

# District 5 Oregon Area 58

## Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2020

Meeting was opened with the Serenity Prayer at 4pm.

**Attending:** Bonnie B, Kyle R, Bonnie C., Reed K, Christian B, Larry, Geri H, Peter C. Tim C, Helen W, Mike S, Mike, Jamie, Walt, Greg, Carrie, Pilar, & Greg

### Welcome to new Group Service Representatives:

Peter C. Primary Purpose

**Concept 5 Discussion:** “5 Throughout our world service structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

### District Secretary – Renee H.

Please submit your report [districtsecretary@district5aa.org](mailto:districtsecretary@district5aa.org) by Wednesday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month District 5 meeting. This helps with accuracy and time constraints. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the February meeting minutes as written by Mike S. and was seconded by Greg S. Motion passed.

### Treasurer Report – Walt W.

**Reported contributions \$567.84, expenses \$100.00 Balance \$5962.22**

A motion was made to accept Treasurer Report as reported Larry K. and Reed K. seconded. Motion Passed.

**See Treasurer full report on pages following minutes.**

### DCM Report – Bonnie C.

Thank you everyone attending our business meeting today and your time being of service to the A.A. fellowship. I would like you to extend my gratitude to your home groups for their contributions to the district to help spread the word to the still suffering alcoholic. I want to thank all of you who are continuing your AA home-group meetings in these adjusting times. Remember, they are AA meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous, not Zoom meetings. We continue our AA meetings through a Zoom format so it is important that we treat our time in our meetings as we would if we were still sitting in the rooms. Such adjustments in these times require that we ask ourselves if we are still acting “as if” we are sitting in the rooms. Are service positions and are our work for the still suffering alcoholic still active? Are our contributions the same if not more to help support our different service entities? Are we doing everything we can to continue to grow in unity, service and recovery? Challenge yourself and your home group with those questions, I know I have!

Here are some information points to be aware of:

- The District is setting up a Vemo account! Keep an eye out in your email for updates.
- There is one set of PRAASA CD's available for loan to anyone interested, just email me.
- Annual book drive for corrections is still taking place. Contact your home group to see if they would like to donate and instructions are available.
- Our Assembly Planning Committee is looking for willing individuals to fill service positions! Flier to come.
- Take a look at the AA Home group pamphlet for a refresher of what your group conscious to AA a whole!

Big changes for our Postponed May Assembly! **Oregon Area is hosting a Virtual Assembly June 5-7!**

This virtual assembly will be held via ZOOM. You can join each meeting via computer or mobile device by clicking the links above. If you have not utilized ZOOM for other recovery related meetings, it is helpful to download the ZOOM application to your device before the meeting. You can download for free: <https://zoom.us/download>. Additionally, our IT committee has created this brief tutorial to help you with accessing the meeting: <https://youtu.be/EHw2Re90VGY> If you wish to join the meeting via phone, you can dial: 253.215.8782, Meeting ID: 95305388080 The following commands can be entered using your phone's dial pad

while in a Zoom meeting: \*6 - Toggle mute/unmute \*9 - Raise hand. I will be forwarding the agenda in the meeting minutes.

Please let us know if there is anything the district can do for you and your home group. Be well and take care of each other.

Yours in fellowship and service,  
Bonnie C.

### **Alternate DCM Report- Kyle R.**

Hello District5!

My name is Kyle R and I am an Alcoholic. It is my humble pleasure to serve as the Alternate DCM for District 5. I hope you are all healthy and safe, and able to stay connected to our wonderful fellowship during this unusual time. Thank you as always for your groups' support of the district. I know that groups are continuing to carry the message and we will continue to support you as best we can.

It was wonderful to see many of you at the Pre-Conference discussion meeting we had over zoom this month. I love talking about the future of our fellowship with other AA members, and there is no better time to see that play out than when discussing the agenda items our trusted servants are going to act on. It was great having our Delegate Jim there to listen, and I think he did a spectacular job of demonstrating how much he values the upside down triangle. The spirit of AA truly is found in the groups!

Looking at all the agenda items that were brought to these years conference also drives home how incredible the spirit of Concept V is in our program. All of these agenda items are the result of small numbers of our fellowship recognizing opportunities for change and growth. The fact that we take so seriously the rights of our minority members to speak and be heard, is I think one of the most amazing and underappreciated gifts of our service structure. For me the true spirit of Concept V comes to me, when I see our fellowship listen intently to the concerns of a few and choose to put their concerns ahead of our own instincts. To me that is what truly makes AA a special place and what has allowed our fellowship to truly be a group that would not normally mix!

