

# District 5 Oregon Area 58

## Meeting Minutes

### September 10th, 2023

Meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer at 4pm.

**Attending:** Carrie B (DCM), Christine B (Secretary), Will D (Treasurer), Ron B (CPC), Walt W (Corrections), Jessie C (Grapevine/LaVina), Trisha M (Literature), Davey G (Outreach), Jena C (Public Info), Brian W (Treatment), Chris M (Attitude Adjustment - GSR), Tony (Fleeting Thoughts - GSR), Beth M (New Horizons - GSR), Joy H (Page 21 - GSR), Joey H (Primary Purpose - GSR), Jared J (Redmond Early Risers - GSR), Bobbi S (Redmond Early Risers - AGSR), John K (Redmond Rebels - GSR), Mike L (Rule 62 - GSR), Hannah G (Sisters 4 Serenity - GSR), Chandra S (Sisters In Sobriety - GSR), Anne Z (Sober Sisters - GSR), Leon (The Spot - GSR), Todd H (Steps to Sobriety - GSR), Carmack M (Thursday Men's Book Study - GSR), Eric S (Tumalo Group - GSR), Chris P (Weathering the Storm - GSR), Nick M (Young at Heart - GSR), Mark L (Guest), Chuck (Guest), Jen (DCM - D9), Joey (DCM - D2), Joey D (Guest), Howard D (Guest), Karen Z (Archives member)

**Welcome to new GSRs/Visitors:** Mike L (Rule 62 - GSR), Hannah G (Sisters 4 Serenity - GSR), Bobbi S (Redmond Early Risers -AGSR) Visitors: Mark L, Chuck, Jen-DCM D9, Joey-DCM D2, Joey D, Howard D, Karen Z

**Tradition 9 : (No presentation in September).**

Tradition 9 w/Dee G.   

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b7wnbyg4x77akA-9UHxj7lxtSUc7Lfs/view?usp=sharing>

Long Form: Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

\*\*\*The words "Let's keep it simple" were the last Bill W. heard from his fellow founder of A.A., shortly before Dr. Bob's death in 1950. Aware that "it" meant our recovery program, Bill later wrote, "**We need to distinguish sharply between spiritual simplicity and functional simplicity...** When we get into questions of action by groups, by areas, and by A.A. as a whole, we find that we must to some extent organize to carry the message—or else face chaos. And chaos is not simplicity." **When Tradition Nine speaks of "A.A. as such," it goes to the heart of the A.A. experience, to the "spiritual simplicity" of one alcoholic saying, silently perhaps, "Help!" and another alcoholic answering, "I know how you feel."**

*(The TWELVE TRADITIONS Illustrated)*

AA “as such” = 12 step work

Committees have instructed many an A.A. to stop working on a chronic backslider, only to be told: “How I do my Twelfth Step work is my business.” -Page 173 12&12

“It is the difference between the spirit of vested authority and the spirit of service, two concepts which are sometimes poles apart.” -Page 174 12&12

*Unless there is approximate **conformity to A.A.'s Twelve Traditions**, the group, too, can deteriorate and die. So **we of A.A. do obey spiritual principles**, first because we must, and ultimately because we love the kind of life such obedience brings. Great suffering and great love are A.A.'s disciplinarians; we need no others.* -Page 174 12&12

**Concept IX:(No presentation in September).**

**Concept 9 w/Joel S.** 🎧 🎵 🎤

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pT0V0KSULJRu7SdfstJLrWUHKzjTZN03/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pT0V0KSULJRu7SdfstJLrWUHKzjTZN03/view?usp=drive_link)

Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

**District Secretary – Christine B.**

Greetings District 5. Christine B. Alcoholic. Your District Secretary. Happy election day! I am excited about working with the incoming District Committee members over the next several months. Much has been done to ensure a smooth transition. I am available as well to help with Committee Budget questions and information. My suggestion would be that when the Minutes are sent out you print them for your Groups clipboard and encourage your Group to look at them. Today's results will affect all of D5.

Had a great time at the GSR Taco Bar yesterday. Glad to see so many people involved and learning about being of service to AA now and for the future. Looking forward to the Traditions Workshop on October 14th. I hope to see all of you there as we all continue to learn and grow.

The September Assembly is next weekend. I'll see you there!

Are there any questions, corrections, or comments on the August Meeting Minutes?

A motion was made to accept the August Meeting Minutes by Carmack M and was seconded by Nick M **Motion Passed.**

## **Treasurer Report – Will D.**

Good afternoon District 5, my name is Will, and I am an alcoholic. My sobriety date is November 21, 2018, and my home group is New Horizons.

Today we will be reviewing the August 2023 Financials. I emailed these documents to the Secretary, and they will be posted to the District 5 website.

We are reviewing August 2023 which runs August 1, 2023, to August 31, 2023.

We will start with the first line on the upper left-hand side of the Treasury Summary, but first let's go over some definitions of the titles used in this table.

- “Beginning” is the cash position we finished the previous month with.
- “Prudent Reserve” is the cash set aside equal to 1/2 (6 Months) of the 2023 budget approved in November 2022.
- “Working Cash” is money in the “Total Cash Position” minus “Prudent Reserve.”
- “Total Cash Position” is all available cash including the Prudent Reserve.

Looking at August, our beginning cash position was \$11,064.42. Less “Prudent Reserve” gave us a net working cash position of \$1,126.92.

Contributions from groups in August were \$97.44 and we had no other contributions or sales. Expenses in August were \$802.71.

DCM had expenses of \$37.07– Leaving a remaining budget of: \$3,241.22

Treasurer had expenses of \$0 – Leaving a remaining budget of: \$254.00

Access had expenses of \$0 – Leaving a remaining budget of: \$118.01

Archives had expenses of \$115 - Leaving a remaining budget of: \$1,779.00

Literature Chair had expenses of \$97.04 – Leaving a remaining budget of: \$-6.83

Cooperation with Correctional Facilities had expenses of \$6.49 - Leaving a remaining budget of: \$572.16.

Cooperation with Professional Community had expenses of \$0 - Leaving a remaining budget of \$569.47.

Cooperation with Treatment Facilities had expenses of \$0 – Leaving a remaining budget of \$659.92.

Grapevine/La Vina had expenses of \$0 - Leaving a remaining budget of \$242.00

Public Information had expenses of \$424.24 – Leaving a remaining budget of \$1,740.52.

Website had expenses of \$0 – Leaving a remaining budget of \$660

Workshops had expenses of \$446.95 -- remaining budget of \$2,353.05.

This leaves us with an ending Total Cash Position of \$11,234.15. After Prudent Reserve is set aside, we have \$1,296.65 working Cash available for September.

We continue to come up short on monthly group contributions compared to the 2023 budget leaving us behind YTD by \$3,083.69

If any committee chairs need help accessing their allocated funds please contact me, my information is provided below.

We are currently entering budgeting season. I have provided a budget worksheet for all Committee Chairs to complete for their anticipated 2024 budget needs. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

We received a check from a Virginia S. in the amount of \$29.10. There was no information included as to what these funds were for, i.e. individual or group contribution, literature, etc... If anyone knows who this person is will you please have them contact me so I can deposit the funds into the appropriate account.

Are there any questions regarding the September 2023 treasurer report?

If you have any questions, please email, or call me.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,  
Will D.  
Treasurer, District 5 committee  
treasurer@district5aa.org

A motion was made to accept the August Treasurer's report by Brian W and was seconded by Carmack M **Motion Passed.**

### **DCM Report – Carrie B.**

Good Afternoon District 5: What I've been up to this month, well... Along with the usual GSR Orientations, Group inventories and general service presentations your groups keep me busy with, I had something happen that I would like to share with you. I received a Grapevine in the mail at my personal residence that wasn't addressed to me, so I decided to take the piece of mail to the home address myself, and I got to hand deliver a grapevine to a local member who has a subscription. It was very cool getting to meet him and he was very impressed that the Grapevines are now being hand delivered by DCMs.

The GSR Taco-bar and powerpoint was yesterday... What an amazing turn out! AND we had a great time! Thank you to all the GSRs who really suited up and showed up! And a special thanks to Brian for the amazing carnitas. All the food was wonderful! As far as the GSR powerpoint, It was inspiring to hear the great questions and feedback! You are all so willing to learn and grow! I have 2 scheduled coffee dates with people who are interested in learning more about the service structure and have more questions. This is what it's all about! Growing in our understanding and effectiveness! I have to admit, after the event I was brought to tears with gratitude for you all and for being able to serve District 5. Lotaria was a success as well! We had 5 winners, and were able to give away some conference approved literature!

The next big event we have coming up and the last one for 2023 will be the 12 Traditions Potluck! This event will be held at Brooks Hall Saturday October 14th from 11-2pm. GSRs, Alt GSRs, please plan to be there. We need your help! Poster 8.5x11 in (31) (1) (1).pdf We will have 12 different speakers from all over Central Oregon presenting on the 12 Traditions! This is a potluck so please make sure to announce to your group to bring something to share. If you are unable to bring something, come anyway! There will be lots of food, fun and even prizes! Committee Chairs, I hope you will all plan to be there with a table or booth set up representing your Service Committees. This is a great opportunity to show the fellowship where their money goes when they contribute to District 5. Our literature Committee Chair Trisha will be hosting a Pre Workshop preparation pamphlet highlighting Pizza Party on The 29th of this Month from 11am-1pm downstairs at TEC. D5 Pizza & Highlighting party.pdf EVERYONE IS WELCOME! Bring your newcomers! This is a great opportunity to get them into service while having fun! Supplies and refreshments provided! Just show up!

Today we will be electing the next panel of District officers for the 2024/2025 term. I can't wait to see who the next service committee will be in district 5! This election only happens once every 24 months. We all rotate out on January first, so hopefully most of you will be making yourselves available for an officer position. The more who make themselves available the better. This allows a higher power a greater opportunity to elect the right trusted servants to carry us through the next 2 years after this year comes to an end. If you are elected into one of these positions, you will then have the following 2 and a half months to start preparing and shadowing. (Will start on 1/1/24) You will have plenty of help and support. Does your alternate GSR come with you to the district meetings and area assemblies? Do you feel like they are ready to rotate in as GSR when your term is up in January? As a reminder I would like to read something out of the "GSR Pamphlet" from page 4 under the section titled "When and How".

