Brian J Notes from San Diego GA International Conference 2016

***Workshop on GA Retention (new & existing members)***

* Create a daily text chain for all members that attend (group text)
* Reach out to complacent members
* Don’t let “old timers” control the meetings
* Get more people involved with social activities – including brand new members
* Limit meetings to one hour in length
* Always be prepared with newcomer packets
* Immediately add a new member to everyone’s phone list (separate list to regular & new members)
* Elect an “Official Meeting Greeter” for each meeting
* Invite new member out to coffee after a meeting
* Do not disrupt meeting with newcomer talk (have one on one to the side or after a meeting)
* Assign a Temporary Sponsor to new member at 1st initial meeting
* Do not make fun of the yellow book or add words to readings
* Avoid cross-talk or outbursts
* Assign/elect newer members to meeting helper positions: room set-up, room tear-down, coffee maker (if applicable), “Meeting Bag” carrier, literature, key chain handouts, greeter, etc.
* Conduct Pressure Relief meetings – not just financial
* Encourage everyone at meetings to share and limit shares so everyone has a chance to share
* Stay Connected
* Take car pools/ road trips to other meetings or Mini-Conferences
* Do not “hit on” anyone at meetings (inc. before or just after)
* Do not judge returning members
* Organize pre-meeting dinners or lunches
* Make all members feel welcome – avoid “clicks”