



# NORTHEAST TEXAS AREA 65

## Quarterly newsletter

The heartbeat of the Northeast Texas Area 65 Assembly

Fall 2018 • [www.neta65.org](http://www.neta65.org) • Volume 37 Number 8

### North East Texas Area Fall Assembly / Convention

September 21 ~ 23, 2018

Sheraton McKinney - 1900 Gateway Blvd., McKinney, TX 75070

Theme for the 2018 General Service Conference "Solution for all Generations"



#### Friday – September 21, 2018 Fall Convention

**6:00pm:** ??? (Keith D., Panel 67, Delegate, Area 65), opened the Fall Convention with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. NETA Past Delegates Panel chaired by Keith D., Panel 67, Delegate, Area 65. Present were Glenice S., Panel 29 Area 30; Luis P., Panel 49; Jimmy D., Panel 59; Bill N., Panel 57; Jim C., Panel 61; and Tom M., Panel 65.

**7:45pm:** break

**8:00pm:** AA Speaker Meeting chaired by Jon P. AA Speaker Meeting. Introducer: Ashleigh H. host for the speaker Rebecca Mc. from Little Rock, AR, Delegate, Panel 65, Area 4 (Arkansas) told her story.

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

#### Saturday – September 22, 2018 Fall Assembly

**8:05am:** **Area Chair** Olga R. opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Kristy K, from the Texas Group in Waco, and secretary for District 91 read "Why do we need a Conference" in English, while Manuel C., MCD 90, read it in Spanish.

**8:15am Officer Reports:** Olga recommended that in order to save time, she asked the body for support to suspend the rules for the reading of the minutes from the Summer Assembly. Motion made by ?? Wayne H., seconded by Nicole S. Olga R. asked for a vote showing support for the motion. Seeing no opposition, Olga noted that the motion passed.

**Secretary/Registrar,** Lore L., requested that should anyone find any errors or typos in the Summer Texarkana Assembly minutes, please submit them to her by the end of the day.

**Alt. Secretary,** Sarah P., do need a group for the last mailout. Kelly A. said that they could host at the Prosper Group. Thank you to the Allan Group. Fall Deadline for articles to newsletter editor (October 26),

Fall newsletter mail-out (November 11) Group TBD. Possibly the Prosper Country Group (Kelly Arnold) maybe could do November 10th. Thank you to the Allen group for summer mailout! Lots of folks and great conversation knocked it out in less than an hour! Extra newsletters are on the handout table. I want to thank panel 67 for allowing me to serve as the alternate secretary. I have learned so much and loved serving with and for each one of you.

**Treasurer,** Sheila W. treasurer report for the period ending 9-18-18: (1) financial report, (2) Summary Report showing all expenses by Committee or Category, (3) Detail report of expenses, (4) Contributions received by group, and (5) Orange can contributions and expenses.

#### Operating Account:

Beginning balance 01/01/18	\$35,658.20
Contributions	\$40,121.37
Disbursements	<u>(\$38,864.59)</u>
Ending balance	\$36,914.98

#### Corrections/Orange Can:

Beginning balance 01/01/18	\$ 2,673.53
Contributions	\$13,554.35
Disbursements	<u>(\$ 9,625.82)</u>
Ending balance	\$ 6,602.06

#### Prudent Reserve:

Beginning balance 01/01/18	\$15,425.94
Interest earned	<u>\$ 5.15</u>
Ending balance	\$15,431.09

Archives ending balance 4/7/18	\$ 245.96
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I will be asking the body to approve the 2019-2020 budget which was presented to you at this Fall Assembly. All funds should be made payable to NETA675 or NETA65 Correction and mailed to: NETA 65 Treasurer - 222 E McKinney Street, Suite 100, Denton, TX 76201. If funds are to be distributed to the Orange Can or Corrections, please write that on the check in the memo. It has been my pleasure to serve as your treasurer for Panel 67.

**Alt. Treasurer,** Brandy H., 92% of the money provided for Panel 67 as advanced expenses has been reported back as expenses. Other expenses covering convention charges, orientations, and hotel expenses have totaled \$15,323.06.

Budget 2017	Budget 2018	Check Amount	Total Expenses	% of Budget Returned	Balance
\$41,495.00	\$44,265.00	\$54,167.98	\$49,095.90	92%	\$(7,285.19)

**Alt. Chair,** Wayne H. List of established workshops. 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. There are a number of established workshop topics. Please see me to get a list. Presently working on creating formats for frequently held workshops. 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, let me know how we can be of assistance. Workshops presently scheduled for the next 3 months are as follows:

- Service Event (Staying in the Middle of the Boat) 2-4:30 PM 9-30-2018 Show Me group 1622 W. University Drive #104 Denton Texas 76201 Contact Paul 469-394-0537 or Ashleigh 940-536-9923
- How to Chair A meeting Workshop 2-4 PM 9-30-2018 Dallas North Group 101 S. Coit Road Suite 201 Richardson Texas 75080 Contact Leslie R. 214-790-5104
- How to Chair A Meeting Workshop 1:30 to 5 PM 10-13-2018 Noon & Nite Group 704 Glencrest Lane Longview Texas 75601 Contact Diane B. 903-738-4791
- Safety and Respect in AA 1:30-4 PM 10-20-2018 The Glass House Group 6713 Hemsell Place Ft. Worth, Texas 76116 Contact Suzie J. 682-234-4566 or Contact Rick W. 917-698-0722
- Technology, AA and the Internet 1:30-3:30 PM 12-9-2018 Language of the Heart group 4121 Colleyville Blvd, Suite 7 Colleyville, Texas 76034 Contact Ken 214-729-9102 or group 817-281-9716

Upcoming Workshops will be posted on the NETA65.ORG Calendar as they are finalized. The 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. Respectfully Submitted.

**Convention Alt. Chair,** Joe H. there are 250 reports on the back table. The current and upcoming assemblies, Fall Assembly 3/17-20 at the Double Tree hosted by D53, 6/15-18 D65 in Cleburne. The Fall 2019 has to be in the DFW area. We have been in Denton and the Colony, if any interested let me know. We want to get this inked in by the end of the year. The Hospitality Room will be open 6:30am to 10:30pm, at night and open whenever we have a break, and at lunch.

**Alt. Delegate,** Tina P. thank you for allowing me to serve. Since I have gotten into service work, it feels like I have been launched into the 6<sup>th</sup> dimension. It is my responsibility as Alt Delegate to keep you informed. I recommend that you go to the AA Service Assembly in Branson, MO. IF you want to learn about our service structure and how to carry the message, be there. At the group, district, area and regional level as well as GSO. The hotel on the report is already booked up. There may be room at the Hilton Promenade at the Landing; it is within walking distance. There are other hotels that may have availability. If you need a ride ask me, if you need a room – women only – contact me. There is a lot for you to see and hear. I employ each of you to share your experience of what you have learned in the position. Share with the incoming person.

- **SWRAASA 2018 (Area 39 Western Missouri) – Oct. 5-7, 2018**
  - Branson Hilton Hotel and Convention Center – SOLD OUT
  - Hilton Promenade at Branson Landing , 3 Branson Landing, Branson, MO 65616
  - 866-568-0890 \$139.00 until 9/14/18 Group Code ALCANP
  - [registration@swraasa2018.org](mailto:registration@swraasa2018.org)
- **73<sup>rd</sup> Texas State AA Convention (SETA 67) – June 7-9, 2019**
  - Westin Galleria Houston @ 5060 W. Alabama, Houston, TX. 77056
  - 713-770-6270 room rate \$129.00 single/double
  - \$139-\$149 triple/quad, mention 2019 TX State Convention
- **Southwest Regional Forum 2019 (SETA 67) – Houston – Oct. 11-13**
  - Sheraton North @ 15700 John F Kennedy Blvd, Houston, TX. 77032 281-442-5100 room rate TBA
- **National AA CFC Conference 2019 (SETA 67) – Houston – Nov. 1-3**
- **International AA Convention – Detroit , MI - July 2-5, 2020**
  - Check aa.org and Box 459 as more info becomes available
  - Convention registration and housing reservations available Fall 2019

**Delegate,** Keith D. Delegate's Report. The only significant issue I have to report is in regards to the dates of the 69th General Service Conference. We voted in the polling process at the 68th General Service Conference, an opportunity to use this new process has come up already. On July 9th, we received the following communication:

The General Service Office has discovered a mistake with our signed 2019 hotel Conference dates. Our current contract is for April 21-27, 2019. The approved Conference dates, as voted on during the 2016 Conference, are April 28-May 4, 2019. The

urgency of this matter was discussed last week with the Conference Committee on Policy and Admissions, along with the trustees' Committee on the Conference. It was recommended that all Conference members be polled as soon as possible.

Following discussion, including the necessity of altering some post-Conference assemblies and our continued attempt at being mindful of major holidays, it was recommended that:

The dates of the 2019 Conference be moved to the first week available to hold our Conference, May 19-May 25, 2019. If the motion passes, the expected result will be to incur no additional charges or penalties and would allow more time for translations. (If we must otherwise walk away from our hotel contract, there will be a penalty of \$142,000.) If the motion fails, Conference members would need to agree to change the dates of Conference to April 21-April 27. Again, without additional charges or penalties but falling on major holidays. (Note that in this case, the dates would need approval by polling the General Service Conference).

First of all, I made a mistake in my understanding of the options available and thought we had to change the dates. We actually had 3 options. Because these dates were an Advisory Action, we could:

- Vote to change the dates - the only other dates available were the ones in the recommendation in late May
- Vote to keep the contracted dates - still requires a vote and this option would mean we would conflict with Easter and Passover,
- Abandon the contract, incur the penalty, and find a new venue.

I incorrectly misunderstood the options were change the dates or incur the penalty and find a new venue. Because I thought these were the only 2 options, and after our last incident of lost money due to hotel contract issues, this seemed like a no-brainer. Now, my mistake highlights an issue with the polling process, one that was already pointed out during the discussion about the recommendation at the Conference, when the polling process was passed - there is no procedure for discussion prior to the initial vote. However, right after I had already cast my vote in favor of moving the dates to May, a delegate took it upon himself to create an email thread with every current Conference voting member to have discussion. Not only was my misunderstanding clarified (albeit too late to take back my vote), there were many good reasons voiced to not change the dates, but to keep the current dates, even though they conflicted with holidays (the new dates actually conflict with a holiday as well, as they end Memorial Day weekend). The initial motion passed, several minority opinions were heard, a motion was made to reconsider, of which I and several others seconded, and a vote to revote was taken. The motion to reconsider failed (I voted to reconsider), and so the motion passed. I'm not entirely happy with the result, but given our newness to this process, it did go very smoothly and felt timely and respectful to the Conference process.

I do hope that in the future these 2 things are rectified: • The polling process needs a mechanism for discussion prior to the vote • Conference members displayed respect and restraint using email to have a general discussion, indicating I believe we are ready to have a formal means to have general discussions outside of the conference and so I hope the Conference will look a way to make this happen, as right now our "mail person" method is way too limited (somewhere that role has taken on the guideline that discussions cannot be had via that method) and only includes Delegates, while we received good input from the GM and some trustees during the dates discussion.

Once I realized my error and heard some of the discussion, I realized that I should have at the very least taken an informal poll from members of my Area, but again, I thought our options were more limited and given the timing and the possibility of losing another \$142,000, I voted as best I could given the circumstances. Finally, and as my last Area Assembly as your Panel 67 Delegate, I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to express my thankfulness for the last 2 years. I knew going into this role that my responsibility would be enormous, but I could not have imagined how much I would have gained personally.

I never expected being Delegate would be a mountain-top experience or the greatest experience of my life. But come on, the experience of being Delegate had some stiff completion - A.A. is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me. My life has truly been miraculously transformed - ask any of the members of the Big Book Group that saw me accumulating my 37 sobriety dates - I am not the same guy. In fact, I don't really relate when people talk about one experience in A.A. being some kind of pinnacle point. The last 16 years of my life have been pinnacle, with each phase being even more so than the last one. I expect the next one will be as well.

What I can say is that I came to A.A. "a tongue-chewing, babbling, idiot drunk" and to think that I would be standing on the floor of the General Service Conference in New York giving it all I had to make sure that your voice was heard, with my only real concern being "don't sit down until you have no regrets", is what my friend Jimmy Dean would say, "there is no way to get to here from there." I hope that I served you well, but I know you allowing me to do this for you, has served me in ways I could not possibly thank you enough. I love you all. Keith Davis. *A standing ovation was given for Keith who had brought tears to many eyes.*

**Olga R**, reminded people that new comers need to double down; to reach out and meet 4 people this weekend. We want to get through our committee reports:

**8:45am Committee Chair Reports.** In the interest of time, please be brief.

**Archives**, Chair, Greg L., Our recent activity has been good. We had a great time at the North Texas Roundup! The NETA 65 Archives along with Combined District 6 Archives filled up the room with a fantastic display of AA history. We set up a table in the middle of the room for fellowship and archives talk. We had great turnout! Upcoming Events - We will be displaying the Archives at the Grape-A-Thon October 14th from 1:00-5:00pm at the Lewisville Group. If you have any NETA Archives requests or questions, please contact me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

**Archivist/Historian**, chair empty, no report

**Corrections**, Chair, Nicole S. I have updated the report that Lore had sent out. Chair Report: Presented Corrections to: Legal Community in Denison, TX / District 24, (Bill H. presented a Corrections Workshop in Tyler / District 42, Bill M. presented at CD6 Meeting. Booth at: Texas State Convention, AA Fair / District 54, North Texas Roundup. I encourage everyone to search their hearts and talk with their sponsor about becoming the next NETA65 Corrections Chair.

Big Book (by the case) Request: (a) County Jails: Eastland, Henderson, Collin, Dallas, (b) Prisons: Beto / Gurney, Gatesville, Telford. GSO Correspondence/Pre-Release:

1. Literature Requests: (5)
2. Literature Requests sent to another TX Area: (3)
3. New Meeting Requests: (1)
4. Pre-Release: (4)
5. Pre-release request from to another TX Area: (2)

Spanish Liaison: 1. Will travel to Spanish Intergroup Meeting to invite Spanish Speaking AA Members

Announcements and Upcoming Events: (A) Sat., 13 Oct 2018, Mexia Group- NETA65 Corrections Conference (B) National Corrections Conference: November 2-4, 2018, 200 Sable Oaks Drive, South Portland, ME 04106 and in 2019 in Houston, TX.

Orange Can: Send Contributions to: 222 E McKinney, Ste 100., Denton, TX 76201 check/money order must have "Orange Can" in the 'memo' section. Love in Service.

**CPC**, Chair, Clyde R. no report due to circumstances beyond my control.

**Grapevine/LaViña**, Alt. Chair, Bill B. we find a lot of faces that do not know what the GV is. I get to talk to a lot of people and share my experience. Bill and I were at the North Texas Roundup in August, had a great time, great speakers. Held our committee meeting at the Roundup. made some decisions concerning the Grape-a-thon. Flyers, food, etc... Will need help with cost of Grape-a-thon, this annual event is not covered in the area budget. There is a can for donations on the Grapevine/LaViña table. Thank you for your support. The English and Spanish flyers have been sent to Lore for distribution to everyone, there are more flyers on our table if you would like to take to your group. The Grape-a-thon will be Sunday October 14, 2018 at the Lewisville Group in Lewisville, Texas from 1:30pm - 5:00pm. Hope to see you all there. I would like to thank all who are helping to make this a very successful event. This will be my last assembly as your Grapevine/LaViña area 65 standing chair. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support. Have learned so much about the grapevine and LaViña in the last two years. My sobriety has differently grown with the responsibility that you have entrusted me with. The rewards have outweighed any challenges I may have had. Thank you very much. In love and service. We finalized the flyers for the event in Lewisville. Published their stories in the GV, take some questions, 10/14 1:45 at the Lewisville Group District 54 Service fair it was very successful. 2 ½ hours and very successful. Janice could not be here, thank you for her support. And thank you for the opportunity to serve.

**Intergroup Liaison**, Deb S. a lot of traveling. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your NETA65 Intergroup Liaison during this panel. Please remember to continue to volunteer at your Central Offices/Intergroup Offices. Intergroup/Central Office visits for the first half of September included the Ft. Worth Central Office Steering Committee/Central Office Representatives meeting and the Dallas Spanish Intergroup. Keith D., Neta65 Delegate gave a nice presentation at the Dallas Spanish Intergroup. It was a very informative presentation and several questions were asked and answered. Other September visits include the Dallas Intergroup, Ft. Worth Spanish Intergroup, and Waco Central Office. Tyler and Texarkana visits are planned for the first part of October. NETA65 has (7) seven Intergroups/Central Offices covering a large area stretching from Texarkana to Waco and parts west to include the Dallas/Ft. Worth area totaling approximately 1573 miles of travel. Communications continue to work well using phone and email/text when travel is not possible.

NOTE: Volunteers are always needed at your Central Office/Intergroup Office. Even if you only have 15-30 minutes, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please let me know whenever there are any changes to your Intergroup/Central Office contact information listed below: NETA65 Intergroup locations and general meeting information are as follows: (updated as of 31 August 2018)

- Dallas Intergroup, Phone: 214-887-6699 (24 Hours), 6162 E. Mockingbird LN, STE 213, Dallas, TX., Hours: Monday-Friday 10AM-6PM. To volunteer please call 214-887-6699. Intergroup meetings are the 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 Intergupal 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: [aadallsgroup.com](http://aadallsgroup.com)
- Fort Worth Central Office, Phone: 817-332-3533 (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: 817-332-3533. Volunteers are always needed. Please call 817-332-3533 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 Intergupal 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.aafortworthhispano.org](http://www.aafortworthhispano.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).

Please volunteer at your central office and intergroups. Offer your support even it is only a few minutes. They always need your support.

**Literature/AV**, Chair, Steven S. attended the Texas State Convention, Texas Fair, helped with the group workshop for safety and respect. The article by Jack Alexander has had an impact. What are you doing in your group that is right? The first 164 pages are important, he fellowship, and talk more about the literature. Grab Keith – he loves talking. Thank you to Lore for my inconsistencies.

**Newsletter**, editor, Dee D., not present, no report

**Public Information**, Jose G. from our last ACM until today, I stepped down as PI Alt Chair and became the PI Chair. The PI Committee has done the following over the past couple of months:

1. Is continuing to support university medical and nursing schools in Fort Worth (UTA, TCU, UNT)
2. Conducted a PI Presentation for the UNT School of Osteopathic Medicine in August
3. Is coordinating these efforts with the Fort Worth Central Office

Thanks to committee members who have participated in these events.

**PI /Webmaster**, John F. a lot of new activity old month 200 a month. We are having 200+ a day on the new site. We have some bugs. I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your webmaster. We are receiving quite a bit of activity on the new site which I will have attached diagrams at the end of this report. We are still receiving more activity on the older site. We are currently getting no more than 200 visits to the new website in a month, while that is near the daily average on the older website.

Normally I would suggest creating a path that forwards to the new site, but at this time there are still some bugs that need to be worked out. We are having slow upload times of pages and this has caused some discomfort in the use of the site. I would like to thank Keith for taking the lead on trying to get these issues sorted out. The belief is that the program we use for the uploading and downloading of files is taxing our resources, and we have been in contact with the developers of the program to help get resolution on the issue. The problem has been made better, but is still not at the peak performance that we would like. I would like to see more visits to the site to see if this causes more problems, and to give us more feedback on the things that need to fixed with the website.

At this time, all older documentation has been moved from the older site to new site, and we are only loading new documentation to the new site. So, we need to be sure to inform anyone looking for newer reports, financials, flyers, etc. to be sure to go to the new site to find them.

Most of my focus in the time of webmaster has been on getting documentation over and uploading new documentation to the site. I would like to continue to serve AA in this manner, but will step aside if we have a member who is more qualified to run this position. My knowledge of working with websites is very limited and I am learning this as I go. There is a lot I don't know, and to be honest, at times I feel inadequate for this position. There are a few things that I do still need to do, namely, create the video for the process to upload files to the web.

Thank you for allowing me to serve and I will be happy to continue to assist anyone who has any questions on the process of using the new website. If chosen to continue in this role, then I will continue to help in whatever way I can, to make this website functional and user friendly.

?? Jacky – are you wanting to encourage more traffic to our website – JF: Yes.

JF: I have not done the YouTube video on how to up load documents.

**Special Needs/Accessibility**, Chair, Buckley S. My alternate Lynn and I attended the Texas State Convention and set our table for our Committee and we also attended the North Texas Round Up and set our table for our Committee. We also placed informational ads in the Deaf Network Newsletter (ad attached) to get information out to our deaf members. We have had some other Accessibility chairs from groups in our area reach out to us and we have had calls with these folks and we are looking forward to working with them.

In our report we have included information about the DAC (Deaf Action Committee) that was started in Austin and we are looking to begin one for the DFW area. The information was given to Lynne after she attended the NETA Summer Assembly and it is very detailed and we believe it is something that we can do for this area and maybe assist other intergroup and areas in assisting those with their deaf population. As you know, the deaf population is not large but as with any alcoholic we want to afford them the same opportunity that we were given and we are looking for ways to do that and to improve on services that we already offer.

The documents attached are entitled 1.) NETA DAC Interpreter Recruitment, 2) What DAC is and is not..., 3) Bylaws. They are in English and in Spanish. Our 9th tradition has a great line, "Just as the aim of each A.A. member is personal sobriety, the aim of our services is to bring sobriety within reach of all who want it. We hope that our combined efforts in this area are striving to do just that.

**Translations,** Chair, Jamie C. thank you for the past two years it has been very difficult as I know very little Spanish. To JJ, thank you, and to Tahtianna, also thank you. We translated the minutes for the Summer Assembly minutes, Fall Assembly reports, and Summer Area Committee Meeting reports and minutes.

**Treatment,** Chair, Gwen W. The Treatment committee participated in the District 54 Service Workshop on August 12th in Richardson. We appreciate being invited to the event. Several groups in NETA 65 have expressed an interest in finding Treatment Centers to take meetings into. If you or your group knows of any facilities wanting additional meetings or if you have a meeting [that] you are currently committed to, but you would like to pass on to another group, please contact me or your district Treatment Rep.

We look forward to bringing treatment service information to the different parts of our service area and we are happy to schedule treatment workshops for your group or district. There is a new facility in Mansfield. I encourage you to use Bridging the Gap, we take hundreds of meetings into TF each month. They round them up and invite them in. We are not sticking out our hands and getting them from the door of treatment into the door of AA. We do not want anyone to fall to the wayside. There is information on the website. Thank you for letting me to serve.

? JoAnne N., how are working to fill those new meetings in Mansfield? GW: sometimes there are not enough people to support the meetings – or if you can no longer support a meeting. 74% of us come to AA through Treatment Facilities.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Communications,** Rick W. This committee has been dissolved as of the last ACM. Requested to read the report from 7/15/18 as submitted to the Summer ACM.

On Sunday, 7/8/18 five (5) members of the AHCC and one representative from District 71 in Abilene met via ZOOM video conferencing and the following is a recap of that meeting:

**Video Broadcast Beta-test of 2018 Summer Assembly:** Jerry H. from District 71 in Abilene joined us for our committee meeting. We discussed the pro's and con's of the video-beta test of the Summer Area Assembly to District 71 in Abilene and can report the following: First, some general comments from Jerry H., Tech Liaison, and District 71 for the video test:

- "We had larger attendance than expected."
- "None of the people there had ever been to an Area Assembly before and were excited to see what it was all about."
- "The Friday evening sound was not setup correctly and it was very bad. Saturday morning the sound setup was much better during the Delegate's presentation. Having the background information from the Delegate's presentation was very helpful."

**Pro's/Advantages:**

- Video-broadcasting an Area Assembly to geographically challenged remote areas is beneficial for:
  - Verifying remote attendance through video should voting occur.
  - Providing a tool for remote attendees questions and answers to presenters (or the body).
  - Eliminating both the financial and geographical barriers to service that may prohibit someone from attending an Area assembly.
  - Enhancing engagement of remote members

**Con's/Disadvantages:**

- Some of the disadvantages of video-broadcasting to remote locations could be:
  - It did feel like the remote attendees video projection was a distraction and caused more disruption than needed.
  - Remote attendees may not fully appreciate the topics being discussed which could result in not being fully engaged.

**Additional Comments from Remote Attendees:**

- There were some in attendance at the remote location who were not enthusiastic at all about being only passive observers at the assembly. It was felt by those in remote attendance that if the Area is going to pursue this for the future, they want to have full participation.
- It is the recommendation that it only is available to geographically disparate locations and that it only is in one location (as opposed to allowing individuals to login from multiple locations to create a sense of community).
- Should the Area decide to pursue this moving forward - from a practical standpoint - there needs to be geographic range determined as to what determines whether a video would be done or not (miles from the actual assembly location, specific outlying cities, etc.).
- Should the Area decide to pursue this moving forward, it's highly recommended that some sort of Guidelines document be created for the participating remote location to include things like suggested technology that needs to be available at the remote location, the meeting space, the identification of a remote technical point person to work with the Area in getting it tested and setup for broadcast, etc.)

Lastly on this topic, if the Area approves the creation of the new Technology Committee starting in Panel 69, we will be happy to provide all of our notes and minutes to them so they can pick this up and move forward with it should they, and the Area so choose.

**Area Email Communications:** *Lore L. has been working to understand and implement the requirements for getting NETA approved for special support for non-profits. This has been accomplished and we are now able to access the technology we would like implemented at reduced prices. What we can expect is a sophisticated, useful, and secured go-to place for new technology and its support.*

*Initially, NETA needed to be approved by Tech Soup, a clearing house and organizer for technology for non-profits. We have accomplished this. Tech Soup offers a centralized procurement system for purchasing equipment, services and software at reduced prices. It appears that most brand name equipment, computer and technology providers participate with Tech Soup. This gateway could provide NETA with a place to save money on lower cost computers, audio video equipment, projectors and other technology used by its officers and standing committee chairs. Tech Soup is also the management service admin for Google for Non-Profits (GFNP).*

*By going through Tech Soup and then GFNP, NETA has now been approved by GFNP to purchase its technology solutions. GFNP will provide NETA with reduced cost access to their G Suite of products and services. NETA's interest is focused on their communications services "GMAIL" and document management program "GOOGLE DRIVE."*

*These two solutions will be able to provide secured remote access to emails and documents. GOOGLE DRIVE can be used for both internal and external needs. The solutions can grant tiered access and are set up easily through an approved Admin assigned by NETA. For internal needs, we can use the program like a DropBox to securely house and grant access to the archives of all relevant historical documents, tax documents, committee reports, minutes, officer reports, etc. For external needs, it can be used to provide AA members with useful information, AA related documentation, and appropriately prepared (redacted) minutes and reports.*

*The G Suite also has a Learning Center and Help Center which can assist NETA's Admin, webmaster and the soon to be approved new Technology Committee in setting up the best possible working solutions. Another program in the G Suite is "GOOGLE ONE TODAY," a center for new contributions. NETA could link to their site or be searched and located independently. We could use GOOGLE ONE TODAY as a place where AA members would be able to make digital contributions. Simplified next steps could be as follows:*

- *Approve the Technology Committee*
- *Approve a Chair*
- *Build a committee of tech savvy volunteers*
- *Lore to introduce Tech Soup and GFNP to the Webmaster (turn over IDs and passwords)*
- *Appoint an Admin to work with Tech Soup*
- *Appoint an Admin to work with GFNP*
- *Select the GMAIL and GOOGLE DRIVE solutions needed which will best fit NETA's requirements*
- *Implement the solutions and prepare how-to sheets for the incoming Panel 69 officers and chairs*
- *Investigate GOOGLE ONE TODAY and present findings to the ACM for review.*

**Online Repository for Area Documents:** John F., our Area Webmaster attended our AHCC and shared the following on the progress of online document storage using our new area website:

- 1.) Everything from the old website has been moved over to the new site
- 2.) Some minor edits/revisions have been made to categorization to assist in easy access
- 3.) Archives has been moved over
- 4.) Login information and passwords have been sent out to those users needing to upload documents to the website so they can upload documents themselves (at this point, that process will not change with the new website)
- 5.) The webmaster will create a training document on uploading documents and will distribute it at this committee meeting
- 6.) The webmaster will also create some sort of training video that can be accessed online for future use by area trusted servants

\_\_\_\_ Based upon the fact that the video beta-test and the document repository tasks have been completed as of this report, the only task left for this committee is the email communications. It is recommended that the new Technology Committee (*should it be created in Panel 69*) implement GMAIL and GOOGLE DRIVE. Thus, this Ad Hoc Committee has completed all of the tasks assigned to us by the Area Chair and can disband. I want to offer my personal thanks to each and every member of the Ad Hoc Committee for their commitment to completing the tasks assigned to us.

A goal is to host at the technology forum with Keith's help. Streamlining and efficiency. The last take on the online responsibility is that we got everything moved over from the old site to the new site. We will have access to all of the documents. Technology for so many can be a barrier – there are ways we can break down barriers with technology.

**Room Share Coordinator,** Sandra L. the goal is to help groups send their GSRs that could not afford it. Others can help split the cost. It helped, but not as much as I hoped.

**Olga R.:** Thank you to all that chaired those committees and if you are interested in chairing a committee, come to the Area Committee Meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Cornerstone group at 1:30pm. Come and be ready to stand for the committee you want to fill. We encourage you to speak with some of the chairs of the committees that interest you. You guys are rocking and rolling this morning. Room #229 is the hospitality room

9:45am: Break.

**10:00am: Old Business:**

Secretary Lore L and Sarah P, Alt. Secretary coordinated the roll call for NETA Business. There was a total 102 voting members in the room. With 52 as a simple majority 68 is 2/3rds. This changed to 108 so 2/3 = 72.

MOTION for the 2019~2020 Budget: Presenter Treasurer, Sheila W. Tom G., DCM District 1, made the motion. Seconded by Sarah P. Questions for clarity included: Marie, GSR Stewart Street Group, I noticed that past delegates are in the budgets, why they are paid? Olga R: we have always cherished the experience of our past delegates and encourage them to be here. ?? past delegates budget, why is Keith not listed. SW: he needs to be. Bill N.: past delegates also support the Structure Committee and the Finance Committee and we speak at the Workshops. Olga R: Discussion now open with two minutes to speak pro or con. Seeing none.

Vote: raised hands to Approve. Appeared unanimous. Budget motion passed.

**New Business:** MOTION Eliminate the position of "Archivist and Historian" as listed in the P&Ps, Section 1, Subsection 1.1

Subsection 1 item k. Presenter: Jo Anne N., DCM D64, Seconded by Gwen W. Joanne read the Archivist and Historian position details covering all of the digitalizing tasks and subject matter that are no longer necessary. ?? Michael – are some documents are already on the website. Are there others JN: There is a plan to archive documents from the website. Yes – the Archives people will do that, so there is no need for a second person

?? Brad L: is there a need for the digital Library? JN: Yes Bill N: Arthur's health is not good. The archivist position was created as we had no records management or documents handling to manage our history. The last two archivists have both said that there is no need for this position anymore. ?? Tammy C., GSR Primary Purpose - to have the records searchable JN: Yes, there will be a one stop shop of this history Lore L: there is no such thing as an original of a digital file. I have a set of the records back to 1990. As of the past two panels Kat C and myself, we have transferred all of our digital documents to the archivist Keith C and then to Eddie T. Bill N: yes, and Arthur has all records back to the 70s. Chris B. Called the question. Vote for = Unanimous. Motion passed. Bill N. added that Arthur will continue on the Archivist Historian in place until the end of this panel

MOTION: All Agenda Items for Censure or Reorganization Be Forwarded Directly to the Conference Committee on Trustees.

Presenter: Keith D., Delegate, Panel 67 Seconded by ??. Asking for endorsement. This is the same floor action item that he submitted and withdrew to not circumvent. Discussion: Rick W. asked for those less educated on conference items or concepts, is this a process? KD: yes. He was asked to explain the current process and his recommendation. Chris B: are we getting too critical and set a president? KD: the structure committee could decide to not present or we could get blocked by procedural issues. Jim C: past delegate and currently serving as the chair of the structure committee. The area committee can still take it forward. If this is the trustees, and they kill an issue, it is not brought forward and no one will receive the information. Support for the endorsement Vote, FOR was unanimous, the motion passed.

MOTION To create a new standing committee on Technology and Communications which will be a voting position and will be budgeted.

Presenter: Lore L. Seconded by Robert S. There was active and aggressive discussion for and against creating the committee. When asked about the cost of the budget, Sheila W. said that the committee budgets are all about the same. Bill N. challenged the process to vote in a committee without details. LL: noted that the committee itself has the ability to set its guidelines and that guidelines had already been presented at two ACMs. Jim C. also weighed in on the process, but that as past delegates, none of them are voting members of the body. Tahtianna F: we do not have a process on setting up a committee. Chicken before the egg. Wayne H: listening to agreements. We just did it today to dissolve a committee without details on how and what. Sarah P: call the question. Vote to postpone was 49 to 49 and then 49 to 50. Following a great deal of discord, Laurie T. called for a revote (third time). Final vote count was TO POSTPONE: 46 AGAINST POSTPONEMENT: 58. Motion to postpone failed. (Simple majority is opposed to postponement.) Additional discussion continued. Jim C. noted that funding needs to go to the Finance Committee. Tahtianna asked about details of the committee. Christine W., GSR the Gift, is this going to include cyber security? LL: No. Yes to Antiviral and anonymity protection. Olga R. asked for support from Rick W. He read the recommendations for the new committee from the Spring ACM Ad Hoc Committee report:

The Technology Committee's primary responsibilities could be:

1. Support the Area, Districts and Groups around Technology issues
2. Be a tech resource for all Area committees and officers
3. Be the Area tech repository of information on how technology is being used in AA and the AA service structure
4. Participate in the Technology in AA Discussion Forum and applicable Workshops.
5. Support Area workshops as requested on technology and technology related issues.
6. Committee will not be responsible content - only implementation and training.
7. Move the Area Webmaster position from PI committee to this new committee.



Keith D. added that the purpose of the Technology Committee needs to have someone who understand technology, who can manage the website and support the Area in all its technology needs. LL: We have to have the committee approved before we can define its operations. Following considerable additional discussion, the question was called. Votes For = 88 and Votes Against = 9. The Minority opinion was invited to the mic: Chris B.: hammer looking for a nail. based on a specific request. A direct need. Will, GSR of the Whisky & Milk group get everything together and vote on it. Saw the value of technology to help AA. JoAnne N.: who makes the guidelines how to come up with the budget. Create this thing and fly by the seat of our pants.

Olga R. Seeing no request to revote, the motion has passed.

Jim C. noted that now is the time for the Standing Committees to meet (30 Minutes) at lunch if they want.

Olga R: When we return, we will have our **GSR and DCM Sharing Sessions and Reports**. The Davis Room will be the break out room for DCM Sharing Session.

11:30am: Break for Lunch

1:13pm: Olga R. called the afternoon Assembly session to order and made announcements. She then turned the podium over to Yoli, SW Regional Trustee and GSO staffers Sandra W. (Regional Forums) along with Friday night speaker Rebecca Mc. Past Delegate Area 4, and Willard Past Delegate Area 66.

The table showing the Third Legacy Voting process for the NETA Officers is attached.

#### New Officers:

- **Delegate: Tina P. in the third round**
- **Alt Delegate: Wayne H. in the second round**

Break 300 to 3:22

Discussion... For the Area Chair position, a lot of discussion over Rick W. being asked to not stand as he had been Chair in another Area. Rick complied. For the Chair position, after four rounds of voting, Yoli requested a motion from the floor to conduct a 5th vote a simple majority or to the HAT. Beckley S. moved to have a 5th vote, Linda H. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote for the 5<sup>th</sup> vote was 57, Vote against the 5<sup>th</sup> vote was 51.

- **Area Chair: Lore L voted in on the 5<sup>th</sup> round.**

Discussion... Rick W. asked to withdraw his name again by Yoli F., and then Bill N. restated that delegates cannot reinstate themselves as in the P&P. Keith D. - If you do not agree that he should stand, do not vote for him. Linda H. - the interpretations are that the Delegate is the only one presented as not to succeed themselves. JoAnne N. - if you do not want this, then we need to change the P&P next panel. Then someone will need to motion to change the P&P. Jamie C: it should not matter that he has served in another area. It is out of our area.

Discussion... For the Alt. Chair position, after four rounds of voting, the Chair requested a motion from the floor to conduct a 5th vote a simple majority or go to the HAT. Ayes had it to go to the HAT. None opposed.

- **Alt. Chair: Sarah P. was picked from the HAT.**

Yoli F. requested that we move to vote on the SW Regional Trustee position. A description of the position was read by Yoli. These would be our recommendations sent to the NY trustee committee to be voted on during the April 2019 General Service Conference.

- **SW Regional Trustee Candidate – Jimmy D. in the second round**

Elections	Names	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	HAT
Delegate	<b>Tina P.</b>	52	66	79			
	Wayne H.	28	26	34			
	Olga R.	10	8				
	Rick W.	19	13				
	Tom G.	4	1				
	total votes	113	114	113	0	0	
Alt Delegate	Ed C.	6	3				
	Sarah P.	13	2				
	Rick W.	17	10				
	<b>Wayne H.</b>	53	77				
	Olga R.	21	21				
	Tom G.	3	0				
	total votes	113	113	0	0	0	
Area Chair	<b>Lore L.</b>	36	52	64	71	75	
	Sarah P.	30	40	46	38	36	
	Ed C.	8	3				
	Sheila W.	12	5				
	Tom G.	5	2				
	Joe H.	15	8				
	Rick W. (withdrawn)						
	total votes	106	110	110	109	111	
Alt Chair	Joe H.	15	12				
	Brandy H.	11	4				
	<b>Sarah P.</b>	31	37	52	57		HAT
	Ed C.	6	3				
	Tom G.	4	2				
	Rick W.	40	50	55	52		
	total votes	107	108	107	109	0	
SW Regional Trustee Candidate	<b>Jimmy D.</b>	66	93				
	Jim C.	18	7				
	Tom M.	20	4				
	total votes	104	104	0	0	0	
Secretary	<b>Rick W.</b>	43	56				
	Tom G.	9	7				
	Joe H.	30	19				
	total votes	82	82	0	0	0	
Alt. Secretary	<b>Joe H.</b>	55					
	Tom G.	11					
	Ashley H.	16					
	total votes	82	0	0	0	0	
Treasurer	<b>Tom G.</b>	38	50	58			
	Brandy H.	24	22	23			
	Deb S.	3	0				
	Olga R.	17	10				
	total votes	82	82	81	0	0	
Alt. Treasurer	Ashley H.	17	8				
	Deb S.	13	2				
	<b>Olga R.</b>	51	70				
	total votes	81	80	0	0	0	

6:15pm Break for dinner. Olga R. noted to come back before 8pm for the Convention portion of the evening. And then to attend the remainder of the voting for the NETA Officers after the Convention speaker.

**8:00pm NETA Fall Convention:**

**AA Speaker Meeting. Chaired by Alt-Delegate Elect Wayne H., Joe H. read How it Works. Ed C. noted that he was thrilled to be hosting the "legend Willard." Willard M., Panel 34 Delegate, Area 66 (Southwest Texas). An amazing speaker who kept us laughing most of the time. At 9:30 we closed with the Lord's Prayer.**

We resumed the Assembly portion of the evening at 9:55pm when Olga R. brought the room back to attention. It was decided by consensus of the room to use the honor system and not conduct a new roll call. Rebecca Mc, called the meeting to order with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer so we could return to voting elections for the remaining officer positions.

- **Secretary: Rick W. in the second round**
- **Alt Secretary: Joe H. in the first round**
- **Treasurer: Tom G. in the third round**
- **Alt Treasurer: Olga R. in the second round**

**Sunday – September 23, 2018**

8:40 Area Chair, Olga R. opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Haley read "Why We Need A Conference" in English and Tahtianna F. read it in Spanish.

8:45 Chaired by Lore L., Area Chair Elect for the Regional Trustee's/GSO Report presented by Yoli F., SW Regional Trustee. Yoli F. took to the podium and introduced the newest Big Book in the Navaho language. It had taken 8 years to produce and was presented to the president of the Navaho nation. In June the GSB had a meeting about the communications audit. It has been a daunting task as the GSB cannot agree about it themselves. In October or July?, we had another board meeting, and we looked at the strategic planning for the audit; digital planning. We have been wrapped up with the communications audit and we are financially doing better than expected. Gross sales are \$6,462,000 with budgeted was \$6,397,000. Contributions have been \$5,181,700. Which have gone up considerably. I have never seen contributions go past \$8 million. Now, I have been wondering why. With so many problems and with the lack of contributions, maybe because of the group contributions being withheld. But the percentage of groups contributions have gone up. But the # of groups has gone down. I think it is because of online contributions. What is bothering me, with AA, we have been losing the power of the purse; 43% to 45% of our income is group contributions. Do we not care more about the power of the purse? Our income comes in from only two sources; literature sales and the group contributions. This is where you have the power where it comes to AA. It is the power of the purse. Many said that they did not want to send in contributions, but it did not make a difference. It did not have the impact. We need to make this stronger.

The Grapevine has been doing a whole lot better. Actually, we are in good health with regards to finances. When you look at the numbers, I see a story. I think GV has a story that is different and sometimes concerns me. So what is the story? In June 2018 we budgeted for a loss of 6 months -\$1,021,000. The same period we lost, -\$889,000. The variances do not bother me as much. What concerns me is how we budget a \$228,000 loss. We have always done better than budgeted. The GV challenge is doing very well. This will help us to not lose this money. Why can't we budget something that brings us closer? It is about estimates. We do not use the Challenge in our budget. How do we expect the membership to accept this loss? We have a new book, The Big Tent. Atheist and Agnostic members of AA that have struggled with alcoholism. The GV should always be a reflection of who we are as members and what are we doing as citizens of AA. As members. It is the only place that we have that will bring to life who we are. And sometimes we do not like who we are. We want to say this is not who we want to be. I still have faith in AA. We have to put a face to AA for the members and the professionals. I hope we continue to send in our stories. GV is going to put together a book about the workplace. It will be next. This book, I am going to buy it. What I have learned about the GV, is that it is about people that have problems with alcohol and how they get sober. It may not be a reflection of this area, it may not be a reflection of my area, and I love my area. But it is a reflection of AA.

The new term for DIVERSITY is the UNDERSERVERD. I came into the GSB a little angry. I wanted the GSB to know that I did not like the term diversity. Another woman also did not like it, she was a lesbian. I was at the SW Regional assembly when I think I was looking through rose-colored glasses. I received a phone call about a member who did not feel welcomed. I wanted to cry with him. He did not feel welcome at our own Assembly. I feel comfortable with everyone here. I am not faking that. I love you and I love this area. *Yoli received a standing ovation for her service as SW Regional Trustee and her sharing.*

Lore L. then introduced Sandra.W., staff member at the GSO, and thanked her for her help with our elections.

**GSO Staffer: Sandra W.,** I do hope that you visit us at your [AA] office. I try to wear life loosely... I can give it and I can take it. I am came here on your invitation and you worked me. From the moment we got off the plane. I have been to Austin and then Houston next year, so I guess I will be able to call myself a Texan. There are currently 11 staff members. We hope to go up to 13. One of them needs to be bilingual. If you are interested, the information is up on the GS website. I am one of the 11 staff members, as part of our job, we rotate every two years. And we just rotated September 17. It helps to keep us humble. It is the ultimate cross training. • Rick W. has spoken about accessibilities in remote communities. What is Accessibilities? Which used to be physically challenged. Remote

communities may now be “Who’s not in the Room?” Yoli touched about it; diversity and inclusion. It could be language, it could be gender. We could have thoughtful discussions. A drunk like me that slid into these rooms.

• Clement is in communications services. Patrick C is Conference and SW correspondent from June to November and from December to May, the SW coordinator is Mary C. • CPC is now linked with Treatment which is Diana L. she is lovely. She got sober as a teen and has over 30 years sobriety • Jeff W. handles group services, now in Montreal serving with the intergroups meeting in Montreal. • Eva S. International desk. One of our long-term staffers Julio E., we have an international in 2020 (Detroit). If you have not attended, I recommend you attend. I attended my first one in San Diego, and I have become a satisfied customer. Our singleness of purpose. Who does not like a good party. “Love and Tolerance” is our code. • Sandra is the Detroit Alternate Coordinator. I walked from the convention center to the Ford Field. It is wonderful. • My first assignment was Literature – Steve S. is literature now. “Wilson and Smith,” we have it under control!! I just rotated off of literature and now on Regional Conferences. The staff member manages box 4-5-9. The newest Fall publication, if you have not gotten it, it is free and get it on [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org). • Regional Forums and Nominating is me, and by next year in Houston, I should have it together. • Staff coordinator is Mary C. who is now on International and will switch this coming 10/22/18. In Durban South Africa is the World Service meeting, held every 2 years. It rotates between NYC and overseas; 46 countries have signed up to attend. I am blessed to be able to attend.

New on the Literature rack: Women in AA (New title, new cover); LGBT, Experience, strength and Help - Alcoholics with mental health challenges; God worry: Atheists and Agnostics (available by the end of the month). Working on Spanish speaking women in AA, the deadline is Nov 15 and this is one way of participating in the process. I was blessed to participate in a workshop, and 30 women walked in writing their stories and telling their stories. One woman could not read or write, and one woman helped and the other dictated her story. Being able to participate.

It takes at least 2 years for Conference Approved Literature (CAL) to move from the start to completion, as it takes the conference to approve. The conference is the closest we have to a group conference. It does not mean we do not dis-approve of the literature, but that CAL has gone through the process. With respect, we have the Big Book in 70 translations, 71 languages. The newest is TWI (pronounced tree, the language spoken in Ghana.) The collection of stories and people handsewn the binding of each book. Another story, there is a group in Jerusalem, Israel and there the books are in English, Arabic and Hebrew. Our primary purpose transcends everything. For Public information, we have a new PSAs. When Yoli was talking about the contributions, we are able to have regional forums because of the contributions at no cost, because you paid for them. I love regional forums. They are wonderful learning experiences. I did mention that GSO has openings for 2 staff members if you are interested. Thank you for the invitation to speak.

**9:30am: Q & A Ask It Basket, What’s On Your Mind?** Questions asked of Yoli and Sandra.

Olga R. A reminder that if you wish to stand for a standing committee chair, come to Cornerstone on 10/21 at 1:30pm. We closed with the Lord’s prayer and break before the conclusion of the Fall Convention at 10:05am.

#### **NETA Fall Convention**

**10:25: Stephanie O. opened the final NETA Convention session and read the AA Anonymity statement.**

**10:30: Tina P., Panel 67 Alt. Delegate and Delegate-elect for Panel 69. She read the AA preamble. Nicole S., Corrections Committee Chair, Panel 67 to do the reading Chapter 3 in the BB on Alcoholics. Tina P.: who was the hostess for our final AA Speaker, Sandra W., GSO Staff Member Regional Forums. You brought AA and GSO to us here. Sandra W: told her story and added that her home group in the East Village.... But told us “I’m a Texan now!”**

**11:30am: we closed with the Lord’s Prayer**

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

**1:30pm – 4:30pm October 21, 2018**

**Cornerstone Group, 9090 Skillman #299-A. Dallas, Tx Tel: 214-827-3972**



**1:32pm Area Chair Olga R.** opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer. Casandra GSR from the SWTX Area 68 read “Why We Need a Conference” in English.

**1:40pm Area Officer Reports.** Olga R. requested for someone to motion to not read the minutes from the Summer ACM to save time. Motioned made by Stephen S., seconded by Sarah P. Votes were unanimous to not read the minutes.

**Secretary, Lore L.** requested that anyone finding an error or omission to please let her know by the end of the ACM today. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

**Alt. Secretary, Sarah P.** The Fall Newsletter mailout will be 11/11 at the ODAAT or another group. I have received updates for the NETA Handbook. These will be completed before the end of the panel. The Motion panel [document] has been set up and I will work with the webmaster to update it on the NETA web.

**Treasurer, Sheila W.** There are no significant changes since the last assembly. There are copies on the table. Money came in and went out, then we got some more money. I’m sure that you do not have any questions.

**Alt. Treasurer, Brandy H.** Please submit your expense reports ASAP and if you owe money to NETA, please write the check and get it to us with your expense report.

**Alt. Chair, Wayne H.** This has been one of the best positions I have ever had. I have already started talking with Sarah P. (incoming Alt. Chair). There is a list of workshops and I am working on the formats for the workshops. Also working on new topics. Give me a call if you want a workshop and are trying to set those up. Get your Group Conscience to approve two dates and times, and a topic; and then I can get it set up for you within two weeks. For the list of workshops for the next three months, go to EVENTS on the NETA website. And a lot of group inventories which are not posted.

- Group Inventory Lindale Group 10-27-2018 10:30 AM
- Group Inventory Sherman Serenity group Pending
- Group Inventory Gainesville Anchor Group 10 November 2018 Need Facilitator Pending
- Group Inventory Denison Texoma 1 Group Pending
- Group Inventory Eastland Group 12-2-2018 3 PM
- Technology at LOH 12/9 1:30-4:30

The Translations committee in Panel 67 has put the word out if you want the workshop translated, get in touch with Jamie and then she will get it set up for you. As soon as we get a workshop set up, it is put on the website. Thank you to John F.

**Alt. Delegate, Tina P.** Upcoming Events Tina. Today I am really grateful for you allowing me to serve as your Panel 67 Alternate Delegate, for unbeknownst to me, it's been exactly what this alcoholic needed in preparation for rotating into Panel 69 as your elected Delegate. Serving our Area has been quite a journey, chocked full of growth opportunities, and many years of heartwarming support and friendship from you all. I'll never be able to express in words what it has meant to me, and how it has enhanced my life in sobriety. I also know that your incoming Alternate Delegate, Wayne H. will do a fine job for us, and am so grateful to have him as my "sidekick" for the next part of our journey in Panel 69.

It looks like our good buddies in SETA 67 are going to be really busy next year with hosting for the Texas State Convention June 2019 in Houston the Southwest Regional Forum bringing the GSO to us. Talk with them on breaks Oct 11-13, 2019 at the Sheraton North, and the National AA Corrections Conference will be in Houston Nov. 1~3, 2019. Preparations and planning have been underway for some time, and I know that they are looking forward to assisting us in any way possible. Please attend. We will also have more information and be able to register and bid for other events.

