



April 16, 2025 District 43 GSR Business Meeting Minutes

District 43 DCM, Laura V., welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced herself, and called the meeting to order with a period of quiet time, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Luci B. read Tradition #4 – “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.”

Laura V. read Zoom protocols to all attendees.

New Attendees

Mike F. - GSR, Foxhall Sunday Night

Anniversaries

Kim R., 12 years, 3/29/25

AA Announcements

There were no AA announcements read.

Old Business – Laura V., DCM

Vote was taken for approval of March 2025 Meeting Minutes. Y – 100%, Passed.

Vote was taken for approval of March 2025 Treasurers Report. Y 100%, Passed.

Richie H., Treasurer, noted the anniversary listing of Out Of The Closet meeting in the Archives/Archivist report submitted and printed in the Committee Reports distribution. He said it closed down over two years ago. This has been removed from the Archives/Archivist report for April.

New Business – Laura V., DCM

Laura announced we had three things to vote on.

1. Open Position – Alternate Technology Chair – No one stood for the position.
2. Should the district use ZOOM AI Companion for note taking at the District 43 meetings?
Results of vote: 96% Yes, 4% No. Passed. Laura called for the minority vote to offer any opinions. No one voiced any opinions.
3. Should District 43 make a contribution of \$750 to Northern Illinois Area (NIA) 20 and \$750 to the General Service Office in New York? Results of vote: 100% Yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibilities

Renee L, Alt. Chair

Kathy S., LCM East/West, shared that Renee L. was unable to attend this evening. Renee submitted a report, saying she is still working on checking out meeting locations to make sure they are up to code and accessible.

Answering Service

Chris D., Chair

Things are running well.

There was one slower than usual call pick-up for the woman, but it was answered. The Answering Service recommended by my predecessor and approved by the District is great. For example, a woman caller apparently left a wrong number, and our volunteer notified me that the number was incorrect. I called the answering service, and they re-listened to the tape to make sure it was not a typographical error on their part. It was not an error on their part, and in fact the caller left a wrong number, but fortunately did call back and a volunteer was able to assist her.

Archivist/Archives

Patrick K., Archives Committee Chair

Upcoming May Anniversaries

Here is the list of group anniversaries for next month based on District 43 Archives current info:

Sunday Night Big Book – 48 years

Meets at St Joan of Arc in Lisle

This meeting is the fourth oldest active meeting in District 43.

Mid Week Serenity – 47 years

Meets at New Life Lutheran Church, Bolingbrook

The 12 & 12 Study Group – 36 years

Meets at New Life Lutheran Church, Bolingbrook

Just for Today – 24 years

Meets at WSFC Naperville

Monday Night Men's – 20 years

Grace Point Church, Naperville

The Way Out – 20 years

Trinity Lutheran Church, Lisle,

Our Primary Purpose – 20 years

Meets at WSFC Naperville

Sunday Step Experience– 17 years

Meets at WSFC Naperville

Fireside Chat – 15 year

Faith Lutheran Church Aurora

AA Step and Tradition – 4 years

Meets at WSFC Naperville

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In addition to our ongoing archiving efforts, we're continuing our deep dive into Group Histories.

We're in the final stages of preparing the "Group History COVID Supplement," which aims to gather information from District groups about their experiences and activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many of the group's histories currently on file are due for review and updates to reflect changes that have occurred since they were originally documented. For instance, the Area Registrar lists District 43 as having 121 groups (64 active), whereas the District 43 Archives has 154 groups recorded, with 80 marked as active. Clearly, there's important work to be done—amongst other things, to reconcile these records.

We encourage all GSR or any committee person to review their group's current history (contact Archives for assistance) and help us ensure our records are as accurate and complete as possible.

We continue to actively collect and preserve pertinent information relating to the history of District 43. Old flyers, directories, and other AA related materials that you are thinking about throwing out may be useful to Archives and we will gladly accept them. Pictures of your meeting place, inside and outside, are also desired. Call the Archivist at 630-903-7626 or email Archives via the District website (archives@aa-nia-dist43.org) if you have anything that might fit the bill.

