

# MARCH 2021

# Now & Then

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

**Volume 61**

[www.area74.org](http://www.area74.org)

**Number 9**

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### Delegate's Corner

Hello Members of Area 74,

You may have heard the background material has been released for the 71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference (GSC) to be held April 17-24, 2021 via a digital platform. The material was sent to all Area 74 Standing Committee Chairs, District Committee Members, Area Officers and Past Delegates. Please ask for the final list of Agenda Items and the background. This year's Delegate Workshop to be held Saturday March 6, 2021 will be different than years past in two ways. It will be the first ever hybrid service meeting for Area 74. Many of our seasoned members have been vaccinated against the nasty virus that is being spread around that allows them to attend a meeting in their comfort zone. The Reiter Center is looking forward to seeing us! We ask that patience be practiced and rule 62 applied whenever needed. The second difference will be that prior to breaking into our committees, we will hear a high-level summary from the Area Standing Committee Chairs and helpers on the background material for the agenda items. We have estimated that this will take us an hour or so. There will be no questions or discussions during this period. I am hoping this will give all attendees a glimpse into the material. We then can break out into our smaller groups for discussion on agenda items that have been assigned to the committees. We will gather again as the whole group and give a report on your group conscience. Hi Don!

I recently attended the East Central Regional (ECR) Conference of Delegates Past and Present. This was, of course, minus the past Delegates except those who are standing for the Trustee at large and ECR Trustee. It was a good opportunity to gather and share experience. We did not have a mock conference for the seated Delegates which is a highlight of the regular conference and the business meeting of the ECR. I am looking forward to Area 74 hosting this event next year. The next day I attended an anniversary/birthday celebration and danced a polka. This is something we have not had the opportunity to do for over a year. I am unsure if anyone will be placing a bid for the fall conference in 2021. I had a discussion with another member about the recently passed motion to hold the election assembly which is part of the Fall Conference in a central location. Conclusion of the conversation there is no start date on this motion. We have time to figure it all out. Let the dancing beginning.

Practice living the slogans. See you soon.

Char V.

Panel 70 Area 74 Delegate Northern Wisconsin/UP Michigan

(920) 450-6313 [delegate@area74.org](mailto:delegate@area74.org)

**FROM THE AREA 74 ALTERNATE DELEGATE/ AREA CHAIR**

Good Day to All and I hope that you have been warm and safe.

On Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, I attended the abbreviated version of the East Central Regional Conference of Delegates Past and Present (*ECR CDPP*, for those who like acronyms). The conference is mainly for the seated Delegates, but the Alternate Delegates are invited in case they have to step in for the Delegate. It was a highly informative experience. The CDPP helped me to further understand how the General Service Conference process works. As part of the agenda, we listened to the Delegates share their experience and then had a chance to hear from the candidates for the open Class B Trustee positions.

The Delegates workshop is scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> of March and will be a hybrid meeting with Area Committee Meeting starting shortly after the workshop. The notice for the meetings is in this edition of the Now and Then and has been emailed to Area 74 Officers and DCMs.

On a personal recovery level, I was talking with my brother last week and we got into a discussion that apparently put us on opposite sides of an issue. We cordially agreed to disagree and moved on to another subject. The next day I was thinking about what words I used to describe my position and concluded that my brother did not exactly understand my position. I called him back to talk about the issue and used different words, lo and behold we agreed. I have found that when people do not communicate very well, and the message sometimes gets obscured, it can lead to unnecessary conflict. Being who I am I do not deal with conflict very well. The concept of avoiding an argument and setting aside a topic for later discussion is something I learned in AA. This was brought to my attention in my Big Book Study meeting last Monday. The passage we were reading that day was on page 118, “This is getting serious. I’m sorry I got disturbed. Let’s talk about it later.”. That thought helped me to avoid an argument with my brother and the principles I have learned in AA have made my life more peaceful and serene.

Thank you all for allowing me to be of service.

Bryon B

Area 74 Alternate Delegate/Area Chair

[altdelegate@area74.org](mailto:altdelegate@area74.org) (715) 579-5820

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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](mailto:treasurer@area74.org)**

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<b>DATES TO REMEMBER 2021</b>		
<b>2/12 -14/2021</b>	<b>Conf of Delegates Past &amp; Present</b>	<b>POSTPONED UNTIL 2021</b>
<b>3/6/2021</b>	<b>Delegate's Workshop</b>	<b>Reiter Center 1858 S. Michigan St Three Lakes, WI Concurrent Virtual also (See Info Below)</b>
<b>4/10/2021</b>	<b>Winter Assembly</b>	<b>Reiter Center 1858 S. Michigan St Three Lakes, WI Final format, Hybrid or not, yet TBD</b>
<b>4/18-24/2021</b>	<b>Gen Serv Conference</b>	<b>71<sup>st</sup> General Service Conference New York, NY</b>
<b>5/14-16/2021</b>	<b>Area 74 Sprg Conf</b>	<b>CANCELLED May be Virtual announcement pending</b>
<b>5/15/2021</b>	<b>Area Assembly</b>	<b>Virtual Details pending</b>
<b>5/16/2021</b>	<b>Area Comm Mtg</b>	<b>Virtual Details pending</b>
<b>8/7/2021</b>	<b>Area Comm Mtg</b>	<b>(Optional) Location TBD</b>
<b>8/20-22/2021</b>	<b>East Cent Reg Conf</b>	<b>CANCELLED</b>
<b>9/17-19/2021</b>	<b>Area 74 Fall Conf</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>9/18/2021</b>	<b>Area Assembly</b>	<b>At Fall Conference</b>
<b>9/19/2021</b>	<b>Area Comm Meeting</b>	<b>At Fall Conference</b>
<b>10/30/2021</b>	<b>Fall Assembly</b>	<b>Reiter Center 1858 S. Michigan St Three Lakes, WI</b>
<b>12/11/2021</b>	<b>Area Comm Meeting</b>	<b>Reiter Center 1858 S. Michigan St Three Lakes, WI</b>

**\*\*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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ZOOM info for all Area 74 Service Meetings:

Meeting ID: 841 1096 5882

Passcode: 1212144

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,84110965882# US (New York)

+13017158592,,84110965882# US (Washington D.C)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84110965882?pwd=OWJScFNFRmhGSFI4ZEIYbkFYVGY0Zz09>

**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](http://www.area74.org) for the most up to date info on AA and COVID19 ramifications**

**CHECK WITH YOUR DCMs & OTHER TRUSTED SERVANTS FOR CURRENT INFO****DISTRICT MEETINGS March 2021 LIST**

<b>DIST</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	
1	Thursday	2ndThrs	6:30pm	ZOOM Green Bay, WI	
2	Sunday	2nd Sun	2:00pm	Genesis Club 1213 Appleton St,	ZOOM only appleton, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thrs	5:30 PM	<a href="http://wiaadistrict3.org">wiaadistrict3.org</a> for details Wisconsin Rapids, WI	
4	Thursday	1st Thrs	6:30 PM	ZOOM 824 2227 0300	
5	Weds	2nd Wed	6:45 PM	Zoom 7160819669	Passcode: 300225 Menominee, WI
6	Thursday	18th	7:45 PM	Club 76	Menominee Falls, WI
7	Sunday	21st	5:00 PM	Alano Club 2111 S Central Ave	Marshfield, WI
8	Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00pm	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St.,,	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	First American Lutheran Church 511 Madison St	Oconto, WI
10	Saturday	13th	9:00AM	United Methodist Chch Arbutus st	Contact DCM for Zoom Rhinelander, WI
11				No information Available	
12	Saturday	2nd Sat	12:30PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue	ZoomAlso Hayward, WI
13	Monday	1 <sup>st</sup>	5:30pm	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave.,	Ashland, WI
14	Sunday	2nd Sun	4:30pm	New Richmond Alano Club 1448 N 4th St	New Richmond, WI
15				No information Available	
16				No information Available	
17	Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00 PM	105 W Fleshiem	Iron Mountain, MI
18	Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup>	11:00am	106 N Main St	Zoom 439 255 9096 Ishpeming, MI
19				No information Available	
20				Check website at <a href="http://www.district20area74aa.org">www.district20area74aa.org</a>	
21	Thursday	1st Thrs	6:00pm	Portage Lake United Church 1400 E Houghton Ave	Houghton, MI
22	Monday	1st Mon	6:00pm	Hope Church 141 N 12th Ave & Mich. St,	ZOOM only Sturgeon Bay, WI
23	Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	1-712-775-7031 and the passcode is 983009	
24	Weds		8:00pm	Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

**DISTRICT MEETINGS April 2021 LIST**

<b>DIST</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	
1	Thursday	2nd Thur	6:30pm	ZOOM Green Bay, WI	
2	Sunday	2nd Sun		1 <sup>st</sup> Congretational Church 724 E.South River St	ZOOM only Appleton, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	<a href="http://wiaadistrict3.org">wiaadistrict3.org</a> for details Wisconsin Rapids, WI	
4	Thursday	1st Thurs	6:30 PM	ZOOM 824 2227 0300	
5	Weds	2nd Wed	6:45 PM	Zoom 7160819669	Passcode: 300225 Menominee, WI
6	Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	7:45 PM	Club 76	Menominee Falls, WI
7	Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup>	5:00PM	First United Church of Christ 111 s 2nd St	Colby, WI, WI
8	Tuesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm	Mount View Care Center, 2400 Marshall St.,,	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	St Augustine Catholic Church 507 Church st	Wausaukee, WI
10	Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00AM	United Method Chrch Arbutus St	Contact DCM for Zoom info Rhinelander, WI
11					
12	Saturday	2nd Sat	12:30PM	Alano Club 10339 South Florida Avenue	Zoom Also Hayward, WI
13	Monday	5 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	Chequamegan Bay Serenity Club 310 Stuntz Ave.,	Ashland, WI
14	Sunday	2nd Sun	4:30pm	New Richmond Alano Club 1448 N 4th St	New Richmond, WI
15					
16	Saturday		11:00AM	United Lutheran Church, 304 Main St.,	L'Anse, MI.
17	Monday	26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm	105 W. Fleishiem	Iron Mountain, MI
18	Saturday	3rd Thur	11:00am	106 N Main St	Zoom 439 255 9096 Ishpeming, MI
19					
20				Check website at <a href="http://www.district20area74aa.org">www.district20area74aa.org</a>	
21	Thursday	1st Thur	6:00pm	Portage Lake United Church 1400 E Houghton Ave	Houghton, MI
22	Monday	1st Mon	6:00pm	ZOOM only Sturgeon Bay, WI	
23	Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	1-712-775-7031 and the passcode is 983009 Hertel, WI	
24	Weds	7 <sup>th</sup>	8:00pm	Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

## **71st General Service Conference Committees**

### **Agenda Items**

#### **I. Agenda**

- A. +Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, process and 2019 Evaluation Summary.
- B. +Review the 2019 January Conference Call participant survey results.
- C. +Discuss 2020 report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.
- D. +Discuss the General Service Conference schedule.
- E. Review suggestions for the theme of the 2022 General Service Conference.
- F. Review presentation/discussion topic ideas for the 2022 General Service Conference.
- G. Discuss workshop topic ideas for the 2022 General Service Conference.
- H. Review the General Service Conference Evaluation Form, distribution process and 2020 Evaluation Summary.
- I. Review 2021 report on the Conference Agenda Process from the trustees' General Service Conference Committee.
- J. Discuss a request to provide additional avenues for A.A. members to share input on General Service Conference agenda items.

#### **II. Cooperation with the Professional Community**

- A. +Discuss progress report on LinkedIn page implementation.
- B. +Consider a request to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals.
- C. +Review contents and format of C.P.C. Kit and Workbook.
- D. Review draft update of the pamphlet "Members of the Clergy ask about Alcoholics Anonymous."

#### **III. Corrections**

- A. Consider request for a review of all correction related literature to replace terms such as "inmate" and "offender" with less stigmatizing language.
- B. Discuss innovative ways of carrying the message to alcoholics in correctional facilities/programs.
- C. Review contents and format of Corrections Kit and Workbook.

#### **IV. Finance**

- A. The pamphlet “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.”
  - 1. +Consider a request regarding contribution percentages to service entities.
  - 2. Discuss mechanization of group contributions.
- B. +Review Self-Support Packet.
- C. Reconsider the 1972 G.S.C. Advisory Action stating “G.S.O. should not accept contributions from clubs, listed or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members. Contributions are welcome from groups meeting in clubs as long as they are sent in the name of the group.”
- D. Discuss Concept XII, Warranty Two and the practice of “selling of our books at cost or less.”
- E. Review suggested area contribution for delegate expense for the Conference.
- F. Review the Conference-approved level of \$10,000 for individual bequests to the General Service Board from A.A. members.
- G. Review the Conference-approved maximum annual contribution of \$5,000 to the General Service Board from an individual A.A. member.
- H. Review the “Google Grants and the Seventh Tradition Report.”

#### **V. Grapevine and La Viña**

- A. +Review progress report on AA Grapevine Workbook revisions.
- B. +Review progress report on actions taken from the findings of the AA Grapevine Fellowship Feedback Survey.
- C. +Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.
- D. Review progress report on development of an Instagram account.
- E. Review suggested gender-neutral language options for changes to the A.A. Preamble.
- F. Consider the list of suggested Grapevine book topics for 2022 or later.

#### **VI. Literature**

- A. +Review proposed “A.A.W.S. Policy on Conversion of Written Conference-approved Literature and Service Material into Video Format.”
- B. +Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous:
  - 1. +Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” as an appendix in the next printing.
  - 2. +Revise the first 164 pages.

- C. +Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*:
  - 1. +Develop a Fifth Edition.
  - 2. +Develop a Fifth Edition of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.
  - 3. +Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous* at the time it is published.
- D. +Consider development of a draft Fourth Edition of the book *Alcohólicos Anónimos*.
- E. +Consider requests to revise the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*:
  - 1. +To remove the phrase “opposite sex” from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter “Step Twelve.”
  - 2. +To reconsider use of the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six.”
- F. +Consider request to add a subtitle to the booklet *Living Sober*.
- G. +Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”
- H. +Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”
- I. +Consider revising the pamphlet “Questions & Answers on Sponsorship”:
  - 1. +Change the suggestion that sponsor, and newcomer be of the same sex.
  - 2. +Expand the section on “Service Sponsorship” and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.
- J. +Consider request to include a G.S.R. preamble in the pamphlet “G.S.R.: Your Group’s Link to A.A. as a Whole.”
- K. +Review recovery literature matrix (2019).
- L. +Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”
- M. “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated” pamphlet:
  - 1. Discuss draft update of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
  - 2. Consider not retiring the existing version of the pamphlet “The Twelve Traditions Illustrated.”
- N. Review draft language regarding safety and A.A. to be included in *Living Sober* and “Questions and Answers on Sponsorship.”
- O. Review the draft update of the pamphlet “Young People and A.A.”
- P. Review the draft of the new pamphlet on A.A.’s Three Legacies.
- Q. Review the draft of the new pamphlet for Spanish-speaking women in A.A.
- R. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Steps Illustrated.”

- S. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “The Twelve Concepts illustrated.”
- T. Discuss progress report regarding the pamphlet “Too Young?”
- U. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book *Alcoholics Anonymous*, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution.
- V. Consider adding the Long Form of each Tradition at the beginning of each essay for that Tradition in the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.
- W. Consider the development of a draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, noting past Advisory Actions.
- X. Consider revising the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group,” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.
- Y. Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group.”
- Z. Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Native North American.”
- AA. Review G.S.O. Publishing updates per the A.A.W.S. print policy.
  - 1. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Is A.A. for You?”
  - 2. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Is there an Alcoholic in Your Life?”
  - 3. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “Frequently Asked Questions about A.A.”
  - 4. Review the draft update of the pamphlet, “This is A.A.”
- BB. Review Matrix (2020)

## **VII. Policy/Admissions**

- A. +Review G.S.O. general manager’s report regarding General Service Conference site selection.
- B. +Review the floor action process.
- C. +Consider a proposed process for how a Conference committee could review, discuss, and act on proposed agenda items not forwarded to a Conference committee.
- D. Review dates for the 2025 General Service Conference.
- E. Review the “Report on Translation and Interpretation of General Service Conference Material.”
- F. Consider revising the process for polling the General Service Conference between annual meetings to make use of virtual meeting technologies.
- G. Consider a request that a procedure be drafted for appealing a ruling by a General Service Conference chair.

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+Agenda item forwarded from the 70th G.S.C.



- H. Discuss the revised proposed process for equitable distribution of workload.
- I. Review the report on the Conference Committee Assignment Application implemented for the 2020 Committee Selection process.
- J. Consider requests regarding participation of online groups in the General Service structure.

### **VIII. Public Information**

- A. Review 2020 annual reports from the trustees' Public Information Committee regarding aa.org and aagrapevine.org.
- B. Review the 2020 trustees' Public Information Committee progress report on Google Ads performance.
- C. Review progress report regarding the 2021 Public Information Comprehensive Media Plan.
- D. Public Service Announcements (PSAs):
  - 1. Review the 2020 Report on the "Relevance and Usefulness of Video Public Service Announcements."
  - 2. Review a progress report on the development of two PSAs.
- E. Consider draft plan to develop podcasts.
- F. Review "A.A. Triennial Membership Survey" report.
- G. Discuss Public Information pamphlets.
  - 1. Consider revising the pamphlet "Speaking at Non-A.A. Meetings."
  - 2. Discuss trustees' Public Information Committee review of P.I. pamphlets.
- H. Review contents and format of P.I. Kit and Workbook

### **IX. Report and Charter**

- A. +Discuss General Service Conference *Final Report*.
- B. +Discuss A.A. Directories (Canada, Eastern U.S. and Western U.S.)
- C. Review the draft of *The A.A. Service Manual, 2021-2023 Edition*.
- D. Consider a request to amend paragraph one, the *Purpose* of the current Conference Charter.
- E. Consider a request to revise Concept Eleven essay of *The Twelve Concepts for World Service*.

## **X. Treatment and Accessibilities**

- A. Review progress report on the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic."
- B. Review a progress report on audio interviews with A.A. members who are in the Armed Forces.
- C. Review contents and format of Treatment Kit and Workbook.
- D. Review contents and format of Accessibilities Kit and Workbook.

## **XI. Trustees**

- A. +Consider the revised "Procedures for a Partial or Complete Reorganization of the General Service Board, the A.A.W.S. or AA Grapevine Boards."
  - 1. Review memo response regarding the consideration of alternate trustees.
- B. Review resumes of candidates for:
  - 1. East Central Regional Trustee
  - 2. Southeast Regional Trustee
  - 3. Trustee-at-Large/U.S.
- C. Review slates of trustees and officers of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.
- D. Review slate of directors of A.A. World Services, Inc.
- E. Review slate of directors of AA Grapevine, Inc.
- F. Review the "Statement of Concern and Motion to Censure for Submission to the 71st General Service Conference."

## **XII. Archives**

- A. +Review Archives Workbook.
- B. Review report on "Proposed Book on A.A. History."

## **XIII. International Conventions/Regional Forums**

- A. Discuss methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.
- B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

# Area 74 Delegates Workshop and Area Committee Meeting

Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021      Hybrid Meeting

Reiter Center  
1858 S Michigan Street  
Three Lakes, WI

Zoom Information: Meeting ID: 841 1096 5882    Passcode: 1212144

The doors, both virtual and physical, will be open at 9:30 AM CST    Meeting starts at 10:00 AM CST

10:00 AM	Welcome by Delegate and Area Chair Explanation of new process
10:15 AM	High Level Summary Reports by Standing Committee Chairs
11:15 AM	Break out into discussion groups led by Standing Committee Chairs
12:15 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Reconvene into Discussion Groups by Committee
2:00 PM	Workshop Committee Reports

## Area Committee Meeting to follow

Area 74 Area Committee Meeting Agenda

Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Hybrid Meeting

Reiter Center and Zoom **Meeting ID: 841 1096 5882** **Passcode: 1212144**

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM CST

4:00 PM CST

Prayer

Welcome and Housekeeping

Roll call

Approve Minutes from 12-20-2020 Area Committee Meeting

Draft minutes were sent out via email by the Secretary

Reports:

DCM Reports

Delegates Report

Unfinished Business:

Update from Inventory Ad Hoc Committee

Update from Structures and Guidelines

Update on CAB motions from Area Chair

Election Assembly and Fall Conference 2021

New Business:

Additions to Assembly Agenda for 04-10-2021

6:00 PM Close Meeting

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**AREA 74 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**STAY CONNECTED TO AREA NEWS, INFORMATION, AND MORE!**

**ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTIONS: (NO COST)**

**Please send a request via email to with your contact information to [area74newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:area74newsletter@gmail.com).**

**The Now & Then will be emailed to you monthly at no cost\*.**

**HARD COPY SUBSCRIPTIONS: (\$25.00 for 12 issues\*\*)**

**If you would like to have a hard copy of the Now & Then mailed monthly to your home. Please mail a check made out to CASH along with a completed enrollment form to the following address:**

**Now & Then**

**P.O. Box 192**

**Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235**

**\*Every group and Area Committee Position within Area 74 receives the Now & Then via email at no cost.**

**No need for GSRs to subscribe.**

**or**

**\*\*IF a group, and none of its members, has NO ability to receive a copy electronically, Area 74 will provide a hardcopy subscription at no cost to the group**

## **SPOTLIGHT ON THE DISTRICTS**

Hello and welcome from District 05!

