



April 15th, 2026, NIA District 43 GSR Business Meeting Minutes

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

Jeanie L. read Zoom protocols to all attendees.

Jeanie L. read Tradition 3: “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.”

New Attendees and New District GSR introductions

- Michelle H., new Alt GSR for TNDG
- Peter B., new GSR for Wed Night Young People, Naperville

Anniversaries

- Kim R., 13 years on 3/29
- Tom C., 2 years on 4/7

AA Announcements

No AA announcement was brought forward.

Old Business

Vote was taken for approval of **March 2026** Meeting Minutes. **100%, Passed**

Vote was taken for approval of **March 2026** Treasurer’s Report. **100%, Passed**

A few district-level positions remain open. Votes were then taken accordingly.

GSRs: Please take this information back to your groups to allow AA members to report back on any open positions of interest. Thank you!

→ **Descriptions of the positions** can be found on our district website: [Microsoft Word - D43 Job Descriptions & Procedures_20200406_1925](#)

The following committee positions were presented and voted upon during the meeting:

Accessibilities

- Chair: remains available
- Alternate: remains available

Literature

- Chair: remains available
- Alternate: remains available

Secretary

- Alternate: remains available

DCM

- Alternate: remains available

Local Committee Member / LCM: *Appointed position by the DCM. Please contact Jeanie L. if interested at jldcm43@gmail.com*

New Business

No new business was brought forward.

GSR REPORTS

No GSR report was brought forward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibilities

POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED

Answering Service

Jimmy K., Chair; Lori V., Alt. Chair

Answering service had 10 phone calls. All is going well except that 2 calls were missed, which came in at 1am. This is being addressed so late-night calls will not be missed in the future.

Archives/Archivist Report

George C., Archivist, Bruce M., Alt. Chair; Jeff K, Archivist committee member; Patrick K, Archivist committee member

The Archives Committee met on April 8 to discuss ongoing archiving efforts. The main topics covered were:

- (1) Details in progress for hosting an Archives “Longtimer Panel” with 5 panelists having 35-ish+ years sobriety, mostly in district. We are currently looking at July 11 or 18, or August 8 or 15. Please pass the word, and get in touch if you or someone you know would like to be on the panel.
- (2) We have ordered from GSO the newly revised (2025) Archives Handbook.
- (3) We just filled in two open slots so that we now have a complete set of all General Service Conference Final Reports, from 1951 to 2025. With the help of the NIA20 Archivist it turned out that Area had extra copies for our missing years, 1982 & 2017.
- (4) The D43 written history project continues as a work-in-progress.

Call for Stuff/Contributions to Archives

We continue to collect and preserve materials related to District 43’s history. Items we seek include (1) old flyers; (2) meeting directories; (3) event flyers; (4) other AA-related archives you may consider discarding; and (5) photos of meeting locations (inside or outside). If you have anything that may be useful, please contact Archives via the District website: archives@aa-nia-dist43.org

Service Committees Documentation Request

We invite District 43 service committees to share materials that go beyond the standard monthly report. Examples include: (1) committee meeting agendas; (2) drafts and works-in-progress; (3) correspondence with other districts; (4) communication with NIA20; (5) communications with outside organizations (non-AA). Committees know best what reflects their work, so we leave specifics to your judgment.

That concludes the Archives Report for April 2026.

George C (Archives Committee Chair)

Bruce M (Archives Committee Alt)

Jeff K (Archivist)

Patrick K (Archivist Alt)

Keep in mind that ...

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

– Carl Sandburg

Bridging The Gap

Jeffrey A., BTG Chair

We continue our regular visits to the RCA in St. Charles to provide temporary contact services to individuals transitioning back to the community. However, we will be pulling

back from our visits to HAS in Wheaton for the time being.

