

Delegate's Corner May 2019

In one of those 'strange' A.A. paradoxes, the closer my journey to our General Service Conference gets, the clearer it becomes, as Bill W., put it: "yet, the heart of AA remains the same, thank God, when one alcoholic reaches out to another, and we find that we can do together what none of us could do alone."

Maybe it's because of all those one-on-one conversations I have been having with all of you, whether it's been via the mechanism of our Pre-Conference Assembly, by email, at events, at districts, and at groups.

I am energized, but calm because I know that I am in the safest of hands—yours!

Thank you for an amazing Pre-Conference Assembly experience! I expected to be tired, but instead I was and remain energized. You informed me well and your participation in the wonderful spiritual democracy we call the Conference Process means that you will be with me in New York – in my head and my heart as I go back to basics and keep these questions and qualities uppermost in my mind:

- Is this service really needed?" (A.A. Service Manual, Page S1)
- Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other. (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 14)
- Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a *series of improving compromises*. (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 37)
- We shall be in continual need of these same attributes — tolerance, responsibility, flexibility, and vision — among our leaders of A.A. services at all levels. (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 39)
- Prudence in practice creates a definite climate, the only climate in which harmony, effectiveness, and consistent spiritual progress can be achieved. (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 61)
- The spiritual power which flows from the activities and attitudes of truly humble, unselfish, and dedicated A.A. servants. This is the real power that causes our Conference to function. (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 62)
- Being generally animated by the spirit of "substantial unanimity." (Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 67)

Together with the Warranties and Bernard B. Smith's *Why Do We Need A Conference?* (which I plan to read each morning of the Conference as part of my spiritual practice) this is my plan of action and, I can hardly wait to return and inform you all of how it went!

See you on the other side!