

DISTRICT#40

UNITY | SERVICE | RECOVERY

Step 1

"We admitted that we were powerless over alcohol and that our lives had become unmanageable."

Tradition 1

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity."

Concept 1

"Final responsibility and ultimate authority for AA world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship."

Open Positions for District #40

- Archives
- Internet Technologies (IT)
- Treatment Facilities Chair (TFC)



Tradition Four - Autonomy, Autonomous

Reino F, DCM

The definition of Autonomy is "the quality or state of being self-governing". Autonomous is "undertaken or carried out without outside control", "existing or capable of existing independently". Tradition Four states that each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.

Bill wrote that "Our Traditions are a guide to better ways of working and living, and they are an antidote for our various maladies. The Twelve Traditions are to the group survival and harmony what AA's Twelve Steps are to each member's sobriety and peace of mind ... But the Twelve Traditions also point straight at many of our individual defects. By implication they ask each of us to lay aside pride and resentment. They ask for personal as well as group sacrifice ... The Traditions guarantee the equality of all members ... They show us how we may best relate ourselves to each other and to the world."

It is interesting that I was unaware that I had come into AA with selfishness and self-centeredness. I very seldom ever considered anyone else in making plans, decisions or taking actions. My side of the issue was what was the most important part. My motives and actions clearly showed others what my intentions were before and after the fact. The AA members here before me had to show me how my motives and actions affected all those around me. This was quite a process for me to see and then accept this about myself.

It was through a sponsor, a home group and a network of members that became friends that they told me the truth about my behavior and not what I wanted to hear that changes in my behavior started to make progress.

I gradually worked on being concerned for others and their perceptions and less about me then life and my perceptions started to change. Being of service to others, the group and AA as a whole I became less self-centered. This Tradition helped me understand that I could not take any actions harmful to others without dire consequences to myself. I learned that nothing was really good unless other people also were considered. I am no longer autonomous in my own right as much as I was originally.

Sobriety must be my sole objective. In all respects there is perfect freedom of will and action. We have the right to be wrong, but we no longer have the right to harm others.

So gradually over the years the way I thought and acted when I came to you has changed to me being a member, thinking and working with others instead of for my own ends. I was always feeling alone and now I am a part of something bigger than me alone. So now I need to act like I am part of something and one of its members.

I need to be of service to the still suffering alcoholics in and out of AA. I have realized that eventually we must conform to whatever tested principles guarantee survival. The freedom individual groups have in this tradition carries with it the admonition to protect the fellowship as a whole.

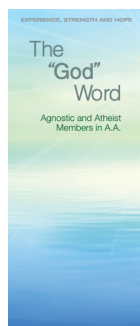
When we started my home group, we went to the group that was already meeting at the church to ask if they were willing to let us meet there. We did not want to get in the way of an already established group meeting there. The group said they were ok with our proposed format and that it would not be in their way. They were very gracious. So, we are meeting at that church.

Seeing years later how this Tradition can be applied was very eye opening and participating in practicing the Traditions' principles also is very satisfying.

Being a part of something requires self-sacrifice and willingness to practice spiritual principles in our daily lives so we can be a part of something bigger than us as individuals. And, we get to make personal progress as we trudge the road to happy destiny.