The two-year terms of an area's G.S.R.s coincide with those of its D.C.M.s and Conference delegate. So a group usually elects its G.S.R. before the assembly meeting at which the delegate is elected. September is a good month, since that gives the new G.S.R. time to study the responsibilities of the job before taking office — most often on January 1, along with the new D.C.M.s and the new delegate. GSR – General Service Representative

As for rotating committee chairs, We have 5 committee Chair positions to fill this month for the next term. Committee chairs positions coming available are: Website, Public Information, CPC, Corrections, Treatment and Outreach. I will be taking service resumes for those positions beginning this Month directly following this meeting. (Within the next 2 weeks) Oregon Area 58: The Oregon area assembly is THIS MONTH! Hopefully everyone has a room reserved and transportation taken care of. If you would like to participate in room share/rideshare to save your group some money, please let me know ASAP or make an announcement at the end of the meeting today during announcement time. This will be the election assembly. We will be electing our Delegate, Alt Delegate, Chair and Alt Chair for the 2024-2025 panel. September 15th- 17th. Hosted By: District 4 at the Scottish Rite Center in Salem. If you are unable to attend this Assembly in person, there is a hybrid option as well. If you are unable to attend all together, please make sure your alternate GSR is attending in your place. In fact, I would like to encourage you to invite your Alt to come along with you even if you are attending so they are able to see what it's all about, and possibly become more prepared for when they become GSR themselves. For anyone who has not yet been to a September Assembly there will be an Assembly Orientation taking place online THIS TUESDAY September 12th in the District Zoom-room at 6pm. Please join us to go over what to expect at this assembly, how to vote during elections, and get all your questions answered so that you are prepared to best serve your group next weekend. Assembly Orientation.pdf

GSB/AAWS: Nothing To Report

Yours in Fellowship & Service,  
District 5 DCM dcm05@aa-oregon.org  
Carrie B. 541-788-7276

## **2024/2025 Panel Officer Elections**

**Leadership in A.A.: Ever a Vital Need** (Service Manual, Page 37)

*(Excerpts from Bill W.'s article in the April 1959 Grapevine.*

*See Concept IX, page C29 of "Twelve Concepts for World Service" for the full article).*

Somewhere in our literature there is a statement to this effect: "Our leaders do not drive by mandate: they lead by example." In effect, we are saying to them, "Act for us, but don't boss us...."

Therefore, a leader in A.A. service is a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job. When a leader power-drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly becomes an order-taker and he exercises no judgment of his own — well, he really isn't a leader at all....

Good leadership originates plans, policies, and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its services. But in new and important matters, it will nevertheless consult widely before taking decisions and actions. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source....

Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can obtain, sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and puts them into action forthwith, provided, of course, that such action be within the framework of its defined authority and responsibility....

Another qualification for leadership is give-and-take, the ability to compromise cheerfully whenever a proper compromise can cause a situation to progress in what appears to be the right direction. Compromise comes hard to us all-or-nothing drunks. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a series of improving compromises. We cannot, however, compromise always. Now and then, it is truly necessary to stick flat-footed to one's conviction about an issue until it is settled. These are situations for keen timing and careful discrimination as to which course to take....

Leadership is often called upon to face heavy and sometimes long-continued criticism. This is an acid test. There are always the constructive critics, our friends indeed. We ought never fail to give them a careful hearing. We should be willing to let them modify our opinions or change them completely. Often, too, we shall have to disagree and then stand fast without losing their friendship.

## **Election Process**

(See your Service Manual, page 111, for Third Legacy Procedure).

## **Introduction of Glenn, past DCM**

Here to tally votes for us. Happy to see all the involvement. His service started with a resentment his predecessor had:)

## **Position Descriptions and Polls**

### **DCM**

- Recommended 4-5 years of continuous sobriety.
- Recommended completion of GSR term.
- Have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions and a service sponsor.
- Must be an active member of an A.A. home group in District 5.
- Generally as described in the A.A. Service Manual, A.A. guidelines, A.A. committee workbooks and other AAWS approved literature.
- First year of term attends the Oregon Area Orientation, to be fully funded by the District.
- Accept service resumes, and work with outgoing DCM and Alt DCM to appoint qualified responsible service committee chairs - If no one fits this description, go without (See Concept 9).
- Chair the District business meetings
- Submit a written report to the District Secretary for inclusion into the minutes monthly.
- Help Service Committees as needed.
- Attend and represent District 5 at Area Assemblies.
- Appoint ad hoc committees to address specific issues as needed.
- Coordinate and take part in a District Inventory within the first year of the term.
- Work with the Recording Secretary to update the Districts Guidelines as needed to reflect current practice.
- Assist Area Registrar with updating Group information, as well as current GSR information. (Changes are typically submitted to the Area Registrar by using AA's Group Information Change Form, as well as the AA New Group Form).
- Assist GSRs when needed at their groups meetings and business meetings.
- Make yourself available to facilitate group inventories, and Tradition presentations. (You may utilize past DCMs to help with these things as well).
- Assist Delegate with the processing of Conference agenda items at District level.
- Bring Traditions problems to the attention of the Delegate.
- Schedule and chair the district's General Service Conference Sharing session and provide the Area Delegate with the minutes.

- Schedule Delegate Post Conference report back to District annually.
- Organize and schedule District workshops and sharing sessions on service activities. (You may utilize past DCMs to help with these things as well).
- Attend PRAASA when funds are available, and give a verbal and written report to the District. Attendance to PNC or the Pacific Region Forum may be an option in addition to PRAASA, or in place of PRAASA, depending on the Districts current financial standing. DCM to determine funds needed and submit as a District 5 budget item.
- Makes copies of and distributes district documents as needed – i.e., Delegate Agenda items, District Committee Contact Sheet, Treasurer reports, guidelines, meeting minutes, Area Delegate communications, etc.
- Submit an annual budget request to the treasurer (due September 10<sup>st</sup> ).
- Monitor expenses and stay within budgetary requirements.
- Submit any receipts for expenses on a monthly basis.
- Two-year term rotating on even number years at the first of the year to coincide with Oregon Area 58 Delegate.

**Nick M available.** Gave Service resume and answered additional questions from the body.  
**Voted in as 2024/2025 DCM.**

#### **ADCM**

- Recommended 3-4 years of continuous sobriety.
- Recommended completion of a GSR term.
- Have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions and a service sponsor.
- Generally as described in the A.A. Service Manual, A.A. guidelines, A.A. committee workbooks and other AAWS approved literature.
- Attend, report and participate at every monthly District meeting.
- Submit a written report to the District Secretary for inclusion into the minutes monthly.
- Assist the DCM as much as possible. The DCM is a big job and they will be delegating much of it to you. Teamwork!
- Visit the meetings that may not be part of a group or have a GSR and make current District 5 Announcements.
- Perform all the duties of DCM in DCM's absence.
- If DCM position becomes vacant, ADCM becomes DCM for the remainder of the term.
- Attend and help to coordinate District 5 sponsored workshops.
- When possible, attend quarterly Oregon Area Assemblies, PRAASA, PNC...
- Two-year term rotating at the first of the year to coincide with DCM and Delegate.

**Carmack M available.** Answered DCM questions and additional questions from the body.  
**Voted in as 2024/2025 ADCM.**



### **Secretary**

- Recommended 3-4 years of continuous sobriety.
- Recommended completion of GSR term.
- Have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions and a service sponsor.
- Records and distributes minutes of the District Meetings.
- Asks the body to approve prior months minutes at the business meeting.
- Assists DCM in Group inventories and sharing sessions by taking minutes.
- When visiting meetings that may not be part of a group or have a GSR, make current District 5 Announcements.
- Reprint, make available for the web and distribute District Guidelines when requested by the DCM.
- Keeps District Roster up to date.
- It is the Secretaries responsibility to notice if an Officer or Committee Chair is absent 2 meetings in a row without a report, and to reach out to them and let them know if they miss a third consecutive meeting that it is our practice to ask them to step down so that we can fill their position with someone who's able to attend the meetings.
- Two-year term rotating at the first of the year to coincide with DCM and Delegate.

**No One Available. Position is Open.**

### **Treasurer**

- Recommended 3-4 years of continuous sobriety.
- Recommended completion of a GSR term.
- Have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions and a service sponsor.
- Generally as described in the A.A. Service Manual, A.A. guidelines, A.A. committee workbooks and other AAWS approved literature.
- Attend, report and participate at all monthly District meetings.
- Submit Treasurer report monthly to the Secretary and DCM for Distribution to the D5 committee members one week prior to the monthly district meeting.
- Picks up mail from District 5's post office box.
- Keeps records of group contributions to the District current.
- Makes deposits and cuts checks for District expenses.
- Provide financial statements at the monthly District meeting.
- Present an annual budget for next fiscal year, in October, to be taken back to the Groups for approval at the November/December District meeting.
- Update budget as needed when new motions are approved by the District Committee.
- Two-year term rotating at the first of the year to coincide with DCM and Delegate.

**No One Available. Position is Open.**

**Is Anyone Else Present Available?**

**DCM** No

**ADCM** No

**Secretary** No

**Treasurer** No

**Service Resumes/Qualifying Questions from those who are available**

(Done)

**Additional Questions for Candidates from the body**

(Body participation)

**Voting**

**New DCM - Nick M**

**New ADCM - Carmack M**

**New Secretary - Position Vacant**

**New Treasurer - Position Vacant**

**Invitations to Shadow predecessors**

Training and support for those coming into office. Systems have been streamlined and need only be maintained. Time commitment is reasonable. Please ask questions.

# Ask-it-Basket Questions

Q. Can my home group have our event flier posted on the District 5 website?

A. Yes. The Groups in District 5 are what make up District 5. There for you ARE district 5. Calendar page and flier posting guidelines can be found by clicking on the following link: <http://district5aa.org/calendar>

## FLIER POSTING REQUESTS

We post flyers in accordance with District 5 A.A. Guidelines. If you would like to submit your event or announcement for District 5 A.A. review, please contact District 5 A.A. DCM at [DCM@District5aa.org](mailto:DCM@District5aa.org).

Examples of fliers not in accordance with District 5 A.A. Guidelines:

- Any flier using the word "fundraiser" or asking for a "donation."
- Non-AA event flyers.
- Flyers that could imply endorsement or affiliation with an outside entity.
- Flyers that have an AA member's full name or photograph.

Q.If my Group loses our GSR does the Alt GSR automatically take over?

A. Yes.This is one of the reasons an Alternate GSR is elected. For in case just that happens. Although a group can handle this any way the group conscience wishes, if a group loses their GSR it is expected that the Alt GSR then becomes the groups representative for the remainder of the current term.

Literature reference:

### **When and how** (*From the GSR Pamphlet page 4&5*)

1 The two-year terms of an area's G.S.R.s coincide with those of its D.C.M.s and Conference delegate. So a group usually elects its G.S.R. before the assembly meeting at which the delegate is elected. September is a good month, since that gives the new G.S.R. time to study the responsibilities of the job before taking office — most often on January 1, along with the new D.C.M.s and the new delegate.

2 An informed group enjoys a special election meeting, where a member with a solid background in service work explains the function of the G.S.R., and a G.S.O. DVD may be shown.

3 Procedures for electing a G.S.R. are the same as for any other group officer. There should be time for nominations from the floor, then for written ballots. A plurality is usually enough for election.

4 Prompt notification about your choice of G.S.R. is essential. If your district or area committee and G.S.O. do not have your new G.S.R.'s name and address, communication breaks down.

5 At the same election meeting, it is important also to elect an alternate G.S.R. (*by the same voting procedure*). The two will work together closely, so that the alternate can be a knowledgeable replacement if the G.S.R. is unable to attend a district or area meeting.

6 What happens if your group's G.S.R. is elected committee member for your district? Then **the alternate automatically becomes your G.S.R.** — an extra reason for care in filling both offices.

## **Unfinished Business**

- Motion - Reduce the District Threshold from six months to a three to six-month range based on the current budget. (Motion by Beth M, Second by Nick M.)
  - Motion Passed. One vote against. Minority opinion. No revote. **Motion Passed.**

## **New Business**

- Motion - Reame the Website Committee to the IT Committee which would absorb current Access Committee hybrid duties). Will be New Business in October.
- Discussion - Do we need an Outreach Committee? Will be New Business in October.

## **Closing Announcements / Questions**

- **Open Service Positions: 2024/2025 Secretary & Treasurer.**
- Questions from the GSRs and Committee Chairs: n/a

Motion to extend 10 minutes: Will D  
Motion seconded: Nick M  
**Motion Passed.**

Motion to adjourn: Brian W  
Motion Seconded: Carmack M  
**Motion Passed.**

**Meeting was closed with Declaration of Unity at 5:42 pm.**

## Why Do We Need a Conference? (Service Manual, Page 40)

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting: "We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

"We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

"We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his or her social position is."

## Committee Reports

**Access Committee:** **Vacant**

**Archives:** **Joe H.**

Greeting D5,

The archives committee met with our DCM, Carry, a week before last. We had a great time getting together at Karen Z's house and clarified some emails to be saved for the archives.

The Archives committee was busy again last weekend archiving digital materials and printing hard copies for the repository.

I have not yet taken care of the housekeeping/decorations for the repository yet. Hopefully we can get in there this month and put some effort into making it more homey for anyone wanting to do research.

We met with Rob C. to discuss when and how the Fleeting Thoughts meeting started. We had fish tacos at Parillia and made notes. Here is what we came up with so far.

Fleeting Thoughts Notes

Rob D Sobriety date Dec 10th 2019

First meeting held mid March 2020

Met in the backyard of Rob's rental house, rented from his Dad, on Brosterhous Rd.

Called it the Fire Pit meeting at the beginning. Henry built a fire pit in the first couple weeks because it was so cold out. It was just lawn chairs around a fire pit. After about a month they were thinking of names, and someone threw out Fleeting Thoughts and it stuck.

First meeting/first week of meetings included Rob, Henry, Daniel, Rob, Marine Core Mike, maybe Damari. Doug joined early on.

Grew through work of mouth. By summer 2020 it had grown large - sometimes up to 30 people at a meeting. Met 7 days a week, 5:30p, rain or shine, all holidays.

They didn't want it to be an official meeting, was kept very informal, anyone could chair, would use various AA literature. Damari knew the traditions and helped them understand how to run the meeting. Was right in the middle of Covid but no masks were required.

Had a coffee pot, then 2, then a larger coffee maker, and folks would just bring coffee for the group.

Spent about 8 months in Rob's back yard. Neighbors (2 story apt building right behind house), calling the meeting into the city as a health hazard. A cease & desist letter was received from

the City of Bend due to unauthorized gathering and health hazard during the pandemic. Also the house had been sold.

So moved to a couple parks around October 2020, first Miller's Landing, then Ponderosa Park, but it got really cold. Then in December 2020 moved to The Hive on Franklin. Doug knew the owner. Around this time the meeting started the 7th tradition and paid rent even though the owner said they could use The Haven for free. (had a basket sitting out at some point before this). Paid around \$30-40 a month.

