

DISTRICT 40 NEWSLETTER

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

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

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DISTRICT 40 OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location:

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

Google Meet

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

Mailing Address:

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

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: May 14, 2024

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Attendees: 24 online, 2 in-person

Call to Order – 7:02 pm, Doug D.

SERENITY PRAYER- Doug

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

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

DCM Report

Hello D40, I hope everyone is safe after all the rain and ready for all the heat that is coming. Let's see what we all have on the plate for this month. We have Patty from the Pink Table; our registrar and Chris from TFC will drop by tonight. We will also discuss how to bring up topics in your home group. I was contacted by a member of this district about a topic that made me think, this would be a good way for all of us to discuss how to get your home group into a healthy discussion on a topic and how long you need to find a group conscience.

SETA reached out for help from a few districts to help with our last 2 assemblies this year but I heard back that the October one is already taken.

We are looking for two or more host districts to host the July and October Assemblies. Remember, we are doing one-day assemblies right now and just need a few folks.

You would need a couple of folks to share on the tradition and concept.

A few folks to support registration.

A few folks to support hospitality, which only has to have coffee.

Possibly a few folks to serve as greeters.

Take it back to your groups and let's talk about it next month

We will be meeting in a different room next month. Only for those in person, online is still the same. Also, next month we will have Rick and Christina stop by for the delegate's report.

How many of y'all are already booked in for the SWRAASA? This weekend-long assembly is focused on service and a lot more about AA as a whole. It will be outside Dallas so I am figuring some carpooling will be going on. I don't remember off the top of my head what the price of hotels are per night but you might ask your home group if they would fund you. The next one is in 2026 and it will be in Houston. I wonder if we have extra funds to swing a lottery for 1 or 2 people to go. The DCM and Alt DCM are already funded in our D40 budget but it might be the fuel that ignites the service side of your recovery. I was in a service workshop and they were talking about the shape of your triangle.

Doug

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ALT. DCM Report

District 40 GSRs and Alt-GSRs, as always please let me know how I can best serve you and your home-group, so that we can carry out our primary purpose.

The District Inventory Ad Hoc Implementation & Planning Committee has not been put together or scheduled. This committee will be involved in helping to plan and implement all the considerations from the D40 Inventory. Please come see me or Doug if you would like to be involved in this. These were your considerations, and we want to honor them by moving them forward.

D40 Workshops: Part of what came out of those considerations was for District 40 to do workshops. These will be held quarterly, so the first one will be in July. One of the online groups will host this one. July will BUSY! More to come!

Traditions Dinner: The date for this will be Saturday, August 17, 2024. I'm working on something awesome, so it's never too early to get a list of volunteers for that, so if you're interested; please let me know.

Through love and service,
Mike

GUESTS-

Patty H.– Area 67 Registrar –attended the D40 meeting to promote her job and encourage participation at the area level. Her job duties include registration of all attendees at each General Assembly, Roll Call at each General Assembly, generating a list of all groups for the Delegates and the DCMs, and collecting money for coffee at each General Assembly.

Chris G. – Treatment Facilities Chair for Area 67. This committee coordinates meetings in Treatment Facilities and manages the Bridging the Gap Program (BTG). The BTG program ensures newcomers get to their first AA meeting. There is a pamphlet and a binder available for anyone interested in getting involved.

GSR Section – Approx 40 minutes

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

NEW ATTENDEES – Roy E., So Far So Good Group GSR

Topics:

Do we want to host the July assembly at the new location? (discuss and vote)

How to bring up topics in your Home Group. (Discuss topics, discussion time, and how to conclude your findings)

A.

Peggythinks San Jac is a nice place and we should do it.

Terral agreed that San Jac is a nice place but July is not a good month because a lot of people are traveling.

Juan asked what was involved in hosting and Doug explained.

B.

Kaitlin is in a virtual group that uses the “WhatsUp” App for Group Announcements. Her group has a Website and a Webmaster.

Mike B. is in a virtual group with a website for announcements such as meeting times and who is the speaker. They use the “Signal” App to communicate with each other. Their Group Conscience is limited to one hour.

Doug talked about the NAATW (Technology) Workshop coming up in September.

Joey H. talked about going to Group Conscience in person and online and thinks using a white board is a good idea.

Katherine V. said the White Oak Group GSR puts the report on the facebook page.

Doug said his homegroup has a zoom liaison.

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DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Rep: Lilian K. – absent

CFC Rep: Anne M – Sept. 6, 7, 8, C.F. Conference

CPC Rep: Open

Grapevine Rep: Wendy F. – Stepped down

IT Rep: Peggy A – unable to attend.

Houston Intergroup Liaison : Fernando B-Bookstore

- Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

- Currently looking for new vendors for chips

- Call ahead, there are some shortages from AAWS

- 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 : 10,630

- Successful : 10,508

- Opened : 4,280

Meeting Changes

- Can be made online or by emailing.

- As of April 2024

- Meetings : 1881

- Locations : 290

- Groups : 540

Phone Calls

- Calls have gone up in March (1181) and also gone up from March 2023 (1091)

Sales Charts

- Desire Chips : February - 901; March - 811

- 1 Year Chips : February - 132; March - 122

- Big Book All Formats : February - 666; March - 469

Literature Rep: Carol F.- The Area 67 Literature Committee meets at 7:30 p.m. every third Tuesday online. At the April meeting, the committee approved a motion to resubmit a proposed agenda item (PAI) for endorsement by the area assembly. The PAI asks that the General Service Office make final conference agenda items and background material available to the entire Fellowship by Feb. 1, prior to the April General Service Conference. The PAI was submitted during the last cycle, but was not included on the final GSC agenda.

The committee members believe that more time is necessary in the leadup to the conference for groups and districts to inform the membership about subjects that will be discussed at the conference. The PAI states, that if adopted, the change would "allow the entire Fellowship time to review Final Conference Agenda at group, district and area levels so that a fully informed group conscience can be developed."

The Literature Committee also discussed the possibility of organizing a workshop to help people understand that process around submitting agenda items. All AA members are welcome to attend the Literature Committee meeting. If you are interested, please contact District 40 Literature Rep Carol F. at carol.f@aa-seta.org or dan.k@aa-seta.org.

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Newsletter Editor: Ethan – absent

PI Public Information): OPEN

TFC Rep: Open

Old Business

- AD-Hoc to review and rewrite D40 P&P Manual – (need more volunteers)
- Open positions 2023 - CPC, TFC & PI Rep, Newsletter, Grapevine

Responsibility STATEMENT: All Together

ADJOURN: 8:38 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