

District Dispatch

COVID19 alert - ALL District 2 In Person Committee meetings have been CANCELLED Until further notice

To Zoom or NOT to Zoom that is the

Question Here in the State of Florida, AA meetings have been deemed ‘essential’ from a mental health standpoint.* With regards to in person meetings versus zoom meetings, and in accordance with our First Tradition, we ask that all members do what they believe in their best interest for themselves and their personal sobriety. Tradition Four tells us each group is autonomous and we aren’t here to shame those that chose to meet in person or not. We encourage folks to continue to carry the message, help the newcomer, and attend meetings in the fashion that they feel most comfortable and safe with. Like GSO we don’t take a position either way. Our meetings recently have taken on a digital and technical transformation. We hope that the below links will assist our members at large to navigate, educate, and facilitate within this new technological road of happy destiny. If you individually or as a group would like a District member to facilitate or assist on the Zoom transition, please reach out to us and we will be happy to coordinate that with you. We do not foresee that Zoom, GoogleTeams, Hangout, FBLive etc. will go away anytime soon, but see this as different Group Conscious’ determine an extension of many’s physical Home Groups. We look forward to seeing folks in person once our situation at hand enables us to do so. Nothing can replace the face to face and human interaction that we all have traveled.

NEED REMOTE MEETING HELP? **

- [Managing Meeting Participants](#)
- [Handling Online Meeting Disruptions in the Moment](#)
- [Attending Online Meetings with Zoom](#)
- [Move an A.A. Meeting to Zoom in 5 Steps](#)
- [Zoom Meetings: Anonymity & Default Settings](#)
- [Personal Anonymity in a Zoom Meeting](#)

**Note: Each county is independent and may/may not have the same guidance as Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas counties.*

*** Please note that these links point to an intergroup on the west coast and these links will be retrofitted to our District 2 pages. Thank you!*

A.A. HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISTRICTTWO (2)

GENERAL SERVICE

Meetings 1st Sunday of the month @ The Club ; 3333 W Columbus Drive

May 3 / Jun 7 / June 28

GSR Orientation / DCM Sharing
2-3 pm // Business Meeting 3-5pm

LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Meetings 11:00 am / 1st Saturday of the month @ Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 N. Himes, Suite 104 ; Tampa, FL 33614 -- Contact Betsy B

PI/CPC COMMITTEE

Meetings 9:15 am / 3rd Saturday of the month @ Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 N. Himes, Suite 104 ; Tampa, FL 33614 -- Contact Suzanne B

ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

Meetings 9:00am / 1st Sunday of the month @ 301 House - 8601 Bowles Rd ; Tampa, FL 33637 - Contact Larry B

GRATITUDE DINNER COMMITTEE

Interested in volunteering ?

We can use your service.

**Contact GARY R to participate !
Event is 3Q2020 Meetings currently
TBD at 3333 Club from TBD**

TBAIC CORRECTIONS

Meetings 9:30 am /2nd Saturday of the month @ Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 N. Himes, Suite 104 ; Tampa, FL 33614 -- Contact Alan D

What about the 7th tradition basket ? Some suggestions on the Digital / Virtual basket. Net/Net, each Group Conscious decides.

Below are some suggested items for folks to review when making their informed decisions.

BEST PRACTICES FOR A DIGITAL 7TH TRADITION

Online meeting spaces make it difficult to “pass the basket.” Some groups have set up digital contribution accounts with services like Venmo, PayPal, Google Pay, etc. to deal with this problem. Now might be a good time to review an essential piece of AA literature, “Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix.”

Each group is autonomous and might consider taking a group conscience on whether digital contributions are an option, and which platform (or mix of platforms) best suits their groups’ needs.

Why collect 7th Tradition for an online meeting?

Our regular meeting locations still have operating expenses...

- Our meetings facilities may rely on our regular rent to help pay their rent, utilities, and employees
- Meeting supplies will still be needed when our meetings reopen – coffee, paper products, literature, refreshments. And after an extended closure, we may experience a large influx of people who are motivated to re-join the fellowship in person.

