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## VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP

# Primary Purpose



[www.verywellmind.com](http://www.verywellmind.com)

**Tradition 11** "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films."

When dealing with the media, the [traditions of the 12 step programs](#) request that members maintain anonymity, not so much for their protection, but for the good of the fellowship as a whole.

Tradition 11 of [Alcoholics Anonymous](#) (AA) says, "Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films." Al-Anon includes the addition, "We need guard with special care the anonymity of all AA members."

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### Monthly Business Mtgs.

- ◆ Archives Committee Mtg.-  
12/08/21 @ 6:00 PM
- ◆ Steering Comm. Mtg. -  
12/13/21 @ 6:00 PM
- ◆ Intergroup Rep Mtg. -  
12/20/21 @ 6:30 PM
- ◆ District 27 Committee Mtg.-  
12/18/21 @ 10 AM
- ◆ District 27 Business Mtg.-  
12/18/21 @ 12 PM
- ◆ District 7 GSR Mtg. -  
12/23/21 @ 7:00 PM
- ◆ District 37 GSR Mtg. -

## **Not Using Full Names or Naming Groups**

When discussing their personal recovery with the media, members who are identified by their full names—such as the case of those who are already well known in the media—should not also identify the specific name of their 12-step recovery group. If members wish to discuss the benefits of membership in a specific 12-step group, such as Al-Anon or Alcoholics Anonymous, they then should not identify themselves except by first name only.

For example, if John Doe uses his full name in an interview, he should not name his recovery group. He might simply say he is in "a recovery group." If he wants to discuss AA by name, he should identify himself only as John D.

This anonymity is for the good of the fellowship rather than protecting the identity of the member. The example is given of a famous athlete or television personality—a role model for youth—who gets into recovery and announces to the entire world that AA has saved his life. What happens if that person relapses? The kids would think AA is useless and be less likely to seek it when they need to seek sobriety.

## **Promotion Not Needed**

AA member notes that promotion allows outsiders to change the message, so much so that insiders now hear a different message. The original message of "we get better" has become "things get better." Outside institutions say that it does not matter which 12-step program you go to they are all the same.

## **Attraction, Not Promotion**

The purpose of 12-step groups is for one member to help another and to be responsible for being the attraction to the program. A member does not cede this responsibility to a spokesperson or promotion campaign.

"By changing our appearance, how we communicate, dress, and conduct ourselves in and out of the rooms of AA—that's part of carrying the message also, to let people see the difference that this design for a living we were given has worked in our life. When people see the four changes in our life—mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual—they are attracted. They need no promotion. This is a program for people who want it. Let's not let others tell us what they think we are about. Let's just be ready when the suffering alcoholic is ready to open the door and show him what we are."



# Protecting the Anonymity of AA Members

Anonymity is what makes people feel safe to speak what's in their hearts and on their minds. "The fact that it's based on attraction to me means people can see the outward change of you due to an inward change in you." "If you know a particular person drinks because their relative is at a meeting you don't need to tell it. That's why the anonymity works."



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## AA GRAPEVINE TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

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### Tradition Eleven:

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences reposed in me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering, alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?

