



The District View

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

Volume 2014, Issue 7

July 2014

District 05 meeting in
Menomonie Wisconsin!
1412 6th Street E
Menomonie, WI 54751-3331
7/9/2014 at 6:45pm

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

*Always looking for 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 7 Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition 7 Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Concept 7 The Conference recognizes that the Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments: that the trustees are thereby fully empowered to manage and conduct all of the world service affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is further understood that the Conference Charter itself is not a legal document: that it relies instead upon the force of tradition and the power of the A.A. purse for its final effectiveness.

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AA Area 74 Service Structure

Delegate Mary Jo R.
Area Chair Kim R.
Secretary Scott K.
Treasurer Derek T.

AA District 05

DCM Nicholas S.
Alt. DCM Paul H.
Secretary Shane S.
Treasurer Ron S.

AA District 05 Committees

Archives Derek B
Corrections Molly M.
CPC Jim P.
Grapevine Gary S.
Literature Wayne W.
Newsletter Ron S.
Public Info Myron M
Treatment Chris D.
Webmaster Jason L.

District 05 Monthly Meeting

June 11th, 2014

6:45pm opened with sharing on Traditions, and Concepts!

- Tradition 6 was given by Shane S.
- Concept 6 was given by Jason L.

Serenity Prayer

Introductions: 9 GSR'S in attendance, 14 total in Attendance

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Thank you to all that emailed me your quarterly reports before the meeting!
- Quarterly Reports due for July 9th, 2014 are: Archives, CPC, Treatment, Treasures, Fall Conference, and WICYPAA.
- Next month I'll be gone on vacation, I've asked Derek B to step in for Secretary!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Statement Month: May 2014

Savings Account

Starting Balance: \$454.20

Transactions: \$0.00

Savings Interest: \$0.06

Ending Balance: \$454.26

Checking Account

Starting Balance: \$712.19

Transactions

2206 CPC \$20.00

2211 DCM \$25.00

2212 ADMIN \$15.00

2213 CORR \$30.00

2214 ADMIN \$46.00

Group Deposits \$480.00

Ending Balance: \$1,056.19

AA District 05 2014 Actual vs. Budgeted

1/1/2014 through 12/31/2014

Categories	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
Income			
Irregular income			
Investment Income: Interest	0.23	0	0.23
Miscellaneous income			
Group Contribution	920	1,895.00	-975
Total Income	920.23	1,895.00	-974.77
Expense			
Other expenses			
Admin	172	400	228
Alt. DCM	0	300	300
Archives Committee	0	50	50
Corrections Committee	100	600	500
CPC Committee	30	150	120
DCM	256.97	1,000.00	743.03
Grapevine	0	100	100
Literature Committee	0	50	50
Newsletter	0	400	400
PI Committee	262.97	460	197.03
Treatment Committee	66	250	184
Website	0	110	110
Total Expenses	887.94	3,870.00	2,982.06
Total:	32.29	-1,975.00	2,007.29

NEWSLETTER REPORT: RON S.

- No May Newsletter
- 135 Subscriptions, all emails. Sign up drive for newsletter, A couple times a year!

WEBMASTER: Jason L.

- First I'd like to thank you for allowing me to give my report a month later than usual so that I could spend my son's birthday with him last month.
- After much correspondence and nearly an hour and a half on the phone with Go Daddy tech support on Monday night I have the email forwarding accounts created and communicated to each Chair. The email accounts are posted to the website as a PDF.
- Note: anyone that wants to have an automatic reply sent when people email you, all you need to do is: send me an email with clear wording of what you would like people to receive. If you don't know what I mean, just do the following... email webmaster@aainwestwis.org and you will see what I mean, about 1 minute after you click send. My account sends an automatic message allowing people to know that I should have it and that they should have a response from me within a week.
- I updated the Meeting List again on June 9th. Please keep your meeting lists current at your home group so newcomers have accurate information. I also forwarded it to the Area Webmaster, although I do not expect it to be posted until the first week of next month.
- To improve visibility of our business for our membership, I have posted the minutes to our meetings that our Secretary has sent out rather than wait for the newsletter. Both will be posted when both are available. **I will be adjusting the layout of this soon, to make it easier to navigate.
- The main AA website, www.aa.org has been significantly updated. Our Secretary sent communication out regarding this recently. I verified our connectivity to it remains functional.
- I emailed a copy of the Fall Conference flyer to the Area Newsletter Editor to publish the next few months.

- In addition, I forwarded that email onto the following other 4 nearby entities to attempt to increase visibility: St. Paul Intergroup, Minneapolis Intergroup, Area 35 and Area 36 Webmasters. We will see what additional requirements are needed for them to post this for us.

- Please, be sure to send me flyers if you would like them posted on the website!

GRAPEVINE REPORT: Gary S.

- Since my last report, I have brought our Grapevine displays to all of the workshops that have taken place in district 05. And I look forward to the leadership workshop that is scheduled for June 21st.

