

November 19th, 2024
Monthly 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)
Website: www.aadistrict5.org

*Next GSR Sharing / Workshop on December 17th, 2024, at 6:00 PM
followed by The District 5 General Service Business Meeting at 7 PM*

*Location: St. Nathaniel's Episcopal Church
4200 S. Biscayne Drive, North Port 34287*

MINUTES ARE CONFIDENTIAL: Please do not post in public places, such as clubhouses, bulletin boards, etc.

District 5 Inventory (6:00 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.):

Opened at 6 p.m. with Serenity Prayer

A District 5 Inventory takes place every even-numbered year to find out what District 5 is doing well and what needs improvement. Past Delegate, Kathy G., facilitated tonight's District 5 Inventory. Attached are Kathy's notes which include feedback from the body and suggested improvements.

District 5 Business Meeting (7:45 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.):

Opened at 7:45 p.m. with Serenity Prayer

OFFICER ELECTIONS: Chair Carol announced that since no District 5 officers for Panel 75 (2025 and 2026) were elected last month, tonight's meeting will be devoted mainly to elections. Roll Call was taken to determine number of voting members present tonight so that we could calculate 2/3 majority for our elections:

GSRs: 14 Voting Alt GSRs: 1 DCMs: 5 Voting Alt DCMs: 0 Voting District Officers: 2
Total Voting members present: 22 2/3 majority: 15

Note that the 2/3 majority was not necessary since each person who stood for an officer position stood unopposed and was elected by proclamation.

Congratulations to the following new District 5 officers who were elected for the January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 term:

District 5 Chairperson: Jean MacF.

Alternate Chairperson/DCM Coordinator: Stephanie P.

Recording Secretary: Joe R.

Registrar: A well-qualified individual expressed interest in the Registrar position after the meeting. She is pending approval by the body at the December 17, 2024, District 5 business meeting.

No one stood for TREASURER, so we still need a Treasurer.

Everyone: Please announce at groups you attend that the Treasurer's Position is still vacant. Please ask anyone who wishes to stand for Treasurer to attend the December 17, 2024, 7 p.m. District 5 business meeting so they can stand for the position.

Suggested qualifications for the DISTRICT 5 TREASURER are:

- A minimum of 3 years' continuous sobriety
- 2 years' service as a GSR in any district in the U.S. or Canada
- A minimum of 12 months' service as a member of District 5 General Service Committee
- Ability to attend all District meetings and South Florida Area 15 Assemblies
- Ability to keep accurate financial records, provide written reports on a monthly basis
- Ability to perform duties as suggested in the current edition of the AA Service Manual

These are the standing committee chairs for the January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026 term:

Accessibilities: Angela M.

Archives: Fred G.

Corrections: John A.

Current Practices: Carol R.

DCM Committee: Stephanie P.

Finance: Tim S.

Grapevine: none

Intergroup Liaison: PJ

Literature: Deborah B.

PI/CPC: None

Treatment: None

Website: Butch

In December, we will try again to fill the following positions: Treasurer, open DCM positions, Grapevine Committee Chair, and Treatment Facilities Committee Chair.

District 5 November 2024 Officer Reports:

Chairperson's Report – Carol R.

Welcome to everyone, especially new GSRs. If this is the first District 5 business meeting you have ever attended, please note that tonight's format will be different from our usual monthly District 5 meeting. That is because tonight we are holding both our District 5 Inventory and Elections. Both of these events occur once every two years. Normally, we have a GSR Sharing Session from 6 p.m. to 6:45 p.m., followed by our business meeting begins at 7 p.m. Thank you for your patience with us tonight.

GSRs: There are 2 items under New Business of these minutes that need your home group's conscience at the December 17, 2024, District 5 business meeting (Items 1 & 2). In addition, please see Item 3 under New Business which will need your home group's conscience at the January 5, 2025 Area 15 Quarterly Assembly Sunday business meeting.

Speaking of which, the Area 15 January Quarterly Assembly is being held at the Hyatt Regency in Sarasota January 3-5, 2025. Area 15 asked me to let you know that if you were already on the wait list for a hotel room as of November 19, 2024, you should definitely get a room since the wait list is very short at this time. Here is the information for the quarterly: [January-2025-Flyer 9.27.24-1.pdf](#).

