

# PRIMARY PURPOSE

## VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

2203 Fairmount Ave, Suite A, Vancouver, WA 98661

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

### YOU'RE INVITED!

#### VANCOUVER AA INTERGROUP

#### TREASURERS WORKSHOP

Saturday - 23 Sept.

10am to 2pm

Vancouver IG Office

2203 Fairmount Ave

Free Coffee! Bring snacks, Group bookkeeping items & Questions

Share Experience, Strength, Hope & Best Practices

Hosted by your VanIG Finance Committee & Greg H

#### What's happening to Houston AA after Harvey?

If you are interested in helping our friends in Texas rebuild their community please visit;

<https://www.aahouston.org/index.php/4-documents/service-a-contributions/39-harvey-donations>,  
to make donations.

#### Calling all volunteers for the 2017 Gratitude Dinner

If you are interested, or have sponsee's willing to be of service, please contact the

Intergroup office (360) 694-3870 or  
Text the Chair Deb T. (360) 609-3811  
(refer to the gratitude dinner with all text messages)

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#### MONTHLY BUSINESS

##### MEETINGS

Finance Comm. Mtg	9/11 5:30 pm
Steering Comm. Mtg	9/11 6:00 pm
Intergroup Mtg	9/18 6:30 pm
District 37 GSR Mtg	9/26 6:30 pm
District 7 GSR Mtg	9/28 7:00 pm

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



## “PROMISES, PROMISES”



I love the so called promises in the paragraph that begins at the bottom of page 83 and continues at the top page 84 of the big book. I frequently quote one or another of them. I often mention them in an AA qualification.

That's why I was please recently to receive a scroll containing "The Promises", inscribed in beautiful calligraphy, as a souvenir of an AA dinner I attended. And then as I admired the scroll it set me to thinking. We are certainly hearing more about "The Promises" these days. I've seen them printed in AA meetings as a wall plaque like the Steps and Traditions. And maybe on a wallet card.

Is this the trend in our fellowship-this lifting the promises out of context and inscribing them in bronze? Are we sanctifying the promises?

If so, it troubles me. I view such a trend with alarm. Why?

Because, first of all, if we go back to the source and read the paragraph of the Big Book containing the promises, it is immediately clear that they were not intended to be set apart. They are not written as a separated element as are the Steps and the Traditions. They are buried in the text (and within the context) and for a reason: They are part of a discussion of how to work the steps, really, but specifically the first nine. The paragraph in question follows a long description of a mess our alcoholic lives are in and advice on how to work our way out.

Second, these are not unconditionally promises as they seem to be when set apart. Quite the contrary. They are a spontaneous, almost euphoric expression of experiences of the authors with the rewards that can be expected "If we are painstaking about this phase of our development". "What phase?" The working of the first nine Steps as described in the preceding twenty-four pages.

And how many of us have actually worked the Steps that way? How many of us for example, in doing our Fourth Step inventory, have followed the example in the Big Book?

A written "grudge list" in three separate columns, analyzing the causes of each resentment and how it affects us. Not I. How many of us took Step eight and nine with diligence and thoroughness recommended in detail from page 76 to page 83 in the Big Book? Not I. Yet we must recognize that is what is meant by being "painstaking."

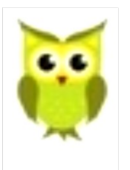
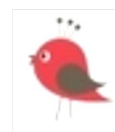
What the Big Book is saying on page 83 is that if we have completely reconstructed our relationship with others, then "we will not regret the past....," and so on through the rest of the promises. In fact, it says "they will always materialize if we work for them." And the rest of that chapter is devoted to telling us how to continue to work for them by practicing Step Ten and Eleven.

Finally, it seems to me that when I quote the promises so glibly and smugly (as I am inclined to do), I may actually be playing down the Steps. Am I glorifying end results while ignoring the footwork necessary to get there? It is easier and more comforting to take refuge in the promises (lifting them out of context) then to go through the purging and the pain of taking the first nine Steps-which are clearly prerequisites of the promises, consciously or unconsciously, as "an easier, softer way."

So let's read and reread Chapters Five and Six (along with the rest of the Big Book, naturally!) And when we get to the beautiful section of pages 83 and 84, let's cherish the promises rewards set forth there. Let's carry them in our minds and hearts as a joyous and inspiring part of our program of recovery.

But let's not sanctify the promises.

B.P. Riverside, CT  
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# VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP WOULD LIKE TO CELEBRATE WITH YOU!



