

**DISTRICT 28**  
Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2015

**Officers/Chairs present at meeting:**

DCM- Steve N.  
Alt. DCM-Paige B.  
Treasurer- Jen B.  
Secretary- P. J. O.  
CPC- Janet B.  
Grapevine- Paula D.  
Literature- Lisa B.  
Men's Corrections- Al M.  
Public Information- Lina R.  
Treatment- Rich M.  
Women's Corrections- Brenda R.

**GSRs/Alt. GSRs and Visitors present at meeting:**

Janet B., Alt GSR- Attitude Adjustment Group  
John W, GSR. - Big Book 164 Study Group  
Al M, GSR- Holder Way of Life  
John H., GSR- Inverness Wednesday Night  
Rich M., GSR- No Name Group  
Sue S., GSR- Rainbow Group  
John H., GSR- Sober Nooners Group  
Barb M., GSR- Real Happy Hour Group  
Bruce P., GSR- Resentment Group  
Dean B., GSR- Sober Sand Gnats  
Paige B. - GSR, What's The Book Say Group  
Brenda R. - GSR, Women's New Beginnings Group  
Lisa B. – GSR, Won Rebos Group

**Welcome by DCM:**

Steve N., DCM, 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: 12 registered groups were represented.

Everyone had received copies of the Minutes of the January 25, 2015 meeting. Upon motion and second, the Minutes of the January meeting were accepted unanimously as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jen B.

Jen presented the Treasurer's Report for January, 2015, being the Income and Expense Sheet and the Contributions Report, copies of which were distributed to everyone. The beginning balance was \$5537.77, total income was \$166.50 (\$21.50 meeting basket and \$145 in contributions), expenses were \$1433.60 and the ending balance was \$4270.67. Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's Report for January was approved as submitted. As a preliminary report for February, Jen reported \$140 in contributions; after payment of the P. O. Box rent for the year the current balance was \$4354.67.

**The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.**

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Archives Report:** Denis S.

I was fortunate to make a recording this month of a very interesting gentleman from the Akron, Ohio area.

Chuck M. was Twelfth stepped into the Program by the daughter of one of the first one hundred. Of course we all know the mystique of the first one hundred because they wrote the Big Book. Chuck's first sponsor was another one of the first one hundred. Chuck was recorded at a speaker meeting in Crystal River and everyone had a good time. His reminiscing about some of the elder statesmen was of interest to all.

Be well--Denis

**CPC Report:** Janet B.

It is so nice to have a fresh new batch of Where and When's to deliver as they are highly anticipated.

In Inverness I always start off at the SW Drivers' Improvement School. Then, on to the Sheriff's Main Station, State Probation and Parole, Court Alternative Program, Citrus County Courthouse, Children's Visitation, Program, Chamber of Commerce, Lakes Region Library, Share Club, Citrus Memorial Hospital Emergency Room (where we are now the only service provider displaying information), and the Central Motel. Ernie P. took care of the Highland Blvd. Laundromat. Lisa B. helps out in Dunnellon, especially at the library.

In Lecanto, I stop at the Salvation Army, where County Probation is located. This will also be the venue for the county-wide Job and Resource Fair on March 20. AA will have table and we are the only 12 Step program invited to exhibit.

On to Crystal River where the Sheriff's Sub-Station was stocked and the Yana Club was checked.

All of our "legal" sites also receive "Ordered to Attend AA?" pamphlets.

I frequently visit Marion County's Intergroup Office and bookstore. I always exchange current Where and When's, activity promotions and newsletters. Connie C. was "over the moon" guiding our Journal. I put a lot of them around Citrus and there were lots of rave reviews. Thank you, Lynn G.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet B.

**Public Information Report:** Lina R.

I met with the Alternate DCM in order to brainstorm possible projects to inform the public of our program of recovery. As follows:

- Notices in community papers of local meeting information
- Research health and other fairs in our district that we may provide an AA presence
- Provide local radio station with conference approved PSAs
- Develop a sign with attached note pad printed with our Intergroup hotline and other relevant information.

Janet B. informed me after the meeting that the Citrus County Chronicle already carries hotline information and that the local television station has PSAs. I will follow up with her to be sure the PSAs are current.

An enthusiastic member approached me about the possibility of working as alternate. I look forward to exploring that possibility. Another gentleman gave me information on ads posted by the Citrus County Transit.

The future looks busy!

**Men's Corrections Report:** Al M. We brought in a couple of meetings in the last 60 days. There was a training session yesterday, 8 people attended, which is more than usual.

Hopefully, the people attending the training will get through the screening process. There will be two sessions which are both required. March 7 will be a repeat of the first session and March 14 will be the 2nd session. The warden is being cooperative; he wants us to come in.

**Women's Corrections Report:** Brenda R.

Unfortunately, I was unable to go to the training session on Saturday. I understand there will be another session on March 7 and then again on the following weekend, March 14<sup>th</sup>. I was not able to arrange a meeting in the jail this month. I called the warden about it, but my call was not returned. It has been a while since there was a women's meeting. I know they are renovating, but it seems they do not get the message. I will keep trying. Hopefully, this will get back on track.

**Grapevine Report:** Paula D.

It is a privilege to serve as the Grapevine/ La Viña Chair for District 28 on Panel 65.

During the last 21 days of my service commitment, I have reviewed the responsibilities of the District Grapevine Chair. The District 28 Grapevine Chairperson is responsible for reviewing the development and circulation of the Grapevine; makes suggestions to increase Grapevine subscriptions; has a Grapevine display at the District Meeting and Special Events in the District; reports all Committee Activities at the District Meeting and has a written copy of their report for the District Secretary; and, is encouraged to attend Area Assemblies.

To help meet these responsibilities, I will be ordering some pamphlets about the Grapevine and will be meeting with our District Literature Chair to create some fun activities to assist the GSR's in this educational opportunity. One of the distinctions we will be talking about is the difference between AAWS and Grapevine/ La Viña literature. I will also be ordering some Grapevine literature to have available at the District meetings.

I continue to look for an alternate Grapevine Chair. Please let me know if you are interested in serving in this capacity.

At the upcoming Area 14 Assembly, we will be discussing the duties of the Grapevine/ La Viña Rep and Chair in the workshop. We will be discussing the difference between a Grapevine Rep at the group level and a Grapevine Chair at the District level. I am available to assist any group wanting to have a Grapevine/ La Vina Rep. or wanting to bring the grapevine message into their meeting.

In addition, I am encouraging all of you to participate in the 2015 Grapevine and La Vina subscription challenge. You can obtain subscription forms or subscribe on line at [www.aagrapevine.org](http://www.aagrapevine.org).

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

**Literature Report-** Lisa B.

Thank you for the opportunity serve and to grow in the fellowship. I have been working this month to become more familiar with the contents of the AA Literature Catalogue. We have a new piece of literature, *Many Paths to Spirituality*, of which I downloaded a copy. While it has many significant examples of tolerance and diverse journeys, I think that its main plus would be its usefulness for agnostics and atheists as it squarely confronts their dilemma.

Our Area Literature Chair sent me the requested PowerPoint that she had shown at our last assembly.

Greg, our delegate, sent out agenda items and I have reread the following pamphlets which will possibly be revised, reviewed or re-titled at the upcoming 2015 General Service Conference; *Inside A.A.: Understanding the Fellowship and Its Service Agencies* (2013), *Your A.A. General Service Office* (2007); these were both simple and clear guides. *A.A. for the Woman*, *A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic*. Here, I saw a

special loving hand reaching out with appropriate stories – a mini Big Book. I could not locate *The A.A.W.S., Inc. Policy on Publication of Literature*, so I will be connecting with our area chair to learn more.

The last thing that I would like to report on is something interesting that I learned.

**Not All “A.A. Literature” Is Conference-Approved** Central offices and intergroups do write and distribute pamphlets or booklets that are not Conference-approved. If such pieces meet the needs of the local membership, they may be legitimately classified as “A.A. literature.” There is no conflict between A.A. World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S. – publishers of Conference-approved literature), and central offices or intergroups – rather they complement each other. The Conference does not *disapprove* of such material. G.S.O. does develop some literature that does not have to be approved by the Conference, such as Service Material, Guidelines and bulletins. This info comes from the paper: *Conference-Approved Literature* SM F-29.

It was noted that although the Grapevine magazine is Conference approved, individual issues are not approved because of the serious delay in publication that would be required if each issue had to await Conference approval.

Next meeting, I will be passing around a sheet for all GSR’s to note their meeting’s literature chairperson. Please come prepared with their names, email, and phone numbers.

Thank you!

**Treatment Report:** Rich M.

I finally got a hold of the right person at the Centers Treatment facility. Her name is Tiffany Coffin and I have a meeting set up with her this Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. She sounded very interested in some of the things we have to offer, particularly the Bridging the Gap temporary contact program.

I’ve also been attending some of their AA meetings and left off some more Where and When’s. I think Steve also left some.

I’ll have more to report next month after meeting with Tiffany.

Respectfully submitted.

**NCI Liaison Report–** Presented by DCM Steve N. in the absence of the NCI liaison. No written report being available, the DCM, who attended the meeting, gave a brief summary of what transpired.

There were 11 GSR’s present; no trustees’ report was made. Hotline report included 58 calls in January 2015 (3 Detox, 3 NA, 52 AA). There were 3003 visits by 667 unique visitors to the website. The latest edition of the Journal was a big success, and another edition is scheduled for March. The NCI calendar of events for the year has been approved.

**Workshop Report:** DCM Steve N. reminded us that Diane P. had decided not to serve as Workshop Committee Chair, and that we are in need of a replacement. Steve gave a brief summary of current event status.

On March 7, our Area 14 Delegate to the General Service Conference in New York will hold a meeting to discuss the conference agenda items and receive our input. The meeting will be from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Oxford United Methodist Church in Oxford, FL. The event is sponsored by four districts including ours. On the same day, March 7, from 3:30 until 5:00 p.m., there will be a Delegate’s Pre Conference Agenda Item Report presentation by our delegate, Glenn W., at the First Presbyterian Church in Brooksville.

The District 28 Workshop on the Group Handbook has been rescheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>, to be held at the Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church in Citrus Springs.

**Technology Report:** No report.

**Alternate DCM Report:** Paige B.

My name is Paige; I am an alcoholic and have the privilege of serving as Alternate DCM for District 28.

Wow, February has been an amazing month! I enjoyed meeting many of you; visiting twenty groups while on the District 28 Road Trip. It is encouraging and exciting to be a part of a thriving district. While out and about, Steve and I are gathering and correcting group contact information in order to maintain timely, effective communication.

I have group information change forms with me today. The correct procedure is to fill them out and return them at the district level where we will correct our records and forward the form to the Area 14 registrar who will in turn, forward the information to GSO in New York.

The newest Where and When, March 2015, will be ready for distribution on Tuesday, February the 25<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me at [floridadistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:floridadistrict28@gmail.com) to arrange pick-up. A reminder, the most up to date version is always available on-line on the Nature Coast Intergroup website.

Our Delegate, Glenn W, is scheduled to deliver a pre-conference agenda item report at two locations on Saturday, March 7. The morning session, in Oxford, FL will include lunch. The afternoon session will be held in Brooksville, FL. A copy of each flyer with time and location information is available. If you plan to attend the Oxford meeting and stay for lunch, please call or email me at [floridadistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:floridadistrict28@gmail.com). Mike A, District 7B DCM, requested a head count in order to provide enough food for everyone. Lunch will be from Subway, sandwiches, chips, cookies and assorted beverages. I will be attending the morning session in Oxford and am available to car pool.

Two GSR rooms, one male, one female, have been reserved at the Paramount Hotel in Gainesville for the Area 14 Assembly in April. Please let me know by Friday, April 3rd if you plan to join us and need the room reserved for you.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

**DCM Report:** Steve N.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

My primary purpose this month has been two-fold: one; to visit as many District 28 groups as possible and two, to make as many people possible aware of three important events. The first event was the February 21st Corrections training and the second two are the March 7th delegate meetings to explain the conference agenda items background information.

I have personally visited 28 groups this month and am pleased to report the state of A.A. in District 28 is strong and active. I would like to thank Alt. DCM Paige B. for her visits to many of the other groups. I would like to thank Secretary P.J. O. for his visit to the Floral City Thursday Night Men's group representing District 28 as I teach a class on Thursday nights and am unable to visit meetings on that night. I would also like to thank Ingrid for travelling with Paige and I to the Grupo Mano Abierta (Spanish speaking group). Her help with the language barrier was very valuable.

We have gathered contact information for most of the groups listed or unlisted in District 28 and we hope to keep lines of communication very active. I would like to thank all the groups for welcoming us, and giving us a few minutes to talk. I also appreciate the variety of groups and meeting types and the great quality of meetings in District 28.

I will be travelling out west during the month of March and I have every confidence that Alt DCM Paige B. will serve you in my stead. I will be available by phone and email. This is a trip to visit two children and four grandchildren who live out west and also the only two remaining members of my parents' generation who live in Arizona. I could never have done this kind of trip when I was drinking and thank each and every alcoholic in District 28

for helping me get and keep sober. I am looking forward to meetings in a different section of the country.

Again, I thank you for allowing me to serve and thank each and every one of you for your service.

**Old Business:** At the January meeting, a motion had been made and seconded which, after amendment, proposed to amend the Structures and Guidelines in Section IV.

**Communication Process:** ... **B**, in the first sentence thereof, to read as follows: "The DCM or Alt DCM will visit and/or communicate with all groups within the 3 months following the Area 14 Assembly in order to update the group and answer any questions." (new language underlined) As thus amended, the motion was tabled until the February meeting. DCM Steve now asked if there was any further discussion, and, there being none, the proposed amendment was called for a vote and passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

1. DCM Steve brought it to everyone's attention that he as DCM had made appointment of Chairpersons for the various standing committees of District 28. Steve reported that upon further reading of the Structures and Guidelines and Advisory Actions, he believed that the appointments should be properly made the District rather than the DCM individually. Steve recited the names of all those who had stood for, been appointed to and were serving as chairperson of the various standing committees, which were:

Archives: Denis S.

CPC: Janet B.

PI: Lina R.

Men's Corrections: Al M.

Women's Corrections: Brenda R.

Grapevine: Paula D.

Literature: Lisa B.

Treatment: Rich M.

NCI Liaison: Toni T.

Technology: Cathy E.

Steve then asked if there was anyone else willing to serve as chairperson on any of the committees. There being none, a motion was then made that the District appoint all of the said individuals to serve as Chairpersons of the various standing committees as previously appointed by the DCM. This motion was seconded and passed. Discussion of this matter indicated that an amendment of the Structures and Guidelines language for clarification purposes might be appropriate.

2. Steve advised that several amendments to the 2015 Budget were necessary, but because we were short on time only one was taken up, namely, that the District payment to Nature Coast Intergroup for the storage room be increased to \$408. A motion to make said amendment was made, seconded and allowed.
3. Steve proposed an advisory action to create a District 28 paid scholarship room at area assemblies for anyone other than current trusted servants who was interested in serving the District. Discussion developed that it would cost \$113, four times per year. A motion to establish the scholarship room was made and seconded. Discussion raised questions whether such an action was necessary or appropriate, and whether the scholarship room recipient should be accompanied by a mentor, perhaps but not necessarily a GSR, but someone with experience at the Area Assemblies. Steve confirmed it was the intention to have some experienced person with the scholarship recipient. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

4. Steve next raised the question of whether District 28 had an interest in a joint venture (tri-county) with Al-Anon and Alateen. The venture would be in the nature of a small workshop or symposium. A concern was raised as to whether District 28 of A.A. could properly affiliate with Al-Anon and Alateen. Since the matter needed to be discussed further, and time was short, the matter was tabled until the next meeting.

### **Announcements**

1. District 28 is currently looking for someone to be trained as an Alternate Chair for Men's Corrections.
2. District 28 is in need of a Workshop Chairperson.
3. People willing to serve in either of the above positions can contact Steve or Paige at [floridadistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:floridadistrict28@gmail.com).
4. Grapevine room volunteers for the April Area Assembly are needed. Again, contact Steve or Paige.
5. Don't forget the two opportunities to meet with our Area 14 delegate on March 7 (see the **Workshop Report** herein for details).

John H., GSR for the Sober Nooners Group, volunteered to be the Alternate for Men's Corrections. He was thanked by everyone and said he would attend the training session on March 7.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. upon motion made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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### **Concepts/ Tradition Inventory for February**

Tradition Two: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority-a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?

Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?

Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?

Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?

Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?

In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

Concept II: The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every Practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

Do we have an understanding of the history of the General Service Conference (The “Conference”)?

What is a Conference Advisory Action? Does our home group’s G.S.R., D.C.M., Area delegate report back to the group on the highlights of the Conference and Conference Advisory Actions?

Is our group meeting its wider Seventh Tradition responsibilities?