District 16 Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 14, 2026
In Person and Hybrid Meeting Open to All AA Members

Penelope J opened the meeting with the Serenity Prayer. She explained that there was a lot to cover in this meeting including new business motions and the meeting might run later than usual. She asked if everyone was ok with extending the meeting time to 1.5 hours instead of 1 hour, if needed, and there were no objections. She asked for October birthdays. Hallie C celebrated 3 years of sobriety on October 5 and Jane M celebrated 42 years of sobriety on October 5.

Linda B read Tradition 10, long form. Chloe H read Concept 10, long form. Penelope then asked if there were any new GSRs or visitors at the meeting. Sherman G identified as the new GSR for Southern Oregon Dog on the Roof. Chloe H introduced herself as a visitor. Next there was a count taken of eligible voters present in the room and online, with 13 voters in person and 4 voters online, for a total of 17.

Garrison M made a motion to approve last month's minutes and Ryan seconded it. The minutes were approved.

Penelope J requested that Officers and Chairs submit their written reports by the Sunday before the district meeting if possible. She also let everyone know that if they have not received the Agenda or reports, they need to contact her the day **before** the District meeting, as she is unable to respond to requests the day **of** the meeting due to her work schedule. However, Beverly C, the secretary, may be able to get those reports sent if contacted on short notice. Her phone number is 707-407-5321, email: secretary@medfordareaaa.org.

Penelope J gave her DCM report:
DCM Report 10/14/2026: Hey everybody! I'm grateful to be here, grateful to be sober and grateful that we get to do this thing together. Let me share a little of what I've been up to and what's going on with District 16 and Area 58 at large. We have lots to go over today so I'm going to keep it brief. November is the month for elections and this year being even - Officer elections up for grabs are Treasurer; LDCM A and LDCM C. John and Denise have the opportunity to step away from the position or they can choose to stay and if another member is interested in those positions, they will have an opportunity to share their Service resume. Following, there would be an opportunity for the District body to vote. Service Committee positions up for rotation are CF men; CF Women; PI/CPC; SOSM. Next month's elections will take place at the beginning of new business.

I had the pleasure of attending the Safety and Inclusion workshop last weekend. It was a great opportunity to collaborate with both Area 58 and District 7. The subject content of safety in AA and opportunities to include ALL members that want to stop using alcohol was powerful. It was a well attended event and I want to thank all those involved that helped in volunteering. I along with 8 other District 16 members attended our quarterly Area 58 Assembly in Gold Beach Oregon. District 16 was represented! Our table was full of GSR's and Service Committee members, as well as members online. As our District's DCM I felt so proud to have such robust participation in this assembly. The DCM sharing session presented opportunities to discuss important issues that other districts are

faced with. It's a common thread with topics such as: Filling district service committee positions; how do we bring awareness of what's going on with AA as a whole to each alcoholic, and how do we generate excitement for District activities among many other topics. I learned a great deal about how we keep the doors open in AA. That being said, our next Quarterly Assembly will be held by our Virtual District - and you know what that means…….Yep you guessed it! Another Watch Party at my house. I can only speak for myself when I say that the watch parties have been incredibly helpful as we get to have conversations and ask questions as it pertains to our District while building unity and eating yummy food.

Our Assembly did a first ever workshop on parts of our AA service manual. This was a great opportunity for me to get familiar with the structure and content. The AA service manuals are available at Central Office for 5 dollars and available online at GSO AA World Services. That being said, if you look on the inside of the 2nd page you will not only see the AA Preamble but the Responsibility statement and our Declaration of Unity that reads: "This we owe to AA's future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united. For on AA unity depend our lives, and the lives of those to come." Written by Al S, past Trustee and for AA's 35th Anniversary World Convention in Miami Beach Florida July, 1970. Al S also wrote the Responsibility Statement.
In Love and Service, Penelope

Beverly C, Secretary gave a report, suggesting that members use her to clear up communications problems, as she has more time available than the DCM at this time and would be happy to help.

John F gave his Treasurer report and asked for questions. Beverly C questioned the SOSM amount, saying it was around $3000 instead of $1399 listed. John agreed that the number looked wrong to him and he would confirm and correct it. Linda B made a motion to approve the Treasurer report and Garrison seconded the motion. The report was approved, with a possible error to be corrected by the end of the meeting.
Corrected Treasurer Report: 09302026 Monthly Treasury Report September 2026.pdf

Taylor M, LDCM-D , gave his report:
Well it's been a more productive month than last. I've been working with the events subcommittee on our upcoming sponsorship event. The flyer is now available, although I don't know if it's been printed yet. Let me know if you'd like a copy sent to you. It should be great information and a great time for newcomers and old timers alike.
I also attended the safety and inclusion workshop that District and Area put on recently, and was happy to see how this topic is being presented by the chair and co-chair. Some of the panel speakers drew a bit outside the lines of traditions in my opinion, but I can't fault the organizers for that - Their presentation was great. Having gone through the process of hashing out bylaws about disruptive or illegal behavior at a home group before, I definitely think it's a great topic for groups to think about.
I also managed to make a humble beginning of my actual LDCM duties. I attended The Way Out Group in Eagle point, and the Shady A's group in Shady cove. Neither of them is currently holding business meetings, let alone sending a GSR to District, but The Way Out Group expressed interest in having these things explained to them. Hopefully this next month I'll be

able to get back over there to give a presentation on what that all looks like. It's a bit slow going, but we're making progress.Thanks for the opportunity to be of service,Taylor M
Mae M, Access Chair, gave her report:

I attended the Area assembly at the end of September, met with the Area Access Chair Debbie and assisted her in setting up an accessibilities table. We compiled a large selection of AA literature that is designed with accessibility in mind. There were a lot of positives when it came to accessibilities at the Assembly including ASL and Spanish interpretation. Also, there were some challenges: as it came to physical accessibility, the service committee tables were in a 2nd floor mezzanine section that was inaccessible unless a person was able to use stairs, and there were times when the ASL interpretation was interrupted or did not extend to the length of the meeting, if it was overtime, which did affect that district in fully participating. Overall, there were many attempts made to be inclusive to all members, and the assembly was well attended in its diversity. Furthermore, there was a motion passed to separate the ASL translation and the Spanish translation committee into two separate committees as they cannot communicate easily between each other given that they are entirely different languages.
Overall, for myself and in the position as being a newly appointed access chair, I found preparing for the assembly and working with Debbie to be very rewarding, informative and has given me a base of knowledge on what literature is available and other accessibility resources that I now have to share with our district. As part of the table display, I created QR codes for some of the literature, and I will make those available to our district. I will continue to work with the Area 58 Access Chair to bring awareness of these resources and other accessibility related news. I am available for any questions related to my position. In Service, Mae M.

Penelope read the Men's Corrections report, submitted by Todd J:
First and foremost, thank you for allowing me and trusting me to handle this position. I hope and pray that I have done you and God good, while in this position. On 9/9 we had three men go into the facility (Jackson County Jail) sharing their experience strength and hope with three men, with a good positive response. On 9/23 we had three men go in sharing their experience strength and hope with 11 men on the inside. Both meetings had Big Books and other assorted AA literature that had been bought by way of contributions to the "White Can Fund". Thank You to the groups that had contributed to the fund, making it possible for us to continue carrying the message by way of our literature.Overall, it was a good month for Men's corrections. Thank You again, District 16 for allowing me to be of service.In Gratitude, Todd J

Ryan B, Treatment Chair, gave his report:
Things are going well. I've made some good contact with both volunteers and facilities. We found a new lead for the first Wednesday of the month at Mens ARC. We are still looking for a new lead for the fifth Wednesday of each month, if there is one. This was previously held by Randy S. Randy is moving away this month. Randy has also been the chair for the White Can Committee. If no one comes forward to take over that commitment I am willing to fill in in the interim. I look forward to continuing to learn more about how the treatment committee works here and how I can be of service to our volunteers. Ryan B.

Penelope J clarified that the White Can Chair is an open position and asked if anyone present would be willing to take that position. There were some questions about what duties are required for that position. It was clarified that the position does have a vote in District affairs. Ryan is willing to assume the position for now, but would prefer if someone else takes it, as he is the Treatment Chair.

Hallie C, Events Chair, gave her report:
She attended the recent Safety and Inclusion Workshop put on by Area 58, District 16 and District 7. She found it an awesome experience. She thanked the many people who helped to put it on and she was very impressed and learned a lot. The next event is a Sponsorship workshop on November 7, at Medford First Christian Church on 1900 Crater Lake Ave, from 3-6 pm. There are fliers to distribute to meetings. She requested help and would really like a co-chair to assist her, as she works full time. She also requested feedback from those who attended the Safety Workshop, to send her an email.

Laurie H, webmaster,submitted a report, read by Penelope:
Technology Committee Chair Report
As I am rotating out of the Tech Chair position I'm thinking about the skills I've acquired while in this position. When I first stepped into the role of Tech Chair, I knew I didn't have all the technical answers. What I did have was a willing heart, a desire to serve, and a readiness to learn. I have learned a little bit of WordPress web page administration as well as Google Docs. Neither of which I am entirely comfortable with. I am familiar with how to administer the Facebook page which has probably been my strongest activity. If you are hesitating to step into this role because you feel unqualified, I want to reassure you: you do not need to be a tech expert to succeed here. If you have a willingness to learn and a heart for service, you are exactly who this position needs. It has been an honor and a privilege to be of service to Alcoholics Anonymous and District 16.Thank you for letting me be of service. Laurie H.,Technology Chair/Webmaster, District 16

Ken J, Grapevine Chair, gave his report:
October 2026 Grapevine Report

1. Beginning with September 7, Area 58 Grapevine "Quarterly" session. We gather every two months.Held on Google meets 6-7pm PDT. Five in attendance. Concentrated on a power point presentation from sister AA. Well received by participants. Seeking approval from Grapevine Headquarters for use as an educational resource. Another item came with the use of the grapevine grape logo. Possible trademark infraction. Area Grapevine will research. Meantime to put the grapes off display until further notice. Power point would be about five minutes in length about the Grapevine.
2. Attended district meeting September 9th. Setup display for Grapevine and District 16 information. Grapevine magazines past issues available to pass out to meetings. Ken J. mentioned the need for communication/conversation in order to carry the message through the grapevine as a resource. This communication also helps with the fine tuning of email addresses, phone numbers, and not receiving any message at all. When I got into AA service, even at the group level,comment - business meetings meant the survival of AA and one alcoholic talking to another alcoholic. Will re-assess the display. Work in progress.
3. September 16th-Attended the first Host Committee planning for the 2027 Area 58 General Assembly to be held in Grants Pass. Seven participants. Carrie B. dcm07@aa-oregon.org facilitated