## Happy Birthday

Lauren M.—4 years	Fred — 42 years	Stacey—15 years
Mike B—1 year	Colleen—3 years	Missy—3 months
Edward—1 year	Mindy—8 years	
Jeremy—4 years	Matthew W.—13 years	
Jennifer—2 years	Steve—2 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.**

### THE NINTH TRADITION:

*“A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”*

The two words that describe the ninth tradition in my life are “divine order”. When I let go and stop trying to do the organizing and let God show me what to do, “divine order” takes over in my life. Let us ask ourselves the following questions about order in our lives as we prepare for next week:

1. What is the state of my divine order? Do I try to organize myself and others? Do I give orders, or am I suggestive? Am I rigid and over-controlled, or do I allow myself to be spontaneous.
2. Do I try to control order, or am I willing to surrender to God’s divine order which is beyond my control and understanding? Can I afford to be spontaneous since God is in charge?
3. Do I try to organize God within the limits of my understandings? Am I open to seemingly unorganized direction if it is God’s will for me?
4. Am I driven by a desire to be in control or a desire to give service?

August	Donations	Year to Date
	11th Step Prayer & Meditation	5.00
	159th Street Women's Group	125.00
<b>316.94</b>	A New Morning	2,282.29
	As Bill See's It	219.00
	As We Recovered	70.00
	B & P	11.00
	Battleground AA	50.00
	By the Book Study Group	100.00
<b>7.77</b>	Camas Group	77.67
	Came to Believe	66.00
	Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge	68.00
	Chapter Nine	209.59
	Cornerstone	116.34
	Dry Tribe	26.00
	Early Birds	200.00
	Easier Softer Way	167.00
<b>210.00</b>	Eastside Brown Baggers	1,730.00
	Eastside Women's Meeting	100.00
<b>37.24</b>	First Shot	469.23
<b>71.73</b>	Fresh Start	813.04
<b>67.00</b>	Gorge Gals	67.00
	Hockinson	63.63
	LaCenter Group	7.00
<b>50.00</b>	Ladies by the Lavender	186.00
<b>40.00</b>	Lewis River	60.00
<b>30.00</b>	Lighthouse	270.00
	McGuilivray Study Group	435.28
<b>200.00</b>	Men's Eastside	400.00
<b>80.00</b>	Men's Fireside	202.00
	Minnehaha	150.00
<b>350.00</b>	Miracles at Noon	2,490.00
	OB's Speaker's Meeting	112.00
	Over 55	125.00
	Ready and Willing	40.24
<b>35.00</b>	Renegades	105.00
	Round Table	204.50
<b>129.29</b>	Saturday Night Big Book Study	490.55
<b>40.00</b>	She Who Remembers	120.00
	Step Sisiters	196.47
<b>250.00</b>	Stevenson AA	450.00
	Sunday Solutions	924.50
	There Is A Solution	15.00
<b>70.00</b>	Wayfarer's	365.00
<b>117.07</b>	Wednesday Night Recovery	650.17
	Welcome Home	139.33
	West Vancouver Group	12.89
	Women's Emotional Sobriety	170.60
	Women's Fireside	125.00
<b>2,102.04</b>	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>15,482.32</b>
33.93	Miscellaneous	239.14
<b>\$ 2,135.97</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 15,721.46</b>

# Financial Statements

August		YTD
Revenue		
Sales	\$ 3,718.73	\$ 30,239.22
Contributions	\$ 2,135.97	\$ 15,721.46
Picnic	\$ -	\$ 456.33
Gratitude Dinner	\$ (40.00)	\$ (40.00)
Misc. Income	\$ 162.38	\$ 1,217.80
	<b>\$ 5,977.08</b>	<b>\$ 47,594.81</b>
Expenses		
Cost of goods sold	\$ 2,041.93	\$ 17,454.01
Merchant Services	\$ 68.60	\$ 617.06
Office supplies	\$ 126.45	\$ 824.09
Office equipment rent	\$ 125.91	\$ 1,506.58
Building rent	\$ 875.00	\$ 7,000.00
Utilities	\$ 380.56	\$ 2,704.57
Net Wages	\$ 1,901.11	\$ 13,057.36
Payroll taxes	\$ 424.58	\$ 3,711.72
Sales Tax		\$ -
Insurance	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Misc. Licenses & fees	\$ -	\$ 20.10
	<b>\$ 5,944.14</b>	<b>\$ 47,395.49</b>
Net Income	<b>\$ 32.94</b>	<b>\$ 199.32</b>

