

# Your DCM

## District Committee Member

### **What is a DCM?**

The heart of A.A. is the group, which elects a general service representative (GSR). The GSR attends district meetings that are made up of the groups in that district. The GSRs elect a district committee member (DCM). Thus, the DCM is the vital link between the group's GSR, and the area service structure, including the area's delegate to the General Service Conference.

### **Where does the DCM come from?**

GSRs in each district usually elect their DCMs. The qualifications for a good district committee member are not complicated: background in A.A. service work that goes

with the GSR job, and perhaps some central office/inter-group service; enough sobriety (say four to five years) to be eligible for election to area office; and the time and energy to serve the groups and district well.

### **When is the DCM elected?**

DCMs are usually elected before the area assembly meeting at which the delegate is elected. Some areas, however, rotate half their committee members each year.

### **How long does the DCM serve?**

Most DCMs serve for a two-year period.

### **What does the DCM do?**

The DCM carries the collective group conscience of the A.A. groups in the district to the area committee. Among the two-way communication responsibilities of the DCM are:

- Holding regular meetings of all GSRs in the district.
- Assisting the delegate in obtaining group information in time to meet the deadline for appropriate A.A. directories.
- Keeping GSRs informed about Conference activities.
- Acquainting GSRs with *The A.A. Service Manual*, Box 4-5-9, and other A.A. literature.
- Holding workshops on carrying the message of the Seventh Tradition to nonsupporting A.A. groups.
- Holding sharing sessions on just about any service subject.
- And, of course, making a regular practice of talking to groups (new and old) on the responsibilities of general service work.

### **Are there growing responsibilities for the DCM?**

Continuing growth of the Fellowship brings new opportunities for service to the DCM. As the numbers of groups in an area increase, the maintenance of a vital active link between the groups and the Fellowship as a whole becomes a challenge to the DCMs. By maintaining active contact, both with the groups in the district and with the area delegate, the DCM is a key link in ensuring that all the A.A. groups are aware of the importance of their total participation in local, district, area and world services.

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