

I'll Let my Driver Do It

A Nobel Prize winning mathematician is traveling from university to university on a speaking tour by limousine. After several engagements the mathematician and his driver are having dinner and the driver says "I've heard your speech so many times I think I could give it word-for-word." The mathematician accepts the challenge and they switch places for the next speech; the driver dresses like the professor and the professor dresses as the driver and sits in the back of the auditorium.

The driver gives the speech flawlessly and opens up the floor for question, usually there are none. But one of the students at the university has a very large ego and decides to attempt to stump the Nobel Prize winner. After the student asks his question for ten straight minutes the driver laughs and says "That question is so simple I'll let my driver in the back answer it."

Step Four

Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves

Tradition Four

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Concept Four

Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

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The BMW

When i first got involved in service work, I only did it because the fear of drinking was greater than my fear of being of service. I had begged God to deliver me from the hell of drinking and promised to do everything that he required of me. Service became one of those requirements. I hated service work. I didn't like the continued discussion, the politics that I saw, and the sacrifices I had to make in service. I also wasn't shy about letting God know that I wasn't thrilled with his choices for me. I was a BMW (bitcher, moaner, whiner) where it came to doing His will. I was in my third year of doing service (and constantly complaining to my higher power), when some one shared a prayer with me that put things in perspective. When times are rough rather it's people, time or situation I still use this prayer today.

It's called Prayer for a Trusted Servant

Higher Power

I ask your guidance in carrying out this work in service to the Fellowship.

Relieve me of the burdens of my ego and perfectionism.

Grant me the grace of humility.

Remind me to put principles before personalities.

Help me to focus on the greater good of the Fellowship.

Let me know that I am responsible only for doing the leg work, not the outcome.

Give me the faith to trust in You and the Group Conscience.

And grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change.

The courage to change the things I can

And the wisdom to know the difference.

Trudging the Road

Ron C (former BMW)

Current Delegate

Self Isn't Always A Bad Word

When challenged with the topic of “self-forgiving or self-forgetting?” I had to first look at the definition of what those terms mean. Self-forgiving didn't seem too difficult. A rough definition is the act of ceasing to feel resentment towards oneself. So any guilt, shame fear, etc. I harbor within myself that makes me resentful at myself. I have to forgive myself from time to time for not being “perfect.” I'm my toughest critic and when I don't live up to MY standards then I build up resentments towards myself. The crazy part is I'm the only one that is suffering. How It Works describes it perfectly as “progress not perfection” and “We are not saints!” If I have an expectation on myself to be perfect, then I've already set myself up to fail. When I don't meet these expectations, here come the resentments! Best thing I can do to maintain self-forgiveness is to remember that I'm not perfect and I'm not in charge. I need to remember to live in a state of flexibility. What works sometimes, doesn't work all the time.

Now, when it came to the self-forgetting part of this topic, I was a bit stumped. This is the point at which my favorite research buddy, Google, joined me. As best I could determine, self-forgetting is forgetting or not thinking of one's own advantage, interests, etc.; having or showing no thought of self or selfish interests. The 12 & 12 touches on this topic in Step 11, “What did he mean by “self-forgetting” and how did he propose to accomplish that? He thought it better to give comfort than to receive it; better to understand than to be understood; better to forgive than to be forgiven.” What I understand from my findings, is that it's not all about me and what I want. When I can think about others, I self-forget. When I can forgive others, I don't spend time seeking out forgiveness. When someone is in need, I'm there for them and not expecting that they be there for me. So, self-forgetting is how I become of service without expecting anything in return. If I'm self-forgetting, then there is no need for me to be self-forgiving. If I can do the next right thing towards others, I don't have time to be hard on myself and therefore needing my own forgiveness. When placed before forgetting and forgiving, “self” isn't always a bad word.

In Love and Service,

Deborah G.

D40 DCM

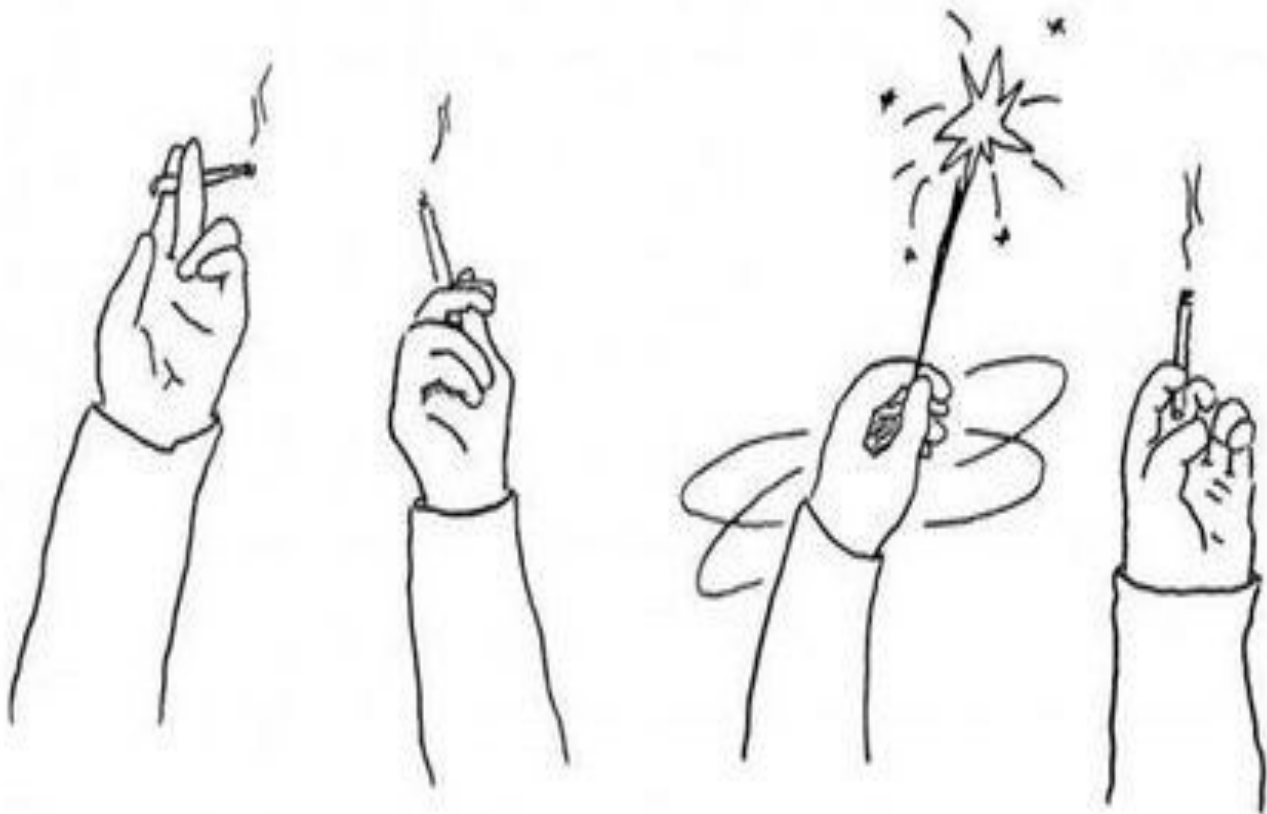
LIFE HACK SECTION!

LIFE HACK

DON'T WANT TO SMOKE BUT FEEL LEFT OUT WHEN YOUR FRIENDS GO FOR A CIGARETTE?

START CARRYING SPARKLERS INSTEAD.

NOW YOU'LL HAVE A REASON TO ASK THEM FOR A LIGHT & HANG OUT FOR A WHILE.



District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2017

Call to Order : Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition II/Concept II : reading and summation by Wendy F. and Hilton L.

Volunteers for next month: Tradition III - Mary Kaye F. /Concept III - Lindy S.

Introduction of Attendees: 24 Attendees for our Business Meeting

Normal Business:

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

Committee Reports:

Archives – Mary Kaye F.

- The SETA Archive committee did not have a formal meeting at the 2017 SETA Convention.
- Sarah D., Mike D., and MaryKaye F. set up an Archives Room with a number of displays from the Repository. We talked with a number of people who came in to browse the Archives.
- One person, whose name tag said "Magic", claimed to have a box of old Grapevines in his attic which date from 1957. He promised to bring them to the next assembly and he took a copy of our business cards so who knows?
- We tried to keep the Salon open as much as possible through the convention but it is difficult with only two people. I am encouraging each District to try and get one person to volunteer for the committee.
- We are trying to set up presentations for each district during which we would bring a sample of the traveling displays and explain the committee and how important saving our local history is.
- We will meet the first Saturday of February at the Repository for a work session. All interested parties are invited to attend. If you think you might want to join us, or just check us out, send an email to the SETA Archives Chair

Barista – Brittnay S.

- Lots of coffee and supplies have been purchased and replenished for the District.

Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) – OPEN

- Committee will be attending the Annual Brain Health Fair – Brazoria County Fairgrounds, 901 S.

Downing Rd, Angleton, TX; March 25 th , 9:00 am – 1:00 pm; Volunteers are welcomed

- Area PI/CPC will be doing a joint workshop at the April Area Assembly; lots of information, ideas and a fun game will be included.
- Looking to submit articles, etc. to district newsletters
- Reaching out to all the area DCMs to do presentations at the district meetings

District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

• Next CPC Meeting – Tuesday, March 6 th at the Spring Branch Memorial Club at 7:30 pm; Go-To Meeting format will be available

Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC) – **OPEN**

• NEW Website Postings: Jails & Prison listing of all AA meetings are now posted on the SETA website. Updated literature form with the current pricing is posted. 2017 TDCJ Orientation schedule is posted.

• Looking at revamping our web page.

• Considering a periodic newsletter for CFC member volunteers.

• Wanted:

○ Chair for the 2017 Conference is looking for volunteers. Contact Tammy Z. (see Cindy for email address) if you want to volunteer

○ Plane State women's unit coordinator is rotating out after several years. Please pass the word and contact Tammy Z. for additional information.

○ D40 needs a CFC Rep. Email Cindy or Deborah at D40 if you'd like additional information.

• If you have any questions or comments email the CFC Chair-Chris on the CFC web page.

Grapevine – Cheryl D.

• 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**

• IT Committee meets the 4 th 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 – Joe P.

• Delegates ' Meeting on Thursday, February 16 th at 8: 00 PM held at the Intergroup Conference Center, 4041 Directors Row, Houston, 77092.

• Suffering significant financial difficulties; have lost \$30,000 from reserve funds in the last 3 years and is currently working with a 2 month or less cash reserve

• Bookstore pricing will increase on March 1 st

• 11 th Step Prayer and Meditation Workshop, 2 sessions, April 14 th and 15 th ; \$15 for food and workbook, see www.aahouston.org for more details and to register

• Visit www.aahouston.org for more information and to subscribe to *The Link*

District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

Literature – Jackie S.

- Effective January 22, 2017 (at the SETA Convention) Amy became the Area Literature Committee Chair.
- Included in my Literature Package from the General Service Office in New York, was a memorandum from Sandra W., Literature Coordinator regarding a Literature Activity Update. She listed the recommendations from the 2016 Conference Committee on Literature that resulted in Advisory Actions: In summary;
 - o The trustees' Literature Committee develops a plan that includes a systematic schedule for the annual review of recovery literature items. And that they forward an annual report to the Conference Literature Committee reflecting the results of the review.
 - o The trustees' Literature Committee revise the pamphlet "Young People and A.A." to include information about young people's conferences and to better reflect the experiences of young people in A.A. today.
 - o The trustees' Literature Committee undertakes a comprehensive revision of the pamphlet "The Twelve Traditions Illustrated" with a modernized presentation of both text and illustrations to reflect contemporary A.A. experience.
- Also, that proposed text, progress report and draft pamphlet be brought to the 2017 Conference Literature Committee.
- More information from this memorandum will be presented next month.
- This month's pamphlet challenge is "Many Paths to Spirituality". In your opinion, which of A.A.'s Three Legacies, Recovery, Unity, and Service do you feel is represented in the pamphlet? And, would you consider writing a paragraph about your opinion and submitting it as a newsletter article to share with us?

Multi-Lingual – Ashley F.

- If your group or a member has a request/need for any translations (written/verbal) whether it is a document, piece of literature or a special group event, contact either Ashely F. or the Area Multi-Lingual Committee
- Visit ww.aa-seta.org for all contact and meeting information

Newsletter – Matthew D.

- Thank you for all the articles this month. We are always looking for more people to contribute.
- So, to hopefully get more submissions, the topic for next month will be: *Pray for others? Yes or no?*
Why?

Public Information (PI) – Hannah E.

District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

it is suggested to check on the face to face every two (2) weeks. Let me know if anyone or any group is interested in adopting a rack or bulletin.

· Open PI meeting for the general public and professionals is still a work in progress. Hoping to attend a Spanish AA PI meeting at their next assembly to see how it works.

• Discussed working on a Public Libraries project.

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District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes

Southeast Area Alcoholics Anonymous

• Some PI members attended a CPC Harris County DWI class in Jasper, TX for a 45-minute regular PI/CPC presentation and 10 min shares from members of AA.

• Next meeting is Monday, February 20th at 7:15p at SBMC.

• I am moving to Thailand April 9th, so the PI position will be available again, starting in April.

Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC) – OPEN

· Currently working on a treatment facilities list to be put into a database for the districts to have access to

· Area TFC now meets on non-assembly months in the Go-To meeting; please contact Pam F., SETA

TFC chair for more information.

Current Items:

1. Teri M. Volunteered to be Alt. Secretary.

Group News:

1. See Flyers for Upcoming Events

Treasurer's Report

SETA District 40 Monthly Financial Report -- February 2017							
EXPENSES	Initial Budget	Approved Budget Changes	Approved Budget	Expense This Month	Year to Date	% This Month	% Year to Date
DCM	\$ 800		\$800	\$72.54	\$317.58	40%	40%
Alt. DCM	\$ 800		\$800	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Secretary / Copying	\$ 350		\$350	\$13.09	\$25.76	7%	7%
Treasurer	\$ 150		\$150	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Newsletter	\$ 800		\$800	\$51.64	\$83.79	10%	10%
Rent/Coffee Donation	\$ 800		\$800	\$0.00	\$180.00		23%
Coffee	\$ 350		\$350	\$0.00	\$49.26		14%
PO Box	\$ 150		\$150	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Literature Committee	\$ 665		\$665	\$0.00	\$225.20		34%
PI/CPC	\$ 100		\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Grapevine	\$ 250		\$250	\$0.00	\$0.00		
CFC	\$ 700		\$700	\$0.00	\$0.00		
TFC	\$ 100		\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Archives Committee	\$ 100		\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Intergroup Liaison	\$ -		\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
IT Committee	\$ -		\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous	\$ 100		\$100	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Multi-Lingual Representative	\$ 50		\$50	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Gratitude Dinner	\$ 300		\$300	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Fellowship Fest	\$ 250		\$250	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Traditions Dinner	\$ 1,100		\$1,100	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Service Workshop	\$ 250		\$250	\$0.00	\$0.00		
SWRAASA (Even Years)	\$ -		\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
The Forum (Odd Years) See Note	\$ 1,500		\$1,500	\$0.00	\$0.00		
Delegate Report Meeting	\$ 215		\$215	\$0.00	\$0.00		
State Convention Hospitality Suite	\$ -		\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
SETA Assembly Host District	\$ 500		\$500	\$0.00	\$0.00		
SETA - 2015 Hospitality Suite	\$ -		\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00		
	\$10,380	\$0	\$10,380	\$137	\$882	8%	8%

INCOME	
Group Name	Receipts This Month
Everything is "Alright Already"	20.00
First Light Group	350.88
Four Horsemen Group	13.00
Friends of Bill W. (Post Oak)	25.00
Fulshear Group	39.06
High Hopes	110.40
Just The Black Print Group	118.80
Katy 12 x 12	62.18
Katy Big Book	50.00
Memorial Going Home Group	18.16
Memorial West Group	81.97
Sage-Piney Point	118.50
Saturday Soultions	22.39
Event Donations	
Traditions Dinner Donations	
Gratitude Dinner Donations	
State Conv - Hospitality Suite	\$150.00
SETA -Hospitality Suite	
Delegate Report Contribution	
Fellowship Fest	
TOTAL INCOME THIS MONTH:	\$1,180.34

Beginning Bank Balance	\$2,604.29
Total Expenses this Month	\$137.27
Total Income this Month	\$1,180.34
Prudent Reserve (0.25 x Budget)	\$2,595.00
Unrestricted Funds	\$1,052.36
Ending Balance / Total Funds	\$3,647.36
Unspent Portion of Budget	\$9,498.41

NOTES:
 1. Hospitality Suite donation From Katy 12 x 12



DISTRICT SERVANTS

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

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

Secretary
Sunshine P.

Alt. Secretary
OPEN

Treasurer
Reino F.

Alt. Treasurer
OPEN

Grapevine Chair
Cheryl D.

Literature Chair
Jackie S.

IT Representative
OPEN

Treatment Facilities Chair
OPEN

PI Rep
Hannah E.

Correctional Facilities Chair
Veronica C. –

Matthew D.

Multi-Lingual Chair
Ashley F.

Coffee Chair
OPEN

Archives Chair
Mary Kaye F.

CPC Rep
Patty D.

Upcoming Events

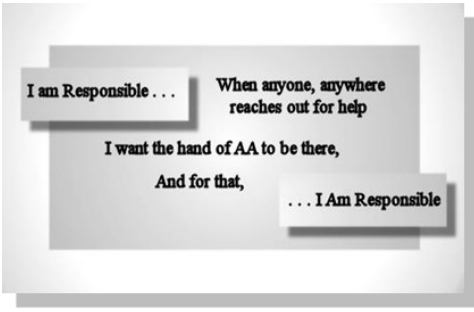
**General Service Conference April
23-29, 2017 Rye, NY**

**71st Texas State Convention
June 9-11, 2017
Omni at the Colonnade
San Antonio, TX**

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

MAY 9, 2017
@ 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

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 7:30 P.M.	Houston Council On Alcohol And Drugs 303 Jackson Hill Houston, TX 77007
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 (Excpet 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?