

Delegate's Corner October 2020

Passing It On

Our upcoming season of rotation reminds me that I am still your delegate and that I am responsible until midnight on December 31: no coasting, no winding-down, no slacking off. Rotation, for me is a welcome change, yes, but also a responsibility, a double edged one.

As much as I may be ready to move on, I have a duty to ensure that I handover a tidy and coherent pass it on. And that takes time, energy, and commitment. It also takes love. What sort of pass it on would I expect? That's the one I get to create. Simple, but not easy. And, as much as I may want to jump into any new service commitment coming my way, I also have a responsibility to offer the person who is passing it on to me that same opportunity. Again, if I let our spiritual principles guide me, all will be well.

Now is the time to start that process—well the intricacies at any rate, because truth be told, I should have been working on that pass-it-on from day one, by keeping good records and storing information that my successor in service will find helpful. Also, as Bill reminds us in Concept IX (three times in fact in the first two paragraphs) furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous effort. So, have I been a good example? Do I encourage others? What more could I be doing? Questions like this help guide my commitment to rotation.

Passing it on is what we do best. When, as a sponsor, we work with a newcomer, we pass along our life-saving and life-giving program of twelve-step recovery. And, just like working with the newcomer, when we pass it on in service, we can do no more than lay the simple kit of tools at the feet of the incoming trusted servant. Just as I can't set my heart on getting anyone sober neither can I set my heart, or rather my attachment, on how the next trusted servant will fulfill their commitment. My way was my way, not the way.

I wish you fun with your pass it on and to wherever your adventures in service take you next.