

Join the Public Information Committee

Help Carry The Message as Part of Your Service Work

District 3, Area 34 (Holland, Zeeland, Hamilton, Fennville, Glenn,
South Haven, Saugatuck/Douglas area) is forming a
Public Information Committee
to help carry the message to the fellowship and non-AA community,
including schools, organizations, business, institutions and
professionals.

If you are interested in helping, call Tom M. at 616.283.0057.
Committee members will determine what work should be done and on
what timetable. We will begin with a monthly meeting.

Specific length of sobriety is not a requirement, although you should
have (or be willing to learn) a good understanding of the
12 Steps and 12 Traditions.

The backside of this has a list of suggested goals for Public
Information.

Call Tom M. 616.283.0057

TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

Sometimes, it is the local P.I. committee that is responsible for the A.A. listing in the phone book (including the Yellow Pages).

P.I. COMMITTEE SHARING

As part of P.I. shared experience, the following is a list of goals from a district P.I. committee:

1. Be sure every public library has at least one Conference-approved book, e.g. the Big Book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* or *Living Sober*.
2. Let the Fellowship know how to reach out to the hearing impaired.
3. Place a literature rack in every high school, college, police station, library and hospital in the district and keep the rack stacked with appropriate literature and meeting schedules.
4. Send a letter to high schools, offering A.A. literature and/or a presentation on A.A.—what we do and what we do not do.
5. Send a letter to convalescent homes, rest homes and senior centers in the district offering A.A. literature and/or a presentation on A.A.
6. List open A.A. meetings in the newspapers in the district.
7. Place a small (paid if necessary) announcement in every district newspaper around the holidays.
8. Work with the newspapers — anonymity, Traditions — generating interest in our Fellowship.
9. Respond to speaking requests at non-A.A. meetings in the district.
10. Place Public Service Announcements with radio and television stations.
11. Put meeting schedules behind the front desks at every hotel, motel and bed and breakfast.
12. Participate in district and state A.A. seminars and conventions.
13. Fight apathy within the Fellowship, find a co-chair and interested people in order to achieve all the above, and most importantly, keep your sanity and stay away from the first drink.

INFORMING THE FELLOWSHIP

Though the "public" in "public information" refers to non-A.A.s, many local P.I. committees consider that helping to keep the Fellowship itself informed is also among their responsibilities.

Building wider understanding of the Twelve Traditions among A.A. groups is a common P.I. activity; special meetings are often held for

this purpose. Committees everywhere have been successful in explaining the P.I. applications of Tradition Eleven. Some A.A.s once tended to oppose any P.I. work as "promotion," but such confusion is rare.

Many P.I. committees provide local members with reports on all P.I. activities in the area. This is an excellent way to enlist the cooperation of local groups in planned projects. Information is disseminated through:

- A regular P.I. newsletter or a P.I. section in a local A.A. bulletin, including list of all completed P.I. projects in a given year. For instance, the types of outside groups that requested P.I. speakers may be shown.
- Visiting local groups to give brief talks about Public Information service.
- Setting up P.I. workshops at assemblies, conventions, conferences, and other A.A. get-togethers.
- Inviting members of local A.A. groups to attend a special meeting on P.I.
- Informing local groups when a TV or radio program produced with the cooperation of the P.I. committee is about to be aired.

G.S.O.'s A.A. WEB SITE

G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site, www.aa.org, is available in English, French and Spanish.

The contents of the Web site are:

- The A.A. General Service Conference-approved A.A. Fact File
- A.A. Conference-approved pamphlets "Is A.A. for You?," "A Newcomer Asks...," "A Message to Teenagers..."
- List of Central Offices/Intergroups/Answering Services in the U.S. and Canada
- List of international general service offices
- Anonymity letter to Media
- Information on A.A. (service piece)
- *About A.A.*, newsletter for professionals
- A letter directed to professionals, which includes an e-mail response form for requesting additional information

G.S.O.'s A.A. Web site has been incredibly successful as a P.I. tool. We have received very positive comments from media professionals, librarians and students who are interested in Alcoholics Anonymous. We invite you to visit this Web site and provide information about it in your P.I. presentations.