

District 61 AA Business Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2025

Opening: The November 6, 2025, District 61 AA Business Meeting opened at 6:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer. Roll was called by the secretary. 17 GSR's were present and 11 committee members with 2 attending online, followed by a reading of the Twelve Traditions by Rolfe S.

Concept: Concept 11 was read by Amy N.

Kelly P, Class A Trustee to GSO, is visiting.

7th Tradition was collected for in person participants. Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved for the October meeting.

Calendar: The calendar was reviewed and approved. Any changes to be given to Alexandria by tomorrow.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Report (Dawn A):

See attached reports

DCM (Nate S):

Greetings District 61,

October was filled with great events put on by District 61. I attended the Roundup the first weekend of the month and a great time was had by all! Congrats to the committee and everyone involved for putting on an amazing event! Grapefest was a hit as well, as I'm sure Katelyn will report on later. I got to hear Lisa's Delegate's report and there were plenty of snacks.

The Attitude of Gratitude was this past weekend, and although it wasn't technically in October, it capped off a full month of wonderful District 61 events.

I was able to attend the Friday night meeting in White Sulphur Springs a few weeks ago and had a great meeting with 2 AA's. I'm hoping to visit some of the other meetings on the geographical outskirts of our District and see how we can better support those outlying areas.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Nate S.

Archives (Jeff M):

Greetings District 61:

This month our district put on had two wonderful events—The Grapefest and the 71st Attitude

of Gratitude, and our archive had displays.

For the Grapefest I was able to display flyers from our first Grapevine event from 1989, along with several others. I was also able to use materials I had found at the area archive, primarily a copy of the letter to The Grapevine from January 1955 that described how the publication led to AA's beginning in Helena. I also displayed a copy of the cover from that issue.

This 1955 letter also became a part of the display for the Attitude of Gratitude, which featured flyers and programs going back to 1968, which is one of the oldest artifacts in our archive. The display also featured materials from each decade since, including the flyer from 1983, which appears to be the first time the event was called "The Attitude of Gratitude."

As I developed both displays, I realized that the archive has not collected any material from district events or district meetings since 2019. While it seems likely that collection stopped due to the pandemic that came in early 2020, perhaps other factors are involved. I had a brief conversation with our secretary, Karla I., who mentioned that we may have some material stored digitally. I'm hoping to learn more about how we're storing records and how we might want the archives to be involved in that.

As always, if you're interested in helping with archives work or have material you think might be valuable to future generations of AA, I would love to talk with you. Please see me after the meeting or reach out to me at 406.465.9385

Thanks for allowing me to serve,

Jeff M.
D61 Archives Chair

Bridging the Gap (Amy N):

Hello District 61 and happy November.

BTG has one local discharging back to Helena form RMTC 11/14 and an inmate BTG form was sent to Geno in Butte for process.

I have a committee zoom meeting set up with BTG chair in Missoula, Angela to discuss further implementation of bedside BTG.

I was pleased to attend Grapefest and hear the delegates report. This is very useful information for our group and in planning financially to send to Area and GSO.

I have applied to Riverside in hopes to do a BTG presentation here but am informed that I need to call Suzanne in regard to something missing off the application.

We are starting our Mega meeting planning for Treatment/Corrections workshop and have picked a tentative date.

Corrections (Jamey C):

Good evening, district 61. This is your October corrections report.

Lewis and Clark county jail men's side seems to be going well other than the lack of participation from the inmates. Women's side as well. TJ said Boulder Jail is going good. He is still the only one going in down there. Need to find volunteers. I talked to Diane, and she said the Townsend jail women's side is hit and miss again. She is looking into it. The men's side is running smooth.

Russ said the pre release is going smooth, just low attendance. He is also the only one going in there still. Need volunteers for the pre release also. Riverside, not quite sure. I think there is a holdup with the application process? Montana state prison has not had meetings for a bit because of some maintenance issues. We need more volunteers for there as well. We have a tentative date for the treatment/corrections workshop which is April 24th from 1-4pm friday. Thank you for letting me serve! Jamey C

CPC (Alysia R):

I will not be able to attend our meeting tonight, as work will keep me late tonight.

I do not have a report other than to say that my committee (Claudia!) and I continue to review materials and will be meeting Sunday to talk over next steps.

Thank you!

Alysia, CPC Chair

Grapevine (Katelyn S):

Hello District 61,

This month's featured section is "Early Days of AA," showcasing articles from our vast Story Archive about what AA was like years ago. Grapevine also celebrates the 50th anniversary of our beloved AA book Living Sober.

I'm happy to report that the Grapefest was a success! Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success. Special thanks to Teresa for printing off a mountain of information and handouts at the absolute last minute, thank you to Wendy for all the help putting this on and also bringing some of the best cupcakes I've ever had, and thank you to everyone who showed up and supported the Grapevine and District 61. I counted 30 people in attendance at one point, but we had people in and out all through the event and we sold \$143 worth of Grapevine books. Our speaker, Lynne gave an incredible share, and we got phone lists and meeting schedules to 4 women in attendance with less than 30 days of sobriety. Lisa gave an abbreviated delegate's report with many in the crowd present for their very first Delegate's report.

Our Area Grapevine Chair, Hugh M, came down from Great Falls with a display and shared about a Grapevine writing workshop he assisted with in Missoula the week prior. Hugh reports that the Missoula workshop had 16 people in attendance with 8 stories being submitted before the end of the workshop and 8 more in the works. He and I spoke about the possibility of hosting one of these here, so I'd like to submit a few thoughts to the District for consideration. As your trusted servant, I want to ensure we're keeping with tradition but also doing what we can to best serve our community and the still suffering alcoholic. I know that the delegate's report has long been a component of the Grapefest, but given the wonderful attendance at this year's event, which I suspect is due (at least in part) to the timing, I wonder if our District may want to consider splitting the Delegates report from the Grapefest to allow for the Grapefest to be held later in the year, featuring a speaker and a Grapevine writing workshop instead of the report. The Delegate's report could then be held earlier in the year, possibly put on by the Workshops committee (sorry Wendy). This is not a decision I feel comfortable making on my own given the longstanding tradition in this District, so I would like to ask that we take this back to our groups to get a sense of the District's opinion. We can further discuss this in new business, or bring it back to your groups and revisit next month.

I would also like to ask today how many GSRs here know if their group has a Grapevine representative, by a show of hands. If you are unsure, or if your group does not have a Grapevine representative, I have Grapevine Rep handbooks with me for your convenience. Having a Grapevine representative in your homegroup is an excellent way to ensure your group stays plugged in with our meeting in print. The Grapevine serves as a vital tool that connects many members of AA to accessible experience, strength, and hope, no matter where they are or when they need to hear the message.

In exciting news, Grapevine has announced bulk discounts for books!

Discount Structure:

1–4 books: No discount (regular price).
5–9 books: \$0.50 discount per book.
10–19 books: \$1.00 discount per book.
20–29 books: \$2.00 discount per book.
30+ books: \$3.00 discount per book

Grapevine is also offering free shipping on all Grapevine products until December 31st.

If you're interested in sharing a story to Grapevine, some upcoming topics include:

- Young & Sober (stories due Nov 1, 2025)
- Annual Prison Issue (stories due Dec. 1, 2025)
- Sober Travel (stories due Jan 1, 2026)
- Sponsorship (stories due Feb 1, 2026)

As always, I've included links to information on how to submit a story, art, photo, caption or opinion, as well as the Grapevine Youtube channel.

Grapevine YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@AAGrapevine>

Story and art submission guidelines:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/guidelines-contributing-grapevine>

Submit your story:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/submit-your-story>

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Katelyn S.
District 61 Grapevine Chair
406-293-1486

Literature (Kari H):

Hey all!!

Unfortunately I have been sick since Monday so won't be in person tonight.

We had a great October with total sales at \$404, including \$222 at the Roundup. Thanks for ALL the help with setting up the lit table, (wo)manning it, and helping tear down. I'm always grateful for volunteers.

Also please announce in your groups that we are looking for men and women to go into jail. They are wanting to start another meeting for each (2 per week). This is a great opportunity to serve. 1 yr sobriety unless you've visited the jail unwillingly, then it's 2 years. Excited to get this up and running and carrying the message. See me or Jamey for applications. Or call me 406-371-6959.

Thanks for letting me serve!!

Kari H

Public Information/Answering Service (Teresa R):

Greetings District 61

Not a lot to report this month. I have been busy printing items for Roundup and other AA events.

I am printing new Schedules for November, 2025. I have a couple people who are looking for service work to help me with the folding of them. As of today, I have printed about 200 schedules, will print more as needed once I make my rounds to the racks.

Today I made the rounds for AA Racks. I updated the following locations.

St. Peter's Hospital ER

BHU

Treatment (Amanda T):

Greetings District 61.

I am unable to make the meeting tonight, but meetings are running smooth at Elkhorn, Boyd Andrews and the BHU.

I didn't have any volunteers for MCDC this past weekend but we should be back on track next month. This was the only meeting where we weren't able to send anyone.

We have speakers and volunteers signed up for the rest of this month. Again, if anyone is interested in volunteering, please reach out!

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Amanda T, Treatment

Workshops (Wendy D):

Hello District 61. I hope all of you enjoyed the 71st Attitude of Gratitude event that was held last Saturday. 150 people registered, with 120 of them being alcoholics. We had amazing workshop panel shares and the main speaker, Shawn P. was honest, open and willing to share his story. I went away exhausted but full. I heard something that I needed to hear from each speaker. I want to thank my committee for helping me put on this event and for everyone that showed up to help. What a day. I will have monetary numbers next month as the committee has not met to review final figures yet.

I also attended the Grapefest on the 25th and Katelyn put on an awesome event. I learned a lot and enjoyed the delegates report.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Wendy D

Round-Up (Rebecca SQ):

The Roundup was a success. Thank you to all who attended, volunteered and/or both.

Attendance: 219 AA / 38 Al-Anon, total 257.

The financial report is attached.

Thank you to the committee. You are the best.

Rebecca SQ

Tech Support (Kelly S):

No report provided.

GROUP REPORTS:

PPG Speaker for Nov is Holly S.

IITB speaker list is out and will be emailed out.

Wilson House will have gift exchange and dessert competition Dec. 14.

Early Bird Breakfast Group will now meet at Bagel Company Saturday 10am.

Big Book for Breakfast, Amy N will be speaking at Boyd Andrew Nov 19, 3pm

White Sulphur Springs meeting update by Russ online. Discussion on how to get help out to their community.

Save the Date flyer for Pockets of Enthusiasm. Mar 20-21, 2026.

Marathon Meetings at the Alano Club for the holidays.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Katelyn proposed the Delegate Report be separated from the Grapefest to accommodate a Grapevine article writing workshop. Delegate report could be done earlier in the year so items could be submitted in time for Fall Assembly. Rolfe S suggested an option to have report given on a Friday night at Recovery Speaks in June. Nate said he will talk with Lisa about doing the report and posting it on YouTube (password protected). Take this back to groups for discussion next month.

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Dec. 4, 2025, at 6:30 pm. The meeting closed at 7:27 pm with the Responsibility Statement. Nate S will do Concept 12.