

# DISTRICT 01 NEWSLETTER

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

JULY 2004

DISTRICT 01 PO BOX 0632 GREEN BAY WI 54305

www.greenbayaa.org

## GSR and District Service Meeting

### JULY 15TH – THE 218 CLUB

THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30 PM

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

**Gratitude is conscious contact.**

### District 01 Committee Officers

District Committee Member (DCM)	Kelly J.	469-0501
Alternate DCM	John RS	265-6708
Secretary	Mike G.	366-1309
Treasurer	Dean H.	438-1594
Archives	Pete J.	490-4008
Cooperation w/ Professional Community (CPC)	-----	
Corrections	Lynn L.	468-5899
Grapevine	Bill L.	498-3759
Hotline	Barb R.	437-6484
Newsletter	Marty S.	465-1401
Public Information	Glen F.	496-9557
Treatment/Bridging the Gap	Robin N.	347-9932

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 this important service. 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)

Area 20 (North Illinois) [www.aa-nia.org](http://www.aa-nia.org)

AA Grapevine [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org)  
(NEW - AA Grapevine Digital Archive starting July 1, 04)

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

### Flintville Early Risers

Sat 8:00 am Closed Non-smoking  
Step meeting, the last Saturday of the month is a Birthday Meeting  
Sts. Edward and Isidore Catholic Church  
Marion Room

**Contact: Tom W. 920-822-1433**

From Green Bay: North on Hwy 41,  
left onto Cty 'B', left onto Cty 'M',  
¼ mi. on the right

### Big Book Meeting

Wednesday, 7:30 – 8:30 pm  
Closed Non-smoking

♿ Bellin Psychiatric Center  
301 E. Joseph St., Green Bay  
Contact: John G. 469-9103

### Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

2740 W. Mason St., Green Bay  
Thur 3:00 pm Rm. ED-122 (Bldg. 4)  
Open Non-smoking Discussion format

**A Sign Translator is available.**

Contact: John RS 265-6708

### New Meeting in Oconto.

Wednesday, 10:00 am  
Closed Non-smoking Discussion format  
First American Lutheran Church (downstairs)  
511 Madison St. at Michigan St. intersect  
Contact: Elli H. 834-6298

**How many of us came to service in AA with the help of a sponsor?**

## Committee Info

The Public Information Committee would like to place a list of open meetings on various community bulletin boards in our area.

The intent is for this to be ongoing with meetings added and subtracted as group conscious dictates and interest prevails. If you would like to have your open meeting "out there," please let me know. **Contact: Jim O. 265-9299**

**Grapevine Committee:** Please bring in your past issues of the Grapevine to the GSR & District Service Meeting for re-distribution. Thank you, Bill L.

# Traditions Checklist

Practice these principles . . .

## Tradition Seven: Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

1. Honestly now, do I do all I can to help AA (my group, my central office, my GSO) remain self-supporting? Could I put a little more into the basket on behalf of the new guy who can't afford it yet? How generous was I when tanked in a barroom.
2. Should the Grapevine sell advertising space to book publishers and drug companies, so it could make a big profit and become a bigger magazine, in full color, at a cheaper price per copy?
3. If GSO runs short if funds some year, wouldn't it be okay to let the government subsidize AA groups in hospitals and prisons?
4. Is it more important to get a big AA collection from a few people, or a smaller collection in which more members participate?
5. Is a group treasurer's report unimportant AA business? How does the treasurer feel about it?
6. How important in my recovery is the feeling of self-respect, rather than the feeling of being always under obligation for charity received?

"AA Grapevine", Nov 69-Sept 71, Reprinted with permission of the AA Grapevine, Inc.

## Bill's spiritual awakening

My depression deepened unbearably and finally it seemed to me as though I were at the bottom of the pit. I still gagged badly on the notion of a Power greater than myself, but finally, just for the moment, the last vestige of my proud obstinacy was crushed. All at once I found myself crying out, "If there is a God, let Him show Himself! I am ready to do anything, anything!"

