



Happy A A Birthday



WESTWORD

Mar 2007

25 Cents Suggested Donation

Feb

ABC		Desperation		Glenmore		Midnapore		Open Door	
Jim C.	22 yrs	Bernie D.	30 yrs	Jim T.	1 yr	Katherine J.	1 yr	Andre N.	5 yrs
Rodger S.	25 yrs			Deb A.	2 yrs	Kim B.	4 yrs	Diane D.	16 yrs
Joe W.	29 yrs	Dalhousie Mens		Jason L.	2 yrs	Tom C.	6 yrs		
Don G.	32 yrs	Bruce M.	19 yrs	Richard E.	15 yrs	Perry H.	7 yrs		
As a group	23 yrs	Bill B.	33 yrs	Gerry S.	48 yrs	Margrit P.	10 yrs	Saturday Night Northeast	
						Lorraine M.	23 yrs	Sharon C.	10 yrs
		Edgemont		John H.	2 yrs			Charlie M.	17 yrs
		Anima K.	5 yrs	MAAT					
		Andrea	5 yrs	Doreen L.	1 yr	Jay Z.	1 yr		
Crossroads		Judy P.	11 yrs	Terry K.	14 yrs	Peggy C-G.	7 yrs	Wed. Morning Eye-opener	
Daryl L.	13 yrs	Patrick	14 yrs	Nathan P.	17 yrs	Chris K.	10 yrs	Laura B.	18 yrs
Bob D.	28 yrs								

Mar

272		Desperation		Inglewood		New Beginnings		Wed. Morning Eye-opener	
Dale K.	9 yrs	Wayne G.	1 yr	Dale G.	1 yr	Anna M.	2 yrs	Ann J.	17 yrs
Ivan E.	24 yrs	Patty M.	3 yrs	Paul K.	1 yr	Bell S.	2 yrs	Don H.	26 yrs
		Karen M.	3 yrs	Laura S.	2 yrs	Danny D.	2 yrs		
ABC		Tim M.	8 yrs	Peter J.	3 yrs	Paul.	3 yrs		
Laura H.	23 yrs			Leslie A.	22 yrs	Kelly K.	4 yrs		
Garry M.	26 yrs					Kent O.	4 yrs		
Crossroads		Grapevine		Midnapore		Roxanne M.	5 yrs		
Yvonne O.	15 yrs	Jeanne D.	28 yrs	Josh W.	2 yrs	Sylvia.	6 yrs		
Dalhousie Mens				Anita B.	7 yrs	Anita B.	7 yrs		
Daniel M.	2 yrs	Highland Park		John M.	6 yrs	Linda G.	7 yrs		
Harry P.	26 yrs	Murray L.	18 yrs	Gerald B.	15 yrs	Joan B.	15 yrs		
		Jack B.	46 yrs	Twilla T.	16 yrs				

In Memory Of

Robert Gustavson, a friend of Bill W. Paul Houghton, a friend of Bill W.
 Passed away Nov 17, 2006 Passed away Jan 2, 2007

Charles (Chuck) Moore, a friend of Cliff Spence, a friend of Bill W. for over 38 years will be greatly missed by all his friends at the Shut In Seniors Meeting.
 Bill W. for over 25 years Dr. Jim Norys, a friend of Bill W. remembered for helping starting the Gratitude Roundup in 1981.
 Passed away Dec 3, 2006 Passed away Feb 5, 2007 Passed away Feb 27, 2007

Saturday Night Downtown Speaker Meeting

The Nexen Building (North Tower) 801 - 7th Ave SW
 Thanks to Joe S. (DCM) and District 73 for hosting the meeting

Mar 3:	Glenmore	Apr 7:	Smog
Mar 10:	Glenmore	Apr 14:	Smog
Mar 17:	Regal	Apr 21:	SW Serenity
Mar 24:	Regal	Apr 28:	SW Serenity
Mar 31:	Regal		

Sunday Morning Breakfast Meeting

The Downtown Ramada Inn 708 - 8th Ave SW
 Breakfast - 9:00am - \$ 9.00
 Speaker - 10:00am - \$ 4.00
 - \$ 2.00

Monitoring Group Monitoring

Mar 5-11:	???
Mar 12-18:	???
Mar 19-25:	???
Mar 26-Apr 1:	???
Apr 2-8:	???
Apr 9-15:	???



Group Birthdays, Information, Activities, Articles, Comments and Suggestions can be emailed to westwordeditor@gmail.com
 Deadline for Westword submissions is the end of the previous month

February Delegate's Newsletter

As I begin my second year of this most remarkable experience I am overwhelmed by the responsibility of being a "Leader" in Alcoholics Anonymous and what a vital need it is. I cannot possibly answer all the e-mails, letters, requests, and questions without referring to my "Big Book" our AA Service Manual and our staff at the General Service Office. They are invaluable tools that are available for all of us.

We are all blessed to have such dedicated servants who love AA as much as we do and will go to any length to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

On page S47 of the AA Service Manual there is an excerpt from a 1959 article that Bill wrote for the Grapevine. He says that 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"...

The full article is in Concept IX – *Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety.* If your group wants to know what is happening with the Corrections Committee - are we carrying meetings inside the walls? What is happening in our Hospitals and Institutions – are we carrying the message to those who are unable to attend on their own? What is happening with our Public Schools, Public Service Announcements and the Professional Community – are they getting the right and proper information? Are our telephones being answered and are we making 12 step calls to those who reach out for help? These and many other questions will be answered by your ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES who will attend monthly meetings on your behalf – carry your concerns to the leaders you have elected and return with the information you have asked for. If your group does not have this representation you are all missing so much. Don't just nudge you friend to take the position in desperation because you will not have a leader who lead by example. *The Primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders (Bill and Bob) of AA must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.* – That's all of us.

Please elect someone who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and elective action that the rest of us want to back them up and help them with their jobs. Dedication and enthusiasm are keys for successful and joyous service.

Please elect someone who will consult widely in new and important matters before making decisions and taking action. A fine plan/idea can come from anybody, anywhere.

Please elect someone who will not pass the buck. Someone who will take decisions and put them into action provided they are within the framework of their authority and responsibility. Make sure they can give and take and they can compromise cheerfully. Compromise comes hard to us all or nothing drinks – but we must do it if it is in the right direction and the voice of our group conscience.

Please elect someone who may have to face heavy criticism. A leader should be willing to modify or change their opinion after listening to the voice of the minority.

Are these extravagant ideals – we think not – they are happening among us – sometimes quickly and sometimes slowly but they will always materialize if we work for them.

Have been privileged to see these characteristics in the trusted servants I have been honored to serve with. I have met courageous and committed individuals (Both Class A and Class B Trustees) who have given years of service to our wonderful fellowship.

Let's show them we appreciate all the service that they give to AA by electing representatives from our Home Groups (*The Heartbeat of AA*) to assist them in doing the work we have elected or appointed them to do on our behalf.

This Fellowship belongs to each and every member of AA. We need you !!

Let's show our leaders and trusted servants that we support them.

PLEASE GET INVOLVED IN OUR THIRD LEGACY OF SERVICE

In Service and Fellowship
 Pat L. Delegate Area 78

AA Calendar of Events

- Mar. - Bridging The Gap Mtg (7:00pm)
- 15 - Barnt Roundup
- 16-18 - GIR Mtg (7:00pm)
- 19 - CGSC Steering Committee Mtg (7:00pm)
- 20 - Archives (7:00pm)
- 21 - Archives (7:00pm)
- 22 - Area 78 Pre-Conference Assembly
- 23-25 - CGSC Mtg (7:30pm)
- Apr. - Intergroup Steering Committee Mtg (7:00pm)
- 3 - Intergroup Meeting (7:00pm)
- 9 - Bridging The Gap Mtg (7:00pm)
- 12 - Leheridge Roundup
- 13-14 - Steetler Anniversary Supper
- 14 - GIR Mtg (7:00pm)
- 15 - GIR Mtg (7:00pm)
- 16 - GIR Mtg (7:00pm)
- 18 - Gratitude Roundup Mtg (7:00pm)
- 21 - Morrin Potluck and Supper
- 22 - CGSC Steering Committee Mtg (7:00pm)
- 24 - Archives (7:00pm)
- 26 - CGSC Mtg (7:30pm)

I am responsible.

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help,

I want the hand of AA

always to be there.

And for that:

I am responsible.

