

**SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA 67  
QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY MEETING  
SUNDAY APRIL 9, 2006**

**I. Open – Betsy G and Terri V**

Betsy opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer. Terri read the preamble to the SETA Policies and Procedures Manual. She wanted to thank Mike D, Debra De B, David H and Tandy B for being on the Ask-It-Basket Panel. They did a great job. She also wanted to thank Marcia Patrick and Jeff B for their presentation on the Treatment Facilities Committee. District 31 has put in hard work and did a great job in hosting the assembly this weekend. District 60 will be our next host.

Betsy recognized Past Regional Trustee and Past Delegate, Beth R; Past Delegate from Alaska, Harold P; Past Delegates Mike D and Paul M. She noted that past delegates have served our area, and they continue to serve our area and help us learn how to do this.

During this past quarter we lost one of our past delegates, Olga M. She was a Panel 25 Delegate.

**II. Roll Call – June C (Please see attached)**

**III. District Count – Terri V**

District	Count	District	Count
10	2	60	2
20	5	63	5
31	15	64	3
32	10	65	0
33	5	66	3
40	6	70	3
51	8	81	7
52	5	82	7
		90	18
		<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>

**IV. Approval of January 2006 Area Assembly Minutes – Emily McF**

Minutes were approved as written.

**V. Treasurer’s Report – Barbara C**

See Saturday Committee Meeting for Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer’s Report was approved as written.

**VI. Delegate’s Report – Charles P**

I am currently serving as your Panel 55, Area 67 Southeast Texas Delegate. It’s an honor and a privilege to represent you at the General Service Office and to be your voice at the General Service Conference.

Gus and I went to Oklahoma City March 10-12 to the Southwest Regional Delegates’ Assembly. Past Delegates and new current delegates (55 and 56) attended. Harold P, Past Delegate from Alaska, attended and was accepted into the assembly since he is now living in Area 67 and wants to be involved in service. Paul M and Joanie M were also in attendance. It’s a training assembly for delegates. It’s like a mock General Service Conference, similar to the roundtable we had yesterday. Joanie gave a wonderful presentation, “Viewpoint: The Essential Value of Conference Committees.” The two other presentations were: “Leadership

– An Every Vital Need” by Jim Estelle, Past Class A Trustee; and “Performing Service without Expectations” by Sandy Luetjen, Panel 49 from Arkansas.

The purpose of this assembly is to prepare the new delegates for their trip to New York. Last year’s trip was a very scary experience, but the tips I received during SWRDA helped me find my way around and not make too many mistakes.

Saturday night Gary K, SW Regional Trustee, gave his report. His main concern is our reliance on literature sales (60% of revenue) to support GSO. Is this really self-support towards the General Service Office? Only 43% of groups who have GSRs contribute anything to GSO. Money in the basket is the food that feeds our AA family. AAWS does its service work so the groups can do their 12-step work. The concern is, if our literature sales drop off, it would be devastating for GSO to have to function on current contributions.

During the “Ask-It-Basket” at SWRDA, the question which many of you have asked before, “Why doesn’t GSO move to a more central location?” was answered by Wayne P. Wayne was GSO Manager for several years. His answer was that GSO has a very reasonable lease which expires in 2008 and could be renewed for 10 more years. A study to move GSO shows that it would be very expensive and take 44 years for a payout! Grapevine will give up some of its space so GSO may use this for Archives. GSO occupies two floors in an office building at 475 Riverside Drive. This building rents space to non-profit organizations.

I’ll continue to serve on the Report and Charter Committee, which deals with the Service Manual and the directories. This year we have many changes to the Service Manual to consider, and also changes to the Concepts.

When I return Gus and I will begin to visit each district giving a Power Point presentation reporting on what action was taken during the Conference. Please allow 45 minutes to an hour for the presentation.

Gary K, SW Regional Trustee, will be rotating out of his position this year. That gives us an opportunity to put up a candidate from this area for that position. We have several past delegates eligible to apply for this position.

The Texas State Convention will be held in Houston at the Marriott Hotel on June 9-11 which will be AA’s birthday – 71 years old. I want to encourage all of you to help make this a success by attending and staying in the Marriott Hotel, if you can. Those room nights count. They’re very important to our contract with the hotel.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Fellowship that saved my life and allowed me to develop a relationship with God.

#### **VII. Alternate Delegate’s Report – Gus H**

I’m proud to be serving as your Alternate Delegate of Panel 55, Area 67.

SWRAASA will be in Wichita, Kansas, this year on October 13-15. They don’t have the funds to put a lot of money into the Assembly, so they’re looking for help from the other areas. One area they really need help with is the Multi-Lingual program. The equipment they have available isn’t enough for the Spanish translation. We are trying to see how we can help. We have people willing to help, but they don’t have the funds to attend SWRAASA.

Everyone did a heck of a job on the roundtable process yesterday. The feedback has been positive. We had a great consensus on the pamphlet about religion and spirituality. That’s an example of having two tables reach two different ways to approach the topic, then hearing all the discussion when the topic reaches the assembly floor.

Any way I can be of service to you and your districts, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

#### **VIII. 2006 SETA Convention – Ricky L, Chair**

I want to thank the Assembly for allowing me to be the Chairperson for this convention. The Conference advance was \$1,500. The Conference Registration proceeds were \$11,647. Expenses were \$5,229.69, plus proceeds from the dance and cans of \$510, give a total profit after advance of \$6,927.31

**IX. 2007 SETA Convention – Tandy B, Co- Chair**

The 2007 SETA Convention is going to be in Galveston on January 12-14, 2007. As you know, we've got flyers and a table for early registration. John S. has provided the preliminary flyers. David A. is heading up the Greeters' Committee. Anyone interested in participating in being a greeter or know someone new to service, the website has a Greeters' sign-up flyer. We're going to introduce a slightly different idea. We'll have a Friday night speaker followed by "The Steps We Took" speakers. These speakers will be sharing for a few minutes on the steps they took to get to where they are today.

Our early registration will be \$12. Registration at the door will be \$15. Take the time to register now and get that little break. The cost for Alateens will be \$5, and the cost for the dance only will be \$10. The dance is covered in the cost of registration.

The room rate at Moody Gardens is \$105/night. In reserving a room, be sure to designate the SETA Convention so you can get this rate. The price of the room sounds high, but the normal room rate at Moody Gardens in March is \$215/night. There will be four hospitality suites available at \$375/night. That's a bit expensive, but maybe some groups can go in together on a suite. If you'd like to have one of those suites, please contact myself or Bonita.

On behalf of Bonita and myself, I'd like to thank the 2007 Convent Committee. It's amazing the enthusiasm and commitment in these people. We can't do it without you..

**X. 2006 State Convention – Mike D, Chair**

I have the pleasure of being the Chairperson for the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Texas State Convention being held here in Houston at the Marriott Westchase, 2900 Briarpark @ Westheimer. The flyers are out. Kim has done an excellent job in putting this together. It will be very helpful to the convention if you pre-register, so please take the opportunity to do so. The cost of the convention is \$20 to pre-register or at the door. It's a set rate from previous conventions. I want to encourage you to bring someone. If you want to bring a newcomer to a convention, this is the convention to do it. The four areas participate, so there will be lots of people and lots of hospitality suites. We now have 6 hospitality suites, with the capability of having 14. All the speakers are lined up, great entertainment. The flyers have answers to everything you'd want to ask except for the AI-Anon luncheon. We've posted it on the website, [www.txaa2006.org](http://www.txaa2006.org). The luncheon tickets cost \$20. There will also be an AI-Anon speaker at the luncheon. Tickets will be limited at the convention, so please register early.

Hope to see you all there. Thank you.

**XI. Roll Call for Voting – June C**

Eighty (80) voting members were present. Fifty-three (53) = 2/3 majority.

**XII. Election of Liaison to Spanish Intergroup**

No candidate stood for Liaison to Spanish Intergroup. The item will be placed on the agenda for the next Assembly.

**XIII. Newsletter Committee – Charles P**

The Ad Hoc Committee members are: Paula D, District 51; Lee G, District 52; and Gene J, District 31. We will have a final report to the Assembly at the July meeting.

**XIV. Ad Hoc Committee on Conventions Proceeds – Beth R**

The Ad Hoc Committee members are: David Higgenbotham, Charles Amburn, Patrick Claymore, and Tim Wozencraft. We would like to make the following motion:

Area Convention funds should be separated from the Southeast Texas Area budget and account. A separate restricted fund should be established for convention monies. A

suggested cap of \$15,000 should be placed on this account. Any monies over the cap will be directed to the Finance Committee for a recommendation.

Some suggestions were offered because this recommendation would be affecting other areas. The suggestions were:

1. The Area Chairperson appoint an ad hoc committee to revise the section on Conventions in the Policy and Procedure Manual to incorporate this change in policy.
2. The Area Treasurer revise that job description in regard to this change of procedure.
3. The Area Chairperson appoint an ad hoc committee to review and revise the Convention Guidelines. It also is suggested this committee be composed of persons who have significant convention experience.

These items in total would involve more members of the Assembly and produce a more rounded, better overall result. We suggest this begin immediately, The line item in the budget for seed money of \$1,500, and the line item for \$4,000 reserved for conventions would be taken out, and the proceeds from the Beaumont convention in January be put in that account. That would make the total immediately to almost \$12,000. This would be a separate restricted account.

The procedure is that this assembly has to make a decision whether to go forward or not. If we choose to move forward with a positive vote, then the Chair's responsibility is to put the wheels in motion to see that there is a 45-day notice to all the groups to see if they want to change the Policies & Procedures Manual at the July Assembly.

The motion passed. Betsy will appoint an ad hoc committee to revise the wording in the Policies & Procedures Manual. That committee will have to have the information to her 45 days before the next assembly and we will try to get that information included in the mailing of the minutes.

#### **XV. Finance Committee – David H**

David made a motion to send a \$100 memorial fund to the General Service Office for Olga Morris. The motion was seconded by Charles P. The motion passed.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Treasurer send a one-time mail out to the groups in 2006. The cost would be \$200. Charles P made the motion at the January Assembly. This letter would be sent to the groups showing their yearly contribution, whether they've sent any money in or not. It's a letter of thanks for their contributions, and a letter of awareness for the groups that haven't. The motion passed.

The Finance Committee received a request from Terri V, Alternate Chair, for a budget increase for this year. This money is needed to cover the expense of the P.A. system during the assembly meetings. The hotel will not allow us to bring our own equipment. The Committee recommends the budget for quarterly meetings be raised by \$425 to cover this cost.

A request was made to increase the budget for printing the Area Policies and Procedures Manual by \$45. The committee recommends we approve this increase. The motion passed.

After discussion and study of the area finances, the Finance Committee has approved unanimously to fully fund the Delegate for the 2006 General Service Conference. The actual cost of sending a delegate to the General Service Conference is \$4,500. GSO requests each area contribute \$800. The Finance Committee's approval authorized the Treasurer to write a check for the remaining \$3,700. Also, there were two other requests. One was from the Newsletter for some additional funding for mail outs. The Finance Committee decided to table this request until the ad hoc committee on this same subject comes back with their recommendations. The second request was for Don M, AAWS, to come for our October assembly, which will be our voting assembly. The cost of his trip would be \$500. The Committee tabled this request until other items were voted on today before we recommended spending that money.

## **XVI. New Business – Betsy G**

The Budget Committee presented the 2007 Proposed Budget. The total 2007 proposed budget was \$39,894. Because of the change in the Convention line items, the total will now be \$38,394. The changes will be updated and sent out. Please discuss this in your districts and groups and come back in July ready to vote on this budget.

The SETA SCAP Committee made a motion to request a set of SETA mailing labels to be used for mailing Texas State Convention flyers. As a point of clarification, several years ago the Assembly passed that we never supply our database of names to any outside entity. The SCAP Committee is part of SETA. Any committee within SETA can have a set of labels with Assembly approval. The motion passed.

Mid-County Group, Nederland, Texas, moves that the annual SETA Gratitude Dinner be fully self supporting through proceeds of admission charges or ticket sales for those attending the event and donations made by individual AAs willing to support the event through voluntary donations or "scholarships." Mid-County Group suggests this be accomplished through setting aside seed money on a one-time basis to fund necessary expenditures that will be incurred before the event occurs. The seed money is to be replenished or repaid on the SETA books from the proceeds of ticket revenues and voluntary donations after the event and set aside again for the following year. Any proceeds in excess of the seed money minus any expenses exceeding the amount of the seed money, if any, may be distributed to an AA entity such as GSO, SETA or such excess, if any, may be divided among Intergroup associations in Area 67. The motion was made by the Mid-County Group and seconded by Karen Y. The motion was made by Paul M and seconded by Gene J to table the motion. The motion was passed to table the motion. Because there are procedural questions on how to handle this, Betsy will appoint an ad hoc committee to research this request.

A motion was made by Karen Y and seconded by Gus H to send our Delegate to the General Service Conference informed but not instructed. The motion passed.

A motion was made by ZBM and seconded by Fritz B that the ad hoc committee on convention proceeds include reviewing the line item for "Other Conferences" which has a budget of \$1,000 and to reconsider looking at all conventions. Since the Convention Proceeds information is not currently in the Policies & Procedures manual, Betsy said the proper discussion for this motion would be in July when we discuss the budget. The motion was removed.

Parth M requested that since a request was made to GSO to remove the pie charts from the self support manual, SETA should be consistent in removing the pie chart from the SETA minutes. Parth withdrew the motion and will make the motion in July.

## **XVII. Announcements – Terri V**

- 98 voting members and 99 non-voting members registered, totalling 197, with 46 rooms.
- The Committees eligible for July hotel suites are Finance, Grapevine, and CPC.
- The host district for July will be District 60.
- The dates for the remaining 2006 SETA Assemblies are July 8-9 and October 7-8.
- The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Texas State Convention will be in Houston on June 9-11, 2006 at the Marriott Westchase.
- SWRAASA will be in Wichita, Kansas, on October 13-15, 2006.

## **XVIII. Close – Terri V**

We closed in the usual manner.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily McF  
SETA Secretary

## Area Actions

- The election of the Liaison to the Spanish Intergroup has been moved to the July Assembly.
- The motion passed to separate the Convention funds from the SETA budget. Betsy will appoint an ad hoc committee to revise the wording in the Policies and Procedures Manual.
- The motion passed for the Treasurer to send a one-time mail out to the groups in 2006.
- The motion passed to send a \$100 memorial fund to the General Service Office for Olga M.
- The motion passed to raise the budget for quarterly meetings by \$425 to cover the expense of the P.A. system.
- The motion passed to increase the budget for printing the Area Policies and Procedures Manual by \$45.
- The motion passed that SCAP be given a set of SETA mailing labels to be used for mailing Texas State Convention flyers.
- The motion was passed to table the motion on self support for the Gratitude Dinner. Betsy will appoint an ad hoc committee to research this request.
- The motion passed to send our Delegate to the General Service Conference informed but not instructed.