I'd also like to apologize for a breach of our principles which I allowed over the last couple of meetings. I truly want every group to be a part of our district, so when our GSR's want to speak for multiple unrepresented groups I was excited to see those groups at our district. That excitement led me to ignore one of the core jobs of the AA home group. Which is it says in the AA Group Pamphlet, is to allow "each A.A. member ... one vote; and this, ideally, is voiced through the homegroup." While I want to see every group represented in our district, by speaking for other groups we are effectively diluting the voice of the members of that home group. So while I share your desire to see those groups represented at our meetings, I ask that you bringing the voice of just your own homegroup. I apologize for giving the impression that the District was ignoring this vital part of our principles, but it gave me the opportunity to learn from my service sponsor, our literature and the many other members of this program that share their experience with me!

I know many of your are going to ask, "I care about these other groups! What can I do to make sure they are supported by the district?" Encourage those other groups you attend that don't have GSR's to get one. Talk about the importance of general service work and the fun we have. Offer to share rides with new GSR's when we all start traveling again. If those groups have GSR's that can't make it to our business meetings, they are always welcome to submit reports to be included in the minutes. And if you feel those groups might have important announcements, you are welcome to bring those up in the time we allot for AA announcements at the end of the meeting.

Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to grow in our program. It is one of the best parts of general service work, that I get to learn how the principles of are program are practiced, and I love that I get to share my discoveries with the rest of you!

Yours in loving service, Kyle R. Alt DCM

### **Assembly Host Committee Chair: Helen W.**

Yes, District 5 has been given the honor of hosting the May Assembly next year. It will be held at Riverhouse in Bend. Lodging will be available at Riverhouse and nearby motels. When we hosted the September 2016 Assembly, the members of District 5 stepped up and put on an Assembly to be proud of. We are going to going to do it again! This is your opportunity to “give back” in the form of service work.

Our first task is to fill to positions on the Host Committee. Some positions have already been filled. The Chair is Helen W., Co-Chair is Christine B., Treasurer is Valorie R., Registrar is Walt W., Facilities Chair is Bonnie C., and the Marathon Meeting Chair is Lauren S.

These positions are open: Secretary (Urgent need), Fundraising, Publicity, Accessibility, Dance/Entertainment, Hospitality, Volunteers, Speakers, Recap, Theme and Decorations, Archivist, Prayer Chair, Greeters.

Please go to: [aa-oregon.org/assemblyplanning/](http://aa-oregon.org/assemblyplanning/) and then download the “Host Committee Planning Guide” and “Assembly Planning Guide” for information and job descriptions.

Use [assemblymay2021@gmail.com](mailto:assemblymay2021@gmail.com) if you have questions or wish to submit a service resume (please indicate which position you are applying for.)

### **Grapevine rep-Mike**

He went to AA Grapevine Zoon online meeting and love it so informative. The Grapevine has a new book for sale. The Grapevine is offering 2020 grapevine issues for free during the COVID19 and anyone can go on their website. (email is on the district5 website) Also anyone can call Mike at 541-410-8056 for more information

## **Old Business**

Web chair is still available. Some one express interest they will talk to the DCM, Bonnie C. after the meeting.

Book drive to prison and jails contact the Correction Chair Matt. Your group may want to consider buying a case of big books.

Looking into Vemo acct.

The DCM has copy of this last PRASSA and anyone is welcome to barrow it. The DCM said she heard lots of discussion on gender neutrality and accessibility. These topics seem to continue to come up and she believes they will be in more discussions as AA moves forward.

## **New Business: None**

## **Committee Reports**

**Archives Committee- Valorie R.-no report**

**Access- open**

**Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) – Carrie B.**

**AA Cooperates with the Professional Community!**

Looking for members to serve on the District 5 CPC Committee

Members of C.P.C. committees inform professionals and future professionals about A.A. — what we are, what we are not, where we are, what we can do, and what we cannot do. They attempt to establish better communication between A.A.s and professionals, and to find simple, effective ways of cooperating without affiliating.

Qualifications:

\*Must have a working knowledge of the Twelve Traditions.

\*Must have a computer and be able to google and email.

To inquire about serving in this way, please email, call or text District 5 CPC Chair

Help get our community better acquainted with Alcoholics Anonymous, during this time of social distancing.

Do you think you have a problem with alcohol? Do you want to stop drinking, but find you cannot quit entirely or have little control over the amount you drink?

