

# Trustee Line – Current Issue

June 2018

A PDF version of this issue to distribute to your rooms, or to print out for easier reading, will be available after 6/30/18.

## 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.

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### Possible Solution

6/2 – 9:00 AM

I read John B's post about how the perception of the Trustee Line is that people bitch about problems and nobody has a solution. As it relates to the Trustee Line, participation is scant, at best. After what seemed like an interminable amount of time being the Trustee Website Admin, I noticed that another problem is the same as what plagues us with the semi-annual agendas; people are busy with their own lives and don't generally think about submitting or even viewing the Trustee Line and also, submitting items to the agenda. I think we would all agree that these are secondary items of importance to the vast majority of the current and past Trustees.

I have a solution for both. This is something I have mentioned to Mike R, our current Trustee Website Admin, but I'm not sure how he might best accomplish this. So this is more of a thought in progress, not a work in progress right now. Let me lay out the general thinking about how my idea would work. Currently, all current Trustees are registered to the website. This is done to send messages to all the Trustee, as directed by the BOT Chair and the IES. Any past Trustee can be registered with a simple request, but it doesn't entitle you to any specific privileges on the website, at least not yet.

My idea is to have an 'opt-in' feature on the site. This would be a feature designated function. It would enable the registered members to make decisions as to which items on the website they want to be notified about when something is updated. For example, if you want an email advising you that someone has submitted an agenda item, you would check the box on the entitlements page of the website, which would have to be programmed to work. The opt-in feature would also let you uncheck the box if you had no interest in that particular segment. Obviously, the same thing would happen with the Trustee Line and possibly many other aspects of the website.

I maintain that if people are made aware that a change has happened somewhere on the site, then they would divert a moment or two from their busy days just to see what's going on. Who knows, maybe we would have many more members participating. Maybe we would have more items on each agenda that would take us into two full sessions at the Trustee meetings and maybe more. Just maybe, we could have some robust items on the agenda, other than 'bold this word' or 'capitalize this phrase' in the Combo Book.

Two heads are better than one and five are better than two. Our Fellowship is incredibly fragmented throughout the world. Influences from outside Fellowships are eroding the very fiber of Gamblers Anonymous. If we had more people coming up with possible solutions to the myriad problems in this Fellowship, then somewhere in the mix would be a group of Trustees who might be able to come up with a solution. Getting a better picture of how these problems exist, would intensify the desire to clean up the mess that many of us aren't even aware of if we remain cloistered in our own rooms.

Fewer internal problems make for happier members. I think I heard that somewhere.

David M.  
Area 12, New Jersey

6/5 – 7:30 PM

I think David has an idea that would increase the amount of discussion happening on the Trustee Line and keep everyone more up to date and better informed. I know I have to dig myself out of my everyday rut and go looking at the Trustee Line to see what's there. I am often disappointed; but I see it as something that is important for me to do.

Terry D.  
Area 3C, Nevada

6/6 – 11:30 AM

I like David's idea of opting in to be notified whenever someone posts something on the Trustee Line. Perhaps it could be something as simple as creating a "group email list", consisting of Trustees wishing to be notified of all posts. That way whenever something is posted, the administrator sends a simple notification to all on the list.

I'm notified several times a day that someone has posted something on Facebook, and I'm not nearly as interested in that as I would be something posted to our Trustee Line.

What do you think, Mike?

John B  
Area 13, Pennsylvania