



## TRADITION 6: THE HISTORY

THE SHORT FORM OF TRADITION 6 SUGGESTS THAT, "AN A.A. GROUP OUGHT NEVER ENDORSE, FINANCE, OR LEND THE A.A. NAME TO ANY RELATED FACILITY OR OUTSIDE ENTERPRISE, LEST PROBLEMS OF MONEY, PROPERTY AND PRESTIGE DIVERT US FROM OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE". IN MAY 1948, BILL WROTE IN AN ARTICLE FOR THE A.A. GRAPEVINE THAT STATED, "THE SIXTH TRADITION WAS SO IMPORTANT THAT IT STATES AT GREAT LENGTH THE RELATION OF THE AA MOVEMENT TO MONEY AND PROPERTY. EXPERIENCE HAS PROVED THAT THE ACCUMULATION OF MONEY, OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY AND PERSONAL AUTHORITY COMPRISE A CLUSTER OF SERIOUS HAZARDS AGAINST WHICH AN AA GROUP MUST EVER BE ON GUARD."

THE MOMENT WE SAW THAT WE HAD A SOLUTION FOR ALCOHOLISM, THE EARLY MEMBERS THOUGHT IT WAS REASONABLE TO BELIEVE THAT WE MIGHT HAVE THE CURE FOR MANY OTHER THINGS. THIS IS THE TIME WHEN OUR MEMBERS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO BUILD HOSPITALS TO TREAT OUR KIND, SINCE HOSPITALS DID NOT WANT US ANYWAY. WE COULD CARRY OUR MESSAGE INTO THE FACTORIES AND BRING HARMONY BETWEEN THE LABORERS AND MANAGEMENT. OUR HONESTY MIGHT EVEN CLEAN UP POLITICS. AS BILL SAYS IN OUR 12 & 12, "HOW NATURAL THAT WAS, SINCE MOST ALCOHOLICS ARE BANKRUPT IDEALISTS."

WE TRIED SOME OF THOSE THINGS, AND THEY ALL FAILED, BECAUSE IT MEANT THAT THE AA GROUPS WERE GOING INTO BUSINESS. THESE ACTIVITIES DID NOTHING BUT CONFUSE THE MEMBERS. WAS AA SPIRITUAL OR MEDICAL? DID WE FIX DRUNKS, OR WERE WE EDUCATIONAL? WE LEARNED THAT WE COULD NOT BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE.

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### Step Six

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

### Tradition Six

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

### Concept Six

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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# TRADITION 6: THE HISTORY

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THIS TRADITION IS MOST CLEARLY UTILIZED IN THE SEPARATION OF CLUBS FROM GROUPS BECAUSE IT PROVIDES THAT AN AA GROUP SHOULD NEVER GO INTO BUSINESS OR LEND THE AA NAME OR LOAN MONEY TO ANY "OUTSIDE ENTERPRISE," NO MATTER HOW GOOD OR PROMISING. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT CLUBS SHOULD BE INCORPORATED SEPARATELY FROM THE GROUPS MEETING THERE, AND SHOULD NOT CARRY THE AA NAME. IN THIS MANNER, BILL SAYS, "WE THUS DIVIDE THE SPIRITUAL FROM THE MATERIAL, CONFINE THE AA MOVEMENT TO ITS SOLE AIM, AND ENSURE THAT NO MATTER HOW WEALTHY AS INDIVIDUALS WE MAY BECOME, THAT AA ITSELF SHALL ALWAYS REMAIN POOR." FOR EXAMPLE, THE CLUB HANDLES THE BUILDING AND ALL RELATED DUTIES, SUCH AS PAYMENTS TO THE LANDLORD OR MORTGAGE HOLDER, REPAIRS, UTILITIES, ETC. THE GROUP HANDLES THE SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES OF CARRYING THE AA MESSAGE, AS DISCUSSED IN TRADITION 5.

