

The District 05 View

JANUARY 2026

Serving Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Eau Claire and Trempealeau & parts of Saint Croix, Dunn Chippewa counties

Tradition 1: *“Our common welfare should come first. Personal recovery depends upon AA unity.”*

Message from Ben G. - Newsletter Editor

Happy New Year!!

I hope everyone has had a safe and happy holiday season filled with joy, hope and recovery! It is my pleasure to continue sending out the monthly District 05 newsletter “The District View.” If you have any questions or suggestions for content, please let me know at newsletter@district05.org or you can email me directly at bengumz@gmail.com. Please pass the District View along to anyone who might like it or suggest they contact me to have their email added to the list.

Thank you all and I wish you all a happy 2026!

Ben G, District Newsletter Editor

Next District 05 of Area 74 Monthly GSR Meeting: Wednesday, January 8th @ 6:45PM
2nd Wednesday of each month. In-person and virtually.

Alano Club 12
2926 Pomona Drive Eau Claire, WI 54701
Zoom Meeting Id: 829 0126 1204
Password: district05

To learn about various agenda items and reports from Area 74, visit <http://district05.org>.

DISTRICT 05 THE VIEW NEWSLETTER

Send an email to: newsletter@district05.org to request a digital copy in your inbox each month.

Welcome to 2026!

Click on the link below to open your Area 74 Now & Then Newsletter

[December 2025 Electronic Version](#)



Enjoy your holidays and have a sober closure to 2025!!!

Michelle Z

Jeff C

Now & Then Co-Editors

Member Share - Step 1 Elyssa C. ~ Eau Claire

Hi everyone! When I came into the rooms of AA on November 7th, 2003, I was emotionally raw and scared. Every attempt at quitting or moderating my drinking had failed miserably. I was terrified that one of these next attempts would result in death of myself or worse- some other innocent person by my drunk driving. My last drunk I had driven my roommates around all night in a black out. I was tired of waking up to the cold fear, confusion and humiliation after realizing I drank yet again.

Around those tables I listened to the old-timers tell me that my life depended on taking step one and in its simplest form it was not drinking. In the Big Book, step one says “We admitted we were powerless over alcohol — that our lives had become unmanageable.” Me? Powerless over alcohol?! The audacity!

But they helped me see that it was a disease and a physical allergy, and I had to be honest that every time I took that first drink I couldn't stop. I was relieved to realize I wasn't just a bad person. I told them I was scared. They reminded me the first word is “we” and that I didn't have to try to beat this alone anymore! Tears of relief ran down my face.

With my sponsor and listening to the group, I started to look at the second part of step one, and how unmanageable my life was. I had high cholesterol, an enlarged liver, and irritated my roommates by being late with bills because every thought of food, shelter and responsibility went out the window after I took that first drink. Relations with family were incredibly strained. I was wrapped up with men in a manner I wouldn't want advertised. So I used the power I did have and learned to politely say no to alcohol and not put myself in situations I was too unsteady for.

I broke up with the boyfriend who told me I was more fun when I was drinking. I called my sponsor or another person in the program if I was having a tough time. After a few minutes of asking about their day, my desire to drink vanished!

What does that look like today? After a few twenty-four hours I've realized if I want my life to

continue to be manageable, content, and reasonably happy I will continue practicing step one. The most important thing I do is not take that first drink. I am powerless over many other things in my life. I am sick with a terrible cold and have no voice. I wanted to go in-person to the meeting tonight and the work Christmas party tomorrow night. I can choose to not accept these things, get surly, have my back hurt worse from the stress, and lash out at loved ones, or I can simply accept it all, relax under an afghan with some tea and see my friends in the zoom meeting.

I'm so thankful today for AA, the twelve steps and sponsorship so I have these better choices, and can trudge the road of happy destiny, one step at a time.

District Events Calendar

Just click on an event to open the flyer for that event or visit the District 05 website for updated event listings: <http://www.district05.org/calendar/>

New/Changed Meetings:

- Haven House, starting January 20th 2026: Tuesdays 3p
- EC Pacific Group Starting time will be 7 PM (not 7:30) beginning February 5, 2026

2026 Event Flyers:

- June 26th-28th 2026 : 2026 ECR & Area 74 Conference (Eau Claire)
 - CLICK HERE TO REGISTER: <https://area74.org/2026-ecr/>
- April 25th 2026 : Eleva Step Group Annual Western WI Traveling Potluck (Eleva)
- January 28th 2026 : Chippewa Valley Intergroup Elections (Chippewa, online)

WE ARE NOT SAINTS CONVENTION

We are so excited to share with you a flyer (end of this newsletter) for our upcoming convention, the 34th Annual We Are Not Saints Convention! Please share out this flyer to your committees, homegroups, sponsorship families, websites, members, clubhouses, et al as you see fit! We hope to see you there and share a weekend of speakers, panels, and fellowship! Register at wearenotsaints.com.

ABOUT AA NEWSLETTER

About AA is the newsletter from the General Service Office of the U.S. and Canada for professionals in all fields who deal with alcoholics. This issue takes a look at A.A.'s "Singleness of Purpose". Thank you for subscribing to the G.S.O. Digital Delivery service! Click here for the current issue of [About AA](#).

Treasurer's Report

NOVEMBER 2025 REPORT

Beginning Balance	
CHECKINGS	\$2,612.58
SAVINGS	\$614.94

OUTGOING	
9/23/2025 Corrections: Literature	\$ 237.38
10/16/2025 Administration: Zoom Account	\$ 17.92
10/22/2025 DCM: Area Assembly	\$ 83.41
11/10/2025 Archives: Storage Unit*	\$ 49.95

INCOMING	
11/11/2025 89062	\$ 69.00
11/11/2025 148300	\$ 25.00
11/11/2025 492771	\$ 100.00

Ending Balance	
CHECKINGS	\$2,467.87
SAVINGS	\$615.15

*has not been cashed

2025 BUDGET	STARTING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	REMAINING
ADMINISTRATION	\$1,100	-\$196.87	-\$16.87	-\$136.87	-\$205.72	-\$31.47	-\$137.92	-\$17.92	-\$17.92	-\$137.92	-\$17.92			\$182.60
ALT. DCM	\$2,675				-\$13.97									\$2,661.03
ARCHIVES	\$640											-\$49.95		\$590.05
CORRECTIONS	\$1,700			-\$412.37		-\$453.30			-\$52.00	-\$237.38				\$544.95
CPC	\$250	-\$35.80												\$214.20
DCM	\$1,200						-\$222.82				-\$83.41			\$893.77
GRAPEVINE	\$180		-\$108.00			\$108.00	-\$144.00							\$36.00
LITERATURE	\$50													\$50.00
NEWSLETTER	\$25													\$25.00
PI	\$1,500				-\$600.00	-\$115.00		-\$100.00						\$685.00
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$50													\$50.00
TREATMENT	\$1,200	-\$30.00		-\$30.00		-\$207.28	-\$30.00	-\$556.39		-\$30.00				\$316.33
WEBSITE	\$563					\$12.74	-\$575.74							\$0.00
SERVICE WORKSHOP	\$1,000				-\$826.85									\$173.15

Contact the treasurer if you have questions or need reimbursement:

- treasurer@district05.org | (715) 579-3350

Carry the Message Behind the Walls – MEN’S AA Volunteers Needed

Are you—or someone you know—interested in bringing an AA meeting to incarcerated individuals? We currently have **openings for male AA volunteers** in two nearby county jails: Trempealeau County (Whitehall) and Buffalo County (Alma).

Contact Jim S. at 715-577-3432 for Trempealeau County and Kerry H. at 608-418-0308 for Buffalo County.

Concept 1 - Concept 1 of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) states that **the final responsibility and the ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of the Fellowship.** This concept emphasizes the importance of group conscience in decision-making within the organization. It was established as part of the Twelve Concepts for World Service, which were adopted by the General Service Conference of AA in 1962.

District 05 GSR Meeting Minutes
Wednesday December 10th, 2025
6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. (Zoom)

Zoom ID: 829 0126 1204
PW: district05

**Opening: Serenity Prayer – GSR’S Present (6 in person-- 3 online) - - Welcome: Introductions,
Housekeeping, New to District**

Service Positions change over will look: (outgoing person→incoming person)

<p>Reports (3-5 minutes each)</p> <p><i>Note: Email reports to secretary prior to monthly GSR meetings</i></p>	<p>Officers:</p> <p>DCM (Pat T→)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● I really appreciate the opportunity to serve district 05 the last two years. It’s been a great experience and I’m grateful for the opportunity. Thank you! <p>Alt. DCM (Courtney R. → Kaufua)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Compiled the list of the groups that normally sign up over to Kaufua who will be taking over <p>**2026 calendar year**</p> <p>Secretary (Joe S→Joe S.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● As always, remember to email reports before the next meeting● Area74.org under links has new group forms and group change forms that are fillable pdf’s. Please email forms to me as well (secretary@district05.org), so I can update our list.	
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—Motion to approve minutes—

—Seconded—

—Vote taken—

6-in person, and 2-online

*****Minutes Approved Unanimously, GSR Passed*****

Treasurer (Kaufua→)

-
- Detailed report circulated.
- text or send an email if you want a reimbursement
- treasurer@district05.org
- (715) 579-3350

Balances:

Savings = \$615.35

Checking = \$2,114.08

—Motion to approve report—

—Seconded—

—Vote taken—

6-in person, and 2-online

*****Treasurer's Report Approved, GSR Passed*****

Committees (All):

Newsletter: N/a

Webmaster: N/a

Archives: (Max):

- went to U-haul and have put eyes on the archives and have access to it. Also checking on digitization options
- forming an archives team—go back to your groups and see if there is anyone interested
- Unit fee is \$50/month—\$600/year
 - It's indoors and heated and protected. They are preserved well for any future Archives chair member.

Grapevine: (Brian Ba→Tim)

- We have a display that's been brought to many different potlucks and meetings
- We have grapevines at various locations/county facilities.