Many local AA Groups are now holding meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous via Zoom! (See next page)

How do I use Zoom?

- On a desktop computer or smartphone Visit [zoom.us](https://zoom.us)
- Download the App (Zoom Cloud Meetings)
- Click “Join Meeting” and enter
- Follow the prompts to enter the Meeting ID & Passcode

Beginner's meeting/panel, offered to anyone new to AA! No Cost

Held once a Month on the last Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon.

The format includes:

- An introduction to Alcoholics Anonymous
- 20 minute speaker sharing about their beginning into the program
- 20 minutes of Q&A (There is no such thing as a bad question)

Zoom info for AA Orientation meeting as follows:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/914633670> Meeting ID: 914 633 670 Password: 164164

**Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) – Tim C.**

**COVID-19 UPDATE:**

- **All in-person panels/ sponsored meetings remain suspended.**

- **Facilities CTF have been offered/ provided additional AA literature, COIGAA Hotline Information, as well as the COIGAA online AA meeting schedule.**
- **Several facilities CTF cooperates with are currently assessing ways to resume in-person panels as per the State's newly announced phased Social Distancing Guidelines.**
- **Some facilities have scheduled online/ zoom panels in place of in-person panels. These are slated to begin late-May through July 1, based on the needs/ curriculums of each facility.**
- **New Horizons has begun a group CTF-esque commitment with the Sheppard's House; offering a Beginner's Panel/ Info Session via zoom twice a month.**

The Primary Purpose of District 5's Cooperation with Treatment Facilities (CTF) Committee is to carry the AA message to alcoholics who still suffer. Experience with alcohol is *the* one thing all AA members have in common; sharing our members experience in the AA Program of Recovery with those yet to reach, or find their way back to Alcoholics Anonymous focuses this Committee's efforts. Your Cooperation with Treatment Facilities Committee is simply a conduit to help connect you, your Group, and/ or your Committee to alcoholics, particularly those receiving treatment for alcoholism, though not established in AA.

As a basic "tool" for pursuing its Primary Purpose, CTF facilitates Speaker Panels, where 2-4 sober AA members share their experience with our Program of Recovery. Panels typically close with a question & answer period focused on the AA panelists' experience with Sponsorship, working the Steps, meetings and home groups, challenges in sobriety, etc. AA literature and meeting schedules are also available at all CTF panels. *Please note that personal experience receiving medical and/ or therapeutic treatment for alcoholism is not the focus of CTF Speaker Panels, nor is it a qualification to join a CTF panel.* AA experience and literature suggests that "solid sobriety [i.e., experience

practicing AA's 12 Steps], a knowledge of the Traditions and absolute dependability are qualifications needed to serve.”

At present, all in person panels have been suspended due to COVID-19. CTF is currently working to increase the number and frequency of online panels. More information regarding facilitating and/ or joining online panels will be passed along as it becomes available. The CTF Committee would like to thank individual AAs and AA Groups for carrying AA's message of Hope -- that freedom from alcohol is possible -- to those receiving treatment for alcoholism. Members of your CTF Committee are available to visit your Home Group's online business meetings to discuss CTF service. We love to share and learn how we can better cooperate -- not affiliate -- with institutions and facilities while trying to carry the AA message to those receiving treatment for alcoholism.

Please let me know what I can do to help connect you, your group, and/ or service committee with those yet to reach, or find their way back to Alcoholics Anonymous.

For fun and for free, with love in active service,

Tim C. <[d5aa.ctf@gmail.com](mailto:d5aa.ctf@gmail.com)>

541-610-4431

**Correctional Facilities – Matt-no report**  
**Grapevine – Mike C.-no report**  
**Public Information (PI) –no report Ryan**

**Website – Larry K**  
In service, Larry K.

**Intergroup Report-Helen W. Vice Chair**

See the [www.coiaa.org](http://www.coiaa.org) for a list of online meetings, virtual workshops and virtual events. You can find information on online meetings. **Central Oregon Intergroup (COIG) is still available during the COVID 19 outbreak to help group members focus on A.A.'s primary purpose to carry its message of recovery to the alcoholic who still suffers.** We have had a number of the AA members asking about how we can reach those who have a drinking problem and have a desire to stop drinking during this time. The local **24 hour A.A. Hotline is available 541-548-0440.** This is one of the ways the newcomer can find help. If an AA member is wanting to be available for the 12 step list ( one alcoholic talking to another alcoholic) please contact Dan M (503) 819-3125 or email [hotline@coigaa.org](mailto:hotline@coigaa.org) and he will give you the details about how an AA member can be of service with hotline/12 step list. If a newcomer contacts the office at 541-923-8199 or emails us at [coigoffice@coigaa.org](mailto:coigoffice@coigaa.org) we will have a big book sent to them. We also have an AA member willing to deliver a big book to a newcomer.

Our webmaster is busy helping AA groups get their online meetings listed and update AA members with info helpful to online meetings. You can find them on our website under the online meeting tab listed by day of the week. If you want your online meeting listed please email [webmaster@coigaa.org](mailto:webmaster@coigaa.org) Please let us know how you will want your password available; listed or through a contact person.

The central office is busy answering emails and calls. We are helping new and existing AA members get access to online meetings. If your group needs literature or coins please call or email the office [coigoffice@coigaa.org](mailto:coigoffice@coigaa.org) We will make arrangements to have you pay and pick up outside the office Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:00 pm as at this time Due to the COVID 19 outbreak and out of an abundance of caution for your safety and the safety of our office personnel, our office will be shut down for guests and visitors. Also available now is the ability to pick up literature and coins if arranged ahead on the weekend. We also have an AA member in the Bend area that can meet people to purchase literature only, while practicing social distancing. Also we are happy to say we have now made it easier for AA individuals and AA groups to contribute by going to our website and clicking on the contribution tab.

## **GSR Reports**

### **We are not a glum lot-Larry K.**

In service, Larry K

### **Huntington Hut Group-Mike S.**

The Huntington Hut Group (the Hut) of Alcoholics Anonymous has been given opportunities for growth. Even though we have (before covid19) 11 meetings, there is only one group. We hope for a solution to the disconnect between the meetings and the group. This disconnect was evident at the group officer elections in that only 5 ballots were cast. Thanks to the people who stood for positions. We still have a handful of open positions available.

When Covid19 hit and the state urged that gatherings be limited to 10 or less, we held an emergency GCC meeting . The group conscious was to continue meetings with guidelines that included distancing and before and after meeting cleaning with an approved disinfectant. A member came up with an set of guidelines to be distributed to the secretaries. This arrangement worked well between one and two weeks and it was then decided that to be socially conscious, the Hut should close its doors.

**There was no plan to go to digital/phone/video developed at the group level. Some individuals started using the zoom platform for meetings at the same time as those normally held at the Hut.**

**At the April Group Conscious Committee meeting, we found that 3 meetings were being conducted on the zoom platform and we talked about starting some of the morning meetings on the zoom platform. We now have 5 meetings operating on the zoom platform with 3 being listed on the COIG website. We made an ad hoc committee to investigate zoom best practices and possible electronic 7<sup>th</sup> tradition. We decided to announce our po box # and ask for contributions to be sent to it by mail. We decided to hold onto our excess of our prudent reserve until we could determine more fully the impact of no face to face meeting contributions on our \$450 a month rent and electricity commitment.**

*In love and service, Mike S. GSR*

### **Monday night Living Sober-Christine B -**

The Monday night Redmond Living Sober group has changed its format and with now feature a 20 minute speaker followed by general sharing. That's Monday night at 7pm

Zoom meeting ID: 896 2019 0837

Password: 804108

Please help us spread the word. If we could please also be put back on the schedule with the new ID and password.

5/18 Speaker Chris C

5/25 Speaker Joan C

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Christine B 541.815.1806

### **We are not a glum lot – Larry K.**

When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at noon for 1 hr. Place: Online Zoom meetings (Meeting ID# and password at District5aa.org) Attendance: Averaging 30-35 per meeting 7th Tradition: Down significantly-no \$ amounts currently available. We have no activities or events currently planned. We plan to switch back to in-person meetings when we can.

In service, Larry

### **Men's Book Study-Reed K**

Our group meets every Thursday night 7:00 pm for one hour, currently on Zoom. Attendance has been moderate but improving. We are putting something together on venmo for 7th tradition and hope to have it going by next meeting. There has been some concern about getting word to new comers, and now that the info is available on [coigaa.org](http://coigaa.org) we hope that will make a difference.

Otherwise the group is tackling each problem as they arise.

Thank you

yours in Service, Reed Kay

### **Tuesday Night AA-Kyle R.**

Hi my name is Kyle and I am an alcoholic and I serve Tuesday Night AA as their GSR. We are still meeting at our typical time at 7:00 every Tuesday. We have still been maintaining our usual format, with speakers the first Tuesday of the month and a discuss meeting the following weeks. We've been taking advantage of remote meetings to try and bring in some speakers and even new discussion members from outside our area, so if you want to hear how people are staying sober across the country tune in! We have also begun taking 7th Tradition contributions via Venmo which hasn't resulted in too many contributions, but hopefully which catch on.

