

The District 05 View

JULY 2026

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

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

Message from DCM Brian B.

Hello Everyone,

I am shocked at how fast this summer has approached. I remember coming out of covid and AA coming alive before my eyes. This is a busy time of year for fellowshiping. I would like to encourage everyone to check out a new event, conference, or some sort of activity in this fellowship that you have not attended or tried. If I was not willing to do things I had never done before I would not be anywhere near where I am today. It was through this courage that real measurable growth occurred in my recovery.

When I look at this summer's events I can see that we were blessed to have hosted the East Central Regional Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous. I hope you could attend. I remember someone asking "how I am able to get out of all the adventures" I do in my life. It isn't a secret, I put it on my calendar and then I prioritize the small steps that get me there. Much like recovery nothing great happens in a single step.

I think of the first time I attended any event in AA and how overwhelming it was before getting there and walking through the doors. I then thank myself for working up that courage to show up because I always left feeling better. We can help bridge that gap for those that just don't know how good these unity building parts of AA are. Do you know someone in this program that only attends meetings? I feel it is our duty, or sense of service to help show them more.

Reach out to someone, and ask them to join you. It just may save a life.

Hope to see you all there.

Brian B DCM District 05
dcm@district05.org

Next District 05 of Area 74 Monthly GSR Meeting: Wednesday, July 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.

Member Share - Step 7

When I think of this step, “Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings,” a few keywords stand out to me. One is humbly. What does that mean and how do I make sure I’m doing it? Humbly to me means that I take it seriously, I understand the gravity of the request I’m undertaking, I’ve weighed the pro’s and con’s involved and I recognize the power and authority of the one I’m asking. Weighing the pro’s and con’s is usually the big one for me. The pro’s are the feeling I get about myself – self esteem. The con’s, well that is the loss of the “payoff” I was getting from doing those things. Maybe suffering consequences because I was honest instead of lying. Maybe it’s losing some of what I wanted or had because I was being fair.

Asking Him to remove my shortcomings is also pretty open-ended. That means He will remove them when He wants, how He wants, and if He wants. I just need to humbly ask and be ready to do my part – changing my actions.

My experience with step 7 is that when I do humbly ask Him to remove my shortcomings, I may need to “buckle up” because removing my shortcomings seems to come from being put in even more situations where they come up. When I asked him to remove my impatience, my impatience didn’t vanish. Instead, I found myself in even more situations to where my patience would be tried. I had to start recognizing my impatience rising to the surface and looking for alternative actions and then take them. Instead of fuming in a slow checkout line, I began to pray for the cashier and other patrons or people in my life. My impatience left. Instead of honking at a slow driver, I prayed for safe travels and even asked how important it really was or what my role was in my impatience (did I leave late?). Again, my impatience left. Once I did that a few times, patience was not as much of a challenge as it used to be.

The other experience with step 7 I’ll share is that my defects don’t seem to go away for good. What I seem to get is a short reprieve from them, based on the maintenance of my spiritual condition – just like my reprieve from alcohol. When I continue to humbly ask him to remove them and follow it up with taking actions when they pop up, they tend to vanish. Any time I stop maintaining my relationship with Him, I’m not likely to do those things but instead am likely to slide back into old ways.

Ben G.
Eau Claire, WI

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/>

2026 Event Flyers:

- October 2nd-4th 2026 : Recovery on the River Jamboree (Eau Claire)
- September 19th 2026 : Second Annual Skydiving Jump & Picnic (Chippewa)
- July 31st – August 2nd 2026 : AA Unity Campout (Augusta)
- July 4th 2026 : Saturday Night Alive Western WI Traveling Potluck (Eau Claire)

New/Changed Meetings:

- Flimsy Reed location change: 202 W Grand Ave as of **June 3rd**
- Eau Claire Pacific Group Time Change to 7 PM
- New Group at Haven House, Tuesdays 3pm

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](#).

The background of the entire poster is a dark blue field filled with various sizes of light blue and white stars. At the top, there are two strings of triangular bunting flags in red, white, and blue, some with stars and some with stripes. Four stylized fireworks in red, white, and blue are scattered around the poster: one in the top left, one in the top right, one in the bottom left, and one in the bottom right.

