

January 4, 2026 District 9 Meeting Minutes

Attendance- DCM, Alt DCM, Treasurer, Archives, Corrections, CPC, Grapevine, Literature, Public Info, Secretary, Digital Coordinator, Intergroup Liason. **Groups-** Bettendorf, Big Book Study, Central Discussion, Clinton, Courage to Change, Marquette, Three Legacies, West End.

Chair Reports- read

Secretary – minutes approved

Treasurer- read, approval of report. Balance Forward \$3,150.43 Ending \$5,014.40

DCM- Hello District 9 and welcome to 2026! I am looking forward to serving AA and District 9 in whatever ways needed. Kevin and I met and reviewed the SOP's and added the suggested changes that you made. We will discuss those later in the meeting. I have also made a copy of them available on the dropbox and the agenda is also in the dropbox for later viewing if needed. If you are new this year as a GSR or other elected servant, please make sure Kevin (AltDCM) has all of your contact information. I am currently registered for the the January Marshalltown service weekend Jan 17-18. I am also currently registered to stay in Cedar Rapids for the West Central Regional Conference for Friday night and will be returning home Sat night if anyone is looking to car pool. There was a memo sent out that beginning in Feb, literature cost will be going up. The literature chair has more information. GSO has also asked that monthly emails be sent out in regards to AA being self supporting. As always, if you need anything. Please let me know. In love and service, Jaclyn M.

Alt DCM- Greetings District 9, In October there were 7,943 visitors on the aquadcities.org website. Of those, 1,220 stayed on the site for over 30 seconds, which is about 200 below our average of 1,400 visitors a month. The meetings page is still the most visited page with the flyers page coming in second. The calendar page came in third, and the virtual meetings page remained the 4th most visited page. There was an unexplained spike on the 28th of the month. There has been an issue with pictures not displaying correctly, so Randy has rebuilt some pages which seem to resolve the issue. For district members using the website, there has been a phishing email about the email accounts going around. So, just as a reminder "any information about our email accounts will come from the webmaster account and will contain the name – Randy C." Keep checking the flyers page for any type of group announcement. In Love and Service, Kevin K. District 9 Alt DCM

Literature- No report received

Archives- Good morning fellow members: One of the archives duties is inventory of the District supplies and records. Please see the draft of the start of the inventory. There is a recommended list to discard. Please advise of any objections. Another duty of archives is to fill out group information forms. The Area 24 / Iowa Directory had a group called "Foglight" in Muscatine listed. Myself and another member went to check it out and fill out Group info form. I discovered that group no longer exists and stopped into another group in Muscatine. This was an excellent learning moment as the "Gratitude in Action" group meets or co-uses conference room associated with Community Healthcare. Community Healthcare displays many substance use/alcoholic use disorder posters at their locations and I was never clear on why 12 Step is not encouraged. After seeing the co existing in Muscatine I understand it has to do more with location support than state policy, I theorize. The meeting was a hybrid and very welcoming. The meeting strongly supports a 12 Step Halfway House for Women called The Cedar River Haven. Which is also supported by local vendors. Appleby's was hosting percentage of sales on a date were to go to The Haven. "Gratitude in Action" has a very active group on Messenger which does the 24 hour and daily reflections readings daily. They post positive posts and recognize sobriety dates. People call in from all

over for the meeting. They recently have become Zoom for the meeting but still use Messenger daily. They are in District 13. An old AA group is has been mentioned in roll call and does pull up when Googled on the internet. The Stepping Into Recovery in Clinton is the Kings House men's halfway house. I stopped by and a staff member confirmed "Stepping Into Recovery AA meeting does not meet there Mondays at 7 pm.. I also attended the North Scott Group that meets in in Eldridge. This group meets Fridays. The joke is it is date night there. Several couples in the meeting have a partner in Alanon or AA and each attend. The members were surprised they were not listed in the Area 24 Directory. I also attended the Ground Zero Group in Des Moines. This is not part of archives duties but I was invited and curious to check it out. They meet at Rise Recovery Center in Des Moines. There are several 12 step groups in that location and a very large meeting room. The speaker was Lily and she will be speaking at the International Women's Conference that will be held in Des Moines this year. Her talk is titled, "Recovery after Incarceration". The conference is sold out but Zoom is still open. An interesting difference, I noted, was the meeting opened with the Set Aside Prayer. The chairperson would say a line then the room would repeat. The location uses a social media platform called The Band and several people made reference to the positive posts that gives the members a positive mood boost during the day. I also attended District 8 online meeting. It was a Tradition meeting and they used ChatGPT to summarize the Tradition for the meeting's subject matter. I enjoyed the summary by ChatGPT and the comments by the members. The woman with the longest sobriety time at Marquette, Joann R, sadly passed away Nov 21. Her sobriety date was September 10, 1977. She had several sayings but one was "God isn't ready for me and the devil is afraid of me." She used to be a Central regular but had to stop going there when she no longer drove. She also would go to Blandine but had to stop after having her leg amputated and the building was not handicapped accessible. Marquette members as soon as she was given the OK to leave facility would pick her up for meetings almost everyday. She left money in her estate for Marquette to "have a party" for her Celebration of Life. This is currently scheduled April 25, after the 11 am meeting. Your presence would mean a great deal to the group who never forgot about a member during her declining health. Joann gave AA 48 years of never ending support for the group and the newcomer.

November 28, a local member Jeffrey G. spoke at Blandine. He has self published his journals from his time in treatment (July 8, 2020) and the first couple of years of sobriety. The book is called "Beyond Broken". It was an interesting read for a person that has not been in treatment in 35 years and it was so cool to hear him make reference to a local group. He takes meetings into the jail and has most notably a broad recovery plan to maintain his sobriety. That is the biggest difference from recovery 35 years ago and recovery today. I have printed off copies of the cases and a newstory that was referenced in an AA Grapevine Podcast. I was shocked to hear that the US Court system and the Canadian Healthcare system view AA as a religious organization. Please see the AA Grapevine podcast from September 15, 2025. "I could have missed all this". It is explained nicely on that episode. The courtcases are all listed on Smart Recovery's website "Court Cases and Mandated 12 Step Attendance" and the Nurse story can be found on cbc.ca "Atheist nurse wins fight to end mandatory 12-step addiction treatment". I got the "3 Legacies" Group Information Form filled out by a founding member Cheryl. This group reads all 3 readings, provides childcare, has a quarterly business meeting and is hybrid. David H. spoke that night and Rachel B. picked up her 9 year chip. I attended a speaker meeting at the Salvation Army Adult Residential Center in Davenport. This meeting is not open to the public but Donnie and Pat can bring in up to 6 AA members. This is a men's facility that primarily serves homeless and recently released from prison. Men are court ordered to the facility and there is a registered nurse on staff. The AA meeting is what they call Bridging the Gap. Speakers from local groups are brought in to tell their story. The goal being when transitioning from the shelter into their own living they will find a support group. A local member from another group told his story. It was quite moving. He immigrated to America as a child and today is a business owner and married with 3 children. I sent Christmas Cards to 2 members in aged care facilities and 1 member in hospice. I signed the card District 9 archives. 1 member sent a message back thanking me for remembering him. One group is taking meetings to him 1 time a month. Mike L. Former Trustee for AAWS and from Omaha NE spoke at the District

4 Tue December 30, which is an online meeting. He shared about the Traditions in our relationships. During his time working for AAWS the Preamble change was going through. He stated the group that brought the issue forward were adolescents and when they came into AA and felt they were excluded or not really welcomed. He stated he got a lot of negative feedback from the change. He spoke about opening his e-mail shortly after Grapevine changed the preamble from "Men and Women" to "people" and one group was threatening to sue him personally. The next e-mail was from a mother who had son that was transitioning and went to a mens AA meeting and was told he didn't belong there. He went back his hotel room sent his mother a message saying "even AA didn't want him" and committed suicide. This story made him double his belief that AA is to be available for all. In service, Christy P.

CPC- No report received

Treatment- No report received

Grapevine- January's issue of the grapevine provides various stories of different things that helped AA members in early sobriety. It was interesting to read how others got through early sobriety as a reminder of the things that can continue to help us throughout sobriety. There is information about what GSO plans to work on this year as well. There are discussion topics in each Grapevine and a weekly podcast available on the app. Consider getting a Grapevine subscription either through the app or by mail to continue supporting this resource. -Amber J.

Intergroup Liaison- No report received.

PI- Hello all, I am excited a new year in this position. We are looking to do another workshop, potentially in the spring (tbd). If your group has a PI position, please connect them to me. Love and service MJ

Corrections- No report received.

Group Reports:

Central Discussion – No report received.

Big Book Study- Hello from the Big Book Study Group! We continue to have good attendance, both online and in-person, weekly. Our business meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month. We had elections back in November, and Erica S-C is our new alternate GSR. My position as well as hers is a 2-year rotation. We will continue to serve until January 2027. I will update and email the group information change form soon. We are excited and looking forward to our 25th Anniversary Event on Tuesday, February 24th. Doors will open at 5 p.m., potluck dinner at 5:30, and Jason M. from Burlington, IA will speak at 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing everyone there. I look forward to attending the January service on Saturday. I have registration and hotel reservations made for the West Central Regional Forum in February. In love and service, Jennifer G.

Three Legacies- Good morning, District 9, and Happy New Year from Three Legacies. I'm happy to introduce our new Alternate GSR, Rebecca N. With the start of the new year, our home group members are stepping into new service roles, and it's been great to see that level of participation.

We continue to offer daycare during our meetings. If you know of any parents in our fellowship who need childcare in order to attend a meeting, please feel free to send them our way. Daycare is available by free-will donation.

Attendance remains steady, both in person and on Zoom. Our next business meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, immediately following our 6:00 p.m. speaker meeting.

I will be unable to attend the first Marshalltown meeting; however, our Alternate GSR is planning to go. If anyone is attending on Saturday only and would like to carpool, please reach out and I can help get you connected. In love and service, Erin B

Marquette - January 3@ 5:30 Is the new saturday night meetings. Also on January 10 is the Marquette holiday party starting at 5pm to 7:30pm. Add the next business. We are adding to read 12 traditions.

West End – No report received.

Old Business- SOP's reviewed, approved and passed.

New Business- Budgets due in February. Revisit expectations of each chair.

Motions: For district to pay for DCM and Alt DCM to attend west central regional conference = \$400 total – passed.

Motion to move April 5th meeting to April 12th due to Easter Sunday – passed.

Motion to move July 5th meeting to July 12th due to July 4th holiday – passed.

Motion to move Sept 6th meeting to Sept 13th due to Labor day – passed.

Dates to remember:

- Area business meeting – Jan 17th 2026 @ 8am – Jan 18th 2026 5pm Marshalltown IA. GSR encouraged to attend on Saturday only, business meeting Sunday zoom
- West central regional conference – February 27th 2026 8am – March 1st 2026 5pm Cedar Rapids – no one required to attend.
- Area business meeting March 14th 2026 8am – March 15th 2026 5pm Marshalltown IA. GSR encouraged to attend but not required. Business meeting Sunday zoom.
- Spring area conference June 12th-14th 2026 Marshalltown IA
- August Marshalltown
- September Mini event date TBD.
- October Area 24 Fall Conference
- November is elections.