

SETA AREA 67 COMMITTEE MEETING
Clarion Inn – Houston, Texas
SATURDAY October 7, 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 Policies and Procedures Manual. She announced that because of personal reasons, she would not be able to stand for the position of SETA Chair. Betsy recognized the visitor for the weekend, Don Miller, past Delegate from Colorado and a past Director of AA World Services. He will facilitate the workshop on the Third Legacy; he will be a part of the Ask It Basket panel; he will be telling his story later, and he will help with the elections Sunday.

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

III. Approval of April 2006 Area Committee Minutes – Emily M

There was an error in printing the minutes. The wrong Assembly minutes file was sent to the printer. However, Betsy G and John S were wonderful to have this part of the minutes included in the Newsletter and sent. The corrected minutes were approved as written.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Barbara C

There is no change in the format of the Treasurer's Report from last quarter. The first page is the Summary Page divided into three different areas. The first area at the top shows the total current bank balance, what we started with at the beginning of the year and what we have now, which is \$47,797.68. The middle shows the funds we are operating on now to run the Area business. The bottom area shows the convention funds, which haven't changed since last quarter.

The Income Expenses year to date in Operating Funds shows almost \$3,000 more money coming in than going out, which means we have a healthy bank balance. Our current unrestricted funds are \$17,632.54. Our total prudent reserve is \$19,197. Page 2 shows the details of the Operating Funds. Year-to-date income compared to the budget shows we're slightly above budget. Group contributions are already above what we budgeted, showing that the groups have responded beautifully. The lower part of the second page shows our expenses, which have been less than what we budgeted. That's the reason for our current large bank balance right now. That will probably not continue as we get more comfortable in running the Committees and doing the Area business, but it will be a good start for 2007. There was a small correction of a Literature expense being placed in a PI expense of \$63.04.

Included again is a history of group contributions showing the total number of groups contributing, and the total contribution per year. We're also paying attention to the coffee. It was getting better, but now it's worse than it's ever been. We took in \$53.25 for contributions to coffee, and we spent \$214.34. That's a difference of \$161. We will try to watch it this time. Please put your money in the can. This year coffee has cost \$482 and the amount we've taken in is \$184. At this Assembly the Treasurer and Alternate make contact with the host district so we collect all the money in the cans.

The last pages keep growing. We now have almost 5 pages of group contributions. If your group, or a group you know of, is not listed on these pages, it means we have not received any contributions from that group for this year.

V. Delegate's Report – Charles P

I would first like to thank everyone who put on the DCM Orientation Workshop. It's the first time we tried it, it was well attended, and it seemed to work well. The presenters were outstanding, and we may want to do it again next year and tape it so we can access the information later on. Gus and I still have a

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few districts yet to visit. When we went to District 60, they were concerned that not many people were there. That's not important. Gus and I went away from that meeting feeling it was a good, healthy encounter. I've talked about the concept of the two funnels with the small ends together– the DCM is in the middle with the groups on one end and the Delegate is on the other, showing how the information flows from the group through the DCM to the Delegate, and vice versa. An emphasis during this time as your Delegate has been to help this information flow both ways.

I have distributed the 56th General Service Conference Report. Share the information in that report with your groups. Any information you may want to know about the General Service Conference is in there – what the fellowship has been doing and what it's planning on doing, i.e., changing the appearance of some of the pamphlets. I do have Birthday Envelopes and contribution envelopes for the General Service Office. One thing that came up during the session was the Group Service Number. Most of us don't know what our group service numbers were, and that it was important to put that on the checks going to the different entities. That number can be added to the Birthday Envelopes before handing them out.

The recent CFC Conference was outstanding. Thanks to the Committee. Well attended, wonderful speakers, great workshops – it was really good. People have been anxious to help with the 2010 International Convention in San Antonio. The Committee asked us to wait. There will be more information later.

We've done Delegate Day, the Friday Night DCM/Delegate sharing sessions; it's up to you if you want to continue these things. That will be up to you and the new Delegate. We may need to have districts join together to receive the Delegate's Report, maybe combine a potluck dinner and make it a little workshop. Travel has become more expensive and time is valuable. If we can draw more people in – GSRs and new people – we can better introduce them to service.

There are two positions currently open at GSO – a Class B Southwest Regional Trustee, which we will be electing a candidate on Sunday, and a Class A (non-alcoholic) Trustee. The Class B Southwest Regional Trustee will be elected at the next Conference in April. If you have any suggestions please contact me.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you and this wonderful fellowship that saved my life and gave me this gift.

VI. Alternate Delegate's Report – Gus H

As Charles mentioned, we had the DCM/Delegate Orientation last night, and thank you to all who showed up and to the presenters. When I first became DCM, I was so lost I wish something like this had been in place.

It looks like Area 67 will be well represented at the upcoming SWRAASA in Kansas. Several people from this area will be participating. Charles and Gene J will be chairing the panel on Delegate/DCM Communications. Betsy will be chairing the panel on Area Chairs and Alternates; Terri volunteered to do Area Secretaries, and Barbara C will be heading up the panel on Treasurers and Finance Committees. She's going to let me help.

The Gratitude Dinner is coming up on November 18, and all systems are Go. We've never done one like this before. It's self supporting from contributions from the Districts. Most of you know where we were on self support. We came to Assembly in January and discovered we were in a position we hadn't been in for a long time. This caused us to take a real hard look at self support and what that means. A lot of you carried the message to the groups, and we changed our philosophy on how we fund Area events and projects. We don't rely on the conventions any more. Self support is not a destination; it's a journey, and we're well on that road. The group contributions to GSO and the Area are up significantly, and even more important is the number of groups contributing has grown. Congratulations to Area 67 for stepping up to the plate.

It's been an honor and a pleasure serving with Charles. When we began this we recognized that effective communication is probably the primary area where we wanted to begin. It's been a pleasure working with all of you. If there is anything I can do to be of service to you, your group, or the area, please let me know. Thank you.

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VII. New Business – Betsy G

We now have five active ad hoc committees in our Area. We're not going to have workshops on all of them, only on the changes to the Policies & Procedures Manual, and the funding of the Gratitude Dinner. I was asked at the July Assembly to form committees on: a request for removing the Pie Chart from the Contributions Page, on the prudent reserve for the State Convention, and on the January Area Committee Meeting. In discussing this and praying about it, I saw that what I was uncomfortable with was appointing a committee of individuals who may or may not continue in service. Because of that I reached a compromise; I selected the Committee Chairs and they will work with me during the rest of the year and the incoming Chair in January. The three people I selected and who accepted were: Barbara C will chair the committee on the request for removal of the Pie charts; Beth R will chair the ad hoc committee on setting a prudent reserve for the State Convention (SCAP); Charles P will chair the ad hoc committee on whether or not we need to have an Area Committee meeting on Saturday at the SETA Convention.

We will have our elections on Sunday. With Don's guidance, it will be completed as quickly and painlessly as possible. We will also be selecting a Chairperson for the SETA 2008 Convention which will be held in Houston. We will also be electing our candidate for the Southwest Regional Trustee who will be elected in April at the General Service Conference.

We now have a Spanish Intergroup Liaison -- Anghelov. Thanks to Anghelov, we now have the agendas in Spanish; we have the flyer for our speaker meeting was translated into Spanish, and they were both on the website. However, we now have two Spanish Intergroups. Anghelov felt that having two Liaisons would give the opportunity to another person to be of service. The two Intergroups are far apart, so it would benefit everyone to have two liaisons. One is for Districts 63 and 64; the other is for Districts 65 and 66. A sense of the Area was taken and there will be elections for two Liaisons to the Spanish Intergroups tomorrow.

We have two new groups, the Lufkin AA Group and the Lifeline Group in Lufkin Texas, which have transferred to our Area from the Northeast Texas Area. Now they are officially part of our Area in District 90.

The original proposal to the Treasurer's mail outs to the groups about contributions authorized mailing the letters one time. This was done in May. She has funds left in her budget to enable her to do the mail out again. She will ask the Assembly on Sunday for the authority to mail out the letters again.

Paul M asked for a sense of the Assembly to move our elections earlier -- to take care of our Area business of the Treasurer's Report and the minutes, then do the elections, and after that do the other items listed on the agenda as times allows. After discussion, because this was brought up too late to change the agenda, the order remains as shown. At the end of every Area Committee meeting is listed, "Items for Next Agenda." Because the agenda needs to get to the Newsletter for printing, any items for consideration need to be sent in early.

VIII. Announcements – Terri V

The hotel suites for April will be CPC, Finance, and PI. We don't have a host district for April. That can be something the DCMs can think about and go to the new Alternate Chair. The dates for 2007 are April 14-15, July 14-15, and October 6-7.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily M
Area Secretary