

# The 3B/3C District News

News Of The Austin Area Alcoholics Anonymous - District Servants And Events

## DCM Reports



**District 3C Alternate DCM Julia B.**

### *A Legacy of Service*

This fall in our district has been full of exciting service events. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as District 3C Alternate DCM for the last two years.

September was a busy month in our district. First there was the Annual Service Workshop, where both Area and District officers and committee chairs did a great job sharing about their positions. Many thanks go out to Patrick M. for organizing the Workshop and to all who attended and participated. At the end of the month we had our District elections. Thanks to Michael S. for leading us in the Third Legacy Procedure. It was great to see that process in action. There was great enthusiasm and willingness to serve, and we were able to fill all of the positions for District Officers and Committee Chairs for the next term!

The first weekend in October there was the Area assembly in Port Aransas, where we elected the Area Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chair, and Alternate Chair. Again we saw the Third Legacy Procedure in action.

The second weekend in October was the Regional Forum in Dallas. According to GSO, "Forums are designed to enhance communication and participation among A.A. members, the General Service Board, and staff and directors from the General Service Office and the A.A. Grapevine. Forums provide a meeting place to ask questions and spark new ideas to help carry the A.A. message of hope to the still-suffering alcoholic." I learned a great deal about the workings of GSO and was deeply impressed with the dedication and commitment of the Delegates, the GSO staff, and the Trustees. At one of the workshops, I learned about the Declaration of Unity, which is printed on the copyright page of the Service Manual. A Declaration of Unity:

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on A.A. unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come.

**Continued: see Alt. DCM 3C Report continued on**

#### Incoming

#### District Servants

District 3B DCM  
 Stephen S. 512-259-1579  
 District 3B Alternate  
 Mike S., 512-653-9872  
 District 3C DCM  
 Julia B. 512-407-9805  
 District 3C Alternate  
 Bruce M. 512-707-2403  
 Treasurer  
 Kathy K. 512-413-5179  
 Secretary  
 David Mc., 1-512-618-3495

#### Incoming

#### Committee Chairs

Archives  
 Brian M. 512-469-2923  
 Corrections  
 Todd B. 512-  
 Grapevine  
 Cookie C. 512-554-7649  
 Intergroup  
 Michael B. 512-  
 Literature  
 John N. 512-423-2310  
 Newsletter  
 Karen S. 512-394-6467  
 PI/CPC  
 Open 512-  
 Registrar  
 Rose B. 512-296-0663  
 Treatment  
 Norma A. 512-  
 Web Master  
 Open 512-

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## Alternate DCM Report — Continued

I look forward to serving you as DCM for the next two years. In 2010 we have more exciting service events. First there is the AA International convention in July. Then in October our districts are hosting the Area 68 Fall Voting Assembly. There will be many opportunities for service. I look forward to working with you all. Please let me know how I can be of help to you and your groups.

*Respectfully Submitted, Yours in Service, Julia B., Alternate DCM, District 3C*

## Secretary's Report

I wish you a prosperous and Happy New Year.

I have enjoyed serving as your District Secretary and I look forward to serving as your Registrar for the next 2 years. Please get us the contact information for your new GSR and Alternate so that you will be in the loop of information flow. District 3B/3C meets at 2 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. We meet at various groups and alternate between north (N) and south (S) Austin, so we look forward to the invitation to meet at your group. The February meeting will be at Keep First Things First (S) and the March meeting will be at Suburban (N). The meetings are open, so we look forward to seeing you.

Get ready for an explosive year of service as the AAs in their new service positions begin their 2-year term. We have a great team of GSRs, Committee Chairs and DCMs ready to carry the message of Alcoholic Anonymous to the suffering alcoholic and to keep you informed of service opportunities. The most exciting event will be the International Convention in July in San Antonio and I hope to see you on January 9 at the volunteer rally. You must not miss this experience; so encourage your group members to register. Be sure to attend the opening ceremony. I hear that is amazing to see all the countries represented.

Join me in my quest to be happy, joyous, and free by participating in my own sobriety.

*Respectfully submitted, Rose B., District 3B/3C Secretary*



## Treatment Facilities Report

### *The Spirit of Sobriety*

It's always the season to carry the message to Hospitals and Institutions. Over the last two years since I have been serving as the Austin Districts' Treatment Facilities chair, the Higher Power help of direction and provision has succinctly provided an answer to each need. But it would have meant nil without the willingness and action of all the AA's getting involved where the rubber meets the road.

My parting note as my term expires presents some difficulty. Take humility, combined with joy, the rewards of service, lots of sweet fellowship, and add the realization that I haven't had the compulsion to drink. The result is an indescribable personal constant contact with a Higher Power, as I understand Him. One thing I'll say that's evident is that the unity of the fellowship and the brightness of the newcomers is an experience I won't forget.