The International conventions is coming up. July 1~5, 2020. They are getting set up. Thank you Glennis. I do not want to miss another one [International]. It is a life changing experience. Accommodations for the International AA Convention 2020 in Detroit, MI. will open around September 1st next year, and if you've never been, it's an experience you'll never forget! So, start saving up and marking your calendars for these exciting events coming up! Thank you everyone I love you

- 73rd Texas State AA Convention (SETA 67) – June 7-9, 2019. Westin Galleria Houston. 5060 W. Alabama, Houston, TX. 77056 713-770-6270 room rate \$129.00 single/double, \$139-\$149 triple/quad, mention 2019 TX State Convention
- Southwest Regional Forum 2019 (SETA 67) – Houston – Oct. 11-13. Sheraton North. 15700 John F Kennedy Blvd, Houston, TX. 77032. 281-442-5100 room rate TBA
- National AA Corrections Conference 2019 (SETA 67) – Houston – Nov. 1-3
- SWRAASA 2020 (NWTAA 66) October 9-11, 2020. Embassy Suites Hotel. 550 S. Buchanan St., Amarillo, TX. 79101. 806-803-5500; room rate \$135.00/night. Overflow Hotel – Courtyard Marriot. S. Polk St., Amarillo, TX. 79101. 806-553-4500; room rate \$129.00/night
- International AA Convention, Detroit, MI. July 2-5, 2020. Check aa.org and Box 459 as more info becomes available. Convention registration and housing reservations available Fall 2019.

**Delegate, Keith D.** General Service Conference, etc. Keith D.

I am looping Tina and Wayne into our communications. I will step aside... if she can pry if from my cold dead hands. Well, this is my last report as your Delegate and not much has happened since the Fall Assembly, so it will be short. As many of you already know, I was unable to attend SWRAASA to complications with my wife's pregnancy. I heard that Wayne did a fine impersonation of me, just with more hair.

The Censure and Reorganization agenda item was submitted and has been forwarded to the Trustees' Committee on the General Service Conference.

I've started looping both Tina and Wayne into all my communications to and from the Conference Coordinator, as well as any other Delegate related communications. I will be doing everything I can to hand this off to Tina as gracefully as possible...that is, if she can tear it from my cold, dead hands. Just kidding, it's been a great ride, and I look forward to watching Tina and future Delegates have this amazing experience. I leave with a few items on the table I hope to see addressed. The big ones being my concerns with Trustee election process, the agenda item we submitted, and my hope for improved year-round communications between conference members. I also hope that we will actually use the Impact Collaborative Audit Report for good purpose, considering the amount of money spent on the project. Regardless, and as always, we send our Delegates informed and not instructed and I have complete confidence that Tina will do us proud. If you want printed copies of the GSC. Olga Thank you for taking the time to give a list of who were elected at the Fall Assembly. Also note that Jimmy D. is our SW Regional trustee nominee for our area. Thank you.

## **2:20pm Standing Committee Chair Reports** (3-4 min each)

**Archives:** not present, no report

**Convention: Alt Chair, Joe H.,** nothing new to report

**Corrections: Chair, Nicole S.** An overview of how I used NETA65 Corrections Chair money will be provided to the incoming Corrections Chair for Panel 69. The NETA65 Corrections Conference was a success despite the down pour, nearby tornado, and storm. A total of 30 AA attendees came from across the geographic of the NETA and 18 AA members were trained and TDCJ certified. We had 3 great speakers with AA corrections experience and/or inmate experience. We had a great question and answer session. Thank you to everyone who attended and assisted to make this event a success! Thank you for allowing me to serve as the Corrections Chair, it has been an amazing part of my sobriety and I am forever grateful for this experience. I encourage everyone to search their hearts and talk with their sponsor about becoming the next NETA65 Corrections Chair.

### Big Book (by the case) Request:

1. County Jails: Eastland, Henderson, Collin, Tarrant, Dallas
2. Prisons: Beto / Gurney, Breckenridge, French Robertson, Walker Sayle, Bradshaw, Gatesville and others

### GSO Correspondence/Pre-Release:

1. Pre-Release: (2)
2. Literature Requests: (0)
3. Literature Requests sent to another TX Area: (0)
4. New Meeting Requests: (0)
5. Pre-release request from to another TX Area: (0)

### Announcements and Upcoming Events:

#### National Corrections Conference:

- a. November 2 - 4, 2018, 200 Sable Oaks Drive, South Portland, ME 04106 I will not be able to go
- b. November 1 - 3, 2019, This national corrections conference Double Tree Hotel, Houston, TX.

Keep sending the money for the Orange Can to Sheila. They are wanting shared experiences to the juvenile jails. The [GSO] staff have rotated and Diane is no longer chair. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Send Contributions to: 222 E McKinney, Ste 100., Denton, TX 76201-check/money order must have "Orange Can" in the 'memo' section. Love in Service.

**CPC: Chair, Clyde R.** I have sent out a bunch of letters to doctors about informing them about AA. And I have received a positive response is from my nephrologist. I have also reached out to other cardiologists.

**Grapevine/LaVina: Alt. Chair, Bill B.** Janice could not be here. The Grape-a-thon was successful with 60+ people in attendance. We had a panel of published authors of the GV history. Thank you and I appreciate your support. I have enjoyed. My sobriety has grown with what I have learned. We had 3 people who had their stories published in the GV. She had cancer and could not do anything else. How her group just keep buying copies. It completely got over her diversity that had led her to go back out in the past.

**Intergroup Liaison: Deb S.** Each of the intergroups and central offices do things differently. Through my visits I have been able to help and share the information. I have been able to help and put things together, like problems with their credit cards. Please do volunteer. They cannot survive without volunteers. There are ways to help and see what you can do. Any help is greatly appreciated. I appreciate the opportunity to be of service.

**Literature/AV: Stephen S.** When I was newly sober, and was peaceful, Kimbo would grab me. How about you? I was at a service fair for District 54. I finally heard him as far as calling out of the committees. I was unable to set up a committee. To pull from the delegates. They are the most comfortable people here. Since the Area Convention, I did what I said I was going to do. The storms were terrible. Now the storm was terrible. Wayne went up to NC. We have the Texarkana 73 anniversary Nov. 9~12th. Tom should have a pamphlet. It is always fun. Administration is not my forte.

**Newsletter:** not present, no report

**PI: Chair Jose G.** I have no report, but thank you for letting me be of service

**Special Needs / Accessibility: Alt Chair, Lynn.** Buckley could not be here today. His mom is very ill, so he is spending time with her. We were working up a Deaf Access Committee and so when people want to attend a meeting, we can help. We need to have this in place for people to come to meetings when they are deaf. We purchased the BB and 12x12 in audio and sign language in DVD. I am interpreting for deaf one time a week. We have been developing a committee to set up all of this. There is an AA guideline from Austin.

**Webmaster:** Justin C. Cleburne Alco GSR read John F's report. I apologize for not being able to attend, but am going to have Justin C. stand in my place for me. He has had a lot of influence on my sobriety. I would like to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your webmaster. I will start by saying that this report will mirror may report given at the assembly, but with new graphs and a little new information.

We are receiving quite a bit of activity on the new site which I will have attached diagrams at the end of this report. There has been a large increase in activity on the new site in the months of October and September. I would like to thank everyone involved who was pushed to have users go to the new website, [wordpress.neta65.org](http://wordpress.neta65.org). This will give us a better idea of how the computer resources for the site will be used going forward.

Normally I would suggest creating a path that forwards to the new site, but at this time there are still some bugs that need to be worked out. We are having slow upload times of pages and this has caused some discomfort in the use of the site. I would like to thank Keith for taking the lead on trying to get these issues sorted out. The belief is that the program we use for the uploading and downloading of files is taxing our resources, and we have been in contact with the developers of the program to help get resolution on the issue. The problem has been made better, but is still not at the peak performance that we would like. I would like to see more visits to the site to see if this causes more problems, and to give us more feedback on the things that need to be fixed with the website.

At this time, all older documentation has been moved from the older site to new site, and we are only loading new documentation to the new site. So we need to be sure to inform anyone looking for newer reports, financials, flyers, etc. to be sure to go to the new site to find them.

Most of my focus in the time of webmaster has been on getting documentation over and uploading new documentation to the site. I would like to continue to serve AA in this manner, but will step aside if we have a member who is more qualified to run this position. My knowledge of working with the development side of websites is very limited and I am learning this as I go. There is a lot I don't know, and to be honest, at times I feel inadequate for this position. There are a few things that I do still need to do, namely, create the video for the process to upload files to the website.

