



The District View

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

Volume 2018, Issue 8

August 2018

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.

****We always are 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.****

Step 8: “Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.”

Tradition 8: “Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”

Concept 8: The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

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District 05 of Area 74 Meeting

July 11, 2018 6:45 PM

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

Opening

- Serenity Prayer

Introductions

- 9 GSRs present.

Reports

- **Secretary** – Joe P.
 - Read last month’s minute highlights.
 - Sent around contact sheets for officers and GSRs.
 - **☑ Reports scheduled for August:** Corrections, PI, CPC, Treatment, Special Accessibilities.
 - Please try to get reports to the secretary before the meeting you’re due to give a report. An emailed report with or without an attachment is acceptable.
 - **Approved:** *Last month’s minutes approved without objection.*
- **Treasurer** – Sara D.
 - Report Period: 06/06/18-07/11/18
 - Checking Opening Balance: \$3,559.75
 - Group Contributions: \$72.00
 - Expenses: \$470.02
 - Coffee Supplies: \$11.77
 - Corrections: \$376.25
 - Treatment: \$82.00
 - Checking Closing Balance: \$3,161.73
 - Year-to-Date Budget Summary:

Budget Item	Remaining Budget	Yearly Budget
Administrative	\$680.00	\$800.00
DCM	\$975.00	\$1000.00
Alt. DCM	\$288.23	\$300.00
Archives	\$50.00	\$50.00
Corrections	\$41.75	\$500.00
CPC	\$145.14	\$250.00
Grapevine	\$100.00	\$100.00
Literature	\$50.00	\$50.00
Newsletter	\$150.00	\$150.00
PI	\$355.00	\$500.00
Rent	\$108.00	\$162.00
Special	\$100.00	\$100.00

Accessibilities		
Treatment	\$241.00	\$400.00
Webmaster	\$120.00	\$120.00

- **Approved:** Report approved with correction to the PI budget.

The following reports were given and accepted:

- **District Committee Member (DCM) – Marybeth S.**

- Marybeth submitted a written report, which she summarized in person:

Paul H. of Eau Claire has been elected as the Alternate DCM. Paul has many years of service at all levels of AA and will be a great addition to the District service structure. Paul will be responsible for assisting both the District and any groups with workshops they are planning. Please contact Paul for assistance if your group is planning to host a workshop.

I attended the Area 74 Conference Call at the end of June. One of my concerns has been the difficulty in getting updates made to the Area website. I was assured that this would there would be a discussion held between the area chair and the area delegate regarding this issue. I did request that this be an agenda item for the August assembly if there is no resolution.

The Area Assembly will be held in Three Lakes on August 11th. This is the most direct way for your group's voice to be heard. I am hopeful that all the District 5 GSRs will be able to attend. Your voice and vote are vital to the service structure. If anyone needs a ride please let me know.

I am so honored to be of service and please contact me if you would like me to attend one of your Group Conscience and/or Business Meetings. Marybeth Schuster

- **Alternate DCM – Paul H.**

- No report.

- **Cooperating with the Professional Community (CPC) – Pat T.**

- Would like to have more women involved.
- Presentation scheduled in July at Arbor Place.
- Still working with JONAH and clergy.
- \$60.00 requested for rent at Club 12.
- Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the first Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: August 6.)

- **Treatment – Matt A.**

- No report.
- Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the second Monday of each month, 6:45 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: August 13.)

- **Corrections – Ken P.**

- Still working on getting into Pierce County Jail since last meeting. (Ken is waiting on his background check to clear.)
- Still looking for women to volunteer, especially in Eau Claire County.
- 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: August 6.)

- **Special Accessibilities – Brett Z.**

- No report.
- Be of service! Regular meetings will occur at a time yet to be determined. Contact Brett to help.

- **Public Information (PI) – Doug H.**

- No report.
- Be of service! Regular meetings take place on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months, 6:30 PM, Alano Club, River Falls. (Next meeting: Sept. 19.)

- **Literature – Cole K.**

- No report.

- **Archives** – Stephe C.
 - No report.
- **Grapevine** – Bryon B.
 - No report.
- **Webmaster** – Andy B.
 - Request for reimbursement for website expenses. This request will cause the website budget to go over by a dollar and some change next time.
- **Newsletter** – Myron M.
 - Give Myron your email if you want to be on the email list and encourage others to sign up. Email thedistrictview@gmail.com.
 - Print a copy of “The District View” to bring to your home groups.
 - Submit articles and ideas to Myron.
- **Intergroup** – Bonnie B.
 - There was a recent discussion about the prudent reserve.
 - Minimum book orders have to be \$500.00.
 - The amount in reserve has been determined to be good based on book order requirements and somewhat limited contributions (of late).
 - Intergroup will have a table at the District 05 “Carrying Your Voice to New York” workshop.
 - Be of service! Regular meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month, 6:00 PM, Club 12, Eau Claire. (Next meeting: July 25.)
- **WICYPAA** – Variable Representative
 - No report.