CALGARY AA CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE

#2, 4015 1st Street S.E.
 Calgary, Alberta, T2G 4X7
 Phone (403) 777-1212 Fax (403) 287-6540
 Email: centraloffice@telus.net
 Office Hours:
 Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 1:00pm, 2:00pm to 5:00pm
 Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm
 Saturday 9:00am to 1:00pm
 Closed Sundays, Stat. Holidays, Stat. Weekends
 Closed April 6 & 7 for Easter

NOW OPEN HALF DAY SATURDAY

Area 78 Website: www.area78.org
 AA Website: aa.org

New Meetings

<p>Big Book Study, Open Women Monday 7:30pm 11419 - 8 St SW (upstairs, at left)</p>	<p>Sowing The Seed, Open Tuesday 7:30pm Mustard Seed Main (Old) Building, 2nd Floor 102 - 11 Ave SE, Wheelchair accessible</p>	<p>Airdrie Sunday Morning Breakfast Speaker now starts at 10:00am Breakfast following Rm 207 Best Western Regency Inn Edmonton Trail, Airdrie</p>
<p>Came To Believe, Open, Discussion, Sunday, 7:30pm Rm 200L (Upstairs), 200 Haddon Road, SW</p>	<p>Shut-in Seniors, Saturday from 10-11am, Open Mixed Step 3330 - 8 Ave SW (Cedar Villa) Info: Gord R. 243-4381 or 510-8680</p>	<p>Cancelled Meetings Black Diamond (Oil Fields Hospital) Sunday, 8pm</p>
<p>Friends of Bill W., Brown Bag Lunch Tuesday 12:00-1:00pm, Closed Mixed Jan 9 - April 10, 2007 NO Meeting Feb 20 Rm. 2011, Mt Royal College Lower Level of Wyckham House</p>	<p>Walking Eagle Group Monday 8:30-9:30pm Open Step & Tradition Knox United Church (Harris Room) 506 - 4 Street SW</p>	<p>First Things First Thursday, 7pm Los Vientos (Spanish) Friday, Saturday @7pm, Sunday 5pm Closed until a new meeting place can be found</p>

Changes to Meetings

Will We Squander Our Inheritance?

June 1978

Bill W. wrote to Dr. Bob in 1949: "The groups will eventually take over, and maybe they will squander their inheritance when they get it. It is probable, however, that they won't anyhow, they have really grown up; AA is theirs: let's give it to them."

As a sober member of AA for more than twenty-seven years, I see some disturbing differences between what I was taught in the beginning and what is happening now. What has happened to the pride we AAs have traditionally taken in saying, "I belong to the Gutersnipe Group"? To our feeling that each one of us takes part in the group's primary purpose - carrying the message? I see groups that regularly have thirty people at meetings, but only five active members. Who takes responsibility for the necessary jobs - group offices, sponsorship, coffee making? Is the AA group dying because of individual apathy?

The Responsibility Declaration is basic to AA thinking: "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am, responsible." Yet central offices seem to be having more and more difficulty finding sober AAs to make Twelfth Step calls. One of the first things I learned is that I need the newcomer as much as he needs me, yet some members feel they are doing new people a favor by getting in touch with them. Are we trying to hold on to sobriety now by *not* giving it away?

I wonder how many are lost because we don't have the time - or won't make the time - to share or care. What about the still suffering drunk who calls AA and is told where the meeting is - and to go by himself? What of the newcomer who goes to that meeting and finds no one to talk to? Or is told to call other members but is given no names or numbers? When I was called in by an AA member, I joined a group and got a sponsor. The group gave me a list of members, with addresses and phone numbers, to use when needed. Today, there seems to be little follow-up, little caring, few phone calls.

How many alcoholics have we lost simply because they were never really accepted? Do sober members still say, "Hey, how are you doing? Call me if you get shook up, no matter what time it is. Remember, we need you"? Alcoholics may be getting sober, not because of us, but in spite of us.

I have talked to many older members who feel as I do. Remember, AA is not going to preserve itself automatically. What are we, each one of us doing with the gift of sobriety, so freely and lovingly given? Will we soon squander our magnificent inheritance?

Perhaps each one of us should hold on to these thoughts: "Keep me mindful of the responsibilities that accompany the blessing of freedom. The only time that wrong can prevail is when good people do nothing."