District 05 covers seven counties including Eau Claire, Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Pierce, and part of St. Croix. Currently District 05 has 110+ meetings in which 40+ meetings are in the greater Eau Claire area. Because of the pandemic, the number of meetings has dropped. Our monthly GSR meeting is held via Zoom on the second Wednesday of every month starting at 6:45 p.m. We would love for you to attend our meeting. You can check out our District 05 website at [www.district05.org](http://www.district05.org).

During this past year's pandemic our district has been busy carrying the message to the alcoholic that still suffers. Many groups in our district started Zoom meetings right in the beginning of the pandemic and many followed their example. Our GSRs, committee chairs, and officers have embraced change over this past year with grace.

Our PI Committee has set up a Facebook page for the public with approved AA literature. They have done many PSA announcements and are currently working with District 06 for a booth at the Northern Wisconsin State Fair. Our Treatment and Corrections committees have done an amazing job staying connected and developing relationships which is vital for carrying the message of hope into the centers.

If you do not already know, Area 74 has a delegate's workshop coming up on March 6<sup>th</sup>. For the first time, our district hosted a pre-delegate's workshop. The purpose of the workshop was informational and to go through the material provided by the General Service Conference. We had 15 participants that day including a past delegate, the current delegate, and members of District 05. Looking back at when I attended my first delegates workshop as a GSR I was lost, dazed, and confused being a newly elected GSR for my group and not knowing what the purpose was for the delegates workshop. The purpose of the workshop is for our delegates to be well informed about how our fellowship of Area 74 feels on certain agenda items from the General Service Conference that is held this year in April. I have been told from our District 05 GSRs and members that we need to continue having the workshop going forward.

In closing, we look forward to working with our homegroups, districts, and Area 74. As well as attending assemblies and conferences throughout this year with the main purpose on how we carry the message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic in and out of the rooms. May the loving arms of God protect you each day, working our program one day at a time.  
In love and service, District 05

### District 6

District 6 located in Chippewa County will have their lights turned back on for 1 year this March. Needless to say, it has been a struggle. Just after turning the lights back on COVID19 hit forcing us to hold our district meetings via Zoom. We could not take meetings into our local rehab, or into our prisons. Outreach into our groups was severely limited as they were trying to figure out how they were going to meet. Many of the newcomers (0-6 months) went back out, and old timers with limited technical skills also went out. Meetings were struggling to keep meeting. The State declared that liquor stores were an essential business, while recovery meetings were not. Through all this we continued to look at our gratitude list:

The lights are back—that is an accomplishment in and of itself.

We have folks in several of our service positions.

A great working relationship has come to fruition with District 5.

Through the efforts of our ADCM, and DCM we have our website up and running.

After many follow up emails to GSO our meetings are now on the Meeting Guide App.

We put on our 1<sup>st</sup> workshop “How the District helps the Groups reach out to the Alcoholic that still suffers.”

Through the efforts of our ADCM, we were able to keep the new Cornell meeting going when it looked like it was going to close down.

Things are now starting to open up. We have a meeting going in one of the prisons. Many of the newcomers that went out, are starting to come back. We are taking in a meeting to the local rehab via Zoom. Our PI committee is working with the District 5 PI Committee and plan on hosting an informational booth at the Western Wisconsin State Fair. We are starting to discuss what our next workshop should be. We are also talking about how to get more people involved in service.

Many of our startup expenses were born by our ADCM, and DCM, and for that we are grateful. We turned to Area 74 on several occasions for help but seemed to cause more confusion as to what they can do to help out the districts. However, some of these discussions now appear to be taking place at the area level, so our hope is that the next district to turn the lights back on will have had some groundwork laid by our district.

On a personal note, I celebrate, and thank God every day that I am sober. I am grateful for the new meetings that have been started in our district. I always need to remember that in my drinking days, I was a taker, and AA has taught me how to serve in AA, and in the world around me.

In Love and Service,

Jim M

DCM District 6

**Please direct all  
communications to:**

P.O. Box 459  
Grand Central Station  
New York, NY 10163  
Fax: (212) 870-3003

February 4, 2021

Dear Conference members, Intergroups and Central Offices,

The Board of Directors of A.A. World Services wishes each and every member of our Fellowship and their loved ones the happiest New Year. As we reflect back on the extraordinary events that we all have been experiencing it is with hearts full of gratitude that we say thank you to each and every group and member for all of the spectacular work of carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic that has taken place in these difficult times.

For many, this meant pivoting our groups to be online. For some, greeters became temperature screeners, enthusiastically encouraging mask use. In many of our meetings the coffee maker position went away and the online meeting host position appeared. As our many local A.A. offices met unsure financial outlooks, groups across the U.S. and Canada figured out how to make their Seventh Tradition support digital and supported one another as a whole. Service workers across the Fellowship worked from home, often tired and understaffed. As the pandemic pushed surges in binge drinking to new heights, our groups met the challenge head on and introduced a new generation of alcoholics to our program who have been sober for months now and have never even experienced an in-person meeting. The best is surely yet to come.

In the early months of 2020, many would not have imagined we could carry our message as fully, as far and as freely as we have online in the last 9-10 months. Some would have actively argued it could not be done. As a society, A.A. has never faced these challenges before. With no historical reference point for us to look to, after 85 years we faced a new pioneering period.

A.A. members everywhere responded, adapted, and met calamity with serenity. We are a resilient lot. We have seen clearly that the message of A.A. and the lifesaving experience of our membership need not be limited by time, space, or custom. We are held up by 36 spiritual principles in our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts that we can absolutely rely on to guide us through any uncertainty or challenge ahead.

We understand more clearly today the importance of prudence and why we keep a reserve. We have new appreciation for group conscience and its ability to be found even over great distances. Our primary purpose served to keep us unified and as a buoy in uncertain times where being of service to others has helped us through the storm. The evidence of these events over the last year make clear that our legacies of Unity, Service, and Recovery remain strong. We as a board are rejuvenated with hope for a new year ahead and all the great opportunity that awaits as the world begins the slow process of recovery from the pandemic.

Covid-19 has brought very hard, and sometimes tragic events to many among us and around us. In taking stock, these circumstances have forced a crack in our rigidity and created light where before there was only a glimmer. If we leave room for that light to grow and adhere steadfastly to our principles, we can confidently face any uncertainty ahead.

As we continue meeting this challenge and those ahead, let us together continue to "grow in understanding and effectiveness," constantly working toward ensuring that any person needing the message of Alcoholics Anonymous can find it, and that together we preserve that message for the generations of alcoholics still to come.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beau B.", written over a thin horizontal line.

Beau B., Chairperson  
A.A.W.S. Board

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** February 16, 2021

**To:** General Service Conference Members, Accessibilities Committee chairs,  
Cooperation with the Elder Community Committee chairs

**From:** Irene D., secretary, trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/  
Treatment and Accessibilities Committee

**Re:** Call for Stories - Audio "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic"

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This note is to announce that we are extending the call for shared experience, strength and hope for updating the pamphlet, "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic." Shared experience can be submitted by audio file or written transcript!

On January 31, 2021, The trustees' Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities Committee reviewed the progress report on updating the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic." The committee noted that additional stories would be helpful for the development of the pamphlet. The committee requested that the staff secretary release another call for stories with a deadline no later than **March 15**.

The committee is looking for stories based on the following experiences:

- Ethnic, cultural and LGBTQ communities
- Lifestyle diversity
- Got sober later in life
- Veterans from the Vietnam War or later
- Hearing loss or mobility issues
- Online or telephone A.A. meetings
- Dementia or Alzheimer mental health issues
- Spiritual pathways

As noted, personal stories can be sent in audio or written formats:

Audio File:

You can record your shared experience, or help another member to record their story, using any recording device. For example, you can use the recording app installed on your smart phone. Audio files can be attached to an email and sent in to G.S.O.

When recording your story, please share your first name and the first letter of your last name at the beginning of the recording so we can identify your recording. **The suggested length of the recording is seven to eight minutes.**



# Highlights from A.A.W.S.

January 29, 2021

The A.A. World Services Board met via videoconference on Friday, January 29, 2021.  
Chair of the A.A.W.S. Board, Beau B., welcomed all in attendance and opened the meeting with a moment of silence.

## General Manager's Report

Interim General Manager Stephanie L. provided the following report:

### Archives

Archives staff is preparing to relocate 300 cartons (392 cubic feet) of archival materials currently housed at an Iron Mountain facility, to a secured, onsite storage room on the 8th Floor. This relocation will significantly reduce Archives expenses and allow the Archives staff to appraise the unprocessed materials, deaccession any duplicate records and other related tasks.

### Human Resources

Amy B. joined GSO Staff Services team as a GSO Staff member on the CPC/Treatment assignment. James H. joined GSO Staff Services team as a GSO Staff member on the Regional Forums assignment. Sareen Pearl (nonalcoholic) joined the Human Resources department as HR Director. Bruce Hartley (nonalcoholic) joined the Technology Services department as Senior Project Manager.

### Operations

Fellowship Connection 2.1 launched on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. Getting a training video and a Frequently Asked Questions PDF uploaded to Fellowship Connection is currently in progress. New area registrars will be required to complete training before receiving access to Fellowship Connection 2.1.

### Technology Services

ERP implementation is complete as of December 2020. The Technology Services team continues to play a key role in several projects: ERP Project Core Workstream supporting the Launch of Merchant-E and Lockbox; the Corrections Correspondence System revision project. The Technology team designed, developed and rolled out a new version of the Dashboard. Significant Technology Services activities are underway to improve cyber and data security using SolarWinds RMM, SolarWinds EDR, Bitlocker and File Vault.

## Staff Services

*Accessibilities/LIM* – The staff secretary continues passing along the shared experience available on the Accessibilities

Committees Service web page as well as in the assignment's digital files. The Remote Communities Service page will soon be available on the aa.org website. The page will include relevant literature and access to useful links for service work.

*Conference* – The Conference Communications Kit was made available to all Conference members starting January 5, 2021. The kit includes the list of preliminary Conference committee agenda items, committee assignments and buddy lists. The new Committee Assignment Application implementation was a success and produced randomized committee assignments for all incoming Panel 71 delegates, meeting all the policy requirements requested by the General Service Conference for this process.

