

SUGGESTED 25¢ DONATION



# THE WESTWORD

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE CALGARY INTERGROUP OF AA

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

**What's New?**

*Did you know that AA has a new meeting app that can be used from your Smartphone?* Go to your Smartphone App Store and search for the app MEETING GUIDE. Find this icon to download:



Calgary and area AA meeting locations are now all on this app, and you can also access meetings for many cities across Canada and the US.

## BANFF ROUNDUP

Sponsored by Calgary Intergroup

**March 3-5, 2017**  
Banff Park Lodge, Banff Alberta

**SPEAKERS**

Scott L., (AA) Counce, Tenn.  
Jennifer H.-K., (AA) Plano, Texas  
Jack C., (AI-Anon) Sylmar, California  
Leslie C., (AA) Sylmar, California  
Russell S., (AA) Miami, Florida

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Friday night music jam & open mic  
Saturday Night Dance  
Workshops  
AA and AI-Anon meetings

**TICKETS**

**Registration only: \$37/person**

Includes Friday Night Music Jam and  
Saturday Night Dance

**Banquet & Registration: \$103/person**

Includes Registration + Saturday Night  
Banquet dinner (no door sales)

**All tickets may be purchased from your  
GSR or at the Calgary Central Office.**

Central Office accepts Visa and MasterCard  
(over phone), Interac, cheques and cash.

Contact Central Office at 403-777-1212  
or online at [centraloffice@telus.net](mailto:centraloffice@telus.net)

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Banff Park Lodge, 222 Lynx Street, Banff, Alberta

Phone 1-800-661-9266 or 1-403-762-4433, or online at [www.banffparklodge.com](http://www.banffparklodge.com)

Special room rate of \$141/night, double occupancy, taxes not included

Accommodations can be booked online or by phone with the hotel.

Use Group ID #25392, Password #520

NATIONAL PARKS HAVE FREE ENTRY IN 2017. HAPPY 150th BIRTHDAY CANADA!

For further information, contact:

**[www.BanffRoundup.com](http://www.BanffRoundup.com) – or – [info@BanffRoundup.com](mailto:info@BanffRoundup.com)**

**Banff Roundup Banquet tickets are available for sale until February 27th.**

**Intergroup Contacts:**

Intergroup Alternate Chair	<a href="mailto:cgigalterchair@gmail.com">cgigalterchair@gmail.com</a>	Intergroup Chairperson	<a href="mailto:cgigchair@gmail.com">cgigchair@gmail.com</a>
Intergroup Archives Chair	<a href="mailto:cgigarchives@gmail.com">cgigarchives@gmail.com</a>	Telephone Monitoring Chair	<a href="mailto:cgigtelmonitorchair@gmail.com">cgigtelmonitorchair@gmail.com</a>
Public Information Chair	<a href="mailto:pichair.calgary@gmail.com">pichair.calgary@gmail.com</a>	12 Step Chair List	<a href="mailto:cgig12steplist@gmail.com">cgig12steplist@gmail.com</a>
Westword Editor	<a href="mailto:westwordeditor@gmail.com">westwordeditor@gmail.com</a>	Intergroup Secretary	<a href="mailto:cgigsecretary@gmail.com">cgigsecretary@gmail.com</a>
Calgary Central Office	<a href="mailto:centraloffice@telus.net">centraloffice@telus.net</a>	Intergroup Treasurer	<a href="mailto:cgigtreasurer@gmail.com">cgigtreasurer@gmail.com</a>
Banff Roundup Chair	<a href="mailto:info@banffroundup.com">info@banffroundup.com</a>	Intergroup Special Events	<a href="mailto:cgigevents@gmail.com">cgigevents@gmail.com</a>
Sunday Morning Breakfast Chair	<a href="mailto:cgigbrkfst@gmail.com">cgigbrkfst@gmail.com</a>		

**Meeting Changes****NEW MEETINGS:**

**Regal Group** has added a meeting: Mondays 7 pm, Closed Big Book discussion, Renfrew United Church, 956 Radnor Ave. NE, Calgary (Nov/16)

**Rockyford Group**, Tuesdays, 8 pm, Open Beginners, Rockyford United Church (across from school), Rockyford AB (Nov/16)

**Tsuu T'ina Tuesday Night Group**, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm, Open, Step/topic discussion, Spirit Healing Lodge, Old Agency Road (off Bullhead Road, off Anderson Road), Tsuu T'ina AB (Nov/16)

**MEETING CHANGES:**

**Daily Reflections Ladies** has changed their time and day from Sunday 1:30 pm to Saturday 8:00 pm. Same location at Scarboro United Church, 134 Scarboro Ave SW, Calgary (Jan/17)

**Garnet Block** currently has a meeting Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at 1:30. As of March 1 2017, the 1:30 afternoon meeting will be on every weekday afternoon. Monday to Friday. (Mar/17).

