
DISTRICT 40 NEWS

Volume 27.1

January 2014

District 40 GSR Approved Meeting Minutes Southeast Texas Area Alcoholics Anonymous

December 10, 2013

Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition XII/Concept XII reading and summation by Trent P. and Jackie V.

Volunteers for next month... Tradition I/Concept I will be Nancy R. and Taylor K.

Introduction of Attendees = (25):

Albert C. (GSR, First Light Group), **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM & Area 67 Delegate, God Mtg Grp), **Brad H.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Newsletter Chair, Journey Group), **Cheryl B.** (D40 Treasurer, Katy Crossroads), **Corrie H.** (D40 Newsletter Editor& Alt. Area 67 Secretary, God Meeting Group), **Deborah G.** (D40 Alt. Secretary, GSR, Rule 62 Group), **Hillary F.** (GSR, Broad Hwy Group), **Jackie V.** (D40 IT Rep., GSR, God Meeting Group), **Jes K.** (D40 DCM, First Light Group), **Kate E.** (D40 PI/CPC Chair, Memorial Going Home Group), **Katie C.** (Alt. GSR, Broad Hwy Group), **Kelly C.** (GSR, Taking Care of Business Group), **Kris H.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Treasurer, Rule 62 Group), **Kyle M.** (Alt. GSR, Rule 62 Group), **Libby S.** (GSR, Katy Crossroads), **Michelle H.** (D40 Alt. DCM, Rule 62 Group), **Mike J.** (GSR, Katy Big Book), **Nancy R.** (D40 Coffee Committee, GSR Memorial Going Home Group), **Peter C.** (GSR, Journey Group), **Rick Mc.** (Alt. GSR, Another Chance Group), **Taylor K.** (D40 Literature Rep, Broad Hwy Group), **Trent P.** (D40 TFC Rep, GSR, Wild West Group), **Tom K.** (SETA P.I. Committee, Open Door/D51), **Mark W.** (Fulshear Group), **Larry** (First Light Group), **R.D.** (Sunday Night Men's Meeting)

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

January 2014

Tradition 1/

Concept 1

Nancy R. / Taylor K.

February 2014

Tradition 2/

Concept 2

Kyle M. / Peter C.

Tradition One: Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Concept One: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship.

Something Magical Happens Here

Life will take on a new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends-this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it.

~Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 89

Though this passage from our book refers to working with others in the spirit of 12th step work; I have experienced it again recently in our legacy of service. Specifically, within our District. I recently received an email with these priceless words, "Thanks for all the support and encouragement you've given me. It's made this so much smoother and easier to do. I now feel privileged to do my service work instead of hindered by it".

I will never be able to repay the debt I owe to those that have encouraged, supported, taught, lead me by example or just given me their time...but I will continue to try everyday of my journey. To see someone become willing to let God grow them is one of the greatest gifts I could receive. This way of life is the easier, softer way. It's also inspiring & contagious! *I* get mean, violent, out of control, drunk, by myself; *We* stay kind, helpful, unified & sober, together. I truly believe that when the service spark is lit within one's heart it does not stop there. I look forward to not only continuing to watch this spark shine bright in my fellow servant, but to see it evolve into a small part of a great big strong whole...part of the legacy that has been gifted to each one of us. I keep coming back not because I was told to in the beginning, but because I'm afraid I'll miss something magical!

Michelle H.
D40 Alt.DCM

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Normal Business:

- 1. **Secretary's Report** - November 8 2013 Minutes had two corrections: Addition of Attendees once roster is updated, Add CC – Coffee Committee report to Committee Reports. Approved as amended.
- 2. **Treasurer's Report** -November report period ending 12/10/13. Opening balance \$5,100.59. Expenses for the month of November totaled \$192.54; \$100.00 for rent to WHCC for hosting the D40 District Meetings, \$54.00 for the P.O. Box rent, \$16.24 in printing expenses for the Alt. DCM and finally, \$22.30 paid to PI/CPC committee for literature expenses. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$118.01. The closing balance is \$5,026.06.
- 3. **Group News** – Mike J. from Katy Big Book reported that Katy Big Book Group has recently moved locations and wanted to know about what percentage a group should donate to the 4 entities.; Jes K. stated that it was up to the group conscience but there is a pie chart to use as a reference in one of the literature pamphlets.

Kyle M. from Rule 62 reported that Rule 62 Group would be hosting a workshop on Dec. 14, 2013 from 12-2 PM at Woods Road Club.

Committee Reports:

- a. **Archives** – OPEN
- b. **Coffee Committee** – CC – Nancy R. bought the remaining decaf for rent. Said we were running low on supplies but got some from Michelle H. from the Hospitality Suite supply stash.
- c. **Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community – PI/CPC** – Kate E. reported that the District PI/CPC Committee suspended their meetings in November and December due to the holidays. The PSA that the committee purchased "We Know What It's Like" begins in the Cinemark Katy Theater and the Katy Mills Theater on Friday December 13th and runs till January 9th 2014. Arrive 30 minutes before the movie starts and please let the committee know what you think.

We will begin organizing for our Breakfast with the Clergy meeting at our next regular Committee Meeting that will be held on January 25th from 1-3 at the Spring Branch Club. All are welcome.

- d. **Correctional Facilities Committee – CFC** – Paul W. reported that CFC is actively seeking volunteers and in the process of putting together volunteer flyers for passing out at selective meetings. This should be provided for next month.

CFC wants to also advise that "potential volunteers" can help out in two main ways. Visiting prisons and pen pals. D40 Rep is looking for a Volunteer Subcommittee head, and CFC D40 alternate (role would incorporate both titles) to coordinate this function with monthly CFC meetings and D40 new and existing volunteers.

Pen pals do not need formal training, but those that desire to visit prisons do. Also, if you want to "try out" visiting prisons, you can visit 4 times at approved facilities with a valid DL and approved volunteer. This is under a "Special Volunteer" exception. Please have interested parties contact CFC D40 (me for now) rep directly for approved facilities.

For those that would like literature order forms or [TDCJ Approved Meeting Schedule](http://aa-seta.org/committees/cfc/cfcflyers/index.shtml) please visit the website for now: <http://aa-seta.org/committees/cfc/cfcflyers/index.shtml>

Note, that Harris County also has a meeting schedule and a separate approval process for volunteers. Please have them contact me for now.

- e. **Grapevine** – OPEN
- f. **Intergroup** – Peter C. reported delegates meeting is this Thursday, 12/12/13; Intergroup Holiday Open House is Saturday, 12/14/13 from 10 am – 3 pm; it's Tax Free Day in the Bookstore!
- g. **Information Technology – IT** – Jackie V. reported that several positions are still open: Secretary, Alt. Secretary, Alt. Chair, Alt. Postmaster, and Alt. Support.

The IT Committee is still in process of determining if Mike W.'s sister has one of the new laptops that we purchased. To avoid further confusion in the future, Donnie/Support will be purchasing asset tags to be placed on SETA equipment. Donnie and Marshall/Chair will get with SETA members to see who has what equipment and Donnie will have a list of inventory that he is aware of at our next meeting which will be Saturday, 12/21/13 instead of 12/28/13.

In regard to the 3rd leg of the Guidelines the Committee is working on to propose to SETA, Marshall mentioned it might be best for us to have an additional meeting (time, date and place to be determined) so that we may concentrate on that exclusively.

- h. **Literature** – Taylor K. reported that monthly literature meetings have been moved to the Bay Are Club on the 2nd Saturday of the month.
- i. **Treatment Facilities Committee – TFC**–Trent P. reported that volunteers are still needed to lead Bridge the Gap meetings at the PaRC on Wednesdays.
- j. **Newsletter** – Corrie H. suggested people send in funny stories/experiences on how they have made it through the holidays with family and friends.

Current Items:

- 1. **2013 Gratitude Dinner Update** – Michelle H. / Will R.
 - 1. Very successful!
 - 2. Cheryl B. will reimburse Will R. for expenses.
 - 3. Reminder that D40 is co-hosting next year's Gratitude Dinner; Michelle will keep us informed
- 2. **D40 Inventory Update** – Jes K.
 - 1. Was completed
 - 2. Full report will be given to DCM and Alt. DCM which will be sent out to all members of D40
 - 3. Facilitators were grateful for all the written answers that were sent in prior to the meetings
 - 4. Action Item – Possibly splitting D40 into 2 districts
 - 5. More will be revealed once we get the full report
- 3. **2014 Service Workshop Report** – Betsy G.
 - 1. Will be on March 22, 2014 starting at 12:30 pm
 - 2. Committee still in the process of doing all the work to get it going
 - 3. Kelly C. will be in charge of setup of tables and chairs.
- 4. **Perfect Attendance for 2013** – Congratulations!!!
 - 1. Betsy G.
 - 2. Kate E.
 - 3. Jackie V.

