November 2026

The Messenger

Area 24–District 11 News

Issue #30



November — The Eleventh Month

AA's 11th Step and Tradition 11 both center on humility, self-effacement, and attraction through spiritual alignment rather than promotion and personal ego or credit.

Key Shared Principles

Rejection of Personal Glory
Step 11 seeks through prayer and meditation "knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out." We shift focus away from personal control or self-aggrandizement. Tradition 11 states that public relations are based on "attraction rather than promotion". We seek to keep individual personalities out of the spotlight and deflect credit away from ourselves.

Reliance on Attraction
In Step 11, seeking spiritual alignment makes an individual a quiet, natural source of positive attraction to others through changed behavior. In Tradition 11 AA grows through the visible, quiet example of its members, eschewing marketing, self-praise, or celebrity endorsements.

Anonymity and Ego Reduction
Both principles require putting aside our egos. Step 11 trades personal will for a higher spiritual will, while Tradition 11 trades personal recognition and ambition for public anonymity. As we come to understand, it truly is an inside job.

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The 2026 Area 24/District 11 Committee Chairs



District Committee Member (DCM)	Keith K.	(815) 281–1591	area24district11dcm@gmail.com
Alternate DCM	Rod M.	(563) 564–7341	area24district11altdcm@gmail.com
Secretary	Erin R.	(563) 258–2668	area24district11secy@gmail.com
Treasurer	Cheryl P.	(614) 208–7477	area24district11treasurer@gmail.com
Archives	Rod M.	(563) 564–7341	area24district11archives@gmail.com
Grapevine	Travis	(563) 258–2668	area24district11grapevine@gmail.com
Corrections	Mick L.	(563) 580-1808	area24district11corrections@gmail.com
Treatment & Accessibilities	Carol K.	(563) 580–7377	area24district11treatmentchair@gmail.com
Newsletter	Thom E.	(815) 823–4655	area24district11newsletter@gmail.com
Cooperation w/ Professional Community (CPC)	Sue G.	(563) 845–9427	area24district11cpc@gmail.com
Public Information (PI)			area24district11pi@gmail.com
Activities	Mark R.	(563) 543–3218	area24district11activities@gmail.com
Fall Mini–Conference Chair	Stacy B.	(563) 580-8138	stacyb0108@gmail.com
Fall Mini-Conference Co-Chair	Steve G.	(563) 542-7639	

District 11 GSR Meeting
10:30 am First Saturday
of each month: 1646 Asbury Rd
(Lower Level)

Intergroup Business Meeting
10:30 am Third Saturday
of each month: Dubuque Area
Intergroup Office

Dubuque Area Intergroup
(563) 557–9196
1646 Asbury Road #7
Dubuque, IA 52001

Inside AA *A Newcomer Asks | Alcoholics Anonymous The AA Group*
Sponsorship *Our Traditions: Intro* *Our 12 Concepts of Service: Intro*

November 7 Mini-Conference Notes

Alcoholics Anonymous
District 11 – Area 24 Mini-Conference
Saturday, November 7, 2026

Theme: **Life Beyond Our Wildest Dreams**

1. Welcome and Opening

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to our District 11 Mini-Conference!

My name is Keith, and I'm an alcoholic.

On behalf of District 11, I'd like to thank each of you for being here today. Whether you're a GSR, a district officer, a committee chair, or simply someone who came for the fellowship, we're grateful you're here.

Today is an opportunity to enjoy fellowship, hear some experience, strength, and hope, and participate in something very important to the future of our district — electing the trusted servants who will carry our service work forward for the next 2 years.

Before we get started, let's take a moment to remember why we're here. Somewhere today, someone is still suffering from alcoholism, and the work we do in Alcoholics Anonymous helps make sure that when that person reaches out, a hand will be there.

Let's begin with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.
[Moment of silence and the Serenity Prayer]

2. A Reading on Service — (Inspired by Emmet Fox)

I'd like to share a few thoughts on service before we begin today's elections.

Emmet Fox often reminded us, through his spiritual teachings, that what we express in our lives is far more important than what we merely profess to believe.

Service is one of the ways we turn spiritual principles into action.

