

# Group Representatives Opening Session Agenda

## “Recovery through Service”

### Saturday, Oct. 20, 2018

Facilitator: Terry Woodside, Alternate Delegate, [twoodside1@verizon.net](mailto:twoodside1@verizon.net)

Virginia Area Website: [www.vaalanon.org](http://www.vaalanon.org)

WSO Website: [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org)

#### I. Resources:

1. Welcome New and Returning Group Representatives!

2. See the Area Website for what we covered in our first 5 Opening Sessions; the “GR Guide to Assembly;” the agendas for previous GR Opening Sessions, and the WSO Guideline sheet “Group Representatives,” G-11, and the “Informed Group Conscience.”

3. See also your 2018 – 2021 Service Manual (SM): pages 60 - 61 for GR duties, and pages 141 – 143 for GR duties as Assembly members.

#### II. Review of Past Opening Sessions

##### 1. Spring 2016

- Service Manual (SM), World Service Conference Chart Structure, page 171
- GR Resources
- GR Duties and Responsibilities

##### 2. Fall 2016

- Business Meetings and Group Consciences, SM, p.51-53
- The Informed Group Conscience Process; Warranty 3 - SM, p. 220; “GR Guide to Assembly,” p. 4, ‘Decisions.’

##### 3. Spring 2017

- Different Ways to conduct a Group Inventory
- Commonalities of Wildly Successful Groups,” research by our own Brook S.

##### 4. Fall 2017

- Group Problems and Solutions

## 5. Spring 2018

- Elections within your Group and District
- Moving on in Service

## 6. Round Table Discussion

- Last time your assignment was to connect with GRs from other Districts and discuss how your Group's and District's elections were going. At your table, discuss the following questions:

*What is my group's progress so far in filling group positions for the next panel, starting in Jan. 2019? What positions remain open? (See SM, p. 59 – 61 for listing of Group Service Positions).*

*Then discuss the same questions for your District.*

- Share the highlights of your table's discussions.

## 7. How can I, as my group's GR, aid my group and my district in being self-supporting?

- Help your group understand the importance of maintaining the links of Service as shown on the WSC Structure Chart, (SM, p. 171).
- "A group that fails to have a Group Representative denies its members a voice and causes a break in the link of communications," (SM, p. 69).
- Tradition 7, "Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." *When I Got Busy, I Got Better (P-78),* quote page 47-48.
- ***Paths to Recovery***, (B-24), multiple Service passages listed in Index
- ***"World Service Conference Summary, 2015*** (p. 63-67) – "Task Force: Identify, Gather and Present Practices that Demonstrate a Healthy, Thriving Group." Quote – 'A healthy group enthusiastically encourages service work and is self-supporting through members' voluntary contributions...' and 'Rotates service positions regularly.'

### III. Stretch Break

### IV. Area Elections

- Elections this weekend for Area Officers – Delegate, Alternate Delegate, Area Chairperson, Alternate Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Alternate Treasurer/Secretary (SM, p. 152)
- 1985 Area Motion, included in your Assembly packet
- Nominations on Saturday night
- Voting on Sunday morning

**Assignment:**

1. Prayerfully consider your next Service Position.
2. Prayerfully consider volunteering to be your group's new GR's Service Sponsor.

**Tonight 8:15 to 9:15 – GR Chat Room: Panel Discussion and the Ask It Basket.** You can write down any question you may have about your GR position, what we discussed this morning, the Assembly, your group, the voting issues, Area Elections this weekend or any other matter that comes up today. Our panel will address your question. See you tonight!