

EXCHANGE MEETING PROPOSAL

In my ongoing effort to introduce an “AA Speaker Exchange System” to Charlotte and surrounding areas, I have created an outline that will describe the system and process. Hopefully, this outline will help those of you not familiar with a speaker exchange to better understand how it works.

1. What is a speaker exchange system?

- The speaker exchange system allows groups to **swap/book** meetings with each other (example; The Myers Park Group swaps it’s Friday night Speaker meeting with The Stonecrest Group who has a speaker meeting on Monday.)
- In this example, each group would send one of its members to the other Group. (This process is called taking a “**commitment**”).
- All Groups wanting to exchange meetings would come to a designated location. **Intergroup**, preferably would host the meeting, but if that were not possible, another site would do. These meetings would be held on a quarterly basis.
- Each group would designate a” **program chairperson person**” or “**speaker seeker**”, who would be responsible for **swapping/booking** meetings for the upcoming quarter (ex. Oct. Nov & Dec.). The Program Chairperson would attend the meeting and bring a calendar that designates what incoming meetings (commitments) his or her group is willing to swap. In addition, that person would use the same calendar to record the outgoing meetings (commitments) that their group would be responsible to fill.
- Each group is **autonomous** and will decide what types of meetings they want to exchange and how much sobriety a speaker must have to speak at their group. Moreover, each group has the right to decide if they want to participate or not.

2. What are the benefits?

- Speakers go out to “carry the message” to other groups
- Sponsors can take pigeons (sponsees) out to carry the message.
- Fantastic opportunity to be of service to your group and AA.
- Opportunity to visit groups in the area that you have never thought of going to – getting out of the old routine.
- Opportunity for group members to travel to meeting together, get to know each other better and represent their home group’s character.
- Opportunity to meet new friends and fellowship
- Will undoubtedly help you to stay sober!

In conclusion, I believe the system is extremely simple and can be easily implemented for the groups that are willing to participate. Furthermore, it can strengthen our ability to “carry the message” here in Charlotte and the surrounding areas. If the steering committee will allow me 10 to 15 minutes of time at our next delegate’s meeting, myself and several other AA volunteers would be willing to put on a “**mock exchange**” so delegates can actually see how it works and report back to their groups. I pray that all of you will keep an open mind and be willing to at least take a sincere look at the process! If you have questions or comments, please call me on my cell, #704-258-2186.

In Service, Peace & Blessings,

Tom H

