

December 18th, 2018

Business Meeting, District 5, South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee
Arcadia, Boca Grande, Englewood, Ft. Ogden, Nokomis, North Port, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Venice

www.aadistrict5.org
www.area15aa.org

DCMs Contact Info:

Venice: Mary O. 941-223-8765; **Arcadia and Englewood:** Wes L 941-815-2287;
Punta Gorda: Jen N. 941-661-1074; **North Port:** Diane P. (h) 941-426-7265 or (cell) 941-284-3216;
Always Available Mark W. District Chair 941-716-0621
Upcoming in January are: Sandy H., Sarah N., Ann H., Eileen J., Rusty

MINUTES ARE CONFIDENTIAL: must not be posted in public places (clubs, bulletin boards)
NOTE: All reports and motions must be handed to or emailed to secretary@aadistrict5.org on or before the business meeting is held and no later than the weekend thereafter. Please use Arial 12-point font and submit word or page docs rather than .pdfs for ease of insertion. THANK YOU!
It's best for ALL concerned that you type up your reports and READ them at the meeting to keep the meeting brief and informative.

Next Meeting 7pm GSR Orientation, 8pm District 5 Business Meeting
Community United Church of Christ, 3450 Biscayne Drive, North Port
on January 15, 2019 (the 3rd Tuesday)

OPENING: Chairperson Mark W. called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm, directly after the 7pm GSR Sharing on Ask It Basket.

Start with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Mark read the GSR preamble and Ken read the long form of Tradition 12.

WELCOME: New GSRs, AGSRs, DCMs and ADCMs:

New GSRs: Mark, Daily Reprieve, PC; Jimmy, Friday Night Men's Group, PC; Ameera, Borderline Big Book, PC; Jane, Venice Lunch Bunch, V; Terry, Nitty Gritty Women's Group, V; Kelly, WINGS, E = 6

New AGSRs: Kim, WINGS, E; Marti, Eye Openers, PG; Sally, Came to Believe, V; Pat, New Beginnings, NP; Melanie, Fort Ogden, Joycee, Attitude Adjustment, E = 6

ROLL CALL: 21 GSRS; 6 AGSRs; 5 DCMs; 2 ADCM; 4 Officers; 2 Guests = 40 TOTAL

GSR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS: (any flyers are included at the end of the minutes)

JANE: Lunch Bunch, V - Christmas Day Dinner @ noon with meeting to follow at 1:00
AMY: Time Group, PC – No meeting Christmas Eve, Yes meeting New Year's Eve
TIM: New Beginnings, NP – Alcathon beginning Christmas Eve 6:00 pm until Christmas Day 6:00 pm
JIMMY: Fort Ogden Group, FO – No meeting Christmas Eve
CHRIS: Fort Ogden Group, FO – Anniversary on January 21st, Pizza and speaker Jack B. from RI
MARY: Service Manual Meeting, NP - last Sunday of the month, 3:00 pm. At Intergroup Office
MELANIE: Saturday Night Speaker Meeting, PC - 5th Anniversary on 1/5/19 come at 7:30 and wear your favorite boots (reboot meeting)
TANIA: Living Sober Group, V – Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve meetings @ 7:30, cake @ 8:30

GSR: Easy Does it Club, PC - Christmas Dinner after noon meeting, at 1:00 pm; meet Santa with Toys @ 1:30 on 12/22, New Year's Eve Dance @ 9:00 pm til 1:00 am (80's theme)
KELLY: Alano Club, E – Alcation on 12/31 from 6:00 pm til midnight

CHAIRMANS REPORT: Mark W.

Good evening,

My name is Mark W. And I have the privilege to serve as your district chair for 13 more days. I would like to thank everyone who has served on panel 67 in district 5. I would especially like to thank the members who work behind the scenes to support our Twelve Step work. In the end, we hope to reach the alcoholic face to face, one on one, to share our experience and the promise of a better life.

As we will transition into new positions, please remember to support your trusted servants. Many of us arrive in a new position very unprepared and in need of your love and tolerance, not to mention patience. Together we will be able to prepare others for the miracles they will witness and often times we will never see. Our incoming officers and committee chairs, as well as GSRs and DCMs will seek your input both collectively and individually.

I hope many of you will be attending the upcoming quarterly in Tampa. It is a short hour and a half drive away. Parking can be problematic so come early and carpool. In addition to the agenda items we had a motion carried over from the July Quarterly that didn't make into the agenda flyer. Please see a copy of this motion on the back table. I'd like to thank you all for entrusting me with the responsibility to serve you. And I'd also like to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a safe and Happy New Year. The greatest gift to us has already been given, so let us share it!

God Bless you and keep you all
Mark

ALTERNATE CHAIR: Position OPEN

DCM REPORT:

In our December meeting, 5 attended.

- We noted areas which are under served, namely Englewood and Venice (Mary will still do what she can). Discussion ensued about willingness of GSRs to step up and share district news and upcoming events with more than their home group.
- January GSR orientation update is needed, and a plan was hatched; Jen subsequently met w Jan, and between Sandy and Anne's help, the document is closer to readiness for print. Final additions will conclude at Jan 2, not New Year's Day. Please mark this on your calendars.
- We discussed possible agenda changes to suggest for District Meetings, namely timed committee reports (we shared experiences).
- Service Manual has new By-Laws Section and website info which should be updated.
- Lastly, we unanimously felt the need to be more 1:1 with the GSRs, to include their needs as often as possible and to wear name tags with name, position, home group and town. DCMs would do the same, but with subdistricts they serve, once determined in the new year.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Joyce C.

December 18th Secretary's Report:

Good Evening Everyone, My Name is Joycee and I am an Alcoholic:

As your District Secretary, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to serve this last time.

At the back table there are sign in sheets in alpha order by first name, please be sure to 'check' in on your name and/or correct the accuracy of the information or add your name to the New or Guest List if appropriate. Please Notice a new column: "Share OK", here I'm asking your permission to share your contact information with the members of District 5 as a printed handout. Please indicate if you are willing to have that info shared by writing YES in the last column. Thank You.

Please email me your reports, comments, flyers, etc. or hand them to me (Renee next month) at this meeting if you'd like them to appear in the October Minutes. I will accept emails up to this Friday night at secretary@aadistrict5.org

Please follow the link on the area website: www.aaarea15.org for the minutes of the last quarterly as well as the flyer for the Florida 2019 convention and the agenda and info on our upcoming first quarterly of 2019.

Renee and I met and reviewed the secretary duties I will be passing on next month. You're going to love the service Renee will provide to District 5 as Secretary.

She has become a new sober girlfriend in my herd. To add to all the gifts that came to my spiritual journey in service these past two years, Renee is the icing on my sober-cake. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU in District 5.

Have a Happy, Healthy, Joyful and Free New Year

In Love and Service, Joycee

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Bill S.

Registrar Report for December 2018

A great thank you to Tim R. for standing to be District 5's panel 69 Registrar! Tim and I have already met to facilitate his transitioning to the Registrar duties.

If you are standing for a new service position or are stepping down from a service position, please fill out the District and Group Change Form provided on the table in the back of the room and let me know before you leave tonight. If you are standing for a position tonight and are elected, please fill out the form on the table in the back of the room so that you may be properly registered and receive support from G.S.O. as well as from our district members.

If your name is not on the attendance list in the back of the room, please fill out the new attendees sign-in sheet.

Also, in the back of the room are forms to register a new group titled Alcoholic Anonymous New Group Form.

If there is a change to your group's meeting information such as the time or place where it meets, contact me by phone or text at (941-276-1561 or by email at registrar@aadistrict5.org.

Grateful to serve,
Bill S.
Registrar, District 5

TREASURER'S REPORT*: Mary O.

District 5
TREASURERS REPORT
Dec 18, 2018

NOV 18

November beginning balance	\$ 3,426.90
Income	
Basket	51.00
Group Contributions	974.85
Total Income	<u>1,025.85</u>
Expense	
Accessibility	75.00
Quarterly Excess ASL Interpreter	250.00
Corrections Committee	147.23
Recording Secretary	31.40
Treasurer	44.64
Total Expense	<u>548.27</u>
November ending balance	<u><u>\$ 3,904.48</u></u>
Prudent Reserve Beginning Balance NOV	\$ 4,001.59
Prudent Reserve Interest - 11/30/18	\$ 0.07
Prudent Reserve Ending Balance NOV	<u><u>\$ 4,001.66</u></u>

12/11/18

DISTRICT 5
Group Contributions
November 2018

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Blues Clues Group Study Group	9.00
Borderline Big Book	200.00
District 5 Meeting Contribution	51.00
Eye Opener Group P.G.	90.45
Language of the Heart	14.00
Let Go and Let God	107.40
Live and Let Live	200.00
Living Sober 12 & 12 Group	154.31
Morning Glory Group	69.69
Steps to Sobriety	100.00
Tues Night Beginners Group	<u>30.00</u>
Total Contributions	\$ 1,025.85

Proposed 2019 Budget

	2017	2018-11/30/18	2018	2019
	Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed Budget
Income				
Basket	\$ 344.75	403.50	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Contribution	\$ 350.00	934.48		
Group Contributions	\$ 14,303.81	\$ 15,099.32	\$ 16,675.00	\$ 19,800.00
Total Income	\$ 14,998.56	\$ 16,437.30	\$ 17,175.00	\$ 20,300.00
Expenses				
Archives	\$ 145.26	632.09	\$ 750.00	\$ 300.00
Accessibilities	\$ 10.37	129.65	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00
American Sign Language				\$ 1,000.00 ***
Chairman	\$ -	0.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Computer Repair/Software	\$ 145.35	149.99	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Corrections Committee	\$ 2,714.12	2,893.46	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Current Practices	\$ 53.65	0.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00
DCM - Service Workshop	\$ 449.66	0.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
DCM Committee	\$ 47.68	52.71	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Delegate	\$ 51.79	53.41	\$ 75.00	\$ 70.00
Grapevine Committee	\$ -	0.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 400.00
Literature Comm	\$ -	0.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
P. O, Box 7356	\$ 76.00	82.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 90.00
PL/CPC Comm	\$ 245.26	287.61	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Quarterly Lodging/Allowance	\$ 5,844.48	7,714.88	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 8,000.00
Recording Secretary	\$ 21.60	325.30	\$ 200.00	\$ 480.00
Refreshments	\$ 186.41	66.69	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Registrar	\$ -	0.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Rent-Archive Storage	\$ 1,748.38	1,824.46	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,200.00
Rent-Church	\$ 600.00	600.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Treasurer	\$ 210.75	310.26	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00
Treatment Committee	\$ 624.38	408.74	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
Website Committee	\$ 239.98	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 500.00
Total Expense	\$ 13,415.12	15,531.25	17,175.00	20,300.00

*** American Sign Language

New line item. ASL for Gratitude Dinner, Old Timers Dinner and Founder's Day Dinner

Kindly make out your contribution check to the ***District 5 Treasurer*** and mail to the address below

District 5 Treasurer

PO Box 7356

North Port, FL 34290

Mary O.

District 5 Treasurer

Email: treasurer@aadistrict5.org

941-223-8765

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE: New Chair is **Mary O.**

AD/HOC: Rusty

WEBSITE: Tania

Updates are a bit behind but should be done by Friday.

Thank you!

Tania

TREATMENT: Brian U.

Verbal Report

Crisis Unit needs more volunteers to attend meetings, there are meetings on Tuesdays @ 2:00 pm at Twin Rivers, PC, and on Wednesdays @ 3:30 pm at Bayfront Hospital Annex on Cooper Street, PG

CORRECTIONS: J.J.

Corrections Committee Meeting

District 5- Area 15, South Florida

Minutes of 08/December/2018 Meeting: 10:00-11:30

Attendees: JJ A., Bob C., Les H., Betty M., Bob M., Gary S., Tom M., Tom C., Jay B., Bruce S., Stan R.

AGENDA

JJ A. opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes & budget were reviewed/discussed and accepted by acclamation. Budget usage will be increased by one or two new receipts, and any overage will be covered by District 5, per agreement with our Chair's negotiation with District on their Budget surplus awards. JJ will order new Grapevines to be included in any overage.

Introductions were made for 4 new Corrections Com. Members: Bruce S., Sean M., Gary S., Stan R.

OLD BUSINESS

- Flow charts for the AA Pre-Release Program for prison inmates, and the AA Bridging -the-Gap Program for treatment patients, has been delayed. JJ will be handling this in the coming month. This effort is to clarify for the AA Volunteers, at the Intergroup Office, who get phone calls from the various agencies for appropriate referrals.
- Literature being brought into Prisons will now need a DONATION FORM, per instructions from Tallahassee. Chaplain of DOC, in Tallahassee, will be sending procedures.
- All of FDoC is going through many changes for the next few months, at least. Expect things to change GREATLY. And, reorganization will be continuing for the foreseeable future.
- Digital access to AA literature for inmates in CC Jail is again being addressed. Susan U. is now riding the Corrections desk at GSO. The GSO Board discussed the issue yesterday at their Board meeting. Susan assured me information is forthcoming, next week...time will tell.
- For FDoC volunteers, there will be a training session at the North Ft. Myers UM Church in February, date TBD. Annual training is now mandatory across FDoC!!
- Tablets for Inmates appear to be all over the DOC. However, many questions remain to be sorted out, among them: how does the hardware really work; does the inmate pay for them; when will they be fully functional; what can be received/sent, etc. Jay is heading up effort to have GSO and Jail try to interface. Susan shared that a meeting @ GSO on 12/07 indicated Barnes&Noble, and Apple are already "on board", Susan will call JJ next with GSO info.

NEW BUSINESS

- New DOC forms for HIPPA and PREA are available, and new members were reminded to stay after the meeting to complete them.
- There is a new Chaplain @ Desoto Correctional Institution: Chaplain Wilson, and is already in position. He is open to AA Information which JJ will bring in next week.
- The January '19 Commitments were completed.
- Road Camps in FDoC have been closed. No explanation given, with no expectation of reopening.

- JJ reminded the Members of Inmates being soon released, to take the time to get them connected with sober outside resources. This should start 6 months before release...see the Pre-release forms. This is the DOC's Classification Officer's job. But lately, our lead time has been about 2 weeks!
- Rick P. is still recovering from surgery, and hopes an AA meeting can be brought to his home.
- It was reported that Asst. Warden of Programs, Ms. Norwood, approved AA Shades of the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions for the Monday evening group. Better still, she approved the DOC paying for them, AND moving the AA Meeting to a larger room to accommodate the larger crowd.
- Les H. suggested moving the Tuesday meeting, held in the Chapel, to the same evening time, which would surely improve the attendance like the Monday Group. Bob C. suggested JJ follow-up and sell the idea to Ms. Norwood: (1.) It frees up a prime-time slot at the Chapel- (2.) It is after meal time so the inmates have the time, like Monday, to attend without the conflicts of Monday's chow time!!! (3.) It moves the AA Meeting out of Chapel Programs, and over to Education where there is more room and flexibility in their scheduling.
- Meeting was closed with...

A Declaration of Unity . . .

This we owe to AA's Future:

To place our common welfare first;

To Keep Our Fellowship United;

For on AA Unity depend our lives;

And the lives of those to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob C. Secretary/Treasurer

ACCESSIBILITY: Bill S.

Present: Abby H, Bill S. Mary P, Sarah N

Meeting opened at 5:40 PM

The Accessibility Committee welcomes Abby H. to the committee!

Items Discussed:

Deaf Community Outreach

Gratitude Dinner considered a resounding success in terms of hearing-impaired/deaf AA members present because of the ASL Interpreters. Now the question is, how do we increase participation? In other words, what can we do to reach out to more alcoholics who are deaf?

Several communication resources for the deaf were presented and will be forwarded to the Intergroup Web Master for inclusion on Accessibility's web page. These include:

<https://doda.omnijoin.com> - video scheduling including meditation, daily thought and daily prayer

<http://www.sorensonvrs.com> - Sorenson VRS (video relay service)

We will also request those deaf AA members to alert the AC (via the web site, or a more traditional route) of their intention to attend one of the District dinner meetings so we can be assured ASL Interpreters will be present (justify the expenditure).

Mary will contact the woman who sends out the dinner (deaf) invitations to see if our committee can send a tastefully designed, informative AA/AC "PSA" to her membership list.

Mary and Bill will coordinate efforts regarding the availability of ASL interpreters for local meetings.

Bringing Meetings to a Private Home/ALF/Nursing Home:

Review the prototype letter on page 22 of the Accessibilities Workbook, modify if needed to adapt to our needs, and distribute to local facilities. Before doing so, Bill will speak to CI/CPC to see if there's possibility of a joint venture, or if they've already begun reaching out.

Accessibility Committee Structure and Elections:

Members will consider meeting bi-monthly. Discussed online formats versus face to face meetings; Abby suggested using Facebook Messenger App ("a simple way to text, video chat and plan things all in one place"). Those present supported the idea enthusiastically; she will create a Facebook Messenger Group. Bill S is stepping down as chairman of AC – our sincere thanks to our friend and leader for his inspiration, service and perseverance in bringing the needs of those with accessibility issues front and center to the members of District 5.

Sarah N elected chairman – Sarah is stepping down as Secretary

Abby H elected Secretary/Treasurer

Mary P appointed Chairman of the Deaf Community Outreach.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45.

The Accessibility Committee meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Intergroup Office at 5:30PM.

All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Newfield

Accessibilities Committee Secretary

PI/CPC: Nancy

PICPC Report December 2018

Happy Holidays to all.

Our committee met on Monday December 10 at the Intergroup office. Present was Bill, Nancy and our new chairperson Jessica.

We went over who is doing what and where. Jessica would like to work focus on one issue at a time, such as contacting churches in our district to offer racks of literature.

Nancy attended the As You Are, group business meeting this month as they requested our help in setting up a table at the Charlotte Gay Pride Festival Jan 19. PI will be there with our display with group members manning the table. This event is set for Jan 19 at Laishley Park in Punta Gorda from 1-5.

During our meeting a newcomer showed up for an AA meeting. We gave him a where and when and the meeting app. Bill told him about a men's meeting he was going to after our committee meeting and would meet him there. He indicated that he had left a half-way house in Sarasota. Hopefully he listened to the suggestions of our group.

The committee meets the 2nd Monday of every month. 6PM, Intergroup office.

Submitted by

Nancy P.

LITERATURE: Position Open

INTERGROUP LIAISON: No Report

GRAPEVINE: Richard M., No Report

CURRENT PRACTICES: Jan

Current Practices Report to District 5
December 18, 2018

The Current Practices Committee has wrapped up our work for the year. My sincere thanks go to committee members Mark, Renee, and Ken and best wishes to them and anyone who would like to try this committee out, as they carry on the intriguing work of Current Practices. All documents have been sent in PDF format to the Webchair for posting on the Web site. Wishing you all a safe and sober holiday. Grateful to serve, Jan K.

ARCHIVES: Tony

The Committee is at this time in need of completed info sheets from the following groups. If you feel one has been handed in, see me later. If your group's name is called out, or you attend that group, please see me to take one with you. Our updated tree is only as accurate as the groups reporting in! Thank you

(Groups names were read)

Respectfully submitted, Tony T.

OLD BUSINESS:

Open Positions: DCMs (4); ACMs (7)

DCM Qualifications: 4 years continuous sobriety; 2 years' service as a GSR (in any District); possess a working knowledge of the AA Traditions and Concepts; ability to visit assigned groups and keep those groups GSRs informed in all General Service Activities; ability to attend all District Meetings and Area Assemblies; perform duties as suggested in the current edition of the AA Service Manual.

ACM Qualifications: same as DCM, but 3 years current and continuous sobriety is required

NEW BUSINESS:

The balanced 2019 Budget was voted on and the vote was 23 for and 0 opposed (Mary O. discussed bringing back to groups the need to increase contributions to District by 10%).

Mark mentioned that his home group had a problem with service dogs at a meeting. It was discussed to follow the law.

THANK YOU, Coffee makers Diane and Jessica, and Cookies maker Jan

Meeting adjourned 9:20 pm with the responsibility statement and the Lords' Prayer.

District 5 Officers & Committee Chairs, Panel 67

AGENDA OUTLINE FOR DISTRICT 5 MEETING – January 15th

OPEN: 8PM SERENITY PRAYER: _____; GSR PREAMBLE: _____

TRADITION OF THE MONTH: _____ (long form) WELCOME & ROLL CALL:

NEW GSRs: (Name, Group, Town)

NEW AGSRs _____

ALL GSRs: _____ ALL AGSRs: _____

DCMs: _____ ACMs: _____ Officers: _____ Guests: _____

GSR REPORTS: (name, group, report)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: _____

ALTERNATE CHAIR/DCM REPORT: opening_____

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT: _____

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: _____

TREASURER'S REPORT: _____

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: _____

Ad-Hoc/Qtly. Coord.: N/A: _____

Website: _____

Treatment: _____

PI/CPC: _____

Literature: _____

Intergroup Liaison: _____

Grapevine: _____

Current Practices: _____

Corrections: _____

Archives: _____

Accessibility: _____

OLD BUSINESS:

Open positions: DCMs (4); ACMs (7)

NEW BUSINESS:

VOLUNTEERS:

COFFEE: _____ COOKIE COMMITTEE: _____

SET UP _____ GREETER: _____ Adjourn time: _____

Close with Responsibility Statement and the Lord's Prayer
