



The District View

Web: www.aainwestwis.org Email: thedistrictview@gmail.com

Volume 2015, Issue 7

July 2015

District 05 meeting in
Menomonie Wisconsin!
1412 6th Street E
Menomonie, WI 54751-3331
07/08/2015 at 6:45pm

If you have or know of an alcoholic with the willingness to serve at the district level, this is the chance and time to do so! You can't keep what you have unless you give it away.

*Always looking for experience, strength and hope experiences to add to future newsletters. Submissions can be made to The District View email at the top of this page.

Step 7 Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition 7 Every AA group ought to be fully self supporting, declining outside contributions.

Concept 7 The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A.'s purse for final effectiveness.

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AA Area 74 Service Structure

Delegate Mary Jo R.
Area Chair Kim R.
Secretary Char V.
Treasurer Derek T.

AA District 05

DCM Nicholas S.
Alt. DCM Paul H.
Secretary Shane S.
Treasurer Ron S.

AA District 05 Committees

Archives Derek B
Corrections Molly M.
CPC Jim P.
Grapevine Gary S.
Literature Wayne W.
Newsletter Andy W.
Public Info Myron M
Treatment Kevin K.
Webmaster Jason L.

District 05 Meeting

June 10th, 2015

6:45pm opened with Serenity Prayer

Introductions: GSR'S Present (12) Total in Attendance (22)

SECRETARY REPORT: Shane

Contact list was sent around, No updates where made to the list

Reports Due: Grapevine, webmaster, literature, newsletter, and intergroup

Reports Due Next month: Archives, CPC, Treatment, and Treasures

T.J will be our note taker starting in September for me. I will continue to send out meeting minutes and information to you!

Next month I will be on vacation up north with my family. I will have Derek B. take notes for the meeting.

TREASURE REPORT: Ron

Statement Month: May 2015

Savings Account

Starting Balance: \$455.91

Transactions: \$0.00

Savings Interest: \$0.15

Ending Balance: \$456.06

Checking Account

Starting Balance: \$945.42

Transactions

2256 \$30.00

2247 \$219.69

Group Deposits \$0.00

Ending Balance: \$695.73

Outstanding Transactions

2228 \$46.00

2260 \$30.00

2261 \$62.00

2262 \$98.00

Group Deposits \$633.00

Current Balance: \$1,190.73

Cash Assets: \$1,646.79

\$27.00 for rent was approved for our facility.

Myron, PI committee \$26.78 for mailings to churches. Approved!

Workshop Report: Paul

Please put August 29th on your calendars. Treatment Committee of Eau Claire is hosting a Tradition 3 workshop. More information to come. If you have any questions please contact Kevin, our treatment chair.

PI committee is looking for groups to host Anonymity Workshops, please contact Myron to get something cooking.

Webmaster Report: Jason

Everything that has been submitted to the webmaster email address as of today (6/10/15) at 3:25pm has been updated. I have tentatively chosen Saturday, July 11th as the date to transfer the website to the new plan that was previously covered by the district for significantly discounted 5 year renewal for hosting. I will send another email to the Secretary and DCM to verify that date as it gets closer. There will be a gap in service while this transfer happens which should only be a couple hours at most. However, I wanted to pick a date that I could be certain I was available in case there were issues. I did already talk to my HP and He said we're all good... I will also be researching with GoDaddy what possibilities we would have for adding an online form that could capture information to assist with the master list effort, or at minimum email someone the information for anyone that fills it out. Also, I will seek information about adding a Committee page that would link from the home page. At this time I felt it would be appropriate that from that Committee Page, we would have a link for each committee to have their own downloadable PDF of what they are all about. At minimum, each committee should have equal visibility and opportunity to present information. Any additional input or suggestions on what to incorporate into this effort is very much welcomed. Anonymous Email - After the transfer is complete, I should be able to set up an email account that each committee chair should be able to log into, and send & receive emails, anonymously. I will get these created at some point in the future, along with a document that serves as a guide for how to log in, change your password, etc. This will not happen before August, but is something we can expect to see by the end of the year, depending on how involved the previously mentioned adjustments take. As always, if your group, or one you attend is planning an event, PLEASE be sure to send me a flyer as soon as it is published so I can post it to the website.

