

# Saturday Night Campout Meeting Format

## Overview

This meeting, above all others, is meant to be fun yet serious. Many of the family members have never had the opportunity to see how we share our Recovery with each other. Some of our own members have not been around healthy families before. So, this meeting has an opportunity to be a wonderful experience by all.

## Introductions

"Welcome to The Loyola Men's Group's 31st Annual Campout Fireside Meeting. We're happy that you could join us. Tonight we will share with you what we do each and every Monday—help, teach, and encourage each other to be better men.

"I'm \_\_\_\_\_, an alcoholic and I've been sober since \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_."

Begin with a long moment of silence, followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Introduce "How It Works" by telling them that we begin each meeting by reminding ourselves what's wrong, and how we can get better, by reading a portion of Chapter 5 of the "Big Book" of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"As we do each week at the beginning, we like to know who's here. So, please raise your hands if you are:

- A female member of Alcoholics Anonymous
- A female member of Alanon
- A female member of any of the other Twelve-Step programs

"Later we'll do a more thorough job of introducing ourselves."

All those who are attending their first campout.

## Topic

Choose a topic that fits well with our group and our guests. Discussing our families, with utmost honesty, is encouraged. State your topic, then repeat it before you call upon the first person.

## Suggestions & Reminders

Chose a good reader for "How It Works"

Read the part from our format about the "Chirp".

## Please announce

"Speakers are asked to limit their talks to three minutes, so as to allow more people an opportunity to share. At 2 1/2 minutes, a chirp will sound as a courtesy advisory of how much time you've used. Also, even though some of us choose to share our first and last names, please be reminded that the identities and comments revealed here are not meant to be shared with others."

For tonight, ask people when they introduce themselves to state their AA Birthday.

Ask speakers to introduce their guests as they share.

Speak loudly- really loudly! Speak from your feet at the microphone, and make others do the same.

Call on people you know will have something to say. Don't call on more than one member of any one family. This is a good chance to include some of our newer guys who have been around for awhile.

After the meeting gets going, start mixing in some of our guests.

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Pay attention to the teenage children, to see if one of them might fit in well. If none, don't worry about it.

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Try to call on guys who have family and/or friends present.

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Remember to control the meeting; speaking up when needed, by choosing whom to call on next, by making yourself vulnerable, can do this. You are "our host". Act as if you have invited us into your home.

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## **General Introductions At The End**

At about 9:20 P.M., or an hour and a half after we start, begin asking all those who have not had an opportunity to share, to introduce themselves, while stating their AA Birthday, and any guests they may have brought with them.

- Use your arm to direct who is next.
  - Make them stand.
  - Remind them to speak up loudly.
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End With a Thank-you, and an Invitation to Stay and Visit, as We Do Each Week.

- The Lord's Prayer