

DISTRICT#40

UNITY | SERVICE | RECOVERY

Step 2

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

Tradition 2

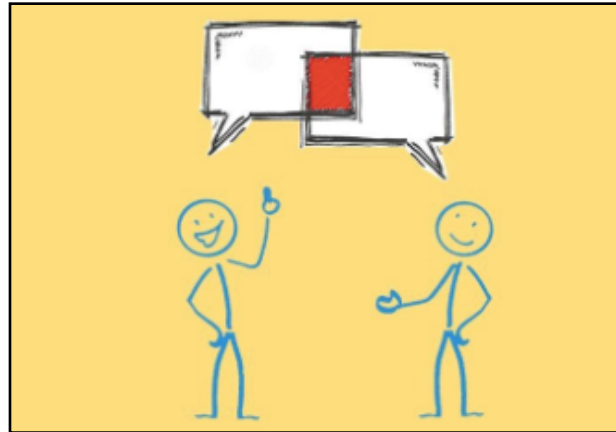
“For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.”

Concept 2

“When, in 1955, the AA groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference - excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter - the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.”

Open Positions for District #40

Archives, Internet Technologies (IT) and Treatment Facilities Chair (TFC)



Tradition Five - Primary Purpose

Reino F, DCM

One of the definitions of ‘*primary*’ is “of first rank, importance or value: principal”. One of the definitions of ‘*purpose*’ is “an object or result aimed at”. The words defined in the 12 x 12 dictionary are: Primary “most important, chief, principle, basic, essential, first in importance”; Purpose is “aim, intent, goal, proper activity, what one intends to do or achieve”. Tradition Five says that “each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers”. The Long Form of the Traditions says that the group is a spiritual entity and to carry its message to the still suffering alcoholics.

It seems apparent to me, that above all, each AA group should make it their first and foremost aim to carry their message of AA to all the suffering alcoholics they encounter. It also seems that by just

being in the fellowship and saying we are a member that we are a part of the spiritual entity. What a deal this is, eh?

I for sure had no clue that this was going to be an ongoing action in the self-centered life that I carried into AA. In the past, I took action to carry my message when it would benefit me or I could get something out of the deal. I did not have outgoing motives and very seldom thought of helping others for their sake and well-being.

I spent my initial time in early sobriety watching other AA members and watching the members in my home group and the group itself practice applying the Traditions in their daily lives. My sponsor walked me through the Traditions after we worked the Steps. He said that the Traditions are as an important set of spiritual principles as are the Steps. And if I apply them in my life it will help me in all areas of my life and will enhance my spiritual awakening. Was he on point with that idea? Most assuredly.

So now I found in the Fellowship of AA the great paradox that we find that we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. Each of us is but a small part of the whole, but by joining AA's primary purpose to our own, we become something bigger than our individual selves. Now I freely participate in my groups primary purpose that is to carry its message and give comfort to others who are still suffering.

I have found that the still suffering alcoholics are both in and out of AA. As life happens things go on in peoples lives and we can help those AA members that are in the program and are suffering. I find this out by continually attending meetings, having a home group where I am accountable, and having a safety net work of friends in AA that I can share with them. Also, I continue to be accountable to my sponsor.

I have been able to help out the newcomers and newer members in their recovery. But I also have had the privilege to give help, love and care to members in AA that have had circumstances in their lives where they needed other members to reach out to them and help them get to meetings, or just talk. Or, I have been able to bring a meeting to them because they could not get out.

So being another member of AA, and not my unique self, has been a grateful place for me to be these days. Just another child of God who wants to help his kids. Give what was so freely given to me onto others so they may get off the merry go round of the active alcoholic life.

As I have lived my life in AA, I also believe that being of service and giving back to AA helps carry the primary purpose to those who are suffering. Being active in the service structure helps keep the unity of AA strong and keep it here for those who will need it later.

Grapevine: Our Meeting in Print

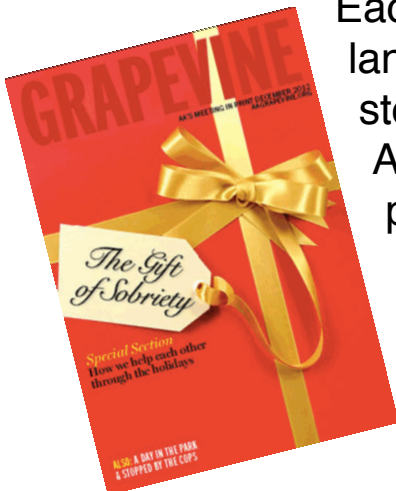
Did you know ...

