

Hello District 40 Friends,

I would like to share a little about my experience in being one of the many members who have stood at the podium on a Saturday evening to present on the Twelve Traditions for a District 40 Annual Traditions Dinner.

This is not an experience that anyone could wing from my perspective. I did not do that. When Corrie asked me I wanted to turn and run! Lol!

For many years I have sat in the audience as one after another of the Giants in service have taken the steps up to the podium and presented on the traditions that, if worked and used, can keep our groups, districts, and area unified. I loved hearing them and they took the time to bring history, understanding and personal experience.

So, when it was my turn I took it seriously and began to study the service manual, *AA Comes of Age*, 12 traditions illustrated, the 12 x 12 and several *Grapevine* articles.

I learned so much and my prayer is that I was able to provide a little insight into my experience with the traditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service. I look forward to many more years of learning from other members, from the audience!!!!

Love and service,  
Patrick C.



### Step Eight

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

### Tradition Eight

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

### Concept Eight

The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

### Inside This Issue

- |       |                                  |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1     | <i>Hello District 40 Friends</i> |
| 1     | Step, Tradition, Concept         |
| 2     | <i>Who Knew... God Knew!</i>     |
| 2     | <i>The Newcomer's View</i>       |
| 3     | <i>My Favorite Experience...</i> |
| 3     | <i>Thank You</i>                 |
| 4 & 5 | Secretary's Report               |
| 6     | Treasurer's Report               |
| 7     | <i>A New Pair of Eyes</i>        |
| 7     | Trusted Servants' Directory      |
| 8     | Upcoming Events                  |
| 8     | District Map                     |
| 9     | SETA Committee Meeting Schedule  |

## WHO KNEW....GOD KNEW!

Who would have thought five years ago, when I would have nothing to do with sobriety or the International Convention (that was in my back yard), that I would find my way to Atlanta to be with over 60,000 other alcoholics and look forward to it...GOD KNEW!

The anticipation of going to Atlanta was nothing like getting there. It was amazing. It was like the Disney World of AA. It was my first time at International and my eyes were big trying to take it all in. It was everything I thought it would be and heard about.



I had to get my badge, maps, and itinerary. Then I looked to get a plan of action for my adventure. Lucky for me I was with friends who had been before and knew how to get around.

I started my journey by attending a few meetings and visiting some AA attractions. Then I stood in line for the biggest AA meeting there is... the Georgia Dome; 60,000 plus alcoholics and me. I was feeling excited, scared and overwhelmed. There was some pushing and shoving and jockeying for position, but we alcoholics worked it out. When it was over, I felt God had brought me where he wanted me to be. An experience like no other in my journey of sobriety (so far).

Over the next three days, I experienced all I could. I went to many meetings with topics of interest and heard speakers from all over the country. I ate way too much, shopped at the sober villages and took in some sites the city of Atlanta had to offer. And before I left I went back to the Georgia Dome for a final meeting... this time I was not scared and that overwhelming feeling was gone replaced with gratitude. I met alcoholics from all over the world. Everyone was nice and eager to talk and find out where you were from. Special thanks to a dear friend (and you know who you are) for helping to make it possible for me to get to Atlanta for the convention.

Over the last five years I have learned we are not a glum lot and I'm not a boring person. I (we) insist on enjoying life. This was the longest vacation I've gone on in sobriety. Who knew I'd spend it with good friends, 60,000 new friends and have the time of my life... GOD KNEW!

Pam F.

## The Newcomer's View

I attended the District 40's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Traditions Dinner this year and am so glad I did! It was a wonderful opportunity to be of service helping out with preparations and to see so many people from the various groups in the district I attend meetings with-all in one place! The atmosphere was upbeat and festive as we enjoyed appetizers and anticipated the arrival of our key speaker, Patrick C. This was my first attendance at a Traditions Dinner, in fact, the first time I have ever heard someone speak on all the Traditions at once. It was very informative and thought provoking to hear Patrick's personal experiences. I gained a newfound appreciation for the relevance and enduring effectiveness of the Traditions as our guides for 'group survival'. It was obvious to me a good time was had by all. The food provided by everyone was delicious. And the fellowship was everything BUT glum! Kudos to all the organizers and volunteers that contributed their time and talents to this super event!

Cathy B

**FRIENDSHIP IS  
BORN AT THAT  
MOMENT WHEN  
ONE PERSON  
SAYS TO  
ANOTHER,  
'WHAT! YOU  
TOO? I THOUGHT  
I WAS THE ONLY  
ONE  
C.S. LEWIS**

## My Favorite Experience...

I had a wonderful time at the AA International Conference held in Atlanta over the 4th of July weekend! I spoke to people from Slovenia, Finland, Peru, Ireland, Costa Rica as well as many different states here in the USA. I am always amazed at how far the message reaches. I am very grateful that the solution is available for so many people.



My favorite experience was volunteering at the PI Display near the registration area in the convention center. As Area PI Chair, I was offered the opportunity and I jumped on it! They were showing a few of our PSA's on a video screen and I was able to see the brand new animated video, "Doors", that has just been approved by the General Service Conference. You can view it online at [aa.org](http://aa.org), I would love to hear your comments. Some of the questions I was asked while at the display were from other Area PI Chair's wondering what type of projects we were working on. There was one woman who came by and was just trying to start a PI/CPC committee and wanted to know how. I had a lawyer who came by who was not an alcoholic, but had been referring people to AA for a long time. He wanted to know more about the program. There were also people who are confused about the work that a PI Committee does and how it adheres to our tradition of attraction not promotion.

I never fail to gain more from being of service than I put in and this was no exception. I hope that in 5 years when the International Convention will be in Detroit that I will be able to attend and do some type of service work again.

Kate E  
SETA PI Committee Chair



Thank you so much to all of the volunteers, providers & attendees for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Traditions Dinner. It was such a peaceful & fulfilling event & one that I will cherish in my heart & experience for many years to come. I am proud to be a part of this District & hope that the gifts of service & sobriety that I received that evening come to you all tenfold.

Much AA Love,  
Michelle H.  
D40 DCM

## District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2015

**Call to Order:** Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

**Tradition VI/Concept VI:** reading and summation by Michelle H. and Corrie H.

**Volunteers for next month:** Tradition VI/Concept VI will be Jeff S. and Deborah G.

### Introduction of Attendees:

**Ana D.** (D40 Secretary, Area 67 Newsletter Chair, Katy Big Book Group); **Anne B.** (Alt. GSR, Katy 12 & 12); **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM, Past Area 67 Delegate, God Meeting Group); **Bill A.** (Alt. GSR, Breaking the Chains); **Brad H.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Registrar, Journey Group); **Cindy M.** (D40 Correctional Facilities Chair, Area 67 CFC Secretary, Katy Big Book); **Corrie H.** (D40 Alt DCM, Katy Big Book Group); **Deborah G.** (D40 Newsletter Chair, Katy 164); **Jackie S.** (GSR, Bear Creek Fellowship); **Jeff S.** (Alt. GSR, Post Oak Group); **Jim B.** (D40 PI/CPC Chair, Rule 62); **Jon S.** (Past Area Delegate, Another Chance); **Karen N.** (Alt. GSR, Katy Primary Purpose); **Kate L.** (Alt. GSR, Broad Highway); **Kaylee S.** (GSR, Broad Highway); **Kelly S.** (GSR, West Houston Group); **Marianne O.** (GSR, Katy 12 & 12); **Matt G.** (Alt. GSR, Katy Crossroads Group); **Michelle H.** (D40 DCM, Katy Big Book Group); **Pam F.** (D40 Treatment Facilities Chair, Katy Big Book); **Patty D.** (GSR, Katy 164); **Paul M.** (Past Delegate Panel 53, New Day Group – Galveston); **Paulette M.** (GSR, Wild West Group); **Tom B.** (Alt. GSR, West Houston Group), **Wendy A.** (Katy Crossroads Group)

### Normal Business:

1. **Secretary's Report** – Accepted as corrected.
2. **Treasurer's Report** – Accepted as corrected.

### Committee Reports:

- a. **Archives** – There was nothing to report at this time. Tom has gone through the archives tub. He has plans on visiting the groups within the district to gather more information of each group.
- b. **Coffee Committee** – All is good.
- c. **Correctional Facilities Committee – CFC** –
  - SETA CFC Conference;  
Sept. 11, 12 & 13 Crowne Plaza Hotel, Houston, TX. Early registration encouraged.  
Planning Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at the Delta Club at 10:30 am. Spanish District 64 asked for involvement in the conference. Volunteers are needed and most welcomed. 3 meetings left before the conference. YIKES

- SETA CFC Conference;

Alt Chair, Chris is working on an overlay of pinned active meetings and jail & prison locations. This will help us to show a list of places we don't have a presence in. Clicking on the pin will pop up meeting day/times & coordinator info. For anyone looking for that info.

