

Southeast Texas Area Assembly



2nd Quarter Area Committee Meeting Minutes Saturday March 29, 2025

Online via Zoom

NOTICE: Area Guidelines prohibit publishing personal email addresses or phone numbers, so email addresses have been converted to position-based email addresses.

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first to keep our Fellowship united.

For upon A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

Working Together - Increasing Trust

Area Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 29, 2025 9:00 AM

Online via Zoom

Open Meeting @ 9:00 am

Serenity Prayer Patty H.

Preamble to [SETA Policies & Procedures Manual](#) Reino F.

ROLL CALL – Area Committee Attendance Elizabeth G.

Roster link will only work with those with a seta-aa.org email address.

PDF will be sent out quarterly

Roster contains confidential information and should not be shared outside of this committee.

Several DCM's and Alternates are shown vacant, go to the registrar table and fill out the form.

Review & Approve Previous Area Assembly Minutes Fernando B.

Ron.M - email address was updated,

Alise B. - Newsletter Report was submitted and added

Changes to translated version were updated to state

- coordinador in place of presidente or silla
- Alternativo was updated to state suplente
- Changed abbreviations for committee titles for their translations in spanish

No other corrections, Minutes accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's Report Presentation to Area Committee Aliciea M.

2024 Treasurer's Report

- Operating Funds
 - Beginning Funds - \$80,587.97
 - Deposits - \$14,152.05
 - Checks Written - 14,536.83
 - Ending Balance - \$95,203.19
 - Unrestricted Balance \$74,466.36

1st Quarter 2025

- Operating Funds
 - Beginning Funds - \$95,203.19
 - Deposits - \$36,806.68
 - Checks Written - \$31,087.36
 - Net - \$5,779.61
 - Ending Balance - \$100,922.52
- Restricted Funds
 - SWRAASA - \$2,500.00
 - SCAP - \$3,000.00
 - Prudent Reserve - \$25,351.00
 - Convention Loss Reserve - \$7,500.00
 - Ending Balance - \$38,351.00
 - Unrestricted Balance \$62,571.51

Comments

- **Mike D.** - There should of been \$5,000 that was already set aside for SWARRSA years ago
- **Aliciea M.** - Yes, we already spent that.
- **Christina S.** - Yes, the \$5,000 was spent for the hotel deposit back in October of last year.
- **Troy B-D.** - Is the \$7,500 convention loss reserve reflecting the loss that has been reported as of today?
- **Aliciea M.** - No, this is going forward for 2026.

New Business

(No voting today, will vote tomorrow)

Finance Committee Motions

Kevin W.

1. Begin the SETA yearly budget process in October. Send the budget out to be reviewed in November. Budget to be voted on at January's Assembly.

Comments

- **Christina S.** - If we have a budget at some point that the Area votes down, what things are we putting in place to allow the treasurer to actually pay the bills until the April Assembly? If we don't vote on the year's budget until the year starts, are we giving the treasurer the ability to pay the bills regardless of whether the area has approved it?
- **Kevin W.** - We haven't discussed that yet
- **Patty H.** - Aliciea, do you have any comments on that?
- **Aliciea M.** - I don't, I think that we should have something in place for us to be able to pay the bill, yes.
- **Brad H.** - The January assembly is already so rushed and it doesn't seem like there will be enough time to handle something like the budget. Maybe it is a separate discussion of what they do with the January Assembly, like an online version or extending the assembly.
- **Troy B-D.** - To Christina's concern, this is maybe something that we need to add as a friendly amendment and also I'm thinking that this is in the policies and procedures but that expenses that come out without a budget approval go through the finance committee. It sets the precedent, I just don't know if it is written anywhere, maybe it should be in the motion.
- **Christina S.** - I guess, it should be for the January convention if we are approving the budget for that year. If they have all gotten a two day room and expected their funds to be reimbursed, are we going to allow the treasurer to reimburse them, even if the budget has not been approved. This could be a huge chunk of money that some of the trusted servants would be out of.
- **Jim M.** - I believe October is also when we have the elections every other year, does that create a time crunch for that assembly?
- **Kevin W.** - That is something that we have not taken into consideration.
- **Patty H.** - I think the first time we tried this was when the elections were going and the goal was to have the incoming trusted servants participate in their budget, is that correct?
- **Kevin W.** - Yes, correct.
- **Allise B.** - This will also affect the newsletter, if you want a printed newsletter in January, I guess the finance committee will work that out. I found out that last year's budget was not available to me and neither was this year's budget.
- **Troy B-D.** - I think a friendly amendment to this motion could be to do the budget from February to February instead of January to January, just to cover that convention and assembly cost. We have never been able to create our own budgets and it created alot of ineffective work and if you did not show up to the budget meeting.
- **Byron** - Is there a current budget in place for this year, is this motion for a new budget for the following year?
- **Kevin W.** - We already have a budget for this year, this is to change the process.
- **Patty H.** - Do you want to restate the motion with the friendly amendment? Troy, can you help with that?

- **Troy B-D.** - The yearly budget process will be moved to October for a February to February budget process and then be sent to the groups for review in November, 45 days prior to the Assembly and be presented at the January Assembly for vote.
- **Tony A.** - I am wondering if it would be best to table this and let the committee review some of what's been brought up here and discuss it at the next meeting.
- **Rick M.** - I am with Tony, I think it is a great idea but I think it would be best to allow the Finance Committee to carefully consider and discuss that and make sure there are not any unintended consequences that we are not seeing at the moment. Make sure we are not handcuffing ourselves at the moment or doing something that may come back to bite us.
- **Mike B.** - We have extended the budget in the past, almost a whole year, and yet we still managed to maintain. Why is this all of a sudden a concern? We have done it in the past where we kept on moving it to the next assembly and next, and we were still able to function. We already have a process for that now.
- **Reno F.** - I have reviewed the policy and procedures manual and for finance there is nothing about what we discussed about an option. If we move from February, it would act as January and so forth. Some things would have to be adjusted here. I am with Mike, things operated before.
- **Christina S.** - The reason it has been pushed off in the past is because we did the budget a year ahead of time. For 2005, we started in the beginning of 2004. It would be pushed over several assemblies and still allow the treasurer to pay the bills. The only question is that are we going to allow the treasurer the ability to pay the bills if the budget is not approved in January?
- **Bryon** - are we using a Calendar or Fiscal year at SETA?
- **Troy B-D.** - We had looked into this a couple of times. Our fiscal year is a calendar year and they are the same. We asked our CPA and the IRS, we can change it without any types of penalties or requests from anyone. It is really up to us and how we do our budget and what we consider our fiscal year. If we decided to move from February to February, that would be our fiscal year and we would not use the calendar year.
- **Julian L.** - Is there some form that we must use if we are going to change our fiscal year because we are a 501C.
- **Kevin W.** - that is something that we would have to discuss with our CPA.
- **Troy B-D.** - We have had this conversation with our CPA and to my knowledge there is no form as long as we are paying our taxes.
- **Mike D.** - Maybe there is an alternative to this, we are trying to make it where our current budget holders can have their budget and we are in that process, we found a hiccup with being the January Assembly, what if we set aside a line item where we covered this assembly of unrestricted funds that would cover that. We would have a continuance for the January Assembly.
- **Allise B.** - The change in fiscal year is incorporated with your annual return.
- **Rick M.** - Is this going to require a change to the policies and procedures manual. If so, this is a whole other can of worms.
- **Reino F.** - I don't know
- **Patty H.** - It states that we begin the budget process in April , the second quarter assembly and that's when I brought this to the attention of the Finance Committee because they had started or they were going to be starting in October and they had done it last year as a trial, it would it would be a policy and procedures change.
- **Rick M.** - So, changing our fiscal year to February to February would need to be a P&P revision, am I wrong?
- **Reino F.** - I believe you are right on that.
- **Cheryl M.** - I asked my AI, according to the IRS, we can change our accounting period one time every 10 years. We do that by just writing it on our tax return form, after that we have to fill out a form within the 10 years. It suggests filling out the form anyway to avoid any problems.
- **Aliciea M.** - Troy had a great idea, can't we just write it in there to give the treasurer the ability to pay bills in January?

- **Tony A.** - I'll call it, I wasn't ready to make that motion last time because I didn't want to end discussion, but I would like to make a motion that we table this and give the finance committee time to review all the information they have received.
- **Patty H.** - So we had a friendly amendment earlier. So we have a motion to postpone. Do we have a second?
- **Christina S.** - Second.
- **Patty H.** - So at this point we are going to vote.

Vote

- Postpone - 28
- Oppose - 0

Floor Action

Christina S.

Hey ya'll, thank you so much, Patty, for giving me the opportunity to share and this kind of came at the last second. This is not coming out of committee, this is coming from me directly. So I asked Patty if could have the time for the area committee to discuss and so it could come out of committee with a 1st and a 2nd, and then be taken to the assembly for a vote.

Background information - SWRAASA 2026 is being held at the Hyatt Regency Baytown. The contract with the hotel requires us to submit a payment of \$5,000 every 6 months. Currently, the SWRAASA 2026 Committee does not have \$5,000. I've submitted my personal credit card information to pay the next required payment of \$5,000 on March 30th, 2025. My motion is that SETA reimburse me, Christina S., \$5,000 for the whole payment on March 30th, 2025.

Comments-

- **Tony A.** - I second that motion.
- **Troy B-D.** - I was wondering if Christina had thought about doing some fundraisers like a car wash or something to cover the expenses.
- **Patty H.** - Bikini Car Wash
- **Christina S.** - Lose money from the bikini car wash and start paying people.
- **Jennifer W.** - What color is the speedo?
- **Fernando B.** - Call it Bikinis and Speedos
- **Rick M.** - We can do a bake sale in conjunction with it.
- **Patty H.** - Oh my goodness, no other discussion we will go ahead and vote.
 - 27 for reimbursement to Christina S.
 - 0 for no reimbursement to Christina S.
- Christina S. - Thank you

SETA Convention Review Ad hoc

Danny G.

So Hello, everybody. So 1st and foremost, Troy needs to participate in that Bikini car wash. And secondly.

I think Christina needs to come out of pocket just because she loves Aa that much. So, anyway. But that being said, Patty tapped me. I'm gonna call this the dose. It's the department of SETA Convention Efficiency. No, I'm just lying.

So here's what we got. So Patty called me up. Asked me if I would form a SETA Convention ad hoc committee to look over the things our subject matter focuses on. I'm just going to read the ad hoc real quick.

Our subject matter focuses on reviewing recent financial losses for conventions. Our general goals and objectives are to review historical financial outcomes of conventions, what caused negative outcomes, and why correlate location of convention upon financial outcome. Review oversight of convention, finances and budgets make recommendations for future convention oversight and improve financial outcomes, make recommendations for changes to Seta convention guidelines. So our expected results, recommendations for our locations with increased probability of positive financial achievement formation of oversight process. The expected completion date is going to be at the July Area Assembly. So just real quick. I have a committee right now of 6 folks, some that have been super involved with SETA Conventions in the past, and Bill W. Or Bill B. I'm sorry Bill B. And Brandy W. Myself.

I have some folks that are coming up through our service structure, some of the some young folks, Andrea W. Elizabeth and Dj. And anyways we met on March 16th we started discussing. We're going over the last, probably 5. I want to say 5, 6 years, I believe, is what it was all the way back to the 2019 SETA Convention.

We're looking at the financial reports. I have most of them. I'm still looking from our past, Beaumont, if Annette, if we, if she or if anybody, can, send me those for the detailed, not just the final number, but the actual detail.

Also, Joel, if I could get the one from you guys or just the details of the financials is what I'm still looking for. I have the final numbers. I'm just looking for a little bit of the details of everything. So we look at that and just kind of make a recommendation. You know we're just, seeing you know what we can do better, how we can grow. I think, since Covid, I think a lot of things have been what the committee we kind of discussed. I think there's a lot of things that have changed. And so we're just trying to figure out the best and most efficient way. And you know how we can be good stewards of the money, how we could still carry the message. How we can still enjoy and have a good time with the conventions as well, so there's nothing else we will report back on. Well, I'll report again in the Assembly, but then we'll give a final report in July.

That's it.

No Comments

SETA Standing Committee Participation Review Ad hoc

Tony A.

I was asked to chair an ad hoc committee to review the participation of the "SETA Standing AREA Committees." The committee members are Jackie M. DCM D82-P73, current AREA Finance Secretary; Kristi A. D31, AREA PI Chair-P71; Don M. D31, current AREA CPC Chair; Luis P. D66, current AREA Bilingual Chair; and David L. D51, current Alt-DCM, AREA CPC P69. Those of you who have enjoyed working with these trusted servants know their dedication and knowledge of the AREA, their districts, and their groups. It's an honor to serve with them on this ad hoc committee.

The committee was formed because strict time restraints have been placed on using the college facilities since moving to the one-day assemblies. Per the AREA contract, we must leave the college and lock the doors by 5:00 PM. These time restraints no longer allow the committees to have breakout rooms or give complete committee reports at the assemblies. The committees can no longer keep the fellowship up-to-date with their progress and needs, or educate the members on how they can get involved in serving the suffering Alcoholic through the standing committees.

This ad hoc committee has been tasked with investigating the need for better communication between the AREA, Districts, and Groups, balancing time and costs, and presenting our findings to the AREA.

The committee has divided the investigation into four stages. The first stage is to determine if the AREA needs better communication between the Standing Committees and the AREA Fellowship. The second stage is to investigate what actions can be taken to better address this need. The third stage is to determine the costs associated with the actions. The last stage is to determine what resources are required.

The committee asks that every group and member complete a survey. In A.A., God speaks to us through OUR group conscience. Your thoughts and ideas are invaluable. A link to the study will be sent out by the SETA Announce email, and copies of the QR code will be made available at the assembly next weekend.

When completing the survey, we ask that you not consider costs or resources, only consider if there is a need for better communications, and provide suggestions on how we can improve communications. In Bill's writings and the A.A. service manual, concept IX, section LEADERSHIP IN A.A.: EVER A VITAL NEED, Bill W suggests resolving needs that may arise. The first is to consider if a need exists; second, he suggests listing solutions to fix the "need". Third, he lists costs associated with correcting the "need". The final consideration is resources.

After reviewing all the suggestions, we will consider the costs and resources of meeting any "needs" while carefully considering the AREA budget and resources, before presenting our findings to the assembly.

If you have any questions, please contact me or one of the other committee members.

In Love & Service,

Tony A.

No Comments

Discussion - 2026 SWRAASA Cost and possible Group Contributions Mike. D

So just seeing Christina's motion a while ago that came up. We've been having discussions about hosting the SWRAASA. It's a great honor and a privilege and a responsibility for our area to host it, and it, and it does a tremendous amount of work for us in our area. We have the opportunity for people who normally wouldn't get to go have it in their backyard. So we have it. But as you can see that in the times of doing this, it costs money to be able to put it on.

So I know in our our district we voted way back in the fall that we would bring a motion that we would ask the groups to make contributions, pass a basket or a can earmarked for funds for this, because we maybe inadvertently have been little lax in our idea of when it ever came to our rotation to to do the SWRAASA, that we had set \$5,000 aside, thinking that would that would hold us off. But you just saw with Christina that the hotel now has a requirement every 6 months that you give another \$5,000, and we've had discussions between some of us that maybe we can earmark some funds out of our unrestricted for this, and which would be a great idea. But I would still think about talking to the other areas in the region who have hosted this in the past, and we have. We had it one time that they always ask their groups for money, and I know sometimes we get hung up on the word, instructing the groups to do something, and we're not instructing. We're asking that they voluntarily pass a basket. And I know within our discussions we have had that with some of us in the area that we have unrestricted funds. And it's kind of hard to ask the groups to be able to do this. But we are responsible for this, so that it's going to fall on somebody's shoulders like we saw today that it fell on Christina.

You put her in a bad situation where she had to use her own credit card to be able to do this. And so we have been actually reactive instead of proactive. A lot of areas in the region. When they do this they plan years in advance. They set aside 2 or \$3,000 every year till the time comes for them to host it. So when the time comes when this situation arises that we are able to combat it, that you can face it up and have the money.

I've talked with Troy, and once again we have money in the unrestricted funds. And now that's why I asked a while ago how much unrestricted, and it seems like when we did our treasure report said, we have \$60,000.

Here's the idea that if we've asked the groups to pass the basket and you know we have, you know, 600 to 700 groups. If every group over a period of time passed about a voluntary basket. It gives the opportunity for a member who wants to make a contribution to make a contribution, and the person who doesn't. They don't have to. We're not instructing them to build money, and then we're just asking them to help support it because we are responsible for it.

And so I wanted to bring this to this. We already have a line item in our budget for SWRAASA, so that money can be sent, and I know Bella has a way to send it. You can send it, even if we ask the

groups for the money and say we earmarked from unrestricted we could replenish that unrestricted fund by doing that, and we can essentially cut the cost of the Service Assembly down. Very, very much so and we've asked them before when we did it the 1st time we asked the groups. And so that question about instructing the groups to pass a basket. We're not instructing them. We're just asking them if they would like to participate to pass the basket kind of like we do blue can for the correctional facilities, and that way we can. We won't find ourselves in a dilemma.

We have to remember the people we put in charge like Bella and Christina. And when this happens, that's their responsibility, it falls on their shoulders, and we shouldn't have to put that kind of dilemma on anybody. You know. It's a privilege and an honor to do this. So that's what our group, our district 33, made a motion that we sent to the area, and then we kind of thought, well, we don't want to tell nobody what to do. But you see, there's a need. It's easy to sit there and say, Oh, we don't want to do that when it ain't coming out of your pocket, but when it's coming out of your pocket. It's gonna be. It is a thing. And like I said, we're not asking them, demanding them to give money. We're just asking if they would like to contribute. This will help offset it. So I just wanted to bring that to your attention that sometimes we do. We kind of go about it. Lackluster like, oh, it's just gonna happen.

But they don't work like that. Any of us who have ever had to deal with hotels. And you're going to see in today's report from the SETA Convention. It doesn't always work out like it's projected to.

And this is a way we can be proactive by passing the basket, and then over a period. If we are wanting to do it early enough that you could, you could collect the money and send it in and send it in, and it's pretty easy for a group to give a hundred dollars over a long period of time and if somebody wants to it would really help us. So I'm glad to see that.

I'm not just blowing some air to you that this is really important, and it's very much an honor to be able to host the Regional Service Assembly and that honor we're going to have, we're responsible for doing it. So thank you for the time.

Comments

- **Bella L.** - Hi! Family. I'm Bella, and I am your alternate delegate, and it is an honor to serve you, and I do want to tell you that I have spoken with regions. As a matter of fact, we meet monthly, and due to the fact that we are, we've recently gotten our website up where people can start registering. And also I'll be bringing cards and flyers to our assembly for you guys to pick up to bring back to your groups. But keep in mind that we only host this every 22 years. Therefore, myself being only sober 16 years, I have not ever experienced it. A lot of us that don't have more than 22 years have not ever experienced this, and it is also a great experience for our area, our region to experience, because now we can also pass this onto the next people that comes after us that has to do this. Thank you for your presentation, because it is definitely needed. And I do want to explain to those that don't know what SWRAASA is. It's a 3 day meeting assembly of alcoholics anonymous, and there will be general sessions as well as workshops and speakers and attendees participating, and that's sharing from the floor. We cover many services and programs related items such as concepts, traditions. Cpc committee corrections committee, several different committees and you get to meet people from other regions that can bring a lot of information and share with us how to enhance and better our community. So there's a lot of things that happen there, that's very beneficial. I am. We're also taking registration. Registration is only \$20. So therefore, we can help offset all this, if everyone will register that would definitely be appreciated. But I do want to tell you that it is something that it's an honor, as he said, it's an honor, and the people that you meet you will be honored to meet them. They're great people, and I just want to thank all of you guys for helping out, and it is heavy, so therefore I need a village to help me carry it. Thank you.
- **Byron** - There was something like this happening a couple of years ago here in Houston. Are we talking about a different type of event or is it happening here again in Houston?
- **Mike D.** - It's gonna be our second time hosting it. When I was a delegate we had never hosted it and I petitioned that we would have the opportunity because we were one of the 3 areas that had never hosted it in the history of SWRAASA and so we gave it to SouthEast Texas. Then it rotated to southeast Texas, and then it went to Kansas. So now all the areas in our region have had the opportunity to host SWARRSA and it comes every 22 years. So now is

our 22 year rotation for the second time. So it's our honor. Actually, 22 years ago we had one of the largest SWRAASA that ever was put on us. We had a great turnout from our area, and I expect that to be the same now. But we have to be prepared for it, and that's the point we're trying to make is just be prepared and to and we can put on an event that will draw. I think, if you saw this last year in the northeast Texas area. They had maybe 700 to 800 people. But well clearly because of it being in our area, we'll probably have 1,200 people come. So the opportunity to showcase what it's intended for southeast Texas to showcase the area, the region in service.

