

**Iowa 8th District**  
Box 10722  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52410-0722  
[www.aa-cedar-rapids.org](http://www.aa-cedar-rapids.org)

**Area 24**  
Box 1291  
Des Moines, Iowa 50305  
[www.aa-iowa.org](http://www.aa-iowa.org)

**General Service Office**  
Box 459, Grand Central Station  
New York, New York 10163  
[www.alcoholics-anonymous.org](http://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org)

## **DISTRICT 8 MEETING MINUTES**

### **May 15, 2023**

The meeting was called to order @ 7:00 PM by DCM (Kyle T.)

#### **Non-AA / Non-District Announcements**

- N/A

#### **The Serenity Prayer**

#### **Welcome New GSRs / Alt GSRs**

- Tim from Hillside Group
- Caleb from Earlybirds
- Sarah Saturday Women's Meeting at Fellowship Club
- Becky from Women's Seeking Serenity at Industrial Club

#### **The Agenda**

John R. moves to untable and vote on the following motion during "New Business":

- Al R. moved that District 8 create a Facebook Group Page for the dissemination of District 8 news in a timely manner.
- Mark S moves to approve the Agenda
  - ✓ Motion seconded by Angie
  - ✓ Motion adopted

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

##### **Secretary – Todd H. ([secretary@aa-cedar-rapids.org](mailto:secretary@aa-cedar-rapids.org))**

- Wes moves to approve the Secretary Report
  - ✓ Motion seconded by Ray C.
  - ✓ Motion adopted

Thank you everyone for allowing me to service in this capacity. Please let me know if anyone didn't receive last month's minutes or if anyone needs to be added to the email list.

Yours in Love and Service,  
Todd

##### **Treasurer – Troy F. ([treasurer@aa-cedar-rapids.org](mailto:treasurer@aa-cedar-rapids.org))**

- Treasurer Report attached
- Ray C. moves to accept the Treasurer's Report
  - ✓ Motion seconded by Valerie
  - ✓ Motion adopted

##### **Alternate DCM – ([altdcm@aa-cedar-rapids.org](mailto:altdcm@aa-cedar-rapids.org))**

Hello District 8,

Last month's meeting attendance was 38 total, with 19 GSRs and 10 service chairs in attendance.

Everyone please be sure to sign in. The sign in sheet is located by the door on the table with the announcements.

Please email me any changes that need to be applied to the printable, electronic and virtual meeting lists. I have been forwarding new meeting information to our District Technology Chair so he can keep our meeting list updated on the District 8 website. I am also forwarding all meeting change information to the Area 24 Alternate Delegate to keep the Area meeting list updated. I continue to keep record of all changes affecting the printable meeting list and update it as they come in. Please check my work, by vetting the Area 24 meeting list, the District website's meeting list, and District 8's printable meeting list. Look for any corrections regarding times, locations, and type of meeting, i.e. Open/Closed, or Zoom/In Person. Thank you.

If your group has made any changes, including new GSR, Alt GSR, or both, and has not submitted a group change form, please do so at your earliest convenience. Group change forms are available on the District 8 website as well as on the table with the sign in sheet and announcements.

In Service,

Josh H.  
Alternate DCM  
District 8  
altdcm@aa-cedarapids.org  
402.309.9850

**DCM – Kyle T.** ([dcm@aa-cedarapids.org](mailto:dcm@aa-cedarapids.org))

Greetings District 8

❖ Not a lot to report this month. I have not been diligent about getting to new meetings in the District, I will do much better this next period. I am planning on attending all of the listed meetings in District 8 during my term. If you'd like me to attend your homegroup before our next District Meeting please let me know.

❖ I would really like to encourage District Chairs and GSR's to attend the Area 24 Spring Conference Hosted by District 8. Please register if you haven't already. The rooms are dorm rooms at Grinnell College, and bedding will not be provided. So those attending will need to bring sheets for a twin bed and whatever other bedding you may need.

In Service, Kyle M. Taylor

Kyle Taylor  
District 8 DCM  
Cell: (319) 651-7765  
Email: dcm@aa-cedarapids.org

## **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

**Tech Chair – Dave G.** ([tech@aa-cedarapids.org](mailto:tech@aa-cedarapids.org))

The tech committee met by Zoom on April 10, 2023. Present were committee members Dave G., Nathan D. and Jen D.

Since our last report we have: 1) Updated flyer for AA Grapevine Audio Project, 2) Updated Sunday Morning Industrial Club information, 3) Sent new newsletter chair the district email address, 4) Updated groups in Grinnell, 5) Posted flyer for New Beginnings Traditions Workshop, 6) Added 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Group to the website, and 7) Updated the printable meeting schedule.

