

Area 40 - District 72 Agenda – August 2025 Meeting

Hybrid Meeting: [Saturday 8/30/25 4:30-6:30pm](#) at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman and via Zoom.
[Link information below.](#)

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84336233284?pwd=cFl6MWxQN0pXNlV6MXdSVk9qdjVFQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3623 3284

Passcode: 371512

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES.

1. Open with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer
2. Read the District 72 safety statement:
 - If any person endangers another individual or disrupts the group's efforts to carry A.A.'s message, the group may ask that person to leave the meeting. Recognizing the importance of group unity, our group wishes to create a safe meeting environment in which alcoholics can focus on achieving sobriety.
3. Read the Short Form of the Twelve Traditions – Bradley G.
4. Read Concept Eight:

“The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.”
5. Establish quorum: Voting members are group GSRs, District Committee Chairs, and District Officers. If you are an alternate GSR, please only raise your hand if your GSR is not present. (calculate 2/3s for quorum)
In room: 18 Online: 5 Total = 23
Quorum is 15
6. Approve last month's meeting minutes – All in favor
7. Introductions of GSRs & Visitors: **3 MINUTE TIMER FOR GSR REPORTS**

If you are a GSR please come to the microphone to give your report.

Please briefly share:

- GSRs – *Your name, home group & anything you think might interest or benefit your fellow GSRs and/or District Chairs about your home group (e.g., events or activities your home group is hosting or doing, topics that your group is interested in or struggling with, etc.).*

Nora D. (Wednesday Noon, Bozeman) – 20-30 people always showing up.
Julie R. got to go home after her surgeries yay!

Brian W. (There Is a Solution, Bozeman) – Meet every morning, attendance up, lots of visitors and newcomers. Seems lots of people every day. Speaker meeting on Sundays is now going to go to Hybrid. Will have people at hall and online for that.

Tanya W. (6th Chapter, Bozeman) – Speaker on third Sunday of every month, things going well. Hopefully will be donuts at speaker meeting.

Jax F. (LGBTQ+ and Friends, Bozeman) – Meet Sat at 6pm in library. Have business first Sat of month after meeting. Average between 8 and 10 people.

Ashley H. (Primary Purpose, Bozeman) – 20-30 people regular attendance, just about done with BB study on Wednesdays, will be switching to Living Sober. Business is third Wednesday of month, Looking for speakers in February, any ideas on speaker let her know.

Bradley G. (Itching Hour, Bozeman) – Things going good, little slow in summer about 5-20 people in that room usually, things fluctuate. Question: Considering getting a Grapevine, still working on budget for group. **Is a scholarship from District an option for Grapevine?**

Paul S. (Common Solution, Belgrade) – This Sunday is last one at 5pm, will be moving to 6pm going forward is Big Book study, 20-30 people in attendance.

Chopper B. (Vennis Over the Hill, Ennis) – The church they've been at is starting a daycare, may have a location issue. Meetings well attended, have had lots of visitors over the summer. Are making progress, voted on some new stuff. Will be his last District meeting, he and his wife moving to Arizona in September. Thank you everyone for your service! (And thank you Chopper!)

Russ G. (Saturday Morning Third Steppers, Livingston) – Attendance steady, lots of newcomers and visitors. Several people who attended International Conference and brought back good energy. His group not sponsoring the event but Monday nights speaker meetings 6:30-8:30pm speaker meetings have been well attended, feel free to attend.

Mike S. (West Yellowstone Group, West Yellowstone) – Couple of their people also take meetings into Old Faithful in the summer, lots of people from all over world dropping into that meeting. Been doing really well, have steady 15-18 regulars. He's been gone a lot but is Zooming in from Portland, Oregon. **They ARE set up to host business meeting in West Yellowstone, potluck at 3:30 and meeting at 4:30pm, happy for anyone who makes it.**

Dez R. (Early Risers, Bozeman) – Meditation group, read from not always AA approved literature. Doing great!

Susan H. (Hospital Group, Bozeman) – Sunday night 6pm. Good hybrid meeting, nice steady attendance. Nice balance of newcomers all the way up to old timers.

Matthew R. (H.O.W. Group, Bozeman) – Meet 4 times a week. Big news is Oct 11th annual speaker event, Chris R. from Ingram, Texas. Start 1-8:30pm. Topic will be Working with Others, will have potluck etc and then speaker.

Crystal B. (Pink Cloud, Bozeman) – Alternate is Sue, has been helping with schedules. Offer Hybrid and in person meeting, everything with homegroup is going well. Won't have voting member at assembly in Fall, will have member in attendance but will try again in Spring.

Autumn W. (Friday Beginners, Bozeman) – Speaker meeting with 20 min lead then on First Friday of each month do book study of plain language big book. Business is first Friday after the meeting.

- Visitors: Your name & your home group.

8. Introductions and Committee Reports 3 MINUTE TIMER FOR REPORTS

Treasurer, Tim K.

Please see full Treasurer's Report for details

Current Bank Balance as of 8/23/25: \$7,217.10
Total Income: \$700.42
Total Expenses: \$2,047.08
Current Operating Balance: \$3,330.38

See attached Quick Books reports for reporting period 7/21/2025-8/23/2025 which shows all income and expenses for this period, YTD vs. Budget. Any questions or concerns please reach out to me. **District 72 contributions remains the same mailing address: PO Box 1538, Bozeman Mt. 59771-1538**, *Please make checks payable to District 72 and specify in memo if pink can contribution or Group 7th Tradition contribution or Literature purchases **PLEASE**.

*To Contribute to Area 40 send contributions to Area 40 Inc. P.O. Box 43, Billings Mt. 59103.

*To contribute to G.S.O. send contributions to General Service Board P.O. Box 2407, James A Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407.

There was some large expenses for Literature from Pink Can reserve. Steve R. gave a case of Daily Reflections, case of Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, and case of **It** sure Beats Sitting in a cell...Total deducted from Pink Can for this sale was \$848.00.

Dennis S Took 1 case of Soft Cover Big Books for a total of \$206.80, and returned a case of Hard Cover Big Books to inventory for total of \$225.60 which would credit Pink Can Reserve \$18.80. After We take the Last Report Balance of \$1,134.81 and add contributions of \$233.00, and subtract expense of \$ 1,054.80 we end with Current Balance in Pink Can Reserve of \$313.01.

Some upcoming Expenses still in the budget are DCM Hotel, Food and Uber and Registration for Forum will be in September, as well as DCM Hotel, Gas, Food to Area 40 Fall Assembly in September.

We Also Received 2 Scholarship Applications for Fall Area 40 Assembly, 1-Joanne M primarily to cover meals as she intends to ride with the DCM and share the room already covered for DCM. 2- Michael S our BTG Chair who will need Room, Meals and possibly shared fuel expenses... The Finance Committee will recommend The District approve and pay for these reasonable expenses for those 2 to attend with itemized receipts and turned into the Treasurer for reimbursement.

Please Print a copy off for the District meeting on 6/28/25 as we will NOT have copies available since we now have multiple page reports. If you are signed up to receive emails from District 72 you will receive a copy in your email.

Thank you for allowing
me to serve,
Tim K-District 72
Treasurer.

Answering Service, Wendy C.

Absent, Lila read report

REPORT FROM DISTRICT 72 ANSWERING SERVICE FOR AUGUST 2025

Glad to report we've got women volunteers in place for all 12 months and men for 9 months. We had five calls total in July.

I will not get the Area answering service report from Lance (Area chair) until early September, so I cannot report on how many calls came in August.

I got the names of the August volunteers to Lance on 7/26, but they were not relayed to the answering service headquarters for about 10 days into August. This created a little confusion for the volunteers, but wasn't a big deal. I have sent Lance the two September volunteers and trust they will be forwarded to the answering service headquarters before 9/1.

Also, I got word that the AA brochure for District 72 did not list my name as the new answering service chair, which is no big deal, as long as Dustin is willing to field any calls that still come to him.

I just found out from Lenore that I am expected to attend the area assembly. I had no idea, and can't be there physically, but will attend the answering service portion of the meeting via Zoom on Saturday, September 13th.

Everything seems to be going smoothly! Some calls were missed by volunteers but in all cases we were able to find a volunteer to reach out and successfully connect with each person who called in. Thanks to everyone for their help in getting me up to speed in this role!

- Gratefully,
Wendy C

Archives, Joanne M.

D72 Archives Report - Joanne M. - August 2025

- Met with Catherine J. who shared her experience being Archives Chair. She gave me a zip drive of all the documents she collected. Will add this to the collection of things to be uploaded to the D72 Archives Google account when it is up and running.
- Purchased more folders for organizing.
- Will attend Fall Assembly, excited to connect with other archives chairs and see what they are doing.

CPC (Cooperation with the Professional Community), Betty M.

Absent, Lila read report

Hi District 72 and thank you, Lila, for sharing my monthly CPC report with everybody! I apologize that I cannot be here tonight to share this report with you. My husband and I had a miscommunication about calendar stuff. We'll be back on track next month.

This month, we met with Nicki Wolf, Behavioral Health Manager at the Belgrade BH Clinic. They are interested in having an AA/AlAnon presentation, date TBD. At their request, we reached out to PI to restart the distribution of meeting lists.

We delivered a lively and effective AA/AlAnon presentation to about 15 staff members at Cedar Creek Integrated Health. Special thanks to our fabulous AA members who led the presentation from the AA side - Doreen M and Lila H, as well as Allison G and Heleen C. from AlAnon. Each presentation we give to professionals about AA & AlAnon helps them to understand why we are so effective in helping newcomers get and stay sober, as well as how to counter potential false beliefs about why A.A. won't work. They also asked us to provide them contact information for the Bridging the Gap committee.

Next month, we are set to deliver another presentation to the MSU nursing students. They must like what we do and how we do it because they keep increasing the time we are given to speak. This time, AA and AlAnon will share 2 hours. That's a big investment for MSU to make in our future nurses!... We will also be meeting with a representative from Eagle Mount about a presentation, and following up with CHP, Haven and the Bozeman Business Association about future presentations.

Thank you so much for the honor of serving as your CPC Chair,
Betty M

- Amy asks do any of these meetings that Betty does cost money? Lila generally expressed I don't know, Nora said no they do not.

Grapevine & La Vina/Structure, Bob C.

Absent, sent in report

Hello District 72.

I haven't had much to report on for Grapevine lately and I apologize for my absence. I will be putting together a little more informative report for September and look forward to seeing you then!

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Bob C.

Literature, Steven R.

Absent, Lila read report

Hello District 72! Apologies that I can't be there in person this month but I'm away on vacation. Hooray for me!

We had two sales this month totalling \$191.74.

We purchased some revised and updated pamphlets for District and Area CPC; GSO sent this invoice directly to our Treasurer instead of me so I can't report the total here.

As always, feel free to call or text me for orders but I MUCH PREFER an email.

Note that if there are any orders placed between now and 9/11, I will be unlikely to respond anymore than "please make this request again on or after 9/12!"

Thanks and have a great weekend!

SR

PI (Public Information), Ashley H.

Passcode: 419254

One tap mobile
+16465588656,,81639241668#,,,*,419254# US (New York)
+16469313860,,81639241668#,,,*,419254# US

Join instructions

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/81639241668?signature=om8eUY34SQfsaHpcok0BGdkKHBpdKXRS_yOmf1t2_B

Special Events, Amy K.

Hello District 72,

Thank you again everyone for attending the last special event and thank you to all the awesome people who helped make it possible.

I went over budget a little bit for Special Event #2. The total was 144.55, that included the room rent which is \$75.00 and \$69.55 in supplies and some cheap gifts.

For the next special events I am really leaning towards a workshop on the Triumphant Arch, It would be on the construction of the New and Triumphant Arch through which we Passed to Freedom: the bedrock, the foundation, the cornerstone, the keystone, the foundation stone and the path to freedom. It is still just a thought but was thinking of something cool to go along with it like building something and snacks. Does anyone have any input on that or totally disagree? It would be October 25th before the district meeting.

The last one of the year would be in December when we decide when the district meeting will be and will totally be holiday themed and I am thinking a movie or documentary or something about Bill W.

Thank you!!

Amy K.

- Amy asks for suggestions, Jax suggests watch ovie which Amy thinks we'll do in December. Maybe watch Bill W. documentary or Conscious Contact
- Jax suggests a Christmas social, someone sit and watch kids while adults have a social.
- Amy says anyone who has ideas for October, talk to Amy

Bridging the Gap, Michael S.

Absent, did not send in report.

Corrections, Tony B

Did his report but didn't send it in, he talked about what Tim reported for Pink can with the books etc.

Treatment, Rebekah P.

Absent, Joanne read report(s)
Meeting Report for Men's side of MCDC 08-16-2025

The Vennis Over the Hill Group of Alcoholics Anonymous provided coverage of the MCDC meeting on August 16, 2025. Three members attended and conducted the meeting sharing experience, strength and hope. There were approximately ten to twelve clients in attendance ranging in time from two days to close to four weeks.

The topic of "Participation in your Own Sobriety" was selected as the topic and the group discussed. Many of the patients shared that they had attended multiple treatment facilities, to no avail, and many expressed that they planned to attend AA meetings and find a sponsor when they completed the treatment program. The outside visitors expressed their experience with the program of AA, shared their understanding of the fatal nature of their disease and also encouraged the patients to utilize the "Bridging the Gap" program available through Area 40. It was explained that getting involved with a home group and having contact with AA members and meetings very soon upon completion of the treatment program has proven beneficial in maintaining a successful sobriety.

While earlier in the afternoon, a lightning strike started a fire that closed the highway that was on the route to attend the meeting, we utilized a different route and was finally able to contact the treatment facility and let them know we would be a little late. They were gracious for the call and said it would not be a problem. The staff was helpful and courteous in getting us checked in and the meeting started as quickly as possible.

Thank you.

MCDC (Women's side) - 8/16/2025

Three female volunteers from District 72, Susan H, Mandy J, Joanne M, brought an AA meeting to the women's residence at MCDC in Butte. There were only 4 residents that attended. Three men brought a meeting to the men's residence.

The meeting started late, around 6:45pm, because of road closures due to fires north of Ennis. Residents participated in the meeting after we shared our stories, what it was like, what happened, what it's like now. Residents also talked about fear of the program not working for them and what they need to do to give it a fair try. We followed the provided meeting format.

I believe we were well received, with various levels of acceptance & recovery amongst the residents. An awesome example of service work and extending the hand of AA.

Technology, Russell V.

No committee meeting for August. Purchased two large rolls of gaffer tape for \$78.40. Still trying to get Google for nonprofit set up having emailed them twice on the 16th and 26th of the month. We'll look at alternate methods for verifying with Google to facilitate acceptance.

Alt. DCM (Alternate District Committee Member), Meghan R.

Don't have much, attended Finance committee meeting to audit finance records. Participated in conversation around whether District recommends scholarships we received.

DCM (District Committee Member), Lenore M.

DCM REPORT: August 2025

NEW TO REPORT:

I don't have much new to report.

I am looking forward to the Fall Assembly. If anyone is interested in the background materials, they can be found at <https://www.aa-montana.org/dashboard> Username: dashboard Password: xwPa4Sky

I hope to see lots of you there!

FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION:

1. Our September business meeting will be held in West Yellowstone at the Community Protestant Church, 505 N. Electric St. in West Yellowstone. Saturday, 3:30 pm -7:00 pm, September 27th, 2025. Come early for the potluck (and bring a dish to share) from 3:30-4:30 pm before the meeting

NEWS FROM GSO:

1. There is a request for proposals/presenters for the 2025 National A.A. Technology Workshop, being held in Cincinnati, OH, November 7-9th (this will be a hybrid event). Submissions are due by September 30th. Please see me for more details if you are interested!

NEWS FROM AREA:

1. Our Area Hotline chair, Lance, reported that he is now able to see which District each call is coming from and if it was answered or not. This is a huge time-saving improvement. In his report, it looks like District 72 received 8 calls, and 6 were missed. I am unsure if this was data from July or earlier.

UPCOMING EVENTS: See all events on Area 40 calendar:

<https://aamontana.org/calendar.php>

1. The Fall Assembly will be September 12th-14th at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls. Area 40 has a room block rate for our upcoming assembly. Please note that reservations must be made before **August 22nd** to secure our reduced, negotiated rate of \$119/night at the [Holiday Inn Great Falls - Convention Center](#). The room rate code is A40. Please consider making your reservations as soon as possible.
2. The West Central Regional Forum is September 19th-21st in Omaha, Nebraska. They are offering a "Live audio broadcast only" option for members who cannot attend in person. We will also utilize an AI interpretation tool. Please bring your mobile device and headphones to this new interpretation option.
3. The Roundup in Helena will be held from October 3rd to 5th at the Great Northern Hotel. The theme is "Willing to Believe."
4. The H.O.W. Group in Bozeman will hold its annual speaker event on Saturday, October 11th, at the Fellowship Hall.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or needed information:

EMAIL: dcm72@aa-montana.org

Reminder: send all reports to Lila at district72.secretary@gmail.com

PLEASE COME TO THE MICROPHONE FOR ALL REPORTS, QUESTIONS,

COMMENTS.

9. Immediate Business – for AUGUST 2025: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR

QUESTIONS/OPINIONS

- Tim - Applications for Area Assembly scholarships and recommendation on funding
 - Received two scholarship requests to attend Area. One is Joanne, is riding up with Lenore and staying with Lenore, primarily food expense. Second is BTG chair, last heard, may be miscommunication on Michael's plans, may be \$75 up to \$500, \$600 dollars.
 - Tim points out this is in the District guidelines to fund people to attend Area if possible.
 - Meghan points out since neither of voting chairs area able to attend Area in person, we have unspent money budgeted that is available.
 - Tim \$1700 set aside for chair travel plan that hasn't been used for Chair Travel.

VOTE: In room Favor 18, 3 Online. 0 opposed, 0 abstention

MOTION PASSES

10. Old Business: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR QUESTIONS/OPINIONS

●

11. New Business: 2 MINUTE TIMER FOR QUESTIONS/OPINIONS

- Tim K. – Motion to discontinue the use of QuickBooks for District Treasurer record keeping and reporting
 - (Tim passes around examples of treasurer's reports with Quickbooks Online and without Quickbooks Online.) (Read motion)
 - Motion seconded by Lenore.
 - DISCUSSION: Would it affect our TechSoup subscription? Bradley and Tim and Meghan answer that that they are independent and would not be affected.
 - Joanne asks why is Excel still needed for Quickbooks? Tim explains why Excel is needed, that data must be entered into an Excel sheet and then uploaded to Quickbooks. He shares he believes only reason we have Quickbooks is that we got pressured to use it on our Treasurers for years. Believes it's a good application but should not need a college education to serve for AA. If we have someone who never graduated highschool they'll never be able to use Quickbooks.
 - Lenore asks is there more than one version of Quickbooks? Second, part of it we were having lots of issues with Excel spreadsheets breaking, would we be able to go back to Excel sheets that are less breakable? Tim says good

question, refers to his examples. Can use Microsoft Word, Google Sheets, Microsoft Excel. Whatever is usable, as long as it allows you to balance and is readable so we can be transparent. Up to Treasurer to use what is easiest.

- Bradley asks, are there any useful features in Quickbooks that we are losing by not using it anymore? Tim says no, everything he has generated through Quickbooks is through Excel first so it would be available without it anyways. Really we're just doubling everything up, took Tim and Amy 7 hours (cause Amy has training). Just another place in computer where data is stored. Good for large businesses like Town Pump, no sense for us.

- Bradley also asks is there a need for archival data to keep records month to month going forward that we keep track of? Tim states he believes that yes Archivist keeps track and we also upload to our website for District 72.

- Bradley states being able to see all the data in one spot seems helpful from what he's seen of Quickbooks, just wants to make sure we can keep all data in one big pile going forward without Quickbooks.

- Catherine asks Excel? Why use Excel, why not just use Quickbooks? She thought Quickbooks meant to replace Excel. Tim repeats that all Quickbooks sheets have to be imported through Excel so he has to do Excel regardless. Catherine states Excel seems flatter, asks why can't just make sheets within Quickbooks?

- Amy answers can print any report out from Quickbooks online but not what people are used to seeing and is really hard to understand. Doesn't have income statements cause it's non-profit. She states if Tim and her weren't married and Amy wasn't doing it, Tim would not be able to do this (and he's a really smart guy!). Amy states it is really advanced and unnecessary, important to simplify Treasurer cause if she wasn't helping she doesn't know who could even do it.

- Bradley states thinks we're talking about report templates and generation and what is seen. Can we turn off all the unnecessary bells and whistles so it's accessible and easier to read? Can we get good report generation that's easier?

- Autumn states she works in accounting and has stated she's used Quickbooks and has used massive Excel spreadsheet. Would use Quickbooks to show reports, would use massive Excel sheets to show details. Autumn agrees Quickbooks very unfriendly.

- Tim states his example (that he passed around) only uses Word. Points out we have a range of people with varying education in AA. We should be keeping this simple.

- Amy states did a conference call with Jake when Tim first became Treasurer, Jake said he had to spend hours "fudging it" so that groups can see report stuff (like his pie charts). After year and a half he still didn't know what he was doing. And Tim's got education.

- Bradley states when we get onto Google workspace then can make it so only Treasurer can access it so that it can't be messed with, only people who have permission can access it. So we have a possible solution!

- Lila states she would read Meghan's reports but not Tim's cause Tim's (with Quickbooks) are complicated and beyond what's needed for reports, just looks to her like numbers and bs.

MOTION (Motion to discontinue the use of QuickBooks for District Treasurer record keeping and reporting):

In room 17 In Favor 4 Online In Favor, 0 opposed.

MOTION PASSES

- *Side note Lenore passed around a sheet for the Area to update its contact info for the Groups, Tony asked about it.
- *Tony starting Men's meeting October 2nd in the Kitchen at Fellowship Hall in Bozeman, Men's meeting 8:30pm, will trial for 3 months.

Motion to close, seconded!

If you have items for next month's agenda, please email Meghan at: meghan.rauber1@gmail.com at least 10 days in advance of the next meeting date (when possible). Remember there is a form on the Area 40 District 72 mini site to help in writing agenda or discussion items

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

Next district meeting: 4:30 p.m., Sat. September 27, 2025. In West Yellowstone at the Community Protestant Church, 505 N. Electric St. in West Yellowstone. Come early for the potluck (and bring a dish to share) from 3:30-4:30 pm before the meeting!

See Area website for happenings in our District and the rest of Area 40 as well as current District information: <https://www.aa-montana.org/> Our District 72 mini site: <https://www.aa-montana.org/district-sites/dist72/index.php>

12. Close with: Responsibility Statement