Literature (Patti)

- I have weighed the tote. It is 35 pounds. It mostly consists of old pamphlets and books. Looking to put it together into a display and take it to meetings.
- I have purchased a literature workbook to get a better idea as to how to be a better literature chair member.

Corrections (Pam→Nate)

- Thank you everyone who has been involved with helping with corrections and those incarcerated!
- Nathan has the numbers and emails and is going to be taking over
- (Nathan): been doing a lot of sitting in and learning and taking in as much as possible.

CPC (Jim→ Eric)

- Started compiling a list of professionals for the next few years. Submitted a budget of \$250 for next year. Everyone is welcome to join the CPC meeting with any ideas

PI (Doug→Kevin)

- We have a presentation scheduled to go into Eau Claire human services Wednesday, December 17. We have also distributed literature to most of the libraries in our district, and are going to be spending a portion of our remaining budget to buy big books to disperse into a little libraries

	<p>Treatment (Isaiah→Sue)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asking for 84.86 increase in budget to purchase literature • The treatment committee will be starting a meeting at the Haven House every Tuesday from 3:00pm-4:00pm. The first meeting will be on January 20th. The meeting format will use the Plain Language Big Book. The meeting will be open to the public and we encourage current AA members to come. • We purchased 20 Living Sober books for Arbor Place. They will be using the book in one of their groups. • Arbor Place opened their new treatment center. The new building is all female and the old building is all male. Both buildings have the same address. We will continue meetings at both facilities every Monday at 7:00pm. <p>Special Accessibilities (Jim-->Sara)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been trying to talk and recruit folks for the meeting. Looks like bi-monthly so far and using online options. • Wanted to make sure the treatment team to know that I'm interested in the Haven House work going on. 	
<p>Old Business:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Budgets for 2026 officers and committees to be voted on in December ● Committee to Review guidelines update ● Contact information to secretary@district05.org and dcm@district05.org ● Volunteers for Area Chat ● District 5 Motion re-committed to ACM in January ● New email credentials for Officers and Chairman ● Change forms for incoming GSR's and Alt-GSR's 	
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<p>New Business:</p>	<p>2026 Budget Proposals and Votes:</p> <p>**Each Person will explain why they are asking for their proposed budget and each one will be voted on individually**</p> <p>Administration: \$1,300 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Alt. DCM: \$700 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Archives:\$800 Vote: 7 in person, 3 online, 1 opposed Minority opinion: Max has good plans, and it should stay at \$1800. **Passed for \$800**</p> <p>Corrections: \$1,500 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>CPC: \$250 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>DCM: \$700 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>GrapeVine: \$360 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Literature: \$400 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Newsletter: \$25 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>PI: \$1500 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Special Needs: \$50 Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Treatment: \$1200</p>	
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	<p>Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Website: \$750</p> <p>Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p> <p>Workshop: \$0</p> <p>Vote: 7 in person, 4 online **Passed Unanimously**</p>	
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	<p style="text-align: center;">• Document Review of agreement with Haven House</p> <p>*motion to table until January*</p> <p>*seconded*</p> <p>7 in person, 3 online</p> <p>**Tabled until January**</p> <p>GSR's:</p> <p>Outgoing/Incoming:</p> <p>Brian—Any incoming GSR's—Thank you! Its okay to not know what your'e doing. Participation is key and AA is a great place to ask questions. It is an honor to represent the voices of your groups. Michelle—I've been GSR's for different groups...I think it's important to go to the area assemblies.</p> <p>Saralinn—Seconds Brian and Michelle.</p> <p>Pam—Go with people. Whether you know them or not.</p> <p>WICYPAA</p> <p>CVIG</p> <p>Recovery on the River</p>	
<p>Open Mic (2mins)</p>		

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 14th @ 6:45PM

2026 Reports Due: All Committee Chairs, GSR's, Officers

DCM:-->Brian Bau

Alt-DCM:Courtney-Kaufua

Secretary:Joe Joe

Treasurer:Kaufua

CPC:Jim-->eric

Corrections:Pam→Nate

PI:Doug→Kevin

Special Accessibilities: Saralinn

Treatment:Isaiah→

Newsletter:n/a

Grapevine:

Literature:

Webmaster:n/a

Archives:-->max



34TH ANNUAL

WE ARE NOT SAINTS

AA & AL-ANON CONVENTION

JAN 16-18, 2026

8 AA/AL-ANON SPEAKERS

6 AA SPEAKERS: CHRIS H (CLEVELAND, OH), CUSHING P (MONTGOMERY, AL),
KARL M (COVINA, CA), LESLIE S (ATLANTA, GA), PAULA P (CHAMPAIGN, IL),
RALPH W (LOS ANGELES, CA)

2 AL-ANON SPEAKERS: EMELINDA MCG (PALM SPRINGS, CA) & JASON T (NEW
ZEALAND)

8 PANEL DISCUSSIONS

TOPICS MAY INCLUDE: YOUNG PEOPLE IN RECOVERY; EMOTIONAL SOBRIETY;
RELATIONSHIPS, SEX & RESENTMENTS IN AA; AND AA & MENTAL HEALTH

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