Cash Flow Statements			
August			
Checking		Prudent Reserve	
Beg Balance	3,444.92	Beg Balance	14,316.70
Deposits	6,470.01	Transfer In	113.13
Expenses	(5,301.35)	Interest	0.74
Transfer to Sales Tax	(392.47)	<b>End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 14,430.57</b>
Transfer to Emp. Res.	(309.47)	<b>Event Account</b>	
Transfer to Prudent	(113.13)	Beg Balance	1,400.00
<b>End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,798.51</b>	Checks	(40.00)
<b>Employee Payroll Taxes</b>		<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 1,360.00</b>
Beg Balance	802.19	<b>Sales Tax Account</b>	
Transfer In	309.47	Beg Balance	1105.48
Transfer Out	(424.58)	Tax Payment	(875.82)
Interest	0.02	Transfer In	392.47
<b>End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 687.10</b>	<b>End Balance</b>	<b>\$ 622.13</b>

August Payroll	
Gross Wages	2,263.25
Taxes	
Social Security	140.32
Medicare	32.82
Federal Unemployment	13.58
WA - Unemployment	3.17
WA - Employment Admin Fund	0.68
Total Liability	190.57





## STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 14, 2017

The meeting opened at 6:02 pm.

### ATTENDANCE

<b>Chairperson</b>	Beci S	<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Deb T
<b>Position #1</b>	Phil B	<b>Position #2</b>	Robert L
<b>Position #3</b>	Greg H.	<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Virginia E
		<b>Alternate</b>	John B
		<b>Office Staff</b>	Marcy B
<b>Visitors</b>	Laurie H		
	Darcy S		
	Richard R		

The Steering Committee minutes for July 10, 2017 were reviewed. Motion by Phil to approve; seconded by John. Approved.

The Intergroup Rep meeting minutes for July 17, 2017 were reviewed.

**HOTLINE REPORT:** All slots are currently filled. AAs may sign up to volunteer on line or call our office.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Moved and seconded to approve. Passed.

### INTERGROUP REPORT:

*Telephone Calls:* Of the 108 total calls to our office, 53 were general/office; 51 meeting requests, and four 12 step calls.

**WEBSITE REPORT:** Of the 1,474 visits to our website, 1,004 were new visitors and 470 returning visitors, of which 64 were from Canada, 17 from Brazil, 17 from China and 4 from India. An average visitor views 3 or 4 pages. Our webmaster, Scott, and Marcy discussed how the cell phone application can be more accessible to users. John B suggested we stop reporting any data on non-USA visitors.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Meeting Schedule Format: We sold 463 of our original format schedules, and 110 of the new format arranged by area.

Discussion requested of including a map on our meeting schedule or arranging by zip code. Basically, arranging by zip code generally not suggested. Including a map might be an option if space was available and did not cause adding an extra page. East/West Vancouver to be separated by 1-205 and State Route 502 North (117th Ave). All other areas are self describing.

## **COMMITTEES:**

### **Finance Committee:**

*Intergroup Budget:* Greg presented a graph of our budget at our Finance Committee meeting that meets before the Steering Committee meeting at 5:30 pm. The graph showed July's revenue and expenses in comparison to our budgeted amounts, along with graphs of the monthly financial performance and cash assets.

*Fundraising Pamphlet:* Greg advised he received an estimate at a print shop of \$145. A couple of members of the Steering Committee preferred we simply print at our office (maybe on colored paper) to avoid the additional cost of printing elsewhere.

*Treasurers' Workshop:* Set for September 23, 2017. Flyers will be distributed.

*Gratitude Dinner:* John advised Intergroup that November 4, 2017 was now available. Marcy e-mailed all Reps attending our July 17th Rep meeting to advise them of the November 4 available date. Also the cook is available Nov 4 as well, and Deb T has made herself available to Chair the Gratitude Dinner. Of the 18 Reps contacted, 11 Reps replied with a yes vote. No "no" votes were received. The dinner was changed to November 4, 2017, and an updated contract has been received from the Church.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

*Volunteer/Community Service:* After discussion, it was decided not to make Intergroup available for those performing Community Service due to possible liability.

*Office Keys:* After discussion, Phil moved, Virginia seconded that the extra key be given to our new Vice-Chair, Deb T. Passed.

*Jamboree Intergroup Table:* After discussion, Robert moved, Phil seconded that Intergroup have a table with sales at the October 13 and 14, 2017 SW Washington Jamboree. Greg was nominated to Chair and oversee items and stock for sale on behalf of Intergroup. Passed.

