

DISTRICT#40

UNITY | SERVICE | RECOVERY

Step II

"Sought through prayer and mediation 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 II

"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 II

"While the trustees hold final responsibility for AA's world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore, the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern."

Open Position for District #40
Alt Treasurer
and **Internet Technologies (IT)**



Children of Chaos

Reino F, District 40 DCM

I have read or heard in a meeting of AA that we are children of chaos. Now that I want to write it, I cannot find it. I almost decided to change the subject because of the way it obsessed me just this morning to find it. So here we go.

I was raised in a loving home with parents that taught me basic principles of right and wrong, treat other people with courtesy and kindness, be helpful to others, the Golden Rules and was given the Catholic religion and the theological spiritual principles. My older sister helped me learn these things and showed me how to live them while she helped me get into trouble to make herself look better. I had complete lessons in going down the right path.

Then I became a teenager. Who'd a thought that all those lessons would get really twisted while I tried to avoid authority, not do what I was told, I'll show you, I know better. And, I want what I want now, you don't think of me, why can't I get, go, or do what I want to? Sheesh! The deal was I became a teenager and started thinking.

All about myself, my wants and needs and how you affect me. I believe that they should hold a seminar, class, or counseling session for 12-year-olds and warn them how messed up their free-will thinking is going to get them.

Then at around 16 years of age, I poured liquor over this thinking and “Away we went!” The next year I went to college. To the beer capital of America – Milwaukee. I, at that point, never looked back. Well I did, at 2 – 3 am I’d review my life and realize how much it sucked and wondered what was going wrong. So, I would call people to enlighten, then to my unfortunate living situations with my poor me teenager thinking and generally bad attitude. The problem was, though, that I would not remember the mentally cleansing phone calls. But they’d call me to check on me, then just to remind me that I was still doing it at 30 years old.

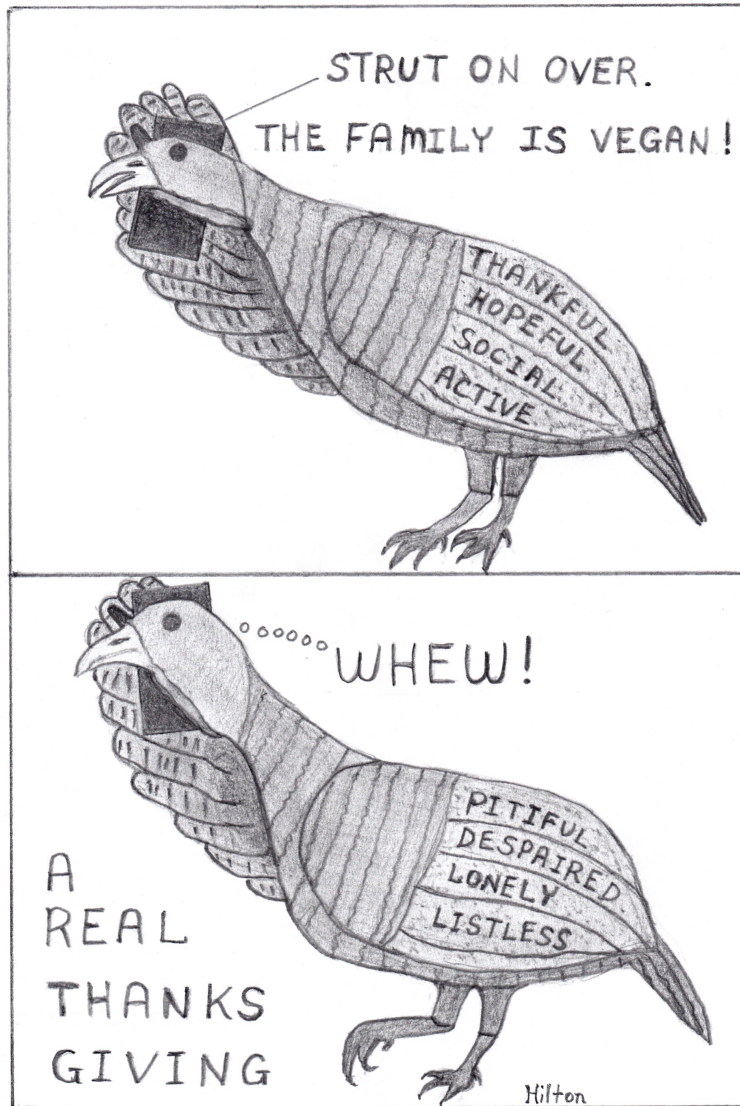
It was not all gloom and doom all of the time. I still had a bunch college friends from 70’ thru 74’ that are still in my life. I had good jobs, that I mostly quit. And, I found myself in a good business industry, gym floor installations, and have made a good living in it since 78’. But I kept on drinking, partying and playing.

Then my final moment of clarity came in August of ’85, I could only think back on my life and that I was not living the way my mom and dad had tried to raise me. I was given the gift of desperation. I had no clue that I was an alcoholic or that AA even existed. I was a low life piece of dung. At that time my design for daily living just really sucked. So, I was sent to treatment that was offered by my job. The center introduced me to the Big Book of AA. Told me that my chance at real sobriety was through AA. That the hospital was a way to break the cycle of my daily living and my thinking. Heck, they even suggested that I try a halfway house. I did and lived there with 24 guys for 3 months. There was still much chaotic thinking in me. Then, two fellas and myself found a house to rent and it was a sober home with 3 then 2 single guys. We were trying to change the way we had been living.

In AA, I eventually got a home group and was in the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have always had a home group, a sponsor, and a network of AA friends to check in with regularly. My sponsor helped me and watched me work the steps, see my life and it’s use of the spiritual principles get applied in my actions, living and then thinking. What a heck of a journey that has been in my time in AA.

I lived for years with the Four Horsemen – Terror, Bewilderment, Frustration, Despair. Isn’t that not what being a teenage is? It was for me! In AA, this thinking can rear its ugly head in my thoughts and then I am really screwed up for a time. As I try to learn to change my actions and live better daily, then my thinking does follow and change. But when I try to do this sobriety deal by myself the old ways of thinking crowd into my mind. This can lead me back into the old chaotic thoughts and actions.

I need to keep working the principles of AA the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions on a daily basis. I also can minimize the bad attitudes and stinking thinking by letting God be with me each morning and thank Him each night for my day. I like the rewards of living by spiritual principles. If I can learn to be grateful for what I have and thank God for it then I am on the right track. I like living with peace and serenity now. I don’t like being miserable and I don’t suffer well anymore. May my crazy thinking, and attitude, be in the spiritual principles of the fellowship.



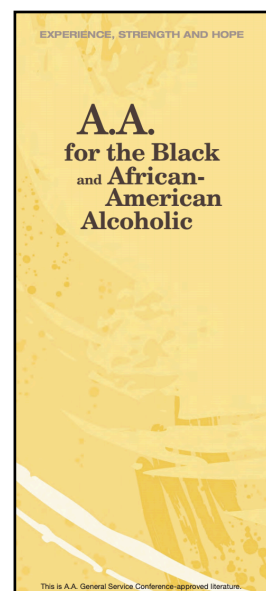
October brochure of the month:

AA for the Black and African-American Alcoholic

Click on the link for your online printable version of the brochure of the month.

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-51_CanAAHelpMeToo.pdf

District40Newsletter@gmail.com



DISTRICT 40 OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 MEETING

Meeting Location: 2nd Tue. 7:15 – 9:00 pm
Spring Branch Memorial Club
1200 Blalock Rd. Bldg. # 378, Room C
Houston, Texas 77055

dcm-40@aa-seta.org (Reino F.)
dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org (Doug D.)

Mailing Address:
District 40
PO Box 19085
Houston, Texas 77024-9085

DATE: September 8, 2020

LOCATION: ZOOM

Moment of Silence, Preamble & (Unity Declaration; read by Betsy G.)

Attendees; 28 people

Secretary's Report – Jackie S. – Accepted as Presented – Thanked Hilton L. for filling in last month.

Treasurer's Report – Mike W. – Accepted as Presented

- **DCM Report** – Reino F.

- The next SETA assembly will be on the first weekend in October. It will be a 2 day event, including Committee breakouts on Saturday and a Voting election for the 2021 term on Sunday.

OLD BUSINESS;

- Dan K. made a motion to: Remove topic of cohosting a workshop on Traditions with Intergroup. The motion passed.

