

District 4 GSR Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Welcome GSRs:

Beth, Alt-GSR from Saturday Night Beginners Meeting in Northampton

Yevi, Alt-GSR from Haydenville Sunday Night Life

Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer

GSR Description from *Your group's link to A.A. as a whole, A.A. General Service*

Conference-approved literature: "By choosing its most qualified member as G.S.R., a group helps secure its own future — and the future of A.A. as a whole." When you're a general service representative (G.S.R.) You are linking your home group with the whole of A.A. In 1950, a new type of trusted servant, "group representative," was suggested to help in the selection of delegates to the newly formed General Service Conference. By 1953, the job of group representative was also seen as a good means of exchanging up-to-date information between individual groups and "Headquarters" (now the General Service Office). That's still an important side of your work. But now, as general service representative, you have an even bigger responsibility: You transmit ideas and opinions, as well as facts; through you, the group conscience becomes a part of "the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship," as expressed in the General Service Conference. Like everything else in A.A., it works through a series of simple steps. (For the complete picture in detail, read The A.A. Service Manual.)

Group Check-Ins

David E (Making Progress Group): Hybrid. In person meeting is growing and zoom meeting staying about the same size with total numbers about 20.

Terri (Sat Night Beginners Meeting in Northampton): Meeting is going well with about 40 people in attendance. Group is meeting in the chapel as the larger room is a serving homeless shelter.

Donna (Florence "I" Opener): Meets daily in person and on zoom with over 70 people online and between 15-20 people in person. Group has a fun committee and get together multiple times a week; they started a meditation session on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm led by group members with between 12-24 people attending at same zoom link as meeting.

Yevi (Haydenville Sunday Night Life): Doing great. Very well attended with about 70 people in person. Nothing new since last month.

Todd C (Better Safe Than Sorry): Meets daily on zoom at 6pm with a format that changes over night. Meetings are well attended between 25-35 people a night with 100 different people attending throughout the week. This Friday 3/18/22 is the group's TWO YEAR anniversary: 18 people are going to speak that got sober at this meeting. Group is having a group inventory at next business meeting on 3/25/22. A past delegate will come in to talk with group about how they would like to have a group conscience/inventory.

Linda (Sunderland Security): Sunderland is doing well - growing every meeting, more and more people coming in and saying "Oh, it's wonderful to be at an in-person meeting!". Still wearing masks but expect that to change.

Tania (Hadley Women's Language of the Heart): Group is meeting LIVE in person, again. Zoom also. Hybrid.

Todd C to present on Tradition 2:

"For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. *Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.*"

David E to present on Tradition 3:

Short Form: "*The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.*"

Long Form: "*Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.*"

March 2022 Area Meeting Recap

- **NERAASA 2022**
 - The importance of service work in order for AA as a whole to stay unified and informed. Adam has the GSR notes that he can forward to you.
- **The Area 31 Spring Assembly & Mini-Conference (Hybrid)**
 - Saturday, March 26, 2022, 9:30AM - 4PM (Pizza Lunch at 12)
 - *** Business Meeting on Sunday, March 27, 2022, 1PM - 4PM
 - Location: In Person at 300 Appleton Street, Holyoke, MA & on Zoom
 - email delegate@area31aa.org if you need a full list of agenda items (emailed). There is a summary of them as well. Twelve items which we will review at Mini-Conference are on www.area31aa.org website.
 - If you would like more information on specific agenda items, please email altdelegate@area31aa.org
 - Please share twelve items with homegroup. You all have a vote at the Spring Assembly to represent your groups and our district.
- **GSR Change Forms:** <https://area31aa.org/node/513>
- **Area 31 Western Mass Roundup**
 - Friday, May 20 - Sunday, May 22, 2022
 - NEW location: Clarion Hotel in W. Springfield. Hotel rooms \$129 a night. Call and ask for Michael White; he will be able to give you the rate.
 - Seeking donation items for raffle table; *they would be grateful for it because Round Up items have gone missing from old meeting place.*
 - At the spring assembly, round up will pass DCMs envelopes to run (or a GSR to run) a workshop on a step.
- Please visit www.area31aa.org for upcoming events
 - Service Manual Meeting (Hybrid format, 3rd Wed of month): 3/16/22 at 7:00pm
 - What a Concept Meeting (Hybrid format, 1st Thurs of month): 4/7/22 at 7:30pm
- **Bridging the Gap:** Sonja is the new bridging the gap coordinator. Making a list of AA

members who would be willing to bridge the gap for those coming out of an institution. Call to express interest in being on that list at (###)###-####. She will coordinate to help individuals give someone a ride to their first meeting.

- **MA State Convention:** November 11-13, 2022 LIVE and in person at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA. No program yet. **Next Planning meeting** at 7pm on last Tuesday of the month 3/29/22. Carpool from the bowling alley and Mercedes Dealership on Burnett Road in Chicopee (end of 291) at 6:15pm if you'd like to attend in person. Plenty of open positions and jobs that need to be done! Hotel rooms available \$127 a night.

Invited Guests

Steve M (Alternate Delegate):

- Email altdelegate@area31aa.org for background information on any agenda items. Mini-Conference Agenda items come from individuals and groups from all around the country. The reason behind the agenda items is found in the background information. There is a very short time to have it out, reviewed, and back to the delegate so the delegate can bring it back to the groups for you. GSRs bring agenda items to the groups, get a group conscience, and bring the conscience to the delegate via the mini-conference.
- NERAASA 2023 will be in Albany, NY

Old Business:

- GSRs attend meetings in District 4: Reflection
 - Send 2-3 people to a meeting together, which may be more enticing to a group
 - Will communicate via email for attending meetings now until March 2022 District 4 meeting
- GSR Presentation: Steve would be willing to come and present
 - Reach out to other groups who don't have GSRs and they could attend a District 4 meeting with the GSR presentation
 - Donna makes a motion that Steve presents his presentation at the

Workshop ideas for 2022

- District 4 Thanksgiving Alcathon

New Business:

- Imperative to keep track of which meetings have been attended in District 4
 - Leah and Adam will discuss how to access these via fellowship connection
 - Google Sheets Doc

Terri makes a motion to close at 8:11pm, seconded by David. Motion passes.

Close with Responsibility Pledge: I am responsible... When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April, 19, 2022, at 7:00pm on Zoom