



The District View

Web: www.district05.org Email: thedistrictview@gmail.com

Volume 2018, Issue 9

September 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.

****We always are 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.****

Step 9: "Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others."

Tradition 9: "A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

Concept 9: Good service leadership at all levels is indispensable for our future functioning and safety. Primary world service leadership, once exercised by the founders, must necessarily be assumed by the trustees.

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District 05 of Area 74 Meeting

August 8, 2018 6:45 PM

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

Opening

Serenity Prayer

Introductions

12 GSRs present.

Reports

- **Secretary** – Joe P.
 - Read last month's minute highlights.
 - Sent around contact sheets for officers and GSRs (asked for additions, verification, and indication of GSR vs. Alt. GSR).
 - Reports scheduled for September: Preparation for Area 74 Fall Assembly, GSR Session/Open Forum, Webmaster, Newsletter, Literature.
 - 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.
 - Approved: Last month's minutes approved without objection.
- **Treasurer** – Sara D.
 - Report Period: 07/11/18-08/08/18
 - Checking Opening Balance: \$3089.73
 - Group Contributions: \$480.00 + \$67.00 (Workshop 7th Tradition) = \$547.00
 - Expenses: \$914.85
 - Rent: \$60.25
 - Workshop: \$565.58
 - Rent: \$70.00
 - Supplies/Posters: \$70.00
 - Food/Supplies: \$381.62
 - Ice: \$12.00
 - Pamphlets: \$31.96
 - Assembly (Mary Beth): \$90.00
 - CPC (Rent): \$60.00
 - P.O. Box Key: \$18.00
 - Website Registration: \$121.02
 - Checking Closing Balance: \$2721.88
 - 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:
Hope you are enjoying the beauty of a Wisconsin summer. The District 05 Workshop "Carrying Your Voice to New York" was a huge success. We hope more people were inspired to be of service in sponsorship; group service; District and Area Service.

The District 05 Archives Committee hosted an Archives workshop in July. Long time AA members of the Eau Claire area shared on the history of AA in the Eau Claire area. Their sharing was recorded and will be available on the District 05 website. AA members that attended were allowed to ask questions. It was an extremely interesting afternoon.

If your group is interested in hosting a workshop on service please contact our Alternate DCM - Paul H.

There was no Area DCM call in July because the District Committee Meeting is being held on August 11 th in Three Lakes. This is an opportunity for DCMs and Area Committee chairs to set the agenda for the Fall Assembly which will be held in Wausau on September 15 th in conjunction with the Area 74 Fall Conference. I will be attending the District Committee Meeting.

I am so honored to be of service and please contact me if you would like a representative from District 05 to attend one of your Group Conscience and/or Business Meetings.

- **Alternate DCM** – Paul H.
No report.
- **Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC)** – Pat T.
 - A presentation was given in July at Arbor Place.
 - A meeting with JONAH religious leaders will take place on August 14.
 - The committee is coming up with ideas of where to make presentations.
 - Obtained check to cover rent through the end of the year.
 - Pat will look into seeing if Big Books are still in every library in our District as they once were.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: September 3.)
- **Treatment** – Matt A.
 - Not much to report as the next meeting is next week.
 - A concern was raised about members who are on the contact list spreadsheet not being contacted.
 - Contact Matt directly if that applies to you so that he can make sure members on the list are being rotated.
 - There are about 40-50 people on contact list spreadsheet.
 - Brittany B. is looking for women to speak at Affinity House. Women must have 3 years of sobriety.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the second Monday of each month, 6:45 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: August 13.)
- **Corrections** – Ken P.
 - Ken submitted an emailed report.
 - Jim S. who is coordinating the Trempealeau County Jail meetings gave an update. He has put together a schedule in which now a meeting will be offered at least once a week and some weeks there will be two. Previously there was one or two a month and no firm schedule. Thank you Jim for pulling all this together.
 - Pierce County still has not approved the Corrections Committee chair to come down and visit the jail. Because of vacations and other staffing issues, it is taking a long time to check references and do the background check. Chair will continue to maintain contact with the programs coordinator.
 - Five Big Books were donated to the Dunn County Jail.
 - Eau Claire County Jail requires two people go in together for meetings. Occasionally we still have issues with one person showing up and the partner not showing up, so a meeting cannot be held that night. We remind all who take meetings in to be aware of your commitment and follow through.
 - 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: November 5.)
- **Special Accessibilities** – Brett Z.
 - No report.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings will occur at a time yet to be determined. Contact Brett to help.
- **Public Information (PI)** – Doug H.
 - Good turnout at the last meeting.
 - They have obtained a list of all shelters in District 05.
 - They will be trying to get a Big Book into all of the shelters.
 - A speaker will be sent Programs for Change at Hudson Hospital.
 - Doug will investigate the possibility of placing Big Books into neighborhood “Little Libraries.”
 - Potential costs of doing this will be included in the PI committee’s projected budget for 2019.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6:30 PM, Alano Club, River Falls. (Next meeting: September 19.)
- **Literature** – Cole K.
 - Attended the “Carrying Your Voice to New York” workshop and had literature display set up.
- **Archives** – Stephe C.
 - Archives workshop went well and good feedback was given.
 - Still working on paying the rent (approximately \$45.00).
 - Four people shared AA history in the district.
 - Working on audio editing and formatting.
 - Working on getting on the recording onto the District 05 Drive after editing is done.

- o Planning on doing the workshop again at some time in the future (at some other location).
- o Stephe would like to get the word out that any documents relevant to Archives should be sent to him for storage.
- **Grapevine** – Bryon B.
 - o No report.
- **Webmaster** – Andy B.
 - o No report.
- **Newsletter** – Myron M.
 - o Things are going well.
 - o Email Myron to subscribe: thedistrictview@gmail.com.
- **Intergroup** – Variable Representative
 - o Bonnie B. gave report.
 - o September 9th picnic planning is underway.
 - o Be of service! Regular meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:00 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: August 22.)
- **WICYPAA** – Jon S.
 - o 2020 bid committee meets on August 12 at 4:00 PM. Contact Jon S. for location.
 - o Subcommittees will be forming.

Old Business

- **Tradition and Concept Presentation**
 - o Paul H. presented on Tradition 6 and Concept 6.
 - o Read Tradition 6: "An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose."
 - AA cannot lend out our name so as not to delude our name and diminish our effectiveness for the newcomer.
 - o Read Concept 6: "On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous."
 - Trustees have right to make decisions on our behalf.
 - Day-to-day matters are handled by the trustees because AA members cannot possibly vote on and make every decision.
- **District 05 "Carrying Your Voice to New York" Workshop Subcommittee Final Report**
 - o Shane S. summarized the workshop.
 - o Very successful. Committee members came together and collaborated very well together.
 - o 40 people were in attendance.
 - o A contact list was gathered and information from the workshop will be distributed by Ken via email.
- **How to Spend District Money**
 - o Suggestions:
 - Provide money to DCM/Delegate to offset travel expenses.
 - Send money to GSO.
 - Use for events (fun, outside activities that carry the message and support unity).

New Business

- **Budgeting for 2019**
 - o Savings account is approximately \$460.00, which may be too little for a prudent reserve.
 - o Suggestion was made to take a look at District funds to determine appropriate prudent reserve.
 - GSO suggests 1-3 months of expenses. We will discuss what time frame works for District.
 - U Committee chairs bring back to your committees: Go back to your committees and determine a realistic budget for 2019.
 - Come up with hard numbers for a year's worth of committee expenses.

- Send these numbers to Sara, the Treasurer: treasurer@district05.org.
- Bring these numbers to the September GSR meeting.
- Concern raised about not spending excess money and groups potentially choosing not to contribute until money is spent.
 - Things to consider:
 - Prior DCM did not submit expenses, but current DCM is submitting expenses, so budget was skewed prior and this should be considered.
 - In order to be stewards of the District, we should consider how much money we need to operate before we start spending any excess funds (hence the request above to have committee chairs determine 2019 budgets).
- Motion made and passed: Sara and Mary Beth will look at trends in contributions over the past four years. Expenses will be analyzed over that period as well.
- **District's Responsibility for Workshops**
 - The Service Manual says District should support workshops about service activities.
 - Groups should submit requests to District and GSRs will decide if a workshop will be funded and how much a group should get.
 - ☺ GSRs bring back to your groups: Discuss what expenses District can help defray for a workshop proposed by a group (rent, coffee, etc.). Bring suggestions back in September.
- **Area 74 Webmaster**
 - Repeated requests were made to update the Area 74 website with no immediate actions taken.
 - Old PDF file of a District 05 meeting list showed up when searching Google for "Eau Claire AA," which could have sent people to meetings that were no longer active.
 - Old DCM was listed for seven months.
 - Motion proposed by Back to Basics: Request to have DCM add an agenda item to the Fall Area 74 Assembly: "District 05 requests that the Area Public Information Committee direct the Area Webmaster to make requested updated to the website within 7 business days of the request and further that the Area website be updated to reflect current web design concepts."
 - Motion was discussed and replaced with a different one, below.
 - Motion made and passed: Request to have DCM add an agenda item to the Fall Area 74 Assembly: "In the spirit of rotation, District 05 requests to make the Area 74 Webmaster an elected position."
- **September Presentation**
 - Nobody selected to present on Tradition 7 and Concept 7.

Open Sharing

- Derek B.: Recovery on the River Jamboree is a new 3-day event that will occur in October 2019.
 - The host committee will give regular reports to update on progress.
 - Next meeting: September 9, Best Western Trail Lodge, Eau Claire, 1:00 PM.
- A Vision for You will be hosting a Steps 1-3 panel on August 12 at Carson Park, 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM.

Closing

- Responsibility Statement

Next Meeting: September 12, 2018.

