



# The District View

Web: [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org) Email: [thedistrictview@gmail.com](mailto:thedistrictview@gmail.com)

Volume 2018, Issue 12

December 2018

**District 05 Meeting** in Menomonie, WI!  
1412 6th Street E  
Menomonie, WI 54751-3331  
2nd Wed. of each month 6:45pm

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

**The District View** is looking for your written 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.

Recent past issues of **The District View** are available for viewing or download on the District 05 website at [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org)

**Step 12:** "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

**Tradition 12:** "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

**Concept 12:** The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

## **Inside this issue:**

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## District 05 of Area 74 Meeting

November 14, 2018 6:45 PM

Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E, Menomonie, WI 54751

### Opening

- Serenity Prayer

### Introductions

- 10 GSRs present.

### Reports

- **Secretary** – Joe P.
  - Read last month's minute highlights.
  - ☒ Reports scheduled for December: Corrections, PI, CPC, Treatment, and Special Accessibilities.
    - Please try to get reports to the secretary before the meeting you're due to give a report. An emailed report with or without an attachment is acceptable.
  - Sent around contact sheets for officers and GSRs (asked for additions, verification, and indication of GSR vs. Alt. GSR).
  - **Approved:** *Last month's minutes approved without objection.*
- **Treasurer** – Sara D.
  - Report Period: 09/12/18-11/14/18
  - Checking Opening Balance: \$2,741.63
  - Group Contributions: \$360.00
  - Expenses: \$685.60
    - Rent - November/December: \$40.50
    - Rent - Workshop at Club 12 (7/28): \$45.00
    - Public Information - Yellow Pages Listing (Reimburse Joe P.): \$90.60
    - Treatment - Literature: \$509.50
  - Checking Closing Balance: \$2,416.03
  - **Approved:** *Report approved without objection.*

*The following reports were given and accepted:*

- **District Committee Member (DCM)** – Marybeth S.
  - Marybeth submitted a written report, which she summarized in person:

I attended the Area Assembly on October 27th in Three Lakes. Only three GSRs from our District were in attendance. Lucas M. from District 5 is the new Area 74 Webmaster. I am excited to see the changes that will be made to the Area website. Thank you to Lucas for offering to be of service at the Area level. Lucas joins several other District 5 members who are also doing service for Area 74. A number of other business items were approved. Decisions were made to accept donations from both WICYPAA and RAFTYPAA. It was also decided to distribute the Area Newsletter "The Now and Then" primarily electronically. If any group wants the newsletter via mail please contact the Area Newsletter. The newsletter is still looking for a co-editor. Please let me know if you would be interested in this position. District 5 will be holding a workshop in January for newly elected GSRs. Date, time and place to be determined. At our meeting this month we will be looking at the proposed 2019 District Budget. Your GSR will be bringing this back to your groups for discussion and input. A final vote on the budget will be held at the December District 5 GSR meeting. If your group is interested in hosting a workshop on service please contact our Alternate DCM - Paul H. I shared a ride to the Area Assembly but I am asking for \$21 as my share of the gas money. I am humbled and to be of service and please contact me if you would like a representative from District 5 to attend one of your Group Conscience and/or Business Meetings. And always feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Yours in service. Marybeth S.

- **Alternate DCM** – Paul H.
  - No report.
- **Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC)** – Pat T.
  - Having conversations with Treatment about potential joint workshop.
  - There are a few prospects where CPC may be of service that are under investigation.

- Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: December 3.)
- **Treatment** – Matt A.
  - Elections for coordinators will happen at the December meeting.
    - People are showing interest in the positions, but show up to be of service.
  - After a few instances of speakers not showing up at facilities, Matt had a discussion about how not showing up reflects poorly on our District.
  - Addressed concern about not everybody on the contact list being contacted to speak in centers.
    - Coordinators were reminded to use the existing list.
  - In support of a joint workshop.
  - Filled pamphlet request for L.E. Phillips.
  - Purchased a case of pocket Big Books and 12x12s that need disbursement.
    - This was based on a request to help out a meeting at L.E. Phillips that didn't work out as planned.
    - Treatment over budget by \$268.
      - Motion made and passed to cover that cost.
    - Discussion about the Literature Chair holding and disbursing the books as needed.
    - ⇒ Public Information will determine if we should place some of these books into neighborhood little libraries.
  - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the second Monday of each month, 6:45 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: December 10.)
- **Corrections** – Ken P.
  - No report.
  - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of February, May, August, and November, 7:00 PM, Club 12 (small building), Eau Claire. (Next meeting: February 4, 2019.)
- **Special Accessibilities** – Brett Z.
  - Resignation was tendered.
  - Election of replacement will occur in December if there are any interested parties.
- **Public Information (PI)** – Doug H.
  - No report.
  - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6:30 PM, Alano Club, River Falls. (Next meeting: November 21.)
- **Literature** – Cole K.
  - Will attend some upcoming workshops to be a literature presence.
- **Archives** – Stephe C.
  - Working with Bryon to get Archives Workshop audio into Google Drive.
  - Has been uploading any documents that have been received.
  - ☒ Reminder to submit fliers to Stephe for archival purposes.
  - ☒ Beginning to plan another workshop, so if you know people to interview, let Stephe know.
  - Andy B. mentioned that the website has historical files that he can pass along.
- **Grapevine** – Bryon B.
  - No report.
- **Webmaster** – Andy B.
  - ☒ Send fliers and updates to Andy for the website.
- **Newsletter** – Myron M.
  - Subscriptions trickle in, but he wondering how to get other groups/members signed up who do not show up at District.
  - **📧 GSRs:** Remind your groups/members about signing up. Send an email to [thedistrictview@gmail.com](mailto:thedistrictview@gmail.com) to subscribe.
  - Comment was made about putting a registration link on District05.org potentially. Andy will look into this.
- **Intergroup** – Variable Representative
  - Zach H. gave report.
  - There is talk about a potential workshop.

- Elections are coming up at the next meeting.
- Be of service! Regular meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:00 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: November 28.)
- **WICYPAA – Lucas M.**
  - Bid for 2020 disbanded. Other bids in other cities still going on.
- **Recovery on the River Jamboree – Derek B.**
  - Holiday party coming up on December 21. See flier [here](#).
  - Planning committee for holiday party will meet on November 19 at Shift Coffee Shop in Eau Claire at 7:30 PM.
  - Programs Subcommittee will meet on December 2 at The Coffee Grounds at 11:00 AM.

## Old Business

- **Proposed 2019 Budget (Including Prudent Reserve)**
  - See Appendix A.
  - Discussion:
    - Mary Jo R.'s suggestion was to have a prudent reserve for 12 months.
    - Comment made that GSO says 1-3 months reserve for districts.
    - Comment made that we should stay poor.
    - **5 GSRs:** Take it back to your groups to see how much a reasonable prudent reserve would be/what time frame is best and come back next month to vote on the budget.
- **Service Committee Joint Workshop**
  - Matt A. reported that there is general agreement that a joint workshop would be good.
  - ☒ Bring suggestions to Matt or other committee chairs.

## New Business

- **December Presentation**
  - Matt A. will present on Tradition 8 and Concept 8 in December.
- **New GSR Workshop/Orientation**
  - Perhaps in conjunction with Northside Group Traveling Potluck in January.
    - This option will be investigated.
  - Perhaps prior to the first District meeting in January 2019.
- **Resignation of Special Accommodations Chair**
  - **5 GSRs:** Bring back to your groups to see if anybody has interest in this position and have them come to the December meeting for election.

## GSR Sharing

- John B.B.: Spanish-speaking meeting in formation.
- Lucas M. (There is a Solution, Beginners' Meeting, Eau Claire): Elections will take place on December 3 after the meeting.
- Kevin M. (Northside Group, Eau Claire): Elections will take place on November 18 after the meeting. Northside made a motion to give \$200 for DCM travel, but expenses already covered in the established budget.
- Charles S. (There is a Solution, River Falls): Sponsorship Workshop in River Falls on February 9. See flier [here](#). Suggestion on how to spend excess District money: Increase the budgets of active service committees.
- Zach H. (Saturday Night Alive, Eau Claire): Suggestions on how to spend excess District money: 1. Send DCM to Concepts workshop; 2. Send DCM to regional conference; 3. Send GSRs to Delegate's Workshop. Big Book Jeopardy will be coming up soon. Elections will take place on November 17 at 5:00 PM.
- Derek B. (Flimsy Reed, Eau Claire): Just celebrated five years in existence. Suggestion on how to spend excess District money: Put on a Big Book study.
- Eric M. (Back to Basics, Eau Claire): Workshop coming up in January about building and rebuilding relationships. See flier [here](#). Elections will take place on November 29 after the meeting.
- Anna V. (A Vision for You, Eau Claire): If anybody has ability to help restart a meeting in Mondovi, contact Anna V. The A Vision for You meeting could use a lot of help and people to commit.

### Open Sharing

- AA is on YouTube.
- Tickets are on sale for the Recovery on the River Jamboree Holiday Party.

### Closing

- Responsibility Statement

**Next Meeting:** December 12, 2018.

- Normally scheduled reports: Corrections, PI, CPC, Treatment, and Special Accessibilities.

## Appendix A

**Figure 1: Historical Spending**

Category	2014	2015	2016	2017
Administrative	\$289.00	\$978.16	\$90.50	\$281.44
DCM	\$623.45	\$935.44	\$103.50	\$75.00
Alt. DCM	No data.	No data.	\$29.44	\$203.34
CPC	\$122.10	\$233.08	\$251.76	No data.
Corrections	\$160.00	\$384.32	\$842.50	\$254.50
PI	\$387.00	\$515.16	\$569.78	\$498.34
Treatment	\$66.00	\$134.23	\$341.50	\$357.05
Website	\$23.00	\$257.39	No data.	No data.
Literature	\$16.75	No data.	\$45.90	No data.
Newsletter	No data.	\$40.93	No data.	No data.
Archives	\$172.85	No data.	No data.	No data.
Rent	No data.	No data.	\$146.50	\$162.00
Misc/Unassigned	No data.	No data.	\$1,102.00	No data.
<b>Totals</b>	\$1,687.30	\$3,651.56	\$3,523.38	\$1,831.67

(Appendix A continues...)

**Figure 2: 2018 Spending to Date**

Budget Item	Remaining Budget	Yearly Budget
Administrative	\$208.38	\$800.00
DCM	\$885.00	\$1,000.00
Alt. DCM	\$186.27	\$300.00
Archives	\$5.00	\$50.00
Corrections	\$41.75	\$500.00
CPC	\$25.14	\$250.00
Grapevine	\$100.00	\$100.00
Literature	\$50.00	\$50.00
Newsletter	\$150.00	\$150.00
PI	\$243.30	\$500.00
Rent	-\$33.75	\$162.00
Special Accessibilities	\$100.00	\$100.00
Treatment	-\$268.50	\$400.00
Webmaster	-\$1.02	\$120.00

**Figure 3: Proposed Prudent Reserve**

Category	Amount	Annual Amount
<b>Rent – District</b>	\$20.25	\$243.00
<b>Rent – CPC</b>	\$15.00	\$150.00
<b>Rent - Corrections</b>	\$15.00	\$60.00
<b>Rent – PI</b>	\$15.00	\$90.00
<b>Rent - Special Accessibilities</b>	\$15.00	\$45.00
<b>Rent – Treatment</b>	\$15.00	\$180.00
<b>PO Box</b>		\$120.00
<b>DCM</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Assemblies/2 Conferences</li> <li>• (Gas/Lodging)</li> </ul>		\$700.00
Total		\$1588.00
<b><i>Proposed 12 Month Prudent Reserve</i></b>		<b><i>\$1,600.00</i></b>

**Figure 4: Proposed 2019 Budget**

Budget Item	Average	Amount Requested	2018 Budget	Proposed 2019 Budget
Administrative	\$410.00	\$500.00	\$800.00	\$500.00
DCM	\$434.00	\$600.00	\$1000.00	\$700.00
Alt. DCM	\$58.00		\$300.00	\$60.00
Archives	\$43.00		\$50.00	\$50.00
Corrections	\$410.00	\$350.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
CPC	\$153.00	\$450.00	\$250.00	\$450.00
Grapevine	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$50.00
Literature	\$28.00		\$50.00	(Take off)
Newsletter	\$10.00		\$150.00	\$50.00
PI	\$493.00		\$500.00	\$500.00
Rent			\$162.00	(Administrative)
Special Accessibilities	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$50.00
Treatment	\$225.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Webmaster	\$70.00		\$120.00	\$120.00
Workshops (*New)				\$500.00
<b>Total Proposed 2019 Budget</b>				<b>\$3,930.00</b>

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## **Members' Views**

### **...on STEP #12**

*"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know; the only ones among you who will be truly happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."*

--Dr. Albert Schweitzer

Dr. Schweitzer was a 20<sup>th</sup> century theologian, philosopher, concert musician, educator, surgeon, prisoner of war, and Nobel Prize-winning humanitarian. He was not an A.A. member, but clearly he speaks to us about the value of using one's gifts in the service of others.

Having worked to adopt the first 11 Steps as our new manner of living, and having been granted release from the obsession to drink, we may be eager to leverage our newfound stability to gain back our financial and social standing. This tendency is a natural instinct; it is right that we want to take up our proper place in society. Maybe we unconsciously cut back a bit on meeting attendance. Maybe we decline to accept the latest opportunity to serve in a group leadership position. Maybe we steer a newcomer who's looking for a



sponsor toward someone else. Finding ‘balance’ in our lives becomes a more frequent and nagging concern as we recall Step 4 and our old troubles where natural instincts are concerned.

Perhaps, with just a hint of guilt, we begin to think of the first half of Step 12 as a bit of a burden best carried by those members who seem to have more spare time. To the degree that we allow ourselves to drift in this direction do we deny ourselves the full gifts of the A.A. program of recovery from alcoholism. As A.A. member Ed H. put it in an essay for *The Grapevine* in 1998, “...I’ve learned that we create our own happiness to the degree that we contribute to the comfort and happiness of others. The best way to have happiness is to give it.” Surely, Dr. Schweitzer would have agreed.

*An AA Member*

### **...on TRADITION #12**

*“...anonymity is real humility at work.... Moved by the spirit of anonymity, we try to give up our natural desires for personal distinction as A.A. members both among fellow alcoholics and before the general public.”*

*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 187*

The A.A. concept of anonymity can be traced from the earliest days, when a general atmosphere of public distrust and open contempt for alcoholics kept early A.A. groups fearfully working in the shadows as secret societies. As society’s attitudes about alcoholism have evolved—due in no small part to A.A.’s success and growth—the concept of anonymity has evolved, too, all the while forming a protective shield for the hesitant prospective newcomer and for the worldwide fellowship of A.A., as well.

To the still-suffering alcoholic, A.A.’s promise of confidentiality and privacy has made possible that potentially life-saving first step through the meeting room door. Wracked with shame and guilt, and fearful of the stigma of addiction and of personal failure, no newcomer is ready to have their plight made public. Our tradition of anonymity tells them they are in a place of safety, a protected environment in which they can embark on a journey to a new life. Once inside, an atmosphere of mutual trust and openness gives them a sense of equality and personal worth.

At the level of press, radio, films, television and the internet, nothing short of 100% anonymity will do. Even a casual, inadvertent breaking of a member’s name or image is permanent. That member’s privacy can never be reclaimed.

A.A. history is checkered with instances of members leveraging A.A.’s good name to promote any number of outside enterprises, or for personal prestige. The tradition of anonymity in these cases protects not just A.A., but the member; by publicly “speaking for A.A.,” the erring member is actually claiming credit for not only their own sobriety, but the sobriety of others. This is a dive back into the grandiosity and ‘big-shotism’ associated with many members’ drinking in the first place.

*An A.A. Member*

**Members’ Views** will share brief essays submitted by District05 A.A. members. Please send your views to [thedistrictview@district05.org](mailto:thedistrictview@district05.org) or to [thedistrictview@gmail.com](mailto:thedistrictview@gmail.com)

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### **A.A. Service View**

**Quotes from Bill W.:** On a few service issues particularly relevant for us today.

### **A.A.’s School of Life**

*“Within A.A., I suppose, we shall always quarrel a good bit. Mostly, I think, about how to do the greatest good for the greatest number of drunks. We shall have our childish spats and snits over small questions of money management and who is going to run our groups for the next six months. Any bunch of growing children (and that is what we are) would hardly be in character if they did less.*

*These are the growing pains of infancy, and we actually thrive on them. Surmounting such problems, in A.A.’s rather rugged school of life, is a healthy exercise.”*

*A.A. Comes of Age, p. 233*



## **Conviction and Compromise**

*"The qualification for a useful life is give-and-take, the ability to compromise cheerfully. Compromise comes hard to us "all or nothing" drunks. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a series of improving compromises.*

*Of course, we cannot always compromise. There are circumstances in which it is necessary to stick flat-footed to one's convictions until the issue is resolved. Deciding when to compromise and when not to compromise always calls for the most careful discrimination."*

*As Bill Sees It, p. 59*

## **Group Conscience**

*"Perhaps many of us are still vague about the "group conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous, about what it really is.*

*Throughout the entire world today we are witnessing the breakdown of "group conscience." It has always been the hope of democratic nations that their citizens would always be enlightened enough, moral enough, and responsible enough to manage their own affairs through their chosen representatives.... Happily for us, there seems little prospect of such a calamity in A.A. The life of each individual and of each group is built around our Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. We very well know that the penalty for extensive disobedience to these principles is death for the individual and dissolution for the group....*

*Therefore we believe that we see in our Fellowship a spiritualized society characterized by enough enlightenment, enough responsibility and enough love of man and of God to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions. We are confident that we can rely upon Tradition Two, our group conscience and its trusted servants."*

*Twelve Concepts for World Service, pp. 6-7*

**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 AA. 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 monthly at 7:00pm on the 1st Monday of February, May, August, and November.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee** meets at 6:30pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month.

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

**Chippewa Valley Intergroup** meets at 6:00pm 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 website editor before the 20th of the month preceding the event**

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## **Calendar View**

The District05 website, [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org) maintains the most up-to-date listing of A.A. events in our vicinity. If you click on an event on the Events Calendar, any flyer that has been provided for the event will appear for you to print. Please check in there regularly to keep connected with local A.A. happenings. To have your event listed on the Events Calendar, email to [webmaster@district05.org](mailto:webmaster@district05.org)

## **December 2018:**

- 3rd -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.  
10<sup>th</sup> -- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.  
12<sup>th</sup> -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center  
21<sup>st</sup> -- **Recovery on the River Holiday Party**, 5:30-10pm, Renew Church, 416 Niagara St. in Eau Claire. See event flyer at [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org)  
26<sup>th</sup> -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

## **January 2019:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> -- **A Gay New Year's Day**, Holiday Party & Open Speaker Mtg., 6pm, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 421 Farwell St. in Eau Claire. See event flyer at [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org)  
7<sup>th</sup> -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.  
9<sup>th</sup> -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center  
14<sup>th</sup> -- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.  
19<sup>th</sup> -- **Traveling Potluck**, 5:00pm, Hope Lutheran Church, NE corner of Eddy Lane & Starr Ave. in Eau Claire. See event flyer at [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org)  
23<sup>rd</sup> -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

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**Service Position Opening:** A vacancy has occurred for the position of District05 Special Accommodations chairperson. Interested members may contact [dcm@district05.org](mailto:dcm@district05.org) or attend the District 05 Monthly Meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested but unable to attend this meeting, please email the address above.

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We are now working to build our database of subscribers. All G.S.R.'s and their alternates, district officeholders, and district trusted servants will receive the newsletter. We hope *The District View* soon will be available to at least one member of each A.A. group in the district. Please share this issue with fellow members via email, and we hope those who are able to do so will print a copy to share with A.A. members who do not have access to email.

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*Your comments, suggestions and essay submissions are most welcome!* Please send them by email to the same address, above.

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