

DISTRICT 02

MARCH 2026

NEWSLETTER

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Volume 42

Issue 3

Circulation 842

Appleton Groups
LCM-A Jack H.
847-606-1132

Genesis Club
LCM-B – Dale C.
920-540-5524

Northern Groups
LCM-C
OPEN POSITION

Southeast Groups
LCM-D Bob H.
920-202-0891

N. Winnebago Groups
LCM-E Mary M.
920-475-2548

S. Winnebago Groups
LCM-F Dylan N.
920-203-1373

MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM OUR DCM

The third month of the year always brings me back to Tradition Three: *“The only requirement for AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.”* That single word—*desire*—was chosen with care. Our founders understood the nature of alcoholism and how hard it can be to actually stop drinking, even when the intention is there.

I think often about my own early struggle. For almost two years I went to meetings and collected enough 24-hour chips to shingle a birdhouse. Each chip felt like a fresh promise, but the drinking kept returning. My view of the members of AA shifted, though, when I witnessed another struggling person’s honesty.

A woman at one of my regular meetings shared that she drank last night and planned to drink after the meeting too. She said she didn’t want to drink, but she knew she would. I expected someone to tell her to come back when she was “ready.” Instead, the group welcomed her without hesitation and encouraged her to keep coming back. I’d only been around a few months at the time, and it stunned me. How could someone admit they were heading out to drink and still be embraced?

That moment taught me the true weight of the word *desire*. As long as the desire exists, you are welcome in the doors of Alcoholics Anonymous. AA isn’t about perfection or performance. It’s about belonging—especially when we’re struggling. Turning someone away could cost them their life. I learned right then that membership in AA is something we claim for ourselves, and no one has the authority to take it from us.

Andrew T.
DCM

District 2 Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2026

The District meeting was held in hybrid format at Changing Lanes Alano Club, Wrightstown, WI. The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m.

Attendance: 26 members were present in person, and 10 members joined via Zoom, for a total of **36 participants**.

The meeting opened with a moment of silence followed by the **Serenity Prayer**. Everyone introduced themselves both online and in person.

DCM provided general housekeeping reminders, including silencing phones, being courteous, and avoiding side conversations.

Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts

- Karen read **Tradition 2 (Long Form)**.
- J.D. read **Concept 2** from the Concepts Checklist.

Approval of January 2026 Minutes

- Bob made a motion to accept the Secretary's report.
- James seconded the motion.
- Motion passed.

Secretary's Report – Marci

- Committee Chairs and GSRs are asked to submit reports by **Sunday, February 15th, 2026**, to ensure notes can be sent to Barry in a timely manner.
- Reports should be emailed to: **secretary@district02aa.org**.
- Reminder: When making or seconding a motion, please state your name.
- Steve made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report
- Ryan seconded the motion.
- Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Steve & Harold (Alternate Treasurer)

- See Steve for the \$5 stipend for gas money to attend District meetings.
- Barry made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.
- Karen seconded the motion.
- Motion passed.

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2026

GSR Reports

- **Brian**- Our Sunday Meeting, St. Paul's Combined Locks. Newly elected. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role.
- **Christopher**- Sunday Night Camel, Solutions Recovery, Oshkosh. They will be having a discussion panel on relationships this month.
- **J.D.**-Get Your Spirits Here Group, Solutions Recovery, Oshkosh.
- **Kim**- Sunday mornings at St. Elizabeth's in Appleton
- **Wesley**- Tuesday, 6:30pm, Living Sober at First Congo at Appleton. They need to increase their attendance.
- **Brady**- Thursday nights Prince of Peace, Appleton
- **Nicole B.**-New Beginnings Meeting- Our meeting no longer has Zoom. We are working on changing this, but it takes time.

LCM Reports

Subdistrict A: Jack- Went to four meetings. Three are strong and one wasn't very strong (at the Veteran's home).

Subdistrict B: Dale. There will be a Business meeting for all AA groups that have meetings at the Genesis Club on Saturday, March 7th at 8:30 am.

Subdistrict C: **Open position**

Subdistrict D: Bob. No report

Subdistrict E: Mary. No report

Subdistrict F: Dylan.

I visited the Wednesday Night Big Book Study (High Voltage) which meets every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Solutions Recovery Club in Oshkosh.

First, I shared with this group exactly what an LCM is and what role they play in our district. This group is BLESSED with a General Service Rep. I strongly suggested that an Alternate GSR is also needed for many different reasons. Additionally, I shared how important a GSR is, in different levels of our Triangle of AA.

Lastly, I shared our Now & Then newsletter (Area 74) and the General Service Office Quarterly Newsletter from New York, including what each of our FREE newsletters offers to our current members.

Committee Reports

Archives: Kathy. No Report.

Corrections: Laurie. No Report.

Bridging the Gap: Brad. No Report.

Newsletter: Barry

The second issue of the newsletter has been distributed. I hope all of our subscribers and those who see it at their homegroup or at another meeting are finding it useful.

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2026

I did have a couple requests for inclusions into the February newsletter that came after the deadline.

To reiterate, the deadline for publication in the next month's newsletter is printed in each newsletter. This month, the deadline is February 23rd. This deadline gives me time to format the final version of the newsletter, send it to the proofreaders, get their input, and get it to the webmaster for distribution by the end of the month, which is my pledge to the district.

I have had interest from groups for the Group Focus portion of the newsletter. If you would like to highlight your group and perhaps boost attendance at your meeting, work something up and get it to me for publication. It is done on a first come, first serve basis, so don't delay.

Thanks to all trusted servants for getting me their reports and articles on a timely basis. It makes everything go smoothly. Again, the deadline for the March newsletter is **February 23rd.** Please email all submissions to newsletter@district02aa.org.

Please note that the address for Area 74 donations has changed. It is now Area 74 Treasury, P.O. Box 1002, Eau Claire, WI 54702. Please make a note of it.

There are no other comments at this time,

Barry B.
Newsletter Editor

Public Information and Webmaster: Trevor.

Public Information: I am happy to start 2026 as the new PI chair. Currently I am inventorying materials and looking to build a committee. I will be emailing the past members of the committee and will be setting up an initial meeting February 24 at 5 pm via Zoom. Reach out for more information or if you have any interest in joining the committee.

Webmaster: A reminder to email me at webmaster@district02aa.org with any changes to meetings. You may also fill out the meeting change form on the website. This is the best way to get changes to me, as they are documented, and I can go back to them as needed. Also, to add a new meeting PLEASE fill out the meeting form so we can capture all of the specific meeting information that will be put on the list.

Meeting change forms can be found on the website under Resources > Group Resources. If you are changing information for a group that is already on the list, please fill out the "**Change a groups information**" form which has been updated to reflect some changes to the form available from GSO.

If you are an incoming trusted servant for District 02, **please send me your email address and position you are taking** so we can switch the email forwarder to you.

- There were 5,633 unique views to our website in January
- The most accessed resource is our meeting locator

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2026

Treatment and Accessibilities: Patrick D.

As the new Treatment Accessibility chairperson, I am reviewing contact information for treatment facilities. Several numbers are no longer in service and will need to be updated. Meanwhile, I am working with the DCM for pointers on building a new committee. Anyone interested is encouraged to email tfc@district02aa.org. Or you can contact me directly at 920-389-1020.

Additionally, a few centers have requested big books and so an order of 100 big books is needed to begin distributing them to the facilities that are in need. As far as pamphlets and other literature is concerned, one facility is in need of a pamphlet rack and pamphlets. I would like to request two more pamphlet racks as there are still several treatment centers that need to be contacted.

Thank you,
Patrick D.
T/A Chair - District 2

DCM: Andrew T.

DCM has made folders for the LCMs to assist if any groups they attend would like a GSR, request info about a GSR, or request info on the AA Group functions.

Monthly Committee Meeting Schedule

Archives	To Be Determined	
Corrections	To Be Determined	
Grapevine	OPEN POSITION	
Public Information	Next Meeting , Tuesday April 7, 2026 @ 5PM	Zoom ID - 8759 555 4987 Passcode - 844696
Treatment & Accessibilities	4 th Friday of Each Month @ 6PM	Zoom ID - 8759 555 4987 Passcode - 844696

OLD BUSINESS

Open positions 2026 Elections

LCM C – no nominations.

Grapevine Chair- No nominations

NEW BUSINESS:

Andrew wants us to have a greater connection to younger people by having a “chat button” on the District 2 website instead of using the chat button on the Area 74 website.

Can we do it technologically on our own?

- Trevor says Yes. He would prefer someone else do the volunteer coordination for people to chat with. Trevor says that the technology side is easy, the bigger and harder part is staffing volunteers to chat with people from the website.
- Trevor says that the “request to chat” would come through another app on your phone.
- Bill says you “claim” a call. You can set an alert saying you are not available.
- Rob- encourages us to talk to people staffing the hotline and see what the challenges are.
- Harold- about 20 people have access to the app. I don’t know that we would find it separately from the Area 74 website and hotline. Go to Area 74 Public Information meeting on Google Meet the last Tuesday of each month.

GSRs- Please ask your groups- do we want to have a separate District 2 chat button or just use Area 74?

Do we want to purchase a camera that rotates and focuses on each person speaking during the meeting? Do we want to spend thousands on this camera? New Camera- \$1100

- Wesley thinks the camera isn’t necessary, and people should be coming here (to the District 2 meeting in person).
- Sarah B. thinks it isn’t a necessity. Microphone is perfectly fine.
- Harold- is it possible to have more than one microphone on Zoom?
- Trevor- not in a meeting-friendly manner on Zoom.
- Steve- from a budget standpoint it wouldn’t bust the bank.
- Karen- how does it move? Voice recognition.

Andrew- we won’t vote on camera next month. We are just gathering information.

We may vote on the chat button next month.

See page at the end of minutes for more information.

Area 74 Delegate Presentation – Bill D. Area Delegate and Brent H. Alternate Delegate/Area Chair

We need a registrar and treatment and accessibilities chairperson

Check Area 74 newsletter “Now and Then”, to find out when committee meetings meet. Bill is on the corrections committee.

Zoom meeting schedule from March 15 to March 28 of committee meetings for General Service Conference in New York. **Anyone in AA can attend.** All meetings have the same meeting ID and password. – **See Page 8**

Review materials and please call him if you are confused. His phone number is on the information. April 18th- voting on that date.

Stipend for Past Delegates to attend the ECR Conference of Delegates Past and Present. – See page 10

Removing voice of past delegates. – **See Page 11**

Removing vote of past delegates. – **See Page 11**

Other Business

James made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:47 p.m. Harold seconded. Motion passed.

The next District meeting is **Sunday March 8, 2026**, at the Genesis Club, 1213 N. Appleton Street, Appleton.