HOW DOES THIS TRADITION RELATE TO ME PERSONALLY? HAVE I USED MY GROUP MEMBERSHIP IN ANY WAY BY PUTTING MY GROUP IN A POSITION TO ENDORSE OR AFFILIATE WITH ANY OUTSIDE ENTITIES, OR USING THE AA NAME FOR PERSONAL GAIN? DO I WEAR MY AA MEMBERSHIP AS A BADGE TO GAIN FAME OR NOTORIETY?

## The Lessons of Tradition Six

I don't think I've met an Alcoholic that hasn't had a lesson with this Tradition! It can be something as simple as thinking about putting a pink breast cancer awareness ribbon pin on my AA name badge; the church putting our group name on their red neon sign announcing the meeting day & time, to that member who insists on announcing the non-AA event during meetings. Part of the long form of this Tradition states "While an AA group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied." When I apply this on a personal level I learn that I have every right & choice to place the pink pin on my shirt instead of my badge; that as a group member I have the duty & responsibility to work within the group conscience to explain to the church why we must have our own separate sign that does not bear the church's name. Cooperation is a spiritual principle by its very nature & it has the power to actually strengthen our primary purpose when understood. This is hard to understand as a newcomer as we can be very easily influenced, so the implied part of affiliation often disguises itself as a good idea or as something harmless. The Big Book shows us the importance of ceasing fighting anyone & anything, even alcohol. As the steps prepare us for a lifetime of spiritual living, I believe the Traditions & Concepts are just a continuing process showing us how to achieve that life for ourselves as well as others & AA as a whole. If there is any one thing that I have learned the most from this Tradition, it's that when we let how much money we "invest" into a group, how much more we do for the group's property/facility define our perspective or attitude, it creates an us vs. them environment. These attitudes do not ask how we can help the newcomer, these attitudes demand you help only me because I am the most important person in the room. This attitude demands that you respect me when I have done nothing to earn it, it demands that you listen to my words because there is no spiritual action, it demands that you follow me instead of welcoming the newcomer. No primary purpose no matter how spiritual can be honored as long as that is being fed. I cannot buy my sobriety or work my way into owning a group. I will never be better or more important than another alcoholic. Unfortunately, I have witnessed this take place too many times in the short time I have been sober, the saddest part of all is that no one comes into those groups & gets sober & that affects all of AA. This Tradition does not tell us that we cannot go somewhere or participate in something other than AA, it encourages us to seize these opportunities personally through this design for living & to try & educate the outside world on what AA is & what AA isn't whenever possible always remembering our primary purpose... to carry the AA message.

Michelle H.  
D40 DCM

# From Behind the Prison Walls

## Right Here Right Now

Friends, we together as alcoholics draw our stories from our past. Being ever so careful as to not repeat it. Instead of inundating, bringing you a life story of anger, depression, anxiety, fear, embarrassment, violence, physical and emotional abuse, shyness, the list could go on. Now the autonomy to these few of the many for us would be; drink of courage, Superman/Wonder Woman, boldness, arrogant, life of the party, you could add so much more.

My story is similar to many of yours that what draw many of us to meetings. Someone will say something I'm too scared to say and after they say it, I feel good because now I know I'm not alone. Are we so naïve as to believe I'm the only one to have gone through some of the crap I've been through? Heck, there are so many more that got the short end of the stick. So I won't dwell on the past. What I do is recognize my errors and take the proper steps in my life as to not repeat past mistakes.

Friends, we'll speak of the here and now. I use the resources God has placed before me. I do want to add I've been a drunk since a very young age. It is a disease. I now treat it as one.

In 2014, I drunk, after countless marriages, money spent attorneys, vehicles, etc. I continued to wasn't a wino on the ey. I worked. I demand, hear me roar. cat!