Old Business

- **Tradition and Concept Presentation**
 - Marybeth S. presented on Tradition 5 and Concept 5.
 - **Tradition 5:** “Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.”
 - AA is one alcoholic helping another.
 - We can’t fix people’s other problems (marital, mental, physical, etc.), so we make referrals.
 - For Bill W.’s explanation of this Tradition, see his 1948 *Grapevine* article called “Tradition Five.” A Google search will get you there.
 - **Concept 5:** “Throughout our structure, a traditional ‘Right of Appeal’ ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.”
 - Everybody has a voice, including the minority after a vote, which is a very democratic process.
 - Every member of the minority gets to have their voice heard so that the variety of reasons for dissent can be known (which could persuade others to change their minds).
 - This protects from the tyranny of majority or minority.
- **Workshop Subcommittee Report/Discussion**
 - Shane S. gave final report.
 - Ready for the workshop and proud of the team who put it together.
 - Encourages spreading the word about the event and increasing participation.
 - Materials will be given to help groups plan their own workshops.
 - Taco bar and fellowship will follow.
 - Suggestion was made about recording parts of the workshop, but there was agreement that it is too late.

New Business

- **August Presentation**
 - Paul H. will present on Tradition 6 and Concept 6.
- **District 05 Service Activity**
 - We have a healthy treasury, so what are things we can do to be of service?
 - How can we get more young people involved?

- ☞ Bring back to your groups/committees: Discuss AA-related activities that would help carry the message.
 - Send suggestions/ideas via email to Marybeth, Paul, or Joe to get them onto the August agenda.
- Ideas so far:
 - What about funding to send GSRs to assemblies, etc?
 - Carpooling can help and we should help make people aware of this option (who is willing to share rides).
 - Set up a booth at county fairs in the district to let people know about us.
 - Recovery fair to help explain what AA is, which would be open to the community.
 - Co-sponsored District 05/group workshops.
 - ☞ Discuss with your group. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, District 05 can help.

Open Sharing

- Susan B. mentioned that she started two new meetings recently in Menomonie at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The church is willing to open the space for workshops.
- The [District 05 Service Structure Guidelines](#) document indicates when committee chairs should show up to give reports. The next month's scheduled reports are noted at the top and the bottom of these minutes. If somebody shows up with a report outside of the schedule, we'll take the report.
- The success of the District 05 "Carrying Your Voice to New York" workshop will be measured by how many workshops occur afterward.

Closing

- Responsibility Statement

Next Meeting: August 8, 2018.

- Normally scheduled reports: Corrections, PI, CPC, Treatment, Special Accessibilities.

Members' Views

...on STEP #8

"If we are now about to ask forgiveness for ourselves, why shouldn't we start out by forgiving them, one and all?"

--Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 78

I have been blessed to have a wise sponsor to guide me in the 12 Steps. Instead of telling me to ritually burn my 4th Step inventory, he stressed it would remain valuable not just to me but to those I would try to help. It's most immediate value was as a key resource for Steps 8 & 9.

The Big Book has taught me much about life that I never understood before. In Step 4, it gave me a truer sense of the concept of forgiveness. I had seen it as some coin I may or may not magnanimously bestow upon one who I thought had wronged me ---but only after they had done enough groveling at my feet. Now I can see forgiveness as the only sensible basis of every personal relationship, as A.A. has shown me that after all, every one of us is to some extent spiritually sick and each is doing his or her best under that condition.

My Step 8 list of amends is filled with the names of those who appear in my inventory, so obviously I had at least some part in straining our relations. Beginning the Steps 8&9 process in a spirit of forgiveness elevates one's amends from a grudging apology to an opportunity to reform shattered relationships; from an onerous duty to a chance at a new life free of guilt and remorse.

An AA Member

...on TRADITION #8

"Almost from the beginning, we have been positive that face-to-face work with the alcoholic who suffers could be based only on the desire to help and be helped."

--Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 166

Today it may seem shocking that there was a time when some early A.A.'s sought to earn money through Twelfth Step work. We'd do well to remember that A.A. was born in the depths of the Great Depression, a time when 1/3 of Americans were jobless. It soon became clear that regardless of financial needs, alcoholics

simply would not listen to a *paid* twelfth-stepper, because his or her motives were severely compromised in the eyes of those they would help.

Critics then directed scorn on any members earning money from jobs in A.A., from janitors to club cooks, office staff to authors. These members were not monetizing twelfth step work---they were working to make such work possible. Even today, some A.A.'s criticize members who pursue careers in substance abuse counseling or other social work.

Bill W. cautioned that such concerns often are rooted in our own defects: "Perhaps the fear will always lurk in every A.A. heart that one day our name will be exploited by somebody for real cash. Even the suggestion of such a thing never fails to whip up a hurricane, and we have discovered that hurricanes have a way of mauling with equal severity both the just and the unjust. They are always unreasonable."

An A.A. Member

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

A.A. Service View

How A.A. Came to Eau Claire, WI

On February 22, 1940, after reading a review of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* in the February 19 issue of *Newsweek* magazine, Ed K. (Krause) of Eau Claire, WI wrote the Alcoholic Foundation, which today is called the General Service Office (GSO), looking for information about the fellowship of AA. In early April, GSO sent him the book. He began a correspondence with the New York office of AA.

Ed K. eventually made personal contact with a Harry S. (Smith) from Waunakee, WI. Harry had contacted Works Publishing, then the owner of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, and began communicating regularly with an AA group in Chicago in July of 1939. He was the Head Chef at Mendota State Hospital and realized that many of the patients he was serving were actually problem drinkers like himself. After he received his Big Book, he told patients in his dining hall how to get the book "direct from the publisher" using his name as a reference. With the help of the Chicago AA's he started the first AA group in Madison. In like manner, Harry S. worked with Ed K. in Eau Claire to keep him encouraged and help him gather other problem drinkers to himself.

In an effort to keep existing groups and members informed, the Alcoholic Foundation published and distributed a document called "Bulletin #1" dated November 14, 1940. In this communication they listed existing groups and groups just getting started. It also listed cities where there were isolated members recovering either through the book alone or with brief contact with established groups and centers. It listed an isolated member in Eau Claire (sp.) Wisconsin. This isolated member very well could have been, and probably was, Ed K.

After the Saturday Evening Post article was published in March of 1941, Ed K. expected to receive a lot of inquiries. He was disappointed that there were so few prospects. The nearest inquiry from the Jack Alexander article was from Wausau, a hundred miles away from Ed's home.

On September 28, 1941. The first AA Meeting took place in Eau Claire. Ed K. reported it in a letter dated the next day to the New York office: "*We finally have something definite to report. We held our first AA meeting last night, just a get together of us Alkies (there are eight of us here now and all have been on the program from one to six months and you know how long I have been struggling along) to lay plans and get more familiar with each other. Beginning with next Saturday, wives and other interested relatives will be welcome.*"

"We have two doctors giving us help. One who is a cousin of my first prospect and life saver and one who incidentally wouldn't even call on me when he needed help to get off a binge, referred one man to us by telling us that he could do nothing for him and that he better call us. The doctor who had helped me through my last slip also has referred one to us and they are both doing swell. The county and municipal judge (the offices are combined here) has referred two cases to us and they are also coming along fine. The doctors and judges have promised a lot of help but they seem to forget about it."

This small group was put on a list of AA groups, dated December 31, 1941, published and distributed by the Alcoholic Foundation. It listed Ed K. as the contact person for the new group but listed only having six members.

Joining the group in 1942, Austin R. (Ripley) found Ed K. and Si S. to be the only members. Grace G., the first woman member, and Clyde M. (Meggett), when joining the group in 1943, found William J. (Jopke) also as a member.

Early meeting places included the Norther States Power Company building at 2 South Barstow Street and the Drummond Block, or the Samuelson Building at 1 South Barstow Street. The Group was called Group One, Eau Claire.

In 1945 Group 2 split off from the original group with Roy W., Emery R. (Raymond), Basil B., Larry M., and Ken S. some of its early members. The March 1947 AA Grapevine reported that Group 2 was now known as the Chippewa Falls Group. For a time in 1958, Group One and The Chippewa Valley Group used the same quarters over Rudy's Blacksmith Shop on Water Street. Alano Club 12 formed and met at 415 ½ South Barstow Street, then 620 Water Street, moving to 1435 Fairfax Street in Altoona. This group moved to 2926 Pomona Drive, Eau Claire in April of 1980.

A group that called itself the Thursday Night Group started and met at Grace Lutheran Church, 202 West Grand Avenue. It was originally composed of alumni from the Wynot Alcoholic Treatment Center that existed in Rusk County. On May 1, 1976 AA, Al-Anon and Alateen meetings began at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 2708 Thomas Drive in Eau Claire under the organization of the Triangle Club '76, Inc. On April 1978 the Big Book Study Group was formed, meeting at the Plymouth United Church of Christ, 1814 Bellinger Street.

Pete W., Area 74 Archivist

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

August 2018:

6th -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.

6th – **Corrections Committee Meeting**, 7pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.

8th -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center

12th – **Steps 1-3 Panel**, 12:30-3:30pm, Birch Pavilion, 810 Carson Park Dr., Eau Claire. See event flyer at www.district05.org

13th-- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
22nd -- **Chippewa Valley Intergroup Meeting**, 6pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr., Eau Claire.

September 2018:

3rd -- **C.P.C. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
9th – **CVIG Picnic & Jammin'**, 11am-4pm, Lake Altoona Clubhouse, 604 Beach Rd., Eau Claire.
See event flyer at www.district05.org
10th -- **Treatment Committee Meeting**, 6:45pm, Alano Club 12, 2926 Pomona Dr. in Eau Claire.
12th -- **District 05 Monthly Meeting**, 6:45pm, Menomonie Leisure Center
19th – **P.I. Committee Meeting**, 6:30pm, River Falls Alano, Hwy. 29 and County FF, River Falls.
26th -- **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.

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Your comments, suggestions and essay submissions are most welcome! Please send them by email to the same address, above.