**Haddon Road** On Awakening meeting southwest, 7:00am Monday-Friday is CLOSED not OPEN as listed (Jan/17)

**Inglewood Group**, beginning January 1, 2017, the Inglewood Group will change it's meeting format from a Step/Tradition to a Big Book Discussion format. Same time, same place! (Jan/17)

**Nanton Monday Group** has moved to the Nanton United Church (basement), 2121 – 21 Street, Nanton. Everything else the same. (Oct/16)

**Regal Group** Mondays northeast 7pm is a closed meeting, not open as listed in the meeting list (Jan/17)

**Sorrel Rider Group**, out-of-town, Siksika Nation has moved to the Siksika Elders' Lodge on Highway 547, ½ kilometer south of town, Gleichen AB. Still Wednesdays, 7 pm. (Jan/17)

**South Calgary Health Campus (hospital) meeting**, Wednesdays, southeast, has changed their meeting time from 8:30 to 8:00 pm (Dec/16)

**MEETING CANCELLATIONS:**

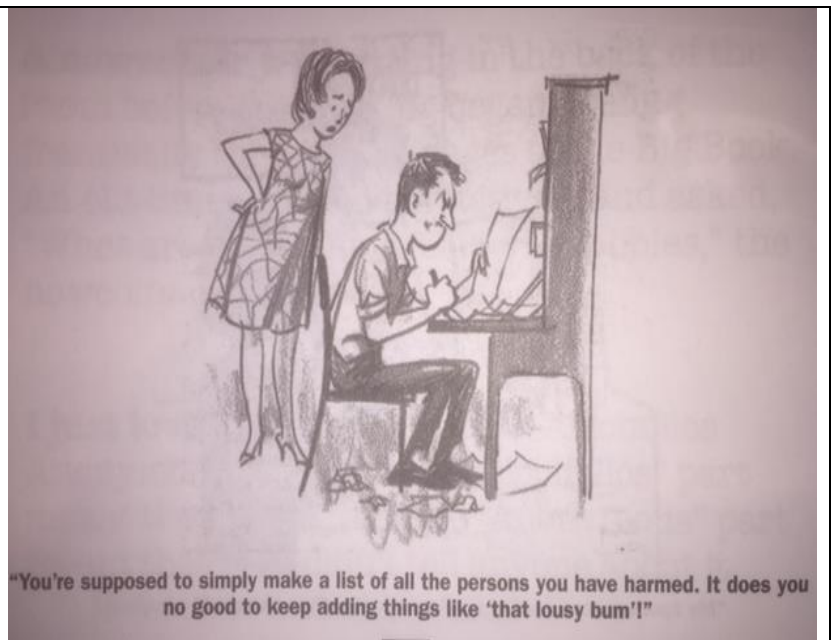
**Tsuu T'ina Thursday Women's** Group has been cancelled (Nov/16)

**January 15<sup>th</sup> Daily Reflections****"AN UNSUSPECTED INNER RESOURCE"**

*With few exceptions our members find that they have tapped an unsuspected inner resource which they presently identify with their own conception of a Power greater than themselves.*

Alcoholics Anonymous, pp.567-68

From my first days in A.A., as I struggled for sobriety, I found hope in these words from our founders. I often pondered the phrase: "they have tapped an unsuspected inner resource." How, I asked myself, can I find the Power within myself, since I am so powerless? In time, as the founders promised, it came to me: I have always had the choice between goodness and evil, between unselfishness and selfishness, between serenity and fear. That power greater than myself is an original gift that I did not recognize until I achieved daily sobriety through A.A.'s Twelve Steps.



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.

## 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)

January						February					
ABC Group		Glenmore Group		New Beginnings		Recovery Group		Action Group		Midnapore Group	
Jessica	8 years	Bernie	15 years	Simone H	11 years	Marie CU	28 years	Mark A	2 years	Kelly D	8 years
Heidi	9 years	Mike P	15 years	Chris T	12 years	Roy S	31 years	Awakenings Group		Margrit P	20 years
Jim	20 years	Norm	15 years	Cheryl H	16 years	SMOG Group		Ron W	2 years	Peter A	22 years
Action Group		Charles N	25 years	Sheryl P	19 years	Tia S	4 years	Charles C	13 years	Brian K	25 years
Kevin O	9 years	Pat R	34 years	John A	28 years	Brian H	11 years	Back From Hell		NW Calgary Group	
Tim M	10 years	Inglewood Group		Sharon W	32 years	Laurie B	12 years	Jared M	2 years	Carly M	1 year
Dellas Z	15 years	Bill D	7 years	NW Calgary Group		Robin H	13 years	Teshuvah A	2 years	Rick P	3 years
Jerry S	36 years	Just For Today		Mike	2 years	South View By the Book		Brandy B	3 years	Bruce Z	4 years
Back From Hell		Trevor S	16 years	Savannah M	3 years	James T	4 years	Crissi B	6 years	Drew M	6 years
Tammy G	3 years	Wendy Mc	29 years	Sydney R	3 years	Steps Stories		Troy C	7 years	Amanda K	6 years
Ben K	10 years	Kincora Group		Rick R	5 years	& Beyond		Myrna G	13 years	Shandra K	8 years
Jack J	14 years	Phil	2 years	NW Step & Tradition		Brad G	2 years	Cheri A	20 years	Lyle R	46 years
Rene R	36 years	Charlotte	3 years	Rob G	6 years	Dan F	24 years	Edgemont Group		Old Time Group	
Deer Ridge Group		Rick R	5 years	Old Time Group		Tuesday Morning		Judy P	21 years	Charles M	27 years
Aaron L	1 year	Jon B	6 years	Patrick S	6 years	Ladies		Patrick F	24 years	Marilyn S	30 years
Dustin	5 years	Mike O	9 years	Heather W	17 years	Gail M	16 years	Getting There Group		Open Door Group	
Jen J	8 years	Langdon BYOC		Sandra M	27 years	Wednesday Morning		Steven C	5 years	Terry C	11 years
Sally A	8 years	Adam N	2 years	Ogden Group		Eye Opener		Greg W	10 years	Recovery Group	
Bill D	22 years	Midnapore Group		Chris C	1 year	Dave C	2 years	Harvest Hills		Brandon C	2 years
Marilynn	22 years	Murray JM	1 year	Mike A	1 year	Whitesheep Group		Big Book		Sean O'B	27 years
Pam S	25 years	Mike M	2 years	Tyler C	1 year	Reid M	3 years	Ron W	2 years	Rule 62 Group	
Edgemont Group		Ryan P	3 years	Jason O	2 years						
Lisa D	1 year	Al M	7 years	Denise D	3 years						
Eric B	6 years	Dan W	8 years	Savannah M	3 years						
Judy McC	18 years	Wes W	39 years	Crystal H	4 years						
John G	21 years	New Beginnings		Derek F	4 years						
Kim W	41 years	Angelique	1 year	Tom D	5 years						
Glenmore Group		Betty K	1 year	Jen A	8 years						
Gerry M	1 year	Brad W	1 year	Brock L	12 years						
Mike A	1 year	Dana	2 years	Sherry F	12 years						
Steven N	1 year	Kristin M	3 years	Jesse D	16 years						
Dee	2 years	Glen T	6 years	Bayne H	24 years						
Matt	2 years	Courtney	7 years	Vince C	24 years						
Denise	4 years	Steph F	7 years	Open Door Group							
Rob M	4 years	Wayne B	7 years	Jo-Lynn H	7 years						
Cassandra	6 years	Holly T	8 years	Recovery Group							
Can C	10 years	Lenora G	10 years	Prasad G	1 year						

Action Group		Midnapore Group	
Mark A	2 years	Kelly D	8 years
Awakenings Group		Margrit P	20 years
Ron W	2 years	Peter A	22 years
Charles C	13 years	Brian K	25 years
Back From Hell		NW Calgary Group	
Jared M	2 years	Carly M	1 year
Teshuvah A	2 years	Rick P	3 years
Brandy B	3 years	Bruce Z	4 years
Crissi B	6 years	Drew M	6 years
Troy C	7 years	Amanda K	6 years
Myrna G	13 years	Shandra K	8 years
Cheri A	20 years	Lyle R	46 years
Edgemont Group		Old Time Group	
Judy P	21 years	Charles M	27 years
Patrick F	24 years	Marilyn S	30 years
Getting There Group		Open Door Group	
Steven C	5 years	Terry C	11 years
Harvest Hills		Recovery Group	
Greg W	10 years	Brandon C	2 years
Big Book		Sean O'B	27 years
Ron W	2 years	Katie R	2 years
Inglewood Group		South View By the Book	
Lee B	1 year	Colleen	22 years
Steve S	10 years	Walking Eagle	
Mike S	13 years	Sonny C	5 years
Just For Today		We Agnostics	
Wayne C	4 years	Richard H	5 years
Frank McL	28 years	Wednesday Morning	
April P	2 years	Eye Opener	
Langdon BYOC		Lance	5 years
Melanie J	6 years	Ashok P	20 years
Marlborough Park		Laura B	28 years
Ken P	2 years	Whitesheep Group	
Midnapore Group		Gerry M	18 years
Peter D	1 year	Robin C	22 years

# LIST OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	More Info
February 10–12, 2017 (Friday – Sunday) Viscount Gort Hotel 1670 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba	<u><b>Western Regional AA Service Assembly 2017 (WRAASA)</b></u>	Starts Feb 10 at 8:00am. Ends Feb 12 at 5:00pm. For more information, talk to your GSR or call Central Office at 403-777-1212.
February 25, 2017 (Saturday) 1609 Centre Street NW, Calgary, AB	<u><b>Garnett Block 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration</b></u>	Doors open at 10am, meetings all day, potluck 4:00-5:30pm, birthday meeting at 8:30pm.
February 25, 2017 (Saturday) 1705 10 Ave S, Lethbridge, AB	<u><b>District 17 and LETHYPAA Present: Service Workshop</b></u>	1:30pm-4:30pm. Free, with pizza to follow. Presented by Larry M (Area 78 Delegate)
March 3-5, 2017 (Friday – Sunday) Banff Park Lodge 222 Lynx Street, Banff, AB	<u><b>Banff Roundup 2017</b></u>	Registration \$37/person, Registration/Banquet \$103/person, tickets can be purchased from GSR or Central Office until February 27 <sup>th</sup> .
March 3-5, 2017 (Friday-Sunday) Whitefish Mountain Resort Whitefish, Montana, US	<u><b>30<sup>th</sup> Annual Whitefish Sober Ski</b></u>	Call Jake H. 406-250-8757 or email <a href="mailto:jakehows@gmail.com">jakehows@gmail.com</a> for more info. Lodging discounts available at Cheap Sleep Motel – 406-862-5515. (Mention Sober Ski for discount)
March 11, 2017 (Saturday) Claresholm United Church 4803 – 2 St. West, Claresholm, AB	<u><b>Claresholm Character Defects / Shortcomings Workshop</b></u>	10am – 1pm, Cost 7 <sup>th</sup> Tradition, light lunch provided, located at Claresholm Thursday night meeting, for more info, call Keith A. at 403-801-1473.
March 17-19, 2017 (Friday-Sunday) Sheraton Hotel, 3310 – 50 Ave, Red Deer	<u><b>Area 78 Preconference Assembly</b></u>	Call Central Office at 403-777-1212 for more information.
April 8, 2017 (Saturday) DeWinton Community Hall	<u><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Keeping the Spirit Alive Roundup</b></u>	10:30am registration, roundup 11:30am – 9:00pm. Lunch registration \$10, Banquet registration \$30. For tickets and information, call Jack A at 403-312-5757 or email <a href="mailto:jack-district18@hotmail.com">jack-district18@hotmail.com</a>
April 8, 2017 (Saturday) Stettler United Church, CE wing, 4820 51 <sup>st</sup> St., Stettler, AB	<u><b>Stettler AA's 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner</b></u>	At 6:30pm, price \$10/person, for more info, call Faye K. 403-916-5361 or Kat C. 403-472-1887.

\*\*\*

## A Message from the Intergroup Steering Committee

Dear Calgary & Area AA membership:

Your Calgary Intergroup Steering Committee would like to say a big THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts for your individual and group contributions since we put out that SOS in the Westward!

We asked for your help to support your Calgary Central Service Office and as well as the Intergroup Committee's to continue to be active in performing our vital service work in Calgary and you responded overwhelmingly.

We have had some consecutive record months of donations to Central Office, and we are now beginning to recover financially. This is entirely due to you and your responsibility to your service structure!

You and your group contributions are used to keep your Central Service office in Calgary open to purchase and distribute your AA literature in a cost-effective manner. As well contributions support the important service committee's like Public Information, Monitoring, the 12 Step list, the meeting list both in paper and on web page to name just a few.

Again, we would like to express our sincere gratitude. Thank YOU.

– Your Intergroup Steering Committee

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.

# Service Opportunities

## Upcoming CGSC Service Commitments

Treatment Facility	AA Group – Feb	AA Group - Mar
Renfrew Tuesday	Midnapore	Saturday Morning Bridge
Renfrew Wednesday (Bridging the Gap)	Daily Reflections	
Renfrew Thursday	Namaste	Regal
Renfrew Sunday	Southlanders Pancake	Primary Purpose
Sunrise	Rule 62	Out to Lunch Bunch
Alpha House	Haddon Road	Daily Reflections
Dream Centre	Daily Reflections	NW Calgary

## Upcoming Intergroup Service Commitments

Sunday Breakfast at Ramada **served till 9:30**	AA Group
February 5	Haddon Road
February 12	Regal
February 19	Primary Purpose
February 26	Deer Ridge
March 5	
March 12	
March 19	Shipwreck
March 26	

Telephone Monitoring Dates	AA Group
February 6 - 12	NW Calgary
February 13 - 19	Shipwreck
February 20 - 26	West End Step & Tradition
Feb 27 - March 5	Daily Reflections
March 6 - 12	Garnet
March 13 - 19	Go For It
March 20 - 26	Regal
March 27 - April 2	Ogden

## Calls for Service

People are needed in Calgary for the 12-Step call list. Midnight monitors are especially needed, but also monitors for all areas of the city for all time slots. Suggested requirement is 1 year of sobriety. For more information, please email Nate at [cgig12steplist@gmail.com](mailto:cgig12steplist@gmail.com).

“Bridging the Gap” is a temporary contact program for the newcomer coming out of a treatment facility and into Alcoholics Anonymous. Volunteers are needed. Please email for more information to [BTGCalgary@gmail.com](mailto:BTGCalgary@gmail.com)



## **The February 2017 Issue of GRAPEVINE is Coming!**

**This month's special section features stories of experience about Ninth Step amends.**

"Good judgment, a careful sense of timing, courage, and prudence-these are the qualities we shall need when we take Step Nine," writes our co-founder, Bill W., in the "Twelve and Twelve." And once we are halfway through, the Big Book promises, "We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness." In this month's special section members share stories of experience about making amends. In "[Lunch with the Ex](#)," a member walks through fear and makes amends to his former wife. A man who told tall tales in the bars, even impersonating a Vietnam vet, finds it's possible to do a Ninth Step in "[War Stories](#)." A woman reconnects with the brother she despises in the article "[Big Sis](#)." And a New York woman returns to a very special place to repair the past with her late mother in the sweet tale, "[Swimming with Mom](#)."

**To view the Table of Contents, click here.**

**Listen or download the recorded version here.**

**Explore the Grapevine Subscription App** available For Android and iPhone/ iPad.

**\$1.99** per month (with 12- month subscription)

**Learn more :** [www.aagrapevine.org/app](http://www.aagrapevine.org/app)

\*\*\*

## **Big Book Studies**

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

There is a weekly Big Book study currently running at Sheldon Chumir Centre, 1213 - 4 Street SW on Monday nights 7:00pm – 9:00pm on the 3rd floor in room 3122.

### **"The Cowboy Ray Way At Haddon Road"**

There is a weekly Big Book study at Haddon Road on Sundays from 2:00pm–4:00pm, beginning January 15 and running until April 16. Please bring a Big Book, a highlighter, a note book and an open mind. Big books can be purchased at the meeting or from Central Office. For any questions, please contact Steve at 403-889-5240.

### **"Joe and Charlie BB Study At ODAT"**

There is a weekly Big Book study running Mondays 7:30pm at ODAT, 1840 38 St SE, Calgary in the Eastside Victory Outreach Centre (upstairs room). Please bring a Big Book, Pen, Highlighter, & notebook or writing pad. For more information, directions, etc., please contact Peter L. at 587-707-1464 or email [odatmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:odatmeeting@gmail.com).

### **"Ladies Big Book Study At New Beginnings"**

There is a ladies weekly Big Book study running Tuesdays from 1:30pm-3:30pm at New Beginnings, 11625 Elbow Drive SW (Canyon Meadows Shopping Centre) upstairs in room 203. It is run by Maggie B and Sally R, and it ends on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Please bring an unmarked Big Book, Pen, Highlighter, & notebook or writing pad. Additional support materials are provided.

### **"Joe and Charlie BB Study At Haddon Road"**

There is a weekly Big Book study running on Tuesdays at Haddon Road from 7:30pm–9:00pm. For any questions, contact Chris H at 403-860-5313.

### **" Spring BB Study At New Beginnings"**

There is a weekly Big Book study starting March 12 at New Beginnings. The study will be hosted by Rob O. and held on Sunday afternoons from 2-4pm. Bring your Big Book, a pen, a highlighter, and a willingness to learn more about the program of recovery.



### CHARACTER DEFECTS-SHORTCOMINGS WORKSHOP

Hosted by: Claresholm Thursday Nite Group  
CLOSED meeting format

*The chief activator of our defects has been self-centred fear ...*



A 3 hour interactive workshop for those who want to have a better understanding of character defects also known as shortcomings. Are 6 & 7 drive-by steps for you? Do you have lots of sobriety, but wonder why Happy, Joyous and Free aren't happening?

We will discuss steps 6 & 7 as well as answer common questions such as:  
*What are character defects? What is the difference between a character defect and a shortcoming?  
How can you deal with character defects? Define Fear, Humility, et cetera.*  
There will be a panel question and answer time.

#### RECOMMENDED READINGS FOR THE WORKSHOP

Big Book: pg 76 - section on steps 6 & 7  
Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions: pg 49 - section on character defects, Step 6 & Step 7

- A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED -

When: Saturday, 11 March, 2017  
10:00 a.m. → 1:00 p.m.

Where: Claresholm United Church  
4803 - 2nd Street WEST, Claresholm (location of Claresholm Thursday Nite Meeting)

Workshop Chairperson: Keith A. (403) 801-1473/keith.a@platinum.ca

7<sup>th</sup> Tradition will be honoured



## Garnet Block 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Come Join the Garnet for a Day of Fellowship, Meetings, and Snacks on:

February 25, 2017

Doors Open at 10:00am

1609 Centre Street NW, Calgary, AB

There will be:

- Meetings all day
- A Birthday Meeting at 08:30pm
- Potluck Dinner from 4:00 to 5:30 pm

There is parking located in the back, and you are welcome to bring your favourite dish.

## Service Opportunity *Chairpersons needed for Corrections*

Calgary Corrections Committee aims to provide chairpersons to conduct more than 30 AA meetings per month at the three Corrections facilities in Calgary — Calgary Young Offenders Centre (CYOC); Calgary Corrections Centre (Spyhill); and Calgary Remand Centre. CYOC and Remand each have separate mens' and womens' meetings.

While there is a dedicated core of chairpersons, there is need for more names on the chair roster at various facilities to chair one hour-long AA meeting per month.

#### Immediate needs:

- two male chairpersons for Thursday evening men's meetings at CYOC
- eight female chair persons for Sunday evening women's meetings at CYOC

#### Requirements:

- Minimum one year of sobriety
- Security clearance from Calgary Police Service, required for any facility. In addition volunteers at CYOC need an "Intervention Records Check" available from family services. (clearances may take four to six weeks).
- Once clearances are received, all facilities require volunteers to attend an orientation session — learn about jail protocol, receive visitor ID.
- Hopefully the ability to commit to chair one meeting per month for at least one year.

