

Dear District 7 GSRs, Committee Chairs, Committee Members, Group Members,
and other Trusted Servants,

At our May District meeting, we began a discussion about ways to condense the Area 36 calendar. The item came up in response to the intense demands placed on AA members who volunteer for Area or District service. As it stands now, the Area calendar includes 13 meetings, workshops, conferences, or trainings in a single year. This is in addition to regular monthly District meetings. Any District Committee that has separate committee meetings would require still more time commitment above and beyond this already lengthy list of scheduled meetings.

The two proposals that came up at our May District meeting are:

- 1) Combine the Area 36 Recovery, Unity, and Service Conference (RUSC) with the Area 36 Trusted Servant Leadership Training (TSLT).
- 2) Combine the Delegate's Workshop (usually in April) with the March Area Assembly.

We asked District 7 GSRs, Committee Chairs, and others to come prepared to discuss these items on Monday, July 14th. Our discussion will be about how best to forward this conversation at the District and Area levels.

These two proposals are meant to help the Area become more efficient. Over the years, the Area has changed its schedule and changed the formats of its meetings, conferences, and workshops many times. (Please see the attached excerpts of past actions of Area 36 that pertain to the number, type, and format of Area meetings.) Because the Area has added a number of new events and increased the number of times it meets for business, the result has been a slow, piecemeal build up in the number of scheduled meetings and events. The result is an Area schedule that requires an enormous time commitment of our GSRs, District Committee Chairs, District Officers, and Area counterparts. The slowly creeping expansion of the Area calendar may, in fact, be limiting the number of AA members who could and would consider acting as one of our trusted servants. The more we meet to talk about issues of Area structure and finance and policy, the more we are tempted to think too much about how we conduct our meetings rather than focusing on what we should be doing to carry the message of AA. The District 7 discussion is motivated by our hope to refocus our District and Area on carrying the message and gathering AA's group conscience.

Thanks for all your service,
Curt

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