Groups & individuals are donating Grapevine issues and the inmates love them.

The next meeting will be 6/17 at the Delta Club @ 7pm.

- d. **Grapevine** – OPEN – A subscription challenge is going on right now. Look at flyers for more information. Writing articles is a part of helping!!!
- e. **Intergroup** – OPEN
- f. **Information Technology** – IT – OPEN – SETA email is down until the 11<sup>th</sup>
- g. **Literature** – Sharon has accepted the position. All were in favor.
- h. **Newsletter** – Thank you to all the people who wrote in this month. I did include a letter from an inmate under the heading "Behind the Prison Walls." Unfortunately since Office Depot took over Office Max, there is now a charge for colored paper so the newsletter will be in white in order to stay within budget. I was unaware of that this month so I went a bit over budget. The topic for July will be "Freedom through Self-Support." It can be anything on freedom through the program, what the 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition of self-support means to you, etc. Hope to have lots of articles next month!
- i. **Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community** – PI/CPC Emergency mail out has been completed. Discussed how to get more members. Suggested to have a Fling event in September.
- j. **Treatment Facilities Committee** – TFC – This month (6-1-15) I met with Wendy Evans, director of Clinical Services at Westpark Springs a treatment facility in Richmond about possibly having AA meetings at their facility. At the meeting she explained what Westpark Springs is looking for. While she is familiar with AA, I went on to explain what AA is and is not. It was a productive meeting. I am working on getting a meeting to this facility. I'm still working on my treatment facility list for district 40.

### Current Items:

1. Area SCAP Committee Presentation – Zaz M. - Meets every 6 weeks.
2. Area July Assembly Announcement – Michelle H. – Book rooms as of now.

## District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes Southeast Area Alcoholics Anonymous

### 3. Traditions Dinner Report – Corrie H.

- a. Final preparations are under way. Just want to take a quick minute to thank all of you for your hard work and willingness. This has been exciting to watch it all come together and has allowed me to meet new people and strengthen relationships with my all of you in the District. I must say, you are by far the best! From the bottom of my heart; thank you! Deborah and Ana have been working tirelessly on the decorations. They look great. Patty has taken care of the main dish (She will need help serving the food and keeping the tables stocked and clean) and several of you and your groups have committed your time, money, food prep and muscles for setup. You have made me even more proud to be a part of this wonderful District. Tom is creating an Archives display and Brad is picking up the key to the church for us on Thursday and the doors for setup will open on Saturday at 1PM. If you can't come early and still want to help, please bring ice chests and ice. There is plenty to go around! We have an additional \$100.00 donation from member of our district and Rule 62 called to send funds our way as well. Several people have reached out to help and I anticipate a large crowd. Brad and I have the sausage in our fridge to prove it.

### 4. 2015 Gratitude Dinner Report – Cheryl B.

- a. The first committee meeting was held on Thursday, May 24st at the SBMC at 6:30 pm. Items discussed was a review of the date of the event, venue, roles and responsibilities as well as resources available and required.
- b. It was agreed that the co-host district 66 would design and circulate the save the date card samples to be approved via email so they could be ordered and distributed in time for the July assembly
- c. There are several open positions that need to be filled as well as commitments for helping out on the day. Open positions include: Kitchen

coordinator, Site coordinator, Registration coordinator, Sound/AV Coordinator, Parking Coordinator

- d. The committee still needs to decide on the theme and a main course (once determined a request for a budget will be presented to D40 for funding). One suggestion was to do a picnic style theme to include hamburgers and hotdogs since we've been alternating Mexican and Italian themes the past few years. Any ideas or recommendations are gladly appreciated!!!
- e. Next meeting is June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at SMBC.

### 5. Delegate's Conference Report Update – Michelle H.

- a. Flyer has been sent out. We are co-hosting with D52 June 27<sup>th</sup> at COTHA.

