



# The Communicator

JULY | 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)

## *THE BEST TOOL*

*"A member in prison gets to help two newcomers and leaves them with some words that last"*

If I would like to share a story with you that I feel was a divine appointment from my Higher Power working through me, AA and Grapevine.

I am in prison in Florida. I am near the end of my sentence, which enables me to sign up for a work-release program. The week that I was supposed to enroll, I was randomly transferred from the prison where I was being housed. Instead of being anxious and fearful, I decided to trust God. My AA program has taught me to trust and believe what it says in the "Acceptance" passage in the Big Book: "Nothing, absolutely nothing happens in God's world by mistake."

Because I was in transit, I had to be housed at a reception center for five days. From there, I was transferred to my new prison. I found out the date and time of the AA meetings at this reception center and made it a priority to make it to a meeting. When I got to the meeting room, about 12 other inmates and the two outside volunteers were already there.

I noticed several issues of Grapevine sitting on the desk in front of the volunteers. Two of the issues had articles that I had written published! The first article was "Hurricane Relief" (July, 2018); and the second was "Soul Food," (August, 2018). I decided not to mention that my articles were in those two Grapevines, as I didn't want to boost my ego.

One of the volunteers started the meeting by introducing a discussion topic of "Step One and powerlessness." This was a topic that I knew all too well. I raised my hand a few times to share, but the volunteer kept on talking every time I thought he was about finished.

I began to feel anxious, so I prayed: "God, if it's meant for me to share, then so be it." That gave me the peace of mind that I needed to calm down and listen to the volunteer as he shared. I became OK with the fact that I was there to hear the message and that it's OK if I don't get to share at a meeting.

As we were leaving, I thanked the volunteers. I was the last one to walk out of the room. I ended up walking behind three newcomers as we headed toward the dorms. I heard them talking about how alcohol ruined their lives and how they had to stop drinking. As I listened to them, I knew I had to share something with these guys.

As I approached them, I saw that they had picked up copies of the Big Book and copies of Grapevine issues with the articles that I had written. I asked them if I could share something with them. When they agreed, I showed them my articles in Grapevine. I shared with them how being in prison gave me the gift of desperation, how the Steps have changed my life and how the Promises had materialized in my life, especially the Tenth Step Promise.

As we were parting ways to go to separate dorms, I encouraged them to continue to go to meetings and work the program. They thanked me, and as I walked away, I realized that I had just had a spiritual experience.

I am extremely grateful for my Higher Power, the program of AA and Grapevine. In prison it can be hard to carry the message, but I found that Grapevine is a great tool for me to share. ~Justin "Gio" G. Port St. Lucie, Florida..

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

6:00 p.m.

(CENTRAL OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)

Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office  
1270 Main Street #102  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
For details: 920-432-2600

**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

**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

**32ND ANNUAL WOLF RIVER-NICOLET AA CAMPING TRIP\***

AUGUST 9-11, 2019

Reserve your cabin or campsite online  
(See website for pricing)

Campsites, Cabins, Bathrooms, & Showers  
Family, Friends, Adults, Children

Many activities, games, meetings, rafting, hiking, etc.

No registration fee or sign-up requirements.

You are responsible for payment for accommodations and your meals.

Saturday night open speaker and bonfire meeting:

Abby M. (Green Bay, WI)

Bear Paw Outdoor Adventure Resort & Campground  
N3494 Hwy 55

White Lake, WI 54491

715-882-3502

For Information: Lauren P.

920-905-9793

sobercamping2019@gmail.com

**FREE FAMILY CONCERT FOR ALL AGES**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2019

(Open Meeting)

6:00 pm Hot Dogs and Chips

7:00-8:00 pm Concert

\*concert will be on grass, please bring a blanket or chair

Voyageur Park East DePere

(shelter closest to Fox River)

100 William St

De Pere, WI 54115

For Information: Tamara D.

920-321-4910

**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

**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

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (GSR) MEETING

June 13, 2019

District Committee Member (DCM) Report-Summary:

(Meeting Minutes Online: [www.greenbayaa.org](http://www.greenbayaa.org))

**DCM, Matt B.** Hello GSRs and Committee Chairs.

I attended the Spring Conference in Kimberly, and was astonished at how smoothly we traveled through our agenda items. That is until we hit on a previously reviewed and voted on item regarding the “Now and Then” that for some reason needed to be revisited in its entirety for adaptation into our by-laws. Oh well the joys and thrills of service. One item worth mentioning is the decision by the district for ad-hoc committees to study and report on the effectiveness of efficiency of our current business meeting schedule. District 2 put on a great conference from what I could see and the feedback of attendees all seemed positive. They managed to cover all expenses also, which I know is always a worrisome issue when hosting a conference. Area Registrar presented a new list for each district for updating lists and the several open positions in the area remain open. The area is looking for bids still for the 2020 Fall Conference and have asked those interested to submit bids asap. There is also an ad-hoc committee for creating guideline for content of items published in the “Now and Then”. Last but not least the area is asking for greater participation from GSRs at assemblies and the feedback about cost to groups and the number of assemblies per year has been noted and is part of the exploratory work of the ad-hoc committee studying our business meeting schedule. Please review the “Now and Then” for additional information on any of the above items and to read the reports by our area officers. Yours in service, Matt B, DCM 01  
(Matt will not be returning for an additional two-year term commencing Jan, 2020)

**Secretary, Theresa D.** The May, 2019 minutes were reviewed by those present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. (Theresa will be stepping down from this position for the two year term starting in Jan., 2020)

**Accessibilities, Joe H.** Nothing to report.

**Archives, Bill D.** No report available.

**Bridging the Gap, Marian K.** Everything is going well and she has a fabulous crew. She has agreed to volunteer for another two-year term come fall elections.