- As you know, June 10th, was the 79th birthday of Alcoholics Anonymous. This month of June 2014 marks the 70th anniversary of the first publication of the grapevine. The Grapevine grew from a group of inspired New York area AAs, who approached Bill W. about creating a newsletter. Bill W. gave the go ahead and the plans were kicked into gear.

- Over these 70 years, AA members have submitted over 100,000 stories of experience, strength, and hope. More than 15,000 of those stories have been printed and are available in the Story Archive on the Grapevine website. I encourage all of you to consider writing a story, article, or letter for the grapevine and in doing so, become part of AA history. No matter what way you access the Grapevine, this little magazine is a vital recovery and service tool.

FALL CONFERENCE REPORT: PETE W.

- We are the next Area 74 Conference!

- 10 people were present at June 8 meeting

- Committee Chairperson (Gary S) says we are in good shape

- Treasurer says that we are solvent and ready to receive your registration/banquet fees as well as ready to spend the money necessary to make a successful Conference

- Sub-Committees:

- Hospitality (Nicholas S.):

- Responsible for and well underway:

- Hospitality Room coordination

- Coffee for the weekend

- Conference smoozers

- Saturday night skit

- Next sub-committee meeting July 2 at 416 Niagara St. 5:30 PM

- Registration (Cheryl L):

- 21 registered so far

- Registration tables open:

- 3-10 PM Friday

- 8 AM to 7 PM Saturday

- Putting together name tags, Registration envelopes and welcome packet (Paul H)

- Al-Anon (Arla P):

- Kept the committee straight on:

1. speaker host activities

2. Speak gift baskets

3. Panelist reimbursements

- Alcothon (Jason B):

- Looking for three groups to host one-hour slots for meetings on Friday and Saturday nights

- Next meeting: July 13, 2014 Alano Club 12 Eau Claire 2926 Pomona Drive 1:00 PM

WICYPAA Conference Report: Shawna

- Shawna was not present tonight, and did not send a WICYPAA report to the secretary!

Group Updates:

- New grapevine meeting in River Falls, need to contact group for listing!

- Menomonie Alano Club looking for new location! July 31st is the deadline for Alano Club to be out

of their current location!

ALT. DCM REPORT: PAUL H.

- Attended Eleva Service workshop, very well put together, attendance was low.
- We as a group must support any future request on putting on workshops, Period.
- Heads Up, Friday night step group in Eau Claire, moving to the big building. The new name of the group, "Save Place to be Group" Time 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Starting this Friday, 13th.

DCM REPORT: Handout, read by Shane S.

Greetings servants of District 05, thank you Paul for being of service tonight which allows me to honor the commitment I have had with my partner for some time. When the conflict first arose I had immediately dismissed the plans I had had with Jason. It wasn't until further reflection and the "what would my sponsor do" that I realized that that behavior didn't appear to be in-line with the principles we are taught and shown in Alcoholics Anonymous. It also was rather arrogant of me to have the initial reaction of the meeting/district needs me, which is clearly not the case, we all grow when asked to step up to the plate.

1. Monthly Conference Call

a. District 5 Continues to as active if not more than the rest of Area 74

b. District 05 DCM is on the "On Fire" sharing session to present at August Committee Meeting, 1st conference call is scheduled for 6/18 at 8:30

2. Groups/Events attended:

. Spring Conference in Neenah

a. Maiden Rock Monday Night

b. CPC in Menomonie

c. Chaired a WICYPAA Committee Election

d. CVIG

3. Spring Conference/Assembly

. Emailed Minutes for Assembly and Committee Meeting

. I asked District 05 Literature Chair to obtain 30 copies of new pamphlet "AA for Atheist" to review per our delegate's request

4. Lake Tomahawk Courage to Change event

. 6/14 – 8:00am departure from Wal-Mart in Hallie

. Please call Nicholas if interested by Thursday, 414-803-9906

5. Leadership Workshop at Club 12 by B2B on 6/21

. Please attend!

6. District 05 Fall Conference

. We are 3 months away, we have 21 registered people, Gary/Paul are able and willing to take registration money right now. This is a flagship event for our district, the leadership starts with all of you, please register, please encourage your fellow group members to register. Expenses are beginning to be incurred and to be fully self-supporting we need your help. My expectations are District 05 servants are registered by July district meeting, lets meet that goal! (This is when Gary makes a cheerleading pitch)

Reimbursement (if approved, -give to Shane) Approved!

5/16 - Conference \$80.00 hotel \$35.00 gas \$62.52 meals District Travel \$25.00 Gas
\$202.52 total

It is truly a privilege to be allowed to represent you and all of district 05 at our area events. I continue to seek your input about the future of Alcoholics Anonymous locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. Each of you, your fellow home group members, and all members of Alcoholics Anonymous are the voice of AA, it is my hope and passion that I convey the wishes of our district at each assembly and committee meeting so I seek guidance from all of you.

Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:• Nancy, will contact are AREA DELEGATE, Mary Jo R. to come to our next meeting to share her 2014 delegate's conference report of the 64th general service conference. Shane will send an email out to confirm.

- Seeking to fill treatment Committee chair, election will be held at July District meeting. Nicholas asked the treatment committee to send their recommendation to our next meeting. (Recommendation from the treatment committee will be at our next meeting in July)
- **FILL A NEED, WHEN THERE IS A NEED!** Treatment Committee is looking to expand to the western part of district 05, they need your help!
- Nicholas asked CVIG to send a liaison starting in July to be Available for questions, lit orders, etc. CVIG will be sending Liaison every month; report will be given every 3 months!
Nicholas proposed district guidelines to adding meetings to District 05 Directory for a decision in July, I ask that you consider the following criteria: 1) Length of time meeting has been operating, "official" contact for meeting, and has meeting requested to be on list? Please discuss at your home groups and return for discussion in July!

ALERT, EMAIL FROM GSO. PLEASE READ!

Dear Bill,

I'm writing to make you aware of a situation, in case it has not yet filtered to the area level. I have received several calls over the past few months from callers in Michigan and Ohio about what is described as a cult that is infiltrating A.A. groups and taking men and women who are pretty new to sobriety off on "A.A. retreats." which must work for some folks because they stay with the operation, but others come back in pretty sad shape. The name I have for it is "Rainbow" and it is commonly announced during A.A. meetings. The framework reminded me of the old-time Cursillo/encounter movement weekends and how they were run 30 years ago. But these Rainbow weekends seem quite a bit more harrowing in a number of respects and so I wanted to bring it to your attention. People are recruited by sponsors who have been through the experience, or they just sign up to go and are given a new sponsor. Family or a friend drops off the A.A. member in a location and leaves; they will have no contact with the A.A. member for the rest of the weekend. The A.A.s are then blindfolded and transported to the actual event site. Cell phones and watches are confiscated, sleep is permitted in small doses and meals are minimal. They are not allowed to go anywhere alone, an individual follows them, even into the bathroom. People are physically and emotionally broken down and forced to do a public 4th Step in front of up to 100 other people. Some come out of the weekend convinced that this is the authentic, truly spiritually based A.A., they stay with the operation and work to sponsor others into it. But other A.A.s come back traumatized, in pretty sad shape. I believe that the aspect of this that we can address is that these are being billed as being "A.A." events. Perhaps more consciousness about what is and what is not an A.A. announcement or an A.A. event would help. . . I am not sure, you would know best. But I would be remiss if I did not try to pass this on in an effort to help the groups and members where this is happening.

Yesterday I received a long report from the fiancé of a fellow who had just returned from a similar weekend in Lake County, Ohio, but that ended up being based on sex and trust exercises and was called Expressions of Love. The writer said, "They did not touch on A.A. issues at all, i.e. there were NO leads, no Big Book discussion, no Twelve Step discussion, nothing related to A.A. or God at all."

I believe that the aspect of this that we can address is that these are being billed as being "A.A." events. Perhaps more consciousness about what is and what is not an A.A. announcement or an A.A. event would help . . . I am not sure, you and your delegates would know best. But I would be remiss if I did not try to pass this on in an effort to help the groups and members where this is happening – it is giving mis-information about A.A. and is hurting people.

All of us here at the General Service Office send warm wishes your way.

GSR Sharing Session: None!

Open Sharing Session:

- Chippewa Valley Round up "chicken feed" in Eleva this Weekend! Where, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Time: 5pm social, 6pm dinner, 7pm speaker!

NEXT MEETING JULY 9TH, 2014

In Loving Service!

Shane Speckien

Greetings fellow District 5'ers,

Summer is an exciting and busy time isn't it? It seems to me that our winters are lasting longer and our summers shorter. Perhaps our lives in recovery have become richly blessed that our schedules are jam-packed with commitments that seem to make the time move by more quickly. Whatever the case may be, attendance and participation in Alcoholics Anonymous seems to become a little lighter over the summer months. Although this might be expected with such a short time spend with the kids whom are off from school and to bask in Mother Nature's entire splendor, it is imperative to find a healthy balance of AA participation and "all of our affairs."

I have found one of the joys of the recovery community in District 05 is the amount of family and friend friendly events to participate in; camp-outs, cook-outs, round-ups and others alike. This is a great opportunity to introduce people who may not be familiar with our way of life to the spirit of community that exists among us. These events provide an opportunity to merge our recovery life with "all of our affairs."

Stay tuned to the newsletter and District 05 website for the latest events happening in our district. I recently returned from the Area 74 Spring Conference in Neenah, WI. It was a privilege to represent District 05 at our Area Assembly on Saturday afternoon and again at the Area Committee Meeting on Sunday. There is a glowing ember of fire beginning to occur in our area; a sense of renewed enthusiasm. DCM's and GSR's alike committed to carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic. I use this platform to invite all of you reading this, to attend the Area 74 Conference this September, 26 – 28 at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire, WI. If you have not attended an Area Conference or haven't for a number of years, please do, you will have a spiritual experience. Area Conferences are the lifeline of the service structure and an opportunity to see our service structure in action. This is also an opportunity to visit with AA members from all over Northern and Eastern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of MI.

Keep Trudging!
Yours in Service,

Nicholas S.
District 05 DCM

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.

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 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 1st Tuesday of each month 7pm.

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

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