Volume II Best Of The Grapevine Copyright © 1986 by The AA Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission

G. G., Phoenix, Ariz.

Valuable 12 Step Opportunities

"Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics."
 Alcoholics Anonymous, Chapter 7, Page 89

Members needed to carry the message to

Bowden Institution (security clearance is required)
 More Info: Brenda G. Area 78 Chair Correctional Facilities, (403) 309-8323 or email: corrections@area78.org

Male members needed to carry the message to the

Remand Centre

Calgary Young Offenders Centre
 Both require security clearance + min 1 yr sobriety
 More Info: Marilyn L. (403) 239-4923

Central Service Office would like

Telephone Monitors

One shift per week Monday to Friday
 9:00am to 1:00pm or 2:00pm to 5:00pm
 More Info: Mathew 777-1212 or centraloffice@telus.net

Calgary AA would like

12 Step People

More Info: Doug 990-9914 or Mathew 777-1212
 E-mail centraloffice@telus.net

Gratitude Roundup is looking for Committee Members
 to help with the organization of the Roundup Meetings are 7:00pm, 3rd Wednesday of each month at Central Service Office

NEXT MEETING March 21, 2007
 More Info: Fred H. 277-0313

Bridging The Gap

Is looking for contact willing to work in the North East of Calgary
 Anyone interested contact Central Office @ 777-1212

Calgary Archives Committee Meeting

Meets 7:00pm 4th Thursday of each month at Central Office
 NEXT MEETING March 22, 2007

Central Office Management Committee Vacancy

Calgary Intergroup is looking for someone to fill the vacancy in the Central Office Management Committee (COMC).

Qualifications for the position are:

- Practical Business Experience
- AA service
- Knowledge of AA Traditions
- Knowledge of AA Concepts

Please submit resumes confidentially to Central Service Office
 c/o Mathew.

Upcoming Events

Calgary Intergroup's 34th Annual
Banff Roundup

Mar 16-18, 2007

Registration: \$30

Registration & Banquet: \$75

Speakers: Marcel A. San Francisco, California (AA)
 Ron S. Grandora, Saskatchewan (AA)
 Marij S. Grandora, Saskatchewan (AL-Anon)
 Ken D. La Mesa, California (AA)

John L. Comox, B.C. (AA)

More info: Ron L. (403) 269-3999,

Tony M. (403) 680-8600, Alison R. (403) 252-6912

Area 78 Pre-Conference Assembly

Mar 23-25, 2007

Red Deer Lodge,
 Red Deer, Alberta

Lethbridge Roundup

April 13/14, 2007

Lethbridge Seniors Centre
 500 - 11th Street South

More Info: Effie (403) 381-2497,

Carol (403) 328-0321 or Victoria (403) 308-6751

Stettler Anniversary Supper #38

Apr 14, 2007

Stettler United Church, 4829 51 St. Stettler

Supper, Speaker, Fellowship with AI-Anon participation

More info: Gwen at gsell54u@telus.net

Morin Potluck and Speaker Meeting

Apr 21, 2007

Bethany Lutheran Church
 Morrin, Alberta

6:30 pm Supper & 7:30 pm Meeting

More Info: Viki (403) 823-2191

Morin Potluck and Speaker Meeting

May 12, 2007

Bethany Lutheran Church
 Morrin, Alberta

6:30 pm Supper & 7:30 pm Meeting

More Info: Viki (403) 823-2191

Calgary Archives News

Calgary Archives:

"Dedicated to those who have gone before"

Except from Delegates Report to First International Conference of AA, Friday, July 28, 1950

"One of the most impressive highlights of the conference: Bill Wilson entering the hall with a beautiful lei on his right shoulder. Said Bill, "This lei, which I wear over my shoulder, was sent to this Conference by a group of people who will never be able to attend the Conference or any other A.A. Meeting outside their own. It was sent in gratitude by the A.A. group of the leper colony on the Solomon Island. I now present this lei to this Conference."

AA IN CALGARY – AN INVENTORY ON SERVICE IN THE CALGARY AREA

On a very cold November 25, 2006, the Calgary General Service Committee sponsored a review of AA service in the Calgary area. This exercise was open to all districts and AA members in this area. Approximately, thirty-five AA members braved the cold that day and enjoyed food and fellowship while completing an inventory process lead by a past delegate to New York.

Briefly, the process involved three general exercises initiated with a review of the 12 concepts of AA World Services. This report provides details on only one of these exercises for reasons of limited space.

We would like to hear feedback from all AA members on the issues identified in the exercise.

This inventory exercise followed the steps below:

- Step 1: By random callout, with no discussion, all present were asked to call out, in 'one-word', issues they felt pertained to service in the Calgary Service area. The group spent approx. 30-45min. recording all issues that were called out until there was general consensus that a comprehensive list was created. (see below for the complete list of 122 items called out)
- Step 2: By a show of hands, the group chose whether to move each of the 122 items mentioned in the 1st step to high priority level. This was completed four times, each time dropping items that were of less priority than other items left on the list until the high priority list was reduced substantially to sixteen items.
- Step 3: To focus further, each of these sixteen items was then given a rating from 1 to 5 (1 having the lowest priority rating up to 5 with the highest rating). Of the sixteen, eight items were given a rating of five. These eight items were - Educating ourselves, Participation, Too much turnover (before service terms finished), Newcomers to service, Young people, GSRs and DCMs, Districts, and Committees.
- Step 4: From these eight, the group was to decide on 3 top items to address as they relate to service in Calgary. The three chosen were Educating ourselves, Newcomers to service and, after much discussion the group combined Districts with GSRs & DCMs.

