

The Westword

Westword is a monthly newsletter published by Calgary Intergroup
(westwordeditor@gmail.com)

25 Cents
(suggested donation)



ANNUAL SPRING INTRODUCTORY SERVICE SEMINAR

The Annual Spring Introductory Service Seminar was held on Saturday May 5th at Scarboro United Church. This event is sponsored by our Calgary General Service Committee with participation from Calgary Intergroup.

There were a total of 81 members who braved the spring snowstorm to learn about or renew their enthusiasm for service opportunities in Alcoholics Anonymous. More than 70% of the attendees were new to AA or to service in AA.

The seminar was organized by the Introductory Service Seminar Committee of the Calgary General Service Committee (CGSC) with participation from Calgary Intergroup. The various committees gave presentations about their roles and responsibilities.

CGSC COMMITTEE

Steering Committee
Introductory Service Seminar
Treatment Facilities
Grapevine
Bridging the Gap(BTG)
Corrections
Cooperation with the Professional
Community (CPC)
Gratitude Roundup
Records and Registrations

CALGARY INTERGROUP

Steering Committee
Central Office Management
Committee (COMC)
Central Office and Bookstore
Phone Monitoring
Twelve Step List
Calgary AA Archives
Public Information
Calgary AA Archives
Sunday Morning Breakfast
Banff Roundup

The seminar was organized by the Introductory Service Seminar Committee of the Calgary General Service Committee (CGSC) with participation from Calgary Intergroup.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Groups, Districts and members from Calgary and Area for their support. It is our Hope and Prayer for those who had the opportunity to attend the Service Seminar that they will acquire "A SPIRIT OF SERVICE".

Yours, in service, Calgary Introductory Service Seminar Committee

I am responsible

When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help,

I want the hand of AA always to be there.

For that, I am responsible

Calgary A.A. Central Office

#2, 4015 1st Street S.E.

Calgary, Alberta – T2G 4X7

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Office Hours:

Mon. to Thur.: 8:30 am – 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Fri.: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, Sat: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Closed Sundays and Stat Holiday Weekends

(Closed Sat May 19 and Mon May 21 for Victoria Day)

2012 - CALGARY GRATITUDE ROUNDUP



June 8, 9 & 10th

SPONSORED BY THE CALGARY GENERAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Coast Plaza Hotel, 1316 - 33rd. Street NE, Calgary Alberta
Hotel Reservations: 403 248-8888
Toll Free: 1-800-661-1464

Roundups and Conferences are not regular AA meetings, the cost of the Roundup is paid for through registration fees.

2012 GUEST SPEAKERS

Bob D. AA
Las Vegas, Nevada

Deb H. AA
New Orleans, Louisiana

Frank J. AA
Sherman Oaks, California

Kerri G. AA
Calgary, Alberta

Sheldon F. AA
Las Vegas, Nevada

Vannoy S. Al-Anon
Dallas, Texas

TBA. Al-Ateen
Calgary, Alberta

REGISTRATION

\$25.00 per person

Includes all speakers & Sat. night dance

REGISTRATION & BANQUET

\$65.00 per person

Includes all speakers, Sat. night Banquet & dance

To reserve a banquet seat, a ticket must be presented.
Multiple seats require matching tickets (1 ticket = 1 seat)
Seating is based on a first come, first choice basis.

For Sunday Only:

\$15.00 per person

or a valid registration ticket.

Tickets will be available at the door.

Tickets may be purchased from your home group, GSR & Intergroup reps.
or at Calgary Central Service Office (Credit Cards Accepted)

For further ticket information, please contact :

Bruce B. 403 815-9588 or Dale R. at simpleessence@live.ca

ALTERNATE CHAIR NEEDED

The 2012 Calgary Gratitude Roundup Committee is looking for an alternate chair. Generally this position would then stand for election at Calgary General Service Committee for the position of Chair of the 2013 Gratitude Roundup. Contact Dale R at simpleessence@live.ca.

Home Group History The Recovery Group (Part 2)

The Knights of Columbus Hall (see Part 1 April 2012 Westword) was a short lived dream.

The early members floundered trying to meet the financial commitment to the landlords. A bridge club came along and offered more than the Recovery could afford. It was at this time that Jim S. went his own way and started the Haddon Road Club Room.

It was in the Knights of Columbus Hall that Gilbert P was introduced to Alcoholics Anonymous and he was the first to become a new member of the Recovery Group. Joyce B was also recruited during this time and she became the first female member. She was a cheerful personality who made sure there was always a cake or cookies at the meetings during those early days.

Bert F (one of the founding members), found the present location on MacLeod Trail and signed a lease with the City of Calgary. His name remained as the contact on the original lease for many years after his death.

It was the Recovery Group's aim to hold a meeting every day with each meeting having a different format so as to meet the needs of its members. A note documenting Vern's proposed meetings and their formats (as he envisioned them back in the early days) surfaced in his belongings after he passed away in January 2004). They included Big Book reading/discussion, one meeting each for reading/discussion of the Steps and Traditions from the 12X12, Living Sober reading discussion, Reading Discussion, Traditions reading Discussion(12X12) and Beginners, Women's and Men's discussion meetings as well as a weekly Speaker/Call Up meeting.

The Recovery Group is known for its uniqueness. For example, there is a roll call. Over the years, the membership has debated the roll call issue at many of the business meetings. Some claim that it breaks the anonymity of the members. Others praise the roll call as it is their way of getting to know the names of the group members. Others would be deeply hurt if the roll call was abandoned because they have seen their names rising to the top over the years. Actually, we continue to maintain the roll call because it is our record of the current membership.

Another unique feature of the Recovery Group was the key to the club room. At the January 20th, 1986 business meeting it was approved that we present an engraved key to each member in good standing (6 months or more regular attendance). Vern composed a piece to be read every time a key is presented. It reads as follows:

“AA is an important part of our lives but it is not meant to be everything. We have our work. We have our family. We have our health.” Physical, Mental, Spiritual.” We also have the AA Group. If there had not been a group we might never have found the NEW WAY OF LIFE. We at the Recovery Group encourage the Home Group Attitude. We encourage participation, Regular weekly attendance, and Regular monthly attendance at the business meetings.”

There was a day when the members of Recovery Group seemed to be in prominent roles of responsibility at just about every service activity in Calgary. This is relevant today to some extent. Often, when I saw one of our members doing his or her service function, I got the fuzzy feeling in my belly that I belonged to the best group in AA.

Submitted by Denny B, former Archives Chair, Intergroup Chair and others (currently Mazatlan, Mexico)

JUNE HISTORY - THE GLENMORE GROUP CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

and they're having a celebration



watch for details

In Brief:

Intergroup Sunday Morning Breakfast and Speaker Meeting

Join us for good food, good fellowship and personal stories of the speaker's journey

at the

DOWNTOWN RAMADA INN

708 – 8th Avenue SW

Breakfast at 9 am, speaker at 10 am

Buffet Breakfast \$15 – Healthy Start Breakfast \$11

Toast & Coffee \$6 – Coffee \$3

7th Tradition is observed

Contact: Jim H 403-808-0408 or
cgigbrkfst@gmail.com

**DOWNTOWN SATURDAY NIGHT
SPEAKER MEETING**

at 8 PM

Nexen (Fortis) Building, North Tower
801 – 7th Avenue SW, Calgary

**The Saturday Night NE Group
2523 56 Street NE**

Speaker Meeting the 2nd Saturday of each month.
Please join us

On the Horizon

*Excerpts from posters at Calgary Central Office (403-777-1212) of AA groups of SOME planned events
Call for extra details*

Local and Area:**May 2012**

Cochrane Roundup May 12

Nanton Roundup May 12

Claresholm Campout, May 25-27

Area 78 Committee, Kimberley, BC, May 25-26

Lloydminster May 26-27

June 2012

Red Deer Roundup June 1-2

Athabasca Roundup June 1-3

Calgary Gratitude Roundup June 8-10, 2012

Didsbury Roundup June 8-10

Strathmore June 22-23

Many, many, more June-Aug at Central Office**At Large**

Regional Forum: June 1 – 3, 2012 at the Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel, 10155 – 105 St., Edmonton. For more information check www.aa.org, email Sally-Ann M. at 2012wcrf@gmail.com or call Pat L. at 780-907-3840.

Drop in to Central Office, Have a coffee and see the many more events posted on the bulletin board

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PLEASE NOTE Central Office is Closed Saturday May 19 and Monday May 21 to observe Victoria Day

**CALGARY ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
MINING** OUR PAST TO CARRY THE MESSAGE TO OUR FUTURE**

Ladies and gentlemen are desperately needed to serve on the new
ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

Qualifications: Love of Service, Attitude of Gratitude,...maybe some computer skills

Hours of Service: Very Few at Calgary Central office on Saturday mornings.

Commit to Service:

Contact Harry M Calgary's Archive Chair phone: 403-909-3899 email: cgigarchives@gmail.com

HOPE you will join

Help discover and share Calgary AA Golden Nuggets of History

****No Hard Hats or Pickaxes Required**

Thanks from Meeting after the Meeting Intergroup Social held April 21st

I would like to thank the Special Events committee members Dale, Bruce, Kevin, Dan, Roscoe and Mark for their contributions to the meeting after the meeting event held April 21. The event was filled with great food and conversations: an overall excellent opportunity for fellowship. **Thanks, of course,** to all who showed up and participated and for all group and member contributions. Without your support these events are not possible. Yours in service Jeff F.

VALUABLE 12 STEP OPPORTUNITIES

"Practical experience shows that nothing will so much insure immunity from drinking as intensive work with other alcoholics" – Big Book Pg. 89

Public Information Committee

The **Public Information Committee** is looking for support from the Calgary Area Groups for their activities to carry the word to those who still suffer. **The PI committee meets at Central Office the last Wednesday of every month at 7 pm.**

Some of the Public Information activities include:

- Preparing and/or distributing packages of pamphlets to doctors' offices, local social agencies and interest groups.
- Hosting booths at semi-annual Homeless Connect and other events in the City.
- Planning PI media placements (e.g. Transit Posters).
- Explore additional PI strategies and activities.

Many hands lighten the load so if each group could supply a representative to this committee, it would be appreciated.

If you're interested in this service opportunity please come and join us at a PI meeting.

CPC Planning Meeting

The CPC monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month at 7 PM at Central Office. So please mark your dance card for that evening!

We are expanding and do need help from people who are interested in helping the professional help us. We are currently influencing young Doctors and Nurses at both Universities and will soon be doing presentations for the Social Work faculties. We do lots of other fun stuff too!

This format for presentations is for professionals and is different than telling our stories for Public Information. So if you're interested please come check us out!

Thanks for your service in AA - together we can do so much!

In Service, Art G., CPC Chair – Calgary

The Treatment Facilities & Hospital Committee

would like to thank all the groups that have been chairing / sharing at treatment facility meetings lately. If GSR Reps would like to **commit their groups** to the important service opportunity of chairing monthly meetings at any of the 4 + facilities we provide support to, please contact **Jason O, committee chair** at (587) 580-5588



WELCOME TO
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

**NEW MEETING LISTS AVAILABLE
MARCH 2012**

Check out the most recent Meeting List online
@ www.calgaryaa.org/

New Meetings

**HADDON ROAD
NEW MENS MEETING**

Mens Step Meeting Commenced on
Thursday, March 1st at 7:30pm

NW STEP & TRADITION GROUP: Tuesday at 8:00 PM; closed men's;
Bow Valley Christian Church, 5300 – 53 Ave. NW

SHIPWRECK AT SUNSET GROUP: Tuesday at 7:45 pm; closed;
beginners; 126 – 10 St. NW (Sanctuary Coffee House, back of the
coffee shop, downstairs).

OUT OF TOWN

COCHRANE CASTAWAYS GROUP: Saturday at 7:00 pm; Open Step
Discussion; Spray Lakes Family Sports Center, 800 Griffin Road East,
Cochrane (North East Entrance).

BRING YOUR OWN CUP GROUP: Friday at 8:00 PM; Open Step
Discussion; Langdon Community Church, 23 Centre St. N, Langdon
AB

Meeting Cancellations

New Beginnings SW Saturday 9:30 pm is cancelled

Plain Language Group SW Monday 7pm is suspended until
further notice

SHIPWRECK AT SUNSET, Central, Tuesday meeting **ONLY** is
cancelled.

UNIDOS GROUP: Wednesday and Thursday meetings **only** are
cancelled. Other group meetings (Fri., Sat. and Sun.) are still
active.

OUT OF TOWN

CANMORE NOON OASIS GROUP (out of town) Thursday at 12:00
noon, at the Scout Hall is **cancelled**.

COCHRANE Sober Sisterhood (out of town) Thursday 12:00
noon at the All Saints Church Family Centre is **cancelled**

Meeting Changes

CROSSROADS GROUP (birthday meeting change): NE
Birthday meeting is **now an open meeting on the first**
Monday of the month (formerly closed meeting on the last
Monday of the month)

New You / Sailor Bill's Group, Tuesdays **NW**, has moved to
the NCFC, 4620-A Bowness Road NW, same time

OUT OF TOWN

AIRDRIE COUNTRY GROUP (time change): meets Mondays
and Thursdays **now at 8:00 pm** (formerly 8:30 pm)



HAPPY AA BIRTHDAY!

(All birthday notices are entered as received on a best efforts basis and may occasionally include unintended errors.
If this is the case, let us know and we will attempt to correct them.)

FEBRUARY 2012

SMOG

Jason 1 yr
Don C 11 yrs
Scott 22 yrs

MARCH 2012

SMOG GROUP

Mary-Anne 5 yrs
Katherine 8 yrs
Simon 23 yrs

APRIL 2012

FOREST LAWN

Rob S 1 yr
Colin W 1 yr
Liz S 4 yrs
Liz S 4 yrs

SATURDAY NIGHT NE

Ashly D 2 yrs

SMOG

Kevin 3 yrs
Peter K 4 yrs
Don S 22 yrs
Daniel T 26 yrs

MAY 2012

ACTION GROUP

Raj B 3 yrs
Keith S 5 yrs
Bob B 23 yrs

AIRDRIE BACK FROM HELL

Ernie 3 yrs
Murray B 4 yrs
Mike M 8 yrs
Brian R 17 yrs
Dale C 27 yrs
Mike S 41 yrs

AWAKENINGS

Deb W 1 yr
Richard T 5 yrs
Jen A 7 yrs

CANDLELIGHT

Brandy W 18 yrs
Brain H 20 yrs

FOREST LAWN

Lou C 4 yrs
Chris G 10 yrs
Laurie C 30 yrs
Jackie N 31 yrs

MAY 2012

HADDON ROAD

Amanda D 1 yr
Donr R 1 yr
Margaret T 1 yr
Brad W 2 yrs
Dan R 2 yrs
Ed V 2 yrs
Don S 10 yrs
Mickey S 11 yrs
Shirley T 25 yrs

KINCORA

Maureen 1 yr

NEW BEGINNINGS

Stephanus 1 yr
Sue D 2 yrs
Pauline M 3 yrs
Jenn T 6 yrs
Barb L 11 yrs
Joan E 12 yrs
Linda M 14 yrs
Karry G 15 yrs
David S 24 yrs

OGDEN

Wayne 2 yrs
Ben 3 yrs
Roy F 20 yrs
Frank T 23 yrs

MAY 2012 cont'd

RECOVERY GROUP

Meggan S 4 yrs
Nancy C 5 yrs
Laura F 19 yrs

SATURDAY NIGHT NE

Marc 2 yrs

TUESDAY MORNING

LADIES GROUP

Iris 8 yrs

MARLBOROUGH PARK

Brian F 11 yrs
Jacky N 32 yrs
Johny G 36 yrs



STRESS RELIEF?

There is a Solution
Call Alcoholics Anonymous

403-777-1212

calgaryaa.org

Have you spotted any of the AA Ads on the LRT?
This is sample 4 of 4
Let us know where and when you have seen them

Send an email to the Public Information Chair
pichair.calgary@gmail.com
We'll have a draw for an AA Item

Celebrating Recovery!

at Haddon Road



SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday Night at the Movies

Friday May 18, 7 pm

"The Betty Ford Story"

Starring Gena Rowlands

An amazing story of recovery and hope that continues to carry the message of AA.

Popcorn/Message/Fellowship

Recovery Cafe

A Benefit Concert for Slave Lake AA

Sunday May 27, 2pm

Entertainers Welcome/Potluck Refreshments

In May 2011 a fire ravaged 40% of the town of Slave Lake, including the meeting room of Alcoholics Anonymous. We are collecting Big Books and recovery material to help the Fellowship. The 7th Tradition will also be donated to the cause.

Information:

James P. 403-826-7282

Denis G. 403-243-1049

Wednesday Panel Presentation

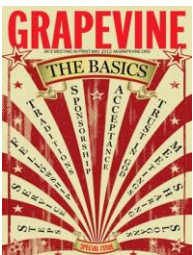
Wednesday May 30, 7 pm

Topic: "Sponsorship"

Moderator: Betty F.

Panelists:

Bob C./ Dave C./ Rick R./ Karla R.



The May 2012 Grapevine is Here!

