

**AREA 67 QUARTERLY ASSEMBLY**  
**Sheraton North Houston Hotel**  
**15700 JFK Blvd, Houston, Texas**  
**Area Assembly Meeting**  
**Sunday, April 13, 2008**

- 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 One – Sherry M - District 81**
- IV. **Roll Call – Bill B** – Thanks to all for your corrections (Please see attached)
- V. **Welcome to new GSRs and First-timers to assembly... (stand up and be recognized-approx 26)**
- VI. **Literature Challenge- Randee B – 1<sup>st</sup> place- Betsy G, 2nd place – Carol F**
- VII. **Minutes – Tom K - Alternate Secretary – Approved as presented.**
- VIII. **Treasurer's Report – Don B**
- IX. **Delegate's Report – Gus H**

Good morning Area 67. This has been a great Assembly weekend, great job District 81 for hosting. We have something really special to report on today. At the January convention, Cecelia H. reported to me that there was a significant population of Asian Americans who were being underserved by AA in our Area. I encouraged Cecelia to start a Group, and to get the word out at places these people might frequent. A couple of weeks later, I got a call from Juan, one of our Spanish speaking members, who had been contacted by someone speaking Chinese and needed AA help. Because Cecelia had come forward in January, I was able to refer Juan to Cecelia and the new Group. I was able to confirm with Cecelia this weekend that this new Group had been started, and is in its infant stages. I encourage all of us to support this new Group, and to continually look for new opportunities to reach those who need AA. This is what the entire service structure is all about.

We had a good DCM / Delegate sharing session on Friday night, with a good discussion on Singleness of Purpose. We were able to firm up dates with most Districts for Betsy and me to deliver the Conference report, and finalize more plans for the Gratitude Dinner. I still need to get with Districts 60, 63, 64, 65, and 66 to schedule time for the Conference report.

I would like to thank all who participated in the pre-Conference agenda items workshop yesterday. I really needed to hear the Area Group Conscience this year. There are several items on the agenda that I have been thinking about for a year or more, so I needed to hear your perspective. Your deliberations were thorough, and your reports were very clear. Thank you for your insight and for your participation. I would also like to take a moment to thank our Alt. Delegate, Betsy G., for setting up this workshop and for all the other things she does. Believe me, I rely on Betsy for a lot, and she always comes through.

Life has been full since I reported to you in January. Since then I have attended the winter board weekend in New York, the District 33 Unity Conference, the Southwest Region Delegates Assembly, the Area Budget Committee meeting, District 33 again in March, a workshop at one of the Lufkin Groups with Harvey and Tony from District 90, and have been spending time getting ready for the Conference.

Attending board weekend was quite an experience. My committee business was handled fairly quickly, so I was able to sit in on quite a few other Trustees' Committee meetings. I am honored to have had the privilege, and it was an enlightening weekend. One of the things we learned that weekend was that Greg M., GSO General Manager, has announced his retirement to be effective sometime this year, pending the hiring of his replacement. A search committee has been formed, with the end of May being the deadline for submitting resumes. Another thing I got to see over board weekend was the Conference agenda item selection process in action, and I came away with some concerns. The board does have broad latitude in deciding which business it will handle directly and which items should go to the Conference, but in my opinion, this is a process that needs better definition.

In addition to the General Managers' job, there are a couple of other positions coming open soon that we have qualified people to fill right here in Area 67. In October we should select our candidate to stand for the position of Trustee at Large, and pending the outcome of the Conference this year, the position of Chairman of the General Service Board may be eligible for Class B consideration.

I'll be leaving next Saturday for New York. My wife and I plan to spend a few days in Connecticut and in the city prior to Conference week. During the conference, I will try to keep you updated with daily emails just like last year. After Conference, the Gus and Betsy road show begins again... we will be coming to a District near you soon! We have the State convention in June, and SWR Trustee Conley B. will be here for the July Assembly.

Area 67, it will truly be an honor to be your Delegate to the General Service Conference this year, as it is to be of service to you in any capacity. I ask you for your prayers, and I stand willing to be of service to you in any way I can.

#### **X. Alternate Delegate's Report – Betsy G**

Good morning! I appreciate this opportunity to be of service to the members of the Southeast Texas Area. A big welcome to all the new GSRs, I was so pleased to see the number of new people who are getting involved in service. Thank you for participating. I hope that you will enjoy your time with us as much as I have.

Thank you, also, to all the participants in the round table discussions yesterday. You have made it possible for Gus to go to the General Service Conference well informed.

