

**May 20, 2025**

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

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

**Next GSR Sharing / Workshop on June 17, 2025 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**

**Committee Chairs, Officers, and Motion Makers:**

- All written reports and motions must be typewritten and emailed to [secretary@aadistrict5.org](mailto:secretary@aadistrict5.org) before the district meeting or by the weekend after the business meeting.
- For ease of insertion into the minutes:
  - o do not create your report or motion in Adobe (PDF). (You may use any other typewritten format, such as Word, Google Docs, email, text, etc.)
  - o use 10 pt. Arial font
  - o limit your typewritten report to one page or less to keep the meeting and the meeting minutes brief but informative. Exception: Treasurer's report may be longer than one page

**GSR Sharing / Workshop 6 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.**

Discussed Tradition 5, Providing service opportunities in our home groups and sharing service opportunities from District and we reviewed the GSR Cheat sheet. (see attached)

**District 5 Business Meeting:**

Opening: Chair Jean M opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer

GSR Preamble read by Wes.

The 5th Tradition Long form was ready by John and the 5<sup>th</sup> Concept was read by Keith.

Roll Call # of: GSRs:18 Alt GSRs: 5 DCMs:3 Alt DCMs: 0 District Officers: 4

Total # of voting members in attendance: 48 2/3 majority=32

Total # of people attendance: 53

**GSR Announcements for upcoming events** (Please bring flyers to distribute to attendees. Please email flyers to the District 5 website chair at [webchair@aadistrict5.org](mailto:webchair@aadistrict5.org) to have the event posted on the website and to the District 5 recording secretary at [passport423@gmail.com](mailto:passport423@gmail.com) and [secretary@aadistrict5.org](mailto:secretary@aadistrict5.org) for inclusion in the minutes of tonight's meeting.)

Saturday May 24 Live and Let Live Alano Club in Englewood  
BBQ \$5 donation  
starts 430pm

Monday May 26 Memorial Day Event 1-3 pm  
Easy Does it Club

June 20 I am Responsible 40th Anniversary (flyer attached)  
7pm Food 8pm Speaker

*June 21 Can Do Speaker Meeting Anniversary  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
4365 SR 776 Venice  
Dinner 6pm Speaker 7pm*

*July 14 Living Sober Ice Cream Social Anniversary  
Venice 730pm*

**Volunteers to make coffee and bring snacks to the June 17, 2025, GSR Sharing Session and District 5 Business Meeting (to be ready by 5:30 p.m.): Set up and Coffee: Val Snacks: PJ and Ruby**

#### **Chairperson's Report – Jean M.**

Good evening everyone, I have some news from the Conference that I thought you would like to know, remember that flyer we took out to groups, " WHY HAVE A GSR", well I'm going to answer those questions.

When is the 5th edition of the Big Book coming out? The committee is still narrowing down stories, it should be ready for the 2026 Conference to vote on releasing.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE BOOK, LIVING SOBER? The committee recommended that they update the language and content and give either a progress report or draft to the 2026 Conference.

ARE THEY GOING TO CHANCE THE 12X12? A motion to add the 12 Concept to the 12x12 FAILED 69/61

WILL WE BE ABLE TO PROTECT THE FOUNDERS' WRITINGS?

The Delegate will explain to us July 20th, when she comes to our District.

Another item you may be interested in -

INDIVIDUAL BEQUESTS TO GSO WILL BE RAISED FROM \$10,000 TO \$12,500

#### **Alt Chairperson's Report - Steph P.**

5 DCMs attended our monthly DCM meeting on 1st Monday of the Month 6pm at the Intergroup office. Discussed visiting groups and verifying their existence. We will all need more time to finish in June. Discussed topics for GSR workshop. Worked with Amy P. and Area Registrar to get into Fellowship Connection and get DCM materials from GSO.

#### **Ad-Hoc Committee Report – N/A**

#### **Archives – Fred G**

#### **Accessibilities Committee - Angela M**

##### **1. Senior Outreach Project**

Together with Carol R., we are revising the existing project so that it is focused more broadly on all zoom meetings rather than just one and at the same time, assessing the facility's interest in establishing new on-site meetings. To date, the flier has been revised and is being typeset. We are still working on the following support documents:

A. In Person Flyer Delivery Letter

B. Email with Attached Flier

C. Senior Facility Contact Form

The chair of Area 15 PICPC committee has invited me to present this project to the Area 15 PICPC committee members.

At this time and based on whether or not we are able to complete the revisions in time, it may be the October Quarterly.

##### **2. Legacy of Service**

I am working with Carol R, District 5's , to revise and update the current Accessibilities Legacy of Service. I expect to have it completed in June.

