

DCM SHARING SESSION MAY 22, 2021

DCM Sharing Sessions Minutes May 22, 2021

11:00 AM – Sharing Session held virtually; opened with the Serenity Prayer by JB, Interim Chairperson for Drew B.

The session opened with a 10-minute presentation by Megan on the topic: **Reviewing and looking at the history and why the General Service calendar is the way it is. Why is the General Service Conference in April? How did we get here?** (*GSC is used in short for General Service Conference)

The Presenter shared a PowerPoint:

Resources that assisted in gathering information were [AA Comes of Age](#), [Silkworth.net](#), [General Service Manual](#), and the [Book That Started It All](#). Why is the GSC in April so soon after the GSRs are elected?

The first GSC was April 1951. Before that nothing was linking A.A. to the Trustees -- The Foundation.

- The need for a General Conference.
- Realization that Dr. Bob and Bill couldn't live forever.
- The fact that the trustees were generally unknown in the Fellowship.
- Recognition that the trustees would need future guidance from the movement itself.
- Appreciation that A.A. was "growing up" and being able to assume rightful responsibility for the Headquarters and services.
- The importance of bringing the trustees into closer contact with the movement of A.A.
- The need to be prepared to face some potentially grave crisis with action in the best interests of A.A.
- Closing the gap between our Alcoholic Foundation and the A.A. Groups.
- It was agreed that Conferences would be held on an experimental basis from 1951 through 1954.
- Our Group Conscience could safely act as a sure guide.
- The Fourth Conference was the last Trial held April 21-25, 1954.
- Why the GSC is in April? It is essentially in service all year round.

Twenty-Three members shared the following in their response to the presentation by Megan:

The first delegate of CNCA06, Nick N., was elected by Bill Wilson at the Northern California Council of A.A. Conference; Nick N. was pioneer in establishing and starting the first Groups in San Francisco and Oakland, California; there was the question, how could we as DCMs help the GSRs prepare during this extensive period; encouraging your GSRs to come to the DCM Sharing Sessions and how the sessions is a forum to learn; a question of consideration "How much involvement am I willing to immerse myself in General Service?" a member posed; the value of the DCM Sharing Sessions is paramount; asking someone to be a Service Sponsor, and that's when things really took off; the schedule helps the GSR; there is no good way to start the process; the best way is to just start; it is a microcosm of communication of how we can be a better community; when you are idle you go bad, so be of service; service is what keeps me from drinking; the Service Manual is the secret; the desire to fix and tell everyone how to do it transformed to listening and investigating how I am to carry myself onto other people

TOPIC FOR NEXT MONTH: Keeping the Area Meetings Virtual. What are the costs, assets, and liabilities?

Liz C. from San Francisco volunteered to present this topic for next month's session to kick us off into discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM with the Responsibility Statement

*Respectfully Submitted,
Chase C. DCM Sharing Session Recording Secretary*