The Hive got sold after about a year, so they had to move the meeting to the Turning Points building where it is held today. Pay \$280 a month in rent. Matt thinks they went from The Hive to a park for a while before they started meeting at Turning Points.

Around March 2022 they started listing the meeting on the InterGroup meeting schedule and recently elected a GSR to participate at the District level so are now an official group.

Sunday is now a Newcomer Meeting, was a Book Study meeting before. The group is very flexible on rules for secretaring and chairing meetings, they like it informal.

Anecdotes:

The core group was very close - spent many holidays together, different folks lived at Rob's house for periods of time including Henry, Jason, Ron. Had game nights.

Emma the dog was the greeter at the meetings starting at Rob's house and still attends. She loves the meetings and starts howling in excitement as soon as Rob turns onto Wilson headed to the meeting.

Could smoke at the meeting! It was Smoking Preferred.

Damari, a couple months in, brought some AA literature on How an AA group works but got pushback from the group, they wanted to leave things very informal, so she got upset and threw all the literature into the fire and stomped off (came right back next day)!

At one of the Ponderosa park meetings there was a guy sitting there right next to them drinking a beer! Dan almost got in a fight with them.

Need to meet with Damari next to get more scoop.

Feel free to contact Joe H with any questions comments or concerns directly by cell phone at 541-948-4475.

Or email me at:

Archives@district5aa.org

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC): Ron B.**

**Treatment Facilities (CTF): Brian W**

**Corrections: Walt W.**

**Grapevine / La Vina: Jessie C.**

Hi, my name is Jessie and I am the District 5 Grapevine and La Viña Chair. My homegroup is the New Horizons Group.

GSRs, if your home group has a GV/LV rep, please give them my contact information so they can be on my committee. My email is [Grapevine@District5aa.org](mailto:Grapevine@District5aa.org). Please make sure that your Grapevine and La Viña rep is a home group member of the group they are representing.

This month, I wrote and submitted an article for the Grapevine about my favorite big book memory. You can find submission topics on the second to last page in every Grapevine edition. There is a "Coming in..." section which previews what is coming in next month's edition and topic ideas on which to write for subsequent editions with due dates. I found the "Coming in..." (Pronto en la revista La Viña) section in the middle of the La Viña edition. This is one idea for GV/LV reps to announce during meetings and to show members where they can find this information.

Next month's Grapevine topic is "Mid- Sobriety Challenges." In this edition, AA members share powerful stories of challenging events after being sober a few years. One article titled, *When Life Happens*, is written by a sober woman who shares about losing her mom and how the Fellowship helped her through. Another titled, *Cash and Prizes*, is about a man who at 10 years sober, was angry and miserable, focusing on cars and money and no AA.

I will be speaking and bringing my display to the Tumalo Friday Night group on Oct. 5th. Come join us.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

**Literature: Trisha M.**

This last month I enjoyed talking about Tradition 8 at the Pg 21 Group as well as new literature announcements at my own home group, Steps to Sobriety.

I had one commitment that was postponed until this month and one that I couldn't make due to me being sick so I'm looking forward to a full month of commitments this month.

Thanks for allowing me to be of service

Trisha, D-5 literature chair

**Outreach: David G.**

**Public Information (PI): Jena C.**

Hello I'm Jena, I'm a recovered alcoholic serving as your PI chair.

The Mental Health fair was a success. Ron and I were able to get correct information out about Alcoholics Anonymous as well as meeting and educating professionals. I was able to connect with health care professionals so they have direct access to my contact information to supply their offices with pamphlets, pi flyers and cards.

We are also able to cooperate not affiliate with another twelve step program and introduce people with problems other than alcohol.

Our committee has been working hard this last month. We had a total of 14 who attended our last committee meeting. We have all been busy with our new PI pamphlets distributing them in shelters, facilities and clinics.

We are also distributing big books in little libraries as well as homeless shelters.

There is a lot more to do. We need your help! Our next PI/CPC committee meeting will be **September 19 at 6pm at Bend downtown Library in the Brooks room.** Dinner will be provided. I hope to see some of you there.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service,

*Jena C.*

*D5 Public Information Chair*

*d5aa.pic@gmail.com*

*541-306-0055*

**Website: John S.**

Hi Folks:

My name is John Stark, and I am your alcoholic D5 Web Chair.

First, a HUGE thank you to Chris M. for filing in for me with the remote access part of this meeting. He rocks!

Here is my update for September 2023:

Website traffic for the past 30 days:

Website traffic is down about 25%. Most likely due to vacations, etc...

Our top five visited pages for the past 30 days are:

1. Contacts
2. Forms and Downloads
3. Calendar
4. GSR Page
5. About District 5 AA Page

Our busiest website traffic days for the past 30 days are Wednesday, and Thursday.

My activities this past month:



- Calendar updates.
- Added and/or removed flyers from Home page and Calendar/Announcements page.

To Do:

- Add a free security certificate to the website. This will make the website more secure.

Will complete this month.