- 1:30 p.m. GSR Roundtable
- 2 p.m. District Meeting

Pre Delegates Workshop Zoom Discussion Meetings

(Rev C) 1-31-2026

Zoom Meeting Schedule

2026 GSC Agenda Item Discussion Zoom Meeting Schedule Area 74

	Sun 3/15	Mon 3/16	Tue 3/17	Wed 3/18	Thu 3/19	Friday 3/20	Sat 3/21	Sun 3/22	Sat 3/28
12:00P									W O R K S H O P
12:30P								CPC & Public Information - Pat T. - Jane M Sara P. 12:00- 2:30 pm	
1:00P									
1:30P	Treatment & Accessibilities Bill D. Brent H. Char V. 1:00 - 3:00 pm						Grapevine/LaVina - Nicholas S. - Andy H. 1:00-3:00 PM		
2:00P									
2:30P									
3:00P									
3:30P	Policy & Admissions - Bill D Brent H Char V 3:00 - 5:00 PM								
4:00P									
4:30P									
5:00P									
5:30P									
6:00P									
6:30P		Literature - Mike N. - James M. Char V. 6:00- 8:30 PM	Trustees/R&C - Bill D. Jeff C, Sara P. 6 - 8 PM	Corrections - James H. Kerry H. Bill D. 6:00 - 8:00 PM	Finance - Terri B. Harold H Marty L. Char V. 6:00 - 8:00 pm	Agenda & Archives Jeff E. - Paul Y., Sara P. Bryon B. 6:00 to 8:00			
7:00P									
7:30P									
8:00P									
8:30P									
9:00P									

Zoom meeting ID 479-428-9816 password 1212144 for all meetings

Any Questions Please Call Bill Dornaus Delegate Area 74 Phone # 920-621-1258

The above zoom meetings are open to all GSR's and DCM'S are Encouraged to Attend .

(cc) 2/8/2026 2026 newlist Area 74 zoom week 2026 (11/11/11)

DISTRICT 02 FINANCIAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2026

District 02 Monthly Financial Report - January 2026

	Beginning Balance 1/1/2026	\$ 6,195.45			February 8, 2026 District Meeting Report
Contributions			Bank Reconciliation		
Date	Check #	District Group Contributions	Community First Credit Union		
1/30/2026	2474	Design for Living-Corrections Lit.	\$ 238.00	Beginning balance	
1/30/2026	2475	Design for Living	\$ 140.00	Deposits	
1/30/2026	680918	Bookmarkers Group	\$ 25.00	Withdrawals	
1/30/2026	405889	Sunrise Meeting Group	\$ 154.72	Outstanding checks	
				Total \$ 6,268.62	
				Balance available to District	
				Register balance	
				\$ 6,268.62	
				Prudent reserve	
				\$ (500.00)	
				Corrections literature	
				\$ (1,464.06)	
				Total available to District \$ 4,304.56	
				Petty Cash	
				Petty cash beginning balance	
				\$ 50.00	
				Petty cash ending balance	
				\$ 50.00	
				Committee Budget Balance (Remaining)	
				Archives	
				\$ 596.00	
				Corrections	
				\$ 1,000.00	
				DCM	
				\$ 3,608.60	
				Grapevine	
				\$ 1,000.00	
				Newsletter	
				\$ 245.55	
				PI	
				\$ 2,220.00	
				Treasurer	
				\$ 1,111.30	
				Treatment & Acces.	
				\$ 760.00	
				BUDGET BALANCE TOTAL (Remaining) \$ 10,541.45	
				*Corrections Literature	
				Starting Balance	
				\$ 1,226.06	
				Contributions	
				Design For Living	
				\$ 238.00	
				Total deposits \$ 238.00	
				Withdrawals	
				\$ -	
				Total withdrawals \$ -	
				Ending Corrections Literature Balance	
				\$ 1,464.06	
				*NOTE - Separate from district balance	
Withdrawals			Total deposits		
Date	Check #	Expenses (checks/withdrawals)	Total withdrawals		
1/11/2026	2296	Brad N. - Annual USPS PO Box Rental Bridging The Gap	\$ 210.00	\$ 484.55	
1/11/2026	2297	Andrew T. - DCM Stipend, Refreshments, Printing	\$ 75.10		
1/11/2026	2298	Changing Lanes Alano Club - D2 Mtg Rent for 2/8/26	\$ 35.00		
1/24/2026	2299	Barry B. - Adobe Subscription 11/30/25-11/29/26	\$ 164.45		
				Register balance \$ 6,268.62	
				Register balance \$ 6,268.62	
Outstanding Checks			Total Outstanding checks		
1/11/2026	2298	Changing Lanes Alano Club	\$ 35.00	\$ 199.45	
1/24/2026	2299	Barry B.	\$ 164.45		

