

Delegates Corner, Panel 69, February 2019

In General Service, we are all human agents of a higher power, carrying the message.

This is the promise of our 2nd Tradition, which together with our 12th Step and our 1st Concept provide the foundation of all we do.

As an alcoholic who has worked the 12 Steps, in order with a sponsor (and now does an imperfect job of trying to work those 12 Steps on a daily basis), I receive a spiritual awakening and that means I try to carry the message to alcoholics. But I have my limitations and so does my home group. So, as a fellowship, we coordinate those things my group and I can't do (such as the provision of a uniform literature that preserves the integrity of our message), these 'general services,' in as loose a structure as we can (9th Tradition). When I think about it that way, I am reminded that even though our discussions might seem abstract at times, this is all 12th Step work.

Our 1st Concept reminds me that everything we do in General Service should make the statement that the *final responsibility and ultimate authority reside in the collective conscience of our whole fellowship*, true.

When I have held those three principles uppermost in my mind, in whatever service commitment I have held, it's so much simpler.

But just to make it interesting, we also are endowed with a traditional *right of decision*, but I think I'll save that for next month!

By virtue of our 2nd Concept, the fellowship delegates its authority to the Conference. In our CNCA terms, that is the collective you--to me. Of course it's not just the authority that gets delegated, but also the responsibility and so, I get to come back from the General Service Conference and inform you all of what I saw, felt, and heard there. I will do that on June 15 in Vacaville at our Post-Conference Assembly. After that date, I am available to come visit your District and deliver an edited (for length) version that will probably evolve over time. Book me now! My schedule is open for 2019, and now booking for 2020 also!

Thank you for your trust and the opportunity to serve.

In love and service,

Teddy B.-W.
CNCA06 Panel 69 Delegate