

# THE WESTWORD

25 Cents

(suggested donation)



The Westword is a monthly newsletter published by Calgary Intergroup  
*The deadline for submission for publishing in the Westword is the last Thursday of the month.*  
*Additions will not be made after this date.*

TO RECEIVE ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE WESTWORD PLEASE EMAIL [westwordeditor@gmail.com](mailto:westwordeditor@gmail.com)

## Calgary Alcoholics Anonymous Central Service Office

#2, 4015 – 1 Street S.E.  
Calgary, AB, T2G 4X7

### Office hours:

Mon–Fri, 8:30am–5:00pm  
 Closed for lunch 1-2pm  
 Saturday, 9:00am–1:00pm  
 Closed holiday weekends

**Telephone: (403) 777-1212**  
 Answering service is 7x24

**Email: [centraloffice@telus.net](mailto:centraloffice@telus.net)**

See [www.calgaryaa.org](http://www.calgaryaa.org) for  
 up-to-date Information,  
 meetings and events schedule.

Please email or call us for any  
 changes to the meeting  
 schedule or to post in the  
 online calendar of events.

**Check out the AA bookstore at  
 Central Office for:**  
 AA & Grapevine books,  
 pamphlets, committee  
 information, CD's and DVD's,  
 chips/medallions. etc



## 35th Annual

# AA Gratitude Roundup

Calgary, AB

**June 10, 11, 12 - 2016**

### AA Guest Speakers

Marty H., Calgary, AB  
 Denise B., Winnipeg, MB  
 Joe C., Pensacola, Florida  
 Peter M., Palm Coast, Florida  
 Yvonne S., Los Angeles, California

### AI-Anon Speaker

Carolyn H., Calgary, AB

### Registration

\$25 for the entire weekend  
 \$70 includes registration &  
 Saturday banquet  
 Tickets may be purchased from your  
 G.S.R., Intergroup Rep., or from  
 Calgary Central Service Office, and  
 online at:  
[www.gratituderoundup.com](http://www.gratituderoundup.com)  
 (Credit cards accepted)  
 Phone: 403-777-1212

### ROUNDUP-FEATURES

Fellowship—Speaker Meetings—AA Meetings —Dance—Ice Cream Social  
 — AA Literature Table— AA Archives Display —AI-Anon Literature Table—  
 World's Largest AA Gratitude Globe

### Conference headquarters and accommodations:

#### The Glenmore Inn

2720 Glenmore Trail SE  
 Calgary, AB

Hotel Reservations: 403-279-8611

(ask about special rates for Roundup guests)

Tollfree: 1-800-661-3163

Website: [www.glenmoreinn.com](http://www.glenmoreinn.com)

### Sponsored by Calgary General Service Committee

For ticket sales and schedule of events  
 visit our Website at: [www.gratituderoundup.com](http://www.gratituderoundup.com)

## Intergroup Contacts:

Intergroup Alternate Chair	cgigalterchair@gmail.com	Intergroup Chairperson	cgigchair@gmail.com
Intergroup Archives Chair	cgigarchives@gmail.com	Telephone Monitoring Chair	cgigtelmonitorchair@gmail.com
Public Information Chair	pichair.calgary@gmail.com	12 Step Chair List	cgig12steplist@gmail.com
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Banff Roundup Chair	cgigbanffchr@gmail.com	Intergroup Special Events	cgigevents@gmail.com
Sunday Morning Breakfast Chair	cgigbrkfst@gmail.com		

## Meeting Changes

### NEW MEETINGS:

**Alpha House:** Open step meeting in Punjabi/Hindi/English, Mondays, Alpha house board room, 203 – 15 Ave SE (Mar/16)

**Came to Believe Group,** Sundays, 7:30 PM, open, Beginners, New Brighton Residents Association, 2 New Brighton Dr. SE (Feb/16)

**Chimes of Freedom Group,** 8:00 PM Mondays, J.C. Charyk School (Mezzanine), 801 – 4 St. W, Hanna AB (Feb/16)

**Penbrooke Community Centre,** new Al-Anon Meeting, Mondays, 7:00pm (Feb/16)

**Tsui T'ina Thursday Night Meeting,** Open, Discussion, 7:30 PM Thursdays, Tsui T'ina Spirit Healing Lodge, Old Agency Road A7 (3 km south of Bullhead Road, off Anderson Road, SW), Tsui T'ina Nation (Feb/16)

**Weekend Serenity Group:** new Big Book Discussion meetings, Saturday and Sunday at 1pm, 2020 33rd St S.E., Kadilac Room

