

Vancouver Area Intergroup of
Alcoholics Anonymous

October - November 2021
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VANCOUVER AREA INTERGROUP Primary Purpose

We Take for Granted our Continued Unity as a Movement – But Should We? – Alcoholics Anonymous® (aanoc.org)

Tradition Ten – An Essay by Bill W. September 1948

To most of us, Alcoholics Anonymous has become as solid as the Rock of Gibraltar. We like to believe that it will soon be as well-known and just as enduring as that historic landmark. We enjoy this pleasant conviction because nothing has yet occurred to disturb it; we reason that we must hang together or die. Hence we take for granted our continued unity as a movement.

But should we? Though God has bestowed upon us great favors, and though we are bound by stronger ties of love and necessity than most societies, it is prudent to suppose that automatically these great gifts and attributes shall be ours forever? If we are worthy, we shall probably continue to enjoy them. So the real question is, how shall we always be worth of our present blessings?

Seen from this point of view, our AA Traditions are those attitudes and practices by which we may deserve, as a movement, a long life and a useful one. To this end, none could be more vital than our Tenth Tradition, for it deals with the subject of controversy—serious controversy.

Continue this article on the next page!

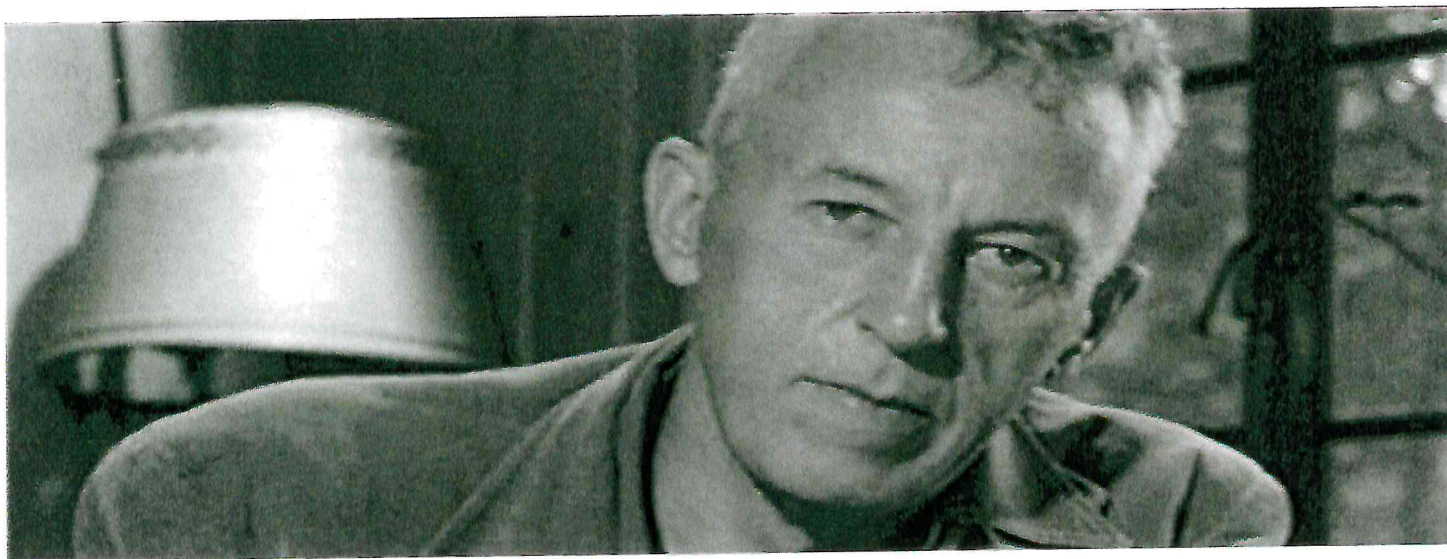


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- ◆ Steering Comm. Mtg. – 11/08/21 @ 6:00 PM
- ◆ Archives Committee Mtg. – 11/10/21 @ 6:00 PM
- ◆ Intergroup Rep Mtg. – 11/15/21 @ 6:30 PM
- ◆ District 7 GSR Mtg. – 11/18/21 @ 7:00 PM
- ◆ District 27 Committee Mtg. – 11/20/21 @ 10 AM
- ◆ District 27 Business Mtg. – 11/20/21 @ 12 PM
- ◆ District 37 GSR Mtg. – 11/23/21 @ 7:00 PM

On the other side of the world, millions have died even recently in religious dissension. Other millions have died in political controversy. The end is not yet. Nearly everybody in the world has turned reformer. Each group, society, and nation is saying to the other, "You must do as we say, or else." Political controversy and reform by compulsion have reached an all-time high. And eternal, seemingly, are the flames of religious dissension.



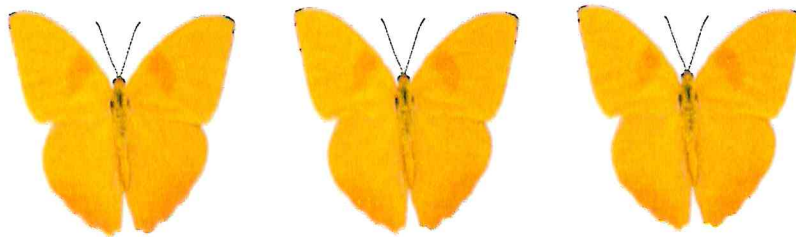
Being like other men and women, how can we expect to remain forever immune from these perils? Probably we shall not. At length, we must meet them all. We cannot flee from them, nor ought we try. If these challenges do come, we shall, I am sure, go out to meet them gladly and unafraid. That will be the acid test of our worth.

Our best defense? This surely lies in the formation of a Tradition respecting serious controversy so powerful that neither the weakness of persons nor the strain and strife of our troubled times can harm Alcoholics Anonymous. We know that AA must continue to live, or else many of us and many of our fellow alcoholics throughout the world will surely resume the hopeless journey to oblivion. That must never be. As though by some deep and compelling instinct, we have thus far avoided serious controversies. Save minor and healthy growing pains, we are at peace among ourselves. And because we have thus far adhered to our sole aim, the whole world regards us favorably.

May God grant us the wisdom and fortitude ever to sustain an unbreakable unity.

Wilson, William. *The Language of the Heart*. New York: AA Grapevine, Inc., 1988. Print. Reprinted.

William Griffith Wilson (November 26, 1895 – January 24, 1971), also known as Bill Wilson or Bill W., was the co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). AA is an international mutual aid fellowship with about 2 million members worldwide belonging to approximately 10,000 groups, associations, organizations, cooperatives, and fellowships of alcoholics helping other alcoholics achieve and maintain sobriety. Following AA's Twelfth Tradition of anonymity, Wilson is commonly known as "Bill W." or "Bill." In order to identify each other, members of AA will sometimes ask others if they are "friends of Bill". Although this question can be confusing, because "Bill" is a common name, it does provide a means of establishing the common experience of AA membership. After Wilson's death in 1971, and amidst much controversy within the fellowship, his full name was included in obituaries by journalists who were unaware of the significance of maintaining anonymity within the organization. Wilson's sobriety from alcohol, which he maintained until his death, began December 11, 1934. In 1955 Wilson turned over control of AA to a board of trustees. Wilson died of emphysema complicated by pneumonia from smoking tobacco in 1971. In 1999 Time listed him as "Bill W.: The Healer" in the Time 100: The Most Important People of the Century.



AA GRAPEVINE TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

Tradition Ten: Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquilizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

Financial Statements

Vancouver Area Intergroup September 2021 Financial Report							
Year to Date P&L Forecast to Actual							
	July	August	September	Total	Ytd Forecast	Variance	
Income							
Sales	\$ 3,105	\$ 1,858	\$ 1,814	\$ 21,627	\$ 22,500	\$ (873)	
Group Contributions	\$ 3,963	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,544	\$ 17,871	\$ 22,500	\$ (4,629)	
Individual Contributions	\$ 514	\$ 889	\$ 1,029	\$ 5,961	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,461	
Miscellaneous Income	\$ 2	\$ 150	\$ 5	\$ 235	\$ 450	\$ (215)	
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ 346	\$ -	\$ 346	\$ -	\$ 346	
Total Income	\$ 7,586	\$ 4,856	\$ 4,391	\$ 47,039	\$ 49,950	\$ (2,911)	
Expenses							
COGS	\$ 2,539	\$ 1,619	\$ 532	\$ 13,801	\$ 9,900	\$ 3,901	
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
CC & Payroll Fees	\$ 64	\$ 60	\$ 47	\$ 517	\$ 945	\$ (428)	
Office Supplies & Misc	\$ 115	\$ 9	\$ 182	\$ 1,176	\$ 450	\$ 726	
Insurance	\$ 49	\$ 49	\$ 49	\$ 440	\$ 450	\$ (10)	
Licenses & Fees	\$ (157)	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 684	\$ 215	\$ 468	
Contract Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,442	\$ 5,075	\$ (3,634)	
Wages	\$ 1,781	\$ 1,665	\$ 861	\$ 14,905	\$ 15,875	\$ (1,970)	
Taxes	\$ 734	\$ 393	\$ 379	\$ 4,543	\$ 5,850	\$ (1,207)	
Copy Machine	\$ 138	\$ 345	\$ 238	\$ 2,184	\$ 2,700	\$ (516)	
Rent	\$ 975	\$ 975	\$ 975	\$ 5,737	\$ 9,000	\$ (3,263)	
Reconciliations Disc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Utilities	\$ 469	\$ 313	\$ 250	\$ 3,599	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,349	
Total Expenses	\$ 6,707	\$ 5,498	\$ 3,563	\$ 53,128	\$ 54,711	\$ (1,583)	
Net Income	\$ 878	\$ (642)	\$ 828	\$ (6,089)	\$ (4,761)	\$ (1,326)	

September 30, 2021 Cash Balances	
Main Checking	\$ 13,759
Event Account	\$ 1,400
Prudent Reserve	\$ 12,875
1811 Cash	\$ 100
Total Cash Balance	\$ 28,134

Grant Payroll Allocation		
	Amount	Balance
Beginning	\$ 12,204	\$ 12,204
December	\$ (2,000)	\$ 10,204
January	\$ (2,256)	\$ 7,948
February	\$ (2,093)	\$ 5,855
March	\$ (2,040)	\$ 3,815
April	\$ (3,591)	\$ 294
May	\$ (1,541)	\$ 0
Total Dispersed	\$ 12,204	
Balance	\$ 0	

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Vancouver Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Steering Committee meeting of October 11, 2021

Attendance: Dusty, Laurie, Leanne, Phil, Julie, Patrick, Bruce, Michael, Steering Committee members & Alex, probable Treasurer 2022

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

Treasury: Please see attached report. Laurie advised she will be working on a 2022 forecast which will be subject to IG approval. Report accepted.

Office: Leanne advised that she has submitted a copy of the seller's permit to World Services which when accepted should allow purchases without tax. She noted that reopening on Fridays has proven to be successful with significant sales and traffic on that day.

Hotline: Please see attached report. The report left several unanswered questions which will be emailed to the hotline chair with request that these issues be addressed at their 10/25/21 committee meeting.

