

Delegate Report for February 26, 2022 - CLA-WSO Meeting

Nominations were opened for the 2022 Election of Officers. The election will be held during the March 2022 CLA-WSO meeting. The following persons have currently agreed to run for office, although the question mark indicates that they're considering the nomination. Any office without a nominee can still receive nominations. Please send those to: Recordingsec@clutterersanonymous.org by March 21st to appear on the final ballot, which will be sent along with the agenda for March's meeting. Please note that all persons nominated must have agreed to serve in that office, before nomination.

Chairperson	Sheryl B. from Michigan and Terri from Ohio (?) as Co-Chairs
Vice-Chairperson	Jenny B. from CA and Terri from Ohio (?) as Co-Vice Chairs
Recording Secretary	
Corresponding Secretary	Lisa G. from FL
Treasurer	Marge from NC
Asst. Treasurer	Mary C. from AZ
Voicemail Correspondent	Mickey from AZ; Michele Z. from NY/FL; and Charles P. from NY as Co-Voicemail Correspondents
Webmail Correspondent	Lisa E. from CA
Archivist	

The Bylaws Committee reported that an indemnification clause needs to be added to our CLA Bylaws, as it will protect members from liability who are working in good faith on behalf of CLA. Because CLA is incorporated, we already have this type of protection; however, a lawyer has advised CLA that this clause should have been placed in the bylaws, as well. This would not, of course, protect anyone who was doing criminal activity. A motion was made and seconded to: Add a new section at the end of Article 6 of the CLA Bylaws, that's titled, "Indemnification of Trustees, Officers, Employees and Other Agents." Due to the fact that this is an amendment to the bylaws, it requires that delegates take the motion back to their home groups for a vote and then return next month, for the final CLA-WSO vote. (Information about this indemnification clause was already sent to Delegates earlier in March, but it is also attached to this report.) Please note that CLA already has liability protection just by reason of the fact that we are incorporated; however this addition makes it clearer and states it plainly in the bylaws, so that the fellowship is aware of this protection.

The Public Information Committee reported that an animated video has been developed to help increase public awareness of Clutterers Anonymous. This was shown at the meeting and well-received. A motion was made and passed that Clutterers Anonymous approve a YouTube Channel and the development of a line of videos to populate that channel, with the videos to be approved by WSO.

The Convention Committee reported that they're waiting until May 2022 to decide on whether this year's CLA convention will be virtual or in-person.

The 8 PM Service Group reported that the declutterthon held in February was very successful. Only two moderators had to do repeat sessions. It was the first time we had an international moderator, who moderated at 10 PM from the UK. It was also the first time they had a group of stand-by moderators

ready to step in, if needed. The group has goals to have more international members moderate and to have enough moderators that no one has to repeat a session. They have set up a tentative schedule of 5 declutterthons/year. Due to recent problems with an "intruder" interrupting on the line, this declutterthon was not promoted as others have been in the past.

Please note: Due to time constraints, the following committee reports weren't presented during the CLA-WSO meeting, but were attached to the meetings agenda that was sent out through the CLA email list. These are the highlights of those written reports:

The CLArity Committee reported that the deadline for articles for the Summer 2022 issue is April 4, 2022. For article guidelines, including word counts, go to [Clutterers Anonymous.org>Resources>CLArityNewsletter](https://ClutterersAnonymous.org/Resources/CLArityNewsletter).

The Literature Committee thanked all members who sent in step prayers for the step workbook. 43 prayers were received from 7 members. The group also set up guidelines for members to send in meditations for a new Daily Meditation book. These should be 250 words or less and the deadline for submitting them is June 1, 2022. The guidelines for this project are posted on the website and also attached to this report.

The Corresponding Secretary reported that during January, 14 Newcomer Packets were sent out, as well as other items listed in their report.

The Registration Committee reported that meetings in Germany have been added to the website, as well as an Intergroup. They are tentatively scheduling an annual re-registration of all groups for late in the summer. They will also be contacting all groups during April to ask about changes to their meetings and to remind them of the Clutter-Free Day on May 14th.

The Voice-Mail Correspondents reported that during January, they received 35 calls for a variety of reasons.

The Web Mail Correspondent reported that there were 31 emails received during the past month for a variety of issues. The Constant Contact email list is now at 1,483 members.

The CLA-East Intergroup reports that they're scheduling their 2022 ClutterFree Day on Saturday, May 14th. If you would like more information, their toll-free number is 866-800-3881.

(Please see the following pages for more information from the Bylaws Committee and the Literature Committee.)

Regarding the Indemnification Clause Motion:

CLA BYLAWS - ACTION REQUIRED

A motion was made at the 2/26/22 WSO Meeting to amend our Bylaws to include a section covering Indemnification of ... Officers ... and Other Agents. This clause is comparable to that contained in other 12-step organizations' bylaws and has been crafted by a NJ attorney specializing in Nonprofit organizations.

Delegates, please review the motion with your groups and be prepared to vote on this at the 3/26/22 meeting.

According to our bylaws Article X, Section 1. Procedure:

These bylaws may be amended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates and board members present at any regular or special meeting of WSO, provided the proposed amendment(s) have been announced in the previous WSO meeting and made available to the membership at least one month prior to the vote.

Motion to add a new section at the end of Article VI of the CLA-WSO By-laws:

INDEMNIFICATION OF TRUSTEES, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND OTHER AGENTS

To the maximum extent permitted by the New Jersey Revised Statutes and in accordance with the provisions of such law, CLA WSO may indemnify each of its past and present trustees, officers, employees and other agents against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding arising by reason of the fact that any such person is or was an agent of CLA WSO, and shall advance to each such agent expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding to the maximum extent permitted by that law. For purposes of this Article, an "agent" of CLA WSO includes any person who is or was a trustee, officer, employee, or other agent of CLA WSO, or is or was serving at the request of the CLA WSO as trustee, officer, employee, or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of a corporation which was a predecessor corporation of CLA WSO or of another enterprise serving at the request of such predecessor corporation.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Article VI, CLA WSO shall not be required to indemnify any past or present trustee to the extent that the matter to be indemnified against is covered by insurance purchased by CLA WSO.

Here's the legal description from NJ statutes of the type of actions covered by indemnification:
...the basic underpinnings of any type of indemnification, i.e., ***the actions that triggered the liability against which the Indemnatee wishes to be relieved must have been taken by that Indemnatee acting in good faith and in a manner in which he/she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the CLA-WSO.*** It's OK if the action turns out to have been wrong or harmful to CLA-WSO, as long as when it was taken the Indemnatee was acting in good faith.... §b(2) builds on this idea by permitting **indemnification (financial) against criminal acts provided the Indemnatee had no reasonable cause to believe his/her conduct (taken on behalf of ... CLA-WSO) was unlawful.**

Regarding the Literature Committee's Guideline for Daily Meditations:

Guidelines for CLA Daily Reflections Book

The CLA Literature Committee is beginning to work on a CLA Daily Reflections book that will be written by members. If you'd like to submit a reflection, please do so using the following guidelines.

- 1) Meditations will have three parts:
 - a. **The Daily Reflection:** Write a brief paragraph that describes your experiences, awarenesses and/or observations about your decluttering.
 - b. **Prayer:** Insert a prayer that is a conversation between you and God.
 - c. **Affirmations (or Reminders):** Insert an affirmation, beginning with "I will" and stating your commitments. Or insert a reminder about more positive choices you can make.
- 2) The total words in the writing (including all 3 sections) should be 250 words or less.
- 3) Deadline for submission is June 1, 2022.
- 4) If you are unable to type your meditation, please email it to us in whatever format you can manage.
- 5) Submit your meditation to: litcomm@clutterersanonymous.org
- 6) By submitting your meditation, you are agreeing to the possibility of it being edited, copyrighted, and published.
- 7) Interested step groups are also invited to submit meditations.
- 8) Put your name with your state or country on your meditation.
- 9) Members can also use quotes from the "CLA Literature Collection" to base their meditations on.

Thank you for your interest in this project! For those members who feel they need more guidance in writing a meditation, we hope to have a writing workshop in the near future. Sample meditations are given on the next page.

Examples of Daily Meditations:

Example #1:

Name, State or Country

My Daily Reflection - (248 words)

When I began working the Steps with my co-sponsors, I found it challenging to be teachable and open to personal growth and development. I had spent years caring for others, but now it was time to pay attention to my own needs. That meant taking an inventory of my personal character traits. I was aware of the clutter and had a rough vision of how I wanted to live, yet I was stuck. While taking an inventory and feeling an uncomfortable amount of shame and embarrassment as I shared it with my co-sponsors, I became aware of two things. Firstly, I wasn't owning the responsibility of getting rid of my clutter. Secretly, I wanted someone else to do it. Secondly, I had very little motivation to do anything about it. Unrealistically, I wanted to get the results without making any sacrifices. I groaned whenever I heard the suggestion at CLA meetings to take one item at a time and decide what to do with it.

Today's reminder:

When I feel stuck, I can pause and become aware of my feelings. I can take a break and pray for willingness and strength to do God's Will. I can wait until I am guided to act.

Prayer:

Dear God, Help me to grow through the fear, frustration, anger and sadness I feel when I am decluttering. Help me to trust your guidance knowing that there is an opportunity for me to learn new skills in every challenge I face. Amen.

Example #2:

Name, State or Country

My Daily Reflection - (154 words)

Fellow CLA members are like mirrors to me. When I identify with their shares, my denial is broken. Alone, I have learned to ignore my clutter. I act as if I am blind to it. The same members are teaching me to see it again. I am slowly becoming aware of the depth to which I clutter. CLA members in recovery give me hope that I can change my habits.

Today's affirmations:

Through practice, I can learn new skills. I can apply the concepts of awareness, acceptance, and action. The more I practice, the better I will get at cleaning, repairing, mending, donating, recycling or throwing items away.

Prayer:

Dear God, Help me trust that You are loving and that You have my best interests at heart. I feel Your guidance as nudges, hunches and intuitive thoughts. Please give me the willingness to trust that guidance and overcome my own resistance to it. Amen.