Yours in loving service, Kyle R.

### **Home Away from Home Group-Pilar T.**

The Home Away From Home Group (HAFHG) of Alcoholics Anonymous, prior to COVID-19 lockdown, met every Thursday, from 7-8:30pm, and Sunday, from 2-3:30pm, in Deer Ridge Correctional Institute (DRCI) -- a men's minimum/ medium security prison near Madras OR. Meeting attendance ranged between ~8-40 inmates of varying lengths of sobriety. Thursday meetings are AA literature based. The third Sunday is an outside-speaker/ open discussion meeting. The fourth Sunday is an inside-speaker/ open discussion meeting. Other Sundays are open discussion meetings. The first Sunday of the month we hold our business meeting and also celebrate milestones in sobriety.

We have 6 current inside service positions; Thursday Secretary, Sunday Secretary, Literature and Coin Person, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and inside GSR. 6 of the 6 service positions are currently filled.

Due to COVID-19, the Deer Ridge Correctional Facility has suspend any volunteers from entering into the institution until further notice. The HAFHG's new meeting schedule is as such- The HAFHG meets regularly via virtual platform, every Wednesday from 12:30- 1:30pm.

Although attendance has been at a low since the lockdown, we saw an increase of attendance last week. Inside members shared their program of recovery and continue to share their gratitude and earnestness for Alcoholics Anonymous. I am happy to share that the HAFHG is able to have outside speakers during this time. It is an exciting time when inside members are able to hear the experience, strength and hope from outside members of Alcoholics Anonymous. They love it!!

I am so thankful that the message of recovery through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous continues to be shared inside the walls of Deer Ridge Correctional Facility.

If there are any questions regarding volunteer or badge processing, please speak to Tim C, Daryl L, Pilar T, or Roberto F; call or text: 541-819-0448; or email: [home.away.from.home.group@gmail.com](mailto:home.away.from.home.group@gmail.com).

Yours, collectively, in love and service: the inside- and outside-members of the HAFHG of AA

### **Firing line-Jamie**

My name is Jamie and I am an alcoholic. My homegroup is The Firing I am serving as GSR. Our group meets every Monday at 730 pm and are a big book study except for the last Monday of the month which is a speaker meeting. Our speaker meeting for May is May 25th and our speakers are Billy N from Atlanta Georgia, and Jamie S from The Firing Line speaking on Tradition 5. As of last month we have started meeting via zoom. Meeting attendance has been 15-30 attendees. Just about the same as when meeting at Bethlehem Inn. This is all I have to report at this time. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

### **New Horizons Group of Alcoholics Anonymous-Carrie B**

My Name is Carrie and I am an Alcoholic. My home group is New Horizons. We meet 6 days a week. Monday through Friday at noon, and Saturdays at 10:30

We are currently still holding our meetings on Zoom, as well as Taco Tuesday, which is our fellowship hour, as well as our business meetings and committee meetings. Even a lot of our 12 step work has been done over Zoom this last month.

Our meetings are about the same size as they were when they were being held at Tec. We get anywhere from 40 to 60 attendees. We have about 25 home group members, and about half of those members service positions are on hold right now because some positions don't translate over to the zoom meetings. Therefore, we have created two additional service positions that we will be holding elections for this next business meeting.

We have been taking advantage of the fact that it's easy for speakers to travel via Zoom, So, we have been asking people to speak who we don't normally get to hear from. It's been exciting. We have had authors of the stories in the big book speak, conference speakers, current trustees and past trustees, and current delegates including our Oregon State Delegate Jimmy this last week. He was wonderful!

So, all in all, for now, although we can't wait to get back to regular meetings, we are making the best out of the situation.

In Gratitude, Carrie Blake

#### **Sunday Morning Serenity-Renee H.**

Our online meeting is going pretty well with 19-24 people showing up for the meeting. We are working on getting some sort of contribution

In Service Renee H.

#### **Announcements:**

**Tim C. <[d5aa.ctf@gmail.com](mailto:d5aa.ctf@gmail.com)> 541-610-4431. If someone would like AA literature you can contact Tim C. and he can figure out a way to meet up, while practicing social distancing.**

#### **Closing**

5:30 Close w/the Responsibility Statement

Motion to Adjourn: Ben R. motioned, Christian B. Seconded. Motion passed: