

DISTRICT 40 NEWSLETTER

U N I T Y - R E C O V E R Y - S E R V I C E

Step 3

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

Tradition 3

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Concept 3

To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.—the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

Is your Thinker Broken?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a simple program where alcoholics help other alcoholics recover from alcoholism. That is, it and everything else is an outside issue. Then why do people keep trying to add to the menu? What would your waiter say to you if you were at a Mexican restaurant and wanted to order General Tso’s Chicken? Makes you think, right? If I remember correctly, when I came into the meeting rooms of AA, I was told my thinker was broken! That is where I could rationalize the wrong thinking and think it was ok, as long as I got my way. Remember those days? Or are we still riding that train of insanity?

This is straight out of the AA Pamphlet, The A.A. Group, P-16.

“The primary purpose of any A.A. Group is to carry the A.A. message to alcoholics. Experience with alcohol is one thing all A.A. members have in common. It is misleading to hint or give the impression that A.A. solves other problems or knows what to do about drug addiction.”

I know that some people’s first experience with AA might be in a rehab facility. This is where AA meetings are attended by everyone in the rehab. Like some Judges do, when they just send everyone to AA because it has a stronger structure. This is where the message does get watered down in my opinion. When this happens in your group, the elder statesmen should talk to the new members and help them find the correct program that will help them.

When working all three sides of the triangle, it is my responsibility to make sure AA is here for the next suffering alcoholic. As it says in the responsibility statement, “I want the hand of AA always to be there”. We owe it to them to help them find a program that will help them. I am sure that is why AA has given this program to any organization that wants to recover from anything. Examples range from drugs, food, sex, and anything else. We do alcohol, the other fellowships can focus on their primary purpose.

Remember AA is a three-legacy program. We do the Steps to help ourselves, the selfish part of AA. We do the Traditions to make sure this program is here for the baby being born down the street destined for alcoholism and the concepts to make this fellowship endure. If the member does not adhere to the principles of the steps he will soon sicken and die. That goes for the group as well, if it does not adhere to the Traditions and the structure of AA it will sicken and die also.

I hope if you are reading this and your sponsor is not a three legacy sponsor you choose to find a service sponsor to learn everything you can about this program that saved my life and so many before me. I owe this to AA to make sure it is here for the next suffering alcoholic and my personal recovery comes a close second.

Yours In Service,
Doug D—DCM District 40

AA GRAPEVINE

GET THE APP

Android



Alcoholics Anonymous®

Literature



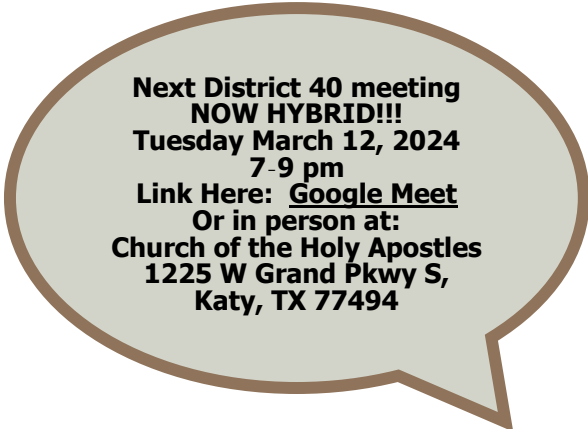
AA GRAPEVINE

GET THE APP

iOS



SCAN QR FOR PAMPHLET



Next District 40 meeting
NOW HYBRID!!!
Tuesday March 12, 2024
7-9 pm
Link Here: [Google Meet](#)
Or in person at:
Church of the Holy Apostles
1225 W Grand Pkwy S,
Katy, TX 77494

A.A. Founders'
ORIGINAL WRITINGS DISCUSSION

S.E.T.A. Area 67 Literature Committee

MARCH 16, 2024 - 1:00-4:00

Church of the Holy Apostles
1225 W Grand Pkwy S, Katy, TX, 77494

Roundtable Style Workshop on the Founders' Writings
Survey from GSO • Have your voice heard!
Refreshments and fellowship • Bring your favorite dessert

