



NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA 65

Quarterly newsletter

The heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly
Spring 2018 • www.neta65.org • Volume 34 Number 5

Thoughts from A DCM...

As the District Committee Member (DCM) for District 61, along with the Alternate DCM (Sandy L.), I have the privilege of serving groups in Arlington, Colleyville, Bedford, Euless, Grapevine, Hurst, North Richland Hills, and Watauga. We have just entered the second year of our panel, and there is still so much left to learn.

One of the most meaningful learning experiences to date has been the district inventory. Our district policies and procedures dictate that we have a district inventory in August of the first year of the panel. I personally thought this inventory would be too soon in the panel; that we wouldn't have enough feedback and information to be thorough. Obviously, those serving previously had much wisdom, because the inventory ended up being a great experience.

We learned of ways information can be improved – both in timely reports and additional information that can be provided. It became apparent that GSRs that did not attend the GSR/DCM orientation in January (at the start of their panel) might not be aware of the information available on the neta65.org website or understand the purpose of the information provided. As a result, it was important to communicate the structure of AA, the purpose of the General Service Conference, and how each group's voice is carried from the individual group member to the delegate and the annual conference. Suggestions were made that would assist in reaching non-participating groups, and some of these have already been put into practice. Communication has been provided to GSRs to assist in relaying information and motions to their groups for feedback. District minutes are published within days of each meeting, so information can be shared quickly and accurately. GSRs are sharing more about challenges they face so that district members can provide suggestions and feedback, instead of just relaying group meeting times and upcoming events. The purpose of Combined District 6 has been explained, along with how and why it differs from the District 61 meetings.

Members believe District 61 is well represented at the area, and the newer members and the more experienced ones share their service experience. The Concepts and Traditions presentations at each district meeting helps to bring information from the AA Service Manual to light, and practical examples are provided using everyday language.

Thank you, District 61, for the opportunity to serve. As we slowly approach that time of the year when positions for the 2019/2020 panel are posted, and later brought to vote, I can confirm that serving will be a learning experience and a great privilege.

With love and In-Service,

Linda H., DCM District 61

Northeast Texas Area 65 Area Committee Meeting (ACM) Minutes
ACM held February 11, 2018 from 1:30pm to 4:30pm - St. Alban's Episcopal Church,
305 N. 30th St. Waco, TX, 76710

1:45pm Chair, Olga R., 254-624-8526 chair67@neta65.org opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Jenny L, GSR of Cornerstone in Dallas read "Why we need a conference."

1:40pm Area Officer Reports

(Note: Some NETA Officers and Committee Chairs are noted as not present due to the bad weather conditions. However, their reports are here as they had been emailed to the Secretary prior to the AMC Meeting. These reports had also been eblasted to the Area Committee prior to the ACM on 2/11/18.)

Secretary, Lore L. 817-517-3850 secretary67@neta65.org read the Minutes from the Area Committee Meeting at the Show Me Group in Denton, 10/15/17. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and approved with corrections as noted.

Alt. Secretary, Sarah P., 214-274-0677 altsecretary67@neta65.org There are changes to the articles deadlines with the changes in dates for the ACM and Assemblies.

- Winter 2018 Deadline for articles to newsletter editor – February 4. Winter newsletter mail-out – March 4 – District 24, Texoma #1-300 W. Morgan St. Denison, TX 75020 at 1:30
- Spring 2018 Deadline for articles to newsletter editor – April 15, Spring newsletter mail-out – April 29 – Group ?
- Summer 2018 Deadline for articles to newsletter editor – July 8 Summer newsletter mail-out – July 22 – Group ?
- Fall 2018 Deadline for articles to newsletter editor – October 21
- Spring 2019 newsletter mail-out – November 4 – Group ?

Big shout out and thank you to the Colony Group! Awesome mail out. Lots of great company and food. We knocked it out in less than an hour! Join us March 4th in Denison with District 24, thanks Stephy! 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! With the changes in meeting dates, the other dates will need to be adjusted.

Treasurer, Sheila W. 214-926-0268 treasurer67@neta65.org not present. Submitted NETA 65 2017 Annual Report for review.

