

WELCOME TO THE CIRCUS

Step Eleven

Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

Tradition Eleven

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

Concept Eleven

The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Inside This Issue

- 1 Step, Tradition, Concept
- 2 *Where's the Donuts*
- 3 *Much More Than a Workshop*
- 4 *History Lesson!!!*
- 5 *DCM's Assembly Report*
- 6 *District Minutes*
- 7 *District Minutes Cont.*
- 8 *Rule 62 Section*
- 9 *Treasurer's Report*
- 10 District Servants
- 11 Upcoming Events and A Map!
- 12 Committee Meeting Times

Where's the Donuts?

When I retired from the Corporate world, I thought I'd never have to go to a Business meeting again. We had meetings that spawned other meetings that required even more meetings. Some were essential for us to be of maximum effectiveness, others not so much. I had to work extra hours to get my regular job duties done and that took time away from family and friends (I know, high class problems). At least there were always wonderful, yummy, donuts though.

I started getting an "*attitude*" about all those Assembly meetings, it was feeling redundant and I started feeling old. I figure I have about 10 years left (yes, I have that special ability to predict the future) and it was wasting precious time. *Grrr!*

Well, my program kicked in and I used the 10th step. It revealed I was being impatient and not too honest.

You see, I do not always prepare or participate as I should with things I'm involved with. What I realized was that any job I'm entrusted with deserves my best preparation so as not to waste others' time. Chairing, leading a meeting, my duties at District and Area, sponsoring and at home.

We do need some meetings to be of maximum effectiveness and the people involved need to spend the time it takes to prepare them so it doesn't waste the memberships time.

We all try to be good **stewardships*** of members' donations because we know that they dig deep & it's a sacrifice. We should have the same consideration when we use up their time as well. You can always get more money, but never more time. Yes, meetings are INDISPENSABLE, proper preparation ESSENTIAL, BUT, donuts would be helpful too.

***Stewardship:** (Merriam-Webster)

the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.



Much More Than A Workshop

It was quite an exciting weekend in Winnipeg, Manitoba for the 21st annual NAAAW workshop. That stands for the National AA Archives Workshop. I took with me a display of AREA 67 Archives showing the history of early AA in the Houston and Texas area. This was skillfully put together by our Archivist Sarah D.

Much of the focus of the workshop was on Anonymity and the fact that any Archive material available to the public should be divested of last names - even posthumously.

As usual at an AA workshop the days were long and full of information. They began with an AA recovery meeting and ended with a special presentation to the full group. During the day, there were multiple break-out sessions on various topics with special care given to the focus on how to manage Archives. There were also sessions on the history of Canadian AA and Manitoba and Winnipeg AA.

What I personally found the most helpful were the sessions on Introduction to Archives - Basic Standards, Practical Preservation presented by two non-member friends with extensive experience in Archives. This gave many practical suggestions, unfortunately many of them are quite beyond our budget. They also gave us a list of resources that could be very beneficial in our efforts. The second was presentation Digital Archives: Why, Why Not and How. This provided so much information on the digitization of materials that I got a second CD of this presentation for our committee member in charge of digital media.

I could go on and on but the record of what occurred is going to be available online at the NAAAW site and in the Area 67 Archives.

In 1957 Bill W. reminded us that keeping accurate records of our history was of extreme importance so that our message would never be diluted or distorted. If you are interested in joining us in our efforts to fulfill this mandate contact us.

-Mary K.

History Lessons!!!

