

GREATER VANCOUVER INTERGROUP SOCIETY

PASS IT ON

A.A. Newsletter

July 2018

Longtimer and Newcomer

In June many members of Alcoholics Anonymous Celebrated Founder's Day. Some traveled to Akron, Ohio (A.A.'s considered birth place), some went to their Home Group's celebrations, and still others attended District festivities. All these celebrations were about looking back with gratitude on the wonderful gift Alcoholics Anonymous has given to so many of us - a better way of living. The shared experience, strength, and hope of our Founders has allowed us a new outlook on life way beyond our imaginable personal conceptions.

Our Founders, Bill W. and Dr. Bob S., started it, A.A. Longtimers passed it on, and now we continue this revered solution through our primary purpose. All who call themselves members have a responsibility to protect A.A. for future generations as well as for our own continued sobriety. Not only have those who came before us found the solution, they also faced many of the same problems and wrong ways of doing things that we still see today. "Implicit throughout A.A.'s Traditions is the confession that our fellowship has its sins" (W., Bill, 2014, p.96). It was through this experience, weakness, and fear that many of our Traditions are based. The Traditions are often said to be what prevents Alcoholics from committing homicide. They were written many years after the Steps, which are said to prevent Alcoholics from committing suicide. "Alcoholics Anonymous first published *Twelve Steps and Traditions* in 1953. Bills W., who along with Dr. Bob S. found Alcoholics Anonymous in 1935, wrote the book to share 18 years of collective experience within the Fellowship on how A.A. members, recover, and how our society functions" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2007, p.14).

Today, 2018, in Greater Vancouver, we have many Longtimers with decades of experience, strength, and hope. Do you avail yourself of their experience? Or do you just see them as people who are standing in the way of change? Bleeding Deacons perhaps? *The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* defines a "bleeding deacon is one who is just surely convinced that the group cannot get along without him, who constantly connives for reelection to office, and who continues to be consumed with self-pity" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2007, p.135). Whereas, "the elder statesman is the one who sees of the wisdom of group's decision, who holds no resentment over his reduced status, who judgement, fortified by considerable experience, is sound, and who is willing to sit quietly on the sidelines patiently awaiting developments" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2007, p.135).
...cont. on next page

Office Hours of Operation

Mon - Fri.....8:00 am to 6:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday.....9:30 am to 1:00 pm

The office will be closed Monday, July 2nd for Canada Day

Phone room will operate as usual

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INTERGROUP CORNER

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Unity

Recovery

Service

Elder Statespersons are not against change yet they sometimes appear over cautious about it. This is probably because they have had previous experience with a similar proposed change. They too were newcomers at one time who wanted to rewrite the literature and change our ways of doing things. In 2001, in the fourth edition foreword of the Big Book, change was expected. "While our literature has preserved the integrity of the A.A. message, sweeping changes in society as a whole are reflected in new customs and practices within the Fellowship" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2001, p. xxiv). Change is accepted and permitted but it is always approached with caution in case we loose track of our primary purpose and stop talking the "language of the heart" (Alcoholics Anonymous, 2001, p. xxiv). A.A. considers Newcomers and youth to be the life blood of the program. Nonetheless we should also always treasure the Longtimers for their commitment and understanding of this precious program of recovery from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body

References:

Alcoholics Anonymous (2001). *Alcoholics Anonymous: the story of how many thousands of men and women have recovered from alcoholism*. New York City: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services.

Alcoholics Anonymous (2007). *Twelve steps and twelve traditions*. New York: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services.

W., Bill. (Eds.) ([2014, c1957] *Alcoholics Anonymous comes of age, by a co-founder Bill W*, New York: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services

■ Estimates of Groups and Members as of January 1, 2018¹

	Groups	Members
United States	61,904	1,297,396
Canada	4,956	84,558
Sub-Total	66,860	1,381,954
Correctional facilities ²	1,360	34,524
Loners, Internationalist, Homers	1	27
Total	68,221	1,416,505
Outside U.S. & Canada ³	52,079	671,335
Grand Total	120,300	2,087,840

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URGENT NEED

Outreach Sub-committee Chairs!
Correction, Treatment, and Hospital Committees are without people.
Suggested: One Year of Sobriety.

