

Vol 2023, MAY issue

Serving Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Eau Claire and Trempealeau & parts of Saint Croix, Dunn Chippewa counties

Step 5: "Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs."

### MONTHLY DISTRICT MEETING

Second Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

All are welcome!

\*\*\*ONLINE ONLY\*\*\*

Zoom ID: 829 0126 1204

Password: district05

#### **Keep the 7th Tradition Alive!**

Support our district with cash or check. Mail checks to:

District 05, PO Box 1902 Eau Claire, WI 54702 Get an email subscription!

Send an email to: newsletter@district05.org with your email address

### Message from Shane R District Committee Member

Hello District 5,

Our monthly GSR meetings are officially hybrid! With the help of Pat T we were able to do a test run for the April meeting. Learned a few things about how to host this meeting in the hybrid format. Was really nice to be meeting in person again.

Robert S, our current webmaster, has communicated his intent to rotate out of his service position. We appreciate Robert's years of service to the district, especially his keeping the website and meeting guide app current during COVID when meeting information was frequently changing. We need you to help spread the word about this service opportunity. Please share the flyer included in this newsletter and talk about this at your groups. You may contact Robert or myself for more information.

I look forward to hearing about the General Service Conference from our area delegate at the upcoming conference and assembly in May. Only two GSRs from our district participated in this process - I hope that if there are any questions or concerns about potential outcomes from the Conference that this encourages more participation from the groups as that's the only way you get to have a voice in these matters.

Thank you to Natalie for all her work with the traveling potlucks, and thank you to the groups hosting these events.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Shane R, DCM dcm@district05.org 715-379-3688 Tradition 5 "Each group has but one primary purpose - - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

### Member Share on Step Five- Doug H.

Throughout my several attempts at recovery, I've done quite a few different fifth steps. When I had my first experience in recovery in 2015, I was judicially strong armed into getting a sponsor and attending AA meetings regularly. At the time, I believed my drinking wasn't real alcoholic in nature, and so I didn't take being sponsored or working the steps very seriously.

I believe my first fourth step was only two pages long, and didn't touch on any fears, relationships, or my part in any situations. My fifth step was only a half an hour long, and I felt no different after. It's been my experience that I've never really seen any quality recovery long term from someone that has not done a thorough fourth and fifth step, and it was especially true in my life.

I wasn't honest or open with my sponsor at the time, couldn't and wouldn't see my part in my resentments, was in denial about fear, and never recognized the patterns I had in every relationship in my life. So, I drank again, for my alcoholism demands to be treated - either through working the twelve steps or drinking.

My relapse cost me everything worthwhile in my life, and my drinking caused me to go to a new low. I tore through the lives of everyone around me until there was nothing left. I was jobless, homeless, and broken when I came back into the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous. I was sober, but I was so full of fear, resentment, and shame that it seemed pointless.

I knew what people did in recovery, so I started to attend meetings regularly and got a sponsor who really worked the twelve steps. We got into the steps quickly and made it to the fourth step in no time. I remember not being able to look into the mirror for a long time after I got sober because of all the shame I felt for the things I had done and the people I had hurt.

I took over four months to do my fourth step, which was an awful experience that I would not recommend to anyone that doesn't enjoy drawn out suffering. Although I procrastinated and took far too long, I was thorough with my inventory, with the help of printed worksheets from my sponsor.

I did my first real fifth step with my sponsor telling him all the things that I had spent my entire life trying to numb and bury, identifying my role and my patterns, my fears and resentments, and honestly looking at my past relationships. I was sure that he would ask me to leave and then block my number. Luckily for us that's not how it works. He told me he understood and related his experience with me. He told me some of the things he did, and the patterns he identified.

After having done a real fifth step, I no longer felt like I was just the sum of all the bad things I had done, or the harm that I caused. I can look myself in the eyes and believe I'm not the person I once was. It's been my experience that the fifth step helps me get rid of all the past things that have blocked me from God and a spiritual life. If you're reading this, I hope that you find a sponsor and give the steps an honest shot, because they have given me a life that an alcoholic of my type, doesn't often get. Today I am at peace, I am happy, and I no longer am controlled by alcohol.

Page 2

Vol 2023, MAY issue

Concept V "Throughout our world services structure, a traditional 'Right of Appeal' ought to prevail, thus <mark>assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be</mark> carefully considered."



CHIPPEWA VALLEY INTERGROUP

## LOOKING

### FOR VOLUNTEERS

#### SEARCH CRITERIA

- · Willing to participate & have fun!
- Represent your home group
- Attend one ZOOM monthly meeting
- https://us04web.zoom.us/j/477613530
  - Meeting ID: 477 613 530
- Last Wed. each month, 6:00 pm
- Feel a part of., and give back

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

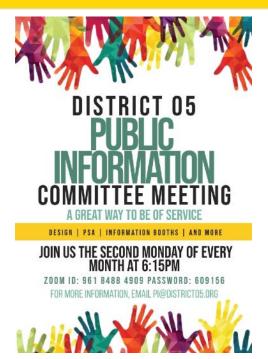
coordinates staffing & answering of the 24/7 help lininformation Facilitates AA 12th Step calls Maintains inventory of popular conference approved literature fo sale to groups, and facilitates large special purchases to reduce costs. Provides literature support for new group start ups. Maintains a web site Cooperates with AA Districts and Area functions Special Projects--like CVIG annual Unity Picnic!



#### **ABOUT CVIG**

The Chippewa Valley Intergroup is a recognized part of Alcoholics Anonymous that parallels and complements the AA Conference service structure. CVIG is dedicated to helping the still suffering alcoholic find a

MORE INFORMATION



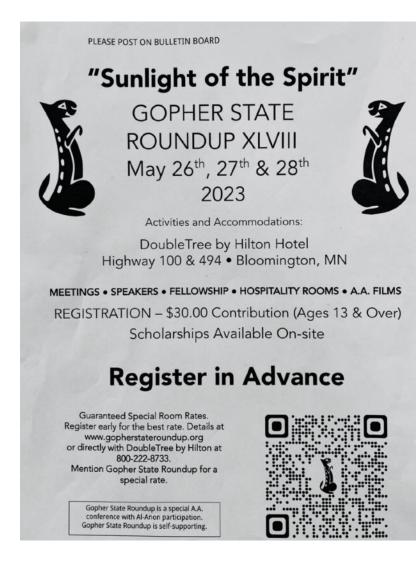


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### **District Calendar Click Here**





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Tradition 5 "Each group has but one primary purpose - - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."



**May 13** 

9:00 - 3:00

Step Study Alano Club 12

with AA and Al-Anon Participation!

Step 1

Chuck B, Lynn B

Step 2

Jaynee W, Phyllis P

Step 3

Orielle H, Kathy B

Step 4

Diane H, Marge M

Step 5

Mark M, Winnie M

Step 6

Larry M, Katie M

May 13th From 9:00 am- 3:00 pm at Alano Club 12 (2926 Pomona Dr. Eau Claire, WI 54701)

Lunch will be included! 50/50 Raffle!

\$10 suggested donation



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