

November 18, 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 December 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 cindschmiedeler@hotmail.com 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 Mike

The Long Form of Tradition 11 for November was read by Tammy

The 11th Concept of the month was read by Brian B

Welcome new GSR's and AGSRs: GSRs: 0 of the Group and AGSRs: 0 of the Group

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

Total # of voting members in attendance: 28 2/3 majority: 19

Total # of people attendance: 35

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.)

Living Sober Group - Coffee and Dessert

Monday, December 15th @ 7:30

Christ Venice Church, flyer attached

Volunteers to make coffee and bring snacks to the December 16, 2025, GSR Sharing Session / District 5 Business Meeting (to be ready by 5:30 p.m.): Coffee & Set Up: PJ & Jean H Snacks: PJ & Ruby
Clean up:

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.

October Treasurer Report

November 18, 2025

Thanks to the following groups for participating in our 7th Tradition: Over the Hump group, Venice Big Book Study, Men's Book Talk, Came to Believe in Venice, the Breakfast Group, Venice Friday Night Women's, the Sunset Group, Friday Night Men's Stag, Tuesday Night Step, High Noon-Midday Miracles,

You are not Alone, Steps to Sobriety, Wings, and the Inner Peace Group.

OCTOBER- Profit & Loss

Group Contributions: \$ 1,866.38

District Basket \$ 77.50

Total: \$ 1,943.88

Payments & Expenses

Reimbursements: \$ 3,162.01(Quarterly-\$2971.79)

Storage: \$172.11

Church Rent: \$75.00

Total: \$ 3,409.12

Net (+/-): - \$1,465.24

Prudent Reserve: \$ 4,010.51(+), \$1,000(computer), \$4805.99(excess funds)

Prudent Reserve Total \$ 9,816.50

Checkbook Balance: \$ 6,415.20

Outstanding checks: \$ 00.00

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.

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 – Reports from committees that verified District meeting demographics.

Accessibilities – Angela M.

Archives – Fred G.

Correction Facilities – John A.

District 5 Corrections Report

November 2025

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 had our regular monthly meeting on Saturday which was attended by 9 volunteers. We will have some scheduling issues for December as JJ, who handles the Spanish and the Vets meetings every week, will be away for 2 weeks. We are looking for volunteers to step up and take some extra meetings to fill the gap. Attendance at all of our meetings continues to grow and we are grateful that the work has spread that we are there to help and that there is hope in our program. Many thanks to our outstanding volunteers who are carrying that message to those unable to access it due to their circumstances.

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.

I attended the National Corrections Conference in Nashville. It was both informative and inspirational. The chair was a former "lifer" in Tennessee and his story, along with others who spoke, reinforced the potential for changed lives the work we do can help produce. A former warden and DA also helped reinforce the positive results of what we are so blessed to do. Part of the message from the DA was the fact that, once incarcerated, the public forgets these people and, while some are probably not redeemable, most are if given the right opportunity. He also recommended, when having access resisted

District 5 Minutes

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

to our requests for access, we start at the top and avoid the “gatekeepers” where possible as each adds a layer of interference that we need to overcome.

I am pleased to announce that our bid to host the 2027 conference here in Florida was accepted. As is typical in AA we went through several votes and, while we had a plurality in each vote, we failed to get the 2/3 majority required so we “went to the hat” and won. Next year we will be in Salt Lake City and then the real work for us will begin.

Our next committee meeting will be held December 13th at 10:00AM via zoom. 882-0192-1326. Passcode service.

Gratefully Submitted,
John Arseneault
District 5 Corrections Chair

Current Practices – Carol R.

District 5 Current Practices Committee report November 2025

The Current Practice committee met on November 8, 2025. Our current priority is working with District 5 committee chairs and officers to make sure the Legacy of Service on their District 5 web sites are up to date. Kevin C. volunteered to work with the Corrections, Finance, and Treatment standing committees and with the Recording Secretary. Brenda D. volunteered to work with the Archives standing committee. Carol R. will work with the Alt Chair/DCM Coordinator, the Registrar, and the Website committee. The committee chairs and officers should hear from Kevin, Brenda, or Carol soon.

Grateful to serve,

Carol R., Current Practices Chair 910-658-6533

Finance – Tim S.

Grapevine – Amy P

Intergroup Liaison – vacant

Literature – Deb B.

Hello District 5!

We normally meet the last Wednesday of the month @4:30 virtually .ID : 882-0192-1326 PW : service . Our Nov, Dec meeting will be held on Dec 3rd due to Holidays.

We have 2 new members making us a committee of 4 yay :)

At our last meeting the Area Literature Chair Cindy joined us ~ having offered many helpful tips .

We had a request from an A.A. member for a workbook / guide to aid in step work with sponsees . I mentioned there was talk of that with in the last few years. I brought this to the committee and we are currently looking up that info.

Our next thought is to get in contact with home group members currently purchasing A.A. Literature and supplies (coins etc.) to encourage them be a Group Literature Rep. Handing them our card with the QR code for more info.

Attended the Gratitude Dinner with an up dated pamphlet rack borrowed from the Venice Noon mtg . Had a blast .. great food and speaker, prizes and fellowship :)

Hit a snag with our recently printed business cards / QR code ~ we are currently adjusting the situation.

- Don't forget our 10% sale items to “Refresh the Hone Group Rack”
- Then in the New Year we will be celebrating with the Fri Nite Women's Group ; bringing a fun AA BB / 12/12 game .All are welcome (well women, sorry guys)

Grateful to Serve
Deborah B
D5 Literature Chair 

Online Committee (NEW) – Mary

Treatment Facilities - Jason

Old Business:

Open Positions. The following positions are open in District 5. The volunteers for this position would serve through December 31, 2026:

PI/CPC Committee Chairperson - Desired qualifications: 2 years continuous sobriety and working knowledge of the AA steps and traditions. **Duties:** Chairs District PI/CPC Committee meeting each month. Attends District 5 business meetings and reports on committee activities. Attends PI/CPC Committee meeting at Area 15 Quarterly and gives report of meeting at next District 5 business meeting. (Reimbursed by District 5 for 1 night hotel stay at Area 15 Quarterly.)

Does anyone wish to stand for the PI/CPC Committee Chairperson position?

DCM positions are open for the following locations: [REDACTED]. **Desired Qualifications:** 4 years continuous sobriety, 2 years' service as a GSR in any district in the U.S. or Canada, working knowledge of the AA traditions and concepts. **Duties:** Attends monthly DCM Committee meeting. Visits assigned groups and keeps those group's GSRs/contacts informed of General Service activities. Makes sure the District 5 Registrar has the correct information for each assigned group. Attends District 5 business meetings. Attends Area 15 Quarterly Assemblies and while there, attends the DCM Sharing Session on Saturday and the business meeting on Sunday. (Reimbursed by District 5 for 1 night hotel stay at Area 15 Quarterly.)

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

Alternate DCMs are needed for all locations: Arcadia, North Port, Port Charlotte (2), Online Meetings, Punta Gorda, and Venice (2). Qualifications and duties same as DCM. (Only reimbursed by District 5 for 1 night hotel stay at Area 15 Quarterly if attending in place of DCM.)

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

New Business:

- The area literature committee is looking for written stories for Asian-American and Transgender Alcoholics. They are creating new pamphlets. For more info go to the General Service App.
- Area 15 is looking for Quarterly Quarterbacks. These are people willing to assist those attending the Assembly for the first time. Contact Beth D @ 954-729-3632. ***Flyer attached.***
- Amy P of Eye Opener has graciously stepped back into to Grapevine Committee Chair position through the end of the term.
- Motions A – D were read and discussion was opened to clarify any confusion. These motions should be taken back to groups by GSR's for discussion and vote at the next area assembly.

Next Month Reminders:

December 16, 2025: GSR Sharing at 6 p.m., followed by District 5 business meeting at 7 p.m. PJ and Jean H has volunteered to make coffee. PJ/Ruby have volunteered to bring snacks.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Jean M and seconded by Pamela .

The Meeting was closed at 8:25 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	JeanDistrict5@gmail.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
Englewood	Spence S.	rssechler@hotmail.com	All-Online	vacant	
Englewood			PG	Ruby M.	RubyMarconiB@gmail.com
NP			Venice	Stephanie P.	plowchick@gmail.com
PC			Venice		

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