

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2013

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM-Paula D.
Alt. DCM-Steve N.
Treasurer-Debra S.
Secretary-P. J. O.
Grapevine Chair-Debra S.
Archives Chair-Denis S.
Intergroup Liaison-Paige B.
Literature Chair-Genêt R.

GSRs/Alt. GSRs and Visitors present at meeting:

Big Book 164 Study Group: John W., GSR
Bright Spot Group: Babette V., GSR
Dunnellon New Beginnings Big Book-John S., GSR
Holder Way of Life-Al M., GSR
Monday Night Men's Step: Rick T., GSR
Rainbow Group-Ron B., GSR
Resentment Group-Ernest P., GSR
What's The Book Say: Paige B., GSR
Women's Friendship Group-Genêt R., GSR
Won Rebos-Lisa B., Alt. GSR

Welcome by DCM:

Paula D. welcomed groups and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
Serenity Prayer
Declaration of Unity
Responsibility Statement
Recognition of New GSRs-none present

Roll Call: P. J. O. took roll call and minutes.

Roll call-10 groups were represented.

Minutes from the October 27, 2013, meeting, were amended by the Chair to reflect information received after the meeting regarding the ownership of the Area Archivist's display case. The minutes as thereby amended were accepted unanimously. Paige B. was thanked by the Chair for taking the minutes at the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Debra S.

Upon Motion made and seconded, the written Treasurer's Report was unanimously accepted. (See attached Report.)

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Report: Denis S.

Denis reported that he had had three responses to his invitation to have others join him and serve on the Archives Committee, so with himself there are now four on the committee. Some of the people have art or archives experience and are thus well qualified to serve. The Committee purchased pictures of Bill W. and Dr. Bob for a cost of \$57.22. The pictures are of archival quality, preserved and suitable for indoor and outdoor use, and were on display at the Gratitude Dinner and appreciated. The Committee has recently interviewed Eleanor W., who has 45 years' sobriety. It was a very good quality recording and will be downloaded to a CD.

CPC/PI Report- No report.

Men's Corrections Report: No report.

Women's Corrections Report: No report.

Grapevine Report: Debra S.

Debra reported that she tries to get to two meetings each week and recently visited the Rainbow Group and the Won Rebos Group. On these visits she explains the duties of the Grapevine Representative and the benefits of the Grapevine publication. At one of these recent meetings she was asked if it would be possible for her to bring copies of the Grapevine to sell at the meetings. Debra remarked that it was a good idea, but could be a problem because it would involve a capital outlay with the possibility of only a few sales. She thought that a better approach was to encourage the home groups to take out a Grapevine subscription, which could then be shared. The subscription cost is \$28.94 per year. She will continue to visit other meetings and will encourage subscriptions.

Literature Report- Genêt R.

The Literature Challenge continues and will be ongoing until October of 2014. She has requested more 7th Tradition pamphlets but they have not arrived yet. Upon inquiry, she was advised that there have been many requests and distribution is running behind.

NCI Liaison: Paige B.

The November meeting of the Nature Coast Intergroup was opened by Chairman Rick T with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Seven groups were represented. October minutes were unanimously accepted as read by Secretary Denis S. Trustee Steve N. shared his sentiments on the Gratitude Dinner...that he was pleased to be a part of an organization that could deliver an event of that caliber. He attended the Meet and Greet, Dogs with the Delegate and Chips with the Chair, and was impressed with the atmosphere and hospitality at the Club Recovery. Delegate, Marilyn B., addressed a gathering of thirty or so stating that, "Groups that do not send reps to District and Intergroup have no voice in AA." Trustee Paul B. echoed kudos regarding the Gratitude Dinner.

November statistics for the Hotline and the Website will be made available in the November Journal. The NCI Journal will be available at the end of the month. Many thanks were given for all those that made the Gratitude Dinner possible by Paige B. Chairman Rick T expressed his thanks and excitement on the level of participation. A masked ball is planned for New Year's Eve. The event will be held from 9:00pm to 1:00am. The location will be announced. The event will feature a DJ and will be catered. The ticket price was set at \$10.00 per person. Tickets will be made available

on or about December 1, 2013. The December Meeting of the Nature Coast Intergroup will take place on Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 4:30 pm in the Holder Community Center.

Treatment Report- None.

Paula D. advised that Willye's mother had passed away. Please keep Willye and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Alternate DCM Report: Steve N.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

New Where and When are available at the Holder Intergroup and District Meetings in November. I delivered a batch to Crystal River Group and to the Recovery Club where you can pick them up if you need some. As you have corrections, changes in meetings, or new meetings not listed, please email me those changes at northsea@usa.net. I will immediately change the printing template so it is correct for the next printing. All changes I receive will be sent immediately to the web master so the website always has the most current meeting information. I am currently trying to confirm the closing of the weekday Noon meetings at Nature Coast Community Church in Homosassa as the Pastor has requested the noon meetings be removed from the schedule.

I attended the Gratitude Dinner and thought that everyone did a fantastic job. It was so good to see people from groups all over the district, including many we have not seen for a while.

I also attended the "Meet and Greet: - Dogs with the delegate and Chips with the Chair." at Club Recovery. I personally enjoyed the club and was amazed at the friendly, clean and bright atmosphere. If you, like I, had the image of clubs as smoke filled rooms in dingy surroundings, try visiting Club Recovery. I guarantee you will be surprised. The Trustees do a great job and the events sound like great fun, not to mention the multiple meetings held there. As a District officer I appreciate the opportunity to hold the Delegate and chair's meet and greet event at Club Recovery.

Our delegate Marilyn B. answered many questions and had some very good points about service. One was that if your group has no GSR who attends district meetings and area assembly, then your group voice is not being heard. On your sobriety date you became a shareholder in this great movement called Alcoholics Anonymous and your voice needs to be heard for the movement to be there for the still suffering alcoholics of today and the future. She also explained in these troubled times that we as alcoholics have to take individual responsibility for financial contributions to Intergroup, District, Area and GSO. In the past we have been able to depend on groups to make our contributions, but too often expenses are hurting the groups even though it is not about the amount a group sends, but that they send anything, even a dollar to maintain the group's spiritual connection with AA as a whole. She has taken the lead in individual financial responsibility and says she send a yearly personal check to each of the four entities.

Area Chair Vivian reminded everyone that Area is not just for GSR's. There are great fun workshops on Saturday and great meetings both Friday and Saturday night. She urged all members of A.A. to check out the fun and also get educated.

The District has two rooms reserved at the Lake Mary Marriott for the January 17-19, 2014 Area 14 Assembly. They are reserved for Saturday night January 18th and check in time is 3:00 PM. Please let me know in writing or email if your group cannot afford your lodging and you need a district room so I can give the hotel your information. Please provide name(s) of those to be in the room, addresses and phone numbers. Also groups names. If I have no requests for occupants of the rooms by January 10, 2014, the reservations will be canceled. Currently there is one request for the Female room.

Again, thanks for allowing me to serve.

Steve N

DCM's Report for November 2013: Paula D.

It is my privilege and pleasure to serve as District 28's DCM.

Thank you to NCI for the Gratitude Dinner. This was a huge event that demonstrated the unity of the Fellowship. It was truly heartwarming. The event was held in a very large room and the room was packed, a great turnout. It takes a lot of people to accomplish this. Thanks again to NCI and all who helped to make the dinner such a success.

District

The Meet and Greet event, Hot Dogs with the Delegate and Chips with the Chair, was held on Saturday, November 16, at Club Recovery in Hernando. We were all made to feel very welcome and Club Recovery was very accommodating. The grill was fired up for us, everything was ready and all we had to do was put on the hot dogs. They even did the clean-up for us, which we had expected to be our responsibility.

Part of our spirituality connection to GSO is the ongoing maintenance of communication. It costs GSO approximately \$170 per group, per year, to maintain communication with the groups, considering the cost of mailings, overhead and paperwork. This breaks down to about \$7 per person. It is therefore important to let them know if a group becomes inactive, changes in GSR, etc., so GSO can save costs. They appreciate being kept up to date.

Paula will not be able to attend the District meeting on December 15, nor will Steve N. In that circumstance, either the Treasurer or the Secretary must conduct the meeting, and Debra S. will be chair the meeting on December 15. P. J. will assist her. Let Paula know by e-mail of any matters you would like to have on the agenda.

Also, if there are any GSR changes, send the information to the District first and it will be sent from there to the Area. There is a wonderful website that facilitates the process.

Area Assembly

A note from our Area Delegate: per the GSO report, The North Florida Area now has 906 registered groups, with 19,100+ AA members. NFAC is in the top section for contributing Areas. Hats off to you Area 14. I know these last few years have been a struggle for many. Now here's my challenge; S. Florida, per capita, is contributing about 50 cents more. Now are we going to let them beat us? Let's all chip in and see if we can out contribute them! Thanks for allowing me to serve as your voice. ~ Marilyn B. Area 14 Delegate, Panel 63

Concept / Tradition The Traditions (The Long Form)

Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

Tradition Eleven - Long form

Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not to be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is no need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

Concept XI and Checklist

Concept XI

Concept XI: The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.

Do we understand how the roles of non-trustee directors and non-trustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system?

How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional "Right of Participation?"

Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Debra S., Treasurer, addressed the group regarding the District's proposed budget for 2014. Debra explained that the proposed budget will be posted with the minutes of this meeting and that GSRs should take the budget back to the home groups. The proposed budget will be submitted for approval by the District at the December 15 meeting. After the budget is approved, we will take up any proposed amendments.

Regarding another Finance matter, it was announced that the District audit would be completed by the January, 2014, meeting. Ernie and Paul will conduct the audit with the Alternate DCM and Treasurer.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to increase the Workshop budget by \$30.

With regard to the Grapevine, the copies that we receive from our District subscription are set out here for reading or borrowing. We have had a Grapevine subscription for the prison in the past, but do not have one this year. A question arises as to whether it is a good use of the subscription to leave our copy here; perhaps it could be hand carried into the institutions. Please give this some thought.

MEETING REMINDER: The next District 28 meeting will be on December 15th.

Upon motion made, seconded and passed, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.