

# DISTRICT 01 NEWSLETTER

"The only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking"

JANUARY 2005

DISTRICT 01 PO BOX 0632 GREEN BAY WI 54305

www.greenbayaa.org

## GSR and District Service Meeting

Jan 20<sup>th</sup> The Bridge  
Third Thursday 2514 Jenny Lane  
6:30 pm Green Bay

Each member speaks only for herself or himself. In the Home Group, the GSR brings our consensus to the DCM. Consensus is shared as we draw upon the service of our committees. The Newsletter and Meeting List are distributed. All members are welcome.

By choosing its most qualified member as GSR, a group helps secure its own future and the future of AA as a whole.

## District 01 Committee Officers

District Committee Member (DCM)	Kelly J.	469-0501
Alternate DCM	John RS	435-5158
Secretary	John S.	499-3939
Treasurer	Dean H.	438-1594
Archives	Pete J.	490-4008
Bridging the Gap/Treatment	Bruce K.	00000000
Cooperation w/ Professional Community	Al E.	469-9204
Corrections	Lynn L.	496-5899
Grapevine	Bill L.	498-3759
Hotline	Barb R.	437-6484
Intergroup	Pat T.C.	494-7990
Newsletter	Marty S.	465-1401
Public Information	Ben W.	491-4104

Many members who desire to serve beyond the home group find themselves walking through the door of the GSR and District Service Meeting. Generally, they have been sober over a year and recognize the promises coming into their life. Gratitude has replaced despondency; the desire to give back is growing. When you are ready, please consider serving. All are welcome.

## Visit our web sight

**a convenient place to find a meeting**

District 01 [www.greenbayaa.org](http://www.greenbayaa.org)  
(our meeting list and past newsletters are posted here)

Area 74 (North WI + UP) [www.area74.org](http://www.area74.org)  
(w/ links to Districts 01 02 04 05 06 07 09 10 12 14 15 16 18 22 23 24)

Area 75 (South WI) [www.area75.org](http://www.area75.org)

AA Grapevine [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org)

WICYPAA [www.wicypaa.org](http://www.wicypaa.org)  
(Wisconsin Conference of Young People in AA)

G.S.O. (General Service Office in NY) [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)  
(A list of online meetings is available, upon request, from GSO)

For general and pre-registration information about the **2005 International Convention** to be held in Toronto, Canada, go to the GSO web site under "Services for Members"

## Support our new meeting

### 'New Hope' Group

Moved to new location: 301 Mather St., Green Bay.  
Meeting time change to: 1:30 pm. seven days a week.

Contact: [Dan S. w/questions](mailto:Dan.S.w/questions) 662-0477

## NATIVE GROUNDS COMMUNITY CENTER

235 N. BROADWAY, GREEN BAY

Thursday Open Meeting  
9:30 am Non-smoking

Reading and Discussion Format

Contact: ~~Elizabeth~~ 497-1812

Comment: GSR, P-19, AAWS

## Committee Info

### **Bridging The Gap/Treatment**

#### **This Chair Remains Vacant**

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.

### **Grapevine Committee**

Please bring your past issues of the Grapevine to the GSR & District Service Meeting for re-distribution. Grapevines are timeless. They don't lose their relevance.

### **'06 Area 74 Spring Conference**

#### **Planning Meeting**

On January 20<sup>th</sup> at The Bridge at 8:00 pm there will be a planning meeting for the '06 Area 74 Spring Conference. Here is an opportunity to serve and socialize. **Contact Dean H. 438-1594**

### **Hot Line Volunteers Needed**

Our 24 hour Hot Line is in need of men and women volunteers with one year sobriety. Become available to answer questions and offer your experience, strength and hope. You are not tied to the phone and if a call comes at a wrong time it can be declined. The Hot Line is volunteer friendly. **Give Barb R. a call for more info, 437-6484.**

