



The District View



www.aainwestwis.org



thedistrictview@gmail.com

District 05 Newsletter - January 2013

NEW CONTENT!

Belated Seasons Greetings from our DCM!
A Letter from our DCM!
Big Book Study Flyer!
A Letter about the Big Book Study!

Step 1

We admitted we were powerless over alcohol, that our lives had become unmanageable.

Tradition 1

Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But the individual welfare follows close afterward.

Concept 1

Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

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The District View is a nonprofit newsletter published by District 5 in Area 74 for the purpose of providing local communication between the district committee, groups within the district, and individual AA members. It is published monthly for members of the AA fellowship.

Electronic subscription to The District View is free. Print subscriptions are available at the cost of \$10 per year but members are urged to use the electronic option.

Approved AA related fliers may be inserted into the District View for a nominal fee, contact the editor for more information.

Service Structure

Area 74

Delegate	Marty L.
Area Chair	Mary Jo R.
Registrar / Secretary	Kim R.
Area Treasurer	Mike McG.

District 05

DCM	Gary S.
Alt. DCM	Cheryl L.
Secretary	Renee W.
Treasurer	Jayne W.

District 05 Committees

Archives	Dick P.
Corrections	Jacki B.
CPC	Mike S.
Grapevine	Bob W.
Literature	Ed F.
Newsletter Editor	Phil M.
Public Information	Andy W.
Treatment	Craig H.
Webmaster	Jason L.

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Individual \$10.00 per year Group (District 05 GSR's receive the newsletter at no charge)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
eMail: _____

GSR's Complete This Side

Group Name:

Group GSO #:

\$10 Per Year or **VIA EMAIL FOR FREE**

Amount Enclosed: \$: _____ Or Via Email For Free (email the editor at thedistrictview@gmail.com)

Return Completed Form and Payment To: District View, P.O. Box 261, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0261

District 05 Monthly Meeting Minutes - November 14th, 2012

The meeting opened with the Responsibility Statement.

Introductions: 18 people present and 9 were GSR's

Secretary's Report: Was accepted.

Treasurers Report: The beginning savings account balance was \$453.41 with .02 int. leaving the ending balance at \$453.43. Checking account beginning balance was \$911.59 with (3 groups) contributions of \$272.00 and distributions of \$232.49 (rent \$13.50, Treatment expenses of \$84.11, DCM Expenses of \$48.88, USPS PO Box rental for the year of \$86) creating an ending balance of \$951.10. Report was read and approved.

DCM Report: Gary went to Founders day and the Inaction BB study group. Gary will attend the Area Committee meeting Saturday December 15th in Three Lakes. The agenda was in the Now and Then for December.

Groups & Meetings Updates: None

Workshop reports: No workshops right now but Treatment committee is still planning a spring function.

Old Business: Big Book Study committee met Dec. 1st. Confirmed the budget and booked the rooms for the presentors. Just for Today Group will be hosting Breakfast snacks Saturday morning and Menomonie Group will be doing Noon snacks. Looking for groups to host Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon snacks. Maps will be provided for where to go for lunch. 1 ½ lunch break and water and coffee will be provided. There will be room available for displaying things from Intergroup and any other committee which chooses to set up displays. Next Meeting is Jan, 5th at 9 AM at the Menomonie AA club and anyone may attend that would like to help. 2014 Fall Conference Bid update. Trying to keep it affordable. \$60 to \$80 for hotel rooms. Conference Planning Guidelines handed out and talked about. Paul and Jason will do some checking around for hotels and conference centers.

New business: Reimbursement for Secretary paper of \$3.92 as approved.

Quarterly Reports:

GrapeVine Report: Report provided. Magazines sales a head \$180,000. No draw downs have been taken the 1st three quarters this year.

Literature: Was absent

Newsletter: 47 electronics and no printed copies. Phil hasn't received any addresses to send them out to. Email the District View your address and they will be sent out. Any stories will be appreciated and add a locate touch. Service opportunities can be listed in the newsletter also. Phil would like us to use Gmail only and will talk to Area webmaster to see if any issues. Address for emails is thedistrictview@gmail.com and has a 10 MG limit. Submissions by the end of month to make the next month issue. Send as PDF or any file extension except MAC.

CVIG: Intergroup elections were held. New positions Secretary is Dawn S., Bridging the Gap-Adam K., CPC - Cheryl L., Treasurer - Heather C., and Pete W. is secondary. CVIG date for the fall picnic will be September 14, 2013 at the Riverview Park at the Lions Pavillion. Cell Phone is schedule out for 2013!!!!

GSR Input and Questions: None but did some District Inventory questions as a group and discussed. Next month will be year end financials, Archives, CPC and Treatment will report.

Concept 1 will be presented by Bob W. and Tradition 1 will be presented by Renee' W.

Next Month Update on the BB study, committee meeting report by DCM and talk about Conference bids

We closed with the Serenity Prayer.

Belated Holiday Greetings from our DCM

Belated Holiday Greetings to everyone in district 5. My best intentions to write numerous articles for the View have not yet come to fruition. However, 2013 is a whole new year!

It has been a very rewarding learning experience for me in my first year as DCM. I would like to thank everyone who has attended our monthly district meetings. As you know, these meetings provide a forum for your group to be heard, a chance to discuss issues and share information with other AA's, and learn of upcoming events. Please keep in mind that there are numerous service opportunities at the district level; serving on a committee, presenting a Tradition, accepting a district office or committee chair position.

And speaking of committees, I want to express my gratitude and respect for all of our committee chairs and committee members. There is a tremendous amount of work being done "in the trenches" by all of the district 5 committees. The AA message is being carried into jails and churches, treatment centers and factories, and schools and workplaces are on the horizon. We are ready and eager to bring displays and information to all events and workshops.

As we enter 2013 we look forward to continuing our work in carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. The district is hosting a Big Book seminar in Menomonie in February. If your group would like to host an event or workshop, please contact us as we can help in numerous ways. It's always a privilege to serve. I wish for each of you another 24 hours of serenity.

Your Servant,
Gary Savall
District 5 DCM

Elder Statesmen or Bleeding Deacons?

The past delegates of area 74 have become a topic of discussion lately at one or more of our district 05 meetings and even among DCM's. Monopolizing the microphone at area assemblies is standard operating procedure for many of the past delegates and that practice is extremely intimidating to both those persons new to service and also those that have experience. This situation is very troubling as it means that the needs and opinions of the body are not being heard.

As I hope to find some resolution to this problem, I was reading some of our conference-approved literature and found definitive information regarding the role of the past delegate. In AA Comes of Age, Bill Wilson wrote, "The elder statesman is one who sees the wisdom of the group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, whose judgment, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments. The bleeding deacon is one who remains convinced that the group cannot get along without him".

These two types of people exist throughout AA and can help or hinder the growth of our society. If people in our service structure are not encouraged and allowed to fully participate, they certainly will not feel needed and important to the future of AA. It is absolutely crucial that every service member, particularly the new member, is given every opportunity to learn and to participate fearlessly in all of AA's affairs.

As I contemplate our upside-down pyramid, I am again impressed that the AA group is at the top, right where the communication process begins through the group conscience. "AA's group conscience can be the only ultimate authority in our affairs," as Bill states in AA Comes of Age. The group conscience is to be represented at area assemblies through the group's elected GSR. The voices of those GSR's are the voices that should be heard at the microphone, not past delegates.

Gary Savall
DCM, District 05

The First Biennial District 5 Big Book Seminar

We were within weeks of finishing our study of the big book, my two pigeons and I, when one of them noted, "Did you see there's a Big Book Study in La Crosse in February?" He unfolded a flyer showing us. Not only was there a Big Book Study but one of the presenters was an old friend of mine from my Minnesota days. We spent the rest of that session checking calendars and making arrangements when I noted that, if we could finish our journey through the first 164 pages, we could use the weekend as a review and hone our tool for helping the next guy.

As it turned out, by the time the weekend rolled around, one of my sponsees had found a pigeon of his own and had convinced him to make it a foursome. This was only the beginning of a series of "awakenings" for me that weekend. Having benefitted from the infusion of enthusiasm Joe and Charlie injected in the fellowship in Minnesota with their Big Book Study weekends back in the '80's, it had not been possible for me to attend one. My sober journey took me far and wide and finally back to Eau Claire where the journey had begun for me. And now my Minnesota friend, Dennis B. had found a way to keep the Big Book fire burning. I looked forward to a reunion with him but was disappointed to learn that he couldn't make the trip. Instead, his co-presenter and friend Roger B. apologetically said he would try to "go-it-alone" and keep it interesting.

And, let me tell you, did he! He had my boys and I writing so much in the margins of our books that we could hardly keep up. I still use notes from that session today. That's not all. I was pleased to see that two people behind the "study weekend" were Joe S. and Les P., two guys I knew from the Eau Claire Northside Group. Joe had moved down to the bank of the Mississippi River and, with his sponsor's help, was continuing with his practice of lighting AA fires across the countryside.

