**NON-ALCOHOLIC TRUSTEES (‘Class A’)**

**In seeking candidates for Class A Trustee positions, the Board looks for men and women with a proven track record in their own fields, with a demonstrated interest in Alcoholics Anonymous, and some experience in working with AA and its members. It would be safe to say that the busiest people have made the largest contribution and shown the greatest dedication and judgment. From time to time the Board has included members of the medical and nursing professions, accountancy, the Law, researchers, people familiar with the media, as well as those well versed in the general business world. They have all made their various contributions, not only in their own special fields but often also in the wider world of organisational management. AA’s debt to those who do not share our disease but willingly share our problems is immense, going back to the beginning. Bill W wrote: “In the days when AA was unknown, it was the nonalcoholic Trustees who held up our hands before the general public. They supplied us with ideas … They voluntarily spent hours on end, working side by side with us and among the grubbiest of details. They gave freely of their professional and financial wisdom. Now and then they helpfully mediated our difficulties.” Written in 1966, those words hold true today. Nonalcoholic Trustees remain a rich source of wisdom and perspective. The experience of the Fellowship in North America has shown the wisdom of selecting nonalcoholic Trustees as described in Bill’s introduction to this Manual. We, in Australia, benefit similarly from their professional experience. Since they need not maintain anonymity, Class A Trustees are also our public face, should it become necessary to put AA before the general public in any matter. They are often called upon to chair meetings and committees, to speak at Regional Forums and take formal roles at major Conventions. The Chair of the General Service Board is traditionally a Class A Trustee, partly due to the public aspects of the role, but there have been exceptions where alcoholic Trustees have held the position. The Board will always seek to select the best person available for the task**.