

10am - Sharing Session Opened with the Serenity Prayer by Coree H. Chair

Translation by Juan. Thank you for your service!

Chair Coree H. introduced purpose of Sharing Session. DCMs, visitors, and GSRs attended. Our meeting is open to everyone to learn and participation on the topics.

Announcements. Marianne announced availability of radios, please return them at the end. Recording secretary announced signing in and checking accuracy of email on sign-in sheet.

Presentation – Engaging Dark Groups (i.e., groups that don’t have GSRs) by Stephen R. from DISTRICT 06. Stephen shared his experience, strength and hope with his of involvement in A.A., including H&I, Intergroup, and introduction to General Service – other groups and GSRs made involvement in General Service attractive for him. Attendance at PRAASA increased his interest and enthusiasm in General Service. Stephen shared how his participation in General Service has been attractive to others. DCMs serve as outreach in General Service, both to registered and unregistered groups, and it can be difficult to outreach without sufficient numbers of DCMs. Importance of retaining GSRs to increase representation, and nurture GSRs to become DCMs. Changing terminology of unrepresented groups to “quiet” instead of “dark.” Recommendations: orientation requirement for potential GSRs instead of 2 year sobriety requirement, have Delegate/past Delegates visit groups/events, subdistrict google drive, visiting new groups, pair with DCMs, cooperation with Intergroup, have alternate GSRs visit groups as “visiting GSRs,” have GSRs serve concurrently as DCMs and have two votes. Further added the importance of person to person as a means of outreach. Orient at events whether or not someone is a GSR.

Members Share. Chair suggested going around the room starting from a random place, each person has 90 seconds to share on the presentation. **Comments:** Likes the verbiage of “quiet” group instead of “dark.” Encouraging announcements about General Service in quiet groups.// Also liked “quiet” verbiage. Change of 2 year suggested sobriety requirement could encourage more participation in General Service and be beneficial to her district. Not sure about having two votes.// A lot of radical ideas, brave to come up with them.// Struggles to get DCMs to come to the ACM. Likes the term “unrepresented group.” Likes the orientation requirement. Having an alternate GSR encourages passing it on.// Open to idea of GSRs having one year sobriety, wants to explore the idea of voting twice, likes the idea of orientation for GSRs.// Great sponsorship encouraged service involvement and importance of General Service to support AA for the future.// Shared about tendency to say what groups should be doing, wants to focus more on how he can serve groups better.// Eleventh tradition and bringing his brother to his group, he found General Service attractive by the example of others, wants to make General Service attractive by his example.// Not sure about two votes.// Initially confused about General Service, now sees the importance and value.// Some groups went silent because they didn’t know the GSR stopped serving, responsibility of DCMs to be aware of that and encourage representation and keep those groups informed.// Appreciate that groups can be autonomous and can elect GSRs that don’t have 2 years of sobriety.// Struggles of engaging small groups in General Service.// Encouragement of other members to become involved in Service because it “saved my life,” maybe we shouldn’t be so strict about sobriety requirement.// Giving up GSR position to become a DCM; group hasn’t elected a new GSR; runs into the same problem in other groups. Groups may believe that if they have someone reporting back to the group, why do they need a GSR?// GSR is like a coffee maker – people don’t want to make themselves available, but when it’s needed people will step up. Make announcements at least twice a month to let the group know they have a voice. Making presentations to quiet groups.// Calling “dark” groups “voiceless,” has seen people show up when referred to that way. Having an alternate helpful. It can be a struggle to engage groups, but some respond when making announcements.// Seems like the same people keep rotating through the same service positions, having more workshops, working on sponsors to work on their sponsees, make it sound exciting.// General Service can be one of the most beneficial ways to be of

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service to the group, if they actually know what's going on. Question about redistricting and subdistricting. Like idea of orientation.// People respond to being invited.// Good to hear how to reach out because of poor representation of DCMs. Geographic limitations of subdistricts and redistricting to ensure DCMs have an equal workload. Like idea of GSR orientation.// Get to the meeting early/stay after and talk to individuals; a lot easier to get an individual involved in General Service than an entire group; focus on young people because they haven't heard the negative things about General Service.// Having a GSR orientation meeting before district meeting and orientation manual. // What if we published a list of all the meetings that had GSRs and those that didn't, might compel people to become GSRs. General Service content on bulletin boards. // Empty threats about not having a voice in AA. In favor of lowering/lifting sobriety requirement for involvement in General Service.// Like idea of year requirement.// I became a GSR when I was 9 months sober.

Discussion of possible topics for next month. Communicating conference reports to GSRs and groups.// Group inventories.// How to dispel the myth that General Service is political. → The group voted for communicating conference reports and a presenter made themselves available.

Next Month's Topic → Communicating conference reports to GSRs and groups by Francine from DISTRICT 40 SUBDISTRICT 006.

What's on Your Mind. Skipped due to lack of time.

ALL - Please bring radios. We need everyone to have an opportunity to share. Thank you, Juan, for interpreting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah B., DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary