



# NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA 65

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly  
**SUMMER 2016 [www.neta65.org](http://www.neta65.org) Volume 31 Number 2**

### Summer Assembly just around the corner

Be sure to attend the NETA 65 Summer Area Assembly June 17-19 at the Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne. Rooms are available at the Hampton Inn for a NETA rate of \$85, including breakfast. You must book a room by **Wednesday, June 1** to get that rate.

### The Twelve Concepts: Our Third Group of Spiritual Principles

(Editor's Note: This article is adapted from the first in a series of articles about the Twelve Concepts that Tom M. is writing for the Dallas Intergroup Association's DIALog newsletter.)

Many people are not very (or at all) familiar with the Concepts, other than perhaps noticing they are in an appendix to The Big Book. Other people know the Concepts have something to do with general service and think to themselves, "If I'm not involved with general service I don't need to know anything about the Concepts." While it's true that folks in general service may make the most active and frequent use of the Concepts, I think it's helpful for anyone in our Fellowship to have at least a (if you'll pardon the pun) general sense of what they're about.

Before taking up Concept I and Concept II, perhaps it might be useful to discuss the Twelve Concepts generally. So what are they, exactly? They are twelve spiritual principles that guide our world service efforts, just as the Twelve Steps guide our recovery and the Twelve Traditions guide our interaction with each other and the world around us.

In 1962, Bill W. wrote twelve essays on the Concepts, similar to those found in *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, which are published today as either a standalone book called *Twelve Concepts for World Service* (BM-32) or bound together with *The A.A. Service Manual* (BM-31). These essays are essential reading for any A.A. trusted servant, whether involved in general service or otherwise. Also, there is a pamphlet called "The Twelve Concepts Illustrated" (P-8) that is a combination of witty illustrations and easy-to-read text that makes for a great introduction to the Concepts; I highly recommend it to any A.A. member.

The Concepts are no more a set of rules than are the Steps or the Traditions; they simply suggest what

our experience has shown tends to work best. One aim of the Concepts is to minimize chances of personal conflict and friction, and to set up some checks and balances in our service structure that help keep our sometimes power-driving egos in check. We see some of those checks and balances in Concept I and Concept II.

*Concept I: Final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.*

One definition of responsibility is "important duties, decisions, etc., that you are trusted to do." And one definition of authority is "the power to make decisions." I can't think of more appropriate definitions for this context and this Concept.

In A.A.'s early years, services like printing and translating literature, our public relations, and sharing of experience among our groups were entrusted to the stewardship of a group of trustees and a national service office under the trustees' direction. And when the trustees or the service office needed guidance early on, they turned to our co-founders Bill W. and Dr. Bob.

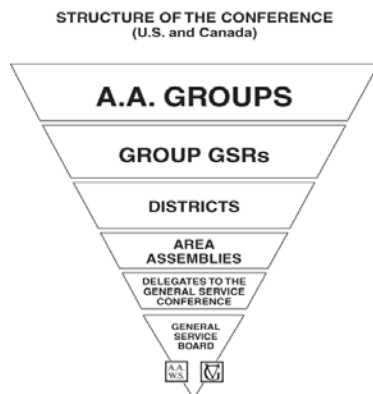
But in the late 1940s, Dr. Bob became gravely ill and Bill began to ponder his own mortality, realizing the guidance he and Dr. Bob had provided would eventually have to come from elsewhere. In 1955, we accepted both the responsibility and the authority to make important decisions for our Fellowship. In a very real sense, A.A. belongs to us; its future and our future depend upon us.

Today, as in 1955, it is our responsibility to be sure A.A.'s affairs are conducted in a way that is best for us, and best for the still-suffering alcoholics who have not yet found us. Each A.A. member – from the newest newcomer to the oldest old-timer, and everyone in between – has an equal vote. And Tradition Two suggests how we best carry out our authority: by relying on a loving God to express Himself through the group conscience.

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

So in Concept I, we see that A.A. members worldwide, acting through their various groups, are responsible for guiding our Fellowship's affairs, and that

we have the authority to carry out that important responsibility. But practically speaking, how can so many members possibly come together to do actually that?



The short answer is we can't, so we trust our trusted servants to do it for us; I'm reminded of the old saying, "Too many cooks spoil the broth." And in the context of our Society's world services, the members of the General Service Conference are the

trusted servants to whom we delegate our collective authority, and this spirit of trust and delegation is seen throughout the Concepts.

But what exactly is the General Service Conference? Think of it as a big group conscience meeting for all the A.A. groups in the United States and Canada. The Conference is made up of approximately 135 members: 93 members are delegates from various geographic areas across the U.S. and Canada, and the rest are trustees, General Service Office staff, etc. The Conference meets each year in April, making decisions about things that affect our Fellowship as a whole, such as literature, public information, our *Grapevine* magazine, etc., which we often collectively refer to as "World Services."

The upside-down triangle above depicts how the spirit of trust and delegation works. At the group level, in addition to considering internal group affairs such as whether a meeting should be open or closed, a Big Book meeting or a Step speaker meeting, etc., we also are responsible for considering those World Service matters that are on the upcoming Conference agenda. The groups select a General Service Representative (GSR), and this GSR carries her or his group's conscience to the district (a collection of groups in a given geographic location) and to the area (a collection of districts and their groups in a given geographic location), and it is at the area assembly where the delegates to the Conference get guidance from the groups in her or his area. In this way, delegates are well-informed about the collective conscience of the groups in their respective areas. And once the Conference is over, the delegates are responsible for reporting to their respective areas the decisions made at the Conference.

As the current delegate for Northeast Texas Area 65, it is my pleasure and privilege to be your trusted servant at the Conference. If I can be of service in any way, please email me at [delegate65@neta65.org](mailto:delegate65@neta65.org).

## Workshop Roundup

Current popular workshop topics for groups and districts include How to Chair a Meeting, Safety and Respect in AA, Service Outside the Home Group, Sponsorship, and Traditions. If you would like to host a workshop, have a topic suggestion, or would like to participate in a workshop, contact Olga R. at [altchair65@neta65.org](mailto:altchair65@neta65.org).

## News from NETA Secretary Kat C.

One of the duties of the Secretary is to act as Registrar for our Area. If you are a GSR/Alt GSR or DCM/Alt DCM and would like to receive email updates regarding the Area, please send full name, mailing address, phone number, email address, service position, district and home group to [netasecretary65@gmail.com](mailto:netasecretary65@gmail.com). It has been eye-opening to realize how many groups are in our Area. We have approximately 500 groups listed with GSO, and about 25% are active in within the Area. How do we increase participation? This isn't a new problem. We see this at our home groups and our districts also. We had a workshop on Apathy in AA at our last Assembly. This was a great forum to discuss how to combat the lack of participation. A few of the solutions that I heard there and that I have been taught by this program are enthusiasm in service, attraction vs. promotion, being a giver rather than a taker, and of course ... strong sponsorship.

## Special Needs Accessibility Committee participation a fulfilling service option

From committee chair Jamie C: Helping others gets me out of myself and allows me to be of maximum service. We need members to be ready when others reach out for help to make AA accessible to all who seek it. As the Big Book says, "Most of us sense that real tolerance of other people's shortcomings and viewpoints and a respect for their opinions are attitudes which make us more useful to others. ... Love and tolerance of others is our code (p84)."

Yes, many members who the Special Needs Accessibility Committee helps only need a little more love and tolerance to be successful in AA. What do you think: Are you willing to be of maximum service? If so, or if you have any questions, contact me at 817-880-9292 or [spn65@neta65.org](mailto:spn65@neta65.org).

## Hello from District 71!

In District 71, we are keeping ourselves busy with enthusiasm! The Sweetwater and Haskell Groups have been distributing AA literature into the community; the Corrections Committee activities within the community are growing; and the Treatment Facilities Committee continues to reach out to the district. Two groups have formed and are growing. We continue to learn, share and carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers and does not know about our lifesaving program.

-- Nicole S., DCM, District 71

**Northeast Texas Area 65 (NETA) - Spring Assembly - March 19-20 2016**  
**DoubleTree Hotel- 4099 Valley View Ln Dallas, TX 75224**

**Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Area Chair Tina P** [chair65@neta65.org](mailto:chair65@neta65.org) (214)566-7561 called the assembly to order at 8:00AM. The proceedings opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of "Why Do We Need a Conference?" by Danielle. Area Chair reviewed the Assembly agenda.

**Delegate Tom M** [delegate65@neta65.org](mailto:delegate65@neta65.org) (972)922-1014 explained the committee process at the General Service Conference and provided copies of the 2016 GSC agenda items for review. After explaining the organization and break-out room locations, the assembly broke into mock Conference committees to review their respective agenda items. After the lunch break, the Delegate moderated the mock committee reports and recommendations, as well as Q&A.

**GSR & DCM Sharing Sessions:** Assembly broke into respective groups and discussed concerns and issues relating to their positions. The GSR and DCM report backs were given before the dinner break.

**Alt Area Chair Olga R** chaired a workshop on "Apathy in AA" after the dinner break.

**Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

**Area Chair Tina P** called the assembly to order at 8:30AM. The proceedings opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of "Why Do We Need a Conference?" by Stephen S.

**Officer and Service Committee Reports** not shown in the main body of these minutes are included in an addendum to the minutes as combined Assembly and Area Committee reports.

**Secretary's Report – Kat C** [secretary65@neta65.org](mailto:secretary65@neta65.org) 817-875-6284: GSO is updating the Regional Directories and has requested that all group updates are sent in by May 6<sup>th</sup>. DCMs please get me your updates by April 30<sup>th</sup>. The minutes of the Fall 2015 Assembly were read and accepted with amendments.

**Alternate Secretary Report – Ed C** [altsecretary65@neta65.org](mailto:altsecretary65@neta65.org) 682-438-2807: Last mail-out was done at the How it Works Group because of time constraints. Town South wanted to do the last mail-out, so I will get with their contact and try to schedule the next one there. I still have at least 1, if not 2, more groups for mail-outs this panel. If everyone who receives the newsletter by email, could cancel your hard copy. Printing costs for all copies are \$597.00 and \$100.00 for mail-out. I wonder if the AA dollar could be better spent then mailing a copy to folks who already receive it by email.

**Treasurer's Finance Report – Lore L** [treasurer65@neta65.org](mailto:treasurer65@neta65.org) 817-517-3850: I apologize in advance for my not appearing at the Spring Assembly 2016. All required documentation is up to date and accurate. I am currently supporting my senior parents. And although sometimes inconvenient, it is a blessing that they are still with us.

All of the Treasurer's financial documents have been transmitted by the NETA Secretary and limited printed copies will be provided at the Spring Assembly. All of the documents have also been submitted to the Webmaster to be posted to the NETA website. These include: For 2016: Treasurer's report for Spring Assembly, 7th Tradition Contributions spreadsheet YTD 2016 o Final budgets for 2016 and 2017 (which require approval at the Spring Assembly) For 2015 for review: o 2015 Annual Report Final Other materials that I have provided at the Spring Assembly: GSO group contribution envelopes, GSO birthday contribution envelopes, Self-Support (7th Tradition) cards,NETA contribution envelopes Circle of Love brochures.

