

JULY 21, 2026

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 Aug 18, 2026 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*

DISTRICT 7 CAME AND ONCE AGAIN TOLD US HOW HAPPY THEY WERE TO HAVE US HELP WITH THE OCTOBER ASSEMBLY. Laura said she would send me(the Chairperson) the list where we can help and I would then send it out to you all.

To All Standing Committee Chairs and Officers:

- All written reports must be typewritten and emailed to CHAIRPERSON 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

The Long Form of Tradition 1 for January was read

The 1st Concept of the month was read

Welcome new GSR's and AGSRs: GSRs: 1 new and AGSRs: 0

Roll Call, # of: GSRs: 16 Alt GSRs: 1 DCMs: 3 Alt DCMs: 1 Officers: 3

Total # of voting members in attendance: 23 2/3 majority:

Total # of people attendance:

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.)

July 4-7, 2030 International in St. Louis, Missouri

July 23 the Eye Opener Group is celebrating 7-10am Breakfast-Speaker-Fellowship

Every Monday at 6pm, Mary O. is studying the service manual, 8111729555 PW service

August 6-9 – Florida State Convention in Orlando

August 21-23 – FYPG Convention at Sunseeker Resort in Punta Gorda

August 29 3-6pm Intergroup sponsored BINGO, big prizes!

September 26 Golf Tournament , call Intergroup

Intergroup is planning to start a Booker Service. Groups would come and request a speaker on a certain date and another group would fill that request. Call Intergroup for the next meeting!

Volunteers to make coffee and bring snacks to the Aug 18, 2026, GSR Sharing Session / District 5 Business Meeting (to be ready by 5:30 p.m.): Setup: Amy & Suzanne. Coffee Micheal B., Snacks: Everyone please pitch in to help clean up!

Chairperson's Report – Jean M.

July 2026

Well we survived the Area Assembly! For those that were there you know what I mean, it was a tough one. I've printed out the results of the motions for you to take back to your groups.

Because we did not hear either Committee or District Reports, you will have to read the minutes to know what I said about you all when they come out.

Next Assembly will be for voting of our new Delegate and Alt Delegate along with Officers, so no Motion will be heard. It's important for you all to be there in person. No voting online.

The report for the last Conference will be out in August online and will be free to download. The hard copy will be out in October for \$6 to \$8. I ordered one for myself. Does anyone else want one? Thank you, I will order 2 more.

The International Committee is looking for a theme for the next International in 2030 at St. Louis. Go to AA.org/internationalcommittee.

Because I'm interest, How many of you have a Service Sponsor? The Assembly offers a Quarter Back for those new to the Assembly, which are like a Service Sponsor. They help you navigate the Assembly along with Service at that level. It's a good thing to do.

Our past Delegate, Beth did a workshop at the Assembly and asked this Question, **HOW MANY ALCOHOLICS DOES IT TAKE TO RUN AA?** I printed some of the answers for your Amusement!

My Favorite is *Just ONE, but first we need a motion, a second, discussion, an amendment, another discussion, and substantial unanimity.* (Editor's Note: don't forget a minority opinion, a motion to revoke, ad infinitum!)

Alternate Chair/DCM Coordinator Report –Spence

On July 6 th we had our monthly DCM meeting at the Intergroup

Office starting at 7:00PM

Started the meeting with a moment of silence and

The Serenity Prayer

DCM's present: Spence S; Fred G; Ruby D; PJ; Bill S

Alt DCM present: Jonny H

Had discussions on:

More GSR interaction

Workshop topics in the future

Continuing covering the 12 Concepts

Need to cover new Group designations in Fellowship

Connection and update our Groups again

Start talking to other AA's about taking Dist. Service Positions

Talked about the importance of our GSR's getting on Zoom for the Sunday business meeting to give their Groups a vote

Ended with a bit of excitement when we realized all of us were going to be at the Quarterly!!!

Ended the meeting at 7:45 and scheduled the next DCM meeting for August 3 rd , 7:00PM at the Intergroup Office

At the Quarterly the DCM's tried to cover all the Committee meetings for help with reports. The Zoom trial seemed to go well with a few bumps. Was noted by a couple GSR's that participated on the Zoom that at times they still couldn't hear the Delegate or Area Officers very well. This trial for Zoom sessions is over. Zoom will not be available for this October's Panel 77 elections at the Area business meeting. Zoom will resume at the January 2027 business meeting. We were also cautioned again about not cancelling reservations at the last minute because the Area could be charged a large expense if we don't meet our room and meal quotas.

Recording Secretary – **Vacant** At this time the Chairperson is doing the minutes.

Registrar Report – Amy M. – No Report

Treasurers Report-Kevin C.

In the spirit of rotation, I will rotate out of this position in December 2026. Please feel free to speak with me if you are interested in being District Registrar for the 77th General Service Panel.

Because I am on Vacation out of the State there will be no report. Everyone that emailed me with request for reimbursement from the Assembly, I have sent either by Zelle or snail mail. I hope to be back by the August District meeting or September. I will give full reports then.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS:

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.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Accessibilities – Angela M.

My committee consists of only 2 people - one frequently travelers and one who has recently been ill. Therefore our committee met only 1 time in the last quarter. I was able to touch base on the phone with one of my committee members. I'm pretty much on my own

Senior Outreach Project

I ordered and received the plastic project protectors that each packet will be placed into before they are mailed out. I checked with UPS shipping and they estimate the mailing cost of each packet will be around \$5.00.

I need to get a second estimate from the post office. I also need to decide on envelope size and cost for the mailing.

Packets will be mailed to the attention of the Activities Director at each Assisted Living Facility. The list of Assisted Living Facilities that I inherited at the beginning of this project came from someone who had access to a database of Assisted Living facilities in Charlotte County and I have no clue if it is up to date. One of my committee members suggested I try using ChatGPT to see if it can generate a more current list of facilities.

Before the packets go out, I am going to try to get a more current list of facilities in our area.

I am also going to get a quote for reprinting of the poster so that I can include a qr code for the meeting guide app.

Bulletin Board

Materials to create an accessibilities bulletin board for District 5 have been purchased and I spoke with one of my committee members about ideas for graphics. I continue to collect supporting ideas for graphic which support the concept of accessibility for all in AA. My goal is to have this completed by the fall District 5 Gratitude Dinner.

Desoto Memorial Hospital Behavioral Health Services

I had created a good relationship with Jessica Nikola at DMHBHS over my 2 year term in PICPC. DMHBHS along with multiple social service agencies, had started working toward the development of a large health fair called Sober Fest. I passed all this information along to the new chair but there hasnt been any follow up to the relationship to continue AA's participation with their agency. I contacted Jessica to see if they were still having monthly lunch n learns and was invited back to participate again next week on July 29. There are agencies represented, such as the Veterans and Senior Population, that continue to fall under the umbrella of Accessibilities. I will continue to represent AA with this group.

Archives – Fred G. No Report

Correction Facilities – John A.

Our District 5 Corrections committee continues to sponsor 36 AA meetings in two institutions and 3 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, which is their Faith & Character dorm. We have a significant need for volunteers. When you total up the average attendance at these meetings we are thrilled that we impact nearly 145 inmates per week when we include all meetings once. We are potentially changing lots of lives for the better. Join us! The work is incredibly rewarding and has a great impact on the lives of those we serve.

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 recently.

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. 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 also have a corrections correspondence program where inmates have requested individuals to write them and open communications with someone on the outside via mail. The individual is paired with someone on the other side of the country to keep correspondents separated.

There has been an uptick in closures at DeSoto recently caused by discovery of large quantities of contraband discovered in recent inspections. We are reminded of the continued need for us to be there to share our new way of life with those behind bars when these interruptions occur. We also remind our volunteers to call ahead before making the trip. In good news, schedules have been adjusted to allow inmates to attend our meetings before they have dinner. We have been starting meetings as early as 5:15, Dinner break comes at about 7 so we have gotten in a good 1.5 hours uninterrupted before dinner. It is our choice and that of the guards and inmates whether or not they can return after dinner to. My recent experience is that most do not return making our time investment there more reasonable while not reducing quality meeting time.