Announcements:

- 52nd SETA Convention, January 10-12, 2014, MCM Elegante Hotel, 2355 IH-10, Beaumont, TX 77705, 877.842.3606

Meeting Adjourned - Responsibility Statement

History Corner

Nelson Newcomer: Last month you said that the Ultimate Authority for A.A.'s World Service lies with the groups. That sounds like an impossible task. How do the groups do that?

Angela Archivist: We learned last month that the Board of Trustees was put in place in 1938 by Bill and Dr. Bob. Its purpose was to handle all those functions which couldn't be handled by the groups themselves. However, there was nothing to connect the fellowship to the Trustees. It was clear to the founders that the collective voice of the groups, by electing representatives to a new General Service Conference, could be the connection. The test would be whether Tradition Two would work at the conference level. So, there was a five year test (1951 to 1955) to see if it would work. Thank God, it did. At the beginning, the home office sent out feelers to its contacts in each of the newly formed Areas asking for a representative from each to come to New York for the first General Service Conference to be held in 1950. Our Area's first delegate to the conference, E.D. Sheridan, was elected at a meeting in a hotel in Austin, Texas. His qualification was that he had the money to travel to New York, and had an interest in going. At the 2nd International Convention, held in 1955, the groups delegated their administrative and operational authority to the General Service Conference (GSC) and to the service bodies – the General Service Board, AAWS and the AA Grapevine. By confirming the permanent charter for the General Service Conference, the groups delegated their authority for the active maintenance of the fellowship, to the Conference, with the exception of any changes in the 12 Traditions or the General Warranties (Article 12 of the Conference Charter and Concept 12), making the Conference the actual voice for the fellowship as a whole and effective conscience for the entire fellowship.

So, how are the groups actively involved in continuing their "active voice" today? There is a procedure which has been in place since 1951 to see that the General Service Conference continues to be the "voice of the fellowship." Each group that is registered with the General Service Office is entitled to elect a General Service Representative (GSR) and an Alternate GSR. The GSR carries the opinions of the Group to his/her District Committee Meeting and comes prepared to vote on District matters. Also, **and equally as important**, the GSR carries the group's opinions to the quarterly Service Assembly. Our next Southeast Texas Assembly (SETA) meeting will be on April 12 and 13, 2014. At that Assembly, the GSRs will discuss the Conference agenda items to be discussed at the GSC. Before the Assembly, each GSR will receive a copy of the Agenda items and additional information which will enable him/her to discuss the items with their groups prior to the Assembly. Our delegate, currently Patrick C., will carry each group's opinion on each topic presented to him, to the General Service Conference, and be ready to discuss as each item comes to the Conference floor. Prior to that happening, the delegates at the Conference will meet in committees (Patrick serves on the Public Information Committee) to discuss fully and to forward the Committee's recommendation to the Conference floor for final discussion and voting.

This year, at the October Assembly, the GSRs will elect a new slate of trusted servants to serve the groups for the years 2015-2016, including a Panel 65 delegate and Panel 65 Alt. Delegate. I hope that each of you will read this paragraph **before** or **during** the District meeting on Tuesday, February 11th. The first GSR who raises his/her hand with the answer to this question will receive a prize from me. Here is the question: Why is Patrick, our current delegate, called a "Panel 63" Delegate?

Betsy G.

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
Open

Literature Chair
Taylor K.

Treatment Facilities Chair
Trent P.

PI/CPC Committee
Kate E.

CFC Chair
Paul W.

Intergroup Liaison
Peter C.

Grapevine Rep.
OPEN

Newsletter Editor
Corrie H.

Coffee Chair
Nancy R.

Archives Chair
Chris C.

IT Liaison
Jackie V.

Upcoming Events

District 40 Service Workshop: March 15, 2014, 12:30pm-3:00pm, Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste.378, Houston, TX 77032

Intergroup Step 11 Prayer & Meditation Workshop: Saturday, March 22, 2014. 9:00am – 1:00pm; 4140 Directors Row, Houston, TX 77092

District 40 Financial Report Period ending 01/14/14	Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
INCOME					
Traditions Dinner Donations		\$175.00	\$175.20		
Service Workshop Donations					
State Conv- Hospitality Suite			\$205.30		
SETA -Hospitality Suite					
Fellowship Fest (Ice Cream Social)			\$18.00		
Group Donations	\$516.54	\$7,200.00	\$6,616.20	7.2%	91.9%
Rosewood Thursday Night Group	\$7.50				
Tuesday Night Step Study	\$11.00				
Post Oak Group	\$25.00				
GOD Meeting Group	\$41.66				
Hockley Group	\$45.00				
Reflections Group	\$45.38				
Katy 12 & 12	\$50.00				
Wild West Group	\$64.00				
Chapelwood Tues 8pm	\$227.00				
Total Income	\$516.54	\$7,375.00	\$7,014.70	7.0%	95.1%
*** EXPENSES ***					
DCM	\$133.67	\$500.00	\$368.59	26.7%	73.7%
Alt. DCM	\$110.58	\$500.00	\$322.93	22.1%	64.6%
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	\$96.72	\$180.00	\$196.72	53.7%	109.3%
Coffee	\$54.82	\$25.00	\$54.82	219.3%	219.3%
PO Box		\$70.00	\$54.00	0.0%	77.1%
Literature Committee		\$100.00	\$36.97	0.0%	37.0%
PI/CPC		\$1,880.00	\$1,759.72	0.0%	93.6%
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	\$65.00	0.0%	65.0%
***Gratitude Dinner	\$366.44	\$300.00	\$366.44	122.1%	122.1%
*** Fellowship Fest		\$250.00	\$132.73	0.0%	53.1%
*** Traditions Dinner		\$600.00	\$378.83	0.0%	63.1%
*** Service Workshop		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
***SWRAASA (Even Years)		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** The Forum (Odd Years)		\$1,400.00	\$1,476.85	0.0%	105.5%
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.0%	100.0%
***SETA Assembly Host District		\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0%	0.0%
*** SETA - 2013 Hospitality Suite***		\$1,000.00	\$1,141.79	0.0%	114.2%
Total Expenses	\$762.23	\$7,951.00	\$7,355.39	9.6%	92.5%
*Budget Amended as of 10/8/13					
<i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>	\$5,026.06				
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$762.23				
<i>Total Income</i>	\$516.54				
<i>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</i>	\$1,987.75				
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	\$2,792.62				
Ending Balance / Total Funds	\$4,780.37				
<i>Unspent Portion of Budget</i>	\$595.61				

Deposit 1/13/14	
Check #	Amount
6855212894	\$227.00
CA	\$11.00
3232	\$10.00
12877	\$25.00
1061	\$41.66
3541	\$40.00
4433	\$64.00
MO 14774057031	\$45.38
10025	\$7.50
2149	\$45.00
\$516.54	

Treasurer's Report -
December report period ending 1/14/14. Opening balance was \$5,026.06. Expenses for the month of December totaled \$595.79; \$133.67 for X-mas meal expense made by DCM, \$110.58 for Alt DCM expenses, \$96.72 for the remaining coffee donation, \$54.82 made by the coffee chair to purchase air pots for the district, \$166.44 to purchase paper products for the Gratitude dinner and made a \$200 donation to the SETA Gratitude Fund. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$516.14. The dosing balance is \$4,780.37.

The following Committees meet at:

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

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 10:15 am to Noon at:
Post Oak Club -- Moved to Northwest Mall
9600 Hempstead Road, Suite 306
Houston, TX. 77092 Telephone: 713-956-5061

Literature Committee

Bay Area Club located on Webster Ave., Webster, TX at Noon
on the 2nd Saturday of the month

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
Contact Lee G. for more information.

*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
FEBRUARY 11, 2014 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 and 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 and attend the monthly District meeting at the Bear Creek Community Center. HWY 6 at Patterson Rd.

