

## Area 74 Area Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday August 15, 2015

Reiter Center – Three Lakes WI

Housekeeping

### 10 AM Opened Meeting with the third step prayer

The Traditions were read by Jay H..

The time keeper was Norm F.

The Counters were Keith V. and Rob S.

### Roll Call

#### Area Officers

Area Chair, Delegate, Secretary/Registrar, Treasurer

#### Committee Chairs:

Archives, Archivist, Corrections MI, Corrections WI, CPC, Finance, Grapevine Chair, Now & Then, Public Information, Structures & Guidelines,

#### DCM's:

01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 09, 10, 18, 21, 23

### Approve minutes from May 17, 2015

There are corrections to

Page 1 Talked about the pamphlets for the Regional Conference that were handed out to the DCMs and will have more to hand out in August. Change conference to Forum

Page 3 – Area Chair Paragraph 1 – 2nd sentence It's hard not to let my personal opinion get in the way of what happens at this meeting.

Paragraph 3 – 2nd sentence: We need your opinion instead of you.

Page 5 – Area Chair middle of the page. Area Chair – My point in bringing this up was to find a way to bring us together not to create **divisiveness**. (Not decisiveness)

Page 5 Kim – Stated GSRs don't have a vote at this Assembly. - Change Assembly to Area Committee

Minutes approved with corrections .A final version of the August 15, 2015 ACM Minutes will be distributed to the Area Committee to become part of the permanent archive.

### Delegates Report

From AAWS Highlights dated June 12, 2015

- Southeast Regional Trustee, Chet P, has been elected to serve as the Chair of the AAWS Board.
- The construction project to re-locate the AA Grapevine office to the same space/floor as the General Service Office will begin mid-August. The staff is currently working on file and storage clean up.
- A new exhibit entitled, "AA's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" has been created for the Digital Archives Exhibit on GSO's website: [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). The timeline has been updated with new entries for the years 2010 through 2015; and a 9-minute clip of Sister Ignatia's talk at AA's 1960 International Convention has been added to the Audio Archives Library on the aa.org website.
- The re-recording of voices for the new video PSA "Doors" is complete and a plan to centrally distribute and track the new spot is being developed. (This was complying with a recommendation from the PI Conference committee of the 2015 GSC).
- The AAWS Board approved the creation of a new sort page on aa.org to help visitors navigate to the appropriate AAWS online store portal.

- For the first four months of 2015 literature sales (including digital books) were about 18% below the budgeted amount.
- The new ASL translation of Alcoholics Anonymous and Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions is progressing.
- The unaudited GSO financial update for the period Jan. 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015.  
 Net Sales - \$3,350,239 - were \$608,886 or 15.4% less than budget  
 Gross Profit (Literature) - \$2,183,469  
 Contributions - \$1,598,622 - were \$97,640 or 5/7% less than budget  
 Total Operating expenses - \$3,651,441 – were \$242,890 or 6.2% less than budget.

*Net profit for the 3 months was \$130,762 compared with a budgeted profit of \$553,322. While sales to-date was running considerable under budget and Contributions somewhat under budget, savings continue to be realized within operations.*

#### Licensing of AAWS Literature in Russia

- It has been determined that between the RSO and FOAA service structures in Russia that the RSO Conference and Board structure is solidly supported by groups in Russia and so the AAWS Board has passed a motion to grant a sole license to reproduce and distribute AA literature within Russia to the RSO Board upon the expiration of the two temporary license.

Greg Tobin has been hired as General Manager of the General Service Office. His start date will be October 1, 2015.

Ed Martin, who was currently serving our Fellowship as an AA Grapevine Director, passed away on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

I received a request for information about local use of social media and social networking platforms from Jim Malone, secretary of the trustees' Public Information Committee. (See attached)

The Grapevine is now accepting stories for our "Staying Sober through Adversity" (due Sept. 1) and "Old Timers" (due Oct. 1). Stories can be emailed to [www.aagrapevine.org/contribute](http://www.aagrapevine.org/contribute). You can also see the entire 2015 and 2016 issue themes and writers' guidelines at this website.

