

The GSR Report

(Adapted by a handout developed by District 6, MSCA 09)

One of the main duties of the GSR is to keep their Group informed, and the primary instrument is the GSR report. A GSR report should be given as often as the group conscience dictates. It is the responsibility of the GSR to provide information in a timely, informed, and concise matter. What follows are *suggestions* for a successful GSR report.

The GSR report should be kept *simple and short*. Stand up. Speak clearly. Maintain eye contact with your group. Show enthusiasm. When you take your report seriously, your group will also. When you practice a program of attraction, the group's ears will perk up.

A simple GSR report has five basic segments: introduction, purpose, topic, service opportunity, and closing. Depending on how much time is spent on presenting a topic, a good GSR report can be done in as little as *one or two minutes*. Remember the three service Bs: Be Enthusiastic, Be Brief, and Be Seated.

Introduction

Say who you are and express gratitude that you serve your group. Minimize abbreviations and specialized vocabulary since people tune out things they don't understand. Example: "My name is ____ and I am delighted to be your alcoholic General Service Representative!"

Purpose

Tell what General Service is and what we do. Don't assume that everyone knows. There is a lot of misinformation, ignorance, and prejudice in the Fellowship regarding General Service. Example: "AA's purpose is to care the message of recovery, and General Service carries the message in ways that individuals and groups can't, *in order to preserve the future of Alcoholics Anonymous*." You might provide further illustrations such as publishing literature, negotiating with the prison system for meeting privileges, etc.

Topic (think of this as a Teaser Trailer)

Talk about what is going on in General Service, not what is going on in General Service meetings! *Be a messenger of hope, service, and Unity, NOT a messenger of confusion, annoyances, or disagreement*. (When you come to better understand the Concepts, you will come to experience what seems before like arguments and politics as *loving discussion* in the service of determining the best possible future for AA.) Tell what various committees are doing. Examples: an update on the next edition of the Big Book, or a progress report on the public service announcements the Public Information committee provides to local cable TV companies.

Service Opportunity

Let your Group know there are always opportunities to help! A member of your Group may have a particular interest, expertise, or desire to perform one of the many services. Part of your mission is to help others to be of service.

Closing:

Tell your Group you are available after the meeting if they have any questions, and thank them sincerely for the opportunity to be of service.

Sample GSR Report

Just a suggestion. Please tailor to your group's needs & desires. But remember to keep it simple.

My name is _____ & I serve as this group as your elected General Service Representative

Our group is Part of **District #6**, which is 1 of 24 Districts in Mid-Southern California **Area 09**.
This monthly meeting was held on Tuesday (month & day) _____, 2017.

“The General Service Representative has the job of linking his or her group with A.A. as a whole. The G.S.R. represents the voice of the group conscious, reporting the group's thoughts to the district committee member and to the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference.” - S26 General Service Manual

Here are some highlights from the meeting:

Upcoming District & Area service opportunities & activities:

Our District received \$_____ total this month in donations. Our group contributed \$_____. Please remember to support A.A., as it is fully self-supporting through OUR own contributions.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in Service Work, please see me after the meeting, and thank you for letting be of service to this group!

**I am responsible.
When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help.
I want the hand of AA always to be there.
And for that; I am responsible!**