
DISTRICT 40 NEWS

Volume 27.3

March 2014

District 40 GSR Approved Meeting Minutes
Southeast Texas Area Alcoholics Anonymous

12 Traditions & 12 Concepts
Reading and Summation

February 11, 2014

Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition II/Concept II reading and summation by Kyle M. and Peter C.

Volunteers for next month... Tradition III/Concept III will be Nancy R. and Jackie V.

Introduction of Attendees = (21):

Albert C. (GSR, First Light Group), **Jes K.** (D40 DCM, First Light Group), **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM & Area 67 Delegate, God Meeting Group), **Jackie V.** (D40 IT Rep, GSR, God Meeting Group), **Corrie H.** (D40 Nwsltr Editor, Alt. Area Secretary, God Meeting Group), **Brad H.** (Past D40 DCM, Area 67 Nwsltr Chair, Journey Group), **Peter C.** (GSR, Journey Group), **Mike J.** (GSR, Katy Big Book), **Pam F.** (Visitor, Katy Big Book), **Cheryl B.** (D40 Treasurer, Katy Crossroads), **Libby S.** (GSR, Katy Crossroads), **Wendy A.** (D40 Secretary, Katy Crossroads), **Kate E.** (D40 PI/CPC Chair, Memorial Going Home Group), **Nancy R.** (D40 Coffee Committee, GSR Memorial Going Home Group), **Chris C.** (GSR, Men's Mon. Night Step), **Kyle M.** (Alt. GSR, Rule 62 Group), **Deborah G.** (D40 Alt. Secretary, GSR, Rule 62 Group), **Michelle H.** (D40 Alt. DCM, Rule 62 Group), **David V.** (GSR, Spring Shadows Group), **Kelly C.** (GSR, Taking Care of Business Group), **Trent P.** (D40 TFC Rep, Wild West Group)

Normal Business:

1. **Secretary's Report** – January 14, 2014 minutes accepted as amended.

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1-2	Secretary's Minutes
1	History Corner
3	"Earning Our Rights"
3	2014 Traditions Dinner Flyer
4	District Servants & Upcoming Events
4	Treasurer's Report
5	SETA Committee's Meeting Schedule
5	District Map

March 2014

Tradition 3 /

Concept 3

Nancy R. / Jackie V.

April 2014

Tradition 4 /

Concept 4

Taylor K. / Kate E.

Tradition Three: The only requirement for AA membership is the desire to stop drinking.

Concept Three: As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

History Corner

Nelson Newcomer: The long form of Concept 4 states: "Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional 'Right of Participation,' taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge." Just exactly does that mean?

Angela Archivist: No one is set in authority over another in Alcoholics Anonymous. We are all equal. We all trusted servants of the whole. At the group level, all are of equal importance in the group conscience meeting. At the district level, all GSRs and elected trusted servants of the district have equal weight and voting authority. At the Area level, the same holds true. And, at the General Service Conference level, all delegates, trustees and paid staff members have an equal voice and vote. That given, each person holding a service position at any level has a responsibility based on his or her level of expertise and experience to do that job. At the Conference level, delegates make up 2/3 of the voting members of the GSC. Paid staff, non-trustee directors, and trustees make up the balance. This insures that the voice of the group conscience across the entire General Service Conference (United States and Canada) has an equal voice. The paid staff members vote their *own* conscience, even when their view is opposite from their superior, the general manager. Pretty awesome, huh?

Included in the category of non-trustee directors who serve at the General Service Conference are the General Manager and his/her assistant, since they serve as President and Vice-President of A.A.W.S. (one of our publishing sub-corporations) and are non-trustee directors of A.A.W.S.

The Right of Participation is very important to our future. New delegates and trustees may try to weaken the principle of corporate participation, and occasionally question the right of trustees and staff members to vote at the Conference.

What about the argument that the combined vote of the trustees and staff personnel might decide a particular issue in a close vote? Why not? Are they not the ones with the most hands on experience? Could this get out of control though? We'll see what Concept 6 says on the subject later.

Another good reason for participation: All of us have a need to feel like we belong. We want an AA relation of brotherly partnership and love. We have NO second class citizens. This is the principle reason why we should continue to ensure participation at every level. "Just as there are no second-class A.A.'s, neither should there be any second-class world service workers either."

Betsy G.

2. **Treasurer's Report** - January report period ending 2/11/14. Opening balance \$4,780.37. Expenses for the month of January totaled \$296.70 for DCM's hotel stay for SETA Convention. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$615.98. The closing balance \$5,099.65. 2014 Budget highlighted in blue. Report accepted as amended.

3. Group News – None

Committee Reports:

a. **Archives** – Chris C. has received all Archives materials from DCM; Archives committee meeting has been postponed until Saturday, 2/15/14.

b. **Coffee Committee (CC)** – Nancy R. reported that there are sufficient supplies.

c. **Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community (PI/CPC)** – Kate E. reported the Area CPC met on February 3rd and discussed their successful participation at the American Parole and Probation Association Conference in January. They used their new Table Display and it looked very professional.

The D40 PI/CPC Committee met on January 25th. They have completed updating their Church data base for their two current projects. They have set their Breakfast with the Clergy meeting for Thursday, May 8th from 9-11 at the I-Hop on the Katy Fwy. They will be discussing their agenda for that meeting along with what brochures they want to distribute in February. They have finalized an Emergency Clinic statement for distribution and will be laminating a few to take to the clinics to see if the clinics are interested in them. They continued to discuss their idea of having a PSA printed in Church bulletins and are still developing their Dentists data base for a future mail out.

Their next meeting is February 22nd for 1-3 at the Spring Branch Club. All are welcome.

d. **Correctional Facilities Committee (CFC)** – Paul W. reported CFC D40 is proud to announce it had two AA volunteers for the Harris County Training in January, and continues to recruit more willing volunteers. Thankfully one of these volunteers for Harris came from our Sunday Nights Men's Group D40! Paul will also be visiting the Ramsey unit for the first time this month as a Special Volunteer and will have more news for D40's next meeting.

Upcoming Training: Intergroup will have a TDCJ volunteer training and orientation this March 29th at 12 (Noon) on Directors Row. Contact Paul or call 713-686-6300 for more details. (Flyer Available)

Upcoming CFC Conference and Volunteer Orientation: The 2014 SWTA CFC CONFERENCE will be this February 21st –23rd at the Wingate by Wyndham Hotel in Round Rock, TX this month. It will be hosted by D21 and those interested in attending should contact Milton R. at 512.233.9595. Pre-registration is \$10 and tickets will be \$12 at the door (Flyer Available)

e. **Grapevine** – OPEN; Michelle (Alt. DCM) reported that she is looking for any old copies of the Grapevine to be donated for someone who is collecting them back.

f. **Intergroup** – Peter C. reported that there was a good turnout at the Super Bowl Party. The Saturday, March 21, 2014 11th Step Meditation workshop is full so the author has offered to hold another workshop on Friday, March 21, 2014 from 6-10 pm (Flyer available). Next Delegate meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2014.

g. **Information Technology (IT)** – Jackie V. reported that several positions are still open: Secretary, Alt. Secretary, Alt. Chair, Alt. Postmaster, and Alt. Support.

The Committee needs additional assistance in the Support area (computer hardware knowledge a must). Jackie requested that anyone who knows of

someone that may have an interest to contact her

A hot spot will have been purchased by their next meeting so that their meetings and any other ones that they help conduct will run more effectively.

In regard to the 3rd leg of the Guidelines the Committee is working on to propose to SETA, Marshall/Chair requested each IT Committee member to review the draft Guidelines so that they may discuss at their next meeting.

h. **Literature** – Representative absent; Area Literature Chair is looking for a replacement.

i. **Treatment Facilities Committee (TFC)** – Trent P. brought up more information about Bridge the Gap; Stated that the PARQ still needed volunteers to tell their stories at the Bridge the Gap meetings on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM.; Next committee meeting at the April Assembly.

j. **Newsletter** – Corrie H. brought in copies of both December and January newsletter; Couple of adjustments to be made before next newsletter on committee chair information; Trying to put together a calendar for SETA website that shows ALL events for groups, districts, etc. – email if have any flyers, etc.

Current Items:

1. **2014 Gratitude Dinner** – Michelle H. advised it will be held at the Spring Branch VFW Hall on Sunday, November 16, 2014. Committee meetings will be held monthly on the 4th Saturday of each month; the 1st meeting will be Saturday, February 22, 2014 at 12:00 pm at the Delta Club. Committee to decide on Save the Date Cards, Flyers, a Theme, etc. Cheryl B. has volunteered as Committee Chair for D40.

2. **D40 Inventory Update** – Jes K. advised a printout of minutes now available. Agenda item on creating a possible D40 Policies and Procedures Manual

3. **Visitation Committee** - Nancy R. advised first meeting on Sunday, March 2, 2014 from 5:00-6:00 pm at SBMC to decide on Chair Person, flyers to leave with groups, distribution of meetings to volunteers.

4. **2014 Service Workshop** – Betsy G.; Current Committee members: Trent P – MC; Corrie H. – Experienced GSR; Betsy G. – Power Point Presentation; Kelley – Setup & Breakdown; Food – Taylor K.; Deborah G. – Flyers. DCM to extend invitation to Districts 51, 52 and 32. Flyer to be posted on SETA website but not on SETA Announce.

5. **2015 SETA Convention** – Jes K. advised Convention Chair inquired whether D40 would want to host a Hospitality Suite. Projected budget would be \$1600. D40 voted to put a Hospitality Suite in the 2015 Budget when visited in October 2014.

6. **Traditions Dinner** – Michelle H.; will be held Saturday, June 7, 2014 at St. Christopher's.

Announcements:

D40 Service Workshop: Saturday, March 15, 2014, 1pm – 4pm, Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste. 378, Houston, TX 77032

Intergroup Step 11 Prayer & Meditation Workshop: Friday, March 21, 2014. 6:00 - 10:00pm and Saturday, March 22, 2014. 9:00am – 1:00pm; Located; 4140 Directors Row, Houston, TX 77092

Earning Our Rights

Through the course of my *drinking career* I lost several things, relationships, money, shoes, trust, credibility, privileges and rights. Through the course of my sobriety, specifically through trying my best in fulfilling the Three Legacies, God has given back what was lost in His perfect timing. As I started to venture into the Traditions and Concepts I started to hear terms such as trusted servants, vision, lead by example, ultimate authority, spiritual leadership and the right of...

When I read through Concept III, the obvious words are "Right of Decision". How does that exactly apply to me at the level I am serving? The essay in the Service Manual teaches me to continuously balance the right relation between ultimate authority & delegated responsibility. The latter part of Tradition II, "our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern" gives me very practical guidance in understanding where to find that balance. I was taught that you can be a trusted servant the moment you start acting like one. When I stand for a position within the service structure; I do so with a general understanding of the duties & responsibilities that lay before me & a willingness to use the spiritual principles to fulfill those duties to the best of my ability. Concept III gives me the right to decide how I will interpret & apply my authority & responsibility as a trusted servant to each particular problem or situation when it arises. I do not get to decide what is or is not important to those I serve, therefore through this concept I learn that I must be prepared to report fully why I did, did not take an action. I learn to be a link in the "well informed" chain. As I earn these rights to serve back through my actions I must remember not to use them as an excuse to behave alcoholically, but rather to use these rights as a way to join in with others to strengthen that powerful bond of unity. AA is often referred to as the *we* program. This (all) concepts take me from I to we. When I look at the spiritual essence of Concept III what it is really giving me is not special rights but an opportunity to be a small part of a great whole, to be trusted.

Michelle H.
Alt. DCM

District 40 Presents ...

28th Annual Traditions Dinner

JOIN US FOR FUN
AND FELLOWSHIP

Panel 59, Area 67

Past Delegate

BETSY G.

Main Dish
Provided by
District 40



WHEN:

SATURDAY, JUNE 07, 2014

WHERE:

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1656 BLALOCK ROAD
HOUSTON, TX 77080

TIME:

REGISTRATION	5:00 PM
TRADITIONS 1-6	6:00 PM
DINNER	7:00 PM
TRADITIONS 7-12	8:00 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT
DCM-40-ALT@AA-SETA.ORG

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

1. SETA Assembly, including GSC Roundtables: April 12-13, 2014, Sheraton North Houston 15700 John F. Kennedy Blvd, Houston, TX 77032.

2. District 40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting: April 26, 2014, Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste.378, Houston, TX 77032.

3. 2014 District 40 Traditions Dinner: June 7, 2014, 6:00 p.m., St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, 1656 Blalock, Houston TX 77080

District 40 Financial Report Period Ending 03/11/14	Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
INCOME					
Traditions Dinner Donations		\$140.00			
Service Workshop Donations					
State Conv - Hospitality Suite					
SETA -Hospitality Suite					
Fellowship Fest (Ice Cream Social)					
Group Donations	\$285.66	\$7,095.00	\$891.64	4.0%	12.6%
First Light Group	\$109.00				
Post Oak Group	\$25.00				
Another Chance Group	\$10.00				
Fulshear Group	\$58.50				
Katy 12 & 12 Group	\$10.00				
Memorial Going Home Group	\$52.31				
Rosewood Group	\$12.80				
Four Horseman Group	\$8.05				
Total Income	\$285.66	\$7,235.00	\$891.64	3.9%	12.3%
*** EXPENSES ***					
DCM		\$500.00	\$296.70	0.0%	59.3%
Alt. DCM		\$500.00		0.0%	0.0%
Secretary / Copying		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
Treasurer		\$75.00		0.0%	0.0%
Newsletter		\$221.00		0.0%	0.0%
Rent/Coffee Donation		\$180.00		0.0%	0.0%
Coffee		\$25.00		0.0%	0.0%
POBox		\$70.00		0.0%	0.0%
Literature Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
PI/CPC	\$135.00	\$2,380.00	\$135.00	5.7%	5.7%
Grapevine		\$80.00		0.0%	0.0%
CFC		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%
TFC		\$0.00		0.0%	0.0%
Archives Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
Intergroup Liaison		\$0.00		0.0%	0.0%
IT Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
Miscellaneous		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
***Gratitude Dinner		\$300.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** Fellowship Fest		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** Traditions Dinner		\$800.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** Service Workshop		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%
***S/M/RASA (Even Years)		\$1,500.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** The Forum (Odd Years)					
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste					
***SETA Assentby Hbst District					
*** SETA - 2014 Hospitality Suite ***					
Total Expenses	\$135.00	\$7,881.00	\$431.70	1.7%	5.5%
*Budget Approved as of 10/8/13					
<i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>	\$5,099.65				
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$135.00				
<i>Total Income</i>	\$285.66				
<i>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</i>	\$1,970.25				
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	\$3,280.06				
Ending Balance / Total Funds	\$5,250.31				
<i>Unspent Portion of Budget</i>	\$7,449.30				

Deposit 3/10/14	
Check #	Amount
1047600060	\$109.00
12968	\$25.00
9790	\$10.00
1036	\$58.50
3253	\$10.00
1076	\$52.31
10037	\$12.80
1079	\$8.05
	\$285.66

Treasurer's Report -
February report period ending 3/11/14. Opening balance was \$5,099.65. Expense for the month of February was \$135.00 for the PI/CPC Committee rent. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$285.66. The closing balance is \$5,250.31.

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

APRIL 8, 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.