Central Office and the General Service Office still have operating expenses such as...

- Websites – which we may now rely on more than ever!
- Phone lines, rent and insurance on office space
- Utility and other ongoing expenses
- Paid Special Workers who deserve our continued support. Their compensation is crucial to their ability to serve us.

Our Districts and Areas and H&I still have expenses...

- Regular expenses to support the work of committees and events that will take place when the crisis has passed are still there.
- Web services support for groups
- Expenses for venues for events that have been cancelled may still need to be met, since any income from the event won’t be there to support the pre-payment of reservations, cancellation fees, etc. The expense of re-arranging for venues to reschedule events is very real.

A.A. HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISTRICT TWO (2)

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

For more info reach out to your DCM !

CARRY THE MESSAGE DAY

Interested in volunteering ?

We can use your service.

Contact ROB R to participate !

Event is TBD!

CURRENT PRACTICE

No monthly meeting, however, if wondering what we do come join us at our monthly District meeting :)

DELEGATE LUNCHEON

Interested in volunteering ?

We can use your service.

Contact ROB R to participate !

Event is August 2nd at 3333 Club from 1 to 5 pm

More will be revealed

This year Districts 1, 2 & 15 will be combined !! Whoot Whoot !

DISTRICT DISPATCH

Please send any feedback or articles from your District for inclusion. If you’d like to help please reach out to your DCM

GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE

Meetings 11am /4th Saturday of the month @ Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 N. Himes, Suite 104 ; Tampa, FL 33614

INTERGROUP LIASION

Meetings 6 pm /2nd Tuesday of the month @ Tri-County Central Office, Inc. 8019 N. Himes, Suite 104 ; Tampa, FL 33614

Let’s continue to support these folks during the crisis.

We realize that even though the immediate need for virtual connections is relatively inexpensive, the real expenses of our fellowship continues. Please consider continuing to practice our 7th Tradition and make contributions to the service entities that support your group – your Intergroup or Central Office, your District, Area and the General Services Office. Individual members may choose to contribute directly to GSO can be made [here](#).

Planning for Digital Contributions
Understand the role of treasurer

Read [The A.A. Group Treasurer](#) to learn about the role of treasurer within the group. Here you will learn the importance of selecting a treasurer, how to safeguard and distribute group funds, what a “prudent reserve” is, and more!

Group bank account vs Treasurer’s personal account

Your group likely has this sorted out already. For smaller groups, treasurers tend to use their personal bank account and account for group funds using a spreadsheet. A larger group might have a bank account established in the name of the group. *For more information on how to set up a group bank account, see [The AA Group Treasurer](#).*

Take a group conscience A group conscience is recommended as each member who wishes to contribute will need to open an account with the chosen service. Many members may already have a service they use and prefer.

Selecting a Digital Payment Platform

Choose a digital payment options [Google Pay](#), [Venmo](#), [PayPal](#), [Zelle](#), [Apple Pay](#), [Cash App](#), and [Stripe](#) are all viable options. More about platforms [here](#).

You can select one or multiple. A group can agree to use just one service, but larger groups may even want to consider multiple options for their members.

Consider the costs and benefits of each platform. Each service has varying fees for money transfers depending on the users’ chosen method of payment (debit, credit, checking account, etc.). Some may have a more user-friendly interface than others.

A.A. HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISTRICT TWO (2)
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OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE OPEN DCM POSITIONS

- SUBDISTRICT C (DOVER/PLANT CITY)
- SUBDISTRICT G (CARROLWOOD)
- SUBDISTRICT I (TEMPLE TERRACE)
- SUBDISTRICT M(SEMINOLE HEIGHTS)
- SUBDISTRICT R (LITHIA/VALRICO)
- SUBDISTRICT T (NEW TAMPA/USF)
- SUBDISTRICT U (DREW PARK/NE W TAMPA)
- SUBDISTRICT V (CITRUS PARK, NORTHDALE)
- SUBDISTRICT W (EN ESPANOL)

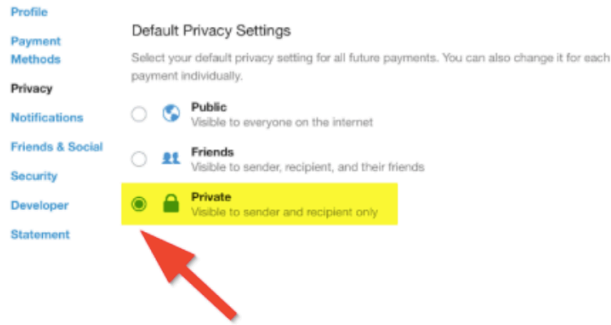
**WANT TO DO SOME SERVICE WORK ?
VOLUNTEER TO BE A DCM
WE HAVE
9 OPEN DCM SLOTS**

(11 FILLED) !

Set Up the Digital Payment Platform

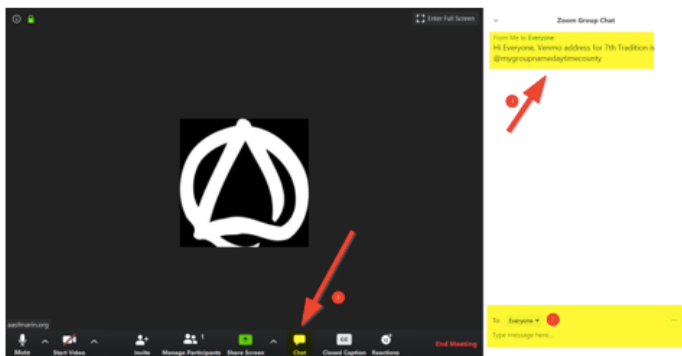
Setting it up Choose a username that is easy and intuitive for the group. If the username is an email, **avoid using your personal email if it reveals your full name** as that will compromise your anonymity.

Settings



Collecting 7th Tradition Digital Contributions

During the 7th Tradition break in a meeting, the treasurer can post the contribution instructions to the meeting Chat window. Usually, it is the selected platform and an ID for that meeting.



At that time, you can use or access the platform if you use it or go to the platform website to register and/or download it.

*[Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix](#)

Tradition of the Month

Tradition Five: Long Form: *Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose. —that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.*

Practice These Principles...**

Tradition Five: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

1. Do I ever cop out by saying, “I’m not a group, so this or that Tradition doesn’t apply to me”?
2. Am I willing to explain firmly to a newcomer the of AA help, even if he gets mad at me for not giving him a loan?
3. Have I today imposed on any AA member for a special favor or consideration simply because I am a fellow alcoholic?
4. Am I willing to twelfth-step the next newcomer without regard to who or what is in it for me?
5. Do I help my group in every way I can to fulfill our primary purpose?
6. Do I remember that AA old-timers, too, can be alcoholics who still suffer? Do I try both to help them and to learn from them?

** These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion. https://www.aa.org/assets/en_us/smf-131_en.pdf

If you enjoyed the Editorial for Tradition 4 last month, here is the link for the Editorial for Tradition 5 !!!<http://silkworth.net/downloads/pdf/editorial-on-the-5th-tradition-april-1948.pdf> Enjoy the read Copyright © The AA Grapevine, Inc. FEBRUARY 1948** It was originally

A.A. HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISTRICT TWO (2)

===== OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

OPEN ACM POSITIONS

- SUBDISTRICT A(CENTRAL BRANDON)
- SUBDISTRICT B (ZEPHYRHILLS/WESLEY CHAPEL/DADE CITY)
- SUBDISTRICT C (DOVER/PLANT CITY)
- SUBDISTRICT D (LUTZ/ LAND O’ LAKES / ODESSA)
- SUBDISTRICT E (WEST COLUMBUS)
- SUBDISTRICT G (CARROLWOOD)
- SUBDISTRICT H(APOLLO BEACH/RUSKIN/ SUN CITY)
- SUBDISTRICT I (TEMPLE TERRACE)
- SUBDISTRICT J(TOWN N COUNTRY)
- SUBDISTRICT M(SEMINOLE HEIGHTS)
- SUBDISTRICT N(RIVERVIEW)
- SUBDISTRICT O (INTERBAY/GANDY/BAY TO BAY)
- SUBDISTRICT Q(S.BRANDON/CLAIR MEL)
- SUBDISTRICT R (LITHIA/VALRICO)
- SUBDISTRICT U (DREW PARK/NW TAMPA)
- SUBDISTRICT V (CITRUS PARK, NORTHDALE)
- SUBDISTRICT W (EN ESPANOL)

WELCOME NEW ACMS:

SUBDISTRICT T(NEW TAMPA / USF)

THANK YOU TO SOPHIA C. FOR VOLUNTEERING AND STEPPING UP TO HELP CARRY THE MESSAGE ...

17 OPEN ACM SLOTS

(ONLY 3 FILLED) !

Pamphlet of the Month

Did you know ?

There are over 70+ pamphlets out there !!! These pamphlets and all our AA Conferenced Approved Literature undergo a rigorous approval and vetting process in order to ensure that ‘our common welfare come first’ ! **Please defer to the literature as much as possible.** Following are the pamphlets that we have featured:

Month	Featured Pamphlet	Link to Pamphlet
January	The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated	https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-8_the-twelve-concepts.pdf
February	The AA Group Pamphlet	https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-16_the-aagroup.pdf
March	Many Paths to Spirituality	https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-84_many-paths-to-spirituality.pdf
April	Young People and AA	https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-4_young-people-and-aa.pdf

This month’s featured guideline related to **FINANCE** https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/mg-15_finance.pdf A.A. Guidelines are compiled from the shared experience of A.A. members in the various areas. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada). In keeping with our Tradition of Autonomy, except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist in reaching an informed group conscience.

This is a great reference is pretty basic and is only 5 pages long. Below is a snippet related to the digital basket which district.

Question: Some members of our group want to pass a “virtual” basket — to collect Seventh Tradition contributions digitally. How could we do this?

Answer: A number of groups have utilized digital payment platforms as an adjunct to passing the basket in the conventional sense in order to provide opportunities for cashless contributions.

There are different payment platforms (such as Venmo, Paypal and others) to facilitate this service, and it is up to the group to determine which one to use. After experimentation with different methodologies, some groups have found that a smartphone app-based payment platform is the most efficient, seamless and minimally disruptive solution for providing a digital contribution.

Experience suggests that the treasurer is a likely choice to handle digital contributions, though some groups add more than one trusted servant to share the responsibilities, or create a new service position to inform the group about digital payment options and assist other group members who are interested in contributing this way.

A.A. HIGHLIGHTS FOR DISTRICT TWO (2)

**SOUTH FLORIDA AREA 15
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
QUARTERLY SOUTH FL AREA 15
GENERAL SERVICE ASSEMBLY
JULY 10 - 12, 2020**

Boca Raton Marriott at Boca Center
South Florida General Service Conference/ Reservations must be received / **QUESTIONS?**
Please contact the Quarterly Assembly Chair at district18chair@area15aa.org
For hotel room cancellations OR to be placed on a hotel room wait list, please contact the Quarterly Hotel Liaison at hotelinfo@area15aa.org

[English Flyer](#)
[Spanish Flyer](#)

**WELCOME NEW GSRS AND
ALT GSRS!!**

**THANK YOU FOR STEPPING UP
TO THE PLATE AND SERVING
YOUR GROUPS !!!**

- RENE L - NEW WAY GROUP ; TUESDAY @GRACE EPISCOPAL 7PM

THANK YOU TO THOSE GROUPS WHO HAVE GIVEN FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO OUR DISTRICT. AT OUR LAST DISTRICT MEETING WE GAVE OUT THANK YOU LETTERS. IF YOU DID NOT GET YOUR THANK YOU LETTER PLEASE SEE YOUR GSR/ACM OR DCM.

STAY TUNED // MORE WILL BE REVEALED IN THE UPCOMING MONTHS !!!

UPDATES FROM OUR AREA ASSEMBLYMEETING