

Preserving our data



Storing and protecting information preserves our history and supports the 12th step in new and powerful ways.

Now we can access everything from meeting schedules to local AA events from our computers, tablets and phones. This creates new challenges concerning the 12th tradition.

How then do we store and make available information, to perform our primary purpose, without stepping all over the 12th tradition?

Challenges of storing data both physical and digital

1. Where do we put all this stuff?
2. Who keeps track of this stuff?
3. How do we pay for the space needed to store it?
4. How do we rotate the chain of custody?
5. How do we secure all the data, what do we accept as secure and anonymous?

Storage Options



Storage Options

• **Thumb drives, Hard Drives, Cloud**

• Thumb drives get lost or stolen

• Hard drives crash

• Cloud costs money

• Each solution requires management

• **Cloud options include:**

Storage Options

- Google (up to 15GB free)
 - Single user login with sharing via link with no account required
- Microsoft OneDrive (\$5 per user per month 1 TB each with free sharing via link)
 - sharing is via link with no account required
- iCloud is similar to Google with free 15GB of storage
- Sync (5 GB free, single login that can share files via link)
 - Shared folders can be created but invited users will be required to create an account (free) to view
 - Costs for sync pro are \$50 for 500 GB a month and \$98 for 2 TB a month.
- DropBox is paid subscription
- pCloud (10GB free storage, or subscribe for premium plans 500 GB \$3.99/mo or 1 TB \$.99/mo)

Storage Options

Group/District/Area websites

- Data storage guidelines to consider for web and cold storage are:
 - Is it secure, is security defined by the group the Data serves?
 - Is all public content posted with the 12th tradition in mind?
 - Who governs access, and access control lists?
 - How do we manage private content?

Securing Content



Securing Content

Is it Secure?

- A group might define storage security as follow:
 - Does it require authentication with strong and expiring passwords?
 - Is the content uploaded with at least TLS/SSL encrypting it?
 - Does the group agree that it is secure enough for their purposes having met the first two criteria?

Securing Content

Public content

- Is public content such as meeting schedules and flyers devoid of last names?
- Is the content searchable and if so is everything that comes up in a search anonymous?
- Does the content give enough information for a newcomer to find another alcoholic without giving any detail?

Cloud storage



Cloud storage

Advantages of internet storage

- Single point of access
- Disaster recovery built in
- Share content easily with many
- Potentially reach more new comers
- Store meaningful historical data to preserve our history

Disadvantages of internet storage

- Fear
- Cost
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of suitable skills/equipment
- Complex security issues