Grateful to serve.

Carol R., District 5 Chairperson
(910-658-6533; carol@rossranch.com)

Recording Secretary – Tre – Absent - No written report

Alternate Chairperson/DCM Coordinator Report - Jessica M.

My name is Jessica, my sobriety date is November 27th, 2010, and I'm an alcoholic. Thank you for allowing me to serve District 5, as your Alternate Chair/DCM Coordinator.

The DCMs met on Monday, November 4th, 2024 at the Intergroup office. We opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer. Three DCMs were present: Ernie (PC/PG), Fred (PG/Arcadia) and Jessica (North Port). We are looking for several new DCMs to cover sub districts for the upcoming District 5 term; including to but not limited to: North Port, Venice and help to cover Englewood, Port Charlotte and Punta Gorda. The suggested qualifications are 4 years continuous sobriety, 2 years' experience as a GSR in any District, working knowledge of the twelve steps, traditions, and concepts, ability to make it to all District 5 business meetings, as well as the Area quarterly assemblies, and the ability to perform duties suggested in the service manual. These are mere suggestions and we are autonomous. If you're interested in serving District 5, but don't meet every qualification, we are more than willing to work with anyone interested in general service.

In evaluating the little time we have left in this term, the fact that have not reviewed the District 5 budget and we did not have ONE person stand for an officer position, we discussed if postponing the inventory might be best, so we can focus on those two other critical items. After speaking to both Carol and Kathy, we all agreed that if we could do the inventory in one meeting (read questions, get ideas from the entire District and take notes), we would still have time for everything else. Kathy Gutierrez will be coming from District 4 to help us run the inventory. We will be starting at 6:00 pm, so we will not have a GSR sharing meeting that night. After the inventory, we will hold elections again and hopefully fill some positions.

There are a couple DCMs that have not completed their two year term, and will continue serving into the next term. All of the DCMs will make a concerted effort to get to all of their groups before the end of the year to encourage home group members to elect a GSR so they can be represented in District 5, Area 15, GSO, and AA as a whole. We will also suggest current GSRs to consider standing for an ADCM or DCM.

We ended the DCM meeting at 7:35 with the Responsibility Statement. Our next DCM meeting will be Monday, December 2nd at 7:00pm at the Intergroup office and this will be our FINAL meeting of the term, so please do your best to make it. We would encourage anyone to attend these meetings - especially current GSRs or anyone interested in becoming a GSR or DCM.

In love and service,
Jessica M
Alternate Chair/DCM Coordinator

Registrar's Report – Lynn I. – absent, no report

Treasurer's Report – Tim S.

October 2024

Thank you to the following groups for October contributions: #496794, could not find a name associated with the number. There Is A Solution, Phoenix Group, You Are Not Alone, On Awakening, Steps To Sobriety, Sunset Group, Living Sober.

Group Contributions	1,413.29
District Basket	72.00

Total	1,485.29
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Payments	
October Assembly	1,709.80
Corrections	210.86
Storage	176.94
Church Donation	65.00
Treas. Check Printing	53.82
District 5 Coffee Pot	57.99

Total	2,274.41
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Red 789.12

GSO is requesting that contributions be made online if possible. Go to aa.org and follow instructions

Send check to:
PO Box 2407
James A Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

Area 15 contributions
Area 15 Treasurer
2950 W Cypress Creek Rd
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

District 5, please make check payable to district 5 treasurer and include group number
District 5 Treasurer
PO Box 7356
North Port, FL 34290

Love & Service
Tim S 941-809-9543
timstakem@yahoo.com

10:32 PM

11/02/24

District 5, Area 15
Reconciliation Detail
Fifth District Service Committee, Period Ending 10/31/2024