### MEETING CHANGES:

**The Harmony Group,** Wednesdays, southeast, is changing their meeting time from 7:30 to 7:00 as of February 3 (Feb/16)

**Mustard Seed Group,** Mondays, northwest, time is now 8:00pm - changed from 8:15pm (Apr/16)

**Out to Lunch Bunch,** meeting starts at 11:55am Mon/Wed/Fri, rather than at noon (Feb/16)

**Shipwreck at Sunset,** Fridays, southwest, has moved to the Central United Church, 131 – 7 Ave. SW, side door, basement, same time. (Mar/16)

### MEETING CANCELLATIONS:

**McKenzie Towne Group,** open Came to Believe meeting (Sundays at 7:30 p.m.) has been cancelled (Feb/16)

**Rounders:** Wednesday southwest, has been cancelled. (Feb/16)

**TriCurrie Group,** Mondays, southwest, was closed at the end of April (Apr/16)

***Calgary AA needs one of those special kind of people who enjoys organizing and sorting through the Archived Information stored at Central Office. This person has typically been a long time member who can continue to make sense of our collected history so that it can remain vital and relevant to us all. It is our connection to those who have gone before us and to preserve what unfolds today for those yet to come. You would be interested in spending some time each week carefully sifting through and preserving our continually growing and unfolding history. This position is called an Archivist, it is an appointed position and has no set term. It requires dedication and responsibility. If interested please submit your resume to the Chair of Intergroup for careful consideration.***

**Shifts are available for daytime phone monitors at Central Office. This position is perfect for those who can make a dedicated commitment to be available for a specific shift one day/week at Central Office; either in the morning from 9:00am to 1:00pm (4 hrs.) or the afternoon from 2:00pm to 5:00pm (3 hrs.). Suggested requirements are a minimum of 5 years of sobriety, a practical knowledge of the Traditions + Steps, and knowledge of the AA service structure in Calgary. There is also a brief training session given to show new daytime monitors where to find all the info they may need to access during their shifts. If you are interested in this vital area of 12 Step service, please contact Central Office at 403-777-1212 during regular office hours.**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



All birthdays are entered as received. Birthdays are posted for the month past, and the current month of issue.

Deadline for submissions is the last Thursday of the month. Please submit to [westwordeditor@gmail.com](mailto:westwordeditor@gmail.com)

April				May			
<b>ABC Group</b>	<b>Glenmore Group</b>	<b>Midnapore</b>	<b>Steps Stories &amp;</b>	<b>ABC Group</b>	<b>MAAT Group</b>	<b>Recovery Grp (ct)</b>	
Jan M 27 years	Debbie M 1 year	Margaret K 1 year	<b>Beyond</b>	Byron L 17 years	Theo 3 years	Laura F 25 years	
<b>Action Group</b>	Libby C 1 year	Matt S 5 years	Glen F 2 years	Karen C 26 years	Carol L 27 years	Keith H 25 years	
Kim L 1 year	Hannah J 2 years	Brian W 22 years	Marilyn D 3 years	Tim S 35 years	Gary O 34 years	Tom Mc 25 years	
Bob H 3 years	Jesse F 2 years	Sandy M 26 years	Joline B 4 years	<b>Action Group</b>	Tony S 40 years	<b>Rule 62 Group</b>	
Shaun M 3 years	Graeme 6 years	<b>New Beginnings</b>	Shauna M 4 years	Keith S 9 years	<b>Marlborough Pk</b>	Ben 1 year	
Lisa Z 9 years	Marla 8 years	Amanda 2 years	<b>TriCurrie Group</b>	JR H. 20 years	Brian F 15 years	Nate M 2 years	
Ross M 13 years	Ron W 11 years	Judy K 2 years	Bob W 26 years	Bob B. 27 years	<b>Midnapore</b>	Chico 4 years	
<b>A wakenings</b>	Rick C 18 years	Wendy H 4 years	Randy P 29 years	<b>A wakenings</b>	Angelina O 1 year	<b>The Link Group</b>	
Kevin D 32 years	David S 28 years	Jack C 7 years	Cecil A 57 years	Deb W 6 years	April S 1 year	Brenda M 21 years	
<b>Back from Hell</b>	Claude 28 years	Barb L 15 years	<b>Wed M roning</b>	Richard T 9 years	Ted W 1 year	<b>Tuesday Morning</b>	
John E 1 year	Gillian 30 years	Linda M 18 years	<b>Eye Opener</b>	Jen A 11 years	Chuck N 5 years	<b>Ladies</b>	
Billy Sue 4 years	<b>Haddon Road</b>	Chris G 18 years	Leslie C 10 years	<b>Back from Hell</b>	Bruce S 9 years	Lena 5 years	
Wayne U 4 years	Kyle L 1 year	<b>NW Step/Trad</b>	<b>West End</b>	Lisa B 1 year	Brad W 11 years	Shirley 29 years	
Keith S 6 years	Erin C 5 years	Mark T 2 years	<b>Step &amp; Tradition</b>	Ernie 7 years	<b>NW Calgary</b>	Marjorie 32 years	
Terri S 6 years	<b>Harvest Hills</b>	Bobby A 8 years	Max S 1 year	Murray B 8 years	Glen K 3 years	<b>Walking Eagle</b>	
Brian T 7 years	Jennifer H 4 years	<b>Ogden Group</b>	Aaron B 2 years	<b>Edgemont</b>	<b>NW Step/Trad</b>	Colton B 2 years	
Karen G 19 years	<b>Kincora Group</b>	Ange N 2 years	Michael L 2 years	James E 1 year	Thomas B 3 years	Marilyn S 13 years	
<b>By the Book</b>	Trish Y 2 years	Keegan E 6 years	Trevor U 17 years	Rob G 1 year	Sam A 4 years	<b>West End</b>	
Derek 1 year	Bali G 5 years	Mel W 6 years	<b>Woodcreek</b>	Ian H 2 years	Ryan F 8 years	<b>Step &amp; Tradition</b>	
<b>Edgemont</b>	<b>MAAT Group</b>	Cor 8 years	Jill D 10 years	Thomas B 3 years	<b>Ogden (Thurs)</b>	Shannon S 3 years	
Frank K 1 year	Ron D 22 years	Peter K 8 years		Kellen M 12 years	Christina G 1 year	Nick W 5 years	
John D 1 year	<b>McKenzie Towne</b>	Aaron T 9 years		Bill F 16 years	Diane 1 year	Peter G 38 years	
Sergio A 1 year	Shawn G 3 years	Fraser M 9 years		Tom W 18 years	Wayne 6 years	<b>Whitesheep</b>	
Paul T 3 years	Beau P 3 years	Bill M 19 years		Fraser G 44 years	Roy F 24 years	Sven G 2 years	
Audrey B 17 years	Dean F 3 years	<b>Open Door Group</b>		<b>Kincora Group</b>	Frank T 27 years	Brydon D 3 years	
Linda H 12 years	Kevin H 10 years	Wade A 6 years		Linda W 1 year	<b>Recovery Group</b>	Len K 4 years	
<b>Garnet Block</b>	Liz L 28 years			Maureen K 5 years	Brandon C 1 year	Dan R 6 years	
Aseem 1 year	Bob 36 years			<b>Langdon BYOC</b>	Gen B 1 year	Gary O 44 years	
Gary 1 year				Brandy W 22 years	Alex J 5 years		

