



# NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA 65

## Quarterly newsletter

The heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly

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**Northeast Texas Area Fall Assembly / Convention Minutes - September 29, 30 October 1, 2017**

**Radisson Ft. Worth South - 100 E. Altamesa Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76134**

**Theme for the 2017 General Service Conference “Supporting Our Future”**

**Friday – September 29, 2017**

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6:00pm **Welcome to the NETA Fall Convention** opened by Jeannie A-L., the voice of the Fall Convention.

**NETA Past Delegates Panel** chaired by Keith D., Delegate panel 67. Past delegates included Tom M. panel 65, Bill N. Delegate panel 57, Luis P. Delegate panel 49, and Phil E. panel 47.

8:00pm **AA Speaker Meeting.** Chaired by Tina P., Alt. Delegate. Speaker was Lori P., Past Delegate, panel 56, Area 46, New Mexico.

9:20pm Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

**Saturday – September 30, 2017**

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8:05am **Welcome to the NETA Fall Assembly** by Area Chair: Olga R. [chair67@neta65.org](mailto:chair67@neta65.org) opened the Assembly with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Stephanie O. read “Why We Need a Conference” in Spanish and Patsy E. read it in English.

8:15am Reports:

**Secretary, Lore L.** [secretary67@neta65.org](mailto:secretary67@neta65.org) read the minutes from the NETA 65 Summer Assembly, June 24-25, 2017 at the Maude Cobb Convention Center at 100 Grand Blvd., Longview, TX 75604. Hosted by District 41. Motioned to approve with corrections as noted by Wayne H., Alt Chair, seconded by Rick W., Alt. GSR at the Grapevine Unity Group. Minutes approved.

**Alt. Secretary, Sarah P.** [altsecretary67@neta65.org](mailto:altsecretary67@neta65.org) Extra newsletters will be brought to table after the break. Fall newsletter deadline is October 28. The mail-out is November 12, 2017. The Colony Group @ 10:30am. 5201 S. Colony Blvd, Ste 525, Colony, TX 75056. Winter 2018 newsletter mail-out. February 18, 2018. Texoma #1. District 24. Spring 2018 newsletter mail-out. April 29, 2018. Group? Summer 2018 newsletter mail-out. July 29, 2018. Group? Fall newsletter mail-out. October 28, 2018. Group? Any group or district that is willing to host one of our mail-outs please let me know. The more people we have, the less time it takes, and food encourages us all! IL&S.

**Treasurer, Sheila W.** [treasurer67@neta65.org](mailto:treasurer67@neta65.org) I have provided print outs of current financial state. As you can see we have collected about as much as we have spent. There is a printed out a list of contributors. If your group name is not on there that means I have received nothing for the year 2017 from your group. Please check with your treasurer and confirm that your contributions are going to the correct address. Mailing Address for Contributions: 222 E McKinney Street, Suite 100, Denton TX 76201

For those who are curious about how much budget you have left, you can look at the detail of the report printed and it will tell you all the checks written.

Part of my job is to make sure that the Prudent Reserve and Orange Can funds are looked over. I had a chance to look over the Corrections/Orange Can registers and they are handling everything quite well. Be sure to indicate on any check if it is to be designated for the Orange Can and/or Corrections. These funds are designated for specific purposes and must be accounted for that way. Tomorrow we will be voting on the 2018 budget so please be sure to pick up a copy of the proposed budget which will be available then. It is my pleasure to Serve - God knows it keeps me out of bars.

**Alt. Treasurer, Brandy H.** [alttreasurer67@neta65.org](mailto:alttreasurer67@neta65.org) It appears that we about 59% of the expenses. Please note that there is an error with last names on my report, please remove before sharing or posting at your group.

**Convention Committee, Alt Chair Joe H.** [altconvention67@neta65.org](mailto:altconvention67@neta65.org) proudly serving as your Alt Chair under Roy A. Chair [convention67@neta65.org](mailto:convention67@neta65.org) Thanks to James D. for help. The hotel is having challenges. The raisers and platform collapsed yesterday. So we are shooting from the hip and doing the best we can. The hospitality room is right beyond the breakfast area. Please contribute.

#### Upcoming Assemblies (updated 10/5/2017):

- Spring 2018: March 16-18, 2018. Location: The Colony, The Colony Marriott at Cascades. 5917 Stone Creek Drive, The Colony, TX 75056. 469-287-0372 Room Cost - \$ 104 per night includes Breakfast. Hotel Reservation Deadline 2/23/18 Host: District 21
- Summer 2018: June 8-10, 2018. Location: Texarkana. Wyndham Garden Hotel Texarkana. 5301 North Stateline Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503. 903-792-3222. Room Costs - \$ 69-74 per night. Hotel Reservation Deadline 05/31/18. Host: Texarkana
- Fall 2018: September 21-23, 2018. Location: Deep in the Heart of D22, hotel a mystery? Host: District 22
- Spring 2019: March 15-17, 2019. Location: Open. Host: Open
- Summer 2019: June 14-17, 2019. Location: Open. Host: Open
- Fall 2019: September 20-22, 2019. Location: Open. Host: Open

Spring Summer and Fall of 2019 are open. If your district is interested, get the word out. At District 22, we invested and wanted people to get their feet on the ground and get them to experience an assembly. Get with me. The page showing what is required for the Assemblies is in the back. The requirements for each assembly are slightly different. We average a 50-room night requirement.

Assemblies and Budget: Spring assembly marginally broke even due to the District 22 contributions. The Summer assembly in Longview required \$438 from the operating account. The Convention's operating account has \$3088 at this time.

**Alt Chair, Wayne H, [69wdhall@gmail.com](mailto:69wdhall@gmail.com)** Thank You for the opportunity to serve as your Alternate Chair for NETA 65 Panel 67. I look forward to providing assistance to any Group, District or member of NETA 65. I hope you will put me to work anywhere that I can help. I am looking for people who are willing to assist as presenters for NETA 65 Workshops. Please see me and give me your contact information. There are a number of established workshop topics. Please see me to get a list. We are also willing to help with additional workshop topics. Call me and we can discuss your ideas for a workshop. If your group or District is interested in having a workshop please let me know how we can be of assistance.

#### Workshops completed recently:

- District 22 CPC Workshop August 13th 2017 Wylie Group
- 3 Legacy Sponsorship Language of the Heart Group 16 July 2017
- How To Chair A Meeting Big Book Group Rockwall August 6, 2017
- Service Outside the Home Group Language of the Heart Group 8-20-2017
- How To Chair A Meeting District 91 ST. Albane's Church in Waco 9-2-2017 6-9 PM
- Sponsorship Big Country Conference Abilene Texas 9-3-2017
- How To Chair A Meeting Big Country Conference Abilene Texas 9-2-2017
- APATHY in AA Language of the Heart Group 9-24-2017 1:30 to 4:30 PM

#### Presently we have the following workshops already scheduled:

- Safety and Respect in AA Bedford Barr Street Group 2045 Bedford Rd (Bedford First Baptist Church) Bedford TX 76021 10-28-2017 2-4:30 PM
- MYTHS in AA District 91 ST. Albane's Church in Waco 11-4-2017 6-9 PM

Several other workshops are in the planning stage. Information about upcoming Workshops will be posted on the NETA 65 Calendar as they are finalized. Chris has been doing a great job of getting them on the website. Translations Committee wanted everyone to know that they are available to Translate at your workshops. Please Contact Jamie C. (Translations Committee Chair) to arrange for that service. Respectfully Submitted.

Which days are preferred for workshops? --- Wayne H. Yes, Saturday and Sunday are better as this gives people with jobs the opportunity to attend. Saturday or Sunday does not make a difference.

#### **Alt.Delegate, Tina, P. [altdelegate67@neta65.org](mailto:altdelegate67@neta65.org)**

- Southwest Regional Forum 2017 (Area 68 SW Texas) – Oct. 20-22, 2017 – room rate of \$135 extended now until 10/4. San Antonio Marriott Northwest. 3233 NW Loop 410, San Antonio, TX 78213. 214-377-3900 [www.swrforum.org](http://www.swrforum.org) The SW Forum has GSO come to us and the purpose is to provide better communications with the service region. The host committee acts as a liaison with the regions, but the GSO is responsible for the agenda. Meet with people from all over the region. Patrick C., a GSO Staff Member on the Communications Desk speaking at our Convention will also be at the SW Forum.
- 1st National Corrections Conference (Area 38 Eastern Missouri) – Nov. 10-12, 2017. Doubletree Hotel, 1973 Craigshire, St. Louis, MO. 63146. 314-434-0100 room rate \$109 [www.nationalcorrectionsconference.org](http://www.nationalcorrectionsconference.org)
- 72nd Texas State AA Convention (Area 65 NETA) June 22-24, 2018. Westin DFW Airport. 4545 W. Carpenter Frwy, Irving, TX 75063. 972-929-4500 room rate \$99.00 (double) [www.txaaconvention.org](http://www.txaaconvention.org) The following year will be in Houston, June 7-9, 2019
- SWRAASA 2018 (Area 39 Western Missouri) – Oct. 5-7, 2018. Branson Hilton Hotel and Convention Center. 200 E Main St, Branson, MO 65616. 417-336-5400 [registration@swraasa2018.org](mailto:registration@swraasa2018.org)

- The international 2020 July 2-5 in Detroit. If you look at Box 459, it will post information as it becomes available, it will be listed. Around Sept 1, 2019.

**Delegate, Keith D.** [delegate67@neta65.org](mailto:delegate67@neta65.org). A motion has been proposed by The Camels Group, District 12, Area 64 (Tennessee), to provide communication options for materials coming from the GSO, rather just have all materials sent out automatically in hard-copy and by postal mail. Instead, this would allow trusted servants to opt-in for receiving all possible materials to be sent electronically instead. I hope this motion reaches the GSC final agenda, as the cost savings alone would be significant over time, not to mention the speed and sometimes accuracy of these distributions would be improved.

In the minutes from the July GSB meeting is a note that stated a feature to improve eBook pagination navigation has been completed, which I look forward to seeing (no date on the implementation).

I attended the NAATW again this year earlier this month, and this year, we have 3 GSO Staff members, including our new I.T. Director, Cynthia, and one of our new General Service Trustees, David N., all of which contributed to what is becoming a tremendous source for discussion and ideas on how we use technology in AA as a whole, as well as locally. I learned that FNV 2.0 is being developed and Cynthia would love to our feedback and suggestions on how to make this new version better. Also, Clement from the GSO was there and we discussed the importance of having more fellowship involvement in the new website design (aa.org). I also learned that Lois L., who was here last August to do a technology workshop with me, is assisting with the YouTube channels for AAWS and AA Grapevine, which are still in the works.

Onto the more difficult matter to discuss, I know many of us are very anxious to have more information regarding the lawsuit to acquire the copy of the manuscript previously owned by Lois Wilson. I do not have much additional information to distribute here today. I do know that Ken Roberts', the current owner, time to answer the complaint has been extended until October 25th, 2017. I also want to report that an agenda item has been submitted by Area 01 (Northwest Florida / Southwest Alabama) to reorganize the AAWS and General Service Boards and the item has been forwarded to the trustees' Nominating Committee. I have distributed what info has come from the GSB and the AAWS boards as I have received it. Please see me afterwards if you are not receiving these updates and I can email you what I have. I also know a number of "facts" that I have not fully corroborated yet, which I would willingly share with you one on one, but will leave out of my report today, or you can get all of the info and documents from the Facebook Secret Group "The Manuscript Litigation" where we are discussing this issue openly and any AA member is welcome to join.

Now, my personal point of view at this time is that I am extremely disappointed in the GSB for undertaking such a divisive and costly action. I'm further disappointed by the refusal's to discuss the issue, even the non-legal aspects. As such, and only if you agree, I want encourage all AA entities and members to withhold contributions to the GSO at this time, as I am doing that personally and encouraging my home group to do the same. If your personal or group conscience reconciles with this "power of the purse" statement, please do not just not send money, but instead send a message about why you are withholding contributions. Don't just send money – send a statement as to why you are not sending money so they know.

I believe our voices need to be heard and regardless of any legal justification for the lawsuit, I do believe that the some of the actions taken by AAWS and the GSB in the pursuit of this relic are not based on AA spiritual principles, are damaging to AA and are using our money in a way that has nothing to do with our Primary Purpose. On a more positive note, something good has come from the lawsuit - AA members have come out of the woodwork to share and learn more about our 3 Legacies and how our service structure works than I have ever witnessed. I am reminded that there is no waste in God's economy. That is my report.

Rick W., Alt. GSR at the Grapevine Unity Group – please explain about not sending \$ to GSO. Is there something to take back or a place for our groups for more information? Is part of the problem the transparency issue? --- Keith D. Yes, we do not know all of the facts. We hope and need to know more about the lawsuit.

9:15am Break. Olga R., chair, asked the newcomers and first time Assembly attendees to stand up and be recognized.

9:30-10:15am **GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions.** Olga R. noted that for the GSR chairs were Doug from the Allen Group and ?? DCM chairs were Terry O. and ??

10:15-10:30am **GSR/DCM Sharing Sessions Report Back.**

GSR report by Casey F. GSR for the Wylie Group: Points included to breach out to districts to facilitate room sharing, how to show why we need to attend Assemblies, have DCMs or Alts to attend Group Conscience meetings to explain that you represent the group, suggest to invite service individuals to run workshops, safety in the groups is a problem, in the Safety in AA Workshop at the Barr Street Group said to only give keys to chairs, coordinate with police and the community. Look at aa.org under "safety" for shared experience for US and Canada. At one group, after a person was assaulted, the group asked the person to not return, also can speak with the landlord, but make sure that you are not tuning away people who need help. Keep a list for assistance such as homeless shelters. Bylaws, you must have a sponsor to be a trusted servant, but people in positions often do not have sponsors, either change the bylaws or have the person step down, have people to greet new comers.

DCM report by Jess D., Alt DCM 56, Big Book Group in Rockwall: points included attend district level events, at meetings input

sponsees with newcomers, be careful on how we discuss service work. Too many people have malaise, we need to share excitements. Reach out to home groups and GSRs. Calling to make sure GSRs know of events, personally check in with GRSs to help them and keep them informed, focus on the future, groups have autonomy, some groups are struggling to keep their doors open, let people know where they can go for help, educate people about the service structure and education... about how all of this works and why we are here. Offer to help groups and GSRs to get people to be more involved, how can the districts help more. Home grown speakers, group level panels on things that are of interest to the groups. Facilitate the committees for the education of groups. Calling on the people around you to help and inspire interest and

**Structure Committee**, Phil E. past delegate panel 47 read the minutes from the Structure Committee held July 30, 2017, at Mid-Cities Group. Chaired by Jim C. past delegate panel 61, submitted by Tom M. past delegate panel 65. (do not have minutes from Structure Committee).

10:30-11:30am **Standing Committee Meetings**. Chairs, their alternatives and interested AA members gathered.

11:30am Break for Lunch

1:05pm **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Historian/Archivist**, Eddie T. [eddiel1960@hotmail.com](mailto:eddiel1960@hotmail.com) Hello everyone I am serving as your historian archivist for panel 67. I set up a display at the edge of the woods conference on Sept. 15th through the 17th in Edgewood Texas. If you would like me to set up a display or to do a presentation about the history of AA please let me know. Thank you for allowing me to serve,

**Archives**, Frank W. Chair, [archives67@Neta65.org](mailto:archives67@Neta65.org) or [stuckrecovery@yahoo.com](mailto:stuckrecovery@yahoo.com) Activities since the last assembly Greg L. (Alternate Archives Chair) displayed the Archives exhibit to the NTR Aug. 18 -20<sup>th</sup>, Eddie T. (Archivist) Keith C (past archivist/historian) took the ODAAT anniversary and display to the Edge of the Woods Conference in Tyler on Sept. 15-17th where the donation can brought in \$8.00.

Future Activities: On Oct 8th we are scheduled to set up the Archives at the Grape Athon at the GUV Group in Grapevine. We will display at the Tyler AA Anniversary will be celebrating 71 years of AA in Tyler TX on 12-14 January 2018. Bruton Terrace Group has asked us to return on March 10-11, 2018 for their Anniversary. To request an Archives presentation please send email request.

The archives is being more relevant because of the elephant in the room. We are willing to talk about the relevance and the truth of history is important. It is our duty to preserve that history and we are working on making changes and improvements to our displays.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community**, Tom G., Chair, [cpc67@neta65.org](mailto:cpc67@neta65.org) to reach the professional community – it has been a busy time since the late report on the summer. We did two days at the national dentist association. Informative for them and for us. It was the first of such events. Wylie and Denton and how to just get started. Also had a table for presentation at the NTR.