- A HUGE thank you as well to Brian R. for making me aware of the free service.

It is very much appreciated.

Reminder:

Please contact me first if a link is broken, a file is missing, or anything else that has to do with the District5aa.org website. The same for any D5 committee email issues. Thank you.

A couple additional items (recurring):

- I am happy to add any events, etc. to the website that you wish as long as they meet the District 5 Guidelines.
- Please review your specific page (GSR, Committee, etc.) and let me know if you want anything added or removed.

That's all from me! Have a great September everyone and remember to keep smiling.

Regards,

John Stark

D5 Web Chair

## **GSR Reports**

### **New Horizons (Beth M - GSR)**

My name is Beth and I am an alcoholic. Our group meets four days a week, Monday through Thursday at noon at TEC. For information about our group you may visit our website at [newhorizonsgroupaa.com](http://newhorizonsgroupaa.com).

I had the opportunity to attend the District 5 "Unity Day" Home Group Workshop, Saturday August 5 th , and it was well attended. A few of our home group members attended this workshop and one member lent his voice to the talent portion of the workshop by singing "La Bamba"!

Our group inventory is now set for Tuesday, October 10 th at 1:15-3:15pm directly following our noon meeting. I have confirmed both a neutral facilitator, Christine, District 5 Secretary, and a recording secretary, Jen, the DCM from District 9, for this inventory.

We greatly appreciate the service they offer our group for an important process of discovery that we rely on to help our group grow and become more effective in helping us stay unified and to help the alcoholic who walks in the door looking for a solution to their alcoholism.

It is an honor to serve as my home group's GSR and I look forward to carrying our voice to the upcoming September Area Assembly.

In Service, Beth M., NHG GSR

### **Rising In Recovery (Lynn H - GSR)**

My name is Lynn h. and I'm an Alcoholic. My home group is Rising In Recovery Group. Our group meets ONLINE M-F mornings @ 7:00 a.m.

At our last business meeting we filled M-F meeting leaders (3 mo. terms) and voted to have an Alternate Treasurer position. The Business Meeting Recording Secretary position is still vacant.

At the next regular business meeting we will discuss changing our script to "ask for those willing to sponsor to raise their electronic hands" and put an S by our name.

We a Special Business Meeting scheduled Sept. 22 nd to discuss and possibly vote on a Motion to join the Virtual Online District 33. (see below)

I look forward to attending the Area 58 elections assembly ONLINE, Sept. 15-17 th  
In Service,  
Lynn H. GSR, RIRG lphilliard2@msn.com

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Rising In Recovery Group Motion Submitted by: Lynn H. GSR

Phone Number: 541-389-6944 Email: lphilliard2@msn.com

Motion: To join Virtual District 33 in Oregon Area 58

Intent/Purpose:

- 1) To change our current district affiliation by joining a Virtual online district that has no geographic boundaries and aligns with our group conscience of inclusion.
- 2) Participation in an online district allows online groups full participation in the entire AA service structure through its District Committee Member (DCM) and group GSR's. An online district encourages specific communication and sharing regarding online service and membership opportunities.
- 3) This is a move forward toward an Online Area in the future.\*

Current Practice:

Rising In Recovery Group is a virtual, online only group, with no geographic boundary and is part of District 5, Central Oregon, and Oregon Area 58.

Current RIRG phone list members total 114 and while 47 are home group members, only 7 of these live in Central Oregon.

Service positions in District 5 for online participation are limited.

\* General Service Conference will not form an online Area without Online Districts actually requesting an Area (per our Service Structure)

Budgetary Impact: None

### **Sisters For Serenity (Hannah G - GSR)**

Two from our group, with spouses, attended the August 5 Home Group Event at TEC and one of us performed as Mother Goose in the Talent Show. Much appreciation for all the information from committees.

Carrie B invited me to the August 26 online presentation, "Our Great Responsibility" The Future of AA. I took copious notes and plan to summarize for our group.

We continue to meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 am at Community Presbyterian Church in Redmond.

Hannah G

### **Redmond Early Risers (Jared J - GSR)**

My name is Jared and I'm an alcoholic. My home group is Redmond early risers. Our group meets Monday through Friday 7 AM to 8 AM.

If you have not had a chance to come visit RER, your missing out! Our morning meeting is a wonderful way to start the day with great fellowship. We focus on the strength and beauty that the program of AA gives each of us. From long term sobriety, travelers from other areas, and the newcomer, we come together to share how and why it works!

We have filled our Alternate GSR position as well as our IGR position. RER operates smoothly in business meetings looking out for everyone's best interest at hand.

Again, please visit us!

Jared J.  
GSR  
D5  
Redmond Early Risers

### **Thursday Night Men's Book Study 9 Carmack M - GSR)**

My name is Carmack. I'm an alcoholic. My home group is Thursday night men's book study. We meet at the First Presbyterian church on 9th St. across the street from Bend HS. We are getting 30 drunks attending on a regular basis. We are planning a campout at Big River group campground on the last weekend of September. All are welcome to come to our meeting to sign up.