*Accounts Receivable:* It was noted that our P&L shows a small Accounts Receivable balance. Darcy S (a visiting former Steering Committee member) stated that to her recollection a past decision by the Steering Committee was that no credit was to be extended to anyone. Marcy stated that the policy was not clear in her notes from Earlyn. It was suggested to review past Minutes, find where this decision was documented and then update our office policy in compliance with the past Minutes. Marcy was requested to review past Minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Minutes Submitted By:  
Virginia E.  
Recording Secretary





### Friday Night Happy Hour

September 1st, 2017

October 6th, 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, September 8th

7:00 pm

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

### Southwest Washington Jamboree

#### Wild Alaskan Salmon Feed & Potluck

September 23rd, 2017

4pm—8pm

Marshal Community Center  
1009 E. McLoughlin Blvd  
Vancouver, WA

Cost: \$10

Dinner served at 5pm

[Swwashingtonjamboree.org](http://Swwashingtonjamboree.org)

### August Phone Calls

Office/general: 53

Meetings: 45

12 Step: 4

Total Calls: 102

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

(360) 694-3870 or  
[Vancouveraa.org](http://Vancouveraa.org)

### OB's Speaker Meeting

Saturday September 2nd &

October 7th

Eastridge Church  
14100 SE Sunnyside Road  
Clackamas, OR 97015

### Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting

September 9th, 2017

7:00 pm

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

**AA speaker: Tom W.  
From: Vancouver, WA**

**Al-Anon Speaker: Ann W.  
From: Vancouver, WA**

### Carson AA Spirit of the Gorge Potluck

Sunday September 24th, 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

### Central Group's Birthday Meeting

Friday, September 29th

8:00 pm

1501 Columbia Street  
Basement  
Vancouver, WA 98660

### Finance Committee

#### 2018 Budget Sub-Committee

Tuesday September 5, 2017

6pm—8pm

Vancouver Area Intergroup Office

Rocketing into the fourth dimension

### RULE 62

#### Speaker's Meeting

Saturday, September 16th, 2017

7:00 pm

Central Bible Church  
8815 NE Glisan Street, Portland

### Hockinson Potluck

Sunday, September 24th

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

### 2017 Southwest Washington Jamboree

#### Primary Purpose

Friday October 13th &

Saturday October 14th

Clark College Gaiser Hall

Registration: \$15

Saturday night dinner: \$15


To register or view complete

Jamboree programing visit

[Swwashingtonjamboree.org](http://Swwashingtonjamboree.org)

**Rose City Girlstock** October 13th—15th, 2017 [www.rosecitygirlstock.com](http://www.rosecitygirlstock.com)

# SEPTEMBER

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
3	4 INTERGROUP OFFICE CLOSED 	5 2018 Budget planning meeting 6pm–8pm at Intergroup Office	6	7	8 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	9 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm
10	11 Finance Mtg 5:30pm Steering Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	12	13	14	15	16 Rule 62 7 pm
17	18 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	19	20	21	22	23 Treasurer's Workshop 10am–2pm at Intergroup Office  SWWJ Salmon Feed 4pm–8pm at Marshal Comm. Center
24 Carson Potluck 6:30 pm Hockinson Potluck 6 pm	25	26 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm	27	28 District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	29 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	30

# OCTOBER

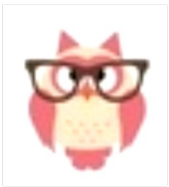
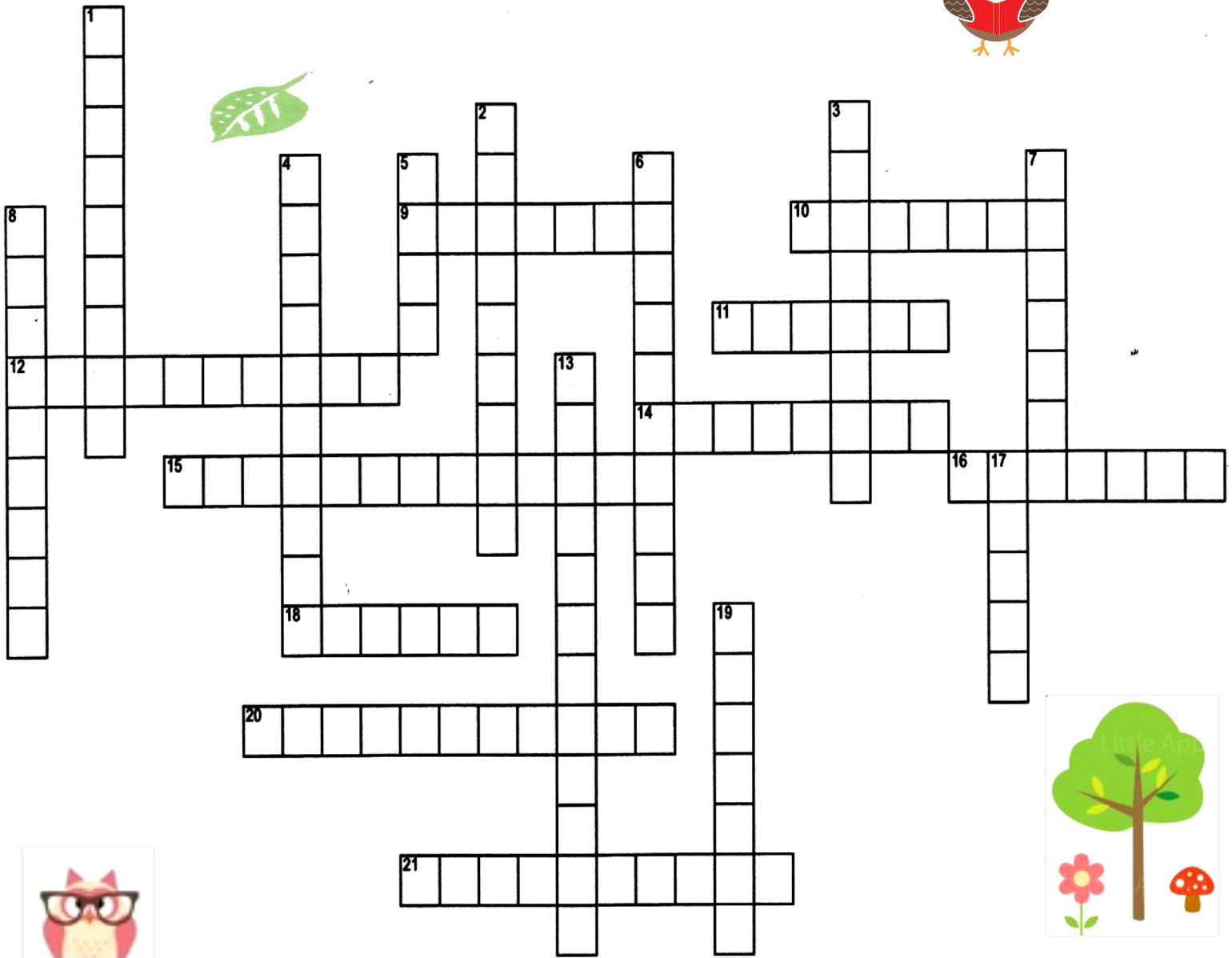
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Friday Night Happy Hour Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	7 OB's Speaker Meeting 7:00 PM
8	9 Finance Mtg 5:30pm Steering Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	10	11	12	13 KS Speaker Meeting 7:30 pm	14 Wayfarer's Speaker Meeting 7 pm
15	16 Intergroup Rep. Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18	19	20 2017 SWW Jamboree Clark College Gaiser Hall 10/13-10/14	21 Rule 62 7 pm
22	23	24 District 37 GSR Meeting 7 pm	25	26 District 7 GSR Meeting 7 pm	27 Central Group's Birthday Meeting 8 pm	28
29 Carson Potluck 6:30 pm Hockinson Potluck 6 pm	30	31				

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

2203 Fairmount Avenue, Vancouver WA 98661



# Traditions



## ACROSS

- 9 AA does not endorse \_\_\_\_\_ enterprises
- 10 The groups primary purpose is to carry this
- 11 Only requirement for membership
- 12 Each group is this
- 14 Personal \_\_\_\_\_ depends on AA unity
- 15 The AA group ought to be fully supported by  
voluntary \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 Our usual AA \_\_\_\_\_-step work is never to be paid for
- 18 Our leaders do not
- 20 We think AA ought to avoid sensational \_\_\_\_\_
- 21 Public relations is based on this not promotion

## DOWN

- 1 Reminds us to place principles before personalities
- 2 Group purpose has one ultimate \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 That we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of  
Him who \_\_\_\_\_ over us all
- 4 AA groups are self \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 We may refuse \_\_\_\_\_ who wish to recover
- 6 Rotating \_\_\_\_\_ is best
- 7 We can create \_\_\_\_\_ boards
- 8 We ought never be this
- 13 AA should remain non-\_\_\_\_\_
- 17 Each member is but a small part of a great \_\_\_\_\_
- 19 AA has none on outside issues