**WESTERN WISCONSIN
TRAVELING POTLUCK
PRESENTS**

**SATURDAY NIGHT ALIVE OPEN SPEAKER MEETING
AA AND ALANON SPEAKER
MIKE M. & CELESTE S.**

TOPIC: A FAMILY DISEASE

GRILLED CHICKEN, FOOD, AND FIREWORKS
BRING A DISH TO PASS
BRING THE FAMILY, ALL ARE WELCOME

SAT, 4 JULY

AT 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**6:30-8 POTLUCK, FELLOWSHIP
8PM SPEAKERS
FOLLOWED BY FIREWORKS AT DARK**

ALANO CLUB 12
2926 POMONA DRIVE
EAU CLAIRE WI 54701

Treasurer's Report

Contact the treasure if you have questions or need reimbursement:

- treasurer@district05.org

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 6 - "The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness."

Hard of hearing? Recovery still works

Robert is in assisted living and under hospice care. Still, he wanted an AA meeting. Jim S. of Eau Claire got the call and he was the right one to work his way through the demands of caregivers and to see what was possible.

There was a suggestion that Robert had dementia. More pertinent to a meeting, though, was his hearing. Even before he could schedule a meeting, Jim was told to wait while Robert got a new hearing aid. If only that had solved the problem.

Robert shows up to the first meeting using a walker and displaying some of the physical symptoms of certain medicines. But his eyes are bright and he's paying attention. He says he has been in assisted living for three years and sober for about six years.

After that, though, things got difficult. For Robert, it was one "what" after another. He only has one hearing aid in. Does it need a battery? There may be some in the facility manager's office, but it's locked. Robert, it turns out, likes to tinker with his hearing aids. Three of us, including Jim and Weaver, limp through a meeting alternately shouting and trying to enunciate our words.

How will this work? Is there really any point if he can't hear? What must Robert feel if his meeting participation is so fragmented?

But however frustrated Robert might feel, he wasn't giving up. He surprises us by reciting Step 2 exactly correctly. He agrees to pick a topic for the following week. Robert may have a hard time hearing but he really is a fellow alcoholic seeking the company of other alcoholics.

What followed was a couple more weeks of where are your hearing aids? Where are the batteries? Robert was picking up what we were saying better, though "what" was still a common part of our

discussions.

We got batteries to have on hand, but Robert wasn't altogether done with tinkering. It was simply a toss-up whether Robert would show up with hearing aids and batteries.

Finally, it was Jim, who previously worked with the hard of hearing, who solved our problem: he found a device that is a combination of a microphone and a headset. It worked.

Robert now is an alcoholic among alcoholics. He can hear our stories and we his. He knows the serenity prayer. He can describe the torments of his drinking, which for a while left him homeless. He talks about fishing and his faith. It is with gratitude that all of us can now hear the AA message.

If you know someone who has special needs to better grasp AA's principles, District 05's special needs committee might be able to help. They can provide guidance on individuals with difficulty hearing, seeing, who are homebound, who have suffered a traumatic brain injury, who are hospitalized or in a nursing home or who are illiterate, have language barriers or learning disabilities.

Contact the committee at specialneeds@district05.org.

Debbie F. of Eleva is a recovering alcoholic.

Northside Group History

The origin of the Northside group started at Club 12 from a Sunday night meeting at 7pm. This meeting was a smoking meeting and became too much to bear for some of us. So, we split off and started a non-smoking meeting at the same time. Should note some of us were still smoking at that time. This went on for about 18 months. About this time, we had a newcomer to the meeting and he (Lynn S.) and was asking about GSR and autonomy.

We didn't know what we didn't know. We began to find out about AA what a group was and the service structure. It was decided that we wanted to become an autonomous group. Working with Cub 12, they said we can. However, all the money from basket goes to the club. This didn't seem to be how an autonomous group should function. Paying rent was not an option. So, we started looking for another location. After some time, we found a new home at Hope Lutheran Church on the Northside of Town.

