

August 19, 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

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

Next GSR Sharing / Workshop on September 16, 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

To All Standing Committee Chairs and Officers:

- All written reports must be typewritten and emailed to secretary@aadistrict5.org before the district meeting or by the Friday after the business meeting.
- The Recording Secretary will copy and paste your report into the minutes. Therefore, for ease of insertion into the minutes **PLEASE DO NOT CREATE YOUR REPORT IN ADOBE (.pdf)**. (You may use any other typewritten format, such as Microsoft Word, Google Docs, Email, etc.)

7 p.m. District 5 Business Meeting:

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

GSR Preamble read by Max of the Keep It Simple Group

The Long Form of Tradition 8 for August was read by Amy of the Friday Night Women's Venice Group

The 8th Concept of the month was read by Jean.

Welcome new GSR's and AGSRs: GSRs: Max of the Keep It Simple Group and AGSRs: _____ of the _____ Group

Roll Call, # of: GSRs: 18 Alt GSRs: 2 DCMs: 5 Alt DCMs: 0 Officers: 5

Total # of voting members in attendance: 30 2/3 majority: 20

Total # of people attendance: 33

GSR Announcements for upcoming events (Please bring flyer to distribute to attendees. Email flyer to webchair@aadistrict5.org if you wish to have the event posted on the District 5 website.)

Easy Does It Club in Port Charlotte is having a Labor Day Luau

23312 Harper Ave, Port Charlotte, FL 33980

1 – 3 pm

Bring a dish to share

Volunteers to make coffee and bring snacks to the September 16, 2025, GSR Sharing Session / District 5 Business Meeting (to be ready by 5:30 p.m.): Coffee & Set Up Richard.

Snacks: Angela & Michelle

Chairperson's Report – Jean F.

Alternate Chair/DCM Coordinator Report – Stephanie P.

Recording Secretary – Cindy S.

Registrar Report – Amy M.

Treasurer's Report – Kevin C.

Treasurer's Report

August 19, 2025

Thanks to the following groups for participating in our 7th Tradition: Sisters in Sobriety, Ground Breakers,

Venice Big Book Step Study, Recovery Group of Venice, Eye Opener, Came to Believe in Venice, Breakfast Group, Dawn Busters, Rainbow Group, Daily Reprieve, Sunset Group, Each Day a New Beginning, Women's Barefoot Group, Monkey Off Your Back, Steps to Sobriety, High Noon, Midday Miracles, and YANA.

JULY- Profit & Loss

Group Contributions: \$2,720.51

District Basket (2): \$221.50

Total: \$2,942.01

Payments & Expenses

Reimbursements: \$3,736.92

Storage: \$176.94

Church Rent: \$75.00

Total: \$3,988.86

Net (+/-): -\$1,046.85

Prudent Reserve: \$4,010.44

Checkbook Balance: \$12,335.39

Outstanding checks: \$34.30

WHERE TO SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:

General Service Board

GSB requests that contributions be made online if possible. Go to aa.org and follow instructions.

Otherwise, mail check made out to:

General Service Board

PO Box 2407

James A Farley Station

New York, NY 10116-2407

Area 15, South Florida General Service

Go to area15aa.org and use Quick Links for 7th Tradition Contributions.

District 5 Minutes

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

Otherwise, mail check made out to:
Area 15 Treasurer
2950 W Cypress Creek Rd
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
District 5
Mail check made out to:
District 5 Treasurer
PO Box 7356
North Port, FL 34290
Yours in service, Kevin C.
Treasurer@aadistrict5.org

Standing Committee Reports

Please limit verbal report to 3 minutes or less. Your written report for the minutes can include additional information.

Ad-hoc Committee Report

Accessibilities – Angela M.

This month's activities revolved around the completion of the Senior Outreach Initiative. The revised poster and accompanying introductory letter were both printed in quantity. The selected pamphlets were ordered and received from Intergroup.

The committee selected the following pamphlets for inclusion in the packet:

AA and the Older Adult

AA as a Resource for Health Care Professionals

At a Glance

Is AA for You?

The Newcomer Asks

The committee met and constructed the packets. Discussion regarding the kick off of the project ensued. We decided to begin small with several locally known Assisted Living Facilities to determine how well the project is accepted by the facility and to work out any issues that may develop. In short, a pilot project.

The committee generated a list of local Assisted Living Facilities with approximately 25 beds. The following facilities will be our initial targets:

Sandhill Gardens Punta Gorda
Courtyard Assisted Living Facility Punta Gorda
Alder Terrace Gardens Punta Gorda
The Meridian Punta Gorda
Brookdale on Bal Harbor Punta Gorda
Southport Square Port Charlotte
Hampton Manor Punta Gorda

One of the goals of this project is to determine if the facility would like an on-sight meeting. If a meeting is desired by the facility, what would the format be? Therefore, the next steps of the project will be to define the meeting format for any future meetings that arise from this project. Our next committee meeting will focus on this goal.

The committee will split the listed facilities and begin the project by the end of August.

PICPC

There was no committee meeting this month due to summer vacations and family illness.

At the committee's request, I ordered 100 each of the pamphlet's AA at a Glance and the white sheet, Information on Alcoholics Anonymous. These two pamphlets were chosen by the committee to use during presentations. The committee also ask me to order 3-tiered pamphlet racks for displays. I placed an order with Amazon and have received 9 total racks.

Charlotte Behavioral Health is hosting their annual Candlelight Recovery Vigil in Lashley Park September 12. I received an invitation to participate. With the committee's approval, I will submit the application for participation in the event. There is no cost associated with participation.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Angela Macken
Accessibilities Chair
District 5/Area 15

Archives – Fred G.

