

DISTRICT 28
Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2019

Welcome by DCM:

Bob M., DCM, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Serenity Prayer

Declaration of Unity

Responsibility Statement

Roll Call:

P. J. O. took roll call and Minutes of the meeting. Twelve groups were represented.

Officers/Chairs present at meeting:

DCM and Corrections -Bob M.

Treasurer – Linda A.

Archives – Dean B.

Corrections Coordinator (Women) – Mary F.

Literature Service Coordinator - Gina S.

NCI Liaison- Denis S.

Technology Service Coordinator – Steve N.

Treatment Coordinator – Lisa R. B.

GSRs Alt GSRs and Visitors

George H. – GSR, Attitude Adjustment Group

Denis S. – GSR, Crystal River Group

Steve N. - GSR, Freedom House Group

Bob M. – GSR, Holder Way of Life Group

Gina S. – Alt. GSR, Miracles Group

Harry J. - GSR, Miracles Group

Lynn D. - GSR, No Name Group

Mike D. – GSR, Real Happy Hour Group

Lacy E. – GSR, Sober Sand Gnats

Linda A. – GSR, Women’s Friendship Group

Lisa R.B. – GSR, Women’s New Beginnings

P. J. O. – Won Rebos Group

Secretary’s Report: (P.J. O., Acting Secretary)

Upon motion and second, the Minutes of the October 6, 2019 meeting were accepted as submitted. Bob reported that he had a few more Where and Whens printed after the initial 1500; the next printing will be in December.

Treasurer’s Report: Linda A.

Linda submitted the District 28 Income and Expense Report, the Group Contributions and the Pink Can Reports for October, 2019.

Income and Expense Beginning Balance:	\$ 4939.71
Net Income:	\$ 24.92
Expenses:	\$ 72.80
General Fund Ending Balance:	\$ 4964.63
Group Contributions:	\$ 85.72
Basket	\$ 12.00
Pink Can Contributions:	\$ 79.00
Pink Can ending balance:	\$ 1547.26

The Treasurer's Report was accepted on motion and second, subject to audit.
(Reports for all funds will be attached to Minutes.)

The 7th Tradition Basket was passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibilities Chair: Lynn D. reported that when Gina S., the new Literature Chair, was going through her Literature folder she found an Accessibilities Manual and I have ordered it for her.

Archives Committee: Submitted by Dean B.

District 28 Archives Committee Report – November 3, 2019

Good afternoon, I'm Dean and I'm an alcoholic. The committee attended the JAX Intergroup Archives Committee meeting Monday October 7th. Gina was quite impressed with their archives displays and storage of materials. We discussed our Website and they wanted information on how we converted all the media files. I contacted Steve N. our Webmaster and he replied to JAX Archives. The rest is in their hands. I shared some video files, our Inventory movie and PowerPoint presentation, History of AA in District 28, and Markings on the Journey, to their committee to use for a few upcoming events in JAX. It's nice knowing that we could contribute. We will be attending their Committee meeting again tomorrow. I asked about their criteria for recording Long Timers. They use 35/20. Thirty-five years of continuous sobriety and twenty years in the local area. I think we should use that model. And if anybody knows of an individual, they would like to hear, please let the Committee know. We participated in the Statewide Archives Workshop Teleconference October 9th continuing plans for the Workshop in February, with the next teleconference scheduled for Wednesday, November 4th at 8:15 pm. The committee will lay out a plan for the display for the Gratitude Dinner of course with the laptop to display the video of our archives. Finally, I have completed three proposals for the Archives 2020 Budget to our DCM and Treasurer to be voted on when the time comes.

Thank you for trusting me to serve,
Dean B. District 28 Archives Chair

Men's Corrections Committee: Bob M.

Meetings are going very well and we are getting used to the new time, The Chaplin has retired and I did meet the new Chaplin. He told me that there will be an orientation in January. But, before we can get all the new changes he is updating all the software. Also, there are changes in the process for getting cleared. He told me he has some of his own job to get finished and he will keep us informed.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Bob M.

Women's Corrections: Mary F.

Mary has placed orders for numerous items of various literature for Women's Corrections, including Big Books. She placed the order herself, paid for it and will seek reimbursement.

Nature Coast Intergroup Liaison: Denis S.

NATURE COAST INTERGROUP MINUTES NOVEMBER 2019

OPEN: - Chairperson Ingrid R. opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

ROLL: Nine groups were represented as follows: Freedom House, Real Happy Hour, Inverness Friday Beginners, What's The Book Say, Sober Sand Gnats, Crystal River, No Name Chazahowitzka, Women's Friendship, Resentment.

SECRETARY: Denis S. read minutes of previous meeting and they were accepted as read.

TREASURER: Mike F. sent a report showing an operating deficit of \$256.44 for the month and a closing balance of \$6389.95. Mike's report was accepted and will be filed for audit at year's end.

TRUSTEES: Dean B. was concerned that our Hotline Phone is a flip phone and he felt that a smart phone is required to answer the Hotline properly. He also said there was a need of female volunteers to answer

the phone and he said that he will attempt to upgrade our Hotline contact list at the Gratitude Dinner. Terry P. said he was familiar with the people at the Verizon store in Hernando and was willing to go with the Hotline Chair to do the phone upgrade.

HOTLINE: Connie H. said Dean B. had carried the phone for the previous month and said she was expecting to give it to Chris G. in the near future. Chris has indicated an interest in the phone and may hold on to it for a while. Dean said there had been twenty-one calls while he had the phone.

WEBMASTER: Steve N. said we had 4935 visits to the website during the month. The top pages visited were the Journal, Where and When and the Meeting Guide App. Steve said he had updated the Where and When twice and the Meeting Guide three times. He urged everyone to keep him informed of any changes so all information is current.

JOURNAL: Ben C. presented the November/December Journal and it was greatly appreciated by those present. He said he will continue his efforts to provide more items of local interest and to that end he encouraged everyone to send material to news@ncintergroup.com

EVENTS: Mike D. said that a good number of people had showed up at the meeting of the Events committee to volunteer for the Gratitude Dinner. He also said that anyone willing to help with set up can come to St Benedict's on the 17th at 11am. He said he and Ingrid would make an inventory of those items in storage that we can use for the event.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee Terry P. made an investigation into an invitation by Hernando County Intergroup to join with them in services like the Bookstore and Hotline. The recommendation made by Terry was that we continue to remain independent and a subsequent vote was unanimous in favor of his recommendation. Hernando County Intergroup were thanked for the invitation.

NEW BUSINESS: Greg A. asked if there was anything else we could do to have a more active current list of contacts who would be willing to respond to Hotline calls. People were asked to bring suggestions to the next meeting and Webmaster Steve N. said he would put a fillable form on the website for this purpose.

CHAIR/ALT CHAIR: Ingrid and Connie were both satisfied with the affairs of Intergroup.

A MOTION TO CLOSE WAS ACCEPTED

P.I./C.P.C.: Janet B. absent, no report.

Literature: Gina S.

Good afternoon. My name is Gina and I am an alcoholic. I am also your new Literature Chair,

Upon receipt of the current literature supplies, I completed an inventory count. We have an extremely low supply of Conference approved pamphlets and books. Many of the pamphlets we have appear to be out of date or discontinued.

I was contacted by Bob our DCM to put a display together for a new treatment program in our area. I was able to pull together treatment appropriate pamphlets to meet the minimum requirements of a desired AA Literature display, on very short notice I might add.

I reviewed the job responsibilities for Literature Chair in our current Structures and Guidelines, NFAC Structures and Guidelines as well as GSO Structures and Guidelines that I found on AA.org. all with varying degrees of responsibilities, few of which are consistent. My best source of job description came from information I received at our Service Workshop organized by Steve, our current Web Master. The one nearly consistent responsibility I found was it is expected to have an ample supply of Conference approved literature as well as multimedia options available for display and/or sale.

Currently we have zero literature and multimedia items that are designated to meet the needs of the disabled and extremely limited on all others. With our upcoming Gratitude Dinner and the expectation of display, I wish to ask District attendees to please advise me on your expectations for said display and recommendations for ordering so that I may assemble a display worthy of AA expectations as well as get a better idea for anticipated budget requests.

Treatment Committee: Lisa R. B.

We are excited that we are bringing two meetings into The Springs at Lecanto. We are bringing in a meeting on Monday at 4:30 p.m. and we are leaning toward making it a Big Book study; on Thursdays at 6:30 we are bringing in a meeting and are looking for speakers. On days when we can't get a speaker, we will either read the Grapevine or perhaps study Step One. Things are going very well. So far, Denis has been in on two Mondays and I have been in on three Thursdays. If any of you would like to be a speaker, please let me know. If we bring anyone in, they must have at least one year of sobriety. Staff can come in if they want. I am excited about my committee. I have my Treatment Committee workbook that I will be studying and also some other literature.

Technology Committee/Website: Steve N.

AA District 28 Web Report on October 2019 for the November 3 Meeting
There were 1482 total visits in August by 1126 unique visitors who looked at an average of 1.64 pages per visit. There were a total of 9917 hits. The bounce rate was better at 67.88%. 81.8% of the visitors were new and 18.2% returning. The average user stayed for 2 minutes 25 seconds. 75% came directly to the site, 25% came from search engines, none by referral from other AA sites, and none were referred by Social Media. 23.97% of the visitors used mobile devices, 72.73% desktop devices, and 3.31% tablet devices.

The top ten pages visited this month were Meeting Guide, Where and When, Archives Home, Archives Audio, Calendar, Contact Us, Get help Now, Legacies, PI Training video, and Links.

The data base for the National Meeting guide App was updated on a regular basis as meeting information changed. Several updates were made to the Where and When.

Please inform me of all meeting changes so Meeting Guide and the online Where and When is always completely current. Other changes were made as I was notified.

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

Workshop Committee: Steve N.

Workshop Report October 2019 for the November 3 Meeting

I researched the Suggested Workshop Format pamphlet from the General Service office so as to bring District 28 in line with the format that occurs at the annual GSC workshops. The format is attached at the end of this report.

I also spent time researching possible workshop topics in several areas. The areas are Group Related Topics, Unity Oriented Topics, Service Oriented Topics, Archives Related Topics, and General Topics. They are listed below. I would appreciate input from GSRs and their groups as to which topics most interest District 28 AAs.

Group Related Topics

Unity within the AA Group. What works for and against unity within a group? How can problems be addressed? A review of the Traditions as they apply within the Group.

The AA Group and how it Functions. About the variety of ways AA Groups work. Just what is an AA Group anyway? What's a Meeting? Who is a member and what are the responsibilities of a member? What trusted servants might a group have, and what is their purpose. What about meeting procedures, group consciences, business meetings, inventories etc.? What about self-support?

The AA Group in Relation to its Community. How might we better reach out the alcoholic who still suffers just down the street from our meeting house? Do people in my town know that AA is there, and how to find it should they, or someone they know need it? Do the Doctors, Social Workers, Judges etc. in my town know what AA is (and isn't) and how to refer their clients to AA? Is my group reaching out to the alcoholic who still suffers in my town's jails, hospitals and treatment facilities?

The AA Group in Relation to Neighboring Groups and the rest of AA. How can AA groups cooperate with each other and learn from each other's successes and mistakes? How can my group do its part in carrying the message across the nation and around the world? (In other words, how the AA Group fits into the General Service Structure.)

How the Group can reach out to the Alcoholic who still suffers. It isn't enough just to open the doors and wait for alcoholics to find us. Tradition 5 suggests carrying the message *to* the alcoholic who still suffers. How might we better reach out to the alcoholic, using attraction rather than promotion?

Working with an Influx of Court Ordered People. How can we genuinely welcome the court ordered newcomer into our group without compromising our group's order and singleness of purpose? How can cooperating with judges, parole officers, etc. help?

Questions & Answers on Sponsorship. A review of the Sponsorship Pamphlet and sharing of experience.

Conducting Beginner's Meetings. Why some groups choose to provide Beginner's Meetings. What types of formats they use, and how to start one. A review of the GSO Packet on the subject and sharing of experience.

Unity Oriented Topics

Understanding Anonymity. Our Traditions 11 and 12 discuss Anonymity at the public level, the personal level, and as a spiritual concept. How can we better understand and practice that principle?

Singleness of Purpose: Balancing our Welcome and our Limitations. Tradition 3 states our purpose and welcomes all who want it. Tradition 5 states our limitations. Do we sometimes lose sight of one when we focus too much on the other? How can we best maintain our single purpose while continuing to extend our welcome? This would be a study of traditions 3 and 5.

AA's Relationship with the Outside World. How can AA members and Groups best relate to the world we live in? A review of the traditions as they apply to our relationship to the outside world. About anonymity, non-affiliation, self-support, opinions on outside issues, and professionalism.

Anonymity as a Spiritual Principle and Principles before Personalities. A review of Tradition 12.

Service Oriented Topics.

The Role of the District in AA. What is a District? What is their purpose? What does a GSR bring to the District Meeting, and what might he take home? What does a DCM bring to the meeting, and what does he take away. How about the Service Committee Chairs As a GSR, DCM etc., am I doing contributing my part?

The Roles of the DCM . What is a DCM? What is their purpose? What is their responsibility to the Area? What is their responsibility to the District? How do they relate to the Delegate, the Groups, and the GSRs? What makes for a good DCM Report?

The Roles of the GSR. What is a GSR? What is their purpose? What is their responsibility to their Group? What is their responsibility to the District? What is their responsibility to the Area? How do they relate to their group's officers and to the DCMs? What makes for a good GSR Report?

The Roles of the Service Committee in the District. What are the Service Committees? Why do we have them? How do they help carry the message? What is the responsibility of a Committee Chair? Who are the

committee Members, and what is their role? What makes for a good Service Committee Report?

Leadership in AA. What makes a good Leader in AA? How can we improve our leadership skills? How can we be both leader and trusted servant? A review of Concept 9.

Service Committee Workshops. Presentations on individual Service Committees. (CPC, PI, Corrections, Treatment, Bridge the Gap, Gratitude, Grapevine, Policies and Procedures, Archives, Media Services) Presentation designed to help understand what the committee is about and how you, your group, or your district might help.

Speaking to Non-AA Meetings and Groups. Experience on how best to talk to groups (or individual) students, teachers, professionals and other non-AA audiences.

Our Rights in AA Service. The right of decision, the right of participation and the right of appeal. How do they apply at the various levels of service? Concepts 3, 4, and 5

Responsibility and Authority for AA's General Services. What are AA's General Services? Who is responsible for them, and who has the authority to conduct them? Concepts 1 and 2.

AA General Service Entities and how they operate together. The Conference, the Trustees, AAWS, and the Grapevine. What are their roles and how do they relate to each other? Concepts 6, 7, 8.

Our Warranties. About avoiding wealth and power in AA Service entities. Concept 12.

Your AA General Service Office. What is it and what services does it provide to the Fellowship?

Archives Related Topics

History of AA in Citrus County, Florida or National

The stories of how AA came to be in the U.S., Florida, and Locally including local group histories.

General Topics

The Role of District in the Service Structure of AA

What roles do groups, districts, GSRs, DCMs and district chairs play in the overall service structure of AA and what service opportunities are available to keep the hand of AA always there

The Role of Intergroup in AA

Understanding the unique role these intergroup and central offices play in AA, and what services they provide. These entities are at once part of AA, yet separate from the AA Service Structure.

Pre- and Post-Conference Workshops

These workshops make sure there is informed group conscience in all decisions passed on through the delegate to the general Service Conference.

Service Material from the General Service Office

SUGGESTED WORKSHOP FORMAT

In response to many inquiries at G.S.O., requesting information on conducting workshops, we have prepared this memo to share with you some ways that workshops may be conducted.

1. Each workshop selects or appoints one person to act as moderator and one person to act as reporter.
2. After the topic(s) for discussion has been decided upon, each participant is asked to write a question (3x5 cards can be provided) on the subject under discussion and pass it to the moderator. If more than one topic is on the agenda each will be discussed in turn.
3. The moderator will read each question in turn and go around the table asking for comments (a time limit might be agreed on in advance of discussion.) A “sense of the meeting” will then be asked on each question, and will be recorded by the reporter. If cards are provided, answers can go on the back.
4. If the participants prefer to ask the questions verbally, the reporter records each question.
5. It is suggested that no one speak on any question a second time until everyone who wishes to speak has had the opportunity to do so.
6. If all workshop sections are on the same topic, one reporter is selected to give a brief report to the whole conference, assembly, etc., combining the sharing of all sections.

- OR -

If each workshop discussed a different topic, one reporter gives a brief report to the entire conference, assembly, etc.

7. If there is only one workshop, such as a District Committee Meeting, A.A. Group, etc. the report can be copied for all participants or filed for reference.

NOTE TO MODERATORS/REPORTS: It is not necessary to report all discussion—only the subject and the “sense of the meeting” need be recorded.

The notes above represent the format of the workshops that are held each year at the General Service Conference. There are other ways, of course, to conduct workshops.

For instance, if a series of workshops is being held on the A.A. Guidelines or The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, participants might be asked to read the Guidelines or a chapter in the manual and come prepared with their questions. In some cases, the portion to be discussed is read aloud, with each participant taking his turn to read a few paragraphs and then informal discussions on the subject take place. However, when a report is needed or wanted, it is important to have the subject recorded, as well as the "sense of the meeting" on the subject.

If a district committee member or delegate, for instance, is trying to interest G.S.R.s in the A.A. Guidelines or The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service, it is helpful sometimes to prepare questions in advance, giving each participant a list of the questions to be discussed. The best method is always the one that suits your own purpose best. We hope you will share with us what formats you find successful so that we will have them on hand to share with others.

Good luck and best wishes from all at G.S.O.

DCM: Bob M.

It has been an awesome opportunity to serve. Though I am sure I could do some things better, it is an honor to serve the District. Thank you for having patience with me. We have got a lot done this year but we still have business to get done. The Gratitude Dinner will need help in all areas, set-up, clean-up and more, so please spread the word. I will remind you of getting your hotel room for the January Assembly. Also, Linda was kind enough to get the two rooms for the groups that can't afford a room and would like to attend, that is, GSR's, two men and two women. Please notify us at or before the next District meeting to let us know if you want a room. We must to cancel our reservation at least thirty days before the next Assembly of there no interested GSRs.

I have invited Districts 7A, 7B, 13, 14, 17 and 27 to join us for our pre-Conference and post-Conference gatherings.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Bob M.

Alt. DCM: Position vacant.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Bob announced that Denis S. is stepping down as Treatment Chair and that Lisa B. is appointed to fill that position. Denis will remain as NCI Liaison.

Bob also reminded everyone that the Grapevine Chair and Alt. DCM positions are both still open. He asked that GSRs share that information with their Home Groups. Also, the Gratitude Dinner is coming up and volunteers are still needed.

Regarding the budget for 2020, Linda asked if there were any specific requests from any of the Service Coordinators/Chairs. Dean B., Archives Coordinator, responded that he had reviewed the things he would like to accomplish next year and submitted three alternative budget proposals for the District to consider. The first proposal was an itemized list that would provide funding for all of the worthwhile items that he would like to do, which totaled approximately \$1214, which he itemized; a second proposal was scaled back to some extent, budgeting for all of the activities in the first proposal but without his room expenses, and would total \$544.25. The third proposal covered only his mileage and registration, for attending the various Archives functions and would total approximately \$399. Denis S. noted that Area 14 was wanted us and our Archives services. He was commended for all of his work and his dedication, and explained in detail in response to questions from the floor. Upon motion and second, the second proposal, for \$544.20, was adopted. It was noted that more could be added later, budget permitting.

No other individual budgets were submitted. Linda will put a budget together based on what has been voted for Archives and the figures contained in the comparison budget for 2019/2020 that was submitted at the last meeting, with some revisions that she announced. The Coordinators for other Committees that were present announced that the proposed figures were appropriate. The 2020 budget will be submitted for a vote at the December meeting.

Announcements:

The next District meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd, 2019, 5:45 p.m. at the Shepherd of the Hills Episcopal Church, 2540 West Norvell Bryant Highway, Lecanto, FL 34461.

Upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Tradition Eleven: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films. • Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive? • Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member? • Am I careful about throwing AA names around-even within the Fellowship? • Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic? • What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be? • Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

Concept Eleven: The trustees should always have the best possible committees, Corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern. •Do we understand how the roles of non-trustee directors and non-trustee appointed committee members help serve and strengthen the committee system? •How do we encourage our special paid workers to exercise their traditional “Right of Participation?” •Do we practice rotation in all our service positions?