This is no time to rest, however, as there is much more to be done. There are big events like the International Convention in San Antonio in July 2010. And every Steering Committee member should attend as many of the Area 68 assemblies as possible. The annual Correctional Conference can show you a side of AA you never thought existed. And there are workshops put on by Intergroup or sponsored by home groups all over town. The list is really endless. May you accept the blessing of being given an opportunity to serve in a way that you also see the Creator's hand moving in lives all around. Happy 2010 and thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

*Gratefully Submitted, Michael F., Treatment Facilities Chair*

### **Bridge the Gap**

#### Temporary Contact Sign Up Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Male/Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

## Correctional Facilities Report

### *Service & Sobriety*

Two years later and my term is up! For me, chairing a Service Committee has been such a solid and productive vehicle for providing assistance to my AA community. I heartily recommend volunteering at the District level, to all who recognize a pull toward enhancing their sobriety.

For the last 2 years, I have: taken phone calls from volunteers, family members of an alcoholic locked up, and CFC reps from different groups in and around Austin looking for help in carrying the message to jails and institutions. I participated in the Annual CFC conferences in San Marcos and Kingsville, and in the planning of the next conference in Brownwood, February 4th-6th, 2010, that promises more great speakers and helpful dialogue with Corrections Professionals who want to help their alcoholic inmates find AA. Using the local Bridge the Gap program to correspond with alcoholics on the Inside and with GSO's national Corrections Correspondence program, we've laid the groundwork for welcoming incarcerated alcoholics into our recovery community upon release.

On a monthly basis, I have reported to district meetings and brought applications to encourage enrollment as an official volunteer in Austin's two county facilities or one of the myriad of state facilities open to sponsoring AA meetings.

I have experienced the need for more humility in my dealings with others to best facilitate the process of being the CFC Chair, facing more of my own limitations. While I recognize I have contributed by standing by my post, I also hope that I've left the CFC Committee a little better than it was before. Far more than that, however, I see how all the other volunteer AAs have been carrying the message for years, facilitating others signing up, actually making the process of working with others on the Inside all happen and sustaining it! I'm also reminded that I am just another alcoholic with an alcoholic mind who could never find the answers to my life problems, when drawing from my own power or "good ideas", which helps me open my mind to God's Will spoken through others' advice and direction.

While I will be rotating out of my position as CFC Chair, I will continue to take meetings out to the jail as this regular and sometimes inconvenient work has buoyed me even when I don't feel the nearness of the spirit in my life. I thank the District, supported by the AA groups in Austin, for allowing me to be of service.

Please visit the district Corrections web page sponsored by the Hill-County website, for more info: [http://www.austinaa.org/aa\\_files/districts/d3bc/correct.htm](http://www.austinaa.org/aa_files/districts/d3bc/correct.htm)  
I hope to see you in Brownwood in February! For more info, visit this website, or email to [3b.3c.corrections@gmail.com](mailto:3b.3c.corrections@gmail.com).

Respectfully Submitted, Ian M., District 3B/3C CFC Chair  
512-784-6331

**Did You Know Your Group Can Host A District Meeting?  
Contact Your GSR Or any District Committee Member**

## Group Report — Desire To Stop Group

The **Desire to Stop** group was started with a resentment and a coffee pot! Two guys unhappy about their old meeting telling them what they could, or could not, share set out to begin their style of AA meeting. They wanted as few rules as possible and believed that sharing what was causing them problems that day would help keep them sober as long as they focused on the solution. The meeting was titled the **Desire to Stop** because they wanted others to feel free to express their concerns. They knew that many blocks occur on the road to living sober. The rules were few but very simple; using AA literature and tools provided solutions so a beginning could be made.

Next to arrive were crying women who wanted to get sober. Remaining true to their convictions the men accepted the women as they were. The men encouraged the women to stay, cry and get sober and they did just that.

When I arrived at the meeting there were 5 - 10 members. I had moved from the lake area to south Austin to live with my fiancée. I also realized that I was feeling crazy and desperately lonely and in need of an AA meeting closer to my new location. I was glad to find a small meeting that was loving, sober, and caring. I needed all those things. They provided the love, AA provided the steps and literature, and I found a sponsor. I found a new AA home and I felt that I belonged once more.

As more new members arrived, a written opening was needed as new people began to chair the meeting. This brought about a group conscience meeting where we formulated the opening format of our meeting. This is in part as it reads today written by Smithy B. Due to our continuing need to keep the flame of desire alive, we have found that opening the meeting with readings from some of the AA literature gives us solid ground in focusing on the solution.

Our group service structure was also simple: a treasurer, someone to open up, and a meeting chairperson. We were fortunate to have these trusted servants to support our meeting. Our group was paying rent and contributing to the AA service areas.

