

*The ACA World Service Organization*

## **Rep Report**

August, 2020

Jim R.

### **It's Proposal Season**

Annually, the World Service Organization (WSO) invites the fellowship to offer proposals to be considered for Inclusion in the agenda of the Annual Business Conference (ABC). The process is rather simple. It follows these steps:

1. A group (not an individual member) submits a proposal that they have worked out together.
2. The submissions are entered into a ballot, along with the WSO analysis of each proposal.
3. The ballots are made available for groups to discuss and consider, in January and February.
4. In March, the groups vote on whether each proposal merits discussion at the ABC.
5. If a proposal receives 60% affirmative votes, it is placed on the ABC agenda for discussion in April.
6. The discussion at ABC may lead to a motion.

The proposals are due by October 31st. They must address an issue that touches the ACA Organization as a whole, not a local issue. All groups are invited to participate.

This year, for the first time, workshops are being conducted to assist groups in the development of appropriate and well-written proposals. They will take place in August.

*[To be clear, I am on the WSO Ballot Prep Committee and have been involved with the production of the Annual Business Conference for the past 4 years.]*

### **Approved Literature**

Questions have arisen lately, within our group, about the use of literature in our meeting. Our meeting is structured around the ACA WSO daily reader, *Strengthening My Recovery*. Still, it will be noted that the WSO espouses an open literature policy, entrusting autonomous meeting groups to choose whichever literature they would like to use.

What's more, if a member of our meeting chooses to refer to a passage from some other published material in the course of their share, unless the group decides otherwise... it is their share. *"We accept without comment what others say because it is true for them."*

Take what you like.

### **Spiritual Inclusion**

The WSO is broadly accepting of the various concepts and labels surrounding "higher power". The organization is sensitive to the triggering, the gendering, the authoritative qualities inherent in such words as "God".

With that sensitivity in mind, much of the ACA literature is being reviewed. Whether or not changes will be found in print, conceptually we will find an atmosphere of spiritual inclusion.

As a matter of fact, WSO has created a Spiritual Inclusion Working group, a part of the Literature Committee. They meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 11am Eastern US on their platform, Zoom 3. Contact [literature@acawso.org](mailto:literature@acawso.org) for more information.

*[I wrote for a mission statement or published positions or examples of the work of the Spiritual Inclusion Working group, and have not heard back yet.]*

**Motion: The term of WSO Rep is for one year, with one optional renewal term. The term begins in June, which follows the natural cycle of the Annual Business Conference.**

**Suggested requirements for the Rep position:**

- **2 years in ACA recovery; 3 months regular attendance at SMR.**
- **Some familiarity or experience with the WSO may be beneficial.**