In this month's special section, members share about the tools of the program. What helps us stay sober today? Is it that Morning Prayer? That phone call to our sponsor? Finishing that Fourth Step? Or how about that crazy share we blurt out at our home group? For each of us, it's different, depending on the day. But one thing we do know ... if we trust our Higher Power and pick up the basic tools of AA, we have a good chance of not picking up that drink today.

In this special May "Back to the Basics" issue, we feature stories about some of the great tools that keep us on the beam. Read more in the [Editor's Letter](#).

"We are not living just to be sober; we are living to learn, to serve, and to love."—Bill W., *As Bill Sees*

EVER ATTENDED A REGIONAL FORUM??

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE - WE'RE HOSTING ONE HERE IN AREA 78

Friday June 1 - Sunday June 3, 2012**THE COAST EDMONTON PLAZA HOTEL**10155 - 105 STREET NW
EDMONTON, ALBERTA
780.423.4811 / 1.800.716.6199http://www.coasthotels.com/hotels/canada/alberta/edmonton/coast_edmonton/overview*(a block of rooms has been set aside at a conference rate for out-of-town attendees)*

These forums provide a unique opportunity for AA members & local trusted servants to meet, exchange information & share experience with representatives of our General Service Board, AAWS & the AA Grapevine, & our General Service Office.

THERE'S NO REGISTRATION FEE!

LOOK FOR:

WORKSHOPS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS
EXPLANATIONS & SHARING OF BOARD & OFFICE ROLES
LOTS OF QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
DISPLAYS & HANDOUTS
AA MEETINGS & FELLOWSHIP
A HOSPITALITY ROOM & AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL
FINANCIAL REPORTS

FIRST TIME ATTENDEES AS WELL AS 'OLD HANDS' ARE WELCOMED & ENCOURAGED TO COME.

"Regional Forums originated in 1975 at the suggestion of Dr. Jack Norris, then [non-alcoholic] Chair of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. They were to be weekend sharing & informational sessions designed to help the General Service Board, A.A. World Services, Inc., the Grapevine Corporate Board, the Grapevine Staff, & the General Service Office Staff stay in touch with A.A. members, trusted servants & newcomers to service throughout the A.A. service structure."

MEET YOUR GSO STAFF & MEMBERS OF OUR BOARDS

SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW YOUR SEVENTH TRADITION IS USED & HAVE THE UNMISSABLE EXPERIENCE OF WATCHING AAs IN ACTION PRACTICE OUR "PRIMARY PURPOSE"

FOR MORE INFO CHECK www.aa.org or call Pat L @ 780-907-3840 or email Sally-Ann M @ 2012WCRF@gmail.com

WESTWORD DEADLINES

Calgary AA groups need to get their birthdays, meeting changes, special events and other notices into the Westword Editor or Central Office well before deadline for the coming issue. Generally, the deadline for the next month's edition is the last day of the current month.

The deadline for submissions for the June edition of The Westword is Friday May 25th.

Please email any notices for the Westword to: westwordeditor@gmail.com or drop notices off at Calgary Central Office.

The Westword is available electronically by e-mail if requested. Please forward your request to the westwordeditor@gmail.com to have your e-mail address added to the distribution list.

12th Step Late Night Monitoring

THANK YOU ALL WHO SIGNED UP AS LATE NIGHT MONITORS (11pm-9am)
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE IN THIS CAPACITY PLEASE CALL:

Abby at: 403-836-8904

or Central Office at: **403-777-1212**
cgigtelmonitorchair@gmail.com

INTERGROUP CONTACTS

Intergroup Chairperson:	cgigchair@gmail.com
Telephone Monitoring Chair:	cgigtelmonitorchair@gmail.com
12 Step List Chair:	cgig12steplist@gmail.com
Intergroup Secretary:	cgigsecretary@gmail.com
Intergroup Treasurer:	cgigtreasurer@gmail.com
Intergroup Special Events:	cgigevents@gmail.com
Intergroup Alternate Chair:	cgigalterchair@gmail.com
Intergroup Archives Chair:	cgigarchives@gmail.com
Public Information Chair:	pichair.calgary@gmail.com
Westword Editor:	westwordeditor@gmail.com
Calgary Central Office:	centraloffice@telus.net
Banff Roundup Chair:	cgigbanffchr@gmail.com
Sunday AM Breakfast Chair:	cgigbrkfst@gmail.com