Alt. Treasurer, Brandy H. 817-881-0970 alttreasurer67@neta65.org not present. Spreadsheet of expenses submitted. Contact her directly if you are an officer or chair person who has received expenses.

	2017 Budget	NETA Funds Advanced	Expenses Reported	% of Advanced Budget Reported	Under (Over) Reported
Panel 67 Summary	\$58,140.00	\$44,927.53	\$39,529.03	88%	\$5,398.50
Summary of Advances & Expenses	\$38,735.00	\$33,239.89	\$24,398.54	73%	\$8,841.35

Alt Chair, Wayne H. 972-571-4799 67altchair@neta65.org not present. 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 willing to assist as presenters for NETA 65 Workshops. Please contact me for 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.
- 29 Workshops were set up through me during 2017
- 5 workshops have already been conducted so far in 2018

- 10 additional workshops are scheduled for 2018 and another 7 workshops are in process
 - That's 22 workshops conducted, setup, or planned in the first 6 weeks of 2018. We are off to great start.
 - Upcoming Workshops will be posted on the NETA65.ORG Calendar as they are finalized.
- Translations Committee wants 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. 214-566-7561 altdelegate67@neta65.org Glenice S., Past Delegate, was in an auto accident and banged up quite a bit. She was in ICU and is now in PCU, which is a step down. She is still very weak, but is expecting to go to rehab to get stronger. She appreciates the prayers.

- 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. Consider coming to the planning meeting for volunteers for the Texas State Convention. A hand out will be available at the March Assembly.
- 2018 National AA Technology Workshop (SWTA 68) Sept 13-16, 2018. Wingate by Windham Round Rock, 1209 I-35 Hwy, Round Rock, TX 78664. 512-341-7000. \$99.00 single/double, group code CGAATW. www.NAATW.org
- 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
- SWRSAA is a wonderful event if you want to learn anything about service work.
- The next 73rd Texas State AA Convention will be in the Westin Galleria in Houston. June 7-9, 2019.
- International AA Convention – July 2-5, 2020 in Detroit, Michigan.
- Jim C. noted that there is an invitation for the Standing Committee Chairs to set up a table at the Texas State Convention in Irving; the registration fee will be waived. There are flyers available. Lore L. asked to be emailed so she can eblast.

Delegate, Keith D. 214-906-5183 delegate67@neta65.org I apologize, I did not print my report in advance. I printed them out, and then failed to bring them. I want to blame on the ice storm, but cannot.

- Well, it is shaping up to be an exciting 68th General Service Conference – compared to this year; the 67th is now appearing to be somewhat “ho-hum.” I am working on getting the Mock Committees organized and many of you have been contacted to Co-Chair one of these already. I have confirmed with Roy how many rooms we will have available, and so once I have the background, I will determine what committees that will be together based upon workload, with an effort to keep these as balanced as possible. If you have not been informed already and are not a Co-Chair, I am taking requests for your assignment, but only up the Spring Assembly (and may cut it off sooner than that depending on how many requests I get).
- As of writing this report, I have no real news on the status of the Manuscript Lawsuit, other than Mr. Roberts has filed a 3rd motion to have the lawsuit adjourned. I will update you as soon as more information is available. As part of the agenda for the Conference, we have 2 motions to address in regards to this lawsuit: one from our Area (65) to Censure the General Service Board and one from Area 1 to reorganize the same. My hope is that these two motions will result in some very sobering dialog (pun intended) about the role of the Trustees and what is really important to the fellowship of A.A.
- Also, I have been asked to present at the Conference this year on a topic. I bet you can guess what, yes, “A.A. Technology - Where Innovation Meets the Traditions.” All joking aside, I do feel a tremendous amount of purpose and God’s hand on my life when asked to combine these two parts of my life that I love so much.
 - Finally, it’s never too early to start booking me to do a report for your District, so please get with me when let’s get it on the calendar. Thanks for being the solution to my selfishness, and thank you for my life.

2:20pm Committee Chair Reports

Newsletter Editor, Dee D. 214-310-8262 Neta65newsletter@gmail.com Not present. No report.