#### Group News:

1. Cindy M. has noticed more CFC group reps are attending the Area CFC meeting. This is a good opportunity for service.

#### Announcements:

- **D40 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Traditions Dinner:** June 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., St Christopher's Episcopal
- **Intergroup Delegate's meeting:** June 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 p.m., Intergroup
- **D40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting:** May 30, 1:00 – 3:00pm, SBMC
- **D40 Delegate's Report Tea Party:** June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., COTHA





# Treasurer's Report

## June 2015 Financial Report

District 40 Financial Report Period Ending 7/14/15		Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
<b>***INCOME***</b>						
Group Donations to Date				\$3,535.09		
Traditions Dinner Donations			\$250.00			
Service Workshop Donations						
State Conv - Hospitality Suite						
SETA -Hospitality Suite				\$365.00		
Delegate Report Contribution		\$92.50		\$92.50		
Fellowship Fest						
<b>Group Donations</b>	<b>Check Number</b>		<b>\$9,644.00</b>			
Another Chance Group	1124	\$5.00				
Bunkerhill Tuesday A.A. G	11655	\$53.00				
Four Horsemen Group	1111	\$7.00				
Friends of Bill W.	13778	\$25.00				
Fulshear Group	614	\$36.87				
Into Action AA Group	1191	\$32.00				
Kingsland Group	1668	\$19.26				
Men's Supper/Step Study	1072	\$19.47				
New Oxford Group	1520813190	\$100.00				
Rule 62 Group	1101	\$59.00				
Sage-Piney Point	388702207	\$90.90				
Tuesday Night Step Study	1166	\$27.08				
West Houston	Cash	\$75.00				
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$642.08</b>	<b>\$9,894.00</b>	<b>\$3,992.59</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>40.4%</b>



<b>*** EXPENSES ***</b>						
DCM		\$600.00	\$300.50	0.0%	50.1%	
Alt. DCM		\$600.00	\$195.59	0.0%	32.6%	
Secretary / Copying		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Treasurer		\$75.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Newsletter		\$220.00	\$209.46	0.0%	95.2%	
Rent/Coffee Donation		\$180.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Coffee		\$25.00		0.0%	0.0%	
PO Box		\$70.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Literature Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%	
PI/CPC		\$2,500.00	\$180.00	0.0%	7.2%	
Grapevine		\$80.00		0.0%	0.0%	
CFC		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%	
TFC		\$100.00	\$33.05	0.0%	33.1%	
Archives Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Intergroup Liaison		\$0.00				
IT Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%	
Miscellaneous		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%	
***Gratitude Dinner		\$300.00		0.0%	0.0%	
*** Fellowship Fest		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%	
*** Traditions Dinner		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.0%	100.0%	
*** Service Workshop		\$250.00	\$184.19	0.0%	73.7%	
***SWRAASA (Even Years)		\$0.00				
*** The Forum (Odd Years)		\$1,500.00		0.0%	0.0%	
*** Delegate Report Meeting	\$215.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	53.8%	100.0%	
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste		\$0.00				
***SETA Assembly Host District		\$0.00				
*** SETA - 2015 Hospitality Suite ***		\$1,800.00	\$1,762.01	0.0%	97.9%	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$215.00</b>	<b>\$10,700.00</b>	<b>\$4,264.80</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>39.9%</b>	

\*Budget Approved as of 11 / 09 / 14

<b>Beginning Bank Balance</b>	<b>\$7,042.01</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$215.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$642.08</b>
<b>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</b>	<b>\$2,675.00</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>\$4,794.09</b>
<b>Ending Balance / Total Funds</b>	<b>\$7,469.09</b>
<b>Unspent Portion of Budget</b>	<b>\$6,435.20</b>

"Right then and there, Ebby established the principle that A.A. in action calls for the sacrifice of much time and a little money."

A.A. Comes of Age, pp. 141

MONTHLY SUMMARY	
Opening Balance:	\$7,042.01
Contributions:	\$642.08
Expenses:	\$215.00
Closing Balance:	\$7,469.09
Notes:	



## A New Pair of Eyes

I was amazed at how many sober smiling faces I saw. It gave me a rock hard feeling that if all those people can be sober, so can I (trusting the program works).

The inmate speaker brought tears to my eyes. He shared he couldn't get out for his mother's funeral, but by working this program and being involved in inside AA, he found himself speaking at this convention. I was stunned to see he was in not handcuffs and surrounded by guards (an inmate who is trusted not to run away?!).

A woman lost her expensive phone. I thought for sure it would end up in a pawn shop (and told her so), but she left her contact info. and sure enough, she got it mailed to her. (Trustworthy people).

Trust has always been hard for me. I was never trustworthy, nor did I hang out with trustworthy people. That weekend I could see trust evident in AA people. It gave me courage to go back and ask for a sponsor (I can trust another) and wanting to be part of this society. I didn't know the seed of trust would grow to the hope I needed. I feel somehow changed and am so grateful I got to go.

JoAnne

### DISTRICT SERVANTS

#### **DCM**

Michelle H.  
[dcm-40@aa-seta.org](mailto:dcm-40@aa-seta.org)

#### **Alternate DCM**

Corrie H.  
[dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org](mailto:dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org)

#### **Secretary**

Ana D.

#### **Alt. Secretary**

OPEN

#### **Treasurer**

Mike W.

#### **Alt. Treasurer**

OPEN

#### **Grapevine Chair**

OPEN

#### **Literature Chair**

Sharon S.

#### **IT Representative**

Richard B.

#### **Treatment Facilities Chair**

Pam F.

#### **PI/CPC Committee Chair**

Jim B.

#### **Correctional Facilities Chair**

Cindy M.

#### **Intergroup Liaison**

Clark F.

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Deborah G.

#### **Multi-Lingual Chair**

Meagan V.

#### **Coffee Chair**

Betsy K.

#### **Archives Chair**

Tom B

## Upcoming Events

### **District 10 Monthly Service Manual Study**

August 25th, 7:00 PM  
First Unitarian Universalist Church  
5200 Fannin St., Houston, TX

### **69th Annual Texas State AA Convention**

Aug 14—16, 2015  
The Midland Center, 105 N. Street, Midland, TX 79701

### **34th Annual District 90 Convention**

Aug 14-16, 2015  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Beaumont Plaza  
3950 I-10 S at Walden Road

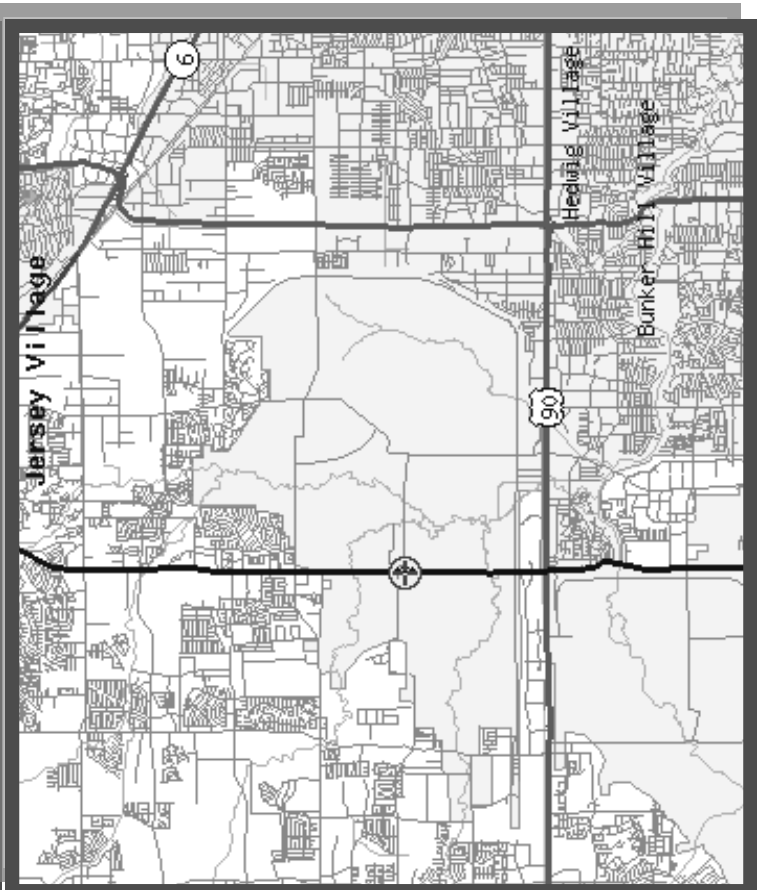
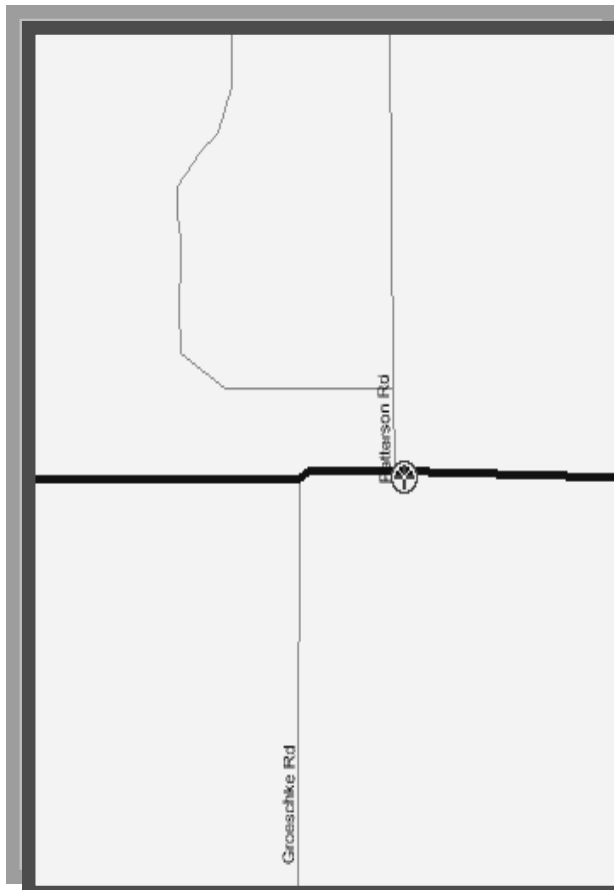
### **SETA 67 CFC Conference**

Sept 11-13, 2015  
Crown Plaza Suites Hotel  
9090 Southwest Fwy, Houston TX 77074

*\*See flyers on SETA/Intergroup Websites*

True ambition is not  
what we thought it  
was. True ambition is  
the profound desire to  
live usefully and walk  
humbly under the grace  
of God.

*Bill Wilson*







**SETA and Intergroup Committee Meeting Times**

If you have a story, quote, cartoon, or image you would like to see published in the District 40 News, please send it to [dcm-40@aa-seta.org](mailto:dcm-40@aa-seta.org)

Committee	Meeting Time	Location	Area Assembly*
Archives	2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM	521 N. Sam Houston Pkwy East, Suite 215 Houston, TX 77060	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	1st Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M.	Houston Council On Alcohol And Drugs 303 Jackson Hill Houston, TX 77007	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Correctional Facilities (CFC)	3rd Wednesday of every month from 7:30-9:00 PM	The Delta Club 6400 Westpark Dr, Suite 355 Houston, TX 77057	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Grapevine	3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM	The Delta Club 6400 Westpark Dr, Suite 355 Houston, TX 77057	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Intergroup	3rd Thursday of every other month at 8:00 PM	4140 Directors Row, Suites D & E, Houston, Texas, 77092	-
Internet Technologies (IT)	4th Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378, Room C	Saturday, 4:45 PM to 6:00 PM
Literature	-	-	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Mult-Lingual	1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM	District 66 5645 Hilcroft Suite 410 Houston, TX 77036	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Public Information (PI)	3rd Monday of the month at 7:15 PM (Excpet on Assembly months)	Houston Council On Alcohol And Drugs 303 Jackson Hill Houston, TX 77007	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
Treatment Facilities (TFC)	-	-	Saturday, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM
District 40 PI/CPC Committee	Last Saturday of the month from 1:00-3:00 PM	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378, Room C	-
PI/CPC Phone # 713-834-3880		*Area Assembly meets in the months of April, July and October at Sheraton North Houston 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Houston, TX 77032; January Assembly meets at the SETA Annual Convention. Location TBA.	

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS  
**SEPTEMBER 8, 2015**  
**AT 7:00 PM**  
 District 40 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 7:00 PM—9:00 PM at the Bear Creek Community Center 3055 Bear Creek Drive, Houston, Texas 77084

**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](mailto:SETA-40@aa-seta.org) and [intergroup@aahouston.org](mailto:intergroup@aahouston.org). You may also contact Intergroup at 713-686-6300.