



The District View

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

Volume 2015, Issue 6

June 2015

District 05 meeting in
Menomonie Wisconsin!
1412 6th Street E
Menomonie, WI 54751-3331
06/10/2015 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 6 Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Tradition 6 An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Concept 6 The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board

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AA Area 74 Service Structure

Delegate Mary Jo R.
Area Chair Kim R.
Secretary Char V.
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 Andy W.
Public Info Myron M
Treatment Kevin K.
Webmaster Jason L.

Area 74 – District 05 Monthly Meeting

May 13, 2015

6:45pm opened with serenity prayer

Introductions: GSR'S Present- (11) Total in attendance (19)

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Shane

Contact list was sent around, and updated list will be included with meeting minutes.

Reports Due: Corrections, Public Info, Webmaster, Special Needs

Reports Due next Month are: Grapevine, Literature, Newsletter, Intergroup

As of September, 2015 Shane will be attending nightly classes at CVTC. For the remainder of my commitment I will find someone to take good notes at our meeting, and I will continue to send out monthly meeting minutes, and information to you.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ron

Savings Acct: \$454.91

Checking Acct: \$945.42

Total Assets: \$774.73

WORKSHOP REPORT: Paul

Paul attended the Eleva workshop

CORRECTIONS REPORT: Molly

(Due to a broken wrist, this report was dictated, and is therefore incorrectly punctuated and capitalized and totally disorganized-sorry)

Corrections committee quarterly report: May 2015

The committee requests rent for the monthly meetings (\$30 for \$10 per month) to club 12. I am requesting \$62 reimbursement to me for the corrections committee P.O. Box fee for March 2015-march 2016. APPROVED! Molly Morse address to send the check's to: 4811 Fairfax Street #2, Eau Claire 54701.

I met with staff from the doc at Eau Claire County, and they are requesting female volunteers to come

in to the Huber side the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. At this time the male volunteers go into Huber but not the women. The committee is requesting more volunteers for Eau Claire County Jail as well as Dunn County Jail. Flyers will be provided to GSRs today and the Webmaster.

During this meeting I discussed concerns from volunteers about jailers turning away, and inmates claiming that jailers said the volunteers never showed. Moving forward: all volunteers please contact me directly with a date and time that you are turned away or have a concern with jail staff or their processes. Staff cannot alleviate any concerns unless they have a date and time.

I am working to update the overall list of volunteers who are willing to be of service to any District 05 committee needing assistance. At this time Kevin K is reviewing the list for any updates that he is aware of. This will assist us in dealing with drug court and treatment court requests.

Tom M. is the area 75, District 01 corrections chair. He has expressed interest in some of their jail volunteers assisting us in Trempealeau County. He will contact me when he has volunteers lined up to assist.

The Chippewa prison weekly speaker meeting continues regularly without any concerns. The weekly meeting that we are trying to start in addition to the speaker meeting is on hold until the program director's personal issues are resolved.

The committee has discussed the rotation of the service positions coming up soon. Because the duties of the corrections chair and the corrections volunteer scheduler will require knowledge and experience with the committee processes, the committee has nominated Pam to be the next corrections chair. She has accepted and is willing to work with the next volunteer scheduler between now and January to orient that person to the scheduler position. There are currently people on the committee willing to take on this position. if anyone in the district is interested in taking either of these two positions, the committee is requesting that you attend each corrections committee meeting for the rest of this year in order to get oriented to the committee and the processes,. We do not believe that someone without any experience on the corrections committee should be elected the next chair or volunteer scheduler. Due to the nature of those positions.

The committee is also requesting the District 05 jail volunteer applications be posted on the district website.

The corrections committee meets on the 1st Wednesday of every month at club 12, Time: 7:45pm

ATTENTION AA MEMBERS:

A great opportunity for 12 step work is available to you, if you have at least one year of sobriety, have done the steps with a sponsor, and have been off of probation for a year or longer. The Dunn County Jail, Eau Claire County Jail, Trempealeau County Jail, and the Chippewa Prison need more male and female volunteers. Please contact Molly at 715-577-0847 for more information! Service, Service, Service!

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT: Myron

Since our last report on 2/11/2015, the committee held its regular bi-monthly meeting on March 18th, with eight members present.

We reviewed the three Anonymity Workshops held over the winter, and agreed to plan three more for the upcoming fall/winter season. We welcome contacts with any group in the district who is willing to host a workshop.

We shared the P.I. background information from New York in preparation for the Delegate's Workshop. I attended the workshop on 3/28, sitting in with the PI committee discussion along with 4

other members from District 05.

We stuffed and mailed updated district meeting lists and contact information to 78 hotels and motels in District 05. This summer we will do a similar follow-up mailing to every place of worship in the district.

Through the efforts of Brian B., a PI Committee member in River Falls, we received an invitation for volunteers to make AA presentations to patient groups at Programs for Change, an outpatient treatment facility in Hudson, WI. Kevin K. of the district's Treatment Facilities Committee provided us with training materials, and we held a training workshop in RF Saturday, April 11th with 18 people in attendance. The first round of 4 quarterly presentations were held the following week, and went well. We hosted a Service Workshop in RF on Saturday, May 2nd along with members of the Treatment Facilities Committee and the CPC Committee. Attendance was low on the best weather day of the spring. Combined with the April 11th training, we now have a good base of volunteers on the western side of the district willing and able to make AA presentations on behalf of 3 committees.

Our next bi-monthly meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 20th at the River Falls Alano Club. All AA members who wish to do service to AA are welcome to attend.

Myron requested a check for \$13.86 for cookies and paper supplies. Approved! Myron will get with Ron to collect that check.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS REPORT: Shawna

I am thankful to be of service as a liaison to the alcoholic with special needs. While there are no special A.A. members, some members need special help to receive the A.A. message. We define A.A.s with special needs as persons who are blind or visually impaired; deaf or hard of hearing; chronically ill or homebound, those who are developmentally disabled, and many others who may have less visible challenges. The magnitude of this work is somewhat overwhelming but according to AA Guidelines there are many easy ways for groups to help.

Services and material available for members who are chronically ill and/or have limited ambulatory ability include the Loners/ Internationalist Meeting (LIM), a newsletter for A.A. members who are in isolated areas, at sea, or home- or hospital-bound (known as Homers) and stay in touch with other members by mail and newsletters. For information about LIM call G.S.O., 212-870-3400, or email LIM@aa.org. Many A.A.s share via on-line meetings. You may contact the On-line Intergroup of A.A. (www.aa-intergroup.org) for further information.

The Special Needs committee meeting went well and we got some great ideas on how to proceed. There were 4 people in attendance. Some ideas were to contact the Center for Independent Living and ask about assisted devices we could borrow to see what could be useful. We were thinking that meetings who are willing could host such a device in the same way that we pass around the intergroup phone. Another idea would be to buy a microphone that hooks up to people's hearing aids using Bluetooth technology. This would allow people with hearing aid devices to hear the speaker at speaker meetings directly into their hearing aid. We will be meeting every second Tuesday at Lucy's Deli in Chippewa Falls. Our next meeting is Tuesday May 12 at 5:30 at Lucy's Deli in Chippewa Falls. Of course this meeting is before the District 05 meeting. I am hoping to submit what we are doing to the next District Newsletter and the Now and Then for June so stay tuned.

WEBMASTER REPORT: Jason

Will give his report next month.

INTERGROUP REPORT: Bob

Nothing new to report.

DCM REPORT: NICHOLAS

I attended the day long workshop in Turtle Lake on 4/18, wonderful day-long event which is a workshop format I think could be worth duplicating.

I visited CVIG to further relationship with them. They are discussing the future of their website and how to serve that role, continued participation from district?

I have been asked to share my e/s/h in Menomonie on 6/27 and will be speaking at the International on 7/4.

I reached out to Special Needs chair and asked for communication from her committee which we received tonight.

I reached out to Newsletter editor multiple times and informed him yesterday via electronic communication that unless I hear from him by tonight's meeting I will be asking the body to move forward to fill the position.

I will be visiting the Sand Creek group – District 06 on Tuesday to discuss connecting to the service structure.

Reimbursement for travel and expense of \$15.00 Approved! Nicholas address to send the check to: was given.

OLD BUSINESS:

(12th step volunteer list) Not much was said by the group tonight on how to attract people to serve on different committee's (PI, CPC, Treatment, etc...) One idea came up to utilize the website, aainwestwis.org to have a place to go to get all information on our committees. Nicholas will talk with Jason L. our Webmaster for District 05.

Our Ad Hoc Committee to create a motion on how "the now and then" area newsletter should be distributed has been disassembled. Nicholas will head up a committee in the next couple of months to create a motion to area. If you have any questions please see Nicholas.

NEW BUSINESS:

May 15th – 17th, 2015 Area 74 Spring Conference in Green Bay, Wisconsin. ALL GSR'S and Committee Members are encourage to attend.

Structures and Guideline Committee will have a rough draft document to present to us next month. Does this body want a regular attendee to attend CVIG monthly meetings? The group said, No Need.

Chippewa Valley round up: Dates July 24th thru 26th

Looking for a temporary newsletter editor until elections this fall. Nicholas will reach out to Andy to see if he would take on the responsibilities until then.

OPEN SHARING SESSION:

There is an AA spiritual Retreat in Marathon County. Myron will be gathering more information on whether or not it's an AA event or not.

Next Meeting: JUNE 10th. REPORTS DUE: WEBMASTER, GRAPEVINE, LITERATURE, NEWSLETTER, CVIG

From Nicholas District 05 DCM

I am scheduling the District 05 Elections for the September Meeting, this way our elections will be in place prior to the Area Fall Assembly when area elections will be held. This is customary for districts to do for a few reasons, one, it allows those who are currently serving now to be available to stand for any position without conflict and more importantly allows for those who are elected to attend the conference to begin to become acquainted with the assembly/conference environment and I highly encourage you to do so. Committee Chairs, for your committee to have a nomination that comes from your committee you will want to have this discussion and decision prior to September 9th. This means some of you will be “electing” your nomination in your August meeting. A reminder that committee chairs will be elected at the district meeting but we ask the committees to have a nomination that they put forward. I encourage all of you to begin talking now, serving alcoholics anonymous is a privilege and should be cherished. It is disheartening to me to have elections for positions. We should have multiple people excited and wanting to serve and that starts with all of you talking to them, getting them excited about the opportunities. We want to be able to elect the most qualified candidate to the position rather than just appoint the one that is willing. I challenge all of you to make this an exciting election cycle!

At May Spring Area Conference and Assembly bids were submitted from other districts to host upcoming conferences – ie; The wonderfully participated in Area 74 2014 Fall Conference that was held in Eau Claire.

Districts have submitted bids are host conferences for the falling time/location:

Area 74 2015 Fall Conference – Wisconsin Rapids
Area 74 2016 Spring Conference – Ashland Wisconsin
Area 74 2016 Fall Conference – No Interested Districts
Area 74 2017 Spring Conference – UP of Michigan
Area 74 2017 Fall Conference – Decided on at 2015 Fall Conference – Wausau would like to host.

The next time the assembly meets is in September, are this past assembly there were no districts interested in hosting the 2016 Fall Conference. I can't imagine not having a conference. Beyond the “business” that happens at the assembly the recovery that happens in the planning, executing, and the weekend of at the speakers, panels, and dances is vital to our fellowship and more importantly – to the still suffering alcoholic.

I told the Area 74 Assembly that I would bring the idea of hosting the conference to the GSR's for approval. This is sooner than we anticipated but I strongly feel the hand of AA is reaching out. I personally commit any amount of time and effort to make this event happen on relatively short notice. If the District 5 body agrees to submit a bid for the conference it would not be approved until the assembly in September.

Here is what I have done so far; I have contacted the hotel where the event was held in 2014 and made a verbal agreement to hold the date of 9/16 – 9/18. I have verbally secured the same rates as 2014. I will bringing this to a vote in July. I wanted to get this information out to you as quickly as possible so you can come with questions, comments, concerns to the June meeting, discuss and then vote in July.

Q and A about service in Alcoholics Anonymous. - Mary Jo R. Eau Claire WI

What was your first service commitment? My first service commitment was at my homegroup I was the Cake Lady. In general service it was district secretary.

What other service positions have you had? I have been a GSR, at district I have been treasurer, literature chair, alternate DCM, DCM, Grapevine Chair. At the Area I have been Finance Chair, Treasurer, Alternate Delegate/Area Chair. I have served as a member on the following committees: Archives, Public Information, Finance, and Structures and Guidelines. My current service position is Delegate.

Which one was the most difficult? and why? For me the position of Alt. Delegate/Area Chair was the most challenging. Even though I had been a part of the Assemblies and Area Committee meetings for many years, it was very different being the person who was responsible for coordinating and facilitating those meetings.

Which one was the most rewarding? and why? That is a hard question to answer. Each position brought with it great blessings. Before I became a member of AA, I let fear hold me back from doing many things – I just didn't believe in myself or my abilities. I was always the first person to let someone else "do it". But with the help of a sponsor, who encouraged me to try new things, I started to say "yes" when asked. So, I don't feel any service position is more rewarding than another, but I do feel that with each position I gained a stronger reliance on God, and grew up a little more.

What does the future hold in your service journey? At the end of 2015 I will rotate from the position of Delegate. After that my husband and I plan to move to South Dakota and I'm not sure what that will hold. I know that being involved in service to AA is a critical element of my sobriety so my attitude is I'll help where ever there is a need.

Any advice for AA members that might be interested in Service? I would offer this... don't let fear stop you – those are old, useless ideas. Trust that a God of your understanding will provide all that you need. And lastly... let our *Declaration of Unity and Responsibility Statement* be a part of your daily living.

A Declaration of Unity: This we owe to AA's future: To place our common welfare first; To keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

I am responsible... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Thank You Mary Jo for your participation and your service to Alcoholics Anonymous

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 7pm on the 1st Tuesday of every month at Club 12 in Eau Claire.

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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