Correction Facilities – John A.

Our District 5 Corrections committee continues to sponsor 40 AA meetings in three institutions at 4 locations in our district. We provide 6 meetings per week at the DeSoto Correctional Institute in DeSoto County including 3 on Monday with a Spanish speaking meeting, a meeting in the chapel, and a meeting at their work camp. On Tuesday there is an additional meeting in the chapel, on Wednesday there is a meeting for veterans, and on Thursday there is a meeting in A Dorm. We have a significant need for volunteers. We have a few new volunteers who are recently approved and are being introduced into the schedule with veterans to show them the ropes. We also just added one who speaks Spanish which was a huge need. When you total up the average attendance at these meetings, we are thrilled that we impact nearly 160 inmates per week when we include all meetings once. We are potentially changing lots of lives for the better. Join us!

In addition to the meetings at DeSoto we provide one meeting per week on Monday at the Charlotte Correctional Institute and an additional meeting on Saturday at their work camp. We have recently learned that progress is being made with their expansion so the numbers should improve soon. We also welcomed two new members this past week.

We provide two meetings per month at the Charlotte County jail, one for women and one for men. The men's meeting has grown significantly lately and the women's is consistent.

We continue to seek volunteers to sponsor inmates to work the steps with them. Meeting sponsors are not permitted to do that kind of one-on-one work as we are there for the entire group. We have several inmates currently waiting for someone to work with them. The requirements for doing this work are not nearly as stringent as far as background checks etc as for meeting sponsors. Our pre-release program continues to go well. We have set up several released inmates with an outside contact to get them plugged into the program on the outside.

We discussed two upcoming events: Our joint Area 14 & Area 15 Corrections workshop will take place on Sunday, September 21st at the ODAT Club (Pine Island Group) in Orlando from 1:30 until 4:30. Several panels will discuss ongoing correction successes and challenges. This meeting will be hybrid so anyone can join. Access codes to attend via Zoom are 847-3048-2501 with a password of 984923. This conference was a big success last year and food and drinks will be served to entice in person participation. There will also be a National Corrections Conference in Nashville from November 7th to 9th. I have registered to attend.

Gratefully Submitted, John Arseneault

District 5 Corrections Chair

Current Practices – Carol R.

District 5 Current Practices Committee report August 2025

As of August 11, 2025, the Book of Motions is up to date on the District 5 website. The Current Practices Committee's next priority will be to bring the Book of Current Practices document up to date.

You can find the Book of Motions and the Book of Current Practices by going to <https://aadistrict5.org/> and then selecting Business Documents Current Practices Documents. (Please feel free to email me at currentpractices@aadistrict5.org if you need the password.)

Grateful to serve,

Carol R.

Finance – Tim S.

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Does anyone wish to stand as a Alt DCM for any of the locations?

Motion to rescind Motion # 411 which was passed at the June 2025 meeting and which reads, "Increase the Chairperson's 2025 budget by \$200.00 to cover reimbursement costs for printing of material for District 5." Motion 411 is not needed since Motion 322 already reimburses officers for printing costs for all officers. Motion 322 reads, "That all officers be allowed to make copies for district as they feel would benefit the district and be reimbursed." (Note that officers are reimbursed from the District Printing and Reproduction Budget line item which is separate from the officer's annual budget.) *Respectfully submitted by Carol R., District 5 Current Practices Chair for Panel 75*

New Business:

Treasurer, Kevin C opened up a discussion about excess funds in the account and how they should be disbursed, if they were to be kept at the District 5 level as opposed to being sent to GSO. It was also stated that funds have been previously disbursed on a quarterly basis. After some discussion, Spence made a motion to table this discussion to allow the GSR's to take this information back to their groups for further discussion.

A motion was made by Spence and seconded by _____ to increase the Current Practices budget to \$250. This was passed.

The 5th edition of The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous will be released this year and preorders start in October 2025. The Living Sober book is also being updated.

Next Area 15 Assembly is Oct 3-5 in Boca Raton.

All hotel rooms in the block are taken but be sure to email to the waitlist to get a room.

Info below:

BOCA RATON MARRIOTT AT BOCA CENTER 5150 TOWN CENTER CIRCLE, BOCA RATON, FL 33486

Room Rate: \$159.00 per night + tax (1-4 people)

For hotel room Waitlist: hotelinfo@area15aa.org

Here is the latest information about the International Convention that took place this summer:

International Convention | Alcoholics Anonymous

<https://www.aa.org/international-convention>

Next Month Reminders:

September 16, 2025: GSR Sharing at 6 p.m., followed by District 5 business meeting at 7 p.m. Richard_ of _____ has volunteered to make coffee. ____Angela and Michelle ____ of _____ have volunteered to bring snacks.)

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by ____Kevin____ and seconded by ____Cindy_____.

The Meeting was closed at _7:50_ p.m. with The Responsibility Statement, followed by The Lord's Prayer.

District 5 of South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee

Website: www.aadistrict5.org

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

OFFICERS					
Chairperson	Jean M	itmacf62@hotmail.com	Treasurer	Kevin C	kevincarroll7@icloud.com
Alt Chair/DCM Coordinator	Stephanie P.	plowchick@gmail.com	Registrar	Amy M.	Amymuller54@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Cindy S.	cindyschmiedeler@hotmail.com			-

CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)		CITY	DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS (DCM)	
Arcadia	Fred G.	fguterding@gmail.com	PC	PJ	PJKGroma@me.com
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PC			Venice		

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:		
Accessibilities	Angela M.	amacken12@gmail.com
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District Liaison to Intergroup	vacant	
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