

District 5 Meetings

Second Wednesday,

6:45 p.m.

1412 6th Street E

Menomonie, WI

Zoom ID: 716 081 9669

Password: 300 255

The District Meeting is where you can serve AA.

**

Get an email subscription or share your experience, strength and hope with a note, an article or a letter to:

thedistrictview@gmail.com.

See past editions of this newsletter at

www.district05.org.

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Alcoholic Anonymous

Box 459, Grand Central Station,
New York, NY 10163

District 05

PO Box 1902,

Eau Claire WI, 54702

The District 5 View

Serving AA in Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Eau Claire and Trempealeau counties, and portions of Saint Croix, Dunn and Chippewa counties

www.district05.org www.area74.org thedistrictview@gmail.com

Vol. 2021, Issue 2

February 2021

Why you should write for the District View

‘Let us never deny our experience, for whatever it may be worth, to the world around us.’

Bill W., The Grapevine, January, 1958

It is a well-documented piece of AA lore that Dr. Bob incessantly urged Bill W. to keep his writing simple. It sometimes worked. AA’s two founders succeeded in condensing into 12 steps, traditions and concepts a spiritual and practical program that thrives today. Words, written and spoken, built AA’s foundation and give it new life everyday.

That’s where you come in.

Your experiences matter. There would be no *Big Book* without stories. *12 Steps and 12 Traditions* reads like a friendly user manual for life-changing actions. The *Grapevine* provides constant fresh stories. Glad someone wrote all that.

What you write could make life better, so let’s not miss it.

How did you get to your first ever meeting? How often did you have to



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In this edition:

- ♥ February Calendar of Events
- ♥ District 5 is hosting an Area 74 workshop. Join this virtual event.
- ♥ News from AA districts, area and General Services Office

Step 2 Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.



Updates available at www.district05.org

Send your updates to: webmaster@district05.org / thedistrictview@gmail.com

Special events:

District 5 will host the Area 74 delegate discussion workshop Feb. 20.at 10 a.m. Zoom ID: 716 081 9669; Password: 300 255. This workshop is in preparation for the 71st General Service Conference in April. More information is available on the attached flyer.

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 (First Wednesday) Accessibilities Committee 6 p.m. Zoom ID: 727 737 4935 Password: 111 680	4	5	6
7	8 Treatment Committee, 6:45 p.m., Club 12	9	10 District 5 6:45 p.m. Zoom ID: 716 081 9669 Password: 300 255	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Virtual workshop for Area 74 delegates host- ed by District 5. 10 a.m. Zoom ID: 716 081 9669; password: 300
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



Tradition 2 For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

News from AA districts, area and General Service Office

- ♥ How are things going in your home district? Read about it in the January [District 5's committee minutes](#).
- ♥ Read a letter from the General Services office discussing how AA is adapting to the pandemic [here](#).
- ♥ You can subscribe to the Area 74 newsletter, *Now and Then*, by contacting area74newsletter@gmail.com
- ♥ To keep up with the location of meetings in the district as well as information on which meetings you can attend online, be sure to visit district05.org.
- ♥ The new [Box 459](#), a newsletter from the General Services Organization, is available [here](#).
- ♥ Attached find a preliminary agenda for the 71st General Service Conference scheduled for April 18 through 24. The event is scheduled to be virtual.

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come back before you “got it?”

During a recent meeting, a newcomer recounted 12 hours of wanting to drink, then connecting with his higher power, then wanting to drink again. He told his story especially well, but that agony is familiar to us all. What have you done in those moments when the compulsion seems to be taking over?

Are there few things more invigorating than listening to someone promptly admit they were wrong after an outburst of fear or anger? Your story about the how you overcame your nagging fear that you are a terrible parent could be just what that mother of two needs to hear.

We’ve all listened to someone stumble as they try to recount something that made them realize the program had really changed them – of that a new Fourth Step was called for. The awkwardness of their language matters much less than the truth of their story.

The same is true in this space.

Here is a chance for those of us living somewhere in central Wisconsin to put our truther into printed words. Imagine sharing in a meeting, and write it down. What did you and your sponsor just talk about? Write it down. It doesn’t have to be profound, just real. Your experience can help others.

Send your piece to thedistrictview@gmail.com. It can include your name and contact information, or be completely anonymous.

Imagine sharing
in a meeting,
write it down and
send it in.



2nd Concept The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs

District 05 of Area 74

Pre- Delegate's Workshop



February 20, 10 am - ?

Zoom Meeting ID: 716 081 9669

Password: 300 255

**Join us as we review agenda items for the
upcoming General Service Conference!
Great for GSRs, district officers and committee
chairs/members, and anyone interested in general
service!**

Don't know what any of this means?!?!

THAT'S OKAY!

**Join us anyway, learn with us, and get involved in
AA's Third Legacy!**

Questions? Contact Shane S: (715) 497-0650

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.

- 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.