

**SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA 67
QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY
Hampton Inn – Houston Texas
Area Assembly Meeting
Sunday April 15, 2007**

- I. Open – Bonita W. – opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.**
- II. Preamble - Tandy B. – read the preamble to the SETA Policies and Procedures Manual.**
- III. Tradition I – Kim District 81**
- IV. Roll Call – Bill B. (Please see attached)**
- V. Recognize the New GSRs and First timers – 22 present**
- VI. Minutes – Tom K. - Approval of January 2007 Area Assembly**

Minutes approved, as corrected below. Page 2 of 15 correction of the Alt Delegate report: Betsy G. is on the committee that writes and updates the guidelines, based on decisions made by the membership of SWRAASA.

VII. Treasurer's Report – Don B.

A question was asked from the floor, why do we keep \$4000 in the operating funds? Don stated based on the Policy and Procedures manual it is the assembly's responsibility for any shortfall of the convention, therefore, the \$4000 for the convention, we keep in the operating funds.

VIII. Delegate's Report – Gus H.

The last few weeks have been full. Since we met in January at the convention, I attended two District meetings, helped Charles with a workshop at the Lufkin Group, worked with Betsy G. and David H. on a self support workshop, attended the District 33 Unity Conference, attended the SWRDA Assembly in Oklahoma City, attended two Budget Committee meetings, had several speaking engagements, and has been trying to get ready for the General Service Conference.

We had a good DCM / Delegate sharing session on Friday night. We had a good turnout with most DCMs present. We started with a short agenda, so we had plenty of time to share about whatever was on our minds. During this session we were able to nail down most of the commitments for the Gratitude Dinner as well as select a co-host District. We were also able to get most of the conference reports scheduled, and now have only one District to confirm a visit. We discussed in general terms the problems we are having trying to get a hotel lined up for next year, and came away with some ideas to bring forth at the Saturday Morning workshop.

We had a great session yesterday on the Conference Agenda Items workshop. There are some complex issues on the agenda this year, and many of them are interrelated. In other words, different committees are working on different pieces of the same puzzle. I have been concentrating on the items for the Policies and Admissions Committee, of which I have been assigned. I would like to thank all of you who participated yesterday to help me get informed about the other items before the Conference.

At the General Service Conference I will be meeting up with a Delegate buddy and a couple of other SWR Delegates on Friday night. On Saturday, I will get to meet many of the other Delegates, attend the Intergroup welcome, the 1728 meeting on Saturday afternoon, and attend the Delegates only meeting Saturday night. The official conference opening will be on Sunday, and the committee I have been assigned to has a meeting scheduled immediately afterwards. One of the things our committee does is to

review requests for conference admission from non-conference members. So far, we have two to consider.

This will be Gary K. last conference as the Southwest Regional Trustee. There is an incredibly strong panel of candidates to choose from in the Southwest Region this year. Rodney R. is our candidate, and it will absolutely be my pleasure to present Rodney for this position.

During the conference week, I will endeavor to keep you informed via a daily "allseta" email. At the conclusion of the conference, the early bird Box 459 conference report will be available, and I will mail one of these to everybody on the Area Committee before I return home from New York.

I will put together a conference report as quickly as possible, and then Betsy G. and I will begin our road show for the next few months. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for the trust you have placed in me, for the opportunity to serve, and the privilege of representing Area 67 at the General Service Conference. There is no higher priority or greater calling in my life today ahead of being the best Delegate I can be for this Area. I ask you for your prayers as we go forth from here.

If I can ever be of service to you, your Group, or your District in any way, please don't hesitate to call.
Your trusted servant...
Gus H.
Delegate, Panel 57

IX. Alternate Delegate's Report – Betsy G.

Gratitude Dinner is being hosted by District 52 – Lee G. as DCM at the Rosenberg convention center for ~\$500. Saturday is not available but what is available for that price is Sunday afternoon November 18, 2007. Two districts volunteered to co-host, and District 40 was picked with District 33 to be the alt co-host depending on District 40 GSR's approval at their next district meeting. We have commitments for almost all the districts and they are choosing what to bring. We have ~\$620 that is enough to pay for the space and enough for us to be self supporting. We have not decided what the main dish will be, meat or spaghetti. Betsy attended SWRDA (Southwest Regional Delegate's Assembly) with Gus. This is a training assembly put on by the current and past delegates of the southwest region, to prepare the delegate for the general service conference. Regional trustee Gary K. has said that historically our delegates are much better prepared for the conference than other delegates. Most of our past delegates were there and were helping and giving input. The International convention will be held in San Antonio in 2010. We have flyers for the 2007 Forum in Denver and SWRAASA 2008 will be in St. Louis.

X. Concept I – Tom B. District 81 – registration so far is 172.

XI. Adhoc committee reports – Bonita W.

- **January Area Committee Meeting** chaired by Charles P. Charles P. (past delegate) – motion was made at the October assembly 2006 to discontinue the area committee meeting on Saturday morning in January at the SETA convention. Our Policy & Procedures manual calls for us to have an area committee meeting quarterly. The area committee is made up of the area officers, Delegates, DCMs and Committee Chairs, to set the agenda and discuss issues and items for the upcoming quarter. The charge was on whether SETA needed to have an area committee meeting on Saturday morning at the SETA convention. Members of the Adhoc committee present were Betsy G., Gus H., Mike D. and Charles, which met on March 10, 2007. Marvin W. was not present. The committee respectfully **recommends that the January Saturday meeting at SETA continue for the following reasons**; a) the time between October and April too long without a forum whereby the members of the area committee can express concerns and discuss issues and events, b) the Area committee is responsible for planning sharing sessions, agenda items and workshops for the next area assembly, c) finally, the area committee provides as a group conscience for the area

leadership to be better informed for the area assembly meeting on Sunday morning held at the SETA convention in January. The motion passed.

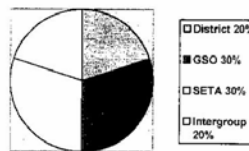
- Prudent reserve for the state convention** chaired by Beth R. (past delegate) – motion: **have the surplus funds from the state convention continue to be given to the SCAP committee to put in their account and that the SCAP build a reserve for the funds minus what the committee needs to operate.** A suggested cap of \$8000 reserve to be built over time to use should the area have to pay for any future deficits. The state convention is not part of the structure; the convention committee asked the four areas in Texas to form this committee to communicate across the state about the conventions. This committee takes any proceeds and divides them up between the four areas and the host city. These funds would not be included with the area money; they would be directed to the SCAP committee. This adhoc committee makes these recommendations. This motion was not passed.

- Convention guidelines** chaired by Randee B. - Ad-hoc Committee Report members of the committee are Randee B. and Debra R. The committee was asked to compare 1995 SETA Convention Guidelines with the 2005 SETA Convention Guidelines, pertaining to service workshops. Was it omitted? Do we need to add it back into the guidelines? As reference material the committee used the service manual and AA guidelines. The committee **recommends and a motion was made that we put back in the line that was omitted in the 1995 guidelines. 1995 SETA Convention Guidelines are as follows: “5.1.1.k Workshop – See A. A. Guidelines on Conferences and Conventions MG-4. May delegate all or part of this responsibility.”** What was important in reference to our task was some suggested topics appropriate for workshops and panels: Correctional Facilities, Treatment Facilities, Public Information, Cooperation with the Professional Community, Sponsorship, Service, GSR’s, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts, Intergroups and Central Offices, A.A. Grapevine (some program committees select phrases from A.A. literature as workshop or panel topics). The motion passed.

- Pie Charts** chaired by Barbara C. The committee met October 8, 2006. This committee **recommends and a motion was made that we support each of these group services with contributions from your group treasury after all expenses have been met.** As a guide to deciding how to distribute group funds SETA with its knowledge of the local activities and cost of these services suggests the percentages in the chart to the right. All group contributions should be made in accordance with your informed group conscience. The motion passed.

CURRENT VERSION

Please support each of these group services with contributions from your group treasury after all group expenses have been met. Groups in this Area generally follow the plan shown in the pie chart to the right.

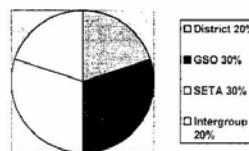


MOTION VERSION

Please support each of these group services with contributions from your group treasury after all Group expenses have been met, in accordance with your informed group conscience

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED VERSION

Please support each of these group services with contributions from your group treasury after all group expenses have been met. As a guide to deciding how to distribute group funds. SETA, with its knowledge of the local activities and costs of these services, suggests the percentages in the chart to the right. All group contributions should be made in accordance with your informed group conscience.



XII. Unfinished Business – SETA Convention Reports

2007 Galveston - Bonita W. thanked the committee and volunteers from the committees and especially her co-chair Tandy B. It takes a lot of hard work, tolerance and commitment from each of the committees, and each of the members brought that to the committee and much more. The total number of attendees was 1500 with total expenses of \$14,023.61; we returned the \$1500 advance leaving a balance of \$8000.95 given to the area treasurer. All committee chairs submitted final report along with any problems and suggestions, to be passing on to the next convention chair. Bonita stated that it was an honor and privilege to chair this convention. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

2008 College Station – Tim C. reported that meeting and hotel space has gone through the roof. Traditionally the convention is held at the Hilton and, based on room block, the Hilton provided meeting space in the past; for 2008 their proposal is \$2000 per night and the room rates were not great. We have found a hotel and signed a contract with the Plaza Hotel and Suites. Room rates are \$85, suites \$99 and meeting space \$1000 per night. Preliminary and early registration forms are now available. We have set the registration fee low; we expect plenty of attendance.

2009 Houston - Debra R. reported that as of this weekend, she and David H. are finalizing details with the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel. David has been negotiating with the Marriott Westchase also, however, there are several road blocks there.

Wyndham

Jan 9, 10, 11

Room Rate \$105 + tax, Room Block 300 (minus 10% attrition), Meeting Space \$6900

Coffee \$35.0/gal +21% gratuity

Food & Beverage Commitment \$9000 (coffee, reception, dance)

Hospitality Suites \$165 a night (GREAT) just like at Moody Gardens but cheaper.

Marriott Westchase

Jan 30, 31, Feb 1

Room Rate \$99 + tax, Room Block 300 (minus 10% attrition), Meeting Space \$6750

Coffee \$20.00/gal + 22% gratuity

Food & Beverage Commitment \$6000

No Hospitality Suites; No outside food or drinks

The pros for the Wyndham are the dates (con for Marriott-Birthday weekend); Hospitality Suites and great prices (none at the Marriott).

The pros for the Marriott are the coffee prices and slightly lower room rates, however we feel that having the conference on the last weekend will keep people from staying overnight in which case we don't meet our room block and will have to pay for unused rooms. Staying overnight in Houston has been an increasing problem.

Other Hotels Contacted: Marriott in Sugarland, Woodlands Resort & Conf Center, Marriott in the Woodlands, Omni Houston Hotel, Houston Airport Marriott, and Hilton on I-10West.

Debra had received Convention material from the city of Houston including a book of Hotel Listings which made it easier to know which Hotels could accommodate SETA's needs.

Debra just want to let the Assembly know that the cost of the convention in the Houston Area is going to be high- there is a distinct possibility that without the support of the Alcoholics in Area 67 the Houston SETA will not be self supporting. She and David are committed to bringing a Convention in Houston. Frugal will be the word but the main word is to carry the message which also includes the 7th Tradition.

As Debra has been reminded by her sponsor, mentors and peers she is actually a WE and that without the love and support, patience and tolerance of a loving God, David the Co-Chair and the fellowship of AA we would not be this far along. Many people have come forward to volunteer to serve of the committee and plans are to meet at the July Quarterly and really get going by October Quarterly.

XIII. New Business – Bonita W.

Hotel selection – in place of the selection for a hotel, Bonita will appoint a committee charged to investigate alternative meeting facilities that will report back to the assembly in July.

Barbara C. – Budget committee report – budget committee has met twice so far this year. Please circulate this report all over the area. We were ok until we got to the hotel costs which are much higher than in the past years; this budget committee does not recommend paying this large amount without further investigation and deliberation by the assembly. We are obliged by the policy and procedures manual to fund everything this area has passed as to what we want to fund. Most of the budget is for the area officers and standing committees. Take this back to your groups and study it, we are going to have a workshop in July. Call or email Barbara with any questions. The Sunday assembly in July we will vote on this budget.

Barbara C. – Finance committee report – Three items to report on: One charge is to look at the amount of money leftover at the end of the previous year to see whether we can fully fund the General Service Conference for that previous year. We did decide to fully fund the 2006 delegate we are sending \$3300 to New York. Second item we elected an Alternate Finance committee chairperson, Jim M. The third item which requires a vote; the treasurer has requested to do a treasurers mail out which we have done two in the past. Such motion was made, there will be a thank you letter to all the groups that have made contributions to the area and a letter that goes to the groups that have not made contributions to the area, letting them know that we are here and we would like their contribution. After some discussion it was called to question. The treasurer is asking for \$200 for this mail out. The motion passed.

A member asked the question what does it mean to “fully fund” the delegate? Barbara answered: The General Service Conference (GSC) expenses cost the General Service Board (GSB) \$4500 per delegate. The GSB asks each area to give a minimum of \$1200. From time to time the area feels they can fully fund the delegate; therefore they send the entire amount which is what we did this year for 2006.

Election of the 2013 State Convention Chairperson – Paul M. accepted by acclamation. Motion made by Duane P. and seconded.

Election of the SETA Newsletter Chairperson – Cynthia B. accepted by acclamation. Motion made by Debi U. and seconded. Thank you, John for the April newsletter.

Coffee Tag – Paul M. states that in an attempt for the area to be self supporting he made the motion; **the area assembly charge for coffee by selling a coffee tag which is to be sold a registration for \$5 for an assembly weekend.** The motion was seconded by Charles P. Motion carried. The minority spoke (since the hotel is in question, why commit to coffee if we don't know if we are going to offer coffee) and another vote was taken to see if the majority wanted to reconsider their vote. This vote failed.

Conference – Charles P. made a motion and seconded by Betsy G. **to send our delegate informed not instructed.** Motion passed.

SCAP – Debi U. made a motion and a second **requesting the SETA mailing labels from the registrar for the State Convention.** Motion carried.

TFC – Marsha P. made a motion and a second **requesting SETA mailing labels** We are trying to increase the number of people who have signed up for our temporary contact list. Motion carried.

Magge A wanted to address the assembly about a 12th step program which some of us have already contributed to concerning sending Grapevines to our armed forces. Bonita W. stopped the discussion stating that this has become a separate issue because she has

established this as a non-profit organization by opening up a separate bank account; therefore, she is out of order.

Mike D. wanted us to use email more in terms of passing information to each other and this would be more current address information. We should be using email as much as possible; that will also cut cost.

XIV. Announcements – Tandy B

Flyers: District 81 – Thank you for hosting.

District 52 is looking for more of the districts to sign up for decorations, before dinner snacks and more contact DCM district 52 Lee for details

The Committees eligible for the July 2007 hotel suites are Grapevine, Multi-Lingual and Literature. The host district for July 2007 Assembly is District 70. The host district for October 2007 Assembly is District 66. We still need a host for the April and July 2008 assemblies. If your district would like to host an assembly weekend, please get with Tandy.

All committee and district reports need to given to the area secretary. Please email the reports if possible.

Events:

SETA CFC – Crown Plaza in September Hwy 99 @ SE Fwy
3rd Annual Concepts “On the Beach” - September 28-30, 2007

District 10 – 45th Annual Anniversary of the La Branch Group

District 70 – GSR’s new time slot 3rd Sunday at Baytown

District 20 – Monthly First Saturday Speaker meeting – St Thomas University Anderson Hall

62nd Annual State convention – June 15-17, 2007 - Fort Worth

SW Regional Forum – October 12-14, 2007 – Denver Colorado

XV. Close – Bonita W.

We closed in the usual manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Recorded by Alternate Secretary Tom K.

Transcribed by Secretary Deborah D.