

# November 2025

# Now & Then

Newsletter of Delegate Area 74

Northern Wisconsin & Upper Peninsula of Michigan

Volume 66

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Number 5

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## Delegate's Corner

### Highlights from My Assembly Talk & Reflections on Our Fall Weekend

What an incredible and inspiring Assembly weekend for Area 74! The energy, enthusiasm, and sense of purpose throughout the weekend reminded me once again of the deep strength of our Fellowship here in Northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula. I wanted to share a few highlights from my Assembly talk and offer some reflections on this vibrant weekend together.

First, let me offer my heartfelt congratulations to all of you who have just been elected to serve in the coming rotation. You have said "yes" to A.A. in one of the most beautiful ways possible — through service. Whether this is your first Area position or one of many, I can promise you that what lies ahead is filled with purpose, spiritual growth, and joy.

The **Traditions** remind us who we are — a fellowship built on unity, humility, and love. They keep our purpose simple: to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. The **Concepts** remind us how to serve — through trust, responsibility, and participation at every level. When we live by both, we find the heart of A.A. service: a spiritual rhythm of giving and receiving, leading and following, trusting and being trusted.

Over these past two years, I've learned that my role as Delegate was never just to report — it was to inspire, to help make service attractive. Because somewhere today, someone will take their last drink, and tomorrow they will need A.A. to be there — with a meeting open, a pamphlet available, a phone answered, a hand extended. That only happens when we keep saying "yes." To the newly elected — I hope you'll discover, as I did, that A.A. service is not a burden but a blessing. Lead with enthusiasm and humility. Remember that the groups are the voice of A.A., and that your role is to help that voice be heard with love and clarity. You will have moments of doubt and fatigue — but you will also experience grace, connection, and the deep joy that comes from doing together what none of us could do alone.

Our Assembly weekend reflected all of that spirit and more. We had **strong, healthy elections** and vibrant participation from across the Area. While many positions were filled, we still have important service opportunities open — specifically for **Area Registrar** and **Treatment and Accessibilities Chair**. These positions are essential in keeping our Fellowship connected and reaching the alcoholic who still suffers. If you've ever wondered where you might fit in, these are wonderful places to start. Willingness is always enough. Another highlight was our **Friday Night Standing Committee Workshop**, attended by over **40 enthusiastic members**. The level of energy and collaboration was incredible — real, hands-on service in action. We rolled up our sleeves and did what A.A. does best: carrying the message in tangible, heartfelt ways across Area 74.

As for me — my own role is changing. After eight years with a voice and a vote on the Area floor, I now rotate into the role of **Area Grapevine Chair**, a position I will serve with enthusiasm and creativity. But as the spirit of rotation teaches, my time to speak and vote in Area business has ended. My responsibility now is to show up as an elder statesman, not a bleeding deacon — to cheer you on, offer experience when asked, and trust that you and God will carry us forward.

As we move into **November — Gratitude Month**, I can't help but reflect on how much A.A. has given us. For most of us, if it weren't for Alcoholics Anonymous, we would have nothing — no families, no peace, no purpose. Supporting our **Area** and the **General Service Board** through the **Seventh Tradition** is one of the most direct and meaningful ways we can express our gratitude. It ensures that the hand of A.A. will always be there for the next person who reaches out for help.

So I invite you to ask yourself: *What is my sobriety worth to me?* Gratitude is best expressed through action — through service, contribution, and carrying the message forward.

From the bottom of my heart — thank you for the trust, the laughter, the lessons, and the love. You've allowed me to serve Alcoholics Anonymous, and in doing so, you've changed my life.

With gratitude and fellowship,

Nicholas Stabenow-Schneider A74/P74 Delegate

Email: [delegate@area74.org](mailto:delegate@area74.org)

Phone: 414-803-9906

Hello to all my fellow members of our wonderful fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous,

November has arrived, and with it, the election season is underway for Area 74 at the group, district, and area levels. There are numerous opportunities for continued service in various capacities for all of us.

As I approach the conclusion of my term as the area alternate delegate and chair, I have gained valuable experience and recognize areas where further growth is needed. It was a great honor for me to serve at what they like to mention as one of the more difficult positions in the service triangle. It appears I may survive.

Going forward as your delegate elect. I am really excited to see what lies ahead. Some things I must remember are to be approachable, inclusive, and to listen more than I speak. And to remember my primary purpose is to carry the group conscience of Area 74 forward in all things. And remind myself, I must be careful to set my personal opinions aside and fulfill the role as Delegate to the best of my abilities.

God, or my higher power if you will, is ever present in my mind in the form of my God conscience. One thing I realize is that I had several spiritual awakenings the weekend of our election assembly. To see the participation and the willingness of people to step up, even when they may have come to the assembly with different plans on their minds. Its amazing how God works in all of us. I realize if I pay attention God puts in front of me amazing opportunities. To witness. And to learn. What a challenge ahead for all of us to continue to grow. To fulfill our primary responsibility of being there for the next suffering alcoholic.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Bill D. Area74 Alternate Delegate /Chair.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Send Area 74 Contributions To:**

**Area 74 Treasury**

**813 E Harrison St, Appleton, WI 54915**

**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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**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**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR 2024 DISTRICT MONTHLY**

**MEETING INFORMATION TO**

**[AREA74NEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AREA74NEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM)**

**OR**

**PO BOX 192 STURGEON BAY, WI 54235**

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## DATES TO REMEMBER 2025-26

<b>1/10/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Area Committee Meeting</b>	<b>Reiter Center, Three Lakes, WI</b>
2/13-2/15/2026	ECR Conference of Delegates Past & Present	TBA
<b>3/21/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Delegate's Workshop</b>	<b>St Stephens Church Wausau, WI</b>
<b>4/17/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Standing Committee Workshop</b>	<b>Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI</b>
<b>4/18/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Assembly</b>	<b>Quality Inn Rhinelander, WI</b>
4/26-5/2/2026	General Service Conference	New York, NY
<b>6/26-6/28/2026</b>	<b>ECR Regional Conference &amp; Area 74 Conf.</b>	<b>Eau Claire, WI</b>
<b>7/18/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Area Committee Meeting</b>	<b>Reiter Center, Three Lakes, WI</b>
<b>10/17/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Standing Committee Workshop</b>	<b>Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI</b>
<b>10/18/2026</b>	<b>Area 74 Assembly</b>	<b>Quality Inn, Rhinelander, 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

**Ask The Delegate:**

During my term as Delegate, I will share with you, the Fellowship of Area 74, questions that I get asked each month and my reply. I believe that if one person, group, committee has that question, others will as well.

Have a question?

Email it to [delegate@area74.org](mailto:delegate@area74.org)

Call / Tex 414-803-9906

## List of Area Standing Committee Zoom Meetings

Treatment & Accessibility ` 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the Month Time 7 PM ID. -817-2284-5094 P.W. h4z1FR

Corrections meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month 5:30 central Time Reoccurring Monthly  
ID. 891 5542 2038 PW. 227073

Literature NA ID 895-7760-2013 pw 938329  
Date and time yet to be determined for regular meeting

P.I. Last Wednesday of Month 7pm Central ID 830-3370-6847 PW. PI

C.P.C. 3rd Tuesday 6pm Central ID 838-8679-0086 PW.478881

Archives 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7 PM central Time ID 817-3019-4808 PW. 737159

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**CHECK WITH YOUR DCMs & OTHER TRUSTED SERVANTS FOR CURRENT INFO****DISTRICT MEETING November 2025 LIST**

