

Back Porch AA Meeting FORMAT

Thank you so much for your service. To ensure a positive, group-conscience approved meeting, please read and adhere to the following. Instructions for chairperson found in blue highlighted text.

Welcome to the Back Porch AA Meeting. My name is _____ and I am your chairperson. Our co-hosts tonight are _____. This is an open meeting and was started out of a need for fellowship.

All are welcome who have a desire to stop drinking. We ask that what and who you see here stays here. Recording has been disabled, and if you wish to chat, please do so respectfully and in keeping with our singleness of purpose.

If you are contacted in the chat, and you feel that the message is disrespectful or is uncomfortable, please message one of the co-hosts.

Let us open with a moment of silence and serenity prayer to remember why we are here.

Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

AA Preamble Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope. with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

I have asked _____ to please read "How it Works" from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. p 58

I have asked _____ to read our 12 Traditions from the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. p 562

Is there anyone attending their first, second, or third ever AA Meeting, just coming back into AA, or within their first 30 days of sobriety? If so, please introduce yourself to the group so that we may welcome you. You can do this by raising your virtual hand, in the "reactions" section at the bottom of your screen.

Are there any AA Anniversaries from 30 days to multiples of years? Please raise your virtual hand. We will celebrate _____ (today's date here)

This meeting is here 7 nights a week at the same time: 5:30 p.m. MT. We have a ladies meeting weekly on Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. MT. We have a co-ed meeting on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am MT, and a men's meeting on Sundays at 3:30 pm MT.

The next steering committee meeting will be _____. It is held monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 6:35 p.m. MT.

If you need an attendance slip or a desire chip you can request one at <https://www.backporchmeetings.com>. Also on our website, a link is provided to purchase a Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Scholarship Big Books are available if you cannot afford one, and that option is also available on our website.

Seventh tradition. We observe the seventh tradition and are self-supporting through our own contribution. You may contribute to Venmo using @backporchmeeting, or PayPal on our website.

Chairpersons are needed for Back Porch AA meetings. If you are a regular attending member, have 90 days of sobriety, and are working with a sponsor, we invite you to sign up on the website to chair. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084aafa92da0fe3-530chair>

We believe in sponsorship at this meeting. This is when one member who has recovered from Alcoholism and has done the steps shows another alcoholic how he/she did it, using the steps as in the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous. For those of you looking for a sponsor, please look for someone who has what you want and reach out to him/her directly or let the group know you are looking for a sponsor. For those of you available to sponsor, please let us know in the chat.

Are there any other group announcements for the good of AA?

(Instructions for the chairperson-do not read this part) The chairperson will ask for volunteers to share, or call on people to share. The Chairperson will have prepared a topic using AA-approved literature.

I have chosen to read _____ from _____. I chose this reading because _____ (share your experience, strength, and hope).

Please be mindful of the size of the group, and keep your shares to 2-3 minutes or less, so that others may share. Keep your shares about your experience, strength and hope as it relates to alcoholism. Please respect others and please do not cross talk, which is commenting or advice-giving on others' shares.

Call on people to share. Thank people for their shares. Pick the next person to share. End of the meeting wrap up with:

Please stick around after the meeting for more fellowship.

I would like to ask _____ to close us out with a prayer of your choice found in AA-approved literature. *(Please don't assume that the person will know the Lord's prayer. If you are not sure of a prayer, the Serenity Prayer can be used)*