Recovery - Unity - Service

# NOVEMBER DISTRICT 01 COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD NOVEMBER 18, 2004 AT THE 218 CLUB

## THOSE IN ATTENDANCE:

KELLY J DISTRICT 01 DCM	BARBARA R HOTLINE	SID B GSR WOMEN IN THE PRESENT
MARTY S DISTRICT 01 NEWSLETTER	AL E DISTRICT 01 CPC	PAT TC GSR BELIEVERS GROUP
PAT N THURSDAY 9:30	MIKE G GSR NEW HOPE GRP	JAMIE O
JOHN G GSR FISHERMANS PARADISE	PATTI S GSR 1:30 218 CLUB	ELIZABETH F ALT GSR NEW HOPE
ERIC V GSR ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT	BILL L DIST 01 GRAPEVINE	BRAD H GSR SERENITY SEEKERS
SAM S WORK RELEASE SPONSOR	JIM D NEVER ON SUNDAY	DEAN H DIST 01 TREASURER
MARY K	MIKE	

**Secretaries Report:** Submitted by John S. MM&S to accept the minutes as read. Motion Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Submitted by Dean H.

<b>Balance as of 10/21/04</b>	<b>\$924.31</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	
Spiritual Axiom Group	\$58.88
Serenity Seekers	\$85.00
Wednesday Grapevine	\$26.96
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$170.84</b>
<b>Checks</b>	
Marty S. (Newsletter)	\$40.00
All City Communications (Hotline)	\$148.50
The Bridge (Rent for District 01 Meeting)	\$15.00
Bill L. (DCM Expenses Fall Conference)	\$41.00
Kelly J. (DCM Expenses Fall Conference)	\$40.00
Pattie V. (Website Annual Fee)	\$50.00
Postmaster (Annual Fee for PO Box)	\$48.00
<b>Total Checks</b>	<b>\$382.50</b>
<b>Balance as of 11/18/04</b>	<b>\$712.65</b>
<b>Includes \$650.00 Prudent Reserve</b>	
Comments: Price of the Hotline has increased by 50%	

### Intergroup Funds

<b>Balance as of 11/18/04</b>	<b>\$584.63</b>
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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Newsletter:** Marty S. reported that he could use more information regarding A.A. activities. He also stated that he would like to restrict the size of the newsletter to one 11 x 17 sheet and an 8 ½ x 11 insert. He asked the GSRs to take the amount of newsletters needed for their groups, and if they find they have taken too many, to bring them back. He is currently printing 700 copies a month.

Jim D initiated discussion regarding an advertisement placed in the Newsletter by a church, indicating they have space to hold an A.A. meeting. The issue was raised because a decision was made at the November 2003 District Committee Meeting not place an ad in the Newsletter informing the district a local recovery club had gone non-smoking.

Discussion followed and it was decided to address the subject in New Business.

**Hotline:** Barb R. reported there were 142 calls during the month of November. 4 calls were answered by volunteers. She stated volunteers are needed and asked GSRs to inform their groups. Kelly J. asked where she obtained the numbers regarding the amount of calls received, because the invoice from All City Communications indicates 247 calls were received. Dean H. pointed out that this number includes 105 hang ups. Kelly raised the concern regarding the 50% increase in cost. Previously, the monthly cost of the hotline was \$95.00 for as many calls received. This is no longer the case. Now they will charge a fee of \$50.00 for the first 50

minutes, then a charge for each additional call. This matter is being investigated further, and will be addressed at the next District Committee Meeting.

**Public Information:** Not Present

**Archives:** Not Present

**Bridging the Gap:** This position is still vacant. There was mention of people that are potentially interested, but they were not present.

**Grapevine:** Bill L reported back issues of the Grapevine have been donated to Corrections. He brought order forms for those interested in bringing them back to their groups.

**Corrections:** Kelly J reported for Lynn L that all correction meetings are going well. Sam indicated there is a need for more soft cover literature at these meetings. Group donations of soft cover literature is welcome.

**2006 Spring Conference:** Dean H reported the next planning meeting will be held on January 20, 2005 at The Bridge after the District 01 Committee Meeting.

**Cooperating with Professional Community:** Al E. reported that he has received the CPC kit. He expects a CPC committee will be formed by the end of the year.

**Intergroup:** Pat TC reported the intergroup will be held 01/22/05. No facility has been reserved to hold the event. Pat has contacted a number of churches, but has been unable to find any openings. Suggestions were made. She will continue to research the matter.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Holiday Meeting 12/11/04:** Jim D reported that pizza will be provided by the District, but indicated there will be a need, for those who can, to bring a dessert or dish to pass.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Reimbursements:** Motions were made and seconded to reimburse the following A.A. related expenses:

**Marty S.** \$40.00 for the cost of printing the District 01 Newsletter.

**218 Club** \$15.00 rent to hold the November District 01 Committee Meeting.

**Kelly J** \$46.86 for the cost of gas and lunch at the Fall Assembly. Kits for CPC and Public Information.

**Available Meeting Space:** Sid B made a motion to list information about available space for A.A. meetings in the District 01 Newsletter. Motion was not seconded. A lengthy discussion followed. A friendly amendment was made by Mary K to the motion to leave the decision to the discretion of the newsletter editor. Sid B. accepted the friendly amendment. The motion was seconded. Motion carried.

**Bridging the Gap Literature:** Dean H. made a motion to give \$50.00 for the purchase of pamphlets. Motion was seconded by Al E. Motion carried.

**AA DISTRICT 01 TREASURER'S REPORT**  
DECEMBER 11, 2004

BALANCE AS OF 11-18-04	\$712.65
DEPOSITS:	-0-
CHECKS:	
Marty S. (Newsletter)	40.00
All City Communications (Hotline)	152.00
218 Club (Rent)	15.00
Kelly Jones (DCM Expenses)	46.86
World Services (BTG Literature)	44.60
BALANCE AS OF 12-11-04	\$414.19
INTERGROUP FUNDS AS OF 11-18-04	\$584.63
Redeemer Lutheran Ch (Deposit)	103.00
INTERGROUP FUNDS AS OF 12-11-04	\$481.63
CHECKBOOK:	\$895.82

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
 DEAN HANSEN  
 TREASURER

## Concepts Checklist

Additional information about the Concepts can be found in The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, and "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" pamphlet (P-8).

**Concept 1: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.**

Does our group have a general service representative (GSR)? Do we feel that our home group is part of AA as a whole and do our group's decisions and actions reflect that?

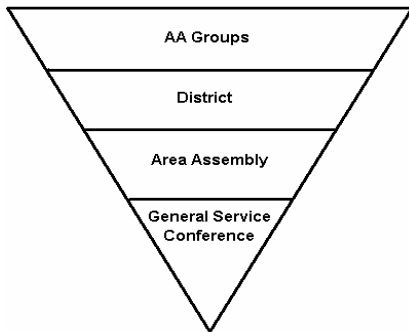
Do we hold regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we pass that conscience on to the district, area, or the local intergroup meetings?

Is the "collective conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area?

Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of AA?

Are we willing to do what it takes to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions?

Excerpts from, Service Material, F-91



## Sobriety for 2005

One of my goals for 2004 was to continue my sobriety for at least that year (One day at a time, of course). There is a pretty good chance that will happen. Looking forward to 2005 I have set a goal to go along with my sobriety and that is to try a little harder to give back that which I have so freely been given by the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and the people who make up its membership.

In 2005 I have many, many meetings, two area assemblies and two area conferences to attend, a International Conference and a score of other events held at the district and area levels. I believe, along with the personal relationships I have with AA people, that will get me on the right path toward this new goal. Join me in attempting to "give back!" Welcome the new comer and those who relapse back with open arms. Remember, that could be you!

In Loving Service,  
 Kelly J

I sat in the half-measures chair . .  
 . . the one next to the door.

## A message from District 01 Treasurer

I remember when I first came through the doors of Alcoholics Anonymous. The meeting rooms were full of people who greeted and welcomed me. Even though I would eventually "go back out there," thinking about that first meeting made it easier to come back. I knew that there would be people there to help me.

Now that I have maintained some continued sobriety, I believe that it is vital that AA continues to live on. We must never forget where we came from. We must remember why we are here. We must be here for the newcomer. Where would I be today if not for those caring souls who reached out to me at my first meeting?

I have a desire to stay sober today, and I cannot keep my sobriety without giving it away. I need to give my sobriety to the newcomer that walks in the door. That being said, there needs to be a door to walk through. We, as members of AA, need to ensure that AA will live on for the newcomer. AA must remain fully self-supporting. Does anyone really know what happens to that "dollar" that we toss in the basket? When a group is formed, a GSR is elected and a treasurer is appointed. This is where the service structure of AA begins. Vital information is passed between the group and the District.

Donations collected from the small jar are used to make contributions to the GSO, the Area and the District. The District then uses your contributions to maintain vital services that help ensure AA will be there when the newcomer walks in. Specifically, that dollar you contribute not only helps ensure that the clubs remain in operation, it also funds the AA Hotline. The District also uses your contributions to buy literature. This literature is then distributed to the newcomer in treatment facilities and corrections. The District also gives financial support to our District Committee Members for expenses they incur while traveling to important AA area business functions. The money donated to the basket is used to maintain and operate the clubs and meeting places.

Early in AA history, a member left \$10,000.00 to Alcoholics Anonymous in her will. After much debate, AA Trustees declined the gift and any offered in the future. They declared that AA must always stay poor, with bare running expenses and a prudent reserve. That is vital for maintaining our integrity. We must, however, continue to contribute to our groups.

Help keep AA strong. Donate an extra "dollar" if you can. Organize your meeting and elect a GSR. Smaller groups may feel they only can make small contributions. Let me assure you all. Every donation counts!

District 01 Treasurer  
 Dean Hansen

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE WOLF'S DEN?

We are well into the Holiday season, with the most inspirational holiday of Thanksgiving the most recent; those of us in recovery having so very much to be thankful for. This is truly the time of year for family and friends! Many of us have made new and healthy friends and see our fellow man in a different light. It is a direct result of working the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, which brings us to our twelfth step which I call the "Keep it" step! . . . You can't keep it without giving it away! (AA saying)

Step Twelve reads . . . "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principals in all our affairs." The term, 'spiritual' has a vary profound meaning in our program simply because we have found that we can not begin to recover without help from a higher power. As step Two so readily states, "Came to believe a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." Some of us come to our Spiritual awakening by a bolt from the heavens, sudden and disarming, while others embraced it incrementally as if studied, slow and deliberate. However you come to the spiritual realm, your recovery will not succeed without God's intervention.

Step Twelve is the only step that our 'Big Book' devotes a whole chapter to. (Working With Others, p. 89 – 103) It notes that having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps speaks volumes to those of us who have, and are, working the steps of our program in our daily lives. It goes on to state, "we tried to carry the message to other alcoholics." This is the essence of our program. Dr. Bob and Bill W. realized very early on that it would take an alcoholic to help another alcoholic. We collectively know the mental, emotional and physical torment that the other person is going through. We are brothers and sisters struggling with the same disease and openly express our experiences, strength and hope.

The last part of the step states, "and to practice these principals in all our affairs." Whether we like it or not, we are sometimes put under a microscope by some of our members, especially the newcomers, who observe nearly everything we do. When it is stated at the tables that, "If you want what we have and are willing to go to any length to get it", it's our actions and the way we carry ourselves that this very statement conveys. Practice these principals in all our affairs means just that! We are still alcoholics, with all the failings that go with this disease, but it becomes our duty as we put few 24 hours behind us, to show by example how by living the program, working the steps and carrying the message, that the 'Promises' (Big Book, p. 83 – 84) can come true for them too!

I pray that 'God' walks with you on your road to recovery!

The birthstone for the month of December is the turquoise/zircon.

Congratulations to those celebrating their recovery anniversary as well as those celebrating a birthday this month.

### "Quotable Quotes"

On enemies . . . by Elbert Hubbard

"If you have no enemies, you are apt to be in the same predicament in regards to friends."

On character . . . by Thomas Paine

"Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what 'God' and the angels know of us!"

On books . . . by Emerson

"If we encounter a man of rare intellect, we should ask him what books he reads."

On ancestors . . . by Abraham Lincoln

"I don't know who my grandfather was; I am much more concerned to know what my grandson will be."

On pride . . . by C.C. Colton

"There is this paradox in pride – it makes some men ridiculous, but prevents others from becoming so."

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD BLESS YOU AND YOURS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Michael V. "Gray Wolf"

## "We Cannot Skimp"

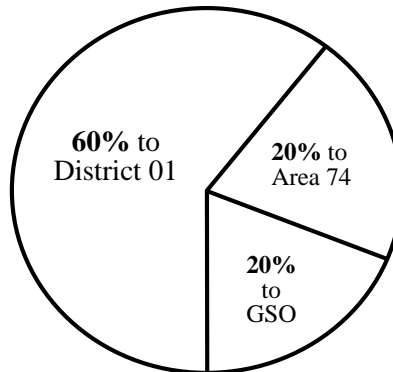
As Bill W. put it in 1957, "Our spiritual way of life is safe for future generations **if, as a Society, we resist the temptation to receive money from the outside world.** But this leaves us with a responsibility – one that every member ought to understand. We cannot skim when the treasurer of our group passes the hat. **Our groups, our areas, and AA as a whole will not function unless our services are sufficient and their bills are paid.**"

"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But **when we are generous with the hat we give a token that we are grateful** for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer."

"The Language of the Heart" p.221)

### Example of Group contributions to AA Service Entities

Distribution of funds from groups that support three service entities.



**Q** Doesn't all AA money go into one pot? In other words, when our group contributes to central office (intergroup), isn't our money distributed to the area, district and GSO as well?

**A** No. Each AA entity – group, district, area, central office and GSO – provides a specific service and is autonomous. Each is separate from the other.

"The AA Service Manual" and "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix", Pamphlet F-3

The Grapevine, AA's monthly periodical, had commenced publication with the June 1944 issue. Originating independently of Bill, it was founded by a group that he affectionately termed "six ink-stained wretches." An eight-page bulletin at the start, intended to get AA news to members in the armed forces, it soon expanded and became the Fellowship's official magazine. Over the years, the Grapevine would publish about 100 pieces by Bill. It was one of his most important vehicles for communication with the membership.

"Pass It On" The Story of Bill Wilson and how the AA message reached the world", p. 305, with permission.

## For everything there is a time.

The time may be here or near for a closed meeting in Northeast Wisconsin, at which both AA's and Al-Anon's would be welcome in the same group. Often "couples" are out and about, and one would take in a closed meeting, but for the fact that the other had nowhere to go but to wait in the car. I believe there are such meetings, perhaps as close as Milwaukee.

The physical, psychological, and spiritual illness symptoms are very nearly identical in the addict and the affected other, so it stands to reason that it would be simple to find numerous discussion topics appropriate for both. Such meetings might go a long way toward promoting mutual growth and understanding, and perhaps some healing of the wounds from the wreckage of the past.

I don't believe that such meetings could have their roots in Alcoholics Anonymous, because of "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking". Al-Anon is probably a good bet because it is very hard to honestly find a recovering Alcoholic Addict who is not also an affected other. Perhaps such meetings need not be a part of either, and could have their own label of some kind. The meeting structure would follow the 12-Step format, just like lots of other self-help meetings do. I plan to explore this to get an idea exactly how such meetings might be structured. Thanks for your attention.

Bill S. Oconto

## AREA CALENDAR

### December

18<sup>th</sup> Sat **Appleton Intergroup**, St. Pius X Catholic Church, 500 W. Marquette St., Appleton, WI Coffee: 5:30 pm. Dinner: 6:00. Bring a dish to pass. Meat and buns are provided. Speakers: 7:00

31<sup>st</sup> Fri **WICYPAA XII – New Years Eve**, The Bridge, 2514 Jenny Lane, Green Bay. AA Speakers: Denise S. from Kaukauna and Jeff C. from Sturgeon Bay at 8:00 pm. Dance at 9:30 pm – 2:00 am. Midnight Count Down and Dance Contest. Alkathon: 10 pm – 3 am. \$5 Donation. Come celebrate a sober New Year with WICYPAA as we count the final days to the 12<sup>th</sup> annual conference on Jan 28, 29, 30.

