



August 19, 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.

Kate R. read Tradition 8: "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

New Attendees and New District GSR introductions

- Jesus C., GSR., Sojourners Tuesday night meeting in Bolingbrook
 - Jim O., GSR, Our Primary Purpose, 7:00 PM at WSFC in Naperville
-

Anniversaries

- Ed, 28 months
 - John, 27 years
-

AA Announcements

No announcement were made.

Old Business

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

Vote was taken for approval of **July 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](#)

Accessibilities

- Chair: remains available
- Alternate: remains available

DCM

- Alternate: remains available

New Business

GSR, please get the word out: There is an immediate to fill this service position, as there is an opportunity involving a woman residing in a Naperville skilled nursing facility who has requested an AA meeting approximately 1/month. We will fulfill the request in the meantime, however need to fill the position to coordinate these efforts for D43.

GSR REPORTS

Glenn thanked District 43 for its assistance communicating recent meeting-time changes for the Beginners Group and the Thursday night Group (TNDG). He reported that the changes appear to be going well. **GSR's:** make note that this group has changed to the following times:

- **Beginner's Forum:** Thursday 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM CDT
<https://aa-nia-dist43.org/meetings/f-th-190-bgnrsfrm-frthsnthr1st?weekday=thursday>
- **Thursday Night Discussion Group:** 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM CDT
<https://aa-nia-dist43.org/meetings/f-th-20-thrsdnghtdscsng?weekday=thursday>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibilities

POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED

Answering Service

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

We had 0 calls this month, which is highly unusual. Jimmy will contact the answering service and previous committee members to verify that everything is functioning properly. Volunteer coverage remains strong.

Archives/Archivist Report

Summary Report

The Committee hosted a Longtimers Panel at the WSFC in Naperville on Sunday August 9. The afternoon event was well-attended, with people coming from at least four (4) other Districts in Northern Illinois (Districts 40, 42, 51, 64). We were privileged to hear six (6) panelists (total sobriety over 250 years!) share their AA experiences and recollections from the early days of

District 43. We thank the panelists – Jack K, George C, Magic M, Mel S, Greg S and Sarah K. – for giving their time. We also thank those who attended and helped make the Longtimers Panel a successful event for AA fellowship and for learning more about our District.

Meanwhile the Archives Committee continues to work on the Written History Project, with current drafts focusing on Early Days, the 1980s, and the 1990s.

Call for Materials/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 to donate, please contact us at archives@aa-nia-dist43.org. We also 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.

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

BTG has created a 1-pager to support volunteers. The volunteer sign up forms are shared in the main email for the meeting minutes, please send your feedback dist43btg@gmail.com on the forms (on the content).

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

District Picnic

Sat 8/29

If anyone wants to bring something; Beverages or desserts would be great. There will be games, prizes, children's crafts, piñata, volleyball and bags. All members are encouraged to bring newcomers and families. Refer to attached flyer.

District Comedy Night

11/7 7pm-8;30 pm

Doors open at 6;30

Light refreshments included with tickets

Refer to attached flyer. Tickets on sale now Early bird tickets \$20

Grapevine

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

Listen up! The Grapevine books are now available as Audiobooks to listen to while you drive or workout! The Language of the Heart, Emotional Sobriety, and your other favorites. Use the QR code to download.

The August Issue is "Sober Travel"! Featuring fun, helpful stories by AA members getting out and going places in sobriety, and the many ways we stay sober while on the road and in the air.

September's featured section is all about "Sponsorship". It's full of helpful, personal, and often humorous stories by members about the joys and challenges of sponsorship.

Groupvine

Aaron F., Chair

September Groupvine attached to the main email.

GSRs: please print copies and make them available at meetings as a way to promote District events, service opportunities and volunteer needs. It is intentionally formatted in black and white for inexpensive printing (FedEx or your local library, UPS stores). Groups' treasurers will reimburse GSRs for reasonable printing expenses.

Literature

Frank F., Chair

Working on producing printed meeting guides covering Districts 40, 41, 42, 43, Nona East and WSFC. Estimated demand has dropped from approximately **8,500 to 4,500 guides**. Regular guides increased modestly in price, while the requested stapleless format increased dramatically from approximately **\$1.19 to \$7.18 each**.

Frank is exploring alternate formats/paper options, obtaining pricing from another printer and considering other ways to provide guides suitable for facilities where staples are prohibited.

LMC

Venus, Chair

Venus and Jeannie completed 6 additional group visits, bringing them to approximately ½ way through the targeted District meetings. These visits continue to provide an opportunity to explain District service, encourage volunteer involvement, and help groups understand how District contributions are used. GSRs were also encouraged to consider bringing printed District position descriptions to meetings when discussing open service opportunities.

PI/CPC

Julie R., Chair; Margaret, Alt. Chair

Carrying the Message (Events)

- Veggie Fest in Lisle – 8.8 & 8.9.2026
 - o Veggie Fest typically attracts 25,000-45,000 people and is a health-conscious event that takes place within our district every year. This year was AA's first year with a booth at Veggie Fest.
 - o The general vibe post-event is that the AA presence at Veggie Fest was a success! o We had 10 AA volunteers (both committee and non-committee members) scheduled over Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 am – 8 pm, both days.
 - o Our booth was 10'x10' with an 8' long table, a back wall and a cover on top. o We stocked the booth with AA literature and a minimum of 2 volunteers at a time (at least 1 man and 1 woman per shift).
 - o We had blown-up, 11"x17" versions of the 12-question "Are you an alcoholic?" survey available on our table.
 - o On Saturday, we tracked 283 interactions with people.
 - Interactions could be
 - as simple as explaining that our booth is for Alcoholics Anonymous.
 - or as significant as watching a man have a visceral reaction as he realized (while looking at the 12-question survey and talking with us at the same time) that he should be going to AA.
 - o He got too flustered to stick around for us to give him a big book.
 - Many stopped by to ask questions because they are worried about a loved one.
 - Many people walked by saying "It is so cool that you're here" or something to that effect.
 - Others walked by saying "You saved my _____ (brother's/ mom's / fill in the blank) life.... Thank you!"
 - We explained what AA is and what AA is not.
 - We shared personally when the opportunity felt right.
 - We also heard from a local restaurant that has hired a number of people from a treatment-related housing facility near the restaurant in

Lisle. The owner wanted to let us know that a) his employees in recovery are the best employees he has b) he would be open to others in early recovery seeking employment at his restaurant.

- o On Sunday, we started out strong again.
 - But then we were evacuated at about 1:15 pm due to the risk of lightening.
 - Unfortunately, so much rain fell during the storms that the ground was too wet for Veggie Fest to reopen. It was canceled for the rest of the day.
 - We had a total of 65 interactions before we evacuated on Sunday.
 - o During the fest, we tried something fun for engagement – we had small yellow rubber ducks that we gave away to anyone who engaged with us (in addition to any kids!).
 - The ducks really made a big difference in allowing us to have more engagement, as many people don't want to approach the AA booth.
 - But, a booth with ducks lined along the back wall on bookshelves and lined across the front of our 8-foot table, plus a sign "Are your ducks in a row?" is much more interesting for people to approach.
 - o Overall, even with the early ending on Sunday, it feels like we made an impact in the community with our presence at Veggie Fest. We definitely planted many seeds.
 - o We are currently seeking and compiling feedback from our volunteers over the weekend.
- o If anyone in the district heard anything about our booth and would like to share any feedback, they can send the feedback to the committee at one of the following email addresses:
 - pi-cpc@aa-nia-dist43.org – Committee email address
 - Juliej0904@gmail.com – Julie R, Committee Chair
 - margturner@yahoo.com – Margaret T, Committee Alt Chair

Committee Work

- Monthly committee meetings
- We continue our approach reaching 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
- Prepped for Veggie Fest
- Submitted expense report for Veggie Fest expenses

Marketing Efforts

- Creation of the Leave Behind Packet (LBP) is in progress.
 - o These activities were paused to prep for Veggie Fest.

Technology

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

There is nothing new to report for August.

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

District 43 is approximately **58% through the year**, with contributions at about **59% of the annual budget**, keeping them essentially on target. Expenses are currently at approximately **39% of budget**, though that percentage is expected to increase next month as August expenses, including Veggie Fest costs, are reflected.

Treatment

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

No updates from the treatment committee for the month of August.

Secretary

Karine M., Secretary; Kate R., Alt. Secretary

As Kate R. has officially onboarded as Alt. Secretary, we will be launching a new District Secretary email address that both of us can access. This shared account will allow us to maintain and archive the District Secretary's correspondence and history in one consistent place moving forward.

Our new email address is **aadis43secretary@gmail.com**.

The **1st email from this new address will be sent later this week with the finalized D43 August minutes**, so please keep an eye out for it and add the new address to your contacts.

Changing email addresses can be a bit of an adjustment, but the goal is for this to be the **last email change needed as future Secretaries transition into the role**. And please be reassured that I will continue monitoring the Secretary email address you have been using thus far over the next couple of months to make sure nothing gets missed during the transition.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility!

Web Admin

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

No report submitted at time of compilation.

District Committee Member (DCM)

Jeanie L., DCM

DCM Report

August 2026

Jeanie L.

jldcm43@gmail.com

Tradition Eight: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Upcoming Events:

- August 21, 22, 23 **2026 Illinois State Conference**, Oak Brook
- August 22 **Just for Today Women's AA Retreat**, Naperville
- August 24 (Monday) **NIA Area 20 GSR Monthly Zoom Meeting**
- August 29 **District 43 Annual Picnic** 1:30-3:30 DuPage River Pavillion, Naperville
- September 12 **NIA 20 Fall Assembly Meeting (GSRs, please attend)**, Village Green Church, 200 S. Lambert Road, Glen Ellyn or on Zoom. Register for Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/8pCHBMqASrGOyO4jrieATA>.
- September 16 **District 43 Business Meeting**
- October 3, **NIA 20 Fall Committee Meeting**, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Elburn. GSRs are not required to attend this meeting, but are welcome if interested.
- October 17 **2026 Big Book Conference**, Messiah Lutheran Church, Wauconda