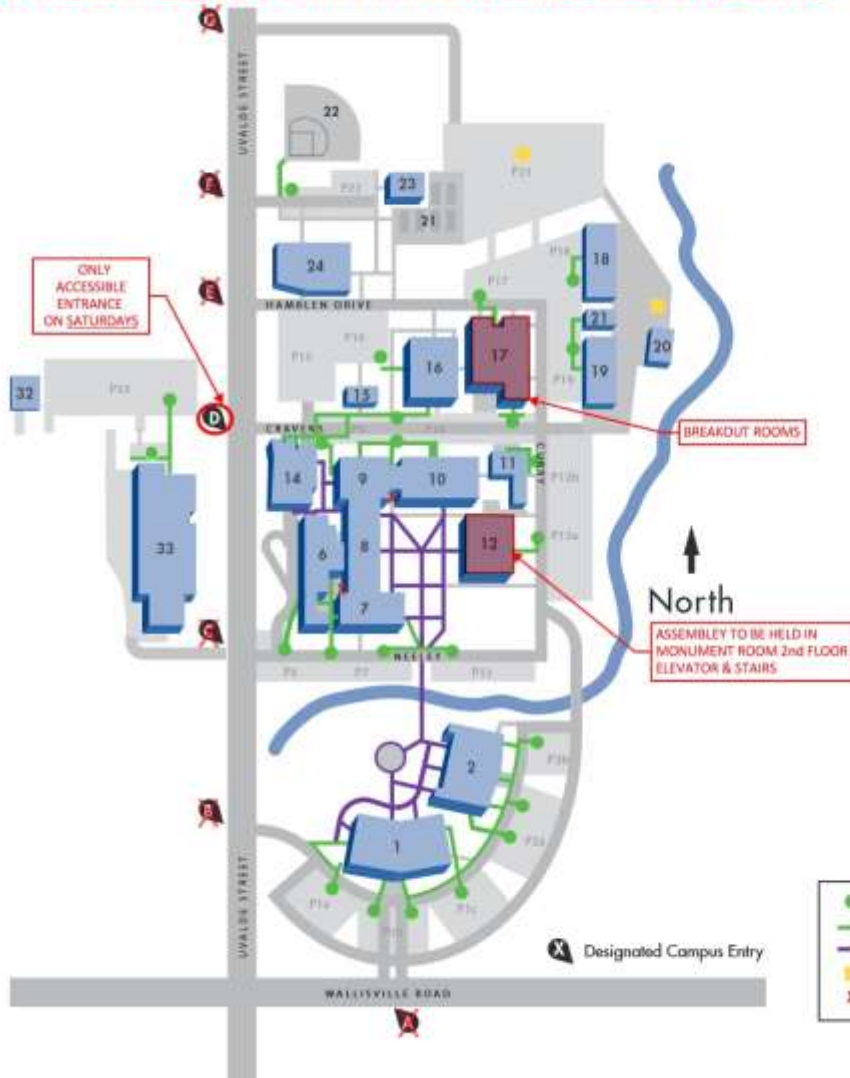
RSVP CAROL.F@AA-SETA.ORG

SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA 67 APRIL 2024 ASSEMBLY LOCATION



NORTH CAMPUS

- N1 Fine Arts Center
- N2 Interactive Learning Center
- N6 Welcome Center
- N7 Burleson Classroom Building
- N8 Spencer Building
- N9 Brightwell Building
- N10 Wheeler Building/Police
- N11 Bezos Academy Houston – North Shore
- N12 Student Center/Bookstore** ASSEMBLY LOCATION MONUMENT ROOM 2nd FLOOR
- N14 Library
- N15 North Chiller Plant-Main Campus
- N16 Gymnasium
- N17 Science and Allied Health Building** BREAKOUT ROOMS
- N18 Industrial Technology-Auto Collision
- N19 General Service Building/Deliveries
- N20 Facilities Services/Storage
- N21 Auxiliary Services
- N22 Baseball Field
- N23 Baseball Training Facility
- N24 Cosmetology and Culinary Center
- N32 North Chiller Plant-CIT
- N33 Center for Industrial Technology



- Accessible Parking
- Accessible Route from Parking
- Accessible Route within Site
- No Accessible Parking
- X No Accessible Route

5800 Uvalde Rd.
Houston, Texas 77049
281-998-6150

An Equal Opportunity Institution
Updated 10/19/2022

MEN'S SUPPER STEP STUDY GROUP 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FOOD | FELLOWSHIP | FUN
All Family, Friends, and Persons
Interested in AA Recovery are Welcome!

WHEN: Saturday - March 23rd 2024
Fellowship & Dinner 5:30 - 6:30 PM
Gratitude Meeting 6:30 - 8:00 PM

WHERE: The PaRC
Discovery Behavioral Health PaRC
3043 Gessner Rd. Houston TX 77080

Alumni Center - 2nd Floor
(Northern Most Bldg. - Inside Iron Fence)

PLEASE ENTER THRU IRON GATE

This Venue IS Inside a Treatment Facility Campus & HIPAA Laws ARE Enforced -
CELL PHONES, PURSES, OUTSIDE FOOD & DRINKS ARE PROHIBITED!

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS HAY UNA SOLUCION

CELEBRATE
WITH US OUR
SECOND
ANIVERSARY



We invite you to celebrate with us the second anniversary of the Group Hay Una Solucion.

Saturday 03/09/2024

6:30PM Open Meeting.

8:00PM Dinner.

8:30PM Cake.

9:00PM DJ (bring your dancing gear)

This is family event so do not
hesitate to invite others.

Peace Community church,
5151 Addicks Satsuma Rd.
Houston, TX 77084

Contact Info
281-896-0166

This will be a Spanish speaking event but with language of the heart.

HACYPAA VIII

Heartland Area Conference of Young People in AA
"Their roots grasped a new soil"

OMAHA, NE
MAY 17-19
2024

REGISTER
NOW!
hacypaa8.com



Wyndham Omaha

655 North 108th Ave, Omaha NE 68154
402-509-5535 (mention HACYPAA to get \$89 room rate)

District 52 Unity Day Picnic Food – Fellowship – Fun

March 16, 2024
10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Guest Speakers:

11:00 am Dick U. / Drifters Group - 43 Years,
2:00 pm Carol A. / Tri-Cities Group - 56 Years.

**** District 52 will provide the meats ****
Brisket, Pork & Sausage

District 52 Groups to provide sides.
Baked Beans, Potato Salad, etc...

Contact for additional information:
John M: john.m@aa-seta.org



Rose-Rich Group
925 Spur-10 Rosenberg, TX 77471

December 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 1

DISTRICT 40 UnOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location:

COTHA Church, 122W. Grand Parkway, Katy, Tx. Rm. 115

Mailing Address:

District 40
PO Box 79119
Houston, Tx. 77279-9119

Google Meet

<https://meet.google.com/scf-xndv-uo>

doug.d@aa-seta.org DCM
mike.b@aa-seta.org Alt. DCM
theresa.s@aa-seta.org Secretary
ronnie.h@aa-seta.org Treasurer

Date: February 13, 2024

Time: 7:05 – 9:00 PM

Attendees: 23 online, 7 in-person

Call to Order – 7:03 pm, Doug D.

SERENITY PRAYER- Doug

SECRETARY’S REPORT – Theresa S., (Alt. OPEN) accepted.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Ronnie H, (Alt. open) accepted.

DCM Report

Hello, D40. My name is Doug D and I am your DCM this rotation. I have a few things I would like to touch on this month. I want to put together an AD-Hoc next month to review the current P&P manual and rewrite it. We will vote on this next month so go back to your home group and discuss it. It is my opinion, just making amendments to the current one we have would be lengthy. If we rewrite it, it would be clean and easier for new members in service to follow. Again, it is my opinion that the way information changes we would do better with each committee’s information being directed to their webpage where they update the information and keep it static in our P&P. Next, the SETA Convention is

next weekend and their fliers were as attachments and in newsletter. Remember we will have our assembly each morning at Moody Gardens. If you would like to join via remote, please use the information sent out on SETA Announce on Jan 4 . The agenda can be found on the aa-seta.org main page. This year SWRAASA will be in Oct and D40 will send the incoming DCM and Alt DCM. Would we want to purchase tickets or just wait and let those who get elected decide on their own if they want to fly or

drive? Also, just a reminder that the state convention is in Dallas this year too. Last, a quick update on the outreach. I was able to stop by SBMC to get their meeting clarified by one of their members. I also have 2 people working on clarifying the active meeting at the Holy Name retreat. Lastly, I was able to get a new group that only meets a few times a year to be set up as a group in GSO. This is a long process but fun when I get the time to get out. I would like to thank the group, Another Chance, for having me over at their New Year’s Eve get-together.

DOUG D

Q. Farah – new location for Area Assemblies in 2024?

A. Doug – don’t know yet.

Contact Peggy if you want to volunteer at the Seta Convention this month.

ALT. DCM Report

Mike discussed the new storage facility, paid upfront for 6 months. District voted unanimously to pay off the last six months.