Steve K. District 02 Treasurer

DISTRICT 02 BUDGET REPORT 2026

APPROVED Area 74 District 02 2026 Budget						
		2026	YTD JAN	YTD JAN	2027	
		BUDGET	SPENT	REMAIN	DRAFT	
Archives Kathy	1	Space at Central Office	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
	2	Miscellaneous	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
	3	Grapevine	\$36.00	\$0.00	\$36.00	\$0.00
	4	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	5	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
		\$596.00	\$0.00	\$596.00	\$0.00	
Corrections Laurie	1	Workshop	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
	2	Conference	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
	3	Office Supply/Trave	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
	4	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	5	BTG P.O. Box, Postage, Supplie	\$300.00	\$210.00	\$90.00	\$0.00
	6	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
		\$1210.00	\$210.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	
DCM Andrew	1	Stipend for District Meetings	\$180.00	\$15.00	\$165.00	\$0.00
	2	Printing Expenses	\$900.00	\$36.40	\$863.60	\$0.00
	3	LCM Stipends for District Meetings	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$0.00
	4	LCM Miscellaneous Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	5	Area 74 Literature - (Service Materials	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
	6	GSR Workshop	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00
	7	Registration Spring and Fall Conference	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	8	Banquet Spring and Fall Conference	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	9	Conference Lodging	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
	10	Assembly/ACM	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
	11	Mileage for Conf/Assem/ACM/Area Workshops - current federal charitable rate	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
	12	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	13	Other Workshop	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00
	14	Zoom Account	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	na
	15	Tech Fellows Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
		\$3660.00	\$51.40	\$3,608.60	\$0.00	
Grapevine Tina	1	Grapevine Subscription for Intergroup	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$0.00
	2	Postage & Office Supplies	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
	3	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	4	Additions to Grapevine Library Displa	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$175.00	\$0.00
	5	Comm. Mtg. Rent	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$180.00	\$0.00
	6	Workshop	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
	7	Electronic Subscription for Grapevine Chairperso	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	8	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00
		\$1000.00	\$0.00	\$1000.00	\$0.00	
Newsletter Barry	1	Software	\$300.00	\$164.45	\$135.55	\$0.00
	2	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	3	Ink	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	4	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$410.00	\$164.45	\$245.55	\$0.00	
Public Info Trevor	1	Web Service (Maintenance, software upgrades	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$0.00
	2	Outreach/pamphlets, literature, fairs	\$1200.00	\$0.00	\$1200.00	\$0.00
	3	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	4	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	5	Grapevine Subscriptions (2)	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	6	Facebook PSA	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
		\$2,220.00	\$0.00	\$2,220.00	\$0.00	
Treasurer Steve	1	District Rent	\$420.00	\$35.00	\$385.00	\$0.00
	2	Refreshments	\$240.00	\$23.70	\$216.30	\$0.00
	3	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	4	Miscellaneous Expenses (copies, postage,	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
	5	Petty cash	na	na	na	na
	6	P.O. Box Rent	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
	7	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		\$1,170.00	\$58.70	\$1,111.30	\$0.00	
Treatment Patrick	1	Workshop	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
	2	Literature - Facility Racks	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00
	3	Office Supplies	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
	4	Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	5	Stipend for Delegates Workshop	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
		\$760.00	\$0.00	\$760.00	\$0.00	
Totals		\$11,026.00	\$484.55	\$10,541.45	\$0.00	

Upcoming Area 74 votes in Spring 2026

Will be voted on at the Area Assembly Meeting on April 18th 2026 (meeting starts 9am)

Stipend to Attend the East Central Region Conference of Delegate's Past and Present

"Area 74 will provide a yearly line-item budget of \$1,000 to past delegates to attend the East Central Region Conference of Delegate's Past and Present. The \$1,000 will be evenly divided amongst the past delegates wishing to attend not to exceed \$250 per past delegate."

What you need to know:

The East Central Regional Conference of Delegate's Past and Present is an essential part of AA as a whole and is held at any of the 5 states: Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio. It's important to have past delegates and present delegates to continue the flow of information and smooth transitions in AA at that level. This money is proposed as a line budget item in Area 74. It is not a stipend, nor a reimbursement. The past delegates in the past had to use their own money which the Area feels might discourages past delegates from attending, so the Area has proposed the following motion to help cover some of the costs they incur. The Area doesn't believe it'll cover all costs, but it thought that if some costs were covered it would help encourage past delegates in Area 74 to attend. Your GSR should attend the April 18th meeting on April 18th either in person or on zoom to discuss, and vote on this motion. This motion should only be discussed in your home group, or at the Area Assembly on April 18th.

Will likely be voted on at Area Assembly Meeting on April 18th 2026 (meeting starts 9am)

Motion 1: That effective immediately Past Delegates of Area 74 no longer hold a voice at Area Assemblies. (background next page)

Motion 2: That effective immediately Past Delegates of Area 74 no longer hold a vote at Area Assemblies. (background next page)

Motion from District 05

Motion to Remove Past Delegates' Voice and Vote from Area Assemblies

Motion:

District 05 of Area 74 moves, that effective immediately, Past Delegates of Area 74 no longer hold voice or vote at Area Assemblies. They may be invited by chair or assembly to share experience.

Background & Rationale:

This motion is proposed in alignment with AA's guiding principles of rotation, participation, and balance between authority and responsibility. While the experience of Past Delegates is deeply valued and respected, their continued voice and vote at assemblies raises concerns in the following areas:

1. Spirit of Rotation – Alcoholics Anonymous has long upheld the principle of rotation to encourage fresh leadership and the equitable sharing of service opportunities. Continuing to extend formal participation to Past Delegates may limit this dynamic by sustaining influence from individuals no longer currently serving in elected positions.
2. Right of Participation (Concept IV) – This Concept affirms the right of all current trusted servants to participate fully in decisions affecting their roles. When Past Delegates maintain voice and vote, it can dilute the voice of those currently serving in official capacities.
3. Authority and Responsibility Must Match (Concept X) – Voting privileges imply a level of authority. However, Past Delegates do not hold current service responsibilities within the Area structure.

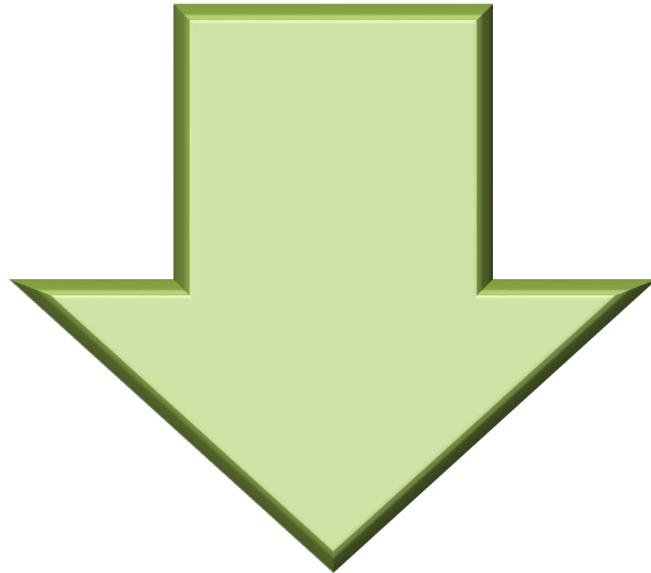
Removing their vote ensures that only those with direct accountability and active roles make decisions affecting the Area.

District 06 of Area 74 has expressed that they stand in unity with the District 05 Motion.

The A.A. service manual in the Chapter "The Area Assembly and Activities" Section "Eligibility to Vote" states the following "Generally speaking, all committee members and officers and all G.S.R.s have one vote each in an assembly. Experience indicates that even though committee members and area officers are members of a group in the area that is represented by a G.S.R., they are entitled to a vote at the assembly. Alternates normally vote if the regular D.C.M. or G.S.R is not present."

The A.A. service manual in the Chapter "The Area Committee" Section "Past Delegates" states the following "but a role for the past delegate is gradually emerging that involves them in area activities and gives the area the benefit of their experience with worldwide A.A. but leaves area committees and new delegates free to run their own show." This section further states "They are called in for consultation or for special assignments, such as chairing area sharing sessions, speaking at special meetings designed to inform members about A.A. worldwide, or conducting workshops or orientation meetings for new G.S.R.s. Frequently, they are in line for committee chairperson of a state or provincial convention. Or they may be appointed by the area chairperson to be responsible for area public information, or to urge more widespread distribution of Conference-approved literature and the A.A. Grapevine."

This motion does not restrict the ability of Past Delegates to attend assemblies as observers or to be invited to speak or advise informally when their experience is sought. It simply reaffirms that governance and decision-making authority reside with those currently entrusted to serve.



*Deadline for publication in the
April Newsletter
is end of day March 22nd!*

***DID YOU KNOW.....
THAT ANY A.A. MEMBER IS
WELCOME TO ATTEND
THE DISTRICT
MEETING???***

**Please join us at the Genesis Club in Appleton at 2pm
on March 8th. Learn more about how District 2 fits into
the AA General Service structure! Bring a fellow AA
member or a sponsee**

DATES TO REMEMBER 2026

3/28/2026	Area 74 Delegate's Workshop	Reiter Center Three Lakes, WI
4/17/2026	Area 74 Standing Committee Workshop	Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI
4/18/2026	Area 74 Assembly	Quality Inn Rhinelander, WI
4/26-5/2/2026	General Service Conference	New York, NY
6/26-6/28/2026	ECR Regional Conference & Area 74 Conf.	Eau Claire, WI
7/18/2026	Area 74 Area Committee Meeting	Reiter Center, Three Lakes, WI
10/17/2026	Area 74 Standing Committee Workshop	Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI
10/18/2026	Area 74 Assembly	Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI

A.A. NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

DISTRICT 02 NEWSLETTER: Stay up-to-date on all of the news in District 02. Sign up at district02aa.org
> newsletter > signup

NOW & THEN (Monthly Area 74 NEWSLETTER): Stay connected to Area news, information, and more!
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Now & Then
PO Box 192

Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

BOX 4-5-9 (Quarterly NEWSLETTER from the General Service Office):

This newsletter includes

- information about AA service
- sharing from AA members
 - news about literature
- sharing from groups and service committees
 - a calendar of upcoming events

www.aa.org/box-459

2026 District 02 Meeting Schedule

(Meeting Location is Subject to Change)

GSR Roundtable at 1:30 / District Meeting at 2:00

Jan 11	Solutions Club Inc. 621 Evans St, Oshkosh
Feb 8	Changing Lanes Alano Club 344 Broadway St, Wrightstown
Mar 8	Genesis Club 1213 N Appleton St, Appleton
Apr 12	Solutions Club Inc. 621 Evans St, Oshkosh
May 3 Early due to Mothers Day	St Mark's Church 140 S Green Bay Rd, Neenah
Jun 14	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2330 E Calumet, Appleton
Jul 12	Solutions Club Inc 621 Evans St, Oshkosh
Aug 9	St Paul Catholic Church 410 Wallace St, Combined Locks
Sep 13	Peace United Methodist Church 2300 W Wisconsin Ave, Kaukauna
Oct 11	Emmanuel Lutheran Church 349 N Main Street, Seymour
Nov 8	Changing Lanes Alano Club 344 Broadway St, Wrightstown
Dec 13	First United Methodist Church 325 E Franklin St, Appleton



2026

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
AREA 74**

DELEGATE'S WORKSHOP

WHEN:

Saturday, March 28th, 2026
Registration & Coffee @ 8am
Workshop begins @ 9am

WHERE:

Reiter Center
1858 S Michigan St, Three Lakes, WI 54562



**ZOOM ID:
479-428-9816**

**PASSCODE:
1212144**

www.area74.org



All members are welcome!

Help inform our Delegate during the General Service Conference about A.A. issues that matter to you and your groups.

Are you new to Service?

Come and learn about A.A.'s legacy of service and meet new people

What happens?

Zoom breakout sessions prior to delegate's workshop to review GSC agenda items

Large group discussions, gathering the area group conscience

ASL provided upon request

Lunch - on your own



A.A. DOESN'T WORK (thanks Cheryl T.)

One of the saddest statements I have ever heard is, "I've been to A.A. and it doesn't work." There is no way I can count the number of times over the past couple of decades I have found an alcoholic coming off a drunk who made that statement. Just today, one of my protégés called to tell me of a man, holed up in a cheap motel room, he was asked to locate and see if he could help him.

My protégé was successful in locating the suffering alcoholic and did what he had been instructed to do on a Twelve Step call. He told him some of the story of his drinking and how he had come to know it to be an illness over which he had no control nor did the medical profession have a solution.

The suffering alcoholic finally said, "You're going to try to tell me about A.A. aren't you?" Jake said, "That is where I found my solution." The sick one said, "I have gone to A.A. meetings for the last eight 8 months and did what they told me to do. It doesn't work for me."

Jake asked, "Did you take the Steps with a sponsor who had been blessed with a spiritual experience as the result of having taken the Steps?" The sick one said, "I think I did but the main thing they told me was just keep coming back and you'll be OK. When I asked what else I should do, I was told, Don't drink and keep on going to more meetings. I did what they told me to do and A.A. just doesn't work."

A member of Alcoholics Anonymous found me near death in 1964 and told me he could help me. He said to me, "I understand. I have been where you are and I want to help you if you will let me." I was willing to do anything. He took me to his A.A. club and began sobering me up on orange juice with some honey mixed in it. When I began having delirium tremens, they added some Bay Rum to the mixture. There were no treatment centers in our area at that time and hospitals would not admit us for alcoholism. We either shook and sweat it out in jail or at an A.A. club. By far, most of them made it to the end sober or they still are. I wasn't one of them. I saw an opportunity to return my ego to its earlier level by getting involved in a new and exciting profession and so I went for it. Sixteen years after my last drink; 11 years after my last meeting, on a day without a cloud in the sky, I thought having a beer would be a good idea, so being in a very dry county, I drove 70 miles for a six-pack. It took me 2 years to make it back to Alcoholics Anonymous very, very drunk.

But what a difference 13 years can make! There were no alcoholics laying around the club with dry heaves. There were no blood shot eyes, sweating faces, no vibrating bodies, the aroma of alcoholism was missing. There was no orange juice in the refrigerator nor honey near the coffee pot. There was no Bay Rum in the file cabinet. It was no longer needed because almost everyone had gone to treatment and been medicated through the process of what is termed de-tox. They had missed those wonderful golden moments of the misery, suffering and pain of sobering up. At first, I thought the new approach was good but then I began to see the results. There was less and less commitment to the group and the action necessary for long term emotional sobriety was being ignored.

There were very few Big Book study or speaker meetings but a large number of discussion/participation meetings where everyone was given an opportunity to talk about whatever was on their mind whether or not they knew anything about alcoholism or recovery from alcoholism. There were even non-alcoholics participating in these meetings. This newer approach of learning to live with alcoholism was beginning to prove to be a dismal failure.

I heard a tape of Joe McQ. and later attended a weekend of Joe McQ. and Charlie P. presenting their Big Book Comes Alive program. It then became very clear why so many were returning to the bottle. Not only were we without sick alcoholics laying around the meeting places, there was so little program in our meetings, it was almost hidden from the newcomers. No wonder so few were finding more than a few months of physical sobriety. They were denied what is required for long term emotional sobriety.

Without the sick alcoholics laying round the meeting place, I had to find a place where I could again see and smell alcoholism. I needed a frequent reminder of where I came from and what was waiting for me if I didn't continue to pay the price for emotional sobriety. Over the years since I have been blessed to have been given another opportunity to survive the deadliest disease known to mankind, I have volunteered in many places where those coming off a drunk are present and available to talk with. Again and again, I heard that sickening statement, "I went to A.A. and it doesn't work."

Of course, they are right. Alcoholics Anonymous does not work! We must work it! But they were not told the truth. My basic text reads, "**Rarely, have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path**" The path being the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as outlined in a book titled Alcoholics Anonymous. My basic text does not read, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of don't drink and go to meetings." It reads, "Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and practice these principles in all our affairs."

Our real problem is ego driven sponsorship with very little if any real concern for the welfare of the newcomer. Proclaimed members of our fellowship who have never taken the Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous will assume the responsibility for the life of a newcomer and will proudly announce the number of sponsees they have. As one of my dear friends said, "The manner in which we now fail our responsibility to the newcomer borders on slaughter." The demise of our sense of responsibility to those seeking help for alcoholism is one of the greatest tragedies of our time in history. It works only if we work it (working all 12 Steps, meetings/fellowship, and being of service expecting nothing in return)!

Cliff B.

Dr. Silkworth's Rx for Sobriety

Anyone who tried to impress a drinking alcoholic with the approach, "You can't have your cake and eat it, too," would probably draw a scornful, "So what! Who wants any cake? Tony, make it a double this time."

The same idea expressed as, "You can't have your bottle and drink it, too," might get his attention because to a drinking alcoholic a fresh unopened bottle, brimming brightly with abundance, is a symbol of good things to come. He knows well enough, of course, that he can't drink it and still have it, but he blocks his mind to the inevitability of that horrible moment when the last bottle will be empty. The untapped bottle remains a symbol to the non-drinking alcoholic, at least to the alcoholic who has dried up in A.A. So long as it stands unopened it represents drinks he has not taken, and the good things of life he has found by not drinking.

Yet now and then a persevering soul tries to have both the figurative and the liquid contents of the bottle. He tries to make an impossible compromise. In the opinion of a man who has administered personally to at least 10,000 alcoholics, the attempt to make this kind of compromise is one of the most common causes of failure to get a safe hold on A.A.

Dr. W.D. Silkworth, genial and beloved little patriarch at Towns Hospital, New York, for twelve years and now (1945) also in charge of the new A.A. ward at Knickerbocker, also New York, defines it as the "alcoholic double-cross." "The majority who slip after periods of sobriety," says Dr. Silkworth, "having double-crossed themselves into thinking that somehow they can have the unopened bottle and drink it, too. Even though they have been in A.A. and going to meetings, and following parts of the program, they have accepted it with reservations somewhere. They actually have been one step ahead of a drink. Then they began playing around with the notion they can drink a little and still have the good things of A.A. The outcome is an inevitable as the bottle becoming empty once it has been opened by the alcoholic."

