

## **Area Websites (from the GSO A.A. Service Manual)**

Many A.A. entities now use websites as a way to communicate meeting and service information within the Fellowship. Some area websites have pages about their standing committees, what service opportunities they offer and when they meet, inviting members to join. An A.A. website can also serve as a public information tool, providing information about A.A. to the public. As with newsletters, it has been found prudent for a committee (rather than one or two individuals) to be responsible for the format, planning and content of the website. Here are some suggestions for websites:

- **Anonymity:** Since anonymity is the “spiritual foundation of all our Traditions,” we practice anonymity on A.A. websites at all times. An A.A. website is a public medium, which has the potential for reaching the broadest possible audience and, therefore, requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio and film. Some areas have included password-protected sections of the website, which can limit access to members only, and where full names may be used.
- **Meeting Lists:** In places where an active intergroup/central office provides meeting information, area and general service websites may not need to duplicate this effort, and may link to them instead.
- **Posting A.A. Literature:** A.A. websites may feature brief excerpts from A.A. literature using the same guidelines as newsletters (see section above). Websites may carry links to items available on the G.S.O. or Grapevine websites. They may also use a thumbnail of a pamphlet, book or video from these sites and use it on the site as a link to the material on the G.S.O. or AA Grapevine sites.
- **Public Service Announcements (PSAs):** A.A. intends PSAs to be widely shared. Areas and other local A.A. entities may post PSAs directly on their websites and PSAs can be viewed on aa.org.

(For more information, see the “FAQ on A.A. Websites” and the A.A. Guidelines on the Internet available from G.S.O.)