

Volume 11

November 2017

PRIMARY PURPOSE VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

2203 Fairmount Ave, Suite A, Vancouver, WA 98661

Vancouveraa.org vancaa@vanintgrp.com (360) 694-3870

Thank you!

A big thank you to Deb T., all who donated their time & resources and to everyone who attended this years Gratitude Dinner.

HELP WANTED

Vancouver Area Intergroup

Is looking for Individuals who have the desire to be of service to join the Steering Committee

Criteria:

Two years continuous sobriety

Willing to show up for two meetings a month.

Be willing to offer sensible input for the Intergroup operation.

Several positions are coming available

If interested, please call the office
(360)694-3870 and/or

attend the November 20th or
December 18th Intergroup Rep Meeting



NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

Leadership in AA	2
We Are Not Alone	3
Financial Page	4
Steering Committee minutes	5-6
Intergroup minutes	7-8
Events & Area Information	9
Calendar	10
Birthday Club	11

MONTHLY BUSINESS

MEETINGS

Finance Comm. Mtg	11/13	5:30 pm
Steering Comm. Mtg	11/13	6:00 pm
Intergroup Mtg	11/20	6:30 pm
District 37 GSR Mtg	11/28	7:00 pm
District 7 GSR Mtg	*11/16	7:00 pm

- Due to Thanksgiving the GSR meeting for District 7 is being held a week early.

**All business meetings are held at the Intergroup office
2203 Fairmount Avenue, Vancouver WA 98661**

**Looking to do some service work?
Volunteer at the Intergroup Office
(360) 694-3870**



LEADERSHIP IN AA:

(Excerpts from Bill W.'s article in the April 1959 Grapevine. See Concept IX, page 38 of "Twelve Concepts for World Service" in the service manual for the full article)

Somewhere in our literature there is a statement to this effect: "Our leaders do not drive by mandate: they lead by example." In effect, we are saying to them, "Act for us, but don't boss us."...

Therefore, a leader in AA service is a person who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him up and help him with his job. When a leader power-drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly becomes an order-taker and he exercises no judgment of his own—well, he really isn't a leader at all...

Good leadership originates plans, policies, and ideas for the improvement of our Fellowship and its service. But in new and important matters, it will nevertheless consult widely before making decisions and actions. Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere. Consequently, good leadership will often discard its own cherished plans for others that are better, and it will give credit to the source...

Good leadership never passes the buck. Once assured that it has, or can obtain, sufficient general backing, it freely takes decisions and put them into action forthwith, provided, of course, that such action be within framework of its defined authority and responsibility...

Another qualification for leadership is give-and-take, the ability to compromise cheerfully whenever a proper compromise can cause a situation to progress in what appears to be the right direction. Compromise comes hard to us all-or-nothing drunks. Nevertheless, we must never lose sight of the fact that progress is nearly always characterized by a series of improving compromises. We cannot, however, compromise always. Now and then, it is truly necessary to stick flat-footed to one's conviction about an issue until it is settled. These areas situations for keen timing and careful discrimination as to which course to take....

Leadership is often called upon to face heavy and sometimes long-continued criticism. This is an acid test. There are always the constructive critics, our friends indeed. We ought never fail to give them a careful hearing. We should be willing to let them modify our opinions or change them completely. Often, too, we shall have to disagree and then stand fast without losing their friendship.

Excerpted with permission by Grapevine, Inc.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

On Saturday, 21 October, a Vancouver Intergroup (IG) representative attended a seminar meeting at the Tacoma AA Central Office (C.O). Invitations to this gathering were sent by the Pierce County C.O. Office Manager to all Intergroup/Central Office addresses in our Western Washington geographic region - and there are about 10 such locations from Vancouver Canada to Portland OR. Pierce County C.O. and the Greater Seattle IG sent representatives to the annual Intergroup/Central Offices of AA (ICOAA) Conference held with AAWS and AAGV in Virginia earlier in the month. These ICOAA Conference participants shared their experience with the group who traveled to Tacoma.

A digest of the Tacoma meeting minutes is offered below:

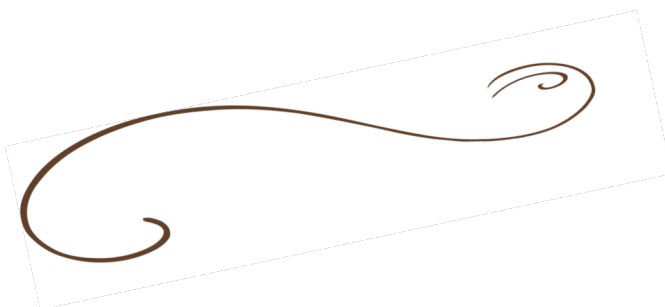
The ICOAA Conference included many breakout workshops. One such workshop discussed the differences between AA Intergroup structures and Central Office structures. Part of the discussion included the bylaws created by other intergroups/c.o.'s and how some offices offer copies of their bylaws to aid other offices. Another workshop on Online Services illustrated various design standards that are elemental to a good website along with website management best practices.