- Normally scheduled reports: Preparation for Area 74 Fall Assembly, GSR Session/Open Forum, Webmaster, Newsletter, Literature.

Members' Views

...on STEP #9

"Reminding ourselves that we have decided to go to any lengths to find a spiritual experience, we ask that we be given strength and direction to do the right thing, no matter what the personal consequences may be."

--Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 79

No matter how much we plan and pray prior to making a difficult amend, we may yet be met with a response for which we are completely unprepared. We cannot know the affected person's thoughts and feelings; *we know only how we recall the events* that have led us to their door to make right a wrong.

A former house burglar we'll call Joe came into A.A., got a sponsor, and progressed to the Ninth Step. Joe knew he had to face those from whom he had stolen; he also knew any one of them could turn him in to the police. Summoning all his courage, he began to visit those homeowners he had robbed. Some were very angry. Some were impressed with his confession and with what he told them he planned to do: to pay them back for what he had taken from them, no matter how long it may take.

An old man answered the door at the last house on his list. Joe explained why he was there, what he remembered about the burglary, and how he proposed to pay them back in full over time. With tears in his eyes, the old man asked him into the kitchen where they were joined by the old man's wife. Joe repeated his story for the woman. By now, both the old folks were crying and Joe was confused and increasingly anxious. He repeated his intention to pay them for what he had taken, but the old man interrupted him. "It's not the money, our insurance paid for everything. You don't understand: We blamed our son for that robbery. We haven't spoken to him for all these years. By coming here today, you have given our son back to us."

Our man thought he was there because of some jewelry and cash. His Higher Power had led him to that door to put a family back together again.

An AA Member

...on TRADITION #9

"It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes poles apart."

--Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 174

The long form of Tradition Nine begins, "Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization." In later years, in his essay on this Tradition, Bill W. doubled down on this apparent call to anarchy, "Today, we are able to say with assurance that Alcoholics Anonymous --- A.A. as a whole --- should ever be organized at all."

Reading this, any A.A. member of longer standing most likely laughs and says, "There is no danger of any gathering of A.A.'s ever being organized about anything! It'd be like trying to train gnats to fly in formation." True, we alcoholics are people who chafe under rules. In recognition of this tendency, even A.A.'s 12 Steps of recovery are presented as mere suggestions. There are no A.A. police; we adhere to the spiritual principles of A.A. *because we must*, or we're likely to drink and die.

How then does A.A. function with no governing authorities? Members who recognize their debt of gratitude to A.A. are animated by their sense of responsibility to assure that A.A. is here for the next sufferer who seeks our help. They lend their time, talents, and efforts in service to A.A. Having so served for a time, they step aside so the next grateful member can take a turn. We serve not to garner status or power---there is none to be had---but to adopt the role of the servant and do our share of the chores.

Speaking of those who serve A.A. as a whole, the long form of Tradition Nine ends, "They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness."

An A.A. Member

Members' Views will share brief essays submitted by District05 A.A. members. Please send your views to thedistrictview@district05.org

A.A. Service View

A Larger Vision of the Whole

"While each A.A.'s interest should center principally in those about him and upon his own group, it is both necessary and desirable that we all get a larger vision of the whole."

--Bill W., personal letter, 1956.

When I first came to A.A., my vision was to do something about my drinking and then be on my way. You showed me that so much more was possible. You widened my vision of recovery.

My sponsor and mentors went on to explain the Traditions, and the imperative of A.A. unity for any of us to survive and to thrive. My vision now encompassed the group, as well.

Then I was introduced to the third leg of the A.A. stool, equally necessary for me to have stability in life: service.

The personal recovery of an individual is unsustainable without the 12th Step action of giving it all away to others. Taken alone, A.A. fellowship may have no more benefit than joining any sober social club. Taking responsibility for one's fair share of the chores that A.A. needs done completes a full vision of A.A. membership. Accepting a role in service to A.A. enhances my recovery by reducing my focus on self; seeing the A.A. service structure at work first-hand deepens my value to, and appreciation of, my A.A. group; the experience of contributing my time and energy to the function of A.A. as a whole gives me a deep appreciation for the blessing of truly belonging to a worldwide movement, made up entirely of people just like me, making it possible for the hand of A.A. always to be there.

This truly is a larger vision than the one I had at the start.

An A.A. Member

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 1st Monday of every month.

Public Information Committee meets in 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 6:00pm 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.

Calendar View

The District05 website, 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

September 2018:

3rd -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.

8th – **Saturday Night Alive Annual Picnic**, 4pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.

See event flyer at www.district05.org

9th – **CVIG Picnic & Jammin'**, 11am-4pm, Lake Altoona Clubhouse, 604 Beach Rd., Eau Claire.

See event flyer at www.district05.org

10th-- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
12th -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center
19th – **P.I. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, River Falls Alano, Hwy. 29 and County FF, River Falls.
26th -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

October 2018:

1st -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
8th -- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
10th -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center
24th -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

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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.

If you wish to be removed from our subscription list, simply email us with your request.

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