

District 61 AA Business Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2025

Opening: The October 2, 2025, District 61 AA Business Meeting opened at 6:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer. Roll was called by the secretary. 13 GSR's were present and 10 committee members with 1 attending online, followed by a reading of the Twelve Traditions by Katelyn S.

Concept: Concept 10 was read by Kelly S.

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

Calendar: The calendar was reviewed and approved with the following additions. 13th - Attitude of Gratitude at 5:30. 14th - PREA training at the Pre-Release at 4:00 pm. 18th - Common Grounds at LCRG. 26th - Wilson House Halloween Party.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer Report:

See attached reports

DCM:

Greetings District 61,

I had the pleasure of attending the Area 40 fall assembly In September, it was great seeing everyone from district 61 getting involved and getting up to the mic. A few highlights for you all:

-Area 40 is soliciting bids to host the 2028 West Central Regional Service Conference. This conference comes to Montana every 8 years, and I think Helena could be a great option for a host city. I will spend some time over the next month or two looking into whether Helena has an appropriate venue for the conference and I will report back. Bids will be presented at the Spring assembly.

-Mail forwarding is now discontinued from the old Area 40 Treasurer's PO box to the new one. Please double check the address for all 7th tradition contributions going forward, the correct address is in billings and there are cards on the table with the information.

-Hugh M, the Area 40 Grapevine chair has announced a competition for new Grapevine subscriptions. The district with the most new subscriptions by the next area assembly will win a special prize made by Hugh, please spread the word.

-The area 40 pink can fund has over \$6000 in it; we are encouraged to reach out to the area for books if we need them.

The final report from the General Service Conference is now available, I've asked Karla to forward it to you all. It is available online and printed copies will be available soon.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Nate S.

Archives:

Greetings District 61:

This month was a week of travel and learning for my role as the archive chairperson.

On September 9 I was able to visit our Area Archives in Ennis and meet with our Area Archivist, Rick A. He gave me a brief tour of the facility and as he worked on a display for the area assembly, I familiarized myself with the collection, especially as it related to our district. There I went through an archive box which held District agendas and minutes, and another which had fliers and registration forms for Roundups, Attitudes of Gratitude, Pockets of Enthusiasm, and other events. There were even a few photographs of Carleen and her husband! I also understand there are lots of recordings from our district, but in my brief time there, I wasn't able to find them. At least I have one good reason to go back!

The most exciting find for me was in the Grapevine collection, where we have the earliest mentions of AA forming in Helena. I found a copy of the January 1955 issue that had the story, but our collection did not include the 1946 issue that had the first mention of a group forming in Helena. I photocopied the 1955 article along with some flyers for early Grapefest events so I can put together a small display for the upcoming Grapefest in October.

On September 13 th I attended the Area Assembly to participate in the Archives committee, made a brief report on our archive, and learned about archives in a handful of districts participating in the meeting. One district archive chair is busy with oral histories of long-timers in her areas, others are facing challenges with storage and with access to their archives (no one has a key to the closet), and one district has yet to form an archive.

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:

Hello District 61! Happy pumpkin spice and sweater season.

BTG is currently transitioning several guys from the VA out in to the community. Gary is

setting a few up in Denver with connections and one effectively bridged to Billings that I heard from. I currently spoke with a gal today on the phone who I will personally meet with Oct 18 th when she releases from Bear creek wilderness. They like to set up face times prior to the resident discharging. Which I think is a great idea. We have another transitioning from RMTC 10/8 to Helena and he is set up the same way.

Area was, of course, very informative, and the breakout group brought about ideas for BTG and further working on bedside BTG in the hospital setting. Besides the breakout groups, my other favorite part of Area, is listening to the past delegates share. And thank you for representing us Nate! Nice job. Also, there was an item we voted on regarding Area BTG, that was submitted by our Area chair, Sean, on a revision to one of the BTG chair guidelines in the Area 40 policy and procedures. If the BTG chair position is vacant and the Alt BTG chair isn't chosen to serve as the new chair, there was a lack of clarity on whether or not the Alt would remain in place even though it is a non rotating position. The official verbiage that ended up being voted on and ultimately passing, reads as follows:

The Committee recommends the BTG Chair guideline "G" on page 31 of the Fall 2024 revision of the Area 40 Policy and Procedures be revised to read: "If the Alt BTG chair position is vacant, the Area BTG Chair selects an Alt BTG chair and presents the candidate for the Area 40 Treatment Committee to review.

Reminder of LCRG's 27 th Anniversary celebration Oct 18 th at 2 at 311 Power St. This includes history of the group, al-anon and aa speakers, pot luck with the main dish provided and lots of fun!

See you at Roundup!

Amy N

Corrections:

Good evening, district 61. This is your September corrections report. Lewis and clark county jail is going great on the men's side. Also going great on the women's side. Women's attendance is up. Townsend jail is going great. Boulder Jail is also going great with a gentleman signing up to take meetings into there to help TJ. Pre release is going good and I have not heard from mike from the prison yet this month as we have not had our corrections meeting yet. I have heard nothing new from riverside Recently. Thank you for letting me serve. Jamey C

Karla I shared she has been in contact with Suzanne Moran with MWP and is working on background checks for all applicants. Also working with Great Falls, Butte, and Bozeman to share in the meetings. Also, I spoke with the Lt and he said the best days for meetings will be Tues, Wed, or Thurs at 1:30 - 3:30pm.

CPC:

Deb S, Alysia, Holly & Claudia met at Lewis and Clark Library mid-September to review the program and transfer materials.

Currently reviewing contents of box to familiar selves with the program; prepare to follow up on contacts.

Alysia R.

Grapevine:

Hello District 61,

This month's featured section is "AA & Technology." AA members share about the many new ways AA is using technology today.

Don't forget to come see us at the literature table this weekend at the Round Up! We'll have all kinds of Grapevine books we need to sell off, so send your sponsees over to buy the books they haven't read yet.

Also, the Grapefest is planned for Saturday, October 25th at the Wilson House at 11:00 until about 3PM. I have more flyers here, please take some and encourage your homegroup members to come, we could really use their support for this event. There will be snacks and treats. Our Area 40 Delegate, Lisa C.D., will be there to do her Delegate's report. We will have Lynne W. of Billings to share her experience, strength, and hope with a focus on community and connection in AA, which is what the Grapevine provides for many alcoholics worldwide. If you'd like to hear a little more about her experience with the Grapevine, she did the Grapevine podcast in October of 2022, season 3, episode 14 titled Tough Love. She also had an article published in the October 2022 issue of the Grapevine, which can be accessed via the Grapevine archive on the Grapevine website if you have a subscription. As a reminder, the Podcast is free, so you do not need a subscription to listen. Hugh M, our Area 40 Grapevine Chair will be joining us as well. There are flyers here and will be included in the flyers sent out by the secretary.

The Grapevine Publisher Chris C. sent out a letter September 24th, of which I've printed some copies and will send to Karla to be distributed with the minutes and flyers. Here is an excerpt: Grapevine and La Viña need your help — now more than ever. Grapevine provides the podcast, YouTube channel, Instagram and the prison tablet content free of charge to help alcoholics. Therein lies the challenge: Grapevine's only source of income is from subscriptions and the sale of books. The magazines do not accept individual or group contributions.

Folks often ask how they can support Grapevine. Today, our financial situation is very difficult. With your increased support, a thriving Grapevine and La Viña will continue providing these vital services to alcoholics everywhere. We will also persist in adapting new technologies to carry the AA message.

And for a limited time, when you subscribe to Grapevine for one year, we'll send you a FREE copy of our cherished book, Fun in Sobriety. It normally retails for \$14.99, but it's our way of saying thank you for being with us. This free book offer is only available until October 15, 2025! 1-Year · \$36.00 · GVUS1 ; Grapevine Print Subscriptions: 2-Years · \$68.00 · GVUS2 ; Grapevine Print Subscriptions: 3-Years · \$90.00.

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)

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:

Sorry I'm not there tonight, but I'm at a meeting giving a 30-day tag. Hope to see everyone at the Roundup! Total sales were \$204 for September.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Kari H.

District 61 Literature Store Chairperson

notaglumlot07@gmail.com

406-371-6959

Public Information/Answering Service:

Happy Fall District 61

The last few weeks have been pretty quiet on the PI front.

2 hotline calls came in in August, both were missed. I know that Cheryl W and Tom, not sure of last initial have been manning the hotline for a very long time. I talked took a call last week because it was missed, which I am totally fine doing. During the Assembly I talked to Lance and he said most districts rotate the Hot Line duties. I mentioned this to Cheryl and she is 100% for doing a rotation. I will have to figure out what that looks like and hopefully get some Volunteers to take shifts. Possibly One Month Rotations.

I have recently restocked the Alano Club and Book store with more schedules and will be working to get more out in the next few weeks.

That is about all I have for now.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Teresa R

District 61 PI Chair

Treatment:

Greetings District 61.

We are still taking meetings to all the places.

Meetings are running at MCDC, Elkhorn, and the BHU.

However, we need women to go into MCDC. So please share it with your home group members. If anyone has any questions, please let me know. My number will be listed in my report.

Also, I did attend Area this past month. I sat in on the treatment committee and sadly we didn't get any juicy topics. So, there is nothing to report back.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Amanda T, Treatment

406.475.4954

Workshops:

Hello District 61. As we get ready to attend the Fall Round up, I am reminding you that Attitude of Gratitude is just one month away. Registration is open and it's only \$25 for the day, which includes Dinner catered by Chipotle. Flyers are available to take back to your Home Group. A few people have registered so far.

There are also sign up sheets for you to take back to your group to assist to stocking the hospitality room with goodies throughout the day.

Our theme is Honest, Open and Willing and the group has some great workshops developing.

One week before Attitude of Gratitude (Oct 25) is the Grapefest at the Wilson House. Katelyn has been working hard on this event and I hope to see you there as well.

This is the last business meeting before both of these events, so please spread the work and help make both of these events successful.

Thank you for letting me serve.

Wendy D

Round-Up:

No Report Submitted

Tech Support:

Greetings District 61!

From last we met, I have procured a used Visio TV to display our online participants better. (Our projector was washed out under the lights. I still have some bugs to work out.

Cost? My labor to pick it up. (Free on Facebook Marketplace.) If the district feels a need to compensate me for an hour of my time and fuel, I would be grateful. But it is at the will of the District and GSR's.

Also looking for a Bluetooth microphone/speaker to better pick up the sharing of the District Business meeting, as I have had reports since I started of poor audio I still have not received a copy of my budget, not sure if it is an email problem or something else.

I will check with the Secretary and verify the email I have with her.

Thank you for the privilege to serve.

Kelly S.

District 61 Tech Chair

district61tech@hotmail.com

(406)439-2305 cell

GROUP REPORTS:

PPG Speaker for Oct is Bob R.

IITB speaker list is out and will be emailed out.

LCRG Common Grounds will be Oct 18 at First Christian Church.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Nov 6, 2025, at 6:30 pm. The meeting closed at 7:20 pm with the Responsibility Statement. Amy N will do Concept 11.