We put our names on the mailing list and were apprised of subsequent seminars. So far I have attended three. Joe, and now District 1 of Area 75, hold them every other year in La Crosse. My sponsor couldn't come with me last year but he challenged me to bring such a seminar weekend closer to home so more District 5 people could attend. So I asked Joe and Jeanette S. (DCM for District 1 of Area 75) if we could coordinate every-other year up here to their north. (They had been trading off every other year with Rochester, MN but the Minnesota sponsor had somehow dropped out of the network.) Yes, we northerners could take that spot if Roger and Denny were available and would oblige.

Back home with my sponsor, he suggested that since it was a District event in La Crosse, perhaps it could be a District event here too. At the next District 5 meeting I proposed the idea and won approval the next month. A committee was formed, Roger and Dennis were contacted and this February 23 – 24 District 5 is hosting the first biennial Big Book Seminar in Menomonie, Wisconsin (see the attached flyer).

Bring your Big Book (you can also buy one there) and an open mind and you just may get launched into that 4th dimension of existence (again). Bring your sponsor, she'll be able to impart some of her hard-won wisdom on the group – this is a seminar, not a lecture series. Bring your pidgeon(s). Show them that they don't have to take your word for it. But most of all, bring yourself and participate in this wonderful expression of the fellowship and see how we are all connected for much more than mere survival.

Yours in Service,
Pete W.

District 5 Big Book Seminar

Presenters :

Roger B and Dennis B

From Minneapolis

Saturday, February 23, 2013: 9am - 5pm

Sunday, February 24, 2013: 9am - 3pm

Menomonie Leisure Center

1412 6th Street East
Menomonie, WI 54751



BYOBB (Bring Your Own Big Book)

www.aainwestwis.org

District 5 Big Book Seminar Registration Form

Suggested registration donation – \$10

Name: _____

Group: _____

Address/City: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please make checks payable to District 5 and mail this form to:
District 5 Big Book Seminar, P.O. Box 261, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0261

Hotels and Motels in the Menomonie Area

County Inn & Suites

320 Oak Street, Menomonie, WI
(715) 235-5664

Motel 6

2100 Stout Street, Menomonie, WI
(715) 235-6901

Super 8

1622 North Broadway Street, Menomonie, WI
(715) 235-8889

Econo Lodge Inn & Suites

1815 North Broadway Street, Menomonie, WI
(715) 235-9651

AmericInn Lodge & Suites

1915 North Broadway Street, Menomonie, WI
(800) 634-3444

Alcoholics Anonymous School
Volunteer Application

Your district Public Information Committee has been recently very active in carrying the message to those that still suffer from alcoholism. Reaching out to different parts of the many communities in our district is one way we have tried to help others. We would like to expand this agenda into the various high schools surrounding the area. There is a possibility that this may be a large project and would need many volunteers for help implementing this plan.

There are various ways you may contribute to this outreach program. We are looking for volunteers that would be willing to deliver literature to these schools, as well as possibly talking with a faculty member, such as a guidance counselor. Other options include talking to classes about alcoholism and possibly making a presentation, if requested. This project is still yet very premature but we would like to have a list of volunteers in case this gets off the ground quicker than expected.

If you are interested or willing to carry the message into these high schools, please fill out the information below.

Sincerely,

District 05 Public Information Committee

Name: _____ Sex: Male _____ Female: _____

Phone or Contact Number: _____

Home Group: _____ Sobriety Date: _____

*Sobriety Requirement of at least one year

I would be interested in: (Please check all that you are interested in)

___ Talking with faculty and/or Guidance counselors

___ Talking to students

___ Pass out literature

___ Make a presentation to classes within the school

*Please Return form to Andy W. or any Public Information Committee member

Upcoming Events:

For more information on upcoming events
visit the District 05 website at
www.aainwestwis.org
or speaking with your meetings GSR

District 05 Big Book Seminar

February 23rd & 24th 2013
Menomonie Leisure Center

If you have an event you would like
to see listed in this newsletter,
contact the editor at thedistrictview@gmail.com

Please Send Group Contributions To:
District 05 Treasurers
P.O. Box 261
Eau Claire, WI 54702

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., Monomonie, WI. Any 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 QUARTERLY (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) at 7:45pm on the 1st Wednesday of the month.

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee meets at 6:45pm on the 2nd Monday of even months.

Public Information Committee meets on 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 6:30pm 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 newsletter editor before the 20th of the month preceding the event.

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Eau Claire, WI 54702-0261