Suddenly the room lit up with a great white light. I was caught up into an ecstasy, which there are no words to describe. It seemed to me, in the mind's eye, that I was on a mountain and that a wind not of air but of spirit was blowing. Then it burst upon me that I was a free man. Slowly the ecstasy subsided. I lay on the bed, but now for a time I was in another world, a new world of consciousness. All about me and through me there was a wonderful feeling of Presence, and I thought to myself, "So this is the God of the preachers!" A great peace stole over me and I thought, "**No matter how wrong things seem to be, they are all right. Things are all right with God and His world.**"

Then, little by little, I began to be frightened. My modern education crawled back and said to me, "You are hallucinating, you had better get the doctor." Dr. Silkworth asked me a lot of questions. After a while he said, "No, Bill, you are not crazy. There has been some basic psychological or spiritual event here. I've read about these things in the books. Sometimes spiritual experiences do release people from alcoholism." Immensely relieved, I fell again to wondering what actually had happened.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Nearly every AA has a spiritual experience that quite transforms his outlook and attitudes. Ordinarily, such occurrences are gradual and may take place over periods of months or even years.

A considerable number of AA's, including Bill, who have had the sudden variety of spiritual experience see no great difference so far as the practical result is concerned between their quick illumination and the slower, more typical kinds of spiritual awakening.

*Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, A brief history of AA. p. 63*

## Please Volunteer

### to help Green Bay host WICYPAA XII.

The Wisconsin Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous meets annually. Every one is welcome. We define "Young People" as anyone with room to grow. There are no age restrictions. In the past we have had people in their teens and in their seventies involved. The conference provides an opportunity for AA members from all over Wisconsin and the rest of the world to come together to share their experiences, strength, and hope. Like any other conference, it is an opportunity to learn more about the program and sobriety. The conference consists of several closed and open AA meetings, alkathons, panels, speaker meetings and events.

We are asking for volunteers to help with: Greetings Decorating Registration Hospitality and Alkathons.

If you are interested, please contact:

Glenn F. 920-496-9557 funmaker@sbcglobal.net

Candace B. 920-235-6703 bahrc@sbcglobal.net

Nadine S. 920-833-1354 strongmedband@aol.com

Help make Green Bay's first WICYPAA Conference a memorable success.

Spiritual progress implies positive  
change noticed by others.

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

We are well into the summer season, and despite one of the wettest months on record, the heat and humidity are sure to come.

It is also the sixth month which brings us to reflect on the sixth step . . . "Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character" . . . The key phrase being 'entirely ready.'

Step six is an echo of steps one and two. In these we admitted our inability to change ourselves without accepting help from a 'God' of our understanding. We had to surrender completely. If, after asking 'God' to restore us to sanity, and he removed our obsession for alcohol, why wouldn't he, if we humbly asked, remove all our character defects?

In the 'Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions' it lists on page 48 the Seven Deadly Sins of pride, greed, lust, anger, gluttony, envy and sloth that are at the very core of many of our character defects. Many of our character defects are the direct result of some of the things that have happened to us in our lives. We are a product of our environment. There are things in us that we would like to change but just can't seem to despite our best efforts. That's where a 'Power greater than ourselves' comes in. When we humbly ask him to remove all these defects of character, he will! The remaining eleven steps state perfect ideals. They are goals toward which we look, and the measuring stick by which we measure our progress. It is in this same light that we look at step six and realize this may be a life-long struggle, look to make steady progress. 'Godspeed'!

Michael V. 'Gray Wolf'



# The Promises

If we are painstaking about this phase of our development,  
we will be amazed before we are half way through.

We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.

We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.

We will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace.

No matter how far down the scale we have gone,  
we will see how our experience can benefit others.

That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear.

We will lose interest in selfish things and gain interest in our fellows.

Self-seeking will slip away.

Our whole attitude and outlook upon life will change.

Fear of people and of economic insecurity will leave us.

We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.

We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us  
what we could not do for ourselves.

Are these extravagant promises?

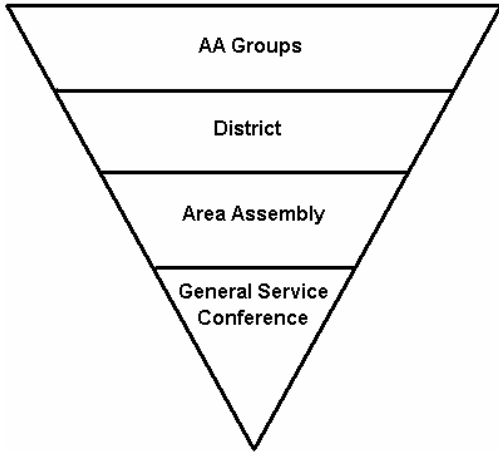
We think not.

