

D.C.M. Visit to the Home Group

Approved by the MSCA Assembly on Jan. 8, 2006

The General Service Office (G.S.O.) recently published an article in *Box 4-5-9** entitled "The D.C.M.: the Linchpin between Group Reps and The A.A. Service Structure", describing this key role in our efforts to effectively communicate and share ideas across Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole. Listed below are some basic suggestions for District Committee Members (DCMs) to consider when preparing to present to a Home Group as part of a DCM visitation. Use the following as guidelines and remember to "**be quick, be brief, and be seated**".

PURPOSE:

Strengthen the links in A.A. as a whole by informing the Home Group of the District, Area and G.S.O. services that are available:

- District:**
- Provide information and help bring resolution using A.A. Traditions.
 - Encourage Home Group participation by inviting them to elect a General Service Representative (G.S.R.) and/or contact.
- Area:** Forum to present the Home Group's group conscience to their Delegate to take to General Service Conference
- GSO:**
- Inform the Group how contributions are being spent to provide support from A.A. as a whole.
 - Update Group information using *G.S.O Home Group Registration* form.

PREPARATION:

Contact the Home Group by phone first using G.S.O registration information to make arrangements for visit:

- Confirm time and location of meeting by calling or speaking with a Group Member or Secretary.
- Ask before the visit what information the Home Group would be interested in and obtain relevant information.
- Arrange place in meeting format for the D.C.M. presentation and ask for 5 minutes for presentation.
- Ensure D.C.M. Visit Kits, Contribution Information service pieces, and G.S.O Registration materials prepared for presentation.
- Arrive early to meeting and introduce yourself to Home Group Members and be sensitive to their interests. Confirm presentation plans with Home Group Secretary and/or Leader.

PRESENTATION:

The D.C.M. can start their presentation with a description of the importance of strengthening the fellowship's unity to pass on the AA message of hope to the still suffering alcoholic and the Home Group's opportunity to participate: "**As a member of this Home Group you are part of District (##), a geographical division of Mid-Southern California Area, Area 9, one of 15 Areas in AA's Pacific Region. The Area 9 Delegate carries the Home Group's opinion to the yearly General Service Conference in New York and the Home Group is encouraged to elect a General Service Representative to participate in 'AA as a Whole'. Bill W. suggested a GSR have two years of sobriety and serve their Home Group for two years.**"

Presentations can also include these suggestions:

- Inform of their district's meeting time and location and invite them all to participate, including those that want to participate in the District Committees such as Public Information, Literature, or Archives.
- Share information addressing this Home Group's interests as you understand them.
- Show and describe contents and purpose of pamphlets and Contribution Worksheet Flyer in the DCM Visit Kit and after description give the Kit to the Home Group Secretary / Treasurer.
- Make yourself available by phone and/or at District meeting location.
- Invite all Home Group members to the District and Area meetings.
- Inform Home Group members of the Mid-Southern California Area (M.S.C.A.) website for further information and maps. (www.msca09aa.org)
- Ask for questions and answer them if possible. If not, let Members know you will follow up and provide answers and/or references to places, or persons to get answers.
- Thank the Group and Secretary/Leader for allowing you to visit their Home Group. Communicate that you hope to see them at a District or Area meeting in the near future and that you are available to provide assistance and introduce them to other Members participating in General Service. Be sure to come up to you for assistance and introductions to other members).
- Before or after visit, update the GSO registration information with group secretary and be sure to provide any updated information to the District and Area Registrars as soon as possible.

You will be surprised how welcomed this information and your visits are by the Home Groups visited.

REMEMBER:

BE QUICK, BE BRIEF, AND BE SEATED

* msca link: <http://msca09aa.org/documents/DCMschItems/DCMLinchpin4.pdf> to BOX 459 Article Holiday issue, Dec. 2003, page 8