

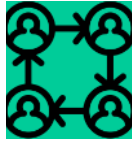
The District 5 View

Serving AA in Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Eau Claire and Trempealeau counties, and portions of Saint Croix, Dunn and Chippewa counties

www.district05.org thedistrictview@gmail.com

Vol. 2020, Issue 10

October 2020



District 5 Meetings

Second Wednesday, 6:45 p.m.

1412 6th Street E

Menomonie, WI

Zoom ID: 716-081-9669 Password: 300255

The District Meeting is where you can serve AA.

**

Get an **email subscription** and **share** your experience, strength and hope with a note, an article or a letter to:

thedistrictview@gmail.com. See past editions of this newsletter at www.district05.org.

Support AA: Apple Pay, Cash-App, Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle

Alcoholic Anonymous

Box 459, Grand Central Station,
New York, NY 10163

District 05

New PO Box 1902,
Eau Claire WI, 54702



How to carry the message to inmates

Hello District 05, my name is Derek Bell and I am the Corrections Committee chair for 2020-2021. I just wanted to take a few moments and let you know a little bit about our committee.

What does corrections do?

Coordinate individual AA members (volunteers) to go into jails to carry the message to incarcerated alcoholics.

How can I volunteer?

Fill out an application for the corrections facility you would like to volunteer at.

What facilities can I go into?

We are currently going into Dunn County, Eau Claire County, and Trempealeau County. Although Trempealeau County is the only facility allowing us to reach out via Zoom during COVID.

(Continued on page 3)

In this edition:

- ♥ October Calendar of Events
- ♥ News from AA districts, area and General Services Office

10 percent off the Big Book

Order via your group, intergroup or the A.A.W.S. webstore @ aa.org

Step 10 Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.



Updates available at www.district05.org

Send your updates to: webmaster@district05.org / thedistrictview@gmail.com

Special Events See attached flyer

Area 74 is hosting a special program Nov. 7 on how AA can bridge the gap from treatment to the program.

Zoom information

Meeting ID: 863 2886 7958

Password: 730236

10:00 a.m. to noon

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 District 5 Cooperating with the Professional Community 7:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 716-081-9669 Password: 300255	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 PI Committee 421 S. Farwell, Eau Claire Treatment Committee, 6:45 p.m., Club 12	13	14 District 5 6:45 p.m. Zoom ID: 716-081-9669 Password: 300255	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Tradition 10 Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

News from AA districts, area and General Service Office

- ♥ How are things going in your home district and perhaps in your meetings? This month's minutes include how some meetings are handling newcomers. Read about it the September [District 5's committee minutes](#).
- ♥ The General Service Office is looking for stories about **AA for older adults** to include in new pamphlets. You may submit your offerings to Access Assignment, General Services Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Deadline is Dec. 15.
- ♥ AA's General Service Office in New York is offering a new way to contribute to Alcoholics Anonymous: contributions.aa.org. Attached is a letter from the GSO thanking members for helping the AA service organization weather a drop in usual contributions.
- ♥ Read about how well the Seventh Tradition is being heeded across the nation in the fall [Box 4-5-6 newsletter](#).
- ♥ Young newcomers might enjoy AA's video and audio programs. See them [here](#).

(Continued from page 1)

Are there requirements to volunteer?

Every jail is different; some have very strict volunteer requirements, while others are more laid back. The best thing to do is reach out to the contact information at the bottom and we'll work with you to find the best fit.

Is going into jail scary?

I'll admit the first time I went in to speak I was a little nervous, but it was reassuring to be going in with another AA volunteer who had done it many times before. I have never felt uneasy while actually in the facility.

Can I be on the Corrections Committee without going into jails?

Yes. We have a business meeting monthly or every other month depending on how busy we are. Everyone is welcome to attend. The meeting time information can be found on the District 05 website under "Corrections Committee."

Like I stated above, right now the only facility that is allowing AA volunteers virtually is Trempealeau County. However, now would be a good time to work on a volunteer application for when the facilities re-open. For more information email: derekpatrick323@gmail.com

Another interesting corrections opportunity, which is very COVID friendly, is the Corrections Correspondence Service. This is where you are paired up with an inmate across the country to write back in fourth about your experience drinking and recovering in AA. More information can be found [here](#).