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

Accessibility Chairperson Service need

We have not had anyone stand for the position of Accessibility Chairperson in District 43. Up until this month, there have been no requests that would be addressed by that service position. However, I received an email from the Accessibilities Chairperson in District 40. An A.A. member in that district has moved to skilled nursing facility in Naperville and cannot get out to meetings. The member has expressed the hope of having a meeting brought to her. I am working with the D40 Accessibility Chair on this. The social worker at the skilled nursing facility has already agreed to help facilitate this request, and the member has asked only for one A.A. meeting a month. Please take this information to your groups to see if any person is interested in the Accessibility Chair position. We have a need and I know the wonderful A.A.'s in our district will rise to the occasion. Until we get that position filled, I will continue to work with the District 40 Accessibility Chairperson to bring that A.A. member a meeting.

2028 State Conference bid

Our NIA Chairperson, Aaron V. Spoke with us on what it would entail to host the 2028 State Conference. I have already heard back from some groups about this service commitment. At our September business meeting, we will entertain a motion to make a bid to host the 2028 State Conference. Please be ready to vote your group's conscience next month at our meeting!

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

On August 1st I attended the NIA 20 Area Summer Committee Meeting. Here are a few highlights:

- District 43 can request a visit from our Delegate Lisa S. She will share with us a report from the General Service Conference. Although Lisa already shared her report with us at the Summer Assembly, a visit during a District 43 Zoom meeting will allow her to answer any questions you or your group may have. **Please contact me if you are interested in having a visit from our delegate Lisa S.**
- Our delegate also reports that proposed agenda items for the 2027 General Service Conference are due by September 30, 2026. If your group is considering submitting a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) for the 2027 General Service Conference (GSC), all submissions should be received on or before September 30, 2026, 11:59 pm. Submissions received after this deadline will be considered for the 78th General Service Conference.
- **Submitting a Proposed Agenda Item (PAI):** The use of the PAI online form is preferable to fillable PDFs, and GSO is hoping to encourage submissions through the form. This is the fastest and most accurate method for submitting a Proposed Agenda Item. However, we do not want to discourage involvement. If a fillable PDF is necessary, please email the PDF to: paisubmissions@aa.org
 - The link to the online form, along with additional information regarding completing a PAI and the PAI process, is: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019b70257ee777059e71b1b147c106ec>
- The General Service Board announced a Class A (nonalcoholic) trustee vacancy that will occur on the General Service Board at the conclusion of the 77th General Service Conference held in April 2027. August 31, 2026 is the deadline for parties interested in serving as a Class A trustee to submit a resume. Again, this is a nonalcoholic trustee. Resumes can be submitted by email to nominating@aa.org or by postal mail to: Attn: Secretary, trustees' Nominating Committee, General Service Office, PO Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.
- In the event that our district would host an NIA 20 event and need a certificate of insurance, we can email our NIA 20 treasurer Chris E. He will get it for us.
- Our NIA 20 Alternate Treasurer reports that District 43 groups have contributed \$5564.78 to NIA 20. This is more than any other district. Please thank your groups for their strong support of Alcoholics Anonymous in Northern Illinois!
- Here is information about a motion that will be made at the upcoming Fall Area Assembly on September 12.
 - **Motion: The Finance Committee moves to send \$10,000 to the General Service Board.**

- Background Past NIA Contributions to the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous:
 - 2024: \$10,000
 - 2023: \$10,000
 - 2022: \$20,000
 - 2020: \$2,000
- NIA Account figures as of 7/6/2026
- Current Checking Account Amount: \$28,678 (Does not include the Prudent Reserve, Pink Can, or Green Can funds)
- Remaining Projected 7th Tradition Contribution Amount: \$33,337
- Expected Available Funds for remainder of 2026: \$62,015
- Primary Purpose Basic (PPB) Remaining Amount: \$43,143
- Primary Purpose Motion (PPB) Remaining Amount: \$3,141
- Total Remaining Expenditures for 2026: \$46,284
- Surplus funds at the end of 2026: \$15,731
- Need to hold money for 2027: \$5,731 (based on the fact that 1st Quarter 2026 had a negative cash flow of \$4,500)
- Available to send as contribution to GSB: \$10,000
- Follow Up Action Required The NIA Treasurer will send a check to the General Service Board

DCM and LCM Visits

Venus and I had a milestone in our group visits this past month. We have now visited 50 A.A. meetings in our district! These visits are energizing and fun, a wonderful way to reach out to our local groups and thank them for their service and support. We also encourage members to join us in our efforts to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic and connect our groups to A.A. as a whole.

This past month we have made visits to Mid-Morning Serenity on Fridays, Beginner's Forum on Thursdays, 2 Drunks and a Book on Mondays, Just for Today on Tuesdays, B.Y.O.Bowl Ice Cream Social on Tuesdays (yes, they serve ice cream each week), Back to Basics on Mondays, LTGBQIA+ on Wednesdays, Candlelight Group on Thursdays, and Happy Hour on Fridays. A DCM letter was also sent to the Men's Meeting on Mondays through that group's GSR.

Meeting Conclusion

Jeanie L. closed the meeting with the responsibility statement.