Quarterly contributions to GSO (ending 3/31/15) have been sent out to the groups. 12.78 % of the registered groups in Area 74 have sent contributions to the GSO – this compares to 14.25% for the same period in 2014. District numbers are needed for the following:

### **DCM reports (see page 8)**

#### **Unfinished Business**

No unfinished Business

#### **New Business**

##### **Approve September 19, 2015 Elections Assembly Agenda**

We reviewed the elections assembly agenda, There was concern expressed that there would not be ample time to complete the agenda

##### **Motion from the floor**

##### **Motion: To move the unfinished business to the end.**

No second

Unfinished business remains first on agenda

Minority voice was heard

Motion to reconsider passed

##### **Motion from the floor**

##### **That the elections assembly start at 8:30 AM.**

The motion passed by substantial unanimity

A suggestion included reading the concepts

The distribution notices will be part of housekeeping

The Now and Then Co-editors election be removed from agenda (Non rotating position)

Remove Chair and Past Delegate Assignment Approvals

## **Set 2016 Dates to Remember; final approval in September; distribution October**

We selected dates for the 2016 Area Assembly and Committee meetings, minus the 2016 Fall Conference dates. A draft version of the calendar (minus the 2016 Fall Conference dates) will be distributed at the September 19, 2015 Assembly and a complete version will be approved at the October 17, 2015.

## **WICYPAA-Request for letter of support-Kim R, (Area Chair)**

A brief discussion on the background for the letter was shared

Kim R. (Area Chair) will compose a letter of spiritual support for WICYPAA to place a conference bid. The letter will be presented at the October Assembly and placed to a vote.

## **Ad-hoc Committee update – Derek T (Committee Chair)**

Conducting Area Business (C.A.B.) Ad Hoc Committee of the Area Committee

Progress Report

08/15/15, Presented to the Area 74 Area Committee

Committee members: Derek T., Gail Z., Bob M., Pete W., Sara P., Kim R., Marty L. An extra thanks to Gail Z. and Pete W. for their assistance in preparing this progress report. The Ad Hoc Committee was asked to complete a review of the Area 74 practices in the following areas (see Scope on reverse):

- Handling and documentation of Area information
- Accountability of Area officers, chairs and committees as to the tasks the Assembly asked them to perform
- Efficiency, effectiveness and facilitation of four Assemblies/Area Committee

Meetings per year format since January 2012 (approved April 2010) Since the Area Committee Meeting on March 28:

- We have met for 9 conference calls totaling about 13.5 hours as a full committee
- We spent at least another 10 hours each in 2-person subcommittees conferences
- Each subcommittee took one of the areas to review, conducted their review, and presented it to the full committee. Then the review documents were passed on to the next subcommittee, and the process was repeated, so that each subcommittee added to the others' work. So, in effect, we looked at each of these subject areas three different ways using this brain-storming method and then reviewed each as a full committee. We are now compiling the data in preparation for Item Two of our approved Scope (see reverse): "The ad hoc committee will report the findings of the review to the Area Committee." We've compiled the data into the following categories:
  - Handling and documentation of Area information -- 14 pages of notes
  - Accountability of Area officers, chairs and committees as to the tasks the Assembly asked them to perform -- 5 pages of notes
  - Efficiency, effectiveness and facilitation of four Assemblies/Area Committee Meetings per year -- 20 pages of notes

Each area reviewed is in a slightly different format, as the subcommittee that originally reviewed an area developed the format for that area. Subsequent reviewers added to it and made corrections, but did not delete any original data. Handing out the data at this time does not seem prudent, as the Ad Hoc Committee is just starting to review it all together.

Our intent is to have a report of our findings to present to the Area Committee for feedback at a future Area Committee Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek T., CAB Ad Hoc Committee Chair

## **Structures and Guidelines-Joel S. (Chair) (see separate attachments)**

### **“Section 11 (2) and Article V (2)**

Joel S presented recommendations to the committee. The recommendation will be presented at the October Assembly as a seconded motion coming out of the Structures and Guidelines committee

## **Now & Then Report – Bob M (Co-editor)**

**Background materials available upon request**

**Presentation (see separate attachment titled “Presentation to Area 74”)**

## **Sharing Session**

Bob M. introduced himself as co-editor and Kathy as co-editor of the *Now & Then* Newsletter. He referenced the 2-piece documentation on the table.

He gave a brief history of the *Now & Then*, going over various newsletters and how things changed over the years. Referred to newsletter background information

Bob read the Area 74 Newsletter Guidelines and elaborated on the background.

There were a few questions **before** the sharing session:

1. Jeff stated he was hearing that the editors are looking for direction and guidance from the Assembly and was that the purpose?

Bob replied yes because they (editors) heard there was a lot of scuttle occurring.

2. Terry stated that it sounded as though both co-chairs start and end at the same time but one person could drop out. Do you (Bob) want both leaving at the same time?

Bob replied that if one co-chair hangs around, that's fine. It means asking for somebody to fill the other position. It's common that one stays and one moves on.

Terry stated she didn't send a flyer because she didn't think the conference was eligible to be in the *Now & Then*.

Bob's reply was that there are gray areas and to just send them.

Kim shared the following Sharing Session guidelines:

### **Sharing Session**

Sharing Session – The purpose of a Sharing Session is to fill a need for improved communication among Area committee, Districts, and Groups, thereby strengthening services in A.A. through cooperation. These sessions are called for a specific purpose requiring shared experience and ideas, in order to best serve Alcoholics Anonymous. Sharing Sessions are not designed to reach a conclusion as, say, at a regular A.A. business meeting. They are usually held where a problem has reached difficult proportions at the service level involved, and options to surmount the challenge need to be thought about.

The usual Sharing Session format provides for a “chairperson” who presents the problem to be discussed, and then asks for comments. Participants respond, usually going around the room, speaking for no longer than a specific time agreed upon ahead of time by everyone present (perhaps one or two minutes), after which a bell is rung to indicate “time up.” A participant may speak again on the same topic only after all others have shared once. He or she may then speak again, in turn. The sharing continues until all have said what they need to say on each go around the room. Remember, no one need ever be ashamed of his or her opinion.

While the sharing is taking place, a volunteer “secretary” takes down the essence of what is shared. This write - up should be both brief and informal. Since sharing on a specific topic may take an hour or more before it is exhausted, it is usually better to plan on having only one topic per Sharing Session. Again, no individual should attempt to sum or draw conclusions at the end of a Sharing Session. Each participant will have received “food for thought.” However, often it will be found that a group conscience has emerged.

To be effective, Sharing Sessions should include no more than 30 participants (larger groups can be broken into two sessions). These sessions may also be built into regular Area, District or Group meetings. Area Committees may find that Sharing Sessions foster greater interest and willingness on the part of General Service Representatives (G.S.R.s) to participate. Districts and Groups may find Sharing Sessions a preferred way to discuss

It was agreed that the sharing session would be comprised of 2 minutes per person at the microphone with 15 minutes per topic.

## **Bob**

The co-editors of the *Now & Then* (Bob and Kathy) are looking at changing some things (distribution, content) and would like anyone's thoughts in order to put some ideas together to possibly put in the next newsletter or discuss at the next Assembly. Bob also suggested attendees taking this topic back to their groups to discuss.

Bob asked the following questions and then opened the floor for discussion.

### **Question 1: How to distribute the *Now & Then*?**

1. What are the advantages and concerns with hard copy distribution?
2. What are the advantages and concerns with electronic distribution?

Mary Jo, Area Delegate, asked the price per *Now & Then*. Bob stated it was around a \$1 (which includes returns and mailings).

Derek, Treasurer, stated he likes having something to carry. He also prints and likes the electronic copy because it's shareable and printable (able to hand to the newcomer). As the treasurer, he stated it was hard not to notice the total expense as it relates to the budget. It's approximately 20-25% of the total budget. Derek also stated that looking at the big picture, it didn't seem right if we have a committee chair who wants to reach the alcoholic who is still suffering and we get cheap at budget time over a couple hundred bucks.

Brent, Kaukauna GSR, asked if the email coincides with the hard copy or can other members of AA get an email version separate from the mailing list?

Bob stated the Area Committee members, GSRs, and the delegate receive hard copies. There has been exceptions due to recipients not having emails. Everyone else receives email copies. Anyone can receive an email copy.

Brent asked if a member of AA could request an email copy without having a printed version. Bob stated that if you're a GSR, you will still receive a hard copy as well as an email version.

Tom, District 01 DCM, asked what the savings would be if each group would have to sign up to receive a printed version other than automatically receiving an electronic copy.

Bob commented there are only about 40 GSRs on the mailing list. A lot of the GSRs receive the newsletter from their DCM. There hasn't been a lot of feedback from GSRs wanting to receive an electronic copy. He stated that Tom's proposal is the way it was in the beginning which is every group is responsible for contacting the Editors, requesting the newsletter electronically or hard copy. It's an option.

Jay, District 23 DCM, stated he likes getting both. The hard copy is easy reference and the primary source of communication among Area groups. He likes the electronic copy because he receives it the first week in the month and the hard copy the third week in the month. His purpose as a DCM is getting the information out to the GSRs. He would not want to be put in the position of having the hard copy stopped due to its expense.

Jay then asked that with the Newsletter being 25% of the budget, how does that parallel with getting GSRs at Assemblies. Where's the real value? Are we trying to make sure information is out there? If so, that percentage might be relatively small.

Kim, Alternate Delegate Area Chair, stated District 02 reported that they have 130 groups in their District and their Newsletter distribution is 434 electronic and 99 hard copy; District 09 has 36 groups with 125 electronic, 16 hard copy. The distribution in the electronic version initially was small but there will be more receiving electronic copies in the future. This is pro in her world. Being sensitive to people wanting hard copy and to people wanting the electronic version is really important because there are people who want the tactile copy and those who do everything electronically.

Carol asked what the level of updating the distribution list was because she is still receiving a hard copy after 2 years of not being a GSR. She questioned if this was happening to others and what could be done to clean up that process.

Bob stated that was a great question and that he is in the process of working with the Registrar. He stated they only send out what is given by the Registrar which means she is still registered as a GSR or contact person for a group and recommended she contact the Registrar.

Amy, co-Registrar/Secretary and previous District 02 Newsletter Editor, stated she likes the hard copy and electronic version. The District 02 Newsletter incorporates a questionnaire/hard copy request card to help manage the number of hard copies. She asked for the breakdown of the \$1 price per hard copy and where the 49 cents fits in. Bob stated the Area uses a PO Box whereby the PO Office charges 49 cents for returns.

Jim (Tim?) stated our common welfare comes first and that the majority of people in his area don't read the *Now & Then*. The material is very service orientated and is a great communication. He asked if there was possible consideration to have a bimonthly communication rather than monthly.

Marty, Grapevine Chair thanked Bob for his extensive research for the presentation. He then stated the following two things: 1) If people are receiving an electronic copy, they most likely have a computer and probably a printer. 2) He knows of a group where the GSR gets a hard copy and the group gets one. In this case there is one address—one with the name of the person and one with the name of the facility—so there is a redundancy. He asked if this was being addressed.

Joe referenced receiving AARP and stated how he threw it away. He further stated there is a certain responsibility taught in AA in that if you want something, it is your responsibility to get it. If a GSR doesn't have email, it should be their responsibility to request an address.

Mary Jo asked if the Area Committee in cooperation with the *Now & Then* could create a postcard with mailing label for each group receiving the newsletter and distribute them to DCMs. The DCMs in turn could look for multiple copies in order to help clean up the database.

John, District 10 DCM, forwards the electronic copy on to GSRs in the district. He recommends eliminating the hard copy mailing lists. A person can print as many hard copies as needed and hand them out and make sure they are available at the GSR District Meeting for distribution. There would be no excuse for not having and discussing the *Now & Then*.

Bob thanked the individuals for their comments and feedback.

## **Question 2: Should the *Now & Then* be used to advertise AA events?**

Bob read the following:

It appears that flyers have been a part of the "Now and Then" from the very beginning. Many events; GSO, Regional, Area, District, or group sponsored have appeared in the newsletter over the years. It appears that Area, GSO, and Regional events have always been published without cost to the host of the event. The policy for who pays and who does not pay has been challenged recently and we are not sure how to handle this issue.

A couple of questions come to mind and we will start with;

- Do we want all to place flyers in the newsletter?
- What type of events should we allow?
- With that comes who pays and who does not?
- What is an Area event and what is not?
- Do we want the Area newsletter to be filled with flyers?
- Should the "Now and Then" tradition be the same as the website guidelines?

Bob stated that if the newsletter is sent electronically, the flyers can be attachments.

Bob commented that he feels strongly in utilizing the website guidelines for the newsletter and stated there is a lack of consistency in what flyers the Area pays for. He referred to page 20 of the Website Guidelines.

Bob again stated "What do we want in the newsletter?" and opened the floor for discussion.

Joel referred to all the Area guidelines. He suggested that guidelines be written for the Newsletter.

Jay, District 23 DCM, stated his district's main preoccupation is workshops. Workshops are the best thing that the Area can help with in bringing the message to the still suffering alcoholic. His District feels (wonders) that when you define a workshop as an Area event opposed to a District event, what are we really talking about. Page 2 of 4, 3B (Char—refer to the emailed background information) states Area 74 supplies most of the funding for the *Now & Then*. What this really says is that the Area groups supplies the funding. Seeing that they do, we're already paying for advertising. If so, double dipping is occurring. Another point he brought up was in the Service Manual one of the Area's responsibilities is to embrace and

take on workshops. It appears that this Area might be a bit passive and the districts more active. The districts are actually doing work for the Area presenting workshops, whether there are Area officers there (present) or not.

Cheryl thanked Bob again for all his work. She then brought up those gray areas where sponsored events were posted one year and then not the other and how this affects us as alcoholics. She stated that rather than going to the website and searching each area, why not have it all inclusive utilizing a calendar list.

Kristy, District 02 Alt. DCM, stated in District 02 it's up to the discretion of the person who's doing the newsletter. The clearer we can make the flyer guidelines for the person doing the newsletter and the authors the easier it will be for everyone. The grays areas will become less gray. At our district level when people pay, it helps offset the cost of the newsletter by covering the extra hard copy. I would error on the side of having payment and be self-supporting.

District 01 lists all the area happenings in their newsletter and have the flyers on their website. This eliminates any extra expense.

Char, Interim Area Registrar/Secretary, stated that District 02 does not print Area happenings in their newsletter. The source for this information is the *Now & Then*. She likes the idea of having the calendar but stated flyers are very useful and provide a lot of information and detail. The District 02 website follows the same guidelines as the newsletter—non-District 02 events are not printed, thus the *Now & Then* is important. Carrying the message can be interrupted in a lot of different ways.

Marty, Grapevine Chair, stated why not have items listed in individual calendars and have more detail somewhere else—the *Now & Then*?

Bob stated upon looking back at the older newsletters, flyers are not intertwined into the newsletter. They were inserts. Because the newsletter is electronic, flyers have become part of the newsletter and the back side of flyers may contain other information. He reiterated he liked the calendar aspect.

### **Question 3: What should the content of the newsletter look like?**

Bob read the following:

#### **Content of the newsletter**

We are guided by the Assembly in the guidelines which state: " ... *the editorial staff are responsible for determining the content of each issue.*" What should the content of the newsletter look like?

- Monthly topics
- Archival articles from old "Now and Then" or other AA periodicals
- Agendas for Area Committee meeting and Assemblies
- Proposed Assembly Motions and actions
- Articles expressing experience on the proposed motions
- Experiences of AA servants (Service and recovery) (Add presentation content)

Bob stated monthly topics have included The Salvage Corner The Juice. When the newsletter is close to 12 pages and only have 10 pages, the rest of the pages are filled with archival articles, AA periodicals, and other interesting articles instead of trying to print 10 pages where the price goes up.