The **Desire to Stop** meeting grew by attraction. The meeting time was 9:00 a.m.; however, we had several latecomers. That time slot provided meetings for retired, independent self-employed, or non-employed persons. We were also "labeled" with a few other names such as the *old gray hairs* or *old lady* meeting. Alcoholics cannot be controlled. We decided to have a starting time of 9:15 am and let people get here when they get here. Most members believe that having a meeting in the morning is a good way to start a day. Group conscience meetings become more frequent as the group needed some rules in place to govern group problems including how to address unacceptable behavior.

In 2004 one of our original members passed away (Big Mac) and others of the original group have moved on. The recent death of our trusted treasurer Mark J. has again called the members into service to take over this position at a very difficult time. More people are willing to move into positions of service to accommodate our growth. We have elected new board members: Chairperson, treasurer, and secretary GSR.

Our group has grown in size and in service keeping the original traditions of few rules and always operating in the solution through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. **Desire to Stop** now serves 30+ members. As groups get older they change so has **Desire to Stop**. The original stated purpose of few rules still applies as other members continued our cause, which has attracted the life blood of AA: new members young and old.

**Continued: page 6**

## Desire To Stop Group Report— Continued

We welcome all who have a **Desire to Stop** and extend the hand of AA. Our group is located in District 3C at: 2525 Wallingwood Drive, Timberline office Condominiums Bldg. 7, Suite #703, Austin, TX 78746. Building #7 has two entrances: use the entrance next to building #8. Our phone number is: 512-327-9927.

*Respectfully Submitted, Carol A., Group Member, Desire to Stop, and Karen S., GSR*

Volunteer Kick-Off Meeting



## A Vision for You

### 2010 International Convention

**JANUARY 9, 2010**

**HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER  
200 EAST MARKET STREET  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

**1 P.M. TO 4 P.M.  
BALLROOM A**

*This is the start of volunteer activities.  
We need 4,000 volunteers.*

*There will be online registration and manual registration.  
We will have plenty of assistance to answer all your questions.*

*Come join us for fun and fellowship.  
Meet the GSO (New York) coordinators for the International.*

*For questions call Bret M at 210-416-7445 or email sanantonio2010@aol.com*

**This is a once in a lifetime  
event for South Texas!**

### Upcoming District Meetings

District Meetings are held the first Sunday of the month at 2pm.

The District meetings alternate between North and South Austin so we can get to know groups while they get to know us.

Would you like to attend? Have questions about service work? You are always welcome!

Visit:

[http://www.austinaa.org/aa\\_files/districts/d3bc/](http://www.austinaa.org/aa_files/districts/d3bc/) for more information or call any of the District Servants listed on the front page of this newsletter with any questions.

**"CREATE  
THE FELLOWSHIP  
YOU CRAVE"**  
*(Alcoholics Anonymous Page 164)*

**SWTA 68  
WINTER WORKSHOP  
JANUARY 29-31, 2010  
HOSTED BY DISTRICT 2**

**COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT RIVER VILLAGE  
750 IH 35 NORTH  
NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS  
(830) 626-4700**

**ASK FOR SWTA 68 RATE**

For more information  
or to volunteer  
call Harry H. (512) 357-6649  
E-mail HEH157@msn.com

## Grapevine Report

How quickly this two-year term as the Grapevine Chair for District 3B/3C has flown by! I have been honored to serve in this position and have been touched by all the wonderful AAs I have met and have had the tremendous luck to serve and interact with. My fellow committee chairs, the GSRs, and the district and area officers I have worked with have demonstrated to me the awesome power that comes from one alcoholic working with another. This has been one of the most outstanding times in my life so far, and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone whose path has crossed mine during this time.

There have been many highlights of my two-year term as Grapevine Chair. One of these has been attending the Austin City Wide Group (ACWG) meetings and setting up the District 3B/3C Grapevine display there, passing out copies of the Grapevine and La Viña along with subscription forms and other Grapevine-related information. Another awesome moment was having the blessing of setting up the Grapevine display when the Texas State Conference of Young People in AA (TXSCYPAA) met in Austin. Seeing the enthusiasm displayed there, AA should be in good hands with the upcoming generation!

Another highlight was the Grapevine Workshop for which the Lambda Live and Let Live group let us use their nice facility. The Area Grapevine Chair, James H., came to Austin to help chair this workshop and he did an excellent job. The workshop went on without a hitch and it was very informative and a lot of fun. Just recently I was asked to be on a five-person panel at a Workshop at Western Trails group on "Being a Committee Chair". This was also a very informative, well-organized, well-run and well-attended Workshop.