- **Christina S.** - Back in 2019, we had the regional forum here and the regional forum is a little different. A regional forum is actually, most of the costs are covered by the General Service Board in the office, so they come to our area, but they cover a lot of the costs. SWRAASA falls really on our shoulders as an area. And I agree with Mike, it's going to be a great opportunity for all of those that don't necessarily, even in the Houston area, have the know what service is all about right to be able to just come even one of the days to check out and see. What does it look like to serve the fellowship that saved our lives? And that's all I got.
- **John O.** - And you know you learn a lot. I mean, you learn a lot at the time. I think I was the literature chair for the southeast Texas area. And I learned a lot from you know from all other people in other districts and regions, and you know, and it was fun and it, you know, it's what that's what it's supposed to be. We're all. We're not a glum lot. And you know, we need to learn, and that it is a learning experience. Thank you for your time, and have a great day.
- **Troy B-D.** - What is the registration cost for SWRAASA?
- **Bella L.** - The registration will be \$20 and I want to add that I will be updating the alternate delegates page on the SETA website so you will be able to click a link and register from there.
- **Troy B-D.** - I agree with Mike. This is our responsibility, and we absolutely need to to maintain our 7th tradition of being fully self-supporting. And I feel like we need to make sure that nobody's having to use their credit card. And I think that was a misstep on our part. Having reviewed that contract, knowing that those costs were going to be incurred, I think that there were ways for us to do that proactively. Having said all of that, I would much rather go back to my groups and say you need to show up, and you need to register, because this is an event that only is in your backyard every 22 years. And I guarantee you \$20. Registration is gonna cover us way faster than me, putting a dollar in the basket. I have a problem with going back to our home groups and asking them for money when we are sitting on \$60,000. I think the message that we need to take back to our home groups is to show up.

Reports

District Committee Member (DCM) Reports

(Reports are from either the Committee Meeting (Online) or from submitted Reports)

District 10 – Inactive

District 20 – Linda G.

2nd Thursdays 7pm [Zoom](#)

- No Report

District 31 – Jennifer C.

3rd Sundays 2-4pm Hybrid [Map](#) [Google Meet](#)

We are very excited for this upcoming year in District 31!! The attendance is growing with enthusiasm with our new and current GSR. I am planning to set up a GoogleMeet this year to host/chair a Traditions and Concepts study in effort to help our GSR's continue to learn about our service structure. This is in addition to our monthly district meetings.

I have continued to visit groups and attend their events and have felt very welcomed by all, especially in the smaller towns and I so enjoy meeting fellow alcoholics. As DCM I would like to work on improving the accessibility issue of getting the message to our older members. I have found on some of my visits some members do not have computers or smartphones but they want to be

informed with what is going on in AA. It can be as simple as taking time to call or taking the information to them.

The district had elections and we have filled all except for Archives, TFC and PI. We also approved our budget for 2025. In 2024 it was voted to update our meeting directory, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed to take on this task. This last quarter they finished and it is being published for GSR's to take to their groups.

November 2, 2024 we had our District event "Old Timers Day" with over 60 people in attendance. Eddie R. with archives gave a presentation "How the Oxford Group Played a Part in Bill W and Dr. Bob's Life" and along with 4 speakers throughout the area who shared their experience, strength and hope. Thank you Donna F for all your hard work to make this a special event.

Love and Service

District 32 – Mark E.

2nd Sundays at 1pm [Map](#) [Zoom](#)

- I was not at the last district meeting but it was run by Ibo and we have 3 workshops planned through June. We just jumped forward with workshops. 3 people stepped up. To put one in April, one in May and one in June.

District 33 – Cody R.

3rd Saturdays 11am [Map](#)

District 33 DCM Report – Cody R.

April 2025 - Moving Forward in Service

Friends in Recovery,

District 33 recently hosted our annual Unity Conference. Members came together for an incredible weekend of learning, sharing, and connection. The energy was vibrant and reminded us all of the power of coming together and supporting one another in recovery. And I want to give a special thank you to all the hard work that the Unity Conference Committee put in. I aspire for all our service committees to work and serve at the level of Unity Committee.

District Service Updates and Proposed Restructuring

1. Committee Reorganization

District 33 unanimously decided to restructure some of our service committees. We separated our CPC/PI committee into two separate committees, moved the Hotline Volunteer committee into PI, and established a permanent Finance Committee.

Cooperative with Professional Community (CPC) Committee

- Will focus specifically on outreach to professionals
- Develop targeted strategies for connecting with healthcare providers, counselors, and other professionals
- Goal: Improve referral pathways for those seeking help with alcoholism

Public Information (PI) Committee

- To include Hotline Volunteer responsibilities

- Expanded role in community outreach and information dissemination
- Will manage our AA information hotline
- Develop comprehensive public communication strategies

2. Finance Committee Establishment

We are formally establishing a permanent Finance Committee with the following structure:

- Quarterly meetings to review district financial status
- Transparent financial reporting
- Strategic financial planning
- Ensuring responsible stewardship of district resources

3. Blue Can Fund Reinstatement

District 33 is relaunching our Blue Can Fund for correctional facility literature:

- Dedicated fund to provide AA literature to correctional facilities
- Formal guidelines for fund management
- Ensuring continuous support for incarcerated individuals seeking recovery

In Fellowship and Service,

Cody R.

District 33 DCM

Area 67 - Southeast Texas

"Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

District 40 – Mike B.

2nd Tuesdays 7-9pm [Map](#) [Google Meet](#)

Hello Area 67!

District 40 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, hybrid.

Physically: 1225 West Grand Parkway South, Room 115

Virtually: <https://meet.google.com/nmn-zuqc-xop>

District 40 has been busy since January. My first report somehow was lost for the last Assembly, so a lot to catch the area up on.

January -

- The transition from Doug to myself was very smooth. Thank you to Doug for making that possible and the hard work he put in for the district over the previous two years.
- We had 27 people show up for the first meeting of the new panel.
- We were able to fill all but 5 open positions.
- The district discussed, briefly, the possibility of splitting the district due to its size. GSRs to bring the idea of an AdHoc to their groups.

February -

- We had 22 people in attendance.
- A virtual transcriber was used to transcribe the meeting for the first time to make sure meeting minutes were more accurate and to help the Secretary.
- Two positions opened up, and one was taken
- The district voted to create an AdHoc to explore the possibilities of splitting the district. This AdHoc will be led by me, and we had 6 volunteers.
- We discussed, briefly, volunteering for upcoming assemblies. GSRs opted to bring it to their homegroups for discussion.

- I let the district know that our Delegate and Alt-Delegate would be attending next month's meeting to talk about agenda items for the next GSC

March -

- We had 28 people in attendance
- Our Delegate and Alt-Delegate attended to present some agenda items for the upcoming GSC and answer any questions the district may have. Thank you, Christina & Bella!
- 5 positions remain open - Introduced Finance Committee Rep to the district as an opportunity to serve
- District 40 Traditions Dinner date announced: May 24, 2025 - Rick M. will be speaking
- District opted to do a virtual vote for upcoming Assembly volunteering, sent out by me after the meeting
- Day was decided for District Size AdHoc, time tbd

Thank you for letting me be of service!

In service,

Mike Bolyard

832.724.3050

mike.b@aa-seta.org

Homegroup: Primary Purpose Group - Spiritus Contra Spiritum

District 40 DCM

District Meetings:

2nd Tuesday the month

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

HYBRID

1225 West Grand Parkway South, Room 115 & on Google Meet

<https://meet.google.com/nmn-zuqc-xop>

District 51 – Kevin S.

2nd Sundays 6pm [Map](#) or [Map](#)

Greetings Area. My name is Kelvin S. and I'm the new DCM for District 51 in Southwest Houston.

Here is the latest and greatest from our District since last Assembly:

2. In February we established our 2025 Budget including a prudent reserve of 9 months of expected expenses.
3. In March we decided to make financial contributions to SETA, Intergroup, and GSO from our funds surpassing projected budget and prudent reserve. We came to a consensus on this decision with the suggestions outlined in the publication "Where Money and Spirituality Mix".
4. Last month we conducted a GSR Workshop to educate and inform anyone interested in service work by exploring relevant AA literature and sharing our experiences. It was a tremendous success and also served to strengthen our District.
5. And at our next District Meeting in April we are excited to have a special guest- our wonderful amazing Delegate-Christina S.!!

District 52 – Donna G.

1st Tuesdays 7-8:30pm [Map](#) [Google Meet](#)

- No Report

District 60 – Eric V.

1st Wednesdays 6:30-7:30pm [Zoom](#)

District 60 is planning an upcoming event or a workshop. June 7th The approximately noon. The topic will be to give up cleanup and grow up, splitting the 12 steps into sections with the roundtable of panelists.

Additionally, District 60 meetings held the 1st Wednesday of every month at 6:30 will be moving to Google Meet giving us more control over the meeting and allowing our guests, like Bella, to share screen which we had lacked in the Zoom calls.

That is everything. The District 60 meeting group has to announce right now

District 62 – Vacant

Every 2 weeks on Saturday 6:00 pm

District 63 – Antonio M.

2nd Saturdays 6pm [Map](#)

The District 63 has 9 groups, and their committee. In their committees 5 to 7 GSRs. Regularly attend the district meeting every Saturday from 6 Pm. To 8 Pm. The Dmc. And his alternate attend committee meetings and support the grapevine at its South Texas permanent committee meeting. They are involved in all activities of area 67, and the Spanish speaking districts. The district has a role of compartments with its groups and creates unity with the districts and the groups that invite it to their unity cycles. It has its own grapevine, grapevine corrections and literature committees. They are involved with the organizing committees for AA Events in Houston.

DCM. Tony

DCM Alternate. Lorenzo

District 64 – Jose M.

All Saturdays 6pm [Map](#)

Good morning, fellow. Members of area 67, hoping you're enjoying a happy 24 hours of sobriety. District 64 has 16 active groups. 12 groups have their Gsrs, and they attend our Gsr. Meetings on Saturdays at 6 Pm. Every 2 weeks we have an hour of study time to study the Service manual, district 64 has its committee, La Vina, Literature and corrections. They hold their committee meetings every 2 weeks on Tuesday and provide a rating report to the Gsrs. At their Saturday meeting. Our sharing schedule for the group is currently on Thursdays, because the Organizing Committee for the next Hispanic Assembly in South Texas, meets on Wednesdays. November 14, th 15, and 16, in the host city of Houston, Texas at 15700, John F. Kennedy Boulevard, supported by the Hispanic districts. On April 5th we will attend the Seta Assembly at San Jacinto College, and we will move our Gsr. Meetings to Thursday, April 3, rd by agreement as District 64. On May 7th Our inter district meeting of the 4 Hispanic districts of Houston, Texas, will be held in District 66 at 8 Pm. DCM. Jose

DCM Alternate Arturo G.

District 65 – Cristian S.

All Saturdays 6pm [Map](#)

- No Report

District 66 – Ramses G.

All Saturdays 6pm [Map](#)

Hello! Good morning, Sita. My name is Louis D. And I am an alcoholic. We meet every Saturday of the week at 6 Pm. In our district office, located at 56, 45. Hillcroft Avenue suite number 3, 01 Houston, Texas. We have a total of 21 groups in our district with 21 active Gsrs. We have 3 active committees in our districts, which are CFC. Committee, Lavinia Committee and Literature committee. We have

groups in Houston, Texas, Fresno, Texas, Rosenberg, Texas, Stafford, Texas, and Angleton, Texas. We visit one of our groups every Friday of the week, focusing on the groups with low membership, and the ones without Gsrs. District 66 will be hosting the hospitality suite for our 2026 convention in Beaumont, with the help and financial support of District 63, 64, and 65. We are looking forward to our 1st meeting with our delegate, Christina, next week in our Assembly. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

District 70 – Sara B.

2nd Wednesdays 7pm [Map](#)

Greetings Area 67,

This quarter District 70 welcomes a new Alt-DCM, Victor T.

Victor is very involved at his home group and District and very enthusiastic about this service opportunity. I'm looking forward to working with him.

I have visited several groups and observed their group conscience meetings. I was able to give some helpful feedback regarding procedures, separation of group and club, and how District can support them. This has garnered some interest in what goes on at District and as a result, we have had some new folks attend our District meeting to learn and get more involved in service.

I have scheduled attending the group conscience of all the groups with GSRs coming to District and Victor and I are also planning out visits to the groups without representation to encourage them to send a GSR to the District meeting and see what support we can give.

We have filled 4 Committee positions with eager and active members and continue to seek out people who might be interested in the others.

Our Spring Workshop will be May 17th and I've submitted a flyer to the Alt Chair. We've titled it "How To AA" and it is targeted to younger members covering an introduction to the service structure, meeting etiquette, choosing and using a sponsor, and relapse prevention. We'll have informative handouts, table discussion, door prizes and of course, snacks. Older members are encouraged to attend to share their experience, strength & hope with the newer ones.

Overall I'm very pleased with our increased participation and grateful to serve with a committed and enthusiastic team as we continue to rebuild.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

District 81 – Danny G.

1st Wednesdays 7-9:00pm [Map](#)

District 81 SETA Report

DCM- Danny G.

Alt DCM- Andrea W.

April 2025

State of the district: District 81 remains very active and focused on our primary purpose. All of our committees are full and actively carrying the message. Group participation remains very strong and we are looking forward to new members getting involved from our various groups. All positions have been filled and we're excited to get the next rotation started! This past month our Delegate Christina S. came out to talk to our district about the PAI's for the upcoming GSC.

Archives: Busy digitizing our history and creating a database that will make it easier to look up

and upload our history. We've recently moved the archives from the Alvin Taylor Street Club to the Bay Area Club in League City.

CFC: Busy with meetings at Carol Young and Galveston County Jail.

PI/CPC: The committee is busy! They have been very busy with various Billboards and placing ads in local magazines and handouts. They continue to come up with new ways to reach the alcoholic that still suffers using QR codes and handouts to lead newcomers to local resources.

Grapevine: Working to involve groups to build a strong and lasting committee.

Literature: Continues to look for/inform us of all the new AA literature and any changes that might come up. They've started to pull the outdated pamphlets and put them in a binder for archives, as well as introducing the newer pamphlets for us to update our literature racks.

Finance & Budget (F&B): We have a strong F&B and are working on being fully funded for 2025. They continue to meet and accommodate the district's ever-changing budget.

TFC: Holding meetings at each treatment facility monthly. Regularly holding workshops.

Newsletter: Continues to amaze us! The goal is to highlight events, share stories of recovery and make announcements. Starting to interview members within our district—always practicing the principle of anonymity—about their experience, strength and hope on AA topics!

Web: Chartered to Design, Build and Maintain our website, which is a central repository for events, committee information & group schedule for our district, etc. Please check us out at www.ooodistrict81.org.

Accessibilities: Enables people to access service commitments through hybrid and continues to think about ways to ensure access is available to all who want to serve.

Workshop: Is getting ready for an upcoming workshop on Emotional Sobriety which will be May 17th at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.

In love and service, Danny G. and Andrea W.

District 82 – Jennifer W.

1st Sundays 1:30 pm [Map](#)

District 82 will host roundtable discussions April 6th to provide feedback on requested items from the Delegate. One of our groups is coming to the conclusion of the Primary Purpose big book study. They have chosen not to continue the meeting upon completion of the study due to low attendance. Members of our district have begun a meeting at a homeless shelter in Freeport!

District 90 – David S.

1st Sundays 1:30pm [Map](#)

DCM Report March/April 2025

Our District meetings are held the first Sunday of the month at the I-10 East Club located at 1235 Crockett St., Beaumont Texas 77701.

Our March 2nd District 90 GSR meeting had forty-four in attendance. Currently all Committee and Alt positions are filled, except for Alt. Secretary. We are encouraging all GSRs and Committee members to attend the upcoming April Assembly. Maps were distributed for Assembly location. I

was asked by our Area Delegate Christina S. to do a tablet discussion at the April Assembly and accepted. I attended a couple of meetings in February with groups that do not participate in our GSR meetings, to see what we can do to assist. We are gearing up for our upcoming annual District 90 Convention August 8-10th 2025 at the Elegante Hotel in Beaumont Texas. We have also elected a Host for our Annual Traditions Workshop in September, date to be confirmed soon. Our Area Delegate (Christina S.) (and Alt (Bella L.) will be attending our April district meeting to give their reports. Our committee reports will be due in our May meeting.

David S.

DCM District 90

Service Committee Reports

(Reports are from either the Committee Meeting (Online) or from submitted Reports)

Archives – Joel G., Chair

Second Mondays @ 7pm [Google Meet](#)

Area 67 Archives committee report

The area 67 Archives committee meets virtually on the 3rd Monday of each month. The link to our virtual meeting is available at a dash org on the archives page. The link has been recently updated and works well with chrome web browser encourage you guys to use that. We encourage districts, archive district archive committees, archivists, and as well, all are welcome to attend

The purpose of alcoholics. Anonymous area. 67 Archives Committee is to document and preserve Aa and Area 60 seven's history, making it accessible to members, researchers and the public, while also serving as an Aa resource for learning and understanding AA's principles and traditions.

Our documentation and preservation of area 67 archives will collect, classify and preserve materials related to area 67. History, including records, correspondence, publications, photographs and artifacts.

Accessibility to the archives makes the historical material accessible to members, researchers and the general public, allowing them to explore AA's and area 67's roots and growth.

A learning and understanding of archives provides a context for understanding Aa's principles, traditions and progressions, helping members and others gain a deeper understanding of the fellowship.

A little bit of our update for the committee.

Let me see. Here, I'll get back to my other part of my report about what we've been up to recently. We recently attended the and displayed at the district 33 Unity Conference in College station, the Archives, Chair, and myself and the Archivist had an opportunity to present as well during our attendance. We are also working on Updating the website. Obviously I mentioned that earlier the web page should be updated hopefully in the next week or 2, so I apologize for the delay in that there was quite a bit of work that needed to be done preparing for any upcoming assemblies on our committees, reviewing and updating job responsibilities and descriptions. current positions for the Archives Committee. We did fill all the chairs. So I apologize when you mentioned that earlier on the roll call, Roland R. Is our alt chair, and we recently created a new position, a historian position. Mike D. Is filling that position as his responsibilities are to present a history of our area and Aa. At the end of our committee meetings to allow us to be educated, so we can communicate that out to the area and the districts and our groups open positions right now, treasurer, and liaison. Currently, our alt chair is kind of following up with our IT liaison position but we are looking to expand the job description on that, and then post that on see to announce here soon. So Julianne went ahead and asked me to report on her section as she. I think she might be taken off here soon.

I'm not sure she's still on the call, but she's going to be holding a working group at the Repository on April 12th 11 Am. To 2 Pm. Located at intergroup, if not familiar. Our repository is located in a group at 51 50, Mitchelldale Street, Suite B. 10. Here in Houston, Texas office, 290 and Northwest loop.

If anybody would like to do any research on materials at the repository, feel free to reach out to Julianne or myself.

She, Julianne, is our archivist, and she is in charge of that particular room and the materials therein.

Districts looking for area archives, participation or presentations. Please provide that request somewhere around 90 days in advance. Submit those requests to me, joelg@aodashceta.org. I appreciate your time, and I'm grateful to serve. Thank you.

CPC – Don M., Chair

First Mondays @ 7:30pm [Google Meet](#)

CPC Report for April Assembly

The committee attended the Mouth of the Brazos Conference and the District 33 Unity Conference in the past quarter. Kudos to Kate E. and Rick M. for setting up and attending to the display for Mouth of the Brazos. We would still like to encourage District CPC chairs to attend the monthly CPC Committee meeting. Our monthly meeting is the first Monday of the month at 7:30 pm on Google Meet. The link is on the SETA website on the CPC tab.

CFC – Harold B., Chair

3rd Wednesdays 7:30-9pm [Map](#) [Google Meet](#)

Good Day to all,

On March 9, in District 63 Our Committee held a workshop and TDCJ Training In person but Online. We started with a PowerPoint presentation with Roy E. Running the Computer and explaining, with Louis P. Translating from English to Spanish.

I started the training by giving the real dos and Don'ts of being a guest in TDCJ, emphasizing the seriousness of security and obedience to the rules. We all logged in on our personal devices to the Application and after completing that we took the Training. Everyone was helping each other and all passed the training which will add 11 more volunteers if approved. Special thanks to Edwin C., Luis P., and Conchia G. for organizing the Spanish Districts. Thanks to Rito V., Roy E., Sarah E., and Lucky who all made this event go smoothly.

I went to Group Conscience at Serenity Group, and also at 1502 Group and did Presentations with Cody B.

Great turnouts with a lot of questions.

At District 31 I spoke with the DCM Jennifer C. and scheduled a workshop in June.

We are still looking for Correspondence volunteers to reply to letters.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve

Harold B. Area 67 Corrections Chair

Finance – Kevin W., Chair

3rd Wednesdays 8pm [Google Meet](#)

Finance – Budget Report

January – March 2025

- Since the January Area Assembly, the Finance Committee has continued to meet monthly on the 3rd Wednesday at 8pm on Google Meets.
- Discussions have continued around implementing a pilot budget process that aims to streamline how and when budgets are submitted. The proposal includes sending budget worksheets shortly after the election assembly and ensuring incoming and outgoing budget

holders are both included. IT has been asked to improve the process for updating position-based email addresses.

- The convention finance situation from the January meeting was discussed in detail. The convention had an outstanding hotel bill of \$20,708.63 with a current balance of \$15,845. There was also a suggestion for future conventions to operate within a pre-approved budget based on past expenses.
- The committee continues to explore the idea of a fully funded budget rather than relying on unrestricted funds, which may not always be available.
- A motion was made and approved in March to allocate \$9,250 to fund last year's delegate, to attend the GSO Conference. While the cost to fully fund this year's delegate is approximately \$12,000, the committee recognized this is not a sustainable approach long-term.
- Other topics of discussion included concerns about Intergroup funding and whether SETA should help support them due to a decline in material purchases by groups. The consensus was that funding Intergroup should be the responsibility of individual districts and groups, not Area.
- Positions for Alt-Finance Chair and Alt-Secretary remain open as of the end of March.

