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## Trustee Line for November 2008

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### From The Trustees

**The subjects listed below are just a listing of themes that have been submitted by other Trustees. You may respond to any of them or start an entirely new subject**

| Item | Subject                      | Last Entry          |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1.   | Discussion items             | 11/2/08<br>9:45 PM  |
| 2.   | The Steps - etched in stone? | 11/2/08<br>10:01 PM |
| 3.   | Rolling agenda item #18      | 11/18/08<br>1:22 PM |

**Submit a response to the [Trustee Line](#) because of something you have read in this or any other issue.**

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|-------------------------|
| <b>Discussion items</b> |
|-------------------------|

11/2/08 - 9:45 PM  
Hello to all.

First, I want to thank all the trustees for their support in regards to the West Coast Florida conference bid. We are so excited here in the Tampa area to have this opportunity. So many of us are eager to begin working.

A few things were on my mind after the conference. This trustee line can be such a useful tool for us trustees to communicate between trustee meetings. It is up to us to utilize it. I noticed the two discussion items on the agenda in Houston. The thought that came to my mind was, "why are discussion items even on the agenda?" I think that the discussion items should be put on the trustee line and discussed through this open forum.

I know that this is not always the case, but sometimes the discussion items are there to get a feeling from the trustees as to their thoughts and to possibly put the discussion item as an agenda item on the next agenda. Wouldn't it be wise to discuss the item here and then if it seems there is enough conversation about the item, to then put the item as an agenda item on the current agenda?

So I was thinking about putting an agenda item on the agenda that stated, "No discussion items will be placed on the agenda for discussion. All discussion items shall be discussed on the trustee website or in a manner chosen by the author (in other words they can discuss in their local area or by emails...whatever they choose) the only items to be placed on the agenda will be submitted as agenda items.

I would like some opinions in regards to this. I think we could be discussing much more information on this website which would then help to make the meeting run more smoothly. <> Dina P. - Area 6B Trustee

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|                                     |
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| <b>The Steps - etched in stone?</b> |
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11/2/08 - 10:01 PM

I wanted to respond to the current agenda item under new business number one. While I agree that the steps should not be changed, I am NOT in favor of stating that they cannot be changed in our guidance

code. Yes, the steps are the basis for the entire GA program and practicing them is key to our growth. It has also been key to my growth to be open-minded.

I will only speak in regards to my recovery. In the last trustee line I spoke a little about my early days in the program and how difficult it was for me to be open minded. It was not until I decided to open my mind and listen that recovery began for me.

Times are changing and new people are coming into the program daily. Along with this come new ideas. While I don't think that I would ever be in favor of any changes to the steps of recovery or unity, I would never want to shut down any new thoughts or ideas. I've said it before and I will say it again...it is not a waste of our time to listen to the ideas of the members of our fellowship. It is a waste of our time to become judgmental of the message because we may not care for the messenger.

Dina P. - Area 6B

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| <b>Rolling agenda item #18</b> |
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11/15/08 - 3:39 PM

I put an agenda item on for Kansas City that deals with splitting up the 4th Step into 2 steps. I'd like Trustee feedback on this, and if the majority is negative, I'll withdraw it. I personally feel (and have for some time felt) that we should work the 4th Step separately, with the financial being first. But I would like your opinions.

Howie C. - Area 3

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11/18/08 - 1:22 PM

I submitted the 2 agenda items about step 4 because I feel that the words financial should be taken out, because Step 4 no longer deals with financial issues since they were moved to step 9. The guide to 4th step inventory pamphlet, also does not deal with financial issues, it just refers you to pressure relief pamphlets. That is the reason I submitted the two agenda items, to have step 4 deal with the moral issues.

To Howie and all trustees I would appreciate any feedback.

Thank You, Mary-Lou L. - Area 11

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