We sometimes think that in order to serve, we must have special talents, great wisdom, or an abundance of time. But perhaps the greatest qualification for service is simply a willing heart.

When we stop asking, 'What can I get out of this?' and begin asking, 'What can I give?' something remarkable happens. Our problems often become smaller, our gratitude grows larger, and we discover that helping another person is also a way of helping ourselves.
Service is not about authority, recognition, or being important. It is about being useful.

We need not do great things. We need only do the small things entrusted to us with love, honesty, and willingness.

And perhaps that is one of the beautiful paradoxes of our program: the more freely we give away what has been given to us, the more we find we have.

As we hold our elections today, I hope we'll remember that we're not choosing people to stand above us. We're choosing people willing to stand beside us — trusted servants who will help keep the hand of AA extended to the alcoholic who still suffers.

And if you're considering standing for a position, remember that you don't have to be perfect. You just have to be willing to learn, to show up, and to serve. After all, none of us arrived in AA because we had everything figured out!

With that spirit of gratitude and willingness, let's move on to our district elections.

3. District Elections

Today we'll be electing trusted servants for our next 2-year service rotation.

Before we begin, I want to emphasize that service in AA is not about titles or positions of authority. Our Second Tradition reminds us that our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Each position is an opportunity to carry the message of recovery, support our groups, and help Alcoholics Anonymous remain available for future generations.
I'll briefly describe each position before we accept nominations or ask who is willing to stand.

Please don't let a lack of experience discourage you. We can learn the responsibilities together, and nobody is expected to do this alone.

4. Election of District 11 Officers
District Committee Member (DCM)
The DCM serves as the connection between our district's groups and Area 24, helps coordinate district activities, supports GSRs, and keeps communication flowing throughout our service structure.
Are there any eligible members willing to stand for DCM?
DCM - Rod M nominated and accepted.

Nov. Mini-Conference Notes, *cont.*

Alternate DCM
The Alternate DCM supports the DCM, helps maintain communication with our groups, and steps in when the DCM is unavailable or unable to continue serving."
Are there any eligible members willing to stand for Alternate DCM?
ALT DCM - Stacy B nominated and accepted.
Stacy currently serves as Mini Conference co-chair.
Galena Attitude Adjustment is Stacy's home group.

District Secretary
The Secretary keeps accurate records of our district meetings, prepares and distributes minutes, and helps maintain continuity and communication.
Are there any eligible members willing to stand for District Secretary?
District Secretary - Josh nominated and accepted.

District Treasurer
The Treasurer responsibly handles district funds, tracks contributions and expenses, and provides clear financial reports so our members know how their Seventh Tradition contributions are being used.
Are there any eligible members willing to stand for District Treasurer?
District Treasurer - Kevin M nominated and accepted.

5. Election of Committee Chairs
Next, we'll move on to our committee chair positions. These positions are especially important because they represent the practical, hands-on work of carrying the AA message beyond our meeting rooms.Not every service position requires a great deal of time, but each one can make a tremendous difference in someone's life.

Corrections Chair
The Corrections Chair coordinates efforts to bring AA meetings, literature, and correspondence to incarcerated alcoholics who might otherwise have no access to our fellowship.
Are there any members willing to serve as Corrections Chair or Co-Chair?
Corrections Chair - Mary Jo K nominated and accepted.

Public Information (PI) Chair
The Public Information Chair helps the general public understand what AA is, what it does, and how those who need help can find us.
Are there any members willing to stand for Public Information Chair?
Public Information Chair - Paul nominated and accepted.

Cooperation with Professional Community (CPC) Chair
The CPC Chair builds relationships with professionals such as doctors, counselors, clergy, and law enforcement so they can better understand AA and direct people to our fellowship.
CPC Chair - Steve G nominated and accepted.
Steve currently serves as Mini Conference co-chair.

Treatment and Accessibilities Chair
The Treatment Chair helps carry the message into treatment facilities and assists individuals in connecting with AA meetings as they transition back into their communities.
The Accessibilities Chair works to identify and reduce barriers that may prevent people from fully participating in AA meetings and activities.
Treatment and Accessibilities Chair - Chuck E nominated and accepted

Grapevine Chair
The Grapevine Chair encourages members and groups to use and share AA's Grapevine and La Viña magazines as tools for recovery, unity, and service.
Grapevine Chair - Keith K nominated and accepted.

Literature Chair
The Literature Chair helps groups and members access AA Conference-approved literature and promotes the use of our written recovery resources - **Open**

Archives Chair
The Archives Chair helps preserve the history, documents, and shared experiences of our district so future generations can understand where we've been and how we've grown.
Archives Chair - Jeff M nominated and accepted.

Newsletter Chair - Open

Activities Chair - Open

Intergroup Chair - Keith K nominated and accepted.

Nov. Mini-Conference Notes, *cont.* & Treasurer Report

Closing the Elections
Before we move on, I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who has served this district during the past 2 years.
Some of that service has been visible, and much of it has happened quietly behind the scenes — answering phone calls, attending meetings, organizing events, visiting facilities, and simply being available when somebody needed help. Those things matter.
I'd also like to congratulate and thank our newly elected trusted servants.
Remember, you haven't been elected because you're expected to know everything. You've been entrusted with an opportunity to grow, to learn, and to help others.
One of the beautiful things about AA is that we don't have to do any of this alone.
Let's give all of our outgoing and incoming trusted servants a round of applause.

Mini-Conference Program and Fellowship
With our district elections completed, we'll continue with the fellowship and the rest of today's Mini-Conference program.

Program items:
Welcome our Al-Anon speaker, Joanne.
Welcome our AA speaker, Father Mark O.
Fellowship, refreshments, and meal as scheduled.
Raffle and acknowledgments.
Recognition of volunteers and those who helped organize the Mini-Conference.

Final Closing — Gratitude and Service
As we close today's Mini-Conference, I'd like to leave you with one last thought.
We often hear that we must give it away to keep it. But service gives us something else, too. It gives us a sense of belonging, a purpose greater than ourselves, and an opportunity to practice the principles we talk about in our meetings.
We may never know whose life is touched by a phone call, a meeting schedule, a piece of literature, or a few minutes of our time. And that's okay.
We don't need to know the results of every good deed.
We simply need to remain willing to do the next right thing.
Thank you all for being here, for supporting District 11, and for helping keep Alcoholics Anonymous alive and well in our communities.
May we continue to walk together in unity, recovery, and service.
Let's close with the Responsibility Statement.
"I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.
Thank you, everyone, and keep coming back!

Treasurer's Report
Dear friends,

The October Treasurer's report for District 11 is attached; there were a couple of checks I wrote in October but they were not cashed until November, so they will appear on next month's report. I will also provide a separate report for the Mini-Conference expenses as I did last year.

Thanks, and hope to see you all at the Mini-Conference!

In service,
Cheryl P, District 11 Treasurer

Dubuque AA District 11
Treasurer's Report for the Month of October 2026

	STARTING BALANCE		5,756.23
INCOME:			
22-Oct	Jaywalkers	$100.00	
23-Oct	Keyway Lodge	$200.00	
23-Oct	One Day at a Time	$35.00	
23-Oct	Vision for Hope	$275.00	
3-Oct	Distict Mtg Pass hat	$9.00	
30-Oct	Interest October	$1.70	
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS:		$620.70	6,376.93
EXPENSES:			
	TOTAL EXPENSES:	$0.00	
ENDING BALANCE 10/31			6,376.93
	PRUDENT RESERVE:		1002.94

A view of the Nov. Mini-Conference

Some thoughts on the District 11 Mini-Conference of 2026 *(Life Beyond Our Wildest Dreams)*

Just before people started to show up, the tables were ready and looking awesome with all the wonderful decorations and verses on the clouds.

Later in the evening, the small lights lit up and glowed all the way up the tubing to shine with some wonderful colors. The stars on the backdrop had some really great words on them; the question was what one word explains what the program gave you... Some said LIFE, others, HOPE, JOY, FREEDOM, DAD, FAMILY, PEACE, FRIENDS, DOG, and many, many more.

When the Raffle got started, the tables were full of all kinds of things. From afghans to blankets and fall flowers. There were baskets and toys and games, and AA Books. Yarn kits and cook-out stuff, even shop vacs, some wood-burned sayings and beautiful photos. To finish up, there were gift cards for many places like HyVee, Target, and even some cash, too. For me, personally, I'd like to thank all the people who helped set up and of course those who donated to the raffle.

All those who decorated the tables, nice job, there. The ones that had the register table and the literature table, too, were ready to go, along with the Grapevine table. And a big plus, the food, was so tasty at both lunch and dinner. And a special thanks to all who helped set all that up.

The break out panels were super good, and the speakers were awesome and had great messages to share.

Over the last few days, I've heard that everyone did a great job, and it was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to all the chairs, and everyone, who helped work on this. It was such a fun day that we all shared together.

Yours in Fellowship,
Carol K., Treatment and Accessibilities Chair











A view of the Nov. Mini-Conference (*cont.*)

















The Everything AA App

A MESSAGE TO THE FELLOWSHIP ABOUT THE EVERYTHING AA APP

Dear AA Friends:

Alcoholics Anonymous World Services (AAWS) recently acquired the Everything AA App. This represents an exciting opportunity to make AA literature and other resources available in a format that reflects how people communicate and seek information today, particularly members and still-suffering alcoholics who increasingly engage with AA digitally.

We would like to express sincere gratitude to the app's creator, Ben S., for the vision, service, and loving care that helped grow the app over the years. We are especially grateful for his willingness to work collaboratively with AAWS during this transition in the spirit of service to the Fellowship.

For more information go to: https://www.aa.org/everything-aa-app

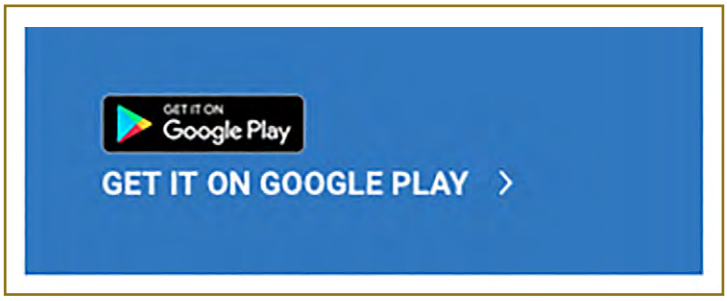
The Everything AA App is free with AA literature and resources

About the Everything AA App

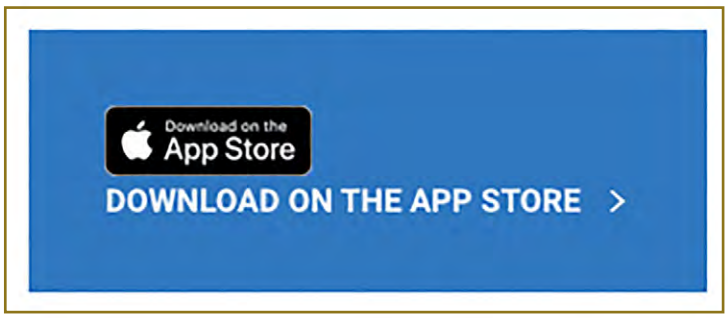
Easily access your favorite literature, read today's Daily Reflection, listen to book audio, and more! Available on both iOS and Android.

Everything AA features

- **Big Book text and audio**
- **12 Steps and 12 Traditions text and audio**
- **Living Sober text and audio**
- **Daily Reflections daily quote and audio**
- **Pamphlets**
- **Find Meetings**
- **Sobriety Tracker**



Click on Either Box to Link



The app is a recent addition to the many services GSO provides to the Fellowship. It remains available for download without cost; however, there is an option to subscribe at $1.99 a month or $19.99 a year to support the app's continued development and maintenance. This optional subscription model follows a similar practice to the AA Grapevine's subscription model for its app. The AAWS board has engaged in thoughtful discussion and deliberation to ensure that this aligns with our Traditions. Subscribers will receive content and are not contributing to the Seventh Tradition with their subscriptions. In the next year, as the app team continues to review and develop this important platform, you will notice phased changes to content and features along with the addition of new resources for all app users.