Moving forward, our committee is shifting its focus toward building a robust internal structure and creating a reliable system for individuals living in District 43 who need support "bridging the gap" between treatment and the A.A. community. We will be hosting a Bridging the Gap Committee meeting in May (TBD). In alignment with A.A. Guidelines, our next steps will involve the following organized efforts:

- We will start simply by formalizing our volunteer base, including the aim of having both male and female coordinators to better match volunteers with newcomers by gender.
- A primary goal is to provide consistent contact information and a method for routing requests to local volunteers so that no referral is missed.
- We will work on creating and maintaining an up-to-date list of volunteers, organized by town, to ensure we can meet a newcomer on their actual day of release.
- We will make regular announcements at local group meetings and district events to find new volunteers. We also plan to cooperate with other service entities, such as Treatment, PI and CPC, to ensure our efforts are coordinated and do not overlap.
- We will establish a consistent way to communicate with staff at local settings to share about our "Bridging the Gap" services and respect the specific requirements of those facilities.

By focusing on these foundational steps, we aim to ensure that any alcoholic in our district desiring transition help can be met on their day of release and accompanied to their first few meetings.

Corrections

Adams S., Chair; Ryan B., Alt. Chair

AA meetings are facilitated at the DuPage County Jail through a non-profit organization called JUST. For those interested in helping facilitate AA meetings in the DuPage County Jail, here is the link to the [JUST Volunteer Application](#). After completing the application, please send a follow-up email to info@justofdupage.org with your name, email and best contact number letting them know you completed the application and inquire about the next step (Background and Safety Training).

Events

Ursula S., Chair; Laura, Alt. Chair

Bingo night is 4/18 from 6-8 pm

Flyer attached

Asking GSR's to print and take to meeting
Looking for donations for prizes

Save the Dates... (PDF will follow soon!):

- **AA District 43 picnic:** Save the date Aug 29 1:30-3:30
 - **AA District 43:** Save the date - AA Recovery Comedy Night Nov 7th 7-9pm
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Grapevine

Kim R. ,Chair; Liza D., Alt. Chair

You can **Carry The Message** by giving the gift of The Grapevine to sponsees and others in your AA life. Digital subscriptions are still available for \$2.99 a month! 2 Attachments on the mail email for your review.

Groupvine

Aaron F., Chair

May 2026 Groupvine is attached to the main email. May is about Step 5. GSRs: please distribute to your groups!!

Literature

POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED

PI/CPC

Julie R., Chair ; Margaret, Alt. Chair

Committee Work

- Monthly committee meetings
- This month, we are starting to reach out to identified organizations to see how we can communicate what AA is to various professionals or to the public:
 - o Hold/attend an event
 - o Present at a table or booth
 - o Present to or talk with staff
 - o Drop off a Leave Behind Packet and have a conversation
 - o Any other creative way we find

Marketing Efforts

- Business cards
 - o Generic for the district
 - o Personal for committee members, if desired

- Leave Behind Packet (LBP)
 - o Targeted to professionals, not alcoholics
 - o Title – *Carrying the Message* – less intimidating than a packet called Alcoholics Anonymous
 - o Logo – to be created
 - o Cover page – emphasis on the effectiveness of AA as proven by a study done by Harvard Medical School and a summary article written by a Cleveland district
 - o AA meeting directories – ***who is coordinating the order?***
 - o Podcasts
 - o Website links
 - o Pamphlets
 - o Open meetings and Zoom meetings in our district

Carrying the Message

- May 6 – Argonne Employee Health & Wellness Fair
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Technology

Dave S., Chair; Richard H. Alt. Chair

Technology complete all polls and has sent a participation report to Jeanie. I also setup two meetings on zoom for District 43 business.

Treasurer

Kathy S., Treasurer; Chris T. Alt. Chair

The Treasurer's reports are attached to the same email this report is attached to.

- Treasurers Report
 - Treasurers Report Supplement
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Treatment

Sofia W., Chair; Katie B., Alt Treatment Chair; Kyle Y., Committee member; Amy, Committee member

- We are building a volunteer roster for a new Monday 8:00 PM meeting at Linden Oaks Detox. We currently need 3 female volunteers and 2 male volunteers. The meeting start date is still to be determined.
- A draft literature needs proposal is attached to this report. It is not yet final, as details are still being reviewed.
- The treatment committee is seeking one additional volunteer to assist with committee responsibilities.

- The treatment committee held a meeting on Monday to discuss restructuring the committee's format and roles. We also discussed the possibility of moving away from weekly reminders and shifting to monthly email reminders.

Secretary

Karine M., Secretary

Seeking an Alt. Secretary for D43 for 2026-2027 District position!

Web Admin

Stephanie H., Chair; Magic M. Alt. Chair

HELP GSRs!!! For every meeting we need 2 contact people to check with in case someone reaches out through the app or through the website about whether or not your meeting still exists or a newcomer can't find your meeting or there is confusion over whether or not a meeting still meets online. These contact names will be used to by the web committee to confirm information about the meeting time, location and existence. For our purposes the meeting contacts are not the same as a meeting's GSR and alt because those positions rotate every 2 years. The meeting contacts would be people who reliably attend your meeting and have done so for many years and intend to do so for many years to come. Jeanie has been asking people when she does her DCM visits who might be the best contacts for their meeting and who would be willing to be a contact for the meeting. Jeanie as DCM has lots of responsibilities. **We are asking that the current GSRs ask their groups and please provide us with 2 contact names and phone numbers for their group.** These names and numbers will only be visible to the web admin committee. They are not posted on the app or website. They are simply people we can contact if someone asks us a question about the meeting and to prevent removal of the meeting from the website because of incorrect information. Please email your 2 contact names – first name and last initial and phone number to web@aa-nia-dist43.org. Thank you for your help!

Magic and I continually update and add content to the website as well as monitor any issues that arise.

**If someone in your group works loves tech and would like to be of service, the Web Admin Committee would be delighted and grateful to have their help and expertise. Please reach out to us at web@aa-nia-dist43.org.

These 2 positions are appointed by the DCM. Please contact Jeanie Long if interested at jldcm43@gmail.com

LCM - WSFC

POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED

LCM - East/West

POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED

District Committee Member (DCM)

Jeanie L., DCM

Tradition Four: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Upcoming Events:

- April 18 District 43 Bingo Loco, Naperville
- April 25 Thursday Night Discussion Group Spring Retreat • April 26-May 2 76th General Service Conference, New York, NY • May 15-17 Twelve Step House Men's Closed AA Retreat

More details are available on our website: <https://aa-nia-dist43.org/events/>.

Open Service Positions at District 43

There are a few positions yet to be filled on the District 43 Committee.

1. Some people may be scared off from a district service position for fear of it taking up all their time.
2. *None of us makes a sole vocation of this work, nor do we think its effectiveness would be increased if we did. We feel that elimination of our drinking is but a beginning. A much more important demonstration of our principles lies before us in our respective homes, occupations and affairs. All of us spend much of our spare time in the sort of effort which we are going to describe. A few are fortunate enough to be so situated that they can give nearly all their time to the work.* p. 19 Alcoholics Anonymous

1. None of us makes a sole vocation of this work, nor do we think its effectiveness would be increased if we did.
 1. Our service work in A.A. isn't meant to be a full-time job.
 2. If your service position feels overwhelming, please let us talk about it. We need to have service work we can actually do.
2. A much more important demonstration of our principles lies before us in our respective homes, occupations, and affairs.
 1. We are supposed to demonstrate A.A. in our lives at home, with the family, at work, and with our community.
 2. A healthy program allows time for our lives both inside and outside A.A.
3. All of us spend much of our *spare time* in the sort of effort which we are going to describe.
 1. Spare time is a time when we are not working; free time

2. **Our service work isn't meant to interfere with our work at home or at our place of employment.**
3. ***We have been speaking to you of serious, sometimes tragic things. We have been dealing with alcohol in its worst aspect. But we aren't a glum lot. If newcomers could see no joy or fun in our existence, they wouldn't want it. We absolutely insist on enjoying life.*** p. 132 Alcoholics Anonymous
 1. **The best thing I can do to encourage other A.A.'s to join me in District service work is to demonstrate that it is a joyful experience. I am having fun as DCM.**
 2. **Are you having fun in your service position?**
4. ***"...why shouldn't we laugh? We have recovered, and have been given the power to help others."*** P. 132
 1. **Our district 43 service work gives us big opportunities to use that power to help others!**
5. **I have created a flyer for positions left open in District 43.**
 1. **There is a reasonable, do-able job description for each position.**
 2. **Please take it to your groups and encourage people to join us.**

Connecting our A.A. groups to A.A. as a whole

We are experiencing this right now! This is how it has gone:

1. **The General Service Conference Agenda Items were released in February.**
2. **GSRs were able to take these items to their groups and discuss them with group members, get input.**
3. **GSRs, committee chairs, the DCMs and any interested A.A. member could participate in the Pre-General Service Conference Zoom Breakouts.**
4. **GSRs, committee chairs, the DCMs and any interested A.A. member could participate in the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop.**
5. **Our delegate attended the Zoom breakouts and the PGSCW. She is now informed as to our voice on these agenda items and will take it to the General Service Conference in New York.**
6. **When the delegate returns from the GSC, she will distribute the information about actions by the GSC to DCMs.**
7. **DCMs will bring that back to the District.**
8. **GSRs will take that information back to their groups.**

Thank you to all who attend the Pre-General Service Conference Zoom breakouts March 22 - March 29. Thank you to all the trusted servants who attended the Pre-General Service Conference workshop in Rockford April 11. Our participation helps our delegate Lisa S. carry the voice of A.A. in Northern Illinois Area 20 to the General Service Conference in New York April 26-May 2.

Consistent themes from the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop include:

- A lot of passion for A.A.!

- Consistent concern about how to carefully use our 7th tradition money
- Transparency
- Concern about redundancy in literature and videos
- Wanting evidence that the literature and videos we have are effective

Meeting Directories

- I contacted DCMs from Districts 40, 41, and 42 to gauge interest in a new printing of the DuPage A.A. Meeting Directories. Other districts are interested in ordering.
 - I contacted a board member of the WSFC, who also orders their own supply of meeting directories. The WSFC wants to order a new supply. • I met with Maggie A, who in the past has coordinated the meeting directories order for the 4 districts. She is able to assist in the formatting of our next meeting directories order.
- I have estimates for 5K, 10K, and 15K directories from the printing company Print Arts.
- Next step is to get back to the other districts and the WSFC about the number of directories they want to order.

DCM Visits

I visit groups in our district to share information on how the District 43 committee carries the message to the still suffering alcoholic and connects our locals groups to A.A. as a whole. I also invite group members to our business meeting or to join us in service.

There are several groups who have been very supportive of District 43 by sending a GSR to district, sending contributions to district, and by having several group members active in district service work. I have been making **DCM Thank You visits** to these groups. At these visits, I express appreciation for all the service work and support the group has provided. Their service and contributions help the alcoholic who still suffers, and connect their group to A.A. as a whole. I invite any group members who are not currently involved in district service work to join us.

March and April **DCM Thank You visits** included The Young People's Meeting, The Swinging Step Sisters, The Women's Spirit Group, Serenity Now, Babes without Booze, The Thursday Night Discussion Group, and Foxhall.

I want to come to your group too! I will contact all GSRs to schedule a visit. Or you can contact me to schedule the visit by emailing me at jldcm43@gmail.com.

Thank you all for the work you do to help our district carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers, and to connect our district AA meetings to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole!

Meeting Conclusion

Jeanie L. made a motion to close the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved. We closed the meeting with A.A.'s Responsibility Statement.