Grapevine Report: Gary

The grapevine has been displayed at all district events since my last report. I have placed an order for some new literature for the display and will submit a bill next month hopefully. If anyone has any questions concerning the grapevine please don't hesitate to ask.

Literature Report: Wayne

The literature display was set up at three district functions since my last report with the help of Gary S when I was unable to attend. I replaced one Daily Reflections from a previous sale and added a Daily Reflections large print to the display.

Cash on hand at last report.	21.00
Books purchased.	18.00
Cash on hand.	3.00

I was able to attend the area 74 delegate's workshop and serve on the literature committee. This was the highlight of my service time as literature chair for district 05 and I was thankful for the chance to serve.

Newsletter Report: Andy

I was asked by Nicholas to finish out the year as Newsletter Editor. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Really don't have much to report. I will get the newsletter out by the first of the month. Thinking of ways to add new content besides meeting minutes. I have cleaned up the email contact list, a handful of emails were bouncing back, and added a few new ones to the list. Always looking for articles, feel free to submit any to thedistrictview@gmail.com I do have a question. Should we supply printed copies of the newsletter at District Meetings? Do the GSR's receive a digital copy? Are the GSR's able to print it out for their group? I ask these questions as a possible way to save cost.

Inter Group Report: Bob: not present

Group Updates:

Wednesday, River Falls, 8pm Meeting is now called "Fellowship in Action" instead of Wednesday Night Group. Jason could you make the update on the meeting list!

DCM Report: Nicholas

I attended the Tuesday night Sand Creek group and discussed the service structure and geographic boundaries of District 6. I attended the Spring Conference in Green Bay. The delegates report was given and Mary Jo informed the body that she will not be accepting the traditional grapevine role as shortly after her tenure ends she and her husband are relocating to South Dakota. Full minutes are available of the conference, I would like to hear from the GSR's and those here that were present their experience of the conference. Now and Then Update – We are moving forward with the motion. Discussion with Kathy, Now and Then Editor. At least 2 meetings regarding the district guidelines. Chippewa Prison is seeking speakers at the prison, contact me for more information. I spoke with Andy and he has agreed as you have seen to serve as newsletter chair, he will not, however, be attending the monthly meeting, he will email his report to the secretary. Attended the monthly Treatment Committee Meetings. I beg of you to begin thinking about elections, identifying people you think would be great fits for all the positions available, talk to the current person in the position, talk to the person you think would be good and encourage them. It is not responsible to ask people the night of. Remember we should be thinking of the most qualified people. Service in AA is a privilege. I think of this position and there have been approximately 20 members of AA in district 5 to have this job, I think wow, I am truly humbled. I am seeking reimbursement, Approved!

Printing	\$89.62			
	\$16.50	(The View)		
	\$73.12	(Guidelines)		
Conference	\$143.00	(Travel/Lodging/Registration/Dinner)		
District Travel	\$15.00	\$15.00	Total:	\$262.62

OLD BUSINESS:

AA Spiritual Retreat in Marathon City is not considered an AA approved event. Thank you Wayne for gathering information. AA website: Jason and Nicholas have been working together and coming up with some ideas to possibly having a link for PI, Treatment, Corrections, and CPC on our website, kind of like a one stop shop for service opportunities on these committees. Nicholas also talked about Individual committees coming up with one form or application. More information to come. If you have any questions please contact Nicholas or Jason L. AA Guidelines- Dave K. A rough draft was brought to the meeting. Please, please bring back to your groups and go over the rough draft. Next month we would like your feedback. AA Guidelines will be also attached at the end of the meeting minutes. If you have any questions on the guidelines contact Nicholas or Dave K. We need your feedback!!!!!!!!!!!!

New Business:

2016 Fall Conference Bid – We will vote on next month if we want to host the next fall conference in 2016. Once we vote “yes” hint hint, this fall conference could be in your home town, please gather information, and take back to your home groups. Eau Claire has tentatively reserved the plaza hotel. If we do vote yes we will then bring the bid to our next area fall conference in Wisconsin Rapids for approval in September. October Workshop- Nicholas had talked about a day long workshop with all committees, speakers, and much more. Take this back to your home groups and bring back some ideas. Delegates Report- Looking to have Mary Jo R. to come to our district meeting to share her report with us. Possibly in the months of Oct, Nov, or Dec.

GSR Sharing Session:

Paul M. had reached out to AA members in district (6) and many of them said they would love district 5&6 to combine. Nancy F. talked about the Rock Falls event. When: July 11th, 2015. Where: Rock Creek Lutheran Church. Time: 4pm to 9pm. Please contact mark at 715-495-3501 for more information.

EVENTS COMING UP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

International Convention July 4th weekend down in Atlanta, Georgia
Chippewa Valley Round-up, July 24, 25,26th. At the Plaza in Eau Claire.
August 15th, Area 74 committee meeting in Three Lakes, Wisconsin
September 18th, 19th, 20th Area fall conference in Wisconsin Rapids.

Next Meeting: July 8th, 2015

REPORTS DUE: Archives, CPC, Treatment,CVIG, and TREASURES

What can be done to make A.A. readily accessible to all?

Here is an excerpt from the beginning of the Alcoholic's Anonymous Special Needs Workbook. "While there are no special A.A. members there are many members who have special needs. This would include those who may be hearing-, visually-, or speech-impaired, those who are homebound, chronically ill, those who use wheelchairs, walkers or crutches, and those who are developmentally disabled or who suffer from brain damage, stroke, etc. Whatever their disability or particular challenge to receiving the A.A. message may be, it is hoped that they would never be excluded from A.A. meetings, Twelve Step work or A.A. service. This workbook is designed to help Special Needs-Accessibilities Committees who are providing access to A.A. for those with special needs so that A.A. continues to be inclusive not exclusive. Some Special Needs-Accessibilities Committees serve parents with young children who may have limited access to A.A. meetings. Many A.A. members do not have an issue in getting to a meeting and they have a wide choice of meetings on a daily basis. Imagine... there is only one meeting a day or a week that is open to you. Imagine if you are at this meeting and many A.A.s are reluctant to approach you. Or that there is only one meeting a week which has a wheelchair ramp, but it is snow-covered and inaccessible to you. You may be sober 30 or more years and eager to share in service and carrying the message, but you are stuck home because of some physical challenges. Or A.A. literature may be hard for you to understand because, for any number of reasons, you read at a third grade level. Or you may want to get involved in Twelfth Step work but you don't have access to the Area Service Office because of a few steps. You may now have an idea of what it is like to be an A.A. member who is developmentally disabled, chronically ill, in a wheelchair, on crutches, elderly, homebound or speech-, hearing-, or visually-impaired. Like everyone else these A.A. members just want to be treated equally, yet a six-inch step can be an insurmountable obstacle. A locked access door, a blocked ramp or parking problem can make it impossible to get to a meeting. We may take for granted our physical and mental health but, if we were to experience the daily challenges of those with special needs, we might have a different point of view. We may not require Special Needs-Accessibilities Twelfth Step service today, but one woman describes herself as a "T.A.P.—a Temporarily Able-Bodied Person." What can be done to make A.A. readily accessible to all? The following information is to assist those interested in reaching out to those with special needs. There is a wide variety of other Special Needs-Accessibilities material, including literature in Braille, American Sign Language (ASL), and easy-to-read pamphlets in English, as well as in other languages, in regular and large print. For a detailed list, information is provided at the end of this guide titled "A.A. Literature and Audio Visual Material for Special Needs-Accessibilities" with instructions for placing orders.

Now that you have an idea of what special needs are, the question is—What can we do to help overcome obstacles which make access to A.A. difficult, if not impossible? As with any business, a good inventory may be helpful in assessing what you have or don't have in place." So this is a call to all groups to please consider doing an inventory at your upcoming group conscience to assess your own meeting place and practices that may be helpful in serving the alcoholic with special needs. In service to the AA fellowship, Shawna R.

