
Serenity Online Meeting Chairperson Script – December 2022

*****THINGS TO DO BEFORE STARTING THE MEETING*****

- Bring a topic or the reading if literature meeting
 - Remember to assign at least 1 cohost (or more!)
 - Select a reader
 - Remember to post to the chat or ask a co-host to do that for you
 - Conclude the meeting opening by the 10 minute mark
 - “Pass the virtual basket” halfway through the meeting.
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OPENING (Highlights are suggestions for Chairs.)

HELLO, my name is _____, and I am an alcoholic. **WELCOME** to the _____ (day & time) **Zoom** meeting of The Serenity Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, District 31 of Southeast Texas. For those of you who got here early you might have noticed there is sometimes a meeting before the meeting. We kindly ask everyone be mindful of their conversation during the wait and keep to topics relating to our primary purpose.

The following are suggestions for successful A.A. meetings using Zoom:

Turn on your webcam to enhance the feeling of fellowship AND wear headphones so that others cannot hear our meeting. Be mindful of your surroundings – leaving your video on in a busy area can be distracting to others in the meeting.
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Open your <i>Chat</i> to see important information posted throughout the meeting
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To share (or read), use the <i>Raise Hand</i> button so we can unmute you

Limit your sharing to 5 minutes, limit crosstalk and please no double-dipping
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Please remember, we are responsible for our own anonymity and for protecting the anonymity of others
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According to the 7th tradition, "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." Our 7th Tradition contributions can be made in person, by check and online anonymously through Square. Contributions support The Serenity Group in The Woodlands, Texas which provides both in-person and online Zoom meetings. Additional details will be posted in the Chat.

This is an Open Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are glad you are all here, especially newcomers. In keeping with our singleness of purpose and our Third Tradition which states, “The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.” We ask that all who participate confine their discussions to their problems with alcohol.

PREAMBLE:

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people 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 AA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. AA 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.

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Do we have anyone attending their **very first A.A. meeting** anywhere, any time?
If so, use the **Raise Hand** button so we can welcome you to the meeting.

Newcomers are welcome to share briefly during the meeting or just listen. If you have questions, we will be happy to answer them after the meeting.

(If a newcomer meeting - Share experience, strength and hope on what we were like, what happened and what we are like now.....Alternatively, meeting can be steps 1-3)

Are there any visitors who are new to this meeting and would like to be recognized?

(if you notice there are newcomers and they choose not to be recognized that's okay! They don't have to be!)

Could we please have a moment of silence for the alcoholic still suffering both inside and outside of these rooms, followed by The Serenity Prayer for those who wish to join us? *(Chair recites **The Serenity Prayer**)*

I have asked **READING VOLUNTEER** to read "How It Works" (**page 58**), or "A Vision for You" (**page 151**), or "There is a Solution" (**page 17**), or a reading of their choosing from the Big Book.

Chair reads a Tradition...

THE TWELVE TRADITIONS OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (SHORT FORM)

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
6. 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.
7. Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
9. A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

TOPIC:

Every meeting has the possibility of becoming a **newcomer meeting**. When asking if anyone is attending their first meeting at anytime/anywhere and someone self identifies as new, direct the meeting to be a Step 1 meeting sharing experiences with coming to AA (what it was like, what it is like now) for the newcomer.

For **Open Discussion Meetings** (and if **not** a newcomer meeting), ask if anyone has a topic, read from the Daily Reflections, or come prepared with a topic.

Sharing / Reading

It is suggested to get through the opening so that the first participant is sharing or reading **within ~10 minutes** of the meeting start time.

Information for the Chat

Before the last ~15 minutes of the meeting, **copy & paste** the messages in blue below into the **Chat** and send to Everyone – if it hasn't already been posted.

This doesn't need to be read again at the end of the meeting – chairperson's call).

To **Contribute** - you can mail a check payable to Serenity: 405 Sawdust Road, The Woodlands, TX 77380 or give virtually and anonymously through Square including single or recurring contributions. <https://serenitywoodlands.com/basket>

Meeting Attendance – click on the link below and submit the online form within 24 hours of the meeting. <https://serenitywoodlands.com/attendance/>

Chairing a meeting requires 6 months of continuous sobriety. Sign up to chair an online meeting at <https://serenitywoodlands.com/chairing/> or on the sign up on the board in the room to chair in person.

All are welcome to celebrate years of sobriety at a **hybrid Birthday Night** held on the last Saturday of every month at 7:30pm. **This month it will be on December 31**. To receive your chip in the club sign up on the birthday board there. To receive your chip online sign up at <https://www.serenitywoodlands.com/online-birthday-sign-up>

If you'd like a **Sobriety Chip mailed to you**, send an email to serenitywoodlandsgroup@gmail.com with your name, mailing address and the type of chip (Desire Chip, 30, 60, 90 days and 6, 9 or 18 month chips only please)

AA Literature - The Big Book and 12&12 are available in both written and audio formats at https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/read-the-big-book-and-twelve-steps-and-twelve-traditions

Visit <https://www.serenitywoodlands.com> for other useful information

CLOSING

- If anyone has a burning desire, please stay and talk with someone after the meeting
- Are there any A.A. related announcements?
- If you have 6 months of continuous sobriety, please consider **chairing a meeting online**. It's great service work and you can sign up right now for **next month** at <https://serenitywoodlands.com/chairing/>
- Visit our website for information about meetings, giving, events and more...
<https://www.serenitywoodlands.com>
- Is there anyone available and willing to sponsor at this time? Please wave or use the **Raise Hand** button

CHIPS:

Here at Serenity, we recognize periods of sobriety with virtual chips in our Zoom meetings. It starts with a Desire Chip, which is an outward symbol of an inner desire to stay sober for 24 hours. Is there anyone here who would like a Desire Chip? Trade a wet one for a dry one? The next chip is 30 days? 60 days? 90 days? 6 months? 9 months? 18 months?

Is there anyone celebrating a sobriety birthday today? This month?

Years and multiples are celebrated usually on the last Saturday of the month at 7:30PM in a hybrid birthday meeting **This month it will be on December 31**. All are welcome to attend either in the club or online using Zoom. Please see the birthday night information posted earlier in the Chat and come celebrate with us at Serenity.

ANONYMITY:

Let's remember the importance of anonymity in Alcoholics Anonymous: What you see here and what you hear here, let it stay here!

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

We will close in the usual manner with the Lord's Prayer...

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

KEEP COMING BACK. IT WORKS IF YOU WORK IT!