District 11 AA Meeting Directory

Alcoholics Anonymous Dubuque Central Office

Dubuque Area Intergroup
1646 Asbury Rd, (lower level) Suite#7 Dubuque, IA 52001 (563) 557-9196

Dubuque Area Intergroup Business Meeting
Dubuque Area Intergroup, 1646 Asbury Rd. (lower level), Suite #7 10:30 A.M.
Third Saturday, monthly. *All are welcome!*

AA District 11 GSR Business Meeting
1646 Asbury Rd (lower level)
10:30 A.M. First Saturday, monthly *All are welcome!*

Web Addresses

Dubuque Area Intergroup
AA Live and Virtual Meeting lists
dubuqueaa.org

Local AA Events:
dubuqueaa.org

Iowa AA Web address
aa-iowa.org

AA General Service Office Web address
aa.org

All zoom meetings
aa-intergroup.org

Dubuque AA Clubhouses

Westside Club House
1646 Asbury Rd (lower level)
Dubuque, IA 52001

Dubuque Fellowship Club (DFC)
1166 Main St. (lower level, enter from back alley)
Dubuque, IA 52001
(563) 588-1630

AA CONTACTS: NAME/PHONE

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Alcoholics Anonymous

Iowa Area 24, District 11

Dubuque and Neighboring Communities

Schedule Corrections?

Please call the Dubuque Area Intergroup at (563) 557-9196 and leave a detailed message. Thank you.

Meeting Key

C = Closed Meeting*
O = Open Meeting
H = Handicapped Accessible
W = Women's Meeting
M = Men's Meeting

* "In support of A.A.'s singleness of purpose, attendance at closed meetings is limited to persons who have a desire to stop drinking. If you have a problem with alcohol, you are welcome to attend this meeting. We ask that when discussing our problems, we confine ourselves to those problems as they relate to alcoholism."

rev. 8-11-2026

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Joy in Sobriety (C) Dubuque Area Intergroup
9 AM DFC Speaker's Breakfast (Sponsored by the Attitude Adjustment Group) (O) DFC (1st Sunday)
9 AM Living Room Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
6:30 PM Big Book Study (O) Community Building, 500 East Avenue, Dickeyville, WI
7 PM 12 Steps and 12 Traditions Group (O, Zoom Hybrid) 3342 John Wesley Dr. Dubuque
7 PM Missing Link Group DFC (O)
7 PM Unity Step Group (C) Westside Clubhouse

MONDAY

9 AM Family Afterward BB Study Group (O,H) Nativity Church, O'Brien Room, 1225 Alta Vista St. Children are welcome!
9 AM Live & Let Live Group (C) Westside Clubhouse
10 AM Galena Monday Morning Group (C) Grace Episcopal Annex, 107 S. Prospect St., Galena, Il Zoom Hybrid)
1 PM Women's Big Book Discussion Group, (C,W,H) St. Peter's Lutheran Church 3200 Asbury
6 PM The Messenger Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
6 PM Stone Room Open Meeting (O, H) New Melleray Abbey, Peosta
7 PM Hopkinton AA Group, (O) 107 3rd St. NW, Hopkinton, IA
8 PM 24 Hour Group (C) DFC

TUESDAY

9 AM Day at a Time Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
12 PM Sober Sisters BB Study Meeting (O, W, Zoom Hybrid) Dubuque Area Intergroup
12 PM There is a Solution Group (O,H) 408 3rd Ave NW (Lower Level) Enter from 3rd Ave, directly east of St. Matthias Church, Cascade

TUESDAY CONTINUED

6 PM Happy Hour Group (C) Westside Clubhouse
7 PM Galena Group (O, Zoom Hybrid) Grace Episcopal Annex, 107 S. Prospect St., Galena, IL
7 PM Manchester Group (C) 1050 South 3rd Street, Manchester
7 PM Garnavillo AA Group (O) St. Paul Lutheran Church, 104 S. Adams St., Garnavillo, IA
7 PM Dickeyville Tuesday Night Group (C, H) Community Building, 500 East Avenue, Dickeyville, WI (open, last Tuesday)

