



The District View

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

Volume 2019, Issue 3

March 2019

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

Step 3: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him.*"

Tradition 3: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Concept III: To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.---the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives---with a traditional "Right of Decision."

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District 05 of Area 74 Meeting

February 13, 2019 6:45 PM

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

Opening

- Serenity Prayer

Introductions

- 8 GSRs present.

Reports

- **Secretary** – Joe P.
 - Read last month's minute highlights.
 - ☒ Reports scheduled for March: None. Normally Delegate's Workshop preparation.
 - Sent around contact sheets for 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: 12/11/18 - 02/13/19
 - Report Checking Opening Balance: \$2,251.68
 - Group Contributions: \$340.00
 - Expenses: \$335.75
 - PI Reimbursement: \$246.35
 - DCM Gas Money to Three Lakes: \$15.00
 - Gift to Leisure Center Custodian: \$50.00
 - Report Checking Closing Balance: \$2,255.93
 - Actual Checking Account Balance: \$2,182.93 (-\$73.00 discrepancy)
 - Pending Activity:
 - \$136.83 will be moved to Savings to bring the Prudent Reserve to \$600.00.
 - **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:

Welcome to the new GSR and District committee chair. Your service is greatly appreciated. Please be sure to notify the Area Registrar and GSO of the changes in GSR. I am happy to help you with completing the form to get this done.

Thank you to Bryon B. for leading the Service Workshop last month and to Paul H. for his work organizing the workshop.

The "Now and Then" newsletter is still looking for a co-editor. Please let me know if you would be interested in this position. Several new publications are available on the GSO website. These include the new Service Manual and some new pamphlets.

The Area 74 Delegates Workshop is on March 9th in Three Lakes. District 05 Guidelines suggest that we use our March District Meeting to review the background materials from GSO. I contacted our delegate and this material will not be available until later this week. This is on the agenda for the District Meeting in February.

Through the work of several AA members in District 05, there is now a Spanish-speaking meeting being held in Arcadia. Please check the District website for time and location.

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

I am humbled and grateful 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. And always feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Marybeth S.

- **Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC) – Pat T.**
 - Robert N. gave an update on the Spanish speaking meeting in Arcadia. It will be Saturday nights at 6 PM. The group has obtained support from an Spanish Speaking AA groups in Abbotsford, Twin Cities, and Milwaukee. The first AA meeting was held 2/2/19 with approximately 10 Spanish-speaking alcoholics. Robert is interested in developing literature inventory and meeting materials. He wants to approach Club 12 regarding an information table at the 3/9 Club 12 Banquet. Also wants AA groups to announce and encourage support for the Arcadia meeting from all AA groups in the EC area. English speaking welcome! He also will make flyers. We will share with District next week.
 - Robert N. Jim S and Pat T will present at Stout to a Adolescent Substance Use and Abuse class 2/12. (Canceled).
 - Natalie has been approached by an Instructor at CVTC to possibly present or share with her Wellness Class. Natalie will get more information to determine whether it will be a personal talk or a CPC Presentation.
 - Monica is also going to reach out to her AODA instructor about a potential presentation.
 - Pat is going to reach out to EC County Health Director, HR at Ashley in Arcadia and clergy in that area. Also reach out to the Dean at CVTC for a potential presentation to any educator that may have Alcoholism, addiction or recovery as part of their curriculum.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: March 4.)
- **Treatment – Matt A.**
 - Emailed report: No action taken.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the second Monday of each month, 6:45 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: March 11.)
- **Corrections – Ken P.**
 - Eau Claire County: Two new volunteer applications (one male and one female). It, will be a few months before there is another orientation, but there always is a need for more women to possibly add another meeting.
 - Dunn County: There are two women's meetings per month.
 - Trempealeau County: Five meetings. One woman interested in starting meeting there.
 - Literature supply is good.
 - Post office box rent is coming up.
 - Concern brought up about Chippewa Prison meeting not having 12x12s. Ken will address.
 - 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: May 5.)
- **Special Accessibilities – Shane R.**
 - Working on getting committee together.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings will occur at a time yet to be determined. Contact Shane R. to help.
- **Public Information (PI) – Doug H.**
 - Myron gave report.
 - Started putting soft cover Big Books in Little Libraries.
 - River Falls is done.
 - Need help with Menomonie.
 - Talked about ideas for a workshop.
 - Possibly doing presentations to the public about AA.
 - Something like "So this is AA."
 - Open to input, so contact Doug with ideas.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6:30 PM, Alano Club, River Falls. (Next meeting: March 20.)

- **Archives** – Stephe C.
 - Nothing new to report.
 - He is wondering if people are making requests to hear audio from archive workshop.
 - Will ask GSO about access to potentially sensitive information in the audio recordings from the Archives Workshop. Will figure out next steps within the next month.
 - Contact Stephe if your group would like to host the next interview series.
- **Newsletter** – Myron M.
 - If you want the newsletter, subscribe by emailing thedistrictview@gmail.com.
- **Intergroup** – Variable Representative
 - Lucas M. gave report.
 - Having trouble getting groups to carry the Intergroup phone.
 - Open to ideas to make it better.
 - Reach out to help.
 - Every time somebody calls the 800-number, there is a charge, so Pat questioned the history of the number.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:00 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: February 27.)

Old Business

- **One Day Conference**
 - Shane S. will chair the committee.
 - Four people have volunteered to be on the committee.
 - They will be getting together soon for an initial meeting.
 - Contact Shane S. for information about the meeting.
- **District 05 Service Structure Guidelines**
 - Would like to have revisions before summer.
 - Committee Members: Pat T., Jacki B., John B., Hannah H., Marybeth S.
 - John B. will get committee together.

New Business

- **Delegate's Workshop - March 9**
 - Question brought forward: Do we want to review the information before the Delegate's Workshop?
 - Should we change the District 05 Meeting to a week earlier? (No change requested.)
 - Items for discussion will be sent out. Review what you can.
- **Request for District 05 Service Workshop with the Eleva Traveling Potluck**
 - April 13.
 - Marybeth will bring this to Paul H.'s attention.

Open Sharing

- Teena (North Side Group) mentioned that her group voted to have an ASL interpreter only at the main speaker and that there should only be two assemblies.
- Stephe mentioned that there is a new Friday night veterans closed topic meeting. Club 12 (Small Building) at 5:30 PM. You do not have to be a veteran to attend.
- Pat T. brought forth a question about who pays for literature for the Spanish-speaking meeting.
 - Agreement that many groups try self-support.
 - Intergroup in St. Paul may have literature readily available.
 - The AA group can bring a request to District for help.
 - Agreement that this falls under Special Accessibilities, so any requests for literature will be routed through Shane R.

Closing

- Responsibility Statement

Next Meeting: March 13, 2019.

- Normally scheduled reports: None. Normally Delegate's Workshop preparation.

Members' Views

...on STEP #3

Up in the Air

"Is not our age characterized by the ease with which we discard old ideas for new, by the complete readiness with which we throw away the theory or gadget which does not work for something new which does?"

Alcoholics Anonymous, pg. 52

An A.A. friend is an experienced pilot and skydiver. Here he uses that experience to illustrate a fundamental truth of Step Three.

"For a short time after you jump from the plane, you enjoy the extreme exhilaration of free-fall. You feel like you are flying; though, of course, you really are just plummeting to earth. When it's time to call an end to it, you pull the rip-cord to release your trusty parachute---in all your experience, it has never once failed to save you. But this time it does.

You look up, expecting to see the white canopy billow open to slow your descent. Instead you see a tangled mess of cords and fabric flapping uselessly in the wind. Looking down, you see the ground rapidly getting closer and closer.

At this crucial time, a momentous *decision* must be made: You know you are carrying a reserve parachute, but never have you had reason to rely upon it. In your experience, it is untested and unknown. Worse yet, before you can make use of this potentially life-saving device, you first must cut loose the failed main parachute you always have relied upon, or it will foul the reserve parachute as soon as you try to use it. The ground is getting closer...."

To close with a bit of rather dark sky-diving humor, my friend reminds us that we have exactly the rest of our lives to make that decision.

--An AA Member

...on TRADITION #3

Right to be here

"What you are trying to be---not what you were---is all that counts with us."

Bill W., private letter to a prison group, 1949

Remarkably, in many ways the basic recovery concepts of our 12 Steps are directly reflected in our 12 Traditions. This clearly demonstrates the 12th Step admonition for A.A. members to "practice these principles in all our affairs." Tradition 3's rejection of any membership requirement beyond "a desire to stop drinking" speaks to our need to pursue *acceptance* as a key element of a more satisfying and useful manner of living.

On the surface, this tradition seems to be simply a rejection of early A.A. groups' fears about the fledgling fellowship's public image; many groups erected barriers to membership, trying to insure only "pure alcoholics" could join. Looking back at their fears after 80 years of A.A. growth into a diverse, world-wide institution, we condemn their apparent intolerance. We smugly claim to live in a more sophisticated, inclusive fellowship. We ignore the truth that, as alcoholics, we are every bit as animated by fear as were early A.A.s. In this regard, our disease of alcoholism hasn't changed a lick in eight decades.

The recovery concept of acceptance, as Tradition 3 would have us practice it, is not just about social or cultural diversity. It really is about the acceptance we strive for in Step 3. Prior to coming to A.A., I was absolutely sure that the people and conditions of my life needed to change---or be changed by me---in order for me to be O.K. To be rid of this bedrock conviction that I need to control my exterior environment is, for this alcoholic, one of the key challenges in recovery. Just as I need to become willing to accept life on life's terms, I need to be willing to accept every other member's own path to recovery; I need to accept my group's conscience; I need to accept my role as one alcoholic among many, and I need to let go of my old idea that I am rightfully the chief critic of all that I survey in A.A.

Tradition 3 reminds me that we each have a right to be here---and that nobody has elected me God.

--An A.A. Member

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

A.A. Service View

Road Trip!

District05 A.A. members who have not yet taken part in nor witnessed any event of A.A. service at the Area 74 level are urged to plan a road trip to the upcoming Delegate's Workshop to be held March 9th at the Reiter Center, 1858 S. Michigan Street in Three Lakes, WI. See area74.org for details.

Newer members, or those only mildly interested in the A.A. service structure, will be sure to find this event to be a valuable experience. I would go so far as to suggest that, of the assemblies and conferences I have attended in Area 74, the Delegate's Workshop is the one annual event most likely to provide a meaningful and enjoyable experience for any A.A. member.

The main purpose of the day is for A.A. members to discuss the myriad issues to be addressed at this spring's General Service Conference (G.S.C.) in New York, May 19th-25th. These discussions will provide our elected delegate to the G.S.C. with the area's group conscience on each of these issues so that our voice may be accurately represented.

Each member in attendance at the Delegate's Workshop is welcome to take part in the small group discussion(s) in which they may be most interested. Groups will be formed for discussion in the following subject areas:

- Agenda
- Cooperation with the Professional Community
- Corrections
- Finance
- Grapevine
- Literature
- Policy/Admissions
- Public Information
- Report and Charter
- Treatment and Accessibilities
- Trustees
- Archives
- International Conventions/Regional Forum

Each small group will have an appointed chairperson to lead the discussion on the issues relevant to that group's list of items under consideration. Each group will choose a secretary to take notes that will be used to provide an oral summary to the entire assembly at the end of the day. In this way, everyone in attendance will be informed of the issues and discussions of each and every small group.

The Delegate's Workshop is a terrific opportunity for A.A. sponsors to introduce their sponsees to A.A. at large; and for the sponsees to grasp that they are now a very real part of something that is indeed greater than themselves. So fill your car with newcomers and hit the road!

---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

March 2019:

- 4th -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
- 9th -- **Club 12 Annual Banquet**, Speakers/Dinner/Dance, Florian Gardens, 2340 Lorch Ave., Eau Claire. See the event flyer at www.district05.org
- 11th -- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
- 13th -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center.
- 20th -- **P. I. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, River Falls Alano, Hwy. 29 and County FF, River Falls.
- 27th -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

April 2019:

- 1st -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
- 6th -- **4th Step Workshop**, 12:30-5:00pm, River Falls Alano, Hwy. 29 and County FF, River Falls.
- 6th -- **Recovery on the River Event**, 5:00-9:30pm, Family sports fun & speakers, Eau Claire Sport Warehouse, 2983 11th St. in Eau Claire. See more at www.district05.org
- 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.
- 13th -- **Eleva Traveling Potluck**, 3:30pm, panel, potluck & speakers, Eleva Lutheran Church, 50533 S. 2nd St., Eleva WI. See flyer at www.district05.org
- 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.
