

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2014

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM-Paula D.
Alt. DCM/Where and When-Steve N.
Treasurer-Debra S.
Secretary-P. J. O.
Intergroup Liaison-Paige B.
Grapevine Chair-Debra S.
Archives Chair-Denis S.
Literature Chair-Genêt R.
Women's Corrections Chair-Char S.

GSRs/Alt. GSRs and Visitors present at meeting:

Crystal River Group-Sandy H., GSR
What's The Book Say-Paige B., GSR
Women's Friendship Group-Genêt R., GSR
Won Rebos-Lisa B., GSR
Monday Night Men's Step-Rick T., GSR
Mark A., Crystal River-Visitor
Jerry R, Crystal River-Visitor

Welcome by DCM:

Paula D. welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

Responsibility Statement

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

Roll call-5 groups were represented.

Minutes from the December 2013 meeting were accepted unanimously as written, per motion and second.

Treasurer's Report: Debra S.

Debra presented a summary of the Contributions Report and the Income and Expense Report for January, copies of which were distributed to all present at the meeting. Debra noted in her summary that the item of \$94.35 for District Assembly room expense was inadvertently entered on the wrong line.

Debra also reported that the annual audit was done on January 21, 2014. Participants in addition to herself were Steve N., Sandy H. and Genet R. The audit disclosed that the checkbook and statement balances reconciled exactly.

A motion was made to approve the amended Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and upon vote passed unanimously.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives Report: Denis S.

Denis reported that he had been invited by Area Archivist Steven R. to attend an all-day workshop. The workshop will be held on February 15; he has registered and will attend.

Denis made an audio recording of Al A., from Inverness, who has 49 years and 11 months of sobriety.

Denis is soliciting the donation of any appropriate documents or artifacts to become part of our archival collection.

CPC/PI Report-Janet B. (Presented at meeting by Debra S.)

Our more popular sites needed refilling with Where and Whens. Surprise! The hospital emergency room holders were in perfect order, only needed adding to.

Central Motel used to keep our schedule under the counter. They are now on a rack with tourist information and needed to be refilled. I thanked the clerk and she said, no, thank you, we need those schedules.

Our next outreach fair will be held on Saturday, March 29, at the Central Ridge Library in Beverly Hills. Please stop by to say hello.

Men's Corrections Report: None

Women's Corrections Report: Char S.

We had one meeting cancelled by CCA in December, but were able to make it up the following week, otherwise we are still going strong with a meeting every other Friday. Attendance varies, averaging 6-12 women, the majority of whom are engaged and interested in recovering.

I'm very happy to report that one of the "alums" who was released a few months ago continues not only to attend meetings in the District, but is availing herself of a sponsor and staying sober! I also had the joy of running into two other former inmates at a meeting during one of my infrequent trips to Crystal River, who were more recently released and also seem to be excited about continuing on the path of recovery.

I still have several outstanding volunteer applications that I'm waiting to hear about from Mr. Tucker, who advises me that our annual volunteer orientation/re-orientation will be coming up again very soon (date to be announced). He says all potential volunteers will be welcome to attend, even if their applications are still pending or not yet submitted.

Grapevine Report: Debra S.

Debra reported that she was unable to go the Assembly, so has no Grapevine report for this month.

Literature Report- Genêt R.

Genêt reminded everyone that the Literature Challenge will continue until October. Individuals or groups may enter and participate. Prizes will be awarded.

Genêt advised that she is resigning as Literature chair at this time due to personal reasons, so the position of Literature Chair will be open.

Genet thanked everyone for allowing her to serve. She will become active again later.

NCI Liaison: Paige B.

The January meeting of the Nature Coast Intergroup was called to order and chaired by Rick T. Genet R. took the roll call. Eight groups were represented with three visitors present. Minutes from the December were read by Denis S. and accepted unanimously. Having served his term, Trustee Paul B. rotated out of service. Paul was thanked for his contribution. Nominations for the position of Trustee will be accepted at the February meeting. Materials for the annual audit have been assembled. The audit will be completed by the next business meeting. Vice-Chair, Genet R., announced her resignation and was thanked for her service. Nominations for the position of Vice-Chair will be accepted at the February meeting. The January/February Journal is out. Statistics for the hotline and the website are both posted in the journal. The Valentine's Day Dance is right around the corner on Friday, February 14th at the Town Hall in Inglis. Ticket sales are going well. The New Year's Eve Dance was well attended and the feedback was good. The 2014 proposed calendar of events is posted in the journal. An East vs. West Softball Game, chaired by Steve C., is in the works. Mark A. will chair an intergroup representative workshop tentatively scheduled for March. Debra S. and Ingrid will chair the Founder's Day Breakfast in June. It was suggested we consider adding a Mother's Day and a Father's Day Event to the Schedule. Rainbow Springs State Park is reserved for the picnic in August. Locations for the Gratitude Dinner are under consideration. Sadly, Rick T. announced the passing of Treasurer Bill W. He will be greatly missed. Nominations for Treasurer will be accepted at the February meeting. Also mentioned, the passing of Jolene M. from our sister program Al-anon. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Treatment Report- Willye M. No report.

