



The Chronicle

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September 2023

*****Calling All District 09 Members!!!*****

Elections will be held on September 10th. Nominations are still open for District chairs (see meeting minutes). You must be present to be nominated details below under GSR meetings.

A message of experience, strength, and hope on **Step 9**: Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

When it was time for me to put my step eight list into action, I was excited to “right my wrongs” and nervous at the same time. I was not sure how my amends would be received by some of the names on my list. However, I felt prepared because of the guidance my sponsor gave me while doing steps one through eight. Before each amend, I recited the serenity prayer and after I did my amends, I thanked God for being sober for one more day!

- **Katy B.**

A message of experience, strength, and hope on **Tradition 9**: A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.

The 12x12 states, “Unless each A.A. member follows to the best of his ability our suggested Twelve steps to recovery, he almost certainly signs his own death warrant . . . Unless there is approximate conformity to A.A.’s Twelve Traditions, the group, too, can deteriorate and

die” (page 174). The 12 traditions are meant to protect AA as whole and to keep with AA’s primary purpose. Tradition 9 suggests how we can preserve our mission to carry the message to the sick and suffering alcoholic through the spirit of rotation in AA groups, service boards, and committees. When positions such as chairpersons, greeters, treasurers, coffee makers, GSRs, DCMs, and so on go unfilled we are at risk of our groups disappearing, leaving the newcomer or the suffering AA member to go it alone. When AA members are elected or volunteer to serve the groups and take on committee chair positions these entities become strong and unified.

Early in my recovery, I saw many AA members taking on service positions. The greeters were always at the door with smiles. The coffee was always brewing. The GSRs listened to the group conscience. I saw the groups that attracted the newcomer and the oldtimer were the groups that had service positions filled and rotated. They held regular business meetings and honored the 7th tradition. In these groups, the calendar would come around the circle to sign up for service positions and I would pretend to look at it, only to pass it to the person sitting next to me thinking “someone else will do it”. With more time passing from my last drunk, working the steps with a sponsor, and creating a recovery program that actually made my life look different, I decided it was time to give back to the program that saved my life. I started chairing meetings never to run the meeting my way but to lead with the group conscious. More recently in my recovery, I volunteered for a district committee chair to serve the district and carry the message. Service work helps me stay spiritually fit but even more so when I see other AA members contributing at district and group levels. With service work comes fellowship and recovery. Tradition 9 has brought me to the circle of wholeness.

-Jolene B.

Upcoming AA & AA-related Fellowship & Service Opportunities

District 09 GSR meetings

September 10// 2PM// First American Lutheran Church 511
Madison St. Oconto, WI

October 1// 2PM// Augustine Catholic School 507 Church St.
Wausaukee, WI

November 5// 2PM// United Methodist Church 404 Main St
Suring, WI

Seeking Story Submissions

Literature Committee is seeking personal stories for the pamphlet
“A.A. for the Native North American Alcoholic”

Due 10/31/23 Details in Spring 2023 Box 4-5-9 issue or
aa.org/newsletters

Area 74 Fall Conference

How to attend online:

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>

(Flyer for physical location and dates below)

34th Annual McHenry’s Soberfest

“Love and Tolerance”// November 17-19// Lake Geneva, WI//

www.soberfest.org



Guidelines between AA groups, members and society at large

Twelve Traditions Discussion

Dive into the traditions and share ideas

MONTHLY - 2ND TUESDAY
5:30pm - 6:30pm
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
743 S. Monroe St. GB

Closed women's meeting
No need to RSVP



**WICYPAA
HOST
PRESENTS**

KICKBALL
Night

EXTRAVAGANZA

VS

US

THEM

SPEAKERS AT NOON KICKBALL STARTS AT 1PM

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD

SPANBAUER FIELD

SAWYER ST & 8TH AVE OSHKOSH WI

GRILLED PB&J/ CHEESE

**10-12 PEOPLE PER
TEAM**

**\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION PER
PERSON**

**REREGISTER YOUR TEAM DAY OF
QUESTIONS? CALL JAY 9208083874**

DISTRICT
01

SUM

MER

picnic

BAY BEACH PARK

09.09.2023

SHELTER 06 NOON - 4PM

**WE'LL HAVE BRATS, HAMBURGERS,
HOT DOGS & BEVERAGES**

Bring a side to share and your own chair

Questions? Want to be of service?

Contact Lauren P. at 920-905-9793



“No Middle of the Road Solution”

Join us for an inclusive event practicing recovery, unity, and service!

October 6 – 8, 2023

Best Western Plus Eau Claire Conference Center
3340 Mondovi Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701
Call (715) 838-9989 to reserve a room.



\$20 with pre-registration

Panels * Hospitality Room * Ice Cream Social

Friday, October 6
Kent C., AA, Sandusky, OH

Saturday, October 7
Iris R. Al-Anon, Kenosha, WI
Polly P. AA, Jacksonville, FL

Sunday, October 8
Rachel Z., Al-Anon, Eau Claire, WI
Brett Z., AA, Eau Claire, WI

Register online at www.recoveryontheriver.org or return this form by September 25, 2023 to: Recovery on the River PO Box 1945 Eau Claire, WI 54702

name _____

Pre-Registration: \$20

phone _____ email _____

Banquet: \$30

(circle one) Al-Anon Alateen AA

Bill W Donation: _____

Contact me about service opportunities

T-Shirt: \$20

Please check for special accommodations

T-Shirt Size: _____
(S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL)

Total Enclosed: _____

www.recoveryontheriver.org
registration@recoveryontheriver.org

Payment Method:
Cash/Check/Credit Card

Checks can be made payable to
“Recovery on the River”

2023 AREA 74 ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS FALL CONFERENCE

September 15th - 17th, 2023

Saturday Speaker - Bob W. (General Manager of AA General Service Office- New York)

AA SPEAKERS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT AND SUNDAY MORNING

AL-ANON SPEAKER SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Ice Cream Social Friday Night!!

Panels and Q&A with Bob W on Saturday!! Big Book Trivia Saturday Night!!!

The Holiday Inn South - 4751 Owen Ayres Court. Eau Claire, WI - (715) 830-9889

Holiday Inn Room Reservations 715-830-9889

Additional Room Block located at Candlewood Suites 715-839-0967

NAME: _____ AA__ AI-ANON__

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please inform us of the need for special accommodations: _____

Willing to be of service? Yes

BANQUET / LUNCH BUFFET SUBMISSION DEADLINE: August 31, 2023

Registration: \$25 per registrant Number of attendees: ____ Total \$ _____

Lunch \$15 per person Number of lunches ____ Total \$ _____

Banquet \$30 per person Number of banquets ____ Total \$ _____

Bill W. Donation Total\$ _____

Grand Total\$ _____

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Area 74 Fall 2023 Conference **Mail Form to:** 2517 Paul St., Eau Claire, WI 54701 **Questions:** (715) 559-2546 – or area74fallconference2023@outlook.com

4th and 5th Step Fall Retreat

(AA/Al-Anon/ACA)

October 6-8, 2023

Place: St. Norbert Center for Spirituality--(People of all religious beliefs or of none are welcome)

Time: Friday 5pm to Sunday noon

Cost: \$275.00 – Includes 2 nights/5 meals--(Snacks and beverages provided throughout retreat)

This retreat setting is designed to provide a safe and trusted environment for the participants to learn and grow in “working recovery”. Group presentations on Steps 4-7 are offered. Experienced facilitators in recovery are available to listen to “5th steps” throughout the weekend in a private setting. Attendees are encouraged to do as much of their 4th Step as possible prior to attending the Retreat. Other opportunities to share in fellowship include open meetings, closed meetings, forgiveness exercises, and guest speakers. There are a variety of settings available for personal and private reflection. The St. Norbert Abbey has been completely remodeled throughout the facility. As a result, costs have risen significantly and are reflected in the increased registration fee. The retreatant’s rooms are now either twin singles, twin doubles (shared room), and queen, all with their own private baths.

6 months sobriety/active recovery suggested

Retreat is limited to 30

We anticipate a very high response!

Please make your reservations early!

Registration deadline is September 15, 2023

(3 Scholarships are available—please call Judy G to inquire)

Send \$150 deposits to: Steps Retreat, PO Box 5668, De Pere WI 54115

Deposits are not refundable after September 5, 2023.

Cash/Checks/Money Orders ONLY—No Charge Cards accepted

Any questions? Call Judy G (920) 737-2330

Registration: Fall 2023 4th & 5th Step Retreat

Name: _____ **Gender M/F**

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ (Will be used to contact you w/confirmation and retreat information)

Phone: _____ **Special needs:** _____

AA ___ **Al-Anon** ___ **ACA** ___ **Other** _____

Emergency contact: _____ **Phone:** _____

Please number your room preferences below. Rooms are available first-come first-serve.

Room allocations will be based on when registrations are received and room availability. We do not guarantee you will get your 1st or 2nd choice

Twin Single: ___ **Twin Double (Shared):** ___ **Queen:** ___ **Roommate Preference:** _____

OSHKOSH, WI PRESENTS

WICYPAA XXXI

JANUARY 12-14 2024

BEST WESTERN WATERFRONT

CALL (920)-230-1900 TO RESERVE

\$109⁺/NIGHT

**PRE
REG
\$15**



YOUR IMAGINATION WILL BE FIRED

QUESTIONS? CONTACT [WICYPAA31@GMAIL.COM](mailto:wicypaa31@gmail.com)

GOLDEN TICKET

NAME

EMAIL

PHONE NUMBER

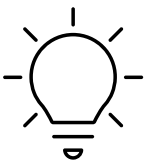
CITY STATE

BILL W?

**ACCESSABILITY
NEED?**

*****Registration now open online at**

wicypaa31.com***



Spotlight Topic: Loneliness & the First Drink

“Thoughts of a drink seem to sneak into our minds much more smoothly and slyly when we are alone. And when we feel lonesome, and an urge for a drink strikes, it seems to have special speed and strength...When we have only ourselves to talk to, the conversation gets kind of circular. More and more, it excludes the sort of sensible input other people can supply. Trying to argue yourself out of a drink is rather like attempting self-hypnosis. Often, it is about as effective as trying to persuade a pregnant mare not to foal when her term has come” (*Living Sober* p. 36). During the progression of my disease, it was not uncommon to find me drinking alone and using my loneliness as an excuse to drink more. I would think, “nobody calls me, no one would know for days if I died, or I am never invited anywhere.” All the while, ignoring calls and blowing people off.

When I was a newcomer in AA, people told me to call alcoholics, stay before and after meetings, and stick with the winners. I very much believed attending the hour meeting and meeting with a sponsor would be enough to keep me sober. I was stuck in my old way of thinking that I did not need other people and they did not want anything to do with me. I would not initiate conversations with other AA’s or make it easy for them to hold a conversation with me. I was never the first to hug someone else. I absolutely did not call other alcoholics or attend fellowship meetings. I was suffering watching the relationships people had with other group members. I needed to create my own relationships with others, but I was too afraid to change.

Soon enough, I was faced with the thought of drinking. It was a terrible experience going it alone trying to convince myself it was a bad idea while my disease kept on roaring inside of me. I sought prayer and a meeting; this got me through. After some time in recovery and a few more troublesome thoughts of drinking, I surrendered to the AA fellowship.

Today in my recovery, I keep in contact with others in AA. I hug the newcomer and anniversary recipient. I stick around after meetings for parking lot meetings. I talk to the newcomer after the meetings. I plan fellowship weekends with other drunks like me. When I do these things, thinking of drinking does not have the speed and strength as it once did.

- **Anonymous**

DISTRICT 09 GSR MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2023 SHAWANO, WI

Paul Y. opened the meeting at 2:10 pm. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. The Traditions were read and introductions made. A sign-in sheet was passed; there were 13 members in attendance, representing Porterfield, Gillett, Suring, Oconto, Marinette, Coleman, Shawano, and Lakewood in WI.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the last District 09 Meeting from July 2023 were approved and accepted.