Fellow Trudgers: Since the last CPC Report, the committee has accomplished the following:

- July 21 & 22. Table presentation at The National Dental Association annual convention in Dallas
- August 13. CPC/PI District Workshop and Presentation in Wylie Texas
- August 18, 19 & 20. Table presentation at North Texas Round-Up in Dallas, Tx
- August 20. CPC/PI District Workshop and Presentation in Denton, Texas
- September 6. Table presentation at Grapevine/Colleyville School District Middle & High School Student Counselors
- September 11, 12 & 13. CPC/PI presentation at TCU School Nursing in Ft Worth, TX with Jose and PI committee. We spoke with 3 different second year nursing students – for 3 separate days and classes. What is AA and what it is not. We will continue at the FTW TCU.
- September 17. CPC/PI Committee conference call we

We had a great CPC meeting today with lots of participation. The next conference call to be 11/19 2pm conference call: Call-In #: 605-475-4919. Access Code: 866202

**Corrections, Nicole S. Chair.** [nicolebella05@gmail.com](mailto:nicolebella05@gmail.com) and Bill H.. Bill M. Alt Corrections Chair [corrections67@neta65.org](mailto:corrections67@neta65.org) This is my first official meeting as Corrections Chair. Bill M. will be the chair for our upcoming corrections conference. Thank you for all of the people who are helping.

Activity since we met at Summer Assembly:

- Met with DCM from D24, 30 Jun 17 in Anna about Grayson County Jail mtg.
- Attended Speak-A-Thon at Gurney Unit with Bill M., Bill H. and 2 other AA members. Will do again in January 2018.
- Had a display table at North Texas Round-up, August 2017
- Collin county, Tarrant county, and xxx county jails – what is AA and what it is not. To give them literature rack and a case of big books. To help the inmates and help them transition out.
- Met AA member in Dallas to deliver Orange Cans
- Provided 6 cases total of (20 Aug) Big Books and Inmate to Inmate to State/County Jails one member taking into Eastland



- county jail.
- Grayson County Jail, Women's Meeting began 7 Jul 17!
- Grayson County Jail, MENS meetings pending (20 Aug)
- Met with Collin County Jail, Sheriff Office
- Provided lit. rack with literature-Big Books, Inmate to Inmate
- District 71, after years, AA member taking meetings into Eastland County Jail
- I have responded to 3 GSO requests, (inmates who write to GSO for information on AA) 2 inmates in prison and 1 inmate getting out of prison, only with the help from NETA65 AA members
- We also did a workshop in Watauga on 16 Sept. 2017, Corrections Workshop
- 26 Sep 17, will provide Colling County Sheriff Office with Corrections rack with literature

#### Other news:

- D24, will be educating local Judges, Probation Officers, Police Departments on "What AA is/What AA is not." This will be a certificate program for these professionals. Better than this news, D21/D22 will be assisting as the legal folks in those Counties are already requesting the same class. NETA65 CPC/PI is assisting in this!!
- D22, seeking communication with Rockwall County professionals to begin AA meetings in the jail. More to come.
- CD6, Tarrant County Jail
- D71, Now taking meetings into Eastland County Jail
- Upcoming 2017 Corrections Committee Events: 9 Dec 2017, Corrections Workshop, location: Gainesville or Denison \*TBA.
- 10-13 Nov 2017, I will be attending International Corrections Conference in St. Louis if you need to contact a jail in your area, just contact me directly and I will get that information for you.

Back on the corrections committee map – as to where AA is taking meetings into prisons and jails. If you find your information is missing. Get with me to so I can get the information out. If I missed a Unit/Jail you are taking an AA meeting into please let me know. If you need books to take to the jails and prisons, we can get books directly to the unit. If you need books, do not call the day before you go. We are not miracle workers. Please if you need big books, give us at least a week.

When requesting literature from the Orange Can fund, PLEASE give us at least 7 days to place the order and get them to you. Thank you. If you have an old Orange Can # - send to 4620 Gilbert Avenue, Dallas, TX 75219

The Orange Can Fund financial report has not been done. \$2650.41 not including the \$ sent to \$581.21 sent to Sheila. If you need BB and do not have money, contact us. It is an honor and privilege to serve with the help from all of you and all of the Bills. Love in Service,

Bill H. reported, I am one of the unpaid Bills and responsible for the corrections workshop. I have been in touch with the Spanish speaking community and we will set up a secret AA Facebook page for the Corrections Workshop page. We will launch this week and report back at the next ACM meeting. We are working to help the issue with the ENG and SPN working side by side. If it works, we will share with the other committees.

**Grapevine/LaViña**, Janice S. Chair [Grapevine67@neta65.org](mailto:Grapevine67@neta65.org) Henry and myself did a presentation at the Spanish District meeting in August, inviting the District Committee LaVina Member to participate in the Grape a Thon and have a speaker present the history of the LaVina. Our committee meeting July 30, 2017 at the Lewisville Group, we discuss the upcoming Grape-a-Thon, planned the Agenda, current articles and events happening with the Grapevine. No meeting for August. Had a conference call with Rick w. Gary C. from Grapevine Unity Group and myself to finalize plans for the Grape a Thon.

Grapevine News for October, participate as member from your "Region in 4 Seasons of Service" send in 300 words or less and/or an anonymity-protected photo. Have you used Grapevine in your personal program or for 12 step work? Grapevine New Book, Voices of Women in AA \$11.50. Submit your stories for upcoming issues. "How the Steps Changed My Life." Due Nov. 5. "Sober Travel Due Dec. 5.

LaVina upcoming issues." Welcoming the Newcomer" Due Now for the May/June 2018 issue. Grapevine Magazine's New APP \$1.99 w12 month subscription. For Android, iPhone & iPad

Annual Photo Contest, send your best photographs by Dec. 1st each year. [www.aagrapevine.org/photocontest](http://www.aagrapevine.org/photocontest).

Don't forget GRAPE-A-THON October 8, 2017 1:30pm – 5:00pm. Grapevine Unity Group. 419 E. Northwest Highway, Grapevine, TX 76051 There are flyers and Agenda on the Grapevine Table. Please come to the Grape-a-thon this next week. We will have workshops, presentations on the history of GV and LV, people with experience, We hope to see as many people as possible. If you have any questions I would be happy to answer. In love and Service.

**Intergroup:** Deb S. not present. [intergroup67@neta65.org](mailto:intergroup67@neta65.org) Christy H. IG Alt. Chair 214-549-6143. [christybunyan@hotmail.com](mailto:christybunyan@hotmail.com) presented Deb's report. NETA65 has (7) seven Intergroups/Central Offices spanning a wide area from Texarkana to Waco encompassing approximately 1525 miles of travel. On 21 August, Gwen (Treatment Chair) and I visited with the Waco Central Office/Central Texas Intergroup. Gwen presented a brief overview of the Bridging the Gap program. In addition, I have also visited

both the Dallas and Ft. Worth Spanish IGs and the Ft. Worth Central Office. Communications continue to work well using phone and email devices when travel is not feasible. Please let me know whenever there are any changes to your Intergroup/Central Office contact information. NETA65 IG locations and general meeting information are as follows: (updated as of 23 Sept 2017)

- Dallas Intergroup, Phone: 214-887-6699 (24 Hours), 6162 E. Mockingbird LN, STE 213, Dallas, TX., Hours: Monday-Friday 10AM-5PM and the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of each month from 10AM-2PM. (Kevin DCM 54 ?? noted that Dallas IG is now closed on Saturdays and extended hours to 6pm on weekdays.). To volunteer please call 214-887-6699. Intergroup meetings are every 2nd Thursday of every month at 8PM at the McIver Chapel, Wilshire Baptist Church, 4316 Abrams Rd., Dallas, TX. 75214; Website: [www.aadallas.org](http://www.aadallas.org)
- Oficina Intergrupala Hispana De Alcoholicos Anonimos Dallas, Phone: 214-905-0770, Intergroup meeting times are Saturday's at 4PM at 3530 Forest Ln., STE 323, Dallas, TX. Website: [www.aadallasgroup.com](http://www.aadallasgroup.com)
- Fort Worth Central Office, Phone: 817-922-9859 (24 hours) or 1-800-396-1602, 1501 Hemphill St., Room A., Ft. Worth, TX., Hours: Mon-Friday 8:45AM-4:45PM, and the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of each month from 9AM-noon. After hours Hotline: 817-922-9859. Volunteers are always needed. Please call 817-922-9859 if you would like to volunteer. Central Office Steering Committee/COR meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of even numbered months at the Harbor Club in Ft Worth. Steering Committee meeting is at 6PM and the COR meeting is at 7PM. Website: [www.fortworthaa.org](http://www.fortworthaa.org) Office Email: [officemgr@fortworthaa.org](mailto:officemgr@fortworthaa.org) or [assistant@fortworthaa.org](mailto:assistant@fortworthaa.org)
- Oficina Intergrupala Hispana De Alcoholicos Anonimos Ft. Worth, Phone: 817-921-6882, Intergroup meeting times are the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month, 9:00-11:00 AM at 3244 W. Seminary Dr., Ft. Worth, TX. Website: [www.oficinaintergrupalfortworthtx.org](http://www.oficinaintergrupalfortworthtx.org)
- Tyler Central Office, Phone: 903-597-1796 (24 Hours), 401 E. Front St., Building 3, ST 145B, Tyler, TX., Hours: Mon-Fri 9AM-4:30PM. The office is staffed by AA volunteers in half day shifts. Please call 903-597-1796 if you would like to volunteer. The Central Office Business meetings are the 2nd Saturday of every even numbered month at 10:30AM at Fountain Square, 401 E. Front St., STE 145B. Website: [www.tyler-aa.org](http://www.tyler-aa.org) Office Email: [east.tx.cso@gmail.com](mailto:east.tx.cso@gmail.com)
- Waco Central Office/Central Texas Intergroup, Phone: 254-754-3336 (24 hours), 3201 Franklin Ave, STE 9, Waco, TX., Intergroup meetings are the 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30PM, at 1401 Washington Ave., (the building across from St. Mary's Catholic Church), Website: [www.centexintergroup.com](http://www.centexintergroup.com) Email: [centraltexasintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:centraltexasintergroup@gmail.com)
- Texarkana Intergroup, Phone: 903-798-1024 (24 hours) Hotline: 800-839-1686, Business meetings are the 1st Monday of every month at the Serenity Club, 2013 S. Ann St., Texarkana, TX. 75501, Intergroup meetings are the 2nd Saturday of every month at the Serenity Club, Doors open at 5:30PM, Food at 6:30PM followed by Speaker at 8PM, lots of dance, food, fun and Fellowship. Website: [www.texarkanaaa.org](http://www.texarkanaaa.org) Office Email: [texarkanaintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:texarkanaintergroup@gmail.com)

NOTE: Volunteers are ALWAYS needed. Please contact your local Central Office/Intergroup to volunteer.

**Literature/AV Committee**, Stephen S. 214-415-9240 [literature67@neta65.org](mailto:literature67@neta65.org) reported that now that I am almost out of boxes at the new house, I'm inventorying all of the NETA AV/Literature supplies, looking to set up tables for conventions, assemblies and workshops. I'm looking to make some new boards. I will be the Texarkana Intergroup Convention in November. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

**Newsletter Editor**: - Dee D. [Neta65neweletter@gmail.com](mailto:Neta65neweletter@gmail.com) voted in at the ACM meeting in Abilene. Hopefully will get better at it. This will be the first newsletter to do by myself. The deadline for next articles 10/29/17. I am looking for people to help to help with articles and asked Lore to send out an eblast.

**PI**: - Clyde R. Chair. [publicinfo67@neta65.org](mailto:publicinfo67@neta65.org) We contacted radio stations and colleges in Abilene the Metroplex, and McKinney and around the Sherman area. We had 3 radio stations in McKinney, Gainesville and Sherman did the downloads of the PSAs (public service announcements).

Two stations in the area also did downloads of the PSAs, but no commitments to air them as yet. In the Abilene area we have talked to ACU about AA, the social Work Program and they showed interest in attending AA meetings. And we will be in contact with them in a few weeks. I find it exciting that they contacted me and I have the information for them.

I have contacted the GSO about how to do the radio stations and I have to find in my emails, as I am not technologically adept. We have some members contact TV stations. The TV stations have a vendor that copies PSAs, they have to review before they accept the PSAs to air them.

**Treatment Committee**: Gwen W. Chair. [Treatment67@neta65.org](mailto:Treatment67@neta65.org) The Treatment Committee is looking for a group that would like to be of service by hosting our 2018 Workshop. We would like to schedule the workshop for a Sunday in February. If your group is interested in hosting, please contact me. We have one set up, but want to make sure that we have a back-up.

I attended the Dallas Intergroup Office committee meeting on July 13th and Ft. Worth Spanish Central Office on July 30th. I

appreciate these committees allowing me time in their meetings to discuss the use of the Bridging the Gap program and other Treatment related topics. I'm scheduled to attend the Fort Worth Central offices committee meeting on January 13th. Also to Texarkana and Tyler. We have uploaded several Treatment related forms, including information to assist with participation in the Bridging the Gap program, onto the NETA 65 web site for the convenience of our area members.

It is a simple program between treatment centers and an AA meeting. After the treatment you are on a slippery slope. We line up people with a phone number to have sober members of AA to take newly released treatment patients to get to an AA meeting. If you want we can bring in workshops or a mini workshop, adopted by CD6. It helps to answer questions about treatment.

**Special Needs-Accessibility Committee:** position empty

**Translations:** Jamie C. Chair, [Translation67@NETA65.org](mailto:Translation67@NETA65.org) it is a pleasure to serve you. Our committee has translated for Tina, Alt. Delegate at District 90. Also, we have translated for Treatment and Grape/La Vina at the Hispanic Committee Meeting. JJ translated for Intergroup Liaison in Fort Worth, and Tomas translated in Dallas. Please contact me, if you are willing to help Translate Written Documentation or Verbal documentation. If you know that you have something coming up, do not wait until the last minute. Please submit request for Translation Services to me, as soon as possible, allowing at least one week for Written Translation, or for longer reports a minimum of one day per page. You may contact me.

**Webmaster:** Chris W. [webmaster67@Neta65.org](mailto:webmaster67@Neta65.org) I attended the NAATW in Sacramento from 9/8-9/10. How do we use the technology? and how to we serve the alcoholics? I can give you access to the reports, links to a google drive and access yourself. It was an amazing experience and I was able to interact with many people regarding the use of Technology in AA. I have the notes, which are comprehensive as well as the recordings of the sessions for anyone who is interested. I have been asked to present at one district in detail and I am available to do so if your district would like a presentation.

The NAATW was very well attended. There were people from every level of our service structure including 3 GSO staff members. The GSO gave us an opportunity to be involved in their RFP for the rebuild of aa.org.

There were a few presentations about how new technology is being used in other areas to engage and communicate with districts and GSRs to help them be more active at both the district and area levels. I plan on spending time with our Secretary and Alt Secretary to discuss them to see if any of them could help us.

This was true as well at the district level. There was much discussion about how to use tech to engage new GSRs and also to increase the efficiency of our communication.

I also have some exciting take-a-ways from how technology is being used at the group level. One example of this is the use of Video on a group's website called the parking lot video. Many of us have either heard the story or been the person who has come to AA, gotten to the parking lot, and then driven off. I saw an example of a video used on a group website that starts in the parking lot and shows where we park, what it looks like inside the AA room, where the snacks and coffee are, etc.

The biggest take-away is that we need a tech resource at the area level that is more than just a person who manages our website. I plan on starting the process at our Area Committee Meeting to begin discussion of forming a Technology Committee next panel. Many other areas have them and I believe we have a responsibility to be a technology resource to our other Area Committees and to our districts.

This fall we will begin migrating our neta65.org website from Concrete to Wordpress and also beginning to use Google for Non-profits for our email and possibly some of our document sharing. We will have duplicate sites up and running before doing domain transfer which should happen in the Winter.

NY and San Diego – I get them confused as they are so similar; is how to get GSRs to come to district meetings - invite GSRs to come to your first district meeting by sending a video to generate interest. It feels so much better with a video help to feel better about going to a meeting.

Also in San Diego, a group that has its own website, how many have gone to their first meeting and driven about the parking lot. And over here is where people will be talking and smoking. I was thinking about how it would help my own group Cornerstone. How a video could really help at a group level. One alcoholic making them feel more welcome and making it easier to walk into the room.

I have spoken with Wayne and some DCMs, and would be happy to come out to your group to please contact me. The easiest to reach me... I am the easiest email... [anything@neta65.org](mailto:anything@neta65.org) such as [chrisyouareanidot@neta65.org](mailto:chrisyouareanidot@neta65.org)

The biggest take-a-way that I believe that the area level we need a technology committee. And at the next ACM I will be presenting that. I believe we need a technology resource at the area level. In addition this Fall we will be migrating to a WordPress website and we will be considering using Google for non-profits. The next NAATW will be in Austin TX, Sept 14-16, 2018. ?? This conflicts with the 2018 NETA Fall Assembly of same date – tentative date.

**Delegate**, Keith D., I have the General Service Conference Report books in the back of the room in English and Spanish. Please take all that you need.

2:15 Break

2:30 - **Business Roll Call** of voting members present conducted by Alt Secretary, Sarah P. and Sarah P. Alt Secretary and Keith D., Delegate as vote counters.

|   |                              |                           |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Total NETA voting members present = 101.</b> | <b>Simple majority = 51.</b> | <b>2/3 majority = 67.</b> |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|

*NOTE: P&P preamble - Suspension requires substantial unanimity of 3/4 majority."6.3 Amendment of the NETA Policies & Procedures requires a two-thirds (2/3).*

### **Old Business:**

Olga R., Chair, we still need a Special Needs chair – we also have Jamie C. who has been a past Special Needs Chair who is willing to assist.

**Next ACM Meeting:** 10/15/17 at 1:30~4:30pm the Show Me Group in Denton, Area 21. All welcome to attend. Only AC members (officers, chairs, DCMs have a voice).

**Motion for 2018-2019 Budget:** Sheila W., Treasurer had asked for you to take back 2018-2019 budget to review \$57,945. It is about \$3000 more than the last budget to cover convention expenses. No questions. Roy A. moved to accept the budget as proposed. Seconded by Terry O. No opposition. Motion passed.

### **New Business:**

**Ad Hoc Committee for GSRs:** Olga R., Chair appointed an Ad Hoc Committee chaired by Jim C. Past delegate, panel 61. This was about the GSRs and those who wanted to be of service and who need financial assistance to get to the Assemblies. First off they believe that DCMs should help their GSRs to get here. The next is the room sharing and the other is ride sharing. It should be the responsibility of the districts to help. There should be a contact person at the district so that the GSRs could say that they need a ride, or that they can offer a ride. The next they are suggesting is a room sharing, which was suggested to be at the area level as a go between at the district and the area. With that suggestion, we have two volunteers (one volunteer and one voluntold) Sandy L. 817-726-5732 [sandylemaster@yahoo.com](mailto:sandylemaster@yahoo.com) current as Alt DCM district 61 agreed to spearhead as the area liaison Jess D. Alt DCM district 56, she is on fire to be of service. If you have extra room, or if you need a room, contact Sandy.

**Ad Hoc Committee for Emails & Technology:** Chris W. webmaster noted that are concerns about the deliverability of emails and how we are sharing our committee reports and I had started at looking at options such as MailChimp and now just through Gmail. How to deliver the files to you [NETA members] and how to deal with the technology. I have spoken with a few people and Olga R. to set up an Ad Hoc committee. Chris W. will chair the Ad Hoc committee to coordinate through Lore L., Secretary.

**Motion for Grapevine/LaVina Budget Increase:** Janice S. Chair Grapevine/LaVina. I would like to request a onetime increase of the GV/LV budget \$200 to my budget, for expenses which will be incurred fulfilling my duties for this calendar year (though Dec 31, 2017) and for the Grape-a-thon and other incurred expenses. Seconded by Justin C. A friendly amendment by Lore L. recommended to increase the GV/LV budget for both 2017 and 2018. A total of \$400 for this panel. Janice agreed. Rick W. asked about what was the increase for 2018 and 2019. Sheila said it is just \$25 more per quarter. Yes, this addition plus the \$200 plus this year and next year.

Manuel C. DCM 90 - in the Hispanic community we have a committee for GV/LV committee and we have enough money to cover her expenses. We have the idea for Area 65 we have 4 Spanish districts to participate as the GV/LV is important.

Maria - the only thing is that other groups this is the groups we did this before, I do not know if there is a central person to communicate with or for next year.

Allison - wants clarification, was this part of the one-time budget? No.

Manuel responded to Maria – a good point but Manuel to go to the Spanish districts to ask for participation and they will cover the expenses. Have her go to visit and ask.

Janice – I did go the districts and ask the Spanish groups to participate in the Grape-athon – it is not just the GV. It is not just the GV committee but the GV and LV committee. We are trying to get more involved, we want to get the Spanish community to participate.

Will – wanted to clarify the amount spent to date if you are going to be \$259 over budget. She expects to cut some of her expenses. It is an estimate, and she plans to cut expenses. What about perhaps just asking for \$259 or \$300.

Janise, I do not want to burden the area and I do not want to overspend. Some of my expenses over the past year were I had to replace the GV display since coming into the position. I do not anticipate my expenses being higher.

Robert S. - question for clarity. Was the Spanish community willing to cover the \$200?



Manuel C. - In the district 90 we have a budget for the GV/LV if she goes to the district, I am positive that they will give her whatever she needs. They have a reunion the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month.

Olga clarification – the district has the money, if she goes over there, that they will give her the money.

Luis P. - time consuming she needs the money now. It is not easy to get over here. I suggest to continue to motion for this year only, and then the District 90 will provide for next year.

Wayne H. - we have a GV chair and have a budget for NETA, NETA needs to be in charge of a NETA budget. Then if the district has the money, then the district should give the money to NETA so that NETA can be on control of the budget.

Sarah P. - please restate the motion: Asking for a one time from this panel for \$400 increase for the GV/LV budget. Seconded on the floor of the friendly amendment.

Bill N. - this friendly amendment is out of line. The whole thing is out of order. Voted to approve the friendly amendment.

Phil E. - we just approved the 2018 budget. We are out of order and now we want to change it and it does not make sense to me.

Janice – withdrawing the friendly amendment – back to the original motion: To increase the GV/LV budget by \$200 to cover expenses to the end of this year.

Vote For: the Ayes have it. Vote against: 3

In the minority opinion - Terry O. for me it is a matter of knowing what the budget is and staying in the budget. It was not brought to the Summer Assembly. It was attempted to be presented and the suspension of the rules was not accepted. Rocky M. noted that NETA should stick to your budget.

Olga R., Is there anyone in the majority to change their vote? Seeing none, the budget will be increased by \$200.

**Motion to Censure the General Service Board:** Keith D., delegate recommends to Censure of GS Board regarding the Manuscript Lawsuit. He requests that NETA forward the following item to be added 2018 General Service Conference Agenda with the support of Area 65:

The General Service Conference hereby censures the General Service Board for allowing AAWS to pursue a lawsuit without consulting the Conference or submitting a proposal to all the registered groups in the world before changing the Fifth Warranty of the Twelfth Concept to allow such an exception to occur in clear violation of the Conference Charter.

On 18 May 2017 AAWS filed a lawsuit against Ken Roberts, Questroyal Fine Art, LLC and Profiles in History to recover "its rightful possession the 1939 original working manuscript or 'Printers Copy' of the Alcoholics Anonymous (the 'Manuscript')."

As part of the Statement of Facts they state: "42. Commencing litigation is not something that AAWS generally does, since it focuses its energies on serving the Fellowship and the still suffering alcoholics. Perhaps even more importantly, the fact that a central tenet of AAWS's principles is to avoid controversy underscores just how critical of a threat to its history and mission AAWS views the current circumstances of a known public auction of the Manuscript."

In the Current Conference Charter (United States and Canada) found in Appendix C of The AA Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W. there is the following statement, following Article Twelve (which consists of the Six Warranties) in A RESOLUTION that reads: "AND IT IS UNDERSTOOD: That neither the Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous nor the warranties of Article XII of the Conference Charter shall ever be changed or amended by the General Service Conference except by first asking the consent of the registered AA groups of the world. (This would include all AA groups known to the general service offices around the world.) \* These groups shall be suitably notified of any proposal for change and shall be allowed no less than six months for consideration thereof. And before any such Conference action can be taken, there must first be received in writing within the time allotted the consent of at least three-quarters of all those registered groups who respond to such proposal."

"\*Resolution: It was resolved by the 1976 General Service Conference that those instruments requiring consent of three-quarters of the responding groups for change or amendment would include the Twelve Steps of AA, should any change or amendment ever be proposed."

Having failed to consult with the Conference, nor the registered groups throughout the world, the General Service Board should be censured for supporting a violation of Warranty Five by AAWS.

Warranty Five {excerpt}: "That no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy."

For much the same reason we cannot and should not enter into public controversy, even in self-defense. Our experience has shown that, providentially it would seem, A.A. has been made exempt from the need to quarrel with anyone, no matter what the provocation. Nothing could be more damaging to our unity and to the worldwide good will which A.A. enjoys, than public contention, no matter how promising the immediate dividends might appear.

A request was to define Censure – it is the highest form of reprimand. Something is egregious. We do not agree with the action.

Questions for clarification and discussion:

Brett - At summer assembly if the law suit was already started, why do they want to do it or have to do it? Keith D. – yes – there is some fiduciary responsibility for the AAWS. But there was never a statement. Hazelton owns the rights to publish the documents. AAWS told Hazelton that we have no rights to it.

Brandy H. – if we as a body agree, will this make it on the GS Conference agenda? Keith D. – we do not know. There is a motion to restructure the GSB.

Bill N - said it also goes to the nominating committee and it goes to the trustees and the nominating committee.

Jamie C. - It was my understanding that you were going to look into this with research. I was wondering as to what support you have from other areas. Keith D. - I have attempted to get the document for the retainer of the lawyers I do not have other information. But not received. I had a conference call with Yoli (SW Regional Trustee), but did not get more information. If we move to committee, there are a number of other delegates.

Bill N. - there is also another motion to reorganize the board, is this censure in addition. Is this in conjunction with the GSO to the entire fellowship as to why they cannot talk about. Yes – this was sent out by the NETA Secretary.

Rick W. - do not want to get involved in the depth – but to support you as the delegate.

LaJeane - Asked about who is our trustee. Keith D. – Yolande, Yoli. We asked questions for clarification to see if she is supporting this motion. He then read the letter from the GSO about not wanting to provide details of the manuscript lawsuit.

Wayne H. – When did they file the suit? Keith D. - May 18, 2017.

Wayne H. - Did they speak with any of the delegates at the conference? Keith D. – No. there was no mention at the conference. But we are sure that there was most likely time at the conference to bring this up.

Bill N. - I think the world of Keith – 10 years ago we had problems about the manager. But I was butchered on the floor of the assembly and another buddy in Houston. We do not know which is true, either they have a legitimate right to not share the information, but I am not sure if they are a corporate entity and they are . I support Keith. Keith D. – I would be happy to admit I am wrong, but the deadline for the agenda items is December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jamie C. – not an attorney but Hazelton has the rights to printing. Not rights to the book. Keith D. – The Hazelton book about the manuscript is called, The one who started it All.

Ed C. – I support Keith in this motion that AAWS found that they had 10 years. It is so spiritual, we should have done it long ago. I do not believe that it would keep 50 more people sober.

Robynn H. – we really should have it, do we really need it back? The filing lawsuit is to protect an asset for AAWS. Keith D. – the sentimental value, it was a \$1000 it would not be an issue. It is a relic.

Phil E – it is not about the manuscript, it is not about the item, it is about the preserving the spiritual principals. Whether you like the manuscript or not it is irrelevant We should not be held in the dark.

Frank W. – unlike a lot of these issues, I totally support Keith that something is not right. To take the courage to support him as well. I love the old stuff, but even if I did, this is not what “save lives, do not buy archives.”

Sheila W. – I do not like as something may be getting ahead of us.

Luis P. – I do not support being blind sighted. I would recommend that it moves forward to sending to the GS Conference.

Banishment is a decision - ask God for patience. The GSB is to manage the properties, the trustees are to protect our assets. Against.

Jamie C. – call the question.

Olga R. – to stop debate and call the question aye – 100%, no opposed

Olga R. – that the motion be forwarded to Censure the GSB

Vote For: 95 Vote against: 2

Minority opinion – Michelle GSR Sagnia Group – feels like retaliation that there should be a better way than to censure.

Hearing no other minority opinion, and no change of majority votes, the motion passes.

Olga R., we have covered all of our business. Before we go into the “What’s on your Mind” with our Delegate, I want to introduce Yolanda “Yoli” Flores, our Southwest Regional Trustee. Yoli will be our AA Speaker at the conference tonight.

4:15pm **What is on your mind** Chaired by Olga R. let us know what you are thinking.

Will – need help setting up a literature committee (told to speak with Stephen S.)

Janice S. – thank you – this has been the greatest service in my life.

Rick W. – came here from NY I have never been more impressed by the quality of the service for the NE Texas. This is the best delegate of the Panel 67 delegates.

Jose C. – while this room is rather full, there are a lot of empty chairs. My life teaches me gratitude and patience. Come as an observer, we all need help.

Bill N. - this morning Keith talked about the power of the purse. That is always an option. Bill W. wrote in the Concepts. I had several things similar 10 years ago it was similar. Like quit taking the GV because of several things. Let's write a letter that reminds them.

Nicole S. – doing service work on any kind of level. One of the things that breaks my heart is when a group has a GC, and they say nothing. There is so much discussed here. Make it a point to write some kind of report. Because if you say your GSR report is “nothing”, then you have just lost an opportunity. Don't say you have nothing to report.

Manuel – Grupo del La Ves. – I invite the English community to visit us at our Spanish groups as some of us speak English.

Luis P. – remember that just because we disagree – it I okay. If we disagree, it is okay, and it makes us stronger.

Tatinana – migrating to Wordpress and sending out documents – that each chair is responsible for uploading their own documents. Some of the committee documents are over 2 years old [on the NETA website].

Ed C. – we did not have flyers going out for the Assembly/Convention. These need to be sent out.

Wayne H. – if we cannot fill the chairs, take the information back to your groups. There are many that know all three legacies, these people need to share. It does not happen by osmosis.

5:00pm Break for Dinner

7:15pm Convention opened by Jenny A-L., voice of the convention. Courtney read about AA leadership.

7:30pm Convention AA Speaker Meeting was chaired by Sandra L. who also introduced the speaker, Yolanda “Yoli” Flores, Southwest Regional Trustee

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

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## Sunday – October 1, 2017

8:30am Welcome by Area Chair: Olga R. opened with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer, “Why We Need A Conference” was read by Angie D. DCM District 41.

8:45am **Trustee's Report.** Chaired by Keith D. Delegate, for the speaker Yolanda “Yoli” Flores, Southwest Regional Trustee (asked for but did not receive a copy of her report). There were extensive discussion and questions to the SW Trustee from the body. Several addressed the manuscript lawsuit.

10:00am Convention opened by Jenny A-L., voice of the convention. The **AA Speaker Meeting** was chaired by Rick W. and the speaker was Patrick C., a GSO Staff Member on the Communications Desk. 11:30am Closed with the Lord's Prayer

## Northeast Texas Area 65 Area Committee Meeting (ACM) Minutes

1:30pm – 4:30pm October 15, 2017

Show Me Group, 1622 West University Drive, Ste 104, Denton, TX 76201

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### Committee Chair Reports:

**Convention,** Roy A. Chair 940-566-0512 [convention67@neta65.org](mailto:convention67@neta65.org) provided a hand out for the next assemblies. See Fall Assembly worksheet. We don't have the last bill from the Fall Assembly yet, but are looking at [costs] noted costs, Fall \$1600. Spring \$876. Summer \$439. Budgeted for \$6000 [in expenses] so we are under budget. Joe H. Alt. Chair added the Sheraton McKinney was \$1000/day for the big room, (\$110.00) required 50 rooms [to be booked] for Friday and Saturday nights [to cover costs]. Hospitality for the Fall Assembly cost \$350-\$375. Minimum revenue \$16.50. \$11,000 in rooms (the hotel made from us).

**Treasurer,** Sheila W. 214-926-0268 [treasurer67@neta65.org](mailto:treasurer67@neta65.org) Nothing changed much since the Assembly.

**Alt. Treasurer,** Brandy H. 817-881-0970 [altreasurer67@neta65.org](mailto:altreasurer67@neta65.org) I encourage everyone to review their expenses turned in and funds received. If there are any corrections needed, please let me know. 65% of advanced funds have been accounted for. Please turn in expenses for 2017 no later than January 31, 2018.

**Alt. Secretary**, Sarah P., 214-274-0677 [altsecretary67@neta65.org](mailto:altsecretary67@neta65.org) read the minutes from the last ACM Meeting on 7/9/17 in Abilene. Corrections noted by Jamie C. Treatments 12<sup>th</sup> step group, Kevin H. DCM not DMC. 11-4 “Meet and “Greet.” Motion to approve by Tina P., Kevin H. seconded. Minutes approved with corrections.

**Alt Secretary**, Sarah P. Fall 2017 newsletter deadline is October 28. The mail-out is 11/12/17 @ the Colony Group @ 10:30am. 5201 S. Colony Blvd, Ste 525, Colony, TX 75056. Mail-outs: Winter 2018 is 2/18/18 @ Texoma #1. District 24. Spring 2018 is 4/29/18 Group? Summer 2018 is 7/29/18 Group? Fall 2018 is 10/28/18. Group? Any group or district that is willing to host one of our mail-outs please let me know.

**Alt Chair**, Wayne H. 972-571-4799 [67altchair@neta65.org](mailto:67altchair@neta65.org) Thank You for the opportunity to serve as your Alternate Chair for NETA 65 Panel 67. I look forward to providing assistance to any Group. District or member of NETA 65. I am looking for people who are willing to assist as presenters for NETA 65 Workshops. Please see me and give me your contact information. There are a number of established workshop topics. Please see me to get a list. We are also willing to help with additional workshop topics. Call me to discuss your ideas for a workshop. If your group or District is interested in having a workshop please let me know how we can be of assistance.

Workshops completed recently:

- District 22 CPC Workshop Aug 13th 2017 Wylie Group
- 3 Legacy Sponsorship Language of the Heart Group 16 July 2017
- How To Chair A Meeting Big Book Group Rockwall August 6, 2017
- Service Outside the Home Group Language of the Heart Group 8-20-2017
- How To Chair A Meeting District 91 St. Albane’s Church in Waco 9-2-2017 6-9 PM
- Sponsorship Big Country Conference Abilene Texas 9-3-2017
- How To Chair A Meeting Big Country Conference Abilene Texas 9-2-2017
- APATHY in AA Language of the Heart Group 9-24-2017 1:30 to 4:30 PM

Presently we have the following workshops already scheduled:

- Safety and Respect in AA Bedford Barr Street Group 2045 Bedford Rd (Bedford First Baptist Church) Bedford TX 76021. 10/28/17 2-4:30 PM
- MYTHS in AA District 91 St. Albane’s Church in Waco. 11/4/2017 6-9 PM
- How to Chair a Meeting Cleburne Alco. 11/12/17 1:30-4:30 PM 413 E Henderson St., Cleburne, TX 76031
- Sponsorship; A solution to Apathy in AA 11/19/17 12:00-2:00 PM. Texoma 1 Group 300 W Morgan St., Denison, TX 75020
- Safety and Respect in AA 12/3/17 2:30-5:00 PM Texoma 1 Group 300 W Morgan St., Denison, TX 75020
- Apathy in AA 12/16/17 1:30-4:30pm McKinney Miracle Group. 1615 W Louisiana St., McKinney, TX 75069
- Sponsorship 2/24/18 1:30-4:30 PM McKinney Miracle Group. 1615 W Louisiana ST McKinney, TX 75069

There are at least four others in the works right now. The further in advance you plan your workshops, the better. Several other workshops in the planning stage. Information about upcoming Workshops will be posted on the NETA 65 Calendar as they are finalized. The Translations Committee wanted everyone to know that they are available to Translate at your workshops. Please contact Jamie C. (Translations Committee Chair) to arrange for that service.

**Alt Delegate**, Tina P. [altdelegate67@neta65.org](mailto:altdelegate67@neta65.org) the upcoming events has not changed since the Fall Assembly. [See the Fall Assembly minutes] For the SW Regional Forum, registration starts at 2pm and Orientation at 6:30pm. The Forum will start at 7pm and Patrice forwarded the list of folks from the GSO that will be at the Regional Forum: Bob S.; Clement C./Corrections; Karen H./Records; Irene/GV; and Patrick C./Communications. There will be presentations, workshops, sharing sessions, and an Orientation for first time attendees. If someone would like to share a ride, please contact me and I will take the car. Otherwise I will ride my bike. Remember Nov. 10-11 in Irving next year for the State Convention in 2018. There are plenty of service opportunities. Keep this in mind for your sponsees. The following year, the 73<sup>rd</sup> TX State Convention will be in Houston.

**Delegate**, Keith D. [delegate67@neta65.org](mailto:delegate67@neta65.org) nothing new to report but I have plenty of General Service Conference report books. If groups or districts want them, please take them. Obviously with the digital version available, we will be ordering fewer printed copies. I did submit the censure [as approved from the Fall Assembly] and I did receive a confirmation. It is not on the [GSB] dash board yet. There was a question if the yellow cards are available? KD. Yes, but I do not know if it is available in Spanish. Keith H. confirmed that there are some yellow cards available at the Fort Worth Central Office.

**Chair Olga R.** [chair67@neta65.org](mailto:chair67@neta65.org) asked the Structure Committee Chairs to provide their report:

**Structure Committee**, Jim C., Past Delegate Panel 61, [netadelegate61@att.net](mailto:netadelegate61@att.net) read his report that that they met on 7/30/17 at Mid-Cities Group in Hurst to consider a motion presented by Patsy E., Mid-Cities Group GSR via Sandy L. District 61, Alt. DCM, forwarded from the Summer Area Committee meeting as follows:

“All budget increases above the approved budge amounts are submitted to the Finance Committee for review prior to being brought to the Assembly for a vote.”



After much discussion and careful consideration, the Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the following to the motion maker as a possible revision of the motion:

“Modify Section 3.2 of the NETA Policies and Procedures as follows: “Where the Area Assembly has approved a budget, the Area Treasurer share adhere to budget constraints, reporting to the Area Committee whenever expenses will exceed budgeted amounts. Any requests for budget increases above the approved budget amount shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for review and comment prior to being brought to the Area Committee.”

The Committee’s recommendation aligns with the wording of the motion as initially presented with the wording of the current NETA Policies and Procedures. Furthermore, the Committee noted that the recommended wording would not add any more time to the current budget increase process. Respectfully submitted, Jim C. (61) Committee Chairman. The motion maker has the opportunity to make a new motion, accept the recommendations from the committee, or drop it.

**Ad Hoc Committee for Emails & Technology**, Chris W. Webmaster [webmaster67@neta65.org](mailto:webmaster67@neta65.org) Nothing yet to report.

**Ad Hoc Committee for GSRs: Room Share Coordinator**, Sandy L. [sandylemaster@yahoo.com](mailto:sandylemaster@yahoo.com) Not present. Patsy E. noted nothing to report.

**Archives**, Frank W. [archives67@neta65.org](mailto:archives67@neta65.org) No official report since the Fall Assembly. The Grape-a-thon was a huge success with standing room only. Then we did the Colony Group yesterday. The Archives is starting to think of a digital display, a presentation. I spoke with Arthur about a technology platform and we are also talking about trying to rotate the archives and not make it so difficult to transport and display. Conducting an inventory at this time, but determining the dollar value of the collection is irrelevant. The value is not relevant.

? Are the archives insured? FW: No. If burns up and it is insured, then we would need to go out and buy new replacements.

**Archivist/Historian**, Eddie T. [eddiel1960@hotmail.com](mailto:eddiel1960@hotmail.com) No report.

**Corrections**, Nicole S. Chair [nicolebella05@gmail.com](mailto:nicolebella05@gmail.com) since we met in Sept. I have had 3 GSO requests from inmates, both of them where no one was taking in AA meetings yet. One of the members at the East Texas multi-use facility wanted to know is there anyone getting into the prison, and then GSO sent two inmate responses. I have communicated with Clint Morris at TDCJ, and waiting to hear back about AA members requests to take AA meetings into the jails. We need to know who we can speak with (warden or someone else). The 3<sup>rd</sup> request was taken care of. Tool in District 42. Someone contacted corrections for Denton or Collin County jails and get that information out.

The Corrections Convention/Workshop will be 12/9/17 at the Anchor Group 1:30-4:30pm. 1608 Commerce Street., Gainesville. I am still working on the agenda and hope to have an inmate speaking at the event. Q&A for the event. There is no flyer for the event yet. Hopefully to be attended by people who are interested in taking meetings into the jails/prisons.

The first National Corrections Conference (Area 38 Eastern Missouri) will be Nov. 10-12, 2017 at the Doubletree Hotel, 1973 Craigshire, St. Louis, MO. 63146. 314-434-0100 room rate \$109 [www.nationalcorrectionsconference.org](http://www.nationalcorrectionsconference.org).

I have been encouraged to give a bid to host the next Corrections Conference in NETA. The host area must pay their own way. The current corrections convention committee has 14 people. Hosting the 2018 or 2019 National Corrections conference to be held in our area scares me. And area workshop is quite difficult. I would like to know if the DCMs can let me know about hosting a national conference for corrections. I will attend the first one in November to learn more. Since encouraged to do this bid, I have not contacted the committee members involved in this. The hosting committee would fund the event.

What are the requirements for the convention? NS: We do not know at this time. ? When you go to the event in St. Louis, why not bring back information for the groups and districts? NS: Yes. ? Jim C. Is the GSO supporting this event or who is involved? Keith D. the national conferences are all similarly structured. None are officially sponsored by the GSO, but yes, they are supported? Jim C. Who from GSO is to be involved? KD: Speak with the regular corrections desk.

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)**, Tom G., Chair, [cpc67@neta65.org](mailto:cpc67@neta65.org) Nothing new to report.

**Grapevine/LaViña**, Janice S. Chair [Grapevine67@neta65.org](mailto:Grapevine67@neta65.org) Not present. Lore L, Secretary noted that there were 62 people at the event with standing room only. This was a big jump from the previous Grape-a-thon which had less than 20 people.

**Intergroups**, Deb S.. [intergroup67@neta65.org](mailto:intergroup67@neta65.org) so far it has been successful and have visited 14 intergroups so far this year. All at least once, some twice. Meeting with the Fort Worth Central Office this next week. Working with Gwen W. on Bridging the Gap programs. Next year Gwen and I will be going to Tyler after the Orientation in February 2018. I will be having shoulder surgery later this month.

Tom D. When is the Fort Worth Chili Cook off? DS: Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 11am to 4pm? Tom D. Dallas is having difficulties with sobriety chips and their revenues are down. People not buying books and chips. Waco is reporting similar issues. Dallas Intergroup meeting said

normal literature sales but nothing distressing. One member reported that the Fort Worth Central Office Summer treasurer's report shows that the area is having low attendance, and thus receiving low funds. Revenues do go up and down, but our central offices need to support.

**Literature/AV**, Stephen S. [literature67@neta65.org](mailto:literature67@neta65.org) Nothing new to report.

**Newsletter Editor**, Dee D. [Neta65newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Neta65newsletter@gmail.com) Nothing new to report.

**PI**, Clyde R. Chair. [publicinfo67@neta65.org](mailto:publicinfo67@neta65.org) Nothing new to report.

**Webmaster**, Chris W. Nothing new to report

**Translations**, Jamie C. Chair [Translation67@NETA65.org](mailto:Translation67@NETA65.org) At the Fall area Assembly, the Hispanic community really provided support and attendance was increased. I would like to thank Manuel C., the DCM for District 90, as he has invited a lot of the GSRs to attend. It was the largest number of Hispanic members to attend such a meeting. We hope that this will be the same in the meeting [Assembly] in Texarkana.

**Treatment**, Gwen W. Chair. [Treatment67@neta65.org](mailto:Treatment67@neta65.org) Not present, no report.

3:00pm Break

3:15pm Olga R. Chair, opened **Unfinished Business**

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Presentations for Alternate Chair positions - none.

**Special Needs / Accessibility Committee Chair** presentation of Buckley S. Standing for the position and presented his service resume. Recommendation seconded by Jamie C. No opposition. Buckley is the new Special Needs Chair. 972-786-1233 [bsachs73505@gmail.com](mailto:bsachs73505@gmail.com).

**Next ACM locations**, Winter (2/11/18) St. Alban's Church Episcopal Church, 305 & 30<sup>th</sup> St., Waco, TX 76710 The Texas group will be hosting (Dist. 91). Spring (4/8/18) Location?

**Next Assembly locations**, Spring 2018: March 16-18, 2018. Location: The Colony, The Colony Marriott at Cascades. 5917 Stone Creek Drive, The Colony, TX 75056. 469-287-0372 Room Cost - \$ 104 per night includes Breakfast. Hotel Reservation Deadline 2/23/18 Host: District 21. Summer 2018: June 8-10, 2018. Location: Texarkana. Wyndham Garden Hotel Texarkana. 5301 North Stateline Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503. 903-792-3222. Room Costs - \$ 69-74 per night. Hotel Reservation Deadline 05/31/18. Host: Texarkana.

**Motion from the Structure Committee**, Patsy E. has accepted the new language from the Structure Committee. Tom has seconded the motion.

Brandy H. When someone needs an increase, how would it go? Phil E. said the person would submit to the treasurer, the treasurer would convene the Finance Committee. Jim C. – the maker of the motion was looking for oversight. We would get the Finance Committee to view first before the next ACM and then to the agenda for the next Assembly for a vote.

**Olga R.** reminder that we are just voting to approve the motion to go forward to the next assembly in the spring.

All in Favor: Ayes. Opposition: none. Motion will be forwarded to the Spring Assembly.

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## **New Business**

### **Orientation Schedule 2018:**

1/14/2018. Downtown Suburban Group. 1034 E. Lake St., Tyler, TX

1/21/2018. Eastland Group, 302 N. College St., Eastland, TX (Rocky M, DCM 71 said he will verify the date and get it approved)

1/28/2018. Nuevo Horizonte Group, 3302 N. Main, Ft. Worth, TX

**Orientation Agenda:** will be the same at each orientation and cover the following: AA Structure, Groups, GSRs, DCMs, GSR Share Experience, DCM Share Experience, presenting details of the Area Officers, Area Committees, Standing Committees, Additional Committees, Assemblies, the General Service Conference, General Service Board, Operating Organizations, Miscellaneous events (SWARAASA, SWRDA, FORUMS), Robert's Rules of Order & Process of a Motion.

Last year the orientation at the Spanish speaking group had terrific attendance and was very crowded. There were not enough chairs and it was difficult to hear. We need a larger place to support the attendance. Discussions to collaborate between groups and the DCM in District 62, David. Tom D. Alt DCM District 54 volunteered to co-host to speak with Manuel C, DCM District 90.

Jamie C. Are we looking at the budgetary issues for the orientations? Sheila W. Yes, the budget of \$2000 will be maintained by the Chair, Olga R. The workshop after the orientations in Prosper was handled by the Prosper Group with District support.

**Spring Workshop,** Wayne H. Alt Chair, noted that after the Spring Assembly we asked people to show up. We came up with a workshop for the orientation and the focus of the GSR and the groups. We discussed the importance of communications and the importance of participating in the mock committee process and why we would be doing it. District 21 and 22 did this. It is already being looked at prior to the spring assembly for 2018. It is important to how to be prepared for the Spring Assembly and why it is important to participate.

Phil E. the workshop was well attended and had participation from all over the area. Kevin H. district 53 asked why these topics cannot be added to the orientation. WH: There is not enough time. Jamie C. Are you making yourself available for all workshops between the orientation and the spring assembly? WH: Yes, we can pack as many of these workshops into that time as possible. Lore L recommended that they prepare a flyer to encourage participation, need in both English and Spanish. WH: The tentative date is 2/17/18. This workshop is to be more hands on and the Roberts rules of orders and the process of a motion are presented. This really helps to introduce the system as an introduction for the assemblies.

Will the area conduct an inventory for the area this year? Olga R., it could be scheduled for November 2017.

Does NETA want to bid on the National Correction Conference? Olga R. yes, we are behind Nicole.

**What's on Your Mind?** Keith D. Delegate.

- Provide some means for viewing the Assembly such as SKYPE. Discussion included how to allow people to attend AA events where the technology is viable. Prepare the format to determine how to vote and how to ask questions on video. Will it diminish our attendance? Considering live streaming on a test basis. What functions would be allow? would it be possible for the orientation? What about SKYPE for the orientation? What about live stream vs. video. Lee Alt. GSR for the Texas Group noted that he has done live streaming for their group conscience meetings.
- Discussions about the Fall Convention. What needed to be done for improvement? Attendance issues. To either do it well or cancel it. Possibly create a committee to do the convention? Or removing the convention completely. Rick W. noted that they had to strong arm people into paying for the convention. Need to talk about the importance of the GSO and SW regional trustee being in attendance.
- Brandy H. What about a presentation for incoming chairs. What does having a committee mean and how to fill out an expense report, how to run the committee.
- Lore L. what about considering a service workshop to help train chairs, cover understanding of their reporting and fiduciary responsibilities?
- Nicole S. discussed the Orange Can reporting requirements and the confusion groups have with their contributions.
- Sarah P. recommends having a technology committee. Also, go back to timing committee reports. Have the chairs to actually have a real report and not have a dialogue with the body.
- Kevin H. request for the area room sharing coordinator (Sandy L.) to eblast contacts for room sharing.
- ? Patsy E. when was it voted on at the GS Conference about the change of names Special Needs versus Accessibility Chair? Why are not in with alignment with the GSO? The position has been empty.
- Sarah P. noted that the NETA Policies & Procedures say Special Needs / Accessibility.

Motion to close made by Sarah P. Seconded by Larry N. ACM closed with the Lord's Prayer.