

DCM Sharing Sessions Minutes March 27, 2021

11:00 AM – Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the Serenity Prayer by Drew B., Chairperson. The session opened with a 10-minute presentation by Benjamin G. of District 12/Sonoma on the topic: **Experience, Strength, and Hope on the Agenda Topics process**

The Presenter shared:

The importance of reading the literature and knowing what the topics are and how they get to the conference. These topics are suggestions by AA members throughout the structure of A.A. No matter where they originate from they go through the same process of the Conference agenda. The GSO Staff reviews to see if it is a topic that has been submitted previously before sending it to the GSC Committee. The presenter expounded on the process of how the suggestions go through the various channels in reaching the General Service Conference. A lot of topics are not original they tend to continue to come up. This allows participation amongst the fellowship in researching issues. They continued and concluded with sharing their experience in General Service and encouraged others to participate in writing an Agenda Topic, and sharing tools to take away:

- 1) Sharing experience, strength and hope with the groups and other GSRs telling how participating has improved their recovery
- 2) Learning how to have a voice and listening to other's opinions
- 3) Having a Service Sponsor as your Go-To
- 4) Agenda Topics Timeline (available on the Area's website of what to expect)
- 5) Reading the AA Service Manual
- 6) Attending the Agenda Topics Workshop hosted by your Districts
- 7) Have refreshments/snacks/food as an initiative
- 8) Invite a God of your understanding: Starting with a Prayer and Closing with a Prayer

In closing, the presenter shared a reading from the Grapevine book AA Today, July 1960 *The Language of the Heart* "It occurs to me that every aspect of this global unfoldment can be related to a single crucial word. The word is *communication*. There has been a lifesaving communication among ourselves, with the world around us, and with God."

18 Members shared:

Their experience, strength, and hope in response to the presenter and the topic. A conglomerate of GSRs, DCMs, and Members of Committees in General Service throughout Area 06 were those members that shared on various ways to increase participation and bringing forth an enthusiasm attractive enough for those new to the Agenda Topics Process. Their experiences as past representatives and new representatives complemented the ins and outs of the daunting task presenting to a Group. The importance in suggesting captivating incentives to gather the Group is to not only share one's own opinions, thoughts and attitudes on a particular topic but to also gain the vital experience: a spiritual experience. A member shared the importance of communicating that there's a Spiritual Experience that comes by hearing God speak through the members of the Group. Jubilation permeated the sharing session hearing the reports of DCMs participating in their GSRs sharing sessions and an abundance of gratitude for the Area Officers putting the Summaries together.

TOPIC FOR NEXT MONTH: How and what are some methods a DCM can use to help GSR's learn? How do you help GSRs learn about General Service?

A collective conscience was given that the lead Ginger O. will present this topic for next month's session to kick us off into discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM with the Responsibility Statement

Respectfully Submitted,

Chase C. DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary