

DISTRICT 01 NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2003

DISTRICT 01 PO BOX 0632 GREEN BAY WI 54305

MARTY S. (920) 465-1401

A Paradox in Service Work by John S

Each of us in Alcoholics Anonymous are indebted to those individuals that have served and those who are currently serving our Fellowship. I can look back over the years and recall a number of key individuals that have had a huge influence on the meetings they attended. Just their presence made a difference. They were the people that you knew were going to be there. They took a vested interest in the group and provided the group with leadership, whether holding a service position or not. We tend to lean on these people. They ensure the doors to the meeting place will be open. They encourage service work and group participation with District and Area events. They step in when others do not fulfill their service commitments. Without these key people, some meetings would certainly fade away. It is so easy to take these individuals for granted.

However, even with the best of intentions, it can be easy for individuals involved in service work to over step their usefulness. It is so easy to develop an inflated sense of importance regarding one's role with a meeting or to a service position. Motives can become ego driven and there may be little desire to share responsibilities for fear of giving up control. Rather than having a truly vested interest in the success of the meeting, our motives may become insincere. In spite of this, many who attend are glad these individuals are around. They hold the false belief that they have been relieved of any obligation. The reality though, is every member of Alcoholics Anonymous active in service work or not, shares responsibility in the quality of the meetings they attend and the current state of our Fellowship.

APPLETON INTERGROUP

DECEMBER 20, 2003

**ST. PIUS CHURCH
500 W MARQUETTE ST
APPLETON, WI 54911**

REGISTRATION: 5:30 PM

**POTLUCK DINNER 6 PM
(BRING DISH TO PASS)**

SPEAKERS AT 7PM

NEW YOUTH AA MEETING NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

THURSDAYS 3:45 PM

**636 S IRWIN AVE
GREEN BAY, WI**

CONTACTS:

**GLENN F 406-9557
DEAN 433-3372 X117**

WHY DO WE NEED A CONFERENCE?

By Bernard B. Smith (1954)

Reprinted with permission from AAWS. An excerpt from the AA Service Manual

We may not need a general service conference to insure our own recovery. We do need it to insure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to insure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined to alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics, who in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth which brought us back to life.

We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must insure can never invade AA. We need it to insure AA against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect AA against disintegration while preventing over integration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

We need it to insure that changes within AA come only as a response to the needs and wants of all AA, and not of any few. We need it to insure that the doors and halls of AA never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to insure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

October District 01 Committee

Held on October 16, 2003 at the Bridge

Those in Attendance:

Pete J District 01 Archives	Bob L Bellin Psych Center	Glenn F Public Information
John G GSR Fisherman's Paradise	Tom W Pulaski BVM Group	Dean H Spiritual Axiom Group
Kelly J (oncoming DCM)	Nancy H Sat Eye Openers	Jim D District 01 Treasurer
Lynn L Bridging the Gap Chair	Sharon T Grapevine Meeting GSR	Robin N Tuesday Women's Group
John C Alt GSR New Hope Group	John RS Alt DCM	Mike G. GSR New Hope Group
John S District 01 Secretary	Bret D. Sunday Early Birds	

Treasurer's report: submitted by Jim D. Report was accepted as read.

Secretaries report: submitted by John S. Minutes were accepted as read.

Old Business

Meeting Lists: The issue was posed that the 218 Club is not receiving enough district meeting list. An effort will be made to ensure the club has an ample supply of lists.

Voting: Robin N asked why the DCM does not vote. She stated that the AA Service Manual does not say anything about the DCM not voting. It was explained that in District 01, the DCM only votes in the event of a tied vote.

District Website: Glenn F did a lot of research regarding various websites. Currently District 01 is considering developing its own website.

WICYPAA: Glenn F reported that there is a WICYPAA Conference being held in Brookfield, WI on January 29 to February 1, 2004. The conference is entitled Safe Haven.

New Youth Meeting: Glenn F. reported that the first meeting will be held on 10/23/03. He is seeking donations for literature and items such as coffee pots to get the meeting going. Marty proposed Glenn make a list of items he needs and present it to the District. Bob L made motion that the District donate \$100.00 for Glenn to spend on literature and other needed items to get the meeting started. A lengthy discussion followed. Jim D. stated that the District would be starting a bad precedent if it starts making donations to groups. He proposed that we go to the groups for donations. Bob L withdrew his motion.

Intergroup: Robin N. reported on the intergroup. A planning meeting will be held after the next District Committee Meeting.

Rent: a motion was made to reimburse the Bridge \$15.00. MM&S. Motion Carried.

New Business

Hotline: All City Communication the answering service for the Hotline is in need of up to date meeting list. The one they are currently using is from 2002.

Sanger B Powers: Meetings at Sanger B Powers are now closed meetings. Approval must be obtained in order to attend. The question was posed if we should take these meetings off our meeting lists. It was suggested a separate list for correction meetings be made. John S proposed we keep the correction meetings on the meeting list, but have them in its own section.

Family Services: Family Services would like to have an AA meeting started in their facility.

WICYPAA: Glenn F would like GSRs to talk to their groups about bringing WICYPAA to District 01. Discussion followed and it was decided to hold off and let the DCM find out more information.

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Marty S reported. Posed the question if we should include District 02 meetings with our list. He also talked about what it takes to produce the Newsletter and the skills needed. He thought it might be a good idea to start looking for someone to groom into the Newsletter Chair once his term is complete.

Hotline: Robin N reported that the Hotline is going well.

Public Information: Glenn F reported that he is continuing to help District 01 with the website and getting AA literature for the New Youth Group.

Bridging The Gap: Lynn L reported BTG is going well She is receiving a lot of referrals.

Yes, there is a substitute
and it is vastly more than that.

It is a fellowship in Alcoholics Anonymous.

There you will find release from care, boredom and worry.

Your imagination will be fired.

Life will mean something at last.

The most satisfactory years of your existence lie ahead.

Thus we find the fellowship, and so will you.

Big Book p.152

**"Share your experience,
strength and hope."**

Volunteer for the A.A. Hot Line.

For further information, please call:

Barb R. 437-6484 Robin N. 347-9932

Our Areas Correctional Meetings Need
Volunteers.

Please consider this important service.

Contact Gherud 822-1475

This Newsletter is our opportunity to think things
out, write them down and pass them along. Please
consider adding your own thoughts

to "our meeting in print."

John S. 499-3939 or Marty S. 465-1401

BRIDGING THE GAP

The purpose of the Bridging the Gap is to connect AA members in a treatment or correctional center with Alcoholics Anonymous in our community. **As a temporary contact** you would meet with them, go to their first few meetings, and help them get acquainted and comfortable among new friends, talk about getting a Sponsor and a home group. If you have an active relationship with your sponsor and a minimum one-year of sobriety, contact: Lynn L. at 468-5898.

TOLERANCE

I RECEIVE IT.

I GIVE IT.

I NEED IT.

TAKE WHAT YOU WANT
AND LEAVE THE REST!

District 01 GSR and Committee Meeting

Third Thursday 6:30PM

November 20th Angels of Hope Church

December 18th 6-10 pm Fireside Room
Ecumenical Center, UWGB
Meeting and Holiday Party

Following the District Meeting and
Christmas Party, the
January Intergroup planning committee
will get together.

PLEASE HELP SET-UP AND TAKE DOWN A MEETING WHENEVER YOU CAN.