Rick W. has been in contact with me and has offered his resources in help to streamline our website and make it more user friendly. I welcome his help and will continue to try to find ways to make the site more user friendly. I thank all of you for your patience in this matter, as move forward in getting this website ready to handle all of the new traffic that will be coming to it. Thank you for allowing me to serve and I will be happy to continue to assist anyone who has any questions on the process of using the new website. If chosen to continue in this role, then I will continue to help in whatever way I can, to make this website functional and user friendly.

**Translations: Chair, Jamie C.** I have nothing to report. But thank you for permitting me to serve.

**Treatment: Chair, Gwen W.** We need to help find meetings as well as keep in touch with your district reps. The process is a slow one, and the facilities think we have forgotten about them. They [the treatment facilities] are now saying "Are we going to get it? A facility in North Arlington needs help. If you contact me or Stephen J. in CD6. He is trying to fill the needs.

Bridging the Gap... for about 10 years it had been on my heart. Working at the central office and no one is doing anything. Dallas, Ft. Worth and Waco are dropping the ball on this. There are people where we are taking them a meeting, but we are not participating in getting them from the facility door to the AA meeting. It is said that if the person does not make a meeting within 48 hours, they usually do not make it. It is an international program. If they are in Dubai, then they will know when they get out, how to try and get help.

Several groups in NETA 65 have expressed an interest in finding Treatment Centers to take meetings into. If you or your group knows of any facilities wanting additional meetings or if you have a meeting you are currently committed to, but you would like to pass on to another group, please contact me or your district Treatment Rep. There is a facility in Arlington that wants to add several meetings to their schedule. Please contact me if your group is interested in more information.

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as the Area Treatment Chair and for your support, help and enthusiasm during the past two years. In service.

**Structure Committee: Chair, Jim C. Past Delegate, Panel 61.** The structure committee is made up of all of the past delegates and we review motions that impact our policies. And when we have time, we take your inventory. I will be rotating off, so then Tom M. will be the new chair for the next panel. No motions were brought before us. If there are no motions brought before us today. Then we most likely not meet again before the Spring ACM.

**Room share coordinator:** not present, no report

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- ACM Locations needed: Winter ACM (2/10/19) Waco – District 91 United Methodist Church
- 2/16 is the Fort Worth Central Office Chili Cook off
- Spring Assembly, March 15-17
- Spring April 7th Texarkana wants to host. Tom G., DCM District 1 said ok for the Serenity Group @ 2013 South Ann Street, Texarkana.

#### **New Business:**

- State Convention June 7-9 in Houston. The Marathon Committee requests help for meetings. Need chairs. NETA 65 Districts to Chair marathon meetings (want two districts to chair). Contact: David S., Co-Chair Marathon Committee, 832-971-4334 --- JJ, noted that the Spanish Texas Conventions have marathon meetings until 3 or 4 in the mornings.
- I was contacted by TXYPAA Central Office, Alice Morice, they are trying to bid for the next Young People Convention for October 2019

#### **Orientations: Final confirmation of addresses submitted after the ACM.**

- Sunday 1/13 1:30pm to 4:30pm  
Hosted by Eastland Group @ the Eastland Group. 302 N College Avenue, Eastland, TX 76448

GSR: Latonne I. Cell #: 520-270-0422

- Sunday 1/20 1:30pm to 4:30pm  
Hosted by District 1 @ the Open Door Group. Corner of I-30 & Hwy 37 (next to bank), Mt. Vernon, TX 75457. GSR: Amanda R. Cell #: 903-748-7285, District 1 Contact: Tom G. Cell #: 903-826-1741
- Sunday 1/27 1:30pm to 4:30pm  
Hosted by Dallas Spanish Intergroup @ La Esperanza Grupo. 514 W. Jefferson Blvd., Dallas, TX 75208 (Loop 12 & Hwy 30) Group #: 214-941-1291 (Spanish speaking) Intergroup Contact: Victor R. 214-994-5706 (bilingual)

**Comments:** Bill N. Past delegate – at the last assembly, we have had something happened me that troubled me. AA has a principal about the spirit of rotation. My phone has rung off the hook. Good is the enemy of the best. Good rotation is AA Group Pamphlet on page 28. Principals before personalities. There were people claiming that we were making up things in AA literature. Area inventory the AA practice of rotation prevents delegates from succeeding themselves and never standing for a position again. I have stayed in contact with many of delegates from other areas. If it had happened in your area, no, but hell no. It should not be a policy and maybe have an area inventory. Bring it up them. We really have to pay attention. We are societies of equals... And some are more equal than others.

Olga R. noted that the Area has already voted to hold an Area 65 Inventory during Panel 69.

**MOTION.** Presented by Wayne H. as Brandy H. is not yet here. Motion to permanently suspend the reading of the reports at ACM and Assemblies and all changes and corrections are to be submitted to the Secretary by the end of the day that the minutes are given. Seconded by Jamie C.

Questions for clarity to the motion:

- Lore L. can we change reports to minutes as these are not reports. WH: Yes
- Joe H. what is permanent? WH: until changed.
- Jim C. I am concerned about the timing. Can we change to submit to the secretary before the event as we need to approve minutes at the event? WH: There are people that are not computer savvy and this gives people time to submit the changes. Jim C. All changes should be brought to the Secretary before the Assembly or ACM. WH: ok.
- Kevin H. we cannot vote to remove the reading of the minutes at the Assembly, only the ACM, as body would need to approve the change. WH: This would go to the assembly for approval anyway. This would be a policy until it changes. An advisory for the Area Chair.
- Jim C. reading of the minutes is not in the P&P at this time
- Tahtianna F. is there a time frame for when the minutes will go out and when the corrections are to be received? LL: they are sent out before the ACMs and Assemblies as well as posted to the website and mailed in the newsletters.
- Jamie C. Wouldn't this be something that goes into the hand book? WH: the P&P is binding. The NETA Handbook is just our experiences.

Olga R. asked for Lore to reread the motion with its changes: Motion to permanently suspend the reading of the minutes at ACM and Assemblies with all changes and corrections to be submitted to the Secretary prior to the Secretary reading the minutes at the event, so that the minutes may be considered and approved.

Olga R. called the vote and it was primarily ayes, with a few nays and then opened the floor to the minority opinion.

- Joe H. if we had read the minutes today, we would not have wasted time worrying about the clarifications that were in the minutes.
- Linda H. shared disapproval with the need to read the minutes to keep everyone informed and up to date.

Olga R. asked if there was any request to revoke. Seeing none, the motion passed and it will be taken to the Area Assembly in March 2019.

**(Break)**

**Elections of Standing Committee Chairpersons:**

Several non-voting members to assist with the voting. The Delegate has asked for contact details from each new chair. Olga R. read the position details from the AA service manual and the AA Group pamphlet while previous chairs added their thoughts about their position. Past delegates Phil E., Bill N., and Jim C. assisted with the voting.

**Literature A/V:** Joe B. - no disapproval

**Intergroup Liaison:** Victor R. - no disapproval

**Corrections:** Bill H. - no disapproval

**Public Information:** Jose G. - no disapproval

**PI-Webmaster:** treated the same as an alt position, to be appointed by PI chair at the next ACM

**Convention Chair:** Sheila W. selected by vote in the round 1.

Name	R1
Clyde R.	4
Shelia W.	27

**Treatment Facilities:** Deb S. - no disapproval

**Archives:** Steve W. - no disapproval

**Translations:** Julian F. - no disapproval

**CPC:** Nicole S. selected by vote in round 4.

Name	R1	R2	R3	R4
Kevin H. 13	13	11	10	
Clyde R. 3	1			
Nicole S.	13	17	21	21

Seeing that it is 4:30pm, Olga R. asked for a Motion to extend Motion made by Robert S. and Seconded by Ben S.

**Newsletter Editor:** No one stood for this position at this time

**GV/LaViña:** Bill B. - no disapproval

**Special Needs/Accessibility:** John A.

**Technology:** Robert S.

**What's On Your Mind?**

- Brandy H. - A suggestion, a helpful idea to teach new chairs how to fill out an expense report. What needs to be done. Requirements. A 20 minutes PPT presentation
- Lore L. - with regards to communications and outgoing people [officers and chairs] to help the incoming people. Also, set up a new email account so that you can keep your emails separate.
- Wayne H. - Ask for help if you need it
- Nicole S. - the GSO Staff assignments are great help.

**5:00pm Chair Olga R.** noted thank you to all and to all of the past delegates, a special thank you. These guys have had my back.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Thank you for the opportunity to be of service as your Secretary/Registrar for Panel 67. I look forward to serving as your Area Chair for Panel 69. In love and service. Lore L.*