Alternate DCM Report: Steve N.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. It is an honor and privilege.

Where and Whens are available at Holder at our monthly meeting there. They are also available at Club Recovery during all of their open hours. If you have corrections, changes or new information please e-mail it to northsea@usa.net so the template for the next printing can be updated and the webmaster notified.

I was happy to attend the Area 14 Assembly on January 18 and 19. I attended several very informative workshops.

The first was a mini-workshop for DCM's. The Area Parliamentarian gave an informative workshop on Robert's Rules of Orders and the special modifications for AA. A chart summarizing the order of motions was featured. It can be found at jimslaughter.com.

I attended the Grapevine/LaVina Workshop and discovered a new way to submit stories. The one-year old Grapevine Audio Project is in full swing. Members can now submit stories over the phone. The directions are:

Record Your Story: Instructions

Welcome! You are among the first to use AA Grapevine, Inc.'s Audio Project voicemail system.

Here are the steps:

1. As you begin, remember that you have up to 7 minutes to tell your story.
2. Call the voicemail box at (559) 726-1216. (Long distance charges will apply.)
3. When you access the system, there are three options:
 - a. Press 1 to record your story.
 - b. Press 2 to listen to some helpful hints.
 - c. Press 3 to give Grapevine permission to use your story.
4. In order to begin telling your story, press 1.
5. Tell us your name and phone number.
6. After you give us that information, start your story as you would in a meeting: i.e., My name is Jane and I'm an alcoholic.
7. After you record your story, make sure to press the # button.
8. Before hanging up, you must press #3 and follow the instructions in order to give Grapevine permission to use your story.
9. After giving us permission to use your story, you must press the # button again.

I then attended the Literature Workshop where we met the new literature chair, Chad. October will be the end of the literature challenge so get your entry in before then. The prize will be a collection of AA literature. The spotlighted literature this meeting was "The AA Group" pamphlet. I urge all members to read this very informative piece of literature.

I then attended the Treatment Workshop where we met the new treatment chair, Mike J. Mike introduced himself, reviewed his qualifications and reminded us that treatment centers are a pathway to AA. He also pointed out that AA itself is treatment. He also discussed the difference between 12th step work and service work. 12th step work is carrying the message to the still struggling alcoholic. Service work is all we do to enable carrying the message. Service positions are not jobs, they should be our gratitude in action. An attitude of gratitude is not a list of what you are grateful for. It is what you have done to demonstrate your gratitude for AA having saved your life.

I attended the Finance workshop where Paula asked me to sit in for her. We proposed two motions to the assembly which both passed. The first at the recommendation of GSO was to increase the budget for sending the delegate to Conference by \$3900 (from \$1600 to \$5500) in order to pay the estimated full cost as opposed to the recommended minimum cost. The second motion was at the request of the Area Chair to increase the translation budget from \$1000 to \$1750 so more workshops at the Area

meetings could be translated, either from Spanish to English or English to Spanish. We were able to make these motions due to the generosity of the groups as we are now \$10,741 over prudent reserve. The \$4650 will come out of that overage and at the next Area Assembly when expenses for the year are clearer the finance committee will address the dispersal of amounts over the prudent reserve. The committee also addressed concerns about why we pass the basket at Area business meetings. Based upon a passage in the service manual about how districts and areas raise funds, the committee consensus was to continue to pass the basket at all Area business meetings.

I also attended the DCM workshop ran by Area Chair Vivian F. Various officers and the Delegate spoke about what it means to be in their positions so that DCM's can begin to think about running for the October election.

Two rooms will be available for Saturday April 5th for the April 4 - 6 Area Assembly. If your group cannot afford to send its GSR please let me know the group name; and the name, e-mail, physical address and phone number for the person requesting the room. The rooms will be canceled on April 1 if no requests are made to use them.

Again thank you for allowing me to serve,

Steve N.

Alt DCM

Debra S. commented, regarding the literature issue, that the 75th Anniversary Big Book Edition would be coming out soon, and that it can be ordered on-line. It is a replica of the original Big Book. It was agreed that it might be appropriate to have a copy of this book for the Archives.

