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THE WESTWORD

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE CALGARY INTERGROUP OF AA

TO RECEIVE ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE WESTWORD PLEASE EMAIL 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 24-7

Email:

centraloffice@calgaryaa.org

See 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.



4th Annual SPEAKER WORKSHOP - TREATMENT FACILITIES

District 18

OPEN meeting format

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



An interactive workshop for those who speak at treatment facilities & for those who would like to

- A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED -

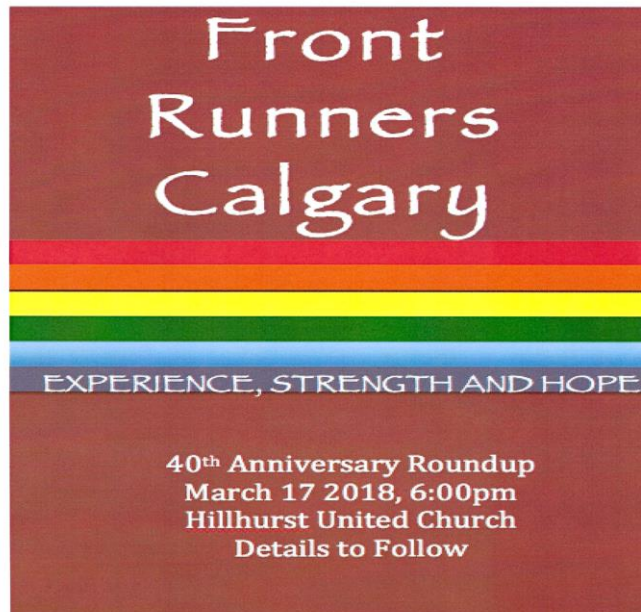
When: Saturday, February 17th, 2018
11:30 a.m. → 2:30 p.m.

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

Guest Speaker: Steve McLean/Counseling Supervisor/Lander Treatment Centre

7th Tradition will be honoured

Call Calgary Central Service Office at 403-777-1212 for further contact info



**Front
Runners
Calgary**

EXPERIENCE, STRENGTH AND HOPE

**40th Anniversary Roundup
March 17 2018, 6:00pm
Hillhurst United Church
Details to Follow**

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.

Intergroup Contacts:

Intergroup Chairperson	cgigchair@gmail.com	Intergroup Alternate Chair	cgigalterchair@gmail.com
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Public Information Chair	pichair.calgary@gmail.com	12 Step Chair List	cgig12steplist@gmail.com
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Banff Roundup Chair	info@banffroundup.com	Intergroup Special Events	cgigevents@gmail.com
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CGSC Contacts:

Chairperson	cgscchair@gmail.com	Alternate Chairperson	cgscaltchair@gmail.com
Treasurer	cgsc treasurer@gmail.com	Secretary	cgscsecretary@gmail.com
Treatment Chair	cgsc treatment@gmail.com	Corrections Chair	cgsc corrections@gmail.com
Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair	cgsc cpc@gmail.com	Grapevine Chair	cgscgrapevine@gmail.com
Records & Registration Chair	cgsc records@gmail.com	Introduction to Service Chair	cgscintro@gmail.com
Bridging the Gap Chair	cgscbtg@gmail.com	Intergroup/CGSC Liason	cgscintergroup@gmail.com

Meeting Changes**NEW MEETINGS**

Bridging the Gap at The Alex, Mondays 6:30 pm, open, Speaker meeting, closed on stat holidays, The Alex Community Health Centre, #102, 2840 – 2 Ave. SE
Garnet Block, 1609 Centre St. NW, is adding a new meeting, Fridays at midnight, beginning Sept 29 (Sep/17)

Garnet Block is adding a new meeting, every day at 5:30 pm, beginning Feb 1 (Feb/18)

Garnet Block is starting a new closed women's meeting at the Garnet Block. It will be taking place Saturdays at 1pm, and the start date will be Saturday March 3rd.

Next Step Meeting, Wednesdays, noon, open, women's, Beginners Meeting (Speaker last Wednesday of the month), meets at Next Step Ministries, #200, 317 – 37 Ave. NE. This meeting is sponsored by the CGSC Treatment Facilities Committee.

MEETING CHANGES:

Back to the Drawing Board, Sundays southeast has moved. New address: Eastside Victory Outreach Centre, back door, 1840 – 38 St. SE.

Everything else is the same – Sundays 7:30 pm, open. (Oct/17)

Beacon's Refugees, Saturdays northwest, have moved. New address: Highwood Lutheran Church, 419 Northmount Dr. NW, "Church Office" building & door (across from Colonel Irvine School). All else remains the same. (Nov/17)

Better Days Group

The group 7:30 old time group has changed their name to "BETTER DAYS GROUP ". Also, there is a time change from 7:30pm To 8:00pm.

The Address is still 1432 19 st NE . We will have a speaker meeting the second Saturday of each month. These changes will take place March 3 2018.

Candlelight Group, Thursdays, southeast, will be moving to St. Luke's Anglican Church, 2951 – 26 Ave. SE. Last meeting at Southview Com. Centre Nov. 30. First meeting at new location is Dec 7th. All else the same. (Dec/17)

Glenmore Group in the southwest will be moving (AS OF SEPT 1st) from Hochwald Court to 2509 Dieppe Ave. SW, Building B-6, Room 103 downstairs.

All 24 meetings per week will be moving to the new location, everything else remains the same. (Sept/17)

Glenmore Group Thursday night's Tradition meeting at 8:30 pm is changing to a big book study format as of Jan/18.

Haddon Road Conscious Contact Sundays 7:00 pm (1½ hours), open, meditation/discussion, 200 Haddon Road, upstairs. (Jan/18)

Open Door Group, Tuesdays southeast, has moved to the Eastside Victory Outreach Centre, back door, 1840 – 38 St. SE, and changed their time from 8:30 to 7:30. (Sept/17)

Recovery Group Tuesday 8:00 pm southwest is no longer a Men's meeting; it is now mixed.

Recovery Group As of March 1, the Recovery Group in the southwest will be changing its evening meeting times from 8:00 to 7:30 pm; applies to Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday meetings. They also have a meeting on the last Saturday of each month for birthdays, also changing to 7:30.

Sunday morning 11 am group now meets at the Montgomery Community Hall, 5003 – 16 Ave. NE. Everything else the same.

Unity Group has moved!!! New Address: Grace Lutheran Church 3610 Sarcee Road SW (Back Door) First meeting will be FRIDAY, FEB.02,2018 at 8:30PM (Regular Time).

MEETING CANCELLATIONS:

Glenmore Group, southwest, has cancelled their Friday midnight meeting (Sep/17)

Midnapore Group, southeast, is cancelling its Saturday and Sunday 8:00 pm meetings. The weekday meetings remain. (Jul/17)

Only Takes Two Group, Mondays southeast, has folded, effective immediately.

The New Beginnings Group has cancelled their Saturday 9:00 AM Women's "As Bill Sees It" meeting. That meeting only – all the rest are as usual.

ODAT Group, southeast, is cancelled as of October (Thanksgiving) 2017. Thank you all who have attended & supported the numerous Big Book Studies held by this group. (Oct/17)

Recovery Group, southwest, is cancelling its Friday 8:00 pm meeting, last meeting Aug 25 (Sept/17)

Women of Hope Treatment Facilities meeting at Alpha House, Mondays southeast, is being cancelled, last meeting Sept. 25 (Oct/17)

Woodcreek Group, Thursdays southwest, has been cancelled (Sep/17)

