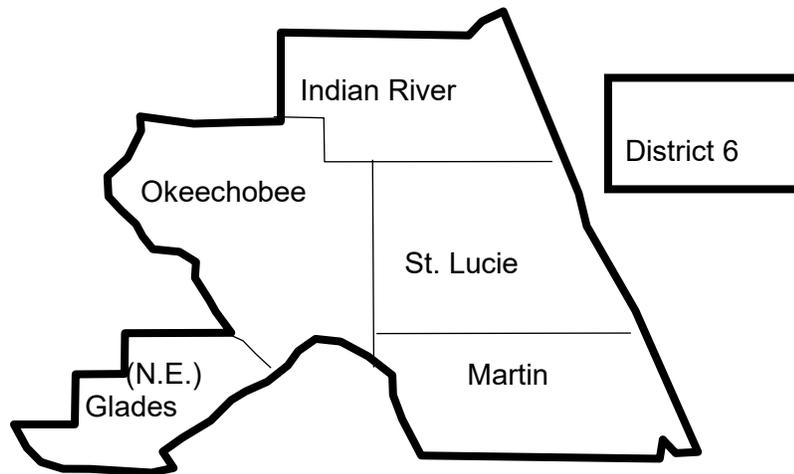


**DISTRICT 6 WELCOMES THE
NEW
GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
AND
ALTERNATE GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
TO
GENERAL SERVICE
THE PURPOSE OF THIS PAMPHLET IS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES TO MAKE YOUR
SERVICE EXPERIENCE
INFORMATIVE - ENJOYABLE - PLEASANT - REWARDING**

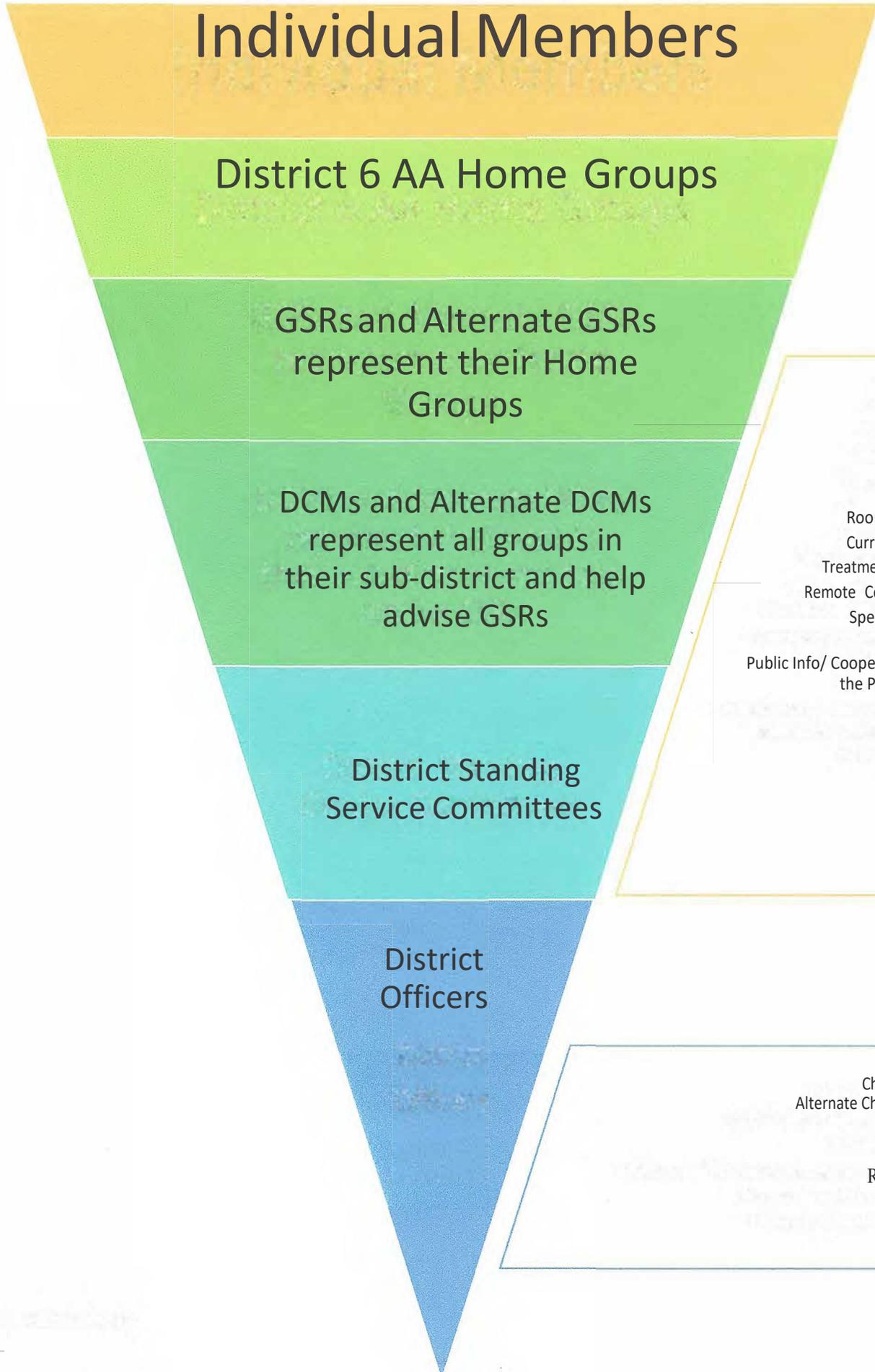


**DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK QUESTIONS OR SEEK ADVICE FROM YOUR SERVICE SPONSOR, OFFICERS,
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS OR DCMS**

DISTRICT 6 IS ONE OF 19 DISTRICTS IN AREA 15 (SOUTH FLORIDA)

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ORIGINAL-FINAL 9/2018**

DISTRICT SIX SERVICE STRUCTURE



Individual Members

District 6 AA Home Groups

GSRs and Alternate GSRs
represent their Home
Groups

DCMs and Alternate DCMs
represent all groups in
their sub-district and help
advise GSRs

District Standing
Service Committees

District
Officers

Events
Website
Archives
Literature
Grapevine
Corrections
Room and Ride
Current Practice
Treatment Facilities
Remote Communities
Special Needs/
Accessibility
Public Info/ Cooperation with
the Professional
Community

Chairperson
Alternate Chairperson
Treasurer
Registrar
Recording
Secretary
Finance
Comm

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TERMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

AGSR--ALTERNATE GSR
GSR--- GENERALSERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
ACM-- ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBER
DCM--DISTRICT COMITTEE MEMBER
GSO-- GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

First printing 6/2001 District 6 Motion # 294
Revised 2005 Combined with a general information pamphlet for all trusted servants in District 6--8/2001 District 6 Motion # 295
Revised 2011--Remained combined
Revised 2012--Remained combined
Revised 2018--Returned to original format for GSR Orientation and separate pamphlet for general District 6 information

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INDIVIDUAL CONDUCTING THE NEW GSR ORIENTATION
ORIENTATION WILL BEGIN AFTER INTRODUCTION BEFORE ROLL CALL AND END AT 7:20

The first ten(10)pages will be the emphasis of the orientation.

Review these pages with the new GSRs and AGSRs with **emphasis on orientation, preamble, role, service sponsor, report**

Give them suggestions. Let them know that the rest of the booklet can be read at their leisure. Emphasize our committees and that they should start thinking about a committee to join for a service commitment. Emphasize to them if they have questions or any misunderstanding to seek the advice of the Current Officers DCMs ADCMs, GSRs, AGSR's and Committee Chairpersons.

Advise them to review the area assembly information, voice at GSO and the Third Legacy Procedure

This will help each individual presenting the orientation to give information in a similar manner. The orientation should take about 15 minutes.

GSR ORIENTATION

Welcome to District 6 General Service! We are glad you are here. As a new GSR or AGSR, you are your group's link to AA as a whole. **Our purpose at District 6 is to help you and the members of your group.** We suggest you add this meeting to your calendar for the whole year. **All of the district officers, the standing committee chairpersons, the intergroup/central office liaisons and a pre-designated DCM deliver their current reports of developments and activities during the month.** Some of us like to bring our spondees or a fellow home group member.

After the GSR sharing we have an introduction of all new GSR's and AGSR's and a roll call. The Officers (elected by the GSRs) then give their reports, followed by Committee Chairpersons reports. Next, we discuss Old Business including all motions before the body. GSRs are **voting members both in District 6 and South Florida Area 15.** All motions before the district or area must be on the agenda for that meeting and the motion maker must be present in order for the motion to be heard. The GSR is **allowed to make motions at the District 6 level but are not allowed to make motions at the South Florida Area 15 level.** GSRs have the right of participation at both levels. Which means they can express their group conscience views as well as their own views. Once you have finished your term as a GSR (**usually two years when each panel of officers are selected at voting assemblies in October-Area 15 and November- District 6**) you may move forward in the service structure as an Alternate Committee Member and eventually a DCM. **All groups in District 6 will be assigned a DCM (who may or may not have an ACM).** This person will be visiting your group and the other groups in their sub district and will be able to provide all GSR's and group members, general help and information about how the group works, and participates in service. After you have met you DCM, please consult the DCM about their responsibilities so you can start to become aware of the job ahead for you. The DCM is a valuable source of information for understanding our traditions and concepts.

You may stand for a DCM position if you have served two years of continuous sobriety and one year as a past or present GSR in any of the 93 areas within the United States and Canada. (Motion 508) You may stand for a district officer position if you have no less than two years of continuous sobriety and no less than one year as a past or present DCM in the South Florida area. (Motion 321)

GSR PREAMBLE

We are the GSRs. We are the link in the chain of communication for our groups with the General Service Conference and the world of AA. We realize that the ultimate authority in AA is a loving God as he may express Himself in our group conscience. As trusted servants, our job is to bring information to our groups in order that the group can reach an informed group conscience. Passing along this group conscience we are helping to maintain the unity and strength so vital to our fellowship. Let us: therefore, have the patience and tolerance to listen while others share, the courage to speak up when we have something to share, and the wisdom to do what is right for our groups and AA as a whole. From Box 4-5-9 Aug/Sept. 1989

GSR ROLE

In your service manual (**Chapter 1, Introduction to General Service page S 16**), you will find a diagram of an upside down triangle describing the relationship of the GSR to your Group, District and to the rest of the AA service structure. Every person below the GSR on this diagram serves the GSR and his/her group. This means that over time the GSRs that came before you felt that certain services were needed for the district and were to be accomplished in certain ways. They came to an **agreement (voted on as a motion) and placed these**

decisions in a Book of Current Practices. The motions in the current practice book become our District 6 **guidelines** on how we run our district. The area also has a book of current practices that they use for their guidelines. Many of us use a Service Sponsor to help guide us through all this information. To obtain a service sponsor you can ask an experienced individual, currently serving in General Service, or someone who has served before

GSR **SERVICE SPONSOR**

The service sponsor and or a DCM will explain what a home group is and is not. (**Chapter 2 The Group and its GSR IN THE SERVICE MANUAL**) They can help you obtain another group member involved as an Alternate GSR. The Service sponsor will help you learn the traditions and concepts along with the help of your DCM. It is suggested that the members involved with service should have a traditions meeting in their program. The GSR attends, the GSR sharing sessions at the monthly district meeting and at the area quarterlies. It is suggested that the GSRs listen to the committee chairperson reports at the district meeting and make a decision as to which committee they would like to serve on. It is suggested that all new GSRs join a district committee of their choice, **one to two months after attending their first District meeting.** This decision should be discussed with your service sponsor and be based on your general interests. Each month it will be requested that each new GSR, from the current serving District 6 chairperson, as to what committee they will be interested in joining. **This is not a decision you have to make right away.** But eventually we would like everyone to be on a committee. It is suggested that the alternate GSR becomes a member of the Grapevine committee. However they may join the same committee as their GSR or a committee of their choice. Our General Service Structure for Alcoholics Anonymous is based on committee work.

GSR **REPORT**

It's important to get your group used to hearing a GSR report. **For a start,** we suggest that you make District and Group Event announcements at your meetings when there is a call for AA related announcements. During the Group's regular business meeting, break down the information into short bullet points. If an informed group conscience is needed so that you can vote on behalf of your group, then you will need to give more in-depth information. **You will be receiving a GSR Packet from GSO in the mail a couple of months after registering with the District Registrar. (The envelope does not mention AA.)** It will include a copy of the Service Manual, several sheets with A.A. Guidelines for various committees or on certain topics, and several Pamphlets. We have found the "A.A. Group" pamphlet especially useful. Bring the information back to their group with a brief report at the group business meeting. Allow for questions and answers. Know who your DCM is an invite them to attend this meeting or welcome them when they show up at your meeting. Discuss district and Quarterly motions with your group and get the group conscience for voting purposes at the district and area. Contact your DCM if you will not be able to attend either the district or quarterly meetings and give them your group's conscience. Know your voting rights. Vote on all issues at both the district and area business assemblies and general assemblies. Communicate with your DCM on all issues that you do not understand to help your group be informed. **Use and become familiar with the service manual, (listed below) and this local district pamphlet**

Chapter on Home Group
Chapter on GSR/responsibilities
Chapter on DCM/responsibilities
Chapter on the general service conference
Leadership Essay (**Service Manuel p. S 52**)
Third Legacy Procedure (a copy is in this pamphlet)

ALTERNATE GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

ALTERNATE GSR is generally elected at the same time as the GSR at the home group and is encouraged to assist, participate and share in the same responsibilities as the GSR. **They fill in for voting purposes** for the GSR when the GSR is not present for voting. It is recommended that the **AGSR may serve on the Grapevine Committee**, at the District 6 and the Area 15 level as the Grapevine Representative of their Home Group. It is recommended that the AGSR serves on this Committee by the service manual. However they may join the same committee as their GSR or a committee of their choice.

DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Most standing committee meetings are open to all AA members in District 6. GSRs are asked to volunteer on a committee. The work these committees do is an excellent way for sponsors to introduce service work to those they sponsor and to practice AA's 12th Step. Each of these committees has service work waiting for you. The Finance Committee is the only committee that does not utilize this as this person is appointed by the district chairperson

Any Gen. service representative who has two (2) years of continuous sobriety and one (1) year as a past or present GSR in any of our ninety-three (93) areas within the United States and Canada, nominees must be full time Florida residents living within District 6 can stand for a DCM or an Alternate DCM or a Committee Chairperson or Alternate Committee Chairperson

The Chairperson for each of the District Committee shares a report at both our District Business Meetings and at the Area Quarterlies at the designated workshop. Once you are involved with the committee when you go to our quarterly meetings it is suggested that you go to the workshop for your committee. District committee chairperson reports back to our District with news and information gathered from other Districts and the General Service Office (GSO). A simple description of each committee is noted below. For further information on each committee you can go to the district website. (district6AA.org)

Archives Committee

This is an opportunity to actively share our history; another way we "pass it on"! Members may transport and set up displays at Events, categorize and inventory incoming items

Corrections Committee

This committee carries the AA message of recovery to inmates that cannot attend our meetings. The committee may place and hold meetings in State and County prison facilities and provide literature.

Current Practice Committee

This committee is responsible for updating our current motions to be incorporated into three entities (Legacy of Service, Book of Motions and Current Practice).

Events Committee

District 6 holds four self-supporting events during the course of the year. Events are the Spaghetti Dinner, Ice Cream social and Founders Day, the Okeechobee Fish Fry and the Gratitude Dinner. The events committee also helps out with the Treatment Committee event (Breakfast for Big Books) and of the Corrections Committee event (Bowling for Big Books).

Finance Committee

This committee is responsible to conduct a quarterly review of all District checking accounts and finances and for providing the wired record-keeping documents. The chairperson of the district appoints this chairperson and the chairperson of the committee appoints two members to be on the committee. These members should have financial backgrounds **This committee is not available to volunteer your services**

Grapevine Committee

The Grapevine Committee promotes subscriptions to the AA Grapevine, the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous and La Vina, a bi-monthly publication written by and for Spanish-speaking members of A.A.

Literature Committee

The Literature Committee reviews and discusses changes in our literature. This will include district 6 service items such as the GSR and responsibilities pamphlets and any other general materials used in our district. Keeps literature on hand.

PI/CPC: Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community

The committee provides information about AA to the public, and to those who have contact with alcoholics through their profession. Members might fulfill speaking engagements or place literature in the community.

Remote Communities Committee

The committee carries the AA message to those who may not have easy access to meetings due to geography, language, and other obstacles.

Room and Ride Committee

This committee assists and coordinates rooms and rides for district meetings and area quarterlies (assemblies).

Special Needs Committee

The General Service Office has renamed this committee to Accessibilities. We have not voted this into our structure as of this writing

Volunteers carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to members who have special needs such as visual impairment; deaf or hard of hearing; chronically ill or home bound; and those who are developmentally disabled.

Treatment Facilities Committee

This committee places and coordinates restricted AA meetings for clients/patients in treatment facilities throughout District 6. Individual AA members and groups who are interested in carrying our message of recovery to alcoholics in treatment facilities work through this committee.

Website Committee

The Website Committee is responsible for making the District 6 website an increasingly more valuable resource, servicing newcomers seeking help, visitors and members seeking meeting and fellowship opportunities, increasing awareness of service opportunities, and reporting the business of our District.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Officers, Committee Chairpersons and committee members, along with the DCMs, ADCM's, GSRs, and AGSR's which together make up the District 6 Committee. All meet monthly at the District 6 Business Meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at **Indian River State College** in Ft. Pierce. The monthly District 6 Meeting begins at 6:30 PM with the chairperson asking for announcements, and the serenity prayer. Next, At 6:35 pm. the current alternate chairperson conducts DCM/GSR sharing (Tradition Checklist read at this time). He/she will be responsible for the contents for this portion of the meeting. This is where collective experience is shared and helps the GSR and the DCM **become more fully informed in order to better serve their groups**. The participants can exchange questions and answers, problems and solutions encountered by the groups they represent.

During March of each year, much of the District Agenda is devoted to the agenda items that will be discussed in New York in April at the General Service Conference. Background material is made available for all pertinent items on the Conference Agenda. The DCMs, ADCM's, GSRs, and AGSR's from each District will have the opportunity to bring any items of interest or concern to the floor during the April area 15 Assembly before the Delegate attends the General Service Conference later in the month. This is the forum where the voice of the groups is heard and where the Delegate learns the conscience of South Florida Area 15 on most of the Agenda items.

During June of each year the current serving delegate comes to our District to report information from the General Service Conference. All 19 Districts are asked to make two suggested dates for the delegate to come to their district and share the report on the latest General Service Conference. The delegate plans a schedule to visit each district based on the requested dates from everyone. We usually select June as our 1st choice and July as the 2nd choice. We usually are awarded our 1st choice.

During November of even years District 6 holds their elections for the upcoming service panel.

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.

RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

I am responsible... When anyone, anywhere, Reaches out for help,
I want the hand of AA always to be there.
and for that: I am responsible.

ABOUT THE AREA ASSEMBLY

As part of your GSR role, attendance at the Area 15 Assembly or "Quarterly" is strongly encouraged. District 6 is a part of **South Florida Area 15 (see map)**. An Assembly is a meeting of the 19 Districts in the Area. These meetings are held quarterly, usually in January, April, July and October. Our districts share the responsibilities for hosting the quarterlies. See Sunday afternoon below.

Attending Quarterlies offers you the opportunity to learn more about your duties as a GSR, how to use the Traditions and Concepts in your meetings, and how to better carry the AA message. You will meet with other GSR's for the sharing of ideas and experiences.

The schedule for the Assembly usually looks something like this:

FRIDAY NIGHT: Speaker Meeting and late night discussion meetings for both English and Spanish

SATURDAY: Committee Meetings (all those listed above), Workshops on the Concepts, Traditions and Service Manual, all of which benefit your effectiveness as a GSR. Sharing sessions and workshops for GSR's and DCM's are also scheduled.

SATURDAY NIGHT: Saturday ends with a Banquet and Speaker Meeting, and a late night discussion meeting for both English and Spanish.

SUNDAY MORNING: Business meeting for South Florida Area 15. Your Group Conscience is carried by your vote. GSRs have the right to participate in discussions at the microphone. GSR's are not allowed to make motions at the area level. GSR will work with their DCM and service sponsor, if they wish to make a motion at the Area level.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON: At our April afternoon assembly we discuss all of the agenda items for the General Service Conference held every year in New York. At our October quarterly on even years we elect a new panel of officers for the area and this is called a voting assembly

LOGISTICS AND FINANCES:

The Service Manual suggests that the group support their GSR in attending these meetings, including financial support, in the spirit of being self-supporting. Some groups pay the entire cost for the GSR to attend and others pay only a portion. The point is that your group be aware of their responsibility, the benefit to them from your attending the Assemblies, and that an **informed Group Conscience prevails**. The DCM can be a valuable resource to answer group questions. The fourth Tradition says your group is autonomous and the GSR has the right to make decisions for the group except when these decisions affect other groups and AA as a whole.

WILL YOUR VOICE BE HEARD AT G.S.O???

"What in the world is GSO," you ask? Why, it's us. That's right. GSO is each and every one of us in A.A. The initials stand for the General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, which is located in New York City, but in reality it is each and every one of us.

Every year in April, the Area Delegates from the United States and Canada, converge upon New York City for the annual General Service "Conference." At this Conference, the Delegates, Trustees and GSO Staff members discuss and vote on numerous agenda items concerning the current and future direction and welfare of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The **Delegate from Area 15** attends the Conference as the representative for South Florida, the Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, St. Martin, Antigua and Cayman Islands. He/she represents our collective conscience and ensures that the voice of AAs in Area 15 is heard. For approximately 10 days and sometimes until late into the night, these trusted servants will meet to discuss AA concerns brought to New York from the many Areas represented.

After the Conference, our Delegate will travel to each District's monthly business meeting to give a report to the District body on the New York Conference. Through the GSRS and DCMs, this information is brought back to each of our AA groups.

All this is accomplished in keeping with those pesky Traditions so few of us want to worry or talk about. What's even more, it involves something called the "Concepts" and the "Warranties." Are you confused yet? If so, that's good. Are you curious? That's even better.

The Conference Is what binds our 5-county conclave that makes up District 6 (**Indian River, Martin, North Glades, Okeechobee and St Lucie Counties**) with the rest of the AA world. It is hoped that each group has a GSR, since they are the group's direct link to AA. Other positions you should know about are the following. A DCM is responsible for the **right number of groups that a DCM is able to communicate and keep in touch with**. This will include groups with or without GSRS. Ensuring that all available information finds its way to these GSRS and their respective groups. In addition to GSRS and DCMs, ideally each GSR has an Alternate from the home group they represent and each DCM has an Alternate

SAMPLE AGENDA DISTRICT 6

General Service
South Florida Area 15
District 6

Indian River Community College • 3209 Virginia Ave, Ft. Pierce, Fl 34982

Announcements

6:30 PM Open Meeting with Serenity prayer by the current serving chairperson

6:35-7:00 PM Tradition checklist--DCM/GSR SHARING conducted by the current serving alternate chairperson

7:00 PM Introduce **New** GSRs, AGSRs and Guests (new GSRs, AGSRs go to orientation)

7:00-7:20 PM GSR Orientation conducted by either a current serving DCM from one of our counties and or a current serving committee chairperson

Roll call

Select DCM or Committee Chairperson for GSR orientation for next month

Chairperson remarks

Alternate Chairperson's remarks

Registrar's report

Recording Secretary's report

Treasurer report

DCM report

Select DCM report for next month's report. Each of the counties perform this report on a rotating basis

Old business (selection of DCM's, Alternate DCMs, Committee Chairpersons, postponed motions and GSR committee assignments)

New business/motions

Committee Reports – Committee Chairpersons, Central office/Intergroup liaisons

give or email your reports (submitted in writing) to the recording secretary

1. Archives
2. Corrections/Bridging the gap
3. Current Practice
4. Events/Events Treasurer
5. Finance
6. Grapevine
7. Literature
8. PI/CPC
9. Remote Communities
10. Room and Ride
11. Special Needs/Accessibilities
12. Treatment/Bridging the gap
13. Website

Central Office/Intergroup Liaisons

1. Indian River County
2. Martin County
3. St. Lucie County/Okeechobee County

Motion To Adjourn

Declaration of unity/Responsibility Pledge

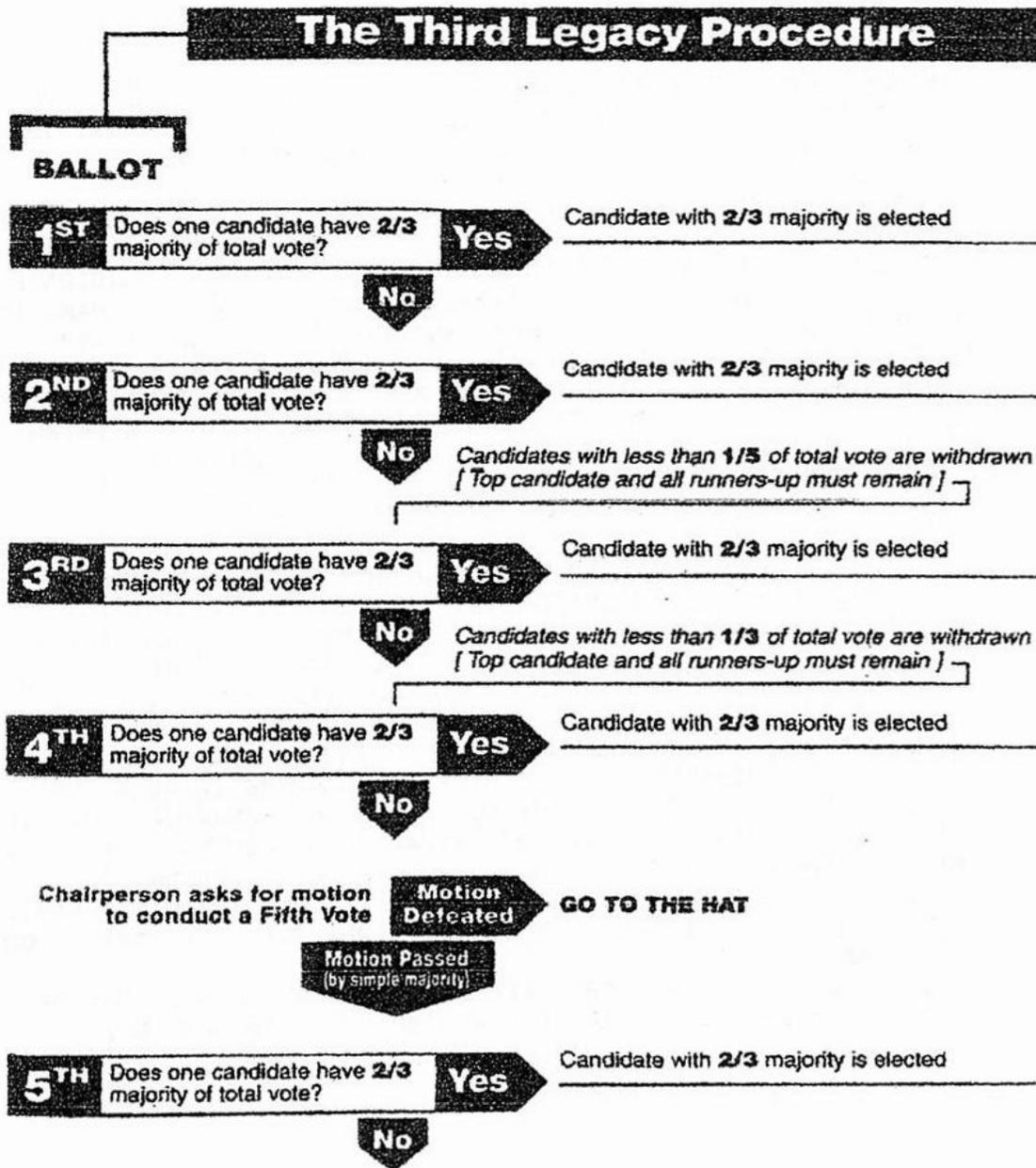
Close with the Lord's prayer

THIRD LEGACY PROCEDURE

AA's third legacy procedure is a special type of electoral process used primarily for the elections of Delegates and Regional and At-Large Trustees. This procedure is considered to be unique to AA and, at first glance, appears to leave to chance important matters that should seem to rely wholly on the judgment of the majority. In practice, however, it has proved highly successful in preventing the undue influence of factions or parties that seem to thrive in most political arenas. The railroading of a candidate for election is made difficult if not impossible, since voters have a wide selection of candidates from which to choose. More importantly, a second-place candidate who may be extremely well qualified but without early popular support is encouraged to stay in the balloting rather than withdraw. **(Service Manuel pp S21 and S22)**

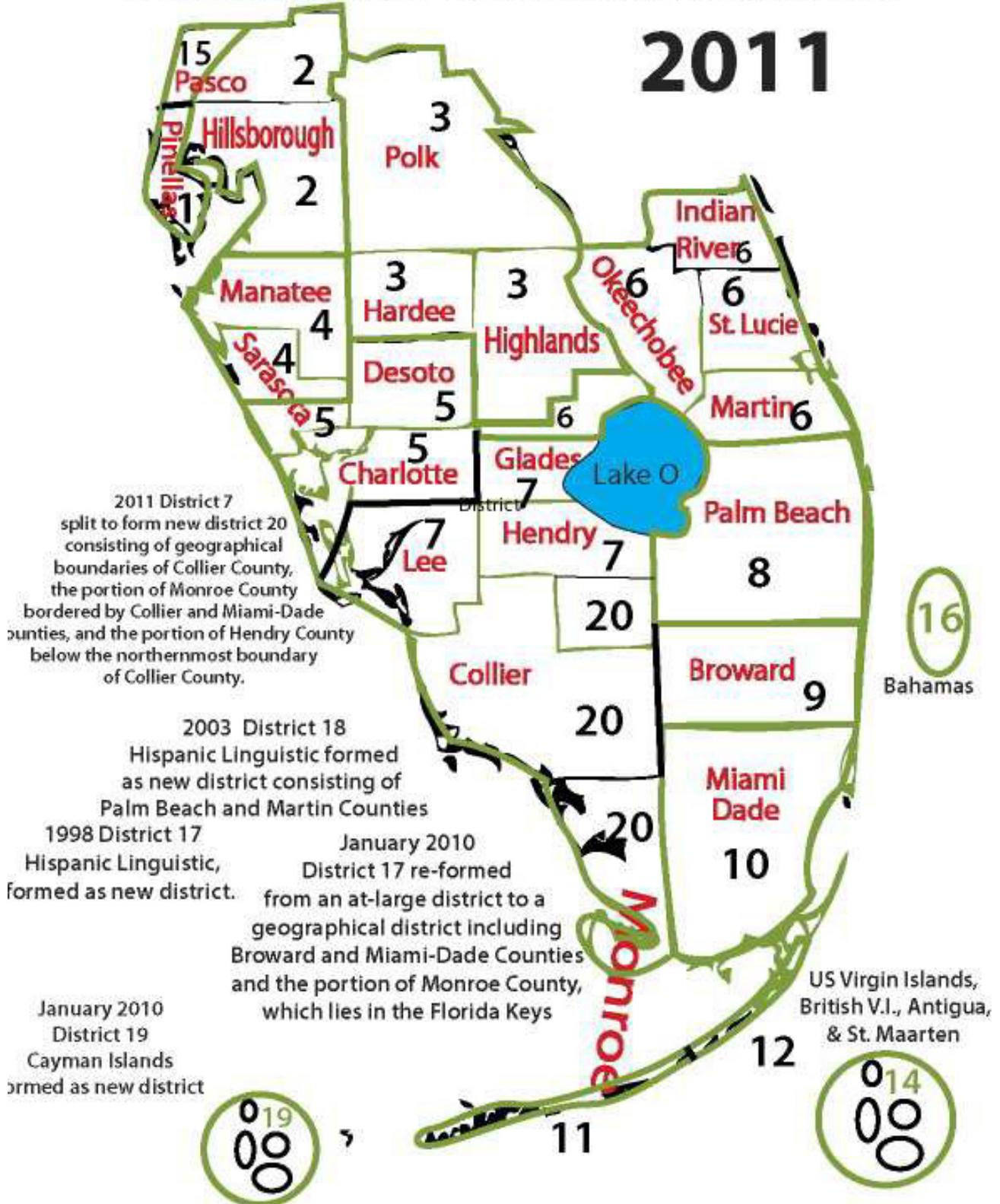
The Third Legacy procedure is as follows:

1. The names of eligible candidates who wish to serve are posted on a board in the meeting room. All voting members (of the Area or Conference body) cast written ballots, one choice to a ballot. The tally for each candidate is posted on the board.
2. The first candidate to receive two-thirds of the total vote is elected.
3. Withdrawals begin after the second ballot. If any candidate has less than one-fifth of the total vote, his or her name is automatically withdrawn -- except that the top two candidates must remain. Or in case of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied runners-up remain as candidates.
4. After the third ballot, candidates with less than one-third of the total vote will be withdrawn automatically, except the two top candidates remain. In cases where there are ties for second place, the top candidate and tied runners-up remain as candidates.
5. After the fourth ballot, if no candidate has two-thirds of the total vote, the candidate with the smallest total is automatically withdrawn, except that the top two candidates remain. In cases of ties for second place, the top candidate and all tied second-place candidates remain. At this point, the Chairperson asks for a motion, a second, and a simple majority of hands on conducting a fifth and final ballot. If this motion is defeated, balloting is over and the choice is made by lot ("going to the hat - immediately.") If the motion carries, a fifth and final vote is conducted. If after the fifth ballot no election occurs, the Chairperson announces that the choice will be made by lot (from the hat) at this point, balloting usually involves only the top two or three candidates.
6. Lots are then drawn by the teller and the first one "out of the hat" is the new officer/trusted servant.



Area 15 South Florida District Divisions

2011



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NOTES