

2203 Fairmount Ave, Suite A, Vancouver, WA 98661

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



Thank You!

Competitors • Guests • Volunteers

A hearty thank you to every one who came out for
the Chili Cookoff on Saturday night!
And congratulations to the Chili Winners!



We look forward to seeing you at our next event, the
Spiritual Breakfast on Saturday, May 12, 2018.
Keep an eye out for more details!

All funds raised go toward the 2018 SW Washington Jamboree in October 2018!

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MONTHLY BUSINESS

MEETINGS

Finance Comm. Mtg	02/12 5:30 pm
Steering Comm. Mtg	02/12 6:00 pm
Intergroup Mtg	02/19 6:30 pm
District 37 GSR Mtg	02/27 7:00 pm

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

SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

It is certain that all recipients of spiritual experiences declare for their reality. The best evidence of that reality is in the subsequent fruits. Those who receive these gifts of grace are very much changed people, almost invariably for the better.

Bill W.

HE HAD BEEN LISTENING!

In my early youth, I was confronted with a choice: what seemed to be a dull, moral life or what appeared to be an exciting, adventurous life—after a few drinks of alcohol. I had been brought up in the tradition of a stern and vengeful God, who was watching every move I made. I could not work up too much love for that type of deity, and I felt guilty about it. But after a drink or two, I could forget my guilt. This, I decided, was the life for me!

It started off pleasantly enough, promoting dreams of glittering fame and fortune. But this life gradually regressed to a constant nightmare of fear and remorse over my condition and resentment and anger at a normal way of life which went on all around me, but apparently I could not enter. The truth was that I drank myself out of society, coming by degrees to live in a mental state that sealed off any social or moral contact with anybody. But at that time I could not see my excessive drinking as the cause. I had become convinced that God and society had frozen me out, denying me the breaks in life. I could see no sense in living. I lacked the courage to kill myself, but I believe that desperation would have broken this barrier of cowardice had it not been for an experience that changed my mental outlook entirely.

This experience came about through the death of my father in Scotland. He had lived a good life in his community and was honored in his passing by all who had known him. I had received newspapers giving accounts of his funeral. That evening, I was seated at a small table in a crowded tavern, drunk and brooding over what I had read. I felt no sorrow at my father's passing. Hate and envy saturated my mind, and I was muttering to myself, "Why should he and other people get all the breaks in life, while good men like me don't get a chance? What a rotten deal I'm getting! People would love and me, too, if I had the chances in life he had."

I did not know where to turn for help. Believing that people thought about me the way I thought about them, I was sure I could not turn to them. This left only God, and if He felt about me as I felt about Him, this was a slim hope indeed. In this manner, I passed through the three blackest months of my life. During that time, it seemed, I drank more than I ever had before, and I prayed to "nothing" for help to get away from alcohol.

In thinking all this over, it finally became obvious to me that the God I thought had judged and damned me had done nothing of the sort. He had been listening, and in His own good time His answer came. His answer was threefold: the opportunity for a life of sobriety; Twelve Steps to practice, in order to attain and maintain that life of sobriety; fellowship within the program, every ready to sustain and help me each twenty-four-hour day.

I hold no illusion that I brought the A.A. Program of recovery into my life. I must always consider it as a gift of opportunity. In the use of this opportunity, the onus is on me.

St. John's, Newfoundland

This is in part from "Came To Believe." I was not able to post it all for lack of room on the page but do hope everyone will read it in its entirety!

Happy Birthday



VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!

Roy Y—24 yrs Jessica — 17 yrs.
Jim P—28 yrs. Brian — 5 yrs.
Donald—9 yrs John — 6 yrs.
Scott—21 yrs. John W — 23 yr.
Steve J.—21 yrs. Phillip — 4 yrs.
Bud — 53 yrs. Sonny—10 yrs.
Roger—35 yrs. Darcy—9 yrs.
Janna—4 yrs. Sean—6 yrs.
Jim L.—23 yrs.

**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.**

Financial Statements

December	Donations	Year to Date
	11th Step Prayer & Meditation	5.00
	12 X 12	60.00
	159th Street Women's Group	125.00
377.66	A New Morning	3,693.66
	As Bill See's It	419.00
	As We Recovered	140.00
	B & P	11.00
100.00	Birds of a Feather	100.00
	Battleground AA	105.00
	By the Book Study Group	100.00
6.53	Camas Group	94.68
	Came to Believe	66.00
	Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge	68.00
	Cascade Group	400.00
	Chapter Nine	257.67
	Cornerstone	168.30
	District 7	200.00
26.00	Dry Tribe	52.00
	Early Birds	200.00
	Easier Softer Way	167.00
150.00	Eastside Brown Baggers	2,011.13
	Eastside Women's Meeting	200.00
302.22	Fireside	302.22
	First Shot	582.61
79.25	Fresh Start	1,257.48
	Gorge Gals	67.00
	Hockinson	63.63
	LaCenter Group	20.50
	Ladies by the Lavender	236.00
	Lewis River	90.00
30.00	Lighthouse	390.00
110.00	McGuillivray Study Group	695.28
	Men's Eastside	400.00
	Men's Fireside	282.00
	Men's Thursday Night	170.00
	Minnehaha	150.00
	Miracles at Noon	3,400.00
	OB's Speaker's Meeting	112.00
	Over 55	125.00
	Ready and Willing	65.21
	Reconciled	280.86
	Renegades	140.00
	Round Table	351.30
	Saturday Night Big Book Study	590.55
173.02	Step It Up - 12 & 12	173.02
	She Who Remembers	160.00
183.00	Step Sisiters	379.47
	Stevenson AA	450.00
	Sunday Night Alternatives	100.00
	Sunday Solutions	1,183.00
	There Is A Solution	30.00
	Wayfarer's	393.70
66.23	Wednesday Night Recovery	832.23
	Wednesday Night Women's Mtg	7.75
	Welcome Home	175.35
	West Vancouver Group	22.41
	Women's Emotional Sobriety	206.10
150.00	Women's Fireside	275.00
1,753.91	SUBTOTAL	22,803.11
584.15	Miscellaneous	1,073.72
\$ 2,338.06	TOTAL	\$ 23,876.83

	January	YTD
Revenue		
Sales	\$ 3,944.95	\$ 3,944.95
Contributions	\$ 2,338.06	\$ 2,338.06
Picnic	\$ -	\$ -
Gratitude Dinner	\$ -	\$ -
Misc. Income	\$ 138.81	\$ 138.81
	\$ 6,421.82	\$ 6,421.82
Expenses		
Cost of goods sold	\$ 2,438.72	\$ 2,438.72
Merchant Services	\$ 76.09	\$ 76.09
Office supplies	\$ 227.58	\$ 227.58
Office equipment rent	\$ 181.90	\$ 181.90
Building rent	\$ 875.00	\$ 875.00
Utilities	\$ 203.30	\$ 203.30
Net Wages	\$ 1,994.27	\$ 1,994.27
Payroll taxes	\$ 370.78	\$ 370.78
Fundraising Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ -	\$ -
Misc. Licenses & fees	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
	\$ 6,377.64	\$ 6,377.64
Net Income	\$ 44.18	\$ 44.18

End of Month Balances

Main Checking Account:	\$6,755.71
Prudent Reserve Account:	\$16,255.02
Payroll Tax Account:	\$433.40
Sales Tax Account:	\$31.37
Event Account:	\$1,400.00

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR January 8, 2018

The meeting opened at 6:03 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Chairperson	Ronnie C.	Vice-Chair	Deb T.
Position #1	Phil B	Position #2	Laurie H
Position #3.	Glenn H	Recording Secretary	Marc T
		Alternate	Kris S.
		Office Staff	Lani W
Visitors	Virginia E		
	Rita	Gratitude Din Chair	Deb T

Introductions of everyone attending

The Steering Committee minutes for December 11, 2017 were read. Phil moved to approve; Glenn seconded; approved. Corrections Noted and will be completed by Virginia E.

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

HOTLINE REPORT: All Hotline slots are currently filled. Please continue to announce that AA volunteers are needed for the Hotline.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Laurie gave the Treasurer's Report. It was moved to approve by Phil; seconded by Kris; passed.

INTERGROUP REPORT: The building has been sold. There is no additional information at this time.

WEBSITE REPORT: No report this month. Lani will work with the Website support person to pull the reporting data.

OLD BUSINESS:

Inventory of our Stock on Hand at the Intergroup Office: Inventory went well, we had great turnout for volunteers. The outcome of the count was positive. There was less leakage than last year.

COMMITTEES:

Finance Committee:

NEW BUSINESS:

Tracking of Office Phone Calls: A motion was made by Phil to stop tracking all the phone calls answered at Intergroup. Laurie second; more discussion took place; Passed

Discussion of Direction of Intergroup:

Interface with the local Districts we serve:

Currently we don't have a defined representative from the Steering Committee board that goes to the district meeting. Ronnie will be reaching out to both districts Vancouver Intergroup serves to see about having a representative come to our monthly meeting and for us to attend theirs.

Outreach to groups:

Intergroup reps and Steering Committee members should work with meetings to make them a contributing group to AA overall.

Have members of the Intergroup split out meetings on the schedule to reach out and see if they could speak at their business meeting about the differences of a meeting and a group and how Intergroup serves them.

Alcathons:

Look in to the possibility of having Intergroup sponsor or assist with at key times within the year.

Workshops:

Could we do additional activities at Intergroup? Do 3-4 workshops a year?

Have a person from the Reps read one tradition a month at the rep meeting.

Property Questions: Phil brought up concern that with the sale of the building that the rent may go up or we need may need to move at some point. The lease is month to month.

Discussed having a volunteer to man the phones at Intergroup in addition to the office manager on-site. Lani will reach out to the hotline chair to see we can expand the volunteers to be on-site during business hours.

Guidelines: A subcommittee will be formed to review the current guidelines and purpose changes to the large rep committee.

Gratitude Dinner: Deb T volunteered to be the chairperson for 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Minutes Submitted By:

Marc T

Recording Secretary

INTERGROUP REP MINUTES FOR JANUARY 15, 2018

The meeting opened at 6:34 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson	Ronnie C.	Vice-Chair.	Deb T.
Position #1	Phil B.	Position #2	Laurie H.
Position #3	Glenn H	Alternative	Not present
Recording Secretary	Marc T	Office Manager	Lani W.
REPRESENTATIVES:			
A New Morning	John B.		
ESBB	Bob		
Central Group	Phil B		
ABSI	Tim R		
Cornerstone	Shane Q.		
First Shot	Greg H		
Fireside	Robin M		
SU	Darcy S		
How It Works	Virginia E		
RPOR	Candy	Visitors:	
Men's Fireside	Tom S	Rita C.	Camas
McG Study Group	Chris S	Karen S	FFA

18 voting Intergroup Representatives in attendance.

Ronnie C. went over the goals for Intergroup. They are listed under **new business**.

John B. read tradition one from the 12x12.

Rita covered a thought on literature.

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for December 18, 2017 were read by Virginia E. Phil B. moved to approve; Marc T. seconded; Passed.

HOTLINE REPORT: All slots are currently filled. Please sign up with our Intergroup Office if you are interested in serving on our 24 hr Hotline.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: for December 2017 was presented by Laurie H. Marc T. moved, John B seconded; Report approved. Passed.

INTERGROUP REPORT: The building had been sold with no additional information at this time. Virginia E bought up about best practices on password and banking changes. Lani has already changed several passwords and she will work with Marc to change any that remain.

WEBSITE REPORT: No report this month. Lani will work with the Website support person to pull the reporting data.

OLD BUSINESS:

Inventory of our Stock on Hand at the Intergroup Office: Inventory went well, we had great turnout for volunteers. The outcome of the count was positive. There was less leakage than last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Interface with the local Districts we serve.

Currently we don't have a defined representative from the Steering Committee board that goes to both districts. Ronnie will be attending district functions when possible.

Outreach to groups:

Intergroups reps and Steering Committee members should work with meetings to make them a contributing group to AA overall

Have members of the Intergroup split out meetings on the schedule to reach out and see if they could speak at their business meeting about the differences of a meeting and a group and how Intergroup serves them.

Alcathons & Workshops

Work with the groups in sponsorship or assisting Alcathons at key times within the year.

Could we do additional activities at Intergroup? Do 3-4 workshops a year?

Monthly Tradition Review: Have a person from the Reps read one tradition a month at the rep meeting

Guidelines: A subcommittee will be formed to review the current guidelines and propose changes to the rep. committee. Laurie H. is leading the committee and asked for volunteer from the reps.

Office Volunteers: Lani discussed about having a volunteer to man the phones and help in other ways along with the office manager from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Group News: Phil B. brought up the idea of adding to the agenda to ask for group news. Are there any events happening at the group level that others would like to know? We will add this to the agenda and look at put in the primary purpose

Tracking of calls to the office phone: John B asked for discussion. The steering committee passed a motion to not track the incoming calls during office hours. Tabled until next month

Ronnie asked for motion to adjure the meeting: Marc T made the motion, Candy second; passed

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Yours in Service,

Marc T.

Recording Secretary

Friday Night Happy Hour

February 2, 2018
and March 2 2018

7:30pm

Speaker Meeting

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

*Meeting is always the first
Friday of the month*

Kleen Street Speaker Meeting

Friday, February 9th

7:00 pm

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

Central Group's Birthday Meeting

Friday, February 23rd.
8:00 pm

1501 Columbia Street
Basement
Vancouver, WA 98660

OB's Speaker Meeting

Saturday, February 3rd
and March 3rd.

Eastridge Church
14100 SE Sunnyside Road
Clackamas, OR 97015

Meeting is always the first

RULE 62

Speaker's Meeting

Saturday, February 17th
7:00 pm

Central Bible Church
8815 NE Glisan Street, Portland

Hockinson Potluck

Sunday, February 25th.
Potluck at: 6:00 pm

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

**Alateen Annual Spaghetti
Dinner & Dessert Auction Fundraiser**

February 10th 2018
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

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

**\$8.00 per person: \$15.00 per couple:
\$5.00 children under 12**

Bring a dessert to donate for the auction!

**Wayfarer's Speaker
Meeting**

February 10th 2018
7:00 pm

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

**AA speaker: Aaron Z.
From: Molalla, OR**

**Allateen Speaker
TBA**

**Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge
Potluck**

Sunday, February 25th.

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?

Make sure to check
vancouveraa.org
or call **694-3870**

for local Alcahons and events
during this holiday season

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

(360) 694-3870 or
Vancouveraa.org

Office/general:

Meetings:

12 Step:

Total Calls:

February

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

March

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

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

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