the meeting. Attending the meeting Jen S.Area 58 Alternate Chair. Jen works with the Host districts from start to finish on venue responsibilities. Discussed items: Committee Positions-Chairperson, Co-chair, Treasurer, Registration, Secretary, Facility Liaison, Contribution Chair, IT Chair, Re-cap Chair, Prayer Chair. Sub-committees- Accessibility, Dance/Entertainment, Greeters, Chair Hospitality, Marathon AA Meetings, Publicity, Speakers Chair, Theme and Decorations. Carrie opened it up for questions about the positions. Carrie asked any appeal to any of you. Treasurer and Hospitality were all ready filled. Other positions spoken for, to look into and confirm at next meeting: Registration, Re-cap, Prayer, Greeter. Jen S. gave us insight on the ones of interest was helpful. The spanish requested to have a designated meeting and that can happen with agenda of the assembly. Maybe missed an item or two. Next meeting on 3rd Wednesday October 21st 7pm.-8pm Meeting ID:8827746 3050 Passcode: D7 Contact Host Assembly Chair: Carrie B. - dcm07@aa-oregon.org
4. September 18-20, 2026 attended Area 58 General Assembly online. The assembly did not let me down. Another event filled learning experience.Especially with the Third Legacy voting procedure and the motion voting with Roberts Rules of order. I believe it was the first time I heard the reason for the hat. How the financial report and its inner workings was clarified and explained terms of use. Budget period 11-1 thru 10-31. The elections have a new Secretary Debra by 2⁄3 thirds majority, Registrar Bill via the hat, Treasurer Thomas by acclimation, Alt-Treasurer Christine by the hat. They will be along side Delegate Chris, Alt-Delegate Joe, Chair Nick, Alt- Chair Jen. What was experienced in thevoting the EVEN year rotation (2026). Much more went on. Worth the time and experience.
5. Grapevine- Got back on the website and down loaded the workbook. Will see where I can be of more service. October book of the month: No Matter What–offer good for this title: Sept. 16 thru Oct. 15 only–visit www.aagrapevine.org/botm.
6. November 2nd next Area 58 Grapevine/La Vina chat room meeting-GV/LV chat room/6pm-7pm (PST) Join with Google Meet. Grapevine/La Vina Quarterly video call link: https://meet.google.com/xmq-fydk-xsb Phone numbers (us) +1 413-338-0294 pin: 376 817 905#
7. October 10 attended Safety and Inclusion workshop by Oregon 58 and hosted by District 16 and 7-Jackson and Josephine counties. Attendance thirty plus. Good shares in person and on zoom. Alternating between online and in person. Good presentation Chair and Co-chair through slide presentation. Plenty of literature if wanted. Well done events teams.
8. At Wit's EndQ: What's the difference between AA and Al-Anon?
A: Any old drunk can get into AA. But to get into Al-Anon you gotta know somebody.
Ken J., D 16 GvR, grapevine@medfordareaaa.org 541-772-4472

Penelope announced there will be an Al-Anon Chili Feed this Saturday with AA and Al-Anon speakers at St Vincent's. .

Diana, the Central Office Liaison, gave a report. She said they need a secretary for Central Office. She said that Central Office was recently robbed, money was taken, and they have had to change all the codes for the doors, etc.

GSR reports were given:
Linda B, GSR for Women of Worth, gave a report:
Women of Worth seems to be humming along nicely. As mentioned in past letters, we have a blend of newcomers and those with years of sobriety. Usually we have a lot of participation, probably 90 to 100% of participants share experience as well as struggles.There is a special level of kindness and

intimacy shared in this group. Our group had two in attendance at the Assembly in Gold Beach and at least two on Zoom. Our alternate GSR attended in person and was the person who represented the group in voting.We brought the tabled motion regarding future changes to the Big Book back to the group. After an engaging discussion, we came to our group conscience, in favor. I am looking forward to the Safety and Inclusion Workshop this weekend. I heard of at least one person in our group who intends to attend, as well.Thank you for the opportunity to serve,Linda B.541-613-8864

Ryan B, GSR for How It Works, gave a report:
All is good. Meeting and business meeting are well attended. We added a microphone and speaker system for those sharing in the meeting. It has improved the listening experience for all.

