

INFORMATION FROM GSO

Naming Convention for Groups:

AA Pamphlet entitled: The AA Group, pgs. 21 and 22 beginning in the paragraph named "Naming an AA Group" states:

No matter how noble the activity or institution, experience has taught A.A. groups to carefully avoid any affiliation with or endorsement of any enterprise outside A.A.

Tradition Six: An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Even the appearance of being linked to any organization, club, political or religious institution needs to be avoided.

Therefore, an A.A. group that meets in a correctional facility or a church should take care not to use the institutions name, but to call itself something quite different. This makes it clear that the A.A. group is not affiliated with the hospital, church, prison, treatment facility, or whatever, but simply rents space there for meetings.

Our A.A. group conscience, as voiced by the General Service Conference, has recommended that "family" meetings, "double trouble" and "alcohol and pill" meetings not be listed in A.A. directories. The use of the word "family" might invite confusion with AI-Anon Family groups, a fellowship entirely separate from A.A.....It is misleading to hint or give the impression that A.A. solves other problems or knows what to do about drug addiction.

There has also been a recommendation by the A.A. General Service Conference that no A.A. group be named after any actual person, living or dead, A.A. or non-A.A. That is one way we can "place principles before personalities".

AA Literature series P-16; The AA Group....Where it all begins pages 21 and 22

Adding New Groups

- When adding a new group there **MUST** be a group contact added to the record. It can be a GSR, Alt GSR or mail contact. Without a contact on the record once the 30 day pending period expires there will be no one listed to receive the "New Group Kit or continued mailing of Box 459.
- Newly added groups with GSRs **DO NOT** receive GSR kits. They will only receive new group kits at the end of the 30 pending period.
- When a new group is added by the Area the status is "New". The next business day GSO's Records department researches the group name, reviews the record for completeness and modifies the status from "New" to "Pending Active" this begins the New Group 30 Day Pending period. During this 30 day period please **DO NOT modify** the record. Modifying the record during the 30 Day pending period restarts the 30-Day pending period.

Please Keep Addresses Current

With the increased costs of postage, the expense of resending mail or disposing of returned mail, which can not be forwarded, is skyrocketing at the GSO. An incorrect or incomplete address information i.e. incorrect zip/postal codes, missing apt or suite numbers, moving with no postal forwarding and/or omitting c/o directions, results in late or non-receipt of mail. The above listed are the primary reasons the GSO receives and processes so much returned mail.