

**DISTRICT 28**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 11, 2016**

**Officers/Chairs present at meeting:**

DCM – Steve N.  
Alt. DCM – Paige B.  
Treasurer – Jen B.  
Secretary – P. J. O.  
Accessibilities Service Coordinator – John H.  
Archives Service Coordinator – Dean B.  
Corrections Service Coordinator (Men’s) – Bob M.  
CPC Service Coordinator – Lina R.  
Intergroup Liaison – Denis S.  
Technology Service Coordinator – Rich M.  
Treatment Service Coordinator – Rich M.

**GSR’s, Alt. GSR’s and Visitors present at meeting:**

Janet B. – Alt.GSR, Attitude Adjustment Group  
Sandy H. - GSR, Crystal River Group  
James C. – GSR, First Thought Wrong Group  
Steve N. - GSR, Freedom House Group  
Bob M. – Alt. GSR, Holder Way of Life Group  
Paige B. – GSR, Keep In Step Group  
Rich M. - GSR, No Name Group  
Tammy P. – GSR, Rainbow Group  
John M. - GSR, Resentment Group  
John H. – GSR. Sober Nooners Group  
Dean B. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group  
Charlene V. – GSR, Women to Women Group  
Linda A. – Alt. GSR, Women’s Friendship Group  
Gail K. – GSR, Won Rebos Group  
P. J. O. – Alt. GSR, Won Rebos Group

**Visitors:** Shana D., Crystal River Group

**Welcome by DCM:**

Steve N., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.  
Serenity Prayer  
Declaration of Unity  
Responsibility Statement

**Recognition of New GSRs:** James C., First Thought Wrong.

**Roll Call:** Secretary P. J. O. took roll call and Minutes. DCM, Alt. DCM, Treasurer and Secretary were present and 13 groups were represented.

**Secretary’s Report:** P. J. O.

Everyone had received copies of the Minutes of the November, 2016 meeting, except Charlene V., who was then provided with a copy. Upon motion and second the November minutes were approved. P. J. will update the email distribution list to correct omissions.

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

Jen presented the final report through the end of November, 2016, consisting of the Income and Expense Sheet and Contribution Report; copies were distributed to everyone. The Income and Expense Sheet showed a beginning balance of \$2910.61; income from contributions, 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition collections and Pink Can donations in the amount of \$320.00; reimbursement of a Committee Chair expense in the amount of \$65; and an ending balance of \$3295.61. Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's report for November was accepted.

There were questions from the floor regarding the collection and disbursement of Pink Can funds, which were answered by Steve, Jen and Paige. Jen noted that an additional \$233 in Pink Can collections had come in so far in December, bringing the total for the year to more than \$800.

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

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Archives Committee:** Dean B.

Good evening. I'm Dean B. and I'm an alcoholic. I believe I am finally in receipt of the complete archives collection. Thank you Denis, my office is a lot smaller than it once was.

Now comes the time to sort, organize, and familiarize myself with the AA history of my new home.

One piece in particular has caught my eye every time I've seen it displayed in all of Denis's presentations. That would be *The Little Red Book*, 1st edition, 1955. Being sealed so I couldn't open it, I decided to look on the internet to see just what it was. This is what I found.

*The Little Red Book* and *Stools and Bottles* were written by Ed Webster. (*Stools and Bottles* I am familiar with). *The Little Red Book* is an accompaniment to the *Big Book*. In 1946, after a strong experience with beginners meetings and *The Tablemate* (An Early Step Study Guide: This little booklet, originally titled "Alcoholics Anonymous: An interpretation of our Twelve Steps," was widely used in the early days of A.A. in the Northwest. It was not produced by Alcoholics Anonymous, but rather was printed and subsequently modified by several different publishers. It was, perhaps, the earliest attempt at a guide to the Twelve Steps.) *The Little Red Book* was published by Ed Webster and Barry Collins. Dr. Bob helped to edit it and was consulted for the text. He is known to have passed *Little Red Books* out. This was AA's first step book. It is written as an accompaniment to the *Big Book*, just like the *Twelve and Twelve*. *The Little Red Book* and the Akron guides and pamphlets are fantastic insights into how Dr. Bob was working the steps and taking others through them. There are a few things that might be outdated today, that are in the LRB, but it's still extremely useful and really ought to continue to be used in meetings the way it once was. People just seem to have gotten confused about "Conference approved literature" which is a darn shame.

Bill spoke highly of the Little Red Book but declined to publish it

because the trustees wanted a book the society could own. *The Twelve and Twelve* was published in 1952, just 6 years after the LRB, and 2 years after Dr. Bob died. The *Twelve and Twelve* eventually dwarfed the LRB in AA, primarily because groups stopped selling the LRB.

Thank you for entrusting me with this position.

**Accessibilities Committee:** John H.

John said he wanted to determine how many of the meeting places for the groups were accessible. To do this he needs to get in touch with them, preferably by email, and make an inquiry. He does receive copies of the District 28 Resource Page each month, which contains the email addresses for the group GSRs or Alt. GSRs, but would like some guidance on how to use the email addresses on the list to contact the respective group representatives. At Steve's request, P. J. will send John a copy of the addresses only, so he can paste them into emails. John was also advised that the Where and When listings indicate which meetings are accessible, and John felt it would be a good idea to confirm that the meeting places are in fact accessible.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee:** Lina R.

Lina advised that she had no report this month.

**Public Information Committee:** Janet B.

November and December were spent making sure that our sites continue to have enough Where and Whens on hand. County Probation and the Salvation Army needed restocking and Citrus Memorial's Emergency Room was low on meeting schedules.

This year we added Western Judicial Services to our route in Inverness. They also receive our publication *Ordered to AA*?

During a visit to Seven Rivers Hospital I left a few Where and Whens. They actually called us and asked for more. Paige B. took care of it for us.

Our visit to the Lakes Region Library in preparation for our presentation in February went well. We will return on February 17 for another of our presentations on alcoholism.

We also had a nicely worded article in the Chronicle magazine titled *2016 Our Home Citrus*. I hope we can do it again in 2017.

I would like to thank those that help us help others know that AA is very active in Citrus County: Bob G., Ernie P., Lacy E., Lisa B. and Paige B.

I look forward to working for Panel 67.

Sincerely yours,

Janet B.

P. I. Service Coordinator

**Men's Corrections Committee:** Bob M.

Bob reported that our work is going very well, although there was no meeting last week due to other events going on. One of our guys who had been attending meetings on the inside was recently released from custody and attended one of our meetings on the outside, this was awesome. So, basically everything is going great.

**Women's Corrections Committee:** No report. The Women's Corrections Coordinator position is vacant at this time. If anyone is interested in serving, please let Paige or P. J. know and submit a service resume.

**Grapevine Committee:** Paula D.

For the month of December, there is no Grapevine information to report. Also, as soon as a new chair is appointed for the District, I will get the literature handed over to this individual.

**Literature Committee:** No report.

**Treatment Committee:** Rich M.

The meetings at the Centers are still going well. Some girls have graduated and there are 6 new girls. We are always looking for people from the outside to come in and chair a meeting, all women are welcome. We have had a couple of instances where people who have graduated from the program come back to chair a meeting. It is great when that happens. These young girls need sponsors, they are in the 20 to 30 year old category, but you are welcome just to come and attend the meetings. We still meet at The Centers on Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

**NCI Liaison:** Denis S.

I'm Denis and I'm an alcoholic.

Intergroup met just before this meeting and thirteen members were present. Jen read the minutes, which were accepted, with an amendment. Paige presented the financial report for November, which showed that we were slightly over prudent reserve. There was a report on the long-time speakers meeting, which was good. The Hotline phone had been carried by the Monday Night Men's Step Meeting and was today turned over to the Wednesday Step Meeting at Our Lady of Fatima in Inverness.

Steve reported on the Website activity for the first 11 days of December.

Lynn reported that the Journal has been laid out for the December-January edition.

The Events Chair recommended that we investigate the possibility of renting a larger storage area, for the reason that we need more space.

The Alternate Chair reported that he had worked with the DCM-elect to work out next year's schedule of meetings.

Our Chairperson, Rick, presided over this, his last meeting in that position, and we have only praise for the four years of effort that he put in on our behalf.

In New Business, Steve presented the proposed meeting schedule for next year, which was accepted. Paige presented the proposed budget for next year which was also adopted.

**Workshop Committee:** No report.

**Technology Committee:** Rich M.

Rich advised that he nothing to report and suggested that Steve present the Website report.

**Website Committee:** Steve N.

District 28 Website Report December 2016

So far in December (11 days) there have been 306 visits by 255 unique visitors viewing 637 pages for an average of 3.09 page views per visit. The ten most visited pages were Meetings, NFAC, Where and When, Links, Calendar, Legacies, Contact Us, About, Mobile, Audio 12 and 12. The top five downloads were wandw.pdf, Chair a Meeting.pdf, PIP2016.pdf, 352bid.pdf, and LongTimersDec2016.pdf. There were 1278 total hits.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Steve N., District Webmaster

**Alt. DCM:** Paige B.

My name is Paige and I am an alcoholic who has the privilege and pleasure of serving District 28 as an Alternate DCM, saying that for the last time.

I want to thank Steve for his leadership this past year. I have learned a tremendous amount from him and hope and know that he will stay around with us as I will continue to need his helping hand. I thank Jen and P. J. for their service and support; they have been awesome to work with.

Paige had service resume forms with her which were passed around to the group. She encouraged possible applicants not to be shy, that no one is an expert when they come into a service position. We learn and grow together. At the January meeting we will present the slate of people who are interested in serving in the service coordinator positions.

We will be printing the Where and When in January. Janet will have the honor of picking the color. We will move forward next year with fewer printings but a larger quantity, which will help reduce cost. P. J. and I will be working on this in the last week of December so that hopefully we can get in out in the first week of January. If any of you have changes please get them to us as soon as you can.

I have notified Area 14 of the change in DCM and Alt. DCM for our District by filing the District Information Change Form listing the new officers.

We have the Area Assembly coming up January 13, 14 and 15. On Monday I went up to Gainesville and secured rooms for us; it was an adventure. If you need a room, we have a small block of two-night rooms and a larger block of rooms for one night. They are undergoing renovations at the hotel so we would like to let them know of any unused rooms as soon as possible. If you are planning to attend in January please let me know.

I look forward to serving and encourage interested parties to apply for the service positions.

In response to a question from the floor about which service positions are available, Paige explained that the officers were elected in October. The service positions are appointed, technically by the DCM, but it has been our practice to review the service resumes that are submitted and then having the body at large, the GSRs, accept them getting, everyone involved in that process. All the GSRs can participate in the process. The positions available are the service coordinators for the Archives, Corrections, men's and women's, Cooperation With The Professional Committee, Grapevine, Intergroup Liaison, Literature, Public Information, Technology, Treatment and the Workshop Committees. The committees do not have to consist of one person, so if you are interested in serving on a committee but not necessarily as chair, you can so indicate. You can express that on the Service Resume forms and get that back to us. Job descriptions for these positions can be found on page 3 of the District 28 Structures and Guidelines. People can send the form to us at [aadistrict28@gmail.com](mailto:aadistrict28@gmail.com), or to our individual email addresses which can be found on our Resource Page. Feel free to call if you have any questions.  
**DCM:** Steve N.

When I first started my service journey in AA outside of my home group, I did not even know what a DCM (district committee member) was. As I close out my Panel 65 service as DCM for District 28 I want to thank you for this awesome opportunity to serve you and AA as a whole. Along this journey I discovered that the Group is the heart of AA. The groups in District 28 elected GSRs (general service representatives) who were always expressing the group conscience. They in turn elected me as DCM. In that position I was privileged to carry the collective group conscience of District 28 to the Area committee. That involved a lot of two way communication, like holding regular monthly meetings of the GSRs in the District and assisting the delegate in obtaining our combined group conscience in matters to be discussed at GSO in New York.

Along with your Alt. DCM, Paige B., who has served you in a fantastic manner in that position, I traveled from group to group particularly trying to carry the message of the Seventh Tradition to non-supporting groups as well as explaining the importance of their group

conscience to District 28, Area 14 and AA as a whole. And of course I never tired of discussing the joys and benefits to sobriety of general service work.

I discovered that I had been elected to serve as a "key link in ensuring that all groups are aware of the importance of their total participation in local, district and area world services." I had read this in AA pamphlets, but did not truly process it and discover it for myself until serving in the position. Isn't this so true of all AA service work? It is not only the job that helps keep us sober, it is the learning process. And even more important it is all the people involved. When I was an active alcoholic there were very few people in my life. My service journey has led me to thousands of human interactions with hundreds of strangers who became friends. You, my friends, taught me one of the basic principles of AA, help others and you will help yourself. When I say, "Thank you for allowing me to serve", I do so with extreme sincerity for each and every one of you has had a profound impact upon my physical, mental and spiritual health. I am sober today because of you allowing me to serve. I have not been able to ruminate in the dark danger of my own mind while interacting with all of you. That is a great blessing.

Special thanks to those of you have served as chair on the various service committees. Paula, the Grapevine Chair, did such a good job for us that she has been drafted into the similar position for Area 14. Lina, as CPC Chair, and Janet, as PI Chair, each performed tremendous work on behalf of AA that will help to keep us strong. Likewise, Lisa has made a tremendous contribution as our Literature Chair. All of the service Chairs have my sincere thanks.

Again, thank you for allowing me to be your DCM and I thank each and every committee coordinator, GSR, and member of AA in District 28 for one of the best experiences of my life. Particularly I want to thank the Alt. DCM Paige, Secretary P.J. and Treasurer Jen for without their support, monthly trusted servant meetings, input and service I would have been stumbling along "the road of happy destiny." With their help the road was a super-highway to being your trusted servant and DCM.

Again, thanks for allowing me to serve.

Steve N.

DCM District 28

### **Old Business:**

1. We had a motion pending before us that was tabled at the previous meeting, and I would like a motion to put it back on the table. The motion would amend our Structures and Guidelines to read, in Part V., District Business Meeting, Section A., Schedule, that the District's monthly business meeting shall be "on a schedule published in the November minutes of the previous year, unless necessity requires additional change." This would allow us to set our meetings at a time that would avoid major holidays, Area Assemblies and conflicts with other events. On motion and second, the motion to amend the Structures and Guidelines was removed from tabled status and presented for discussion. No additional discussion was offered. The DCM called for a motion to vote on the pending motion, and upon motion and second, the pending motion to amend the Structures and Guidelines was unanimously approved.

2. We approved the proposed budget for 2017 at the November meeting, and everyone was asked to look over the budget and decide if any amendments should be made. Upon inquiry, no amendments were offered. The 2017 Budget stands as originally adopted.

### **New Business:**

The only item on the agenda was the matter of our 2017 Calendar. Copies of the proposed calendar were circulated to the group. This was put together by your Alt. DCM and DCM, along with the assistance of the Secretary and Treasurer who viewed published events for

Area and also the published calendars for 2017 national holidays. With this proposed calendar we should not have a conflict with any major Area or local AA event or any major national holiday in 2017. Intergroup has adopted this same calendar. Our January 2017 meeting will be on January 8<sup>th</sup>, which happens to be the second Sunday. All meetings are Sundays. The other meeting dates are February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 16, August 6, September 10, October 8, November 5 and December 3. This will allow us to have all of the financial reports for both organizations complete for the previous month. And it allows times for the reports to be prepared. It also allows sufficient time for web reports and committee reports from the previous months. It eliminates the occasional necessity of rescheduling meetings during the year, as all conflicts have already been removed. No further discussion was offered. A motion was made that the proposed calendar be adopted, and the motion was seconded. A question from the floor asked about meetings on the first Sunday, and it was pointed out that many of them were, and the intent was to meet early in the month when possible. Upon call for a vote, the motion to adopt the meeting schedule for 2017 passed unanimously.

**Announcements:**

Steve encouraged everyone to try and get out and support the Holiday Alcothons, which would be held at the AA clubs in Citrus County. See the District and NCI websites and the NCI Journal for details. These events are put on by the groups and we should support them.

Paige, following up on her earlier statement that she would give Janet B. the honor of deciding the color of the next Where and When, inquired of Janet if she had made a decision. Janet advised that she would like to have it in bright orange and Paige said that would be the color.

Steve announced that the Twelfth Tradition and Concept would be sent out with the minutes.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

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**AA Traditions and Concepts**

12th Concept and 12th Tradition

**Concept XII: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.**

How do we guard against becoming a “seat of perilous wealth or power?”

How do we practice prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue?

Do we insure the spiritual liberties of all A.A. members by not placing any member in the position of absolute authority over others?

Do we try to reach important decisions by thorough discussion, vote and, where possible, substantial unanimity?

As guardians of A.A.’s traditions, are we ever justified in being personally punitive?

Are we careful to avoid public controversy?

Do we always try to treat each other with mutual respect and love?

**Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.**

Why is it good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare?  
What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?  
When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?  
In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?  
Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?  
Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?  
Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition-or belie it?  
Do I do all I can do to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?  
Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior-especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made me so smart?  
Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?  
Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?  
Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?  
What is the real importance of me among more than a million AAs?