Plans continue for our hosting the 2027 National Corrections Conference in Orlando in November of 2027. Volunteers will be needed and it should be a great event. Activity will increase greatly after the first of the year.

Our next committee meeting will be held on Saturday, July 18th at 10:00AM via zoom. 882-0192-1326.

Passcode: service. This is a week later due to the area assembly the previous weekend.

Current Practices – **Vacant**

Finance – Tim S. No Report

Grapevine – Vacant

Intergruop Liaison – Estell – No Report

Literature – Deb B.

Hello District 5!

We just had the Area Assembly ~ the Literature Committee Meeting was well attended . Lisa D our Delegate (who is serving on the Conference Literature Committee) and special guest Area 14 Delegate joined in answering any questions about agenda items . I did ask about the workbook / study guide as our committee has been following the process of Agenda items, come join our virtual Committee meeting last Wednesday of the month to chat about it. ID : 882 0142. 1326 PW : service

The everything aa app was also mentioned ~ noting it was bought by AA and is still free to users ;,we have been encouraged to contribute or purchase subscription :) In comparison the Meeting Guide app costs 42k a year to maintain .

Our Committee has been practicing finding agenda item facts from the GSC . Very helpful to show interested members.

Next we will be discussing what a Literature Rep is and does using our service material as guidelines.

Mary O continues to so Service Manual virtual on Monday eve 6:00 ID # 811 1729 5555 PW service

Grateful to serve

Deborah B

Literature chai

PI/CPC Chair – Bill B.

Treatment Facilities – Jason

We are now bringing 6 meetings a week into CBHC. 3 into the rehab, 1 into the crisis unit and 2 into the new detox / marchman act unit.

All commitments have been filled for the new detox facility.

Bridging the gap is up and running.

Besides that everything is running smoothly

Online Chair – Mary L. – No Report

Website – Tom – No Report

Old Business:

Open Positions. The following positions are open in District 5. The volunteers for this position would serve through December 31, 2026: Because they have not filled out a full term they are eligible to stand for a full two year term on the next panel.

DCM positions are open for the following locations: . **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?

District 5 Minutes

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

CURRENT PRACTICE CHAIR - Current Practice Committee

Qualifications for the Current Practices Committee Chairperson are:

- A minimum of five years' sobriety
- Service as a past GSR in any District
- 2 Years' service as a DCM in District 5
- Ability to attend all District 5 Meetings
- Knowledge of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and the Twelve Concepts. (M377)

Recording Secretary

Participates in the Area 15 Quarterly Secretaries' meeting and makes report at following District meeting. (M410)
Posts the minutes to the District members within two weeks after District meeting.

New Business:

Would the District agree to sending Dist 7 \$200 for there Hospitality Room for the October Assembly?

Next Month Reminders:

Aug 18, 2026: GSR Sharing at 6 p.m., followed by District 5 business meeting at 7 p.m. Amy & Suzanne have volunteered to set up and Micheal B. coffee. NO ONE has volunteered to bring snacks.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made

Responsibility Statement.

The Meeting was closed at __ 8:10 PM

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

District 5 of South Florida Area 15, General Service Committee

Website: www.aadistrict5.org

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OFFICERS					
Chairperson	Jean M	JeanDistrict5@gmail.com	Treasurer	Kevin C	kevincarroll7@icloud.com
Alt Chair/DCM Coordinator	Spence S.	rssechler@hotmail.com	Registrar	Amy M.	Amymuller54@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Vacant				-

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	Mary L.	Mleitch4037@gmail.com
Englewood			PG	Ruby M.	RubyMarconiB@gmail.com
NP			Venice	Bill S.	Shanley1123@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		
Finance	Tim S.	timstakem@yahoo.com
Grapevine		
District Liaison to Intergroup	vacant	
Literature	Deb B.	dkbbuehrer@gmail.com
PI/CPC	Bill B.	
Treatment	Jason S.	Jsmithelectric44@gmail.com
Website	Tom	webchair@aadistrict.org