... that the *AA Grapevine* is the official international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous?

... that every month, *Grapevine* delivers a "meeting in print" to recovering alcoholics who can't get to meetings, including those who are in prisons, hospitals, detox centers, and remote locations?

... that *Grapevine* also publishes books, e-books, and audiobooks?

At our District 40 January meeting, we welcomed Kimberly L. and Cindy J. from our Area 67 Grapevine Committee to help us get to know our "meeting in print" a little better.



Each issue of *Grapevine* (and its Spanish-language counterpart, *La Viña*) offers 18-20 stories written by members of AA and sometimes by AA's dedicated friends. The stories are direct and personal, and as varied as the Fellowship itself. *Grapevine* writers come from all walks of life, from every generation and from every geographic area. And because it is a monthly publication, *Grapevine* is the only AA literature that offers an ongoing picture of the current Fellowship.

Every group is encouraged to elect a Grapevine Representative (GvR) to raise awareness of the publication (I didn't know it existed until I'd been in the program for several years!), to serve as a source of information, and to encourage subscriptions. All GvRs are invited to attend Area 67 Grapevine Committee Meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Delta Club and online via Zoom.

In 2020, *Grapevine* is launching a "Carry the Message" campaign encouraging members to donate subscriptions to alcoholics in need. For details, visit <https://www.aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message>.

If you'd like to learn more about our meeting in print or about the Grapevine Representative position, you can visit aagrapevine.org.



Pamphlet of the Month: January

Each month the Literature Chair, Elizabeth G., shares an AA pamphlet with us. In January she shared: "Access to AA - Members share on overcoming barriers." Please click on the link below for a digital copy. You may view this online or make a single print copy.

https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-83_AccesstoAA.pdf



"The Icebreaker"
I'll share first! My name is
Jack Frost, & I'm an alcoholic.



District 40 GSR Meeting Minutes

DATE: 12/10/2019

CALL TO ORDER; DCM Reino F. opened the meeting with Unity Declaration.

HOLIDAY DINNER; District 40 supplied the main dish and everyone else brought a side dish to share. Dan K. said the opening prayer.

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES; 28 Attended our business meeting.

TRADITION XII /CONCEPT XII PRESENTATION; Elizabeth G. and Betsy G.

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT MONTH; Tradition I – Doug D. Concept I – Mike

DISTRICT OFFICER REPORTS

☐ Secretary's Report; Jackie S. - Accepted as corrected

☐ Treasurer's Report; Alt Mike W. – Accepted as presented

☐ **DCM Report;** Reino F.

☐ You can sign up on the SETA Convention website. Thank you for being helpful with changes in the middle of this year and helping make the transition in April seamless. New GSRs see me after the meeting.

☐ Next month consider taking a couple of group names and visit them to stir up more GSRs and more contributions. I made two visits so far. I gave the district webpage address and the district newsletter. Told them we are here to serve there group and we would be happy for more participation.

☐ Happy Holiday!

☐ **ALT DCM Report;** – Deanna F.

☐ Thank you for all your help this year with the Traditions Dinner and thank you for participating in tonight's dinner.

NEW BUSINESS;

☐ Terri O. stood and is now our new PI Rep.

OLD BUSINESS;

☐ Open Positions - Archives, IT and TFC.

☐ Mike, Alt Treasurer, presented the 2020 D40 – Draft Proposed Budget and it passed.

☐ Deanna F. mentioned a way to save money would be to collaborate with Houston Intergroup when planning workshops next year.

☐ **DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS** *(Please submit report to Secretary)*

a. **Archives Rep; OPEN** No Report

b. **CFC (Correctional Facilities Committee); Paul K.**

a. Friends, The National Correctional Facilities Conference went well. Over 342 people from all over the world came to Houston to discuss and learn about how corrections are done in Texas. I took two groups; one into the Walls Unit and one into Jester. It went well. I also was Security for the Conference.

b.I started a 12 N 12 meeting at Jester 1, Sundays 12 to 2 PM. Big Book Study on Thursdays, and work with the Pathfinders at Huntsville. The Pathfinders had their 71st Anniversary last month, which I was asked to speak at.

c.District 40 has been well represented in CFC. Thank you for your support in the Blue Cans, we have taken thousands of dollars of AA Literature into jails and prisons in the greater Houston Area and SE Texas.

d.Thank you also for bringing your old Grapevines to this meeting to allow me to take them into the joint.

e.If you would, pray and meditate if the Good Lord wants you to be of service to the women and men behind bars. Thank you.

f.Respectfully, Paul

g.CPC (Cooperation with Professional Community); Bill A.

h.CPC meets first Monday of every month at 7:30 at Spring Branch Memorial Club.

i.We have a tentative date set up January 13th for a hospital presentation at Methodist West Hospital.

j.We are looking for people to give hospital presentations. Also we have a position available for excellent service work including secretary.

k.We will be giving a hospital 12 step workshop sometime in March. Flyers to come.

l.Grapevine; Rachel P.

m.Grapevine Report - December 2019

n.At our January meeting (1/14/20), Kimberly L., our Area 67 Grapevine Chair, will join us to give a brief presentation on how Grapevine supports the AA organization and share ideas for encouraging subscriptions in our groups.

o.Grapevine has a new YouTube channel, featuring video stories, presentations by AA trustees, and more. Go to YouTube and search for "AA Grapevine" to access the channel.

p.Free shipping is available on Grapevine books and other items through December 31; for more information or to place orders, go to store.aagrapevine.org. GSRs, please pass this information on to your groups, as these items make wonderful holiday gifts for sponsors and sponsees.

q.IT (Information Technology); OPEN No Report

r.Intergroup Liaison; Dan K.

s.Intergroup is hosting a 4th Step Workshop November 16th, from 10am-1pm. Registration is \$12.50, which includes take home materials and lunch.

t.Intergroup's Annual Holiday Party and Open House will be Saturday, December 14th, from 11:00am-3:00pm, with guest speaker Troy D, our area delegate, at 1:00pm. Join us for food and fellowship, and tax free day in the bookstore!

u.Intergroup is collecting a list of speakers to share with you for "Group Speaker Nights". If you would like to share your experience, strength and hope, please contact Intergroup at 713-686-6300 to get added to the list.

v.Nightwatch/Volunteering

w.Evening Nightwatch- Looking for "backup" members for evening nightwatch.

x.Weekend Nightwatch- Several slots available

y.Please contact Libby if your group would like to sign up at 713-686-6300 or email at adminasst@aahouston.org

z.Meeting in a pocket- Now available in bookstore for \$2.50

Next delegates meeting December 19th, 2019 @ 8:00PM

Sign up for the Link on aahouston.org

a. Literature; Elizabeth G.

b. Greetings to all at District 40. May this month find you getting excited about the upcoming Hanukah & Christmas season with your families and A.A. friends. This month's pamphlet challenge is The "God" word – Agnostic and Atheist Members in A.A. GSO

recently added the following:

c.* Alcoholics Anonymous is now available in a new American Sign Language translation. This includes English audio track and subtitles.

d.* The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, which presents the principles by which A.A. members recover and its society functions, is now available in a new American Sign Language translation. This includes English audio track and subtitles.

* Now available for the first time in professionally produced audio recordings in English, French, and Spanish, Bill W.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service (including essays), which may be listened on the website (aa.org).

* 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 next

Area Literature Committee will be on Saturday, January 25th, 2020 at 4:30 pm at Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Boulevard, Galveston, TX 77554.

e. Newsletter Editor; Kari B.

f. Please email photos and articles to district40newsletter@gmail.com

g. **PI (Public Information); OPEN** No Report

h. **TFC (Treatment Facilities Committee); Open** No Report

i. **GSR/GENERAL SHARING SESSION** (Feedback, News, Concerns, Questions)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (see attached flyers).

☐ **Next District 40 meeting: 11/14/19 at 7:15pm** Spring Branch Memorial Club 1200 Blalock Rd #378 Houston, Room C (713) 274-3190

☐ **SETA Area Convention: January 24th – 26th, 2020** at the Moody Gardens Hotel Galveston, TX to register go to www.aa-seat.org; to register at the hotel for the Room Rate of \$129.00 per nite call 888-388-8484

☐ **Texas State Convention 74th: June 12 – 14, 2020** at the Hilton Fort Worth 817-870-2100 room rate \$139.00, to register www.txaaconvention.org

☐ **AA International Convention will be held on July 2 – 5, 2020 in Detroit MI.** Register at www.aa.org

☐ **SWRAASA 2020: October 9-11, 2020** at Embassy Suites Hotel 550 S Buchanan St Amarillo, TX 79101 806-803-5500 rate \$135.00 per nite; Event Registration \$15.00 NWT A66-Texas

ADJOURNED; Closed with the Responsibility Statement

SETA DISTRICT 40 -- GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2019													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
District 40 Groups													
Another Chance Group			115.00				60.00						175.00
Bear Creek Fellowship				40.00						13.30			40.00
Broad Highway Group							75.00				40.00		13.30
Bunkerhill Tuesday A.A. Group													115.00
Chapelwood Tues 8pm													-
Daily Reflections Group	13.40												13.40
Everything is "Alright Already"													-
First Light Group							48.50		31.00				79.50
Four Horsemen Group													-
Fourth Promise Group							100.00				52.00		216.00
Frv Road Group				64.00									-
Friends of Bill W. (Post-Oak)			75.00										75.00
Friends of Bill W. (West Houston CC)													-
Fulshear Group			45.00		20.00		45.00			40.00		60.00	150.00
God Meeting Group													90.00
High Hopes	30.00						45.00					45.00	135.00
Hockley Group													-
Houston Young People						13.15				11.20		110.00	146.57
Journey Group			75.56				85.20			85.75			246.51
Just For Today				8.91	82.17	58.61			59.00		45.23	52.47	306.39
Just The Black Print Group							34.21	37.55	38.16		68.59	236.04	565.08
Katv 12 & 12			64.10		86.43		19.92						42.57
Katv 164 Group				22.65									-
Katv Big Book													-
Katv Crossroads Group	57.23				95.97			55.43				37.13	245.76
Katv Kevstones Group	39.39						32.42						71.81
Katv New Beginnings													-
Katv Primary Purpose Group													-
Kingsland Group													-
Living Now Group													-
Memorial Going Home Group	26.11			30.58			58.84			48.17			163.70
Memorial West Group						187.30			210.84				398.14
Men's Supper/Step Study Group													-
New Beginnings Group	39.00			30.00			29.00			23.00			121.00
New Oxford Group													-
Our Common Journey Group			6.40										6.40
Outpost Group (Men's)				160.00							92.50		252.50
Peek Road Group			28.00							32.00			60.00
Rosewood Thursday Night Group				48.00							200.00		48.00
Rule 62 Group													200.00
Sae-Pinev Point			124.06				44.30						168.36
Sae-Pinev Point Noon Tuesday													-
Saturday Solutions Group	49.18		65.55							55.10			169.83
Simply AA													-
Sisters in Serenity			13.51		14.65		13.93						-
Sober in Brookshire													-
Spring Branch Memorial Club													-
Spring Shadows Group	225.00			180.00			225.00			210.00			840.00
Stepping Stones in Recovery				31.00				15.00			45.00		91.00
Steps in Sobriety										50.00			50.00
Taking Care of Business													-
There is a Solution (Katv)												19.74	19.74
Tuesday Night Step Study					14.00		26.20			28.89			99.21
36 Principles Group													-
West Memorial													-
Wild West Group					57.10					69.31	60.00	75.65	267.25
Working With Others													-
Traditions dinner funds									68.00				68.00
Unknown/Misc	33.94	118.00					51.20				52.50		255.64
TOTAL:	518.44	431.75	385.77	429.79	459.70	355.03	993.72	107.98	407.00	666.72	563.32	728.53	6,005.66

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	Deanna F	dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org
Secretary	Jackie S	d40sec@yahoo.com
Alt Secretary	Hilton L	d40altsec@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mike W	treasurer-40@aa-seta.org
Alt Treasurer	Scott B	treasurer-40-alt@aa-seta.org
Archives	OPEN	
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	OPEN	

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