Mary Jo stated that as Delegate it would have been helpful to have an outline of themes. She also asked if it was fair to put editorial decisions on one person. Wouldn't there be an advantage to have an editorial committee to help make the decision on newsletter content?

Derek thanked Bob specifically, referring to Bob's service resume and willingness to assist with the newsletter. He also stated he loves the historical content. He also thinks the editorials are good and provocative and finds it important to have the controversial editorials to help keep discussions going. He would like to see more recovery stories.

Jay expressed how impressed he is with the comprehensiveness of the work done and thanked the editors. He loves the *Now & Then*. As DCM he finds it's a great tool for agendas, proposals, assembly motions and actions and uses it for an agenda item. The controversial editorials need to be addressed as a standalone issue, which they have not been—he thinks we've lost an opportunity here.

James, CPC Chair, stated you can please some of the people some of the time but not all of the people all of the time. What we really need is another committee.

Kathy and Bob would like to thank everyone for allowing us to serve and carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

**5:00 PM Close Meeting**

## **Reports**

### **DCM District 01**

In District 01 we currently have 89 meetings a week. Of those we have 40 active groups. We are reaching out to the meetings that do not have GSRs trying to get them registered. Attendance at our monthly district meetings are about 20 persons including committee members and GSRs.

GSRs were tasked with asking their groups to volunteer to host a workshop. One group has volunteered so far. The topic will be The AA Group.

The district picnic will occur August 22 at Perkins Park in Green Bay.

Nominations are being sought for all district positions. Nominations will be due at the September GSR meeting and the election will occur at the October meeting.

In loving service,

Thomas Younger DCM District 01

### **DCM District 02**

District 02 extends from Oshkosh in the south to Clintonville and Bonduel in the north and west from Weyauwega to Brillion in the east. 132 meetings meet within our district weekly. A couple of our meetings will be moving to new locations in the near future. On Sunday, August 9, 2015 we held our District 02 elections for the next two year rotation beginning January 1, 2016. All but two district positions were filled. We still have an opening for Archives Chairperson and our Local Committee Member (L.C.M.) for Sub-district C which include the northern groups within our district. It was voted by the district at the July district meeting to not pursue a Fox Valley Central Office liaison position within the district. Thank you to those who are willing to serve the District.

The District will be having a L.C.M meeting in September where both present and newly elected L.C.M.s along with the present and newly elected D.C.M. and Alternate D.C.M. can transition to the next rotation. We will also pick a venue for our 7th annual G.S.R. Workshop which is held in January of each year.

Our District GSR forum which is held one hour prior to our District meeting is going very well. The forum is giving GSRs a platform to discuss whatever is on their mind about their group. We have been averaging around 10-15 attendees to this forum.

The Archives committee meets every other month. They are working toward procuring another Fire-safe file cabinet as they have run out of storage space.

The Corrections committee continues to carry the message into correctional facilities within our district. They are making sure the correct Bridging the Gap form that the inmate completes to begin the BTG process.

The Grapevine Committee is working to promote the Grapevine within the District. They continue to hold acronym contests to award a one year subscription to the Grapevine at District Intergroups. They are hosting a Grapevine Workshop to be held on October 24, 2015 mat the Genesis Club in Appleton.

Our District newsletter continues to give our members the most up to date information as to what is going on in District 02. Our current circulation is 99 hardcopy and 434 electronic subscriptions.

The Public Information (PI) committee continues to work on updating the District 02 website. They have produced a new hotline card and are distributing it along with pamphlets and meeting lists.

Our Treatment committee keeps in contact with twelve treatment facilities within our district. Six facilities currently have a rotation of speakers available. All facilities have meeting lists and literature racks. The Bridging the Gap form address has been changed to be returned to the District 02 P.O. Box.



Our District meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at rotating venues within the district. We continue to average between 20-40 attendees. Any A.A. is invited to attend. Our next meeting will be held September 13, 2015 in Kaukauna.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

Barry B

### **DCM District 03**

Report given-not sent electronically

### **DCM District 04**

District 04, which covers Portage and western Waupaca County continues to average 20-25 people at our district meeting in Amherst.