The Just For Today group was formed because there was "nothing in the neighborhood" in Waller, Texas (population according to 2010 United State Census: 2,326). Many alcoholics had to drive to Tomball to find the nearest Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting before Jim O. founded the Just For Today group in the summer of 2008. Jack E. is credited with making the first contact with the Español AA group in Waller that helped Just For Today become established on Sunday nights at 7 p.m. Roughly 15 people attended the inaugural Just For Today meetings at 2412 Main Street in Waller. The group initially dwindled to only a couple regular attendees when Just For Today moved to First United Methodist Church in 2011 but has since grown to about 20 regular attendees. In the spring of 2017, First United Methodist allowed the Just For Today group to begin holding meetings in the church's parsonage, which was going unused by the minister. The Waller Survivor's Group (which meet on Saturday mornings at the 2412 Main Street location) and an Al-Anon meeting (which also meets at 7 p.m. Sundays at the same current Taylor & Smith AA location) spun off from Just For Today, and the Just For Today group not only continues to meet Sundays at 7 p.m., but also has a Big Book Study on Mondays, a women's meeting on Wednesdays, and an open discussion meeting on Thursdays (all also at 7 p.m.).

October 2017 Area Assembly Report

Updates have been made to the GSR page on www.aa-seta.org

Area Group Contributions to GSO were handed out to DCM's and will be available at the district meeting

Presentation from a current Class A Trustee, Judge Lemell; Very informative and heartfelt

Presentation from Intergroup Emergency Planning Committee; this was formed after Hurricane Harvey in hopes of better helping displaced groups and individuals in AA should another natural disaster/emergency arise

Area Inventory Committee reported that it only had 69 members take the inventory at this time and would like to encourage everyone to please do it if they have not; it will run through until the end of January

CFC Workshop was outstanding! History of the CFC committee in SETA was presented as well as the CFC Correspondence and Pre-Release Programs; information regarding the Blue Can was also given; There are so many opportunities to help serve with CFC and they need volunteers!

Delegate/Alt. Delegate Report Highlights-

GSO Contributions are up from 27.75% in 2016 to 31.65% in 2017

Grapevine is making money but subscriptions are down; La Vina is still in the red

Southwest Regional Forum will be in Houston in 2019 at the Sheraton North Houston on October 11-13; The Forum only comes to our area ever 22 years.

Gratitude Dinner will be November 12th at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center in Deer Park, TX; The DCMs, Alt. DCMs and Area Committee Officers will be serving the fellowship!

Young People in AA – Ad Hoc Committee Update yielded a floor action motion to allow the TXSCYPAA to display flyers on a table; The motion was not passed after minority opinion was spoken and final voting occurred.

The Area IT committee presented a motion to have a portion of their budget used to allow the IT Support person to have a room at the 2-day quarterly assembly paid for. The motion passed.

A motion was made to send a \$100 contribution to GSO in memorial of Harold P.

Future ideas for assembly workshops were to have the other area committees have presentations and/or workshops

The January Assembly will be at the SETA Convention at the Holiday Inn-Walden Road in Beaumont, TX on January 19th – 21st. Register and book your rooms at www.2018SETAconventionregistration.eventbrite.com

In Service,
Deborah G.
D40 DCM

District 40 Minutes Southeast Area Alcoholics Anonymous

September 12, 2017

Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition IX / Concept IX: Reading and Summation by Mike E. and Betsy G.; Group History – Sunshine E.

Volunteers for next month: Tradition X– Sasha F.; Concept X – Sunshine E.; Group History – Dan K.

Introduction of Attendees: 28 Attendees for our Business Meeting

Normal Business:

Secretary's Report – Accepted as circulated

Treasurer's Report – July accepted as circulated, August pending confirmation of SBMC contribution. Will resubmit at October meeting

Committee Reports:

Archives – Mary Kaye F.

- Meets on the 1st Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. 521 North Sam Houston Parkway East Suite 215, Houston, TX 77060
Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Barista – Elizabeth G.

All supplies are good.

Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC) – OPEN

Cindy M. reported

There will be a CFC Workshop at the upcoming Assembly, Saturday October 14, 2017.

Due to the cancellation of the annual Conference, those of you who were planning on going to Orientation can still do so. Here is the website of the upcoming Orientation Schedule. http://tdcj.state.tx.us/documents/Volunteer_Training_Schedule_Date.pdf

If you have any questions, contact a member of the area CFC committee at aa-seta.org.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) – OPEN

Continuing to visit all districts, groups, etc.