DCM Report for January 2014: Paula D.

It is my privilege and pleasure to serve as District 28's DCM. Thank you Steve, Debra, Sandy and Genêt who participated in the audit.

I am accepting service resume's for the Literature Chair. It is a very rewarding position. I attended the Area Assembly on January 18-19, and attended the CPC and PI workshops. The unity of AA is really seen at these assemblies.

District

- Thank you to our 2 officers, P.J. and Debra, who held down the fort while Steve and I were gone last month. Thank you to Debra for chairing last month's meeting.
- Our Delegate will be happy to do a short, 50 minute, bullet-point version of the preconference agenda items for us on Sunday, March 30th at our regular meeting. District 13 and 17 and District 14 and 27 will be extended an invitation to join us. Light refreshments will be served.
- For our regular March business meeting, District 13 and 17 and District 14 and 27 will be joining us here to cover the preconference agenda items. The NFAC Delegate will present a 'bullet-point version' of the preconference agenda items. We will provide refreshments; if anyone would like to bring something to share, please feel free to do so.

- The 2014 dates for the North Florida Area Assembly are:
 - April 4-6 – Conference agenda items
 - July 11-13 – Area Inventory
 - October 17-19 – Elections of new officers
- The elections of Officers of **District 28** will be in September 2014.
 - Start talking with your sponsor and sponsees about standing for one of these positions. It will truly change the dimension of your sobriety.
 - After the September election is when you would make your intent known to the new DCM for interest to serve as a Committee Chair for Panel 65.
 - It is important for our Committee Chairs to currently be training some potential future chairs. Start asking them to be thinking about submitting a service resume to our new DCM after September, especially the Men's Corrections chair.

Area Assembly

I want to thank our Alternate DCM, Steve N. for being there to help me cover some of the workshops. In addition to our Alternate DCM, we had 2 GSR's Paige B. and Sandy H. and 1 visitor Lina R.

The Traditions (The Long Form)

*Our A.A. experience has taught us that: **Tradition1**—*Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

Concept I and Checklist

Concept I: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

- Does our group have a general service representative (G.S.R.)? Do we feel that our home group is part of A.A. as a whole and do our group's decisions and actions reflect that?
- Do we hold regular group conscience meetings encouraging everyone to participate? Do we pass that conscience on to the district, area, or the local intergroup meetings?
- Is the "collective conscience" of Alcoholics Anonymous at work in my home group? In my area?
- Where do we fit in the upside-down triangle of A.A.?
- Are we willing to do what it takes to insure that our democracy of world service will work under all conditions?

Paula asked for comments from the group on the topic of service. Steve N. responded that service has been a lifesaver for him, it helps keep him sober. Every position he serves in brings out a talent he didn't know he had. You grow into these positions, which is why they are rotated. Paula added that serving in these positions builds your confidence and is a developer of responsibility.

Paula thanked everyone for allowing her to serve.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Debra S., Treasurer, advised the group that the audit had found a discrepancy between the December 31 bank statement and the December 31 Financial Statement,

and that this needed to be addressed. Upon further discussion, two motions were made based on recommendations of the audit committee:

a. All collections should be deposited into the bank account and all reimbursements should be made from the checking account. This gives a better accountability factor and makes it easier to perform an accurate audit. Upon motion and second, this matter was tabled for the next meeting as it modified Structures and Guidelines.

b. In light of the fact that actual balance in the bank is slightly different from that noted on the financial statements during the year, the beginning balance on the January 2014 statement will be the actual bank balance of \$5512.21 thus correcting past minor errors. A motion to this effect was made, seconded and passed.

Debra raised the question of Grapevine subscriptions. We presently have one, but had discussed an increase at the November meeting. There would be a distribution issue if we had an extra subscription, for example, would it go to Men's Corrections, Women's Corrections, CPC/CI, or somewhere else? Steve observed that for the jail situation, it might be possible to order past issues in bulk at a much cheaper price. Debra advised that she would try to get a cost figure. A motion to table this matter was made and seconded.

Paula raised the subject of Workshop topics for 2014. Sponsorship and Archives were two suggestions. Paula said this could be considered and discussed at our next meeting. A motion to table this matter was made and seconded.

Paula advised that the District Structures and Guidelines, dated December 2010, are on the web, and asked everyone to review them before the next meeting so we could discuss whether they need to be updated.

A question has been raised regarding the new name of the Youth of the Nation Group; it is now the Freedom Group. There is also a Freedom House Group, so the names are close. Steve N. clarified that the groups are autonomous and can choose their own name.

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