Grapevine – Terry P., Chair

3rd Thursdays 7pm [Google Meet](#)

Grapevine committee had a lot of traffic at the seta convention. Also contributed 2 subscriptions to the newcomer contest. We ended up giving away an additional 3 digital subscriptions and 3 Grapevine books in the drawing. Meetings have had good attendance and almost all positions were filled in January. We also did a mini writing workshop at the convention with almost 30 attendees that went very well. Next is the 2025 Unity conference which we will be attending and giving a 30 minute GVR presentation. We also ordered more display materials for grapevine table displays. We plan on being very active this year.

Information Technology (IT) – Brad H., Chair

Last Saturday 11am-1pm [Google Meet](#)

With the new year in, the IT Committee is aiming high for 2025. We have a wonderful committee full of helpful volunteers, but we still could use more filled positions to help be of maximum service to the area. In our last meeting, we approved our IT Positions document and we have posted it to our website. We now have one less position to fill as Steffanie J was elected as our committee secretary. Steffanie filled one of our positions that doesn't require as much technical experience. View our IT Positions document and see the qualifications to find what is desired for each of our open positions.

We also are calling to any district or committee IT Liaisons or committee members to attend our monthly meetings. We'd like to hear from you on what we can do as an area committee to help serve your district or committee. We also are able to communicate our current activities out to the districts and committees through IT Liaisons.

Recently we started an ad-hoc committee to create a plan to update our user documentation for the SETA Workspace. This includes documents on how to use tools such as your position-based email accounts, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Hangouts and other Workspace tools. After these documents have been updated, we hope to update our IT Technical Guidelines.

Finally, we are continuing to post website updates while we work to create an updated Website. We are also working to form another ad-hoc committee to renew and update our IT Review process. Before we complete website requests or approve SETA-Announce emails, we must make sure each request follows the AA Traditions, Concepts and SETA IT Guidelines. This review committee helps reduce any delays in getting information posted to the website or through SETA-Announce.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to the Southeast Texas Area Assembly. Please feel free to reach out for any questions or concerns at it-chair@aa-seta.org.

- Brad H.

La Viña – Elias L., Chair **Last Thursday 8pm rotating through [all 4 Districts](#)**

La vina area 67.

Dear fellow members of alcoholic anonymous community. I am pleased to share with you the enthusiasm and commitment we have experienced in our service as coordinator of La Vina of Aa. Over the past months we have been working closely with the 4 districts 63, 64, 65, and 66, meeting monthly. To strengthen our joint efforts. On March 16th we held a la Vina workshop in District 64, which was attended by 23 members in the workshop. We wrote 13 experiences for La Vina, and we also had 3 speakers who shared the following address, topics. history of La Vina, functions of a La Vina representative guidelines for collaboration with La Vina. In addition, at the meeting of March 27, 2025, the 4 districts reported a total of 122 subscriptions to La Vina. We sincerely want to thank all the districts for their support and motivating participation in the monthly workshops

in the workshop on March 27, at 3 Pm. Through Zoom. Share your story with Lavinia, the editor, Paola and Sonia, customer to the client.

zoom id number 81595931777. We deeply appreciate your dedication, and look forward to continuing to strengthen our community together.

Sincerely, Coordinator of La Vina, Elias Leon.

Literature – Jim M., Chair **3rd Tuesday 7:30pm-8:30pm [Google Meet](#)**

Good morning, everybody. My name is Jim Mahon. I am an alcoholic, and I am your panel. 75 literature committee chair.

So I'm really happy that the Literature Committee has continued to have strong participation in this rotation. which is good because we committed to doing 2 things on the same weekend last month we had Caitlin and Shay, and the crew did a presentation about communication from groups to the General Service Conference hopefully educating some folks at the district 33 Unity Day. and we also had a display at the mouth of the Brazos Conference on the same weekend. So It's a lot of fun out there. We're service is a lot of fun. So at the March meeting we just had a couple of weeks ago, we reviewed and discussed 2 agenda items. We had 4 on the list, but we only got to 2.

So, it was a good discussion. We talked about literature. Item K, which is updating the book, living sober. And then we also just talked about the report and Charter. Item B, which is the request to expand. Article 3 in the Conference charter to protect the co-founders writing. So we'll be. It was a really good discussion. We had a lot of ideas shared, and we're going to pass that on to our delegates. So Last year, at the July Assembly, the southeast Texas area area 67 Assembly approved a proposed agenda item, asking for more time to discuss final agenda items, and that proposal did not make it on the final agenda for this year's conference, not really surprising. Sometimes it takes a while to get moved up the list there. But I would like to. We're thinking about having a survey following this roundtable discussion. Actually, we're going to do that. We're not thinking about it. We're going to provide a survey on SETA announce, asking if members of the area committee felt like we really have enough time to discuss these items on the final agenda, so we can give our delegate an informed group conscience. So if y'all would prayerfully consider responding to that survey, we'd appreciate it.

The literature committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7 30 to 8 30 on Google meets, and all are welcome.

Thank you all very much. It's an honor to serve

We meet every 1st Tuesday of the month.

District 63.

And right now we still, you know, are trying to do everything we can to help the community, and we're here to work. This coming Tuesday, the 1st Tuesday of April. We're not gonna meet up until May 6 since we are here today, and we're gonna be planning to be over there at the Assembly next Saturday. So thank you for the opportunity, and I'm very grateful. Thank you so much

Newsletter – Allise B., Chair**No standing meetings**

In consultation with our brand new Newsletter Editorial Advisory Board – for which I wish to thank Annette C, Christina S, Don M and Fernando B – I will distribute the 1st Quarter electronically when proofreading in both languages is complete. The 2nd Quarter Newsletter will be issued in print and online. I trust all of the Area Committee can read it electronically and I will get print copies to all the DCMs to distribute to their GSRs.

The 2nd Quarter Newsletter is focusing on Conference prep and related Traditions. I will need any news for the 2nd Quarter Newsletter within the next two weeks (April 12th). Sorry for the short notice of the reminder – I read the Job Description, but didn't think about tasks not in the Job Description. I now have reminders for the reminders in my calendar as well as the printing due dates. I've made a note to add reminders to Reporters to the Job Description. Please note that there is not room for all 48 Reporters in an 8-page printed Newsletter and remember to keep your contributions short.

The Newsletter Naming Contest – for something more interesting than Quarterly Newsletter – has been extended to a June 15th Deadline to give you time to think of a name and time for the Editorial Advisory Board to judge the entries and announce the winner in the 3rd Quarter.

You will see a difference in the 2d Q Newsletter as I continue trying to find the software that works for print & cell phone. The software I used for the 1st Quarter report will not be my choice. 😞
[frustrated emoji]

Please send your feedback on what you like and dislike to newsletter@aa-seta.org. Suggestions are welcome.

Please check the Want Ads in the Newsletter for types of help we need in both languages and ask in your Districts and groups for willing members. Of course, you can send Want Ads for service work for the next issue. Thank you in advance.

In love and service, Allise B.

Public Information (PI) – Michelle C., Chair**4th Tuesday 7:30pm** [Google Meet](#)

- No Report

SCAP – Charlie W., Chair**Assembly Breakouts**

My job is to promote our Texas State convention which will be held in Houston this year.

Get registered early, we'll be drawing 10 to 15 names at both the April and July assemblies to have your registration fees reimbursed for the names that are drawn that are people that already have registered and we drew 10 names at the January Assembly, and those people have been contacted, and you'll have a choice whether you want to take your get reimbursed, your \$25 registration fee, or you can donate it back to the Scap Committee, and we'll be giving it out to newcomers and giving. And hopefully we'll be able to figure out a way to do that soon. But we've had members recently that attended both the Unity and the mob conferences. And we're promoting the State Convention. Paul M. Did the Unity Conference up in Bryan, and I was at the Mob Conference recently, and sending out flyers and talking to folks and getting people interested and registered. Scap will be sending flyers to all four 4 of our Texas area delegates, we will have packages of flyers and convention info for all of our area Dcms. To pick up at our April 5th

assembly. and make sure you as DCM get the flyers to take back to your district. I'll be handing them out and let's get registered.

Thank You

SCAP Chair - Charlie W.

TFC – Tony A., Chair

15th of the month 7pm [Google Meet](#)

After I was elected in January for the TFC Chair position and got off to a late start, the committee has helped me catch up. We are seeing an increase in members joining the TFC committee and new facilities wanting to begin AA meetings. Unfortunately, we don't have enough volunteers to serve the facilities throughout AREA 67. The committee approved moving the monthly meetings on Google Meet to the fourth Wednesday of the month. Please join us if you're interested in doing 12-step service by going to a meeting within a treatment facility or by Bridging The Gap by taking a new member to their first meetings, explaining what AA is and what it isn't, and introducing them to our Fellowship. The area TFC committee is dedicated to serving the groups, districts, facilities, and suffering alcoholics in our neighborhoods. Your commitment to one meeting a week or month could help save an Alcoholic's life. If you have any questions or know of a facility or Alcoholic that wants help, please reach out to me or one of our committee members. One thing I would like to discuss is that we did have a table at the Unity Conference last month and at the conference we tried something different. We tried having many workshops. They were about 15-20 min long. It was a great success we had. I had 15 people in my group that were very interested in learning more about TFC, and getting involved. And I just wanted to bring that up for ideas.

In Love & Service,

Tony A. TFC Chair, AREA 67 P75

Tony.a@aa-seta.org

Intergroup Liaison Reports

(Reports are from either the Committee Meeting (Online) or from submitted Reports)

Houston Intergroup – Bryon A., Liaison

3rd Thursdays 8pm [Map](#)

I'm gonna have mine be very short and sweet. So that's kind of a good thing. Intergroup is looking for a replacement for our current bookstore manager. I was trying to see about posting the application to the website somehow. And I'm not good at that. So I have to figure that out.

There was an ad hoc committee that was looking to see what qualifications that person would need to in order to take that position over.

That's about the most significant thing for right now. That is needed to report it. Some other things I'm still looking at to get more information and bring to the assembly.

9th District Intergroup

3rd Thursdays of even numbered months 8pm [Map](#)

- No Report

Oficina Intergrupul Hispana – Jose B., Alt. Chair Liaison

Saturdays 6pm [Map](#)

They use the website to be more available for the community. And they also cooperate with the southwest intergroup. They kind of work together with the intergroup. He mentioned something about how they can get involved with the Cpc.

Intergrupo Hispano del SW (D66 & 62)

(no info) [Map](#)

- No Report

SETA 2025 Convention Final Report

Submitted March 28, 2025

by Cody R. SETA 2025 Convention Chair

Executive Summary & Recommendations

The SETA 2025 Convention was held during the first weekend of January 2025 at the Royal Sonesta hotel. The event attracted 1,062 attendees in total (1,014 paid registrations, 40 scholarships, and 8 Alateen participants). While the projected attendance was 1,300, the actual turnout of 1,062 resulted in a financial deficit of \$5,985.94 against a budgeted surplus of \$2,250.00. Total income was \$36,107.13 compared to total expenses of \$42,093.07.

Recommendations for Future Conventions

1. Review and reform budgeting process to avoid pre-spending money before registrations are secured
2. Consider pre-funding the convention account to establish firm spending limits
3. Re-clarify the mission and vision of the SETA convention
4. Improve communication between committee chairs through regular meeting attendance
5. Develop better processes for translation services
6. Consider carefully the convention date's impact on attendance
7. Create better documentation of processes to reduce dependence on institutional knowledge
8. Implement improved walk-in registration forms
9. Consider maintaining hospitality suites in a shared location
10. Develop clearer guidelines for Al-Anon participation and budget

Moving forward, I believe there are some serious planning, budgeting and oversight issues that need to be addressed with this convention. This is one of the biggest annual line items in our budget and it has very limited policies & procedures. A lot of how we do it is dependent on institutional knowledge.

It is my recommendation that we take a critical look at the budgeting process for the SETA Convention. While it may be how we traditionally do things, and while we may decide no change is needed, I believe that the current system of signing contracts, making commitments and pre-spending money we do not have with the hope that enough people will show up is imprudent. One potential solution might be to pre-fund the convention account, so there is a firm budget of exactly how much we can spend (& thus built into that would be our presumption of how much we are willing to lose/how much we are willing to pay to have a convention).

PLEASE NOTE: I am not sure that would be the best solution, but I was taught not to just point out problems without offering a solution, so that is my offering :)

And perhaps for us to come to that budget answer we may need to, for the sake of this current rotation, re-clarify and re-state what the exact mission/vision of the SETA convention is.

Financial Summary

Income

- Total Projected Income: \$48,000.00

- Actual Income: \$36,107.13
- Variance: (\$11,892.87)

Expenses

- Total Projected Expenses: \$45,750.00
- Actual Expenses: \$42,093.07
- Variance: \$3,656.93

Net Result

- Projected Surplus: \$2,250.00
- Actual Deficit: (\$5,985.94)
- Variance: (\$8,235.94)

Registration Breakdown

- Total Attendees: 1,062
- Paid Registrations: 1,014
- Scholarships: 40
- Alateen: 8

Subcommittee Reports

All subcommittee chairs were given the opportunity to make additions to this report. What follows is commentary collected from chairs who chose to participate. Please note that several chairs not featured below did an incredible job and reported "nothing to report".

Registration Chair

- Need to implement an improved walk-in form

Treasurer

Strengths:

- Well-organized convention
- Helpful hotel convention staff
- Excellent entertainment
- Area 67 and Spanish districts provided excellent hospitality refreshments

Areas for Improvement:

- Limited participation from committee chairs in monthly meetings
- Lack of communication chair hindered information distribution about registration options
- Treasurer ended up with all registration forms containing valuable contact information
- Reimbursement requests could be submitted electronically with supporting documentation
- Multiple simultaneous speakers and total number of speakers was problematic
- Translation program requires troubleshooting

AlAnon Liaison

- Need to ensure the Al-Anon chair is engaged from the beginning of the planning process
- Consider appointing a Spanish Al-Anon co-chair when heavy Spanish presence is expected
- Recommended adding to guidelines a clear breakdown of available budget, including whether registration/hotel costs for Al-Anon chair are covered
- Suggested adding recommendation for Al-Anon literature table (English and Spanish)

Spanish Liaison

"One thing I think was really great was to have both hospitality suites together in that hall.... That was a great success and everybody was really happy to have a place to sit down and enjoy the fellowship. If that can be done in every convention I think it will be really good."

YPAA (Young People in AA) Chair

- Overall operations went smoothly with minimal complaints
- Recommendations for improvement:
 - Obtain stage scripts early to have everything and readers selected

- Rather than splitting Friday into 30-minute speakers, schedule Spanish speakers earlier in the day for better inclusion
- Improve translation from call-in to headsets, similar to Dallas-Fort Worth area

IT Chair

- Utilized SETA's GoDaddy web hosting/domain registration and EventBrite accounts for publicity and registration management
- EventBrite facilitated event setup by allowing copying of previous year's event with minor modifications
- Time zone differences created challenges for committee meeting attendance and website updates
- Issues with SETA Square account login and missing devices were resolved, with committee members providing their own Square devices

Audio/Visual Chair

- Sound equipment provided by Lee's Tapes, a fellowship member who offers services free of charge (SETA provides hotel room for 3 nights)
- Sound quality was good, with only issue being people taking microphones from the floor
- Wireless microphones could have been provided if requested

Security Chair

- Recommended more ashtrays for smokers, suggesting placement across the street
- Need better organization for transporting money to counting room

Coffee Chair

- Being able to serve coffee in the hospitality room was very helpful for our overall count.
- Suggestion to make sure we coordinate with all parties serving coffee so we are on the same schedule, there was one point in time where no coffee was out for approximately one hour.

Voice

- Would recommend a better plan for the portion of the script that is in Spanish (if we do that again).

Convention Chair's Assessment

As the final treasurer's report shows our projected total expenses were 45,750 of which we spent 42,093. So we were under budget on projected expenses by \$3,657.

We projected approximately 1,300 attendees. Total attendees were 1,062. At \$30 per attendee that equals \$7,140. Which basically accounts for the total loss of \$5,985.

While it cannot be known for certain, one explanation for decreased attendance could have been the date of the convention being the first weekend of January, as opposed to the third weekend. There could be other reasons (better promotion earlier in the cycle; perhaps potential attendees did not like the new agenda format) but the most sensible speculation would seem to be the date of the event.

One thing to clarify on the final breakdown, while the Hotel Rooms line item appears to be highly over budget at \$11K this is misleading. The original \$2,000 line item was for committee rooms.

The line total of \$11,198 breaks down as follows:

- \$7,045 was speakers rooms & meals at the restaurant (or about \$440 per person)
- \$1,039 is for the Chairperson budget of \$1,000 (which the report shows as \$0 spent)
- \$1,090 were the overnight rooms for English & Spanish hospitality teams

Leaving \$2,024 to be allocated for committee rooming which is in-line with the \$2,000 original budget. I chose to explain this here rather than edit the work of the final report that was created by our convention treasurer.

Attendees at the event appeared to have an enjoyable experience. We attempted to add more workshops so as to showcase service. It is the chair's perspective that this event should be fun, but that we should have a stronger service focus, such that members can take what they learned by attending the SETA Convention and go help the alcoholic that still suffers.

While we were worried about the attendance to workshops, we were very pleased to see the Saturday morning breakout rooms filled with 200+ people.

Also the AA historian was a big hit, interestingly the overall diversity of the attendees who reported enjoying it was very broad.

We attempted to add more Spanish programming. The Spanish breakout room on Saturday was filled, so that was very good. As for our translation efforts on the main stage, while it was a valid effort, I believe this is one area where we bit off more than we could chew.

While not everything went to plan, the fellowship that was had, the memories that were made, the knowledge that was transferred and the experience, strength and hope that was shared was perfect. And personally, I cannot remember a time in my adult life that I have felt more happy, joyous, free, proud and fulfilled as I was at the SETA Convention, and I owe that to all of you.

And while I never want to do it again, at the same time I would do it all again in a heartbeat.

It was truly an honor and privilege to serve this fellowship in this capacity. Thank you for trusting me and believing in me to do this. Thank you to the incredible team of volunteers and trusted servants that helped make it all possible. And thank you God for my sobriety. We did it!

Cody R.

Comments -

- **Allise B.** - I think you described the workshops as new, but they are listed as one of the convention responsibilities that you could delegate, and as I understood it, they were delegated to me. So, I was just wondering if, perhaps, since we'd had another conference since then, you were thinking about those service workshops.
- **Cody R.** - No, I may have misspoke but yes.
- **Danny G.** - So, Cody, 1st and foremost, thank you for standing for the position. Stuff, you know. Thing is, we need to have people stand for these things, and I know at the end of the day it's like it's a lot of stuff and and everything and I've been a past convention chair. I'm doing the ad hoc committee. And there's a lot of things going through. I think there's at times when things go, as I've learned as convention chair, when it goes well, we thank our committee, and we put all the stuff, and when it doesn't we have to kind of take the heat and stuff like that. And I think there was. There was an idea of trying to explore different things and everything and you know I always enjoy these conventions and stuff, I guess, more than anything. it's not just with this convention. I've just seen it happen with a few conventions: are we using our past experience? From these conventions? I know a lot of times we look at these guidelines and stuff like that, and the guidelines are not going to detail every little detail of how conventions run. That's where humility comes, and that's where the practice of humility and practicing the traditions and going back to our past trusted servants and stuff in the advisory committee and stuff like that. I would hope that we don't get into these conventions as making this a detailed outline, because a detailed outline takes away from the practice of

actually saying these words, and that is, I need help. Looks like going to our trusted servants, the people that have served in the past and said, Hey, I need help right? And how do I do this? And I know that when I was a convention chair, what I did was the 1st thing I did was I got some people that had done past conventions and said, How do I go about doing this? And through every step of the process. I bounced those things off them, and I asked them how we did this. I guess I'm just curious about how much we did. Cody did you, you know, lean on those past advisors? and how much? They referred back to our guidelines because our guideline states pretty clearly on how things have been a success in the past, and I just for the simple fact of I was looking at some of the treasurer's report and when it shows the hotels, you know and like, were we paying for all the committee chairs, hotel rooms? Because in our guidelines. It states simply the people that have hotels paid for in those guidelines. Right? It looks like chair co-chair, treasure, registration, and security. After that, everybody else is kind of on their own dimes, right? And so when we start looking at these things, why did we not financially come out? You know those are little areas where I think we can. We can point to that. We were not a success, right? The other thing that I see of, you know, on day one of people walking in you know. Let's face it. You know, \$35 for registration is a steep price. And when you're talking about \$35 for registration, plus \$10 for coffee, plus \$10 for parking at \$55 is a lot of money for the new alcoholic that's walking into the rooms of alcoholics that may not have the financial stability that some of us may have for just a 1 day thing right? So we always had to look at for me when I was convention chair. I always had to look at these things, you know. What does that look like? What does it look like for the new alcohol? Not me. But what does it look for? The new person? Right? The person that doesn't have you know enough. 20 bucks is one thing, \$35, or \$55 is a whole nother story, right? So you know all around. I think these are always learning experiences. I think these are things that we could grow from. You know. I think we need to always remember that, no matter whether I'm a convention chair, I know I'm going long, but no matter whether I'm a convention chair, I'm a standing committee chair or I'm a Gsr. A Dcm. A sponsor, whatever. I always have to lean on past experience, right? And and not just take it for oh, they're just talking, but actually say, Okay. what you know. Let me. Maybe I need to take some direction, right? Suggestions. We always give suggestions. We'll know suggestions. We need to really think about what that means and I need to go off a lot of that past experience, because for me, when I do that it saves me a lot of trouble, and I think there's a lot of good past experience. So but hey, all around, Cody, thank you for your service. You know. The fact is, we do this out of love and service right? And I'm glad that you had a great time, and this is not to bag on anybody. But I do want to. I hope that we can continue with these conventions but if we're going at a rate that we're losing. I don't think that the conventions inevitably are going to be able to be continued. So that's all I got. Thanks

- **Byron** - Do you think you had adequate time to make announcements so that everyone knew that the convention was gonna happen?
- **Cody R.** - I think that's one thing that if we were doing it over again it would be a more robust Promotion committee. We did not have a convention promotion chair the way we have, like a State convention, you know promotion chair that is not something that we had. That is something that if we were, we were doing it again. That, I think, would be a higher priority. Yes. I think the benchmarks for pre registration. I think that we were promoted enough early enough, and I would. My answer to that would be no. I think we should have got, I would have preferred to have been able to get started at least 3 months sooner on getting the handouts to everyone but if I recall there was something that happened around our April meeting that prevented that from happening.
- **Aliciea M.** - I loved the AA history speaker. He was amazing, and I felt like, you know, the convention was well put on, and things like that. There was a lot to do, maybe too much at some point, you know, but I did want to piggyback off Danny, and say that the registration so James and I registered there at the door, and it was \$35 a piece. So that was \$70 right off the bat and then it was another \$15 a piece for coffee. So that's a hundred dollars that was so much, and I mean, I'm even, you know, I have a little bit of years behind me, but still I wasn't willing to pay a hundred bucks for a convention, and I think maybe in the future we would like, look at our price point, or get a cheaper hotel or something along those lines, because that was a lot of money that day.

- **Cody R.** - When we made the decision because we've used it in the past, but this might be something I would look at again if I was doing it again, which I'm not right. So someone else needs to look at it. Is that our amount of fees on bright space is pretty significant. Now that it is great, it's a great service, and it helps us keep everything organized. It's a good ticketing system but those but those fees are pretty significant, and once we start adding fees on top of it but that can add up to the price, and I think that would be a thing to to hone in on.
- **Bella L.** - I'd like to point out that we did have a really great convention, and it was so much to do. But I want us to go to the basics and realize that our conventions are not made to be better than the other convention, or be better than what someone else planned. It is to be within reason feasible for us to be able to afford, and our speakers the ability to be able to get the best speakers down here to us, and keeping in mind that we do have great local people. and with that being said it shouldn't be a thought of being better. It should be just as good, you know, not to get these different entities of a show. And I mean, that's not really what it's all about, and as far as us being able to afford registration.that is the reason we have pre registration, and we do it so far in advance that it shouldn't be. When we get to the door. We have to spend a hundred dollars. We should have planned this out because we plan, and we do need to have better planning, more involvement. If you need more people, reach out. I'm always willing to do a convention. Y'all know that I register for anything. I'll do anything for a convention. I love conventions. So reach out, ask for help. And if you need anything, I mean, that's what the district, the areas. The groups of 4 ask for contributions. I mean, you know, these are things that we've made a burden to our area, and it shouldn't be. It should be something we celebrate yearly.
- **Jackie** - You know, as far as like the fees to, you know, for the convention, the registration. You know things have gotten expensive. That is just, you know, beyond our control. I feel like that. We need to be self supporting. And if it means that we need to, you know, raise the registration cost to be able to cover. You know the convention. One thing that I'm totally for is I would be happy to do a scholarship or several scholarships, you know, for people that you know may not have the funds to go, or even kind of build that into the budget to have so many scholarships. So that's all I have.
- **Cody R.** - that is one area where we had some strong success. This year, too, was the amount of our scholarship donations and attendees that were on scholarship as well, and that was that Harold played such a big role in helping, helping get that together. That was incredible. And then everyone, and then everyone else who was generous to give the additional support that was really great to see as well. But yes, I agree on self-support.
- **Jose** - I Want to congratulate Cody for such an amazing job. Also, has the deficit been covered?
- **Cody R.** - any deficit or loss that a convention has in it, and additionally, any profit that a convention makes. It goes to the area. So if there is a profit that comes in, it's turned over to the area. If there is a loss like we had a deficit. That is something that the area takes on and that's why, when I was making my earlier comments about saying, maybe we need to look at this budget and budgeting process more carefully and have more more discussion and more eyes on that. That's kind of what I was referring to, because, as of now, the policy is, if the convention has a loss, the area is okay with this convention having a loss. Maybe not. Okay. That's where it comes out of our general fund as best I know.
- **Jose** - Is there anything else that we can do to help or contribute?
- **Cody R.** - That would be something that would be up to the area to discuss, as of now. The convention books are closed. So there's no money left in that account. And then in this scenario, since there was still money owed. That's something that the area general fund paid for. That's where the rest of that money came from.
- **Tony A.** - Cody, I want to thank you in the committee. I thought it was a fantastic convention. You know, I just was the treasurer of the Unity Conference, and you know you were down my calculations right at 20% less than you expected. We were down at the Unity Conference 28% less registrations. It's hard to budget for that. That's a big hit, you know. Why were we down? I think you did a great job of addressing possible solutions, you know. Is it just everybody's tied on money? As for new members, yeah. Well, you know, when I 1st came into AA, I promise you I would not have been able to afford this event. That is why we have scholarships. You were trying new ideas and the workshops were fantastic.

- **Cody R.** - Tony, thank you, and I guess I will comment. And I guess this is maybe from a comment that I could have made to Bella's comment earlier, since you brought it up twice. The 1st time I ever heard the idea of outdoing another convention was in this meeting 10 min ago. What was the 1st time that I thought it ever even crossed my mind? The idea was, how can we provide? How can we provide a broad array of how we can provide an experience that's going to help people learn things that they can go and take to help other alcoholics that are still suffering. And how inclusive can we be in that? That inclusive thinking might have led to a bigger problem? You know, more speakers which kind of pushed the budget up. But that was I think that was a thought that I'll stand beside that thought of saying I wanted to have made it a bit broader. With regards to the service and the type of service people could learn about and the workshops they could learn, and the amount of knowledge they could get to go help more alcoholics, because I don't believe this should this and this is just me. And this is where I could be inappropriate for saying this. I don't believe this is supposed to be a party. I think that we're supposed to have things on the agenda that people can come and learn, and then go take to go help more alcoholics. And that's that. That's my viewpoint on it. That I have this past convention chair? And then we have more questions. I see it, and I love everyone's comments. Thank you. And then it's an interesting thing because I get to hear the comment. But also I don't get to do another convention. So then I really want us to be listening to our suggestions, and we can give them forward to our next convention chairs. And I think that ad hoc that was put together is a really good idea to be listening to all this commentary, too, because I wish I could take some of the comments that y'all are making and go. Do say I'm gonna change it on the next one.
- **Rick M.** - I respectfully disagree with your comment to the guidelines being inadequate. I served on the 2015 Convention Committee, not as chair, but as a member of the committee following that convention. The person who did chair that convention did a very thorough deep dive and overhaul into those guidelines and I think they're quite robust, and should do a very good job of guiding the entire committee, including the chair on the journey to planning a convention. But that's only true. If they are utilized. The other point I want to make is that we hold an area committee meeting and an area assembly at each convention. That is the justification for funding the officers and the committee chairs and the liaisons to attend the convention. I worked with Patty extensively leading up to her 1st soiree into being area chair and there were problems with securing enough time to for her to be able to conduct the business necessary for the Assembly and that was frankly out of line, she should have had all the time she needed, due to the fact that that's why the area officers, committee chairs and the liaisons are there. plus a lot of districts and groups fund their Dcms and Gsrs to the convention because there is an area committee meeting and an area assembly, not because we have a bunch of speakers and we have always had one speaker on Sunday morning beginning at 11 o'clock, and not trying to cram 2 in there and then squeeze the area assembly. That is not appropriate, and that's all I have to say. Thank you.
- **Cody R.** - The guidelines are best practices on budgeting. I think that would be a thing that could be added to make them more robust as you suggest. I agree with you on that fully and and with regard to the scheduling and the things that the area Assembly requires. Those are also things that could be added to those guidelines that were not in there that could make them more robust.
- **Aliciea M.** - One suggestion, we tried to preregister and the fees online did not make the price any better. There is an online platform called Zeppe, that does not have the fees for nonprofits.
- **Cody R.** - It's incredible commentary. And I'm so happy we're having this discussion right now, so we can help the future ones like I mentioned. We moved forward with eventbrite, because it had been used in conventions in the past. So that is a thing that I had mentioned that we really need to look at the processor that we're using. Especially considering our demographic of guests and invitees. Those fees can become quite substantial.
- **Renio F.** - I don't know if I have the amount right, but \$7045 for speaker rooms divided by \$440, that's 16 people. I don't know if we had 16 speakers or who else got rooms covered but I just think looking at that you know there was a lot going on and I think there was more. I'm used to not having so many things packed in, so if we were paying for, you know, for the workshop folks to or you know, to to have a room, or or whatever I don't know. There's about 1111 out of town people, and then I don't know where the other 5. But maybe that's the officers,

and that's fine. But if anybody, if anybody else on the committee got their rooms, then that has to be looked at. But there I was. I agreed with Rick that there was a lot packed in here and there could have been, you know, this isn't a SWRAASA or regional forum. It's a convention which is a little bit different, but I do know with having it be the Area Assembly Convention.

- **Cody R.** - I did not include in that report the full hotel bill, which is 96 pages. But that all of that billing is turned over to the area treasurer, and I felt if anyone wanted to access that they could access it from them, because it has everyone's full names and personal information in that full billing and so I did not want to attach that to distribute openly to everyone.
- **Joel G.** - So the guidelines are, as far as the framework goes, substantially enough to guide us through a convention. Unfortunately, the gaps came where I've reported in the past, where there's not an appendix of some sort of checklist for each one of those positions to give some sort of guide to what their steps should be to follow through on what a convention should just basic check, checklist, and that doesn't exist, but that then also understanding that if you do bring in the proper experience into your committees, then you will probably fill those gaps. So I think there was kind of something left out in the middle there. So that's why I wanted to comment on that and I don't mean to argue with Cody on this fact, but I have to mention that Wix is actually half the price with all the totaled up fees of eventbrite, is half the price of eventbrite as far as fees and total cost and that includes a website where red, where eventbrite wouldn't include the actual website itself. So I apologize, Cody, I don't mean to call you out on that. I've done extensive research. I tried to look up the current eventbrite fees like right now with what they are for 2025, but I know what they were for 2024 and 2023, and they were. They're substantially more than Wix. So I just wanted to make note of that. So I apologize. I didn't come at you, Cody.
- **Cody R.** - One of the reasons that we chose that one is because Debbie served as our IT Chair and it was her suggestion. When we talk about leaning on the past experience, she was one of the people that also served on the committee that I got some advice from. I got the input from you Joel and then from Debbie. I got a report that said they were basically the same. I did not go and double verify that.
- **Joel G.** - I was not coming at you. Just as a correction and clarification, Debbie helped me out with my convention as well.
- **Allise B.** - I wanted to respond to Rick's comments. First at the speaker's expense, this was our first fully bilingual convention ever and I'm proud of that. 5 out of our 18 districts, 2 out of our now 4 inner groups are Spanish speaking, and I felt like giving them 1 hour. Does it not fill the bill with our warranty? That says we have no second class citizens, so I really felt strongly that we needed our Spanish speakers to have a whole convention without it all coming through translation. There were 14 speakers. It was under my budget until some people outside the speaker committee added some things to my budget and changed things for speaker expenses, recommending different flights and recommending travel payments that weren't capped as agreed with the speaker, and weren't at the right rate, and the treasurer and I agreed that in the future the treasurer will check the Irs site on what the correct charity rate for mileage is and we we hope to get that in there. I'm sorry that I sent my report, apparently too early in the process, so it didn't get recognized as a report. As for Rick's comments about Sunday morning one of the problems that Cody was facing is that if you have all the assembly and one speaker, you lose a lot of Saturday night rooms which really changes the calculus on what the hotel bill is going to be to the area. I would suggest in the future that we put more of the area business on Saturday, so that there can be room for 2 speakers on Sunday. We were also faced with the challenge that we had only one meeting room available on Sunday, so that in order to have a Spanish speaker as well as an English speaker we had to do them consecutively. That's what I had noted. Thank you.
- **Troy B-D.** - I did enjoy the convention and what I thought was a really good weekend. I did enjoy the convention and the good news in case you missed it in the guidelines. You do serve as an advisor for the next 2 conventions. So you can share this information with the committees moving forward. I'm sorry you didn't have better advisors than you had. That's, I think, a result of what we're looking at. Here is the fact that you did not have people guiding you and looking over your shoulder. I do enjoy conventions. But the truth of the matter is this is not going to get any cheaper. We have got to take a good, serious look at whether or not we can continue to do this as an area. I had the honor of going down to Bryan - College

Station and spending the weekend at the Unity Convention or conference, and it was a great weekend, and I bet I don't know what their budget was, but I bet it was a 4th of what we put on here. I really feel like the area could do a better job of supporting our districts and maybe getting out of the convention business ourselves. We have to host SWRAASA every 22 years, and I think we rotate every 6 years for the State convention. Those are. Those are things we can't really work around this area convention. I think we can. And so, Madam Chair, I would propose that we do an additional inventory. Specifically around this SETA convention, and that we not sign any additional contracts with the hotel until that inventory is completed. Just my thoughts, or maybe a motion. Yeah, motion.

- **Danny G.** - Okay, sorry I'm coming here. So yeah, I mean, honestly, Troy, Troy kinda talked already about what I want to talk about. I mean, I think this goes back to. And I think Cody did a great job, you know. I think a lot of it has to do with, you know just you know, even moody gardens right now, just to let everybody know we're not even getting a contract now, at this point of what we used to get in the past back when I was the 2020 convention chair. It is becoming very difficult, and part of the thing is, you know. I guess, and I don't know. I guess I'm very discouraged, a little bit discouraged. And this isn't because Cody's new in the service structure and stuff like this. But in some of our past advisors and stuff like this, like, had I been on as an advisor on that committee, and you had said 1,300 people. We're going to budget to have 1,300 people at a convention in Houston. I would have said. there's absolutely no way. I don't care how much promotion you do. I don't care how much I mean, it's just. We've never had that many And and so right there off the jump we were were were failing our convention chair. And I think, and this the convention in general. Right? So you know, there's got to be a lot of discussion and a lot of talk about, you know, you know, there are guidelines and sets and everything like that. But when we get outside the scope of everything I mean. That's why, when we talk about these speakers, I agree that it's great to try new things with speakers and everything. But I don't think the speaker is where we had the low set. I think there probably wasn't good stewardship of the money. I don't. Once again. I still haven't heard how many committee chairs had rooms paid for and that somebody needs to stand up an elder statesman, a past advisor needs to stand up in that meeting and say, No, no, no, right. We're not being good stewards of the money. This is not. This is not my money. When I am a convention chair I need to be a good steward, and spend this money as if it was somebody else's right. And you know, and and and I think there's a lot of stuff. There's a lot of traditions stuff to look at. There's a lot of, you know. I mean everything that we learn, all the principles that we learn have to be indoctrinated in doing a convention. It's not just simply this is mine. I get to do as I wish. The 4 traditions I think we take out of context too much. And we look at that as being, you know, autonomous. And we forget the second part of that but it's not, it's not adding up to me, as Reno had had expressed, and others had expressed like commitment. If every committee chair is getting their room paid for, I mean there is your deficit, possibly right there is when it affects AA as a whole or groups as a whole, and we need to really start paying attention to that and what that looks like. But all at the same time, these are learning lessons. You know and I think there's another requirement that says you are supposed to be 4 years involved in service or sobriety, one or the other at the beginning of those guidelines before being a convention chair or or co-chair. I can't remember exactly what it says, and I think that's a shame on us at times if we're not, if we're not following those suggestions and those requirements. So that's all I got. Thanks
- **Luis P.** - My name is Louis, and I'm an alcoholic. 1st of all, I want to congratulate Cody and everybody who worked on this convention. I know we are focusing a lot on the financial loss. Okay. but I always hear that the SETA convention is not a money making venture. But of course it's not going to be a losing money venture, either. Right? But I will not consider this convention a failure. I will consider a complete success based on the fellowship that I experienced, and that I saw everybody enjoying, especially on the hospitality suite that was combined. That was such a great idea And I think we're going to have the same thing for the one in Bowman hopefully. And also, you know, I want to appreciate this committee at this Convention for including the Hispanic community more than it has in the past. That's a great success. Alcoholic, anonymous is inclusive. It's not exclusive. So thank you, Cody for hard work, and we just have to live and learn from our mistakes. To me the convention was just a little overloaded.

- **Byron** - I kind of agree with Troy, and what he said that maybe if we could do an inventory of how all these convention processes work. I think Cody did a very fantastic job. and his results are the result of the area's participation. Maybe, in putting together an inventory of some kind to see how all these haul this work out and actually see what our real end objective would be you know, that's all I got. Thank you.
- **Cody R.** - We're one of the very largest line items that we have every year. There, there! I think there should definitely be more eyes on it. Because very well, meaning people where there might be some gaps in guidelines. That's where we experience some problems. And I don't want to speak outside of my convention. But I know we have had some things happen in the few previous ones as well that you know well-meaning people. There, there! I think more eyes on something could be very beneficial, especially when we're dealing with such a large number of what it costs. And then the other line that I did put in my report as well, was to say, I agree with what we're saying about taking a look and seeing what is the true objective of this? And do we determine that it's something that we're wanting to do or not, or or is what we're trying to accomplish. Can it be accomplished in another way? Right does it need to be a hotel space with hotel rooms and like, can we still accomplish something? Similarly. But again, like I said, those are things that I'd be happy to serve and talk about on future ad hocs. But I strongly believe that, or I would not have put it in my report.
- **Christina S.** - Thank you, Madam Chair. I just wanted to just remind everybody that we don't have to make a motion for an ad hoc, that Patty is fully empowered to do any ad hoc that she wants to do at any time, or even add to an ad hoc, that maybe she already has going. That was just my 2 cents.
- **Jim M.** - Thank you, Patty. Jim Mahon, alcoholic. First, I want to thank Cody and his committee for all their hard work. It's a lot of hard work, and the only way you don't make mistakes is you don't do anything, and you all did a lot. So I think part of the annual convention is that we make service attractive to those that aren't involved in service, and I think y'all did that. So thank you. I want to revise my budget for the Literature Committee, because I thought that I was responsible for my committee's budget for the committee chairs, hotel rooms at the Conference, so I guess I was confused. I'll stop there.
- **Troy B-D** - I was asking for an inventory, not an ad hoc. I think that this is more important. I think this is something the entire area needs to talk about, discuss and get behind. Not a select group of people to decide amongst themselves. Not that there's nothing. There's nothing wrong with the ad hoc, and I think their scope is fantastic. I really think the area needs to really tackle this. I think the fact that we're still conversing around this says to me that we need to do a little bit more.
- **Juan R.** - So something that was said earlier. I'm not sure if I understood it right, but it will say that perhaps, Cody, you didn't get the right advice, so you didn't have the right people helping and so that was a little bit of my question. Did you not have the right people advising you? Or you got the wrong advice, or did we not look for advice.
- **Cody R.** - So the guidelines said I should go to the past, the 2 or 3 past convention chairs to get their input and the idea of an advisory committee. I wasn't aware until late in the game that I was responsible for putting together an advisory committee for me. I thought you guys assigned people to me one, but also with regard to the previous 3 convention chairs being Joel and Annette and Debbie. Yes, all 3 of them, and then, additionally, Deborah D. were the 4 main people that I relied on, and additionally, Paul M? Those 5 were the ones that I went to for questions. Questions even to include things such as, what size of an event should we expect right? Does this budget look right? Right? And then I bought it. So I did. I brought it in front of those individuals to get their impact and feedback for some of the things and then also I brought it in front of the area multiple times to say, this is the budget we're looking at. This is the fee we're looking at. This is the attendance cost we're looking at and hearing no objection to it from in any of those reports I took, hearing no objection. As we're fine with a \$35 registration fee, right? And maybe we're not right. But that's not so. But they're they're that was presented, you know. In advance of the convention and at area assemblies.
- **Juan R.** - Thank you, and thanks for your service. Just one last thing, one just a comment I think of the inclusion. It's a great deal. But you know, maybe there's other ways to to be a part of other communities, you know, like the Hispanic community has their own conventions. You know. They already spend a lot of money on those conventions. Maybe there's a way that the district can take more information to those conventions rather than bring everybody on this

side you know. Maybe there is another way to take the information to them, too, you know. So the inclusion should be a 2 way street. You know we can go to them, but they can also come to us, you know.

- **Patty H.** - As far as forming an inventory committee that specifically focuses on the SETA convention and its guidelines and oversight. Would you need a formal motion or what would you like us to do?
- **Troy B-D.** - I would suggest but it is up to you completely as you are the chair. I would be happy to make a motion and let the area vote on that motion. The motion is to create an inventory process concerning SETA conventions in the July Assembly and to hold off any new contracts being signed until the inventory is complete.
- **Brandi W.** - I second.
- **Mike D.** - If we do that, how will it affect the convention that we are planning for Beaumont? If we want to do this it will cause difficulty with them.
- **Troy B-D.** - Yeah, exactly why I said, to stop what we're doing. I don't think it can affect what Beaumont is currently doing. I think they can take under advisement, whatever they're hearing, but I don't want to. We already have a contract there. We can't undo that.
- **Brad H.** - And I like the difference between the ad hoc and the inventory. What is the process of that? Does that come like? Does that come before the areas like some kind of round table discussion, type situation? Or how does the area participate in that as opposed to an ad hoc committee? This is just for clarification.
- **Christina S.** - Give some suggestions. I know we did an area inventory while I was area chair. And what at that point there was a work really a workshop that was put on by a past delegate that found out what were the main issues we thought our area had with certain things, and then we discussed them and came up with action items I know in the past, also other on other area inventories. There's been, you know surveys that have been sent out, and that kind of thing. So I think it would really be up to the inventory chair to decide which route they would want to go.
- **Rick M.** - I'm in agreement with this process. My concern is, and I don't know if Danny can express this or not. I don't know how much he's been involved with Keith in the 2027 that I don't want to see Keith's committee get hamstrung on the 2027 Convention. Would we be able to get this done in time so that they would still be able to get a decent contract with Moody, or whoever you know. If we decide to continue with hotels, I don't. I don't wanna leave that committee hanging out to dry.
- **Danny G.** - So so just real quick. Keith has not signed a contract yet. He's still trying to figure out if we can get a contract. Moody like, I said. We're just not getting what we used to. We're not getting back in 2020 I, for whatever reason, I don't know. But so he's still working on that and exploring some stuff, so I would doubt he would have anything signed before I mean at the earliest July, but I think that's something. I'll see if he can come to the Assembly, and maybe we bring that up hopefully. He'll be at the Assembly.
- **Rick M.** - Yeah, I'm just concerned, you know, if this takes 6 months. you know, and puts him right at the end of the year without a contract. Then he's really going to be under the gun. I realized he hadn't signed a contract yet. But like I said I just don't want him to get hamstrung and hogtied where he's in a bind.
- **Danny G.** - Well, I think I think that would come down to that. At that place we would just have to say, Don't sign a contract, and we may have to miss a convention for a year.
- **Patty H.** - Troy, in reading the motion, and thank you for putting it in the chat. It's saying, create an inventory process concerning the Seta conventions in the July Assembly. So you want it to be completed in the July Assembly, or you want it created at the July Assembly.
- **Troy B-D.** - I'd like to host the inventory in the July Assembly, if at all possible. And the reason that I said create is because, like Christina alluded to, SETA, does it? An area inventory every 5 years? We're not due for another until 2027. I don't think we should wait for that. Having said that, we don't have a really good process of doing an inventory like what I would call a spot check. You know, like I do with my bad behavior. And so I think, maybe that's something that we could ask the ad hoc to work on is putting together a process to do the inventory so that everybody's able to participate in that.
- **Tony A.** - I think this is a fantastic idea. I really do. Do we really need this inventory? I just have to agree with Rick you know, in AA. We work slowly. We take our time. We really try to think through this stuff. I don't see how you know I and the benefits that I get from the SETA

Convention, you know, this year I got to talk to our trustee. This is all good positive stuff that comes out of SETA. I don't think we should tie our hands and with the not being able to sign a contract, it's just too hard to get these contracts, and we gotta look so far ahead. And I just don't see this being resolved by July, which by July we really have to be getting serious about that 2027 contract.

- **Christina S.** - I just wanted to throw it out there just because we've been to certain places year after year after year, or really in this case. Every 3 years we've been to Moody Gardens does not mean it has to be at Moody Gardens. If we can get a better contract, say, maybe in Clear Lake or League City, which is close to Galveston, but not necessarily right in Galveston. I think we need to look at that as well. Just, I'm just saying, just because we've always done it at one place does not mean that's where it has to be done. And I want to make sure that we're not, you know, trying to put ourselves into this position if it's always been done this way. That's the way it needs to be done.
- **Rick M.** - Madame Chair, point of order. Just dawned on me, this is an area committee meeting, past delegates are not voting members. Can they make a motion?
- **Christina S.** - We have in the past let non voting members make a motion to the area committee, they just can't vote on it.
- **Troy B-D.** - I would be happy to take my name off of the motion and let Brandy hold it if that would make it more agreeable, Rick.
- **Rick M.** - It's simply a question. I didn't have a problem with it.
- **Troy B-D.** - It's a good question. I feel like I don't need to own that motion at all.
- **Bella L.** - I just wanted to ask the question with what Christina said. I agree with what she said, so therefore, with the statement of not signing a contract being in that motion. That goes against that, because we just may find something better.
- **Kevin W.** - I'm in the contract for the Beaumont Convention. There's a cancellation policy so depending on when we cancel whether it's 0 to 29 days, 30 to 59 days, 60 to 119 and 120 to 180 days. There's a penalty fee, and we can pay that penalty fee, and then that would allow us to get out of the contract, and I don't know if they have that with the other hotels or not.
- **Troy B-D.** - Thank you, Patty, and thank you, Kevin, for looking at that. I am not in any way, shape or form, suggesting that we pull the rug out from underneath Beaumont, and the work that they've done up to this point. What I would maybe think about adding to the motion is that we consider. If we consider doing this, maybe, then the next motion needs to be that we just consider skipping the 2027 convention and asking for that committee to move to the next year. That way we're not hamstringing them. We're not racing to get a contract that gives us a little bit more wiggle room. I have a feeling we're gonna lose some money off of SWRAASA because of the way that you know again. It's not not saying anything bad about Christina, although I can call me later. There's you know. The fact is, we? We've got expensive. You know, these hotels are expensive. I don't want to amend my motion, I think maybe we can get through this motion and then maybe we can consider that for the next.
- **Patty H.** - I'm going to read the motion to create an inventory process concerning the SETA conventions in the July Assembly. Additionally, we hold off on signing any additional hotel contracts until the inventory is complete.

Vote (Inventory Process)

- For - 20
- Against - 4
- Minority Opinion
- **Christian** - The only reason I don't. I don't agree with this because y'all say y'all are going to call off any conventions till y'all get them. If I'm not. If I'm correct, I mean, I'm trying to listen and understand. To y'all get the seat of inventory going, or something like that.
- **Patty H.** - Troy said that he would not ask Beaumont to stop. Can someone clarify?
- **Troy B-D.** - So my understanding is that Beaumont has a contract. We're not asking them to stop any of their work. I would hope that anything that comes out of the inventory in terms of suggestions that they will take. But we're not asking. I am not asking for them to stop their work.
- **Tony A.** - I think there's a lot of benefits that come from the SETA convention. you know, and again you go back and you read Bill's writings. And on all of this we're sort of

putting the cart before the horse here, there, you know, he was always we look into this. We will investigate it. Then we figure out what it's gonna cost, and then we figure out if the resources can meet these needs. And here we're sort of jumping to the conclusion, because we could really be hamstringing that 2027 convention. I think we'd just be much better off to have the convention. It isn't like it's gonna put us into bankruptcy. But with the good inventory it could become very feasible. So that's all I got. Thank you.

- **Patty H.** - Does anybody in the majority wish to change their vote? No, so the motion is closed and 20 - 4 is greater than two thirds, so this motion will go to assembly next week.

- **Christina S.** - Yes, with a first and second.

- **Cody R.** - I would like, just to add briefly, I did note in my email that I will do my best to be on this next weekend. But I may not be. And if anyone I want to make sure anyone who has any other questions, has full and ample space to talk to me. So I did provide my personal cell phone number in the C to announce the message I sent out just so I could make sure everyone can communicate. Get a hold of me in case I cannot make it virtually but I wanted to reiterate that if there was any other need from me. But thank you guys for allowing me to serve. I appreciate the time today, Patty. Thank you.

Announcements

Reino F.

International Convention of A.A. - Vancouver, BC July 3 - 6, 2025

44th Annual District 90 Convention - August 8-10 2025 - Beaumont, Texas.

78th Annual State Convention - Houston, Royal Sonesta August 15-17, 2025

TXSCYPAA - October 24-26, 2025, Marriott Hobby Airport

SW Regional Forum - November 14-16, Marriott Albuquerque, NM

63rd SETA Convention - January 23-25, 2026, Holiday Inn Beaumont

Area Committee Meeting - Saturday July 19, 2025 (Online)

Area Assembly Meeting - Saturday July 26, 2025 San Jacinto College (In person and Online)

2026 SWRAASA - October 9 - 11, 2026 Hyatt Regency Baytown - Houston

Close Meeting

Responsibility Statement - I am responsible....when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help; I want the hand of A.A. to always be there and for that, I am responsible.

Adjourned @ 1:58 PM

Southeast Texas Area Assembly



2nd Quarter Area Assembly Minutes

Saturday April 5, 2025

San Jacinto College North - In person

Online via Zoom

NOTICE: Area Guidelines prohibit publishing personal email addresses or phone numbers, so email addresses have been converted to position-based email addresses.

*This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first to keep our Fellowship united.
For upon A.A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.*

Working Together - Increasing Trust

Area Assembly Minutes

Saturday, April 5, 2025 9:00 AM

San Jacinto College North

AREA ASSEMBLY

Open Meeting @ 9:00 AM

GSR Workshop-Hybrid-English and Spanish

Open Meeting - Serenity Prayer

Patty H.

Preamble to [SETA Policies & Procedures Manual](#)

Reino F.

ROLL CALL – Area Committee Attendance

Elizabeth G.

Roster link will only work with those with a seta-aa.org email address.

PDF will be sent out quarterly

Roster contains confidential information and should not be shared outside of this committee.

Several DCM's and Alternates are shown vacant, go to the registrar table and fill out the form.

Recognize: New GSR & DCMs, past Delegates

Patty H.

Review & Approve Previous Area Assembly Minutes

Fernando B.

Minutes were approved as corrected (refer to Committee Meeting Minutes) for corrections.

Treasurer's Report Presentation and Approval

Aliciea M.

2024 Treasurer's Report

- Operating Funds
 - Beginning Funds - \$80,587.97
 - Deposits - \$14,152.05
 - Checks Written - 14,536.83
 - Ending Balance - \$95,203.19
 - Unrestricted Balance \$74,466.36

1st Quarter 2025

- Operating Funds
 - Beginning Funds - \$95,203.19
 - Deposits - \$36,806.68
 - Checks Written - \$31,087.36
 - Net - \$5,779.61
 - Ending Balance - \$100,922.52

- Restricted Funds
 - SWRAASA - \$2,500.00
 - SCAP - \$3,000.00
 - Prudent Reserve - \$25,351.00
 - Convention Loss Reserve - \$7,500.00
 - Ending Balance - \$38,351.00
 - Unrestricted Balance \$62,571.51
 - Convention Funds Beginning -\$3,000
 - Check Written for Hotel - \$1,000
 - Remaining Balance - \$2,000

You can look over the following pages to review contributions per group and then the expenses per committee chairs. Also, if you need to make a Zelle donation or anything, you can go to the Treasurer's webpage on SETA and follow the instructions on that if you need to make a cash contribution, Brandy is back there at the back table and she is taking cash contributions. Also, if you need to get a check from me for expenses, you can see me at the back table as well.

Comments

- **Edwin C.** - I'm just wondering where you reflect on the loss that we have in January because I don't see it here, the loss that we have at the convention.
- **Aliciea M.** - It says total budget expense and it says SETA convention and it shows our expenses was \$21,684.57. That's from what SETA had paid but we have received \$8,000 from the convention and then we also, why that expense is so high is because they accidentally took \$15,575 from our account but they replaced it. The hotel did that. And then they replaced it and then SETA, the convention gave us \$8,000. The expense that we paid that SETA convention could not pay was \$6,100 and then it was about \$5,000 what we paid.
- **Edwin C.** - So is it that \$18,100 in miscellaneous that \$15,500 you just mentioned is a reflection of that? Yes, that would be \$15,575
- **Luis** - Do you think you can print this in a larger format? A lot of my colleagues are having a hard time so I think you can print that through donations with a larger print.
- **Aliciea M.** - Yes, I will remember that for next time.

SETA Convention Review Ad Hoc

Danny G.

Refer to Committee Meetings Minutes for Report

No Comments

SETA Standing Committees Participation Review Ad Hoc

Tony A.

Refer to Committee Meetings Minutes for Report

No Comments

Discussion-2026 SWRAASA Cost and possible Group Contributions

Mike D.

Refer to Committee Meetings Minutes for Report

Comments

- **Unknown** - Could you please write that address where to send contributions down and put it on the table where we could take it and send it to our groups

Round Table Discussion Sessions

Christina S.

I am delegate, panel 75, area 67, and to those of you out there thinking, what the heck does panel 75 mean? That means I get to go for my very first year to the 75th General Service Conference.

We get to be a part of the process of bringing our voice to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole for the US and Canada, and I get to do it at the 76th General Service Conference. Now, in order to get me ready for the General Service Conference, it's important that I know what you, your groups, your districts, your committees think. If I go up there, it's just going to be my opinion.

But when I have the voices of our area giving me their group conscience, not just their opinions, it holds so much more weight with me that a loving God reveals himself through our group

conscience. Now, in order to do that, we're going to have 12 round tables. I know it sounds like a lot, but you only have to be in one.

Round Tables

1. Danny G.
2. Lanier Y.
3. Kevin W.
4. Jim M.
5. Tony A.
6. Harold B.
7. David
8. Don M.
9. Cheryl M. (Virtual 1)
10. Jennifer (Virtual 2)
11. Luis P. (Spanish 1)
12. Cristian (Spanish 2)

Roll-Call for VOTING

Elizabeth G.

90 voting members (92 in person and 8 online)

Floor Motions from Area Committee meeting 3/29/25:

1 - Create an inventory process concerning the SETA Conventions in the July assembly. Delay signing any additional hotel contracts.

So, based on the conversations that we had last weekend at the area committee, following the report from this year's SETA convention, I made the following motion. So, the following motion resulted from the floor action at the area committee today, 3-29-2025. The motion was presented by me as a result of the 2025 SETA convention report and subsequent discussion by the area committee. The motion states, create an inventory process concerning the SETA conventions in the July 2025 assembly. Additionally, we ask that we delay signing any additional hotel contracts until that inventory is complete. So, as you heard this morning, there is an ad hoc committee that's meeting right now at the convention. We can use that information that they bring to the July assembly to further do some inventory work and make some decisions for the area as to how we want to proceed with the SETA conventions. We have to be responsible for SWRAASA, which is upcoming, as we talked about this morning. There's high potential that we'll have to pay some money out of pocket to support that event. Similarly, we have a state convention coming up this year. That rotates every six years. There's potential also that we will have to make up some of the loss if there is loss at that event as well. Having seen those potentials coming up and the fact that we've lost money this year again, I think it's time for us to really take a good look at the SETA conventions and how we use them. I know there's going to be a presentation for the state convention, so I would suggest maybe hold off on the vote until after the presentation of the convention. I think it would make more sense to hold off on that vote until after the presentation has been made on the convention and its loss and the discussion that we'll have after that. I think that would make more sense, but it's your assembly. That's what you want.

Comments

- **Joel G.** - I was the 2024 convention chair. At first, I didn't like the initial sound of what was going on with this motion, but I gave it some thought and prayed on it. One thing that's occurring right now is the convention committee being put together for the Galveston Convention. Not that I desire to be part of another convention committee, but I have in-depth knowledge of that contract and all the issues that went on around that convention, and I have yet to receive one phone call about getting ready to sign a contract on that. I think that it's almost prudent that we act on this very quickly before a contract is signed for that Galveston Convention and they get caught up in another contract that could potentially result in a negative life that they had in our fellowship. Thank you, Joel.

- **Luis P.** - I was part of this convention in 2025 as the hospitality suite. And I've been creating this committee to go over and ask conventions and see what was good, what was bad, so that it won't happen again. And I think it's a good thing.
- **Maddie** - I came from southwest Texas, Area 68, and serviced there for about 20 years. But we did not have a convention. And so we had every two years when we voted our adjusted service in for the next panel, we had what we called a conference. But generally someone from GSO would come and speak. And we always had the regional trustee there with us, too, to hold council votes and such. But we didn't have a convention. And so when I'm in Paris, I'm kind of like, what does this convention mean? How? It was kind of astonishing to me. And so I think it's a really good idea to do an inventory about that based on the losses and the expenses and such. Having said that, the friends that I have where I come from only attend the state convention and nothing else. And so I think that fellowship is vital in some ways that we're not doing in other ways. And so anyway, that's my sense.
- **Rick M.** - I am very much in agreement with this motion, with one exception. I am not comfortable with handcuffing the 2027 convention since they have already started their negotiations. I think with what we've already learned, we can ensure that we can have a decent convention without any loss again. And the Galveston Convention is almost always very successful. And it was mentioned that perhaps if the 2027 committee was not able to get their work done, maybe we might have to skip the 2027 convention. And I think in my district, there'd be a whole silver bullet if we did that, because people truly get excited about the SETA convention. It is the only area that we have left anymore since we've done with the gratitude now. So I would just hate for the 2027 committee to be handcuffed. And I take exception with that part of your motion.
- **Jennifer** - I was unable to log in last week, so I don't know if my question, if it's not appropriate to put it here in my statement. Why do we not go back to the way the conference used to be and the districts got to get a suite on a level of the hotel and they did a suite with food, snacks, and stuff? Because I've been on two committees in the last two years, and we spent a lot of money on these suites to try to get everyone together. It's a lot of money to rent those big suites. So I was just wondering, when did it change that we don't do it that way? Because it used to, SETA just had coffee and snacks outside the speaker room, and the districts all got to do a thing for food. And if this was the wrong place, I apologize.
- **Troy B-D.** - My understanding is that it's really up to each convention committee how their hospitality go. I think, again, that's what I know. My opinion is and my experience is it has gotten more and more costly to do that. And so the idea was if we could get one big space, get all the districts working together, which is unity, we don't need six different hospitality suites and each district hosting their own. It was really about cost savings. I hope that answered your question.
- **Victor** - I'm curious what exactly the integrated items would be. Or if there are major things that would prevent you guys from signing the contract or anything. I mean, I heard the major issues with the previous, you know, having to switch the contract. What would the inventory items be? Is it as simple as, like, snacks or things like that?
- **Troy B-D.** - So this is really something that we are going to put together a committee, if this gets passed, to create the inventory process. And part of the questions that we need to ask, first and foremost, is do we want to continue to do conventions? And if so, then what is that going to look like? Part of my thinking is if we continue, and, again, this is Troy's opinion, so zone out if you feel the strong need. I see Danny nodding. I think we need to get out of the hotels. We've saved a significant amount of money coming here and getting out of the hotels for assemblies. I think there are options that we just talked about at lunch at the executive committee at the state convention that made me late for my presentation earlier. They're literally charging us to plug into their walls, to their outlets. I mean, they're literally, unbelievably expensive. I, too, love the convention. I miss our assembly weekends. If we're going to do it, it's going to cost us money. And if we're going to lose money, we need to be okay with that and not tear people up like we've done recently. So, good questions.
- **Joel G.** - So, I'll ask everybody to go back to their memory banks. This exact motion, per se, is part of one of the reports that I gave in understanding and questioning why we're having these conventions because they are, again, becoming so large and so difficult to put together. And one of the reasons I had to raise our vet registration up to a certain level to cover our costs. But to put that in perspective, yeah, we lost money on this last convention

slightly, a little bit. And my convention ended up making a little bit of money. And so there was some break even there. But, you know, what are our goals within the convention? They're becoming too grand. Because, like you mentioned about doing inventory on the process, well, partly there isn't a named process on how to have a convention in our area. Just make sure we're kind of clear. When you go into a convention as a chair, you're given some guidelines, which are mostly job descriptions. There's a description of what a convention kind of is, what we're doing. And that's it. And you're left to kind of guess. So I had a lot of experience and spent an immense amount of time on the phone with people trying to figure out what I was supposed to do and how that process is supposed to fall together. And I called on a person in this area that has done multiple conventions and had to do a checklist. I just keep using that word, but a checklist, because it is so immensely huge. And when it gets to that grand nature, I'm glad that this, in part, I'm glad you're doing this. Because we're going to get to that threshold again in another year and a half where this is going to happen. It's gotten so big and so grand and so massive that we could potentially lose money or make money. It's just we can't predict. And how many resources, how many resources we're going to be pulling in. And as you mentioned, I did my best, and I will tell you, as a chair, to bring the districts together as much as I could. As much as they fought me, they also wanted to come together. So I want to kind of round that out. Thank you, Troy.

- **Christina S.** - I am actually for this motion. But I do want to just, it makes me nervous when we start saying, you know, we're spending all this money, we're spending all this money. We have \$100,000 sitting in our bank account right now. \$60,000 in unrestricted funds. And the question becomes, I think for the inventory it needs to look at, is this part of the southeast Texas area carrying the message? And if it is, we need to be, are we okay with losing \$10,000? Because honestly, \$5,000 when we have \$100,000 sitting in a bank account, if we truly believe we're carrying the message, then absolutely. We need to do it. But I get worried when we start trying to pretend like we have no money. We 100% have too much money, I believe. Sorry, opinion. We need to start carrying the message. Can we get billboards out there? Can we get workshops done? If we're not going to do a convention that we're not going to spend money on, what are we going to spend it on to reach that newcomer, to reach the new person? And I think that's what the inventory really needs to focus on.
- **Troy B-D.** - Thank you. I agree, Christine, and as you and I have talked, I know that there's differing opinions on what the SETA convention is about. I was always told coming up that it was about getting people excited about general service and getting people involved in our area. There are people that have different opinions around that. I will tell you about the 26 years that I've been around here. I've never once heard anybody stumbling through a hotel, seeing a convention, and deciding to get sober. I've never heard that story. It might have happened somewhere, but I've never heard that. I don't think we can fool ourselves by saying that we're carrying the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. My opinion.
- **Edwin C.** - The Hispanic community, we've been doing a lot of events year after year, and normally, every committee concentrates on the hotel contract. That's really important for us. If we don't do a good deal on the signing contract, we're probably going to end up losing money. So we didn't get a lot of time trying to work on the hotel contract. And the other thing, can you tell me, or somebody can tell me, in the last five, six years, how many SETA conventions have turned out to be a loss? Three. The last three? Danny's coming to the mic to answer that. And also, the Hispanic community, in every event we have, conventions and all those kinds of things, we have at least two public information meetings on Saturdays.
- **Tony A.** - You know, I think it does help the suffering alcoholic. I see a lot of good coming out of the SETA conventions. There's two members here today that I met at the SETA convention. It was the very first SETA event they'd ever been to. And now they're here. I mean, that's just great. You know, I think, I'm not even sure we need this motion. I'm all for an inventory, but an inventory, the chair can make an ad hoc to do an inventory. And I think we do need one. Don't get me wrong. I think the inventory is fantastic. But I do have a problem with tying the hands of the 2027 conventions. I've been on the finance committee here the last couple of years and looking at the contracts. And there's a lot of work that goes into these contracts. And if we want our best deal, we've got to work on it now. And that part of the motion, you're pretty much killing the 2027 convention. You're at least really hurting. I would like to see that part fixed. And I can support the inventory 100%. But that's all I got to say

- **Troy B-D** - I hear what you're saying. I hear Rick as well. My concern is, again, like what I said earlier, that part of this is whether or not we want to continue to do conventions. And what I would hate for us to do is to have the 2027 convention signed and then we decide we don't want to do this. And then we're tied to those two convention contracts over the next two years. We're going to get this done in July. We'll have some decisions made. Part of the process that I'm presenting, hoping that we can present back to our area chair, is that we make decisions at that inventory to move forward so we're not dragging this into October. So to that point, I was actually going to address it.
- **Mike B.** - I wouldn't want to see it for 2027. I've been on the board for conferences and stuff. And sometimes it takes two years to get speakers lined up. If July is typically okay for that process to start and it's not delaying the process of 2027, then great. But if it is going to stop that process, then I agree with Rick. Because anything that delays that process, it really makes the coordinator job a lot more difficult. I also would like to just, I guess, put out there what you've already said earlier, is that we facilitate 12-step work. We're not doing 12-step work. The seating commission is great, and it definitely carries the message through the speakers, but it's still facilitating 12-step work. It's introducing people to service. So the recovery happens in the group. The other part is structure. And I think Joel kind of touched on this. I'm hoping I'm expressing what he expressed too. I would like to piggyback on that. If there isn't a structure that exists, I'm hoping that this inventory process will create that structure because this was a grand convention. When I saw the flyer for this convention, I'm not saying that's a bad thing. I just saw the list of speakers, and I was like, how do they fit this all into one meeting? So it was a lot. So is there a framework? Are there some boundaries? Is there a structure? I'm hoping that the inventory will be there. And I think, again, part of that is going to come out of the ad hoc committee, that the inventory will hear the final report and can work off of their recommendations as well.
- **Danny G.** - past convention chair of 2020. And one of the things I want to say, first and foremost, everybody wants to talk about the contracts being signed. So I signed a contract in January 2019, because we had someone back out last second. I was able to pull everything together. Is it easy? No. But is it possible? Absolutely. Some of the speakers, you can get speakers prior to. Your number one thing, more than anything, is getting your speakers. Some speakers book out, but guess what? There's another speaker down the road. So that's the most difficult thing in the two-year thing. You don't technically need a two-year thing. You can start doing this stuff without signing a contract. You can make a commitment to a hotel without signing a contract. A lot of them are good. The reason we're doing January in some of those areas is because those are off-season times, right? A lot of times. That being said, there's a lot of stuff talking about the screen work and doing all this stuff. We have to remember that we need to go back to this whole idea of, you know, we're practicing humility here in alcoholics' commons. You know, we keep looking at conventions and we're not talking about our steps. We're not talking about our traditions, right? And these are all the things that we're supposed to be practicing. We're supposed to be practicing these principles in all of our affairs, including conventions. And what that looks like is this. We don't have a framework. We absolutely have a framework, okay? Our framework is called our seated convention guidelines, right? Are those ever detailed? No. Why? Because that requires humility. What does that look like? Go ask for help, right? Lean on your past trusted servants when we look at tradition two, right? It's all of these things that come in play together, right? The easiest job I've ever had in alcoholics' commons was being a convention chair. I promise you that. And the reason why is because I leaned on past trusted servants. I have looked at almost every number from the past conventions. We keep talking about how these hotels are too expensive. That is not why we lost money. We lost money because we did not follow the guidelines. That is why we lost money. If you look at the details, we lost because we did not follow guidelines, okay? Had I not followed the guidelines, and just one of the incidents in that is where it talks about the rooms that are paid for at a convention. It gives you specific guidelines for past experience. I leaned on those past experiences, trusted servants. I did not try to reinvent my own ideas. I believe we're taking tradition four, we're looking at being autonomous, and we're stopping there. We're not being good stewards of the money. In every decision I make in alcoholics' commons when it is not my money, I need to think about how I am being a good steward of the money. And I believe it goes back to our principles and our traditions and leaning on the people. And not just going to what Danny wants to do and how

this is just like a blank check for myself. Yes, we do have money here, but I can spend it wisely. Conventions, for me, are supposed to be fun, right? Marvin used to talk about all the time, conventions are fun, conferences are work, okay? There's nothing wrong with having fun at a convention, having some good speakers, doing these things, but also doing it and being a good steward of the funds and the principles of alcoholics' commons. So, for me, if I was to do another convention, and I would do one in a heartbeat, once again what I would do is I would follow the guidelines and I promise you at the end of the day, it would be a successful convention. Because those things are hammered out by past experiences of failure. We need to learn from that, we need to trust our trusted servants, and we need not to just lean on our own opinion and our own conscience.

- **Jim P.** - As a retired hotelier who worked in conference hotels for almost 20 years, I can tell you that hotels are expensive. They're expensive to run and they're expensive to have conferences in. Having listened to some of the recaps from the last few years, I think maybe our guidelines could be a little stronger and I think an inventory is certainly something that would be helpful for us. However, I became aware of what general service was attending a seating convention and I needed to see someone else get to that.
- **Mike D.** - I'm on panel 49, area 66, and I was a chairperson in 1996, so I have a little experience in 2006. I was the second biggest chairperson. And so, I was thinking about when the young lady came up and said about the different things about hospitality which is different nowadays than it was in the 80s and the 90s and the 2000s and as we progressed on. It's just not the same. But we seem to have those old memories about what it used to be like and it's getting to the point where it's not feasible. And so, taking an inventory and processing and looking like George said, maybe we should go from being not having lunch or dinner in my annual where it is something because what I've come to realize over all these years of being involved and I'm involved in four of the different conventions and then each one got a little bit bigger, but they all had guidelines. But as the time went on and times continued to change, everything's more expensive, but we're not getting more expensive. We have to come to an understanding that that's just a reality. And we can't hope for something, we're going to have to live with reality. And the reality of it is, it's not like it used to be. But I do agree that without a convention, it's something, when you first get sober and you get the newcomer, they want to go out, they want to have fun and sobriety. And that was the whole idea of Bill wanting to have a convention. So people can see that you can have fun and sobriety. Now we tweak it and we twist it and we do what we want to do. Going back to the hotels, the hotels don't let you go upstairs anymore and bring your food and have barbers and things. That's not allowed anymore. But it was allowed in the 80s and it was allowed in the 90s and the early 2000s and they're phasing it out. We have to accept that fact. So we have to accept that we can only get what they offer us at what the price is going to be. And what happens is, we as alcoholics, we bunch of cheapskates. Everybody still wants to pay \$10 to go to the convention when we can't. When the price comes over. I mean nowadays, they charge us just a part. We used to have to charge for that. So now you have to encourage people to come as far as you want to come to the convention. For the time where it's easy to get 1,500 people, it's very hard to get 1,000 anymore. And for the price of 1,000 people to come to the hotel, it's not feasible. And so we have to make a hard decision. And inventory is a process we do that. And if we sign some hotel contracts, I guarantee a contract is going to be broken. I'll give you an example. If 2,000 is something, we had a hotel for the city convention in Bronco Station. And the month before the hotel, they sold the hotel out. And they didn't want to honor the hotel. So we pieced it together. But it was terrible. There was no air. There was no heat. It was terrible. The wind, it was a hard winter. Always the most terrible thing. There was no elevator either. No, we had no elevator. We had to walk up the stairs. So just when you sign a contract, it's going to be honored. And I'm not saying that happens, but they did happen to us at this convention in 1901 years. So we need to look at this. And so before we make a hard decision of what we want to do, it's a small proportion of conventions. But we've got to realize what is realistic and what is not. Thank you.
- **Jen** - I'll wait for somebody up here just so you can have a, never have to say that you never heard somebody come in and take a desire trip. 31 years ago, I went to a marathon meeting at 6 a.m. at the Houston Spirit at Houston Conference, and I was invited to start a trip. Nice. And Mike and I went in as an al-anon for four years, and came out as an al-hawk. So my point being, I got marathon meetings for the 2026 convention. And it was intimate, don't

worry about how many marathon meetings that you have. The state isn't interested in them. But they're interested in getting people involved in service. And I take issue with them. I don't think you have to have 24-hour marathon meetings anymore in terms of the SETA convention. We do it a lot with the, or did do it a lot with the Beaumont Convention. But if we're talking about the alcoholic who still suffers, I still think that we need to look at that and not just dismiss it, because we don't get perhaps a lot of new alcoholics. And I hope that they're going to get on the service right away. Because I'm going to tell you, that's not going to happen. I just think we have to look at just getting them sober also. And I think that it should just be a reward. That's all I want to say.

- **Kate** - And Bill says everything so much better than I can, so I'm just going to read this. This is from As Bill Sees It. In the years ahead, AA will of course make mistakes. Experience has taught us that we need to have no fear of doing this, provided that we always remain willing to admit our faults and to correct them promptly. Our growth as individuals is dependent upon the healthy process of trial and error. So will our growth as a fellowship. Let us always remember that any society of men and women that cannot freely correct its own faults must surely fall into decay, if not into collapse. Such is the universal penalty for the failure to go on growing. Just as each AA must continue to take a small inventory and act upon it, so must our whole society. For if we are to survive, and if we are to serve, usefully and well. Thank you. Thank you. Bill always says it better than me. Always.
- **Rick M.** - Danny, you're a really good friend of mine, and I don't want you to take this personally, because it's not personal. It's a point of information. That convention that he mentioned when he took over for somebody who stepped away he had trouble getting the speakers in that year. And one of the unintended results of that was every single speaker we had at that convention talked extensively about drugs, including the GSOs. And that was quite disappointing. And I was an area chair at the time, and I believe I got a lot of feedback on that.
- **Christina** - I want to call the question.
- **Patty H.** - Y'all, talking to Troy, he is willing to split this motion. The first motion is to create an inventory process concerning the SETA conventions in the July 2025 assembly. And the second motion would be to delay signing any additional hotel contracts until the inventory is complete. Is that okay with y'all? Because we feel like that's where some of the discussion is.
- **Christina S.** - we got to vote to see if we want to stop discussion.
- **Patty H.** - So she called the question and then we voted to call the question. Do we have a second?
- **Johnny M.** - Second, to call the question.
 - Vote in favor to call the question (Majority)
 - Passes
- **Patty H.** - Take questions from online.
- **Chery M.** - I was unaware of a record meeting where we could assess what went well and what we could do better next time. I have feedback and would like to participate in the inventory process. Okay, thank you.
- **Patty H.** - She wants to participate in the inventory. Please show up in July if we do it then. Ready for motion 1. It is to create an inventory process concerning the SETA conventions in the July 2025 assembly. All in favor, please raise your hand. And we're going to be counting. I don't think so, but we're voting, so I'm not going to stop the vote right now, and then we can address that as the second part.

Vote

Yes - 36

No - 0

- Passes

- **Patty H.** - So we'll move on to, and he was asking, this came out of committee. It was seconded as one motion together. Mike is asking if we need to have a second to, he separated it.
- **Troy B-D.** - It doesn't actually change the motion. It just changes how we're voting on it. Do you want to second it?
- **Patty H.** - Rick says that's correct.

- **Kathleen** - I didn't realize we were separating it. So if we're separating it, I will vote with the affirmative.
- **Patty H.** - So the second part of this motion that we're voting on now is to delay signing any additional hotel contracts until the inventory is complete. All in favor of this, raise your hand.

Vote

In Favor - 18

Oppose - 46

- **Patty H.** - So would anyone from the minority opinion that voted yes to delay the contracts like to share their opinion? So no one wants to share their opinion?
- **Bryon** - I agree with Troy. The only thing I would say, it just makes things a little bit more difficult if you don't have a streamlined process. Yes, there are guidelines, but out of guidelines, a process has to be made.
- **Mike D.** - The only reason I voted for not doing that is because it's counterproductive. If we're going to still be able to sign a contract, if we ever come up with a process here, it's going to hit us together. So that's the reason why I voted that way. If we have plenty of time to do it, if we put it into action. If we don't, we won't. But like I said, it's counterproductive to be able to sign a contract. It's almost like you're bucking the system. Thank you.
- **Joel G.** - We should be looking forward to anything when we have a number of ad hoc solutions in the middle of all that. That's my opinion. Why would we move to something and not hold off on that in 2027? A year and a half prior to you. Or more. And we should hold off. Because we have all these potential ad hocs going on.
- **Robert** - So when I had like five months of sobriety, I was going on vacation. And I told my sponsor, maybe I shouldn't do my inventory right now. And he said, no, you can go ahead and do your inventory.
- **Patty H.** - So would anyone in the majority opinion like to change their vote based on the minority opinion? No? Oh, there's one? Two? Okay. I need a motion to revisit the motion and a second?
- **Reino F.** - You got to revote, the hands raised did it.
- **Patty H.** - We are going to take a vote to see if we want a revote?

Vote

Revote - 15

No Revote - 48

- Fails, the motion closes.
- **Patty H.** - So that means the summary of that is that the motion to re-vote to create an inventory process concerning the SETA convention in the July 2025 assembly passed. The delay signing any additional hotel contracts until the inventory is complete failed.

2. SETA reimburse Christina S. \$5000 for the SWARAASA hotel payment on March 30th, 2025.

Refer to Committee Meetings Minutes for Report

Comments

- **Unknown** - Is there going to be a second payment of \$5,00 in six months?
- **Christion S.** - Yes, there will be another payment due in six months of \$5,000 up until October of 2026. Every six months, there will be a payment of \$5,000. I think our hope is by that time, hopefully maybe Swarza might have collected enough registrations or donations from the groups to be able to pay back ourselves.
- **Mike B.** - Does that \$5,000 cover any interest or anything for your credit card?
- **Christina S.** - Thank you all for looking out for me. If I make a payment once I'm reimbursed, I will not have to pay any interest.
- **Luis P.** - I was just wondering if SETA doesn't have an account so that people can use it for this type of transaction instead of using their own credit cards.

- **Christina S.** - That's a very good question. I know there was a lot of discussion about whether or not we would get a credit card for SETA. At least when I was treasurer, there was a lot of conversation about it. And our concern with getting a credit card is for those individuals who may not have, I mean, we all have histories, right? And maybe my credit is not so great, and maybe they cannot allow me some trusted service. The ability to be on the credit card could put us in some sticky situations. But I do think maybe it is a motion if SETA thinks that would be more appropriate to do going forward. Okay, thank you.
- **Darrell** - What's the total amount? \$5,000? If it's \$5,000 every six months, what's the total?
- **Christina S.** - No, it's more than \$5,000. Okay. Good question. So it is \$15,000. And then we have to guarantee \$10,000 of food and beverage.
- **Mike B.** - Just kind of piggybacking off of what was suggested earlier about a credit card, obviously we have a bank account, so with a debit card, because I know that my home group and a lot of the conferences I'm on board for, we have bank accounts that have debit cards attached to them. And any recurring stuff that we have, like Google or whatever, is automatically attached to that debit card that's attached to the account directly. So no interest, it's not tied to anybody's personal credit, et cetera.
- **Mike D.** - Just to kind of let you all know that what we're trying to do today is reimburse Christina for the payment she already had to make. But we know we're going to have to pay \$5,000 in six months, probably in six more months, again and again. So we're going to bring it to the Finance Committee to look into the matter where we take some of the unrestricted funds and restrict them specifically for SWRAASA to cover this. So this is just covering what she had to pay already, and then we'll, by the time the next assembly comes, we can bring it to a vote in the assembly to take some of the unrestricted funds and restrict it strictly for SWRAASA to cover this cost. To eliminate some of the questions about that, we just want to take care of Christina today.
- **Patty H.** - We are going to take a vote for reimbursement for Christina S.

Vote

- In Favor - 81
- Oppose - 0

Round Table Discussion Reports

Round Tables

1. Danny G. (Brandy - Reporter)

- So we had three questions. I'll start with our topic of policy and administration. Require supermajority. Be required to approve changes to the founder's writings. Some of the comments were that if we believe the decision to change the 12-in-12 was made in poor judgment, why would we put a number on it instead of voting to not do that again? Some people questioned how close the vote was and wondered if three-fourths of a majority would make a difference. And then another comment was this just makes another rule that doesn't keep it simple. We don't need to make it more complicated. So our motion was to vote for the recommendation to move forward requiring a supermajority to change the founder's writings. Minority opinion was that we were making a change as a knee-jerk reaction to the change made to the literature. So we passed the motion to go ahead with the recommendation and move forward for a supermajority, 11-2. All right. The next one was under corrections for updating the appendix four with current awards. Right now it lists an award we received in 1957, the Lasker Award, and so they're just wanting to update them with more current awards so that PI and CPC could use those in their work. One comment was, would listing all our awards be a promotion? Not sure the Big Book is the right place to list these awards. Someone inquired if we had a list of the awards we won that they are talking about. And another comment was would it be good for newcomers to see what people think about. It would be good for newcomers to see what other people think about AA. The motion was that we ask what awards would be listed in

future printings of the Big Book and what will continue as well as how many pages would be taken up by this change. And that motion passed 14-0. And the third one was having all First Nation flags of people at the International Convention be flown at the flag ceremony. One concern was we had limited time so if we allowed all that would take too long. We counted about 1,100 First Nation flags just in the U.S. and Canada. So that would be if all those tribes came to the convention we would have essentially 1,100 more flags. Right now the convention makes that decision with the local tribes in the area where the convention is. So one comment was we could allow tribes with a larger amount of members and attendance to be recognized. Another comment was the convention should be given the ability to decide. We had a long discussion on this one. There was a motion to take no action which failed twice, 9-5 and 2-12. And then the final motion was a recommendation that the committee choose as they do now. Passed 11-0.

2. Lanier Y. (Sarah - Reporter)

- The first one we discussed was from finance, item F. Consider a request to remove the phrase, a group may also decline to hear reports from a GSR at all from page 10 in the AA service manual. The group decided that no action is needed on removal of the phrase. More information is needed. Some of the comments, every group is autonomous. We don't need to edit suggestions aimed to give groups autonomy. Leave this wording text alone until further info as to why is gathered. Our second topic we discussed was from trustees, item G. Considering a request to include the version of AA comes of age, Lasker Award text in the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Our group supports the inclusion of the full Lasker Award text. Comments were pretty much the addition to the book, looks to us to cause no added cost and does not change negatively the book Alcoholics Anonymous. The last one we discussed, item from report and charter, item B. Consider a request to expand article three in conference charter to protect the co-founder's writings. In general, this group agrees with the word motion in PAI 81, especially, quote, this includes but is not limited to, end quote, this group also agrees with the current mechanism for voting required to make changes, 75%, which is supermajority, is required for all groups. Before any motion to change co-founder's writings would even go to conference for a 67% vote requirement. Much discussion was centered primarily on figuring out what we mean by co-founder's writings. Anything pre-1972, who exactly as writer is included, which is why we came to understand that PAI 81, which is attached, is the wording we agree on.

3. Kevin W. (Aliciea M. - Reporter)

- We were roundtable number three and Kevin was our facilitator. The first item discussed was our request to require a supermajority, three quarters of voting members, to approve any future changes or amendments to founders' literature. That includes the first 164 pages of the big book, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. And the reason for this was past changes in 2021 caused discord and distrust among AA groups. A higher threshold would ensure board support before altering historical writings. In our discussions, table three votes in favor of requiring a supermajority of voting members to approve any future changes or amendments to founders' literature. We said if it's not broken, don't change it. We believe it should be as difficult as possible to change our founders' writings and this would ensure that. Minority opinions believe that the 67%, the two-thirds vote, is a strong enough requirement for voting members. And we shouldn't, this is also the minority, we shouldn't put handcuffs on being allowed in the future to change founders' literature. We do have one additional consideration. We can always add like a plain language, founders' literature versus changing actual founders' literature. Our second proposal, the request was to remove the word woman from a sentence in the concept four essay, Write Our Participation in the 12 Concepts for the World Service section of the AA Service Manual. So we would remove them, they want to remove women so it would simply refer to paid staff members. And round table three, we vote to take no action to remove the word woman from a sentence in the essay from the General Service Manual. Some statements were made, were GSO, some statements made in our discussion was GSO should be aware of costs to make a change for just one word. This seems so trivial and it seems like we have too much time on our hands that we start to nitpick. And it also seems like we are getting so

sensitive. The minority opinion is this would be to include the men who are working at GSO, not only just the women. So we had one more item and that was, the request was to revise a pamphlet titled Grapevine in Lavinia, Our Meetings in Print. Why do they want to revise this? It's because it is outdated, contains incorrect information and doesn't reflect new digital services. So we were in favor of revising the pamphlet. We believe in supporting the Grapevine in Lavinia because this may be the only message someone gets. We think the revision should happen after current supply runs out though. That's it.

4. Jim M. (Cailin - Reporter)

- Hi, my name is Caitlin. I'm an alcoholic. So we were Roundtable Group 4 and Jim M. was our facilitator. Our first agenda item was from the trustees and it was Item 6 about the Lasker Award. And so our group didn't have a lot of strong opinions about it, but some of the conversation was about how including the whole text would help professionals picking up a big book and that it's incomes of age, but that the big book, it wouldn't cost more on a new page, just extending the text with more detail. So that passed with substantial unanimity. And then our second item was from the literature committee and it was Item J. And so this one was about adding the concepts into the 12 and 12 and changing it to a 12 by 12 by 12, which we kind of liked. And so we did have more discussion about this one. Most of the conversation was about cost and publication. So it might be a good idea, but what's the cost? Would we still publish at 12 and 12? How would this impact our three-year publication of the service manual? And so as a roundtable, we voted for an additional consideration. So we ended up with substantial unanimity, passing the motion of adding the concepts and making it 12 by 12 by 12. But we adamantly, absolutely, unanimously do not want two publications. So where we still have our 12 and 12 we're used to, but then we don't want two new publications. So just one 12 by 12 by 12. And then our last item was the report in Charter Item B with the co-founder's writings. So we spent the bulk of our time on this item because of the four PAIs in the back, background info that they were quite different and had different components. So it was kind of hard to come to a decision incorporating all four of those PAIs together. So we kind of took it PAI by PAI. And so we did four separate votes. The first one was the PAI 81. We voted for additional consideration that Area 35 in Minnesota would need to expand or clarify what exactly the intention was. And then for PAI 15, PAI 26, both of those we had a motion and we disapproved of both of those, the components of those. And then for PAI 109, we opposed it unanimously. And so some of the comments, there was a lot of content in there. And so some of the comments were talking about the super majority, how it would be very unlikely to ever reach 75% of all the groups in the USA and Canada, and how pamphlets would be impacted. That came up too because of the co-founder's writings incorporated into pamphlets. And then they just had very different plans. We felt there were very different plans for protecting the co-founder's writings in all of those. So that's all we have.

5. Tony A. (self as reporter)

- Hey everybody, I'm Tony and I am an alcoholic. We had 10 members in our roundtable and our first vote was to vote to see how we would vote. And we decided on a substantial unanimity. We stuck with the service manual and the concepts. That's what they suggested. The very first item was literature item K, consider request to update the book Living Sober. We took a vote and there were five people that were not familiar with Living Sober. So we tried to discuss that a little bit to find out who all were familiar with it a little bit. We ended up having nine votes to make a recommendation. And a little of that was to start the process going. Let's get this going to update this that could help alcoholics. If it could help a newcomer stay sober, they were all for it. And they wanted to update it to include social media, which isn't really addressed in it now. The one vote for taking no action was they wanted to preserve the original writings. And the familiarity of the original could be lost. Now the second one was the policy and admissions item E. Consider the request that the supermajority of voting members be required to change and amend founders writings. With that, we had six votes to make a recommendation. It was basically to preserve the founder's writings. Do not change it. We had to vote for additional consideration. Really, they wanted to

clarify if this is the supermajority going to be just the delegates at the conference? Or is this a supermajority of groups around the world? Would like more information on that. And there was to take no actions. One of them was why were they asking for this change? Was it nostalgia? That it's always been like this. We want to keep it this way. We don't want to change it. Which is not a reason to change anything. The second one was for historic reasons. Do we want to preserve the founders' writings? Never change them again? Keep them like they are. It was pointed out that the founder's writings are preserved. You can buy an original first edition big book. You can buy the manuscripts of the original writings. You have language of the heart that has all of Bill's, W's writings in there from the grapevine. You have come of age for history. So the historical reasons are out there. And the third one or the fourth one was. I've got to find that. Is there no way that anybody now or in the future could ever write anything that would help an alcoholic stay sober better than the original founder's writings? So that was originally thought of to kick it back for more consideration. And that ended up being like I said 6, 2, and 2. The last one was trustee item G. Consider the request to include the version of the AA comes of Age, the Lasker Award into the big book of Alcoholics Anonymous page 571. There were five people that were not familiar with the AA comes of Age. And only three people that were really aware of what the Lasker Award was. And but it was a unanimous decision to add it to the big book

6. Harold B. (Debbie F. - Reporter)

- So our first question was from reporting charter number eight point three. Remove the word woman from the concept for essay. So we had a lot of discussion, more than we thought we would. Paul explained to us that when the concepts were written, there were only women that worked as staff members at GSO. Some of us didn't really realize that. But now, of course, there's both genders that work there, so there's no need to state the gender in the concept. And it can make it seem condescending to have the word woman in there. It's unnecessary. And removing the word woman doesn't change the content or the meaning of the overall essay. Also, while we're in support of removing women, there were several that stated groups were supposed to, were opposed to, their group was opposed to any changes when they discussed it at their home group. But after hearing the discussion, they used the right of decision and they changed their vote. Paul also pointed out that Bill stated that the concept should change as needed, but never the warranties. So some of us didn't really know that. The next one was from a reporting charter, and it's the motion to protect the founder's writings requiring a three-fourths vote, or 75 percent supermajority. This one we thought would take a lot of discussion, but it turns out that once we read the full motion, which is only from PAI 81, that's the only one under consideration. The other ones were from previous years, so we didn't really look at those. I don't know if everyone else read the full motion, but since I don't have a lot of comments, I'm going to read it for you real quick. Area 35, northern Minnesota, would like to add to AA's current conference charter under Article No. 3, I'm going to do it fast so I can get it within my three minutes, that AAWS and grapevine publications of pre-1972 founders' writings have no contextual changes to their writings without a supermajority of three-quarters approval from the full general service conference. This includes, but is not limited to, AAWS publications of the books Alcoholics Anonymous, specifically The Doctor's Opinion, The First 164 Pages, The Two Stories, Dr. Bob's Nightmare, along with AA No. 3, and Appendix II, Spiritual Experience, the book 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, as Bill sees it, Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age, Our Great Responsibility, and the 12 Concepts Essays currently in the Service Manual, AAWS Pamphlets, Problems Other Than Alcohol, and Let's Be Friendly With Our Friends, etc., including Grapevine Publications, Language of the Heart, and Best of Bill, along with any archival articles pre-1972 written by our founders, both alcoholic Bill W., Dr. Bob S., Hank P., Bobby B., etc., and non-alcoholic Dr. Silkworth, Father Dowling, Father Dr. Harry Tybo, Bernard Smith, Frank Amos, etc. These writings should be left intact. That's the actual motion that the current General Service Conference will be voting on, and we unanimously said do not change it. We are in full agreement. The last one we thought would not take much discussion, and it took a lot of discussion, and this was from the Literature Committee, and it was regarding adding the concepts to the 12 and 12. Ironically, we

realized after this vote not to change any of the founders' writings, the other two motions that we had were actually voting to change the founders' writings. So this was what the motion was, to consider the request that the 12 concepts for World Service and the essays on the 12 concepts for World Service be included in the current publication, 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. So most of us felt this would add too much material to the 12 and 12. Some did have some feelings that adding the concepts provided opportunities for exposure that otherwise people may never have to learn about the concepts because they might learn about it while studying the 12 and 12 and 12 with their sponsor. Two of us said that this should be up to the sponsor, and so they disagreed with making the change. One also thought that only short forms of the concept should be added with an asterisk to see the service manual. Paul pointed out that nobody thought about how much this will cost and is it really worth it, and Mike also pointed out that we already have how many 12 and 12s published that would not be current if we voted to make a change. And then there was a question about what specifically would be included, but after we re-read the actual motion, we realized it was the whole concept plus the essays on the concepts. That's all. Oh, I didn't tell you what the vote was on that one. Eight, zero for, eight against, and four additional considerations. That's all.

7. David (Mike B. - Reporter)

- We had 10 attendees, one facilitator, one reporter, so a total of 12. We covered item E, which was concerning the founders' writings, and essentially boiled down to requiring a supermajority of three-quarters instead of a unanimity of two-thirds to change the founders' writings. Obviously, it was expanded on, and I'm not going to go into all the detail that she just did, which was very helpful. I appreciate that. There wasn't a whole lot of discussion around it. I was actually surprised. When we went through the PAI, we described some of the reasoning behind the PAI. They agreed with the sentiment of the disconnect between the General Service Board and the General Service Conference and the fellowship. Trust was impacted in a lot of changes over the last several years, and that hopefully this would slow down some of those processes so we can really take a look at some of these issues that may be presented from the fellowship and perfectly consider them instead of pushing them through quickly. The vote was 11 in favor of the three-quarters being required, and there was one minority. The minority stated that it was just the emotion of the PAI that he felt that may be knee-jerk, so that was the minority, but it didn't change the majority. The next one was the revised pamphlet, Grapevine/La Vina, Our Meetings in Print. The comments from this were generally more around that pamphlets are kind of outdated these days, and it was confirmed, we did have a past delegate in our group, and it was confirmed that they do wait for stock to be depleted before they put out the new ones, the new revised ones, and the concern was that we were going to make these changes to these pamphlets and then they're going to be outdated by the time they go into circulation, and we'd have to update them again. But it was also brought up, too, that the pamphlet online would be changed to the new updated one, but it's just that the current print one would be outdated. So it just seemed kind of out of whack there. So there was a lot of discussion around pamphlets being an outdated form of communication. It's an unnecessary expense, and they're underutilized, but they understand the limited uses of them, and if we have to have them, they should be correct and up-to-date, but the depletion of current inventory has to happen before those would go out, so therein lies the issue. So there were 10 in favor of updating it because the online copy would be updated, so they think that as long as the online copy was updated, you could go and get that if you really, really wanted to. So updating it was in favor. There was one minority and one abstain. And there was a question that was brought up, and we actually passed that on to Christina, who is the biggest customer of pamphlets, because the assumption would be that it would be intergroups. But we don't know for sure, and it would be good information to have. I called it the long form versus the short form, because there's a short form in the big book, and there's a long form in the AA Comes of Age. So obviously the PAI is to put the long form that's in the AA Comes of Age into the big book. And we did read both in our group, and there is a huge difference between the two. And the long form, it was

agreed that the long form was better, and it would be better in the big book in the long form, and it was all in favor. So that's all I got.

8. Don M. (Stephanie - Reporter)

- Okay, we had, of course, Item G, the Lasker Award. We voted against that. We had one minority opinion to add it, because it wasn't going to cost anything. But we viewed it as fragging. So it's already in our AA Comes of Age. Item F, don't listen to the GSR, take it out. That was unanimous. Oh, no, there was one. Okay, the other is changes to the founder's writing. It was unanimous that we approved of the recommendation to make it a supermajority.

9. Cheryl M. (Virtual 1)

- Okay, so the first one we had was to consider a request to update the appendix four and the big vote of Alcoholics Anonymous to include the awards and recommendations received by AA since 1951. We decided to do substantial unanimity. The final vote was seven agreed and two disagreed. But they voted yes and needed more information. So the information, I don't know if I'm saying this right, is to see the categories of awards limited to one page. Could it be one page or is it going to be multiple pages? Information, how this would benefit CPC and PI. There was a lot of discussion on that. And would it really help the self-suffering alcoholic? And what is the cost? So that was that. The two opposed say leave it like it is. So the next one is to consider that all sovereign state flags be part of the flag ceremony at an international convention. The final vote was to move this motion forward, 11-3. At the beginning, the majority of people said leave it the same until one person spoke and that one person basically talked about who's picking the flag and if you exclude one, then you should exclude them all. So their feeling was we should be all inclusive, not exclusive, and then the opposed feels like it's an outside issue and shouldn't have anything to do with alcoholics. And then consider the request that a super majority of voting be required to change the founder's writings. That vote was 11-0 for sending the agenda forward, but we did not have time to discuss it because we were trying to get to the voting and the flags really were very intense. That's it. Thank you.

10. Jennifer (Virtual 2)

- And our first item was item J about including the concepts in the 12 steps and 12 traditions. And then how to vote, we voted on the two-thirds. There was a discussion regarding how to provide the information to the delegate and then discussion regarding consideration of what the cost and how it affects Alcoholics Anonymous on the financial end. Overall consensus agreed to more consideration of what the cost and how the cost would affect the fellowship. Next one is item G, consider the request to include the long version of the Lasker Award. Let's see, there were comments that they like the full version of the Lasker Award and going through the long form with the sponsor people don't necessarily look into it unless they go through it with their sponsor. There's one that does not have strong feelings but prefers to include the entire text. One was observing the process and then there was a desire not to change the big book and the 12 and 12. So the overall vote was to take no action. And then item B, which is protecting the co-founder's writings, there was a question, is this article we are talking about, you know, is this protecting, I don't know, I didn't take very good notes on that one. That's not an easy job, y'all. Okay, so, let's see, let me just go through this real quick and hit the high points. There was discussion about, there have already been changes from the original writings, from the original manual, and there will continue to be changes. There was discussion about keeping the original writings and being able to understand what the terminology was back then and being able to get into the big book that way. There was talk that our founder's writings should evolve and there was discussion regarding things like the plain language big book, that people like in prisons don't have sponsors and that could be problematic. And then, let's see, and there was, the vote was to take no action. That's it. Thank you

11. Luis P. (Spanish 1) (Yolanda - Reporter)

- A total of 20 voting members. In the second Policy and Admissions Committee of the 2025 Conference, consider a request that requires a supermajority of voting members to change the founders' literature. The resolution, passed unanimously, states that this board agrees to bring this item to the conference, so that for the protection of

the original writings, a supermajority of three-fourths of the members is required, and that the changes be reverted to how they were originally. In the second Policy and Admissions Committee of the 2025 Conference, consider a request that requires a supermajority of voting members to change the founders' literature. The resolution, passed unanimously, states that this board agrees to bring this item to the conference, so that for the protection of the original writings, a supermajority of voting members is required to change the founders' literature. The third is the 2025 Conference Committee on Trustees, item five, consider the request to include the text version on the Lasker Award in the book Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age in the Alcoholics Anonymous book, and the resolution. Everyone agreed on this item, considering that it would be better to include the entire story and that it would not affect anything regarding the printing of the book.

12. Cristian (Spanish 2) (Luis P. - Reporter)

- We had a total attendance of 15 people at this round table and six of these 15 people were the first ever round table so we were excited to have six brand new people here. The facilitator for this round table was Christian and I was the recorder. Our topic number one was considering adding the 12 concepts to the 12 and 12. We had a good discussion on this one. Some of the people in our round table thought that it was too much information for the newcomer. Some other people said well it's not just for the newcomer, it's for AA. We also considered that there are 36 principles in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, 12 steps, 12 traditions and 12 concepts. Anyways, when we took this to voting, the majority felt that it would be good to have the 36 principles of Alcoholics Anonymous in one book. So we voted 13 in favor of adding it as long as they don't discontinue the 12 and 12. That was 13 in favor, zero against it. On topic number two, it was about the flags flown at the convention. We discussed this and we have six members in this round table that have been to an international convention and they gave us how this ceremony goes around. They said that they have two hours to float the flags. Anyways, we took this to voting after discussion and we feel that as long as there is an active Alcoholics Anonymous group in that tribe or nation or country, then there should be a flag displayed on this international convention. So we voted yes on that one, to be as long as there is one active group in this nation it should be flown. 13 voted in favor of that. The third topic was considering the supermajority for the original writings to be protected. There is a strong sentiment on most of the people to keep the original writings as they are, not touch them, just to leave it the way they are. So 13 members voted in favor of making sure that it's a supermajority and not to touch these original writings, leave them as they are

Delegate Reports

Delegate's Report

Christian S.

Man, I do want to just start off with how grateful I am that I live and Sobered Up in Area 67, and the amount of love that I feel from y'all is just, it can't even be described, and I'm just so grateful to each and every one of you.

Life as a Delegate is in full swing. Thank you all for your love and support. I'm so grateful for the trust y'all have placed in me for this massive responsibility. It's an honor and privilege I hope y'all know I don't take lightly. I know with my HP, sponsor, husband, Bella and y'all it's going to end up exactly the way it's supposed to.

75th GSC Final Agenda items, background for the Final Agenda items and the PAIs that were not forwarded to the GSC are all now listed on the Delegate webpage at aa-seta.org. Thank you DCMs for allowing Bella and I to visit the Districts and solicit feedback.

Since its release on November 1, 2024, over 129,000 copies have been sold of The Plain Language Big Book. A third printing of 50,000 copies is in progress. The eBook version has seen strong sales, making up 20% of AA's total eBook sales.

Effective May 1, 2025 pricing for committee workbooks will increase from around \$2 to \$6 and the A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services will increase from \$4 to \$5. The price increases are for English, Spanish and French versions.

The 2025 International Convention is July 3-6, 2025 in Vancouver. As a fellowship we know from the historical data that International Conventions are less attended when they are in Canada. Currently there are about 30,000 people registered, the hope is for 47,500 to attend, and it will take 40,000 registrations to breakeven.

For those who are attending there are many service opportunities. If you would like to serve for a couple of hours let me know. Thank you to those who have already asked to serve your information has been submitted and you should be contacted shortly.

During October, it was discovered that our fulfillment vendor did not properly process automatic renewals for several months for GV and LV. We are negotiating significant credit at this time, which will reduce 2024 expenses when finalized. However, the amount is unknown and not yet reflected in the financial statements.

AAWS/GSB financial statements show for the year ending December 31, 2024, total operating revenue is about 0.1% greater than the budget of \$19.7M. Total operating expenses is about 0.6% less than the budget of \$18.8M. Cash increased \$4.6M year-over-year. Reflected in this amount are increased contributions in 2024 and \$3.6M in cash receipts from International Convention registration and souvenir book sales.

The International Convention has a separate budget and profit and loss statement, but the funds received to date are recorded on our Balance Sheet.

Accounts receivables, which is the money owed to us decreased \$347K year-over-year due to more effective collection of literature receivables. Literature receivables more than 60 days past due decreased \$101k year-over-year. Accounts payable and accrued expenses decreased \$876K year over year as improved cash flow enabled more timely payments to vendors.

Final 2024 Grapevine subscriptions are 8% higher than the prior year. GV book income had an excellent year – sales increased nearly 16% over last year.

La Vina's subscription numbers are also up 17% from last year. Book revenue for La Vina continues to perform well and contributes far more to gross margin than subscriptions.

In-app subscription growth continues to be behind forecast and averaged 51 per week. Currently in-app subs total 5,571, but subscribers with access to the apps total 14,142. We plan to release the apps internationally soon. I did want to add that I just did find out that they will be doing another five-year forecast of grapevine. The five-year forecast that is currently happening, it is not working. So we are going to be doing a new five-year forecast starting this year and five years from now. The reserve fund balance is \$11.92 million based on the expense budgets for the office Grapevine and La Vina. .

The Reserve Fund Balance is \$11.92 million. Based on the expense budgets for GSO, Grapevine and La Viña the reserve fund balance is equal to 6.47 months of operating expenses. The goal range is coverage of 9 to 12 months. Lastly I wanted to thank y'all for allowing me to serve as your Delegate Panel 75.

Love and Service

Christina Shirey

Delegate Panel 75 Area 67

Comments

- **Terry** - I was curious to know, you talked about the apps, and you also mentioned the five-year plan for a grapevine being, the five-year plan wasn't part of that. Exactly.
- **Christina S.** - So the idea was that this five-year plan would allow for us to break even, right, on the app. That does not appear to be, that's not going to happen. And so what the grapevine board decided to do is to go ahead and scrap that old five-year plan and create a new five-year plan, starting from this year, and then going five years, with more realistic numbers.
- **Terry** - And you're saying that our grapevine app, So actually what's doing really well is the complete, which is an actual book, plus digital, but not just digital alone or just subscriptions alone. But yeah, for the subscriptions. Yeah, well, for the app sales as well.
- **Troy B-D.** - I don't remember the exact number of months that we have in reserve right now. It's six and a half months, a little less than six and a half months. And we typically like to have at least nine. And nine to 12, correct. And so the increases that you spoke of for some of the literature, is the intention of those increases to increase our reserve? No. So what is the plan to increase that reserve? Is there one? It's a really good question, and it's a question that many of us delegates have also been asking. What we have been brought back to is that in concept 11, it suggests that we should not save money like crazy if we need to spend money. And we really, what they're saying is we don't have any funds to put away right now and to hoard money and to get it back up to nine months would be foolish with the amount of money we need to spend. Having heard that, our custom is to raise our literature prices to make up for that gap in reserve. I guess then my question would be, is there going to be discussion about that?
- **Christina S.** - There 100% will be. But we also have to remember from Rick's report last year, there is going to be construction underway at the office. And so that's an \$11 million price tag that we're looking at. And then, yeah, I'm not going to go there. I go home. So going back to the gridline, I remember hearing the projections of the plan, and I thought it was pretty lofty when I heard it. So it sounds like it's a bit of, I don't know, it just seems like the goalpost is getting moved. And I guess more information is needed on what the plan is, right? Because obviously what they projected is not going to be met. And I was not shocked by that at all. So what's going to be different this time? And that's what I really need to find out at the general service conference, 100%. I agree. But we know the goalpost is moving.
- **Terry** - the grapevine and all of that that's going on, I didn't know, and there wasn't any information at my home group, and the groups that are, there isn't any accessible or just loose information on the grapevine. So I think that might be an area that may have fallen short, or that could be contributing to why there has to be a change. But I'm curious how we can get more grapevine information out there. Because, like, I have access to the SETA website and everything. I'm pretty active on that, but with it being just me and there's no other access to information for it, is there a way to get more?
- **Christina S.** - Yeah, absolutely. I am a big proponent of grapevine reps in the groups. To get someone in your home group actually involved in letting your group know about the grapevine, what's going on in the grapevine, how to get a subscription, how to get that app. I think also it's really important for our districts to be able to go out to our groups with a grapevine committee and ask them, how can we support you as a GBR or as a group to give you more information about what's going on in grapevine? And if all else fails, Terry that was just up here would be a great resource, and he would be able to give you some more information on how our area can serve the districts and the groups. Thank you.

I'm grateful to be an alcoholic. I am grateful to be serving as your alternate delegate, Panel 75, Area 67. I have to say that because I have to practice. I have to say it so much, you know. And it has been truly, I mean, it's been an experience. I am totally loving it. I'm having so much fun. It's exhausting, but it's fun and exhausting. It has been a real joy witnessing the work that each district in action, going around, watching you guys do your thing has been amazing. And I can tell you, pat yourself on the back, y'all working. And I am proud to be a part of an area that is as strong as ours. I have spoken to the alternate delegates and other alternate delegates in other areas, other regions, and they are very busy in planning their areas for the conference, and we are definitely on point with the work that we're putting in. So thank you guys for all that you do. The knowledge that I gained in Oklahoma was an awesome experience, and the fellowship was phenomenal. The ability to meet each alternate delegate, delegates, past delegates, and past and our even current trustee, man, I wish I could have brought all y'all with me. I'm serious. That's how good it was. But I want to say that that was an asset to my service experience, and I'm looking forward to using everything that they blessed me with. The mock conference, very educational. I can't even explain it because it's my first time ever seeing it, but you guys, hopefully y'all get to get there one day. And now my main priority is to ensure that our delegate, and I love her so much. I'm going to tell y'all this story real quick. We were outside going to, after we went around and went through everybody's little round tables. Well, we had to go across to go, and it started raining. It started pouring down. So Christina just quickly starts praying, God, you know we have to go over there. And then she looks at me and she says, Bella, all I use is mousse. So I'm looking at her and I'm like, Well, all I use is my daughter. Let's go. So I thank God for that because, you know, we can share stuff like that, you know. But I want to say that we, I am working very hard with her to help you guys, help me get her fully informed. So the information that you guys got today, please communicate with your groups, with the people in your groups, the ones that are not here. They are just as important as you are. What they have to share with you, we need to get this information to Christina before she leaves. And that is how we send her fully informed. So if you need to call me, call me. If you need to call Rick, call Rick. But let's get the information to Christina as quickly as we can. Rick, you know I got to say your name. And also I want to say that, you know, together we're strong. Together. And together we will make that difference, just for her. And I will be sending out a mass email, so y'all get ready for it, a mass email with her address in Chicago. I'm sorry, not Chicago. Lord, I'm going to Chicago. It's a whole other story, but her address in New York. And it's for us to send her love packages. It could be something as simple as a card, just to let her know how we're here for her, we support her, we're proud of her, but we're asking for no phone calls. She's going to be busy. She's going to be busy. And I learned it from all the other delegates and trustees and Rick and just the past experience from all of them, Troy, and them sending, they even sent us mail, because I still got my mail from Troy when he was in New York. But they're going to be busy, and we just want to send her encouraging words, just, you know, give her the energy to keep going for us. And once we're caught up, I would like to create this little thing that I learned, and it's called Coffee with the Delegate. So once she gets a moment to breathe, it's simple. It's going to be virtual, and it's just a thing to get online to maybe ask her a question, give her some encouragement. Only a good 30 minutes, an hour maybe. Just anybody that can get online, and I'm thinking we might do it every other month, and it's just so when everything winds down, we can still keep it going, still keep sharing the knowledge and getting her prepared for everything, because she's still got to go back again in 2026, yeah. And so now to this. Everybody, who doesn't have one of these? Are y'all serious? Okay, well, see me before you leave this building. I have one for you. This is a card. Over there, as a matter of fact, hold your hand up, and Joel will get you one. Joel, make sure to get one from Joel. But this, what it says is October 9 through 11, 2026. It is showing you the dates that please save for SWRAASA. It has a QR code on the back of it. It even has the mailing address where you can mail your contribution to, and it tells you what name to put your check in when you mail your contributions, because it is needed. Everybody has come up here, and they've explained

and said how this is going to cost us. Well, we're not asking for your lunch money. We definitely don't want your mortgage. But any dollar that you can put in a cup, if you have it to spare, please. This has got to be self-supporting, and we're just asking for all of us to get together and whatever you can do. And then I even left some scripts. Those scripts, Pam, F, put that together. She did an awesome job. So you don't have to make anything up. You grab a script. You read it to your group, and it's going to explain to them everything that SWRAASA is, what it does, and what it's going to be for. It's an awesome experience for your service. You are into service because you're here today. So therefore, it enhances what you already have, if you show up. So with that being said, our committee meets every Monday. I'm sorry, every first Monday of the month. And we still have a few open positions on the committee. Only a couple, but we have a committee. The committee has a committee, so we've got a job for you if you want to work. And just see me, and I will be more than happy to put you to work. And thank you, guys. And if nobody told you today, I love you, and my hair did make it through the rain.

Thank you,
Bella LeBlanc
Alternate Delegate
A67/P75

2024 SETA Convention Incident Report

Christina S.

At the 2024 SETA convention at Moody Gardens, on Sunday, January 21st, 2024, a person walked to the back of the stage and fell to the floor between the stage and the wall. The contract we entered into with Moody Gardens agreed that we would hold the hotel harmless against any claims and that we would obtain our own liability insurance carrier. On April 24th, 2024, we received a letter from K&K Insurance Group on behalf of Moody Gardens requesting that we hold Moody Gardens harmless. We were asked to notify our liability insurance carrier and have our claims administrator acknowledge receipt and acceptance in writing. The current delegate, back in 2024, alt delegate, chair, the acting alt chair, the treasurer, the secretary, and the 2024 SETA convention chair met to discuss the issue shortly after receiving the letter. As the secretary at the time, Allise, is a lawyer, we agreed to let her take the lead. We decided as a group that because this was or could become a legal matter, that no discussion to the area assembly would occur until all issues were resolved. The claims administrator sent Allise a copy of the contract that they referred to and the letter of representation they received from the individual's lawyer. Allise determined while reviewing the contract that we were required to obtain liability insurance. Unfortunately, we did not obtain insurance for the 2024 SETA convention. It was then decided that we should reach out to the individual council and explain our principle of corporate poverty. The individual's attorney decided that they would not be moving forward with the case and mailed us a letter on August 6, 2024, confirming the terminated representation. We want you all to know that this does not mean that they can't go to another attorney, but if they do tell them that they've already had an attorney who evaluated the case and then decided to drop it, it's unlikely anyone else will want it. We did try to contact the individual when they were no longer represented by an attorney, but we were not able to reach them. I will not be naming this individual as this information is not needed or warranted. To avoid this in the future, on October 5, 2024, a motion was submitted to the area assembly and approved that all events where SETA could be held liable carry special event liability insurance to protect from any losses stemming from personal injuries, property damage, medical payments, and lawsuits at an event. A special thank you to Allise for all her work in getting this issue resolved. Her service to the area is greatly appreciated.

Comments

- **Rick M.** - I did have a question about several years ago. We implemented a process that the finance committee would review the contract before it's signed. I believe that that was in the contract. Was it a lack of our part that missed it or did they get changed? Did the contract somehow get changed without the finance committee's approval? That's what I'd like to know. My understanding is that the contract was reviewed by the finance committee prior to being signed for the 2024 SETA convention.
- **Paul M.** - Yes. I was the chairman. I don't think that if there was a modification in that line of identity or whatever, as we call it, that wasn't in the contract as we read it. I think that took place after. Okay. I might have gone wrong. I don't know about the timing. There were two reviews that were done. It was the first and middle review, the initial review, and then there were a bunch of questions that occurred. Between those two reviews, the requirement for insurance was stripped out of the contract. There was no insurance required as I signed the contract at the end. I just wanted to make sure I got the clarification. I was going to kind of leave that out, but I pointed it out. There were two reviews that were done in finance, and then there was a cursory, I guess I did like a third, like final thing review with them afterwards. Two reviews were done, and there were a substantial number of people who were aware of a real review on that.
- **Joel G.** - As a member of the finance committee, we did read that contract from front to back, from the first letter of the sentence to the period or whatever was at the end of it. What we read in the copy that we have that was given to the finance committee, that was not crossed out. What we were then shown by the hotel after this came to us was that Joel initiated this after we approved what he showed us, and he initiated it and approved that being crossed out, which is another reason why we need to have oversight on all of our conventions. People go rogue. That could have cost us everything. And so for that reason, this needs to be looked at and handled very seriously.
- **Catherine G.** - Did I hear you saying that after that happened, that we said that we were going to have insurance on all future conventions?
- **Christina S.** - Correct, including SETA, SWRAASA, Assembly.
- **Catherine G.** - This year.
- **Christina S.** - Absolutely.
- **Catherine G.** - The year it just happened. 2025 SETA.
- **Christina S.** - Yes.
- **Catherine G.** - We had insurance?
- **Christina S.** - Yes.
- **Catherine G.** - Okay. We have insurance for good.
- **Christina S.** - Yes. We actually had a separate motion in October of 2024 to get insurance for the 2025 convention. Rick M. has some more information about the question online, which is why the office is spending \$11 million.
- **Rick M.** - Since this occurred during my rotation, I figured it's probably best that I answer it, even though you've heard my report more times than I did, I think. But anyway, following the location plus study on whether to move the building or to keep it where it is, and the results of that study, which as I reported, I felt that that's a very thorough study, and without any preconceived outcomes put forth, I felt it was fair and honest. The decision was made that the costs were too prohibitive to move the GSO out of New York, and the best choice was to leave it where it is. Following that, the decision was made, and I'm fuzzy on the details here, but I believe we have offices on the 8th and the 11th floor. That's correct. One of those is going to be abandoned. Eight. Eight is going to be abandoned. So we are reducing our lease costs substantially by getting rid of that, and that requires some remodeling of the 11th floor, and that's where the \$11 million comes from. I don't recall what the savings is, but if the person

who asked the question would email me at rick.m.a.s.c.org, I would be more than happy to provide all the numbers for that.

2026 SETA Convention Update

Malana Q.

Chair – Malana Q (malana.q@aa-seta.org), Co-Chair – Sommer S (sommer.s@aa-seta.org)

Dates: January 23-25, 2025

Location: Holiday Inn & Suites Beaumont Plaza, 3950 I-10 South, Beaumont, TX, 77705

Theme: "The Broad Highway"

Updates:

- the committee has been meeting monthly at Holiday Inn and did a preliminary walkthrough in March
- we have reviewed the 2025 report and recommendations and taken those things into consideration for development of budget and convention planning
- the budget has been created and submitted to the area finance chair
- the program is almost complete, all but one speaker has been selected
- a preliminary flyer has been created and uploaded to website, early mail-in registration is open, and the information is provided at – www.setaconvention.org
- online registration will begin soon, we're still working out details of what vendor we will use for this considering fees associated with credit card processing
- registration cost: \$30 for early registration, \$35 for late registration, \$5 coffee badge.
- We are accepting contributions for scholarships now by mail also.
- hotel link for booking will be available in June for room block

Room Rates:

- Standard King - \$109
- Standard Double - \$119
- Corporate Suite - \$129

Final date for booking in room block: Monday, December 29, 2025

We look forward to seeing everyone at the convention and assembly in January in Beaumont!!

* Jenna made report at Assembly in person*

2027 SETA Convention Update

Keith M.

He said he couldn't be here today, but that he has proposals from Moody and South Shore, and will submit to finance. I informed him of our current motion and to please not do anything until he was contacted. So there is no report for that.

2025 Texas State Convention

Melissa R.

The 2025 Texas State Convention is being held the weekend of August 15-17th, 2025 so we are about 4 months away.

Pre-registration is \$25/person. The last day to register at the pre-registration rate of \$25 is August 1, 2025. The rate at the door will be \$30.00

There are about (80) rooms still available in the original block of (350) rooms. The room rate is \$149/night; parking is \$22.50/per day and the last day to reserve at the convention rate is July 18.

We have added the Founders Ballroom for the Hospitality Suite to our convention package. Edwin is our Hospitality Suite Chair and he's coming to your district soon.

Volunteers are needed for Hospitality, Registration and the Greeters Committees, both English and Spanish-speaking. I think several committee members plan to attend the Spanish Inter-district

Meeting in May, at D-66. They'll be looking for volunteers. Edwin is also requesting that our Districts and Groups consider contributing to the Hospitality Suite.

You can sign up as a volunteer on the Convention website – txaaconvention.org. Click on Contact Us and that will take you to a volunteer link. Flyers are available on the website as well. And you can register for the convention or reserve your hotel room with links on the website and on the flyers. If you haven't registered or reserved your room, you can do it today.

If you haven't already stopped by, there's a SCAP table here at the Assembly. SCAP is State Convention Attendance Promotion and we are unique as an area, in having a dedicated committee for promoting attendance to the state Convention.

Charlie has packets of flyers for all the Districts, so DCMs and MCDs: pick up yours before you leave.

The SCAP Committee is also looking for members. SCAP Committee, monthly meetings will begin this month on Wednesday, April 16 and continue to be held on the 3rd Wednesday at 7pm of each month until July. The Committee will coordinate visits to Area 67 Districts. They want to sign up registrations and those will be entered into the drawings for

Yours in service,

Melissa Redd

Chair

78th Texas State A.A. Convention

2025 SETA Convention Final Report

Cody R./Elijah K.

Refer to Committee Meetings Minutes for Report

No Comments

Announcements

Reino F. - Alt Chair

International Convention of A.A. - Vancouver, BC July 3 - 6, 2025

44th Annual District 90 Convention - August 8-10 2025 - Beaumont, Texas.

78th Annual State Convention - Houston, Royal Sonesta August 15-17, 2025

TXSCYPAA - October 24-26, 2025, Marriott Hobby Airport

SW Regional Forum - November 14-16, Marriott Albuquerque, NM

63rd SETA Convention - January 23-25, 2026, Holiday Inn Beaumont

Area Committee Meeting - Saturday July 19, 2025 (Online)

Area Assembly Meeting - Saturday July 26, 2025 San Jacinto College (In person and Online)

2026 SWRAASA - October 9 - 11, 2026 Hyatt Regency Baytown - Houston

Close Meeting

Responsibility Statement - I am responsible...when anyone, anywhere reaches out for help; I want the hand of A.A. to always be there and for that, I am responsible.

Adjourned @ 3:45 PM

Area Assembly Roll Call			
Position	Name	Committee March 29th	Assembly April 5th
Area Officers			
Delegate	Christina S.	Present	Present
Alternate Delegate	Bella L.	Present	Present
Chairperson	Patricia H.	Present	Present
Alternate Chairperson	Reino F.	Present	Present
Registrar	Elizabeth G.	Present	Present
Alternate Registrar	Edwin C.	Present	Present
Secretary	Fernando B.	Present	Present
Alternate Secretary	Hannah S.	Not Present	Not Present
Treasurer	Aliciea M.	Present	Present
Alternate Treasurer	Brandi W.	Present	Present
Standing Committee Chairpersons			
Archives	Joel G.	Present	Present
Alternate Archives	Roland	Not Present	Present
CPC	Don M.	Present	Present
Alternate CPC	Octavia D.	Not Present	Not Present
CFC	Harold B.	Present	Present
Alternate CFC	Sarah E.	Present	Not Present
Finance	Kevin W.	Present	Present
Alternate Finance			
Grapevine	Terry P.	Present	Present
Alternate Grapevine			
IT	Brad H.	Present	Not Present
Alternate IT			
La Vina	Elias L.	Present	Present
Alternate La Vina			
Literature	Jim M.	Present	Present
Alternate Literature	Carol F.	Not Present	Present
Multi-Lingual	Luis P.	Present	Present
Alternate Multi-Lingual			
Newsletter	Allise B.	Present	Present

Alternate Newsletter			
Public Information (PI)	Michelle C.	Not Present	Not Present
Alternate PI			
SCAP	Charlie W.	Present	Present
Alternate SCAP			
TFC	Tony A.	Present	Present
Alternate TFC			
Convention Chairs			
2025 SETA Convention Chair	Cody R.	Present	Not Present
2025 SETA Convention Co-Chair	Elijah K.	Present	Present
2026 SETA Convention Chair	Malana Q.	Not Present	Not Present
2026 SETA Convention Co-Chair	Sommer S.	Not Present	Not Present
2027 SETA Convention Chair	Keith M.	Not Present	Not Present
2027 SETA Convention Co-Chair			
2025 State Convention Chair	Melissa R.	Present	Present
2025 State Convention Co-Chair	Troy B-D.	Present	Present
Intergroup Liaisons			
Houston Intergroup	Bryon A.	Present	Present
Ninth District Intergroup	Catrina B.	Not Present	Present
Ninth District Intergroup Alternate			
Oficina Intergrupala Hispana D63, 64, 65	Jose B.	Not Present	Not Present
Oficina Intergrupala Hispana Alt D63, 64, 65			
Intergrupo Hispano del SW (D 62, 66)	Martin M.	Not Present	Not Present
Intergrupo Hispano del SW Alt (D 62, 66)	Pedro H.	Not Present	Present
DCMs			
District 10 DCM			
District 10 Alt DCM			
District 20 DCM	Linda G.	Not Present	Not Present
District 20 Alt DCM	Jim W.	Not Present	Present
District 31 DCM	Jennifer C.	Not Present	Present
District 31 Alt DCM	Taylor C.	Not Present	Present
District 32 DCM	Mark E.	Not Present	Present
District 32 Alt DCM	Ivy L.	Not Present	Present
District 33 DCM	Cody R.	Present	Not Present
District 33 Alt DCM	Elijah K.	Not Present	Present
District 40 DCM	Mike B.	Present	Present
District 40 Alt DCM	Juan C.	Present	Present
District 51 DCM	Kelvin S.	Present	Not Present

District 51 Alt DCM	David L.	Not Present	Present
District 52 DCM	Donna G.	Not Present	Not Present
District 52 Alt DCM	Jim C.	Not Present	Not Present
District 60 DCM	Eric V.	Present	Not Present
District 60 Alt DCM			
District 62 DCM			
District 62 Alt DCM			
District 63 DCM	Antonio M.	Present	Present
District 63 Alt DCM	Lorenzo G.	Not Present	Present
District 64 DCM	Jose M.	Present	Present
District 64 Alt DCM	Arturo G.	Not Present	Present
District 65 DCM	Cristian S.	Not Present	Present
District 65 Alt DCM			
District 66 DCM	Ramses G.	Not Present	Present
District 66 Alt DCM	Luis D.	Present	Present
District 70 DCM	Sara B.	Present	Not Present
District 70 Alt DCM			
District 81 DCM	Danny G.	Present	Present
District 81 Alt DCM	Andrea W.	Present	Present
District 82 DCM	Jennifer W.	Present	Present
District 82 Alt DCM	Libby T.	Not Present	Not Present
District 90 DCM	David S.	Not Present	Present
District 90 Alt DCM	Anette C.	Not Present	Not Present
Other			
Archivist	Julian L.	Present	Not Present
Webmaster	Cheryl M.	Present	Present
Alt Webmaster			