

DISTRICT 40 NEWS

Volume 26.1

January 2013

District 40 GSR Approved Meeting Minutes Southeast Texas Area Alcoholics Anonymous

December 11, 2012

Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition 12/Concept 12 reading and summation by Taylor K. and Betsy G.

Volunteers for next month: Tradition 1/Concept 1: Kris H. & Cheryl B.

Introduction of Attendees = (28):

Albert C. (GSR First Light Group), **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Delegate, D40 PI/CPC Treasurer, Southern Pacific Group), **Bob B.** (GSR Rule 62 Group), **Bob P.** (Alt. GSR Taking Care of Business Group), **Brad H.** (D40 DCM, Journey Group), **Cheryl B.** (D40 Secretary), **Christina G.** (Alt GSR God Meeting Group), **Cindy M.** (Alt GSR Katy Big Book), **Corrie H.** (GSR God Meeting Group, D40 PI/CPC Secretary), **Daniel S.** (GSR Houston Young People's Group), **Deborah D.** (Delegate P61), **Deborah G.** (Alt. D40 Treasurer), **Evelyn C.** (GSR First Light Group), **Jackie V.** (Alt. GSR God Meeting Group/D40 IT Liaison), **Jes K.** (D40 Alt DCM, First Light Group), **Kate E.** (Alt. Chair D40 CPC PI chair), **Katie L.** (Alt GSR Post Oak Group), **Ken P.** (GSR Taking Care of Business Group), **Kris H.** (Past D40 DCM, Alt. Area Treasurer), **Michelle H.** (D40 PI/CPC Chair, Fulshear Group), **Mike J.** (GSR Katy Big Book), **Mike W.** (GSR Post Oak Group), **Nate B.** (GSR Sunday Night Men's Group), **Patrick C.** (Alt. Delegate P61), **Richard B.** (Alt GSR First Light Group), **Sandy K.** (GSR Tuesday Night Step Study), **Taylor K.** (Incoming D40 Literature Chair), **Wendy A.** (GSR Southern Pacific Group, D40 Treasurer) -
Welcome New GSRs and Alt GSRs!

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12 Traditions & 12 Concepts Reading and Summation

January 2013

Tradition 1 /
Concept 1
Kris H. & Cheryl B.

February 2013

Tradition 2 /
Concept 2
Corrie H. / Kate E.

Tradition One: Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Concept One: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

SERVICE SPARK

Service Work...what feeling do these words ignite in you? Why do some members seem to be on fire about the Third Legacy and other members run away as if their pants were on fire? Maybe this is yet another riddle that we will never be able to fully answer! All I have is my own personal experience to share and if that can fan the flame in just one member then I don't believe I could hope for anything more. To say that my alcoholism affected my family would be an understatement and as hard as I tried to bring the principles into my home life, specifically my relationship with my children I just wasn't seeing much results. I was borderline hopeless again. At just under 2 years sober I found myself thrown into the pit...I was at a District 40 meeting more confused than ever. Everyone kept talking about this thing called a Traditions Dinner and apparently it was critical that we have pink lemonade and lots of lasagna! Naive that I was I did the unthinkable and asked *THE* question, "Who's going to make the lasagna?" Why we think you'd be great at that was the unanimous reply!

So several weeks later I found myself at St. Christopher's Church with my litter mate, my 8 year old daughter and 40 lasagnas. One of the affects my drinking had on my daughter was a painful shyness and fear of being a part of due to a lack of stability within our home life. As we set off cooking the food, I happen to peek out the kitchen door and there she was, helping the Alt. DCM decorate the tables with a smile on her sweet little face. As the evening progressed and the Alt. DCM opened the Dinner first with a prayer and then recognizing all the servants who participated, starting with my daughter's name; the impossible had become possible. I have to this day not seen another child thrive as she was at that moment. I then knew that if all I have to do is be willing to raise my hand and ask those silly questions to receive the healing power of God's Grace, then I WAS IN, the spark was lit.

This year I will be fulfilling my responsibility to District 40 as Alt. DCM and my daughter is a senior in high school who through the loving hand of AA in our lives received an award for...*SERVICE!!!*

Michelle H.

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Do you know your group's history?

We know it may have started with a coffee pot and a resentment; but how long ago? The archives committee is actively looking for group histories. This keeps the history and growth of our groups alive. Imagine if no one printed the story in the traditions that gave us the infamous Rule 62.

Group histories also may be printed in the SETA Quarterly newsletter. So if your group is approaching a big anniversary or celebrating your first year as a group, or even if you're a new group, let us know about it! Submit your histories to setaarchivist@gmail.com.

Normal Business:

1. **Secretary's Report-** Approved written.
2. **Treasurer's Report-** the November Treasurer's report was approved; current balance \$4,261.95; total income for the period totaled \$766.50, total expenses were \$251.54.

Wendy A. provided a \$180 coffee donation to the West Houston Community Center as rent for 2013.

News or Concerns from groups (GSRs) - none

Committee Reports:

- a) **Archives -POSITION OPEN-** No Report.
- b) **CTC-** No Report.
- c) **PI/CPC -** The committee combined the November & December meetings together & met on December 1st to finalize our committee work for this rotation. I wish I could find words to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve & the support I received during my term. I was extremely fortunate to inherit a strong, well organized committee & blessed with exceptional committee members. I believe that I have become a lifetime member & will continue to serve this District committee.

We are the proud owners of the new 2011 Membership Survey Display Board & Kate gave a wonderful presentation on the pamphlet that goes well with our work. Betsy introduced to the committee thru her presentation how to tie humility into Tradition 12 & apply it to our work with professionals. All literature requests have been fulfilled, PSA's in English & Spanish have been mailed to the TV & Radio stations within our District. I am pleased to report that this committee has built up a database to be proud of; we are the keepers of 16 different fields of professions. All have been sent a mail out throughout this rotation using 2 different formats. Both have proved to be successful. The committee would also like to thank the District for the funding for 2013; we are committed to producing quality work. The secretary & treasurer positions have been filled for the upcoming rotation; however we still have plenty of positions left if you are called to serve. The next meeting will be held on January 26, 2013, from 1:00-3:00pm at the SBMC. Please come visit our committee & help support our incoming chair, Kate E!

There are no Area PI/CPC reports due to no meetings.

- d) **CFC-** Evelyn C. reported the committee will be meeting next (3rd Wednesday of each month at the Delta Club) if anyone is interested in attending. She stressed that the committee is always looking for volunteers to take meetings into prisons and blue cans are available to any groups that need one.
- e) **Grapevine-POSITION OPEN-**No Report.
- f) **Intergroup Liaison - POSITION OPEN-** Betsy G. reminded everyone that the Intergroup Holiday Open House is on Friday, December 14th from 10am to 4pm. It's a tax free day! Also, the 50 Years of Miracles Convention will held at the Westin Memorial City on March 8-10. Pre-registration forms are available from the Intergroup office as well as a hotel link to the Westin at www.aahouston.org. If you think you will be coming to this event, please consider making your room reservations ASAP as there is also a drawing for 4 upgrades to a suite if booked through the hotel (see flyer and check Intergroup website for details).

The Bookstore and office will be closed December 24, 25th, 31st 2012 and January 1st, 2013. Next Delegates meeting will be held on December 13 at 8pm. All groups are encouraged to send a delegate or two.

- g) **Information Technology** - Jackie V. reported that minutes can now be posted on the SETA website for District and Area committee meetings. Just email to: webmaster@aa-seta.org in Word or something similar -- not as a PDF document. Minutes can be submitted as a "draft" and after the next District or Area meeting can be submitted as "approved" once corrections have been made if necessary. No personal and financial information will be included.

Go-to meetings will be available for District and Area meetings beginning January, 2013

- a. Email: it@aa-seta.org to set up day and time slot. Note: We have unlimited number of meetings that can take place/month, however, only one meeting/time slot will be available and can accommodate up to 25 participants.
 - b. The IT Committee will do a "trial run" at its next meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15th.
- h) **Literature-**No Report.
 - i) **TFC-** Elected Ken P. as the new D40 TFC Chair. *Nothing to Report this month.*
 - j) **Newsletter** - Corrie mentioned that she was open to suggestions on ways to reformat or improve the current D40 newsletter.

Old Business

Ad Hoc Committee - Deborah G. Reported the ad Hoc committee met on Tuesday, November 20th at 8pm. The committee decided to have a diverse panel of speakers for this event. The guidelines is to find four speakers one man, woman, minority, and LGBT with 40+ years (or as much as possible) of sobriety so please get with Deborah or Jes with suggestions or if you would like to get involved with the committee.

Delegates Visit - Deborah D. and Patrick C., our Area 67 Delegate and Alt. Delegate, attended the D40 meeting to recap some of this year's topics and to get feedback from GSR's regarding three questions they challenged the group's to review.

1. Does the group have an understanding of singleness of purpose?
2. What does the group do to 12 step people into the program?
3. How can we help the group to be self-supporting?

There were several minutes of discussion and suggestions in regards to these questions. Deborah challenged the GSR's to continue this discussion with their respective groups and to get any questions, concerns or feedback to either Deborah or Patrick.

REMAINING OPEN POSITIONS - *Elections will continue each month until positions filled.*

Archives Chair
Grapevine Chair
Intergroup Liaison Chair

New Business

SETA Convention - D40 has secured a hospitality suite. Cheryl B., Wendy A., Deborah G. and Chelle H. will work together to arrange for food and volunteers.

State Convention - D40 has approved a hospitality suite.

Announcements:

1. 51st Annual SETA Convention - January 11-13, 2013 at the Houston Hilton North
2. Intergroup's 50th Birthday Party - March 8-10, 2013 at the Westin Hotel Memorial City
3. 67th Annual State Convention - June 7-9, 2013 at the Marriott Westchase Hotel

Meeting Adjourned / Responsibility Statement

INCOMING 2013 DISTRICT SERVANTS

DCM
Jes K.
dcm-40@aa-seta.org

Alternate DCM
Michelle H.
dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org

Secretary
Wendy A.

Alt Secretary
Deborah G.

Treasurer
Cheryl B.

Alt Treasurer
Wendy M.

Literature Committee
Taylor K.

Treatment Facilities
Ken P.

PI/CPC Committee
Kate E.

CFC Committee
Evelyn C.

Intergroup Liaison
Rhonda R.

Grapevine Rep.
Katie C.

Newsletter Editor
Corrie H.

Coffee, Tea, Cocoa
Nancy R.

Archives Chairman
Jessica D.

IT Liaison
Jackie V.

December 2012 Financial Report

District 40 Financial Report Period ending 12/31/12	Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
INCOME					
SETA April Hospitality Suite Donations			\$360.00		
Traditions Dinner Donations			\$244.60		
Fellowship Festival Donations					
Group Donations	\$789.50		\$8,247.15		
Four Horsemen Group	\$9.20				
Fulshear Group	\$120.00				
Katy 12 & 12	\$4.00				
Post Oak Group	\$600.00				
Rosewood Thursday Night	\$27.55				
Sisters of Serenity	\$28.75				
Total Income	\$789.50	\$8,127.00	\$8,851.75	108.9%	108.9%
*** EXPENSES ***					
DCM	\$129.66	\$500.00	\$370.62	25.9%	74.1%
Alt. DCM	\$6.82	\$500.00	\$466.21	1.4%	93.2%
Secretary / Copying		\$50.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Treasurer		\$75.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Newsletter		\$1,300.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Rent/Coffee Donation	\$177.80	\$180.00	\$177.80	98.8%	98.8%
Coffee		\$25.00	\$45.79	0.0%	183.2%
PO Box	\$52.00	\$44.00	\$52.00	118.2%	118.2%
Literature Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
PI/CPC	\$58.97	\$2,150.00	\$1,841.32	2.7%	85.6%
Grapevine		\$80.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
CFC		\$500.00	\$500.00	0.0%	100.0%
TFC		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Archives Committee		\$50.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Intergroup Liaison		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Miscellaneous		\$200.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***Gratitude Dinner		\$300.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** Fellowship Fest		\$900.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** Traditions Dinner		\$900.00	\$475.27	0.0%	52.8%
*** Service Workshop		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***SWRAASA (Even Years)		\$1,800.00	\$1,536.12	0.0%	85.3%
*** The Forum (Odd Years)		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***SETA Assembly Host District		\$300.00	\$312.54	0.0%	0.0%
*** SETA - 2012 Hospitality Suite ***		\$900.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$425.25	\$10,754.00	\$5,777.67	4.0%	53.7%
*Budget approved 10/11/11					
<i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>	\$4,776.91				
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$425.25				
<i>Total Income</i>	\$789.50				
Ending Balance / Total Funds	\$5,141.16				

Upcoming Events

- District 33 Annual Unity Conference – March 1-3, 2013 at the Navasota VFW
- Intergroup's 50th Birthday Party - March 8-10, 2013 at the Westin Hotel Memorial City
- 67th Annual State Convention - June 7-9, 2013 at the Marriott Westchase Hotel

History Corner

Nelson Newcomer: Why do we have traditions and who wrote them, anyway? I thought there are no rules in A.A.

Ms. Old Timer: As people started getting sober after that first meeting of Bill W. and Dr. Bob in 1935, small groups of sober men (and later, women) began springing up, mostly connected with the Oxford Group. By 1939, the groups in Akron, Cleveland, and later, New York, left the Oxford Group umbrella and began meeting on their own. Others soon followed. After a while, these groups started writing into the office with questions, such as "What do we do with Joe? He just will NOT stop drinking and he's disturbing our meetings!" Bill and his staff wrote back, not telling them what they should do, but sharing information based on other groups' experiences with the same issues. Some of the experiences were good, but many turned out to be not so good. By 1946, Bill had finished writing the "**Twelve Traditions to Assure Our Future**" and began presenting them to the fellowship. He wrote in the April 1946 issue of the A.A. Grapevine:

Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as tradition.... Almost any A.A. can tell you what our group problems are. Fundamentally they have to do with our relations, one with the other, and with the world outside.... The future may well depend on how we feel and act about things that are controversial and how we regard our public relations. Our final destiny will surely hang upon what we presently decide to do with these danger-fraught issues! ... Now comes the crux of our discussion. It is this: Have we yet acquired sufficient experience to state clear-cut policies on these, our chief concerns? Can we now declare general principles which could grow into vital traditions --traditions sustained in the heart of each A.A. by his own deep conviction and by the common consent of his fellows? That is the question. Though full answer to all our perplexities may never be found, I'm sure we have come at last to a vantage point whence we can discern the main outlines of a body of tradition; which, God willing, can stand as an effective guard against all the ravages of time and circumstance.

Betsy G.

The following Committees meet at:

The Delta Club
6400 Westpark, Suite 355, Houston, TX 77057
Telephone (713) 972-0034

Literature Committee

Last Saturday of the month - 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Grapevine Committee

3rd Thursday of the month - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Correctional Facilities Committee

3rd Wednesday of the month - 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

*Treatment Facilities Committee

Meets quarterly at the Area Assembly at 4:30 pm

IT Committee

Meets every 4th Saturday from 10 am to Noon at:

Post Oak Club -- Moved to Northwest Mall

9600 Hempstead Road, Suite 306

Houston, TX. 77092 Telephone: 713-956-5061

The following Committee meets at:

The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston
303 Jackson Hill, Houston, TX 77007
Telephone (713) 942-4100

Cooperation with the Professional Community

1st Monday of the month at 7:15 pm

*Public Information Committee

1st Saturday of every month at 6 pm (Except for Assembly Months)

*Archives Committee

Meets quarterly (or as needed)

at the Area Assembly at 4:30 pm

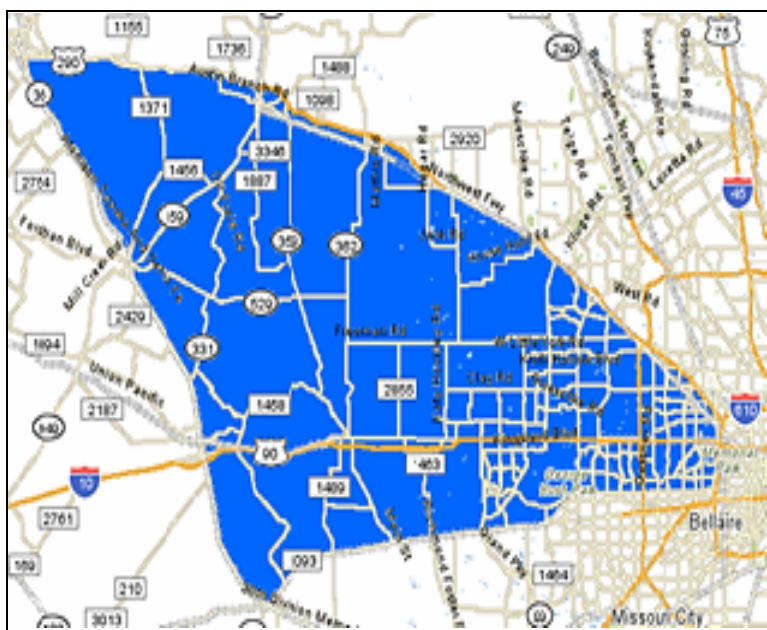
Contact Lee G.

District 40 PI/CPC Monthly Committee Meeting

Last Saturday of the month from 1-3 p.m.

At the Spring Branch Memorial Club

*All committees meet at the Area Assembly in the months of April, July and October at 4:30 PM
Sheraton North Houston - 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Houston, TX 77032
During the remaining months, the committees meet at the above locations and times.



THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS
FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AT 7:00 PM

Just starting a group in District 40 and wish to add it to this newsletter? Send group information, location and meeting times to SETA-40@aa-seta.org and intergroup@aahouston.org. You can also call Intergroup at 713-686-6300.

District 40 of the Southeast Texas Area is a territory bounded on the North by US HWY 290; on the South by Westheimer Rd.; on the East by Loop 610 and on the West by State HWY 36. If your group falls within these boundaries, please contact us SETA-40@aa-seta.org and attend the monthly District meeting at the Bear Creek Community Center. HWY 6 at Patterson Rd.