**Vancouver Area Intergroup**  
**October 2021 Financial Report**  
**Year to Date P&L Forecast to Actual**

	July	August	September	October	Total	Via Forecast	Variance
<b>Income</b>							
Sales	\$ 3,106	\$ 1,858	\$ 1,814	\$ 1,452	\$ 23,178	\$ 25,000	\$ (1,822)
Group Contributions	\$ 3,863	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,244	\$ 4,105	\$ 21,076	\$ 20,300	\$ (776)
Individual Contributions	\$ 514	\$ 558	\$ 1,008	\$ 750	\$ 7,711	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,711
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2	\$ 100	\$ 5	\$ 255	\$ 262	\$ 500	\$ (238)
Fundraising	\$ 348	\$ 348	\$ 5	\$ 545	\$ 1,246	\$ -	\$ 1,246
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 7,688</b>	<b>\$ 4,868</b>	<b>\$ 4,301</b>	<b>\$ 6,407</b>	<b>\$ 59,448</b>	<b>\$ 55,300</b>	<b>\$ (4,148)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
COGS	\$ 2,530	\$ 1,818	\$ 532	\$ 819	\$ 14,020	\$ 11,000	\$ 3,020
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200
CC & Payroll Fees	\$ 54	\$ 50	\$ 47	\$ 40	\$ 191	\$ 1,000	\$ (809)
Office Supplies & Misc	\$ 39	\$ 9	\$ 102	\$ -	\$ 140	\$ 500	\$ (360)
Insurance	\$ 49	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 169	\$ 600	\$ (431)
Litigation & Fines	\$ (157)	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 148	\$ 82	\$ 240	\$ (158)
Contract Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,442	\$ 8,750	\$ (6,308)
Wages	\$ 1,791	\$ 1,835	\$ 851	\$ 2,773	\$ 17,079	\$ 18,750	\$ (1,671)
Taxes	\$ 734	\$ 935	\$ 379	\$ 744	\$ 6,292	\$ 6,000	\$ 292
Copy Machine	\$ 238	\$ 340	\$ 238	\$ 258	\$ 1,074	\$ 3,000	\$ (1,926)
Rent	\$ 875	\$ 875	\$ 875	\$ 875	\$ 3,500	\$ 10,000	\$ (6,500)
Reconciliation Disc	\$ 488	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 488	\$ -	\$ 488
Utilities	\$ 488	\$ 515	\$ 200	\$ 422	\$ 1,625	\$ 2,500	\$ (875)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,797</b>	<b>\$ 5,408</b>	<b>\$ 3,883</b>	<b>\$ 6,410</b>	<b>\$ 58,570</b>	<b>\$ 60,750</b>	<b>\$ (2,180)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 891</b>	<b>\$ (540)</b>	<b>\$ 418</b>	<b>\$ (13)</b>	<b>\$ 10,878</b>	<b>\$ (5,450)</b>	<b>\$ 16,328</b>

**October 31, 2021 Cash Balances**

Main Checking	\$ 14,856
Payroll Account	\$ 1,400
Procced Account	\$ 12,273
TT Cash	\$ 100
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$ 28,629</b>

**Grant Payroll Allocation**

	Amount	Balance
Beginning	\$ 12,204	\$ 12,204
December	\$ (2,000)	\$ 10,204
January	\$ (2,200)	\$ 8,004
February	\$ (2,000)	\$ 6,004
March	\$ (2,000)	\$ 4,004
April	\$ (3,601)	\$ 403
May	\$ (1,594)	\$ (1,191)
<b>Total Disbursed</b>	<b>\$ 12,204</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	

# Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

## Vancouver Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Steering Committee meeting of November 8, 2021

Attendance: Dusty, Leanne, Julie, Laurie, Phil, Michael, Patrick, Dee

Opening: The meeting was opened at 6:00pm with the Serenity Prayer. Minutes from the October SC meeting were accepted. Minutes from the October IG meeting were distributed.

Treasury: Please see attached report. Laurie advised that not yet deposited is \$614 from the Camas Group activity. The 2022 forecast is based on historical numbers from both before and during the pandemic.

Office: Leanne reported the Camas Group fundraiser in benefit of Intergroup was successful. Literature is being purchased from Pass It On which has resulted in shipping costs being avoided.

Hotline: Please see attached report. Leanne reported that she has been hearing from AA members who have been signing up to volunteer and not being contacted from the hotline committee.

Old Business: None

New Business/Guidelines: There was a discussion as how to move through the review process: Take a vote is to adopt the revised guidelines subject to edit and if approved then move through each section in order. The proposed revisions have been sent to the IG reps in advance with request to review prior to the IG meeting. CLOSED FOR SC ... OPEN FOR IG

New Business/SC Members: The following positions terms expire 12/31/21. Nominations are taken at the November and December IG meeting and voting at the December meeting.

Treasurer: Laurie

Recording Secretary: Phil

Position 2: Julie

Position 3: Patrick

Due to a change in employment Dusty will be resigning as Chair on 12/31/21. Guidelines provide the Vice Chair, Michael, would assume that position. Michael has agreed to nominations and voting.

CLOSED FOR SC ... OPEN FOR IG

Closing: The meeting was closed at 6:52pm.

Yours in Service,

Phil B.



## Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes

### Vancouver Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup Representatives meeting of November 15, 2021

Attendance: Dusty\*, Cornerstone ... Leanne\*, office manager ... Steve, Over 55 ... James, Lighthouse.... Lori, Women's Daily Supplement ... Tony, Men's Fireside ... Julie\* (no group) ... Dee\* (no group) Michael, Sunday Solutions ... Phil\*, R360very Amber, Central Group ... Michael\*, Welcome Home .....Carey, Hockinson ... Chris, Cascade ... Kelsey, Cornerstone ... Patrick\*, McGillivray Study Group Robin, Fireside ... Tony, Rock Bottom Recovery ... Bruce\*, B&P ... Todd, 1<sup>st</sup> Shot Michelle, Ladies by the Lavender ... Emily, Hotline ... Heidi, Minnehaha ... Laurie\*, Sober Uppers ... Greg, District 7  
\*Steering Committee member

Opening: The meeting was opened at 6:30pm with the Serenity Prayer. Dusty announced that due to a change in his employment he is resigning as Chair at the end of the year.

Minutes from the 10/18/2021 IG meeting were accepted.  
Minutes from the 11/8/2021 SC meeting were distributed.

Hotline: Attached please see the hotline report and the hotline quarterly meeting minutes. Emily reported that shifts during the holidays are covered. It was explained that a program called Twilio appears to be the best answer to the problem of missed calls. Twilio sends a reminder to volunteers 15 minutes before their shift, will automatically log in volunteers for their shift and is a low cost program. Tony who is looking into the program asked for authorization to spend up to \$50 in research/testing (see new business).

Treasury: Attached please see the financial report and 2022 forecast. Laurie reported that the 5 month average shows \$143 per month profit. 2020 tax return was filed today.

Office: Leanne reported that she has been purchasing literature from an alternate source and saving on tax and shipping costs.

# Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes Continued.....

Old Business: None

New Business/District 25: The new district is a virtual-only district which Intergroup has been requested to serve. Service would require to add a link on the schedule that takes the user to the virtual schedule. Motion was made and passed to incorporate District 25 as part of Intergroup. CLOSED

New Business/Guidelines: Revisions to the guidelines were reviewed section by section for approval. A draft will be provided prior to next month's IG meeting for acceptance or further edit. PENDING

New Business/SC Nominations: Nominations were made as follows:

Chair: Laurie ... Recording Secretary: Phil ... Treasurer: Alex ...

Position 2: Julie ....Position 3: Kelsey..... Alex was not able to attend tonight's meeting but emailed in advance his interest in the Treasurer position. Additional nominations may be made at next month's meeting at which time voting is conducted. PENDING

New Business/Service Positions: Tony was nominated for Webmaster and Amber for Outreach. PENDING

New Business/Hotline Expense: A motion was made and approved for the Hotline Committee to expense up to \$50 for researching/testing Twilio. CLOSED

Closing: The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at 8:20pm.

Yours in Service,  
Phil B.



# Upcoming Events

## December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Archives Committee Mtg: 6:00 pm	9	10	11
12	13 Steering Committee Mtg.: 6:00 pm	14	15	16 District 7 GSR Mtg.: 7 pm	17	18 District 27 Committees Mtg.: 10am-12 pm District 27 Business Mtg.: 12 pm-3 pm
19	20 Intergroup Rep. Mtg. 6:60 pm	21	22	23	24 CLOSED	25 Christmas Day
26	27	28 District 37 Mtg.: 7:00 pm	29	30	31 CLOSED	News Year Day



## Archives Corner



Hello from Vancouver Archives, which currently serves Districts 7 and 37 of Western Washington Area 72.

The Archives Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. We would love to have you visit our meeting! There are many service opportunities available.

Our Archivist, Penny D., led the team in setting up the Southwest Washington Jamboree on October 23, 2021. The team consisted of Archivist Penny, Alternative Archivist Harry, Jeff, Paul, Cindy and John. Set-up involved meeting at our local repository, loading and unloading at Vancouver Hilton, arranging display for the Jamboree attendees, setting up, breaking down and returning items safely to the repository. It was a great experience!



**Video of Jamboree Archives display:** <https://photos.app.goo.gl/SzLcVEb7QD5AsEks5>

Again, **PLEASE** donate your group documents to Archives! **Don't throw anything out!** We will digitize your records and physically store and preserve your signs, relics, etc. **Upcoming Events:**

11/10/21 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Archives Committee Meeting on Zoom

11/14/21 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Group (aka Blue Door) Anniversary with Group

Archives Display.

11/20/21 Scanning at Intergroup Office 1-3:00 p.m.

06/24-26/2022 Pacific Northwest Conference at the Heathman Lodge. Area Archives and Vancouver Archives will have an Archives room separate from the main room, which will allow for a display of more materials.

Please contact Cindy M. with any questions or comments at: [dist7archives@area72aa.org](mailto:dist7archives@area72aa.org) or call/text: (702) 806-6466

In Service,  
Vancouver AA Archives Committee

## YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION CONTRIBUTIONS

### Carrying Our Message Beyond Your Home Group

When you or your home group contributes to the General Service Office (G.S.O.) your contribution helps an alcoholic around the corner — or around the world.

Here are some of the ways that happens:

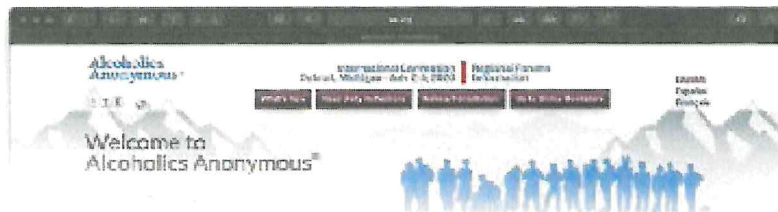


**1** The G.S.O. Publishing Department has coordinated translations of the Big Book in 70 languages and translations of other A.A. literature in more than 91 languages. Further translations are constantly in process.

**2** Each year G.S.O. staff responds to over 90,000 emails, letters, and phone calls from A.A. members, suffering alcoholics, professionals, students, the press and others interested in A.A. Thus accurate and consistent information about A.A. is provided.



**3** Staff communications often help someone find local A.A. meetings, link members in service, and support the start of A.A. in countries where there are no A.A. meetings.



**4** G.S.O. maintains and updates the aa.org website that averages over 40,000 visits per day. The website provides information about A.A., including how to find A.A. in their community, and provides help to members and those seeking help with their drinking problem, as well as to families and friends of problem drinkers, and professionals.

**5** G.S.O.'s Publishing Department publishes and distributes all A.A. Conference-approved literature. Approximately 8 million books, pamphlets, video and audio products are distributed annually. Some of this literature is specifically designed for sight- or hearing-impaired members. *Box 4-5-9*, news and notes from G.S.O., is published four times a year in English, French and Spanish.



**6** G.S.O. coordinates the *Loner-Internationalists Meeting Correspondence Service (LIM)*, which is often the only link to A.A. for many A.A. members in remote areas, homebound, or deployed in active military service.