

Notes from the Newcomer Greeter Meeting – 2

July 16, 2022, after the regular Newcomer Session

In attendance: Alisia, Inga, Jim, Liz G., Veronica, Vivienne

The objective of the second meeting was to consider content for a Newcomer Greeter welcoming statement.

First though we began with some general discussion.

- The Session would be geared to the Newcomer
- The Greeter would 'hold space' and be comfortable asking for help
- We could include a list of tools and specific language that may be used in various situations

Also discussed – the current and constant need for Greeters. We need clarity around how a member may become a Newcomer Greeter. An announcement could be made daily at the meeting, with messaging in the chat, both before and after the main meeting. Ideally the request for service would have a reassuring tone. The idea of having a mentor or a co-greeter situation was raised.

An announcement for the chat was fashioned by those in attendance:

NEWCOMER GREETER

Contact: service@acamorning.org

Members are welcomed to serve as a Newcomer Greeter, holding space for questions for 15 minutes after the meeting. No experience necessary. Help from other members will always be available. Great introductory position for giving service to the group.

We returned to fashioning a Newcomer Greeter statement to describes what will happen, and when, and by doing so, create a safe space in which members are supported.

We highlighted those parts of the previously gathered ideas for inclusion in an introductory statement:

Timing	Note that the Session would last for 15 minutes. Emphasize the boundary and note what will be following the Session. Open fellowship afterward
Purpose	It is a time for Newcomer questions /to re-introductions We can use problem(s) as an entry into solution The goals are to clear away confusion and gain clarity Tradition 5 – Primary purpose – to carry the message to those who still suffer This is also a way to be of service to others We may assist the newcomer to feel comfortable by creating and holding the space
Definition (very helpful)	'Newcomer' could be self-described New to ACA (3 to 5 years?) New to this meeting New to sharing out loud

- NOTE: We could research Newcomer pamphlets and/or the BRB
Let's be welcoming/mindful

Practices	Open the floor to re-introductions / initial question Members share by offering their Experience, Strength, and Hope on the topic No need to raise your hand, although, it makes discussion simpler/equitable There is no timing, but be mindful Peer example of participation
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After the meeting I turned these concepts into sentences for a Greeter statement:

Welcome friends.

My name is _____ and I will be hosting the Newcomer segment of our meeting.

We hold this space every day after the main meeting.

The Session will last for about 15 minutes.

Following the Newcomer Session, the room may remain open for Open fellowship.

At this time Newcomers may introduce themselves or ask questions about the ACA program in general, or about our meeting specifically.

The goals are to clear away confusion and to gain clarity.

At this meeting, the term 'Newcomer' is self-described.

A Newcomer may be new to ACA – which could be up to 5 years; or new to this meeting; or even new to sharing out loud.

While there is no need to raise your hand, it makes discussions go more smoothly and equitably.

There is no timing, but we do ask members to be mindful of others who may want to share.

So, welcome... the floor is open.

A series of bullet-point items for the Greeter to possibly touch on, in their own words, could also be listed. This may include helpful expressions from SMR Greeters' experiences.

The document could also outline suggested responses to some challenging situations. It could be helpful to be prepared for certain possibilities. We may explore these ideas at other meetings.