If you are interested in a rewarding service opportunity — may sound intimidating, but meetings are a non-threatening environment — contact Calgary Corrections chair at: cgscorrections@gmail.com for forms and details.

*These are opportunities to "carry the message" and you never know when something said at that meeting may make all the difference.*

## District 17 and LETHYPAA

Present:

## Service Workshop



There is more to service than showing up and making coffee.

Come learn how to be of Service to the Fellowship that has given so freely to you.

Presented by Larry M. (Area 78 Delegate)

Date: February 25, 2017

Location: Chapter House, 1705 10 Ave S, Lethbridge, AB

Time: 1:30PM – 4:30PM

Cost: FREE

**Free Pizza to Follow**

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

## Step 2 & Tradition 2

### **Step 2 – Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.**

The moment they read Step Two, most A.A. newcomers are confronted with a dilemma, sometimes a serious one. How often have we heard them cry out, "Look what you people have done to us! You have convinced us that we are alcoholics and that our lives are unmanageable. Having reduced us to a state of absolute helplessness, you now declare that none but a Higher Power can remove our obsession. Some of us won't believe in God, others can't, and still others who do believe that God exists have no faith whatever He will perform this miracle. Yes, you've got us over the barrel, all right – but where do we go from here?"

Let's look first at the case of the one who says he won't believe – the belligerent one. He is in a state of mind which can be described only as savage. His whole philosophy of life, in which he so gloried, is threatened. But now, still smarting from that admission, he is faced with something really impossible. How he does cherish the thought that man, risen so majestically from a single cell in the primordial ooze, is the spearhead of evolution and therefore the only god that his universe knows! Must he renounce all this to save himself?

At this juncture, his A.A. sponsor usually laughs. This, the newcomer thinks, is just about the last straw. This is the beginning of the end. And so it is: the beginning of the end of his old life, and the beginning of his emergence into a new one. His sponsor probably says, "Take it easy. The hoop you have to jump through is a lot wider than you think. At least I've found it so"... "I think I can tell you exactly how to relax. You won't have to work at it very hard either. Listen, if you will, to these three statements. First, Alcoholics Anonymous does not demand that you believe anything. All of its Twelve Steps are but suggestions. Second, to get sober and to stay sober, you don't have to swallow all of Step Two right now. Looking back, I find that I took it piecemeal myself. Third, all you really need is a truly open mind. Just resign from the debating society and quit bothering yourself with such deep questions as whether it was the hen or the egg that came first. Again I say, all you need is the open mind."

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Chapter on Step 2.

### **Tradition 2 – For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as he may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.**

Where does A.A. get its direction? Who runs it? This, too, is a puzzler for every friend and newcomer. When told that our Society has no president having authority to govern it, no treasurer who can compel the payment of any dues, no board of directors who can cast an erring member into outer darkness, when indeed no A.A. can give another a directive and enforce obedience, our friends gasp and exclaim, "This simply can't be. There must be an angle somewhere," These practical folk then read Tradition Two, and learn that the sole authority in A.A. is a loving God as He may express Himself in the group conscience. They dubiously ask an experienced A.A. member if this really works. The member, sane to all appearances, immediately answers, "Yes! It definitely does," The friends mutter that this looks vague, nebulous, pretty naïve to them. Then they commence to watch us with speculative eyes, pick up a fragment of A.A. history, and soon have the solid facts...

This brings us straight to the question "Does A.A. have a real leadership?" Most emphatically the answer is "Yes, notwithstanding the apparent lack of it." ...

Nearly every oldtimer in our Society has gone through this process in some degree. Happily, most of them survive and live to become elder statesmen. They become the real and permanent leadership of A.A. Theirs is the quiet opinion, the sure knowledge and humble example that resolve a crisis. When sorely perplexed, the group inevitably turns to them for advice. They become the voice of the group conscience; in fact they are the true voice of Alcoholics Anonymous. They do not drive by mandate; they lead by example. This is the experience which has led us to the conclusion that our group conscience, well-advised by its elders, will be in the long run wiser than any single leader.

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, chapter on Tradition 2.