# LIST OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	More Info
May 14' 2016 (Saturday) Brooks Lutheran Church 811 Cassils Road West, Brooks, AB	<u><b>Brooks Back to Basics AA Roundup</b></u>	10:00am registration or \$25 Banquet ticket (banquet ticket must be reserved by May 5 <sup>th</sup> ). For further info, contact: Jake 403-793-0173, John 403-793-0183, Cam 403-793-0789, Corinna 403-793-0326
May 14, 2016 (Saturday) Nanton Community Centre Hwy 2 South, South Side of Air Museum	<u><b>Nanton AA Roundup</b></u>	Tickets \$20, pre-purchased or available at door, event from 9:00am to 8:00pm. Contact for more info: Trevor: 403-615-9361, Mitch: 403-682-7266, Rob: 587-586-3345, Bob: 403-875-1406
May 28, 2016 (Saturday) Weedon Hall, corner of Hwy 22 and Big Hill Springs road, Cochrane, AB	<u><b>31<sup>st</sup> Annual AA Cochrane Roundup</b></u>	Registration only \$10, Registration and banquet \$30, doors open at 8:30am.
May 28-29, 2016 (Saturday-Sunday) Legacy Centre, 5101 46 <sup>th</sup> St. Lloydminster, AB	<u><b>Lloydminster 42<sup>nd</sup> AA Roundup with Al-Anon Participants</b></u>	Registration 10am Saturday donations to cover costs, AA and Al-Anon speakers, roast beef and ham supper Saturday night 5:30-6:30pm, dance. Contacts: Harland L 306-460-7416 or John B 780-871-1277
June 10-12, 2016 (Friday-Sunday) Glenmore Inn and Convention Centre 2720 Glenmore Trail SE, Calgary	<u><b>Gratitude Roundup 2016</b></u>	\$25 for entire weekend, \$70 includes registration & Saturday banquet, registration opens at 5:00pm Friday
June 18, 2016 (Saturday) Bowness Park Site #3 Calgary, AB	<u><b>District 77 Picnic</b></u>	Cost 7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition, 11:00am – 3:00pm, barbeque and picnic. Hamburgers, hotdaogs with the works provided, along with coffee, water, juice and pop.
July 15-17 (Friday-Sunday) Island Lake Provincial Park (rockymountaincamping.ca)	<u><b>Crowsnest Pass 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Campout</b></u>	Self-registration at entrance upon arrival, AA and Alanon speakers, Campfire meetings, potluck supper Saturday, Pancake breakfast Sunday, for more info call: Jennifer 403-988-4448, Adam 403-200-4686, Barry 403-563-5473
July 22-24, 2016 (Friday-Sunday) Gooseberry Lake Provincial Park 8 miles north of Consort on Highway 41 and 1 mile east	<u><b>28<sup>th</sup> Annual Consort Campout</b></u>	Registration 6pm July 22 <sup>nd</sup> , Registration fee \$20 per person, children 12 and under free, for camping, provincial park fees are in effect.
August 5-7 2016 (Friday- Sunday) 10 miles south of Claresholm, on Highway 2 at Granum	<u><b>6<sup>th</sup> Annual Claresholm Campout</b></u>	Registration and pot luck at 5:30pm on Friday, cost \$20 per person. Contact Devon at 403-625-0029 or Al L at 403-489-0471
August 20 (Saturday) Trochu Lions Camp Ground	<u><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Unity Day and Barbeque</b></u>	Check in at 11:30am, \$20 per adult, pot luck at noon. For camping inquiries, call 403-442-3061. For more info call Fiona 403-877-1350 or Carrie 403-714-4624
August 26–28,, 2016 Calvary Community Church 1205 Rogers Way, Kamloops, BC	<u><b>Western Canada Regional Forum</b></u>	Register online <a href="http://www.aa.org">www.aa.org</a> (will be available soon). There is no registration fee.
August 26-28, 2016 Antler Hill Community Hall, Innisfail, AB	<u><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Innisfail Campout</b></u>	Camping setup allowed at 3:00pm Friday, Registration at 6:00pm, \$200 per person, kids under 13 free. For more information, contact Tom 403-227-6717 or Dwayne403-350-0407???

## Upcoming Service Commitments

Treatment Facility	AA Group - May	AA Group - June	AA Group - July
Renfrew Tuesday	Ogden	SMOG	
Renfrew Wednesday (Bridging the Gap)	New Beginnings	McKenzie Towne	
Renfrew Thursday	Haddon Road	Knox Knooners	Primary Purpose
Renfrew Sunday	Freedom	Saturday Morning Bridge	New Beginnings
Sunrise	Daily Reflections	MAAT	Regal
Alpha House	MAAT	Action/Thursday Night Ladies	The Link Group
Dream Centre	New Beginnings	NW Calgary Group	MAAT

Sunday Breakfast at Ramada	AA Group
May 1	By the Book
May 8	MAAT
May 15	Thursday Night Ladies
May 22	West End Step & Tradition
May 29	Ogden
June 6	
June 12	
June 19	
June 26	

Telephone Monitoring Dates	AA Group
May 2 - 8	ODAT Group
May 9 - 15	SMOG
May 16 - 22	Daily Reflections
May 23 - 29	Thursday Night Bridge
May 30 - June 5	Go For It
June 6 - 12	Kincora
June 13 - 19	Glenmore
June 20 - 26	McKenzie Towne
June 27 - July 3	MAAT

## **Big Book/Step Studies**

### **"At Sheldon Chumir Centre"**

*There is a Big Book study at Sheldon Chumir Centre, 1213 - 4 Street SW on Monday nights 7:00pm – 9:00pm on the 3rd floor. It runs every Monday.*

### **"At New Beginnings"**

*There is a Big Book study at New Beginnings Sunday afternoon from 2:00pm-4:00pm. It is presented by James P.*

### **"At Haddon Road"**

*There is a Step study at Haddon Road beginning Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-8:30pm. It is presented by Chris H.*

The Public Information's Speakers Bureau will have its next meeting on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm at Central Office. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Speakers Bureau, or simply want to know more about AA public speaking, you are welcome to attend.

