

Tradition Five:

Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

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Focus on Corrections:

Reprinted from A.A. IN PRISON INMATE TO INMATE p 7, With permission of A.A., World Service Inc.

FOREWORD

The stories in the first edition of this book originally appeared in AA Grapevine, A.A.'s international monthly magazine. In this second edition we've updated the book by adding new stories – some from Grapevine and others sent directly to us from members. In this book inmates tell these personal stories of the miracle of recovery. Each found freedom and hope from alcoholism's devastating disease through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. These A.A.s share their experience with you in the hope you will identify with their problem, and that you gain the strength through the Twelve Steps, fellowship and tools of the A.A. program to join them on the road to recovery—physically, mentally and spiritually—from alcoholism. For more about A.A., you can read the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, our basic text where you will find our program of recovery.

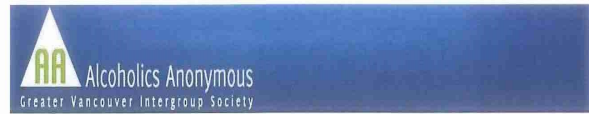
Perhaps our co-founder described this miracle best:

"I have seen hundreds of families set their feet in the path that really goes somewhere; have seen the most impossible domestic situations righted; feuds and bitterness of all sorts wiped out. I have seen men come out of asylums and resume a vital place in the lives of their families and communities. There is scarcely any form of trouble and misery which has not been overcome among us."

Co-founder Bill W.

In "Bill's Story"

Alcoholics Anonymous, p. 15



May 4, 2019

RE: Greater Vancouver Intergroup Society's Corrections Roundup 2019

Dear Group Secretary

Please bring this letter to your group's next meeting for action.

The Greater Vancouver Intergroup is once again sponsoring a round up to raise funds to supply literature to the meetings inside the Provincial institutions in the Greater Vancouver region. The round up is scheduled to be held November 16, 2019 (poster attached) at the Operating Engineers Hall on Ledger Avenue in Burnaby. Ticket price is still \$20.

In the past, groups have provided tickets for inmates to attend this event, and we ask that your group help us once again this year. You can send the funds as a cheque made payable to the Greater Vancouver Intergroup Corrections Roundup at the above address or call the office with a credit card number with instructions to provide free ticket(s) and the number of tickets your group agrees to purchase. Of course, you could also drop into the office with the cash.

Another initiative your group might consider is to have copies of the July Grapevine donated to the office for distribution in the prisons. If anyone in your group is a subscriber, remind them passing on their copies once read is an excellent tool in carrying the message.

As always, the committee thanks you for your assistance, and those members currently allowed a pass to attend are grateful for this opportunity to share with other members of our fellowship.

Yours in Love & Service

Ian MacB., Chair (778-908-4882)

+ members of the GVIS Corrections Roundup

CONTACT US:

TELEPHONE: 604-434-3933 FAX: 604-434-2553 E-MAIL: staff@vancouveraa.ca

WEBSITE including DIRECTORY: www.vancouveraa.ca

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

Central Office Hours:

- Mon.- Fri.: 8:00am to 6:30pm
 - Sat.- Sun.: 9:30am to 1:00pm
- 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver, BC, V5R 5L5
- Phone Lines: 24/7

Office will be closed on **May 20, 2019**

Intergroup Meeting:

- Orientation for new Reps at 7:00pm .
 - Intergroup meeting at 7:30pm.
- 3022 E 49th Ave, Vancouver, BC V5S 1K9
- **Next meeting: Tuesday, May 21st, 2019**

All members are welcome!

Intergroup Page: Unity, Service, & Recovery

Call to Action 10pm to 2am Phone Shift:

This ever important phone shift has pretty much ended. It saddens us to have to admit - only one or three nights a month are covered by members. The answering service has taken over the shift due to lack of volunteers. This ever important shift is the one for when the bar closes or you come home drunk to find out you have been left by your family.

Are we, Greater Vancouver Alcoholics really too busy to answer the phones during this time? Do we all start work too early to stay up this late? Let your telephone committee know how we can better serve the still suffering AA? Are we meeting the Responsibility Statement that so many of us rhyme off in our meetings?

Traditions Discussion:

Tradition Five questions:



1. "Do I ever cop out by saying, "I am not a group, so this or Tradition 5 doesn't apply to me?"
2. "Do I help my group in every way to fulfill our primary purpose?"

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Sub-Committees:

"The purpose of every outreach subcommittee is to assist the Intergroup Committee in carrying out the primary purpose of Alcoholics Anonymous as expressed in Tradition 5. Each outreach subcommittee is therefore assigned a particular area of responsibility."

Reprinted from Intergroup Operating Procedures and Guidelines 2018 with permission.

Accessibility:

Welcomes Lori M. as our new Chairperson! Experience is not required; willingness is. The committee is responsible to explore, develop and offer resources, including literature, to make the A.A. message and participation in A.A. accessible to all. There is lots to be done on the committee. Contact the committee at accessibilities@vancouveraa.ca or just come meet them the 1st Thursday of every month at 6:45pm at CO..