He thanked Marilyn and Peggy for putting the Ad Hoc final report together. (report follows), and discussed the two items that still need to be done:

December 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 2

1. Need volunteers to visit groups.
2. Need volunteers for quarterly workshops

Volunteers for workshops include Jackie L., Katherine, Melanie G., and Robert L. said his group would do a zoom workshop.

Mike asked volunteers to let him know dates and times. The District budgeted \$100 per workshop, groups need to host.

Final Inventory Report:

D-40 Inventory Ad Hoc Committee Actionable Items- 2023

BACKGROUND: In September 2022, D-40 members voted to conduct a District Inventory facilitated by a past delegate not affiliated with the 2022 DCM/Alt-DCM.

(As per P&P, District Inventory to be completed every 3-5 years)

METHOD: In January 2023, Wayne H. -delegate from NETA, was selected as an objective facilitator. In February 2023, Wayne D. consolidated all answers to the D-40 Inventory. Wayne D. generously donated his time to facilitate the D-40 Inventory.

A D-40 Inventory Ad Hoc Committee was then tasked with finding solutions to areas needing improvement. Areas needing improvement were identified in the D-40 Inventory.

The D-40 Inventory Ad Hoc committee focused on the questions

How can we do better?

What steps are processes are needed to make these positive changes?

How best to proceed with implementing these positive changes?

DISCUSSION RESULTS:

The D-40 Inventory Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes from May 2023-October 2023 were shared with all D-40 members on (insert date).

The Ad Hoc committee advisory actions or list of actionable items are below

Improve GSR Training and 2-way communication

ADVISORY ACTIONS	STATUS
GSR workshops at COTHA in Katy	No Start Dates Yet
GSR Training/Speakers in D-40 meetings	On-Going
More Airtime for GSRs in D-40 mtgs	CHANGE ACCOMPLISHED
Present GSR Resources in D-40mtg	On-Going
GSR training w/dynamic with Video and pictures	On-Going
Discuss GSR Resources in D-40mtg	On-Going
Outside speakers for short GSR training w/Q&A	Need to schedule
Meeting Format Change >2-way communication	CHANGE ACCOMPLISHED
Increase GSR training/participation in discussion	Steady Progress
Encourage GSRs to speak up and ask questions	Steady Progress
GSR reports on Homegroup	CHANGE ACCOMPLISHED
GSR get homegroup input on D-40 discussions	Steady progress

January 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 3

Encourage service sponsor/GSR Training	Format and Frequency?
Robert's Rules/Service Workshops	No Start Date Yet
GSR Training on Shared Drive	Progress Unknown

GROW THE LEADERSHIP PIPELINE

ADVISORY ACTIONS	STATUS
GSR workshops at COTHA in Katy	No Start Dates Yet
GSR Training/Speakers in D-40 meetings	In Progress
Visit groups+ group connection to AA as a whole	Out Reach Committee?
Announce Open Positions frequently	CHANGE ACCOMPLISHED
Service workshops at COTHA in Katy	No Start Dates Yet
Groups/2Districts Host Service Workshop	No Start Dates Yet
Digital Contributions Link/App Scan	CHANGE ACCOMPLISHED
Digital Resources for CPC rep support	Progress Unknown
GSR invite group members to D-40/SETA	Progress Unknown
Newsletter posted on D-40 SETA	Progress Unknown

Revise and Amend D-40 P&P

ADVISORY ACTIONS	STATUS
Amend P&P so It's more in line with the AA Service Manual	Need to Form Committee
Amend Robert's Rules in P&P to match AA Service Manual	Need to Form Committee
Amend P&P so It's more in line with SETA	Need to Form Committee
Amend Robert's Rules in P&P so it's more in line with SETA	Need to Form Committee

January 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 4

P&P Manual Revise Job Descriptions/RRules

Need to Form Committee

GSR Section – Approx 40 minutes

New GSR – introductions, tell us about your home group.

If you need a GSR kit, let Doug know.

New – Ethan B., Alt. GSR for the Katy 12&12

- Look over and discuss “the group Handbook”
- Workshops your Groups would like to host.

GSR section:

Farah – is stepping down as GSR because she is moving. She asked Doug or Mike to attend her last Group Conscience Meeting to tell her group about group Positions within Group Conscience. Mike will attend.

The Group handbook

Doug - I showed this, I think in one of the months last year, but it just resurfaced while getting a new group set up at GSO. This is what a new group should receive from GSO after they turn their paperwork in. You will see the vast amount of information that is sent. One of the attachments in the agenda this month has this list. If you look through that list does anyone have any questions on anything in this?

Discussion: **No discussion**

General Sharing Session

Farah talked about the Power of the Purse, stating her group is withholding funds from GSO.

Carol F. felt withholding funds from GSO was dangerous and should not be done.

Amanda said even though things are not right, we must support them.

Mike B. stated Bill W. was clear about the Power of the purse, we need to support GSO, GSO is not being fiscally responsible, they need to cut costs, get out of New York. One country requested literature which is a fundamental responsibility of GSO and they did not send the literature. His group is not sending funds to GSO. Marilyn’s comments in chat:

Power of the purse – some groups and members have stopped sending money to GSB. I recently emailed the GSO and GSB has no strategic plan since 2019. Anyone can write GSO if concerned about hot button literature controversy and lack of transparency, lack of accountability and lack of cost containment. Half million spent on lawsuit without asking fellowship, millions spent on outside consultants and lawyers. GSB board meetings have become closed door and meeting minutes not shared with fellowship.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Rep: Lillian K. – absent

CFC Rep: Anne M – I have been approved by TDCJ to begin going into the prisons. I have also partnered with a couple members to get on approved lists for specific jails/prisons. I will let the group know when our next volunteer training program is.

CPC Rep: Open

Grapevine Rep: Wendy F. let her committee know if your group wants to host a GV writing workshop.

IT Rep: Peggy A – the IT committee is looking for a secretary and treasurer and anyone with Google Workspace experience.

Houston Intergroup Liaison : Fernando B-
December Intergroup Delegate Report

January 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 5

The December Delegate's Meeting held on December 14th, 2023.

Bookstore

Hours : Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

Will be closed December 22, 25, 29 and Jan 2.

AAWS : 1st 2 weeks in January conducting Inventory, no orders to be placed.

Orders can be placed by calling, emailing or through the online bookstore. No discount on case. (5% case discount only for call, email and in person orders)

The Link Newsletter

- December newsletter distributed the 1st week in December .

- December 2023 Link Report (as of 12/11/23)

- Sent Emails : 10,464

- Successful : 10,256

- Opened : 3,694

Meeting Changes

- Can be made online or by emailing.

- As of December 1, 2023

- Meetings : 1882

- Locations : 289

- Groups : 533

Phone Calls

- Calls have gone up in November (1035) and also gone up from November 2022 (880)

Sales Charts

- Desire Chips : October - 663; November - 742

- 1 Year Chips : October - 110; November - 74

- Big Book All Formats : October - 464; November - 1016

7th Tradition Contributions

- Please check with treasurer to see if the contributions that Intergroup has matches what it is reported in your respective groups financials. If you don't have a rep, please check with me and I will send you the information.

Events

- Upcoming Workshops, looking at possibly doing a play, or even a themed escape room.

Next Delegates Meeting - Thursday, February 15th, 2024 @ 8 p.m.

There are open weekends for night watch.

March 22-25

December 20-23

December 27-30

December 23,26 and 30 from 9am - 5pm

Individual night watch - 4th Thursday of the month

Literature Rep: Carol F.-

The Area 67 Literature Committee met Dec. 16. The group voted to change the meeting time from 8:30 to 7:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month henceforth.

The majority of the meeting was spent discussing the Nov. 13 letter sent by the trustees' Literature Committee in November, seeking the opinions of the membership concerning future changes to the writings of the founders of Alcoholics Anonymous. I've attached a copy of the letter to this report.

The questions will be discussed at the SETA convention and at the roundtable event in April. The Area Literature Committee discussed possibly presenting a workshop to provide another opportunity for member feedback on the questions.

The questions being posed are as follows:

Suggested Questions for Discussion of Original Writings of Founders

January 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 6

1. Do you think that A.A. Founders would object to or embrace revisions to their writings? If yes, why? If not, why
2. Do you think the Founders’ writings are effective in reaching new members? If not, what measures do you think can be taken to resolve this issue?
3. What reasons would you consider for changing our Founders’ writings?
4. How do you feel about changing A.A. Founders’ writings to replace outdated references?
5. What suggestions do you have for preserving the Founders’ writings, along with keeping pace with our current A.A. Society and its future?
6. Should there be a special Conference process for approval of changes to our Founders’ writings? (e.g., super, or qualified majority – 75%, and/or 2-year consideration process.)
at aa.org.
7. What additional ideas, thoughts or suggestions can you share about changing or not changing the Founders’ writings?

Note : Please be as concise as possible in your responses to the questions.
Answers can be submitted by individuals, groups, districts and areas and can be sent via a form

Alcoholics Anonymous*
www.aa.org

General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

475 Riverside Drive, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10115 / Telephone: (212) 870-3400

Please direct all communications to:
P.O. Box 459
Grand Central Station
New York, NY 10163
Fax: (212) 870-8003

November 13, 2023

Dear Trusted Servants:

A.A.'s Co-Founder, Bill W., in his 1953 address to the General Service Conference, stated that he did not consider himself the author of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book (*Our Great Responsibility*, p. 92). He also alluded to the fact that in the various A.A. literature published prior to his passing, he borrowed heavily from other sources, and that other A.A. members made significant contributions.

On the other hand, addressing the historical context of some of the writings of our Founders, many members in our Fellowship have expressed strong sentiment against any changes in the first 164 pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book, as well as the Preface, the Forewords, The Doctor's Opinion, Doctor Bob's Nightmare, and the Appendices. In fact, as early as 1995 and most recently in 2022, Advisory Actions designed to protect the above-referenced contents have been passed by the General Service Conference.

In response to a Committee Consideration from the 73rd General Service Conference suggesting that trustees' Literature Committee *seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s Founders*, the trustees' Literature committee agreed it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding this topic.

We would like to hear from you – the top of the triangle! While we hope that the suggested questions will help to spark thoughtful sharing and discussion, please feel free to add questions that we may not have thought of that you feel may best inform the discussion. Most of all, we are grateful for and thank you for your participation.

In fellowship,

The trustees' Literature Committee (2023-2024)

**Newsletter
Editor:
Open**

January 2023—Meeting Minutes Pg 7

PI Public Information): OPEN

TFC Rep: Open

OLD BUSINESS:

Open positions 2023 – Alt Secretary, Alt. Treasurer, CPC, Newsletter Editor, PI and TFC

Tracey C. elected Alt. Secretary

Amanda L. elected Alt. Treasurer

Responsibility STATEMENT: All Together

ADJOURN: 8:51 pm

**2024 District 40
Officers and Committee Representatives**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
DCM	Doug D	Doug.d@aa-seta.org
Alt DCM	Mike B	Mike.b@aa-seta.org
Secretary	Theresa S	Theresa.s@aa-seta.org
Alt Secretary	Tracey C	
Treasurer	Ronnie H	Ronnie.h@aa-seta.org
Alt Treasurer	Amanda L	
Archives	OPEN	
Newsletter Editor	Ethan	
Grapevine Rep	Wendy F	wendy.f@aa-seta.org
IT Rep	Peggy A	peggy.a@aa-seta.org
Literature Rep	Carol F	carol.f@aa-seta.org
CFC Rep	Anne M	anne.m@aa-seta.org
Intergroup Rep	Fernando B	Fernando.b@aa-seta.org
CPC Rep	Eric C	
PI Rep	OPEN	
TFC	OPEN	

AREA 67 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee	Meeting Date & Time	Location
Archives	2nd Monday of the Month 7pm	Google Meet Link: meet.google.com/uus-pbqk-xip Online Only
CPC - Cooperation with the Professional Community	1st Monday of the Month 7:30p	Zoom ID: 632-634-860 Passcode: 153379
CFC - Correctional Facilities	3rd Wednesday of the Month 7:30p	Zoom ID: 4772549035 Passcode: heartbeat Houston Intergroup 5151 Mitcheldale St, HTX 77092 Conference Room
Grapevine	3rd Thursday of the Month 7:30p	Zoom ID: 114 207 273 Passcode: 610793
Intergroup (Delegate's Meeting)	3rd Thursday Every Other Month 8p	Zoom Call (786)686-6300 for more info
IT - Internet Technologies	4th Saturday of the Month 10am	Google Meet: ID: nqm-vypy-yao
Multi-Lingual	1st Thursday of the Month 7:30p	District 66 4800 5645 Hillcroft Suite 410 HTX, 77036
Literature	3rd Tuesday of the Month 8:30p	Zoom ID: 257 198 925 Passcode: 443980
PI - Public Information	4th Tuesday of the Month 7:30p	Zoom ID: 330 417 285 Passcode: 153379
TFC - Treatment Facility Committee	15th Day of Every Month 7p <i>At times the 15th of the month can fall on a weekend or holiday. When that occurs, the TFC meeting will automatically be held <u>on the following business day</u>.</i>	Zoom ID: 552 569 731 Passcode: 169753