

District 4 GSR Meeting

March 18, 2025

Meeting opens at 7pm with the Serenity Prayer.

James shares on Tradition 3: “The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking”

☑ James refers to quote “I wouldn’t want to belong to a club that would have me as a member” (Groucho

Marx) & how A.A. is the opposite, you decide your membership as the only requirement is a desire to stop drinking.

☑ Made reference to this tradition as a livening tradition recently at The Grapevine (Greenfield) where many in attendance have problems other than alcohol & how the board has referred to Tradition 3 to help guide their decisions when debating to ask attendees to leave.

☑ If we refuse membership people can die from this disease.

Patrick volunteers to read Tradition 4 at next meeting.

New GSRS? Melissa (Amherst 11 th Step Group Saturdays 5pm) – Matt W.

(Northampton Daily Reflections

Fridays 7pm)

Secretary (Dan B) gives secretary’s report Group Check-Ins:

Dan B. (Sunday Night Life Group Haydenville): Remaining positions filled post elections, meeting doing well, active in Area service & outgoing commitments.

Rachel P. (Florence Eye Opener): Nicer weather seems to be leading to less attendance on Zoom meeting (from 50 to about 30), but attendance for both in person & Zoom strong.

Matt W. (Daily Reflections Northampton): Matt new GSR. Slight dip in attendance has rebounded. Noticing less attendance from Hairston House (Men’s Program) lately. Rent paid up.

Parick B. (Shelburne Falls Big Book Study Group): Attendance spectacular (17-21), many new faces, new members & participation at meeting level. New format working well.

Best snacks in the Valley.

Melissa (Amherst 11 th Step Group): Melissa new GSR. Low attendance last year (5) now going strong (20-25) with a good showing of young people & new comers. Good mix of sobriety.

No Area Recap, will be given on Sunday 3/30 at Spring Assembly.

Lina M. Area 31 Institutions Chair shared: Institutions is an 'Invited Committee' (unofficial committee). They meet the 1 st Wednesday of the month 7pm at 30 Carew St S. Hadley in person only (no hybrid option). Main purpose of Institutions is to coordinate meeting commitments to institutions/programs were those staying there can't leave to attend meetings. Post COVID large decrease in Institutional commitments, Institutions is rebuilding Institution commitments list from scratch & is looking for new commitments, this requires a letter of intent from interested institutions (describe institution/program & contact person) to be submitted to Institutions.

Anyone interested can become an Institutions Committee member or a rep for their group. Any individual or group can signup for a commitment to an institution/program (if signing up as an individual, 1 year of sobriety and have an alternate person for commitment with at least 6 months).

Institutions does provide A.A. literature for those going on commitments to give out. It is also strongly encouraged that individuals & groups taking commitments contact/coordinate with institutions as it helps prevent double-booking, helps with organization, and they can provide A.A. literature and support. There are currently no Spanish speaking commitments, if interested or have any questions please contact Institutions <https://area31aa.org/western-ma-institutions/>

Old Business:

☐ District 4 workshop to be held May 17 th 10am-2pm at The Grapevine 93 Chapman St. in Greenfield, location & time has been locked in. Nancy created a flyer for workshop, will include in email with meeting minutes.

☐ Spring Assembly March 29 th & 30 th in S. Deerfield Holy Family Roman Catholic church 29 Sugarloaf St New Business:

District 4 Workshop May 17 th

☐ Speakers for workshop: Sally (Registrar) to speak. Patrick asked David, topic idea seemed a little unclear, but suggested those active in Area service would make good speakers. Bob M. (Area 31 Chair) was present at tonight's meeting & was asked to potentially speak, he said email him at Area 31 & he would try to find a speaker. Ray M. (Alternate) present and supported this idea.

☐ Grapevine (magazine) will send their display boards. Waiting on reply from Archives for similar request ☐ Young Peoples enthusiastic to table at workshop with information etc.

☐ Pizza restaurants being scouted, extra tables secured if needed.

☐ Flyer to be submitted to webmaster (Tom) ☐ Meeting format needed, will revisit next District 4 meeting in April, possibly discuss at Spring Assembly Spring Assembly (Bob M. Area 31 Chair):

☐ District 4 is hosting this year's Spring Assembly Saturday, March 29 th & Sunday, March 30 th at The Holy Family Roman Catholic Church 29 Sugarloaf St in South Deerfield.

☐ Need help with setup Saturday morning (7am) Nancy, James, Dan, Patrick, (possibly Matt) will be there early to help with setup. Patrick & Dan will stay Sunday to help with cleanup.

☐ Bob did supplies inventory: beverages, paper products/utensils (more water & soda to be purchased) ☐ 4 past delegates will be there to present then lead breakout workshops to discuss proposed agenda items as to bring our Area's group conscience to General Service Conference.

Round Up (Carl Round Up Treasurer):

☐ Round Up June 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th . Banquet Saturday night, dance Saturday night. Speakers Sunday morning.

10am-11:45 "Old/Long Timers" meeting. Held in Pittsfield at The Holiday Inn & Suites.

☐ Flyer on Area 31 webpage & link, or Roundup@area31.org ☐ Why important? Round Up is where our Area delegate returns from General Service Conference with a report after bringing them our group conscience. This is how our voices are heard.

☐ Round Up Committee meets every 2 nd Wednesday of the month on Zoom (info at Area 31 website) ☐ Looking for donations towards books for raffle table at Round Up money donations preferred, can be sent to Area 31 Inc. P.O. Box 6818 Holyoke MA 01041 ☐ Carl will be available at the Spring Assembly to answer any questions.

Meeting closed at 8:06pm with Responsibility Pledge

Next meeting April 15, 2025