### January

22<sup>nd</sup> Sat **Green Bay Intergroup**, Redeemer Lutheran Church Gym, 210 So. Oneida St., Green Bay, WI Begins at 6:00 pm. AA speaker: Steve Mc D. Al-Anon speaker to be announced. Ham and buns will be provided. Soda and water for sale. Please bring a dish to pass. Our family and friends are welcome! **Contact: Pat T. C. 494-7990**

28, 29, 30<sup>th</sup> Fri Sat Sun **WICYPAA XII, Wisconsin Conference for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous**, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, 2040 Airport Dr., Green Bay, WI

54313 1-920-494-7300 for room reservations. Rooms at \$65/night. Mention WICYPAA XII when reserving. **'Young' is anyone with room to grow.** Speakers Friday: AA - Kellie L., Chicago, Ill. Saturday: Al-Anon - Scott M., Fond du Lac, WI. AA - Kip C., Vista, CA. Sunday: Dean P., Kaukauna, WI. Activities include: Smudging, AA Al-Anon Al-Ateen meetings, Alkathon, Panel discussions, Game show mania, Board games and a dance. Registration \$15. Saturday Banquet \$20, Sunday Breakfast \$10. **Contact: Glenn Funmaker, 920-496-9557 or Barb Smith. 920-688-2343**

## February

4, 5, 6<sup>th</sup> Fri, Sat, Sun 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Step

**Retreat Weekend – AA & Al-Anon**, Norbertine Center For Spirituality, St. Norbert Abbey, 1016 No. Broadway, East De Pere, WI This retreat is limited to 22 people, so make your reservations early. *Due by January, 14<sup>th</sup>* Time: Fri 6 pm thru Sun Noon. Cost: \$110, includes 2 nights and 4 meals. Snacks only on Fri night. Send your \$25 deposit to: Step Retreat, PO Box 2122, Green Bay, WI 54306-2122. **Contact: Therese 920-336-3023**

26<sup>th</sup> Sat **Oshkosh Intergroup**, Oshkosh Senior's Center Annex Building, 200 N. Campbell Rd., Oshkosh, WI. Registration: 4 - 6:00 pm, Chile Supper: 5:30 pm w/chili, crackers, bread, coffee and Fellowship provided. Soda available. Bring a dessert or side dish to pass. Speakers 7:00, - to be announced. Bring a Friend. Door prizes. **Contact: Darrell R. 920-231-3489 or Jerry D. 920-233-0735**

**Comment:** Info confirmed with Jerry D. 12/01. Will cal by Dec 12 with speaker names

## March

4, 5, 6<sup>th</sup> Fri, Sat, Sun Wisconsin LXVIII

**Agape Weekend**, at Wellspring, in Newburg, WI., near West Bend. "AGAPE: Spontaneous, self-giving love expressed freely, without calculation of cost to the giver or merit on the part of the receiver." This is an open AA function. Fri. Registration at 6:30 pm. Weekend includes: Ask-it-basket, Step Meetings I thru 12, Closed Meetings plus Al-Anon and ACDA, Birthday Meeting, HP Meeting, Fellowship and Nature paths. Abundant wildlife. Comfortable indoor facilities. Bring your sleeping bags, bed rolls, pillows, toiletries. Fully equipped kitchen area for use or eat out. No pets allowed! Smoking in designated areas. \$40 per person. Walk-in registrations can prorate the cost for a partial weekend or early departure. **Contact: Luis Rubio 262-626-2231, Jeff Krolkowski 414-481-2979, Steve Range 414-258-2835**

19<sup>th</sup> Sat **Neenah/Menasha Intergroup**, St. Pat's Gathering Hall, 324 Nicolet Blvd. Menasha WI. Turkey like you've never had before! Ham provided. Registration: 5:00 pm, Dinner: 6:30. Pot - luck, please bring a dish to pass. Speakers: 7:30, AA & Al-Anon to be announced. Enter East side by the double tan doors. **Contact: Roger W. 920-788-0529**

# LET GO AND LET GOD