Our first meeting was June 15th, 1986. Several decisions had to be made, name of group, elections, etc. After some discussion "Northside Group" became our name. We discussed using HOPE but didn't want to have any implied affiliation with the church. Was also decided to be a step meeting to focus on the solution, rather than always looking at the problem.

We did have regular monthly Group Conscience meeting to review how the meeting was going and current district and area information via our GSR. For some of the first meetings everyone that attended the Sunday nonsmoker meeting came along. After some weeks several dropped off and went back to Club 12. The remaining core members were Les P., Nettie L., Floyd S., Randy D., Jim R., Stan E., Lynn S., and Shirley. As fate would have Lynn (a Pharmaceutical Salesman) move on due to job change. Seemed his purpose here was done!

For a time, we were a small group, however as we become more involved with the district 05 Which not that long ago was considered in the area the dead district. Worth noting that the work of Bruce E. and Chuck S. helped this change and got district 05 on the map

After some time, we created a meeting teleprompter for how to run the meeting. Other changes took place. We decided to not read “how it works” and read other sections of the Big Book. This decision lost us a few members.

As a group we kept looking at ways to better serve the Alcoholic that still suffers. Some of the things we did at the time were considered radical. We created a group statement which was read at each meeting. We still read it today with some modifications. At one point we had about 40 people every meeting, but as time changed so did the attendance. It may be a long list of people that attended and or got their start at North Side Group.

Over time we had several DCM's that served and attended, even a delegate. The group members were instrumental in starting the Traveling Potluck that is still going today. At one point I asked my sponsor (Chuck S.) about bad meeting. At the time those that didn't seem to have direction or purpose. He said, “So long as God finds it useful, they will exist” So after 40 years and believe it is the longest running autonomous meeting in the area, glad we are still providing service to the alcoholics that still suffers. In Service Randy D.

District Meeting Minutes & Announcement:

Our Secretary position is now vacant. All reports may be sent to me at: alt_dcm@district05.org until the position is filled. **Please bring forth nominees to our next meeting on: July 8th, 2026.** The position description can be found in the attached document. If you have further questions, please reach out to Brian B: dcm@district05.org

District 5 GSR Meeting Agenda

Wednesday June 10th, 2026 | 6:45PM – 8:15PM

Zoom ID: 829 0126 1204 PW: district05

I. **Opening:** Serenity Prayer, New to District, Introductions, Housekeeping A.

GSRs - In person: 9 Online: 1

B. Workshop: Tradition #6 led by Randy

II. Reports

A. Officers

1. **DCM**(Brian B.): Things are progressing well with ECR though local registration remains low. Please register at area74.org

I was also able to assist with the Flimsy Reed meeting move by staying at the old location and directing traffic to the new meeting location.

2. **Alt. DCM** (Kaufua X.): A big thank you to the Freedom From Bondage Meeting for hosting the pot luck in May as well as a thank you to the District 05 Grapevine, Literature, and Archives Committee for their participation in that. The remaining pot lucks for 2026 are as follows:

Gay Chatter	6-14
Saturday Night Alive	7-4
OPEN	
Monday Night Big Book Study	TBD
Brown Bag	TBD
Flimsy Reed	TBD

JUNE 9:30 AM

JULY TBD

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER TBD

OCTOBER TBD

NOVEMBER TBD

DECEMBER Back to Basics 12-12 TBD

3. **Secretary** (vacant): Our previous Secretary has made the decision to step down which means the position is now vacant. We thank him for his service. Please see the position description below per the Area 74 - District 05 Guidelines:

The District 05 Secretary records, keeps, and distributes the minutes of all District 05 G.S.R. Meetings. Distribution includes G.S.R.s, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, District Officers, and Committee Chairs. The Secretary maintains District 05 contact information for G.S.R.s, District Officers, Committee Chairs, and Area Delegate. All approved minutes and Guidelines are to be provided to District 05 Archivist.