Phone Room Stats:

	APR	MAR	FEB
12 th Step Calls	28	50	47
Al-Anon	9	13	5
Answering Service	243	255	214
General	739	681	599
Total Calls	1019	999	865

Sub-Committees: continued

Co-operation with Professional Community:

Jess S. is our new OCM liaison. We are hoping to get more done but we need help. Join us, every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm at CO. If you want more information e-mail John at cpc@vancouveraa.ca.

Corrections:

Right now this meeting is every 1st Wednesday of the month 7pm at CO. We are looking into moving this meeting to Coquitlam for the 1st Friday of every month starting this June. History in Corrections is not required, Sobriety and a will to help is all that is required. Right now we are in need of any New or Used Grapevines & Big Books, soft covers, by donation. Attendance at our monthly meeting is important and necessary for improving our on going commitment to all those in need. For more information call or drop in at CO or email corrections@vancouveraa.ca

Detox:

We meet every 2nd Saturday at 10:00am followed at 11:00am with a workshop to assist members in doing detox twelve step work. Serena J our Chairperson. Serena could use some help. Come help her out by joining the committee.

Call CO, drop in or email: detox@vancouveraa.ca if you're are interested

Hospitals:

Welcomes Sean B. as our new Chairperson! We meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7:00pm at CO with CPC. The committee is responsible to ensure the AA message is carried in the form of meetings and/or panel discussions in those hospital wishing to have such meetings.

Call CO, drop in or email: hospitals@vancouveraa.ca

Public Information:

We meet every 4th Wednesday at 7:00pm.

Call CO, drop in or email: public.info@vancouveraa.ca

Telephone:

We meet every 3rd Saturday at 11:00am. All group telephone reps are encouraged to attend. At 10:00am we have the telephone workshop for new members who want to do the phones at CO.

Call CO, drop in or email: telephones@vancouveraa.ca

Want to volunteer for a 4 hour phone shift? Call CO or email staff@vancouveraa.ca

Treatment:

We meet every 2nd Saturday at 10:00am. Quite a few service opportunities available to attend facilities, but need more participation from members to fill the needs.

Call CO, drop in or email: treatment@vancouveraa.ca

All subcommittees meet at Central Office.

Thank you to everyone who does Service!

Directory Updates May 2019

For a complete listing, check: www.vancouveraa.ca under meetings

New Meetings:

Monday: “Bay Group Beginner’s”. Vancouver Alano Club, 1525 W 7th Ave, Vancouver - 6:45pm

Friday: “Friday Night Last Call” Broadmoor Baptist Church, 8140 Saunders Rd., Richmond — 7:30 pm

Meeting Changes:

Sunday: “Come Out and Sober Up”- lgbtq. *new time* Burnaby Fellowship, 7638 6th St., now 7:00 pm

Sunday: “The Thanksgiving Group” has moved to Davis Bay Hall, 5123 Davis Bay Rd., Sechelt 8 pm *new location*

Tuesday: “Steps and Tradition Group” has moved to St.Hilda’s Church (Annex), 5838 Barnacle Str., Sechelt — 7:30 lt *new location*

Wednesday: “Talk Back”, at 7pm, formerly Big Book Discussion Grp, 3456 Fraser St., Van., *new name*

Thursday: “Participation” *new time* 7025 Granville St., Vancouver—back to 8:30 pm

Thursday: “12x12 Discussion” now called West Vancouver Beginner Step/Discussion Meeting”. Church,1068 Inglewood @ 11st St. - 7:30 pm — *new name*

Thursday: “A Place of Vision” — Church 2350 148th Street, White Rock — *new location*

Saturday: Saturday Morning Service Topics, 9:15am, **Last Mtg. May 25, 2019—Closing after that**, Easy Does It Club, 7277 King George Blvd, Surrey

Discontinued Meetings:

Sunday—The “not so” Secret Society of Sobriety-12:00 pm. George Mackie Library 8440-112 St. Delta.

Sunday — Keefer Group, 8pm, 887 Keefer St., Van

Sunday—I’m Sober Not Hungover, 7pm, 11184—143A St., Surrey

Monday: Sherbrooke RCH Step, 6:30 pm, Royal Columbian Hospital, New Westminster

Monday: “Crosstalk Meeting” Vancouver Recovery Club 2775 Sophia @ 12th Ave. 9:30pm open/topic

Friday: “St. David’s Step”, church, 1525 Taylor Way, West Vancouver –noon, upstairs in the music room

Group Corner: AA Group Inventory

Some groups take inventory by examining our Twelve Traditions, one at a time, to determine how well they are living up to these principles. The following questions, may be useful in arriving at an informed group conscience. Groups will probably wish to add questions of their own:

1. What is the basic purpose of our group?
2. What more can our group do to carry the message?
3. Is our group attracting alcoholics from different backgrounds? Are we seeing a good cross section of our community, including those with accessibility issues?
4. Do new members stick with us, or does the turnover seem excessive? If so, why? What can we as a group do to retain members?
5. Do we emphasize the importance of sponsorship? How effectively? How can we do it better?
6. Are we careful to preserve the anonymity of our group members and other A.A.s outside the meeting rooms? Do we also leave what they share at meetings behind?
7. Does our group emphasize to all members the value of keeping up with the kitchen, set-up, clean-up and other housekeeping chores that are essential for our Twelfth Step efforts?
8. Are all members given the opportunity to speak at meetings and to participate in other group activities?
9. Mindful that holding office is a great responsibility not to be viewed as the outcome of a popularity contest, are we choosing our officers with care?
10. Are we doing all we can to provide a safe, attractive and accessible meeting place?
11. Does our group do its fair share toward participating in the purpose of AA. — as it relates to our Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity and Service?
12. What has our group done lately to bring the A.A. message to the attention of professionals in the community — the physicians, clergy, court officials, educators and others who are often the first to see alcoholics in need of help?
13. How is our group fulfilling its responsibility to the Seventh Tradition?

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AA MEETINGS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS IS KNOWN AS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL & SOUGHT AFTER ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM IN THE WORLD

- The 12-Step program aids in long lasting sobriety
- Local meetings are held every week
- 100% free



Upcoming Events

For a complete listing, check: www.vancouveraa.ca under events

Events:

May 4: **May the Fourth Be With You**, Kits Beach, Potluck BBQ, 5:30pm, Speaker 7:30pm VANYPAA.

May 11: **One Day In May**, St Mary's Ukrainian Hall, 3150 Ash St, Van. \$10 tickets 11am –11pm.

May 14: **24 Year Anniversary**, Lougheed Speaker Meeting. With food & refreshments. 8pm.

May 17-19: **Kamloops Roundup**, Heffley Hall, 6955 Old Hwy 5, Kamloops, kamloopsroundup@gmail.com.

May 31-June 1: **Growing in Sobriety: 32nd Annual Tri-Cities Spring Rally**, All Saints Parish Hall, 821 Fairfax St, Coquitlam \$25 tricityrallytickets@gmail.com.

May 31-June 2: **Lytton AA Roundup**, Memorial Hall, Lytton, \$20 + \$3 (Sun breakfast) pdc4@live.com.

June 7-9: **AA Gratitude Roundup**, Calgary, AB, Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail SE, Calgary, AB www.gratituderoundup.com

Aug.2-4: **Soberiders Pig Roast & Campout**, Ashnola Campground, Keromeos, \$65 until July 5th; \$80 at Gate, \$20 Day Pass, Contact: Shannon 778-255-5515

Sept.21: **Tri-Cities AA Women's Day "Stay Connected"** 9:30-3:30 All Saints Parish, 821 Fairfax St., Coquitlam, \$20 incl. lunch tricitywomensday@gmail.com

Nov.16: **Freedom from Bondage**, GVIS Corrections Roundup; Operating Engineers Hall, 4333 Ledger Ave.,

Intergroup Events/ Meetings:

May 3: **Corrections Roundup Planning Committee**, please come and join us in the boardroom at Central Office, 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver. Everyone is welcome and all support is appreciated - 7pm.

Sept 28: **Sponsorship Breakfast**, St. Mary's Ukrainian Church Hall, 3150 Ash St., Van. –10 am. \$20 for more information go to: vancouveraa.ca

Next Newsletter Deadlines:

May 16th (for June) and June 13 (for July)

Area Happenings:

July 5-7: **Area 79 July Quarterly** Surrey, White Rock, Langley www.bcyukonaa.org.

Birthday Contributions:

- Fiona C.
- Colleen M. (4th Dimension)
- Dale 45 Years!

Sub-Committees Meeting Dates:

2019	May	June
Accessibilities @ 6:45pm	2	6
Corrections @ 7pm	1	5
C.P.C. @ 7pm	16	20
Detox @ 10am Workshop @ 11am	11	8
Hospitals @ 7pm	16	20
Intergroup Rep Meeting @ 7:30pm	21	18
Intergroup Rep Orientation @ 7pm	21	18
Public Information @ 7pm	22	26
Telephones Rep Meeting @11am	18	15
Telephones Workshop @ 10am	18	15
Treatment @ 10:00am	11	8

*Meet at 3022 E 49th Ave, Vancouver. All others at 3457 Kingsway, Vancouver.

In Memoriam Contributions:

- Jamie S. of the Whytecliff Grp in Vancouver.

GREATER VANCOUVER INTERGROUP SOCIETY
CORRECTIONS ROUND UP COMMITTEE PRESENTS:
FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE

Saturday, November 16, 2019

Operating Engineers Hall
4333 Ledger Ave, Burnaby
Doors open 9:00 am

Tickets still \$20 each

DO YOURSELF A FAVOUR

Find out how to carry this message as a guest in an institution.

Help free an alcoholic from the self imposed chains.

Add the wonder of service and love to that still suffering alcoholic who cannot access those 600 meetings a week.



Panel discussions. Speakers. Count Down

Ice Cream social

Al-Anon participation

Every dollar above expenses is used to supply literature to inmates.

Contact: Ian 778-908-4882 Russell 604-889-4853