

South Florida Area 15

2021 General Service Committee 2022 Panel 71

South Florida, Bahamas, U.S. Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, Antigua, St. Maarten & Cayman Islands

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October 6, 2022

Area 15 Member,

After much thought, conversation and prayer, the Host Committee for the October assembly, your Area 15 officers, and your Quarterly Coordinator Committee members are happy to announce that our rescheduled assembly will be held **Sunday**, **November 6th**, **at Highlands County Fair Association in the Alan Jay Arena**, **781 Magnolia Ave**, **Sebring**, **Florida 33870**.

There were many things to consider in rescheduling our assembly, most importantly, the ability of members in districts affected by Hurricane Ian to participate. We also were mindful of the desire expressed by a majority of our members to meet in person as well as the importance of finding a site as close as possible to our original location for the benefit of our host district, whose members have worked diligently for months to prepare for this assembly. I'm grateful to everyone for their patience as we worked to find a solution that will be best for Area 15 overall.

Included with this letter, and posted to the Area 15 website on the home page under "Next Area 15 Assembly" at https://area15aa.org/, you will find the schedule for our one-day assembly that will allow us to elect Standing Committee chairs; hold an abbreviated business meeting; and elect a Delegate, Alternate Delegate, and Area Officers. It will be your option to attend all or a portion of these events, which will determine your arrival time. Since we are not meeting at a hotel, we have gathered a list of nearby accommodations if you choose to arrive the day before the assembly and/or if you want to stay in Sebring Sunday night. We do not have room block, so it will be up to you to make your own arrangements.

We are still working out the details for coffee but suggest you bring your own food/snacks to sustain you for what will be a full day of service to Area 15.

Many of you have asked what you can do to assist those affected by the hurricane. The outpouring of love and the desire to help others in our area has been heartwarming. Motion #781, approved by the body in 2020, added a \$2,500 line item to the Area 15 budget for disaster relief funds to ship A.A. literature to those who request it. We stand ready to send literature to any district once those needs are known.

Some of you have offered to use your personal resources to provide money, shelter, and items for those in need. Your best course of action would be to contact emergency organizations in the affected areas to find out how you can make those donations. Additionally, you may want to read a wonderful article in the October-November 2005 issue of Box 459 that describes A.A. member outreach to the General Service Office in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to extend to all those affected by Hurricane Ian as some are still dealing with power outages and flooding. We hope that our efforts to bring you a rescheduled assembly will allow for as much participation as possible as we fulfil our primary responsibility as an Area in electing a Delegate to represent us at the General Service Conference.

Thank you for all you do for your groups, your districts, and for Area 15. Your thoughts and prayers for your fellow Area 15 members is truly heartwarming.

Grateful to serve, Lisa D. Area 15 Chairperson, Panel 71 www.area15aa.org