*CPC/Treatment* – The new coordinator continues training, including the preparation of the Quarterly GSB meeting, responding to requests from CPC committees and committees who are interested in exchanging information and experience with Treatment committees throughout the U.S. and Canada.

*Corrections* – The Winter version of “Sharing from Behind the Walls” was distributed to prisoners across the U.S. and Canada, along with requested books and pamphlets. Over 560 male inmates were matched January-December 2020 for the CCS, 105 females were matched for the same period. There were 1,390 Insiders/Outsiders linked.

*Group Services* – The new coordinator is continuing to work with the Fellowship Connection team gathering post-launch feedback from area registrars on how to improve the database. One topic that is prevalent on this assignment is the listing of online groups, specifically what information should be captured and their participation in the General Service Conference structure. The assignment continues seeking shared local experience, gathering feedback from the OIAA (Online Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous) and awaiting guidance from the General Service Conference.

*International* – The 26th World Service Meeting held a follow-up “Gratitude in Action” Sharing Session and a special virtual tour of Stepping Stones on December 12, 2020. Currently the International desk is working with the Publishing department to produce the 26th World Service Meeting Final Report. The report will be published in an anonymity-protected digital format; no print version will be produced.

The 27th WSM will be held in Tokyo, Japan, October 1-6, 2022 and the theme will be “Carrying the Message of A.A. in the Digital Age.”

*Literature* – A significant amount of committee support has taken place since October, including for a subcommittee of the trustees’ Literature Committee (TLC), the 2020-21 Conference Literature Committee, handling of proposed 71st Conference agenda items and preparations for the A.A.W.S. Publishing Committee as well as a wide variety of preparations for January 2021 meeting of the TLC.

*Nominating* – The coordinator of has begun work with the Conference coordinator on the trustee elections that will take place at the virtual 2021 General Service Conference.

*Public Information* – “Alcoholics Anonymous Holds Virtual World Service Meeting — First Time in History,” the most recent press release was placed on the press/media page December 21, 2020 and distributed in PDF to U.S./Canada General Conference members, central/intergroup offices and to 62 International GSOs. In February, all Panel 70 and 71 delegates will be sent a memo via email outlining the Procedures for Anonymity Breaks at the public level. Included with the memo are sample letters that can be sent with relevant A.A. literature (or email links) on anonymity. Also included will be the revised, Memo to Audio Technicians; formally titled, Memo to Tapers... (“What’s a ‘Taper’, Mom?!”)

*Regional Forums* – The new coordinator joined the planning already in progress for the four 2021 virtual forums. The assignment will also be included in the planning for the North-South Forum – a pancontinental virtual Forum targeting remote communities in Argentina and Canada. Under the purview of the International assignment, it is anticipated that this one-day forum will take place in May 2021.

## Finance

### *Revenue and Expense:*

Individual/A soft close of the December books was done on January 15. As of the soft close, we have a small 2020 surplus of \$210,917 before depreciation.

2020 contributions revenue reached an all-time high of \$10,304,185, which is \$417,930 greater than the reforecast.

Gross literature sales revenue is \$9,098,578. Although gross sales did not reach the reforecast amount, cost of goods sold is only 28% of gross sales compared to a reforecast 35%. Therefore, gross literature profit has exceeded reforecast by \$113,607.

The revenue split between gross profit on literature sales and contributions in 2020 is about 37% literature/63% contributions whereas historically, the split is 58% literature/42% contributions.

Payroll and benefits expense is \$11,329,538, which is \$374,429 less than the reforecast amount of \$11,703,967.

Total expenses are \$16,667,870, which is \$45,195 less than the reforecast amount of

\$16,713,065.

### *Cash Flow:*

Cash on hand as of December 31 was \$1,780,363.

The bank balance as of the close of business on January 20 was \$1,475,772, which represents four weeks of expenses, about a week and a half more than a month ago.

*Ad hoc Self-Support Committee* – The chair gave a brief update on the Self-support subcommittee noting discussions on the contributions envelope and the move to Lockbox services with the bank. The Lockbox will change the P.O. Box for contributions, which will necessitate redoing the business reply envelopes. It was noted that the business reply envelopes currently used are only valid in the U.S. GSO Staff are considering using Canadian business reply envelopes. The committee also discussed flyers that focus on self-support.

The board approved the following recommendation brought forward by the Finance Committee:

- That the budget for 2021, which reflects total revenues of \$15,594,000, total expenses of \$14,952,613 and a bottom-line surplus of \$641,387, be approved by the A.A.W.S. Board.

## Publishing

*Update on Digital Distribution:* On January 14 A.A.W.S., Inc. officially launched its enhanced ebook and audiobook distribution implementation with Ingram CoreSource Plus, effectuating distribution via 38 major ebook platforms (including Amazon, Apple, B&N, Kobo, Google Play books, BibliU, Hoopla, Libreka, Libri, Mackin Education, Scribd, and Overdrive): as well as 13 major audiobook vendors (including Audio Apple, Audible, Audio Kobo, Audio Google Play, Hummingbird, and Storytel).

*International Licensing and Translations Activity:* There are two new approved Big Book translations in Tatar (Russia) and Oriya (India). Alcoholics Anonymous, the Big Book, is now available in 73 languages, including the original English.

The board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the Publishing Committee:

- That the draft updated pamphlet, “Frequently Asked Questions about A.A.,” be forwarded to the trustees’ Literature Committee.
- That the draft updated pamphlet, “Is A.A. for You?” be forwarded to the trustees’ Literature Committee.
- That the draft updated pamphlet, “Is there an Alcoholic in Your Life?” be forwarded to the trustees’ Literature Committee.
- That the draft updated pamphlet, “This is A.A.,” be forwarded to the trustees’ Literature Committee.
- That the draft updated pamphlet, “Members of the Clergy Ask about A.A.,” be forwarded to the trustees’ Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment-Accessibilities Committee.

## Technology/Communication/Services (TCS)

The committee reviewed the minutes of G.S.O.’s Website Committee, along with progress reports and updates on website analytics and activity reports.

The senior manager of the Communication Services department gave an overview on the past year’s projects. The

department looks forward to in-house video production, improved organization-wide communication, expanding the Meeting Guide to include online meetings, and enhanced strategic planning for the department.

*Progress report on Website design and Meeting Guide app* – Staff Services, Finance and Publishing teams reviewed and approved copy and content for the website. All pages (including low priority) are on track to have final approval by the end of this month. The content team is now focusing their attention on other website content and features such as: AA Near You, Media Assets and FAQs. HelpDocs was purchased and initial work has begun on building this out as self-service knowledge base portal.

*YouTube* – There are 113 A.A.W.S. videos posted to YouTube (some in English only, others in English, Spanish and French). As of January 2021, we have over 5,400 subscribers. The digital media content creator continues to make progress on fixing the closed captioning on Alcoholics Anonymous (Big Book) for the ASL videos.

*Google ads* – A.A.W.S. Google Ads went live December 16. The total grant spend as of January 14 is \$4,560.46. The performance statistics are 3.19K clicks, 24.5K impressions, and \$1.43 Avg CPC (cost per click). Within the account are two ad groups. Find a Meeting continues to see greater attention and engagement with 2,573 clicks than Get Help with 613 clicks.

The board approved the following recommendations brought forward by the TCS Committee:

- That the 2020 Fourth Quarter Report on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website Activities be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That the 2020 Annual Report on G.S.O.'s A.A. Website Activities be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That the 2020 Fourth Quarter Website Analytics

summary be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information as presented.

- That the 2020 Website Visitors Activity Report be forwarded to the trustees' Committee on Public Information.
- That a revision be made to the committee's Composition, Scope and Procedure, as follows:

The A.A. World Services, Inc. Technology/Communication/Services (TCS) Committee is composed of not less than five voting members.

to

The A.A. World Services, Inc. Technology/Communication/Services (TCS) Committee is composed of not more than five voting members.

- That the Regional Forums video be posted to aa.org and YouTube.

## Internal Audit

The board approved the following recommendation brought forward by the Internal Audit Committee:

- That the status report on responses to recommendations from the 2018/2019 External Audits, as reviewed and amended by the committee be submitted to the A.A.W.S. Board.

## Additional Activities

*A.A.W.S. Ad Hoc Committee on Pricing, Discounts and Distribution (Delta committee):*

The board approved the following recommendation brought forward by the committee:

- That A.A.W.S., Inc. conduct a three to six-month implementation of an updated shipping charge schedule as a special pilot project by April 1, 2021 with communication to include the rationale as to how it is beneficial.

CAME TO BELIEVE GROUP  
OF WAUSAU, WI

“PRACTICING THESE PRINCIPLES IN ALL OUR AFFAIRS”

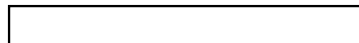
AA SPEAKERS @ 7:00 P.M.

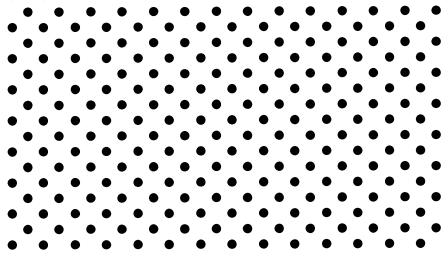
CHAR V.

KENT D., CONCORD, CA

KEN P.

JOIN VIA ZOOM ONLY





# GSR WORKSHOP

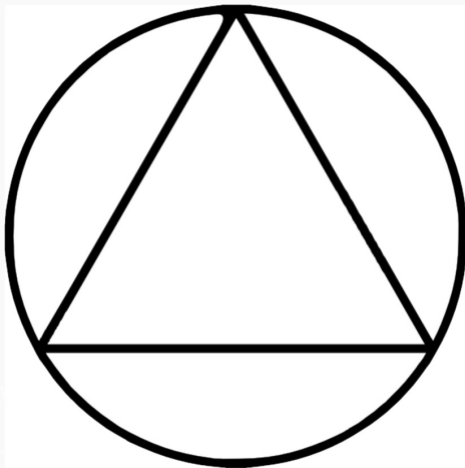
All General Service Representatives or those interested in learning about the GSR role WICME

An hour-long presentation of the GSR role & responsibilities followed by a question & answer session

AREA 74 EVENT HOSTED BY DISTRICT 02

Presentation by Past Delegate Derek TP and 66

▶▶▶



**Saturday March 13, 2021**  
**@ 1:00 PM**

**Zoom ID 884 5436 4361**

**Password 272482**

Questions please contact [BbHdm@district02a.org](mailto:BbHdm@district02a.org)