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# DISTRICT 40 NEWS

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Volume 26.7

July 2013

**District 40 GSR Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**Southeast Texas Area Alcoholics Anonymous**

June 11, 2013

*Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration*

Tradition 6/Concept 6 reading and summation by Nancy R. & Kate E.

Volunteers for next month....Tradition 7/Concept 7 will be Jackie V. & Cheryl B.

**Introduction of Attendees = (19):**

**Albert C.** (GSR, First Light Group), **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM & Area 67 Delegate, Working With Others), **Bob P.** (Alt. GSR, Taking Care of Business Group), **Cheryl B.** (D40 Treasurer, Katy Crossroads Group), **Corrie H.** (D40 Newsletter Editor, Alt. Area 67 Secretary, GOD Meeting Group), **David V.** (GSR, Spring Shadows Group), **Deborah G.** (D40 Alt. Secretary, Alt. GSR, Rule 62 Group), **Jackie V.** (D40 IT Rep, GSR, GOD Meeting Group), **Kate E.** (D40 PI/CPC Chair, Memorial Going Home Group), **Kris H.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Treasurer, Rule 62 Group), **Larry N.** (Secretary, Fulshear Group), **Libby S.** (GSR, Katy Crossroads Group), **Michelle H.** (D40 Alt. DCM, Rule 62 Group), **Nancy R.** (D40 Coffee Comm., GSR, Memorial Going Home Group), **Rick Mc.** (GSR, Another Chance), **Sandy K.** (D40 Grapevine Rep, GSR, Tuesday Night Step Study), **Trent P.** (GSR, Wild West Group), **Wendy A.** (D40 Secretary), **Will R.** (GSR, New Oxford Group) - **\*Welcome New GSRs and Alt GSRs!\***

**Normal Business:**

1. **Secretary's Report-** Motion to Approve as Amended – corrections to the May 14, 2013 Unofficial Meeting Minutes.
2. **Treasurer's Report-** the May 2013 Treasurer's report was accepted as amended; current balance \$4,994.24; total income

*continued on page 2*

**12 Traditions & 12 Concepts**  
**Reading and Summation**

<b>July 2013</b>	<b>August 2013</b>
Tradition 7/ Concept 7	Tradition 8/ Concept 8
Jackie V./Cheryl B.	Michelle H./Jes K.

**Tradition Seven:** Every group ought to be self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

**Concept Seven:** The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

**How Can I Help?**

How can we encourage more participation? What can we do better to keep our servants coming back?

These are questions that I have heard floating around the world of service since I began back in 2003 as my group's Grapevine Rep. They meant nothing to me then, I just didn't understand enough to really care why the questions were being asked in the first place. Today, as I serve as your Alt. DCM, it is part of my responsibility to ask these very questions. The difference between then & now is that I really do care why. Over the past months, I have tried to share my personal experience with service over the years with you all through our monthly District & quarterly Area Newsletters to try & not only connect, but to share my very human side of serving & let you know that I have never felt alone in this journey. I have been bored, tired, confused, afraid, angry, lost, excited but never alone.

At the last Assembly, I must have heard a dozen times throughout the weekend "How can we encourage more participation?" I even heard it come out my own mouth. Well today I would like to ask you these questions. What can I do better to encourage participation at all service events? Do you feel comfortable asking questions about your position, about Traditions, about Concepts, service literature, service sponsorship? What would you like to see me do more of/or differently as your Alt. DCM? Would type of workshops would you like to have available to you through your District? Beginning GSRs, Concepts, Traditions, Area Assembly, General Service Structure, Third Legacy, Trusted Servants & The Spirit of Rotation?

I realize that some of these very things will be covered during our District Inventory this fall & it will be an effective place for a group discussion. However, I would just like to leave it out there that we do not have to have a scheduled inventory to share our voices with each other. My husband tells me that he may not be able to read my mind, but he can certainly read my body language. I don't know how you feel or what you think about our District, Area or service events, but I can see when you are not there & I wonder why. I ask God everyday, but I am asking you as well "how can I help?"

Michelle H.  
D40 Alt.DCM

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for the period totaled \$212.12, total expenses were \$1,300.00.

- a. \$78.83 for Traditions Dinner flyers will be moved from Alt DCM's budget and applied to Traditions Dinner budget
- b. will correct formula on front sheet for group donations to date (\$2,917.07)

3. News or Concerns from groups (GSRs) – None.

**Committee Reports:**

- a) Archives – Not present/No Report.
- b) Coffee – Nothing to report.
- c) PI/CPC – The committee met on May 25th. We are continuing to develop new data bases for new mail outs. This month we did a 27 piece mail out to the Emergency clinics. We voted to have our Display Board at the Traditions dinner. Our next meeting is June 29th 1-3 at the Spring Branch Club

The Area CPC committee met on June 3rd and continued to utilize the Go TO Meeting Internet participation. Our upcoming participation at the Council on Alcoholism's HARRES event was discussed.

The Area PI Committee is developing a data base to distribute Radio and TV PSA's

- d) CFC- Not present/No Report.
- e) Grapevine- Unable to attend Area meeting this month so no report.
- f) Intergroup Liaison – OPEN POSITION. Potential move next store being voted upon at meeting this Thursday (6/13). Open House/Tax Free Day being held Sat., July 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 3 pm.
- g) Information Technology –

Open Position:

- Chair – It is with great sadness for me to inform anyone who is not aware that Mike W, Area 67 IT Chair passed away the latter part of May and a Memorial Service will be held this Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. Location: The Council on Alcohol & Drugs; 303 Jackson Hill, Houston, TX 77007.
  - Until we can officially elect a new Area 67 IT Chair at the next SETA Assembly to be held July 13-14<sup>th</sup>, and because our Alt. is on leave of absence due to health, we are in need of anyone who would like to be of service to step up to the plate to assist us. Our next meeting will most likely be held on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and we will send out an announcement as to the time and place.
  - Go-To-Meetings are still available for any Area Committee to utilize. Contact: Betsy G. at [delegate-59@aa-seta.org](mailto:delegate-59@aa-seta.org).
- Subdivisions have been incorporated into the website for IT (IT.aa-seta.org) and CPC (CPC.aa-seta.org) which allows AA members to quickly access their information.
  - It was strongly suggested that any Area Service Committee that did not have an IT Liaison to elect one so that they can participate in the reformatting of the SETA website and in particular to their Committee.
- The Archivist of D-82 and the Webmaster are currently working on a digitized display that will allow AA members to view history information as it pertains to their particular Home Group, etc.
- h) Literature- The SETA Literature Committee is still without a chair or co-chair.

Jes brought me several pamphlets to stock our district with literature; the majority of which I believe should go to the PI/CPC committee (PI/CPC Chair has notified would love to have literature). Those are as follows:

800 AA at a Glance (single page)

- 25 AA for the Older Alcoholic
- 15 The Clergy Asks About AA
- 60 Speaking at Non-AA Meetings
- 50 AA in Your Community

There are also a few Self Support and The AA Group pamphlets which can stay with the DCM. There are more than 50 "Problems Other Than Alcohol" pamphlets which I will keep for our stock of literature. I will bring all of the pamphlets to the July meeting.

I am currently formulating a plan of attending meetings in our district to inform them about AA literature. As of now, the plan is to attend at least 5-10 different District 40 AA groups per month. I will have more on this next month after I have begun the process.

- i) TFC- OPEN POSITION. In need of a flexible District 40 representative to takeover Bridging The Gap program at the PaRC every other Wednesday morning at 9-10 am.
- j) Newsletter – Nothing to report.

**Current Items For Discussion**

- 1. 2013 Texas State Convention D40 Hospitality Suite Final Report – Nancy R., Rm Chair

Our District's State Convention Hospitality suite served up "great grub" and "lively conversations" for many sober alcoholics attending the convention. Many people in our district helped out in various ways for which I give thanks. Preparation started weeks before with deciding on the food menu which included Sam's can chili, link sausage, meatballs, chips/dips, salad, cookies, sodas, and much more. Then we went shopping over 3 days, using various discounts. The room was decorated with the theme of TEXAS. The largest crowd we had was during Saturday lunch, while the mornings were the time of the fewest people. We had wished we had a microwave to heat up things quickly, yet we used crock pots and warming trays. All the drinks were kept in coolers we brought. The hotel provided free ice which they filled into our coolers. Happy times prevailed!

We started with a \$1,000 budget from the District and \$100 from an anonymous donator. From the two 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition cans in the room, we collected \$228.23 to also include in our budget. Total budget being--\$1,328.23

We spent \$432.90 for rooms, \$656 for food/supplies, & \$34 for tips for hotel personal. Total spent--\$1,122.93

Subtracting what we spent from our budget we ended up with \$205.30 under budget!

- 2. Area 67 Annual Gratitude Dinner (Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013 @ Jimmy Burke Ctr, 2-6pm)
  - a. District Commitment – paper products (bowls, plates, napkins & eating utensils) and appetizers; \$300 budget will be spent with \$200 towards our commitment and \$100 towards Gratitude Fund
  - b. Co-Hosting with D51 for 2014 – think about as co-host has input in location/decorations; Michelle will as Area Delegate to identify co-host responsibilities
- 3. Special Delegate's Report with District 52 will be held on Sat., July 27<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1 pm, at Woods Road Recovery Group in Brookshire. Suggesting finger foods and/or desserts. Beverages will be purchased from Woods Road Club. Will have Jes follow-up with D52 regarding splitting \$50 rental fee.
- 4. 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Tradition Dinner Update – church paid; speaker confirmed; info sent to SETA & InterGroup websites. Take flyers and talk up at your home groups.

**Announcements:**

- 1. 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Tradition Dinner – June 29, 2013, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 1656 Blalock Rd., Houston, TX 77080
- 2. SETA Area Assembly – July 13-14, 2013, Sheraton North Houston, 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Houston, TX 77032

# DISTRICT SERVANTS

DCM  
Jes K.  
dcm-40@aa-seta.org

Alternate DCM  
Michelle H.  
dcm-40-alt@aa-seta.org

Secretary  
Wendy A.

Alt Secretary  
Deborah G

Treasurer  
Cheryl B.

Alt Treasurer  
Wendy M.

Literature Chair  
Taylor K.

Treatment Facilities Chair  
Ken P.

PI/CPC Committee  
Kate E.

CFC Chair  
Evelyn C.

Intergroup Liaison  
Rhonda R.

Grapevine Rep.  
Sandy K.

Newsletter Editor  
Corrie H.

Coffee Chair  
Nancy R.

Archives Chair  
Jessica D.

IT Liaison  
Jackie V.

## Upcoming Events

1. Olde Tyme Ice Cream Social, August 24, 2013, 1:00 p.m to 3:30 p.m., Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste.378, Houston, TX 77032

District 40 Financial Report Period ending 07/09/13	Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
<b>***INCOME***</b>					
Traditions Dinner Donations		\$175.00			
Service Workshop Donations					
State Conv- Hospitality Suite	\$205.30		\$205.30		
SETA-Hospitality Suite					
<b>Group Donations</b>	<b>\$320.93</b>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$3,238.00</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>45.0%</b>
Four Horsemen Group	\$5.27				
Hockley Group	\$60.00				
Our Common Journey Group	\$63.00				
Reflections Group	\$31.50				
Rosewood Thursday Night Group	\$4.52				
Sisters of Serenity	\$6.34				
Sunday Night Men's Group	\$150.30				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$526.23</b>	<b>\$7,375.00</b>	<b>\$3,443.30</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>46.7%</b>
<b>*** EXPENSES ***</b>					
DCM		\$500.00	\$234.92	0.0%	47.0%
Alt. DCM	\$96.49	\$500.00	\$148.54	19.3%	29.7%
Secretary / Copying		\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Treasurer		\$75.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Newsletter		\$221.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Rent/Coffee Donation		\$180.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Coffee		\$25.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
PO Box		\$70.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Literature Committee		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
PI/CPC		\$1,000.00	\$40.00	0.0%	4.0%
Grapevine		\$80.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
CFC		\$250.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
TFC		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Archives Committee		\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Intergroup Liaison		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
IT Committee		\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
Miscellaneous		\$100.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***Gratitude Dinner		\$300.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** Fellowship Fest		\$250.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** Traditions Dinner		\$600.00	\$378.83	0.0%	63.1%
*** Service Workshop		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***SMRAASA (Even Years)		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** The Forum (Odd Years)		\$1,400.00	\$196.30	0.0%	14.0%
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.0%	100.0%
***SETA Assentby Hst District		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** SETA - 2013 Hospitality Suite ***		\$1,000.00	\$1,141.79	0.0%	114.2%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$96.49</b>	<b>\$7,851.00</b>	<b>\$3,140.38</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>40.0%</b>
*Budget Amended as of 3/12/13					
<i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>		<b>\$4,994.24</b>			
<i>Total Expenses</i>		<b>\$96.49</b>			
<i>Total Income</i>		<b>\$526.23</b>			
<i>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</i>		<b>\$1,962.75</b>			
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>		<b>\$3,461.23</b>			
<b>Ending Balance/ Total Funds</b>		<b>\$5,423.98</b>			
<i>Unspent Portion of Budget</i>		<b>\$4,710.62</b>			

## Deposit-District 40-SETA

Check #	Amount
1188050152	\$4.52
2087	\$60.00
MO	\$63.00
1073	\$5.27
MO	\$6.34
MO	\$31.50
1806	\$150.30
1206	\$205.30
	<b>\$526.23</b>

## Treasurer's Report - June

report period ending 07/09/13. Opening balance \$4,994.24, Closing \$5,423.98. Expenses for the month of June; \$96.49 for Alt DCM printing and ink. Total income was \$526.23.

## History Corner

**Nelson Newcomer:** I am trying to learn what all the discussion is about in my group about limiting/not limiting discussion materials to conference-approved literature only. What exactly is conference-approved literature and why should a meeting limit readings from various pieces of literature to just conference approved?

**Angela Archivist:** There are many great pieces of recovery literature that are very useful aids in our recovery. We are always welcome to use whatever we prefer in our own recovery. Some groups (or meetings), however, prefer that the leader read from only conference-approved literature. Just exactly what does this mean and how can you tell if something is conference-approved?

There are actually some excellent pieces of service material online covering various subjects. This particular topic relating to conference-approved literature is covered in a service piece found at [http://www.aa.org/en\\_pdfs/smf-29\\_en.pdf](http://www.aa.org/en_pdfs/smf-29_en.pdf), and I invite you to review it as part of your A.A. journey. Below is some information contained in the service piece:

The term “Conference-approved” describes written or audiovisual material approved by the Conference for publication by G.S.O. This process assures that everything in such literature is in accord with A.A. principles. Conference-approved material always deals with the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous or with information about the A.A. Fellowship.

The term has no relation to material not published by G.S.O. It does not imply Conference disapproval of other material about A.A. A great deal of literature helpful to alcoholics is published by others, and A.A. does not try to tell any individual member what he or she may or may not read.

Conference approval assures us that a piece of literature represents solid A.A. experience. Any Conference-approved booklet or pamphlet goes through a lengthy and painstaking process, during which a variety of A.A.s from all over the United States and Canada read and express opinions at every stage of production.

If you belong to or attend a group which has decided, through group conscience, to limit the use of literature to conference-approved literature, and you are asked to lead the meeting, you should look to insure that your choice of literature for your discussion topic contains the following statement (usually located on the back cover or on the title page):

“This is A.A. General Service Conference-approved literature”

Some other literature your group might consider approving for use is our local intergroup literature. If such pieces meet the needs of the local membership, they may be legitimately classified as “A.A. literature.” There is no conflict between A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S. — publishers of Conference-approved literature), and central offices or intergroups — rather they complement each other. The Conference does not disapprove of such material. Likewise, our magazine, the **A.A. Grapevine** should be considered as a good source for meeting topics. Each issue of the A.A. Grapevine contains the following statement, usually on the inside front cover:

**Conference Advisory Action, 1986:** “Since each issue of the Grapevine cannot go through the Conference-approval process, the Conference recognizes the AA Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

Please stay tuned for next month’s edition. If you have a suggestion for a topic, please contact the Newsletter editor.

*Betsy G.*

The following Committees meet at:

The Delta Club  
6400 Westpark, Suite 355, Houston, TX 77057  
Telephone (713) 972-0034

Literature Committee  
1st Saturday of the month - 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Grapevine Committee  
3rd Thursday of the month - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Correctional Facilities Committee  
3rd Wednesday of the month - 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

\*Public Information Committee  
4th Saturday of every month at Noon (Except for Assembly Months)

IT Committee  
Meets every 4th Saturday from 10 am to Noon at:  
Post Oak Club -- Moved to Northwest Mall  
9600 Hempstead Road, Suite 306  
Houston, TX. 77092 Telephone: 713-956-5061

The following Committee meets at:

The Council on Alcohol and Drugs Houston  
303 Jackson Hill, Houston, TX 77007  
Telephone (713) 942-4100

Cooperation with the Professional Community  
1st Monday of the month at 7:15 pm

\*Archives Committee  
Meets quarterly (or as needed)  
at the Area Assembly at 4:30 pm

\*Treatment Facilities Committee  
Meets quarterly at the Area Assembly at 4:30 pm

District 40 PI/CPC Monthly Committee Meeting  
Last Saturday of the month from 1-3 p.m.  
At the Spring Branch Memorial Club

\*All committees meet at the Area Assembly in the months of April, July and October at 4:30 PM  
Sheraton North Houston - 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Houston, TX 77032  
During the remaining months, the committees meet at the above locations and times.

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING IS  
AUGUST 13, 2013 AT 7:00 PM  
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](mailto:SETA-40@aa-seta.org) and [intergroup@aahouston.org](mailto:intergroup@aahouston.org). You can also call Intergroup at 713-686-6300.  
  
District 40 of the Southeast Texas Area is a territory bounded on the North by US HWY 290; on the South by Westheimer Rd.; on the East by Loop 610 and on the West by State HWY 36. If your group falls within these boundaries, please contact us [SETA-40@aa-seta.org](mailto:SETA-40@aa-seta.org) and attend the monthly District meeting at the Bear Creek Community Center. HWY 6 at Patterson Rd.