In 2013, I'm in Ramsey 1 Unit. themselves as an an hour and a half of could say something. am a stone cold drunk."



finally admitted I was a incarcerations, failed because of drinking, household furniture, etc. brush it off. Heck, I street begging for mon-served a drink. I'm a More like a scared kitty

an AA group at the Everyone introduces alcoholic. After about discussion, I asked if I "My name is Paul and I I finally admitted to myself and others I had a problem. See my logic was, I'm new in God, I'm no longer the old me. That's true, but the old man in the flesh is still alive and well. I recognize that God gives us resources, people, places and things, to help us. And when we accept and more importantly recognize what He gives us, we can then move to the area of cleansing. God is here for me but I have to make the choice to take what He gives me and stay sober. It's all here for me. My God gave me people who are just like me, struggling not to repeat the past. And I draw strength from that. AA for me is a positive outlet that I need. Because if I bottle things up, I'll end up with a bottle in my hand. And I know this. I'm really simplistic about life. God did not make things difficult for us. We do that on our own.

For me, my simple is 1) Keep – stay in a close relationship with God. 2) Go to meetings always wherever I'm at. Yep, even on vacation. 3) Stay true to myself. 4) Avoid all areas and situations that could cause me to start drinking.

Brothers and sisters, I have to be honest with you, being sober and with God has brought me peace, joy and a zest for life I never had before. I can have a good time without alcohol. And when I am released, my family will have the man that God created me to be. So today I am making the choice to stay sober. Because when all is said and done, it's all about choice. So right here, right now, I choose to stay sober.

Paul G.

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

**April 14, 2015**

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

**Tradition IV/Concept IV:** reading and summation by Patty D. and Pam F.

**Volunteers for next month:** Tradition V/Concept V will be Bill A. and Cindy M.

### **Introduction of Attendees:**

**Ana D.** (D40 Secretary, Area 67 Newsletter Chair, Katy Big Book Group); **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*); **Cheryl B.** (2015 Gratitude Dinner Chair, Katy Crossroads); **Cindy M.** (D40 Correctional Facilities Chair, Area 67 CFC Secretary, Katy Big Book); **Clark F.** (GSR, Houston Young People); **Corrie H.** (D40 Alt DCM, Katy Big Book Group); **Deborah G.** (D40 Newsletter Chair, Rule 62 Group); **Elizabeth H.** (Alt. GSR, Another Chance); **Geoff A.** (GSR, Our Common Journey); **Jackie S.** (GSR, Bear Creek Fellowship); **Jon S.** (*Past Area Delegate, Katy Big Book*); **Kate E.** (Area 67 PI Committee Chair, Memorial Going Home Group); **Kaylee S.** (GSR, Broad Highway); **Kelly S.** (GSR, West Houston Group); **Marianne O.** (GSR, Katy 12 & 12); **Michelle H.** (D40 DCM, Katy Big Book Group); **Mike W.** (D40 Treasurer, God Meeting); **Pam F.** (D40 Treatment Facilities Chair, Katy Big Book); **Patty D.** (GSR, Katy 164); **Rafael A.** (Alt. GSR, Our Common Journey); **Reino F.** (GSR, Rule 62); **Richard B.** (GSR, First Light Group); **Sharon S.** (Katy Big Book); **Sunshine P.** (Alt GSR, Spring Shadows Group); **Tom B.** (Alt. GSR, West Houston Group)

### **Normal Business:**

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

### **Committee Reports:**

- a. **Archives** –OPEN.
- b. **Coffee Committee** – Scott was not able to attend however all is good in coffeeland.
- c. **Correctional Facilities Committee** – **CFC** – Cindy M. reported a CFC Workshop hosted by the Third Tradition Group will be held 4/25/2015 from 11:30 – 1:30, 5656 Belarbor, Houston. (For anyone thinking about volunteering. Experienced volunteer

panel will be there to answer any questions.) TDCJ Volunteer Training; 5/16/2015 from 12:30 – 4:00 at the Bay Area Club in League City, TX. SETA CFC Conference; September 11 – 13; Crown Plaza Hotel, Houston, TX. Annual Conference with professional panel, live music provided by “Kindred Spirits,” Speaker & AA Meetings in English and Spanish. Early Registration is encouraged. Eastham Unit is having their 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary 5/23/2015 starting at 3:00 p.m. They also need more AA meeting volunteers. Email the CFC Chair to get on the list if you'd like go. There was a great turnout at the April Volunteer Training at Intergroup. 50+ people!!! However, we need lots more volunteers in all areas of CFC. The CFC committee voted to order \$1K worth of back issues of Grapevine. The volunteers will bring them to the prison meetings. The next meeting will be 5/20/2015 at the Delta Club at 7:00 pm.

- 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** – No report provided
- f. **Information Technology** – IT – OPEN
- g. **Literature** – OPEN;
- h. **Newsletter** – Thank you for all of the articles that were sent in. It was most appreciative to have our Alt. Delegate Ron C. to send in one of his many jokes. It added a nice touch to our newsletter. May's topic will be on Sponsor/Sponsee Relationships: Share your experience on being a sponsor and/or sponsee. How has it helped you grow? Please let me know if there is anything further I can do to improve the newsletter.
- i. **Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community** – **PI/CPC** At our March meeting we discussed PI/CPC being present with displays for upcoming District 40 Traditions Dinner, if directed by District 40. Our next District 40 PI/CPC committee meeting will be held on April, 25th from 1Pm – 3PM at the Spring Branch Memorial Club.
- j. **Treatment Facilities Committee** – **TFC**– Pam attended the SETA assembly in April. Discussed Bridge the Gap and how the committee can

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### Current Items:

1. 2015 Gratitude Dinner Report – Cheryl B.
  - a. The VFW Hall, located 620 George Bush Drive in Old Katy, has been secured for the next Gratitude Dinner on November 8, 2015. The VFW hall is 7,440 square feet and accommodates a maximum capacity of 650 people. The space is equipped with two full kitchens and a staging area. The rental fee also includes use of 87 tables and 360 chairs. Total cost for facility rental is \$929, which included a \$250 refundable deposit. The only potential obstacle would be parking. District 66 is the co-host & will begin working on the save the date cards to have available at the July Assembly & 10 Districts have made commitments to date. The first committee meeting will be held in mid-May at the Spring Branch Memorial Club. It takes a full committee to make the decisions & make this event possible. Please start thinking & praying about how you would like to volunteer for the gratitude Dinner.
2. Area Literature Committee Presentation – Kathleen T.
  - a. Provided an explanation of all Literature, history, guidelines, etc. Literature rep can provide materials for GSR packets; also provide literature at the Tradition Dinner for viewing or sale. Also, there is a Book Clun that is being held at Intergroup. Any AA member can join. Primary job is to promote the reading/purchasing of AA Literature. (i.e. Librarian) Try to use quotes from AA approved literature when sharing in meetings to interest others to read our literature.
3. Area IT Committee Presentation – Corrie H.
  - a. The committee will be coming in May to present on job responsibilities and what the committee is about.
  - b. SCAP is scheduled for June.
4. Traditions Dinner Report – Corrie H.
  - a. Out 2015 D40 Traditions Dinner will be held on June 13th. I have reserved St. Christopher's from noon to 9 pm. I am open to suggestions on a theme and I am looking forward to pulling it all together. I will send out an email looking for suggestions and volunteers. Our speaker this year will be Patrick C., Area 67 Past Delegate. I am excited to hear his experience and grateful he accepted. Once the flyer is completed, I will send a copy out for you to hand out at your groups and bring some to our May meeting to take with you. Please get the word out and bring someone with you.
5. Assembly Report – Michelle H./Corrie H.
  - a. Michelle: Any feedback responses for the GSC can be emailed to the Delegate up until 04.17.15. Next year's GSC Agenda Item discussion & round tables will be easier to understand with this years' experience. Group Contribution Quarterly Reports are available for reference & group reporting. Grapevine/La Vina Challenge- all members, groups, districts & areas are challenged to increase subscriptions, the winning state will have a special edition of the Grapevine publishing only articles from that state. Consider buying a subscription for the service committees to use in their work or buying them for inmates. Back issues are of great value to inmates as well. Safety in AA was presented at SWRDA as an increasingly important concern & all are encouraged to use this as a topic for meetings, workshops or personal reflection, all relevant feedback can be sent to Delegate through GSRs & DCMs. The Delegates Final Conference report will be hosted with D52 on June 27th at 2:00pm at COTHA. A flyer will be available at the May meeting with all information. Texas State Convention in June, Regional Forum in October & the Gratitude Dinner in November. The Area

