

**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**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](http://www.aadistrict5.org)**

**[www.area15aa.org](http://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;

**Port Charlotte:** Sandy H., Ann H., Eileen J., Rusty V.

**Chairperson:** Diane P. (h) 941-426-7265 or (cell) 941-284-3216;

**MINUTES ARE CONFIDENTIAL:** must not be posted in public places (clubs, bulletin boards)

NOTE: All reports and motions must be handed to or, preferably, EMAILED to [secretary@aadistrict5.org](mailto: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 Sharing/Orientation, 8pm District 5 Business Meeting**  
**Community United Church of Christ, 3450 Biscayne Drive, North Port**  
**on February 19, 2019 (the 3rd Tuesday)**

**OPENING:** Chairperson Diane called the meeting to order at 8:15 pm, directly after the 7pm GSR Sharing.

Started with moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Lori read the GSR preamble and Ameera read the long form of Tradition 1.

**WELCOME: New GSRs, AGSRs, DCMs and ACMs:**

**New GSRs:** Lori, Tuesday Night Beginners, PC; Kathy, Morning Glories, NP; Wayne, Reflections, PC; and Terry, Nitty Gritty, N = 4

**New AGSRs:** 0

**ROLL CALL:** 15 GSRs; 1 AGSRs; 4 DCMs; 0 ADCM; 5 Officers; 1 Guest = 26 TOTAL

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

JIMMY: Fort Ogden Group, FO – Annual Meeting 6:30 Buffet before Jack B. Shares his story

ANN: Another Chance, PC – Came to Believe meeting every Saturday at noon and beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of January they'll begin reading "The Word of God"

OLD Timers Dinner will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>, the first committee meeting for the event will be on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 @ Intergroup

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Diane P.**

Hello District 5! As your new District Chair, let me introduce myself. I am an alcoholic named Diane. My home group is the Women's Butterfly Group that meets every Wednesday @7:00 pm at St. Nathaniel's in NP. My sobriety date is Jan 10, 1991 and I am happy to serve you.

The South FI Area 15 held it's Jan 11-13<sup>th</sup> 2019 General Service Assembly at the Tampa Airport Marriott. A lot of people showed up, over 500, and most of us are newly elected. The Chairpersons' meeting was about the tasks of self-support (being slightly down), the website platform for GSO being updated this spring which our Delegate, Shirley, will keep us posted on, and a recurring difficulty with the go fund me media app and AA being misrepresented. It is advised to be very prudent regarding go fund me causes using AA in its references.

Again, I want to thank and congratulate all District 5 Trusted Servants! From the top of the pile where our all-important group member conscience and GSRS live, through wonderful weave of all our Committees' Officers, Members and Participants that pumps the wisdom, wit, laughter and love. So looking forward to the energy, innovations and productivity I know is present in all of you. Come in, get a coffee, let's have a meeting!! We're alive in District 5!!

#### **Alternate Chair/DCM REPORT: Jeny N.**

Business Meeting held 1/3 In attendance: Eileen J, Sarah N, Sandy H, Diane P, Rusty V and Jeny N. First, With GSR Orientation approaching, we brainstormed and updated our packet. With a few additions and deletions it was good to go for the 1/15 Meeting.

We next established a topic for February GSR Sharing, covering the Area Assembly for all who were it there, and getting feedback from those who were, with Q & A

Planning began for a COMMITTEE SERVICE FAIR to be held at a central location. Much more work is yet to be done, but tentative date set for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Chair people will be notified for each committee to create visual as well as oral presentations. Publicity will be strong to encourage lots and lots of participation!

We then discussed breaking up the District. Into sub districts by groups in a given area. We are in great need for volunteers from Venice and Englewood to join us.

Lastly, the time we hold our meeting as well as location came up for discussion, possibly to a weekend time. Some folks don't care to drive at night, and we certainly want to be inclusive.

We closed with the Serenity Prayer after agreeing to find time at the quarterly for more discussion.

In Love and Service, Jeny N. DCM Coordinator/  
Alt Chair (941) 661.1074, nashj1@comcast.net

#### **DCM REPORT: None**

#### **RECORDING SECRETARY: Renee P**

My name is Renee, and as your District Recording Secretary, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to serve. I also want to – in advance – thank you for your patience as I learn this job; I have large shoes to fill. Thanks to Joyce C for 2 years' excellent service.

I attended the New Secretary and Registrar meeting at our Area Assembly this past week and learned some things as well as met with other dedicated folk who know as little as I do about being a Recording Secretary at this point. The sharing was intense and often very helpful.

Please email me your reports, comments, flyers, etc. if you'd like them to appear in the February Minutes. I will accept emails up to this Friday night at [secretary@aadistrict5.org](mailto:secretary@aadistrict5.org)

Please follow the link on the area website: [www.area15aa.org](http://www.area15aa.org) for the minutes of the last quarterly as well as the flyer for the Florida 2019 convention.

In Love and Service, Renee

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Tim R.**  
Registrar Report for January 2019

First off I would like to offer a huge Thank You to Bill S. for his past service and his time and efforts to help me learn the ins and outs of our district data base as well as the duties of my new position. I look forward to serving on panel 69 in our District.

Secondly, I attended the Area 15 Quarterly in Tampa this past weekend and met the new Area 15 Registrar. He informed the group that GSO intends to roll out a new interface replacing AZURE sometime in the first half of this year. A new learning experience lies ahead. This will require a couple of weeks of non-access to the database. The Area 15 Registrar is planning several training meetings with District Registrar's before the new software is put in service.

Lastly, 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 so that you may be properly registered and if you're new 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 or where it meets, contact me by phone or text at (281-761-5239) or by email at [registrar@aadistrict5.org](mailto:registrar@aadistrict5.org).

Grateful to serve,

Tim R.  
Registrar, District 5

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Jane G.**

Hello District 5. Thank you for your contributions this month. District 5 received \$910.61 Expenses were \$151.32. Our ending balance is \$4663.77. Treasurer's Report is on the back table.

As your new treasurer I went to the quarterly <sup>assembly</sup> on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 2019. I learned many things in the workshops I attended. Looking forward to the next one in April.

Contributions for Area 15 address has changed. Labels with new address are on the back table. The new address is;

**Area 15 Panel 69 Treasurer**  
**PO Box 1784**  
**Pompano Beach, FL 33061**

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**

Jane G.  
District 5 Treasurer  
Email: [treasurer@aadistrict5.org](mailto:treasurer@aadistrict5.org)  
941-218-7095

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE: Mary O.**

The Finance Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. of each month, call Mary O. For details. If you submit a motion that has an expenditure attached to it, the motion must be reviewed by the Finance Committee before being brought to the District body.

**AD/HOC: Rusty**

The schedule for 2019 Area Assemblies are: Apr 5-7 at the Boca Raton Town Center Marriott, July 5-7 at the Tampa Airport Marriott, Oct 4-6 in Boca again, and Jan 3-5, 2020 will be in Tampa.

**WEBSITE: Tania**

Anyone interested in being a Web committee member is welcome to contact me. Online editing/publishing experience desired. Currently our platform is WordPress.

District website maintenance is ongoing.

Please send update requests and inquiries to [website@aadistrict5.org](mailto:website@aadistrict5.org)  
(Including district email setup and forwarding for committee chairs.)

Tania D. cell# 954-632-8656  
(text/voicemail)

## TREATMENT: Jason

Hello everyone I'm Jason and I'm currently serving as your district 5 treatment chair. We held our committee meeting on Thursday January 10th at 6:45 at the easy does it club and there was 5 people in attendance. We discussed the scheduling of meetings for both the compass center and the crisis center and the possibility of adding one slot to each. All of our meetings in all five facilities are running smoothly.

Brian and I attended the quarterly in Tampa and went to the treatment facility committee meeting where I gave the report for our district. I received some great information and literature there and we also spent a good amount of time talking about bridging the gap and how other districts handle it. I spoke with Jessica from bridging the gap and she said there has been a couple unsuccessful bridges recently where the client doesn't want to wait for the ride. Besides that we are on track.

I thank for the privilege of serving as treatment chair and our committee meeting is on the second Thursday of every month at 6:45 at the easy does it club, all are welcome. Thank you, Jason

## CORRECTIONS: JJA.

### District 5 Area 15 Report

District 5 supports approximately 44 meetings per month in 5 institutional settings. Desoto Correctional Institution Annex in Arcadia, DCI Work Camp in Arcadia, Charlotte Correctional Institution in Punta Gorda, CCI Work Camp in Lee County and Charlotte County Jail in Punta Gorda.

Over the past two months we have seen an increase in interest by AA members in Corrections efforts of the District Committee ~~to carry~~ the message inside the walls. Several have applied for clearance and have been approved both at the county and state facilities. We hope this increase in the committee numbers will enable us to spread our efforts and possibly help restart a meeting in Desoto County Jail, which was discontinued. All the Road Camps have been closed except for two which are not in our district, by direction of the state.

The committee participated in a phone conference with the Corrections Desk at GSO and a member of the committee there working digital issues with Tablets and digital access by inmates to AA literature in digital format. We provided our insight, experience and pointed out our difficulties with working in a "closed informational" setting. GSO continues to work on this and we are waiting for a progress report this week from David R. of that committee at GSO, who is working with the service vendors.

We look forward to doing more this year with the increased level of help from the fellowship. The district continues to provide excellent financial support and our members inside are appreciative. Several have been released and the Pre-release program is working well, as is the Correction Correspondence Program. We continue to

support the Three groups at DCI with literature as well as the groups at CCI and the Charlotte County Jail, with Grapevines and other materials as permitted. The DCI Monday Group has begun to compile a list of housing and halfway house availability for their members to help with those issues for inmates.

☿ Thank you for the opportunity to serve District 5 and Area 15. Yours in service, J.J. ~~██████████~~ District 5 Corrections Chair

LITERATURE: ANNE

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your District 5 Literature Chair.

As GSRs, one of your duties is to be “knowledgeable about material from GSO - new literature, guidelines, bulletins, videos, tapes, kits, etc” and to pass that information on to your group. As Literature Chair, it is my job to support you in this effort.

To become knowledgeable about new literature, we are reading one story from the new pamphlet “The God Word” on Saturday January 26 from 12-1 at Another Chance. This event is listed on [aanorthport.org](http://aanorthport.org) with Google Map directions.

To become knowledgeable about existing materials, I urge you to become familiar with [aa.org](http://aa.org). Let your group members know that we have a wealth of literature available to us on the home page. For example, do they know we can read or listen to the Big Book and the Twelve and Twelve from the home page of [aa.org](http://aa.org)?

To find any pamphlet:

1. Go to the home page of [aa.org](http://aa.org)
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page
3. Click on Site Map
4. Scroll through the alphabetical list
5. Click on the pamphlet you choose

The Literature Committee will have its first meeting on January 26 at 1:15 at Another Chance. At the committee meeting we will discuss our committee goals and also read and discuss page 22 of “The AA Group” pamphlet that describes the position of GSR. Please join us for both the meeting to discuss “The God Word” and the committee meeting.

In love and service

Anne H.  
941-286-0793  
[anneh1022@gmail.com](mailto:anneh1022@gmail.com)

### **Accessibility Committee – Sarah N.**

January 15, 2019

The Accessibility Committee continues to move forward in its purpose of enabling the fellowship and program of Alcoholics Anonymous be available to all who request help throughout our District. We are thankful to the voting membership of District 5 and for their collective wisdom in budgeting monies so that ASL interpreters can be hired to sign at our three annual events (Gratitude Dinner, Old Timer’s Dinner and Founder’s Day).

We are setting forth specific goals among our committee membership to enable us to reach out; these effort include

- Creating and circulating throughout the District a promotional flyer in support of the ASL’s presence,
- Regular bylines in Lifeline and other AA accessible media to share our purpose, and seek assistance from AA members throughout the District.
- Initiate a letter-writing campaign to ALFs throughout the District informing them of who we are, and letting them know how we can help their AA residents.

We meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Intergroup Office at 5:30PM. All are welcome! Our next meeting is January 23, 2019.

In love and service,

Sarah

Accessibilities Committee Chairman

**PI/CPC: Jessica**

January 2019 monthly report, for district 5.

Hi, my name is Jessica and I am an alcoholic.

I'm very excited, to have the opportunity, to serve as the committee chair, for the PI/CPC committee. Nancy, was a great committee chair and I look forward, to her continuing, to be part of the committee, as she is very knowledgeable, as she was just the chair for 2 years! Bonus for me. I have been on the PI/CPC COMMITTEE, as a member, since October 2017. I was introduced to PI/CPC committee, when I became a GSR for my home group, at the time. I am no longer a home group member, there or a GSR. So, this position opened in perfect timing for me, to step up and continue to serve, our primary purpose, to carry the message, to the still suffering alcoholic. For this I am truly grateful! It's not a joke, when we hear, in meetings, when one door closes another door opens. The hallway, is a tough spot. So it seems.

Starting January 1st, I took action right away, this way I would not start out by slacking. I previously had met with Nancy and took off her hands, the inventory she had, as the current chair person. I had alot of my own stuff, that I had acquired, from her at previous committee meetings. Also, some items I got myself, from GSO. Combining her materials and my materials ,was a very big job. I took a complete inventory, of everything we have on hand. I made a list of the inventory, this way we can see, if we do need anything, going forward. At the last committee meeting on December, Nancy was still the chair, she was nice enough to dedicate the time, to help me with questions I had regarding the position and my responsibilities. I expressed to Nancy and the other committee member that was there, I would like for us to focus on one entity at a time, as it is suggested in the workbooks for our committee. The one committee member, has been trying to get our literature into churches. I asked him to please send me the letter he was using to approach the new individuals, he did send it to me. I reached out to GSO to see if they had a template available for, churches, specifically. They did not, at that time. I have recently found a template, for churches, which will be the entity, we will be focusing on, first.

This past committee meeting, I was the only one in attendance. I took the quiet time, to read our PI/CPC information, that is posted on the districts website, to attract new A.A. members. I came up with a draft of some changes, to review with other members, at the next committee meeting. My agenda, for the next committee meeting, will be to re visit, the edits, I saw needed for the website and to start reading, the CPC workbook, that is available from GSO. I have read it a couple times. There is very valuable information in the workbooks, I think the other committee members, will learn alot, from them, as well. We can edit, whatever we like, to suit our needs.

I have been announcing, at the meetings, I attend, if anyone, is need or want to do 12 step work, please, come see me after the meeting. No one has came to me, as of today. I am hopeful, we can attract more, active A.A members.

On January 19th, PI/CPC committee, will be in attendance at a gay/lesbian event. Nancy has volunteered to , be at this event.

I have spoke with Jessica, who I believe is part of the treatment committee, or bridging the gap. Just to give a heads up, that I would be attending the treatment committee meetings, once a month as well. To make sure, we know what their up to and they can know what we are up to. This way we are not doing double the work and make A.A. look unorganized. I am excited to see, what they are doing, as well.

I also will be contacting J.J, who is the corrections committee chair. I do plan to attend their committee meeting as well. So we can all know what each committee is doing.

Anyone who knows of an A.A. member who needs to start doing service work, or wants to do service work, please give them my number 941-716-2167 and the PI/CPC email, which is, PICPC@AADISTRICT.ORG. This way, they can reach out to me, or if they want, I am willing, to reach out to them.



Thank you, Jessica W.

**INTERGROUP LIAISON:**

No Report

**GRAPEVINE: Richard M.**

No Report

**CURRENT PRACTICES: Mark W.**

The Book of Current Practices and the Book of Motions are both up-do-date, and God Is Great.

Mark W.

**ARCHIVES: Tony**

No Report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**Open Positions:** DCMs and ACMs

**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:**

Insurance: Lori reports that per GSO, having Liability Insurance is fraud because no one is responsible for Insurance Co. to go after in case of an event. Discussion tabled until next month

**Meeting adjourned 9:15pm with the responsibility statement and the Lords' Prayer.**

District 5 Officers & Committee Chairs, Panel 69

AGENDA OUTLINE FOR DISTRICT 5 MEETING – February

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)

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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: Voting on the 2019 Budget (Finance) (Proposed Table Above)

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Open positions: DCMs and ACMs

NEW BUSINESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

VOLUNTEERS:

COFFEE: \_\_\_\_\_ COOKIE COMMITTEE: \_\_\_\_\_

SET UP \_\_\_\_\_ GREETER: \_\_\_\_\_ Adjourn time: \_\_\_\_\_

Close with Responsibility Statement and the Lord's Prayer

\_\_\_\_\_