

GREATER VANCOUVER INTERGROUP SOCIETY

PASS IT ON

A.A. Newsletter

September 2018

34th Annual Corrections Roundup, Saturday, October 20, 2018

- Buy a ticket and attend yourself.
- Donate a ticket for someone who is presently, recently, or at risk of being incarcerated.

Greater Vancouver Intergroup's Corrections Committee has been successful at being self-supporting through the Corrections Roundup because of contributions from grateful A.A. members. The Corrections Roundup is a great event for persons who are interested in doing service with the Corrections Committee. As well for people who have been or will be incarcerated to share recovery experiences. The Roundup may also be encouraged by some like myself – who, but for seconds and inches, were able to avoid incarcerations during our drinking careers.

The following are excerpts from the pamphlet P-20: ***Message to Corrections Professionals:***

A.A. in correctional facilities

There are approximately 1,487 A.A. groups meeting in correctional facilities throughout the United States and Canada. Each has a local arrangement between the administrators of the prison, work farm or jail and nearby A.A. groups. A frequent question is why inmates have any need of A.A. while they are incarcerated. The answer is that the A.A. program is far more than staying away from alcohol. A.A. has been called a way of life, and its success for groups that meet while in custody shows that this program can help the alcoholic inmate live a sober and contented life, both while in custody and after release.

Many inmates were sentenced for crimes in which alcohol abuse was an important factor. This percentage appears to be somewhat higher among inmates in facilities for young offenders.

Corrections professionals often find many benefits for those inmates who attend A.A. meetings and feel that an inmate's chance of making it on the outside is improved by participation in the A.A. program.

Re-entry and parole

Experience shows that when inmate A.A. members go promptly to A.A. on the outside, they are likely to stay sober—and free. However, if they put it off until they “get settled,” they may never get to A.A.

A.A. can help minimize this risk. Before inmate A.A. members are actually released, there is usually time to get in touch with A.A. in the city or town where they plan to live. The inside sponsor and A.A. contacts can almost always make sure that a real welcome awaits newly-free people—not as former inmates, but as fellow members of A.A.

*Reprinted from **Message to Corrections Professionals** with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.*

Office Hours of Operation

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

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

Central Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 3rd for Labour Day

Phone room will operate as usual

3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, B.C. V5R 5L5

Phone 604-434-3933 or Email: staff@vancouveraa.ca

staff@vancouveraa.ca

GROUP CORNER

Renfrew Group

Hello, Beautiful People! We want to tell you about our home group, the best group in the lower mainland—the Renfrew Group. We meet on Sunday evenings at 8:00 at the Longhouse Church on Franklin St in far east Vancouver. We might be the only group in Vancouver, maybe in all of BC with a sign that has the “progressive symptoms of alcoholism” displayed facing the meeting. Renfrew has been around since August, 1962, and that sign has been there, too. Well, the original sign is in archives, but a couple of our members made a new one. It’s a meeting full of high spirits, deep thinking, love and tolerance. Members of Renfrew have been active in sobriety for anywhere between nearly 50 years to, oh, perhaps an hour. There’s a lot of power and strength in this meeting, honest tears and some belly laughs too. We hold each other up when some of us are in trouble or pain, and we celebrate our successes. Every week we do roll call, so you will hear our names, and hear us be accountable to each other. Renfrew has temporary sponsors to guide you on this big road. And! We have interesting business meetings! But don’t just take our word for it, come on over. We have a chair for you—and bring a friend.

Tell what is special about your home group –250 words or less. Drop it off or email it to: staff@vancouveraa.ca



“Sure I ate my sponsor, but did I drink over it? Noooo!”

Reminder: Sponsorship breakfast—September 29, 2018

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Accessibility Committee:

- Riverview needs a Chair for their meeting every 2nd Saturday or they may close. Please announce at meetings. August 31st is the deadline.
- Please learn about accessibility committee and have the conversation with your group and with other members. We will all potentially need the services of the Accessibility Committee one day!!
- Volunteers spots are available to man a booth at the Vancouver Roundup—orientation provided.

accessibilities@vancouveraa.ca or call Central Office.

Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee:

- Is in need of a Chairperson. Suggested sobriety is one year, and service as an voting member with a voice of Intergroup.

This committee develops and carries out plans to carry the A.A. message to various professional people such as Doctors, Nurses, Lawyers, and Social Workers. It works in the spirit of cooperation without affiliation.

Corrections Facilities Committee:

- Is in need of a Chairperson. Suggested sobriety is one year, and service as an voting member with a voice of Intergroup.

The Corrections Chairperson facilitates carrying the message into Provincial facilities.

corrections@vancouveraa.ca or call Central Office.

Detox Committee:

- Provides training for individuals and groups taking part in the work of the committee.
- Cooperate with detox centres in providing assistance and service in accordance with the primary purpose and traditions of A.A.

detox@vancouveraa.ca or call Central Office.

Hospitals Committee:

- Is in need of a Chairperson. Suggested sobriety is one year, and service as an voting member with a voice of Intergroup.

This committee is responsible for supplying Chairpersons, Speakers, and literature to hospitals.

Call Central Office if you are interested!

Public Information Committee:

When anyone comes to intergroup PI, we will direct them to the nearest active public information committee, and continue to empower the active districts

Telephone Committee:

- Groups and individuals to volunteer for phone shifts
- telephones@vancouveraa.ca or call Central Office.

Treatment Facilities Committee:

- Find a permanent Treatment Subcommittee Vice-Chair.
- The Treatment Facilities Subcommittee encourages all Treatment Meeting Chairs to come to the Subcommittee Meetings and provide any feedback.
- Any help gathering information to update and/or confirm the current list of Treatment meetings and contacts is welcome.

treatment@vancouveraa.ca or call Central Office.

DIRECTORY UPDATES September 2018

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

New Meetings

Monday: "Monday Night Meditation" Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 3rd floor, 1440 W. 12 Ave., Vancouver –7:00 pm

Wednesday: "Circle of Life" 6404 Wellington Ave West Vancouver –8:00 pm

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

Saturday: "HALT Speakers", One Way Club, 22270 North Ave., Maple Ridge –5:30 pm

Meeting Deletions

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

Meeting Changes

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

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

Monday: "Horseshoe Bay Men's" new location 6422 Bay St., West Vancouver –9:00 pm

Tuesday: "Bear Creek No Smoke" back to the Bear Creek Pavillion, 13750 -88th Ave., Surrey –8:00 pm

Tuesday: "Denman" & "Denman Beginner's" new location 1155 Thurlow St. @ Pendrell Vancouver –8:00 & 7:00 pm respectively

Tuesday: "12X12" new name & time was 6 pm, Now "Burnaby 12X12" at Burnaby Fellowship, 7638 -6th St., Burnaby –7:00 pm

Wednesday: "Lunch With Bill" new location Princeton Grill, 1901 Powell St., Vancouver –12:15 pm

Wednesday: "Whytecliff & Beginners Mtg." new location 885 22nd St.

West Vancouver –7:30 & 6:30 pm respectively

Wednesday: "Super Steps" new format is now a closed meeting, 715 Columbia St., New Westminster –6:00 pm

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

Saturday: "Breakfast with Bill" minimum is now \$8.50 for breakfast. Evelyn's Coffee Shop, 2176 W Broadway, Vancouver –8:30 am

Did you know...

The Corrections Sub-Committee's only source of funds to provide literature for the inmates of Provincial Penitentiaries for an entire year are raised at their annual Roundup?

If not attending, perhaps you or your group may choose to donate tickets as a means of supporting our fellow AA members behind bars.

We are not alone.

BIRTHDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

We celebrate your sobriety!

Members often contribute \$1.00 a year for each year of sobriety. Then we announce it here.

NEW FALL 2018 DIRECTORY

Submission deadline is Oct. 1:

Please check your Group information! Notify us of any additions/ corrections/ deletions to Group information

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 12th

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

MIRACLE BEACH ROUNDUP Aug 30 -Sept 3

vancouveraa.ca for more info. Black Creek, BC.

WHITE ROCK STEP STUDY Sept 11-Dec 4, must pre-register. Kathleen McM. qu33nofcards@gmail.com 604-541-0998 or 778-834-6144. Tues. 7:30-9:00 pm

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

KELOWNA ROUNDUP Sept 14-16. Okanagan Mission Community Hall, 4409 Lakeshore Rd. Pat S. 250-869-2919

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

DISTRICT 42 FAMILY & FRIENDS PICNIC Sept 15 Bear Creek Park, 140 St. & 86a Ave. Surrey. 12-5 pm

SPEAKING AT SCHOOLS WORKSHOP Sept. 16, Dist. 24, Van. Alano Club, 1525 W 7th Ave. -12 pm

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 ROUNDUP Oct. 20th. 34th annual Operating Engineer's Hall, 4333 Ledger Ave, Burnaby

VANCOUVER ROUNDUP Oct 19-20, Yaletown Roundhouse. 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver

www.vanroundup.com

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

NEW WESTMINSTER 1st ROUNDUP Oct 27, Centennial Lodge in Queens Park, 103 -3rd Ave.,

TELEPHONE SHIFT OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

Phone Room Statistics

	July	June	May
General	721	692	676
12th Step	41	60	46
Al-Anon	24	5	9
Ans Serv	140	194	182
Total	926	951	913

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

Accessibilities: 1st Thursday, 6:45 pm	6th	4th
Cooperation with Professional Community 1st Tuesday 7:00 pm	4th	2nd
Corrections: 1st Wednesday, 7:00 pm	5th	3rd
Detox: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am; Detox Workshop: 11:00 am	8th	13th
Finance: Thursday before Intergroup, 6:00 pm	13th	11th
Hospitals: 1st Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.	4th	2nd
Intergroup Rep Meeting 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 pm, Orientation at 7:00 pm (49th & Kerr)	18th	16th
Operating Committee: same night as Finance 7:00 pm	13th	11th
Public Information: 4th Wednesday, 7:00 pm	26th	24th
Telephone: 3rd Saturday, 11:00 am, Telephone Workshop: 10:00 am	15th	20 th
Treatment: 2nd Saturday, 10:00 am	8th	13 th

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