

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2017

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM – Paige B.
Alt. DCM – P. J.O.
Treasurer – Shana D.
Secretary – Sandy H.
Accessibilities Chair – John H.
Archives Chair – Dean B.
Corrections Chair (Men’s) – Bob M.
Corrections Chair (Women’s) – Lina R.
NCI Liaison – Denis S.
PI Chair – Janet B.
Technology Chair – Steve N.

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

Sue C. – GSR, Attitude Adjustment Group
Sandy H. - GSR, Crystal River Group
Steve N. - GSR, Freedom House Group
Al M. – Alt. GSR, Holder Way of Life Group
John R. – Inverness Wednesday Night Step Study 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
Lacy E. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group
Lorraine T. – Alt. GSR, Women’s Friendship Group
Gail K. – GSR, Won Rebos Group
P. J. O. – Alt. GSR, Won Rebos Group

Visitors:

Kim W. – Won Rebos Group
Mike F. – Crystal River Group

Welcome by DCM:

Paige B., 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 and Lacy E., Sober Sand Gnats

Roll Call: Secretary Sandy H. took roll call and Minutes. DCM, Alt. DCM, Treasurer and Secretary were present and 14 groups were represented.

Secretary's Report: Sandy H.

Everyone had received copies of the Minutes of the January 2017 meeting. Upon motion and second the January minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Shana D.

Shana presented the final report through the end of January 2017 consisting of Income and Expense Sheet, a Group Contribution Sheet, and a Pink Can-Corrections Contribution Sheet; copies were distributed to everyone. The Income and Expense Sheet showed a beginning balance of \$5,160.00; income from contributions, 7th Tradition collections and Pink Can donations in the amount of \$679.22; Operational, Committee and Assembly expenses in the amount of \$1,633.53; and an ending balance of \$4,206.00.

There were questions from the floor regarding how the Pink Can contributions are listed. In order to reduce confusion it was decided to rename Pink Can Contributions to Pink Can Corrections Contributions.

Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's report for January was accepted.

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities Committee: John H.

No report

Archives Committee: Dean B.

Good evening. I'm Dean B. and I'm an alcoholic.

I would like to thank Jeff K. from the Serenity Club for the addition to the District Archives of a February 1995 and a September 1998 Citrus County Meeting Lists. In 1995 there were 43 meetings listed per week in Citrus County. In 1998 there were 56 meetings listed in Citrus County. Presently, as of January 2017, there are 99 meeting per week listed in the current Where and When. Also, I received from Rick at the Crystal River Big Book Group at Saint Anne's Episcopal Church a couple of 'wall hangings' that were discarded from the YANA Club pertaining to the connection of the YANA Club, John W. Redrick, and the First Baptist Church in Crystal River.

It was an absolute pleasure to attend the January Area assembly this year. During breaks between workshops I wandered down to the Archives room and introduced myself to Maria S., the Area Archives Service Coordinator. We had quite a conversation and I look forward to working with her in the future. I also talked with Scott B., Area Archivist about audio files on the Osceola Intergroup Website. They have quite an extensive library which can be viewed and listened to at <http://www.osceolaintergroup.org/html/events.html>. This is something I have discussed with Steve N. about having on the District 28 Website. I also spoke with Steve R., Past Area Archivist and our current Area Registrar about information on archive preservation. He is more than happy to answer any and all questions I may have in the future. Later in the day my Service Sponsor told me he had volunteered me to assist Kevin G., past Archives Service Coordinator. So speaking to Kevin later in the day I was asked to bring the District Archives

display to the 61st Florida State Convention in July. For those coming to Jacksonville please stop by and view our table.

I have recently downloaded the taped speakers Denis S. has on the recorder and getting them onto my thumb drive to have our Webmaster place on the District webpage.

Submitting my Archives budget I am looking to purchase a digital picture frame that I can place our group histories on to have a scrolling display included with our archives for presentation at events (see attachments).

Thank you for entrusting me with this position.

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

Bob reported that meetings are going well. Twenty inmates per meeting. We are attempting to increase the attendance to thirty by adding another volunteer to the panel.

Women's Corrections Committee: Lina R.

I'd like to thank the District committee for entrusting me with the responsibility for the Women's Correction Committee.

As a committee it is our task to take a meeting to the women incarcerated in newly renamed Core Civic Detention Facility in Lecanto. We were canceled once in January but otherwise all meetings were staffed with an average of 15 attending.

We face challenges this month, February, as two ladies were unable to attend the annual mandatory orientation and Kathy G has had an unexpected major surgery. We'll need to fill her commitments on the 8th and the 22nd. However we are informed that another orientation is planned *sometime* in March so perhaps we can get some more volunteers into the process. We have placed an order for books and literature using pink can funds. Out of the committee budget we made copies of the jails volunteer information and application totaling \$14.98 and purchased bankers boxes for storing women's meeting literature and format separately. The cost is \$7.24 for two. One will be shared with the men's committee.

I was hoping to develop a phone tree for my volunteers but the ladies seemed non-responsive to that idea so I'm thinking we can communicate through messages in the box! I attended the Corrections Workshop at the January Area 14 Assembly and met our Area Coordinator Anthony S. We spent time discussing a Bridging The Gap program. My personal experience suggests that a project of that dimension is outside the scope of District 28. However there is also a program called the Prerelease Contact that I will investigate with our contact at the jail.

Our DCM and I have considered the possibility of a workshop on Corrections, ideally held before the next orientation. Reverend Savage, the volunteer coordinator at the jail, has expressed a willingness to participate. I'll keep you posted.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve.
Lina Ricks

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee: Position is vacant at this time. If anyone is interested in serving, please let Paige or P. J. know and submit a service resume.

No report

Grapevine Committee: Open

No report

NCI Liaison: Denis S.

I'm Denis and I'm an alcoholic.

I attended the Intergroup Workshop at the recent Area Assembly in Gainesville. The Workshop was run by our own Paula D. and was well attended. Reps from almost all the North Florida Intergroups were in attendance.

Every aspect of an Intergroup was covered and it was interesting to note that there can be slight variations in the way each one functions. Of most interest to me was an in depth discussion of the Hotline. I will be looking forward to attending many of these workshops in the future.

Denis S.

Literature Committee: No report.

Public Information Committee: Janet B.

So great to start the New Year off with new golden When and Where. The following is a list of sites where members and myself put our schedules: Ingles/Yankeetown – Purple Passion Hair Salon, Bait & Tackle, Inglis Fire Department, Buddy and Fred's Hardware, Food Ranch, Women's Club, Heritage Insurance Co., Yankeetown Post Office, Yankeetown Library, Yankeetown Fire Dept., and Inglis/Yankeetown Town Hall. Thank you Sheila S. and Lacie E.

Seven Rivers Hospital; thank you Paige B. Bob G covers the VA Clinic in Beverly Hills. Thank you Bob and Lisa B who stops at the laundry mat and library in Dunnellon.

State Probation and Parole, Clunty Probation and Western Judicial Services receive When and Where's and also our "homegrown" pamphlet *Ordered to Attend AA*. These two are also left in the Citrus County Courthouse serving the public, Teen Court, and the Court Alternatives Program.

The most prolific user of our schedules is the Wes Central Driver Improvement Inc. When and Where's can also be found at Sheriff's Department in Inverness and the sub-station in Crystal River, Family Visitation Center, The Lighthouse, The Centers, the Emergency Room at CMH and the lobby of the auditorium also at CMH.

The Chamber of Commerce in Inverness has a beautiful wall rack and we are right under non-profit. The clerk, Judi, keeps extras in her desk for us. I am still going to the non-welcome center in Crystal River, where the schedules vanish.

Schedules can also be found at the laundry on Highlands, Central Motel, Department of Health in Inverness, Lakes Region Library in Inverness.