When Dr. Silkworth discusses A.A. "slips" his usually cheerful face becomes serious even a little grim. Through his long years of practice in the field, he has become increasingly sympathetic, but not case-hardened, to alcoholics. He understands what they experience. Having been one of the first in his profession to support A.A. and having guided scores of alcoholics into A.A., he also appreciates the fact that a "slip" for an A.A. involves an extra degree of remorse and misery.

Dr. Silkworth is particularly emphatic on one point. "Slips are not the fault of A.A. I have heard patients complain, when brought in for another drying out, that A.A. failed them. The truth, of course, is that they failed A.A. But this mental maneuvering to transfer the blame is obviously another indication of fallacious thinking. It is another symptom of the disease." A quick way to get Dr. Silkworth's appraisal of A.A. is to ask him how he thinks "slips" can be prevented.

"First," he explains, "let's remember the cause. The A.A. who "slips" has not accepted the A.A. program in its entirety. He has a reservation, or reservations. He's tried to make a compromise. Frequently, of course, he will say he doesn't know why he reverted to a drink. He means that sincerely and, as a matter of fact, he may not be aware of any reason. But if his thoughts can be probed deeply enough a reason can usually be found in the form of a reservation."

Continued on Next Page

A.A. ARCHIVES

Dr. Silkworth's Rx for Sobriety - Continued

"The preventive, therefore, is acceptance of the A.A. program and A.A. principles without any reservations. This brings us to what I call the moral issue and to what I have always believed from the first to be the essence of A.A. "Why does this moral issue and belief in a power greater than oneself appear to be the essential principle of A.A.? First, an important comparison is found in the fact that all other plans involving psychoanalysis, will-power, restraint and other ingenious ideas have failed in 95 per cent of the cases. A second is that all movements of reform minus a moral issue have passed into oblivion. Whatever may be the opinions one professes in the matter of philosophy -whether one is a spiritualist or a scientific materialist - one should recognize the reciprocal influence which the moral and physical exert upon each other. Alcoholism is a mental and physical issue. Physically a man has developed an illness. He cannot use alcohol in moderation, at least not for a period of enduring length. If the alcoholic starts to drink, he sooner or later develops the phenomenon of craving. Mentally, this same alcoholic develops an obsessive type of thinking which, in itself a neurosis, offers an unfavorable prognosis through former plans of treatment. Physically - science does not know why - a man cannot drink in moderation. But through moral psychology - a new interpretation of an old idea - A.A. has been able to solve his former mental obsession. It is the vital principle of A.A., without which A.A. would have failed even as other forms of treatment have failed."

"To be sure, A.A. offers a number of highly useful tools or props. Its group therapy is very effective. I have seen countless demonstrations of how well your '24-hour plan' operates. The principle of working with other alcoholics has a sound psychological basis. All of these features of the program are extremely important. But, in my opinion, the key principle which makes A.A. work where other plans have proved inadequate is the way of life it proposes based upon the belief of the individual in a Power greater than himself and the faith that this Power is all sufficient to destroy the obsession which possessed him and was destroying him mentally and physically."

"For many years I faced this alcoholic problem being sure of one scientific fact - that detoxication by medical treatment must precede any psychiatric approach. I have tried many of these orthodox psychiatric approaches and invented some new ones of my own. With some patients I would be coldly analytical, if they were of the so-called 'scientific' type who is apt to have a superior attitude toward anything emotional or spiritual. With others, I would try the 'scare' method, telling them that if they continued to drink they would kill themselves. With still others, I would attempt the emotional appeal, working both the patient and myself into a lather. He might be moved to the point of shaking hands dramatically and telling me, with tears streaming down his face, that he was never going to take another drink. And I knew that the probability was he would be drunk again within two weeks or less. Since I have been working with A.A. the comparative percentage of successful results has increased to an amazing extent. The percentage of success that A.A. has scored leaves no doubt that it has something more than we as doctors can offer. It is, I am convinced, your second step. Once the A.A. alcoholic has grasped that, he will have no more "slips."

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MARCH 2026

First Friday of the Month, March 6th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm **Genesis Club**, 1213 Appleton St, Appleton. Potluck at 6pm, please bring a dish to pass!

Friday March 13th,

Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **St Mark's Church**, 150 S Green Bay Rd, Neenah. See flyer in District newsletter.

Second Sunday of the Month, March 8th, District Meeting at 2pm, **Genesis Club**, 1213 Appleton St., Appleton GSR Roundtable 1:30 *This is a hybrid meeting* Meeting ID: 875 9555 4987 Passcode: 844696

Second Sunday of the Month March 8th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, Potluck at 6pm, bring a side dish to share, **First Congregational Church**, 724 E South River St, Appleton *This is a hybrid meeting*. Meeting ID: 897 8011 3671 Passcode: 027543

Second & Fourth Thursday of Month March 12th, & 26th Open AA Speaker Meeting at Noon, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St., Oshkosh

Third Friday of the Month, March 20th,

Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **Peace United Methodist Church**, 2300 E Wisconsin Ave, Kaukauna Al-Anon speaker if available.

Fourth Saturday of the Month, March 28th, Saturday Nite Live Open AA Speaker Meeting 7PM, **Changing Lanes Alano Club**, 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown

Last Sunday of the Month, March 29th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 10am, **St. Elizabeth Hospital**, 1506 S Oneida St, Appleton Al-Anon speaker if available.

Last Sunday of the Month, March 29th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St, Oshkosh

APRIL 2026

First Friday of the Month, April 3rd, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm **Genesis Club**, 1213 Appleton St, Appleton. Potluck at 6pm, please bring a dish to pass!

Tuesday April 14th,

Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **St Mark's Church**, 150 S Green Bay Rd, Neenah. See flyer in District newsletter.

Second Sunday of the Month, April 12th, District Meeting at 2pm, **Solutions Club**, 621 Evans St., Oshkosh GSR Roundtable 1:30 *This is a hybrid meeting* Meeting ID: 875 9555 4987 Passcode: 844696

Second Sunday of the Month April 12th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, Potluck at 6pm, bring a side dish to share, **First Congregational Church**, 724 E South River St, Appleton *This is a hybrid meeting*. Meeting ID: 897 8011 3671 Passcode: 027543

Second & Fourth Thursday of Month April 9th, & 23rd Open AA Speaker Meeting at Noon, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St., Oshkosh

Third Friday of the Month, April 17th,

Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **Peace United Methodist Church**, 2300 E Wisconsin Ave, Kaukauna Al-Anon speaker if available.

Fourth Saturday of the Month, April 25th, Saturday Nite Live Open AA Speaker Meeting 7PM, **Changing Lanes Alano Club**, 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown

Last Sunday of the Month, April 26th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 10am, **St. Elizabeth Hospital**, 1506 S Oneida St, Appleton Al-Anon speaker if available.

Last Sunday of the Month, April 26th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St, Oshkosh

District 02 Committee Information

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: Responsible for the collection and care of archival documents and items for the District.

Chairperson: Kathy R. archives@district02aa.org

CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE: Provides coordination and support for groups and individuals wishing to carry the message to alcoholics in jails and prisons within the District. **Chairperson:** Laurie G.

corrections@district02aa.org

Bridging the Gap: Brad N.

corrections@district02aa.org

GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE: Relays information about the Grapevine magazine and other materials to the individual groups via their Grapevine Representatives (GVR's).

Chairperson: OPEN grapevine@district02aa.org

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE: Provides information about AA to the general public and is also responsible for the District 02 website.

Chairperson: Trevor F. publicinfo@district02aa.org

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: Medium for communication of District 02 business and events to the groups, GSR's, and individual members.

Chairperson: Barry B. newsletter@district02aa.org

TREATMENT & ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE:

Provides coordination and support for groups and individuals wishing to carry the message to clients in treatment facilities within District 02.

Chairperson: Patrick D. tfc@district02aa.org

OTHER DISTRICT CONTACTS

DCM – Andrew T. dcm@district02aa.org

Secretary – Marci A. secretary@district02aa.org

Treasurer – Steve K. treasurer@district02aa.org

Webmaster – Trevor F. support@district02aa.org

District 02 Website www.district02aa.org

Area 74 Website www.area74.org

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Service Office

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New York, NY 10116-2407

212-870-3023

District 02 Treasury

PO Box 2632

Appleton, WI 54912

Area 74 Treasury

P.O. Box 1002

Eau Claire, WI 54702

This is a Change!!!

Fox Valley Central Office

1528 N Ballard Rd Suite 16

Appleton, WI 54911

920-997-0221

OTHER INFORMATION

Oshkosh Helpline

920-410-4620

Now and Then

(Area 74 Newsletter)

PO Box 192

Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Fox Valley Hotline

920-731-4331

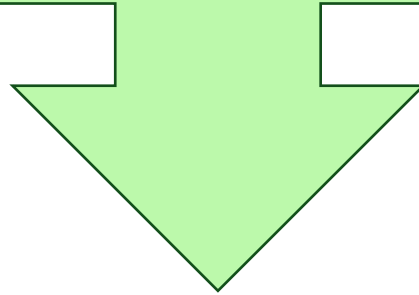
District 2 Group Focus

Here, we feature a meeting that maybe you haven't attended before.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FEATURE YOUR MEETING ?????

Maybe you would like to increase attendance or attract some new faces to your Group. Feature your meeting here by emailing your meeting details

To newsletter@district02aa.org



THIS MONTH'S FEATURED GROUP

Way of Life Group

This month's featured group is the Way of Life group in Neenah. The group meets twice a week - Tuesday and Friday at 7:00 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 140 S. Green Bay Rd. in Neenah. The meetings are closed with the exception of the speaker meetings which are open format.

We host Open Speaker Meetings every second week of the month alternating between Tuesday and Fridays

Announcing our March Speaker:

Friday March 13

Nicholas S: Past Delegate 2024-2025

If you are willing to speak or know of someone, please Text: Anna Rae S 920-284-4455

AA OPEN SPEAKER MEETING



**ST MARK'S
150 S GREEN BAY ROAD
NEENAH**

ENTER THROUGH SIDE DOOR NEXT TO PARKING LOT

**FRIDAY MARCH 13
TUESDAY APRIL 14**

AT 7 PM
COFFEE PROVIDED



**Alcoholics
Anonymous:**

PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP

New meeting!

BRING YOUR BIG BOOK!

BIG BOOK STUDY!

MONDAYS 7:00 PM

St. Mary's Parish
312 South State Street
Appleton, WI

SATURDAY NITE LIVE AA SPEAKER

CHANGING LANES ALANO CLUB



EVERY MONTH
ON THE
4TH SATURDAY



7:00 P

CHANGING LANES ALANO CLUB
344 BROADWAY ST. , WRIGHTSTOWN



New Beginnings Speaker Meetings



Every 2nd and 4th Thursdays

At Solutions Recovery

Noon till 1pm

March 12th Kathleen

March 26th Tim