

The Message

Boulder County Intergroup | bouldercountyaa.com
Serving the Alcoholics Anonymous Community of Boulder County
5401 Western Ave. Suite D, Boulder, CO 80301 303-447-8201
View previous issues at bouldercountyaa.com/message/archives

July 2019

Inside This Issue

- 2 AA 101, continued
- 3 Intergroup Updates
- 3 Meeting Updates
- 4 Central Office Updates
- 5 Group History Form
- 6 District 24 Meeting Change
- 6 Upcoming Conventions
- 7 Recap of Service and Learning Opportunities

AA 101: Workshop Recap

Last month, District 24 presented a workshop titled “AA 101: A Brief Introduction to the Service Structure of AA” to share an overview of the structure and purpose of the different roles in the larger AA Fellowship. It was a great overview of how AA is organized to serve the still-suffering alcoholic. They also shared the Twelve Concepts, which provide a framework for how AA is run, beyond the group- and local-level guidance offered in the Twelve Traditions.

We all have a first-hand appreciation for what AA does for alcoholics, but the workshop was a chance to appreciate the Fellowship in its own right. After all, it’s a globally reaching organization with millions of members around the world and . . . NOBODY is in charge. Okay, “no one person” is in charge. So how does it all hang together?

The information that follows is adapted from the workshop presentation, which is based on *The AA Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service* by Bill W., the Area 10 Procedure Guide, and information from www.aa.org. Reading from top to bottom, here’s a bird’s-eye view of the AA service structure.

AA Groups—the final voice of the Fellowship

AA has been called an upside-down organization because “the ultimate responsibility and final authority for World Services” resides with the groups themselves, rather than the trustees of the General Service Board or the General Service Office in New York.

Group GSRs—linking home groups with the whole of AA

The GSR represents the voice of the group conscience, attending District meetings to report the group’s wishes to the District Committee Member and to the Delegate, who pass them on to the Conference. A GSR has responsibility to transmit ideas and opinions, as well as facts. They communicate the group conscience as part of “the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship,” as expressed in the General Service Conference.

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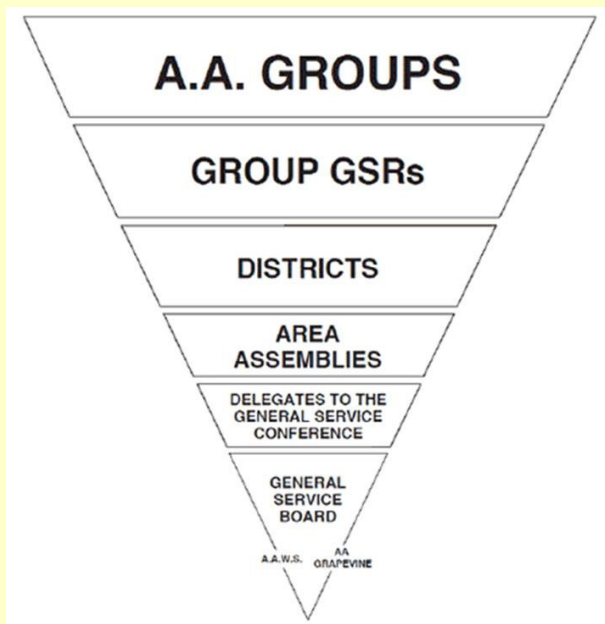
**Connect Your Group with
Service Opportunities**

*Print the last page
of this newsletter
to share.*

AA 101: Workshop Recap, continued

Districts—ensuring that all AA groups are aware of the importance of their participation in service work across all levels

The GSRs elect a District Committee Member (DCM) to serve as a vital link between the group's GSR and the Area service structure, including the Area Delegate to the General Service Conference. The DCM carries the collective group conscience of the AA groups in the District to the Area Committee. They hold regular meetings of all GSRs in the District, assist the Delegate in obtaining information for appropriate AA directories, keep GSRs informed about Conference activities, and generally communicate the importance of service and participation at the local, district, area, and world services levels.



