

P. O. Box 300
Simi Valley, CA 93062

10 November 1983

Dear SA Friends,

Plans have gotten into focus. After much cross-country phoning, the matter of the Conference/Retreat has been clarified. The weekend of Dec 10th will be a General Service Conference patterned after the Alcoholics Anonymous General Service Conference; it will not be a Fellowship Retreat open to the general membership.

For one thing, Dear Abby will be running a column answering a woman's letter, and in her answer, she'll tell about SA and give the above GSO address. This will mean another 3000 or more inquiries, beginning Dec 26th, the date her column will hit the USA and Canada.

The Conference, for elected delegates only, will start Friday night and extend through Sunday noon or later. We'll be dealing with matters affecting the entire membership of SA in the US and Canada: Literature, how to gear up for Abby, secretarial help at GSO, and other items.

1. We simply can't handle the number of people who want to come; we had no idea there would be so many (and how pleased we are at that!). Even if we rented a hall, sheer numbers would dilute the crucial decisions we suddenly have to make.
2. I'm asking each group/regional area to elect delegates to the Conference, not more than three per area (let's discuss any special cases after we know how many are coming). You must understand that delegates will be voting on the most important matters SA has ever come up against for the entire membership! Delegates must be sober, surrendered, and committed members of SA who are willing to put the good of the whole above personality and preference, especially those who have shown they want to follow the principles of our Steps and Traditions. They will represent and vote on decisions affecting your own group as well as the international membership.
3. Ideally, the delegates should be those whose sober recovery stories are what we want in the next issue of the literature, which we'll be redoing for the Dear Abby deluge, and which we need now anyway. One matter of the Conference will be how to select, edit, and proceed with putting the stories together. We must do this at the Conference in order to have final literature printed by Christmas. This one item alone might take hours. Any stories that are ready should come with the delegates to the Conference. Typewritten only, please! Like AA Big Book stories: What it was like; What happened; What it's like now.
4. Spouses of sexaholics will not be meeting with us this time as we had hoped, but they can get together here on their own if they arrange a meeting place, etc. There may be a possibility of an informal meeting Sunday afternoon or evening with the SA members, but we can't guarantee that at this point. They've called themselves S-Anon.
5. Let's plan regional Fellowship Retreats with other SA groups, perhaps even speakerphone and tape meetings, and we can also plan the same with S-Anon people in our regional areas—in lieu of a national get-together at this time. We can set up plans for those at the Conference.
6. Only SA delegates will attend the Conference.
7. Please phone in delegates names and arrival particulars as soon as possible.

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