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

January						February					
ABC Group		Harvest Hills Big Book		New Beginnings		ABC group		Just For Today			
Jim C	21 years	Katie J	1 year	Chelsea E.	1 year	Don	43 years	Wayne C	5 years		
Jessica B	8 years	Kelly R	1 year	Laurie G.	1 year	Awakenings Group		Frank M	29 years		
Airdrie Country Group		Ron W	3 years	Ryan R.	1 year	Charles C	14 years	Marlborough Park			
Diane R	25 years	Just for Today		Sharon T.	1 year	Ron W	3 years	Ken P	3 years		
Moe B	3 years	Trevor S	17 years	Sue	1 year	Back From Hell Airdrie		Midnapore Group			
Awakenings Groups		Wendy	30 years	Zaynah H.	1 year	Brandy B	4 years	Brian K	26 years		
Patti D.	10 years	Kincora Group		Betty K.	2 years	Myrna G.	14 Years	Kelly D	9 years		
Kim A.	42 years	Charlotte G.	4 years	Dana M.	3 years	Tanya M	12 Years	Margrit P	21 years		
Back From Hell		Evan M.	3 years	Kristen M.	4 years	Teshuvah A.	3 Years	Peter A	23 years		
Ben K.	11 years	Jon B.	7 years	Glen T.	7 years	Troy C.	8 Years	Old Time Group			
Jack J.	15 years	Mike O.	10 years	Steph F.	8 years	BYOC Langdon		Charles M	28 years		
Rene R	37 years	Phil	3 years	Holly T.	9 years	Melanie J	8 years	Marilyn S	31 years		
Garnet Block		Rick R.	6 years	Simone H.	12 years	Deer Ridge		Regal Group			
Laurie	1 year	Kevin L	1 year	Chris	13 years	Yvon	31 years	Sanjaya	9 years		
Sherry	13 years	Midnapore Group		Tim F.	16 years	Katherine J	12 years	Doug	16 years		
Susan	21 years	Al M	8 years	Cheryl H.	17 years	Jerry P	4 years	Wednesday			
Glenmore Group		Mike M	3 years	Sheryl P.	20 years	Jennifer F	2 years	Morning Eyeopener			
Gerry M	2 years	Murray M	2 years	John A.	29 years	John W	2 years	Ashok P	21 years		
Rob M	5 years	Ryan P	5 years	Sharon W.	33 years	Sam S	2 years	Lance	5 years		
Denise M	5 years	Wes W	40 years	Recovery Group		Edgemont Group					
Tyler F	5 years	Ogden		Marie U	30 years	Patrick F	25 years				
Gail N	14 years	Mike A	2 years	Michelle H.	16 years	Judy P	22 years				
Mike P	16 years	Chris C	2 years	Al L	1 year	Getting there Group					
Arnie D	25 years	Jason O	3 years	Regal Group		Greg W.	11 years				
Charles N	26 years	Denise D	4 years	Connor	2 years	Steven C.	8 years				
Pat R.	35 years	Crystal H	5 years	Steps Stories and Beyond		Inglewood Group					
Chris B	15 years	Jen A	9 years	Dan F	25 years	Lee B.	2 years				
Haddon Road		Sherry F	12 years	Brad	3 years	Stephen S.	11 years				
Dana M	3 years	Jesse	17 years	Tony	1 year	Mike S.	14 years				
Aaron L	3 years	Vince C	25 years	Deborah	2 years	Kincora Group					
Craig F	2 years	Brian H	34 years	Wednesday		April P	3 years				
Laura	2 years	Open Door Group		Morning Eyeopener		Paul G	2 years				
Nolan	1 year	Jo-Lynn H	8 years	Dave C	3 years						
Colt	1 year	Old Time Group		Sharon S	33 years						
Peter R	1 year	Sandra M	28 years	Whitesheep Group							
Frank	1 year	Patrick S.	7 years	Reid M	4 years						
Stinky	5 years	NW Calgary Group		Peter R	1 year						
Harvest Hills		Rick R.	6 years	Bill N	50 years						
Peter C	42 years	Rick P.	5 years								
		Morgan S.	9 years								

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LIST OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	More Info
February 10, 2018 (Saturday) Taber, Alberta	<u>Taber Roundup</u>	More information to follow.
February 15-18, 2018 (Thursday – Sunday) Phoenix, Arizona, USA	<u>54th International Women's Conference</u>	For more info, please go to www.internationalwomensconference.org .
Saturday, February 17, 2018 11:30 – 2:30 p.m. (light lunch provided)	<u>D18 Treatment Facilities Workshop</u>	An interactive workshop for those who speak at treatment centers and those who would like to. Claresholm United Church 4803 – 2 St. West, Claresholm, Alberta
Saturday February 24, 2018	<u>Garnet Block 66 Anniversary</u>	10 am to 10 pm. Meetings all day Potluck 4-5:30 pm. Birthday meeting 8:30 pm join us.
March 2-4, 2018 (Friday - Sunday) Banff Park Lodge, Banff Alberta	<u>Banff Roundup</u>	Tickets may be purchased from your General Service Rep, Intergroup Rep, online at www.banffroundup.com See event poster on page 1.
<p>*****Steps, Stories and Beyond would like to thank all who attended our roundup and dance on New Year's Eve. The event was a success, however, we ended up with a \$450 shortfall. Unfortunately, if this cost is not recouped, there will likely be no budget for future events. Those wishing to help please contact Buddy B (403) 875-9894. *****</p>		

The Public Information Committee of Calgary Intergroup has openings for the following positions

1. **Literature Package Assembler:** once a month spend a few hours at Central Office putting together 6 to 10 bundles of literature.
2. **Advertising Co-ordinator:** place free and paid ads regarding AA in online and print newspapers.
3. **Media and Public Service Announcement Co-ordinator:** contact various media services with information about AA.
4. **Speaker Co-ordinator:** organize engagements and train AA speakers for schools and more.
5. **Special Events Co-ordinator:** organize PI participation in various health fairs.

Together we will apply our 12 Traditions to help still suffering alcoholics of all ages and those who may be in contact with him or her.

Monthly meetings are last Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM at Central office

For more information e-mail: pichair.calgary@gmail.com

Please consider making a commitment to this very rewarding and challenging work. Your love and service are urgently needed.

Service Opportunities

Upcoming CGSC Service Commitments

Treatment Facility	AA Group - February	AA Group - March
Renfrew Tuesday	Midnapore	Daily Reflections
(Renfrew Wednesday (Bridging the Gap)	New Beginnings	Recovery
Renfrew Thursday	Back From Hell	Unity
Renfrew Sunday	New Beginnings	New Beginnings
Sunrise	Garnet	Midnapore
Alpha House	Glenmore	Back from Hell
Dream Centre	Shipwreck at Sunset	Deer Ridge
The Alex (bridging the Gap)	Southview by the Book	Thursday Night Ladies

Upcoming Intergroup Service Commitments

Sunday Breakfast at Ramada **served till 9:30**	AA Group
February 4	Haddon Road
February 11	McKenzie Towne
February 18	Rule 62
February 25	Inglewood
March 4	Haddon Road
March 11	Ogden
March 18	Steps, Stories and Beyond
April 5	Shipwreck at Sunset

Telephone Monitoring Dates	AA Group
January 29- Feb 4	Getting There
February 5-11	Airdrie Reflections
February 12-18	Daily Reflections
February 19-25	Haddon Road
Feb 26-March 4	Thursday Night Ladies
March 5 -11	McKenzie Towne
March 12-19	Go For It
March 19-25	Regal

Calls for Service

Gratitude Round Up Committee is looking for volunteers. We hold our meetings the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm at Central Office. Thank you!

We have 1 vacancy for COMC members (Central Office Management Committee) Business experience as well as firm understanding of the steps and traditions are considered an asset. Time requirement would be minimal (about 1 day a month), and suggested sobriety is a minimum 5 years.

Please submit resumes to Central Office.

We need daytime phone monitors at Central Office. If you can help with a regular morning or afternoon shift, please call Mathew at Central Office at 403-777-1212 or email CentralOffice@calgaryaa.org

The February 2018 Issue of GRAPEVINE is here!

On the cover this month : "Getting Through Tough Times"

To view the Table of Contents, click here.

Some stories include:

When Misfortune Falls At 26 years sober, a member in Florida finds himself in a homeless shelter. Yet he never forgets his primary purpose.

Life Support When it got tough, she reached out to the rooms and found love and care. It was a Mother's Day to remember.

Through the Grief With service, literature, a good sponsor and lots of prayer, a new father doesn't drink when tragedy strikes his family.

Peace on the Inside As the hospital helps him with his mental illness, the AA meetings give him hope until one day he can get out.

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.

"Recovery Group Women's BB Study"

There is a new weekly women's Big Book study on Sundays at the Recover Group, Room 104, 4820 McLeod Trail SW, 2:00pm-4:00pm. Please bring a Big Book, Pen, Highlighter, & notebook or writing pad. Big Books can also be purchased at the meeting.

"The Monday Night Big Book Meeting (Closed)"

This Big Book study is in need of your support! Dust off your Big Book and let's read and share. We are located downstairs in St. Peter's Anglican Church 903 - 75th Avenue SW (corner of Elbow Dr. & 75th Ave.) 8 p.m. - Big Book Discussion format.

"Joe and Charlie Big Book Study at Haddon Road"

There is a weekly Big Book study at Haddon Road on Sundays from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Please bring a Big Book, a highlighter and an open mind. Big books can be purchased at the meeting or from Central Office. Note that current study should end around Dec 17, and start up on January 14th, going from 2- 4 pm. There will also be a Big Book study beginning on Tuesday, January 9th from 7:30 – 9 pm with the same format. For any questions, please contact Steve at 403-889-5240.

"Big Book Comes Alive"

There is a weekly Big Book study running at New Brighton Community Centre, 2 New Brighton Drive SE, Calgary. Meeting runs on Sundays from 6:00pm – 7:15pm.

BANFF ROUNDUP

Sponsored by Calgary Intergroup

March 2-4, 2018

Banff Park Lodge, Banff Alberta

Alok S., (MC) Calgary, Alberta

SPEAKERS

Rene E., (AA) Franklin, Maryland

Bob D., (AA) Las Vegas, Nevada

Richard J., (Al-Anon) Ontario

Karl M., (AA) Covina, California

Gemma B., (AA) Sherman Oaks, Calif.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday Night Music Jam & Open Mic,
Saturday Night Dance, Workshops,
AA and Al-Anon meetings

TICKETS

Registration only: \$37/person

Includes Friday Night Music Jam and
Saturday Night Dance

Banquet & Registration: \$104/person

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

**Tickets may be purchased from your
General Service Rep, Intergroup Rep,
online at www.banffroundup.com or
from the Calgary Central Service Office
at 403-777-1212.**

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

Special room rate of \$143/night, double occupancy, taxes not included

Room availability guaranteed until January 15, 2018.

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

Use Group ID # 25393, Password # 520

For further information, contact:

www.BanffRoundup.com – or – info@BanffRoundup.com

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.