<b>DIST</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	
1	Thursday	2nd Thur	6:30 PM	Nativity Lord Parish 2270 S Oneida St Door #4	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	2:00 PM	Changing Lanes Alano 344 Broadway	Wrightstown, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Zoom info wiaadistrict3.org	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	1st Thur	6:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S. Main St	Amherst, WI
5	Weds	2nd Wed	6:45 PM	Alano Club 12 2926 Pomona Dr Zoom 829 0126 1204 PWdistrict05	Eau Claire, WI
6	Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur	7:45 PM	Club 76 76 E Central Zoom 742 549 8793	Chippewa Falls, WI
7	Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	5:00 PM	TBD	Marshfield, WI
8	Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> Thur	7:00 PM	Wausau Alano Club 711 McClellan St	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	1st Sun	2:00 PM	United Methodist 314 Main St	Suring, WI
10	Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	9:00 AM	1st United Methodist 724 Arbutus contact DCM for Zoom	Rhineland, WI
11				No information Available	
12	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	9:00 AM	Hayward Serenity Club, 10339 S Florida Ave & Zoom	Hayward, WI
13	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> -Fri	5:30 PM	Northern Lakes Alano 68600 Riverview Ct	Iron River, WI
14	Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	6:00 PM	New Richmond Alano; 1448 N 4th Street	New Richmond, WI
15				No information Available	
16				No information Available	
17	Friday	Last Fri	5:00 PM	401 Kimberly	Iron Mountain, WI
18	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	11:00 AM	308 Cleveland Ave - Rm.201 Gossard Building	Ishpeming, MI
19	Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	5:30 PM	Delta Alano Club 601 Michigan St	Gladstone, MI
20	Saturday	July 12	11:00 AM	United Methodist Church, 1212 Morrison St	Germfask, MI
21	Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	6:00 PM	Portage Lake United Church, 1400 E. Houghton Ave	Houghton, MI
22	Thursday	1st Thur	5:30 PM	115 Club or Zoom: 399 417 5176 PW 115	Sturgeon Bay, WI
23	Weds	1st Wed	5:00 PM	Spooner Health (Enter ER Door) 1280 Chandler Dr	Spooner, WI
24	Weds	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	8:00 PM	Alano Club 411 E 2nd St S	Ladysmith, WI

**DISTRICT MEETING December 2025 LIST**

<b>DIST</b>	<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	
1	Thursday	2nd Thur	6:30 PM	Nativity Lord Parish 2270 S Oneida St Door #4	Green Bay, WI
2	Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	2:00 PM	First United Methodist Church 722 Franklin St	Appleton, WI
3	Thursday	3rd Thur	5:30 PM	Alano Club 1210 E Grand Ave. Zoom info wiaadistrict3.org	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
4	Thursday	1st Thur	6:00 PM	Peace Lutheran Church 293 S. Main St	Amherst, WI
5	Weds	2nd Wed	6:45 PM	Alano Club 12 2926 Pomona Dr Zoom 829 0126 1204 PWdistrict05	Eau Claire, WI
6	Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur	7:45 PM	Club 76 76 E Central Zoom 742 549 8793	Chippewa Falls, WI
7	Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	5:00 PM	TBD	Marshfield, WI
8	Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> Thur	7:00 PM	Wausau Alano Club 711 McClellan St	Wausau, WI
9	Sunday	1st Sun	2:00 PM	NO MEETING THIS MONTH	
10	Saturday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	9:00 AM	1st United Methodist 724 Arbutus contact DCM for Zoom	Rhineland, WI
11				No information Available	
12	Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat	9:00 AM	Hayward Serenity Club, 10339 S Florida Ave & Zoom	Hayward, WI
13	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> -Fri	5:30 PM	Northern Lakes Alano 68600 Riverview Ct	Iron River, WI
14	Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	6:00 PM	New Richmond Alano; 1448 N 4th Street	New Richmond, WI
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**Area 74 of Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**Area Assembly Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2025 | Quality Inn | Rhinelander, WI**

Attendance:

22 virtual attendees, 38 in-person attendees. Total: 60 attendees, including 20 GSRs.

Roll call: Officers Delegate – Nicholas S, Chair/Alt. Delegate-Bill D, Registrar-Katie D, Secretary-Shane R, Treasurer – Brent H  
Standing Committee Chairs:Archives -Paul Y, Cooperation with the Professional Community-Mike N, Corrections MI-James H  
Corrections WI-Kerry H, Finance-Bill L, Grapevine-Bryon B, Literature-Mike H, Newsletter-Jeff C and Michelle Z  
Public Information-Shane S, Structures and Guidelines-Sunny L, Treatment & Accessibility-Adam G

District Committee Members (DCMs)

District 1 – Mike N, District 2 – Jane M, District 3 – Allan B, District 5 – Pat T, District 6 – Elyssa C, District 8 – John R  
District 10 – Don K, District 12 – Paul T (alternate), District 13 – Sunny L, District 18 – Pat A, District 20 – Nikki D  
District 21 – Jon J, District 22 – Melissa P

Approval of area assembly minutes from 4/12/2025:

• Shane shared that corrections emailed to him regarding following the April assembly were made as requested. Additional corrections needed were shared by Marty L. Minutes updated and emailed out to the assembly.

Exception: page two of minutes has a sentence that cuts off mid-sentence reading “Hoping that...” This sentence was removed completely as there is no record of what that sentence was referring to or how it was supposed to end. • The minutes were not approved by the assembly so will be moved to the first assembly in 2026.

Elections:

- **Delegate:** Candidates – Mike H, Bill D, Brent H, Mike N. First Vote: 75 total votes, 51 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Mike H (12), Bill D (31), Brent H (18), Mike N (14). No substantial unanimity.  
Second Vote: 73 total votes, 50 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Mike H (10), Bill D (41), Brent H (14), Mike N (8). No substantial unanimity.  
Mike H, Mike N eliminated due to receiving less than 1/5 of the vote. Top two candidates remain.  
Third Vote: 72 total votes, 49 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Bill D (50), Brent H (22). **Bill D was elected by substantial unanimity.**
- **Alternate Delegate:** Candidates – Pat T, Mike N, Brent H, Mike H. First Vote: 73 total votes, 49 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Pat T (27), Mike N (13), Brent H (24), Mike H (9). No substantial unanimity.  
Second Vote: 74 total votes, 50 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Brent (31), Mike H (5), Pat T (29), Mike N (9). No substantial unanimity. Mike H, Mike N eliminated due to receiving less than 1/5 of the vote. Top two candidates remain.  
Third Vote: 73 total votes, 49 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Brent H (41), Pat T (32). No substantial unanimity.  
Fourth Vote: 70 total votes, 47 needed for substantial unanimity.  
Totals: Brent H (37), Pat T (33). No substantial unanimity.  
Motion to conduct fifth ballot (seconded). Simple majority vote.  
Yes: 18, No: 38. Motion fails. **Brent H was elected by hat draw.**
- **Secretary:** Candidates: Elyssa C. **Elyssa C was elected by acclamation.**
- **Registrar:** Candidates: No candidates. Body discussed allowing current registrar to continue serving in an interim capacity until another candidate is interested. There was also discussion about coming back to the registrar position at the end of the day to see if anyone decides to serve. Decision was made to hold position until the end of elections today.
  - o Katie later accepted a position on the finance committee and so will not be eligible to serve in the registrar role after the end of this year.  
There were no other nominations for this position.
- **Treasurer:** Candidates: Shane R. **Shane R was elected by acclamation.**
- **Corrections – Michigan:** Committee does not have a recommendation for chair. Current chair James H has not served a full rotation as chair and was nominated (seconded) for chair. James accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **James H was elected by acclamation.**
- **Corrections – Wisconsin:** Committee does not have a nomination for chair. Current chair Kerry H has not served a full rotation as chair and was nominated (seconded) for chair. Kerry accepted the nomination. Pam S was also nominated but declined. There were no other nominations. **Kerry H was elected by acclamation.**
- **Literature:** Committee recommends Mike N (seconded) for chair. Mike accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Mike N was elected by acclamation.**
- **Public Information:** Committee recommends Jane M (seconded) for chair. Jane accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Jane M was elected by acclamation.**
- **Treatment and Accessibility:** Committee does not have a recommendation for chair. Pam S was nominated but declined. The body was asked for nominations again at the end of elections. There were no nominations for the position.
- **CPC:** Committee recommends Pat T (seconded) for chair. Pat accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. **Pat T was elected by acclamation.**

- **Structures and Guidelines** (two committee members): Candidates: Brian B, Bob H.  
**Brian B and Bob H were elected by acclamation.**
- **Finance** (two committee members): Candidates: Katie D, Harold H.  
**Katie D and Harold H were elected by acclamation.**
- **Grapevine** (offered to outgoing delegate): Nicholas S accepts offer. **Nicholas S was elected by acclamation.**
- **Archives:** Committee does not have a recommendation for chair. Paul Y, current archives chair, accepted a nomination (seconded). The guidelines only encourage rotation of committee chairs.  
**Paul Y was elected by acclamation.**

The body is asked to spread the word about the two vacancies beginning January 2026 (registrar, treatment and accessibility). If there are any interested candidates, the area chair can call a special election to fill these positions.

#### Conference updates:

- 2025 Conference Recap (Melissa P, DCM 22):  
Registration total – 165.  
Banquet total – 100.  
Seed money returned to area.  
Question regarding \$17,000 in expenses for 165 registrations would total over \$100/person. The committee requested additional money from groups to cover the hospitality room – if that had been included in the registration cost, we would have lost \$5,000. This is a brand new thing – asking for donations for hospitality.  
Recommendation that we re-evaluate seed money for conferences now that we are only doing one per year instead of two per year.
- 2026 Area 74/ECR Conference (Pat T, DCM 5):  
June 26-28, 2026. UWEC. Link is on area 74 homepage.  
Still working on agenda and programming.  
Meeting monthly.  
Looking for people interested in serving or volunteering for event.  
At very end of registration the platform asks for a donation that defaults to a contribution. You do not have to donate but have to manually change it to zero to not donate.  
Question about lodging and wording “couples” – dorms are generally 4 beds and shared bedrooms.

#### 2025 Budget Overages:

- The finance committee recommends covering overages for the delegate and alternate delegate. The body approved covering the overages by simple majority vote.
- The finance committee recommends reimbursing the corrections Michigan chair for attending the national corrections conference. The body approved covering the overages by simple majority vote.

#### 2026 Budget Presentation:

- Proposed budget presented by the finance committee.  
Vote to approve 2026 budget: 44 yes, 2 no. There was no minority opinion willing to speak.  
**2026 budget passes by simple majority.**

#### 2026 Dates to Remember:

- Vote to approve the 2026 dates to remember: 38 yes, 2 no.  
Minority opinion: There is an upcoming motion requesting a date change which would be in conflict with these dates. No one wanted to change their vote. **2026 dates to remember passes by simple majority.**

#### 2027 Forum Update:

- June 2027 in District 1 Oneida Hotel and Casino.  
• General Service Office will now take over coordination of the event in conjunction with our delegate elect and ECR trustee.

#### 2027 Area Conference Bids:

- District 13 (Sunny L):  
Dates would be September 15-17, 2027. AmericInn Ashland. \$129 +taxes lodging.  
Budget attendance 175 – registration \$25, banquet \$35. There were no additional bids.  
Vote to accept district 13’s bid for the 2027 conference: 46 yes, 0 no.  
**District 13’s bid for the 2027 conference was approved by simple majority.**

#### Motion: Proposed Guidelines for the Area 74 Newsletter:

- Jeff C presented the motion to the assembly body. Jeff C also shared that co-editor Michelle Z is looking to rotate out of her position at the end of the year.  
Request to add statement to “Duties & Responsibilities” about ensuring the anonymity of members regarding not printing full names.  
**Chair tabled this motion** until the next assembly in 2026. Jeff and Michelle will update the guidelines and continue to solicit feedback in the meantime.

#### Motion: Remove Past Delegates’ Voice and Vote from Area Assemblies:

- Pat T presented the motion on behalf of district 5.  
Summary of discussion:  
Support for Past Delegates Having a Voice but Not a Vote:

Many GSRs and DCMs expressed that while past delegates' experience is valuable, they should not vote, as they no longer represent a group.

Several groups supported the removal of the vote to ensure GSRs' voices aren't diluted.

Some members shared personal experiences of feeling intimidated or shouted down by past delegates.

Concerns About the Motion's Clarity & Intent:

Some requested clarification on the background of the motion, especially regarding allegations of newer GSRs being "shut down."

A few suggested that the motion might feel punitive or divisive.

Opposition to the Motion: Some districts and members opposed the motion, believing past delegates should retain both voice and vote, emphasizing their ongoing value and leadership.

One DCM questioned if removing the vote from delegates would cause disunity, especially when other non-representative roles (e.g., officers, committee chairs) still have voting rights.

Neutral or Mixed Feelings:

Some districts hadn't gathered full group input yet.

Others expressed that the motion needs revision to better reflect the collective sentiment of the Area.

Procedural Questions Raised:

What happens if a past delegate is elected to another role (e.g., GSR or DCM)?

Who gets to invite a past delegate to speak if their voice is removed?

How do Concepts and Traditions apply to this situation?

GSR moved to recommit to ACM (seconded). **Vote to Recommit: 43 yes, 10 no. Motion passes.**

**Motion: 1-Year Extension of Trial of Service Meeting Schedule:**

Bill D presented the motion to the area body. Summary of discussion:

Too early to judge the trial's success; more time and review needed.

Concerns about limited time to complete work under new schedule.

Some members appreciated the separation of conference and assembly.

Several leaders support extending the trial, citing progress and need for more data.

Clarification that the shift to one conference per year wasn't only due to low bids.

Rising costs highlighted; need to balance effective work with fewer meetings.

**Vote: 41 yes, 0 no. Motion passes.**

**Motion: Move July ACM to Late August:**

Summary of discussion:

Some GSRs expressed that August may not be better than July due to vacations and suggested September or October instead.

A past delegate noted 2026 event dates and locations are already set, limiting flexibility.

The delegate emphasized the current schedule supports informed group conscience; moving meetings could disrupt this.

One GSR mentioned a district fair in August would conflict with availability.

DCM called to question. Vote: 39 yes, 1 no. Motion to call to question passes.

**Vote: 6 yes, 30 no. Motion fails.**

The meeting closed at 4:37 pm.

Minutes submitted by Shane R, Area 74 Secretary.

##### SEE THE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER APPENDICES at Area74.org #####

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

To: GSRs, DCMs, Trustees, Non-trustee Directors, Area Officers and Committee Chairs, Delegates, Appointed Committee Members, Intergroups and Central Offices, Group Contacts, GSO and Grapevine Employees

October 23, 2025

Dear A.A. Friends:

Wishing you all warm fall greetings from the General Service Office. This season always brings thoughts of gratitude for the many blessings of sobriety that so many throughout the world have found as a result of the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. It's fitting that October begins the annual recognition of our gratitude, as it coincides with the Thanksgiving holiday in Canada and the U.S. in November. This time of year many of us reflect on the blessings our sobriety has given us and pay those blessings forward to ensure hope for the alcoholic whose sobriety begins today and for the alcoholic not yet born.

Among the many things I'm grateful for is our two-country structure and the unity it demonstrates to A.A. around the world, and the inclusiveness of our Fellowship. The composition of all three of our boards reflects this, and together we have trudged the road of happy destiny for over 90 years as the Fellowship has spread to nearly every country around the world. I am especially grateful for the many Canadian friends I have made throughout my years in A.A., which reminds me of a phrase I have often heard within the halls: "friendships in A.A. are lasting."

I recently learned of a great story from the GSO Archives of the early days of A.A. in Canada that reminds me of the wonderful example many of my Canadian A.A. friends reflect.

In 1944, a young Quebec banker named Dave B. reached a horrible alcoholic bottom. He read the Big Book, which his sister in Connecticut had previously sent him. He contacted AA Headquarters in New York and his call was answered by Headquarters secretary, Bobbie B., who told him, "we'll help you." Bobbie B. sent Dave the names of 400 Canadian alcoholics who had written the New York Office seeking help and Dave B. became what Bill W. would later call a "marathon Twelfth-Stepper," tirelessly calling on drunks. By 1949, in an astonishing spurt of growth, the Fellowship had spread across Canada, from Toronto to the Northern Territories, from the Maritime Provinces to British Columbia. Vast distances sometimes separated people from their meetings – and still do – by car, plane, snowmobile, dogsled and skis, they managed to get there.

Without a doubt, some reading this letter now are sober as a result of Dave B's efforts and the assistance he received from his sister and GSO. Today, GSO continues to deliver services to the Fellowship with the same spirit: "We'll help you!"

From its early days in 1941, when Rev. George Little, the Toronto minister and nonalcoholic, discovered the Big Book and worked tirelessly to share it with many problem drinkers, to the remarkable efforts of Dave B. and his "marathon Twelve Stepping," A.A. continues its rich history in Canada. We saw this enduring spirit front and center this summer when Vancouver, British Columbia, welcomed 33,700 members and friends from around the world to the International Convention, which marked the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of A.A. Several thousand local members came together to assist in hosting a joyful and memorable experience that united us all in love and service.

Reflecting on the sacrifices made by those who came before us, we can clearly see the many ways they safeguarded our Fellowship through the years and maintained the integrity of our A.A. message. Their dedication has paved the way for each of us to receive the gift of sobriety. We are now each responsible for honoring our legacy by carrying forward their example to ensure that others who have yet to find us have the same opportunity we had.

Your GSO coordinates and delivers an array of services to support members and your group's efforts to honor this legacy. The list is too long to include here, but I encourage you to learn more about them. Highlights may be found in our overview of [SERVICES PROVIDED BY GSO/AAWS](#) and our [Seventh Tradition Fact Sheet](#). Also, several new services are added each year through actions taken at the annual General Service Conference, many of which result in special projects. Notable projects are the development of the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Big Book and the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Spanish Big Book. The implementation of projects like these often requires the formation of special trustee committees that need support and coordination. And I would be remiss not to mention our gratitude for the opportunity to plan and support the International Convention. Many of our employees provided support for the Convention, including coordinating public information opportunities, staffing various display and information booths, and working on numerous behind-the-scenes planning and logistical details. Carrying out this work is a great example of the service GSO provides to the Fellowship.

Your contributions to the General Service Board are a great expression of your gratitude for A.A. and for the substantial sacrifices made by those who came before us. They are also vital to ensure the preservation of our Fellowship for the alcoholic who still suffers.

In the spirit of the season and gratitude for our Fellowship, please consider a special contribution to the General Service Board. You can make a contribution through [aa.org](http://aa.org) [here](#) or by mail.

When contributing by check, please make your check payable to the General Service Board and use the applicable mailing address:

Checks in Canadian Dollars	Checks in U.S. Dollars
General Service Office Post Office Box 459 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163	General Service Office Post Office Box 2407 James A. Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407

With gratitude for all the sacrifices you make for A.A.,

Bob W.  
General Manager, GSO

# **\*U.P. TRAVELING INTERGROUP\***

Sponsored by the Ishpeming T N T Group

**"Don't leave before the miracle happens!"**



## **November 8, 2025**

**K. D. Hall - St. John Church  
325 S. Pine Street  
Ishpeming, MI**



Barrier Free entrance & parking off Main St.  
-Additional Parking on Pine St.

