

August Tradition and Concept of the Month and checklists *

Tradition Eight

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

1. Is my own behavior accurately described by the Traditions? If not, what needs changing?
2. When I chafe about any particular Tradition, do I realize how it affects others?
3. Do I sometimes try to get some reward-even if not money-for my personal AA efforts?
4. Do I try to sound in AA like an expert on alcoholism? On recovery? On medicine? On sociology? On AA itself? On psychology? On spiritual matters? Or, heaven help me, even on humility?
5. Do I make an effort to understand what AA employees do? What workers in other alcoholism agencies do? Can I distinguish clearly among them?
6. In my own AA life, have I any experiences which illustrate the wisdom of this Tradition?
7. Have I paid enough attention to the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions? To the pamphlet AA Tradition-How It Developed?

Concept Eight:

The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.

1. Do we understand the relationship between the two corporate service entities (A.A. World Services, Inc., the A.A. Grapevine) and the General Service Board?
2. How can the business term “custodial oversight” apply to the trustees’ relationship to the two corporate service entities?
3. Does my home group subscribe to G.S.O.’s bimonthly newsletter Box 4-5-9? The A.A.Grapevine? Do I?
4. Do the trusted servants in my home group do a good job delegating? Do I?

* The traditions checklists were published in The Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. The Concepts checklists were originally developed by an A.A. group and further developed by the trustees’ Literature Committee to be distributed by the General Service Office. The version used is the revision dated July, 2002. This handout brought to you by the District 15 Love and Service Committee.