Old Business/Hotline: The issue of unanswered phone calls was discussed. The attached hotline report offers a solution of voice mail answering service. This is one of the items emailed to the hotline chair requesting it be discussed at their committee meeting. PENDING

New Business/Events: Laurie and Leanne are planning a bingo event, advised they would be drawing funds from the event account and providing receipts for all money spent. It was noted that this is exactly the purpose of the account and as we are not able to hold our gratitude dinner it is important to hold events such as this. CLOSED

New Business/New Vendor: Pass It On was approved as a new vendor for the purchase of materials should World Services continue to charge tax. It was further noted that they do not have a minimum order to avoid shipping costs. Pass It On makes their purchases from World Services so should we make purchase here World Services would still be financially supported. CLOSED

New Business/Roberts Rules of Order: It was noted that there appears to be conflicting information regarding an abstention when there is a motion voted on. RR of O was briefly discussed and it was noted that the simplified version of RR of O is 30 pages. Phil noted that at last month's IG meeting it was brought up that the guidelines need to be updated and that perhaps the best course of action is to let this matter drop without motion and that the updated guidelines include motion/voting procedures. CLOSED

New Business/Updated Guidelines: Phil volunteered and was accepted to write the guideline updates. Please note that Phil makes recommendations only and the updates are subject to IG approval. OPEN

The meeting was closed at 7:25pm.

Yours in Service,
Phil B.

Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes

Intergroup Representatives meeting of September 20, 2021

Attendance: Dusty* Cornerstone ... Heidi, Minnehaha ... Emily, Hotline ... Leanne, Office Laurie*, Sober Uppers ... Carey, Hockinson ... Phil*, R360very ... Dee*... Jesse, Camas James (voting) & Nicole (non-voting), Lighthouse ... Steve, Over 55 ... Bruce*, B&P Lori, Women's Daily Supplement ... Michelle, Ladies by the Lavender ... Robin, Fireside Tony, Men's Fireside ... Michael*, Sunday Solutions Alex (anticipated incoming treasurer)...Patrick*, McGillivray Study Group Linc, Friday Night Happy Hour ... Menessah, Rock Bottom Recovery
*Steering Committee member Others may have joined after roll call was taken

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

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- Dusty discussed abstaining is the proper way to vote on motions when one feels there is not sufficient information, when one believes it is an issue they don't have authority over or if there is a conflict of interest. He further explained a No vote is exercising authority.
- Minutes from the 8/16/21 IG meeting were accepted.
- Minutes from the 9/13/21 SC meeting were reviewed.

Hotline: Emily reported that volunteer opportunities are found on the website.

- It was questioned if volunteers are being dismissed when their term expires even if there is not a replacement yet in place.
- It was noted that the hotline routes to a former hotline chair when the office is closed on holidays.. Emily said she will get the default phone number corrected.
- It was found that during time periods where there is no volunteer in place the phone goes unanswered. There was discussion of possible remedies however no definite solution was arrived at.

Treasury: Laurie discussed the finance and outside audit.

- Please see attached finance report. It was noted that more regionalized fundraisers held by group are needed as we won't be able to hold our annual fundraiser, the Gratitude Dinner, this year.
- Please see attached audit report. Opportunities for improved processes were identified.

Office: Leanne stated there are no issues to report.

Intergroup Rep Meeting Minutes Continued.....

Old Business/Iron Horse: The IG reps were advised that a letter was sent to Iron Horse in hopes are reconciliation. There was no response. Iron Horse was not in attendance of this meeting. CLOSED

Old Business/Office Hours: The motion to reduce the office hours expires on 9/30/21 however to insure there is full transparency the matter was put before the IG reps. A motion was made, and passed, to return to the previous office hours beginning 10/1/21.
Monday-Thursday 12-6pm and Friday 12-5:30pm CLOSED

New Business/Guidelines: IG guidelines are to be updated every two years and a copy provided to the Washington Secretary of State. Updated guidelines should be in place 1/1/22.
There were no volunteers for a guideline committee. OPEN

New Business/Winter Hours: The question was asked if we need different office hours for winter. It was noted that any more changes will only create confusion.
No motion was made. CLOSED

Group News: Schedule errors were noted which will be correction.
Please remember to notify the office if there are changes to your meeting:
vancaa@vanintgrp.com

Closing: The meeting was closed with the Serenity Prayer at 7:35pm.

Yours in Service,
Phil B.



