

Trustee Line – Current Issue

February 2020

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Thoughts From The Trustees – Current and Past

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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.

Item	Subject	Last Entry	Entries
1.	Losing Our Primary Focus	2/3 – 9:00 PM	1
2.	Agenda; New Business; Item #4, Combo Book	2/14 – 10:34 AM	1
3.	–	–	–
4.	–	–	–

1. Losing Our Primary Focus

Feb 3, 2020 – 9:00pm

Is Gamblers Anonymous losing focus on our primary purpose or has the focus been lost? Gamblers Anonymous program should be a welcoming and loving experience for one to find recovery. We learn in our fellowship we don't need to punish ourselves, we should not hurt others either working to recover from one of the most baffling, insidious, compulsive addictions.

If the agenda item proposal for the combo book, proposed agenda item:

What is a Group (bold)

Whenever two or more persons with a desire to stop gambling meet together on a regular, weekly scheduled basis to discuss their gambling problems, they will be known as a group, only if they commit themselves to follow Gamblers Anonymous Guidance Code and limit their use, display and distribution to only approved and appropriate Gamblers Anonymous literature. Failure to comply with Guidance Code will result in the meeting no longer being recognized as part of Gamblers Anonymous and such meeting will be removed from the International Service Office directory of meetings.

If this item is approved on the first vote by us trustees, what comes next? Will it be to throw members out of Gamblers Anonymous because they FAIL to comply with PAGE 17 will result for the member to be no longer being recognized as part of Gamblers Anonymous and such member will be removed from a group's telephone list and be removed as a Lifeline by the International Service Office if they are a Lifeline. I pray for us trustees that we do not head down that path. I came into Gamblers Anonymous fellowship on September 25, 1989, over 30 years ago and haven't gambled since. I know many other members before me and since me that have done the same by practicing the 12 Steps of Recovery, 12 Steps of Unity and page 17 to the best of our ability. We all come into this program for the same reason to stop gambling. We all stay in the program to stay stopped, we learn we have a choice for a better life and to share the message of hope with others. Let us work on the betterment of our fellowship to help us continue to share our primary purpose and not minimize our primary purpose. If your group was thrown out of Gamblers Anonymous before or after you found Gamblers Anonymous for help, would you have gone to a further away meeting or still be in the program? A question we all should hope is no person will ever have to find the answer. Please I encourage our trustees throughout the world, for us to continue sharing the message of hope, that we keep our programs focus of our Gamblers Anonymous primary purpose and humbly ask the author of this item to have it withdrawn. Thank you for your consideration.

I congratulate you all today celebrating another day.

Walter G. – Trustee – Area 12 – New Jersey

Agenda; New Business; Item #4, Combo Book

Feb. 14, 2020 – 10:36am

I wonder how many of our members have never even seen, much less read our GA Guidance Code. Also, many of us have our "program", our "homeroom", or our "meetings"; but you seldom hear them being referred to a "groups". To see the actual definition of a "group" in our Combo Book will give more expression to its importance and purpose, and remind everyone that, like all of us, groups have rules.

Your friend in recovery,

John B – Trustee – Area 13, Pennsylvania