Type	Date	Num	Name	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						10,004.19
Cleared Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 18 items						
Check	09/17/2024	3077	Jessica M.	X	-57.99	-57.99
Check	10/14/2024	Debit	Extra Space Storage	X	-176.94	-234.93
Check	10/16/2024	3087	Angela M	X	-321.34	-556.27
Check	10/16/2024	3082	Fred G	X	-238.38	-794.65
Check	10/16/2024	3079	Stephanie P.	X	-203.37	-998.02
Check	10/16/2024	3095	Fred G	X	-168.38	-1,166.40
Check	10/16/2024	3088	Betty M	X	-125.80	-1,292.20
Check	10/16/2024	3081	Spence S.	X	-119.19	-1,411.39
Check	10/16/2024	3085	Paul K	X	-119.19	-1,530.58
Check	10/16/2024	3084	Ruby M	X	-119.00	-1,649.58
Check	10/16/2024	3089	Jay B.	X	-85.06	-1,734.64
Check	10/16/2024	3094	Spence S.	X	-84.19	-1,818.83
Check	10/16/2024	3093	Paul K	X	-84.19	-1,903.02
Check	10/16/2024	3092	Ruby M	X	-84.19	-1,987.21
Check	10/16/2024	3080	Benita S	X	-84.19	-2,071.40
Check	10/16/2024	3096	Benita S	X	-84.19	-2,155.59
Check	10/16/2024	3090	St. Nathaniel's Church	X	-65.00	-2,220.59
Check	10/24/2024	Debit	Bradford Exchange	X	-53.82	-2,274.41
Total Checks and Payments					-2,274.41	-2,274.41
Deposits and Credits - 9 items						
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Sunset Group	X	18.87	18.87
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Anonymous	X	30.00	48.87
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Cash	X	72.00	120.87
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Phoenix Group	X	100.00	220.87
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	On Awakening Group	X	125.00	345.87
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Living Sober Group	X	188.22	534.09
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	You Are Not Alone, ...	X	200.00	734.09
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	There is A Solution	X	279.00	1,013.09
Deposit	10/17/2024	Dep	Steps To Sobriety	X	472.20	1,485.29
Total Deposits and Credits					1,485.29	1,485.29
Total Cleared Transactions					-789.12	-789.12
Cleared Balance					-789.12	9,215.07
Uncleared Transactions						
Checks and Payments - 4 items						
Check	08/27/2024	3075	Joseph Armstrong		-164.24	-164.24
Check	10/16/2024	3086	Deborah B		-203.38	-367.62
Check	10/16/2024	3083	Jessica M.		-119.19	-486.81
Check	10/16/2024	3097	Jessica M		-84.19	-571.00
Total Checks and Payments					-571.00	-571.00
Deposits and Credits - 2 items						
Check	03/19/2024	3038	Voided Check			0.00
Check	10/16/2024	3091	Voided Check		0.00	0.00
Total Deposits and Credits					0.00	0.00
Total Uncleared Transactions					-571.00	-571.00
Register Balance as of 10/31/2024					-1,360.12	8,644.07
Ending Balance					-1,360.12	8,644.07
Prudent Reserve			4,010.14			
Oct. 2024 Interest			.03			
Total			4,010.17			
Checking Bal.			8,644.07			

Total Checking & P/R 12,654.24

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District 5 November 2024 Standing Committee Reports:

Accessibilities- Vacant

Archives- Ernie E.- No written report

Current Practices- Jeny N. (absent, no report)

Corrections Committee Report – Jay B.

Our 2024 budget is \$2,500. We use these funds primarily to buy AA literature for our Persons In Custody, in the three Correctional Institutions we serve. We purchased \$75.43 of AA literature SINCE 12 October 2024 from D5 Intergroup. Our year-to-date expenditures for AA literature have been \$1,645.00 for Corrections. We ask that our yearly budget remain at \$2,500. for the coming calendar year of 2025, please.

Our greatest need at this time (or, at any time) is new AA Volunteers for Corrections service. ESPECIALLY FOR DCI. DeSoto Correctional Institution (State Prison), Arcadia, FL. We are also looking for Spanish Speaking volunteers -and- U.S. Military Veterans, for our AA Spanish Speaking meeting and our Veterans meeting at this facility.