Thanks for letting me be of Service

Carmack

GSR

thurs. nite mens book study

### **WFS (Anders W - GSR)**

Outreach Committee Issue: WFS is curious if and why we may be reaching out to groups who are deciding not to participate in the general structure? Instead of eliminating the committee, we would propose redefining the objectives and approach for the committee, asking what these groups would like from the District and staying available as a life-line for support.

District Budget Threshold: Lots of questions on the proposed change of our district threshold.

How will we spend down the \$5,000? What literature are we referencing which indicates 3-9 months? What is the reason for adjusting from 6 down to 3 months? We did not feel that "level of comfort of having \$10k in reserves" was a legitimate reason.

DCM Sharing Session: Thanks Carrie for the invite to the DCM sharing session on "Our Great Responsibility, the Future of AA". My key takeaways, there were lots of discussions on unity, the traditions, the importance of understanding our principles - the context, history, how to apply them, how to read them, how to stay humble amidst it all. It was inspiring hearing from these elected servants as they spoke earnestly about stewarding our community.

Literature: I have connected our literature rep with Trisha, hoping he reaches out soon and if not I will bring that feedback to the group and we can gently nudge him in that direction.

GSR Taco Bar: Discussed my commitment on the group's behalf to spend \$\$ if needed for supplies. Full support.

### **Steps To Sobriety (Todd H - GSR)**

Hello District 5,

I would like to ask any men in sobriety who happen to around Prineville on Saturday's come by and support our 7:30 am meeting at Steps to Sobriety.

Also on Thursday at noon this is a big book study except on last Thursday of the month is a Tradition of the month meeting.

Our group is also working on a adhoc committee to update our guidelines and meeting agenda/script so thanks to all members whom are working on this committee.

And finally I would like to thank all of my Steps members whom participated in the District 5 Gsr Taco bar workshop last week it was a real productive event.

Todd H

Gsr

Steps to Sobriety

### **Page 21 (Joy H - GSR)**

Greetings D-5,

My name is Joy and I am an alcoholic. My home group is the Page 21 Gr. in Prineville. We meet every Monday at 11:30 for enjoyable social time followed by a Big Book study from 12 to 1. Come join us, have a glass of ice tea or iced coffee along with an assortment of snacks. We gather in the lovely, cozy basement of the Prineville Christian Church located at 1685 Lynn Blvd. There is a sandwich board alongside the road as well as many AS placards that will lead you to the basement location. On the last Monday of the month is our speaker meeting. On the 25th. of this month Tenley S. from the New Horizons Group will be joining us to share her experience, strength and hope. Please check out the Page 21 Gr. speaker flyer on our D-5 website or the COIGAA site for all the details. Our D-5 Literature Rep. Trisha will also be joining us to give a 5 minute presentation on Tradition 9 and answering any questions you might have on this tradition. AND there's more! Trisha has also agreed to share with us a 1 to 2 minute presentation on any AA World Service literature of her choice.

My group invites you all to come join us for camaraderie over a satisfying full lunch and a yummy dessert directly following the meeting.

In loving service, GSR Joy

## **Weathering The Storm (Chris P - GSR)**

This monthly report is on behalf of Weathering the Storm, which meets Monday–Friday, 7-8am, at Miller’s Landing Park (Bend). We host an outdoor meeting experience, year-around, and regardless of the weather conditions. If you visit our group, bring a camp chair and dress for the weather.

### **SUMMARY**

The past month has been smooth, and there are no problems to report. A couple service positions were filled in response to ordinary turnover. The morning temperatures and wind conditions changed from Summer to Fall characteristics. As a result, average attendance has become more erratic. For the first time in the Group’s history, we are evaluating the idea of moving the meeting indoors for the winter season.

### **SERVICE POSITION CHANGES**

By group conscience voting, we replaced our Monday Meeting Secretary and our Coin Person roles. Both instances were tied to ordinary / healthy turnover. Those selected jumped into action, which created seamless transitions.

### **KEY NEXT STEPS**

At the September Business Meeting (always the first Friday of the month), the Group voted to explore moving indoors for the winter. Our “elaborate winter set-up” is not feasible this year due to lack of resources. Those who supplied set-up and take-down services for the past three years are not available this winter. So, change is coming one way or another. A one-page handout was created and distributed to all participants, which fully explained the resource gaps, our options, and the next steps. Our goal was to keep everyone informed. One facility application was submitted and several other facility ideas have been gathered. Once a facility space is identified, we will schedule a group conscience vote to determine the proper course of action.

Yours in Service,  
Chris P.

Interim GSR // Weathering the Storm  
Steelhead.747@gmail.com // 541-410-7908 cell

## **Liaison Reports**

**Intergroup:**

**AI-Anon: Christina L. - No Report**

**YPAA:**

## **Tools for GSRs**

D5 Ask-it-basket:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLmZpf2ID4qdx14XVkyYpxq2-NvnLPQdUm6aT7gEB1vrcLw2g/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0>

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[GSR report ideas for District report \(1\) \(2\).pdf](#)

[Sample GSR Report to your Group \(1\) \(1\).pdf](#)

[Service Resume Ideas: Service Resume for DISTRICTS \(5\).pdf](#)

GSR Pamphlet: [P-19 - GSO General Service Representative](#)