Upcoming Events

November 2021

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

Archives Corner



Welcome to Vancouver Archives, which currently serves Districts 7 and 37 of Western Washington Area 72. Our Archivist, Penny D., has served Archives for the past two decades and oversees the physical repository. The Archives Committee meets at the Vancouver Intergroup Office 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. We have begun a digitization project and are currently scanning Intergroup Newsletters from the 1970's as well as Minutes, Agendas, Flyers and historical documents from East side Women's Book Study and First Shot. We will also be updating group history information and gathering oral histories from members to preserve our history for future generations.

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:

10/23/2021 SWW Jamboree at the downtown Hilton in Vancouver.

Penny D. will be speaking, sharing her history with AA Archives.

There will also be an Archives display.

11/10/2021 Archives Committee Meeting

06/24-26/2022 Pacific Northwest Conference at the Heathman Lodge.

Please contact Cindy M. with any questions or comments at:

dist7archives@area72aa.org

or call/text: (702) 806-6466

In Service,

Vancouver AA Archives Committee

AA GROWS AS MEMBERS SHAPE THE FUTURE

Area 72's 2021 Assembly reports that the motion to form an Online Group District for the Area was passed. What will that mean for local South West Washington Groups already using the online tools? Of course, our Tradition One (Unity) implies support and services.

How can we help those exploring this new dimension of "reaching out the hand"?

The past year offers much online experience. The message from Area 72 Trusted Servants, quoted below, provides some hope of a path forward.

So many people worked to research, consider, discuss, formulate, and support this motion as it made its way through the process. And more joyful work lies ahead as the Online Group Roundtable makes its debut as a District, with Frank M and Patty S at the helm!

Attached (*in this Primary Purpose*) is a note that we will ask various Intergroups to post. Please feel free to pass it on to any online groups, to help them apply for their Group Number with GSO. And, of course, to specify their affiliation with the online district OR whatever geographical district would serve their needs best.

We look forward to watching this new District grow and flourish in service, and if you have any questions, please reach out to them:

Frank M: frankmcintyre999@hotmail.com

Patty S: gpsylady@hotmail.com

The first online roundtable meeting is this month. Trusted Servants will participate in planning next steps on Area 72's creation of our first Online District!

If you have questions about when elections will be held, how current online groups select which district they would like to participate in, etc., this is the meeting to attend!

FOR ALL ONLINE GROUPS IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

If you like doing your online meeting and do NOT want to be part of the service structure, carry on, stay sober, and best wishes. If your Group IS interested in participating in the General Service Organization, we welcome you!!!

PARTICIPATING IN GENERAL SERVICE AS AN ONLINE GROUP Thanks to the recent 2021 General Service Conference Advisory, Online Groups can now register with GSO to be listed and part of the General Service Structure as typical in-person meetings are. When they register, they now can choose an affiliation with the geographical District/Area within which they feel most completely aligned (say, District x/Area 72). Note that if the group doesn't specify a district, the group will be assigned to the district of the contact address. The group hopefully also elects a GSR and other trusted servants to represent them at District and Area. If your group would like to join the General Service Structure and the majority of members are in Western Washington, you can go to the Area 72 Web Site to register. Please note that you need to create a login if you don't have one. Once you have a login, here's where you can register:

ONLINE DISTRICT FOR AREA 72 Being part of a District, Online or Geographical, is critical to getting all the communication, participating in discussion, participating in general service, and exercising your Group's right of decision! At this year's Area Assembly (October 1-3), Area 72 voted to form an online district, to enable general service and business in an online-only format. This does NOT mean that online groups must join the Online District, they can choose to affiliate with a geographical district if they prefer.

ONLINE DISTRICT MEETINGS/ONLINE GROUP ROUNDTABLE Whether you join the newly minted online district or not, please join folks from other online groups as we share our experience, strength and hope relating to online groups and service in AA:

Third Saturday of every month at 4 pm,

Zoom ID: 856 6331 8420 Passcode: 353586

For further information:

Frank M: frankmcintyre999@hotmail.com

Patty S: gpsylady@hotmail.com