Our CPC/PI Committee sponsored an Emotional sobriety workshop on June 20 at the 2617 Club. The speaker was James Lee, and we had good attendance for the all-day event. We had a number of attendees from other districts – thank-you to those who drove and joined us!

Our District Picnic was held on Saturday, August 1 at Standing Rocks County Park in Plover. About 115 people attended. The District provides hamburgers, brats and buns. Groups volunteer to bring other items – soda, water, ice, condiments, plastic ware, etc. – and individuals are asked to bring a dish to pass. After dinner there is a speaker. This year's speaker was Barb M from Wausau.

Nominations for District Officers and Chairs have been open since our July District meeting. Elections will be held at our September 3rd District meeting. All officers and chairs will rotate out except District Secretary. The new slate takes office effective October 1.

The Central Wisconsin Traveling Intergroup will be held at St. Bronislava Catholic Church in Plover on Saturday, September 12. Doors open at 5:00 pm, Dinner is at 6:00, with the speaker at 7:15. The speaker is Dean P from Madison, District 20, Area 75. The flyer is available on our website.

Thank-you for allowing me to be of service.

Gail Zalewski

DCM District 04

### **DCM District 05**

Report given and not sent electronically

### **DCM District 09**

District 09 currently has 36 registered groups and of those 36 groups four of them are county jail groups. We have 42 meetings in our district. We recently completed a clean-up of our meeting list and have referred it to the district and area websites for updating. District 09 holds monthly district meetings and we rotate the location of where these meetings are held throughout the district. For the first seven months of this year, we have averaged 14 people at our district meetings each month. We continue to look for a person who would be interested in serving as the Corrections Chair for our district. All the rest of the service positions are filled in our district.

I am continuing to reach out to the groups in District 09 as the DCM. My goal continues to have met with each group in our district prior to the end of my rotation as DCM. Our District has a newsletter called the Chronicle. Our current circulation is 16 hardcopy and 125 electronic subscriptions. Electronic copies are continuing to increase especially with the outreach to the groups.

We will be holding the annual Bonduel Shawano Intergroup on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at First Presbyterian Church in Shawano. Fellowship will begin at 5 pm. with dinner at 6 pm. and AA and AI-Anon speakers at 7:15 pm. There is a flyer posted on the District 09 website for this event. District 09 is currently in the planning stages yet for an upcoming workshop tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> in Shawano with a topic to be service at all levels of Alcoholics Anonymous.

We held nominations at the last district meeting which will remain open until our next district meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup> at which time we will hold elections for the next rotation. We have nominated Norm F. as DCM who has accepted the nomination and I'm glad to say he's here today to check out the Area.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Sara Plansky-Pecor

DCM District 09

### **DCM District 10**

Solutions at Noon Group of Minocqua held their first annual picnic at the Minocqua Park Complex and was very well attended.

-Three Legacies Group of Eagle River also held their annual picnic at the Conover Towne Park the 1st of August.

-Our Website, contact list and meeting list chair for district 10 keeps busy by updating our meeting lists, our web page on a monthly basis and our contact list with our Area 74 Interim Sec/Registrar. Check us out at [northwoodsaa.org](http://northwoodsaa.org) [I personally have asked newcomers and visitors how they found a particular meeting here in the northwoods and most replied it was thru our web page.]

-We have several new committee members in district 10. One has filled the vacancy for Phone Chair and two others are sharing responsibility for Corrections Chair.

-Our Archives Chair keeps us informed and abreast of our history. She also has a beautiful banner of handstitched squares of each group in district 10 forming an awesome collage.

-To further our primary purpose of staying sober and helping other alcoholics to achieve sobriety, District 10 is allocating \$200 for AA members the opportunity to attend the upcoming East Central Regional Forum in Milwaukee, WI. November 11-13.

John Obermann

DCM District 10

### **DCM District 18-**

Report given-not sent electronically

### **DCM District 21**

Our District continues to support Michigan Department of Corrections Baraga prison Alcoholics Anonymous meetings on Wednesdays at 7:30pm.

