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## **General Share Meeting Format (Generic)**

### **LEADER:**

Hello and welcome to the \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting of A.R.T.S. Anonymous. My name is (first name) and I am (your art). This meeting goes from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. I will be the meeting leader tonight. Let's start our meeting with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*

### **A.R.T.S. Preamble:**

A.R.T.S. Anonymous is a fellowship of artists who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may recover from their common problem and help others to surrender to their creativity. The only requirement for membership is a desire to fulfill our creative potential. There are no dues or fees for A.R.T.S. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.R.T.S. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to express our creative gifts and help others to achieve artistic freedom.

### **Read the A.R.T.S. Steps and the Tradition of the month**

#### **A.R.T.S. Meeting Etiquette and Guidelines for Sharing**

1. We follow the time structure of the meeting. We restrict our shares to limits determined by the group conscience.
2. We are not here to impress, compete or compare. We do not judge, criticize, argue or give advice.
3. In speaking, we share our experience, strength and hope.
4. We foster an attitude of unconditional respect for each individual's creativity.
5. There is no feedback or crosstalk at this meeting.
6. There is no eating at this meeting. Drinks are permitted.

### **LEADER:**

This meeting has a rotating format. We spend 10 minutes each week on the following topics, followed by open sharing and until the Treasurer's Announcement.

- First week – reading A.R.T.S. Literature-*Leader's choice*
- Second week – step reading from where we left off previous month
- Third week – qualification
- Fourth week – exploration of A.R.T.S. Traits, Talents and Tools
- Fifth week – chairperson's choice

Before we begin our reading, would someone like to volunteer to be our spiritual timekeeper?

**LEADER:**

**Crosstalk Statement:**

For the safety of the meeting, there is no “cross talk”. Cross talk is defined as: interrupting, referring to, commenting on, or asking questions about what another person has said during the meeting. In A.R.T.S. each person may share feelings, experiences and perceptions without fear of comparison or judgment of any kind. We accept —without comment— what others say because it is true for them. We work towards taking more responsibility in our lives rather than giving advice or approval to others.

**Treasurer’s Announcement**

Our 7th Tradition states that every A.R.T.S group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. We have no dues or fees, but we do have expenses. Give what you can, and if you can’t give, keep coming back. Our meeting takes two collections. One is to cover the expenses for this meeting, and the second collection is to support the work of the A.R.T.S. Anonymous World Services. A.R.T.S. does not accept funding from outside organizations or non-member, the A.R.T.S. World Service Office relies solely on the generous contributions of the Fellowship.

**It is now time for sharing by a show of hands.**

**LEADER:**

Our time for sharing is over. Thanks to everyone who gave service. Can we have a volunteer to read the A.R.T.S. Closing.

**A.R.T.S. Closing Prayer:**

In closing, I would like to say that no matter how distanced we may feel from our creative sources, no matter how long it has been since we were in touch with our creative spirit, or how feeble may seem our creative impulses, they are reawakening in our Higher Power’s time, through this program and through our actions, no matter how small or how simple, a day at a time. I may not be able to see my own growth, or even to see my creations as beautiful, but I am able to see yours as inspiring and enriching my emotional, spiritual and physical world. We are not recovering merely to hide our light under a bushel; our creative gifts are a gift. To celebrate them, we humbly apply ourselves, sometimes to the work of art, and sometimes to play. May A.R.T.S. Anonymous teach us that our art, celebrated, will benefit and feed our own souls first, and the world’s second, for the world hungers as much for this beauty as for food. We meet here together to feed this deeper hunger.

**"Would all who care to join me in the Serenity Prayer?"**