The quarterly Area Assemblies over the past two years were always a pleasure to attend. It is always so nice to see an affair of this magnitude so well organized and it always seems to occur without any problems! Every time one of these affairs comes to an end, I leave impressed, more knowledgeable about Southwest Texas Area 68 (SWTA68) and about AA as a whole, and proud that I got to be a part of it.

The annual Service Workshops, one at Riverbend Church and one at the Lambda Live and Let Live group, were exciting events. It is a moving affair to see all the Service Committees extending the message that the committees carry. This year the addition of the SWTA68 Committee Chairs helped extend and expand this workshop into an even bigger and better affair!

A huge event for this alcoholic was the opportunity to attend the Southwest Regional Forum (SWAARSA) in 2008 and again in 2009. The large numbers of AAs who attend and the informative sharing by the GSO and Grapevine staff really helped to drive home the concept of the greater AA worldwide picture. The presentations on the twelve Concepts helped increase my understanding of our third legacy of Service.

It will be a difficult task to leave the Grapevine Chair and move on to the next service position that my Higher Power has selected for me. I know that I leave this position in capable hands with Cookie C. becoming your next Grapevine Chair. I will still be around. If you wish to contact me, please do so, or come to see me at a meeting of my wonderful home group, The Turning Point Group!

*Respectfully submitted, Patrick McDaniel, 3B/3C Grapevine Chair*

**District 3B & 3C Financial Statement**

Cash Balance Statement		thru	11/30/09	2009	
Income	Contributions			Ytd Amt	Nov
	Allendale			206.86	12.97
	A-Way-Out			315.00	
	Bluebonnet			63.31	
	Bouldin Ave.			298.00	35.00
	Bridge To Shore			947.24	219.00
	Brushy Creek Men's Group			0.00	
	Carry This Message			0.00	
	Central			107.00	
	Courage to Change			10.83	
	Desire to Stop			247.85	
	DSAA			75.00	
	Early Action			0.00	
	East Austin			304.27	
	Emmaus			90.92	
	Four Points			160.00	
	Firemakers			100.00	
	Hilltop			0.00	
	Keep First Things First			262.36	
	Lake Travis Serenity			50.00	
	Last Call			0.00	
	Liar's Club Austin (North)			33.00	
	Liar's Club South			54.90	
	Lighthouse			100.00	20.00
	Lambda Live & Let Live			116.92	
	Last House on the Block			0.00	
	Living Faith			40.00	
	Miracles			42.00	
	North Austin 24			225.00	
	New Beginnings			227.47	
	North 183			25.00	
	Northland			883.91	164.10
	Our Gang			0.00	
	Pennsylvania			25.00	
	Power Hour			25.00	
	Primary Purpose			100.00	
	Renegade Ducks			0.00	
	Saturday Morning Serently			82.60	
	So What, Now What?			32.00	
	South Austin BB			53.00	
	Suburban Group			40.00	
	Tuesday Night Big Book			6.31	
	Tarrytown Group			0.00	
	Thursday Night Men's Group			0.00	
	Triangle Group			40.00	
	Turning Point			24.00	14.00
	Unity			0.00	
	What's the Point			0.00	
	We Agnostics Group			250.00	250.00
	Women's Recovery			0.00	
	Western Trails			800.00	
	Westlake			730.00	50.00
	164 Page Winners			0.00	
	1313 Club			304.00	
	Other Donations			0.00	
			<b>Sub-Total Regular Income</b>	<b>7,498.75</b>	<b>765.07</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>				
	Bridge the Gap			0.00	
	Conferences			2,954.27	273.70
	Correctional Facilities			1,443.32	
	District Literature			246.09	
	Grapevine			95.00	
	History of AA Presentation			0.00	
	Miscellaneous:			0.00	
	Newsletter			424.00	
	Office supplies/Postage			0.00	
	Organization: 501(c)(3)			165.70	
	PI/CPC			46.61	
	Printing/Reproduction Supplies			128.30	13.70
	Treatment Facilities			181.18	
	Bank Service Fee			0.00	
			<b>Sub-Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>5,684.47</b>	<b>287.40</b>
			<b>Monthly Gain/Loss</b>		<b>477.67</b>
			<b>YTD</b>	<b>Net Income (Expense)</b>	<b>1,814.28</b>
*****					
	<b>Cash Balance @ December 31, 2008</b>			<b>2,518.22</b>	
	<b>Regular Net Income (Expense) Year To Date</b>			<b>1,814.28</b>	
	<b>Cash Balance @</b>	<b>11/30/09</b>		<b>4,332.50</b>	
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\*\*All donations should be made to District 3B/3C & mailed to the new Treasurer's address beginning in January 2010. See the District 3B/3C website after January 1, 2010:  
[http://www.austinaa.org/aa\\_files/districts/d3b3c/](http://www.austinaa.org/aa_files/districts/d3b3c/).