

December 2022 Issue

## Southeast Regional Forum Insights

Several AA members from our **District 2** and **Area 15**, as well as, other Districts recently had the opportunity to attend SERF ! If you are a newcomer to General Service or have been in General Service before and have never attended one – I highly recommend it – **“it’s an experience you must not miss”** to experience how everything comes together. What is SERF ? SERF stands for South East Regional Forum.

The below has been extracted from our aa.org website and you can watch a short video related to Regional forums: [Regional and Local Forums | Alcoholics Anonymous \(aa.org\)](#)

These regional and Local Forums provide unique opportunities for A.A. members across the U.S. and Canada to connect with people throughout the A.A. service structure. At forums, members can exchange information with representatives of the **General Service Board, A.A.W.S., AA Grapevine and G.S.O.**

[Regional Forums](#) Regional Forum events allow members throughout the service structure to exchange information. They bring together:

- The General Service Board
- A.A. World Services, Inc.
- A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- The General Service Office and Grapevine staff
- A.A. members
- Newcomers to service
- Trusted servants

Started in 1975, these unique gatherings happen four times a year. Each forum occurs in one of the eight regions of the U.S. or Canada that has extended an invitation. The regional trustee, area delegates and G.S.O. decide on the location and agenda for Regional Forums. Together, the forums coordinator at G.S.O., the local A.A. host contact, and the regional trustee coordinate the details of the Forum.





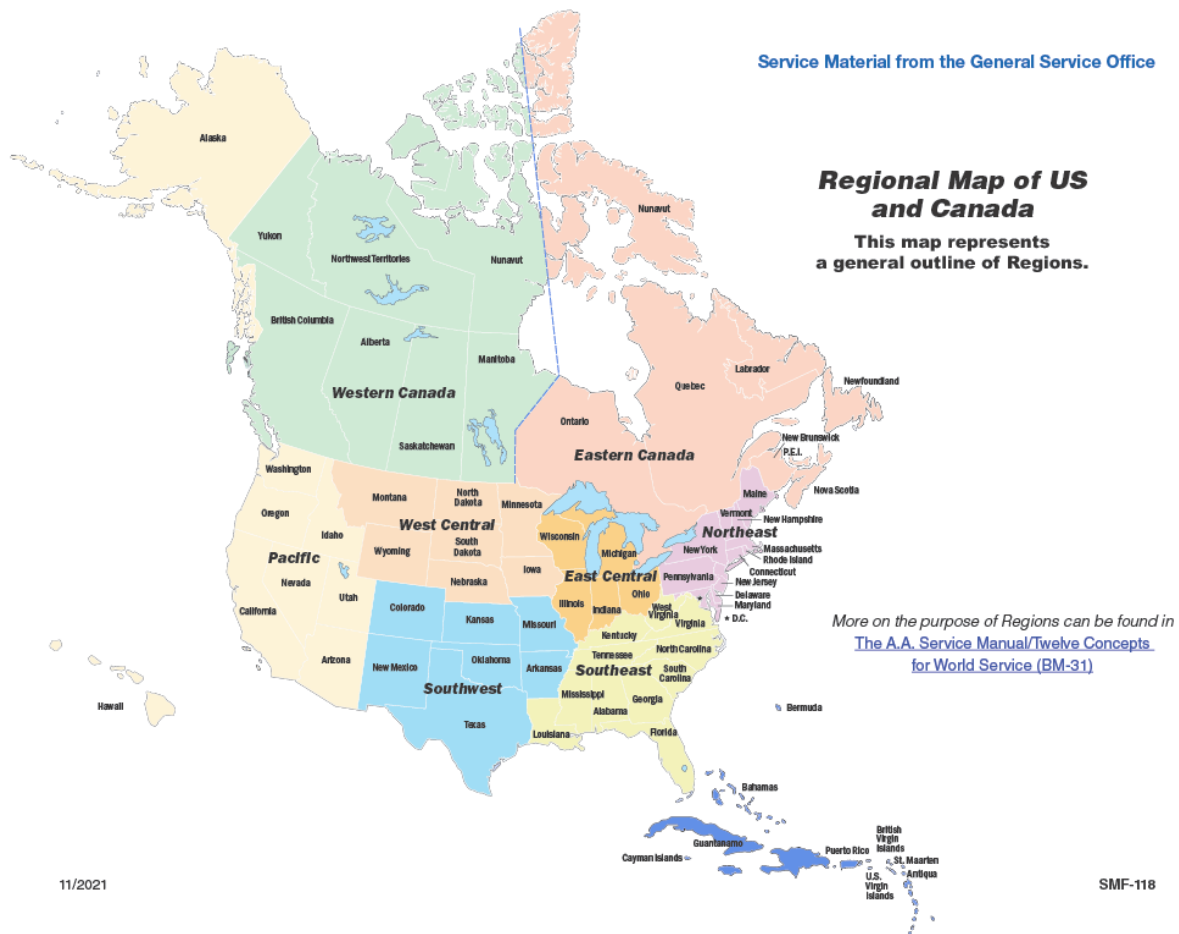
# DISTRICT DISPATCH

Where sobercomm transpires

There is no registration fee for A.A. members for Regional Forums. The General Service Board covers the expenses of meeting rooms. In some cases, trusted servants may have travel expenses covered by area committees, districts and groups.

## Regional Map of U.S. and Canada

The U.S./Canada service structure has **ninety-three areas** that are part of one of **eight regions**. A Regional Forum is held in alternate years in each region on a rotating basis.



Our next Southeast Regional Forum will be in 2024 ! We hope to see you there !



## Concept 12

### Short Form:

“The trustees should always have the best possible committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Composition, qualifications, induction procedures, and rights and duties will always be matters of serious concern.”

### Long Form:

While the Trustees hold final responsibility for A.A.’s world service administration, they should always have the assistance of the best possible standing committees, corporate service directors, executives, staffs, and consultants. Therefore the composition of these underlying committees and service boards, the personal qualifications of their members, the manner of their induction into service, the systems of their rotation, the way in which they are related to each other, the special rights and duties of our executives, staffs, and consultants, together with a proper basis for the financial compensation of these special workers, will always be matters for serious care and concern.

[https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/p-8\\_the\\_twelve\\_concepts.pdf](https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/p-8_the_twelve_concepts.pdf)

The text above is an excerpt from the A.A. conference approved pamphlet (P8) The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated. Download your own copy of the full pamphlet.

### Concepts checklist

**Concept XII:** The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

- How do we guard against becoming a “seat of perilous wealth or power”?
- How do we practice prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue?
- Do we insure the spiritual liberties of all A.A. members by not placing any member in the position of absolute authority over others?
- Do we try to reach important decisions by thorough discussion, vote and, where possible, substantial unanimity?
  - As guardians of A.A.’s traditions, are we ever justified in being personally punitive?
  - Are we careful to avoid public controversy?





# DISTRICT DISPATCH

Where sobercomm transpires

## Concepts checklist continued:

- Do we always try to treat each other with mutual respect and love?

This checklist offered as part of Service Material from the General Service Office (SMF-91).

Download your copy of the complete checklist.

[https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/smf-91\\_en.pdf](https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/assets/smf-91_en.pdf)

**Nugget :**

**Trustees cannot do it alone**

**:**

**RESPECT**

**PRINCIPLE**





## Committee Spotlight

Welcome to our Monthly Committee Spotlight where we are going to bring you in home and personal with the Chairpersons for our featured Committee to give you insight on what's new and happening with the districts committee's.

This month, I spoke with our very own John O. who with 2 years of sobriety holds various service positions. He just finished his 2021-2022 term as Chair of Service for Florida Conference of Young People of Alcoholic Anonymous (**FCYPAA**). He is currently the Co -chair of the **TBAIC** committee and he serves his home group as the H&I Representative and commencing 1/1/2023 he will be the incoming TBAIC Chair.

John's homegroup is the Sober on Saturday at 3333 Club, his sober date is 10/20/20 and I was curious how did he get into service. He told me simply thru prayer and he started to elaborate. That it was on his heart when he was in rehab that there were no meetings being brought into the rehab he was in. Statistically speaking, 5 out of the 7 people that he had gone to rehab with had died an alcoholic death. Only 2 of them that he is aware of remain and are sober . today. So with that simple mission and drive the rest became history. He lives close to where he went to rehab. FYCPAA started bringing a meeting to rehab. He joined FYCPAA because he wanted to be the co-chair of Service. When they asked him why it was totally centered around bringing meetings to other rehabs. Soon thereafter, the Chair stepped down and John started taking meetings to places like Riverside, Whitesands and ACTS Detox. That was it, the Big Book as he knew it came to life – **HE FELL in LOVE with SERVICE**

John talked about starting out for selfish reasons - it made him feel good and he was able to tell people about the service he was doing. A lot of EGO boosting and self promoting going on there. He later got involved with **TBAIC** and started more meetings. As he reminisces he talked to me about starting to see the miracle happen with the folks that were transitioning out of rehab into meetings, and just simply seeing the glow on people. It's not a coincidence that God gave him these opportunities. He said to be sober and inactive and not carry the message and create new meetings would be like "Spitting in God's face to not do them". John talks about being spiritually fit, how as AA members we need to give it away and that it's more than sponsorship, making coffee and doing the group level status quo. It was about being a Beacon for AA and this gives him peace and serenity. So my next obvious question was how'd this all happen? Mike B. is the incoming 2023 Area Treatment Chair – he was stepping down as TBAIC Chair and had approached John to step up and be the TBAIC Chair because he saw John's enthusiasm and fire for AA and treatment and will be a natural fit.





Here were some quotes from my interview from John, that not only were heartfelt, but really gave me the sense that his higher power is working in and thru him

***“I almost drank myself to death and bled out into my stomach; I wanted to die I didn’t care anymore and tired of hurting; And my parents both died from addiction”***

That was the gift of desperation he had hit so he had called the one last contact in his phone and told me he was good at isolating and would delete all the blocked contacts in his phone. As luck would have it, a person named Chris K - from Yana called and told John **“Something told me to call you”** *I was in bad shape, I was done*

Chris took the initiative when he heard John’s cry for help. He gave him specific directions and told him to call his HR Director that he was going to help John get into a rehab Day 1 when John was released out of rehab he did his 3rd step and launched and did his 4th step.

***“I knew I was going to die if I kept doing what I was doing ; I feel so lucky that God put it on his heart to call me”***

**What is your daily routine ?** :When I pray and meditate, he asks God how can I please God and he prays Page 99 of the 12 and 12 which is the St Francis Prayer or what is the skeleton of my prayer. He Prays a Thomas Merton Prayer, as well as, the AA 3rd step prayer. It also the same guidance that he provides to guys that are struggling in the room –not saying it in vain but saying it until you feel it. He also Reads and has on audio Sermon on the Mount and Joe and Charlie in the car

**What is your vision for 2023?** How I can best serve the people without my presence - It’s working just fine today. John is looking to focus on the **Man In the Bed** with various Churches and Hospitals and expand from there - whatever God brings to me and he referenced that’s how Bill and Bob did it. He asks himself often - **What am I doing with my time am I doing that is of Maximum Service to others?**

**What is your biggest accomplishment?** John humbly answered being able to see my sponsee sponsor someone else.

I hope folks enjoyed this interview with John O. and if it did ... we hope that it gives you the initiative to reach out and be the boots on the ground to carry the message with District 2 and others whether it’s with Treatment or another committee. John we wish you the best on your 2023 endeavors and thank you for all your love and service with FCYPAA and TBAIC. Bravo!





What is the big thing coming up ?

## Southern States AA Service Assembly 7

November 17, 2023 - November 19, 2023

Save the date! SSAASA7 is coming to Orlando, FL hosted by Area 14 at the Sheraton Orlando North. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

“At SSAASA, we share our A.A. service experience to attract and inspire each other to carry our message.” For more information email: [chair.ssaasa7@gmail.com](mailto:chair.ssaasa7@gmail.com) [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

**DETAILS** Start: November 17, 2023 End: November 19, 2023 **ORGANIZER** Area 14  
Email: [chairperson@aanorthflorida.org](mailto:chairperson@aanorthflorida.org) [View Organizer Website](#)

## Event Flyer

<https://cflintergroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ssaasa7-save-the-date-flyer-v2.pdf>

### VENUE

[Sheraton Orlando North Hotel](#) 600 North Lake Destiny Road Maitland, FL 32751 United States +  
[Google Map](#) Phone: 407-660-9000 [View Venue Website](#)

Never been to a SSAASA ? Talk to your service sponsor !





## SOBER EVENTS

### December 2022

12/11/2022 - Monthly District 2 Meeting Virtual

12/24/2022 - Candlelight Reflections Meeting Old School Group

12/25/2022 - Meeting and Holiday Dinner - Alcathon

12/31/2022 -

### AUGUST 2023

#### 66th State Convention

August 10-13, 2023 ; Saddlebrook Resort ; 5700 Saddlebrook Way, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543 ; 813-973-1111

Registration Form

[66fsc-flyer-English-front](#)

[66sc-flyer-English-back](#)

[66fc-flyer-Spanish-front](#)

[66fc-flyer-Spanish-back](#)

<http://66.floridastateconvention.com/>







## SERVICE EVENTS

**QUARTERLIES 2023 MARK YOUR CALENDARS !**  
**01/13-15/2023 HYATT REGENCY**

### **Next Area 15 Assembly**

January 13-15, 2023  
Hosted by District 5  
Hyatt Regency Sarasota  
1000 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236  
[English Flyer](#) [Spanish Flyer](#)  
Telephone for reservations  
1-888-421-1442

**04/14-16/2023 BOCA RATON MARRIOTT**  
**07/14-16/2023 TAMPA AIRPORT MARRIOTT**  
**10/06-08/2023 BOCA RATON MARRIOTT**  
**01/05-07/2024 HYATT REGENCY SARASOTA**  
**04/05-07/2024 BOCA RATON MARRIOTT**

**DISTRICT 2 MONTHLY MEETINGS:** Every 1st Sunday of the month Hybrid and / or in person at 3333 Club

## **DISTRICT 2 PANEL 73 OPEN standing committee POSITIONS -2023**

1. Treasurer - Congrats to Sandy for volunteering for Panel 73 !
2. Registrar - Congrats to Sue H on this new adventure !
3. Secretary - Congrats to Jimmy for stepping up to be our 2023 secretary and congrats !
4. Archives Chair - we haven't had one in 2 years / 3 years of sobriety - REMAINS OPEN
5. Grapevine Chair - REMAINS OPEN
6. Literature - Welcome aboard to the standing committee Hud and congrats !
7. Accessibilities Chair - meets from 9am - 1050 at the quarterlies and 11:00 REMAINS OPEN





## **2022 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND EVENT & LIAISONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE IN 2022 !!!**

1. Brian L - Accessibilities -
2. OPEN - ARCHIVES
3. Robin L - Current Practice
4. Sophie C - District Dispatch
5. Vivian H - Finance
6. OPEN - GRAPEVINE
7. Cindy L - Literature
8. Betsy BF - New GSR Orientation
9. Allan T - PI/PC
10. Sue H - Communications Technology Committee
11. Connie H - Carry the Message Day 2022
12. Completed (Allan T) - Delegate Luncheon 2022
13. Amy W. - Gratitude Social 2022
14. Brian L - Central Office Liaison
15. Mike B. - TBAIC Chairperson (Institutions Liaison)





**Below are our Sub-Districts and 2023 opportunities THANK YOU TO OUR DCM/ACMS FOR YOUR SERVICE IN 2022 !!!**

- A - Central Brandon DCM Wendy
- B - Zephyrhills Wesley Chapel, Dade City Sue H / OPEN FOR 2023
- C - filled for 2023
- D - filled for 2023
- E - West Columbus Allan D
- F - filled for 2023
- G - filled for 2023
- H - filled for 2023
- I - TEMPLE TERRACE OPEN FOR 2023
- J - Town N Country Beth has been our 2022 / OPEN FOR 2023
- K - Hyde Park, Downtown / OPEN FOR 2023
- L - filled for 2023
- M - Seminole Heights - OPEN FOR 2023
- N - Riverview - OPEN FOR 2023
- O - Interlay, Gandy Bay to Bay DCM Open ACM Tania
- Q - S Brandon Clair Mel - OPEN FOR 2023
- R - filled for 2023
- S - filled for 2023
- T - filled for 2023
- U - Drew Park, NW Tampa - OPEN for 2023
- V - Citrus Park/Northdale - OPEN for 2023
- W - en Espanol OPEN for 2023

