 920.592.9337.

• Confirmation of CPC Chair/Amy G. After brief discussion a motion was made and seconded that Amy G. assume the position of Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair through the end of the current term. Motion passed. Thank you for your service, Amy.

New Business

• Fall Conference Assembly Agenda Tom Y. passed out to all present the agenda for the September 27, 2014 Fall Conference Assembly in Eau Claire, WI. He encouraged District 01 GSRs to attend, to vote and to serve.

• Jennifer A. A resource center opening on corner of Walnut and Quincy bought by St. John's the Evangelist Church. Open Monday thru Friday as a drop in for homeless people and set up to help the community with housing, education, jobs .etc. They want it to be an AA meeting site with a large room for use. They would like support from the AA community. More info to follow as I know more.

• Don D. distributed the Central Office registration information. It is: Green Bay Area Central Office, Inc., (685278), 1270 Main St., Suite 102, Green Bay, 54302, 24 Hour Hotline (920-432-2600), FAX (920-432-2700), Website: www.greenbayaa.org, Email: info@aagreenbay.com.

• Kevin V. announced that the DarJune Cafe'-Recovery Community at 1301 S Broadway, Green Bay is available to host an AA meeting. Open hours are Mon - Sun, 8:00 am - 10:00 pm. He encouraged us to stop in and look around.