

DISTRICT 02

AUGUST 2026

NEWSLETTER

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Volume 43

Issue 8

Circulation 863

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
OPEN POSITION

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

MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM OUR DCM

Next month's District 02 Meeting location has changed, and we want to make sure every GSR, Committee, and interested member has the updated information. The meeting will be held Aug 9th at the 206 Club in Menasha (206 Main St.), with the same schedule as always: 1:30 PM GSR Roundtable followed by the 2:00 PM District Meeting. Please help spread the word so all groups, GSRs, and visitors arrive at the correct location.

Over the past several years—likely beginning around the COVID period—District 02's monthly business meetings gradually shifted away from being hosted by AA groups. Historically, groups hosted 100% of the twelve meetings each year, choosing a venue, coordinating logistics, and welcoming the district. Today, only 33% of our meetings are group-hosted, leaving the district itself to arrange the majority of venues and responsibilities. This is not how our service structure is intended to function. District meetings are meant to be group-supported, group-organized, and group-hosted, ensuring broad participation and shared responsibility across our fellowship.

District 02 has launched a campaign to return our monthly meetings to their roots, and we are asking groups to step up and host one of the upcoming business meetings in 2027. I want to be clear; I'm not trying to get away from having these meetings at a Club. I think club locations are great and quite conducive to accommodating the meeting itself. What we're trying to do is get groups to be the host, and where they host is not relevant, as long as it can fit our needs. **What does a hosting group do?**

Hosting a District 02 meeting is simple: your group serves as the venue coordinator by securing a church, hall, or club and providing a room that can comfortably hold about 35 people. The group offers coffee and snacks (fully reimbursed), accepts the rental check of \$35 from the district, and ensures the venue has reliable WiFi access. District 02 business meetings held on the 2nd Sunday of each month, and the hosting group acts as the liaison with the venue throughout. A flyer is attached to this newsletter with contact information, hosting details, and everything needed to get involved.

Andrew T.
DCM D02A74

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – JULY 2026

District 02 Meeting Minutes for July 12, 2026

The District 02 meeting was held in hybrid format at **Solutions Recovery Inc., Oshkosh, WI.**

The meeting was called to order at **2:05 p.m.**

Attendance: 21 members were present in person, and 7 members joined via Zoom, for a total of **28 participants.**

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

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

Twelve Traditions & Twelve Concepts

- Bob H. read **Tradition 7 (Long Form)**.
- Harold read **Concept 7** from the Concepts Checklist.

REPORTS

1. Secretary's Report & Approval of June 2026 Minutes – Marci

Committee Chairs and GSRs are asked to submit reports by **Sunday, July 19th, 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.

A motion was made to accept the Secretary's report.

The motion was seconded.

Motion passed.

2. Treasurer's Report – Steve

There will be a corrected version of the Treasurer's Report in the August 1st newsletter. We will not vote on today's report. Everyone will have a chance to look at the corrected version in the newsletter. Then, we will vote on both July and August treasurer reports next month at the August meeting.

3. Archives: Kathy. Archives has been working on stocking the grapevines, organizing the files that we currently have. Everything is now in the Google Drive and we are working on printing out the newsletters for a hard copy.

4. Grapevine: Angel. Went to Seymour Intergroup and she is attending Chilton Intergroup July 18th. Angel would like to form a Grapevine committee and organize a workshop before the end of the year.

5. Corrections: Harold for Laurie. This committee meets every other week at Fox Valley Central Office. Took literature to Winnebago County Jail. Workshop on October 3rd (tentatively). Working to see which meetings need volunteers across the district. Next meeting will be July 24th at 3:30pm and then (most likely) August 7th at 3:30pm. They are creating a flier for the newsletter about meeting days and times. They need volunteers to take meetings into the prisons. There are sobriety requirements for each jail to be an AA volunteer. J.D. volunteered to be on the committee.

A. Bridging the Gap: Brad. No report.

6. Newsletter: Barry. The newsletter continues to go smoothly. I appreciate everyone's responsiveness on meeting deadlines. The deadline for inclusion in the August newsletter is **July 24th**. Please get your submissions to me by the deadline to avoid any delay in distribution to the fellowship. Please note the flyer for the 12 Step High meetings to be held on the EAA grounds each morning of the Air Adventure

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – JULY 2026

in Oshkosh, July 19-26. Directions are on the flyer. I have received interest from groups for the Group Focus portion of the newsletter. I have received one for the August newsletter, but September and after is wide open. 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. First Come, First Served. Please email all submissions and/or questions to newsletter@district02aa.org. There are no other comments at this time. Thank you for this opportunity to serve, Barry B. District 2 Newsletter Editor

7. **Public Information: Barry for Trevor.** Meeting once per month via Zoom. Trevor continues to work on Facebook initiatives. Barry went to PI meeting at ECR conference in Eau Claire. There were only two people there. One person was trying to get advertising into movie theatres in Northern Illinois. Barry reached out to Marcus theatres about running a PSA, but he thinks it will be way too expensive for us. They have AA Hotline cards that they are distributing to hotels for EAA and for Mile of Music artist point at Fox Cities PAC. Dale also said that there is a section at the Appleton Public Library called "No Questions Asked" and they need donations of AA literature. Dale has multiple edits to the printed meeting list.
8. **Webmaster: Trevor.** A reminder to email all changes to 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. In Love and Service, Trevor F.
9. **Treatment & Accessibilities: Patrick D.** We have five committee members now. The T/A committee is pleased to share that we are expanding AA in district 02. Several speakers are lined up and have already spoken at Mooring House and Rogers Behavioral Health. Meanwhile, three literature racks have been ordered due to increased need and a fourth rack is being donated by a committee member. We have plenty of pamphlets available at this time. Also, it should be mentioned that another committee has offered to donate a case of big books. Anyone interested in helping the Treatment Facilities Committee please email tfc@district02aa.org or call Patrick D. at 920-389-1020. Thank you.
10. **GSR Reports**
 - a. **Nicci B.**-New Beginnings, Solutions Recovery, Oshkosh. Juneteenth celebration went well. There were only 10 Black in AA pamphlets left. I gave those to Paulette, secretary of Ebony vision, and they want me there every year.
 - b. **James**- Thursday night Seymour Group. Seymour intergroup was a success. 95 people. They broke even and made \$12. They have two members who live in Seymour.
11. **LCM Reports**
 - A) LCM-A: Jack. No Report.
 - B) LCM-B: Dale. Next quarterly business meeting for all AA groups meeting at Genesis Club is scheduled for Saturday, August 29th 8:30 am in Arne's Room at the Club.
 - C) LCM-C: VACANT
 - D) LCM-D: Bob H. I visited the Stockbridge group this month.

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – JULY 2026

F) LCM-F: Dylan. Recently, I visited the New Beginnings group, which meets at noon on Monday, Thursday, Saturdays @ Solutions Recovery Club in Oshkosh, Wi. First, I briefly explained what my LCM position is and what I do. Secondly, I shared the vital roll of having a GSR, especially at this time. Thirdly, I explained about our free newsletters literature// District 02//Now and then//And Finally Our Box 459 That comes straight from our GSO In New York.

12. DCM- Andrew T.

DCM Monthly Meeting: I attended the monthly DCM meeting and the topics and discussions were as follows:

1. Literature increase pricing: the GSO has raised the price on literature an avg of 30%, so most districts will consider raising their committee budgets accordingly on the literature line items.
2. Chat button: The area 74 chat committee had verified that its intention on making the chat was for districts to use, and find volunteers.
3. PSA: I reported on District 02 PI committee report about PSAs on social media. This garnered some interest from other districts in our area.

General Service Conference: The General Service Report is still not out. The only reference I found about when it comes out is that “it will come out” and there will be a printed and digital version.

East Central Regional and Area 74 Conference:

1. This year it was located in Eau Claire on June 26th-June 28th
2. I have a summary report available, just give me your email and I'll forward it to you.
3. I could not attend, but I've read through the report.
 1. The first topic was whether the trustees decided on their own to change the preamble and swap 'Eskimo' to 'Inuit' in the upcoming 5th edition of the big book. It goes into detail about group conscience through service structure, how the preamble was written by the Grapevine and not in AA literature, and how Canadian delegates requested the eskimo word change.
 2. Second topic was use of your funds and what groups can support. Dipping into the term “power of the purse”. They used Grapevine as an example.
 3. They gave updates on all their committees.
 4. The last topic was whether the way we're choosing to run the ECR is effective because we don't hold a stand-alone service weekend conference. We are the only region that doesn't do this.

