

Area 40 - District 72 Business Meeting

July 27, 2024

4:30pm-6:30pm

Hybrid meeting held in person at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman and via Zoom

- 1. Opened with the serenity prayer:** Lenore M.
- 2. Read the District 72 Safety Statement:** Lenore M.
- 3. Raise your hand if you are a voting member for District 72** (district officers, district committee chairs, GSRs, and Alt GSRs - only if your group's GSR is not here)
 - Voting members in attendance: 25
- 4. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions:**
- 5. Reading of Concept Seven:** Lenore M.

VII. The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

- 6. Questions about last month's minutes? Can I have a motion to approve the March 2024 minutes?** (meeting held 6/29/2024)
 - **Motion to accept:** passed

7. Introductions & Reports: GSRs & Visitors:

Lila H, **Bozeman Young People's Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun, Tues, Thurs @ 7pm. Sun is a Step Study meeting, read a traditions of the month.

Business meeting held 1st Tues. @ 8:15pm, will hold elections soon. Attendance has dipped a little bit.

Bob C, **Belgrade Common Solution** (Belgrade) - meet Sundays @ 5pm, business meeting held 2nd Sun @ 6:15pm. Attendance is good. Elections are ½ way through, will finish them up soon.

Teresa R, **Women's Serenity Group** (Bozeman) - hybrid meetings on Tues & Fri @ noon. Tues. is Steps & Traditions meeting, Friday is a discussion meeting. Attendance is steady. Birthday meeting is last Fri. of the month, business meeting held 2nd Tues. @ 11am.

Matt S, **Vennis Over The Hill Group** (Ennis) - Meet Mon. Wed, Fri @ 7:30pm, Tues. @ 9am, Sun. in Virginia City @ 10am. Business meeting held 3rd Mon. @ 8:45pm. (Mon & Fri meetings are hybrid) Spectacular attendance, new faces & visitors. A Lot of people for a small town. We voted and will host the September district meeting.

Tim K, **H.O.W. Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun, Mon, Thurs, Sat, birthday meeting last Thurs of month. Business meeting 2nd Thurs of month @ 8:15pm. In the process of elections. July birthday meeting we had 159 years of sobriety with 50+ people in attendance.

Kristi D, **6th Chapter Group** (Bozeman) - meet Sun. @ 11am, business meeting held 1st Sun. of the month. Attendance sporadic but better, consistent support. Switching up formats, 3rd Sunday is speaker meeting.

Monica F, **LGBTQ+ & Friends** (Bozeman) - meet Sat. @ 6pm, steady attendance. Out of town attendees are happy we have a meeting.

Rae L, **Early Risers** (Bozeman) - business meeting as needed, around 20 people in attendance.

Joshua M, **Rebellion Dogs** (Bozeman) - meet Sun - Fri at 5:30pm & Sat at 7:30pm. Business meeting held 2nd Tues. of month @ 6:46pm. Attendance is around 40, but was over 70 last Tuesday.

Russ G, **Saturday Morning Third Steppers Group** (Livingston) - meet Sat. @ 10:30am, attendance is 4 - 5 pot meeting. Business meeting held the 1st Saturday of the month. A former member who moved and recently retired, "What's the point Warren", was just killed in an auto accident recently. Sad news for our group and all who knew him.

Melinda W, **Tuesday at 8 Group** (Bozeman) - everything going good, will hold elections at our Sept. business meeting.

Visitors: James (Tech. Committee), Rebekah P. (Alt GSR), Susan H, Doreen M. (Alt GSR), Jeff, Tonya, Bob, Rick H. (Area 40 PI Chair), Lisa C-D. (Area 40 Chair/Alt. Delegate), Kacie N. (Area 40 Delegate)

8. Introductions and Committee Reports:

(Reminder to send any reports, flyers or information district72.secretary@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Meghan R. -

- (see email attachment D72 treasurer's report July 2024, or on Area 40 in District 72 Mini Sites)

Answering Service: Dustin G. -

- Things are running smoothly with answering service.
- Amends/apologies made for not showing up last few months.

Archives: Gail M. -

- I am so sorry that I cannot be at the District meeting in person, and that I couldn't attend the fun events scheduled earlier in the afternoon. I had surgery earlier this week and although I feel fairly good, I'm still supposed to take it easy.
- In the past month, I received a copy of a document entitled, "From Skid Row to Abundant Living" It was written by Vince Grant and Jess Lair Sr. Both are deceased early members of AA in Gallatin and Park Counties. It was given to Phyllis G, also deceased. She was a sponsee of Vince Grant. One of Phyllis' children gave it to us for the archives. It is a 49-page document that was written in the Summer of 1975.
- Nel is going to be conducting an old-timer interview. They will also be transcribing the interview which will be a great help. If you would like to interview an old-timer in the Gallatin, Park or Madison Counties to add to the archives, we would love to have it. Area 40 Archivist, Earl F. told me that we would like to have a recorded version of interviews as well as a transcript. We can get them professionally transcribed if that isn't something you want to take on.
- If you have any materials from your groups or from past District events that you would like to have placed into our local Archives, please contact me and we will arrange it. You can text me at 406 570-6917 or email at gm59715@gmail.com. Even if your group is not old, it would be great to have these materials on record.

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community): Karon K. -

• **Events and planning:**

The event with Al-Anon at Kiwanis Club on July 29 moved to the Springs behind Target. Adam J, who came into the program at a very young age was selected as AA speaker to relate to Kiwanis focus on children.

- Nora D has been diligent in trying to reach out to Bozeman Health professionals. Post COVID there have been numerous staffing changes and reaching someone willing to open doors for us has been challenging. We haven't given up; Doreen M is reaching out to the Director Behavioral Health Education and will connect with Catherine J to see what her contacts are.

- We contacted Joe Schumacher, the BRIDGERS outreach coordinator. (In May Dennis S attended and reported on the launch of the new misdemeanor DUI Treatment Court.) Joe is developing resources for his leadership team at BRIDGERS and is interested in AA presenting at one of their meetings, perhaps in the fall. We sent an example agenda and outline of the topics to be presented.
- We have been invited to exhibit at the Montana Peer Support and Recovery Services Symposium in Helena September 6. The symposium is funded by Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. There will be about 200 peer support specialists and administrators attending. District 61 CPC chair, Deborah S is collaborating on the effort. We will be one of only three invited exhibitors there—the Montana Prevention Certification Board (MPCB) non-profit professional credentialing organization which seeks to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and other substance abuse disorders in children, young adults, and adults, and Mountain Pacific Quality Health, a nonprofit organization that connects specialized services, education, training and support to health care systems and communities that seek innovative solutions for optimized health care outcomes.

National PI/CPC Working Group

- Thanks to Literature chair Amy K who is always looking out for anything that might be of interest to the CPC committee. She introduced us to the National PI/CPC working Group. We are amazed at the amount of PI/CPC resources that are available for reference and use and how many participants there are in this community. The working group meets monthly and we are sending information about it to other CPC committees in Montana. One of the activities Doreen M was able to attend is “Nurses for Recovery” which was presented with Al-Anon and focused on the challenges in addressing alcoholism, how nurses can support sobriety, and the AA program of recovery. A serendipitous outcome for her was being connected to a national network of nurses in recovery.
- This National PI/CPC Working Group has been asked to put forward a proposal to add an appendix to the 5th edition of the Big Book titled “Does AA Work”, “A Professional’s View for the 21st Century” which would feature strong scientific evidence validating the therapeutic effectiveness of the AA program in helping chronic alcoholics achieve and maintain sobriety. This stems from the research study we reported on earlier this year. (See [Does Alcoholics Anonymous Work?](#)) Summaries of this work were reported in the September 2020 *Grapevine* and Fall 2021 [Box 459](#).

Thanks to CPC Committee members—Bob E (Madison County), Dennis S, Doreen M, Eleanor W (Park County), Nora D, and Sharon S.

Grapevine & La Vina / Structure: Savannah D. -

- This month’s edition is focused on Dating & Relationships. The featured section is all about "Dating & Relationships." Members share experiences about sober dating and how their relationships have changed since they got into AA.
- Grapevine Daily Quote July 2:
“Great modesty and humility are needed by every AA for his own permanent recovery. If these virtues are such vital needs to the individual, so must they be to AA as a whole.”
-AA Co-Founder, Bill W., March 1946,
“Our Anonymity Is Both Inspiration and Safety”, The Language of the Heart
- Sign up to receive GV's Daily Quote!
- Podcasts and audio readings are available!
- Check out the archives!
- Share your story, joke or art!
- Sobriety Calculator
- American Sign Language Videos for Deaf Alcoholics are now available on the Grapevine & La Vina YouTube Channel!
- The board at the Hall is fully stocked!

Literature: Amy K. -

- Income was \$435.30, expenses were \$204.06
- Asking everyone to UPDATE your pamphlets! Throw away your outdated ones.
- There are also so many more books to purchase besides the Big Book and the 12x12.
- If you need any literature, please call or text me and we can meet up here at the hall.

PI (Public Information): Katie M. -

- We did not order schedules this month.
- I forgot to plan to have schedules at the hall today, if a gsr needs them for your group please take them from one of the three locations we stock at the hall or contact me and I will get you schedules.
- The PI committee has delivered schedules to 41 locations, mailed to 18 locations, and emailed to 1 location.
- Warming Center
 - The meetings are the 1st + 3rd Wednesday of each month at noon.
 - This is not an open meeting. It is a service commitment only.
 - We have made an orientation packet for all volunteers.
 - GSRs could you please announce? We always need more volunteers!
- Next committee meeting is August 16th at 5pm. If you or anyone in your home group would like to volunteer please contact me.

Special Events: Valerie K. -

- Today was lots of fun! Huge thank you to our guest speakers Kacie N. & Rick H. and everyone who attended and helped out.

Bridging the Gap: Tony B. -

- There was 1 male request in prerelease.
- The following is an email from Jessica E, Area 40 BTG Chair, sharing updates on Bridging The Gap Workshop Weekend (BTGWW).

Hello all,

I am getting excited for the upcoming Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend(BTGWW) that is coming up on September, 6 - 8th at the Fairbridge Inn and Suites & Big Sky Conference Center, [3803 Brooks St, Missoula, MT 59804](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3803+Brooks+St,+Missoula,+MT+59804/@48.17885,-114.10885,15t/data=!3m1!1e3!3m1!1s3803+Brooks+St,+Missoula,+MT+59804/@48.17885,-114.10885,15t). This is an annual Bridging the Gap Workshop Weekend that consists of presentations, discussions, shared experiences, and breakout sessions on Bridging the Gap(BTG) topics. This year area 40 is hosting it!

If you haven't already done so, please register for the event here: <https://btgww.org/>

Rooms are still available under a room block at the event center. Here is the flyer again: [Flyer](#)

I have attached the newsletter for all of you, but I also wanted to provide you with some updates from where we left off at the last meeting:

I have invited Earl F., the Area Archivist to attend and bring a display for the event.

Jack, our Area Technology Team chair, will also be attending providing audio and visual support for the event.

We had multiple area members bring forth two speaker candidates for the event. After meeting with the BTGWW committee, I was asked to invite both speakers to speak at the Friday night speaker event. Both speakers have direct experience with BTG. Without disclosing parts of their story, I am excited to announce both Kari H., District 61 BTG Chair and Amy N, District 61 Treatment Chair will be sharing their experience, strength, and hope on Friday night.

We are planning to have our Area 40 BTG in-person committee meeting during the event. If you haven't requested support from your district to attend, please consider asking for support in attending the event. Although we meet on Zoom, our committee has had the opportunity to

meet in person once a year and it has been our experience that your districts have been supportive in these annual meetings.

The BTGWW host committee(us) is having a check-in meeting with the BTGWW standing committee on July 20th, on this Saturday at 2 pm on Zoom. You are welcome to attend, but I will send out any new information after the meeting as well. There was a mix-up on the committee's end so I couldn't give a more advanced notice.

2pm mountain time - 3pm central

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84996825411?pwd=yryt7800rMg1XFalXXwZR0lJDxHrWc.1>

Meeting ID: 849 9682 5411

Passcode: hello

Please feel free to reach out to Dan or Kari (BTG contact list) or me if you are available to help with registration, hospitality, or greeting. We would love the support. I sent this to BTG reps, but please forward the info on to your districts.

I hope all is well with everyone, and I look forward to connecting soon!

Jessica

845 901 6019

(Please see the Summer BTG Newsletter attached to this D72 mailing for more information)

Corrections: Jennifer M. -

- I apologize for missing the last few district meetings, reports were sent in.
- Been busy forwarding emails, needing more people to volunteer.
- Gallatin County Detention Center (GCDC) has a 3rd pod of females, need commitment from volunteers to go in.
- Pink Can funds are greatly appreciated.
- GCDC has a new program director, challenges with information, orientation, and applications.
- Application to volunteer at the GCDC can be found here -

<https://aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/docs/volunteer-packet-pdf.pdf>

GSRs please make sure your home groups have copies available of the application.

Treatment: Chris O. - (absent - Joanne M. read report)

- First of all, I want to apologize for missing the June meeting and not submitting a report. The July MCDC meeting got canceled due to a sick driver the day of the meeting. It has been a struggle to find volunteers to go to MCDC, as per usual in the Summer months. I am going to be trying to add to the list of MCDC Volunteers during the remainder of my term, so that I can hand off a healthy list to the incoming chairperson. I'm excited and grateful to see our pink can funds have grown & will be coordinating with Jennifer M, Corrections Chairperson, to purchase literature for distribution. Thank you to the Meetings that contributed! If your group is not currently doing pink can & would like to, please contact me. Also, please advertise at your respective meetings about volunteering for meetings at MCDC every 3rd Saturday from 6:30-7:30 in Butte. Text or Call me at (406) 220-0792 for registration or information.

Technology: Bradley G. -

- Committee was unable to meet this month.
- Purchased tickets for the Virtual Technology Workshop, for myself and another committee member, Sept 13 - 15. We'll learn to better utilize technology to carry the message.
- Upgraded hardware (ie, longer cables) will be purchased.
- Reminder send screen shares to: Area40.district72@gmail.com

Alt. DCM: Lenore M. -

- A big thank you to Livingston for hosting last month's district meeting.
- Today's service event was awesome! Thanks Valerie, Kacie, and Rick.
- We will start the election process today and will continue at each district meeting until done.

DCM: Betty M. -

- Hello District 72! I am writing this on July 31, 2023 to include a **Summary of Kacie's Delegate Report** given on July 27th. Thank you to Tim K for sharing his pictures of her slides with me.

Contributions to GSO: It costs over \$5 to process a contribution sent through the email vs. \$2.93 to process an online contribution. Therefore, GSO can provide more services when contributions are sent online. How? Go to this site: [Contributions and Self-Support | Alcoholics Anonymous \(aa.org\)](https://www.aa.org/contributions) and select the "Online Contribution" tab at the top of the page.

International Convention: Planned for July 3-6 2025, Vancouver Canada at the Vancouver Convention Center. Cost: \$160 in September 2024; increases to \$185 a few months later. Theme: *90 Years: Language of the Heart*. More information on the AA website.

Co-Founder Writings: Strong sentiment against any changes being made to the basic text of Alcoholics Anonymous. Suggest when change is proposed to use footnotes, pamphlets, Grapevine/La Vina to avoid becoming irrelevant.

How is our 7th Tradition used: Literature on more than 200K tablets in jails & prisons, maintaining the Meeting Guide app, GSO archives, Public service announcements, Corrections Correspondence Service, Literature translations, Accessibility tools, Publishing of service pieces, Cooperation with the Professional Community. See me if you would like more information.

Finances: AAWS 2023 Highlights:

- 7th Tradition: \$10.84 million. Up 2.8% from 2022
- 7th Tradition covered 62% of operating expenses
- Operating Expenses: \$17.45 million. Up 9.9% from 2022
- AAWS publishing profits: Up \$6.7 million from 2022
- Individual contribution self-support number: \$6.43
- Group contribution self-support number: \$157.28

Plain Language Translation: The committee recommended that the draft manuscript *Plain Language Big Book: A Tool for Reading Alcoholics Anonymous* be approved with minor changes.

Area 40 Events:

Area 40 Fall Assembly – September 13-15 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Great Falls: No cost to attend the event itself. Transportation, gas & meals is required. **Important:** If you are a voting member of District 72 please plan to attend on line via Zoom or in person so that you can participate in the election of new Area Chairs & Officers for 2025-2026.

District 72 offers a [Scholarship Program](#) for attending Assembly. Please see the District 72 Guidelines on the District 72 mini-site at <https://www.aa-montana.org/> for information and application. Deadline: mid-August for decision at August District 72 Business Meeting on August 31st.

Area 40 Fall Roundup, Anaconda – October 11-13

Will be great event with AA & AIAAnon speakers, variety of entertainment options, good food available. Flyer available online.

Note: For a fuller listing of activities/events, refer the calendar and flyer using the Calendar Tab of Area 40 Montana AA site: <https://www.aa-montana.org/>

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Betty M

DCM D72

9. Immediate Business:

- **Does anyone have any important changes to their current service descriptions that are ready to look at right now?**
Nobody had any business to discuss.
- **Current committee chairs, please review your service position descriptions in the District 72 Guidelines to check for any needed updates, changes, etc. and submit them by August 21st for discussion at the August business meeting.**

10. Old Business:

- **No old business**

11. New Business:

- **Start Elections of the District officers (DCM, Alt. DCM, Treasurer, and Secretary) and committee chairs (as time allows) for the 2025-26 District Rotation-** Kacie will lead us!
Elections proceeded using the *Third Legacy Procedure*.

Elections ran longer than expected. There was a motion to extend the meeting to complete voting on the position we were currently in the middle of (Alt DCM). Passed: Yes - 24, No - 0

Results: DCM - Lenore M.
Alt. DCM - Meghan R.

Motion to adjourn @ 6:45pm

The following agenda items were not covered at this meeting.

- **Discussion to add “Provide oral and written reports at the monthly District 72 business meeting” to all service position descriptions in the District 72 guidelines (except for Secretary)-** Lenore M.
 - The reason to not include the Secretary is because the Secretary’s monthly minutes serve as their written report
 - Currently the following District service position descriptions don’t mention anything about an oral and/or written report: District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate District Committee Member (Alt DCM), Answering Service, Bridging the Gap,
 - Currently the following service position descriptions refer to an oral and/or written report, but with inconsistent language: Archives, Corrections, Grapevine/La Vina, Literature, Public Information (PI), Treatment, Special Events, District Inventory, Roundup Chair
- **Discussion to add “Participates in the Finance Committee as lead by the Treasurer” to the District Committee Member (DCM), Alternate District Committee Member (Alt DCM), Secretary, and Literature Chair service position descriptions in the District 72 Guidelines-** Lenore M.
 - It is currently only mentioned in the Treasurer service position description that the DCM, Alt DCM, Secretary, and Literature chair are the members of the finance committee

12. 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."*

REQUEST: *If you have any items you want added to the next month's agenda, please email it to Lenore at lenore.maunz777@gmail.com at least 10 days in advance of next month's meeting date so there is enough time to add it and send the agenda out. This would be August 21, 2024.*

*Please send any items to be screenshared & displayed at the next D72 meeting to:
area40.district72@gmail.com*

**Next district meeting Saturday, August 31th , 2024
4:30pm – 6:30pm at the Fellowship Hall in Bozeman
and on Zoom.**

**See Area website for happenings in our District and the rest of Area 40
as well as current District information:**

AA-Montana.org

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The link to our District mini site is:

<https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php>

*If your group has an event flyer you wish to post on the Area 40 Calendar of Events
please send to: webmaster@aamontana.org*