This brings us *Into Action*. We share the complete list and the top three priority items with you requesting your suggestions or thoughts on any or all of the top 3 items identified at the end of the exercise.

Please reflect on the top three opportunities for action as they pertain to service in the Calgary General Service area and share your thoughts / solutions.

The items with reflection-questions for you to share on are as follows:

DISTRICTS / GSRs AND DCMs

Please tell us of any issues or concerns you have with the structure and/or functioning of the Districts within the Calgary Service area. Can you suggest changes that would address these issues or concerns?

Please tell us of any issues or concerns you have with the role and/or functioning of the GSRs and/or DCMs within the Calgary Service area. Can you suggest changes that would address these issues or concerns?

EDUCATING OURSELVES

This statement referred generally to understanding and knowledge in AA service to participate and pass on our experience, strength and hope regarding service work. Key phrases that came up under this were such things as 'service manual', 'area guidelines', 'encouragement', 'teamwork', 'passing it on', 'GSR school', 'service workshops', 'service sponsorship'.

Please state your ideas on this issue in terms of how do we educate ourselves on service and how do we pass it on?

1. GSR – General Service Representative for the AA group.
2. DCM – District Committee Member serving an AA district.

NEWCOMERS TO SERVICE

Questions to reflect on and share your opinions on include; How do we encourage newcomers to get involved in service, see the importance of service, stay involved etc. There are many forms of service for newcomers – do we pass this on? Do we pass on the great value one gets from being of service?

Please give us your thoughts on any aspect of ‘Newcomers to Service’ that you feel needs mention and please share your thoughts on possible solutions to problems you feel exist regarding ‘Newcomers to Service’.

Ways to provide your feedback on the three items for consideration :

1. Send an email to aaoffice@telusplanet.net (suggested Subject title: “Group Inventory”), OR
2. Send a written response through your GSR or DCM and ask them to bring your comments to the CGSC, OR
3. Mail your response to Central Office at #2-4015 1st Street SE Calgary, AB T2G 4X7 403 clearly stating that your comments relate to the CGSC Group Inventory.

Here are the 122 items called out in the first exercise in alphabetical order:

AA groups, AA infrastructure, Anonymity, Apathy, Archives, Area 78 web-site, Aspects of service, Attitudes, Attraction, Awareness, Bridging the Gap, Calgary Service Structure, Carrying the message, Carrying the right message, CD's, tapes, mailing lists, Central Office Management Committee, Central Office, CGSC, Change, Committees, Conflict, Cooperation, Cooperation with the Prof. Comm., Corrections, Dedicating, Delegate, Dependence on another, Developing strong relationships, Districts, Divine guidance, Educating ourselves, Enthusiasm, Fellowship, Forums, Giving back, Grapevine, Gratitude, Group infrastructure, GSR's and DCM's, Help Native reserves, Honesty, Humility, I Am Responsible, Identification, Importance of meetings, Information and communication, Integrity, Intergroup, Inventory, Keep it simple, Keeping long timers active, Lead by example, Let go and let God, Literature, Meeting lists, Money, Monitoring, Motivations, Multiple addictions, My message vs AA's message, New comers to service, Opportunity to grow, Outside issues, Ownership, Participation, Phone book numbers, Playing God, Primary purpose, Playing God, Principles before personalities, Promoting, Promotion, Public Information, Reaching out, Recovery centers, Registration, Religion, Remote communities, Resentments, Respect, Responsibility, Responsibility lack of, Righteousness, Rotation lack of, Rotation too much of, Roundups, Safe haven, Seeking outside help, Service, Service seminars, Service sponsorship, Service structure, Services, Singleness of purpose, Sobriety, Spiritual experience, Spirituality, Sponsorship, Stepping up to fill positions, Traditions, Thirteen stepping, Tradition 2, Traditions study, Treatment, Trust the process, Trusted servants, Twelve Stepping, Two stepping, Unity, Volunteers, Westword, Young people.