



The Communicator

MAY | 2019

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)

ONLINE SOBRIETY

"She hated computers, but finding AA online forums gave her the courage to return to the program after a long relapse"

My story begins in 1991 when I was first introduced to AA. I went to meetings, had a number of sponsors, and actually made it to more than a year of sobriety, but it turned out I wasn't done drinking yet.

Fast forward to the year 2006. My husband and I got our first computer. I didn't like computers at all! I thought that they were going to ruin the world. (Actually, that's still in question.) By this time, I was drinking on a daily basis. I had stopped working a few years earlier, due to other health problems. I had my days and nights mixed up. I drank until 4:30 AM and didn't get out of bed until after 1:00 PM most of the time. My selfishness and self-loathing were taking over—I didn't care if I got out of bed or if I would ever wake up again. Mentally and spiritually I was hitting bottom. But I was still not done the drinking.

But even with my drinking, I was starting to learn and figure out things on the computer. I discovered online forums of people writing back and forth on whatever subjects interested them. I first joined a cat site, since I have always loved animals, cats especially. It was ok for a while but I didn't feel like I fit in with the people on there. Then I joined a paranormal site. There were a lot of interesting things to read on that site, but the people were a bit strange, so that wasn't for me, either.

By now, I was feeling overwhelmingly lonely. I was drinking every day, with no friends anymore, no one to talk to except my husband when he was home from work. I was starting to feel worse and worse, physically and mentally. My days blended together. It didn't matter if it was Monday or Thursday because it was the same thing, day after day. Drink, eat, clean house a little (maybe), go on the computer, and then go to bed. Get up and do it all over again.

One day, I decided to see if Alcoholics Anonymous was on the computer. Yep, there it was. So, I drank and read, drank and read. I actually found somewhere or another online of an audio recording of Bill W speaking at a convention somewhere. I cried listening to that and remembering how it was when I was in AA years before. Then I ended up finding other websites, with recovering alcoholics involved in forums and online meetings. For nine months, I wrote back and forth with these people, while drinking my rum and cokes. They kept telling me to go back to AA, and I kept saying: "No, I'm scared, it didn't work for me." Eventually, in the summer of 2007, I did get the courage to go back to AA. I struggled that whole year and kept drinking every couple of weeks. I couldn't get a month under my belt. But I kept hearing over and over: "Keep coming back" and "Don't give up before the miracle." In January 2008, I picked up a white chip and I haven't had a drink since.

I have a home group and a sponsor, and I've held a few service positions. I truly believe my Higher Power reached out to me through the computer even though I didn't understand it at the time. Today I still go on my forums with my AA friends from all over the US and the world. Some of the people who helped me so many years ago to get the courage to go back to AA are still there. I owe my life to them and Alcoholics Anonymous.

So I guess computers aren't that bad after all. I wouldn't be sober today if I didn't have one.

~Barb C. Endicott, N.Y.

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

AREA 74 SPRING CONFERENCE

MAY 17-19, 2019
Hosted by District 02
Liberty Hall and Conference Center
800 Eisenhower Drive
Kimberly, WI 54136

Event Details and Conference Registration:
WWW.DISTRICT02AA.ORG/11785.HTML

MEMORIAL DAY GRATITUDE MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019
(CLOSED MEETING)
10:00 a.m.
The 218 Club
218 S. Oneida St.
Green Bay, WI 54304

MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC & FIRESIDE MEETING

"It's in the Book"
MONDAY MAY 27, 2019
5:00 p.m. - Fellowship & Food
7:30 p.m. - Outdoor Meeting
Dinner provided, bring a dish to pass
DCDC
Divine Temple Church
421 Cherry Street, Green Bay WI 54301

JULY 4TH GRATITUDE MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 4, 2019
(CLOSED MEETING)
10:00 a.m.
The 218 Club
218 S. Oneida St.
Green Bay, WI 54304

THIRD ANNUAL BREWER BUS TRIP

JUNE 27, 2019
9:00 a.m. - ~6:00 p.m.
\$55 a person
Send checks to Central Office District 1
1270 Main Street #102
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54302
For Details: Lloyd Z. (District 1 Events Co-chair)
920-713-0760
Departure: De Pere Park & Ride
100 Lawrence Dr
De Pere, WI 54115

SEYMOUR INTERGROUP*

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
349 N. Main Street
Seymour, WI 54165
Doors open-4:30 p.m., Dinner-6:00 p.m. Meeting-7:00 p.m.
Hot sandwiches provided
Bring a dish to share & bring a friend
SPEAKERS:
Rich H. Hebron, IL (AA)
Bonnie R. McHenry, IL (Al-Anon)

AN EVENING OF GOD TALK*

WITH FATHER BILL
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 7, 2019
5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saint Norbert Center for Spirituality
1016 N Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115

218 CLUB SUMMER PICNIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2019
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Food, Games - bring a dish to pass Murphy Park
1637 Dousman St.
Green Bay, WI 54303

LABOR DAY GRATITUDE MEETING

(Closed Meeting)
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2019
10:00 a.m.
The 218 Club
218 S. Oneida St.
Green Bay, WI 54304

4TH AND 5TH STEP FALL RETREAT*

(AA & Al-Anon)
OCTOBER 25-27, 2019
St. Norbert Center for Spirituality
1016 N Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
\$175 Retreat Registration
(meals & lodging included)
\$100 deposit to
Step Retreats
PO Box 574
Green Bay, WI 54305
Judy G. 920-737-2330

218 CLUB HALLOWEEN PARTY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2019
9:00 p.m. - Midnight
DJ, Prizes for best-scariest costumes
\$4.00 suggested Donation
The 218 Club
218 S. Oneida St.
Green Bay, WI 54304

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

April 11, 2019

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: www.greenbayaa.org)

Secretary, Theresa D. The Maech 2019 minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.

Accessibilities, Joe H. He discussed the recent email received and forwarded to all of us regarding getting stories for The Grapevine regarding accessibilities. Joe indicated that he mailed in his own personal story.

Archives, Bill D. He is hoping to hook up with individuals at the upcoming Spring Conference in Kimberly in order to revive the event regarding the "Old timers" panel.

Bridging the Gap, Marian K. No report available.

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

Corrections - Men, Adam B. Everything is going well. He is looking for more volunteers to assist with the Huber meeting.

Corrections - Women, There are 3 new applicants who are just awaiting the safety training course to be scheduled in order to chair a jail meeting.

District Events Co-Chairs, Tamra D. and Lloyd Z. The Brewer Bus was discussed. Some checks are coming in. There was an error in the flyers made -- the Brewers are playing the Mariners and not the Cardinals. This event needs to be added to the website.

Grapevine, Vacancy-No report available.

Newsletter, Ronald M. Ron will be adding the Brewer Bus details as well as information regarding the new Libertas meeting to the Newsletter. He will also assist in creating guidelines for the Newsletter as to what can be accepted and what cannot.

Public Information Chair, Pat. T.C. PI committee is going well and many ladies are helping to deliver pamphlets. I contacted Joe H. (Accessibilities) to let him know I have pamphlets for him. Delivered Spanish pamphlets to Spanish group. Order \$300.00 as needed -- assorted pamphlets.

Webmaster, Debbie P. & Sam J. He will post information on the website regarding the Brewer Bus and the new meeting at Libertas.

Old Business:

A vote was taken as to the issue of allowing the 50/50 raffle to take place at District sponsored events, along with the continuation of raffling off auction items where tickets are purchased. The majority vote was that these practices be discontinued. Silent auctions may still be held.

New Business:

Contacting GSRs from Inactive groups was discussed. The 7-page list of local AA groups was gone through group by group, and District GSRs and Chairs volunteered to contact specific groups in order to established a contact person for each group. That information will then be sent to the GSO in New York.

Treasurer's Report, Patrick H. Prepared for the March 2019 Meeting

Starting Balance \$5,719.40

Deposits		Expenses		Ending Balance March, 2019	\$5,109.31
Pulaski Monday Night	83.30	Nationwide Travelers	979.75	<u>Prudent Reserve</u>	-1,300.00
<u>Arithmetic Adj.</u>	<u>442.23</u>	(Events)		Total Funds Available	\$3,809.31
Total Deposits:	\$525.53	Pat T.C. (PI)	4.21		
Subtotal:	\$6,244.93	DigiCopy (Newsletter)	125.28		
		<u>Lloyd Z. (Events)</u>	<u>26.38</u>		
		Total Expenses:	\$1,135.62		

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the March 2019 Treasurer's Report.

GSR Reports:

- Promise Seekers, Tom D. Meetings are going well.
- Sisters in Sobriety, Violet B. Meetings are going well; attendance is good.
- Early Birds, Kathy B. Meetings are doing well.
- Letting Go, Donna Y. Going well. The group is helping Henrietta with PI to target schools.
- Eye Opener/St. Matt's, William W. The meetings are going well.
- Women in the Present, Renae S. Tentatively scheduled a date the end of April for a group bowling outing. Regarding the gambling issue, all in attendance (16 members) abstained. Meeting well attended including many newcomers.

Fitting In

He played the clown and partied hard, but was never able to find his place until he got honest about his drinking

Recently, I was asked what got me to A. A. For me, it was the emptiness inside. I always had big time insecurities and felt that I didn't belong. That square peg in the round hole, as mentioned in the literature. I was sipping my father's beer as a young age. When I was 13 I had a bad accident, breaking all three bones in my left leg. They didn't heal properly causing my shin to have a 12-degree angle outward. This confirmed that I was different physically, as well as mentally.

When I had my first drunk the day after I turned 14, on New Year's Eve, the fear was only slightly removed, never gone fully. I felt that if you got to know me you wouldn't like me, so I would find a group of people that partied like I did, or I did like they did, until I felt I'd worn out my welcome. I'd run to another group, and another, and, well, you get the picture. I did this for many years. I developed a gift of gab, being the joker, the comedian, with me being the brunt of my own humor. This gift of gab enabled me to talk my way into, and out of, many situations, like a field sobriety test, fights, and relationships. I was never arrested, nor did I go to a detox or rehab. Despite this, the entire time, I never lost my fear of just being a wallflower in social situations and in life.

When I was 15, I did have the thought that I might have a drinking problem, since I couldn't stop once I got started, but I never said anything to anyone about it. When I was about 30, living at my parent's house, going through a divorce, I had that same thought. This time I mentioned it to my dad. He worked with a couple of guys that were sober in A.A. and they knew what to do. I went to my first meeting sometime around April of 1990, stopped drinking, but continued to do smoke pot. I went on a commitment with a few guys and asked one if smoking pot was being sober. He almost snorted coffee out of his nose on that one. He and the other men present asked me what I thought. I got honest and said no. At that meeting, I got my one, and only, 24-hour chip and have not looked back.

My sobriety started July 8, 1990, and has remained continuous ever since. ~Jim G. New Boston, N.H.

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

GREEN BAY AREA CENTRAL OFFICE

Sunday/ Monday	CLOSED	As the shift calendar fills out, hours will become more stable and regular. Thank you for your service.
Tuesday	10:00 – 6:30	
Wednesday	10:00 – 5:00	
Thursday	10:00 – 1:30	
Friday	10:00 – 5:00	
Saturday	10:00 – 1:00	

Board meeting last Tuesday of the Month at 6:00
All are welcome. Fit it to your convenience.

Thank you, Marty S.

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		Pat TC 920-301-3436	
Corrections Chairperson	corrections@greenbayaa.org	Grapevine	grapevine@greenbayaa.org
Adam B. 920-680-9496 (Men)		Coop with Prof. Comm.	cpc@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889 (Women)		Events	events@greenbayaa.org
Meetings List	meetinglist@greenbayaa.org	Lloyd Z. 920-713-0760	
Ronald M. 920-593-2915		Tamera D. 920-321-4910	
Treasurer	treasurer@greenbayaa.org	Webmasters	webmaster@greenbayaa.org
Patrick H. 920-819-5284		Sam J.. 920-	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Accessibility	accessibility@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Joe H. 920-569-2053	
Hotline			
Tom M. 920-562-2689			