##### **3. Accessibilities Committee Webpage Description**

Carol R and I are revising the current webpage description as many of the links are outdated and the description is not current. We should have this completed in June.

#### 4. Meeting "Clean Up" Punta Gorda

I assisted my DCM Ruby with the meeting clean up initiated by our District Chair. I was able to identify 2 meetings in the Punta Gorda area that are no longer in service

#### 5. Twin Rivers Pathways Mental Health Services

In my absence, Bill S was able to attend a monthly Lunch n Learn hosted by Twin Rivers Pathways mental health services department. I had established this contact last year as PICPC chair. This is a monthly event sponsored by Twin Rivers Mental Health. Their director is passionate about AA and has been a great advocate of our services. As your Accessibilities Chair, I can continue this relationship as the GSO Accessibilities Desk in New York has identified a new focus area with the "Neurodivergent Population". Together with the PICPC Committee, we will continue our relationship with Twin Rivers with the goal of developing an ongoing opportunity to speak with Discharge Planners in our local hospitals and Mental Health Facilities. Bill S and I have been invited to speak with their clients about AA and have the presentation scheduled for June 26 at 4:00pm

#### 6. PICPC Contact List from my Term

I am putting together a list of events and their contacts for the new chair and co-chair of PICPC. I continue to assist the committee with their monthly committee meeting until a new chair steps up

### **Corrections Committee – John A**

Our District 5 Corrections committee continues to support 40 meetings per month in 4 different facilities in our district. We do 6 meetings per week at DeSoto Correctional, 1 at Charlotte Correctional, 1 at the Charlotte Work Camp, and 2 at the Charlotte County Jail. On Monday, between the meeting at the work camp, in the chapel, and Spanish in the education building we have as many as 65 men in attendance. We are blessed to have this opportunity.

Many thanks to the hard working volunteers who make this valuable work happen. We currently have three in the process of being approved so the load will be able to be shared a bit more. We are always anxious to welcome more.

It has been a very busy and hectic month at DeSoto. JJ and I attended the Pre Release event on April 28 th where we encourage those being released in the next 6 months to be sure to get plugged in to AA on the outside in order to help prevent relapse and a potential return to prison. We have a program that will help with that which has hooked up several released inmates to outside AAs and helped them get introduced to meetings. This has been accomplished in several states outside Florida as well as several foreign countries.

On the 29 th we attended their Volunteer Appreciation luncheon where the Warden, his assistant for programs, and the Chaplain all addressed us with many thanks but also some warnings about the possibility of contributing to problems while trying to help them. It was very instructive. They put on a show for us after lunch with music and testimonials. We appreciate their appreciation.

The following week on the 7 th of May I attended the graduation of those who completed their Faith and Character program. It is clear that all of the programs they participate in, including ours, make a difference in their lives. The Chaplain noted that, as the result of programs such as this, at least two inmates in the last year have had sentences of life without the possibility of parole commuted. This is a very difficult process and only considered in occasions where the inmate has shown exemplary willingness to change.

### **Current Practices – Carol R**

Discussed updating the website to define "Legacy of Service" as "Composition, Scope and Procedure". All were

in favor of this.

She is working with District officers and chairs to ensure Legacy of Service descriptions are up to date. She worked with Kevin this month to update the Treasurer position.

#### **Finance – Tim S No report**

#### **Grapevine – Vacant**

#### **District Liaison to Intergroup – P.J.**

Key points: Office revenue stream is up, now have a secretary and web chair, deciding on an accounting system.

**The office needs to know who has a key to the office. If YOU have one, please call them and let them know so they can get a documented list.**

#### **Literature Chair – Deb B**

At our last meeting we discussed going to home groups ; giving our flyer to encourage groups to get literature reps . This benefits the group with all latest info to carry the message ~ Also was mentioned our virtual options and bookmarks with QR codes .

Another thing we are working on is a sponsorship pamphlet workshop. We visited District 4 virtual meeting to ask and observe how they go about things ~ they were very receptive and helpful:) Currently they are putting together a home group pamphlet and service structure workshop with projected dates being July/Aug. + Oct / Nov. . D4 also gives out new gsr pkts. Currently D5 is giving out service manuals :)

The budget is \$200 and we have spent \$43.20 on display and trivia ; leaving us a balance of \$156.80

Our next meeting will be held the last Wednesday of month ; May 28 @ 4:30 . Location ; Frances T. Bourne Jacaranda Library. 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd. Venice 34293

We are flexible with time and place : you can email us at ~ [literature@aadistrict5.org](mailto:literature@aadistrict5.org)

#### **PI/CPC - vacant**

#### **Registrar Report – Amy P**

#### **Treasurer's Report – Kevin C.**

**Please be sure to include an email address with your District donations so we can email out a thank you to your group rather than have to print and page for postage. THANK YOU!**

Thanks to the following groups for participating in our 7th Tradition. Venice Friday Night Stag, Came to Believe, Steps to Sobriety, Eye-Opener, New Beginnings, the Recovery group of Venice, Saturday Morning step study, On awakening, Another chance, Serenity in Arcadia, the Sunset group, Fort Ogden, Women's barefoot, Inner peace group, Men's book talk, the Lunch Bunch, Breakfast club, Bare with us, Tuesday night step, and the Indian Mound group.

#### **Monthly Profit & Loss (April-2025)**

Group Contributions:	\$3867.64
District Basket:	57.00
Total:	\$3924.64

Payments & Expenses
Reimbursements: \$3,128.00
Storage: \$176.94
Church Rent: \$65.00
Total: \$3459.94

Net (+/-): (+) \$674.70

Prudent Reserve: \$4,010.35
Checkbook Balance: \$11,290.38
Outstanding checks \$757.33

## Where to send your contributions

GSO is requesting that contributions be made online if possible  
Go to aa.org and follow the instructions  
Otherwise, send check to  
PO Box 2407  
James A Farley Station New York, NY  
10116-2407

Area 15  
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 name,  
group number and email.  
District 5 Treasurer  
PO Box 7356  
North Port, FL 34290

## Treatment Facilities – Jason S

12 meetings a month at CBHC and 4 at CSU. Provided 5 soft cover Big Books to CSU as requested. Starting up BTG and working with Jessica M., the former BTG chair. Had one issue where an intoxicated AA member came to share at the CBHC. Our Contact there was very understanding and Jason is working on the issue with the volunteers.

## Website – Butch L.

No report

## Old Business:

### These positions still need to be filled for the 2025/2026 term:

- **Chairperson is still needed for the Grapevine.** -- Recommended Qualifications: minimum of 2 years' continuous sobriety • knowledge of AA's 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. Partial list of duties: use the AA workbook for their committee (found at aa.org) as a guide • attend all monthly District 5 business meetings and present a report of committee activities • forward typewritten version of report to district secretary for inclusion in meeting minutes • attend all Area 15 Quarterly Assemblies and participate in workshop for their committee • include summary of workshop in committee report at next District 5 business meeting
- **DCMs are needed.** Recommended Qualifications: 4 years continuous sobriety • 2 years' service as a GSR in any district • working knowledge of AAs 12 Steps, Traditions and Concepts. Partial list of duties: attend monthly DCM Committee meeting • visit assigned groups and keep each group's GSR/point of contact informed of General Service activities • make sure the District 5 Registrar has correct information for each assigned group • attend all District 5 business meetings • attend all Area 15 Quarterly Assemblies and while there, attend the DCM Sharing Session, any workshops assigned by the DCM Coordinator, and the business meeting on Sunday • include summary of assigned workshops attended at next District 5 business meeting
- **Alternate DCMs are needed.** Qualifications and duties are the same as DCM, except that Alt DCMs are only required to attend Area 15 Quarterly Assemblies if they are attending in the DCM's place.
- Updated on List of groups for each city within the district disturbed to DCM's to update meeting lists for each sub-district for existence and viability. Please check the Intergroup website for all up to date info and report any changes. DCM Ruby has completed her list. All other DCMs are in progress and plan to update next month. Jean went through the others not assigned and only 1 of the 12 belonged to District 5.

### **New Business:**

- New Motion was submitted by Carol R.

The Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Registrar, Alt. District Chair, DCM's and voting ACM's, Chairpersons of Standing Committees or Alternates in their place, are reimbursed for the following as Quarterly expenses, as needed, and as available, provided they submit receipts to the District Treasurer: one night's lodging and, if they attend the banquet, up to \$50.00 for a banquet ticket. If they are unable to attend the banquet, up to \$40.00 for one meal during the weekend. All qualified District 5 trusted servants attending the Area 15 Assembly are to be reimbursed by the next District business meeting or other arrangements made directly with the Treasurer, provided they submit receipts to the District 5 Treasurer.

Submitted by Carol R., on behalf of the District 5 Current Practices Committee

**Background:** This motion replaces Amended Motion 266 and Motion 379. The intent of this motion is to:

- increase amount of reimbursement for either banquet ticket (from \$30 to \$50) or one non-banquet meal (\$30 to \$40) for listed positions. (The \$30 amount was set in 2008 by Motion 266 in 2008 and has not been increased since.)
- show that receipt is needed for reimbursement and that reimbursement is received by the next business meeting

Amendment to Motion 266 passed 12-21-2010 reads: To fund the District Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Registrar, Alternate District Chair, DCM's and voting ACM's, Chairperson's of Standing Committees or Alternates in their place, one night's lodging and up to \$30.00 for a meal as Quarterly expenses, as needed, as available. That each attend the appropriate Workshop or Committee Meeting and make a report at the following District 5 General Service Meeting. Motion out of Current Practice Comm.

Motion 379 passed 10-16-18 reads: To amend Motion #309: All qualified District 5 trusted servants attending the Area 15 Assembly be reimbursed at the next District business meeting or other arrangements made directly with the Treasurer.

- Motion was seconded by Richard of the Can Do Group. Discussion was held about whether \$40 was too high for a dinner meal and it was pointed out that a receipt is now required and that \$40 is the maximum for the meal reimbursement, and if they are unable to attend the banquet. The banquet does help cover the costs for the Meeting rooms for the Quarterly.
- Bring the Motion to your group and we will vote on it at the June District meeting.

### **Next Month Reminders:**

- June 17, 2025, GSR Sharing at 6, followed by District 5 business meeting at 7.  
Volunteers for coffee and snacks (ready before the 6 p.m. GSR Sharing Session):

Set up and coffee: Val

Snacks: PJ and Ruby

**Adjournment:** motion to close made by Lynn of \_\_\_\_\_ group; seconded by Pamela of "As She Sees It" Group.

Meeting was closed at 8\_\_ p.m. with Responsibility Statement, followed by The Lord's Prayer

**District 5 of South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee**Website: [www.aadistrict5.org](http://www.aadistrict5.org)*The Information below is confidential and must not be posted in public places or clubs, etc.*

OFFICERS					
<b>Chairperson</b>	Jean M	<a href="mailto:jtmacf62@hotmail.com">jtmacf62@hotmail.com</a>	<b>Treasurer</b>	Kevin C	<a href="mailto:kevincarroll7@icloud.com">kevincarroll7@icloud.com</a>
<b>Alt Chair/DCM Coordinator</b>	Stephanie P.	<a href="mailto:plowchick@gmail.com">plowchick@gmail.com</a>	<b>Registrar</b>	Amy M.	<a href="mailto:Amymuller54@gmail.com">Amymuller54@gmail.com</a>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Cindy S.	<a href="mailto:cindyschmiedeler@hotmail.com">cindyschmiedeler@hotmail.com</a>			

CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)		CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)	
<b>Arcadia</b>	Fred G.	<a href="mailto:fguterding@gmail.com">fguterding@gmail.com</a>	<b>PC</b>	PJ	<a href="mailto:PJKGroma@me.com">PJKGroma@me.com</a>
<b>Englewood</b>	Spence S.	<a href="mailto:rssechler@hotmail.com">rssechler@hotmail.com</a>	<b>All-Online</b>	vacant	
<b>Englewood</b>			<b>PG</b>	Ruby M.	<a href="mailto:RubyMarconiB@gmail.com">RubyMarconiB@gmail.com</a>
<b>NP</b>			<b>Venice</b>	Stephanie P.	<a href="mailto:plowchick@gmail.com">plowchick@gmail.com</a>
<b>PC</b>			<b>Venice</b>		

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:		
Accessibilities	Angela M.	<a href="mailto:amacken12@gmail.com">amacken12@gmail.com</a>
Archives	Fred G.	<a href="mailto:fguterding@gmail.com">fguterding@gmail.com</a>
Corrections	John A.	<a href="mailto:jarseneault1@icloud.com">jarseneault1@icloud.com</a>
Current Practices	Carol R.	<a href="mailto:carol@rossranch.com">carol@rossranch.com</a>
Finance	Tim S.	<a href="mailto:timstakem@yahoo.com">timstakem@yahoo.com</a>
Grapevine	vacant	
District Liaison to Intergroup	P.J.	<a href="mailto:PJKGroma@me.com">PJKGroma@me.com</a>
Literature	Deb B.	<a href="mailto:dkbbuehrer@gmail.com">dkbbuehrer@gmail.com</a>
PI/CPC	vacant	
Treatment	Jason S.	<a href="mailto:Jsmithelectric44@gmail.com">Jsmithelectric44@gmail.com</a>
Website	Butch	<a href="mailto:webchair@aadistrict.org">webchair@aadistrict.org</a>