

August 25, 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

Sept 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM followed by

The District 5 General Service Business Meeting at 7 PM

Location: St. Nathaniel's Episcopal Church

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 for the month was read

The 1st Concept of the month was read

Welcome new GSR's and AGSRs: GSRs: 3 new and AGSRs: 1

Roll Call, # of: GSRs: 16 Alt GSRs: 1 DCMs: 4 Alt DCMs: 1 Officers: 2

Total # of voting members in attendance: 23 2/3 majority: 13

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**

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

***September 7, Easy Does It Group Holiday Party 1-3, bring a dish to share**

***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. Next meeting: Oct 10 @ 9am**

***Oct 24, Intergroup sponsored Harvast Bash 6-9pm @ Center of Hope Church in Venice**

***Nov 7, Gratitude Dinner, Tickets \$25.00**

Volunteers to make coffee and bring snacks to the Sept 15, 2026, GSR Sharing Session / District 5 Business Meeting (to be ready by 5:30 p.m.): Setup: Michelle. Coffee Micheal B., No one volunteered to bring Snacks: Everyone please pitch in to help clean up!

Chairperson's Report – Jean M.

NEWS about the English 5th Edition Alcoholics Anonymous (Big Book) -

From the AAWS minutes:

“The Publishing Department presented proposed cover designs for the Fifth Edition of the Big Book.

In response to Fellowship feedback, the Board approved returning to a jacketed hardcover edition with a list price of \$20.00. A coordinated announcement is planned for September, with publication and availability anticipated by February 1, 2027.”

1. Final Conference Report Digital Availability FREE

Released simultaneously in three languages on aa.org on August 31, 2026. FREE

2. Final Conference Report Print Availability

Print availability will follow the digital release by approximately 6 weeks. We cannot provide a specific

date until the final files are sent to the printer.

3. Final Conference Report Printed Version List Price

The AAWS Board approved a list price of \$5.00. The list price is below the initial forecast of \$6.00 to

\$7.69, however, sales should cover costs if the anticipated quantities are ordered.

NEED TO KNOW FOR OCTOBER ASSEMBLY WEEKEND:

- ☐ Sunday election assembly will end by 3:00 PM
- ☐ NO Motions unless presented requiring the immediate attention of the body.
- ☐ NO Hybrid/Virtual option for October's weekend - including the elections.
- ☐ September 18th - CUT OFF for OCTOBER hotel room CANCELLATIONS
- ☐ Please email hotelinfo@area15aa.org to CANCEL
- ☐ If you do not have a room, please email hotelinfo@area15aa.org to be added to the waitlist.

AS OF NOW, THE ROOM BLOCK IS FULL but there IS an OVERFLOW HOTEL

Holiday Inn Express Cape Coral-Fort Myers Area

1538 Cape Coral Pkwy E, Cape Coral, FL 33904

October 2-4, 2026 Room Rate \$134 per night

Volunteers for the October Quarterly are available now!

Alternate Chair/DCM Coordinator Report –Spence S; No Report

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

Registrar Report – Amy M. – No Report

Treasurers Report-Kevin C.

Because I am on Vacation out of the State there will be no report. Everyone that emailed me with request for reimbursement from any expense, I have sent either by Zelle or snail mail. I hope to be back by 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.

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.

Accessibilities – Angela M.

Senior Outreach Project

Mailing labels were created for 48 Assisted Living Facilities in Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte. Packets were compiled with the flier, cover letter, and the following pamphlets: Is AA for Me?, AA and the Older Adult, About AA, The Newcomer Asks and AA and the Healthcare Professional. We ran out of the main pamphlet AA and the Older Adult which were reordered from Intergroup. Waited 2 weeks for them to come in and when they did, found out that there weren't any Older Adult pamphlets available because the pamphlet is now a book. MaryJo from intergroup was able to find the quantity I needed from somewhere in Akron Ohio, therefore I am waiting until they arrive to finish the packets so that I can take them to the post office and try to get a bulk rate for mailing. They should be end by the first week in September. I will also be in servicing the Intergroup Office volunteers who answer the phones about the project so they will be prepared. Mary Jo is also going to post it onto the Intergroup Website.

