

**Important Things I Should Know About**

**What is Happening this Weekend**

**Friday Night**

Friday evening is partitioned into 2 different meetings, the Area World Service Committee (AWSC) meeting and the GR Orientation Meeting. New GRs – If this is your first time attending an Assembly as a GR, plan to attend the GR Orientation meeting at 7:00 p.m. – check with the folks at the Registration Table for the exact location. Don't forget, bring your service manual. Important information about agenda items will be discussed along with some basic information about how business is conducted during the assembly.

**Saturday Morning**

**Typically, there is an AI-Anon meeting at 7:30 a.m.**

The Assembly is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., so please plan to be there on time.

**The Assembly:**

The Area Chair opens the Assembly in the main meeting room, roll call is taken, previous minutes are approved, and brief announcements and reports are given. A Workshop on any one of a variety of service related topics is held, these are typically interactive, so be prepared to participate! When the business of the Assembly starts, we hear reports from the Work Groups, Thought Forces and Task Forces, and/or our Delegate.

At lunch, we ask a couple of members to briefly share their stories with us. If possible, grab a to-go lunch and come back to the main room to listen to our members sharing's. After lunch, the Assembly continues in the main meeting room. Typically we finish up any old business from the morning session, hold Action Committees meetings where members go to their respective Action Committee meetings, and then come back to the main room where Coordinators, DRs and Action Committees give their reports to the main Assembly.

**Saturday Night**

After dinner, there is usually an AI-Anon Speaker Meeting followed by an AA Speaker Meeting. Sometimes there is an ice cream social sponsored by our AA friends. If you still have the energy, please plan on attending. These events not only help offset the cost of the Assembly, it provides us a wonderful opportunity to meet our AA friends in service.

**Sunday Morning**

At 8:30 a.m., GRs are invited to attend an informal meeting with the Delegate where they have the opportunity to ask questions about what went on at the Assembly, offer feedback on what is working and how things could be done differently at future Assemblies. It is also the perfect opportunity to express any concerns GRs are having and questions about service work.

DR's are invited to a similar meeting with the Area Chair, while our Alternate Delegate meets with the Coordinators.

The Assembly reconvenes where we may have DR reports, along with the completion of old business and new business is brought forward. When all that is finished, we close the Assembly with a prayer chosen by our host District.

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**ASSEMBLY SURVIVAL TIPS**

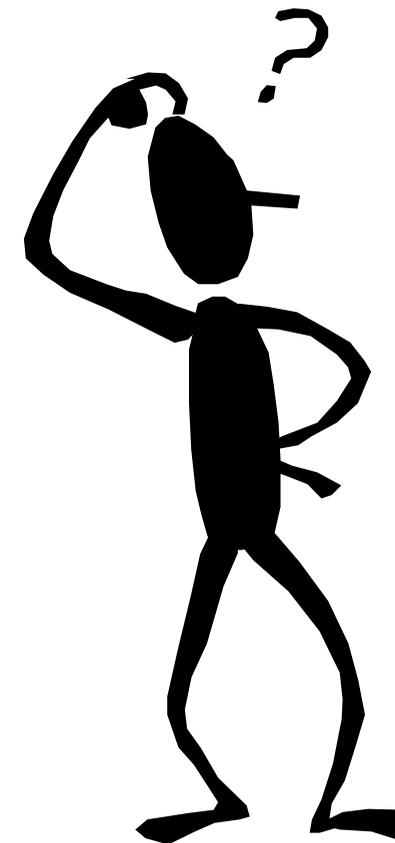
- Bring your service manual.
- Bring some paper and a pen for notes.
- Bring an open mind, your Higher Power, and your sense of humor.
- Be ready to ask questions and give feedback on issues. If you're uncomfortable, ask a friend to stand with you when you're speaking.
- Know that when addressing the Assembly, you'll be asked to speak into a microphone... don't worry, it doesn't bite. Experience has shown this to be essential so that everyone in the large main meeting room can hear you.
- Assemblies can get a bit noisy from time to time. If you have a hearing problem, you may want to sit up front or closer to the loudspeaker.
- When voting, always ask your Higher Power for guidance.
- Respect the value of dissenting and minority opinions, before and after votes are taken. Be willing to express them, and be open to hearing them. Minority opinion has been known to alter people's perspectives.
- Remember that an Assembly isn't just about taking care of business, but to learn HOW to take care of business by respecting others and getting along with them.
- Dress comfortably... it can get to be a long day.
- Dress in layers – Summer Assemblies can get hot and Winter Assemblies can get chilly. (Remember we will be in a large room, sometimes a gym, where the temperature can be hard to control.)
- Fanny fatigue can be a problem for some, so bring something soft to sit on.
- Be ready to make new friends from around the Area.
- Remember... no one has all the answers.

**What are Assemblies All About?**

- OR -

**What Am I Doing Here?**

**A Guide for GRs**



(Rev July, 2011)