

January 2018

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Thoughts From The Trustees – Current and Past

Disclaimer – The Trustee Line is a function of the Board of Trustees of Gamblers Anonymous. It is intended solely as a forum for members of the Board of Trustees to share opinions on issues related to Gamblers Anonymous. Any postings in this or any other edition of the Trustee Line are not to be construed as the opinion of Gamblers Anonymous, as a whole. The publication of any items on the Trustee Line do not constitute an endorsement or statement of approval or acknowledgement by Gamblers Anonymous of what the contents are.

The subjects listed below are themes that have been submitted by other Trustees. You may respond to any of them, or start an entirely new subject

Subjects that receive submissions from at least 13 different people, will trigger an email blast to all the current and past Trustees, signifying a 'Hot Topic Alert' on the Trustee Line.

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| 1. | Principles Before Personalities | 01/01/18 – 12:00 PM | 1 |

Principles Before Personalities

01/01/2018 – 12:00 PM

It is hard for me to state how I felt at the past Trustee meeting in Ontario, from the opening confrontation to the end. As a past trustee, past BOR, and current BOR, I do feel the executive board of the trustees should really keep their STRONG opinions to themselves because, yes, you do set the attitude for the meeting and when I see the chairman can't wait to get off the podium to speak on an item he does affect the audience. What happened to "I say what I mean, I mean what I say, but I don't say it meanly."

Where it went wrong was no one announced that they were talking about the past BOR that had already served there terms and were no longer on the present board, for the items about the IES. There were 5 items for the GC with the same change about adding , "other designated individual", you passed two and failed three, I am confused, how does that happen. Again, I accept your decisions but

there was so much ATTITUDE directed at the BOR from the opening statement all the way through the meeting.

Also this information is available to all of the trustees if they only choose to read the bulletins with the information, it should not have been a shock to any of them or you do have the right to read your agenda and call anyone to help you understand before you get to the meeting. The distress between the two boards is being created by statements and attitudes.

I personally feel y'all did not even understand my agenda item #25, because the chairman jumped to the floor to tell you this would not be good, but he didn't tell you why. Do all of the trustees believe they should have no guidelines set for themselves but for everyone else. Our fellowship has a guidance code, the BOR is guided by the bylaws, our conferences international and minis have guidelines, trustees have guidelines to follow but the BOT believes they should have no guidelines for their Trustee Meetings only. I accept your decision but you set a standard for yourselves that gives you freedom to do as you choose, that's truly disheartening. As a member of this fellowship I do have a say about how my donations are spent and this forum allows me that option.

This is not the fellowship I joined almost 20 years ago, I learned to go into every situation with one attitude, it can only go two ways, good or bad, yes or no. If I am not ready for both I have no business entering the situation. So I leave my feelings here. I have love and compassion for everyone today and yes you have the right to vote as your area has directed you and I accept it with a heavy heart. I can only pray that your Cancun Meeting starts off with a more upbeat and compassionate opening statement.

The primary function of the BOT shall be to insure the most effective exchange of thoughts and ideas between all Gamblers Anonymous groups and to act for our Fellowship in an official and executive capacity on all matters affecting Gamblers Anonymous as a whole, EXCEPT in matters coming under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents or International Executive Secretary.

Betty S – Area 7 – Louisiana