A special word of thanks to Roy A., NETA 65 CPA, as our NETA accounts now balance to the penny. Note that the 2015 IRS Tax Returns will be available for review (sometime before May 15, 2016) for the NETA Finance Committee and any other interested NETA member. An email will go out when the 2015 tax filing is ready.

Prudent Reserve:	Balance at bank	1/01/2016	\$15,410.73
	Earned interest		YTD\$1.16
	Balance at bank	3/01/2016	\$15,411.89
Operating Account:	Balance in Accounting	1/02/2016	\$21,355.94 1*

Deposits YTD:	3/9/2016	\$10,617.51
Expenses YTD	3/9/2016	-\$20,939.86 2*
Balance in Accounting	3/9/2016	\$11,033.59
Balance in Bank	3/09/2016	\$24,290.13 3*

Notes: 1\* Corrected following CPA adjustments from 2014 and 2015 2\* Including all checks distributed YTD 2016 including at the Spring Assembly 3\* All 2016 checks deducted from accounting although not as yet cashed or cleared from bank

Contributions: Pay to the order of NETA 65 Send to Lore L., NETA 65 Treasurer PO Box 815 Rio Vista, TX 76093-0815

**Alternate Treasurer's Report – Wayne H [alttreasurer65@neta65.org](mailto:alttreasurer65@neta65.org)** 972-571-4799: The NETA 65 expense report can be downloaded from the NETA 65 website. Receipts from Area Assemblies should be turned in by the next Area Committee meeting. Area Committee expenses should be turned in by the next assembly. If you have received NETA 65 money, please provide me with receipts for those funds. We are now nine months into panel 65. I should have received receipts for expenditures through the Summer Area Committee Meeting. Unused funds that you wish to return can be sent to the NETA 65 Treasurer... (Receipts to me ---Money to Lore). Trusted Servants who have not turned in receipts for at least 50% of advanced money will not receive addition checks until that threshold has been met. I prefer expense reports and receipts to be sent to me electronically (Scan & Email). I will accept paper expense reports and even help you fill them out if you are having problems. Please do not give me anything you do not keep a copy of. Keep a copy of everything for your own records. Paper reports can be mailed to: Wayne Hall @ PO Box 219, Weston, Texas 75097. You can call me at 972-571-4799 or email at 69wdhall@gmail.com or alttreasurer65@neta65.org. If you turn in expense reports to me at an Assembly or an Area Committee Meeting, I will not record them until I return home from that meeting. Expense receipts are accepted for Assembly and Area Committee events as stated in the NETA 65 Policy and Procedures.

**Convention Chair Report – Roy A [roy@andersonspectator.com](mailto:roy@andersonspectator.com)** (940)368-1967: Thanks to those who have assisted in putting on the Convention and our former Convention chair. I have reconciled Convention finances. At the start of Panel 65, there was about \$7,000 in Convention account including outstanding expenses from Panel 63. For 2015, Spring 2015 cost us \$1465.02, Summer 2015 \$250.00, Fall 2015 \$1342.07. We have not gone overboard with our financial expenses in 2015. Summer Assembly will be in Cleburne June 18-19 at the Cleburne Convention Center and details should be final in the next few weeks for hotels and the proposed hotel rate is \$85.00 including breakfast. Fall Assembly should be booked by the Area Committee Meeting or shortly afterwards. I will go ahead and book Spring and Summer 2017. 4 Districts have expressed interest in hosting out of town Assemblies- Weatherford, Denton, Longview, and Greenville.

**Alternate Area Chair Report – Olga R [altchair65@neta65.org](mailto:altchair65@neta65.org)** 254-624-8526: To date we have presented 34 workshops. Upcoming workshops April 2<sup>nd</sup> Noon and Nite How to Chair a Meeting. April 9<sup>th</sup> District 41 Inventory and workshop in Texarkana on the Intergroup and Service. April 17<sup>th</sup> Safety and Respect in AA at Mid-Cities, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Turning Point Group Inventory in Waco. Topics that have been presented: Apathy in AA, Safety and Respect in AA: How to Deal with Predators in AA, Internet and Social Media in AA, Group/District Inventory, 12 Concepts, How to Chair a Meeting, Trusted Servants, Service Outside the Group, Sponsorship, Service. If you want a workshop, email me at [altchair65@neta65.org](mailto:altchair65@neta65.org) with a topic and a few dates (Saturday or Sundays work best), block off a couple of hours, and most important- have food

**Delegate Report – Tom M [delegate65@neta65.org](mailto:delegate65@neta65.org)** 972-922-1014: International Convention report: Over budget for registration with 56,000 attendees and we broke the record for attendance. We were budgeted to break even at the International and even with going over in registration we ended up in the hole \$210,000 even though we went over in registrations. We spent a lot of money on buses and over budget in other areas as well. It might be time to look at a different agency to assist in planning and preparing for the International Convention. Some people stood in line for three hours to register. A single-page financial summary for the International Convention are available if requested. There are three ways to affect financial the bottom line at GSO: send more money, increase literature prices, and reduce the level of services that GSO provides. AA finances are not in great shape. Please let me know if you would like me to come out to your groups/districts to present a Conference report. I work for you.

**Alternate Delegate Report – Keith D** [altdelegate65@neta65.org](mailto:altdelegate65@neta65.org) 214-906-5183:

- Southwest Additional Regional Forum 2016 (Area 10 - Colorado) June 3-5, 2016 DoubleTree Hotel 4040 Quebec St, Denver, CO 80216 Register on aa.org Volunteers – Dianne D. 970-846-4818 & Erica C. 303-956-3034
- Texas State Convention 2016 June 24-26, 2016 DoubleTree Hotel 6505 IH 35 North, Austin TX 78757 <http://txaaconvention.org> [AustinAA2016@gmail.com](mailto:AustinAA2016@gmail.com)
- SWRAASA 2016 (Area 4 Arkansas) October 21-23, 2016 Embassy Suites Hotel Northwest Arkansas 3303 Pinnacle Hills Pkwy, Rogers, AR 72758 [SWRAASA2016@arkansasaa.org](mailto:SWRAASA2016@arkansasaa.org) <http://swraasa2016.org>
- Southwest Regional Forum 2017 (Area 68 Southwest Texas) October 20-22, 2017 San Antonio Marriott Northwest 3233 Loop 410, San Antonio, TX 78213 214-377-3900
- SWRAASA 2018 (Area 39 Western Missouri) October 5-7, 2018 Branson Hilton & Convention Center

**Structure Committee – Jimmy D** [jdean@halfire.com](mailto:jdean@halfire.com) 214-674-7836: We met on Friday to discuss the motion by Convention Chair, Roy A and the Structure Committee will make recommendations to the presenter. The structure committee will report back at the next Area Committee Meeting in April.

**Ad-Hoc Committee on Inventory- Joe P** [netexasjoe@yahoo.com](mailto:netexasjoe@yahoo.com) (214)566-1559: We are currently working on developing a Committee consisting of Committee Chairs, DCMS, and GSRs and hopefully we will have a report by the Summer Area Committee Meeting.

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**Old (Unfinished) Business**

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None

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**New Business**

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**2016 Budget Approval – Presented as approved by Area Committee**

**Outcome:** No disapproval

**Motion to postpone 2017 Budget Approval to Summer Assembly**

**Outcome:** No disapproval

Delegate, Tom M., moderated a session of “What’s on your mind?” and Delegate Send Off.

The meeting closed with “The Lord’s Prayer” at 12:30 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kat C, NETA Secretary

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**Northeast Texas Area 65 (NETA) - Spring Committee Meeting – April 10, 2016**

**Hosted by The Gift of Sobriety- Irving, TX**

**1350 Walnut Hill Lane, Ste 135, Dallas TX 75231**

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**Area Chair Tina P** [chair65@neta65.org](mailto:chair65@neta65.org) (214)566-7561 called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM and opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer and a reading of “Why Do We Need a Conference” by Rick.

**Officer and Service Committee Reports** not shown in the main body of the minutes are included in an addendum to the minutes as combined Assembly and Area Committee reports.

**Secretary – Kat C** [secretary65@neta65.org](mailto:secretary65@neta65.org) 817-875-6284: The minutes of the Winter 2016 Area Committee Meeting were read and accepted with corrections.

**Alternate Secretary – Ed C** [altsecretary65@neta65.org](mailto:altsecretary65@neta65.org) 682-438-2807: The next mail-out will be at Town South on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Language of the Heart has shown an interest in holding a mail-out. We may need one more group or District.

**Treasurer – Lore L** [treasurer65@neta65.org](mailto:treasurer65@neta65.org) 817-517-3850: The Treasurer’s financial documents of this report have been given to the NETA Secretary and limited printed copies will be provided at the Spring ACM. Both of the documents have also been submitted to the Webmaster to be posted to the NETA website. These include: For 2016: Treasurer’s report for Spring ACM 7th Tradition Contributions spreadsheet YTD 2016.

Prudent Reserve:	Balance at bank	1/01/2016	\$15,410.73
	Earned interest YTD		\$2.42
	Balance at bank	4/09/2016	\$15,413.15
Operating Account:	Balance in Accounting	1/02/2016	\$21,355.94
	Deposits YTD	4/9/2016	\$14,353.38
	Expenses YTD	4/9/2016	-\$22,729.01
	Balance in Accounting	4/9/2016	\$12,980.31
	Balance in Bank	4/09/2016	\$14,750.24 1*

Notes: 1\* All 2016 checks deducted from accounting although not as yet cashed or cleared from bank

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**Alternate Treasurer – Wayne H** [alttreasurer65@neta65.org](mailto:alttreasurer65@neta65.org) 972-571-4799: The NETA 65 expense report can be downloaded from the NETA 65 website. Receipts from Area Assemblies should be turned in within 3 months. Area Committee expenses should be turned in by the next assembly. Orientation Expense Reports for 3 of the 8 trusted servants assigned have been received. Please submit these reports separate from your position reports. If you have received NETA 65 money please provide me with receipts for those funds. We are now Sixteen months into panel 65. I should have received receipts for expenditures through the 2016 Spring Area Assembly. Unused funds that you wish to return can be sent to the NETA 65 Treasurer (Receipts to me ---Money to Lore). Trusted Servants who have not turned in receipts for at least 50% of advanced money will not receive addition checks until that threshold has been met. I prefer expense reports and receipts to be sent to me electronically (Scan & Email). I will accept paper expense reports and even help you fill them out if you are having problems. Please do not give me anything you do not keep a copy of. Keep a copy of everything for your own records. Paper reports can be mailed to: Wayne Hall @ PO Box 219, Weston, Texas 75097. You can call me at 972-571-4799 or email at 69wdhall@gmail.com or alttreasurer65@neta65.org. If you turn in expense reports to me at an Assembly or an Area Committee Meeting, I will not record them until I return home from that meeting. Expense receipts are accepted for Assembly and Area Committee events as stated in the NETA 65 Policy and Procedures.

**Alternate Area Chair Report – Olga R** [altchair65@neta65.org](mailto:altchair65@neta65.org) 254-624-8526: 37 workshops have been presented. The three that were done since the Assembly, How to Chair a Meeting, District Inventory, How AA Intergroup Relates to the Groups. Upcoming Workshops: Safety and Respect in AA at Mid-Cities April 17<sup>th</sup> 12:30-3:00, Turning Point Inventory April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:30-4:30, How to Chair a Meeting at McKinney Miracle Group, How to Chair a Meeting at Burleson Group, and The Internet and Social Media in AA at Summer Assembly in Cleburne. The Area is available to assist in setting up workshops if asked by groups.

**Alternate Delegate Report – Keith D** [altdelegate65@neta65.org](mailto:altdelegate65@neta65.org) 214-906-5183: Nothing new to report.

**Delegate- Tom M** [delegate65@neta65.org](mailto:delegate65@neta65.org) (972)922-1014: It is truly my pleasure and privilege to serve as your delegate. Michele and I leave for Conference on Tuesday! I regret not being able to be there with y’all today, and I would like to thank Keith for presenting this report for me. I am so encouraged by all the positive feedback I’ve gotten about the spring assembly. A couple people even said it was the best assembly they can remember! And I very much appreciate everyone’s participation in the process. I will take your thoughts on the Conference agenda to New York with me, and I will think of y’all often, just as I did last year. I would still be happy to share the background with anyone who would care to read it, but by request only. Please email me at delegate65@neta65.org if you would like to read the background. To our DCMs: it is time to start scheduling delegate’s reports. Requests will go on my calendar on a first come, first served basis. Please let me know when you would like me to come to your district to give a report on the Conference results. I’m here to serve the groups and districts in our area as best I can. Kindly let me know what I may do for you. Finally, I had some other things I wanted to report out on at the committee meeting today, but between preparing for Conference, a prior commitment for this weekend, and a significant and unplanned change in my

professional life, I have not been able to get that information together. I'll try to get something out via email by the end of the month.

**Convention Chair – Convention Chair Report – Roy A [roy@andersonspecter.com](mailto:roy@andersonspecter.com) (940)368-1967:**

Spring Assembly Financial Report:

Receipts:	Coffee Card Sales and Contributions:	\$1037.00
Disbursements:	Hotel Assembly and Breakout Room Charges:	\$4,115.10
	Coffee Costs	<u>\$1,119.40</u>
	Total	\$5,234.40
	Spring Assembly Deficit	(\$4,197.40)

Deficit was paid from: Convention Account- \$463.00, NETA Transfer to Convention- \$2,000.00, NETA Account- \$1,734.40

Summer 2016 Assembly- Cleburne Conference Center/ Hampton Inn Projected Financial Report:

Receipts:	Coffee Card Sales:	\$1,000.00
Disbursements:	Cleburne Conference Center:	\$800.000
	Hospitality Suite	<u>\$170.00</u>
	Total	\$970.00
	Projected Surplus	(\$30.00)

Coffee and water costs are included in \$800.00 conference charge. Room rate at Hampton is \$85.00 and includes breakfast. Reservation cut-off is June 1<sup>st</sup>. 40 rooms x 2 is guaranteed. None of 2,000 budget expected to be used.

Fall 2016 Assembly and Convention Hilton Garden Center- Denton- Projected Financial Report:

Receipts:	Coffee Card Sales:	\$1,500.00
	Registration (\$15)	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
	Total	\$3,000.00

Disbursements:

Hilton Assembly Charge	\$800.00
Speaker Hotel Rooms	\$724.00
Speaker Airfare and Mileage	\$1,200.00
Misc. Costs	\$500.00
Hospitality Suite	<u>\$238.00</u>
Total Expected Costs	\$970.00
Projected Deficit	(\$702.00)

Coffee and water costs are included in \$800.00 conference charge. Room rate at Hilton is \$119.00 and include hot breakfast. Reservation cut-off is September 1. 50 rooms x 2 guaranteed. Less than half of budget expected to be used.

**Structure Committee Report- Jimmy D: [jdean@halfile.com](mailto:jdean@halfile.com) 214-674-7836:** One motion forwarded to the Structure Committee (SC) from the Winter Area Committee Meeting for review.

“Motion presented by Roy A., Convention Chair: Adopt the recommendations of the Convention Ad-Hoc Committee:

1. Eliminate Al-Anon participation in the Assembly. Delete Policy 4.8
2. Choose Voice that is a current member of the Area Committee or a Trusted Servant who is budgeted for attendance at the Assembly. Delete Policy 4.9
3. Delegate will consult with Treasurer and Convention Chair regarding budgetary restrictions before inviting speakers.
4. Consider choosing a speaker that is a Past Delegate from a contiguous area to NETA for budgetary issues.
5. Charge Convention Chair to appoint DCMs as a critical communication link to encourage attendance at the Convention. Add to Policy 4.2
6. Consider increasing cost of coffee card.
7. In non-election years, revise the agenda to add an additional speaker or presentation. On Friday have the Past Delegates Panel and an AA speaker; on Saturday have dinner from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm and a 7:00 pm speaker and either elections or business and if not needed add an 8:15 speaker; Sunday – continue with Trustee Report and GSO speaker.
8. In election years, ask the Area Committee to consider only bringing motions that require immediate action (eg – items requiring budgetary votes or items needing resolution prior to March Assembly) due to time constraints.”

After much discussion and careful consideration, the SC unanimously agreed to separate the motion into several motions to assist with clarification. The SC unanimously recommends the following:

1. Motion to eliminate Section 4.8 of the Policy and Procedures (P&P) and amend Section 4.5 to eliminate the paragraph "The Al-Anon and Ala-Teen speakers and chairperson shall be the responsibility of the Convention Chairperson." And insert the following: "Delegate will consult with the Treasurer and Convention Chair regarding budgetary restrictions before inviting speakers." The amended Section 4.5 would read: The agenda for the Fall Assembly and Convention shall be the responsibility of the Area Committee. AA Speakers, Chairpersons, and Voice of the Convention shall be the responsibility of the Delegate and be submitted to the Area Committee for approval. Delegate will consult with the Treasurer and Convention Chair regarding budgetary restrictions before inviting speakers. The Agenda is to be finished by May 1 in order to assure ample time for planning, printing, and mailing by the Convention Committee.
2. Motion to amend Section 4.9 of the P&P to eliminate parts A, B, and C and add the words "AA Speakers" to end. The amended Section 4.9 would read: The Northeast Texas Area Fall Assembly and Convention shall pay for the transportation, lodging, meals, and registration for the AA Speakers.
3. Included in #1.
4. Not needed – covered in #3
5. Motion to amend Section 4.2 of the P&P to add the following at the end: The Convention Chair will appoint DCMs as a critical communication link to the groups to encourage attendance at the Convention.
6. Not necessary – AC sets registration and coffee card fees.
7. Not necessary – covered in Section 4.5.
8. Motion to add new item to Section 4 at the end: The Area Committee will only bring motions to the Fall Assembly that require immediate action (e.g. - items requiring budgetary votes or items needing resolution prior to the March Assembly).

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#### Unfinished Business

**Summer Area Committee Meeting-** Sunday July 10th from 1:30PM to 4:30PM at the Eastland Group 302 N. College Dr., Eastland, TX.

**Fall Area Committee Meeting-** Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Duncanville Group or Clean Air North Group in Addison

**Summer Assembly Agenda reviewed-** approved draft with corrections

#### Motions presented by Roy A- Convention Chair to be effectively immediately if passed:

1. Motion to eliminate Section 4.8 of P&P and amend Section 4.5 to eliminate the paragraph "The Al-Anon and Ala-Teen speakers and chairperson shall be the responsibility of the Convention Chairperson." And insert the following: "Delegate will consult with the Treasurer and Convention Chair regarding budgetary restrictions before inviting speakers." The amended Section 4.5 would read: **The agenda for the Fall Assembly and Convention shall be responsibility of the Area Committee. AA Speakers, Chairpersons, and Voice of the Convention shall be the responsibility of the Delegate and be submitted to the Area Committee for approval. Delegate will consult with the Treasurer and Convention Chair regarding budgetary restrictions before inviting speakers. The Agenda is to be finished by May 1 I order to assure ample time for planning, printing, and mailing by the Convention Committee.**
2. Motion to amend Section 4.9 of the P&P to eliminate parts A, B, and C and add the words "AA Speakers" to end. The amended Section 4.9 would read: **The Northeast Texas Area Fall Assembly and Convention shall pay for the transportation, lodging, meals, and registration for the AA Speakers.**
3. Motion to amend Section 4.2 of the P&P to add the following at the end: **The Convention Chair will utilize DCMs as a critical communication link to the groups to encourage attendance at the Convention.**
4. Motion to add new item to Section 4 at the end: **The Area Committee will only bring motions to the Fall Assembly that require immediate action (e.g. items requiring budgetary votes or items needing resolution prior to the March Assembly).**

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#### New Business



**Bill H presented as Alternate Corrections Chair- No disapproval**

**Motion presented by Sarah P, DCM District 53:** To change Section 2.2 of the P&P which currently reads: A general election is held during the Fall Committee meeting of even-numbered years for purpose of electing all Chairpersons for the Area Service Committees (see 1.1 above) using Third Legacy Procedures. Selection of committee order for election will be randomly selected by the current Area Chair. Each candidate will give a brief verbal resume prior to election.

To read: Chairpersons for the Area Service Committees (see 1.1 above), chosen from lists of NETA Trusted Servants who have indicated willingness to serve in the positions, shall be agreed upon by both the incoming and outgoing Area Chairpersons, subject to NETA Assembly disapproval.

**Motion to suspend rules and send Motion directly to Area Assembly-** motion passes with 3/4 majority

**Outcome:** Forwarded to Summer Assembly

**Motion presented by Lore L, Treasurer to not have coffee cards sold at Area Assemblies and Fall Conventions**

**beginning 2017-** Sense of Area Committee taken to continue having coffee cards

**Outcome:** Not forwarded to Summer Assembly

**Motion presented by Lore L, Treasurer to not charge \$15 for the Fall Convention starting in 2017, Panel 67-** Request made to withdraw- Sense of Area Committee to continue charging for the Fall Convention.

**Outcome:** Not forwarded to Summer Assembly

What's on Your Mind? Moderated by Area Chair, Tina P.

The meeting closed with "The Lord's Prayer" at 4:36 PM

Respectfully submitted, Kat C, NETA Secretary

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**Addendum to the Minutes  
2016 Spring Assembly/Committee Meeting**

**Archives Chair – Chuck B [archives65@neta65.org](mailto:archives65@neta65.org)** (817)235-8793: Archives committee is staying busy and has geared up for the warm weather. We will set up a display at your group or district anniversary. I am excited that I found someone interested in serving as an Alternate. Please contact me if you would like a display set up at your group or district.

**Archivist/Historian Report – Keith C [archivist-historian65@neta65.org](mailto:archivist-historian65@neta65.org)** 972-974-5299: A presentation was made last weekend at the Stephenville Anniversary. I will be sitting down with someone next month to familiarize them to Area Archivist/Historian digital archiving procedures to prepare him to take position upon rotation. I am using all means available to hold down or reduce costs for Archives. The documents archives are interested in are group and district histories, valuable artifacts e.g. books, etc. Archives keeps digital financial records and minutes electronically.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) Chair – Jose G [cpc65@neta65.org](mailto:cpc65@neta65.org)** 817-371-8921: I have: Referred a professional contact received from GSO to the appropriate district for follow up and offered any assistance necessary, Delivered talk to CD6 Committee on February 13, 2016, Conducted workshop for CD6 CPC/PI Committee March 12, 2016. Conducted a workshop with District 24 on how to speak with professionals, Supported UTSW Medical School, Sent email to joint CPC PI Committee regarding Spring Assembly to set 2016 committee objectives and to support the mock committee process, Attended the three NETA GSR/DSM orientations. There is a real need for information within the districts as a lot of districts do not have CPC support. Please let the committee know how we can support your CPC efforts.

**Corrections (CFC) Chair – Bill W [corrections65@neta65.org](mailto:corrections65@neta65.org)** (817)282-4400: We have been discussing how to increase and diversify our volunteer base especially who are bilingual and/or who have been incarcerated. We are trying to get a corrections kit in every group as they are very helpful and effective in carrying the message to prisons. They are available at Central Office/Intergroups or from GSO. There are still many TDCJ facilities in which AA does not have a presence and others being served by unknown volunteers from "Dark" Districts or Groups. There is one Federal facility and countless County facilities of which we are uncertain. We are also lacking in backup plans in many facilities to assure

the continuation of our work if there are any unforeseen changes in the availability of volunteers or outside AA coordinators serving said facilities.

**Grapevine / La Vina (GV/LV) Chair – Thomas P** [grapevine65@neta65.org](mailto:grapevine65@neta65.org) 706-567-8012: This past year of getting to serve as the Grapevine/La Viña Committee Chair for Panel 65, has been an honor to serve this Area. There is a lot of stuff going on this year with the Grapevine and La Viña, it certainly is an exciting time to be sober in Alcoholics Anonymous. So far in 2016 we have had a sighting of NETA in the La Viña. In the March/April edition Elias C. from Dallas had a story published. This year has brought another change to our committee- we are teleconferencing. We recognize the massive size of our Area and how geographically spread out we are. So here is the skinny on what you need to know. The committee will be meeting on the last Sunday of the month at 4pm. To join the meeting all you have to do is call: 218-339-7800, and enter the access code: 2007750. Please share this with your group and/or district Grapevine/La Viña Representative, and yes we do have committee members who have agreed to translate for those who need it. On our last call we had 7 people.

Another HUGE thing happening this year, is the twentieth anniversary of the La Viña. To celebrate this, The La Viña is releasing a new book in April titled "One Day at a Time" This book will feature a selection of stories published in our magazine between 2007 and 2015 that discuss hope & recovery from members of the Hispanic AA community. The new book with cost \$10.99. Also, a new Spanish-language page is now available with many ideas for how to get involved.

Fun fact: Beginning five years ago, events celebrating La Viña's birthday have made a huge difference in the magazine's annual financial report. Every single event, whether big or small, contributes magazine subscriptions to help continue serving as a Twelfth Step tool. For those who had a chance to read their March or April Grapevine, they will notice a green card called "Grow your Grapevine" or "Arbor Cards". What these are is a yearlong sweepstakes that began on March 1st, and will run until February 28th, 2017. On this card there are 15 boxes. Each box holds different purpose. Our Area is 3<sup>rd</sup> out of the region. Box 1: Buy a Carry the Message Gift Subscription Certificate, Box 2: Submit a written or recorded audio story, Box 3: Buy GV print or online subscription(s), Box 4: Introduce someone to Grapevine, Box 5: Submit a photo for "If Walls Could Talk" Box 6: Sign up for the 7-day free trial of GV Online, Box 7: Write a letter to the editor (Dear Grapevine), Box 8: SEASONAL ACTIVITY: Choose one of 3 items: a) Register your Grapevine Rep (GVR) with the GV office. B) Locate one of Bill W's Tradition articles in the Grapevine Story Archives, or C) Listen to The Language of the Heart in audio (You can also go to [aagrapevine.org/grow](http://aagrapevine.org/grow) for more information on seasonal activities), Box 9: Sign up for the GV daily quote email or forward it to someone, Box 10: Use a GV Book or GV daily quote for a topic in a meeting, Box 11: Print the Sobriety Calculator Card and give it to a birthday/anniversary celebrant, Box 12: sign up to receive email newsletters from Grapevine at [aagrapevine.org/emails](http://aagrapevine.org/emails), Box 13: Buy a GV book/ebook or other item, Box 14: Add an event or attend an event listed on the Grapevine Calendar online and Box 15: Renew or extend your subscription. As it says in our literature, "Many of us exclaimed, "What an order! I can't go through with it." Well like the literature says next. Do not be discouraged, this sweepstakes doesn't have to be done individually, but rather as a team. Get with your group, your district, your sponsorship family, even your Friday night after meeting dinner crowd; and come together as a team. When submitting your "Arbor cards" you can submit them on [aagrapevine.org/grow](http://aagrapevine.org/grow) or you can snail mail them to: Grapevine 475 Riverside Drive NY, NY 10115

**Intergroup Liaison Chair – JJ J.** [intergroup65@neta65.org](mailto:intergroup65@neta65.org) (469)853-1247: A special thanks to my Alternate Dave C. for standing in for me this. Please remember your local office always need volunteers to answer phone calls, stock shelves, take inventory, or simply stop by to have a cup of coffee and give you support. Please check your group's information online to insure that it is correct.

Dallas Intergroup- Hours - Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, and the 2nd and 3rd Saturday each month from 10am-2pm

Night Watch – Service opportunities are still available if your group or individual members would like to volunteer to receive phone calls after hours. To volunteer call 214-887-6699. Intergroup Rep Meetings - are every 2nd Thursday of the month at 8pm. Meeting at First United Lutheran Church, 6202 E Mockingbird Lane. [www.aadallas.org](http://www.aadallas.org)

Fort Worth Central Office- Hours – Mon-Friday 8:45am-4:45pm, and the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Saturdays from 9am-noon.

After hours Hotline – 817-922-9859. Service opportunities are available and help is need answering the after hour phones. This is an excellent service opportunity. Contact the office to volunteer. Central Office Rep Meeting – The Steering Committee and COR meetings are the second Tuesday of even numbered months. SC is at 6pm, and COR is at 7pm. Website Address – [www.Fortworthaa.org](http://www.Fortworthaa.org) Office needs – 8 ½" x 11" paper, HP95 and HP 98 printer ink cartridges.

Tyler Central Service Office – 401 E. Front St, Bldg 3, Suite 145-B, Tyler Tx 75702. Phone # Hours – Mon-Fri 9am-4:30pm Phone number – 903-597-1796 Service Opportunities – The office is staffed by AA volunteers in half day shifts. If you would like to volunteer please contact the office. [www.tyler-aa.org](http://www.tyler-aa.org)

Central Texas Intergroup – 3201 Franklin Avenue Suite 9, Waco Texas Trustees Meeting – The second Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the Intergroup office. Intergroup Rep Meeting – Third Monday of every month at 6:30pm in the building across from St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1401 Washington Avenue. Phone 254-754-3336 (answered 24-7) Office Needs – more volunteers are needed for after-hours phone service. There have been times the phones have gone unanswered due to lack of volunteers. The office also receives request for Big Books to be donated to the local jail facilities. If you would like to buy a book or two, and donate them it would greatly help this service.

[www.centexintergroup.com](http://www.centexintergroup.com)

**Literature / Audio-Visual (AV) Chair – Bill H** [literature65@neta65.org](mailto:literature65@neta65.org) (903)269-6905: I now have the equipment ready for use. If anybody would like to view visual material at a district meeting let me know. I do have an Alternate that will be presented at the next committee meeting, Diane W. DCMs I am available to come out to your district meetings.

**Newsletter Editor – Melissa Mc** [neta65newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:neta65newsletter@gmail.com) (817)602-5390: Newsletters articles due by Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Send me something that would make a new person want to join your committee. There is a very small area for reports as the minutes take up half of the newsletter.

**Public Information Chair (PI) – Joe H** [pi65@neta65.org](mailto:pi65@neta65.org) (719)491-0898: Reference General Service Office Memorandum: We received one response from the Cornerstone Group and I passed that along to the trustees' P.I. committee as requested. There may have been more responses, but this was the only one NETA 65 PI received. If others were sent, they were sent directly to the committee. If you recall this was the memorandum which requested that AA members, groups and service entities share their actual experience using social media and social media platforms for A.A purposes. For those who have not heard, Lynn P., our PI Alternate Chair, passed away in Q4 of last year as the result of a motorcycle accident. Lynn's presence at many service venues at which he was a smiling participant will be sorely missed. NETA65 PI is in search of an Alternate Chair to replace Lynn. Did you know our Public Information Workbook contains: 1) Instructions for forming a PI Committee, 2) Suggested PI Committee Goals, 3) Guidance on a multitude of topics and 4) Sample Guide Letters to: Schools, Professionals, Physicians, Police Departments, the Clergy, Senior Citizen Centers and Broadcast Outlets.

AA PI Events: Attended the GSR/DCM Orientation in Tyler TX, Our NETA65 WebServant and I presented a workshop on Internet and Social Media in the World of AA at District 91 in Waco, TX on March 12th. David also walked the group through a group website he had created and fielded questions regarding group sites. Since our last Assembly I attended the Southwest Regional Forum in St. Louis, Missouri

Victim Impact Panel and Repeat Offender: Did you know there are at least 10 Victim Impact Panel opportunities across the greater Dallas and Fort Worth area AA every month and at least 2 of those are for Spanish Speaking opportunities? Go to <http://www.madd.org/local-offices/tx/north-texas/victim-impact-panels/> and see the opportunities available in your area.

**Webservant- David L** [webservant65@neta65.org](mailto:webservant65@neta65.org) (972)894-2459: If you are a Committee Chair it would be nice to have a current report from you on the site. Why? So your district counterparts can see what you do at the Area level, DCM's can get current information, and I don't toss and turn at night wondering what Archives has been up to. If you don't know how to upload a document to your page just send it to [webservant65@neta65.org](mailto:webservant65@neta65.org) and I will do it for you.

**Special Need-Accessibilities Chair- Jamie C** [spn65@neta65.org](mailto:spn65@neta65.org) 817-880-9292: I have visited several Groups, District and the Area Training Session in Eastland, where I discussed Special Needs with the new SNAC Chair for District 71. There is a motion before the Annual Meeting of the General Service Conference and the Delegates. I am very concerned about them redoing our SNAC Kit and taking out all references to Disabilities or Disabled. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a Federal Regulation, and we are still responsible for ensuring that we do our best to serve members with Special Needs. Our committee cannot be all things to all members. Please let me know if you would like me to come to your Group or District for a Presentation or Workshop.

**Treatment Facilities Chair- Joanne N** [treatment65@neta65.org](mailto:treatment65@neta65.org) (515)360-5442: Had a very successful NETA Workshop for Taking Meetings into Treatment Facilities between 60-70 attended. Some ideas for future Conference agenda items have surfaced and we will be working on this in our Treatment Committee Meetings.

Goals and Activities for 2016- Continue collecting information from the District Treatment Chairs and/or DCMs to discern what the needs are in the Area. Please contact me with the information on your District Treatment Chairs. I have plans to forward an agenda item to the 2017 General Service Conference for the Treatment Workbook and Kit.

**Translation Services- Tomas G** [translation65@neta65.org](mailto:translation65@neta65.org) (972)979-7327: I'm working on translating all documents and live translation at Assemblies and Committee Meetings. Thanks for the support and help.

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