

My group elected me as their new
“GSR” ...



WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

“The strength of our whole A.A. service structure starts with the group and with the general service representative (G.S.R.) the group elects. I cannot emphasize too strongly the G.S.R.’s importance.”

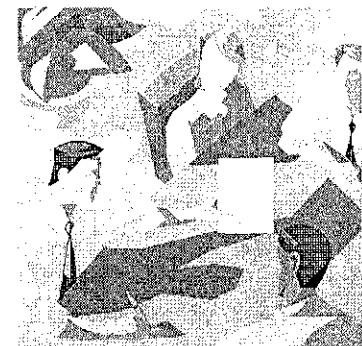
-Bill W.


What is a “G.S.R.”?

- **G.S.R.** stands for *General Service Representative*.
- A **G.S.R.** is a trusted servant for their group, who carries their group’s conscience (desires and concerns) to the district level.
- A **G.S.R.** gives an accounting to their group of district events and concerns.

The Monthly District GSR Meeting... *Is there more to it than just picking up the flyers?*

- Being informed about Area and District events – both past and present.
- Discovering what our various committees are doing within A.A. and the community.
- Learning about where and how our money is being spent.
- Becoming knowledgeable about our service structure as a whole on the District and Area levels.
- Voting your group's conscience on key issues and concerns.
- **BRINGING A FRIEND AND MAKING IT FUN!**





What do I do when I can't make it to the monthly meeting?

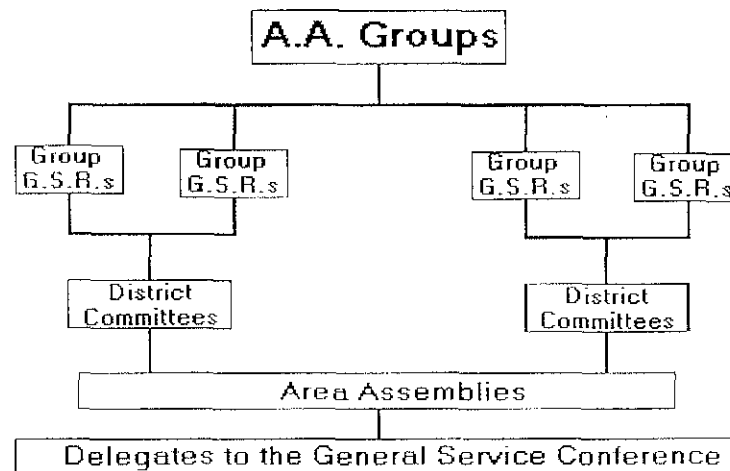
Sometimes things happen that prevent us from attending the monthly District GSR meeting. Does that mean that we are left uninformed about what's happening that month, and that our group has no say in current District business?

*The answer to that question is most definitely NO... for just such reasons we should elect an Alternate GSR**.

*Alternate GSRs are elected by a group to serve in the absence of their regular GSR. They do not have a vote at the District meeting unless their GSR is not present, but they are encouraged to attend any meetings the GSR does.

What is this “Service Structure” I hear so much about?

How The A.A. Group Fits Into
The Structure of the Conference
(United States & Canada)



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What am I supposed to do?



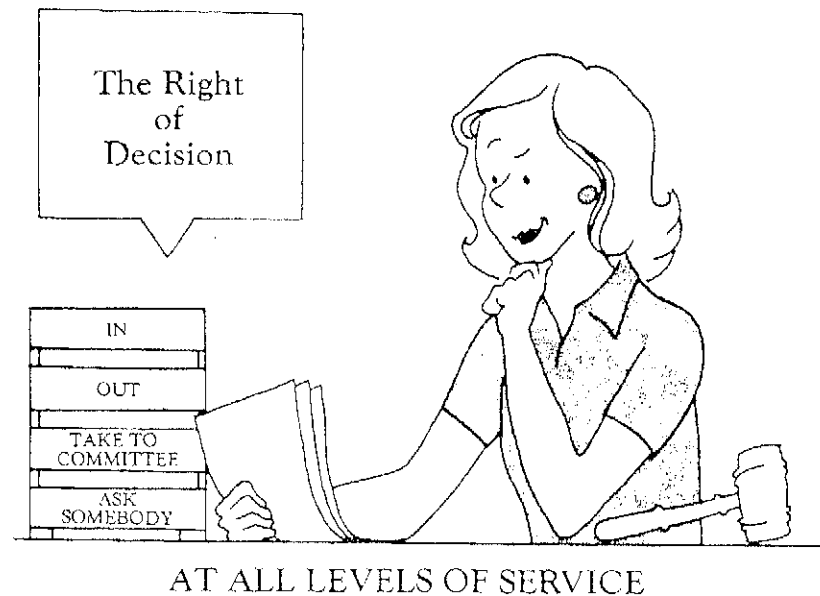
- The GSR has the job of linking their group with AA as a whole.
- The GSR has the responsibility of representing their group at District and Area functions.
- In most cases, this requires the GSR to report their group's conscience based on informed discussion of the issue.
- In other cases, usually minor business known as housekeeping issues, GSRs make decisions based on knowledge of their group's will. This is commonly referred to as **Right of Decision**.
- The GSR also brings information regarding service opportunities to the group.
- It is suggested that a GSR or Alternate get a **Service Sponsor**.

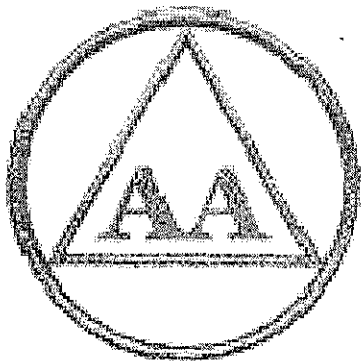
What is the “Right of Decision?”

(Concept III)

You may exercise your
“**Right of Decision**” if:

- ✓ A vote has to be taken immediately, due to time constraints.
- ✓ You may vote contrary to your group’s conscience if new information is presented that you feel would sway their decision.



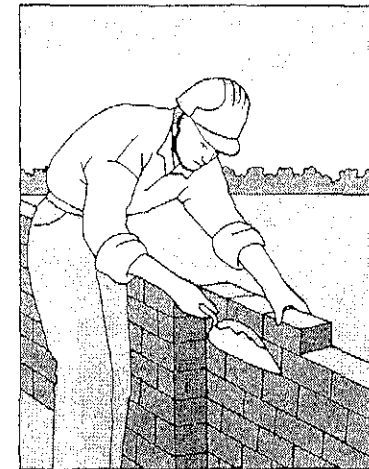


Somebody suggested I get a “*Service Sponsor.*” I already have a *Sponsor* – Why do I need another one?

- A **Service Sponsor** is not a replacement for your regular A.A. Sponsor – he or she should be somebody who has been involved in service a while and is well-versed in the **Traditions** and **Concepts**.
- A **Service Sponsor** is simply somebody you can ask questions about service-related issues and seek the guidance that only personal experience can provide.

What about the 12 Traditions and 12 Concepts?

- AA's 12 Traditions are the guidelines to help the groups function effectively.
- AA's 12 Concepts were developed as a framework for the World Service Board and Service Structures alike.





A parting thought...

As you grow in your new responsibility, your scope of the Fellowship will broaden, you will make many friends, and your sense of Gratitude will deepen. While all this might be new and confusing, stay with us for awhile, give us the opportunity to help you understand. You might be surprised to see, that through it all you are not only enjoying yourself, but also feel that you are truly a part of the whole, in a different kind of Twelfth-Step work.