Joining with the PI Committee to present a workshop at the next area assembly during the usual committee meeting time.

CPC meets the 1st Monday each month at 7:30 P.M. at Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste 378, Houston, TX 77055

Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Grapevine – Patti B.

Many of the District's meetings are being more active in giving away subscriptions to the Grapevine at events and bringing in past issues for distribution.

You can support Grapevine through subscriptions, as well as, submitting an audible/written article

Check out the Grapevine App at www.aagrapevine.org

Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Consider donating your used copies of the Grapevine to the CFC committee to take into prisons or to the TFC committee to take into their facilities

Information Technology (IT) –OPEN

Betsy G reported.

IT Committee meets the 4th Saturday from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at SBMC

Meeting also available in the Go-To Meeting format

Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Intergroup – OPEN

Dan K. voted in

Visit www.aa-houston.org for more information

Literature – Jackie S.

This month's Pamphlet Challenge is "Do You Think You're Different?"

Was there a time when you thought A.A. would not work for you? This is a collection of short stories submitted by A.A. members who once thought that A.A. would not work for them because they were “different” and how they overcame that way of thinking. The more I think about this, it becomes clear that historically, anybody who was not a middle aged white male, like our founders, were possibly going to have such thoughts. Also, read and find out which type of A.A. meetings is to bring us the happiest and healthiest recoveries.

The Literature Committee meets at the quarterly SETA Assembly on Saturday at 4:30 PM.

Newsletter – Matthew D.

Thank you for all the article submissions! It has been our best month, yet, participation wise. Keep ‘em coming!

Topic for next month: Tradition 10... what is your take on it? Especially in light of the current litigation going on with the printer’s copy of the Big Book?

Or as always, write about whatever you’d like. Thank you!

Public Information (PI) – OPEN

Continuing to visit all districts, groups, etc.

Joining with the PI Committee to present a workshop at the next area assembly during the usual committee meeting time.

PI meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste 378, Houston, TX 77055

Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC) – OPEN

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM via GoToMeetings, (except Assembly months)

At Area Assembly, Saturdays from 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Visit www.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

New Business:

PI/CPC Presentation by Edwin & Vern: Adopt a rack, Are you drinking too much flyer, 12 Easy Ways to carry the message bookmark

District Meeting rent for 2017

SBMC to asking \$25/month.

Group discussed & decided Reino F. to negotiate the remainder of the year with the Club

Reino F. to report back at October meeting cost of rent at SBMC

Upcoming Workshop

Cindy M, Lindy S. & Jackie S. volunteered to host a workshop on “Anonymity” in December

Details TBD and reported on at the October district meeting

Delegate’s report is 9/16 at SBMC from 1-3 pm

Gratitude Dinner Nov. 12th 2-5pm

D40 confirmed to bring Caesar salad to the event. Details to follow.

Contributions are welcomed to Gratitude Dinner

Open Positions – Alt Secretary, Alt. Treasurer, CFC, CPC, TFC, IT, PI. Everyone tell your groups about these service opportunities. Dan K. voted in as Intergroup.

Group News:

District 40 has a new meeting location, SBMC 2nd Tuesday every month at the SBMC 7-9pm. Tell your groups & invite new attendees.