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- If interested in the position, please reach out to our DCM Brian B: dcm@district05.org or **bring forth nominees to our next District Meeting on July 8th, 2026.**
- In the meantime, please forward all reports to Alt. DCM Kaufua X.: alt_dcm@district05.org
- Previous Meeting Minutes: [Area 74 District 05 May 2026 Meeting Minutes](#)

1. Isaiah: Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes
2. Nathan: Second
3. Motion passes by acclamation

4. Treasurer (Moriah M.)

JUNE 2026 REPORT	
Beginning Balance	
CHECKINGS	\$1,177.58
SAVINGS	\$616.37
OUTGOING	
5/16/2026 Admin: Zoom Payment	\$17.92
5/18/2026 Website: Email Expense	\$552.00
5/28/2026 DCM: Area 74 Assembly Reimbursement	\$132.03
6/2/2026 Literature: Workshop	\$63.10
6/3/2026 Pediatric Eye Associateevanston ilus.	\$1.00 ???
6/10/2026 Transfer from Checking to Savings	\$500.00
INCOMING	
5/13/2026 Transfer from Savings to Checking	\$600.00
5/13/2026 700383	\$50.00
6/10/2026 103113	\$80.00
6/10/2026 492771	\$75.00
6/10/2026 156506	\$100.00
6/10/2026 177435	\$500.00
Ending Balance	
CHECKINGS	\$624.66
SAVINGS	0.20 INTEREST \$516.45

*has not been cashed

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2025 BUDGET	STARTING	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	REMAINING
ADMINISTRATION	\$1,300	-\$77.92	-\$17.92	-\$17.92	-\$131.41	-\$17.92								\$1,036.91
ALT. DCM	\$700				-\$92.20	-\$14.97								\$592.83
ARCHIVES	\$800	-\$324.95												\$475.05
CORRECTIONS	\$1,500													\$1,500.00
CPC	\$250				-\$202.71									\$47.29
DCM	\$700	-\$171.67			-\$180.72	-\$132.03								\$215.58
GRAPEVINE	\$380				-\$252.00									\$108.00
LITERATURE	\$400					-\$63.10								\$336.90
NEWSLETTER	\$25													\$25.00
PI	\$1,500				-\$847.88									\$652.12
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$50													\$50.00
TREATMENT	\$1,200	-\$30.00		-\$110.00	-\$30.00	-\$691.87								\$338.13
WEBSITE	\$750			-\$143.88		-\$552.00								\$54.12

1. Randy: Motion to accept Treasurer's Report

2. Isaiah: Second
3. Motion passes by acclamation.

B. Committee Chair Reports

1. **Corrections** (Nate): District 5 corrections has been diligently working with trempealeau county to start a women's meeting in the trempealeau county jail. We also have been given word that they will now start allowing in person men's meeting in the jail.

Brian benson compiling list of individuals willing to sponsor men in prison, reach out to corrections chair for more information.

2. **P.I.** (Kevin) - This will be brief. We met at our usual time/place last Wednesday 6.3.26 at 5:45pm at The Goat on Water St. There were 3 of us in attendance and our main topic of discussion was the upcoming Northern Wisconsin State Fair which runs July 8-12. We came up with shift times and I already have several people signed up to volunteer. Topic for discussion would be purchasing of 1-day passes for volunteers, as this has been done in the past. That's all for now!

a. Purchasing 1-day passes for volunteers added to new business

3

3. **C.P.C.** (Eric) - We set up a booth and tent at the fair at Owen Park in May. A few people stopped by and got pamphlets. CPC purchased a banner for the table, along with some snacks and coffee. We did not have a May committee meeting after the event. I had considered stepping down as the committee chair and after reconsideration have decided to stay on. Our next meeting will be on 6/18/2026 at 5:45PM at the LE Phillips Memorial Public Library. I will be requesting reimbursement for the supplies purchased and am looking to

increase the budget to cover the additional cost. We also have old pamphlets that the committee does not want. They are free for the taking.

a. Budget increase added to new business.

4. **Treatment** (Sue) - Not present, no report sent in.

5. **Special Accessibilities** (Sara Lynn) - We were not able to meet this month as a committee but have had communication within our group chat. We have one committee member that has been helping someone in Strum who has a hearing deficit. A pocket talker was purchased to assist this individual and we are looking to reimburse this individual the cost but it would require increasing the Special Accessibilities budget. I had also considered stepping down as the committee chair but have decided to stay on.

a. Budget increase added to new business.

III. Old business

A. Review guidelines update - continue to get copies out before we vote on it. B.

Send contact information to secretary@district05.org and dcm@district05.org a.

Brian was given the credentials to Google Drive today

i. This includes copies of Meeting Minutes and relevant District 05 documents C.

Change forms for incoming GSR's and Alt-GSR's

IV. New Business

A. Purchasing 1-day passes for volunteers (Kevin - PI Chair)

- 18 time slots total for five days with 2 individuals per time slot (2 hr shifts) = 36 people total
- 10 free tickets given with space rental
- 26 people left in need of passes = \$468 total price at \$18/piece

Open Discussion:

- Isaiah: We should not stress about the money. Pay for the tickets.
- Randy: If we purchase their ticket, does that mean they also get into the fair? • Kaufua: In the past, members have chosen to be “self supporting” and have purchased their own ticket. Could we offer them the discounted \$10 ticket versus paying the full \$18?
- **Kevin: Will reach out to the fair and check on pricing. Historically, they have been \$10/piece.**

B. Budget increase for CPC (Eric - CPC Chair)

- Looking to increase budget by \$150 after purchasing the banner

Open Discussion:

- Moriah: Could we place the budget cost under Administration as we can utilize the banner for multiple functions within District 05?
- **Randy: Motion to place the banner cost under the Administration budget. The remaining reimbursement will come out of the CPC Budget.**

1. Mike: Second

2. Motion passes by acclimation

C. Budget increase for Special Accessibilities (Sarah Lynn - Special Accessibilities Chair) •

Looking to increase budget to reimburse the member who purchased the pocket talker

Open Discussion:

- Randy: Who would maintain it?
- Sarah Lynn: Jim S. currently has it. Can discuss the central location for it if need be.
- Isaiah: Will it be utilized outside of this one member?
- Sarah Lynn: Hoping to purchase more if there is a need. The item was purchased prior to discussion. Now just looking to reimburse the member who purchased it. Could we also just take this from the Admin Budget? We could utilize this within the District and even for meetings/groups.
- Dave: Could we have it available to rent for a small fee which would help cover the cost? •

Kaufua: Is it the District's responsibility to supply meetings and groups with the pocket talker? Could we explore the idea of having it available to request at our conferences or pot lucks just like we do with the Grapevine Display?

5

1. Randy: Motion to table

2. Isaiah: Second

3. Motion passes by acclamation

V. GSRs (OPEN SHARE)

A. Randy (Northside): There has been a lot of talk about liability lately with rental space. Have other groups run into this?

- a. Dave: The Pacific Group has purchased an insurance policy to meet at their meeting location. The price of that is unknown.
- b. Mike: Part of why Back to Basics moved to KC Hall was due to the liability clause from their previous location. Back to Basics did survive the move though it hasn't been the same since. Back to Basics did look into insurance and it might have run up to \$1000/year.
- c. Eric: Flimsy Reed also struggled with finding a new meeting place due to insurance.

B. Carrie (Freedom from Bondage): Is ECR still looking to fill hospitality slots? a. Brian: Yes, there are many slots open. If interested, please reach out to me.

Kaufua dipped out before the meeting ended and did not capture the rest of the meeting discussion. SORRY.

VI. Committee/Conferences

A. WICYPAA: 2/19/2027-2/21/2027 in Green Bay, WI | www.wicypaa.com

B. CVIG

C. Recovery on the River: 10/2/2026-10/4/2026 | www.recoveryontheriver.org D. ECR:

6/26/2026-6/28/2026 - still looking for groups/individuals to help with hospitality |

www.area74.org/2026-ecr

VII. Open Mic (2 minutes each) Open sharing from general membership of district 05

Next Meeting July 8th, 2026 Reports: GSR Sharing Session – Open Forum

Close with Responsibility statement: 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.