Tidewell Hospice

The volunteer coordinator from Tidewell called Intergroup about having someone come talk to their volunteers about AA. Mary Jo forwarded the request on to me. I spoke with Jean Ward, Volunteer

Coordinator about her needs, and she is interested in helping her volunteers discuss end of life unresolved issues related to addiction/alcoholism. She meets with her boss on Friday to discuss the idea and for permission to pursue the idea. I told her I would email her some agenda item ideas for her upcoming meeting. I would take a panel of people with me to present this.

Bulletin Board

All materials have been purchased and I have created an outline of ideas for the board. I purchased some items from Intergroup that I want to include and I just need to start glueing it all together. It will be ready for the upcoming Gratitude Dinner display for Accessibilities.

Area 15 Accessibilities

Carol Harrington had me order all of the display items from the Accessibilities Resource List for a display the Area would own. I purchased everything from intergroup and just have to order the acrylic stands from Amazon.

Young Peoples Conference

I attended the YP Conference over the weekend and found that their interpretation of Accessibilities is much different and more modern than ours. These are some of the ideas I collected which would be good to pursue in the future:

Veterans Panel – they had a representative from Marine Corp, Army and Coast Guard discuss AA and the military

Resilience and AA – Panel discussion for AA participants with Disabilities

LBGTQ Panel Discussion

Multiple aa Meetings focusing on Mental Health/Serenity

Low Sensory Room with low lighting, bean bag chairs, fidget tools, affirmation stickers, doodle pads, ice water. No-Touch Buttons – people could wear No Touching without expressed consent

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.

We held our regular monthly meeting on August 8 th and repeated our call to those present for the need to recruit new members and for those approved to step up and take on an extra meeting to fill the void.

Admittance requirements have changed recently so volunteers need to check the DOC website to be sure all of their training requirements have been met and a picture badge has been acquired at the facility to avoid the possibility of being refused entry. These enhanced security measures are not negotiable so all have been notified to be sure to be up to date. This has resulted in an increase in our already lack of enough manpower to handle all of our meetings. Fortunately there are a couple of new guys in the works.

Area 15 is sponsoring a Corrections Workshop on September 21 st from 2-5PM at the Triangle Club in Palm Beach. All are welcome to attend and it will be available via Zoom (894-0441-2304, passcode 595259),

I have attached a flyer for a corrections workshop we are hosting in September in West Palm Beach. There will be lots of great speakers, plenty of food for those who make the trip and it will be available via Zoom. I will provide the entry codes when available but you can set aside the dates. September 18-20 th .

Our next committee meeting will be held on Saturday, September 12th at 10:00AM via zoom. 882-0192-1326. Passcode: service.

Archives – No Report

Current Practices – **Vacant**

Finance – **Vacant**

Grapevine – Michelle (Welcome, happy you volunteered!)

Intergroup Liaison – **Vacant**

Literature – Deb B.

Hello District 5!

Our Committee meets the last Wednesday of the month @4:30 ~ our log in is ID 882-0192-1326 PW service and is also found on District 5 website .

At our last meeting we were finding the continued information about the Agenda items from the GSC Committee Reports. This way we can show our members any inquires they may have ~ .

Also have been exploring Literature Reps and their responsibilities for our home groups , asking if the group is

interested in having that commitment as an option for their members.

Big Book 5th edition projected date will be Feb 1~ also as requested by fellowship to be jacketed and the cost is \$20.00 .

Mary O continuing the Service Manual workshop on Mondays @6:00 The logins ID 811-1728-5555 PW service and also on the meeting guide app. We just started Concepts . All are welcome .

Just a reminder when reading free on line material ~ we can make a contribution to GSO on the website or in Everything A.A. app .

Our next meeting is Sept. 30 and we will be doing pamphlet of the month and getting creative with possibly a Literature Newsletter for the tables at groups .

PI/CPC Chair – Bill B. – No Report

Treatment Facilities – Jason

We are 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, there were no bridges this month. 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: [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?

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)

District 5 Minutes

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

Posts the minutes to the District members within two weeks after District meeting.

New Business:

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

Next Month Reminders:

Sept 15, 2026: GSR Sharing at 6 p.m., followed by District 5 business meeting at 7 p.m. Michelle 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 __7:50 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

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	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