

# THE CHRONICLE

DECEMBER 2008

VOLUME 108

CIRCULATION 61

## We are not a glum lot

### Area 74

#### Upcoming Intergroups

**December 13**

St. Pius Church  
500 W. Marquette Street  
Appleton, WI

**January 17**

Redeemer Lutheran  
Church/School  
210 Oneida Street  
Green Bay, WI

### District 09

#### GSR Meetings

**December 07**

1st American Lutheran  
511 Madison  
Oconto, WI

**January 04**

Faith Presbyterian Church  
806 Fritzie  
Crivitz, WI

**Meeting start at 2PM**

#### Area Committee Meeting

**December 13**

First United Methodist  
Church  
325 E Franklin Street  
Appleton, WI

#### Web Sites of Interest

##### District 09

[district09aa.org](http://district09aa.org)

##### Area 74

[area74.org](http://area74.org)

##### Grapevine

[aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org)

#### General Service Office

[aa.org](http://aa.org)

### District 09 Officers

DCM	Karl S
Alt DCM	Terry W
Archives	Terry S
Corrections	Sam Z
Grapevine	Mary B
Newsletter	Brian V
Public Info	Tyler W
Secretary	Sue C
Lending Library	Mary W
Treasurer	Jay N
Web Site	OPEN FOR SERVICE

**District 09 is still looking for an Alcoholic to take over the duties of maintaining our Website.**

**If you are interested please come to a GSR meeting. Next meeting is in Oconto on December 07**

# November's GSR Minutes

GSR Meeting Minutes

White Lake

November 2, 2008

Karl S. opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Richard H. read the Traditions. Introductions were made; a sign-in sheet was passed, there were 17 in attendance representing Carter, Crivitz, Lakewood, Marinette, Menominee, Peshtigo, Shawano and Wausaukee.

Terry W. made a motion to accept the Secretary's October minutes as printed in the Chronicle, Gloria O. 2nd, MC. Jay N. gave the Treasurer's Report we have a working balance of \$350.51. John N. made a motion to accept the report, Mary C. 2nd, MC.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

PI Tyler W. reported his committee had just met and they were working on getting meeting lists to libraries, schools, guidance counselors, health teachers, etc. Next PI Committee meeting to be at 1:30 on January 4 before the GSR meeting.

CORRECTIONS Kimmery R. reported the committee was working on Bridging the Gap program and deferred to Mary W. and Mary B. Mary W. reported going to the District 02 Corrections Committee meeting and talking with Dylan N., the Bridging the Gap Chairman. He said they were working on getting new forms made to accommodate both inmates and outside contacts on one form. He was very helpful and informative and will continue to pass information our way. All their correspondence goes through a P.O. Box. Mary W. also reported talking with Darrel O. who has been very active in Corrections and Bridging the Gap. He said most important thing working with short timers in the jails was the "Bridge" from institution to the first meeting after release. The role of the "Bridge" is to get the inmate to his first meeting, the rest of the work is up to the individuals. The Bridge representative is not a temporary sponsor, taxi cab or bank. His sole purpose is to fill the gap between inside meetings and outside meetings. The Bridging the Gap program for corrections has been adapted from the Bridging the Gap for Treatment but is not a recognized part of Corrections. Mary B. reported there is a need for correspondents in the Marinette-Menominee area; there has been requests made to those going in to meetings. Kimmery R. also reported the Shawano meetings are really growing. Next Corrections Committee meeting will be at 1:30 before the 2:00 GSR meeting on December 7th in Oconto.

NEWSLETTER Brian V. absent. Jay stated that Roger in Peshtigo was not receiving his Chronicle, possibly do to lack of communication. Terry W. said he'd pass the word to Brian.

ARCHIVES Terry S. has added a folder from Archives Interchange with a story from Class A Trustee and more he got from the Internet. GSO has copies of some of their papers and photos available for sale, the whole package comes to \$38. There's also a 2CD set of the History of Service and the 1954 Convention at a cost of \$10. Mary W. made a motion to purchase both for the Archives, total cost of \$48, Gloria O. 2nd, MC.

GRAPEVINE Mary B. reported her committee just met and they were discussing all the gift possibilities available from the Grapevine. 2009 calendars at \$8.50, pocket planners \$4.50, also the small book "Best of Bill" \$4.95, and commemorative issues of Dr. Bob and Bill W. for \$5.95. Catalogs are available or on line. She's sending an order in around the 15th if anyone wants to order with hers and help save shipping. Mary B. had a new display brought in by Mary C that was very nice. One of the committees goals are to get more group GvR's. Terry W. mentioned that information he received at the Assembly showed the Grapevine sales were up 1,006 subscriptions this year.

LENDING LIBRARY Mary W. reported she has inventory lists available and hopes all GSR's will keep mentioning the library. She's had more activity this month, returns and check outs. Her goal is to get a blurb in the Chronicle every month featuring a book or CD.

WEBSITE Karl S. reported nothing new. We're still looking for someone to take over as Web-master and keep our site current.

Gloria O. made a motion to accept the committee reports, Jerry K. 2ND, MC.

## OLD BUSINESS

Karl S. has talked with several groups and has a new GSR meeting schedule worked out. He'll get information to Tom L. for revisions and have a new schedule ready for the next GSR meeting. Peshtigo will add a meeting and Wausaukee will now have a meeting.

The proposed budget was discussed, Jay N. had a list of donations made from Jan. through Oct. in the amount of \$1200. The projected budget is twice our donations. There was more discussion with suggestions that the committee chairs make proposals for spending and also suggested, "if it isn't broken why fix it." Mary C. made a motion to table for now and put on the Agenda for January's Meeting, motion was

*(Continued on page 3)*

## District Treasures Report

Balance	1411.08
Prudent Reserve	600.00
Web Site	141.30
Intergroup Cede	175.79
<u>Corrections</u>	<u>176.80</u>
<b>Available Balance</b>	<b>350.51</b>

### Deposits

One Day at a Time (Marinette)	20.00
Friday Grapevine (Menominee)	10.00
Wed Noon 12X12 (Menominee)	50.00
Sept District Meeting Basket	10.00
Mary B (Grapevine)	25.00
Oct District Meeting Basket	7.00
Wed Noon 12X12 (Menominee)	15.00
Monday Noon BB Menominee)	50.00
Tuesday Night (Carter)	40.00
One Day at a Time (Marinette)	<u>20.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>247.00</b>

### Withdraws

Karl S Crivitz (Intergroup)	25.00
Sam Z (Corrections)	126.00
Brian V (Chronicle)	<u>62.68</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>213.68</b>

amended to include committees to come up with proposals for their needs, Terry W., 2nd, MC.

John N. went to Green Bay Central Office meeting. He has put out donation cans in Crivitz groups to be collected and turned over to the Central Office at the end of November gratitude month.

### NEW BUSINESS

Karl S. gave a report on the Fall Assembly. There were 7 representing our District. He found it interesting, but felt too much time was spend on procedures and not enough work getting accomplished. They got bogged down on nominations for Trustee at large and Regional Trustee names to be sent to GSO-World Services. There will be another Area Committee meeting on Dec. 13th before the Appleton Intergroup to conclude business left from last meeting. Terry W. said World Services has a \$12 million budget and is 46% self-supporting, the rest comes from literature sales. He also felt we need to remember to keep egos out and do what's best for the alcoholic. Glen W. found the Area meeting interesting and the Trustee's report very interesting. He felt he learned a lot about the inner workings of AA worldwide.

Announcements were made next GSR meeting on Dec. 7th in Oconto with a Corrections Committee meeting at 1:30 before the 2:00 meeting. Appleton Intergroup is Dec. 13th and ARM is having an Alkathon on New Years Eve again this year at the Alano Club in Menominee.

Educational Topic, Terry S. read a cover sheet by Bill W from 1957 on Archives and his concerns about keeping the integrity of the organization. The Archives were opened in 1975.

Karl S. closed the meeting with The Lords Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary W. substitute Sec.

## Announcing

**Green Bays Central Office is now open!!!**

**1270 Main Street Suite 102**

**Green Bay, WI**

**Monday-Friday**

**10:00AM-5:00PM**

**Saturday**

**10:00AM-2:00PM**

**\$ Would you or your group like to donate? \$**

District 09 Treasurer	Area 74 Treasure
Jay Nelson	Mary Jo Rone
W8309 Cty C	2437 Sherman Creek Rd
Wausaukee, WI 54177	Eau Claire, WI 54703

**\$ Thank You for your support \$**

## **"HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE"**

The "AA Grapevine" is AA's national monthly magazine fondly referred to our "meeting in print" and is a splendid tool of recovery. The "AA Grapevine" has been published continuously since its first issue in June 1944. In addition to a monthly magazine, the Grapevine also produces anthologies, audiocassette tapes and audio CDs based on published articles, an annual wall calendar, and a pocket planner as well as many books. The complete list of Grapevine books and other materials are available in the Grapevine catalogue, available through your Group or District GvR.

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### **December 2008 Grapevine:**

**Special section: "Relapse"** What's Different This Time?: **On The Rebound:** Coming Back to AA, **The Wake-Up Call:** A Blast of Spirituality, And, **Paying the Price:** The Fallout of Casual Membership. Plus: **Tradition 12: Sign Language:** The pros and cons of hanging the AA sign. And, **Old-Timer's Corner: Slow Boat to Serenity:** A long-time member talks about what finally brought him peace. And MORE.

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### **Humor from Grapevines Past:**

**A drunk** was lying in bed, still groggy from the effects of his recent operation. His doctor came in, looking very glum. "I can't be sure what's wrong with you," the doctor said. "I think it's the drinking." "No problem," the patient said good-naturedly. "I'm sure by tomorrow you'll sober up."

**One veteran AA** says the trouble with "Two-Stepping" is that you usually combine the wrong parts of the First and Twelfth Steps, i.e., "My life is unmanageable, and I'd like to share it with you."

**The preacher** was having a heart-to-heart talk with a backslider in his flock, who's drinking of moonshine invariably led to a quarrel with neighbors and an occasional shotgun blast at them. "Can't you see, Ben," intoned the parson, "that not one good thing comes out of this drinking?" "Well, I have to disagree with you there, Parson," replied the backslider. "It makes me miss the people I shoot at."

**A police officer** was heard asking a DUI suspect, "Just how big were those two beers?"

**You're probably** a barfly if: \*The owners buy new bar stools and have one made with your name on it. \*Your idea of supper is two Slim Jims and a bag of peanuts. \*Your bar tab is more than your rent.

### **Great Things Heard at Meetings –From the AA Grapevine:**

**"An old-timer** wheezed out, "I may be one heartbeat away from death, but I know I am one drink away from hell."

**"In my case,** AA hasn't been a sprint. It's been a marathon."

**"I asked** my sponsor to tell me about God. He looked at me kindly and said, 'All you need to know about God is this: You are the problem, and God is the solution.'"

**"Drinking** is one thing we don't get better at the more we do it."

**"AA** has no fixed address. You can take it with you."

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AA members become Grapevine Representatives (GvRs) by volunteering or being elected to the position by their group. The GvR then registers through the Grapevine office at PO Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-1980.

Ph: 1-800-631-6025 or go to [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org).

Does your group have an AA Grapevine Representative? If not, perhaps you can be the Grapevine Rep. It's a fun and easy way to do service. Contact me with questions or comments. I would love the opportunity to help. Love in the Fellowship and Yours in Service, Mary Bray – District 09 Grapevine Committee Chair. Ph: 906-864-0269..

## **STEP TWELVE**

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

The joy of living is the theme of AA's Twelfth Step, and action is its key word. Here we turn outward toward our fellow alcoholics who are still in distress. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. Here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives so that we and those about us may find emotional sobriety. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implication, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it.

Our Twelfth Step also says that as a result of practicing all the Steps, we have each found something called a spiritual awakening. To new AA's this often seems like a very dubious and improbable state of affairs. "What do you mean when you talk about a 'spiritual awakening'?" they ask.

Maybe there are as many definitions of spiritual awakening as there are people who have had them. But certainly each genuine one has something in common with all the others. And these things which they have in common are not too hard to understand. When a man or woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone....

**12X12 pages 106 & 107**

## **TRADITION TWELVE**

**Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.**

...anonymity was not born of confidence; it was the child of our early fears. Our first nameless groups of alcoholics were secret societies. New prospects could find us only through a few trusted friends. The bare hint of publicity, even for our work, shocked us. Though ex-drinkers, we still thought we had to hide from public distrust and contempt.

When the Big Book appeared in 1939, we called it "Alcoholics Anonymous." Its forward made this revealing statement: "It is important that we remain anonymous because we are too few, at present, to handle the overwhelming number of personal appeals which may result from this publication. Being mostly business or professional folk, we could not well carry on our occupations in such an event." Between these lines, it is easy to read our fears that large numbers of incoming people might break our anonymity wide open.

"The Language of the Heart"

(Writings from our co-founder, Bill W.)

From the beginning, communication in AA has been no ordinary transmission of helpful ideas and attitudes. It has been unusual and sometimes unique. Because of our kinship in suffering, and because our common means of deliverance are effective for ourselves only when constantly carried to others, our channels of contact have always been charged with the *language of the heart*. And what is that? Let's see if I can communicate to you something of what it means to me.

At once, I think of my own doctor, William Duncan Silkworth, and how he ministered to me with the language of the heart during the last shattering years of my alcoholism. Love was his magic, and with it he accomplished this wonder: He conveyed to the foggy mind of the drunk that here was a human being who understood, and who cared without limit. He was one who would gladly walk the extra mile with us, and if necessary (as it often was), even the last mile of all. At that time he had already tried to help over twenty thousand drunks, and he had failed with nearly all. Only here and there had this dismal experience of futility been brightened by a genuine recovery. People wondered how he could go on, how he could still believe in the possibility of help for chronic alcoholics. Yet he did believe with a faith that never faltered. He kept saying, "Someday we'll find the answer."

As we journeyed from land to land, we had the same magnificent adventure in kinship over and over again. In Britain, we met with the most wonderful love and understanding. In Ireland, we were at one with the Irish. Everywhere, everywhere, it was the same. This was something much greater than people cordially meeting people. This was no merely interesting comparison of mutual experiences and aspirations. This was far more; this was the communication of heart to heart in wonder, in joy, and in everlasting gratitude. Lois and I then knew that AA could circle the globe—and it has.

--Written in July 1960, the above are excerpts from the book, "The Language of the Heart" –Bill W's Grapevine writings. The book is celebrating its twenty year anniversary – compiled in 1988. This book makes a great gift for sponsors, sponsors, friends and family, and it is available from The AA Grapevine. The AA Grapevine catalogue has many books, cd's, posters and more. Contact your group's Grapevine Rep or the Grapevine office at [aagrapevine.org](http://aagrapevine.org) or 1-800-631-6025.

**To contact The Chronicle**

Brian Vogt  
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Shawano, WI 54166

[brianvogts@charter.net](mailto:brianvogts@charter.net)

To receive hard copy of newsletter send \$8.00 along with mailing address. Make payment to District 09 treasure Jay Nelson.

Newsletter may be sent free of charge through email.

Fliers are \$10.00 per page per month.

**By living One Day at a Time the following have!!!**

|           |         |           |       |
|-----------|---------|-----------|-------|
| 3-Dec-89  | Jim B   | Shawano   | 19yrs |
| 5-Dec-85  | Tom M   | Menominee | 23yrs |
| 12-Dec-05 | Eric    | Menominee | 3yrs  |
| 15-Dec-06 | Eileen  | Crivitz   | 2yrs  |
| 19-Dec-06 | Jeff    | Menominee | 2yrs  |
| 20-Dec-89 | Kurt S  | Shawano   | 19yrs |
| 22-Dec-01 | Chad    | Oconto    | 7yrs  |
| 25-Dec-89 | Mary B  | Crivitz   | 19yrs |
| 25-Dec-91 | Dale H  | Menominee | 17yrs |
| 25-Dec-00 | Tom M   | Shawano   | 8yrs  |
| 25-Dec-06 | Mike S  | Menominee | 2yrs  |
| 26-Dec-05 | Kathy K | Wausaukee | 3yrs  |

**Remember we all still have  
TODAY!!!**

# **New Years Eve Alkathon**

**December 31st**

**Menominee Alano Club**

**2218 13th St**

**Menominee, MI**

**Meetings start at 6PM**

**Please bring a dish to pass**

**No Alcohol, No Drugs, No Attitudes-No Kidding**

**Contact Eye-Gor 906-290-2123**

**Sponsored by ARM Chapter 83**

## **Post Thanksgiving Feed**

**Friday December 5th**

**Ascension Lutheran Church**

**Navarino, WI**

**Dinner at 6PM Speakers at 7PM**

**Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, & Stuffing Provided**

**Please Bring side dish or dessert to pass.**

**Contact Mary W or Terry W 715-526-6758**

**Moose N Goose Corrections Fund Raiser**

**Planning Committee to Follow**