- The money allocated to the Traditions Dinner 2020 and SWRAASA totals to \$3200.00. Dan K. informed us that Intergroup is in a good spot now with the 3rd employee returning; and Kari updated us on GSO funds having increased but that over 20 employees voluntarily retired. Deborah B. mentioned CFC blue can funds are down. As a result of all of this Bill A. made a motion to; Make a contribution splitting the \$3200.00 into 70% to GSO, 15% to CFC and 15% to Intergroup. The motion passed.

Open Positions – IT

- **Presentation** – Area Alt Secretary Pam F. – Is looking for volunteers to be “Buddies” with 1st time GSR's. Volunteers need to be willing to share their phone numbers during the Beginners GSR workshop on Zoom.

NEW BUSINESS -

- District 40 elections were handled by Betsy G. - Past DCM Past Delegate and Mike W. D40 Treasurer. All elected positions were voted in by acclamation and the results are as follows;

DCM – Jackie S

Alt DCM – Doug D

Secretary - Open

Alt Secretary – Open

Treasurer - Mike W

Alt Treasurer – Scott B

Archives – Marcus S

Correctional Facilities (CFC) – Open

Grapevine (GVR) – Open

Literature - Dan K

Intergroup Liaison – Mitch A

Newsletter – Fernando B

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Public Information (PI) – Terri O

Treatment Facilities (TFC) – Open

Information Technology (IT) - Open

ALT DCM Report – No report

Disaster Response Committee Co-Chair Report; Peter C

- Red Cross has given permission to have AA meetings at any of their shelters. Supplies are available. Shelters are matched to Area Districts. Can do volunteer training at the shelter.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- **Archives Rep;**- Marcus S.
- **CFC (Correctional Facilities Committee); Paul K.** - Absent
No Report
- **CPC (Cooperation with Professional Community); Bill A.**
- Our 12 step Hospital Program is on hold until Covid 19 restrictions are lifted. We are going to get new book marks for CPC and will be going over this at the Oct. Assembly Comm meeting. Also at the Comm meeting we will be electing positions in CPC. Come and be part of the new 12 step program.
- **Grapevine; Rachel P.**
- The Grapevine "Carry the Message" campaign continues. This is the campaign encouraging members to donate Grapevine subscriptions to prisons, rehab centers, and other places where people may not be able to get to meetings. More information is available at aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message.
- The Grapevine resource of the month is No Matter What: Dealing With Adversity in Sobriety. This collection of stories shows how AA members have worked the Twelve Steps and embraced the Fellowship to deal with tough issues. Especially now, during these unprecedented times, we may find ourselves experiencing a whole new level of adversity. To order, visit store.aagrapevine.org.
- Grapevine is accepting story submissions for these upcoming issues:
 - a. Making Amends – Share about your experiences making Ninth Step amends. How did they go? Was it what you expected? How did your sponsor help? (Due Sept 15, 2020)
 - b. Fun in Sobriety! – Been on any fun sober trips? How about camping, sports, skydiving, dancing, collecting, cooking, and volunteering? What about service events, new hobbies, game nights, sober vacations? Share your sober adventures! (Due Oct 15, 2020)
- That's it for me this month -- thank you for all you do! 😊
- **IT (Information Technology); OPEN**
- **Intergroup Liaison; Dan K.**
- District 40 Intergroup Liaison Report - September 8th, 2020
- Upcoming events:
 - a. 9/26/20- Anonymity Workshop (moved from 9/12)
 - b. 10/15/20- Board of Trustees Elections

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- c. 10/24/20- 12 Traditions Workshop
- d. 12/12/20- Winter Holiday Open House
- Intergroup Bookstore is open! Monday-Friday from 10-4. Bookstore taking orders online and by phone, and will be processed on Mon/Wed/Fri morning for shipment. For pickup orders, please email intergroup@aahouston.org
- Intergroup is working hard to keep all meetings updated with online/zoom meeting info for groups as well as updates as meetings transition back to meeting in person.

Next Delegates meeting October 15th, 2020 @ 8:00PM

Sign up for the Link on aahouston.org

- **Literature; Elizabeth G.**
- Happy Labor Day Weekend! May this month find you enjoying the holiday weekend with your family & children. I am truly honored to see how District 40 has come together month after month navigating life amidst the Covid pandemic event, conducting business as usual. We as a District did not skip a beat and are reaping the rewards of "Love and Service" is our code. With that said, this month's pamphlet is "A.A. and the Armed Services."
- This pamphlet will acquaint one with the many men and women in the armed services from various backgrounds who want us to know how they came to grips with their common problem "alcoholism" and how fruitful their lives have become since they became sober members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Please look forward to this pamphlet & trivial quiz. Here are the next scheduled events.
- The Literature Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month via video conference, "ZOOM." Please send the Literature Chair your email address if you are interested in attending. Then, you will receive an email with login instructions on the day of the meeting.
- The 59th Annual Southeast Texas Area Convention, Jan 15-17, 2020 at Houston City Place Marriot, 1200 Lake Plaza Dr., Spring, TX 77389. The Literature Committee meets at the quarterly Area Assembly at 4:30 pm.
- **Newsletter Editor; Kari B.**
- Thank you so much to our regular contributors Hilton, Jackie, Mike W, and Reino. If you find yourself with either some extra time on your hands or a yearning for connection with others or a way to help others please email me an article, joke, cartoon, link to something we could all benefit from, a piece of art you have done, or a photograph you have taken.... all would be most appreciated and welcomed at District40Newsletter@gmail.com.
- **PI (Public Information); Terri O.**
- **TFC (Treatment Facilities Committee); Lucas D.- Absent**
- **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** (see no attached flyers).

- **SETA Area Assembly: October 3 - 4, 2020** is at the Sheraton North Houston 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Houston, TX 77032 Phone (281) 442-5100 It will be by zoom, more information will be sent as we get it!!! There will be preregistration before Saturday to make the login process go easier on Saturday morning, info on it will be sent when received. This is an Area ELECTION ASSEMBLY!!!
- **Next District 40 meeting: 10/13/20 at 7:15pm** Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock Rd #378 Houston, Room C (713) 274-3190 **OR BY ZOOM at 7:00PM IF NEEDED.**
District40Newsletter@gmail.com

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- **SWRAASA 2020: HAS BEEN CANCELLED**
 - **SETA 2021 Convention: January 15 – 17, 2021 at the Houston City Place Marriott 1200 Lake Plaza Dr, Spring, TX 77389 # 281-350-4000 and registration is at www.setaconvention.org**
- AA headquarters: www.aa.org, Area 67/SETA Districts: www.aa-seta.org, Intergroup; www.aahouston.org.

We adjourned with the Responsibility Statement.

SETA DISTRICT 40 -- EXPENSE BY MONTH & TOTAL FOR YEAR													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total YTD
DCM								\$46.72	\$31.72				\$78.44
Alt. DCM	\$316.48												\$316.48
Secretary / Copying	\$18.72	\$8.46											\$27.18
Treasurer	2	2	\$34.99	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00				\$50.99
Newsletter		\$71.74											\$71.74
Rent/Coffee Donation	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00										\$90.00
Coffee													\$0.00
PO Box													\$0.00
Literature Committee		\$55.60											\$55.60
PI/CPC													\$0.00
Grapevine													\$0.00
CFC									\$480.00				\$480.00
TFC													\$0.00
Archives Committee													\$0.00
Intergroup Liaison													\$0.00
IT Committee													\$0.00
Miscellaneous									\$2,720.00				\$2,720.00
Gratitude Dinner - Donation													\$0.00
Gratitude Dinner - Food													\$0.00
Fellowship Fest													\$0.00
Traditions Dinner													\$0.00
Service Workshop													\$0.00
SWRAASA (Even Years)													\$0.00
The Forum (Odd Years) See Note													\$0.00
Delegate Report Meeting													\$0.00
State Convention Hospitality Suite													\$0.00
SETA Assembly Host District													\$0.00
SETA - 2020 Hospitality Suite		\$453.62											\$453.62
Total for MONTH	\$367.20	\$621.42	\$64.99	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$48.72	\$3,233.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,344.05

SETA DISTRICT 40 -- GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2020

District 40 Groups	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
Another Chance Group													0.00
Bear Creek Fellowship			50.00										50.00
Broad Highway Group			5.70					13.06					18.76
Bunkerhill Tuesday A.A. Group				71.33									71.33
Chapelwood Tues 8pm		332.17					135.60						467.77
Daily Reflections Group							22.30						22.30
Everything is "Alright Already"													0.00
First Light Group													0.00
Four Horsemen Group													0.00
Fourth Promise Group													0.00
Fry Road Group		70.00						60.00					130.00
Friends of Bill W. (Post Oak)			50.00										50.00
Friends of Bill W. (West Houston CC)		112.42							43.34				155.76
Fulshear Group			170.99			26.90							197.89
God Meeting Group								60.00					60.00
High Hopes							63.80						63.80
Hockley Group			45.00										45.00
Houston Young People													0.00
Journey Group		10.80											10.80
Just For Today		74.80					24.01						98.81
Just The Black Print Group			77.55										77.55
Katy 12 & 12		77.53	35.36	20.25	7.39	12.75		31.61	61.15				246.04
Katy 164 Group		6.61	19.00		14.95								40.56
Katy Big Book			150.00										150.00
Katy Crossroads Group		36.62						54.53					91.15
Katy Primary Purpose Group								75.00					75.00
Kingsland Group													0.00
Living Now Group													0.00
Memorial Going Home Group		40.42						192.32					232.74
Memorial West Group													0.00
Men's Supper/Step Study Group				34.30									34.30
Monaville Group													0.00
New Beginnings group		23.00											23.00
New Oxford Group													0.00
Our Common Journey Group													0.00
Outpost Group (Men's)					137.52								137.52
Peek Road Group													0.00
Rosewood Thursday Night Group		122.00						184.00					306.00
Rule 62 Group							74.61						74.61
Sage-Piney Point													0.00
Sage-Piney Point Noon Tuesday		23.40					17.40						40.80
Saturday Solutions Group		38.06				28.40		43.00					109.46
Simply AA													0.00
Sisters in Serenity		39.70											39.70
Sober in Brookshire													0.00
Spring Branch Memorial Club													0.00
Spring Shadows Group		240.00			150.00								390.00
Stepping Stones in Recovery Katy			30.00										30.00
Steps in Sobriety													0.00
Taking Care of Business													0.00
Tuesday Night Step Study		25.48		33.60			3.30						62.38
36 Principles Group													0.00
Wednesday Reflections		16.20											16.20
West Memorial													0.00
Wild West Group		45.33											45.33
Working With Others													0.00
Unknown/Misc					50.00								50.00
TOTAL:	0.00	1384.54	583.60	159.48	359.86	68.05	341.02	713.52	104.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	3714.56
carter d craford						50							

District 40 Officers and Committee Representatives

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
DCM	Reino F	dcm-40@aa-seta.org
Alt DCM	Doug D	dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org
Secretary	Jackie S	d40sec@yahoo.com
Alt Secretary	Hilton L	d40altsec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Scott B	treasurer-40@aa-seta.org
Alt Treasurer	OPEN	treasurer-40-alt@aa-seta.org
Archives	Marcus	
Newsletter Editor	Kari B	district40newsletter@gmail.com
Grapevine Rep	Rachel P	
IT Rep	OPEN	
Literature Rep	Elizabeth G	
CFC Rep	Paul K	
Intergroup Rep	Dan K	
CPC Rep	Bill A	
PI	Terri	
TFC	Lucas D	

Committee	Meeting Time	Location
Archives	1 st Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM	521 N. Sam Houston Pkwy East, Suite 215 Houston, Texas 77060
Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)	1 st Monday of the month, 7:00 PM	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378
Correctional Facilities (CFC)	3 rd Wednesday of the month, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	The Delta Club 6401 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110 Houston, Texas 77057
Grapevine	3 rd Thursday of every other month, 7:30 PM	The Delta Club 6401 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110 Houston, Texas 77057
Intergroup	3 rd Thursday of every other month, 8:00 PM	4140 Directors Row Suites D & E Houston, Texas 77092
Internet Technologies (IT)	4 th Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378
Literature	3 rd Tuesday of the month, 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM	Zoom Send Login requests to: Literature-Chair@aa-seta.org
Multi-Lingual	1 st Thursday of the month, 7:30 PM	District 63 4800 West 34 th Street Suite B-8 Houston, Texas 77092
Public Information (PI)	4 th Tuesday of the month, 7:30 PM	Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock, Suite 378, Room C Can do Zoom
Treatment Facility Committee (TFC)	2 nd Monday of the month, 7:00 PM	GoToMeetings (except Assembly months) At Area Assembly, Saturday afternoon 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM