

The 3B/3C District News

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

DCM Reports



District 3B DCM Stephen S.

Central Texas - the Center of the AA Universe in 2010

Austin and Central Texas will be the center of extra AA activity this year. We have two area events in Austin and the International Convention in San Antonio. All are great opportunities to get involved and to be of service.

AA will be celebrating its 75th year at the 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous, July 1-4, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas. Past international conferences have seen attendance of up to 60,000 people. However, to pull off such an event will require 4,500 to 6,000 volunteers. Volunteers are needed in all sorts of positions: greeters and guides at the convention center, River Walk, transportation hubs, Marathon Meeting Chairs, and Registration to name a few. The committee has put together a web site where you can volunteer: <http://www.aa75.org>. If you have not yet signed up to attend, you can do that by visiting GSO's AA website at <http://www.aa.org>.

This summer District 21, the Spanish speaking district that covers Austin, Georgetown and Round Rock, will be hosting the Area Workshop in July here in Austin. This is where we will hear from our Area Delegate and have workshops for service committees like PICPC, Treatment Facilities, Correctional Facilities, Grapevine, and much more. For more information about this event, you can visit the South West Texas Area website at <http://www.aa-swta.org>.

And finally, District 3B and 3C will be hosting the Fall Voting Assembly in October. The committee is currently forming and is needing committee chairs and volunteers for hospitality, registration, raffle, entertainment, art and decorations just to name a few. For more information about how to get involved with this event, please contact Michael S. 3b.alt.dcm@gmail.com or Bruce M. 3c.alt.dcm@gmail.com.

District Servants

- District 3B DCM
Stephen S. 512-259-1579
- District 3B Alternate
Mike S. 512-653-9872
- District 3C DCM
Julia B. 512-669-6366
- District 3C Alternate
Bruce M. 512-707-2403
- Treasurer
Kathy K. 512-413-5179
- Secretary
David Mc. 512-618-3495

Committee Chairs

- Archives
Brian M. 512-469-2923
- Corrections
Ian M. 512-784-6331
- Todd M. 512-810-0094*
- Grapevine
Cookie C. 512-554-7649
- Intergroup
Michael B. 512-983-5799
- Literature
John N. 512-423-2310
- Newsletter
Karen S. 512-394-6467
- PI/CPC
Courtney W. 512-
- Registrar
Rose B. 512-296-0663
- Treatment
Norma A. 512-443-4335
- Web Master
Elise G. 512-367-0717

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DCM Reports — Continued

What an awesome opportunity to be rocketed into the fourth dimension by getting more involved in AA. Service at any capacity in AA is a great way of giving back to AA what was so freely given to you. *Stephen S. District 3B DCM*

District3C

A Great Beginning to an Exciting Year

The new term of service started this year with a bang. Already our district officers and committee chairs are active in their positions and doing great work. It is an honor and a privilege to serve with so many dedicated and enthusiastic people.

The Southwest Texas Area 68 Winter Workshop in New Braunfels was a great event, with over 350 people in attendance! Folks from all over our area gathered to learn and to share experience, strength, and hope about carrying the message through Correctional Facilities, Treatment Facilities, Newsletters, Archives, Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community, Grapevine and La Viña. It was very inspiring to be part of this event.

In our own district, there have already been some great service workshops. In March our Treatment Facilities chair Norma A. gave a wonderful workshop about maintaining singleness of purpose and adherence to the Traditions when working with Treatment Facilities. Courtney W., our Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community chair, gave a very informative workshop called "What is PICPC?" After seventeen years of sobriety and four years of involvement in general service work, I find that there is always so much more to learn and so many possibilities for carrying the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Looking forward, we have a year full of exciting AA happenings coming up in our district and area. The International Convention in San Antonio, July 1–4, will mark AA's seventy-fifth anniversary. It promises to be the event of a lifetime, and thousands of volunteers are needed, so see www.aa75.org for more information. From July 16–18 District 21, the Spanish-speaking district that covers Austin and the surrounding area, will host the SWTA 68 Summer Workshop Assembly. We look forward to collaborating with our brother and sister AAs in the Spanish-speaking community to help put on this event.

In October our own districts will host the SWTA 68 Fall Voting Assembly. Our alternate DCMs, Mike S. and Bruce M., have graciously stepped up to chair this event, and planning is already underway. We will keep you posted about the exact dates, location, and other details as they are determined. Many volunteers will be needed, and it promises to be lots of fun, so keep it in mind if you are looking for some service to do.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as DCM. Please let me know how I can be of service to you and your groups.

Yours in Service, Julia B. District 3C DCM

Treatment Facilities Report

Setting Goals for Carrying the Message

Greetings from Norma A., your District 3B/3C Treatment Facilities Chairperson! It is exciting to report that there are so many of our fellowship that are willing and ready to do service. A lot of us AA's are already involved in carrying the message. Many treatment facilities in and around Austin really want us to be there, bringing our experience, strength and hope to others!!

We have all been involved in reaching the goals we set together, in discussing what we could do to help others and to be more effective in service. We establish a common network, and foster an attitude of cooperation as we go into the treatment centers. We're making great progress, and expect to have a Service Work Directory posted on the District 3B/3C website soon!

The recent workshop on "Carrying the Message" was a great success!! Information was given on how to use spiritual principles and our traditions. Literature was reviewed that related to carrying the message, and several AA members shared their experience, strength, and hope in regards to their service within the treatment center setting. (Thanks to Toni R., Mercie Z., and Nathan R.!) Our area Treatment Facilities Chairperson, Cheryl F., was there to help along with Julia B., our current DCM, and Rita L., our past Delegate. These and many others shared in the question/answer session that followed the panel speakers, and afterwards a number of people connected with service, literature, and committee work! If you missed the workshop, an mp3 version will be on the District website soon.

Please join us in the Call for Service, as we meet again to continue working on our goals to connect and cooperate together! On the 17th of April, at 617 Clifford Drive, 2:00 p.m. we'll gather together to discuss future workshops, plans, and service!! See you then!

In Love, and Service, Norma A. Treatment Facilities Chairperson



A Call to Service!



In an exciting adventure of teamwork to explore effective ways to carry the message into the treatment centers, come unite with us as we network our service efforts together! Join hearts and hands with those of us who are interested in pursuing “a way of life that is incredibly more wonderful as time passes.”

from Bill's story p. 8, Big Book

**Sponsored by
District 3b/3c**

Our goals:

Create an Austin area directory of service work!!

Collaborate and cooperate together in service - newcomers and old timers!

Explore effective ways to carry the message!!

Eat a lot of homemade cookies!



Contact info: Norma A
**District 3b/3c
Treatment Facilities
Committee
Chairperson**

443-4335 or e-mail
aanorma@sbcglobal.net

**April 17th
617 Foundation
617 Clifford Drive
At 2:00 pm**

Join us at an Austin area meeting for fellowship, refreshments, and networking!

GSR's, Treatment Facilities Group representatives, and any interested AA members welcome!

Contact info: Norma A @ 443-4335 or e-mail aanorma@sbcglobal.net

PI/CPC

What is PI/CPC anyway?***

As the new PI/CPC Chair for District 3B/3C, this is the question I hear the most when I mention this service position. In my term as chair I will seek to educate AA members throughout our District about what PI/CPC is (and is not)! Lofty goal? Perhaps. But as a committee, we will do what we can to bring PI/CPC to the forefront when people in our area look for service work.

One of the goals of this type of 'PI/CPC 101' effort is to demystify this AA service opportunity so that another goal may be reached: gathering a pool of volunteers to effectively carry the message of AA into our community.

Anonymous but not invisible.

Those who wish to carry the message to the professional community and/or implement projects to make meeting schedules and literature available in our area will be trained to do so in a way that honors our twelfth tradition:

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

We hope to coordinate efforts across the district and increase the effectiveness of the projects we undertake by:

- encouraging GSR participation in the committee
- gathering any group PI/CPC chairs (welcome to newly elected chair-persons: Steve W. from Lambda Live and Let Live and Dana H. from Western Trails)
- learning from the successes of past PI/CPC committees (Austin has a treasure trove of PI/PCP experience!)
- compiling a database of AA volunteers

As always, we will receive and respond to requests sent to Hill Country Intergroup and GSO as people contact AA and ask for seminars, booths at health and resource fairs, and information about AA meetings and literature.

Join us for PI/CPC committee meetings the hour BEFORE each monthly District meeting. 1st Sunday of the month, 1:00pm-2:00p.m., location coincides with District Meeting and rotates monthly.

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The PI/CPC Committee Meets: 1 hour BEFORE the monthly District meeting. 1st Sunday of the month, 1:00p.m. -2 :00p.m., location coincides with the District Meeting and rotates monthly.

PI/CPC — Continued

*****Answer:** Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community. In some areas these are two different committees. In District 3B/3C we combine these roles to accomplish the following:

- Carry information about AA into the community
- Carry the message to professionals who work with, or come in contact, with alcoholics
- Inform the AA community what PI/CPC is and what activities the PI/CPC committee is performing

Highlights for PI/CPC in the first few months of 2010:

The year began with the 2010 Probations & Parole National Conference. District 3B/3C worked alongside District 22 to provide volunteers. A big thanks to District 22 for taking the lead as District 3B/3C elected and installed a new chair (me) at the 11th hour and we were not able to coordinate this event as we have in the past.

We have already fielded a request from Austin Community College to provide a booth at a Resource Fair April 14th. We will be looking to staff this booth with volunteers. Contact me, Courtney W. 3b.3c.pi.cpc@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for this event.

A local high school has contacted us and we are working with one of their counselors to bring information to students who are struggling with alcohol abuse. We plan to bring in speakers who will share experience, strength and hope about getting sober as a young person. We will also share conference approved videos geared towards young people.

District 29 had its first ever PI/CPC workshop in Bastrop Texas on March 20th and the Lambda Live and Let Live Group in Austin jumped into PI/CPC service work by electing a new PI/CPC chair and hosting a PI/CPC workshop, 'What is PI/CPC?' on March 21st. A big thanks to the Lambda Live and Let Live GSR and Alt.GSR, Matt R. and Chris L. for rallying their groups for service work. PI/CPC efforts work best when GSRs participate and infuse their groups with a passion for getting the word out to our neighbors and professionals.

AA has brought so much joy, purpose, and serenity into my life and I am so honored and pleased to give back whatever I can as PI/CPC Committee Chair. I had many misconceptions about AA before I finally stumbled through the doors of these rooms in 2006. If we can clear up misconceptions for even one professional or alcoholic needing our aid, then we are successful. Distribution of accurate information and making sure that we can be found mean so much and I consider it a privilege to contribute to carrying the message in this way.

Two ways you can help:

1. Join our committee!
2. Look for places and ways to get the message out in your community or sphere of influence; we welcome your ideas and connections.

Respectfully submitted, Courtney W. District 3B/3C PI/CPC Chair,

512.289.0690 3b/3c.pi.cpc@gmail.com

Correctional Facilities Report

Sobriety In Service

To correctional facility volunteers who carry the message of AA to inmates and all others who have an interest in service.

I want to express that the simple action of contacting our CFC chairperson in 2002, then sending out 2 jail applications, then committing to a jail meeting a week, has helped me to maintain recovery from chronic alcohol abuse. I have not found it necessary to take a drink within the last 8 years, which coincides with the numbers of years I have participated in AA service, minus two.

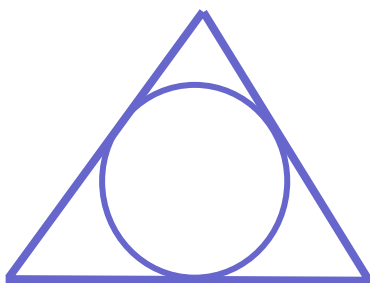
Just over 2 years ago, I found it necessary to abuse a prescribed medication to a degree that neither my body nor my heart could sustain and still be free. Thankfully, I was relieved from that obsession, before the un-manageability of my mind manifested on the physical plane, by a simple desire, and what I believe to be divine Grace.

I returned to weekly Del Valle meetings as soon as I had another year of complete abstinence. As others would surely attest, these meetings grant both gratitude for what we have been given, repeated insight into the nature of this disease, and recognition that we are putting ourselves on the firing line to try to do God's Will instead of our own, diseased will.

The circle and triangle symbols are a useful guide to sobriety. Unity can be found by regularly attending your home group, and also getting to know the amazing people we meet when holding a service position. The 12 steps support our recovery; they work when we work it! Service can be local jobs done at a group level, no matter how humble, or at the district or Area levels. However, "practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics. It works when other activities fail (BB, p.89).

For the applications and sobriety and legal requirements, contact your district CFC chair at: 3b.3c.corrections@gmail.com.

Sincerely, your trusted servant
Ian M.



Where can you do service?

Ask your GSR to take you to a District meeting.

Any of the District 3B/3C service committees would love to hear from YOU!

Group Report — Men's Literature Meeting

On the last Tuesday of February this year, snow was in the forecast—and starting to come down on the streets, too. A couple of hours before I got off work, I received a text message from one of the members of my home group, Men's Literature—the secretary at the church where we meet had called to let us know the building would be closed that night and all activities cancelled. No meeting.