For more information, email Dayna J at  
[pichair.calgary@gmail.com](mailto:pichair.calgary@gmail.com)

People are needed in NE Calgary for the 12-Step call list. Suggested requirement is 1 year of sobriety. For more information, please email Derek at  
[cgig12steplist@gmail.com](mailto:cgig12steplist@gmail.com)

## **The May 2016 GRAPEVINE: Issue Has Arrived!**

**This month's special section features stories about getting involved in General Service.**

Most AA members are well aware of Twelfth Step calls, chairing meetings, sponsorship and coffee crews. But many may not know about all the service opportunities beyond the home group. In 1951, our cofounder Bill W. wrote that these services "enable us to function as a whole," they are "the most vital, yet least understood group of services that AA has." This month, our special section features inspiring stories by members involved in the wonderful world of general service.

In the story "**I Can Handle This**," a woman with eight years of sobriety drinks her husband's wine while on a vacation in France—an act that leads to years of controlled drinking and misery. In "**Back From Hell**," a man with 20 years decides he needs a "break" from AA. The break he gets is not what he had in mind. "**She Said She Was Doing Fine**" is a sad tale about a member who has a sober friend who knows everyone in AA and seems to have it all, yet drifts away and relapses. In the story "**Why We Do It**," a member sits grumbling in a Concepts workshop, yet soon hears the very words that will change his tune. Fun and service is the motto for a group of women near Kansas City as they hit the road to help out at workshops, assemblies and forums in "**What Happens in the Van ...**" Ever try to read The A.A. Service Manual all by yourself? One group has a great idea in "**It Takes a Village**." And the writer of "**The Perfect Scheme**" thought that becoming a GSR was a great way to meet a man. She found love alright—for the Fellowship.

You can find these stories and many more on the [AA Grapevine Web site](#).

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### April 19 Daily Reflections

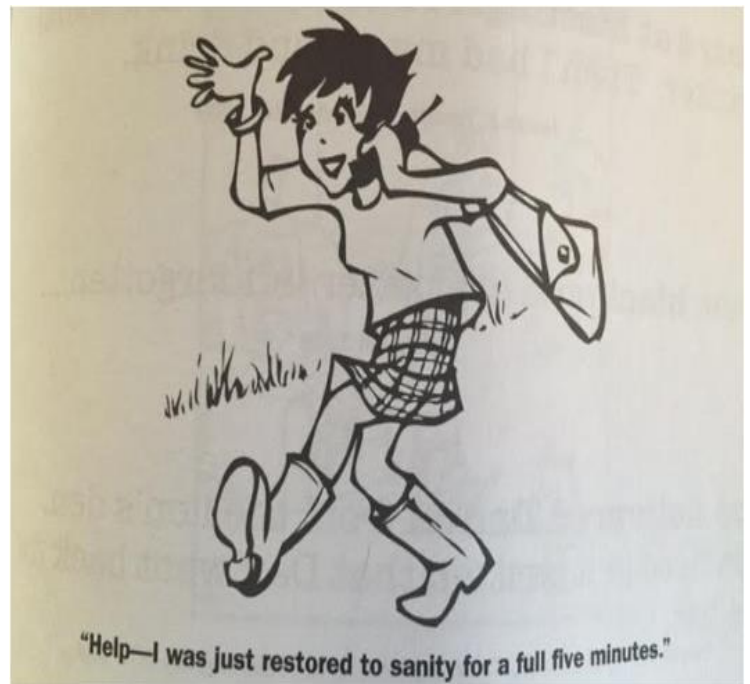
#### **Brothers In Our Defects**

*We recovered alcoholics are not so much brothers in virtue as we are brothers in our defects, and in our common strivings to overcome them.*

As Bill Sees It. P. 167

The identification that one alcoholic has with another is mysterious, spiritual – almost incomprehensible. But it is there. I "feel" it. Today I feel that I can help people and that they can help me.

It is a new and exciting feeling for me to care for someone; to care what they are feeling, hoping for, praying for; to know their sadness, joy, horror, sorrow, grief; to want to share those feelings so that someone can have relief. I never knew how to do this – or how to try. I never even cared. The Fellowship of A.A., and God, are teaching me how to care about others.



# STAMPEDE BREAKFAST

Calgary Central Service Office Invites Friends and Neighbors



- ♦ Live Music - The Common Welfare Band and Open Mic
- ♦ Toe Tappin' ♦ Knee Slappin' ♦ Finger Slappin'
- ♦ Great Food! ♦ Great Fellowship! ♦ Great Times!

GROUP DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO CENTRAL OFFICE

PLEASE ANNOUNCE AT YOUR MEETINGS

For More Info: (403) 777-1212



## DISTRICT 77 ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP FAMILY FUNDAY



Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> 11AM - 3PM

Bowness Park ~ Site 3

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition

We will have hamburgers and hotdogs with the works!!

ALONG WITH:  
 Coffee, water, juice and pop.

### Summer Potluck

- ✓ Chips
- ✓ Cookies
- ✓ Salads
- ✓ Veggies
- ✓ Fruits

Don't forget to bring your children & pets!



Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship with a delicious BBQ, MUSIC & lots of GAMES

Hosted by: Go Egg It  
 For further information, please contact:  
 Calgary Central Service Office at 403-777-1212

## Nanton AA Roundup

**Saturday May 14, 2016**

Nanton Community Centre

Hwy 2 South

South Side of Air Museum

Use door closest to the Hwy (east door marked AA)



### Event Agenda

- 9 - 10am: Coffee & Fellowship
- 10 - 12pm: AA Morning Speaker
- 12 - 1pm: Lunch (Buffet)
- 1 - 2pm: AA Speaker
- 2 - 2:30pm: Break
- 2:30 - 3:30pm: Al Anon Speaker
- 3:30 - 4pm: Break
- 4 - 5pm: AA Call Up Meeting
- 5 - 5:30pm: Break
- 5:30 - 6:30pm: Dinner (catered - incl. dessert)
- 6:30 - 7pm: Countdown & 50/50 Draw
- 7 - 8pm: AA Evening Speaker

### Tickets:

\$20.00

Kids 12 & under Free.

Pre-Purchase Tickets or available at the door.

For more information, contact  
 Calgary Central Service Office at 403-777-1212

## Step 5 & Tradition 5

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***Step 5 – Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.***

***From Alcoholics Anonymous, Chapter 6 Into Action p.72-73***

Having made our personal inventory, what shall we do about it? We have been trying to get a new attitude, a new relationship with our Creator, and to discover the obstacles in our path. We have admitted certain defects, we have ascertained in a rough way what the trouble is; we have put our finger on the weak items in our personal inventory. Now these are about to be cast out. This requires action on our part, which, when completed, will mean that we have admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our defects. This brings us to the *Fifth Step* in the program of recovery mentioned in the preceding chapter.

This is perhaps difficult – especially discussing our defects with another person. We think we have done well enough in admitting these things to ourselves. There is doubt about that. In actual practice, we usually find a solitary self-appraisal insufficient. Many of us thought it necessary to go much further. We will be more reconciled to discussing ourselves with another human being when we see good reasons why we should do so. The best reason first: If we skip this vital step, we may not overcome drinking. Time after time newcomers have tried to keep to themselves certain facts about their lives. Trying to avoid this humbling experience, they turned to easier methods. Almost invariably, they got drunk. Having persevered with the rest of the program, they wondered why they fell. We think the reason is that they never completed their housecleaning. They took inventory all right, but hung on to some of the worst items in stock. They only thought they had lost their egoism and fear; they only thought they had humbled themselves. But they had not learned enough of humility, fearlessness and honesty...

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***Tradition 5 – Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.***

***From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p.150-151***

“Shoemaker, stick to thy last! ... better do one thing supremely well than many badly. That is the central theme of this Tradition. Around it our Society gathers in unity. The very life of our Fellowship requires the preservation of this principle.

Alcoholics Anonymous can be likened to a group of physicians who might find a cure for cancer, and upon whose concerted work would depend the answer for sufferers of this disease. True, each physician in such a group might have his own specialty. Every doctor concerned would at times wish he could devote himself to his chosen field rather than work only with the group. But once these men had hit upon a cure, once it became apparent that only by their united effort could this be accomplished, then all of them would feel bound to devote themselves solely to the relief of cancer. In the radiance of such a miraculous discovery any doctor would set his other ambitions aside, at whatever personal cost.

Just as firmly bound by obligation are the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who have demonstrated that they can help problem drinkers as others seldom can. The unique ability of each A.A. to identify himself with and bring recovery to, the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety...

There is another reason for this singleness of purpose. It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away.

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