Plans are being finalized to hold a service workshop in Houghton, MI on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Several new meetings have been started in our district including three in Copper, three in Eagle Harbor (seasonal) and one in Dollar Bay.

District meeting locations are now on a three month rotation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Koppa/ District 21

### **DCM District 23**

- District 23 anticipates its highest GSR attendance at an Area 74 Conference in many years; upwards of 5-6 GSRs out of 20 identified as currently serving in some capacity. All are looking forward to exercising one of their primary functions; i.e., voting their respective groups' conscience at area assembly. Our DCM and Alternate DCM will also be in attendance.

- The district has met the call to submit a bid to host the Area 74 2016 Fall Conference. We are prepared to present at the earliest opportunity, presumably at the September assembly. The bid was prepared and then recently presented by the district's *ad hoc* "2016 Fall Conference Planning Committee" at the August 5<sup>th</sup> District 23 GSR Committee Meeting, where it was met with unanimous excitement and approval. A huge amount of collective gratitude goes out to the planning committee's promptness and efficiency in putting this bid package together and out in such a short period of time; the effort starting immediately after the Area 74 2015 Spring Conference in Green Bay.
- The district's second workshop of the year, entitled "*Perspectives on Sponsorship II*", is scheduled for presentation on October 3<sup>rd</sup> in Shell Lake, WI at the Shell Lake Alano Club. This workshop has been modeled after a well-attended workshop presented by District 14 on June 27<sup>th</sup> in the New Richmond Alano Society club. Shell Lake's "Day Group A.A. Meetings" will be organizing and co-hosting this event. Information on the workshop is currently in the "*Now & Then*" newsletter and on the Area 74 Website. We hope to see you all there!
- District 23 prepares for its rotational elections on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, when nominations will be tallied for all officer positions, as well as for Committee Reps./ Chairs. The newly elected officers and committee Representatives/Chairs will rotate into office in January, at that month's regularly scheduled meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>. This election and rotation cycle (the 3<sup>rd</sup> in 15 months, as dictated by circumstance) will finally bring the district into rotation with the area. This has been a rather lengthy process, happening over a couple of District Committees; all are pleased with the outcome. A large, representative turn-out has been encouraged. A call for nominations has been posted on the Area 74 Website and submitted for publication in the August edition of the "*Now & Then*" newsletter.
- This DCM found it necessary to direct an amends to the District 23 GSR Committee at our August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, and by extension to all GSRs and their respective groups in the district. The nature of my amends is best shared with you today as an amends directed to you; the body of the Area 74 Committee. For that purpose please allow me to read from a prepared statement attached to this report for that purpose.

Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve A.A.,

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### **Addendum to DCM District 23 Report**

After considerable thought and processing within the context of a Tenth Step inventory, I believe I owe this body, the Area 74 Committee, an amends for behavior unbecoming a committee member.

This, after recognizing and regretting my behavior while at the microphone on May 17 at the Green Bay Conference's Committee Meeting. My unbridled response to a couple of comments made by other committee members and my stated refusal to leave the microphone "after the bell" was outside of accepted committee procedure. It was also counter to the best practices of A.A. principles – most specifically, those embodied in our code of "*Love and tolerance of others...*" (BB/pg. 84) and my temporary loss of the Tenth Step Promise "...*we ceased fighting anything or anyone (- even alcohol).*" (BB/pg. 84)

My inventory conclusion, without excuse, and which I choose to share with you today, is that I recognize I was not in a "fit spiritual condition" on that day – fear having prevailed (pg. 84; BB) – and thus, my "daily reprieve" from a particular character defect was forfeited. I'm truly sorry for any harm I may have caused myself or others.

I acknowledge that along with my amends to this body, I owed this same amends to my District's GSRs and on to their respective groups. I was elected to this service position of DCM with the reasonable expectation I would comport myself in a way that best represented them within the larger context of A.A.'s General Service Work. To them, I made my amends at our District 23 GSR Committee Meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

Thank you for hearing me out, and allowing me to continue service with you in renewed appreciation of what's expected of me in the future.

Jay Hands, DCM