
DISTRICT 40 NEWS

Volume 27.9

September 2014

District 40 GSR Official Meeting Minutes Southeast Area Alcoholics Anonymous

August 12, 2014

Call to Order: Serenity Prayer, Preamble and Unity Declaration

Tradition VIII/Concept VIII: reading and summation by Wendy A. and Betsy G.

Volunteers for next month: Tradition IX/Concept IX will be Pam F. and Ana D.

Introduction of Attendees: (27)

Ana D. (Rule 62 Group); **Becky M.** (Alt. GSR, Our Common Journey); **Betsy G.** (Past D40 DCM, Past Area 67 Delegate, God Meeting Group); **Bob P.** (Alt. GSR, Taking Care of Business Group); **Cheryl B.** (D40 Treasurer, Katy Crossroads Group); **Chris C.** (GSR, Men's Monday Night Supper Step Study, D40 Archives Rep); **Cindy W.** (Alt. GSR, Katy 12 & 12); **Clarence B.** (GSR, Post Oak Group); **Corrie H.** (D40 Newsletter Editor, Alt. Area 67 Secretary, God Meeting Group); **David V.** (GSR, Spring Shadows Group); **Deborah G.** (D40 Alt. Secretary, GSR, Rule 62 Group); **Doug B.** (Alt. GSR, Men's Supper Step Study); **Gail B.** (GSR, Katy

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SWRAASA 2014 "I Am Responsible"

- This is *our* AA
- I am responsible *to* those I serve, not *for* them
- Let the principles of recovery, *Gratitude*, be our guide in service
- Take one week and just say *Yes*
- It's not about getting more people, it's about inspiring more participation~making that one person feel welcomed, encouraged, safe to suit up and show up
- Willingness to *dig in*
- It's not the position we hold, it's the job we do

I would like to thank my District for funding the DCM & Alternate to this year's SWRAASA. Every single workshop we attended were great personally & very informative; I took something away from them all & will do my best to incorporate all that I learned into my service.

The presentations from the Delegates, Alternates & Trustees were refreshing & inspiring. I loved seeing the familiar faces of my friends, peers, mentors & family. For me one of the most exciting parts of this weekend was seeing the first timers. It was like page 89 of the Big Book came alive for me.

I am looking forward to walking side by side with my alternate & experiencing whatever God has in the works for us both. I am looking forward to applying the ideas I listed above. I am looking forward to meeting all of our new GSRs. I am looking forward because someone was responsible to Alcoholics Anonymous when I needed to be welcomed, encouraged & taught how to be responsible myself.

Michelle H.
D40 Alt. DCM

Crossroads Group); **Jackie V.** (D40 IT Rep., GSR, God Meeting Group); **Jennifer C.** (Visitor, Fulshear Group); **Jes K.** (D40 DCM, First Light Group); **Kate H.** (GSR, Simply AA); **Kyle M.** (Alt. GSR, Rule 62 Group); **Marianne O.** (GSR, Katy 12 & 12); **Michelle H.** (D40 Alt. DCM, Rule 62 Group); **Mike J.** (GSR, Katy Big Book Group); **Pam F.** (Visitor, Katy Big Book); **Peter C.** (D40 Intergroup Liaison, GSR, Journey Group); **Rick Mc.** (GSR, Another); **Rochelle R.** (GSR, Bear Creek Women's Group); **Scott S.** (D40 Coffee Committee, GSR, Memorial Going Home Group); **Wendy A.** (D40 Secretary, Katy Crossroads)

Normal Business:

1. **Secretary's Report** – Approved as corrected.
2. **Treasurer's Report** – July report period ending 8/12/14. Opening balance was \$6,178.99. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$2,126.44. The expenses this month totaled \$49.00. The closing balance is \$8,256.43.
 - a. Michelle advised Hill Top Group no longer exists.
3. **Group News:** None.

Committee Reports:

a. Archives – Chris C. reported the Area Archives committee met 7/12/14 / 4:30pm at the SETA quarterly assembly. There were 5 additional attendees above the regular 5 committee attendees, 10 total. Unfortunately, there was no new business discussed to report.

b. Coffee – Scott S. is replacing Nancy R.

c. Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community – PI/CPC – Jennifer C. reported on behalf of Kate E. that at our July meeting we discussed our visits to the Emergency Clinics. All the clinics were happy to except the information we offered about Alcoholics Anonymous for them and their clients. We will continue to visit these clinics over the next few months. We have developed Job descriptions and will have a recommendation for the District next month for committee chair.

Our next District 40 PI/CPC committee meeting will be held on August 30th from 1-3PM at the Spring Branch Memorial Club.

d. Correctional Facilities Committee – CFC – OPEN; SETA – CFC 2014 Conference is September 12-14 at the Crown Plaza Suites Hotel, 9090 Southwest FWY, Houston, TX 77074.

e. Grapevine – OPEN

f. Intergroup – Peter C. reported the first email edition of the Link went out last week. Meeting to be held next Thursday, August 21st.

g. Information Technology – IT – Jackie V. reported Positions Open: Alt. Chair, Alt. Postmaster, Alt. Support, Alt. Webmaster, Secretary, and Alt. Secretary. The Committee reviewed and made changes to the final leg of the IT Guidelines. So that the Committee can present the final version at the October Area Assembly with a workshop on Saturday and vote on Sunday, the Committee will review its changes at the next IT Committee meeting on Saturday, 8/23/14.

h. Literature – area Chairperson advised at July Assembly he would be resigning; OPEN.

i. Treatment Facilities Committee – TFC– OPEN.

j. Newsletter – Corrie H. given sample booklet newsletter and may consider using same format.

Current Items:

1. *2014 Gratitude Dinner – Cheryl B. (Co-Host Chair)*
 1. D51 Host
 2. Unable to attend last meeting but we have met our obligations with regard to flyers.
 3. Mexican theme.
2. *Visitation Committee- Nancy R.*
 1. Notebook passed around for members to take a meeting sheet, sign name by group name and take a baggie of info to give to visiting group.
3. *2014 Job Descriptions/Preparation for Elections – Michelle H.*
 1. D40 elections are in September for 2 reasons:
 - i. District funds the incoming DCM to attend SWRSAA in October
 - ii. Area elections are held in October
 2. October is Budget Month – if your committee needs a line item, please have it by October.
 3. Be sure to take D40 Chair Position's' descriptions back to groups to discuss and consider
 4. PI/CPC – the D40 Chair Position for PI/CPC is elected by someone the committee has recommended to the District.

Announcements:

- **District 40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting:** August 30, 2014, 1:00-3:00 PM, Spring Branch Memorial Club, 1200 Blalock, Ste. 378, Houston, TX 77032
- **District 40 Elections:** September 9, 2014, 7:00 PM, Bear Creek Community Center
- **2014 SWRAASA:** October 10-12, 2014, Omni Hotel, 960 North Shoreline Drive, Corpus Christi, TX

District 40 Financial Report Period Ending 09/09/14	Current Month	Budget*	Year to Date	Current %	YTD %
INCOME					
Traditions Dinner Donations		\$140.00	\$253.00		
Service Workshop Donations					
State Conv - Hospitality Suite					
SETA -Hospitality Suite			\$100.00		
Fellowship Fest (Ice Cream Social)					
Group Donations	\$1,240.60	\$7,095.00	\$353.00		5.0%
Katy Big Book	\$1,193.00				
Another Chance Group	\$7.50				
Post Oak Group	\$25.00				
Rosewood Thursday Night	\$15.10				
Total Income	\$1,240.60	\$7,235.00	\$6,547.97	17.1%	90.5%
*** EXPENSES ***					
DCM		\$500.00	\$296.70	0.0%	59.3%
Alt. DCM	\$23.98	\$500.00	\$101.23	4.8%	20.2%
Secretary / Copying		\$100.00	\$19.65	0.0%	19.7%
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%
PO Box		\$70.00		0.0%	0.0%
Literature Committee		\$100.00		0.0%	0.0%
PI/CPC		\$2,380.00	\$242.83	0.0%	10.2%
Grapevine		\$80.00		0.0%	0.0%
CFC		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%
TFC		\$0.00		0.0%	0.0%
Archives Committee	38.36	\$100.00	\$61.64	38.4%	61.6%
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	\$40.59	0.0%	13.5%
*** Fellowship Fest		\$250.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** Traditions Dinner		\$800.00	\$899.31	0.0%	112.4%
*** Service Workshop		\$250.00	\$164.98	0.0%	66.0%
***SWRAASA (Even Years)		\$1,500.00		0.0%	0.0%
*** The Forum (Odd Years)					
*** State Convention Hospitality Ste					
***SETA Assembly Host District					
*** SETA - 2014 Hospitality Suite ***					
Total Expenses	\$62.34	\$7,881.00	\$1,826.93	0.8%	23.2%
*Budget Approved as of 10/8/13					
<i>Beginning Bank Balance</i>	\$8,256.43				
<i>Total Expenses</i>	\$62.34				
<i>Total Income</i>	\$1,240.60				
<i>Prudent Reserve (0.25xBudget)</i>	\$1,970.25				
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	\$7,464.44				
Ending Balance / Total Funds	\$9,434.69				
<i>Unspent Portion of Budget</i>	\$6,054.07				

Deposit 09/09/2014	
Check #	Amount
26270761	\$15.10
13257	\$25.00
1044	\$7.50
3587	\$1,193.00
	\$1,240.60

Treasurer's Report - August report period ending 9/9/14. Opening balance was \$8,256.43. Group Contributions received this month totaled \$1,240.60. The expenses this month totaled \$62.34 for the Alt. DCM for ink and office supplies for Archives. The closing balance is \$9,434.69.

**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

OPEN

Treatment Facilities Chair

OPEN

PI/CPC Committee

Kate E.

CFC Chair

OPEN

Intergroup Liaison

Peter C.

Grapevine Rep.

OPEN

Newsletter Editor

Corrie H.

Coffee Chair

Scott S.

Archives Chair

Chris C.

IT Liaison

Jackie V.

History Corner

Nelson Newcomer: I was recently elected to be the secretary of our district. I was told it was an easy job. I prepared the minutes and was going to get them printed at my local print shop, but my D.C.M. told me that I don't get to select where the minutes are printed, and I have to pay to have them printed out of my own pocket. This just doesn't seem right or fair. Am I wrong to think that?

Angela Archivist: -- This questions touches on both Concept 10 and Tradition 7. Concept 10 reads: "Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority – the scope of such authority to be always well defined, whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws." Tradition 7 reads: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

In 1955, at the 2nd International Convention, Bill W. declared that A.A. has come of age. He thereby turned the fellowship over to the groups. Later, in 1962, the Delegates, serving as the elected representatives of the groups, adopted the Twelve Concepts, and granted to the trustees the authority to handle the day-to-day operations of the fellowship. The Delegates, however, still hold ultimate authority over the trustees by retaining the right to reorganize the board, if necessary. Trustees hold ultimate authority over the General Service Board's two service arms, AAWS and AA Grapevine. Directors of those two boards have authority over the officers of each. In all cases, such authority should never be used indiscriminately.

How does this apply to the districts and the groups? What are the group's trusted servants? Do you give them the authority to do their job, or tie their hands?

Every service responsibility, including secretary, should be well-defined, usually by a written job description, and that responsibility should be matched by equal authority, including where to get the minutes printed, unless, for example, there is a reasonable explanation of why a certain printer should be used, such as the district has a contract with a printer offering a great savings on the printing rate and offers to have them hand delivered to the meeting place. Otherwise, the secretary, or any other trusted servant, should have the authority to select where to get the minutes or other documentation printed. That makes doing the job possible. When we ask someone to be "of service" to the district, we have to allow that person to do the job in his or her own way

And our trusted servants must be, within reason, reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenditures made on behalf of the district, such as the cost of getting the minutes printed. Tradition 7 tells us that our groups should be self-supporting, declining outside contributions. This means that our districts and our areas are also self-supporting. Our groups provide funds to the districts to operate, and the district should pay its own expenses, and not expect our trusted servants to take money out of their own pockets to support district activities. This makes for a harmonious and effective operation of the organization from the top of the upside-down triangle, to the tip.

I hope that everyone who is not involved in service at any level will consider enhancing their sobriety by getting involved during this next 2-year rotation. It's not too late, and you will not believe how it will change your life for the better. It sure did mine!

Betsy G.

Upcoming Events

1. **Intergroup Delegate's Meeting:** October 16, 2014, 8:00pm
2. **District 40 PI/CPC Committee Meeting:** October 25, 2014, 1:00-3:00 pm, SBMC
3. **Intergroup 11th Step Workshop:** November 8, 2014, 9:30am-2:30pm
4. **SETA Gratitude Dinner:** November 16, 2014, 2:00 to 6:00p.m., VFW Hall, 1560 Foley, Houston TX 77055

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 10:00 am to Noon at:

Spring Branch Memorial Club

1200 Blalock, Suite 378

Houston, TX. 77055 Telephone: 713-468-9103

Literature Committee

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

The following Committees meet 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 2nd Saturday of the month at 10 AM

at 521 N. Sam Houston Pkwy, Ste. 215.

*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

OCTOBER 14, 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.

