

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2017

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM – Paige B.
Alt. DCM – P. J.O.
Secretary – Sandy H.
Accessibilities Chair – John H.
Archives Chair – Dean B.
Corrections Chair (Men’s) – Bob M.
Corrections Chair (Women’s) – Lina R.
Grapevine Chair – Kim W.
Literature Chair – Sue C.
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. – 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
Lacy E. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats Group
Linda A. – Alt. GSR, Women’s Friendship Group
PJ O. – Alt. GSR, Won Rebos Group

Visitors:

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:

Roll Call: Secretary Sandy H. took roll call and Minutes. DCM, Alt. DCM, and Secretary were present and 12 groups were represented.

Secretary's Report: Sandy H.

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

Treasurer's Report: Shana D.

Shana was not present and Paige B. presented the Treasurer's report. Upon motion and second, the Treasurer's report for February was accepted.

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

Accessibilities Committee: John H.

No report

Archives Committee: Dean B.

District 28 Archives Report March 5, 2017

I am happy to report that the District website now has the audio recordings that Denis S. had acquired and can be accessed by going to the 'Archives' folder and scrolling down to the 'Microphone in the Triangle'. You'll find 14 local speakers for your listening pleasure. A big thank you to Steve N. for accomplishing that.

I attended the 3rd Annual Florida AA Archives Workshop on February 18th. I arrived Friday afternoon and involved myself in helping to set up the church for the event. Saturday was a great day meeting a lot of people who really know about their local history in Florida. I was really impressed when I met Gail L., former Akron Archivist. She was a wonderfully knowledgeable lady and what I learned in most of my conversations with her is to bring your local story to your archives. A vast display of old books is nice, but what is the history behind the book. She also mentioned that shared experience suggests we not rotate our archives people too quickly.

Don F. from South Florida went over Copyright & Fair Use issues and guidelines, stressing constantly to get 'expressed written consent'.

I will not go into all the History of North and South Florida presentations but I will say I feel very small in the big world of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Dean B.

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

Meetings are going well; good participation. No meeting on 02/22/17 due to issues at the jail. Going through a rotation of volunteers. New guys are getting in rotation. Going good. Also waiting on clearances for more volunteers.

Bob M.

Women's Corrections Committee: Lina R.

We have taken meetings each Wednesday into the Core Civic facility. We average 10 inmates each meeting. Staffing is increasingly difficult however.

On March 4th we held a corrections service workshop at the Serenity Club from 2 -4:00. Approximately 30 people attended. Our format included the volunteer coordinator from Core Civic, Chaplain Savage. We were honored that he came to share his time with us. He provided information and insight into the volunteer experience. We viewed the GSO video “Carrying the Message Behind These Walls”. Our program continued with Anthony S., Area 14 Corrections Coordinator. He shared vital information on “The Traditions Behind the Walls”. Our own Bob M. shared his personal experience with finding AA in prison. His story was inspirational, as well as, in true Bob style, well told. We closed with suggestions on various ways we can all serve those still suffering who are incarcerated. All who shared more than fulfilled anything we asked of them! Special thanks to our DCM Paige B. *sine qua non* and Denis S. for tech support.

We thank you for giving us this unique opportunity to serve. We enjoyed it!

The cost for this event came in at about \$98 total.

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: Kim W.

This month I contacted the GSO and ordered subscription forms, magazines, and more catalogs. They referred me to the website where I registered as a Grapevine Rep. and signed up for an information kit. Paige picked up some literature from Paula along with a display board for me to use at upcoming events.

I plan to rent a meeting place, possibly Holder, to get the GSR’s together to discuss the importance of getting groups to subscribe to the Grapevine. I will provide an envelope with subscription forms and catalogs to order books and such. The objective would be for them to take it back to the business meetings and present to the group and treasurer. I will be glad to come to their business meeting if they would like me to do so. The reason for doing this is so that I could essentially hit several meetings at once. I will also have a sign-up sheet at the gathering and plan on visiting the meetings personally that did not have a GSR present. Wish me luck!

Kim W.

NCI Liaison: Denis S.

Intergroup was grateful for the success of the Chili Cook-off.

The opportunity to carry the message outside of the rooms is very important.

Volunteers for the events committee are welcome.

Please contact events@ncintergroup.com

Denis S.

Literature Committee: Sue C.

Service brochures displayed, AA Guidelines available, and catalogs available.

World Service website (aa.org) has all literature, including books and pamphlets, available as pdf and audio files.

Sue C.

Public Information Committee: Janet B.

PI Report for February 2017

After the “Golden Blizzard” of Where & Whens in January, My job this month was to check for needed refills. I had to leave some at the SW Central Driver Improvement – no surprise there! However, the Western Judicial Services sent word that they needed more schedules. I went down and gave them a bunch and also a stack of our “Ordered to AA?”. Then I met one of their staff and told him about the booklet “Young People and AA”. I met him the following week and gave him some. This publication was a useful tool for facilitators at the Centers when they had their adolescent group.

On February 17th, our second adult event on “Understanding the Disease of Alcoholism” was held at the Lakes Region Library in Inverness. Sue C. brought her beautiful display of AA Literature and I had some from Al-Anon Family Groups. Steve N. and Paige B. were all set to go as our speakers and I, as nervous moderator, waited and chatted and waited some more. No one came! I hope we are asked to come again.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Bruno

P.I. Chair

Technology Committee: Steve N.

District 28 Web Report March 5 2017

There were 1529 visits to the website in February by 755 unique visitors who visited 3261 pages or 2.1 pages per visit. The most visited pages after the start page were archives, calendar, links, meetings, general, help now, mobile, legacies, where and when, NFAC, and contact us. 51.6% of visitors accessed on mobile devices, 43.3% on desktops and 5.1% on tablets.

Rich M. began training to help manage the website. Thank you Rich!

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Steve N., webmaster

Treatment Committee: Lynn D.

Rich M. advised that Lynn is carrying the message at a treatment center tonight and requested that he share that all is going well. There are currently two meetings, Sunday and Monday being carried into the Centers in Lecanto. New business to increase budget.

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 for March 5, 2017

I met with the other District officers to update information and put together an Agenda for the monthly meeting. Regarding our Resource Page, in addition to the normal changes that occur, I will be comparing the information on our list with the group list for our Area 14 that is maintained by the Area Registrar. Sometimes there are differences between the two, and it can be challenging to find out which list is in fact accurate. It is really important for the home groups to communicate with both District and Area 14 when there are changes.

I attended the Corrections Workshop at St. Benedict's yesterday in Crystal River. Lina R., our District Women's Corrections Chair, led the presentation. The chaplain Core Civic Correctional facility in Citrus County made some preliminary remarks and stressed the importance of bringing AA into the facilities. Denis S. displayed an interesting video on Corrections service work provided by the GSO. Anthony S., the Area 14 Corrections Service Coordinator, and Bob B., the District 28 Men's Corrections Chair, made excellent presentations. It is clear that sharing our experience, strength and hope as a way to help others recover is at least as important to the incarcerated alcoholic as it is on the outside. We also learned that presentations from recovering alcoholics to incarcerated alcoholics can be a really effective in giving hope to incarcerated alcoholics and helping them find their way to recovery. Bob and Lina noted that in District 28, more volunteers from AA for corrections work are needed and that the need for women volunteers is especially pressing. Paige has our thanks for organizing the workshop.

The next Assembly of Panel 67 of the North Florida Area 14 Conference will be on April 7 through April 9 at the Wyndham Garden Gainesville Hotel, 2900 SW 13 St., Gainesville, FL 32608. District 28 will be reserving rooms for one or two nights as necessary, and will book two rooms for GSRs whose groups are not able to finance that expense. If you wish to make reservations yourself, you are free to do so. The number is 352-377-4000. If you call yourself, be sure to give them the booking code, NFAC. If you prefer, let me know and I will make the reservation for you. Please let me know by as soon as possible.

It is an honor and privilege to serve.

P. J. O.

Alt. DCM

DCM: Paige B.

DCM Report March 2017

My Name is Paige. I am an alcoholic with the privilege of serving District 28 as your DCM.

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, Heather, and a team of Area 14 Service Coordinators, will present the agenda items.

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 and both asked for our support. Geographically, District 28 is situated between the two districts making it convenient for our members on all sides of the county to attend. The dates are

Saturday, March 11 at 1:30 PM in Brooksville and Sunday, March 12 at 9:00 AM in Ocala. The specific location information is available on event flyers posted on our website, and attached to our February minutes. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

District 28 hosted a workshop on Saturday, March 4, at the Serenity Club in Crystal River. "Carrying The Message To The Alcoholic Behind Bars," was the theme. A representative of Core Civic, the organization that operates the Citrus County Detention Facility, Reverend Savage and the Area 14 Corrections Coordinator, Anthony S., from Jacksonville, addressed the group of approximately thirty members. Lina R., District 28 Corrections Chair for Women and Bob M., District 28 Corrections Chair for Men, did a super job organizing and facilitating this event. The highlight was Bob M. sharing his story of recovery. The purpose of the event was to encourage volunteers, in particular women, to consider joining the district's effort to carry our message of hope and recovery behind bars. Many thanks go to the Serenity Club for their hospitality and to all those who made this timely and special event possible.

The Citrus County Department of Parks and Recreation contacted all renters of their facility in Holder, including District 28, the Nature Coast Intergroup and several AA groups that meet there on a regular basis regarding issues of housekeeping. The kitchen and bathrooms left in less than acceptable condition and cigarette butts on the grounds, not in the receptacle provided, are chief concerns. There are non-AA renters of the Holder Community Building and no one was singled out.

How we leave this facility after our use says so much about us individually and as an organization Please consider that our actions as individuals and groups do affect us as a whole and if they are contributing to this issue to address and eliminate them.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this at floridadistrict28@gmail.com.

The Area 14 Assembly in Gainesville is just around the corner in April. Please join us at the workshops on Saturday or the Area 14 Business Meeting on Sunday.

Register now for the 61st Florida State Convention, July 27-30, 2017 in Jacksonville. Your commitment and support make this event possible!

A note of thanks to District 28 Officers, P. J., Sandy and Shana for their efforts and 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. The DCM called for a motion to table to change Archivist to Archives Chair, and upon motion and second the motion was moved to table until the next meeting.
2. Service chair stipend to be increased from \$35 to \$50. Steve N. made a motioned to remove from table for vote, motion was seconded and unanimously approved. After a brief discussion a motion was made and seconded to increase stipend from \$35 to \$50 received 10 yes and 2 no votes. The minority opinion was then heard and the question was recalled. A second vote was take which received 6 yes and 6 no votes; since a two-thirds majority was not achieved, the motion did not pass.

3. Co-sponsor Pre-conference agenda workshop in Ocala and Hernando County. The DCM called for a motion to contribute \$25 to each district for their efforts. Upon motion and second, the motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. A proposal to increase the Treatment budget will be addressed at next meeting.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

AA Traditions and Concepts

Tradition Three and Concept Three

Tradition III: As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

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 III: As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

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?