

## February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – District 9 Monthly Meeting

**Attendance:** Chairs: DCM; Alt. DCM; Treasurer; Corrections; Grapevine; Secretary; Treatment. **Groups:** Bettendorf; Big Book Study; Blandine; Courage to Change; The Three Legacies.

**Chair Reports:** **Treasurer:** Beginning Balance \$8,337.31; Income \$188.33; Expenses \$1,321.84; Ending Balance \$7,203.80; Seed Money \$300; Prudent Reserve \$300.00.

**DCM:** Greetings district 9. I had the privilege to participate in the virtual area 24 business meeting held January 10th . Here are some highlights and information. Dave G incoming area treasure asks that all DCM's New DCM's please pass these friendly reminders onto the GSR's in your district: Make checks out to Iowa Area Assembly / Area 24 and send to PO Box 1291, Des Moines, IA 50305. I have envelopes you can take back to your district. Please list group's accurate name, district number and group number on the check. Group numbers can be found in the Area 24 Directory in the Area 24 Shared Dropbox. If you do not have access to the drop box please let me know and I will get you pointed in the right direction. A few notes from our incoming delegate Maryanne: I have received my committee assignment for the 71st General Service Conference this spring. I will serve on the Trustees Committee for the next two years and I am thrilled to be involved in such a busy committee with 8 vacancies on the General Service Board this year. I have been dabbling in the wealth of information located on the AAWS Dashboard beginning with the 71st GSC Communication Kit. There is a multitude of documents on this platform to review prior to the conference this spring. I will be busy. Our West Central Regional Trustee Mike L. contacted me in November and discussed the General Service Board's decision to hold the 71st General Service Conference virtually. The cost to hold an in-person conference with state guidelines would have cost GSO approximately 2 times the cost of the conference last year. I am excited to be on the ground floor of a new chapter of service work being implemented in the virtual environment. The virtual Area 24 Business Meetings and Spring/Fall Conferences in 2020 have technologically prepared me to participate in the General Service Conference in April. Maryanne participated in the US/Canada West Virtual Forum on 19 December. Specifically, our workshop topics focused on the new virtual environment and how we are practicing the traditions, protecting anonymity, and practicing reaching out to newcomers. There were over 100+ attendees who shared some great tips on navigating zoom, protecting anonymity, and creating enthusiasm for service. The Public Information Committee of the General Service Board has an opening for 1-2 non-trustee appointed committee member(s). They are searching for a suitable individual or individuals to fill this position and would appreciate any recommendations. They are accepting resumes of the suggested applicants. There is a Resume Sheet to be completed by applicants. GSO sent out a letter concerning 7th tradition contributions in December that I thought was worth reiterating to this body. Our 7th tradition contributions have enabled GSO to support our critical Twelfth Step work unimpeded. Some of their recent activities to better serve the fellowship include: • Digital initiatives: ERP system and aa.org website GSO is hitting significant milestones in the implementation of our digital upgrades and projects. The new webstore is up and running; the new online contributions portal is up and running; the new database portal, Fellowship Connection, is going live Monday, Dec. 14, with Fellowship input/user testing happening now. The new aa.org website is being developed and will be released next spring. The Meeting Guide app is functioning, and more improvements lie ahead in 2021. • Corrections and other service activities Correspondence on the Corrections desk has ramped up throughout the period of pandemic shutdowns. Currently, we need volunteers (women and men) to correspond with our members behind the walls; GSO plans revamp the Corrections Correspondence database and platform to ensure completeness and accuracy of contact information. • Literature special offers and a new book! Please visit the new webstore at [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) for more information, including the new title, A Visual History of A.A., for which we are taking pre-orders prior to a publication date of February 14, 2021. • Virtual United States/Canada Forums The creative leadership of G.S.O. staff with participation of our trustees is brought together two "big meetings" in December. The first, with the four eastern regions of North America, drew more than 2,000 participants. Check [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) for additional information on the December 19 Forum. • World Service Meeting Sixty-nine international delegates from 44 countries and regions on every continent met virtually (in lieu of Westchester Hilton, New York) for the 26th WSM with the support of the General Service Office team. The sharing and love of A.A. filled every screen and every face visible on the digital platform. The West Central Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Conference (WCRAASC) will be held virtually on March 5th, 6th, and 7th. The theme will be "A.A. in a Time of Change". The Zoom meeting numbers and password are pending. I will pass along as soon as I receive additional information. This will be a great opportunity for many to attend this conference who might not have been able to in-person. If you need to contact Maryann I can give you her information, or you can email her at [area24.delegate@aa-iowa.org](mailto:area24.delegate@aa-iowa.org), or call (309) 235-7158.

A few noted from out ALT Delegate Julie S: The Alternate Delegate has 2 major functions for Area 24. One is to orient to and be ready to serve as the Delegate in the event the Delegate is unable (and to mother her relentlessly so that this never happens), and the other wieldier task is to function as the Area Registrar. The Alternate Delegates from across the United States and Canada meet on the first of every month, and I have had the opportunity to meet with this group twice. It is interesting to discover the different 'other' duties each of the Area Alternate Delegates have (besides their primary duty of ensuring that the Delegate stay safe and healthy). I also attended parts of the Western US/Canada Regional Forum on December 19<sup>th</sup>. The General Service Office has rolled out their new database called Fellowship Connection, and I was able to attend an orientation to this on December 14<sup>th</sup>. All Area and District Officer and chair changes, as well as New Group information and Group GSR, alternate GSR, meeting location and times changes will be entered into the system. This will signal the GSO of new positions so they can send workbooks and other needed material for your specific position as previously discussed. In order for me to look up individuals in this system, I will need to have your personal email, so please assure that you include this information. If the position has an email (i.e.) this will be included, but we do not want to tie the position email to a person. Additionally, assure you are including a personal address as well. Much of my role will focus on assuring that your Group and District information is recorded so that the Area Directory, Website and GSO database are accurate. Any information that I receive regarding Group and District changes will be recorded in all appropriate locations and then returned to the District to verify the receipt of these changes. I just want to assure all that all group change information will be relayed back to the appropriate District as well as to the Webmaster and GSO. I would encourage all to use the Group Change Form, New Group Form, and District Officer and Chair Change form that is on the Area Website as this will ensure the Directory and Area Website are accurate and that the GSO is notified so all obtain their needed service material. I will assure all information I receive via the Area Website will be relayed back to the DCM for their use and needs. The Area 24 Directory is a separate document maintained for the use of Area members to conveniently look up Area and District information. I will work to keep the Directory as accurate as possible and look forward to my communication with the DCMs and GSRs to assure it is. The most current Directory will always be available in the Area 24 shared Dropbox folder. If you do not have access to the Dropbox, please make our Area Chair aware so you can be given access. I encourage everyone; DCMs, GSRs, and Chairs, to please check the Directory information and let me know if there are any changes needed. For the purposes of the Directory, I will use the position email if provided, and can include or exclude information as you wish. Just let me know. Additionally, the Area Webmaster will be notified of meeting time and location changes so this can be updated on the Area Website. It can be difficult right now with many groups utilizing a virtual or hybrid format for their meetings. Some groups may have temporarily changed physical locations. When completing the group change forms, I would encourage you to use the current group location information, then change it when the group returns to its previous or original location. Finally, just a quick reminder that as a result of switching to the new system, each group has been assigned a new number. The old group number is still valid and is now called the legacy number, so please don't be confused or alarmed. All groups that were in existence before mid-October 2019 now have two numbers. New groups after mid-October 2019 only have one number. If you have any questions about this process, please contact me. Yours in love and service, Julie S. Area 24 Alternate Delegate 319-721-4056 Area24.altdelegate@aa-iowa.org

Conference Reports - a) Fall 2020 Conference Final Report: Margaret F. 91 participants in total attended the Fall Conference last year. The final treasury tally from our excellent treasurer Caroline is as follows –Income – \$1250.00 seed money- \$82.00 Registration (Did not want it back after the conference went to virtual.) Total Income: \$1332.00 Expenses – \$62.00 P.O. Box - \$68.00 physical flyers mailed out (yet to be reimbursed) Total Expenses: \$130.00 Balance – \$1202.00 (soon to be mailed to the Area treasurer) Thanks so much for the opportunity to serve during this strange conference year. It's been a blessing. In Love and Service, Margaret F.

New Business: Bid for Fall 2021 – No bids were presented. Chair Dan P. assigned District 7 to host Fall 2021 Conference for Area 24. I moved that Area 24 pay for upgrades by the Webmaster to the Area 24 Secretary's Laptop, not to exceed \$200. (This will include a solid-state hard drive, cloning software, RAM assessment and S&H to Webmaster, and back to Area Secretary). Motion submitted by Julie S., seconded by John R. Vote taken. Motion failed.

I move whenever a committee is established in District 7 to host the Fall 2021 Area 24 Conference that they be provided \$500.00 seed money. Motion submitted by Ross H., seconded by Darrell T. Vote taken. Motion passed.

I move to postpone adopting of the budget to March service weekend. Motion submitted by Ross H., seconded by Bill H. Vote taken. Motion passed.

I move to hold the Area 24 Service Weekend in March Virtually. Motion submitted by Shery F., seconded by Beth C. Vote taken. Motion passed.

I move to approve a new laptop for Area 24 Secretary not to exceed \$1,000.00. Motion submitted by Terry C., seconded by John R. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Now for my report: Park and I met via zoom with district 11 in Dubuque to get experience on holding zoom activities such as district 9 mini event. Park and I asked Kevin K to host district 9 mini event and he agreed to do so. Thank you Kevin for being willing to serve in an uncertain time. Also I am asking for \$900 for my budget for 2021. With careful consideration and realizing that the information for all the incoming chairs were not entered into the database last year, it was decided that it would be in the best interest of our district for me to order the GSR packets for our incoming and current GSR's. I ordered all the pamphlets that were available except the grapevine packets for the GSR's. Unfortunately all that is back ordered and some is unobtainable. Most GSR's should have their packets except for 2. It would have taken 3 more months for gsr's to receive their material because of backlog. If gsr's did enter their information into the area website, you will eventually receive a packet. please give the extra packets to me or Park so I can pass them along to other gsr's as they rotate in. that way their will be no duplicates. I had a worker bee helping me get the packets out to the GSR's thank you for your help Amber.

**Alt. DCM:** There were 2,307 total users. 1,258 were on the site for more than 30 sec. The sites most visited were the Meeting Guide and the Virtual Meetings page followed by the Events page. There were no spikes this month and 5:00 pm remained the busiest time. An Events link has been added to the Menu. It was removed last year when everything was shut down. I attended the Area 24 Service Weekend Zoom Meeting January 9th & 10th. It was very informative but more than anything it showed me I have a lot to learn! January 31st Lee and I met with Don & Patti from Dubuque. They planned a very successful virtual District event and we were anxious to hear exactly how they had done that.

**Archives:** Greetings from Archives! I have reached out to our Area 24 Archives chair Jeff. Jeff Currently traveled to our Archives collection in Marshalltown. He also received a summary from District 3 on how they have addressed the pandemic this past 2020. This is my goal also with District 9 and the groups that have continued in person meetings vs zoom meetings. He made efforts to preserve an oversize photograph of the Des Moines A.A summer picnic at Pioneer Park in 1944. He is also working a biographical data sheet of Ed Emerson who was a past delegate and later an Archivist. Ed had 61 years of sobriety. He is also working on an historical survey data sheets for District 3, 19 and 23. I will be working on going through our Archives materials to see what data sheets we have received in the past and working on collecting those for our groups. I will also be making copies to submit to our Area 24 archives collection. Please again remind your group secretary to forward me any minutes or flyers your group may have. Please again feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have at 563-340-2870 or email me at figsheryl@gmail.com

**Corrections:** Hello all! although I am not the corrections chair, I have been keeping the line of communication open and following up on some of the corrections duties. I am happy to report that we are currently doing an in person meeting at RCF and that is being headed up by Donnie Collins. Scott Co Jail contacted us a few weeks ago to begin doing a virtual women's AA meeting with the facility. We are doing one meeting on Monday's from 11-12. We do have a all the time slots filled for a chair for each week as we have many volunteers ready to be of service. As for 605, I have been in contact with them. As of right now they are not doing any in person meeting, but have reached out and Sandy N will be the contact moving forward. They have also requested some meeting schedules be delivered. Is there anyway the literature chair could drop those off or I can find time to do so as well. I have also reviewed the corrections report from the service weekend in January. *Is the woman virtual meeting going on? Are men open to a virtual meeting as well? – Jaclyn will follow-up and report back on this. Pink can – suggest going through pink can for literature since they have the budget*

**Grapevine:** Hello all! Lots of good things on the near horizon, still working on gathering my committee. Gsr's please look for an email from me that you can take back to your home groups. It's just a letter introducing myself and finding out if there is any interest from your groups in having a grapevine rep. I also attended the service weekend in January and enjoyed the experience. I have received communication from John, my area grapevine rep, and look forward to working with him this year.

**Treatment:** I am happy to report that since elections, I have contacted all three facilities- Rosecrance, Country Oaks, and the Abbey. I have also emailed the Area 24 treatment chair and extended my information. I have also received the treatment workbook. As of right now, the Abbey is allowing a certain few AA members to go in and chair a meeting but are not allowing them to rotate out. They do not have the ability to do zoom. Rosecrance has been awesome and we have been invited to do some zoom meetings and have done our first month worth! As for Country Oaks-they have not returned my call. I have reviewed the report from the treatment chair, Ross from the service weekend in January. As for a working budget, I have no idea what to propose other than \$250 at this point for literature. I would like to hold a treatment workshop but that is very tentative with Covid. Perhaps I could do one on Zoom this fall. **Webmaster:** No report

**Group Reports: Bettendorf Group:** Meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm with 21 people in attendance. Minutes read and approved. Opening Balance \$9033; Contributions 2003; Ending Balance \$4901. OLD BUSINESS We have an intergroup liaison. So, alternate intergroup is open. We have a lease through June. We continue to look at properties but are not close to making a decision. NEW BUSINESS: Group Inventory set for 2/20/2021 at 11:00 am Bettendorf Anniversary in April (committee chair) We have co-chairs this year. Jan O and Kelly are the co-chairs. **Big Book Study:** Nothing new, speaker for the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary zoom event changed. Sandy G. from Virginia. Flyer on the intergroup website. **Blandine:** 1/31/21 Blandine Business Meeting. Next Blandine Business Meeting will be Sunday, Feb 28 from Noon to 1 pm and will be held after the Blandine 11 am meeting. Treasurer's Report Starting balance \$714.90, Contributions \$60.16, \$300 prudent reserve, 100 donated to Blandine Inc, 100 donated to Intergroup, \$26 exp chips, Ending Balance \$249.06, \$300 prudent reserve. Intergroup report – Solvent for December. Discussion again on Bettendorf not being able to contribute like they used to. Report in the last Box 459 what other Central Offices are doing. Text messaging, curbside delivery. New Business – Elections – Chairman Bob B., Treasurer Chris, Secretary – Tricia, Intergroup Donnie, GSR Christy P., Speaker Coordinator Donnie. Tues Step meeting making it only Step 1,2, 3. Just attended by 605. Passed. Last Friday Speaker will be brought back as attendance is up. **Courage to Change:** Have added another meeting, Sunday @ 9:00am (virtual) – links are listed on the intergroup website. **The Three Legacies:** Treasurer's Report: (October – January) Income: Mail in Contributions: \$255.00 PayPal Contributions: \$463.01 Expenses: Zoom Subscription: \$64.16 Distributions: \$300 to GSO Account Balance: 1,659.28 Prudent Reserve: \$630.00 Operating Balance: \$1,069.28. The Three Legacies group has recently updated its contact list for homegroup members and tabled service positions pertaining to the physical setup of the meeting hall. Our Alternate GSR position stands open as of now. Next Business Meeting will be held March 25, 2021. Our anniversary meeting is being held virtually Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm with guest speaker Bev H. from Omaha, Nebraska. Three Legacies meetings are still being held via the Zoom (*online*) platform & will continue to do so until the church opens back up for the group. Three Legacies currently holds three virtual meetings each week: Thursday @ 6:30pm (Open Speaker) , Tuesday @ 8:00pm & Saturday @ 9:00am (Closed Big Book Discussion) The centralized link & password to our virtual meetings can be found on the Intergroup website. ([aaquadcities.org](http://aaquadcities.org)) **Old Business:** Open Positions - Corrections, PI, Literature. Corrections Chair Nomination: Vicki (Park/Cissi). **New Business:** Reminder – Conference Agenda topics will be coming up (Reminder). Timeline from the group is uncertain, would be beneficially to provide that to the group as well. Mini-Event will be held (Virtually). Budget – we should probably start discussing budget; could be difficult to determine if we're going to travel for events. We could do two budgets, one that plans for travel & one that plans for a virtual type of budget. Motion that all Chairs turn in an estimated budget before next district meeting to discuss at next District meeting. (Kevin K./Ronna) April meeting will fall on Easter. Motion to move April meeting to April 11<sup>th</sup> (Jaclyn/Park)

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion made @ 11:30 by Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristen.