SUGGESTED 25¢ DONATION

OYEST ORD

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE CALGARY INTERGROUP OF AA

To receive a digital copy of the WestWord please email westwordeditor@gmail.com





Wishing everyone good cheer during the holiday season

~ your Central Service Office

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5:00pm (Closed 1-2pm for lunch) Saturdays 9:00am-1:00pm

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

CLOSED

Christmas Eve – Boxing Day Sat., Dec.24 – Tues., Dec. 27

OPEN

Wed., Dec.28 – Fri., Dec. 30 CLOSED

New Year's Eve – New Year's Day Sat., Dec.31 – Mon., Jan.2

AA Central Service Office 4021 – 4 St. S.E. Calgary, Alberta T2G 2W4

centraloffice@calgaryaa.org www.calgaryaa.org



December 2022 is PACKED with

Relowship, Celebration and Support

Relowship, Potlucks, Speakers, Service,

Holiday Spirit, Potlucks, Fellowship

Connection, Fellowship

AA CALGARY INTERGROUP CHRISTMAS DINNER POTLUCK



Where: 134 Scarboro Ave – Scarboro United Church

When: December 17, 2022 - 11-4pm

Who: All are invited including kids; Santa will be there too

Cost: 7th Tradition

COME JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP!

See full poster inside on pg. 8

INTERGROUP CONTACTS:

Intergroup Chairperson	cgigchair@gmail.com	Intergroup Alternate Chair	cgigalterchair@gmail.com	
Intergroup Archives Chair	cgigarchives@gmail.com	Telephone Monitoring Chair	telmonitor.calgary@gmail.com	
Public Information Chair	pichair.calgary@gmail.com	12 Step Chair List	cgig12steplist@gmail.com	
Westword Editor	westwordeditor@gmail.com	Intergroup Secretary	cgigsecretary@gmail.com	
Calgary Central Office	centraloffice@calgaryaa.org	Intergroup Treasurer	cgigtreasurer@gmail.com	
Banff Roundup Chair cgigbanffchr@gmail.com		Intergroup Special Events	specevents@gmail.com	
Sunday AM Breakfast Chair	cgigbrkfst@gmail.com	Intergroup/CGSC Liaison	cgscintergroup@gmail.com	

CGSC CONTACTS:

Chairperson	cgscchair@gmail.com	Alternate Chairperson	cgscaltchair@gmail.com
Treasurer	cgsctreasurer@gmail.com	Secretary	cgscsecretary@gmail.com
Treatment Chair	cgsctreatment@gmail.com	Corrections Chair	cgsccorrections@gmail.com
C.P.C. Chair	cgsccpc@gmail.com	Grapevine Chair	cgscgrapevine@gmail.com
Records & Registration Chair	cgscrecords@gmail.com	Intro to Service Chair	cgscintro@gmail.com
Bridging the Gap Chair	cgscbtg@gmail.com	Intergroup/CGSC Liaison	cgscintergroup@gmail.com

MEETING CHANGES:

NEW MEETINGS / BOOK STUDIES:

<u>Big Book Meeting – New Beginnings</u> – Starting Monday, January 16 and facilitated by Mary and Steve – 6:30 – 8:30 at Canyon Meadows location – see poster on page 10 for details

<u>Hybrid Big Book Meeting – Uncover, Discover, Recover</u> – Join Mondays from Nov 23, 2022 – March 13, 2023 at the Alexandra Centre Society, SE Calgary. 6:30 – 8:30 MST – In person and Zoom ID: 5298412715, PW: surrender7 – see poster on page 9

<u>Big Book Meeting – Centre of Hope -</u> second meeting at the Centre of Hope(Salvation Army), Effective October, 14th, 6pm., Big Book Meeting Open all welcome., Fridays at 6pm

Zoom Big Book Study – "A New Light" presented by Paige F. – presented online by the Big Book Compendium. Monday Night Study – 6 – 8pm MST – Zoom ID – 519 992 791, Password: 12steps.

MEETING CHANGES

The Sunday Night Group in Canmore is changing its meeting time of 8-9 to 7:00pm -8:00pm every Sunday. It is still at the same location Scout Hall, 914, 8th Street, Canmore.

Vulcan Group - Vulcan 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday group has a new location. Effective November 19th, we will be meeting at 302 Centre Street, in the basement of the church, just up the street from where we were meeting before.

Back to the Book $^{\sim}$ Airdrie – "Living Spring Fellowship" - Saturday morning meeting time change New time 10:00 - 11:00am. This new time change begins October 15

MEETING INFO - REOPENING MEETINGS

CANCELLED MEETINGS

Temporarily cancelled NW Calgary Group, Saturday 5:30 pm Step and Tradition meeting at Foothills Alliance Church cancelled <u>Dec. 24 and Dec. 31, 2022, only</u>. Regular Saturday meetings will resume in January 2023.

McKenzie Towne Tuesday Online - The last Tuesday 7:30 p.m. Zoom meeting of the McKenzie Towne Group (Online McKenzie Towne) occurred on October 18. This meeting is now cancelled.

November 2022			December 2022						
272 (Group	SN	10G	Glenmore		272 Group		Southview by the Book	
Jody D	5 years	Luke S	3 years	Ben	1 year	Rania	1 year	Wade C	2 years
Bruce S	20 years	David D	4 years	Jen D	1 year	Dave G	5 years	Thursday	Night Ladies
ABC 0	Group	Isabel R	5 years	Amberle	1 year	ABC (Group	Sarah	2 years
Marsh C	44 years	Dorothy	15 years	Lanny M	33 years	Mel S	58 years	Diane	29 years
Airdrie	Country	Steps, Stori	ies & Beyond	New Be	ginnings	Airdrie	Country	ι	Jnity
Joel D	6 years	Buddy B	18 years	Amber V	1 year	Merle C	48 years	Kevin L	20 years
Awake	enings	Thursday I	Night Ladies	Victoria L	1 year	Awak	enings	Alex R	31 years
Bev H	18 years	Bev F	6 years	Abi P	2 years	Rudy N	28 years	West End Step and Trad.	
		U	nity	Maria H	9 years	Back fr	om Hell	Daryl M	26 years
Back fro	om Hell	Pat H.	1 year	Aron M	12 years	Clint P	8 years	Whi	tesheep
Kelly T	2 years	Shane S	5 years	Bill T	18 years	Deer	Ridge	Justin H	5 years
Norma G	12 years	Travis A	15 years	Sandy D	25 years	Delia E	32 years	Collin G	6 years
Doug F	16 years	Wednesda	y Eyeopener	Jayne R	30 years	Homeward	d Bounders	Dave F	11 years
Jessica	18 years	Karen	1 year	NW Calga	ary Group	Kirby J	23 years	Darren	11 years
Deer	Ridge	Kurtis P	8 years	Steve C	2 years	Kin	cora	Jeff D	33 years
Mark	6 years	Denise N	8 years	Grant S	6 years	Amanda	1 year		
Daneal	7 years	Norm S	35 years	John J	9 years	Neil H	2 years		
Laara	8 years	White	esheep	Lee H	15 years	Jennifer	5 years		
Layah	12 years	Stephen	4 years	Recover	ry Group	Danny M	20 years		
Ernie	31 years	Mike H	5 years	Mike M	1 year	Jean L	23 years		
Knox N	looners	Gibson S	6 years	Haleigh	2 years	McKenzi	ie Towne		
Peter B	31 years	Murray K	7 years	Katie S	2 years	Joey B	1 year	5	1017
John R	33 years	Rob B	9 years	Mike Y	2 years	Steve S	1 year	•	
Eduardo	47 years	Zack F	11 years	Susan M	3 years	Lon M	11 years		
MA	AT	Rich W	31 years	Sarah S	5 years	Dwayne	15 years		
Keshia	1 year	Brad F	35 years	Holly D	10 years	Colleen	33 years	Ha	
Joseph V	3 years	Dave W	38 years	Brian J	11 years	Jon G	40 years		ppy
Curtis R	3 years	Tom R	41 years	Linda S	12 years	Midn	apore	birt	hday
Jody D	5 years			Wilfredo	13 years	Darren F	2 years		
Harvey F	5 years			Victoria	19 years	Kevin	2 years		
Mike H	8 years	Ga	rnet	Linda G	25 years	Tyler R	6 years		
McKenzi	e Towne	Michelle	1 year	Irene R	34 years	Kristy M	8 years	Ţ	to
Jordan W	1 year	Lucia	1 year	Deborah	36 years	Dave G	15 years		
Kristen	1 year	Krystle	3 years	John R	37 years	Laura Lea	16 years		
Kelsy C	1 year	Dee	3 years				den	ever	yone!
Paul S	3 years	Darren	4 years			Linda T	2 years		
Josh T	3 years	Nathan D	6 years	* ~ '	·/ *	Rosa P	6 years		
Geoff S	7 years	Nick	6 years	\sim	5	Eric P	32 years		
	apore	Kurtis	8 years	* · / / *		Darryl D	34 years		
Liam M	4 years	Barb	9 years	~ '	•		gal		
Monte G	16 years	Paul H	16 years			Garry G	3 years		
Ogo	den	Wade	30 years	YOU		Rul	e 62	(C)	ا
Denise T	9 years	Brett	33 years			Dan	1 year		
Regal	Group	Myra D	34 years	A	RE	Melissa	2 years		
Gordon	5 years	Irene R	34 years	AMA	ZING!	Aaron C	3 years		
Blair T	44 years			333,338		Brad M	3 years		

LIST OF December Holiday EVENTS				
DATE	EVENT	Poster with Details		
Friday, December 16	Knox Nooners Potluck	Page 7		
	Zoom Remote Communities Forum – English, French, Spanish	Page 8		
Saturday, December 17	Intergroup Potluck Christmas 11 – 4pm	Page 7		
	Unity Potluck AA Christmas 4:30 – 8 pm	Page 7		
	Balzac Christmas Dinner and Dance Doors open at 5pm	Page 7		
Saturday, December 24	Whitesheep Christmas Eve BREAKFAST 8 - 11am	Page 8		
Sunday, December 25	Forest Lawn Alcathon 9am – 9pm	Page 8		
Dec 23 – Jan 1 Bow Valley Open "Night Owl" (Canmore) 9:30 – 10:30		Page 8		
Saturday, December 31	Intergroup New Year's Eve Party	Page 8		
EVEN MORE	AMAZING EVENTS INCLUDED ON THE PAGES TO	FOLLOW!!		

Treatment Facility	AA Group for November	AA Group for December	
Renfrew Fridays	Forest Lawn	Bridge Group	
Alpha House	Tues - Glenmore	Forest Lawn	
/ iipiia riouse	Friday – McKenzie Towne	TBA	
Sunrise	Ogden	Garnet Group	
AARC – alternating Mon	Radical Change	Haddon Road	
Dream Centre	NW Calgary Group	McKenzie Towne	
Sandstone (2 nd Friday)	New Beginnings	District 83	



Ongoing Monthly Intergroup Service Commitments

Sunday Morning (9:30am) Ramada Breakfast Meeting	AA Group
December 4	NW Calgary Group
December 11	Garnet
December 18	TBA
December 25?	TBA

Phone Monitoring Dates	AA Group
November 27 – Dec 4	Unity
December 5 - 11	Daily Reflections
December 12 - 18	Kincora
December 19 - 25	Weekend Serenity
December 26 – Jan 1	PPG

CALL FOR "SERVICE" - many opportunities

"Bridging the Gap"... Bridging the Gap helps to soften the transition for individuals from treatment to an AA life. Wondering what Bridging the Gap is all about and interested in learning about service opportunities? BTG meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at Central Office at 7pm and NEW Zoom: 945 772 8029 Password: BTG Email: cgscbtg@gmail.com.



"Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

Public Information Committee (PI committee):

Looking for a <u>new Chair for the PI</u>

<u>Committee</u> – it comes with an

<u>established committee!!</u>

Contact Calgary Intergroup for more
information...

1.WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP A TEEN - the

committee is looking for individuals who may be willing to take our message into high schools. We already have a foundational presentation being tweaked and trimmed so you would only need to bring your story and sense of hope!

2.The committee is also looking for more committee members to join the group and tackle the various responsibilities of PI.

Public Information is responsible for getting info out to those who may still be suffering.

Meeting Dates: Last Tuesday of every month

Time: 7:00pm.

Location: Central Office, 4021 4 St SE

- Contact the PI Committee chair for more information <u>pichair.calgary@gmail.com</u>

12 Step List Service -

(1-Year Sobriety): Looking for a service opportunity? Add your name and number to the list for 12 step calls. This list is used when a caller needs to talk to another alcoholic. All we need is your availability and which part of the city you live in/are willing to travel to. E-mail: cgig12steplist@gmail.com

CORRECTIONS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Calgary Corrections Committee is in need of volunteers to chair AA meetings at Calgary Correctional Centre (Spyhill) as well as the Women's Remand Centre...

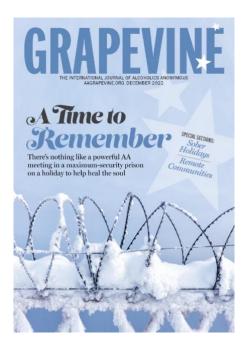
If you have at least one year of sobriety and can spare one hour (maybe two including travel time) once a month or so then chairing an AA meeting at a correctional facility is a great service opportunity. It is mainly about carrying a message of hope to those who at times might consider their situation hopeless...

Being inside a jail, may seem a bit daunting, but actually it is a very safe environment.

Meetings are held on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings (depending on the facility).

If you can help out, please contact the chair of the Calgary Corrections Committee Bianca T. - 403-473-9930 or email cgsccorrections@gmail.com or call or text volunteer-recruiting Lee H. at 403 815 3719 and we will get information sent out.

The December 2022 Issue of GRAPEVINE is here!



On the Cover: This issue is for "Remote Communities and Sober Holidays"

To view the Table of Contents, click here.

Some stories include:

Mark your calendar AA International Convention!

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada July 3 - 6, 2025

Back in the picture

It was late December and my wife and I had been invited by my 6-year-old daughter's teacher to come to a parent gathering at her elementary school.

100 Beards

During the summer of 2007, Sally, my second wife, and I were living in Nashville, Tennessee. I regularly attended a men's AA meeting at a sober clubhouse on Sunday evenings.

Maybe Next Year

I sobered up in September of 1982. Immediately I began worrying about how I was going to get through Thanksgiving and Christmas with my family, without my reliable crutch of the previous 25 years. Habitually, my father and I would get drunk at holiday get-togethers and end up with hurtful words in both directions. The booze always helped me get through the day.

Let there be light

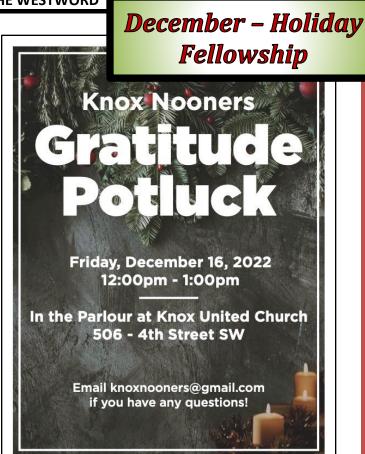
After some drama and quick action, their annual AA holiday breakfast went on like a charm

No amount of Razor Wire

I often witness members at AA meetings express their emotions with tears; usually over recognition of the harms done to themselves or others, as well as over a newfound awareness of God

Closer Than You Think

In the summer of 1993, I felt uniquely remote from in-person AA fellowship. I could no longer attend meetings due to some injuries.



AA CALGARY INTERGROUP CHRISTMAS DINNER POTLUCK



Where: 134 Scarboro Ave – Scarboro United Church

When: December 17, 2022 - 11-4pm

Who: All are invited including kids; Santa will be there too

Cost: 7th Tradition

COME JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP!!

We would appreciate contributions of cooked food, desserts and other festive scrumptiousness. If your group would like to donate food to the dinner, please contact Nate 403 830-5086 or email Cgigchair@gmail.com, for a list of what's needed and what's covered.

For a great service opportunity, why not volunteer! We need Elves to help make the day $\it EXTRA$ magical. Contact Nate or Just show up on the day!

If you or your group would like to make a donation towards the event, please contact Central Office at 403 777-1212 or Centraloffice@calgaryAA.org









More December - Holiday Fellowship

BOW VALLEY AA-2022/2023

Extra "OPEN" NIGHT OWL meetings are being held as well as regularly scheduled meetings

If you think you may have a problem - we are here for you!

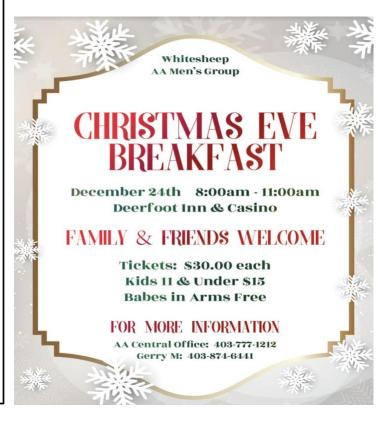
Dec 23 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 24, 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 25, 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 26, 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 27 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 28, 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 29, 9:30-10:30 pm Dec 30, 9:30-10:30pm Dec 31, 9:30-10:30pm Jan 1, 9:30-10:30pm

Ralph Connor Church 617, 8th Street, Canmore

617, 8th Street, Canmore Side Door and Upstairs

Contact: Jeff - 403 996-0571

To find regularly scheduled meetings in Banff & Canmore see calgaryaa.org





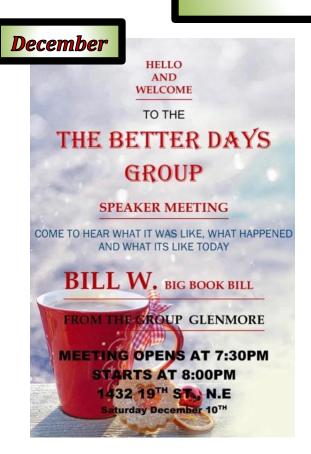


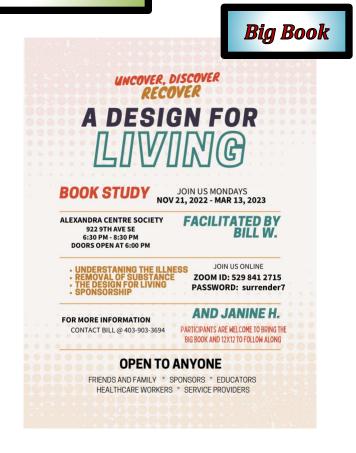






Connection, Experience,
Strength and Hope









Big Book

Big Book Study held at New Beginnings 3216, 380 Canyon Meadows Drive SE Fish Creek Village 2nd floor

> Monday January 16, 2023 Time 6:30 to 8:00 PM

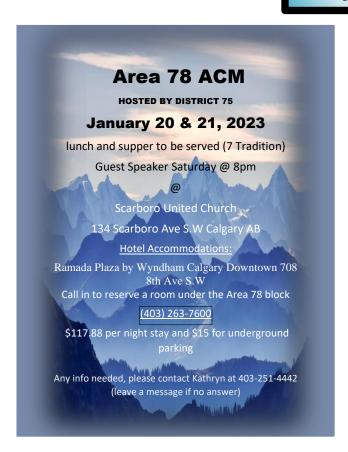
Facilitated by Mary S and Steve Bring your big book and highlighters

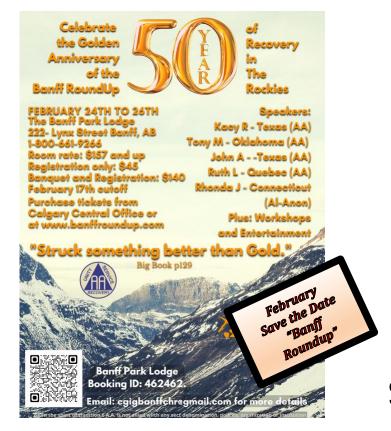
Enjoy and great night of teaching and fellowship

Hope to see you there

For more information email Steve monstermac13@gmail.com

January – The hope of a new year...





DELEGATES CORNER...December 2022

At a District's "For the Love of AA workshop" recently we explored the 'who, what, where, why and how' of giving back to our program and ways to carry the message. We looked at the benefits and opportunities that service gives us and will give to those yet to come. We discovered this is where we find joy and discover our own depth. In Bill's own words, "I was soon to be catapulted into what I like to call the fourth dimension of existence. I was to know happiness, peace, and usefulness, in a way of life that is incredibly more wonderful as time passes." This has been the experience of the thousands who devote themselves to all three legacies of our program. Being sober - merely the tip of the iceberg.

Attending a District Unity Night (and seeing the many groups and districts doing the same), it warmed my heart to see everyone coming together, listening to the many shares. We do more than deal with alcoholism. We truly grant a life like no other. It is safe to say, we receive a life we didn't even know was waiting for us to join. A life uniquely evolving through our spiritual journey – day by day by day. Most of the time we don't see our own development. But every time we help another, the magic shines. Each time we overcome our resentment, anger, pain or suffering, we increase our experience, gain in strength and eventually share that hope.

December wraps up a year that brought many challenges but carried more joys. I hope this year closes for you with goodness and grace. And may the coming year bring deeper appreciation, awareness and growth. Wishing you, your family and friends a safe and loving holiday season.



With love in the Spirit,

Tami

delegate.72@area78.org

PS: AREA NEWS:

- **72**_{nd} **Conference Final Reports arrived**. Pick up your free copy at the Calgary or Edmonton Central Office or DCMs can contact me for someone in your District to collect them from my home (Calgary). Will also be available at the ACM in January
- 2 New Groups in our Area!
- Area Committee Meeting (ACM) on January 20 & 21, 2023 in Calgary
- *WRAASA (Western Regional AA Service Assembly)* in Edmonton on February 24 26, 2023. Hope to see you there. To register https://wraasa.org/registration

MORE...

• <u>PLEASE</u> update your meeting information with an email to grouprecords.72@area78.org or online https://area78aa.org/downloads/forms/GroupChangeForm2022-Area78-fillable.pdf Let us all do our part to ensure a newcomer (or visiting member) always find us. Pass it on...thanks!

• Workshops, speakers and assistance available to your groups and districts from any of our 16 Area Committee Officers – reach out to any of us, any time. A quick email to alternatedelegate.72@area78.org can help you make arrangements.

PPS: News from our General Service Office (GSO)

- Lovely message on Gratitude by General Manager, GSO https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/Gratitude%20Letter%202022%20-%20EN.pdf.
- **Stories from our young members**! There's a call out to hear your stories.... https://www.aa.org/young-peoples-video-project
- Grapevine News!! https://www.aagrapevine.org/important-updates
- **International A.A. Convention**: Make plans to join members from around the world at the next International A.A. Convention in Vancouver July 3 6, 2025. First time ever in our Region! Share the info! Check this out https://www.aa.org/international-convention Stay tuned for Registration and hotel info.
- **Box 4-5-9** https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/newsletters/F-36 Box 4-5-9 Fall 2022.pdf
- Literature update https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/EN%20-%20Nov%20update%20on%20printing%20delays%20and%20backorders.pdf
- **Jobs at G.S.O** <u>https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/EN%20-</u> <u>%20GSO%20Staff%20Recruitment%20Announcement%20October%202022_0.pdf</u>
- **New cover for our Big Book** now with a new jacket cover which makes it possible to get them printed and printed quicker...

https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/Jacketless%20BB%20-%20EN.pdf

• Reminder of the contributions address:

Box 2407 James A Farley Station New York, NY 10116-2407

or online: https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/Press%20Release%2010-2022%20-%20EN.pdf

• And more.... https://www.aa.org/news-and-announcements

Step 12 & Tradition 12

Step 12 -Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p106, p107, p109

The joy of living is the theme of A.A.'s Twelfth Step, and action is its key word. Here we turn outward toward our fellow alcoholics who are still in distress. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. Here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily live so that we and those about us may find emotional sobriety. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implication, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it.

Our Twelfth Step also says that as a result of practicing all the Steps, we have each found something called a spiritual awakening. To new A.A.'s, this often seems like a very dubious and improbable state of affairs...

When a man or a woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel, and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being. He has been set on a path which tells him he is really going somewhere, that life is not a dead end, not something to be endured or mastered. In a very real sense he has been transformed, because he has laid hold of a source of strength which, in one way or another, he had hitherto denied himself...

Now, what about the rest of the Twelfth Step? The wonderful energy it releases, and the eager action by which it carries our message to the next suffering alcoholic and which finally translates the Twelve Steps into action upon all our affairs is the payoff, the magnificent reality, of Alcoholics Anonymous...

Tradition 12 – Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p184

The spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice. Because A.A's Twelve Traditions repeatedly ask us to give up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit – well symbolized by anonymity – is the foundation of them all. It is A.A.'s proved willingness to make these sacrifices that gives people their high confidence in our future.

From November 25th, Daily Reflections

A POWERFUL TRADITION - In the years before the publication of the book, "Alcoholics Anonymous", we had no name... By a narrow majority the verdict was for naming our book "The Way Out." ... One of our early lone members...found exactly twelve books already titled "The Way Out." ... So Alcoholics Anonymous" became first Choice. That's how we got a name for our book of experience, a name for our movement and, as we are now beginning to see, a tradition of the greatest spiritual import.

"A.A. Tradition: How It Developed", pp. 35-36

Beginning with Bill's momentous decision to Akron to make a telephone call rather than a visit to the hotel bar, how often has a Higher Power made itself felt at crucial moments in our history! The eventual importance that the principle of anonymity would acquire was but dimly perceived, if at all, in those early days. There seems to have been an element of chance even in the choice of a name for our Fellowship.

God is no stranger to anonymity and often appears in human affairs in the guises of "luck," "chance," or "coincidence." If anonymity, somewhat fortuitously, became the spiritual basis for all of our Traditions, perhaps God was acting anonymously on our behalf.