WEDNESDAY

9 AM Wednesday Morning 24 Hour Group (C) Westside Clubhouse
10 AM Edgewood Big Book Group (O, H) 203 West Union Street, Edgewood
12 PM Galena Brown Bag Big Book Group (C, Zoom Hybrid) Grace Episcopal Annex 107 S. Prospect, Galena, IL
7 PM Jaywalkers Big Book Study (O, H) AY Chapel, Fellowship Hall, 2001 Asbury Rd (enter from Wilbricht Lane, behind Chapel)
7 PM Basilica Basement Group (O,H) St. Francis Xavier's Basilica, 104 3rd St. SW, Dyersville (2nd Wednesday Speaker meeting)
7 PM Maquoketa Group (C,H) United Church of Christ, 206 East Platt St., Maquoketa, IA (Potluck last Wednesday, open speaker meeting)
8:00 PM Keyway Lodge Group (Candlelight discussion) (O, H, Zoom Hybrid) 2155 University Avenue, Lower Level, Dubuque. Enter from Irving Street.

THURSDAY

9 AM Day at a Time (12 Steps & 12 Traditions) (C) Westside Clubhouse
5:15 PM Women's Big Book Study Group (C, W, H) Dubuque Area Intergroup
5:30 Wing and a Prayer Group (O, H) DFC

THURSDAY CONTINUED

6:30 PM Rule 62 Candlelight Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
7 PM Founder's Group Big Book Study (O) DFC
7 PM Galena We Are Not a Glum Lot Big Book (C, Zoom Hybrid) Grace Episcopal Annex, 107 S. Prospect, Galena, IL
7 PM Open Door Group (C) American Legion Hall, 206 W. Main, Epworth, IA

FRIDAY

9 AM Living Sober Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
12 PM High Noon Group (O) DFC
6 PM Grapevine Open meeting (O) (Zoom only)
6 PM Sinsinawa Serenity Circle (O,H) Sinsinawa Mound Center, St Clara Chapel, 515 County Rd Z, Sinsinawa, WI
6:30 PM Friday Night Beginners Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
7 PM Vision for Hope Group (C, H) 3200 Asbury Rd, St Peter's Lutheran Church
7 PM Delhi Living Sober Group (C) United Methodist Church, 304 Market Street, Delhi, IA
7 PM Cascade & Area Group (C,H) Open last Friday of the month) Cornerstone Church, 830 Nixon St., Cascade

SATURDAY

7:30 AM Early Bird Grapevine Meeting (O) DFC
8:00 AM Joy in Sobriety (C) Dubuque Area Intergroup
9 AM 1st 164 Pages Group (O) Westside Clubhouse
9 AM Attitude Adjustment Group (C) DFC
9:30 AM Galena Attitude Adjustment Group (C) Zoom Hybrid)) 106 N. Bench St., Galena, IL
12:00 PM Gift of Desperation Big Book Group, (C,H) Cornerstone Church, 830 Nixon St, Cascade
6:30 PM Saturday Night Special (O,H) Westside Clubhouse

Meeting Guide APP info/links



The Meeting Guide app directly relates to the "I am responsible" pledge by acting as a digital, 24/7 extension of the "hand of AA"

By providing immediate, accessible, and up-to-date information on over 100,000 weekly in-person and online meetings, the app fulfills the commitment to be available whenever anyone, anywhere reaches out for help.

Key correlations between the Meeting Guide app and the Responsibility Pledge include:

"When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help": The app provides instant access to meetings worldwide, regardless of geographic location, meeting the needs of isolated or newly seeking individuals.

"I want the hand of AA always to be there": The app lists both in-person and online meetings, ensuring that support is accessible at all hours. It acts as a tool for "carrying the message," which is the basic service AA provides.

"And for that I am responsible": The app is supported by Seventh Tradition contributions and is designed to be user-updated, encouraging members to take responsibility for the accuracy of the information.

Supporting Newcomers and Professionals: The tool allows users to easily find meetings, and it is frequently used by professionals (therapists, probation officers) to help people find support, acting as a modern "hand of AA".

Voluntary Contribution: The app relies on local AA service organizations to voluntarily provide and update the meeting information, reflecting the collective service responsibility of the fellowship.

The app also respects the principle of anonymity by not tracking user locations when not in use and by allowing users to search without sharing their personal location.



DFC, Current



DFC, Dec. 6



Grand View Methodist, Current

Downloadable copies of most of these events are at DubuqueAA.org

November AA History & Step 11 History

Nov AA History *

Nov 1934	Ebby T carries the message to Bill.
Nov 1936	Fitz M leaves Towns Hospital in NY to become 'AA #3', with Bill W and Hank P.
Nov 1937	Bill and Dr. Bob compare notes in Akron. Count 40 cases staying sober. Meeting of the Akron Group to consider Bill's ideas for how to expand the movement … a book, AA hospitals, paid missionaries. Passed by a majority of 2.
Nov/Dec 1939	Akron group withdraws its association with Oxford Group. Meetings move from T Henry & Clarace Williams' home to Dr Bob's and other AA members' homes.
Nov 1941	"First Mass AA Meeting" in Oklahoma City, 8 present, and 1 was drunk.
Nov 1945	Bill's article, titled 'Those Goof Balls', is published in *Grapevine*.
Nov 1986	The Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, is published in paperback.
Nov 1, 1947	1st AA Group in Anchorage, AK.
Nov 1, 1963	Reverend Sam Shoemaker dies.
Nov 3, 2001	J P Miller, who wrote screenplay for "The Days of Wine and Roses" died.
Nov 9, 1966	President Lyndon Johnson appoints Marty M to the 1st National Advisory Committee on Alcoholism.
Nov 10, 1940	1st AA group formed in Minneapolis, MN.
Nov 10, 2001	1st of 400,000 4th Edition Big Books arrives in the mail.
Nov 11, 1934	Armistice Day; Bill started drinking after dry spell, beginning of Bill's last drunk.
Nov 12, 1940	1st AA meeting in Boston is held.
Nov 13, 1939	Bill wants to go to work at Towns Hospital, NY. Drunks want him to stay on as head of the movement.
Nov 14, 1940	Alcoholic Foundation publishes 1st *AA Bulletin*.
Nov 15, 1949	Bill W suggests that groups devote Thanksgiving week to discussions of the 12 Traditions.
Nov 16, 1950	Dr. Bob dies.
Nov 18, 1946	1st Dublin, Ireland, group meets.
Nov 21, 1939	AA's in San Francisco hold the 1st California AA meeting in the Clift Hotel.
Nov 21, 1952	Willard Richardson, past Treasurer/Chairman of Alcoholic Foundation, dies.
Nov 26, 1895	Bill W born in East Dorset, VT.
Nov 26, 1939	Dilworth Lupton gave a sermon, "Mr. X and Alcoholics Anonymous". Became one of first pamphlets on AA.
Nov 28, 1939	Hank P writes to Bill advocating autonomy for all AA groups.
Nov 28, 1943	Bill is guest speaker at San Quentin Penitentiary (sometimes dated Dec 2, 1943).

**reposted by permission of South Jersey Intergroup*

To understand the historical perspective on AA Step 11, consider the following points:

• The Oxford Group Roots: Early AA practices heavily borrowed from the 1930s Christian-based Oxford Group, which emphasized daily "quiet times," moral inventory, prayer, and listening for divine guidance.

• Rev. Sam Shoemaker: Co-founder Bill Wilson credited Rev. Sam Shoemaker of Calvary Episcopal Church in New York as a primary wellspring for AA's spiritual concepts, including the active balance of prayer (talking) and meditation (listening).

• The 11th Step Prayer: The widely used "Make me a channel of thy peace" prayer associated with Step 11 originated from an anonymous French devotional (*La Clochette*) in 1912, was mistakenly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi in 1936, and was later adopted into AA literature via Bill Wilson's writings in the *12 Steps and 12 Traditions*. (*Likely Author*: French historian Christian Renoux identified the author as Father Esther Bouquerel (1855–1923), the founding editor of the magazine.)

• Shift from Daily Quiet Times to Meetings: In early AA (the late 1930s and 1940s), daily private prayer and meditation were considered absolute necessities for survival, whereas regular fellowship meetings were viewed as secondary. Over subsequent decades, the cultural center of gravity in AA shifted more toward attending meetings, though Step 11 remains the core anchor for the "vertical dimension" (individual spiritual maintenance).

• Bill Wilson's 1958 Reflections: In writings for the AA Grapevine, Bill Wilson addressed emotional dissatisfaction and stalling spiritual growth in sobriety, emphasizing that Step 11 must be practiced persistently—like a scientist experimenting—even by doubters, to move past self-will.

• Inclusivity of "Higher Power": While rooted in traditional prayer, Step 11 evolved to accommodate diverse members by emphasizing "God as we understand Him," allowing secular, agnostic, or multi-faith members to reinterpret prayer and meditation as mindfulness, reflection, and alignment with values larger than oneself.

Area24 / District 11 Alcoholics Anonymous and Iowa Area Al-Anon Family Groups

Office Location: 1646 Asbury Rd #7, Dubuque, IA 52001

Office opened by appointment at your convenience:

Call (563) 557-9196



AA Literature

Dubuque Area Intergroup stocks and sells A.A. Conference-approved literature and recovery anniversary medallions for the convenience of local members and groups. French and Spanish literature can be ordered. We stock outreach pamphlets that address recovery with inclusivity for all persons. Al-Anon Family Group's literature may also be purchased at our office.

(Call for prices)



Meetings and Events

Dubuque Area Intergroup publishes and distributes up-to-date lists of in-person meetings as well as web-based meetings for those who are housebound or chronically ill. We publish local A.A., Al-Anon, and Alateen event flyers and other related information on this website. Our AA Meetings are also listed in the aa.org "AA Meeting Guide App".



Speakers and Referrals

The Dubuque Area Intergroup is one of 700 AA Intergroups throughout the U.S. We are a resource to connect with A.A. Members. We include public outreach for Al-Anon Family Groups and Alateen. Referrals to A.A. Speakers willing to share their personal experience with the A.A. program of recovery, may be reached by calling our office.

Group contributions support the operations of Dubuque Area Intergroup. Your group can make contributions using this PayPal QR Code:

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Thoughts of Interest in District 11/Area 24

From the Newsletter Chair:

We wish to acknowledge the contributions of the Dubuque Area Intergroup and its website, Dubuque AA.org, which hosts the District 11 ***The Messenger*** newsletter, events and AA Meeting Schedules. Thank you, for all that you do!

Summaries of the District Committee Business Meetings and Chair reports are lightly edited for clarity and consistency. Original Committee Chair report summaries are represented in the business meeting minutes. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive the District 11 monthly Business Meeting minutes, please text or email requests to: area24district11newsletter@gmail.com

We invite the District 11 fellowship to submit articles, art or photos related to their recovery or events that emphasize their experience, strength and hope for the still suffering alcoholic. We especially invite GSR's to submit articles describing their Home Groups and their activities. Articles should ideally be about 300 words or less.

Content submissions may require some editing, but every effort is made to maintain the spirit of the message, as expressed. Of course, anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all of our decisions including the use of initials of last names.

This newsletter, ***The Messenger***, is a publication of **Area 24 / District 11 of Iowa Alcoholics Anonymous**. The editor and contributors do not speak for AA, in whole or in part, and the information presented is for the sole use of the members of AA and the opinions expressed are those of the editor or authors only. All content quoted in full from AA Literature is offered in the spirit of recovery and we attempt to attribute the text appropriately and accurately.

District 11 serves the AA members and supports service groups & institutions of the following communities:

– Iowa –

Bellevue • Cascade • Delhi • Dubuque
Dyersville • Edgewood • Epworth • Hopkinton
Manchester • Maquoketa • Peosta

– Illinois –

East Dubuque • Elizabeth • Galena • Hanover

Our 7th Tradition:

"Every AA group ought to be fully self–supporting, declining outside contributions"

Reprinted from page 160, "12 Steps and 12 Traditions", with permission from AAWorld Services, Inc.



Self–Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix

Where Your Contributions Are Applied

Your contributions support the local operations of District 11 and the Dubuque Area Intergroup. All contributions from AA members are gratefully accepted.

All of these AA organizations depend on our support to 'Keep the Doors Open'

General Service Office
Post Office Box 2407
James A. Farley Station
New York, NY 10116–2407

Area 24
PO Box 1291
Des Moines, Iowa 50305

District 11, Treasurer
1646 Asbury Road, #7
Dubuque, IA 52001

Dubuque Area Intergroup
1646 Asbury Road #7
Dubuque, IA 52001

Coming soon: https://contribution.aa.org/app/checkout.ssp?is=checkout#login-register