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- a. The Area Registrar provided group information files, the inactive groups in our District will be contacted first & then we will move forward on the active groups with no representation. If you have not received your GSR kit, the Registrar can help solve that problem & it is very important for all group information to be current for District, Area & GSO files. The two voting items from this Assembly passed unanimously & the 2016 Area Budget is available for GSRs to take back to groups & will be voted on in July. Preparations for the July Assembly will be made & D40 will always sit up front on the right side, so that we can serve together, all are invited & encouraged to gather.
- b. Corrie: The April SETA Assembly was held on April 11-12, 2015. Michelle and I kicked off Saturday morning at 7 AM with the Delegate DCM Sharing session. We had several visitors from the area committee and received group information from our registrar. Melissa provided us with lots of information and asked us for feedback from our groups on the agenda items she will be voting on at the General Service Conference in New York. Ron even told a joke! We attended the area committee meeting and prepared for the roundtables. After the roundtables were complete, we got to have some fun! Our very own Betsy Gerber hosted a game at the Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community workshop after the presentation on the motion we would be voting on Sunday morning. We had a blast! Watching and listening to everyone come together for good times was memorable. After dinner, we completed the evening with an Ask-it Basket session filled with lots of great questions. I took lots of notes and I am willing to share with anyone who is interested! On Sunday, we voted on the motions brought forth and both items

passed unanimously. Reports were given from each round tables to inform Melissa on how the area feels about each Agenda item. Lots of discussion! We also reviewed the budget that we will vote on at the July Assembly for 2016 funds. I have sent each of you a copy to take back to your groups to discuss. We love feedback! In keeping with tradition, our Past Delegate, Patrick C., brought a motion to the floor to send Melissa R. to the General Service Conference informed and not instructed. Right of Decision! The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. This truly is my favorite part! Our traditions! We sent Melissa off with prayers and blessing for her upcoming journey. It was great to see all of you who attended and looking forward to seeing more of you in July.

### Group News:

1. Birthday Contribution Envelopes -> this is a good way to give back individually to GSO.

### Announcements:

- **D51 12 Step Sponsorship Workshop**, April 18, 12:00 – 3:00 pm, Delta Club, 6400 Westpark, Ste 355
- **D20 GV Spring Workshop**: April 26, 1:00 – 4:00 pm., Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston, 303 Jackson Hill
- **D40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting**: April 25, 1:00 – 3:00pm, SBMC
- **D32 PPG Alcolthon**: April 24 – 25, 1203 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Friday 5:30 pm. thru Saturday 9:30 pm.

“This ability to laugh at yourselves to accept the puncturing of your own self importance is one of the basic steps in A.A. I believe — of course it makes every individual more livable and lovable whether alcoholic or not. What little I have been able to absorb made life much simpler for me, I know.”

*Ruth Hock - Alcoholics Anonymous' 1st Secretary*

# Treasurer's Report

| District 40 Financial Report<br>Period Ending 5/12/15 | Current<br>Month  | Budget*            | Year to<br>Date   | Current %   | YTD %        |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>***INCOME***</b>                                   |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| Traditions Dinner Donations                           |                   | \$250.00           |                   |             |              |
| Service Workshop Donations                            |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| State Conv - Hospitality Suite                        |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| SETA -Hospitality Suite                               |                   |                    | \$365.00          |             |              |
| Fellow ship Fest                                      |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| <b>Group Donations</b>                                | <b>\$654.18</b>   | <b>\$9,644.00</b>  | <b>\$365.00</b>   |             | <b>3.8%</b>  |
| Fry Road Group  | \$85.00           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Hockley Group   | \$45.00           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Katy 12 & 12  | \$94.38           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Katy 164 Group  | \$25.00           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Kingsland Group                                       | \$218.16          |                    |                   |             |              |
| Memorial Going Home Group                             | \$105.71          |                    |                   |             |              |
| Our Common Journey Group                              | \$19.50           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Sage-Pney Point Women's Group                         | \$19.66           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Saturday Solutions Group                              | \$15.66           |                    |                   |             |              |
| Simply AA   | \$26.11           |                    |                   |             |              |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                   | <b>\$654.18</b>   | <b>\$9,894.00</b>  | <b>\$2,647.31</b> | <b>6.6%</b> | <b>26.8%</b> |
| <b>*** EXPENSES ***</b>                               |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| DCM   | \$97.06           | \$600.00           | \$245.52          | 16.2%       | 40.9%        |
| Alt. DCM  |                   | \$600.00           |                   | 0.0%        | 0.0%         |
| Secretary / Copying                                   |                   | \$100.00           |                   | 0.0%        | 0.0%         |
| Treasurer   |                   | \$75.00            |                   | 0.0%        | 0.0%         |
| New sletter   | \$105.53          | \$220.00           | \$176.96          | 48.0%       | 80.4%        |
| 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   | \$33.05           | \$100.00           | \$33.05           | 33.1%       | 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%         |
| *** Fellow ship Fest                                  |                   | \$250.00           |                   | 0.0%        | 0.0%         |
| *** Traditions Dinner                                 |                   | \$800.00           |                   | 0.0%        | 0.0%         |
| *** 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%         |
| *** 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>\$235.64</b>   | <b>\$10,100.00</b> | <b>\$2,581.73</b> | <b>2.3%</b> | <b>25.6%</b> |
| <b>*Budget Approved as of 11/09/14</b>                |                   |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>                         | <b>\$7,753.34</b> |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Total Expenses</i>                                 | <b>\$235.64</b>   |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Total Income</i>                                   | <b>\$654.18</b>   |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</i>                  | <b>\$2,525.00</b> |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Unrestricted Funds</i>                             | <b>\$5,646.88</b> |                    |                   |             |              |
| <b>Ending Balance / Total Funds</b>                   | <b>\$8,171.88</b> |                    |                   |             |              |
| <i>Unspent Portion of Budget</i>                      | <b>\$7,518.27</b> |                    |                   |             |              |

| Deposit 05/11/15 |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Check #          | Amount   |
| 1658             | \$218.16 |
| 1555             | \$45.00  |
| 6854214299       | \$85.00  |
| 6856004865       | \$25.00  |
| 3662             | \$19.54  |
| 3666             | \$74.84  |
| 204952549        | \$26.11  |
| 940407900        | \$19.50  |
| 6977             | \$15.66  |
| 3016             | \$19.66  |
| 120              | \$105.71 |
| <b>\$654.18</b>  |          |

| MONTHLY SUMMARY  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Opening Balance: | \$7,753.34 |
| Contributions:   | \$654.18   |
| Expenses:        | \$235.64   |
| Closing Balance: | \$8,171.88 |
| Notes:           |            |