Area Committee Meeting:

1. July 18th, 2026 in Three Lakes, WI at the Reiter Center from 9am-4pm
2. This meeting is available on zoom. (ID 479 428 9816 Pass: 1212144)
3. I found some items that will be discussed: Ad-Hoc committee on “Calendar Change” & an update on the committee for Structures and Guidelines. In new business there will be a discussion on the existing Literature Fund. So far there are no presentations on the agenda.

Thank You.
Andrew T.

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – JULY 2026

Old Business

Available positions 2026:

LCM-C (Northern District-Seymour, New London, Clintonville, and Weyawega)– no nominations.

LCM-E (Neenah-Menasha-Winchester)- no nominations

Discussion on adding the job duty of “liaison to the Central Office” to the Alternate DCM

Harold- where is this idea coming from? What is the history of having this position? There used to be a district liaison. In 2013, it was decided that this position is expendable and was removed. What are the pros and cons of this position?

James (current Alternate DCM) doesn't have a problem with it, as long as it's quarterly not monthly (due to gas prices). He is willing to do it, but would the next person be willing? Would it keep someone from wanting to be Alternate DCM in the future?

Rob-it shouldn't be automatic and should be voluntary by Alternate DCM.

Andrew thinks it would be beneficial for communication between District, GSRs, and Fox Valley Central Office. Sarah B. the Central Office is not purely AA. Provides literature to NA and Alanon. Why do we need to interact with them if they are not purely AA? Harold concurs that his group also had this question. Andrew says that there is a debate about this question.

Patrick D. Made a motion to add the duty; Seconded by Niccie

-Further discussion stated groups hadn't been properly informed of the vote

-James M. Motioned to table the topic and previous motion; Seconded by Christopher

-Vote was unanimous in favor to table

Table discussion about adding a liaison position to Alternate DCM until next month. Come back with feedback from your groups.

New Business:

1. **August 9th meeting location is NOT in Combined Locks**, it is now in Menasha at the 206 Club on Main Street. Due to church rule change about letting people into their basement without a board member present.
2. District 2 meetings in 2027- The AA **groups** actually hosted/sponsored the District 2 meetings. Now, **clubs** are hosting/sponsoring meetings for the most part. Hosts buy donuts/treats and coffee and reserve a room. James thinks we should put an advertisement in the newsletter inviting groups to contact James or Andrew if they would like to host a meeting. And explain what is involved. JD says don't forget about the technology aspect. That they need to have appropriate technology available. Andrew will make a flier for the newsletter.
3. Workshop in the fall. Andrew would like to do one. Andrew would like to set a meeting with Dylan to begin planning a workshop for fall. Sunday, August 2nd at 4:00pm on Zoom. Same I.D. as for this meeting: **Meeting ID: 87595554987 Passcode: 844696** Anyone interested in being involved just come to the meeting. Barry will add to the Committees section of the newsletter.
4. Bringing Fox Valley Central Office Bookstore to District 02 Meetings. Harold is willing to do it. He would be responsible. No formal request yet, Harold will bring it up with his steering committee. He would just have the literature in his car. Andrew poses the question: has anyone come to the meeting and said to themselves “Gosh I wish I could have purchased some literature at that meeting”. Barry suggested that the District 02 meeting be a delivery spot for literature orders instead. James thinks we

DISTRICT 02 MEETING MINUTES – JULY 2026

should explore the Literature Chair idea before this idea. JD says that there is a bookstore here at the club. Andrew doesn't think we need to vote, it is just a discussion. Sharon asks "is it because it is an inconvenience to go to the Central Office to buy literature? The Genesis club is not that far away and also has literature. Dale says that it is less expensive to buy literature at Central Office.

For next meeting discussion: Barry says that for committee members that have missed three meetings in a row, they should be contacted by the DCM. Andrew will contact them.
Ended with AA Declaration of Unity.

Next District Meeting:

- Harold made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:34 p.m.
- Nicci seconded.
- Motion passed.
- The next District meeting is **Sunday, August 9th, 2026 at 206 Club, 206 Main Street, Menasha.**
- 1:30 p.m. GSR Roundtable
- 2 p.m. District Meeting

IF IT BE YOUR WILL

If it be your will
That I speak no more
And my voice be still
As it was before
I will speak no more
I shall abide until
I am spoken for
If it be your will

If it be your will
That a voice be true
From this broken hill
I will sing to you
From this broken hill
All your praises they shall ring
If it be your will
To let me sing

From this broken hill
All your praises they shall ring
If it be your will
To let me sing

—Leonard Cohen

DISTRICT 02 FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2026

District 02 Monthly Financial Report - May, 2026

Beginning Balance 5/1/2026

\$ 6,308.57

June 14, 2026 District 02 Meeting Report

Contributions

Date	Check #	District Group Contributions		
5/3/2026	1007	From The Heart AA Group #760217	\$	135.00
5/6/2026	6012	Tuesday Night Friends Of AA - Winneconne	\$	90.17
5/13/2026	1464	Group #0124365 (Th/Fr Online Mtg & Th Night BB Study)	\$	40.00
5/20/2026	1019	Keep It Simple Group	\$	57.00

Bank Reconciliation
Community First
Credit Union

Beginning balance	\$	6,308.57
Deposits	\$	322.17
Withdrawals	\$	(381.55)
Outstanding checks		

Total	\$	6.249.19
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Balance available to District

Register balance	\$	6,249.19
Prudent reserve	\$	(500.00)
Corrections Literatu	\$	(2,024.06)

Total available to District	\$ 3,725.13
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Petty Cash

Petty cash beginning	\$	50.00
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Petty cash ending b	\$	50.00
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Committee Budget Balance (Remaining)

Archives	\$	396.00
Corrections	\$	1,000.00
DCM	\$	2,776.21
Grapevine	\$	1,000.00
Newsletter	\$	245.55
PI	\$	1,551.00
Treasurer	\$	844.15
Treatment & Acces	\$	760.00
BUDGET BALANCE	\$	8,572.91

*Corrections Literature

Starting Balance	\$	2,024.06
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Contributions

Total deposits \$ 322.17

Withdrawals

Date	Check #	Expenses (checks/withdrawals)	
5/3/2026	2308	Andrew T. - Stipend and expence reimbursements	\$ 296.55
5/3/2026	2310	Nicole B. - Outreach Reimbursement	\$ 50.00
5/3/2026	2311	Prince Of Peace Church (Rent for June D2 Mtg)	\$ 35.00

Ending Corrections \$ 2,024.06

*NOTE - Separate

from district
balance

Steve K. District 02 Treasurer

Total Outstanding checks \$ -

DISTRICT 02 FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2026

APPROVED Area 74 District 02 2026 Budget					
		2026 BUDGET	YTD May SPENT	YTD May REMAIN	2027 DRAFT
Archives Kathy	1 Space at Central Office	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$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	\$200.00	\$396.00	\$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 / Travel	\$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, Supplies	\$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	\$75.00	\$105.00	\$0.00
	2 Printing Expenses	\$900.00	\$360.61	\$539.39	\$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	\$76.83	\$123.17	\$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	\$144.91	\$455.09	\$0.00
	10 Assembly/ACM	\$200.00	\$17.23	\$182.77	\$0.00
	11 Mileage for Conf/Assem/ACM/Area Workshops - current federal charitable rate	\$500.00	\$29.96	\$470.04	\$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	\$179.25	\$20.75	na
	15 Tech Fellows Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
		\$3660.00	\$883.79	\$2,776.21	\$0.00
Grapevine Open	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 Display	\$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 Chairperson	\$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	\$599.00	\$1.00	\$0.00
	2 Outreach/pamphlets, literature, fairs	\$1200.00	\$70.00	\$1130.00	\$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	\$669.00	\$1,551.00	\$0.00
Treasurer Steve	1 District Rent	\$420.00	\$175.00	\$245.00	\$0.00
	2 Refreshments	\$240.00	\$150.85	\$89.15	\$0.00
	3 Stipend for District Meetings	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$0.00
	4 Misc. 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	\$325.85	\$844.15	\$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	\$2,453.09	\$8,572.91	\$0.00

*Deadline for publication in the
September Newsletter
is end of day August 23rd!*

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

Please join us at Peace United Methodist at 2pm (GSR
Roundtable at 1:30pm) on September 13th. 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		
10/17/2026	Area 74 Standing Committee Workshop	Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI
10/18/2026	Area 74 Assembly	Quality Inn, Rhinelander, WI

2026 District 02 Meeting Schedule



ZOOM MEETING ID: 875 9555 4987 PASSCODE: 844696

(Meeting Location is Subject to Change)

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

Jan 11	<i>Solutions Club, Inc. 621 Evans St., Oshkosh</i>
Feb 8	<i>Changing Lanes Alano Club 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown</i>
Mar 8	<i>Genesis Club 1213 N. Appleton St., Appleton</i>
Apr 12	<i>Solutions Club, Inc. 621 Evans St., Oshkosh</i>
May 3 Early Due to Mother's Day	<i>St, Mark's Lutheran Church 140 S. Green Bay Rd., Neenah</i>
Jun 14	<i>Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2330 E. Calumet St., Appleton</i>
Jul 12	<i>Solutions Club, Inc. 621 Evans St., Oshkosh</i>
Aug 9	<i>206 Club 206 Main St., Menasha New Venue – Make a Note of it</i>
Sept 13	<i>Peace United Methodist Church 2300 W. Wisconsin Ave., Kaukauna</i>
Oct 11	<i>Emmanuel Lutheran Church 340 N. Main St., Seymour</i>
Nov 8	<i>Changing Lanes Alano Club 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown</i>
Dec. 13	<i>First United Methodist Church 325 E. Franklin St., Appleton</i>

FUN or JOY

*I heard a fellow mentioned fun as he began to speak
He said that when he joined AA his thoughts of fun were bleak
He had not known what fun was like since drinking took its grip
But he was told, "keep coming back", you'll soon enjoy this trip*

*I understood what he had said, my story much the same
The fun that drinking once had brought had turned to grief and shame
What started as a pleasant way to make me feel at ease
Had now become my master, one required to appease*

*For several years I searched for fun in many different ways
At football games and fishing trips or festive holidays
But every time, before I went, I felt compelled to drink
The fun would be much better then, to start the day in sync*

*I lied and told myself this way of having fun was fine
Besides, I could control myself and never cross the line
But cross I did, not in a walk, but head long in a race
I'd left behind the fun I'd had for anguish and disgrace*

*Those drinking days are in the past, my life's been resurrected
No more the bottle has control, my conscience mind protected
Yet, when I heard that speaker talk of fun, I started thinking
Another word popped in my head, related to NOT drinking*

*The word was JOY, a word I had no concept of before
Twas something angels sang about, a feeling to ignore
But since that time, I've come to learn the meaning of that word
And how the things I thought were fun were really quite absurd*

*I still have fun from time to time, but I have come to know
That fun is not something that lasts, it's there and then it goes
But JOY, for me, has been a gift, one I am glad I found
It's there for us once we have finally turned our lives around*

*I find JOY in the little things that happen every day
To watch the sunrise from the beach and clear the night away
Or when we come back from a trip and see our island home
So grateful this is where we live, near sand and sea and foam*

*I find JOY by our swimming pool when grandkids come to call
And we see them enjoy themselves, they really have a ball
Or when our daughter welcomes us for any holiday
To her home, we have passed the torch, life's cycle on display*

*Our dog can be a source of JOY each time I walk inside
I'm greeted like a long-lost friend, our bond's been ratified
And even when I reminisce on how our kids have grown
I take JOY when I see how they had made it on their own*

*So, FUN or JOY, I like them both, but in a different way
Fun is still that fishing trip or football on game day
But JOY is the intangibles, the things we take for granted
Like family, nature and our homes, these gifts firmly implanted*

Larry R.

A.A. ARCHIVES

Bill D. – AA's Number 3

On a Friday night, September 17, 1954, Bill D. died in Akron, Ohio. That is, people say he died, but he really didn't, wrote Bill W. His spirit and works are today alive in the hearts of uncounted AAs, and who can doubt that Bill already dwells in one of those many mansions in the great beyond. Bill D., the Man on the Bed, was AA number 3. At his death, he had not had a drink in more than nineteen years. His date of sobriety was the date he entered Akron City Hospital for his last detox, June 26, 1935. Two days later occurred that fateful day when he was visited by two sober alcoholics: Dr. Bob S. of Akron, Ohio, and Bill W., a guest of Dr. Bob's from New York.

A few days before, Dr. Bob had said to Bill: "If you and I are going to stay sober, we had better get busy". Dr. Bob called Akrons City Hospital and told the nurse, a Mrs. Hall, that he and a man from New York had a cure for alcoholism. Did she have an alcoholic customer on whom they could try it out? She replied, "Well, Doctor, I suppose you've already tried it yourself?" Then she told him of a man who had just come in with DTs, had blacked the eyes of two nurses, and was now strapped down tight. He's a grand chap when he's sober, she added. Dr. Bob prescribed some medications, and then asked her to transfer him to a private room. He also put him on a diet of sauerkraut and tomatoes. That's all he was allowed to eat during his hospitalization. The nurse told Dr. Bob and Bill that Bill D. had been a well-known attorney in Akron and a city councilman.

But he had been hospitalized eight times in the last six months. (Bill W. sometimes said six times. Following each release, he got drunk even before he got home. Bill's wife, Henrietta D., had talked to Dr. Bob and Bill earlier. When she told her husband she had been talking to a couple of fellows about drinking he was furious at her disloyalty. When she told them that they were a couple of drunks Bill didn't mind so much.

Henrietta apparently had quite a conversation with the two men, and she told her husband that their plan for staying sober themselves was to tell their plan to another drunk. Years later, Bill D. reflected on the jumbled thoughts in his mind as his wife left and he began to lapse back into withdrawal stupor: All the other people that talked to me wanted to help me, and my pride prevented me from listening to them, and caused only resentment on my part, but I felt as if I would be a real stinker if I did not listen to a couple of fellows for a short time, if that would cure them.

So Dr. Bob and Bill talked to what may have been their first man on the bed. They told him of the serious nature of his disease, but also offered hope for a recovery. We told him what we had done, wrote Bill, how we got honest with ourselves as never before, how we had talked our problems out with each other in confidence, how we tried to make amends for harm done others, how we had then been miraculously released from the desire to drink as soon as we had humbly asked God, as we understood him, for guidance and protection. But Bill D. was not impressed. He said, "Well, this is wonderful for you fellows, but can't be for me. My case is so terrible that I'm scared to go out of this hospital at all. You don't have to sell me religion, either. I was at one time a deacon in the church and I still believe in God. But I guess he doesn't believe much in me". But he did agree to see Dr. Bob and Bill again.

They came again the next day, and for several days thereafter.

When they arrived on July 4, they found Bill's wife, Henrietta, with him. Eagerly pointing at them, he said to his wife, "These are the fellows I told you about, they are the ones who understand". Before they could say anything, he told them about his night, how he hadn't slept but had been thinking about them all night long. And he had decided that if they could do it, maybe he could do it, maybe they could do together what they couldn't do separately.

It was apparently on that day that he admitted he couldn't control his drinking and had to leave it up to God. Then they made him get down on his knees at the side of the bed and pray and say that he would turn his life over to God. Before the visit was over, he suddenly turned to his wife and said, "Go fetch my clothes, dear. We're going to get up and get out of here." He walked out of that hospital on July 4, 1935, a free man, never to drink again.

AA's Number One Group dates from that day. That fourth of July they had plenty to celebrate. So, they had a picnic. Dr. Bob and Anne S., Bill W., Bill and Henrietta D., and Eddie R., the first alcoholic they tried to help were there. (Eddie didn't get sober at first, but later he did, and Eddie said in a talk that there were two firsts in A.A. – the first one who accepted the program and the first who refused it.)

Within a week, Bill D. was back in court, sober, and arguing a case. But at first his wife was doubtful. He had previously gone on the wagon and stayed sober for long periods. But then he drank again. Would this time be different? And he hadn't had that sudden transforming experience that Bill W. talked about. When Lois W. visited Akron in July of 1935, Henrietta shared these fears with her, and asked Lois whether she ever worried about her Bill drinking again. Lois answered without hesitation, no. Never.

The message had been successfully shared a second time. Dr. Bob was no fluke. And apparently you did not have to be indoctrinated by the Oxford Group before the message could take hold. The three worked with scores of others. Many were called but mighty few chosen; failure was our daily companion. But when I left Akron in September 1935, two or three more sufferers had apparently linked themselves to us for good, wrote Bill. Bill D.'s story was not included in the first edition of the Big Book. Kurt seems to think it was because Bill D.'s credentials, were apparently too blatant: highly respectable upper middle-class background, above average education, intensive youthful religious training which had since been rejected, and former social prominence recently nullified by such behavior as his assault on two nurses. But most believe it was because Bill D. had insisted on being paid for his story.

Bill W. wrote his story for the second edition after Bill D.'s death.

It appears in the Big Book as "AA Number Three." He based the story on tapes of Bill D.'s talks, and on his own memory. Old timers in Akron, according to Dr. Bob and the Good Oldtimers, recalled that Bill D., was indeed a grand chap when sober. They remembered him as one of the most engaging people they ever knew. One said: "I thought I was a real big shot because I took Bill D. to meetings".

Another noted that, though Bill D. was influential in the area he was not an ambitious man in AA. He wasn't aggressive, just a good A.A. If you went to him for help he would give you help. He would counsel with you. He never drove a car, but he went to meetings every night. He'd stand around with his thumbs in his vest like a Kentucky colonel. And he spoke so slow, you wanted to reach out and pull the words from his mouth. I loved to be around him. He put you in mind of a real Easy Does It guy – Mr. Serenity.

His wife, looking back in 1977, described him as a great alcoholic who, like other alcoholics, didn't want to get drunk. She reportedly remembered telling her pastor, "You aren't reaching him. I'm going to find someone who can if I have to see everyone in Akron", and she prayed with the pastor of another church that someone her husband could understand would visit him in City Hospital, where he had been admitted with some kind of virus. I have found no reference to his age when Bill and Bob found him, but Bill keeps referring to him in the literature as old Bill D.

In a memorial to Bill D., Bill W. wrote: "The force of the great example that Bill set in our pioneering time will last as long as AA itself. Bill kept the faith – what more could we say?"

Monthly Committee Meeting Schedule

Archives	To Be Determined	
Corrections	In person Fox Valley Central Office @3:30PM	August 7th and 21st
Grapevine	To Be Determined	
Public Information	Next Meeting , Tuesday August 18, 2026 @ 5PM	Zoom ID - 8759 555 4987 Passcode - 844696
Treatment & Accessibilities	Last Wednesday of Each Month @ 6PM	Zoom ID - 8759 555 4987 Passcode - 844696
Autumn Workshop Zoom Planning Meeting	Sunday, August 2 nd @ 4PM	Zoom ID - 8759 555 4987 Passcode - 844696

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 2026

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

Second Sunday of the Month, August 9th
District Meeting at 2pm, **206 Club**, Menasha.
GSR Roundtable 1:30 *This is a hybrid meeting*
Meeting ID: 875 9555 4987 Passcode: 844696

Second Sunday of the Month August 9th, 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

Tuesday August 11th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **St Mark's Church**, 150 S Green Bay Rd, Neenah. See flyer in District newsletter.

Second & Fourth Thursday of the month August 13th, & 27th Open AA Speaker Meeting at Noon, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St., Oshkosh

Third Friday of the Month, August 21st, 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, August 22nd, Saturday Nite Live Open AA Speaker Meeting 7PM, **Changing Lanes Alano Club**, 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown

Last Sunday of the Month, August 30th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 10am, **St. Elizabeth Hospital**, 1506 S Oneida St, Appleton Al-Anon speaker if available.

Last Sunday of the Month, August 30th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 7pm, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St, Oshkosh

SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Friday September 11th, 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, September 13th
District Meeting at 2pm, **Peace United Methodist**, Kaukauna GSR Roundtable 1:30 *This is a hybrid meeting* Meeting ID: 875 9555 4987 Passcode: 844696

Second Sunday of the Month September 13th, 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 the month September 10th, & 24th Open AA Speaker Meeting at Noon, **Solutions Recovery**, 621 Evans St., Oshkosh

Third Friday of the Month, September 18th, 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, September 26th, Saturday Nite Live Open AA Speaker Meeting 7PM, **Changing Lanes Alano Club**, 344 Broadway St., Wrightstown

Last Sunday of the Month, September 27th, Open AA Speaker Meeting at 10am, **St. Elizabeth Hospital**, 1506 S Oneida St, Appleton Al-Anon speaker if available.

Last Sunday of the Month, September 27th, 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: Angel H. 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

James A Farley Station
PO Box 2407
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

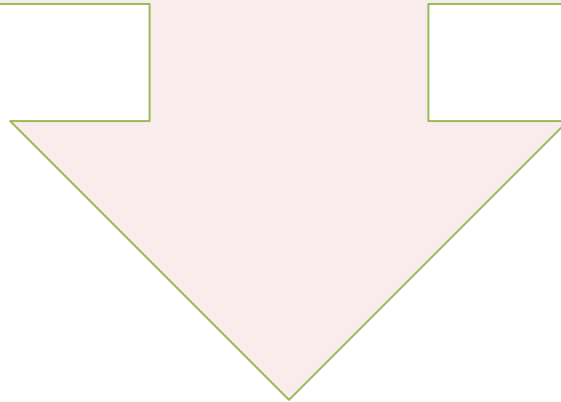
District 2 Group Focus

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

The New London Wednesday Group

Open AA Meeting. Meets every Wednesday @ 7 PM.
At New London City Hall meeting room.
406 S. Pearl St. Air Conditioned room.
For info, call Don D @ 715 773 0000.

AA OPEN SPEAKER MEETING



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

ENTER THROUGH SIDE DOOR NEXT TO PARKING LOT

**FRIDAY AUGUST 11
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11**

AT 7 PM
COFFEE PROVIDED

New Beginnings Speaker Meetings



2nd and 4th Thursdays

August 13th

August 27th

At Solutions Recovery

Noon till 1pm

DISTRICT 02

AA

SPEAKERS NEEDED

*Are you looking for ways to give back and share
your recovery story?*

Your experience, strength, and hope can make
a real difference.

The Treatment Facilities Committee is seeking
members to coordinate and speak at local
treatment centers.

To volunteer or learn more please email:

tfc@district02aa.org



Sunrise Zoom Meeting
7 Days A Week!



Daily Topics

Monday: As Bill Sees It

Tuesday: Open Topic

Wednesday: Open Topic

Thursday: Topic Discussion (list of 40)

Friday: Emotional Sobriety

Saturday: Open Topic

Sunday: Open Topic

Tuesday: Open Topic

Wednesday: Open Topic

Thursday: Topic Discussion (list of 40)

Friday: Emotional Sobriety

Saturday: Open Topic

Sunday: Open Topic

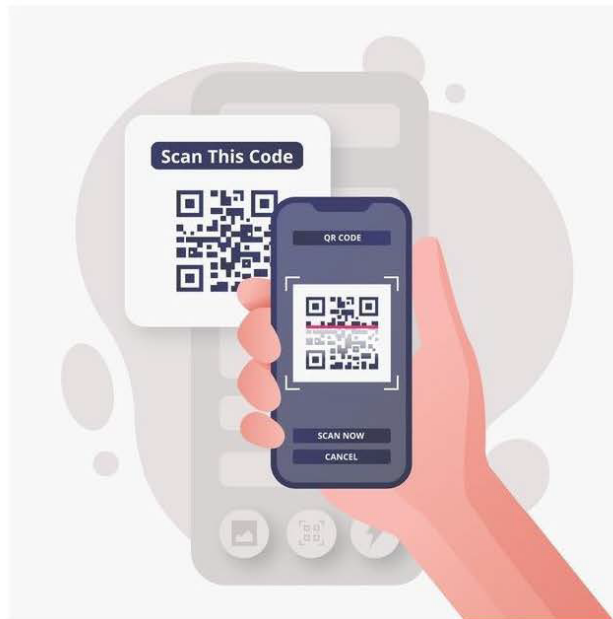
Meeting ID: 908 181 8038

Monday - Friday @ 6:30AM

Saturday & Sunday @ 7:00AM

"92. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

DIGITAL DONATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE



**PURPOSE: CREATE BEST PRACTICES TO RECOMMEND HOW
AA GROUPS IN DISTRICT 02 CAN ACCEPT MONETARY
DONATIONS BEYOND CASH**

WHEN: LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 6:00pm – 6:40pm

WHERE: ZOOM

MEETING ID: 892 4736 6303

PASSCODE: Z325aq

District 02 Needs Your Group's Help in 2027

What is this?

District 02 AA needs groups to host it's monthly business meeting. Each group simply selects a month, secures a church, hall, or club, and serves as the liaison with the venue—handling coordination and any related funds. Our business meetings occur on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

What Would Your Group Do?

- Venue Coordinator
- Provide 35 Capacity Room
- Coffee/Snacks *reimbursed
- Accept Rental Check \$35
- Must have WiFi

- Contact Us if You're Interested or Have Questions
text - Andrew (920) 249-4466
call - James (920) 366-2069