



INTERNATIONAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION of SAA, INC.

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The International Service Office of SAA (ISO) office has been receiving calls regarding how the COVID-19 (coronavirus) may be effecting our meetings and ISO planned events.

At this time we know of one retreat that has been postponed – the San Francisco Bay Area SAA postponed the Out of the Fog and into the Light 2020 Retreat scheduled for March 13th to 15th. There are no plans at present to postpone or cancel either the ISO Convention in May or the ISO Conference in October, but ISO is closely monitoring relevant health advisories.

Some members have offered suggestions of how groups may address precautions. Remember our common welfare and primary purpose should be our main focus. It is best to talk about these issues at the group level and come to a group conscience of what precautions to take. One suggestion is to avoid handshaking, hugs and handholding. Another is to have a greeter with hand sanitizer at the door. It has been noted that many of our older generation members, especially those with underlying health conditions, may want to avoid face to face meetings.

Some groups have considered contingency plans in case the group is temporarily unable to meet face-to-face. Plans have included creating contact lists and keeping in touch by phone, email or social media, as well as meeting by phone or online. If a group decides to not hold its regular meeting, it may wish to update the ISO office and/or their local intergroup.

We do want to remind our fellowship that we have 140 telemeetings each week. Telemeetings are easy to find on the saa-recovery.org site. Just click on Find A Meeting

(on a phone then click on )

and then click on the Telemeeting green box above the meeting list. Then only telemeetings will then be shown in chronological order. Another way to see the Telemeeting Intergroup meetings is to go to saatalk.info.

Although SAA groups are autonomous and must decide whether or not to meet according to their local group conscience, the ISO recommends that groups follow the CDC guidelines. You can find more info from the CDC at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

We hope this brief sharing is helpful.

"From Shame to Grace"