“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*

# ***Bankrupt Idealists***

As previous Newsletter Editor for the district; I am embarrassed to say that I am writing and submitting this on the Monday before the meeting. I should know better! It is late and I have no excuses. The Traditions Dinner is 5 days away. Tradition 6 should be a breeze! Lightbulb! I have been preparing for an Annual Traditions Dinner and I have not once picked up the 12 and 12 to remind me what the dinner is about. Priorities?! The decorations and the BBQ sound like more fun! Commitment time: I will read all 12 Traditions in the 12 and 12 before Saturday! Hold me to it; I need all the help I can get and I am grateful for every bit of it. Having just completed my Area Newsletter Article (Last Minute), my Traditions Dinner Report for the District Meeting (Last Minute) and now working on my District Newsletter Article and Concept 6 presentation (you guessed it; last minute) I am thanking God that Chelle, Ana and Deborah put up with me.

It helps me to understand most things regarding AA history to back into it. In reviewing Tradition Six from end to beginning; in order to remain focused on our primary purpose (to help the alcoholic who still suffers), we should not let any outside entity use the AA name and risk problems with money and property. Why would we risk our primary purpose; it is the reason we are alive today? As you may have heard me say before, the Traditions protect the basic principles that allowed the doors to be open when I needed help and provided you all with the ability to be there on the

other side! My favorite line on page 156 of the 12 and 12 simply states, "most alcoholics are bankrupt idealists." There are no ends to how much I understand this statement! Of course we are *bankrupt idealists*. "The idea that somehow, someday he will control and enjoy his drinking is the great obsession of every abnormal drinker." Opportunities of success; yes and failure; yes. Most of us are unsuccessful at best when we walk thru the doors of AA with too many failures to face. That couldn't be what this was about. Money, business, church or politics may serve as points to argue or goals to achieve; not as a means to include or exclude from a program that is divinely inspired to work for anyone who is willing to work it. It is your life, no obstacles. It is your sobriety, no risks. Don't fix it if it ain't broke, for it allows you to live a life far greater than your ideas could have ever imagined.

## DISTRICT SERVANTS

### **DCM**

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

### **IT Representative**

OPEN

### **Alternate DCM**

Corrie H.  
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### **Treatment Facilities Chair**

Pam F.

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

Jim B.

### **Secretary**

Ana D.

### **Correctional Facilities Chair**

Cindy M

### **Alt. Secretary**

OPEN

### **Intergroup Liaison**

OPEN

### **Treasurer**

Mike W.

### **Grapevine Chair**

OPEN

### **Alt. Treasurer**

OPEN

### **Newsletter Editor**

Deborah G.

### **Literature Chair**

OPEN

### **Coffee Chair**

Scott S.

### **Archives Chair**

Tom B



In love and service,  
Corrie H.  
D40 Alt. DCM



## Upcoming Events

### **D40 29th Annual Traditions Dinner**

June 13th, 4:00—7:00 PM

St. Christopher's Episcopal

### **Intergroup Delegate's Meeting**

June 18th, 8:00 PM, Intergroup

### **D40 Delegate's Report Tea Party**

June 27th, 2:00—4:00 PM, COHA

### **D40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting**

June 27th, 9:00—11:00 AM, Cracker Barrel

*\*See flyers on SETA/Intergroup Websites*

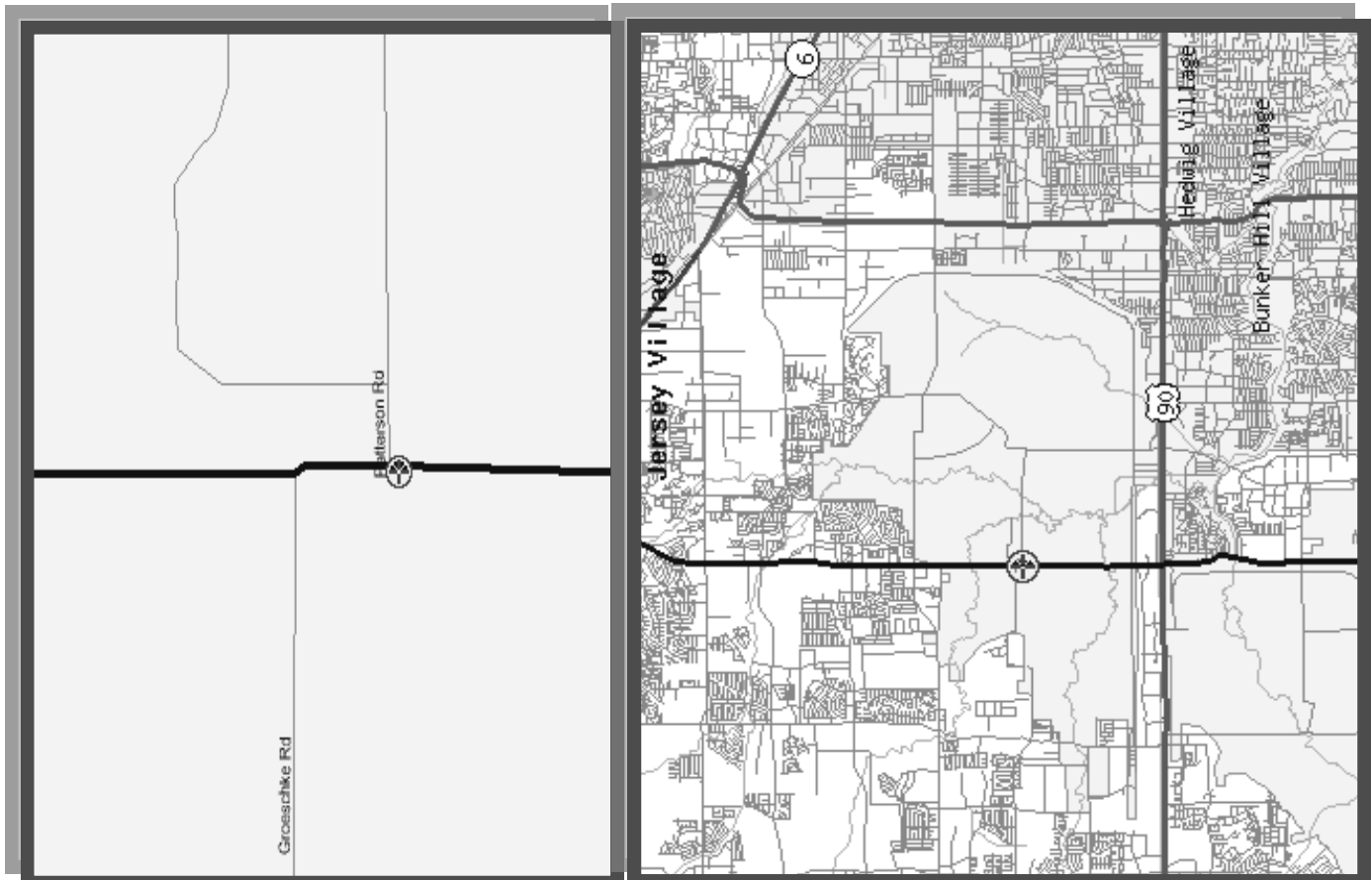
## Don't Save My Seat

I attended my home group for a few years. Then I got a job that didn't allow me to attend my home group regularly. One day I came back and someone had moved the room around. What happened to my meeting? Where was my chair now?

I've heard before that we have earned our chair in the meetings. What if we purchase that chair? What if we owned one specific chair at our meeting?

Thank God we don't! What I realize now is that in my absence, the newcomer was able to get their seat the next day.

Anonymous



**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)**

| <b>Committee</b>                                  | <b>Meeting Time</b>  | <b>Location</b>   | <b>Area Assembly*</b>        |
|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| Archives  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 7:15 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   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 |
| Internet Technologies (IT)                        | 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 |
| Public Information (PI)                           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:15 PM                 | 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             | –                            |

\*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

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS  
**JULY 13, 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.