Treasurer Report: Paul Y. prepared a Treasurer's Report which was approved and accepted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paul Y. announced next month's District 09 Meeting will hold elections for officers and committee chairs. Paul shared there are lots of flyers printed in The Chronicle. Paul thanked Jolene B. for printing these flyers in The Chronicle.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHIVES: Ross P. said he has nothing new to report for Archives.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: Carol P. stated an AA member from District 09 had their story printed in the July issue of the Grapevine. Carol would like to send a copy of this story to all the churches who host AA meetings in the District. Carol was referred to follow the publishing guidelines of copying a story from the Grapevine.

CORRECTIONS: Corrections Chair position is open. No report.

NEWSLETTER: Jolene B. asked for confirmation of the District 09 Meeting Schedule.

GRAPEVINE: Mike H. stated if anyone would like the Grapevine display set up to please let him know.

TREATMENT: Janet P. absent. Dee E. was present and said anyone can contact her if they need updates on treatment.

WEBSITE: (www.district09aa.org) Todd E. absent. Todd asked Paul to announce that if

anyone sees anything needing to be updated on the website to please let him know.

GSR SHARING

No GSR Sharing took place today.

NEW BUSINESS

Norm F. conducted nominations for the upcoming elections.

DCM:	Open
Alternate DCM:	Open
Secretary:	Sara P.
Treasurer:	Jim H.
Archives:	Ross P.
Corrections:	Open
Grapevine:	Mike H.
Newsletter:	Jolene B.
PI Chair:	Carol P.
Treatment:	Dee E.
Webmaster:	Mary C. / Todd E.
Literature:	Norm F.

OLD BUSINESS

We reviewed and discussed Article VII, the Financial Structure, of the District 09 Guidelines. A motion was made to remove the Lending Library and to lower the Newsletter budget to \$300. All in favor of accepting the Guidelines as is with these two changes.

Dick C. was visiting today's District 09 Meeting and stated he is the Treasurer for the Carter and Lakewood groups. Dick asked some questions about registering his group and obtaining a new number for his group. Dick was referred to contact the new Area 74 Registrar to help him with this matter.

The Next GSR Meeting will be held at 2:00 pm, Sunday, September 10, 2023, at First American Lutheran Church located at 511 Madison Street in Oconto, WI.

We closed the District 09 Meeting with the Responsibility Statement at 3:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara P.
District 09 Secretary

August 2023 Financial Report

We have not received the July Statement.
Ending balance of previous statement is \$2140.33
Donations deposited in July:
3 checks \$168.00
Petty cash \$46.00
Grand total is \$2399.33
Includes \$700.00 earmarked for prudent reserve.
Report prepared by Paul Y.

COMING SEPTEMBER 2023!

THE NEW GRAPEVINE & LA VIÑA APPS!

- Read or listen to every issue
- Search our vast GV/LV Archives
- Keep track of your sobriety and spiritual practices
- Share your thoughts on articles
- Share AA stories and area events with friends
- Find meetings and connect to aa.org

EASY TO USE!
Take GV & LV wherever you go!

Watch this Space:
www.aagrapevine.org

7th Tradition Donations

District 09: Dan L.W5820 N. Beach Blvd Shawano, WI 54166

Area 74: Area 74 Treasurer PO Box 171 Manistique, MI 49854 (include group name & number)

GSO: PO Box 2407 James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407 OR contribution.aa.org

Subscriptions

The Chronicle may be sent free through e-mail by contacting 09thechronicle@gmail.com
Content, questions, suggestions are welcome.

How to contact your district committee members

district@district09aa.org for DCM, ALT DCM, Secretary, Treasurer, Grapevine, Public Information, Website, Treatment and Archives

OR

Show up to the next District 09 GSR meeting listed above with your questions, concerns, ideas, and to get involved in service work!