The Seattle IG described a workshop about product inventory control and spoke of semi-annual product inventories.

One workshop at ICOAA was on how to increase participation at the IG/CO level of general service to AA. The Boston IG reported 66% of revenue from home groups. It seems that 33% group participation seems to be a common level among all IG/CO's.

An observation at the ICOAA; it's becoming more common for the places where AA meeting are held (churches, etc) to require liability insurance. Groups can ask the church board if they can be added to the church's policy (and agree to pay the added premium). Sacramento intergroup buys liability through an insurance broker for non-profit organizations. Seattle IG has been working with a broker and discovered that groups can be added as a rider to such a policy at no charge. This insurance service could be a source of value to home groups.

Altogether, this small group of 8 IG/CO volunteers and staff had a very productive 4 hours together in Tacoma. There were some handout documents, including the reading recommended for all who are interested in this area of AA Service - the re- cent
AAWS 'Box 459' article from Fall 2017 issue



October	Donations	Year to Date
	11th Step Prayer & Meditation	5.00
60.00	12 X 12	60.00
	159th Street Women's Group	125.00
313.90	A New Morning	2,984.57
200.00	As Bill See's It	419.00
	As We Recovered	70.00
	B & P	11.00
55.00	Battleground AA	105.00
	By the Book Study Group	100.00
5.58	Camas Group	83.25
	Came to Believe	66.00
	Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge	68.00
	Chapter Nine	209.59
	Cornerstone	168.30
	Dry Tribe	26.00
	Early Birds	200.00
	Easier Softer Way	167.00
120.00	Eastside Brown Baggers	1,850.00
	Eastside Women's Meeting	200.00
	First Shot	582.61
99.53	Fresh Start	1,004.10
	Gorge Gals	67.00
	Hockinson	63.63
13.50	LaCenter Group	20.50
50.00	Ladies by the Lavender	236.00
	Lewis River	60.00
30.00	Lighthouse	330.00
150.00	McGuilivray Study Group	585.28
	Men's Eastside	400.00
	Men's Fireside	202.00
	Minnehaha	150.00
310.00	Miracles at Noon	3,100.00
	OB's Speaker's Meeting	112.00
	Over 55	125.00
	Ready and Willing	65.21
280.86	Reconciled	280.86
35.00	Renegades	140.00
	Round Table	204.50
	Saturday Night Big Book Study	590.55
40.00	She Who Remembers	160.00
	Step Sisiters	196.47
	Stevenson AA	450.00
258.50	Sunday Solutions	1,183.00
	There Is A Solution	30.00
28.70	Wayfarer's	393.70
15.92	Wednesday Night Recovery	747.43
	Welcome Home	175.35
9.52	West Vancouver Group	22.41
35.50	Women's Emotional Sobriety	206.10
	Women's Fireside	125.00
2,111.51	SUBTOTAL	18,926.41
16.01	Miscellaneous	396.15
\$ 2,127.52	TOTAL	\$ 19,322.56



Financial Statements

October		YTD
Revenue		
Sales	\$ 5,097.57	\$ 39,472.90
Contributions	\$ 2,130.52	\$ 19,325.56
Picnic	\$ -	\$ 456.33
Gratitude Dinner	\$ 1,477.50	\$ 1,477.50
Misc. Income	\$ 156.88	\$ 1,517.36
	\$ 8,862.47	\$ 62,249.65
Expenses		
Cost of goods sold	\$ 2,853.33	\$ 22,839.71
Merchant Services	\$ 77.92	\$ 772.66
Office supplies	\$ 246.22	\$ 1,103.39
Office equipment rent	\$ 170.86	\$ 1,810.48
Building rent	\$ 875.00	\$ 8,750.00
Utilities	\$ 449.58	\$ 3,510.66
Net Wages	\$ 1,933.34	\$ 16,533.29
Payroll taxes	\$ 473.40	\$ 4,720.40
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 698.50	\$ 832.51
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Misc. Licenses & fees	\$ 0.20	\$ 20.30
	\$ 7,778.35	\$ 61,393.40
Net Income	\$ 1,084.12	\$ 856.25

Cash Flow Statements			
October			
Checking		Prudent Reserve	
Beg Balance	3,432.01	Beg Balance	14,536.40
Deposits	8,475.76	Transfer In	106.33
Expenses	(6,069.08)	Interest	0.74
Transfer to Emp. Res.	(226.04)	End Balance	\$ 14,643.47
Transfer to Event Act	(495.00)	Event Account	
Transfer to Prudent	(106.33)	Beg Balance	1,265.99
End Balance	\$ 5,011.32	Deposits	1,477.50
Employee Payroll Taxes		Checks	(698.50)
Beg Balance	934.11	Balance	\$ 2,044.99
Transfer In	226.04	Sales Tax Account	
Transfer Out	(409.42)	Beg Balance	622.13
Interest	0.02	Transfer In (2 months)	774.49
End Balance	\$ 750.75	End Balance	\$ 1,396.62

October Payroll	
Gross Wages	2,272.16
Taxes	
Social Security	140.88
Medicare	32.94
Federal Unemployment	1.61
WA - Unemployment	3.17
WA - Employment Admin Fund	0.68
Total Liability	179.28

Inventory Valuation

\$ 19,541.97



STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 10, 2017

The meeting opened at 6:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson	Beci S	Vice-Chair	Deb T
Position #1	Phil B	Position #2	Robert L
Position #3.	Greg H	Recording Secretary	Virginia E
		Alternate	John B
		Office Staff	Marcy B
Visitors	Laurie H		
	Darcy S	Gratitude Din Chair	Deb T.
	Marc		

The Steering Committee minutes September 11, 2017 were reviewed. Motion to approve; seconded; approved.

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for September 18, 2017 were reviewed.

HOTLINE REPORT: Hotline Chair is looking for an AA volunteer to fill the Hotline slot for Fridays from 9:00 pm to Saturday mornings at 6:00 am. Volunteers may sign up on line on our website or call our Intergroup Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's Report was reviewed. The format of the Treasurer's Report was discussed so we are not showing a debit of our Gratitude Dinner expenses in our Report. Laurie H. shared various QuickBooks procedures. An additional category entry was discussed.

INTERGROUP REPORT:

Telephone Calls: Of the 97 total calls to our office, 42 were general/office; 50 meeting requests, and five 12 step calls.

WEBSITE REPORT: Of the 1,282 visits to our website, 818 were new visitors and 464 returning visitors. Our event calendar was blank. Marcy will communicate with Scott, our webmaster to correct the problem. Virginia requested that our Steering Committee positions to be filled and voted at our December 2017 Intergroup Rep Meeting be posted on our website and our Primary Purpose for October.

OLD BUSINESS:

Intergroup Table at the Jamboree: Greg requested volunteers for our Intergroup table at the Jamboree. Shifts are 5:00 pm Friday, and Saturday and Sunday mornings. Items for sale include books, coins and some AA literature.

Hurricane Relief: Virginia presented GSO pamphlet which states GSO handles donations for hurricane relief. Any AA Group may make donations to GSO. John noted the pamphlet also states that AA members or groups cannot earmark donations to GSO for hurricane relief.

COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee:

Intergroup Budget Drat: Although Greg was absent, he prepared comparison and time table graphs which were handed out to our Steering Committee members for review.

Fundraising Pamphlet: John presented graphs of past years Home Group Contributions so we can try and understand the data better to see if there is something we can learn and potentially share.

Treasurers' Workshop: Treasurer's Workshop was held September 23rd. Greg reported we had five attendees. Area Treasurer presented information.

Gratitude Dinner: Deb T, Chair of our November 4, 2017 Gratitude Dinner held a volunteer meeting. Volunteers are needed. Our event starts at 4:00 pm and we eat at 6:45 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Intergroup Rep Count/Sign-In Sheet: Deb will count attendees. Virginia suggested we might have a volunteer standing to count so our count is more accurate.

Intergroup Procedural Guidelines:

Vacuum Needed: It was suggested we announce at our Intergroup Rep meeting and also note such on our website and Primary Purpose of our need for a new vacuum as an AA member may donate one.

Prudent Reserve: John stated our current Prudent Reserve "goal" formerly set by the Reps is \$18,000.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Minutes Submitted By:

Virginia E.

Recording Secretary

INTERGROUP REP MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 16, 2017

The meeting opened at 6:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson	Rebecca (Beci) S.	Vice-Chair	Deb T.
Position #1	Phil B.	Position #2	Robert L.
Position #3	Greg H.	Alternate	John B.
Recording Secretary	Virginia E. - <i>excused</i>	Treasurer/Office Mgr	Marcy B.
REPRESENTATIVES:			
A New Morning	John B.	Men's Fireside	Tom S.
As Bill See's It	Richard H.	Miracles	Marc T.
Camas Group	Robert L.	Sober Uppers	Darcy S.
Central Group	Phil B.	Steppin Up	Laurie H.
Cornerstone	Shane Q.		
Hockinson	Shirlene H.		
Lighthouse	Beci S.	Visitors:	
		Brian R.	McGillivray
		Jeff H.	Hockinson

11 Reps present

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for September 18, 2017 were read and approved with corrections as mentioned during meeting.

The Steering Committee minutes for October 9, 2017 were not read as corrections are still being made therefore we do not currently have a final draft.

HOTLINE REPORT: Looking for a volunteer to take the Friday from 9:00 pm – Saturday morning 6:00 am shift. Laurie states that she heard men were sent to a woman's 12 step call.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Robert asks if the new account category was created. Yes, next month's report with reflect those changes. Phil motions to approve treasurer's report, Robert seconds. Approved.

INTERGROUP REPORT: Calls for September totaled 97; 42 general/office inquiries, 50 meeting calls and 5 were 12 step calls. Marcy mentions that the vacuum in the office has broken and asks if anyone might have an extra one to donate. Tom states he might.

WEBSITE REPORT: Total of 1,282 visitors to the website in September; 818 were new visitors and 464 were returning visitors. Scott, our web servant, has fixed an issue with the calendar updating correctly. He is still working on the online order form.

COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee:

Treasurer's Workshop: Workshop was held on September 23rd. Greg reported we had five attendees along with the Western Washington Area 72 Alternate Treasurer.

Jamboree Table: Greg noted we made approximately \$95 this year and that there seemed to be less people in general from the previous year.

2018 Budget/Forecast: Greg noted that we are moving away from a traditional budget model and moving into a forecast type model for the upcoming year. In the 2017 budget expenses were evenly distributed over the 12 months, while in fact we know when certain items are due throughout the year such as insurance and domain names for the website. Therefore, a forecast will more accurately show the financial position of the office. Greg also points out a few new items going into the 2018 financial forecast such as staff development and financial projects.

Greg requests IG to circulate this Forecast document among your groups and return for discussion and a vote at the Nov IG meeting.

Electronic Banking: Greg shared a completed pamphlet he feels might be beneficial in generating a new revenue stream for the office through accepting personal contributions to the Intergroup. In this he recommends Intergroup opening an additional checking account designated solely for the purpose of direct deposits from individuals.

Gratitude Dinner: John, the cook, and Deb went shopping for paper products and other necessities for the dinner but are waiting to purchase the meat closer to the date. Deb reports that she had about 8 people show up and willing to volunteer for one of the planning meetings. She has attended several other meetings recruiting and marketing for the event. All together Deb notes she has about 40 different people willing to volunteer for the evening of the dinner. Marcy and Deb will begin calling the volunteers in the upcoming weeks to confirm their availability. Deb will be assigning duties accordingly. She also shares that the centerpieces have been put together by herself and a few volunteers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hurricane Relief: Included in the handout is some information from GSO that Virginia provided to the Steering Committee regarding disaster relief stating that you are not able to earmark money sent into GSO for a specific purpose. Jeff H., the chair of Wayfarer's, informs us that Wayfarer's took voluntary donations from those attending the speaker meeting and sent directly to the Houston Central Office.

CPA: Becky will be reaching out to BLH Accounting to advise the Steering Committee on non-profit guidelines and to verify whether we are in conformity.

NEW BUSINESS:

Electronic Banking: Greg asked the group to approve a new bank account to receive funds from the Individual Contribution Subscription program. Greg noted that an additional account will not cost anything. There was discussion whether we already had enough accounts and whether or not one could be repurposed. It was also suggested we get input from BLH Accounting. Beci will be speaking with BLH to seek their input. Since the Contribution program is just starting and the need is not immediate, it was decided to table the discussion pending further input.

Elections: There will be several positions on the Steering Committee coming available including Position #2, Position #3, Alternate and Recording Secretary. Nominations will take place at the November and December Intergroup Meetings. The elections will be at the December 18th, 2017 Intergroup Rep meeting at 6:30 pm with terms beginning January 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Yours in service,
Marcy B.

NOVEMBER

Friday Night Happy Hour

November 3rd, 2017

December 1st, 2017

7:30pm

Speaker Meeting

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

*Meeting is always the first
Friday of the month*

Kleen Street Speaker Meeting

Friday, November 10th

7:00 pm

5317 NE St. John's Road
Vancouver, WA 98661

RULE 62

Speaker's Meeting

Saturday, November 18th, 2017
7:00 pm

Central Bible Church
8815 NE Glisan Street, Portland

Adam & Nancy's 29th Annual OSHCHIDWTBA Potluck Party!

Saturday, December 2nd, 2017

6507 NE 159th Street
Vancouver, WA 98686

Starts at 1:00 pm

All are welcome—including kids

Bring your favorite dish to share

Gratitude Dinner Fundraiser

First Presbyterian Church
4300 Main Street

Saturday November 4th, 2017

Social Hour at 4:00 pm
Dinner Served at 5:30 pm
Adult \$15 Child \$7.50
Bring a dish to share

AA speaker: Paul P.
From: Oregon City, OR

Al-Anon Speaker: Nancy S.
From: Vancouver, WA

Serenity at the Shores 2017

November 10th, 11th & 12th, 2017

Convention Center in Ocean Shores, WA

Workshops, Meetings and Speakers

Online registration available

Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge Potluck

Sunday November 26th, 2017

952 Wind River Road
Carson, WA

The last Sunday of every month
is our potluck at 6:30 pm,
followed by a guest speaker at 7 pm

Questions?
(509) 427-4970 or (503) 701-6574

Hockinson Potluck

Sunday, November 26th
Potluck at: 6:00 pm

Elim Lutheran Church
15815 NE 182nd Ave

OB's Speaker Meeting

Saturday, November 4th

December 2nd

Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Road
Clackamas, OR 97015

Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting

November 11th, 2017
7:00 pm

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

AA speaker: Ron H.
From: Canby, OR

Al-Anon Speaker: Jill M.
From: Woodburn, OR

Central Group's Birthday Meeting

Friday, November 24th
8:00 pm

1501 Columbia Street
Basement
Vancouver, WA 98660

October Phone Calls

Office/general: 61

Meetings: 57

12 Step: 5

Total Calls: 123

If you are interested in making your-
self available for 12 step calls please
let us know.

(360) 694-3870 or
Vancouveraa.org

NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Friday Night Happy Hour Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	4 OB's Speaker Meeting 7:00 PM Gratitude Dinner 5:30 pm
5	6	7	8	9	10 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	11 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm Serenity at the Shores Ocean Shores
12	13 Finance Mtg 5:30pm Steering Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	14	15	16 District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	17	18 Rule 62 7 pm
19	20 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	21	22	23 OFFICE CLOSED 	24 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	25
26 Carson Potluck 6:30 pm Hockinson Potluck 6 pm	27	28 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm	29	30		

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Friday Night Happy Hour Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	2 OB's Speaker Meeting 7:00 PM Adam & Nancy's 29th Potluck 1:00 pm
3	4	5	6	7	8 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	9 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm
10	11 Finance Mtg 5:30pm Steering Committee	12	13	14	15	16 Rule 62 7 pm
17	18 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	19	20	21	22 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	23
24	25 OFFICE CLOSED 	26 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm	27	28 District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	29	30
31 Carson Potluck 6:30pm Hockinson Potluck 6pm						

* All business meetings, including those for District 7 and District 37 are held at the Intergroup office *

2203 Fairmount Avenue, Vancouver WA 98661



Congratulations

Melissa—4 years

Linda S.—3 years

Curtis S.—14 years

Jimmy W.—9 years

Mary K.—9 years

Matt P.—14 years

Jeff H.—10 years

Chief—38 years

**If you would like to acknowledge someone celebrating a monthly or annual birthday.
Please call or come in to our office and we will get them added to the newsletter.
Your donations help support your Area Intergroup.**

Gossip

"In AA we talk a great deal about each other. Provided our motives are thoroughly good, this is not in the least wrong. But damaging gossip is quite something else. Of course, this kind of scuttlebutt can be well grounded in fact. But no such abuse of the facts could ever be twisted into anything resembling integrity. It can't be maintained that this sort of superficial honesty is good for anyone. So the need to examine ourselves is very much with us. Following a gossip binge we can well ask ourselves these questions: 'Why did we say what we did? Were we only trying to be helpful and informative? Or were we not trying to feel superior by confessing the other fellow's sins? Or, because of fear and dislike, were we not really aiming to damage him?' This would be an honest attempt to examine ourselves, rather than the other fellow. Here we see the difference between the use of the truth and its misuse. Right here we begin to regain the integrity we had lost."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., August 1961

"This Matter of Honesty," The Language of the Heart

