PRIMARY PURPOSE

January 2017

VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

Volume 1

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"We admitted we were powerless over alcoholthat our lives had become unmanageable"

Who cares to admit complete defeat? Practically no one, of course. Every natural instinct cries out against the idea of personal powerlessness. It is truly awful to admit that, glass in hand, we have warped our minds into such an obsession for destructive drinking that only an act of Providence can remove it from us.

No other kind of bankruptcy is like this one. Alcohol, now become the rapacious creditor, bleeds us of all self-sufficiency and all will to resist its demands. Once this stark fact is accepted, our bankruptcy as going human concerns is complete.



But upon entering A. A. we soon take quite another view of this absolute humiliation. We perceive that only through utter defeat we are able to take our first steps toward liberation and strength. Our admissions of personal powerlessness finally turns out to be firm bedrock upon which happy and purposeful lives may be built.

Did You Know...

Significant events which occurred in January

1/2/1889—Sister Ignatia was born in Ireland

1/25/1915—Dr. Bob Smith married Anne Ripley

1/24/1918—Bill Wilson and Lois Burnham were married, days before he was sent to Europe in WWI

1/8/1938—New York AA split from the Oxford Group

1/4/1940—First AA group was founded in Detroit, Michigan

1/10/1940—First AA meeting, not held in a home, meets at King School, Akron, Ohio

1/19/1940—First AA group met in Detroit, Michigan

1/2/1941—Jack Alexander told Bill Wilson the Oxford Group would be in his Saturday Evening Post article on AA

1/12/1943—Press reported first AA group in Pontiac, Michigan

1/15/1945—First AA meeting held in Springfield, Missouri

1/1/1948—First AA Meeting held in Japan, (English speaking)

1/24/1974—Bill Wilson dies in Miami, Florida

1/7/1984—"Pass it On", the story of Bill W. and how the AA message reached the world, was published

1/1/1988—West Virginia AA began fist statewide toll-free telephone hotline

Bill W. passed away on January 24, 1971 in Miami, Florida. When his wife, Lois, returned to their home in New York, now known as Stepping Stones, she brought home the plant that had been in Bill's Florida hospital room. Lois cared for the plant until the mid 1980's. Lois asked that the plant be shared with members of AA in Bill's memory. Cuttings and offshoots of this plant continue to be shared with AA members all around the world.



"God bless you and Alcoholics Anonymous forever"

(Bill W's last words to fellow AA's at the 35th Anniversary International Convention)

VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!

January Birthdays

Jerry A.—49 years Mike C.—3 years Chris—8 years

Torri—10 years Jeremy—5 years Jenny—9 months

Pete C.—16 years Reed—2 years Joy—18 months

Shirlene H.—28 years Paul M.—41 years

Marc—4 years John—1 year

If you would like to acknowledge someone celebrating a monthly or annual birthday. Please come in to our office and we will get them added to the newsletter.

Your donations help support your Area Intergroup.

The Heart of Alcoholics Anonymous

Tradition One

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity."

The unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has. Our lives, the lives of all to come, depend squarely upon it. We stay whole, or A.A. dies. Without unity, the heart of A. A. would cease to beat; our world arteries would no longer carry the life-giving grace of God; His gift to us would be spent aimlessly. Back again in their caves, alcoholics would reproach us and say, "What a great thing A.A. might have been!"

"Does this mean," some will anxiously ask, "that in A.A. the individual doesn't count for much? Is he to be dominated by his group and swallowed up in it?"

We may certainly answer this question with a loud "No!" We believe there isn't a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon it's individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual's right to think, talk, and act as he wishes.

—Twelve steps and twelve traditions page 129

Financial Statements

		Year to	Profit & Loss Statement					
December	Donations	Date	December			Year end		
400.00	12X12	120.00		, 1			u	
400.00	A New Beginning A New Life	800.00 109.00	Revenue			Revenue		
388.10		4,718.30	Sales	\$	3,386.10	Sales	\$	43,582.30
	Amboy Renegades	53.00	Contributions	\$	3,256.89	Contributions	\$	27,174.32
	As Bill Sees It	101.55	Fundraising	\$	-	Fundraising	\$	1,246.00
50.00	As We Recovered Battleground AA	220.00 75.00	Misc. Income	\$	104.39	Misc. Income	\$	1,661.38
	Birds of a Feather	150.00		\$	6,747.38		\$	•
	Bozo's by the Berries	265.95		Ψ	·		Ψ	70,004.00
	Camas Group	79.91	Expenses			Expenses		
200.00	Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge	115.00	Cost of goods sold	\$	2,156.85	Cost of goods sold	\$	25,364.95
800.00	Cascade Group Chapter Nine	800.00 352.13	Merchant Services	\$	75.32	Merchant Services	\$	848.66
	Cherry Grove Group	280.00	Office supplies	\$	291.39	Office supplies	\$	1,189.54
	Coffee Break Washougal	22.29	Office equipment rent	\$	197.97	Office equipment rent	\$	2,231.75
	District #7	500.00	Building rent	\$	875.00	Building rent	\$	8,300.00
52.00	Dry Tribe E. County Women's Group	69.00 140.00	Utilities		391.45	Utilities		4,746.18
	Early Birds	50.00		\$			\$	•
	Early Light	130.00	Net Wages	\$	1,341.86	Net Wages	\$	22,987.97
	Easier Softer Way	15.00	Payroll taxes	\$	507.00	Payroll taxes	\$	7,154.97
440.00	33	2,630.00	Sales Tax liability	\$	-	Sales Tax liability	\$	1,839.46
	Eastside Closed Men's Morning Meeting Eastside Women's Book Study	250.00 150.00	Insurance	\$	_	Insurance	\$	500.00
	Fireside	278.49	Bank Fees	\$	_	Bank Fees	\$	132.62
120.39		1,059.91						20.00
	Forged From Adversity	120.00	Misc. Licenses,txs,fees			Misc. Licenses,txs,fee	-	
	Fresh Start	1,592.54 5.49		\$	5,836.84		\$	75,316.10
	Growing at the Grove Hockinson Group	299.03						
	La Center Group	15.75	Net Income	\$	910.54	Net Income	\$	(1,652.10)
	Ladies by the Lavender	198.56		<u></u>	ach Flow 9	Statements		
	Ladies by the Lavender Lewis River AA	198.56 255.20		C		Statements		
	Ladies by the Lavender	198.56		C	ash Flow S Decer			
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50.00	Ladies by the Lavender Lewis River AA Lighthouse Longview group McGuilivray Study Group Men's Fireside	198.56 255.20 330.00 50.00 921.00 285.00	Checkin		Decei	mber Prudent Re		
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50.00	Ladies by the Lavender Lewis River AA Lighthouse Longview group McGuilivray Study Group Men's Fireside Miracles at Noon OB's Speaker's Meeting	198.56 255.20 330.00 50.00 921.00 285.00 3,868.00 153.50 180.22 150.00	Checkin Beg Balance Deposits Expenses	g (5,701.71 8,488.95 7,743.04)	mber Prudent Re Beg Balance		15,530.02
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-Your Vancouver Intergroup Steering Committee

STEERING COMITTEE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 12, 2016

The meeting opened at 5:30 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson	Jeff H	Vice-Chair	Rebecca(Beci) S
Position #1	David C.	Position #2	Doug J.
Position #3	Greg H.	Recording Secretary	Virginia E
		Alternate	Absent
		Treasurer	Marcy B
Visitors:			
John B	Darcy S		
Janna	Laurie H		
Tracy			

The Steering Committee minutes for November 14, 2016 were read. Corrections noted. Motion by David; seconded by Doug. Approved as corrected.

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for November 21, 2016 were read.

HOTLINE REPORT: 12 step call list and volunteers' scheduled times for volunteering are being updated.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Marcy read Treasurer's Report. We netted \$1,360.23 on the Gratitude Dinner. Suggested we place funds into checking account and a transfer to the prudent reserve after we review our product inventory. Finance Committee will be working on increase of our product for sale due to our vendors' costs increases and taking into account our general increase in costs of operating.

INTERGROUP REPORT: Total telephone calls logged were 123; 71 of which were general/office inquires, 46 requests for meetings, and 6 were 12 step calls.

WEBSITE REPORT: Calendar and events are continually being updated. There are now links to other intergroups and districts.

OLD BUSINESS:

<u>Gratitude Dinner</u>: We're waiting for receipts for items purchased for the Gratitude Dinner from our funds available in our "event fund." Handling of receipts, expenses paid by checks and preparation of a manual/guidelines for the Gratitude Dinner Committee were discussed.

<u>Finance Committee Meetings:</u> Finance Committee will meet at 5:15 pm at the Intergroup Office the 2nd Monday of each month. AA members that are interested are welcome.

COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee:

Intergroup Budget: Finance Committee will draft a proposed 2017 budget based upon 2016 expenses.

Rental Agreement: Greg met with landlord. Agreement has been signed. Landlord would not accept a limit on Intergroup's liability of repair expenses required by a business lease without an additional increase in our rent. Discussion and awareness of Intergroup's responsibility of cost of repairs if necessary.

NEW BUSINESS:

<u>Elections for Positions 2, 3 Alternate and Recording Secretary</u>: John of A New Morning made himself available for the Alternate position.

Amending Minutes: Virginia requested that once Steering Committee has received drafts of minutes to please respond within 48 hours as opposed to 2 months later with any corrections to avoid confusion. Jeff noted guidelines state minutes within one week. It was discussed and suggested that with Steering Comm minutes since they are handed out to the Reps one week later, to have minutes drafted within 36 hours of Steering Committee meeting and any Steering Committee members recommending changes/amendments to respond within 24 hours given the tight deadline.

Group Inventory: Steering Committee members attended a Group Inventory chaired by Steve C, Area Alternate Delegate, focusing on the 12 Concepts, right of decision, trusted servants, putting disputes behind us, and noting a time slot for minority opinion/discussion at our Steering Comm and Rep meetings.

Office Closures (Weather): Suggested that Marcy go down the chain of command by telephone to discuss office closure due to weather conditions, taking into account closure of Vancouver Schools. Steering Committee to be advised, but unanimous vote not necessary.

<u>Motions</u>: Jeff handed out a suggested draft Motion presentation format, and possibility including in our procedure manual.

<u>Wayfarers Committee/Conference Room Rental</u>: Doug moved, Beci 2nd, all approved to rent our meeting room for \$25 per meeting (to Wayfarers and any other business/committee meetings). Marcy will notify Districts of our increase from \$20 to \$25. Our landlord has increased our rent; and thus our room rental increases.

<u>Sale of Other 12 Step Program Product</u>: Intergroup has had requests for books of Alanon, NA, Coda, etc that do not have their own Intergroup offices. Our sale of non-AA approved literature was discussed. We will further investigate, and bring up at Rep meeting for discussion.

<u>Jamboree Rental of Storage Space</u>: Doug moved, David 2nd, motion to rent storage space to the SW Washington Jamboree consisting of approximately 10 totes in our literature storage area for an agreed monthly rental. Passed.

<u>July 2017 Picnic Chair</u>: Will be announced at Rep meeting. Virginia remembers Sandy having a checklist for use by the Chair.

AA Service Manual: Suggested each Steering Committee purchase an AA Service Manual for reference as a trusted AA servant at a cost of approximately \$5.00 each.

Meeting adjourned with the Responsibility Statement.

Yours in Service, Virginia E, Recording Secretary

INTERGROUP REP MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 19, 2016

The meeting opened at 6:30 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson	Jeff H.	Vice-Chair	Rebecca(Beci) S.
Position #1	David C.	Position #2	Doug J.
Position #3	Greg H.	Alternative	
Recording Secretary	Virginia E	Office Assistant	Marcy B.
REPRESENTATIVES:			
Bozo's By The Berries	Jeff H.	Lighthouse	David C.
Camas Group	Robert L.	Men's Fireside	Tom S.
Central Group	Tracy B.	Over 55	Richard R
Coffee Break (Alt)	Jackie J.	RecoverWe	Janna
Early Birds	Chuck R.	Sideways Sundays	George V.
EastSide Brwn Baggers	Bill C.	Sober Sickos	Laurie H.
1 st Shot	Greg H.	Sober Uppers	Darcy S.
Hockinson	Shirlene H.	Stepping Up	Jerry G.
How It Works	Virginia E.	Truth & Purpose	Sean B
Last Chance	Doug J.	Welcome Home	Julie U.
		VISTORS:	
		A New Morning	John B.
		Cornerstone	Levi H.

20 Reps in attendance.

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for November 21, 2016 were read. Moved by David, 2nd by Julie. Approved.

The Steering Committee minutes for December 12, 2016 were read.

HOTLINE REPORT:

All hotline positions are currently filled. (Thank you AA volunteers)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Marcy read the Treasurer's Report. David moved, Robert 2nd, passed.

INTERGROUP REPORT:

Total telephone calls logged were 123; 71 of which were general/office, 46 meeting requests and 6 were 12 step calls.

Century Link is coming Wednesday, Dec 21, to fix our phone line.

WEBSITE REPORT:

Events and calendar are continually being updated with downloadable flyers. There are now links on our website for committees and other Intergroup offices.

COMMITTEES:

<u>Finance Committee</u>: The Finance Committee will meet each month on the 2nd Monday of the month at 5:15 pm at the Intergroup Office. Any interested AAs are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS:

<u>Gratitude Dinner</u>: We're waiting for receipts from our Gratitude Dinner Committee.

<u>Job Description</u>: Various discussion regarding the new job description submitted to the Reps by Jeff to include former job description, store hours, suggested changes, etc. Discussion will continue at our next monthly Rep meeting. Doug J will contact L&I to obtain current Washington law requirements in regards to holiday pay. Reps may discuss details with their Home Groups for feedback and group conscious.

<u>Prior Motion to Terminate Jeff as Chair</u>: After discussion, David moved to remove this item from Old Business, Doug 2nd, passed (15 Reps in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstained)

NEW BUSINESS:

Alternate Position: John B. elected.

Recording Secretary Position: Virginia E. elected.

<u>Position No. 2</u>: Robert L. elected. Position No. 3: Greg H. elected.

<u>Picnic Chair Needed</u>: Chair is needed for our July 29, 2017 picnic. Jennifer D. will be securing The Marshall Center on Feb 1, 2017 (1st available day to make reservation)

Meeting adjourned.

Yours in Service, Virginia E Recording Secretary





OB's Speaker Meeting

January 7th , 2017 February 4th, 2017 7:00 pm Eastridge Church

14100 SE Sunnyside Road

Clackamas, OR 97015

Speaker: TBA

Meeting is always the first Saturday of the month

Kleen Street Speaker Meeting

Friday, January 13th 7:00 pm 5317 NE St. John's Road Vancouver, WA 98661

Central Group's Birthday Meeting

Friday, January 27th
8:00 pm
1501 Columbia Street
Basement
Vancouver, WA 98660

Know of any local gatherings? Want to let everyone know?

Want to let everyone know?

Please contact the Intergroup office via

Email: vancaa@vanintgrp.com

Or

Phone: (360) 694-3870

To make sure that your event makes it into the monthly newsletter and Gets put on the website

Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting

January 14th, 2017 7:00 pm

* NEW LOCATION *

St. John's Lutheran Church, 11005 NE Hwy 99 Vancouver, WA. 98686

AA speaker: Gary S. From: Portland, OR

Al-Anon Speaker: Julie P. From: Battleground, WA

RULE 62 Speaker's Meeting

Saturday, January 21st, 2017 7:00 pm

Central Bible Church 8815 NE Glisan Street, Portland

> AA Speaker: All-Anon Speaker:

Friday Night Happy Hour January 6th, 2017

February 3rd, 2017

7:30pm

Speaker Meeting

Camas Friends Church

NE 4th and Ione St. Camas, WA. 98607

Speakers: TBA

Meeting is always the first Friday of the month

CARSON AA SPIRIT OF THE GORGE

Carson Hot Springs

Sunday, January 29th, 2017

Potluck 6:30 pm

Speaker 7:00 pm

Speaker: TBA

Ouestions?

(509) 427-4970 or

(503) 701-6574

Hockinson Potluck

Sunday, January 29th

Last Sunday of the month All are welcome

Bring your favorite dish to share

Potluck at: 6:00 pm Meeting follows at: 7:00 pm

Elim Lutheran Church 15815 NE 182nd Ave Brush Prairie, WA 98606

December Phone Calls

Office/general: 63

Meetings: 34

12 Step: 5

Total Calls: 102

AA needs 12 step volunteers to take occasional phone calls. Intergroup or hotline volunteers will call you with a phone number of someone that would like more information about AA. If you are interested please call the office or come in to give us your name, number and area of residence. Your help is needed.

JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Friday Night Happy Hour Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	7 OB's Speaker Meeting
8	9 Finance Mtg 5:15pm Steering Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	10	11	12	13 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	14 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm
15	16 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18	19	20	21 Rule 62 7 pm
22	23	24 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm	25	District 7 Standing Committees 6:30 pm District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	27 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	28
29 Carson Speaker Meeting Potluck @ 6:30 pm Speaker @ 7 pm	30	31				

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Friday Night Happy Hour Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	4 OB's Speaker Meeting
5	6	7	8	9	10 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	11 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm
12	Finance Mtg 5:15pm Steering Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	14	15	16	17	18 Rule 62 7 pm
19	20 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	21	22	District 7 Standing Committees 6:30 pm District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	24 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	25
26 Carson Speaker Meeting Potluck @ 6:30 pm Speaker @ 7 pm	27	28 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm				

I STAND AT THE DOOR

By Sam Shoemaker (from the Oxford Group)

I stand by the door.

I neither go to far in, nor stay to far out. The door is the most important door in the world - It is the door through which men walk when they find God.

There is no use my going way inside and staying there, when so many are still outside and they, a much as I, crave to know where the door is. And all that so many ever find is only the wall where the door ought to be.

They creep along the wall like blind men, with outstretched, groping hands,

Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door, yet they never find it.

So I stand by the door.

The most tremendous thing in the world is for men to find that door - the door to God. The most important thing that any man can do is to take hold of one of those blind, groping hands And put it on the latch - the latch that only clicks and opens to the man's own touch.

Men die outside the door, as starving beggars die on cold nights in cruel cities in the dead of winter.

Die for want of what is within their grasp.

They live on the other side of it - live because they have not found it.

Nothing else matters compared to helping them find it, and open it, and walk in, and find Him. So I stand by the door.

Go in great saints; go all the way in—Go way down into the cavernous cellars, and way up into the spacious attics. It is a vast, roomy house, this house where God is. Go into the deepest of hidden casements, Of withdrawal, of silence, of sainthood. Some must inhabit those inner rooms and know the depths and heights of God, and call outside to the rest of us how wonderful it is. Sometimes I take a deeper look in. Sometimes venture in a little farther, but my place seems closer to the opening.

So I stand by the door.

There is another reason why I stand there.

Some people get part way in and become afraid lest God and the zeal of His house devour them; For God is so very great and asks all of us. And these people feel a cosmic claustrophobia and want to get out.

'Let me out!' they cry. And the people way inside only terrify them more.

Somebody must be by the door to tell them that they are spoiled. For the old life, they have seen too much:

One taste of God and nothing but God will do any more. Somebody must be watching for the frightened who seek to sneak out just where they came in, to tell them how much better it is inside.

The people too far in do not see how near these are to leaving - preoccupied with the wonder of it all.

Somebody must watch for those who have entered the door But would like to run away.

So for them too, I stand by the door.

I admire the people who go way in. But I wish they would not forget how it was before they got in.

Then they would be able to help the people who have not yet even found the door.

Or the people who want to run away again from God.

You can go in too deeply and stay in too long and forget the people outside the door.

As for me, I shall take my old accustomed place, near enough to God to hear Him and know He is there,
But not so far from men as not to hear them, and remember they are there too.

Where? Outside the door -

Thousands of them. Millions of them. But - more important for me One of them, two of them, ten of them. Whose hands I am intended to put on the latch.
So I shall stand by the door and wait for those who seek it.

'I had rather be a door-keeper So I stand by the door.

WORD SEARCH

G N THE STREET N P 1 T



ABIDE BASIS CODE EARNESTLY FORGIVE HUMANITARIAN KILLJOYS MERRIMENT OBLIGED PERSISTENCE SANE UNBALANCED

WILL

BEHELD DEFICIENCY EFFICIENT GALLANTLY ILLUMINATING LOGIC MIRACLES OVERBEARING OUICKSAND SCOFFERS **UNMANAGEABLE** YEARNING

ABYSMAL

ACCEPT CAPITALIZE DESTINY FAITH GRACE **IMPRESSIONABLE** LUNACY MORALIZE OVERWHELMED RELATIVELY SOBRIETY VENT

BAFFLE CHEERY DONESTIC FELLOWSHIP HOST INSPIRATIONAL LUXURY NEUTRALITY PEERS RESOLUTELY

TRANSCENDED

VITAL

Check back next month for a new puzzle