My fellow group member was suggesting that he would be observing our weekly "before-the-meeting-meeting" at a restaurant near our meeting place, and that he planned on going to the church to make sure nobody was facing a closed door without knowing why. I said I would join him and we made sure emails and phone calls went out to everyone on our contact list.

Even though we knew the meeting was canceled, six men showed up for the pre-meeting food and fellowship. Four of us went from there to the church where we were met by two others, including our chairman for the month, who said, "My disease doesn't take snow days."

Back in April 2009, some AAs decided to fill what they saw as a need for a men's meeting in Northwest Austin. The format would be simple: to read General Service Conference Approved literature and share their experience, strength, and hope with each other. Some of the founding members had attended similar meetings in other cities where they had lived and wanted a new meeting not too far from home, a meeting where men could share openly and honestly and see their own stories reflected in the literature of AA.

The first few months, attendance ran about four or five, sometimes six. The first few who began attending regularly were connected by ties of family, sponsorship, and friendships that went back, in some cases, decades. From the beginning, it was a group tradition (with a small "t") that we would meet at 5:30 p.m. at a restaurant close by. An opportunity for fellowship, this "before the meeting meeting" is an opportunity for newcomers to the group begin to feel "a part of", and the tone of the conversation sometimes turns serious when one of us faces the trials and lessons of learning to live sober. Other times, the mood is light, and we give each other good-natured grief, as guys are prone to do.

Every week or two, some AA new to the area would wander in, having seen the meeting listed on the Intergroup Web site. Now and then, one of these newcomers to the Austin area would keep coming back. In this way, our little group had begun to grow. By fall of 2009, our usual attendance had grown to 10 or 12.

The meeting format is pretty simple: Most weeks, we take turns reading a few paragraphs from the Big Book or Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, then we take turns sharing about what was just read. The last Tuesday of each month, the chairman chooses a reading from any

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Group Report — Continued

...Conference Approval literature. This “chairman’s choice” meeting has turned out to be a source of many nuggets of wisdom, found in literature we might not otherwise have taken time to read.

Tuesday Men’s Literature meets at 7 p.m. every Tuesday at Bethany United Methodist Church, 10010 Anderson Mill Road, in the Disciples Building Room D-302 (the building farthest west). We meet for dinner at a nearby restaurant for dinner and fellowship at 5:30 p.m.

Yours in service, Joe W. GSR for Tuesday Men’s Literature

Grapevine Report

I am the new District 3B/3C Grapevine Chair and what a great honor it is to serve our District and Alcoholics Anonymous. I know that this is going to sound strange but up until now in my recovery I have never subscribed to Grapevine. I have been sober for over 19 years now and have been doing service at the District level for the past 4 years. What I know about being willing to be of service is to trust my HP and amazing opportunities will arise. What a great opportunity to enhance my sobriety and ability to carry this message to the Alcoholic who still suffers by spreading the word of this great publication, Grape Vine and the La Vina. I now have a subscription and am reading it daily. It is a “Meeting in Print”. It has the “Preamble”, “How It Works” and the “12 Traditions” right there. It is great for people who can’t get to a lot of meetings, taking a meeting into treatment/correctional facilities (the GV/La Vina is now staple free) or starting a GV meeting at your home group.

The Grapevine has been continuously published every month since the first issue appeared in June 1944. The Grapevine is entirely self-supporting through the sale of the magazine and related materials. It receives no group contributions sent to the General Service Office. The 1986 General Service Conference, through an Advisory Action, recognized the AA grapevine as “the International monthly journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Bill W. published more than 150 articles in the Grapevine between 1945 and 1970; these were collected in the anthology “The Language of the Heart” (1988). In 1995, at the request of the General Service Conference, the Grapevine began publishing a Spanish-language version called La Vina. Today La Vina publishes its own original material in Spanish.

You can subscribe online at AAGRAPEVINE.org. Besides subscribing to receive your monthly

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Grapevine Report — Continued

issue of the Grapevine/La Vina (bi-monthly) there is a treasure trove of information on the Grapevine website, which includes: Digital Archive, Audio Grapevine, sign up for a free monthly "Heard from the Grapevine" newsletter where you get a different story every day and a different joke every time you click. There are also many wonderful books available through the website as well as information on how to submit articles, art work and photos to be considered for publication in the Grapevine.

My duty as the district Grapevine chair is to get the word out about the Grapevine by being the link between group GvRs/RLVs and the area service structure. The district representative also has the practical goal of encouraging every group to have a Grapevine and/or La Vina rep. I am already attending the monthly "Austin City Wide" AA meetings and have a table set up there with a display on the Grapevine, subscription forms and misc. information available along with some back issues of the Grapevine for people to look at or take if they want.

My goals as the Grapevine Chair are to ask the GSR's at the monthly District Meetings to invite me to do a meeting or a presentation on the Grapevine and the importance of each group having a Grapevine Rep at their group. Currently there are only 2 groups that I am aware of that have a Grapevine Rep. So GSR's please invite me to visit your group.

I am currently scheduled to speak at Lambda Live and Let Live group April 25 1-3 p.m.

Am looking forward to meeting all of you as we trudge this road to happy destiny.

Respectfully submitted Carol "Cookie" Cook

The next District meeting is on May 2 hosted by:

Allandale 3003 Northland Drive

Did you know that your group could host a District Meeting?

Ask your GSR how!

Financial Statement

District 3B & 3C Financial Statement

Cash Balance Statement thru		2/28/2010	2010	
<u>Income</u>	<u>Contributions</u>		<u>Ytd Amt</u>	<u>Feb</u>
	Allendale		61.00	61.00
	A-Way-Out		150.00	
	Bluebonnet		0.00	
	Bouldin Ave.		75.00	
	Bridge To Shore		150.00	
	Central Group		35.00	
	Courage to Change		0.00	
	Desire to Stop		0.00	
	DSAA		0.00	
	East Austin		99.97	
	Emmaus		0.00	
	Four Points		20.00	
	Firemakers		0.00	
	Keep First Things First		120.40	
	Keystone Group Lakeway		22.78	22.78
	Lake Travis Serenity		0.00	
	Liar's Club Austin (North)		0.00	
	Liar's Club South		0.00	
	Lighthouse		0.00	
	Lambda Live & Let Live		187.99	187.99
	Lighthouse Group		20.00	
	Living Faith		40.00	
	Miracles		0.00	
	North Austin 24		50.00	25.00
	New Beginnings		0.00	
	North 183		0.00	
	Northland		64.31	
	Our Gang		20.00	
	Pennsylvania		0.00	
	Power Hour		0.00	
	Primary Purpose		0.00	
	Saturday Morning Serenity		26.90	
	So What, Now What?		0.00	
	South Austin BB		13.80	
	Spiritual Awakenings		0.00	
	Suburban Group		0.00	
	Tuesday Night Big Book		36.00	
	Triangle Group		0.00	
	Turning Point		0.00	
	Unity		0.00	
	We Agnostics Group		0.00	
	Western Trails		0.00	
	Westlake		100.00	
	164 Page Winners		75.00	
	1313 Club		0.00	
	Other Donations		0.00	
	Sub-Total Regular Income		1,368.15	296.77
<u>Expenses</u>				
	Conferences		712.44	712.44
	Correctional Facilities		436.00	285.60
	District Literature		45.77	6.08
	Grapevine		0.00	
	Miscellaneous:		0.00	
	Newsletter		97.00	
	Office supplies/Postage		0.00	
	Organization: 501(c)(3)		100.00	
	PI/CPC		0.00	
	Printing/Reproduction Supplies		61.99	38.27
	Treatment Facilities		246.12	103.32
	Treasurer PO Box		42.00	
	Bank Service Fee		89.00	89.00
	Sub-Total Regular Expenses		1,830.32	1,234.71
	Monthly Gain/Loss			(937.94)
	YTD Net Income (Expense)		(462.17)	

	Cash Balance @ December 31, 2009		4,328.37	
	Regular Net Income (Expense) Year To Date		(462.17)	
	Cash Balance @ 2/28/2010		3,866.20	

**All donations should be made to District 3B/3C & mailed to:
P.O. Box 170232 Austin, Tx 78717

Old Timer's Banquet NEW Location!

In the Greater Austin Area **8th Annual**

Saturday May 1, 2010 6:30 pm (Doors Open at 6:00)

Speaker: Gary K. –Parker, Colorado

Buffet Dinner, Sobriety Countdown, Open Mike, & Door Prizes
Honoring All AA Old Timers (25 years or more)

Old Timer's Banquet **Admission \$20 per person**

Old Timers (25 yrs or more) **FREE!** (Sign in at the door)

Riverbend Church Fellowship Hall 4214 N. Capital of Texas Hwy Loop
360 at Cedar Street, just south of the Pennybacker Bridge

Tickets available now at:

1825 Fortview Road Suite #104 Austin, TX 78704

512-444-0071 www.austinaa.org

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scroll down to find this information

2010 AA 75th International

2010 AA 75th International Convention **Registration Brochures**

2010 AA Convention **Newsletter A "must read" for convention volunteers**