SRG Group Conscience meeting 7-20-2025

Host: Courtney

Guests: Jon H, Gary K, David B, Ibby, Tim (Albany), Christine, Jane G, Rich L,

Michele (Miami), Bruce D (St. Louis), and Dan W.

**Old Business**:

1. **New representatives needed:**

a. AA GSR rep **- no change/on hold** until AA changes their GSR policy so that the GSR doesn’t need to live where the group is registered; Courtney is current GSR.

2. **Replacement IT person for Courtney**:

*We will continue to look for “replacement IT person.”* Rich L. is SRG’s “legacy access person” though he is not an IT person – he is registered with SRG’s service providers - this means Rich has access to the SRG website and if SRG needs to hire a non-SRG IT expert to make necessary changes, Rich can offer that person the access to do so. *Will continue posting in minutes as reminder*.

3. **Treasurer’s report**:

Expenses and revenues cover up to July 20, 2025. The budget is not posted on the SRG website, consistent with majority of AA groups.

**SRG PayPal available balance** **as of** **today is $9128.35 USD**

**Payouts**/Money in:

**USD Money out:**

$11.99 – WP Media - Image Software monthly charge (up $2.00)

$1328.07 – hosting server fee, annual

**Prudent Reserve** (PR) is $2,000.00 (how much it costs to run SRG website per year- this   
 may need to increase later this year as some fees have increased).

**Balance less PR**: **$7128.35 USD**

4**. Treasurer:** Jon H (Sonoma County) offered to be Treasurer once he moves to different house; he has   
 lots experience being Treasurer in other AA groups; once he can be Treasurer, his name and   
 contact information will be forwarded to PayPal so PayPal recognizes our new Treasure.   
 Peter -SF continues as alternate treasurer while Courtney continues as the interim Treasurer.

5. **SRG Donations**:

a. SRG will continue to donate $100.00 to AA GSO each quarter. All SRG payments are   
 recorded in the main PayPal ledger.

b. SRG will continue to donate $100.00 to Secular AA each quarter.

6. **Politics**: SRG hosts will continue to announce that there will be NO politics discussed   
 during the formal one hour Secular AA mtg – and that politics may be discussed during   
 the “parking lot” provided: (a) it is announced at onset of parking lot that politics can   
 be discussed, (b) provided discussion is civil and respectful, no personal attacks, and (3)   
 that the AA traditions are upheld during the parking lot.

**7. ICSAA (**International Conference of Secular AA) will be virtual September 19 – 21, 2025.   
 Courtney has contacted Bridget, and SRG has a one hour slot on Sunday, last day of the   
 virtual meeting; Michele (Miami), SRG’s liaison to Sober She Devils, said the SSD weren’t   
 aware of being invited to be on a panel with SRG at the virtual mtg – Courtney said he will   
 contact Maria (SSD) today to remedy that; topic options to be discussed in future Group   
 Conscience meetings. Can now register for that conference under “events” tab on SRG   
 website.

**New Business:**

**1. Update Schedule for SRG Hosts and Timers** –

Sunday - 1 PM: Host: Rich L.; Timer: 3 alternates: Louise; Larry; Courtney

Monday – noon: Host: Courtney; Michele K (Miami) is co-host; timer - Dan W

Tuesday - noon: Host: Courtney.; co-host and Timer: Dan W. (Men’s Meeting)

- 8 PM: Host: Thomas K. ; Rich L. is emergency backup host/cohost

Wednesday - noon: Host: Ibby, cohost - Dan; Timer: Louise W.

(Wednesday IQ [Inspirational Quotes]);

Thursday – noon: Host: Dan W; Timer: Bruce D. (St. Louis)

(Secular on Thursday or Topic thursday)

Friday – noon: Host: Courtney or Dan (looking for other hosts, with an eye toward more   
 diversity, especially gender; Timer: Melissa (Fearless Friday)

Saturday – 1 PM: Host: Rich L; Cohost: Michelle (Denver) or Jim F; Timer: Jim F.

(Secular on Saturday)

**Sober She Devils** - <https://sobershedevils.org> - Various hosts/cohosts per meeting:   
 Sunday 10 AM; Monday at 9 PM. Michelle K (Miami) is the SRG liaison person with   
 the Sober She Devils (SSD); hosts change each quarter.

2. One of the guests asked about a **Speakers mtg** – we reviewed that Bridget hosted a speakers mtg   
 on Mondays (see SRG website, last item on menu at top of page is “recovery resources” and 4th   
 item down is “SRG speakers”); Bridget stopped hosting speaker meetings when it became too   
 difficult to find Secular AA members willing to share their recovery journey; Options discussed:

a. having one speaker for each month, with different topic each week – discussion ensued   
 and many felt that wasn’t feasible;

b. Courtney said that each host could offer at any meeting, a speaker who shares for 20   
 minutes, then rest of meeting are discussion; discussion ensued including those   
 people who want a speaker meeting wouldn’t be able to find it scheduled.

**For now**, Group Conscience Decision is that each host can announce at onset of each   
 meeting that SRG is considering resuming speaker meetings, still working out   
 details.

3. **Lack of female guests at SRG mtgs**, other than Sunday and Mondays when SSD meet.   
 Discussion ensued: several women used to attend SRG regularly and now do not – would be   
 interesting to know what it was about the meetings that they no longer attend them; one   
 guest said he was told several years ago that some overt misogynistic comments prompted   
 gendered female attendees to stop attending SRG meetings – attendees today said that there   
 are no more *overt* misogynistic comments though there are “indirect” comments that don’t   
 quite require a verbal intervention. Discussion ensued and **Group Conscience Decision   
 was that** Michele (Miami) and other women who attend SSD, will attend SSD and invite   
 them to attend non-women’s only SRG meetings regularly. Michele has done this in the   
 past and it results in a few SSD attendees; she said she will attend and invite again.

4. **Disruptive/disrespectful attendees:** We have previously addressed this, and one result was a phrase is included in the SRG preamble “no politics or disrespectful language” (or variations thereof) and for the most part, that is honored. Sometimes an attendee will violate that, occasionally verbally attacking another attendee, and invariably the whole tone of the meeting is contaminated, and tends to make the meeting feel unsafe. This happened within the last week. **Such behavior violates Tradition One of AA**, which states “*Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon AA unity.”* Discussion ensued as to how best to address this during the meeting, including: (1) reverting back to the host/moderator changing the settings of the meeting so that people cannot unmute themselves; (2) as soon as a person is determined by the host/moderator to be disruptive and/or disrespectful, the host either mutes the person or outright removes the person from the meeting (once a person is removed the zoom platform doesn’t let them back in for 24 hours); (3) announcing at beginning of mtg that anyone being disrespectful and/or disruptive will be immediately removed from the meeting; and (4) as the host/moderator is a “trusted servant,” that if someone is being disruptive/disrespectful as determined by the host/moderator, than the person is immediately muted, and host/moderator calmly states “there will be no disruptive/disrespectful language in SRG meetings” and then the person is removed from the meeting ASAP so the person being removed isn’t able to rebut. More discussion ensued. **Group Conscience Decision was** that if the host/moderator determines that someone is being disruptive/disrespectful (especially personally attacking another person), then the person is immediately muted, and host/moderator calmly states “there will be no disruptive/disrespectful language in SRG meetings” and then the person is immediately removed from the meeting without any further ado and without allowing time for the person to disagree, etc. This behavioral intervention is often more powerful than “words.” The following day, the person can attend SRG meetings, provided they adhere to the same preamble/”group norms” as other attendees. **It should be noted that hosts/moderators are very reluctant to remove people from meetings, and are hopeful that attendees will “self-govern.”**

**a. Courtney asks that the hosts/moderators and cohosts who are present today** inform   
 the other hosts/moderators/cohosts of this Group Conscience Decision so there is   
 uniform adherence from one meeting to the next meeting.

Submitted in service,

Dan W.

P.S. **reminder for next month’s** Group Conscience meeting: panel members and topic options to be   
 determined for our panel on Sunday September 21st for the virtual **ICSAA (**International   
 Conference of Secular AA, September 19 – 21, 2025)