

WELCOME TO THE CIRCUS

Step Two

Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Concept Two

The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole society in its world affairs.

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January 2018 Area Assembly Report

New GSR Info Available at www.aa-seta.org on GSR page.

Accessibilities Workshop present by Past Delegate Patrick C., current GSO Staff Member; workshop included current works in progress (Deaf Illustrated 12 Steps Pamphlet; ASL Video of Service Materials; Read Only documents with no lock or password protection being developed for blind members); Just finished filming an ASL version of the 12&12; Asked Area to see who was being underserved and how can we help.

Alt. Delegate Report Highlights

2018 Gratitude dinner will be at Jimmy Burke Center in Deer Park again; Total fund for Gratitude dinners is \$1,148.16 with \$1,000 deposit being held by Jimmy Burke Center; More info to come.

Delegate Report Highlights

Area Group Contributions to GSO were emailed to DCM's

AA has made a request to drop the restraining order with regards to the Printer's Copy; Will go before a judge on February 21st; Judge will decide.

2018 General Service Conference Agenda Items will be available around February 15th.

2018 General Service Conference theme is "A Solution for All Generations"

Presentation/Discussion Topics for 2018 GSC:

Today's Alcoholic: Inclusion, Not Exclusion

Participation in All A.A. – Is My Triangle Balanced?

A.A. Technology: Where Innovation Meets the Traditions

Attraction Not Promotion: A.A.'s Relation to the World

Group Conscience: The Guiding Force

Area Inventory – Ad-Hoc Update: Survey will remain open until January 31st.

Young People in AA – Ad Hoc Committee was dissolved; Kris H. has contacted TXSCPAA board and setup a possible workshop at the July Assembly.

Budget Ad-Hoc Committee should have all info available by July Assembly.

2018 SETA Convention was huge success with a total of 909 attendees.

2019 SETA Convention will be in Galveston on January 18-20, 2019; Theme will be "Carry This Message..." (Big Book, pg. 89);

Election of 2020 SETA Convention Chair will be tabled until April Assembly.

CFC International Convention will be in Houston in 2019; possibly the 1st weekend in November.

October 2018 assembly will have a Presentation/Workshop presented by the Treatment Facilities Committee.

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

Round Tables and the April Assembly will be on April 14th-15th at the Sheraton North on JFK Blvd.

February 2018 Pamphlet / Flyer Challenge; **A Message to Teenagers...**

How to tell when drinking is becoming a problem. F-9 - Presented by Jackie S. D40 Literature Rep

This is a free flyer that can be added to any order from A.A.W.S. Online Store. Because the free flyers are not listed on the A.A.W.S. Online Store, you have to first choose the flyers that you want from the pamphlet / flyer list on aa.org AA Literature link like I showed you last month. Then after you have placed your order for items that have a cost you have to contact A.A.W.S. with your order number to ask them to include as many of those free flyers that you want. That took some figuring out but I'm happy to pass that information on to you.

This pamphlet is considered "easy to read" because it has pictures. I'm excited that this is 12th step literature that I can use for really any age group. I hand wrote our local Houston Intergroup contact information at the bottom of the back page where it suggests calling AA so that I can leave it somewhere that I think it might be useful. The Houston Intergroup contact information is aahouston.org and 713-686-6300 in case you are interested in doing the same. That is how I found out about A.A. was through the yellow pages back in 1998, but I don't think people use the yellow pages much anymore. While reading this flyer, my heart hurt when I got to quiz question # 11 because I personally experienced that situation even as a teenager. And really it is the picture that got to me more than the words, because a picture is worth a thousand words and in this case, feelings too. Which quiz questions speak to you? God, please show each of us where this flyer will be useful. Thank you.

Thanks,
Jackie S.
D40 Literature Rep

True Love

Demands made upon other people for too much attention, protection, and love...(Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pp.44) was exactly how I viewed the rest of the world before I came to AA. I loved my parents, my siblings, friends and boyfriends. What I didn't understand was the selfish type of love I was giving and receiving. I would only give when I wanted and take more than could or would be given to me. I always needed more attention, more love, more approval and more acceptance. What everyone gave me wasn't enough. When I was broken enough, I found out that there was one person I hadn't been showing love to...Me. I stopped believing in myself, stopped thinking I was worthy of anything and I was living a life of fear masked by ego. With God's help, I know that I only have to be good enough for me. The only person that has to accept me is the one staring back at me in the mirror. I still want love and attention from others, but today I don't NEED it. I love the me I am becoming each day. And as the saying goes... "Progress not perfection!"

Happy Heart Day!

Deborah G.

D40 DCM

Our Primary Purpose

I am an Alcoholic and an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous. I attend meetings almost daily and hear our preamble read at every meeting. The very last sentence is: Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. I'm thinking about this deeply today and reflecting what that means to me. What does that mean for my sobriety, my conscious contact with a higher power of my understanding, my creativity, MY primary purpose...?

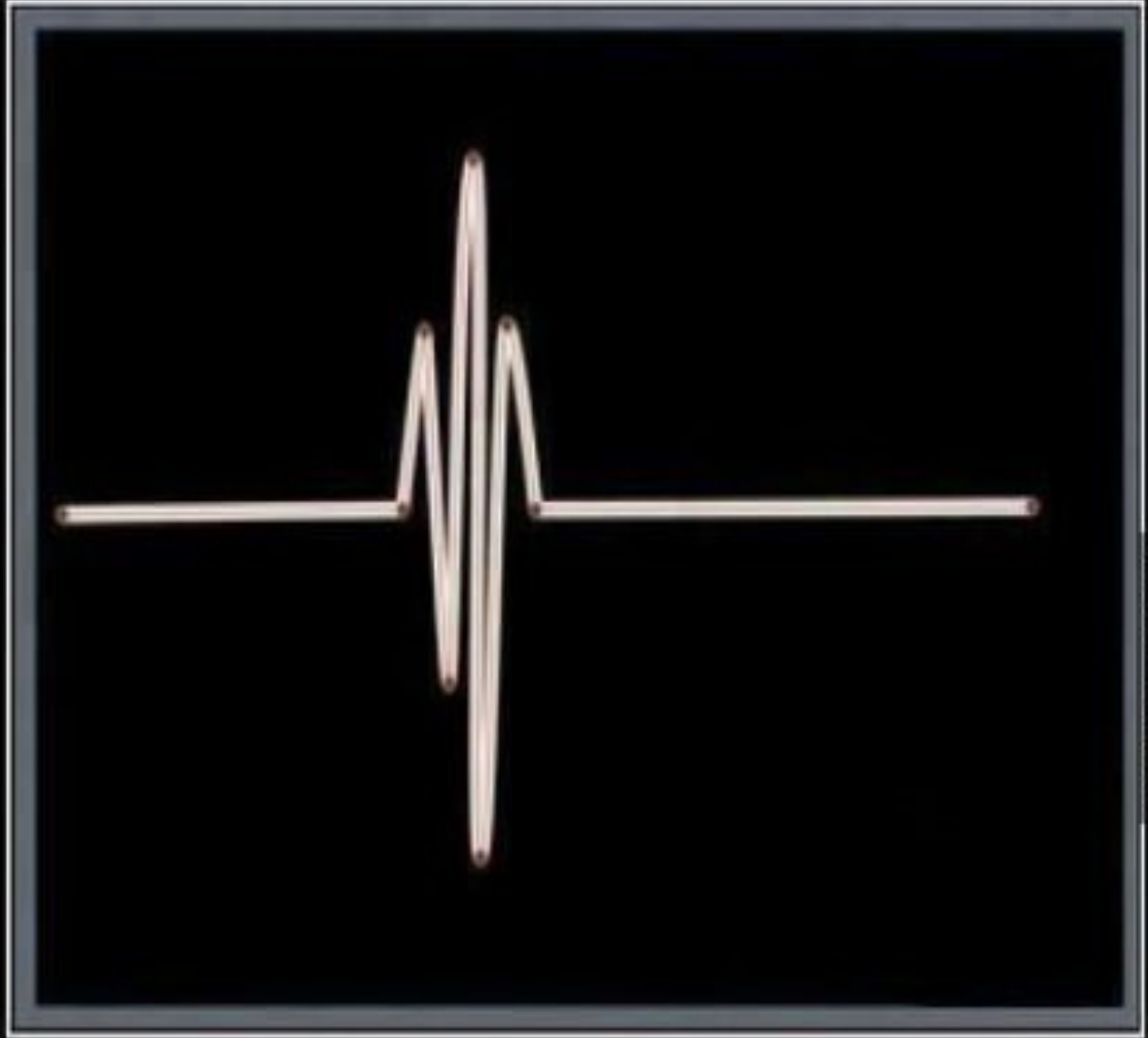
I am an alcoholic, artist, mother, friend, sponsor, sponsee - who is divinely inspired to be of maximum service to God and my fellows. Without AA I would not have discovered who I am deep inside and the ability to share my enthusiasm for the program and life with those around me. That's MY primary purpose: Sharing what I love and what inspires with the next alcoholic and being happy, joyous and free.