This library on February 17 at 2:00 pm will hold an adult event called Understanding the Disease of Alcoholism. Paige B and Dean B (now Steve N) will be present and I hope many AA's will come to support us.

The 2017 issue of Our Home Alrus came out last week and we have an informative paragraph under Support Groups.

Sincerely yours,

Janet B., P. I. Service Coordinator

Technology Committee: Steve N..

District 28 Website Report February 2017

The website was visited by 717 unique users this month with a total of 1151 sessions and 2249 page views or 1.95 page views per visit. 46% of the visits were from fixed devices and 54% from mobile devices. The 10 most visited pages were: 1. Thursday meetings, 2. Calendar of Events, 3. Archives, 4. Meetings (general), 5. Minutes, 6. Where and When, 7. About District 28, 8. Links, 9. NFAC redirect, and 10. Contact us page. The major changes to the site include the calendar page, which is now a 2017 twelve month calendar of events. Please send me flyers and event information as it is firmed up so we can get TBA's off the calendar. Also, if there are any meeting changes please send them to me so the online When and Where can be as up to date as possible.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Steve N., District Webmaster

Treatment Committee: Lynn D.

The meetings at the Centers are still going well. We have 14 ladies currently, one is scheduled to leave February 20th. The new girls seem to be interested, time will tell. Most of the ladies have sponsors. The other ladies are in the process of finding one. Books have been ordered for the ladies that do not have one to use. We meet at The Centers on Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

Lynn D.

Workshop Committee: Position is vacant at this time. If anyone is interested in serving, please let Paige or P. J. know and submit a service resume.

No report

Alt. DCM: P J O.

Alt. DCM Report February 5, 2017

My name is P. J. and I am an alcoholic, currently serving as Alt. DCM for AA District 28.

In January I attended the AA Area 14 North Florida Conference in Gainesville. It was an interesting experience and every AA member, especially anyone interested in service work, is encouraged to attend an assembly. The following is a summary of the several service and administrative committee meetings that I attended.

1. CPC, Cooperation with the Professional Community. This is a service committee. The main speaker here was Mark A., Service Coordinator for the Area CPC Committee. Mark identified the different professional groups and entities that CPC interacts and that can be sources of information: hospitals, doctors, law enforcement, clergy, law, counseling, basically any recognized profession. Our basic goal is to let them know what AA is and that we are there to assist those in need. A lot of people out there don't know what help is available and do not realize that a lot of people that need AA these days are dual addicts. When you make contact with the office of the traditional professions, such as medicine or law, you usually have your first contact with a secretary, paralegal or nurse. It is important to assure them up front that we do not

think *they* have a problem; we have information that may be beneficial to some of their clients. GSO has a ‘kit’ for CPC committees.

Mark A., Area CPC Service Coordinator, can be reached at: fnac67cpc@gmail.com .

2. Public Information. Clark M., the Area Service Coordinator for this committee, noted that, from an AA service standpoint, the functions of CPC and PI are to some extent related. Some districts combine PI and CPC. In any event, the PI function is to get information about AA into the community. At each Area Assembly, the PI Committee will address a particular topic of interest.

Clark invited District PI chairs to contact him at pi@aanorthflorida.org and he would put their email address on the Area PI information distribution list.

Some of his suggestions for PI activities included things that have long ago been adopted by our District PI Chair, Janet B., such as putting AA literature in literature racks in libraries and local businesses such as Laundromats, hospitals and motels. The Area Chair also suggested outreach to local school districts to try and schedule presentations at meetings of teachers and school boards for informational purposes. If allowed, making a presentation to a High School class or student assembly can be very effective. If you can find a willing speaker from a young people’s group that can be very helpful; hearing it from a young person sometimes has more impact. ICCYPAA, the International Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous, can sometimes be very helpful and can be contacted at <https://www.icypaa.org/> .

3. Accessibilities. This presentation stressed that the scope of accessibility concern is not limited to physical issues. The Accessibilities Committee is a spin-off from the former GSO Treatment Committee, in 1976. Wheelchair, hearing and vision were the original three types of accessibility concerns. It is expanded now to mental infirmities and illiteracy. In recent years, there has been a growing need for services to former military personnel who are alcoholics and suffer from PTSD. She stressed that love and tolerance is the key; ‘there but for the grace of God go I.’ Service providers need to remember that we are not a bank or a taxi service, but we do want the hand of AA to be there for AAs with accessibility challenges, too.

Taking meetings to the people, in addition to taking people to meetings, is an option for more serious consideration in the future. The concept of “accessibility” may be expanded to include places where there are large groups of AA people who are no longer able to get out to meetings for various reasons including age, wheelchair confinement or simply no transportation. Advanced versions of Skype, with better security, could address those situations.

The Accessibilities Chair can be reached at access@aanorthflorida.org .

4. Growth Committee: Heather V.W., Chair. This is a standing administrative committee.

This Committee receives and reviews requests for changes in District boundaries and provides suggestions for effective management of Districts as an alternative to splitting the District. The Committee, with an eye on the future, monitors and helps manage growth to keep the NFAC as inclusive as possible. Heather’s view was that the main role of DCMs is to get more people active in AA service work. Each January this Growth Committee reviews the references in Structure and Guidelines to page numbers in the Service Manual and provides the Secretary with a list of changes for Structure & Guidelines. Such changes are made without need to publish and vote. Proposed substantive changes to the Area Structures & Guidelines are distributed to the voting members of the Assembly. On the day I attended, there were 14 pending motions, all directed to updating or clarifying language, and all to be voted on at the business meeting on Sunday.

5. Meet Your Panel 67 Officers.

This meeting, on Saturday afternoon, was presided over by Annette D., the new Area Chairperson, and Joyce C., the Area Delegate. All ten of the Area service coordinators were introduced and made a few remarks, with some giving a brief report on matters from their Committee which would be voted on at the session on Sunday.

The Area Business Meeting.

This, the main event of the Area Assembly, was held on Sunday morning with approximately 200 people in attendance. Contemporaneous Spanish translation was available. All of the Area committees made their reports and presented motions, if any. Only DCMs and GSRs, or their Alternates, and Area officers have voting rights, but every AA member has the right to speak on the issues. The process was conducted in a very orderly fashion and any differing views on the issues were given consideration. People wanting to speak to an issue stand in line before the microphone and wait their turn, with a two minute time limitation. The general rules of debate and voting that established by Roberts Rules must be followed, and there is a parliamentarian. Most of the motions presented for a vote were routine and took little time. An exception was the motion presented by the Site and Agenda Committee to prohibit smoking on the outdoor walkways adjacent to the conference meeting rooms. More time was spent on this than any other motion. The motion ultimately passed by an overwhelming vote and, although some people may have been impatient, the process proved once again that all voices are entitled to be respectfully heard in AA, even on the occasion when they are not necessarily popular.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
P.J. O., Alt. DCM

DCM: Paige B.

My Name is Paige. I am an alcoholic with the privilege of serving District 28 as a DCM. One month into panel 67 finds District 28 moving forward, immersed in service.

Lacy E. Has rotated in as our newest GSR representing the Sober Sand Gnats Group of Inglis. Welcome aboard!

At the February business meeting I will present an appointee for the Grapevine Chair position, Kim W., and an appointee for the Literature Chair position, Sue C., to the GSRs for approval. I am encouraged by the increasing interest and participation at the district and area levels.

In January, District 28 was well represented in Gainesville at the Area 14 Assembly. I, a DCM and a GSR, and P. J., an Alternate DCM and an Alternate GSR, attended workshops on Saturday and the Sunday business meeting along with District 28 Chairs: Lina R., Bob M., Dean B. and Denis S.; GSRs: Dean B., Sandy H., Al M., John M., James C. and Sue C.; and Alternate GSRs: Linda A. and Lacy E.. On Sunday at the Area 14 Business Meeting, District 28 had a total of 9 votes. There are approximately 45 groups in District 28. So, one in five groups were represented. Put another way, one in five groups had a voice in AA at the area level.

My aim is to encourage and increase group participation and representation in District 28, Area 14 and AA as a whole. Consider attending the next District 28 Business meeting on Sunday, March 5, 2017 at the Holder Community Center. The meeting begins at 5:45 PM. Whether as a GSR, an Alternate, a Group Contact or a Visitor you may be the link in the chain that is so vital to our organization. Long considered the most important job in AA, the GSR facilitates communication to and from the group. Our future as a fellowship rests on effective

communication. If you have questions on how to get involved, contact us at floridadistrict28@gmail.com.

Joyce C., our Area 14 Delegate, is presenting the Pre Conference Agenda in two locations local to District 28. The review of the Pre Conference Agenda is a presentation of the body of work tackled at the General Service Conference each year in New York in April. This is a fabulous opportunity to learn and to serve. Joyce, along with her Alternate and an array of Area Service Committee Chairs, will present the agenda items and so importantly come away with a sense of how the area she represents at the annual conference feels.

Last year, District 28 hosted this event in Inverness with the support of Districts 13 (Hernando County) and 17 (Marion County). Both Districts 13 and 17 decided to host this event this year and both asked for our support. Geographically, District 28 is sandwiched between the two districts making it convenient for our members on all sides of the county to attend. The dates are Saturday, March 11 and Sunday, March 12. Time and location information will be available on event flyers posted on our website, attached to our minutes and at our monthly business meeting. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

A District 28 Workshop is planned for March. Carrying the message to the alcoholic behind bars is the topic. Time and location will be decided and announced. Please consider supporting this event. Our Corrections Committees are doing fantastic work on the frontlines of AA; carrying the message of recovery and hope to the still sick and suffering alcoholic.

A special note of thanks to our District 28 Officers P. J., Sandy and Shana for their willingness to serve.

In service,

Paige Bauman
District 28
DCM

Old Business:

1. Amendment to Duties of Trusted Servants under Structures and Guidelines Article II, Section E, regarding Archives Chair to read: Responsible for the collecting and preservation of Archived material as it pertains to District 28 in adherence to GSO and Area 14 guidelines. Regularly attends Area Assemblies and works with the Area 14 Archives Service Coordinator. Attends Archives Workshops as they arise. Regularly attends all District meetings. Reports all Committee Activities at the District meetings and has a written copy of their report for the District Secretary. (report can also be emailed). Sets up District Archives display at NCI and/or District Events. Ex: Gratitude Dinner and Founder's Day. Enhances the collection of Oral Histories from District members. Works with the Website Chairperson to enhance the Archives Folder on the District Website through various media.

The DCM called for a motion to vote on the pending motion, and upon motion and second the motion was moved to table until the next meeting.

2. Pink can budget will not have a budget therefore left at zero.
3. Archives budget of \$250 approved.
4. Office supplies budget increased to \$30.

5. Service committee reimbursement increased from \$35 to \$50 will be carried over to next meeting.
6. Workshop: Carrying the message behind the walls, March 4th 1:00 to 3:00. The DCM called for a motion to vote on the date and time, and upon motion and second, the motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. Sue C. presented her qualifications for the position of Literature Chair. Her appointment was unanimously approved.
2. Kim W. presented her qualifications for the position of Grapevine Chair. Her appointment was unanimously approved.
3. Co-sponsor Pre-conference agenda workshop in Ocala and Hernando County. The DCM called for a motion to table so GSR's can confer with their groups. Upon motion and second, the motion was unanimously approved to table.

Paige announced that the AA Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts would be sent out with the minutes.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

AA Traditions and Concepts

Tradition Two and Concept Two

Tradition Two: For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience.

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?

Concept II: When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference—excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter—the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

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?