Area Assemblies—encouraging area groups to participate in and support service in AA as a whole

The Area 10 Assembly and Area Committee work to “protect and respect the autonomy and right of dissent of all AA Groups” in Area 10 (Colorado). They strive to develop the informed conscience of Area 10 AA, mindful of the ideals expressed in the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts, and the *AA Service Manual*. The Area Assembly elects an Area Delegate to the General Service Conference and provides financial support to assist them in carrying out the duties of the office. The Area 10 Committee is the chief administrative body for Area 10 AA.

Delegates to the General Service Conference—giving the groups a say in how AA is managed and what AA does

Each area in the US and Canada (93 total) elect a delegate to represent their area at the General Service Conference each year in New York. As voting members of the Conference, Delegates bring the experiences and viewpoints of their own Areas. After being informed at the Conference, Delegates vote in the best interests of AA as a whole. They communicate the actions of the Conference to the Area, Districts, and Groups, attend Area and regional service meetings, provide leadership in solving local problems involving the AA Traditions, cooperate with GSO in obtaining information, and visit groups and districts in the area whenever possible.

General Service Board—the chief service arm of the Conference

The General Service Board is essentially custodial in its character. It does make decisions on matters of policy, finance, or AA Tradition that could seriously affect AA as a whole. The GSB has entire freedom of action in the routine conduct of the policy and business affairs of the AA service corporations. It consists of and oversees trustees, AA World Services, the General Service Office, group donations, publishing, staffing, and the *Grapevine* office.

Intergroup Updates

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 30

7:00-8:30 pm
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
7077 Harvest Road, Boulder CO

NEW IGR ORIENTATION: Tuesday, July 30

All are welcome to attend! Bring your questions about Intergroup and learn how to make the most of your role serving AA as an Intergroup Representative (IGR).

6:30 pm, prior to the Intergroup meeting
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
7077 Harvest Road, Boulder CO

Critical Need: Volunteer Coordinator

Serve AA by recruiting and training volunteers to cover shifts at Central Office. This very important role helps directly with our efforts to serve both our current members as well as newcomers who may need help. Contact Michael at president@bouldercountyaa.com to learn more.

Now Appointing Intergroup Committee Chair Positions

Committee Chair positions are two-year commitments. Two people serve during overlapping terms to ensure continuity, with the first-year position supporting and learning from the person in their second year of service.

- The Message: first-year editor needed
- Daywatch Coordinator: first-year position open
- 12th-Step List: Coordinator needed

Contact Mikael A. intergroupchair@bouldercountyaa.com

Consider Standing for a Board Position in September Elections

This fall, Intergroup is electing a new chair, secretary, assistant treasurer, and member at large. New Board members will take office on December 1, supported by a new procedure guide, which the current board is working to revise and ratify by November. It's a great time to be part of Intergroup and its efforts to support the Boulder County Central Office! Contact Michael at president@bouldercountyaa.com to learn more.

Bridge the Gap: Treatment Patients Can Now Connect with AA Online

Now, people in treatment facilities can fill out an online form to connect with Bridge the Gap volunteers when they get out of treatment. [Check out the updated BTG webpage](#) to see the changes.

Most treatment facilities take away cell phones, but allow clients access to the internet occasionally to communicate with family members. We're hoping this new online form helps more people get in touch with AA if they'd like our help connecting with Boulder AA when they are released from treatment.

Meeting Updates

Summer Meeting Changes

A number of meetings have been temporarily relocated or rescheduled to accommodate summer construction and repaving efforts. Be sure to check the up-to-date, interactive list of meetings at bouldercountyaa.com/meetings.

Central Office Updates

5401 Western Ave. Suite D, Boulder, CO 80301
303-447-8201 | centraloffice@bouldercountyaa.com

NEW OFFICE HOURS

We make every effort to staff our office with volunteers from 11 am until 7 pm daily. The hours listed here are when you can consistently expect to find our office manager there:

Tuesday, 3 – 6 pm

Wednesday, 11 am – 2 pm

Friday, 11 am – 2 pm

Answer Phones at Central Office

We're seeking volunteers or groups to cover phones during the following shifts:

- 11 am - 1 pm Tuesday
- 11 am - 1 pm Thursday
- 5 - 7 pm Saturday
- 11 am - 1 pm Sunday
- 5 - 7 pm Sunday

Please call Central Office at 303-447-8201 to volunteer and arrange training.

Meeting Change Reminder

Please remember, if your group has a change that you are emailing us at the Boulder Central Office, please also send that email to Denver's Central Office. You can email them at: denveraa@daccaa.org.

It's Easy to Purchase Literature from Central Office!

Groups can order literature at bouldercountyaa.com/bookstore, pay with a credit card by phone, and then pick up their order any time—regardless of whether the Central Office is open or not!

Special Thanks

Thank you to the individual service workers who staff the Central Office: Vic O., Tom H., Kevin W., David S., Holly A., Lisa F., and Courtney S.

Thank you again to the AA groups that regularly support Central Office by covering shifts at the Central Office: Robbers Roost, Home Girls, Literature Ladies, Women in Recovery, and Eye Openers.

Seeking Donations of:

- Stamps
- Yellow post-it notes
- Business size (#10) mailing envelopes
- Coffee and tea, paper cups, sugar

Group History Form

Fill out this form for the District 24 Archives Committee and make your group a part of AA's history.

Area 10, District 24 Group History

Date: _____

Group Name: _____ District Number: _____

Town: _____ Date Founded: _____

Is Group Registered with GSO (circle one) **Yes** **No** Group Number: _____

Founders: _____

Meeting Day(s), Time(s) Format(s) (Discussion, Big Book/Traditions Study, Speaker Meeting, use back if needed):

Day: _____ Format: _____ Time: _____

Day: _____ Format: _____ Time: _____

Day: _____ Format: _____ Time: _____

Day: _____ Format: _____ Time: _____

Location: _____

Notes, if any: _____

Early Members of Group: _____

Active Longtimers in Group: _____

Name Changes of Group (if any): _____

Changes of Location, Time, Day, etc: _____

Group Highlights and Activities (Brief History); Use back or additional pages if more space is needed

Attach historical artifacts such as early Group Conscience minutes, Group event flyers, etc.

Deliver to District 24 Archives Chair, or email to archives@dist24.org

Alternate Location for August District 24 Meeting

NEXT MEETING: Monday, August 19

6:30 pm
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
7077 Harvest Road, Boulder CO

The August meeting will move from the usual location. District 24, which covers southern Boulder county, meets on the third Monday of each month. GSRs are encouraged to attend.

Alternate Location for District 34 Meetings in Aug.–Oct.

NEXT MEETINGS: August 20, September 17, October 15

6:30 pm
New Beginnings
1801 Sunset Pl. Suite B
Longmont

State Convention Coming Labor Day Weekend in Keystone

August 30 – September 1, 2019

Keystone Resort and Conference Center

The annual social event for Area 10 will take place this Labor Day Weekend in Keystone, Colorado. Come for a weekend of speakers, meetings, workshops, food, dancing and fellowship with AAs from all around the state. The event runs from 3 pm on Friday until noon on Sunday.

Learn more and book online at convention.coloradoaa.org

International Convention Coming October 2019 in Biarritz

October 10 – 13, 2019

Belambra Club
Chambre d'Amour Beach
Anglet-Biarritz, France

<https://aaconventionbiarritz.com>

Recap of Service and Learning Opportunities

Critical Need: Volunteer Coordinator

The Volunteer Coordinator recruits and trains volunteers to cover shifts at Central Office. This is a very important role and helps directly with our efforts to serve both our current members as well as newcomers who may need help. You can email me directly with questions about the position.

Contact Michael at president@bouldercountyaa.com to learn more.

Stand for an Intergroup Committee Chair Position

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Send Your Group's History to the District Archives Committee

Fill out the form on page 5 of this newsletter and share your group's story with the District 24 Archive Committee.

Consider a Donation

Drop by Central Office with supplies they can use: stamps, yellow post-it notes, #10 size mailing envelopes, or beverage supplies (coffee, tea, paper cups, or sugar).

Also, you can now make contributions online. Just click the "Contribute" link on the left side of the home page.

Get The Message and stay up to date on all the different ways you can support Alcoholics Anonymous in Boulder County.

Subscribe online at: bouldercountyaa.com.