Announcements:

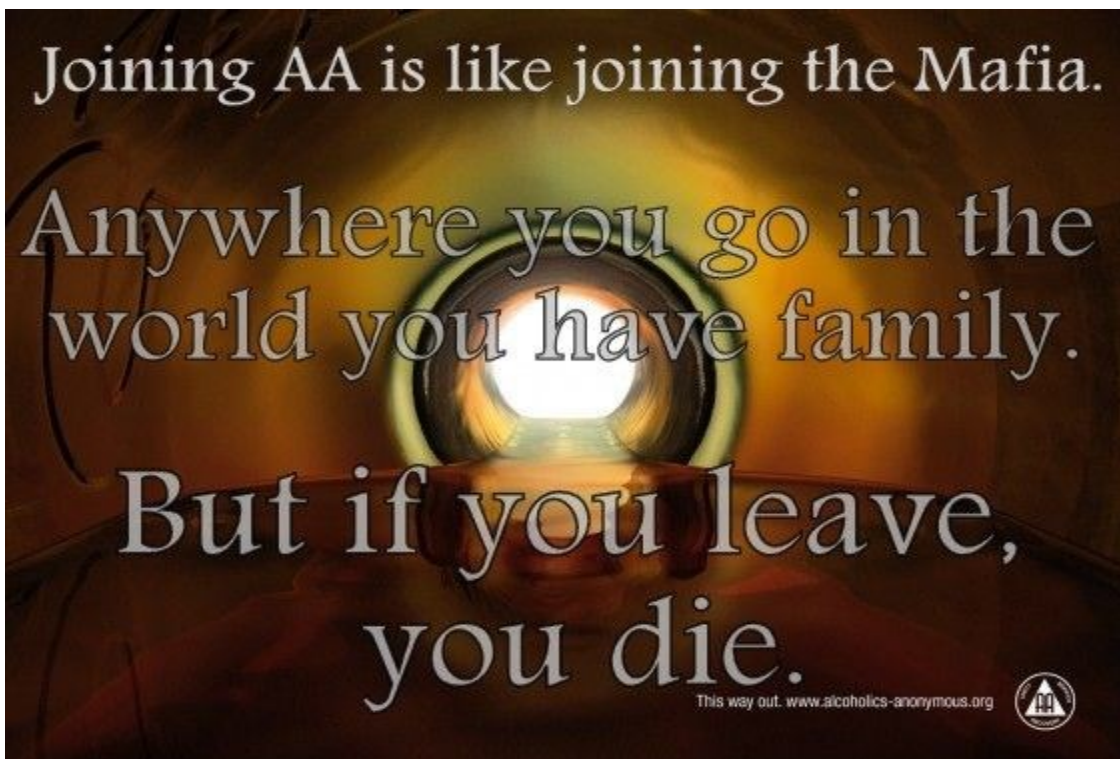
See Flyers for Upcoming Events

RULE 62 SECTION

"Don't be so hard on yourself"

Me:





DISTRICT SERVANTS

DCM

Deborah G.
dcm-40@aa-seta.org

Alternate DCM

Cindy M.
dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org

Secretary

Sara A.

Alt. Secretary

OPEN

Treasurer

Reino F.

Alt. Treasurer

OPEN

Literature Chair

Jackie S.

IT Representative

Joel G.

Treatment Facilities Chair

OPEN

PI Rep

OPEN

Correctional Facilities Chair

OPEN

Grapevine Rep.

Patti B.

Newsletter Editor

Matthew D.

Intergroup Rep

Dan K.

Barista

Elizabeth G.

Archives Chair

Mary Kaye F

CPC Rep

OPEN

Upcoming Events

56th SETA Convention

January 19-21, 2018

Holiday Inn (Walden Rd)

Beaumont, TX

District 40 Workshop

Anonymity

December 2, 2017

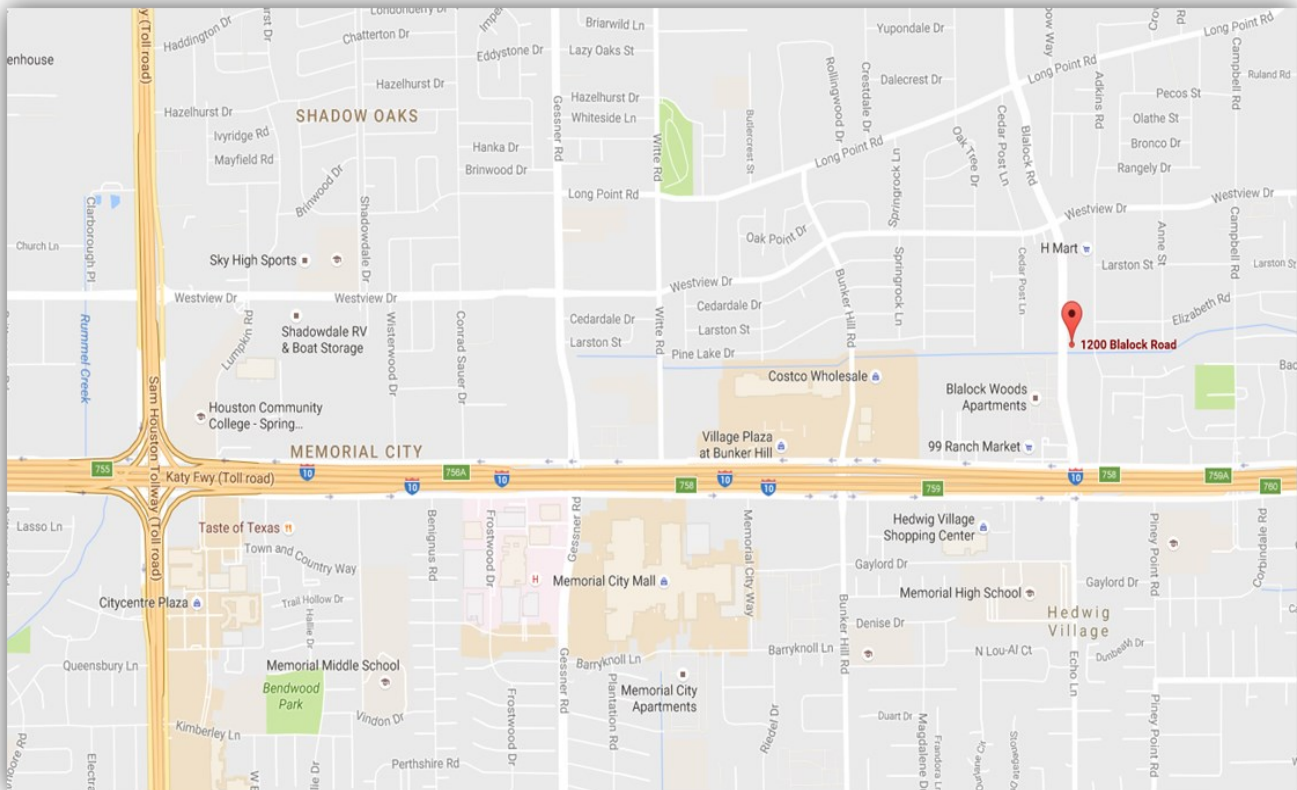
5th Street Club

For more events visit:

aahouston.org

aa.org

aa-seta.org





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

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS

OCTOBER 10, 2017

@ 7:00 PM

District 40 meets on the

2nd Tuesday

of every month from

7:00 PM—9:00 PM at the

Spring Branch Memorial Club

1200 Blalock Rd. #378

Houston, TX 77055

Committee	Meeting Time	Location
Archives	1st Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM	521 N. Sam Houston Pkwy East, Suite 215 Houston, TX 77060
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	1st Monday of the month at 7:00pm	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378
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
Grapevine	3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM	The Delta Club 6400 Westpark Dr, Suite 355 Houston, TX 77057
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
Literature	–	–
Mult-Lingual	1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM	District 63 4800 West 34th St. Suite B-8 Houston, TX 77092
Public Information (PI)	3rd Monday of the month at 7:15 PM (Except on Assembly months)	Houston Council On Alcohol And Drugs 303 Jackson Hill Houston, TX 77007

Just Starting a group in District 40 and wish to add it to this newsletter?