

Telephone Conference Call Committee Report
March 2020

The past month has been a whirlwind for the Telephone Conference Call committee. As more and more communities in the US and around the world dealt with the Covid-19 crisis and social distancing, meeting places for our members dwindled. It became evident that physical meetings would soon cease to exist for the duration of this health crisis.

The Committee came together to quickly organize nightly meetings that would meet the needs of our Fellowship. All members and 2 new committee members committed to doing whatever it took to meet this very large commitment. It was decided to lengthen the evening meetings to 2 hours. A Friday afternoon meeting was also added in order to accommodate more members' schedules. The Friday afternoon meeting is scheduled to last one hour.

The nightly meetings began on March 18. Attendance at the telephone conference call meetings has soared. The first night of the nightly meetings saw nearly 200 callers. Each successive meeting has posted between 50 and 130 callers. Most of these callers are members with experience in Gamblers Anonymous. The committee has developed a format that allows for welcoming newcomers and asking them the 20 questions. Callers from Latvia regularly attend the Friday afternoon meeting. Callers admit to anywhere from 1 day to 45 years of clean time.

It has been an amazing experience for the 9 trained moderators to be able to offer this vital, life-saving service to our brothers and sisters in the program.

Please make sure that you are getting the word out to GA members in your area. A full list of meetings can be found on the Trustee website.

The Canada-wide meeting has also met the challenge of the health crisis by adding meetings. They now have meetings on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday. This information has also been updated on the Trustee website.

Even more exciting, the first Spanish-speaking telephone conference call meeting has begun meeting on Wednesday nights at 8:00 Mexico City time. More Spanish-speaking meeting may follow; please keep checking the Trustee website for developments.

I have never been prouder to be a member of this committee. Their dedication to this endeavor is recovery in action.

Respectfully Submitted.

Jeannie B.
Telephone Conference Call Committee