They are being fulfilled among us  
sometimes quickly, sometimes slowly.

They will always materialize if we work for them.

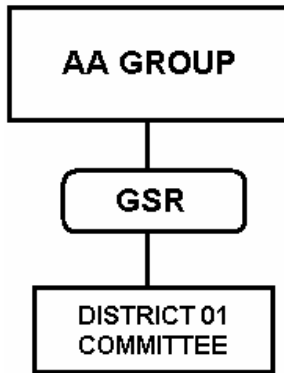
# Our Fellowship has been called an upside down organization.

The inverted triangle is an illustration where Alcoholics Anonymous derives its leadership and direction. "The ultimate responsibility and final authority for World Services resides with the group — rather than with the trustees, the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York." Taken from the Pamphlet the AA Group, reprinted with permission of AAWS.



## Keeping the A.A. Message Intact

As members of Alcoholics Anonymous, each of us play a very important role in ensuring the A.A. Message will be intact for the future suffering alcoholic. "The entire structure of AA depends upon the participation and conscience of the individual groups, and how each of these groups conducts its affairs has a ripple effect on AA everywhere." Taken from the AA Pamphlet The AA Group. Reprinted with permission of AAWS.



Be willing to see needs and fill them, to see hurts and heal them.

Comment: Big Book p. 230

## Letters

Dear AA Newsletter,

To be grateful and give thanks is an easy thing in some areas, but as I am learning, not so easy in some others. I recently completed my court sentence at the Brown County Jail and will soon have my three-month anniversary date of being straight and sober. The police officers that arrested me and the justice system that convicted me, I now believe, were necessary for my recovery. The new honesty is possible with the support of The Angel of Hope, 9:30 am Sunday meeting and the 'why me' has turned from that of a negative thought to one of a positive blessing in my life. I am thankful for Marty S., the AA newsletter and the program and so very grateful for my 'one day at a time' in its serenity, courage and wisdom that now guide my actions.

Sincerely,  
Jim O.

"There is one other thing. You should go out and take this program to somebody else who needs it and wants it."

Comment: Page: 5  
Big Book p.190

## A complete change takes place in our approach to life.

Where we used to run from responsibility, we find ourselves accepting it with gratitude that we can successfully shoulder it. Instead of wanting to escape some perplexing problem, we experience the thrill of challenge in the opportunity it affords for another application of AA techniques, and we find ourselves tackling it with surprising vigor.

The last fifteen years of my life have been rich and meaningful. **I have had my share of problems, heartaches, and disappointments because that is life, but also I have known a great deal of joy and a peace that is the handmaiden of an inner freedom.** I have a wealth of friends and, with my AA friends, an unusual quality of fellowship. For, to these people, I am truly related.

Big Book p. 275 with permission

Service is integral to my recovery.

# AREA CALENDAR

## June

19<sup>th</sup> Sat **Multi-Level Group Service Workshop**, St Mark's Evangelical Church, 140 S. Green Bay Rd., Neenah, WI For all GSR's, Alt. GSR's and other group Trusted Servants from District 01 02 08 22. Topics will be on the responsibilities of the GSR, the Group and other Group Trusted Servants. How the Group receives assistance from the District, the Area, and GSD (General Service Office). How you can be of service to your group, the joy of fellowship, and how service work enhances our sobriety. Presenters will be Jeff C., Area 74 Chair and Ted L., Past Delegate.  
**Contact: Keith V.** 920-470-4314

26<sup>th</sup> Sat **Seymour Intergroup Pot Luck Dinner**, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 349 No. Main St., Seymour, WI Meat and buns provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Wheelchair accessible. Good fellowship, fun, and door prizes. Bring a friend! 6:00 pm Dinner, 7:15 Open Speakers Meeting, AA & Al-Anon speakers **Contact: Don D.** 833-6689

25 26 27 Fri Sat Sun **8<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Keep It Simple' Washington Island Spirituality Weekend**, Island Camping & Recreation, Washington Island, WI 54264 Ph: 920-847-2622 Sponsored by Washington Island Groups 12 Step Retreat. A weekend focused on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Steps. To camp at the campground we have arranged for the large group site. This is where all events will be held. Campsites are on the edge of the group site. Campsite fee: \$5 per person per night paid directly to owner. Private sites available. Dogs are welcome, but not at the meetings. Community Center gym and kitchen is for use in case of rain. **Friday:** 4:00 pm registration and set-up, grill for cooking available, Welcome Campfire, 3<sup>rd</sup> Step Open Meeting. **Saturday:** Breakfast, AA and Al-Anon Meetings, fish, swim, hike, sit, relax, read or just stare into space, Fish Boil. **Sunday:** 6:00 am Breakfast, AA and Al-Anon Meetings, Spirituality panel, clean up and good-byes. **Extra costs:** Washington Island Ferry Line Ph: 800-223-2094 or www.wisferry.com + extra meals and campsite or lodging. **Registration:** \$25 per person, includes Breakfast on Sat and Sun. Fish Boil \$10 per adult (optional) Mail to: Washington Island Retreat, RR 1 Box 143W, Washington Island, WI 54246-9746 Scholarships are available. **Contact: Jim & Janet W.** 920-847-2733 E-mail: jwisland1997@iwon.com **Chick R.** 920-847-2626.

It must seem to every newcomer that more is being asked of him than he can do.

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## July

9 10 11 Fri Sat Sun **4<sup>th</sup> Unity Conference**, Radisson Paper Valley Hotel & Convention Center, 333 West College Av., Appleton, WI 800-333-3333. Mention 'Unity Conference' when reserving. 'Recovery, Unity, Service' Sponsored by Area 74 and 75. Meet your GSD Staff and Regional Trustee. AA & Al-Anon speakers, panels, archives, literature, Alkathons, hospitality room. Request special needs by June 10<sup>th</sup>: Spanish Interpreter, ASL Interpreter **Friday,** 2 pm Registration opens; 7 pm Ask-it-basket, Eva S. and Dorothy M.; 8:30 speaker Bob M., Ontonagon, MI; **Saturday,** 3 pm speaker, Al-Anon, Muriel P., Island Lake, IL; Alateen TBA; 6 pm Banquet \$24; 8 pm speaker, Eva S., GSO; **Sunday,** 9:30 am speaker, Una R., Wauwatosa, WI, Pre-register \$14 by June 15<sup>th</sup> to: Unity Conference Treasurer, PO Box 554, Pewaukee, WI 53072-554, **Contact: Karen B.** 920-451-9707 wiefle@yahoo.com **Bob M.** 906-884-4991 rrmayer@up.net

15 Thur **GSR and District 01 Service Meeting** 218 Club 218 S. Oneida St., Green Bay 6:30 pm. This is where the home group GSR brings your consensus. The Newsletter and Meeting List are distributed. Bring along any additions or corrections for the Meeting List. Help keep it up to date

24<sup>th</sup> Sat **Chilton Intergroup**, Ebenezer United Church of Christ, Washington St., Chilton, WI 6-7pm Pot Luck, 7-8:30 pm AA and Al-Anon speakers, non-smoking, **Contact: Rita K.** 920-849-2911

## August

14<sup>th</sup> Sat

13 14 15 Fri Sat Sun **25<sup>th</sup> East Central Regional Conference/51<sup>st</sup> Indiana State AA Convention**, Adams Mark Hotel and Conference Center (airport location), 2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN. Hotel reservations: 800-444-2326 or 317-248-2481 or www.akamsmark.com mention 'East Central Regional Conference' Signers for the hearing impaired and Spanish interpreters. The hotel is physically challenged accessible. Workshops and service panel discussions (including Spanish), Ice Cream Social and dance Fri and Sat nights, Al-Anon and Alateen Activities. Speakers: Bobby C. Philadelphia, PA Ed M. Davenport, IA Gayle R. GSD, New York Wayne B. Santa Monica, CA Mary Pearl (AFG) Little Rock, AK **Register for each adult:** AA / Al-Anon \$18 (after July 31, \$20). Banquet \$24 (you choose: chicken fish vegetarian). Alateens \$2. No refunds after July 31, **Contact: Janice T.** 317-823-4183 tjktomp@aol.com **Dorothy W.** 317-784-2092 jaawilso@iupui.edu **Bruce J.** 317-951-9589 [Jones.Bruce@malicity.com](mailto:Jones.Bruce@malicity.com)

28<sup>th</sup> **Intergroup**, New London, United Methodist Church

We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

# Tolerance

Love and tolerance of others is our code.