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

**Corrections - Men, Adam B.** No report available.

**Corrections - Women, Theresa D.** A new volunteer has completed the Safety Training Course through Brown County and is now ready to start chairing meetings. Two other gals are slated to attend the July 2nd Safety Training Course and will soon be able to chair meetings as well. I have volunteered to stay on for another two year term come fall elections. Adam B., chair for Male Corrections, indicated to me that he will return for another two-year term starting Jan., 2020.

**District Events Co-Chairs, Tamra D. and Lloyd Z.** Discussion was had as to the possibility of having a “Family/Kid’s “ event; hiring Randy Peterson for entertainment. Organizing a bonfire in the fall was also another possible event to consider. Tamra has decided not to return for another two-year term starting in Jan., 2020. The Brewer Bus was discussed. The bus is only half full at this time and there is a concern as to whether more people will sign up. There are scholarships available so some seats are free.

**Grapevine, Vacancy**-No report available.

**Newsletter, Ronald M.** Ronald will be stepping down for the two-year term starting in Jan., 2020.

**Public Information Chair, Pat. T.C.** Everything is going well. She will choose to stay on for another two-year term come fall elections.

**Webmaster, Sam J.** No report available.

**Treasurer’s Report, Prepared for the June, 2019 Meeting.** (Patrick has agreed to stay on for another two-year term come fall elections.)

Starting Balance	\$5,150.76	Expenses		Ending Balance May, 2019	\$5,129.70
Deposits		Marian K. (Corrections)	49.68	Prudent Reserve	-1,300.00
Brewer Bus	165.00	Theresa D. (Corrections)	37.50	<b>Total Funds Available</b>	<b>\$3,829.70</b>
Total Deposits:	\$165.00	Adam B. (Corrections)	48.88		
Subtotal:	\$5,315.76	Brewer Bus	50.00		
		Total Expenses:	\$186.06		

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

## GSR Reports:

- Sisters in Sobriety, Sue C. Meetings are going well; attendance is good.
- Women in the Present, Renae S. Nothing new to report.
- Never on Sunday, Bruce K. Meetings are going well.
- Promise Seekers, Tom D. They recently did a Big Book study. Meetings doing great.
- Eye Opener/St. Matt's, William W. Meetings are going well. Good attendance.

## Old Business:

Contacting GSRs from Inactive groups was discussed. Those individuals who have agreed to find out contact information for certain groups were encouraged to get Matt this information as soon as possible.

## New Business:

Fall elections were discussed. It is important that GSR's let their groups know early enough about these elections in the hopes of getting the positions filled as smoothly as possible.

Bill D., Archives, provided dates in October and November to hold the "Oldtimer's Panel". It was agreed that the dates of Nov. 2nd or Nov. 9th be considered. Patrick will check with the schedule at the 218 Club as the event will be held there.

Bruce K. volunteered to act as the Chair for CPC. A unanimous vote was had. Thank you, Bruce, for stepping up to the plate for this position.

## MY PLAN TO END IT ALL

*This newcomer's pink cloud may not have lasted, but luckily AA did*

How many times have you heard someone say, "Maybe I'm not ready"? That is a common statement for some members who relapse regularly. But how can it be possible for people to drink again after they've already hit bottom and are convinced that to drink is to die? Well, that was really the case for me.

I drank alcoholically from the day my lips touched liquor. Alcohol was an instant solution for me. I had been feeling like a failure and suicide had begun to look like a viable option. So when I picked up my first drink with the help of a classmate who got the booze with an altered identification card, the effect was electric. I saw drinking as the answer. Why struggle when you can postpone the inevitability of growing up?

By the end of my drinking there was no question that alcohol was no longer working and I was unable to stop drinking. I now see my foray into AA as a way to stop drinking; no more, no less. I knew I was an alcoholic. I wanted to stop but couldn't muster enough power to do the job myself.

When I entered AA, I was totally beaten. I saw no other option except suicide. But the AA Fellowship was sheer magic and saved me from that prospect. I was introduced to meetings by a gentleman who responded when I called the AA hotline. He took me to my first meeting and many more after that.

The camaraderie of AA is a wonderful thing. It carried me along for several months while I resided on a pink cloud. But eventually, in part because I wasn't working a program, the old feelings of negativity and suicidal thoughts returned, and on one fateful day, I made the decision to kill myself because, though I was sober, I felt I wasn't getting all the material stuff that I saw others acquire in what seemed like a very short time of sobriety in AA.

I planned to do it on a Monday. I called my sponsor and told him what I was going to do. Then I hung up before he could respond. Suddenly, the thought went through my mind that it would be much easier to commit suicide if I took a couple of drinks first. After all, I was an alcoholic and if I was going to die anyway, it wouldn't matter if I took a couple of drinks. So I did. I had a few drinks, then a few more and got drunk, dead drunk. My plan ended when I was arrested for drunkenness after the police found me lying on a sidewalk.

This was my last drunk and a repeat of my first: getting drunk, blacking out and getting busted. But the difference was that my last drunk provided an experience where I realized that if I were to get some relief from my suicidal thoughts and if I wanted to stay sober, I better start working on my relationship with God. And more importantly, turn my alcohol problem over to the Great Reality deep within. This I did and I haven't had a drink since. And that was in November of 1976. ~G.H. Kingston, New Hampshire

## 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.. 920-362-4832	
Secretary	secretary@greenbayaa.org	Accessibility	accessibility@greenbayaa.org
Theresa D. 920-490-7889		Joe H. 920-569-2053	
Hotline			
Tom M. 920-562-2689			