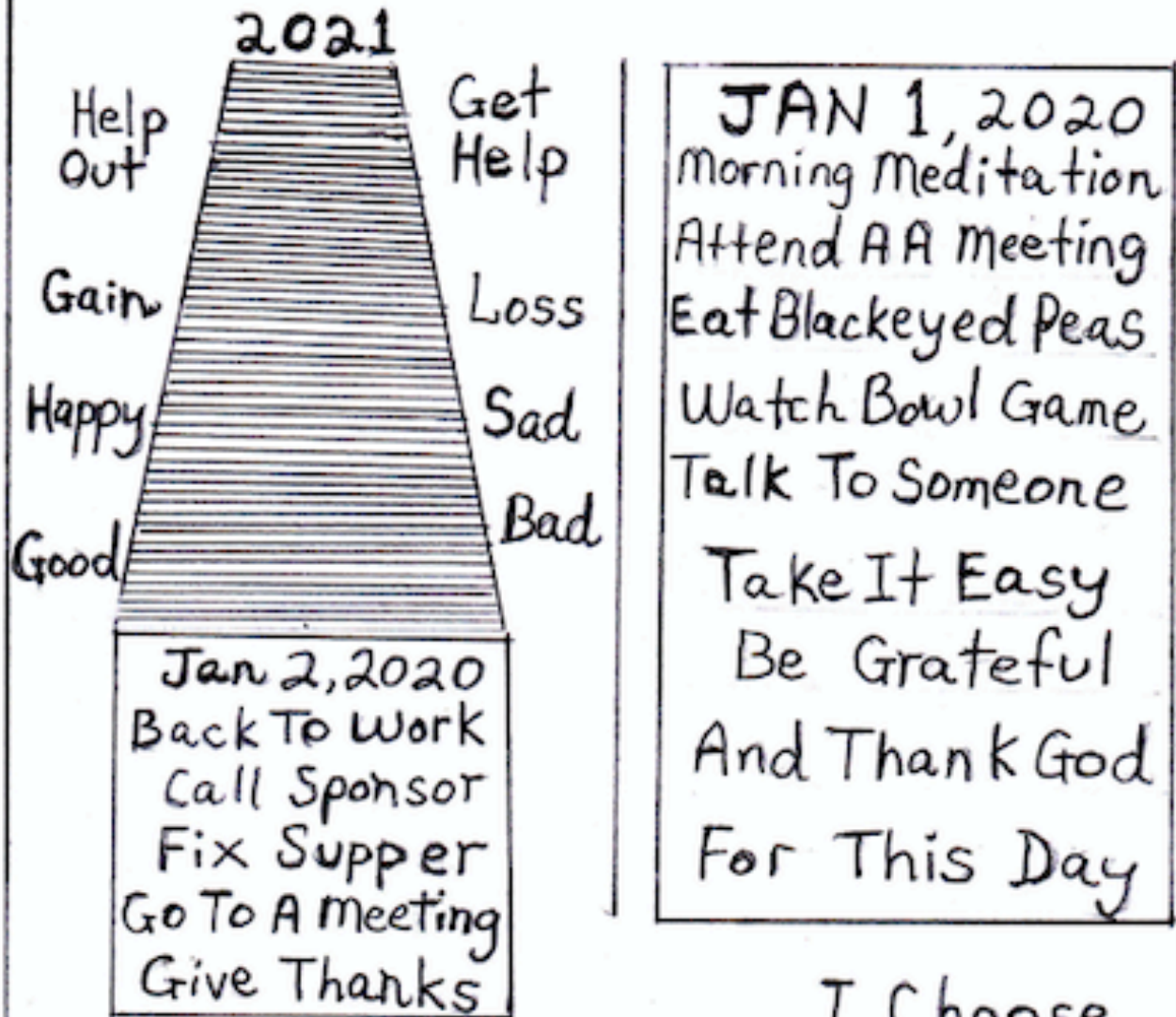


https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-49_BridgingTheGap.pdf



https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-86_theGodWord.pdf

THE CHOICE



I Choose
This One!



Hilton

DISTRICT 40 OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2019 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 (Deanna F.)

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

DATE: 11/12/2019

CALL TO ORDER; DCM Reino F. opened the meeting with a Moment of Silence, Preamble & Unity Declaration.

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES; 28 Attended our business meeting.

TRADITION XI /CONCEPT XI PRESENTATION; Dave and Mike

VOLUNTEERS FOR NEXT MONTH; Tradition XII – Elizabeth G. Concept XII – Betsy G.

DISTRICT OFFICER REPORTS

- Secretary's Report; Jackie S. - Accepted as presented
- Treasurer's Report; Rick N. – Accepted as presented
- **DCM Report;** Reino F.
 - Read the thank you note from the GSO for the SW Regional Forum.
 - Read the finance letter from the GSO informing us there will be new group numbers assigned.
 - Informed us that the A.A. meeting phone app now includes more information.
- **ALT DCM Report;** – Deanna F.

NEW BUSINESS;

- You will be receiving an email from Annette S. regarding the food for next month's party. Bring side dishes. District 40 will supply the main dish.

Delegate Report – Troy B-D

- New agenda items can originate at the group level. They will have more weight if they are supported by the Group, District and Area.
- Fifth edition of the Big Book came out of committee and failed on the floor.
- Fourth edition of the Spanish Big Book – Recommit
- GSO would rather see "more groups contributing less rather than less groups contributing more".

Reino said if you need an electronic version of the complete Delegate Report, to email him a request.

OLD BUSINESS;

- Open Positions - Archives, PI, IT and TFC. Please post the open positions in your home group newsletter. Include it in your group conscience meetings. Add them to your group announcements.

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

- **Archives Rep; OPEN** No Report
- **CFC (Correctional Facilities Committee); Paul K.**
 - 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.

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- 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.
- 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.
- Thank you also for bringing your old Grapevines to this meeting to allow me to take them into the joint.
- 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.
- Respectfully, Paul
- **CPC (Cooperation with Professional Community): Bill A.**
 - We gave a CPC Presentation to the VA Hospital and it went very well. VA Hospital is going to start having Noon Meetings at the Hospital on Wednesdays. Scott B. from District 40 has volunteered to start the meetings.
 - The Hospital Program is going well but we do need volunteers to do presentations to the hospitals. We are getting a workshop for 12 step calls for the Hospital Program on Sunday, November 17th from 2 – 4 PM at the Cypress Group. Lunch will be provided.
 - We met the first Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM at the Spring Branch Memorial Club. Also by ZOOM.
 - Need to fill positions including secretary.
- **Grapevine; Rachel P.**
 - **Photo Contest:** Grapevine is holding its annual competition for photographers to be featured in the 2021 Wall Calendar, and members are invited to send their most striking photographs that reflect the joy of living, serenity, and other sobriety themes. Contributors of selected photos will receive a complimentary copy of the Wall Calendar in which their photo appears and a Grapevine Pocket Planner. The deadline for entries is December 1; for more information and to submit entries, visit aagrapevine.org/photocontest.
 - **Stories Wanted:** Grapevine is currently seeking stories for the June 2020 issue, which is their annual Prison Issue. If you found AA in prison, are involved in prison correspondence service, or take AA meetings into prison, share your story about how AA brings hope into prisons and jails. For more information, visit aagrapevine.org/contribute.
- **IT (Information Technology); *OPEN* No Report**
- **Intergroup Liaison; Dan K.**
 - Intergroup is hosting a 4th Step Workshop November 16th, from 10am-1pm. Registration is \$12.50, which includes take home materials and lunch.
 - 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!
 - 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.
 - **Nightwatch/Volunteering**
 - a. Evening ~~Nightwatch~~- Looking for "backup" members for evening ~~nightwatch~~.

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- b. ~~Weekend Nightwatch~~- Several slots available
- c. Please contact Libby if your group would like to sign up at 713-686-6300 or email at adminasst@aahouston.org

- 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

- **Literature; Elizabeth G.**
 - Greetings to all at District 40. May this month find you getting excited about the Thanksgiving holiday with your families and A.A. friends. The theme of "Gratitude" come to mind particularly, this time of year. How grateful and fortunate we are to have the abundance of A.A. meetings throughout the Southeast Texas Area.
 - With that said, this month's pamphlet challenge is "Bridging the Gap" - Between treatment and A.A. through contact programs. This is especially true when it comes to leaving an alcoholism treatment program and making the transition to the nearest A.A. group or meeting. A.A. experience suggests that attending meetings regularly is critical, specifically, in the next 30 - 60 days.
 - Here are the following upcoming events;
 - * 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.
 - * 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.
- **Newsletter Editor; Kari B.**
 - Texas History! See [articles and](#) contributions!
 - I am accepting artwork and photos. Please email them to district40newsletter@gmail.com
 - **PI (Public Information); OPEN** No Report
 - **TFC (Treatment Facilities Committee); Open** No Report
 - **GSR/GENERAL SHARING SESSION** (Feedback, News, Concerns, Questions)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (see attached flyers).

- **Next District 40 meeting: 12/10/19 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 ~~night~~ 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 ~~night~~; Event Registration \$15.00 NWTAA66-Texas

ADJOURNED; Closed with the Responsibility Statement

DISTRICT 40		2019 BUDGET	REVISIONS	2019 REVISED BUDGET	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	YEAR-TO-DATE	% YTD SPENT	
EXPENSE																			
DCM	1,000.00			1,000.00	242.96	58.72	34.10	143.80	93.60	348.15	961.33	96%					961.33	96%	
Ait DCM	800.00			800.00	34.92	27.18	24.84	23.76	23.76	23.76	277.40	277.40	35%					277.40	35%
Secretary/copies	250.00			250.00	22.00	23.76	2.00	2.00	23.76	19.98	240.48	240.48	96%					240.48	96%
Treasurer	150.00			150.00	30.00	2.00	38.79	12.00	2.00	36.22	192.73	128%					192.73	128%	
Newsletter	500.00			500.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	40.63	30.00	30.00	19.85	4%					19.85	4%	
Rent	400.00			400.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	330.00	83%					330.00	83%	
Coffee	100.00			100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
PO Box	120.00			120.00	84.91	48.40	48.40	48.40	48.40	48.40	133.31	53%					133.31	53%	
Literature Committee	250.00			250.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
PI/CPC Committee	150.00			150.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Grapevine	250.00			250.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
CFC	700.00			700.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
TFC	100.00			100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Archives Committee	100.00			100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Intergroup Liason	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
IT Committee	100.00			100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Miscellaneous	100.00			100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Gratitude Dinner Donation	300.00			300.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Gratitude Dinner Food	300.00			300.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Fellowship Festival	250.00			250.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Traditions Dinner	1,400.00			1,400.00	99.56	42.60	52.77	45.13	30.00	31.52	1,075.63	343.99	101%					1,419.62	101%
Service Workshop	1,000.00			1,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
SWRAASA (Even years)	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
The Forum (Odd Yrs-in Houston)	600.00			600.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
Delegate Report Meeting	215.00			215.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
State Convention Hospitality Suite	300.00			300.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
SETA Assembly Host District	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
SETA Hospitality Suite	300.00			300.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%					-	0%	
TOTALS	9,135.00			9,435.00	136.91	414.36	98.36	411.95	237.48	134.18	126.93	231.08	1,679.07	534.33	517.11	-	4,521.76	48%	

Traditions Dinner 2020 Donations
BEGINNING BANK BALANCE
 Total Expenses
 Total Income
 Prudent Reserve
 Unrestricted Funds
ENDING BANK BALANCE/TOTAL FUNDS

Brinkerhoff Tuesday A.A. Group	40.00
Fry Road Group	52.00
Just The Black Print Group	45.23
Kery 12 & 12	68.59
Rule 62 Group	200.00
Stepping Stones in Recovery	45.00
Wild West Group	60.00
TOTALS	510.82

260 Wild Wes
 4,672.32
 517.11
 510.82
 2,358.75
2,307.28
4,718.53

NOTES: Prudent reserve = 25% of Annual Budget

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								40.00
Broad Highway Group										13.30			13.30
Bunkerhill Tuesday A.A. Group							75.00				40.00		115.00
Chapelwood Tues Rom													-
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				64.00			100.00				52.00		216.00
Fry Road Group													-
Friends of Bill W. (Post Oak)			75.00										75.00
Friends of Bill W. (West Houston CC)													-
Fulshear Group			45.00				45.00						90.00
God Meeting Group			45.00		20.00					40.00			90.00
Hleh Hoops	30.00		45.00				45.00						90.00
Hockey Group													-
Houston Young People						13.15							-
Journey Group			12.22							11.20			36.57
Just For Today		75.56					85.20			85.75			246.51
Just The Black Print Group				8.91	82.17	58.61		59.00			45.23		253.92
Katy 12 & 12		64.10			86.43		34.21	37.55	38.16		68.59		329.04
Katy 164 Group				22.65			19.92						42.57
Katy Big Book													-
Katy Crossroads Group	57.23					95.97		55.43					208.63
Katy Kevstones Group	39.39						32.42						71.81
Katy New Beginnings													-
Katy 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				30.00			29.00			23.00			121.00
New Beginnings Group	39.00												-
New Oxford Group													-
Our Common Journey Group		6.40											6.40
Outcast Group (Men's)					160.00								160.00
Peek Road Group			28.00		48.00					32.00			60.00
Rosewood Thursday Night Group											200.00		48.00
Rule 62 Group													200.00
Sage-Piney Point		124.06					44.30						168.36
Sage-Piney Point Noon Tuesday													-
Saturday Solutions Group	49.18		65.55							55.10			169.83
Simply AA													-
Sisters in Serenity			13.51										-
Sober in Brookshire				14.65			13.93						-
Sorine Branch Memorial Club													-
Sorine 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													-
Tuesday Night Step Study			30.12		14.00		26.20			28.89			99.21
36 Principles Group													-
West Memorial													-
Wild West Group					57.10					69.31	60.00		191.60
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		5,277.13

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	Rick N	treasurer-40@aa-seta.org
Alt Treasurer	Mike W	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