SWRDA (Southwest Regional Delegates Assembly) was held in Oklahoma City last month. This year, I did not feel like the new kid on the block, and was able to "pay it forward" to the 4 new alternate delegates and 2 new delegates and make them feel as welcome as everyone did for me last year. There were several workshops during the weekend. Two of those were "Applying AA Principals to Our Committee Work and Understanding the Conference Procedure" and "Tradition One – Unity – What can we do to be more Inclusive to our Linguistic Groups/Districts" (I look forward to discussing these ideas when we visit our Spanish Districts in the near future. Gus and the other 6 Panel 57 delegates gave their Area Highlights presentation again this year so the new Delegates could see how the pros did it. The 4 new delegates did a great job too. Saturday afternoon, we had mock conference committee round table discussions which gave the delegates an opportunity to chair a committee meeting.

2008 SWRAASA will be in St. Louis, Missouri this year. I brought plenty of flyers for you to take back to your groups. The dates are October 10-12, 2008. At SWRDA, the alternate delegates drew topics for the workshops for SWRAASA out of a hat, and SETA was assigned three agenda topics: Correctional Facilities, Treasurer/Finance and Multi-Lingual. The SETA chairs of those three committees will be facilitating the workshops.

Gus and I had a very productive meeting with the DCMS Friday evening, and were able to tie down a major portion of the plans for the Gratitude Dinner. This year, we will meet at the VFW Hall in Spring Branch. We met there in 2005. The event is currently scheduled for Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> in the afternoon. However, Stan S., the DCM for District 40, will be contacting management to see if the date can be changed to Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> like we did last year. The speaker will be selected from someone living close by in order to hold down the costs for the speaker and allow us to continue to build a prudent reserve. I will select the speaker and get back with you in July. We also discussed raising funds from contributions from members of the assembly and the districts. If you wish to help with the cost, please pass your contributions to Stan or Don B., our Treasurer.

I am looking forward to visiting the districts and helping Gus with his Delegates Report. This year, since it is my second year, I feel highly qualified to be the designated setter-upper for the equipment. I have already passed the test of the "fastest cord winder" in the west!

See you in July, if not before. In the meantime, if there is any way I can be of service to you, your group, or your district, please let me know. It is an honor and a privilege to serve this wonderful Area.

#### **XI. Concept Two-Kathleen - District 81**

#### **XII. Unfinished Business**

**2008 SETA convention Final Report – Tim C-** Our January 18-20 SETA convention in College Station had 716 registrants; grossed over \$14,000, less expenses of about \$14,000. Netting a profit of approximately an \$100; making our convention a success of self support with no need to rely on the Area treasury for any additional support. Thanks to all who made it the success it was by your attendance and participation.

**2009 Houston – SETA Convention Report - Debra R** - SETA 2009, January 9, 10, 11- Wyndham Hotel Greenspoint, however might be a HILTON by then. Rooms-\$105.00 / night, Hospitality suite-\$145.00-165.00/ night contact David H. if interested. 32 people have registered. The cost will be \$15.00 to PRE-register-\$20.00 at the door. There's a \$5.00 coffee tag-We're already committed to the Hotel for \$9,000, for coffee @ \$32.00 per gallon. We are also having an Alateen feature. We are committed to 300 room nights! Please consider supporting this room block even if you live in Houston. Final Flyers should be ready to mail in June and at the Assembly in July... David H. is the Co Chair, Emily Mc., Secretary and Gary S is the Treasurer. Next meeting is May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Delta Club.

**Ad hoc Committee – Tandy B** - This comes out of committee as a motion and a second. The ad-hoc Information Technology Committee was formed as a result of the October 2007 assembly discussion on the area information storage and our technology needs. The committee has been charged with the development of IT guidelines, which will include licensing, upgrades, maintenance, software, storage for all computers and other electronic assets. We have been asked to make a recommendation to who will manage these assets. Tandy would like to thank Marshall W, Duane P, Marcia P, Deborah D, Jim R and Betsy G for taking time away from home and family to help in this endeavor for our area. The committee has now met five times. This (ad hoc) COMMITTEE has this recommendation:

- Rename the committee SETA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Committee to include the present website committee.
- Recommend the adoption of the information guidelines contained in the handout yesterday,
- Additionally, request users job description(s) updated, storage and maintenance of that equipment (outlined in guidelines).

**Motion passed** to rename the standing website committee to be the SETA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE with the provisions cited above.

Next recommendation: (not requiring a vote) until a final report can be given regarding 2008 SETA Convention

### **XIII. Roll Call for Voting – Bill B**

### **XIV. New Business**

**2009 Area Budget Proposal - Barbara C** – Proposal was handed out to take back to the groups to be discussed and brought back for a vote in our Assembly in July. We have had the 2009 Budget meeting, March 15, 2008 at the Post Oak Club. The Budget committee is comprised of 18 people who are “budget holders” (either committee chairpersons or officers of SETA.) The committee met for 6 hours submitting budgets for their successors’ needs (following the GSO’s formula of taking the last year’s expenses and increase it about 2%) so that we can fund the committees the way you think they can be funded. This year we are supporting 4 people to SWAARSA-(South West Alcoholics Anonymous Regional Service Assembly) in their capacity as chairpersons of these service committees: Multi-lingual, Correctional Facilities, Finance, and Public Information to the Workshops in October. Please direct any questions to us at our Budget Workshop that Saturday in July. Voting will be Sunday July 13.

**Trustee in October – Gus H, Area delegate** – At the Area 67 assembly for October, it was presented that during our elections for Area trusted servants it would be appropriate for a Trustee to be invited, perhaps from a different region. It was then *proposed* to bring in such Trustee from another Region at a cost of approximately \$600.00 to be invited and/or chosen from the candidates at the Conference later this month in New York. This was restated as a Motion by Gus and seconded. **Motion approved.**

Motion to send our **Delegate to the Conference informed, not instructed** – Bill B. (registrar), Seconded, **APPROVED** by unanimous vote.

The SETA Literature Committee request for \$200.00 increase for the forthcoming workshop to be conducted in District 51 discussed yesterday in the Area Committee meeting was **APPROVED** by a majority vote following a motion and a second and a very brief discussion (reference Area Committee discussion Saturday).

Election of 2010 SETA (Beaumont) Convention chair- Marianne M. (District 90) standing- **Accepted/approved** by a majority vote of the assembly

Regarding **La Vina recommendations – Everardo P** – Requested to add La Vina as a Standing committee with a budget and Voting Chairperson to have the same responsibilities as the Grapevine, to promote La Vina in Area 67. We have been working on this for a year and would like to avoid confusion and a lot of discussion within the Spanish districts. La Vina and the Grapevine have never been together. For the first time, there was a recommendation in 1995 at the San Diego International Convention to create committees to serve better in the Hispanic Areas. There was a motion and a second out of the committee.

**January minutes reflected having a separate AREA 67 standing committee and was approved by the area assembly-election of chair and budget to be handled in April Assembly.**

Election of La Vina Standing Committee chair-Jose Perez standing was **APPROVED** by unanimous vote.

La Vina budget request (for 2008) of \$1,073.00 was motioned and seconded-**APPROVED** by majority vote

Next, there was a proposal how to handle coffee at Assemblies recommended from the Saturday Area Committee meeting to discontinue hotel coffee and host only hospitality room coffee (or get your own wherever...) After discussion there was a vote after the question was called by Bob B. **Motion passed.** Minority Opinion was called for and given. Minority vote failed. Original motion to discontinue hotel coffee and to provide hospitality coffee stands.

**Suggestions for July Agenda items:** (from comments made during this Assembly that the Area Committee starts working on the Agenda by as early as this evening)

Suggested but not limited to:

- Our Trustee, SW REGION, Conley Lockhart coming in July-
- Job Descriptions- as a result of approved motions at this assembly.
- Budget workshop
- Standing Committees – What are they doing to Carry the Message?

## **XV. Announcements – Tandy B**

Thanks to District 81 for hosting this assembly, **July 12-13 to be hosted by District 31.**

Cutoff date for Assembly room rate is June 21<sup>st</sup>, please respond before June 21.

We registered 157 participants @ this assembly. Great! But we only show 27 room nights for *this* assembly. Many more (and corrections at the Hotel Office) are needed to fulfill our contract for these facilities we use for Assembly. Al Riggs passed away March 25<sup>th</sup>, co-founder of the Sante Fe Group.

Forty-seventh (47<sup>th</sup>) annual SETA Convention forms are here for early registration-PLEASE .....Pre-register.

Orange Group (dist 90) 13<sup>th</sup> annual Memorial Day Fish Fry – Monday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 @ Orange, TX.

District 40 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Traditions Dinner – Charles P., past Area 67 delegate presenting the Traditions.  
63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Texas State AA Convention – June 13-15, 2008 Odessa, Texas @ MCM Grand Fundome!

District 90 Conference (Beaumont) Aug 22-24, 2008, at MCM Elegante in Beaumont. Pre-register.

SETA 67 Correctional Facilities Conference Sept 12-14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at Crown Plaza Hotel Suites (SW FWY) Houston  
SWRAASA – Oct 10-12 2008 – Hosted by Area 38, St. Louis, Missouri

REACHING OUT GROUP – new Asian multilingual meeting in Alief (W. Houston) on Mon nites 7pm @ the Alief Group facility @ 7615 Boone Rd. Please refer/bring any Asian Alcoholics to this effort in reaching out! Literature available in Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean!!!!!!!!!!

SETA Literature Committee meets on the last Sat. of the Month at Noon at the Delta Club. (Immediately after the District 51 meeting at the same location!!!) Come early and take more than ONE message back to your home group! New Group in District 52-Hwy 90, 99ers Group (?) See local listings (Intergroup directory [www.aahouston.org](http://www.aahouston.org) for time and location.

Please take whatever flyers remain back to your districts/groups regarding Public Information activities coming up in Sept. this year.

**XVI. Close – Bonita W** -We closed in the usual manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom K

Alternate Secretary