Public Information (PI) Chair, Clyde R. 254-413-5609 publicinfo67@neta65.org I do not have much of anything to report. Attended 2 of the orientations and there is the CPC-PI workshop coming up next Sunday 2/25/18.

PI-Webmaster, Chris W. 972-330-6254 webmaster67@neta65.org about half way done with the migration of the old

website to the new website. The only thing that is left on the old site is how we update documents and events.

Special Needs-Accessibility, Buckley S. Chair, 972-786-1233 bsachs73505@gmail.com I have spoken with several people with special needs and I have arranged rides for two with vision impairment and I got a referral from Frank W. about a young lady who is hearing impaired but the women overseeing her halfway house, Theresa J. was looking for an interpreter for a weekly Bible Study. I advised her that we really were focused primarily on Alcoholics Anonymous, but I would see if I could find someone to assist her. I spoke with my friend Linda L. that does sign language, but she is just ending chemo therapy and the young lady was in North Dallas and that was a bit of a drive for her. Many interpreters are glad to assist but it is not something that they do for free. I advised Ms. James about the opportunity to have an interpreter for Dallas Citywide but I let her know that she would need to let someone know she was coming prior to the event so that they could get an interpreter. The young lady has a sponsor and reads lips well, but Ms. James was hoping for an interpreter mainly for the house Bible Study. I told her I would try to help but haven't found anyone to do that. I went to Orientation in Eastland and spent the day with others from our area. It was a good turnout and I got more information about our area and met and Fellowshiped with many who were there. received several things from Jamie and I met with her and spoke about responsibilities and have stayed in contact with her. She has been very helpful. I have asked a man I sponsor if he would be interested in serving as my co-chair and he is checking with his work and his family to make sure he can attend all our commitments. I'm looking forward to being on the mock committee and am grateful to be of service. Thank you. That's the end of my report.

Translations, Alt. Chair JJ O. gave the report from Chair, Jamie C. Chair 817-880-9292 Translation67@NETA65.org We attended all of the NETA Orientations and went to assist at the District 90 Anniversary. We have helped at a few of the workshops. The Translation Committee attended the following: November 26, 2017 ~ District 90 to translate for Keith D., the Delegate; and January, 2018 ~ All 3 NETA65 Orientations. If you need something translated, either verbally or orally, please contact Jamie as soon as possible. Please do not wait till the last minute. Please allow one day per page for written translation. For lengthy reports, please allow at least one week for translation. Please contact Jamie, if you are willing to help Translate Written Documentation or Verbal Communication.

Structure Committee, Jim C., Past Delegate Panel 61, (214)227-9922 netadelegate61@att.net No report.

Treatment, Ed C. Alt Chair gave the report for Chair, Gwen W. 817-683-6383 Treatment67@neta65.org reported that the Treatment Committee was pleased to finish off the year with a workshop hosted by the Saginaw Group on December 3. We are excited to have three workshops planned for the coming spring months:

- [Taking AA Meetings Into Treatment Settings](#). Sunday, March 4th, 2:00-4:00. Burlson Group. 121 NW Ellison Street, Burlson, TX 76028
- [Carrying the Message into Treatment Centers](#). Saturday, April 14, 2018, 4-6 PM. Hosted by the Show Me Group, 1622 University Drive, Suite 104, Denton, TX 76201. 940-566-9989
- [Heart of Texas Conference workshop](#) May 5, 2018. Saturday, May 5th, 3:00-5:00. Waco Convention Center. 100 Washington Ave., Waco, TX 76701

Convention, Roy A. Chair 940-566-0512 convention67@neta65.org Not present.

- [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: Sheraton McKinney, 1900 Gateway Blvd., McKinney, TX 75070. 972-363-2094 Room cost \$110. Hotel Res. Deadline 8/22/18. Host. District 22.

Ad Hoc Committee for Communications, Emails & Technology, Chris W. reported that we are looking at how do make some of the things that we are doing digitally.

- The Committee is putting a motion forward for a new voting position, Technology Committee, which would require a funded position. This will be prepared between now and the next committee meeting and presented for voting on

this summer.