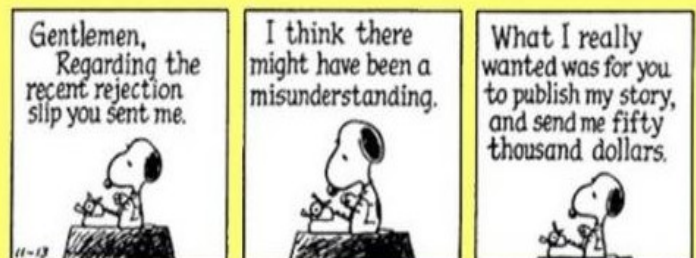
Area Happenings

(check www.bcyukonaa.org for details)

District 26 new meeting location: Oblate House, 1311 The Crescent, Vancouver, back lower door. 4th Sunday of the month at 10 am.

2018 BC/YUKON AREA 79 JULY QUARTERLY July 13-15. Hosted by District 56. Prince George, BC

Send Central Office your Home Group's story...



We wont send money- maybe some new members!

DIRECTORY UPDATES July 2018

For a complete listing, check the website: www.vancouveraa.ca

New Meetings

Monday: "West End Step Discussion" 1002 -5th Ave. New Westminster –8:00 pm *not 8:30 pm - error in directory*

Monday: "Pitt Meadows" now has a Big Book meeting. 12240 Harris Rd., Pitt Meadows –7:00 pm

Wednesday: "The Wolf Pack" FRAFC, 13639 -108 Ave., Surrey –7:00 pm

Thursday: "Meditating Friends II" Park House, 5400 River Rd., Richmond –3:00 pm

Thursday: "Lost & Found" Killarney Park Church, 6426 Kerr St., Vancouver –8:00 pm

Saturday: "Hope for Freedom" Kekinow Housing, common room 6455 -121 St. Surrey -noon

Meeting Deletions

Sunday: "Timbergrove & Food" 13922—101 Ave. Surrey –7:30 pm

Wednesday: "Keep It Simple" Big Book, NSAC 176 -2nd St. E., North Vancouver –5:30 pm

Wednesday: "Roses AA" Kekinow Housing, 14145 - 103 Ave., Surrey –noon

Wednesday: "Royal Oak" cancelled until Sept, 2018 4812 Willingdon Ave., Burnaby –7:30 pm

Thursday: "Free Thinkers" St. James Community Ctr. 3214 W. 10th Ave., Vancouver –7:30 pm

Thursday: "Thursday Night Topic Discussion" Church, 10553 - 148th St., Surrey - 7:00 pm

Friday: "St. David's Steps" St. David's Church, 1525 Taylor Way. West Vancouver –1:00 pm

Friday: "South Burnaby" 7551 Gray Ave. Burnaby –8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday: "14 de Marzo" VRC, 2775 Sophia St., Vancouver –8:00 pm

Saturday: "Queers, Plain Crackpots & Fallen Women" 855 E. Hastings St. Vancouver –4:00 pm

Meeting Changes

Sunday: "Aloha Spirit" *new location* Dundarave Beach, Bring a beach chair. West Van. –8:00 am

Sunday: "Port Moody Sunday" *new location*, 2nd floor, 1160 Lansdowne Dr., Coquitlam –8:00 pm

Monday: "Frantic Serenity" *new location* 2643 - 128th St. Surrey –7:30 pm

Tuesday: "Bear Creek No Smoke" *temporarily moved to* EDIC, 7277 King George Blvd., Surrey –8:00 pm

Wednesday: "Whytecliff & Beginners Mtg." *new location* 885 22nd St. West Vancouver –6:30 & 7:30 pm

Friday: "Lion's Gate Hospital" *new room* Meeting rm. A, past the gift shop, end of hall. Lion's Gate Hospital, 231 E. 15th St., North Vancouver –7:30 pm

The 5 groups that meet at Sunset Towers in the Garden Room are now called "The Barclay Group" 1655 Barclay St. Vancouver –various times

AUGUST NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline is Wednesday, July 11th

Share your Experience, Strength & Hope
with a story about your journey in sobriety.

TELEPHONE SHIFT OPPORTUNITIES

* Weekly day shift openings are ideal for those with flexible schedules.

* Become a spare volunteer for cancellations.

* At your next business meeting, suggest that your group sign on for a monthly shift.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Accessibility Committee: members needed to carry the message in Sign Language, to housebound or challenged physically and/or mentally, URGENTLY NEEDED members to provide rides for physically challenged members to meetings.

Cooperation with the Professional Community: Members with a good grasp of the 12 Traditions and What AA is and is Not to speak with professionals who may have alcoholics in their work day experience.

Corrections: Members to carry the message inside the provincial institutions. Needs a Chairperson.

Detox: Members to carry the message and provide a link to outside meetings.

Hospitals: Needs a Chairperson.

Public Information: Members with a good grasp of the 12 Traditions to carry the message to the general public.

Treatment: needs a Chairperson and volunteers *urgently!*

Chair people are also needed for many of these committees. See the last page for times and show up! Don't shortchange yourself, get everything that is coming to you in sobriety—participate!

Bridging the Gap—shaky members/potential members needing help acclimatizing to A.A. outside treatment, detox, jail, or the hospital need your help. Call or email the office if you can be available to the office in carrying someone to the message once they've been released to the outside world.

Unity, Service, and Recovery!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check the website for posters: www.vancouveraa.ca; For out of Area go to: www.aa.org and open Box 459.

UNITY BUS TO PRINCE GEORGE July 13-15, ride with us to the Summer Quarterly. Round-trip tickets \$120. Contact Jason W. 604-551-9739

DISTRICT 41 FAMILY PICNIC July 21, 11-5, Sun, Fun Fellowship. Maple Ridge Park, 23200 Fern Crescent

SOBERIDER PIGROAST Aug 3 - 5 Ashnola Campground, Keremeos. \$65.00 in advance or \$80.00 at gate. Contact: Sean C. 604-816-3292

WHITE ROCK ROUNDUP Aug 10-11, tickets \$25 Star of the Sea, 15262 Pacific Ave., White Rock

DISTRICT 18 PICNIC Aug 12. Cates Park, North Vancouver ; 11:00 am –3:00 pm

SALT SPRING IS. RALLY Aug17 –19, Farmers' Inst. 351 Rainbow Rd., Salt Spring Island

MIRACLE BEACH ROUNDUP Aug 30 -Sept 3, vancouveraa.ca for more info. Black Creek, BC.

MEN'S FALL RETREAT Sept 14-16 vancouveraa.ca for more info. Belcarra, BC

TRI-CITIES AA WOMEN'S DAY Sept 15 @ 9:30 am All Saints Parish, 821 Fairfax St. Coquitlam. \$20

UPPER FRASER VALLEY RALLY Sept 21-22 Agricultural Hall, 6800 Pioneer Ave., Agassiz. \$25

WOMEN'S RETREAT Sept 21-23. vancouveraa.ca for more info. Belcarra, BC

TAKE YOUR SPONSOR TO BREAKFAST Sept 29th, 15th & Ash, Vancouver.

CORRECTIONS ROUND UP Oct. 20, Operating Engineers Hall, Burnaby—Mark your calendars!

RICHMOND ROUNDUP Oct 27. Frasersview Church, 11295 Mellis Dr. Richmond

BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Lorne D. 30 years
One Day At A Time in Cloverdale Member
22 years

Thank You!

To the many volunteers and attendees
For a successful

Intergroup Awareness Day

On May 26, 2018.

Phone Room Statistics

	May	April	March
General	676	686	2,132
12th Step	46	62	62
Al-Anon	9	4	12
Ans Serv	182	239	193
Total	913	991	2,399

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Cooperation with Professional Community 1st Tuesday 7:00 pm

Hospitals: 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.

Corrections: 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm

Accessibilities: 1st Thursday, 6:45 pm

Detox: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am; Workshop follows at 11:00 am

Finance: Thursday before Intergroup, 6:00 pm

Operating Committee: same night as Finance 7:00 pm

Intergroup 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Orientation at 7:00 pm (49th & Kerr)

Treatment: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am

Telephone: 3rd Saturday, 11:00 am

Workshop: 3rd Saturday, 10:00 am

Public Information: 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm

JULY

AUGUST

3rd

7th

3rd

7th

4th

1st

5th

2nd

14th

11th

12th

16th

12th

16th

17th

21st

14th

11th

21st

18th

21st

18th

25th

22nd

Subcommittee meetings are held at Central Office, 3457 Kingsway. All A.A. members are welcome.