Derek Bell

derekpatrick323@gmail.com / 715-579-0910



10th Concept Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority, with the scope of such authority well defined.



Carrying the AA Message to Treatment Centers

***“Bridging the Gap from Treatment to Alcoholics
Anonymous”***

Hosted by Area 74 Treatment/Accessibility Committee

***Please join us for a demonstration of making a presentation to
residents/clients of Treatment Centers/Facilities in your
District.***

Saturday – November 7, 2020

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Zoom Info:

Meeting ID: 863 2886 7958

Password: 730236

**Please direct all
communications to:**

P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-3003

September 1, 2020

Dear fellow Conference member,

Just coming off the General Service Board Weekend, where we reported on current services, contributions, publishing activities and literature sales, I am pleased to communicate with you today. Staff, committee and financial reports will be shared very shortly to keep you as up to date as possible. There is much good to report, highlighting results of the efforts of your General Service Office to sustain services and business operations through the first half of 2020 -- the unanticipated period of the Coronavirus pandemic.

The main theme of this letter is gratitude: The A.A. groups of the United States and Canada have stepped up and sent a strong message to the Board and office, understanding their role as the “bosses” of our Fellowship and giving the trustees and office workers unambiguous direction to keep up our efforts in support of your Twelfth Step work. We are grateful for the clarity of the message and the increased level of Seventh Tradition contributions that will allow us to continue to work for you without interruption.

Please click here to watch our *Love and Service Video*:

<https://vimeopro.com/user112910871/love-and-service>

We have put forward a new budget reforecast for the balance of 2020 that reflects a new reality and includes substantial cuts in numerous expense categories, including contracted services, professional fees and printing/cost of goods. The aim is to continue providing maximum services, with the expense reductions touching operations rather than services.

What services are we talking about? Some examples:

- GSO staff assignments who are in constant communication with the Fellowship and supporting committee work in all areas, including Corrections (big time), CPC, PI (super busy during this time), International outreach, Group Services, General Service Conference, Regional Forums (face-to-face events canceled but virtual gatherings planned), Treatment and Accessibilities, among others. The entire staff team is working at full capacity, and beyond, to maintain these services.
- Publishing reports a huge increase in international licensing and translations, including 26 new Big Book translations in process. Currently a special discount offer is available for purchases of the Big Book in all formats.
- AA Grapevine and La Viña carry the message of recovery through books and subscriptions with amazing results. Free GV digital access was available after the General Service Conference, and “Carry the Message” subscriptions purchased by

members help bring a monthly Twelfth Step call to those who may not have access to meetings.

- “Back room” technology and communications developments have been phenomenal: Bringing the ERP system online throughout the organization. New modules that will be implemented shortly, including contributions and the AAWS webstore. A super-high priority is bringing My Portal, the Fellowship database, into reality, and we are working with the user community and doing a heavy lift on data and internal processes. The Meeting Guide app is functioning, including online meeting listings. (The aa.org website redesign is partially “on hold” for the rest of the year to save costs.)
- Please note one cost-saving measure: Till the end of the year, the newsletters regularly published by GSO, such as *Box 4-5-9*, *About A.A.*, the *GSB Quarterly Report*, the *LIM* bulletin and *Sharing From Behind the Walls* will be available only on aa.org or will have limited print runs, saving on production and mailing costs.

We’re trying. You are supporting us. It is working. Please continue to be very direct and vocal in expressing your direction to the office and the Board. Please let me know what else you’d like to hear directly from the office. (Many have done so after my previous Seventh Tradition updates.)

Some further context — when literature sales and contributions had dipped dramatically, GSO drew down \$3 million from the Reserve Fund to cover cash flow for May-July. This supported sending out International Convention refunds, as well as ensuring payroll funds for our workers.

Now we are in a different place. And it says so much about our Fellowship in this extraordinary time: In May, contributions were \$800,000 and in June \$900,000. July has just closed, with total contributions exceeding \$1.1 million dollars! Also, we are working to recover lost costs related to the International Convention through our insurance claim.

On behalf of the General Service Office, I am moved to express our love and gratitude to you. For your trust in us and your continued guidance and support. Ours is an amazing spiritual enterprise that has carried us all to this very place on an 85-year journey. May we continue to trudge the road of happy destiny together, for so long as we are needed.

Sincerely yours, in service to A.A.,



Greg T.
General Manager