



MAY 2020

Now & Then

Newsletter of Delegate Area 74 Northern Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Volume 60

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Delegate's Corner

Greetings Area 74, My name is Char V. serving as your Delegate for Northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan

Thank you to those who attended our first virtual meeting for the Delegate's feedback session. It was an interesting experience to watch the area come together to provide me thoughts and feelings about the upcoming General Service Conference (GSC) Agenda Items. I am in a better position to carry the voice and experience of Area 74 to the GSC and work with the other conference members to make decisions for the whole fellowship. I know many groups and districts worked tirelessly to keep meetings available to those in need and our friends with the technology experience got us moving in a new direction for our Area. I want to be honest and say I am looking forward to the day we can meet as a group. Virtual meetings have a lot to offer yet it cannot replace a hug or the closing when we form a circle, hold hands, and recite a prayer or AA quote united in our primary purpose to carry the message. The message of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is a message that has saved countless lives, mine included.

Service has also saved my life and it is important that I place this fellowship number one on my priority list as it gives me what I need to survive, God and Sobriety. Being firmly planted in the middle does not allow me to escape easily. Now back to the GSC. The GSC will be held May 16-19, 2020 via a virtual platform. We will have preconference meetings utilizing guidelines from our trustees to reduce our agenda items.

The Conference Committee on Literature is scheduled for two Monday evenings and one weekend or two. The details are still being worked out. WE have roughly 24 hours to get the work done in four days. This is going to be fun! What I have learned over the last month is that clear concise communication is necessary to keep me focused. If something is not clear, my brain can take it in many directions. I have had phone conversations with our East Central Regional Trustee Mark E. on how this is all going to work. He has been a great help in calming me down and answering questions. I am sure I am not the only one in this region who has reached out to him.

We have a structure that works. Free flowing communication makes this happen. The General Service Representative (GSR) is the most important job as they carry the voice and vote of the home group members. They represent many people. The rest of us, well we have opinions. Dear GSRs please do not let the rest of us out voice and vote the home groups! We have many long-timers in the fellowship who have experience. They are a great resource, use them. Ask questions, we may have answers. If we do not know we will work together to find the answers. I think I may have said that in a previous article. It may become a reoccurring theme. Who knows?

I wish you all the best in the upcoming May 16, 2020 Virtual Assembly.

Char V.

Panel 70 Area 74 Delegate Northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan

(920) 450-6313 delegate@area74.org

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**Send Area 74 Contributions To: Area 74 Treasury
P.O. BOX 1191 Appleton, WI 54912-1191**

**Very Important!! Please include group number, group name,
and address of group location or point of contact**

If there is only a group name and location, or contact address, please include this.

Thank You, Area 74 Treasurer treasurer@area74.org

*******NOTICE FROM THE NOW & THEN CO-EDITORS*******

The Now & Then newsletter is currently posting events, calendars, agendas, and fliers for events as they are scheduled to be held. There is a good chance that *many* of these dates, times, etc. will be cancelled, altered, re-scheduled or moved online.

Since there is a monthly deadline for getting the newsletter to the fellowship, we are doing our best to publish up-to-date information. Please check www.area74.org and your districts, groups, trusted servants, and fellow AA members to verify if, how, when, any meeting or event you are planning to attend to get the most current information available. We will do our best to get updated information published in this issue to you as changes are passed on to us. We apologize for any inconvenience and are grateful for your understanding the complexity and hardship the current environment has presented for us and all of our fellow AA members and communities in Area 74. PEACE, LOVE, and SOBRIETY Jeff C & Michelle Z.

PLEASE SEND ITEMS, ARTICLES, DISTRICT NEWS, STANDING COMMITTEE ARTICLES, GROUP OPINIONS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE UPCOMING ISSUES OF YOUR AREA 74 NEWSLETTER

Refer to www.area74.org for the most up to date info on AA and COVID19 ramifications

FROM YOUR AREA CHAIR

May 2020

Dear Area 74, Hello May! Dawn here! As I sit here writing an introduction to this month's article I find myself thinking, WOW, what a month! A lot has happened in A.A., the world, each of our towns and homes. We are each having a unique experience around all that is going on. These are unprecedented times and circumstances. Some of the silver linings I have found are visiting my favorite places in the world through Zoom meetings. Participating in Zoom AA around Area 74 and attending many District Meetings. We are now having our monthly DCM meeting on Zoom. And of many of you experienced with me, the Delegates Feedback meeting April 5th, 2020! I am excited to go about our Primary Purpose, AA Business, and participate to the best of my ability to serve Area 74 with enthusiasm and love. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity. I look forward to seeing many of you at the next Area 74 event via Zoom.

If you have any additions to the Area Assembly Agenda on May 16th, 2020 or any additions for the Area Committee Meeting Agenda on May 16th, 2020, please call or email me, thank you.
Now I would like to introduce Gerri Ann K. DCM for District 18 in the beautiful Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Take it away Gerri Ann!

The reason I am in service is because I find my God there. The depth of my connection with God was truly enhanced when I began to work in service. As I look around the Area Assemblies at the many AA members in attendance, I am always amazed. It does not matter what position that we hold in AA or if we are just attending out of curiosity, we are there. I attended my first Area Assembly in 2002 out of curiosity, and I have been going ever since.

The people that I have met at Forums, Conferences, Internationals, Area Assemblies, Steering Committees, etc. have helped me without even knowing it. The examples of the members attending have shown me how to be a trusted servant. I can feel God in all these places, and I know that he is still guiding this fellowship. Not me – but my God.

Being a trusted servant was very difficult at first. So many of my own character defects continually came to the forefront. Many self-inventories later, this is no longer my normal pattern. Yes, these difficulties still sneak up on me...but, not all the time anymore.

The Second Tradition and the Ninth Concept were extremely instrumental in my concept of service. I looked up the word servant, so I truly understood what the word meant. I had to remember to put others before me. (I will admit, that took a lot of practice!) Thinking of others and being able to listen to others is so important to me now. Who would have thought that would happen? Truly, not me. I once only worried about what my ideas were. Today, I can honestly tell you that I can and do listen to everyone in the room. I no longer have the urge to argue with people in my head as they speak. The Twelfth Tradition is where I go when I have any issues with a personality. The Twelfth Tradition says principles before personalities. The way I understand it, this principle is about my personality – not anyone else's. I ask myself if I have considered the spiritual principles inherent to this issue. If my answer is no, I know I must do some writing and reading to find my answers. I must thank the people who came before me. They have been good and bad examples of what I want to be in life. God continually sends me things to keep me open minded and growing spiritually. I am so grateful that God has been such a huge part of my service experience. When I am uncertain – I just pray. It seems that the next thing I know, someone has called with the same problem to tell me how they resolved it, or I will read something in a Box 459 that answers this same issue. As long as I can be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous, I will gladly do so. Thank you so much for all that you do for the fellowship and for assisting me as I work on my personal spiritual program.

Thank you.

One of many trusted servants,
Gerri Ann Kangas DCM District 18

Dawn Marie M
Area Chair/ Alternate Delegate
Panel 70, Area 74 Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula of Michigan
altdelegate@Area74.org 906.202.2070

The 2020 International Convention scheduled for July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan, has been cancelled.



DATES TO REMEMBER 2020

5/16-5/19 2020	General Service Conference	Moved online to virtual platform due to the COVID19 restrictions		
5/15 -17, 2020	Area 74 Spring Conference	CANCELLED		
5/ 16 Sat	Area Assembly & Area Committee Meeting	12 noon Central time	ONLINE	ZOOM.us
7/2-5/2020	International Convention of AA	CANCELLED		
8/1/2020	Area Committee Meeting -Area Inventory	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI
9/11-9/13	Area 74 Fall Conference	Best Western Plus Eau Claire Conference Center		Eau Claire, WI
9/12/2020	Area Assembly	See Above		Eau Claire, WI
9/13/2020	Area Committee Mtg	See Above		Eau Claire, WI
10/24/2020	Area Assembly	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI
12/12/2020	Area Committee Mtg	Reiter Center	1858 S. Michigan St	Three Lakes, WI

****NOTE FROM THE DELEGATE:** The servants of Area 74 are excited to provide the **dates for the Area 74 Service Structure**. We are lucky to live in an area that hosts many conferences, workshops and fellowship events. As your trusted servants, we sometimes miss the chance to participate in local events because they conflict with the service events you have entrusted us to conduct. We hope that, by providing the Area 74 service structure dates in early fall; they can be considered as you plan your service and fellowship events for the coming year. We look forward to seeing you.

NOTE FROM CO-EDITORS: We have combined the general events and the Area 74 Service Structure events into one calendar. **BOLD = AREA 74 events** UNBOLD = General AA events in our area

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Due to the COVID19 Pandemic and 'Stay at Home' orders in WI & MI, the Area 74 Winter & Spring Assemblies have been combined & moved online or by phone through Zoom.us

There will be an Area 74 Area Committee meeting following the Assembly.

All Area 74 Assembly members are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in the proceedings by joining the conference call May 16, 2020 @ 12 noon Central time

All other members of Area 74 are welcome to attend, however only those Assembly members with a voice and a vote will participate in the Zoom online meeting

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOW TO ACCESS THE **AREA 74 SPRING ASSEMBLY ONLINE USING THE ZOOM.US APP WILL BE FORTHCOMING FROM YOUR AREA CHAIR**

The GSC was postponed and is being held May 16-19, 2020 to allow the Fellowship and General Service structure time to organize and facilitate AA continuing to aid the groups in reaching and carrying their message to the still suffering alcoholic.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE AREA 74 INVENTORY

Area 74 website (www.area74.org) now has the Area 74 Inventory on the Home Page. Please take a few minutes to fill this out. Thank you so much.

CHECK WITH YOUR DCMs & OTHER TRUSTED SERVANTS FOR CURRENT INFO**DISTRICT MEETINGS MAY 2020 LIST**

DIST	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
01	Thursday	14th	6:30 PM	Central Office, 1720 Main St. #102	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	3rd	2:00 PM	St Mark's Church 140 S Green Bay Rd.	Neenah, WI
3	Thursday	21st	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave.	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	7th	7:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S Main St.	Amherst, WI
5	Weds	13th	6:45 PM	Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E,	Menominee, WI
6	Thursday	21 st	7:45 PM	Club 76	Chippewa Falls, WI
7	Sunday	17th	5:00 PM	Alano Club 2111 S. Roddis Ave. Marshfield, WI	Colby WI
8	Tuesday		7:00 PM	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St.	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	3rd	2:00 PM	United Methodist Church 314 Main St	Suring, WI
10	Saturday	9th	9:00AM	United Methodist Church Arbutus St	Rhinelander, WI
11	Monday	4th	5:00 PM	No further info available	
12	Sunday	9th	12:30PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue	Hayward, WI
13	Monday	4th	5:00 PM	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave.	Ashland WI
14	Sunday	10th	5:30 PM	New Richmond Alano Club 1448 N 4th Street,	New Richmond, WI
15				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
16				DIST 16 MEETINGS HELD Bi-MONTHLY	
17	Monday	No mtg		105 W. Fleishiem	Iron Mountain, MI
18	Saturday	2nd	11:00AM	Party's Unlimited 106 N Main St	Marquette, MI
19				NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE	
20	Monday	4th	6:00 PM	Hope Church 12th Ave & Michigan St,	Sturgeon Bay, WI
21	Saturday	6th	6:30 PM	St. Francis Assisi Rectory 505 First St Dollar Bay, MI	Dollar Bay, MI
22	Monday	4th	6:00 PM	Hope Church 141 N 12th Ave & Michigan St,	Sturgeon Bay, WI
23	Sunday	3rd	6:00 PM	Spooner Health 1280 Chandler Drive	Spooner, WI
24	Weds	6th	8:00PM	Ladysmith Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