- Committee report: Chair: Chris W. NETA 65 Webmaster; Members: Lore L., NETA65 Secretary, Sarah P, NETA 65 Alt Secretary, Tom D. DCM, Rick W. ALT GSR Grapevine Unity, Jose C. GSR Legacy Plano, Jenny A. L. GSR Cornerstone, Michael H. Chicago Group, Kyle C. The Principals Group, Dan C. The Principals Group, Patty N., Alt DCM.
- The Ad Hoc Committee met twice via Zoom Video Conference with some members attending in person at Chris W.'s home. The minutes are available upon request.
- There were many issues that we discussed and the consensus was that we need to continue discussing these tech issues and continually be striving to find technology solutions to help us better serve the service structure and AA as a whole. We were able to come to the following conclusions and make the following recommendations, but there is much more ongoing work to be done.

Recommendations:

- Orientation was recorded by video in Ft Worth at the Harbor Group and is available to be used as is seen fit by the area.
- The Secretary will be testing the usage of Google Groups to do Eblasts during this panel with the intention of using Google Groups to disseminate eblasts in the next panel.
- The Ad Hoc Committee recommends that a motion be put forth at the next Area Committee meeting (Summer) to propose that a Standing Tech Committee be established. There was a lot of discussion around the role of this committee. The motion would be that this is a new Voting position and would require budget. The webmaster would continue to be a funded position and would function under the Technology Committee. The Technology Committee's primary responsibilities would be:
 - Support the Area , Districts and Groups around Technology issues
 - Be a the tech resource for all committees and officers
 - Assist area officers and committees with tech resources and solutions
 - Be the local tech repository of information on how technology is being used in AA and the AA service structure by participating in the Technology in AA Discussion Forum and the National AA Technology Workshop
 - Do workshops as requested on technology and technology related issues
- The Ad Hoc Committee will meet one more time before the Summer ACM to finalize the motion which will be brought forth. We will be inviting the input of the current and past Delegates in the process.

Ad Hoc Committee for Room Sharing. Sandy L. Coordinator, Alt. DCM 61. 817-726-5732
sandylemaster@yahoo.com Not present.

2:41pm Break

3:03pm Unfinished Business

- Olga R. asked if anyone had a Presentation for the Alternate Chair positions? Janice S. GV Chair presented Bill B. from the New Freedom Group in Dallas for Alt Chair of the GV Committee. Motion to accept by Amanda R. Seconded ??, no disapproval. We now have an alt. Chair for GV.
- Spring ACM Date 4/8/18 Location – ODAAT Plano not available. Discussion of possibly Grapevine Unity or the Duncanville Group. Town South also offered, but it was noted that this is a smoking group.
- Summer ACM Meeting 7/15/18. Location to be determined. Possibly District 53, 55 or ODAAT.
- Fall Assembly
- Oct 14th Grape-a-Thon date set. Need location.
- Fall ACM Meeting to be held 10/21/18. Need location. Possibly by Districts 53, 55 or ODAAT

New Business

Spring Assembly Agenda. Presented by Olga R. Reviewed and voted with no disapproval with corrections noted. Keith D. said that that the NETA Fall Convention had an update, that he had confirmed Willard M. from Austin. The Convention positions for hosts and chairs have not as yet been assigned. It was recommended that the tasks for the Fall Convention be listed in the handbook for the Delegate and Chair to continue to support the event.

? by Lore L. thought that we had voted to not have a Convention in the voting years. She to check in NETA minutes if we voted and if that was so approved.

Area Inventory. Olga R. brought up if we are going to have an Area Inventory this year. After discussion, the vote was: to have 9, to not have 10. The simple majority voted to not have an inventory this panel.

Sarah P. made the recommendation to add to the Chair's responsibilities for the Area Inventory into the NETA Handbook. Voted, all in favor.

Motion. From Alt. Secretary Sarah P. to reassign duties as outlined in the Northeast Texas Area 65 Information Handbook for the positions of Secretary, Alternate Secretary and Newsletter Editor to begin with Panel 69 (2019). Please see below for the specific changes in the Handbook (sections referenced in Handbook are attached).

- Area Secretary Duties (pgs.10-11 of NETA Handbook) - Reassign #4, #7 (update "Alternate Secretary" to "Newsletter Editor"), #9, #13, & #15 to Alternate Secretary (Registrar); Remove #10, Remove "(and Registrar)" in title of section. Alternate Secretary Duties (pg.11 of NETA Handbook) - Reassign #1, #2, & #3 to Newsletter Editor, Update (and Registrar) in title of section. Newsletter Editor Duties (pgs.18-19 of NETA Handbook) - Remove #5; Update #6 verbiage "the Alternate Secretary to mail" to "the mail-out."
- **NOTE:** The Northeast Texas Policies and Procedures is not affected and does not need to be altered as specific duties for these three positions are not outlined in that document.
- **Background:** I attended the Southwest Regional Forum and sat in on a session for registrars working with FNV. The 30 or so people in attendance were ALL specifically Registrars, not Registrars and another job title. I was able to see how intricate and involved the FNV system is and how it works. I learned how all the parts fit together and thus understood the necessity for keeping the FNV records up to date. In Northeast Texas Area 65, we combine these Registrar duties with secretarial duties assigned to the Area Secretary position. This is a significant amount of work for one person. My motion is intended to reassign duties across three positions to evenly distribute the workload so that all assigned tasks and duties are done with fidelity. I currently serve as Alternate Secretary and also assumed the duties of Newsletter Editor at the beginning of the panel when that position was vacant. I have been able to see first-hand that the duties assigned to two people can easily be reassigned to one person without creating more work. It was actually much more effective and streamlined when one person was handling the preparation, printing, and mail out altogether.
- Recommendation that to make adjustments to the NETA Handbook do not require a motion. However, the change of Officer titles does affect the P&P and as such, needs to be presented to ACM to be submitted to the Structure Committee.

Motion. From Deb S., IG Chair Motion request that the 2018 NETA65 Intergroup Liaison budget be increased from \$1150 to \$2150. Background: The 2017 budget was \$1000 and amended to \$2000 and approved by an Assembly vote during the Summer Assembly in Longview. \$1995 of the \$2000 was used. NOTE: I did not attend the October Assembly due to illness. That would have accounted for approximately an additional \$130 (since it was in Ft. Worth, normally it would be around \$260 plus mileage). The current 2018 budget for Intergroup Liaison is \$1150. Motion seconded by Ben S. Vote to send to the Spring Assembly 13, Opposed 6. Motion passed to be put on the agenda for the Spring Assembly.

Motion. From JoAnne N., Alt DCM 64. Motion for the P&P 1.4 modification for the candidate requirements. The motion requires it to go to the Structure Committee. Seconded. Kevin H. Questions for clarification and discussion. All agreed to go to the Structure Committee. Details not submitted.

Motion. From Rocky M., District 71. Motion to make District 71 a test project for Skype TV. The technology would be used to cover area assemblies so that DCMs and GSRs that can't afford to go to assemblies can participate or see what's going on.

- Background: At the District 71 meeting of 12-2-17 I was instructed to bring a motion to the Area Committee Meeting (ACM) covering this subject. The motion was brought by John B., GSR of the Sunshine Group and was tabled in November because he was not present to present the motion. In December, it was voted on and passed unanimously for me to present the motion at the ACM. I am doing this on behalf of my district. I know very little about the technology, but have been told that the NETA 65 Ad Hoc Committee on Communications has been discussing similar trials. I do think that if used correctly, this could enhance participation at assemblies from DCMs and GSRs who cannot afford to go or their groups can't send them.
- Seconded by Sarah P. Discussion about referring to the Ad Hoc Committee for Communications. All agreed.

Motion. From Sarah P. to change 1.1-D in the P&P from Alt. Secretary to Alt. Secretary/Registrar. Seconded by Ed C. Unanimous approval to be submitted to the Structure Committee.

What's on your mind? Open discussion.

Motion to Close, by Sarah P.

4:30pm Closed the ACM with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted respectively by Lore L., Secretary/Registrar, Panel 67