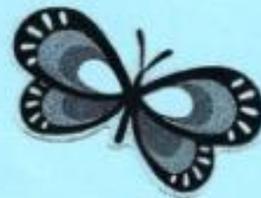
\*Eastern Time Zone\*

4 PM - Corrections

5 PM - GSR

6 PM - Dinner

7 PM - Al-Anon/AA Speakers



**\*PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS\***

DISTRICT 1

PLEASE CONSIDER A GOOD FAITH CONTRIBUTION

# INTERGROUP

## PASS IT ON!

2026

SATURDAY JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

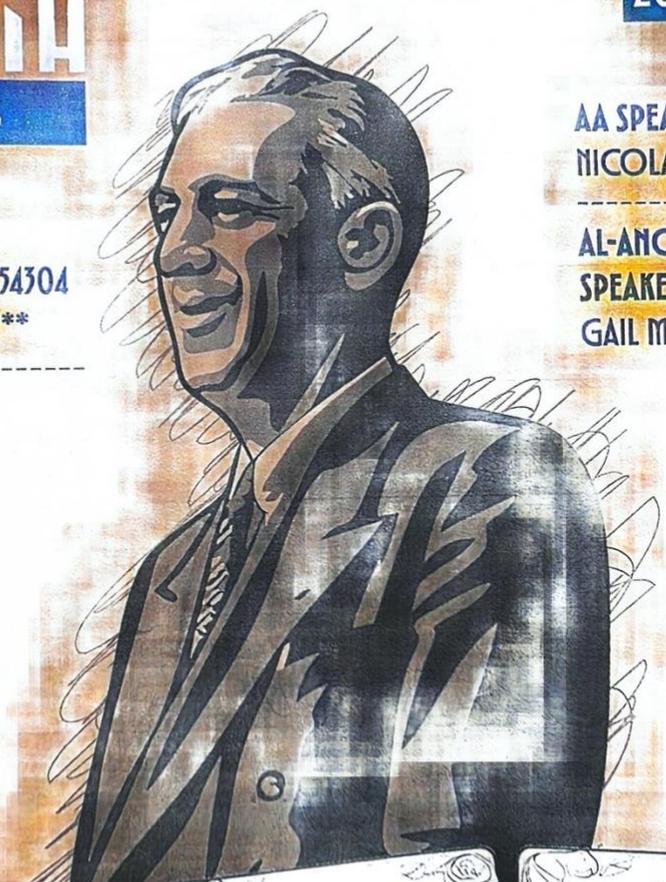
**LOCATION:**  
NATIVITY OF OUR LORD PARISH  
2270 S ONEIDA STREET; GREEN BAY, WI 54304  
\*\*\*PLEASE ENTER USING DOOR #6\*\*\*

**AA SPEAKER:**  
NICOLAS S

**AL-ANON  
SPEAKER:**  
GAIL M

**TIME: 5PM-9PM**  
**OPEN EVENT**

- \* BASKET RAFFLE
- \* 50/50 RAFFLE
- \* PRAYER BOARD



**ENJOY THESE DISPLAYS:**

- \* ARCHIVES
- \* LITERATURE
- \* GRAPEVINE

### MENU

**WHAT WE WILL PROVIDE:**

- CHOICE OF 2 SALADS
- GARLIC BREAD
- ITALIAN SAUSAGE PASTA
- PORTABELLA AND BROCCOLI
- PASTA
- CREAMY LIME AND GRILLED
- CHICKEN PENNE
- CAJUN CREAM SAUCE WITH
- SHRIMP AND CRAB

### WISH LIST

**WHAT YOU CAN BRING:**

- DESSERTS WELCOME...JUST A FEW, PLEASE!
- 7TH TRADITION DOLLARS
- A WARM AND KIND SMILE TO SHARE - NOTHING ELSE NEEDED

## What is Fellowship Connection?

Fellowship Connection is the General Service Office (GSO) database that stores AA Group records. DCMs have read-only access to this system, helping ensure effective communication between AA members, districts, and the General Service Office.

## Why is this important information for a DCM?

*DCMs play a key role in:*

- Tracking new groups in their subdistricts
- Monitoring changes in GSRs
- Keeping group status updates (active/inactive)

## How Does GSO Support DCMs?

The General Service Office understands that the DCM's role is essential in assisting with data stewardship, so DCMs have read-only access to Fellowship Connection as an aid to "facilitate the widely desired goals of exact information, stronger communication, & responsible use of A.A.'s resources."



## Collaboration is Key!

While DCMs have read-only access in Fellowship Connection, district registrars do not. That's why DCM/Registrar teamwork is essential! Let your district registrar know if a group in your subdistrict has dissolved, but you see an "active" status for the group in Fellowship Connection so we can get it corrected or any other incorrect information you may see.

Thank you for your time today and all you do! 😊

**Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.**

Lea Ackerman, Area 15 Registrar Panel 75  
registrar@area15aa.org

Now & Then  
P.O.Box 192  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

\*\*\*\*\*

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