DISTRICT MEETINGS JUNE 2020 LIST

DIST	DAY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
1	Thursday	11th	6:30 PM	Central Office, 1720 Main St. #102	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	14th	2:00PM	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2330 E Calumet	Appleton, WI
3	Thursday	3rdThur	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave.	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	4th	7:00pm	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S Main St.	Amherst, WI
5	Weds	10th	6:45	Menomonie Leisure Center, 1412 6th St E,	Menominee, WI
6	Thursday	19th	7:45 PM	Club 76	Chippewa Falls, WI
7	Sunday	23rd	4:00PM	Alano Club 2111 S. Roddis Ave.	Marshfield, WI
8	Tuesday		7:00pm	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St.,,	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	2nd	2:00pm	Alano Club 2218 13th St	Menominee, MI
10	Saturday	8th	9:00AM	United Methodist Church Arbutus st	Rhinelander, WI
11				No info available	
12	Saturday	8th	12:30PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue	Hayward, WI
13	Monday	1st	5:30pm	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave.,	Ashland, WI
14	Sunday	14th	5:30pm	Amery Legion Hall Memorial Dr	Amery, WI
15				NO Information Available	
16	Saturday		11:00AM	Ontonagon United Methodist Church 109 Greenland	Ontonagon, MI
17	Monday	29th	6:00pm	105 W. Fleishiem	Iron Mountain, MI
18	Saturday	6th	11:00am	First United Methodist Church 111.E. Ridge St	Marquette, MI
19				NO Information Available	
20	Monday	1st	6:00PM	Check website at www.district20rea74aa.org	
21	Saturday	6th	6:30pm	St. Francis Assisi Rectory 505 First St	Dollar Bay, MI
22	Monday	1st	6:00pm	Hope Church 12th Ave & Michigan St,	Sturgeon Bay, WI
23	Sunday	7th	6:00pm	Lakeview United Methodist Church 23980 Co. Rd. "X",	Hertel, WI
24	Weds	6th	8:00PM	Ladysmith Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

Area 74 Spring Assembly Agenda Saturday, May 16th, 2020

CST

11:15 – 11:45 PM – New GSR and DCM **Orientation with Past Delegate Derek T.**

12:00 PM – **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Moment of silence followed by The Serenity Prayer

Zoom / Housekeeping

Roll Call

Approval of Area Assembly minutes from October 26th, 2019

Area Officer Reports

- Secretary Nicholas S.
- Registrar Dean C.
- Treasurer Barry B.
- Area Chair Dawn M.

Old Business

- **Updates**
 - Past Grapevine Motion Sara P.
 - Cab Reloaded Dean C.
 - Area 74 Inventory Gerri Ann K

New Business

- **Election/Confirmations**
 - Elect Secretary Chair
 - Present/Confirm Alt Secretary Secretary
 - Present/Confirm Alt Treasurer Barry B.
 - Present/Confirm Alt Registrar Dean C.
- **CPC Motion** Sara S.

“Area 74 CPC Area recommends “the Linked-In Page” of Alcoholics Anonymous be discontinued.”

- **Date** for General Service Conference Delegate Report Back
- **Conferences**
 - 2020 Spring Report Sunny L./Marty L.
 - 2020 Fall Report Bryon B.
 - 2021 Spring Report Derek T.
 - 2021 Fall open bids
 - 2022 Spring open bids
 - WIYPAA Liaison Report

Close the Assembly with The Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A. 's future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united.

For all A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

Break

Area 74 Committee Meeting Agenda

Saturday, May 16th, 2020

After Break the Area 74 Chair will open the Committee Meeting

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Moment of silence followed by The Serenity Prayer

Zoom / Housekeeping

Roll Call

Approval of Area Committee Meeting minutes from March 7th, 2020

- **DCM Reports**

- **New Business**

- **Old Business**

- **Dates to remember**
 - August 1st, 2020 Area 74 Inventory

Close the Assembly with The Responsibility Statement

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

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AREA 74 COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE MOTION & BACKGROUND

Area 74 CPC Committee **recommends** with unanimity to the Area 74 Assembly that:

“The LinkedIn page of Alcoholics Anonymous be discontinued. In addition, we **recommend** that the Area Delegate carries this Area Conscience to the 70th General Service Conference.”

We recommend the following actions to carry out this recommendation:

- If a recommendation similar to this comes to the floor of the 70th GSC then our Delegate votes yes to discontinue LinkedIn or;
- If no agenda item to discontinue LinkedIn is brought to the floor, then we request our Delegate to present this as a floor action or;
- If our Delegate is unable to introduce this agenda item, then we would ask that it be sent to the GSC Coordinator as an agenda item, along with our background for the 71st General Service Conference.
- LinkedIn is not effective.
 - The total number of LinkedIn users is 476 million. There were Total page visits in November 2019 of 692 with ONLY 80 clicks to visit aa.org.
 - Would a professional go to LinkedIn when they may go directly to aa.org or A.A.W.S.?
- Advertising on LinkedIn

- LinkedIn cannot prevent Ads from appearing on a Company Page. Web ads (called “promoted content” by LinkedIn) appear on the far-right column of LinkedIn pages.
 - This could lead to an appearance of Affiliation or Endorsement, Actual or Implied, and promotion.
 - Tradition Six “While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied.”
 - Tradition Eleven “Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”
- Keeping in mind the responsibilities as outlined in the AA Service Manual our committee believes a CPC presence on LinkedIn usurps responsibility from local C.P.C. committees or discouraging face-to-face interactions with professionals.
 - GSO presence on LinkedIn discourages face to face interaction between an AA Member and the Professional
- Use LinkedIn to broaden the reach of our “About A.A.” newsletter. “Request that the professionals who are quoted or profiled in the issues post about the newsletter to reach their LinkedIn connections”
 - How is quoting professionals providing the message of AA? Or are we promoting professionals and their views?
 - This could appear as Seeking Prestige
 - Tradition Six: “An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.” This Tradition reminds us never to give the impression that A.A. itself, or any A.A. group, endorses (or opposes) or finances any other enterprise, no matter what our individual opinions may be. It also points out that seeking prestige always creates problems for us.
- Broaden the search for Class A Trustees
 - Feature openings for Class A Trustees on our Company Page, “push the information out by posting the opening to all our followers”, “we could push the information out by posting the opening to LinkedIn Groups” and “target certain professions”
 - Pg. S68 The AA Service Manual “The General Service Board nominates Class A trustees after an extensive search and interview process that begins by asking current and past members of the board, directors, delegates, and G.S.O. and Grapevine staff to submit names and background information for “friends of A.A.” to fill a vacancy.”
 - Are we changing the process for finding Class A Trustees?
 - Our committee does not see a need to “broaden” the search for Class A Trustees.
 - We believe that “targeting” audiences do not follow AA Principles.
 - We believe that “pushing” for candidates from a “Company Page” sends a conflicting AA message of what AA is about.
 - This type of searching might encourage “Professionals” to apply that have no interest in the AA Fellowship, understanding of AA Principles and are only applying to embellish their resumes.
- “post pieces from current and past Class A Trustees and other professionals who are friends of A.A.”
 - We believe that publishing Class A Trustee sharing on a public media platform does not follow our AA Principles or past traditions.
 - Looking at our AA history sharing by Class A Trustee’s was normally accomplished through professional journals and talks at professional conventions and the like.
 - Tradition 11 (long form) says, in part, “Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves.
 - This might become an expectation for future Class A Trustee’s that part of their responsibilities will be as recruiters.
- LinkedIn to announce national, state, and local conferences where A.A. will be exhibiting.
 - By posting that we will be exhibiting at a professional conference are we promoting that conference?
 - Is this Affiliation or Endorsement, Actual or Implied, or promotion?
 - Tradition Six “cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied.”

- Tradition Eleven “Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion”
- “post studies, new findings, and new resources that might become available from reputable sources”
 - “Feature links to studies and articles related to alcoholism from reputable sources”, “post these studies and articles to our followers” and “post these studies to the appropriate LinkedIn Groups”
 - Alcoholics Anonymous does not decide who or what is a reputable source.
 - Posting “studies, findings, new resources” could imply affiliation or endorsements and both are violations of our AA Traditions
 - “with appropriate disclaimers similar to what Grapevine uses”
 - The disclaimer may remove actual endorsement or affiliation, but-does leave implications.
 - “Posting material by reputable sources shows professionals that Alcoholics Anonymous is a subject matter expert on alcoholism.”
 - There is no mention in the Alcoholics Anonymous book that we are “Experts” To imply that we are experts is not in line with our spiritual principles.
 - Posting studies or articles implies that we agree with or endorse the content –we do not post articles or studies we do not agree with. Or for that matter any other recovery material but conference approved.
 - Tradition Six “cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied.”
 - Tradition Eleven “Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion”
 - This type of prestige will divert-us from our primary purpose.
 - “authors of the articles or studies might be more inclined to become Class A Trustees because of our support of their work”
 - We cooperate with others we do not endorse them. Or their work
- IMPLEMENTATION: “C.P.C. coordinator and the C.P.C. assistant be the page administrators”. “The Company page administrators need to be LinkedIn members and use their real first and last names, but profile photos are not required. The current C.P.C. assistant is a nonalcoholic so there are no anonymity issues there.”
 - What about the anonymity of the nonalcoholic CPC Assistant?
 - “Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.”
 - This implies that a qualification for this position is that they are non-alcoholic.
 - This assistant will fill in when the alcoholic staff on the CPC assignment. What qualifications will the non-alcoholic assistant have to qualify them to work in place of the alcoholic staff member?
 - Do we want a non- AA member as an administer of the LinkedIn page?
- “Not to say there is no “cost” for LinkedIn, but it is more in the realm of privacy compromised and data collection allowed. LinkedIn is currently owned by Microsoft
 - What is meant by “privacy Compromised”?

Concluding remarks in background

- LinkedIn effort usurps what should be the domain of group members and local committees. “We have 1.5 million members US & Canada. (2019 GSC Report pg. 58) That should be an adequate resource to carry the message to professionals. If we show up and keep with our primary purpose of helping alcoholics, then we don’t need to promote and professionals will respond accordingly.”
- Regarding the need for more recommendations of Class A Trustees, “rather than depending on LinkedIn we should be improving lines of communication within the Fellowship to make members more aware of this need and how to answer it.

FROM THE AREA 74 PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Hello Area 74, we hope you are all well and safe.

I am writing today to highlight some new items on the Area 74 webpage. With all the changes the pandemic has given us, it has also provided me a chance to help our webmaster, Lucas who has done a fantastic job managing the area74.org webpage. We have added several new tabs to hopefully better serve Area 74.

Because the pandemic has shut down most meetings, a lot of groups have turned to online meetings so we have added a tab “protecting anonymity on Zoom” that will provide some information from GSO and some zoom updates to help protect our anonymity. These settings can be adjusted at any time.

We also have added a tab for “Covid-19” which will provide updates from GSO and the area regarding changes or cancellations due to the pandemic.

Another tab created was the “Web Servant Resources” tab. This is to provide some information to those districts who do not have a district website. Currently out of 24 districts in Area 74, 11 of those districts do not have their own webpage, and Lucas and I have gathered some resources to help answer some questions if a district was interested in setting up their own page but do not know where to start. Another great resource is to get out on the web, search other district sites and get feedback from their webmasters. I found great ideas from other pages and have also found that we have much to be thankful for with our current area74 webpage. There are some areas who don’t provide much when it comes to carrying the message via the internet and for that I am lucky to be part of Area 74.

We also still have the “meeting” tab which provides more zoom information and meeting guide app information as well. Districts who do not have their own webpage can still submit meeting information with a template. This template is linked on Area 74, that can be filled out and submitted to our webmaster and we will help facilitate that meeting list to be included onto the meeting guide app.

The Area 74 webpage is YOUR webpage so anything else you would like to see or any suggestions, please feel free to email those to webmaster@area74.org

Please see the flyer in this month’s Now and Then from District 05, ‘A Presentation on Anonymity’. There will be a speaker and a Q&A session all taking place on Zoom. We look forward to seeing you there! Thank you for allowing us to be of service.

Dani M Area 74 PI Chair

Lucas M Webmaster

*******Cancellation of Area 74 Spring Conference*******

With the two state ban on large events in place and possibly extended into May, the Area 74 Spring Conference hosted by District 13 has been cancelled. The Conference was scheduled for May 15-17, 2020. With discussion during the Area Delegate Feedback Session on April 4th, the substantial consensus was to cancel the event even if the stay safe orders are lifted.

We are disappointed to not be able to host this Conference in Ashland, Wi., with cooperative support from District 12. All registration and banquet payments received will be reimbursed to the participants who mailed them in. We have minimal financial expenses committed to the event and expect to be able to return the majority of the \$1,000.00 seed money back to Area 74 for future Conferences.

If you have reserved lodging at the AmericInn it is your responsibility to cancel the reservations to avoid any billing. Please do so as soon as possible so the hotel can adjust their vacancies for the spring season.

If you have any questions regarding the cancelation I can be reached by email or phone noted on the flyer on the Area Website. All questions about lodging must be directed to the hotel.

We are disappointed to not be able to serve the Area 74 with this event but we as alcoholics must be open to change and challenges and use our step program to continue to move forward in serving the Area and still suffering alcoholic.

District 13 and District 12 thank you for your support and understanding due to conditions we cannot control. Sincerely, Marty L District 13 Conference Planning Chair.

Greetings Area 74,

I hope this finds you all well and sober in these strange times we are living in. I am writing this article on behalf of the Archives committee to give you an update on Archives activity and to ask for some help from you all. First off, I would like to say a special thank you to our previous Archivist Pete W. for his years of service and commitment. It is no small job to keep our history alive and Pete was dedicated to it for many years, so if you see him please thank him for his years of service. I would also like to thank our new Archivist Phil D., thus far he has been doing a great deal and coming up with many wonderful ideas for the committee to act on, and he has inspired me to get off my lazy butt and get going on some of these things. We are currently in the process of finding a time for a committee conference call and I hope to have future articles on our activities. The main reason for this article though, is to ask the help of the fellowship in Area 74. Phil has found many gaps in our Assembly and Area Committee minutes throughout the years. Below this article you will find a couple of spreadsheets listing all that we are missing. If anyone has access to, or knows any information on how to procure them, please contact our Archivist asap. You can mail him through a link on our Area 74 website. That is all for now, God bless you all.

Jeff D. Area 74 Archives Chair

AREA COMMITTEE Information needed

Minutes	Date Range	Hard Copy	Event	Notes
	of Event	Pages	Location	
2013 Spring Conference ACM Minutes and Reports	8/10/13	9	Three Lakes	need DCM Reports
2013 Delegates Workshop ACM Minutes	4/6/13	28	Eagle River	need Del Workshop minutes & ACM Minutes
2012 December ACM Minutes	12/15/12	1	Three Lakes	need hard copy of minutes and pdf
2007 December ACM Minutes	12/2/07	1	Rhineland	need minutes and reports
2005 December ACM apparently not held	5-Dec			? Was this meeting held?
2005 Fall Conference Minutes	10/22/05	4	Rice Lake	need reports
2005 Spring Conference ACM Minutes	5/13-15/05	4	Rhineland	need Delegate's Report, minutes and reports
2005 3 12 Delegates Workshop/ACM	3/12/05	4	Rhineland	need Del Workshop minutes & ACM Minutes
2004 ACM Area Inventory	12/4/04	2	Ashland	need minutes, reports, Area Inventory
2004 Fall Conference ACM	10/2/04	4	Chippewa Falls	need minutes-reports
2004 ACM Unity Conf	7/10/04	2	Appleton	need minutes-reports
2004 Spring Conference ACM	5/15/04	4	Eau Claire	need minutes-reports
2004 Delegate's Workshop & ACM	3/13/04	8	Rhineland	need Del Workshop minutes & ACM Minutes
2004 Area Committee Meeting	1/10/04	10	Green Bay	need pre 2:30 actions, and ACM minutes
2003 Fall Assembly Minutes	9/13/03	3	Houghton	need minutes and reports
2003 ACM Minutes at Unity Conference	7/10/03	2	Oshkosh	need minutes-reports
2003 Spring Conference ACM Minutes	5/10/03	1	Kimberly	need minutes and reports
2003 Delegate's Workshop-ACM	3/8/03	3	Boulder Junction	need GSC Agenda, Workshop minutes, ACM min
2002 Fall Conference ACM	9/13/15	1	Iron Mountain	need all
2002 Unity Conference ACM	7/5-7/02	1	Oshkosh	need all
2002 Spring Conference ACM	5/3-5/02	1	Mosinee	need all
2002 Delegate Workshop & ACM	5/9/02	1	Rhineland	need all
2002 Area 74 Workshop	1/19/02	2	Wausau	need all
2001 Fall Conference & Election Assembly	9/14-16/01	6	Silver City	letter mentions ACM 9/14 - no minutes or flyer
2001 Fall Assembly Minutes & Area 74 Sharing Session	8/25/01	9	Three Lakes	proposed 3 assemblies & Del Wrkshp & FOUR ACMs
No formal Area Committee Meeting (flyer or minutes) before this time				
to the best of my knowledge				

ITEMS NEEDED FOR COMPLETION OF ARCHIVAL RECORDS Highlighted in yellow

Minutes	Date Range	Event	NOTES
	of Event	Location	
2019 Fall Assembly Minutes	10/26/19	Three Lakes	needs Delegate's Report & final Approval
2013 Spring Assembly Minutes	4/7/13	Eagle River	need Delegate's Report & Del Workshop Committee Reports
2010 Fall Conference	9/11/10	Gladstone, MI	need Minutes
2010 Spring Conference & Area Inventory	5/7-8/10	Rothschild	need Assembly Minutes
2009 Fall Conference	9/18-20/09	Marshfield	need everything
2009 Spring Conference Delegate's Report	5/15/09	Iron Mountain	need Minutes & other reports
2008 Fall Conference ?			
2008 Spring Conf Area Comm Mtg Minutes	5/16-18/08	Neenah	?Minutes, Delegate's Report?
2007 Spring Conference	5/18,19/07	Phillips	need Minutes & Reports
2006 Fall Conference	9/8-10/06	Marquette	need Minutes and Reports
2006 Spring Conference & Delegate's Report	5/19-20/06	Green Bay	need Minutes and Chair Reports
2005 Fall Conference	9/9-12/05	Rice Lake	need Minutes and Reports
2005 Spring Conference Minutes	5/13-15/05	Rhineland	need Delegate's Report, Minutes and Reports
2004 Fall Conference Minutes	10/2/04	Eau Claire	need minutes – reports
2004 Spring Conference Minutes	5/15/04	Eau Claire	need Delegates Report & Minutes
2004 Spring Assembly Minutes	4/3/04	Three Lakes	need reports
2003 Fall Assembly Minutes	9/12-14/03	Houghton	need Minutes and Reports
2003 Spring Conference Assembly Minutes	5/10/03	Kimberly	need reports
2002 Fall Conference Assembly	9/13-15/02	Iron Mountain	need all
2002 Fall Assembly Minutes	8/24/02	Three Lakes	need reports
2002 Spring Conference Assembly	5/3-5/02	Mosinee	need all
2002 Spring Assembly Minutes	4/6/02	Three Lakes	need reports
2002 Delegate's Workshop	3/9/02	Rhineland	no minutes
2001 Fall Conference & Election Assembly	9/14-16/01	Silver City	letter mentions ACM 9/14 - no minutes or flyer
2001 Spring Conference	5/4-6/01	DeFlambeau	Minutes
2001 Pre-Assembly/Delegate's Workshop	3/10/01	Rhineland	no minutes-1 1/2 hour Meeting of officers/chairs/DCM
2000 Fall Conference	9/15-17/00	Eau Claire	no minutes
2000 Spring Conference	5/19-21/00	Green Bay	no minutes
2000 Delegate Workshop and Pre-Assembly Meeting	3/11/00	Rhineland	no minutes
1999 Fall Conference	9/10/12/99	Ashland, Wi	no minutes
1999 Spring Conference	5/14-16/99	Appleton	no minutes
1998 Fall Conference	6/18-20/98	Houghton	no minutes
1998 Spring Conference	5/8-10/98	Lac DeFlambeau	no Assembly minutes -only Committee meeting Minutes
1997 Delegate's Workshop on Committee and Service	3/15/97	Rhineland	no minutes
1996 Fall Conference	9/20-22/96	Wisconsin Rapids	no minutes
1991 Spring Conference Minutes	4/13/91	?	
1988 Fall Assembly Minutes and published Minutes	8/20/88	?	
1967 Spring Conference Minutes	4/8/67	?	

FROM THE CORRECTIONS CHAIR / MICHIGAN

Greetings, First, thank you for allowing me to be of service. I never thought I'd be back in this position again, but here I am. Grateful I started early last November. I got out my Corrections Workbook and read and reread it. Then I ordered 15 of them. The UP has a traveling Intergroup that meets once a month and they host a Corrections meeting at the beginning of the afternoon. My plan is to go to each meeting and chair. The first one went well. There were only 4 or 5 in attendance. I learned a lot. The next month was January, no meeting that month.

In the mean time I read all the pamphlets that came with my full workbook from GSO. I started to put together a list of the ones that would carry the message of Corrections the best and most affordable.

February's Intergroup went I meet new people and renewed old friendships. The meeting was well attended and I was able to get information on what was needed in two districts. I placed an order for literature that would help them and for general use. By March we were starting to shut down. Our jail and prison meetings are closed for now. I was at a meeting in Wausau (which isn't my area) but did bring handouts with. Gave some out and left some for their literature rack.

So, as we all know everything is on hold for the time being. I hope some of our seeds are planted and take sprouts!! I've given out 8 workbooks and that could give people some new ideas. If we take this time to read, think and pray about what more we can do to help the people who are still suffering we could turn this into a positive time in our sobriety.

Yours in service,
Karen Kovars
U.P. Corrections Chair

SPOTLIGHT ON THE DISTRICT 09

District 09 is not the largest district in Area 74, but it is mainly in the largest county—Marinette County, along with portions of Shawano, Oconto, Forest and Menominee counties in Wisconsin along with Menominee, Michigan county. We use 17 locations for 37 meetings. We rotate our district meetings, held on the first Sunday of the month, to six different locations: Crivitz, Shawano, Oconto, Wausaukee, Suring, and Menominee, MI. Four of our six district meetings are over 100 miles—round trip—for me since I live in the northern end of our district. It is the same mileage for me to the meeting in Shawano as it is to Three Lakes.

I have some information as to our history. District 09 was started in 1974 with 4 members. Some of our “founding fathers” were Armond Z., Carl D., Bob W., and Dale K. who met in the basement of Faith Presbyterian Church in Crivitz. Average attendance grew to 8-12 members--with an Al Anon meeting alongside AA.

In Marinette one of our “founding mothers” was Germaine, one of the earliest females in AA. When she joined the Big Meeting Upstairs, she had over 60 years of sobriety and was an inspiration for many of us.

District 09 has held Intergroups and workshops. We have regular meetings in Marinette, Menominee, MI, Shawano and Oconto jails. We have been discussing hosting a conference, and we are the home of Past Delegate Sara P.

Even though we had no DCM during the last rotation, AA is alive and well and we look forward to a promising future.

Area 74 lost and old trusted servant this past March 1st 2020 John J. had fifty-eight years of continuous recovery when he passed. God gave John a great sponsor, Ande A. who had started his own recovery in 1941 gave John his livelong service to our Fellowship by taken him to Marquette Branch Prison. John often spoke of the warden and how he would come out before they would go to the meeting and say, “you’re the best group in the prison” and shake everyone’s hands. In 1961 when John started attending a local meeting which was two meetings every week called the Marquette county first group those two John later became a home group member of the same group which was changes to the Monday night “Questions and Answers Group.”

On a personal note:

When I arrived in Marquette in 2003, I started to attend the Monday night “Questions and Answers Group.” What I remember most about John was, he always had a huge smile, never having a complaint and if you would ask him how he was doing his response would be “better than I deserve.” As I noticed more about him he would have his shoes off under the table. After learning chapter five and especially page fifty-eight, “*if you have decided you want what we have and are willing to go to any lengths to get it then you are ready to take certain steps.*” I took those thoughts with me when John and I would go bike riding in the summer for three or four miles, stopping two or three times to talk and look at the beautiful scenery around Marquette. In the winter John would snowshoe in his back yard and I decided to join him but I didn’t have the money at the time to buy snowshoes so he ordered them for me and said pay me back when you can afford to. I really respected that because I was able to spend more time with him. I also remember when there was significant snow fall he would ask me to break some trails.

John gave me some wonderful examples on working the program when my behavior was not in sync. With the spiritual nature I was trying to learn. I learned very quickly our code “love and tolerance of others should be our code. Over the years John gave me a spiritual program that makes my recovery stronger and to stay close to that loving God he spoke about so often. John was one of the most genuine individuals I ever worked with he was my go to when all the other sponsors were gone, he surely was someone that I will hold close to my heart for the rest of my life.

Thank you All,
Brian M.

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SETTING THE AGENDA

Hello all members of Area 74. Hope this finds you being well and sober!

I have been contemplating writing this article for a while and hope it is taken in the spirit in which it is intended - to be informative and reflective, not to be misinterpreted as pointing out any shortcomings of any entities or members. Also keep in mind this is an opinion piece based on my experience in General Service which includes serving Area 74 and AA in many capacities over the last 20+ years.

It seems to me that we in Area 74 have lost sight of the process that 'Setting an Agenda' entails in the general service structure of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Area 74 does not fall into lock step with the General Service Conference (GSC) or the General Service Board (GSB) of AA, however, our Area 74 Guidelines do state *"Ever mindful that the reason for the General Service Structure is to be of service to the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous, the Area shall always observe the spirit of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts for World Service. In the absence of specific indications in the Guidelines of Area 74, the latest edition of the AA Service Manual may be relied upon."* which to me infers that we generally follow the procedures used by the GSC. I was taken aback that one of the findings in the responses to the survey by Area 74 Ad Hoc Committee on Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Facilitation of Four Assemblies questions was that a majority of the respondents, 53.3%, said the Area Chair should set the agendas for the Area Committee meetings not the Area Committee itself.

Setting an agenda for an Assembly is a process and does not just entail saying this is what time we are going to discuss a motion, when Standing Committee reports will be heard, what order are we going to hear Area 74 Conference reports, etc. The timing of meetings for the General Service Structure in Area 74 is designed around two main objectives - 1. To be synchronized with the scheduling of the GSC and GSB, and 2. To be timely for helping the Groups to carry out their primary purpose of reaching the still suffering alcoholic. The following is a hypothetical illustration that will hopefully explain the process of how we are structured to come to a decision in fulfilling those objectives as far as our Area 74 Area Committee is concerned.

Let's say a Group comes up with an idea to have no more coffee at AA meetings in Area 74. (Ludicrous, right? But a pretty big decision effecting the health and harmony of Area 74). The Group would go to their District meeting and have a vote (group conscience) and let's say the finding was 8 in favor, 3 against, therefore passing with substantial unanimity. The District Committee Member (DCM) would then go to an Area Committee meeting and present the District's motion to the other DCMs and Area Committee members and give the background behind why the motion was presented. The DCMs would then return to their respective districts and present the motion and background to the groups there. The districts vote and it is found that 12 of the 24 districts in Area 74 were in favor, 5 against, 7 no opinion. The DCMs would then come back and confer at an Area Committee meeting and the consensus would be that there is enough interest in the motion to continue to explore the idea (50% were in favor), although it may need tweaking especially since a dozen districts, both for & opposed, thought it should only include no decaf be served not all coffee. Obviously, the motion has some depth and weight behind it but it needs some amending, so the DCMs go back to their groups with the results and the originating group decides to change their motion to exclude decaf only. The next Area Committee meeting would then 'set the item on the agenda' for the next Assembly as it is apparent the groups are ready to make an informed decision on this motion. There can be numerous outcomes at this point that are facilitated by the Area 74 Parliamentary Guidelines adopted from Robert's Rules of Order. But essentially the Area Committee had 'Set the Agenda' when it was apparent the groups were ready to make a decision. Sometimes the Area Committee can determine to 'set the item on the agenda' for an Assembly for discussion rather than a decision, but it is the full Area Committee that makes that determination.

Granted there were 3 Area Committee meetings and possibly 2 Assemblies before the Groups were ready to make an informed decision but most of the discussions and information had occurred prior to gathering for the vote at the Assembly. The Area Committee through the 'setting the agenda' process had made sure the groups were informed, the motion and decision made, almost all questions had been answered prior to the Assembly, and a solid decision was determined by the Assembly of the groups through an informed group conscience.

Following this process may seem tedious but has served AA well for over 50 years (It took a while for the District structure to evolve since the founding of the GSC in 1950). This is how the Groups can be more engaged, the DCMs can have a real purpose to serve the Area Committee and the groups in their districts, communication with the Groups can be strengthened, and the health and harmony of Area 74 can be grown and fostered.

The Area Committee *"Perhaps more than any other group of people in A.A., the area committee is responsible for the health of the Conference structure and thus for growth and harmony in the A.A. Fellowship"*. We have Standing Committees & Area Officers that have roles on the Area Committee to help carryout this responsibility and I believe we should re-vitalize the Area Committee to handle this responsibility. This does not mean to change the makeup of the Area Committee but re-focus its purpose. I believe the Area Committee has no real authority as that lies with the Groups through the Area 74 Assembly and GSC but it absolutely serves a very important purpose in Area 74. 'Setting the Agenda' is one of the primary ways the Area Committee should play its crucial role of communication between the Groups, the Area Committee, our Delegate, our Region, the GSB, and AA as a whole.

** italicized portions are excerpts from the Service Manual*

Thank you for allowing me to be of service in Area 74 and providing the opportunity to express my views. I wish each and every one of you Peace, Love, and Sobriety,

Jeff C
Area 74 Panel 56 Past Delegate

April 9, 2020 Dear friends,

As we, together, follow the global developments related to the response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, the experience, strength and hope offered by A.A. groups, Intergroups and Central Offices, AA Grapevine and La Viña, and the General Service Office has never been more evident.

The extraordinary effort taking place across our Fellowship is heartening in this truly difficult time: A.A. groups who are unable to gather at their usual locations are now meeting on virtual platforms. These virtual meetings have provided A.A. members, as well as those newly seeking help, the ability to connect with recovering alcoholics across the U.S., Canada and internationally – and stay sober one day at a time.

Local Intergroups and Central Offices are also providing support and resources to help A.A. groups navigate technology that might be unfamiliar to many members. In addition, some offices have developed “best practices” that have been helpful to a number of groups – especially those new to digital platforms.

Although our physical doors are closed for the time being, the General Service Office continues to provide services to the Fellowship. Members can continue to download A.A. literature and service material from the aa.org website. We respond to nearly 200 letters a week from members in correctional facilities in the U.S. and Canada. Further, we are working around the clock to field the steady stream of national and local media requests, with the understanding that an accurate representation of our efforts can help members and others who might be struggling during this unprecedented period. There has been a lot of media coverage of A.A. in recent weeks.

As an important additional resource to A.A. members, AA Grapevine has provided free access to all 2020 Grapevine and La Viña stories, including the audio Grapevine stories.

Your groups’ support and participation in the Seventh Tradition is always a fundamental element of the Fellowship, and is especially crucial now. It ensures that groups sustain good relationships with their landlords so that they have a place to meet once we can gather again, and it ensures that A.A.’s vital services continue. Shared experience reflects an increased use of the “digital” basket wherein groups and members utilize digital payment options for Seventh Tradition contributions to support the group and local entities. Many Intergroups and Central

Offices and Area service structures have added information to their websites about digital contributions.

For contributions to the General Service Office members can access the online contributions link on aa.org. You may also continue to send checks via standard USPS mail. Subscriptions to Grapevine and La Viña are available on the aagrapevine.org website, along with their other materials. Support is even more important given that revenue from literature sales has substantially decreased for the time being.

It is clear that our shared efforts ensure that the hand of A.A. will always be there when anyone, anywhere reaches out. We thank you for your continued support.

Yours in gratitude and fellowship,

G. Gregory Tobin General Manager



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DATE**

**AREA 74
FALL CONFERENCE**

HOSTED BY DISTRICT 5

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2020

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EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

Speakers, panels, banquet!!



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Anonymity: Our Spiritual Foundation

A Virtual Presentation

MONDAY, MAY 18, 7 PM CST ZOOM MEETING ID: 557-003-651

GUEST SPEAKER: ALI H - TORONTO

Follow-up Q&A with members of the District 05 and Area 74 PI Committees



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