Have you thought about your Primary Purpose today?

Sunshine P



RULE 62 SECTION



Hidden / 9GAG

Life always has its ups and downs.

If it doesn't, you're dead.

Treasurer's Report

| SETA District 40 Monthly Financial Report -- December 2017 | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| EXPENSES | Initial Budget | Approved Budget Changes | Approved Budget | Expense This Month | Year to Date | % This Month | % Year to Date |
| DCM | \$ 800 | 200 | \$1,000 | \$58.57 | \$977.56 | 6% | 98% |
| Alt. DCM | \$ 800 | | \$800 | \$341.07 | \$341.07 | 43% | 43% |
| Secretary / Copying | \$ 350 | | \$350 | \$7.31 | \$130.20 | 2% | 37% |
| Treasurer | \$ 150 | | \$150 | \$0.00 | \$10.39 | | 7% |
| Newsletter | \$ 800 | | \$800 | \$49.52 | \$454.04 | 6% | 57% |
| Rent/Coffee Donation | \$ 800 | | \$800 | \$20.00 | \$290.00 | 3% | 36% |
| Coffee | \$ 350 | | \$350 | \$0.00 | \$49.26 | | 14% |
| PO Box | \$ 150 | | \$150 | \$64.00 | \$64.00 | 43% | 43% |
| Literature Committee | \$ 665 | | \$665 | \$0.00 | \$450.59 | | 68% |
| PI/CPC | \$ 100 | | \$100 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| Grapevine | \$ 250 | | \$250 | \$0.00 | \$32.48 | | 13% |
| 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 | \$25.20 | \$25.20 | 25% | 25% |
| Multi-Lingual Representative | \$ 50 | | \$50 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| Gratitude Dinner | \$ 300 | | \$300 | \$0.00 | \$287.01 | | 96% |
| Fellowship Fest | \$ 250 | | \$250 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| Traditions Dinner | \$ 1,100 | | \$1,100 | \$0.00 | \$932.09 | | 85% |
| Service Workshop | \$ 250 | | \$250 | \$0.00 | \$51.87 | | 21% |
| SWRAASA (Even Years) | \$ - | | \$0 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| The Forum (Odd Years) See Note | \$ 1,500 | | \$1,500 | \$0.00 | \$795.52 | | 53% |
| Delegate Report Meeting | \$ 215 | | \$215 | \$0.00 | \$58.09 | | 27% |
| State Convention Hospitality Suite | \$ - | | \$0 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| SETA Assembly Host District | \$ 500 | | \$500 | \$0.00 | \$443.35 | | 89% |
| SETA - 2015 Hospitality Suite | \$ - | | \$0 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | |
| | \$10,380 | \$200 | \$10,580 | \$566 | \$5,393 | 5% | 51% |
| Unrestricted Funds Allocation | | | | \$1,400.00 | | | |
| INCOME | | | | \$2,065.67 | | | |
| Group Name | Receipts This Month | | | | | | |
| Four Horsemen Group | \$31.90 | | | | | | |
| Fourth Promise Group | \$150.00 | | | | | | |
| Friends of Bill W. (Post Oak) | \$25.00 | | | | | | |
| Friends of Bill W. (West Houston C | \$39.83 | | | | | | |
| High Hopes | \$25.00 | | | | | | |
| Katy Big Book | \$25.00 | | | | | | |
| Rosewood Thursday Night Group | \$229.10 | | | | | | |
| Steps in Sobriety | \$50.00 | | | | | | |
| Tuesday Night Step Study | \$18.28 | | | | | | |
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| Event Donations | | | | | | | |
| Traditions Dinner Donations | | | | | | | |
| Gratitude Dinner Donations | | | | | | | |
| State Conv - Hospitality Suite | | | | | | | |
| SETA -Hospitality Suite | | | | | | | |
| Delegate Report Contribution | | | | | | | |
| Fellowship Fest | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME THIS MONTH: | \$594.11 | | | | | | |
| | | | | Beginning Bank Balance \$4,763.68 Total Expenses this Month \$2,065.67 Total Income this Month \$594.11 Prudent Reserve (0.25 x Budget) \$2,645.00 Unrestricted Funds \$647.12 Ending Balance / Total Funds \$3,292.12 Unspent Portion of Budget \$4,987.28 | | | |
| | | | | NOTES: 1) Modified the expense column E for the one time unrestricted funds allocated to Intergroup \$500.00, SETA 67 \$500.00, & GSO \$500.00. It was not listed in the Budget for 2017 so I did it this way. 2) The Budget item 29 SETA Assembly Host District showed it to be \$689.35 for over the budget of 138% in the months of March - Nov but we received back \$246.00 in April so it should be a total of \$443.35 for 89% of the budget, revised the December month for the end of the year correction. | | | |

It's okay to screw up.
It's what we do
afterward that defines us.

Susan Mallery

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

Jenn P.

Upcoming Events

72nd Texas State Convention

June 22-24, 2018

Dallas, TX

2018 Intergroup Convention

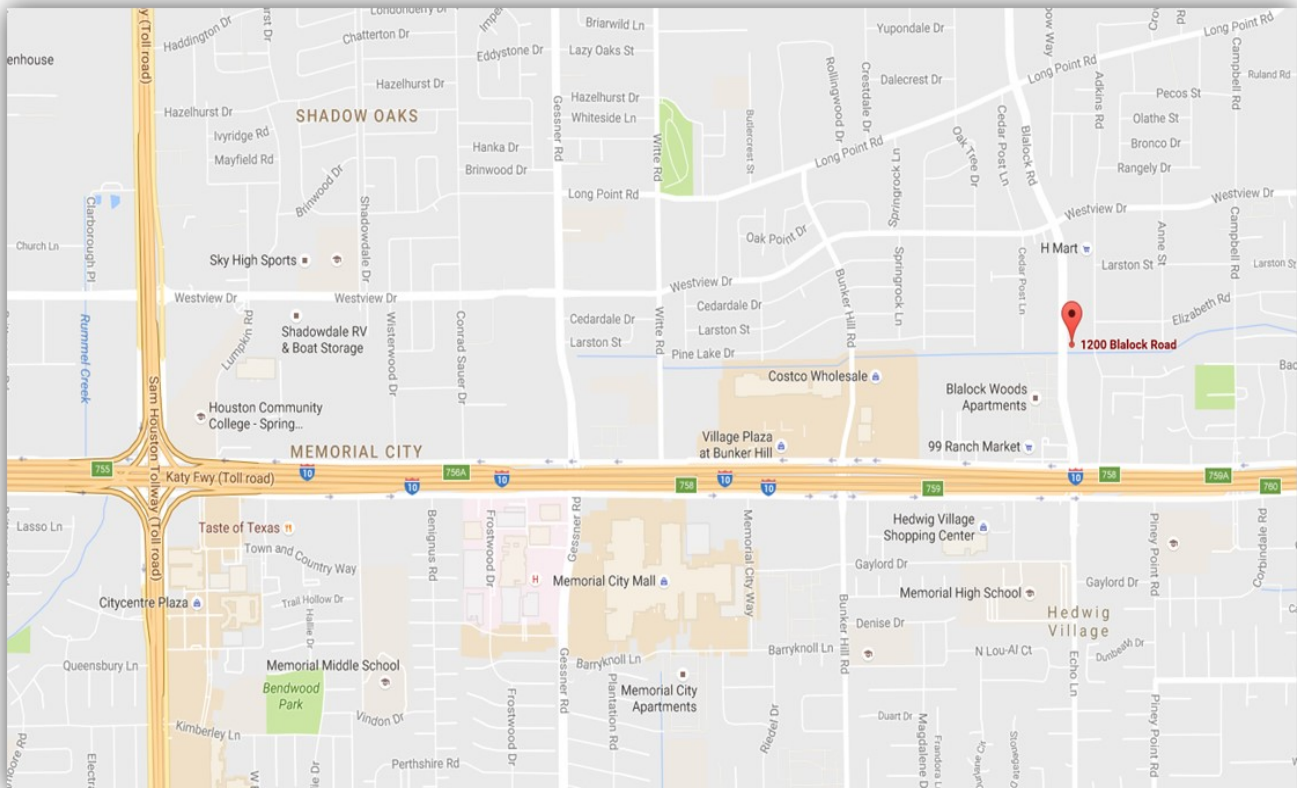
June 15-17, 2018

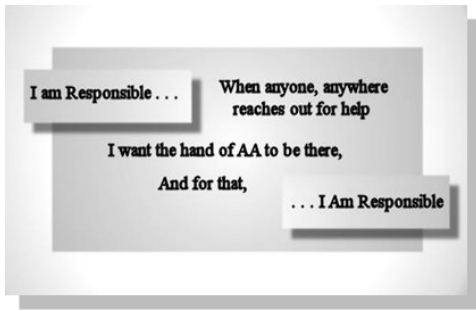
For more events visit:

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

MARCH 13, 2018
@ 7:15 PM

District 40 meets on the
2nd Tuesday
of every month from
7:15PM—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 6401 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110 Houston, TX 77057 |
| Grapevine | 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM | The Delta Club 6401 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110 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?

Send group information, location and meeting times to SETA-40@aa-seta.org and

January 9, 2018 Call to Order: Deborah G., Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration **Tradition I / Concept I:** Reading and Summation by Lindy S. & Sunshine E.; **Volunteers for next month:** Tradition II – Mary Kaye F.; Concept II – Hilton L.; Group History – Elizabeth G. **Introduction of Attendees:** 28 Attendees for our Business Meeting **Normal Business:**

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

GSR/General Sharing Session:

1. Group History – Karen W. Next Month Volunteer – Elizabeth G.
2. Feedback, News, Concerns, Questions from Groups – GSR's
 - a. Safety card – how frequently to read in your group?
 - i. Determined by the group conscience. Some are monthly, some every meeting.
 - b. Reed B. asked for feedback on the general feeling regarding time limits when sharing.
 - i. Suggestions to kindly approach longer shares: keep shares to 1-3 min, to talk to sponsor, use a timer and speak with someone after meeting.

Continued Business:

1. Policy & procedure manual: Deborah G. & Cindy M. Preliminary P&P manual sent out for D40 to review for corrections & verbiage. Further review & revisions to be tabled until next meeting.
2. Website Update: Joel G. unable to attend. Tabled until Joel G. is in attendance.
3. Open positions: Alt. Secretary, Alt Treasurer, CFC, PI, TFC. Deanna F. voted in for Alt. Treasurer.

New Business:

1. "Hard Copy" Committee Reports – Deborah G. After reviewing the job description for DCM hard copy committee reports will not be provided. Going forward the reports will be communicated thru the monthly minutes. Also, found in the monthly news letter.

Committee Reports:

1. Archives – Mary Kaye F.
 - ☐ The committee met at the repository on Saturday, December 2, 2017. It was a very productive meeting. The committee is growing in size and attendance at the meetings is increasing.
 - ☐ We discussed the new renovations for the repository. Charles H. has completed the plans and the hope is that the work can be completed before the end of the year. When it is completed we want to hold an Open House to show the members of the Area what we are providing to support the work of the area in carrying the message.
 - ☐ We talked about the mission statement of the Archives committee and there was lively discussion of what we were about and how to fulfill our mission. We are determined to show the area the benefit of preserving our history for future generations.
 - ☐ We are working on ideas to improve our web page at the SETA website. Eddie has put together a timeline showing the history of Houston AA in relation to the history of AA as a whole.
 - ☐ We spent some time putting together the displays for the SETA convention in January and there will be multiple committee members who will man the room during the convention.
 - ☐ Mary Kaye is working on putting together a power point presentation to run in the Archives room during the convention.
 - ☐ We have one district that has invited us to do a presentation during their district meeting in February and are hoping that other districts will also invite us.
 - ☐ The committee meets on the rest Saturday of every month at the Repository at 10:30 AM except for Assembly months and all are invited to attend. The next meeting will be January 20th at the SETA convention in Beaumont. Hope to see you there.
2. Barista – Elizabeth G.
 - ☐ All is in good order.

District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes Southeast Area Alcoholics Anonymous Page 2 of 3

3. Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC) – OPEN

☐ Cindy M. reported

i. New meeting location effective immediately.

ii. Delta Club 6401 Southwest Freeway, Ste 110, Houston, TX 77057

4. Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) – Jenn P.

☐ Deborah G. reported

☐ No Report – The committee did not meet this month.

5. Grapevine – Patti B.

☐ 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

6. Information Technology (IT) – Joel G.

☐ Betsy G. reported

☐ New Website is being updated in stages starting Feb 2018

7. Intergroup – Dan K.

☐ **CONVENTION TIME: Save the date, June 15-17th, 2018**

☐ Once again Intergroup is sponsoring a convention of celebration. Next June, we will be assembling at the Westin Oaks in the Galleria for 3 days of fellowship, speakers, hospitality, and FUN.

☐ AA History workshop- Turnout for the workshop was overwhelming and had 81 paid registrations.

☐ Holiday Open House- Fantastic Turnout! Had 75+ attendees for the speaker and probably 125+ come through the bookstore (sales of \$2561.43).

☐ Night watch- Available dates for 2018 Weekend Night watch are:

Feb 23-26, Oct 26-29, Nov 21-26 (Thanksgiving), Dec 14-17, Dec 28-Jan 2, 2019 Please let Intergroup know if your group would like to take any of those weekends. Intergroup would be happy to come to your group and give a Night watch training presentation.

☐ Harvey Update as of Nov 31st

Total donations- \$37561.63 Expenses paid- \$3127.36 Keep money- \$1922.00- Moved to general fund Money returned- \$2389- Returned to donors Balance- \$30123.27

☐ Next meeting- February 15, 2018

☐ Pricing on literature decrease: Starting January 9, will decrease 8-10%

☐ New Intergroup hours starting 1/16/18 – 8-5pm Mon thru Fri.

8. Literature – Jackie S.

☐ Pamphlet Challenge: Speaking at Non-AA meetings, pg. 40

☐ Since I did not place my order soon enough, we will have to read this month's pamphlet online. Either view it as an attachment from Deborah's email or; go to aa.org, click AA Literature, scroll down to pamphlets/flyers and click the drop down arrow, then choose the pamphlet name in alphabetical order. Lastly, click the pamphlet cover and it will open up for a perfect view. The cover has been updated recently. Should you speak about the A.A. program at a non-A.A. meeting? What would you say? How would you say it? Does it keep with our traditions? If you have been to the Area Assembly, you will have noticed that the Public Information Committee and the Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee members talk about how they have spoken about the A.A. program at non-A.A. gatherings. This pamphlet informs us how to even begin thinking about doing that. I think this information is also very helpful when talking about the A.A. program to anybody outside the program. Reviewing this pamphlet will at least inform you about things you may not have thought of and can be very helpful in protecting our program when you open up with about your recovery. Also included are tips that can be quite useful when discussing alcoholism with friends and family. Page 13 mentions a card that can be passed out to the audience respectfully asking that as an A.A. member, our full name not be reported on the internet. So it is up to the A.A. members to inform the public about the A.A. program, but not using our full identity.

Page 13 also has an outline for what to include in a brief talk. Then, it goes on to give you 20 of the most common questions people tend to ask along with a scripted intelligent answer for each one. There are also some suggestions on how a non-alcoholic can help with informing others about the A.A. program. Again, these answers could be useful when speaking to family and friends. Are there any precautions that should be taken when telling our personal stories? Yes, on page 19. The first precaution is to mention that you only speak for yourself, not for A.A. as a whole. And last but not least, included are several paragraphs stating our responsibility of keeping people informed.

☐ The Area Literature Committee is looking for volunteers to help fill time slots with the Literature Display at the SETA Convention I Beaumont. There usually are no committee meetings at the SETA convention, so the next Literature Committee meeting will be at the April Assembly.

9. Newsletter – Matthew D.

☐ Thank you for all of the submissions this month! Next month's topic is Love (of course!). Please share your experience, strength, and hope with love. You can always write about the SETA convention if you are incapable of love :-)
Thank you!

10. Public Information (PI) – OPEN

☐ Deborah G. – No report

11. Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC) – OPEN

☐ Deborah G.- No report

Announcements:

12. See Flyers for Upcoming Events

13. Group History form & list of GSO services distributed to the group.