Q and A about service in Alcoholics Anonymous. – Dennis B Farmington MN

What was your first service commitment? My first service responsibility was as a committee member of the Area Literature Committee in 1979

What other service positions have you had? In order of AA service: Area Literature Committee member, Chair of Area Literature Committee, GSR, DCM, Intergroup Board Chairman, Area PI Chair, Area Chairman, Alternate Delegate, Delegate, Area Service Conference Committee, Area Trusted Servant Leadership Training Committee, Area Webmaster. Other related service activities: Co-founder – Third Tradition Group, Co-Founder Hiawathaland Get Together, co-founder Sunlight of the Spirit Roundup, Board Member - Gopher State Roundup, Non-member Trustee of S.A.

Which one was the most difficult? and why? The most challenging was the position of Area Chairperson. This position requires that you be able to step aside from your personal ideas and desires for AA, and focus on making sure that even the person you dislike the most in any Area Meeting gets his/her opportunity to be heard and well considered.

Which one was the most rewarding? and why? The one I enjoyed the most, while I was serving in it, (I say it that way because every one of them was rewarding and enjoyable – but sometimes only in hindsight) was the position of Area Public Information Chairperson. I had a really large committee – some came to help and others came to keep an eye on us – because we had some really creative and dedicated people on the committee. We did so many “ground-breaking” things; things that hadn’t been done in our Area or anywhere else before, and the process of getting the ideas, developing the ideas and then carrying them out was invigorating!

What does the future hold in your service journey? As far what the future holds in store – I really don't know. For a long time now I have worked with the idea that my experience belongs to Area 36. They paid the price for it in both dollars, time and patience – and so they ought to be able to “invest” it wherever they so choose. I am doing my very best to try and rotate out of my current Webmaster position – after serving in this capacity off and on for over 10 years – and encouraging others to take up the reigns and see what they can do with it. Once that is accomplished, I'm sure I'll find plenty to occupy my time. There are a multitude of projects I have started, but haven't been able to finish – so maybe I'll get a chance to finish them. Each of them is a project to help us remember the lessons of the past and focus on the principles that can move us into the future. I continue to sponsor folks into service (odds are if you come into contact with me – you will wind up in service).

Any advice for AA members that might be interested in Service? Absolutely! Please do the research necessary to come to understand the principles that underlie our Steps, Traditions and Concepts. It's critical that we be able to just take the actions Bill & Bob suggested – but that we are able to understand the principles that guide those suggestions. Forget about yourself – but focus on helping the Group Conscience bring the Higher Powers vision into existence within AA. Everybody in AA has a very small part of the answer to our future – help those around you find their small part of AA's solution and help & encourage them to share it with everyone else. My experience is that everything that you work hard to help others achieve will be given to you. So you need not worry about your future – but focus on the future of AA, because your imagination is not big enough to encompass the wonderful future your Higher Power has for you. If you think of yourself – you will interfere with that happening, but if you focus on others you will be opened to accepting it when it comes

Thank You Dennis for your participation and your service to Alcoholics Anonymous

The District View is a nonprofit newsletter published by District 5 in Area 74 for the purpose of providing local communication between the district committee, groups within the district, and individual AA members.

It is published monthly for members of the AA fellowship. Electronic subscription to The District View is free.

Print subscriptions are available at the cost of \$10 per year but members are urged to use the electronic option. Approved AA related fliers may be inserted into the District View for a nominal fee, contact the editor for more information.

Monthly District 05 Events: District 05 Monthly GSR Meeting is held at 6:45pm, on the second Wednesday of each month, at the Leisure Center, 1412 Sixth St., Menomonie, WI. Any members are welcome to attend.

District 05 Committees offer AA service opportunities for alcoholics who want to help carry the AA message. **Unless otherwise noted, committees meet at Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.**

Treatment Facilities Committee meets at 6:45pm on the 2nd Monday of every month.

Corrections Committee meets QUARTERLY (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) at 7:45pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee meets at 7pm on the 1st Tuesday of every month at Club 12 in Eau Claire.

Public Information Committee meets on the ODD months (Jan, Mar, May, etc.) at 6:30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at River Falls Alano club

Chippewa Valley Intergroup meets at 6:30pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

** Care is taken to include all events. If your event is not listed we regret the error. To list your group's event please contact your GSR, any district officer, or the newsletter editor before the 20th of the month preceding the event.

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