

We Agnostics Atlanta

Welcome to this meeting of the We Agnostics Atlanta group of A.A. This is an open meeting, all are welcome. My name is _____ and I'm an alcoholic.

Please silence your cell phones, tablets etc.

This is the AA preamble:

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

If there is anyone here today attending your very first AA meeting, we invite you to introduce yourself by your first name if you feel comfortable doing so.

If you are visiting from other groups, please introduce yourself if you'd like.

Readings:

I have asked _____ to read from More About Alcoholism p.30

I have asked _____ to read from There is a Solution, p.17

Many AA members find that the capitalized words "Power" and "God" and "Him" and "His" in the 12 Steps do not apply to their particular belief system. Page 93 of the Big Book reminds us that another AA member "does not have to agree with your conception of God. He can choose any conception he likes, provided it makes sense to him." (page 93)

This group attempts to maintain a tradition of free expression, and conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any doubts or disbeliefs they may have, and to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, or their rejection of it. We do not endorse or oppose any form of religion or atheism. Our only wish is to assure suffering alcoholics that they can find sobriety in A.A. without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. (adapted from www.agnosticaanyc.org)

[pass the basket and meeting chair sign up]

The seventh tradition states that each A.A. group is self-supporting through its own contributions. The money you contribute goes to pay our rent here at Galano, and covers the few expenses of the group. Beyond a prudent reserve, remaining monies are divided to support the AA service structure, so please throw in a little extra if at all possible.

I will also pass around the meeting chair list. Please consider being of service and chairing this meeting for a month.

While those are going around, are there any announcements for the good of the group or AA?

We ask that you limit your sharing to 3-5 minutes and that sharing be focussed on sobriety.

[Introduce the discussion leader. Discussion follows.]

[At about 5 minutes till the end of the meeting:]

That's all the time we have, if you did not have a chance to share tonight, but feel the need to speak. Please talk to someone individually after the meeting.

I have asked _____ to give out the chips.

[pass the basket a second time.]

This group strongly recommends the use of a sponsor. If you are willing to be a sponsor please raise your hand. If you need a sponsor, please see one of these people after the meeting.

The 12th Tradition: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities." In that spirit, please respect the anonymity of your fellow AAs and do not divulge to others anyone else's presence at this meeting nor what they shared.

In closing, please stack your chairs and then join me in saying the AA responsibility statement. It's on the back wall and on the WAA board if you need to read it:

I am responsible.

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.