We'd also like to collect any relevant information from our service committees that goes beyond the monthly committee reports to help fill out the bigger picture of the service work done within our District. Examples could be committee meeting agendas; drafts/works in progress; correspondence with other districts, NIA20, and/or outside (non-AA)

organizations; but we'll leave particulars up to you who know best the work of your committee.

That concludes the Archives report for April 2025.

Bruce M – Archivist
Jeff K – Archivist Alternate
Patrick K – Archives Committee Chair
Adam K – Committee member

Keep in mind that ...

***“Whenever a society or civilization perishes there is always one condition present:
they forgot where they came from.”***

– Carl Sandberg

Bridging the Gap

Geoff B., Chair

There was an issue at RCA last month and we were not able to attend. We are booked through June and July there. H.A.S. is still looking for a man and woman to share there. All is going well.

Corrections

Bill N., Chair

Last week at the DuPage County jail Monday meeting, we showed the DVD called My Name is Bill W (Bill Wilson)”. It is the true story of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous, starring James Woods and James Garner.

This week we will be showing the DVD movie called “Flight” with Denzel Washington, a movie showing great AA inspirations.

Events

Lisa M., Co-Chair, Julie S., Co-Chair

(Secretary’s note: Lisa and Julie could not attend but sent this the day after the meeting. I am including it here for informational purposes.)

Please see the attached flyer!
Reminder: Bingo Night May 25th
Location: 20 N. Center Street, Naperville, IL
Start time: 6:30pm

We are still looking for donations and volunteers for set up. :) Thank you ahead of time for considering.

Grapevine **Michelle H., Chair**

Did you know that you can sign up to receive emails from *Grapevine*? No subscription is required! You will receive daily Grapevine quotes and Grapevine monthly news reports.

https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001oGSL6wu1SRbyFplJFVXhsJmfiAwT9-c8UsT0fdV_rGWo0nkmyqyZNeqCr7gepkDIDRIYDlBri6ttjM9Wom4EDDB8yJl8CthuzoJnKQ3qUlp0CvleGgRGoOKITxJOzyVP1RIKrqxIgSXuW3sVMidP0w0o3wKFt4t9&utm_source=Linktree&utm_medium=IG&utm_campaign=AA

Also for a limited time, if you subscribe to the Grapevine you will receive a free copy of *Spiritual Awakenings, Journeys of the Spirit*, a \$14.99 value!

As always, the Grapevine needs your help! Please consider submitting your stories about the following topics:

- Stories for Day Counters— What are the things that helped you most when you were very new to AA? What are some tips that helped you when you were new? Which suggestions helped you most?
- Getting Through Tough Times— A serious illness, divorce, the death of a loved one, a house fire, loss of a job, bankruptcy...How have you stayed sober through adversity?
- Tell us how the program and fellowship helped you.

More upcoming topics: Sober Travel, Sponsorship, Getting Into General Service, Dealing With Loneliness.

The April 2025 *Grapevine Magazine* is titled “Making Amends”, and it features six stories about members making amends and gaining a new sense of freedom and happiness as a result. For example, in the story “The Right Thing to Do”, a member shares how the amends he made to partners, employers, and neighbors enriched his life in entirely unexpected ways. And a nervous mom has no idea what’s coming when she tries to make amends to her daughter in the amusing story, “Come With Me to the Nudist Colony.” And there are four other great amends stories to enjoy!

If you are leading a meeting this month and are looking for ideas, “Out of My Head” explains why it is a very good reason to complete the fourth step on paper, and “The Way Things Are” discusses the Fourth Tradition and group autonomy. And don’t forget to check out the Grapevine podcast featuring a new episode every Monday! For instance, in episode Season 8 Episode 11, Don from Greensboro NC and Olis from Oakland, CA interview a member Stephanie from Downers Grove IL who talks about God Moments:
www.aagrapevine.org/podcast

The Grapevine joke of the month - from the regular magazine section called *At Wit's End* - is called "Inside Job": *One night after work, I pointed to two old drunks sitting across from the bar from me and my friend and said, "Look, that's us in ten years." My friend looked at me and said, "Dumb wit, that's a mirror!"*

We Are Not A Glum Lot!!

Groupvine,
Roxanne H., Chair; JoDonna G., Alt Chair

Everything is going good on our end. We are looking for volunteers to share their experience strength and hope for future articles.

GSR's: Thank you for sharing our message and getting the word out each month. If anyone is interested in being of service for a future article, please email us at Groupvineeditor@gmail.com

Literature
Julie K., Chair; Luci B., Alt Chair

The following information was shared with Literature chairs from GSO:

The Literature Committee Workbook was released mid-September 2024 and has been very well received. The initial printing sold out in 2 months with solid engagement through the aa.org website as well. The workbook is back in stock and available for Literature Committee chairs and interested members

The 2024-2026 A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services went on sale in early December. Between December 6, 2024, and January 2, 2025, more than 6,200 copies were sold. The *A.A. Service Manual* is another resource which some members find particularly useful in electronic format.

The *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* went on sale on November 1, 2024. 71,749 copies were sold between November 1 and November 18. A second printing was placed on November 24, 2024; more information can be found within this letter from the General Service Board Chair: PLBB Second Printing. The *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* is also available as an e-book and is accessible on Corrections tablets throughout the United States.

Current Projects

- Fifth Edition Big Book (*Alcoholics Anonymous*): The drafting of expanding content in Appendix III: "The Medical View on A.A." and Appendix V: "The Religious View on A.A."

has begun. The subcommittee is finalizing its selections of personal stories for review by the trustees' Literature Committee and the Conference Committee on Literature.

- Development of a Fourth Edition Big Book *Alcohólicos Anónimos* (Spanish): The creation of the draft Fourth Edition *Alcohólicos Anónimos* is being guided by an Appointed Committee Member (ACM) of the trustees' Literature Committee and a working group of Hispanic A.A. members. The working group recently added a new member from Quebec and is looking to add an additional member from Puerto Rico. The working group is proceeding to the next stage in selecting personal stories and continues to receive newly re-translated chapters.
- Update of the pamphlet "A.A. for the Native North American": The working group, comprised entirely of indigenous A.A. members, has completed a selection of 15 personal stories, provided a new introduction, and selected new cover art developed by an indigenous artist. "We shall be interested to hear from those who are getting results from this book, particularly from those who have commenced work with other alcoholics."
- Update of the pamphlet "Do You Think You're Different": The subcommittee has completed the review of personal stories. Work will continue on the project with a progress report being delivered to the General Service Conference.
- Update of the pamphlet "Questions and Answers on Sponsorship": The subcommittee completed a working draft of the requested updates.
- Update of the pamphlet "Twelve Steps Illustrated": Revised illustrations were completed, supported by the trustees' Literature Committee, and forwarded as draft material to the General Service Conference.
- Update of the pamphlet "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" video animation: The translation of narration voiceover and visual text into French and Spanish has been completed. The English video is currently under review by members of the trustees' Literature Committee.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service,

Julie K and Luci B

literature@aa-nia-dist43.org

PI/CPC

Liza D., Chair

Unfortunately, despite Margaret's time-consuming work along with the past Facebook manager, they have concluded that our Facebook page was hacked. It is connected to a variety of numbers all in Canada. The former Facebook manager recommended that we delete the page and start all over again.

I have dropped some more pamphlets off at some private practice offices.

I am also scheduled, Along with another AA member to talk at Behavioral Alternative systems, a treatment center in Wheaton on April 24. Although Wheaton is not in our

district, I know that there are several people who live in Wheaton and attend meetings in our district.

There have been several email questions coming in for our committee to which I have responded.

Technology

Julie J., Chair;

We are looking for an Alternate Technology Chair! This person will be a backup for me to help run the Zoom meetings when I'm not available. I appreciate your support! Other than that, I have nothing new to add.

Secretary

Dan B., Secretary; Karine M., Alt Secretary

No report given.

Treasurer

Richie H., Treasurer

Please see separate Treasurer's report and summary of activity. Both items are separate attachments to the email in which this report is distributed.

Treatment

Julie R., Chair

We continue to send over 30 volunteers monthly to 3 different Linden Oaks locations at a variety of days and times. All is well.

GSRs - We can always use more subs, but we ***especially need volunteers added to our waitlist for a permanent spot on the schedule.***

I've dipped into the waitlist a few times over the last couple of months when volunteers have rotated out. Most of the subs are not currently on the waitlist, so there is a gap in availability. Typically, when someone goes on the waitlist, they will also go on the sub list, but that is not required.

While we need both men and women for the waitlist, ***we especially need women.*** At the moment, we have 4 men and 1 woman on the waitlist. This is a great opportunity to get a monthly commitment going to Linden Oaks (Naperville or Plainfield) and sharing the message of AA through experience, strength and hope.

Cornell Abraxas Interventions - Woodridge

Per Mike H, "Everything is good with Cornell".

Julie R

Treatment Chair



Marie M

Alt Treatment Chair



Webmaster

Jeanie L., Chair

Please read the following carefully. This recounts a newcomer's very first attempt to attend an AA meeting, only to find the meeting did not exist.

Last week I took an answering service call. The individual has a desire to stop drinking and wanted to go to an online meeting. I directed that person to a 5:00 meeting. The caller had my direct phone number from the call back, and I am glad she did because she called me at 5:10 and said she'd been sitting on the meeting for 10 minutes waiting for it to start, and no one else had shown up.

I then directed her to a 6:55 Daily Reflections meeting. I went to that meeting myself in advance and the Home Screen read "No meeting this week, join us next week July 24, 2023". I called the person back again and advised her not to go to that meeting, but to go to Brown Baggers the next day instead, as I know that Brown Baggers meets both in person and online. I logged into the Daily Reflections again at the time of the meeting and found no one there.

I have since deleted both these phantom meetings.

Please pass this along to all your meetings. It is very important that we don't continue to post meetings that have closed. I have already contacted the WSFC president and he went through their online and in person meeting list. He said as far as he knows, they are all still meeting.

Any meeting on The Meeting Guide App can get feedback. Select the meeting and scroll to the bottom of the listing. There is contact information for the website that connects the meeting to The Meeting Guide App. Please make members aware that any time they find a meeting is listed but not meeting any longer, it is very important that information be passed on to the web admin who posted. This is how it can be removed from the list.

The website continues to be updated with events and meeting changes.

If you have any information of interest to the District 43 AA community, please send to webadmn43@aa-nia-dist43.org, or web@aa-nia-dist43.org.

LCM - East/West

Kathy S.

The LCM Committee exists to support the DCM and to help foster a connection between each group and District 43, in order to effectively carry the message to the alcoholic. Our committee consists of Mary Ellen G., Renee L., Kathy S., Brad T., Aaron V., Laura V., and Diane W.

Our Committee has been working on the following projects:

- Distribution of DuPage County AA information cards and meeting guide booklets
 - If your meeting or committee needs information cards or booklets for newcomers please email Kathy S. at LCM@aa-nia-dist43.org.
- Carrying the Groupvine and other D43 flyers to meetings.

LCM - WSFC

Kim R.

I completed verifying and updating WSFC directory listing regarding the availability of club meetings on Zoom.

DCM Alt.

Stephanie H.

I don't have anything to report.

District Committee Member (DCM)

Laura V., DCM

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES:

- **May 10th, 2025:** NIA 20 Spring Committee Meeting.
 - Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 40W605 IL Rt 38, Elburn, Illinois

Recent (Past) Events:

- I attended the....
 - **April 5, 2025:** The Pre-General Service Conference **Workshop!** This was when the fellowship shared our opinion with our Delegate, so he knows how to vote at the Annual Conference.

Reminders:

- **Share the 2025 Agenda Items with your groups!** They are in your email, and if you haven't received them, please stay after the meeting ends for a minute or two so I can get your email address and send it to you

Annual AA General Service Conference – April 27th through May 3rd, 2025, in NY

- You still have time to share your thoughts and opinions with our Delegate before he goes to the Annual General Service Conference!

DCM 43 Committee Positions Still Available:

- **Alt Technology Chairperson is needed**

Chairpeople: As we enter our second year of our 2-year rotations, consider getting your Alts more involved in the work that you do, to ensure a smooth rotation of positions.

****If you are looking for fun things to do,*** please check the D43 website as the calendar contains flyers and postings about activities going on in and around our district.

Meeting Conclusion

Laura V. ended the meeting by asking everyone to join her in reciting the AA Statement of Responsibility.