Corrections is also seeking male volunteers for our Outside Sponsor Program, where an Outside AA is paired up with an Inside AA, to communicate with them via Phone and email and possibly visit them from time to time (maybe once a month). We have two Outside Sponsors enrolled in this worthwhile program. Also, we have a Prerelease Program where volunteers agree to be a local AA Contact for those AAs being released from incarceration, to our District. We help them get acquainted with the local AA groups and individuals in these meetings.

We currently facilitate AA Meetings in 3 (three) AA District 5 Correctional facilities. We host 9 (nine) AA meetings per week. Meetings cannot take place without one of our AA Volunteers present.

DCI. DeSoto Correctional Institution (Arcadia, FL). State Prison. 6 mtgs./wk.
CCI. Charlotte Correctional Institution (Punta Gorda, FL). State Prison. 1 mtg./wk.
CCJ. Charlotte County Jail (Port Charlotte, FL). 2 mtgs. /wk. Male & Female.

Again, a big thank you to all involved in District 5 Service, especially GSRs — getting out the message — Corrections needs volunteers. It takes a special kind of person to commit to Corrections Service. These Persons In Custody really appreciate us.

In the spirit of rotation, John A. has agreed to take on the position of Chairman of the D5 Corrections Committee. As well as Bruce O. agreeing to fill the position of Alternate Chairman of D5 Corrections. 2024/2025 terms. Betty M. has offered to stay on as Secretary/Treasurer until we find a suitable replacement for her. And, at the Area level, Larry B., of District 8, was elected Corrections Chair of Area 15, for the 2025/2026 term.

Our monthly Corrections Committee meeting is held the Second Saturday of every month at 10am, in person at our Intergroup Office in Northport -or- online with Zoom. Meeting ID is: 882-0192-1326. Passcode is: service (all lower case). See you there!

Finance – Tim R. - No written report

Grapevine – Barbara B.

This is my last report as the GV Rep for our District.

I was on a cruise for the Gratitude Dinner in November and Stephanie P was kind enough to bring my Grapevine Display and set it up on her table. Thanks, Stephanie.

It hasn't been easy getting Grapevine Reps for the groups in our District. There are a handful of them. When I reached out to the group secretaries, I didn't hear back from one. I could have done a better job getting out to the groups to sell the Grapevine. I live in Osprey and made a few meetings in Venice but not very much farther.

I will be happy to help the next Grapevine/LaVina Chairperson. The Assembly meetings are helpful in getting information and ideas how to get more reps and spread the word about our Meetings in a Pocket.

Ideas on spreading the word: a Grapevine Article writing group on a Saturday. Other groups have done it and it's a lot of fun. Our group has a grapevine subscription raffle. When we get enough for a yearly subscription, we pick a name. We've done this for a few years and have had a few happy winners.

Bringing old GV's to libraries, nursing homes, doctors' offices, etc. Can be done anonymously. Have sent GV's to the jail my husband goes to. The men love them.

I've sold GV books at my meetings. Buy them for gifts for anniversaries, birthdays, etc. They are wonderful to use for meetings.

Any more information, please don't hesitate to call me. I would be happy to pass on my ES & H for this great commitment to the next person. It's an honor to serve the District.

Yours in Service, Barbara B.

Intergroup Liaison Report – PJ G.

The Gratitude dinner was a sellout and a success in many areas. Total revenue is still to be determined. There were many gifts donated by members won by participants. District 5 was represented by excellent displays. A good time all around.

Literature - Deborah B.

Hello District 5 ! 🌻

Lots of excitement in the Committee ~

We met ;the last Wednesday in Oct ~

We reviewed ;our remaining extra inventory and office supplies deciding to bring to District meeting if anyone needs any items ~ We worked on ; trivia q+a trivia prizes, our " what's happening board .

Had table set up at Gratitude Dinner;

- trivia in big book questions
- prizes from donations and some purchased from Intergroup office • Our "what's happening board included info > Jan 1/4ly in Sarasota Area Literature mtg including all district chairs from our area with all their happenings. > Gso 1/4ly newsletter with updated info on the 5th edition Big Book stories have been narrowed down to from 2500 to 59. > plain L BB date of arrival .

We had a great turn out ~ all prizes went 💜

We are waiting for our email for our next budget amount .

Our next meeting will be last Wednesday , November 27 ~ We will be ; 1) reviewing Plain LBB 2)

Projection for next panel .. going digital and 3) preparing for Agenda items as we saw due to arrive Feb 17-25 We meet : 4:30 @ Francis Bourne Library , Venice note ~ time and place are flexible, you can

District 5 Minutes

This information is for District 5 Committees and Group members, and as such are confidential documents; distribution is limited to members.

email us at Literature@aadistrict5.org

In love and service

Deborah B

D5 Literature chair  

PI/CPC – Angela M.

Twin Rivers Pathways/Millennium Physicians Group

I attended the monthly lunch n learn hosted by Twin rivers Pathways Behavioral Health on October 27. I had a chance to present an overview of Alcoholics Anonymous services to the social workers who attended. Afterward, I had a discussion with their director Jessica N. regarding AA's effort to reach social workers and case managers who are in direct contact with clients effected by alcoholism. In particular, we discussed Millennium Physicians Group. I had recently dropped off a literature rack to a Case Manager at Millennium and stated I wished we could reach all the case managers at Millennium, however, the way they are structured doesn't avail us this type of forum for group presentation. Jessica, knowing the managers and structure of Millennium well, offered to reach out to their lead case manager Denali, stating that they held a monthly Zoom Meeting with all the case managers once a month. She emailed a glowing reference to her counter part at Millennium, stating that she highly recommended having AA as a presenter at the monthly Zoom forum. Unfortunately, when Denali, the lead case manager, responded, she said they no longer had the Zoom Meeting once a month and that she was no longer lead case manager. She referred us to Nancy S. who is now manager for the Millennium Case Workers. I reached out to her to try to schedule a time to chat about having AA present to her Case Managers, but she did not respond. This is a great opportunity for follow up by the next PICPC chair since we were referred by a peer. I will probably go ahead and reach out to Nancy S. again in January and make one final attempt.

Sarasota Memoria Hospital Discharge Planners Project

The PICPC committee has been waiting for District 4's PICPC chair to respond regarding this project, as she is a nurse at SMH and has a contact there who she believes can help PICPC get in for a group presentation to all the discharge planners and mental health workers. Follow up is needed.

Senior Outreach Initiative

I was approached by a member of the Peacemakers Online Zoom Meeting who is their PICPC Chair. I honestly didn't know that online meetings had chair positions. She has a turn-key program developed in Washington State targeting the senior population in 55+ Communities including Assisted Living and RV parks.

The program goal is to increase participation in Online Zoom AA Meetings, assess the need for on-sight meeting development, and on-sight literature needs. The program is fully developed including lists of facilities in Charlotte County, a spread sheet for follow-up remarks, and posters. The poster is currently being tailored to display District 5 contact persons and phone numbers. The list of facilities is being divided between volunteers who will make initial phone contact with each facility to assess their interest in displaying a Poster in their facility with the zoom meeting log in information and a local contact number is anyone would like to start an on-sight meeting. The initial contact phone call made by the volunteer is fully scripted with room for improvisation. If the facility is interested, a packet containing the poster and the following pamphlets are mailed to the contact person.

AA as a Resource for Health Care Professionals

Is AA for You

AA at a Glance

During the initial phone call, interest in a literature display is also assessed. If the prospective facility desires literature, a rack is created and delivered to them by volunteers.

This project is just beginning and once we have it kicked off, we will develop a list of similar facilities for Desoto

District 5 Minutes

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County and the south Sarasota communities.

Twin Rivers Pathways Lunch and Learn November 26 12:30- 2pm

I will be attending this lunch n learn this coming Wednesday. In the emailed invitation, the assistant director stated she would like to introduce me to “representatives from detox units and substance abuse services who will be attending”. Apparently, I have developed a strong ally and I am honored that the management at Twin Rivers Pathways Behavioral Health has such a strong belief in the power of AA. Hopefully this will be a great opportunity to spread the word with this professional group.

Grateful to Serve.
Angela M
PICPC Chair
District 5

Treatment Facilities – Stephanie P. – no report this month

Website – Tom D. C

AA District 5 Web chair Report for November 17 District 5 2024 Meeting: Butch and I have been working on making sure there will be a smooth transition of the site pending the January 1st Committee Chairs change. At this time, we are working on making the site more phone friendly. We are still working on a 'Instruction Book' that will detail how the District 5 Website works and how changes are made to the site. At the change over, Butch will be the Chairman and I will be the Alternate Chair. This will help with the transition and continue the current work to improve the site.
Tom D.

Old Business: none

New Business:

GSRS: There are a few items which need your home group's conscience:

1. Attached is the District 5 Proposed Budget for 2025 (corrected as of 02DEC2024). Please take this item to your home group for their approval or disapproval and bring your group's conscience to the **Dec 17th District 5 business meeting**. If you have any questions about the proposed District 5 budget, please send them to Tim at timstakem@yahoo.com.
2. District 5 has excess funds of approximately \$3600.00 for 2024. Please ask your home group how they want the excess funds to be distributed and bring their recommendation to the **December 17th District 5 business meeting**. Below are the ideas mentioned by attendees at the November business meeting but please encourage your group to also suggest other ideas:
 - Split the excess funds between the District 5 Intergroup Office and GSO in New York.
 - Set aside a portion of the funds for a District 5 Service Fair and/or Roundup in 2025.
3. Attached is the Area 15 Proposed Budget for 2025. Please take this item to your home group for their approval or disapproval and bring your group's conscience to the **Area 15 Quarterly Assembly Sunday business meeting on January 5, 2025**. (Note that the quarterly assembly takes place January 3-5 at the Hyatt Regency in Sarasota.) If you have any questions about the proposed Area 15 budget, please send them to the Area 15 Treasurer at treasurer@area15aa.org.

Next Month Reminders:

- December 17th, 2024: GSR Sharing at 6 p.m. at St. Nathaniels Church in North Port, followed by District 5 business meeting at 7 p.m. Please be sure to bring your group's conscience on Items 1 and 2 under New Business.
- Volunteers for coffee and snacks (ready before the 6 p.m. GSR Sharing Session): coffee: Jessica
snacks: Carol

District 5 of South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee
Website: www.aadistrict5.org

The Information below must not be posted in public places or clubs, etc.

OFFICERS					
DISTRICT 5 MAIL	POBOX 7356	North Port, FL 34290	Treasurer	Tim S.	timstakem@yahoo.com
Chairperson	Carol R.	passport423@gmail.com	Secretary	TRE	secretary@aadistrict5.org
Alt Chair/DCM Chair	Jessica M.	soberlady77@gmail.com	Registrar	Lynn I.	sobersister.12.89@gmail.com

CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)		CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)	
Arcadia	Fred G.	fguterding@gmail.com	PC	PJ	PJKGroma@me.com
Englewood	Spence R.	rssechler@hotmail.com	PC-Virtual	Sal A.	trash911enforcers@gmail.com
Englewood	VACANT		PG	Ruby M.	RubyMarconiB@gmail.com
NP	Jessica M	soberlady77@gmail.com	Venice	Deborah B.	dkbbuehrer@gmail.com
PC	Ernie E.	ernie.eberhard@gmail.com	Venice	Spence R.	rssechler@hotmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:		
Accessibilities	VACANT	passport423@gmail.com (backup)
Archives	Ernie E.	ernie.eberhard@gmail.com
Corrections	Jay B.	jaybarthelmeus@gmail.com
Current Practices	Jeny N.	jleighton1323@gmail.com
DCM Committee	Jessica M.	soberlady77@gmail.com
Finance	Tim R.	tim.reese@gmail.com
Grapevine	Barbara B.	barbara_brownyard@yahoo.com
Intergroup Liaison	P.J.	PJKGroma@me.com
Literature	Deb B.	dkbbuehrer@gmail.com
PI/CPC	Angela M.	amacken12@gmail.com
Treatment	Stephanie P.	plowchick@gmail.com
Website	Tom D.	tommyde1953@gmail.com