

# DISTRICT 3 MONTHLY MEETING April 19, 2024

## MEETING START 7:00 PM

1. Meeting opened with the Serenity Prayer.
2. 23 present: 17 Zoom, 6 at the Lee Courthouse.

## SECRETARY REPORT

3. Brian W, DCM, read the highlights from the March 2024 minutes. Brian covered the Secretary role due to Gigi L.'s absence at the March meeting. Motion to accept minutes was made and seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

## WELCOME

4. Ray, Area Chair, Area 31

## TRADITIONS AND CONCEPTS

5. Spread the word and join us at District 3 Traditions Meeting and Area 31 Concepts Study Meeting. The District Three Traditions meeting is held on the 2nd Sunday of the month @ 7pm. "What a Concept" is held on the 1st Thursday of every month @7:30pm. Links to these meeting can be found at the Area 31 website Calendar (<https://area31aa.org/calendar/>) or the below links:

Traditions Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/events/district-3-virtual-traditions-meeting/>

Concept Meeting: <https://area31aa.org/events/what-a-concept/>

6. Reading of Tradition Four, long form, by Jenny K.:

"With respect to it's own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than it's own conscience. But when it's plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount."

Link to illustrated version: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-traditions-illustrated>

7. Reading of Concept Four by Tom K.:

“Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional “Right of Participation,” taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in a reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.”

Link to illustrated version: <https://www.aa.org/twelve-concepts-world-service-illustrated>

## **GROUP REPORTS**

8. Boiled Owls: The business meeting is the last Monday of the month following 7pm regular meeting. Group purchased a bunch of Big Books. A What’s App was established between members. The group has a long list of members, and not many at the business meeting. They will be taking a vote on being an open or closed meeting; they are leaning towards open.

9. Great Barrington Women’s Meeting: DCM, Brian W., was officially invited to attend the business meeting of this all women group. The business meeting is held the first Thursday of the month.

10. Great Barrington Men’s Group: Business meeting is the first Thursday of the month @ 8pm; on that day the regular meeting ends 15 min. early to accommodate the business meeting. Meeting attendance averages 100-125 attendees. The group has a commitment @ Berkshire Mountain Health. BMH is not currently on the list of local institutions served by the Institutions Committee.

11. I Don’t Have a Clue Group: Group has its first experience roaring chairs on a four-month cycle. Business meeting is the last Sunday of the month following regular business meeting. New chair schedule was worked out at the March business meeting, a few days before the April-August chair commitments. Group agrees that it will address chair reorganization at the July business meeting for a September rotation change.

12. Keep It Simple Group: the group which previously held separate business meeting for the Zoom and in-person components has now held a hybrid business meeting, and the meeting went well. The group will wait one month before voting on agenda items brought to the table. The group is going to vote on the allowing of dogs. The group made a quarterly donation to the pie chart in the amount of \$500.

13. Lee Young People's Group: The business meeting is the 3rd Monday of the month. The group gives to the pie chart and has commitments to CSS, the jail, and McGee.
14. Lenox Big Book Group: The business meeting is held the first Thursday of the month. The group is well organized with chairs and commitments. They split the pie chart differently this last time, giving more to GSO.
15. Pittsfield Men's 12th Step Group: The group meets on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 with 35-45 people in attendance. The group increased its literature inventory by 30%. The group has an institutions rep and a commitment at CSS the first Friday of the month.
16. Stockbridge Tower Group: Business meeting is on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Service positions rotate monthly. The group submitted feedback on the Founder's Writings and the Plan Language Big Book. The group has two service commitments and is adding a third. Attendance is strong in-person and hybrid.
17. Southern Berkshire Group: Business meeting is 2nd Sunday of the month at 7 pm. Lengthy exchanges on the topic of what counts as a member. The group will be participating in "bookie meetings" through Berkshire Intergroup. Attendance is 30-40 in the room and 30-40 in Zoom. The Senior Center is trying to grow grass; please do not park in the grass seed.
18. Virtual Sober at Sunrise: The business meeting is held the last Saturday of the month after the regular meeting. The group has a commitment @ Jones on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The group is working on rotation of service by chaining chair in January and in June. The group does not currently have a timer; it is usual that not everyone gets to share. Their picnic is going to be on August 3rd.
19. Watch Your Step Group: The hybrid business meeting is held the 2nd Sunday of the month. The group donated according to the pie chart. The group has a commitment at McGee on the 2nd and 5th Thursday of the month. Commitments are well attended.

## **INVITED COMMITTEES**

20. Berkshire Intergroup, Courtney, Chair; Dwayne M., Co-Chair

The business meeting is held the 2nd Monday of the Month @ 7pm on Zoom. The new by-laws were approved. A picnic is being considered and the "bookie meetings" are not yet ready to go.

Link to Berkshire Intergroup Website: <https://www.berkshireaaintergroup.org/>

21. Area 31, Public Information: Andrew K.

Public Information meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. This is a hybrid meeting. 6-10 groups out of the 301 active Area31 groups are represented. An individual AA member does not need to represent a group to attend and participate with Public Information. P. I. has been invited to set up a table at an upcoming Wellness Fair, engages with local high schools-last year spoke about alcoholism before Prom, and is open to suggestions and ideas. P.I. is working on hosting a workshop. There is a supply of books and pamphlets for distribution. Responsibilities of the P.I. Committee are outlined in Area 31 Handbook and Guidelines, p. 24.

22. Area 31, Area Chair: Ray

- A. Ray updated attendees on the plans for the Round-Up: June 1, 9am-9pm, lunch for all and \$20 for dinner.
- B. The Accessibilities Co-Chair moved into the recently vacated Chair position.
- C. Storage needs identified at the Spring Assembly may be solved.
- D. Area is available to help with group inventories and is available to address groups and share about their responsibilities in our Service Structure.
- E. Mass State Convention has full car going to the next planning session on May 28. The convention planning committee welcomes more participation.
- F. Western MA Intergroup is hosting a golf tournament on May 25. \$100 per person with dinner. There was room for one more foursome at the time of Ray's update.
- G. WMYP-Western Mass Young People's in AA wants to consider putting in a bid to host next year's Mass State Convention.
- H. District 5 is presenting a "Traditions" themed play on July 20.

## **DCM REPORT**

23. Western MA Intergroup (WMIG) golf tournament is now available for registration on the WMIG website. Date is May 25th, 2024, at the Agawam CC; the cost is \$100 per person for 4 person team, and includes 18 holes and dinner afterwards. WMIG is also hosting a summer picnic at

24. The Area 31 roundup is being held on Saturday, June 1st at St. John's Lutheran, 60 Broad Street in Westfield (same location as the Spring Assembly); time to be finalized but plan for all day event. District 3 and District 4 are co-chairing a meeting at the Roundup from 3pm to

350pm on the topic “Having had a Spiritual Awakening.” District 4 has suggested the event be chaired by a GSR from each District with District 4 bring two speakers and District 3 bringing one. The speakers will share for 5 or so minutes and then 30 minutes of discussion.

25. Western MA Young People in AA (WMYPAA) has started up again and is looking for support. WMYPAA is also in the early stages of considering a bid in to host MA State Convention of YPAA, more details to come, attend the meeting

26. NERAASA will be held in 2025 as a virtual forum and is to be hosted by Area 45 in Southern New Jersey.

27. A writing workshop for the pamphlet “Do You Think You’re Different” and the Grapevine and La Vina in District 3; 9 people attended (virtual component was lost halfway through do to internet issues).

## **Co-DCM REPORT**

28. Currently Co-DCM role is vacant.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

29. Co-DCM Vacancy (11/17/23): Brian W. asked if anyone was willing to stand. At this time, no one attending the meeting was willing to stand.

**2/16/24:** DCM requested that GSRs take this to their homegroups to discuss the need for a member of District 3 to step up for the co-DCM role.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

30. Motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

31. The meeting ended with the Responsibility Pledge.

**MEETING ENDED at 8:15 p.m.**