The site was down between 1:20 and 1:30 pm on April 12 for unknown reasons but we have had no known problems since.

For virtual groups to be listed on Meeting Guide it is required to have the URL for the group.

In the efforts to improve and upgrade our District 8 website we have had many challenges due to the simplistic nature of the free version of the design software (Colibri) that we are using. In addition, we get no support when we do have problems. For these reasons we are proposing to purchase a paid subscription to Colibri Pro. Please see the proposal on the back of this report.

Please continue to give me any updates of upcoming events so I can place them on our website.

If you see any errors or improvements that need to be made with the website, please direct them to me. This is a work in progress.

In my capacity as webmaster, please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you.

Our website had 611 distinct tracked users in the past 30 days, down from 622 last month.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave G.

District 8 Tech Chair / Webmaster  
[tech@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:tech@aa-cedarrapids.org)

We updated the District 8 website not only to be more visually appealing and inviting, but also to incorporate a “drag and drop” structure that is much easier to use when modifying the website.

The free version of Colibri uses a limited selection of predesigned blocks to create the website – users have very limited ability to make modifications – and does not include technical support.

Upgrading to the Colibri Pro version:

- Provides priority technical support – especially helpful when others take over as webmaster
- Gives full control over typography and colors across website – headers, footers, pages, and menus.
- Gives full control over layout and content.
- Allows four different types of header design – the free version has only one option.
- Allows advanced styling features that let us refine header and page layouts. (Free version has limited options to improve layout).
- Supports multiple languages – great option if we want to auto translate to Spanish versions (not available in free version).

The cost is \$79 per year with a 20% discount for yearly renewals (about \$64) or \$169 for a lifetime subscription.

**Treatment – Jeremy M** ([treatment@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:treatment@aa-cedarrapids.org))

Present, said there was nothing to report.

**Public Information – Mark S.** ([pi@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:pi@aa-cedarrapids.org))

Present and reported that he had a committee meeting.

**Newsletter – Diane N.** ([newsletter@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:newsletter@aa-cedarrapids.org))

No report

**Literature – Randy N.** ([literature@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:literature@aa-cedarrapids.org))

No report

**Grapevine – Jean R.** ([grapevine@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:grapevine@aa-cedarrapids.org))

District 8 Grapevine Report - May 2023

AA Grapevine Audio Project

On April 29 we held Part 2 of our Zoom workshop. A total of 10 participants recorded and submitted their audio stories to the Grapevine. Thank you to everyone that participated.

AA Grapevine Needs Meeting GVR's

The number of AA Grapevine Meeting Representatives registered in District is 5, up 1 from last month.

Please be of service and volunteer to be a GVR for your home group or encourage others to volunteer at your groups next business meeting.

If you would like to be a Grapevine Rep for your group or know someone else who would like to be a rep please contact me and I will walk you through the process.

My email is [grapevine@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:grapevine@aa-cedarrapids.org)

To register as a meeting grapevine representative click on the link below:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/get-involved/become-grapevine-rep>

AA Grapevine Magazine Drive

We received 400 Grapevine magazines from our recent magazine drive and they are being distributed to various organizations.

The Fellowship Club Saturday Women's Meeting has delivered GV magazines to:

ASAC - 16th Ave. - 50 Grapevines

Heart of Iowa - Bowling St. - 50 Grapevines

St. Luke's Hospital - 50 Grapevines

Mercy Hospital - 25 Grapevines

Access Center - 25 Grapevines

The Way Our Group has delivered GV Magazines to:

Safe Place Foundation - 25 Grapevines

AA Grapevine Joke-a-thon & Learning Session

The Grapevine Joke-a-thon and Learning Session is 10:30am this Sunday May 21 at the Industrial Club. It should be a lot of fun. Please spread the word to help make this event a success.

The Industrial Club is located at

225 South 35th St., Marion, IA

Thank you for allowing me to serve you District 8

Jean R.

**Corrections – Jim H.** ([corrections@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:corrections@aa-cedarrapids.org))

No report

**Cooperation with the Professional Community – Jeff B.** ([cpc@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:cpc@aa-cedarrapids.org))

No report

**Archives – Lynn M.** ([archives@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:archives@aa-cedarrapids.org))

Hello District 8!

Group History Forms are available at front table. I will be at the Marion Industrial Club, where Archives are stored, this coming Thursday May 18th at 1 pm to sort and organize. All are invited! Thanks to Jessica for volunteering her time. More will be revealed.

In Love and Service,  
Lynn M.  
319-431-4855  
[archives@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:archives@aa-cedarrapids.org)  
[lynnm1989@gmail.com](mailto:lynnm1989@gmail.com)

**Guidelines – Joe P.** ([archives@aa-cedarrapids.org](mailto:archives@aa-cedarrapids.org))

Greetings District 8 –

This month I will present a couple of motions for you to consider.

The first will be an omnibus motion containing a collection of cleaning and polishing changes to the guidelines. These changes are meant to clarify intent and clean outdated items. As usual, I remind the body that:

1. The guidelines are simply reflections of past actions taken by the District body, and are always subject to permanent change or replacement, or being over-ridden for specific issues.
2. The guidelines only exist to support the smooth procedural operation of District business at the business meeting. They do not affect the groups directly at all.

The second motion will reflect a name change for the SOP document to clarify its intent and purpose.

In the coming months I will request that the DCM appoint an ad hoc to address more impactful and specific changes to certain areas of the guidelines to bring them into accordance with current needs and practices. These ad hoc committees will return to the District body with recommendations, which can then be considered and acted upon as the body sees fit. However, I am not yet prepared for that work to begin.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve.

Joe P.

District 8 Guidelines Chair

**2023 Conference Report – Danielle H.**

Good Evening District 8! I'm sorry I cannot be there in person, but am grateful for my good friend, Jenn D, sharing with you the update for the Area 24 Spring Conference, June 9-11 at Grinnell College. If you have never been to a conference, please join us!! It's the perfect mix of AA, Fellowship and Food... and of course coffee and don't forget the Fun! We have a few housekeeping items... 1. Bring your own linens (sheets, pillow, towels, wash clothes) or if you forget, we will have a limited number for purchase of \$30. 2. We are looking for volunteers to help us at the registration table. The more the merrier. Please reach out to me (Danielle H) if you are interested. My phone number is 319-651-2469. 3. Speaking of registration, you have 16 days left to get your registrations in. You are able to register at the conference, but it would help us out a ton if you could register ahead of time so we can have an accurate head count for dorms and food.

Other than that, things are still going smoothly, we are starting to feel the pressure as the conference gets closer, but we are very excited to serve district 8 at this capacity. Thank you for all your help!!

Danielle H  
319-651-2469  
[Danielle@Humphreys.pro](mailto:Danielle@Humphreys.pro)

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- N/A

## NEW BUSINESS

- John R. moved to untable and vote on Al R's motion that "District 8 create a Facebook Group Page for the dissemination of District 8 news in a timely manner".
  - ✓ Motion seconded by ??
  - ✓ Motion to untable motion passed.
  - ✓ Al R's motion that "District 8 create a Facebook Group Page for the dissemination of District 8 news in a timely manner" was voted on and failed.

### □ **Proposed Cleanup Changes to District 8 Guidelines Document**

#### **Background:**

Over the years, various guidelines "age out" of relevance for a variety of reasons, making them irrelevant or not in line with current service needs. Our guidelines have several such items, and I am bringing them to the attention of of the body for consideration, along with recommendations for change.

**Motion:** Guidelines Chair moves that the following changes be made to the District 8 Guidelines:

- Re-title the section "Format of District Meeting" to "District Meetings".
- Remove item 3 from the section "Format of the District Meeting", which reads "One hour into the District Meeting, a 10 minute 'smoke break' will be taken. (01-15-01)".
- Edit item 1 from the section "District Elections and Election Policy" from "District Elections will take place in September. (07-20-20)" to "District Elections shall take place in September of even-numbered years."
- Edit the "New Groups" section to remove contradictions and clean the content from the current version to the following:
  1. *Protocol for recognition of new groups or meetings in District 8:*
  2. *New group shall contact the Alternate DCM who will:*
    - *Inform the Secretary to announce the new group/meeting in the District Minutes.*
    - *Assist the new group/meeting in registering with Alcoholics Anonymous.*
    - *Immediately inform the Technology Committee Chair to have the new group/meeting listed in the online meeting list.*
    - *After a six-month waiting period, the new group/meeting shall be added to the printable District 8 meeting list.*
- Edit item 6 from the section "District Expenditure and Budgeting" which reads "Any outstanding costs associated with the website will be paid by District 8. The Webmaster will be responsible for reviewing service options and costs periodically, making recommendations to the District for approval on expenses. (11-18-02)" to read "All expenses associated with the website will be paid by District 8. The Technology Committee Chair will be responsible for reviewing service options and costs periodically, making recommendations to the District for approval on expenses."
- Edit item 1 from the section "Secretary" which reads "Minutes from the District Meeting will be sent to: G.S.R.'s of Groups, Service Chairs, District Officers, Area Chair and Area Delegate. Anyone else wanting copies of the minutes can receive them for \$1.00 per month. (01-16-95)" to read "Minutes from District business meetings will be sent via email to: Group GSR's, Service Chairs, District Officers, Area Chair and Area Delegate. Printed copies may be requested to be mailed only in cases where the individual servant does not have access to email."

- Remove item 3 from the section “Secretary” which reads “The District Secretary will include an “Upcoming Events” section in the District 8 Minutes, to include Non-District, Non-Group, or Non-Service-Events. (03-16-09)” as this is redundant with the function of the District 8 Website.
- Remove item 1 from the section “Treasurer” which reads “The Treasurer shall pay all operating expenses on a timely basis. These operating expenses will include previously approved budgeted amounts for District Officers and Chairpersons. (01-01-01)”, and be moved to the Treasurer’s District 8 Job Description.
- Move item 2 from the section “Treasurer”, which regards annual audit, to the section “District Expenditure and Budgeting”, and ensure that this appears in the Treasurer’s District 8 Service Description.
- Remove all items under the section “Literature” as they are either unverified or unnecessary/self-evident.
- Move items 2 & 3 from the section “District 8 Guidelines” to the section “District Meetings”.
- Retitle section “Website” to “Technology Committee”.
  - ✓ Motion seconded by John R. John, then he moved to postpone this vote until next month’s business meeting. Minority spoke. Ray from the majority moved to reconsider, was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Angie – motion to reconsider failed. Therefore, motion will be voted on next month.

□ **Proposed Change to Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Document Title**  
**Background:**

District 8 has a document commonly referred to as “SOP’s”, or “Standard Operating Procedures” which describe the general service duties of the various District 8 service positions. It has served, over the years, as an overview description of the duties of the servant in a given role as expected by District 8.

The current title of this document, however, has caused confusion as “SOP” or “Standard Operating Procedures” have differing and very different meanings in other contexts (such as the military or corporate environments). To clarify the purpose, I am suggesting the following change.

**Motion:** Guidelines Chair moves that the document currently referred to as “Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)” be re-titled “District 8 Service Descriptions” to be more in-line with the nature of that document.”

- ✓ Motion seconded by Mark S.
- ✓ Motion passed.

- John R. moved to untable and vote on Al R’s motion that “District 8 create a Facebook Group Page for the dissemination of District 8 news in a timely manner”.
  - ✓ Motion seconded by ??
  - ✓ Motion to untable motion passed.
- Lynn brought up that we owe the Industrial Club for rent to house District 8 Archives. Josh noted that we owed for the past two years as well.
  - ✓ Josh moved to pay Industrial Club \$180.00 to bring our rent current, seconded by Troy.
  - ✓ Motion passed.

## **GROUP REPORTS**

□ **Sunday Morning Breakfast Meeting**

Hello District My name is Jesseca I'm an alcoholic and the GSR for the Sunday morning breakfast group at the Industrial Club in Marion. We meet on Sunday mornings at 8:30. Our attendance averages 25 alcoholics with a good cross-section of newcomers, wisdom keepers and everything in between. This is a closed big book based discussion meeting except for the last Sunday of the month which is an open meeting. Our GVR has taken an active role and shares with us a pearl of wisdom from the latest grapevine at the end of each meeting. This week we will be hosting the Grapevine joke-a-thon following our meeting. Stop by and see us, better yet come early and grab the industrial club's Sunday morning breakfast and join us for some of the best fellowship in town.

This coming Sunday, the 21st we will be celebrating Keith J 's 22nd anniversary!

In love and service,

Jesseca Z

### **Upcoming Events**

- The Spring 2023 Conference is coming up June 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> at Grinnell College (Hosted by District 8).
- District 8 Monthly Business Meeting
  - ✓ June 19th – Veritas Church

### **Next Meeting: Tradition V (Tom C.)**

**Short Form:** Each group has but one primary purpose...to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

**Long Form:** Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

### **Next Meeting: Tradition VI (Valerie)**

**Short Form:** An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

**Long Form:** Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.- and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

### **Adjournment**

- ?? moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by ??, motion passed.
- DCM adjourned the meeting @ 8:20PM

### **Greeter for next month- JD**

### **Closing**

- Closed with the Lord's Prayer

### **Next District 8 Business Meeting**

- June 19, 2023 @ 7 PM
  - ✓ Veritas Church – 509 3rd Street SE