Hallie C, GSR for There is a Solution, gave a report:
We meet every Monday at 6:30p.Come join us on the last Monday of every month for our birthday meeting. We hand out coins and have a long share speaker.On Oct 26 we will be having a potluck.Please come bring a dish to share. We will be providing a main dish. I believe it is chicken.Usually there is always plenty of food. It will be starting around 5:15.Come join us for fun and fellowship.Thank you for allowing me to be of service.Hallie C

Jane M, GSR for Keep It Simple, submitted a report: Format: We read the stories in the Big Book and on the last Wednesday of the month we have a speaker and celebrate milestones in recovery. We also have fellowship, and serve coffee and snacks beginning at 11:30 the last Wednesday of the month. Our business meeting is held on the second Wednesday of the month after the regular meeting.Attendance remains consistent - averaging 15 - 30 participants.We elect new officers to fill positions being vacated every June and December. We will be filling vacated positions at our next business meeting on June 10th. We are presently donating a Big Book a month to a women's treatment facility with funds from our Seventh Tradition funds as well as contributions to District, Central Office, Area 58 and GSO. We hope to purchase copies of the booklet "AA For The Older Adult" to have available at our meeting and possibly provide copies for senior living facilities. We also have a small scholarship fund to assist with fees related to AA activities. to attend via Zoom.
Respectfully submitted,Jane M

Amanda, GSR for Her Story, gave a report.
Garrison, GSR for We Have Recovered, gave a report. Fairly new literature study meeting, Thursday 6 pm. There will be Big Book Trivia event and Potluck soon.
Heather, GSR for Just for Today group, gave a report.
Travis, GSR for Just a Group of Guys, gave a report.
Sherman, GSR for Dog on the Roof, gave a report.
Caitlin, GSR for Sticks with the Winners, gave a report.

John F presented the amended Treasurer's report, with the amount in the SOSM fund corrected to $3185.13, plus some other initial amounts were corrected. (see amended report below). Linda made a motion to approve the amended Treasurer's report and Diana seconded the motion. The amended report was approved.
09302026 Monthly Treasury Report September 2026.pdf

New Business:

1. **Penelope J presented a motion that was brought to the Area Assembly** to be voted on at the next Assembly and then put on the Agenda for the General Service Assembly in April 2027. This should be brought to the groups for their input before the next Assembly, where it will be voted on at the Area Assembly.

MOTION:
Agenda Item Submission Form
(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.
Add the following as a third paragraph in article 3 of the Conference Charter:
No changes to the Doctor's Opinion or the first 164 pages of the book Alcoholics Anonymous may be made without first being submitted as an Agenda Item. for discussion by the Groups.
(2) What problem does this proposed item address?
This proposed item addresses the bypass of the Fellowship's opportunity to participate in discussions when it comes to changes made to AA's basic text.
Because the first 164 pages contain the basic program of recovery, any changes to this text should require participation from the groups. This motion ensures that future changes to our core literature are brought to the Fellowship for discussion prior to decisions made at the conference.
This motion establishes a safeguard to ensure that changes to our basic text come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few.
(3) What level of group conscience, if any, discussed the proposed agenda item? Make it clear who is submitting the item (an individual, group, district, area, etc.).
An A.A. District - District 5 Oregon Area 58
(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:
Existing Conference Advisory Actions put in place to preserve the founders' writings were dismissed at the 74th General Service Conference due to Three primary arguments:
● Conference Authority: No single Conference Advisory Action can legally or procedurally bind a subsequent Conference.
● Urgency: Because the 5th edition was going to be published.
● Definition of Authorship: It was argued that the Conference has never technically defined who "the founders" are.
While the historical context of early literature is complex, there is no debate across our Fellowship that the primary text of Alcoholics Anonymous was written by our founders.
While the 5th edition was scheduled to come out in November 2026, the proposed change could have been made the following April (2027) at the General Service Conference and the 2nd printing could begin 6 short months after the release of the 5th edition.
(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?
The primary outcome of this proposal is to safeguard the group conscience process for A.A.'s basic text. This motion does not diminish the Delegates' Right of Decision, but rather establishes a clear boundary allowing group discussion on changes to the Doctor's Opinion and the first 164 pages.
By ensuring that proposed changes go to the groups for discussion first, this motion strengthens Fellowship engagement, preserves unity, and ensures that core recovery literature is treated with the care and consideration it warrants.

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.
Oregon Area 58, District 5 DCM Jena C. 541-306-0055
District Committee Member: Jena C. - dcm@district5aa.org
Alternate District Committee Member: Christine B. - altdcm@district5aa.org
(7) Final comments:
Several of the groups in District 5 were all writing the same motion, so the district decided to discuss if we want to send in the AI as a district. After discussion for two months, of the 19 voting members the body voted unanimously to send in this AI.
Our concern is entirely with the process by which changes to our basic text occur. We would like to avoid potentially setting a dangerous precedent. We believe the Fellowship should be given the opportunity to consider proposed changes to the Big Book and participate in discussion as part of the process before the Conference votes.
The Doctor's Opinion and the first 164 pages of Alcoholics Anonymous contain the foundational program of recovery. The Big Book is not a pamphlet, or a service piece, rather it is the basic text of our society.

2. **John F presented a motion for District 16:**

District 16 Motion
Submitted by: John Ford Contact Name: John Ford
Phone Number : 458-324-2237 Email : treasurer@medfordareaaa.org

Motion: To disburse $2385.13 of the current Southern Oregon Speaker Meeting fund and maintain an $800 prudent reserve. Proposal is to disburse 60% of the amount to AA General Service Office and 40% to AA Area 58.

Intent/Purpose:
To support Area 58 and GSO in their efforts to recover from deficits in working fund cash
● Area 58 total Cash Position as of September 17 is $34,031.77, while our Working Cash Target is $39,927.50. That puts Area at $5,895.73 below their Working Cash Target, which places Area's financial health in the "Needs More Support" category in terms of 7th Tradition contributions. Improvement over the second quarter has been made when Area was $12,016.12 below the target.
● In December 2025, the General Service Board authorized a Reserve Fund drawdown of up to $750,000 for AAWS and GSB operations. The Reserve Fund assets are $9,850,579. Less the $540,000 Grapevine subscription liability, the Reserve Fund balance is $9,310,579, which is 4.97 months of 2026 budgeted GSO, GV and LV operating expenses. The intent is to maintain a 12 month reserve fund.

Current Practice:
District 16 does not currently make direct contributions to Area or GSO.

Budgetary Impact:
There is currently no budget aligned to SOSM funds or activities. The intent is to maintain $800 in the SOSM fund in order that funds be available when SOSM events are restarted.

There was discussion about this motion. The question was asked about how much the expenses would typically be for the Southern Oregon Speaker meeting in the past. John said that average expenses would be $600 quarterly for out of town speakers. The Speaker meetings were generating a fair amount of income and were self-sustaining most recently. There were questions about the General Service and Grapevine financial situation. It was brought up that it would be good to get the group's conscience on this, can it be brought back to the groups? It was discussed that a committee was formed at Area 58 during the Pandemic when there was a large surplus of funds to decide what to do with that money. It was brought up that this is not an urgent issue. It was discussed that there is no budget for the SOSM, that District would not move money from the general fund if the Speaker meeting fund did not have enough money.

Mae M seconded the motion. There was further discussion about Robert's Rules from the District Guidelines Handbook. There was discussion about some of the excess money going to the Buddy Fund to pay for more GSRs and Committee chairs attending assembly, rather than going to Area and GSO. It was mentioned that GSO lost 5 million dollars during the Pandemic and the prudent reserve they are trying to rebuild is for emergencies like that.

Ryan called the question. A vote was taken to end debate, there were 13 votes to end debate. Then a vote was taken on whether to vote now or table the motion. There were just 3 votes to vote on the motion now, so the motion was tabled and the motion will be discussed at the group level. The motion will be reconsidered at the next District meeting, where the GSRs can give voice to their group's opinions. A motion was made and seconded to end the meeting and the meeting was adjourned with the Responsibility Statement.